

## Introduction

This is a report on the administrative buildings owned by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) that predate 1946. There are three classes of buildings reported on: 1) Buildings constructed prior to 1946 that are in their original location ("*in situ*"). 2) Buildings constructed prior to 1946 that have subsequently been relocated to another site for continued use by the CDF. 3) Buildings constructed after 1946 that are composed primarily of pre-1946 building components.

The report is divided into three sections. Part 1 presents a brief overview of the history of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection with a subsection on architectural history. Part 2 contains records for 73 sites entailing some 189 buildings. Part 3 provides a "historic significance" rating system and has the results of application of the system on the target group of buildings. Appendix "A" consists of a "master building inventory." This list contains information on over 2,300 buildings in the CDF property inventory. The information was compiled from current and archived inventory lists maintained in Sacramento, with select augmentation from various ranger unit offices.

This document does not report on the historic fire detection facilities owned and operated by the CDF. These buildings are covered in the 1991 report *An Inventory and Historical Significance Evaluation of the CDF Fire Lookout Stations* on file with the CDF in Sacramento. This document also does not address non-administrative buildings own by the CDF such as buildings located upon a State Forest that are not used to shelter forestry or fire protection activities.

State and Federal law places an obligation upon the CDF to identify and protect its historic resources. "Historic resources" include buildings, structures, objects, features, artifacts, and archives. They can be isolated fragments of pottery to concentrated collections of buildings and more. This report focuses on the more pronounced historic resources of the CDF system: its buildings. Its administrative buildings constitute the physical plant in which the CDF carries out its fire protection and forestry management duties.

Governor Wilson's Executive Order W-26-92 stipulates that "...Inventories pursuant to Section 5024 are to be completed or updated by January 1995, or as soon thereafter as feasible as specified in a Memorandum of Understanding with the State Historic Preservation Officer. Inventory preparation shall take into account the kind, quantity, location of, and development risk to properties within the ownership and control of the agency." California Public Resources Code 5024 (b) states that these inventories are to be of state-owned buildings that are "over 50 years of age." This document is in response to these directives.