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

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. EXHIBIT A
HABS ____ HAER ____ NR ____ SHL ____ Loc ____
UTM: A ____ B ____
C ____ D ____

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Kelly Pond
2. Historic name: Kelly Pond
3. Street or rural address: 45100 Albion Street
   City Mendocino Zip 95460 County Mendocino
4. Parcel number: 119-238-17 MHR #25b
5. Present Owner: Mendocino Historical Research, Inc. Address: P. O. Box 922
   City Mendocino Zip 95460 Ownership is: Public ____ Private X
6. Present Use: Pond Original use: Fish Pond

DESCRIPTION

7a. Architectural style:

7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This pond appears on the 1890 Sanborn Fire Map of Mendocino. The "Kelly Pond" is a part of the original property of W. H. Kelly and on the same parcel as the Kelley House Museum.

In August 1880, the Mendocino Beacon notes that W. H. Kelly has planted 1,000 catfish in his pond. A couple of years later there is mention of the trout in Kelly's Pond.

The pond is oval shaped, with north-south dimension of approx 70' and east-west dimension of approx 50', and is dug out about 10-12' in the center.

Spring fed, it may have been larger back in the older days. Interior surface is just natural dirt, with landscaping of plants around the edges.

Silt and dirt was dug out in 1983, and today, 9/22/1987 there is only about four inches of water in the pond.

Attach Photo(s) Here

8. Construction date: Estimated ____ Factual 1880
9. Architect ____
10. Builder W. H. Kelly
11. Approx. property size (in feet) Frontage 250' Depth 160' or approx. acreage ____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s) July, 1987

EXHIBIT A

13. Condition: Excellent ___ Good _X_ Fair ___ Deteriorated ___ No longer in existence ___

14. Alterations: _____

15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land X___ Scattered buildings ___ Densely built-up ___
Residential ___ Industrial ___ Commercial ___ Other: _____

16. Threats to site: None known _X_ Private development ___ Zoning ___ Vandalism ___
Public Works project ___ Other: _____

17. Is the structure: On its original site? _X_ Moved? _____ Unknown? _____

18. Related features: on Same parcel with Kelley House Museum

SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

see 7b.

Beacon issue, 7/17/1880 notes that W. H. Kelly is building a trout pond on his property near Main St.

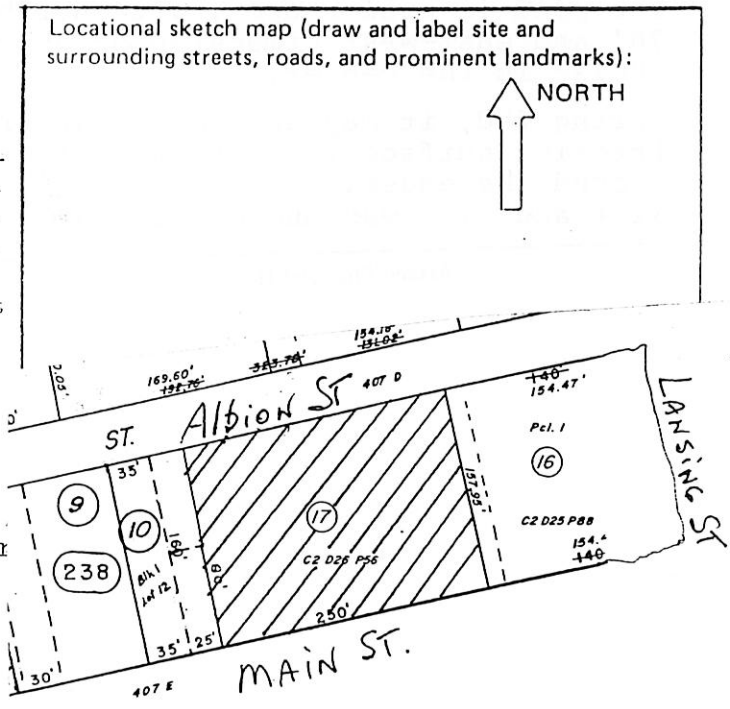
Book "Mendocino" Stebbins/Bear, notes Wm. H. Kelly was one of the original men who came to this place aboard the brig ONtario in 1852. In 43 years of his life spent here, he created a number of businesses, built two of the largest dwellings in town, several small houses, a church for his wife, a block of store buildings, and a pond, known as the Kelly Pond, which with its surrounding gardens remains a visitor attraction to this day".

