

PH0509531

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 29 1977
DATE ENTERED APR 26 1978

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

RECEIVED

HISTORIC

Lovejoy Homestead

SEP 16 1977

OLP

AND/OR COMMON

Horseshoe Bend and White House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

End of Wilderness Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Branscomb *mic.*

VICINITY OF

2

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

California

CODE

6

COUNTY

Mendocino

CODE

045

3 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
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

The Nature Conservancy

STREET & NUMBER

425 Bush Street

CITY, TOWN

San Francisco

VICINITY OF

California

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Mendocino County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Ukiah

California

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None.

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input 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 Horseshoe Bend or Lovejoy Homestead, is situated at the north end of Wilderness road next to the scenic South fork of the Eel River. The site includes a Victorian residence locally known as the "White House", as well as a woodshed, blacksmith shop ruins, guest cabins (across the river from the residence), barn, original wagon road (now passable by automobile) small apple orchard and an old hayfield. The Victorian 2-story residence, constructed in two stages, is unique for such a remote location. The single-story, south wing of the house was built in the 1890's as the homesteader's original cabin. The 2-story Victorian addition was completed in 1905. The connecting units are 24' by 28' each; the newer section is offset 11' west of the old cabin. A 4' extension of the kitchen in the old cabin makes the east wall 28' instead of 24'. Both halves of the house are constructed of local Redwood. The exterior walls of the older section are covered in vertical Redwood board and batten while the walls of the newer section are built of horizontal, lapped Redwood siding that was originally painted white. A 6' wide porch, with balcony above, extends along the north and west sides of the 2-story section. The porch continues along the west side of the older cabin. Both the addition and cabin have a saddled roof of Redwood shingles. A fiberglass shed-roof covers the porch on the west side of the older cabin and a false shed-roof of aluminum (over old Redwood shingles) covers the kitchen and north side of the original homestead.

Inside the old cabin is a main room, forming the house's parlor, with a fireplace on the south wall. The kitchen is located on the east side of the old cabin and is equipped with an operable hand pump (perhaps original) for well water. The downstairs portion of the 2-story addition is divided into 2 bedrooms of unequal size and a bathroom. The upstairs is divided into 4 equal-sized bedrooms. There is also a large unfinished attic.

The structural integrity of the exterior has changed little since the 1905 addition. The fiberglass covering and false shed-roof of aluminum over the kitchen could be easily replaced with other materials without any damage to the cabin. The only other alterations to the structure have been miscellaneous repairs to the porches (all in keeping with the original design and materials) and the redesign and rebuilding of the fireplace in the 1930's.

Aside from the collapsed state of some of the outbuildings and slight encroachment of forest growth, the site has changed little from the days of the first homesteaders. Because the site has remained unusually well preserved it is still visually suggestive of the settler's activities and even the uninformed visitor can easily recognize the layout and boundaries of the original homestead.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) recreation
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES *1890's / 1905*

BUILDER/ARCHITECT *GEORGE LOVEJOY*

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Horseshoe Bend, situated by the South fork of the Eel River and framed by rugged mountains covered with Redwood and Douglas fir, formed the backdrop for the homestead of George and Annie Lovejoy in the early 1890's. Each component of the site--the house, the weathered outbuildings, the field and orchard--reflects a significant stage of the settlement and development history of Mendocino County. The homesteading era and its associated agriculture, the significant architecture of the period and later land use and recreational trends are all reflected in this undisturbed setting.

The 1890's marked the start of settlement in Mendocino County and the Lovejoy family was among the first to homestead in this area. The cabin they constructed in many ways was representative of the first homesteads--small, board and batten construction with a shed-like kitchen, equipped with a handpump for water, located in the rear of the structure. The family's livelihood was farming and the abandoned sheds, remains of the barn, blacksmith shop, orchard, field and miscellaneous farming implements all suggest the toil and lifestyle that traditional mixed farming meant in this rugged land.

About 1905 the Lovejoy's, perhaps anticipating the next development phase of the area or perhaps simply wanting a more comodious home, built a 2-story addition to the old cabin. The new house, with its wood frame, porches, balconies and parlor, was rather elegant for its remote setting. The style, though, was simple with straight, clean lines instead of the more decorative flair of the houses in town. The new, large dwelling and several simple guest cabins built across the river became a lucrative business when the resort boom hit around 1910. Horseshoe Bend and Wilderness Lodge, one mile south of Horseshoe Bend, were the biggest resorts in the area and when Wilderness Lodge was destroyed by fire in the mid-1930's, Horseshoe Bend was left as the only reminder of this period. The Lovejoy's house was ideal for the resort business; a large parlor, the upstairs bedrooms, porch, balcony and guest cabins across the river all recall this exciting but short-lived period. After the decline of the resort business in the 1920's the house became a summer home for a string of relatively affluent owners. Style and comfort became important and in the 1930's the fireplace was rebuilt and one of the first telephones in this part of the county was installed. Little else was changed. Escalating taxes and expenses in the early 1950's marked the end of the summer cabin era. But the 1950's also marked the beginning of the trend toward institutional use, the time when much of this part of the county was being rediscovered for its recreational potential, particularly for summer youth camps. A group

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Ettner, Robert F., "History of the Northern California Coast Range Preserve, 1884-1931." (unpublished mimeo on file at Preserve Headquarters, 1965).
- Johnson, Sharon G., "Land Use History of the Northern California Coast Range Preserve." (Master's Thesis in Geography at San Francisco State, to be completed May, 1978).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5.75

UTM REFERENCES

A	110	445730	4399700	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property is rectangular, roughly 360 feet by 690 feet with the northeast corner truncated by the South fork of the Eel River. Guest cabins are located across the river.

