

State of California - The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No  
Nat. Register Status 5 (s1)

IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION

Local designation

1. Historic name Redwood Village

\*2 Common or current name Same

\*3. Number & street 9099 Soquel Drive Cross-corridor  
City Aptos Vicinity only \_\_\_\_\_ Zip 95003 County Santa Cruz

4. UTM zone A B C D

5. Quad map No. Parcel No. 041-151-19 Other

DESCRIPTION

6. Property category tourist camp/shopping complex If district, number of documented resources

\*7. Briefly describe the present physical appearance of the property, including condition, boundaries, related features, surroundings, and (if appropriate) architectural style.

This complex of cottages, formerly a tourist camp and motor court, is perhaps the best example of vernacular architecture adapted for a commercial enterprise in the County. The site consists of a number of cabins built among the redwoods. Each is different and all take advantage of the surrounding redwood trees as a source of inspiration. Some are simple rustic cabins with wood shingle siding and roofs (Bldgs 8,9) others are more elaborate with multi-units, porches and balconies (Bldg nos 10, 11, 12). Building 4 is built as a log cabin with graceful Craftsman detailing in the windows and doors and Building 3, which appears to have been a garage, combines unpeeled logs, shingle siding and a whimsical window with shutters. The most fanciful is building number 1 which stands near the entrance. Like some magical forest apparition, it appears to be built in an old tree stump, which, on more careful examination, turns out to be constructed of cement patterned to look like wood. The redwood grove that shelters this clever, whimsical conglomeration of fantasy and reality is still intact and provides a mixture of natural forest setting with carefully landscaped gardens. Although all the structures have undergone some modification to accommodate a number of different shops and businesses, most retain their essential integrity. The one exception is Bldg. 16 whose facade has been altered with an out of scale and character false front. The original building fortunately remains intact behind this recent addition.

8. Planning agency County Planning

(See continuation sheets  
for photographs and maps)

9. Owner & address  
Whiting, Michael and Beth  
124 English Drive  
Santa Cruz, CA 95065

10. Type of ownership private

11. Present use business.

12. Zoning C-1

13. Threats None apparent

Send a copy of this form to: State Office of Historic Preservation, P.O. box 942895, Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

\*Complete these items for historic preservation compliance projects under Section 106(36CFR800). All items must be completed for historical resources survey information.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

\*14. Construction date(s) 1928 F Original location same Date moved

15. Alterations & date Some alterations to most buildings, chimneys damaged in earthquake, replacement of some multipaned windows with plate glass, handicapped access ramps on some.

16. Architect unknown Builder William Parker

17. Historic attributes (with number from list) HP 39 Roadside Tourist Attraction

SIGNIFICANCE AND EVALUATION

18. Context for evaluation: Theme Industry (Tourism) Area Santa Cruz County Period 1850-1940 Property type tourist camp Context formally developed? Yes

\*19. Briefly discuss the property's importance within the context. Use historical and architectural analysis as appropriate. Compare with similar properties.

Redwood Village was built in 1928 by William Parker as a tourist camp and rest stop. Constructed within a grove of redwood trees, the facility consists of a number of hand crafted cabins, each with a unique design made to fit within its space in the grove. Like many roadside attractions built during the time, it was constructed to appeal to motorists passing through the area rather than as one of the large destination resorts, whose popularity was decreasing. Few of these theme attractions still exist and this is certainly the best preserved in the entire County. Although the cabins were adapted for use by individual businesses in 1974, the feeling and association with the site as a unique, off-road haven for the traveler still remains.

20. Sources

County of Santa Cruz Survey of Historic Resources  
S.C. County Historical Resources Commission and Planning Dept., 1989.

County of Santa Cruz Survey of Historic Resources Update and Context Statement.