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)
Architecture ___ Arts & Leisure ___
Economic/Industrial ___ Exploration/Settlement ___
Government ___ Military ___
Religion ___ Social/Education ___
Mendocino history

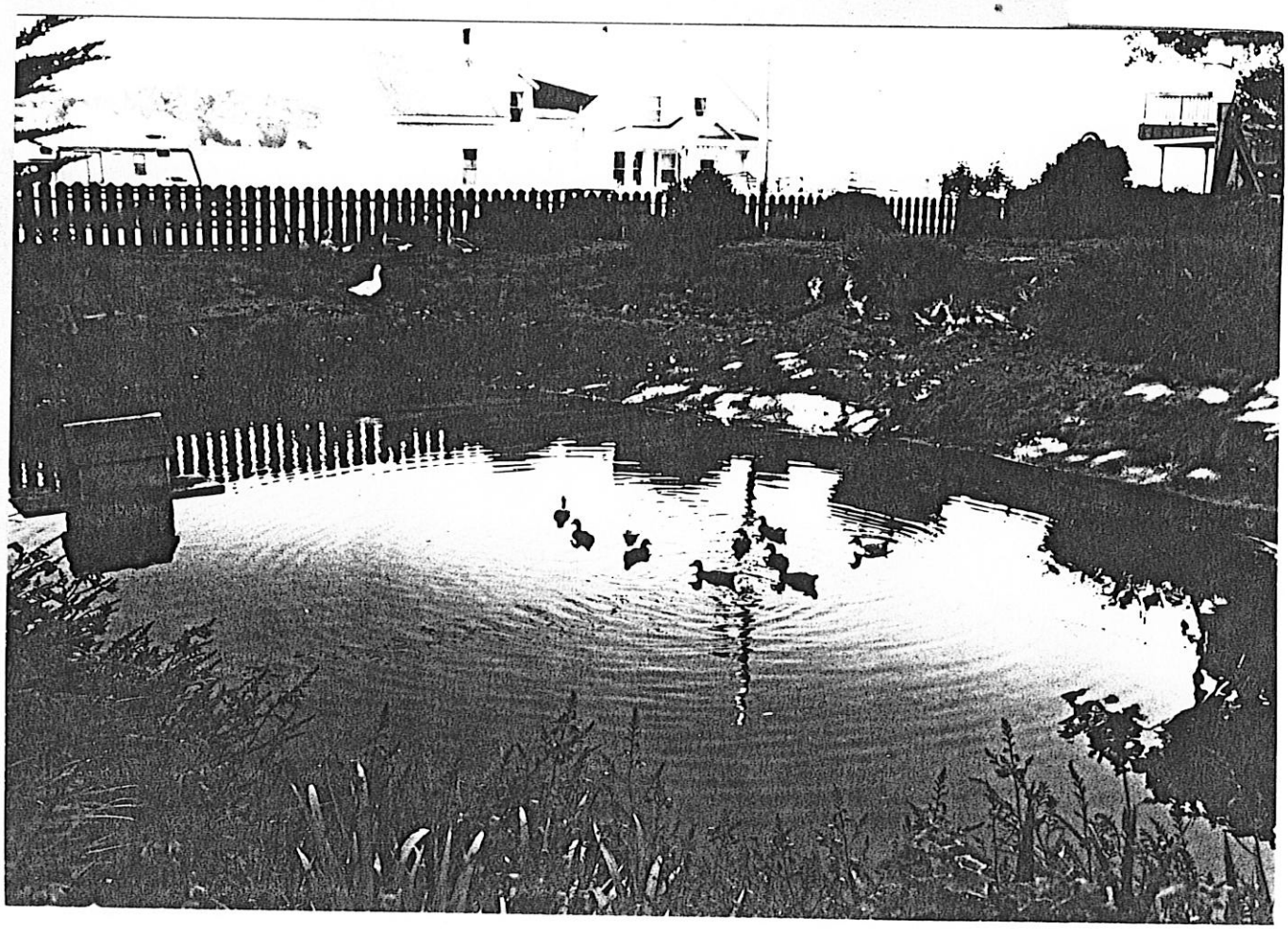
21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).
Mendocino Beacon issues
Ed O'Brien, site inspection

22. Date form prepared Sept. 22, 1987
By (name) Eleanor Sverko, co-ordinator
Organization County of Mendocino
Address: 10511 Wheeler St.
City Mendocino Zip 95460
Phone: 707-937-5974

Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks):



