



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yosemite National Park
P.O. Box 577
Yosemite, California 95389

IN REPLY REFER TO:
L7617 (YOSE)

Memorandum

To: Chris Stein, Division Chief
Moose Mutlow, Yosemite Institute Project Manager

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: 2006-008 Meyer's Ranch House Exterior Painting and Restoration

Your proposed project is an action that has been determined to result in no measurable environmental effects. It is therefore categorically excluded from further National Environmental Policy Act analysis under Categorical Exclusion: DO12 3.4 C (4) – *Routine maintenance and repairs to cultural resource sites, structures, utilities, and grounds if the action falls under an approved Historic Structures Preservation Guide or Cyclic Maintenance Guide (or equivalent guides), or if the action would not adversely affect the cultural resource.*

Necessary compliance coordination has been completed regarding the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Endangered Species Act, as applicable. This project clearance is valid providing that you adhere to the conditions stipulated under "Project Mitigations and Conditions," below, and in the attached *Environmental Screening Form*, *Cultural Resource Effects Assessment Form* (XXX; when attached), and *Wilderness Minimum Requirement Analysis* (when attached) when implementing this project.

Project Mitigations and Conditions:

1. Coordinate project work with the Yosemite Historic Preservation Shop, which will have oversight on the project. (Facilities Management)
2. Coordinate with the Yosemite Historic Preservation Shop and complete additional restoration needed to the Ranch House (i.e., porch, fencing and other elements as may be identified by the Yosemite Historic Preservation Team). (Facilities Management)

On the basis of the environmental impact information in the statutory compliance file, with which I am familiar, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No exceptional circumstances or conditions in DO12 3.5 or 3.6 apply and the action is fully described in DO12, Section 3.4.

//MJTollefson//
Michael J. Tollefson

12/13/05
Date

Enclosure (2)

Original: Statutory Compliance File
cc: Project Proponent

*The signed original of this document is on file at
the Environmental Planning and Compliance
Office in Yosemite National Park.*

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite NP

Project Number: 13880

Project Type: Facility Rehabilitation (FR)

Project Location: County, State: Mariposa, California District, Section: Foresta,

Project Originator/Coordinator: Chris Stein

Project Title: Meyer's Ranch House Exterior Painting and Restoration

Yosemite Institute seeks to restore the exterior of the Meyer's Ranch House in a style compatible with the established period of historical significance. Restoration work would include replacement of rotten/damaged siding, repair of window frames and replacement of broken/missing glass, replacement/repair of doors, and painting of siding and windows frames. Work would be carried out by Yosemite Institute staff and outside contractors. Area of impact would be limited to the area immediately adjacent to the building. All work will be conducted under the supervision of the NPS Historical Architect and no tasks outside the scope of work presented in this document will be undertaken without consultation with NPS.

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

Project Background Information	Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1. Did NPS staff conduct a site visit? If no, explain.	X			
2a. Is the project in an approved plan? (Identify the plan and provide a section or page citation.)		X		
2b. Is the project consistent with that plan?				
2c. Is the Plan's CE, FONSI, or ROD current?				
3a. Are there any interested or affected parties?		X		
3b. Has a diligent effort been made to communicate with them?				
4a. Are there any affected agencies or tribes?		X		
4b. Has consultation been completed?				

Attached Project Information (becomes part of CE)	Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1. Maps: 2 required (vicinity map & site map)	X			Location Map; see Attachment A.
2. Drawings (e.g., design, construction)		X		
3. Site Plans		X		
4. Photographs	X			Meyer's Ranch House; See Attachment B.
5. Non-NEPA/NHPA Approvals (Explain)			X	
6. Other (Explain)				

C. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL RESOURCE EFFECTS

Are any impacts possible on the following resources?	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Geologic resources: soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc		X		
2. From geohazards		X		
3. Air quality		X		
4. Soundscapes	X			Negligible; temporary construction noise during project.
5. Water quality or quantity		X		
6. Stream flow characteristics		X		
7. Marine or estuarine resources			X	
8. Floodplains or wetlands		X		
9. Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use		X		
10. Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine		X		
11. Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat		X		
12. Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites	X			Yosemite is a World Heritage Site. This project will have “no adverse effect;” see attached XXX.
13. Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat		X		
14. Unique or important fish or fish habitat		X		
15. Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)		X		
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.		X		
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources		X		
18. Cultural resources including cultural landscapes, ethnographic resources		X		
19. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure		X		
20. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.		X		
21. Energy resources		X		
22. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies		X		
23. Resource, including energy, conservation potential		X		
24. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.		X		
25. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity		X		
26. Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?		X		
Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:				

