## National Register of Historic Places

### Inventory -- Nomination Form

**FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

### Name

**Historic**

Acting Superintendents Headquarters

AND/OR COMMON

Army Cabin

### Location

**Street & Number**

Pioneer Yosemite History Center

**City, Town**

Yosemite National Park

**State**

California

**Code**

06

**Congressional District**

15th

**County Code**

Mariposa 043

### Classification

**Category**

- District
- Building(s)
- Structure
- Site
- Object

**Ownership**

- Public
- Private
- Both

**Status**

- Occupied
- Unoccupied
- Work in Progress
- Accessible
- Yes: Restricted
- Yes: Unrestricted
- No

**Present Use**

- Agriculture
- Commercial
- Educational
- Entertainment
- Government
- Industrial
- Military
- Other: Interp. Proj.

### Agency

National Park Service

**Regional Headquarters:**

Western Regional Office

**Street & Number**

450 Golden Gate Ave., P.O. Box 36063

**City, Town**

San Francisco

**State**

CA

### Location of Legal Description

**Courthouse, Registry of Deeds, etc.**

Yosemite National Park

**Street & Number**

P.O. Box 577

**City, Town**

Yosemite National Park

**State**

CA

### Representation in Existing Surveys

**Title**

Historic Structures Inventory

**Date**

1961

**FEDERAL **

**State**

**County**

**Local**

**Depository for Survey Records**

Same as #5

**City, Town**

**State**
DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

- EXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR

CHECK ONE

- DETERIORATED
- UNALTERED
- ORIGINAL SITE

CHECK ONE

- RUINS
- ALTERED
- MOVED

DATE 1958

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Acting

The Superintendent's Office was originally erected by the Army at Camp A.E. Wood in 1904. It was moved to Yosemite Valley in 1906 and used as a residence until 1958, when it was moved back to Wawona to the History Center. This office, 15' x 12', is a 1 1/2 story, board and batten structure, with a steeply pitched gable roof. The redwood roof shingles and board and batten siding are stained dark brown. The front facade features a simple porch, a four panel door, and a small 6-light window on the gable end. There are two casement windows on the north and south sides, each has 12 lights.

The justification for moving this building is written in paragraph two of the significance statement. It was necessary to partially dismantle the cabin (remove the roof) in order to get through the Wawona tunnel. Before reassembling the building, all materials were treated with preservatives and the vertical sided was restained. An indoor sprinkler system was the only significant alteration.

The cabin is currently undergoing approved stabilization to replace some rotting lower structural members. The building will be reroofed with shingles to match the existing ones.

An historic structures preservation guide should be done for the cabin. It is on a regular maintenance schedule for the National Park Service.

* "Acting Superintendent" was the official title of the military commander stationed in Yosemite.
8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD
PREHISTORIC
1400-1499
1500-1599
1600-1699
1700-1799
1800-1899
1900

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

 ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
 ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
 AGRICULTURE
 ARCHITECTURE
 ART
 COMMERCE
 COMMUNICATIONS
 COMMUNITY PLANNING
 CONSERVATION
 ECONOMICS
 EDUCATION
 ENGINEERING
 EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
 INDUSTRY
 INVENTION
 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
 LAW
 LITERATURE
 MILITARY
 MUSIC
 PHILOSOPHY
 POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
 RELIGION
 SCIENCE
 SCULPTURE
 SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
 THEATER
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES
1904

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The United States Army administered Yosemite National Park from 1891 until the designation of civilian Superintendents in 1913. This building, the first headquarters office, was constructed in Camp A. E. Wood, Wawona, in 1904 and is of local significance in conservation relating to the "Official maintenance or supervision of natural ... resources."

This building is the sole remaining structure associated with the military tenure in Wawona. When Yosemite Valley became part of Yosemite National Park (1906), the increased management responsibilities determined a move of headquarters from Wawona to the valley floor. Several of the residences built by the Army in Yosemite Valley are extant there, but this original "office" building is the only survivor of the few structures that were disassembled and moved with the troops from Wawona in 1906. When the Pioneer Yosemite History Center was planned in the late 1950's it was deemed appropriate to move the original headquarters, then serving as National Park Service housing, back to Wawona.

Today the building has been restored and is used as an interpretive tool for explaining this early, important, administrative era in Yosemite's history. During their tenure in Wawona, various Army Superintendents began extensive mapping and exploration of the new Yosemite National Park. They instituted regulations concerning cattle and sheep grazing, (eventually abolishing both), firearms, tools, etc., and began the trail building that would eventually cover over 600 miles of Yosemite backcountry.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


GOEOROAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Building is defined by its boundaries of the walls.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Leslie Starr Hart/Historian Merrill Ann Wilson/Historic Architect

ORGANIZATION Denver Service Center/National Park Service

DATE 8/76

STREET & NUMBER 655 Parfet, P.O. Box 25287

TELEPHONE (303)234-4509/Hart or 5545/Wilson

CITY OR TOWN Denver

STATE CO

CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES X NO

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance was: National State Local.

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: Keeper of the National Register

DATE

June 7, 1977
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
Acting Superintendents Headquarters

AND/OR COMMON
Army Cabin

2 LOCATION
CITY, TOWN
Yosemite Nat'l Park, Wawona, Pioneer History Center

VICINORITY OF
Mariposa

COUNTY

STATE
Ca

3 PHOTO REFERENCE
PHOTO CREDIT
Dean Shenk
National Park Service

DATE OF PHOTO
10/75

NEGATIVE FILED AT
Western Regional Office, NPS, 450 Golden Gate Ave, Box 36063, San Francisco, CA

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

Acting Superintendents Headquarters South-Western & South-Eastern sides