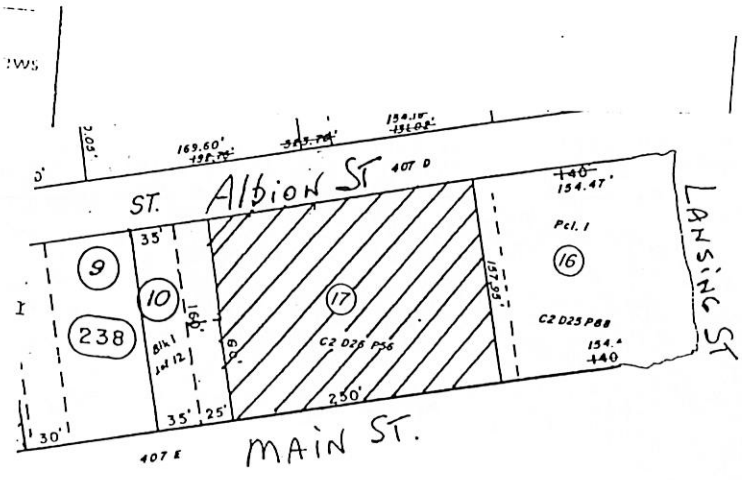
#25b Kelley Pond
Main Street



Sverko, April 16, 1999
APN: 119-238-17
MHR: #25b No. I

KELLEY POND
45020 Main Street

This historic Kelley Pond was surveyed for th e State Office of Historic Preservation by the writer in 1987.



Fed by a natural spring, it was dug out by Wm. H. Kelly in July, 1880, and stocked with catfish and trout.

Oval shaped, it was 70' in length, north to south, and approx 50 feet wide, with the center dug out to 10-12 feet deep.

It has been a duck pond for many years, clearly visible from Main Street to all passersby.

1987 was a drought year, and the pond evaporated to about only four inches and members of Mendocino Historical Research, Inc., rescued goldfish and the ducks.

It is continuously maintained by members of Mendocino Historical Research, Inc., Who own and operate the Kelley House Museum on the property.

