

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 03001062

Date Listed: 10/22/2003

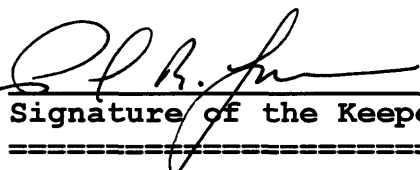
Drakesbad Guest Ranch
Property Name

Plumas
County

CA
State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

10/22/03
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Functions:

The Historic Functions should be amended to include the following categories: Domestic/Hotel; Domestic/Camp; Recreation/Outdoor Recreation; Agriculture/Agricultural Fields; and Landscape/Natural feature.

These revisions were confirmed with the NPS FPO office.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

1062

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Drakesbad Guest Ranch

other name/site number: Drake's Baths; Drakesbad Resort; Hot Springs Valley

2. Location

street & number: N/A

not for publication: n/a

vicinity: Head of Warner Creek Valley, Lassen Volcanic National Park

city/town: Chester

state: California

code: CA

county: Plumas

code: 063

zip code: 96020

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 nationally X statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)


Signature of certifying official/Title

*Acty Assoc. Director
Cultural Resources,
Nat. Park Service*

10/22/2003
Date

National Park Service
State or Federal agency or bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official

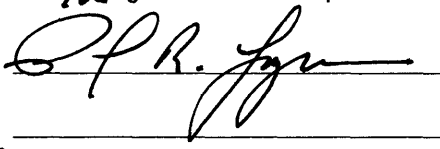
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
_____ see continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register
_____ see continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register
_____ see continuation sheet
- removed from the National Register
_____ see continuation sheet
- other (explain) _____

for Signature of the Keeper


Date of Action
10/22/03

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: public-Federal

Category of Property: District

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of Resources within Property		
Contributing	Noncontributing	
10	9	building(s)
1		sites
9	7	structures
		objects
20	16	Total

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:
Domestic; Agriculture; Recreation

Current Function:
Recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification:
Other: vernacular

MATERIALS:
foundation: stone; wood
walls: wood
roof: wood
other: earth

Narrative Description:

The Drakesbad Guest Ranch is located within the boundary of Lassen Volcanic National Park, in Plumas County, California. Located at the southern end of the Cascade Range, the main feature of the park is Lassen Peak, the world's largest plug dome volcano; at 10,457 feet above sea level, it is the highest of several lava peaks and pinnacles in the western portion of the park. East of Lassen Peak the park boundary incorporates an extensive lava plateau, dotted with lakes and a few cinder cones. The topography of the park reflects the two geologic forces at work in the Cascades, volcanism and glaciation. For hundreds of thousands of years, volcanic activity has periodically altered the appearance of the regional landscape. With each succeeding episode of volcanic activity, mountains have been built or depleted, lava flows have altered drainage patterns, and entire forests have been eliminated. Recent volcanic activity has erased some of the evidence of Pleistocene glaciation and is, by far, the dominant natural force influencing the landscape of the park.

Within the larger park environment, Drakesbad is located in the Hot Springs Creek valley at an elevation of roughly 5,600 feet above sea level. Hot Springs Creek is one of two major tributaries of Warner Creek, a glaciated drainage basin cut into the southern edge of the Lassen plateau near the park's south boundary. The edge of the plateau is characterized by an abundance of thermal features, including hot springs, steam vents (fumaroles), and mud pots. Hot Springs Creek flows eastward through a narrow valley south of Flatiron Ridge, an irregular mass of andesitic lava that rises over 500 feet above the valley floor. The south slope of this topographic feature is very steep, in some areas forming an almost vertical face above the drainage bottom. The gentler lower slopes of Sifford Mountain and other smaller, unnamed peaks, define the south edge of the Hot Springs Creek valley. From the headwaters of Hot Springs Creek to its confluence with King Creek, the second major tributary of Warner Creek, the valley bottom widens at intervals. Owing to local hydrological conditions, these openings in the valley floor typically contain wet meadows; the land purchased in 1900 for the development of the Drakesbad resort straddles the largest of these. (See Continuation Pages.)

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7. Narrative Description, continued

During the period of significance, the Drakesbad Guest Ranch consisted of 440 acres of privately owned land in two separate parcels of unequal size. The larger of the two parcels is located in sections 21 and 22 T30N R5E. It consists of the 400 acres of land originally owned by Edward Drake and purchased by Alex and Ida Sifford in 1900. This block includes Drake's cash and homestead entries, as well as 80 acres of school trust land that he purchased from the State of California prior to 1900. It straddles two miles of the Hot Springs Creek drainage bottom, from just above the thermal area known as the Devil's Kitchen, eastward through the roughly 50-acre Drakesbad meadow. In addition to this main parcel, in 1901 Alex Sifford purchased another 40 acres of school trust land in Section 27 from the State of California, which incorporates part of the thermal feature that is known as Boiling Springs Lake.

The 400-acre parcel contains the primary cluster of resort buildings used for accommodating guests and for keeping saddle horses. This cluster of improvements grew around Edward Drake's "big house," a building constructed specifically for use as a hotel. Located within the forest margin at the north edge of the Drakesbad meadow, the "big house" occupied a slightly elevated spit of land that stood above the surrounding wet ground. During the first three decades after they purchased the property, the Siffords used Drake's big house as the focal point for their summer resort operation. Initially, they simply allowed people to camp at the site for free. Like Drake before them, they built "bathing" facilities to take advantage of the hot water in local springs. Charging only for meals and for bathing in the above-ground redwood plunge pool, the resort infrastructure remained fairly simple. After 1913, however, the focus of the operation changed from supplying services to self-sufficient campers, to offering full accommodations to guests. New buildings included a separate kitchen, 20 board tent platforms to support new canvas wall tents, as well as a new hay barn to support an expanded string of saddle horses – to be rented to guests. Over the course of decades (1936-1960) the tent cabins would be replaced, in part, with small frame cottages and duplexes.

In addition to improving and adding to the primary building complex, Alex Sifford and son Roy worked continuously on improving the access road into the site, and, for twenty years, on draining and improving the "bog and willow swamp" that originally surrounded Drake's homestead buildings.¹ Expanding upon Drake's original 20-acre field of timothy hay, the Siffords eventually created the meadow that supported the ranch's saddle horses and later, cattle. In addition, the Siffords constructed and/or improved a series of hiking and bridle trails that radiated out from the lodge, leading to the thermal areas located within their own property (Devil's Kitchen and Boiling Springs Lake) and to other scenic areas within the boundary of what is now Lassen Volcanic National Park. In order to provide fishing and boating opportunities, R. D. Sifford dammed a natural drainage in the hill slope above the south bank of Hot Springs Creek to form a lake of roughly three acres, "Dream Lake."

Over the years, a series of natural disasters (floods and heavy snow load) damaged some of the buildings at Drakesbad. The repairs and replacement buildings have, as a general rule, been built in a manner compatible with the simple architecture style and scale of the earlier improvements, but with a tendency to replace facilities such as the canvas wall tents with more permanent buildings. The trail system developed by the Siffords continues to offer guests the opportunity to hike to local thermal attractions and to Dream Lake for fishing and contemplation. In the

¹ While Roy Sifford consistently describes the wet meadow as a bog, this term is technically inaccurate. Bogs are enclosed basins that do not drain. In contrast, water flows through the Drakesbad Meadow, creating a wet meadow or "fen." A "fen" is a type of wetland containing peat soil that is created by permanently saturated conditions that inhibit decomposition of the covering vegetation and promote organic accumulation.

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evening, guests gather around the campfire circle in front of the lodge or sit on the lodge porch and look across the meadow to watch the light of the setting sun reflected on the slopes of Mount Harkness.

The Drakesbad Guest Ranch Historic District possesses integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship and design, feeling and association. Although the property possesses some of the characteristics of a designed landscape, on a larger scale it conforms most closely to the definition of a historic vernacular landscape. This vernacular landscape will be listed as a "district," defined by the National Register as a "significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development." The following detailed descriptive information is presented within the context of the cultural landscape characteristics that are specifically relevant to the property, including *natural systems and features, spatial organization, land use, circulation, buildings and structures, constructed water features, views and vistas, and small-scale features.*

Natural Systems and Features

Natural systems and features that influenced development within the Drakesbad Guest Ranch Historic District include geomorphology, hydrology, vegetation, geology and climate. These systems and features both limited and facilitated human manipulation and use of the natural landscape. Edward Drake's cash and homestead entry patents encompassed the drainage bottom of Hot Springs Creek, where he established a small subsistence livestock operation. The level expanse of ground adjacent to the creek provided room for a hay meadow sufficient to support his livestock; abundant cold-water springs on the south slope of Flat Iron Ridge provided water for domestic use; and timber harvested from the pine and fir forests on the hill slopes above the drainage provided building material for Drake's few homestead buildings and for fencing. The elevation and climate of the area, however, limited Drake's ability to occupy the site year-round. Each winter, heavy snows required that he remove to lower elevations to pasture his stock.

By 1900, when the Siffords first visited the site, Drake's place was known to locals as a summer camping destination, where one could escape the stifling heat of the lower elevation foothills and central valley. Drake had already begun construction of a small hotel and had finished a bathhouse near the edge of Hot Springs Creek – the initial steps in developing the recreational potential of the site. After purchasing Drake's property the Sifford family continued to develop infrastructure to take advantage of the site's natural resource potential. The area's thermal features became destinations for hikers and equestrians; a new, larger plunge bath held water from nearby hot springs. Another attraction for lodge guests was the fishing in Hot Springs Creek.

The materials required for fencing and building construction were available from the adjacent forest, including building logs for the agricultural outbuildings and for fencing, and cedar logs for splitting shakes. The level surface of the drainage bottom (initially covered by an expanse of wet meadow) provided room for expansion of the hay meadow.

The natural systems that influenced development of the Drakesbad resort continue to provide integrity of setting for this property. To the north and south the slopes of Flat Iron Ridge and Sifford Mountain contain dense mixed stands of Jeffrey pine and lodgepole pine and white fir. The wetter, spring-watered hill slopes support alder thickets and an array of wildflowers. Alder and a few stands of willow border the edges of the meadow; together with the forest edge, these stands of native vegetation form a vertical, visual backdrop for the meadow created by the Siffords.

A noticeable change to the character of the forest is an increase in tree density, likely due to fire suppression. The meadow and pasture contain both native and exotic grasses and forbs.

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In addition to the natural systems that provide the setting for the site, several natural features continue to provide destination points for both hikers and equestrians and to support resort facilities. These include:

- 1) Devil's Kitchen thermal area
- 2) Boiling Springs Lake thermal area
- 3) Soda Spring
- 4) Hot-water springs at the base of Sifford Mountain (which continue to feed the new swimming pool)
- 5) Cold-water springs at the base of Flat Iron Ridge (which supply the domestic water for the guest ranch).

Summary

The natural systems and features that influenced development of the Drakesbad Guest Ranch and that form the setting for the property retain integrity.

Spatial organization

The spatial organization within the historic district is fairly simple and reflects historical patterns of development. The access road into the site contours along the base of Flat Iron Ridge, skirting the level drainage bottom and the formerly wet ground. The primary building cluster, the focus of most guest services, is located at the end of the access road on the slightly elevated dry ground adjacent to the meadow. The secondary cluster of improvements, those associated with the swimming pool, are located adjacent to Hot Springs Creek, roughly 400 feet south of the lodge at the end of a modern road. The acreage covered by these two clusters of improvements is small, roughly 10 acres, compared with the total acreage owned by the Siffords and used for the guest ranch.

Within the building cluster itself, the lodge, which is the focal point of guest services, is located at the edge of the timber, with views of the meadow. The rest of the buildings are distributed adjacent to a series of interior access roads cut into the hill slope above the lodge, with the support buildings (kitchen/dining hall, food locker and bunkhouse) located at the north edge of the complex. A row of cottages extends west from the kitchen/dining hall, along the base of Flat Iron Ridge; another series of guest housing facilities extends east from the kitchen/dining hall, including three Mission 66 duplexes adjacent to the north edge of the meadow (see map included in Additional Documentation).²

Livestock facilities, which formerly included a barn, tack shed and corral, but are currently reduced to a small office where guests may register for trail rides and a corral, are located at the northwest edge of the complex, adjacent to the part of the meadow formerly used to pasture the saddle stock. Although horses are no longer turned out to pasture, the relationship of the remaining stock facilities to pasture remains intact.

² In 1956, the National Park Service initiated an ambitious 10-year development program designed to address the needs of greatly expanded visitor volumes. The program culminated in 1966 in celebration of the service's 50 year anniversary and was christened "Mission 66." The term Mission 66 is now commonly used to describe the architectural style employed and buildings built during those years.

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Summary

The overall spatial organization within the district remains essentially unchanged since the historic period and contributes to the eligibility of the historic district. Facilities associated with guest accommodations remain clustered in two areas, the lodge complex and the swimming pool areas, both located at the end of the access road. Trails lead from the primary building complex to the resort's scenic attractions.

Land Use

Drakesbad Guest Ranch has been used as a summer resort for over a century. For the first 60 years of that period, the Sifford family directed its efforts towards creating a resort with a variety of recreational opportunities, most of which emphasized the natural resource attractions within and adjacent to their property. In an effort to attract "quality clientele," they created simple but adequate accommodations. As the cluster of buildings surrounding Drake's big house grew in complexity, it also grew in permanence, evolving from tent cabins with floors of meadow hay, to tent cabins on board platforms, to frame cottages and duplexes. Because trail rides were an important component of the resort, part of the ranch infrastructure resembled an agricultural operation, with a hay barn, corrals and pasture. The extensive meadow (sometimes referred to as pasture), adjacent to the building complex, the result of 20 years' worth of work, would prove useful when, during World War II, the Siffords used resort lands to pasture beef cattle in order to support the war effort. The meadow, described as roughly 650 feet north to south by 2600 feet east to west, was capable of supporting 150 head of cattle and a string of saddle horses for the three month summer period.

Summary

The majority of the historical land uses that shaped development of the Drakesbad Guest Ranch continue to the present. Some of the agricultural aspects of the business have been suspended (e.g. hay is no longer cut from the meadow and horses are no longer turned loose to pasture), however there has been little development associated with modern, non-compatible uses within the property. Contributing landscape features associated with the characteristic "land use" include the meadow/pasture, which should be counted as a site for purposes of the National Register.

Circulation

The historical circulation system associated with the Drakesbad Guest Ranch includes the main access road into the site (the Warner Valley Road), vehicular and pedestrian circulation within and between the two building clusters, and a system of outlying trails linking the center of guest services with area attractions.

Warner Valley Road: The Warner Valley Road is the only vehicular route into the site. Drake pioneered the upper reaches of the road into his homestead claims around 1880. The alignment of the road, which contours around the hill slopes above the wetter drainage bottoms, is typical of rural access roads, which tend to seek the path of least resistance. With regard to the Hot Springs Creek drainage, the Warner Valley Road appears to have been constructed to keep clear of the wet drainage bottom, while minimizing the grade. Although the road has been widened since its early years, the alignment and grade of the current road reflects its initial development.

Vehicular and pedestrian travel paths within and between the two building clusters: The internal circulation system within the primary building cluster appears to have sustained the most change since the historic period. Photographs from the mid-1930s indicate that the primary access road lay along the base of the hill slope, passing just above the north elevation of the lodge and presumably, on to the barn and corral area. Today, the main vehicular road through the complex is located higher on the hill slope. From a point just east of the Mission 66 duplexes, the old road was abandoned and a new road cut slightly north and higher up slope from the original alignment. The

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current road bypasses the south edge of the kitchen/dining room, then branches, with one branch leading to a parking area west of the lodge and on to the corral, and a second circling up to the rear of the kitchen/dining room. Two parking areas are located off the branch leading to the kitchen/dining room, one for guest registration parking and one for unregistered guests dining. Remnants of the old alignment are now used as an access/parking area for the Mission 66 duplexes located at the east end of the building complex at the north end of the meadow and as the vehicular access that leads past the old manager's cabin (now used as a guest duplex) and on to the pool area. Additionally, the branch of the road that leads to the current corral complex likely represents a segment of the original alignment.

From the area behind the kitchen a second unpaved track extends west from the registration parking area, along the rear of the four remaining cottages; driveways that branch from this road provide parking for the guests occupying the cottages. This two-track road continues west of the cottages, angling up slope to dead-end at the park service water tank. Other park service-constructed roads include the track to the lift station in the middle of the meadow east of the lodge.

Besides the internal vehicular circulation system, a complex system of footpaths connects the buildings within the primary building cluster. Prior to the reconstruction of the primary access road, a stone-lined path connected the lodge and the kitchen/dining room (see additional documentation). Although the majority of this pedestrian path was destroyed by the new access road, a segment located below the road remains intact. Other footpaths connect the lodge and kitchen/dining room with the cottages and duplexes. These appear to have developed as "desire lines," i.e., as a result of people taking the shortest route between buildings. Most are lined with stones (a historical pattern according to ranch guests), and within the last year, the concession operator laid shredded cedar bark on the tread, presumably to reduce dust and erosion.

In addition to the system of paths within the primary building cluster, another stone-lined path formerly connected the lodge with the pool complex. Although some of the stone edging remains visible, the overall character of the path was altered when it was upgraded to accommodate vehicles for handicapped accessibility.

Horse/hiking trails: The system of horse and hiking trails begun by Drake and expanded upon by the Siffords is an important component of the Drakesbad Guest Ranch. Historically, a stone-lined path led from the lodge to the north bank of Hot Springs Creek following a diagonal path across the meadow. A log stringer bridge for hikers led across the creek to connect with the Boiling Springs Lake Trail, while the Devil's Kitchen Trail kept to the north bank of the creek. With a few exceptions, including the replacement of the Hot Springs Creek Bridge with a modern steel stringer bridge, these trails appear to follow their historical alignments and, for the most part, retain their historical character. Although no longer maintained, the stone-lined path extending from the south elevation of the lodge to the north bank of Hot Springs Creek remains clearly visible. It is approximately 3 feet in width and lined on both sides with boulder-sized rocks. In the 1990s, the park service constructed a raised-grade trail across the meadow, from the vicinity of the horse corral to the north bank of Hot Springs Creek, replacing a smaller horse path that led from the corral. Although this trail is used by both pedestrians and riders, it has not entirely replaced the old stone-lined trail leading from the front of the lodge.

From the creek crossing, the Boiling Springs Lake Trail contours around the base of Sifford Mountain, to an intermittent drainage. Here, the trail leads up slope, parallel to the east side of the drainage, then turns east to follow the crest of a gently sloping lateral ridge. In some areas the tread is as much as 6 feet wide – a result of the tractor widening completed by Roy Sifford in 1942. Along this ridge, the Boiling Springs Lake Trail overlaps with the Pacific Crest Trail. Roughly an eighth of a mile northwest of the lake, the two trails diverge, with the branch to Boiling Springs Lake heading south-southeast to the base of the lake. A loop trail extends around the perimeter of

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the lake. Although the Siffords promoted the view of Lassen Peak from the high point above Boiling Springs Lake, it is unclear whether or not they were responsible for building the loop trail around the lake.

The Devil's Kitchen Trail continues along the north bank of Hot Springs Creek, through Section 22 into Section 21. The trail extends through the upper meadow, skirting the northeast side of Soda Spring, where it leaves the meadow, heading into the forest margin on the lower slope of Flat Iron Ridge. Keeping to the gentler lower slope of the ridge, the trail follows a relatively level grade, contouring into and out of intermittent drainages as required. Like the trail to Boiling Springs Lake, the Devil's Kitchen Trail is, in some areas, as much as 6 feet wide. The portion of the trail through the meadow, however, is narrow, consisting of a narrow track worn through the meadow grasses, and in places, improved with corduroy and boardwalks.³

Other trails constructed by the Siffords included the Golden Stairs Trail (built prior to 1908) that led up the steep south face of Flat Iron Ridge, a short trail to Indian Rock, a trail around the meadow, and, in the early 1930s, the trail to Dream Lake. Of these, only the Dream Lake trail has been maintained. From the south bank of Hot Springs Creek, this trail extends uphill parallel to the discharge drainage for the lake, contours around the hill slope to end at the south end of the Dream Lake dam. Formerly, an informal path extended around the perimeter of the lake, crossing the surface of the earthen fill dam.

