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 Mc Cauley Barn/ Meyer Barns
AND/OR COMMON Mc Cauley Barn/ Meyer Barns

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER N/A
N/A
CITY, TOWN Yosemite National Park
VICINITY OF Vicinity of Foresta/Big Meadow
STATE California
CODE 06
COUNTY Mariposa
CODE 043

3 CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY __DISTRICT __BUILDING(S) __STRUCTURE __SITE __OBJECT
OWNERSHIP XPUBLIC _PRIVATE BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION _IN PROCESS _BEING CONSIDERED
STATUS _OCCUPIED _UNOCCUPIED _WORK IN PROGRESS ACCESSIBLE
PRESENT USE _AGRICULTURE _MUSEUM _COMMERCIAL _PARK _EDUCATIONAL _PRIVATE RESIDENCE _ENTERTAINMENT _RELIGIOUS _GOVERNMENT _SCIENTIFIC _INDUSTRIAL _TRANSPORTATION _MILITARY _OTHER: none

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
STREET & NUMBER Box 577
CITY, TOWN Yosemite National Park
STATE CA
STATE CA 95389

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. National Park Service
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE
DATE
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN
STATE
DESCRIPTION

- McCauley Barn (cribwork interior) - Foresta: (McCauley Ranch). Located in open pasture, adjacent to the old "El Portal Road" (trail), approx. 2½ miles S. of Foresta. This structure is similar in design to the Meyer Barn No. 2 because both have the log crib core for hay storage, with surrounding stalls. The McCauley Barn, which measures roughly 40' x 80', has a gable roof and is built into the hillside. The crib consists of peeled logs laid in alternating tiers and fastened together with a V-notch joint. The logs were not chinked. The deeply overhanging gable roof is supported by peeled log rafters, and while originally covered with wood shingles, is now covered with corrugated metal. The barn is sheathed with vertical board siding. The barn setting retains its historic character - has been used for grazing from 1897 to 1975.

- Meyer Barn No. 1 (saltbox shaped) - Big Meadow:

This is a gable roofed structure, with a lean-to shed addition, which gives the building the form of a saltbox. The main portion of the barn measures roughly 30' x 20', with the lean-to measuring 30' x 16'. The frame of the barn consists of hand-hewn timbers arranged in five structural bents, with the horizontal beams fastened to the vertical columns by means of iron straps, and braced on each side with a diagonal timber. The frame is sheathed with vertical boards, except for the east facade, where sheathing is missing. The wood shingled roof is supported by peeled log rafters.

- Meyer Barn No. 2 (cribwork interior) - Big Meadow:

This barn is a large structure measuring roughly 50' square, and has a steeply pitched, overhanging gable on hip roof. The core of the structure consists of a rectangular log crib, approximately 25 feet in height, which supports the gable portion of the roof. The crib, which was evidently used for hay storage, is constructed with peeled logs laid on alternating tiers, and joined with a saddle notch joint, with no chinking between the logs. A space of several feet between the logs at one point was provided for pitching the hay into the stalls. The stalls were built on 3 sides of the crib, and the perimeter wall consists of hand-hewn studs and sills. The roof is carried by peeled log rafters. The barn is sheathed with vertical boards, and the original wood shingle roof has been covered with corrugated metal.

The Meyer Barns are located in close proximity to one another (photo #4) near the southwestern boundary of Big Meadow - a large open meadow within Yosemite National Park that comes approx. 1 square mile, (elevation 4500). The Meadow is currently in the process of nomination to the National Register as part of the Foresta-Big Meadow Archeological District. The southern edge of Big Meadow is the location for the largest known prehistoric Sierran habitation site, 4-MRP-3. The site covers several acres and contains more than 400 bedrock mortar ceyes. Its midden may be 6 ft. deep in places. There are 19 other known sites within the meadow and along its other 3 sides.
PERIOD

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

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE — CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- X ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS
- COMMUNITY PLANNING
- CONSERVATION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- RELIGION
- LAW
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- MILITARY
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SCULPTURE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- THEATER
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES

Late 1870's-early 1880's

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

These three barns are the last remaining barns in Yosemite which possess architectural significance and integrity. They also represent some local interest in agriculture through association with pioneering ranches once located on, and within the boundaries of Yosemite National Park.

