

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUN 21 1979

AUG 24 1979

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Nichelini Winery

RECEIVED
NOV 28 1979

AND/OR COMMON

Nichelini Winery / Nichelini Vineyards

043

2 LOCATION

E of St. Helena at

STREET & NUMBER 2950 Sage Canyon Road (Hwy. 128)

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN St. Helena

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Second

STATE California

CODE

COUNTY
NAPA

CODE
055

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
 - UNOCCUPIED
 - WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
 - YES: UNRESTRICTED
 - NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Fred Nichelini etal

STREET & NUMBER 132 Alta Road

CITY, TOWN Oakland, VICINITY OF

STATE CALIFORNIA

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Napa County Courthouse
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER Brown and Coombs

CITY, TOWN Napa, STATE CALIFORNIA

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Napa County Historic Resources Inventory

DATE Site Inventory: 2-75, 8-78
 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Napa County Conservation-Development and Planning Dept.

CITY, TOWN Napa, STATE CALIFORNIA

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Nichelini Winery, a vernacular structure reflecting the Italian Swiss heritage of its owner-builder, Anton Nichelini, is stepped into the steep hillside to the east of Sage Canyon Road. Unaltered in design, the first level of the square three story building is of native cut stone quarried locally. Built in 1890 as a wine cellar, there is a wide central door in the east elevation with a segmental arch and radiating stones. Two rectangular windows flank the doorway with simple flat lintels and sills. Quoins are at the corners.

The second and third floors, completed by 1896, are of frame in a cross-axial plan, and served as the residence of the Nichelini family. The second level, at road level, opens directly unto Sage Canyon Road. Siding of the second level is vertical board-and-batten. Rectangular windows with two-over-two double-hung sash have molded trim with shouldered lintels. Windows are paired in the east and west facades on the second level. The third level has narrow horizontal siding. Windows are two-over-two double hung sash with plain molding. A cross-gabled roof has a plain boxed cornice with frieze and returns suggesting the Greek Revival style. Note also the decorative gable pattern of diagonal and vertical boards. One story porches on the second level in the northwest and southwest corners are original with plain square posts and shed roof. Entrance to the residence is on the second level at the northwest corner off Sage Canyon Road through a single four-panel door.

To the north of the Winery/Residence is a frame building, also stepped into the hillside, which is part of the present winery. Resting on a native fieldstone foundation, the rectangular 2 1/2 story building has vertical board-and-batten siding. The second level, entered directly from Sage Canyon Road, has a gabled roof sloping into a shed roof with a central projecting gable in the west facade.

This narrow and winding section of Sage Canyon with the Road, access to the Winery, the steep hillside, stone terracing and steps and Sage Creek below, remains in appearance much as it did in the 1890s when the Winery was built, though trees now shelter the buildings.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | | |

SPECIFIC DATES 1890

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Anton Nichelini

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Nichelini Winery epitomizes the small owner-built and family-run winery, typical of the late 19th century in Napa County, which remains in operation today in a setting little changed since it was built in 1890. The 19th century winery equipment, including the primitive lever press remains on the site, giving a unique glimpse of a 19th century working winery. Napa County had approximately 200 wineries in operation at the height of its early viticultural period in the late 19th century; the majority run by single families. Anton Nichelini, a native of Switzerland, owner and builder of the Winery in 1890, was one of many Swiss, Italian, German and French immigrants who exerted a strong influence upon the wine industry in Napa County and who left their mark in the fine craftsmanship in stone found throughout the County.

The vernacular influence of the European heritage is evident in structures such as this unaltered stone winery with its residence above. A common design in Europe, only a few such winery-residences were built in Napa County, primarily by European immigrants. Anton Nichelini homesteaded this tract of land in 1884. In addition to planting vineyards, he also developed small mines on the property which is in a region of Napa County known for its quicksilver mines. The first Swiss settler in the area, his was the first wine cellar in Sage Canyon. Drawing a steady clientele for his wines from the workers in the Pope and Chiles Valley mines, many of whom were Italian, Nichelini was well-known locally.

The Nichelini Winery was closed during Prohibition and reopened after Repeal by Nichelini's son, William. The third generation of the family, Jim Nichelini, currently manages the Winery which has remained small and family-run.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview, James Nichelini, April 1975

Wallace, W.F. History of Napa County (1901), pp. 330-331.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.0 acre (of 161 acre property)

QUADRANGLE NAME Yountville Quad.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 10 516,170,0 4,26,12,2,0

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The Nichelini Winery and adjacent frame barn/winery is located approximately 0.4 miles south of the intersection of Lower Chiles Valley Rd. and Sage Canyon Rd (Hwy.128) on the east side of Sage Canyon Rd. The buildings are bounded by the Road on the West and Sage Creek on the East.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Judith Munns, Coordinator, Napa County Historic Resources Inventory

ORGANIZATION Napa Landmarks, Inc. DATE September 10, 1978

STREET & NUMBER 1834 First Street (P.O. Box 702) TELEPHONE (707) 255-1836

CITY OR TOWN Napa STATE CALIFORNIA 94558

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Kenny on Ellen

TITLE

DATE MAY 31 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Carol Stull
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
ATTEST: [Signature]
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

