

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section _____ Page _____

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 06000312

Date Listed: 4/19/2006

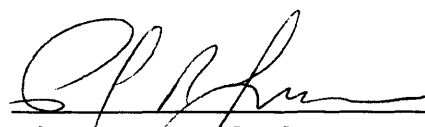
Temelec
Property Name

Sonoma
County

CA
State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

4/19/06
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Historic Function:

The Historic Functions are amended to add: *Domestic/secondary structure; Agriculture-Subsistence/animal facility, agricultural outbuilding.*

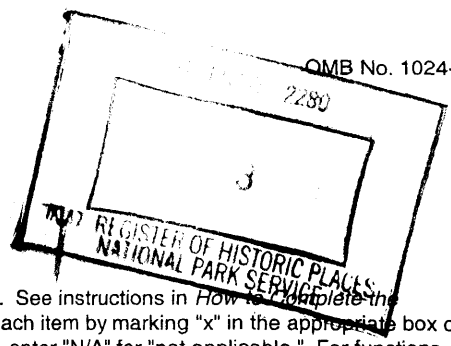
These clarifications were confirmed with the CA SHPO office.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Temelec

other names/site number Temelec Farm

2. Location

street & number 220 and 221 Temelec Circle NA not for publication

city or town Sonoma vicinity

state California code CA county Sonoma code 097 zip code 95476

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Steph M. Deane 3/10/06
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

California Office of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

[Signature]

4/19/06

Temelec
Name of Property _____

Sonoma County, CA
County and State _____

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

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
6		buildings
1		sites
3 (reservoir & walls)		structures
1 (fountain)		objects
11		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A _____

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

na

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

domestic/single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

social/clubhouse
recreation & culture/outdoor recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Gothic Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

roof _____
walls stone

other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
See continuation sheets

Temelec
Name of Property _____

Sonoma County, CA
County and State _____

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.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # HABS CA-1563 _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture _____

Social History _____

Period of Significance

1858-1955 _____

Significant Dates

1858 _____

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

NA _____

Architect/Builder

unknown _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government Local Co. Landmarks Comm
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

Library of Congress _____

Temelec
Name of Property _____

Sonoma County, CA
County and State _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property about 5 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	10	543840	4235310	3	_____	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barbara Broderick and Donna Geramoni

organization _____ date August, 2004

street & number 71 Temelec Circle telephone (707) 996-8817

city or town Sonoma state CA zip code 95476

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name multiple

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

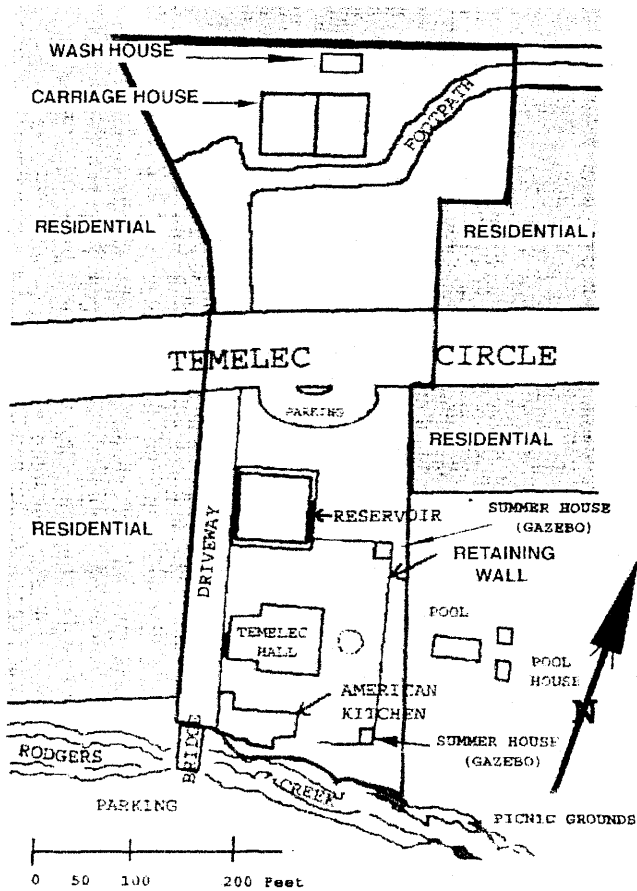
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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebos, Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse
220 Temelec Circle, Sonoma, Sonoma County, CA 95476

Description



SUMMARY

The second great house in Northern California, Temelec Hall, was built in 1858 by Captain Granville P. Swift just south of Sonoma Plaza (the first was Lachryma Montis, built by General Mariano Vallejo). Temelec Hall is a stone mansion in the Greek Revival style; this fine building retains its integrity and is in good condition today.

As shown on the map to the left, nominated for the National Register for Temelec are the main house Temelec Hall, the two Gazebos, the American Kitchen/Smoke-house, the Reservoir/Fishpond, the Carriage House/Barn, and the Washhouse. Although surrounded by the more recent adult community residences (shaded areas), the noted buildings and reservoir exist in a garden setting of their own which includes some of the 1858 original plantings and most of the 1920's renovation plantings.

The buildings, Reservoir, and surrounds are described below.

Overview

Temelec Hall is a two story house with a third story/dormered attic on the back section and a full basement. It's present address is 220 Temelec Circle, just under four miles southwest of downtown Sonoma. It was built in 1858-1859 as the home of California pioneer Captain Granville Perry Swift and his bride, Jane Eliza. Four major exterior change eras occurred after 1858. The second owner, Colonel William Kissane Rogers, changed the Carriage House/Barn by taking down the stone ramp; see description below.

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebo, Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse
220 Temelec Circle, Sonoma, Sonoma County, CA 95476

Description, cont'd

The fifth owners, Lolita and Edmond D. Coblentz, added a 31' x 30' one and one-half story wood addition to the south of the Hall, attaching it at its west end to the original cookroom and stone Smokehouse, changed one side window in the south wall of the Hall to a door, and replaced the front double doors of the Carriage House/Barn with an antique set of wooden doors given them as a wedding present by William Randolph Hearst; more details below. The sixth owners, Temelec Development, bisected the Hall and Carriage House/Barn area with a street, Temelec Circle, needed for access around the 325 residences of the adult community; more details below, and the Temelec Homeowners Association added a cement handicapped ramp on the south back side of the Hall in the 1990's.

It is visually obvious that all of these exterior changes were done with respect for the historic plan and layout of Temelec Hall and its surrounding buildings and grounds. Temelec Hall especially is, except for the side window becoming a door, authentic in its exterior. Although the stone ramp is gone, the Carriage House/Barn itself is also authentic in its exterior. The details below show this as does the drawing of the area.

All areas without structures have paths and are well landscaped with grass, plants, flowers, and trees.

The land itself had been termed "that certain tract or parcel of land called Temelec" in General Persifor Smith's deed when he bought a portion of the vast Petaluma Rancho in 1850 from General Mariano Vallejo who had been granted much acreage in this area of California in 1835. Vallejo noted General Smith's portion was "one mile wide" and 1085 acres stretching from the ridge of Sonoma Mountain down to a horse path which is now Arnold Drive. General Smith, as military commander of the whole of the Pacific Coast, did not think Yerba Buena/San Francisco a good military setting so moved north to this land, setting on it a prefab wooden house brought around the Horn. General Smith stayed less than a year before realizing he did need to be in San Francisco.

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen,
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220 Temelec Circle, Sonoma, Sonoma County, CA 95476

Description, cont'd

The land and frame house passed through two hands before Captain Swift attained it. Smith sold it to a Major Beck who sold it to Swift's brother William. When William died, his widow sold the property at auction, and Swift bought it August 7, 1857. As Temelec Hall was being built, Captain Swift lived in the small house which was dismantled in 1977 when it was found to be full of woodrot and too dilapidated to repair or move. Temelec was owned by Colonel William Kissane Rogers from 1865 to 1892, was indwelt by a caretaker for a Santa Rosa bank which owned it through 1915, owned and renovated by Lolita Schweitzer Coblentz and her husband Edmond, designated California Historic Landmark #237 in 1936, and sold to adult community developers by Mrs. Coblentz in the early 1960's with the stipulation that the Hall would be maintained in the appropriate historical manner, underscored by the Historic Resources Inventory by the State of California. It now serves as the clubhouse for the 325 residences of Temelec Retirement Community.

In 1860, an article describing Temelec stated that it surpassed "all other splendid and beautiful residences in California." (CA Farmer 9/14/1860) This and the oldest photo of the house, taken sometime before 1870, give excellent written and visual descriptions of the house. Also retained are some original records of cost and materials, such as for the fishpond, of furnishings from various establishments in San Francisco, and of plants and trees procured from San Francisco nurseries. For the latter, receipts are extant for cypress, acacia, eunonymones, lemon verbena, and many other trees and plants. The cost to build Temelec Hall is unknown but estimated with a wide range from \$60,000 to \$300,000.

Detailed descriptions also are available in (1) research work completed in 1940 as a WPA Official Project (#655-08-3-147) done by Andrew Eggum after Temelec became California Historic Landmark #237 in 1936 after the Coblentz renovation and (2) for the Historic Buildings Survey/Built in American in 1964. The former notes that Temelec and General Vallejo's Sonoma home, Lachryma Montis, were the two most expensive houses

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen,
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220 Temelec Circle, Sonoma, Sonoma County, CA 95476

Description, cont'd

constructed in Northern California at that time, but this report is riddled with errors. The latter, a well-researched and detailed report, states that Temelec Hall is "one of the very rare Classical Revival houses in California, and one of the few in the United States in stone." (CAL-1963, page 8)

Here Today: San Francisco's Architectural Heritage by R. Olmstead and T. H. Watkins, published by San Francisco Chronicle Books for the Junior League of S.F., Inc., in 1968, notes that most of the existing homes from the 1850's and 1860's are Gothic Revival and Italianate. Four are listed as Classical Colonial or Greek Revival, all built later than Temelec (1869 had 2, 1872, and 1895); see later details.

Inaccuracies Corrected

The HABS Exterior and General description has inaccuracies on pages 6, 7, 8, and 9; corrections of these are as follows.

- p. 6. • "a large wing of two stories" -- The Hall has a third story in the back field stone section; at the least this third story could be called a well-dormered 10' attic. Used for servant quarters for the Swifts, it has ten foot ceilings; the large area was redone into a large three room apartment with full bathroom and several huge cedar closets for Mrs. Coblenz' clothes.
- p. 7. • "field stone foundations for what would appear to be another large house" -- This is now a reservoir but was built in 1858, according to extant receipts, as a fishpond.
- "long rectangular wood-room at right angles to the smoke-house" -- This is original to 1858 although it was redecorated by Mrs. Coblenz; the Coblenz addition is the wood structure in front of that long room.
 - "To the west of the smoke-house...a group of service buildings ... tool shed ... large metal cauldron and bake ovens are still in situ." Only a small bake-oven is still in situ west of the Smokehouse.
 - "large and very attractive field stone building ... was originally a winery" -- This was built in 1858 as a Carriage House/Barn, although the second owner, Rogers, did use it for his winery business.
- p.8 • "old pre-fabricated wood house" and "one-story adobe building" These are both gone now.

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen,
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Description, cont'd

- p. 9
- about "two modifications" (1) "The elimination of two of the four chimneys in the main block of building" There are still four chimneys on the front section's roof (and one on the back section roof), although two of the downstairs fireplaces were "suppressed." (2) "the addition of servants' quarters above the second story" This third story is original although the Coblentzes made great interior alterations.
 - "structural modifications made to allow a subordinate stairway to rise ... to the attic story" The interior stairway going up to the "attic story" is original to 1858.

Main House Description

Exterior

Temelec is just under 4 miles SW of downtown Sonoma near the base of the range of hills and mountains which separate Sonoma and Petaluma. The mansion is modified Greek Revival and compares well with other such mansions across the United States built around the same time or later. No record of the architect remains so that, as with Luther Burbank's Santa Rosa house, we can surmise it was, as many homes of the late 1800's were, built from a purchased plan of a Greek Revival house. The stone for the house, walls, barn, fishpond, and outbuilding was quarried from that range of nearby hills and mountains which were then part of the property and a mountain spring from that same range supplied all the water needed for the property and house.

The right to water from that source belonged to Temelec all the way into the 1960's when the retirement community developers who bought the property from Mrs. Coblentz chose not to buy that water right.

The main house, front facing east, has a low-hipped shingled roof. There are two stories with a cupola for the front 46' x 60' of the house. There are three stories for the back 31' x 30' of the house. The third story has three windowed dormers on the north and south sides. The first and third stories of the rear section were for domestics, pantries, and storage.

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebos, Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse
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Description, cont'd

The stone foundation forms a vast full basement running the full length of the house with many rooms separated with inner stone walls. The foundation stone rises three feet above ground level.

South of the house is an 1858 one-story 12' x 31' Smokehouse of stone with a stone fireplace running north south and a beamed cookroom 31' x 30' with a huge brick fireplace. A one-and-a-half story front wing (30' x 31') running east/ west was added in the Coblenz renovation. This building (the Smokehouse/cookroom and the added wing) is now known as the American Kitchen. North of the house is a wide lawn area and then a stone pond, originally built as a fishpond according to extant receipts and now used as a reservoir; this pond is 80' x 90' and 10' deep. Five feet of the pond's depth are above ground. Stone steps leading down into this fishpond on its south end were removed in the mid-1960's.

Along the west back of the house extending from the south end of the Smokehouse along the back of house and all the way to the fishpond is a tall rough stone wall. Old photos show that this wall originally ran 400' north of the house all the way to the Carriage House/Barn, perhaps to define the carriage path or for wind protection. The west wall of the Smokehouse forms the first section of this wall, and the wall is about 12' high until the house; then it is approximately 20' high all the way to the fishpond.

Between the Smokehouse and the main house is an arched opening with a stone buttress on each side and with double wood gates. Just north of the house is another opening in the wall, this one just wide rectangular, also with double wood gates. These gates lead from the driveway into the grounds and main buildings of Temelec.

The taller section of the wall has six stone buttresses on its west side before it continues as a five foot high wall which is the west end of the stone fishpond. The wall and the buttresses are all about two and one-half feet thick.