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

Sharon Johnson, Preserve Director	September 12, 1977
ORGANIZATION	DATE
The Nature Conservancy	(707) 984-7143
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
PO Box 33	California
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Branscomb	

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Ken Miller

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE November 17, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

<i>Lawrence H. Cole</i>	DATE 4/26/78
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
ATTEST: <i>Lawrence H. Cole</i>	DATE 4.12.78
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

known as Camp Adventure purchased the house with the intention of making it a YMCA training center; however, aside from a few visits by the staff, these plans never materialized and the house has remained unused.

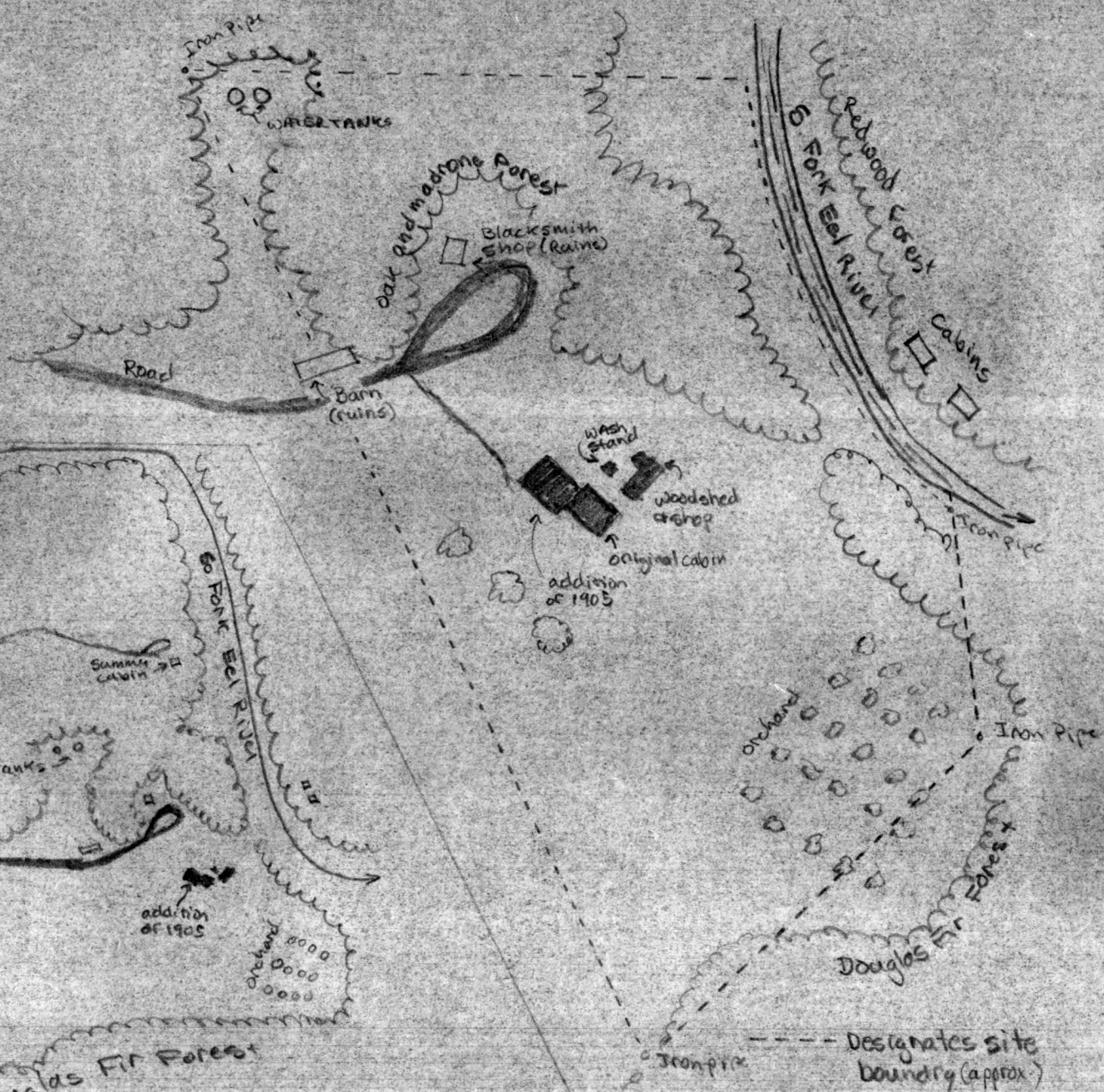
In 1958 The Nature Conservancy, a national non-profit organization dedicated to the acquisition of ecologically unique lands, bought the site along with 4,000 acres of adjoining lands. The property, known as the Northern California Coast Range Preserve, is set aside for scientific and educational use as well as general nature appreciation. Today, the excellent condition and visual integrity of Horseshoe Bend and the White House along with the renewed interest in our national heritage, suggests a museum-interpretive use for the area so that visitors may gain an understanding and appreciation of the rich local history and unique natural elements of Mendocino County.



The Lovejoy Homestead

1977

Sketch map - Oct 1977.
FOR ADDITION TO THE
REGISTER OF HISTORIC
PLACES NOMINATION FORM



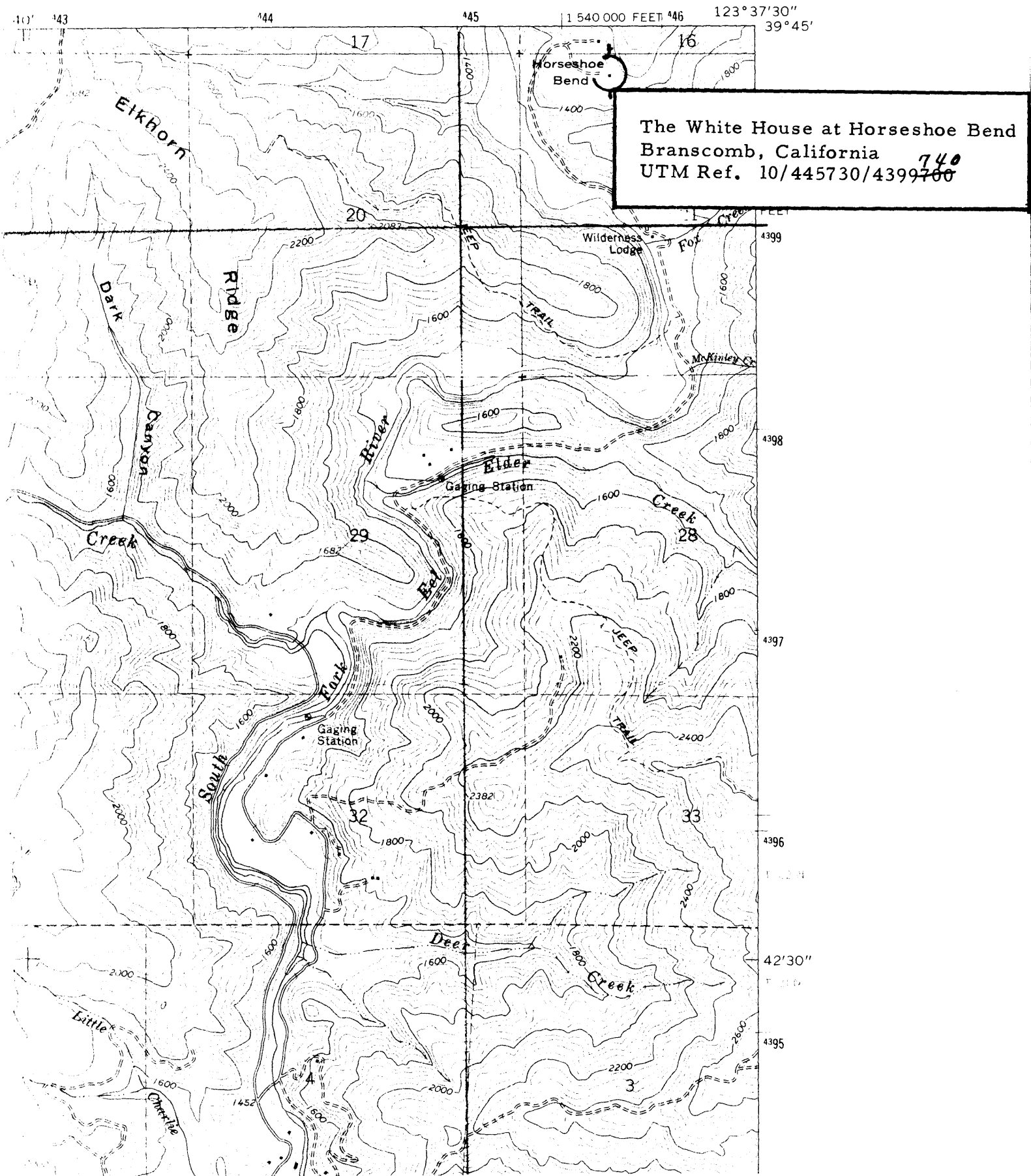
1" = 333'

1" = 111'

SPJ 77

LINCOLN RIDGE QUADRANGLE
CALIFORNIA - MENDOCINO CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NW/4 BRANSCOMB 15' QUADRANGLE

1263 1.62 5000
(LEGGETT 1:62 5000)



The White House at Horseshoe Bend
Branscomb, California 740
UTM Ref. 10/445730/4399700