State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

PRIMARY RECORD

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

***Resource Name or #:** 161 West H Street
P1. Other Identifier: none
***P2. .Location: *a. County** Solano
b. Address: 161 West H Street
***c. City:** Benicia **Zip** 94510
d. UTM: N/A
e. USGS Quad: Benicia T2N R3W MDM
***f. Other Locational Data (APN #):** 89-044-18
***P3a. Description**

Rectangular in plan, this house is set on a raised foundation and has a moderately pitched hip roof. Eaves are enclosed. A spanning front porch is covered with a shed roof that is supported on turned posts. The wooden porch is enclosed with a plain open rail. The centered entry is recessed with a paneled and glazed door with a transom. Vertically emphasized, one-over-one double hung windows are paired on either side of the entry. The windows are arched at the top. Cladding on the house is clapboard, while the lower raised basement is sided with vertical boards. The house is vernacular, specifically of the pyramidal roof house type, but its arched windows and turned posts are derived from the Queen Anne style of which there are a number of local examples.

***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:** 1880
☐ Prehistoric ■Historic ☐ Both
***P7. Owner and Address:**
Thomas Ketchum
161 West H Street
Benicia, CA 94510

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

***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:** 161 West h 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:** Vernacular – pyramidal roof type

***B6. Construction History:** Balustrades appear to be replacement.

***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 **Period of Significance**: 1847-1940 **Property Type**: Single Family **Applicable Criteria:** A / C

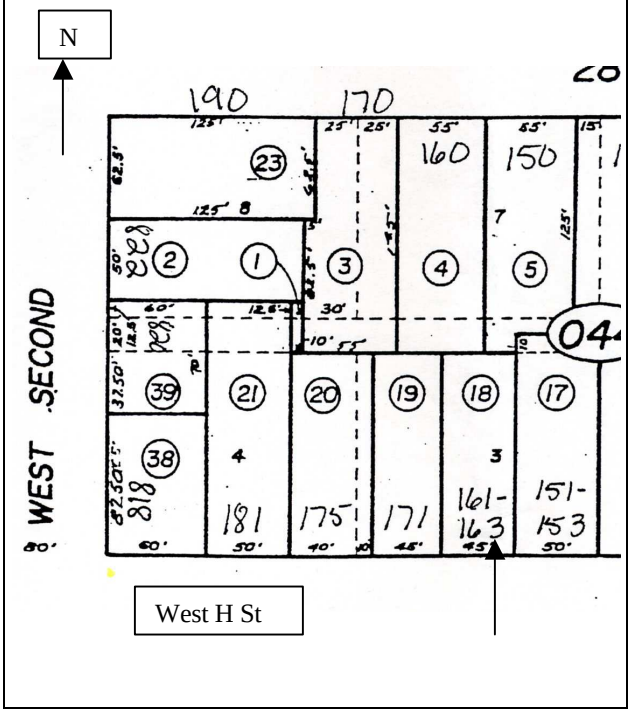
This house is designated as a contributing building within the Benicia Downtown Historic District. It retains its integrity with the exception of the stair balustrade and the cladding of the raised foundation. The house is a good example of its style and type. Pyramidal Roof houses were a widely geographically distributed post-railroad building type often associated with working class urban neighborhoods and rural farmsteads. The house is and should remain a contributing element of the district.

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

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)



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

(This space reserved for official comments.)