



416

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: 25905 Highway 243

City or town: Idyllwild State: CA County: Riverside

Not For Publication:  N/A Vicinity:  X

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

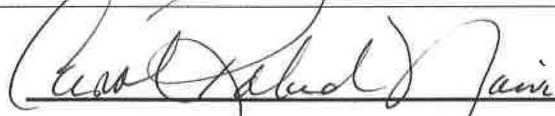
I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national X statewide \_\_\_ local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A \_\_\_ B X C \_\_\_ D

 5-8-13

**Carol Roland-Nawi, Ph.D. , State Historic Preservation Officer** **Date**

California State Office of Historic Preservation

**State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

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**Signature of commenting official:** **Date**

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**Title :** **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

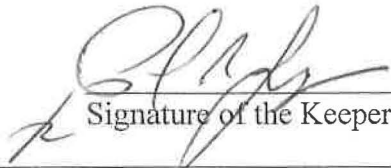
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**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

  
Signature of the Keeper

6/25/2013  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object



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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>43</u>	<u>16</u>	structures
<u>107</u>	<u>37</u>	objects
<u>159</u>	<u>55</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register None

The Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District contains the following contributing historic resources:

**Location: Lower Idyllwild Section—Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters Area**

Name	Type	Number	Year Built
Stone Masonry Entry Column and Piers	Structure	4	1936
Entry Road	Structure	1	1936
Dual Flagpole Bench	Structure	1	1936 (est.)
Drinking Fountain	Object	1	1936 (est.)
Entry Road Visitor Parking Area	Structure	1	1936
Log Hauling Wagon Display Platform	Structure	1	1953-1956 (est.)
Residence #1	Building	1	1936
Maintenance Shop	Building	1	1948
Maintenance Shop Office	Building	1	1942
Residence #2	Building	1	1950
Stone Masonry Vehicle Bridge	Structure	1	1936
Boundary Fence	Structure	1	1935-1980
Horse Corral Site	Site	1	1936-1937 (est.)
Maintenance Yard Gate Post	Object	1	1937 (est.)
Total		17	

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**Location: Lower Idyllwild Section—Idyllwild Campground Area**

Name	Type	Number	Year Built
"Mount Diablo" Stoves	Object	2	1937 (est.)
Stone Masonry Retaining Walls	Structure	13	1937-1955
Stone Masonry Steps	Structure	1	1937-1955
Concrete & Redwood Plank Picnic Tables	Object	42	1949-1955
Upright Wooden Food Storage Lockers	Object	33	1949-1955
Upright Wooden Hose Faucet Stands	Object	11	1949-1955
Circular Concrete & Gravel Water Splash Basins	Object	11	1949-1955
Boundary Fence	Structure	1	1935-1980
Road Circulation System	Structure	1	1937-1953
Stone Masonry Camp Stoves	Object	6	1953 (est.)
Total		121	

**Location: Upper Mountain Section**

Name	Type	Number	Year Built
CCC/Postwar Era Trails	Structure	14	1934-1965
Round Valley CCC Spike Camp Site	Site	1	1935-1936
Round Valley Ranger Patrol Station	Building	1	1935
Round Valley Tool House	Structure	1	1953
Peak Shelter Cabin	Building	1	1937
Long Valley Ranger Station	Building	1	1964
Long Valley Utility Structure	Structure	1	1964
Long Valley Redwood Water Storage Tank	Structure	1	1964
Total		21	

The Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District contains the following non-contributing resources:

**Location: Lower Idyllwild Section—Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters Area**

Name	Type	Number	Year Built
Ranger Station/Visitor Center	Building	1	1985 (est.)
Wood Storage Shed	Structure	1	1998 (est.)
Maintenance Shed	Building	1	2012
Storage Shed	Structure	1	2005 (est.)
Maintenance Shop	Structure	1	2010 (est.)
Creek Footbridge	Structure	1	1985 (est.)
Log Hauling Wagon Shelter	Structure	1	2005 (est.)
CCC 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Monument	Object	1	2010
Total		8	

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**Location: Lower Idyllwild Section—Idyllwild Campground Area**

Name	Type	Number	Year Built
Circular Metal Campground Campfire Rings	Object	33	1985 (est.)
ADA-Compliant Parking Spur Modifications	Structure	2	1999 (est.)
Campfire Center	Structure	1	1975
Shade Ramadas	Structure	3	2008 (est.)
Upright Metal BBQ Grills	Object	3	2008 (est.)
Poured-in Place Concrete Footpath	Structure	1	2008 (est.)
Comfort Station	Structure	2	2010
Combination Building	Structure	1	2009
Total		46	

**Location: Upper Mountain Section**

Name	Type	Number	Year Built
Mule Shed	Structure	1	1972
Total		1	

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

RECREATION & CULTURE/Outdoor Recreation: Campground, Picnic Area, Hiking Trails

DOMESTIC/Institutional Housing: Staff Housing

DOMESTIC/Camp: Seasonal Forestry Camp

LANDSCAPE/Park: State Park

TRANSPORTATION/Road Related (Vehicular): Road, Bridge

TRANSPORTATION/Pedestrian-Related: Hiking Trails

**Current Functions**

RECREATION & CULTURE/Outdoor Recreation: Campground, Picnic Area, Hiking Trails

DOMESTIC/Institutional Housing: Staff Housing

LANDSCAPE/Park: State Park

TRANSPORTATION/Road Related (Vehicular): Road, Bridge

TRANSPORTATION/Pedestrian-Related: Hiking Trails

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Early to Mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements: 1930s National Park Service Park Rustic  
Modern Movement—Mid-Century Modern-influenced Park Rustic

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

Foundations: Concrete; Stone (Granitic, Sandstone)

Exterior Walls: Stone (Granitic); Wood (Clapboard, Peeled Log); Stucco; Brick

Roofs: Composition Asphalt (Shingles); Wood (Split Cedar Shakes)

Other: Brick, Metal, Steel

## Narrative Description

### Summary Paragraph

The historic district is comprised of three separate areas within Mount San Jacinto State Park. Two adjacent areas are located within the Park's 13.1-acre Lower Idyllwild Section, while the third is located within the separate 13,585-acre Upper Mountain Section. The district contains buildings, structures, objects, and landscape improvements representative of the cooperative work among the National Park Service, Civilian Conservation Corps, and California State Parks between 1934 and 1942; and California State Parks between 1947 and 1965. The district's contributing historic resources are some of the best surviving pre- and postwar examples of the pre- and post-World War II Park Rustic style of American architecture in the California State Parks system. Although altered over the years, collectively, they still retain and convey their historic integrity through location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship, which contribute to a strong feeling and historic association with the evolution of the Park Rustic style of American architecture within a California State Park from 1934 to 1965.

### Narrative Description

Accessible by automobile via Highway 243 from the unincorporated town of Idyllwild or by aerial tramway from Palm Springs, the Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District is located within one of the oldest and largest recreational areas owned and operated by the California State Department of Parks and Recreation (CSDP&R). Dedicated on June 19, 1937, during the height of the Great Depression, Mount San Jacinto State Park and the adjacent State Wilderness are located within the San Jacinto Mountain range of Southern California in Riverside County. Both

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the park and wilderness areas, along with the neighboring San Bernardino National Forest land, encompass the majority of the San Jacinto Mountain Range.<sup>1</sup>

The historic district is located within three separate and distinct areas of Mount San Jacinto State Park. Two adjacent areas, the Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters and Idyllwild Campground, are contained entirely within a 13.1-acre section of the Park Unit known as the *Lower Idyllwild Section*. Situated in the northwestern outskirts of the unincorporated mountain community of Idyllwild, California, at an elevation of 5,390 feet above mean sea level, the Lower Idyllwild Section is bounded by State Highway 243 along its north, east, and southeastern perimeters. A smaller adjacent parcel of Riverside County-owned land containing an equipment storage yard and operating facilities forms its western and southwestern perimeters. Shaded by tall conifer trees, the Lower Idyllwild Section contains the largest concentration of the district's contributing historic resources.<sup>2</sup>

A sparsely developed narrow band of scattered residential properties separates the Lower Idyllwild Section from the district's third area contained in the Park Unit's 13,585-acre *Upper Mountain Section*. This section's craggy peaks, including 10,834-foot Mount San Jacinto, as well as forested mountain ridgelines, rocky gorges, and grassy mountain meadows, are part of this area's historic location and setting. However, the area's boundaries are limited to 130.33 acres. This comprises primarily the area within the narrow footpaths of fourteen historic trails, as well as the immediate area surrounding the footprints of three historic buildings, one structure, and one historic site. While the setting and view sheds along the trails and surrounding the other resources are part of the historic setting, a decision was made to limit the area to where changes were physically made to the landscape. In the case of one known historic site, its boundaries are less defined, and basically represent an amorphous area containing scattered historic features and artifacts.<sup>3</sup>

All three areas contain some of the best surviving examples of pre- and post-World War II Park Rustic style architecture within the California State Parks system in southern California. The pre-war examples represent the cooperative work of the United States National Park Service (NPS) and California State Parks between 1934 and 1942. Designed by NPS architects and landscape architects, and constructed by members of the federally funded Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), these unique constructs include buildings, structures, landscape improvements, and campground furniture that blend in with the surrounding rustic environment. Their character-defining features include traditional regional handcrafted building techniques utilizing locally

<sup>1</sup> California Department of Natural Resources [CDNR], Division of Beaches and Parks [DB&P], *Mount San Jacinto State Park, Acquisition Map*, # 1531A (February 18, 1952; revised March 1952), 1 sheet; John W. Robinson and Bruce D. Risher, *The San Jacintos: The Mountain Country from Banning to Borrego Valley* (Arcadia: Big Santa Anita Historical Society, 1993), 212.

<sup>2</sup> CDNR, DB&P, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, Acquisition Map*.

<sup>3</sup> Alexander D. Bevil, *Mount San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness, Historical Resources Report* (California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDP&R), Southern Service Center [SSC] November 4, 1999, updated March 11, 2005), 2; Alexander D. Bevil, *Mount San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness, Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations* (CDP&R, SSC, March 11, 2005), 37; CDP&R, *Mount San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness Management Plan* [Preliminary Draft] (Sacramento: CDP&R, 1984), 6-8.



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available unfinished cement-mortared or dry laid natural stone, wood, and concrete building materials. Now referred to as examples of the "1930s NPS Park Rustic style," they reflect a design philosophy that produced solid, rustic-looking buildings and structures that were environmentally sensitive to their sites.<sup>4</sup> In addition, the style's design ethic promoted the laying out of campgrounds, roads, and trails that responded sympathetically to the topography and scenery through which they passed.<sup>5</sup>

The postwar examples of the Park Rustic style at Mount San Jacinto State Park represent California State Parks continuation of the pre-war style, albeit modified to offset increased postwar labor and building materials costs. Following current national trends, California State Parks' administrators and designers combined the use of more efficient wartime construction techniques with regionally available native and standard manufactured building materials. The result was a minimalistic "Stripped-Down" Park Rustic style that promoted an economy of style, materials, and practicality for use throughout California State Parks.<sup>6</sup> Examples of this style variant are present throughout the Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District's Lower Idyllwild and Upper Mountain Sections. Designed and constructed between 1947 and 1965, they include buildings, structures, campground furniture, as well as trail and other landscape improvements that, in addition to complement the existing pre-war-built CCC structures, blend in with the surrounding rustic environment.<sup>7</sup>

The Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District includes the following contributing historic resources:

### **Lower Idyllwild Section**

#### **Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters Area**

This approximately 4.5-acre area is located within the eastern half of a 13.1-acre parcel of land owned entirely by California State Parks. A feeder branch of the Strawberry Creek serves as its informal western boundary, separating it from the adjacent Idyllwild Campground area. The creek, which runs in a northeast to southwest direction, extends 850 feet from the Park

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<sup>4</sup> Bevil, *Historical Resources Report*, 2 and 38; CDP&R, *Mount San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness Management Plan*, 7; and L. F. McClelland, *Building the National Parks: Historic Landscape Design and Construction* (Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore & London, 1996), 1.

<sup>5</sup> Bevil, *Historical Resources Report*, 17; Robinson and Risher, *The San Jacintos: The Mountain Country from Banning to Borrego Valley* (Arcadia: Big Santa Anita Historical Society, 1993); and Steven Van Wormer, *Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters Historic District [Idyllwild Campground]*, Recordation Forms (CDP&R, SSC, 1988), 1-5.

<sup>6</sup> Alexander D. Bevil, *Historical Contextual Study and Determination of Significance of the Morro Bay State Park CCC/Postwar Administration District, Marina, Campground, and Natural History Museum Areas within Morro Bay State Park San Luis Obispo County, California* (CDP&R, SSC, 2008 October 28) 29; and Peter D. Schultz et al, *Morro Bay State Park: Inventory and Eligibility Assessment, C.C.C. and Beaches and Parks Resources* (CDP&R, Cultural Heritage Section, April 15, 2000), 22.

<sup>7</sup> CDNR/DB&P, *San Jacinto State Park, Tool House-Frame & Rock Construction*, Drawing # 1245-D (August 17, 1953), 1 sheet; C. Roland and E. Barter, *Round Valley Ranger Station*, CDP&R Recordation Forms (CDP&R, SSC, May 19, 1992), 1-2; CDP&R, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, Facility Inventory Listing* (January 28, 1997), 1 and 4; and CDP&R, *Long Valley Management Plan, Mount San Jacinto State Park* (SSC, January 2012), 14.

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Headquarters' northernmost point near Highway 243 to the section's southwestern corner. From the latter point the area's southwestern boundary extends 240 feet to the southeast where it again meets Highway 243. The boundary continues northward along the highway's west shoulder, past the park unit's entrance road and staff residences, before returning to its point of origin.<sup>8</sup>

1. Stone Masonry Entry Column and Piers

Photograph #1

Historic Photograph # HP1, HP2, HP3

Sketch Map #1

The Entry Column and Piers are four (4) 1936-built cement-mortared granite masonry objects. Their bases are formed of rough cut, uneven-coursed granite fieldstones and quarry rubble, while their upper portions are made of courses of mortared cut stone. This roughly 5-foot-square by 8-foot tall rectangular column is located on the northeast corner of an asphalt concrete-paved drive leading from State Highway 243 northwest into the park headquarters complex. A non-historic wooden park plaque mounted on the column's southeast façade greets staff and visitors to the complex. A similar but smaller 3-foot 6-inch-square by 3-foot 10-inch high stone pier is located approximately 3 feet north of the column. This pier acts as an anchor for a rustic non-historic split rail perimeter fence along the highway, and a dog-eared wooden fence along an asphalt-covered foot path leading from the highway shoulder to Residence #1. The foot path also separates the two structures. Another pier, nearly identical to the smaller in height and width, lies directly behind the column. Another nearly identical smaller stone masonry pier sits directly across the entrance road to the southwest. A non-historic tubular metal swinging entry gate sits in the ground unattached to the southwest pier's northwest façade. Directly in front of the road entrance is a below-grade corrugated steel culvert that probably dates to the park's postwar construction period.<sup>9</sup>

2. Entry Road

Photographs #1 and 2; Historic Photograph # HP1, HP3

Sketch Map # 2

This approximately 250-foot-long by 30-foot-wide asphalt concrete-paved linear structure extends from the west shoulder of Highway 243, past the stone masonry entry column and piers, to a point where it meets a stone masonry vehicle bridge. Along the road's northeastern perimeter is an improved tree-shaded shoulder containing a stone masonry and wood plank dual flagpole bench, water fountain, curbing, Residence #1 parking spur, Administration Office/Visitor Contact Station, and the Maintenance area access spur. Along the entry road's

<sup>8</sup> United States Department of the Interior [USDI], Geological Survey, *Idyllwild Quadrangle* [Topographic Map] (1981, Photo-revised 1988); and *San Jacinto Peak Quadrangle* [Topographic Map] (1981).

<sup>9</sup> CDNR *Water Supply, Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 2920 (1953 September 30), 1 sheet; United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service [USDI/NPS] Cooperating with California Division of State Parks [CDSP], *Mount San Jacinto State Parks Administration Area and Campground*, Map # 1221 (ca. 1937; updated ca. 1953), 1 sheet; United States National Park Service and California Division of State Parks Cooperating, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, S.P. 26, Water Pipe Lines at Camp Ground*, Map # 11450E (August 16, 1935), 1 sheet; CDP&R, State Museum Photograph Archives [SMPA], *Mount San Jacinto Park, Entry Piers*, Photograph #194EAD8, (May 19, 1940) and *Warden's Residence*, Photograph #090-23396 (May 19, 1940).

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southwest perimeter, opposite the Administration Office/Visitor Contact Station, is a 40-foot-long visitor parking area that extends 20 feet past the road's southwest lane into a 170-foot-deep tree-shaded grassy meadow. Approximately 12 feet west of the parking area is a rectangular gable roof-shaded display area containing a historic log hauling wagon. Except for a non-historic asphalt concrete pavement, the entry road's location, alignment, and width date from its original 1936 construction date.<sup>10</sup>

3. Dual Flagpole Bench

Photographs # 1 and 2; Historic Photograph # HP1  
Sketch Map # 3

Constructed around 1936, this approximately 8-foot-long by 3-foot-wide structure consists of twin opposing cement-mortared dressed stone rubble truncated battened piers set on a cement-mortared dressed stone rubble rectangular slab. The piers support a built-in wood plank. Combined, the approximately 3-foot-tall structure acts as a rustic bench as well as the base for two 20-foot-tall cylindrical galvanized steel flagpoles.<sup>11</sup>

4. Drinking Fountain

Photograph # 1  
Historic Photograph # N/A  
Sketch Map # 4

Northwest of the Flagpole Bench, across a three-foot-wide flagstone walkway is this approximately 3-foot-high cement-mortared stone masonry drinking fountain. This rustic-looking object's sloping battered walls are similar in style and materials to those of the nearby Dual Flagpole Bench and Stone Entry Column and Piers, which would suggest that they are examples of the CCC's work.

5. Entry Road Visitor Parking Area

Photograph # 1 and 2  
Historic Photograph # HP3  
Sketch Map # 5

This 40-foot-long rectangular improved parking area extends 20 feet past the Entry Road's southwest perimeter into a 170-foot-deep tree-shaded meadow. Although it is now covered with an asphaltic cement pavement, its landscape feature has been in use continuously since 1936.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>10</sup> CDP&R, SMPA, *Mount San Jacinto State Park Vehicle Bridge*, Photograph #94F825B, (1935); and Van Wormer, *Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters Historic District* [Idyllwild Campground], Recordation Forms, 1988.

<sup>11</sup> CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing*, 4; and CDP&R, State Museum Photograph Archives, *Mount San Jacinto Park, Headquarters*, Photograph #090-23431 (April 19, 1956).

<sup>12</sup> US, NPS and CDSP, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, S.P. 26, Water Pipe Lines at Camp Ground*; USDI/NPS and CDSP Cooperating, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, S.P. 26, Vehicle Bridge*, Map # 2199 (September 4, 1935), 1 sheet; and CDP&R, SMPA, *Mount San Jacinto State Park Entry Piers*, Photograph #94E547D8 (1935).

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6. Log Hauling Wagon Display Platform  
Photographs # 1, 7, and 8  
Historic Photograph # HP4  
Sketch Map # 6

Constructed sometime between 1953 and 1956, this roughly 40-foot by 20-foot structure consists of a low stone masonry retaining wall-supported rectangular pad located between the Entrance Parking Area and the southeast approach to a stone masonry automobile bridge. The gravel-covered pad extends out from the Entry Road's southwestern perimeter out into a tree-shaded meadow. Above the pad is a recently installed non-contributing front-gabled, open-walled shelter, which protects the wagon from the elements.<sup>13</sup>

7. Log Hauling Wagon  
Photograph # 1, 7 and 8  
Historic Photograph # HP4  
Sketch Map # 7

Constructed ca. 1910, this is an example of a vintage springless wagon chassis suitable to haul heavy logs and/or milled lumber. The heavy wood and metal frame structure features a long central wood beam reach linked to a hinged front axle. Cast iron I-beams are laid horizontally over the raised wooden bunks, which in turn are affixed on top of either axle. Inscribed on the upper surface of the front I-beam is the label "J & L S Co." Wide, hand-forged iron tires circle each twelve-spoke wheel. Twin hand-forged iron straps act as brakes for the rear wheels. The wagon had undergone recent conservation treatments to preserve it in-situ. While the wagon's exact provenance is unknown, it is representative of the type used throughout the nearby San Jacinto and San Bernardino Mountains between 1900 and 1930.<sup>14</sup>

8. Residence #1  
Photographs # 1 and 2  
Historic Photographs # HP1, HP2, HP3  
Sketch Map # 8

Originally known as the *Custodian's Cottage*, this 1936-built 1½-story rectangular shaped single-family residence is located approximately 105 feet northwest of the Entry Column and Piers. The 44-foot by 28-foot cottage rests on mortared-stone masonry perimeter foundation walls that frame a poured-in-place concrete-floored crawl space. The use of cement-mortared masonry features can also be seen in the construction of the building's recessed southeast and southwest corner porches and west-facing chimney. Other rustic-looking design features include broad shiplap drop exterior wood siding, solid wood slab with upper glass light front and rear entry doors, and exposed roof rafter tails under a broadly overhanging side gable

<sup>13</sup> Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations*, 46; Alexander D. Bevil, *Log Hauling Wagon*, CDP&R Recordation Forms (March 11, 2005; updated October 5, 2009), 1; CDNR/DB&P, *Water Supply, Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 2920, 1 sheet; and CDP&R, SMPA, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, Log Hauling Wagon*, Photograph #A194DD5B (1953, est.).

<sup>14</sup> Alexander D. Bevil, *Log Hauling Wagon at Mt. San Jacinto State Park*, Recordation Forms (California State Parks, Southern Service Center, March 11, 2005; updated October 5, 2009), 1-2.

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roof. Composition asphalt shingles now cover the medium-pitched roof, which once features split-wood shake shingles. Fenestration consists of rectangular single and dual multi-light double-hung wooden sash windows along all elevations. Interior rustic features include a massive, rough-cut, uncoursed fieldstone fireplace and knotty pine wall paneling in both the living room and office space. In addition, a wooden crossbar chandelier suspended from the office ceiling via a hand-forged wrought iron "S" chain is reportedly one of the few surviving original 1930s CCC-era light fixtures in the California State Parks System. Two entry doors face the recessed southeast porch. One door leads into a small office, while the other leads into the living room for privacy. The cottage's slightly recessed southwest corner back porch provides access from the cottage to a graded curving footpath leading west to a detached automobile garage.<sup>15</sup>

9. Maintenance Shop

Photograph # 4

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 9

The design and materials used for the construction of this 1948-built utilitarian maintenance shop building is an early example of a standardized California State Parks' "Stripped-Down" Park Rustic style. The 8-foot x 20-foot rectangular-shaped, single-story wood-frame building sits on a cement slab foundation. Its minimalist Park Rustic styling can be seen in its simple wooden shiplap exterior siding, as well as the plain open-tail rafter ends under an overhanging gable end-roof. Alterations include the replacement of the medium-pitch roof's original split-wood shakes with composition asphalt shingles, and the introduction of Plexiglas skylights over the north maintenance bay. Centered on the south elevation is a solid wood panel door, which provides entry into the shop building's office area. A single corrugated metal top hinge garage door, which replaced an original wooden garage door, provides access to the building's north maintenance bay. Fenestration consists of multi-pane double-hung wood-frame sash windows on all four elevations.<sup>16</sup>

10. Maintenance Shop Office

Photograph # 3

Historic Photograph # HP1

Sketch Map # 10

<sup>15</sup> CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing* (1997), 1; USDI/NPS and CDSP Cooperating, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, S.P. 26, Vehicle Bridge*, Map # 2199 (September 4, 1935), 1 sheet; USDI/NPS Cooperating with CDSP, *Mount San Jacinto State Parks, Administration Area and Campground*, Map # 1221; California CDNR/DB&P, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, Roof Shingling, Headquarters Bldg.*, Drawing # 1242-M (April 26, 1949), 1 sheet; CDP&R, SMPA, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, Custodian's Cottage*, Photographs #s 94E5FFEB, 94E6AE48 and 94E61928 (1935); Van Wormer, *Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters Historic District*; and Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations*, 38.

<sup>16</sup> USDI/NPS Cooperating with CDSP, *Mount San Jacinto State Park Administration Area and Campground*, Map # 1221, 1 sheet; CDNR/DB&P, *Warehouse & Shop Building—Mount San Jacinto State Park*, # 1246-D (September 2, 1948), 1 sheet; Van Wormer, *Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters Historic District*; and Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations*, 39.



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Although reportedly constructed in 1942 to replace an earlier 1936-built smaller garage, this 8-foot by 12-foot rectangular building also displays the same articulated Park Rustic design and use of locally available building materials in its construction. Fenestration consists of rectangular, multi-light double-hung wood sash windows, located singly and in pairs on all four elevations. The building also features three multi-light wood-frame casement windows. A single three-panel wooden door provides access into the east façade. Originally Residence #1's automobile garage, sometime after 1948 the structure was converted into the nearby Maintenance Shop's Office. Alterations include composition asphalt roof shingles, the installation of a corrugated metal top-hinged garage door, the closing in of the adjacent garage bay, and the installation of a single rectangular slab entry door to facilitate that bay's conversion into the nearby Maintenance Shop's Office.<sup>17</sup>

11. Residence #2

Photograph # 10

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 11

Situated 508 feet north of the Entry Column and Piers, adjacent to Highway 243's western shoulder, this 44-foot by 20-foot 1950-built single-story residence is an early example of CSDP&R's attempt to standardized Parks-related buildings and structures during the early postwar period. A much more austere or "Stripped-Down" version of the pre-war Park Rustic style, the building features standard-cut wood board exterior drop siding, 2 x 2 double-hung rectangular windows, and a raised poured-in-place perimeter foundation walls and front porch stoop, with standard-cut wood posts and banister railings. While modern, Residence #2's overall style, scale, and siting are still sympathetic to the surrounding natural environment. The side gable roof's composition asphalt shingles are not original, nor is the galvanized metal chimney projecting through the roof's southeast corner. A small cement stoop leads down from a projecting offset gable mud porch on the west elevation to a graded foot path. The foot path leads thirty feet north to a small garage.<sup>18</sup> The garage is a 30-foot-long by 20-foot-wide wood frame front gable structure that sits along a west-to-east alignment at the end of a driveway off Highway 243. Built concurrently with Residence #2, the garage's design, style, and materials are also representative of the Stripped-Down postwar Park Rustic style. The only observable alterations are the installation of plastic skylights in the garage's composition asphalt-singled roof.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>17</sup> CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing*, 1; U.S., NPS and CDSP Cooperating, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, S.P. 26, Vehicle Bridge*, Map # 2199, 1 sheet; USDI/NPS Cooperating with CDSP, *Mount San Jacinto State Parks Administration Area and Campground*, Map # 1221, 1 sheet; Van Wormer, *Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters Historic District*; and Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations*, 38.

<sup>18</sup> Alexander D. Bevil, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, Residence #2, Recordation Forms* (CDP&R, SSC, March 11, 2005) 1; CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing*, 1; USDI/NPS Cooperating with CDSP, *Mount San Jacinto State Park Administration Area and Campground*, Map # 1221, 1 sheet; and California Department of Natural Resources, Division of Beaches and Parks, *Water Supply, Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 2920, 1 sheet.

<sup>19</sup> Alexander D. Bevil, *Residence #2, Recordation Forms* (CDP&R, SSC, March 11, 2005) 1; CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing* (1997), 1; U. S., NPS Cooperating with California Division of State Parks, *Mount San Jacinto*

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12. Stone Masonry Vehicle Bridge  
Photographs # 8 and 9  
Historic Photograph # HP5  
Sketch Map # 12

This 1936-built 20-foot by 20-foot stone rubble masonry and earthen fill bridge conveys vehicular traffic across the 6.5-foot-deep creek bed dividing the Idyllwild Headquarters area from the adjacent campground. The bridge's simple, yet solid construction, utilizing irregular courses of cement-mortared dressed quarry rubble stones, fieldstones, and riprap, typifies the NPS/CCC-era Park Rustic style. An approximately 3-foot-high solid cement-mortared stone balustrade, capped by a single course of dressed flat-topped granite rocks, runs along either side of the bridge's compressed earth crown deck. Water-born debris and sediment periodically constricts the flow of the creek through the bridge's 30-inch-diameter corrugated galvanized iron culvert and flanking weep holes. Twin riprap aprons in front of the culvert's north and south openings prevent the water from undermining the bridge. A non-historic layer of asphaltic cement road pavement now covers the bridge's original 4-inch-thick decomposed granite crown deck.<sup>20</sup>

13. Boundary Fence  
Photographs # 1, 5, 10  
Historic Photographs # HP 1 and HP2  
Sketch Map # 13

The Boundary Fence consists of a mixture of various types of fencing material, including split-rail, dog-ear, barbed wire, and chain link. Constructed between 1935 and 1980, the structure contains a combination of historic and non-historic fence materials. However, they all follow the original fence line's alignment along the Headquarters and Campground area's historic outer perimeters.

14. Horse Corral Site  
Photograph # 5  
Historic Photographs # N/A  
Sketch Map # 14

Located in a 2,650 sq.-foot triangular fenced-in area southwest of the Southeast Day Use Picnic area, the corral is 140 feet northwest of the Headquarters Area's south corner. While the corral's plywood tack room may date from 1972, the corral's use dates back to the mid-1930s when it was used as a staging area for mules carrying building materials and supplies for the construction of the shelters at Round Valley and at Mount San Jacinto Peak. Its use as a staging area for pack animals, as well as mounted Park ranger patrol horses, continued through the 1940s and 1950s. Although the area also contains a concrete basin and porcelain-

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*State Park Administration Area and Campground*, Map # 1221, 1 sheet; CDNR/CDP&R, *Water Supply*, *Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 2920, 1 sheet; and Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations*, 41.

<sup>20</sup> CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing*, 3; USDI/NPS and CDSR Cooperating, *Mount San Jacinto State Park*, S.P. 26, *Vehicle Bridge*, Map # 2199; and CDP&R, SMPA, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, Vehicle Bridge*, Photographs # 94F90CAB and # 94F825B (1935); and Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations*, 40.

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covered bathtub converted to feed/water troughs, it should be regarded as a historic site, where the location itself possesses historic value regardless of the value of any existing structures or objects.<sup>21</sup>

15. Maintenance Yard Gate Post

Photograph # N/A

Historic Photographs # N/A

Sketch Map # 15

This approximately 8-foot-tall 12" x 12" square post is set in the northwestern end of the drive leading into the Headquarters Area's Maintenance Yard. This upright rectangular wooden object is situated a few inches from the southeastern corner of Shed #1. Three cast iron "L" brackets screwed into the post's southwest-facing side suggest that it once held a section of a swinging gate. While the matching gate post is no longer extant, there is evidence of a sunken patch of asphalt 15-20 feet directly across from the existing post. The post's size, style, and hardware, and historic photographic evidence, suggest that it was erected sometime around 1936.<sup>22</sup>

## Lower Idyllwild Section

### Idyllwild Campground

16. Campground

Photographs # 8, 11, 12, 13, and 14

Historic Photograph # HP7

Sketch Map # 16

Located in an open copse of mixed conifer and oak trees, with stands of manzanita and other broadleaf shrubs, the campground consists of improved campsites, parking spurs, stone masonry retaining walls, circulation road, and interconnecting lanes that follow the campground's basic 1937 configuration. Historical and physical evidence indicates that the campground's original infrastructure was remodeled between 1949 and 1955. Among the surviving CCC-built camp improvements are two 1930s-built "Mount Diablo" style stone masonry camp stoves, 13 retaining walls, and 1 set of steps incorporated into one of the walls. Surviving 1949-1955 elements are 32 concrete and redwood plank picnic tables, 33 upright wooden food storage lockers, 11 upright wooden hose bib stands with 11 circular concrete and gravel splash basins. Despite alterations since 1985, the campground still retains a strong sense of its location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and feeling associated with the historical evolution of a California State Parks facility from 1937 to the present day.<sup>23</sup> In use for over 75 years, the campground continues to serve the public as a key outdoor

<sup>21</sup> CDP&R, SMPA, *Mounted Ranger Patrol*, Photograph # 94E2C058 (ca. 1952); *Mounted Rangers Packing a Mule*, Photograph # 94F944EB (ca. 1952).

<sup>22</sup> CDP&R, SMPA, *Looking North at Park Entrance and Headquarters Area off Hwy 243*, Photograph # 090-23431 (April 19, 1956).

<sup>23</sup> CDNR/CDP&R, *Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 3298-5 (1949 May 19; revised, October 6, 1951), 1 sheet; Roland and Barter, *Mount San Jacinto Campground, Historic Structure Inventory*, 2, 5-7; and Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations*, 42.

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recreation destination, introducing the general public to Mount San Jacinto State Park's natural and historical resources.

17. Boundary Fence

Photograph # 12

Historic Photographs # HP1, HP2

Sketch Map # 17

The Boundary Fence consists of a mixture of various types of fencing material, including split-rail, dog-ear, barbed wire, and chain link. Constructed between 1935 and 1980, the structure contains a combination of historic and non-historic fence materials. However, they all follow the original fence line's alignment along the Headquarters and Campground area's historic outer perimeters.<sup>24</sup>

18. Road Circulation System

Photographs # 8, 13, 14

Historic Photograph # HP5

Sketch Map # 18

Beginning at the Vehicle Bridge's northwestern approach, the campground's Road Circulation System consists of a looping outer road containing parking spurs along its inner and outer edges. Interconnecting southeast-northwest and northeast to southwest lanes form a "T" in the campground's interior. Although covered with a coating of "blacktop" (asphalt concrete pavement) sometime after 1953, the circular loop road and interconnecting inner lanes date from the campground's initial 1935-1937 development period.<sup>25</sup>

19. Campground Visitor Parking Area

Photograph # 2

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 17

The original Campground Visitor Parking Area was originally an expanded rock-lined dirt-paved shoulder of the road along the campground's southwestern boundary northwest of the Vehicle Bridge. Historic maps indicate that it remained so from 1935 to at least 1953. After which, it, along with the entrance road leading to and over the stone bridge, were covered with asphalt-cement road paving. Additional contributing historic landscape features include a post 1953-built split-rail wooden fence along an approximately 175-foot long by 3-foot wide cement-mortared stone masonry retaining wall/island that separates the parking area from the campground circulation road running along its southeast-to-northwest perimeter.<sup>26</sup>

<sup>24</sup> USDI/NPS Cooperating with CDSP, *Mount San Jacinto State Park Administration Area and Campground*, Map # 1221, 1 sheet; CDNR/CDP&R, *Water Supply, Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 2920, 1 sheet.

<sup>25</sup> US, NPS Cooperating with CDSP, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, Administration Area and Campground*, Map # 1221, 1 sheet; CDNR/CDP&R, *Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 3298-5, 1 sheet; and CDNR/CDP&R, *Water Supply, Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map #, 1 sheet.

<sup>26</sup> USDI/NPS Cooperating with CDSP, *Mount San Jacinto State Park Administration Area and Campground*, Map # 1221, 1 sheet; CDNR/CDP&R, *Water Supply, Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 2920, 1 sheet; and CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing*, 1.

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20. Southeast Day Use Picnic Area

Photograph # 6

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 20

Located in a clearing within a copse of tall evergreen and broadleaf trees in a bend of the creek that flows past the Vehicle Bridge, between 1935 and 1953 this area contained a single large stone masonry camp stove surrounded by seven picnic tables. Sometime after 1953, 3 smaller stone masonry camp stoves and 5 concrete w/redwood plank picnic tables arranged in a semicircular pattern replaced the original landscape improvements. The camp stoves were restored in 2007.<sup>27</sup>

21. Southwest Day Use Picnic Area

Photograph # 12

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 21

A 1935 Campground map indicates that the area had been planned to be an "Area for House Type Trailers" along the Campground Area's southeastern boundary, with a line of 14 separate semi-private "Enclosures" at the rear of each parking space. Separated by a common "Rustic Fence," the enclosures contained a camp stove and picnic table. However, there is no evidence that the trailer camping area was ever developed. A ca. 1953 Campground map indicates that the middle of the area contained a single campsite (#27), with a camp stove and two picnic tables. The area currently contains 3 restored mid-1950s era stone masonry camp stoves and 5 concrete w/redwood plank picnic tables.<sup>28</sup>

### Upper Mountain Section

22. CCC/Postwar Era Trails

Photographs # 15, 20

Historic Photographs # HP9, HP10

Sketch Map # 22

This area contains approximately 18 miles of historic hiking and equestrian trails associated with the work of the CCC. Many of the 14 trails follow the routes of earlier cattle and sheep trails into seasonal mountain valley pasturages. Under the direction of NPS Project Supervisor F. L. Niebauer, CCC crews improved or built as many as thirteen interlinking trails throughout the mountainous upper Mount San Jacinto State Park area between 1934 and 1936. Where necessary, they drilled and blasted boulders apart to provide for safe passageways and used the rubble to build dry-laid stone retaining walls, drains, and culverts

<sup>27</sup> U. S., NPS Cooperating with CDSP, *Mount San Jacinto State Park Administration Area and Campground*, Map # 1221, 1 sheet; CDNR/CDP&R, *Water Supply, Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 2920 (September 30, 1953), 1 sheet; and Linnaea Dix Dawson, *Diablo Stoves Final Report, Mount San Jacinto State Park, Idyllwild Campground, Idyllwild, California* (April 24, 2007), 2-4.

<sup>28</sup> USDI/NPS Cooperating with CDSP, *Mount San Jacinto State Park Administration Area and Campground*, Map # 1221, 1 sheet; CDNR/CDP&R, *Water Supply, Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 2920, 1 sheet; and Dawson, *Diablo Stoves Final Report, Mount San Jacinto State Park, Idyllwild Campground, Idyllwild, California*, 2-4.



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along the way. Blast scars, drill holes, and pick marks can still be observed in cleaved boulders and rockwork alongside compacted earthen trails conforming to the contours of the natural forested landscapes through which they travel. Rehabilitated after World War II, from 1949 to 1965, the trails still maintain these unique Park Rustic style design characteristics.<sup>29</sup>

#### *Deer Springs Trail*

Traveling through the western half of the Mount San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness from 6,560 to about 10,560 feet above sea level, the trail begins at the park's boundary with the smaller Idyllwild County Park. The 8.9 mile trail travels in a northerly direction for 2.3 miles to the Suicide Peak Trail. From this point, the trail continues in a northerly direction for another 1.8 miles to the Strawberry Junction Campground. The trail continues in a northerly direction for 2.3 miles as part of the Pacific Crest Trail to a 4-way junction with the Marion Mountain, Seven Pines, and Pacific Crest Trails at Currant Valley. The Deer Springs Trail continues eastward 0.5 miles to another junction, where it diverges northeastward from the Pacific Crest Trail for another mile to the Little Round Valley Campground. Traversing the northern flanks of the 10,160 foot Newton Drury Peak, the trail follows a series of switchbacks for another mile to the junction of the San Jacinto Peak, Tamarak, and Marion Mountain Trails. Historically, the Deer Springs Trail ended here.

#### *Suicide Peak Trail*

Also known as the Suicide Rock Trail, this dirt and stone-paved trail's western end begins at its intersection with the Deer Springs Trail at an elevation of about 6,880 feet and travels in a west-to-east direction for 0.5 miles where it crosses the western boundary of the San Bernardino National Forest Wilderness. It continues for another 0.5 miles up to the 7,448 foot high Suicide Peak.

#### *Strawberry Cienega Trail*

This is currently an approximately 0.1 mile segment of the Pacific Crest Trail from the Strawberry Junction Campground northeast to the southeastern north/south boundary line between Section A and the San Bernardino National Forest. The trail segment is part of the longer 2.3 mile Strawberry Cienega Trail, which connects the Deer Springs Trail to the beginning of the Wellman's Cienega Trail.

#### *Marion Mountain Trail*

Originating at the San Bernardino National Forest's Marion Mountain Campground, approximately 1.5 miles of this 2.5 mile trail travels along a drainage up Marion Mountain's western flank to the same 4-way trail junction at Currant Valley.

#### *Seven Pines Trail*

This 3.8 mile trail also originates in the San Bernardino National Forest, west of the Northern Park/Wilderness area's western boundary where it crosses the North fork of the San Jacinto

<sup>29</sup> CDP&R, Facility Inventory Listing, 1; Robinson and Risher, *The San Jacintos*, 211-212; California Department of Parks and Recreation, *Mount San Jacinto State Wilderness Management Plan*, [Preliminary Draft]. Sacramento, 7; Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations*, 1-2; and Marla Mealey, Roy Pettus, and Patricia McFarland, *Mount San Jacinto CCC Trails Recordation Forms* (CDP&R, SSC (August 1999 and July 2000), 1-2.

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River. The trail continues approximately 1.5 miles in a southwesterly direction through State Park land to the 4-way junction with the Deer Springs, Marion Mountain, and Pacific Crest Trails at Currant Valley.

*Fuller Ridge/Black Mountain Trail*

Currently a 5 mile section of the Pacific Crest Trail between the San Bernardino National Forest's Fuller Ridge Campground, the trail enters Section A's northwest corner east of 8,600 foot Castle Rocks. It proceeds along Fuller Ridge for another 3 miles, crossing the Jan Jacinto River's North Fork, to its terminus at the Deer Springs Trail. The trail was rehabilitated in 1965 as part of its incorporation into the Pacific Crest Trail.

*San Jacinto Peak Trail*

This 3.14 mile trail begins at its junction with the Round Valley (High) and Tamarack Trails at the Round Valley Ranger Patrol Station and Campground. From the junction, the Peak Trail follows a series of challenging switchbacks for 1 mile up alongside the Long Valley Creek drainage to the Wellman Divide. Here the trail turns north and proceeds an additional .75 miles north along the eastern flanks of 1,670 foot Jean Peak to its junction with the Tamarack Valley Trail. From this point the trail continues for another 1.19 miles across a curving dogleg before meeting the 10,600 foot high Deer Springs Trail junction. At this point, the Trail climbs due north 234 feet to its terminus at the 10,804 foot San Jacinto Peak. This is the only dedicated trail up to the nearby CCC-built Peak Shelter.

*Tamarack Valley Trail*

A 0.5 mile section of the trail connects the Tamarack Campground to the Round Valley Campground and Trail. Beyond the former campground, the trail continues another 1.8 miles along a series of switchbacks where it joins the San Jacinto Peak Trail.

*Wellman's Cienega Trail*

A former historic cow trail from Strawberry Valley up to grazing areas at Wellman's Cienega, Hidden Lake, Round, and Long Valley's, this is the second most used trail up to San Jacinto Peak. The trail's southernmost point begins 2.3 miles east of the Strawberry Junction Campground at the boundary between Section A and the National Forest. At this point the trail proceeds for 1 mile up from 9,200 to 9,680 feet past Wellman's Cienega to its terminus at its junction with the San Jacinto Peak Trail at the Wellman Divide. In 1965, the trail section north east of the Wellman Divide switchbacks was rerouted from its original pathway on the north side of the drainage to its current position along the south side. Care was given to reincorporate the trails character-defining landscape features.

*Round Valley (High) Trail*

This trail travels east from its junction with the San Jacinto Peak Trails for 0.3 miles past the Round Valley Patrol Cabin and Campground where it meets the Long Valley Trail junction. From this point the trail continues in an easterly direction for another 1.1 miles along the northern slope of 9,356 Landells Peak before reaching its terminus at the Willow Creek Trail junction.

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*Round Valley (Low) Trail*

Beginning at its southwestern junction with the Round Valley (High) Trail, the trail descends gradually down a 2,300 foot gradient 1.8 miles along a drainage to its junction with the northern terminus of the Willow Creek Trail. Situated at an elevation of 8,378 feet, the junction is the site of the CCC/Postwar era Long Valley Campground, near the present Long Valley Ranger Station.

*Willow Creek Trail*

Another trail that begins outside Section A, the Willow Creek Trail crosses into the latter's southeastern boundary approximately 0.5 miles northeast of the Willow Creek Crossing in the San Bernardino National Forest. It follows the southeastern flank of 9,356 foot Landells Peak in a northerly direction for 2.2 miles before reaching a junction at the 8,700 foot Hidden Lake Divide. The trail continues in a northerly direction down Landells Peak's northern slope for another 0.2 miles where it meets the eastern terminus of the Round Valley (High) Trail. The trail continues for another 0.75 mile down into Long Valley where it meets the Round Valley (Low) Trail junction.

*Hidden Lake Trail*

Situated close to a mile south of the Long Valley Ranger Station at the Hidden Lake Divide east of Divide Peak, this is a spur trail off of the main north-south Willows Creek Trail. The 1,109-foot long trail travels along the northern edge of the Hidden Lake drainage basin. A perennial vernal pool, the lake normally fills with water caused by spring rain runoff, and then dries up during the summer. The trail terminates at the Desert View, which overlooks Palm Springs and the entire Coachella Valley below. There is a noticeable lack of significant stone masonry construction typical of the CCC or later postwar periods along the route. However, historical maps indicate that the trail is at least 64 years old. It is also possible that the existing footpath is the result of a voluntary or purposeful realignment. Even without any physical evidence indicating the trail's historic path, it should be regarded as a potentially eligible historic site where a significant activity occurred regardless of any existing structure. In addition, while it may lack individual distinction, the trail's route is a significant and distinguishable entity linked to the park's development.

*Skyline Ridge Route Trail*

This nearly forgotten trail roughly follows the route of a 1935 to 1936 CCC-built trail between the Long Valley Campground and Section A's northeastern boundary. Beyond this point, the trail continues along Chino Canyon to the northern outskirts of the Palm Springs community. Known today as the "Skyline Ridge Route," it is extremely steep and hazardous, dropping in elevation from 8,548 to 2687 feet in less than 2.16 miles. Because of the trail's high angle of descent and lack of water, State Park personnel discourage its use.<sup>30</sup>

<sup>30</sup> CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing*, 1; CDNR/CDP&R, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, Trails*, Map # 1255-D (1948 August 16; revised October 10, 1949), 1 sheet; CDNR/CDP&R, *Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 1251-D, 1 sheet; CDNR/CDP&R, *Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 3775 (January 29, 1957; revised March 1958 and April 1961), 1 sheet; Mealey, et al, *CCC Trails*, 1-27; F. L. Niebauer, National Park Service, *Summary Report, Fifth Period* (April 1-September 30, 1935), 2; Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations*, 15; SummitPost.org, *The*

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23. Round Valley CCC Spike Camp Site

Photograph # 17

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 23

Situated east of the three-way junction of the Round Valley (High), Tamarack, and San Jacinto Peak Trails, this is the site of Mount San Jacinto Camp SP-26. A temporary or "spike" camp, it, according to NPS Project Supervisor F.L. Niebauer, "was a tent camp with all modern conveniences such as: electric lights, showers, a wooden structure kitchen, and all the requirements of sanitation [latrines] .... [and] a reservoir...that furnishes water for our camp." At least 75 CCC enrollees and their supervisors used it as a base of operations between 1935 and 1936 to construct trails leading into and out of Round Valley, as well as the Ranger Patrol and Peak Shelter Cabins. Although the CCC disassembled the Spike Camp prior to winter 1936, there are some scattered objects and landscape features that help determine the camp's location and historic presence. These include historic can dumps in nearby gullies, cement-mortared rock drainage check dams, as well as an abandoned water heater and partially buried cast iron kitchen stove.<sup>31</sup>

24. Round Valley Ranger Patrol Station

Photograph # 18

Historic Photograph # HP11

Sketch Map # 24

Located nine miles northeast of the Park Headquarters at Idyllwild, and about ¾ mile south of Cornell Peak, at an elevation of 9,058 feet above sea level, this small 1935-built shed-roofed cabin is situated in the western portion of Round Valley close to a primitive campground. A native boulder, fieldstone, and peeled-log-built stairway lead up the 12 foot by 14 foot rectangular structure's west-facing façade. The latter's high peeled log exterior walls and fieldstone rubble chimney gives it an imposing and unusual appearance. The 1-story single-room cabin's interior is divided into living and sleeping spaces—the latter housed in an upper loft. Other NPS Park Rustic features include a large fieldstone rubble-constructed fireplace and open-beam ceiling rafter poles. In 1972 a propane stove was added as the fireplace's hearth was filled with stones to prevent sparks and embers from flying up and out the chimney. Alterations to its roof included the installation of asphalt composition roofing material over a new plywood roof and a skylight in 1976 and 1981, respectively. Access to the cabin is by means of an offset wooden Dutch door. Fenestration is limited to a single 8-light fixed wooden window. In use for over 75 years, the structure is located within the site of the 1935-1936 Round Valley CCC Spike Camp.<sup>32</sup>

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*Peninsular Ranges, San Jacinto Peak via Humber Park [Devil's Slide]*, accessed May 9, 2012 <http://www.summitpost.org/via-humber-park-devil-s-slide/449669>. Note: The number of hikers traveling along the Wellman's Cienega Trail is surpassed only by those hiking from Long Valley via the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway.

<sup>31</sup> Niebauer, *Summary Report, Fifth Period*, 3; Robinson and Risher, *The San Jacintos*, 212; and Marla Mealey & Roy Pettus, *Round Valley CCC Camp, Recordation Forms* (CDP&R, SSC, August 27, 1999), 2-3.

<sup>32</sup> CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing*, 4; *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations* (March 11, 2005), 43; CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing* (1997), 4; Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations*, 43.

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25. Round Valley Tool House

Photograph # 18, 19

Historic Photograph # HP12

Sketch Map # 25

This 12-foot by 18-foot by approximately 10-foot-tall building is built on a leveled terrace cut out from a sloping hillside. Surrounding the terrace is a low cut rubble fieldstone retaining wall. Constructed in 1953, the rectangular, high-pitched front-gabled structure's rustic design, scale and materials complement those of the nearby 1930s-era ranger station building. This can be seen in the use of shiplap-sided wood framing built into a cement-mortared stone rubble masonry half wall foundation. A solid wood panel Dutch door provides entry into south wall. Under the split-wood shingle-covered roof's south gable is a small wood plank door, which provides access into an upper loft storage area if winter snows block the main doorway. An interesting note on the building's original plans stipulates that "all materials . . . , except rocks, sand and rafters, must be packed nine miles on mules." Because of this, the lumber had to be pre-cut to size in short lengths "to minimize the number of trips and mules." Built in response to expand the park's support facilities, the structure served as an adjunct facility to store tools and supplies necessary for the postwar maintenance of the Round Valley Campground.<sup>33</sup>

26. Peak Shelter Cabin

Photograph # 16

Historic Photograph # HP8

Sketch Map # 26

Located along the trail from Round Valley to Mount San Jacinto Peak, this small, rectangular one-story 8-foot-by 12-foot front-gabled cabin lies in a clearing a short hiking distance southeast of the 10,834-foot-high peak. Constructed of rough courses of cement-mortared cut and dressed granodiorite rock gathered from the surrounding area, the building features a restored front gable roof covered by split-wood shakes. A heavy wood panel door located mid-center directly below the south gable provides access to single interior room, which contains two bunk beds along the east and west walls, and a non-operable stone masonry wood-burning fireplace built-in in the north wall. Fenestration consists of fixed windows on the east and west walls, respectively. Known as the "Trail Side Shelter House, Project 118," the 1937-built shelter is another product from the CCC's involvement at Mount San Jacinto State Park. For over 75 years it has served as a convenient shelter for hikers, especially those caught in late summer thunderstorms or winter snow storms.<sup>34</sup>

27. Long Valley Ranger Station

Photograph # 21

Historic Photograph # HP15

<sup>33</sup> CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing*, 1; CDNR/DB&P, *San Jacinto State Park, Tool House—Frame & Rock Construction*, 1 sheet; and CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing* (1997), 4; Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations* (March 11, 2005), 44.

<sup>34</sup> CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing*, 4; Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations*, 44-45.



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Sketch Map # 27

This 1964-constructed Ranger Station is strategically located at the junction of quarried fieldstone-lined trails connecting Long Valley to the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway's Mountain Station and Round and Long Valley. The low, rectangular single-story building features a broadly overhanging open squared rafter tailed medium-pitch offset-chevron front gable roof. Other character-defining architectural features include a metal chimney stack with a spark arrestor, vertical "resawn" shiplap redwood board exterior siding, horizontal bands of upright rectangular casement and fixed-pane windows, and a raised rhomboid-shaped wooden deck along  $\frac{3}{4}$ 's of the building's southwest-facing front elevation, with wooden stairways leading up from the deck's southern and northwestern corners. A thin metal railing wraps round the deck's outer perimeters. A 25-foot-tall wood flagpole stands just off the deck's southeast corner. The 80-foot-wide by 42-foot-long Ranger Station's interior is divided into six rooms: a centrally located front office, living area, kitchen/dining area, bathroom, and sleeping quarters. Men's and women's public restrooms, with exterior access only from poured-in place tiered concrete pads, are built into the building's southeast corner. An offset gabled rear wing projects off the Ranger Station's northeast corner. It is divided into a storage room and covered snow/mud porch. Non-historic architectural features are limited to metal instead of wood roof shingles, modern communication antennae on the roof, a storage closet built out from the front elevation's southwest corner, and the removal of a wooden trails sign from in front of the deck's southeast corner.<sup>35</sup>

28. Long Valley Utility Structure

Photograph # 22

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 28

Also constructed in 1964 to serve as an adjunct structure for the Long Valley Ranger Station, this 30.3-foot-long by 18-foot-wide single story structures also has an offset-chevron front gable roof and vertical wood siding. The structure contains stalls and troughs used to feed and shelter two mounted ranger patrol horses. A larger adjacent room was used to store hay and tack for the horses; while two smaller rooms along the southeast elevation were used to store wood, and as a work room. A 30.3-foot by 30-foot wooden corral extended from the rear of the stables. The corral had an outward-swinging wooden gate along its northeastern perimeter, and a water trough at its southeast junction with the Stables' northeast corner. Sometime after 1972, a mule-ride concessionaire erected a narrower shed-roofed stable along the corral's northwest perimeter. No longer used as stables, the two structures are currently

<sup>35</sup> CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing*, 1; Robert F. Uhte, *Ranger Station, Round Valley, Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Drawing # 10994 (September 11, 1962), sheet 1 of 2; Robert F. Uhte, *Utility Structure, Round Valley*, Drawing # 10994 (September 11, 1962), 1 sheet; and E. Stewart Williams, John Porter Clark, and Albert Frey *Mountain Station—Ranger Station, Plot Plan, Floor and Floor Framing Plan*, Drawing # 10994 (August 7, 1963), sheet 1 of 2. California Department of Parks and Recreation, *Long Valley Ranger Station*, ca. 1963, LVRS Winter, LVRS-63a, LVRS-63b (Mount San Jacinto State Park Photograph Collection, 1963).

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used as a wood shop and utility storage buildings. Sections of original 5-foot-high squared wooden post and board fence still delineate the original corral area.<sup>36</sup>

29. Long Valley Redwood Water Storage Tank  
Photograph # 23  
Historic Photograph # N/A  
Sketch Map # 29

This large, 150-gallon capacity octagonal-sided water storage tank features curving cedar shingle-clad redwood staves held together by iron rings. Turnbuckles at the ends of each ring can be turned to tighten or loosen the tanks outer walls as needed. A front-gabled rectangular fluted vent at the apex of its octagonal-sided roof allows atmospheric pressure into the tank, thereby preventing a vacuum. The Winter Park Authority, which also constructed the Long Valley Ranger Station and Utility Structure, reportedly purchased a surplus Southern Pacific Railroad water tank, and had it disassembled and reassembled on this site in 1964. Supplied by water delivered by gravity from another tank associated with the Mountain Station, the tank supplies potable water to the Long Valley Ranger Station.<sup>37</sup>

The Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District contains the following non-contributing resources:

### Lower Idyllwild Section

#### Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters Area

30. Ranger Station/Visitor Center  
Photograph # 1, 2, 3  
Historic Photograph # N/A  
Sketch Map # 30

This single-story approximately 40-foot-long by 15-foot wood panel-clad side-gable roofed modular building was constructed around 1985 to house additional administration offices for the park headquarters staff. It also serves as a visitor contact station, gift shop, and "mini" interpretive center. A cement-mortared stone curb was also installed along the structures outer northwest and southwest perimeters. The structure's location was originally an open area between Residence 1's Garage/Maintenance Office and the entrance road. The structure's design, style, and materials are compatible with the historic setting.<sup>38</sup>

31. Wood Storage Shed  
Photograph # N/A  
Historic Photograph # N/A  
Sketch Map # 31

<sup>36</sup> Robert F. Uhte, *Utility Structure, Round Valley*, Drawing # 10994 (September 11, 1962), 1 sheet.

<sup>37</sup> Ellen Absher, Interpreter, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Inland Empire District, Electronic Mail Communication with Alexander D. Bevil, 11 July 2012; and Lena Zimmesheld, Public Relations Officer, Mount San Jacinto Winter Park Authority, Telephone and E-mail Communications with Alexander D. Bevil, July 12, 2012 and August 2, 2012.

<sup>38</sup> CDP&R, *Looking North at Park Entrance and Headquarters Area off Hwy 243*, Photograph # 090-23431.

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This approximately 1998-constructed 6-foot x 8-foot wood frame utility shed sits on a raised platform at the northwest corner of the asphalt-concrete-covered Maintenance Yard. The structure features a brown asphalt-composition-shingled front gable gambrel-roofed vertical wood board-siding, and a rectangular wood panel southeast-facing front door. It reportedly replaced a 1967-built wood-frame paint storage shed. While a non-contributing, non-historic structure, its rustic design, scale, and materials complement the historic Headquarters Area's historic setting and overall integrity.<sup>39</sup>

32. Maintenance Shed

Photograph # N/A

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 32

A recent 2012 construct, this fairly shallow 8-foot by x 14-foot wood frame utility shed is located northeast of the Wood Storage Shed. The building features a low-pitched asphalt-composition front gable roof, composition wood exterior panels, and dual "barn doors" on its southeast façade. Although a non-contributing, non-historic structure, its rustic design, scale, and materials complement the historic Headquarters Area's historic setting and overall integrity.<sup>40</sup>

33. Storage Shed

Photograph # N/A

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 33

A former staff occupant of Residence 1 used this mid-2000s-built shed for storage due to the conversion of the Residence 1 Garage into a Maintenance Shop Office. The narrow 6' x 8' asphalt composition-shingled front-gable shed is a standard-built wood-framed structure with compressed wood exterior paneling, solid rectangular-shaped south-facing door, and rectangular 2-light sliding aluminum frame windows. Like the other storage sheds, it is a non-contributing, non-historic structure. However, its rustic design, scale, and materials complement the historic Headquarters Area's historic setting and overall integrity.<sup>41</sup>

<sup>39</sup> Garratt Aitchison, Superintendent, Mount San Jacinto State Park, E-mail and Telephone Conversations with Alexander D. Bevil (July-August 2012).

<sup>40</sup> Aitchison, E-mail and Telephone Conversations.

<sup>41</sup> Aitchison, E-mail and Telephone Conversations.

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34. Maintenance Shop

Photograph # 4

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 34

Another recent ca. 2010 addition to the Maintenance compound, this relatively large utilitarian structure is basically a medium-pitched front-gabled single-bay garage converted into a maintenance shop. Like the other recent constructs, its rustic design, scale, and materials complement the historic Headquarters Area's historic setting and overall integrity.<sup>42</sup>

35. Creek Footbridge

Photograph # 6

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 35

Located in the southwest quadrant of the grassy meadow south of the Stone Masonry Vehicle Bridge, this simple, wooden plank and rail bannister footbridge crosses a narrow creek bed. Installed ca. 1985, the structure carries foot traffic along a dirt trail linking the Entrance Visitor Parking Area to the South Day Use Picnic Area. While a non-historic, non-contributing landscape structure, the bridge does not detract from the Picnic Area's overall historic integrity.<sup>43</sup>

36. Log Hauling Wagon Shelter

Photograph # 7

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 36

Constructed ca. 2005, this open-walled wood-framed, split-wood shingle-covered gable roofed structure provides shelter for a historic ca. 1910 log hauling wagon on display.<sup>44</sup>

37. CCC 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Monument

Photograph # 7

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 37

This carved stone granite monument is set in concrete near the Log Wagon Shelter's southeastern corner. Erected in 2010, it commemorates the CCC's historical association with the Mount San Jacinto State Park.

**Lower Idyllwild Section**

**Idyllwild Campground**

38. Campground Area Additions

Photograph # 12

Historic Photograph # N/A

<sup>42</sup> Aitchison, E-mail and Telephone Conversations.

<sup>43</sup> Aitchison, E-mail and Telephone Conversations.

<sup>44</sup> Aitchison, E-mail and Telephone Conversations.

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Sketch Map # N/A

Non-contributing landscape additions within the Campground include 33 low 1985-style circular metal campfire rings. More recent additions include 2 ADA-compliant campsite parking spur modifications, with poured-in-place concrete automobile drive-through and foot paths, and the replacement of a postwar-era comfort station and combination building (see items 41-42).

39. Campfire Center

Photograph # N/A

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 39 CC

Built in 1975, the Campfire Center is a terraced area situated within a natural embankment northwest of the Vehicle Bridge between the southeast circulation road and the creek bed. The structure consists of three sections of four rows of wooden plank benches supported by metal posts and braces arranged before an upright wooden proscenium. A small wooden storage box with electrical hook-ups sits behind the benches. An additional construct is circular cement-mortared stone masonry fire ring. While a non-contributing landscape feature, its rustic design and use of natural building materials blend in with the Campground's historic Park Rustic landscape features.<sup>45</sup>

40. Southwest Day Use Picnic Area

Photograph # 12

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 21

Non-contributing landscape improvements include 3 ca. 2008-built wood post-and-beam lath-roofed shade ramadas, 3 upright metal BBQ grills, and an ADA-compliant poured-in-place footpath.<sup>46</sup>

41. Comfort Stations

Photograph # N/A

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 41 CS

Located on the site of a previous 1949-built Comfort Station in the Campground's southern section, this 2010-constructed facility consists of two separate 25-foot-square, side-gabled single-story structures sitting side by side on an approximately 52-foot by 30-foot poured-in-place concrete slab. A 10-foot-wide shaded walkway separates the northwest structure from its southeast neighbor. An 18-foot wide by 52-foot-long accessible parking area runs along their southwest perimeters. Recently built, the Comfort Station's design, construction, materials, and location complement the historic campgrounds' setting.<sup>47</sup>

<sup>45</sup> CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing*, 5.

<sup>46</sup> Aitchison, E-mail and Telephone Conversations.

<sup>47</sup> CDP&R, *Facility Inventory Listing*, 1.



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42. Combination Building

Photograph # N/A

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 42 CB

Located on the site of a previous 1989-built Comfort Station in the Campground's northern section, this approximately 45-foot by 30-foot single-story side-gabled 2009-built structure is situated on an approximately 50-foot by 60-foot poured-in-place concrete pad. Recently remodeled to make it more accessible, the Combination Building's design, construction, materials, and location complement the historic campgrounds' setting.<sup>48</sup>

### Upper Mountain Section

43. Mule Shed

Photograph # N/A

Historic Photograph # N/A

Sketch Map # 43

Located along the Long Valley Utility Structure corral's northwestern perimeter, a mule-ride concessionaire erected this small, rectangular structure to shelter his animals sometime prior to 1972. The structure's southeast-facing shed-roofed porch removed the wood fencing along the Utility Structure's rear corral. While it is a non-contributing, non-historic structure, the Mule Shed's simple board 'n batten exterior siding, shed roofs, and overall rustic flavor complement the nearby historic buildings.<sup>49</sup>

### Integrity Statement

Despite over 75 years of active use, the Mount San Jacinto State Park-Park Rustic Historic District has managed to retain all seven aspects of its historic integrity. For example, the majority of the Upper Mountain Section's character-defining contributing trails still follow their original routes. The possible exceptions might be the realignment of small sections of historic trails. However, the trails' overall routes still follow their original alignments. Bypassed and abandoned sections containing character-defining historic landscape materials to accommodate public safety or protect threatened natural resources have been left in place.

Likewise, the district's contributing features physical environment or setting amid stands of tall trees, grassy meadows, or craggy mountain peaks has remained generally unaltered. While newer, non-historic additions have been added to both the Idyllwild Administration and Campground Areas, they are compatible with the surrounding CCC and postwar era State Parks buildings and landscape improvements. Likewise, due to the lack of roads, only natural forces have shaped the Upper Mountain area's historic setting.

<sup>48</sup> Aitchison, E-mail and Telephone Conversations.

<sup>49</sup> Zimmeshheid, and E-mail Communication with Alexander D. Bevil, August 2, 2012.

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In combination with their original building materials and workmanship, the majority of the district's contributing historic resources convey their integrity of design through the retention of their historic design elements. For example, both the Idyllwild Administration and Campground Areas contain some of the best concentrations of CCC and postwar period Park Rustic style buildings, structures, and landscape improvements. Indeed, in a larger context, the entire district can be seen as a unique collection of resources that convey the evolution of the Park Rustic style within a single California State Park from 1934 to 1965.

By maintaining their architectural integrity through location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship, the district's contributing resources convey a strong feeling or sense of historic character and function. In addition, they continue to convey their association with the particular role they played during a key part in the historical development and use of Mount San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness during its 1934 to 1942 and 1947 to 1965 periods of significance.

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### 8. Statement of Significance

#### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years
- H.

#### Areas of Significance

Entertainment/Recreation  
Architecture  
Landscape Architecture

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**Period of Significance**

1934-1942

1947-1965

**Significant Dates**

1934, 1942, 1949, 1965

**Significant Person**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

F. L. Niebauer, Landscape Architect, National Park Service

Robert F. Uhte, Architect, California Department of Parks and Recreation

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The district has two periods of historic significance. The first begins in 1934 and ends in 1942, when California State Parks, in cooperation with the National Park Service and Civilian Conservation Corps, were involved in a nationwide federal program to improve local, state, and national parkland. The second period extends from 1947 to 1965, when California State Parks was involved in a statewide program to improve and expand numerous parks and beaches to meet and adapt to the needs of an ever-increasing number of automobile-bound visitors.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

The Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District meets National Register Criteria Consideration G: Properties That Have Achieved Significance within the Past 50 Years. Contributing historic elements erected between 1963 and 1965 are directly associated with the second period of California State Parks' development of Mount San Jacinto State Park during the Postwar Era. One of these structures is also eligible under Criteria Consideration B, as a moved property that has achieved a level of significance after its relocation to the Park in 1965.

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph**

The Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District is historically significant at the state level under Criterion A in the area of Entertainment/Recreation during two periods of significance: 1934-1942 and 1947-1965. The first, or Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Era, is associated with the largest cooperative effort between state and federal governments to improve publicly

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owned parks throughout the United States during the Great Depression of the 1930s. The second period is associated with California State Parks' statewide effort to improve its parks in response to increased postwar demands. The historic district is also eligible under Criterion C at the state level in the areas of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. It contains numerous buildings, structures, objects, park furniture, and other landscape improvements associated with the evolution of the Park Rustic style of American architecture at one of the oldest parks in the California State Parks System. Initiated by the National Park Service (NPS) during the early 1900s, the highly rustic style displays a design philosophy with building construction techniques sympathetic to the surrounding natural environment. Constructed between 1934 and 1942, and again between 1947 and 1965, examples of the style within the district correspond with the two previously mentioned periods of the Park's historical development. Designed by NPS specialists, and constructed by federally funded CCC enrollees, park improvements made between 1934 and 1942 were instrumental in California State Parks' ability to develop, administer, and provide recreational opportunities throughout the Park. Examples constructed between 1947 and 1965 represent a more minimalistic "Stripped-down" postwar style initiated by California State Parks during the postwar era in response to increased material and construction costs. While several examples are less than 50 years old, they meet Criteria Consideration G. Their minimalistic style represents a direct continuum with California State Parks' association and use of the Park Rustic style. In addition, these resources are also eligible under Criterion C as representative examples of the work of noted California State Parks architect Robert F. Uhte. One other contributing structure is also eligible under Criteria Consideration B, as a moved property that achieved a level of significance after its relocation to the Park in 1965.

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## **Narrative Statement of Significance**

### Significance under Criterion A

The District's contributing resources are historically significant under Criterion A. They are associated with events that have made significant contributions to the broad development of California State Parks during two important periods of its growth and development: the 1934 to 1942 CCC Era; and the 1947 to 1965 Postwar Era.

### CCC Era: 1934-1942

This period is associated with the largest cooperative effort between the federal and state governments to improve publicly owned forest and wilderness areas during the Great Depression of the 1930s. In response to massive unemployment, on April 5, 1933 President Franklin D. Roosevelt authorized the Emergency Conservation Work Act, which created the Civilian Conservation Corps. Administered by the National Park Service and under the direction of reserve U.S. Army officers, CCC enrollees would enroll over 500,000 unemployed young men



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and veterans to work on numerous federally funded public works construction and resource conservation projects.<sup>50</sup>

Besides being involved in trail clearing, firefighting, soil conservation work, insect control, and reforestation in federally owned parks and forests, the NPS and CCC played an important role in the conservation and improvement of state and county parks. These projects produced improved picnic, camping, and park administration, residential, and maintenance areas, many of which are still in use today.<sup>51</sup>

Nowhere did the CCCs have as great an impact on state park development than in California. Between 1933 and 1942, the federally funded and administrated program was regarded by some as a "godsend." By 1934 the fledgling California State Division of Beaches and Parks was responsible for administering as many as forty-nine park units extending from Northern California to the Mexican Border. The problem was that while the park service was "land rich," it was "staff and facilities poor." Much of the land under its jurisdiction was held in reserve, inaccessible to most staff and visitors. The federally funded CCC program, however, would provide the labor and expertise to improve the parks' infrastructure through such improvements as the building of roads, bridges, shelters, and other park facilities.<sup>52</sup>

Of the 166,000 CCC enrollees who worked in California, 135,000 were local young men who worked out of as many as 475 camps throughout the state (only 98 camps were in operation during a given year). While a number of camps were established in national parks and forest areas, most were in the new California State Parks, the majority located along the coast and in coastal mountain areas. These temporary camps served as bivouacs to house the men necessary to construct over 1,500 buildings and structures within the California State Park System. Personnel from NPS provided their time and expertise in the design and administration of all CCC projects assigned to the California State Parks System. After approval by State Park supervisors, the CCC crews would begin construction under the direction of experienced local foremen.<sup>53</sup>

<sup>50</sup> Alexander D. Bevil, *Historical Contextual Study and Determination of Significance of the Morro Bay State Park CCC/Postwar Administration District, Marina, Campground, and Natural History Museum Areas within Morro Bay State Park San Luis Obispo County, California* (California Department of Parks and Recreation [CDP&R], Southern Service Center [SSC] October 28, 2008), 7; CDP&R, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, Unit History* (1968 February), 34; Joseph H. Engbeck, Jr., *By the People for the People: The Work of the Civilian Conservation Corps in California State Parks, 1933-1941* (Sacramento: California State Parks, 2002), 3-5; and Engbeck, Jr., *State Parks of California: from 1864 to the Present* (Portland: Graphic Arts Center Publishing Company, 1980), 64; and John C. Page, *The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-1942: An Administrative History* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, Department of the Interior, 1985), n.p., accessed October 17, 2008 [http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online\\_books/ccc/ccc1a.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/ccc/ccc1a.htm).

<sup>51</sup> CDP&R, *Unit History*, 34; Engbeck, *State Parks of California*, 64, 68, 74 and 75; and Page, *The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-1942*, accessed 2008 October 17.

<sup>52</sup> CDP&R, *Unit History*, 34; Engbeck, *State Parks of California*, 34; and Carol Roland, Ph.D., *CCC Resources in the State Park System: an Inventory* (Sacramento: CDP&R, 1991), 2.

<sup>53</sup> Roland, *CCC Resources in the State Park System*, 5; and James D. Newland, *Park Rustic Buildings and Structures in the California State Parks System, Survey and Evaluation* (Prepared for Cultural Resources Division, CDP&R,

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Mount San Jacinto State Park was among the first to benefit from the CCC's work. Late in the summer of 1934, consulting landscape architect Frederick L. Olmsted, Jr., along with newly appointed U.S. Secretary of the Interior and director of the Public Works Program Harold Ickes, and California State Parks District Supervisor Guy L. Fleming, had conducted a three-day inspection trip into Mount San Jacinto State Park. The first Supervisor of the newly formed Southern California District, Fleming was an authority on parks and their administration. Based in his home office at the Torrey Pines Preserve in San Diego, Fleming had recently been involved as a special investigator assisting the California State Parks Commission in the selection of at least twenty state parks between Monterey County and the U.S./Mexico border, including Mount San Jacinto. During his administration [1933-1948], Fleming was an ardent supporter for the active use of state parks as campgrounds, trail hiking, historic preservation, and interpretation. During their tour, the trio inspected sites proposed for new facilities that were to be built the following year.<sup>54</sup>

During the spring of 1933, the U.S. Forest Service had set up a CCC camp at Alvin Meadows, three miles west of the small mountain hamlet of Idyllwild Village. The 100-man camp was one of five that the U.S. Forest Service established within the San Bernardino National Forest's San Jacinto Ranger District. Administered by U.S. Army Air Corps Captain Fred Petty, U.S. Forest Service Superintendent John A. Baker, and NPS landscape architect F. L. Niebauer, Camp Alvin Meadows served as the administrative base camp for a number of smaller temporary "spike camps" in the National Forest as well as in San Jacinto State Park. Under Niebauer's supervision, by 1934, a 50-man crew at the Tahquitz Valley spike camp cleared and improved historic cow trails leading up into Mount San Jacinto State Park's Wellman's Cienega, Hidden Lake, as well as Round and Long Valleys. At the Round Valley spike camp, Niebauer directed 75 CCC enrollees to create additional trails to Tamarack Valley, Long Valley, and San Jacinto Peak. Many of these CCC-built trails still feature dry-laid native stone retaining walls, culverts, and curbing. Pack mules and horses based at Idyllwild were used to haul over half a million pounds of gear and supplies to the Round Valley Spike Camp. Included were sacks of cement to mix with local creek sand to make mortar for two stone masonry shelters at Round Valley and on San Jacinto Peak. Other NPS and CCC-built trails include the Fuller Ridge/black Mountain, Seven Pines, Marion Mountain, Suicide Peak, Strawberry Ridge Deer Springs, Willow Creek, and Skyline Ridge trails. Except for the little-known Skyline Ridge Route Trail, which extended from Long Valley down Chino Canyon to the Coachella Valley north of Palm Spring, the CCC trails experience heavy use today.<sup>55</sup>

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2003 December) 2. Note: On January 26, 2009, the California State Historic Preservation Officer concurred that the combined CCC and Postwar Administrative and Campground improvements at Morro Bay State Park constitutes a single historical resource that should be listed on the State's Master List of historic resources. See: Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA to James D. Newland, January 26, 2009.

<sup>54</sup> Alexander D. Bevil, *Mount San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness, Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations* (CDP&R, SSC, 2005 March 11), 16; and CDP&R, *Unit History*, 34 and 37.

<sup>55</sup> Bevil, *Historical Resources Report*, 2, 15 and 16; CDP&R, *Unit History*, 34-37; L. F. McClelland *Building the National Parks: Historic Landscape Design and Construction* (Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore &

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In 1936, CCC crews directed their attention closer to Idyllwild. The previous year, a representative of Idyllwild, Inc. deeded thirteen acres of land northwest of the commercial core of Idyllwild Village to the State of California. Part of the original Idyllwild Sanatorium and later Idyllwild Inn's holdings, the parcel was the site of the Sanatorium's dairy, with a large barn and auxiliary sheds. While Idyllwild, Inc. donated the land, it set certain restrictions: the property was to be held in public ownership in perpetuity; and was to be made available for public recreational use. Although detached from the park's larger more mountainous area to the north, the new headquarters/campground site was strategically situated along a main highway connecting it to both Hemet and Beaumont, which would make it readily accessible to the casual motoring tourist from Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.<sup>56</sup>

Following NPS design and construction guidelines, Niebauer designed and oversaw the layout and construction of Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters and adjacent Campground areas at Idyllwild. The former consisted of a custodian's cottage, which also served as the Park Unit's headquarters and visitor contact station, with a detached automobile garage, and nearby shop building just off the main entrance off Highway 243. A cement-mortared stone rubble masonry vehicle bridge led visitors over a shallow creek bed into the Campground area. CCC crews had cleared and improved twenty-six camping units, with picnic tables, stone masonry Mount Diablo style camp stoves, upright wooden food lockers, water faucets, and double type pit latrines. It is not known if Niebauer designed or the CCC enrollees were responsible for installing the existing stone masonry retaining walls, curbing, or steps. It is entirely possible that California State Parks constructed or improved them after 1947. Regardless, they are still contributing character-defining historic Park Rustic landscape features.<sup>57</sup>

#### World War II: 1941-1945

Due to manpower and shortages of building materials, gasoline and other strategic materials, new construction practically came to a halt throughout Mount San Jacinto State Park during World War II. It has been reported that during the war Idyllwild and the surrounding area resembled a military rest camp. While training in the Mojave Desert, officers of General Patton's

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London 1997), 1 and 3; and F. L. Niebauer, National Park Service, *Summary Report, Fifth Period* (April 1-September 30, 1935), 2.

<sup>56</sup> CDP&R, *Unit History*, 34-35; Niebauer, *Summary Report*, 1 and 2; CDNR/CDP&R, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, Trails*, Map # 1255-D (August 16, 1948; revised October 10, 1949), 1 sheet; CDNR/CDP&R, *Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 1251-D (May 19, 1949; revised October 6, 1951), 1 sheet; CDNR/CDP&R, *Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 3775 (1957 January 29; revised March 1958 and April 1961), 1 sheet; (Bevil 1998:10; CDP&R, *Unit History*, 36; and L. Block, *CA-RIV-3426H* [Peak Shelter], Recordation Form (1982), 1 and 2; C. Roland and E. Barter, *RD VY [Round Valley] Ranger Station, Historic Structure Inventory and Architectural Supplement* (1992 May 19), 1-15; Marla Mealey, Roy Pettus, and Alexander D. Bevil, *Round Valley Ranger Station, Historic Structure Record* (September 27, 1999), 1-4; and Alexander D. Bevil, *Round Valley Ranger Station. Architectural Supplement* (September 27, 1999), 3-4.

<sup>57</sup> Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations*, 15-16; CDP&R, *Unit History*, 32; and 37; R. C. Davis, *Wilderness, Politics, and Bureaucracy: Federal and State Politics in the Administration of San Jacinto Mountain, Southern California, 1920-1967* [Ph.D. diss., University of California, Riverside, 1973], 136. Note: Circumstantial evidence notwithstanding, there is insufficient biographical information at this time to determine if F. L. Niebauer was a landscape architect of note during the CCC era.

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tank corps rented houses in Idyllwild for their wives and children. Gen. Patton and his officers would drive up from the desert in trucks and jeeps every weekend. Joining the general were soldiers on leave from Camp Hann and March Air Field near Riverside, and the Ryan Air Field in Hemet. It is not known, but entirely logical that these men and their families utilized the Idyllwild Campground and other public areas for recreational purposes.<sup>58</sup>

#### Postwar Period: 1947 to 1965

This is the second primary period in which national and statewide factors affected Mount San Jacinto State Parks' development. Freed from travel restrictions caused by gasoline, oil, and rubber rationing during the war, beginning in 1947, an ever-increasing number of automobile-driving tourists began to arrive at federal and state-managed forests and parks. As a result, State Parks officials realized that they would have to rectify years of deferred maintenance. In addition, State Parks administrators and planners realized that the existing park facilities were woefully inadequate to meet postwar administrative as well as recreational needs. The increase in visitors to Mount San Jacinto and other state parks and beaches hastened California State Parks to direct the Division's newly formed Engineering Section to implement the largest statewide construction program since the Great Depression. Besides rehabilitating established campgrounds, roads, trails, and buildings, the program included the design and construction of entirely new buildings, structures, and other landscape improvements.<sup>59</sup>

Beginning in 1949, one of the first postwar structures completed at Mount San Jacinto State Park was an additional staff residence building and detached automobile garage just north of the Custodian's Residence. However, the greatest changes initiated in 1949 occurred in the adjacent campground and picnic areas. Historical and physical evidence indicates that, while their original 1937 configurations were retained, practically all of their original rustic landscape furniture was removed and replaced with standardized pre-built examples. The only surviving CCC-built campground furniture examples are two Mount Diablo-type stone masonry stoves. As mentioned previously, while there is no archival evidence supporting the thesis that the CCC constructed the campground's stone masonry road curbing, retaining walls, and stairway, as well as upright wooden food storage lockers; the quality of the stonework's materials, technique, joinery, and craftsmanship is equal to any CCC-built stonework.<sup>60</sup>

<sup>58</sup> United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service [USDI/NPS] and California Division of State Parks [CDSP], Cooperating, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, S.P. 26, Water Pipe Lines at Camp Ground*, Map # 11450-E (July 8, 1935), 1 sheet; CDSP Cooperating, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, S.P. 26, Vehicle Bridge*, Drawing # 2199 (September 4, 1935), 1 sheet; and CDP&R, State Museum Photograph Archives [SMPA], *Mount San Jacinto State Park Vehicle Bridge*, Photographs # 94F90CAB and 94F825B (1935); and Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations* (March 11, 2005), 40.

<sup>59</sup> Alexander D. Bevil, *Mount San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness, Historical Resources Report* (CDP&R, SSC, November 4, 1999; updated March 11, 2005), 19; and John W. Robinson and Bruce D. Risher, *The San Jacintos: The Mountain Country from Banning to Borrego Valley* (Arcadia: Big Santa Anita Historical Society, 1993), 140-141.

<sup>60</sup> Bevil, *Morro Bay*, 14; and Robinson and Risher, *The San Jacintos*, 141.



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Postwar rehabilitation and new construction at Mount San Jacinto State Park was not limited to the Campground and Headquarters areas at Idyllwild. From 1947 to 1965, State Parks staff and volunteers were busy clearing overgrown scrub and fallen trees, as well as the resetting stone masonry structures along the CCC-built trails throughout the park's mountainous highlands. In addition, between 1953 and 1964, four new structures were constructed in this area to meet the park's needs. These include a storage shed near the Round Valley Ranger Patrol Station, and a ranger station, stables, and a relocated wooden water storage tank at Long Valley.<sup>61</sup>

Noted California State Parks architect Robert F. Uhte prepared drawings for the "Ranger Station" and "Utility Structure" at Round Valley in 1962. He designed the latter to serve as a two-stall horse stable, with an attached fenced corral off its rear elevation. Apparently, these two structures were never built at Round Valley. Instead, the following year the Mount San Jacinto Winter Park Authority commissioned the architectural firm of Emerson Stewart Williams, John Porter Clark & Albert Frey, designers of the Authority's Palm Springs Aerial Tramway's nearby Mountain Station, to modify Uhte's original designs, and reportedly took responsibility for the construction and maintenance of both a Ranger Station and Utility Structure at Long Valley. Completed in 1964, in order to cut costs, Williams removed the Ranger Station's original Swiss/Bavarian Alpine-inspired "gingerbread" exterior detailing. The result is a much more simple, yet functional Mid-Century Modern design that blends in with its rustic surrounding.<sup>62</sup>

Through the Winter Park Authority's munificence, the new Ranger Station and Utility Structure increased California State Parks' presence in the Long Valley area in conjunction with the 1963 opening of the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway's Mountain Station. The Ranger Station, along with the adjacent Utility Structure, with its adjacent horse stable and corral, would provide information, security, and a first response capability to the estimated thousands of visitors that the new aerial tramway would bring to the once isolated section of Mount San Jacinto State Park.<sup>63</sup>

The Winter Park Authority was also responsible for the construction of another nearby structure associated with California State Parks' management of the Long Valley area. Without it, California State Parks' occupation and use of the Ranger Station would still be problematic. Sometime shortly before the Ranger Station's 1964 completion, the Winter Park Authority purchased a surplus 150-gallon redwood water storage tank from the Southern Pacific Rail Road. The Winter Park Authority had the tank disassembled and hired mule skinner Bill Rulley to haul

<sup>61</sup> C. Roland and Eloise Barter, *Mount San Jacinto Campground, Historic Structure Inventory* (May 21, 1992), 2, 5-7; and Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations*, 42.

<sup>62</sup> CDNR/DB&P, *San Jacinto State Park, Tool House-Frame & Rock Construction*, Drawing # 1245-D (August 17, 1953), 1 sheet; Robert F. Uhte, *Ranger Station, Round Valley, Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Drawing # 10994 (September 11, 1962), sheet 1 of 2; *Utility Structure, Round Valley*, Drawing # 10994 (September 11, 1962), sheet 2 of 2; and Lena Zimmerschild, Public Affairs Manager, Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, E-mail Communication with Alexander D. Bevil (August 2, 2012).

<sup>63</sup> Uhte, *Ranger Station, Round Valley*, sheet 1 of 2; Uhte, *Utility Structure, Round Valley*, sheet 2 of 1; Emerson Stewart Williams, John Porter Clark and Albert Frey, *Mountain Station-Ranger Station, Plot Plan, Floor and Floor Framing Plan*, Drawing # 10994 (August 7, 1963), sheet 1 of 2; and Lena Zimmerschild, E-mail Communication with Alexander D. Bevil.



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the sections from Idyllwild to Long Valley. Rulley normally left Idyllwild at midnight so that he and his pack mules would reach the valley at 5 a.m., the beginning of the work day. Once completed, the tank, along with a larger tank associated with and above the Mountain Station, were, and still are the only sources of potable water in Long Valley. The smaller tank is also connected to the larger tank to augment an adequate reserve of pressurized water to combat structural and wildfires in the Long Valley area.<sup>64</sup>

### Significance under Criterion C

The District's contributing resources are also historically significant under Criterion C. They visually and materially embody the distinctive architectural characteristics of the Park Rustic style of American architecture as it evolved to meet local and regional environmental conditions throughout California State Parks from 1934 to 1965. Immediately recognizable, Mount San Jacinto State Park's surviving Park Rustic style resources represent three distinct variants that developed before and after World War II. The common bond between all three variants is an organic unity between the need for man-made park facilities and landscape improvements that were environmentally sensitive to their natural surroundings as well as to traditional building traditions and techniques. They also express California State Parks' struggled to adapt the style to suit challenging social and economic times. While most of the contributing Park Rustic style resources within the discontinuous district have experienced various degrees of change due to heavy use and climatic conditions, collectively they continue to provide a visible link to the park's past by plan, style, and physical development.

### Park Rustic Style—Variant 1: 1934-1942

The need to improve California State Parks staff as well as visitors can be traced to its inception. After the passing of the State Bond Act of 1928, the newly created Division of Beaches and Parks had acquired forty-nine parks and eleven historical monuments. However, the ensuing nationwide financial crash and economic depression made it difficult, if not impossible for the Division to develop these parks. Ironically, the Depression years, from 1934 to 1942 would be a time of unprecedented growth for California State Parks, caused in great part by federally funded work programs like the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration (WPA).<sup>65</sup>

Working in conjunction with National Park Service designers and built by CCC or WPA work crews, this first phase of park development emphasized land conservation, considerations for visitor circulation and use, and the orderly arrangement of buildings and structures. Local stonemasons and carpenters would also be hired to assist unskilled CCC enrollees and add artisan touches. The result was a unique nationwide design ethic known as the "Park Rustic" style, which, through the use local building and landscaping materials, dictated the built environment be subordinate to and blend in with the surrounding natural environment.<sup>66</sup>

<sup>64</sup> Bevil, *Historical Resources Report*, 24 and 29.

<sup>65</sup> Zimmerschild, E-mail Communication with Alexander D. Bevil.

<sup>66</sup> Engbeck, *State Parks of California*, 63-64.

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Between 1934 and 1937, NPS and CCC staff and work crews designed, built, installed, or improved over 140 buildings, structures, objects, and trails throughout the newly acquired Mount San Jacinto State Park. The largest concentrations of landscape improvements are located near at the Park Headquarters and Campground areas at Idyllwild. Contributing CCC Park Rustic resources at the Park Headquarters area includes a combination Custodian's Residence, with a built-in visitor contact office and detached automobile garage; Maintenance Shop; an Entry Road and Visitor Parking Area; stone masonry Entry Column and Piers, Flagpole Bench, Drinking Fountain, and Vehicle Bridge; and the site of a Horse Corral. Contributing CCC Park Rustic style historic landscape features within the adjacent Idyllwild Campground include the entire Campground, with its circulating road network, campsites, automobile parking spurs; along with additional stone masonry constructed Mount Diablo-type stoves, retaining walls, curbs, and stairs. Separate from the Headquarters and Campground areas, but linked historically by plan and physical development are numerous discontinuous NPS-designed and CCC-built buildings, structures, trails, and sites. Located northeast of the Headquarters/Campground area in the park's larger more mountainous northern region, they include a network of hiking and equestrian trails, with stone masonry retaining walls, culverts, and curbing. Other stone masonry-built structures include a Shelter cabin near Mount San Jacinto Peak, and a Ranger Patrol Station near the site of a former CCC Spike Camp at Round Valley.<sup>67</sup>

#### World War II: 1942-1945

The Depression-era building program slowed down in the years leading up to the United States' entry into World War II as work crews were redirected to build military installations or their members were drafted into the U. S. military. As a result of losing a large pool of relatively free labor, and nationwide shortages of building materials and fuel rationing, new construction practically came to a standstill at California State Parks during the war years.<sup>68</sup>

#### Park Rustic Style—Variant 2: 1947 to 1956

In anticipation of increased public use and growth after the war, as early as 1944, California Division of Beaches and Parks engineer Daniel Hull, working with the California Division of Architecture, developed and produced a new set of California State Parks building plans. However, continued funding, labor, and materials shortages during the immediate postwar period necessitated that these designs reflect a more austere, unadorned or "Stripped-Down" standardized utilitarian design standard. The result was a catalog of standardized, practical, and functional designs that still embodied three important Park Rustic design tenets: the continued use of local or natural material whenever possible; an attempt to scale back a building's overall mass and scale; and the ability to blend in with the natural surroundings. Most designs featured low, rectangular gable or shed-roofed shapes, with minimal architectural elaboration and similar floor plans. Variations were allowed in order to adapt structures to California's four general climatic and geographic areas: beach, mountain, valley, and desert. For example, a beach type

<sup>67</sup> Alexander D. Bevil, *Comfort Station, Varner Harbor and Combination Building, New Camp Campground, Salton Sea State Recreation Area, Riverside County, California*, (Historical Background and Determination of Significance Prepared for CDP&R, SSC, February 18, 2009), 6.

<sup>68</sup> Bevil, *Morro Bay*, 10; and Roland *CCC Resources in the State Park System*, 3.

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comfort station normally had a clay tile gabled roof, while a valley or mountain type had a split-wood shingle gabled roof. Construction materials were also limited to relatively inexpensive and easy to handle materials: pre-cut wood siding and roof shingles, pre-assembled wooden doors and windows, poured-in-place cement flooring, and standardized plumbing and electrical fixtures. The use of muted earth tone paint schemes allowed them to fit unobtrusively within the surrounding natural landscape.<sup>69</sup>

Examples of the Stripped-Down Park Rustic style at Mount San Jacinto State Park include 1949 to 1955-installed campground furniture: stone masonry camp stoves, concrete and redwood plank picnic tables, along with upright wooden food storage lockers, hose faucet stands with circular concrete splash basins. Other examples of the Stripped-Down Park Rustic style include the 1950-built Residence #2, and the ca. 1953-1956-built Log Hauling Wagon Display Platform at the Idyllwild Headquarters. The latter was built to display a vintage log hauling wagon associated with the area's historic lumber industry. The immediate postwar period also saw a flurry of activity in the Park's Upper Mountain Section. For example, in order to reinstate mounted horse patrols from the Park Headquarters, between 1947 and 1965, park superintendents initiated several trail improvement projects. During these events, service crews and volunteers cleared brush, fallen trees, and rearranged rock retaining walls and curbing along the original CCC-built trails.<sup>70</sup>

To facilitate ongoing trail, structural, and campground maintenance, in 1953 State Parks personnel erected a rustic Tool House near the CCC-built Round Valley Ranger Patrol Station. As mentioned previously, both locally available and imported building materials had to be hauled in via mule train from the Idyllwild Campground.<sup>71</sup>

### Park Rustic Style—Variant 3: 1957 to 1965

The decade immediately following the 1950-1953 Korean War was one of expansion and development throughout California's State Parks. However, newly hired architect Robert F. Uhte was faced with the dilemma of designing cost effective park structures, while still being able to address individual park's local needs and environments.<sup>72</sup>

During this period, California and other state and federal parks, experienced an ever-increasing demand from staff and the public alike for new modern recreational facilities. In response, Uhte and his staff sought to further "modernize" their designs. Influenced by national trends, the result was a third variation of the Park Rustic style. Its keynote design elements were a more

<sup>69</sup> Engbeck, Jr., *State Parks of California*, 64 and 75; and Rebecca Allen, Ph.D. and James D. Newland, *Architectural Overview of Buildings and Structures Constructed between 1942-1965 in California State Parks and Beaches* (Prepared for Cultural Resources Division, CDP&R, 2003 December), 11, 19, 21-22, 24, and 111; *News 'n Views* (April 1944), n.p.

<sup>70</sup> Allen and Newland, *Architectural Overview*, 21-22 & 24; and *News 'n Views*, n.p.; Bevil, *Comfort Station, Varner Harbor and Combination Building*, 7.

<sup>71</sup> Bevil, *Historical Resources Report*, 20; CDP&R, *Unit History*, 46-47; Allen and Newland, *Architectural Overview*, 8.

<sup>72</sup> CDNR/DB&P, *Tool House-Frame & Rock Construction*, 1 sheet.

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standardized, contemporary minimalistic modular style, with the continued use of modern materials. However, Uhte continued to promote the pre-World War II Park Rustic design philosophy that, whenever possible, California State Parks buildings, according to Uhte, "should blend in with [their] surroundings and not stand out on [their] own."<sup>73</sup>

Two contributing structures located at Mount San Jacinto State Park's Upper Mountain Section erected during this period are associated with the third variant of the evolution of the Stripped-Down Park Rustic style in California State Parks. They include the previously mentioned Ranger Station and Utility Structure at Long Valley. While there is some question as whether or not Uhte's 1962 designs were for newer, larger facilities at Round Valley, and that Williams, Clark & Fry later copied and adapted them for Long Valley, Uhte is still responsible for their original design. Williams, Clark & Frey's 1963 plans merely removed Uhte's original picturesque "gingerbread cottage" detailing from both buildings' initial design. The result is two unadorned minimalist structures that still follow Uhte's design philosophy that "architects and their designs should be quiet, and not disturb the landscape." Completed in 1964, both structures are simple, unassuming, functional constructs that blend in well with their rustic setting.<sup>74</sup>

The Long Valley Ranger Station and Utility Shed are also eligible under Criterion C in the area of Design/Construction through their association with the work of a recognized master of the postwar Park Rustic style, Robert F. Uhte. Uhte, who had started out as the Department of Beaches and Parks' first assistant architectural draftsman in 1953, had been introduced to the Park Rustic style during an apprenticeship with the National Parks Service during the 1930s. As a result, he had developed an appreciation of the style's synergistic use of local materials and siting within the natural environment. In 1957, Uhte became the Department's first associate architect. The Department then assigned him to design a new generation of modern buildings that would replace those that Daniel Hull and the California Division of Architecture had developed in the mid-to-late 1940s. Uhte's task was to design new buildings and structures that would be "in keeping with the character and surroundings of our parks, beaches, and historical monuments." However, faced with Departmental budget constraints that emphasized minimal expenditures on building materials and labor, the Department compelled Uhte to standardize his designs.<sup>75</sup>

Influenced by the National Park Service's 1956 to 1966 "Mission 66" Program, between 1957 and 1964, Uhte and his small architectural staff would design new park buildings, structures, and campground improvements that reflected a "Stripped-Down" design philosophy that promoted an economy of materials and practicality for public and/or parks staff buildings. Examples featured low gable or hipped roofs, with broadly overhanging eaves; pre-cut wood siding and roofing shingles; stuccoed drywall or concrete block walls; pre-assembled wooden doors and windows;

<sup>73</sup> Allen and Newland, *Architectural Overview*, 13.

<sup>74</sup> Robert F. Uhte, Retired Division Chief and Supervising Architect, CDP&R and William Meuser, retired Supervising Architect, CDP&R, *Oral History Interviews* (October 8, 1998), 4, 9-10.

<sup>75</sup> Uhte, *Ranger Station, Round Valley, Mount San Jacinto State Park*, sheet 1 of 2; Uhte, *Utility Structure, Round Valley*, sheet 2 of 2; and Williams, et al, *Mountain Station—Ranger Station*, sheet 1 of 2. Uhte, *Oral History Interview*, 10.

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cement flooring; standardized plumbing and electrical fixtures; and neutral paint schemes. Practicality and functionality, not visual impact, were important design factors of the Stripped-Down Park Rustic style. Most standard-plan postwar parks buildings from this time were not required to stand out as architectural elements in and of themselves, but to blend unobtrusively within each park unit's natural or historic landscape.<sup>76</sup>

Emerson Stewart Williams, of Williams & Williams, A.I.A., is the architect of record on the Long Valley Ranger Station and Utility Structure's modified 1963 plans. While a recognized master of the postwar Park Rustic style, as seen in his design of the nearby Mountain Station, Williams' influence on the Long Valley Ranger Station and Utility Structure's overall design was minimal. As mentioned previously, he merely removed exterior gingerbread worked vertical board detailing.<sup>77</sup>

#### Significance under Criterion Consideration B

Another contributing structure directly associated with the Long Valley Ranger Station and Utility Structure's function and use is the nearby above-ground Redwood Water Storage Tank. A completely utilitarian structure, its overall rustic design reportedly predates that of the more modern Ranger Station and Utility Structure; albeit, at a previous location. However, its significance lies in its association with the development of California State Parks' presence in Long Valley in 1964. The tank is directly associated with the Winter Park Authority's beneficence in funding the design and construction of the Long Valley Ranger Station and Utility Structure to facilitate California State Parks' presence. The Authority reportedly purchased a surplus Southern Pacific Railroad redwood stave water tank, and had it disassembled and reassembled on this site in 1964.<sup>78</sup>

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<sup>76</sup> Allen and Newland, *Architectural Overview*, 21-22 & 24-25; "California Department of Beaches and Parks, "Roster of Personnel," *News 'n Views* (December 1953), 2; (December 1956), 16; and (December 1957), 16; Zimmerschild, E-mail Communication with Alexander D. Bevil; and Sara Allaback, Ph.D., "Modern Architecture in the Parks," in *Mission 66 Visitor Centers: The History of a Building Type* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resources Stewardship and Partnerships, Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program, 2000, [http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online\\_books/allaback/vc0b.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/allaback/vc0b.htm), accessed January 15, 2013), n.p.

<sup>77</sup> Bevil, *Morro Bay*, 25; Allen and Newland, *Architectural Overview*, 21-22, 24 & 29; *News 'n Views* (April 1944), n.p.; Robert F. Uhte, *Combination Building B* ["Working Drawings"] (CDNR/DB&P, April 4, 1956), sheets 1 and 2 of 2; SMPA, *Combination Building, Salton Sea, California*, Photograph # 0901-18942 (March 30, 1958); and Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1993), 477 and 482; C. Madrid French, *Mission 66: Modern Architecture in the National Parks*, 2008, accessed October 26, 2008 <http://www.mission66.com/mission.html>, n.p.; and Robin Karson, Preface in *Mission 66: Modernism and the National Park Dilemma*, by Ethan Carr, (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press in Association with Library of American Landscape History, 2007) ix-x.

<sup>78</sup> Joseph Rosa, *Albert Frey, Architect* (New York: Rizzoli, 1990), 115; Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, "Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, Palm Springs California" [Promotional Brochure] (1963); David Gebhard, Introduction to *Albert Frey, Architect*, by Joseph Rosa (New York: Rizzoli, 1990), vi-ix; and Emerson Stewart Williams, John Porter Clark, and Albert Frey, *Aerial Tramway Terminal Facilities for the Mount San Jacinto Mt. Park Authority, Palm Springs*, File # 4917-337 (1962), sheets 4-5 of 5; Palm Springs MODCOM [Modernism Committee], "E. Stewart Williams," n.p., accessed 2012 August 2, <http://psmodcom.org/index.php/e-stewart-williams/>; Eileen Smith,



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The Ranger Station, Utility Structure, and Redwood Water Storage Tank at Long Valley, along with certain trail improvements, are less than 50 years old. However, their eligibility is shy by only two or three years. In addition, their significance is a direct continuum of California State Parks' association with the initial development and management of Mount San Jacinto State Park's infrastructure from 1934 to 1965.

Constructed in 1964, the Long Valley Ranger Station and Utility Structure were designed and built to increase California State Parks' presence in the park unit's upper mountainous section in conjunction with the 1963 opening of the nearby Palm Springs Aerial Tramway's Mountain Station. As a result, California State Parks could provide information, security, and first response capabilities to the estimated thousands of visitors that the new aerial tramway would bring to the once isolated section of Mount San Jacinto State Park.<sup>79</sup>

The Ranger Station and Utility Structure are also significant for their continued association with the third phase of the evolution of the Stripped-Down Park Rustic style at Mount San Jacinto between 1954 and 1965, as well as the most prolific phase of their designer, noted California State Parks architect Robert F. Uhte. During this time, Uhte's interpretation of the Park Rustic style evolved into a more standardized, unassuming contemporary modular style, while still blending in with their rustic surroundings. Indeed, the Ranger Station and Utility Structure, while examples of the postwar Stripped-Down Park Rustic style, are not standardized designs. Uhte designed them specifically for Mount San Jacinto State Park, albeit as interpreted by noted Contemporary Modern architect Emerson Stewart Williams.<sup>80</sup>

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"E. Steward Williams, Palm Springs' Eternal Architect," *Auction Central News*, 2009 January 30, accessed 2012 August 2, <http://acn.liveauctioneers.com/index.php/component/content/article/60-style-century-magazine/531-palm-springs-eternal-architect>.

<sup>79</sup> Zimmesheid, E-mail Communication with Alexander D. Bevil.

<sup>80</sup> Bevil, *Preliminary Inventory and Evaluations*, 24 and 29.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: California Dept. of Parks & Recreation, Southern Service Center,  
San Diego, CA

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 143.43 acres

Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters and Campground Area at Idyllwild: 13.1 acres

Upper Mountain Section: 130.33 acres

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

Lower Section: Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters & Campground Area at Idyllwild

1. North

Latitude: 33.749954° Longitude: -116.714733°

2. Northwest Corner

Latitude: 33.750054° Longitude: -116.714733°

3. Southwest Corner 1

Latitude: 33.748697° Longitude: -116.716723°

4. Southwest Corner 2

Latitude: 33.747515° Longitude: -116.715607°

5. South Corner

Latitude: 33.747028° Longitude: -116.714822°

Upper Mountain Section

1. Northeast Corner

Latitude: 33.836217° Longitude: -116.615065

2. North

Latitude: 33.814310° Longitude: -116.678337°

3. Northwest Corner

Latitude: 33.831330° Longitude: -116.714222°

4. West

Latitude: 33.811787° Longitude: -116.720065°

5. Southwest Corner

Latitude: 33.755213° Longitude: -116.716654°

6. South

Latitude: 33.787786° Longitude: -116.677153

7. Southeast Corner

Latitude: 33.78784° Longitude: -116.649998°

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### Verbal Boundary Description

#### Lower Idyllwild Section

Located entirely within a 13.1-acre pear-shaped section of Mount San Jacinto State Park known as the *Lower Idyllwild Section* this portion of the district consists of two separate subsections: the Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters and Idyllwild Campground Area. This boundary's northern-most point begins 35 feet south of the T-shaped intersection of Highway 243 and Jameson Drive. The boundary follows a recently installed wooden dog-eared fence approximately 369 feet in an east-to-west direction to the boundary's northwest corner. From this point, the boundary travels along a chain-link metal fabric fence in a northeasterly to southwesterly direction for approximately 548 feet to the boundary's 1st southwestern corner. At this point, the boundary runs along another wooden dog-eared fence for 513 feet along a northwest to southeast direction, where it turns at a 90 degree angle and proceeds in a southwesterly direction for another 127 feet to its second southwest corner. From here, the boundary travels 312 feet in a southeasterly direction to its southeastern-most corner. Situated 17 feet from Highway 243's right-of-way, the boundary closely follows the highway's curving western shoulder for another 1,285 feet along a southwest to northeasterly path of travel before reaching its point of origin.<sup>81</sup>

#### Upper Mountain Section

This section's irregular-shaped boundary begins at a point 500 feet southwest of the Aerial Tramway's Palm Springs Station. The boundary proceeds from an elevation of 2,689 feet along a barely discernible foot trail up along Chino Canyon's southeastern drainage for over 2 miles before reaching the 8,525 foot high ridgeline southeast of the aerial tramway's Mountain Station. The trail continues past the Mountain Station for 1,340 feet downslope in a westerly direction into Long Valley, where it meets a three-way junction connection with the Willow Creek and Low Trails near the Long Valley Ranger Station. From this point, the northern boundary follows the "Low" Trail from an elevation of 8,363 feet along a northeasterly to southwesterly direction for 2.1 miles to the 9,023-foot-high Round Valley Ranger Patrol Station. The northern boundary then proceeds in a northerly to westerly direction along the Tamarack Valley Trail for .8 of a mile before meeting its junction with the San Jacinto Peak Trail. From this point, at an elevation of 9,523 feet, the boundary follows the latter trail in a roughly northerly direction for .5 mile to a point a few feet shy of the 10,834 foot San Jacinto Peak. The northern boundary continues in a southwesterly direction down the peak's western slope for another 2.3 miles along the Deer Springs Trail,

<sup>81</sup> CDNR\DB&P, *Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 3298-5, one sheet; United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cooperating with California Division of State Parks, *Mount San Jacinto State Parks Administration Area and Campground*, Map # 1221 (ca. 1937; updated ca. 1953), 1 sheet R. C. Davis, *Wilderness, Politics, and Bureaucracy: Federal and State Politics in the Administration of San Jacinto Mountain, Southern California, 1920-1967* (Ph.D. diss., University of California, Riverside, 1973), 109-110, 113 and 128; and John W. Robinson and Bruce D. Risher, *The San Jacintos: The Mountain Country from Banning to Borrego Valley* (Arcadia: Big Santa Anita Historical Society, 1993), 211-212.

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where it meets its 9,854-foot high junction with the southeastern terminus of the Fuller Ridge Trail. From here, the northern boundary jogs in a northwesterly direction for 5 miles along a downward-sloping ridgeline to the 8,600 foot Castle Rocks formation. The district's northern boundary doubles back up the Fuller Ridge Trail to the Deer Springs Trail. From this point, the northern boundary proceeds in a southwesterly direction for another half mile along the Deer Springs Trail to its 8,562 foot elevation junction with the Seven Pines Trail.

One segment of the Upper Mountain Section's western boundary begins at this point. It follows the Seven Pines Trail in a westerly direction approximately 1.5 miles down along the North Fork of the San Jacinto River before dropping 1,680 feet to a point where it reaches the park unit's western boundary. The Section's western boundary doubles back up the Seven Pines Trail to its junction with the Deer Springs Trail. Proceeding 200 feet southwest along the latter trail, it reaches the 8,640 foot elevation junction with the Marion Mountain Trail's eastern terminus. Here, another length of the Section's western boundary proceeds approximately 6,500 feet along the Marion Mountain Trail where it drops 1,280 feet in elevation to a point where it again meets the Section's western perimeter. The boundary then doubles back up to the Deer Springs Trail. The Upper Mountain Section's western boundary continues in a southerly direction for approximately 6.4 miles to a point at its southwestern corner, 0.5 miles north of the Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters and Campground Area at Idyllwild. The district's Upper Mountain Section's western boundary doubles back approximately 2 miles along Deer Springs Trail to its junction with the Suicide Rock Trail.

The district's Upper Mountain Section's southeastern boundary extends to the ends of two discontinuous trail sections in its southwestern area. The first is a half mile section of the Suicide Rock Trail extending northwesterly from its 6,880-foot elevation junction with the Deer Springs Trail across Marion Creek to a point where it meets the Section's southeast boundary. Formerly known as the Suicide Peak Trail, it continues outside the district's boundary for another half mile through the San Bernardino National Forest to its 7,528-foot high terminus at Suicide Rock. The district's second discontinuous southeastern boundary begins 1.8 miles north of the Suicide Rock/Deer Springs Trail junction at the Strawberry Junction campground. Situated at an elevation of 8,880 feet, the junction is the western terminus of the Strawberry Cienega Trail. The latter extends approximately 462 feet in a northwesterly direction where it meets the Section's southeastern boundary. The trail continues northeasterly outside the district through San Bernardino National Forest land for 2 miles, passing the Strawberry Cienega before reentering the Upper Mountain Area's southern boundary approximately 1,338 feet southwest of the Wellman Cienega Trail junction. A third discontinuous southern boundary section begins at a point where the Wellman Cienega Trail crosses the southern boundary 370 feet southeast of the Wellman Cienega Trail junction with the Strawberry Cienega Trail. Situated at an elevation of 8,603 feet, the trail continues in a northerly direction for one mile along the southern flank of the 10,362-foot tall Marion Mountain past the Wellman's Cienega before reaching the junction of the Deer Springs Trail at the 9,760-foot high Wellman Divide. The district's southern boundary continues along the Wellman Cienega Trail from this point in an easterly direction dropping 400 feet in elevation



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for another mile to its three-way junction with the southern terminus of the Tamarack Valley Trail and the western terminus of the High Trail near the Round Valley Ranger Patrol Station. From this point, the district's southern boundary continues in an easterly direction for an additional 1,584 feet along the High Trail to the latter's junction with the southwestern terminus of the Low Trail. The southern boundary continues from the 8,960-foot high junction easterly for another 1.1 miles and terminates at the 8,840-foot high junction of the High and Willow Creek Trails.

The Willow Creek Trail runs in a north/south direction along the district's southeastern boundary. The latter begins at the trail's northern junction with the Low Trail near the Long Valley Ranger Station, and continues in a southerly direction rising 477 feet in elevation for one mile before it meets the fore-mentioned High Trail junction. The southeastern boundary continues in a southerly direction along the eastern flank of 9,596-foot tall Divide Peak for another 1,000 feet through the Hidden Divide junction with the Hidden Lake Trail's western terminus. The latter trail forms a 1,109-foot long extension of the district's southern boundary along the northern edge of Hidden Lake to its eastern terminus at the Desert View lookout. Returning to the Willow Creek Trail, the district's southeastern boundary continues south along Divide Peak's southeastern flanks for approximately 2 miles before reaching its southern terminus at a point where it meets the Upper Mountain Section's southern boundary. The trail continues into San Bernardino National Forest land for another 1,000 feet before meeting the Tahquitz Valley Trail. Both trails continue southwest, connecting Mount San Jacinto State Park's Northern Park Section to trailheads northeast of Idyllwild Village.<sup>82</sup>

### **Boundary Justification**

#### *Lower Idyllwild Section*

The Lower Idyllwild Section's boundaries follow the original boundaries of a parcel of land that California State Parks acquired in February 1933. The existing boundary fence line is the physical manifestation of this section of the district's boundary.

#### *Upper Mountain Section*

While the section itself comprises 13,584.5 acres of mountainous terrain, only about 130.33 acres contain historic resources. The latter's total area comprises primarily the area within the narrow footpaths of fourteen historic trails, as well as the immediate area surrounding the footprints of three historic buildings, one structure, and one historic site. While the setting

<sup>82</sup> California Department of Natural Resources [CDNR], Division of Beaches & Parks [DB&P], *Mount San Jacinto State Park Trails*, Map # 1255-D (August 16, 1948; revised October 10, 1949), one sheet; CDNR\DB&P, *Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 3298-5 (May 19, 1949; revised, October 6, 1951), one sheet; CDNR\DB&P, *Mount San Jacinto State Park, Acquisition Map*, Map # 1531A (February 18, 1952; revised March 1952), one sheet; CDNR\DB&P, *Mount San Jacinto State Park*, Map # 3775 (January 29, 1957; revised March 1958 and April 1961), one sheet; United States Department of the Interior, Geological Survey, *Idyllwild Quadrangle* [Topographic Map] (1981; photo-revised 1988) and *San Jacinto Peak Quadrangle* [Topographic Map] (1981); and California State Parks, *Mount San Jacinto State Park* [Park Brochure Map] (2002; Revised 2009).

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and view sheds along the trails and surrounding the other resources are part of the historic setting, a decision was made to limit the area where changes were physically made to the landscape. In the case of one known historic site, its boundaries are less defined, and basically represent an amorphous area containing scattered historic features or artifacts. A portable GPS unit was utilized to compute the combined acreage.

**Property Owner**

The State of California's Natural Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation is the sole owner and regulatory agency with land use authority over the property in which the historic district's boundaries are contained.

**Mailing Address**

State of California Natural Resources Agency  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
c/o Ron Krueper, District Superintendent  
Inland Empire District  
17801 Lake Perris Drive  
Perris, CA 92571

**11. Form Prepared By**

Name/Title Alexander D. Bevil, Historian II  
Organization: California Department of Parks and Recreation  
Street & Number: NTC at Liberty Station/Barracks 26  
2797 Truxton Road  
City Or Town: San Diego state: CA zip code: 92106  
E-mail abevil@parks.ca.gov  
Telephone: 619-220-5402  
Date: January 17, 2013

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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### **Additional Documentation**

#### **Sketch Maps**

Figure 1: Upper Mountain and Lower Idyllwild Sections

Figure 2: Lower Idyllwild Section Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Figure 3: Upper Mountain Section Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Figure 4: Lower Idyllwild Section—Headquarters Area—Contributing District Resources

Figure 5: Lower Idyllwild Section—Campground Area—Contributing District Resources

Figure 6: Upper Mountain Section—Historic Trails & Other Resources

Figure 7: Lower Idyllwild Section—Headquarters Area—Non-contributing Resources

Figure 8: Lower Idyllwild Section—Headquarters Area—Sketch Map w/Photograph Key

Figure 9: Lower Idyllwild Section—Campground Area—Sketch Map w/Photograph Key

Figure 10: Upper Mountain Section—Historic Trails & Other Resources—Sketch Map w/Photograph Key

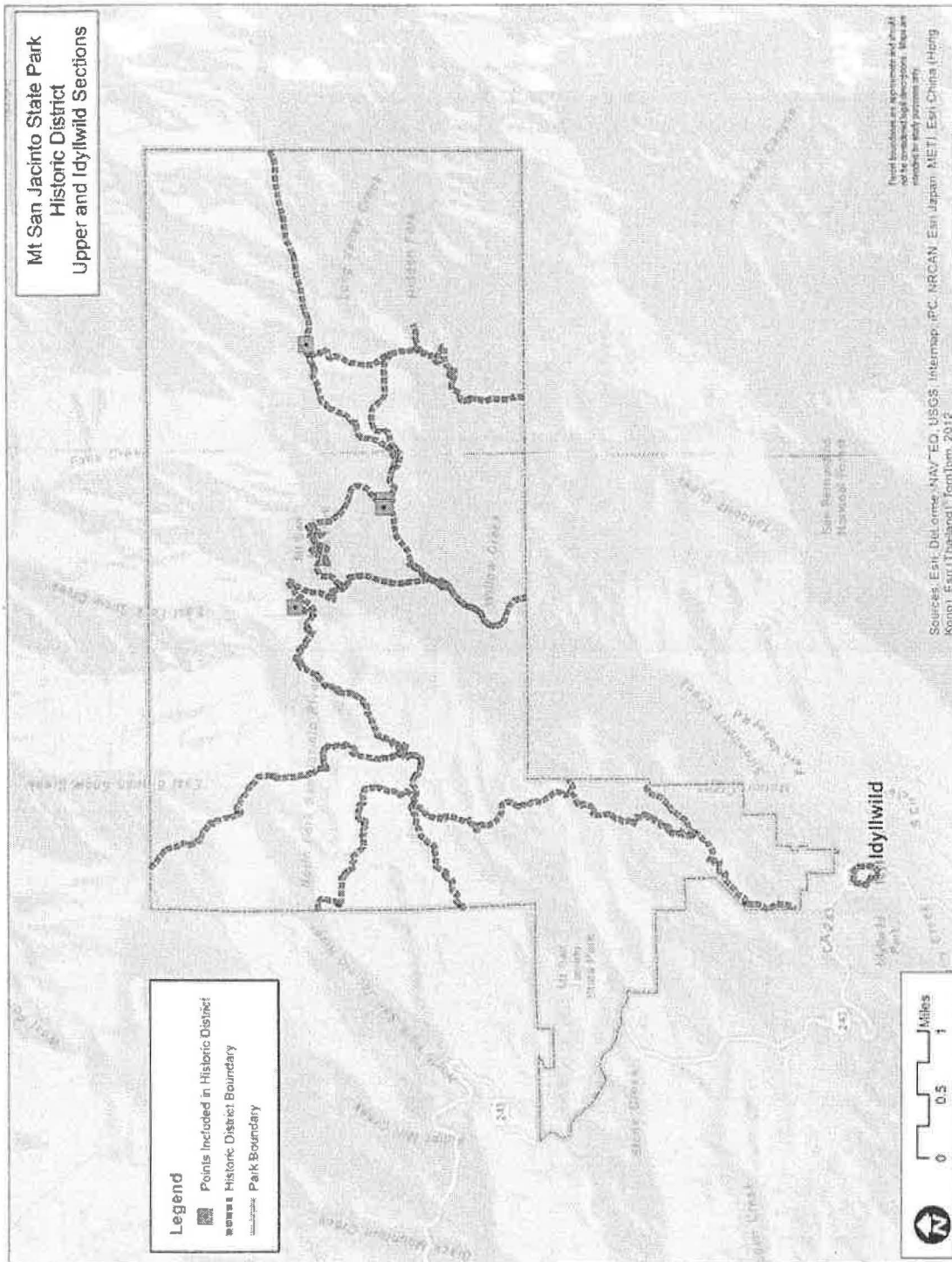
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Figure 1: Upper Mountain and Lower Idyllwild Sections



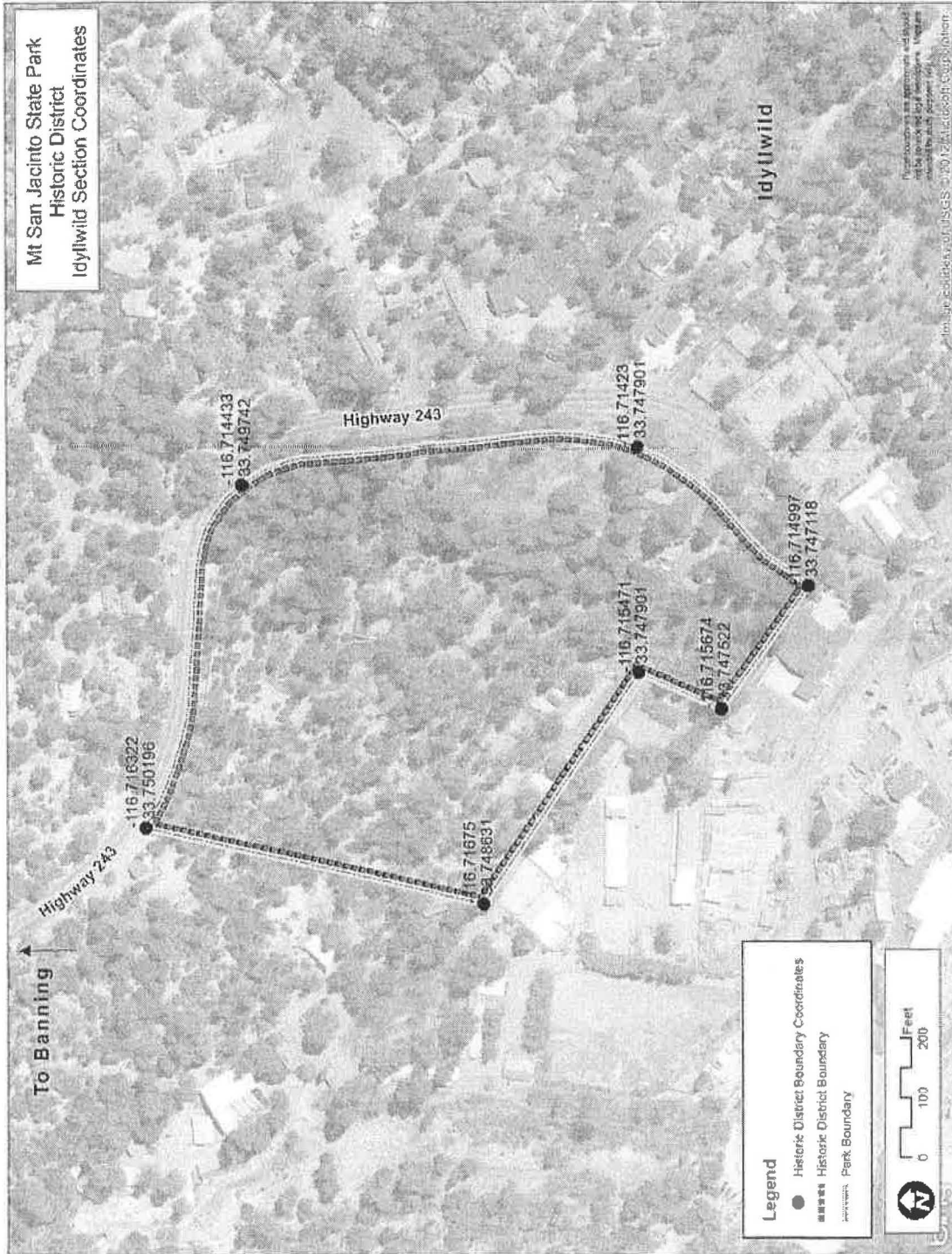
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Figure 2: Lower Idyllwild Section Latitude/Longitude Coordinates







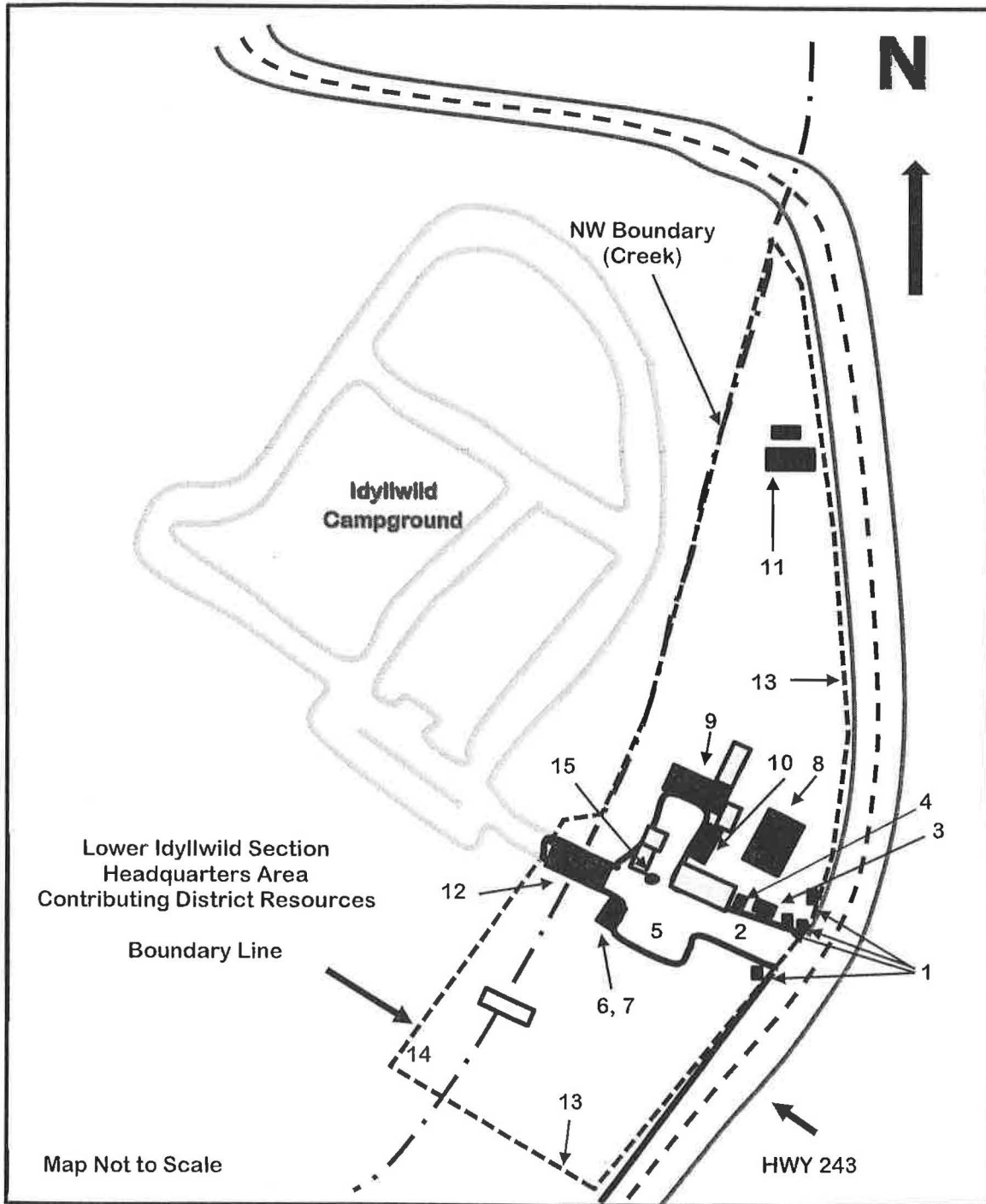
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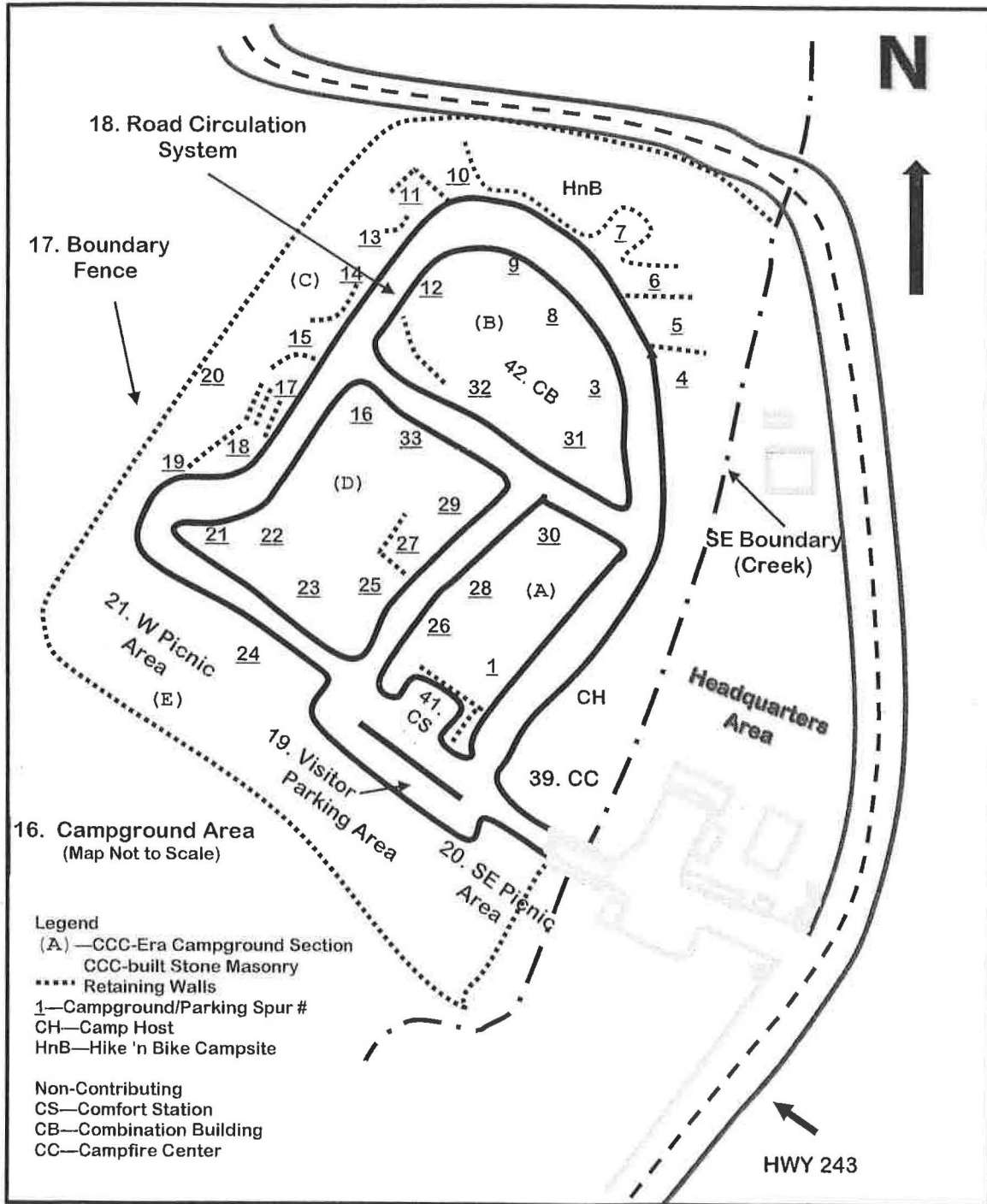
Figure 4: Lower Idyllwild Section—Headquarters Area—Contributing District Resources



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**Figure 5: Lower Idyllwild Section—Campground Area—Contributing District Resources**



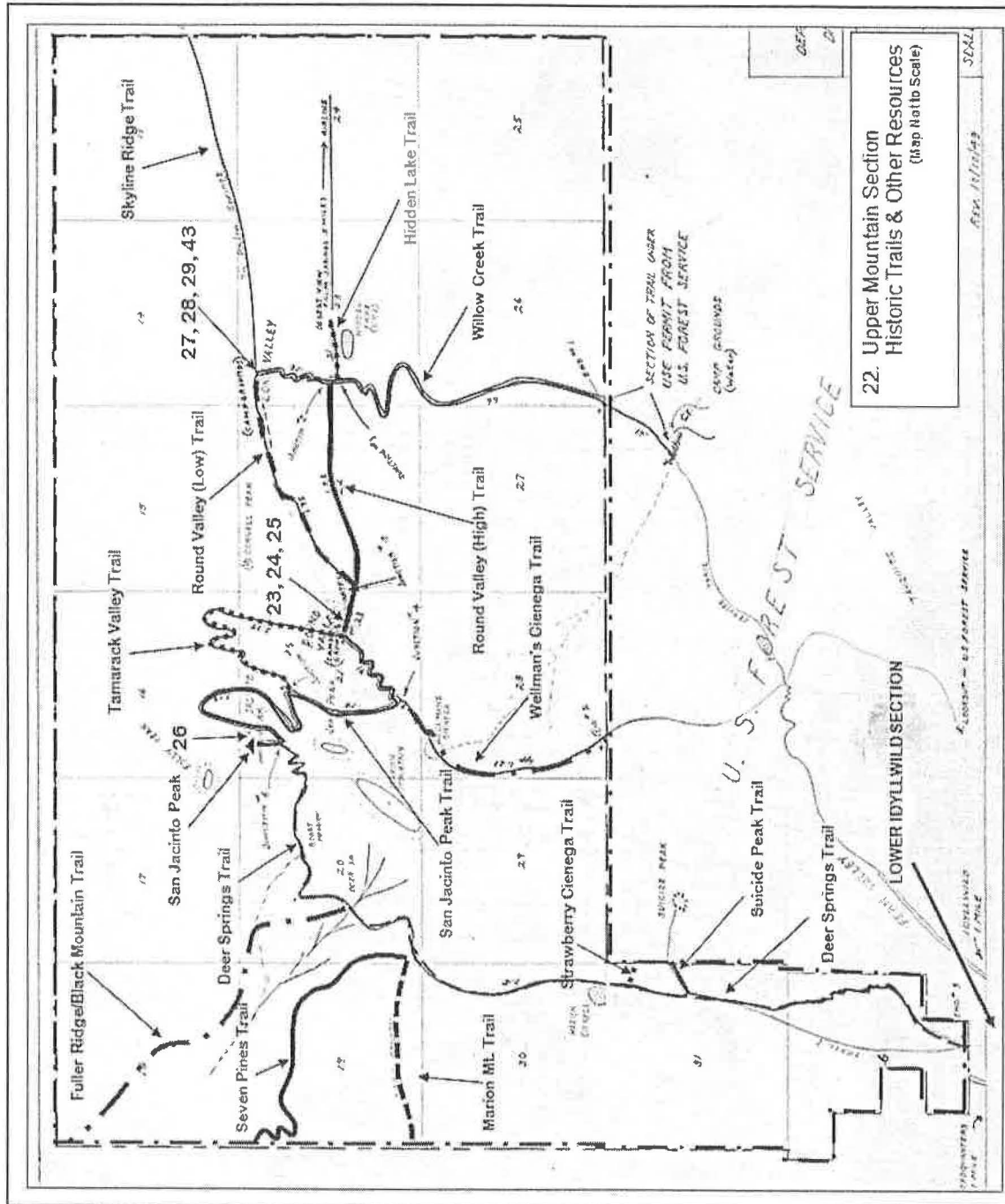
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Figure 6: Upper Mountain Section—Historic Trails & Other Resources



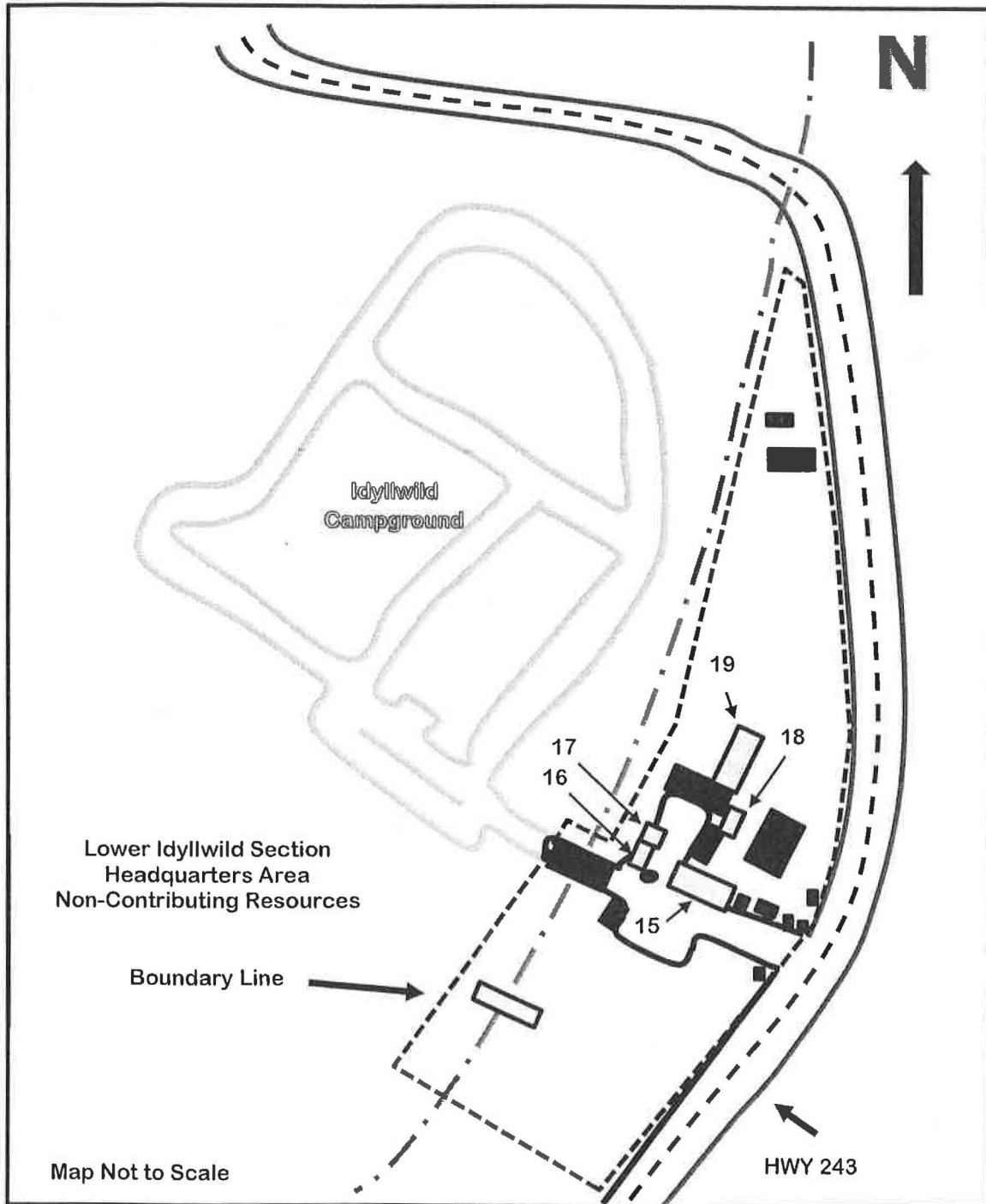
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**Figure 7: Lower Idyllwild Section—Headquarters Area—Non-contributing Resources**





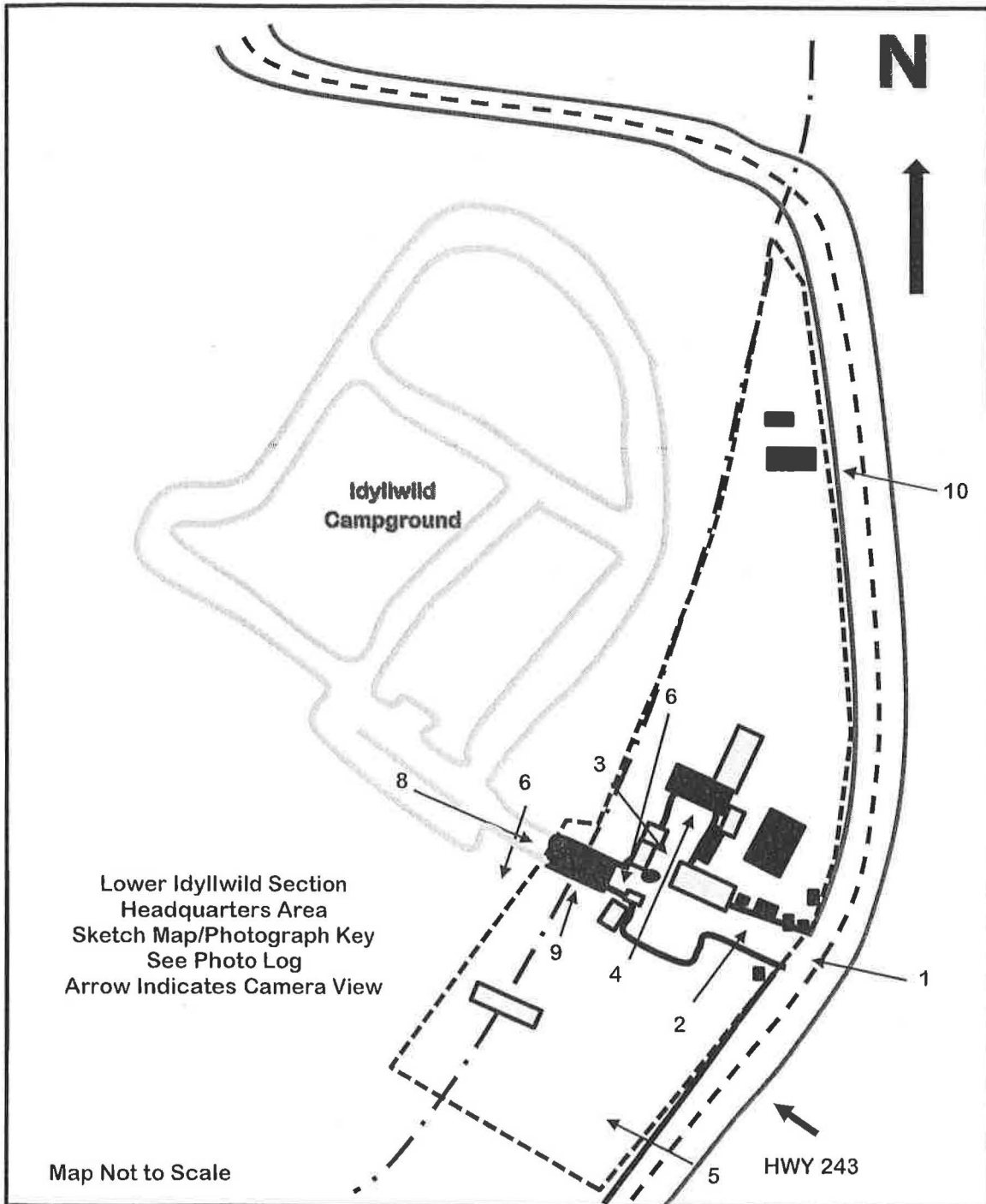
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Figure 8: Lower Idyllwild Section—Headquarters Area—Sketch Map w/Photograph Key



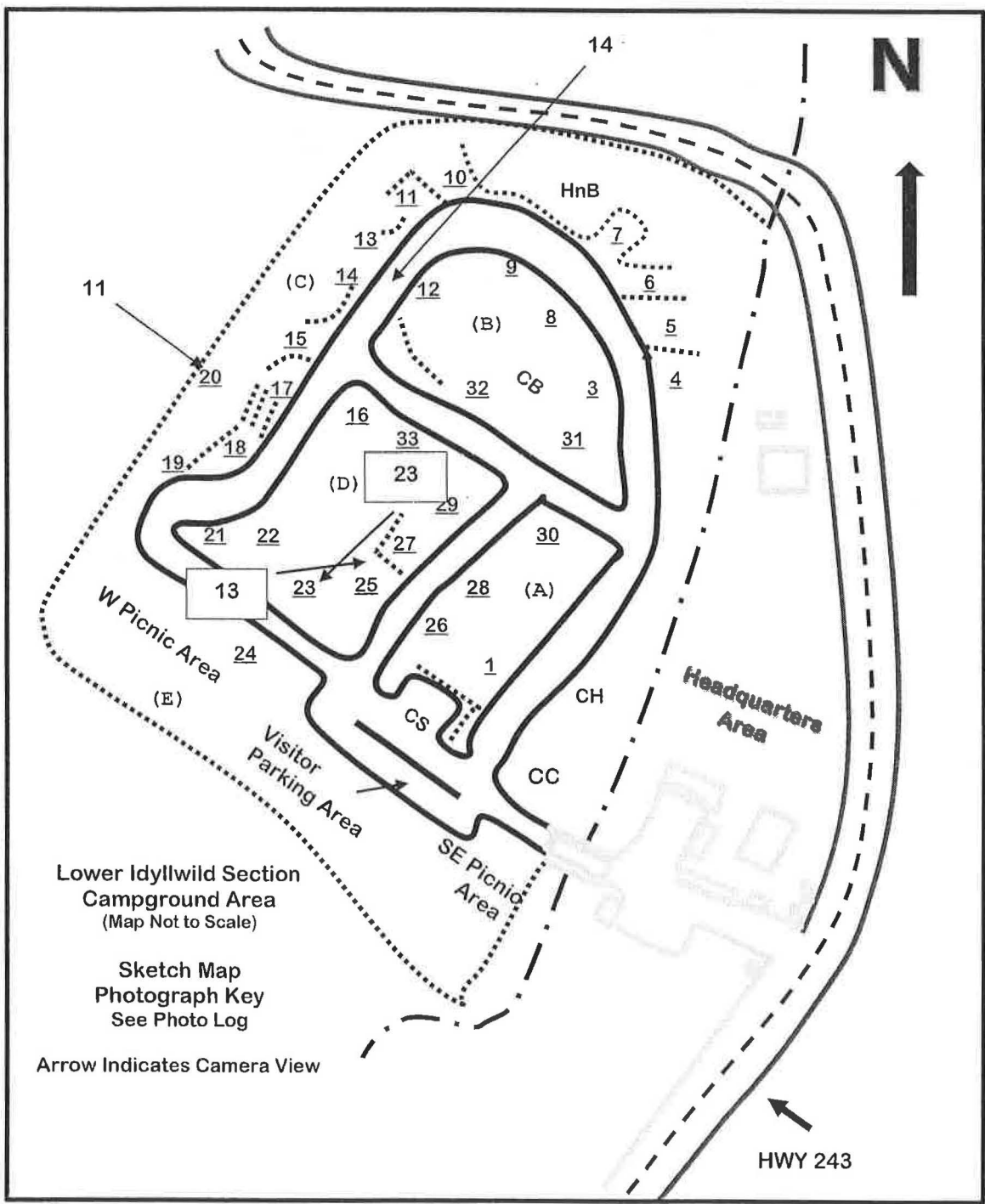
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Figure 9: Lower Idyllwild Section—Campground Area—Sketch Map w/Photograph Key



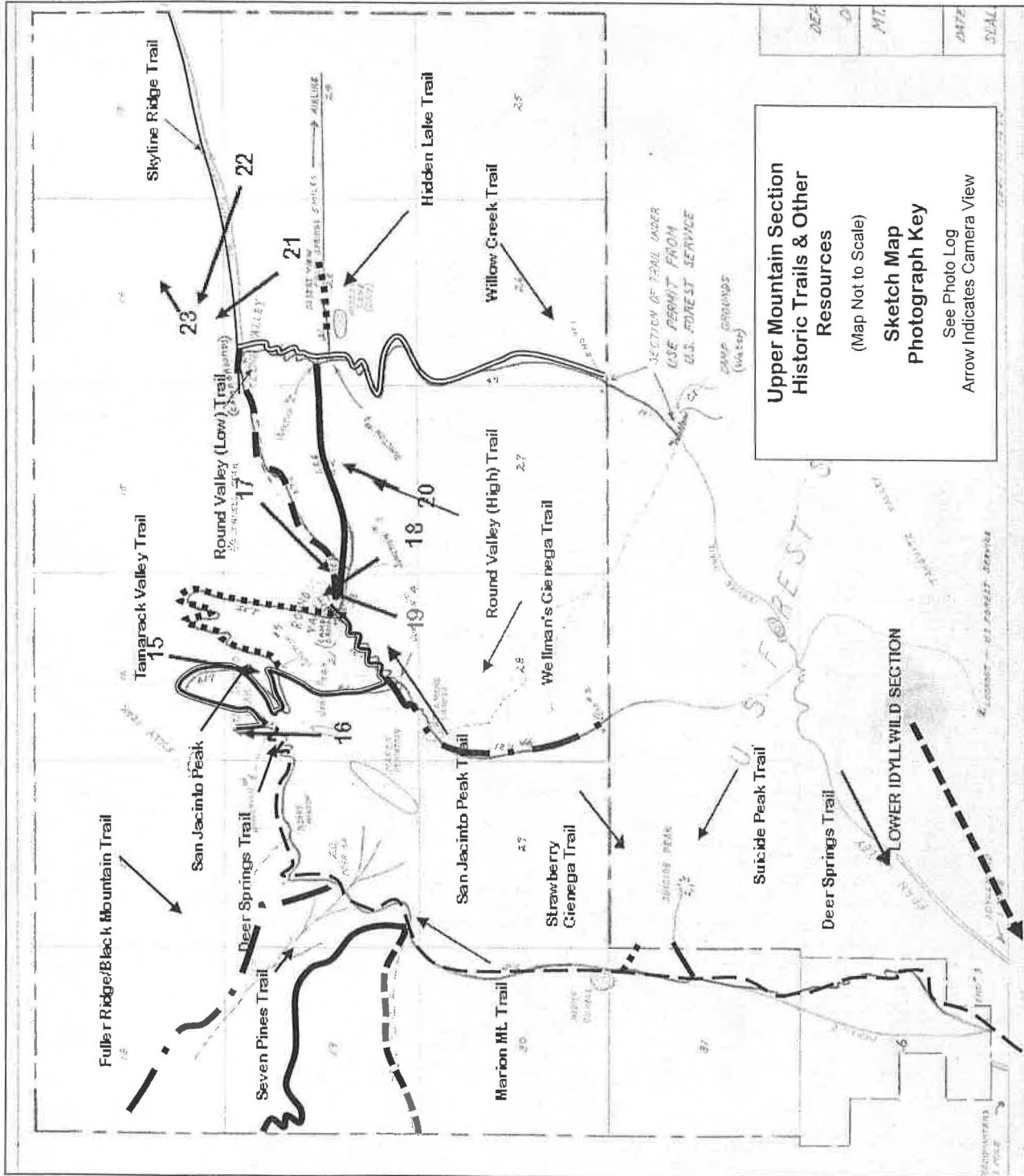
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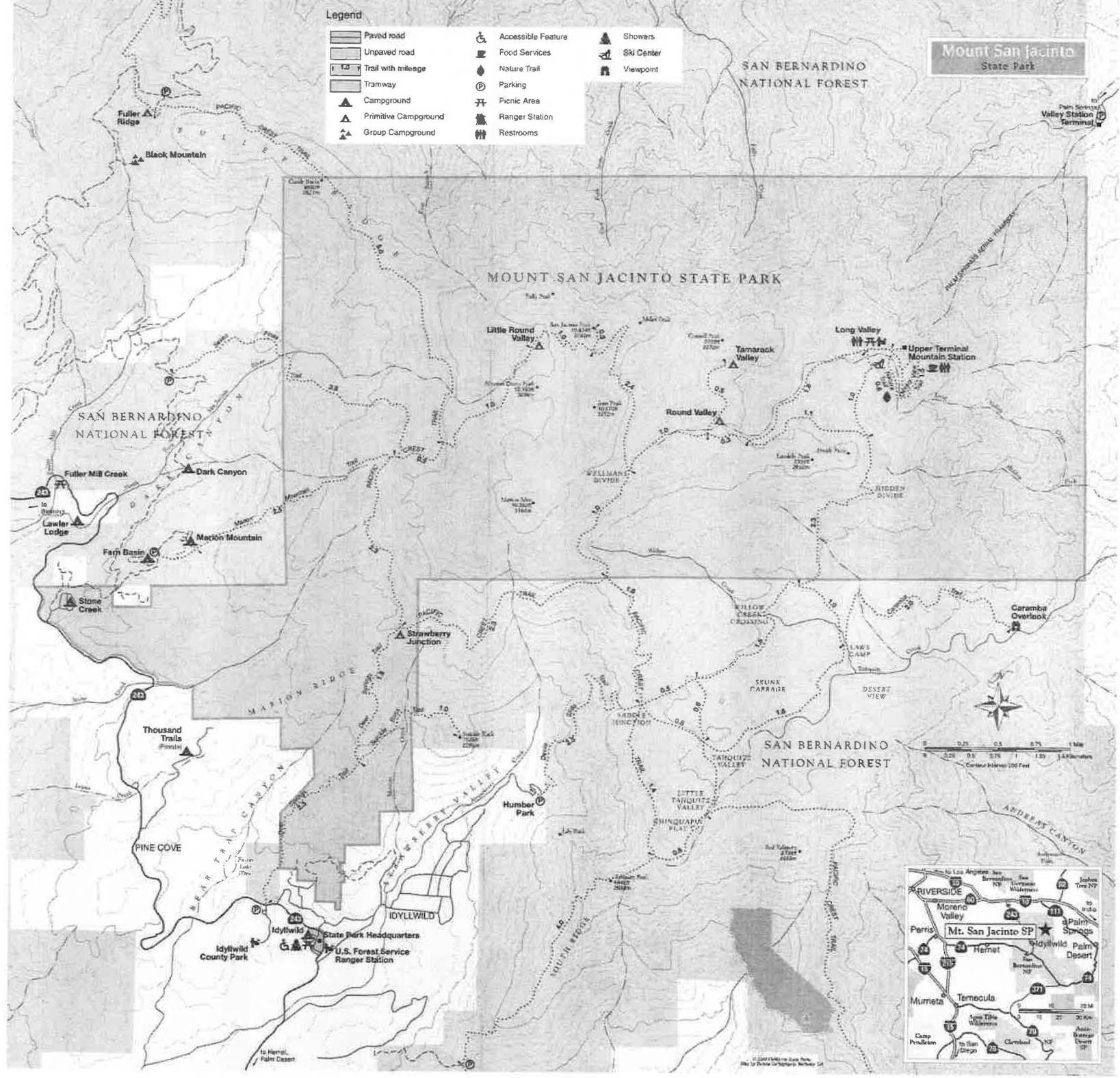
**Figure 10: Upper Mountain Section—Historic Trails & Other Resources—Sketch Map w/Photograph Key**



**Legend**

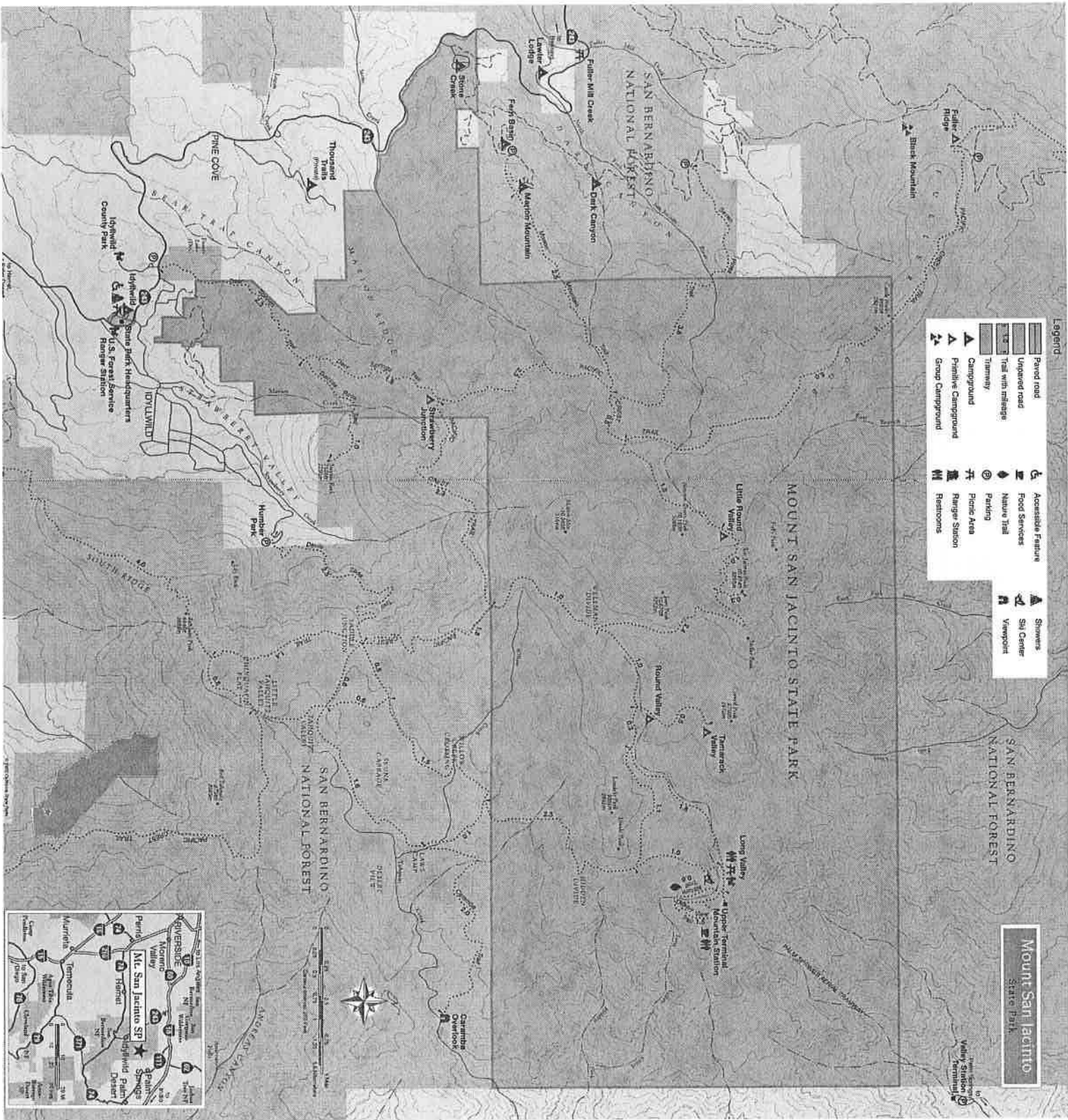
- |  |                    |  |            |
|--|--------------------|--|------------|
|  | Accessible Feature |  | Shower     |
|  | Food Services      |  | Ski Center |
|  | Nature Trail       |  | Viewpoint  |
|  | Parking            |  |            |
|  | Picnic Area        |  |            |
|  | Ranger Station     |  |            |
|  | Restrooms          |  |            |

**Mount San Jacinto State Park**



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Map by State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation

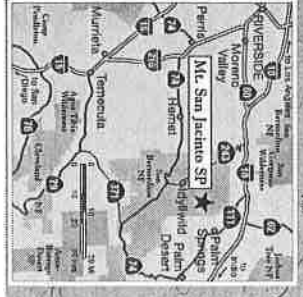




**Legend**

	Paved road		Accessible Feature
	Unpaved road		Food Service
	Trail with mileage		Nature Trail
	Timberly		Parking
	Campground		Picnic Area
	Primitive Campground		Range Station
	Group Campground		Restrooms
	Snowers		Ski Center
	Viewpoint		Viewpoint

**Mount San Jacinto State Park**



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County: Riverside  
State: California  
Name of Photographer: Alexander D. Bevil  
Date of Photographs: June 2012  
Location of Original Digital Files: Southern Service Center, California State Parks

Photograph #1: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0001

Entrance To Park Headquarters And Campground From Hwy 243, Stone Mason Entry Column And Piers (Middle), Small Pier (Left), Residence #1 (Middle/Right), Flagpole Bench, Non-Contributing Visitor Center (Middle, Behind Stone Column), Visitor Parking Area And Log Hauling Wagon Display Platform, (Left, Behind Left Stone Pier), Stone Masonry Vehicle Bridge And Campground (Left/Rear) At Idyllwild Headquarters; Camera Facing Northwest From Hwy 243

Photograph #2: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0002

Southwest-Facing Elevations of Non-Contributing Ranger Station/Visitor Center (Left) Residence #1 (Middle), and Flagpole Bench (Right) at Park Headquarters, Idyllwild; Camera Facing Northeast

Photograph #3: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0003

West-Facing Elevation of Residence #1 Garage/Maintenance Shop Office (Middle) and Northwest Corner of Non-Contributing Ranger Station/Visitor Center (Right) at Park Headquarters, Idyllwild; Camera Facing East

Photograph #4: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0004

Southwest-Facing Elevation of Maintenance Shop; Camera Facing Northeast

Photograph #5: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0005

East-Facing Façade of Southeast Corner of Boundary Fence, Southeast Meadow (Middle), and Horse Corral Site at Idyllwild (Middle/Rear); Camera Facing Northwest

Photograph #6: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0006

Northwestern-View of Southeastern Day Use Picnic Area; Camera Facing Southeast

Photograph #7: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0007

Northeast Elevation of Log Hauling Wagon Display Platform and Non-Contributing Shelter; Camera Facing Southwest

Photograph #8: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0008

Northwest Approach to Stone Masonry Vehicle Bridge, Log Hauling Wagon Display Platform (Middle/Beyond Bridge), Visitor Parking Area (Middle/Beyond Log Wagon Display Platform), Entry Road, Stone Masonry Piers, and Hwy 243 (Middle/Rear); Camera Facing Southeast

Photograph #9: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0009

Northwest Façade of Stone Masonry Vehicle Bridge at Park Headquarters, Idyllwild; Camera Facing West From Creek Bed



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Photograph #10: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0010

East Façade of Residence #2 (Middle) and Southeast Corner Elevation of Adjacent Automobile Garage (Right) at Park Headquarters, Idyllwild; Camera Facing North from Highway 243

Photograph #11: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0011

Northwest Approach to Campsite #20 at Idyllwild Campground, Diablo Stove (Left) Concrete/Redwood Picnic Table (Middle), Non-Contributing Metal Fire Ring (Middle/Front), and Upright Wooden Food Locker (Right); Camera Facing Southeast

Photograph #12: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0012

Northeast Approach to Campsite #23 at Idyllwild Campground, Concrete/Wood Picnic Table (Left), Upright Wooden Food Locker (Middle), Tent Pad (Middle/Front), and Non-Contributing Metal Fire Ring (Right); Camera Facing Southwest

Photograph #13: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0013

Southwest Corner of Stone Masonry Parking Spur Retaining Wall at Campsite #27 at Idyllwild Campground; Camera Facing Northeast

Photograph #14: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0014

East-Facing Façade of Stone Masonry Retaining Wall along Campsite #'S 15, 17 and 18, Stone Steps (Middle) Leading up to Campsite #20 Foot Path; Camera Facing Southwest.

Name of Property: Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District  
City or Vicinity: Idyllwild  
County: Riverside  
State: California  
Name of Photographer: John McCall  
Date of Photographs: April 2007  
Location of Original Digital Files: Southern Service Center, California State Parks  
Photograph #15: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0015  
Peak Trail; Camera Facing South

Name of Property: Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District  
City or Vicinity: Idyllwild  
County: Riverside  
State: California  
Name of Photographer: Sue Neary  
Date of Photographs: July 2012  
Location of Original Digital Files: Southern Service Center, California State Parks

Photograph #16: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0016

East-Facing Elevation of Peak Shelter; Camera Facing North

Name of Property: Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District

Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District

Riverside, CA

Name of Property

County and State

City or Vicinity: Idyllwild  
County: Riverside  
State: California  
Name of Photographer: John McCall  
Date of Photographs: April 2007  
Location of Original Digital Files: Southern Service Center, California State Parks  
Photograph #17: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0017  
East-Facing Façade of Abandoned Metal Boiler at CCC Spike Camp Site at Round Valley; Camera Facing West.

Name of Property: Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District  
City or Vicinity: Idyllwild  
County: Riverside  
State: California  
Name of Photographer: Sue Neary  
Date of Photographs: July 2012  
Location of Original Digital Files: Southern Service Center, California State Parks  
Photograph #18: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0018  
Southeast-facing façade of Ranger Patrol Station at Round Valley; Camera facing northwest.

Photograph #19: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0019  
Southwest and Southeast-Facing Facades of Tool House at Round Valley; Camera Facing Northeast.

Photograph #20: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0020  
High Trail; Camera Facing Northeast

Photograph #21: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0021  
South and East-Facing Facades of Ranger Station at Long Valley; Camera Facing Northwest

Photograph #22: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0022  
Southeast and Northeast-Facing Facades of Wood Shop and Stables at Long Valley;  
Camera Facing Northwest

Name of Property: Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District  
City or Vicinity: Idyllwild  
County: Riverside  
State: California  
Name of Photographer: Robert Patterson  
Date of Photographs: November 2010  
Location of Original Digital Files: Southern Service Center, California State Parks  
Photograph #23: CA\_Riverside County\_Mt San Jacinto SP\_Historic District\_0023  
South-Facing Façade of Redwood Water Storage Tank at Long Valley; Camera Facing North

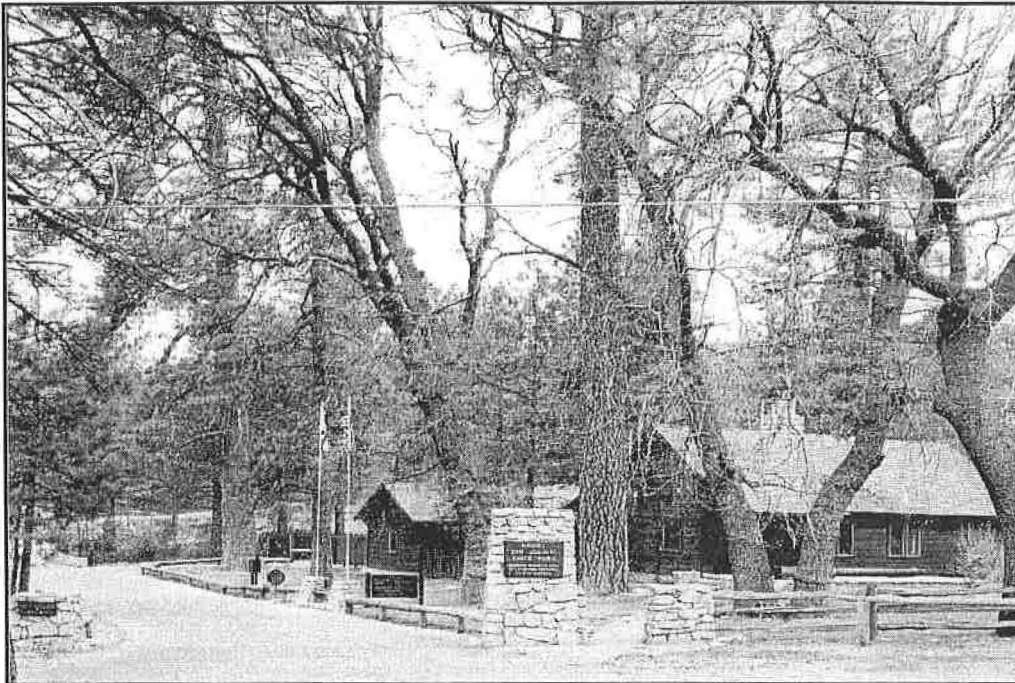
Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District

Riverside, CA

Name of Property

County and State

### Historic Photographs



Photograph # HP1  
Looking North at Park  
Entrance and  
Headquarters Area off  
Hwy 243  
Date: 1956 Apr 19  
Source:  
CA State Museum  
Accession # 090-23431



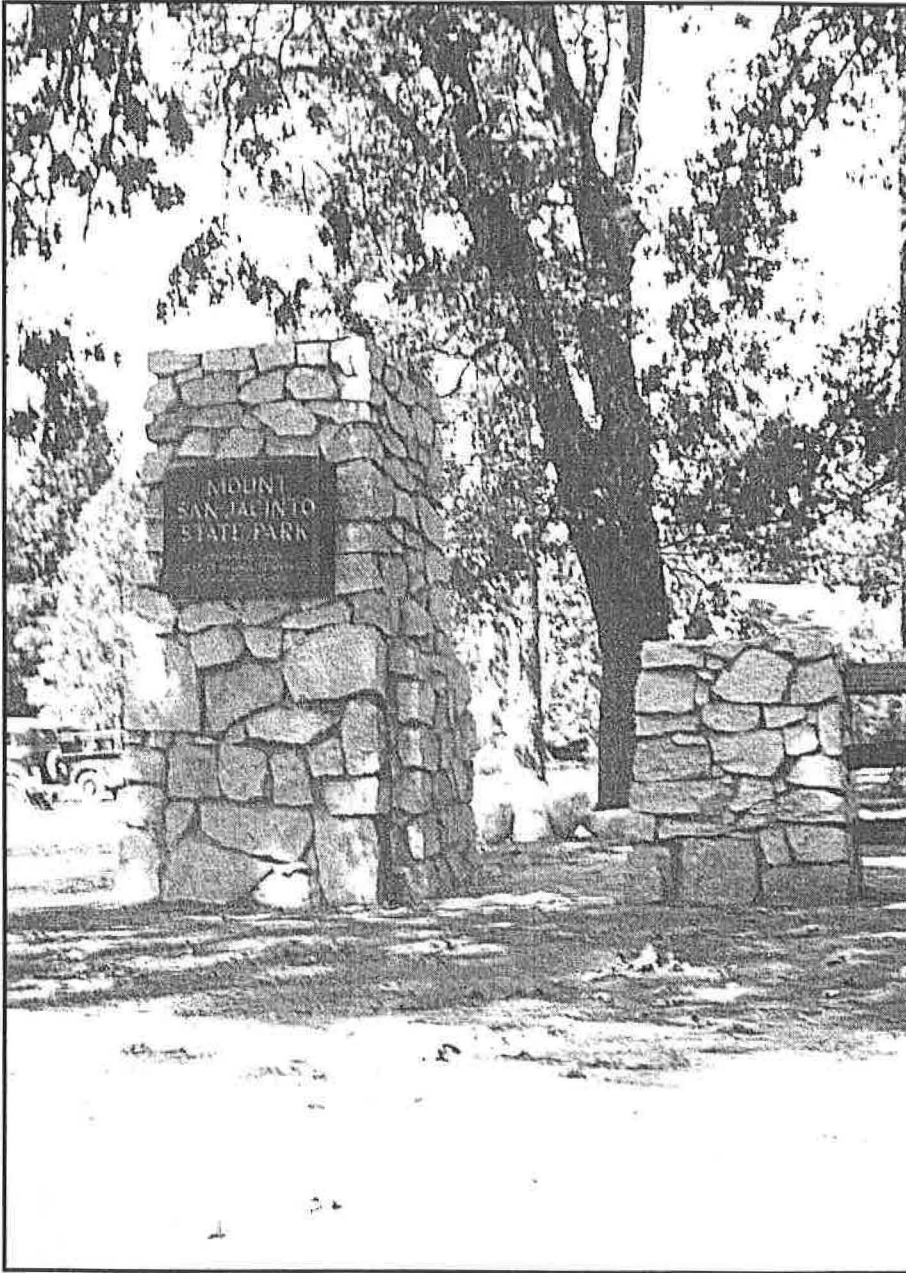
Photograph # HP2  
Looking North at Stone  
Masonry Column, Pier,  
and Residence #1 (right)  
Date: 1936 May  
Source:  
CA State Museum  
Accession # 090-23396

Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District

Name of Property

Riverside, CA

County and State



Photograph # HP3

Looking Northwest at  
Stone Masonry Column,  
Pier, and Visitor Parking  
Area (left)

Date: 1936 April

Source:  
CA State Museum

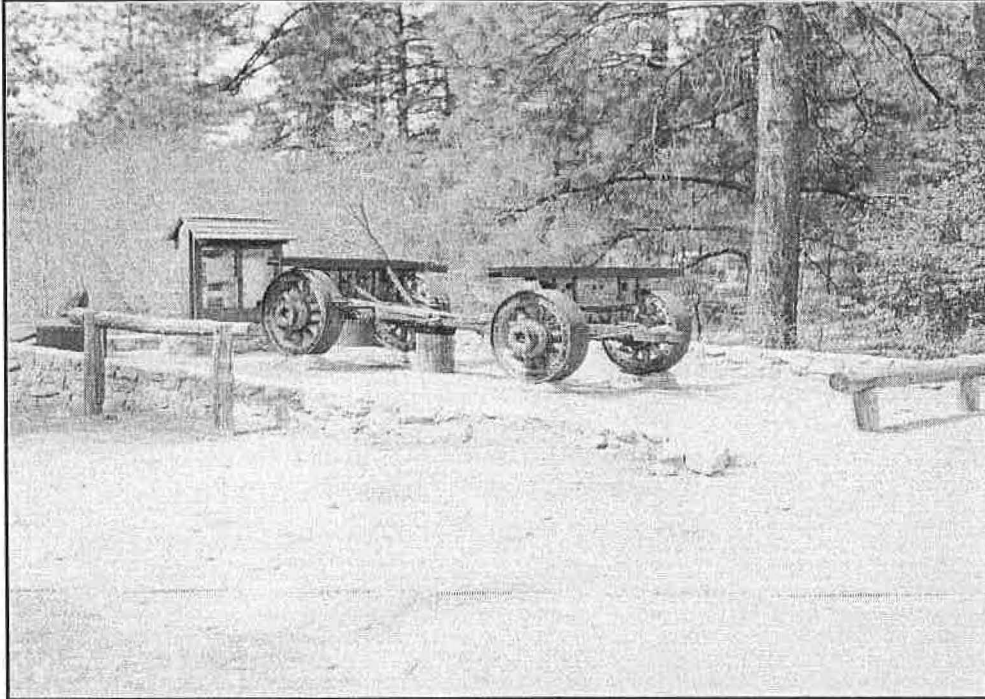
Accession # 090-23302

Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District

Riverside, CA

Name of Property

County and State



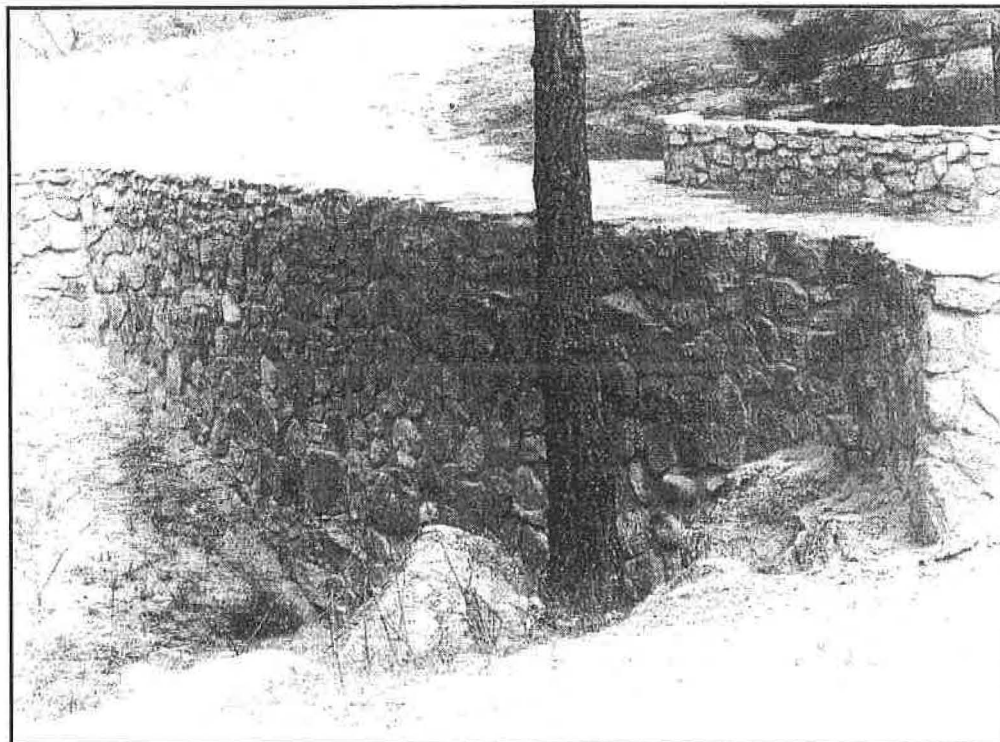
Photograph # HP4

Looking Southwest at  
Log Hauling Wagon  
Display Platform and  
Visitor Parking Area

Date: 1959

Source:  
CA State Museum

Accession # 090-23456



Photograph # HP5

Looking North at Stone  
Masonry Bridge

Date: 1936 April

Source:  
CA State Museum

Accession # 090-24381

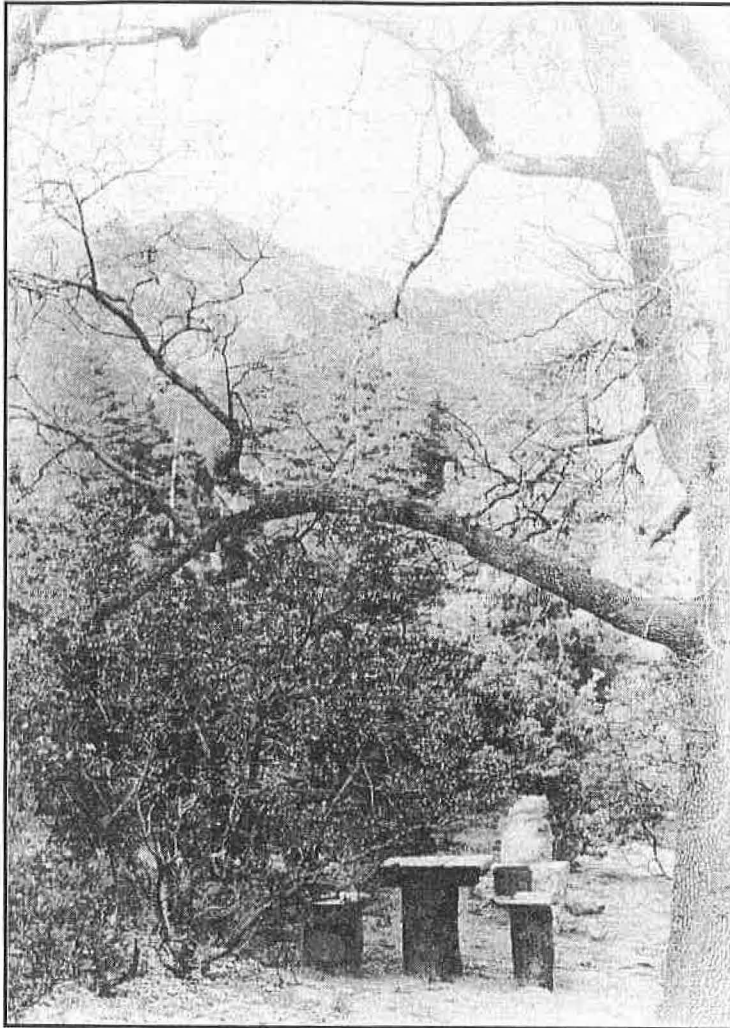


Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District

Riverside, CA

Name of Property

County and State



Photograph # HP6

Looking Northeast at  
Idyllwild Campground  
Campsite

Date: 1936 April

Source:  
CA State Museum

Accession # 090-23389

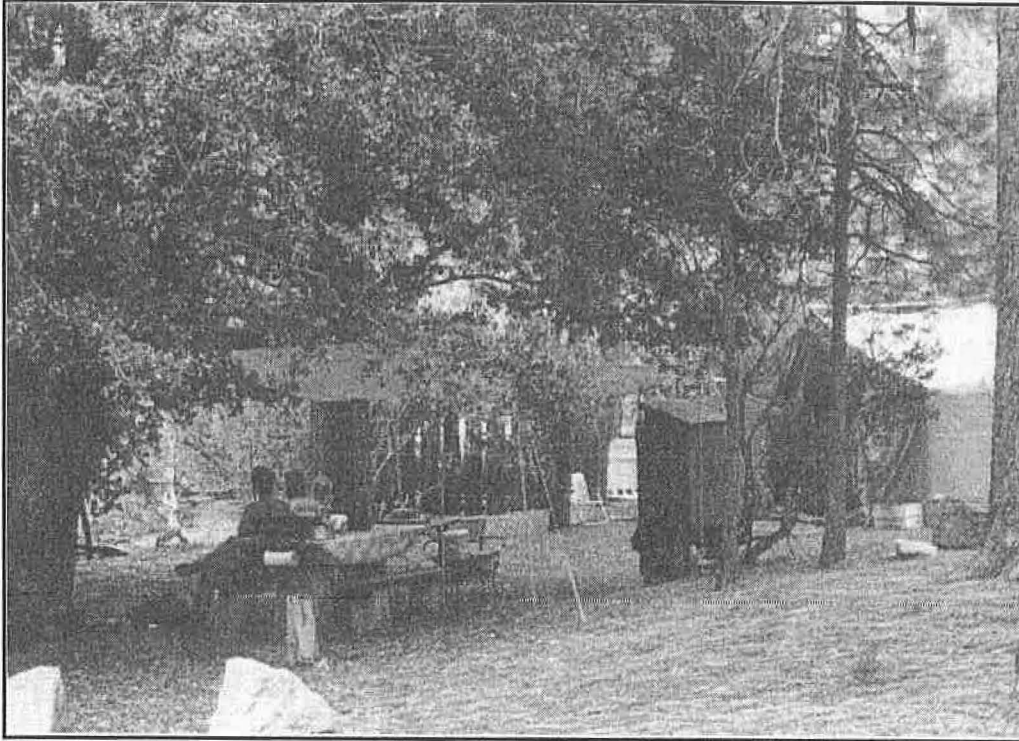


Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District

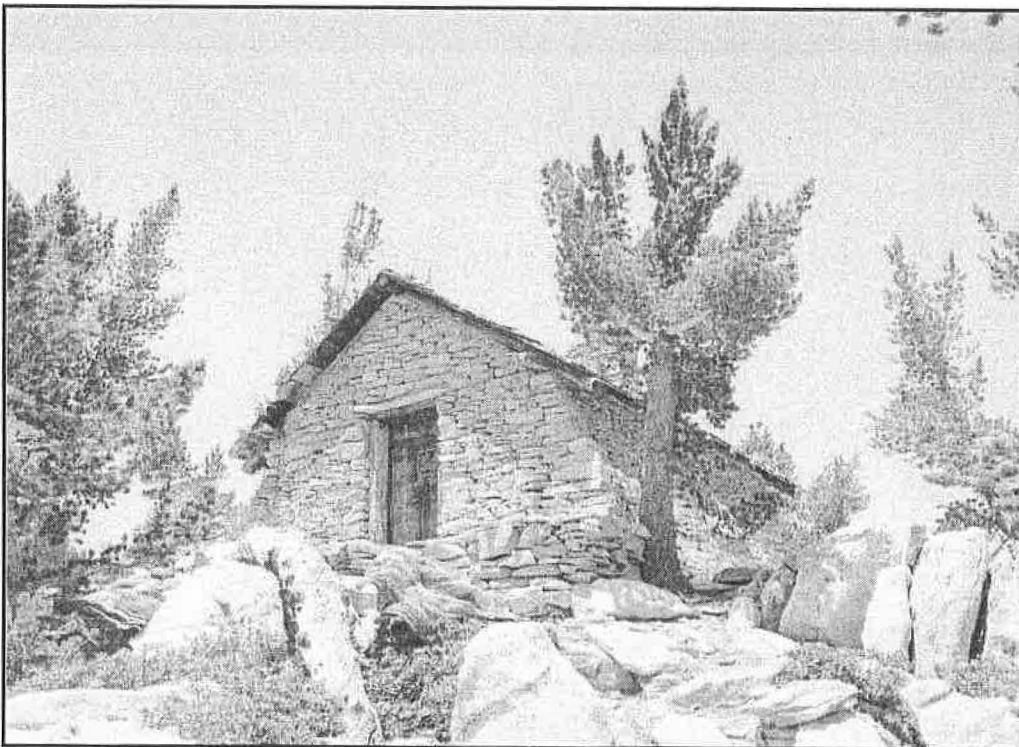
Riverside, CA

Name of Property

County and State



Photograph # HP7  
Family at Idyllwild  
Campground Campsite  
Date: 1977  
Source:  
CA State Museum  
Accession # A8AABCFB



Photograph # HP8  
Looking Northwest at  
San Jacinto Peak Shelter  
Date: 1952 August  
Source:  
CA State Museum  
Accession # 090-23415

Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District

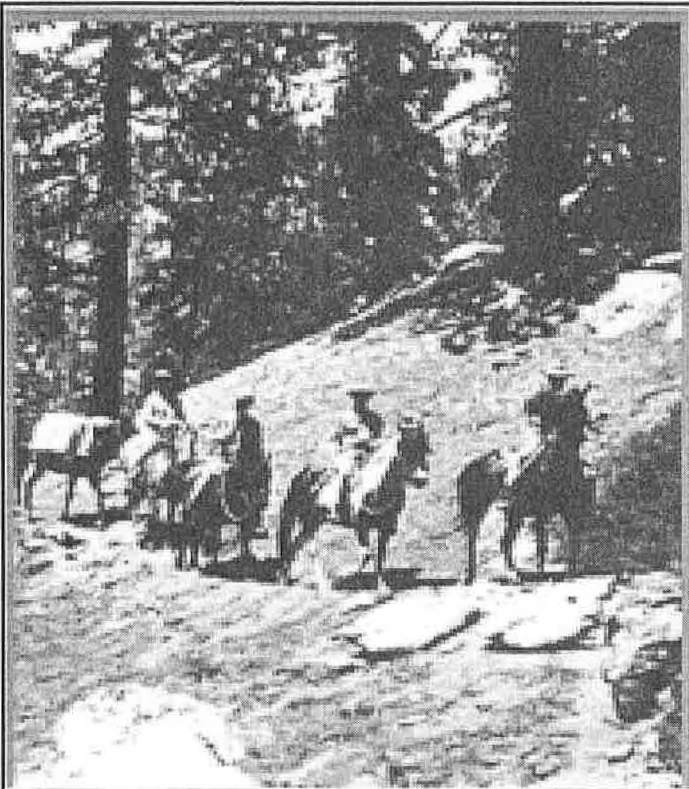
Name of Property

Riverside, CA

County and State



Photograph # HP9  
Looking Northeast at Trail  
Repair Work  
Date: 1957 August 8  
Source:  
CA State Museum  
Accession # 090-23933



Photograph # HP10  
Looking Northwest at  
Ranger Horse Patrol  
Utilizing Trail  
Date: ca. 1957  
Source:  
CA State Museum  
Accession # 090-24160

Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District

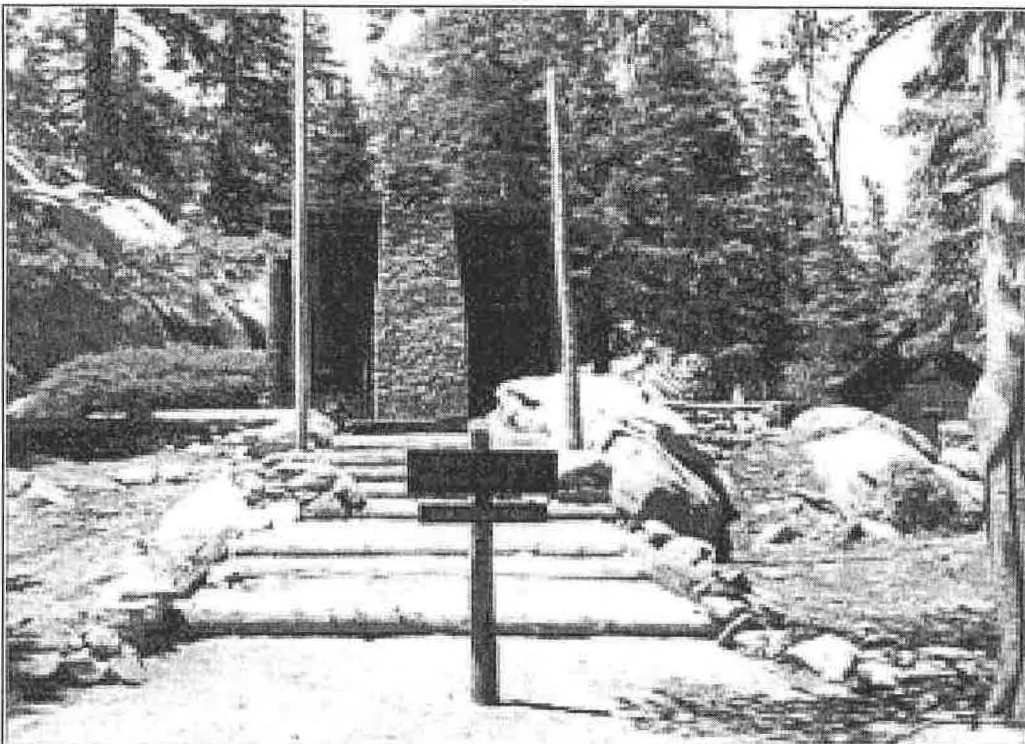
Riverside, CA

Name of Property

County and State



Photograph # HP11  
Looking North at Round  
Valley Shelter  
Date: 1952 August  
Source:  
CA State Museum  
Accession # 090-23420



Photograph # HP12  
Looking Northwest at  
Round Valley Shelter  
(Middle) and Tool Shed  
(Right)  
Date: 1963 August 5  
Source:  
CA State Museum  
Accession # 090-24241

Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District

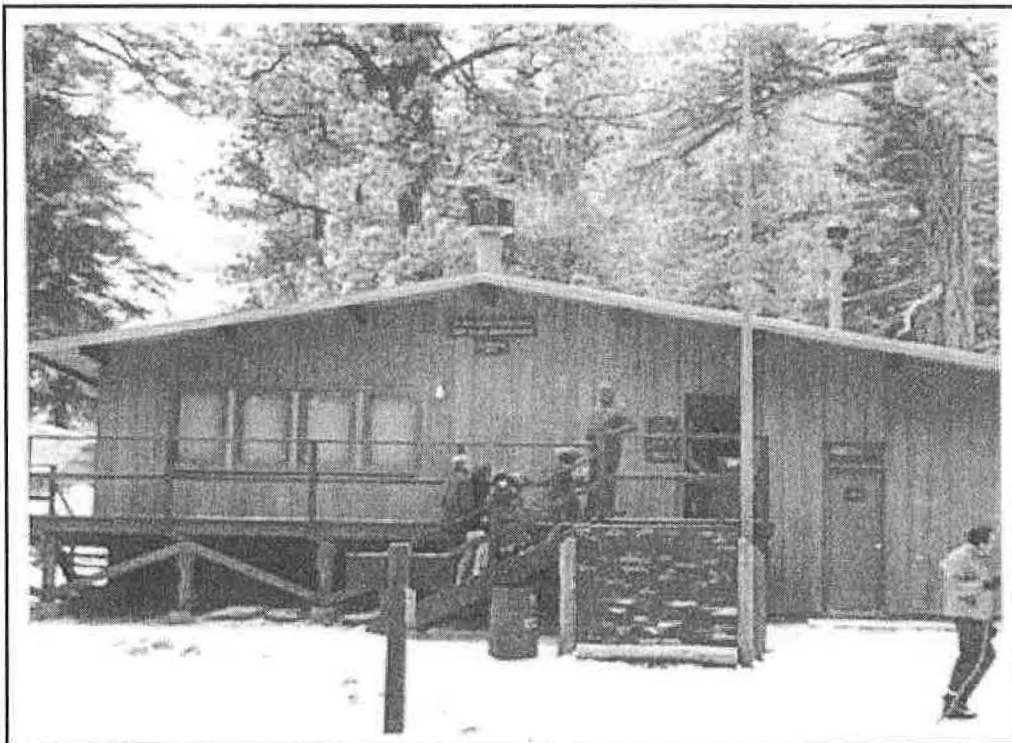
Riverside, CA

Name of Property

County and State



Photograph # HP13  
Looking North at Round  
Valley Primitive  
Campground Campsite;  
Site of CCC Spike  
Camp  
Date: 1977  
Source:  
CA State Museum



Photograph # HP14  
Looking North at Long  
Valley Ranger Station  
Date: Winter 1964  
Source:  
Mount San Jacinto State  
Park  
Accession # N/A





MOUNTI SAN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

Idyllwild, CA

photograph #1





MOUNTAIN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

Idyllwild, CA

Photograph #2



MOUNT SAN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

IDYLLWILD, CA

Photograph #3





MOUNTAIN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

IDYLLWILD, CA

Photograph #4





MOUNTAIN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

IDYLLWILD, CA  
Photograph #5





MOUNT. SAN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

IDYLLWILD, CA

PHOTOGRAPH #6





MOUNTAIN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

Idyllwild, CA

Photograph #7





MOUNTAIN JACINTO STATE PARK  
HISTORIC DISTRICT  
IDYLLWILD, CA  
PH. + GRAPH # 8





MOUNTAIN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

INYUWILCO, CA.

Photograph #9







MOUNTAIN SAN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

IDYLLWILD, CA

Photograph #10



MOUNT SAN JACINTO STATE PARK  
HISTORIC DISTRICT  
IDYLLWILD, CA  
PHOTOGRAPH # 11

HISTORIC DISTRICT





MOUNT SAN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

IDYLLWILD, CA

PHOTOGRAPH # 12





MOUNTAIN SACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

IDYLLWILD, CA

PHOTOGRAPH #13





Mount San Jacinto State Park  
Historic District  
Idyllwild, CA  
Photograph #14







MOUNT SAN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

IDYLLWILD, CA

PHOTOGRAPH # 15



MOUNT. SAN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

IOYLLWILD, CA

PHOTOGRAPH #16







MOUNT SAN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

IDYLLWILD, CA

PHOTOGRAPH #17



MOUNT SAN JAEINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

IDYLLWILD, CA

PHOTOGRAPH #13







MT SAN JACINTO STATE PARK  
MOUNT SAN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

IDYLLWILD, CA

PHOTOGRAPH #19



MOUNT SAN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

IDYLLWILD, CA

PHOTOGRAPH # 20



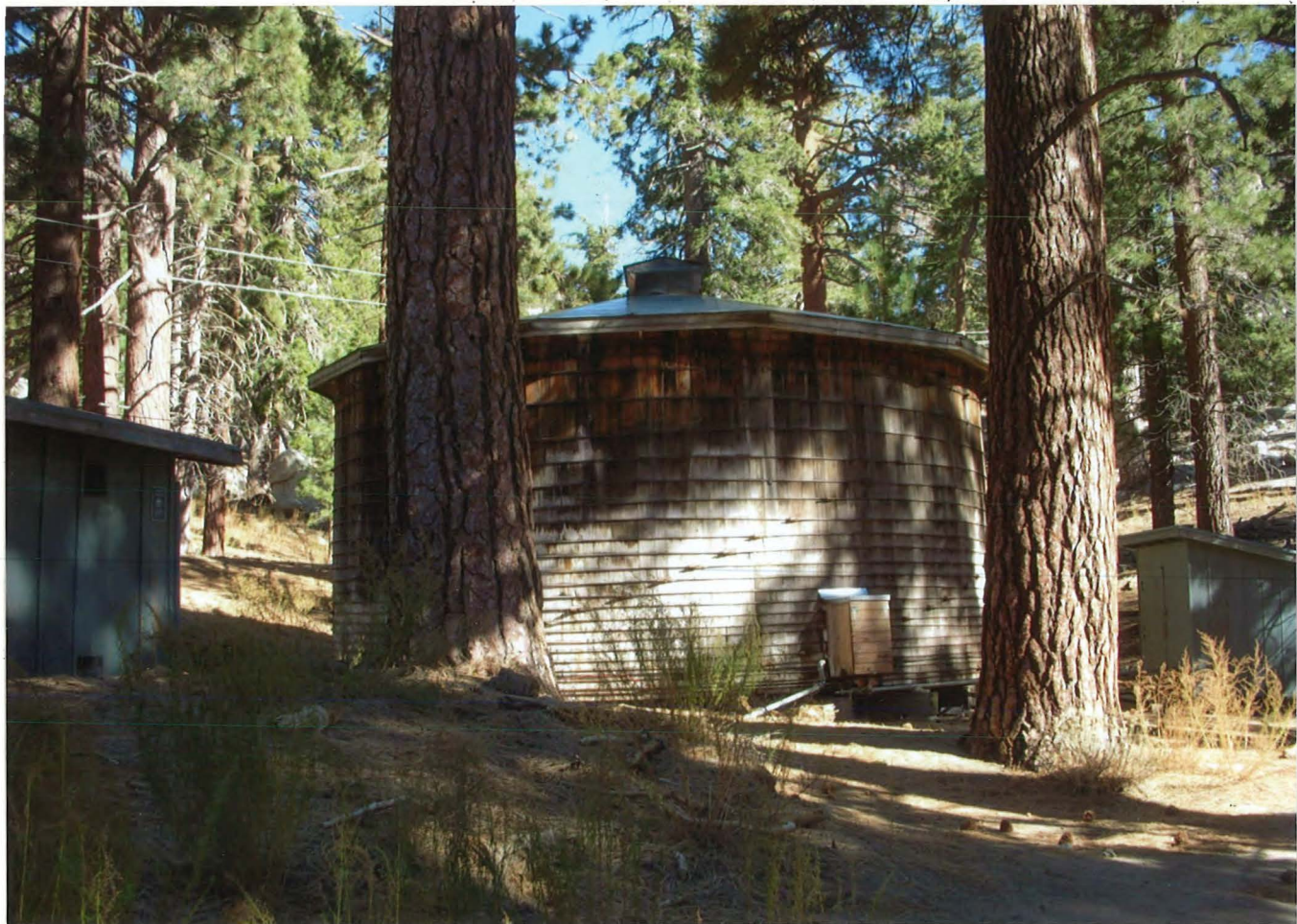


MOUNT SAN JACINTO STATE PARK  
HISTORIC DISTRICT  
IDYLLWILD, CA  
PHOTOGRAPH #21



MOUNT SAN JACINTO STATE PARK  
HISTORIC DISTRICT

IDYLLWILD, CA  
PHOTOGRAPH #22





~~EN~~ MOUNT SAN JACINTO STATE PARK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

IDYLLWILD, CA

PHOTOGRAPH #23

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: CALIFORNIA, Riverside

DATE RECEIVED: 5/10/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/07/13  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/24/13 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/26/13  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000416

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: Y  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

\_\_\_ACCEPT \_\_\_RETURN \_\_\_REJECT \_\_\_\_\_DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**The Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District is of statewide significance under National Register Criteria A and C in the areas of Entertainment/Recreation, Architecture, and Landscape Architecture. The district resources range from rustic style cabins and administrative buildings to park infrastructure resources such as man-made hiking trails and camping facilities. Collectively the resources represent the significant collaborative efforts of the California State Parks agency, the National Park Service and the CCC in developing much needed physical amenities for the state's newly established recreational parks during the immediate pre-World War II era, and the State Parks' continuing post-war efforts to improve and expand on that initial work. Representing some of the most intact park rustic style designs in the state, the built resources reflect the brief 30-year period from 1934 to 1965.**

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criteria A+C

REVIEWER Paul R. Lusignea DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE 6/25/2013

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

1725 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-7100  
(916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053  
calshpo@parks.ca.gov  
www.ohp.parks.ca.gov



May 8, 2013

Ms. Carol Shull, Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service 2280  
1201 I (Eye) Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005

Subject: **Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District  
Riverside County, California  
National Register of Historic Places Nomination**

Dear Ms. Shull:

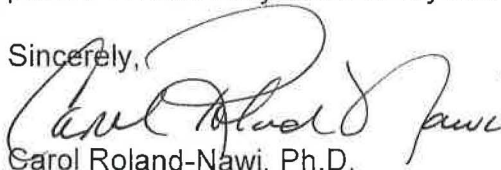
Enclosed please find the **Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District** nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. On May 1, 2013 in Anaheim, California, the California State Historical Resources Commission unanimously found the property eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C at the state level of significance. The district is significant under Criterion A in Entertainment/Recreation, and under Criterion C in Architecture and Landscape Architecture. Contributing resources include representative examples of the work of noted California State Parks architect Robert F. Uhte.

During the first period of significance, 1934-1942, California State Parks, in cooperation with the National Park Service and Civilian Conservation Corps, was involved in a nationwide federal program to improve local, state, and national parkland. This era is associated with the largest cooperative effort between state and federal governments to improve publicly owned parks throughout the United States during the Great Depression. The second period of significance, 1947-1965, is associated with California State Parks' statewide effort to improve its parks in response to increased postwar demands.

Contributing resources built in 1964 and 1965 meet Criteria Consideration G: Properties That Have Achieved Significance within the Past 50 Years. Their minimalistic style represents a direct continuum with California State Parks' association and use of the Park Rustic style. One contributing structure meets Criteria Consideration B: Moved Properties, as a resource that achieved a level of significance after its relocation to the Park in 1965.

The district is nominated on behalf of its owner, California State Parks. The nomination was reviewed by the California State Parks Park Operations Policy Group and approved for hearing by the State Historical Resources Commission. If you have any questions regarding this nomination, please contact Amy Crain of my staff at (916) 445-7009.

Sincerely,



Carol Roland-Nawi, Ph.D.

State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure

**Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District  
Idyllwild vicinity, Riverside County  
Staff Report**

The historic district is comprised of three areas within Mount San Jacinto State Park. Two adjacent areas are located within the Park's 13.1-acre Lower Idyllwild Section, while the third is located within the separate 13,585-acre Upper Mountain Section. The district has two periods of historic significance. The first begins in 1934 and ends in 1942, when California State Parks, in cooperation with the National Park Service and Civilian Conservation Corps, was involved in a nationwide federal program to improve local, state, and national parkland. The second period extends from 1947 to 1965, when California State Parks was involved in a statewide program to improve and expand numerous parks and beaches to meet and adapt to the needs of an ever-increasing number of automobile-bound visitors. The district's contributing historic resources are some of the best surviving pre- and postwar examples of the pre- and post-World War II Park Rustic style of American architecture in the California State Park system.

The Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District is significant at the state level under Criterion A in the area of Entertainment/Recreation. The Civilian Conservation Corps era is associated with the largest cooperative effort between state and federal governments to improve publicly owned parks throughout the United States during the Great Depression. The second period is associated with California State Parks' statewide effort to improve its parks in response to increased postwar demands.

The historic district is also eligible under Criterion C at the state level in the areas of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. It contains numerous buildings, structures, objects, park furniture, and other landscape improvements associated with the evolution of the Park Rustic style of American architecture at one of the oldest parks in the California State Parks System. Resources are also eligible under Criterion C as representative examples of the work of noted California State Parks architect Robert F. Uhte. Contributing resources built in 1964 and 1965 meet Criteria Consideration G: Properties That Have Achieved Significance within the Past 50 Years. Their minimalistic style represents a direct continuum with California State Parks' association and use of the Park Rustic style. One contributing structure meets Criteria Consideration B: Moved Properties, as a resource that achieved a level of significance after its relocation to the Park in 1965.

The property is nominated on behalf of its owner, California State Parks. The nomination was reviewed by the California State Parks Park Operations Policy Group at their September 25, 2012 meeting, and received approval to be forwarded to the State Historic Preservation Officer and State Historical Resources Commission.

To date, no letters of support or objection have been received. Staff supports the nomination as written and recommends the State Historical Resources Commission determine that Mount San Jacinto State Park Historic District meets National Register Criteria A and C at the state level of significance, and satisfies Criteria Consideration B and Criteria Consideration G. Staff recommends the State Historic Preservation Officer approve the nomination for forwarding to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register.

Amy H. Crain  
Historian II  
March 6, 2013