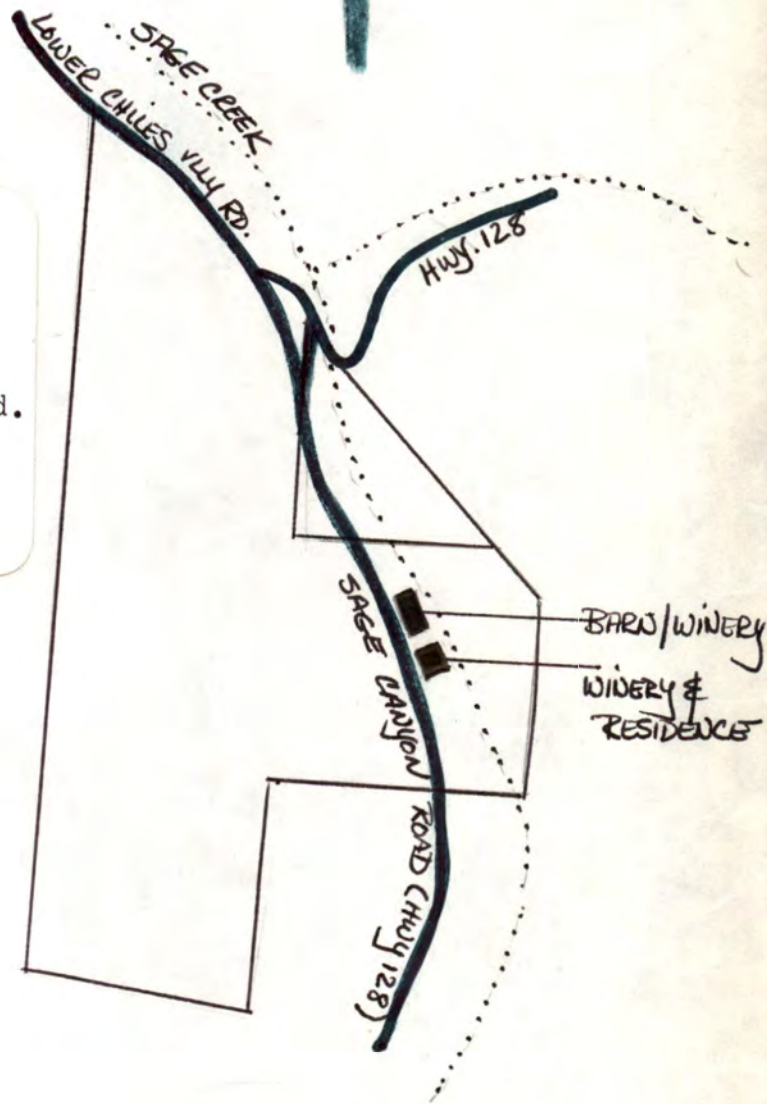
DATE 8-24-79

DATE 8/24/79

NICHELINI WINERY
2950 Sage Canyon Rd. (Hwy. 128)
St. Helena, California

The site is approximately 0.4 miles south
of the intersection of Lower Chiles Valley Rd.
and Sage Canyon Rd. (Hwy. 128) on the east
side of Sage Canyon Rd.

