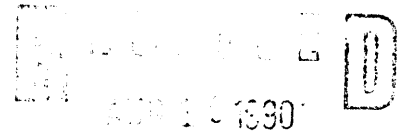


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

RECEIVED

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Deetjen's Big Sur Inn JUN 20 1990  
other names/site number Deetjen's

OWP

### 2. Location

street & number Highway 1 n/a not for publication  
city, town Big Sur vicinity   
state California code 06 county Monterey code 053 zip code 93920

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>4</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: n/a

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register -0-

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Kathryn Swartz Signature of certifying official 8-8-90 Date

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Entered in the National Register 9/13/90  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Inn  
Commerce/trade: Restaurant

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Inn  
Commerce/trade: Restaurant

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Other: Norwegian Rustic Architecture

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete  
walls redwood

roof composition roll roofing  
other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The nomination boundaries for Deetjen's Big Sur Inn encompass the five original buildings and associated landscape features from the period of historic development, 1936 to 1941. All were designed by the builder, Helmuth Deetjen, a native of Norway. Deetjen employed the vernacular wooden building tradition of his homeland, carefully integrating the rustic architecture of the inn into its scenic canyon setting beside Castro Creek Canyon. Constructed among the chaparral and redwood stands that characterize the Big Sur coast of California, the two story buildings that make up the historic inn utilize natural materials like redwood siding and retaining walls of native stone. The Big Sur Inn building is the earliest part of the complex and was originally employed as a barn to house goats and as Deetjen's workshop where he handcrafted furniture and ironwork. A shed roofed addition along the south (side) elevation became the dining room in 1939. The "Hayloft" building (1938), "Chateau Fiasco" (1939), the "Antique" building (1940) and "Champagne" (1940) complete the historic facility. The old county road winds through the complex from a wooden gate beside Highway 1 crossing a modern wood bridge to re-enter the highway at the south. The complex contains several additional permanent buildings of similar design and character though constructed later along the south side of Castro Creek Canyon outside the historic core. The original buildings form a highly cohesive historic unit with a high level of integrity and a strong sense of time and place. Boundaries have been drawn to encompass only the area which retains its historic integrity and ambiance.

The present Big Sur Inn occupies approximately 54 acres of forested mountainside along Castro Creek Canyon in the heart of Big Sur country. The physical topography is not unlike that of Norway, homeland of the inn's builder, Helmuth Deetjen. The original 3.95 acre parcel retains its rustic, Norwegian influenced vernacular buildings as designed and executed by Deetjen with the help of others between the years 1936 and 1941. The five original inn buildings remain intact forming a cohesive historic core. There was no formal plan for the inn. It evolved in response to necessity

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and its natural setting. The necessity was the servicing of an increasing volume of tourist traffic discovering the Big Sur after the opening of the Carmel-San Simeon Highway in 1936. Deetjen and his future wife, Helen Haight, lived in a tent on the property while he constructed the first building, a barn, to house their goats. He acquired used redwood lumber from Monterey's fish canneries to do the building which was completed in 1936.

His method of construction was post and beam framing with a single wall siding of vertical board and batten similar to that used in his native Norway for the construction of vacation housing. The original mud sill foundations throughout the complex were later replaced with concrete slab. The standard for construction of resort facilities to that time (1936) had been either balloon frame with horizontal siding, (Pfeiffer's Resort, California 1902) or the log cabin veneer form of the national park rustic style, (River Inn, 1936).