Summary

Components of the Drakesbad Guest Ranch Historic District's circulation systems retain integrity and contribute to the eligibility of the property. The access road into the site (the Warner Valley Road) retains sufficient integrity to be counted as a contributing resource. In addition, the stone-lined trail leading from the lodge to the north side of Hot Springs Creek, the Boiling Springs Lake Trail, the Devil's Kitchen Trail and the Dream Lake Trail retain integrity and can be counted as contributing resources.

Noncontributing circulation features include the park service-constructed two-track road to the water tank, the raised-grade trail built across the meadow between the corral and Hot Springs Creek, the improved road that connects the lodge with the pool area, and the short gravel access road to the building over the lift station.

Buildings and Structures

The guest ranch contains one primary building cluster (which contains all of the remaining historical buildings), a secondary cluster associated with the swimming pool and a few individual buildings associated with site utilities (water and sewer systems). The majority are simple vernacular frame buildings with rectangular plans and steep gable roofs. During the Siffords' tenure at the site the buildings were not painted. Now, most are painted "Wosky" brown, the paint color used system-wide on park service administrative buildings.

Contributing buildings

Lodge (HS-267): The focal point of the primary building cluster is the lodge. Completed in June of 1938, this is a rectangular (48' x 26') two-story building with a steep gable roof, built on a concrete foundation wall. The exterior walls are covered with lapped board siding, applied 9 inches to weather, with narrow 3¼ -inch board trim at the corners. The roof has exposed 1x 8-inch rafter ends and is currently covered with rust standing-seam metal – replacing the original corrugated iron roofing. Wooden brackets support the edges of the roof where they extend

³ "Corduroy" refers to a surface made of logs laid together crosswise to the trail, usually used in wet areas.

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beyond the north and south walls of the building; the end rafters are notched to accommodate the brackets. An open, six-foot-wide porch, with a foundation of pre-cast concrete piers extends around the west, south and east sides of the first story. The area between the porch floor and the ground is currently enclosed with vertical boards, so that the foundation of the main building is not readily visible. (Originally, the space below the porch floor was filled with mortared stone, with wooden vents.) Six-by-six-inch posts support the half-hipped porch roof. A cross-braced railing, made with 2x4-inch boards with a 1½ x 5½-inch top rail, has been added to the porch. The porch floor consists of 2x6-inch boards. Openings in the porch railing opposite the three ground-floor doorways accommodate wooden stairs with simple 2x4-inch board railings. Like the porch railing, the stair rails are later additions to the building. The window and door openings have plain board trim (painted red), 3½-inch around the windows and 4-inch around the doors.

On the front (east) elevation, the first floor contains a central entrance flanked on either side by a large window opening. The entrance contains a wooden door with one large light above a single recessed panel, and a wood-frame screen door. (All three of the first story entrances contain the same type of door.) The window openings each contain four, one-light wooden sashes; the end sashes open casement style, while the middle two are fixed. The second story level contains four evenly spaced window openings, each containing a one-over-one-light aluminum window.

The rear (west) elevation contains an entrance in the south third of the wall. This entrance is handicapped accessible; a board ramp has been added adjacent to the north side of the porch stair. A narrow fixed-light window located in the wall to the south of the entrance illuminates the interior stairway. On the north side of the entry a large window opening contains four wooden sashes, similar to the windows on the east side of the building. The second story contains five large window openings; four with one-over-one-light aluminum-frame double-hung windows, and one containing a one-light wooden casement window. Three small square casement windows are spaced across the wall, in between the larger windows.

The south (side) elevation has a central entry in the first floor, flanked on the east side by a window opening containing two, fixed, one-light wooden sashes. The second story contains a central window opening and one in the east side of the wall. Both contain one-over-one-light aluminum-sash windows. A wooden vent is located in the gable end.

The north (side) elevation contains an exterior stone chimney that extends from the ground to the top of the first story; a metal flue extends from the top of the stone base to above the ridgeline of the roof. Window openings in the first story on either side of the chimney each contain two single-light fixed wooden sashes. An exterior wooden staircase leads from the ground to a landing and entry at the west side of the second story. The second story entrance contains a wooden door with one panel and one light. A one-over-one-light aluminum-sash window is located directly adjacent to the west side of the door, and there are two narrow fixed sashes to the east of the door. Another one-over-one-light aluminum sash window is located in the wall east of the chimney flue.

Kitchen/Dining room (HS- 268) The kitchen/dining room is a multi-component frame building with a steep gable roof, constructed on a concrete foundation. The two-story kitchen at the rear of the building was built in the latter half of the 1940s, while the one-and-one-half story dining room at the front was constructed in 1952, replacing a similar structure that had collapsed under heavy winter snows. The one-and-one-half story dining room component replaced an earlier frame and canvas dining room constructed circa 1914. Several small one-story additions on the northwest and northeast corners of the kitchen modify the simple rectangular plan of the building. The gabled roof has exposed 2x8-inch rafter ends and is covered with rust standing-seam metal (replacing the earlier corrugated aluminum roofing). The exterior walls are covered with lapped 1x12-inch boards placed 9 inches to

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weather, with plain board trim around the doors and windows. The trim is painted red. The majority of the ground-floor window openings have heavy mesh exterior screens, hinged at the bottom, which can be raised to cover the window openings.

The southwest elevation contains the main public access to the dining room. There are two entrances into the dining room, each with a wooden door with two panels below and a single large light above. A large window opening with four, one-light casement windows is located between the two entrances; another opening with three fixed lights is located between the south entrance and the edge of the wall. The southwest elevation of the kitchen component contains a one-by-one-light casement window in the first story and two, one-by-one-light casement windows in the second story.

The southeast elevation of the dining room contains two window openings, each with three one-light casement windows with internal screens. The half-story contains two windows, each with two casement sashes.

The northeast elevation of the dining room contains a series of three window openings, each filled with a one-light casement window. The south opening has three windows, the middle opening has five sashes and the north opening, near the junction with the kitchen component, has two sashes. A shed-roofed addition covers the remainder of the ground floor, including the entire length of the kitchen and a small part of the dining room. The north half of the addition contains an entrance with a window opening on either side, and a third window at the south edge of the wall. The window openings contain one-by-one-light aluminum-frame sliding-sash windows. The second story of the kitchen component above the addition has two casement windows, one with three lights and one with the original one-light sash.

On the northwest elevation of the kitchen, the main staff entrance is located in the center of the wall, and contains a double door with a window on either side. A small shed-roof addition at the east edge of the ground floor contains a sink and toilet. Another small addition with a hip roof and finished with vertical boards, wraps around the northwest corner of the building. The second story of the kitchen is accessed via an external stair, leading to a landing outside a central entrance. The wall to the east of the entrance contains a narrow single-light fixed window and a one-light casement window. Another one-light casement window is located in the wall west of the entrance. The gable end also contains a one-light casement window.

Bunkhouse/Storage Building (HS-281): Listed as a storage building in the 1952 appraisal report, this building is currently used to house concessions staff (in the second floor). It is believed to have been constructed in 1938. The first floor currently contains a laundry room and a storage area. This is a two-story frame building constructed on a stone and concrete pier foundation. The gable roof is covered with corrugated iron and the exterior walls are covered with lapped boards applied 9 inches to weather, with narrow board trim at the edges of the walls. The door and window openings both have narrow board trim.

The north elevation contains entries offset east of center in both the first and second stories. An exterior wooden stair leads to a landing in front of the second story entrance, which contains a flush wood door with one fixed light and a wood-frame screen door. The first floor entry has a solid core flush door. The west (side) elevation contains one four-light fixed window at the north end of the first story, and a small fixed light at the north end of the second story. The east (side) elevation contains two window openings in the first story, one with a fixed screen and one with a four-light fixed wooden sash. In addition, a small one-light wooden casement window is located in the north end of the second story. Like the north elevation, the south elevation contains entries at the first and second-story levels offset east of center. A small landing outside the second story entrance leads to a metal fire ladder attached to the exterior wall.

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Food Locker (HS-3): The food locker is located behind the kitchen/dining room. The building is recessed into a cavity excavated into the hill slope. The only wall that is completely visible from the outside is the southwest wall, which is only 6' 10" in height. This is a stone rubble wall with a central doorway that contains a vertical board door. The roof consists of steel I-beam supports covered with corrugated iron. Although a construction date has not been determined, construction details and materials suggest that this cellar may date to the earliest years of site development.

Cottages (HS-272, 273, 274 and 275): Four nearly identical cottages (constructed circa 1936) are located in a linear pattern adjacent to the base of the hill slope west of the bunkhouse/laundry. All are one-story frame buildings (measuring 12½ by 16½ feet), with steep gable roofs, built on concrete foundation walls (replacing the original stone foundations). Exterior walls are covered with clapboard siding (2 ½ inches to weather) with narrow corner-board trim. The 2x6 rafter ends are exposed beneath the green standing-seam metal roofing. Original roof covering consisted of sawn cedar shingles.

The front of the buildings face north towards the hill slope. The edge of the roof extends beyond the north wall of the buildings, forming an overhang that protects the entrances. Wooden brackets support the overhang at the wall edges. The entrances are offset east of center and contain wooden doors with one light above three panels. Small patios with plank floors are located adjacent to the north elevations of the buildings. The side and rear walls of the patios are formed by a concrete block retaining wall; these replaced the original stone retaining walls.

The rear (south) elevations have a central window opening with one-over-one-light aluminum windows in the ground floor; shed-roof frame enclosures for water heaters are located below the windows. The east elevations have a single central window opening with a one-over-one-light aluminum sash window. The west elevations have no doors or windows.

Manager's Cabin: This building, built by at least 1960 when it is shown on a map as the "manager's cabin," is now used as a duplex guest cabin. This is a one-story, rectangular frame building with a gable roof constructed on a concrete foundation. The roof has exposed dimensional lumber rafter ends and is covered with green standing-seam metal. The exterior walls are covered with lapped board siding, 8½ inches to weather.

The front (southeast) elevation contains two entries, each with a flush wood door. The entrances are located in the middle of the wall, with a single window opening between each door and the outside wall edge. The window openings contain two-light casement windows with wooden-sashes. A full-length open porch runs the full length of the front elevation. Accessed by a central wooden step, the porch has a simple railing made of 2x4-inch boards. The porch is constructed on pre-cast concrete piers.

The two side elevations each contain a single, two-light wooden-sash casement window, offset east of center. In addition to the window opening, the northeast side has a frame water heater enclosure at the north edge of the wall. The rear of the building has a single central window opening with a two-light, wooden sash casement window.

Duplex Cabin: This building is similar to the manager's cabin and was constructed by 1952 when it was identified as "building 3" in the appraisal report. It is a one-story frame building with a gable roof constructed on a concrete foundation wall. The exterior walls are covered with lapped board siding applied 6½ inches to weather. The 2x6-inch rafter ends are exposed beneath the green standing-seam metal roofing. Two stainless steel vents protrude from the east slope of the roof.

The east (front) elevation contains two entries in the center of the building, each with a flush door with one fixed light. Window openings between the doors and the outside edges of the wall contain four-light casement windows that open inward to accommodate the exterior fixed screens. An open porch extends the full length of the

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front elevation, providing access to both entries. An opening in the porch railing accommodates a central stair with a plain board railing. The west (rear) elevation contains six window openings, each with a small one-light casement window with exterior wooden shutter. The north (side) elevation contains a central window opening with two, two-light fixed wooden sashes. Fenestration on the south (side) elevation is similar to that on the north except that the former contains a frame enclosure at its west edge. The shed-roof enclosure is finished on the exterior with boards and battens.

Noncontributing buildings and structures

Water Tank: This 40,000-gallon metal water tank is located on the hill slope west of the primary building complex. The steel tank is approximately 18 feet high and 20 feet in diameter. It was constructed ca. 1960, in association with the chlorination building (below).

Chlorination building: The chlorination building is located directly behind and to the west of the water tank. Water flows through this building into the water tank. This is a small frame building (9'7" x 10' 6"), with a gable roof covered with split shakes. The exterior walls are covered with lapped board siding applied 10 inches to weather. A small shed-roof lean-to is attached to the south side of this building.

Mission 66 Duplexes: Constructed in 1961, the three Mission 66-era duplexes are located along the north edge of the meadow east of the lodge, in an area that formerly contained several tent platforms. These are rectangular frame buildings with lapped board siding on the exterior walls and green standing-seam metal roofs. Each building contains two lodging units. The meadow-side (south) elevations have two sets of multi-light French doors flanked on both sides by a one-by-one-light, aluminum-sash sliding window. Wooden decks with 2x4-inch board railings provide access to these entrances.

Concession Office: This small frame building is located directly behind the kitchen. Constructed on pre-cast concrete piers, it has a steep gable roof covered with green standing-seam metal roofing, and exterior walls finished with boards with plywood in the gabled ends. A low shed roofed addition is attached to the west wall. A door is offset right of center in the southwest elevation with a one-by-one-light window in the gable end. The southeast elevation contains a central window opening.

Generator house: Located at the base of the hill slope behind the kitchen, this modern concrete building has a gable roof. The roof is covered with enameled metal and has exposed rafter ends. The gable ends are covered with lapped board siding. A small, shed-roofed addition is located on its east elevation. The south elevation contains two pairs of metal doors, each accessed from board stairs. The south elevation of the addition also contains an entrance with a flush solid core door.

Corral: The current corral is located south of the cottages and northwest of the lodge, at the west end of the primary building complex. The current corral is constructed with vertical log posts set into the ground with board rails. This rather massive construction style is similar to that of the original corral, which was located slightly farther west, and which connected the old log hay barn and saddle shed.

Horse tack room/ride office The tack room/ride office, also known as the barn, was heavily damaged during the winter of 2002. The building is being re-constructed to in a similar style with similar materials but is identified as a non-contributing building.

Lift Station: The lift station, built in about 1960, is located in the middle of the meadow east of the lodge. It is a rectangular frame building with a shallow gable roof built on a concrete foundation wall. The roof is covered

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with split shakes and the walls with T-111 plywood siding. There is an entry with a flush wood door centered in the west elevation. The east elevation has a small shed-roof addition.

Pool change room: This building, constructed in the 1960s, is located adjacent to the west side of the pool, and is partially enclosed by the fence that surrounds the pool. It is of frame construction with a shallow gable roof. The roof is covered with enameled metal and the walls with lapped board siding applied 9 inches to weather. Two bays of change rooms, one for men and one for women, occupy the eastern two-thirds of the north and south elevations. The entrances to these change rooms, as well as a central entry in the east elevation, are sheltered by extensions of the eaves and gable end of the roof. The edge of the roof is supported by 6x6-inch posts.

Pool chlorination building: This is a small frame building with a gable roof constructed on a concrete foundation wall. The roof is covered with enameled-metal and has exposed rafter ends. The walls are covered with vertical boards and battens.

Summary

The landscape characteristic of "buildings and structures" is very important to the significance and eligibility of this historic district. The simple folk vernacular buildings added to the site during the Sifford tenure, finished with rustic materials and with little architectural embellishment, represent a tangible expression of the "character" of the Drakesbad resort. Although the few log buildings originally located at the site have been removed, the remaining buildings within the primary building cluster are sufficient to illustrate the development of the resort through time. In contrast, all of the buildings currently located in the pool area, as well as the pool itself, are modern, dating to the period of park service ownership. Although the numbers of contributing and noncontributing buildings and structures are approximately equal, the modern, noncontributing buildings and structures are dispersed throughout the entire site, therefore, they do not overwhelm the primary building cluster, which contains the main concentration of contributing buildings.

Constructed water features

The district contains two constructed water features, Dream Lake, built by Alex Sifford in 1932, and the swimming pool built by the National Park Service in 1964. Dream Lake is located south of Hot Springs Creek, at the end of a short footpath that branches from the trail to Boiling Springs Lake. Located in a shallow bowl-like depression, the lake is surrounded by timbered hill slopes on its south and east sides. The lake is formed by a 260-foot-long earthen dam; the borrow area for material for the dam is still visible on its south side. The lake formed behind the dam is roughly 10 feet deep and at maximum pool level covers an area of about 3 acres. The spillway for the lake is located on its north side, discharging overflow into a channel that drains to Hot Springs Creek. Drakesbad guests indicate that a footpath encircles the entire lake, incorporating the surface of the dam, which is now covered with trees. A small painted wood sign at the end of the trail reads "Dream Lake."

The 44 by 20-foot concrete pool and attached bathhouse is located in the same vicinity as the original pools, but was built after the period of significance and is counted as a noncontributing structure.

Summary

Of the two constructed water features located within the district, only Dream Lake is counted as a contributing resource, a structure. Although located in the same general area as previous swimming pools, the current concrete pool was constructed after the end of the period of significance and must be counted as a noncontributing structure.

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Views and Vistas

The Sifford family actively promoted the views from within their resort property. Of particular importance were views of and across the meadow and the view of Mt. Harkness from the east side of the Lodge porch. Both views were in part man made: the swamp had been cleared and drained and was kept clear of high vegetation and there is physical evidence of clearing at the east edge of the meadow, to maintain the view of Mt. Harkness. Another view noted in Drakesbad promotional materials is the view of Lassen Peak from Boiling Springs Lake.

Summary

The views promoted during the historical period remain essentially unchanged and contribute to the integrity of setting of the historic district.

Small-scale features

A variety of small-scale features are located within the Drakesbad historic district, many within the primary building cluster. These include a mixture of historic and modern items, which may be counted as either structures or objects for purposes of National Register listing. Historical features include the large stone campfire circle located on the east side of the lodge. Also, several small dry-laid stone retaining walls are located adjacent to the west side of the lodge (separating it from an adjacent parking area) and a short section of the old stone-lined path to the dining room also remains intact.

Modern additions to the primary building cluster include a flagpole, the Sifford memorial plaque, and a series of fire hydrants and associated hose shelters dispersed throughout the complex. The flagpole and the Sifford memorial are located adjacent to the east elevation of the lodge; the memorial consists of a bronze plaque affixed to a granite boulder. A small segment of split-rail jackleg fencing, located in the vicinity of the former manager's cabin, is a modern addition to the site (erected within the past two years).

Small-scale features located in outlying areas within the district are mostly modern additions attributable to the park service. These include signage associated with trails and thermal features. Notable historical small-scale features missing from the outlying areas include the log and wire fencing that formerly defined the horse pasture west of the corral (see historical photos attached as additional documentation).

Summary

A few of the small-scale features attributable to the historical period remain on site. Although minor in scale compared to other improvements, they add character to the district.

