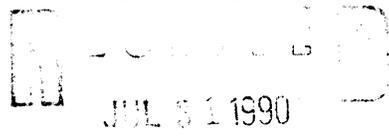


1363

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL
REGISTER**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

Historic Name: Arena Cove Historic District

Other Name/Site Number: _____

=====

2. Location

=====

Street & Number: Arena Cove

Not for Publication: ___

City/Town: Point Arena

Vicinity: _____

State: CA

County: Mendocino

Code: 045

Zip Code: 95468

=====

3. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
___ 10	_____ buildings
_____	_____ sites
___ 3	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
___ 13	_____ Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing:

Architectural and Historic Resources of Point Arena, California

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

Stade R. Craze

7/24/90

Signature of certifying official

Date

California Office of Historic Preservation

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Autawilla Lee

9/13/90

for Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: Commerce
Transportation

Sub:

Water-related

Current : Domestic

Sub:

Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Late Nineteenth and 20th Century Revivals
Stick/Eastlake
No Style

Other Description:

Materials: foundation concrete__ roof asbestos_
walls weatherboard other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance. _X_ See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: locally_____.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A__

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : _____

Areas of Significance: Commerce_____
Maritime History_____

Period(s) of Significance: 1875 - 1933 _____

Significant Dates : N/A_ _____

Significant Person(s): N/A_____

Cultural Affiliation: N/A_____

Architect/Builder: Unknown_____

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas of significance noted above. _X_ See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

State historic preservation office

Other state agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other -- Specify Repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 20 acres (approx.)

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A 10 438405 4307480 B 10 438780 4307400

C 10 438800 4307230 D 10 438510 4307340

____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ____ See continuation sheet.

See attached scale map.

Boundary Justification: _____ See continuation sheet.

The boundary includes the historic resources and their immediate setting.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Donald S. Napoli and Maryln Bourne Lortie, State Historians _____

Organization: State Office of Historic Pres. Date: 5/29/90 _____

Street & Number: P. O. Box 942896 _____ Telephone: (916) 445-8006 _____

City or Town: Sacramento _____ State CA ZIP: 94296-0001 _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Arena Cove Historic District Page # 1

=====

The Arena Cove Historic District consists of a variety of structures related to activities at Arena Cove. The district has a striking setting. It is bounded on the north by two wooded hills and extends west to the Pacific Ocean. The district contains thirteen resources, all contributors. It includes structures directly related to maritime commerce (the wharf master's house and large corrugated shed), to the life-saving station (captain's house, boathouse, auxiliary buildings and structures), and to residential use (a house). The structures are, with a few notable exceptions, simple and functional. Some of them are in disrepair, and some have been altered. For the most part, they retain their appearances from the historic period. Overall, the architectural integrity of the district remains high.

All the resources in the district are contributors. See attached map for their locations.

Resource No. 1. The Coast Guard Boathouse is a large rectangular structure with gable roof, clad in wood shingle siding. Three two-over-two double-hung windows, once but no longer shuttered, line both sides. Originally two large doors, each with two panels, opened outward toward the ocean from the western end of the building. Today the doors are gone, replaced by a wall with horizontal board siding and two aluminum sliding windows. In the gable above the new wall a sign proclaims "U. S. Coast Guard, Arena Cove Boathouse." The remains of the boat-launching ramp, which extended harborward from the boathouse, have been removed to make way for a new deck. This was one of ten structures that made up the Life-Saving Station. It was probably built early in 1903, shortly after the arrival of station keeper and crew, and was put into service in May of that year. Here the Life-Saving Service (and later the Coast Guard) stored its lifeboat and surfboat. From the ramp that extended west from the main doors the surfmen launched their boats to rescue seamen foundering off the coast. Despite the alterations caused by its current conversion to new uses, the building retains both its original form and the shingle siding that marked the station structures. It strongly contributes to the character of the historic district.

Resource No. 2. The Wharfmaster's House, an Eastlake cottage, is surely the most elaborately decorated residence in Point Arena. The one and half story house has a side facing gable roof with gabled dormer. Decorative millwork adorns the bargeboards at the gable ends. Scroll brackets at the corners of the building support the eaves. A front porch extends across the entire front of the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Arena Cove Historic District Page # 2

