

PH0076759

STATE: California	
COUNTY: Solano	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 72.1.06.0001	DATE 1/2/72

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Peña Adobe

AND/OR HISTORIC:
The Peña Adobe on Los Putos Rancho

2. LOCATION (See Solano Co. Planning Commission map attached.)

STREET AND NUMBER:
Portion of projected Sec. 30 T6NRLW MDBAM on east side Interstate 80

CITY OR TOWN:
About 2 miles southwest of Vacaville on east side Interstate 80

STATE: **California** CODE: **06** COUNTY: **Solano** CODE: **095**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" 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 (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments Resident curator on duty

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY **City of Vacaville**

OWNER'S NAME:
City of Vacaville

STREET AND NUMBER:
650 Merchant St

CITY OR TOWN: **Vacaville** STATE: **California** CODE: **95688** **06**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Courthouse, Fairfield, County seat of Solano Co.

STREET AND NUMBER:
600 Texas St.

CITY OR TOWN: **Fairfield** STATE: **California** CODE: **94533** **06**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Solano County State Registered Landmark #534

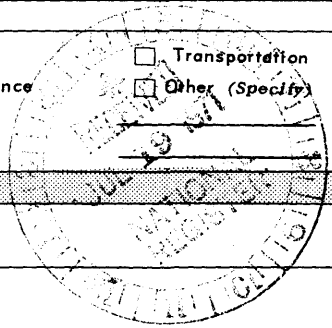
DATE OF SURVEY: **1961** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Solano County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
600 Texas St.

CITY OR TOWN: **Fairfield** STATE: **California** CODE: **06**

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One) Restored			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Pena Adobe was built in 1842 or soon after, with adobe mud from nearby Lake Laguna. Restored in 1965 using original materials, it closely resembles the original building, except the roof thatch is replaced by hand split shakes. The entire dwelling was sheathed in redwood siding prior to 1870, which accounts for its good condition when restored. Between 1870-1880 a frame addition of 24' x 18' was added. This has been removed, short distance and is now a museum and office. Engineer Marle Curtice in charge of restoration, used the ancient method of sun-drying the bricks, and hand splitting of redwood logs to achieve the original physical appearance.

The Adobe building 18' x 50' overall, with three rooms of varying interior dimensions. The central room - 14' x 20' - probably was the living and dining area; the flanking rooms - 14' x 11½' and 14' x 13½' - were bedrooms. Cooking was done outside at the northeast corner of the house, probably in a thatched ramada. Exterior walls are 22½" thick, being laid on the typical Hispanic Era trenched cobblestone foundation. Height of the house is 1½ stories - the topanco or attic being historically used for storage. The topanco was reached by an outside stairway. Roofing is split shingles. The restored adobe is furnished in period and is open to the public.

The restored wood frame annex, now housing a collection of local memorabilia, has been moved from its original position adjacent to the adobe, to a location nearby. This building is about 18' x 24' with split shingle exterior sheathing and roof.

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6. SIGNIFICANCE

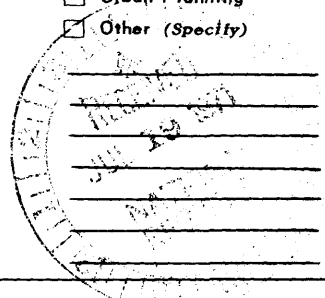
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **Probably built 1842 or soon after.**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Juan Felipe Peña and Juan Manuel Vaca came in 1842 from New Mexico to settle their 44,383 acre land grant which was first called "Lihuaytos", then Los Putos. Both built adobe houses near Lake Laguna, and allowed their herds of half-wild cattle to roam from Suisun to Putah Creek. A heated controversy developed with John R. Wolfskill, first American settler in the county, over straying cattle, on his Rancho Rio de Los Putos adjacent grant, which was decided in Wolfskill's favor. The 1892 earthquake demolished the Vaca casa, and it was not replaced. But the Peña Adobe, by which Edwin Markham (the poet) "daily rode his bucking bronco" to school, still stands (SRL534). During 1965-1966 the Peña casa was restored at cost of \$33,000. by joint action of the Solano County Historical Society, the City of Vacaville and the County of Solano. Now surrounded by about 27 acres of Pena Park, it is open to the public, with a resident curator on duty. This area was the site of a rancheria of Ooloolatus (Ulati) Indians and many of their artifacts are on exhibition in the small museum in the Park.

It should be mentioned here, that the City of Vacaville was named for Juan Manuel Vaca, who sold nine square miles to William McDaniel in 1850 for \$3000. with the provision that a city be named for the proud Don.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Historic Spots in California" 3rd Edition (1966), by Hoover & Rensch and W. N. Abeloe. Pages 522^o & 523.

"Vaca-Pena Los Putos Rancho and The Peña Adobe" published by Wheeler Printing Co., 312 Maryland St. Vallejo, Cal. in 1965.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
	0 . "	0 . "		38 ^o	20	14 .
	0 . "	0 . "		122 ^o	00	52 "
	0 . "	0 . "				

UTM
10/58615
424348
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1 1/2 acres in Pena Adobe Park**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
No overlap		No overlap	
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Wood Young**

ORGANIZATION: **Solano County Historical Society** DATE: **July 8 '70**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Rt. 1 Box 22**

CITY OR TOWN: **Suisun** STATE: **California 94585** CODE: **06**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name *Wood Young*

Title State Liaison Officer

Date October 16, 1970

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Samuel A. Connors
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

JAN 7 1972

Date _____

ATTEST:
William J. Bouquet
Keeper of The National Register

Date **DEC 22 1971**