

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.



1. Name of Property

historic name Sonora Youth Center

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 732 South Barretta St. ☐ not for publication

city or town Sonora ☐ vicinity

state California code CA county Tuolumne code 109 zip code 95370

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Steph A. Miller
Signature of certifying official/Title

8/27/09
Date

California Office of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.

- ☐ determined eligible for the
National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.

- ☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register

- ☐ removed from the National
Register

- ☐ other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

10/2/2009

Sonora Youth Center

Name of Property

Tuolumne County, California

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL –meeting hall, youth

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL –meeting hall, youth

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER – log cabin

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

roof Tin

walls Wood: logs

other Stone: limestone

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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Sonora Youth Center, Tuolumne County, California

DESCRIPTION

The Sonora Youth Center is a one story log building with a rectangular plan, two projecting gables and an alcove on the front elevation that runs between the projecting gables. The walls are logs that are scribed to each other. The concrete stemwall foundation supports the building and forms the exterior walls of a small basement at the northwest end. All three chimneys are constructed of locally quarried limestone. The interior walls are the opposite sides of the round logs seen on the exterior. The Sonora Youth Center is in a South Sonora residential neighborhood of homes in excess of 100 years of age and it is the only non-residential building at that end of South Barretta Street. The Sonora Youth Center fronts onto South Barretta St. at an angle facing a small, level, asphalt surfaced parking lot. The grounds drop off sharply on the other three sides. To the north is a large, flat dirt area used as a children's playground with a miniature log playhouse that is a non-contributing feature and less than 20 years old. The site is surrounded on three sides by vegetation, predominantly native oak trees. The Sonora Youth Center is little altered from its original appearance when completed in 1943. All but one window was removed and replaced with metal framed, energy efficient and compatibly designed windows within the past five years. The standing seam metal roof is not original, but when it was applied is unknown. The original roof was wood shingles.

The concrete stemwall foundation of the building is a rectangle measuring 40 feet by 80 feet. The building is one story with the exception of a concrete-walled basement at the west corner. Logs are the primary building material but other components include limestone (chimneys and pavers in front elevation alcove) and glass (windows.) The logs are generally 9 to 13 inches in diameter. They were scribed to each other so carefully there is no need to chink between them. However, over time, as the logs have shrunk, burlap bags have been stuffed between logs as needed, a practice that continues to this day. The entry façade faces southeast and has an entry alcove centered on that façade that measures 6.5 feet wide and 40 feet long. The front door, with decorative wrought iron hinges, is on this façade and at each end of the façade are projecting gables of 20 feet wide and 6.5 feet deep. The entry is sheltered by a shed-like extension of the roof. A plain, wrought iron fence with gate extends the length of the recess which has a floor of polished and irregularly shaped pieces of marble. There is a door centered on the recess side of each projecting gable. These doors face the entry area. Decorative wrought iron hinges similar to those on the front door appear here also. There were originally casement windows with wooden frames. Today they are the same size, with the same number of lights, but are in metal frames and are sliders. They were put in five years ago. The recessed entryway has a total of four windows, two on each side of the front door. They are the same size and style as those on the gable ends and are not original. The original windows were casement style and made with wooden sashes. A concrete-walled basement is below the west corner of the building and was intended as a workshop for Works Progress Administration recreational workers. It has a recessed entryway and has been modified into a one-bedroom apartment occupied rent-free by an individual who performs janitorial services at the center and tends to the grounds.

The interior of the Sonora Youth center is configured into two meeting rooms, a bathroom for boys, a bathroom for girls, a closet and a kitchen. The gable end at the northeast end of the building is the

