United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number _____ Page 1

Supplementary Listing Record

NRIS Reference Number: SG100002176 Date Listed: **3/12/2018**

Property Name: Camp Tulelake

County: Siskiyou State: CA

This Property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation

Signature of the Keeper 3/12/2018 Date of Action

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Amended Items in Nomination:

Location:
The location of the property is amended to read: *Hill Road, 2 miles south of intersection with CA Highway 161; World War II Valor in the Pacific NM (Tule Lake Unit)*
[Nominations for federal property should contain reference to the particular park, forest or federal area in which the property is located.]

The NPS FPO and CALIFORNIA SHPO were notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

NPS Form 10-900
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

OMB No. 1024-0018

SG-2176

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Camp Tulelake
Other names/site number: _____
Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing

2. Location

Street & number: Hill Road, 2 miles south of intersection with CA Highway 161
City or town: Tulelake State: California County: Siskiyou
Not For Publication: [ ] Vicinity: [X]

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

X **national** ___ **statewide** X **local**

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X **A** ___ **B** ___ **C** ___ **D**

1/18/2018

Signature of certifying official/Title: **Date**

NPS FPO

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

12/1/17

Jenan Saunders **Date**

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, California State Office of Historic Preservation

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

X entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

3/12/2018
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:	
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	X

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	
District	X
Site	
Structure	
Object	

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	2	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
3	2	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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6. Function or Use
Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC/camp
GOVERNMENT/correctional facility
DEFENSE

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
RECREATION AND CULTURE/museum
LANDSCAPE/park

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
OTHER: Rustic

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: Wood

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Camp Tulelake is approximately five miles west of the town of Tulelake in northeastern California.[1] Built in 1935, the property was originally a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp. In 1943, during World War II, it held Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants who were incarcerated by the United States Government. Between 1944 and 1946, the camp housed German prisoners of war. The district includes three contributing extant buildings: a mess hall, a barracks building, and a garage/storage/shop building. A paint shop/muskrat skinning shed and a pump house remain from the historic period, noncontributing resources due to loss of integrity. The buildings are representative of CCC camp buildings constructed before 1936. The simple, vernacular buildings have an elongated gable roof, wood clad exteriors (usually vertical board and batten siding), multi-pane windows, and porch entrances. Originally oriented around a central courtyard, the extant buildings' positions and functional variety make the historic spatial organization of Camp Tulelake discernible. Integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association of Camp Tulelake are intact. The contributing buildings remain in fair to poor condition.

[1] Tule Lake—the body of water—is spelled with two words, as is the unit of the national monument and the war relocation center. The camp and the town are spelled as one word.

Narrative Description

Camp Tulelake is part of the Tule Lake Unit of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument due to its association with the confinement of Japanese immigrants and their descendants in the United States during World War II. The monument includes nine historic sites in Hawaii, Alaska, and California; eight are World War II battle sites on the Pacific front. The Tule Lake unit, which contains three areas associated with the incarceration of Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants during World War II, is the ninth unit. The other two sites that make up the Tule Lake unit of the monument are the Tule Lake Segregation Center and a bluff called The Peninsula, which was inside the historic boundaries of the segregation center. Camp Tulelake is 66 acres, and it lies within the Tule Lake Wildlife Refuge; the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service co-manage the site.

Camp Tulelake is approximately five miles west of Tulelake, California, and twenty-five miles south of Klamath Falls, Oregon, in the Klamath Basin of northeastern California. The Klamath Basin encompasses the area in northeastern California and southeastern Oregon drained by the Klamath River. The camp is located on the Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge, an area of wetlands and farmlands and an important stop for migrating birds on the Pacific Flyway. The district includes three extant contributing buildings: the mess hall, the barracks building, and the garage/storage/shop building. The extant paint shop/muskrat skinning shed and pump house are noncontributing buildings due to loss of integrity.

The buildings are located several hundred feet from the base of Sheepy Ridge, which runs in a north-south direction. Camp Tulelake is accessed via Hill Road, which bounds the east side of the camp. A barbed wire fence runs parallel to Hill Road and restricts access to the site. A gravel parking area with an interpretive panel is set between the road and the fence just south of the gated road that provides access to the buildings; the dirt road leads from the parking area to the buildings. The road does not date from the historic period; it crosses the spot where two non-extant barracks buildings and the supply and woodworking shop were located. The mess hall is the northernmost building. The barracks building is set in the southeast and the garage is the southernmost extant building. The small pump house is set to the west of the barracks and the paint shop is the southernmost building. The site is grassy, with poplar trees planted by CCC crews and sage interspersed. To the south of the mess hall, a row of poplars demarcates the former parade ground.

The extant buildings at Camp Tulelake are representative of the type of buildings constructed in CCC camps throughout the West before 1936, when prefabricated buildings became standard. The three vernacular, wood frame, contributing buildings and two noncontributing buildings reveal representative design and material choices for CCC camp construction. The buildings are simple, with elongated forms, gable roofs, wood clad exteriors, multi-pane windows and porch entrances. The barracks building has undergone extensive rehabilitation and is in fair condition. The mess hall and the garage/shop/storage building are in poor condition. The buildings together

embody the distinct design characteristics of a CCC camp, and they are rare extant examples of CCC camp buildings in California.

Contributing Buildings

Mess Hall

The mess hall, built in 1935, is the northernmost building in the district. It is one-story, wood frame, with a medium pitched gable roof covered with wood shingles. The building is L-shaped in plan. The interior was an open dining room in the long, rectangular portion of the building, with a kitchen and bakeshop set in an ell off the rear to the north. The kitchen ell rests on a concrete foundation, while the rest of the building sits on wood piers. The exterior siding is largely original board and batten with 2" wide battens. Some of the board and batten siding was covered or replaced with green composition roofing material fastened with 4" wide battens. Simple architectural details of cornerboards, boxed eaves, and fascia boards with corner details enliven the utilitarian building. Six-light windows are arranged at even intervals around the building.

Double doors on the south elevation are protected by a gabled porch supported by simple posts. The single doors on the south and east sides are covered with a shed-roofed hood. Originally, only the central double doors on the south-facing facade were present. Single-entrance doors with shed roof hoods and stoop were added between 1940 and 1961, replacing windows.

The northern wing (the kitchen ell) is 31 feet wide and 46 feet long. Windows are symmetrically arranged on the ell; some have been added since the historic period. The south-facing side gable is 21 feet wide and 84 feet long.

The mess hall was altered in 1961 when the western 42 feet of the building, including a portion of the rectangular mess hall and the bakeshop (approximately 1/4 of the building) was demolished by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The building was converted to living quarters with the interior divided into smaller rooms with separate entrances. The west elevation is the most altered, with asphalt roofing paper covering the wall. Brick chimneys have replaced the gabled, louvered ventilators. While these alterations have affected the integrity of the mess hall, the building contains sufficient integrity to be counted as a contributing resource.

Barracks

Constructed in 1935-1936, this is the only remaining of four identical barracks buildings. It is set south and east of the mess hall, and north of the garage/storage/shop building. It is a one-story, U-shaped building with a medium gable roof. The siding is vertical board and batten. The barracks are simply trimmed with corner boards and a narrow gable trim. The building is set on wood piers.

The barracks consist of three separate elements tied together. The long ells of the U-shape are identical, elongated rectangular volumes, 80 feet long by 20 feet wide. They are each topped with two gabled, louvered ventilators on the roof. The short portion of the U is 35 feet long and is inset slightly from the gable ends of the long axis, and has one ventilator. Three of the original five ventilators remain extant. The U-shape of the building opens to the west. The gable ends each have a single door; the southernmost door is protected by a gabled porch, while the northernmost door is missing the porch roof. Both doors are flanked by six-light multi-pane windows. The doors are wood.

Barracks interiors were open rooms with cots or bunk beds lined against the walls. A central walkway provided access to the center of the room. CCC enrollees would store personal gear in footlockers or wall lockers. At Camp Tulelake, wood stoves were present in each wing. It is unknown if the cross-wing was used as sleeping quarters or as a community area by the enrollees.

The barracks building has been modified over the years. It was remodeled in the 1960s to accommodate a USFWS sign and carpentry shop. A solid security door has been added to the west-facing gable end of the north wing, and a second door has replaced the window, while the other window has been boarded over. All but one of the gable roof porches has been removed, and some windows have been replaced. These alterations occurred at an unknown date before Congress designated the site a unit of the National Park system. The entrance on the east-facing south wing is the most intact. In 2006, a metal roof replaced the old deteriorated wood shingle roof, and 4,000 square feet of the floor was replaced in-kind.

The south wing of the barracks contains four types of graffiti. Most of the graffiti is pencil, and some is ink, crayon, or etchings. Japanese and Kanji (Chinese characters used in the modern Japanese language) characters, 4” by 3”, are set on the west wall. Much larger inscriptions occupy the north wall; here the characters range from 46” by 11” to 46” by 24”. One 15” by 15” character is on the south wall. There are also incised English letters and illegible cursive on these walls.[2]

In a 2006 effort by the USFWS to restore the building to its original look, four windows were reinstalled in their original locations, a stone chimney was removed, and non-original interior walls were removed. The building is in fair condition. The barracks is used for interpretation, and public tours allow access to the building’s interior. It is counted as a contributing resource.