AUG 24 1979 JUN 21 1979

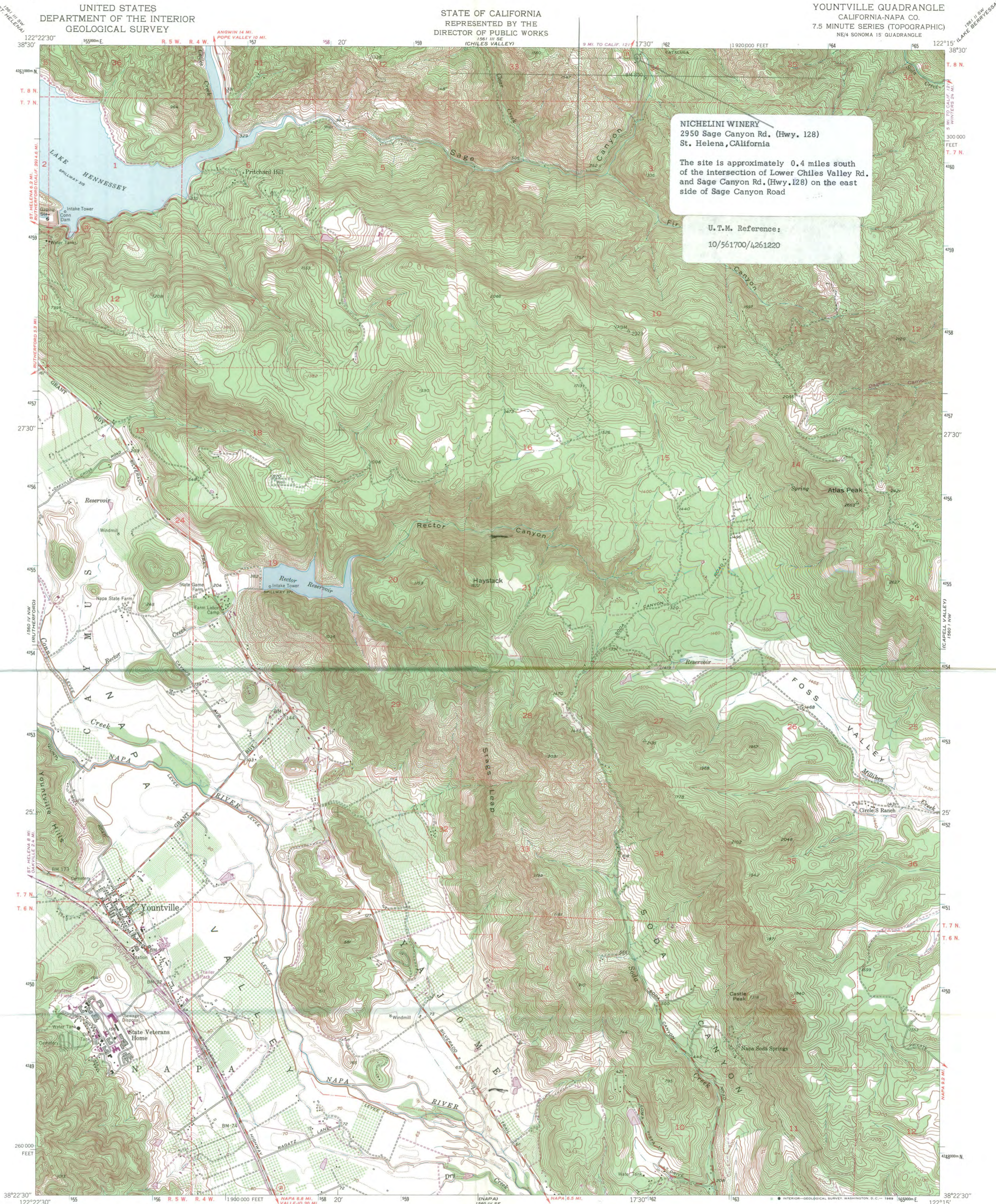










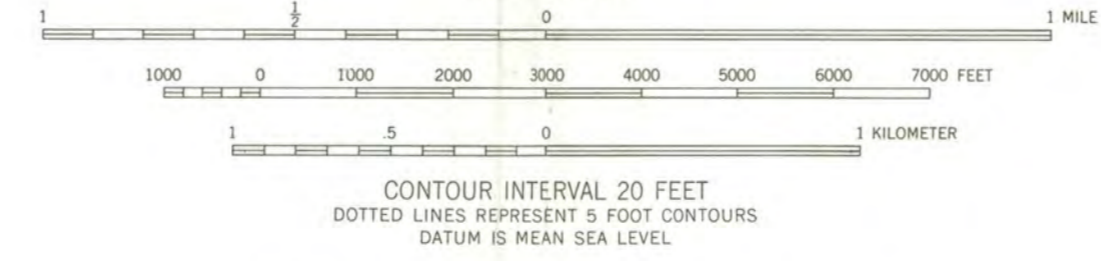
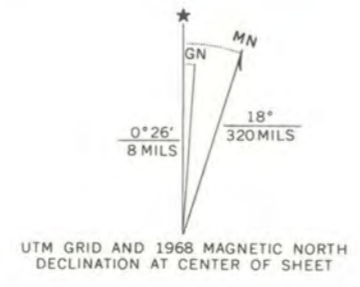


NICHELINI WINERY
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The site is approximately 0.4 miles south
of the intersection of Lower Chiles Valley Rd.
and Sage Canyon Rd. (Hwy. 128) on the east
side of Sage Canyon Road

U.T.M. Reference:
10/561700/4261220

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
and by plane-table surveys 1951. Aerial photographs taken 1948
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on California coordinate system, zone 2
Dashed land lines indicate approximate locations
Unchecked elevations are shown in brown
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 10, shown in blue
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1968. This information not field checked



YOUNTVILLE, CALIF.
NE/4 SONOMA 15' QUADRANGLE
N3822.5-W12215.7.5

1951
PHOTOREVISED 1968
AMS 1560 IV NE-SERIES V895

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2015

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Nichelini Winery (Amendment)
Other names/site number: Nichelini homestead cabin/Nichelini Vineyards/Nichelini Ranch
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 2950 Sage Canyon Road (State Hwy 128)
City or town: St. Helena State: California (CA) County: Napa (055)
Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this x nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property x meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide x local
Applicable National Register Criteria:
 x A B C D

[Signature] Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer 2/12/15
Signature of certifying official/Title: Date
California Office of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: Date

Title : State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Nichelini Winery
Name of Property

Napa, California
County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) Additional Documentation Approved


Signature of the Keeper

4-6-15
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Nichelini Winery
Name of Property

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| <u>1</u> | _____ | buildings |
| _____ | _____ | sites |
| _____ | _____ | structures |
| _____ | _____ | objects |
| <u>1</u> | _____ | Total |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/homestead

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER/not in use

Nichelini Winery
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7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property:
WOOD/board and batten

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Nichelini homestead cabin is a contributor to the Nichelini Winery, a property listed in the National Register of Historic Places but not included in the original listing.

The Nichelini homestead cabin is a single story building constructed in ca. 1890 and located in rural northeast Napa County on an original 160 acre homesteaded tract of land. The cabin is situated below a fairly steep ledge on a flat terrace approximately 80 feet east of Sage Canyon Road (Hwy 128) and 70 feet east-southeast of the Nichelini winery/residence (ca.1895). The cabin measures approximately 12 feet by 14 feet and rests at the edge of a sloped landscape directly on top of the soil with some cobble located under several corners of the building. The south façade of the cabin rests against a slight slopping terraced landscape and there is a large mature Valley Oak tree located along the northeast corner of the building.

The building consists of a simple one-room floor plan with a steep pitched, front-gabled roof with slightly extended rafters. The roof is constructed of a common wooden framing system and is sheathed with wood shingles and patches of corrugated metal. The building is clad with redwood board-and-batten siding and an exterior base board that is present along the front façade. There are only two windows located on the cabin, one located along the front

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County and State

(north/west) façade and the second located along the back (south/west) façade. The front façade window is a single double-hung multi-light sash window that consists of a simple window casing that extends below the window sill. There are no glass window panes present; however several muntins are still present.

The only door is situated asymmetrically along the front façade. The door is in poor condition with only the frame and lower paneled section intact. The door consists of several metal hinges, and a clay door knob with lock box along the interior that appear to be original to the cabin. The window along the back (south/east) façade is square-shaped with a single muntin that runs vertical and divides the simple window into two sections. There is no glass present within the window sash. The window is cased with rough cut wood that appears to be original to the cabin.

The interior of the cabin consists of an exposed framing system and exposed floor that is currently covered in leaves and soil. The homestead likely included a privy though it has not been located.

