

PH0076694

STATE: California	
COUNTY: Siskiyou	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
OCT 2	1973

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

### 1. NAME

COMMON:  
Hospital Rock

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Hospital Rock Army Camp Site

### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
*Tule Lake*

CITY OR TOWN: *S of Tule Lake*  
Lava Beds National Monument

STATE: California CODE: COUNTY: Siskiyou CODE:

### 3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____			

### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Interior Building

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 001

### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Lava Beds National Monument

STREET AND NUMBER:  
P. O. Box 867

CITY OR TOWN: Tule Lake STATE: California CODE: 96134

### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

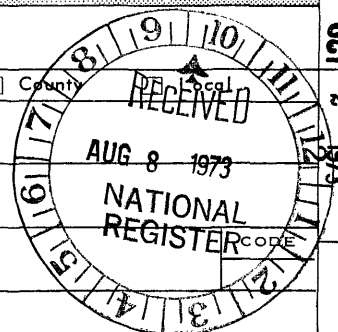
TITLE OF SURVEY:  
None

DATE OF SURVEY: ☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

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## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

☒ Excellent    ☐ Good    ☐ Fair    ☐ Deteriorated    ☐ Ruins    ☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☒ Altered    ☐ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved    ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

✓ Hospital Rock, an isolated lava formation on the south shore of Tule Lake, and the surrounding relatively level land served twice as an encampment for U. S. troops attacking Captain Jack's Stronghold in the Modoc War, 1873.

To the west and south of Hospital Rock the ground is relatively flat (considering that the whole area is a lava flow) and grassy. A few hundred feet to the west is a low irregular ridge of lava that lies generally on a north-south axis. The troops on outpost duty erected on this formation a series of small loose-rock fortifications, each large enough for only two or three men. The soldiers probably also made use of two natural cracks in the lava that were ideally suited for defense -- very much like trenches. Several additional fortifications were located on humps of lava in the area around Hospital Rock. (see detailed map.) There are at least 16 fortifications still identifiable today. From the most southerly of these forts, one has a view of the Stronghold area, an important factor in the battles for the Stronghold.

Today a paved road runs east and west through the Hospital Rock area. There are rock forts on either side of this road, but most of them are to the south. Also to the south of this road a considerable amount of earth has been removed, inflicting considerable damage on the historic scene. A dirt road, running southeast from Bench Mark 4051 towards Fern Cave, cuts across the general area but lies outside most of the encampment area.

Boundary:

Commencing at Bench Mark 4114, a line due west for 1.9 miles and a line due north for 2.25 miles mark out a rectangle that encompasses Hospital Rock, the encampment area, the fortifications, the general site on which Lt. Sherwood was killed, and a portion of the route followed by the troops in their two advances on the Stronghold.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian

☐ 16th Century

☐ 18th Century

☐ 20th Century

☐ 15th Century

☐ 17th Century

☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Prehistoric

☒ Historic

☐ Agriculture

☐ Architecture

☐ Art

☐ Commerce

☐ Communications

☒ Conservation

☐ Education

☐ Engineering

☐ Industry

☐ Invention

☐ Landscape

☐ Architecture

☐ Literature

☒ Military

☐ Music

☐ Political

☐ Religion/Phi-

losophy

☐ Science

☐ Sculpture

☐ Social/Human-

itarian

☐ Theater

☐ Transportation

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A major Indian war, the only one to be fought in California, took place in these rugged lava flows. In 1872, after several years of disputes with settlers, "Captain Jack" and his band of Modoc Indians took refuge in the lava beds immediately south of the lake. On January 17, 1873, the United States Army made a two-front attack on Captain Jack's Stronghold. The eastern force consisted of two troops of cavalry and 20 Indian scouts under the command of Capt. Reuben F. Bernard, 1st Cavalry. On January 16, this eastern force marched from Land's Ranch westward 16 miles toward the Stronghold. It passed Hospital Rock and, through error, approached the Stronghold more closely than Bernard had intended. The Modocs opened fire on the troops and Bernard ordered a one-half mile withdrawal to Hospital Rock. Here the troops camped for the night and on the morning of the 17th again marched for the Stronghold, two miles to the west. The attack was a failure. Joined by a portion of the western attack force, Bernard withdrew his men by way of Hospital Rock back to Land's Ranch. The enlarged force stopped briefly at Hospital Rock to rest and eat on its retreat.

In the following weeks, the army units moved ever closer to the Stronghold in preparation for another attack. On April 6, an enlarged (5 companies) force under Maj. Edwin C. Mason, 21st Infantry, camped at Hospital Rock. On April 11 the Modocs attacked the Peace Commission, and also attacked and killed 1st Lt. William L. Sherwood of the Hospital Rock camp. Sherwood and a fellow officer had walked a half mile beyond the fortifications westward to meet with Modocs carrying a truce flag. The soldiers on guard in the rock fortifications could observe the unexpected attack.

On April 12, the Modocs fired on Mason's pickets west of Hospital Rock, forcing some of them to withdraw. Then, during the night of April 14-15, Mason advanced his command from Hospital Rock for the second attack on the Stronghold -- an attack which resulted in the Army's occupying the position two days later.

The camp at Hospital Rock was broken up soon after the capture of the Stronghold. Its important role as the base of operations for the eastern force during the attacks on the Modocs came to an end, although the war would drag on for another six weeks.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

# 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Erwin N. Thompson, The Modoc War, 1872-73, Lava Beds National Monument, NPS, 1967

# 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
NW	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		
NE	41°	50'	43"	121°	29'	39"		
SE	41°	50'	43"	121°	27'	23"		
SW	41°	48'	45"	121°	27'	23"		
	41°	48'	45"	121°	29'	39"		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2,200 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARY:

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

# 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Erwin N. Thompson, Hist., Jennifer Hunt Watts, and Laurin C. Huffman II

ORGANIZATION: Pacific Northwest Region, National Park Service DATE: March 27, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Fourth and Pike Building

CITY OR TOWN: Seattle STATE: Washington CODE: 053

# 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☐ Local ☐

Name

John G. Rusten

Title Director, Pacific Northwest Region

Date May 10, 1973

# NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert K. Utley  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

10/2/73

ATTEST:

W. H. Huntley  
Keeper of The National Register

Date

9.28.73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NW 10/628150/4633600  
SE 10/628240/4629930  
SW 10/625130/4629850  
4633450  
C0



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE California	
COUNTY Siskiyou	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
067 2	1973

1. NAME

COMMON: Hospital Rock

AND/OR HISTORIC: Hospital Rock

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Lava Beds National Monument

STATE:

California

CODE

COUNTY:

Siskiyou

CODE

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: National Park Service

DATE OF PHOTO: 1968

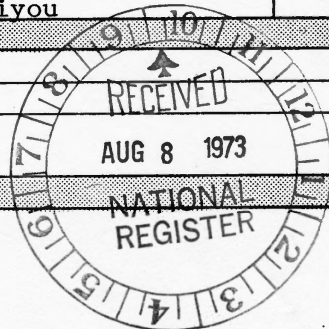
NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Lava Beds National Monument