Garage/Storage/Shop Building

Built in 1935, this building lies south of the barracks. It is a wood frame building sheathed with vertical board and batten siding and topped with a metal roof. The one-story, rectangular building appears to follow a standard plan, similar to the barracks, except that vehicle double doors (also used at boat stalls by the USFWS) are arranged along the north wall. Roughly

[2] Rosa Lowinger, Tule Lake Historic Graffiti: Assessment Report and Conservation Treatment Recommendations, July 2014, 31, Lava Beds National Monument Files.

rectangular in plan, the west 70 feet is 10 feet wider than the east portion. The west 42 feet of the building is two-story; the remainder is one-story. Five have vertical plank double doors with strap hinges. The westernmost stall has a vertical plank sliding door on overhead rollers. The east 60 feet of the building has a dirt floor, the central 60 feet is concrete, and the west 42 feet is plank floor. There are small multi-light windows in the west section. Windows are arranged in pairs along the south wall.

The original interior features and floor plan of the shop are intact and include a log column that supports a steel I-beam frame for moving heavy equipment. The CCC initials are stenciled on the wall in the carpentry shop. The westernmost portion of the building was used for storing hand tools and as a repair shop. The wood plank floor, built-in cabinets, and tool stands remain in place.

On the building's north wall, there is a 33" by 36" graphite drawing of a mountain, trees and sun. Also on that wall is a graphite drawing titled, "Sack Time in the Sack Room." Other drawings, including a mountain with feet, and indecipherable words are set on the east wall. A drawing of small stylized human feet, and incised letters 12" high, occupies the south wall. A date on the north wall indicates at least some of the writing or drawings were done in the 1950s, after the period of significance.[3]

The building is in poor physical condition. The south portion of the building has experienced alterations of the roof structure. Floor joists in the west end are unsound, and portions of plank floor have collapsed. Window panes, muntins, and surrounds are missing. Siding is warped and peeling away from the structural frame. However, due to the integrity of the interior, and of location, setting, feeling and association, the building retains enough integrity to be counted as a contributing resource.

Noncontributing Buildings

Paint Shop/Muskrat Skinning Shed

This paint shop, built in 1935, measures 26 feet by 30 feet and is located south of the garage/storage/shop building. It was altered in 1963 for use as a lumber drying and storage facility for the USFWS Regional Sign Shop, and bears little resemblance to the original wood frame shed. The open sided building is rectangular in plan and rests on a concrete slab. The gable roof and upper gable ends are covered with sheet metal and shelter the steel racks used for stacking lumber. The building no longer retains integrity due to the extensive changes.

Pump House

The westernmost building in the district, this small building was constructed in 1935 and rebuilt in 1952 by the USFWS. Square in plan, it is a wood framed building with a concrete foundation

[3] Lowinger, 31.

and shed roof. Exterior walls are covered with asphalt roofing material. It is in fair condition, with the siding beginning to deteriorate, and it no longer retains integrity due to the extensive alterations.

Integrity

Camp Tulelake retains integrity as a district. With its simple, utilitarian buildings arranged in a standard plan, it conveys the characteristics of CCC camp design. Although components lack individual distinction, the buildings create a significant entity. Their positions and functional variety make the historic spatial organization of Camp Tulelake discernible. A sufficient amount of original fabric remains to clearly evoke the historic associations of the period in which Camp Tulelake gained significance. The camp retains enough integrity to clearly convey its association with the CCC camp era, the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants, and the confinement of prisoners of war.

The integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association of Camp Tulelake are intact. The three contributing buildings are in their original locations, and together they help convey the spatial arrangement of the complex. Camp Tulelake's setting, within the remote agricultural landscape of the Tule Lake Wildlife Refuge, has changed little since the historic period. The natural landscape appears as it did when the camp was first developed.

Although the poor physical condition of the buildings detracts from the integrity of materials, and the loss of the majority of the buildings and landscape features affects integrity of design, much of the building fabric is original, enabling the camp to retain its overall feeling and association. Vertical board and batten exterior walls and some original multi-pane windows remain on the three contributing buildings to give evidence of the builders' intent. Integrity of workmanship has also been affected by deterioration. These buildings, however, were utilitarian and did not originally involve a high degree of craftsmanship. The remaining buildings convey their historic qualities and a clear sense of the camp’s layout, and the association between Camp Tulelake and the events with which it is linked remain intact.

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.)

- [X] 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.)

- [ ] A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- [ ] B. Removed from its original location
- [ ] C. A birthplace or grave
- [ ] D. A cemetery
- [ ] E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- [ ] F. A commemorative property
- [ ] G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
MILITARY
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
ETHNIC HERITAGE: Asian
CONSERVATION

Period of Significance
1935-1946

Significant Dates
1935
1943
1944

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Civilian Conservation Corps

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Camp Tulelake is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the national level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of Politics/Government, Military History, and Ethnic Heritage: Asian for its association with the incarceration of Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants in the United States during World War II. Camp Tulelake is associated with one of the most bitter and divisive events of the incarceration—the loyalty questionnaire. The property is eligible at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of Politics/Government and Conservation for its association with the Civilian Conservation Corps program in California. The camp represents New Deal-era efforts to improve farmlands and wildlife habitat in the Klamath Basin area of northeastern California and southern Oregon. The camp is also eligible at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of Politics/Government and Military History for its use as a prisoner of war labor camp for Germans captured in Europe and Africa and brought to work on Klamath Basin farms. The period of significance for Camp Tulelake is 1935 to 1946. The period begins when the Civilian Conservation Corps camp was established, continues through the period of incarceration of Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants (collectively known as Nikkei) followed by German prisoners of war, and ends in 1946 when the camp reverted to use by the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Narrative is presented in chronological order rather than prioritized by significance.

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was part of the federal government effort to alleviate the economic catastrophe of the Great Depression. From 1933 to 1942, the CCC employed three million young men, and their work profoundly altered the landscape of public lands in the United States. The efforts of the men stationed at Camp Tulelake in the development and maintenance of Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge and Lava Beds National Monument and their reclamation work in the Klamath Basin helped to transform the natural and built environment of northeastern California and southern Oregon. Each CCC camp was an important part of the CCC program, since it served as the site for the training and care of the young men who had enlisted in the program.

Camp Tulelake is one of the few remaining CCC camps left in California, and is the only camp remaining of thirty that existed in the Klamath Basin. There were 405 separate CCC camps in California and more than 4,500 across the country over the nine-year history of the program. Former camps in Santa Barbara and Kenworthy are extant and remain in use, while remnants of the Pine Valley, California camp remain unused. A very few scattered and isolated buildings remain of other camps in the state. Seven CCC camps, in other states, have been listed on the National Register. The best example is the Rabideau CCC Camp in Minnesota, with twelve

contributing buildings; it has been designated as a National Historic Landmark. Other camps have been listed with only a single extant building.

Camp Tulelake was built in 1935 by CCC enrollees working under the Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) program during the Great Depression. The unemployment rate had reached 25 percent in 1933, and the number was even higher for young men. President Franklin D. Roosevelt created the ECW program in 1933 as part of the Federal Unemployment Relief Act. The program was one of Roosevelt's solutions to the economic calamity of the Great Depression, and one that was based on the president's own interest in the conservation of natural resources. Roosevelt had served as chairman of the New York Committee on Forest, Fish and Game while in the state legislature, and in that position he enabled the passage of the first New York legislation on supervised forestry. As New York's governor, forest management remained a priority, and his interest in conservation had broadened by the time he was elected president in 1932.[4]

Legislation establishing the ECW passed at the end of March, only three weeks after Roosevelt's inauguration. It was part of a series of fifteen major laws passed during the president's first one hundred days that set into motion many New Deal relief and recovery programs. Upon signing the bill, Roosevelt indicated he would like the program operational within just two weeks. The CCC was established to carry out the work of the ECW and to employ large numbers of young men in conservation work on public lands. The program was jointly administered by the Departments of the Army, Interior, Agriculture, and Labor. The Labor Department recruited men, the Army established and maintained CCC camps, and the National Park Service (in the Interior Department) and Forest Service (in the Agriculture Department) coordinated and supervised CCC work on public lands.[5]

Only unemployed single men between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five were eligible for the CCC. They worked in the program for at least six months and no longer than two years. Each enrollee received food, clothing, shelter, and a thirty-dollar per month stipend; he was required to send twenty-five dollars of each paycheck back to his family. Government officials hoped not to simply employ young men, but to teach job skills, to instill a love of the outdoors, and to impart a "wholesome outlook on life" through hard labor. About one-quarter of all CCC work was park and recreation development, often in national and state parks, while much of the rest of the program focused on forestry, soil erosion, and reclamation. The CCC employed local experienced laborers to work with enrollees. These men did not have to meet the general eligibility requirements, and their work helped to support the local community. Nearby towns were economically stimulated by the purchase of supplies and materials for CCC projects.[6]

[4] John C. Paige, *The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service* (Washington D.C.: National Park Service, 1985), 6.
[5] Joseph Engbeck, *By the People For the People: The Work of the Civilian Conservation Corps in California State Parks* (Sacramento: California State Parks, 2002), 3-4.
[6] Paige, 7-9; Engbeck, 3-4.