Summary of contributing and noncontributing resources

The following table summarizes the total number of contributing and noncontributing resources within the district. Subheadings in the table indicate the general landscape characteristic with which each resource is associated. Please note that the National Register guidelines establish that only buildings, structures, sites, and objects be counted. Landscape characteristics such as "natural systems and features" and "land use" do not lend themselves to the National Register's resource count system. Though not counted, and therefore not reflected in the list of contributing and noncontributing resources, integrity of these systems and processes contribute to the property's integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

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Contributing Resources	
<i>Landscape Characteristic: Land Use</i>	
Drakesbad Meadow/pasture	Contributing Site
<i>Landscape Characteristic: Circulation</i>	
Warner Valley Road (within boundaries of historic district)	Contributing Structure
Stone-lined footpath connecting the lodge with the north bank of Hot Springs Creek	Contributing Structure
Boiling Springs Lake Trail	Contributing Structure
Devil's Kitchen Trail	Contributing Structure
Dream Lake Trail	Contributing Structure
<i>Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures</i>	
Food Locker	Contributing Building
Lodge	Contributing Building
Kitchen/Dining Room	Contributing Building
Bunkhouse/Storage Building	Contributing Building
Cottages (4)	Contributing Buildings (4)
Manager's Cabin/Duplex Cabin	Contributing Building
Duplex Cabin (historic)	Contributing Building
<i>Landscape Characteristic: Constructed Water Features</i>	
Dream Lake	Contributing Structure
<i>Landscape Characteristic: Small-scale features</i>	
Campfire Circle	Contributing Structure
Stone retaining walls west of lodge and near dining hall	Contributing Structures (2)
Total # Contributing Resources: 20	
Noncontributing Resources	
<i>Landscape Characteristic: Circulation</i>	
Two-track road to the water tank	Noncontributing Structure
Raised-grade "causeway" built across the meadow	Noncontributing Structure
Road to lift station building	Noncontributing Structure
Road connecting the lodge with the pool area	Noncontributing Structure
<i>Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures</i>	
Water Tank	Noncontributing Structure
Lift Station building	Noncontributing Structure
Duplex Cabins (Mission 66 era)	Noncontributing Buildings (3)
Chlorination Building	Noncontributing Building
Generator House	Noncontributing Building
Pool Change House	Noncontributing Building
Pool Chlorination Building	Noncontributing Building
Concession Office	Noncontributing Building
Tack Room (aka barn)	Noncontributing Building
<i>Landscape Characteristic: Constructed Water Features</i>	
Swimming Pool	Noncontributing Structure
Total # Noncontributing Resources: 16	

Name of Property

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: State

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Areas of Significance: Recreation; Conservation

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Period(s) of Significance: 1900-1952

Significant Person(s): N/A

Significant Dates: 1909; 1912; 1916; 1931; 1938

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Edward Drake; Alex Sifford; Ida Sifford;
Pearl Sifford; Roy Sifford; Mike Pappas

Narrative Statement of Significance

Drakesbad Guest Ranch is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, at the state level of significance, for its direct and significant association with regional conservation and with the development of the northern California tourism industry as it evolved near and within Lassen Volcanic National Park. The period of significance extends from 1900, when Alexander and Ida Sifford purchased Edward Drake's homestead, until 1952, when son Roy Sifford first relinquished management duties to the National Park Service. This extended period of significance, which contrasts with the date of construction for most extant buildings and structures on site (1936-1953), reflects the importance of natural – and largely immutable – features to site use and development: the larger site -- 440 acres -- appears much as it did in 1900 when Alexander Sifford first determined that his family could make a living selling hot baths to tourists and first began cutting trails to the best of the views and the most interesting of the area's myriad natural attractions. Significant dates include 1909 when California Representative John Raker, based out of Drakesbad, first toured the Lassen region and measured its worth to the nation; 1912, when the Siffords incorporated as the Drake Springs Company and embarked on the first aggressive building program; 1916, when Lassen Volcanic National Park was created; 1931, when completion of NPS Route 1 significantly altered local transportation patterns; and 1938 when the current lodge was constructed. Areas of Significance include Conservation and Recreation.

Alex Sifford died September 6, 1957. The once-sickly schoolteacher was 97 years old and had spent 57 summers at Drakesbad. Though buried in Susanville, rather than at Drakesbad as he had asked ("south of that big cedar tree – up back of the bath house on the Boiling Springs Trail") his spirit and the legacy of his hard work and love for his "beautiful valley" remain evident in the built environment; the stories of long-time guests, whose grandchildren now visit the site every summer as their parents visited before them;¹ and in the stories of his son and business partner Roy Sifford. The following site history is based in large part upon a series of interviews with Roy Sifford, conducted by Lassen Volcanic National Park Ranger Les Bodine in the 1980s and subsequently transcribed by Drakesbad guests who maintain a fiercely loyal and proprietary interest in the operation and management of the valley.² (See **Continuation Pages.**)

¹ In 1952 the NPS Assistant Regional Director reported "Mr. Sifford has very largely the same guests every year and . . . they stay right through the summer season" (Assistant Regional Director to Director, November 20, 1952, File: L2223 LAVO, Western Archaeological and Conservation Center (WACC), Tucson, Arizona). This trend has continued in the years since the transfer of operations to the National Park Service concessioner.

² These interviews were published in book form by Lahontan Images as *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*. Funding was made possible by contributions made in memory of Roy Sifford to the Lassen Volcanic National Park Foundation.

Name of Property

County and State

9. Major Bibliographic References

See Continuation Pages.

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 # CA-2114 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____**Primary Location of Additional Data:** State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other -- Specify Repository: National Park Service, DSC, WACC, and LAVO**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property: 440 acres

UTM References: See continuation page

Verbal Boundary Description

The coordinates noted below and on the enclosed boundary map depict two discontinuous parcels connected by the Boiling Springs Lake Trail (a contributing structure) and together representing the limits of Sifford ownership within the Hot Springs Valley: S ½ SE ¼; S ½ SW ¼ Section 21 T30N R5E; NW ¼ SE ¼, N ½ SW ¼, SW ¼ SW ¼ Section 22, T30NR5E; SE ¼ SE ¼; SW ¼ SE ¼ Section 22, T30N R5E; SE ¼ NE ¼ Section 27, T30N R5E; Boiling Springs Lake Trail.

Boundary Justification

These boundaries include all of the land owned in fee simple by the Siffords and actively used for the development of the guest ranch: a 400-acre parcel incorporating Edward Drake's original cash entry and homestead claims and a non-contiguous 40-acre parcel purchased by Sifford from the state of California in 1901 and containing most of Boiling Springs Lake.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Ann Emmons/Historian; Janene Caywood/Cultural Landscape Specialist

organization: Historical Research Associates, Inc.

date: November 2002

street & number: P.O. Box 7086

telephone: 06 721-1958

city or town: Missoula

state: MT

zip code: 59807-7086

Additional Documentation

See continuation pages

Property Owner

name/title: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Lassen Volcanic National Park

street & number: PO Box 100

telephone: (530) 595-4444

city or town: Mineral

state: California

zip code: 96063

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8. Narrative History, continued

Regional Tourism and Recreation Context

"Many have climbed Vesuvius, and have peered into the molten lava crater of Kilauea but have never seen Lassen Peak. This fact is neither creditable *nor* profitable," Frona Wait Colburn wrote in her tourist tract *The Kingship of Mt. Lassen*.³ Both pride of place and an interest in the potential profitability of scenery inspired local boosters and landowners to promote recreational use of the Lassen region. This use built upon a 19th-century tradition of recreational excursions, often incidental to some more-practical purpose (such as prospecting or hunting), that while having little effect upon the county coffers did increase public awareness of the beauty and pleasure of a Lassen outing.

Historian Earl Pomeroy has argued that the tourist is not simply a 20th century phenomenon, the product of the automobile, dependable roads, and leisure time, but instead has long wandered the American West, sometimes lurking in the disguise of prospector and explorer, more often in undisguised pursuit of pleasure, knowledge, and adventure. Always a cash crop (as welcome and waited for, Pomeroy wrote, as "the spring lamb or winter wheat"), the tourist was often also a source of pride – an eastern visitor affirming the worth and validity of a western place. The tourist was also often a potential investor in and future resident of nascent western communities.⁴

Throughout much of the scenic west, nineteen and early twentieth century travelers arrived by rail, from the eastern states.⁵ These tourists confirmed fame and fortune on Yellowstone and Yosemite national parks, Pikes Peak, Manitou Springs, and the grand resorts of San Diego and San Francisco. Yet western residents themselves also recreated, establishing a parallel trend in tourist patterns, though a trend less well-documented than that of wealthy eastern rail travelers, and with fewer dramatic effects on the built environment. Pomeroy writes:

Some of the earliest Westerners amused themselves on local camping trips, perhaps to the coast near Santa Cruz to pick berries or near Newport to fish and eat rock oysters. Before there were roads they went on horseback, later by wagon. Oregon farmers took to moving their families to the mountains in the late summer or autumn, passing several weeks before harvest time in hunting and fishing, berry picking, and making jams and preserves. Young men sometimes welcomed assignments to pasture horses and mules in the Sierra Nevada.⁶

³ Mrs. Frederick H. Colburn (Frona Eunice Wait), *The Kingship of Mt. Lassen. At Present the Only Active Volcano on the Mainland of the United States. In the Past California's Greatest Benefactor* (San Francisco: Nemo Publishing Company, 1922), frontpiece. Emphasis added.

⁴ Earl Pomeroy, *In Search of the Golden West. The Tourist in Western America* (Lincoln and London: University of Nebraska Press, 1990 [first published 1957]), pp. xv-xvi, 131. For a newer historical interpretation of tourists and tourism, which emphasizes the transformative and unintended effects of the industry on local communities, see Hal K. Rothman, *Devil's Bargains: Tourism in the Twentieth-Century American West* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1998). On the automobile culture and tourism, see Warren James Belasco, *Americans on the Road: From Autocamp to Motel, 1910-1945* (Cambridge, Mass: The MIT Press, 1979).

⁵ Pomeroy, *In Search of the Golden West*, p. xvii. Pomeroy writes: "[by the 1870s] a nation urbanized, industrialized, and free in its urban and industrial prosperity from the distractions of civil war, could afford to send more tourists west, and shortly had railroad cars to carry them."

⁶ Pomeroy, *In Search of the Golden West*, p. 141.

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By the 1880s, "Westerners were camping on an impressive scale." In 1885, a writer for the travel magazine *Overland* reported that "nowhere is rough-and-ready gypsy camping on the simplest scale more thoroughly appreciated as a family play than in the Western States." Many of these campers, *Overland* reported, had learned this appreciation for nature while prospecting, lumbering, or emigrating; it was a part of their frontier heritage.⁷

Northern California was well populated with prospectors, lumbermen, and emigrants eager to escape San Francisco's crowds or the Central Valley's heat. Camping in the Sierra foothills and along the coast became a time-honored, multi-generation tradition. These northern California visitors often stayed for weeks or months, or as long as the school calendar permitted. The built environment reflected this use: there were few grand hotels and resorts, but instead camp sites, summer homes, and rustic cabin complexes: "a tradition of informality persisted."⁸

By ca. 1900, area chambers of commerce actively advertised recreational use in a series of "educational" tracts and tourist pamphlets unabashedly promoting the scenic beauty of the Lassen region. The region was variously called "God's Wonderland," "the Switzerland of America," "Nature's Curiosity Shop," and an "Unheralded Wonderland" that promised a wealth of scenery to rival the wealth of timber and fertile soil in the adjacent forests and valleys.⁹ Increasingly, Shingletown (NW of the peak) and Chester (SE) were known not as "lumbering towns" but as "lumbering and resort towns," where scenery, hunting, and fishing proved nearly as valuable a commodity as timber.¹⁰

The most dramatic scenery and impressive destination proved to be the summit of Lassen Peak. A summit excursion, in the mid-nineteenth century, required several days and a considerable outfit.¹¹ Conforming to Pomeroy's prospector-as-tourist, G. K. Godfrey took a side trip to Lassen Peak in 1851 while on a prospecting expedition with nine other miners. He later described his adventure in *Hutchings' California Magazine*. The men were in search of a legendary "lone cabin," the site of a lost gold strike near the headwaters of the Feather River, when they apparently decided to climb Lassen Peak for pleasure. The mountain dominated the skyline from Big Meadows, where Godfrey and his party encountered Peter Lassen "with a small pack train, conveying provisions and merchandise to his store in Indian Valley." Perhaps Lassen boasted of having climbed the mountain and gave Godfrey and his party the inspiration to do the same; in any case, Godfrey wrote that "Lassen was the first man who made the ascent of this peak."¹²

⁷ C. F. Gordon Cummings, "The World's Wonderlands in Wyoming and New Zealand," *Overland* (January 1885), quoted in Pomeroy, *In Search of the Golden West*, p. 142.

⁸ Cummings, "The World's Wonderlands," quoted in Pomeroy, *In Search of the Golden West*, p. 142.

⁹ Charles W. Seffens, *In the Good Old Summertime. Touring in the Northern Counties of California. Auto Camping De Luxe. Sightseeing and vacationing amongst the mountains and valleys; by the Rivers, Lakes, and Streams of God's Wonderland. Trip 1925*, copy on file at the Shasta County Historical Society, Redding; M. E. Dittmar, *Shasta County California*. Sunset Magazine Homeseekers' Bureau for the Board of Supervisors, Shasta County, California (on file at LAVO), no date (ca. 1910).

¹⁰ See, for example, W.J. Brokenshire, District Ranger, United States Forest Service, "Valuation Report Juniper Lake Tract Lassen Volcanic National Park," pp. 11-13, and James A. and Richard R. Hopper, "Appraisal of Sifford Properties in Lassen Volcanic National Park," July 15, 1952, File: Inholdings, LAVO Collection, WACC.

¹¹ With completion of Lassen Peak Highway and improvement of the Lassen Peak summit trail, the summit trip changed dramatically. Visitors were able to drive their car's to "within less than an hour's ride or hike of the Lassen summit, there to be met by horses if they are desired." L.W. Collins to the Director, April 8, 1930. Unaccessioned historic material, LAVO, p. 1.

¹² G. K. Godfrey, "Lassen's Peak," *Hutchings' California Magazine*, Vol. 14 (1859-60), pp. 299-300.

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The Godfrey party reached a hot spring "emitting steam, and occasionally sparks of fire" (probably Bumpass Hell) which Godfrey described as a distinct volcano "situated to the south-east or next to the highest table land of Lassen Peak." After resting here, the party continued its ascent, picking its way arduously through the large, angular lava rocks all the way to the summit. Godfrey described the panoramic view at some length. "I love nature always," he wrote, "but especially when in her noblest and simplest grandeur...Nothing I ever saw, in point of scenery, so delighted me as a view from this peak."¹³

By the 1860s, homesteaders on the approaches to Lassen Peak were beginning to make an income as camp hosts and guides for parties of recreationists from Red Bluff, Reading, and other nearby towns. J. C. Tyler owned a ranch at Mill Creek Meadows where he hosted a large group of revelers who hunted, fished, danced, and enjoyed other outdoor activities in the summer of 1864.

The next year, another Red Bluff citizen, Watson Chalmers, editor of the *Red Bluff Independent*, made a recreational visit to Lassen Peak. The party had as its guide "an old and experienced mountaineer" named Kendall Vanhook Bumpass. Chalmers and his companions climbed Lassen Peak, proudly writing their names on a piece of paper and slipping it into a bottle which they placed at the highest point. Chalmers noted that there was a collection of such messages at the summit – as definite a sign as any that the mountain was now attracting recreational use.¹⁴

Recreational ventures more commonly pursued than a day's mountain climbing – and potentially more profitable to local communities and landowners – included extended camping trips. In 1864, Mrs. P. B. Reading (Fannie) "went to the mountains" for the month of August, accompanied by 14 human companions and 12 horses.¹⁵ Two spring wagons were filled with provisions (including "flour, bacon, onions, crackers, cheese, sweet and Irish potatoes, cabbage, beans etc. besides tea, coffee, chocolate, sugar etc.," all augmented with venison secured by the men of the party. "So you see," Fannie wrote, "we live very well"). As near as can be determined from Fannie's letter home to her mother, the trip had no distinct purpose save pleasure and escape from the summer heat and drought that beset the Central Valley.¹⁶

One other party of campers shared this valley, identified as six miles from "Lawson's Butte" [sic] in the Mill Creek drainage; Morgan Hot Springs.¹⁷ By 1890, the name Morgan Springs was commonly accepted and recreational use of the valley had been institutionalized by Mr. Morgan himself who had constructed bath houses, a general store, and pasture fencing. Edna Saygrover of Redding, who visited Morgan Springs in 1903, reported that "many people

¹³ Godfrey, "Lassen's Peak," p. 302.

¹⁴ "Writer Tells of Old-Time Editor's Trip Through 'Wilds of Lassen Area,'" *Red Bluff Daily News*, February 17, 1947, Lassen NP vertical file, Tehama County Public Library.

¹⁵ Her companions included "Jeanette, the children, two Indian nurses, an Indian boy, and the driver; Major Reading in the buggy and Collins and one man in the spring wagon...Mr. Sheldon with another spring wagon drawn by mules...and a boy riding Jeanette's horse; fourteen in all and twelve horses."

¹⁶ Fannie to Mama, August 27, 1864, "Sierra Nevada Six miles from Lawson's Butte," File 207 Part III, Box 46, RG 79, NARA San Bruno.

¹⁷ Fannie to Mama, August 27, 1864; Harry Robinson, Monthly Report of Park Naturalist, August 1943. This second party may have included Helen and Aurelius Boldt who climbed Lassen Peak in August of 1864 in company with Major Reading (see above).

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from Redding, Cottonwood, Anderson and Red Bluff spent weeks at this resort. The only charge made was for the pasture of horses and the campers bought groceries at [Mr. Morgan's] store."

The Manzanita Lake area, most-easily accessed from Redding rather than Red Bluff, also proved popular with campers (though the quality of the fishing rather than of the mineral baths appeared of greatest concern). Frank and Chappell described Manzanita and Reflection lakes as "as pretty mountain lakes as are found anywhere...No lakes in the State, or any other State, can boast of larger, handsomer crimson-sided, fierce-eyed mountain trout than are found in these lakes." (Major Reading informed Frank and Chappell that he first stocked Manzanita Lake in 1848 while landowners J.E. Stockton and W.H. Coffee stocked Reflection Lake in 1875, and maintained a fish-hatchery dam and reservoir at their Reservation Lake timber claim.¹⁸ Reflection Lake froze smooth and clear in the winter, and generations of area children tell of winter skate parties.¹⁹ In 1944, Lassen Volcanic National Park administrators concluded that the Manzanita Lake region had been continuously used for recreation for almost a century.²⁰

The Built Environment: Transportation

By circa 1920, upon designation of Lassen Volcanic National Park yet prior to initiation of the NPS development program, the Lassen Peak periphery could be accessed via state and forest service roads leading from Red Bluff, Redding, Susanville, and Quincy. Colburn wrote:

There is an automobile service from Red Bluff to Morgan Springs [near today's Southwest Entrance], and from Redding to Manzanita Lake. There is also an automobile stage from Susanville to Drakesbad, seven miles from the southern base of the volcano. A shorter auto trip is from Westwood, twenty-five miles from Drakesbad. Westwood is a terminal of the California-Nevada line of the Southern Pacific... The Western Pacific Railroad goes through the picturesque Feather River Canyon, and from Keddie or Doyle it is possible to motor to the base of Lassen Peak... Four laterals lead out from Red Bluff and the southwest while still other short-cuts converge from various California angles, thus providing many approaches to this matchless Switzerland of America. Even now it is not difficult to reach the mountain from any direction, whether by footpaths with pack animals and camping outfits, or by vehicle over the fairly good wagon roads. The question of personal comfort need not deter the Nature lover from an incursion into the realm of Mt. Lassen's volcanic kingship.²¹

Additional secondary access roads included the Butte Lake/Cinder Cone Truck Trail, the Juniper Lake Road, the Twin Lakes Truck Trail and the Badger Flats Truck Trail (which roughly followed the course of the historic Noble's Emigrant Trail). Construction of the Juniper Lake road represented a unified effort between timber and recreation interests. The Warner Valley road to Drakesbad and the Devil's Kitchen area had been constructed ca. 1880 by homesteaders Peter Guscetti, James Kelly, and Edward R. Drake. The Butte Lake/Cinder Cone road had

¹⁸ B.F. Frank and H.W. Chappell, *The History and Business Directory of Shasta County*, "Natural Curiosities," quoted in James V. Lloyd, "A Study of the Proposed Limitation of Visitor Use and Type of Use for the Manzanita Lake Area in Lassen Volcanic National Park," April 8, 1944, File: 207 Part IV, Box 46, RG 79, NARA, San Bruno, p. 2.

¹⁹ Pam Koeberer Pitt, interviewed by Ann Emmons, Historical Research Associates, Inc., February 2002. Transcript on file with the National Park Service, LAVO.

²⁰ Frank and Chappell, *The History and Business Directory of Shasta County*, "Natural Curiosities," p. 2.

²¹ Colburn, *The Kingship of Mt. Lassen*. p. 40.

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been constructed by campers and fishermen.²² "Pack trails" included those from Mineral/Battle Creek Meadows to the summit of Lassen Peak; along Kings Creek/Black Butte by way of Cold Boiling Lake; and a trail from Lake Helen to Bumpas Hot Springs. (These trails were "nothing more than mere paths...following the path of least resistance,...rocky and rough, and very steep.")²³

The Built Environment: Accommodations

Although camping predominated, rustic accommodations were available in the Lassen vicinity, most constructed as off-shoots of settlement ventures and most located on the periphery of the park, where reduced snowfall and gentler topography eased visitor access. In 1944, park superintendent James Lloyd reported that accommodations north of Lassen Peak, excluding the NPS-operated Manzanita Lake Lodge complex), included the Viola Hotel and Scharsch's cabin complex, both located approximately 7 miles north of Manzanita Lake on State Highway 44; Doane's Camp, 11 miles northeast of Manzanita Lake, in the Hat Creek Valley on State Highway 89; and Day's Resort and Olmstead's Camp at Old Station, also in the Hat Creek Valley. All of the above facilities were described as constructed "many years" prior to 1944, all were patronized by both through-travelers and also tourists, particularly fishermen and hunters. All were only modestly profitable and all, by the 1930s, proved less-popular with tourists than the Manzanita Lake Lodge complex, located 1,400' higher in elevation and distinctly cooler in the summer months.

