

NIVEN NURSERY,  
CARPENTRY BUILDING (NN-7)  
2 WARD STREET  
MARIN COUNTY  
LARKSPUR, CA

HABS NO. CA-2867-D

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC

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NIVEN NURSERY, Carpentry Building  
(Building NN-7)

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Location: 2 Ward Street, Larkspur, Marin County, California

Significance: The Carpentry building was constructed ca. 1921-1942 as part of the overall nursery complex and nursery operation created by James Niven and the Niven family from 1921 to 1983. The building derives its significance as an example of Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial nursery development and Agriculture/Horticulture of the Larkspur area of Northern California. The building was used for carpentry and commercial nursery operations for over sixty years.

Description: The building is a one-story, rectangular shaped, symmetrical structure. The walls are formed from wood horizontal shiplap siding. The building has a wood foundation, mixed gable roof with shingles, and a modest eave overhang. The building has a sliding wood door on the east façade and a recessed entry, single wood door on the west entrance. The south side of the building is attached to a greenhouse. Windows vary in size, shape, and placement around the façades and include wood-framed, casement, double-hung sash and fixed pane-style windows. The interior was not accessible for assessment. The building is in poor condition from neglect and lack of maintenance. The building is rectangular in shape and measures 78 feet in length by 54 feet in width. No additions are known to have occurred.

History: The Carpentry building was constructed ca. 1921-1942 in a Folk Vernacular style as one of the original buildings in the western portion of the Niven property. It is believed to have been designed and constructed by owner James Niven as part of his nursery complex. (See HABS No. CA-2867 for a historical overview of Niven Nursery.)

Sources of Information:

Hill, Ward. *Historic and Architectural Assessment of the Niven Nursery, 2 Ward Street, Larkspur, CA*, April 2000; [Historicaerials.com](http://Historicaerials.com).

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