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebos, Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse
220 Temelec Circle, Sonoma, Sonoma County, CA 95476

Description, cont'd

There is no stone wall now from the north end of the pond to the Carriage House/Barn. It was taken out for the adult community changes, especially for the street, Temelec Circle, which runs east-west between the Hall and the Carriage House/Barn. At present between the fishpond and the Carriage House/Barn, there is a small horseshoe parking area, Temelec Circle, and a large lawn with trees; therefore, although Temelec Circle bisects them, no other or newer buildings mar the historical setting of the two original buildings. None of the 325 adult community residences crowd this historical setting. The carriage road of the 1800's ran east-west up to Carriage House/Barn and then turned south to run along the west side of the stone wall to the house. This road is now a broad walking path from Arnold Drive to the Carriage House/Barn and after its turn south continues to Temelec Circle. The old road continues as a paved driveway on the south side of Temelec Circle all along the back of the Hall and Smokehouse.

The land in front of the house is a natural raised lawn terrace and is held by a stone wall running north and south 100' east of the house, parted in the middle by six stone steps leading off the higher lawn.

On this lawn terrace and just in front of the house is a fountain with a swan motif by William H. Moore who was known for his sculpted fountains in the 1850's and 1860's. We know of three of these swan fountains here in Sonoma: General Vallejo's Lachryma Montis has one, the Nicholas Carriger estate (National Historic Register) on Carriger Road about 4 miles from downtown Sonoma has one, and Temelec has one. Moore's fountain at Temelec, the largest of the three, has a swan on the raised center section, and this swan motif was repeated with three swans on a raised round cast iron pillar in the middle of the fishpond.

At the north and south ends of the terrace stand two 14' x 14' stone buildings sometimes called temples, sometimes summerhouses, sometimes gazebos. Their style is Gothic-Italianate.

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Description, cont'd

The front section of the main house is dressed ashlar gray stone on the north, south, and east walls with all cornices, cappings, and facings in white stone; all corners and main windows are quoined with white stone. The walls are about three feet thick, and this may be what kept them hale during the 1906 earthquake. There was interior damage, but hardly any exterior damage except for window panes. The back section is of rough field stone with irregular joints.

Porticos run along three sides of the house: north, south, and east. These and their balconies are ten feet wide all around. The squared pillars on the first floor are dressed stone; the second floor has rounded wood columns in Ionic style. There are 8 pillars and columns along the front of the house, including the corner pillars/columns, and 6 along each side. The house roof extends and is supported by these pillar/columns, resting on the Ionic columns above the balcony. The porticos turn inward on both sides to run with the narrowing of the house 60' back from the east front. On the south side, there are five more pillars and one more column: one set of pillar/column is 10' in after the portico/ balcony turn north, and four more pillars are then at 10' intervals along the portico which continues past the house into the stone wall which runs north/ south from the end of the Smokehouse to the beginning of the fishpond. Above the first of these four pillars is a capped baluster to end the balcony rail.

On the north side, the portico ends in four stone steps down to the ground, and the balcony balustrade runs in to end at the narrowed wall. Both the porticos and balconies are railed with detailed wood balustrades.

The south portico has two sets of steps and one handicapped ramp (added in the 1990's). Original stone steps, four of them, lead up to the middle of the south side of the dressed ashlar stone part of the building to a side-parlor doorway with glazed transom above it. There is also a wide doorway into the kitchen and pantry areas on the back rough stone wall of the house; this doorway has a surround of smooth quoined stone. The original stone steps leading up to the portico outside the kitchen area were replaced with a large cement ramp for handicapped and elderly in the 1990's

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Description, cont'd

Wooden steps are towards the end of the portico; these lead into and out of storage areas behind the house and between the house and the stone wall.

The first story entablature's signature is a dentil course beneath the cornices, and the architrave and frieze are both short. At the top of the second story, the house supports a high elaborate entablature with a wide frieze ornamented with carved curving vines with bracket modillions above, separated by horizontal divisions, all along under the extended overhanging cornice. On this frieze over the front door area is a carved laurel leaf round frame; set in the middle of this frame is the carved date "1858." Both the first and second story entablatures as well as all cappings and facings are white stone.

As noted, four steps lead up to the portico, and across the portico width there is another step up to the 4' wide front door which is wood around the large center pane with narrow windows on each side and a long glass transom above. Two windows set in the left and right walls bank the front door. The second story repeats this pattern of doorway (this one solid wood) banked on each side by two long windows, these three paned, and then a window above the second story doorway and side windows with three large square panes.

Along the first story of the south side wall are four windows, each 9' tall with 18" x 24" glass panes, with a 4' wide door in the center of the front section wall. This door is suppressed on the interior so that it does permit entry now. There is a 3 1/2' door at the turning (changed from a tall window in the Coblentz renovation, as mentioned). Along the back section of the first story south side wall are two windows into the china pantry and two windows in the kitchen, each 6' high with 12" x 18" panes, and a large wooden door into the back storage pantry area. The second story south side wall has four windows similar in size to the first story, another tall window in the turning, and along the back section is a smaller door and three windows,

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebo, Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse
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Description, cont'd

two similar to the kitchen windows and the end one similar in size to those in the front section of the house. The third floor of the south back section has a large dormer with three windows, each 2' wide and 3' high.

Along the north side wall of the front section there are four of the 9' windows in the first story and three in the second story. The back section has a 3 1/2' wood door and three 6' windows on the first story; for the second story, there is a 6' window in the turning and two 9' windows. The third floor of the back section duplicates the south large dormer with three 2' x 3' windows.

There are no windows on the first story and two 9' ones on the second story in the west wall of the house.

All the 6' and 9' windows are set in quoin openings with stone sills and rounded stone pediments above. The doorway on the inside of the turning on the south wall was remodeled from a window in the Coblenz renovation; that and a ramp added in the mid-1990's for handicapped and elderly are the only changes to the outside two stories of the mansion; otherwise, it is as it was built in 1858.

Two other changes were made on the roof. The cupola has one door on the west wall and three arched windows, one on each of the other three walls.

The windows originally were glazed with colored glass from Switzerland; this glass was moved to the American Kitchen in the Coblenz renovation, and the windows now have clear glass. The roof is hipped and there are small brackets under the cornice all around. Although no railing shows (perhaps due to the angle) in the oldest photo of the house, there is a three foot high wooden balustered railing around the cupola. Its style is similar to the second floor balcony railings so that it would seem to be original.

At the back of the north portico at the turning, there are four steps up to the portico and a solid doorway into a large room which connects with the kitchen and pantry areas and was probably an office.

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebo, Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse
220 Temelec Circle, Sonoma, Sonoma County, CA 95476

Description, cont'd

The entry to the basement is on the back wing of the north wall. It is a typical storm door entry where, when the double doors are pulled back, 7 stone steps lead down to the entry doorway.

At the back of the south portico after the turning, there are four steps up to a doorway leading into pantry rooms. As mentioned, the original steps up to this back section of the south portico were modified in the 1990's into a long cement ramp for handicapped entry.

Main House Interior

The major interior renovation was that of the Coblentzes. Lolita started her work after she bought Temelec in 1915 and moved west from New York City. She soon married Edmond D. Coblentz, and the two of them continued the work through several years. A 1931 drawing by E. A. Burbank shows the front outside renovated with manicured garden, but we know for sure only that it was fully complete by the 1934 WPA project which led to Temelec Hall's becoming California Historic Landmark #237 as of June 10, 1936.

First Floor

The front door opens into an eighteen foot high and eight foot wide vestibule and corridor which runs halfway through the house and then lowers to ten feet and narrows to four feet before ending at the kitchen. The corridor is open for the first six feet; then on the right side are polished oak stairs leading to the second floor. The stairs are neweled and banistered with carpet on the treads including the first which is wider and curves around the wood newel post.

From the entry, two doorways go off to the left and right into double parlors. The double parlors were made into two large rooms with the ceilings lowered to 12 feet during the Coblentz renovation. The still-tall present height of the ceilings robs nothing from the splendor of these rooms.

To the right is the living room/parlor with 6 tall windows on the two outside walls. Also on the long outside wall the original fireplace was changed to one of Norman style in the Coblentz renovation.

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Description, cont'd

A second fireplace on the long inside wall was suppressed. At the inside end of the room from the entry is a doorway leading back into the corridor behind the staircase. Under the staircase is a doored storage area.

To the left is the dining/meeting room with five of the same type of tall windows and a fireplace on the east wall which is original flagstone. A second fireplace on the long inside wall was suppressed along with the inside opening of the door centered on the east wall. The door itself was left intact on the exterior for historical accuracy. At the end of this room are three doors. Facing the short inside wall, there is a door leading outside on the left, changed from a long window by the Coblentzes, and a door on the right leading through a china and serving pantry to the kitchen. This pantry has two windows. The third door is at the end of the long inside wall opposite the living room door and leads into the corridor.

Back in the corridor and just beyond the inner doors coming out of the living and dining rooms are two half-bathrooms to the right.

The first is original to the house, although updated by the Coblentz's, and is long, narrow, and tiled with one small window. The second larger and square half-bathroom is fit as a handicapped bathroom and was added in the 1990's with the handicapped ramp.

Just beyond the first half-bathroom, the corridor is doored and narrowed, opening to the right to an open coat closet and the second half-bathroom.

The smaller corridor goes for 14' into the large kitchen area. To the right on entering is a doorway which opens to the back service stairway. To the left is the doorway into the china and serving pantry. The kitchen interior was remodeled during the Coblentz renovation. The two original windows are similar to the pantry windows.

The only change to the windows throughout the house was to make that dining room window a door in the Coblentz renovation.

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebo, Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse
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Description, cont'd

The door at the back of the large kitchen leads to a large pantry area with three doors to the right and the rest of the area open. There is one window on the back wall which opens to a back closed storage area between the house and stone wall and one door on the left outside wall. The door opens to the veranda and ramp, steps leading directly down, and to the right is a roofed outside storage area. On the inside walls of this area are the three doors, one to the closed pantry, one leading into the office room, and one to another storage area.

Throughout the house, the finish of interior walls is now painted with some general molding; the ceilings are flat and painted as well.

Main House Interior--Second Floor

Twenty-one stairs lead up to the middle of a corridor similar to the first floor's which runs almost the length of the house, from the east veranda door all the way back to the library room which is along the back of the second floor. Similarly placed but narrower stairs, 18 of them, lead up to a door to the very narrow and steep cupola stairs.

There are six rooms, 3 bathrooms, a wash pantry, and various closets on the second floor. There are two front rooms with closets and bathrooms. There is reference in 1860 to the mansion having baths and to the abundance of water conveyed from the nearby mountains. Family records include a receipt dated November 1857 paying a Quince Shirley \$653.50 to purchase "lead pipes" in "the Eastern cities" for Temelec. The 1860 article notes that "in all the upper rooms are marble basins with pure water, and also bathrooms, the most perfect kind." If the rooms for the baths are same, the materials are not. These bathrooms were modernized in the Coblenz renovation; they have doors into both front and back rooms in this front section of the house.

Both front rooms have three 9' windows; the front south room also has a tiled fireplace. The south bathroom has a 6' window, and the north bathroom has a 9' window.

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebo, Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse
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Description, cont'd

Directly at the top of the stairs, a door to the right leads into a room with a closet and one window. Just outside that doorway is a large closet. A door across the corridor to the left leads into a room with a closet and one window.

The corridor is doored and narrows twelve feet ahead of the top of the stairs. The door first leads to a small corridor which runs crosswise. The left side corridor has a washroom with one 9' window on the right and a door to the outside straight ahead. The right side corridor leads to the top of the service stairs going down to the kitchen on the left and a small bathroom straight ahead. Just past this crosswise corridor is a door to the right which opens to the staircase leading to the third attic story and, just past that, a large closet.

The small bathroom has one window and is tiled. A door at the other end of the bathroom leads into a room with one window and a closet. That room has three doors: the one leading from the bathroom, one going into the corridor, and one on its farther inside wall leading into the large room at the end of the corridor.

The large room (originally Swift's library) has a fireplace and four of the 9' windows as well as a large walk-in storage room with door and a small storage closet with door. On the inside wall of the library, then, are four doors: one into the other room, two into the storage rooms, and the center door leading into the corridor.

Main House Interior

Third Floor/ Dormered Attic

The service stairs in the back second story narrowed corridor lead up to the third dormered attic story which has 10' ceilings. The dormers are on both sides with three windows each dormer. The stairs and dormered attic are original to the house. There is an apartment of three rooms and a bath as well as several divided storage rooms.

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebo, Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse
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Description, cont'd

Recent Repairs/Upgrades

Through a Sonoma County Landmark Commission grant, the electrical system originally installed in 1934 was brought up to code in 1998. The cupola, suffering from some woodrot, was authentically restored in 2004-5 with monies from the Temelec Homeowners' Association Preservation Fund. At the same time, the balustered wood railing defining the widow's walk was repaired.

Other Buildings

The Smokehouse (now the American Kitchen)

The Smokehouse, a long stone building 12' x 30' with stone fireplace, was used to hang and smoke meats, and it is still redolent of that process after almost 150 years. It has three windows. On the west wall is a metal rimmed one-paned 18" x 18" window and a 3' x 5' window with 12 leaded panes. On the east wall is another 3' x 5' window with 12 leaded panes.

The Smokehouse is as it was originally and opens into a 31' x 30 rustic cookroom which has an exposed beam ceiling and with its west wall being a continuation of the stone wall of the Smokehouse; there is one small metal rimmed window similar to the one in the Smokehouse in this wall. On the south wall is the 1858 huge brick fireplace with two built-in side ovens. A door to a 7' x 14' balcony and five windows of varying sizes are also on the south wall. The north wall has three sets of wood and glass french doors. The windows on the south wall were fully changed to incorporate the cupola Swiss colored glass panes in various ways. The two small windows in the east wall are original.

The Coblenz renovation added a one and one-half story wing to the west front of the cookroom. Two steps lead up into this added wing. These steps enter a corridor leading to the parlor; there is a long narrow kitchen with five small windows to the left and a bathroom with two windows to the right off this corridor before it leads to the parlor.

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen,
Gazebos, Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse
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Description, cont'd

The parlor is lined on the south wall with three large floor to ceiling windows for a view of the creek which runs along the south side of the American Kitchen. There is a 3/4 glass-paned front door with two side windows on its east wall. Above the parlor is a 1/2 story gardener's apartment.

The Gazebos

At the north and south corners of the front terrace garden are two 14 foot square buildings called by various names -- temples, summer houses, gazebos. They are built of rough field stone similar to the back wing of the main house and have smooth gray stone quoined corners. There is a doorway in each from the garden, and the other three walls of each have horseshoe arched windows paned with wood latticework. There is a smaller version of the larger windows above in each wall. The door and all windows are surrounded by smooth gray stone, and the stone sills of the windows are supported by small stone brackets.

The Gothic roof is shingled and Intersecting Gable while each side has a decorative Italianate finish in wood of Tuscan Pilasters rising to an arch and keystone with a tall finial at each 20 foot gable top.

The Barn or Carriage House

The 40' x 60' Carriage House/Barn is two stories and of the same type of rough, irregular stone as the mansion's back section. The four sides of the roof slope almost equally from the center 12' ridge peak on which is set a tall dove cote with wood latticed and slatted openings on all four sides. The west second story has a door and two slatted windows and was reached by a west stone ramp originally; Colonel Kissane Rogers (owner 1865 to 1892) removed that ramp to make more storage room for his wine business; the north stone wall of the ramp was used as part of the north wall for his extended storage section. The front of the barn has three large doors below and one large door above banked on each side by a wood slatted window above.

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Gazebos, Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse
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Description, cont'd

The four large doors are each double wood rectangular, and each has a baskethandle smooth white stone arch above. The two second story windows are quoined with smooth white stone. The central door below was replaced during the Coblenz renovation with a carved set of antique doors from Europe given the Coblenz's by William Randolph Hearst as a wedding gift. The small roof cornice has dentil work under it and all around the small strip of frieze. The south side wall has 9 12" x 18" openings and both side walls have one second story window each.

Washhouse

There is a small original one-story washhouse of rough stone with brick corners to the north of the Carriage House/Barn; it has a door on its west side and three airvents in the wood triangle of the peaked and shingled roof; there are no openings in the other three sides. We have no record of change on the wooden top; any wood problems may have been renewed in the renovation, but in the same style as the original.

A small adobe building and knock-down saltbox house (which was the first building on the property 1849-1850 after General Persifor Fraser Smith bought the acreage from General Mariano G. Vallejo) which were near the Carriage House/Barn are both gone, lost to deterioration.

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen,
Gazebos, Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse
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PICTURES OF TEMELEC HALL, BARN AND GARDENS

PICTURE #	DESCRIPTION
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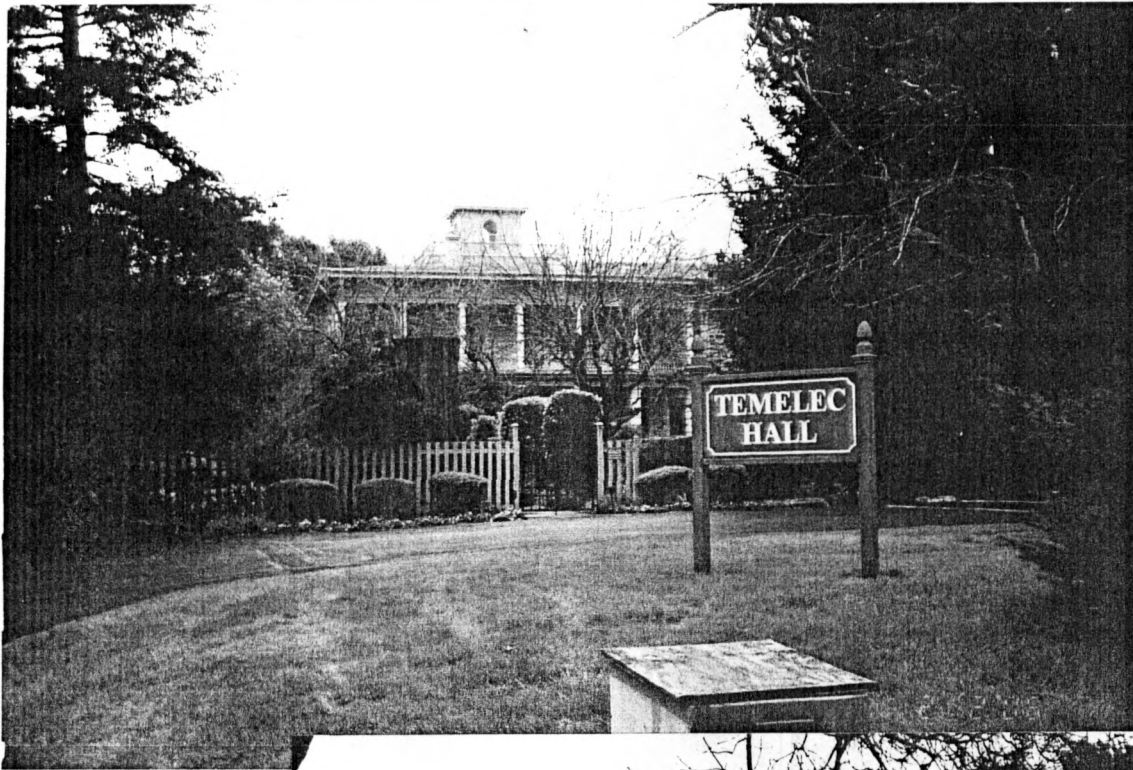
- | | |
|-----|--|
| 1 | Picture of Temelec Hall taken from curbside. |
| 2. | Picture showing the area in front of the barn, taken from Curbside in front of Temelec Hall, facing the barn |
| 3. | Closer picture of Temelec Hall, taken from front gate into the grounds. |
| 4. | The Barn taken from curbside in front of Temelec Hall. |
| 5. | Picture of the front door of Temelec Hall. |
| 6. | The windows of Temelec Hall. They are 100 inches high. |
| 7. | Original fountain and grounds at ther front of Temelec Hall. |
| 8. | Rose Garden at the front lower level of Temelec Hall. |
| 9. | Door in the stone wall. It leads into the grounds on the right side of Temelec Hall. |
| 10. | Picture 10 is of the left side of Temelec Hall, looking towards The other gate in the stone wall. |

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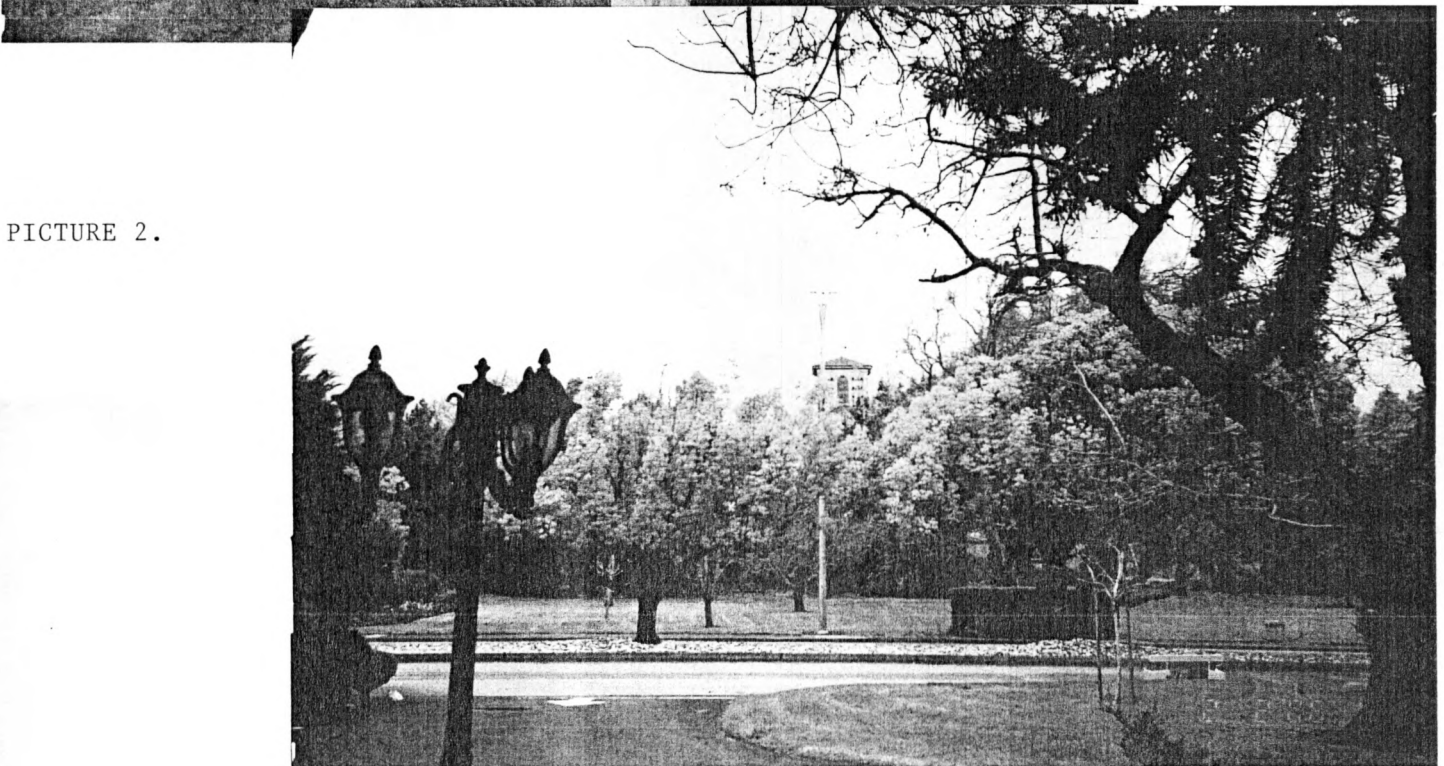
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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, & Surrounds:
Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebos, Carriage
House/Barn and Washhouse
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PICTURE 1.



PICTURE 2.

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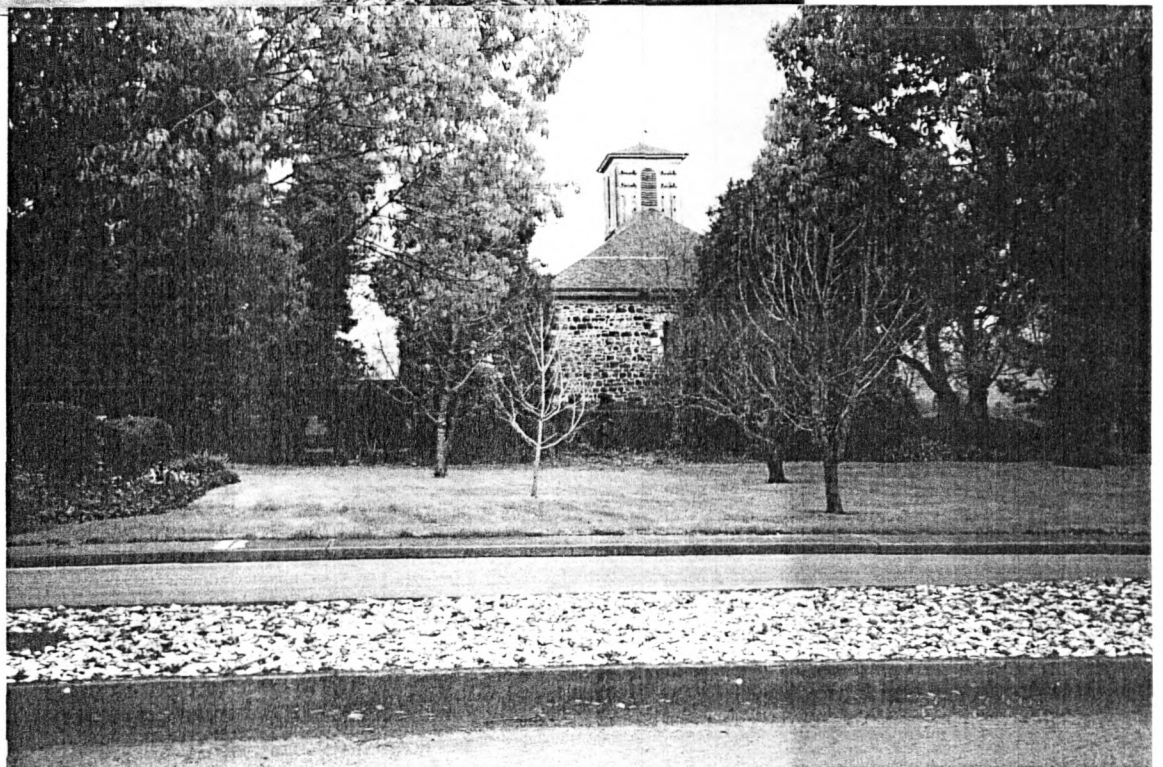
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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PICTURE 3.



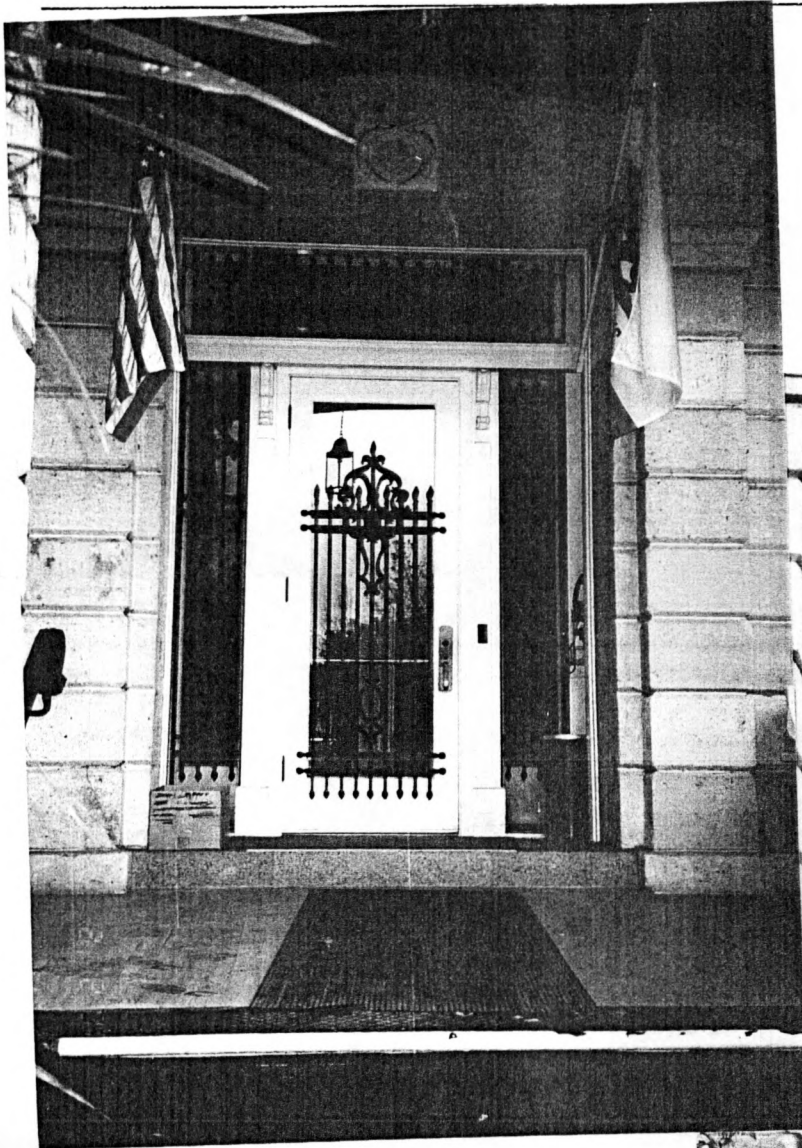
PICTURE 4.

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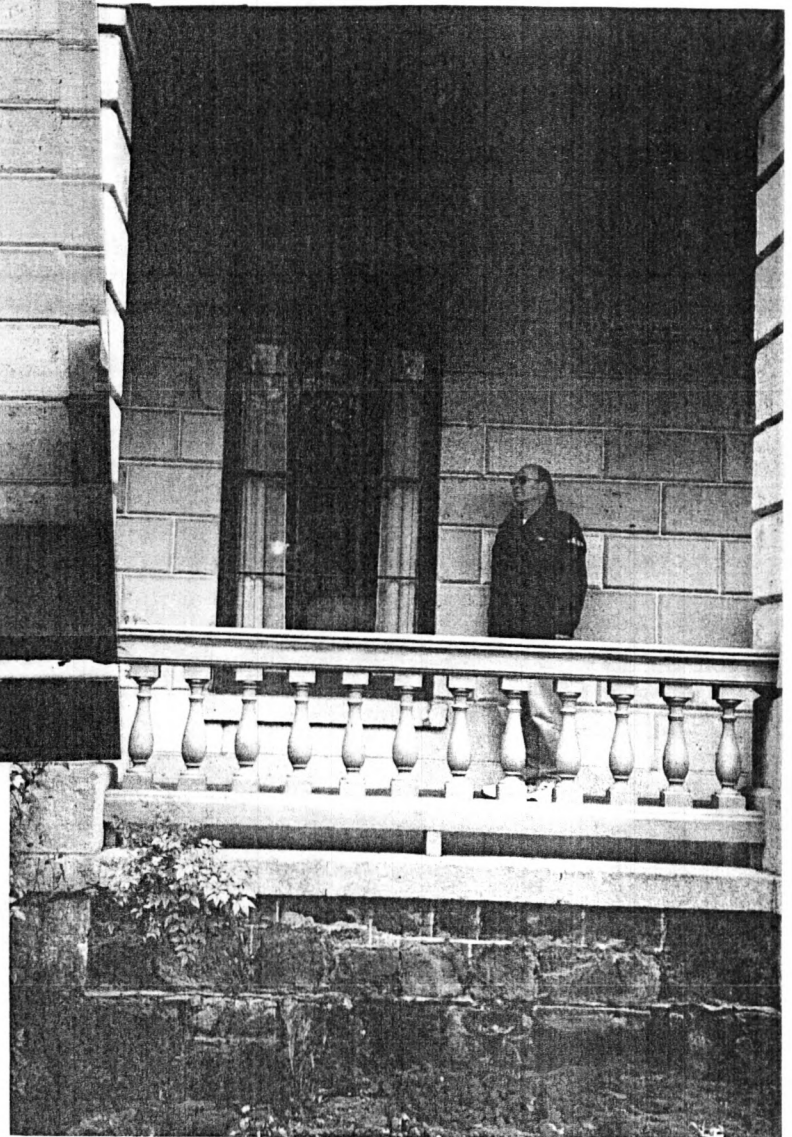
Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, & Surrounds:
Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebos, Carriage
House/Barn and Washhouse
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PICTURE 6.

PICTURE 5.

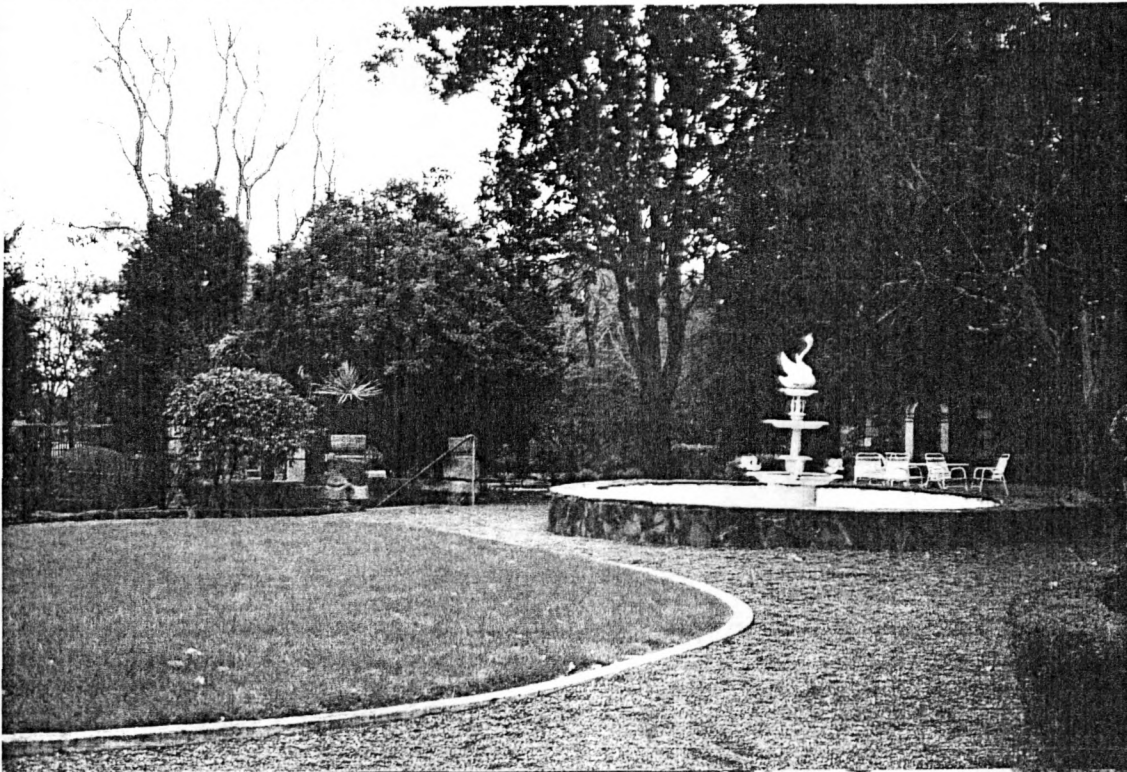


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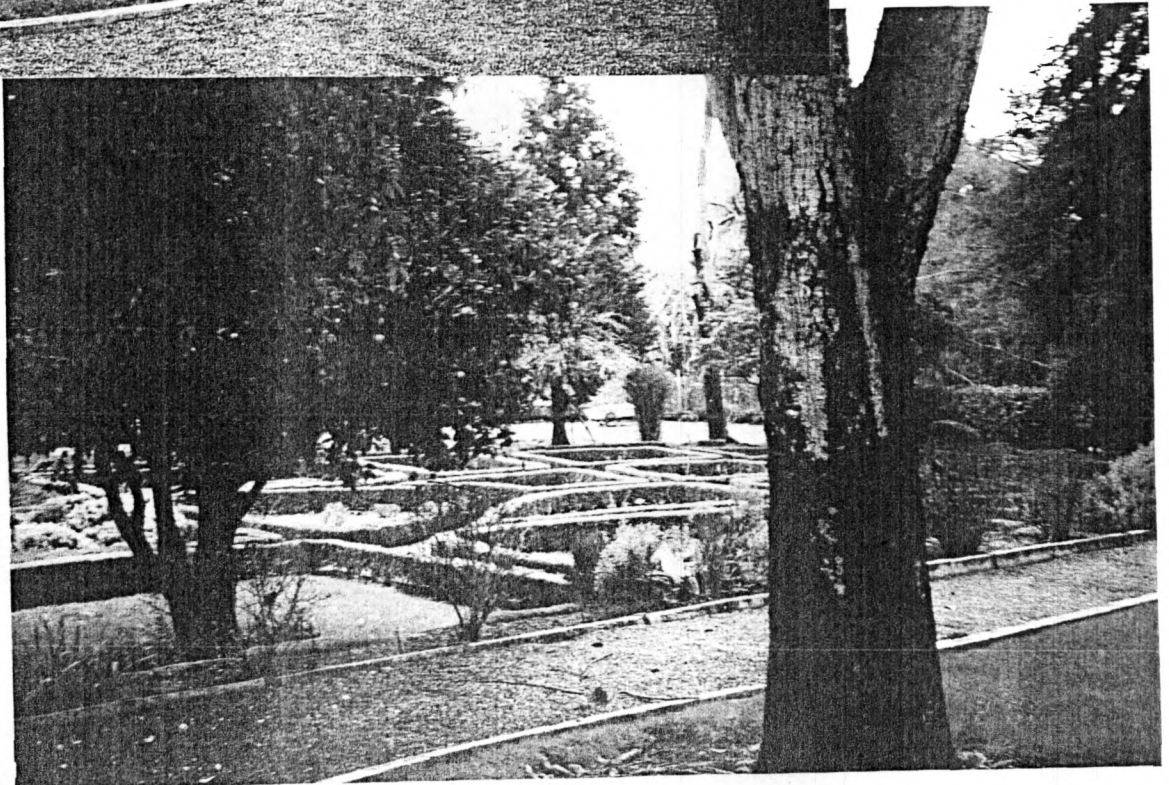
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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, & Surrounds:
Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebos, Carriage
House/Barn and Washhouse
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PICTURE 7.



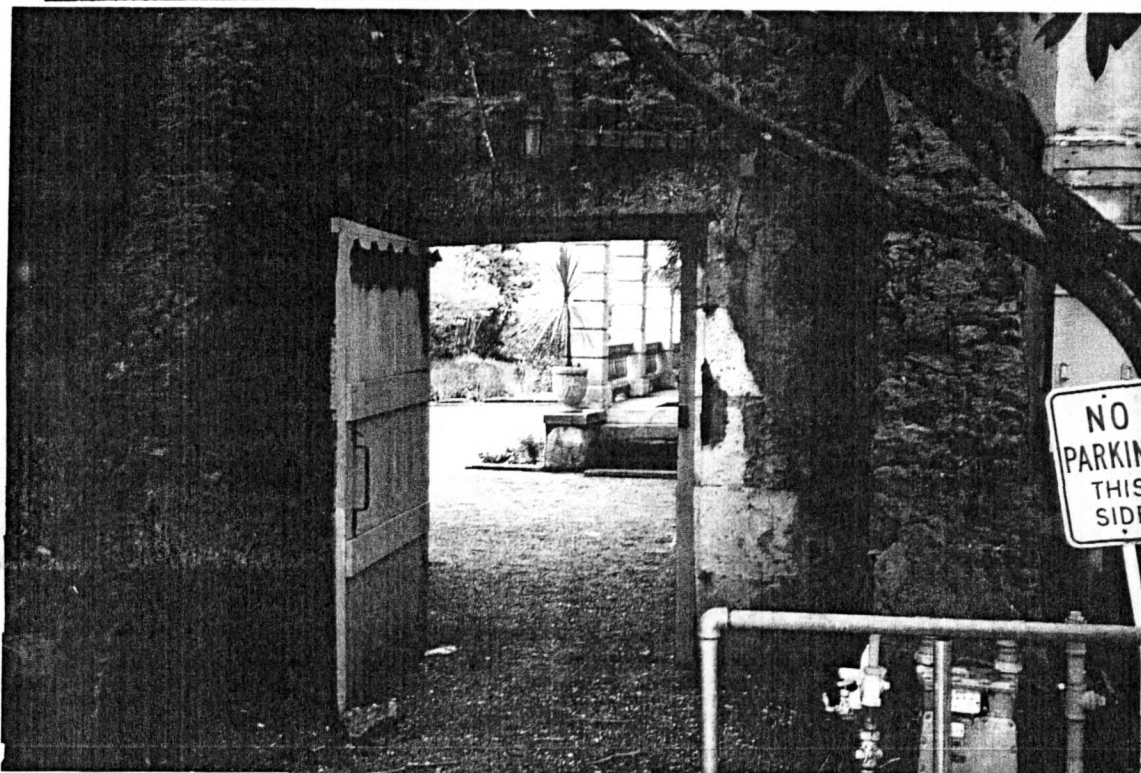
PICTURE 8.

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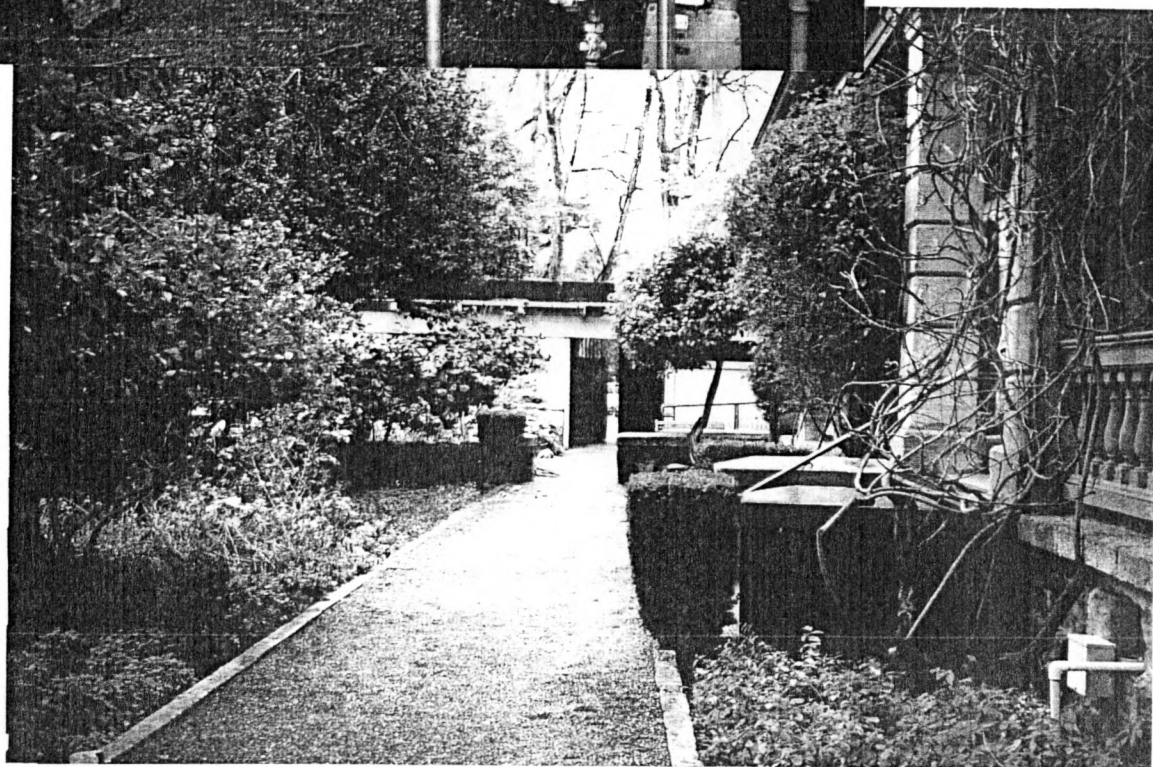
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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, & Surrounds:
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PICTURE 9.



PICTURE 10.

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebos,
Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse
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Statement of Significance

Temelec Hall is historically significant mainly for architecture (Criterion C), but the various owners of Temelec including the individual who built the mansion are significant as well (Criterion A).

Criterion C -- Architecture

As the Section 7 description shows above, Temelec Hall is of great historic architectural significance. The Hall was the first mansion built in Sonoma of the Greek Revival/Classic Revival style. As well, much of the stone work was done by Indians. Captain Swift had employed Indian labor for his cattle and grain interests and later for his gold mining north of Sonoma County in what are now known as Colusa and Glenn Counties. One whole tribe, the Grindstones of the Stony Creek area, aligned itself with him, and the chief's wife was his housekeeper in his adobe home there (California Historic Landmark #345). When Swift relocated south to Sonoma, half of this tribe chose to come south with him. Cabins were constructed for those who wanted them, and others of them, who wanted to live as they usually did, set up tepees near the creek on the property. These Indians worked with other hired workers to quarry the native stone, lay foundations, and build the house, walls, fishpond/reservoir, and carriage barn.

Although there are records of some of the San Francisco workers who worked on Temelec Hall, there is no record of the architect, even in the early writings about the amazing new mansion constructed in Sonoma. Since architectural plans for Greek or Classic Revival mansions could be purchased throughout the United States during those years, one can speculate that bought plans were used, that an architect from San Francisco used bought plans, or that an architect from San Francisco designed his own version of the Greek Revival mansion in stone for Captain Swift.

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Statement of Significance, Criterion C, Architecture, cont'd

Given the San Francisco Tate ties, we can make an educated guess that the builder or architect was from San Francisco and not from Sonoma, which had little call at that time for architects. But the architect/builder's name is unknown, and the source of his plans must remain speculation.

Although noted often in published records as a kind and generous as well as a handsome man, Captain Granville Perry Swift had been a pioneer for over 15 years; one would guess he did not even own a suit until he brought his gold to Sonoma, ready to settle, and affianced one of the main belles of Sonoma, Jane Eliza Tate. Then he was ready to spend his money on appropriate clothes and an appropriate house; his friends, two of Jane Eliza's brothers, probably helped him with clothes, and the Tate's San Francisco social connections probably helped him with architectural plans and builders. He had ample help with half of the Grindstone Tribe Indians choosing to follow him down to Sonoma; they had been working with him in the Colusa area for over ten years. And so Temelec Hall, a stone version of Greek Revival, was born.

From the books and websites in the architecture bibliography, we can know that Greek Revival was the first truly national style in the United States as it is found in all regions. Basic architectural plans were available and sold through catalogs. Greek Revival is colonnaded and porticoed; is symmetrical in shape; has bold simple moldings, heavy trimmed cornices, and wide friezes; has hipped roof with a low pitch; and usually has windows above and beside the main entry doors. Usually, Greek Revival buildings have the full height front with columns towering from broad porch to roof, giving a temple visage; the columns are either square or rounded, but the Greek Revival style is said to be "never, anywhere, 'pure'" (A4, p.16)

Said to have started in earnest in 1829 with Latrobe's north portico of the White House (A4, p.18), the Greek Revival fad "swept westward with the expansion," (A3, p.232) but often in the settling west, builders names were lost; indeed, so many that one book (A1) is dedicated to "the unknown builders of

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Statement of Significance, Criterion C, Architecture, cont'd
nineteenth century San Francisco." Olmstead (A6) covers San Francisco, the south bay area around San Mateo, and Marin County in his book on architectural heritage and notes three private houses in San Francisco and the courthouse in San Rafael, Marin County as Classic Revival, Classical Colonial, or Greek Revival. All four of these are built 1869-1895.

The Library of Congress HABS, Built in America website (lcwb.loc.gov) lists many older buildings from California. These buildings include barns, botanical garden buildings, ranch buildings, and a mission. Houses include light station houses, apartments, rowhouses, old wood houses from mining areas such as Bodie, ranch houses, tile roofed Spanish style houses, camp and beach houses, and the like. Of all the listings, the houses most or somewhat similar built before and up to 1858 (Temelec Hall's date) and 1859 to 1884 are:

1858 and prior

Temelec Hall (1563, HABS CAL,49-SONO,8-1) built in 1858
built of stone quarried in the area.

San Francisco, Civic Center (4504), a long wooden house built in 1854
Casa Grande, Santa Clara (4505, HABS CA, 43-ALMA, 4-5); built in 1854,
this two story brick house was originally stuccoed to simulate Ashler
masonry. It was the New Almaden Mining Company manager house.

1859-1884

Luther Burbank House, Santa Rosa (1971, HABS CA-2201) built in 1874
and a wooden victorian

The Octagon House, San Francisco (2038, HABS CA-1223); built in
1860-1, this is a small brick modified Classic Revival with an
entry porch

Sheffield House, Anaheim (2522, HABS CA,30-ANHI, 1-1); built in 1884,
this is a brick house with pillared front porch and open railed
balcony

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Statement of Significance, Criterion C, Architecture, cont'd

Temelec Hall has been rather secreted since the 1960's when it became the clubhouse for the adult community; it is not visible from the main road, Arnold Drive, which is the route into and out of Sonoma. Even many in Sonoma who have lived here for decades are surprised to hear of its existence. Those who moved here in the 1960's and 1970's did not want strangers wandering the grounds so did not advertise their amazing clubhouse. But, reality says Temelec Hall can continue into the future only with some help. As noted, Sonoma County granted funds which upgraded the electrical, but as the building nears 150 years old, it should not only be assisted to continue; it should be shared proudly and openly.

The photo page shows three views of Temelec, one which is the first known photograph of the Hall said to be taken in 1860, one from 1965, and one taken about 2000. Also included are eight photos of Greek Revival buildings from across America which compare well with Temelec Hall, especially Smith House and Dunleith.

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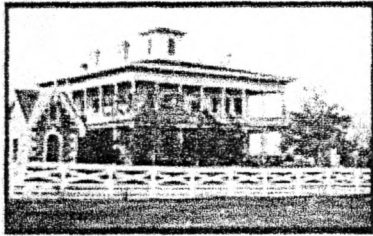
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Page 6

Photo
Page

Photo 1



Temelec Hall 1858

Photo 4

Photo 2



Temelec Hall 1965

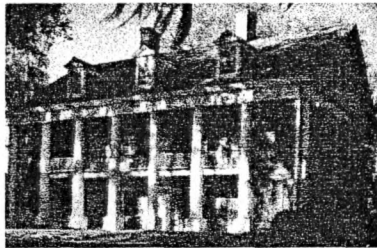
Photo 5

Photo 3



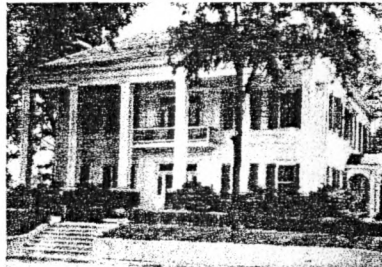
Temelec Hall c. 2000

Photo 6



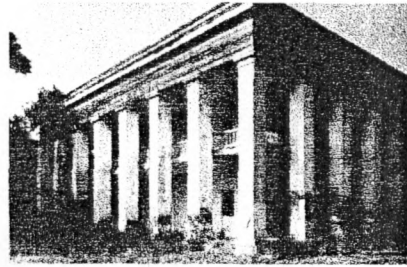
Shadows on the Teche,
New Iberia LA -- built 1834 (A5)

Photo 7



Homewood, Columbus MS
built 1836 (A5)

Photo 8



Ashland, Geismar LA
built 1841 (A5)

Photo 9

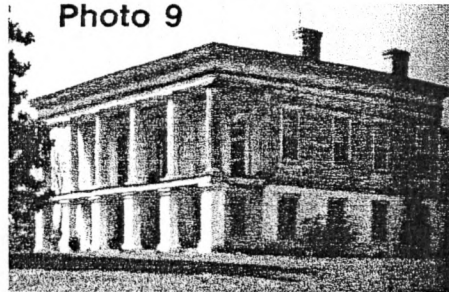


Sturdivant Hall, Selma AL
built 1853 (A5)

Photo 10

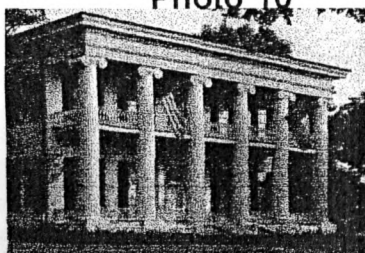


Belle Meade, Nashville TN
built 1853 (A5)



Smith House, near Sparta GA
built 1853 (A5)

Photo 11



Governor's Mansion, Austin TX
built 1855 (A4)



Dunleith, Natchez MS
built 1856 (A4)

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebos, Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse
220 Temelec Circle, Sonoma, Sonoma County, CA 95476

Statement of Significance, Criterion A, People

Introduction

In 1934, a WPA (Works Project Administration #655-08-3-147) survey sponsored by California's Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks, was done for Temelec Hall, Sonoma County, as it was accepted by California as Registered Landmark #237. The survey series was edited by Clark Wing, and the Temelec Hall survey was authored by Andrew Eggum. Note: inaccuracies in this report are listed at the end of the section below on Captain Swift.

Much of the content of this survey is paraphrased in the U.S. Library of Congress' 11 page Historic American Buildings Survey on Temelec prepared by Joseph A. Baird Jr. of the University of California in 1964. As well, this 1964 survey includes one 1858 photograph of the Hall and twenty 1960 photographs by Jack E. Boucher done for this 1964 report.

In 1997-1998, the residents of Temelec Retirement Community prepared to have a special event to celebrate the 140th birthday of Temelec. For the first time, descendants of Captain Granville Perry Swift, the one who built the Hall, provided all available papers, photographs, documents, and other memorabilia so that the Temelec Archives Committee could gather a clearer and more certain history of the early years which led up to the Hall's construction and the few years the Swifts lived in the Hall. In 2001, the Archives Committee also made contact with descendants of Colonel William Kissane Rogers, who owned and lived in the house with his family after Swift moved to Green Valley. The contact for the Coblentz era for this celebration was with two former maids of Mrs. Coblentz who were still living in Sonoma and had some photos and other memorabilia such as the invitation to the 100th birthday celebration in 1958.

The following details of background information reflect the information made available by the Swift and Kissane Rogers descendants as well as the two Coblentz maids, copies of which materials are now held by Temelec Homeowners' Association, as well as much other research of newspapers, magazines, the internet, and the like.

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Statement of Significance, Criterion A, People, cont'd

General Persifor Fraser Smith and General Mariano G. Vallejo

Although no building remains on Temelec property as a relic of his, General Smith was a significant figure of the latter half of the 1800's. He fought in the Mexican-American War and was Brevet Brigadier General, at some time commanded the 8th Military Department of Texas, and was Civil and Military Governor of Mexico City 1847-1848. When a treaty of peace was signed between the U.S. and Mexico, he returned first to New Orleans where he was given a "brilliant reception" and then was assigned to be military commander of the whole Pacific Coast in 1849.

General Smith was first at Fort Vancouver for a short while, directing others such as a Lt. Theodore Talbot to examine the Oregon coast, then came to San Francisco. He did not think that Yerba Buena/San Francisco was a useful military setting so came north to Sonoma. There he bought a portion of Vallejo's vast acreage granted to Vallejo in 1835.

It was 1849, then, that the Temelec area was an individual parcel for the first time. The amount of acreage has risen and lessened over time; the present designated historic area of Temelec as of 1981 is 4.67 acres; see Section 9, Verbal Boundaries for details.

The acreage General Smith bought was noted as "one mile wide" and 1085 acres stretching from the ridge of Sonoma Mountain down to a horse path which later became Arnold Drive; the deed noted this acreage as "that certain tract or parcel of land called Temelec." He apparently expected to stay for some time, as he bought one of the pre-fabricated houses available in the area at the time and had it set up on the land. But he soon realized he indeed did need to be centered in San Francisco, so deeded the land and frame house to his Sonoma successor, Major Beck, who sold it in 1854 to William Swift who was down from Colusa with his cousin Franklin Sears to set up the transfer of all their and Captain Granville Perry Swift's vast stockraising business from Colusa to Sonoma.

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Statement of Significance, Criterion A, People, cont'd

Captain Granville Perry Swift

When William Swift died in 1857, his brother Captain Swift bought the land and house, living in the frame house while he built a stone mansion, Temelec Hall, for himself and his bride, Jane Eliza Tate.

Captain Granville Perry Swift comes from acknowledged pioneer stock. His great grandmother was Daniel Boone's older sister. He was great-nephew to Boone and nephew to renowned pathfinder Nathaniel Walker (who trained him to hunt and trap). The line is clarified below.

Squire Boone m. Sarah Morgan
and had

Sarah b.1724 m. John Wilcoxin 1742 and had **Daniel Boone** b. 1734 and Several Others

Mary b.1759 m. Renelder Walker 1778
and had

Twin Girls b.1794 **Mary** m. William Thomas Swift 1817 and had **Jane** m. J.B.Sears and had

Granville Perry Swift b. May 1, 1821 and others **Franklin Sears** and others

Swift was an early California pioneer, a hunter/trapper for Sutter, an early stock and grain rancher, a member of the California Bear Flag group, a U.S. Army Captain under Fremont in the short war with Mexico, and a gold rush miner. Not only does he have three California Historic Landmarks (237: Temelec Hall; 238: The Stone Corral; and 345: The Swift Adobe) but also a point on the Sacramento River near Hamilton City is named after him (Swift's Point).

Swift was born in Kentucky and related to Daniel Boone through Daniel's oldest sister, Sarah. Sarah was Swift's great-grandmother so that Daniel was Swift's great uncle. But, along with many others, Swift's family soon moved to Missouri. His mother had died when he was just fourteen; he bonded with her brother, his uncle Nathaniel Walker. Under Nat Walker's wing, Swift became an expert outdoorsman and familiar with the trails to the Rockies and Santa Fe.

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Temelec Hall, Fishpond/Reservoir, and surrounds; Smokehouse/American Kitchen, Gazebos, Carriage House/Barn, and Washhouse

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Statement of Significance, Criterion A, People, cont'd

When a feud threatened to cause trouble for his family, Swift left Missouri and joined with a wagon train also moving west.

Although some historical writings place him as coming west with the 1844 Kelsey party, Swift actually came a couple of years earlier by himself, joining a wagon train partway along the trail west to hunt for them. He told his sons often of his spending his 21st birthday (May 1, 1842) on the Sacramento River constructing tule reed rafts (called *balsas* by the Indians) to float skins and tallow down to Benecia for trade for powder, ammunition, and other supplies.

Swift's first work out west was to join Sutter to hunt and trap for him which Swift did for several years as well as join Sutter in his march south to support General Micheltoreno. Although Mexico had won its independence from Spain, it was not supporting its northern holdings including Texas and California; unrest was prevalent. Swift went south to the Los Angeles area as part of Sutter's "army" of over 200 Americans, Europeans, and Indians under Sutter to support General Micheltoreno, but it was an aborted support as General Micheltoreno resigned. Texas was accepted as a state in 1845. Pioneers from the eastern United States were heading across the plains and over the mountains to California. The outcome of these processes was the Mexican War 1846-48.

Swift's first cousin and best friend, Franklin Sears, came out to Oregon with the Kelsey party in 1844, and Swift went up to meet him and accompany him into California. Although Sutter's early diaries were destroyed in a fire, Swift is noted in the later Sutter diaries of 1845 to 1847, and maps in these diaries note "Swift and Sears" along the Stony Creek. As Swift's family raised stock back in Kentucky and Missouri, it was natural for him to begin stock raising in the Orland/Willows area of Colusa and Glenn Counties. After Sears arrived, they pursued this together, building the first stone corral for such in the area (California Historic Landmark #238). Swift also raised various grains and is documented as the first to grow barley in the Willows area.

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Statement of Significance, Criterion A, People, cont'd

He built the first adobe house in the area (California Historic Landmark #345), and his housekeeper there was Ann Brown, the wife of the Chief of the Grindstone Indians, the Stony Creek tribe who aligned themselves with Swift for most of his California life.

Swift was a member of the Bear Flag Rebellion. In June 1846, just before the U.S. navy presence, especially at Monterey Bay, declared possession of California, the Bear Flag Rebellion occurred in Sonoma. It was a response to oppression and active destruction of American pioneers and their holdings. The "Monterey Californian" newspaper issue of August 5, 1846, writes that all had felt the oppression of the existing Mexican government. When Indians told American settlers of a Mexican plan to destroy crops, burn houses, and drive off cattle as well as murder settlers and their families, American settlers especially from Napa and Colusi areas, having been harassed for five years (1841-1846), were roused. Swift came south with about fifteen others from the Sacramento Valley and met with about the same number from Napa to continue on to Sonoma for the Bear Flag event which started June 14, 1846, and is remembered each June 14 in Sonoma's Plaza. With the United States' War with Mexico coming so closely on the heels of the raising of the Bear Flag in Sonoma, history tends to diminish the Bear Flag event, but it was of significant importance to the establishment of California as a part of the United States, and the flag created at that time in Sonoma was the model for California's state flag.

Swift soon was recruited by Fremont and went with him to Monterey to be commissioned July 15, 1846, as Captain of Company D of the Volunteers of the California Battalion. The original of these military orders, signed by both Stockton and Fremont, resides in the United States National Archives, Washington, D.C. The wording and signatures was as below.

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U.S.Frigate ? (illegible)
Bay of Monterey
July 15, 1846

Sir,

You are hereby appointed
a Captain of Company D of the
volunteers of the California Battalion,
and will report to Major Fremont for duty.

signed by Stockton
Commander in Chief

to: Captain

Granville Swift
Commanding Company D,
California Battalion

Carmel, July 15, 1846

? (illegible) to the above order, Captain Granville
Swift this day reports to me for duty.

signed J.C.Fremont,
Commander, California Battalion

It is documented that Swift's men had "great confidence" in him during the short Mexican war and "thought him worth a dozen common men in fight." He served to April 1847 and then took his "bounty grant" back with him to Colusa to continue his stockraising and ranching, now with a larger acreage thanks to that bounty grant. The Grindstone Indians continued working at ranching for him.

Once gold was discovered a year later, Swift soon expanded his endeavors to goldmining on the Feather and Pitt rivers. He had ready help from the Grindstone Indians who had been working for him as vaqueros and farmers. Although he is accused in writings in the last half of the twentieth century of enslaving these Indians, Mark Long writes in the *Maxwell Phoenix* in September, 1893, "When one brigade [of Indian workers] grew tired of beef and digging,

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Statement of Significance, Criterion A, People, cont'd

Swift would send them back and get more." Swift mined gold vigorously for about two years.

With his success, Swift then invited the rest of his family to emigrate from Missouri to California; all but one sister whose husband was too ill to travel made the journey. Swift's father, sisters, and brothers made the journey, but needed his help when their wagon train got enmired in what was known as the Nevada Sink. As he had for others, Swift went to Nevada to rescue them. They all settled in the same Colusi area only to have many succumb to malaria which was especially rampant 1852-1857. All but three sisters and one brother were dead by 1854. This is considered the main reason for his decision to start moving his holdings south to Sonoma. By 1857, one more sister and his last brother were also dead.

He, his brother William, and Franklin Sears bought vast ranching acreage in the Sonoma area, much of the land purchased from General Vallejo; Franklin and William moved south to care for this part of their endeavors while Swift finished the work up north before trailing down with panniers of gold on a string of mules. William had purchased Temelec with its pre-fabricated wood house as the home for him, his wife Mary, and their young child in 1855, but died of "a pain in the side," probably appendicitis in 1857. Franklin had married Swift's sister Margaret, and they settled along Sonoma Creek.

When Swift came south to Sonoma at the end of 1856 or beginning of 1857, he not only brought hundreds of thousands of dollars in gold but half of the Stony Creek tribe (said to be about forty) who chose to come with him. These Indians came as vaqueros and later helped build Temelec Hall and care for it, but by their choice and never because they were chained or mistreated. Some lived in small buildings on the Temelec land, and some chose to live in their usual natural ways along Rodgers creek which ran through the property.

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Statement of Significance, Criterion A, People, cont'd

When Captain Swift arrived, he accepted friends Jesse and John Tate's invitation to board with them in town until he settled. Their sixteen year old sister, Jane Eliza Tate, was one of the premium belles of Sonoma; probably no one was surprised when she soon announced her engagement to Captain Swift.

When William died, Swift bought Temelec August 7, 1857, both to help his widowed sister-in-law and as the settling place for him and his bride-to-be. Swift moved into the wooden house, and the cornerstone for his stone mansion was laid in 1858.

Of course, Swift knew all the leading men of northern California and Sonoma. Perhaps because of the Tates (one of them married one of Vallejo's daughters), Swift was quickly accepted into Sonoma society with his money and property. In Colusa, he was Treasurer of Colusa County for a year. In Sonoma, he was on the board of the private school in town, and he supported the town in many ways such as donating the ox for the very first "Ox Roast," still a summer tradition in Sonoma.

For the gathering for the laying of the cornerstone of Temelec Hall on June 19, 1858, General Vallejo's daughter wrote to a friend, "We are invited to go to the Swifts next Saturday ... and we are bound to go. He is to have many ladies and gentlemen there as well as us." (23). Others present besides the Vallejos included C.C.Champlain, James Biggins, and Guadalupe V. Boggs as well as Colonel Harasthy. They each apparently put a coin or a bottle of wine in under the cornerstone.

As perhaps the largest mansion in Sonoma (the only other one being Vallejo's Victorian), Temelec Hall was a focal point for the growing social community in this northern area of California, newly claimed as part of the United States of America as Sonoma "was recognized by army officers and aristocracy of California as dominating the social life of the state." (Eggum, #10, p. 17) San Francisco visitors came by boat to the landing south of Sonoma, then by carriage the seven to eight miles to Temelec Hall.

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Statement of Significance, Criterion A, People, cont'd

Swift descendants have many receipts and documents (and Temelec Homeowners Association now has copies of many of them) which detail some of the building costs such as the lead pipes and the building of the fishpond as well as much about the furniture, silver, china, grand piano, landscape items, horse tack, wagons, carriages, and the like which were bought to outfit the Hall.

Here he settled for awhile, building Temelec Hall, marrying, and siring three sons. Financial problems had him lose the Hall. He moved on to Green Valley in Napa County, but his life ended early with an accident in 1875 as he was starting a new venture in quicksilver mining.

Eggum Report errors.

Given not only broader more available research access through the internet as well as our access to Swift family documents, we can clarify some errors in this 1936 WPA project. The twenty major ones are listed below.

1. pages 1-2 – We know that Captain Swift was connected to Daniel Boone through Daniel Boone's oldest sister, Sarah. Boone is Captain Swift's great-uncle. Sarah's daughter Mary had Rachel, and Rachel is Captain Swift's mother. Of note, Rachel's twin sister, Jane, is Franklin Sears' mother. Great-Grandmother = Sarah born 1724 and m. John Wilcox in 1742. Grandmother = Mary born to Sarah/John 1759 and m. Renelder Walker 1778. Mother = Rachel born to Mary as twin with Jane (who married J.B.Sears) in 1794 and m. William Thomas Swift, date unknown. Granville Perry Swift born to Rachel and William May 1, 1821.
2. page 2 -- Swift, able on the trails as he had traveled years with his uncle Nat Walker, an historically well-known trailman, set out west on his own after an incident in the Spring of 1841 resulting from a long-standing feud between Swift's family and another family named Reynolds. He then joined a wagon group and he and a pioneer named Thorpe joined Sutter as hunter/trappers. Swift would talk of spending his 21st birthday making balsa rafts on what became known as the Sacramento River; that would have been May 1, 1842. The confusion arises probably because Swift went north in 1844 to meet his first cousin and best friend, Franklin Sears, who came west with the Kelsey party. In Sears' own writings, he notes he rejoined his cousin and friend in California.

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Statement of Significance, Criterion A, People, cont'd

3. page 2 – Swift and Thorpe worked for Sutter from 1841 on to 1843-4 and were part of Sutter's "army" which he took south in 1845 to assist Governor Micheltoreno. Unfortunately, all Sutter's earliest diaries were lost in a fire.
4. page 3 – Swift never lived in the Napa area until he lost Temelec and moved to Green Valley (which is between Napa and Fairfield) in the mid-1860's. He knew many of the pioneers in Napa, but came to and was in the Colusa (then termed "Colusi") area until he moved permanently to Sonoma in 1856. From 1844 on, Swift and Sears worked the area near Stony Creek in Colusa and hired the whole tribe of Grindstone Indians to work with them in their stock and grain businesses as well as in the later gold mining work. The association was positive, and the Chief's wife was housekeeper for Swift in his small house, the first adobe house built in the area. Rebuilt in the 1930's, this house in California Historic Landmark #345. After so many of his family (his father, 3 brothers, and five sisters had come out in 1849-50) died of malaria in 1854, Swift began moving his businesses south to Sonoma, and when he came down permanently, half the Grindstone Tribe chose to come with him.
5. page 4 – Swift and others came down from Colusi to Napa to join others there and then come on to Sonoma for the Bear Flag Rebellion.
6. page 9 – Swift was NOT in charge during the DeHaro incident according to 1856 newspaper reports, including the 9-27-1856 edition of the Los Angeles Star.
7. page 10 -- Swift was named Captain of Company D from the start as per orders signed by both Fremont and Stockton dated July 15, 1846, just 33 days after the Bear Flag incident. The family has given the original to the U.S. National Archives, but has a copy of it.
8. page 10 -- Again, Swift did not "move" to Stony Creek in Colusa. He had been there since at least 1844 when Sears arrived. Swift was one of the "established" stockman and not a "maverick" as Eggum suggests. His Stone Corral is Historical Landmark #238.
9. page 11 – Swift did not "round up" regional indians. The Grindstone Tribe had been working for him for at least five years.
10. page 11 -- Swift and Sears were never into fruit and grapevines. Swift planted some of both only for personal use when settling into Temelec with his new wife, Jane Eliza. Swift, Sears, and Swift's brother William Walker Swift (d.1857) were moving their stockraising business to Sonoma from Colusa.

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11. page 12 -- Temelec was not named by Swift. The name is on the deed of purchase between General Vallejo and General Persifor Fraser Smith, dated 1849.
12. page 13 -- General Smith did indeed make a permanent improvement; he built a house which stood until 1977.
13. page 13-14 -- General Vallejo did not refuse to "socially recognize" Swift; indeed his family attended the cornerstone placement and other parties here according to extant records.
14. page 14 -- Swift never "rejected" adobe as a building material any more than General Vallejo did when Vallejo built his Lachryma Montis wood house in Sonoma. He simply built a mansion for his bride and to-be family with his gained gold.
15. page 16 -- It's Jane Eliza Tate, not the more common Eliza Jane.
16. page 17 -- Again, extant letters show Swift and Vallejo socialized.
17. page 17 -- Eggum suggests Swift buried his money because Swift was "suspicious." But the habit of buried money was so widespread in these years that historically this process is referred to using the "front-yard bank."
18. page 18 -- Jane Eliza was a Sonoma belle and her family had strong San Francisco connections. Indeed, when she left Swift, she lived in San Francisco and married another millionaire there, Colonel Casebolt, whose mansion still stands in the city.
19. page 18 -- Temelec exchanged hands almost immediately when Swift lost it; it was not neglected but very quickly lived in by Colonel William Kissane Rogers and his new wife and two step-children.
20. page 21 -- Temelec was not lost by Swift due to a broken marriage; both he and Vallejo at that time (along with many others) were bankrupted by Nevada investments in what became known historically as the Washoe Bubble.

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Colonel William Kissane Rogers

Colonel Rogers acquired Temelec Hall where he settled down with his new wife, Elizabeth Hathaway, a widow with two sons whom he met in Nicaragua. Charles Lindbergh flew over Sonoma to view Temelec in 1927 as Elizabeth was a relative of his. They had seven children together, and Rogers had a prosperous winery business. He was a respected community-oriented citizen who had ample money and held many "brilliant affairs" for society for twenty years until former President U.S. Grant came west to visit California. As Rogers had the most fitting mansion in the area, he was approached by Grant's secret service entourage to establish Rogers' ability to host Grant when he came north from San Francisco.

His past rose up with a vengeance.

William Kissane had been a true blackguard and adventurer for his first thirty years. He had committed fraud, arson, forgery, and murder in the United States and abroad (South America, Europe, and China). Trapped for some of this, he had spent time in Sing Sing Prison, humiliating his mother and brother so much that they came west and assumed her maiden name, Lloyd. As far as descendants can know, there is only one photo extant of Colonel Rogers, and, in that one, his face is in shadow.

The measure of his change is apparent in his response to these secret service men. The adventuring conniver would have easily found a way to avoid discovery. The model citizen, loving husband, and excellent father turned down the honor and said that he could not accommodate President Grant. Of course, his blunt refusal gave rise to suspicion -- the secret service men wondered why a prominent citizen with a fine mansion would refuse this honor, and his past deeds were brought to light. He lost Temelec Hall due to court costs and to the blight which was hitting all the grapevines at that time, but his brother, Reuben Lloyd, (now a well-connected San Francisco lawyer whose friends included the likes of Crocker) was able to clear him of all old charges based on the statute of

limitations.

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The level of respect he commanded in Sonoma shows in that not one word of his past or the court case appeared in the Sonoma newspapers. The level of respect his brother commanded in San Francisco shows in that not one word of Kissane Rogers or his court case appeared in the San Francisco newspapers. An historian must look to the Sacramento newspapers for the details of this lurid case and its outcome. Kissane Rogers and his family lived well the rest of his life in Berkeley and San Francisco.

Lolita and Edmond D. Coblentz

The I.G. Wickersham Bank of Santa Rosa took possession of Temelec Hall in 1895, selling later to the Grace Brothers. Then Lolita Schweitzer learned of Temelec back in her home of New York.

Lolita Schweitzer was an heiress twice over, from her birth and from marriage. She was also interested in history, fine houses, and California. Now a widow, she heard about the abandoned Temelec Hall in Sonoma, California, and bought it, moving in 1915 from Fifth Avenue, New York City, to the rural delights of Sonoma to start renovating her "Haunted House,"

Temelec Hall had suffered some damage, mainly to the interior, in the 1906 earthquake. From 1895 to 1906, it had been inhabited by a caretaker, but from 1906 until Lolita came west, it had sat empty or been used by squatters. She set about the business of restoring Temelec Hall to its former grandeur.

Not far into her adventure, she met and married Edmond D. Coblentz (Cobbie), a distinguished journalist, writer, and newspaperman as well as a very close friend of William Randolph Hearst, and she soon became Lolita Coblentz.

Cobbie eagerly joined her in the careful restoration; they felt the house had been "tattered but proud" and delighted in bringing it back to its splendor. Lolita and then the two of them decided on a few major changes to the Hall as told in the Description section, but their core aim was to protect the historical nature of this house. The stone and basalt construction of the Hall

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and Carriage House had not cracked or been harmed by the 1906 earthquake; the outside still has the original cornices and any new woodwork trimming was done faithfully to what had been there before. They worked mainly to restore the Hall to what they knew it to have been from photos and written descriptions.

Once finished, they worked with Sacramento to have it registered as California Historic Landmark #237 June 10, 1936. A study of the Hall was published by the California Department of Natural Resources in 1940.

During Lolita and Cobbie's tenancy, Temelec Hall was referred to affectionately as "The Farm," and many socially prominent people came to visit this rural hideaway. From her connections, Cobbie's career, and their connection with Hearst, Temelec Hall became a rural destination for San Francisco's finest and for many renowned people including journalists such as William Randolph Hearst and Bernard Baruch; politicians such as California Governor Goodwin Knight and Presidents Eisenhower and Nixon and other well-known people as diverse as J. Edgar Hoover and Cardinal Spellman. Governor Knight presided at the Hall's 100th birthday party. Cobbie's upstairs office wall at Temelec Hall was filled with photos of all his and Lolita's distinguished guests, as the photo below of one wall of his office shows.



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Statement of Significance, Criterion A, People, cont'd

Cobbie spent all his career with the Hearst Newspapers. He and Lolita also had a San Francisco home at 835 Hyde Street. Starting as a journalist in 1900, he went on to be city editor of the Examiner, managing editor of the old San Francisco Call-Post and later of the Examiner, and publisher of the Examiner. He also wrote respected biographies of his two friends, Mr. Hearst and Joseph Pulitzer in 1952 and 1954 respectively. He spent 1940-1950 of his career as publisher of the Call-Bulletin, also training William Randolph Hearst, Jr., during that time to be able to take over as publisher. When Randy took over in August of 1950, Cobbie continued as an editorial consultant until he died in 1959 at 76 years old. At Cobbie's death, Hearst's son, William Randolph Hearst, Jr., said, "Cobbie was not only one of Pop's great personal friends, but one of his closest professional associates over a long period of years. His death is a sad loss to the whole Hearst organization." Cobbie's papers about his career as editor, publisher, and editorial consultant with Hearst newspapers are considered important enough to be part of the Bancroft Library collection at the University of California, Berkeley.

For the gala 100th birthday for the house in 1958, Cobbie wrote an emotive piece he called "The Tale of Temelec Hall." This soppy melodrama which has the house talking has unfortunately been the source of some serious misinformation such as for Swift that he chained and cobbled his Indians and for Kissane Rogers that his life after Temelec Hall was grim. Both these emotional fallacies made good print but poor truth. He does document that the original colored glass from Switzerland which was in the Hall's cupola was moved to the windows overlooking the creek in their enlarged smokehouse, the guest house called "The American Kitchen." As Lolita aged, she sold Temelec Hall and its acreage to developers for a retirement community, one of the first in California, with the proviso that they maintain Temelec Hall; it now is Temelec Community's clubhouse. She moved to a smaller abode in the town of Sonoma with her longtime cook and maid, dying there in 1969.

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220 Temelec Circle, Sonoma, Sonoma County, CA 95476

Verbal Boundaries

Verbal Boundary Description

Temelec Hall is located about 4 miles west and a little south of the town of Sonoma. Temelec Hall, the two gazebos, and the American Kitchen are located on a 2.2 acre parcel on the south side of Temelec Circle. The Carriage House is on a 2.47 acre parcel directly opposite on the north side of Temelec Circle. The legal address for Temelec Hall is 220 Temelec Circle; the legal address for the Carriage House is 221 Temelec Circle. There are four parcel numbers for these 4.67 acres: 142-130-058, 142-160-002, 142-160-070, and 142-170-018

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes all the buildings and surrounds discussed under "Description" and shown on the sketch map in Section 7, pages 1-17: Temelec Hall, all the stone walls, the Smokehouse, the two Gazebos, the Fishpond/ Reservoir, the Carriage House, and the Washhouse. The historic area does not include the modern pool and poolhouses, picnic grounds, or the residential areas. Although the acreage of Temelec has gone up and down from 1850 to the present, the Temelec historic building area has stayed about the same especially since the Hall was built in 1858; these 4.67 acres are zoned as HD (Historic District) as of December 1981.

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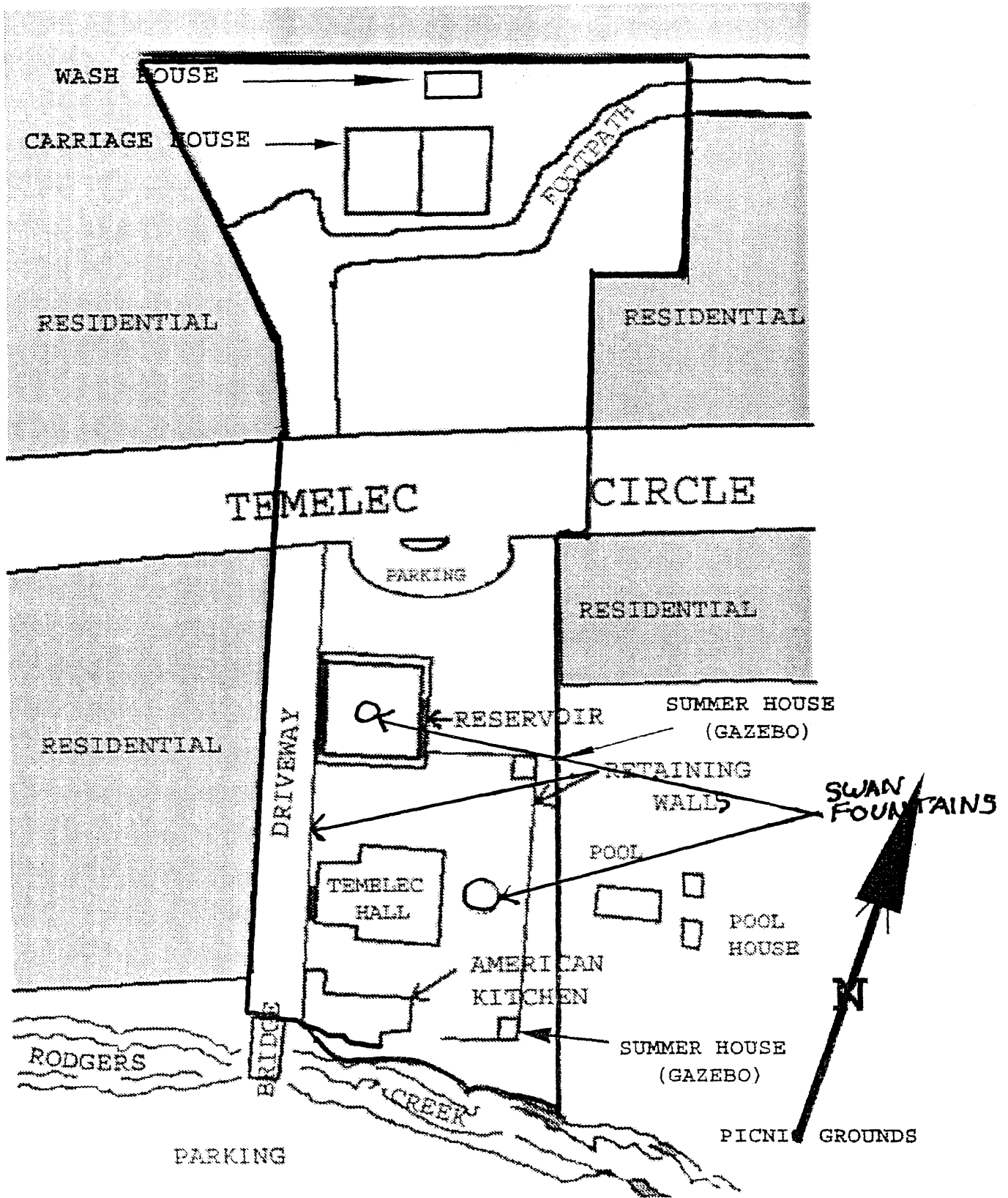
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Temelec, Sonoma County, California

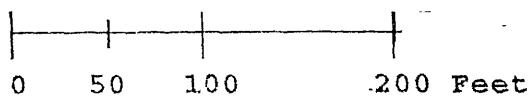
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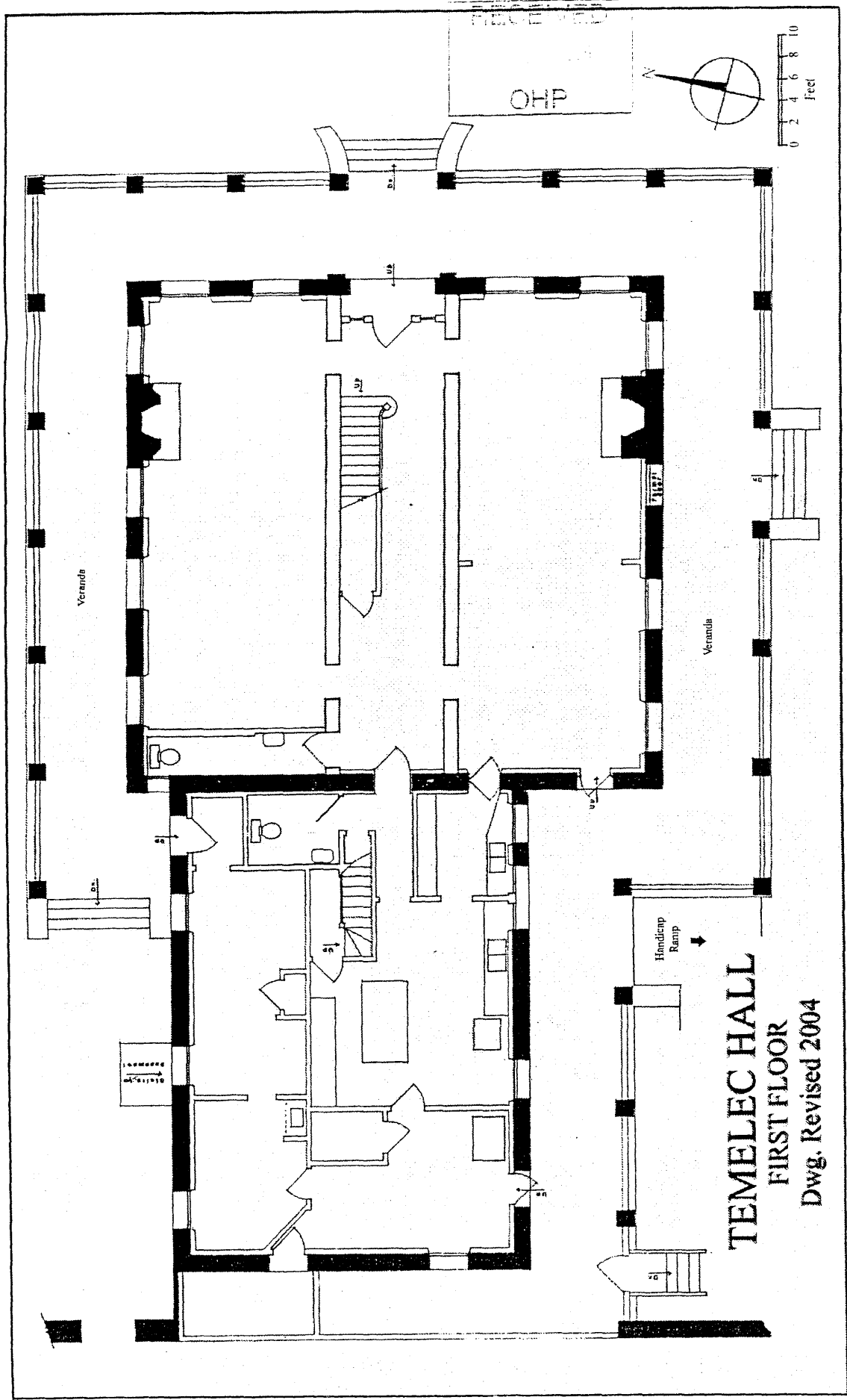
Photos all taken August, 2004. Photographer: Barbara Broderick; negatives located at 71
Temelec Circle, Sonoma, CA 95476

AND GROUNDS

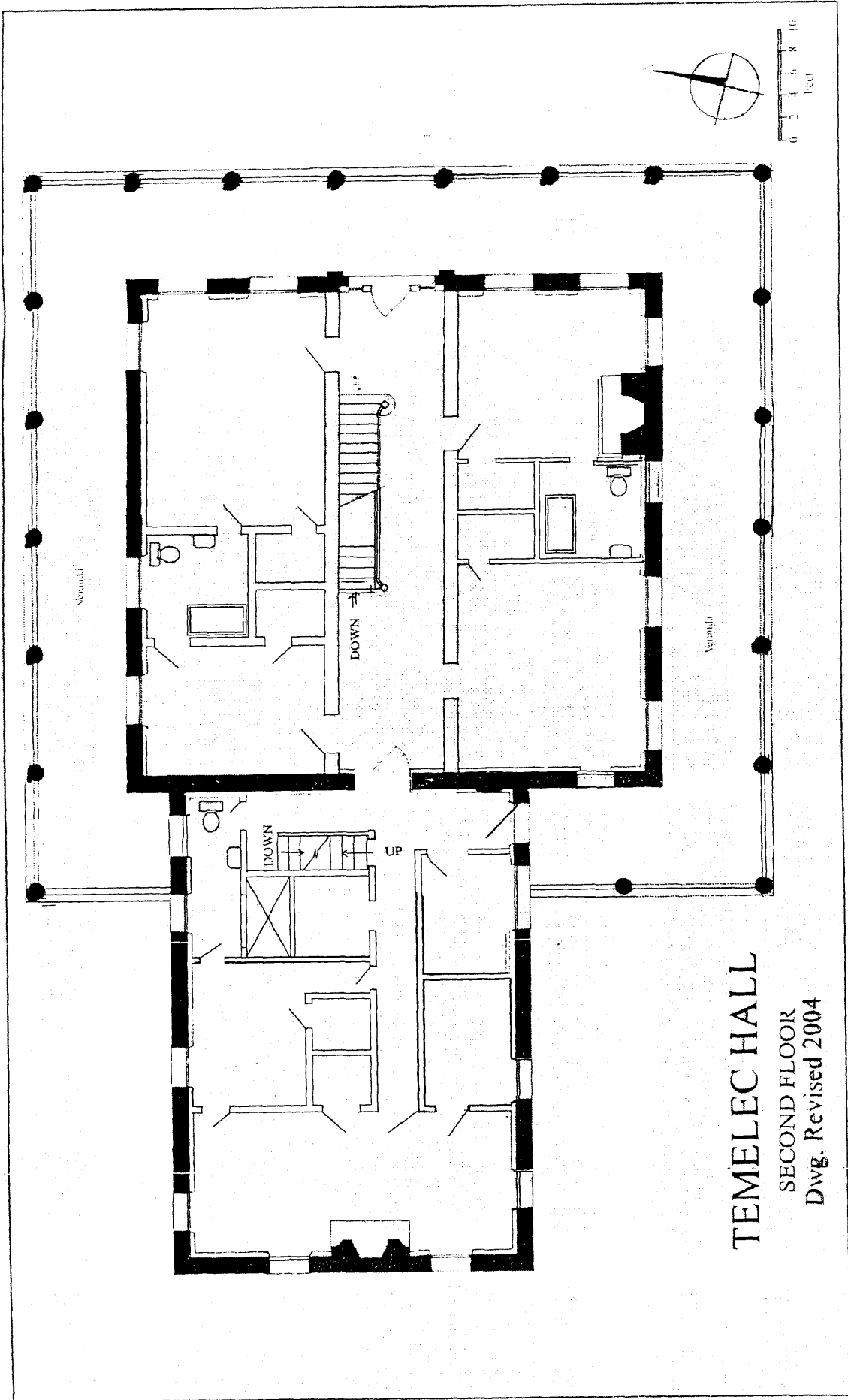


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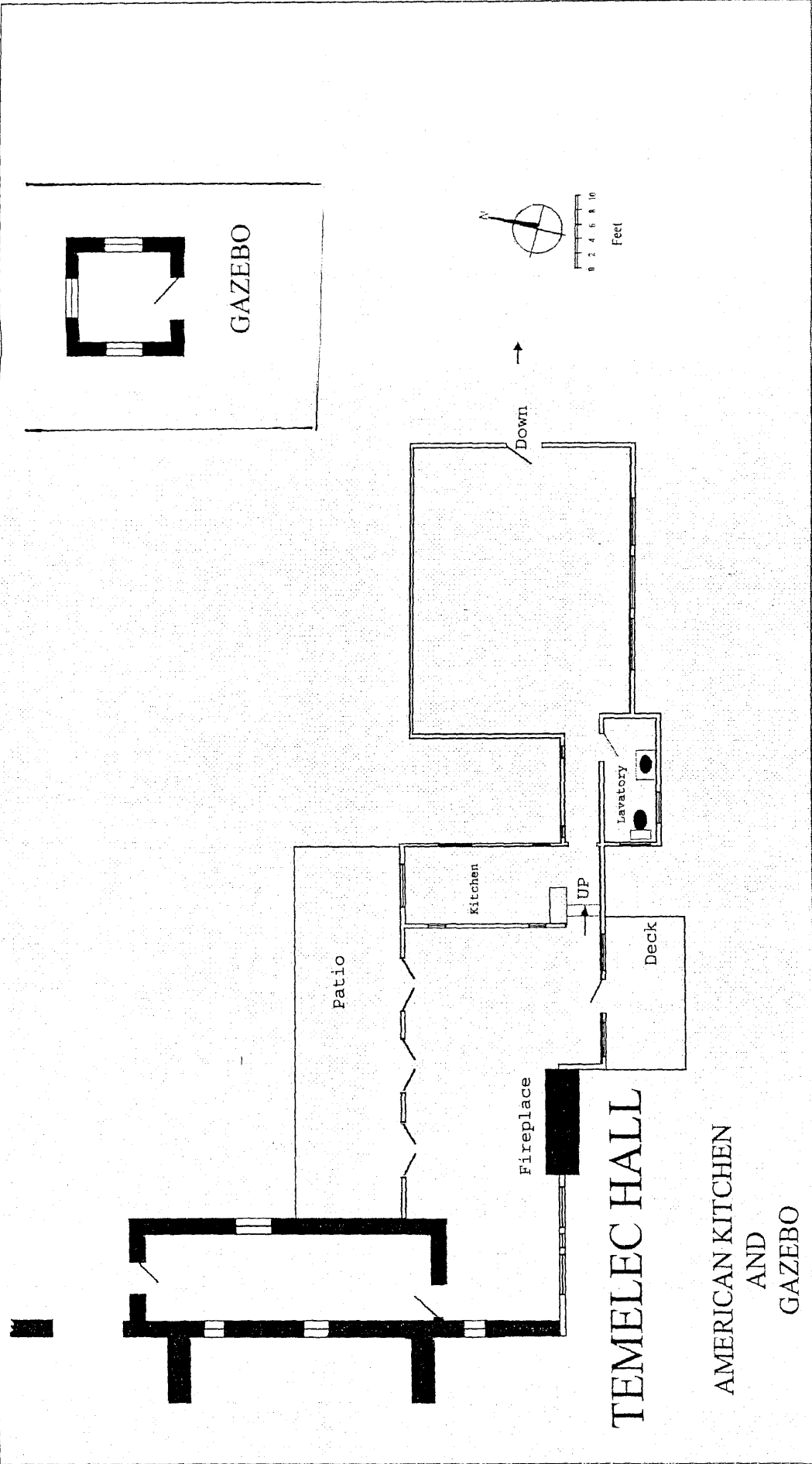




TEMELEC HALL
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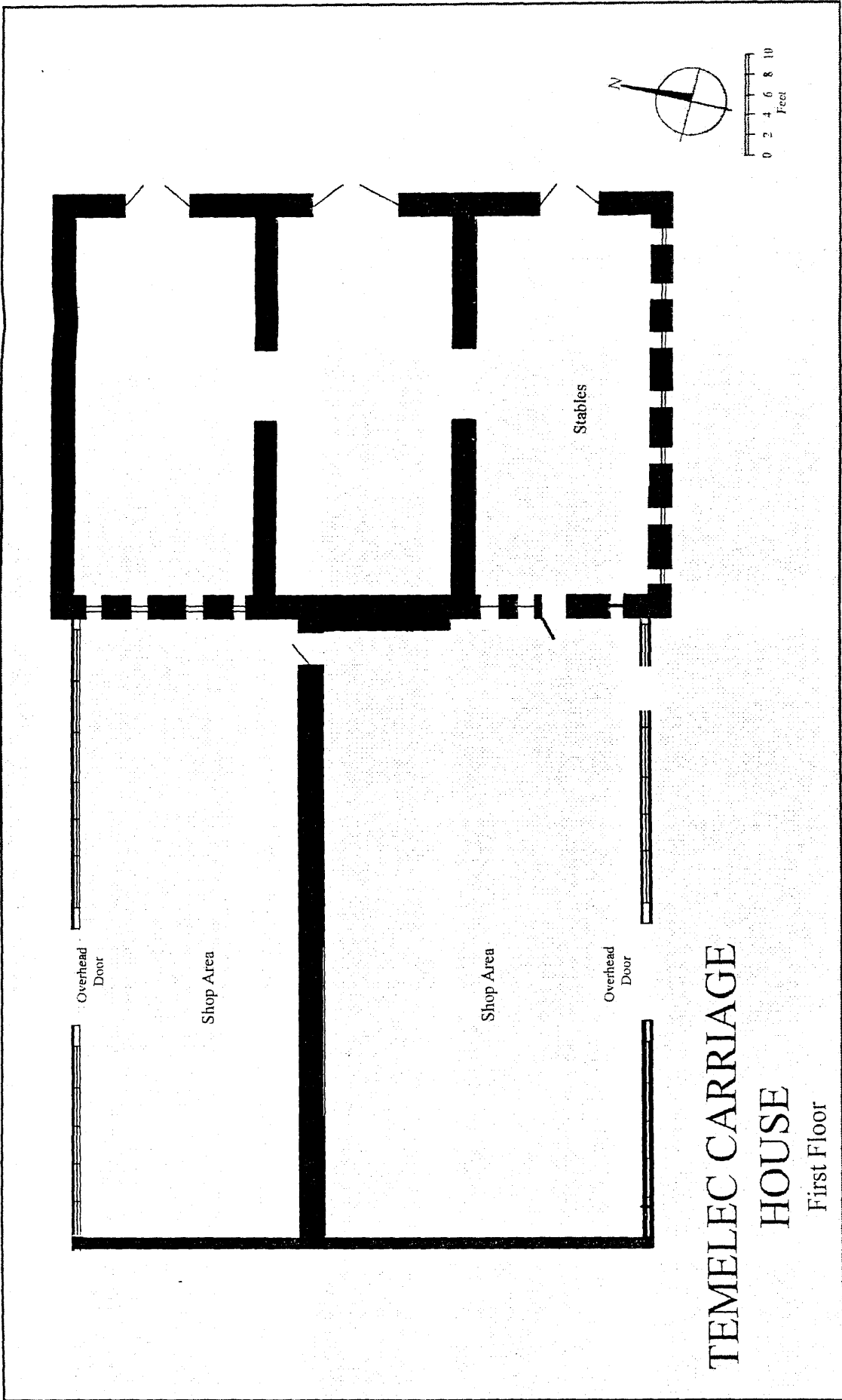


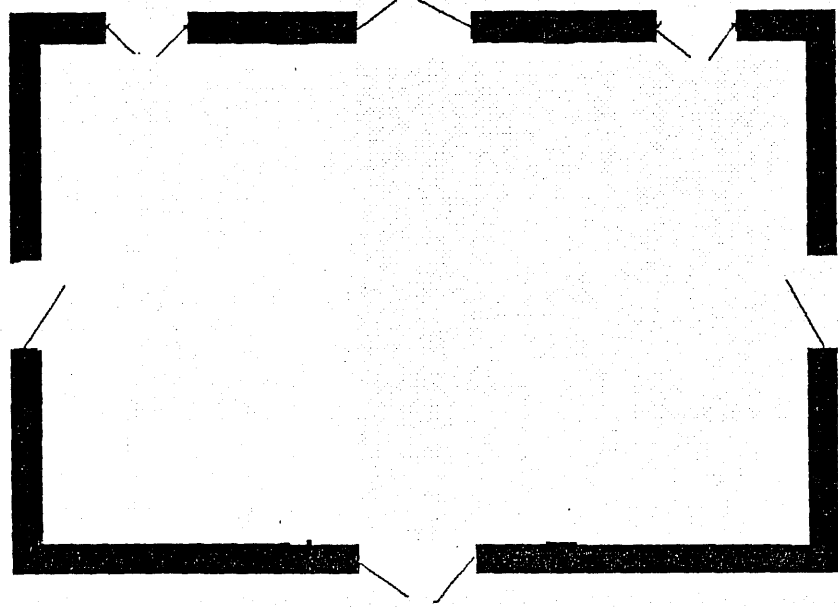
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 SECOND FLOOR
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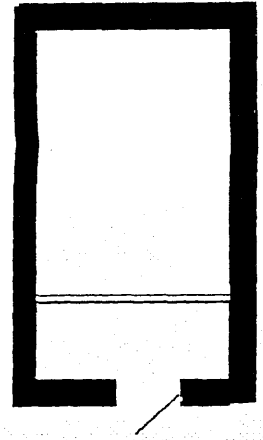
TEMELEC HALL

AMERICAN KITCHEN
AND
GAZEBO





TEMELEC CARRIAGE
HOUSE
SECOND FLOOR



WASH HOUSE