Relocation History

The Nichelini homestead cabin was the first building to be constructed on the homesteaded property owned by Anton Nichelini in ca. 1890.¹ The cabin was originally situated at the top of a hill along a flat area of land next to a spring that is still in use today. Access to the cabin was along a steep hillside just off of a narrow and winding section of Sage Canyon Road. The original site of the cabin was approximately 750 feet north of the Nichelini residence (ca. 1895) and Nichelini Winery building (ca.1890) (NR79000508). The cabin was relocated to its current location in ca. 1895 and situated approximately 70 feet east-southeast of the Nichelini residence. According to Nichelini descendants the cabin was relocated so that Caterina Nichelini and her children would be close to the new permanent winery/residence that Anton was constructing on the property. The original design of the cabin is unaltered.

Integrity

The Nichelini homestead cabin possesses seven of seven aspects of integrity. Although the building has been moved from its original location, the building was relocated within the historic homestead and within the period of significance, establishing significance in its own right, and therefore has integrity of *location*. The building has changed relatively little throughout its history. The historically important elements of the building's construction clearly remain, and therefore the property has integrity of *design*. The physical environment surrounding the property has changed little since the time of the cabin's construction; the setting did and continues to reflect the agricultural nature of Napa County wine country. Therefore, the property has integrity of *setting*. The physical elements of the cabin that convey its significance remain; therefore, the property has integrity of *materials* and

¹ National Register of Historic Places, Nichelini Winery, Napa County, California, National Register #79000508.

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workmanship. The property has integrity of both *feeling* and *association* because its appearance evokes the aesthetic and historic sense of the period of significance and because there is a direct link between the property as it is today and historically as it is still owned by the Nichelini family and remains a working winery. Since the period of significance, the property associated with the Nichelini homestead cabin continues to operate as a commercial winery. The cabin, although not currently in use, clearly conveys all aspects of its historic significance

Nichelini Winery
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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Nichelini Winery
Name of Property

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Agriculture
Exploration/Settlement

Period of Significance

1884 – 1937

Significant Dates

1884
1890
1895
1920

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Nichelini homestead cabin is eligible for listing as a contributor to the National Register listed (NR79000508) under Criterion A for its association with early 20th century homesteading, agricultural development, and wine making in Napa Valley (period of significance 1884 - 1937). The period of significance is associated with, the period of time that Anton Nichelini, the first homesteader and Swiss immigrant to settle in the remote Chiles Valley, homestead and developed the property until his death in 1937. The cabin embodies the distinctive characteristics of homestead structures during the late 20th century and epitomizes early homestead life, settlement, and agricultural development in the region. Anton Nichelini, a native of Switzerland/owner and builder of the Winery in 1890, was one of many immigrants who exerted a strong influence upon the wine industry in Napa County and who left their mark throughout the County. Anton Nichelini developed deep roots and many connections in the Napa Valley despite the remoteness of the location. In addition to planting vineyards, Nichelini also developed chromite small mines on the property which is in a region of Napa County known for its chromite mine. The mineral deposits, along with grapes, located on the 160 acres homestead site made the Nichelini Ranch one of the most valuable properties in the county. Although the cabin has been relocated, its current location has gained significance in its own right as it has stood in the same location since ca. 1895 and moved only 5 years after it was originally constructed. The property retained its rural setting and its association with the Nichelini family after its relocation. Thus, the property meets the requirements of Criteria Consideration B regarding moved properties.

Nichelini Winery
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Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion A: The property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The homestead cabin is significant under National Register Criterion A for its association with early 20th century homesteading, agricultural development, and wine making in Napa Valley (period of significance – 1884 - 1937). The Nichelini homestead cabin is one of few original cabins remaining in the region. The cabin embodies the distinctive characteristics of homestead structures during the late 20th century and epitomizes early homestead life, settlement, and agricultural development in the region. Although relocated in ca. 1895, the cabin has gained significance in its own right as it still stands today where it has stood for over 120 years as a testament to the Nichelini family owned winery and the important role that homesteading played in Napa County.

Anton Nichelini was born on November 22, 1862 in Verscio, Canton Ticino near the southern Alpine slopes of Switzerland. Anton was not the first Nichelini to find his way to California, but the third. Anton followed his father Francisco [Francesco] Nichelini who in 1880 followed his brother Joseph Secondo Nichelini (a baker) to California (Figure 1). However, it would be Anton Nichelini who would father a winemaking family in the Napa Valley. When Anton arrived in California in 1882 at the age of 20 he first settled in Glen Ellen and became a wine maker and grape grower for pioneer wine maker Joshua Chauvet (owner of a large wine operation south of Glen Ellen in Sonoma County)². Two years later Anton took up a homestead in Chiles Valley and became the first Swiss settler in the area. As required by the Homestead Act of 1862, Anton lived on the land, built a home, made improvements, and farmed for 5 years prior to being eligible to "prove up" and claim the land. During this time, Chiles Valley was a rugged, mountainous area and when Anton arrived at the homestead there were no graded roads or improvements being made to this near impassable terrain. Under the hard labor and skill of Anton Nichelini, there was soon planted vineyards within the 160 acre tract of land and also had plans to develop two mines that included a potential copper mine and a chromite mine³.

On July 7, 1890 Anton married Caterina (Corda) Nichelini and they lived in the homestead cabin in its original location along a steep hillside off Sage Canyon Road for several years. Anton soon had plans to construct a winery and a house for Caterina, so the cabin was moved prior to the building of the stone winery/residence in 1895 in order for Caterina and their children to be closer to Anton during the construction of the new residence. According to the Nichelini family, during this time the growing family consisted of four children who were all born in the homestead cabin (William Anton Nichelini, 5 July 1891, Joseph Francis Nichelini, 12 February 1893, Josephine Delaphine Nichelini, 16 June 1894 and Ema Virginia Nichelini, 22 February 1896). According to a St. Helena Star article published in 1895, the Nichelini's threw a party for 100 people; the Miller and Payne Orchestra played, and served breakfast at 2 a.m. for

² St. Helena Star. "Prominent Ranch Passes Away," 12 Nov 1937.

