

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary #: _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____
NRHP Status Code: _____
Other Listings _____
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

*Resource Name or #: 281 West I Street

- P1. Other Identifier:** none
***P2. .Location: *a. County** Solano
b. Address: 281 West I Street
***c. City:** Benicia **Zip** 94510
d. UTM: N/A
e. USGS Quad: Benicia T2N R3W MDM
***f. Other Locational Data (APN #):** 89-041-24

***P3a. Description**

This picturesque Italianate house is two stories with a combination hip and gable roof. The roof has wide overhangs supported on decorative brackets. The gable displays an elaborate fascia and a cornice has molded edges. An elaborately decorated entry porch occupies the L on the west side of the front façade. It has a gable roof that is supported on turned posts. The porch displays a decorated fascia, carved brackets, applied woodwork, and a frieze with a cut-out pattern. The elaboration of trim makes the porch stand out. The original porch framed the entry, but has now been extended to the west and wraps around the west façade. Fenestration consists of one-over one and one-over-two double hung windows. The windows have elaborated casings with panels underneath. The house is clad with clapboard. It is one of two houses of this style on I Street between First Street and West Third.

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** HP2

***P4. Resources Present:** Building Structure Object Site District Element of District

P5b. Description of Photo: Front façade, view north

***P6. Date Constructed/Age:** 1870
 Prehistoric Historic Both

P5. Photograph or Drawing (Photograph required for buildings, structures, and objects.)



***P7. Owner and Address:**

Jean Willis
262 West I Street
Benicia, CA 94510

***P8. Recorded by:**

Carol Roland
Roland-Nawi Associates
4829 Crestwood Way
Sacramento, CA 95822

***P9. Date Recorded:** 11-20-04

***P10. Type of Survey:** Intensive
 Reconnaissance Other

Describe Eligibility Evaluation

***P11. Report Citation:** none

***Attachments:** NONE Map Sheet Continuation Sheet Building, Structure, and Object Record Linear Resource Record Archaeological Record District Record Milling Station Record Rock Art Record Artifact Record Photograph Record Other (List):

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

*Resource Identifier: 281 West I Street

*NRHP Status Code: 3D

B1. Historic Name: N/A

B2. Common Name: none

B3. Original Use: Residential

B4. Present Use: Residential

*B5. Architectural Style: Italianate

*B6. Construction History: A porch addition has been attached to the west side of the original porch. This wraps around the west façade where it has a second story veranda.

*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown

Date: N/A

Original Location: same

*B8. Related Features: none

B9a. Architect: unknown

B9b. Builder: unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme: Benicia Downtown District
Single Family

Period of Significance: -1847-1940

Property Type:

Applicable Criteria: A / C

The house is a good example of its style. It exhibits most of the characteristics of this type of informal Italianate including an elaborate porch, paired narrow windows with elaborate casings, wide roof overhangs with brackets, and a pronounced verticality in form and massing. A side porch and veranda on the west side of the house are probably later additions, but they are present in the 1977 HABS photographs of the building. The house continues to retain its integrity. It contributes to the Downtown District and should continue in this status.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: N/A

B12. References: McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred Knopf (1986); Bruegmann, Robert. *Benicia Portrait of an Early California Town: An Architectural History* (San Francisco: 101 Productions (1980); Woodbridge, Sally and Cannon Design Group. *Benicia, California: Downtown Historic Conservation Plan*. City of Benicia, 1990; Sanborn Map Benicia, CA. 1886; 1986 Benicia Historic Inventory form.

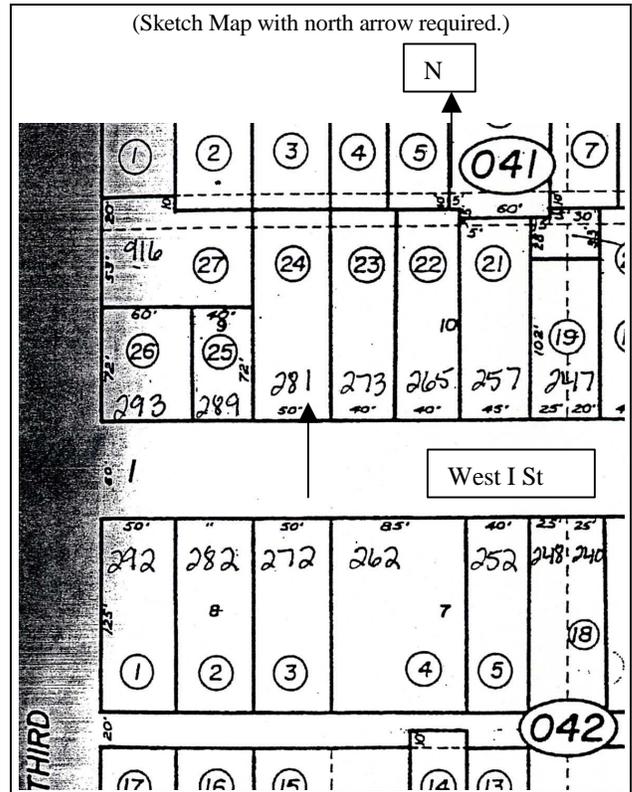
BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Remarks: N/A

B14. Evaluator: Carol Roland, Ph.D.

Roland-Nawi Associates: Preservation Consultants
4829 Crestwood Way
Sacramento, CA 95822

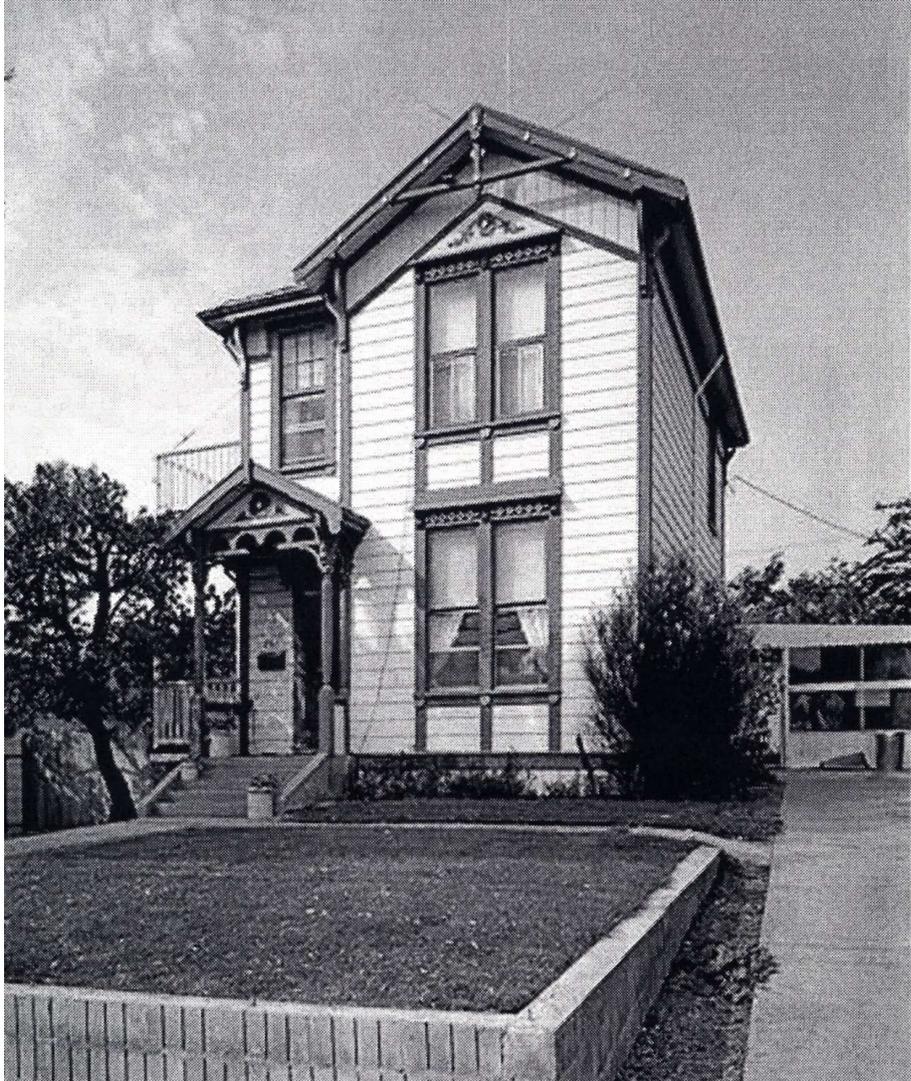
B 15. Date of Evaluation: 11-22-04



BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Resource Identifier: 281 West I Street

Continuation Update



HABS photograph 1977