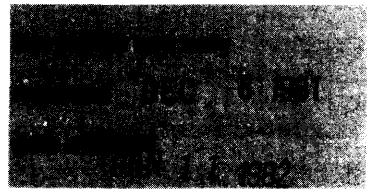


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 MAGALIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

and/or common Same

**2. Location**

street & number Stirling Hwy.  not for publication

city, town Magalia  vicinity of congressional district 1st

state California code 06 county Butte code 007

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Affiliated Church of Union Sunday Schools of Northern California

street & number c/o Mt. Hope Bible Conference P.O. Box H

city, town Challenge  vicinity of state California 95925

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Butte County Recorder's Office

street & number 25 County Center Drive

city, town Oroville  vicinity of state California

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title \_\_\_\_\_ has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_  vicinity of state \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. Description

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

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

The Magalia Community Church is a simple vernacular Protestant Church, designed and constructed by parishioners in 1904. This 1904 church was rebuilt from the materials of an 1896<sup>church</sup> constructed on private property some 500 yards distant from the present location of the church. The simple rectangular plan of the sanctuary, the foundation of local rubble, and the shed roofed kitchen addition attest to the structure's handcrafted origin. The utilitarian severity of the structure is eased through the addition of a belfry, vestibule, and other features common to Protestant church design everywhere.

The church is situated on a hillside lot, measuring 37' x 120', in the rural mountainous region of Butte County. The church has exterior dimensions of 20' x 40', including the sanctuary, a small square-plan vestibule, and a shed-roofed rear kitchen extension. The structure rests upon a foundation of local rubble and on wooden mudsills. Exterior siding is redwood shingles over 1"x6" rough boards.

Fenestration of the church consists of 16 over 2 or 16 over 1 double hung sash, except for windows on the sides of the vestibule, which are 16 over 16. Single pane windows are present on the sides of the vestibule and on the facade to either side of the vestibule. Squared windows, 3' x 3' are located to either side of the small kitchen annex.

The sanctuary is topped by a gable roof, sheathed in new but historically accurate cedar shingles. The small vestibule, centered on the facade, is topped by a small gable roof of the same pitch as the sanctuary roof. The kitchen annex roof is corrugated metal, which covers the original shingles.

Entrance to the Magalia Community Church is gained only through double, four-paned wooden doors in the vestibule, and through identical doors which separate the vestibule from the sanctuary. The kitchen annex is accessible through a door at the rear of the sanctuary. The sanctuary interior is relatively unadorned, with white wallpapering above a horizontal board wainscoting.

Also located on the nominated property, behind the Magalia Community Church near the eastern property line, is a small board-and-batten outhouse in deteriorated condition.

## 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1904 ~~Builder/Architect~~ None

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Magalia Community Church is significant for the role it has played in the social as well as the religious development of this isolated mountain town. Constructed by volunteers in 1904, the structure is the town's oldest building in use for its intended purpose, and has served for nearly eighty years as the visual and functional center of the community. The structure achieves added significance for its long association with the Women's Christian Temperance Union, reflecting the great impact which this and other women's reform groups exerted in small-town America in the early twentieth century.

A humble meeting house was constructed in Magalia in 1896, on private property of George McLean several hundred yards from the location of the present church. For eight years this nondenominational church was the only religious institution in this town, at that time largely dominated economically by the local mining industry. In 1906, McLean asked that the structure be removed from his property.

The church was saved, however, through the diligent effort of Miss Carrie Brydon, an enthusiastic member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, who had moved to the California mountains from her native Canada for health reasons. Miss Brydon enlisted the aid of WCTU members in Butte and nearby counties to raise funds for the relocation and reconstruction of this church. Mrs. Annie K. Bidwell, wife of California pioneer and U.S. Senator John Bidwell and an ardent prohibitionist, contributed nearly thirty percent of the funds for purchasing a new site and rebuilding the church.

Largely under the direction of Miss Brydon, church and community members disassembled the structure and rebuilt it on its present location. At Brydon's insistence, the church was for the first time adorned with such accepted symbols of permanence associated with Protestant small-town churches as a belfry, vestibule, molding at the eaves and windows, and a somewhat more refined interior.

The association between the Magalia Community Church and the WCTU remained strong until recent times. The deed for the nondenomination church was held in trust by the WCTU. Furthermore, Miss Brydon willed her home for use as a church parsonage, the deed for which was also held by the WCTU.

Through the years, the church has served as a religious and social center for a variety of groups in the area. Church policy has permitted any Protestant denomination to conduct services and other functions in the structure, resulting at times in multiple Sunday services by various groups. In 1947, the WCTU sold the property for a token sum to a local group, the Affiliated Church of Union Sunday Schools of Northern California. Some repair of the structure was accomplished at that time. The church structure, however, is presently in need of major repairs, particularly on its foundation and floor joists, and hopes recognition of the church's historical significance will aid in fundraising.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Tales of the Paradise Ridge, Vol. 3, Decmber, 1962.  
 Dogtown Nugget, 1971 Souvenir Program, and 1973 Souvenir Program  
 Historical files of Magalia Community Church.

# 10. Geographical Data

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**  
**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

Acreeage of nominated property .1177 Acres  
 Quadrangle name Paradise

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UMT References

A 

10	621750	41407420
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 copy of Grant Deed

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

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carl H. Worthington, Treasurer

organization Magalia Community Church

date June, 1980

street & number Star Route DeSalba

telephone (916) 873-0455

city or town Magalia

state California

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature K. Mellon

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 10-13-81

For HCRS use only

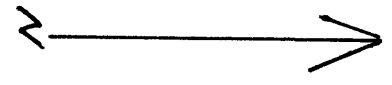
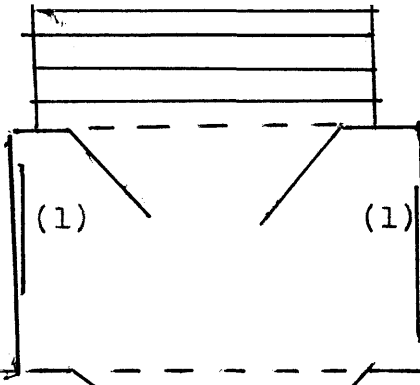
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

*for Acting* Selma ...  
 Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the National Register date 1/11/82

Attest:  
 Chief of Project

Vestibule approx  
6' X 5'



(2) (2)

MAGALIA COMMUNITY CHURCH ( 1/16/81 )  
(not drawn to scale)

(2)

(2)

- (1) Windows - tall open windows of 19th century vintage  
upper 1/2 window 16 panes  
lower " " " "
- (2) Windows- tall- open windows of 19th century vintage  
upper 1/2 window 16 panes  
lower " " 2 panes

30'

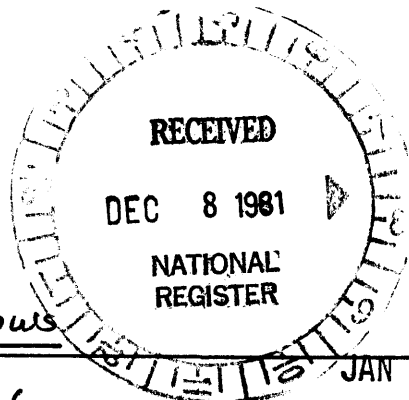
(2)

(2)

20'

SINGLE PANE  
SLIDING WINDOWS  
2 - 3' X 3'

