

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

| |
|---|
| Name of Property |
| County and State |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

Section number _____ Page _____ 1

Supplementary Listing Record

NRIS Reference Number: SG100002212

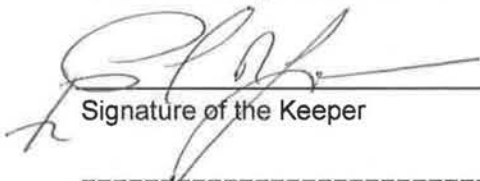
Date Listed: 03/19/2018

Property Name: Lyons Ranches Historic District

County: Humboldt

State: CA

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

3/19/2018
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Location:

The Address is revised to read: *Bald Hills Road, Redwood National Park.*

Significance:

The *Significant Date 1972* is removed as it is outside of the documented period of significance. [All individual dates must be within the period of significance.]

The *Cultural Affiliation* box should be left blank. [Cultural Affiliation is intended only for use with NR Criterion D.]

The CALIFORNIA SHPO and NPS FPO were notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

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

56 2212

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Lyons Ranches Historic District

Other names/site number: Lyons Ranches

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: Bald Hills Road

City or town: Orick State: CA County: Humboldt

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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


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

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

 national statewide x local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

 x A B x C D

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
|  <hr/> Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>NPS FPO</u> | <u>1/30/2018</u> <hr/> Date |
| <hr/> State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government | |

| | |
|---|--|
| In my opinion, the property <u> </u> meets <u> </u> does not meet the National Register criteria. | |
| <hr/> Signature of commenting official: | <hr/> Date |
| <hr/> Title : | <hr/> State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government |

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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1. Name of Property

Historic name: Lyons Ranches Historic District

Other names/site number: Lyons Ranches

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: Bald Hills Road

City or town: Orick State: CA County: Humboldt

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

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

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


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

___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

XA ___B XC ___D

| | |
|--|----------------|
| <u>Steve Metz SUPT</u> | <u>12/5/17</u> |
| Signature of certifying official/Title: | Date |
| <u>REDWOOD NP</u> | |
| State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government | |

| | |
|--|--|
| In my opinion, the property <u>x</u> meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. | |
|  | <u>12/19/17</u> |
| Signature of commenting official | Date |
| <u>Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer</u> | <u>California Office of Historic Preservation</u> |
| Title : | State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government |


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County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

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


Signature of the Keeper

3/19/2018
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

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

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <u>7</u> | <u>1</u> | buildings |
| <u>10</u> | <u>0</u> | sites |
| <u>19</u> | <u>10</u> | structures |
| <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | objects |
| <u>36</u> | <u>11</u> | Total |

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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Domestic – camp
- Domestic – secondary structure
- Domestic – single dwelling
- Funerary – cemetery
- Agriculture – storage
- Agriculture – agriculture field
- Agriculture – animal facility
- Agriculture – horticultural facility
- Landscape – forest
- Landscape – unoccupied land
- Landscape – natural feature
- Transportation – road-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Domestic – camp
- Domestic – secondary structure
- Domestic – single dwelling
- Government – fire station
- Funerary – cemetery
- Recreation and Culture – outdoor recreation
- Agriculture – storage
- Agriculture – agricultural field
- Agriculture – animal facility
- Agriculture – horticultural facility
- Landscape – park
- Landscape – forest
- Landscape – unoccupied land
- Landscape – natural feature
- Landscape – conservation area
- Transportation – road-related

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other: Vernacular

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Foundation - wood and concrete; Roof - wood shingles, composite asphalt shingles, and metal; Walls – wood, metal, and glass

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The 5,660 acre district is located within the Bald Hills of the Redwood National Park, Humboldt County, California and is set within the prairies and oak woodlands of the Redwood Creek watershed. The District is protected by its inclusion within the Park, is nearly devoid of intrusions after the period of significance, and has a high degree of integrity. Contributing resources of the District include its eight prairies and within the prairies are features that contribute to the significance of the District, but not listed separately. Many small-scale features exist as remnants, including remnants of orchards, fencing, water troughs, ponds, pieces of machinery, boards from collapsed corral systems, etc. Key buildings and structures are vernacular in their style, and continue to be maintained by park staff. These buildings and structures are listed separately as contributing resources and include: the Bald Hills Road, ranch roads built before 1959, the Elk Camp Sheep Shed, Lane House and Garage, Dolason Sheep Shed, Home Place Barn, Bunkhouse, Dooleyville Line Cabin, Long Ridge Sheep Shed, and the Coyote Sheep Shed and Line Cabin.

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INTRODUCTION

The District is located within the Bald Hills of the Redwood National Park (Park), Humboldt County, California and is set within the prairies and oakwoods of the Redwood Creek watershed (see Photograph 1). The District is reached via the Bald Hills Road from State Highway 101 and is approximately nine miles inland from the coast. The 5,660-acre District is comprised of a series of eight prairies and the features within these prairies that remain from the Lyons family sheep ranching era. The eight prairies of the District extend for approximately six miles, with each prairie being no more than a mile from the next. They are located along the ridge of the hills and are naturally occurring features that have been modified over time by the cultural practices of the various groups of people who have inhabited this region.

The District is significant under Criterion A at the local level for its association with the history and development of the Bald Hills as a sheep ranching community and for its association with the establishment and development of social and economic relationships between Native American people and the immigrant Euro-American society in the Bald Hills. The District is also significant under Criterion C at the local level as an example of a large-scale sheep ranch from the late 19th and mid-20th centuries. Its period of significance — 1868-1959 — encompasses the period of time that sheep ranching was a viable activity in the Bald Hills. During this period, the Lyons ranches were representative of Bald Hills sheep ranching. The District retains its distinctive natural features — the prairies that were the foundation of the ranching enterprise; it retains its spatial organization; and it retains examples of all of the types of ranch-related features — circulation-related features, work structures, family housing, worker housing, domestic outbuildings, vegetation-related features, and water-related features.

The District, protected by its inclusion within the Park, is almost devoid of intrusions after the period of significance. Contributing resources of the District include its eight prairies (Elk Camp, Dolason Hill, Counts Hill, Childs Hill, Schoolhouse, Lower Coyote Creek, Long, and Coyote Creek prairies). Within the prairies are features that contribute to the significance of the District but are not listed separately. Instead they are included within the designation of the prairies as contributing resources. These are mainly vegetation and water-related features. Many exist as remnants and they are small-scale elements. Included are remnants of orchards, fencing, water troughs, ponds, pieces of machinery, boards from collapsed corral systems, etc. Key buildings and structures, because they are discrete and of a more permanent nature, are listed separately as contributing resources and include: the Bald Hills Road; ranch roads built before 1959; the Elk Camp Sheep Shed, Lane House, and Garage at the Elk Camp Prairie; Dolason Sheep Shed in the Dolason Hill Prairie; Home Place Barn, Bunkhouse, Outhouse, and Cemetery at the Home Place in the Schoolhouse Prairie; the Dooleyville Line Cabin in the Lower Coyote Creek Prairie; and Long Ridge Sheep Shed in the Long Prairie; and the Coyote Sheep Shed, Line Cabin, and Outhouse in the Coyote Creek Prairie.

SUMMARY OF LAND USES

The land uses within the Bald Hills have evolved over time as the different people who have lived here have shaped it by their actions. The uniting feature over time has been the presence of the prairies. Basically, there have been three different periods of land use in the Bald Hills. The first involved the

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Native American land use. This was replaced by the ranching period of the Euro-American settlers, and finally there is the Park landscape that exists today.

Native Americans' cultural practices were the dominant factor shaping the land prior to European settlement in the mid-19th century. The Native Americans lived in the Bald Hills for at least 6,000 years before the European settlers came. They used the area for villages, seasonal camps, trails, or ceremonial sites. They burned the prairies and oak woodlands to keep them open for game, to stimulate the growth of plants used in basketry, to attract wildlife, and to make food gathering easier.

European settlement, which began in the 1860s, resulted in a change in land use as a result of the ranching practices of the European settlers. Utilizing the prairie grasslands for grazing livestock was the primary adaptation that the Europeans made. The Lyons family, who lived on the Bald Hills prairies and made a living by ranching from 1868 through 1972, is part of this European settlement. In 1873, Jonathan Lyons introduced sheep to the Bald Hills, and for the next 100 years livestock grazing was the predominant land use. Sheep remained on the prairies through the 1960s, and cattle grazing continued until the Bald Hills area was added to the Redwood National Park in 1978.

The District is now within the boundaries of Redwood National Park. When the land in the District passed from private ownership and became part of the National Parks system, ranching began to be phased out. The prairies began to be shaped by the National Park Service's management policies related to vegetation, wildlife, and cultural resources management. The Park's goals are to restore and maintain the diversity of plants and animals that prevailed when the area was first visited by Europeans (National Park Service 1992: 27) and to protect and preserve the pre-historic, historic, and ethnographic cultural resources. Actions related to these policies have included the removal of some roads related to restoring vegetation and wildlife habitats; removal of invasive plant species, such as Douglas-fir, through controlled burns and mechanical means; and reintroduction of native plant species. The Park's management practices are "cultural practices" that reflect its current use as a protected or Park landscape as opposed to ranch landscape. Today, the prairies are open grasslands used by wildlife for forage and by Park visitors for scenic enjoyment.

THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

The Bald Hills occupy a transitional zone between the coastal environment and that of the forested interior. The *Bald Hills Vegetation Management Plan*, prepared by the Park, provides the following overview description of the Bald Hills natural environment:

The Bald Hills of Redwood National Park occur as discontinuous grasslands (prairies) and oak woodlands alternating with coniferous forest along the ridge crest dividing the Klamath River and Redwood Creek drainages . . . Within the boundaries the prairies and oak woodlands begin five miles (eight kilometers) from the Pacific Ocean and extend inland in a southeast direction for another seven miles (eleven kilometers) at elevations from 250 to 3,100 feet (76 to 945 meters). Near the coast, the oaks form narrow strips between the prairies and redwood/Douglas-fir forest. Moving inland [and within the Lyons Ranches Historic District], the oaks begin to extend upstream channels into the prairies, becoming continuous woodlands near Schoolhouse Peak. The oak

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woodland/prairies mosaic is locally known as the Bald Hills (capitalized) and represents the northern extent of a regional vegetation type also known as bald hills (lower case) (Griffin 1977, National Park Service 1992: 7).

Climate

The climate of California's north coast is often described as Mediterranean, with cool, rainy winters and cool, rainless, but often foggy, summers. The Bald Hills region, however, experiences a wider range of temperatures; its interior location can result in hot summer days and the elevations, which reach 3,100 feet, can result in much colder winter temperatures than those experienced at the coast. Cold winter storms that dump rain on the coast often cover the prairies with snow.

Geology and Soils of the Bald Hills

The geology and soils of the Bald Hills help to provide an explanation for the presence of the prairie grasslands that give the Bald Hills their characteristic appearance. The Bald Hills area, with an average gradient of 34 percent, is underlain by sheared sandstones and mudstones of the Franciscan assemblage (Harden et al. 1978). The area contains many large, slow-moving landslides or earthflows, many of which are found within the prairies (Walter 1985). Deep-seated landsliding is an important geomorphic process responsible for shaping landforms and may partly explain the presence of the prairies and the absence of mature forest.

Xeralfs¹, the most common group of soils in the prairies and oak woodlands, are characterized by a distinct increase in clay content with depth. The soils have impaired drainage and are most often found on slopes with lumpy and irregular or amphitheater-shaped relief. The underlying bedrock associated with these soils tends to be shale or is highly sheared. The impaired drainage of the soils is one likely cause of the resistance of these soils to colonization by Douglas-fir (Gordon 1980, National Park Service 1992: 8).

Umbrepts², the second most common group of soils in the prairies and oak woodlands, are distinguished from Xeralfs by the lack of a clay increase with depth. The soils are well drained throughout and are confined mostly to upper slopes and ridges. The topography associated with these soils is generally smooth and rolling, and the underlying bedrock tends to be siltstone or fine-grained sandstone. These soils are highly vulnerable to surface erosion without a grass or mulch cover, and Douglas-fir have been actively invading the areas with Umbrept soils (National Park Service 1992: 8).

There are marked differences in soils between the prairie/oak woodlands located along the ridge and upper slopes and the coniferous forests located in the lower slopes and along the drainages. Soils under prairies and oak woodlands are typically dark in color to a depth of about two feet (60 centimeters). In contrast, soils under old-growth conifer forests are dark to only about three inches (7.5 centimeters). Soils under prairies, oak woodlands, and conifer forest also differ chemically from one another (Popenoe 1987). Typically, prairie soils have more nitrogen and organic matter than either the oak woodlands or forest soils; the oak woodland and forest soils have a higher concentration of calcium and potassium in

¹ Most of these were formerly called Kneeland soils.

² Most of these were formerly called Wilder soils.

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the surface horizons than found in the prairie soils. The color and chemical differences indicate that these soils formed under different vegetation types, and since soil formation requires many centuries, the vegetation patterns must have been stable for a long time to allow the observed soil differences to develop (National Park Service 1992: 9).

Water

The District is located in the Redwood Creek watershed. Small watercourses drain the slopes of the Redwood Creek basin, with the larger streams originating in the forests of the western slope. Drainages off the east-slope prairies are generally ephemeral except for such creeks as Emerald, Copper, and Coyote. The prairies are dotted throughout with seeps and springs that sustain plant communities and wildlife, and in the past, provided for human occupants and domestic animals. Even during drought years and after months of hot, dry summer, these springs and seeps continue to produce surface water. One substantial spring heads Coyote Creek and produces a continuous flow of water year-round (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7: 3).

Vegetation in the Bald Hills

Vegetation Related to Humans

The vegetation features that have been specifically planted by humans are generally those related to ranching. These are now limited in scope, mainly because without an active ranching presence these features have begun to disappear. These features are generally located in the vicinity of the settlement areas and are described as “vegetation features” under the discussions for the prairies on pages 17 to 43. They included fields that were planted with oats, alfalfa, or other hay crops (none of which exist now), gardens for food production (none of which exist now), fruit and nut orchards (remnants of these exist at Elk Camp and the Home Place), berry patches (remnants can still be seen at the Home Place), and ornamental plantings such as flowering trees and daffodils (some of these remain at Elk Camp, the Home Place, and Coyote Creek).

Natural Vegetation Communities

The natural vegetation communities of the Bald Hills are the prairie grasslands, oak woodlands that border the prairies, and Douglas-firs that, over the past 150 years, have invaded prairie and oak woodland areas. The appearance of the vegetation during the Native American occupation of the area and during the period of ranching by the Lyons family would be similar to what is seen today, “however, the oak woodlands and prairies would have been larger, and the understory would have been more open due to burning by the Native Americans and early settlers” (National Park Service 1992: 13).

The prairies and oak woodlands alternate with Douglas-fir forests, which extend down the prairies’ small drainages and are gradually replaced by a mixed forest of tanoak and redwoods, and then by a narrow band of old-growth redwoods along Redwood Creek. Within the Park’s boundaries, the prairies and oak woodlands begin five miles from the ocean and extend inland in a southeast direction for seven miles, ranging in elevation from 250 to 3,100 feet. Near the coast, the oaks form narrow strips between the prairies and coniferous forests, but moving inland, the oaks begin to extend up the stream channels into the prairies, becoming continuous woodlands near the Park’s southern boundary.

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The *Bald Hills Vegetation Plan* (National Park Service 1992) provides the following discussion on the prairies:

The Bald Hills grasslands, locally called prairies, are presently a mosaic of native and non-native perennial and annual grasses and **forbs**. Of the 284 plant species known to occur in the prairies...67 percent are native and 33 percent are introduced or non-native. A handful of species, primarily non-natives, dominate the grasslands. The most common introduced species are tall oatgrass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), sweet vernal (*Holcus lanatus*), dogtail (*Cynosurus echinatus*), soft chess (*Bromus hordeaceus*), six weeks fescue (*Vulpia bromoides*), plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) and sheep sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*). Only two natives are found in significant numbers, California oatgrass (*Danthonia californica*) and foothill sedge (*Darex tumulicola*).

Little is known about the species composition of the prairies prior to European settlement, but many believe that California's coastal grasslands were dominated by native perennial bunchgrasses (Amme and Pitschel 1989; Burcham 1981; Heady et al. 1977; Keter 1989). The most comprehensive overview of early northwestern California grasslands comes from Davy (1902). Davy interviewed early settlers and examined voucher specimens from an 1860s agrostology study, and concluded that prior to the introduction of livestock, the vegetation was primarily native bunchgrasses including species of *Danthonia*, *Stipa*, *Melica*, *Poa*, and *Festuca*, with annual and perennial clovers. By 1902, *Danthonia californica* (California oatgrass) was already uncommon, but Davy felt that it might have been the predominant grass species in northwestern California grasslands prior to European settlement.

Selective livestock grazing on native perennial grasses during summer periods (when nonnatives have gone to seed), deliberate species introductions and heavy grazing pressures are cited as the primary reasons for the rapid replacement of native species with non-native state-wide (Keter 1989). Today *Danthonia californica* is the primary native grass in Bald Hills prairies, but distribution is patchy and comprises no more than 50 percent of the cover in any area. (National Park Service 1992: 9-10)

Oak woodlands coexist with the prairies. "Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*) dominates the oak woodland with scattered individuals of California black oak (*Q. kelloggii*). California bay (*Umbellularia californica*) and big-leaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*) are found near rock outcrops and stream channels" (National Park Service 1992: 10).

The third dominant vegetation community is Douglas-fir (*Psuedotsuga menziesii*). It is found ranging in size from seedlings to over-story trees throughout the Bald Hills. (Redwood [*Sequoia sempervirens*] is restricted to a band along Redwood Creek below the prairies.) Several past and present land-use practices have contributed to the increase of Douglas-fir within the Bald Hills and to their invasion into prairie and oak woodland areas. The cessation of burning in the 1920s- 1930s and the more recent suppression of lightning fires allowed the fire sensitive Douglas-fir to become established in greater numbers. In the past fires provided a natural check to the invasion of Douglas-fir. Livestock probably also contributed to the increased invasion by this tree. Bare ground, in areas that have been grazed or trampled, provided seedbeds for fir establishment. Finally logging of the adjacent old-growth redwood forests contributed to the increase in Douglas-fir. Road cuts and clear cuts were rapidly colonized by Douglas-fir (National Park Service 1992: 23-24).

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Park Vegetation Management Plan

As part of the management of the resources within the Redwood National and State Parks, the Park's goals are to restore and maintain the diversity of plants and animals that prevailed when the area was first visited by Europeans. The Park's vegetation management plan has three components: management to control the encroachment of Douglas-fir into prairie and oak woodland areas; restoration of native species; and restoration of wildlife habitat (National Park Service 1992: 27).

The nature of the Park limits the amount of work that can be done to restore or even maintain the vegetation features planted by humans. It is not practical to replant vegetable gardens for interpretation or to replant orchards with the original species of fruit trees. Gardens would require irrigation, as they did when the Lyons lived there, and orchards would attract bears.

Fauna

The prairies and oak woodlands support Roosevelt elk, black-tailed deer, coyote, black bear, bobcat, mountain lion, raptors, and a variety of small mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and birds. Redwood Creek provides habitat for populations of salmon, steelhead, and rainbow and cutthroat trout.

PATTERNS OF SPATIAL ORGANIZATION

According to Van Kirk, "utilization of the prairie grasslands for livestock grazing was the primary response made by the immigrant society to the natural environment" of the Bald Hills (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7: 5-6). This grazing and the associated settlements took place within the prairies. The prairies are connected to each other, and the outside world, by the Bald Hills Road that runs along the ridge of the Bald Hills. This pattern of spatial organization, which has existed for more than 140 years, is also present in the District and was augmented by a network of small, ranch roads.

There are eight prairies (Elk Camp, Dolason Hill, Counts Hill, Childs Hill, Schoolhouse, Lower Coyote Creek, Long, and Coyote Creek) within the District. The Lyons family's settlements are located within these prairies and were the location of major ranching activities. (See the maps attached after page 113.) The major ranching activities in each of these prairies were placed within a half mile to a mile from each other (See the attached map for the location of roads.). The Bald Hills Road located on the north/northwest edge of the District, connects the major ranching activities to the larger community. The Bald Hills Road connected the District to the coast to the west, and to the Klamath River to the east.

BOUNDARY DEMARCATIONS

There are several types of boundary demarcations within the District. One type of demarcation is with the legal boundaries that include the parcels of land owned by the Lyons family and the legal boundaries of the Park.

These legal boundaries are not as readily apparent on the landscape as are the boundaries of the vegetation communities. (See the attached map for the representation of the vegetation communities within the District.) The open grassland prairies' edges are defined by oakwoodlands or stands of evergreen trees. These prairie boundaries are the most visible within the District.

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Within the prairies, fencing was another level of boundary demarcation related to land use. Various types of fencing denoted the boundaries of pastures for grazing, fields for crops, corral areas for controlling sheep at barns and sheep sheds, domestic gardens and orchards, yards around houses, a family cemetery, etc. Only remnants of these various types of fencing are left. Field fencing can be seen in the Schoolhouse, Lower Coyote Creek, and Long prairies. Portions of collapsed corrals and domestic fencing can be seen at the Home Place.

CIRCULATION NETWORKS

The circulation network within the District consists of the Bald Hills Road located along the ridge of the hills and a series of internal ranch roads that connect the various prairies (and ranching operations).

Bald Hills Road

The primary road within the District is the Bald Hills Road. This two-lane road begins at the coast at State Highway 101, just north of the town of Orick, and continues east for 35 miles to Martins Ferry at the Klamath River. Besides providing access to the east and west, the Bald Hills road provided access to and between the Lyons family's various ranching operations that are located in a series of prairies along a six-mile stretch of this road.

At its intersection with Highway 101, the Bald Hills Road turns inland and travels through alder woods and redwood forests, climbing to an elevation of 1,700 feet. About five miles from the ocean is the first prairie — the Gans Prairie (SE qt. sec. 1, T10N, R1E).

The road continues to climb another two miles to the Redwood Creek Overlook (sec. 18, T10N, R2E), an old log landing which now provides a panoramic view of the west slopes of Redwood Creek. This overlook is at an elevation of 2,100 feet.

After another two miles, the road breaks out of the forest onto the large Elk Camp Prairie (sec. 29 T10N, R2E), which falls steeply down slope to a line of conifers. This prairie was part of the Sherman Lyons ranch and marks the northern boundary of the District.

The next prairie is the Dolason Hill Prairie, the site of the Dolason Sheep Shed. It is reached from the Bald Hills Road via the Dolason Trail. The trailhead is about a mile south of the Elk Camp Prairie.

A half mile beyond the Dolason Trailhead is the Counts Hill Prairie (SW qt. SW qt. sec. 3 and sec. 10, T9N, R2E). The main body of the Counts Hill Prairie extends down slope from 2,400 to 800 feet (dropping 1,600 feet in just over a mile). At this point, the Cagle Ridge Prairie and Antonio Lyons ranch are located above (northeast of) the Bald Hills Road. This property, privately owned and outside the boundaries of the Park, is not included in the District.

Less than half a mile south of the cutoff to the road that leads to the Cagle Ridge Prairie is the Childs Hill Prairie (secs. 14, 23, and 24, T9N, R2E). At the southern end of Childs Hill Prairie, the road, which has been paved with asphalt, becomes graveled.

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The Bald Hills Road continues in a southeasterly direction for about a mile. At the base of Schoolhouse Peak, the road turns south into the Schoolhouse Prairie (sec. 25, T9N, R2E), which extends westward on the ridge that terminates in what was historically called Sluffman's Point. This is about sixteen miles from the beginning of the Bald Hills Road. At this point, the Bald Hills Road turns east.

Also at this point are two ranch roads. One, the Lyons Road, leads south and west for about two miles to Home Place. The Lower Coyote Creek Prairie is located about a mile south of the Home Place, at an elevational drop of about 1,300 feet. This is the location of the Dooleyville Line Cabin. The other road, which drops south off of the Schoolhouse Ridge, is the Long Ridge Road that leads down to the Long Prairie and Long Ridge Sheep Shed; these are located about three quarters of a mile down slope from the ridge.

This road continues curving eastward and then south for a mile and a quarter to the Coyote Creek Prairie, the location of the Coyote Sheep Shed.

The road continues southeast for about a mile and then turns north and continues for about a half mile to the location of the Coyote Line Cabin and Outhouse. This road, now called Rock Fork Road, continues northward and intersects the Bald Hills Road in about a mile.

Ranch Roads

The ranches of the Lyons family were linked both to each other by Bald Hills Road and a series of internal ranch roads. The roads that connect to the Bald Hills Road include Lyons Road linking the Home Place to Bald Hills Road, and Rock Fork Road, beginning just off Bald Hills Road at Coyote Peak Road. All of these roads were un-paved and narrow — one lane wide (10 to 12 feet). The primary ranch roads remain, and portions of the secondary roads remain. The primary ranch roads are now graded.

Research conducted on aerial photographs by Park geologist Becca Smith (Smith 1996) has provided the following list of dates when various roads appeared within the District, and illustrates how the locations of roads constantly evolved to meet the changing needs of the ranching, and later timber, operations. The dates of the roads have since been refined as earlier aerial photographs have become available (Louellen and Provencher 2004). The attached map shows the location of the roads within the District.

Pre-1936 Roads: Roads that appear to date from the initial settlement period, and the beginning of active sheep ranching, include:

Lyons Road

The Lyons Road is a graded dirt road that runs for almost two miles from the Bald Hills Road to the Home Place.

Elk Camp Road

The Elk Camp Road connects the Bald Hills Road with the Elk Camp Sheep Shed.

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1936-1959 Roads: Roads that appear to date from 1936 to 1959, and so were built during the active ranching period, include:

Bald Hills School Road

This short route is approximately one half-mile long, of which only 500 feet are within the Park and District. This short length is three-quarters of a mile south of Elk Camp, on the north side of the Bald Hills Road.

Maneze Road

Maneze Road is a two-track dirt road that runs southwest from Bald Hills Road for one-half mile and provides access into the Childs Hill Prairie, where the road ends.

Schoolhouse Pasture Road

Schoolhouse Pasture Road is a one-half-mile two-track road which leaves the north side of the Upper Lyons Road 800 feet west of the Bald Hills Road.

Long Ridge Road

Long Ridge Road was a primary ranch road connecting the Long Prairie and Long Ridge Sheep Shed with Lyons Road. It leaves the south side of Lyons Road 500 feet from the Bald Hills Road, and runs southeast for three quarters of a mile to an intersection with the Ranch Road at the Long Ridge Sheep Shed.

Ranch Road (Between Long Ridge Sheep Shed and Rock Fork Road)

Ranch Road is a partially graded dirt road. It is approximately three miles long, which runs along the contours approximately halfway up the Coyote Creek basin. It begins one-half mile east of the Home Place Barn on Lyons Road, intersects with the Long Ridge Road at the Long Ridge Sheep Shed, and continues to the southeast past an intersection with Rock Fork Road, past the Coyote Barn, terminating at the Main Stem Road. Only the portion between the Lyons Ranch Road and the Rock Fork Road are contributing.

Rock Fork Road

Rock Fork Road is a two and a half-mile long graded dirt road that leaves the southern side of Bald Hills Road approximately one and a half miles past the Lyons Road intersection. It runs south for a mile and a half past the Coyote Creek Line Cabin before it turns northwest to end at Ranch Road.

Main Stem Road

Main Stem Road is a mile long partially graded dirt road that leaves Ranch Road to the southwest, just south of the Rock Fork Road intersection, and rejoins Ranch Road one third of a mile south of the Coyote Creek Barn.

Coyote Peak Spur

This short road is less than one half-mile long, of which only the bottom intersection with Coyote Peak Road is within the Park and the District.

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Coyote Peak Road

Coyote Peak Road runs southeast for one and a quarter mile from the Rock Fork Road, leaving it just south of the Bald Hills Road. Its route leaves and re-enters the southeast corner of the Park (and District).

Roads That Post-Date Sheep Ranching

During the logging period, between the 1940s and 1978, roads were needed for hauling timber. The logging operations used existing ranch roads and then constructed new roads to the areas in which the timber was being cut. The roads specifically constructed for hauling timber were removed by the Park as part of their efforts to restore habitats.

There remain roads that were built after the period of significance. These roads post-date 1959 and include:

Ranch Road (Between Lyons Road and Long Ridge Sheep Shed)

Ranch Road is a partially graded dirt road. It is approximately three miles long, which runs along the contours approximately halfway up the Coyote Creek basin. It begins one-half mile east of the Home Place Barn on Lyons Road, intersects with the Long Ridge Road at the Long Ridge Sheep Shed, and continues to the southeast past an intersection with Rock Fork Road, past the Coyote Barn, terminating at the Main Stem Road. The one and one-third mile segment of Ranch Road between Lyons Road and Long Ridge Sheep Shed was found to be non-contributing.

Spring Road

Spring Road is less than one mile long and connects Lyons Road, Ranch Road, and Upper Mid Basin Road.

Coyote Creek Road

Coyote Creek Road is over two and a half miles long, running south from Lower Mid-Basin Road. After one half-mile, it leaves the Park (and the historic District).

Upper Mid-Basin Road

Upper Mid-Basin Road continues east from Spring Road and joins Ranch Road, east of the junction of Ranch Road and Long Ridge Road.

Lower Mid-Basin Road

Lower Mid-Basin Road is less than one mile long and connects Ranch Road to Coyote Creek Road.

School Loop

School Loop is a quarter mile long road which branches southwest from Coyote Creek Road.

Bridge Road

Bridge Road routes southwest from Main Stem Road to Coyote Creek Road with portions outside of the Park (and District).

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Lower Rock Fork Road

Lower Rock Fork Road branches south from Rock Fork road and terminates after less than one half-mile.

T. Bear Road

T. Bear Road is a dirt road that extends for over three quarters of a mile southwest off of Main Stem Road in Coyote Creek Prairie, to the west of the Coyote Creek Sheep Shed.

Upper Lyons Road

The Upper Lyons Road is an abandoned road, which runs south for one half-mile from the Schoolhouse Pasture Road to the Lyons Road.

PRAIRIES

Based on soil analysis, the prairies have been a feature of the Bald Hills for thousands of years. Currently, the oak woodlands and prairies are three-fourths the size they were in 1850. The main reason for this decrease in size has been the encroachment of Douglas-fir into the prairies and oak woodlands. "Douglas-fir is a rapid invader into these areas and if left undisturbed quickly overtops and out competes shade-intolerant oaks" (Reed and Sugihara 1987 in National Park Service 1992: 21).

