

PH00 76686

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: California	
COUNTY: Siskiyou	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	SEP 20 1973

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Captain Jack's Stronghold

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Captain Jack's Stronghold

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Tulelake vic.

CITY OR TOWN:  
S of Tulelake vic.  
Lava Beds National Monument

STATE: California      CODE:      COUNTY: Siskiyou      CODE:

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public      Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input 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) _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Interior Building

CITY OR TOWN: Washington      STATE: District of Columbia      CODE: 001

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Lava Beds National Monument

STREET AND NUMBER:  
P. O. Box 867

CITY OR TOWN: Tule Lake      STATE: California      CODE:

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
None

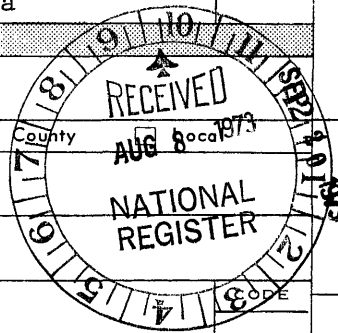
DATE OF SURVEY:       Federal       State       County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:      STATE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:  
COUNTY:  
ENTRY NUMBER  
DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Captain Jack's Stronghold is a formation of incredibly twisted and contorted lava flow on the south shore of former Tule Lake. Here, in 1872-73, the Modoc Indians established a stronghold wherein they held out against the U. S. Army for over five months. The Indians made use of the rock formations, the cracks in the frozen lava, and the natural caves, all of which lent themselves admirably to defensive purposes. In addition the Modocs threw up breastworks and small fortifications of loose rocks.

The Army made two major attacks on the Stronghold, the troops erecting their own hasty fortifications of loose rock on each occasion. After the troops finally occupied the Stronghold, they erected still more "forts" in case of a Modoc counterattack.

The area has not yet been adequately mapped, but approximately 130 fortifications have been marked. Undoubtedly many more exist, both to the east and west of the center of the Modoc defense -- the directions from which the army troops attacked. Other features identifiable today include the cave in which Captain Jack's family is said to have lived, the Modoc "War Dance" Circle, the Modoc Council Ground, the Modoc cattle corral, and their horse corral. A modern road has been built between the Stronghold and the former lake bed.

Boundary:

The boundary lines are believed to be large enough to include all the known and possible fortifications in the area. The historic area is primarily south and east of the road. Several house sites (pre-Modoc War) lie north of the road, between it and the former lake bed. Archeologists have excavated these. The east boundary is 2,500 feet from the center of Modoc defense, the west is 3,500 feet, the north is 1,500 feet at maximum, and the south is 2,500 feet from the center.

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**3. 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)** 1872-73

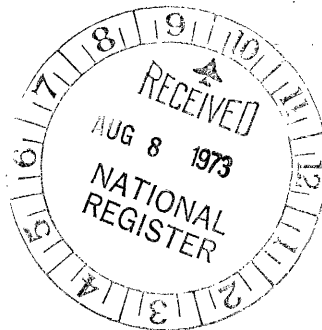
**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <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 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 Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications      | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation        |   |  | _____                                    |

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

At Captain Jack's Stronghold approximately 70 Modoc men held out for 5-1/2 months against a much larger body of U. S. soldiers and Oregon and California volunteers. The first attack on the Stronghold, on January 17, 1873, was made by 300 troops; the second attack on April 15-17, 1873, was made by 650. In the first instance the Modocs successfully repulsed the attack; in the second assault, they withdrew successfully from the Stronghold after inflicting severe casualties on the troops.

The Stronghold symbolized the Modoc War in that here the men of the tribe succeeded in standing off far superior numbers of their attackers. Here they made their last major stand as a tribe. The war crushed the spirit and the body of the Modoc, but at the Stronghold, for a moment of glory, a people successfully defended themselves and their history. The site is of national significance.



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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Erwin N. Thompson, The Modoc War, 1872-73, Lava Beds National Monument  
NPS, 1967.

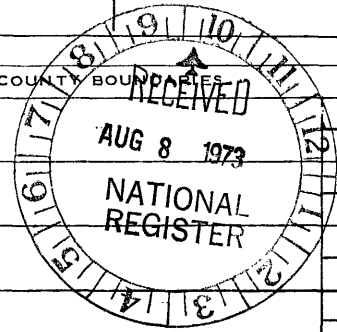
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	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
NW	41°	49'	39"	121°	30'	02"	30'	58"	
NE	41°	49'	39"	121°	29'	36"			
SE	41°	48'	58"	121°	29'	36"			
SW	41°	48'	58"	121°	30'	02"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 460 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



NW10/623250/4631480  
 SW10/625090/4630240  
 SW10/623250/4630170  
 4631440  
 CD

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Erwin N. Thompson, Hist., and Jennifer Hunt Watts

ORGANIZATION: Denver Service Center, NPS      DATE: March 27, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:  
7200 W. Alameda Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Denver      STATE: Colorado      CODE:     

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: John G. Rutter

Title: Director, Pacific Northwest Region

Date: May 10, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert W. Wiley  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 9/20/73

ATTEST:  
Loralee M. [Signature]  
Keeper of the National Register  
Date: 9 19 73