

PHD 562841

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

DATA SHEET	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	NOV 17 1976
DATE ENTERED	MAR 8 1977

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

1. NAME

HISTORIC Squatter's Cabin

AND/OR COMMON

Squatter's Cabin

2. LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

W. E. of Three Rivers

Giant Forest)

Not applicable (north end of Huckleberry Meadow,

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY/TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Not applicable (Sequoia National Park, *County of Three Rivers*, Seventeenth

STATE

California

05

COUNTY

Tulare

CCDE

107

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS (If appropriate)

National Park Service, Western Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER

450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36063

CITY/TOWN

San Francisco

STATE

California

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Tulare County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Mineral King and Mooney Rvds.

CITY/TOWN

Visalia

STATE

California

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY/TOWN

STATE

John Vest

copy

John Vest,
San Francisco, CA
1976

DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Squatter's Cabin stands in a beautiful grove of Giant Sequoia at the north end of Huckleberry Meadow in the Giant Forest of Sequoia National Park. The cabin is 14 feet, 2 inches by 16 feet, 4 inches and has only one room. The walls are of horizontal peeled logs, mainly White Fir. The gable ends are also made of horizontal logs. The corners are triangularly notched so as to fit together. The cabin still retains some wooden chinking between the logs. The south wall of the cabin has a door near the southwest corner. The door opening is 2 feet, 8 inches wide. A window 2 feet, 11 inches wide by 2 feet, 8 inches high allows light to enter from the west. The window has neither glass nor shutters. A dry-masonry chimney and fireplace stand as a part of the north wall. The roof frame is of local timber. A support post in the center of the cabin adds strength to this frame. The gable roof itself is of shakes. The floor is dirt. A drainage system beneath the cabin removes excess moisture from the site. The cabin has been restored, but at an undetermined date. The site is accessible only by park trail.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHAEOLOGY PREHISTORIC
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHAEOLOGY HISTORIC
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS

SPECIFIC DATES Built ca. 1886

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Squatter's Cabin of 50 structures of the Kaweah Co. 1880's. It is also one of National Park. It should fields of exploration/sett.

The cabin was erected dir. of the Kaweah Cooperative to develop a utopian comm. commonwealth was encourag. Giant Forest so that the control. The Kaweah Colo 1885, and it is assumed th. his claim, Vest proceeded however, that the Hucklebe. provision of the Swamp and resident of Giant Forest. and the cabin.

There is no record of regu. During the 1930s the cabin but today it stands empty.

SIGNIFICANCE

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 NUMBER DATE

CAL APPEARANCE

Giant Sequoia at
 Forest of Sequoia
 16 feet, 4 inches
 of horizontal logs,
 together. The
 the logs. The
 west corner. The
 2 feet, 11 inches
 ter from the west,
 y-masonry chimney.
 The roof frame
 of the cabin adds
 a of shakes. The
 bin removes excess
 shed, but at an
 by park trail.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHAEOLOGY PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHAEOLOGY HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMIC	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS GOVERNMENT		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES Built ca. 1886 BUILDER/ARCHITECT John Vest

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Squatter's Cabin of Sequoia National Park is one of a known remaining structures of the Kaweah Colony, a socialistic enterprise of the late 1880's. It is also one of the oldest buildings remaining within Sequoia National Park. It should be considered of regional significance in the fields of exploration/settlement and social/humanitarian endeavor.

The cabin was erected circa 1886 by John Vest, a school-teacher-member of the Kaweah Cooperative Commonwealth, a socialist organization intending to develop a utopian community based on logging. Each member of the commonwealth was encouraged to file a timber claim on a section of the Giant Forest so that the entire tract would come under the organization's control. The Kaweah Colony claims on Giant Forest were filed in October, 1881, and it is assumed that Vest's claim was among them. After registering his claim, Vest proceeded to erect a simple cabin. He soon discovered, however, that the Huckleberry Meadow tract had already been sold under provision of the Swamp and Overflow Act to Kate Sharp, the pioneer resident of Giant Forest. Vest abandoned both his claim to the tract and the cabin.

There is no record of regular habitation of the cabin since that time. During the 1930s the cabin was apparently used as a trailside museum, but today it stands empty.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Historic Structures Report, Squatter's Cabin, in files of Sequoia National Park
2. Building folder, Squatter's Cabin, Bldg. 45-A, in files of Sequoia National Park

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ALREADY OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.59

UTM REFERENCES

A	1	1914	3	15	0	8	0	4	7	2	0	0
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				
C						D						

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Commencing at the center point of an 18 inch wide burn scar on the trunk of an 18-foot diameter Sequoia tree, located 59 feet east of the southeast corner of the Squatter's Cabin, proceed south sixty (60) feet; thence west one hundred and sixty (160) feet; thence north one hundred and sixty (160) feet; thence east one hundred and sixty feet (160); thence south one hundred (100) feet to point of beginning.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

William C. Tweed, Historian

(Revision of form submitted by

F. Ross Holland, January 12, 1972)

ORGANIZATION

National Park Service, Eastern Regional Office

DATE

September 15, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36063

TELEPHONE

415 556 4165

CITY OR TOWN

San Francisco

STATE

California

CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

1-6-76

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluation level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

William C. Tweed

DATE

NOV 11 1975

OR NOT TO USE ONLY

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

DATE

3/8/77

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

DATE

11/2/77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Request submitted

Date request

Name of property

Location: Seq

Opinion of

Eligible

Comments:

The Secretary

Eligible

Comments:

Not eligible

Comments:

Document

additional