=====

house and is supported by turned posts. A porch roof is supported by scroll brackets atop each of the turned posts. At the center of the porch roof is a small triangular pediment. Windows are wood framed, two over two. At the western facade the lower two windows have small shed roofed canopies supported by decorative brackets. Beneath the roof volume and overhanging eaves the siding is vertical. The rest of the house clad in horizontal wood siding. Alterations appear to be minimal. The porch foundation has been altered, but the change detracts little from the overall integrity of the structure. This house is one of Point Arena's most important buildings. It makes a strong contribution to the historic district and is individually significant as well. The house was constructed for the wharfmaster, whose work was central to the economic well-being of Point Arena from the 1860s to the 1920s. Because of its location on a rise above the cove, the wharfmaster could be at home and still literally oversee activities at the port. The house was probably built in the mid-1870s. Reputedly, it was prefabricated in San Francisco and shipped to Point Arena as a kit. Certainly nothing else in town matches it for ornamentation. Turned posts, scroll brackets, elaborate window moldings, decorative bargeboards, and a dentil course all make an appearance. These Eastlake elements typified fancy houses built during the era in larger and less remote California cities but were unusual in Point Arena, where residents were generally contented with functionality. Finally, this house, overlooking the ocean and surrounded by gnarled trees and shrubs, gives an excellent idea of what was considered "picturesque" in the middle of the nineteenth century.

Resource No. 3. The structure is a large frame industrial building on a concrete foundation, covered in corrugated metal siding. A shallow pitched gable roof and large, tall sliding doors on tracks at the front of the building are its main features. It has recently been rehabilitated. This building is one of several purely functional structures at the cove. At one time it served as an oil supply storage facility. It continues to contribute to the historic character of the district. Construction date - ca. 1925.

Resource No. 4. The Coast Guard garage is a one-story gable-roof structure clad in painted wood shingles. The gable end faces the front of the structure. Two large wooden double doors on hinges open outward onto a concrete ramp. Above the doors is a rectangular framed sign-like object filled in with horizontal boards. The building was used to house vehicles belonging to the life-saving station. It was constructed with materials compatible with other of the station's buildings. Construction date - ca. 1902.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Arena Cove Historic District Page # 3

Resource No. 5. This small board and batten residence is one-story in height. The roof is gabled and pierced by a vent pipe. At the rear is a shed roof extension, smaller in height than the main volume of the house. Windows are wood frame and either one-over-one double hung, or three-over-three fixed sash. The building, built about 1910, once housed families of wharf workers and life-saving station crew members. Despite modifications and deterioration, it contributes to the district as an example of small-scale vernacular residential building that was connected with workers at the cove.

Resource No. 6. This Neo-Classical residence was the home of the Coast Guard Captain, and was built to provide a great deal of visibility from the house. It is a one and a half story gable roofed building with hipped dormers, a multi-sided central tower and a gabled section extending forward at the eastern end of the facade. The house is clad in painted wood shingles, and rests on a concrete foundation. The gable roof forms a porch over the front door at the western end. Classical columns support the porch roof. Windows are double-hung, six over one and six over two. This building, the residence of the men assigned to the life-saving station, strongly contributes to the historic character of the district. It was among the first station buildings to be constructed, having been completed in December, 1902. Since the building provided the station chief a suite of rooms at the rear, it is commonly known as the "Captain's House." But the building also served as a dormitory for other crew members, at least for those without families at the station, and presumably as a dining hall as well. This was the center piece of a group of sturdily constructed, shingle sided station buildings. The building's design, with a central tower that would have been strange even in more architecturally diverse towns, indicated to port visitors that the building had a special purpose. This impression continues today. A few alterations, especially the construction of a small shed-roofed addition to the first story of the tower and the enclosure of the front-facing gabled wing, have been made over the years, but they do not compromise the architectural integrity of the building.

Resource No. 7. This small gable-roofed garage is located behind the Captain's house. Like the larger building, it has an asbestos tile roof, and shingle siding. One large door dominates the main elevation. This garage at the rear of the Captain's house has the gabled roof, shingle siding, and lack of detail that typified construction at the life-saving station. Because it was used to house an automobile, it may have been built after the initial construction period of the station. The building contributes to the historic character of the district. Construction date - ca. 1910.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Arena Cove Historic District Page # 4

Resource No. 8. This building, located behind the Captain's House, was an auxiliary structure for the life-saving station. It is a simple, one and a half story rectangular structure with gable roof and shed dormer. The main facade has a recessed front door--part of the gable roof forms a small front porch which is supported at the outside corner by a simple column. There is a fixed three over one wood frame window next to the door. Other windows on this facade are nine-light or nine-over-one. The dormer, which is not original, does not detract substantially from the integrity of the building or its contribution to the character of the district. Construction date - 1903.

Resource No. 9. This small building, located about 30 feet to the west of the auxiliary building (No. 8), has a gable roof and shingle siding. The entrance is on the north elevation, and a double-hung window is on the south. This is one of the smallest of the buildings at the former life-saving station. Like its more impressive neighbors, it has a gable roof, shingle siding, and no detail. Its historic use is unclear. It may have served as a small storage shed or possibly as an outhouse. The building contributes to the character of the district in appearance and historic associations. Construction date - 1903.