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National Park Service

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Sonora Youth Center, Tuolumne County, California

location of the smaller of the two meeting rooms. The larger meeting room encompasses the entire central portion of the building, and the bathrooms, closet and kitchen are located in the gable end at the northwest corner of the building on top of the basement. The interior walls of the building are the logs of which the building is built. The ceiling in the small meeting room is open beam and has large, round log cross members. A large limestone fireplace is centered on its southwest wall of the room. Its firescreen seems to be original, having been made with ½ inch diameter pipe as a frame and very heavy mesh. Sliding doors give privacy to this meeting room. The doors are really two doors with horizontal panels put together and affixed to hinges with rollers that glide along a top-mounted frame. The larger room has a flat ceiling accented with eight hand-hewn beams at least 14 inches on a side. A limestone fireplace larger than the one in the small meeting room is centered on the southwest wall of the room. Three hand-routed wooden plaques are affixed to the wall above the fireplace. One thanks the Rosenberg Foundation for its donation, a second pays tribute to John Froskland "builder and artist" who "erected a work of art in a lasting monument to youth" and a third which thanks the board of supervisors, US Forest Service and the various citizens and organizations which supported the project—"Their reward – A Better Community."

Further exterior descriptions: Each projecting gable end on the front of the building has a window centered on it. The windows are the same as on the recessed area. Along the northeast side of the building are four windows similar to those just described. The southwest elevation has the same projecting gable ends, the one to the west with a window and the one to the east with a limestone chimney instead of a window. Centered on the central portion of this elevation is another limestone chimney. Two windows, similar to those already described, flank the chimney. On the northwest elevation, top floor, are the same windows to the left and right; smaller eight-paned windows are above the door to the lower floor. The lower, concrete façade has the same windows on each side of the doorway to the interior. The door is not original to the building. A brick flue in the kitchen exits the roof in the form of a limestone chimney. The roof was originally wood shingles, but today it is standing seam metal at least 25 years old.

There are two non-contributing buildings on the site—a cement block restroom some distance away and a wooden shed-type building related to maintenance. There is also a large flat area to the northwest of the Sonora Youth Center that is a play area for children in the Tiny Tots program. One of their places to play is a child-size log cabin. This small building is not on a foundation and is not a contributing resource. At the far end of this playground is an L-shaped sidewalk (probably original to the era of the center) that is 3 feet wide and 56 feet long on the long side of the "L" and 3 feet wide and 31 feet 4 inches long on the short side of the "L." Opposite both sides of the "L" is a portion of the chain link fence that surrounds most of the property. Native oak trees are just inside this fence and surround the property except for the front elevation which faces the previously mentioned small parking lot.

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or a grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social history

Period of Significance

1940-1943

Significant Dates

n/a

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation**Architect/Builder**

Ernst, Elmore G.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☒ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive, Sonora, CA 95370

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Sonora Youth Center, Tuolumne County, California

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Sonora Youth Center is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the local level of significance for its association with the social history of Tuolumne County, functioning as a center for youth organizations. Constructed between 1940 and 1943, the building was the shared effort of Tuolumne County youth, civic and government organizations, with labor and financial assistance by the National Youth Administration. Its period of significance (1940-1943) represents the period of the building's construction. Their combined effort overcame economic depression and shortages of labor and manpower to build a center for Tuolumne County's youth organizations. The building continues to serve the same purpose through the present day, and retains integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

The Sonora Youth Center fulfills the purposes of its founders, who listed them in Articles of Incorporation filed with the California Secretary of State in May 1940: "to promote, aid in and conduct such programs that will contribute to the attainment of general educational and recreational objects (sic) for youth organizations and for boys and girls; to promote the development of good citizenship in the youth; to carry on such activities that will contribute to the physical, mental and moral development of youth organizations and to promote activities in the fields of art, science, literature, music, handicraft, nature study, vocational training, sports and athletics." This building has served Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Rainbow Girls, 4H-ers and even teenagers enrolled in juvenile probation programs. Use of the building remains restricted to groups and programs that serve young people and it is Tuolumne County's oldest such facility. Construction began in 1940 during America's Great Depression and continued through the early years of World War II. Funds for many of the workers came from the National Youth Administration (NYA), a federal initiative to combat the devastating social and economic impacts of the Depression years. The 18 to 25 year olds participating in the NYA program earned a paycheck which helped their families in addition to being able to finish high school and learn job skills. The NYA ended in 1943.