³ Wallace, W.F. *History of Napa County, Illustrated*. Oakland, California: Enquirer Print, 1901.

Nichelini Winery

Napa, California

Name of Property

County and State

their guests. Anton and Caterina eventually had twelve children, all of which attend school at the Chiles Valley one-room school house that is still standing although it has been converted into a residence⁴.

Vineyards, Mines, and Prohibition

During the years of significance the 160 acres Nichelini homestead property consisted of approximately 30 acres of vineyards and two developed mines. Anton originally planted approximately 30 acres of grapes on the property and soon began to make wine. The first Swiss immigrant in Chiles Valley, Anton built the first wine cellar in Sage Canyon and he had become locally known as a skilled wine maker⁵. By ca.1895, almost 10 years from the year that he took up the homestead claim, Nichelini had constructed a winery/residence.

The epitome of a hard-working homesteader Anton not only grew grapes and made wine, but he also supplemented his income by working from 1891 until 1900 as an employee of Stanley and Bartlett in the magnesite mines located in Chiles Valley. Anton even further augmented his bottom line by establishing a mobile culinary service (mainly wine and bread) for his own miners, but also for the workers of other Napa County mines to sustain them during their labors. But he did not stop there. Not only did he produce fine wine, but by also drew on a steady mining clientele who worked the mines in Pope and Chiles Valley. Nichelini benefited not only from his homestead property as an agricultural opportunity by growing grapes and producing wine, but also by capitalizing on the convenient and valuable resource held in the mines on the property

By ca. 1900, Anton began to work the two Nichelini mines situated on the homestead property. The Nichelini mines were located in Sections 33 and 34, T8N, R4W and were worked by Anton Nichelini from the early 1900s⁶. "It is said that the quantity of magnesite is practically unlimited"⁷ During early mining on the property, the principal ore body was said to have yielded about 2000 tons until it was mined out.⁸ Although the property was located in a remote area in Chiles Valley, Anton prospered on his homestead by utilizing the full potential of the resources on his land.⁹

Early 20th Century

Winemaking along with mining continued to engage Anton's attention through the early 20th century. Then in 1920, the Nichelini Winery officially closed during the years of Prohibition. However, true to his character, Anton did not miss a beat as bootlegging was big business during prohibition, and Anton Nichelini was well known in the area for providing much more than sacramental wine.¹⁰ Anton and his son William (aka Bill) had an elaborate way of hiding their illicit activity from the law during Prohibition that included crushing grapes in a more remote

⁴ St. Helena Star. "Nichelini Celebration." 1895.

⁵ Wallace, W.F. 1901

⁶ Dow, D.H. and T.P. Thayer. Geological Investigations of Chromite in California, U. S. Department of Interior Geological Survey. published in 1946

⁷ St. Helena Star. "Good Old Days." 1995

⁸ Dow, D.H. 1946

⁹ The St. Helena Historical Society. The Electrolier. published January 2014

¹⁰ Clifford Clark Letter to Sheriff Joseph Harris, dated 10 May 1920.

Nichelini Winery

Napa, California

Name of Property

County and State

location away from the winery along a flat where the homestead cabin had originally stood near the original old wooden winery (Figure 3). The wine was stored at this remote location, but it was also then transported down the hill in limited quantities to the stone winery on Sage Canyon Road where it was placed in the underground section of the stone building for access to sell to clientele.¹¹

In 1920, Clifford Clark, a resident of the town of Monticello (now buried beneath Lake Berryessa) wrote a letter to Sheriff Harris complaining about "... several good times..." and the mention of the wine coming from the "Nichelini's"¹² (Figure 4). By 1923, Sheriff Harris was a busy man trying to bust bootlegging rings in Napa County. He also had his eye on Anton Nichelini for many months. Anton was finally arrested on January 8th, 1924 for bootlegging (along with many other well know winemakers in the area as part of a major bust) and taken to the St. Helena jail.

Despite the arrest the Anton Nichelini and his family continued to supply wine to thirsty miners and residents in the area. Anton's eldest son Bill even had a distribution company and drove shipments of sacramental wine for Beaulieu and Beringer of which many bottles of Nichelini wine found their way off the trucks before their final delivery¹³.

Nichelini Winery officially reopened after repeal of the Volstead Act by Nichelini's son, Bill Nichelini as Anton could no longer operate the winery due to his arrest. Prohibition along with the Great Depression took its toll on the wineries that re-opened and by 1962 only 26 wineries were still open in Napa County. Nichelini Winery was one of them.

Today the Nichelini Winery, "the only surviving privately run winery in Napa County to have remained in business before, during, and after Prohibition¹⁴", is still a small, family-run winery with the original homestead cabin, although relocated in ca. 1895 is still located just behind the residence where it has stood for over 120 years and has gained significance in its own right.

