FORM NO. 10-306 (REV. 10-74)
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

1 NAME
HISTORIC CABIN CREEK RANGER RESIDENCE AND DORMITORY
AND/OR COMMON
Cabin Creek Ranger Station, Buildings 65, 66, 319

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER Not Applicable
CITY, TOWN Sequoia National Park
STATE California

3 CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY DISTRICT
X BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT
OWNERSHIP PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED
STATUS OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS ACCESSIBLE
X YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO
PRESENT USE AGRICULTURE MUSEUM X PARK
COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL PRIVATE RESIDENCE
EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT RELIGIOUS
GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCIENTIFIC
MILITARY TRANSPORTATION OTHER:

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

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Tulare County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER Mooney and Mineral King Boulevards
CITY, TOWN Visalia
STATE California

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE List of Classified Structures
DATE July 1975
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS National Park Service
CITY, TOWN San Francisco
STATE California
The Cabin Creek ranger residence and dormitory stand in a dense conifer forest at an elevation of approximately 6,800 feet. The two buildings stand in a line facing east toward Cabin Creek, which is approximately 50 yards distant. Both structures are wood frame, resting on concrete foundations veneered with native granite. Structurally both buildings are exposed frame in design with rustic siding between the exposed timbers. The shingle roofs are supported by pole rafters and gable brackets. The gables are filled with vertical siding. The ranger residence (building #65) is a three-room house with one bath. Open front and rear porches stand within the 34 by 21 feet rectangle building plan. The dormitory structures measures approximately 23 by 45 feet and is divided into two halves. The southern half (building #66) is a two-room dormitory with bath. Like the adjoining ranger residence it includes front and rear porches under its rectangular roof. The northern half of the structure (building #319) is a two car garage. Both buildings 65 and 66 have stone chimneys.

Neither building has undergone significant alteration. The site also retains integrity, no other structures having been erected since the construction of these two buildings. (Several temporary quarters--house trailers--are moved into the vicinity each summer, however.) With the exception of the roofs, both buildings are in good condition. Both roofs need reshingling and the ends of many of the pole rafters are decayed.
The Cabin Creek ranger residence and dormitory are of local significance in terms of architecture. This significance results from the well-executed rustic design of the buildings in question.

The Cabin Creek ranger residence and dormitory are excellent examples of National Park Service rustic architecture. "NPS-rustic" was an architectural scheme developed by the NPS between 1916 and 1926, and practiced until World War II. Briefly, this type of park architecture emphasized the design relationship between a structure and its natural setting. Sensitive siting and landscaping as well as the use of native materials and natural colors and textures were a part of this effort. The two Cabin Creek buildings are a part of this tradition. Although they stand a short distance from the site of the Lost Grove Entrance Station, Sequoia National Park, for which they originally supplied personnel housing, they are hidden from the highway by dense forest. They make extensive use of natural colors and textures. For example, the foundations are veneered with native granite while the remainder of the exteriors are of wood. Substantial exposed framing and the use of natural pole rafters give the buildings a proportional relationship to the surrounding trees. This effect is heightened by the rustic siding used in the walls and the shingle roofs. (One of the "rules" of NPS-rustic architecture was to avoid smooth, clear surfaces; textured surfaces of the sort present in these buildings were much to be preferred.) The non-intrusive nature of the buildings was augmented by the choice of brown paint for the walls and green for the roofing. The closeness of the relationship between the two structures and their setting is demonstrated by the fact that a transfer of building location during the planning of the structures necessitated the redesigning of their exteriors.

The Cabin Creek ranger residence and dormitory were erected during the summers of 1934 and 1935 by Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees from the Red Fir stub camp of the Buckeye CCC Camp. Construction of the buildings was necessitated by the completion during the fall of 1934 of the Generals Highway between Sequoia and General Grant (now Kings Canyon) National Parks. The new highway opened a major new road entrance to Sequoia Park. The Cabin Creek buildings were erected to provide housing for entrance station rangers on this new route. Originally the two buildings were to be built at Lost Grove, immediately adjacent to the new entrance station, but when it became apparent that this would result in unnecessary congestion, the buildings were erected instead at nearby Cabin Creek. The first designs, which were for Lost Grove, called for Sequoia bark exterior paneling for the buildings, an effort to blend with the giant sequoias of Lost Grove. This design
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .72

UTM REFERENCES

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at permanent survey monument #3 (e1.6703.79) (Cabin Creek Survey, 1936) proceed north 100 feet; thence west 160 feet; thence south 200 feet; thence east 160 feet; thence north 100 feet to point of beginning.

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
William Tweed, Park Technician

ORGANIZATION
National Park Service, Sequoia and Kings Canyon

STREET & NUMBER
Ash Mountain Headquarters

CITY OR TOWN
Three Rivers

DATE
4-5-77

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION
YES X NO

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
feature was altered when the decision was made to locate the structures at Cabin Creek where there were no sequoias. The buildings were designed in the San Francisco office of the National Park Service Branch of Plans and Design, under the supervision of Thomas C. Vint. Design consultation, siting, and construction supervision were supplied by NPS Landscape Architect Harold G. Fowler and Emergency Conservation Work Landscape Architect Lloyd Fletcher.

Significant values requiring management protection on this site relate to the external appearance of the two structures and to their setting, including the historic brown and green paint scheme. Care should be exercised to prevent permanent damage to the setting as a result of temporary quarters emplacement or use. Preservation of the setting does not imply the preservation of individual trees but rather a healthy reproducing mixed conifer forest.