**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Stations and Rest Rooms

AND/OR COMMON

Buildings 3000, 3005, 3021, 3022, and 3023

Tuolumne Meadows Contact Stations and Comfort Stations or Rest Rooms

**2 LOCATION**

(Tuolumne Meadows, Yosemite National Park, California)

STREET & NUMBER

Tuolumne Meadows, Yosemite National Park, California

CITY, TOWN

Tuolumne

STATE

California

Vicinity Of

Lee Vining

Congressional District

Fourteenth

Code

06

COUNTY

Tuolumne

Code

109

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>STATUS</th>
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<td>AGRICULTURE</td>
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**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

National Park Service, Western Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER

450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36063

CITY, TOWN

San Francisco

STATE

California

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Administration Building, National Park Service

STREET & NUMBER

Box 577

CITY, TOWN

Yosemite Village, Yosemite National Park, California

STATE

California

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL _STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE
In Tuolumne Meadows south of the main highway are a number of structures of rustic architectural styles of which five are of interest here. These include an old ranger station/entrance station (building 3000) and a newer ranger station or visitor contact station (building 3005) as well as three public rest rooms or comfort stations of identical design (buildings 3021, 3022 and 3023).

Building 3000 was the original entrance station/ranger station on the Tioga Pass road. It was erected in 1924 at a cost of $1,500. It is a single storey structure enclosing 525 square feet. The building is "L" shaped, although the foot of the "L" extends only three feet at the back. Not counting that extension, which encloses a shower and part of a back porch, the building is 14½ by 39 feet in size, including an open porch 6 feet deep. Inside there are basically three rooms, in sequence front to rear an office, a bedroom, and the kitchen, in addition to which there are the aforementioned shower and back porch. The building is basically a peeled log frame with vertical plank infilling, and a number of double width horizontal 6-lite windows. It has a gable roof with long ridgepole and rafters, and angular log porch roof braces rather than vertical posts. The building stands on the north edge of the old road through Tuolumne Meadows several hundred yards east of the creek, but this road is now a dead end entrance to the maintenance area and lodge, having been bypassed by the newer Tioga Pass road a short distance up the hillside to the north. The building is stained dark brown and blends well with the grove of conifers in which it stands.

Building 3005, which in part replaced the function of building 3000, stands near the entrance to the Tuolumne Meadows Campground on the south side of the highway through Tuolumne Meadows a short distance west of the stream. It is predominately of rather large stone construction, with wood frame infill and front and rear and a gently pitched gable roof with wood shingle finish. It is roughly 18 by 31 feet, including the open porch the full width of the front which is about 6 feet deep. The porch roof is supported on a pair of stone piers at the outside corners, with a pair of vertical square milled posts spaced evenly in the intervening distance between the piers. In the interior, there is a lobby with a fine stone fireplace at the west end whose stone chimney extends outside above the end of the gable roof. Left of the entrance door, there is a counter which separates the lobby from an office space. Originally, an office and toilet were partitioned into separate rooms at the east end of the building, but this now is open except for the counter.

Buildings 3021, 3022 and 3023 are public rest rooms all of the same design. They are roughly 16 by 28 feet in interior dimensions. In the center is a small storage room, entered from one side. One end has a men's room, entered from the end, and the other has a women's rest room. The only difference between the ends is the substitution of a urinal for some of the toilets in the men's room, while the women's room has a row of five toilet stalls. The building consists of a mixture of stone and wood frame construction. Large stone comprises massive corner piers as well as foundations and walls to a height of a couple of feet between the piers; the remainder of the space between piers is filled with wood frame casement windows (9 lites each) or wood panels on the side, as well as end doors and one side door. The roof is a clipped gable or "jerkinhead" with a patterned shingle finish. These and building 3005 are in a conifer forest of predominately small trees on very rocky soil, the scene dominated by granite peaks on the horizon.
The Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Stations and rustic Comfort Stations are of local architectural significance due to their rustic design, of local historical significance in the "social/humanitarian" category through the association of all but one with CCC labor in their construction, and of local historical significance in conservation representing a microcosm of the National Park Service's efforts to provide in as environmentally harmonious a form as possible such development as was necessary in this national park area.

Building 3000 was built in 1924 to serve as a ranger station, visitor contact station and entrance station for the eastern entrance to Yosemite National Park over Tioga Pass. A wood frame building in a setting of conifer forest at the edge of Tuolumne Meadows, its peeled log frame and rafters and dark brown color served to blend with its environment. When its entrance station function was removed by construction in 1931 of a new stone entrance station at the summit of Tioga Pass some miles to the east, and its visitor contact station function was removed by construction of building 3005 on the other side of the stream in 1936, the old building continued to serve as a ranger residence and office, which use it still serves today.

