

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

(State use only)
 Ser _____ Site _____ Mo. _____ Yr. _____
 UTM _____ Q _____ NR 3 SHL _____
 Lat _____ Lon _____ Era _____ Sig _____
 Adm _____ T2 _____ T3 _____ Cat _____ HABS _____ HAER _____ Fed _____
10 - 724100 - 1171350

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Old Adobe Barn
2. Historic name, if known: Adobe Post Office
3. Street or rural address Yosemite Blvd. & La Grange Road
 City: LaGrange ZIP: 95329 County: Stanislaus
4. Present owner, if known: Stanislaus County Address: 1716 Morgan Road
 City: Modesto ZIP: 95351 Ownership is: Public Private
5. Present Use: Barn; Storage Original Use: Unknown
 Other past uses: Post Office

DESCRIPTION

6. Briefly describe the present physical appearance of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

The LaGrange Adobe Post Office is a pre-1850 rectangular building with a slate foundation. The individual adobe bricks measure approximately 16-18" by 3-4". Rear door and side windows appear to be set in at a later date.

To prevent further deterioration large wooden boards, approximately 2' by 8', have been bolted into the adobe fabric on the side and rear walls. Later alterations include 2' wide redwood siding on the facade, a wood shed contiguous to one side of the structure and a protective tin roof. Apparently the wood additions date to the building's use as a barn.

7. Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks):



8. Approximate property size:
 Lot size (in feet) Frontage 87' x 240'
 Depth _____';
 or approx. acreage _____.
9. Condition: (check one)
 a. Excellent b. Good c. Fair
 d. Deteriorated e. No longer in existence
10. Is the feature a. Altered? b. Unaltered?
11. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary)
 a. Open land b. Scattered buildings
 c. Densely built-up d. Residential
 e. Commercial f. Industrial
 g. Other
12. Threats to site:
 a. None known b. Private development
 c. Zoning d. Public Works project
 e. Vandalism f. Other
13. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s): 5-3-78

NOTE: The following (Items 14-19) are for structures only.

14. Primary exterior building material: a. Stone b. Brick c. Stucco d. Adobe e. Wood
 f. Other Adobe with slate foundation; facade masked by wood sheathing.
15. Is the structure: a. On its original site? b. Moved? c. Unknown?
16. Year of initial construction pre-1850 This date is: a. Factual b. Estimated
17. Architect (if known): Unknown
18. Builder (if known): Unknown
19. Related features: a. Barn b. Carriage house c. Outhouse d. Shed(s) e. Formal garden(s)
 f. Windmill g. Watertower/tankhouse h. Other _____ i. None

SIGNIFICANCE

20. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site when known):

This structure is the oldest building in LaGrange. Constructed of adobe bricks, it is a representative example of a distinctive architectural technology practiced by the Spanish pre-1850 and by some of the first Californians. The slightly raised slate foundation is also typical of building practices of this period. Evidently the rectangular adobe structure was used by LaGrange as a post office during the community's early history. It may have been built with this civic function in mind during the early 1850's or, more likely, it was adapted for this use during the gold rush years. The building may have originally been a residence or ranch outbuilding.

FEB 28 1979
REGISTER

21. Main theme of the historic resource: (Check only one): a. Architecture b. Arts & Leisure
 c. Economic/Industrial d. Exploration/Settlement e. Government f. Military
 g. Religion h. Social/Education

22. Sources: List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews, and their dates:

M.B. Hoover, H.E. Rensch and E.G. Rensch, Historic Spots in California, 3rd edition, Stanford, 1966.

23. Date form prepared: 5/4/78 By (name): _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____
 Phone: _____ Organization: _____

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