By July of 1933, only three months after Congress passed the ECW legislation, almost 250,000 men had enlisted in the program. At its peak in August of 1935, about 506,000 men served in 2,900 camps across the nation. Throughout the Depression, the CCC employed about five percent of the male population of the United States. Crews performed an unprecedented amount of work on the nation's public lands. Enrollees worked in nearly all the national forests and parks, in state forest and park areas, in wildlife refuges and on agricultural lands. The CCC planted over 2 billion trees, built 126,000 roads and trails, and spent almost 6.5 million man-days fighting fires. James J. McEntee, the second director of the CCC, noted that the CCC advanced natural resources conservation in such fields as reforestation and erosion control, completing in less than ten years what would have otherwise taken twenty-five to thirty-five years, and providing labor worth an estimated value of $1,750,000,000.[7]

In 1935, Camp Tulelake, numbered BR-21, signifying that it was a Bureau of Reclamation camp, was established as a CCC camp in the Tule Lake Wildlife Refuge, about five miles west of the town of Tulelake, California and one mile from the wildlife refuge headquarters.[8] Tule Lake was one of forty national wildlife refuges in which CCC camps were established. In these areas, crews improved wildlife habitat, built infrastructure, worked on reclamation and flood control, planted trees and vegetation, and even rehabilitated wildlife. The Bureau of Reclamation administered the camp, along with others in the Klamath Basin. Construction at Camp Tulelake began in June 1935 and the initial phase was completed in October. The first contingent of enrollees, Company 544 from Fort Knox, Kentucky, arrived the same month.[9]

When completed, Camp Tulelake consisted of twenty-three major buildings and assorted auxiliary buildings. Administrative offices, barracks, army living quarters, a mess hall and kitchen, and a hospital were grouped around a 40,000 square foot courtyard and intersected by two rock-lined walkways. The service area was located south of the courtyard. In addition to six large storage and garage buildings, numerous small machine and equipment storage buildings, as well as a gas pump and oil house, were located here. All of the major buildings in the camp were wood framed; most had vertical board and batten siding, though some had horizontal drop siding with corner boards. The buildings had simple post and beam foundation, with the exception of some service buildings that had concrete block foundations. All had gable roofs. Fenestration was simple, with small, multilight fixed pane and casement windows.[10]

Camp Tulelake was typical of the more than 4,000 CCC camps built. The average camp had twenty-four buildings, including a kitchen and mess hall, barracks, recreational building, school building (education of enrollees was a priority), infirmary, and quarters for the officers and enlisted personnel. Each camp followed a standard plan with barracks arranged in a block or around a parade ground with a separate shop and vehicle area. Most camps had food, health,

[7] Rolf Anderson, *National Historical Landmark nomination, Rabideau CCC Camp, Beltrami County, MN*, 2006, 25.
[8] CCC companies 2514 and 1910 constructed the facility.
[9] Gail Throop, "Utterly Visionary and Chimerical: A Federal Response to the Depression, an Examination of Civilian Conservation Corps Construction on National Forest Lands in the Pacific Northwest," (M.A. Thesis, Portland State University, 1979), 10-11.
[10] LouAnn Speulda, Historic American Buildings Survey Report, *Camp Tulelake*, 1997, 12-14.

educational, religious, and entertainment facilities along with blacksmithing, plumbing, and automotive repair facilities. Buildings were wood framed, with exterior wood siding that was often creosoted or covered with tar paper. The typical CCC complex was located relatively near a town, in a landscaped setting with access to roads and a water source.[11]

Camp Tulelake's arrangement follows this common pattern, and it differed from the standard camp design only slightly. The arrangement of U-shaped barracks, back to back, with an offset single barrack, varied from the more usual design of rows of barracks facing each other. Most other aspects of the camp's design, including the grouping of buildings around a central courtyard and the placement of vehicle garages and equipment repair shops away from the housing area, followed the standard plan. The trees that remain near the mess hall and the paint shed indicate the borders of the courtyard; these plantings, around a central courtyard, were typical. In 1936, CCC director Robert Fechner mandated that all CCC camp buildings be prefabricated and portable. As a result, most camp buildings constructed from that point on were short-lived after they had served their original purpose. The extant buildings at Camp Tulelake, built on-site in 1935, remain as rare examples of their type. [12]

Enrollees at Camp Tulelake were assigned to conservation and reclamation work at Tule Lake Wildlife Refuge and in other parts of the Klamath Project in northeastern California and southeastern Oregon. The Klamath Project, which includes the wildlife refuge, was undertaken to provide farmers in the region with water as well as to create farmland from drained wetlands. Farmers in this northeastern California area had first diverted water for irrigation purposes in 1882. To increase agricultural prospects in the area, the Secretary of the Interior authorized the reclamation of land in the Klamath Basin in 1905. That year, the Bureau of Reclamation diverted water from the Lost River (which fed Tule Lake) to the Klamath River, an effort that included building Clear Lake Dam, Lost River Dam, and associated irrigation structures, in order to convert the 96,000-acre Tule Lake into farmland. Though President Calvin Coolidge designated the 11,000-acre wildlife refuge in 1928, the lake's waters were still part of the reclamation project, and its wetlands were still subject to draining and conversion to farmland.[13]

Between 1935 and 1942, enrollees from Camp Tulelake completed a number of important projects at Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge. They constructed an administrative headquarters and a supervisor's residence (still extant) as well as a lookout cabin high on a bluff behind the headquarters that allowed staff to survey the refuge. The enrollees landscaped the headquarters grounds and constructed several hundred feet of lava rock walls. The men also built quarters for the refuge staff, a patrol cabin, fences, pipelines, roads, bridges, dikes, and nesting islands for bird habitat. They cleared miles of canals and rip-rapped the Lost River channel. In 1940 and 1941, Camp Tulelake crews raised the dam at Clear Lake and improved the Ady Canal, an

[11] Paige, 61.
[12] Paige, 61.
[13] E.L. Stevens, "History of Tule Lake Division Including Modoc Unit," Bureau of Reclamation: Klamath Falls Unit, 1952, 1-4.

important waterway that still serves the area. They constructed concrete and wooden water control units to regulate irrigation flow.[14]

The men provided support for many other tasks needed by the refuge including pest control, seed collection, weed eradication, and wildlife feeding. They also established a tree nursery and planted 35,000 trees, including pine, Chinese elm, Russian olive, poplars, and silver maples, for windbreaks. One of their most unique tasks included the rescue and treatment of sick ducks at a duck hospital, a building constructed by CCC crews, where the men treated up to sick 7,000 ducks each year.[15]

In 1936, the enrollees constructed roads to Lava Beds National Monument, nine miles south of Camp Tulelake. At the park, they developed or improved roads, completed trail improvements in caves, and performed fire hazard reduction. Camp Tulelake men also joined crews from other camps to fight forest fires, in Lava Beds National Monument as well as in surrounding areas.[16]

In CCC camps across the United States, work slowed around 1940 as men began leaving the camp to serve in the military. Increased defense spending as the nation mobilized for World War II meant that more jobs, and higher wage jobs, were available, and this also reduced the numbers of unemployed men available to join the CCC. Despite the continued support of President Roosevelt, Congress discontinued the CCC program in 1942. By that time, 2 million enrollees had worked in CCC camps across the nation's public lands.[17]

Camp Tulelake was abandoned by the CCC in the summer of 1942, when the program ended. Some buildings were left in place at the camp, which was unusual. Typically, when camps were closed, the Army removed the buildings and sold as surplus any non-essential materials or buildings. This was easy to do with the prefabricated and portable CCC buildings constructed after 1936, but the Camp Tulelake buildings were built in place. In the decades that followed, the buildings were utilized by the Fish and Wildlife Service for activities relating to management of Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

CCC crews based at Camp Tulelake reshaped the natural and built environment of the Klamath Basin, and evidence of their work remains apparent at the refuge and at the monument in the buildings and structures they left behind. The stone lookout, a residence, garage, a shop, rock walls, and a fountain built by the men still define the wildlife refuge headquarters environment. The Ady Canal as well as other extant irrigation structures are important tangible evidence of Camp Tulelake's role in developing the Klamath Basin.[18]

[14] Stevens, 1-4.
[15] Bureau of Reclamation, "Period Report of Emergency Conservation Work Camps Under the Bureau of Reclamation, Klamath Project, 1936." The ducks often suffered from avian botulism, which was (and is) common in the area.
[16] Frederick Brown, *The Center of the World, the Edge of the World: A History of Lava Beds National Monument,* (National Park Service, 2009), 316.
[17] Paige, 91.
[18] Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Annual Report. December 1938-April 1941. Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters, Tulelake, CA.