The prairies are the central defining feature of the District. They were the backbone of the ranching economy, furnishing year-round forage for the sheep, which were seasonally moved between prairies and elevated areas. "Historic accounts and contemporary interviews indicate that some prairies were set aside for hay, others were grazed, and still others were cultivated for grain crops, including barley, oats, and wheat, as well as alfalfa for hay" (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7: 25). The Lyons family's settlements — containing barns, sheep sheds, houses, gardens, and orchards — were located within these areas.

Prairies within the District include, beginning at the north, Elk Camp Prairie, Dolason Hill Prairie, Counts Hill Prairie, Childs Hill Prairie, Schoolhouse Prairie, Lower Coyote Creek Prairie, Long Prairie and Coyote Creek Prairie. Each prairie, and the major ranching features located within it, is described below. See the attached map for the locations of the prairies within the District.

ELK CAMP PRAIRIE

Elk Camp Prairie (SE qt. NE qt. sec. 29, T10N, R2E, elevation 2,320 feet) is located on the south side of Bald Hills Road approximately 9 miles from its intersection with Highway 101. Elk Camp Prairie is approximately 130 acres in size and gets its name from "a nearby natural salt lick that was frequented by elk herds" (Turner and Turner 72). Elk have returned to forage here since the removal of livestock in the early 1980s. This prairie was part of the first lands acquired by Jonathan Lyons. He owned 460 acres at Elk Camp. In 1888, he transferred this land to his sons Anderson (age 25) and Sherman (age 23). Sherman built his house in the Elk Camp Prairie, and the prairie was part of what was known as the "Sherman Lyons Ranch." The prairie was part of the ranch landscape from 1888 until 1978, when the Park acquired the land from Simpson Timber Company. Simpson Timber Company had leased the land to the Ford, Land, and Livestock Company who in turn had leased it to Doug Lane, the last rancher to live there.

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Photographs 2-5 show features at Elk Camp Prairie. A sketch map of the prairie and its features is attached.

The settlement at Elk Camp is located in eastern edge of the prairie. The types of features located within Elk Camp Prairie include:

- circulation features: Elk Camp Road
- work structure: Elk Camp Sheep Shed
- family residences: Lane House
- domestic outbuildings: Garage and Outhouse (collapsed),
- vegetation features: orchard and plum hedge
- water-related feature (two ponds)
- small-scale elements (hay bailers)

Contributing resources include:

- Elk Camp Prairie (which includes the driveway, collapsed outhouse, ponds, machinery, orchard and plum hedge)
- Elk Camp Sheep Shed
- Lane House
- Garage

Circulation Features

The Sherman Lyons Ranch is reached by Elk Camp Road off of the Bald Hills Road. The road is graveled and is approximately 10 feet wide. There is a modern gate across the road at its intersection with the Bald Hills Road.

Work Structures

Elk Camp Sheep Shed

Description: Located on the Sherman Lyons Ranch about an eighth of a mile below the Bald Hills Road and on a prairie slope, the Elk Camp Sheep Shed (Trinomial: CA-HUM-710H³; LCS⁴ ID: 021071) is a nearly square structure that measures 57 feet, 3 inches from front to rear and is 55 feet, 4 inches wide. Resting on a wood post foundation, the building conforms to the land's topography; up-slope walls are shorter than down slope walls, with the only level space being the floored, post-elevated mow.

In plan, the shed consists of three parallel bays and a perpendicular bay across one end. The central bay has a raised floor and walls in order to serve as a hay mow measuring 42 feet by 25 feet, 8 inches. The side aisles are 14 feet, 6 inches and 15 feet wide, and the rear aisle is 13 feet, 8 inches wide.

³ Trinomials are listed for features that have been previously been assigned this designation. No new trinomials were given as part of this registration form.

⁴ The Park's List of Classified Structures (LCS) identification numbers are listed for features that have been previously assigned this designation by the Park. No new LCS numbers were given as part of this registration form.

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The structure of the central bay is also the central structural frame of the shed as a whole. The central bay is built of large timbers in a rectangular frame that is four bays deep and one bay wide. The vertical posts of the central frame support a cross beam with diagonal braces at both ends and a notched longitudinal beam on top. This is different both in design and details from the older Home Place Barn. On both sides of the structure of the central bay and at the rear, secondary frames are built into the central frame. Each secondary frame is a rectangular gable-shaped structure that utilizes existing members of the central frame along one side. The inside chord of each gabled bent is a diagonal pole that appears to lean outward and upward from the central frame to the roof. This system of frames might be visualized as a frame for a tall rectangular box abutted on three sides by equal sized frames for low, rectangular gable-roofed sheds. These frames are enclosed on the sides by walls of hand-split vertical wood planks sometimes overlain with battens at the joints. The roofs, clad in wood shingles, are formed by laying rafters over the tops of the frames. Over the main part of the shed, rafters are laid from the ridge down over the corner of the central frame and over the outside chords of the gabled bents. The resulting roof form can be described as a hip and gable roof. The siding, shingles, and other details are attached to the frame by round nails.

The shed is oriented so that the sides and rear face the wind. Because the walls are low and the large roof with its sloping planes has an almost aerodynamic shape, the building design may deflect wind. The height and steepness of the roof also sheds snow and served to facilitate the operation of the mechanical hayfork, designed similar to the one on the Home Place Barn. At the front of the shed, a high gabled wall protected from prevailing winds encloses the three parallel bays. At the peak of the gable are a hoisting beam and a hayfork above a high opening. With this apparatus, a wagon loaded with loose or baled hay could have pulled up at the end of the barn, protected from the wind. A mechanical hayfork could have been lowered on pulleys to load hay into the wagon, then raised to the high door which is sheltered by a hay hood. From there it was pulled back inside along tracks under the ridge over the hay mow and released. Below the mow, there is a trough in the west aisle, which was easily filled from the mow. In addition to the loft opening there is a large opening at the front of each side aisle on the gable ends and at the southwest corner of the rear (south) facade.

In 1984, the Park replaced the existing shake shingle roof with a new shake shingle roof, replaced a number of roof poles, replaced all missing siding, and added new supports to strengthen the structure to support the weight of new materials (all new supports are marked with "1984") (Smith 1985b).

In December 1995 and January 1996, major storms hit northwest California and resulted in major damage to Elk Camp Sheep Shed. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds were obtained to pay for the repairs. Missing siding and doors were replaced and supports, which originally consisted of redwood posts placed directly into the ground, were replaced with redwood posts anchored onto subsurface concrete footings (Smith 2000).

Use: The Elk Camp Sheep Shed, was likely built before 1936 with round nails and hand split vertical plank siding. Historically, the Elk Camp Sheep Shed was part of Sherman Lyons ranch

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and was used to store hay and feed and shelter sheep. Today, it is vacant and not in use. The Elk Camp Sheep Shed is a contributing feature of the District.

Family Residences

Lane House

Description: The Lane house is a one-story balloon-frame structure on a perimeter foundation of reinforced concrete. The walls are enclosed by V-groove siding. The interior is lit by small, square window openings whose original wood sash has been replaced by aluminum sash. Similarly, the original wood doors have been replaced by aluminum doors. The house is in an L-plan consisting of a large rectangular main house and a smaller rectangular wing covered by intersecting gable roofs. The main wing is entered through an enclosed projecting entrance vestibule with a gable roof. A secondary entrance into the smaller wing is covered by a shed-roofed porch. The house is modestly decorated with the imagery of a Craftsman Bungalow, notably in the design of the roof and its details — medium-pitched gables with overhanging eaves, exposed rafters, and fascia boards. Window trim of simple boards reinforces the Craftsman character established by the roof. The pattern of the window size and placement — a series of small square windows at the same height — suggests the work of a carpenter unfamiliar with architectural design.

On the north side of the house there is a semi-circular garden formed by a stone retaining wall in the hillside that rises nearby.

Use: Doug Lane, who ranched here prior to Park expansion in 1978, lived in the house. The Lane House was built after the original Sherman Lyons house was destroyed by fire in the summer of 1954. It has been a Park ranger's residence, but it is currently not in use. The Lane House is part of the ranch landscape and is a contributing feature to the District.

Domestic Outbuildings

Garage

Description: The Elk Camp garage (Trinomial: CA-HUM-710H; LCS ID: 058581) is a rectangular wood-frame structure built on a foundation of wood posts and stone footings. Its walls are enclosed by board and batten siding, and the building is covered by a gable roof with overhanging eaves and exposed rafters. The garage is entered through a pair of double doors that are replacements for the original doors. Inside, there is room for one automobile. From its size, materials, and structure, the garage appears to have been built sometime between 1910 and 1940.

Use: This garage appears to have been constructed during Sherman Lyons' lifetime. It is located west of the Lane House and adjacent to the site of the original Sherman Lyons house, which burned in 1954. Its original function was an automobile garage. Today, it is not in use. The garage is a contributing feature to the District.

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Outhouse

Description: The remnants of the outhouse (Trinomial: CA-HUM-710H; LCS ID: 058580) is located just up-slope from the Elk Camp Sheep Shed beneath orchard trees and surrounded by prairie and scattered oaks below the ridge where conifers and oaks are more densely clustered. The outhouse is now collapsed, although its location is still evident. However in the previous 1994 draft NRHP registration form (Smith and Van Kirk 1994), this structure was described as measuring 3 feet, 6 inches by 3 feet, 2 inches and standing about 8 feet tall. It was a “single-holer” and was constructed of milled lumber, had a gabled roof, and vertical-board siding. A “half moon” decorated the door.

Use: The exact date of construction is unknown. The outhouse’s original function was as a secondary domestic structure. Today, it is collapsed and is nonfunctional. This outhouse is included as part of the Elk Camp Prairie in the list of contributing features.

Vegetation Features

Orchard and Plum Hedge

There are remnants of an orchard that includes about six trees (apple, pear, and plum). A prune plum hedge is located on the hillside southeast of the house and garage. (Another plum hedge is also found at the Home Place.) The orchard and hedge are part of the ranch landscape and are included as part of the Elk Camp Prairie in the list of contributing resources.

Water-Related Features

Two Ponds

To the northwest of the Elk Camp Sheep Shed, under a stand of trees, is a small manmade pond created by damming the drainage coming off the hillside. Another small manmade pond is located to the south of the Sheep Shed. The ponds are part of the ranch landscape and are included as part of the Elk Camp Prairie in the list of contributing features.

Small-Scale Elements

Nearby the outhouse (collapsed) are two hay bailers (ca. 1950s) left at the end of a haying season beneath Sherman Lyons’ apple and pear trees. These machines are included as part of the Elk Camp Prairie in the list of contributing resources.

DOLASON HILL PRAIRIE

The Dolason Hill Prairie (NW qt. NW qt sec. 4, T9N, R2E; elevation 1,880 feet), approximately 98 acres, is located about one mile south of Elk Camp Prairie on the south/southwest side of Bald Hills Road. “Dolason” is a corruption of James Donaldson’s name. An early Bald Hills settler, Donaldson claimed this prairie and grazed a herd of mules along with a few horses, colts, and cattle in the late

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1860s. (Turner and Turner 75) The Dolason Hill Prairie was a part of Sherman Lyons' ranch, and the land was under the control of Lyons by 1892.

The prairie runs in a southwesterly direction down the slope from the Bald Hills Road. Its main feature is the Dolason Sheep Shed, which is located approximately in the middle of the prairie. This building can be reached by walking down the Dolason Trail from the Bald Hills Road.

Photographs 6-8 show features at Dolason Hill Prairie. A sketch map of the prairie and its features is attached.

The types of features located within Dolason Hill Prairie include:

- work structure: Dolason Sheep Shed

Contributing resources include:

- Dolason Hill Prairie
- Dolason Sheep Shed

Work Structures

Dolason Sheep Shed

Description: The Dolason Sheep Shed (Trinomial: CA-HUM-438H; LCS ID: 021070) was originally built ca. 1914 with the same gable-and-hip roof, central hay mow, and side and rear aisles as the Home Place Barn, the Long Ridge Sheep Shed, and Elk Camp Sheep Shed; however, it retains only the north-side aisle, the other two having been removed at some time in the past. Referred to as the "halfbarn," the shed measures 41 feet by 41 feet with a 20 foot north-side aisle. Assuming the rear and south-side aisles were of similar dimensions, the original shed would have measured about 60 feet by 60 feet, as described in a 1914 newspaper reference.

As it stands, the structure of the original central bay is still the central structural frame of the shed. The central bay is built of large timbers in a rectangular frame that is four bays deep and one bay wide. On the north side of the structure of the central bay, a secondary frame is built into the central frame. The secondary frame is a rectangular gable-shaped structure that utilizes existing members of the central frame along one side. The inside chord of each gabled bent is a diagonal pole that appears on the interior to lean outward and upward from the central frame to the roof. This system of frames might be visualized as a frame for a tall rectangular box abutted on one side by a frame for a low, rectangular gable roofed shed. These frames are enclosed on the sides by walls of vertical hand-split wood planks sometimes overlain with battens at the joints. The roof, clad in wood shingles, is formed by laying rafters over the tops of the frames. Over the main part of the shed, rafters are laid from the ridge down over the corner of the central frame and over the outside chords of the gabled bents, resulting in an uneven gable roof. The height and steepness of the roof sheds snow and served to facilitate the operation of the mechanical hayfork. At the front of the shed, the two parallel bays were enclosed by a high gabled wall protected from prevailing winds. At the peak of the gable were a hoisting beam and a hayfork above a high opening. With this apparatus, a wagon loaded with loose or baled

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hay could pull up at the end of the shed, protected from the wind. A mechanical hayfork could be lowered on pulleys to load hay into the wagon, then raised to the high door. From there it was pulled back inside along tracks under the ridge over the hay mow and released. The Dolason Sheep Shed does not have a hay hood. There are three doors in the front (northeast) facade, one above the other, for access at different levels to the mow.

The hay mow is elevated on posts and covered with rough-split boards. Partial siding on the north separates the mow from the feeding aisle, but with the south and rear aisles gone, the mow abuts a wood weatherboard at the rear and sheet metal siding on the south side. The long gabled roof on the north was re-shingled during the summer of 1993; the cut-off south-side roof is covered with sheet metal.

In 1984, the Park replaced a portion of missing siding, repaired a portion of the roof, and replaced one roof pole (Smith 1985b).

In December 1995 and January 1996, major storms hit northwest California, and resulted in major damage to the Dolason Sheep Shed; it “shifted on its supports.” FEMA funds were obtained to pay for the repairs and the supports, which originally consisted of redwood posts placed directly into the ground, were replaced with redwood posts anchored onto subsurface concrete footings (Smith 2000). The corrugated metal roof was replaced with redwood shakes, believed to be the original material.

Use: The Dolason Sheep Shed appears from a newspaper article to have been built in 1914. It was part of Sherman Lyons’ ranch. The Dolason Sheep Shed’s historic function was for the storage of hay and the sheltering and feeding of sheep. Today it is vacant, accessible by the Dolason Trail, a hiking trail, which connects the Bald Hills Road with Redwood Creek. The Dolason Sheep Shed is part of the ranch landscape and is a contributing feature to the District.

COUNTS HILL PRAIRIE

The Counts Hill Prairie (SW qt. SW qt. sec. 3 and sec. 10, T9N, R2E) is located on the west side of Bald Hills Road about a half mile south of Dolason Hill Prairie. The prairie is approximately 253 acres. The main body of the Counts Hill Prairie extends down slope from 2,400 to 800 feet (dropping 1,600 feet in just over a mile). It is named possibly for Edward Le Count or a James Karl Counts (Turner and Turner 53). It was part of Sherman Lyons’ ranch. There was an airstrip located in this prairie that was used during the post-World War II logging operations. While the airstrip is not part of the ranch landscape, the Counts Hill Prairie was part of the historic ranch landscape. There are no structures or buildings in this prairie. However, an informant mentioned that in the past there were chimneys here that were used by herders who stayed in tents while camped with the sheep.

Contributing resources include:

- Counts Hill Prairie

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CHILDS HILL PRAIRIE

The Childs Hill Prairie (secs. 14, 23, and 24, T9N, R2E; elevation 2,200 feet) stretches for about two and a half miles on the east side of Bald Hills Road just south of Counts Hill Prairie and includes approximately 621 acres. This prairie was named for either William or Barney Childs, who purchased the land in 1885 (Turner and Turner 49). In 1900, Jonathan Lyons and his son Antonio leased a portion and owned another small portion of this land. There are no standing structures or buildings in this prairie.

However, there are small-scale elements related to circulation, work structures, family residences, vegetation, and water features. These were identified by Park staff during November 1996 following a prescribed burn that removed vegetation that had obscured the small-scale elements (Smith 1996). These include:

- a developed well and redwood water troughs, located below the Maneze Road, an older ranch road, most of which has been removed
- three apple trees, located on a flat west and below the top of Maneze Road
- a hand dug well (described in the archaeological site record for CA-HUM-449H)
- a collapsed barn (described in the archaeological site record for CA-HUM-445H)
- a cabin/homestead site (including an orchard of apples, pears, and plums; plum tree windbreak, and possible house site as evidenced by pottery fragments, two springs, the remains of a rail fence, and a water trough constructed of redwood planks. This site is located down slope, towards Redwood Creek, from the Bald Hills Road, at a point about one mile north of Tomlinson's Stage Stop.

Contributing resources include:

- Childs Hill Prairie (includes the small-scale elements described above)

SCHOOLHOUSE PRAIRIE

Schoolhouse Prairie (secs. 25 and 26, T9N, R3E; elevation 2,400 feet) is located south of Childs Hill Prairie. The prairie extends for a little over two miles in a southwesterly direction on the ridge that terminates in what was historically called Sluffman's Point. The prairie is about sixteen miles from the beginning of the Bald Hills Road and derives its name from the school that was located on Jonathan Lyons' ranch in the 1870s. This school burned in the 1950s (Turner and Turner 191). At the northeastern end of the prairie is Schoolhouse Peak (elevation 3,097 feet).

This prairie is the location of the Home Place, the original homestead of Jonathan and Amelia Lyons. The Home Place (SE qt. SE qt. sec. 26, T9N, R2E) is located about two miles from the Bald Hills Road at the end of an unpaved ranch road that is known as Lyons Road. This property was the ranch of Jonathan Lyons, and following his death, it was owned by his sons Antonio and Sherman. It passed from them to Antonio's son, Gene.

Photographs 9-20 show features in the Schoolhouse Prairie and at the Home Place. A sketch map of the Home Place and its features is attached.

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The types of features located within Schoolhouse Prairie include:

- circulation features: Lyons Road, Upper Lyons Road, Schoolhouse Pasture Road, and Ranch Road
- work structure: Home Place Barn
- worker housing: bunkhouse
- domestic outbuildings: shed
- vegetation features: orchard
- family cemetery
- small-scale elements

Contributing resources include:

- School House Pasture Prairie (which includes the orchard and small-scale elements)
- Lyons Road, and Schoolhouse Pasture Road,
- Family Cemetery
- Home Place Barn
- Bunkhouse
- Shed

Non-contributing resources include:

- California Department of Forestry (CDF) Fire Lookout

Circulation Features

The circulation features in the Schoolhouse Prairie include several ranch roads. Lyons Road is the oldest ranch road in the District. It is a narrow, one-lane, unpaved road that starts at Bald Hills Road and ends two miles later at the Home Place. Schoolhouse Pasture Road is a secondary ranch road that begins about a half mile down Lyons Road and goes in a southwesterly direction.

Work Structures

Home Place Barn

Description: The Home Place Barn (Trinomial: CA-HUM-481H; LCS ID: 055737), a late 19th century building, is the focus of the Home Place cluster. The Home Place Barn is the oldest of the four existing barns or sheep sheds that were built on the same model. Its structural design, general interior plan, and overall appearance are similar to the others, but there are some important differences in its structural materials and in interior features associated with different uses.

The Home Place Barn is on a site sloping to the northwest. It has a nearly square footprint, measuring 50 feet, 4 inches across its gable end and 55 feet, 7 inches along its sides. Inside, three parallel rectangular bays are oriented with their short ends across the front, and a fourth bay stretches across the opposite short ends at the rear. The side and rear bays are about 16 feet wide. The central bay was provided with a raised floor and walls in order to serve as a hay mow (20 feet, 4 inches by 41 feet). In the rear aisle, at a

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level below that of the floor of the hay mow, is a series of small animal pens. In the south aisle are several features added long after the barn was built. These include troughs below the floor of the hay mow and five stalls along the troughs, all built with round nails. At the east end of this aisle is a loft floor at the same level as the hay mow. The north aisle has a dirt floor.

The structure of the central bay is the central structural frame of the barn as a whole. On both sides of this central bay and at the rear, secondary frames were built into the central frame. Each secondary frame is a rectangular gable-shaped structure that utilizes existing members of the central frame along one side. The inside chord of each gabled bent is a diagonal pole that appears to lean outward and upward from the central frame to the roof. This system of frames might be visualized as a frame for a tall rectangular, flat-topped box abutted on three sides by frames for low, rectangular gable-roofed sheds. The frames are built of heavy timbers connected with mortise and tenon joints and pinned with pairs of wood dowels. The central frame is four bays long and one bay across. The five vertical timbers along each side support a longitudinal beam that rests on top of the timbers. The ends of the frame are connected by horizontal beams below the top of the timbers. These frames are enclosed on the sides by walls of hand-split vertical wood planks sometimes overlain with battens at the joints. The roofs, clad in wood shingles, are formed by laying rafters over the tops of the frames. Over the main part of the barn, rafters are laid from the ridge down over the longitudinal beam at the top of the central frame and over the outside chords of the gabled bents. The resulting roof form can be described as a hip and gable roof. Walls, shingles, and other elements are attached to the structural frame by square nails.

Viewed from the outside, the loft door opening at the top of the gabled-ended front of the barn is sheltered by a hay hood. This is created simply by extending the ridge line and the eaves at the top of the gable. A hay track is suspended from a beam that is nailed to collars that tie the rafters just below the ridge. (With binoculars, it is just possible to read letters indicating that the mechanism was patented on 22 November of an unknown year.) The hay fork was lowered on a pulley to a wagon full of loose hay in front of the barn, then raised in the shelter of the hay hood to the loft door, and pulled inside over the hay mow where it was released.

At the ground level, there is a rolling door with a mechanism labeled “No. 1061 Door Hangar . . .” opening into the south aisle. The north side has openings of various sizes for ventilation and a door. The south side has a sliding door and other covered openings. The floor inside is in the middle of the south side opening. As built, the south side openings are characteristic of horse barns.

In 1984, the Park put new corrugated metal sheeting on the hip roof; secured loose metal sheeting on the metal roof, replaced missing doors and siding with materials from on site; and removed the house Gene Lyons built in the 1950s. Around this time, corrals, fences, and sheds were removed from the vicinity of the barn (Smith 1985b).

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During the fall of 1999, the barn's supports, which originally consisted of redwood posts placed directly into the ground, were cut and anchored onto subsurface (ideally) concrete footings. The corrugated metal sheeting on the hip roof was replaced with wood shake shingles (which would have been the original roofing material) (Smith 2000). The doors on the west side have been replaced and rehung.

Use: The Home Place Barn was built in 1897 or 1898, to replace an earlier barn that had burned. Historically, the Home Place Barn was used to provide shelter for horses, cattle, and sheep and to store hay and feed. One informant described it as being used for shearing in the 1960s (Ford 2001). Today it is vacant and not in use. The Home Place Barn is a contributing feature to the District.

Worker Housing

Home Place Bunkhouse

Description: The bunkhouse (Trinomial: CA-HUM-481H; LCS ID: 021072) is located south of the Home Place Barn, across the drainage that contained a reservoir and water system, which supplied domestic water for this building and the 1950s house on the nearby flat, to the north. Tanoaks, maples, and pepperwoods have invaded the Bunkhouse site, almost enveloping the building.

The bunkhouse is an irregular structure built in several phases resulting in an overall floor plan that is generally H-shaped. The primary elements of the bunkhouse are two rectangular, gable-roofed structures of different sizes. The west house measures 16 feet, 7 inches by 12 feet 8 inches, and the east house measures 20 feet, 3 inches by 14 feet, 6 inches. One or both of these original houses may have been built elsewhere and moved to this site (one may possibly be the home of William Lyons, who had a house at the Home Place, but left the ranch in 1909). The west house is of plank wall construction, and the east house is of post-and-beam construction (suggesting that it may originally have been a non-residential working farm structure). Both houses are similar in appearance, with board-and-batten exterior walls and steeply pitched gable roofs. The houses are situated on the north bank of a stream with their south end walls lined up. Because the east house is larger, it projects farther to the front. There are shed-roofed additions at the south ends of both houses and along the west side of the west house. The longest of these extensions, at the rear of the west house, measures 12 feet, 5 inches by 10 feet, 4 inches. A covered, wire-enclosed chicken coop is tacked onto the south wall of the east house.

All the roofs are covered with corrugated sheet metal. At one time, the original verticalboard siding of the west house was also covered with sheet metal. In 1999, the Park removed the metal siding. A corrugated steel covered walkway between the structures was also removed at a later time. Other doors into the shed additions lead into storage spaces and not into the main interior. The west house appears to have older fenestration, including an opening in the gable above the front door, providing access to an attic or loft. The horizontal proportions of windows in the east house look newer, perhaps added after World War II.

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Inside the west house, the interior of the shed addition is part of the main interior space. The shed addition contains a wooden sink and drainboard, with the stovepipe protruding through the house roof. Rusted bedsprings on bunks in the house and an assortment of domestic items, including an old refrigerator outside the building, indicate this building's past use.

Inside the east house, a partition separates the front from the back with the front unfinished and the back containing a kitchen finished with flush boards for the walls and ceiling.

Use: The Home Place Bunkhouse historically served as a worker housing, possibly first for a single resident, but later as housing for ranch workers and shearing crews. Today, it is vacant and not in use. The bunkhouse is a contributing feature to the District.

Domestic Outbuildings

Outhouse

Description: A short distance from the northwest corner of the bunkhouse is a rectangular outhouse (LCS ID: 058559), measuring 6 feet, 4 inches by 5 feet, 4 inches. It is about 10 feet tall. It is constructed of milled lumber, has board-and-batten siding, and a metal-clad gable roof. The structure is entered through an off-center opening whose door has been removed. It is of single-wall construction with no insulation or interior walls.

Use: The outhouse's original function was as a secondary domestic structure. Today, it is not in use. The outhouse is a contributing feature to the District.

Vegetation Features

Orchard

To the northeast of the Home Place Barn are the remains of an orchard. The orchard contains English walnut, plum, cherry, pear, and apple trees. Grapes and blackberries also grew at the Home Place, and there are black walnut trees south of the bunkhouse. The remains of a fence are evident on the north and east sides of the orchard. These fences also support grape vines and roses. Hazel bushes are unexpectedly abundant for the area around the Home Place, as well and thought to have been planted or cultivated by Amelia for traditional basket materials. In the spring of 2000, during a site visit, two different types of daffodils were growing and blooming in this area. The orchard site, fencing, and vegetation (fruit and nut trees, grapes, blackberries, daffodils, wood hyacinths, and bearded iris) are part of the ranch landscape and are included as part of the Schoolhouse Prairie in the list of contributing features.

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Home Place Cemetery

Description: The Home Place Cemetery (Trinomial: CA-HUM-481H; LCS ID: 058561), a small family cemetery, is located westerly and down slope from the Home Place Barn, shaded by hardwoods and big Douglas-fir trees. The plot, measuring 17 feet, 6 inches by 16 feet, 8 inches, is enclosed by a wire fence that has wood posts and a metal gate. The plot contains a single grave stone that bears the name of Julius Lyons, (the last Lyons child born and the second to die), and the years of his birth and death (1878-1895). (It is possible that there is a second burial of a ranch hand.) At the time of the initial site visit for this nomination, there was one large Douglas-fir, the stump of another Douglas-fir, and a number of tanoak seedlings within the enclosed area of the cemetery. The stump contained the gravestone of Julius Lyons and the tree, when living, had grown around this gravestone and it was barely visible.

In the spring of 2000, the Park cut down the Douglas-fir and removed all brush from within the fenced area of the cemetery. The grave stone was removed from the Douglas fir stump, and both stumps were cut down to just below the ground surface. The Park museum curator cleaned the tree's pitch off the grave stone with acid, and it was reset in subsurface concrete in its original location. The deteriorated wood posts of the fence were replaced and the original wire fence was reattached (Smith 2001).

Use: This cemetery continues in its historic function as a burial place. This cemetery is a contributing feature of the District.

Small-Scale Elements

Small-scale elements at the Home Place and in the Schoolhouse Prairie are related to vegetation and water-related features. These were identified by Park staff during November 1996 following a prescribed burn that removed vegetation that had obscured the small-scale elements (Smith 1996). These include:

- Daffodils at the site of the former 1950s house.
- Two dugout springs (one of which is fenced and the other showing evidence of wildlife use) provide one more cultural element of these fields.
- Two stock ponds located just below the Bald Hills Road, just east of the road that leads up to Schoolhouse Peak.
- Three water troughs and a spring box located just below Bald Hills Road, one-half mile west of the road to Schoolhouse Peak.
- A stock pond located just below the Bald Hills Road at the first spring east of the intersection of Bald Hills Road and Lyons Ranch Road.
- A domestic water pond, located west and on a hill above the Home Place bunkhouse
- An apple tree and recent dump located just west of the Home Place bunkhouse.
- A liquor bottle dump and harrow, located farther to the west of the feature above.
- A stock pond, hand dug-out spring and water trough, located 0.2 mile east of the Home Place Barn.
- A spring box and water trough, located 0.4 miles from the Home Place Barn on Lyons Road.

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- A 10-foot section of slat fence located three quarters of a mile east of the Home Place Barn on Lyons Road.
- A harrow located south and adjacent to the junction of Lyons and Spring roads.
- A rock cleared field and fenced stock pond, located across Spring Road to north and east of Lyons Road.
- A water trough, with remains of metal and plastic pipe in its vicinity, adjacent to and east of Lyons Road.
- A stock pond, located below the portion of Lyons Road east of the junction with Schoolhouse Pasture Road.
- A rock pile and harrow, located along Schoolhouse Ridge.
- A spring box and water trough located west and down slope from Schoolhouse Ridge.
- A spring and water trough located west and about 50 to 75 feet below the large rock outcrop on Schoolhouse Ridge.
- A water trough, orchard (6 apple trees and a plum tree windbreak), and cabin site, located west and down slope from Schoolhouse Peak.

All of these small-scale elements are included as part of the Schoolhouse Prairie in the list of contributing resources.

Non-Contributing Feature

California Department of Forestry (CDF) Fire Lookout

Description: The California Department of Forestry Fire Lookout is located on Schoolhouse Peak (SW qt. SW qt. sec. 19, T9N, R3E) at an elevation of 3,050 feet. The fire lookout was built in 1939, rebuilt in 1940-1941 after it had burned, and renovated in 1976 when metal sheathing was added and a new top constructed.

Use: Historically, this structure was a fire lookout station for the California Department of Forestry. Today it remains a fire lookout station; however, since 1992, it has been operated by the National Park Service.⁵ While this structure was a part of the historic ranch landscape, it no longer has integrity due to its alterations. It is a non-contributing feature to the District.

LOWER COYOTE CREEK PRAIRIE

The Lower Coyote Creek Prairie (SW qt. SE qt. sec. 35, T9N, R2E; elevation 880 feet) is located about a mile south of the Home Place, at an elevational drop of about 1,300 feet. The only building located in

⁵ “According to informant Johnny Ciarabellini, the California Department of Forestry Fire Lookout at Schoolhouse Peak was built in 1939 and burned that same winter from a lightning strike after they failed to install the lightning rod. With WPA labor, including Mr. Ciarabellini, the lookout was rebuilt with all redwood timbers and siding in 1940-41. It was overhauled in 1976, when metal sheathing was added and a new top constructed. The National Park Service assumed operation of the lookout from CDF in 1992. Jonathan Lyons' son-in-law, Fred Arford, manned the lookout during World War II, looking for fires and enemy aircraft under the Eyes Aloft Program. His wife, Josephine, often stayed with him, and he continued this occupation into the 1950s” (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: 27).

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this prairie is the remote Dooleyville Line Cabin. The cabin's remoteness is created not by distance but by this elevation change. Informant Ken Spaulding recalled that the ride up from Dooleyville was so steep that the herders dismounted and were pulled up the hillside by holding onto their horses' tails (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: 22). This area was part of Jonathan Lyons' holdings; following his death it was owned by Antonio and Sherman Lyons, and passed from them to Gene Lyons. The prairie is approximately 23 acres in size. It was used for winter grazing (because of the low elevation it rarely snowed here), and in the past had a sheep shelter that, according to historic sources, was used for lambing.

The types of features located within Lower Coyote Creek Prairie include:

- worker housing: Dooleyville Line Cabin

Contributing features include:

- Lower Coyote Creek Prairie
- Dooleyville Line Cabin

Photographs 21-22 show features in the Lower Coyote Creek Prairie. The attached map shows the location of the prairie and the Dooleyville Line Cabin.

Worker Housing

Dooleyville Line Cabin

Description: The Dooleyville Line Cabin ((Trinomial: CA-HUM-529H; LCS ID: 021074), a mile straight south of the Home Place, is located on a small, steep-sloped prairie that extends down to Coyote Creek about a half mile upstream from its confluence with Redwood Creek. The one-room, gabled-roof cabin measures 12 feet by 10 feet, 3 inches and is 7 feet, 6 inches to the roof ridge. Both end-gable walls contain small squared windows, and the north end provides the entrance. Siding is vertical board-and-batten. Furnishings include wooden shelves, table, and a cot, with flattened cardboard boxes providing insulation and interior decor. Scattered inside and out are bottles, jars, dishes, and fragments that date to the 1940s. One informant dated the cabin's construction to ca. 1920s (Ciarabellini in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: n.p.).

Use: Historically, the Dooleyville Line Cabin was used as seasonal housing for herders. Today it is vacant and not in use. The Dooleyville Line Cabin is a contributing feature to the District.

LONG PRAIRIE

Long Prairie (SE qt. SE qt. sec. 25, T9N, R2E; elevation 2,120 feet) is located southeast of Schoolhouse Prairie and includes approximately 112 acres. This land was part of Jonathan Lyons' ranch. Following his death it was owned by his sons Antonio and Sherman Lyons. In 1930, when Sherman and Antonio divided their holding, it became the sole property of Antonio. It passed from him to his son Gene.

At the south end of this prairie are the Long Ridge Sheep Shed, a herders' trailer, and various small-scale elements including various water features and remnants of fencing. This cluster can be reached from Bald Hills Road via Ridge Road, an unpaved; it is about three quarters of a mile from the Bald

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Hills Road. The cluster is connected to the Home Place, to the east, via Ranch Road. It is connected to the Coyote Creek Sheep Shed, to the southeast, via Rock Fork Road. It is about a mile and a half from the Home Place and less than a mile from the Coyote Creek Prairie.

Photographs 23-28 show features in the Long Prairie. A sketch map of the Long Prairie and its features is attached.

The types of features located within Long Prairie include:

- work structures: Long Ridge Sheep Shed
- worker housing: Herders' Trailer (collapsed)
- small-scale elements that relate to vegetation and water features: fencing and water troughs

Contributing resources include:

- Long Prairie (includes small-scale elements)
- Long Ridge Sheep Shed
- Herders' Trailer (collapsed)

Work Structures

Long Ridge Sheep Shed

Description: The Long Ridge Sheep Shed (Trinomial: CA-HUM-961H; LCS ID: 058555) is located about a mile below Schoolhouse Peak. It is sited at the base of the prairie with its back against a rock outcrop, shaded by massive oaks. The Long Ridge Sheep Shed has a square footprint measuring 60 feet by 60 feet. In plan, it consists of three parallel bays and a perpendicular bay across one end. The central bay has a raised floor and walls in order to serve as a hay mow (20 feet by 40 feet). The aisles are 20 feet wide.

The structure of the original central bay is still the central structural frame of the shed. The central bay is built of large timbers in a rectangular frame that is four bays deep and one bay wide. On both sides of the structure of the central bay and at the rear, secondary frames are built into the central frame. Each secondary frame is a rectangular gable-shaped structure that utilizes existing members of the central frame along one side. The inside chord of each gabled bent is a diagonal pole that appears on the interior to lean outward and upward from the central frame to the roof. This system of frames might be visualized as a frame for a tall rectangular box abutted on one side by a frame for a low, rectangular gable roofed shed. The frame is enclosed on the north end by walls of vertical hand-split wood planks sometimes overlain with battens at the joints. The roofs, clad in metal sheathing, are formed by laying rafters over the tops of the frames. Over the main part of the shed, rafters are laid from the ridge down over the top corner of the central frame and over the outside chords of the gabled bents. The frame is notched and nailed together with round nails. Peeled poles are used in the gabled bents of the side and rear aisles. Hand split vertical planks were nailed to the outside and the hay mow as walls.

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Unlike the other barns and sheds, there are no walls on the sides and rear of this structure. The shed is oriented so that the sides and rear face the wind. Because the large roof with its planes sloping almost to the ground had an almost aerodynamic shape, the structure's design may have deflected wind. The height and steepness of the roof sheds snow and served to facilitate the operation of the mechanical hayfork. At the front of the shed, the three parallel bays are enclosed by a high gabled wall protected from prevailing winds. At the peak of the gable are a hoisting beam and a hayfork above a high opening. With this apparatus, a wagon loaded with loose or baled hay could pull up at the end of the shed, protected from the wind. A mechanical hayfork could be lowered on pulleys to load hay into the wagon, then raised to the high door sheltered by a hay hood. From there it was pulled back inside along tracks under the ridge over the hay mow and released.

Sheet metal has replaced the original roof shingles. Interior cross cables have been installed to stabilize the building.

In December 1995 and January 1996, major storms hit northwest California and resulted in major damage to the Long Ridge Sheep Shed; it "was blown off its supports." FEMA funds were obtained to pay for the repairs. Supports, which originally consisted of redwood posts placed directly into the ground, were replaced with redwood posts anchored onto subsurface concrete footings (Smith 2000).

Use: The Long Ridge Sheep Shed, built with round nails and hand-split vertical plank siding and likely built before 1936. Historically, the Long Ridge Sheep Shed was a storage facility for hay and was used to shelter and feed sheep in the winter. Today it is vacant and not in use. The Long Ridge Sheep Shed is a contributing feature to the District.

Worker Housing

Herder's Trailer (collapsed)

Description: A sheep herders' trailer (Trinomial: CA-HUM-961H) is located to the northwest of the Long Ridge Sheep Shed. This structure measured 16 feet by 6 feet, 6 inches and is 7 feet high. The trailer was built on a frame of wood and steel ribs enclosed by plates of sheet metal. These metal plates were attached to the frame by a combination of nails into wood ribs and screws into steel ribs. Seams between the metal plates and the heads of nails and screws were sealed with solder. Windows and doors were framed in wood. Interior walls were plywood. The jagged seams between the plates show clearly that this was a homemade rather than a manufactured trailer. The trailer was moved on a pair of wood wheels with wood spokes and rubber tires. These tires were set into recessed wheel wells near the rear. The underside of the front of the trailer curved upward, making room for the large rear tires of the tractors or wagons that were intended to pull it from place to place.

The trailer was built with a curving roof and a streamlined shape similar to Airstream trailers and school buses. On the left rear exterior wall, the word "office" was scratched

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into the sheet metal. On the right front exterior wall is an electrical plug, to draw electricity from an outside generator or other source. A hole in the roof once housed a stove pipe. Inside are the remains of a table and a sleeping bunk. The trailer is in a deteriorated condition and has collapsed.

Use: Historically, this trailer functioned as a mobile, seasonal shelter for herders. Judging from the word “office” scratched on the exterior rear wall, it may also have served in that function at some point. Today it has collapsed, but is still evident. This herders’ trailer is a contributing feature to the District.

Small-Scale Elements

Small-scale elements located in the vicinity of the Long Ridge Sheep Shed are examples of vegetation and water-related features and include:

- A line of fencing that runs above the road to the east of the Long Ridge Sheep Shed.
- A water trough located to the east of the intersection of the Long Ridge and High Prairie roads.
- A reinforced concrete water trough located to the northeast of the Long Ridge Sheep Shed.

These small-scale elements were included as part of the Long Prairie in the list of contributing resources.

COYOTE CREEK PRAIRIE

Coyote Creek Prairie (SE qt. NW qt. sec. 31, T9N, R3E; elevation 1,600 to 2,800 feet) is located approximately one mile southeast of Long Prairie and includes approximately 29 acres. This is the easternmost prairie within the District. This land was part of Jonathan Lyons’ ranch. Following his death, it was owned by his sons Antonio and Sherman Lyons, and when they divided their lands in 1930, it became Antonio’s. It passed from him to his son Gene. At the southwest edge of the prairie is the Coyote Creek Sheep Shed, and about three quarters of a mile to the east is the Coyote Creek Line Cabin, outhouse, pond, and various small-scale elements. These features can be reached via Rock Fork road.

Photographs 29-38 show features in the Coyote Creek Prairie. A sketch map of the Coyote Creek Prairie and its features is attached.

The types of features located within Coyote Creek Prairie include:

- work structures: Coyote Creek Sheep Shed
- worker housing: Coyote Creek Line Cabin
- domestic outbuildings: Outhouse
- small-scale elements that relate to vegetation and water features: a garden site, pond, irrigation pipes and water troughs

Contributing resources include:

- Coyote Creek Prairie (including the small-scale elements)
- Coyote Creek Sheep Shed
- Coyote Creek Line Cabin

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- Coyote Creek Outhouse

Work Structures

Coyote Creek Sheep Shed

Description: The Coyote Creek Sheep Shed (Trinomial: CA-HUM-962H; LCS ID: 058554), located at an elevation of 1,750 feet, was built long after the other large barns and sheep sheds on the Lyons ranches, and it is different in design from all the others. Whereas the others appear to have been built following traditional patterns, the Coyote Creek Sheep Shed appears to have been professionally designed and built.

The Coyote Creek Sheep Shed is located on a sloping site from east to west so that the dirt floor of each of its three bays is at a different level. The Sheep Shed is square in plan, measuring 50 feet by 50 feet. Its gable roof covers three parallel aisles that run through the building in a north-south direction. Because of a sloping site, the ridge of the gable is not over the center of the building, but over the row of columns that separates the eastern and central aisles, resulting in a much longer roof on the down slope side.

Structurally, the building is in two parts, with the eastern and central aisles having a substantial and unified structure. The western aisle is simpler and lighter in structure. The main structure consists of three rows of posts that support longitudinal beams and notched and braced cross beams. The western aisle consists of an extension of the main rafters to a row of posts at the downhill edge of the building. The extended rafters are spliced into the main rafters.

Three large openings face the prairie to the south, one retains its sliding door but the others are lacking doors. The north side is open and has no siding. Vertical-board siding covers the east, west, and south sides. The roof is sheet metal. In 1999, the Sheep Shed's supports, which originally consisted of redwood posts placed directly into the ground, were replaced with redwood posts anchored onto subsurface concrete footings (although some of these footings are above the ground line by a few inches) (Smith 2000).

Use: Historically, the Coyote Creek Sheep Shed, built ca. late 1940s or early 1950s, was part of Gene Lyons' holdings. Gene hired a local builder to construct this structure, and it was used as a lambing shed and to store hay. In later years when the ranch was leased (after 1960s), it was used for sheltering and feeding cattle. Today, it is vacant and not in use. The Coyote Creek Sheep Shed is a contributing feature of the District.

Worker Housing

Coyote Creek Line Cabin

Description: Located just below Rock Fork Road which dams Coyote Springs (at elevation of 2,640 feet), this one-room rectangular cabin measures 14 feet, 5 inches by 12 feet, 5 inches. The Coyote Creek Line Cabin (Trinomial: CA-HUM-963H; LCS ID:

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058552) is a wood structure built with a foundation of wood posts and stone footings on a sloping site. The cabin has a wood post-and-beam frame of two-by-fours with two bays on the short sides and three bays on the long sides. The corner posts are braced diagonally. The frame is enclosed by a mix of regular and irregular planks, some of them reused, nailed to the plate and the sill. There is no interior wall, but a second layer of planks is nailed to the exterior for insulation and there are battens on the rear wall. The frame is covered by a gable roof with a ridge beam. The roof has slightly overhanging eaves and is covered in long shingles. The interior is lit by two reused windows. The cabin is entered through one off-center wood door in the east end consisting of vertical planks on the outside and diagonal planks on the inside. The outside handle is a piece of bent iron, and the inside handle is wood.

Exterior marks indicate there were once a porch and perhaps a deck. The north wall has a 2 feet, 6 inch window with a single vertical division. A west-wall door opening appears to be an alteration, added perhaps when a plywood loggers' cabin, recently removed by the Park, was attached. There is a patched hole in the roof where the stove pipe had been. A rusted electrical switch box on the floor indicates the use of a generator.

Use: Historically, the cabin served as seasonal domestic housing for herders and hunters and was referred to as a "line cabin." Today it is vacant and not in use. This cabin is a contributing feature to the District.

Domestic Outbuildings

Coyote Creek Outhouse

Description: Located down slope to the south of the line cabin at an elevation of 2,620 feet, the outhouse (Trinomial: CA-HUM-963H; LCS ID: 058553) stands beneath the oaks, maples, and pepperwood trees along the drainage that conveys the waters of Coyote Springs down slope and into Coyote Creek. The Coyote Creek Outhouse measures 4 feet, 5 inches by 5 feet, and is 8 feet tall. It has a gabled-roof covered with wood shingles. It is built on a wood frame with four corner posts and diagonal braces. The frame is enclosed by irregular vertical planks on the front and rear. These are square at the top and not cut to the angle of the roof, resulting in openings for wind under the eaves. On the sides, the frame is enclosed by regular tongue and groove planks. Doors and hardware have been removed. The seat and hole are no longer present. The Coyote Creek Outhouse was destroyed by a fallen tree in 2011 and rebuilt in 2014.

Use: Its historic use was as a secondary domestic structure, ancillary to the Coyote Creek Line Cabin, but is not in use today. (It is not clear whether this outhouse has been moved to here from another location because no "hole" has been found.) This outhouse is a contributing feature to the District.

Small-Scale Elements

Small-scale elements that relate to vegetation and water features are located in this prairie and include:

- A garden enclosure located 350 feet west of the Coyote Creek Line cabin.

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- Spring and pond, measuring approximately 300 feet by 20 feet, located on the east side of Rock Fork Road, in the vicinity of the Coyote Creek Line cabin.
- Two concrete water troughs and a pond, located to the southeast of the pond described above.
- A concrete water trough located just southeast of the gate to the Rock Fork Road.
- Two wheel rims, associated with logging or ranching, located above the Rock Fork Road, near Coyote Creek Sheep Shed, just west of Coyote Rock.
- Plastic and metal water pipes located to the east of the Line Cabin. An informant said that Gene Lyons had plans to use the pipes (metal) to irrigate the pasture but that he never completed this project.

These small-scale elements are included as part of the Coyote Creek Prairie in the list of contributing resources.

SMALL-SCALE ELEMENTS

Small-scale elements that represent fragments or portions of features related to ranching are located throughout the District. They have been described within the sections related to the description of the prairies.

A concentrated effort to located and record small-scale elements was made by Park staff during November 1996 following a prescribed burn that removed vegetation that had obscured the small-scale elements. Field notes from this effort explained:

The majority of the features were water troughs and stock ponds. It is clear that the Lyons used many of the numerous small springs by constructing a small spring box and then piping the water to a trough. Additional features associated with water were recorded, as were occasional orchards, garden areas and farming equipment. There were also many fence lines, too numerous to record. Some of these fences followed section lines . . . but there were also additional fences, cross fences, and fences connecting trees and forming enclosures. The ranchers were liberal with their fences.

The majority of the features noted were in the Coyote Creek drainage. It is possible, in fact likely, that there are additional, similar features on other prairies, especially on the larger prairies, and those lower down on the slopes (Smith 1996:1).

There undoubtedly remain many more small-scale elements that have not been documented. It would be impractical, due to the large area of the District, and impossible, due to vegetation obscuring the elements at various times of the year, to document all small-scale elements within the District at one time. Documentation of these types of features will be an ongoing cultural resources management project within the Park.

The wide-ranging presence of these small-scale elements throughout the District is evidence of the degree to which the prairies were used for ranch-related activities. It is not possible to date most of these elements, but most appear, based on their associated uses, to be associated with ranching.

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

No archaeological sites are included as a contributing part of the District. Although archeological sites exist within the boundaries of the District, these are not documented as part of this nomination. Some of the historic archeological sites associated with Lyons ranching are recorded, some are known but not yet recorded, and in all likelihood, others remain to be found. Of the known historic archeological sites, none have been subjected to subsurface analysis. At the Home Place, a historic dump associated with one of the house sites was recorded as a feature of CA-HUM-481H. Artifacts noted include fragments of glass, pottery, wire, and cans. During subsurface stabilization work at both the Home Place and Elk Camp Sheep Shed, historic ranching and construction artifacts were encountered.

If the archeological component of the District, once defined, is substantial, the District also may be significant under Criterion D. This component would have the potential to yield critical, supplemental, detailed information about the history of the District.

However, the District overlaps the Bald Hills Archaeological District and Extension.

Bald Hills Archaeological District

The Bald Hills Archaeological District and the Bald Hills Archaeological District Extension are located within the area of the Lyons Ranches Historic District. The Bald Hills Archaeological District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1982. It includes:

nineteen archaeological sites on the east side of the lower Redwood Creek basin. The District includes a number of site types: villages, seasonal camps, trail use routes, concentrations, flake scatters and a ceremonial place. For the most part, the resources are located on the major trending and adjoining ridges of the east side of the basin, an area characterized by open prairies bordered by oak and redwood/conifer woodlands. Although the majority of the sites have suffered surface disturbance, the basic recoverable data has not been altered (Smith and Bickel 1980: 2).

The Bald Hills Archaeological District Extension was listed on the NRHP in 1985. It includes:

seven prehistoric archeological sites on the east side of the lower Redwood Creek basin. Since two of these sites are traversed by the Redwood National Park(RNP) boundary, only the portions of these sites on Federal lands are included in the extension. The seven sites were recorded after the preparation of the nomination form for the Bald Hills Archeological District (BHAD) which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 9, 1982. The extension includes three of the site types included in the existing District: village/seasonal camps, concentrations, and flake scatters. The sites, for the most part, conform to the existing pattern of locations on major trending and adjoining ridges, on or close to open prairies (Smith 1985a: 2).

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ETHNOGRAPHIC RESOURCES

The District overlaps an area studied by the Park in partnership with Yurok and Chilula peoples for its potential as an ethnographic landscape. An initial study found that the Bald Hills area:

comprises a number of elements associated with an ethnographic landscape that is used and valued in traditional ways by contemporary Native Americans. These elements include a number of ethnographic resources, including but not necessarily limited to, the following: ethnographic Chilula village sites of Nole'din and Kinkyole; the complex of known, unnamed prehistoric archaeological sites recorded in the Bald Hills evidencing millennia of Native American occupation and land-use; a number of ceremonial places; a sacred spring and fishing spot; specific plant resource collecting areas and resources that, if managed appropriately (e.g., burning) and had access granted would be used by Native peoples for traditional uses; important deer (and elk) hunting grounds desired by Native peoples to be opened for traditional hunting practices; a network of aboriginal trail segments; and a prairie-woodland mosaic landscape that is the result, in part, of pre-contact Native American land management, notably traditional burning practices. Also identified are a number of elements dating to the historic period that are important to contemporary Native Americans such as historic homestead sites occupied by family members, the old school site near Schoolhouse Peak, a logging boom town site, favorite stopping places for travelers crossing the Bald Hills between the coast and inland towns, and the old airport site where Native community gatherings that were traditionally held on the 4th of July (Gates, McConnell, and Eidsness 2000:19).

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Agriculture

Architecture

Exploration/settlement

Ethnic heritage: Native American

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Period of Significance

Criterion A: 1868-1959

Criterion C: 1868-1959

Significant Dates

1868 Jonathan Lyons settled in District at Home Place; 1873 Jonathan Lyons introduces sheep to Bald Hills; 1913 Jonathan Lyons death; 1959: End of period in which sheep ranching was a major source of livelihood for Bald Hills ranchers; 1972 Death of Gene Lyons, Jonathan Lyons' grandson and last of Lyons family to live and ranch in the District.

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Yurok

Chilula

Architect/Builder

N/A

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The District is significant for its association with the history and development of the northern Humboldt County as a sheep ranching region and as an example of a large-scale sheep ranch that was active from the late 19th through the mid-20th centuries. It is also significant for its role in the establishment and development of social and economic relationships between Native American people and the immigrant Euro-American society in the Bald Hills. Its period of significance — 1868-1959 — encompasses the period of time that sheep ranching was a principal activity in the Bald Hills. During this period, the Lyons ranches were representative of sheep ranching in the Bald Hills and northern Humboldt County. The District consists of the sheep ranches within the boundaries of Redwood National Park that were owned, leased, or used by three generations of the Lyons family: Jonathan and Amelia Lyons, four of the sons — Sherman, Antonio, Anderson, and William — and their grandson, Gene. The District, protected by its inclusion within the Park, is almost devoid of intrusions after the period of significance.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion A

The District is significant under Criterion A at the local level for its association with the history and development of northern Humboldt County and the Bald Hills as a sheep ranching community; and for its association with the establishment and development of social and economic relationships among the Native American people, the immigrant Euro-American society, and the landscape in the Bald Hills. The District represents these relationships as the home of the Lyons family, a family with Native American heritage, as a place of social and economic interaction between cultures, and as a place of continued Native American practices, and ranching activities and structures influenced by those traditional practices. From 1868 until 1972, the land within the District was the location the Jonathan and Amelia Lyons family's ranching operations. Their use of the land paralleled that of the larger Bald Hills community and so represents the development of sheep ranching in the area. The Lyonses, their sons, and grandson were prominent and successful ranchers within this community for a hundred years, and the District represents 100 years of sheep ranching.

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Criterion C

The District is significant under Criterion C at the local level as an example of a large-scale sheep ranching landscape in the Bald Hills. It retains the prairies that were the backbone of the ranching enterprise and examples of all of the key types of sheep ranching features. These types of features include circulation features, work structures, family residences, worker housing, domestic outbuildings, vegetation-related features, and water-related features. In addition, there remain throughout the District, various small-scale elements that provide evidence to the various aspects of the ranching operations. The District, protected by its inclusion within the Park, is almost devoid of intrusions after the period of significance.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE UNDER CRITERION A

Associations with Sheep Ranching in the Bald Hills

The District is significant under Criterion A at the local level for its association with the history and development of the Bald Hills as a sheep ranching community. From 1868 until 1972, the land within the District was the location the Jonathan and Amelia Lyons (figure 1) family's sheep ranching operations. The District consists of the sheep ranches within the boundaries of the Park that were owned, leased, or used by three generations of the Lyons family: Jonathan Lyons, his four sons — Sherman, Antonio, Anderson, and William — and his grandson, Gene. Their use of the land paralleled that of the larger Bald Hills community and so represents the development of sheep ranching in the Bald Hills. Lyons, his sons, and his grandson were prominent and successful ranchers within this community for a hundred years, and the District represents 100 years of sheep ranching.

The Lyons family's ranching operations were established by Jonathan Lyons. One of the first European settlers to move into the Bald Hills following the end of the "Indian Wars" in the 1860s, Jonathan Lyons had married Amelia and had settled on land within the District by 1868. He was the person responsible for introducing sheep into the northern part of Humboldt County in 1873, and for the next 30 years, he and his sons formally acquired land in the Bald Hills. Their pattern of land acquisition indicated a consolidation strategy to control major ridge-top portions of the Bald Hills where the transportation networks were well established and the grasslands for grazing were abundant. By 1900, Jonathan Lyons and his sons utilized all of the eight prairies that are a part of the District in their ranching operations.

Jonathan and each of his sons had their own settlement area within the District with a house, barn, and other features. Jonathan, and until 1909 William, were located at the Home Place, Sherman at Elk Camp, and Antonio at Cagle's Ridge (outside of the District). However, they owned and operated their land both separately and in various partnerships throughout the years. This type of operation allowed them to use the natural resources (grazing land) and man-made features (barns and sheep sheds) to maximize their efforts.

Their sheep ranch operations were representative of their times in that they reflected the concerns, attitudes, and market conditions of their community. However, Jonathan Lyons was recognized as a pioneer sheep rancher, and he and his sons were recognized as prominent and successful sheep ranchers. Contemporary references bear this out as do the numbers of sheep managed and volumes of wool they produced in comparison to other ranchers in the Bald Hills. Collectively the Lyons ranches were one of the two largest ranching operations in northern Humboldt County. The Lyons ranches were at the forefront of innovation and change in sheep ranching. An example of their ranching leadership occurred in 1898 when Jonathan Lyons was the first in the state to buy a new patented shearing machine that allowed "one man to do the work of four." The Lyons ranches were known for the quality of their wool, and in 1901, Jonathan Lyons was awarded a gold medal from the Paris Exposition for his high quality product.

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Figure 1. Jonathan and Amelia Lyons. (Date and photographer unknown.)

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The Lyons family and their ranches were also considered to be an integral and prominent part of the Bald Hills community. The first school was built on Lyons' land in the 1870s, and the school teacher lived at the Lyons' Home Place. When the community got a post office in 1896, it was placed in Jonathan Lyons' home. Contemporary newspaper references mention repeatedly the comings and goings of Jonathan and his son and their families, dances that were held at their homes, and the hospitality extended. Their success as ranchers allowed the Lyonses to provide their families with the comforts of the time including well-built homes and one of the first telephone lines in the community. The money earned from ranching provided them with the means to travel and to buy property outside of the District.

After Jonathan Lyons' death in 1913, the ranches continued to be operated by his sons Sherman and Antonio. Following these two men's deaths (Sherman in 1942 and Antonio in 1953), the ownership of the ranch lands passed to the third generation of the family — Gene Lyons, son of Antonio and grandson of Jonathan.



Figure 2. Jonathan Lyons and Pete Masten at Home Place in 1910. (Photographer unknown.)

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Figure 3. Sheep on their way to Long Ridge Barn on 16 December 1925. (Photographer unknown.)



Figure 4. Sheep in the barn. (Date and photographer unknown.)

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The District under the ownership of Gene Lyons represented the evolving character of sheep ranching in Humboldt County in the mid-20th century. Gene Lyons continued the family's active involvement in the developments in sheep ranching. In 1925, young Gene won prizes in the first annual wool show of the California Wool Growers' Association. A newspaper article stated that "Eugene Lyons . . . was awarded the two northern California trophies and the first sweepstakes prize for the best wool fleece . . . The winning of these three fine trophies by young Lyons is an excellent advertisement for Humboldt wool and a splendid endorsement of the efforts of the young man and his father to improve the breed of sheep and produce high quality wool." Later in his life, he introduced Columbia sheep into the county and was the first in the area to use "raincoats," which are plastic covers used to protect newborn lambs from rain.

Gene Lyons was a college educated sheep rancher who was identified as the first Native American to graduate from the California College of Agriculture at Davis (later this college became the University of California at Davis). He maintained his connection to the University and supported its scientific contributions to ranching throughout his tenure on the Lyons ranch. The University brought students to his ranch each year and conducted various experiments on the Lyons ranch land, such as determining what grass varieties were best for pasture.

Gene Lyons' contributions to animal husbandry continued after his death in 1972. His will established the Austin Eugene Lyons Memorial Trust at the University of California, Davis. The trust was for the "purpose of establishing, supporting and maintaining grants in aid to graduate students and/or practitioners of veterinary medicine for use in research into the causes, control and treatment of illnesses, diseases, and health problems of farm livestock and especially sheep and cattle." The income from the trust funds is used by the Department of Animal Science to provide stipends for graduate students, who are known as "Lyons Fellows." The Lyons Fellowships are considered prestigious. There are four to five fellowships awarded each year ranging from \$10,000 for partial support to \$45,000 for full support. In 2016 the trust produced income of approximately \$140,000 (Lee 2016).

Associations with the Relationships between Native American People and the Immigrant Euro-American Society in the Bald Hills

The District is significant under Criterion A at the local level for its association with the establishment and development of social and economic relationships among the Native American people, the immigrant Euro-American society, and the landscape in the Bald Hills. The District represents these relationships as the home of the Lyons family, a family with Native American heritage, as a place of social and economic interaction between cultures, and as a place of continued Native American practices and ranching activities influenced by those practices.

The immigration of Euro-American settlers into the Bald Hills displaced the Yurok, Chilula, and Hupa people and thereby disrupted their traditional ways of life. Traditional routes of travel from the coast to the inland were used and expanded by the miners getting to the Klamath River. This route became the Trinidad Trail, and from Elk Camp it continues south through the district, and on to the Hoopa Reservation as Bald Hills Road (Rich et al, 2011). Bald Hills Road continues to be the primary route into the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation. As inevitably happens whenever

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native cultures are invaded, personal, social and economic relationships were established with the immigrant society. Intermarriage between the Lyons family and the local native people is an example of such a relationship, which created familial ties and brought these two societies together. Amelia Lyons, Jonathan's wife, was a Hupa, and of their five children to reach adulthood, three were married to people of Native American heritage. Gene Lyons, grandson of Jonathan and Amelia and the last family member to live and work the lands in the District, identified as "an Indian" and as "the first Indian to graduate from UC Davis" by informants, and was also identified as "Indian" on his death certificate.

The District was a place of work for native people as they shifted from a self-sufficient, hunting and gathering economy to a dependent, monetary-based economy. Native Americans worked on the Lyons family's ranches in various capacities such as the sheep shearers, herders, fencebuilders, laborers and hay crews; they lived-in and helped with household chores or cared for the Antonio Lyons' children, and they attended school on the Lyons' land. They were integral members of the ranch community and the ranches depended on their labor and skills. For instance, Native American traditional practices of burning the prairies and the use of split boards, instead of milled lumber, may have shaped ranching practices in the Bald Hills. Ranching offered an important economic outlet for local Native American people in a time and a place where options and opportunities were not numerous. The Lyons' sheep ranching venture provided native people with opportunities to use their skills and their traditional cultural knowledge and skills to support themselves and their families (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 8: 14-15). In turn, their knowledge and skills helped to shape the development and landscape of the Lyons Ranches.

The Lyons family and their local Native American neighbors used the landscape to carry out traditional practice, which in turn influenced ranch management and practices. The performance of these practices allowed Native Americans and those with native heritage to maintain their identity and ties to the landscape during a time when the introduction of western culture threatened native society. The Lyonses participated in a few Native American traditional practices including basket weaving, gathering, hunting, and splitting redwood boards. Likewise, the Native American community was permitted to use the Lyons' land for hunting and holding social gatherings. It is likely that the social and economic relationships established between the Lyons family and Native Americans influenced ranching practices in the Bald Hills such as burning the prairies and using hand-split redwood boards in structures.

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE UNDER CRITERION A

The District's period of significance under Criterion A begins in 1868, the time by which Jonathan Lyons had settled on land in the District, and continues through 1959. The end date of 1959 represents the end of the period for which sheep ranching was a major presence in the Bald Hills. Beginning in the 1960s, the numbers of sheep ranches and the amount of wool and mutton produced in Humboldt County began to decline. The Lyons ranch continued to be an active and prominent sheep ranch through 1959.

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HISTORICAL CONTEXTS

The following historical contexts provide a summary of the history of sheep ranching in the Bald Hills and on the Lyons ranches and provide a context within which to evaluate the significance of the District under Criterion A. This information is taken primarily from *Home Place, An Historic Resources Study of the Coyote Creek Lands*, a 1992 report by Kathleen Stanton and Susie Van Kirk (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992) that researched primary sources for information on the Lyons's ranches. The newspaper articles in Stanton and Van Kirk's report were particularly useful in providing an ongoing portrait of life on the Lyons ranches.

Van Kirk documented the Lyons family's acquisition of land in the Bald Hills (through patent, purchase, and lease) between 1868 and the 1950s. The history of land acquisition in the Bald Hills by the various members of the Lyons family, during the late 19th century and on into the 20th century, attests to the growing prosperity of the family, provides insight into the development and growth of their sheep ranching enterprises, and when viewed through maps, illustrates how the family worked within the confines of the natural environment to establish their ranching operations.

Information in the 1994 draft NRHP registration form on the District prepared by Susie Van Kirk and Ann King Smith (Van Kirk and Smith 1994) was also used in preparing the historical contexts. Finally, the United States Census reports and information from people who have lived and worked in the area were additional sources.

Initial Settlement in Bald Hills Region of Humboldt County

The Bald Hills — the location of the Lyons Ranches Historic District — are located in the northern part of Humboldt County and are defined by the prairies that cover the upper slopes of the ridges that separate the Klamath River watershed from the Redwood Creek Watershed. Native Americans occupied the Bald Hills for at least 6,000 years prior to Euro-American settlement (Benson 1983; Bickel 1979; Hayes 1985), and archaeological evidence indicates that many locations in the Bald Hills were utilized by these groups as villages, seasonal camps, trails, or ceremonial sites. The Native Americans burned the prairies and oak woodlands to keep them open for game, stimulate the growth of plants used in basketry, attract wildlife, and to make food gathering easier. Ethnographic evidence indicates that this area was occupied by the ethnolinguistic group labeled "Chilula" by anthropologists. A common name for the native occupants in the 1800s was the "Bald Hills Indians." Today surviving members identify themselves as "Redwood Creek Indians" (Smith and Bickel 1980).

The Bald Hills have always been identified as a distinct place throughout the period of significance for the District (1868-1959). In 1874, a school teacher who was living at the Jonathan Lyons Home Place described the area as follows:

The Bald Hills of Redwood . . . extend from Elk Camp on the North to the North Fork of Redwood Creek [Lacks Creek] on the south, a distance of about 12 miles

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and from Redwood Creek on the west to Tulley's place, known as Big Prairie, on the east, a distance of 7 miles (*West Coast Signal*, 16 September 1874 in Van Kirk and Smith 1994).

Although indigenous people had inhabited the land for centuries, this region was one of the last areas of California to be settled by Euro-Americans. Spanish, British, and American ships passed along California's north coast and made landings, but the initial wave of Euro-American settlement began in 1850 after the discovery of gold in California in 1849. Although gold was the motivating force behind the region's settlement, the region's natural resources — forests, rivers filled with salmon, and land — were the wealth that supported and sustained its development (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7).

Following the initial settlement of the area by Euro-Americans, there were conflicts between the native and immigrant groups of people. These conflicts continued to escalate through the 1850s and culminated in the early 1860s in what was termed the "Indian Wars." During this period:

Homesteads, livestock, and crops in the field were abandoned as the [immigrant] settlers moved off the prairies and into coastal towns. Military operations out of Fort Humboldt at Eureka and field camps like Fort Anderson on Redwood Creek were initiated to gain some control of the situation. Lots of tracking, some encounters, and occasional captures were standard until "peace" was negotiated and the reservation in Hoopa Valley at Fort Gaston was established in 1864. The Chilula, closely allied culturally and linguistically with the Hupa, were removed from their homeland on Bald Hills to the reservation at Hoopa. Immigrant resettlement of the Bald Hills began soon afterwards (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7: 4).

The 1870 census for Klamath County, Martins Ferry post office, included both Klamath River and Bald Hills⁶ and listed about 160 people for this area. There were about five households with a total of 22 people along the ridge from Elk Camp to the Lyons Home Place. In 1872, a school was established close to the Lyons' house, where the teacher resided. The school teacher's 1874 account of the Bald Hills community described eight ranches, in addition to Jonathan Lyon's ranch, between Elk Camp and North Fork of Redwood Creek (Lack's Creek).⁷ The 1880 census for Humboldt County, Bald Hills Precinct, listed 16 households with 77 people. In 1896, the community, known as Elder, got a post office located in Jonathan Lyon's House (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7: 1-6). These settlers initially raised stock (cattle and horses), but after the mid-1870s sheep ranching would be the primary occupation and source of income for the people living in the Bald Hills.

⁶ Prior to 1874, the lands in the District were part of Klamath County. They became part of Humboldt County in the fall of 1874.

⁷ Six of the eight ranches identified in the school teacher's letter were eventually consolidated with the Lyons ranches so that the number of large land-owners in the immediate area of the District actually decreased as the Lyons' holdings increased.

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Sheep Ranching in Humboldt County

The establishment of sheep ranching in Humboldt County resulted from a combination of the favorable local conditions (mild climate, availability of large tracts of grassland suitable for grazing) that mirrored the conditions that resulted in the establishment of sheep ranching in the rest of the western United States. In the mid-19th century western United States, sheep ranching was a financially appealing source of income — “abundant land that was cheap or free, large stock of low-priced, hardy animals that were acclimated to semiarid range, and labor for hire at minimal cost.” Sheep offered the choice between two major products — wool and mutton. In the era of mining booms the demand was for mutton. As that market became satiated, sheep raisers turned to breeding for wool. Late in the century the trend turned back toward an emphasis on meat, partly because refrigerated shipments became possible, but partly because eastern consumers were showing an increasing fondness for lamb. However, during most of the years after 1860 wool was the important product. Wool was a good frontier crop because it could be transported long distances at manageable cost, with little danger of spoilage, and it brought a relatively high value per pound (Paul 1988: 209).

Wool was a national and international commodity subject to great fluctuations in price. In 1867, the United States Congress responded to this by establishing a protective tariff whose essential features remained in all wool tariffs passed down to 1913, except for a brief and (to the wool grower) disastrous experiment with free trade from 1894-1897. Even with protection against foreign wool, prices still showed a wide fluctuation. The Franco-Prussian War, for example, helped to push prices up to a high level in 1871-1872, just before the national panic of 1873 brought them down abruptly and kept them down until 1879. A brief period of high prices from 1879 to 1881 proved the prelude to a new decline when competition from the Southern Hemisphere — Australia, Argentina, South Africa, and India — was felt. By 1891, prices had already dropped, even before sheepmen felt the impact of the national panic of 1893 (Paul 1988: 209). The demand and price for wool had a peak during World War I and then again plummeted during the Great Depression of the 1930s. The demand rose again in the 1940s during World War II. The fortunes of sheep ranchers in Humboldt County were directly influenced by these factors and were reflected in the amount of wool produced in the county and its value.

Sheep were introduced into California in 1773 by Spanish priests (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census 1902). By the late 1850s, raising sheep was becoming an important industry within the state as production switched from mutton to wool (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census 1902), and in 1859, California’s first wool mill was established in San Francisco (Paul 1988: 211).

There were no sheep on the north coast of California until the late 1850s. Sheep were introduced into southern Humboldt County in the 1860s and into northern part of the county in 1873 by Jonathan Lyons. Humboldt County proved to be well suited to sheep ranching. The abundance of pasture land and relatively mild winters meant that sheep could be grass-fed on the open range without supplemental feed (without added expense of a feed lot) until they were shipped to market or until their wool was clipped. Sheep were raised both for meat and for wool production

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and were shipped to San Francisco to market. Additionally as sheep breeding became more sophisticated, some ranchers, including Jonathan Lyons, raised pure-bred ewes and rams for sale.

After the introduction of sheep into northern Humboldt County by Jonathan Lyons, large ranches were established, and the Bald Hills became an established sheep ranching community. In addition to Jonathan Lyons other ranching families included Thomas Bair with extensive ranching operations at Three Cabins, Madrone, and Rock Ranch on Mad River; James Anderson and Lawrence Ford near Blue Lake; Len Berry, Thomas Bair, and J. H. Hooker raised sheep in Redwood Valley and upper Redwood Creek; and the Tomlinson Ranch occupied Bald Hills prairies adjacent to the Lyons ranches (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7: 9).

Wool buyers considered northern Humboldt's wool, specifically that grown on the Bald Hills, to be the best in the nation and among the best internationally: "The product has established a reputation in the wool markets of the world, and buyers come from far and near to purchase" (Eddy 1893: 65). Part of the reason for this quality was that northern Humboldt's wool was "clean" — free from burrs, dirt, and other debris — due the open grassland grazing. "Clean wool" reduced the amount of processing that was required and thus raised its price. The wool produced there was recognized by San Francisco commission houses as "among the best in the market" and commanded top dollar (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7: 7).

In 1866, Humboldt County had 1,082 sheep. By 1866-70, the numbers had increased to 8,718, and just three years later, in 1873, there were 38,777 sheep in Humboldt County. By 1877, the county had 165,000 sheep that produced 662,000 pounds of wool (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7: 7). A decade later in 1888, 151,973 sheep were assessed in Humboldt County, and 1,667,248 pounds of wool were exported (Eddy 1893: 65). This sharp increase in the amount of wool produced may have been due to the ranchers' increasing use of specialized breeds of sheep and improvements in husbandry.

The increase in the numbers of sheep and the amount of wool produced in Humboldt County were part of the growing importance of the state of California to the nation-wide industry. According to the 1880 census, California had surpassed Ohio to become the leading sheep-raising state in the nation. The record for wool production was similar.

California was credited by the census with being the second-largest wool producer in the nation in 1870 and 1880, ranking after Ohio. And the first in 1890 . . . The account books of the commercial companies that handled sales and shipment of wool seemed to show that California produced nearly twice as much in 1870 and nearly three times as much in 1880 as the census recorded. The San Francisco *Daily Alto California* editorialized that "during the last seventeen years sheep have been more profitable and have increased more rapidly than any other domestic animals in California, and the San Francisco *Daily Evening Bulletin* agreed, commenting that "no branch of agriculture had proved so well or been so safe and unvarying in its yield as sheep raising" (Paul 1988: 212).

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After 1890, the number of sheep raised in California declined, as did the state's relative position among sheep-raising states. This was due primarily to the fact that other types of agriculture absorbed more and more of the state's pastureland (Paul 1988: 212).

In 1900, 1,500 farms in Humboldt County reported having 47,754 sheep (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census 1906). In 1901, the Bald Hills ranchers sheared 13,400 sheep and produced about 95,000 pounds of wool (*Arcata Union*, 6 July 1901 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-4). Of the 12 ranches listed in the report on Bald Hills in 1901, three belonged to the Lyons family. In that year, Jonathan Lyons and his sons sheared 4,800 sheep; J. H. Hooker sheared 2,800 sheep; Thomas Bair sheared 2,000; L.C. Berry sheared 1,000; and James Anderson and Joseph Lewis each sheared 500; William Childs and Mrs. H. W. Hancorne each sheared 400; Jacob Beaver sheared 200 sheep; and L. W. Hower sheared 200 sheep. In time, the combined ranches of Thomas Bair outproduced the Lyons Ranches; the Hooker Ranch (later Stover) was comparable in production; and the remaining ranches were all considerably less productive than the Lyons Ranches. In 1909, Bair sheared 8,500 sheep on Redwood and Mad River; and Stover and Lyons each sheared 2,800 (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7: 9).

In 1910, 1,554 farms in Humboldt County reported having 87,073 sheep (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census 1913b). The Humboldt County Wool Growers' Association reported that there were 65,367 sheep in the county in 1911, and the numbers of sheep declined slightly each year until in 1916 when there were 59,250 sheep in the county (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: B-18-19).

In 1920, 1,756 farms in Humboldt County reported having sheep. A total of 56,153 sheep were reported in the 1920 census; 55,881 sheep were shorn; and 357,341 pounds of wool were produced for a value of \$189,843. In 1923, the Lyons family still owned one of the major ranches in the area, as described in the article below:

According to Arthur S. Stover of the Hooker Ranch on Redwood Creek, he will shear this year in the neighborhood of 2,500 head. Leslie Fearrian at the Bair Ranch on Redwood will also shear about 2,000, while Tomlinson Bros. have already sheared about 1,700 head, and the Lyons Bros. on the Bald Hills will clip the wool off about 4,000 head. Up Mad River at Maple Creek and Three Cabins, Fred Bair and Robert Barr intend shearing about 6,000 sheep this season. At Angels Ranch the Anderson Bros. are now engaged in shearing their flock of about 900 head. At Liscom Hill Lawrence Ford has a nice bunch of sheep, about 1,000 head, which he will shear as soon as possible (*The Blue Lake Advocate* 28 July 1923 in Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7: 9-10).

In 1930, Humboldt County reported 140,226 sheep and produced 606,914 pounds of wool in 1929. The amount of wool produced in 1929 had increased by 70 percent compared to that in 1920, but the value of the wool had declined. The wool in 1920 brought an average of 53 cents per pound; while in 1929, it brought on average only 32 cents per pound (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census 1922 and 1932).

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By 1939, as the demand for wool increased with the Second World War, Humboldt County reported having 187,494 sheep and produced 797,177 pounds of wool (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census 1942). In 1945 at the height of World War II, 473 farms reported having a total of 145,945 sheep, and 961,491 pounds of wool were shorn in 1944 (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census 1952).

Although, the numbers of sheep in Humboldt County and the amount of wool shorn declined after World War II, in response to the decline in demand, sheep ranching remained a viable industry in the county through the 1950s. In 1949, 858,268 pounds of wool were shorn, and in 1950, there were 165,609 sheep in the county (Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census 1952). By the end of the decade the decline of the industry was beginning to be evident, and in 1959, Humboldt County produced 642,264 pounds of wool (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census: 1961).

As the 1960s and 1970s progressed, sheep ranching became less important in Humboldt County. Sheep ranching established itself and thrived in Humboldt County during the late 19th century due to a combination of favorable local conditions (abundance and availability of grassland in large tracts of land, mild weather) and favorable national and world-wide market conditions. A new combination of local conditions and larger market conditions resulted in the decline of sheep ranching in Humboldt County.

One of the factors that contributed to the decline of sheep ranching during the past 40 years has been a decrease in the demand and price for wool, as synthetic fibers have been used more and more. The demand for lamb and mutton also decreased. (Lamb and mutton are specialty meats, not staples such as beef and pork.) Sheep ranching is labor intensive, and it became harder to hire the laborers (herders, shearers) needed to manage the sheep. People chose to work in other occupations as other economic opportunities became available, and some family ranching operations found that the next generation left the ranch and chose to pursue other careers. These were gradual trends. Some operations stopped raising sheep, some sold their land and left, and some turned to other sources of income (Rhode 2001, Horstman 2001, Ford 2001).

Selling timber was one of the alternate sources of income for ranchers after World War II. Ranchers had always cut down trees to clear pasture land, and in the early part of the century timber rights were sold. But following World War II, timber became a primary source of income. With the housing explosion and the viability of fir as commercial lumber after World War II, timber companies began buying timber rights to log land, and some ranchers made the majority or all of their income from timber sales. Logging continued in the area until the 1980s (Rhode 2001, Horstman 2001, Ford 2001).

The income from timber sales combined with the difficulty in finding sufficient labor, lack of interest in ranching by ranchers' children, and the decreased value of lamb/mutton and wool were the factors that led many ranchers to stop raising sheep. Predators, although not a major factor, also contributed to the increased sense that raising sheep was more trouble than it was

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worth. Coyotes, predators of sheep, have always been present. However, their numbers are tied to the numbers of deer and elk. As the deer and elk herds have increased, so have numbers of coyotes. Eagles are also predators of sheep, and their numbers have increased due to wildlife management protections. Finally, the past 40 years was a period of consolidation in ranching operations. There were fewer ranches, but the land areas were larger. This meant that number of people living in the county who were involved in sheep ranching decreased, and the presence of a community made up of sheep ranchers decreased. All of these factors combined to reduce the importance and visibility of sheep ranching in Humboldt County (Rhode 2001, Horstman 2001, Ford 2001).

By 1964, 236 farms reported 75,732 sheep in Humboldt County. Just five years later, in 1969, the number of farms reporting sheep and the numbers of sheep had declined by 30 percent to 168 farms reporting 53,695 sheep (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census 1972). Sheep ranching continued to decline in the 1970s and 1980s, and by 1991, only 16,000 sheep were reported on Humboldt County ranches (Stanton, and Van Kirk 1992: B-19).

Today, there are fewer than 3,000 ewes in Humboldt County (Ford 2001). Only one or two families in northern Humboldt who had large ranches contemporary with the Lyons family continue to ranch today. The Stover family, whose ranch is located upstream from the Lyons holdings on Redwood Creek, continues to ranch (Rhode 2001). Larry Ford, whose family ranched in the Blue Lake area, now has only 35 ewes (Ford 2001). For the remaining large ranches in Humboldt County, sheep are no longer the focus of operations.

Lyons Family and Sheep Ranching in the Bald Hills

Initial Settlement: 1850-1868

Jonathan Lyons was a native of Indiana and had come west from Iowa around 1850 when he was 18 or 19. He settled in Oregon, but by the time of 1860 census, he was in California at the forks of the Salmon River. This area was the site of intensive mining activities, although Jonathan appears to have been an entrepreneur rather than a miner. He grew vegetables and butchered cattle for a living and supplied the miners with meat and vegetables. He settled in the Hoopa Valley about 1861 and began raising stock in partnership with a man named Shearer. He married a Hupa woman whose Christian name was Amelia and who was referred to by three different surnames — Kleiser, Silver, and Mesket. (the Mesket name is that of a village in the Hoopa Valley and may have indicated her birthplace, in the mid-1840s, along the Trinity River, the ancestral home of the Hupa people.) Their first son, Anderson, was born there in December 1863.

When the Hoopa Reservation was created in 1864 following the end of the “Indian Wars,” Jonathan left the Hoopa Valley. He was among the first of the immigrant settlers to go back into the Bald Hills, following the removal of the Chilula from their homelands at the end of this conflict. At the time of the 1865 tax assessment, he was living at Marrup flat on the lower Klamath River, where his son Sherman was born in December 1865. He was listed as having a

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house and garden and was assessed for 44 breeding mares, a jack, a stud, and both horse and mule colts. His son Harvey was born on Redwood Creek in the Redwood Valley in December 1868. By the 1868 tax assessment, Jonathan had settled at Sluffman's Point in the District on what became known as the Home Place (the 1868 tax assessment showed that he had horses, mules, and stock cattle). Within twenty years, he acquired, through patent and purchase, over 3,600 acres. Almost all of this land was in Coyote Creek, the centerpiece of the Lyons Home Place, the first lands acquired by the family and the last to leave family ownership in 1986.

Acquiring Land and Establishment of Sheep Ranching Operations: 1868-1888

During the next two decades following his initial settlement in the Bald Hills in 1868, Jonathan Lyons established his position in the community and expanded his ranching operations in District lands. He built a home and barn at the Home Place, and it was during this time that the Lyons' remaining four children were born at the Home Place: Antonio (also referred to in various accounts as Antone) in January 1870, William in March 1872, Josephine in February 1876, and Julius in 1878⁸ (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Appendix A). His home was a focus of the developing community of ranchers. A school was built on his land and the teacher lived at his house.

Between 1877 and 1887, the decade within which Jonathan formally acquired land in the Bald Hills, there were 18 land transactions. "Jonathan's pattern of land acquisition for this period indicates a consolidation strategy to control major ridgetop portions of the Bald Hills where the transportation networks were well established and the grasslands for grazing were abundant" (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: C-6). Legal title to most of the Home Place lands was acquired over this 11-year period. The first recorded transaction was on 12 March 1877 for 160 acres that Jonathan Lyons bought for \$500 (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: F-1). However, it is clear that Jonathan had been living on the land and using it for some time (i.e., establishment of the school in 1872, introduction of sheep to Bald Hills in 1873). "Jonathan's use of the Coyote Creek drainage for grazing, first for cattle and then for sheep, most certainly occurred long before he obtained legal title to the land. It is doubtful that the individuals who patented this land and from whom Jonathan purchased it ever used the land. During 1877 and 1878, through purchase on one patent of his own, Jonathan acquired 1,360 acres, most of which were in the Coyote Creek area, south, southwest, and southeast of Schoolhouse Peak" (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: C-2). He received a patent to the land of the Home Place, the southeast quarter of Section 26, 9N2E, in December 1878 (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: C-1).

His 1872 tax assessment included 7 horses and mares, 12 mules, 100 stock cattle, 50 cows, 30 calves, a bull, 18 hogs, and some chickens. After Jonathan introduced sheep into northern Humboldt County in 1873, his operations moved away from cattle into sheep ranching. Only five years later, his 1878 tax assessment included "a few horses, mules, and colts," 20 cows and calves and 50 stock cattle, but he had 1,500 sheep and 700 lambs. By 1885, Jonathan was

⁸ There appears to have been another child born in October 1874, indicated on a page in Jonathan's day book where he recorded the births of his children. This child was not listed in any census records.

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running almost 3,000 sheep. Cattle and horses were no longer part of the commercial operation but were relegated to the needs of the ranch and family (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Appendix A).

Jonathan Lyons' Sons Begin Ranching: 1888-1900

Between 1888 and 1900 as his sons reached adulthood, Jonathan began to start family business partnerships. With the ranching operations firmly established, both he and his sons continued to acquire land in the District and to expand their sheep ranching operations. Homes were built for each of the sons as they married and started their own families. In 1888, the Lyons' son Harvey, age 20, died in Los Angeles of "lung trouble." In 1895, Julius, the youngest child, died at age 16 and was buried in a small cemetery at the Home Place. Other notable events included a fire in 1897 that burned the house, barn, smokehouse, store room, and woodshed at the Home Place. A Swedish carpenter named Louis Anderson was employed to rebuild the house, using lumber hauled from Minor's Mill on Mad River down the coast. A "grand dance" in early November of 1897 celebrated the completion of the house, and the barn's construction probably followed soon afterwards. The barn that was rebuilt is the one that still is standing there today. A newspaper article in December 1898 noted that Jonathan had finished his new house — "a fine two-story structure" — and during that year also purchased "one of the new patent shearing machines known as the "Chicago Flexible Shaft Co. Shearing Machine." The article said that it was the only one in the state and that with it one man could do the work of four. Jonathan also had plans to build "new wool sheds" (*Arcata Union* 10 December 1898 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-2).

Twenty six land transactions were recorded during this period (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: C-5). In 1888, Jonathan transferred 480 acres at Elk Camp and Dolason Hill Prairie to his sons Anderson, age 25, and Sherman, age 23, initiating the family's settlement of the north end of the District. By 1892, Anderson and Sherman in partnership owned almost 1,400 acres at Elk Camp, Dolason Prairie, and Counts Hill Prairie. At this point the family owned all of the prairies in the District except Childs Hill (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7:5-6).

In 1894, Antonio, age 24, and William, age 22, joined their father and brothers in the settlement of the land, when they each received patents for 160 acres. Over the next several years, more lands were acquired by family members, including wives and the Lyons daughter, Josephine (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7:5-6).

It was during the 1890s that the barns and sheep sheds that are key contributing features of the District became a part of the Lyonses operations. The winter of 1890 was a setback for the ranching operations. Up until that time, during the winter sheep grazed out in the open in one of the prairies located at a lower elevation (i.e., Lower Coyote Creek Prairie). However, the winter of 1890 was one of the most severe winters ever recorded in northwestern California and thousands of cattle and sheep perished in the snow for lack of shelter and feed. Jonathan Lyons virtually lost his entire herd. Following that winter, the Lyonses' operations took on a more permanent, stable character, survival improved, and both the health of the flocks and the

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Lyonses' venture improved. It was after this time that Lyons began to build and utilize sheep sheds on the prairie pastures. These sheep sheds with hay-filled mows provided shelter and feed for wintering bands of sheep.

In 1900, Antonio and Jonathan leased the 1,600-acre Childs Ranch, which included Childs Hill Prairie, inside the District, and Williams Ridge, outside the District, giving the family control over all the prairies in the District. Owned and leased lands now totaled about 8,000 acres (located both inside and outside the District). In 1900, Sherman owned Elk Camp and Dolason Prairies; Anderson owned Counts Hill Prairie; Antonio and Jonathan were leasing Childs Hill Prairie; and Jonathan owned (and his son William ran) the Home Place at the southern end of the District. Over the next several years, the Cagle Ridge Ranch, which is outside the District, came into family ownership, eventually passing to Antonio. Family members exchanged lands to consolidate ownership and some timberlands were sold off during this period (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7:5-6).

Second Generation of Ranching: 1901-1909

During the first decade of the 20th century, the ranching operations continued, but it was also a time of changes. Some family members left the Bald Hills and Jonathan Lyons ended his involvement in ranching. Fifty seven land transactions were recorded (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: 7). In 1903, Jonathan completed his land consolidation between Schoolhouse Peak and Coyote Peak. At that time, he owned nearly three contiguous sections of land. In 1909, Sherman's holdings amounted to 1,520 acres, Antonio had 2,160 acres, and Jonathan had 3,480 acres of land (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7:5-6).⁹ Sheep ranching remained the primary focus of the ranching operations. A newspaper article in April 1901 describing the medal received by Lyons for his wool attests to his success as a sheep rancher:

Jonathan Lyons of the Bald Hills has a right to wear a broad smile for he has been honored by receiving a gold medal from the Paris Exposition as a reward for the quality of his wool on exhibition there. The medal arrived on the Pomona Tuesday, enclosed in a beautiful blue plush case. It is about 2-½ inches in diameter and is engraved with French symbols with the inscription "Republique Francais" and "Exposition Universelle Internationale." The medals are now on exhibition at Brizard's Emporium (*Arcata Union* 20 April 1901 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Appendix-4).

In 1901, Anderson, the first of the Lyonses' three children to leave the ranching in the Bald Hills, moved away. Sherman and Anderson divided their property and dissolved their partnership. They always used another family member to act as an intermediary or third party in the land

⁹ It was also during this period that the family conducted a series of property transactions involving 1,400 acres that included the complete sale of the land to timber companies or just the timber rights to those lands. The timber sales included land at Tick Prairie, Bear Prairie, Smith Prairie, Cuddy Prairie, Tectah Creek, Copper Creek, and the confluence of Redwood and Coyote creeks (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: 8).

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transactions. Property once held in partnership was never transferred directly to another partner. William, Antonio, and Jonathan acted as third party intermediaries in these land transfers between Sherman and Anderson. Anderson purchased 4,243 acres in Blocksburg, in southern Humboldt and there established his own ranching operations (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: 7). He continued to live and ranch there until his death in 1914. His obituary described him as “a well-known and prominent rancher in the Blocksburg section” (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: A-1 and A-8).

A wool barn was also built ca. 1901, although it no longer stands. The barn was going to be 20 feet by 30 feet and have two sheds for shearing pens. A newspaper article noted that “Antonio and the ladies are making great calculations on having a big dance when they get their wool barn finished” (*Arcata Union* 18 May 1901 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-4).