D. MANDATORY CRITERIA

If implemented, would the proposed action:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
A. Have material adverse effects on public health or safety?		X		
B. Have adverse effects on such unique characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands; floodplains; or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the National Register of Natural Landmarks?	X			Mitigated; see conditions 1 and 2 below.
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects?		X		
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		X		
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		X		
F. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		X		
G. Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places?		X		
H. Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species?		X		
I. Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act?		X		
J. Threaten to violate a federal, state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		X		
K. Involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA sec. 102(2)(E))?		X		
L. Have a disproportionate, significant adverse effect on low-income or minority populations (EO 12898)?		X		
M. Restrict access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007)?		X		
N. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of federally listed noxious weeds (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act)?		X		
O. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of non-native invasive species or actions that may promote the introduction, growth or expansion of the range of non-native invasive species (EO 13112)?		X		

D. MANDATORY CRITERIA

If implemented, would the proposed action:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
Q. Have the potential for significant impact as indicated by a federal, state, or local agency or Indian tribe?		X		
R. Have the potential to be controversial because of disagreement over possible environmental effects?		X		
S. Have the potential to violate the NPS Organic Act by impairing park resources or values?		X		
Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:				
1. Coordinate project work with the Yosemite Historic Preservation Shop, which will have oversight on the project. (Facilities Management)				
2. Coordinate with the Yosemite Historic Preservation Shop and complete additional restoration needed to the Ranch House (i.e., porch, fencing and other elements as may be identified by the Yosemite Historic Preservation Team). (Facilities Management)				

E. SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST

Within the area of potential effect, are there:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (Federal or State)?		X		
2. Species of special concern (Federal or State)?		X		
3. Park rare plants or vegetation?		X		
4. Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?		X		
If "yes" to any of the above questions, a Special-Status Species Checklist must be completed and attached.				
Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:				
1.				

F. NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST

Within the area of potential effect:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Will there be ground disturbance?		X		
2. Are there any archeological sites?	X			Foresta Archeological District. Assessment of effect is "no effect;" see attached XXX.
3. Are there any traditional cultural resources?	X			Known American Indian Traditional Area. Assessment of effect is "no effect;" see attached XXX.
4. Is the project within the boundary of an archeological or historic district?	X			Foresta Archeological District. Assessment of effect is "no effect;" see attached XXX.
5a. Is there a National Historic Landmark?		X		
5b. Is there a structure(s) on the park's <i>List of Classified Structures</i> ?		X		
5c. Is there a historic property with a DOE and concurrence by the SHPO or a completed National Register form?				
5d. Is there a cultural property requiring review under NHPA, Section 110?				
6. Would there be alteration of a structure or cultural landscape covered by 5a-d, above?		X		
If "yes" to any of the above, then an Assessment of Effects form (YOSE-XXX) must be completed and attached.				
Mitigations and Conditions:				
1.				

G. WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST

Is the proposed project:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Within designated Wilderness?		X		
2. Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?		X		
If "yes" to either of the above, then a Wilderness Minimum Requirements Analysis must be completed and attached.				
Mitigations and Conditions:				
1.				

H. WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST

Does the proposed project:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor? If 'yes', name the river(s)		X		
2. Fall within the bed and banks AND affect the free-flow of the river?		X		
3. Potentially affect water quality of the area?			X	
4. Remain consistent with its river segment classification?			X	
5. Protect and enhance river ORVs?			X	
6a. Fall within the River Protection Overlay?			X	
6b. If "yes", is it consistent with conditions of the River Protection Overlay?			X	
8. Remain consistent with the areas Management Zoning?			X	
9a. Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?		X		
9b. If 9a is "yes", will the project affect the Wild and Scenic River corridor?			X	
9c. If 9a is "yes", will the project unreasonably diminish scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values?			X	
If "yes" to questions 2, 9b, or 9c, then a WSRA Section 7 determination must be completed and attached.				
Mitigations and Conditions:				
1.				

I. NEPA Analysis and Approval Conditions

When implemented as detailed in the project description and following all Project Mitigations and Conditions listed below, this project meets the terms and conditions of a categorical exclusion to NEPA.

Applicable Categorical Exclusion:

DO12 3.4 C (4) – Routine maintenance and repairs to cultural resource sites, structures, utilities, and grounds if the action falls under an approved Historic Structures Preservation Guide or Cyclic Maintenance Guide (or equivalent guides), or if the action would not adversely affect the cultural resource.

Project Mitigations and Conditions:

1. **Coordinate project work with the Yosemite Historic Preservation Shop, which will have oversight on the project. (Facilities Management)**
2. **Coordinate with the Yosemite Historic Preservation Shop and complete additional restoration needed to the Ranch House (i.e., porch, fencing and other elements as may be identified by the Yosemite Historic Preservation Team). (Facilities Management)**

This project has been reviewed in accordance with the above criteria and it has been determined that the project will result in no or minimal environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review required under the National Environmental Policy Act. Additionally, the necessary compliance coordination has been completed with regard to the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Endangered Species Act.

//Renea Kennec// 12/12/05
Compliance Specialist Date

//GWColliver// 12/12/05
for Compliance Program Manager Date

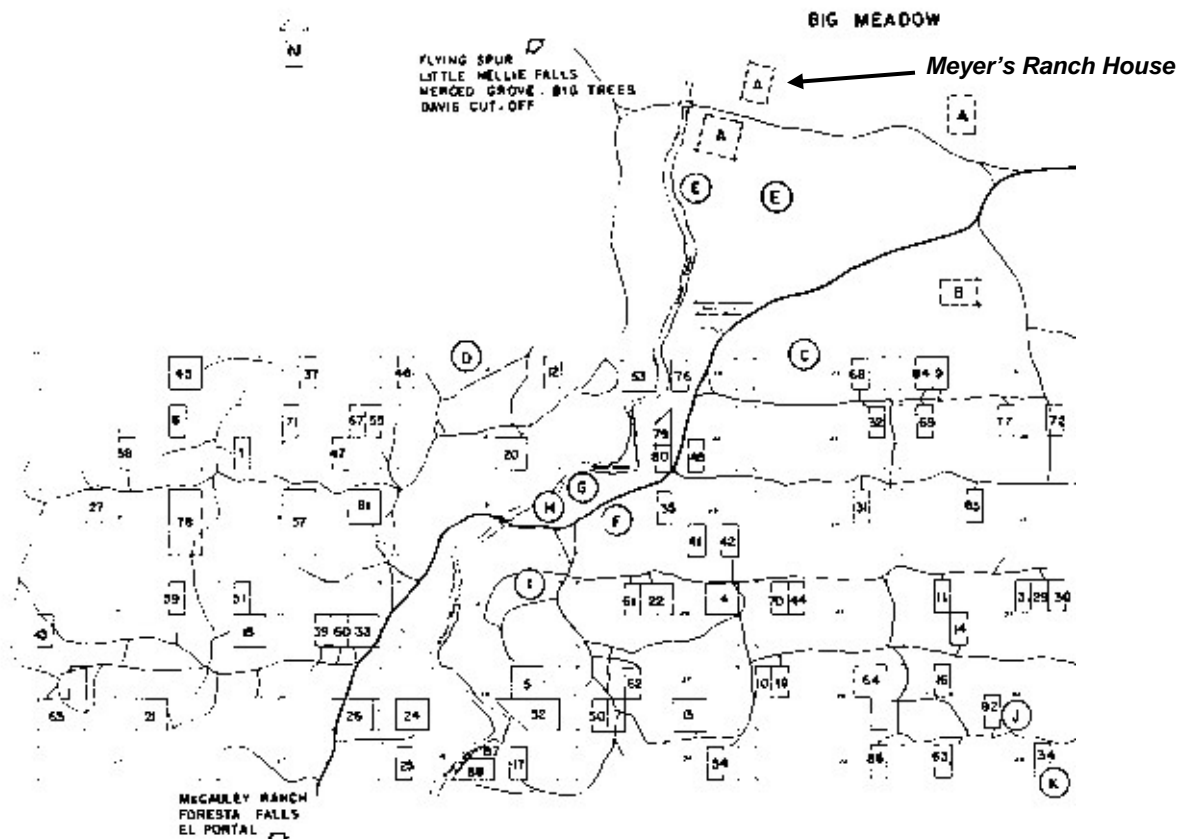
//Bill Delaney// 12/13/05
Chief, Project Management Date

*The signed original of this document is on file at
the Environmental Planning and Compliance
Office in Yosemite National Park.*

Attachment A

FORESTA GUIDE

NOT TO SCALE



OTHER HISTORIC SITES

- | | |
|--|--|
| A - MEYER'S RANCH, HOUSE, BARN AND ORCHARD | H - ORIGINAL FORESTA ASSEMBLY GROUNDS, 1913 |
| B - BIG MEADOW CEMETERY | I - PROPOSED CLUBHOUSE AND GARAGE, 1913 |
| C - SITE OF ANDERSON'S CABIN | J - SECOND WOODPACH CABIN |
| D - SECOND ANDERSON - BETCHELL SITE | K - COMMUNITY CENTER, 1917 BATHHOUSES, OFFICE, TENT FRAMES |
| E - RUTHERFORD'S CABIN AND SUMMIT SITE | L - LEASH CABIN |
| F - SITE OF SWIMMING POOL | M - STEELMAN CABINS |
| G - FIREHOUSE | N - FORESTA ASSEMBLY RESERVOIR |

Attachment B



Photo 1 North East Aspect



Photo 2 South Aspect

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. **Project Title & ID:** 2006-008 Meyer's Ranch House Exterior Repair and Painting (13880)
2. **Project Manager:** Chris Stein/Moose Mutlow
3. **Project Description:** Yosemite Institute seeks to restore the exterior of the Myer's Ranch House in a style compatible with the established period of historical significance. Restoration work would include replacement of rotten/damaged siding, repair of window frames and replacement of broken/missing glass, replacement/repair of doors, painting siding and frames.

Work would be carried out by Yosemite Institute staff and outside contractors. Area of impact would be limited to the area immediately adjacent to the building. All work will be conducted under the supervision of the NPS Historical Architect and no tasks outside the scope of work presented in this document will be undertaken without consultation with NPS.

4. **Project Location and Area of Potential Effect:** Foresta, Residence #76 structure and ground disturbance.

5. Attached Sensitive* Information	Yes	No	Explanation/Source/Notes
a. Maps	X		CR map
b. Drawings			
c. Site Plans			
d. Photographs			
e. Sample			
f. List of Materials			
g. Other (Explain)			

* Sensitive documents not for duplication or distribution beyond park management, subject matter experts, and the project statutory compliance file.

B. DESCRIPTION OF EFFECTS

	Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1. Has the Area of Potential Effect been surveyed to identify cultural resources? If Yes, provide reference for the Survey (s).	X			Foresta Archeological District No survey for historic structures
a. Would the proposed action affect a known cultural resource?	X			DOE for Myers Ranch absent

2. List all Cultural Resources in the Area of Potential Effect:	Affected?		Explanation/Note
	Yes	No	
Myers Ranch	X		DOE has not been prepared

3. List resources in the Area of Potential Effect to which American Indians attach cultural and religious significance:	Affected?		Explanation/Note
a.	X		TCP documentation is incomplete

4. The proposed action will:	Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Note
• Destroy, remove, or alter features or elements from a historic structure	X			
• Replace historic features/elements in kind	X			
• Add nonhistoric features/elements to a historic structure	X			
• Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (including terrain)	X			
• Add nonhistoric features/elements (including visual, audible, or atmospheric) to a historic setting or cultural landscape	X			
• Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible, or alter associated terrain	X			
• Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible, or alter associated terrain	X			
• Begin or contribute to the deterioration of historic fabric, terrain, setting, landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources	X			
• Involve a real property transaction affecting historic cultural properties (i.e., the exchange, sale, or lease of land or structures)				
• Potentially affect presently unidentified cultural resources	X			
• Other				

5. Describe any measures that are incorporated as part of this project that will be taken to prevent or minimize loss or impairment of prehistoric or historic fabric, setting, integrity, or data:

Checklist Preparer: Jeannette Simons

Date: 11/9/05

Title: Historic Preservation Officer/Native American Liaison

C. SPECIALIST SECTION

Specialists: Your comments here (or attached) show that you have reviewed this proposal for conformity with requirements of *National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106*; with the 1995 *Service-wide Programmatic Agreement* (if applicable); with applicable parts of the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*; with the *NPS Management Policies* and *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*; and have given your best professional advice about this project and the issues relevant to the Section 106 process, including identification and evaluation of historic properties and further consultation needs.