4. IDENTIFICATION

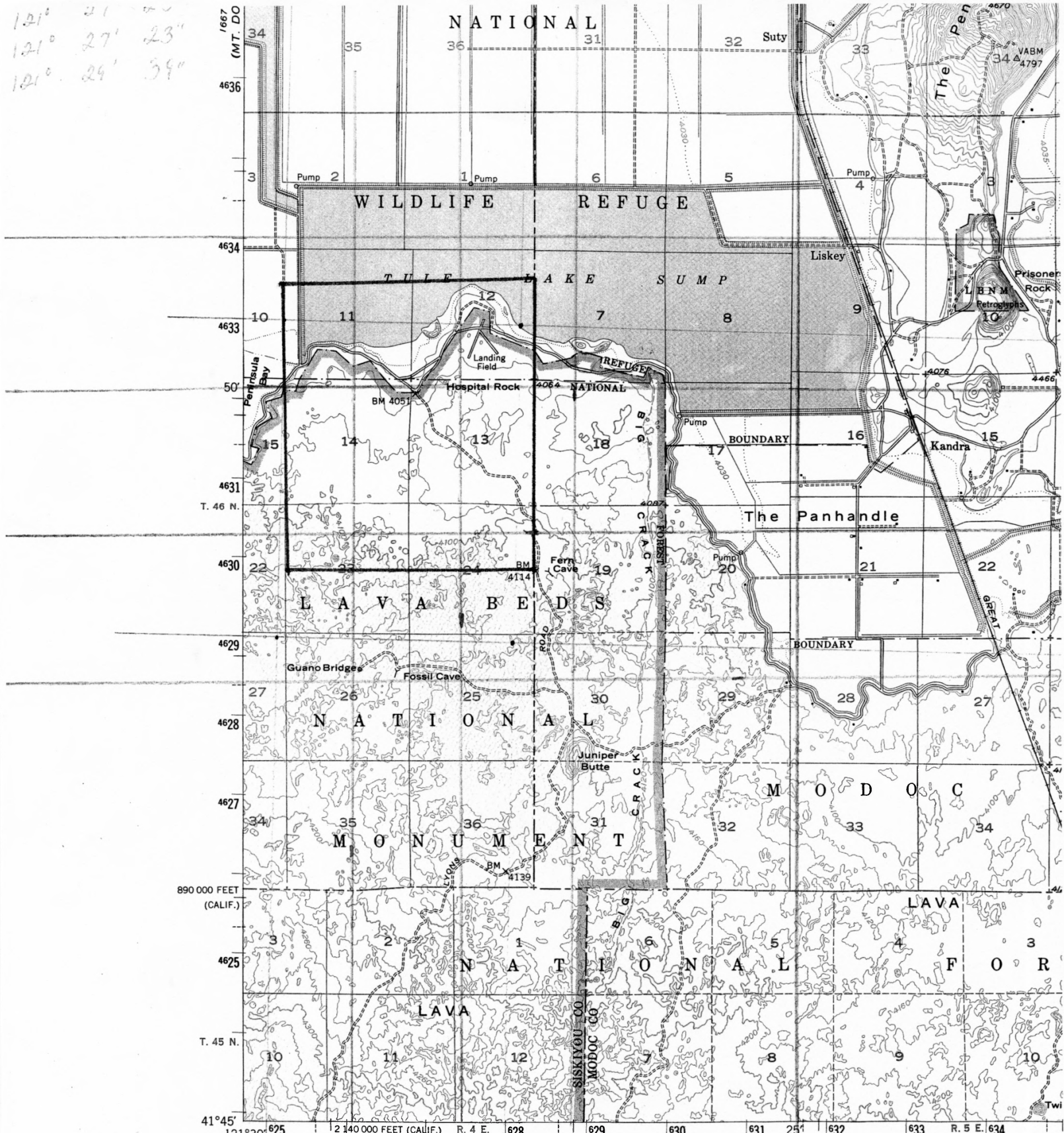
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

View of Hospital Rock looking ENE.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

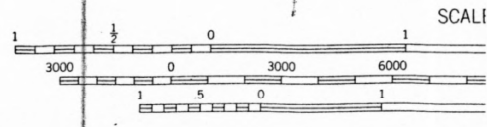
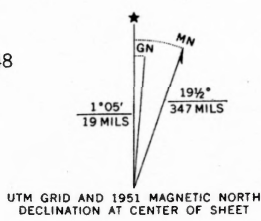




121° 21' 23"  
121° 27' 23"  
121° 29' 39"

(MEDICINE LAKE)  
186711

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods  
and by plane-table surveys 1951. Aerial photographs taken 1948  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grids based on California coordinate system,  
zone 1, and Oregon coordinate system, south zone  
Dashed land lines indicate approximate locations  
Unchecked elevations are shown in brown  
Brown pattern indicates lava flows  
in which contours are generalized  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 10, shown in blue



CONTOUR IN  
DOTTED LINES REPR  
DATUM IS N

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NAT  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENV  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC M.