Japanese American and Japanese Immigrant Incarceration

Following CCC and Fish and Wildlife Service activities, Camp Tulelake was used for a far different purpose beginning in 1943—the incarceration of Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants. When the United States entered World War II in 1941, almost 113,000 people of Japanese ancestry, two-thirds of whom were American citizens, were living in West Coast states. In February of 1942, at the urging of West Coast governors and politicians, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which allowed the US military to forcibly remove all persons of Japanese descent, including American citizens, from areas along the West Coast. At the time, political leaders and the military justified the forced removal as a military necessity. Most historians see the removal of Japanese Americans as part of a long history of anti-Asian prejudice in the United States.[19]

In 1942, the War Relocation Authority (WRA) was created to remove the Japanese immigrant (Issei) and Japanese American (Nisei and Sansei) population en masse from the West Coast. Political leaders had initially believed that persons of Japanese descent (and German and Italian aliens) would voluntarily move away from the designated military areas. The assets of most Issei had been frozen with the onset of war, and most did not have the financial resources to move to another state. Several thousand did manage to move further east, out of the restricted zones, and many others who tried were denied entry into inland states.[20] With no due process or instances of sabotage or espionage, people of Japanese ancestry living on the West Coast were forced to leave their homes and businesses. They were allowed to take with them only items that they could carry, and they were given little time to arrange for care and disposal of property and personal items. Americans of German or Italian descent did not face the same mass evacuation. As catastrophic as this was to people of Japanese descent in the United States, few Americans paid much attention to the removal.[21]

Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants (collectively known as Nikkei) were sent to WRA camps where most were imprisoned for about three years. In 1943, detainees were asked to fill out a questionnaire that assessed their loyalty to the US government and their willingness to serve in combat or in an associated role. Those who refused to participate or who answered no to one or both loyalty questions were labeled disloyal by the government. Camp Tulelake was used to confine one hundred of these disloyal men from the nearby War Relocation Authority camp at Tule Lake. Camp Tulelake also housed Japanese American strikebreakers who replaced striking farm laborers from the Tule Lake camp.

[19] Barbara Wyatt, *Japanese Americans in World War II*, National Historic Landmark Theme Study, (Washington, DC: National Park Service, 2012), 18-24; Roger Daniels, *Prisoners Without Trial: Japanese-Americans in World War II*, (New York: Hill and Wang, 2004), 3-5. In 1981, a presidential commission concluded that internment was not a military necessity and had not been enacted due to an analysis of military information, but rather "race prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of leadership."
[20] Wyatt, 24-28.
[21] Tetsudan Kashima, *Judgment without Trial: Japanese-American Imprisonment during World War II*, (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2003), 3-5;.

Camp Tulelake is part of the Tule Lake Unit of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument. The associated Tule Lake Segregation Center is the largest site in the national monument, and is a National Historic Landmark (NHL). Many sites associated with the World War II confinement of Nikkei have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places or designated as NHLs. Camp Tulelake, as the detention site for Nikkei that were deemed disloyal and segregated from other Japanese American detainees, is most analogous to an isolation center operated by the War Department in Moab, Utah. The Moab Isolation Center—also known as Dalton Wells—which operated for four months, was also a CCC camp turned into a prison for disloyal Nikkei or those that the WRA wanted to segregate from other detainees, and it is listed on the National Register at the national level of significance. There are no remaining buildings from either the CCC or World War II period at the Moab Isolation Center—it is listed as a site.[22]

In the spring of 1942, Nikkei living along the West Coast were told to report to assembly centers, which were often hastily converted stables at fairgrounds or racetracks where unsanitary conditions were the norm. Nikkei were then sent into one of ten WRA camps in Idaho, California, Arizona, Arkansas, Utah, Colorado, or Wyoming. [23] One of the ten camps was the Tule Lake War Relocation Center, which opened in May of 1942 about twelve miles southeast of the former CCC camp Camp Tulelake in northeastern California. With a peak population of almost 19,000, the Tule Lake War Relocation Center became the largest of the incarceration camps with about one-quarter of those who were incarcerated passing through Tule Lake. The relocation centers were set in bleak, remote areas, fenced with barbed wire and guarded by armed soldiers. In nearly all of the camps, detainees endured a harsh climate that included hot summers, cold winters, and constant wind and dust. Detainees lived in small one-room apartments in wood barracks, with little privacy or comfort, within a larger barrack that was shared with other families. Families of up to six people were expected to live in the one-room apartment during their time in camp. Life inside camps was harsh, with overcrowding, poor medical care, and food shortages.[24]

Camp Tulelake is associated with one of the most bitter and divisive episodes of internment—the loyalty review. The War Department and the WRA began the loyalty review in 1943 as a way to begin the process of release from the camps. There were a variety of reasons that the government began thinking about releasing detainees. Some in the WRA had come to believe that detainees should be resettled in cities outside the West Coast, and that college-age individuals should be allowed to attend universities in the East and Midwest. The US military needed Japanese language translators and interpreters for gathering military intelligence, and it also sought young male volunteers to join segregated Nisei combat units. The WRA first evaluated detainees on a

[22] Two other former CCC camps—at Antelope Springs, Utah, and Cow Creek, California—were used by the War Relocation Authority as internment camp auxiliary facilities. There are no extant buildings or structures at Antelope Springs. Some CCC buildings remain at Cow Creek, interspersed among more modern buildings in a service area at Death Valley National Park. Cow Creek was determined eligible for the National Register at the national level of significance by the California State Historic Preservation Officer.
[23] Wyatt, 35-36.
[24] Wyatt, 22; Kashima, *Judgment without Trial: Japanese-American Imprisonment during World War II*, 3-5.

case-by-case basis, and then provided assistance with employment or education outside the West Coast, but the process was slow.[25]

In order to facilitate the process of relocation, the Army and the WRA created a questionnaire to gauge an individual's loyalty to the United States government. The Army distributed one version of the questionnaire, "Statement of United States Citizens of Japanese Ancestry," to draft age Nisei males. The WRA created another version for other individuals in the camps, including women and older men, titled "War Relocation Authority Application for Leave Clearance." Both questionnaires contained similar questions that purported to assess the test taker's loyalty. Question 27 of the Army questionnaire required draft age males to state if they were willing to serve in the armed forces in combat; others taking the WRA questionnaire were asked if they would serve in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps or Army Nurse Corps. Question 28 asked for an oath of allegiance to the United States, and asked the individual if they would defend the United States from attack, and foreswear allegiance to the Japanese emperor and any other foreign power. If the test taker answered yes to both questions, they could be eligible to leave the camp for a destination in the Midwest or eastern United States. The detainee also had to find a sponsor, such as an employer. For example, Seabrook Farms, a producer of frozen vegetables in New Jersey, sponsored 2,300 Nikkei from the camps. The US government labeled detainees that answered no to either question 27 and 28, or who refused to participate, "disloyal." [26]

At Tule Lake War Relocation Center, the program began in February of 1943, with no advance warning and no discussion between officials and the detainees. The hardships of camp life and distrust of a government that incarcerated its own citizens without due process fostered much suspicion toward the program. Teams administering the survey faced a hostile population. Detainees were told that they faced prison time, fines, and the possibility of being prosecuted under the Espionage Act if they did not complete the questionnaire. WRA officials quickly learned that they could not, in fact, prosecute individuals that did not take the questionnaire, but they did not pass this information along to the detainees.[27]

The loyalty questions were confusing and poorly worded, and they left detainees unsure of how to answer. Some thought that the questions might be trick questions—how could one disavow allegiance to an emperor to whom they never felt allegiance? Issei were not eligible for American citizenship, and they were being asked to renounce the Japanese government, a move that could leave them without citizenship to any nation. Women, who completed the form titled "Application for Leave Clearance," did not know if participation meant they would be removed from camp and separated from their families. Others refused to answer the questionnaire on principle. Their lives had been shattered, and they were enraged at being asked to swear loyalty to a government that had treated them in this way. Many felt that they had shown their loyalty

[25] Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. *Personal Justice Denied: Report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians.* (Seattle: University of Washington Press), 1991), 185-190.
[26] Kashima, *Judgment without Trial*, 160-162; Wyatt, 44.
[27] Harold Stanley Jacoby, *Tule Lake: From Relocation to Segregation* (Grass Valley: Comstock Bonanza Press, 1996), 79; Kashima, 163.

when they obeyed the removal order and were forced into camp. Some detainees who may have been eligible for resettlement in Midwestern or Eastern cities were reluctant to start over in an unfamiliar place, especially if other family members, particularly aging parents, were not cleared to accompany them. Some, like Kentaro Takatsui, had parents or relatives living in Japan; Takatsui said, in a letter to the WRA, that he failed to answer the questions because he could not point a gun at his parents. Finally, some feared that their answers might lead to punishment.[28]

Draft age men had particular reason to scorn the program. They had suffered great personal injustice, and were now being asked if they would enter combat service to fight for liberty and justice. The United States had entered World War II under the guise of fighting fascism and defending democracy, but Nisei had been incarcerated based solely on their race. Those that had tried to enlist in the military at the war's onset began had been told they were classified as enemy aliens by the US government. German and Italian Americans had been allowed to enlist under normal draft procedures. In addition, the idea of a racially segregated combat unit proved abhorrent to some. Furthermore, it was unclear if answering yes to question 27 was tantamount to volunteering for combat. Some Nisei indicated that they would be willing to enlist if their families were released, but the WRA considered any conditional answer to be a no. Ultimately, some did answer yes to both loyalty questions and enlist in the military. The all-Nisei combined 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team became one of the most decorated US Army units.[29]