Tourist facilities in the immediate Mineral vicinity were scarce on account, Lloyd reported, of the "lack of pleasant surroundings...and the depth of snow blanketing [the area] until well into July." Morgan Springs, now the Hanna Ranch, on the Chester to Susanville Highway, was "very popular" and "the early day favorite spot for camping, fishing, and bathing." Southeast of Lassen Peak, the Drakesbad Resort in Warner Valley, accessed via rough dirt road from the Chester to Susanville Highway, offered tourist accommodations well in advance of park designation and today stands as the only extant in-park representative of the turn-of-the-century tourist industry.

Regional Conservation Context

For almost a century, the Lassen Peak region has been managed as federal reserved land. Federal protection of the lands around Lassen Peak came in stages: first, a temporary withdrawal of unclaimed lands from public entry under the various homestead laws in 1902; then, proclamation of a forest reserve in 1905; later, the creation of two national monuments in 1907; and finally, the establishment of Lassen Volcanic National Park on August 9, 1916. These developments occurred within the context of the rise of conservation in the 1890s and 1900s. By turns, the reserved lands were administered by the U.S. General Land Office, the U.S. Forest Service, and the National Park Service. These federal agencies each put their own administrative footprint on the landscape.

In addition to homesteaders and loggers, the Lassen Peak region had long attracted a considerable number of pleasure seekers. Residents of the Upper Sacramento Valley in particular sought relief from the summer heat by

²² Thos. E. Carpenter, Landscape Architect, "Report to the Chief Architect Through the Superintendent of Lassen Volcanic National Park. Reconnaissance of Road Routes from the Southwest Approach Road and from the Park Loop Highway to the Southeast Section of the Park," September 1935. LAVO Collection, WACC; John C. Preston, Superintendent, Memorandum for the Regional Director, Region IV, May 27, 1940, File 630 (Roads Part I), Box 61, RG 79, NARA, San Bruno..

²³ Anonymous, "Final Construction Report on Bumpas Hell Trail Construction, Account 531," no date (ca. 1933). LAVO Collection, WACC.

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camping in the mountain meadows near Lassen Peak and the region's hot springs (see Regional Recreation context, above). In March 1906, citizens of Plumas and Lassen counties signed petitions calling for the area to be made a national park; local tradition holds that this petition drive was conceived of and managed from Drakesbad. Boosters in this era saw tourism as a golden opportunity to bring potential investors through their communities. The petitions were addressed to President Theodore Roosevelt and sent to Senator George C. Perkins of California. Among the people who signed the Plumas County petition were the sheriff, tax collector, clerk and recorder, a judge, and a mineral surveyor with the General Land Office. The signers of the Lassen County petition included farmers, ranchers, teachers, doctors, and lawyers, a postmaster, a miner, a lumberman, a printer, a barber, and a power company official, indicating broad support of the measure. Forest Supervisor Barrett remembered that the two petitions marked the beginning of "local agitation for a National Park." Although he would later recommend designation of small national monuments under Forest Service control, Barrett put his own name on the Plumas County petition.²⁴

Senator Perkins forwarded the petitions to Secretary of the Interior Ethan A. Hitchcock with a "most hearty endorsement," and Hitchcock requested a report from the General Land Office. In October, Acting Commissioner George F. Pollock reported that the petitioners had not defined any boundaries for the park and proposed that the Forest Service recommend areas for protection. Acknowledging that the region contained numerous points of scientific interest, he concurred with the petitioners that some portion of the Lassen Peak Forest Reserve deserved protection as a national park. Of particular interest were Bumpass Hell, various hot springs, and Cinder Cone. If the Forest Service supported the national park proposal, Pollock stated, then his agency would be prepared to present it to Congress.²⁵

In the meantime, Congress passed the Antiquities Act of June 8, 1906. Sponsored by Congressman John Lacey of Iowa, the law was intended to protect areas of unusual historic or scientific interest. It authorized the president to proclaim such areas as national monuments. President Theodore Roosevelt immediately invoked the law to create Devil's Tower National Monument in Wyoming, thereby establishing the important precedent that national monuments could encompass monumental landforms (much like national parks) as well as archaeological or historic resources. Despite this action, however, there was no immediate expectation that national monuments would be administered together with national parks by one agency. That development would come many years later after the creation of the National Park Service, when Executive Order 6288 consolidated national monuments, military parks, and historic sites within the national park system.²⁶

The Forest Service responded quickly and aggressively to the legislation. Forester Gifford Pinchot promptly revised *The Use Book* to reflect the Forest Service's ability to manage such areas. The 1906 edition, issued less than a month after passage of the Antiquities Act, included the following two paragraphs on historic and scientific monuments:

²⁴ Strong, *Footprints in Time*, p. 35; Barrett, *Leaves from a Forest Ranger's Diary*, p. 33.

²⁵ Strong, *Footprints in Time*, pp. 48-49.

²⁶ Hal Rothman, *America's National Monuments: The Politics of Preservation* (University Press of Kansas, Lawrence, 1994); Barry Mackintosh, *Shaping the System* (U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, 1991), p. 24.

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All persons are prohibited from appropriating, excavating, injuring, or destroying any historic or prehistoric ruin or monument, or any object of antiquity situated on lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States, without the permission of the Secretary who has jurisdiction over the land involved...

Forest officers should report to the Forester the location and description of all objects of great scientific or historic interest which they find upon forest reserves, and should prevent all persons from injuring these objects without permission from the Secretary of the Agriculture...²⁷

Pinchot's purpose was to demonstrate that national monuments need not be transferred out of the Forest Service's jurisdiction for they would receive due consideration under national forest management.

In compliance with Pinchot's directive, Barrett recommended six areas around Lassen Peak for designation as national monuments. The areas included Crater Lake and Mountain (outside the present park boundaries), Supan Springs, Lassen Peak, Bumpass Hell, another boiling spring, and Cinder Cone. Barrett emphasized Cinder Cone and included Snag Lake, Butte Lake, and the nearby lava beds within this proposed national monument. He also noted that the head of Warner Valley contained points of interest (Devil's Kitchen) but he excluded them because of private land holdings in the vicinity. Barrett noted that the volcanic terrain around Lassen Peak was "sparsely timbered and of practically no value for grazing" because it was nearly devoid of vegetation, and none of the areas he described were useful for anything but attracting tourists with the "natural curiosities" that they contained.²⁸

Asked to provide more specific boundaries, Barrett sent a second report in January 1907. Actual surveys of the proposed national monuments, he explained, had to await the summer. In the meantime, he urged immediate action to protect the Lassen Peak and Cinder Cone areas. The following month, Barrett sent a third report explaining his sense of urgency. Placer miners, who had already "plastered" claims all over the Plumas National Forest, would soon file claims in the scenic hot springs area unless it were protected. Furthermore, the Forest Service lacked funds to administer these areas. Soon, Barrett expected, private parties would be pressing the Forest Service for special use permits to develop hotels and bathhouses around these hot springs.²⁹

Barrett argued that several national monuments were more sensible than one national park encompassing the whole area. The "natural curiosities" were scattered, and a park covering them all would include lands suitable for other uses. Barrett thought local residents would prefer a cluster of national monuments totaling some 10,000 acres to a national park covering some 144,000 acres. As long as the area was surrounded by national forest, it could be administered more efficiently by one agency rather than two.³⁰

Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson approved Barrett's proposal for the establishment of two national monuments and forwarded the correspondence to Secretary of the Interior James R. Garfield. Wilson reiterated Barrett's arguments and cited the work by J. S. Diller as evidence of the area's scientific importance. He also noted that national monuments could be created immediately by presidential proclamation, while national parks required an establishing act of Congress. The latter process could take time, and could always be accomplished later. Garfield

²⁷ U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, *The Use Book* (Government Printing Office, Washington, 1906), pp. 69-70.

²⁸ Strong, *Footprints in Time*, p. 36.

²⁹ Strong, *Footprints in Time*, pp. 36-37.

³⁰ Strong, *Footprints in Time*, p. 37.

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endorsed the proposal, concurring with Wilson that the Forest Service could administer the small national monuments efficiently in connection with the Lassen Peak Forest Reserve. On May 6, 1907, President Roosevelt proclaimed Cinder Cone National Monument and Lassen Peak National Monument.³¹

Cinder Cone National Monument extended from Butte Lake in the north to Snag Lake in the south and encompassed all of Cinder Cone and the area now known as Fantastic Lava Beds – approximately eight square miles. Lassen Peak National Monument included only two sections of land, or little more than the summit and slopes of Lassen Peak. The boundaries did not extend to Lake Helen or Bumpass Hell. Together, the two national monuments composed about 6400 acres. Even with this minimal land area, the proclamation was framed so as not to arouse local sentiment. "The reservation made by this proclamation is not intended to prevent the use of the lands for forest purposes under the proclamation establishing the Lassen Peak National Forest," the proclamation stated, "but so far as the two reservations are consistent they are equally effective. In all respects in which they may be inconsistent the National Monument hereby established shall be the dominant reservation."³²

On August 9, 1916, Lassen Volcanic National Park was established by an act of Congress. It joined a growing number of other national parks then under the charge of the Secretary of the Interior. A little more than two weeks later, on August 25, 1916, Congress passed a law creating the National Park Service. The law effectively combined these units into a National Park System.

The efforts to establish Lassen Volcanic National Park coincided with the movement to establish a federal bureau or service specially charged with administering the national parks. These were formative years for the national park idea in which national park advocates struggled to define the purpose of national parks and to differentiate them from national forests. National park advocates argued that a strictly utilitarian approach to conservation did not adequately address esthetics. This schism within the conservation movement became most apparent in the controversy over the damming of Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park, which Congress authorized after prolonged debate in 1913. Although that decision went against so-called "preservationists," it publicized their cause. The establishment of the National Park Service three years later institutionalized a dual approach toward management of the nation's wild lands, with the Forest Service and the National Park Service reflecting "conservationist" and "preservationist" ideals respectively.³³

In point of fact, these two wings of the conservation movement worked together much more often than they fought. Recent scholarship on the history of the national park idea has emphasized the utilitarian impulse within the National Park Service, which sought to develop these areas for public enjoyment and the economic benefit of tourism.³⁴ Stephen T. Mather, first director of the National Park Service, saw the need to make national parks readily accessible by automobile in order to promote their recreational use and create a mass constituency for the National Park System. "Mather's vision embraced a correlated system of superlative scenic areas which should become the

³¹ Strong, *Footprints in Time*, p. 37.

³² 35 Stat. 2132.

³³ Stephen Fox, *The American Conservation Movement: John Muir and His Legacy* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1981), pp. 139-147.

³⁴ Richard West Sellers, *Preserving Nature in the National Parks: A History* (Yale University Press, New Haven, 1997).

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familiar playgrounds of the whole American people," wrote Robert Sterling Yard, a prominent publicist of the national parks, in 1920. "He foresaw in the national parks a new and great national economic asset."³⁵

Congressman John E. Raker of California, who was more instrumental than anyone in the establishment of Lassen Volcanic National Park, exemplifies how preservationists and conservationists were often indistinguishable. Raker worked for legislation to create the National Park Service, and in 1912, he introduced his first bill to establish a "Peter Lassen National Park." Yet he also was a strong supporter of the Forest Service, and in 1913 he voted in favor of authorizing the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. Not surprisingly, Raker's bill contained provisions that would allow grazing use and summer home development to continue within the national park. Personally familiar with the area from his numerous visits to the Drakesbad resort with his family, Raker sought national park designation chiefly to enhance the area's recreational appeal.³⁶

Raker re-introduced bills to establish a national park in 1913 and 1914 but he could not find much support for them in Congress.³⁷ Although he held a seat on the House Public Lands Committee, which oversaw all such national park bills, Raker was unable to make the case that the Lassen Peak region's scenic values were of a quality to warrant national park status. He obtained the support of various local organizations, including the Lassen Highway Association of Susanville, the Oroville Chamber of Commerce, and the Shasta County Promotion and Development Association. Raker also garnered support for the bill from the Department of the Interior, first under the Taft Administration in 1912, and again under the Wilson Administration in 1913. However, the Department of Agriculture, which included the Forest Service, suggested that the proposal should await the establishment of a "Bureau of National Parks."³⁸

The most important objection to the bill came from Acting Secretary of Agriculture B. T. Galloway in January 1914. Galloway provided a summary of the forest resources within the area of the proposed national park, classifying them by forest type and assigning each an estimated volume and value. Whereas Galloway's predecessor in the Taft Administration had commented that the timber was "of poor quality" and could not "be logged for years to come," Galloway made no such disclaimer. More importantly, he emphasized the area's importance to stockmen, and declared that the creation of a national park would "affect at least 12 users of the range and as many ranges would be cut in two." He noted that fencing the area to prevent grazing trespass would be impractical, yet to allow grazing to continue would be unprecedented in a national park, and he insisted that the Forest Service could administer the area satisfactorily in its present status as a national forest.³⁹

In advocating his bill, Raker pointed not just to the area's volcanic features but also to the scenic beauty of its forested mountains, sparkling lakes, and majestic canyons. In addition, he noted that the streams abounded in trout while many of the lakes were stocked, and he observed the area's potential role as a wildlife sanctuary for deer, quail, and grouse. As for its accessibility to visitors, the Southern Pacific Railroad extended up the Upper Sacramento Valley and the Western Pacific Railroad followed the Feather River. From these nearby points the area could be

³⁵ Robert Sterling Yard, *The Book of the National Parks* (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1920), p. 22.

³⁶ Stong, *Footprints in Time*, p. 46.

³⁷ John Ise, *Our National Park Policy: A Critical History* (Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore, 1961), p. 222.

³⁸ U.S. Congress, House, *Lassen Volcanic National Park*, 63rd Cong., 2d sess., Report 1021, 1914, pp. 7-10.

³⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. 4-5.

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reached by several good trails; and wagon roads extended to within eight or ten miles of the proposed southern boundary. An automobile stage for tourists had begun making a regular run from Redding to Manzanita Lake.⁴⁰

Probably Raker would have been unable to distinguish his national park proposal from dozens of others had Lassen Peak not erupted in May 1914. "We have suddenly developed a scenic wonder in northern California that is in a class by itself," wrote one of the campaigners for the national park in June 1914.⁴¹ Lassen Peak was then the only active volcano in the contiguous United States. Combined with the scenic attractions and the variety of volcanic features, the area now possessed the kind of superlative qualities that Congress looked for in establishing national parks.⁴² As Yard would write a few years later, "the national parks are far more than recreational areas. They are the supreme examples. They are the gallery of masterpieces."⁴³

In December 1915, Raker introduced another bill to establish a national park. Emphasizing the recent eruption, the name was changed from Peter Lassen to Lassen Volcanic National Park. After minimal discussion, the bill passed both houses of Congress in July 1916. When Stephen Mather, who had joined the Wilson Administration the previous year as special assistant to Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane, read about the permissive provisions in this legislation, he advised his boss to recommend a veto. Mather was in the final stage of his campaign for legislation to create a National Park Service, and he believed the bill could weaken the National Park System. Secretary Lane, however, did not want to offend Raker, a strong supporter of the national parks. He did not convey Mather's objections to President Wilson, who signed the bill into law on August 9.⁴⁴

In time, the National Park Service was able to remove the objectionable features of Lassen Volcanic National Park's enabling legislation. The park joined an illustrious list of other parks centered around volcanic features: Yellowstone, Mount Rainier, Crater Lake, and Hawaii.

Drakesbad: Site History

"Drake's Place": 1885-1900

Edward R. Drake's migration to Hot Springs Valley is consistent with larger northern California settlement patterns. Drake came west from Maine in the 1860s, mining in the Feather River Country near Bidwell Bar where he earned a sufficient stake to establish a "big" saloon. As the Bidwell Bar placers were exhausted, Drake followed the miners up the Feather River to Big Meadows and Prattville. From Prattville he first ventured to Hot Springs Valley ca. 1875. Roy Sifford would later report that "he did not settle the land or anything, but I think came and went and trapped in there some and made Prattville his winter headquarters." In 1884, Drake filed a cash entry for 160 acres within the S2SE, S2SW of Section 21 Township 30 North Range 5 East, at the head of the Warner Valley and at the heart of the thermal area known as the Devil's Kitchen. In 1885, Drake filed claim to an additional 160-acre

⁴⁰ U.S. Congress, House, *Lassen Volcanic National Park*, 63rd Cong., 2d sess., Report 1021, 1914, p. 7.

⁴¹ U.S. Congress, House, *Lassen Volcanic National Park*, 63rd Cong., 2d sess., Report 1021, 1914, pp. 11-12.

⁴² See Alfred Runte, *National Parks: The American Experience*, 2nd rev. ed. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1987). In this seminal work, Runte argues that "monumentalism" – or the search for freakish and monumental landscapes and geologic features – guided efforts to create national parks. Only later did the preservation of whole ecosystems and ecological processes inform national park establishment. The campaign to establish Lassen Volcanic National Park clearly fits Runte's thesis.

⁴³ Yard, *The Book of the National Parks*, p. 20.

⁴⁴ Robert Shankland, *Steve Mather of the National Parks* (Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1954), pp. 170-171.

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Homestead within the NWSE, N2SW, SWSW of Section 22, land incorporating a large natural meadow. Receipt of patent proved slow as Drake found it "extremely difficult to obtain the attendance of witnesses for the reason that his nearest neighbor resides about 17 miles away." By 1894, however, Drake had improved the rough wagon road, easing passage along those 17 miles, and had successfully secured the help of witness L. W. Bunnell of Prattville. Bunnell described grazing land, located at too high an elevation to allow cultivation beyond the 20 acres planted to timothy hay; a dwelling house; a barn; "fencing surrounding the land [planted to timothy]"; and snow sufficiently deep to "drive [Drake] away for two or three months every winter." Drake echoed Brunell's testimony: "Every winter during deep snows and storms I come to Big Meadows with my stock to feed."⁴⁵

Ultimately, Drake owned 400 acres, secured through purchase and government patent.⁴⁶ From this base, historian Douglas Strong reports, Drake "herded livestock, acted as a guide, and provided limited services to the campers he allowed on his property."⁴⁷ Darrell Conard of the *Chester Chatter*, a local newspaper, remembered:

Mr. Drake had a good large pasture all fenced and sometimes there would be as many as 100 head of horses there as people would drive in from the Sacramento Valley to camp in order to escape the heat of the summer and enjoy the wonders of the area.⁴⁸

These campers included ailing Susanville teacher Alexander Sifford who in 1900 visited "Drake's Place" in hopes of finding a cure in the mineral waters of the hot springs. Of his journey along the "old Red Bluff road" to Chester Sifford later remembered holes two feet deep and rocks as big as washtubs: "Over this rough road, the courageous pioneer prodded and goaded his bony oxen...loaded with freight." At Chester, Sifford found respite at Bert Johnson's, "a stopping place for teamsters, travelers, and tourists." From Chester to Drake's, Sifford "fought his way through brush and bogs" along a "dim" route. Settlement was limited to the Guscetti dairy – "an old log cabin and a lot of milk pans out on a rack" – and the "Kelly Place" – "half a score of boys and girls, about evenly divided, with their mother, starting a home in the wilderness."⁴⁹

Sifford continued west three miles beyond the Kelly's, "through brush and trees, fallen logs, and up the hills," until he came to two "rude buildings...on the edge of a small meadow mostly covered with willow": Drake's Place. The two rude buildings included Drake's small log cabin and a larger log building constructed as a hotel and as yet unfinished. Additional buildings included two latrines and a crude four-bath hot-spring "plunge."⁵⁰ Hot Springs

⁴⁵ Homestead Proof – Testimony of Claimant (Edward R. Drake), Homestead Entry 2206; Final Certificate 1842. Serial Patent Files National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), College Park, Maryland.

⁴⁶ In addition to the 160 acre Cash Entry and the 160 acre Additional Homestead, Drake purchased 80 acres from the State of California, within the SE ¼ SE ¼ and SW ¼ SE ¼ Section 22, T30N R5E. Deed Book 28, p. 128, Office of the Clerk and Recorder, Plumas County Courthouse, Quincy, California.

⁴⁷ Douglas Hillman Strong, *These Happy Grounds. A History of the Lassen Region* (National Park Service and Loomis Museum Association, 1973), p. 24.

⁴⁸ Quoted in "Tape 5," p. 2.

⁴⁹ Alexander Sifford to Harry Robinson, Park Naturalist, February 14, 1946, File: History, LAVO Collection, WACC, pp. 1-4. Peter Guscetti homesteaded 160 acres within the SE of Section 30, T30N R6E in 1892 and received title to the claim two years later. James Kelly homesteaded 160 acres, also within Section 30 T30N R6E, in 1894 and his widow Anne Kelly received title in 1905. Serial Patent Files, NARA, College Park, Maryland.

⁵⁰ Drake's latrines were described as built of boards, "a good carpentry job...the old fashioned two holers and had nice sugar pine board seats" (Roy Sifford interviewed by Les Bodine, no date [July 1987], p. 2.). Drake's bathhouse, built on the north side

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Creek ran through the meadow providing Drake, a fisherman, "with much pleasure as well as part of his food supply." Drake's horse Tyler grazed in the near meadow and cattle grazed in the more distant meadows to the south, nearer Willow Lake.⁵¹

At the conclusion of his week-long sojourn, Sifford secured an option for purchase.⁵² He and his family – wife Ida, daughter Pearl (age 9), and son Roy (age 7) – returned within the month, intent on making a living not by raising livestock but by developing a rustic tourist resort – "Drakes' Baths" or, ultimately, Drakesbad.⁵³ For almost 60 years, the Siffords managed and improved the land base initially patented and purchased by Drake, with one important exception: in 1901 Alexander Sifford purchased 40 acres containing most of Boiling Springs Lake from the State of California, for a total land base of 440 acres.⁵⁴

"A Big Campground": 1900-1912

Roy Sifford would later describe the early years of Sifford ownership as "a time of root hog or die... We all worked all day, as much as we could."⁵⁵ From 1900 until 1912, the Siffords – like Drake before them – "ran a big campground." During the summer of 1905, for example, over 600 campers signed the summer register. Those who signed the register, however, represented less than half, Sifford estimated, of the total number of visitors who braved the rough road through the Warner Valley and pitched their tents in the open meadow. Here they found "fishing and hunting and hot baths and sheep/horse pasture and they just stayed on and on" (many sustained, Roy Sifford often adds, by Ida Sifford's good cooking).⁵⁶ All arrived by horseback – "mudholes made it impossible" for a car to traverse the Warner Valley Road – and their horses filled the pasture. More formal accommodations were limited to two canvas tent cabins and to the three bedrooms available in Drake's "big house," which the Siffords rented to

of the stream and replaced in 1905, was built of hand hewn timbers, split cedar shakes and square iron nails. Each of four separate rooms contained a wooden bath built of sugar pine boards hauled from Greenville. A hollowed out tamarack (larch) pole carried hot water from a ditch across the creek to a second long pole (the "hot water tank") that extended along the back (south) wall of the bath house. Four sluice boxes connected the tank to the baths: "you pulled out the stopper and the hot water poured in abundance!" (Sifford, *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*, p. 9).

⁵¹ Alexander Sifford to Robinson, pp. 3-5.

⁵² Title to the 400 acre parcel was formally conveyed at the conclusion of the 1900 season, on September 28, 1900. Deed Book 28, p. 128, Office of the Clerk and Recorder, Plumas County Courthouse, Quincy, California.

⁵³ From the time of Drake's arrival until ca. 1900 the valley was known locally as Hot Springs Valley or "Drake's Place." This convention continued until 1908 when the Siffords embarked on the first extensive advertising campaign and needed a name. Mrs. Jules Alexander, long-time guest and wife of Sifford's "main financial sponsor" and holder of the mortgage, suggested "Drakesbad." As reported by Roy Sifford: "Mrs. Alexander said, 'Why don't you name the place Drakesbad? You have the baths and you want to keep the name and rights to it,' and so Drakesbad it became. They, the Alexanders, had visited Europe the previous year, stopping...in Baden Baden and I think the baths, and the idea came to her from that visit and she thought it would apply to our beautiful valley in Hot Springs Valley." (Roy Sifford, interviewed by Les Bodine, "Tape 2," no date p. 3 (transcript on file at the LAVO resource office, Mineral, CA.) The name Drakesbad is used throughout the following text.

⁵⁴ Certificate of Purchase, SE ¼ NE ¼ Section 27, T30N R5E, State of California to Alexander Sifford, October 9, 1901, Deed Book 31, p. 374, Office of the Clerk and Recorder, Plumas County Courthouse, Quincy, California.

⁵⁵ Sifford, July 7, 1987, p. 1.

⁵⁶ Tape 2, pp. 1-3.

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guests while they slept in a tent erected on the site of the present dining room. Drake's big house also served as the central lobby.⁵⁷

Improvements during these early years were limited to Drake's original cabin (use unknown); Drake's big house (known also as the lodge); a wood-lined "plunge" (or pool) built in 1904; the men's and a women's latrine built by Drake and located north and west of the present primary building cluster; less-formal toilet pits built by the Siffords;⁵⁸ two tent cabins; and an expanded network of pasture and corral fencing, built of cedar posts and pickets. Meat and dairy products, from the Siffords' small herd of dairy cattle and from neighbors' cattle, were kept cool in a "Mexican Style meat house," described by Sifford as "a box like conveyor with little holes all around the edges of the top which would help water run down gunny sacks or burlap." (Drakesbad would not boast of electric-power refrigeration until many years later. Guests remember evening "ice cream rides" down the road to the Kellys where Emma Kelly "would provide the public with its favorite desert."⁵⁹) None of these "first generation" resources remain on site.

Though ice might have been in short supply, water was not. In 1902, after two years of hauling water from the creek or suffering the frogs in Drake's shallow open well, the Siffords and crew began digging a long ditch from a natural cold spring on the south slope of Flat Iron Ridge 1,200 yards to a fifty-gallon whisky barrel tank set near the big house. The project was completed in 1903, with the addition of ¾" steel pipe and construction of a flume to carry the pipe across the narrow canyon at the base of the ridge.⁶⁰

Consistently, Roy Sifford included the Warner Valley Road and recreational trails in his list of improvements; they were as central to the success of the operation as the buildings. The road, built by Drake ca. 1880, was narrow, rocky, prone to slides, and contained two creek fords, at Warner and Kings creeks. In 1904 the Siffords, armed with pick, axe, crow bar, and an old plow, widened and smoothed the surface "so our guests could get here."⁶¹ (The first automobile to successfully navigate the rough road arrived after dark one evening during the summer of 1907; the Siffords, awakened by flashes of light through the trees and by a strange roar, supposed at first that Cinder Cone was erupting. The truth was only slightly less surprising: a large Stevens Duryea, "green with lots of brass," carrying the five owners of the Oro Light and Power Company, all hungry and tired, in search of dinner and a room. "Our roadwork was paying off!" Roy Sifford remembered with satisfaction.⁶²)

Despite these improvements, wagons remained the primary means of access to Drakesbad for the Siffords and their guests until 1912 when "twelve years of travel by teams and wagons [got] to be an old story and pretty

⁵⁷ Tape 2, p. 1.

⁵⁸ These outhouses were distinctly informal and temporary: "for the campers up and down the stream we built four different restroom laces, two out of boards and two out of logs that we stood on end, put a roof on them and put in the seats" (Roy Sifford interviewed by Les Bodine, no date [July 1987], p. 2.).

⁵⁹ Sifford, *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*, p. xv.

⁶⁰ Sifford, *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*, pp. 22, 26.

⁶¹ Sifford, *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*, p. 30.

⁶² Tape 2, pp. 1-2.

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slow." Alex and Ida purchased a Ford on which they hauled "everything, from sewer pipes to cases of eggs to calves, cattle and everything possible to pile on."⁶³

Saddle trails led to the Devil's Kitchen (with a later fork to Dream Lake); Drake Lake; Boiling Springs Lake; Terminal Geyser and Willow Lake; and over the Golden Stairs, past Soda Springs, to Flat Iron Ridge and then beyond to Cinder Cone (north), or Grassy Lake (east).

The pasture and camping area first used by Drake is thought to have extended south and east of the current building cluster. Today's 50-acre meadow extending west of the building complex, within the center of Section 22, took form over the course of long summers of hard labor: "the Lord did not make that meadow" Sifford reported. Instead the Siffords found a natural swamp, "thick with willows," that they drained with an elaborate system of drainage ditches, grubbed with axe and hoe, and regularly reseeded to timothy hay. Years later, land appraisers would describe this meadow "as very unlike other areas... The meadow is very large and the water situation is such that there is always an abundance [of grass]. The meadow is not damaged by this number of cattle [150 cattle for a three month season] and year after year it is our opinion that it will be available, in the same condition... The meadow does not only take care of the cattle, but at the time we were there, they had 18 head of horses, used as saddle stock and they also used the meadow. They fed no grain or hay and they were in excellent condition. This is not usual."⁶⁴

Additional chores in those years of root hog or die were more mundane but as demanding. During the height of the summer, as many as 40 trail riders would request sack lunches, lunches often made with canned goods put up by Ida Sifford during the fall and winter months spent in Susanville.⁶⁵ The Siffords also sold baths to visitors, \$.25 per person in the early years, escalating to \$.50 by the 1910s – soap and a towel included. The soap was handmade, and the towels hand washed, as were the sheets and pillowcases from the few rented rooms. The heat of July and August, Sifford remembered, drove Valley residents "out by the dozen... And they just stayed and they took baths. We were forever washing."⁶⁶ This laborious process finally ended with the Siffords' purchase of a truck and completion of the requisite improvements to the Warner Valley Road: in 1914 the Siffords first contracted with a laundry service, driving two or three times a week to Westwood and to Chester, hauling laundry.⁶⁷

Birth of a National Park

The extent of travel to this isolated valley would ultimately prove significant to the larger region as the Siffords hosted not only vacationers, but also California dignitaries and conservationists who later were instrumental in the establishment of Lassen Volcanic National Park. In 1908, in the lobby of Drake's "big house," Mrs. Efreem Spencer, wife of a California State Senator, and mother-in-law of future California congressman John E. Raker, said "we ought to make this beautiful part of our country into a national park." The Siffords circulated a petition, finding nearly unanimous support among their guests and substantial dissent from their immediate neighbors ("fortunately or unfortunately, the stockmen surrounding us did not much care for the Forest Service and none of them would sign a

⁶³ Tape 2, p. 2.

⁶⁴ Tape 3, no date [1986], p. 1; James A. Hopper to Raymond E. Hoyt, Assistant Regional Director, NPS, November 12, 1952. File 1425, Western Archaeological and Conservation Center (WACC), Tucson, Arizona.

⁶⁵ Roy Sifford interviewed by Les Bodine, June 24, 1988, p. 3.

⁶⁶ Sifford, June 24, 1988, p. 3.

⁶⁷ Sifford, June 24, 1988, p. 1.

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petition... They already had too much government regulation.") While the concerns and protests of stockmen would in large part define the public debate surrounding creation of the park (and would substantially influence boundary decisions), they proved insufficient to stop park designation. Raker's exploratory tours of the region were initiated from Drakesbad, the nearest accommodations to Lassen Peak and "road's end" for those approaching the peak by automobile. On March 26th, 1912 Raker introduced HR52, a bill for the establishment of Peter Lassen National Park. After years of political wrangling – years highlighted by the spectacular 1914 and 1915 eruptions of Lassen Peak and renewed interest by the public and scientific community – Congress established Lassen Volcanic National Park in August 1916 (See Conservation Context, associated Multiple Property Cover Form).

Drakesbad Resort – Years of expansion 1912-1920

With sources of income limited to an occasional saddle-horse trip,⁶⁸ an occasional meal, and a cheap bath, the Siffords, by 1912, found themselves unable to pay their mortgage: "[We] had run a free campground, built the roads and the trails and constantly serving [sic] hundreds of people and were gradually going broke."⁶⁹ They determined that the valley's spectacular beauty could be "made to pay" only if they were able to attract a "quality clientele." Roy Sifford remembered:

Many papers were drawn up with Alexander Sifford, Ida Mae Sifford, Jules Alexander and Ray Alexander [who held the mortgage] and Mr. Brandilla a new manager from the Feather River and other hotels who was to be the active manager, all having stock, to the extent and total of 200,000 dollars, the property and accommodations were to be upgraded for a quality clientele. The campers simply never spent much. Hot baths, bottled soda water [from Soda Springs], improve the roads and trails and horses and rent it as a resort, no longer a free campground and, in fact, not a campground at all, because there were hundreds of spots down the road between Drakesbad and the Kellys with spring and water and dozens of camping spots. It's true those camping spots wouldn't get the service of the Sifford family but there were plenty of camping spots for those who wanted to camp.⁷⁰

Over the course of the next three years, the Siffords, Alexanders, and Brandilla, newly incorporated as the Drakes Springs Company, built a family home for the Siffords (later used as the "cook house"; torn down in 1970); a new barn (torn down in 1969); approximately 20 wooden tent platforms for canvas-walled tents ("hay floors would no longer do"); a kitchen; a canvas-roofed dining room connected to the kitchen (replaced by a wooden one-and-one-half story structure in the 1930s, destroyed in the winter of 1951-52 and again replaced in 1952); and a new stone-and-wood lined plunge pool (replaced in 1961). The buildings were roofed with shakes split on site. Furniture included the homemade – chairs and beds constructed of larch poles and makeshift mattresses filled with grass cut from the meadow – and the store bought, including the canvas-and-pole deck chairs that lined the porch of the big house.⁷¹

⁶⁸ Tape 2. In 1911, the Siffords charged \$1.50 per day per pack horse.

⁶⁹ Tape 2, p. 8.

⁷⁰ Tape 2, p. 8.

⁷¹ Tape 3, no date [1986], p. 2. These same, or similar, chairs, would later be used at the cottages and on the lodge porch. See, for example, photograph "cottages" [no number], "lodge and entrance road," "old lodge," J.M. Eastman photographer, Eastman's Originals Collection, Department of Special Collections, University of California, Davis.

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Even as construction progressed on the guest ranch facilities, the Siffords played host to geologists, vulcanologists, National Park Service officials and congressmen. The latter government officials were initially involved in appraising the region's worth as a national park unit and also participating in park planning studies.⁷²

"The Saddlehorse Years" – 1921-1927

By 1927, the Lassen Peak Highway reached the base of the mountain, but prior to that date Drakesbad marked the termination of the only road to approach Lassen Peak. The impact on Drakesbad was substantial. Sifford remembered,

from 1921 until 1927 the saddle horse business from Drakesbad really boomed. The war was over. There was lots of travel. They wanted to climb Lassen Peak and the nearest place to it by car was Drakesbad. Our local guests all went to Mt. Lassen and people from all over the darn country drove in [asking] 'Could we go to Mt. Lassen?' Many days we sent as many as 30 saddle horses out of the corrals at Drakesbad all headed for Mt. Lassen.⁷³

Saddle stock and livestock facilities increased accordingly, to a maximum of 30 head of stock and a horse compound containing a barn with attached tack shed, a horse shed, and corral. (Both the barn and horse shed have been removed in the modern period.) Saddle stock grazed in the meadow, in company, in later years, with the ranch cattle.⁷⁴

Upon completion of the Lassen Peak Highway, "Lassen Peak was open to all by car." Manzanita Lake Lodge, at the north end of the road, was built in response and was soon the park's largest tourist facility. In contrast to its earlier standing as the center of park activity, Drakesbad would become known "as the place to go if you aren't

⁷² Beginning ca. 1920, park service officials debated the merits of a through road between Summit Lake and either the Warner Valley or Juniper Lake, effectively linking the east and west halves of the park, providing a third main entrance to the park, "add[ing] to the travel season by providing a road through the Park with a connection with the Loop Highway north of and some 1500 feet below the elevation of the Loop road at Lassen Peak," and opening "well-forested country" to visitor travel – country that would stand in welcome contrast to the "rugged volcanic and glaciated" area opened by the Lassen Peak Highway. The road was never built, a response to inadequate funding, the high cost and difficulty of purchasing private inholdings along the road course, and concerns – voiced most importantly by Stephen Mather and Horace Albright – that there was "insufficient justification for thus encroaching on the wilderness area on the east side of the park." These surveys were initiated from Drakesbad. Merel S. Sager, Assistant Landscape Architect, to Thomas Vint, October 22, 1930, Landscape Architect Reports, Lassen Volcanic National Park 1929-1930, File 630, Box 61, RG 79, NARA San Bruno; Frank A. Kittredge, Regional Director, to John C. Preston, Superintendent, November 11, 1937, File 630, Box 61, RG 79, NARA San Bruno; Strong, *Footprints in Time*, pp. 61-63.

⁷³ Tape 5, p. 3. Roy Sifford suggests that the Siffords contracted on occasion with both the Lees and the Kellys, who operated guide services from their ranches near the head of Warner Valley, just outside the park, for horses and guides. From 1912 until 1921, the Siffords kept an average of 10-12 horses in their stable. That number more than doubled in the 1920s to an average of 30 horses.

⁷⁴ See, for example, photograph B-5387, J.M. Eastman photographer, Eastman's Originals Collection, Department of Special Collections, University of California, Davis. Also, James A. and Richard R. Hopper, "Appraisal of Sifford Properties in Lassen Volcanic National Park," July 15, 1952 in unaccessioned historic material, LAVO numeric files, Headquarters, Mineral, California.

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looking for people."⁷⁵ Longtime guests during these restful years described an idyllic experience of summer days filled with hiking, fishing, swimming, bon fires, music ("accordion, guitar, fiddle and many times just plain good old singing festivities"), trail rides during the day, and hot dog rides at night. (Of the hot dog rides, Sifford remembered "if [the guests] could ride the sixteen miler, it was off to Juniper Lake. If they could ride some, we would go to Sifford Lakes, but mostly we went to Willow Lake... We would leave Drakesbad around four in the afternoon and return around ten in the evening." See photo, Additional Documentation.) More formal meals were eaten in the canvas-roofed dining room, where guests found "salad, choice of entrée, choice of dessert," all served on white linen, with "shiny glass and mother's silver" (see photo, additional documentation).⁷⁶

In 1932, to provide additional recreational opportunities, the Siffords built Dream Lake. On the site of a "swampy pothole" drained on one side by a stream of "some consequence" (tributary to Hot Springs Creek) the family cut the trees, blew up the stumps, and built a 250' long levee, varying in height from 6' to 16'. "Our idea was to keep it full of fish so the children and most anyone could go over there and catch a fish."⁷⁷ Over the years, beaver as well as floods threatened the structural integrity of the earthen fill dam. Every spring and again every fall, Sifford and guests would clear out the beaver dams at the spillway of the lake in an effort to reduce the water pressure on the dam.⁷⁸

A placemat from the Drakesbad dining room, dated 1959 yet depicting a world of experiences and views developed and promoted a generation earlier, prominently displays Devil's Kitchen to the northwest, Drake Lake and Dream Lake to the west, Terminal Geyser and Boiling Springs Lake (with its spectacular view of Lassen Peak) to the southwest, Indian Rock to the southeast⁷⁹ – together defining the near limits of the Drakesbad world. Trails to the Head of the Valley, Lassen Peak, and Kings Creek extend from Drakesbad beyond the placemat borders, promising additional adventures beyond. Soda Springs, Hot Springs Creek, and the campfire circle in front of the lodge are dramatically oversized within the expanse of open meadow, true to their importance to the place. Horseback riders are shown leaving the corral, heading to unknown points west, while a teenage boy gleefully catches a whopper of a fish and more sedentary guests lounge by the hot water pool. Kerosene lanterns, rustic antidotes to the modern world the guests had left behind, are prominently displayed in the upper right hand corner.⁸⁰

⁷⁵ Dorr Yeager, "National Parks in California," *A Sunset Travel Book* (Menlo Park California: Lane Book Company, 1964), p. 92.

⁷⁶ Sifford, June 24, 1988, p. 4.

⁷⁷ Tape 4, p. 12. The Siffords stocked Dream Lake and NPS officials stocked tributary streams.

⁷⁸ Tape 4, p. 6.

⁷⁹ Indian Rock is a massive boulder, approximately 30' x 40' and over 20' high, located adjacent to the Warner Valley Road, 300 yards east of the present lodge. Soon after their arrival at Drake's Place, the Sifford children discovered human bones (as identified by their father) on top of the rock. Roy Sifford interviewed by Les Bodine, July 7, 1987, p. 1. Transcript on file at LAVO.

⁸⁰ Tape 5, p. 4; Sifford, *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*, pp. 110-112. See also John Pelkan, "Introduction," and Nancy Carruthers Rorty, "Foreward," in *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*, pp. iii-xxi.

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The Big Snow and Reconstruction: 1938

On December 9-11, 1937 a region-wide, unprecedented storm dropped 15 inches of rain, on existing snowpack, in 48 hours.⁸¹ Area streams raged at flood stage for nearly a week. The extreme weather continued for the duration of the winter, with rain turning to massive quantities of snow: 280.7" of snow were recorded at Lake Helen in April, 1938, significantly exceeding the 15-year average and delaying opening of the Lassen Peak Highway until July, a full month later than the previous years.⁸² At Drakesbad, a record 20' was recorded. The flood in December took out the Dream Lake Dam. The snow that followed destroyed Drake's "big house" and the storeroom, which was filled with linens and horse tack. Four cottages, built in 1936, "just sort of popped," their roof structures unable to withstand the snow's massive weight. Corrals and fences also collapsed. Both the Warner Creek and Kings Creek bridges were washed out and the Warner Valley Road was extensively damaged at the crossings. (Of the Warner Creek crossing Sifford stated "the entire stream had been changed; and the country on both sides had really been torn out. The entire back roads were worn, the stream itself was running a torrent five feet deep to 30 or 40 feet wide.") The "old log barn built in the early days" (ca. 1914) withstood the snow, as did the cook house and the kitchen with its steep roof and "seasoned and tough" Tamarack-pole rafters.⁸³

By the 1930s, ownership of Sifford holdings within the park had been transferred to Roy and Pearl, and Roy had assumed responsibility for management and operation of Drakesbad Resort. The choices presented by the winter of 1938 were largely his. He would later remember that he "personally, was for closing up the hotel part of the business and quitting that resort business... There were lots of other things to do. We could log..., we could subdivide it, and get a lot of money."⁸⁴ The impulse, however, appears to have been fleeting and Sifford was easily persuaded by his parents' ardent wishes that he rebuild. The Siffords gathered \$40,000 in savings, gifts from friends, and second mortgages. By June 20, 1938, barely a month after Warner Creek began to recede from flood state, the Plumas County road crew, led by Sifford's "good friend Blackman," had the road open ("a super effort of men and big machinery," Sifford later exhorted, "Hail to Blackman!"). That same day, two Red River Lumber Co. trucks rumbled across the new bridges, en-route to Drakesbad with a load of heavy timbers and milled lumber. The Red River Lumber Company's head carpenter, Mike Pappas, followed the trucks and would lead a crew of 30 men on construction of a new lodge. A stonemason from Westwood, known to Sifford only as "Spencer," built the massive stone chimney of rocks from the adjacent hillside and from the Cinder Cone area. The massive 20' metal flue from Drake's "big house" was reused, albeit with an 8' extension, and the front porch – where stories were most often told, music most often made, afternoons most often wiled away – so closely matches the style and feel of Drake's big house that the similarities must have been deliberate.⁸⁵ The lodge was completed on June 30 – "from foundation to tip of the fireplace in NINE DAYS" – the beds moved in, and the first of the season's guests admitted: "thus the finish to the disaster of '37 and '38."⁸⁶ (Historic photographs show that this building was unpainted, did not feature a porch

⁸¹ George W. Reed, Associate Engineer, "Final Report Emergency Construction, Account 603."

⁸² Lassen Superintendent to the Regional Director, Region 4, "Spring Snow Removal, 1936-1952," July 17, 1952, File 504, Box 53, NARA San Bruno.

⁸³ Roy Sifford interviewed by Les Bodine, Oct. 17, 1987, *passim*.

⁸⁴ Sifford, Oct. 17, 1987, p. 4.

⁸⁵ See, for example, photograph "Old Lodge," (no number), J.M. Eastman photographer, Eastman's Originals Collection, Department of Special Collections, University of California, Davis.

⁸⁶ Sifford, Oct. 17, 1987, pp. 5-9.

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safety rail, and was built on a rubble-stone foundation unmasked by skirting – all in contrast to its current condition.)⁸⁷

With the new lodge open, the Siffords turned to less critical repairs, including construction of a new storage building and reconstruction of the four cottages, corrals, fences, and the Dream Lake Dam. The process would be repeated, albeit at a more-minor (and less expensive) scale in 1952 following yet another season of exceptional snow loads. Site modifications associated with this later storm included construction of the current dining room (connected to the ca. 1914 kitchen) and yet another reconstruction of the Dream Lake Dam.⁸⁸

The War Years – S-Bar Brand: 1942-1946

Sifford writes, "On December 7, 1941 the bombing of Pearl Harbor and World War II would significantly change our operations." Most significantly, rationing of rubber and gasoline would reduce vacation travel⁸⁹ and the US military's voracious appetite for meat would increase the need for and price of beef cattle. The Siffords owned their grazing land in fee simple and quickly turned to beef production: "we have all that feed in our valley going to waste, we better get some cattle and raise what meat we can."⁹⁰ (Elsewhere in the Lassen region, area cattlemen agitated for special-use permits to graze on park lands, identifying beef production as central to the war effort and branding the park service "unpatriotic" for its strict adherence to grazing restrictions.⁹¹)

By the summer of 1942, 100 cows and calves, branded with the newly registered S-Bar brand, had been driven up the Warner Creek Road to graze on Sifford land. Infrastructure built in association with this transition to ranching appears to have been limited to construction of fencing and a large corral (location unknown) where cattle were sorted before being trucked to market or driven to winter range, located first on lease land in the Sacramento Valley and later on deeded land at Paynes Creek.⁹²

Modification to the resort complex during these years appears to have been equally limited: Sifford mentions only widening of the trails to Devil's Kitchen, Boiling Springs Lake, and the meadow "circle trail" making it possible for riders to ride two abreast.⁹³

⁸⁷ See, for example, photograph B-1828, J.M. Eastman photographer, Eastman's Originals Collection, Department of Special Collections, University of California, Davis. Copy provided to HRA by Tandy Bozeman.

⁸⁸ Tape 4, no date [1986], p. 5. The dam washed out again in the flood of 1952. Of the 1952 breach Sifford reported "I got my friend...to take his two big dump trucks...load them up in Chester, drive up our road, cross Hot Springs Creek, and fill in the break in that dam. It took him about ten minutes to make the fill because he had brought the dirt, the gravel and rocks from Chester" (Tape 4, no date [1986], p. 5).

⁸⁹ While the Siffords saw no appreciable drop in hotel guests during the war years, the number of day visitors dropped sharply. Sifford, *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*, p. 103

⁹⁰ Alex Sifford, quoted in Sifford, *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*, p. 103.

⁹¹ See File 900.01 [1944], Box 73, LAVO Collection, WACC.

⁹² Sifford, *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*, pp. 102-110.

⁹³ Sifford, *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*, p. 105.

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Peak Development and Sale to the National Park Service: 1952-1959

Since park creation in 1916, privately owned lands within the boundaries of the park – "inholdings" – were determined by park service officials to present "obstacle[s] to sound planning and desirable use" and to pose the threat of private development (building construction, commercial operations, Christmas-tree harvest, cattle grazing) conducted beyond park service control and counter to the park service development plan. Even those lands in friendly hands or non-objectionable use – such as Drakesbad – presented the continual possibility of acquisition by "big interests" committed to "major commercial non-desirable use." Moreover, if located in scenic areas or along primary travel corridors they tended to thwart the park service's own development plans and to complicate the master planning effort. "The ultimate influence of a privately owned area upon the surrounding country might involve many serious problems," an NPS planning committee warned ca. 1926.⁹⁴ Twenty years later, park administrators would echo that first warning: inholdings "at Sulphur Works, Warner Valley [Drakesbad], Juniper Lake, and Hat Creek control some of the finest exhibits of thermal activity in the park or lie squarely in the path of logical physical development."⁹⁵

While acquisition of these inholdings had long been an administrative priority, willing sellers and available funds rarely coalesced and determination of fair market often proved elusive. The appraisal effort, the park service acknowledged, was complicated by the difficulty of assigning a monetary value to the sentimental worth inherent in property homesteaded and developed by one family and by the difficulty of judging the monetary value inherent in leisure, recreation, and scenic beauty. (In 1938, for example, when asked to identify the fair-market value of his land, Roy Sifford replied "What is the Boiling Lake worth? What is the Devil's Kitchen worth? These things are *mother nature's Classics* and it is very hard to value them from a bread and butter standpoint."⁹⁶) Moreover, during the Great Depression of the 1930s, when some land owners proved willing to sell, the park service found itself perennially short of funds authorized for land purchase.⁹⁷ At Lassen Volcanic National Park, this deficit matched that of the 1910s and 1920s, when the nascent park's budget was limited, and that of the 1940s, when wartime emergency measures restricted non-essential federal purchases. Not until the 1950s would park officials report significant success in the purchase program, success highlighted by the 1953 purchase of Drakesbad Resort.⁹⁸

In 1951 the park service informed Sifford of its "high interest in acquiring Drakesbad" and included Drakesbad in its list of priority acquisitions.⁹⁹ Years later, Sifford described a "take over" process that he proved unable to stop: "the park... wanted our land and continued with their plans to take us over."¹⁰⁰ Park correspondence,

⁹⁴ NPS Education Committee, "Interpretive Prospectus," p. 11.

⁹⁵ "Annual Report, 1946" [Return to Normal from War Condition]. Unaccessioned Historic Material, LAVO, no page.

⁹⁶ Sifford to George McDow, Jr., Leonard Realty Co. Susanville, December 20, 1938, in unaccessioned historic material, LAVO numeric files, Headquarters, Mineral, California.

⁹⁷ Arno B. Cammerer to Ervie A. Ferris, November 21, 1932, file: L (Inholdings), LAVO Central Files, Mineral, California.

⁹⁸ See "Land" file, Unaccessioned Historic Material, LAVO.

⁹⁹ "Master Plan Development Outline, Lassen Volcanic National Park, California – Land Status," February 1952, p. 2. Document on file at the NPS Denver Service Center Technical Information Center (TIC), Denver, Colorado.

¹⁰⁰ Sifford, *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*, p. 128.

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however, suggests that NPS officials believed that Sifford, "getting on in years," was finally "prepared to sell" and that negotiations proceeded in good faith and ultimately benefited all parties.¹⁰¹

In 1952, when James and Richard Hopper, of the real estate firm Wakefield and Hopper, conducted an appraisal of Drakesbad Resort they identified 28 buildings and structures, including the lodge (1938), the dining hall (1958), and kitchen (1938). (Hopper and Hopper dated the kitchen to 1938.¹⁰⁵ This appears to be in error: Sifford reports that the kitchen survived the winter of 1938 and historic photographs indicate that the original one-story kitchen was not replaced by the current two-story structure until sometime after 1945 and before 1952.) Additional buildings identified by Hopper and Hopper included a duplex of unknown age; a duplex foundation, complete with plumbing and septic tank; four tent platforms; a bathhouse (1914); a swimming pool (1914); a hay barn (1914); a storage shed immediately adjacent to the hay barn; a horse shed; two public toilets; four cottages (1936); cook's quarters/original Sifford residence (ca. 1914); and a storage building (1938).¹⁰² Building contents included tack, linen, silver, bedding, etc., sufficient for 50 guests, while additional improvements included adequate sewage facilities (septic tanks) and a "very good" domestic water supply. These improvements, many approaching their life expectancy, were determined a relatively insignificant component of the total property value, value that lay in the land's aesthetic and its recreation potential: "it is our considered opinion that the land [value] will remain the same and not be depleted after the useful life of the buildings has expired." Additional minor value was found in the land's marketable timber. The total appraised value of the 440 acres and all improvements was placed at \$285,324.80.¹⁰³

Sifford protested, arguing that the timber value greatly exceeded the Hopper brothers' estimate and noting that the brothers did not visit Devil's Kitchen, Boiling Lake, the grove of cedars just west of the Devil's Kitchen, or Lost Promise Falls – places of inestimable value.¹⁰⁴ Despite frustration with the park service offer and increased impatience with park service officials (and despite offers from the Red River Lumber Company, Collins Pine Company, and from those who wished to subdivide the valley), in 1953 Roy and Pearl agreed to sell their land (Drakesbad and isolated parcels at Twin Lake and Hat Creek) to the National Park Service for \$325,000.¹⁰⁵ Ida Sifford had extracted a promise from him – "Sonny, don't ever let them cut our big beautiful trees."¹⁰⁶ Sifford kept that promise, hoping, he said, "that it would be for the good of all."¹⁰⁷

¹⁰¹ Master Plan Development Outline, Lassen Volcanic National Park, California – Land Status," February 1952, p. 2; Conrad L. Wirth to Horace M. Albright, January 30, 1953, File L2223, WACC.

¹⁰² Tape 3, no date [1986], p. 2; James A. and Richard R. Hopper, "Appraisal of Sifford Properties in Lassen Volcanic National Park."

¹⁰³ James A. and Richard R. Hopper, "Appraisal of Sifford Properties in Lassen Volcanic National Park," p. 13. The total value assigned all Sifford property in the park, including detached parcels at Twin Lakes and Hat Creek, was \$326,324.80.

¹⁰⁴ Sifford, *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*, p. 128. The appraisal was further hampered by more prosaic difficulties. The Hoopers reported that "Mr. Sifford did not have any books and was unable to furnish us with an operating statement, because of this it was necessary to estimate the amount of gross income from figures supplied as to rates, number of accommodations, and percent of occupancy" (Assistant Regional Director to Director, November 20, 1952, File: L2223 LAVO, Western Archaeological and Conservation Center [WACC], Tucson, Arizona).

¹⁰⁵ Conrad L. Wirth to Horace M. Albright, January 30, 1953, File L2223, WACC.

¹⁰⁶ Sifford, *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*, p. 122.

¹⁰⁷ Sifford, *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*, p. 122; Tape 4, p. 4.

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Sifford removed himself from day-to-day operations the summer of 1952, when control and management responsibilities were contracted to the park service concessioner, yet he remained on site and responsible for the saddle-horses.¹⁰⁸ Sale proceedings with the park service were initiated in 1953 and in October 1958, Sifford received the final "piece meal" check associated with the sale.¹⁰⁹ He reserved a two-acre parcel, without improvements, in fee simple.¹¹⁰ By the fall of 1959, Sifford "no longer had a saddle, a horse, or a cow." He left the beautiful valley with a "heavy heart" yet trusting that he left it in good hands.¹¹¹

¹⁰⁸ Tape 4, pp. 4, 6.

¹⁰⁹ Tape 4, pp. 5, 9.

¹¹⁰ Footnote proposed [failed] 3-party trade.

¹¹¹ Tape 4, p. 9.

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10. Geographical data, continued

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	10	634111	4478325
B	10	635472	4478376
C	10	635640	4477588
D	10	632506	4477471
E	10	632490	4477990
F	10	634131	4477990
G	10	635808	4477497
H	10	635914	4477263
I	10	636067	4477299
J	10	636199	4476943
K	10	635599	4477131
L	10	636107	4477156
M	10	636077	4476725
N	10	635620	4476714

Boundary Justification, continued.

In addition to defining the area of legal ownership, these boundaries incorporate the core area of use during the period of significance and include both buildings/structures and also those landscape elements central to the visitors' experience: the primary building cluster providing the center of guest services, Devil's Kitchen to the west, Dream Lake to the south, Boiling Springs Lake (with its spectacular view of Lassen Peak) to the southeast, and Indian Rock to the east. The historic Boiling Springs Lake Trail, built by Alex Sifford during the period of significance, links the two discontinuous parcels. See map included with Additional Documentation.

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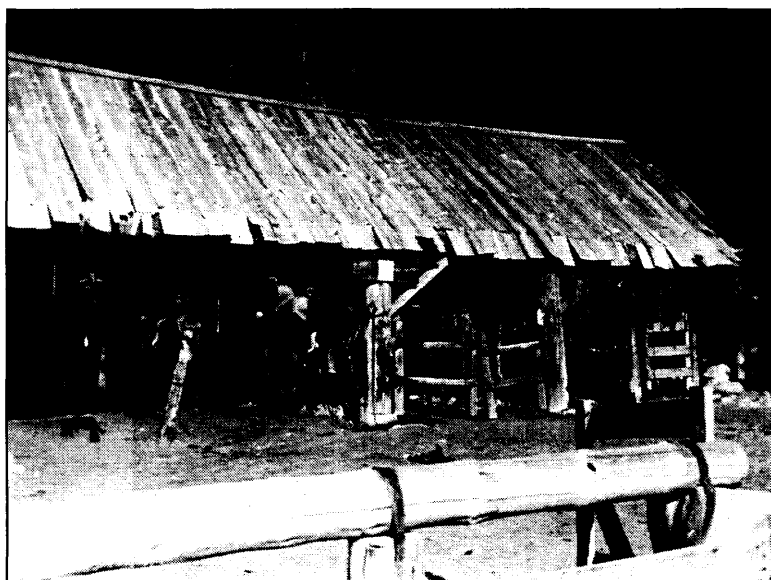
Drakesbad Guest Ranch, Plumas County, California

Additional Documentation: Historic Photographs

Unless otherwise indicated, all negatives are on file at the Resource Division, Lassen Volcanic National Park Headquarters, Mineral, California.



Front of Main Building at Drakesbad Lodge, 1952, LAVO Historic Photograph Collection, Classification 890, Negative #1611.



Drakesbad Saddle Shed, 1952, LAVO Historic Photograph Collection, Classification 890, Negative #1610.

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North view over Drakesbad swimming pool and meadow to lodge, left of center, 1952, LAVO Historic Photograph Collection, Classification 890, Negative #135.



Drakesbad signage, no date (post 1912). LAVO Historic Photograph Collection, Classification 890, Negative #1126.

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Drakesbad meadow, no date. LAVO Historic Photograph Collection, Classification 890, Negative #254.



Dining Room and Kitchen, no date (post 1938). LAVO Historic Photograph Collection, Classification 890, Negative #1613.

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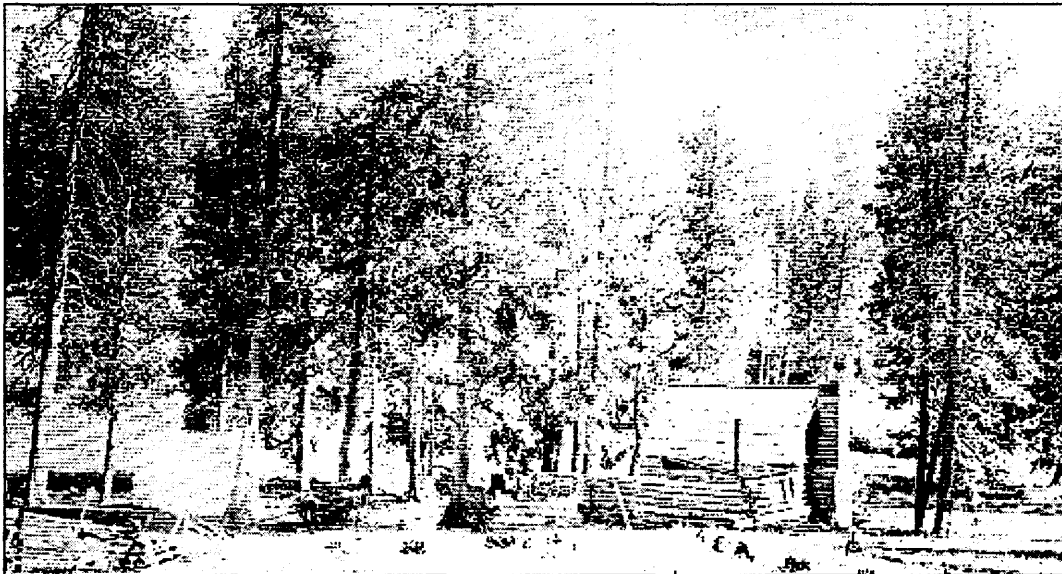
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The following photographs are taken from Roy D. Sifford, *Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad*. Susanville: Lahontan Images, 1994.



Drakes Camp, Hot Springs Valley, 1887, p. 10.



Soda Springs Improvements (structure no longer extant), p. 24.

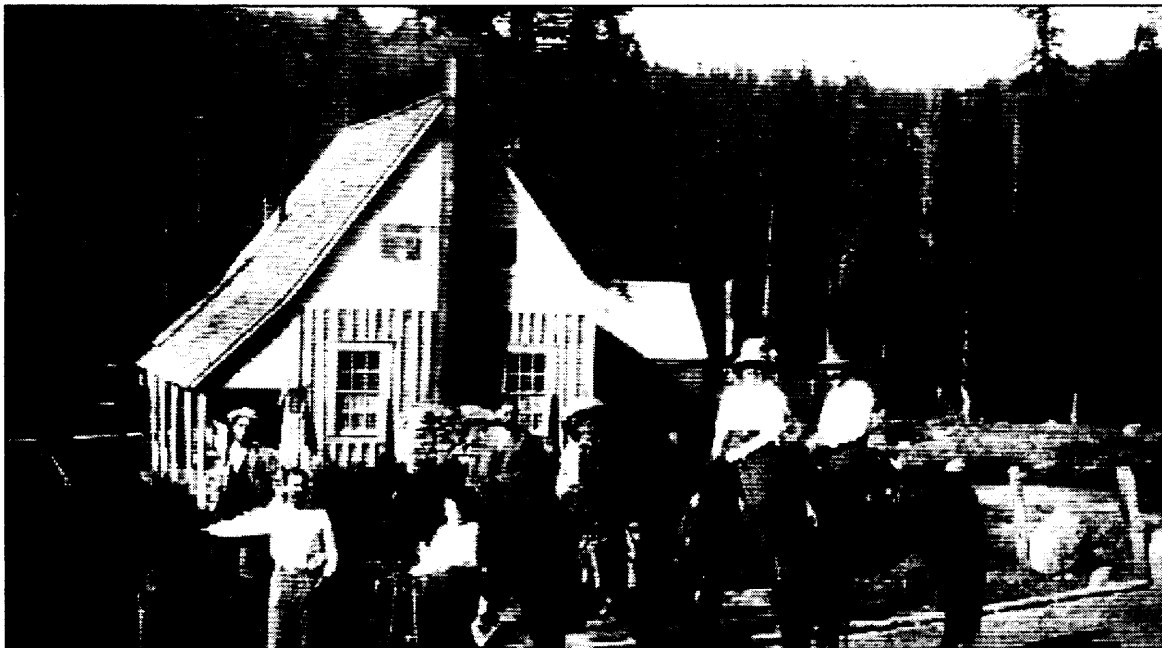
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The Nieblings preparing for a ride. Note Drake's "big house" in background (no longer extant) and the original stove flue, modified for use in the current lodge, p. 38.



Drakesbad, ca. 1914. Note Drake's big house and the canvas wall tents, later replaced by cabins, p. 88.

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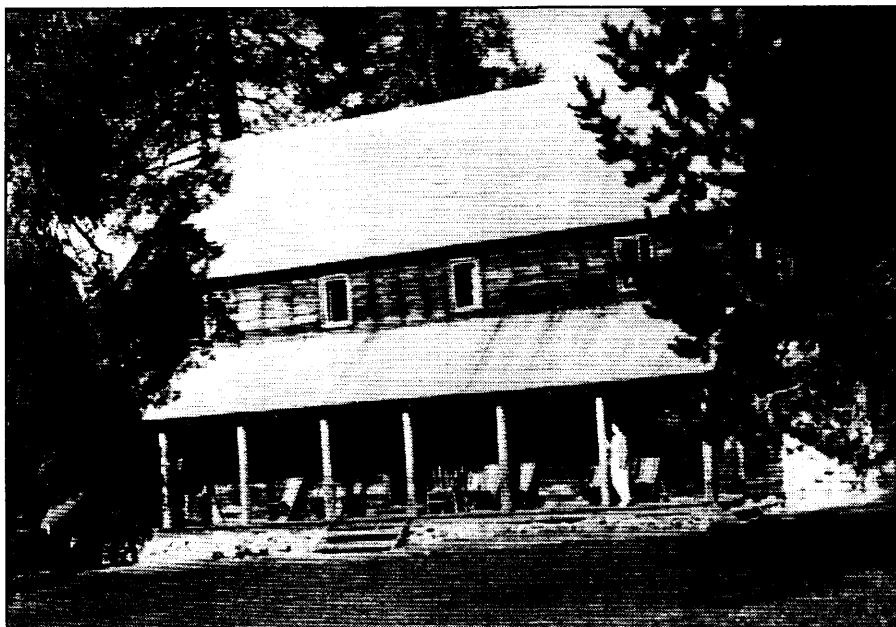
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The Old Bath House (no longer extant), p. 89.



The New Lodge at Drakesbad, p. 99.

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The Start of a Hot Dog Ride (note the barn in the right background), p. 106.



Dining Room, Drakesbad (no date), p. 76.

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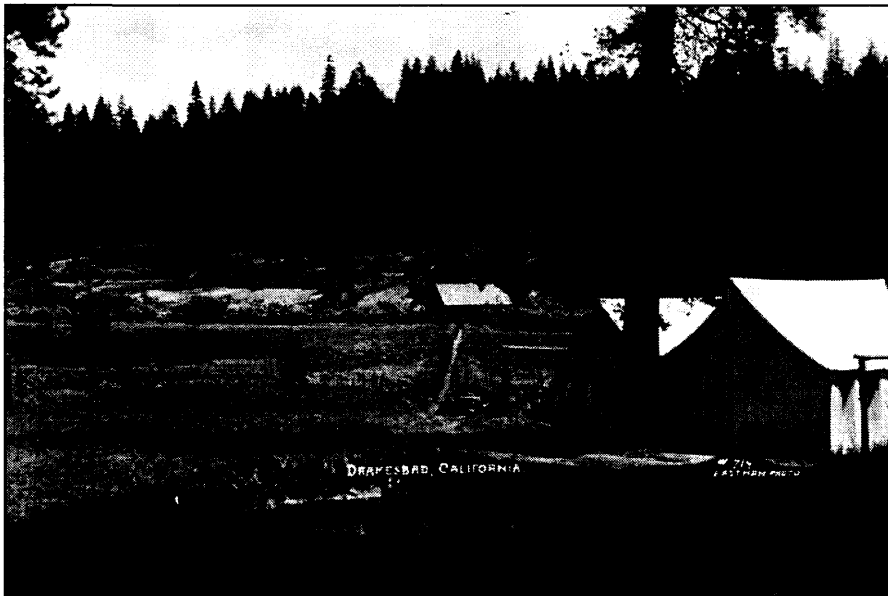
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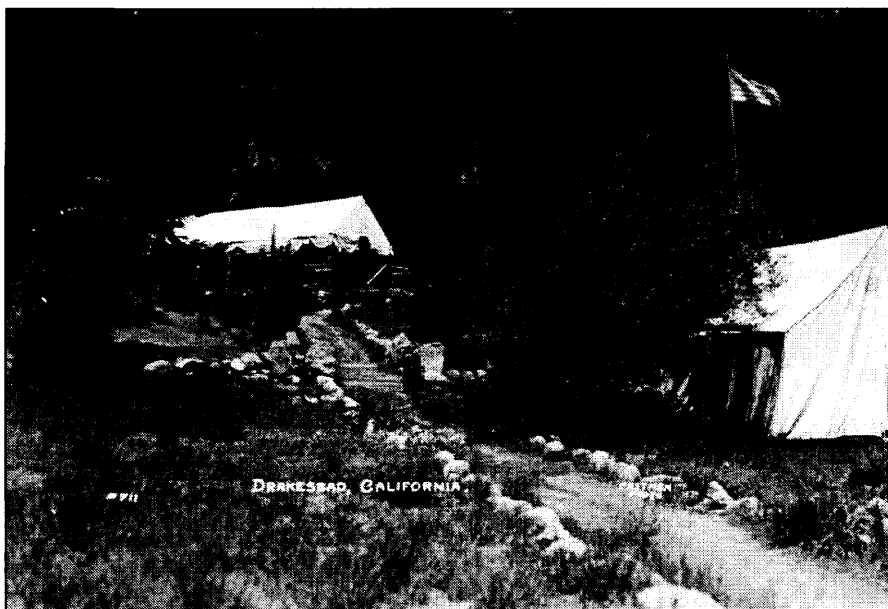
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The following photographs are from Eastman's Originals Collection, Department of Special Collections, University of California, Davis. Copies provided to HRA by Tandy Bozeman.



Tent cabins near lodge; bathhouse in distance (no date), J.M. Eastman, photographer. Negative #0714.



Canvas-covered dining room and tent cabin (no date), J.M. Eastman photographer. Negative #711. Note stone-lined trail from the cabin area to the dining tent.

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Eastman photograph, lodge interior (no date), J.M. Eastman photographer, no negative number.



Birdseye view of Drakesbad (no date), J.M. Eastman, photographer. Negative #B-796. Note trail to Boiling Springs Lake (upper right) and trail across meadow (center right).

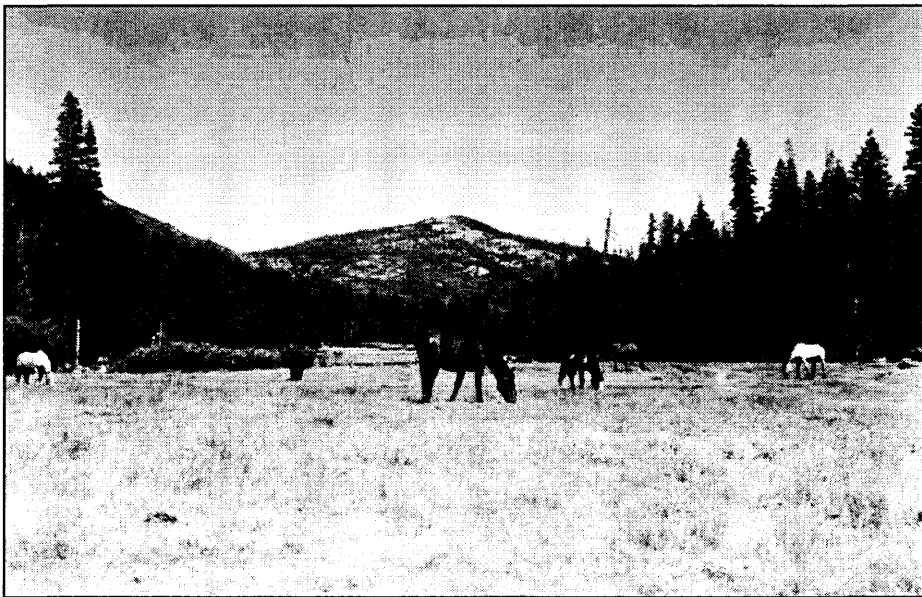
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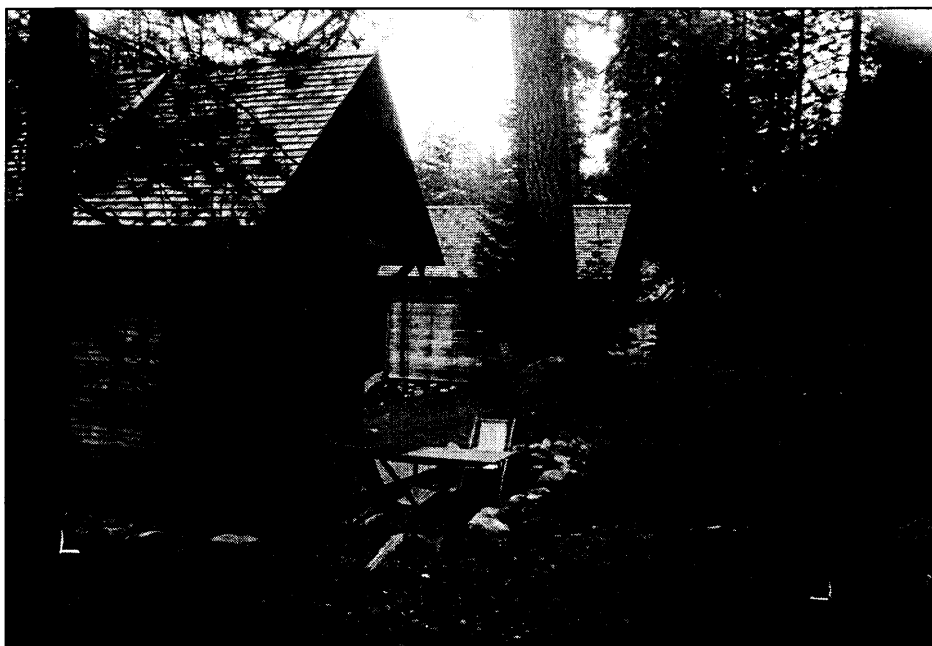
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Horses grazing in the pasture (no date), J.M. Eastman, photographer. Negative #B-5387.



Cottages (no date), J.M. Eastman photographer. No negative number. Note the original stone foundations for the cabins, the unpainted walls and shingle roofs, and the dry laid stone retaining walls for the "patios" behind the buildings.

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Additional Documentation: Current Condition Photographs (see also original photographs, attached)

The following information applies to all photographs presented below:

Drakesbad Guest Ranch Historic District

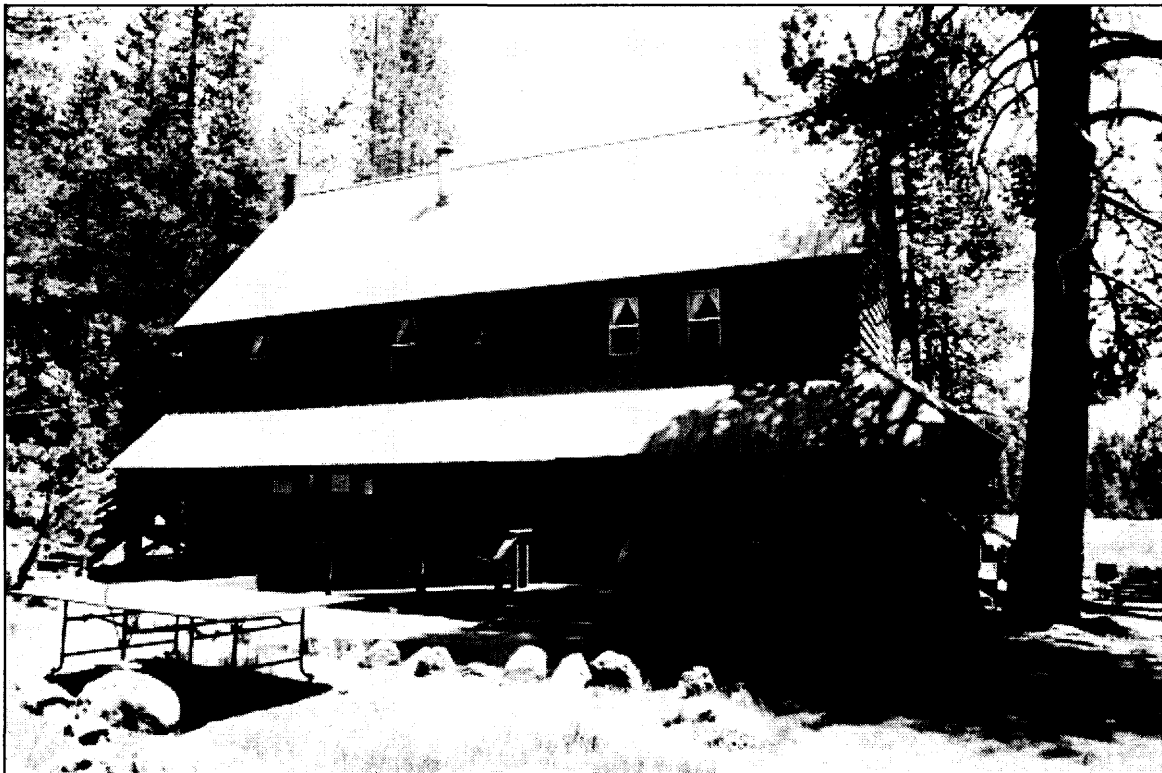
Lassen Volcanic National Park

Plumas County, California

Photographer: Janene Caywood, Historical Research Associates, Inc.

Date of Photographs: June, 2002

Location of Negatives: Resource Division, Lassen Volcanic National Park Headquarters, Mineral, California.



Lodge, west (rear) elevation (contributing building), view to east.

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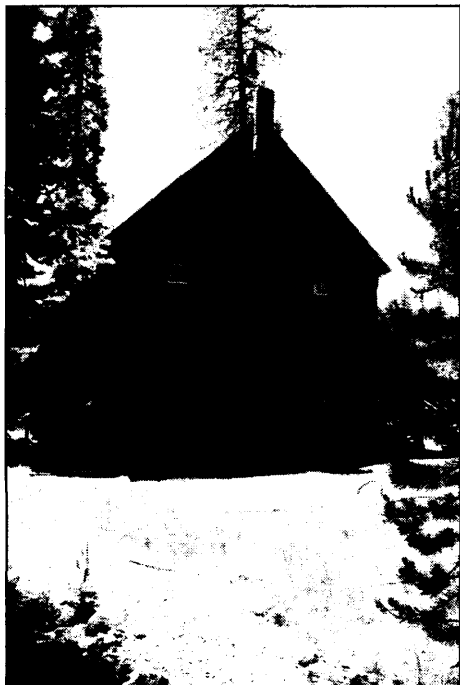
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Lodge (contributing). East (front) elevation, view to west.



Lodge, north (side) elevation, view to south.

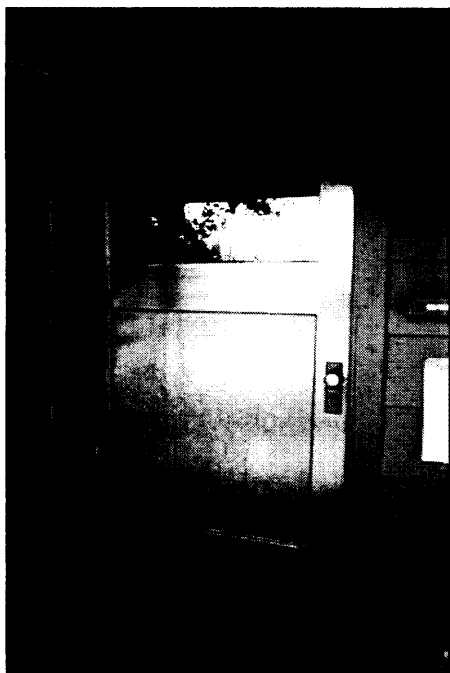
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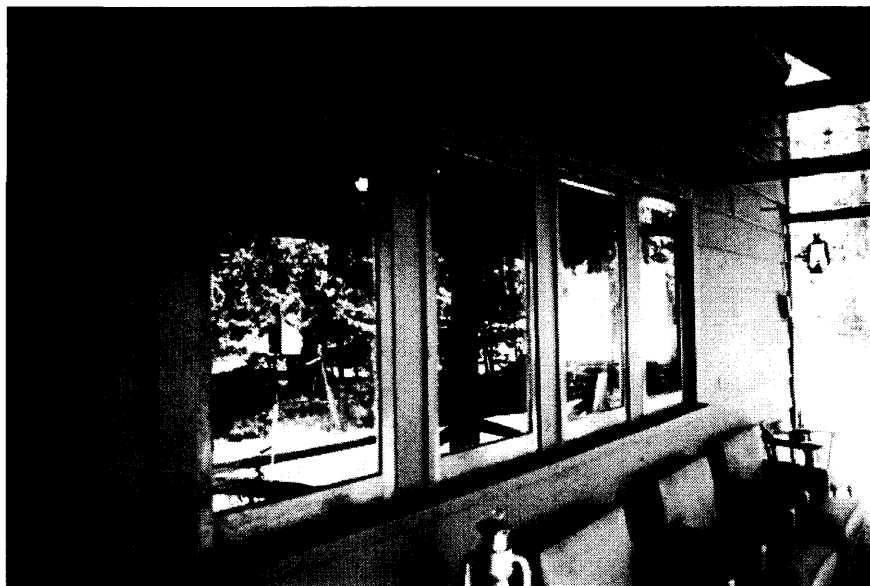
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Detail of door in front entrance of the Lodge.



Detail, window bay north of front door in the Lodge.

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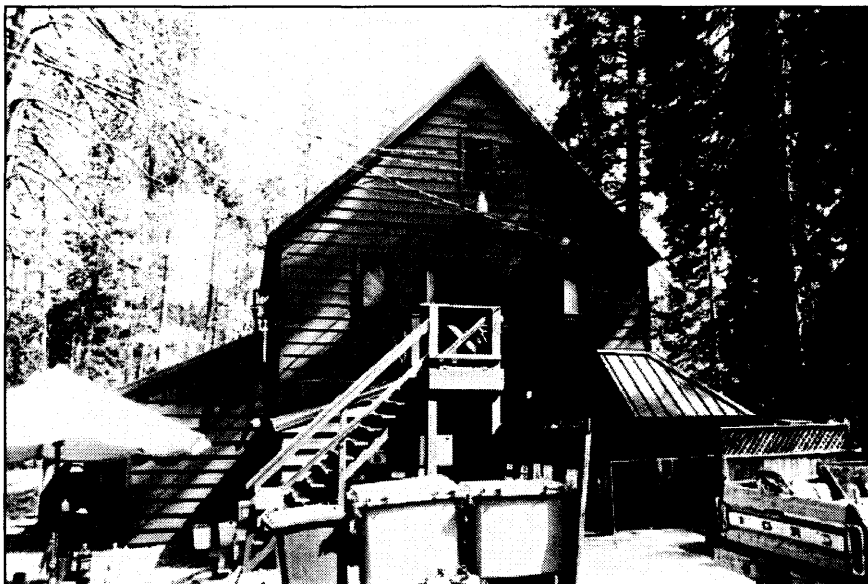
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Kitchen/Dining room (contributing), west elevation, view to east-northeast.



Kitchen/Dining room (contributing). North (rear) elevation, view to south-southwest.

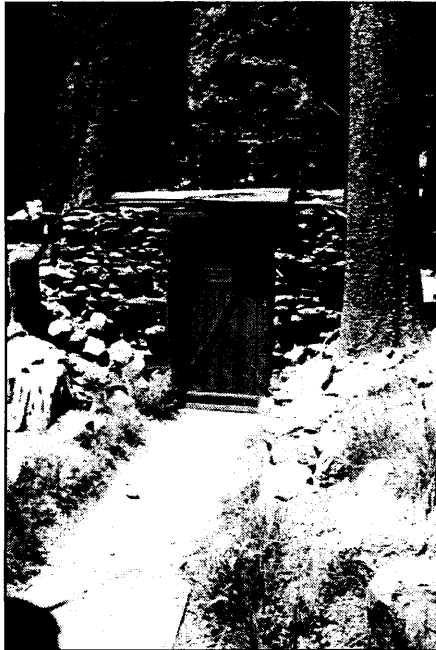
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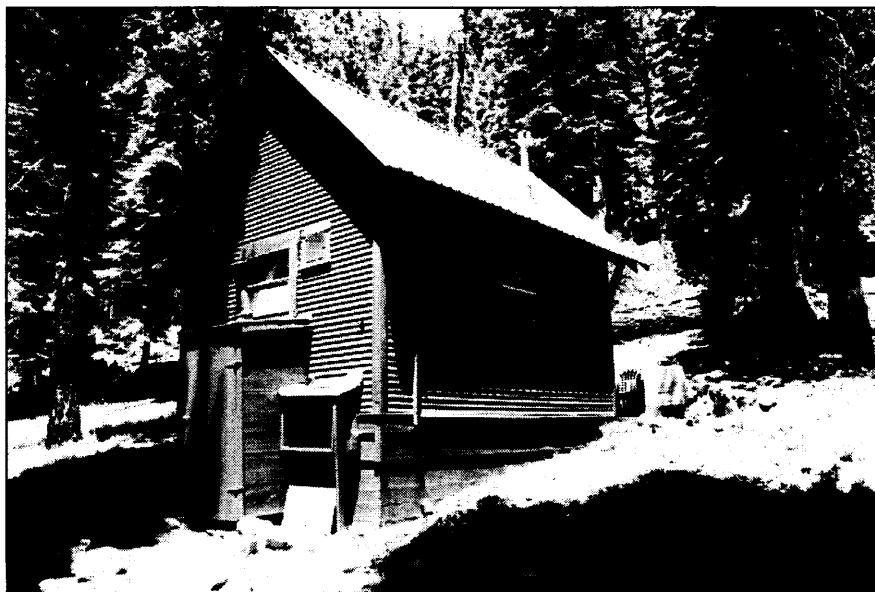
Drakesbad Guest Ranch, Plumas County, California



Food storage cache (contributing), view to northwest.



Bunkhouse/laundry (contributing), north elevation, view to south.



Cabin 12, one of four historic cottages (contributing). South (rear) and east (side) elevations, view to northeast.

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Cabin 10, one of four identical cottages (contributing). East (side) and north (front) elevations, view to southwest.



Manager's cabin (contributing), east and north elevations, view to southwest.

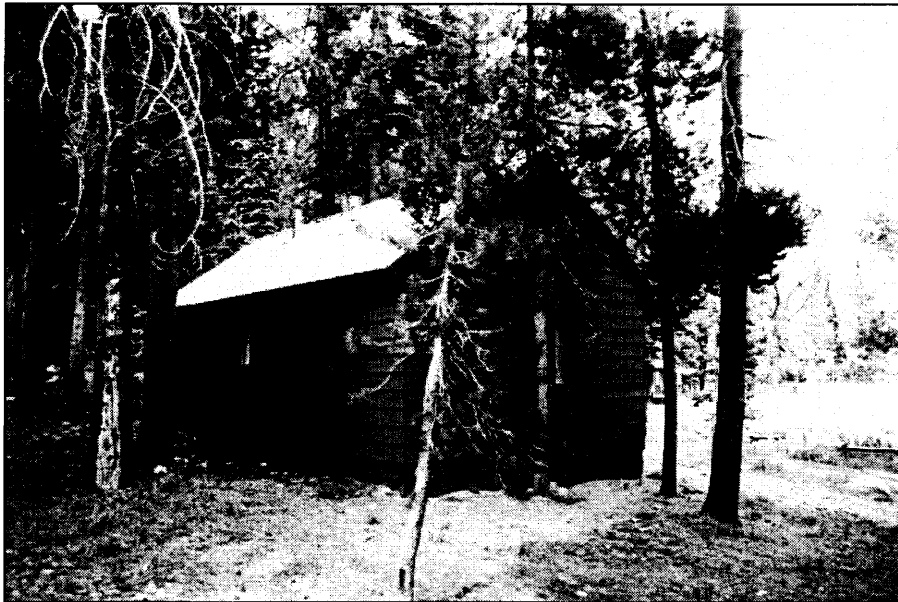
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Manager's cabin (contributing), west and south elevations, view to northeast.



Stone campfire circle in front of lodge (contributing), view to south.

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Overview of Dream Lake, view to south.



Mt. Harkness from front porch of lodge, view to east.

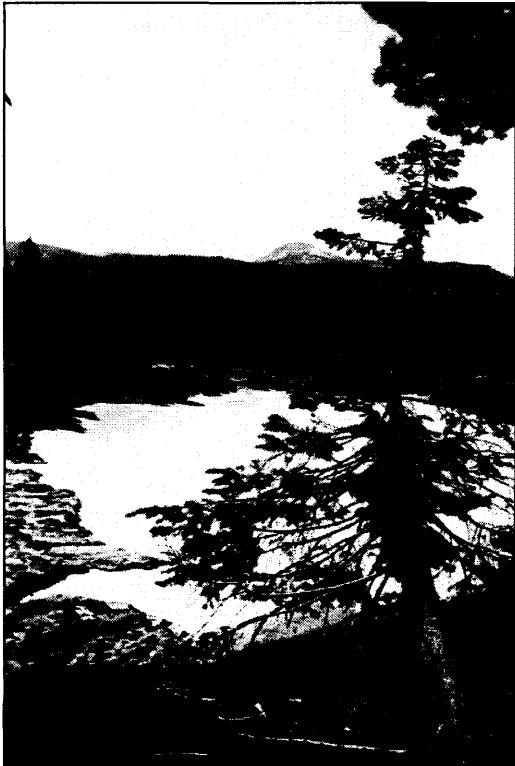
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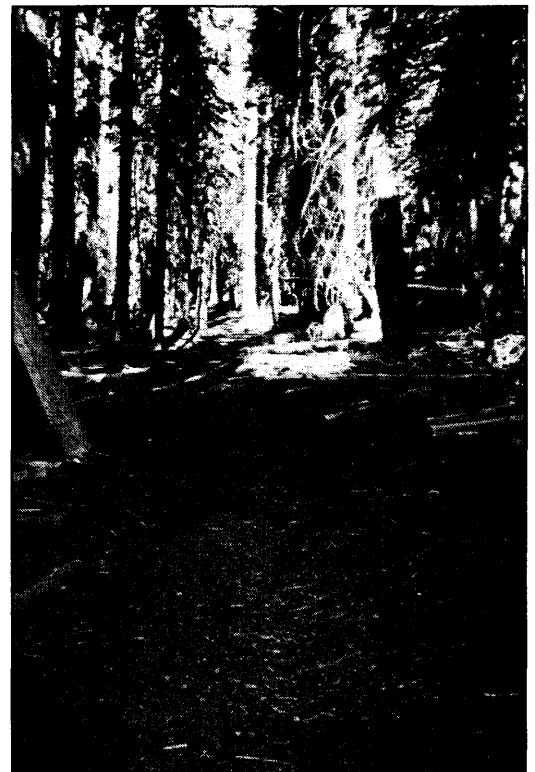
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View of Mt. Lassen from Boiling Springs Lake, view to west-northwest.

Overview of Devils Kitchen Trail, view to west.



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View across Drakesbad meadow from Devils Kitchen Trail bridge, Mt. Harkness in distance, looking east.



Chlorination building (noncontributing), south and east elevations, view to northwest.

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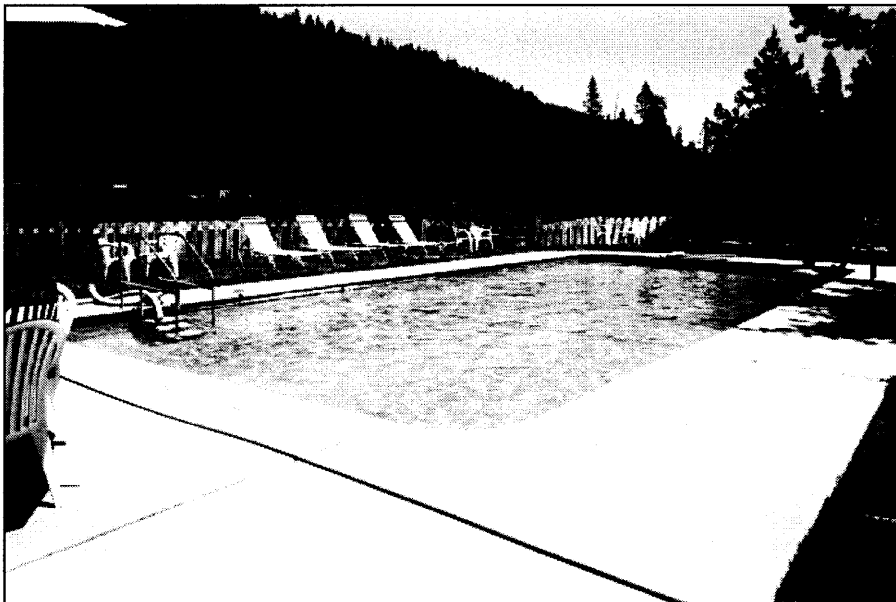
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Pool house (noncontributing), east and north elevations, view to east-southeast.



Pool (noncontributing), view to east-northeast.

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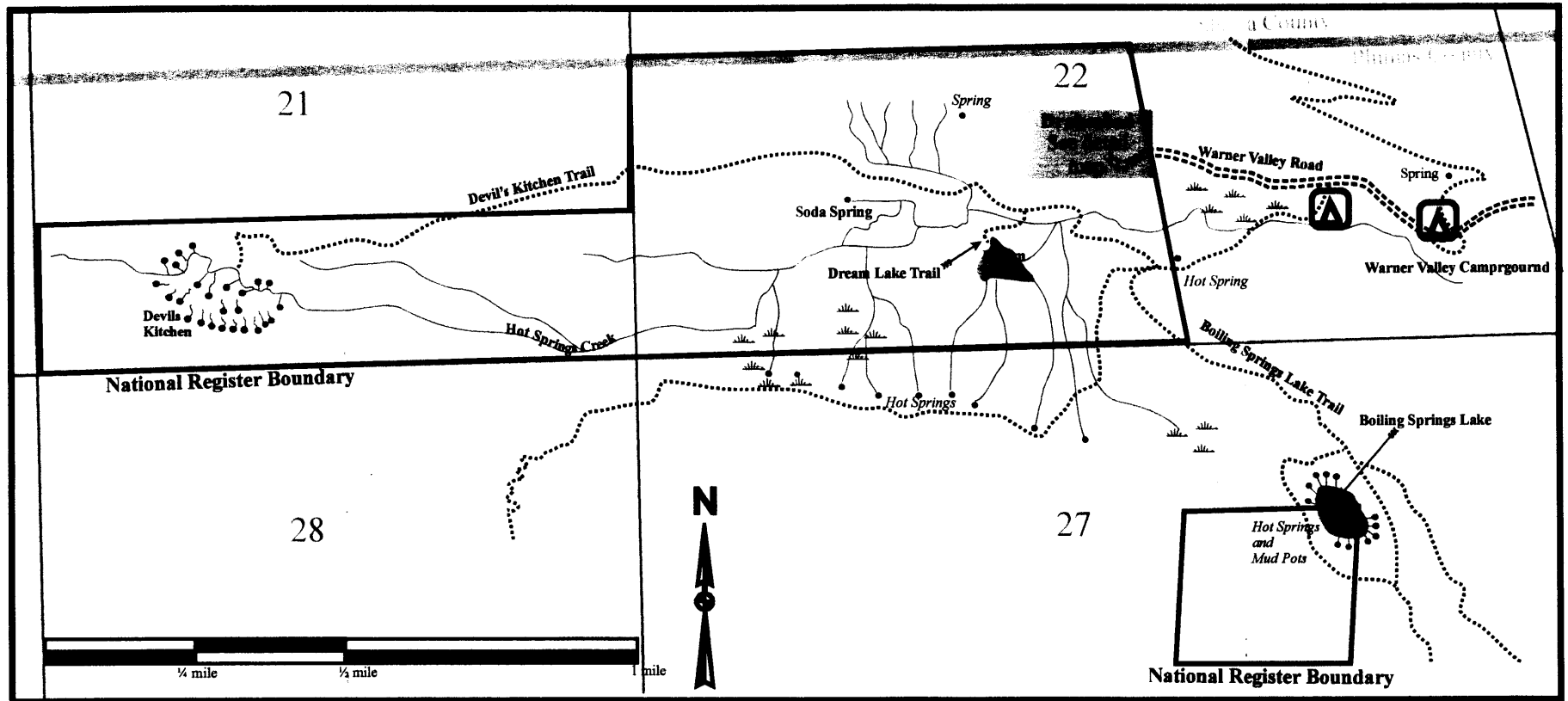
Drakesbad Guest Ranch, Plumas County, California

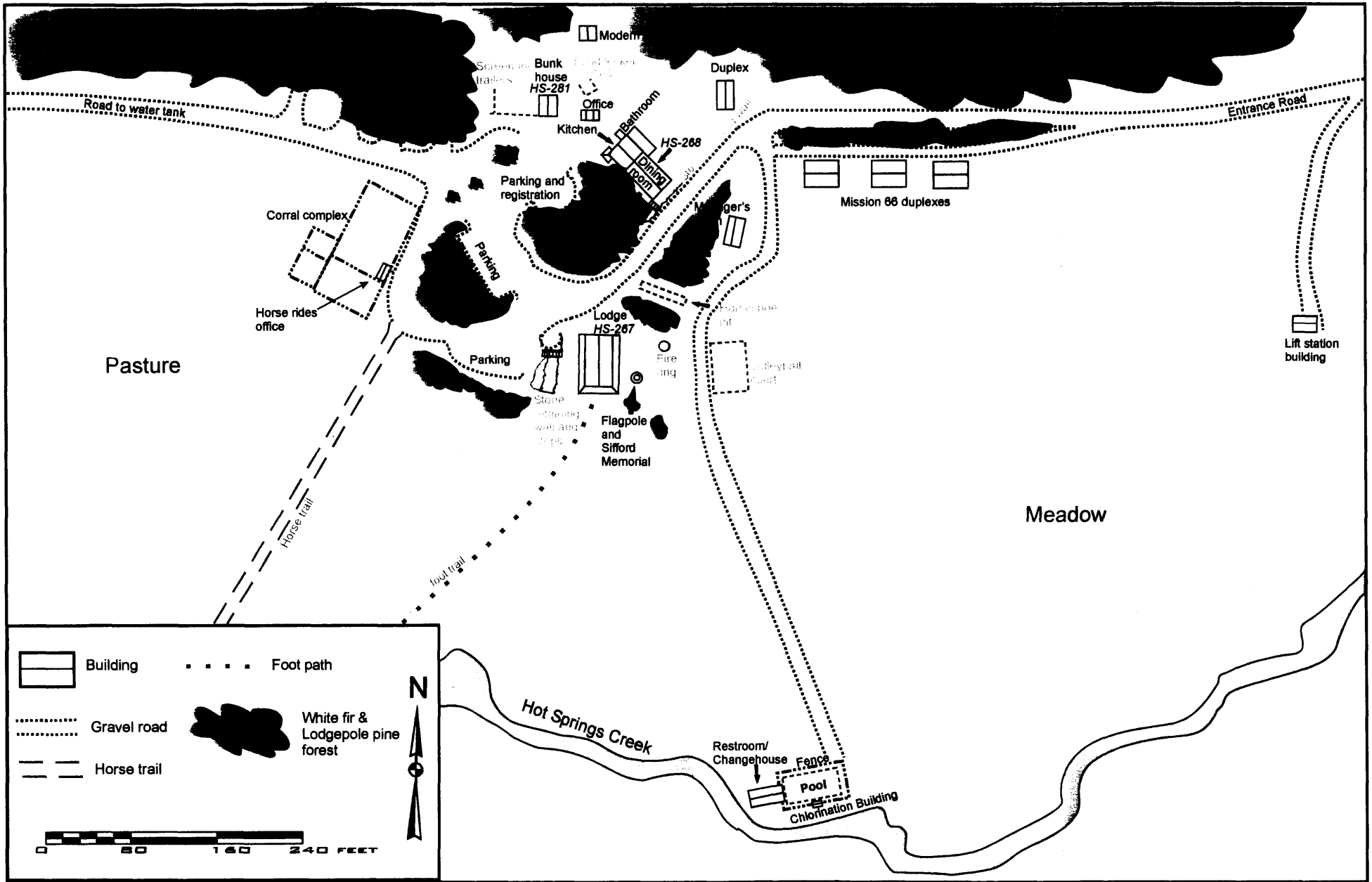


Chlorination building near pool, north and west elevations (noncontributing), view to south-southeast.



Road to pool (noncontributing), view to south-southeast.





Modern

Stables
Bunk house
HS-281
Office
Kitchen

Duplex

Bathroom
Dining room
HS-268

Mission 66 duplexes

Entrance Road

Corral complex

Parking and registration

Parking

Horse rides office

Pasture

Manager's

Lodge
HS-267

Parking

Flagpole and
Sifford
Memorial

Meadow

Lift station building

Building
 Foot path
 Gravel road
 Horse trail
 White fir & Lodgepole pine forest

N

Hot Springs Creek

Restroom/Changehouse
Pool
Chlorination Building

0 80 160 240 FEET