

Box 1252.
Portland 7, Oregon.

November 17, 1960.

L58

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.

Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings
and Monuments.

Interior Building
Washington 25, D. C.

NOV 22 1960

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Gentlemen:

I am enxious to obtain information as to the correct procedure to obtain Federal aid in the re-storing of an early day Federal Fort.

This fort was located in Siskiyou County, California near the town which now bears the same name, viz: Fort Jones.

This fort was established during the early days of the west to combat Indian up-risings and many writers have stated that more highly commissioned and noted officers were connected with its operations that any of the early day installations. One of these being General U. S. Grant.

I have assembled a complete documented file together with pictures of the early fort; the exact location as been established and the ground is available - probably without cost.

I am available at any time, at my own time and expense, to do any work requested at this level and could take anyone to the site on a day or two notice. If you will advise me what would be required to bring about consideration of this project, I will be happy to respond.

Very truly yours,

James H. Johnson
James H Johnson.
Box 1252. Portland 7. Oregon.

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A. J. Beard
Eric

L58-IBH

Mr. James H. Johnson
 Box 1252
 Portland 7, Oregon

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Your letter of November 17 requested information about any Federal assistance that might be given in the proposal to restore Fort Jones in Siskiyou County, California.

The Federal Government cannot expend Federal appropriated funds on an historic site unless it is a unit of the National Park Service or otherwise in Federal ownership. Since Fort Jones is not federally owned, the expenditure of funds on it is not permissible.

The National Park Service, in its National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, which is still incomplete, is making an effort to evaluate the historic sites and buildings in the United States. A relatively few may be recommended for additions to the National Park System. Many others, which the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments evaluate to be of outstanding importance, will be recommended for a category known as Registered National Historic Landmarks. The Survey has already produced the special subtheme study "Military and Indian Affairs" in Theme XV, "Westward Expansion and Extension of the National Boundaries to the Pacific, 1830-1898," in which Fort Jones falls.

This special study considered Fort Jones, but in comparison with the many other forts, posts, and sites in the West relating to "Military and Indian Affairs," Fort Jones was considered of insufficient importance to be evaluated either as a possible addition to the National Park System or for the Registered National Historic Landmarks category.

In the circumstances, therefore, we cannot encourage you to expect any Federal aid in your efforts to restore Fort Jones. You realize, we are sure, that many historic sites throughout the country worthy of attention and preservation cannot be the object of Federal action, and that the various States, historical societies, and municipalities, and other local organizations have carried on, and are now carrying on, an extensive program in this field. We want to encourage that kind of action and we trust that it will be possible for you to proceed with the preservation of the Fort Jones site through local or State action.

We appreciate your interest in historical preservation and thank you for writing to us on this subject.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) HILLORY A. TOLSON

Acting Director

Copy to: Regional Director, Region Four) w/c of inc.
Mr. Diederich)
Branch of History)

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