The loyalty review was, for many, the most painful event of the entire internment. Friendships and family relationships became fraught; many were shunned due to their answers. Groups and individuals pressured others to answer the questions a certain way. At Tule Lake, resisters tried to prevent others from participating. Rumors flew about who did or did not participate or answer no to questions 27 and 28. Many families were afraid of being torn apart if they did not answer the questions in the same way, and they placed family solidarity above other issues when choosing their answers. Detainees who challenged the program were denounced by the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), an organization founded in 1929 to promote civil rights that was active in camp affairs and believed in cooperation with government officials. The JACL contended that answering yes to questions 27 and 28 would help prove the loyalty of Japanese Americans to the United States. The divide between those who answered yes to the questions and those who answered no continued within the community for decades after the camps closed.[30]

Detainee Frank Kageta sums up the conflict as "the most tragic, as well as traumatic, thing that happened to me during my stay at Tule Lake." He describes, "We were forced into concentration camps by the government, and then we were being forced into taking a loyalty oath. Furthermore, at this point there was no indication of what the consequences would be for refusing." Frank's barracks section, Block 42, held meetings on the issue, and the residents

[28] Kashima, 162-163; Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. *Personal Justice Denied*, 191-192; Phil Shigakuni and Paul Tsuneishi, "Resistance Leader Joins JACL: An Interview with Kentaro "Ken" Takatsui, *Pacific Citizen* Vol. 131, No. 8 (August 11, 2000).
[29] Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, *Personal Justice Denied*, 193-194; Wyatt, 47.
[30] Ibid., 191-195.

collectively decided not to sign the loyalty oath. WRA officials repeatedly visited the protesters in an effort to have them complete the questionnaire, and a group of about 35 refused. Frank kept up his part of the pact, but some believed he had capitulated. "Rumors were numerous and sinister…I was pointedly accused by my peers as having been seen going in to the administration office to sign the questionnaire."[31]

At the Tule Lake War Relocation Center, where the questionnaire was given with no advance warning and no discussion, about 3,000 people refused to participate, and many others answered no to either or both questions 27 and 28. Forty percent of people incarcerated at Tule Lake were ultimately deemed disloyal for refusing to register or for answering no, which was the highest percentage of any camp. As a 1981 presidential commission study concluded, "They were the answers of people unhappy with the way they'd been treated, enraged at the government, and discouraged about their future in the United States." In centers where government managers consulted with leaders of the general population and allowed discussion about the questionnaire, such as Minidoka, a high percentage of detainees participated and answered yes to both loyalty questions. The Western Defense Command of the Army, ignoring the myriad reasons that may have led an internee to refuse to register or to answer no on the questionnaire, interpreted the results to mean that there were, indeed, many disloyal detainees.[32]

In March of 1943, about one hundred detainees were removed from Tule Lake War Relocation Center and sent to Camp Tulelake, five miles away, due to the fact that they answered no to one or both loyalty questions or refused to take the survey. Some of the removals from the camp were harrowing. People living in Block 42, many of whom refused to participate in the loyalty program, found their block surrounded by soldiers carrying rifles and bayonets one evening during dinner. Some of the men were separated from the rest of the population and taken to jails in Klamath Falls and Alturas. Likely because there was no legal basis for the men to be held in county jail, they were moved to Camp Tulelake after a week. At no point were the prisoners told why they had been removed from the war relocation center, though they knew that none of the group had answered yes to the loyalty questions.[33]

The new residents of Camp Tulelake had to perform significant work in order to make the facility, which had sat empty since the CCC had left the previous year, fit for human habitation. The first groups to arrive cleaned the barracks and the mess hall. The men installed new stovepipes, repaired the sewer system, replaced lighting and plumbing fixtures, replaced and repaired doors, and tidied the grounds around the camp. The initial arrivals settled into one barrack; a second barrack was soon occupied by another group of resisters from the Tule Lake War Relocation Center. While at Camp Tulelake, the men worked on maintenance projects for the Army, such as repairing Army vehicles, and also on construction projects within the Tule

[31] Ibid., 194-195.
[32] Ibid., 195; Kashima,
[33] Tom Ikeda and Barbara Takei, Jim M. Tanimoto Oral Interveiw, December 10, 2009, http://archive.densho.org/Core/ArchiveItem.aspx?i=denshovh-tjim-01-0017; Martha Nakagawa, "Taking a Stand: Block 42," *Rafu Shimpo Los Angeles Japanese Daily News*, December 10, 2009; Barbara Takei, *Tule Lake Block 42: A Little Known Story of Japanese-American Resistance.* Nichi Bei Times, January 1, 2009.

Lake Wildlife Refuge, such as digging trenches and pouring concrete for a new garage. The detainees worked under close supervision. Their every move was watched by armed soldiers, and they were accompanied by these soldiers at all times, even on minor errands. One person remembers that army guards were "armed to the teeth" with submachine guns.[34]

One incident in particular underscored the seriousness of captivity at Camp Tulelake. One night, without warning, the men were roused from bed by their captors and ordered outside into the dark. Floodlights were turned upon the group, and they saw they were faced with about twenty soldiers surrounding a machine gun. The soldiers, who had stationed themselves about fifteen yards in front of the group, loaded their rifles. Some of the soldiers, Camp Tulelake detainee Jim Tanimoto remembers, appeared eager to shoot the group. The Japanese Americans thought that they had been brought in front of a firing squad. An Army officer told the group repeatedly that he would not permit anyone to escape during their stay. Then the group was abruptly dismissed without incident.[35]

Camp Tulelake served as a War Relocation Authority Detention Facility for disloyal detainees from Tule Lake between March and May of 1943. Before the men's transfer, they had not been charged with a crime, and there had been no legal basis for their removal from Tule Lake. Many had short stays at Camp Tulelake. After two weeks, there was a renewed effort to get the men to sign the loyalty oath, and the WRA held informal hearings with each individual. Most still refused to register, but the consequences of their actions differed. The Army believed that Jim Tanimoto, only 19 years old, had been influenced by older friends and relatives when he decided not to participate in registration, and they moved him back to the Tule Lake War Relocation Center after two weeks. His oldest brother, Mike, was sent to an isolation center near Moab, Utah, often called Dalton Wells, as punishment, along with six or seven other men from Block 42.[36]

Since more than forty percent of detainees at the Tule Lake War Relocation Center were deemed disloyal, the camp was converted into a segregation center—a maximum security camp for detainees labeled disloyal by the government. Detainees from other camps who had answered no to questions 27 and 28 or refused to answer were moved to the Tule Lake Segregation Center, while some people confined at Tule Lake who answered yes to both questions were sent to one of the nine other WRA camps. After the conversion to a segregation center, some of the men at Camp Tulelake were moved back to Tule Lake. Others were transferred to prisons or isolation centers run by the Justice Department and the US Army, and in May 1943, Camp Tulelake was empty again.[37]

Later that year, Camp Tulelake housed Japanese American detainees brought in from two other WRA camps to work on local farms. The farm work had been done by Tule Lake Segregation Center detainees, but after a truck transporting workers overturned and killed one man and

[34] Tom Ikeda and Barbara Takei, Jim M. Tanimoto Oral Interview; Nakagawa, "Taking a Stand: Block 42."
[35] Jim Tanimoto oral interview; Nakagawa, "Taking a Stand: Block 42."
[36] Jim Tanimoto oral interview; Nakagawa, "Taking a Stand: Block 42."
[37] Daniels, 41-43.

injured others, workers went on strike. Tule Lake administrators fired the strikers and brought in individuals from other camps who had no knowledge of the strike to harvest farm crops for the rest of the season. The strikebreakers were housed at Camp Tulelake for their own protection. The strikers were outraged to learn that the strikebreakers were paid significantly more for their fieldwork than they had been; this insult compounded the anger they felt after the US government denied compensation to the injured workers and the widow of the man that was killed. In November of 1943, segregation center detainees protested by blocking shipments of food bound for the strikebreakers at Camp Tulelake. As a result of the unrest, the segregation center was placed under martial law and occupied by the US Army. Harvest season ended, the strikebreakers returned to their camps, and Camp Tulelake closed again by the end of the year. [38]

German Prisoner of War Agricultural Labor

In 1944, Camp Tulelake reopened as one of over 700 prisoner of war (POW) camps in the nation between 1944 and 1946. By this time, hundreds of thousands of POWs were living in the United States. The American military began making plans for POW camps right after entry into World War II. The first large numbers of prisoners came in 1943 after the North Africa campaign, when 130,000 German and Italian troops were sent to the US. The government decided to bring POWs to the United States, rather than house them in Europe, for a number of reasons. Food and materials were scarce in Europe, American supply ships were returning home empty, the transfer kept prisoners far from their home armies, and finally, the prisoners provided much needed labor on the American homefront. [39]

Italian POWs, working under American Army officers, turned Camp Tulelake into a prison facility with guard towers and searchlights in order to prepare for the arrival of the 800 German POWs that would serve as agricultural laborers on area farms. Klamath Basin farmers were in desperate need of labor during World War II, and the German POWs participated in a labor program that was essential to the region's economy. Numerous POW camps across the nation have been listed on the National Register at the local level of significance.

