

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only

received **4 SEP 1979**

date entered **OCT 18 1979**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Con Creek School

and/or common

2. Location

street & number On Highway 128, 2 miles North of Boonville, CA on CA 128
not for publication

city, town Boonville vicinity of congressional district 2nd

state California code 06 county Mendocino code 045

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Anderson Valley Community Service District

street & number

city, town Boonville vicinity of state California

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Mendocino County Courthouse, Recorders Office

street & number Corner of Perkins and State Street

city, town Ukiah state California

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title none has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date 1965

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This building is a typical little red school house, a one-story, one-room structure, in a vernacular Greek Revival style. Except for minor exterior alterations, porches and storage sheds, the building retains its integrity of design and location. Interior alterations are in the process of being removed and the condition of the building returned to the original. The building sets on approximately 1.6 acres of well kept lawns and is shaded by a large fir tree.

The school is a rectangular redwood ship-lap sided structure located near Highway 128 in Anderson Valley. This simple, 1870's, classically styled building has dimensions of 20 feet by 50 feet. A rear storage area was constructed at the same time as the school; its dimensions are 10 feet by 12 feet. A full porch of 8 feet by 20 feet was added at a later date to the front; it replaced the original shed-roofed hood, supported by brackets, over the front entrance.

From the front, a porch consisting of a hipped roof with asphalt shingles is supported by 4 square wooden posts. The door is reached by a 4 step tripartite wooden porch with a balustrade of square posts. The front facade has no windows. The door is flanked by electrical equipment and pipes. The front gable end is framed by an undecorated frieze band. A hipped roofed rectangular cupola, with louvers on each side, and a ship-lap base, caps the front. This bell tower still contains the old school bell.

The side elevations consist of 6 windows with a central grouping of 3 windows. These 3 share a common sill. The windows are 6 over 6 double-hung 2-sash framed in redwood. Flat lintels and sills painted white surround the frames. The eastern side of the school has a small, wooden, shed-roofed outbuilding in a design compatible with the school. This is located close to the building and partially obscures the two windows to the front of the central grouping. (No use was given for the structure.) Continuing toward the rear, a gabled roofed entrance porch, supported by 2 wooden posts and reached by 6 steps, was added to the school in 1965 per order of the State Fire Marshall.

At the rear, the former wood storage area extends from the building and has a shed roof. Three double-hung two-sash single-pane windows share a common sill and face the north. A five-panel molded door opens from the east side of the shed to the porch.

The interior of the school has been altered through the use of paneling, accoustical tile, and carpeting to update the appearance. The owners plan to remove these modern decorative elements. Restrooms were added to the old cloak room.

The style of the Con Creek School demonstrates stylistic elements of the Greek Revival. The bilateral symmetry of the building has been altered through the addition of the side porch, but the entrance way reflects the former order of the building. The wall surfaces are as flat as the material would allow. There is little decoration other than the use of paint in contrasting colors to mark the end boards, the window surrounds, and the plain frieze band. As with most Greek Revival style buildings, the school was originally painted white. Later the color was changed to red with white trim. Although the building has no pediment, the contrasting colored end boards appear to support the gable end of the school, lending a strength to the simple block structure.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET 1 ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

In 1965, the State Department of Highways built a new road through Anderson Valley to eliminate the numerous curves. The Con Creek School was moved to a new concrete foundation 20 feet due south of the original site. The school also was reoriented from East-West to North-South. The move did not effect the integrity of the site and the location. The building still retains the dignity of its design and is located on the grounds where it has stood for 102 years.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1877 **Builder/Architect** J. D. Ball

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Con Creek School is significant as an example of a building type and a period in our country's architectural development. As the grammar school in this rural area of California, the building possesses an extreme historical importance to the local population. In use for 102 years, the school is the focal point of the town. The history of the town and the area explains the presence of a Greek Revival style building at a later date than the stylistic period. (1)

