

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED *6.21.79*
DATE ENTERED *AUG 24 1979*

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Altaville Grammar School

AND/OR COMMON
The Old Altaville School/Red Brick Grammar School

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
125 North Main Street

CITY, TOWN
Angels Camp Altaville

--- NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Fourteenth

STATE
Calif.

CODE
06

COUNTY
Calaveras

CODE
009

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: <i>Vacant</i>

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
California State Division of Forestry

STREET & NUMBER
1416 9th Street (Department of Resources)

Calif. 95814

CITY, TOWN
Sacramento

STATE

--- VICINITY OF

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. *Registry of Deeds*

STREET & NUMBER
Government Center Mountain Ranch Road

CITY, TOWN
San Andreas

STATE
Calif. 95249

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
California State Landmark #499

DATE
December 4, 1951

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS *State Office of Historic Preservation*

CITY, TOWN
P.O. Box 2390, Sacramento

STATE
Calif. 95811

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Altaville Grammar School is a rectangular brick building situated adjacent to Highway 49 in Altaville, California. The simple mid-nineteenth century "classical" building measures 34 feet deep by 24 feet wide.

The front elevation is a simple one-story design of three bays with a crowning wood bell tower. The two side bays contain symmetrical windows which flank a central door. The original casement windows (44" x 72"), which are presently boarded up, retain their original wood facings. The front door has a 28" x 53" concrete stoop and retains its wood facing. The front gable is broken by an oculus (the original wood surround is now missing) and is framed by a wood raking cornice with end returns and an undecorated frieze band.

The rear elevation is composed of two doors flanking a central window. Side elevations are identical, broken by three windows. All windows and doors are enriched by a brick flat arch.

The school is covered with a galvanized tin roof which overlays the original gable roof of wood shingles. The two slopes of the gable or pediment roof are low in pitch broken towards the rear by a chimney which serviced an interior heating stove. The bell tower is covered with a hipped roof, again, a galvanized tin replacement. The simple rectangular design of the tower is composed of double louvered openings on each of the four sides with a ship lap wood base.

A wood shed which was added after original construction was removed in 1975. About 1870 the bulging side walls called for iron anchor beams; the beam braces remain below the cornice frieze on both ends of the side walls. Further deterioration has occurred; portions of the bell tower are missing and the rear wall is collapsing. Other than deterioration, the school has retained its original integrity.

The major interior features of the building are 38" high wainscoting. Plasterboard was added to some interior walls around 1900. Both ceiling and floor are of lengthwise floorboards; the ceiling retains its original 12 foot height.

There are no outbuildings. No plans for restoration exist at this date. Since the building has not been moved and there has not been substantial change in the landscape, both building and setting retain integrity.

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES erected 1858

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Builder unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Altaville Grammar School, built in 1858, is significant for its historic association with the development of Altaville, California. The one-room schoolhouse operated as the only educational facility, serving the community until 1950. It is one of the oldest schoolhouses in California. The architectural significance of the building is based on its style; a vernacular translation of a Greek Revival design.

The brick building was erected, with funds raised by a dance in the Billiard Saloon of the N.R. Prince Building, on land donated by Thomas Frazier. The schoolhouse became a State Landmark in 1954. Despite the deterioration noted above, the Altaville Schoolhouse retains most of its original fabric and is an important landmark in the Mother Lode region of California.

The schoolhouse is a vernacular adaptation of the Greek Revival style popular in the United States between 1820 and 1860. The last date of the Altaville Schoolhouse falls after the heyday of the style which was in the 1830's and 1840's. The date of the schoolhouse is governed largely by the historical development of the Mother Lode region which occurred primarily after 1848 with the beginning of the Gold Rush. The popularity of the style is to be noted in the fact that the general style of the locale was Greek Revival. As noted by historian Harold Kirker, this style "remained the domestic vernacular on California's architectural frontier until after the completion of the Pacific Railroad."¹

The Greek Revival style appeared in the United States in 1798 with a design by William Latrobe, the first professionally trained architect in the U.S. The popularity of the style spread quickly due to its political associations (it was seen as the style of ancient democracies) and social associations (it was viewed as a welcome break with the English based Georgian and Federal styles) and the popularization of the style with the publication of carpenter's pattern books that presented plans and detailing. Since the Altaville Schoolhouse presents the typical aspects of domestic versions of the Greek Revival style with simple rectangular block, pediment suggested by cornice returns and frieze but does not display any Greek Revival detailing, it suggests that a local builder was able to translate the major characteristics of the plan, pediment, cornice and frieze but relied on his vernacular knowledge of brickwork when dealing with details such as door and window frames. Therefore, the Altaville Schoolhouse is representative of the process by which an architectural style is introduced and subsequently translated into a local context.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Buckbee, Edna Bryan. "Pioneer Days of Angels Camp," Calaveras Californian, Angels Camp, 1932, (p. 51).
- Kirker, Harold. Architectural Frontier. Style and Tradition in the Nineteenth Century, Peregrine Smith, Inc., 1973, p. 41.
- Leonard, Edward C. Establishment and Growth of School Systems in Calaveras County, California. (Calaveras County Historical Society Library).
- Weston, Otheto. Mother Lode Album, Stanford University Press, 1948 (p. 92).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .084 acres (3,648 sq. ft.)