The Lyonses were among the first to have telephones in the Bald Hills. A 1904 newspaper article declared that, “Telephone is now the talk on Redwood. Over three hundred dollars have already been subscribed to the enterprise. The proposed line will go from the ranch of Will Lyons to Jonathan Lyons and thence to the ranch of Antone, a distance of about four miles” (*Arcata Union* 9 November 1904 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-11). By 1905, the telephone line was 10 miles long.

In May 1905, Jonathan and Amelia Lyons’ house at the Home Place was partially destroyed by fire. It was saved by Jonathan who used the two hundred feet of hose that he always kept attached to a hydrant near his house to fight fires (*Arcata Union* 24 May 1905 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-11). The water was also used to irrigate the Lyons’ vegetable garden (*Arcata Union* 1 July 1905 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-11).

In 1906, Josephine Lyons, Jonathan and Amelia’s only daughter, married and left the Bald Hills. She lived with her husband and son in various cities in Humboldt and for the last 35 years of her life in Fortuna. She died in 1966 at age 90. (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: A-1, A-6, A-12)

In 1908, the Lyonses installed a sheep dipping tank and began dipping their flocks as required by a new state law. That year they dipped 7,700 head of sheep (*Arcata Union* 27 June and 23 August 1908 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-113).

William Lyons left the family ranching operations in 1909. In 1913 at the time of Jonathan Lyons’ death, he is listed as living in Kelseyville in Lake County. By Amelia Lyons’ death in 1921, he is listed as living in San Francisco. He died in his home in San Francisco in 1954 (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: A-8, A-9, A-11).

Jonathan Lyons ended active ranching ca. 1909 due to failing eyesight (he had cataracts). At that time his sons Sherman and Antonio jointly operated the Lyons family’s holdings that were located in the District. In 1909, Jonathan and Amelia deeded their consolidated ranch lands totaling 3,000 acres to Sherman and Antonio, reserving the house site at the Home Place. They reserved a life estate to “a four acre tract . . . surrounding and contiguous to the Home Place and

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dwelling house in which grantors now and heretofore have resided . . . and . . . used . . . as an orchard, pasture, fruit and vegetable garden” (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: 7).

Second Generation of Ranching Continues: 1910-1930s

During this period Sherman and Antonio continued to ranch, to actively buy and sell land (both in and out of the Bald Hills), and to construct new buildings. Both Jonathan and Amelia Lyons passed away during this period. And by the end of the period, Sherman retired from ranching.

In 1911, Jonathan and Amelia Lyons’ house at the Home Place burned. They also lost all of the contents of the house. The house was described in the newspaper account of the event as “one of the best buildings in the Bald Hills country” (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: A-18). The house was rebuilt, but it, too, burned in the 1950s.

Sometime during this period three major structures were built. The Dolason Prairie Sheep Shed appears from a newspaper article to have been built in 1914. The Elk Camp and Long Ridge sheep sheds appear, based on construction details, to have been built in the same era. All three of these structures are still standing in the District.

Jonathan Lyons died at 81 years of age in 1913. He died while visiting his son Antonio in Blue Lake. He had remained active in ranching and had lived at the Home Place until 1909, when “failing eyesight induced Mr. Lyons to go and live with his daughter at Blocksburg, resigning the management of the ranch to his sons [Sherman and Antonio].” His obituaries described him as “A Universally-esteemed Citizen,” acknowledged his ranching “in which his success was signal and lasting,” and described him as “one of the best known Humboldt county pioneers” and as “one of the largest and most successful wool-growers in this section” (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: A-7 and 8).

In 1915, the lands jointly held by Sherman and Antonio covered 3,758 acres and were valued at more than \$8,000. Together they managed 2,200 sheep. In addition Antonio owned 1,342 acres and ran 400 sheep, and Sherman had 1,991 acres and 1,150 sheep (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: 8, 11). They shipped 1,900 head of mutton sheep to San Francisco (*Arcata Union* 5 August 1914 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-18). Antonio added the last quarter section of land to the family’s holdings in 1916 (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: C-2).

In the fall of 1915, Sherman and Antonio and their wives attended the Panama Pacific Exhibition in San Francisco that celebrated the opening of the Panama Canal. They traveled for over a month visiting the fair and other “points around the bay” (*Arcata Union* 14 October and 11 November 1915 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-18). It is during this period that Sherman and his wife began living, at least part time, off of the ranch. They rented a “cottage” in Blue Lake in 1914 and by 1920 had purchased a lot in Arcata.

In May 1920, the two Lyons brothers sold their entire flock of 4,700 sheep to S. P. Davis, a Montana sheep man. The price was “a conservative market price of \$10.00 per head,” or

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\$47,000. Davis also leased the Lyonses' three ranches totalling 8,000 acres and had an option to buy. However, this sale never took place, and the Lyonses continued ranching. At this time Sherman and his wife rented a house in Eureka and planned to make their home there in the future. Antonio and his family were living in Davis at this time because Antonio's son Gene was enrolled at what would later become the University of California at Davis (*Arcata Union* 13 May 1920 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-20). However, their ties to the Bald Hills ranches were still strong and Gene returned to ranching once his studies were complete. In July of that year, Antonio and Gene came back for a month long visit (*Arcata Union* 1 July 1920 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-20).

Amelia Lyons died in 1921 while visiting her son Sherman at his home in Blue Lake; she was about 74 years old at the time of her death. Her obituary listed her as a ". . . pioneer of northern Humboldt" and as the "widow of the late Jonathan Lyons, a pioneer rancher of the Bald Hills section" (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: A-5 and A-9).

In 1925, Gene won a prize in the first annual wool show of the California Wool Growers' Association. "Eugene Lyons . . . was awarded the two northern California trophies and the first sweepstakes prize for the best wool fleece . . . The winning of these three fine trophies by young Lyons is an excellent advertisement for Humboldt wool and a splendid endorsement of the efforts of the young man and his father to improve the breed of sheep and produce high quality wool" (*Arcata Union* 18 June 1925 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-21-22).

In the mid-1920s, the Lyons family lands within the District were much as they were in 1909, although Antonio and Sherman had acquired prairies outside the District on the Klamath side of the ridge during that period. With only minor alterations, Home Place boundaries remained unchanged. The family's holdings peaked at this time, totaling about 9,000 acres (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7: 5-6). Antonio purchased a house at 838 17th Street in Arcata in 1929 (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: A-20).

In 1930, Antonio and Sherman divided their shared holdings, Sherman maintaining his ranch in the areas of Elk Camp, Thompson Prairie, Dolason Hill Prairie, and Counts Hill Prairie. Antonio's ranching activities centered on Cagle Ridge (located outside of the District), the Home Place, and Coyote Creek Prairie (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: 8, 11).

Third Generation of Ranching: 1940s-1972

Austin Eugene (Gene) Lyons, Antonio's son, was the third generation of the family to ranch the District lands. He continued sheep ranching until sometime in the 1960s and the lands remained in his ownership until his death in 1972.

In March 1941, Gene Lyons leased his Uncle Sherman's ranch for five years. Sherman Lyons died in 1942 in San Francisco and according to his obituary had been retired from active ranching for 25 years (this may not be accurate since there are later references to his ranching). His obituary described him as a "pioneer Humboldt county sheepman" (Stanton and Van Kirk

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1992: A-1 and A-10). When Sherman died, Sherman's widow sold their ranch to McCombs and Graham in 1942. In 1945, Antonio repurchased the land (1,640 acres) and gave it to Gene, his only son. Between 1945 and 1952, Antonio began to divest his property. In total he deeded Gene approximately 4,380 acres (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: 8, 11). Antonio, who had ranched with the family on the Bald Hills lands throughout his adult life, died at his home in Arcata in 1953. He had retired from ranching ca. 1941.

Gene Lyons was a college educated rancher and had graduated from the California College of Agriculture at Davis (later University of California at Davis). Gene was identified by an informant as the first Native American to graduate from this institution. Locally, he was recognized as being "educated" and maintained an active relationship with the University throughout his ranching career. The University would bring students to the ranch each year and conducted experiments on the ranch, such as growing different types of grass to determine which were best suited for pastures (Horstman 2001). He was also recognized as an innovator who introduced the Columbia breed of sheep to the area¹⁰ (Horstman 2001) and was the first to use "raincoats," which are plastic covers used to protect newborn lambs from rain (Ciarabellina in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: n.p.). During his years on the Lyons family properties, he built a house at the Home Place (no longer extant) and a sheep shed on the Coyote Creek Prairie (one of the contributing features to the District). It is not clear exactly when he phased out his active involvement in ranching; he definitely continued ranching into the 1960s. In later years, he leased the lands and he and his wife traveled extensively, including to Europe. Gene Lyons died in 1972. After payment of creditors, his estate totaled \$739,131, of which \$298,782 was in cash. His death ended the Lyons family's tenure on the ranch lands in the District.

Gene Lyons' contributions to animal husbandry continued after his death in 1972. His will established the Austin Eugene Lyons Memorial Trust at the University of California, Davis. The trust was for the "purpose of establishing, supporting and maintaining grants in aid to graduate students and/or practitioners of veterinary medicine for use in research into the causes, control and treatment of illnesses, diseases, and health problems of farm livestock and especially sheep and cattle" (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: A-23). The Lyons Fellowships are considered by the Department to be prestigious. The income from the trust funds is used by the Department of Animal Science to provide grants for tuition and stipends to graduate students, who are known as "Lyons Fellows." In 2016, the trust provided about \$140,000 in income for the year. Depending on the income produced by the trust investments for the year, four to five fellowships are awarded to pay tuition and provide a stipend that ranges from \$10,000 to \$45,000 for full support (Lee 2016).

Lyons Ranches as Part of Redwood National Park

Today, the District is located within the Redwood National Park, which is part of the Redwood National and State Parks. At the time the Parks were established in 1968, none of the Lyons

¹⁰ This breed was developed in 1912 to produce more pounds of wool and more pounds of lamb. "Their large robust frame and herding instinct have made them excellent for Western range purposes" (Simmons 1976:13).

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Ranches properties were in the Park. In 1978, the Park was expanded, primarily into the Redwood Creek basin. Included in the lands acquired by the Park in this expansion were the Elk Camp Prairie (location of Sherman Lyons settlement), Dolason Hill Prairie (location of the Dolason Sheep Shed), the Home Place, the Lower Coyote Creek Prairie (location of the Dooleyville Line Cabin), and the prairies and oak woodlands northwest of Schoolhouse Prairie.

In 1991, the Park acquired the lands in the Coyote Creek drainage southeast of Schoolhouse Prairie which included the Long Prairie (location of the Long Ridge Sheep Shed) and the Coyote Creek Prairie (location of the Coyote Creek Sheep Shed, Line Cabin, and Outhouse). With that purchase in 1991, all of the Lyons family's lands that are within the District came under Park control (Smith 2000).

Ethnic Heritage Associations

The District is significant under Criterion A at the local level for its association with the establishment and development of social and economic relationships among the Native American people, the immigrant Euro-American society, and the landscape in the Bald Hills. The District represents these relationships as the home of the Lyons family, a family with Native American heritage, as a place of social and economic interaction between cultures, and as a place of continued Native American practices and ranching activities influenced by those practices. Smith and Van Kirk summarized the various relationships between the Lyonses and the local Native American groups on the Lyons ranches in the 1994 draft NRHP registration form for the District. Additional information is found in the *Phase I and II Studies on Ethnographic Landscape and Contemporary Native American Concerns for Management of the Bald Hills* prepared by the Yurok Tribe Culture Department, with the Lyons Family Genealogy by Susie Van Kirk (2013), and the Lyons Family Collection in the possession of Margaret Pollard. The following information is taken from these sources.

Lyons Family's Native American Heritage

The immigration of Euro-American settlers into the Bald Hills displaced the Yurok, Chilula, and Hupa people and thereby disrupted their traditional ways of life. But, as inevitably happens whenever native cultures are invaded, personal, social and economic relationships were established with the immigrant society. Intermarriage between the Lyons family and the local native people is an example of such a relationship, which created familial ties and brought these two societies together.

The 1870 census for this region listed 16 households, where the head was a white man and his wife a native woman, including that of Jonathan Lyons and his Hupa wife Amelia Lyons (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 8: 11-12). Intermarriage continued in the second generation of the Lyons family with three of the children having native spouses. Sherman, Antonio and William married women of Native American heritage. Sherman's wife, Mary Alvira Beach from Little River, was the daughter of Charles Beach of Long Island, New York and Josephine, a Wiyot woman of Humboldt Bay. Antonio married Mary Ann Wilder of Orleans, the daughter of Henry

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Wilder, a miner from Maine, and a Karuk woman of the upper Klamath River. William's first marriage was to Ola Griffin of Orick, daughter of George Griffin of Pennsylvania and Annik Tipsah, a Yurok woman from Espeu, and his second marriage was to Dollie Wilder of Orleans, daughter of Frederick Wilder from Maine and Bertha Somes, a Karuk woman (Van Kirk 1994: Section 8: 12-13).

The Lyons family identified with both their Euro-American and native heritage. The 1870 United States census records Jonathan and Amelia's children as "Ind." marked over with a "W" and the 1880 census records them as "1/2 Ind." (Van Kirk 2013). The 1900 United States Census lists Jonathan Lyons' children and their families, including the spouses with native heritage, as "white" (Van Kirk 2013). Antonio Lyons and his family are listed as Indians affiliated with the Hupa in the 1910 U.S. Census (Van Kirk 2013). In the 1928 California Indian Census Sherman, William, and Antonio are recorded as being half Hupa (Van Kirk 2013). The Lyons' identification with their Native American heritage persisted through the third and final generation of sheep ranching in the District. Gene Lyons, grandson of Jonathan and the last family member to live and work on the lands in the District, was identified as "the first Indian to graduate from UC Davis" by an informant (Ford 2001). Gene's identification with his native heritage continued until his death in 1972. On his death certificate, Gene Lyons was recorded as an "Indian" (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: A-6).

Lyons Ranches' Role in Social and Economic Interactions

The social and economic interactions of the Lyons family and the surrounding communities, both Euro-American and Native American, were significant for the time and place. Most of the men employed by the Lyons family as regular hired help were of Native American heritage, as were the seasonal workers and the young women who helped in the house (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 8: 13).

Members of this community worked as herders and fence-builders; they worked on sheep shearing and hay crews; and girls lived in and helped with household chores or cared for Antonio Lyons' children, and they attended school on the Lyons' land. They broke horses, fed wintering sheep, drove mowers and loaded hay, split boards and shakes, brought lambs into the world, and carried on the daily business of the ranches. They were integral members of the ranch community and the ranches depended on their labor and skills. For instance, Native American traditional practices of burning the prairies and splitting boards shaped ranching practices in the Bald Hills. In turn, the native workers relied on Jonathan Lyons for board and lodging and the wages that allowed them to participate in the Euro-American economic system (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 8: 14-15).

Ranching provided an important economic outlet for local Native American people in a time and region where options and opportunities were not numerous. Prior to Euro-American settlement, native people relied on a hunting, fishing, and gathering economy, carefully defined by social and moral paradigms, and ceremony that included landscape-level management of resources. Euro-American settlement disrupted these practices and self-sufficiency by eliminating

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resources; removing people from their home territories; and inhibiting and replacing the cultural regulations that governed society and managed the resources of the land. The Lyons' sheep ranching venture provided the native people with opportunities to learn new skills and use their traditional cultural knowledge and skills to support themselves and their families (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 8: 14-15). Their knowledge and skills helped to shape the development and landscape of the Lyons Ranches.

Native American Landscape Uses

After the District was settled by Jonathan Lyons, the Lyons family, as well as the local Native American community used the landscape to carry out traditional practices, which in turn influenced ranch management and practices. It is likely that the interaction between the Lyons family and Native Americans influenced ranching practices in the Bald Hills such as burning the prairies, and the use of hand-split redwood boards in the in structures. Using split boards in structures is a common regional Native American traditional craft, but Europeans typically split wood only for fence posts and shingles. During a time when the introduction of western culture threatened native societies, the Lyons ranches were managed by the family and the Native American employees using traditional ecological knowledge. The Lyoneses are known to have participated in a few Native American traditional practices including basket weaving, gathering, hunting, and splitting redwood boards for building. While the Lyones owned the land, the Native American community continued to use the land for hunting and holding social gatherings.

Bald Hills Road, the main route through the historic district, follows traditional routes from the coast to the interior. In the mid-19th century miners followed American Indian paths to create the Trinidad Trail to connect the coast to the mines on the Klamath River (Rich, Verwayen, Rohde and Roscoe 2011). This trail crossed Redwood Creek and rose up to the Bald Hills near Elk Camp, where it continued onto the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation, along the general route of the Bald Hills Road (Bearss 1969). Today, this is still an important road for many Native Americans and the principal route into the Hupa's reservation.

Amelia Lyons was born in the Hoopa Valley in the mid-1840s, possibly in the village of Mesket along the Trinity River, the ancestral home of the Hupa people. Growing up in the Hupa culture, Amelia would have learned to weave baskets and to manage and gather materials for weaving. After her marriage to Jonathan and incorporation into Euro-American society, Amelia continued to practice basket weaving, and it can be assumed that she would have also continued to manage and gather the resources near her home in order to make the baskets. Today, several of Amelia's baskets are kept by her descendants (Margaret Pollard c.a. 2010s).

Another practice that Native Americans continued under Jonathan Lyons' ownership and his descendants, was hunting. Traditionally, the Bald Hills are an important hunting ground for the local Native American tribes. Even after Jonathan Lyons settled in the Bald Hills, informants recall that the Lyons' property was open to native hunters so long as they "closed the gates behind them" (Gates, McConnell, and Eidsness 2002). Members of the Lyons family were known to hunt elk and deer. The family and the native ranch workers also trapped and hunted

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bears, mountain lions, and coyotes that preyed on their sheep and other livestock (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992). One informant recalled that Antonio Lyons and his family “ate mutton, had hogs and chickens, but their favorite meat was deer and bear” (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992).

The practice of regularly burning the prairie, originally carried out by native societies, was maintained by the Lyons family. Before contact with Euro-American settlers, the native groups of people from the Bald Hills burned the prairie and oak woodlands in order to improve and manage resources for hunting and gathering (Underwood, Arguello and Siefkin 2003: 280). Alternatively, the Lyonses burned the prairie to promote pasture and keep springs flowing to provide water for livestock. While the purpose of burning may have changed, the practice of using fire in the Bald Hills persisted freely until 1930 when fire suppression policies were formally established and permits were required.

The Lyons family members were not known to participate in Native American ceremonies or social events (Spaulding 1992 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: D-6-8). However, Native Americans continued to use the land owned by the Lyons family for social gatherings. For the local Native American people, the Bald Hills are important places for ceremonies and community gatherings. During the Lyons’ management of Childs Hill Prairie, picnics and horse races were held by the native community during 4th of July celebrations (Gates, McConnell, and Eidsness 2000: 13). The management of the landscape by the Lyons family did not result in the cessation of social gatherings, and in a way, the family facilitated their traditional practices. During the Lyons family’s ownership, the Native American community participated in traditions and maintained ties to their ancestral lands within the Lyons Ranches in the Bald Hills.

Native American Building Practices

The Yurok, Hupa and Chilula peoples have traditions of skilled wood carving and all have traditions of using split wood planks in the construction of shelters and ceremonial buildings. According to *California Indians and their Environment: An Introduction*, “...the Klamath River region boasts one of the most significant carving traditions in Native California, if not greater North America.” This tradition was likely adapted in the Lyons Ranches, and other local ranches, through the practice of using split vertical board siding on the barns and sheds. The use of split redwood boards, less than an inch thick, and in lengths over ten-feet long is possibly a unique practice to the area. The more common Euro-American practice was to use split wood in fence posts, shakes and shingles. Splitting long boards shows a high level of craftsmanship and knowledge of the readily available old growth redwood. This wood with its dense and clear grain could be split into boards of relatively consistent thicknesses. Traditional knowledge of the Native American ranch-hands, combined with steel tools of the Euro-Americans, likely created this architectural feature seen in the barns and buildings. Splitting timber could be done on-site, significantly more conveniently and less costly than hauling to a mill and milling. One account of a Yurok elder recalls that he and Sherman Lyons “split up a redwood tree” for shake shingles for a barn in Orick (Gates, McConnell, and Eidsness 2002: Appendix 3: 12). Ron Barlow, Jr., a rancher in nearby Orick whose family has been ranching in the area for generations, recalls splitting redwood for boards when old growth was more available. He recalls it being a common

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practice in Orick Valley and its use depended on availability of material, or the reluctance to depart with cash to obtain milled lumber (Barlow 2016). Hand-split planks and shake shingles can still be found in the Elk Camp Sheep Shed, Dolason Sheep Shed, Home Place Barn, Long Ridge Sheep Shed. Most of the roof shake have been replaced over the years, but most of the vertical siding has been retained.

SIGNIFICANCE UNDER CRITERION C

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE UNDER CRITERION C

The District is significant under Criterion C at the local level as an example of a large-scale sheep ranching landscape in the Bald Hills. It retains the prairies that were the backbone of the ranching enterprise and examples of all of the key types of sheep ranching features. These types of features include circulation features, work structures, family residences, worker housing, domestic outbuildings, vegetation-related features, and water-related features. In addition, there remain throughout the District, various small-scale elements that provide evidence to the various aspects of the ranching operations. A hundred years of sheep ranching in the Bald Hills is represented in the District and its features.

The Lyons family managed the natural resources (prairies, water sources, timber) to support the ranching operations. This included burning to promote pastures and keep springs flowing, building troughs and ponds to provide water for livestock, and cutting timber for buildings and fencing. As their sheep management practices evolved in complexity over time, so did their imprint on the land. They built clusters of structures to facilitate the ranching operations including barns, sheep sheds, lambing sheds, wool barn, horse barn, and corrals. They constructed roads and paths to connect their operations. They built domestic buildings and features to provide for their families' shelter and food (houses, gardens, orchards).

The District and its contributing features are typical of vernacular construction and buildings in the region from the late 19th and early to mid-20th centuries. However, the District is now unique in representing this era of ranching in Humboldt County. Large-scale sheep ranching is now a part of the county's history rather than a part of its contemporary life. The other ranches that remain active in the county have taken up other agricultural practices, and their buildings, structures, circulation features, and landscape features have been altered to accommodate these changes.

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE UNDER CRITERION C

The District's period of significance under Criterion C begins in 1868, the time by which Jonathan Lyons had settled on land in the District, and continues through 1959. The end date of 1959 represents the end of the period for which sheep ranching was a major presence in the Bald Hills. Beginning in the 1960s, the numbers of sheep ranches and the amount of wool and mutton

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produced in Humboldt County began to decline. The Lyons ranch continued to be an active and prominent sheep ranch through 1959.

HISTORICAL CONTEXTS

The following historical contexts provide a discussion of the sheep management practices, types of features on the Lyonses' ranches, and larger influences of vernacular architecture related to ranching. These provide a context within which to evaluate the significance of the District under Criterion C.

Sheep Management Practices

Sheep utilized the prairie grasslands for foraging but had to be herded from one pasture to another. Herding kept sheep from overgrazing; it placed them in appropriate areas according to the seasons (altitude and exposure), and it helped protect them from predatory animals (Marshall 1915: 321). Because of the need to move sheep in areas with harsh winters, sheds were built to provide shelter and feed. However, it appears that at least up until the 1890s that sheep ranchers in northern California did not typically provide this type of shelter. An article entitled "The Sheep Industry of California, Oregon, and Washington" from 1892 stated that "From San Francisco northward, in the coast counties . . . As a rule no shelter is provided" (Heath and Minto 1892: 955). A letter by a sheep rancher, Sam S. Baechtel, went on to explain more aspects of sheep ranching in northern California ". . . we in the genial climate of California had not to make much preparation for shelter and food that flockmasters had to make in more rigorous [sic] climates" (Heath and Minto 1892: 956). This article explained that ". . . the climate in summer and winter enables the sheep to live on the pasturage throughout the year. And provision of either feed or shelter are the exception rather than the rule . . . Many of the wool growers in this portion of the state own the mountain or hill land they range their sheep on" (Heath and Minto 1892: 960-962). The article estimated that it required, on average, about two acres of land to maintain each sheep (Heath and Minto 1892: 967). This type of management was also used at the Lyons ranches at least until 1890.

After a devastating winter in 1890, during which huge numbers of sheep died, including almost all of Jonathan Lyons' herd, this practice began to change. The various prairies, depending on their altitude, were used for summer or winter grazing. In the summer, herders stayed with the flocks. In the winter, the flocks stayed in prairies that had sheep sheds, which provided shelter in harsh weather and stored hay for food. The Elk Camp, Dolason Hill, Long, and Lower Coyote Creek prairies all had sheep sheds (all but the Lower Coyote Creek Sheep Shed are still extant).

Some of the prairies were used to plant crops. Antonio Lyons, in an interview in 1948, described cutting and burning to keep the land clear of brush and that after burning the land was "seeded" which produced a "good crop" (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: 12). The scale of this practice on the Lyons' ranches is not known. It is also not known when they started planting hay crops. But by the turn of the century, it was a well-established practice since contemporary newspaper articles mention grain and hay crops in the Bald Hills. A 1900 newspaper article describes five acres of oats that were planted on Gans Prairie, just outside of the District, for hay (*Arcata Union* 3 March 1900 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-2). A 1901 article states that "The hay

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and grain crops in the Bald Hills are looking well and everybody is quite busy cutting hay and putting it in barns” (*Arcata Union* 10 August 1901 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-5). An article a few weeks later described a 12-acre field of oats that William Harris was threshing for William Lyons and declared that it was the “finest crop of oats that has been raised on the Bald Hills for a long time” (*Arcata Union* 7 September 1901 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-5). A 1914 reference noted a threshing machine on Antonio’s ranch and that a “choice alfalfa field is doing fine” (*Blue Lake Advocate* 12 September 1914 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: B-15).

It would also make sense that the family started growing hay when they started to build structures to protect the sheep and to provide for winter feed (after 1890). An informant interviewed in Stanton and Van Kirk’s 1992 report described that certain prairies were not used for pasture at all during the summer months so that they could be cut for hay. Sheep sheds, built in the prairies where the sheep wintered, had a central hay mow for the storage of loose hay. Hay would have also been feed for the horses and mules that were used on the ranch (Spaulding 1992 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: D-6-8).

Cutting of brush and timber and burning were practices used to keep the prairies open. Burning continued into the 1920s, although the California Department of Forestry had begun their first fire suppression efforts in 1919. After 1930, restrictions were imposed and burning permits were required (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: B-4). In later years, selected prairies were burned every year, and it took about five years to complete a cycle of prairie-burning. Burning was continued because it produced “good grass after the rains”. It controlled the underbrush and trees, and it kept the springs open and running. When the Lyonses stopped burning, they lost most of the sources of surface water. Typically, the Lyonses did not dam the springs but used troughs to collect the water for the livestock (Horstman 1992 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: n.p.).

In the early days on the Lyonses’ ranches, lambing was done outside in the springtime. This practice suggests that there were no barns to protect the sheep during bad weather, so the young lambs were born in the spring when the weather was better, and the grass was green and fresh. In later years lambing barns were constructed and lambing was moved up to January, the month that became the norm throughout the county. This change was due to feed conditions. With shelter to protect them from any inclement weather, lambs born in January rather than April or May had three or four extra months to feed on the abundant and lush grass that began to disappear after the rains stopped in early summer. No other season was more critical to sheep ranchers than spring lambing, which covered a period of a month or more, when herders had to be available 24 hours a day to aid lambing ewes and care for their offspring. To ensure their survival, the lambs had to be dry, accepted by their mothers, and nursing soon after birth (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: 16).

Shearing was done in the first two months of summer and was generally done only once a year because the sheep in northern Humboldt County were free from disease (*Arcata Union* 6 July

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1904 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-10).¹¹ The Lyonses did their own shearing in the early days. A newspaper article in December 1898 noted that Jonathan purchased “one of the new patent shearing machines known as the ‘Chicago Flexible Shaft Co. Shearing Machine.’” The article went on to say that it was the only one in the state and that with it one man could do the work of four (*Arcata Union* 10 December 1898 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-2). Shearing eventually became a more specialized task, and groups of shearers would move from ranch to ranch doing the shearing. Many of the shearers were Native American. A 1910 article noted that the shearers had worked for 3 days at Antonio’s and were then going to Jonathan’s ranch where they would work for another 4 days (*Arcata Union* 20 July 1910 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-15). Barns were specially built for shearing — “Sherman Lyons has some fine new shearing barns” (*Arcata Union* 27 June 1908 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-13).

The first sheep on the Lyons ranches were Merinos¹², the preferred breed at the time (1870s). Merinos, originally from Spain, were hardy and produced heavier wool than other breeds. The disadvantage with Merinos was that they were strictly a wool breed and could not be sold for mutton. As the Lyonses became more experienced with sheep and more affluent, they bought and raised purebred ewes and rams to improve the quality of their production. A 1907 newspaper article mentioned an “imported Merino ram” that Sherman had recently purchased (*Arcata Union* 26 October 1907 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-13). In 1925, Gene won awards for both his American Merino and Shropshire wool (*Arcata Union* 18 June 1925 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-21). Later on, he would introduce the Columbia breed to the county.

The wool produced by the Lyonses was bought by various brokers or other ranchers, serving as brokers. Humboldt County wool was shipped first by steamer to San Francisco and then after the construction of the railroad by rail. Sheep being sold for mutton also went to the San Francisco markets. The Lyonses raised both wool and mutton sheep.

Types of Features on the Lyons Ranches

The Lyons family’s imprint on the land in the District took many forms that can be divided into the following types of features: circulation related features (roads and paths), landscape-related features (fields with crops, orchards, family gardens, plantings of flowers and ornamental trees, fencing), water-related features (troughs, pipes, ponds), and buildings and structures.

¹¹ In 1908, when a new state law required dipping lambs to control disease, the Lyons installed a sheep dipping tank and collectively dipped 7,700 head of sheep that summer (*Arcata Union* 27 June and 23 August 1908 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-13).

¹² The original breed of sheep in California was the “churro sheep, sometimes unflatteringly called the ‘common sheep’ of Spain and Mexico. Its wool was coarse and light in weight, its body small and bare-bellied . . . The churro was expert at foraging under adverse conditions, was capable of traveling long distances, had become strongly imbued with a herd instinct, and ewes were unusually faithful about looking after their young . . . An infusion of merino blood produced a sharp improvement in the quality and weight of the wool (though not of the meat), and since the merino was itself a hardy species long accustomed to Spain’s annual migrations between winter lowlands and summer mountain pastures, the crossbred offspring was suited to the demanding conditions of the American west” (Paul 1988: 210).

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Circulation-Related Features

The circulation-related features within the District included roads and paths.

- The primary road was the Bald Hills Road located on the top of the ridge. It connected the ranches in the Bald Hills to the outside world. A wagon road from Orick to the Bald Hills, which follows the route of the present Bald Hills Road, was completed in the fall of 1889. The road was extended through the prairies and connected the Lyons ranches in the years that followed, until, in 1909, it was completed to Martins Ferry on the Klamath River. Besides providing access to the east and west, the Bald Hills road provided access between the Lyons family's various ranching operations located in the prairies along a six-mile stretch of this road (Van Kirk and Smith 1994: Section 7: 9-10).
- The ranches of the Lyons family were linked by a series of internal ranch roads to each other and to the Bald Hills Road. The roads linking to Bald Hills Road include Lyons Road linking the Home Place to Bald Hills Road and Rock Fork Road, beginning just off Bald Hills Road at Coyote Peak Road. A series of internal, ranch roads linked the ranches together. All of these roads were un-paved and narrow — probably one lane wide (10 to 12 feet wide) — and probably ungraded. Although not documented, these roads would have been constructed by the Lyons family.
- Roads constructed for timber hauling constitute the third type of road within the District. The Lyons family sold timber rights, beginning in 1900, to lands in the Bald Hills, some of it in the District. These roads were more temporary in nature and were not directly related to ranching activities.
- Paths, another type of circulation-related feature, would have been distinguished from roads by their size and construction. They most likely connected buildings or activities within the settlements or between the prairies. They would have been narrower than roads and probably evolved over time. Because of their nature, the paths have largely disappeared.

Vegetation-Related Features

The vegetation-related features within the District include gardens and orchards used to grow food; plantings of flowering bulbs and other ornamental plants at the home sites; a small, fence-enclosed, family cemetery; and fencing used to define gardens, yards, the cemetery, or fields. These features are more closely tied to the personal lives of the Lyonses than to the ranching operations. Undoubtedly, these features would have been more numerous when the Lyonses were living in the District, and some of them have disappeared without people to tend to them.

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Water-Related Features

Ranching operations of the scale within the District required water for the thousands of head of sheep and to support the people living and working there. To provide water for the livestock, the Lyonses utilized the numerous springs and creeks. Prairies were burned on a regular basis, partly to keep the springs flowing. Spring boxes and water troughs were used to collect the water. In at least four locations, springs or creeks were dammed to make ponds. There are two ponds at Elk Camp, one in the Coyote Creek drainage, and one at the upper reaches of Coyote Creek Prairie on the Rock Fork Road.

Fire was a constant threat to the wooden buildings in the District. Jonathan Lyons lost a barn and all three of his houses to fire. In an effort to provide fire protection, he kept two hundred feet of hose attached to a “hydrant” near his house to fight the fires.

Water was also used for irrigation. The fire hydrant just mentioned was also used to irrigate the Lyons vegetable garden. A series of pipes in the upper portion of the Coyote Creek Prairie are from the 1950s when Gene Lyons had plans to irrigate the pasture. He never completed this project.

Building Features

There has been no ranching for several decades, and the features associated with sheep ranching are less evident today than when the Lyonses were actively living and working on the land. The buildings, however, remain clearly visible. This is because of the more permanent nature of buildings compared to other features such as roads, ponds, gardens, and orchards. The following section describes the types of buildings that were on the Lyonses’ ranches, followed by a more general discussion on the influences for these building types within the context of vernacular agricultural architecture.

As the Lyonses’ ranches developed and evolved from the late 1860s through 1972 (when Gene Lyons, the last family member left ranching in the Bald Hills, died), an unknown number of buildings were built at several locations within the Bald Hills. Among the building types that have been identified are family dwelling houses, various types of quarters for laborers, minor domestic outbuildings (i.e., outhouses, garage, smokehouse), and large working structures for the various tasks related to raising sheep (i.e., sheep sheds, shearing barn, wool barn). These buildings were associated with a limited number of building types whose purpose was to shelter the Lyons families and ranch laborers and to accommodate the requirements of raising sheep in the Bald Hills. Some of these buildings remain, and some have been demolished, burned, or removed, but at least one example of all of these types survives. The building types that survive in the District are discussed below in order to understand and evaluate the individual remaining buildings.

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Work Structures

Numerous barns and sheds in scattered locations, especially the western United States, were built in a similar character and prior to the barns and sheep sheds located in the District. The existence of these structures and their features and uses suggest several things about the Lyonses' ranches buildings. The Lyonses' barns and sheep sheds do not follow the advice of professional writers about agriculture. Rather, they follow a traditional barn type that was built in scattered locations, especially in the western United States. This barn type was not specifically for sheep but appears to have been developed for general farming and adapted for particular purposes (e.g., sheep and cattle). Additionally the barn type was not representative of one cultural group. Although the Home Place Barn in the District may have been built by Louis Anderson, a Swedish carpenter, there does not appear to be anything "Swedish" about it. A similar, although larger, barn was built 35 years earlier in the Willamette Valley of Oregon by a French Canadian carpenter. Another example, still earlier, was built by Mormons. As a barn type, the buildings in the District appear to be associated with a region of the country rather than with any particular group of people or with a particular use.

The Home Place Barn was built in 1897-1898, replacing a previous barn that burned. The fact that the Home Place Barn was built as a general barn and the next three structures (at Elk Camp, Dolason, and Long Ridge) were built on the same plan as sheep sheds suggests that its users were satisfied with the Home Place Barn. Or perhaps they had participated in building it and built the others on the same model because it was familiar. The Dolason Sheep Shed appears from a newspaper article to have been built in 1914. The Elk Camp and Long Ridge sheep sheds, both built with round nails and hand split vertical plank siding were possibly built in the same era. The fifth structure, the Coyote Creek Sheep Shed, built as a lambing shed, was built on a different model in the 1940s-1950s by someone hired by Gene Lyons.

From various written sources and informants, it is known that the following work structures existed but are now gone:

Wool Barn: This barn was located on the Lyonses' land just at the edge of the Tomlinson Ranch on the east side of Bald Hills Road, outside of the District. However, it would have been an integral part of the Lyonses' operations. "The wool barn was used by all ranchers at shearing time . . . The barn was totally different from the horse barns and sheep sheds. It had a platform for baling the wool. There were pens for about 10 sheep along with corrals" (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: D-6).

Dooleyville Sheep Shed: This sheep shed was located in the Lower Coyote Creek Prairie. It is collapsed (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: 15).

Horse Barn: Informants have noted that there was a horse barn located at Elk Camp Prairie; this building is no longer extant (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: D-8).

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Shearing Sheds: There are references to “shearing sheds” but no mention of their location.

Corral Systems: For the barn and sheep sheds that remain and for all that no longer exist, there were systems of wood corrals, aisles, and chutes to control and direct sheep traffic. Only fallen down remnants of these systems remain at the Home Place Barn.

Other: There was also a dipping vat, and undoubtedly, there were paddocks and loading ramps, as would have been typical of sheep ranches.

Family Residences

The only structure built as a family dwelling that still stands is the Lane House at Elk Camp, built in the 1950s. However, from various sources and informants, it is known that the families of Jonathan and his sons each had houses at the ranch. The following houses existed but are now gone¹³:

Jonathan Lyons House: The first home of Jonathan and Amelia Lyons at Home Place burned in 1897. It was located “across the creek beyond the bunkhouse” (Horstman 1992 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: n.p.). Another house was built in 1898, and this second house was badly damaged by fire in 1905 and burned completely in 1911 (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: 17).¹⁴ It was located on a flat southwest of the Home Place Barn. A third house was built, and it, too, burned, this time in the 1950s (Horstman 1992 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: n.p.).

William Lyons House: William Lyons had a house at the Home Place. He left in 1909. This house does not appear to be extant, although it is possible that this house is one of the two houses that were joined to make the Bunkhouse at the Home Place.

Anderson Lyons House: This house is mentioned in various newspaper accounts, one which mentioned an incident in 1899 when a redwood tree was blown down and badly damaged the kitchen (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: Addendum-2).

Sherman Lyons House: Sherman Lyons’ two-story house, described as “very large, 6 feet off the ground, with porches all around” (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992:

¹³ Antonio Lyons’ house was built in 1905 and was located in the Cagle Ridge Prairie (outside of the District). It is no longer extant.

¹⁴ Fires were a regular occurrence. Jonathan Lyons “was quoted as saying that it was his luck to have a fire every seven years or to lose several hundred dollars in improvements by fences burning up” (Stanton and Van Kirk 1992:17).

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D-8) was located at the Elk Camp Prairie below the still extant Elk Camp Sheep Shed. This house burned in 1954.

House at Home Place: There was another house located south of the Bunkhouse. This house was built by Gene Lyons in the 1950s and used by tenants (Horstman 1992 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: n.p.). It was removed by the Park.

Worker Housing

Housing was needed for the temporary workers who came onto the ranch to help with shearing, lambing, and other activities. There was generally one permanent hired man at the Home Place Ranch and one at Antonio Lyons' Cagle Ridge Ranch, located outside of the District. There were bunkhouses at Sherman Lyons' ranch at Elk Camp, at the Home Place, and at Antonio Lyons' Cagle Ridge Ranch (this ranch is outside of the District) (Horstman 1992 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: n.p.). The Home Place bunkhouse remains.

Shelter was also needed for the herders who were with the sheep in the prairies. One way this shelter was provided was by permanent structures called "line cabins." Two cabins survive — the Dooleyville Line Cabin in Lower Coyote Creek Prairie and the Coyote Creek Line Cabin in Coyote Creek Prairie.

Both the bunkhouse and line cabins are box frame structures — they had thin walls and no insulation beyond the wood planks. The bunkhouse was built by 1912, judging from a newspaper pasted to an inside wall, dated 26 October 1912. This was one year before minimal standards were established for housing for agricultural workers in California (Langenbach 1988: 22). The cabins were built with milled lumber and therefore likely date from a later period. One informant dated the Dooleyville cabin to ca. 1920s; this was based on his memory of who built it (Ciarabellini in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: n.p.).

In addition to permanent housing, several sources of temporary housing were provided or used by herders. An informant mentioned tents and chimneys that were used in the Counts Hill Prairie when herders wintered there (Ciarabellini 1992 in Stanton and Van Kirk 1992: n.p.). There is also a wheeled trailer at Long Prairie that could easily be moved to provide shelter at changing locations. This trailer is a homemade wood and metal framed structure enclosed by sheet metal panels. The word "Office" scratched on the rear may indicate that the trailer was also used for this purpose.¹⁵ An informant stated that Gene Lyons purchased this trailer in the 1950s and that it was used when he bought it.

¹⁵ A similar homemade trailer has been documented at the Holmes-Mahle Ranch, a hay and cattle operation on Lambert Lane, south of Standish in Lassen County. The Holmes-Mahle Ranch trailer is generally square, measuring 7 feet, 6 inches across, with rubber tires. Its walls are enclosed in fiberglass panels. This trailer could date from the 1910s through the 1940s (Corbett 2000).

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Domestic Outbuildings

Two outhouses and a garage represent the varying types of domestic outbuildings that were in the District. The outhouse, an ancient technology, remained in service because modern plumbing was late in coming to remote locations, such as the Bald Hills. The numbers of outhouses that may have existed at the various settlements in the District are unknown. However, two remain standing — one each at Coyote Creek Prairie and the Home Place. There is a collapsed outhouse at Elk Camp Prairie.

The garages were used for storing motor vehicles (trucks, cars, and tractors). Motor vehicles, representing a new technology, were adopted to replace wagons and horses/mules for use internally (travel between the prairies and settlements) and externally (delivery of sheep and wool to markets, travel by family). Again the numbers of garages that may have existed at one time or another is unknown. There is an extant automobile garage at Elk Camp Prairie.

Management of District Buildings by the Park

The Lyons Ranches as part of the Redwood National Park are maintained by the National Park Service. The National Park Service's policy is to preserve and stabilize the buildings and structures associated with the ranches, so the structural characteristics and visual appearance of these buildings will remain as they were when the ranches were in operation. Past actions taken by the National Park Service related to the ranch buildings are described below:

The Park began work on the Lyons buildings in the early 1980s. The policy for these historic buildings, as stated in the Park's 1980 *General Management Plan*, and continued in the 1999 *Redwood National and State Parks General Management Plan/General Plan* is one of "preservation and stabilization."

Therefore, throughout the 1980s, the Park carried out a series of cultural cyclic maintenance actions on the buildings. These included repair of roofs, replacement of roof rafters or supporting elements, replacement of missing siding, and minor structural and "foundation" repairs. Generally, missing or deteriorated fabric was replaced "in kind." The exception was removing a metal roof from the Home Place Barn and replacing it with a shake roof (Smith 2000).

In December-January of 1995-1996, major storms hit northwest California and resulted in corresponding major damage to buildings in the Long, Elk Camp, and Dolason prairies. Long Ridge Sheep Shed was blown off of its supports, the hip roof section on the Elk Camp Sheep Shed collapsed, and the Dolason Sheep Shed shifted on its supports. As a result, FEMA funds were obtained and the subsequent repairs complied with engineered specifications. At all three buildings, supports that originally consisted of redwood posts placed directly into the ground, were replaced with redwood posts anchored onto subsurface (ideally) concrete footings. These major repairs were done over a three-year period, from

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1997 through 1999. This same type of repair was implemented on the Home Place Barn and the Coyote Creek Sheep Shed (Smith 2000).

Additionally, in 1999 most of the metal siding was removed from the Home Place bunkhouse and the metal roofing was replaced with wooden shakes. The barn at Home Place had the metal roofing on the hip roof replaced with wooden shakes in 1990. In 1995 the metal roofing was replaced with wooden shakes at the Dolason sheep shed. Nailers on the Elk Camp Sheep Shed were replaced and reinforced in 1999 to address structural issues. Future work will consist of routine cyclic maintenance actions like those described above (Smith 2000).

Influence of Traditional Plans on the Barns and Sheep Sheds in the District

The four earliest of the five barns and sheep sheds now standing within the District were similar when they were built in size, structure, materials, plan, and overall appearance. These buildings do not resemble others that have been identified in published sources as sheep barns or sheds, but they do resemble in varying degrees many 19th and early 20th century American barns built for other purposes.

As three-aisled barns entered on the end, the four earliest barns and sheep sheds in the District (Elk Ridge, Dolason, and Long Ridge sheep sheds and Home Place Barn) are in a general way typical of the majority of California barns. Noble and Cleek (1997) identified structures like these as “Midwest three-portal barns” with variations. These are three-aisled barns with a door or other opening entering each aisle at one gable end. Later versions of the type were called “feeder barns.” These also fit a pattern of interior organization identified by Noble: “the sheep barn very often consisted of two stories, with the ground floor housing the animals, while the upper floor provided storage space for straw used for bedding the sheep and hay for feed” (Noble 1994: 117).

The distinctive shape of the Lyons ranches barns, with a hip and gable roof, accommodates a rear aisle perpendicular to the three aisles of the main section. In the early 19th century Jesse Buel, who was associated with various New York state agricultural societies, published a plan of a large barn that included a hip and gable at both ends (Dole 1974b: 89). There are numerous published illustrations of barns with hip and gable roof at one or both ends built in the 1850s all over the United States. Among these are a “Mormon Pole Barn” for cattle in Plumas County California of 1852 (Thollander 1974: n.p.); two tobacco barns in Maryland, one built before 1861 (Boulard 1998: 110, 118); the Codiri Ranch hay barn measuring 50 feet by 55 feet near Olema, Marin County, California of about 1880 — now part of Point Reyes National Seashore (Livingston 1995: 364); an undated shed, with open sides, near Whitebird, Idaho (Attebery 1991: 104); at least six barns scattered throughout Plumas, Lassen, and Modoc counties; one barn near Crow’s landing in Stanislaus County; and an undated barn now used for cattle in Wharton County, Texas.

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A good discussion of barns and sheds that look similar to those in the District appears in several chapters by Philip Dole in a collection of essays on the buildings and landscape of the Pacific Northwest (Vaughan and Ferriday 1974). Three of these barns, which are discussed and illustrated, are the Hugh Fields barn near Brownsville, Oregon, the Daniel Albright barn near Marquan, Oregon, and the George Boone Miller barn was built near St. Louis, Oregon.

The Hugh Fields barn near Brownsville, Oregon was built about 1855. It is similar in structure, appearance, and plan to the Lyons barns with two important differences. It had a large door on each side so that a wagon could pass through, with a ramp up to and down from the raised floor of the central bay. Whereas the central bays of the Lyons barns have been described in recent oral histories as hay mows in their entirety, the central bay of the Fields barn was divided by partitions into several areas — a hay mow, wagon driveway, threshing floor, and two grain bins (Dole 1974b: 89-91). This raises a question about the large hay mows at the Lyons ranches: when those barns and sheds were first built, were there partitions or other structures in place that have since been removed? Two pieces of evidence suggest that this was the case. One, sheep were fed mixtures of hay and grains or straw (Wickson 1916: 131) in the winter. Barley and other grain crops were grown at the Lyons family ranches for this purpose. Two, an undated photograph of the interior of Long Ridge sheep shed shows pens or other structures in the rear aisle behind the hay mow. These structures have been removed.

The Daniel Albright barn near Marquan, Oregon was built in 1856. This structure is similar in its general outlines to the Lyons barns and sheds. It was designed with its gable end “out of the weather” (Dole 1974b: 85) and it had a central hay mow on a raised floor. This structure meets the definition of a shed: it was primarily a shelter for feeding cattle, it was located by itself in a pasture, and its ends were open.

The George Boone Miller barn was built near St. Louis, Oregon in 1863-1864. This was a larger version of the Lyons barns with its roof ridge 44 feet high. It incorporated a very large hay mow with grain bins above it and lofts in the side aisles. It was built by a French Canadian builder over a period of a year and several months (Dole 1974b: 121-124).

Barns versus Sheep Sheds

The terms “barn” and “shed” were used by informants in oral histories of the Lyons family. Viewing these barns and sheds today, the use of the terms may be confusing because the buildings are similar in most of their physical characteristics. However, these terms have been used this way since at least the 17th and 18th centuries. A barn has been defined by Lounsbury as “A type of outbuilding used for a variety of agricultural purposes . . . Less specialized than, for example, tobacco houses, barns served as generic, multi-purpose farm buildings” (Lounsbury 1994: 22). Many, if not most, barns have been built in the vicinity of a house. This is in contrast to a shed which is: “A freestanding structure built for storage or used as a covered work space or shelter for animals or goods. Such buildings were often completely open on one or more sides” (Lounsbury 1994: 327).

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From these definitions, it is clear that at the Lyons ranches, the Home Place Barn is a barn. Located near the main house, this barn accommodated functions associated with the operation of the ranch as a whole — to shelter horses and perhaps milk cows and a few cattle. Wagons and other equipment and tools were probably kept there. Hay and grain were kept in the barn to feed the animals. It was completely enclosed by walls.

On the other hand, the Elk Camp and Long Ridge sheep sheds were built in relatively isolated locations for a specific purpose — to shelter and feed sheep in the winter. The Long Ridge Sheep Shed appears to have been partly open on its sides. The Elk Camp Sheep Shed does not appear to have been open on its sides. The Dolason Prairie Sheep Shed was also built in an isolated location. However, a 1914 newspaper article that appears to refer to this structure called it a barn for cattle and sheep. Subsequently, it was used strictly as a sheep shed and was referred to in that way. Because of alterations, it is impossible to tell if the sides were open when it served as a sheep shed.

All of the barns and sheds in the District appear to have been altered by additions or removals or both, especially of flooring, partitions, and other features inside, and of doors and wall openings visible on the outside. Changes of these kinds are characteristic of agricultural buildings. These removals have continued almost to the present as indicated by the pile of lumber and debris outside the Dolason Prairie Sheep Shed visible in March 2000.

DISCUSSION OF INTEGRITY

The District retains all seven aspects of its integrity. The integrity of location remains. The integrity of design, materials, workmanship, setting, feeling, and association have been altered, mainly through the loss of various examples of the major types of ranching features. However, the major components of the District remain and continue to convey the seven aspects of integrity.

Additionally, the District is the only ranch to remain in the Bald Hills that represents sheep ranching from the late-19th through the mid-20th centuries, and it remains free of modern intrusions. Sheep ranching has greatly diminished in importance in Humboldt County over the past 40 years, and the Lyons ranches represent a vanished period.

LOCATION

The District maintains the integrity of location. The sheep ranches of the Lyons family were historically located within the Elk Camp, Dolason Hill, Counts Hill, Childs Hill, Schoolhouse, Lower Coyote Creek, and Coyote Creek prairies. The features of the District remain located within these prairies.

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DESIGN

In assessing the District's integrity of design, several questions need to be answered: what remains; what has been lost and how does this loss affect the design integrity; and how does the District's design represent sheep ranching during the period of significance (1868-1959) when compared to other ranches that remain within the region?

What Remains?

The District is a vernacular place whose "design" developed as a result of a hundred years of the actions by the Lyons family as they lived and ranched in the Bald Hills. The design of the District is a composition of many features — both natural and man-made — which provide the form and spatial organization that distinguish it as a place. Although there has been no sheep ranching in the District for almost 50 years, the form and spatial organization, i.e., its design, remain evident.

What remains are:

- the natural features: rolling hills, prairies, vistas, and oak woodlands
- the spatial organization: prairies that were used for grazing and contain the major clusters of features connected by a series of unpaved roads
- the major clusters of buildings and features: at Elk Camp Prairie, Dolason Hill Prairie, Home Place Prairie, Lower Coyote Creek Prairie, Long Prairie, and Coyote Creek Prairie

Examples of all of the major types of ranch-related features:

- circulation related: Bald Hills Road and the series of internal, unpaved, ranch roads.
- work structures: Elk Camp Sheep Shed, Dolason Sheep Shed, Home Place Barn, Long Ridge Sheep Shed, and Coyote Creek Sheep Shed.
- family residences: Lane House at Elk Camp.
- worker housing: Bunkhouse at the Home Place, Dooleyville Line Cabin in the Lower Coyote Creek Prairie, and Coyote Line Cabin in the Coyote Creek Prairie.
- domestic outbuildings: Garage at Elk Camp, Outhouse at the Home Place, and Outhouse in the Coyote Creek Prairie.
- vegetation-related: orchard at Elk Camp; orchard, fencing delineating the cemetery, and daffodils at home sites at the Home Place; apple trees in Schoolhouse Pasture and Coyote Creek Prairies; and evidence of garden at Coyote Creek Prairie.
- water-related: two man-made ponds at Elk Camp; man-made stock pond in Coyote Creek drainage; spring boxes at Schoolhouse and Coyote Creek prairies; concrete and wood water troughs at Schoolhouse, Long, and Coyote Creek prairies; irrigation piping by the Coyote Creek Line Cabin; and pond at the Rock Fork Road.
- the numerous, scattered, small-scale elements that show the extent to which ranch-related activities existed throughout the District.

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What Has Been Lost and How Does This Affect the Design Integrity?

The features that humans placed on the land were built as a response to living and working there, and some individual examples have disappeared as the result of fires, and with the cessation of ranching, or were removed as part of the Park's management of the resources.

These losses include the loss of all Lyons family residences. However, the individual settlement clusters of Jonathan and Sherman Lyons remain evident at Elk Camp Prairie and at the Home Place. The Elk Camp Prairie cluster contains extant examples of all the types of ranch-related features so that what was needed for the Sherman Lyons family to live and ranch is still evident. In a similar fashion, the Home Place contains evidence (through extant examples and small-scale features) making it apparent how the Jonathan Lyons family lived and worked. (The home of Antonio Lyons, and his son Gene, were located at Cagle Ridge outside of the boundaries of the District.)

As discussed in the historical context on the work structures (pages 79 through 80), some of the barns or sheep sheds (i.e. Dooleyville Sheep Shed, "Horse" barn at Elk Camp, wool barn, sheep dipping vat, etc.) are no longer present and the corral systems located at each of the barns and sheep sheds are not extant (some fallen down portions remain at the Home Place Barn). The loss of these work structures makes it more difficult to see the scale of ranching in which the Lyons family participated. However, there are major work structures (Elk Camp Sheep Shed, Dolason Sheep Shed, Home Place Barn, Long Ridge Sheep Shed, and Coyote Creek Sheep Shed) located in all of the prairies that historically had barns or sheep sheds, except for the Lower Coyote Creek Prairie (and here pieces of the collapsed Dooleyville Sheep Shed remain).

Two other aspects of ranching no longer readily apparent are the loss of fencing and the loss of vegetation features related to food production. Examples or remnants of the various types of fencing remain throughout the District, but during the period of significance, the fencing, used to denote boundaries and divisions of space, would have been more extensive. Examples of fencing remain at Schoolhouse, the Home Place, Long, and Lower Coyote Creek prairies.

As with fencing, examples of vegetation features related to cultivation remain. These include the orchards at Elk Camp and at the Home Place. Not present are examples of vegetable gardens or cultivated fields (used for hay). As with fencing, these types of vegetation features would have been more readily apparent when the family was living there. However, the District's overall design and their loss has not affected the major design features — spatial organization of prairies, major work structures, and connecting roads.

How Does the District Represent Sheep Ranching When Compared to Other Ranches That Remain?

In assessing the integrity of the District's design, it is reasonable to compare how it represents sheep ranching during the period of significance (1868-1959) when compared to other ranches that remain in the region, in particular in the Bald Hills. The District remains free of modern

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infrastructure. There are no power or telephone lines from after the period of significance, no pavement on the roads beyond that on the Bald Hills Road at Elk Camp Prairie, and no billboards or other evidence of modern life. The District has not been subdivided. It remains one large tract of land, just as it did when the Lyons family owned it. During the period of significance, the sheep ranches within the District existed as very large tracts of land that were owned by various family partnerships and jointly operated (i.e., using certain prairies for winter grazing and certain for summer grazing, joint use of lambing, shearing, and wool barns). All of the tracts of land, except the Cagle Ridge ranch lands that were owned by Antonio Lyons, are within the District and form, as they did during the period of significance, visually and spatially one contiguous sheep ranch. This lack of subdivision also means there is no development within the District — housing, ranchettes, or modern ranching buildings. The District's location within the Redwood National Park will continue to protect it from these types of intrusions.

Only one or two families who had large ranches contemporary with the Lyons family continue to have a presence in the Bald Hills. The Stover family, whose ranch is located upstream from the Lyons holdings on Redwood Creek, continues to ranch. This ranch, which was initially owned by the Hooker family, was comparable in production to the Lyons family. However, the focus of its ranching is now cattle, and it has been impacted by modern life, as would be expected of a working ranch.

Sheep are no longer an important part of the ranch economy in Humboldt County. Beginning in the 1960s, sheep ranching began to decline. A combination of local and larger market conditions contributed to the decline of sheep ranching in Humboldt County over the last 40 years. Most ranching operations stopped raising sheep, some sold their land and left, and some turned to other sources of income. Today, Humboldt County has fewer than 3,000 ewes, compared to 165,609 sheep in the county in 1950. No large-scale sheep ranches remain in northern Humboldt County today.

Ranches throughout Humboldt County have been impacted in varying degrees by the additional features of modern life and ranching — additional roads, paved roads, new farm buildings, new houses, power lines, satellite dishes, etc. These features have been added to support the domestic and ranching requirements of contemporary life and were added after the District's period of significance. Some of these ranch properties have also been subdivided, developed, and subjected to other kinds of land management so that the land holdings have been altered since the end of the District's periods of significance.

MATERIALS/WORKMANSHIP

The “natural” materials of the District — primarily the grasslands of the prairies and the oak woodlands — have been retained. The examples of the major types of man-made features — such as the unpaved roads, wood barns and sheep sheds, trees in orchards — still exhibit the materials and workmanship from the periods of significance. And while the District has not suffered a loss of materials and workmanship due to the intrusion of new features added after the periods of significance, the integrity of materials and workmanship has been impacted through

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the loss of features as described under “Design.” However, looking at the District as a whole, the integrity of materials and workmanship still remains evident.

SETTING

The overall or large-scale setting of the District in rural Humboldt County has been retained. The remoteness of the area and its protection as part of the Redwood National Park has protected the District from modern buildings and developments that would compromise the setting. On a smaller scale or internal scale at the major clusters, the loss of features as described under “Design” has impacted the setting within the District. However, the District as a whole retains its setting.

FEELING

The District still evokes the feeling that is associated with a rural ranching landscape — that is, it is still rural. The presence of the prairies and barns and sheep sheds is essential to this feeling. However, the lack of active ranching within the District has resulted in a loss of the aspects of the integrity of feeling that would have been evoked by people actually living and working the land — the sights, sounds, and smells associated with sheep and other ranching animals; fields planted in grain crops, harvested, and lying fallow; the feeling of community that would have resulted from members of the Lyons family making their home within the District. These losses have resulted in the expanses of prairies evoking more a feeling of solitude than would have been present during the periods of significance. People visit the Park to escape aspects of modern life and to experience things (recreation, sights, vegetation, wildlife) that are not part of their everyday lives. These are different feelings than those associated with an active sheep ranching operation; however, as a whole the District still retains its integrity of feeling.

ASSOCIATION

The presence of the prairies, major clusters, and major structures (barns and sheep sheds) provide the direct link between the District and the important events and people that have shaped it. The District retains its integrity of association.

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CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

Contributing resources include those that were a part of the Lyons' sheep ranching operations during the period of significance (1868-1959).

These include the eight prairies and the oak woodlands that connect the prairies.

Within the prairies are features that contribute to the significance of the District but that are not listed separately. Instead they are included as contributing resources within the designation of the prairies. These are mainly landscape and water-related features; many exist as remnants (i.e., boards from collapsed corrals or sections of fencing); and they are small-scale elements (i.e., individual fruit trees or water troughs or spring boxes). It would be problematic to count each one of these. In addition to the small-scale elements that have been identified by the Park, there undoubtedly remain many more small-scale elements that have not been documented. It would be impractical, due to the large area of the District, and impossible, due to vegetation obscuring the elements at various times of the year, to document all small-scale elements within the District at one time. Documentation of these types of features will be an on-going cultural resources management project within the Park.

Roads, buildings, and structures are listed separately as contributing resources. These were listed separately because all within the District have been identified (as compared to the small-scale elements discussed in the previous paragraph). They are key features within the District that represent distinctive ranching activities, and they fit readily into the NRHP classification system (i.e., building or structure).

| Name | Category¹⁶ |
|--|------------------------------|
| Bald Hills Road | Structure |
| Elk Camp Road | Structure |
| Bald Hills School Road | Structure |
| Maneze Road | Structure |
| Lyons Road | Structure |
| Schoolhouse Pasture Road | Structure |
| Long Ridge Road | Structure |
| Ranch Road (Between Long Ridge Fork and Coyote Creek Sheep Shed) | Structure |
| Rock Fork Road | Structure |
| Main Stem Road | Structure |
| Upper Coyote Peak Road | Structure |
| Spur Road | Structure |

¹⁶ Building, Site, Structure, or Object

Lyons Ranches Historic District
Name of Property

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| Name | Category |
|---|-----------------|
| Coyote Peak Road | Structure |
| Elk Camp Prairie | Site |
| Lane House | Building |
| Elk Camp Garage | Building |
| Elk Camp Sheep Shed | Structure |
| Dolason Hill Prairie | Site |
| Dolason Sheep Shed | Structure |
| Counts Hill Prairie | Site |
| Childs Hill Prairie | Site |
| Schoolhouse Prairie | Site |
| Home Place Barn | Structure |
| Home Place Bunkhouse | Building |
| Home Place Outhouse | Building |
| Home Place Cemetery | Site |
| Lower Coyote Creek Prairie | Site |
| Dooleyville Line Cabin | Building |
| Long Prairie | Site |
| Long Ridge Sheep Shed | Structure |
| Long Ridge Herders' Trailer (collapsed) | Site |
| Coyote Creek Prairie | Site |
| Coyote Creek Sheep Shed | Structure |
| Coyote Creek Line Cabin | Building |
| Coyote Creek Outhouse | Building |
| Pond at Rock Ford Road | Structure |

NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

Non-contributing resources include those roads or buildings that were not a part of the sheep ranching operations (i.e., constructed after the period of significance).

| Name | Category |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Spring Road | Structure |
| Lower Mid-Basin Road | Structure |
| Upper Mid-Basin Road | Structure |

Lyons Ranches Historic District
Name of Property

Humboldt County, CA
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| Name | Category |
|---|-----------------|
| Ranch Road (Between Lyons Road and Long Ridge Fork) | Structure |
| Coyote Creek Road | Structure |
| School Loop | Structure |
| Bridge Road | Structure |
| Lower Rock Fork Road | Structure |
| T Bear Road | Structure |
| Upper Lyons Road | Structure |
| School House Peak Fire Lookout | Building |

Lyons Ranches Historic District
Name of Property

Humboldt County, CA
County and State

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- 1982 *Panther Creek, California.* 1:24,000.
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- 2013 *Lyons Family Genealogy.* In files of National Park Service, Redwood National Park, Orick: CA.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Lyons Ranches Historic District
Name of Property

Humboldt County, CA
County and State

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 5,660 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

| | | |
|---------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Zone: 10N | Easting: 419398.59 | Northing: 4564456.34 |
| 2. Zone: 10N | Easting: 419870.78 | Northing: 4563368.33 |
| 3. Zone: 10N | Easting: 418352.62 | Northing: 4563849.20 |
| 4. Zone: 10N | Easting: 417916.04 | Northing: 4564581.84 |
| 5. Zone: 10N | Easting: 418373.16 | Northing: 4564740.54 |
| 6. Zone: 10N | Easting: 421049.10 | Northing: 4561310.32 |
| 7. Zone: 10N | Easting: 422297.07 | Northing: 4559854.81 |
| 8. Zone: 10N | Easting: 423111.29 | Northing: 4557819.30 |
| 9. Zone: 10N | Easting: 425579.27 | Northing: 4557323.79 |
| 10. Zone: 10N | Easting: 427556.52 | Northing: 4555654.28 |
| 11. Zone: 10N | Easting: 428697.68 | Northing: 4552334.78 |
| 12. Zone: 10N | Easting: 423292.22 | Northing: 4552482.54 |
| 13. Zone: 10N | Easting: 422346.20 | Northing: 4552940.11 |
| 14. Zone: 10N | Easting: 423126.43 | Northing: 4554926.37 |
| 15. Zone: 10N | Easting: 424722.31 | Northing: 4556538.24 |
| 16. Zone: 10N | Easting: 422343.10 | Northing: 4556607.52 |
| 17. Zone: 10N | Easting: 420460.22 | Northing: 4558949.02 |
| 18. Zone: 10N | Easting: 420098.92 | Northing: 4561432.98 |
| 19. Zone: 10N | Easting: 418307.46 | Northing: 4561425.46 |
| 20. Zone: 10N | Easting: 418307.46 | Northing: 4562253.45 |
| 21. Zone: 10N | Easting: 420123.54 | Northing: 4562285.62 |

Lyons Ranches Historic District
Name of Property

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundaries of the district are two discrete areas less than one mile apart. The east boundaries of the district share the east boundary of Redwood National Park, which is generally, but not precisely, Bald Hills Road in this region of the park.

The north area boundary encompasses Elk Camp Prairie and is described by UTM points 1 - 5 as shown on the attached District Boundary Map. The remainder of the district is within the southern boundary and is described by UTM points 6 - 21 on the attached District Boundary Map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The District's boundaries include all of the lands that are currently in public ownership that were owned, leased, or used by the Lyons Family in the Bald Hills. (Including all timber lands owned by the Lyons was not necessary since this was not a focus of significance for the District). Not included within the District's boundaries are the Cagle Ridge ranch lands that were owned by Antonio and then his son, Gene. This land is privately owned and is outside of the Park boundaries.

All of the major features that are required to accurately represent the Lyons family's sheep ranching operations during the period of significance (1868-1959) are included within the District's boundaries. So the fact that the Cagle Ridge land is outside of the District's boundaries does not impact the integrity of the District.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Denise Bradley (Landscape Historian), Michael Corbett (Arch. Historian)
organization: National Park Service
street & number: 1965 Page Street, #202
city or town: San Francisco state: CA zip code: 94117
e-mail: _____ telephone: 415-751-2604
date: 7 April 2002

amended by

name/title: Kevin McCardle (Historical Landscape Architect), Emilie Uemura (volunteer),
Joni Emmons (volunteer)
organization: National Park Service
street & number: 121200 Hwy. 101
city or town: Orick state: CA zip code: 95555
e-mail: _____ telephone: 707-465-7718
date: 27 June 2017

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Lyons Ranches Historic District
Name of Property

Humboldt County, CA
County and State

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

- Photo 1. (CA_Humb_LRHD_01.tif) Overview of Bald Hills, prairies, oak woodlands. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 2. (CA_Humb_LRHD_02.tif) Lane House. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 3. (CA_Humb_LRHD_03.tif) Lane House Garage. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 4. (CA_Humb_LRHD_04.tif) Elk Camp Barn. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 5. (CA_Humb_LRHD_05.tif) Elk Camp Barn. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 6. (CA_Humb_LRHD_06.tif) Dolason Barn and prairie. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 7. (CA_Humb_LRHD_07.tif) Dolason Barn (Sherman Lyons). Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 8. (CA_Humb_LRHD_08.tif) Dolason Barn. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.

Lyons Ranches Historic District
Name of Property

Humboldt County, CA
County and State

- Photo 9. (CA_Humb_LRHD_09.tif) Remains of fence and telephone pole on Ranch Road. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 10. (CA_Humb_LRHD_10.tif) Road to Home Place from Bald Hills Road, with remnants of fencing. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 11. (CA_Humb_LRHD_11.tif) Home Place Barn. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 12. (CA_Humb_LRHD_12.tif) Home Place Barn. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 13. (CA_Humb_LRHD_13.tif) Home Place Barn Interior. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 14. (CA_Humb_LRHD_14.tif) Farm Equipment at Home Place Barn. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 15. (CA_Humb_LRHD_15.tif) Home Place Orchard. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 16. (CA_Humb_LRHD_16.tif) Home Place Cemetery. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 17. (CA_Humb_LRHD_17.tif) Home Place Cemetery. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 18. (CA_Humb_LRHD_18.tif) Home Place Bunkhouse. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 19. (CA_Humb_LRHD_19.tif) Home Place Outhouse. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 20. (CA_Humb_LRHD_20.tif) Dooleyville Line Cabin from a distance. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 21. (CA_Humb_LRHD_21.tif) Dooleyville Line Cabin. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 22. (CA_Humb_LRHD_22.tif) View to Long Ridge Sheep Shed. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.

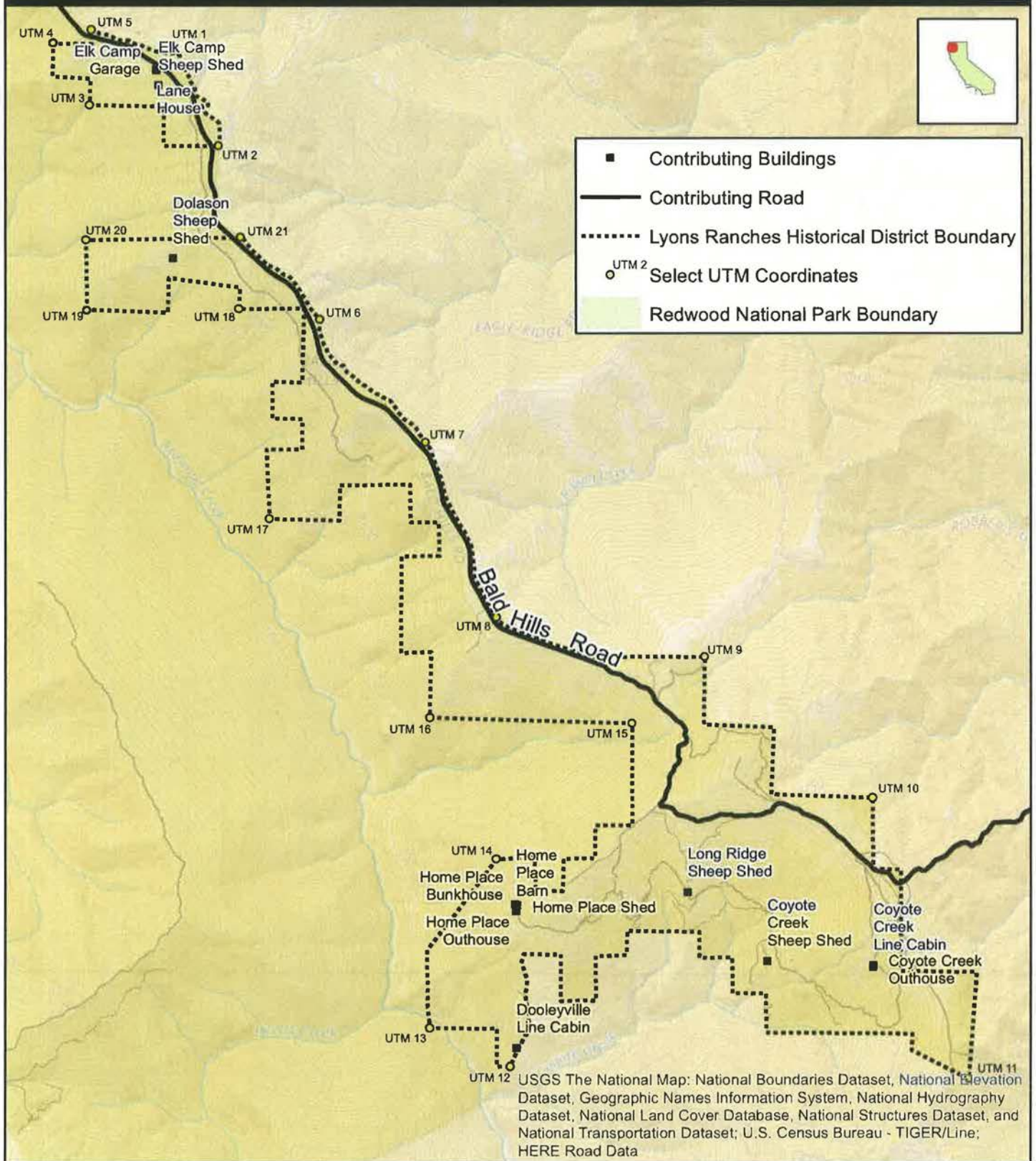
Lyons Ranches Historic District
Name of Property

Humboldt County, CA
County and State

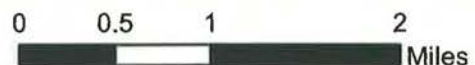
- Photo 23. (CA_Humb_LRHD_23.tif) Long Ridge Barn. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 24. (CA_Humb_LRHD_24.tif) Long Ridge Barn, interior. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 25. (CA_Humb_LRHD_25.tif) Long Ridge Barn, interior. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 26. (CA_Humb_LRHD_26.tif) Long Ridge Barn, interior. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 27. (CA_Humb_LRHD_27.tif) Sheep Herders' Trailer at Long Ridge Barn. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 28. (CA_Humb_LRHD_28.tif) View along the Road to Home Place. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 29. (CA_Humb_LRHD_29.tif) Coyote Creek Barn. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 30. (CA_Humb_LRHD_30.tif) Coyote Creek Barn, showing detail to show foundation stabilization (1999). Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 31. (CA_Humb_LRHD_31.tif) Coyote Creek Line Cabin. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 32. (CA_Humb_LRHD_32.tif) Coyote Creek Outhouse. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.
- Photo 33. (CA_Humb_LRHD_33.tif) Drainage pond along Home Place Road. Photographer: Joni Emmons, 2017.

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

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

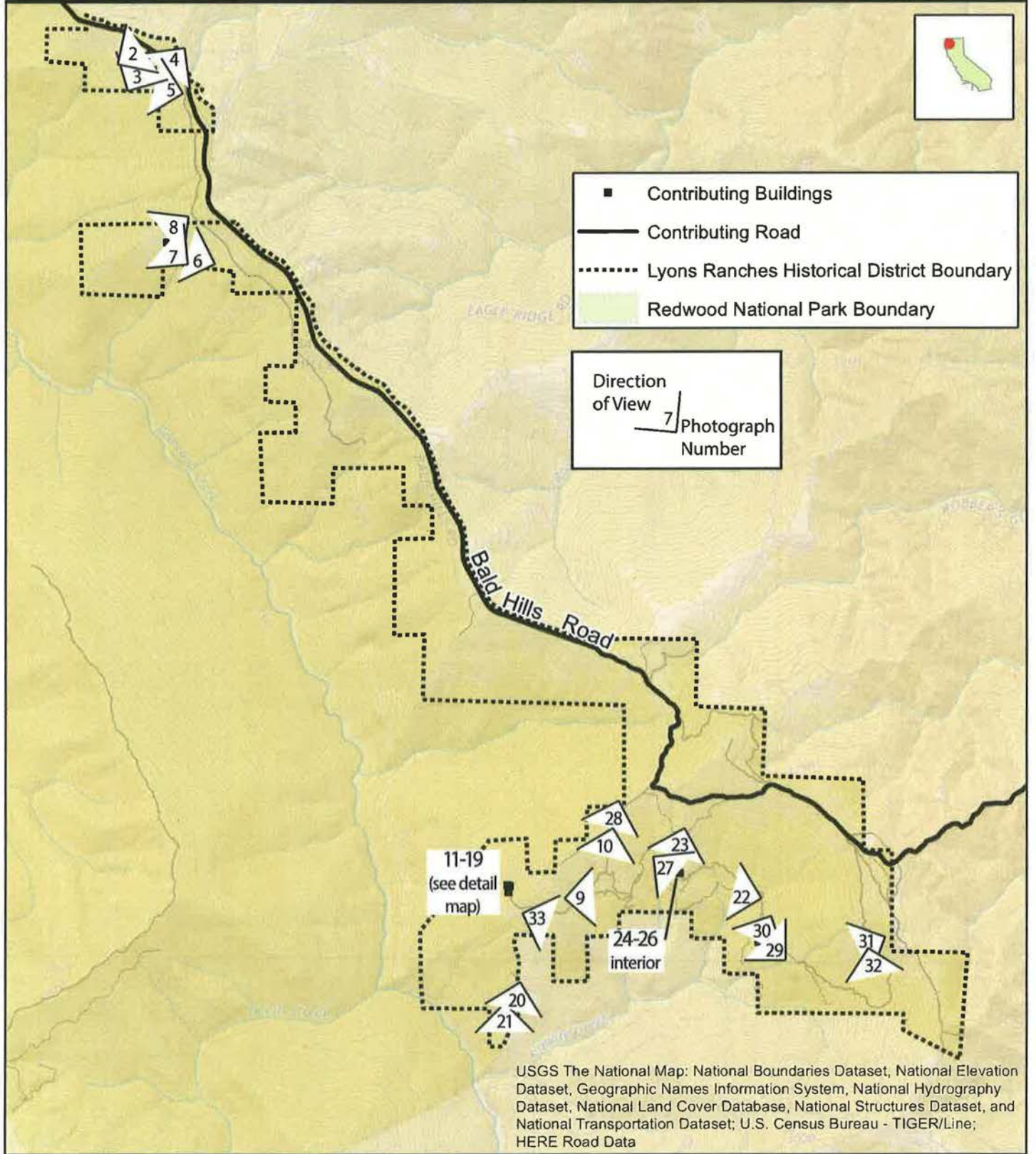
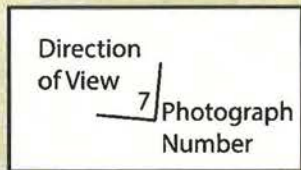


District Boundary and Locations Map
Lyons Ranches Historical District



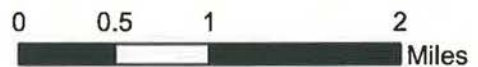


- Contributing Buildings
- Contributing Road
- ⋯ Lyons Ranches Historical District Boundary
- Redwood National Park Boundary



USGS The National Map: National Boundaries Dataset, National Elevation Dataset, Geographic Names Information System, National Hydrography Dataset, National Land Cover Database, National Structures Dataset, and National Transportation Dataset; U.S. Census Bureau - TIGER/Line; HERE Road Data

Photograph Key
Lyons Ranches Historical District



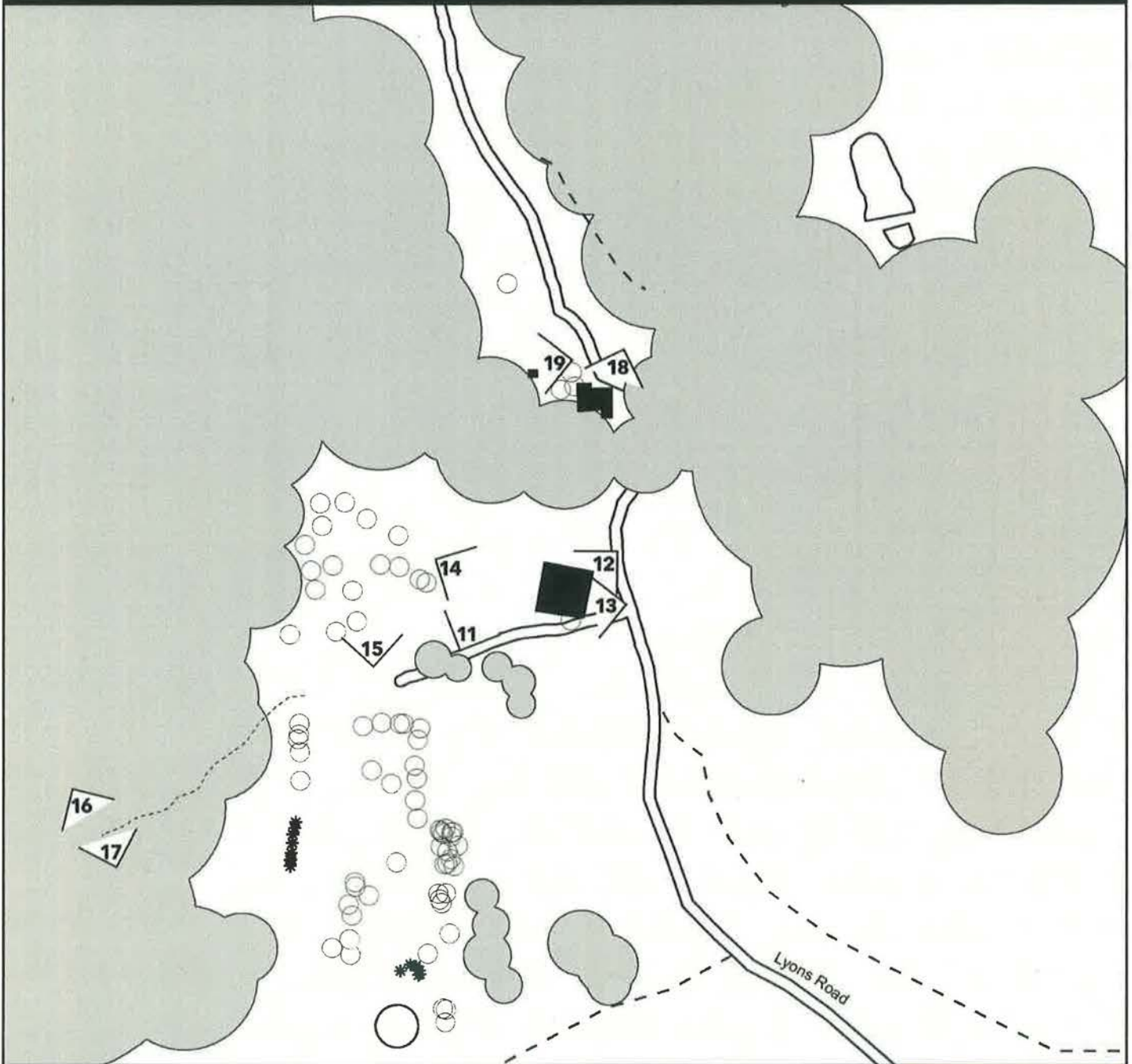
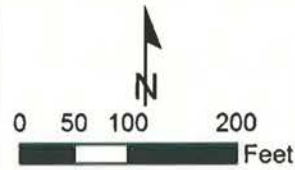
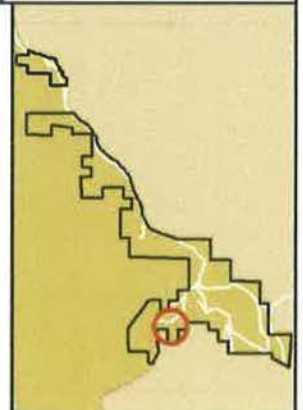


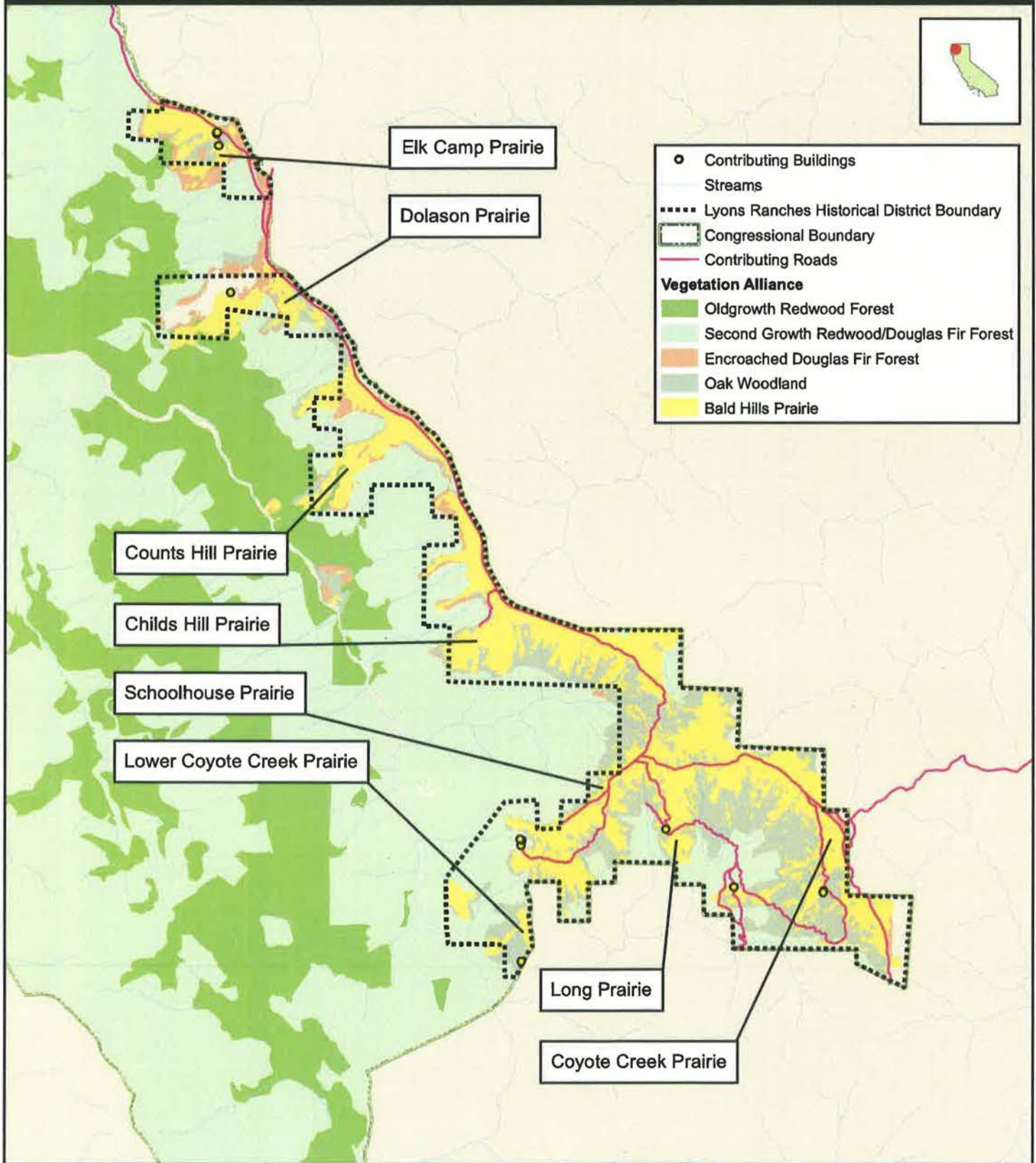
Photo Key
Home Place Feature Cluster
(Photos 11-19)

-  Forest Canopy
-  Building
-  Roads
-  Trail
-  Tree



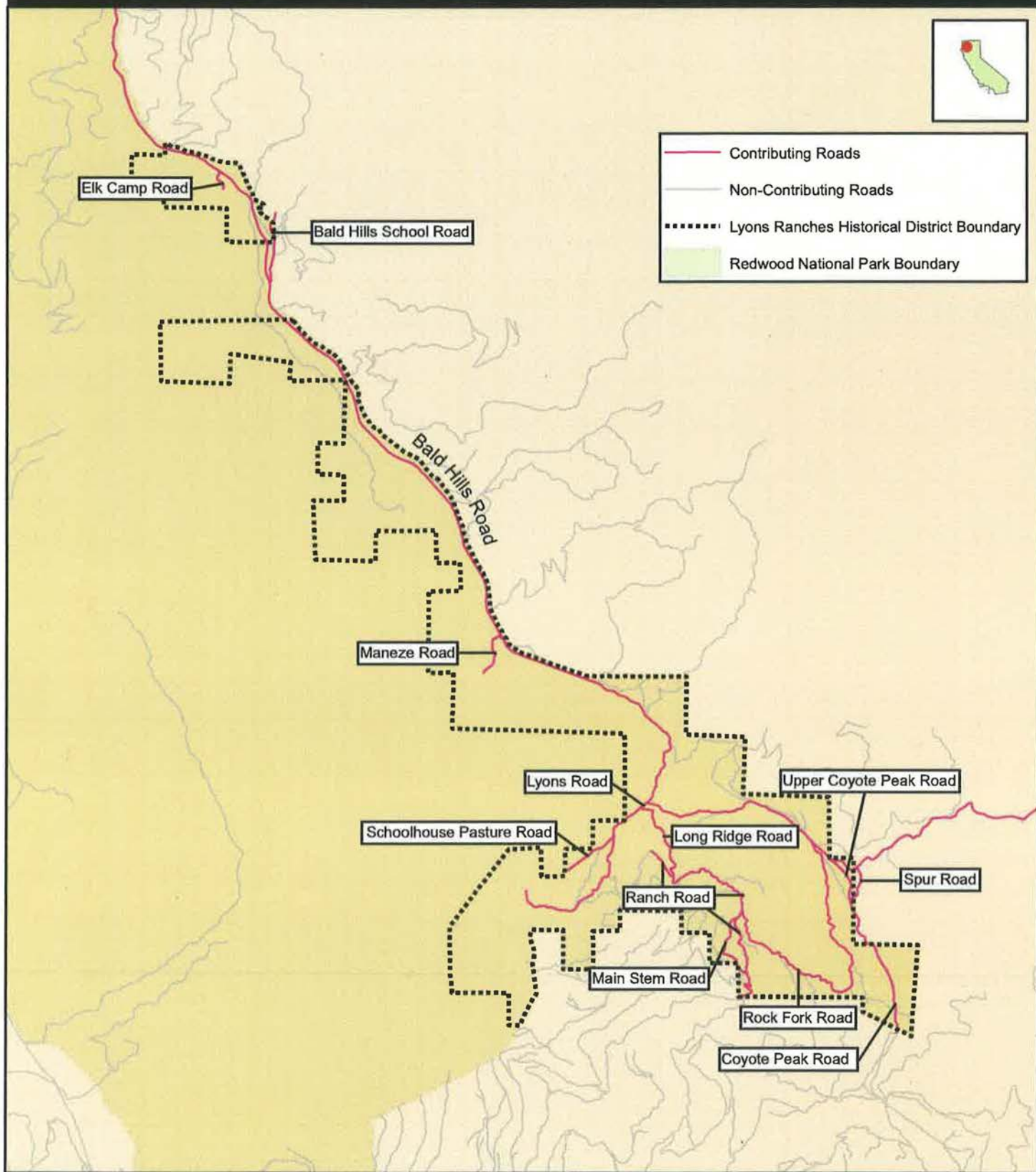
Note:
Information derived from park,
internet, and field/GPS sources.
Map by Emilie Uemura, NCPE
Cultural Resources Intern.
Original Fieldwork conducted
6/9-13/03. Original map by
Shaun Provencher, PWR.





