

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: California	
COUNTY: Yolo	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 19 1972	

1. NAME

COMMON:

Rumsey Town Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:

Rumsey Town Hall

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

California Highway 16 at Manzanita Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Rumsey

STATE

California

CODE

06

COUNTY:

Yolo

CODE

113

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY
(Check One)

- ☐ District ☒ Building
☐ Site ☐ Structure
☐ Object

OWNERSHIP

- ☐ Public
☒ Private
☐ Both

- Public Acquisition:
☐ In Process
☒ Being Considered

STATUS

- ☒ Occupied
☐ Unoccupied
☐ Preservation work
in progress

ACCESSIBLE
TO THE PUBLIC

- Yes:
☒ Restricted
☐ Unrestricted
☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Agricultural ☐ Government ☐ Park ☐ Transportation ☐ Comments
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Private Residence ☒ Other (Specify)
☐ Educational ☐ Military ☐ Religious meeting site
☐ Entertainment ☐ Museum ☐ Scientific

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Loretta Lloyd

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Rumsey

STATE:

California

CODE

06

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Assessor's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:

Yolo County courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:

Woodland

STATE

California

CODE

06

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

None

DATE OF SURVEY:

- ☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Rumsey Town Hall exists on its original 1906 site. Most of the original materials still exist. The original building is approximately 50' x 30'. The stage addition (between 1906 - 1910) extended the building's overall length by 17'. The building is situated so that the longitudinal length lies in a north-south direction, with the main entrance on the southwest corner. The frame is constructed of wood, with long horizontally placed pine used as siding. The entire structure is painted a bright white. The roof is pitched, and is covered with aluminum sheeting. There are two windows on the front (south) side, and three each on the west and east sides. The original windows on the stage addition (total of four) have been removed, and the openings boarded and painted.

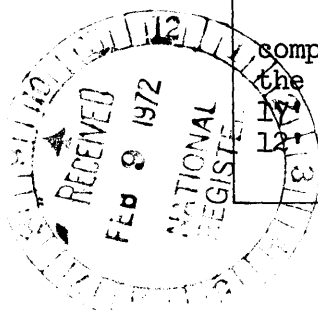
Probably the most striking external feature of the structure is its entrance. The entrance way is situated at the southwest corner of the building, angled at a 45° angle to the south wall of the Hall. The door is approximately 3' off the ground. There are five steps leading to a 5' walkway to the door. This walkway is covered by a small pitched roof. The roof is held up by circular wooden posts. These same posts also hold a hand painted sign which states "Elevation 425 feet, Rumsey, to San Francisco 110 4/10 mi." The entire entrance is painted white to match the main structure. The numerals and letters of the sign are painted black.

There are other noticable external features associated with the Rumsey Town Hall. On the north side of the structure, an exit exists. The door is approximately 3' off the ground. The stairs leading to the exit are no longer used, and are in a state of disrepair. Near this exit, a "two-holer" outhouse is located. Through disuse and lack of maintenance, it too is in sad shape. At one time, the outhouse looked like a miniature of the Town Hall, being constructed of the same materials and design. Situated near the outhouse is a hand water pump. The pump is locked and no longer used. Approximately 100' west of the Hall entrance, an old wooden telephone booth exists. Though the old crank phone has been replaced by a more modern unit, the quaintness of the booth remains. The booth itself is painted green and the pitched roof is covered with aluminum sheeting. An atmosphere of ruralness is added to the overall area by the almond orchard along the east wall of the Town Hall.

The interior still retains much of its original rustic appeal. The ceiling is now constructed of acoustical material and is 14' high. Originally, the ceiling reached to the high pitched external roof. The walls are covered with the same material as the ceiling. Most of the remaining interior features are originals or near originals. Heating is provided by a wood burning stove. Seating is provided by 8'-10' wooden benches. The floor is constructed of wood plank.

The most striking feature of the interior is the stage and its accompanying features. Situated in the northern addition to the Town Hall, the stage floor is 2½' above the main floor. The actual stage floor is 14' x 17' and is constructed of wood. There is a slight depression of 12" in length at the front of the stage which houses the foot lights.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

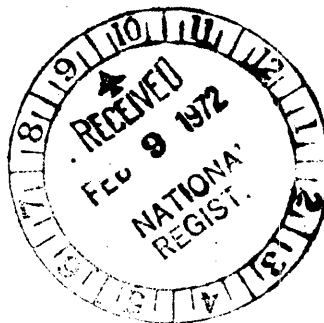
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE California	
COUNTY Yolo	
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(Number all entries)

Rumsey Town Hall - Present and Original Appearance (continued)

The main feature of the stage area is an ornate, hand painted stage curtain. This curtain was painted by a Woodland "French" artist, Joe Herms, in the early years of the Rumsey Town Hall. The central painting of the curtain is a river scene. This painting is surrounded by handpainted advertisements for various area businesses. Many of these enterprises are still in existence. Joe Herms also painted three backdrop scenes for the stage. The first is a street scene of Arbuckle, California, the second is a parlor scene, and the third is a forest scene. The stage curtain and backdrops still exist in excellent condition. The only real damage in the entire interior is some water stains on the walls surrounding the stage. The white with red trim interior walls are in excellent condition elsewhere.



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) Built in 1906, Addition between 1906-1910

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Meeting Hall</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | <u>Social Center</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rumsey Town Hall is situated along California Highway 16, approximately 40 road miles from Woodland, the County Seat of Yolo County. Nestled in the agriculturally rich Capay Valley, Rumsey at one time supported an agricultural community much larger than its present population of 40 people. In the early 1900's, the Rumsey Improvement Club decided that the community needed a building where the local residents could join together to conduct meetings and social events. Construction funds were raised from ice cream socials and dinners. Local volunteer help was used for the actual construction. In 1906, the Rumsey Town Hall's initial phase was completed. Sometime between 1906 - 1910, an addition to the existing building was completed which incorporated a stage. Upon final completion, the Rumsey Town Hall was the largest public hall in Yolo County.

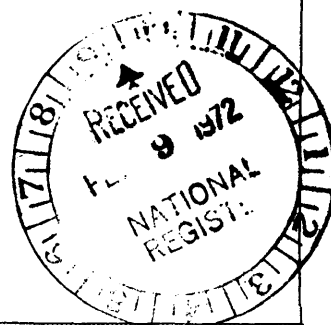
Between 1906 and the present, the Rumsey Town Hall has received a variety of uses. Besides its' continual use as a meeting place for various organizations, the Town Hall was often the site of stage shows. In the 1920's, traveling vaudeville shows frequented the site. In addition to these shows, local stage productions were very popular modes of entertainment at the Town Hall. During harvest time, the Hall was home to a number of families. Today, the Hall is still used for meetings by such organizations as the Volunteer Firemen and 4-H club. In fact, the building is still maintained by the Rumsey Improvement Club!

Today, the Rumsey Town Hall looks much as it did in the past. The Rumsey Town Hall stands as a reminder of days gone by when a Town Hall is reminiscent of a time when citizens of a community were more tightly knit together - a time when a Town Hall was the focal point for all community activities. The Rumsey Town Hall should be listed in the National Register of Historic Places to remind others of the time when Town Halls were important to rural America.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Town Hall of Rumsey, California, by Richard Baker



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		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	38 ° 53' 19 "	122 ° 14 ' 11 "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 0.25

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Brent Harrington		DATE 10/29/71
ORGANIZATION Yolo County Parks Dept.		
STREET AND NUMBER: 292 W. Beamer Street		
CITY OR TOWN: Woodland, California	STATE California	CODE 06

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

Title STATE LIAISON OFFICER

Date

1/27/72

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

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

Date

6/19/72

ATTEST:

William J. Huntley
Keeper of The National Register

Date

UTM
10/56621
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS