Tharp’s Log

Tharp’s Log

**LOCATION**

Not applicable (Log Meadow, Giant Forest).

Not applicable (Sequoia NP) — Giant Forest, Sequoia.

**CLASSIFICATION**

**AGENCY**

National Park Service, Western Regional Office

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

Tulare County Courthouse

**REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
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Tharp’s Log is quite old, and the log itself is quite worn. The log is no longer standing, but a section of the hollow log chamber is present. The three foot thick log improved the shelter of the cabin which includes an interior frame. The front on site is probably the fireplace inside the cabin. A small door on the west side of the cabin was probably part of the site up to three feet of log is also present.
Tharp's Log is a fallen, fire-hallowed Sequoia (or giant redwood) log on the northern edge of Log Meadow in the Giant Forest of Sequoia National Park. This hollow log has been modified for human use as a shelter. The fallen Sequoia is apparently quite old, possibly having fallen before the end of the eighteenth century. The log is presently resting in two sections. The eastern or upper portion of the standing tree remains where it fell and is not hollow. The eastern portion of the log also remains in place and is the portion used as a cabin. This eastern section is hollow throughout its approximately 70-foot length, but the hollow portion closest to the east or western end of the log is small. The portion of the hollow log large enough for human use is approximately 55 foot in length. This chamber is very roughly round except for the dirt floor. The diameter varies from three feet near the stump end of the room to almost six feet near the eastern, improved end of the log. A window with a heavy shutter has been cut through the south side of the log near the west end. The hinges were made from horseshoes. The shutter itself consists of shakes attached to a redwood frame. The west end of the inhabited portion of the log has been enclosed with a shake structure which includes a fireplace. The wall itself includes a door of shakes placed on a frame. The rest of the west end is also shakes. These shakes were originally cut on site from a missing portion of the log, but rest that are now in use probably date from the several restorations the building has experienced. The fireplace is made of local granite boulders; only the lowest portions are original. Inside the log are a rude bed, table, and bench. All are built of massive redwood shakes. A partition prevents entry more than several feet beyond the west end of the log. A modern Sequoia-wood railing surrounds the entry staircase. A triangular corral built of redwood posts stands to the southeast of the log. It includes 150 feet of fencing. It appears to be of recent construction or has been extensively restored. A modern stone drinking fountain is also found near the cabin. The larger setting is one of particular beauty. Tharp's Log stands on the northern fringe of the half-mile-long Log Meadow. Surrounding both the cabin site and the meadow are various Sequoias of all ages. Several Sequoias up to three feet in diameter are adjacent to the northwest end of the log. The log is also flanked by numerous seedling Sequoias.
SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD
1830s
1840s
1850s
1860s
1870s
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GEOMATICAL DATA

FORM PREPARED BY

NATIONAL PROPER

CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC RESOURCES OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

IN COMPLIANCE WITH EXECUTIVE ORDER 11513. THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE PROPERTY TO WHICH THIS FORM APPLIES CONFORMS TO THE CRITERIA FOR NATIONAL HISTORIC PLACES PROPERLY AS STATED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 11513. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE PROPERTY IS A HISTORIC SITE, BUILDING, AREA, OR OBJECT IMPORTANT TO OUR HERITAGE.

(Revised form submitted by)

William C. Wood, Historian

F. Ivan Holland, January 11, 1972

National Park Service, Western Regional Office

450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 35083

San Francisco, California

171-750

IN THE NAME OF THE

PHOTO REF

IN THE PROPER

LOCATION

NOT APPLICABLE

IDENTIFICATION

View of one site
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

NAME

HISTORIC Tharp's Log
AND/OR COMMON Tharp's Log

LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Not applicable - (Sequoia National Park) Giant Forest Tulare
VICINITY OF
COUNTY Tulare
STATE CA

PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT NPS Photo by Gordon Chappell
DATE OF PHOTO July 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT National Park Service, Western Regional Office
450 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102

IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

View of cabin and attached hollow log from south 1
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES   ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME
HISTORIC
Tharp's Log
AND/OR COMMON
Tharp's Log

2 LOCATION
CITY, TOWN
Not applicable - (Sequoia National Park)
VICINITY OF
Giant Forest
COUNTY
Tulare
STATE
CA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE
PHOTO CREDIT NPS Photo by Gordon Chappell
DATE OF PHOTO July 1975
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4 IDENTIFICATION
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

West end of cabin, hollow log to right

PHOTO NO 2