Upon arrival in the United States, POWs were first housed in abandoned CCC camps, at fairgrounds and racetracks, and in other temporary facilities. In 1942, a large-scale construction program resulted in the erection of new facilities built to house the prisoners. These men lived in base camps (large camps on military bases or airfields), smaller branch camps, and at least two re-education centers in 45 different states; there were over 700 camps in total. By 1945, the total number of POWs interred in the United States had reached 425,086. Most, nearly eighty-seven percent, were German, while twelve percent were Italian. The United States government established policies for prisoner treatment and housing based upon the guidelines set up by the

[38] Kashima, 165-166; Densho Encyclopedia, "Tulelake (Detention Facility)," http://encyclopedia.densho.org/Tule_Lake/; Daniels, 42-43.
[39] Nancy Weidel, *National Register of Historic Places Nomination, Officers Club, Douglas Prisoner of War Camp, Douglas, WY*, 2001, 11; Emily Rose, *National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, CCC Camp Flying Goose Recreational Hall/POW Recreational Hall, Eldora, IA*, 2011, 8.

Geneva Convention of 1929. The Commanding General of the Army Services Forces (ASF) oversaw the POW program.[40]

The Army created a POW labor program to help alleviate the need for workers in agriculture and light industry. The majority of POWs worked on farms and orchards, though some also worked on logging operations and in certain types of factories such as food processing. Branch camps opened in rural areas near farms or food-processing facilities so that POWs could be near where they would work. Most of the 511 branch camps were in agricultural areas, and they housed the POWs that were sent to plant or harvest crops. Most branch camps held between 250 and 750 POWs, plus a guard force. The camps were simple; the army often used abandoned CCC facilities, and at some locations, men were housed in tents. Branch camps were surrounded by barbed wire and portable guard towers, and searchlights were placed at opposite corners of the compound to permit clear observation in the camp. Workers were paid $ 0.80 per day. [41]

In May of 1944, 150 Italian POWs who were also members of an Italian Service Unit (ISU) arrived in Tulelake to refurbish the camp buildings and install security structures around the site. ISUs were formed in November of 1943, when Italy joined the Allied cause. The men were recruited from the Italian POW population for work related to the Allied war effort. POWs of enemy nations, according to Geneva Convention rules, were forbidden to do this type of work. Ninety percent of Italian prisoners, almost 45,000 men, volunteered. They were taught new job skills, organized into companies, and transferred to areas where they were needed to help with war-related jobs. Tasks included military base construction and maintenance, repair of vehicles and weaponry, and driving supply trucks. They enjoyed substantially more freedom than other POWs. They earned more money, ate better food, and were allowed freedom within their camps during their off hours. They were required to return to camp by dark each evening, and they wore distinctive green or khaki uniforms with the word ITALY prominently featured on the left arm, so that they could easily be identified. The Army also officially forbid them from fraternizing with American civilians, though in many parts of the country with strong Italian American communities, including northern California, the latter rule was routinely ignored. When the war ended, many ISUs were sent to various parts of Europe to help the Americans with the war recovery effort; others were released from duty gradually, and they made their way back to Italy on their own. [42]

The ISU men were tasked with preparing Camp Tulelake for the German POWs that would serve as farm workers in the region. The Tulelake Growers Association had requested labor for local farms from the POW labor program, and the Army chose Camp Tulelake as the site for a branch camp for POWs serving as Klamath Basin agricultural workers. In May of 1944, ISU men readied the camp for the German POWs that would arrive in June. The Italians lived offsite, in tents in a fenced vacant lot in the town of Tulelake, while they performed their work. They

[40] Christopher Baker, Susan Goodfellow and John Listman. *Historic Context: World War II Prisoner-of-War Camps on Department of Defense Installations* (Washington D.C: Department of Defense, 2007), 2-3 and 14-16.
[41] Baker et al., 14-16; 49; 111; 115.
[42] Baker et al., 125-129.

erected a double barbed wire fence to form a compound around the barracks and mess hall. They built four guard towers with searchlights (one at each corner of the site), a patrol road, latrines, a gate, water lines, and a new water tower, and a sentry post at the camp. In June, the ISU men left, and 250 German prisoners of war arrived from Camp White near Medford, Oregon. By October, around 800 German prisoners of war occupied the camp. [43]

The German POWs worked for local farmers, planting, harvesting and performing other agricultural tasks. Prisoners at Camp Tulelake harvested various crops such as potatoes, sugar beets, onions, apples, hay, and hops. Some farmers set quotas; potato and onion farmers expected the men to harvest 125 bags per day. The number of Germans fluctuated. During harvest season, there were up to 1,000 workers, some of whom were housed in a tent camp elsewhere, but over the winter only 125 men remained at the camp. The Germans were not allotted the autonomy the ISU members enjoyed, though they enjoyed more freedom than the Japanese American detainees had. Farmers collected the workers at camp at 8 a.m., and returned them at 5 p.m. Groups of nine or fewer POWs were not required to have an armed guard accompany them to the farm. Workers were supposed to eat sack lunches from camp, and farmers' wives often treated them to fresh baked goods, soda, and beer. Local farmers were generally pleased with the program, and their labor requests kept Germans in the camp until October 1945.[44]

In May 1946, the War Department returned the camp facilities to the US Fish and Wildlife Service. In 1949, three barracks were moved from Camp Tulelake to the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge for use as staff quarters. During the 1950s, the camp buildings were used by Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge staff as storage, temporary housing, a skin drying building, and a paint shop. In 1961, the US Fish and Wildlife Service built new residences adjacent to the refuge office south of Camp Tulelake. After the move, the barracks and mess hall were maintained only on a limited basis. With decreased need for the camp, several buildings were dismantled.

Camp Tulelake is a rare extant example of a Civilian Conservation Corps Camp in California. It is also significant as the site of Japanese American confinement during World War II, and as a prisoner of war camp during and after World War II. The camp retains its integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. The buildings convey their historic qualities despite deterioration, and the link between Camp Tulelake and the events with which it is associated remains intact.

[43] Wyatt, 175.
[44] Rachel Zeller, "The Power of Determined Interests Groups: How Labor Unions, Farmers, Prisoners of War, and Journalists Influenced German Prisoner Camps and Italian Service Units in Washington and Oregon," Unpublished paper, Washington State University Libraries, 17-20.

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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
_X__ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #___CA-2683___
____recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

____ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
_X__ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
____ Other
Name of repository: _National Park Service: Lava Beds National Monument_____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property ___66 acres_____

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)
1. Latitude: 41.964441 Longitude: -121.564663

2. Latitude: 41.964441 Longitude: -121.569191

3. Latitude: 41.963843 Longitude: -121.565819

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The historic district boundary is the boundary of the Camp Tulelake component of the Tule Lake Unit of the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes all extant buildings and corresponds to the boundary of the park component.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: __Christy Avery_____
organization: _National Park Service_____
street & number: __909 1st Avenue, 5th Floor_____
city or town: Seattle____ state: __WA_____ zip code:__98104_____
e-mail__Christine_Avery@nps.gov_____
telephone:__(206) 220-4127_____
date:_ September 2014; Revised November 2017_____

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property:	Camp Tulelake
City or Vicinity:	Tulelake (vicinity)
County:	Siskiyou
State:	California
Photographer:	Christy Avery
Date Photographed:	August 5, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 15 From left, Paint Shed (noncontributing), Garage/Storage/Shop, and Barracks. View to northwest.

2 of 15 From left, Paint Shed (noncontributing), Garage/Storage/Shop, Barracks, and Mess Hall. View to southwest.

3 of 15 Entrance road on the right. View to west.

4 of 15 Barracks, east and north façades. View to southwest.

5 of 15 Barracks, view to east.

6 of 15 Barracks, view to northwest.

7 of 15 Barracks, main entrance, west end of the north wing. View to east.

8 of 15 Barracks, view to northeast.

9 of 15 Barracks, interior; interpretive panel showing the interior during the CCC era.

10 of 15 Mess Hall, view to west.

11 of 15 Mess Hall, view to south.

12 of 15 Mess Hall and trees planted by CCC crews, view to northwest.

13 of 15 Garage/Storage/Shop, view to southeast.