KELLEY POND
45020 Main Street

Sverko, April 16, 1999
APN: 119-238-17
MHR: #25b No. I

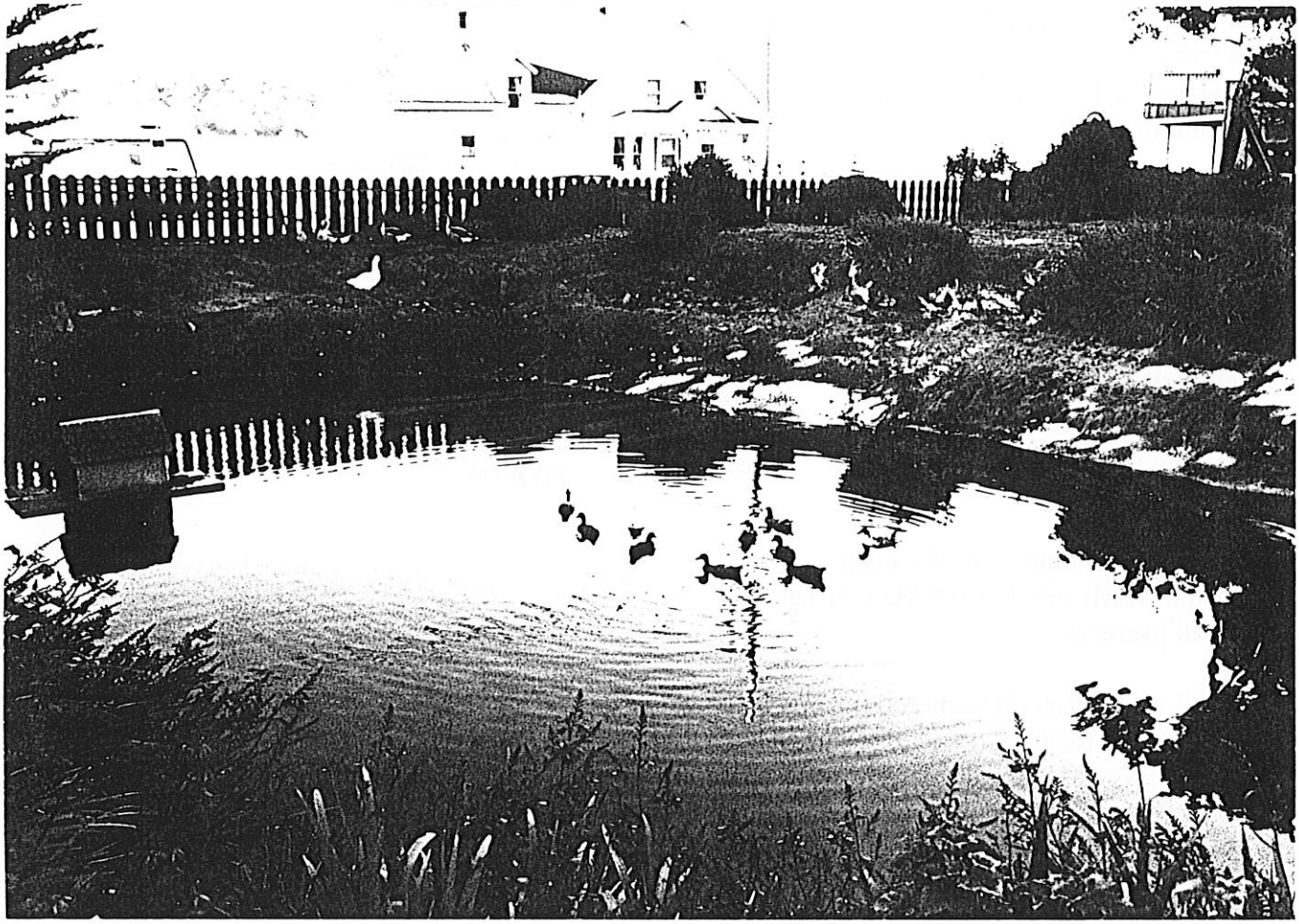


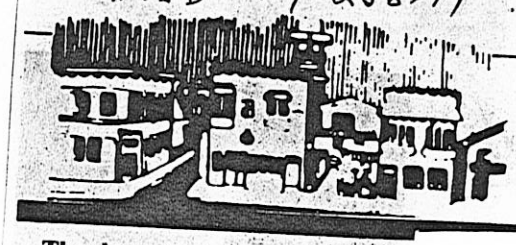
EXHIBIT A

#r5b 119-238-17

Mendocino Beacon, Thursday, September 24, 1987, Page 5

Jack's Corner

By Jacques Helfer



Thanks to Kelley House Director Ann Campbell for donning rubber boots, taking strainer and pail in hand and climbing to the bottom of Kelley Pond to rescue the dozen or so goldfish. The pond was going dry, only a shallow mud puddle remained and one could look down from the sidewalk and see the goldfish with their sides breaking the surface, swimming in obvious distress. Now they have all been transferred to a large pool.

EXHIBIT A

Kelley House Calendar

By WALLY SMITH
For The Beacon

As you know if you're a regular reader of this column, the historic Kelley Pond on the museum's grounds has become a mere mud puddle—even dryer than that, on occasion—due to the drop in the Mendocino water table.

Skip Jones to the rescue: He contributed 8,000 gallons of much-needed water, giving our dozens of ducks (and five fat geese) a bit of a respite from having to waddle their way from hither to yon. But it seems as how those thirsty cracks can swill it up at will and call for more; by the time you read this, the pond will be dry again.

Meanwhile one of our Moms has presented us with eight new ducklings. And we still want to give away a lot of the older ones—those who were the last crop of newcomers. There must be a few ponds without water? Forlorn, thats what.

One afternoon while docent Evelyn Parker was on duty at the museum, an out-of-town visitor presented her with a square-cut nail found on the Kelley House grounds—possibly unearthed during a routine hoedown by gardener Jaen Treesinger or one of her crew.

Nails such as this have not been manufactured since the turn of the century. The Kelley House itself is no doubt a veritable pincushion of square-cut nails, dating as it does to the days before the Civil War.

Fellow townsmen (townspersons?) who have made it to the TV screen a time or two on Angela Lansbury's "Murder, She Wrote" series on Sunday nights may be interested to learn that we'll soon be able to watch this popular show six times a week. Yes, I said six. CBS will continue to screen the show on Sundays (now that the writers' strike is over, hopefully with some new episodes) and the USA cable network will screen the show every weeknight starting with a two-hour "debut" on Monday, Oct. 3.

So if you want to catch your own act once more, keep an eye on USA. That's Channel 11 on our TV.

And Mendocino is about to receive some welcome (we hope) publicity in the form of a feature article, well-illustrated, in the November/December issue of the nationally distributed American West Magazine. Text was written by yours truly and the photographs—depending upon which they decide to use—were submitted by Toni Lemos, Bill Wagner and this reporter.

If you're one of those readers who fear we already have too many tourists about, you won't like it. Sorry about that.