Resource No. 10. This set of water storage structures, located on a hill above the Captain's House and adjoining buildings, consists of two cylindrical tanks about twelve feet in diameter. The one on the west is approximately 10 feet high. Its partner rises about fifteen feet. Both are sided in shingle. The water tanks (possibly just one of the two) may date from the initial construction period of the life-saving station. They contribute to the historic character of the district.

Resource No. 11. This wooden flagpole, constructed in vertical sections, rises approximately fifty feet above the adjoining Captain's House. The flagpole carried the symbol of the federal government's involvement at Arena Cove. The flag, was presumably visible to voyagers far out at sea. The flagpole, in practical and metaphorical terms, gave meaning to the life-saving station and continues to contribute to the historic character of the district. Ca. 1902.

Resource No. 12. This shed, adjacent to the Coast Guard Garage, has a shallow gable roof of rolled asbestos. Its shape is rectangular, with the long side facing south. The entrance is on the west elevation. Siding is shingle. The shed exhibits a severe backward lean, indicating that it has not enjoyed the care shown to some of the other small buildings at the Cove. In its appearance alone, the building, with its gable roof and shingle siding, contributes to the character of the district. It exhibits the design characteristics of buildings associated with the life-saving station. But what role, if any, it played has yet to be determined. Construction date - 1910.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Arena Cove Historic District Page # 5

Resource No. 13. This concrete structure serves as a staircase and a retaining wall. The steps rise from the floor of the cove to the former Coast Guard complex above. One flight parallels the west side of the adjacent garage, the other the back of the building. The staircase thus functions as a retaining wall for two sides of the garage. The wall, without steps, continues around the garage on the east. The staircase-and-wall structure adds texture to the historic district through its clear connection with a familiar human activity, walking up and down steps. Its other use, keeping earth from the hillside away from the garage, is also clear. The wall portion may predate the staircase, which does not appear on the earliest photos of the station.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Arena Cove Historic District Page # 1

=====

The Arena Cove Historic District represents the commercial maritime activity that formed the backbone of Point Arena's economy from the 1860s to the early part of the twentieth century. It was at the cove that lumber, dairy products, and other fruits of local labor were shipped to San Francisco. And it was at the cove that people and manufactured goods arrived on their way to town and outlying areas. One major building (the wharf master's house) in the district relates to commercial activity. A set of ten structures is connected to the life-saving (later coast guard) station established at the cove in 1903 to make maritime commerce less perilous. The architectural integrity of all the structures remains high, although some alterations have occurred. All of the resources were built between approximately 1875 and 1925 and contribute to the historic character of the district. The boundaries of the district encompass the resources. The district meets the registration requirements for its property type as set forth in the Point Arena multiple property nomination. The period of significance has been ended at 1933, the date of the Longshoremen's strike after which the wharf area declined in significance.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9

Arena Cove Historic District Page # 1

Major Bibliographical Sources

Brinzing, Margaret. "Early History of the Mendocino Coast." M.A. Thesis, University of California, Berkeley, Department of History, 11 August 1950.

Carpenter, Aurelius and Percy Milberry. Mendocino and Lake Counties. Los Angeles: Historic Record Co., 1914.

Palmer, Lyman L. A History of Mendocino County California. San Francisco: Alley, Bowen & Company, 1880.

Point Arena Lighthouse Keepers Photo Collection, Point Arena Lighthouse, Point Arena, California.

Point Arena Record, 1897-1928, passim.

"Point Arena Station Completed." San Francisco Chronicle, 15 Dec 1902, p. 7.

Ryder, David Warren, Memories of the Mendocino Coast. San Francisco: n.p., 1948.

Shanks, Ralph and Janetta. Lighthouses and Lifeboats on the Redwood Coast. San Anselmo, California: San Anselmo Press, 1978.

U.S. Life Saving Service. Annual Reports, 1876-1914. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1914.

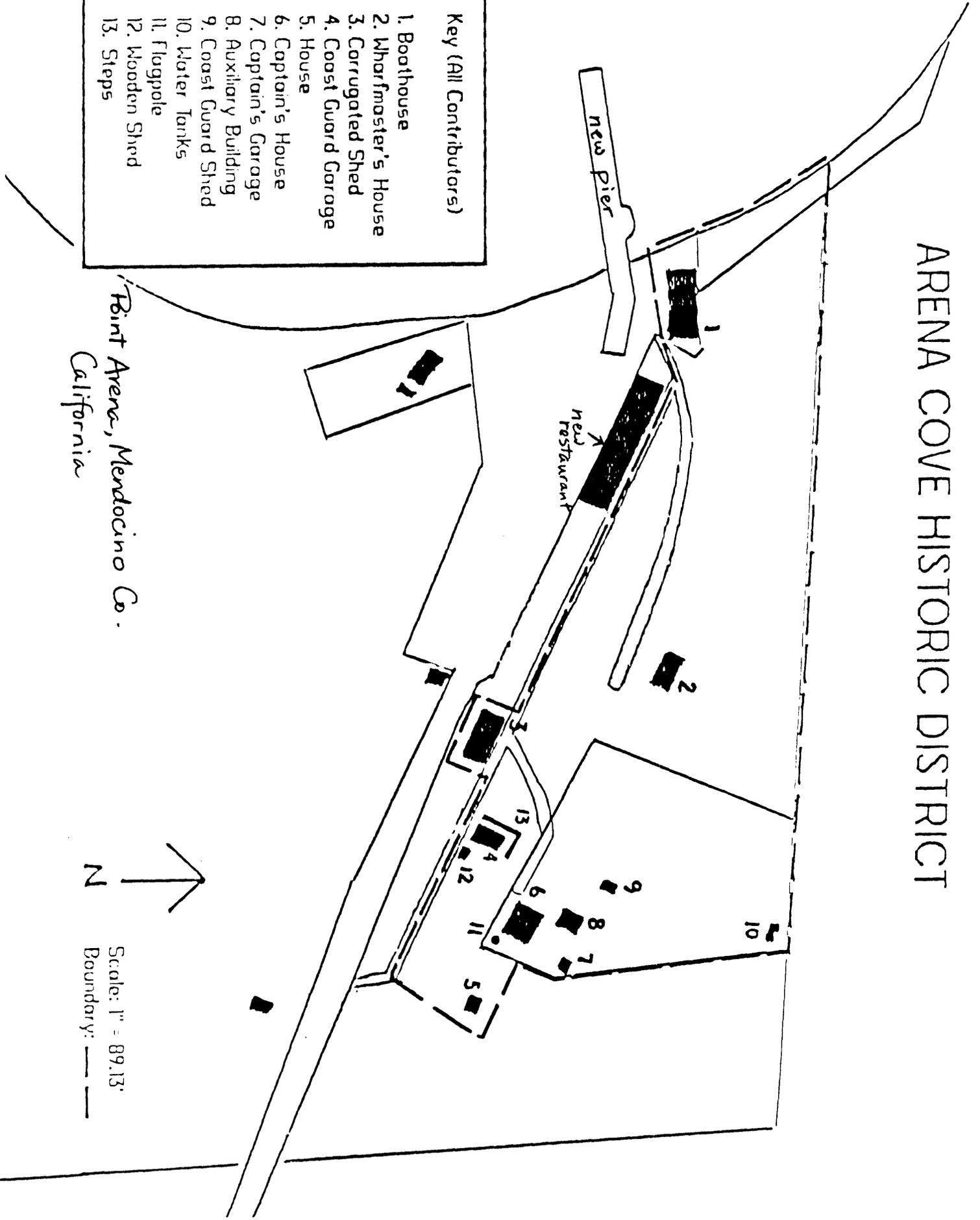
ARENA COVE HISTORIC DISTRICT

- Key (All Contributors)
1. Boothouse
 2. Wharfmaster's House
 3. Corrugated Shed
 4. Coast Guard Garage
 5. House
 6. Captain's House
 7. Captain's Garage
 8. Auxiliary Building
 9. Coast Guard Shed
 10. Water Tanks
 11. Flagpole
 12. Wooden Shed
 13. Steps

Point Arena, Mendocino Co.
California



Scale: 1" = 89.13'
Boundary: ———



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Photo Log

Arena Cove Historic District

All photos by Don Napoli and Maryln Bourne Lortie
Negative Location: California Office of Historic Preservation,
Sacramento

1. Photo taken Jan., 1988, looking northeast
All buildings in foreground have been demolished except
Building #3 which is third from left in foreground. Building
#2 is in upper left section of picture.
2. Photo taken March, 1990, looking northeast
Shown are Building #1, new restaurant outside of boundaries,
and Building #2 above, right.
3. Photo taken March, 1990, looking north
Shown are, from left, Resources #13, #4, #12.
4. Photo taken Jan., 1989, looking northeast
Shown are, from left, Resources #10, #9, #8, #6, #7, #11.
5. Photo taken Jan., 1989, looking northeast
Building #3. Building at right has been demolished.
6. Photo taken March, 1990, looking north
Flagpole, Resource #11.
7. Photo taken Jan., 1989, looking north
Building #2, the Wharfmaster's House.
8. Photo taken Jan., 1989, looking north
Building #6, the Captain's House.
9. Photo taken Jan., 1989, looking northeast
Building #8, Auxiliary Building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Photo Log Arena Cove Historic District

10. Photo taken ca. 1908, looking west
Large dark building is Captain's House (#6)
11. Photo taken ca. 1912, looking northeast
Buildings in center of picture are Captain's House and
Auxiliary Building (#6 and #8).