

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUN 16 1975
DATE ENTERED JUL 30 1975

**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

Preston Castle (State Landmark No. 867)

AND/OR COMMON

Preston School of Industry

LOCATION

N of Ione on

STREET & NUMBER

~~Rural Route, Box 5~~ (Preston Avenue)

CITY, TOWN

Ione

VICINITY OF

14

STATE

California

CODE
06

COUNTY

Amador

CODE

005

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER: *Abandoned*

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

State of California, Department of Youth Authority

STREET & NUMBER

Rural Route, Box 5 (Preston Avenue)

CITY, TOWN

Ione

VICINITY OF

STATE

California

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Department of Youth Authority

STREET & NUMBER

714 P Street

CITY, TOWN

Sacramento

STATE

California

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Ione, Amador County, California

DATE

Revised 1972

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

City Hall

CITY, TOWN

1 East Main, Ione

STATE

California

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

The "Preston Castle" was erected 1890-1894; first occupied July 3, 1894.

Measurements of the main building: 178.0' x 70.0'; and attached wing: 50.0' x 50.0'. See also prints attached Ron Mauck's "Architect Supplement" Application for Registration of Historical Landmark No. 867, also State Archives.

The eclectic architecture of the period strongly reminiscent of H. H. Richardson's work on the east coast. The architectural character is Romanesque Revival, especially well seen in the porticos, arches, columns, tower, and rusticated masonry used in conjunction with brick in the exterior walls. Architect: Henry Schultze, San Francisco, California.

Exterior

The exterior of the building, which is the area of importance for this submission, is basically still intact. No major alterations, with the exception of a partially new roof and the unique fire escape tube, have occurred since the original construction.

Foundations (material): poured concrete; basement: concreted pier pads with wooden posts and beams appears to be in good condition.

Wall construction: The external walls are brick and sandstone. The internal walls are wood stud construction.

Framing: Wood truss type construction at roof. Floor construction is wood joist except at basement. All roof and floor loads are transmitted from wood members to masonry walls and/or to columns and concrete pad footing.

Appurtenances (special features): Bell tower, turret window elements flanking open balcony and porticos; and single turret element at northeast corner of the building.

Chimneys: Chimneys are of brick. Two large chimneys on the roof of the main building and one on the annex.

Openings: Doorways and doors: Most of the interior doors have been removed. A large heavy double door is still in place at the main entrance to the building and other exterior doors are permanently sealed.

Windows: The style of windows are of the double hung sash type.

Roof: For shape of roof see photographs. Originally the roof was slate. Parts of the existing roof are wood shingles and roofing paper.

Cornice, eaves: Simple overhang with gutters and leaders.

Condition of fabric: The brick and sandstone walls appear in good condition. Most of the supporting beams are well preserved and the building appears sturdy.

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The roof leaks considerably and much interior damage and weakening of wood floors and ceilings have resulted. With the exception of the roof, the building appears to be in good condition externally.

Windows are in poor condition, many having been broken out.

Interior

Floor plans: See Part II. C. 1 (page 5), Architectural Supplement, Application for Registration of Historical Landmark (copy attached).

Stairways: Many of the stairways have been altered since original construction. The railings have been removed on all stairways and the interior stairways are generally unsafe.

Flooring: Wood.

Walls and ceiling: Plaster over wood studs. Use of wood lath on original walls. Subsequent walls utilize metal lath. Brick walls were plastered over.

Present condition of interior: The interior of the building has deteriorated greatly. Much of the interior (stair railings, panelling, fixtures, etc.) have been removed and taken to Columbia State Historic Park for restoration work.

Environmental

Accessory structures (outbuildings, enclosures, etc.): There are no other structures in the immediate area of the Castle. The Castle sits alone on a knoll overlooking the town and the existing Youth Authority facility.

Landscaping: Many of the once numerous exotic plantings around the Castle are gone today. There still remains sufficient landscaping to provide some degree of aesthetic appeal (see photos). The grounds are not maintained at present and a few sheep are allowed to graze in the area to keep the grass down.

General Setting and Orientation

The building (Castle) sits on a hill approximately one half mile north of Ione, California. The unique architecture creates an impressive sight from Ione and the surrounding area. Access to the Castle grounds is made possible by a public street.

See Part II. A. through D. (Architectural Supplement), Application for Registration of Historical Landmark, by Ronald J. Mauck, for references to photos, drawings and architectural detail and present condition for the Castle. (State Landmark No. 867).

