

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0693014

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DEC 5 1978

DATE ENTERED

FEB 28 1979

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

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Suscol House

AND/OR COMMON
Suscol House

SEP 10 1978

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Old Suscol Ferry Road (.01 mi. west of intersection of Ferry Rd. & Hwy. 29)

CITY, TOWN Napa

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Second

STATE California

CODE
06

COUNTY
NAPA

CODE
055

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Michael and Helen Carroll

STREET & NUMBER 669H Napa-Vallejo Highway (P.O. Box 503)

CITY, TOWN Napa

VICINITY OF

STATE
CALIFORNIA

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Napa County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER 821 Coombs Street

CITY, TOWN Napa

STATE
CALIFORNIA

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Napa County Historic Resources Inventory

DATE Site inventory: 2-6-78 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Napa County Conservation-Development & Planning Dept.

CITY, TOWN Napa

STATE
CALIFORNIA

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE <u>March</u> 1978
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		to prevent demolition for CALTRANS project

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Soscol House, originally located at the northwest corner of the intersection of the Suscol Ferry Road and Highway 29 (Napa-Vallejo Highway), was moved approximately 500 feet westward along the Ferry Road and south of it in March 1978 to avoid demolition of the structure for a California state highway project. In its relocation, the structure has been reoriented with the c.1856 wing (originally on an east-west axis) now on a north-south axis and the c.1875 wing (originally on a north-south axis) now on an east-west axis. To avoid confusion in description the wings will be referred to by their approximate construction dates. Soscol House, though moved, remains within its early environment, central to the main north-south artery (Hwy. 29) which has existed in trail, road and highway form since the mid-19th century.

An archaeological investigation undertaken at the original site of Soscol House has revealed the presence as early as 1853 of a structure, perhaps a farmhouse, running on an east-west axis parallel to the Ferry Road. Whether this structure is the same as that identified as Elija True's Soscol House in 1856-57 on the same site cannot be determined but this two story wing, "I-shape" in plan, c.1856, is of the early pegged mortise-and-tenon framing. The second wing, added c. 1875, on a north-south axis parallel to the Napa-Vallejo Road, was built with balloon framing.

By the mid-1870s, Soscol House had attained its "L-shape" plan of two stories, with a gabled roof, clapboard siding, and symmetrical placement of windows with double-hung six-over-six sash windows. This Greek Revival influence was common to vernacular inns of the period in this region. Originally two brick chimneys, enclosed at each gable end of the c.1856 wing were evident as was a central chimney in the c.1875 wing. A two story porch extended the length of the c.1856 wing and half the length of the c.1875 wing. It was supported by square columns with a second story balustrade. There were two doorways in the south facade on the first floor and one door on the second floor; the first floor of the east facade also had two doors. These features were still evident c.1900.

By 1937, a number of exterior alterations had taken place, with the gable chimneys and the two story porch removed. A new one story porch wrapped around the south and east sides. In 1946, a large one story addition was added to the northwest side and there were numerous smaller shed additions. In the 1950s, Soscol House had a fire. Internal alterations were made and the second story windows facing east in the c.1875 wing boarded up.

With removal of the Soscol House from the site in 1978, the exterior additions were stripped away leaving the "L-shape" plan visible. The Soscol House is presently under renovation and is being returned to its late 19th century vernacular style with the assistance of archaeological and historical evidence uncovered by archaeologist Roberta Greenwood and her staff.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

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

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1856, c.1875

BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Soscol House is the earliest remaining example in Napa County of the once common stage stop inn of the mid- 19th century and is the only commercial structure remaining of the once thriving Suscol, a transportation center of the 1860s. Soscol House served as a transfer point for stage lines serving Sacramento, Suisun, Napa City, Petaluma and Santa Rosa. San Francisco steamers docked at Suscol Wharf; the Napa Ferry crossed here; the Napa Valley Railroad made connections at Suscol and it was a shipping point for Napa County products to San Francisco prior to the rise of Napa City in the 1870s. Yet, as Suscol declined with the growing prominence of Napa City, Soscol House survived. Due to its strategic and central location within the network of transportation routes which have passed the site from the 1850s to the present, Soscol House has seen the passage of the ferry era, the stage coach lines and the trains, while the automobile has still served it on the major north-south artery, Highway 29 (Napa-Vallejo Road). However, with the coming of the Southern Crossing Bridge, a major 20th century link in regional transportation, it was found the access road would not pass adjacent to Soscol House but through it. Through private initiative, the Soscol House was moved by the present owners to avoid demolition.

For more than a century , the Soscol House has served continuously as a hotel, restaurant or bar. "Suscol House" is recorded at the intersection of the Suscol Ferry Road and the Napa-Vallejo Road by 1856-57 with Elijah True as proprietor. By the late 1870s, Soscol House reflected the Greek Revival vernacular style of inns of the period (see Hansen, Wild Oats in Eden, p. 70). As ferry and stage traffic declined by the 1890s, the Soscol House served local traffic in an area of hay and livestock ranching. In the early 1900s the electric railroad added customers and by 1915 auto traffic was stopping at Soscol House. Prohibition had little effect upon the saloon and restaurant. The barn, which had stood across the Napa-Vallejo Road from Soscol House and which served as a dance hall, burned or fell in by the 1930s. Following renovation in 1946, the Soscol House was the site of banquets and dances as well. In the 1960s, the Soscol House also served as a theatre for a local theatrical group. With the 1970s, Soscol House went into serious decline, becoming an antique store in 1974. The Carrolls purchased Soscol House from the State of California in 1977 and moved it in 1978 with the intention of renovating Soscol House in the late 19th century vernacular style and opening it once again as a restaurant. The present site remains within the transportation network in which Soscol House has played a central role in the past century.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Property for Sale: A Preliminary Archaeological Test Excavation of CA-NAP-518H [Soscol House] by Vance Bente under the supervision of Roberta Greenwood for California State Department of Transportation, District 04, August 1978
 Hansen. Wild Oats in Eden (1962), p. 70
Napa County Reporter . 8-29-1857; 10-19-1867; 11-10-1866
History of Napa and Lake Counties (SF: Slocum & Bowen, 1881)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1672 sq. ft. (.04 Ac)

QUADRANGLE NAME Cuttings Wharf, Calif. QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES 643

A	<u>110</u>	<u>564020</u>	<u>9232500</u>	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the intersection of the Soscol Ferry Road and the Highway 29 (Napa-Vallejo Rd.), the site is located 0.1 miles west on the Soscol Ferry Road on the south side.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Judith Munns, Coordinator, Napa County Historic Resources Survey

ORGANIZATION Napa Landmarks, Inc. DATE September 10, 1978

STREET & NUMBER 1834 First Street (P.O. Box 702) TELEPHONE (707) 255-1836

CITY OR TOWN Napa, California 94558 STATE CALIFORNIA

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

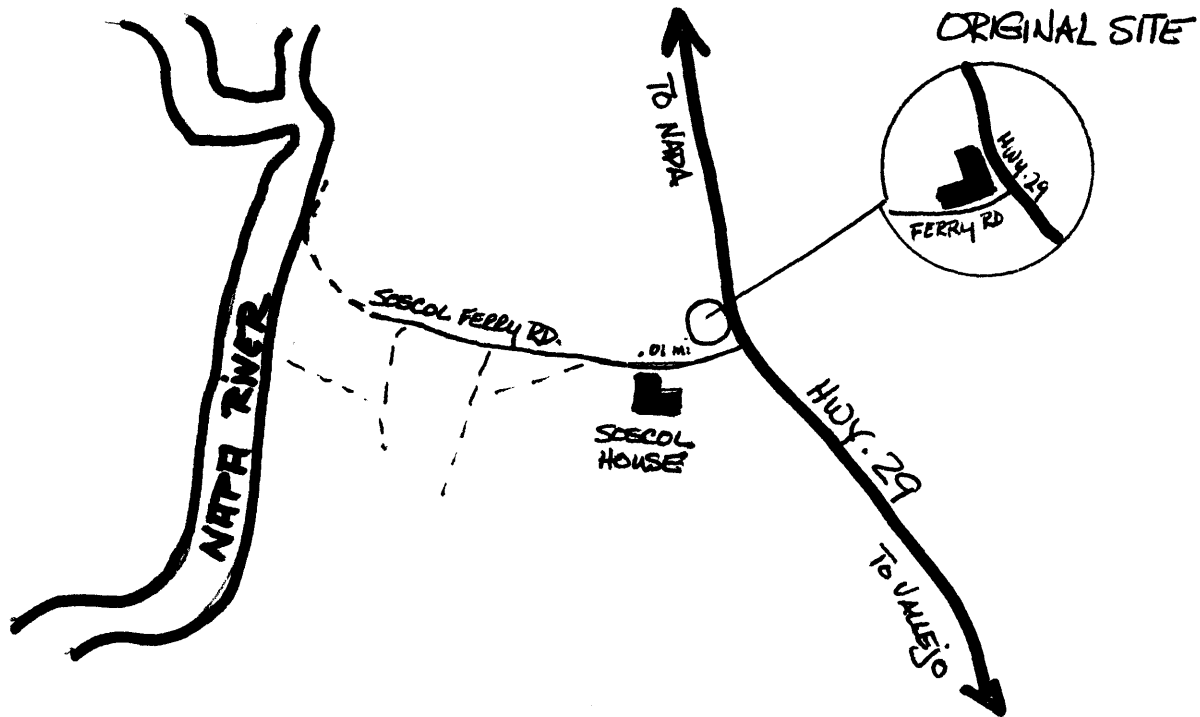
NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Knox M. Ellison

TITLE _____ DATE 11-25-78

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
<u>Charles Peterson</u>	DATE <u>2-28-79</u>
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
ATTEST: <u>[Signature]</u>	DATE <u>2/27/79</u>
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION	



SOSCOL HOUSE
 Soscol Ferry Road
 Napa, California DEC 5 1978

Beginning at the intersection of the Soscol Ferry Road and Highway 29 (Napa-Vallejo Rd.), the site is located 0.1 miles west on the Soscol Ferry Road on the south side of the Ferry Road.

FEB 18 1979