The Anderson Valley is a long, narrow strip (15 miles by 2 miles) between two mountain chains. The first settlers entered the valley in 1851; there was no market for the valley's products, so it remained rather isolated. J. D. Ball, an early pioneer, arrived with his large family (8 children) in 1852. By 1876, there was a need for a "real" school house and the local residents petitioned for a new school district to be established in Anderson. After receiving approval for the district, the trustees paid \$3.00 in gold for a two acre parcel located next to Con Creek. Mr. Ball constructed the school in a style with which he was familiar. (Ample lumber was available from the redwood groves in the valley). The school opened in October 1877 and served the local community until the spring of 1979. In this area, alumni ranging in age from 94 to 5, retain fond memories of the school. A description of Boonville, written in 1914, (and still very accurate), conveys the importance of the school to the town. "Boonville, about the center of the township, is the oldest village in it. It consists of two hotels, two stores, two blacksmith shops, post office, drug store, and eight or ten residences, a church and school house and barber shop. There used to be two saloons, but the school district voted dry some years ago and they are things of the past." (2) Used as a gathering place for the community, Boonville was and is proud of its' little red school house.

Architecturally, the building is an example of a vernacular adaption of the Greek Revival style in a country school house. The Greek Revival in the United States was popular from 1820-1860. The use of it in Boonville, reflects the conservatism of architectural tastes, the isolation of the community, and the popularity of the style with residents. This style was of particular importance to California and to school house design. Harold Kirker wrote in California's Architectural Frontier that the Greek Revival was the primary style of rural architecture in California until the advent of the railroads. Barbara Wriston stated in "The Use of Architectural Handbooks..." that the two styles most frequently used in school houses from 1840-1860 were the Greek Revival and the Gothic Revival. Although the school house was built in 1877, the local carpenter had emigrated to this area of California in 1852; he built the school in the style with which he was familiar-- a style popular when he left the east in the 1850's. This carpenter's use of the Greek Revival is explained by William Pierson: "Adopted by the common man as well as the professional, it became the first style in American history to be consciously understood and embraced as a truly national mode of building." (3) The local carpenter built the school in a manner which was fitting to the dignity of a public structure.

9. Major Bibliographical References see continuation sheet

Title of Ownership--Book 689, P. 631 in Mendocino County Courthouse Office of Recorder
 Excerpts from Official Records of Con Creek School District, Minutes of Mendocino
 County Board of Supervisors, November 9th, 1876, Volume 3, p. 273.
 Interviews with Alva Ingram and Blanche Brown--former students.
 Book of Deeds 22, p. 208, Mendocino County Recorders Office.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.6
 Quadrangle name Boonville SW, Mendocino County, CA

UTM NOT VERIFIED
 Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

A 10 4666650 4319950
 Zone Easting Northing

B
 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

Portion of Parcel 23 on Map 46-17, Mendocino County Assessor's Map, March 1971.
 From NW corner of entry gate 218 ft S to SW corner then 107 ft. E to SE corner, then
 223 ft N to NE corner and 71 ft W to starting point. See continuation sheet.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title J. Robert Mathias, Chairman **Revised by State Historic Preservation Office, MN-L 8/28/79.**
 organization Anderson Valley Historical Society date 8-22-78
 street & number 18500 Alpine Meadows telephone 707-895-3645
 city or town Yorkville state California 95494

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Kenneth M. Elin
 title date 8/29/79

For HCRS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.
 Keeper of the National Register Carol Skell date 10-18-79
 Attest: [Signature] date 10-17-79
 Chief of Registration

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CONTINUATION SHEET

2

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

Footnotes:

1. Because of the isolation of Anderson Valley, little historical information is available. The information that has been found indicates that the area was/is extremely conservative and traditional.
2. Carpenter and Millberry. Page 39.
3. Pierson. Page 417.

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CONTINUATION SHEET 3 ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Carpenter, Aurelius O. and Percy H. Millberry, History of Mendocino and Lake Counties, California. Historic Record Co., Los Angeles, CA, 1914.

History of Mendocino County, California. Alley, Bowen and Co., Publishers, San Francisco, CA, 1880.

Hamlin, Talbot. Greek Revival Architecture in America. Dover Publications, Inc., New York. 1944, 1964.