Archeologist

Name: **Jun Kinoshita**

Date: 11/9/05

Comments:

Ground Disturbance Involved Yes: No: **X**

Assessment of Effect: No effect

Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:

Signature of Archeologist: //signed original on file//

Cultural Anthropologist

Name:

Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect:

Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:

Signature of Cultural Anthropologist: _____

Curator

Name:

Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect:

Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:

Signature of Curator: _____

Historian

Name: **Charles Palmer**

Date: 11/9/05

Comments:

Assessment of Effect: **No adverse effect.**

Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:

1. Porject oversight by Preservation Shop.

Signature of Historian: //signed original on file//

Historic Architect

Name: **Sueann Brown**

Date: 11/9/05

Comments:

Assessment of Effect: **No adverse effect**

Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:

1. Implement conditions recommended by Preservation Specilist.

Signature of Historic Architect: //signed original on file//

Historic Landscape Architect

Name:

Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect:

Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:

Signature of Historic Landscape Architect: _____

Preservation Specialist

Name: **Doug Martin**

Date: 11/9/05

Comments: **Part of the Big Meadow Cultural Landscape. Historically sensitive area.**

Assessment of Effect: No adverse effect.

Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:

- 1. Yosemite Historic Preservation Shop have oversight on the project.**
- 2. Consider this Phase I repair, with Phase II to follow up with restoration of the porch, fencing, etc.**

Note: Oversight effort approved by Facilities Management Division Chief, 12/6/05

Signature of Preservation Specialist: //signed original on file//

Name:

Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect:

Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:

Signature of _____:

Name:

Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect:

Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:

Signature of _____:

**D. RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND SCIENCE DIVISION AND PARK 106
COORDINATOR REVIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1. Review by specialists:** The appropriate subject-matter experts have reviewed the project and entered their comments and recommendations in Section C, above.

The foregoing assessment is adequate: the proposed action is consistent with all applicable NPS management policies, standards, guidelines, or US DOI standards and guidelines, Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings, or others, and incorporates measures to avoid Adverse Effects.

Reviewed and Accepted by:

Signature: //Niki Nicholas// **Date:** 11/16/05
Chief of Resources Management & Science Division

- 2. Assessment of Effects: No adverse effect**

- 3. Compliance Requirements:** The following is the park's assessment of Section 106 process needs and requirements for this undertaking.

☐ **Standard 36 CFR Part 800 Consultation**

Consultation under 36 CFR is needed subsequent to the preparation of this form and its review by appropriate cultural resource management advisors.

☒ **Undertaking related to the 1995 NPS Programmatic Agreement**

The above action meets all conditions for a programmatic exclusion under Stipulation IV of the 1995 NPS programmatic agreement.

☐ **Plan-Related Undertaking**

Consultation and review of the proposed undertaking were completed in the context of a plan review process, in accordance with the 1995 NPS programmatic agreement and 36 CFR Part 800.

☐ **Undertaking Related to Another Agreement**

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under a document such as a statewide agreement written in accordance with 37 CFR Part 800.7 or counterpart regulations.

Agreement:

☐ **Flood-Recovery Related Undertaking**

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under the letter-based agreement between the NPS, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the Council for Historic Preservation for "Highwater 97" flood repair and recovery

☒ **Undertaking Related to the 1999 Yosemite Programmatic Agreement**

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under the park's 1999 programmatic agreement for planning, design, construction, operations and maintenance; the undertaking meets the stipulations identified in Article VII.C.2.

4. Project Stipulations and Conditions

Following are listed any stipulations or conditions necessary to ensure that the assessment of effects above is consistent with 36 CFR 800 criteria of effect or to mitigate potential adverse effects:

1. Yosemite Historic Preservation Shop have oversight on the project.
2. Consider this Phase I repair, with Phase II to follow up with restoration of the porch, fencing, etc.

Note: Oversight effort approved by Facilities Management Division Chief, 12/6/05

Recommended by Park Section 106 Coordinator:

Name: **Jeannette Simons**

Title: **Historic Preservation Officer**

Signature: //signed original on file// Date: 12/08/05

E. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL

The proposed work conforms to NPS Management Policies and NPS-28 and I approve the recommendations, stipulations, and conditions noted in Section B of this form.

Signature of Superintendent: //MJTollefson//

Date: 12/13/05

*The signed original of this document is on file at
the Environmental Planning and Compliance
Office in Yosemite National Park.*