The Sonora Youth Center is the oldest youth center in Tuolumne County. A place reserved for such a meeting hall was the idea of Boy Scout Troop 62 which had been meeting at Sonora High School and Sonora Grammar School. The troop's idea was to build its own cabin in which to meet. Although a site east of Sonora was donated and logs made available, the idea proved impractical. Vernon Dunlavy, principal of Sonora High School, came to the aid of the Scouts with the idea of a "youth hut" where all young people of Tuolumne County could meet for activities. After several unsuccessful attempts to get such a project underway, he called an organizational meeting for February 7, 1940, inviting representatives of over a dozen civic and public service organizations as well as representatives of county government and the U.S. Forest Service. The meeting proved a big success. Truman Ball, Commander of the Melvin Smyth Post of the American Legion, was elected president of the new group, with Mr. Dunlavy and some of the others as officers. America was still in the Great Depression and on the eve of World War II, but the committee moved forward by agreeing to incorporate as a non-profit entity. Throughout construction the group wrestled with obstacles such

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Sonora Youth Center, Tuolumne County, California

as slim finances, construction materials rationing, the loss of workers to the Draft and the general difficulties associated with the era. The NYA, established by Executive Order 7086 on June 26, 1935, was a great help in completion of the center since it paid young people between the ages of 18 and 25 years old to work on the project. Donations of building materials and a \$3,000 contribution from the Rosenberg Foundation in Berkeley made construction possible for a total cost of \$9,000. Dedication ceremonies were held November 7, 1943. The building retains its architectural integrity and remains very similar to its appearance when completed in 1943.

When President Franklin D. Roosevelt authorized creation of the NYA in 1935 he was answering a nationwide call to help out America's youth. First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt was especially interested in this program because the popular Civilian Conservation corps (CCC) barely tapped into the 18 to 24 age group. She even called for a solution in her "My Day" newspaper column: If they are not given employment, "we are going to have a generation of people who do not know how to work... who ignore our old standards of morals and ethics because they cannot live up to them. Economic conditions are different but human nature remains the same and an embittered, unfulfilled and disappointed generation will be more dangerous to our future happiness than any loss in material possessions.: The NYA provided a maximum of 70 hours a month paid work to 18-25 year olds; a significant portion of their salary was forwarded to their families which benefited from this help. Many NYA participants were able to finish high school, learn a skill and help support their families which supports one of the "Social History" categories: "to promote the welfare of society." The NYA was a branch of the Works Progress Administration and was funded from this national program's budget. The Sonora Youth Center is a reminder of an important national program initiated by an administration determined to pull America out of difficult economic times and help with the general welfare of its people. The project persisted through this era and when wartime rationing affected supplies and the military draft siphoned off workers.

Historical Background and Significance

Located in the Sierra foothills at the southern end of California's fabled Mother Lode region, Sonora is the county seat of Tuolumne County, one of California's original 27 counties. Its current population is 55,000 and included within that figure is the City of Sonora's population of 4,500. Until gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill at Coloma on January 24, 1848, this region was home to the MeWuk Indians and their predecessors whose occupation dates back 8,000 years. Tuolumne County's first recorded gold discovery was on Woods Creek about 5 miles west of Sonora. The founding date of the Sonora Gold Camp is placed in March 1849, further up Woods Creek where it flows through the grounds of today's Sonora High School. Miners from Sonora, Mexico, are credited with finding the first nuggets in Sonora and thus the town was named Sonora. As would-be miners converged on interior Northern California from throughout the world, it seemed that the precious metal would never run out. However, the Gold Rush was all but over by 1860 and those people who decided to stay looked to ranching, commerce, logging and the nascent tourism industry associated with Yosemite and the Calaveras Big Trees to support themselves and their families. A second Gold Rush began in

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Sonora Youth Center, Tuolumne County, California

1890 and ushered in a second wave of prosperity as hard rock mining and the technology associated with it enabled the new Argonauts to extract much of the gold left behind by the '49ers. The arrival of the Sierra Railroad (1897) enabled Tuolumne County businesses to reach markets outside their borders. The construction of two steam logging railroads into the county's vast timber reserves added to the boom times and construction of some of the county's most impressive commercial, residential and educational buildings coincided with this second Gold Rush. Examples of some of these residential buildings are found along South Barretta Street where the Sonora Youth Center is located. Later, hydroelectric projects tapped the Stanislaus and Tuolumne Rivers as the rush was winding down, further helping the local economy. Sonora has always benefited economically from the activity associated with being the county seat.