Kirker, Harold. California's Architectural Frontier. Peregrine Smith, Inc. Santa Barbara. 1973.

Pierson, William H., Jr. American Buildings and Their Architects, The Colonial and Neo-Classical Styles. Anchor Books, Garden City, New York. 1970, 1976.

Wriston, Barbara. "The Use of Architectural Handbooks in the Design of Schoolhouses from 1840 to 1860". Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians. October 1963. Volume XXII, Number 3. Pages 155-160.

FHR-8-300A
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CONTINUATION SHEET

4

ITEM NUMBER

10

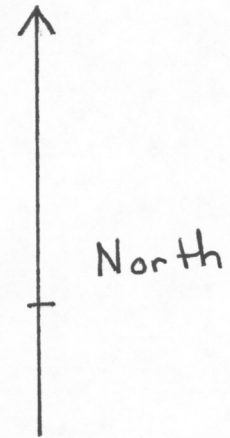
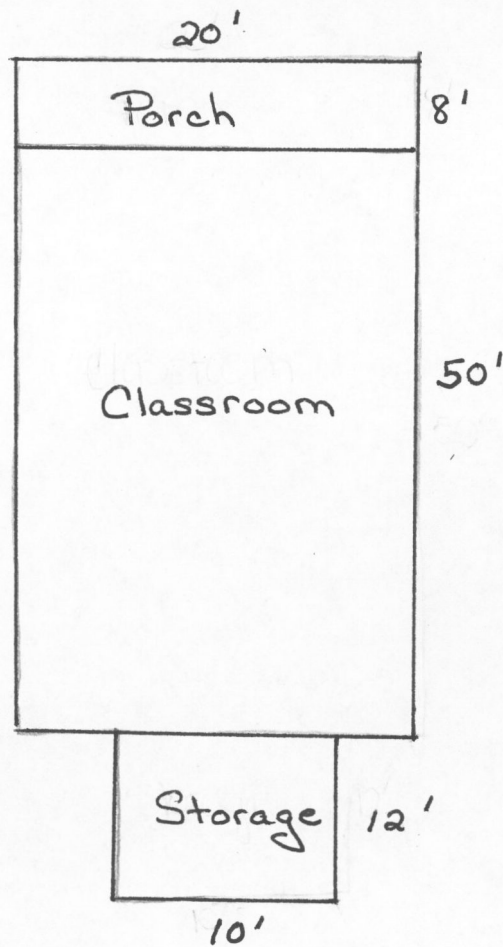
PAGE

1

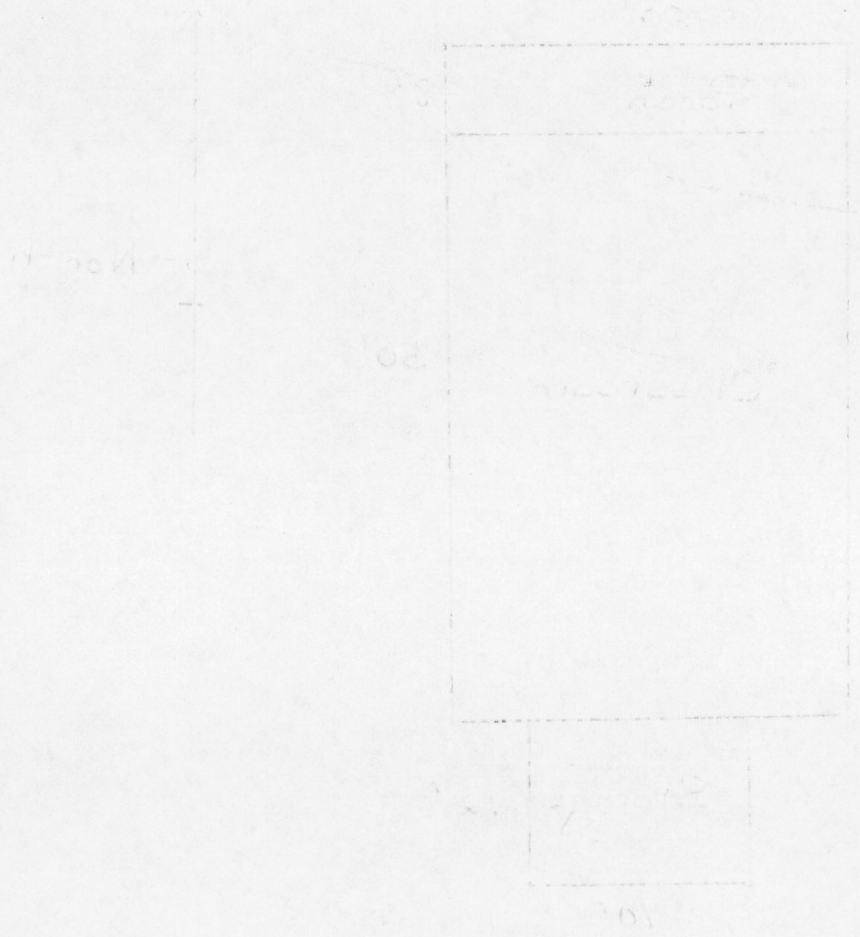
The legal description of the Con Creek School is North $\frac{1}{2}$ and a portion of the Southeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 34, T. 14N. R. 14W., Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian.

Con Creek School, Boonville, Mendocino County, California

Dimensions of the building. This does not include the lot.

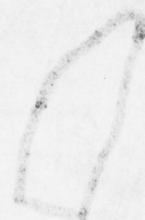


The first... The second... The third...



APR 14 1975

APR 14 1975



Property Con Creek School

79000498

State Ca (Mendocino) Working Number 9-4-79 2075

TECHNICAL

Photos 2
Maps 1

CONTROL

HISTORIAN

I think its pushing it to say this building has architectural ~~importance~~ ^{associated} with its local historical significance. I would go along ~~with~~ ^{importance} ~~with~~ ^{with} its local historical importance. ~~am~~ Note building has been moved 20 feet from original site.
J. Travers 10/16/79

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

Eligible for local educational history; built in the second decade of the town's existence, the school has been a community symbol for a century. For many years it was the only school in Bonville.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
10-17-79
Joe Tom

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

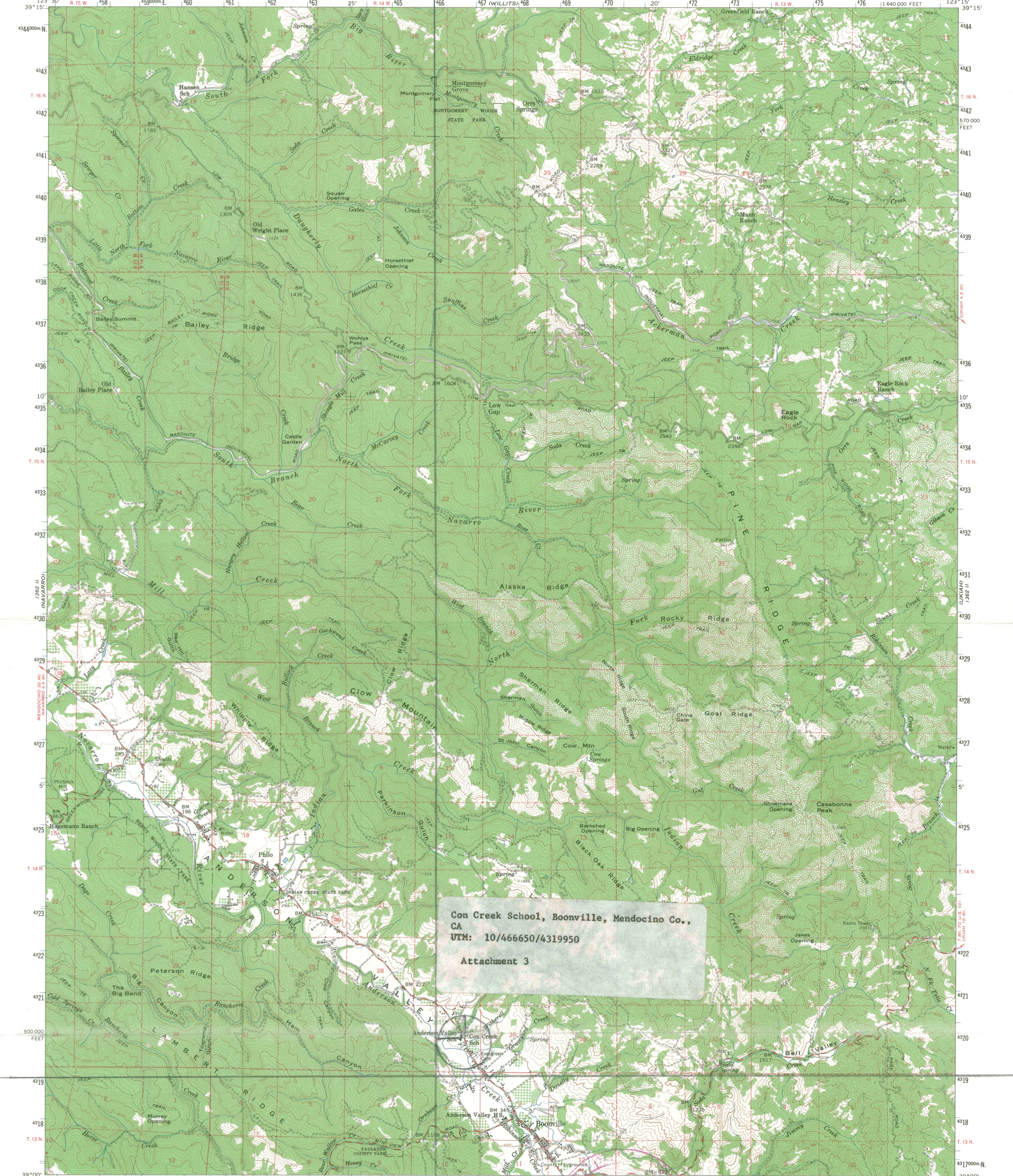
National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry 11.6.79

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____

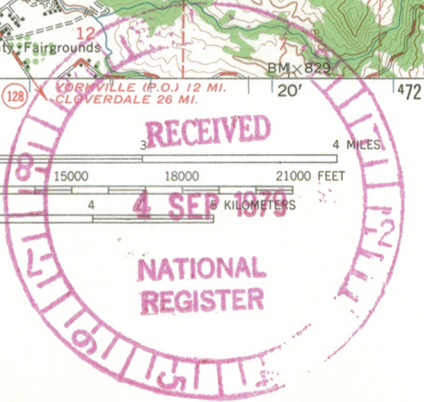
Entered OCT 18 1979



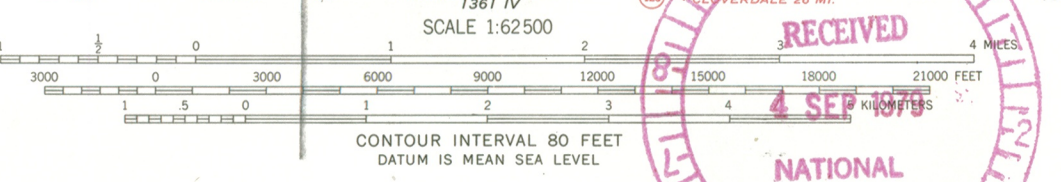
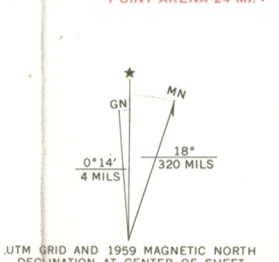




Con Creek School, Boonville, Mendocino Co., CA
 UTM: 10/466650/4319950
 Attachment 3



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS
 Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
 Aerial photographs taken 1957. Field check 1959
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on California-coordinate system, zone 2
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 10, shown in blue
 Dashed land lines indicate approximate locations



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
 Medium-duty — Light-duty
 Unimproved dirt — State Route



BOONVILLE, CALIF.
 N3900—W12315/15

OCT 18 1979

OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

POST OFFICE BOX 2390

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95811

(916) 445-8006



August 28, 1979

Mr. Charles Herrington
Acting Keeper of the National Register
Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
440 G Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20243

Dear Mr. Herrington,

We submit the Con Creek School for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The property is located in Mendocino County and is in the 1st California Congressional District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Knox Mellon".