Building 3005 was erected in 1936 west of the stream and at the entrance of the Tuolumne Meadows Campground. It replaced a part of the original function of building 3000. Architecturally it was quite different. The new ranger station was predominately of battered stone walls, with some wood frame infill in front and rear. The ranger station at Tioga Pass built in 1931 had set a precedent for the use of stone in all of the subsequent rustic buildings which would be constructed in Tuolumne Meadows Campground, with the exception of one restroom, and the stone was most appropriate in a setting of small conifers growing in rocky, boulder-strewn ground, dominated by granite peaks on the horizon.

Buildings 3021, 3022 and 3023, built in 1934, at the same time as building 3203 on Tioga Pass, were comfort stations or rest rooms at three locations in the Tuolumne Meadows Campground; they reflect a fairly highly stylized phase of "rustic" design. Rustic architecture was intended to give the impression of construction involving pioneer methods and tools, using native materials and natural exterior colors to blend and harmonize with the surrounding environment. Nothing could be more natural than the color and texture of native stone used in these buildings, and the wooden members, stained for the most part a dark brown, blended equally well with the bark of some of the conifers. It should be noted that building 3203 at Tioga Pass is a tiny, miniature version of the three comfort stations at Tuolumne Meadows (and subject to separate nomination).
Major Bibliographical References

National Park Service Building Files, Division of Cultural Resource Management, Western Regional Office, San Francisco, California
Monthly Reports of the Acting Resident Landscape Architect, Yosemite National Park, to the Chief Architect, for 1934

Geographical Data

Acreage of Nominated Property: 0.057438

Utm References

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary consists of an individual rectangle around each of the five buildings in this nomination, each rectangle extending five feet beyond the outermost edge of the walls of each building.

Form Prepared By

Gordon Chappell
National Park Service, Western Region
450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36063
San Francisco, California (94102)

Certification of Nomination

State Historic Preservation Officer Recommendation: YES

State Historic Preservation Officer Signature: K. Roy Miller

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 30 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National.

Acting Asst. Dir. Cultural Resources

Date: 8/31/78

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Director, Office of Archeological and Historic Preservation

Attest: W. Eddy

Date: 12/18/78

Keeper of the National Register
UTM References:

D  11  2/93/940  41/94/600

Zone  Easting  Northing
TUOLUMNE MEADOWS CAMPGROUND AND VICINITY MAP
TUOLUMNE MEADOWS RANGER STATIONS AND REST ROOMS
Yosemite National Park, California
TUOLUMNE MEADOWS "NEW" RANGER STATION
BUILT 1935
VIEW TO NORTHEAST

National Park Service photo by
GORDON C. HANIEL
September 30, 1977

BLOG. # 3005
PHOTO 1 OF 7
Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Stations and Rest Rooms
Yosemite National Park, California

Tuolumne Meadows
“New” Visitor Center
(Ranger Station, 1935)

View to Southeast

Tuolumne Co CA

National Park Service: Photo
By Gordon CHAPPELL
September 30, 1977

Photo 2 of 7

Bldg. # 3005

SEP 7 1978
Tule Lake Meadows Ranger Station

"New" Ranger Station
Built 1935
View to southwest showing rear
Yosemite National Park, California
Tule Lake W CA

National Park Service photo by
Gordon Chaseell
September 30, 1977
Photo 3 7 7

BLOC. # 3005
Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station and Rest Area SEP 7 1978

Tuolumne Meadows Campground

View from North

Tuolumne CA

National Park Service photo by

Gordon Chappell

September 30, 1977

photo 4 o 7 7

DEC 18 1978
Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Stations and Rest Rooms

Comfort Station

Tuolumne Meadows Campground

View from southwest

Tuolumne CA

Yosemite National Park, California

National Park Service photo by

Gordon Chappell

September 30, 1977

Photo 5 of 7

SEP 7 1978

DEC 18 1978
SEP 7 1978

Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Stations and Rest Rooms

"OLD" RANGER STATION
Yosemite National Park, California
View From Southwest
Tuolumne Co CA
National Park Service photo by
Gordon Chappell

September 30, 1978

Photo 6 of 7

DEC 18 1978

BLOG # 3000
Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Stations & Rest Rooms
Tuolumne CR
Old Ranger Station
Yosemite National Park, California
View From Southeast

September 30, 1977

National Park Service Photo by
Gordon Chappell

Photo 7 of 7