America's Great Depression brought difficult times throughout the country and Tuolumne County was no exception. However, even in those dark times (1929-1941), the county's leaders thought about the future and the place of younger generations in it. Thus, when Boy Scout Troop 62 was unable to realize its dream of a "hut" for its meetings, Vernon A. Dunlavy, Sonora High School principal, took their idea to a new level by expanding the project to serve all of the county's youth. On his Sonora High School letterhead dated February 2, 1940, he announced a meeting on February 7 at 8:00 PM to get the ball rolling. Prominent club leaders and citizens as well as architect Elmore G. Ernst of Stockton were invited to attend. Mr. Ernst, who designed the youth center, was no doubt recruited by Mr. Dunlavy. The architect had designed the high school auditorium and science building (nearing completion at this time and dedicated on May 3, 1940.) Groups represented at this initial meeting were the Sonora Fire Department, Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce, Sonora Welfare Club, Aronos Club, American Legion Auxiliary, 20/30 Club, Camp Fire Girls, Sonora Lions Club, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Also present were representatives of the U.S. Forest Service, county government and the PTA. Many community groups got behind this project and considerable donations of time, materials and labor were advanced. John Froskland of Sonora is credited with being project manager. He directed the cutting and fitting of the logs and hand-hewn girders inside. Local businesses donated materials such as cement; logs were hauled from the Stanislaus National Forest near Long Barn by volunteer John Belemich whose father, Charlie Belemich, donated his labor on the stonework.

Sonora Youth Center

Name of Property

Tuolumne County, California

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre (.84 acre)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>10</u>	<u>0730426</u>	<u>4206168</u>	3	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
2	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	4	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

☐ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sharon Marovich, Chair

organization Tuolumne Heritage Committee date 9/2/08

street & number 24 S. Washington St. telephone (209) 532-6937

city or town Sonora state CA zip code 95370

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

Name County of Tuolumne, Craig Pedro, CAO

street & number 2 South Green Street telephone (209)533-5511

city or town Sonora state CA zip code 95370

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Sonora Youth Center, Tuolumne County, California

Bibliography

Watkins, T.H., *The Hungry Years*. New York, NY: Henry Holt and Company, 1999.

Young, William H. with Nancy K. Young, *The 1930s*. Westport, CN: Greenwood Press, 2002.

The Banner (newspaper) Sonora, 1939-1943.

The Tuolumne Independent (newspaper), Sonora, 1939-1943.

The Union Democrat (newspaper), Sonora, 1939-1943.

Articles of Incorporation, Sonora Youth Center, Sonora, CA. Endorsed, filed, Secretary of State's Office, Sacramento, CA May 31, 1940.

Belemich, John, oral interview, Sonora, July 23, 2008.

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the property includes the entire lot containing Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 056-082-0600 for Tuolumne County.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Sonora Youth Center.

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National Park Service

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Section number Additional Documentation

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Sonora Youth Center, Tuolumne County, California

Photo Log

Photo #1

3. Sharon Marovich
4. May 2009
5. 60 Circle Drive, Sonora CA 95370
6. View from northeast, front elevation

Photo #2

3. Sharon Marovich
4. May 2009
5. 60 Circle Drive, Sonora CA 95370
6. View from southwest, rear elevation

Photo #3

3. Sharon Marovich
4. May 2009
5. 60 Circle Drive, Sonora CA 95370
6. Chimney, rear elevation from southwest

Photo #4

3. Sharon Marovich
4. May 2009
5. 60 Circle Drive, Sonora CA 95370
6. Maintenance building from east

Photo #5

3. Sharon Marovich
4. May 2009
5. 60 Circle Drive, Sonora CA 95370
6. East elevation, view from east

Photo #6

3. Sharon Marovich
4. May 2009
5. 60 Circle Drive, Sonora CA 95370
6. Restroom, view from east

Photo #7

3. Sharon Marovich
4. May 2009
5. 60 Circle Drive, Sonora CA 95370
6. Southwest elevation, from southwest

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Sonora Youth Center
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: CALIFORNIA, Tuolumne

DATE RECEIVED: 8/28/09 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/14/09
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/29/09 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/11/09
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 09000807

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Sonora Youth Center is significant at the local level under National Register Criterion A in the area of Social History. Completed between 1940 and 1943, the one-story, log social hall was the culmination of local efforts by civic and public service organizations, local governments, federal agencies, and area youth to provide vital social and cultural facilities for local youth groups. Utilizing funding from the NYA branch of the WPA, the project represented a significant local Depression-era relief project.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criterion A

REVIEWER Paul R. Lusignea DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 10/5/09

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

**Sonora Youth Center
Sonora
Tuolumne County
Staff Report**

The Sonora Youth Center is a one-story log building with a rectangular plan, two projecting gables and an alcove on the front elevation that runs between the projecting gables. The building is constructed of round wood logs atop a concrete stem wall foundation. The building has two limestone chimneys along its rear wall. The original windows were replaced with dual-pane windows that match the appearance and dimensions of the original wooden frame casement windows. The roof, originally covered with wood shingles, was replaced with a standing seam metal roof. Otherwise, the building has a high degree of integrity.

The Sonora Youth Center is being nominated to the National Register under Criterion A for its association with the social activities of Tuolumne County's youth. The building was constructed as a meeting place for children's groups, including the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, Rainbow Girls and even juvenile probation programs. It is the only public building in Tuolumne County dedicated to youth programs, and the oldest building serving this function in the region.

The building's construction was a collaborative effort by the Boy Scouts, the principal of Sonora High School, the American Legion, and over a dozen civic, public service and local government organizations. Materials and specialized labor were donated by local businesses. Construction began in 1940, but completion was delayed due to wartime rationing and a shortage of labor during the early days of World War II. The National Youth Authority, a branch of the Works Progress Administration, provided funds to pay young people in need of work to aid in construction. The Youth Center was finally completed in 1943.

The property is owned by Sonora County and nominated on behalf of the Sonora County Board of Supervisors.

Staff recommends the State Historical Resources Commission determine that the Sonora Youth Center meets National Register Criterion A at the local level of significance and recommend the State Historic Preservation Officer approve the nomination for forwarding to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register.