QUADRANGLE NAME Angels Camp, California

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,0 | 7|1,3|9,2,0 | 4,2|1,7|6,2,0

B | |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | |

D | |

E | |

F | |

G | |

H | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Nominated property occupies .084 acres of land adjacent to Highway 49 in Altaville, California. * Beginning at a point which bears N. 75° 03' E., 758.31 feet from the East one quarter corner of Section 29, T. 3 N., R. 13 E., M.D.M.; thence S. 52° 34' W., 334.75 feet; thence S. 33° 40' W; 458 feet, **

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

Office of Historic Preservation
staff revision: Carol Branan

NAME / TITLE

Bessie McGinnis, Harry Townsend and Robert Yohr

ORGANIZATION

Calaveras County Historical Society

DATE

1/5/79

STREET & NUMBER

1251 Gold Cliff Road, Box 542

TELEPHONE

(209) 736-2189

CITY OR TOWN

Angels Camp, California 95222

STATE

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

Kenneth E. Ellon

TITLE

DATE JUN 1 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Carol Shall
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

8-24-79

ATTEST:

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

8-24-79

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

While the Greek temple form was not symbolically or practically associated with schools, it was often employed in small town schoolhouses similar to the Altaville School. Although there are numerous examples of wood prefabricated Greek Revival houses in the Angel's Camp area, the use of brick as a construction material was rare.

Except for deterioration of the Altaville School, the building retains its integrity as a representative of an early phase of California's educational and architectural history. Its setting retains the rural atmosphere associated with one-room, country schoolhouses and its rather naive simplicity is the mark of a local, now anonymous builder.

Footnote:

1. Harold Kirker, California's Architectural Frontier. Style and Tradition in the Nineteenth Century, Santa Barbara and Salt Lake City, Peregrine Smith, Inc., p. 41. (1973).

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CONTINUATION SHEET

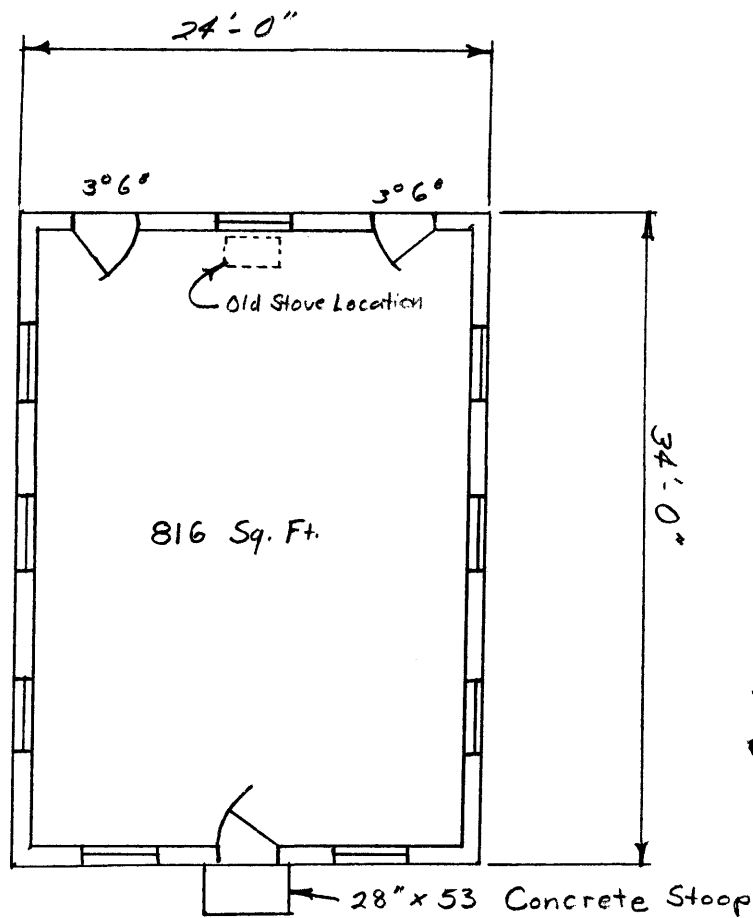
ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

more or less, to the true Point of Beginning; thence Northerly 55 feet, more or less; thence Westerly 64 feet, more or less; thence Southerly 58 feet, more or less; thence Easterly 64 feet, more or less, to the Point of Beginning, and containing 3,648 square feet, more or less (0.084 Acres)

The Altaville Schoolhouse is located on property owned by the State of California, Department of Forestry, in the town of Altavilla, Calaveras County, California. It is the Northeast one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter of Section 29, Township 3 North, Range 13 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian. This entire area is fenced off from adjacent land owned by the Department of Forestry on the east, north and west, and by Oscar J. Scheres on the south. This fenced boundary is the original boundary line for the Altaville Schoolhouse.