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 1890 - 1894 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Henry Schieltez

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The "Preston Castle" is the most significant representative of Romanesque Revival architecture in the Mother Lode region. The eclectic architectural style evident in the castle design is very similar to the inner city schools of the period throughout the nation. The fact that the building was planned and built as a "school" and not a "prison" is standing evidence of correctional reform trends, for juveniles in the State of California, which took a giant step forward with the opening of the Preston School--it represents the State of California's first major attempt at prison reform for young offenders.

Any details presented here are intended to help understand the reason for the choice of a style of architecture, the origin of the building, and the activities of the California State Youth Authority in relation to the building.

The "Preston Castle" is located about a half mile north of the City of Ione, California. It was established as the first building to house juvenile offenders within the complex now known as the Preston School of Industry. The establishment of the school was provided for by an act of the State Legislature in 1889 and was named in honor of the late Senator E. M. Preston of Nevada County, California.

Senator Anthony Caminetti of Jackson was instrumental in getting the Preston School established and located in Amador County. It was his dream to locate a model school in Amador County to assist delinquent boys in learning a trade and a basic education which would fit them to become productive citizens. He desired the institution to be as little like a prison as possible and did not want the "typical reform school". To this end the school has never been used for any purpose other than as a correctional facility for young men. About the same time another Senator, E. M. Preston, of Nevada County proposed a bill calling for a reform school to be located near the town of Folsom in Sacramento County. It was the original intent to employ prison labor from nearby Folsom Prison to erect the school and make the furniture. Mr. Caminetti opposed this plan to locate such an institution so near a prison. Legend has it that in obtaining approval for placement in Amador County it was necessary to name the institution after Senator Preston.

The cornerstone of the castle was laid on December 23, 1890. The address of the day was made by Governor R. W. Waterman.

The bricks for the castle were secured from a brick yard in Ione and the sandstone came from a nearby quarry. It is difficult to estimate the exact number of rooms in the beginning, since in past years many partitions have been put in or taken out, but it is estimated there must have been about 120 rooms.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet: 9. Major Bibliographical References

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/3

UTM OK
HL

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	0	6	8	0	3	4	0	4	2	4	8	6	7	0
ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING								

B

ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING								

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Clyde R. Berriman, Director of Historical Research

ORGANIZATION

Amador County Historical Society

DATE

Feb. 11, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

Route 2, Box 12A-1

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Plymouth

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Herbert Rhodes

JUN 3 1975

TITLE

Director

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

W. A. Montrose

DATE

7/30/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

DATE

JUL 29 1975

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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The plans for the "Preston Castle" called for a towered three story building with a basement, having a frontage of 168 feet. An annex containing a dining room and dormitory was to be connected by a corridor to the main building. A recreation room and bath facilities were to be located in the basement, with the first floor housing the reception rooms and quarters for officers, the second floor the library, reading room, and school rooms.

In the beginning the entire population of Preston School was housed in the castle. The superintendent lived there, the academic school was there, the hospital was there, and a swimming pool was in the basement. It was a self contained unit. It is interesting to note that there were 27 tiled fireplaces which heated the building.

Because of delays in financing by the Legislature the building was not completed until 1894 and was officially opened July 3, 1894 with a complement of seven youths transferred from San Quentin. By the end of the first year there were 234 boys in residence.

In later years the facility expanded to many "satellite" buildings with the main building housing the offices necessary for carrying on the business of the institution on the first floor, but in 1960 the last of the staff were transferred to the present office buildings and the "castle" has since remained abandoned.

(See Ronald Mauck, 4635 High Court St., Roseville, California: Application for Registration of Historical Landmark: "Preston Castle", 1973. (State Landmark No. 867.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References:

Sources of information (bibliography and surveys--governmental, private, H.A.B.S., local, etc.)

*Personal Interviews with California Youth Authority Personnel:

Arthur L. German - Information Officer

C. A. Terhune - Superintendent Preston School

*Historical Summary - Prepared by C. A. Terhune as a public information source in regard to "Castle Tours" held in the past.

*Historical Summary - Prepared by T. E. Morrin, Assistant Superintendent at Preston 1920-1945.

*California State Archives - Sacramento, California

*Department of Public Works, Division of Architecture - Sacramento

Drawings (if data known), location, availability, attached, etc.:

Original blue prints are unobtainable - A copy of prints drawn up by state engineers in 1945-1948 is attached along with a front elevation. Drawings have also been unobtainable but early photos are available in the State Archives building.

1. Original (date):

Omitted

2. Measured (date):

The State Archives lists the original measurements of the main building as 178.0' x 70.0'. The attached wing is listed as 50.0' x 50.0'.