William Burg
Historian I
April 21, 2009





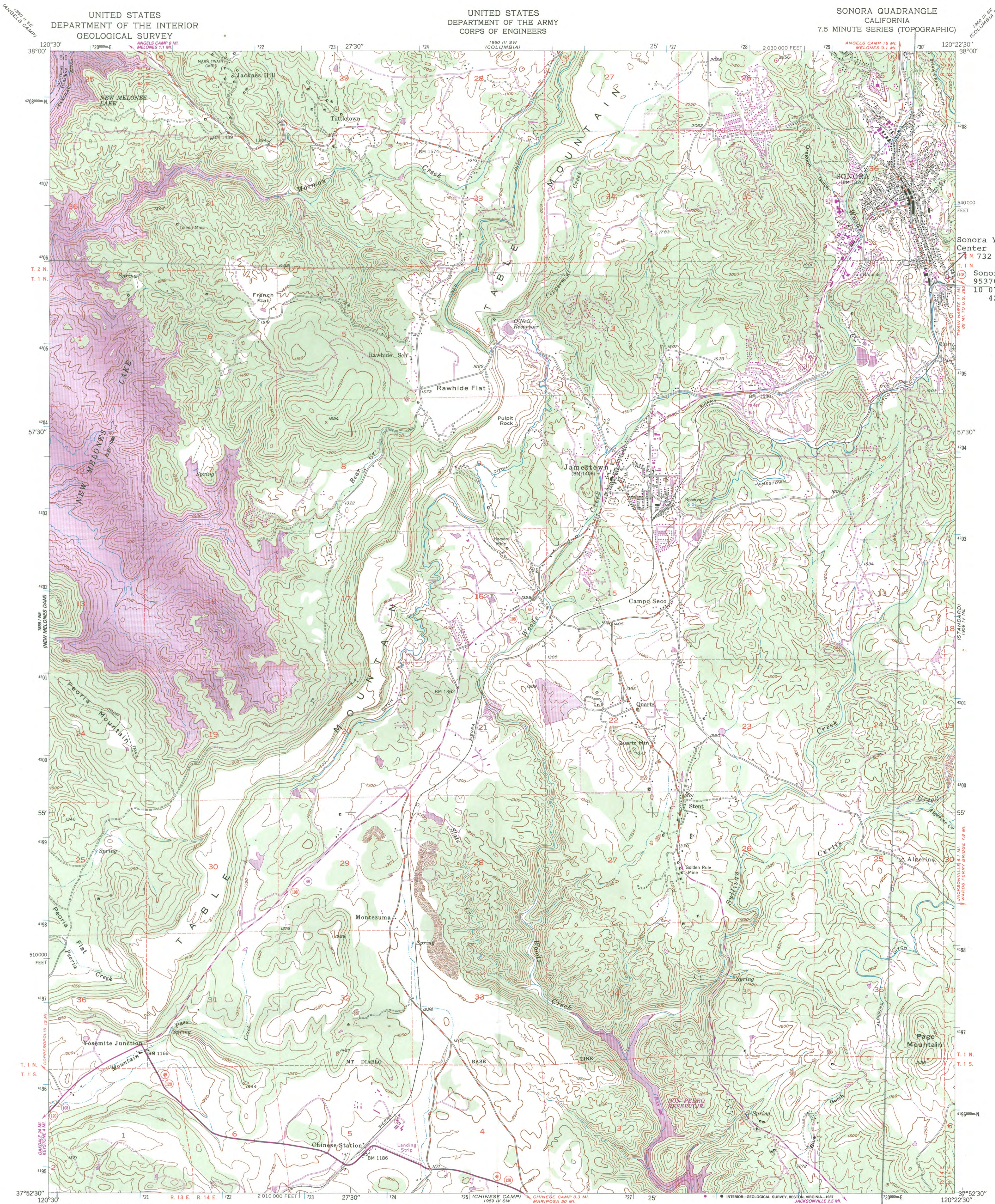






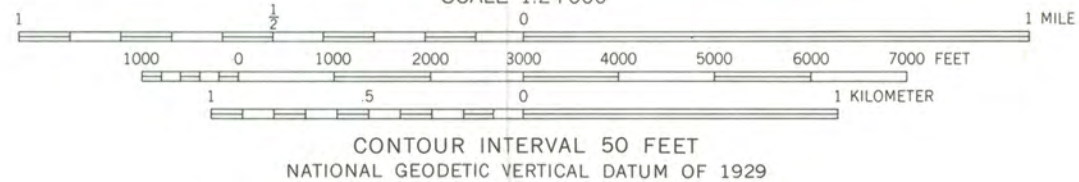
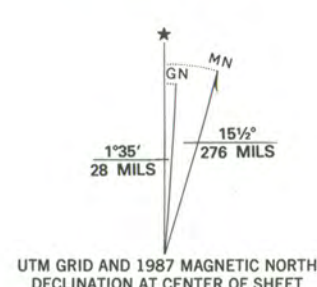






Sonora Youth Center
Center
N 732 S. Barretta
St.
Sonora, CA
95370
10 0730426EASUM-
4206168NORTHWIL

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
Aerial photographs taken 1945. Field check 1948
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on California coordinate system,
zone 3
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 10, shown in blue
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,
move the projection lines 12 meters north and
90 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial
photographs taken 1984 and other sources
This information not field checked Map edited 1987



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Medium-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Unimproved dirt ———
State Route ———

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

SONORA, CALIF.
37120-H4-TF-024
1948
PHOTOREVISED 1987
DMA 1959 IV NW-SERIES 1985

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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August 27, 2009

Ms. Jan Matthews, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service 2280
1201 I (Eye) Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Subject: **Sonora Youth Center
Sonora, Tuolumne County, California
National Register of Historic Places**

Dear Ms. Matthews:

Enclosed please find the **Sonora Youth Center** nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. This property is located in Sonora, Tuolumne County, California. On July 31, 2009, the State Historical Resources Commission unanimously found the property eligible for the National Register under Criterion A at the local level of significance.

The property is nominated on behalf of the property owner, Tuolumne County.

If you have any questions regarding this nomination, please contact William Burg of my staff at 916-653-8936.

Sincerely,

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures