**DATA SHEET**

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

**FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

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### 1 NAME

**HISTORIC**

Park Headquarters, Lassen Volcanic National Park

AND/OR **COMMON**

Administration Building, Building No. 1, Lassen Volcanic National Park

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### 2 LOCATION

**STREET & NUMBER**

Not applicable

**CITY, TOWN**

Mineral

**STATE**

California

**VICINITY OF CODE**

06

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CODE**

Tehama 103

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### 3 CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>DISTRICT</em></td>
<td><em>PUBLIC</em></td>
<td><em>OCCUPIED</em></td>
<td><em>AGRICULTURE</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>BUILDING(S)</em></td>
<td><em>PRIVATE</em></td>
<td><em>UNOCCUPIED</em></td>
<td><em>MUSEUM</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>STRUCTURE</em></td>
<td><em>PUBLIC</em></td>
<td><em>WORK IN PROGRESS</em></td>
<td><em>COMMERCIAL</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>SITE</em></td>
<td><em>PRIVATE</em></td>
<td><em>ACCESSIBLE</em></td>
<td><em>EDUCATIONAL</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>OBJECT</em></td>
<td><em>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</em></td>
<td><em>YES: RESTRICTED</em></td>
<td><em>ENTERTAINMENT</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>IN PROCESS</em></td>
<td><em>BEING CONSIDERED</em></td>
<td><em>YES: UNRESTRICTED</em></td>
<td><em>PRIVATE RESIDENCE</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### 4 AGENCY

**REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS (If applicable)**

National Park Service, Western Regional Office

**STREET & NUMBER**

450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36063

**CITY, TOWN**

San Francisco

**STATE**

California

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### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.**

Tehama County Courthouse

**STREET & NUMBER**

624 Washington Street

**CITY, TOWN**

Red Bluff

**STATE**

California

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### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

**TITLE**

List of Classified Structures

**DATE**

1975

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS**

National Park Service, Western Regional Office

**CITY, TOWN**

San Francisco

**STATE**

California
The Park Headquarters at Lassen Volcanic National Park is a two story wood frame structure set on a concrete foundation with a stone veneer. The building is generally rectangular in plan, with exterior dimensions of 30 by 60 feet. A two-story wing approximately 28 feet wide projects six and one half feet from the front wall. On the rear of the building there is a covered porch approximately 30 feet in length.

The gable roof is finished with shakes, and is steeply pitched to allow heavy snow loads to slide off. The steeply angled shed dormers of the second floor windows also prevent snow accumulation. One of the distinctive features of the building is the entryway, where one side of the central wing's roof overhangs the front porch and in doing so, shelters the recessed doorway.

The building's frame is sheathed in horizontal wood boards painted a dark brown color. Window trim and doors are painted white. At the front of the building, the stone veneer of the foundation rises approximately four feet to the sill of the casement windows. Around the remaining side, masonry rises to approximately one foot in height.

The interior consists of ten rooms and two bathrooms, including separate office space for the Park Superintendent, Chief Ranger, Naturalist, Facility Manager, Administrative Officer, as well as general clerical office space, library and storage areas. Walls are constructed of plasterboard and siding that has been painted or varnished. The floor is carpeted and five of the rooms are paneled. Some interior walls have been moved, but the building remains basically unaltered.

The structure is in good condition with one exception. During heavy rainfalls, water leaks through the concrete foundation into the basement. The perpetual dampness has resulted in the warping and rotting of exterior siding and porch columns, and has caused a rapid deterioration of the foundation. Action should be taken to solve the drainage problem before a major rehabilitation job is necessary. Any work undertaken should be sensitive to the historic appearance and setting of the structure.
The Headquarters Building at Lassen Volcanic National Park was constructed by the National Park Service in 1929 at a cost of $16,000. It is of local significance in the field of architecture as an outstanding example of the "Rustic" style employed by National Park Service architects of the 1920's and 1930's. Because it is an excellent example of this increasingly rare style, it merits placement on the National Register at the local level at this time. It is also of local significance in "conservation" as the building in which decisions are made and problems solved and have been since 1929 in the administration and maintenance of Lassen Volcanic National Park.

The "Rustic" style was a design philosophy that sought to combine the man-made environment with its natural counterpart, in a sensitive fashion that would make buildings subordinate to their setting. Native wood and stone were usually incorporated into the buildings to insure a maximum degree of harmony with their surroundings. This is the case in the Lassen Headquarters, where the stone veneer of the foundation appears as an extension of the underlying rock strata; where the dark brown siding and shake roof blend easily into the forest, and the steep gables complement the peaked tops of the neighboring trees and mountains.

The building deserves National Register status not only for its "Rustic" design elements, but because of its quality of construction, its visually pleasing appearance and its enduring integrity.

The recommended level of treatment is preservation. Special care should be taken in regard to repairs to the building's exterior fabric. Since the significant resource here is the building's exterior, all replacement must be in kind, e.g. replacement of shake roofing with shake roofing. This includes retaining the dark brown color of the building. Intrusions such as aluminum sash are inappropriate.
9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Park building records, Maintenance Division, Lassen Volcanic National Park, Mineral, California.

Strong, Douglas H., "These Happy Grounds:" A History of the Lassen Region.
(Red Bluff: Loomis Museum Association, 1973.)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .072314

UTM REFERENCES

A 6 1 8 2 3 8 1 0 4 4 6 6 8 6 0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
B
C
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary is a rectangle 45 by 70 feet in which the building is centered.

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Richard Shea, Intern;
Gordon Chappell, Regional Historian; Robert Cox, Regional Historical Architect

ORGANIZATION National Park Service, Western Regional Office

DATE 5/19/78

STREET & NUMBER 450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36063

TELEPHONE (415) 556-4165

CITY OR TOWN San Francisco

STATE California

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES X NO NONE

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

DATE 8/10/78

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: William L. Lephart

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE September 7, 1978

GPO 899-214