2 3' X 3'  
SLIDING WINDOWS  
SINGLE PANE

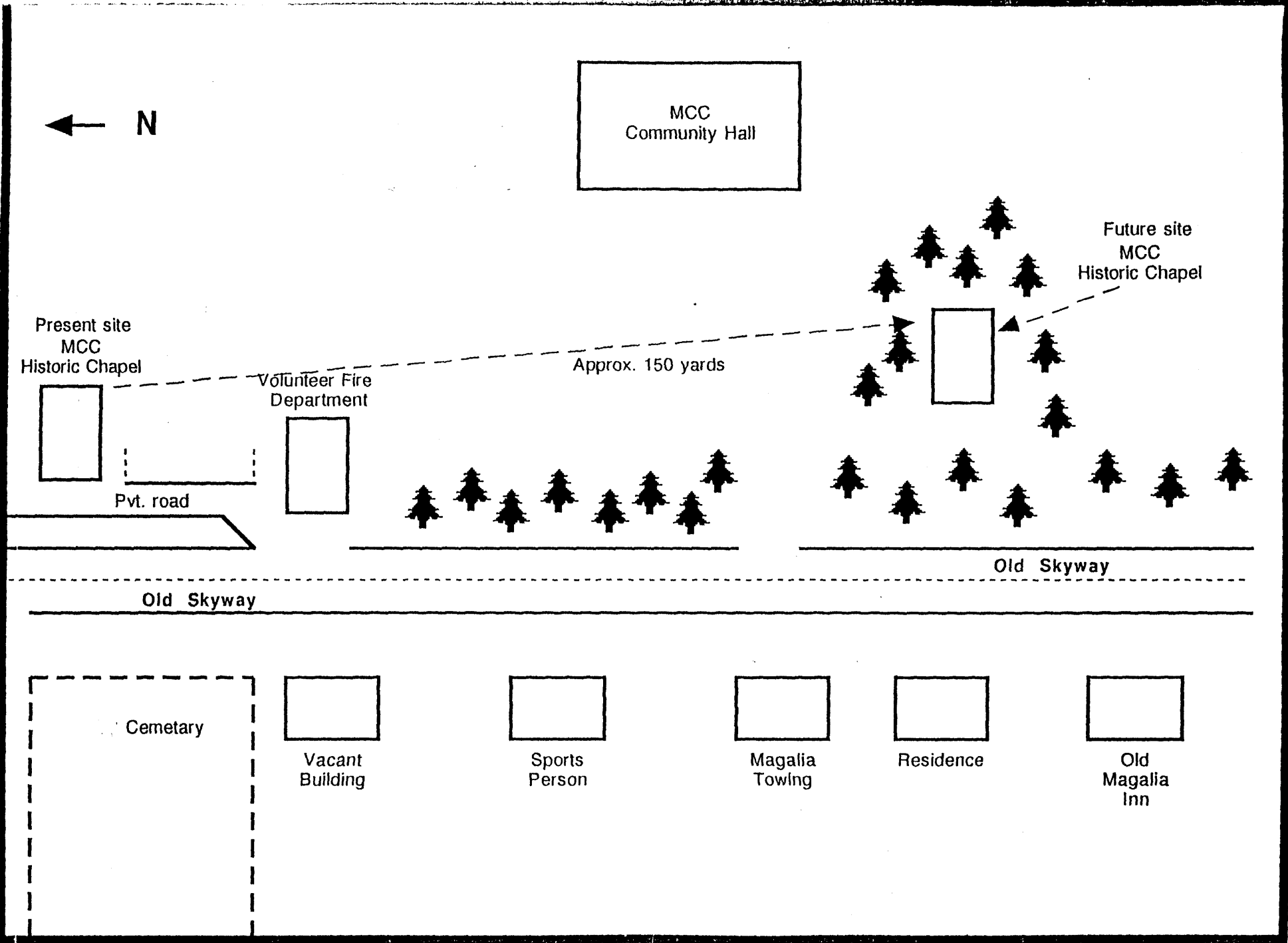


CHEMICAL  
TOILET

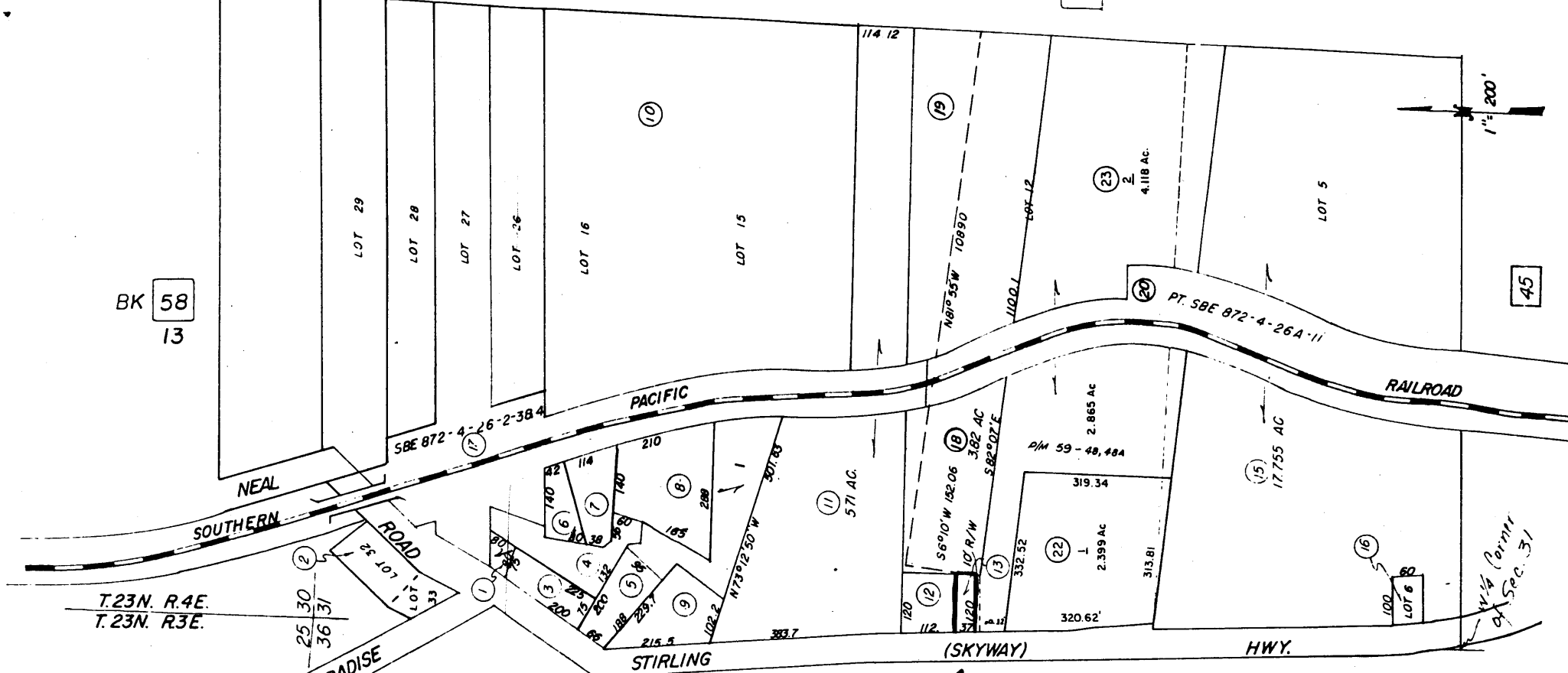
REAR ENTRANCE

JAN 1 1982

20'



Magalia Community Church  
 Sterling Highway  
 Magalia, Butte County, California

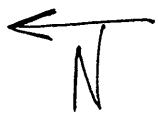


66-47-13

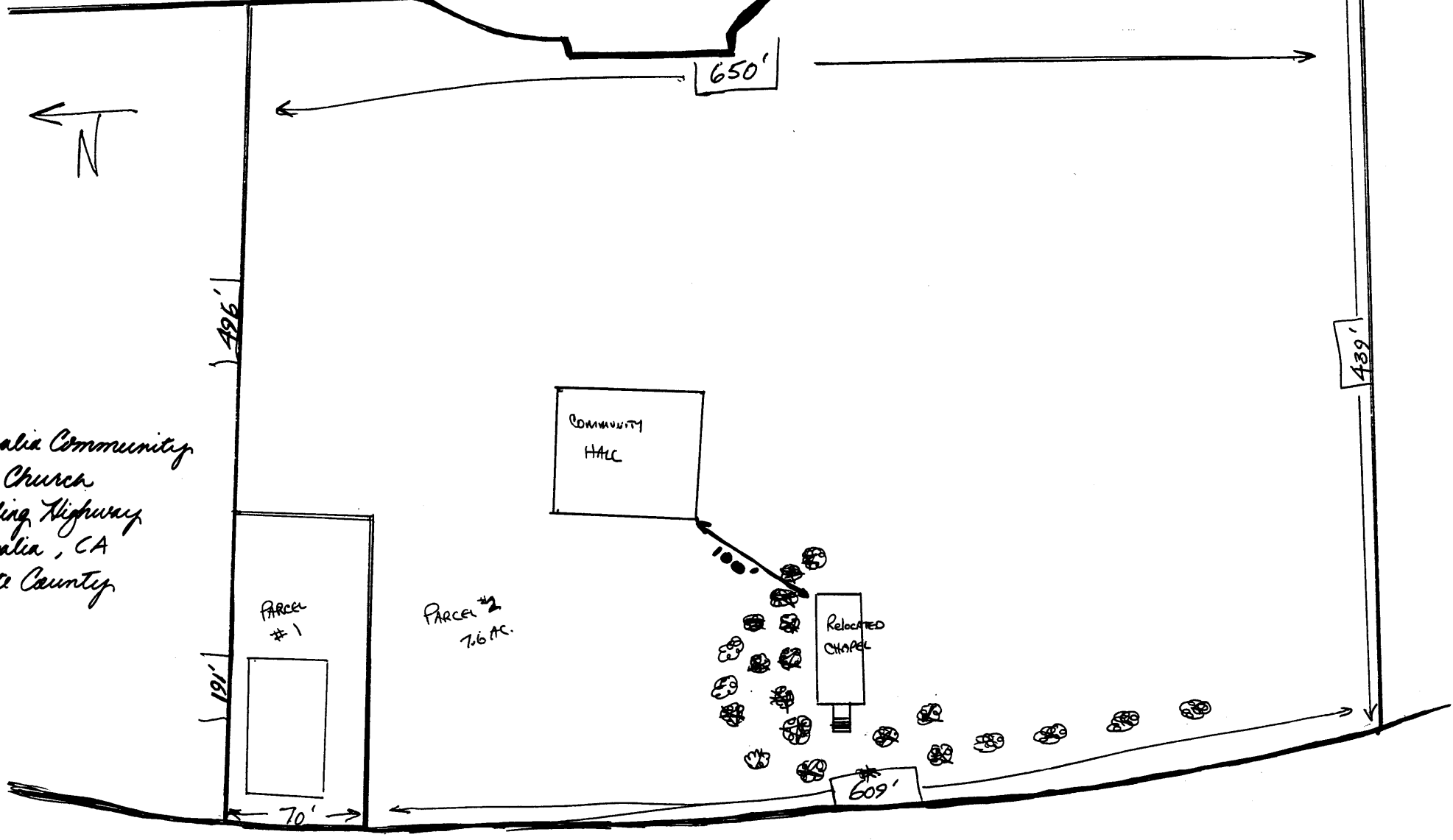
NOTE-ASSESSOR'S PARCEL BLOCK & LOT NUMBERS SHOWN IN CIRCLES



Assessor's Map No. 66 - 47  
 County of Butte, Calif.  
 JAN 11 1982 JANUARY, 1957



Magalia Community  
Church  
Stirling Highway  
Magalia, CA  
Butte County



Parcel #2  
7.6 AC.

609'

OLD SKYWAY



