

PH 0664910

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 16 1978

DATE ENTERED JUN 15 1978

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Mc Cauley ^{and} Barn/Meyer Barns

AND/OR COMMON

Mc Cauley Barn/ Meyer Barns

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

NW of El Portal on Yosemite NP

N/A

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Yosemite National Park

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

California

VICINITY OF Foresta/Big Meadow 15th

CODE

06

COUNTY

Mariposa

CODE

043

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"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: none

4 AGENCY

National Park Service

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (if applicable)

Western Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER

450 Golden Gate Ave., P.O. Box 36063

CITY, TOWN

San Francisco

VICINITY OF

STATE

CA

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

National Park Service

STREET & NUMBER

Box 577

CITY, TOWN

Yosemite National Park

STATE

CA 95389

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

- McCauley Barn (cribwork interior) - Foresta: (McCauley Ranch). Located in open pasture, adjacent to the old "El Portal Road" (trail), approx. 2½ miles S. of Foresta. This structure is similar in design to the Meyer Barn No. 2 because both have the log crib core for hay storage, with surrounding stalls. The McCauley Barn, which measures roughly 40' x 80', has a gable roof and is built into the hillside. The crib consists of peeled logs laid in alternating tiers and fastened together with a V-notch joint. The logs were not chinked. The deeply overhanging gable roof is supported by peeled log rafters, and while originally covered with wood shingles, is now covered with corrugated metal. The barn is sheathed with vertical board siding. The barn setting retains its historic character - has been used for grazing from 1897 to 1975.
- Meyer Barn No. 1 (saltbox shaped) - Big Meadow:

This is a gable roofed structure, with a lean-to shed addition, which gives the building the form of a saltbox. The main portion of the barn measures roughly 30' x 20', with the lean-to measuring 30' x 16'. The frame of the barn consists of hand-hewn timbers arranged in five structural bents, with the horizontal beams fastened to the vertical columns by means of iron straps, and braced on each side with a diagonal timber. The frame is sheathed with vertical boards, except for the east facade, where sheathing is missing. The wood shingled roof is supported by peeled log rafters.

- Meyer Barn No. 2 (cribwork interior) - Big Meadow:

This barn is a large structure measuring roughly 50' square, and has a steeply pitched, overhanging gable on hip roof. The core of the structure consists of a rectangular log crib, approximately 25 feet in height, which supports the gable portion of the roof. The crib, which was evidently used for hay storage, is constructed with peeled logs laid on alternating tiers, and joined with a saddle notch joint, with no chinking between the logs. A space of several feet between the logs at one point was provided for pitching the hay into the stalls. The stalls were built on 3 sides of the crib, and the perimeter wall consists of hand-hewn studs and sills. The roof is carried by peeled log rafters. The barn is sheathed with vertical boards, and the original wood shingle roof has been covered with corrugated metal.

The Meyer Barns are located in close proximity to one another (photo #4) near the southwestern boundary of Big Meadow - a large open meadow within Yosemite National Park that comes approx. 1 square mile, (elevation 4500). The Meadow is currently in the process of nomination to the National Register as part of the Foresta-Big Meadow Archeological District. The southern edge of Big Meadow is the location for the largest known prehistoric Sierran habitation site, 4-MRP-3. The site covers several acres and contains more than 400 bedrock mortar ceves. Its midden may be 6 ft. deep in places. There are 19 other known sites withing the meadow and along its other 3 sides.

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input 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

Late 1870's-early 1880's

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

James Mc Cauley

George Meyer

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

These three barns are the last remaining barns in Yosemite which possess architectural significance and integrity. They also represent some local interest in agriculture through association with pioneering ranches once located on, and within the boundaries of Yosemite National Park.

The barns differ from each other in form and design, but all are largely handcrafted. They are representative of local vernacular building traditions; and are nearly unchanged from their original appearance. Both the Mc Cauley barn and the Meyer barn #2 are examples of an unusual California type known as the "Mormon Pole Barn", more often found in the Genessee Valley and dating from the 1850's.

The Mc Cauley barn was built around 1883 by Irishman James McCauley, pioneer Yosemite trailbuilder and innkeeper: he built the Four Mile trail to Glacier Point in 1871 and the Glacier Point Mountain House in 1878. He was running the Mountain House in 1883 when he purchased the land for his ranch, elevation 4000 ft., for winter headquarters. Glacier Point's 7214 ft. elevation and heavy snow ruled out all-year residence. In 1886 Mc Cauley added 200 acres to his original ranch through two separate purchases--these 200 acres would eventually become the Foresta subdivision. McCauley became a year round resident of the ranch in 1897 when some "political manuevr" (sic) forced him from his Glacier Point enterprise. McCauley then worked the ranch with his son, supplying beef to Valley businesses, until his death in an accident on the old Coulterville Road in 1911. In 1913 his son, Fred, sold the previously mentioned 200 acres to C.P. Snell for \$5500. In 1923 he sold the remainder of the ranch to his cousin, Horace Meyer for \$6000. The property has been unoccupied since 1955 and the National Park Service acquired it in 1974.

George Meyer, a German born ship carpenter, took over his brother Henry's homestead in Big Meadow in the 1870's. The meadow was considerably smaller than its present size before George cut trees and cleared brush. From sketchy biographical material it can be surmised that Meyer barn #2 was built in the late 1870's and #1 in the early 1880's. The walls of the latter barn were supposedly built flat on the ground and then raised in one piece. Meyers ranch was a stage stop on the Old Coulterville Road and he supplied grains and vegetables to Yosemite Valley businesses. In 1900 he married Elizabeth McCauley, niece of his "neighbor" James McCauley and as previously noted, his son Horace added the McCauley holdings to the family property in 1923. George Meyer died in San Francisco in 1917 and was buried in that city.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Meyer, McCauley, and Foresta files: Yosemite National Park Research Library.
 Thollander, Earl. Barns of California, San Francisco, Calif. Historical Society.
 Shirley Sargent, The McCauley Ranch, typed manuscript, Sargent Collection.
 McHenry, Donald E. "Foresta's Yesterdays," Yosemite Nature Notes v.34:3, pp.43-45.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY N/A *less than 1 acre each*

UTM REFERENCES

(McCauley) A	1 1	2 5 6	2 3 0	2 6 0	4 1 1	7 5 2	3 1 5	B	1 1	2 5 7	5 4 0	8 0 0	4 1 1	7 1 6	2 1 4	1 0	(Meyer #1)
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
(Meyer #2) C	1 1 1	2 5 7	5 2 0	7 8 0	4 1 1	7 1 6	2 1 5	D									

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

~~Each barn is defined by the boundaries of its walls.~~

The Meyer barns are defined by the boundaries of their walls. The archeological significance of their setting precludes buffer zones around the building. The McCauley barn includes a buffer of approximately 40' on all sides. The total area, including the barn, shall not exceed 1/2 acre.

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 Leslie Starr Hart/ Historian
Merrill Ann Wilson/Historic Architect
 ORGANIZATION National Park Service/Denver Service Center DATE 8/78
 STREET & NUMBER 655 Parfet, P.O. Box 25287 TELEPHONE (303) 234-4509/Hart
 CITY OR TOWN Denver STATE Co 80225 " " -5545/Wilson

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

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 evaluated level of significance is Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE [Signature] Deputy Assistant Secretary MAR 14 1978

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Clifford Cole
 FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE REGISTERED

DATE 6/15/78
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 DATE 6-15-78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAR 16 1978
DATE ENTERED JUN 15 1978

CONTINUATION SHEET Meyer Barn No. 2 ITEM NUMBER PAGE 7

4-MRP.3 has been impacted by pothunters but the other sites seem relatively intact and the entire locale provides an opportunity for professionals to study a group's utilization of a specific environment zone.
The Meadow is presently used as pasture for a number of horses and mules.