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Nichelini Winery
Name of Property

Napa, California
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Letter from Clifford Clark to Sheriff Joseph Harris, dated 10 May 1920

National Register of Historic Places, Nichelini Winery, Napa County, California, National Register #79000508

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Nichelini Winery
Name of Property

Napa, California
County and State

- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than 1 acre (Cabin)

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
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Nichelini Winery
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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Sections 33, T9N/R4W, and Sections 34 and 35, T8N/R5W

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary of the homestead cabin is located within the existing Nichelini Winery 160 acre homestead associated with the cabin, home and winery. Additional properties associated with this listing are included in NR79000508.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Stacey De Shazo, M.A. Director of Historic Preservation
organization: Napa County Landmarks, Inc.
street & number: 1219 First Street
city or town: Napa state: CA zip code: 94559
e-mail: stacey@napacountylandmarks.org
telephone: 707-255-4836
date: June 15, 2014

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
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Photo Log

Included on Continuation Sheet 10-900a, per OHP's instruction.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Nichelini Winery (Amendment)
Other names/site number: Nichelini homestead cabin/Nichelini Vineyards/Nichelini Ranch
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 2950 Sage Canyon Road (State Hwy 128)
City or town: St. Helena State: California (CA) County: Napa (055)
Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide x local
Applicable National Register Criteria:
x A ___ B ___ C ___ D

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| _____ Signature of certifying official/Title: | _____ Date |
| _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government | |

| | |
|---|---|
| In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. | |
| _____ Signature of commenting official: | _____ Date |
| _____ Title : | _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government |

Nichelini Winery
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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public - Local
- Public - State
- Public - Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Nichelini Winery
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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| <u>1</u> | _____ | buildings |
| _____ | _____ | sites |
| _____ | _____ | structures |
| _____ | _____ | objects |
| <u>1</u> | _____ | Total |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/homestead

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER/not in use

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

WOOD/board and batten

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Nichelini homestead cabin is a contributor to the Nichelini Winery, a property listed in the National Register of Historic Places but not included in the original listing.

The Nichelini homestead cabin is a single story building constructed in ca. 1890 and located in rural northeast Napa County on an original 160 acre homesteaded tract of land. The cabin is situated below a fairly steep ledge on a flat terrace approximately 80 feet east of Sage Canyon Road (Hwy 128) and 70 feet east-southeast of the Nichelini winery/residence (ca.1895). The cabin measures approximately 12 feet by 14 feet and rests at the edge of a sloped landscape directly on top of the soil with some cobble located under several corners of the building. The south façade of the cabin rests against a slight slopping terraced landscape and there is a large mature Valley Oak tree located along the northeast corner of the building.

The building consists of a simple one-room floor plan with a steep pitched, front-gabled roof with slightly extended rafters. The roof is constructed of a common wooden framing system and is sheathed with wood shingles and patches of corrugated metal. The building is clad with redwood board-and-batten siding and an exterior base board that is present along the front façade. There are only two windows located on the cabin, one located along the front

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(north/west) façade and the second located along the back (south/west) façade. The front façade window is a single double-hung multi-light sash window that consists of a simple window casing that extends below the window sill. There are no glass window panes present; however several muntins are still present.

The only door is situated asymmetrically along the front façade. The door is in poor condition with only the frame and lower paneled section intact. The door consists of several metal hinges, and a clay door knob with lock box along the interior that appear to be original to the cabin. The window along the back (south/east) façade is square-shaped with a single muntin that runs vertical and divides the simple window into two sections. There is no glass present within the window sash. The window is cased with rough cut wood that appears to be original to the cabin.

The interior of the cabin consists of an exposed framing system and exposed floor that is currently covered in leaves and soil. The homestead likely included a privy though it has not been located.

Relocation History

The Nichelini homestead cabin was the first building to be constructed on the homesteaded property owned by Anton Nichelini in ca. 1890.¹ The cabin was originally situated at the top of a hill along a flat area of land next to a spring that is still in use today. Access to the cabin was along a steep hillside just off of a narrow and winding section of Sage Canyon Road. The original site of the cabin was approximately 750 feet north of the Nichelini residence (ca. 1895) and Nichelini Winery building (ca.1890) (NR79000508). The cabin was relocated to its current location in ca. 1895 and situated approximately 70 feet east-southeast of the Nichelini residence. According to Nichelini descendants the cabin was relocated so that Caterina Nichelini and her children would be close to the new permanent winery/residence that Anton was constructing on the property. The original design of the cabin is unaltered.

Integrity

The Nichelini homestead cabin possesses seven of seven aspects of integrity. Although the building has been moved from its original location, the building was relocated within the historic homestead and within the period of significance, establishing significance in its own right, and therefore has integrity of *location*. The building has changed relatively little throughout its history. The historically important elements of the building's construction clearly remain, and therefore the property has integrity of *design*. The physical environment surrounding the property has changed little since the time of the cabin's construction; the setting did and continues to reflect the agricultural nature of Napa County wine country. Therefore, the property has integrity of *setting*. The physical elements of the cabin that convey its significance remain; therefore, the property has integrity of *materials* and

¹ National Register of Historic Places, Nichelini Winery, Napa County, California, National Register #79000508.

Nichelini Winery

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workmanship. The property has integrity of both *feeling* and *association* because its appearance evokes the aesthetic and historic sense of the period of significance and because there is a direct link between the property as it is today and historically as it is still owned by the Nichelini family and remains a working winery. Since the period of significance, the property associated with the Nichelini homestead cabin continues to operate as a commercial winery. The cabin, although not currently in use, clearly conveys all aspects of its historic significance

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Nichelini Winery
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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Agriculture
Exploration/Settlement

Period of Significance

1884 – 1937

Significant Dates

1884
1890
1895
1920

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Nichelini Winery
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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Nichelini homestead cabin is eligible for listing as a contributor to the National Register listed (NR79000508) under Criterion A for its association with early 20th century homesteading, agricultural development, and wine making in Napa Valley (period of significance 1884 - 1937). The period of significance is associated with, the period of time that Anton Nichelini, the first homesteader and Swiss immigrant to settle in the remote Chiles Valley, homestead and developed the property until his death in 1937. The cabin embodies the distinctive characteristics of homestead structures during the late 20th century and epitomizes early homestead life, settlement, and agricultural development in the region. Anton Nichelini, a native of Switzerland/owner and builder of the Winery in 1890, was one of many immigrants who exerted a strong influence upon the wine industry in Napa County and who left their mark throughout the County. Anton Nichelini developed deep roots and many connections in the Napa Valley despite the remoteness of the location. In addition to planting vineyards, Nichelini also developed chromite small mines on the property which is in a region of Napa County known for its chromite mine. The mineral deposits, along with grapes, located on the 160 acres homestead site made the Nichelini Ranch one of the most valuable properties in the county. Although the cabin has been relocated, its current location has gained significance in its own right as it has stood in the same location since ca. 1895 and moved only 5 years after it was originally constructed. The property retained its rural setting and its association with the Nichelini family after its relocation. Thus, the property meets the requirements of Criteria Consideration B regarding moved properties.

Nichelini Winery
Name of Property

Napa, California
County and State

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion A: The property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The homestead cabin is significant under National Register Criterion A for its association with early 20th century homesteading, agricultural development, and wine making in Napa Valley (period of significance – 1884 - 1937). The Nichelini homestead cabin is one of few original cabins remaining in the region. The cabin embodies the distinctive characteristics of homestead structures during the late 20th century and epitomizes early homestead life, settlement, and agricultural development in the region. Although relocated in ca. 1895, the cabin has gained significance in its own right as it still stands today where it has stood for over 120 years as a testament to the Nichelini family owned winery and the important role that homesteading played in Napa County.

Anton Nichelini was born on November 22, 1862 in Verscio, Canton Ticino near the southern Alpine slopes of Switzerland. Anton was not the first Nichelini to find his way to California, but the third. Anton followed his father Francisco [Francesco] Nichelini who in 1880 followed his brother Joseph Secondo Nichelini (a baker) to California (Figure 1). However, it would be Anton Nichelini who would father a winemaking family in the Napa Valley. When Anton arrived in California in 1882 at the age of 20 he first settled in Glen Ellen and became a wine maker and grape grower for pioneer wine maker Joshua Chauvet (owner of a large wine operation south of Glen Ellen in Sonoma County)². Two years later Anton took up a homestead in Chiles Valley and became the first Swiss settler in the area. As required by the Homestead Act of 1862, Anton lived on the land, built a home, made improvements, and farmed for 5 years prior to being eligible to "prove up" and claim the land. During this time, Chiles Valley was a rugged, mountainous area and when Anton arrived at the homestead there were no graded roads or improvements being made to this near impassable terrain. Under the hard labor and skill of Anton Nichelini, there was soon planted vineyards within the 160 acre tract of land and also had plans to develop two mines that included a potential copper mine and a chromite mine³.

On July 7, 1890 Anton married Caterina (Corda) Nichelini and they lived in the homestead cabin in its original location along a steep hillside off Sage Canyon Road for several years. Anton soon had plans to construct a winery and a house for Caterina, so the cabin was moved prior to the building of the stone winery/residence in 1895 in order for Caterina and their children to be closer to Anton during the construction of the new residence. According to the Nichelini family, during this time the growing family consisted of four children who were all born in the homestead cabin (William Anton Nichelini, 5 July 1891, Joseph Francis Nichelini, 12 February 1893, Josephine Delaphine Nichelini, 16 June 1894 and Ema Virginia Nichelini, 22 February 1896). According to a St. Helena Star article published in 1895, the Nichelini's threw a party for 100 people; the Miller and Payne Orchestra played, and served breakfast at 2 a.m. for

² St. Helena Star. "Prominent Ranch Passes Away." 12 Nov 1937.

³ Wallace, W.F. *History of Napa County, Illustrated*. Oakland, California: Enquirer Print, 1901.

Nichelini Winery

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their guests. Anton and Caterina eventually had twelve children, all of which attend school at the Chiles Valley one-room school house that is still standing although it has been converted into a residence⁴.

Vineyards, Mines, and Prohibition

During the years of significance the 160 acres Nichelini homestead property consisted of approximately 30 acres of vineyards and two developed mines. Anton originally planted approximately 30 acres of grapes on the property and soon began to make wine. The first Swiss immigrant in Chiles Valley, Anton built the first wine cellar in Sage Canyon and he had become locally known as a skilled wine maker⁵. By ca.1895, almost 10 years from the year that he took up the homestead claim, Nichelini had constructed a winery/residence.

The epitome of a hard-working homesteader Anton not only grew grapes and made wine, but he also supplemented his income by working from 1891 until 1900 as an employee of Stanley and Bartlett in the magnesite mines located in Chiles Valley. Anton even further augmented his bottom line by establishing a mobile culinary service (mainly wine and bread) for his own miners, but also for the workers of other Napa County mines to sustain them during their labors. But he did not stop there. Not only did he produce fine wine, but by also drew on a steady mining clientele who worked the mines in Pope and Chiles Valley. Nichelini benefited not only from his homestead property as an agricultural opportunity by growing grapes and producing wine, but also by capitalizing on the convenient and valuable resource held in the mines on the property

By ca. 1900, Anton began to work the two Nichelini mines situated on the homestead property. The Nichelini mines were located in Sections 33 and 34, T8N, R4W and were worked by Anton Nichelini from the early 1900s⁶. "It is said that the quantity of magnesite is practically unlimited"⁷ During early mining on the property, the principal ore body was said to have yielded about 2000 tons until it was mined out.⁸ Although the property was located in a remote area in Chiles Valley, Anton prospered on his homestead by utilizing the full potential of the resources on his land.⁹

Early 20th Century

Winemaking along with mining continued to engage Anton's attention through the early 20th century. Then in 1920, the Nichelini Winery officially closed during the years of Prohibition. However, true to his character, Anton did not miss a beat as bootlegging was big business during prohibition, and Anton Nichelini was well known in the area for providing much more than sacramental wine.¹⁰ Anton and his son William (aka Bill) had an elaborate way of hiding their illicit activity from the law during Prohibition that included crushing grapes in a more remote

⁴ St. Helena Star. "Nichelini Celebration." 1895.

⁵ Wallace, W.F. 1901

⁶ Dow, D.H. and T.P. Thayer. Geological Investigations of Chromite in California, U. S. Department of Interior Geological Survey. published in 1946

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Nichelini Winery _____
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Napa, California _____
County and State

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Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

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- | | | |
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Nichelini Winery
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Stacey De Shazo, M.A. Director of Historic Preservation
organization: Napa County Landmarks, Inc.
street & number: 1219 First Street
city or town: Napa state: CA zip code: 94559
e-mail: stacey@napacountylandmarks.org
telephone: 707-255-4836
date: June 15, 2014

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Included on Continuation Sheet 10-900a, per OHP's instruction.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.















National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

Property Nichelini Winery

State CA. (Napa) Working Number 6.21.79.1503

79000508

TECHNICAL

Photos 4
Maps 1

CONTROL

OK 6.21.79

Locally significant in settlement and commercial/industrial history as a continuously-operated (except Prohibition) family enterprise reflective of late 19th c. small scale winemaking in Napa region and of immigrant contributions to local agriculture, business, and design tradition.

HISTORIAN

ACCEPT
8/11/79

Joe Town

Integrity of design and materials of this basically vernacular, frame residence enhance architectural significance which rests on structure's stone winery construction with board & batten residence above, reflecting Swiss heritage of owner/builder combined with adaptation to the local situation which presumably occurred.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept. Safe
8-23-79

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept! Joe Town
8/24/79

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry _____

OCT 2 1979

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____

Entered AUG 24 1979

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

P.O. BOX 2390
SACRAMENTO 95811



June 12, 1979

Mr. Charles A. Herrington
Acting Keeper of the National Register
United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
440 G Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20243



Dear Mr. Herrington:

We submit the Nichelini Winery for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. This nomination is located in the 2nd California Congressional District in Napa County.

Sincerely,


Dr. Knox Mellon
State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures
cb/KM

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE CALIFORNIA

Date Entered AUG 24 1979

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| La Grange Multiple Resource Area | La Grange Stanislaus County |
| Altaville Grammar School | Altaville Calaveras County |
| Bank of Los Banos Building | Los Banos Merced County |
| Nichelini Winery | St. Helena vicinity Napa County |
| Watson Log Cabin | Tahoe City Placer County |

Also Notified

Honorable S. I. Hayakawa

Honorable Alan Cranston
Honorable Norman D. Shumway
Honorable Tom Coelho
Honorable Don H. Clausen
Honorable Harold T. Johnson

State Historic Preservation Officer
Dr. Knox Mellon
Office of Historic Preservation
Department of Parks & Recreation
P.O. Box 2390
Sacramento, California 95811

NR Byers/bjr 8/30/79

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.

Nichelini Winery Amendment
St. Helena, Napa County, California
National Register of Historic Places

This amendment amends the existing National Register of Historic Places listing for the Nichelini Winery to include the Nichelini homestead cabin as a contributor to the listed property. The cabin is a single-story wooden frame building with a front-gabled roof of steep pitch and slightly extended rafters, constructed circa 1890. It is located on a steep ledge approximately 70 feet east-southeast of the 1895 Nichelini winery and residence that replaced this building. The cabin measures approximately 12 by 14 feet. The roof is sheathed in wood shingles and patches of corrugated metal. The walls are redwood board-and-batten siding with an exterior baseboard along the front façade. The building's two wooden sash windows are located on the front (northwest) façade and the back (southwest) wall.

The cabin was the first building constructed on the Nichelini homestead, a simple vernacular building where Swiss settler Anton Nichelini lived while improving and farming his homestead into a 160 acre property including a 30 acre vineyard and two mines. Nichelini lived in the cabin with his wife Caterina after their July 1890 marriage, and his first four children were all born in the cabin. Nichelini's family moved into a larger home in 1896, relocating the homestead cabin to its current site in approximately 1895. The period of significance falls within the Nichelini Winery's overall period of significance of 1884-1937, the era when Anton Nichelini settled the land until his death. The property has deteriorated due to a relative lack of maintenance but retains a high degree of historic integrity as a result of its relative lack of alteration. The property was moved circa 1895, during the established period of significance of the Nichelini Winery, but meets the requirements of Criteria Consideration B because the property retained its association with the Nichelini family after relocation. The relocated setting is also still within the original Nichelini homestead, a similar setting and environment to its original location.

Staff supports the nomination as written and recommends that the State Historical Resources Commission determine that the Nichelini homestead cabin is a contributor to the existing Nichelini Winery property and the existing National Register listing should thus be amended. Staff recommends the State Historic Preservation Officer approve the nomination for forwarding to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

William Burg
State Historian II
January 6, 2015

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-7100
(916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053
calshpo@parks.ca.gov
www.ohp.parks.ca.gov



February 12, 2015

J. Paul Loether
Deputy Keeper and Chief, National Register and National Historic Landmark Program
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service 2280
1201 I (Eye) Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Subject: **Nichelini Winery (Amendment)**
St. Helena, Napa County, California
National Register of Historic Places

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find an amendment to the **Nichelini Winery** nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. This property is located in St. Helena, Napa County, California. On January 28, 2015, the State Historical Resources Commission unanimously found the additional resource located on the property eligible for the National Register under Criterion A.

The property is nominated on behalf of the property owner, the Nichelini family.

If you have any questions regarding this nomination, please contact William Burg of my staff at 916-445-7004.

Sincerely,

Carol Roland-Nawi, Ph.D.
State Historic Preservation Officer

nclosures

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Nichelini Winery

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: CALIFORNIA, Napa

DATE RECEIVED: 2/20/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/07/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 79000508

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 4.6.15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Approved

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.