IDENTIFICATION
1. Common name: Thunderbird Ranch

2. Historic name: John Bidwell Barn

3. Street or rural address: 9455 Highway 128
   City: Healdsburg, CA Zip: 95448 County: Sonoma

4. Parcel number: 132-030-12-3

5. Present Owner: Johnson, Bruce
   Address: 9455 Highway 128
   City: Healdsburg, CA Zip: 95448 Ownership: Public/Private X

6. Present Use: Commercial/Residential

Original use: Residential

DESCRIPTION
7a. Architectural style: Barn

7b. Briefly describe the present physical description of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

The gable roof of this barn has the upper third at a slightly steeper pitch than the lower two-thirds. The rafters do not have exposed tails but are visible beneath the eaves. The siding is vertical planks. Two of the three openings have hinged double doors and one is on a sliding overhead track. Attached to the side is a small blacksmith's shop with a false front, a partial front wall and a gate.

8. Construction date:
   Estimated: 1904 Factual

9. Architect

10. Builder

11. Approx. property size (in feet)
   Frontage ______ Depth ______
   or approx. acreage ______

12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
   31 Dec 82 38/30
13. Condition: Excellent X Good ___ Fair ___ Deteriorated ____ No longer in existence ___

14. Alterations: ___________________________ ___________________________

15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land X Scattered buildings ___ Densely built-up ___ Residential ___ Industrial ___ Commercial ___ Other: ___________________________

16. Threats to site: None known X Private development ___ Zoning ___ Vandalism ___ Public Works project ____ Other: ___________________________


18. Related features: ___________________________ ___________________________

SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

The name "J.W. Bidwell" carved over the barn doors reflect proud owners and pioneers of Alexander Valley. John Bidwell born 1849 in Missouri, son of Ira and Elizabeth (Brooks) Bidwell, came to California over the Carson route in 1850 and to Alexander Valley in 1852. Ira, a professional marketing hunter for San Francisco, purchased a portion of Cyrus Alexander's land holdings. In 1879, Ira divided his 636 acre ranch between his two sons, John and James, and relocated at Geyserville. Engaged in farming and fruit growing, John, in 1904, purchased the farmer Wm. Mulligan property (372.91 acre) from the Bank of Healdsburg, increasing his holdings 809 Acres. He married Mary Ellen Matthews (daughter of C.W.) in 1870. One of their 8 children, James Wesley Bidwell, is responsible for leaving the Bidwell mark on the barn and the world.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)

Architecture _____ Arts & Leisure _____
Economic/Industrial X Exploration/Settlement _____
Government _____ Military _____
Religion _____ Social/Education _____

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).

Hist. So. Co. 1911, 1926
So. Co. Cemetary Records
Ent. 1/17/03
Trib: 7/28/1892

22. Date form prepared: August 18, 1983
By (name) Langhart Museum (clm)
Organization City of Healdsburg
Address: 133 Matheson Street
City: Healdsburg, CA Zip: 95448
Phone: (707) 433-4717