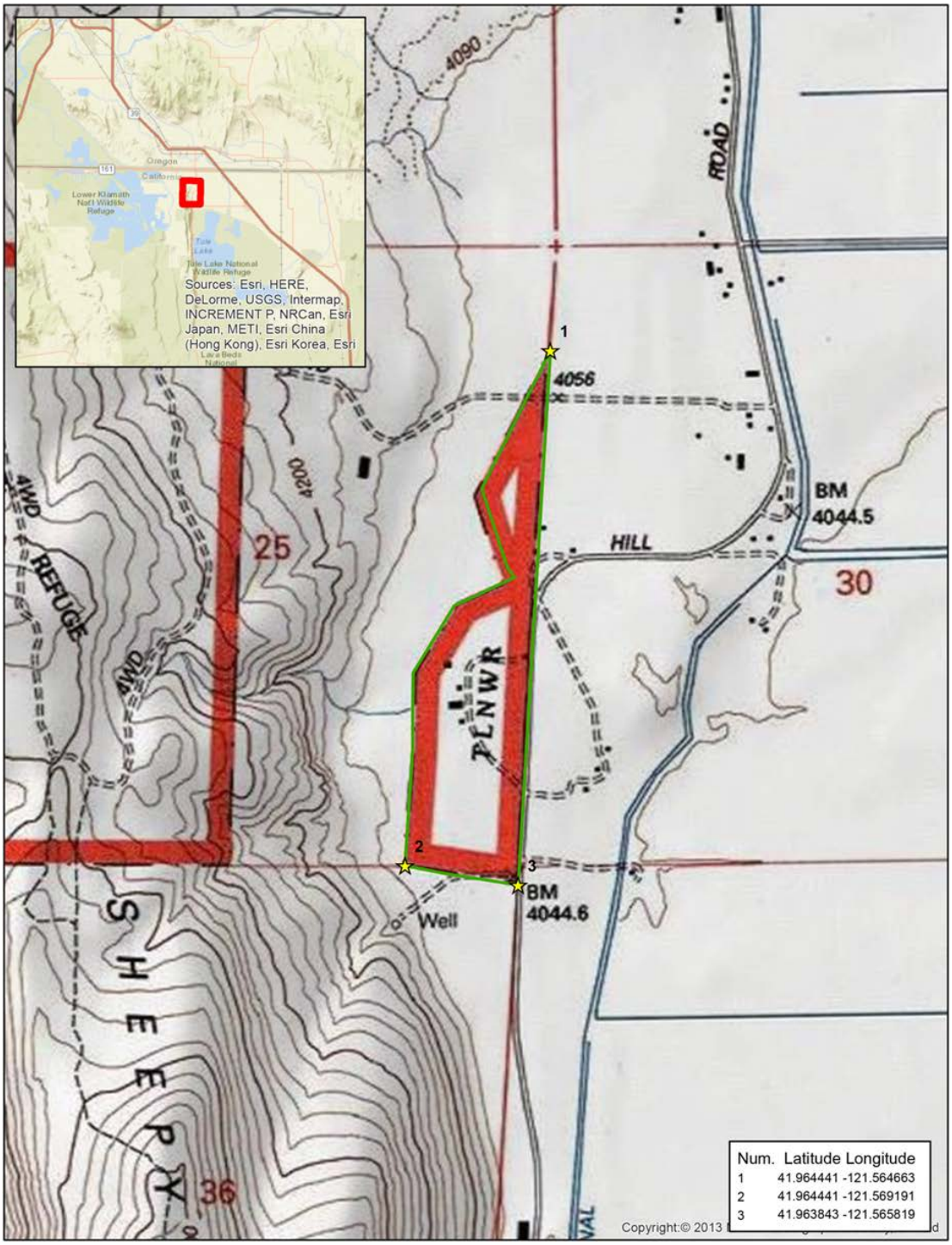
14 of 15 Garage/Storage/Shop, view to west-northwest.

15 of 15 Garage/Storage/Shop, view to east-southeast.

Camp Tulelake
Name of Property

Siskiyou County, CA
County and State

Location Map

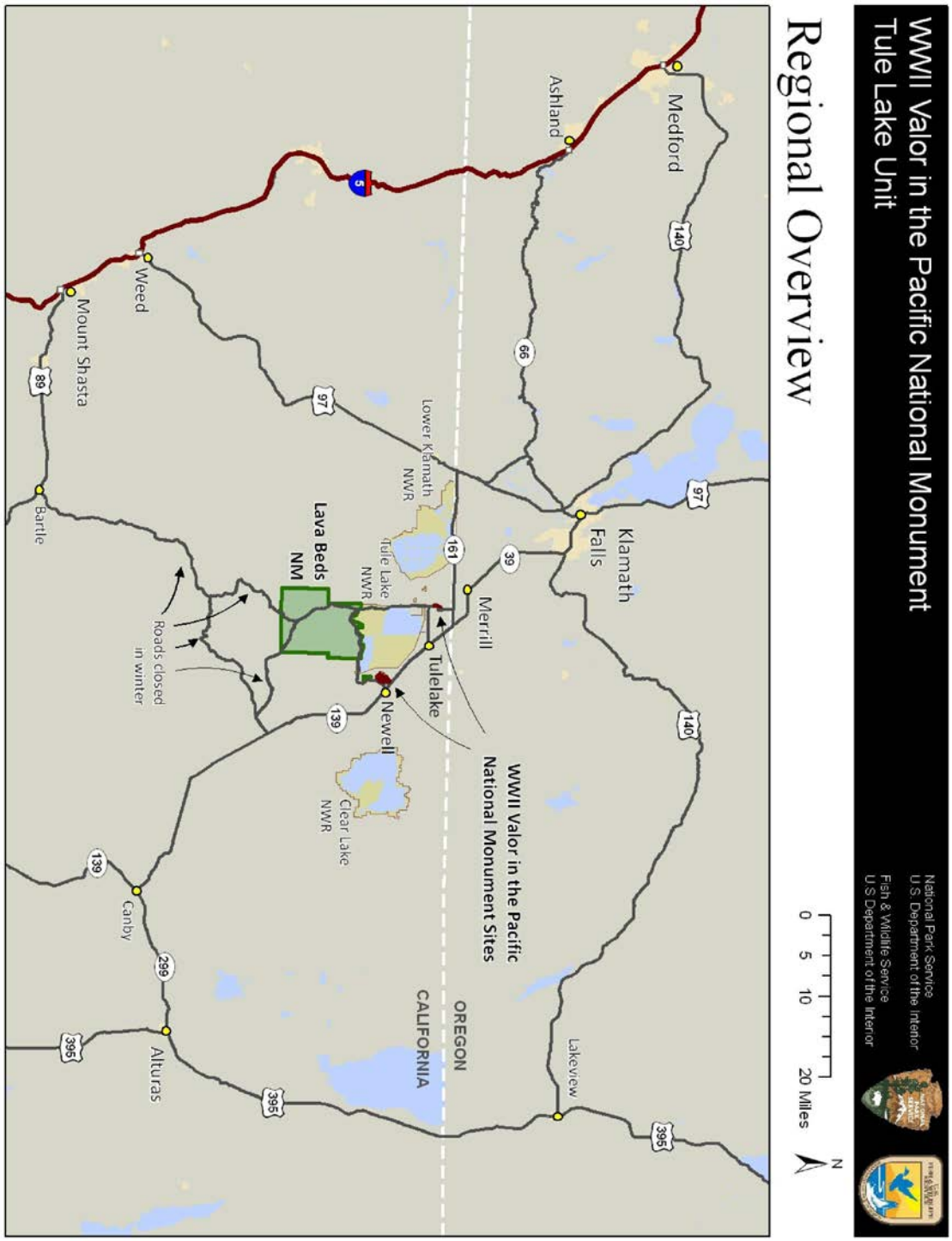


Camp Tulelake
Name of Property

Siskiyou County, CA
County and State

Regional Map

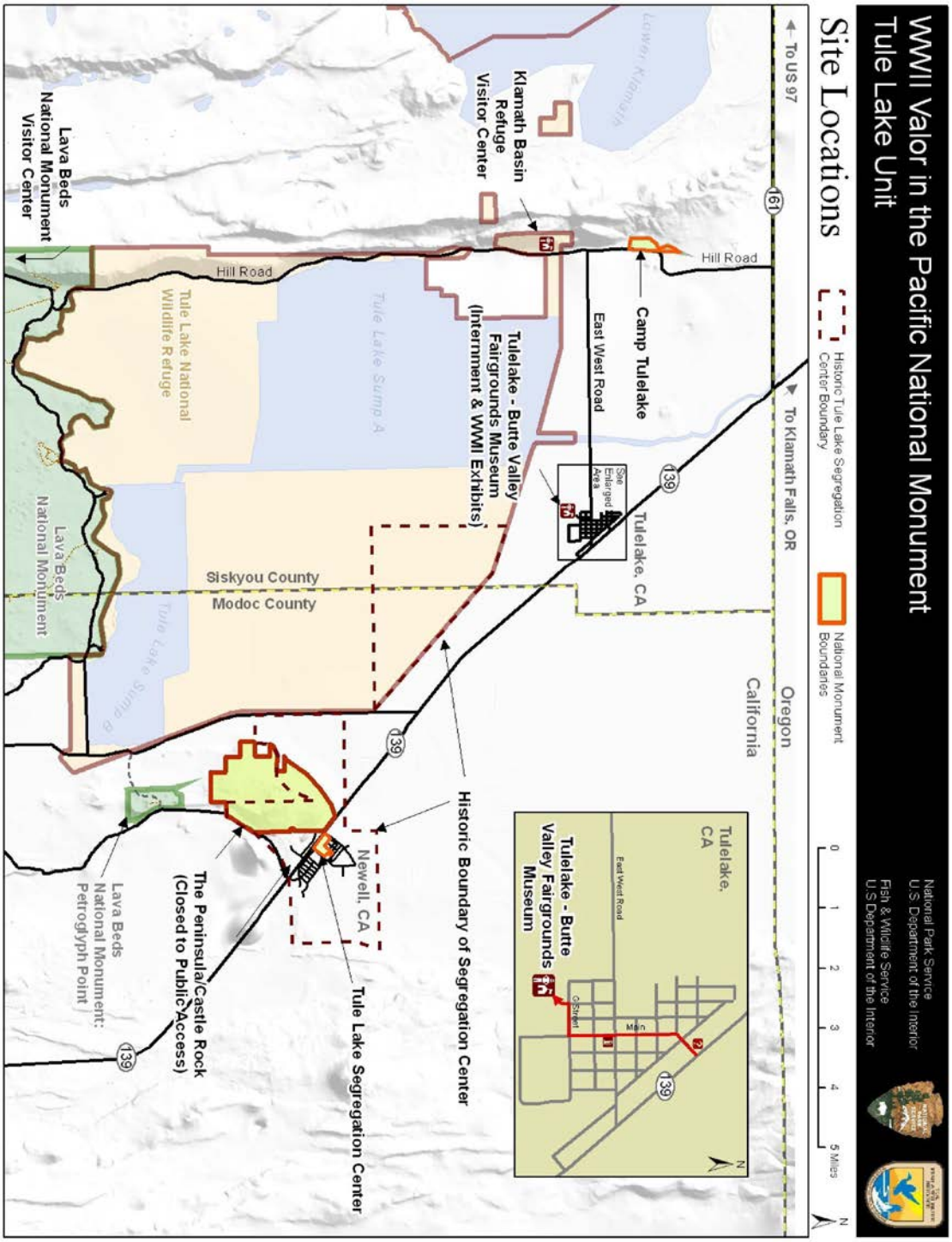
The Camp Tulelake Unit of the national monument is northwest of the town of Tulelake.