S. C. County Historical Resources Commission, 1994.

21. Applicable National Register criteria NA

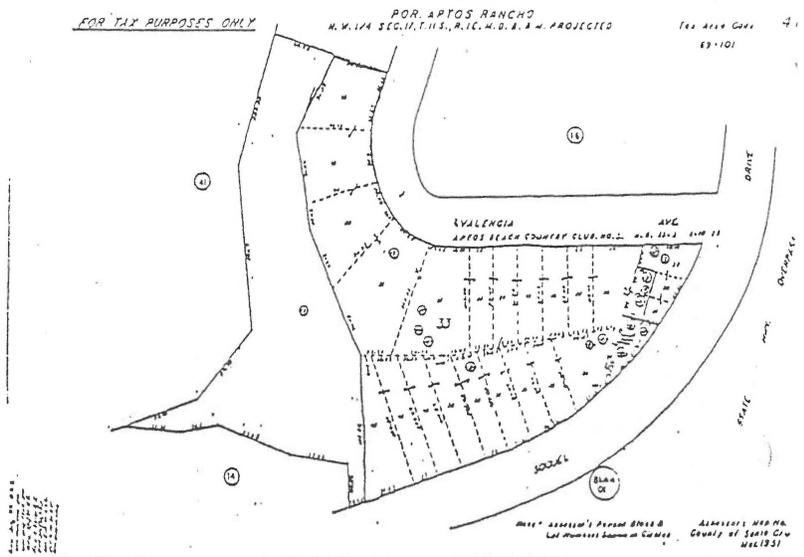
22. Other recognition NA  
State Landmark No. (if applicable)

