

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received JUN 20 1985

date entered JUL 18 1985

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Woodside Store

and/or common Woodside Store (Tripp Store)

**2. Location**

street & number 471 Kings Mountain Road N/A not for publication

city, town Woodside N/A vicinity of

state CA code 06 county San Mateo code 081

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name County of San Mateo

street & number County Government Center

city, town Redwood City N/A vicinity of state CA 94063

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. San Mateo County Recorder

street & number County Government Center

city, town Redwood City state CA

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title State Historical Landmark #93 has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1933  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records State Office of Historic Preservation

city, town P.O. Box 2390 Sacramento, CA state CA 95811

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	date <u>          N/A          </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The property is a 1.18 acre parcel in a rural location at the corner of Kings Mountain and Tripp Roads, near the present community of Woodside in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The major structure is the redwood board and batten 1-1/2 story store built in 1854, with an attached shed and feed barn added by the 1870s. A later barn was built at the rear of the lot around the turn of the century. Aside from the addition of a modern restroom and picnic tables, the property remains relatively unaltered.

The Woodside Store, built in 1854, was constructed entirely of local redwood. The building has a foundation of "first cut" redwood which until just recently has stood up well against the ravages of time, rot, and termites. Built at the intersection of two logging trails, the 1-1/2 story building has a one story porch on each of the street-facing facades. The siding is rough sawn redwood board and batten with the 2 x batts vertically placed at about one foot on center. The medium gable roof is redwood shingle, uniquely appropriate since the founders of the store began in 1848 as shingle splitters.

Entrance doorways are on the north and east sides; the doors are made of redwood with 12" to 18" wide panels and side lights. The larger windows are six over six double hung, the smaller are six paned hinged windows. The trim, interior and exterior, door and window, is made of simply milled rectangular shapes.

The interior of the main store is rough sawn redwood paneling and flooring not stained or painted. The fireplace is brick with plaster finish with very few decorative features. The feeling of the interior is utilitarian and honest.

The store began as a two story wood frame structure with a simple double end gable roof. Early additions included a one story attached shed and then a feed barn, all built of redwood, and shown in the 1870s photo (#9). A small barn was built at the rear of the property around 1900; it is a simple utilitarian structure with vertical wood siding. Modern improvements include a small restroom building near the barn and several picnic tables. The property is administered by the San Mateo County Historical Association; restoration work is ongoing.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify): medicine/health
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1854–1909 **Builder/Architect** Dr. Robert O. Tripp, M. A. Parkhurst

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Dating from 1854, the Woodside Store is one of the earliest tangible remains of American settlement on the San Francisco Peninsula. (Criterion A - Events). The redwood board and batten structure is a notable example of its type and period (Criterion C) and is one of the oldest such buildings in the state. It has a direct association with one of the area's important pioneers, Dr. Robert O. Tripp, (Criterion B - Persons) and served as a store, post office and center of local social and economic activity (Criterion A - Events) throughout much of its history. It has been recognized as State Historical Landmark No. 93.

The Woodside Store is significant as a structure that reflects the culture and development of southern San Mateo County from the lumbering days of the 1850s and 1860s to the farming community of the late 1800s and early 1900s. Ownership of the store for six decades by one individual (the locally esteemed and prominent Dr. Robert O. Tripp) provides for continuity of records as well as the architectural integrity of the 1854 structure. The enterprise and community leadership of Dr. Tripp made the Woodside Store the focus of activities encompassing far more than mercantile trade. For three generations the store was a commercial center, bank and safe depository, dental office, post office, winery headquarters, toll station, and cultural center.

Over the years, Dr. Tripp owned and operated a general store, was a leader in the redwood lumber industry and owned a lumber yard, served the community as a banker, dentist, U.S. Postmaster, County Supervisor, Public Administrator, Deputy Sheriff; he was a grower of grapes and a vintner, a toll road collector, organizer of a library Association in 1859, a Pioneer Society in 1889, and he helped to organize the Mountain Dell Temperance Union.

"The Woodside Store survives as the last intact and significant structure to remind us of the lumber culture which once flourished in San Mateo County. The building is remarkable, first for the integrity of its complex vernacular design, and secondly for the extensive collection of primary material which has survived to document its historical role in the region."<sup>1</sup> This documentation consists of the store's account books and the records of the Woodside Library Association established in 1859. The account books detail the type and quantity of goods exchanged as well as the names of purchasers "on account". The library records itemize the books in the collection, members of the Association, titles borrowed, and the borrower. This primary material has been preserved and is available at the San Mateo County Historical Museum.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.18 acres  
Quadrangle name Woodside, CA

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	0	5	6	4	0	5	0	4	1	4	2	6	5	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

B 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

C 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

D 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

E 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

F 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

G 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

H 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

### Verbal boundary description and justification

See attached sheet

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code  county N/A code

state  code  county  code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Virginia R. Geller, Arthur S. Keyes, AIA (OHP Staff revision, 5/85)  
organization San Mateo County Historic Resources Advisory Board date January 19, 1983  
street & number % San Mateo County Planning Division Geller (415) 366-5363  
Dept. of Environmental Management telephone Planning Div. (415) 363-4161  
County Government Center  
city or town Redwood City state CA 94063

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

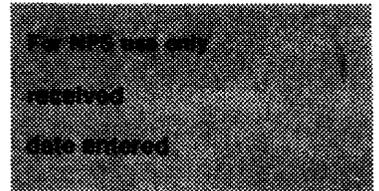
State Historic Preservation Officer signature Kathryn Gualtieri

title State Historic Preservation Officer date May 24, 1985

For NPS use only  
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.  
[Signature] date 7-18-85  
Keeper of the National Register  
Attest: [Signature] date   
Chief of Registration

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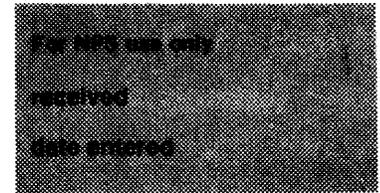
Historic American Buildings Survey  
1974   x   Federal  
Library of Congress  
Washington, D. C.

State Inventory of Historic Resources  
1976   x   Federal  
State Office of Historic Preservation  
P. O. Box 2390  
Sacramento, CA95811

San Mateo County Historic Resources Element of General Plan  
1981   x   County  
San Mateo County Historical Museum  
San Mateo, California

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HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Robert Orville Tripp, a native of New York, was born February 13, 1816. He came to San Francisco by way of Vera Cruz sometime between 1844 and 1849. He is reported to have been in the Woodside area in 1849; a handwritten document dated January 13, 1850 is his personal account of a boat trip from San Francisco to lower San Francisco Bay and the area which is now Redwood City.

It is not know when Mathias Alfred Parkhurst, a native of Massachusetts, came to the area, but on October 30, 1849 he purchased approximately 126-acres which included the lot upon which the Woodside Store now stands.

Tripp and Parkhurst began logging activities in the Woodside area before there were sawmills; logs were dragged to the Bay, tied into rafts, and floated to San Francisco to be used as wharf pilings. Subsequently, Tripp acquired a shingle mill and "operated a small lumber yard adjacent to his store from which he sold lumber, shingles, and pickets".<sup>2</sup>

It is not clear who first opened a store at this location. According to one authority a "store of sorts was set up in the tiny shed Tripp and Parkhurst called home. In 1851, a second store was built across the street (later to be the site of the Tripp home) and 3 years later. . . a third store was built at its present location."<sup>3</sup> Stanger reports that in August 1852, A. H. Powers was running a store here which he apparently was buying from Dr. Tripp, but in 1853 Tripp was in possession. The present store was built in 1854 and the Post Office was established in this building, April 18, 1854 with Parkhurst as Postmaster. In July 1853, the name Woodside was first used in the ledgers, replacing Red Woods as the designation. Tripp and Parkhurst were in partnership; Parkhurst appears to have operated the store while Tripp engaged in farming, lumbering, and transportation activities. The account books kept by Parkhurst include entries of Tripp's weekly trips to San Francisco. For years this pioneer store at Woodside was the only one between San Francisco and San Jose.

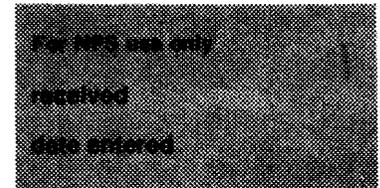
Before the separation of San Mateo County from San Francisco County, Dr. Tripp was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to represent this area. In 1856, he was named one of three commissioners to establish San Mateo County, although there is a question as to whether he accepted the job. He also served at various times as Public Administrator, Deputy Assessor, and Deputy Sheriff.

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2. Richards: p. 4  
3. Richards: p. 32

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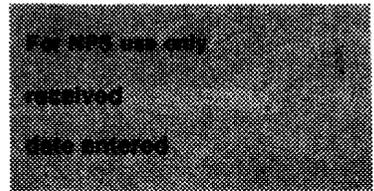
HISTORICAL SUMMARY (continued)

In 1860, Tripp and Parkhurst dissolved their partnership; Parkhurst was to run the store, Tripp to superintend the ranching activities. In 1863, Parkhurst died; Tripp took over the store and became Postmaster. In 1868 when the estate was partially settled, Tripp bought the store and land. He continued to operate the store until his death on March 31, 1909 at the age of 93. Prior to his death, Tripp had decided to retire and had offered the entire stock for sale.

Tripp's daughter Addie inherited the store, but did not operate it and the stock was bought in November 1909 by Neuman Brothers, owners of a rival store in Woodside. The Woodside store building remained closed and unoccupied; upon Addie's death in 1926, it reverted to the Woodside Congregational Church "to be used as a library". In 1940, it was purchased by San Mateo County and became the first County owned historical property. Since 1947, it has been open on a limited basis as a museum. Plans are now underway to rehabilitate the building with particular attention to the foundations.

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Documentation of specific items

Documentation

Architecture: This redwood board and batten structure, built in 1854, is typical of rural mercantile establishments of California's earliest years of American settlement. It is a rare surviving example of its type, and remains one of the oldest such structures in the state. The building is recognized in A Guide to Architecture in San Francisco and Northern California, An Enduring Heritage, Here Today, and has been recorded by the Historic American Buildings Survey.

Gebhard, HABS,  
Regnery

Commerce: Account books reveal wealth of information regarding life and commercial activities of the time: types of goods in common use, cost, changes in consumer demand over a 60-year period. In addition to stock on hand, goods were supplied in response to special requests. Dr. Tripp made weekly trips to San Francisco to purchase stock and also took items to the city for sale (farm produce and hand-made items).

Account books @ San  
Mateo Co. Museum;  
Newspaper ads  
Page: p. 4

Post Office: Established in store April 18, 1854 and continued there until March 31, 1915 except during administration of President Cleveland when it was located in Bear Gulch with Andrew Neuman, Postmaster (November 24, 1885-March 27, 1889).

Richards

Transportation: The Woodside Store was strategically located for transportation routes from Redwood City over the mountains to the coast, and also provided access to San Francisco. The route from the mountains to Redwood City was established in the early logging days when oxen teams hauled logs and lumber to the wharves in Redwood City.

Richards  
Stanger  
Hills

State coach service between San Francisco and Woodside was established in 1852. For a number of years two stages a day stopped at the Woodside Store.

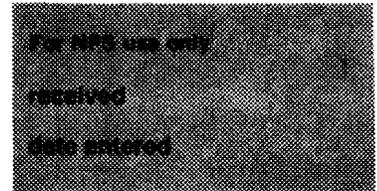
In 1868, there was an effort to organize a Joint Stock Co. for construction of a turnpike between San Gregorio House and Woodside.

In 1892, it was proposed to build an electric railroad from Redwood City to Woodside, with a traction road from Woodside to Summit Springs. The railroad would also have connected Redwood City with San Mateo and Mayfield.

Redwood City  
Democrat  
3/24/1892

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Documentation of specific items

Documentation

Exploration/Settlement: Parkhurst and Tripp were early settlers in the area. Parkhurst acquired land in 1849. Their early logging efforts were soon augmented by the opening of a store to meet the needs of lumberjacks, teamsters, and the growing population.

Account Books  
Richards  
Stanger  
Newspaper accounts

Politics/Government: Dr. Tripp was a leader in civic affairs and held a number of offices:  
1851 elected to San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
1859, 1863 elected Public Administrator  
U.S. Postmaster: 1864-1884; 1889-1909  
Deputy Assessor  
Deputy Sheriff

San Mateo Co.  
Museum records;  
Richards  
Stanger

Library: First library in San Mateo County established here, December 30, 1858 with the organization of the Woodside Library Association. The Library was dissolved in 1865. The existence of the library made the Woodside Store the focus of cultural-educational affairs. For example, January 3, 1859 at the organization meeting of the Library Association, the Rev. James W. Brier spoke on the subject of public education.

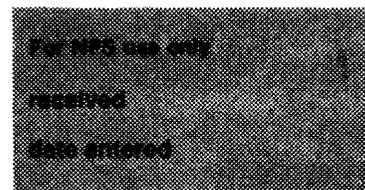
Library accounts  
records @ San Mateo  
County Museum.  
Held

Medicine/Health: Dr. Tripp, who had been trained as a dentist had his dental office in the Store and practiced dentistry there in addition to his many other activities.

Stanger

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

A. BOOKS

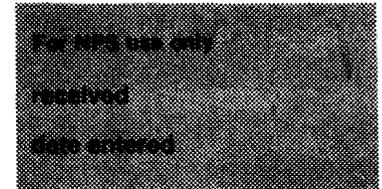
- Gebhard, David, et.al. A Guide to Architecture in San Francisco and Northern California. Peregrine Smith, Inc., Salt Lake City, 1976.
- Held, Ray E. Rise of the Public Library in California, 1849-1878. University of California Publications in Librarianship. vol. 4, University of California Press, 1963.
- Olmsted, Roger and T. H. Watkins Here Today. Chronicle Books, San Francisco, 1968.
- Regnery, Dorothy F. An Enduring Heritage; Historic Buildings of the San Francisco Peninsula. Stanford University Press, 1976.
- Richards, Gilbert Crossroads; People and Events of the Redwoods of San Mateo County. Gilbert Richards publications, 4125 Woodside Road, Woodside, California, 1973.
- Stanger, Frank M. Sawmills in the Redwoods: Logging on the San Francisco Peninsula, 1849-1967. San Mateo County Historical Association. San Mateo, California 1967.
- Stanger, Frank M. South from San Francisco: San Mateo County, California, its History and Heritage. San Mateo County Historical Association, San Mateo, California 1963.

B. UNPUBLISHED SOURCES

- Charles Hall Page & Associates Woodside Store Restoration Study prepared for Parks and Recreation Division, Department of Environmental Management, County of San Mateo, June 1978.
- Richard Schellens Collection: Notes, memoranda, and clippings concerning history of San Mateo County and its communities, compiled from newspapers and other sources. Unpublished, but locally available in hard copy and microfilm. Collection housed at Redwood City Public Library, 881 Jefferson Avenue, Redwood City, California.

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Sources in Library of San Mateo County Historical Museum, College of San Mateo, 1700 W. Hillsdale Boulevard, San Mateo, California.

Student Monographs:

- |                     |                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cady, Donald G.     | <u>Doctor Robert Orville Tripp: Founder of Woodside</u> January 1955.                                                |
| Hills, Ernest       | <u>Stage Lines of San Mateo County.</u> June 1940                                                                    |
| Maskell, Coramarie  | <u>History of Woodside and the Woodside Library Association.</u> June 1942                                           |
| Ralston, Mrs. B. D. | <u>Sketches from the History of Woodside taken from the Progress Edition of the Redwood City Tribune,</u> 1/27/1932. |

Account Books, ledgers, invoices, receipts, and other documents pertaining to the Woodside Store, 1853-1909.

Ledgers pertaining to the Woodside Library, 1859-1865

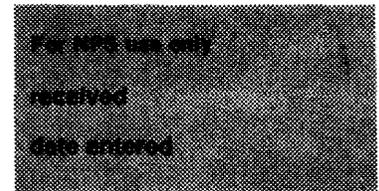
Clippings, photographs, scrapbooks, and miscellaneous documents pertaining to Dr. R. O. Tripp and the Woodside Store.

Historic American Buildings Survey, Washington, D.C., 1976. San Mateo County Project. Records at Library of Congress.

A-2844H

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Verbal Boundary Description

Deed executed March 25, 1940

BEGINNING at the intersection of the Southerly line of the Kings Mountain Road and the Easterly line of a road 40-foot wide connecting said Kings Mountain Road with the County Road to Searsville; running thence South 25° 39' East 251.75 feet; thence North 110° 36' 09" East 271.19 feet to the Southerly line of said Kings Mountain Road; (said last mentioned line being parallel with and distant 20 feet Northwesterly at right angles from an existing fence and also being the center line of a 40-foot roadway); thence along the Southerly line of Kings Mountain Road South 77° 12' West 104.60 feet and South 75° 49' West 63.42 feet to the point of beginning.

Improved with "The Old Tripp Store".

Containing 0.952 of an acre and being a portion of that certain 120-acre tract as conveyed to R. O. Tripp et al by Deed recorded March 1, 1858 in Volume 1 of Deeds at page 313, San Mateo County records.

Deed executed November 22, 1949 grants to the County of San Mateo "all that certain 0.952 acre parcel described in Deed to the County of San Mateo recorded April 8, 1940, in Book 889 of Official Records at page 315, a portion of that certain 4.763 acre parcel described in Deed to Gerald C. Halsey recorded August 14, 1939 in Book 848 of Official Records at page 330 Records of San Mateo County, California, and a portion of the 40-foot road, commonly known as Tripp Road, connecting the King's Mountain Road with the County Road to Searsville, the parcel hereby conveyed being more particularly described as follows:

"BEGINNING at the Northeasterly corner of said 0.952 acre tract, said point being the intersection of the Southeasterly line of King's Mountain Road with the center line of an existing 40-foot traveled way; thence from said point of beginning South 110° 36' 09" East 271.19 feet to a point on the Northeasterly line of said 40-foot Tripp Road; thence crossing said 40-foot road North 78° 23' 51" West 50.25 feet to a point on the Northeasterly line of said 4.763 acre tract; thence leaving said Northeasterly line North 27° 09' West 114.09 feet, and North 24° 09' West 114.83 feet to the Northeasterly corner of said 4.763 acre tract, said corner being the intersection of the Southeasterly line of King's Mountain Road with the Westerly line of Tripp Road; thence along said Southeasterly line North 73° 30' East 14.54 feet, North 75° 49' East 89.59 feet and North 77° 12' East 104.60 feet to the point of beginning."

Boundaries encompass the entire historic resource on its present lot, a 1.18 acre remnant of the original property.

KINGS MOUNTAIN ROAD

TRIPP STORE

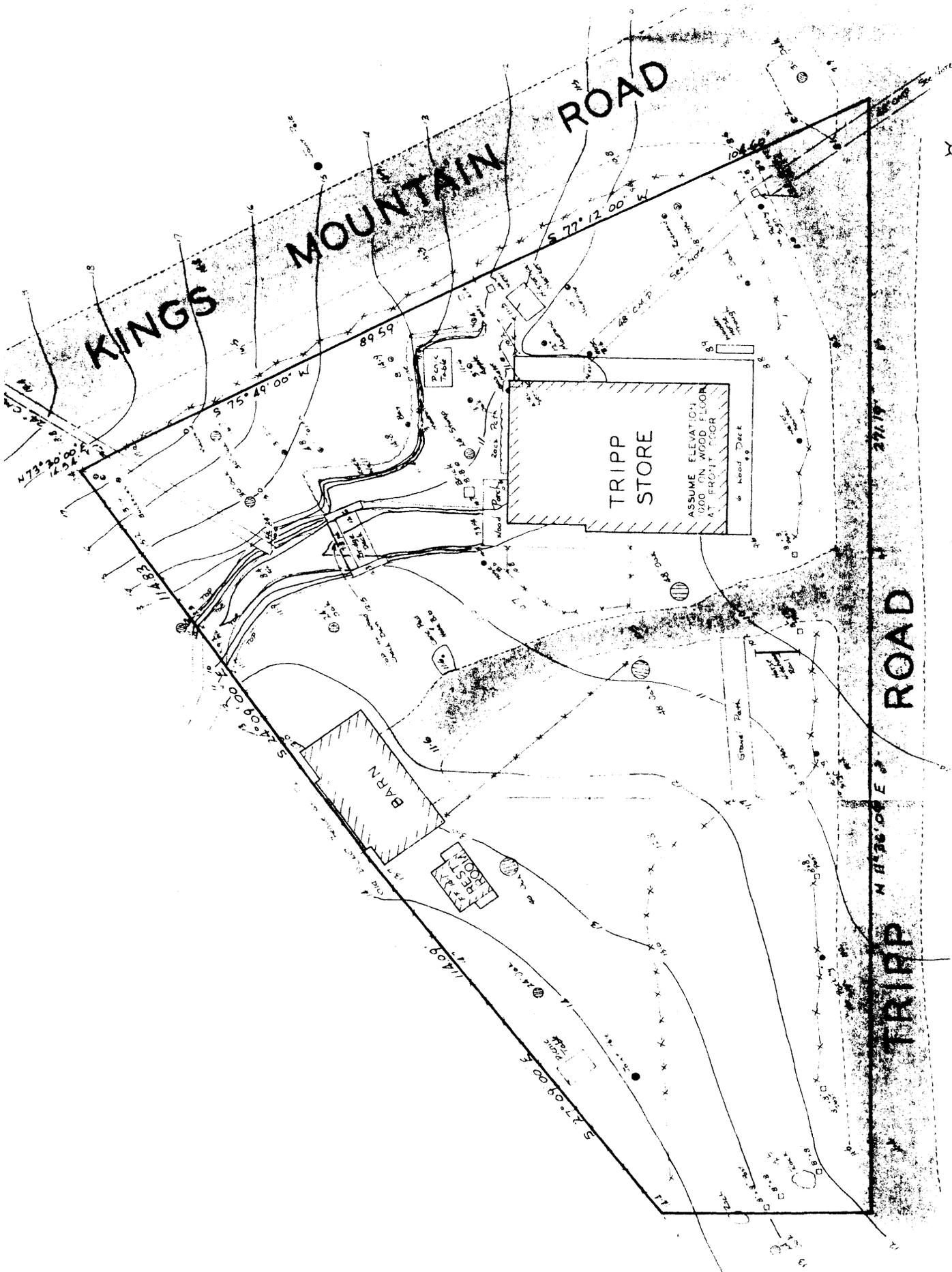
ASSUME ELEVATION  
1000 ON WOOD FLOOR  
AT FRONT CORNER

BARN

WOOD  
REST

TRIPP ROAD

TRIPP



Notes:

1. Basis of Elevations for this topographic survey was on assumed elevation of 10.00 on the existing floor of "Tripp Store"
2. A Bench Mark was set on the fire hydrant near the N.E. property corner. Elevation 10.33 on the "R" in "Corey".
3. The location of the 48" C.M.P. which directs the flow of the existing creek under "Tripp Store" was taken from plans provided by San Mateo County.