The barns differ from each other in form and design, but all are largely handcrafted. They are representative of local vernacular building traditions; and are nearly unchanged from their original appearance. Both the McCauley barn and the Meyer barn #2 are examples of an unusual California type known as the "Mormon Pole Barn", more often found in the Genesee Valley and dating from the 1850's.

The McCauley barn was built around 1883 by Irishman James McCauley, pioneer Yosemite trailbuilder and innkeeper: he built the Four Mile trail to Glacier Point in 1871 and the Glacier Point Mountain House in 1878. He was running the Mountain House in 1883 when he purchased the land for his ranch, elevation 4000 ft., for winter headquarters. Glacier Point's 7214 ft. elevation and heavy snow ruled out all-year residence. In 1886 McCauley added 200 acres to his original ranch through two separate purchases--these 200 acres would eventually become the Foresta subdivision. McCauley became a year round resident of the ranch in 1897 when some "political manueuver" (sic) forced him from his Glacier Point enterprise. McCauley then worked the ranch with his son, supplying beef to Valley businesses, until his death in an accident on the old Coulterville Road in 1911. In 1913 his son, Fred, sold the previously mentioned 200 acres to C.P. Snell for $5500. In 1923 he sold the remainder of the ranch to his cousin, Horace Meyer for $6000. The property has been unoccupied since 1955 and the National Park Service acquired it in 1974.

George Meyer, a German born ship carpenter, took over his brother Henry's homestead in Big Meadow in the 1870's. The meadow was considerably smaller than its present size before George cut trees and cleared brush. From sketchy biographical material it can be surmised that Meyer barn #2 was built in the late 1870's and #1 in the early 1880's. The walls of the latter barn were supposedly built flat on the ground and then raised in one piece. Meyer's ranch was a stage stop on the Old Coulterville Road and he supplied grains and vegetables to Yosemite Valley businesses. In 1900 he married Elizabeth McCauley, niece of his "neighbor" James McCauley and as previously noted, his son Horace added the McCauley holdings to the family property in 1923. George Meyer died in San Francisco in 1917 and was buried in that city.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Shirley Sargent, The McCauley Ranch, typed manuscript, Sargent Collection.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY  N/A  less than 1 acre. each
UTM REFERENCES

(McCauley) 11 3 25 17 4 1 7 3 1 5
ZONE EASTING 25 17 4 1 7 3 1 5
NORTHING

(McCaulley #2) 11 3 25 17 4 1 7 3 1 5
ZONE EASTING 25 17 4 1 7 3 1 5
NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Each barn is defined by the boundaries of its walls.
The Meyer barns are defined by the boundaries of their walls. The archeological
significance of their setting precludes buffer zones around the building.
The McCauley barn includes a buffer of approximately 40' on all sides. The
total area, including the barn, shall not exceed ½ acre.

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE  Leslie Starr Hart/ Historian
Merrill Ann Wilson/Historic Architect
ORGANIZATION  National Park Service/Denver Service Center
STREET & NUMBER  655 Parfor, P.O. Box 25287
CITY OR TOWN  Denver
STATE  CO  CODE  80225
DATE  8/76
TELEPHONE  (303) 234-4509/Hart

CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION  YES X NO  NON
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE  Deputy Assistant Secretary
FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE  MAR 14 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER
DIRECTOR OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
DATE  6/15/78
ATTEST:  CME
FEDERAL HISTORICAL RECORDS  6/15/78
4-MRP.3 has been impacted by pothunters—but the other sites seem relatively intact and the entire locale provides an opportunity for professionals to study a group's utilization of a specific environment zone. The Meadow is presently used as pasture for a number of horses and mules.
UNIVERS STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

1 NAME
HISTORIC
McCauley Barn (McCauley/Meyer Group Nomination)
AND/OR COMMON
McCauley Barn

2 LOCATION
CITY. TOWN VICINITY OF COUNTY STATE
Yosemite National Park Foresta Mariposa CA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE
PHOTO CREDIT Dean Shenk
National Park Service
DATE OF PHOTO 9/75
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
Southwest corner of McCauley Barn. View to North.
## Name

**Historic**

McCauley Barn (part of McCauley/Meyer Group Nomination)

