DABNEY CABIN

LANDMARK NUMBER: 8
KNOWN AS: Dabney Cabin
PHYSICAL ADDRESS: none
LOCATION: Near Manzana Creek in San Rafael Wilderness
TYPE OF SITE: Log cabin
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 70-440
LANDMARK DATE: July 6, 1970
DESIGNATION OBTAINED BY: Application for Designation as County Historical Landmark by Benedict Rich, Treasurer, Midland School, Los Olivos
PAST OWNERS: Charles Dabney, Dabney heirs, Midland School
CURRENT OWNER: U.S. Forest Service

CHANGES/ ALTERATIONS: None

CONDITION: Good

DESCRIPTION:
An early western log cabin and also used at one time by Midland School (private) for the use of the area as a place where students hiked and stayed as part of the school program.\(^1\)

Originally the cabin was built on land leased by Charles William Dabney, a well-to-do Santa Barbara sportsman who wanted a cabin on Manzana Creek where he went trout fishing. He signed a 99 year lease with the federal government in 1914 and brought in carpenters to construct the cabin from alder trees growing on the property. Three generations of the Dabney family used the cabin.\(^2\)

In the 1930s, Midland School (at the foot of Figueroa Mountain) obtained permission from the Dabneys to use the remote cabin, some 10 miles from the school, as an occasional place to take school classes for an outdoor experience. In 1959, the Dabney family offered the building to the school as a gift. The school accepted, but the 99 year lease could not be transferred with the building. Midland and the Forest Service agreed to a 10-year lease. \(^3\)

In October 1969, Midland School received a letter from the supervisor of Los Padres National Forest that stated the lease was up and that the school was required to tear down the building and return the land to its original state. \(^4\)

The cabin was never torn down as evidenced by photographs posted at nmtc.net/search/prince-albert-in-a-can show the cabin undergoing a cleanup on November 22, 2008. Furthermore, the Sierra Club has scheduled its annual hike to the cabin in June 2010.

RESOURCES:

www.nmtc.net/search

\(^1\) Dick Smith SBNP article
\(^2\) Ibid
\(^3\) Ibid
\(^4\) Ibid
RECEIVED
JUL 14 1970
SUPERVISORS
OFFICE

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE
DABNEY CABIN IS AN HISTORICAL
LANDMARK WORTHY OF PROTECTION
UNDER COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 18 A
AND PRESCRIBING CONDITIONS TO
PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE DABNEY
CABIN

WHEREAS, the "Dabney Cabin" located near the Manz
in Santa Barbara County, more particularly within T: 9 N.,
S.B.M., Section 35, SE 1/4, Santa Barbara County, has great
historical significance and interest to the general public
landmark and a reminder of pioneer days in Santa Barbara Co
and

WHEREAS, on March 26, 1970, the Santa Barbara Cou
Advisory Landmark Committee declared the Dabney Cabin to be
historical landmark pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 1
the Santa Barbara County Code; and

WHEREAS, the Committee deemed the Dabney Cabin wo
protection and preservation as such historical landmark: an

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agricult
Forest Service, Los Padres National Forest had granted perm
to the Santa Ynez Valley Historical Society to use, subject
conditions, the said Dabney Cabin, a copy of said special u
permit is attached hereto marked Exhibit "A": and

WHEREAS, the Midland School desires to use and to
tain the Dabney Cabin, and has agreed to certain terms and
a copy of that agreement is attached hereto and marked Exhi

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. This Board of Supervisors, having duly set a
hearing for July 6, 1970, has heard all interested parties
closed said public hearing, adopting the conditions as Paragraph 2 of this Resolution.

2. It is hereby declared that the Dabney Co., historical landmark pursuant to County Code Chapter 1E imposes the following conditions pursuant to said Ord:

a) Demolition, removal or destruction, part or entirely, is prohibited unless express consent is first had and obtained from the Santa Barbara Advisory Landmark Committee; such consent may be reasonable conditions deemed appropriate by to accomplish the purpose of said Ordinance.

b) No alterations, repairs, additions or other than normal maintenance and repair work) shall be made unless and until all plans therefor have first reviewed by the Santa Barbara County Advisory Committee and approved, or modified, and restrictions imposed as deemed necessary, and all shall be done under the direction and control of the Santa Barbara County Advisory Landmark Committee or qualified persons designated by it.

3. That copies of this Resolution be forwarded:

Santa Ynez Valley Historical Society
Post Office Box 181
Santa Ynez, California 93460

Mr. Ben Rich
Midland School
Los Olivos, California 93441

Mr. William Hanson
Forest Supervisor
United States Department of Agriculture Forest
Los Padres National Forest
Post Office Box 30250
Santa Barbara, California 93105
Mrs. G. Gifford Davidge  
587 Refugio Road  
Santa Ynez, California  93460

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors  
County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this ___ day of ____ July ___, 1970, by the following vote:

AYES: George H. Clyde, Joe J. Callahan,  
Francis M. Beattie, and Curtis Tung

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

s/ GEORGE H. CLYDE  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

s/ J. E. LEWIS (SEAL)  
Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  

County of Santa Barbara

J. E. LEWIS, County Clerk and ex-officio  
The Board of Supervisors in and for the  
County of Santa Barbara, do hereby certify that the  
original, machine typescript of this document is a true and correct copy of the original  
original, machine typescript of this document is a true and correct copy of the original  
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original, machine typescript of this document is a true and correct copy of the original

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto affixed my hand and caused the Seal of the State of California to be affixed this ___ day of July  
___, 1970.

J. E. LEWIS, County Clerk

By: ____________________________