Dr. Knox Mellon
State Historic Preservation Officer

enclosures

mn-1



Oct. 11, 1979

Don H. Clausen, Member of Congress
2336 Rayburn House Office Bldg
Washington, D. C. 20515



MUSEUM
Con Creek School

Dear Congressman Clausen:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(107) 875-2475

- J. Robert Mathias
- John Peterson
- Katherine Eubanks
- Velma Farrer
(Treasurer)
- Beth Tuttle
(Secretary)

In reference to our conversation at the 1979 Mendocino Co. Fair at Boonville I present our concern for the unusual delay in acting on the application for the designation of National Register of Historical Places. Since this designation is essential to pursue alternate fundings we are obviously concerned of the delay.

In October 1978 the application went in to Mr. Oren A. Gallup, Officer of Historic Preserve, Dept. of Parks and Recreation, Box 2390, Sacramento, Ca. 95811. Soon I received notice that the designation of ~~Calif-~~ landmark had been conferred and the application was being forwarded, with their approval as this approval was essential for the Federal honor, to be acted on by Nov. 11, 1978. They needed a few more facts from my group which was promptly dispatched. When no response was forthcoming by our annual meeting Jan. 17, 1979 I inquired by mail and received no answer. By March our group was disturbed by no response and I called Mr. Gallup's office three times in 2 days in order to obtain "a person who knew about this" and was told by Mrs. Marion Mitchell Wilson that the application load was heavy and we would be notified. By May 15 after most funding application deadlines had passed I called again and talked to "Mary Anne" who, after much waiting on a long distance line, admitted this application had been found in a lost file and never forwarded for consideration. She readily agreed to hastily present it and then summer and bureaucracy took over and we are wondering why, who, or what.

We are, furthermore, amazed by the rapid clearing of an old hotel in Boonville and approval when the community credits it with practically no legitimate reason for the honor.

Our organization exceeds 400 members and is active with voiced concern about such delay.

Respectfully,

Katherine B. Eubanks
Secretary

KAB/jrm

590 89

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

CALIFORNIA

STATE

Date Entered OCT 18 1979

Name

Location

Con Creek School

Boonville vicinity
Mendocino County

Tracy City Hall and Jail

Tracy
San Joaquin County

Also Notified

Honorable S. I. Hayakawa

Honorable Alan Cranston
Honorable Don H. Clausen
Honorable Norman D. Shumway

State Historic Preservation Officer
Dr. Knox Mellon
Office of Historic Preservation
Department of Parks & Recreation
P.O. Box 2390
Sacramento, California 95811

NR Byers/bjr 10/23/79

661

NOV - 9 1979

Sheffield
11-6-79

J. Tower n/6/79

Skull
11-7-79

Nelson for DR
11/8/79

J. B. [unclear]
11/9/79

Honorable Don H. Clausen
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Clausen:

Thank you for your inquiry of October 29, 1979, on behalf of Mrs. Katherine B. Eubanks concerning the nomination of the Con Creek School, Mendocino County, California, to the National Register of Historic Places.

We are pleased to inform you that the Con Creek School was entered in the National Register on October 18, 1979. Enclosed is a leaflet which describes the National Register program.

If we can be of further assistance to you, please let us know. We appreciate your interest in historic preservation.

Sincerely,

CHRIS T. DELAPORTE

Chris Therral Delaporte
Director

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Knox Mellon
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Historic Preservation
California Department of Parks and Recreation
Post Office Box 2390
Sacramento, California 95811

bcc: Director's Reading File
Deputy Associate Director - Rogers
FHR-Lumpkin / FHR-CL / CL / BOR - 59089

FHR:S Sheffield:lw:343-6401:11-6-79

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN NR

MENDOCINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA