DATA SHEET

10-306 (Rev. 10-74)
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
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

1 NAME
HISTORIC
Hodgdon Homestead Cabin
AND/OR COMMON
Homestead Cabin

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
Pioneer Yosemite History Center
CITY, TOWN
Yosemite National Park
STATE
CA

CODE
06

VICINITY OF Wawona
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
15th

3 CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY
DISTRICT
BUILDING(S)
STRUCTURE
SITE
OBJECT

OWNERSHIP
PUBLIC
PRIVATE
BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
IN PROCESS
BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS
OCCUPIED
UNOCCUPIED
WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
YES: RESTRICTED
YES: UNRESTRICTED
NO

PRESENT USE
AGRICULTURE
COMMERCIAL
EDUCATIONAL
ENTERTAINMENT
GOVERNMENT
INDUSTRIAL
MILITARY
MUSEUM
PRIVATE RESIDENCE
RELIGIOUS
SCIENTIFIC
TRANSPORTATION
OTHER INTERP. PROG

4 AGENCY
National Park Service
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)
Western Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER
450 Golden Gate Ave., P.O. Box 36063
CITY, TOWN
San Francisco
STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
National Park Service

STREET & NUMBER
P.O. Box 577
CITY, TOWN
Yosemite National Park
STATE
CA

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE
Historic Structures Inventory

DATE
1961

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Same as #5
CITY, TOWN

05000046

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
JUN 29 1977
DATE ENTERED
JUN 3 1978

26x727
DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

_—EXCELLENT_  _—DETERIORATED_
X_GOOD  XALTERED
_—FAIR_  _—UNEXPOSED_

CHECK ONE  CHECK ONE

_—UNALTERED_  _—ORIGINAL SITE_
XMOVED  DATE 1960

DETERMINE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hodgdon Homestead cabin was built in Aspen Valley in 1879 and was moved to Wawona in 1960. It is a two-story log structure measuring 22' x 30', with a rear shed addition which gives the building the appearance of a saltbox. The main portion of the cabin is built of peeled logs laid in alternating tiers and interlocked at the corners with a saddle notch joint. The horizontal spaces between the logs are chinked with split log wedges. The cabin features a large porch on the front and exterior stairs to the second floor on the south side. There are two windows, double hung 6/6, on the front facade, flanking a board and batten door. The shed addition is of frame construction and is sheathed with wood shingles. The shingles on the walls and roof are lapped with a 24" exposure. The exterior has been restored and furnished to its 1880's appearance as a pioneer homestead. The homestead includes a privy behind the house.

The justification for the move is twofold: the main reason was the preservation of the only two-story pioneer log cabin in the Yosemite region; a secondary concern was the need for an authentic building to interpret the early settlers' life a part of the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. As the descendants of Jeremiah Hodgdon has planned to tear the cabin down, the National Park Service deemed it appropriate to allocate funds for its purchase and removal from private land in Aspen Valley (an inholding on the western boundary of the park).

The building was partially dismantled for the move, and the bottom logs were replaced when it was reassembled on the new Wawona location. A new outside stair replaced an identical, earlier version in 1975.

The building is on a regular maintenance schedule for the National Park Service. Any preservation/stabilization work should have prior approval of the regional Historic Architect in lieu of a Historic Structures Preservation Guide.
In May 1865 Jeremiah Hodgdon, native of Vermont, homesteaded an area originally known as Bronsons — located just a few miles inside today's Big Oak Flat entrance to Yosemite National Park. He built two cabins for his family in the meadow that still bears his name. Several years later he located yet another homestead in previously unoccupied Aspen Valley "... he built, in '79, a two-storied log cabin. . . the only one of that description in or near Yosemite National Park." The Hodgdon Meadow cabins were removed years ago when the property was acquired by the National Park Service; however, the Aspen Valley building survived and possesses local architectural significance as the finest example of a pioneer homestead in Yosemite National Park.

It is appropriate that Hodgdon homestead cabin be used to depict the environment of early park settlers. The disputes that occurred when Yosemite National Park was established, encompassing the land of pioneering families, provide an important element in understanding the various aspects of the "Conservation battle."

During its extended lifetime the cabin served as a temporary home for laborers on the Great Sierra Wagon Road (1883); shelter for Army troops patrolling the new National Park (1890's); and as a local curiosity for guests at the Aspen Valley resort during the 1920's and '30's before the old Tioga Road was realigned.

1. Schlichtmann, Margaret and Irene Paden, The Big Oak Flat Road to Yosemite, Yosemite Natural History Association, 1959.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Schlichtmann, Margaret and Irene Paden. The Big Oak Flat Road to Yosemite, 1957, Yosemite Natural History Association.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACCREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than 10

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE EASTING NORTHING
A 400
B
C
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

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

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

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

CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES X

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCH A _ JULY 6, 1978
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

NAME

HODGDON HOMESTEAD CABIN

AND/OR COMMON

HOMESTEADERS CABIN

LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Yosemite Nat'l Pk, Wawona, Pioneer History Center

VICINITY OF

Mariposa

COUNTY

STATE

CA

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

IDENTIFICATION

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

Hodgdon Homestead Cabin southerly exposure

PHOTO NO.

1