Camp Tulelake
Name of Property

Siskiyou County, CA
County and State

Site Map



Camp Tulelake
Name of Property

Siskiyou County, CA
County and State

Sketch Map

Extant buildings indicated in yellow. Paint Shop and Pump House are noncontributing.

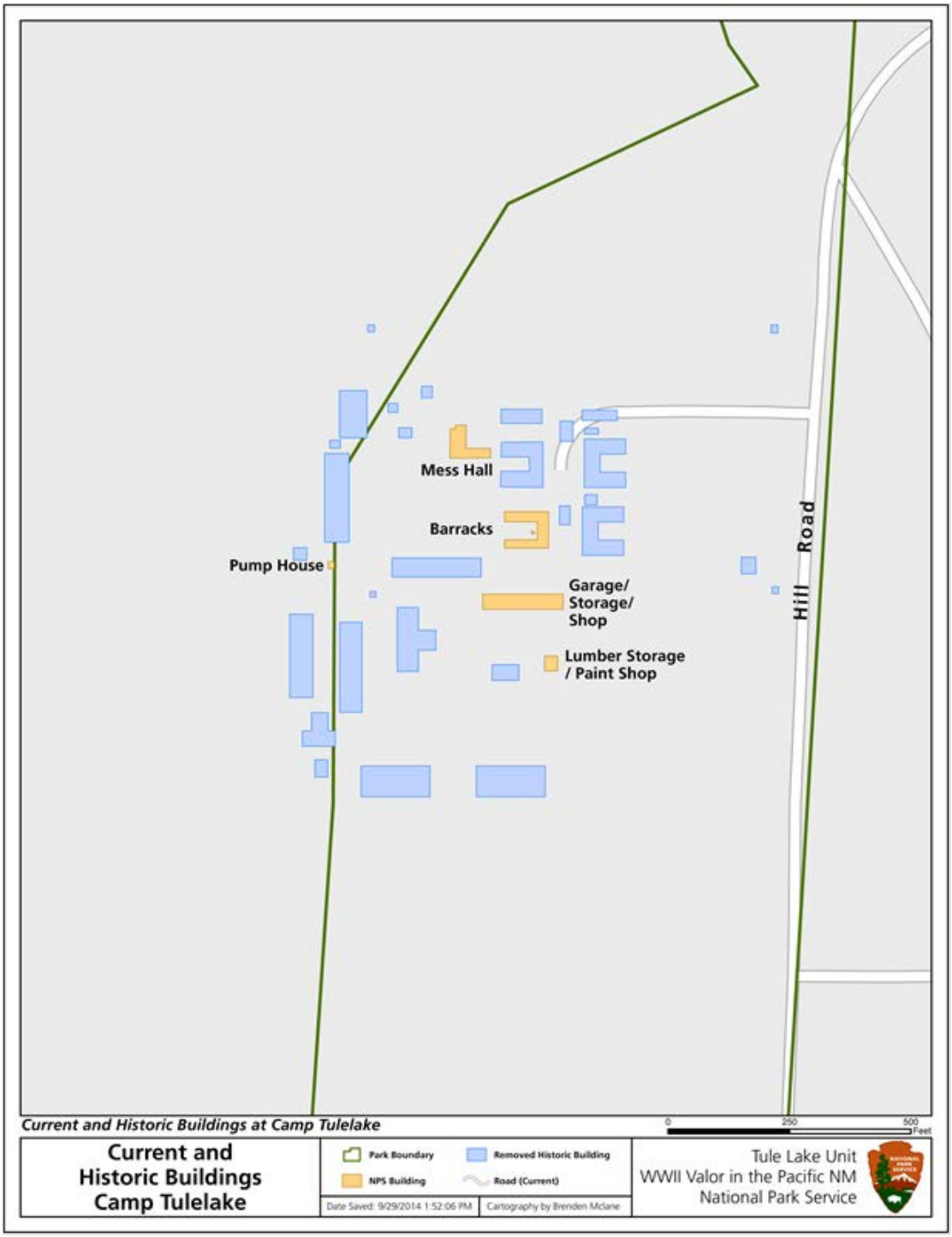


Figure 1. CCC Camp Tulelake, 1940. Extant barracks, top right; extant mess hall, center.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Camp Tulelake

Multiple Name:

State & County: CALIFORNIA, Siskiyou

Date Received:	Date of Pending List:	Date of 16th Day:	Date of 45th Day:	Date of Weekly List:
1/26/2018	2/26/2018	3/13/2018	3/12/2018	

Reference number: SG100002176

Nominator: State

Reason For Review:

__ Appeal	__ PDIL	__ Text/Data Issue
__ SHPO Request	__ Landscape	__ Photo
__ Waiver	X National	__ Map/Boundary
__ Resubmission	__ Mobile Resource	__ Period
X Other	__ TCP	__ Less than 50 years
	__ CLG	

__X__ Accept _____ Return _____ Reject **3/12/2018** Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: Camp Tulelake meets National Register Criterion A at the national and local levels in the areas of Ethnic Heritage-Asian (Japanese), Politics/Government, Military History, and Conservation. The vernacular, wood-frame and gabled roofed buildings are significant as extant representations of pre-1936 CCC construction in Northern California, where they served as a base of operations for important New Deal efforts to improve local farmlands and wildlife habitats (1935-42). The Camp also served as a military detention facility for German prisoners of war from 1944 to 1946. Chiefly, the Camp facility is nationally significant for its associations with the incarceration of Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants during WW II under Executive Order 9066, serving as segregated confinement for those individuals who, based on the controversial "loyalty questionnaire," were deemed "disloyal," or otherwise high risk. While physical integrity is limited due to building deterioration and the loss of adjacent buildings, the site retains sufficient integrity to convey its important associations and represents a rare WWII-era property type.

Recommendation/ Criteria: Accept National Register Criterion A.

Reviewer Paul Lusignan Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2229 Date 3/12/2018

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : **Yes**

State of California • Natural Resources Agency
Edmund G. Brown Jr., *Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
Lisa Ann L. Mangat, *Director*

Julianne Polanco, State Historic Preservation Officer
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95816-7100
Telephone: (916) 445-7000 FAX: (916) 445-7053
calshpo.ohp@parks.ca.gov www.ohp.parks.ca.gov

December 1, 2017

Joy Beasley
Deputy Associate Director, Park Programs and National Heritage Areas
Federal Preservation Officer
National Park Service - Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science
1849 C Street NW
Mail Stop 7508
Washington, DC 20240

Subject: **Camp Tulelake**
Tulare County, California
National Register of Historic Places Nomination

Dear Ms. Beasley:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for **Camp Tulelake** to the National Register of Historic Places. The district is part of the Tule Lake Unit of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument.

I concur that the district is eligible for listing at the national level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of Politics/Government, Military History, and Ethnic Heritage: Asian, with additional local level significance in the areas of Politics/Government, Military History, and Conservation. The period of significance is 1935 to 1946.

I have signed the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form signature page as commenting official. We will retain a copy of the nomination and set of photographs for our records. If you have any questions regarding this nomination, please contact Amy Crain of my staff at (916) 445-7009.

Sincerely,

Jenan Saunders
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

JAN 18 2018

H32(2280)

Memorandum

To: Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

From: Acting Associate Director, Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science, and NPS Federal Preservation Officer

Subject: National Register Nomination for Camp Tulelake, World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, Tule Lake Unit, Siskiyou County, CA

I am forwarding the National Register Nomination for Camp Tulelake. The Park History Program has reviewed the nomination and found it eligible under Criterion A, with Areas of Significance of Military, Politics/Government, Ethnic Heritage: Asian, and Conservation.

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and chief local elected official(s) were sent the documentation on November 30, 2017. Within 45 days, the SHPO _x_ supported __ supported with comments __ did not respond. Any comments received are included with the documentation.

If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Spradley-Kurowski at 202-354-2266 or kelly_spradley-kurowski@nps.gov.