*

Verbal Boundary Description information contained between the * and the ** is for reference purposes to establish the true point of the beginning. Information following the ** defines the actual boundaries of the nominated parcel.



Scale: 1"=10'

ALTAVILLE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Erected 1858

State Historical Landmark

No. 499

State Park Commission

May 1, 1955



- Outside Wall - Double row of bricks, trim above windows and doors.
- Inside Wall - Plaster board with vertical board wainscot 38" high.
- Windows - Nine each casement approximately 44" x 72" high.
- Floor - Wood Board, about 16" above ground elevation.
- Ceiling - Wood board, about 12 feet above floor.
- Roof - 6:12 Pitch, wood shingle covered with galvanized steel.

This sketch map does not include the entire boundary line; it is only a sketch of the school building. For a sketch map of the entire property see Department of Forestry's sketch map.

Harry Townsend - 11/7/78
 Assistant Civic Engineer
 State Dept. of Forestry

Sketch map which shows the boundary line of the property being nominated outlined in red pencil which traces the semi-rectangular fence line of the property; the extended single red line is for reference purposes to identify the property in relationship to Dept. of

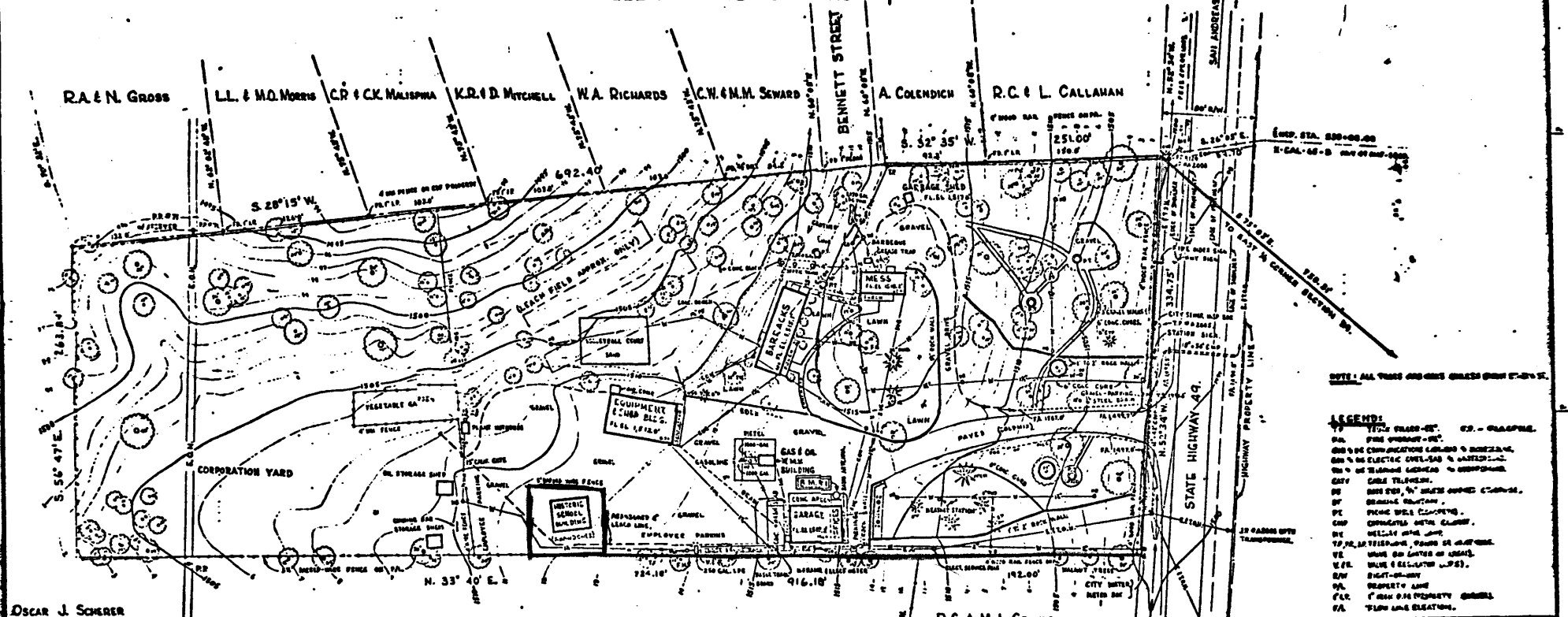
Forestry holdings

JUN 21 1979

ALTAVILLE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

MAP 1 of 2
March 1979

GLEN ACRES SUBDIVISION,



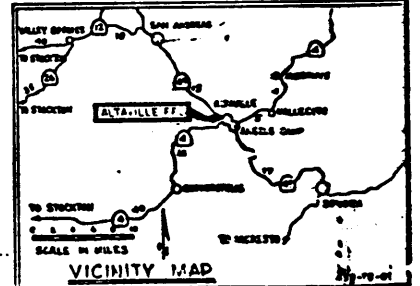
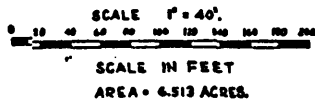
- LEGEND:
- 1" = 1" (SEE PLAN)
 - 2" = 2" (SEE PLAN)
 - 3" = 3" (SEE PLAN)
 - 4" = 4" (SEE PLAN)
 - 5" = 5" (SEE PLAN)
 - 6" = 6" (SEE PLAN)
 - 7" = 7" (SEE PLAN)
 - 8" = 8" (SEE PLAN)
 - 9" = 9" (SEE PLAN)
 - 10" = 10" (SEE PLAN)
 - 11" = 11" (SEE PLAN)
 - 12" = 12" (SEE PLAN)
 - 13" = 13" (SEE PLAN)