**And/or Common**

McCauley Barn

## Location

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CITY, TOWN</th>
<th>VICINITY OF</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>STATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite National Park</td>
<td>Foresta</td>
<td>Mariposa</td>
<td>CA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Photo Reference

**Photo Credit**

Dean Shenk

National Park Service

**Date of Photo**

9/75

**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

McCauley Barn interior, view to south, showing log crib core.
**PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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

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**1 NAME**

HISTORIC
McCaulery Barn (part of McCaulery/Meyer Group Nomination)

AND/OR COMMON
McCaulery Barn

---

**2 LOCATION**

CITY, TOWN
Yosemite National Park

VICINITY OF
Foresta

COUNTY
Mariposa

STATE
CA

---

**3 PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT
Dean Shenk
National Park Service

DATE OF PHOTO
9/75

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

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**4 IDENTIFICATION**

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

McCaulery Barn interior, view to south, showing detail of log crib tiering and rafter detail.
Meyer Barns (#1 right and #2 left—part of McCauley/Meyer group nomination)

View to north from Old Coulterville Rd. shows both barns: #2 is on the left and #1 on the right.
Meyer Barn #1 (Part of McCauley/Meyer Group Nomination)

Yosemite National Park

Merrill Ann Wilson
National Park Service

Denver Service Center/NPS/655 Parfet P.O. Box 25287/Denver, Co 80225 (TWE)

Meyer Barn #1 east facade, view to east, showing missing sheathing.
NAME
HISTORIC
Meyer Barn #1 (part of McCauley/Meyer Group Nomination)
AND/OR COMMON
Meyer Barn #1

LOCATION
CITY, TOWN
Yosemite National Park
VICINITY OF
Big Meadow
COUNTY
Mariposa
STATE
CA

PHOTO REFERENCE
PHOTO CREDIT
Merrill Ann Wilson
National Park Service
DATE OF PHOTO 1/76
NEGATIVE FILED AT
Denver Service Center/655 Parfet, P.O. Box 25287/Denver, CO 80225 (TWE)

IDENTIFICATION
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
Meyer barn #1, view to southeast shows north facade.
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
Meyer Barn #2 (part of McCauley/Meyer group nomination)
AND/OR COMMON
Meyer Barn #2

2 LOCATION
CITY, TOWN
Yosemite National Park
VICINITY OF
Big Meadow
COUNTY
Mariposa
STATE
CA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE
PHOTO CREDIT Merrill Ann Wilson
DATE OF PHOTO 1/76
NEGATIVE FILED AT
Denver Service Center/NPS/655 Parfet, P.O. Box 25287/Denver CO 80225 (TWE)

4 IDENTIFICATION
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
Meyer Barn #2 view to north showing south facade and roof detail.
NAME

HISTORIC

Meyer Barn #2 (part of McCauley/Meyer group nomination)

AND/OR COMMON

Meyer Barn #2

LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Yosemite National Park

VICINITY OF

Big Meadow

COUNTY

Mariposa

STATE

CA

PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Merrill Ann Wilson

DATE OF PHOTO

1/76

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Denver Service Center/NPS/655 Parfet P.O. Box 25287/Denver, CO 80225 (TWE)

IDENTIFICATION

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

Meyer Barn #2 view to south showing north facade and exterior detail from cribbing.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
MAR 16 1978
DATE ENTERED
JUN 15 1978

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

1 NAME
HISTORIC
Meyer Barn #2 (part of McCauley/Meyer group nomination)
AND/OR COMMON
Meyer Barn #2

2 LOCATION
CITY, TOWN
Yosemite National Park
VICINITY OF
Big Meadow
COUNTY
Mariposa
STATE
CA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE
PHOTO CREDIT
Merrill Ann Wilson
National Park Service
DATE OF PHOTO
1/76
NEGATIVE FILED AT
Denver Service Center/NPS/655 Parfet, P.O. Box 25287/ Denver, Co 80225 (TWI)

4 IDENTIFICATION
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
Meyer Barn #2-detail of interior core log crib.
McCAULEY/MEYER BARNs GROUP NOMINATION
Yosemite National Park, CA

UTM references:
230A 11/256360/4175235 (McCauley)
540B 11/257800/4176240 (Meyer#1)
540C 11/257700/4176250 (Meyer#2)