The second building to go up was a two story residence to the east of the barn with the first floor employed for storage (1938). In 1939 an English widow, Barbara Blake who had experience in running country inns, leased a portion of the property and with Deetjen as designer/builder made some additions to the barn and constructed two guest room buildings along the northwest rim of Castro Creek Canyon. The first story of the building to the rear of the inn, "Chateau Fiasco" was probably constructed at this time as well (1939-1940). These guest rooms were built on the canyon side of what had been the trace of the old country road that curves through the property. A system of pathways, some rock lined and others with rock retaining walls, connect the various buildings. By 1940 the five buildings in the district nomination were in place and the inn was operating. The original barn became the inn proper; the Deetjen residence came to be called the "Hayloft" building; the small building to the rear of the inn with a second floor addition in 1960-1961 is known as "Chateau Fiasco" (after the Bay of Pigs disaster in Cuba). The guest unit along Castro Creek Canyon is called the "Antique" building as Deetjen ran a small antique business out of the lower apartment for a period of time. The building behind "Antique" is called "Champagne". Between 1940 and 1961 Deetjen constructed several other buildings on the property, all on the south side of Castro Creek Canyon. They include the "Creek House" (late 1940's or early 1950's); "Top House", on a hill top about a quarter of a mile to the east of the inn complex, constructed by 1940 as the Deetjen's new residence. All building design and construction during the historic period was done or supervised by Helmuth Deetjen.

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The original buildings and their associated landscape features retain a strong sense of time and place. Individually, all of these structures retain a high level of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Historic boundaries have been drawn to encompass this significant complex. Newer development has been excluded from the district.

The structures that remain from the historic period are Big Sur Inn (1936-1940), "Hayloft Building" (1938-1940's), "Antique" building (1940-1941), and "Champagne" (1940-1941).

Since the death of Helmuth Deetjen in 1972, the inn has been operated by his estate. In 1978 a preservation consultant was hired to see that continuing repair and maintenance work done on the inn complex conforms to the Secretary of Interior's standards and guidelines for the rehabilitation of historic buildings. Deetjen's Big Sur Inn Preservation Foundation was established in 1990 to assure that the inn will continue to operate in its historic use in order to preserve a significant part of Big Sur history for the enjoyment of the present and future generations. The following inventory describes each structure contributing to the significance of the complex.

### **1. Big Sur Inn Building (1936-1940 with addition in 1961)**

The Big Sur Inn is a two story building irregular in plan with a combination of gable and hipped roofs covered in a green roll roofing. It is framed in redwood post and beam with an exterior sheathing of vertical redwood board and batten. A shed roofed projection on the west(side) elevation at the second story originally covered an open porch supported with wood posts. This feature has since been enclosed. A one story shed roofed addition along the east(side) elevation wraps around the rear of the building. It was constructed in 1939 to enclose the restaurant-dining area. A once recessed opening at the corner of the facade was enclosed about the same time for the same purpose and an open shed roofed porch built along this elevation. When the west corner of the facade was enclosed a roof deck was incorporated with a low rustic wood rail designed and carved by the builder, Helmuth Deetjen. This design element appears on three of the five structures helping unify the ensemble. Fenestration is irregular throughout with a variety of wood and metal sash. Deetjen acquired his windows second hand. The main restaurant windows on the facade are horizontal fixed six light metal industrial sash. Above these at the second story is a French window inward opening with a low railing at its base whose balusters were carved by Deetjen. In the gable peak above the French windows is a horizontal band of three, six light sliding wood sash. Fixed

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twelve light wood sash wraps around the shed roofed restaurant wing. A band of four, six light fixed wood sash appears in the two story south(side) elevation at the juncture of the shed roof with a single fixed six light wood sash above, under the main roof eave. Entry is effected through two sets of double glazed dutch doors, one on the west side of the facade and the second at the southeast end of the restaurant addition. An end wall brick chimney pierces the shed roof of the restaurant at the facade. Its stuccoed base on the exterior carries the date 1940 and a small decorative tile. A shed roofed kitchen was extended from the rear of the inn in 1960-1961, matching in materials and design the rest of the building. Originally constructed on redwood mud sills, a concrete slab was laid when the restaurant wing was added which extended from the inn to the southeast to provide open patio or porch space for the inn's guests. A low rock retaining wall around the building perimeter marks the edge of the asphalt parking area off Highway 1. A variety of flowering plants and bushes tie the building into its natural setting. The public portion of the inn interior consists of four dining areas. In the shed addition of 1939 are the fireplace and family rooms. The walls and ceiling with its exposed rafters are age darkened natural redwood. The end wall fireplace (southwest elevation) is used brick. A crosswall with shelving holding antique crockery separates this space from the family, which contains a trestle table and benches carved by Helmuth Deetjen. Cabinetry fashioned by Deetjen to hold the inn's record collection among other things is found along the family room partition wall. Antique furniture and kitchenware complete the decor. The fireplace room is separated from the main bar area to the west by an enclosed straight run wooden staircase leading to the inn's office on the second floor. The bar area is redwood painted white and serves for dining as well as guest registration. Again, the decor is antique crockery on shelves and in furniture cases. A small low ceilinged dining area off this room to the west is in aged natural redwood with inn memorabilia including a bronze bust of poet Robinson Jeffers, a long time friend of Helmuth Deetjen. The floors throughout are concrete slab stained a dark red.

### **2. "Hayloft" Building (1938-1940's)**

The "Hayloft" building is a two story building irregular in plan with a combination of gable and shed roofs covered in a green roll roofing. It is framed in redwood post and beam with an exterior sheathing of vertical redwood board and batten. The ground floor consists of a two bay garage for storage. The batten doors in the garage have vertical flush boards above a horizontal bracing member and flush boards in an inverted chevron motif below. The second story is side gabled with a shed roof extension to the rear and a shed roofed projection over the northern-most

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garage bay. A roof deck is above the second garage bay with a low hand-carved wood railing similar to the one found on the Big Sur Inn. The second story, which is set back on an earth bench with a concrete slab foundation, is reached by a straight run wooden staircase on the north side elevation. It is flanked on the north by a one story attached shed roofed storage facility. Another attached one story shed roofed utility room is found on the south(side) elevation. This feature employs a series of 2/5 glazed panel doors separated by vertical posts as a facade. Fenestration in the main structure includes fixed, sliding and outward opening casement windows, all multi-paned wood sash. A metal stovepipe pierces the roof slope to the rear of the ridgeline at the east. Established rose and other flowering plants set behind a split redwood fence with hand carved end posts now frame this building.

**3. "Chateau Fiasco" (1939-1961) (non-contributing)**

"Chateau Fiasco" is a two story building irregular in plan with a combination of hipped and shed roofs covered in green roll roofing. It is framed in redwood post and beam with an exterior sheathing of vertical redwood board and batten resting on a stone perimeter foundation. Originally designed as a one story guest cottage a second story was added at the time of the kitchen extension to the inn in 1961. The decorative carving on this building was the last work done in this line by Helmuth Deetjen. He also supervised construction. The original building probably consisted of an ell-shaped structure with shed roofs comparable to the middle element of the "Antique" building of the same year (1939). In 1961 the northernmost arm of the ell was raised one story and capped with a hipped roof. A shed roofed projection to the west led on to a roof deck built out from the western arm of the original ell, framing a porch below. A slightly raised wooden deck resting on concrete piers and supporting the roof deck with vertical wooden posts was added as was straight run wooden stairway along the east side elevation partially covered above. Fenestration, as with the rest of the buildings in the complex, is irregular with a series of fixed and sliding six light wood sash windows. Doors in this building are simple redwood batten made by Deetjen as are the decorative porch posts and roof deck rail. The building is difficult to see as it is nested into the trees at the rear of the inn complex.

**4. "Antique" (1940-1941)**

The "Antique" building combines one, one and one-half and two story elements in linear sequence and is generally rectangular in plan. It runs parallel to the rim of Castro Creek Canyon and faces onto the old county road across from the "Hayloft" building. The hipped, shed and low pitched

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gable roofs found on the building are all covered in a green roll roofing. It is framed in redwood post and beam with an exterior sheathing of vertical board and batten. The first component, central story-and-a-half shed roofed guest rooms was constructed in 1940. Later that year or in 1941 the two story square tower with its hipped roof and a shed roofed projection on the canyon side was completed at the southwest end of the first rooms. A straight run open wooden stairway fronting the original shed roofed guest rooms lead to the new second story. This feature was partially enclosed above. Sometime later (CA. 1946) a shed roof was extended from the tower over a portion of the guest rooms to create more second floor guest room space as tourist traffic increased. A single story guest room as constructed at the opposite (northerly) end of the building about the same time. Fenestration throughout is irregular with a series of fixed and sliding four and six light wood sash windows. Some are banked and some in a horizontal configuration usually of three sash. The original mud sill and post and pier foundation has been replaced in part by a concrete perimeter foundation in front (west) and a concrete beam along the canyon side with two piers into bedrock. Thin louvered wood shutters flank the sides of the tower windows as a decorative element. The doors to all the rooms in this expanded building are dutch and of batten construction. The lower apartment of the "Antique" tower served for a time as an antique business run by Deetjen and his wife Helen.

### 5. "Champagne" Building (1940-1941)

"Champagne" building is a two story building basically square in plan with a low pitched side gabled roof covered in a green roll roofing. It is framed in redwood post and beam with an exterior sheathing of vertical redwood board and batten. The second floor is reached by a straight run wooden staircase along the northeast (side) elevation of the building. The stairs partial enclosure runs the two story height of the building. Fenestration is irregular and consists of a series of fixed and sliding four and six light wooden sash. The doors are dutch and of batten construction. This was the last building in the original complex. It should be noted that the windows throughout the complex are painted white in contrast to the natural redwood of the building exteriors.

**8. Statement of Significance**

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

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  
Recreation  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance  
1936-1941  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates  
NA  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation  
NA  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person  
NA

Architect/Builder  
Deetjen, Helmut

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Deetjen's Big Sur Inn at Castro Creek Canyon and State Highway 1 along California's spectacular Big Sur coastline was one of the first visitor accommodation facilities to offer overnight lodging and meals to travelers as a response to the opening of the Carmel-San Simeon Highway in 1937, California's first official scenic highway (1966). Its builder, Helmut Deetjen, employed the vernacular wooden building traditions of his native Norway in its design, carefully integrating the rustic architecture of the inn into the coastal chaparral and stands of redwood that characterize its scenic Castro Creek Canyon setting. The five buildings that form the historic core of the inn, constructed from 1936 to 1941, possess a high level of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association as a historic district. The rustic handcrafted character of the inn and its old world ambience was a standard for quality in the context of recreational development associated with the opening of the Big Sur to the tourist trade.

The strong historical significance of Deetjen's Big Sur Inn should qualify the historic complex for listing in the National Register under criterion A at the local level of significance.

By common usage, California's Big Sur is an area of Pacific coastline along the western slopes of the Santa Lucia mountain range running from the mouth of the Little Sur River (approximately 20 miles south of Carmel), south about 35 miles to Slate's Hot Springs) now known as the Esalen Institute). Local writer Lillian Boss Ross, whose best selling novels, "The Stranger" and "Blaze Allen" depict the early lifestyle



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of the region, once wrote that the Big Sur was not so much a country as it was a state of mind.

The first Anglo settlers came to the rugged and isolated coast in the late 1860's exercising pre-emption on public land afforded by the passage of the Homestead Act of 1862. These hardy pioneers farmed what arable land there was and ran stock in the meadows and along the precipitous ridges of the mountainside landscape. Some logged the redwoods in steep coastal canyons and shipped tanbark to Santa Cruz and San Francisco from makeshift landings along the rocky shoreline. A few are still represented by family members in their fifth and sixth generations. As late as World War II there were only about 150 permanent residents in the region. By the early twentieth century what commercial development existed in the Big Sur was devoted to the recreation business, principally in support of hunters and fishermen.

This began about 1902 with Pfeiffer's Resort which was located on the Big Sur River at the site of today's "Village". Its main competition was the Idlewild Hotel on the banks of the Little Sur River. The management of the Idlewild guaranteed a limit of trout, "even to those who used a bent pin." Both facilities have long disappeared. Pfeiffer's Resort burned down about 1920 and the family moved their operations further south constructing the Big Sur Lodge on the Big Sur River at the present location of the Pfeiffer State Park headquarters. The State of California purchased the property in 1934 and the original lodge was replaced in 1950.

About the time John Pfeiffer was building his Big Sur Lodge, the Apple Pie Inn opened on the site of the first Pfeiffer's Resort. It, in turn, became the River Inn in the early 1930's. The Redwood Lodge (Ca. 1920) and Ripplewood (Ca. 1925) made up the remainder of Big Sur's principal tourist facilities before the coming of the new highway.

Of these early resorts only the River Inn, the Redwood Lodge, (now operating as Fernwood), and Ripplewood remain. Much altered and expanded over time, their builders wouldn't recognize them today.

Access to the Big Sur coast was never easy. As late as 1920 a light spring wagon with two good horses could make the 26 mile trip from the Sur to Monterey in about 11 hours. For a four horse team pulling a lumber wagon over the unimproved dirt road the trip was 13 hours. All that began to change through the single-minded efforts of Dr. John L. Roberts, a Monterey physician and longtime county supervisor. His familiarity with and love for the natural beauty of the Big Sur led him to lobby the State of California to join the county in building a scenic highway through the region opening it up for the enjoyment of the general public. Robert's

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determination and that of Monterey's state senator Elmer Rigdon saw the project initiated in 1919 with the passage of a 1.5 million dollar bond issue.

Actual construction of the 80 mile roadway, designated the Carmel-San Simeon Highway, began in 1922. The new road bed was literally blasted out of the steep coastal mountainside. A total of 36 bridges had to be constructed before the project was completed in the summer of 1937, fifteen years after its start and at a final cost of eight million dollars. The opening of the new highway began an ever increasing influx of visitors and sightseers to the previously isolated region. It also brought a few artists, writers and craftsmen who began to augment the existing permanent population. The size of this group remained small because of lack of available housing and a natural reticence on the part of some older established families to accept the "Bohemian" newcomers.

It was in the context of this opening of the previously isolated Big Sur country to a mobile and rapidly expanding visiting public that Norwegian craftsman Helmuth Deetjen and his future wife Helen Haight began the development of their Big Sur Inn. Deetjen was born in Bergen, Norway in 1892 and came to the United States in about 1921. He was a surveyor by trade. After working in the Florida Keys and Hollywood, California, he settled in Carmel-By-The-Sea where he built a few homes and worked as a gardner. It was here he met Helen Haight, daughter of the San Francisco judge for whom Haight Street was named. In 1936 Haight purchased approximately four acres of the Rojelio Castro Ranch along the northeast side of the new highway adjacent to Castro Creek Canyon. It had been a favorite camping spot for the couple for many years and they intended to construct a residence on the property. In 1936 Helmuth and Helen lived in a tent while he built a barn for their goats. That building would become the nucleus of the inn. Deetjen used a portion of the barn for his workshop where he fashioned handmade furniture and wrought iron accessories, some of which are still in use at the inn today. In 1938 he built living quarters adjacent to the barn, a two story building with storage below.

As work progressed, more and more visitors began taking advantage of Helmuth and Helen's hospitality for food and lodging. Except for Steve Jaeger's Loma Vista Inn, a gas station and lunchroom built in 1936 on the hillside below the post ranch about four miles north, Deetjen's was the first light in many miles south of Pfeiffer State Park.

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In 1939 Barbara Blake, a refined English woman, assisted the couple in developing the property as a country inn. A shed roof was added to the east side of the barn to enclose a restaurant. Guest rooms were constructed along the northwest rim of Castro Creek Canyon.

The work was executed by Helmuth with others maintaining the rustic Norwegian vernacular character of the earlier buildings in the complex. Mrs. Blake was responsible for the original interior design of the restaurant and inn which was in full operation by 1940, under lease to her.

Deetjen's Big Sur Inn became a local tradition as the years passed. One of the haunts of local writers and artists including Henry Miller. Helen and Helmuth acquired an additional 50 acres of Castro Creek Canyon land and Helmuth added new buildings as the need arose, always with the same rustic style and materials. His personal touch is everywhere from hand carved porch balusters to the wood burned plaques with quotes from world literature or his own homilies. One reads "Open from dawn to dusk but not always awake."

Helen died in 1962 and Helmuth in 1972 after which his estate continued to operate the inn as before. When the county of Monterey was unable to accept the property for historic park purposes in the late 1980's, a non-profit corporation was formed, Deetjen's Big Sur Inn Preservation Foundation. The foundation's purpose is to maintain and operate the historic inn as it has been since its inception in order that the visiting public might experience the feeling and associations of an earlier and slower paced era on the Big Sur.

The Big Sur Inn is an excellent representative example of a resort facility in the Big Sur country pre-dating World War II. It has retained its integrity to a remarkable degree while other properties with the same association have been largely altered by continued expansion and remodeling in response to changing recreational market needs.

The buildings that constitute the historic core of Deetjen's Big Sur Inn are informally disposed around the mouth of Castro Creek Canyon along its northwestern edge in a forested setting. Their simple single walled board and batten construction supported by post and beam framing and embellished with hand crafted elements including carved porch balusters and posts are characteristic of their vernacular Norwegian sources. The inn's builder, Helmuth Deetjen was raised in the mountainous coastal town of Bergen, Norway. Available family photographs from his youth show glimpses of similar building forms and material. Deetjen's early use of its main building as a workshop for handcrafted furniture suggests the creative impulses that gave the inn its high artistic value as a personal expression

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of his European aesthetic sensibilities. There have been very few changes made to the buildings over time. Those that have been effected occurred prior to Deetjen's death in 1972 and were executed under the builder's supervision and in keeping with his original intent. Of the existing resort facilities in the Big Sur area none maintains so well the feeling of time and place as does Deetjen's. Other development remaining from the period of the Carmel-San Simeon Highway include the River Inn, Fernwood and Ripplewood. None retain their integrity of design and workmanship and in some cases setting, as they were constructed.

The original buildings of Deetjen's Big Sur Inn are sensitively integrated into the forested mouth of Castro Creek Canyon. Density is low, scale is intimate, and materials are natural, complementing the rugged beauty of their mountainside setting. The road and walkways meander comfortably through the complex. Rock retaining walls line the roads and footpaths cut into the grade. Deetjen's was designed in a vernacular style reminiscent of its builder's native homeland and still retains the intimate environmental relationship established by its designer.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Monterey County Parks Department

**10. Geographical Data**

Acres of property 3.95 acres

UTM References

A 

1	0	6	1	2	3	4	0	4	0	0	8	6	0	5
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary justification is based on the legal boundary lines defining the original Deetjen property and encompasses all the physical remains of the historic inn, its out buildings and their immediate setting.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kent Seavey/Consultant

organization \_\_\_\_\_

date \_\_\_\_\_

street & number 310 Lighthouse Avenue

telephone (408) 375-8734

city or town Pacific Grove

state California zip code 93950

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### Books

Miller, Henry, Big Sur and the Oranges of Hieronymus Bosch,  
New Directions Publishing Co., New York 1957

White E., and Roberts, P., The Big Sur Guide, 1954

Woolfenden, John, Big Sur: A Battle for the Wilderness  
1869-1981, The Boxwood Press, Pacific Grove, California 1981

### Newspapers

Carmel Pacific Spectator Journal, September 1955, pp. 17-59

The Camel Pine Cone, October 11, 1962, November 2, 1972

The New York Times, November 10, 1985

San Jose Mercury News, October 3, 1986

### Personal Interviews

Mr. Robert De Ford, chef at Big Sur Inn and personal friend  
of the Deetjens from 1962-1968. February 14, 1990

Mr. William De Groot, chef at the Big Sur Inn, 1968-1990,  
and personal friend of the Deetjens. February 2, 1990

Mr. Douglas Madsen, longtime Big Sur resident and personal  
friend of Barbara Blake. First visited Big Sur Inn in 1941.  
February 18, 1990

Mr. Don McQueen, longtime Big Sur resident. Worked as a  
carpenter on restaurant wing of Big Sur Inn in 1939.  
February 16, 1990

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(Except where noted the information for items 1 through 5 are the same for all the photographs listed.)

- #1
  - 1. Big Sur Inn
  - 2. Highway 1, Big Sur, California 93920
  - 3. Unknown
  - 4. 1939
  - 5. Big Sur Inn Preservation Foundation, Big Sur, California 93920
  - 6. Looking generally north at the inn building and its landscape setting after construction of the shed roofed restaurant addition along the east (side) elevation.
  - 7. Photograph #1 of 18
  
- #2
  - 3. Kent Seavey
  - 4. 1990
  - 6. Same view as photograph #1
  - 7. Photograph #2 of 18
  
- #3
  - 3. Unknown
  - 4. Ca. 1940
  - 6. Looking north at south (facade) elevation. Note recessed entry at the left and open porch above. Shed roof along facade is in place at this time.
  - 7. Photograph #3 of 18
  
- #4
  - 6. Same view as photograph #3 taken in 1990
  - 7. Photograph #4 of 18
  
- #5
  - 3. Unknown
  - 4. Ca. 1940
  - 6. Looking southwest at northeast (rear) elevation.
  - 7. Photograph #5 of 18
  
- #6
  - 6. Same view as photograph #3 taken in 1990
  - 7. Photograph #6 of 18
  
- #7
  - 1. "Hayloft" Building
  - 3. Unknown
  - 4. Ca. 1940
  - 6. Looking northeast at front and southwest (side) elevations of "Hayloft" Building. Note setting.
  - 7. Photograph #7 of 18

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- #8 1. "Hayloft" Building  
6. Same view as photograph #7 taken in 1990  
7. Photograph #8 of 18
- #9 1. "Hayloft" Building  
6. Looking southwest at northeast (side) elevation of "Hayloft" Building shed storage wing.  
7. Photograph #9 of 18
- #10 1. "Chateau Fiasco"  
6. Looking north at the facade of "Chateau Fiasco"  
7. Photograph #10 of 18
- #11 1. "Antique" Building  
3. Unknown  
4. Ca. 1940  
6. Looking east at framing of "Antique" Building. Note Helmuth Deetjen with back to camera.  
7. Photograph #11 of 18
- #12 1. "Antique" Building  
3. Unknown  
4. Ca. 1940  
6. Looking easterly at southwest (side) elevation of "Antique" Building under construction. Note fencing and setting.  
7. Photograph #12 of 18
- #13 1. "Antique" and "Champagne" Buildings  
3. Marie Dietrich  
4. Ca. 1950  
6. Looking easterly at northerly (facade) and southwesterly (side) elevations of "Antique" Building with "Champagne" Building at center rear.  
7. Photograph #13 of 18
- #14 1. "Antique" Building  
6. Same view as photograph #13 taken in 1990.  
7. Photograph #14 of 18
- #15 1. "Antique" Building  
6. Looking south at northerly (facade) elevation of "Antique" Building  
7. Photograph #15 of 18



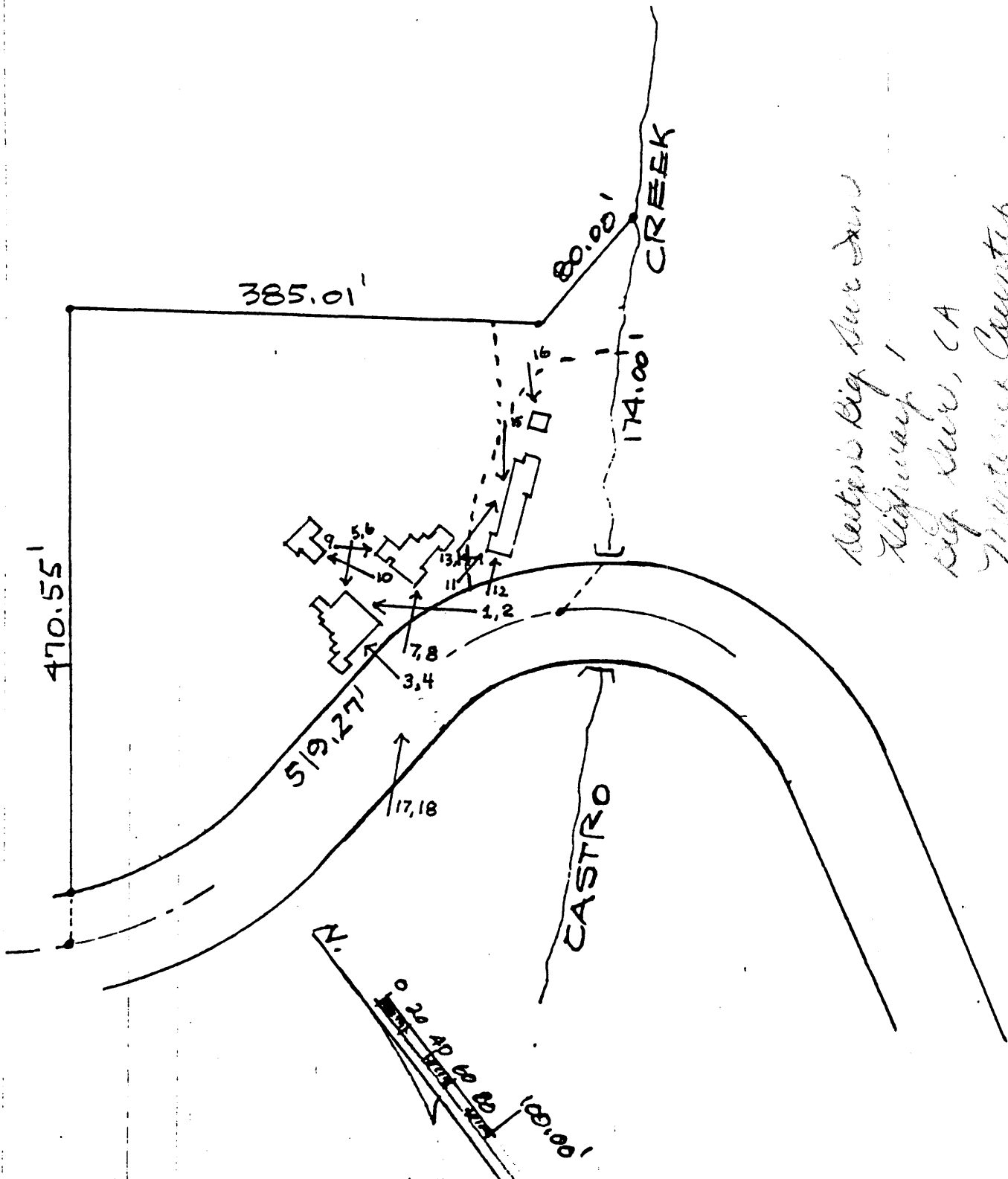
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- #16 1. "Champagne" Building
- 6. Looking southwesterly at northeasterly (side) and northerly (facade) elevations of "Champagne" Building.
- 7. Photograph #16 of 18
  
- #17 3. Unknown
- 4. Ca. 1953
- 6. Looking northeasterly at Deetjen's Big Sur Inn in its Castro Creek Canyon setting on the northeast side of Highway 1 in Big Sur, California.
- 7. Photograph #17 of 18
  
- #18 6. Same view as photograph #17 taken in 1990.
- 7. Photograph #18 of 18



Deetjen's Big Sur Inn  
 Highway 1  
 Big Sur, CA  
 Monterey County

**DEETJEN'S BIG SUR INN  
 PHOTOGRAPHIC KEY.**