 - 14" = 14" (SEE PLAN)
 - 15" = 15" (SEE PLAN)
 - 16" = 16" (SEE PLAN)
 - 17" = 17" (SEE PLAN)
 - 18" = 18" (SEE PLAN)
 - 19" = 19" (SEE PLAN)
 - 20" = 20" (SEE PLAN)

Oscar J. Scherer

Oscar J. Scherer

R.C. & M.J. Groves

RADIO LOCATION:
 LATITUDE : 38° 04' 29" NORTH.
 LONGITUDE : 122° 31' 28" WEST.
 CALIFORNIA COORDINATE SYSTEM - ZONE 8 -
 NORTH - 516,430 FEET.
 EAST - 1482,610 FEET.
 TRANSVERSE MERCATOR SYSTEM - ZONE 10 -
 NORTH - 4,217,760 METERS.
 EAST - 712,846 METERS.
 A PORTION OF THE SE 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4
 OF THE NE 1/4 AND THE NE 1/4 OF
 THE NE 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4 OF SEC. 29
 T. 3 N., R. 13 E., M. D. M.
 S.E.S. QUADANGLE - ANGELS CAMP -
 7 1/2" MINUTE - 1962 EDITION.



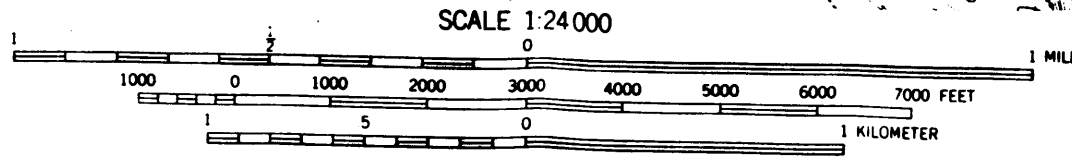
LAND AND EASEMENT DATA: F.A.C. 1974 & 1975 OF CALIFORNIA FIELD SURVEY DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF CALIFORNIA DISTRICT	AS-BUILT SOURCE DATA: CALIFORNIA COUNTY ACCESSARY MAPS FIELD PLANS TABLE SURVEY BY HARRY TRAVIS 10-1/78.	REVISIONS: DATE DRAWN BY DESCRIPTION APPROVAL _____ _____ _____	75-0-01 7/79 DRAWN BY CHECKED BY	ALL DATA TO DATE DATE	DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY CALIFORNIA FOREST SERVICE	PLAN CATEGORY PROJECT LOCATION	MASTER SITE PLAN FOREST FIRE STATION - ALTAVILLE CALAVERAS COUNTY - REGION 12	SHEET 1 OF ONE DRAWN BY DATE
			DATE CHECKED BY	DATE		OF FORESTRY	9-M-L-1 DATE	

Altaville Grammar School Map 2 Of 2
 for reference purposes
 to determine the point
 of the beginning for the
 Verbal Boundary Description

AUG 24 1979

JUN 21 1979

**CALIF. DEPT. OF FORESTRY
 ALTAVILLE FOREST FIRE STA.
 HISTORIC SCHOOL SITE**



QUADRANGLE LOCATION
ANGELS CAMP, CALIF.
 SE/4 SAN ANDREAS 15' QUADRANGLE
 N3800—W12030/7.5

1962

(M-T-11/2/79)

UTM GRID AND 1962 MAGNETIC NORTH
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