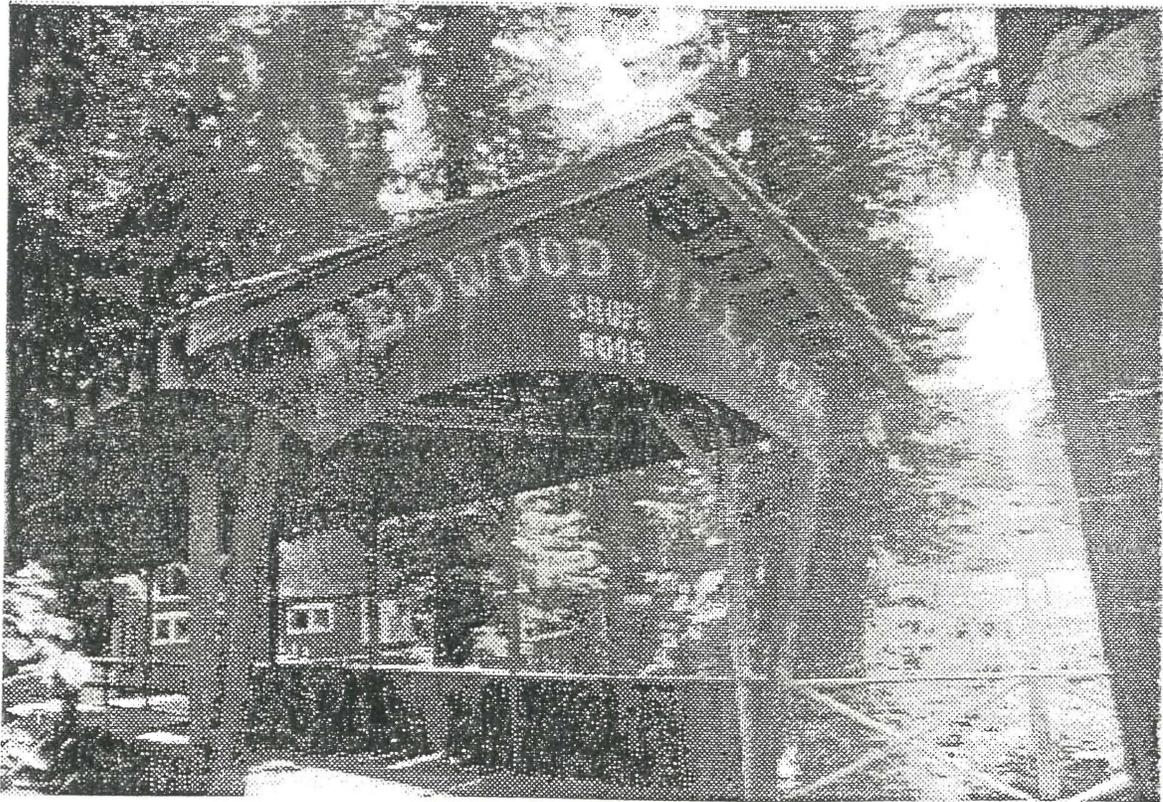
24. Survey type Comprehensive

25. Survey name County of Santa Cruz Survey of Historic Resources Update

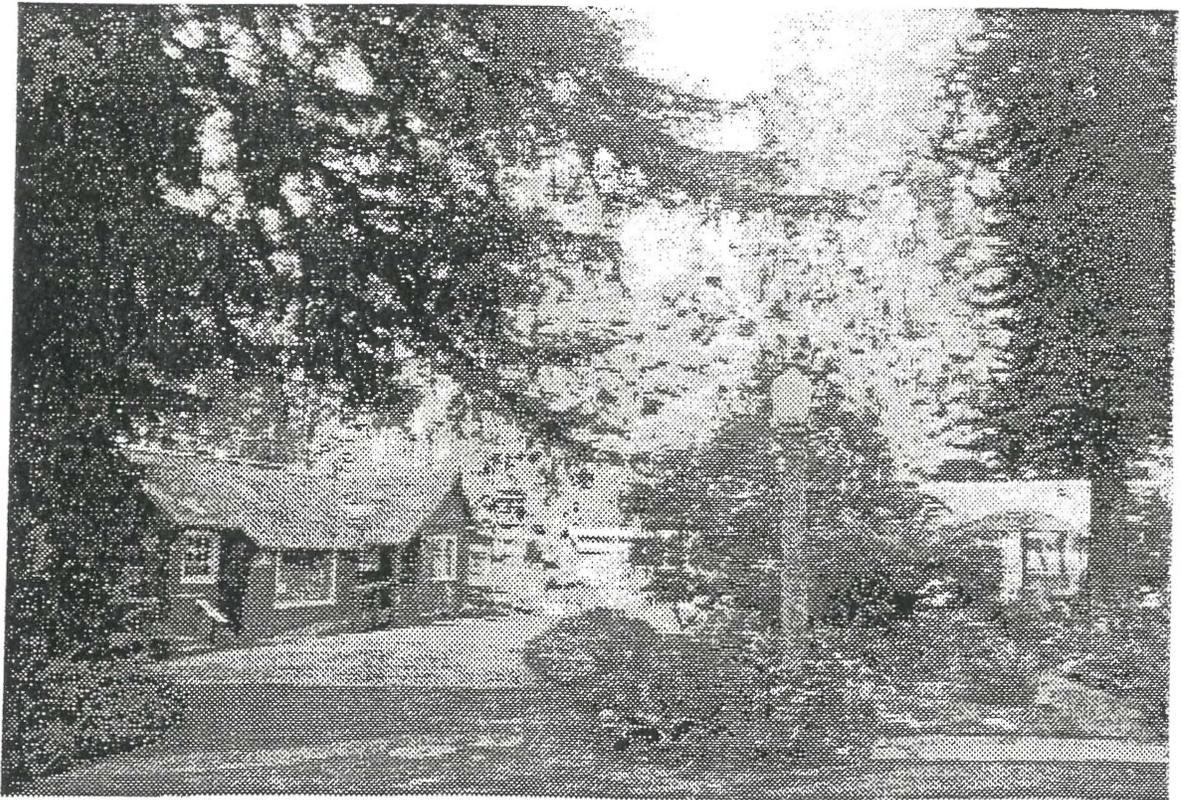
\*26. Year form prepared 1995  
By (name) Susan Lehmann, Consultant  
Organization for S.C. County Historical Resources Commission and County Planning Dept.  
Address 701 Ocean Street  
City & Zip Santa Cruz 95060  
Phone (408) 454-2123

Sketch Map North

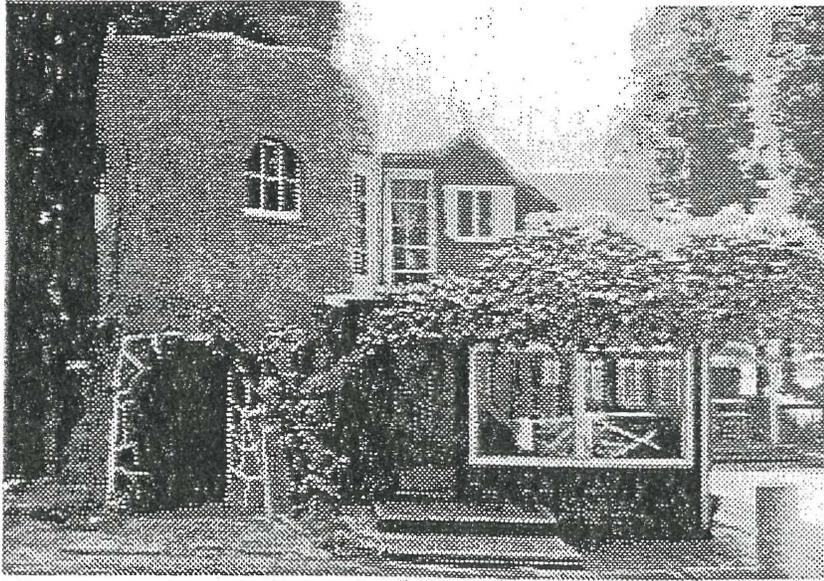




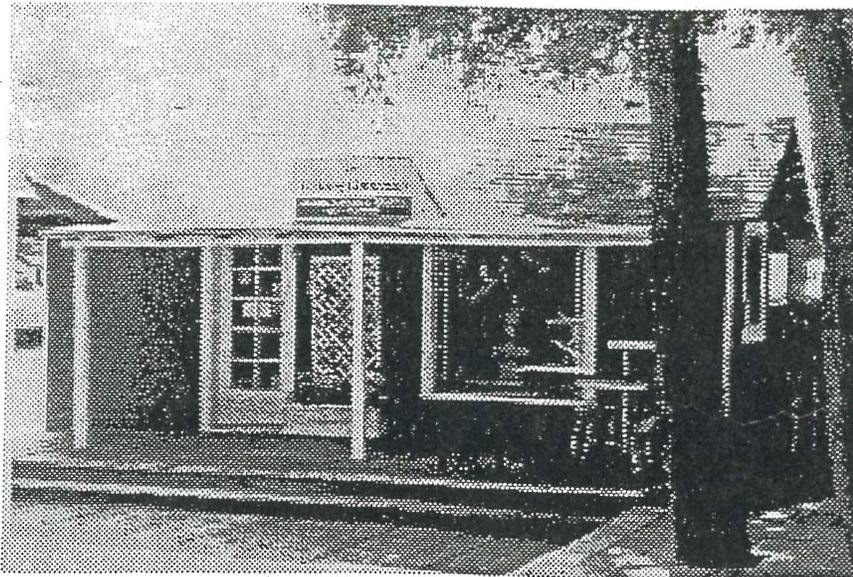
Redwood Village covered bridge entrance



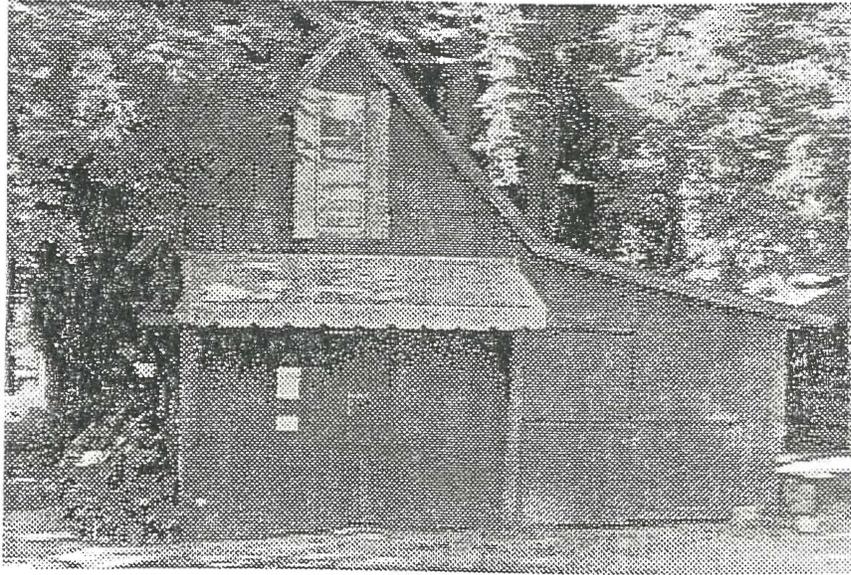
Landscape surrounding cabins in Redwood village



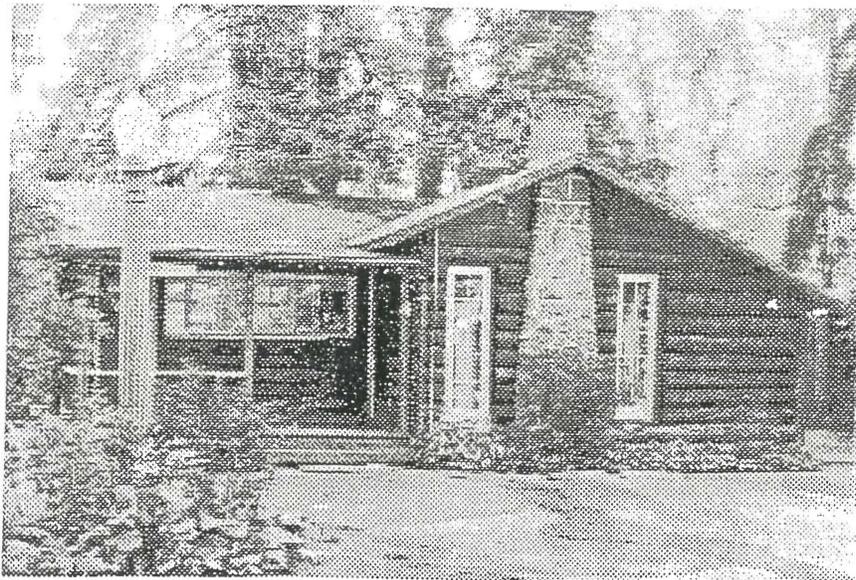
Building Number 1



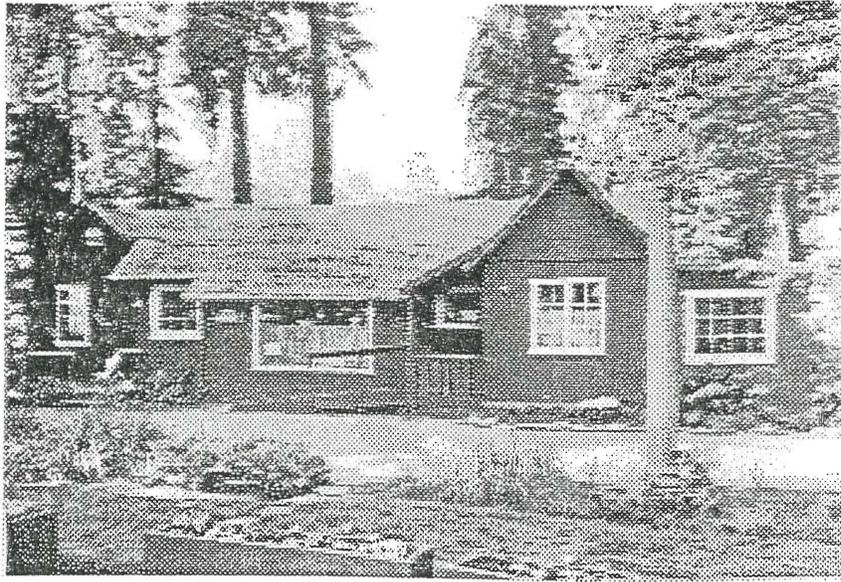
Building Number 2



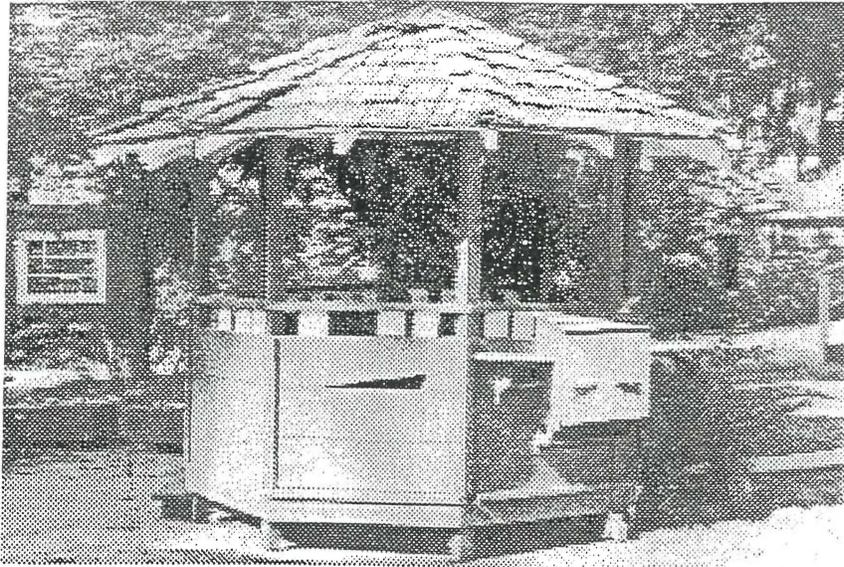
Building 3



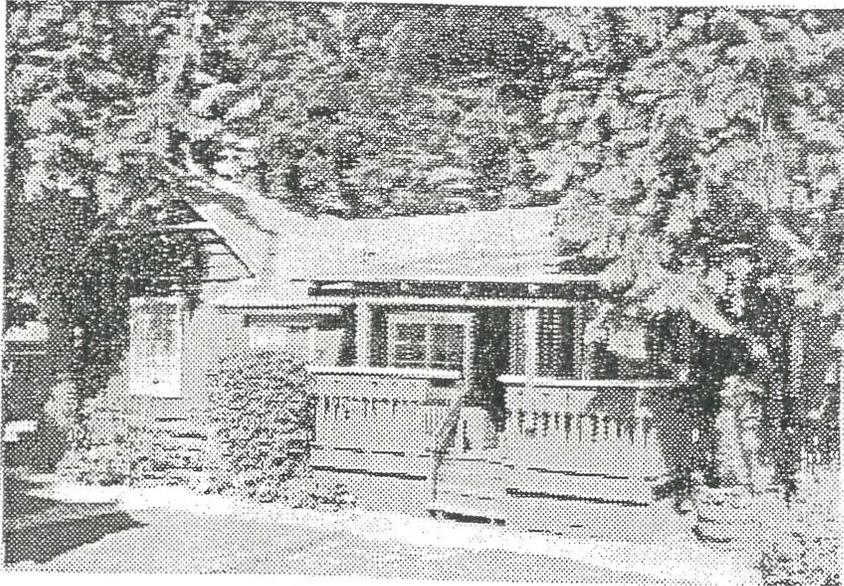
Building 4



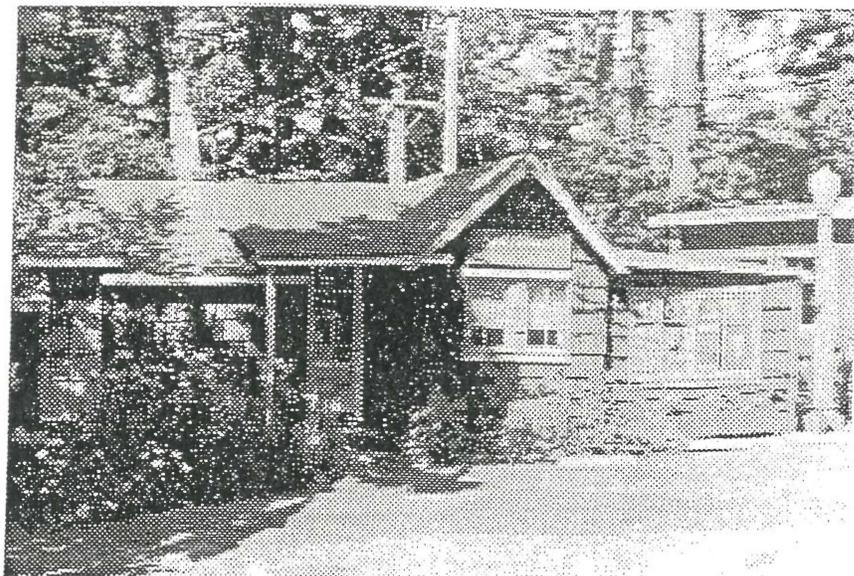
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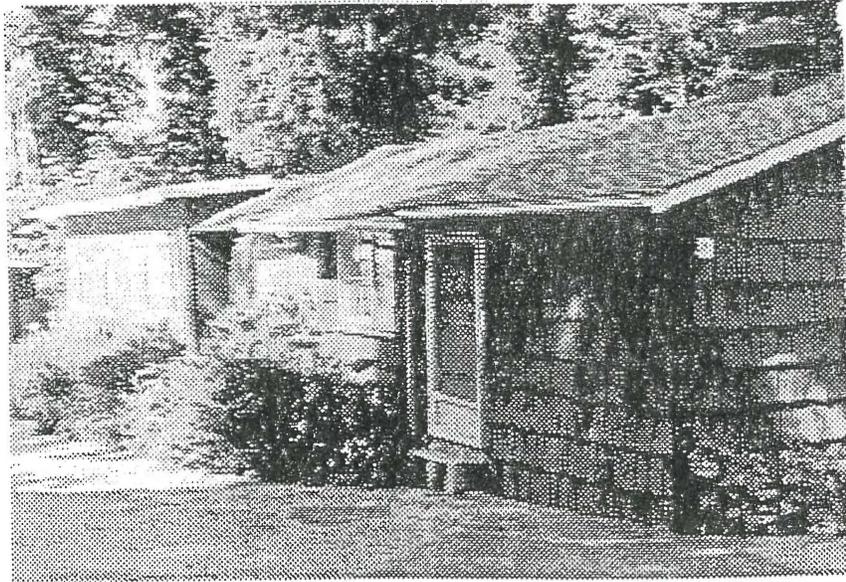
Gazebo



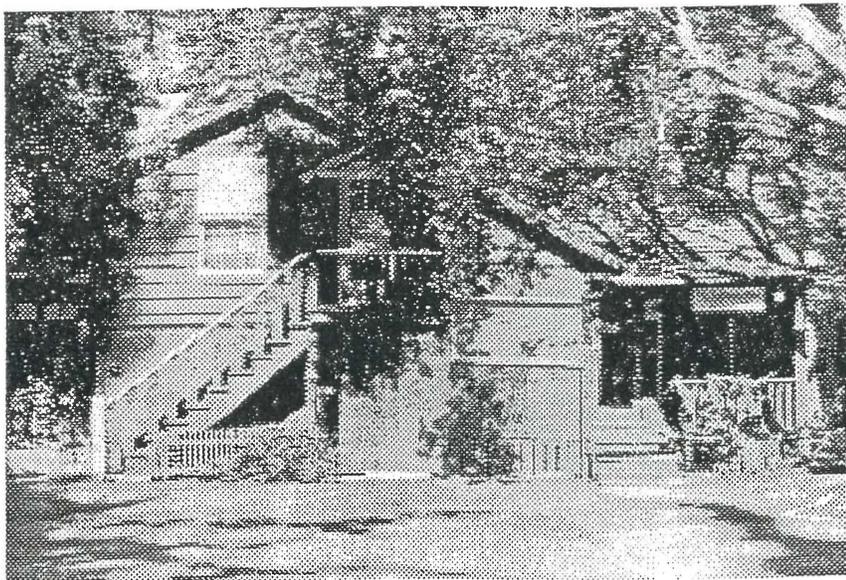
Building Number 7



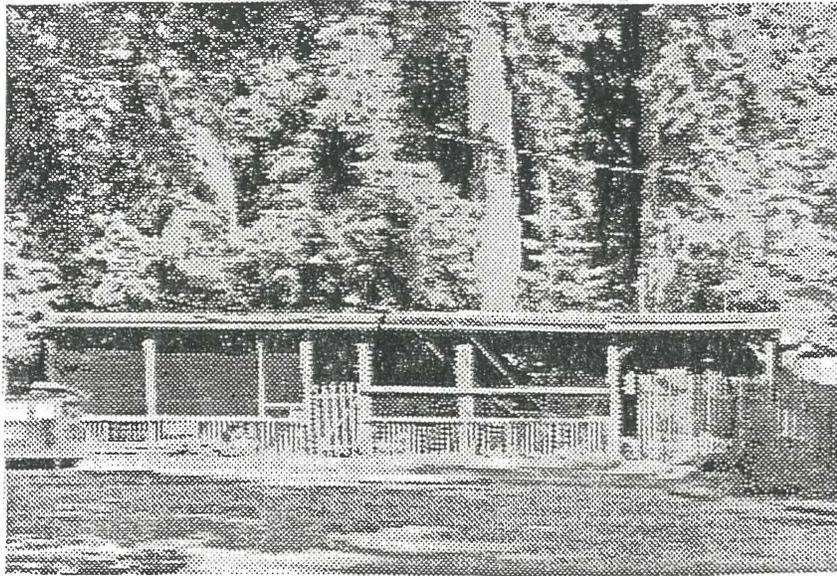
Building Number 8



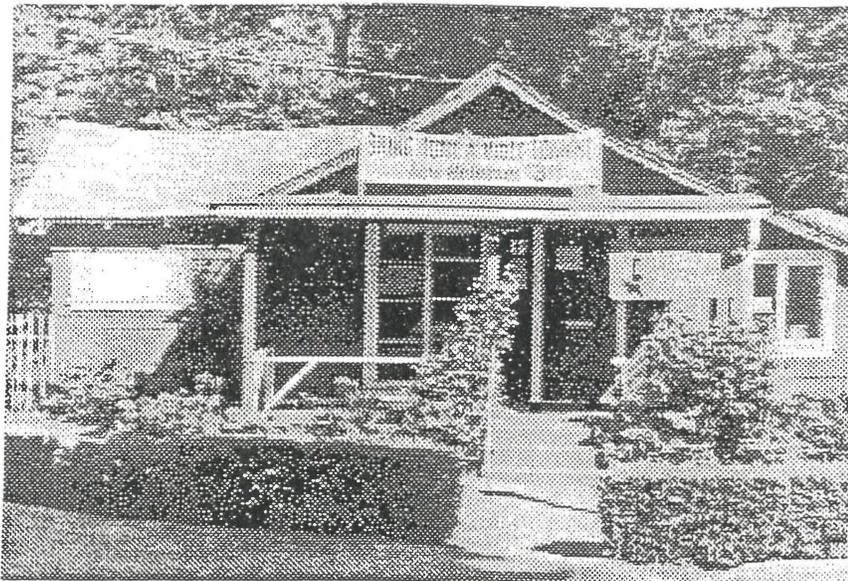
Building Number 9



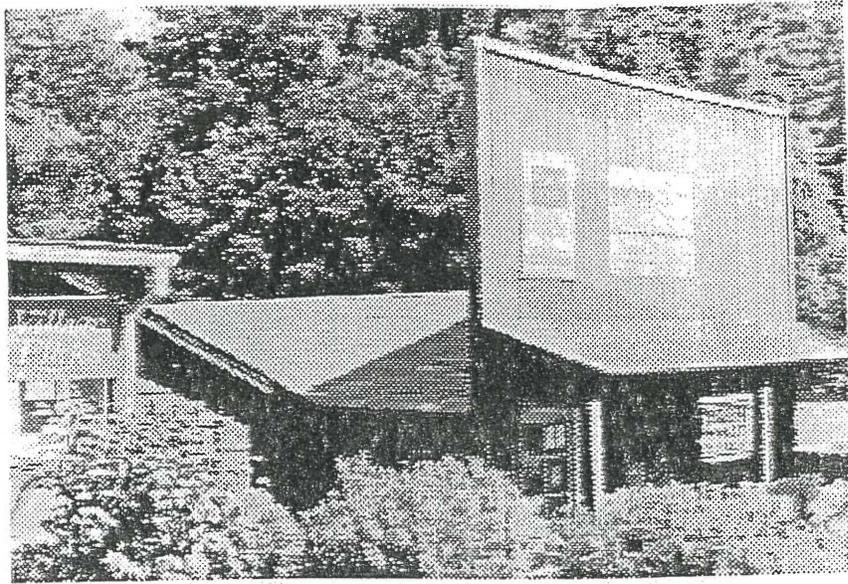
Building Numbers 10, 11, 12



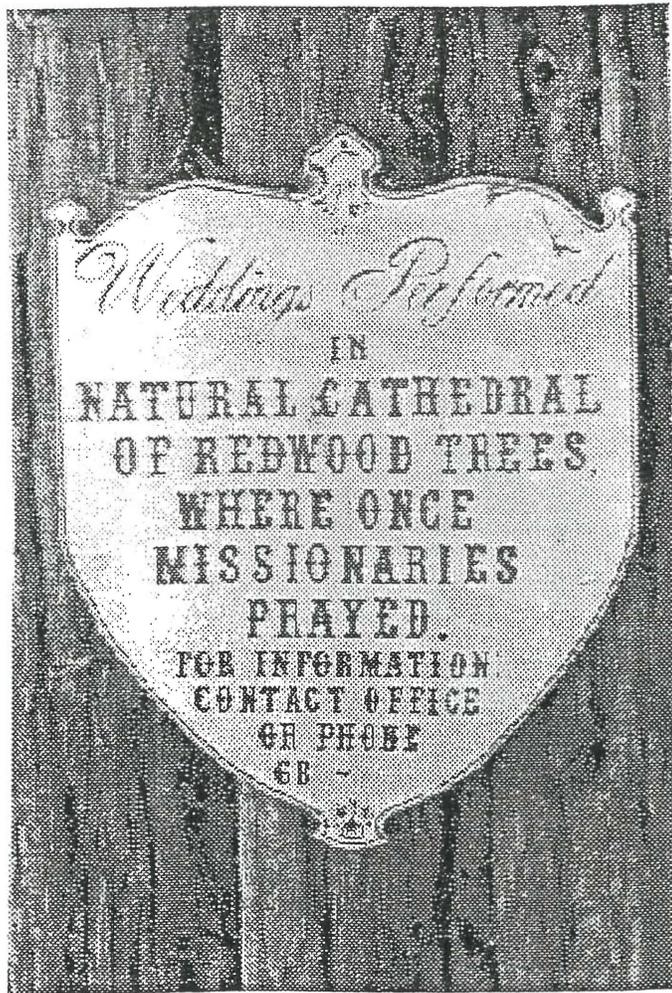
Storage shed



Building Number 15



Building Number 16 showing false front added later to the facade



Original sign in Redwood Village advertising weddings.

Continuation sheet

Shows placement of buildings in Redwood Village