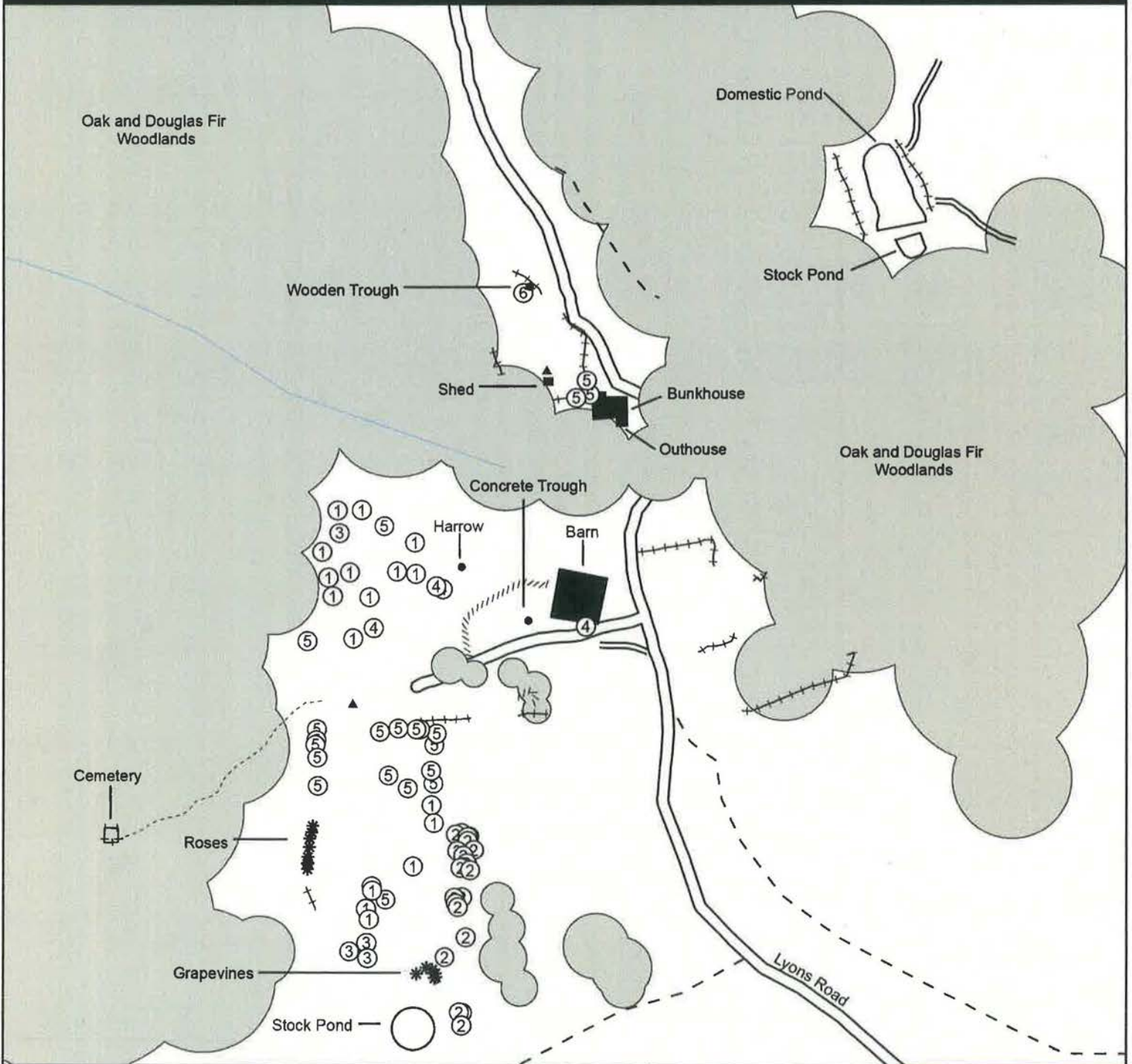
Vegetation Types
Lyons Ranches Historical District





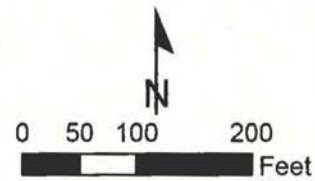
Roads
Lyons Ranches Historical District



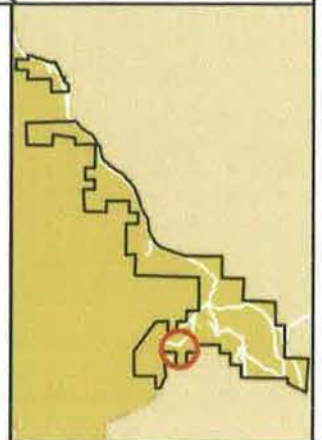


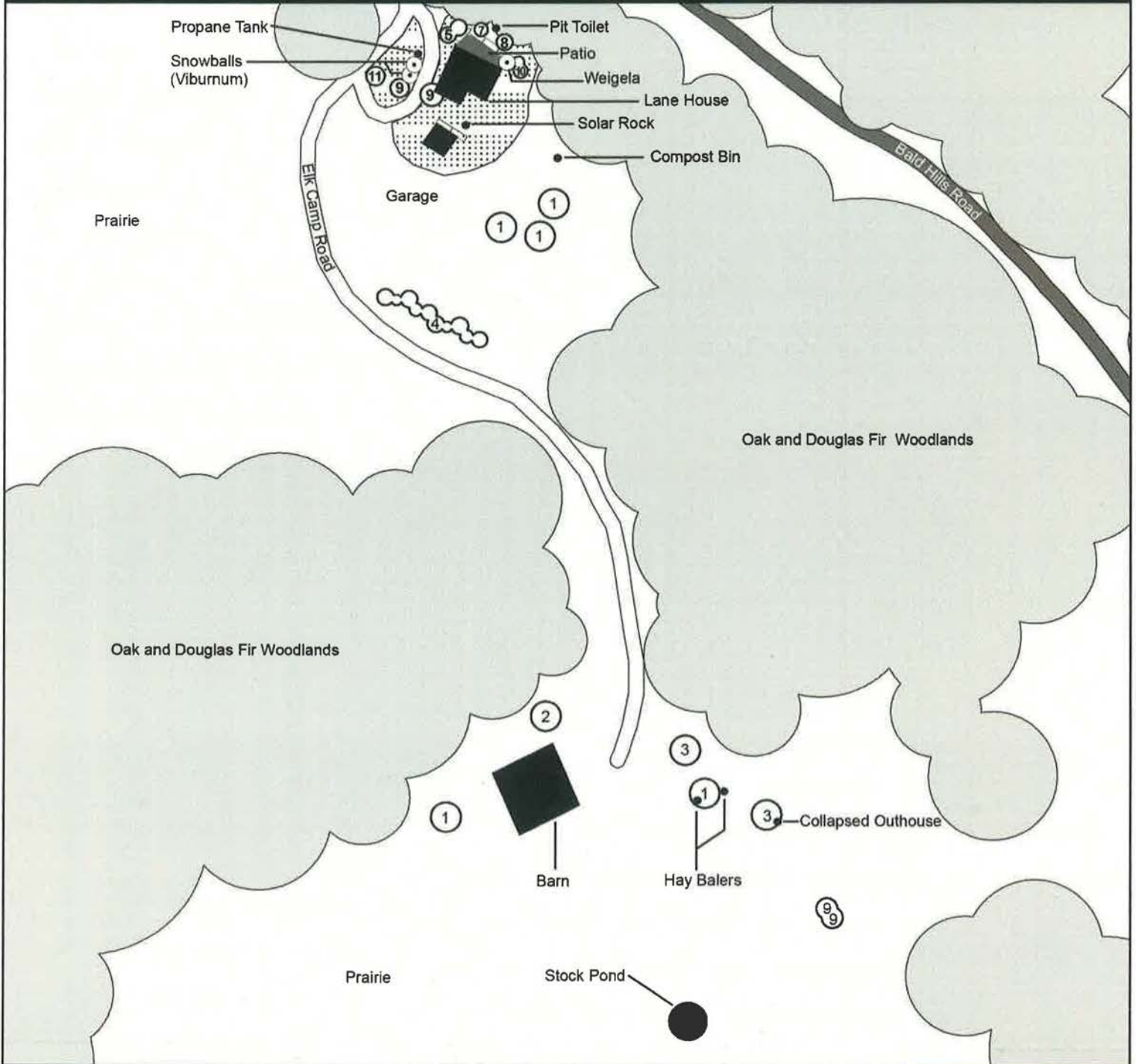
**Site Map
Home Place Feature Cluster**

- | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|---|--------|---|-------------------|
| | Forest Canopy | | Fences | ③ | Pear |
| | Building | | Trail | ④ | Cherry |
| | Roads | | Stream | ⑤ | English Walnut |
| | Corral Remnants | ① | Apple | ⑥ | California Walnut |
| | Ditch | ② | Plum | ▲ | Historic Trash |



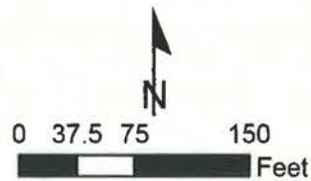
Note:
Information derived from park, internet, and field/GPS sources. Map by Emilie Uemura, NCPE Cultural Resources Intern. Original Fieldwork conducted 6/9-13/03. Original map by Shaun Provencher, PWR.



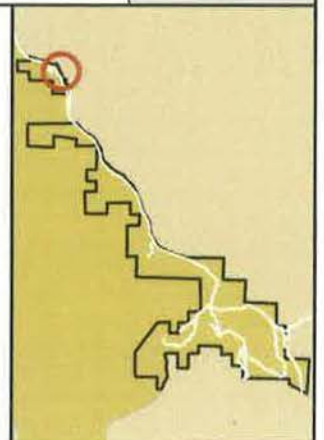


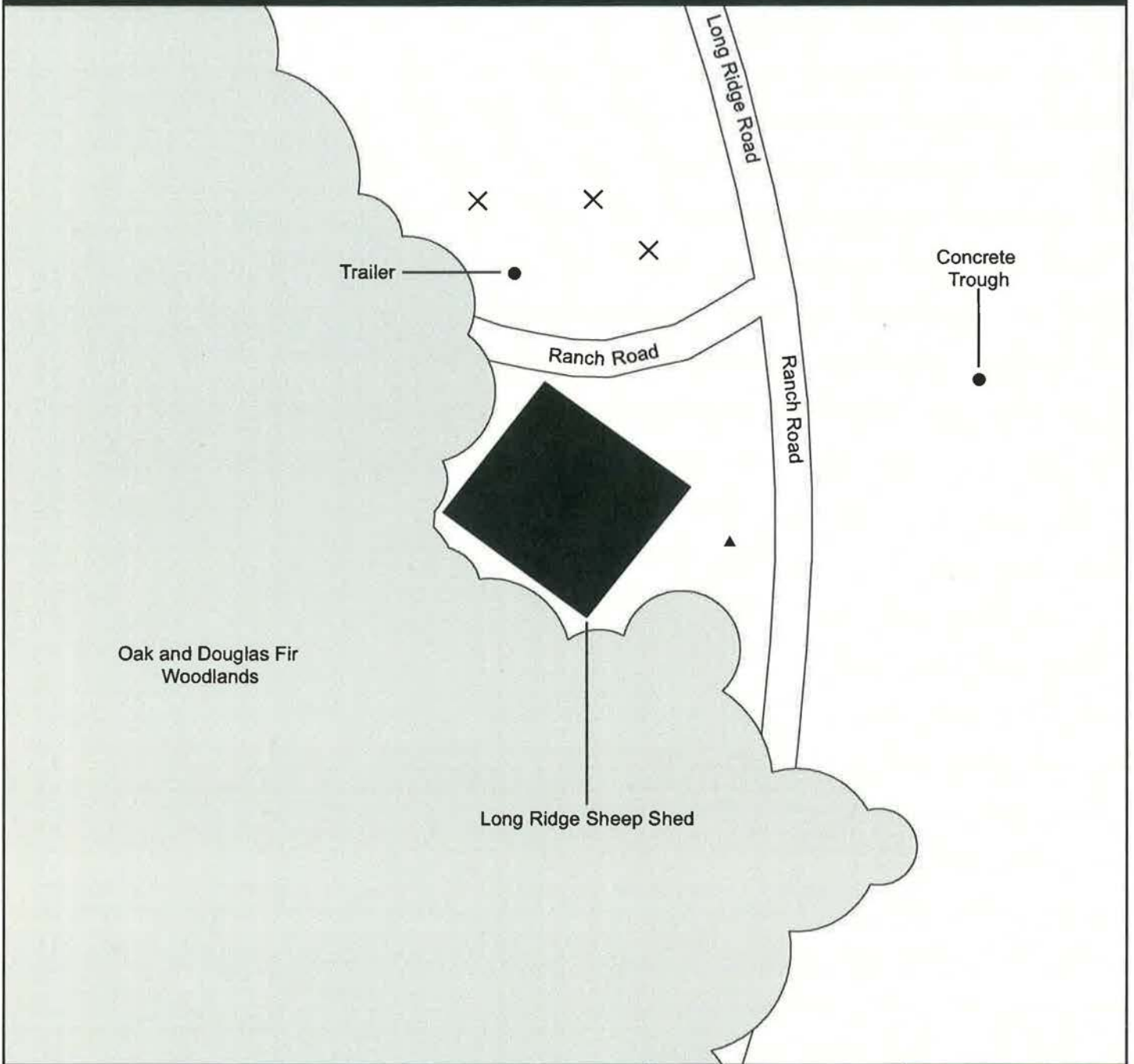
**Site Map
Elk Camp Prairie Feature Cluster**

| | | | |
|--|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| | Building | ① Apple | ⑦ Maple |
| | Wall | ② Plum | ⑧ Elm |
| | Lawn | ③ Pear | ⑨ Chestnut |
| | Forest Canopy | ④ Cherry | ⑩ Black Locust |
| | | ⑤ English Walnut | ⑪ Madrone |



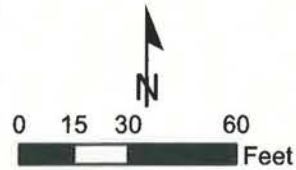
Note:
Information derived from park, internet, and field/GPS sources.
Map by Emilie Uemura, NCPE Cultural Resources Intern.
Original Fieldwork conducted 6/9-13/03. Original map by Shaun Provencher, PWR.



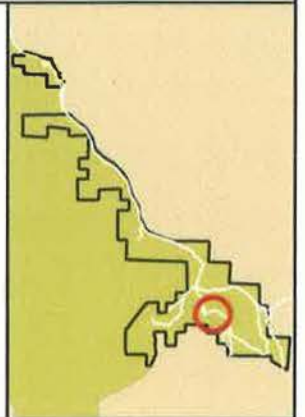


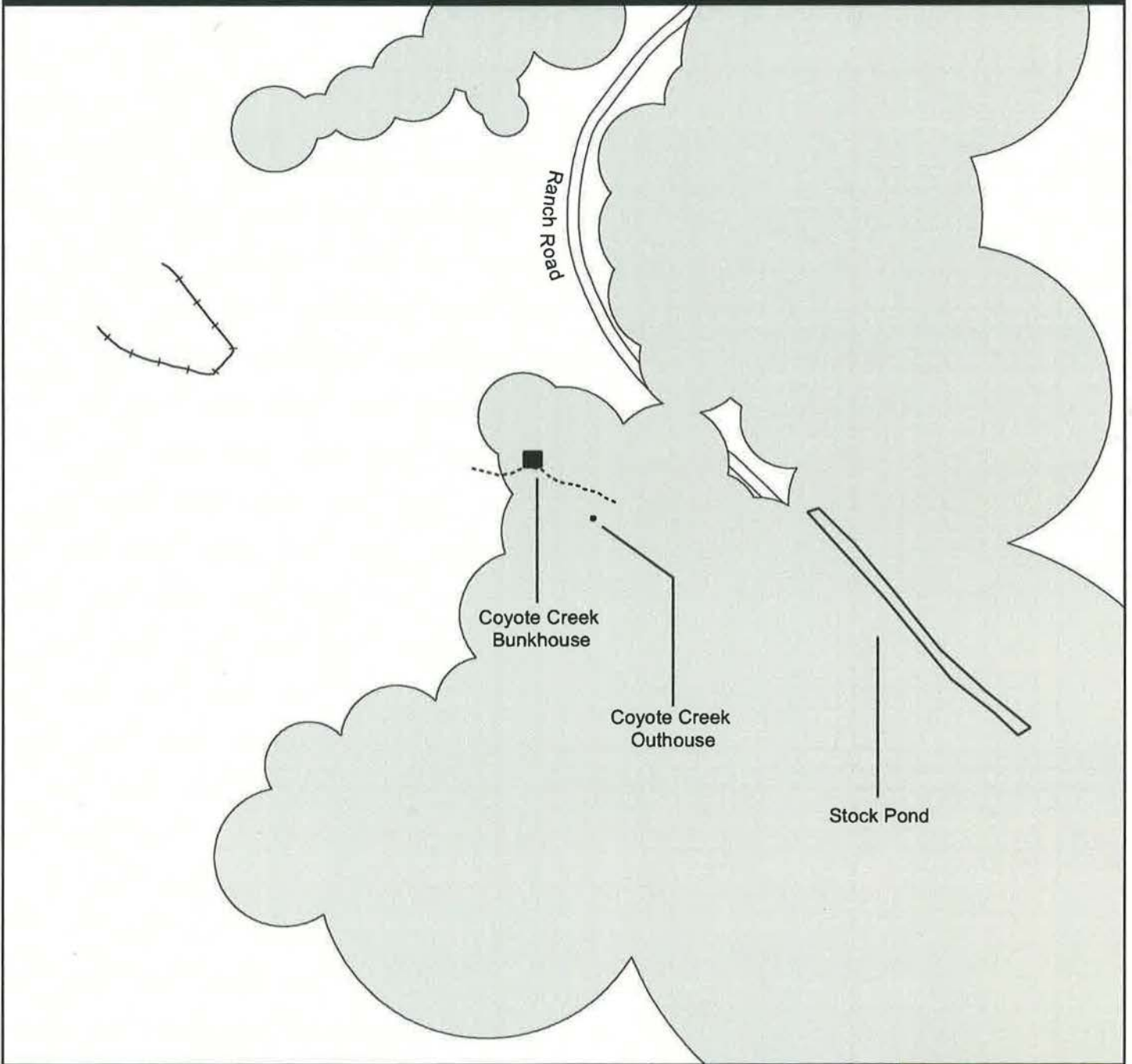
Site Map
Long Prairie Feature Cluster

- Building
- ▲ Historic Trash
- × Wood Pile
- ☁ Forest Canopy



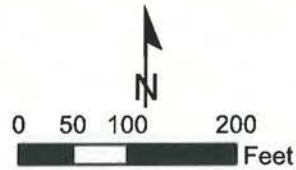
Note:
Information derived from park,
internet, and field/GPS sources.
Map by Emilie Uemura, NCPE
Cultural Resources Intern.
Original Fieldwork conducted
6/9-13/03. Original map by
Shaun Provencher, PWR.



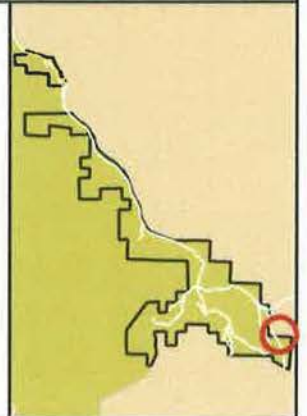


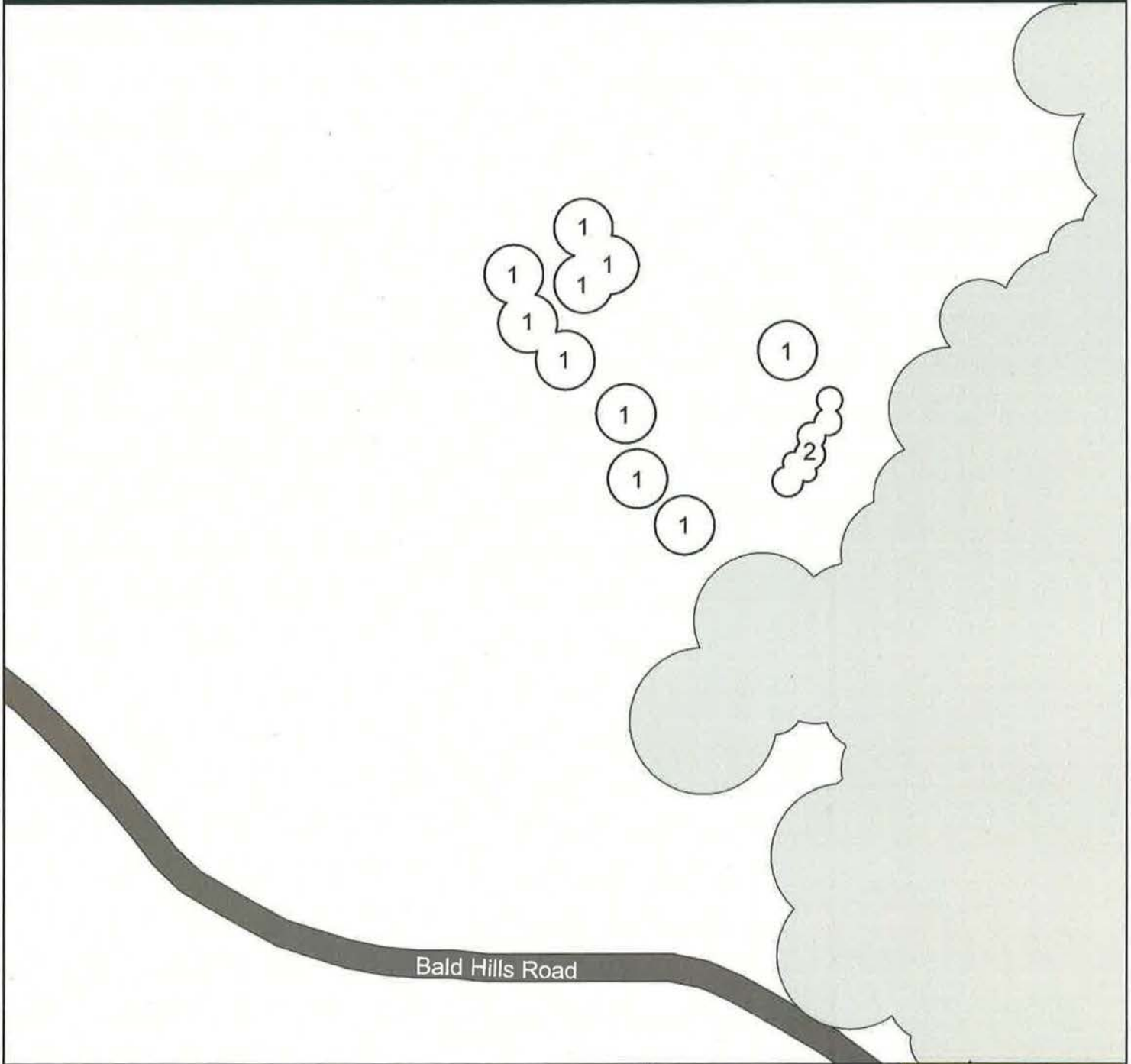
**Site Map
Coyote Creek Prairie Feature Cluster**

- Building
- Fence
- Forest Canopy
- Pipeline



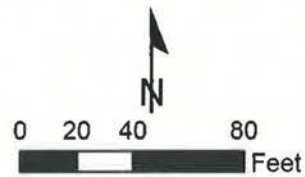
Note:
Information derived from park,
internet, and field/GPS sources.
Map by Emilie Uemura, NCPE
Cultural Resources Intern.
Original Fieldwork conducted
6/9-13/03. Original map by
Shaun Provencher, PWR.





**Site Map
Schoolhouse Peak Feature Cluster**

-  Forest Canopy
- ① Apple
- ② Plum



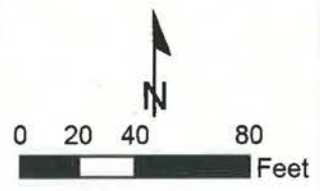
Note:
Information derived from park,
internet, and field/GPS sources.
Map by Emilie Uemura, NCPE
Cultural Resources Intern.
Original Fieldwork conducted
6/9-13/03. Original map by
Shaun Provencher, PWR.



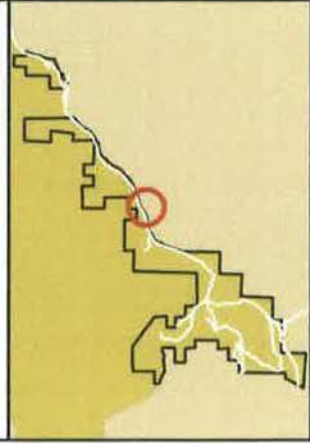


Site Map
Childs Hill Prairie Feature Cluster

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---|-------|
| --- | Roads | ① | Apple |
| ☁ | Forest Canopy | ② | Plum |
| ⊙ | Unknown | ③ | Pear |



Note:
Information derived from park, internet, and field/GPS sources.
Map by Emilie Uemura, NCPE Cultural Resources Intern.
Original Fieldwork conducted 6/9-13/03. Original map by Shaun Provencher, PWR.





































WILLIAM L. LINDSAY
1878-1925

































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Lyons Ranches Historic District

Multiple Name:

State & County: CALIFORNIA, Humboldt

Date Received:
1/31/2018

Date of Pending List:
2/26/2018

Date of 16th Day:
3/13/2018

Date of 45th Day:
3/19/2018

Date of Weekly List:

Reference number: SG100002212

Nominator: State

Reason For Review:

Appeal

SHPO Request

Waiver

Resubmission

Other

PDIL

Landscape

National

Mobile Resource

TCP

CLG

Text/Data Issue

Photo

Map/Boundary

Period

Less than 50 years

Accept Return Reject 3/19/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: The Lyons Ranches Historic District is locally significant under National Register Criteria A and C in the areas of Agriculture, Exploration/Settlement, Ethnic Heritage-Native American, and Architecture. The 5,660-acre district, set within the open prairie and oak woodlands of the Redwood Creek watershed, reflects the era of peak sheep ranching in the Bald Hills area from 1869 to 1959. Associated with the prominent Lyons family--pioneering settler Jonathan and his Native American (Hupa) wife Amelia, his sons Antonio, William, Anderson, Sherman, and grandson Gene--the extant ranch landscape retains many natural features (open prairies), patterns of spacial organization, and working ranch buildings typical of historic period sheep ranching. Among the earliest settlers to northern Humboldt County and the first to develop substantial sheep ranching operations, the Lyons significantly expanded and modernized commercial sheep ranching in the Bald Hills area, often employing local Native Americans whose lands and agricultural practices were often appropriated. The extant resources represent a rapidly disappearing regional property type and cultural landscape.

Recommendation/ Criteria Accept National Register Criteria A and C.

Reviewer Paul Lusignan

Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2229

Date 3/19/2018

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : **Yes**



United States Department of the Interior
Redwood National Park
1111 Second Street
Crescent City, California 95531

H32 (Lyons Ranches Historic District)

December 5, 2017

Ms. Joy Beasley
Federal Preservation Officer
Deputy Associate Director
Park Programs and National Heritage Areas
1201 Eye St., NW, Room 804
Washington, DC 20005

Subject: Nomination of Lyons Ranches Historical District to the National Register of Historic Places

Dear Ms. Beasley:

In accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the National Park Service is requesting your review and concurrence of the enclosed National Register Nomination for the Lyons Ranches Historic District (see Enclosure 1: hard copies and CDs), Redwood National and State Parks, Humboldt County.

In 2003, a nomination for the Lyons Ranches Historic District was sent to the California State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and declined to comment. The nomination was then sent on to the Keeper of the Register (Keeper) for review in April of 2004, who then requested several clarifications (see enclosure 2). Also in 2004, a Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI), based primarily on the 2003 registration form, was sent to SHPO as a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) for the Lyons Ranches Historic District. On September 8, 2004, SHPO concurred with its eligibility as one of the only surviving intact examples of the sheep ranching industry in northern Humboldt County and the importance of the Lyons family to the sheep ranching industry. However, SHPO did not concur it was eligible as an example of establishment and development of social and economic relationships between Native Americans and settlers in the Bald Hills area due to insufficient examples beyond the inter-marriages between the Lyons family and the surrounding American Indian community (see enclosure 3). In 2015 the nomination was revised based on the Keeper's 2004 comments, and the SHPO concurrence in 2004. In particular, additional examples and documentation were added to illustrate the District's eligibility under NRHP Criterion A at the local level for its association with the establishment and development of social and economic relationships between Native American people and the immigrant Euro-American society in the Bald Hills. The nomination was submitted to SHPO on November 27, 2016, and concurred with in a letter received February 2, 2017 (see enclosure 3). At that time SHPO recommended future nomination submissions update the photographs to reflect current standards and to use the current National Register form. Both of these recommendations were followed and the updated nomination is enclosed.

This National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nomination is the fourth to be prepared for the Lyons Ranches Historic District. The two earlier forms (Greene 1986 and Smith and Van Kirk 1994) were submitted as drafts to the NRHP but were never submitted in final form. In 2003 the form was finalized with additional information by

private consultants, Denise Bradley and Michael Corbett, San Francisco, California. The nomination was recently revised by Redwood National Park staff to address previous comments and reflect changes to the district since 2003.

If you concur with the nomination, we ask that you forward it to the Keeper. Please direct any questions, comments or correspondence to the attention of Karin Grantham, Chief Resource Management and Science at (707) 465-7710 or by email to Karin_grantham@nps.gov. We greatly appreciate your assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,



Steven Mietz, Superintendent
Redwood National Park

Enclosure #1: NRHP Registration Forms and CD

Enclosure #2: Keeper Correspondence (2004)

Enclosure #3: SHPO Concurrence (2004)

Enclosure #4: SHPO Concurrence (2016)

CC w/ enclosures

Mr. Ryan Sundberg, Fifth District Supervisor, Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

CC w/out enclosures:

Karin Grantham, Chief Resource Management and Science, REDW, NPS

Kevin McCardle, Historical Landscape Architect, REDW, NPS

David Louter, Chief, Cultural Resources Program, Pacific West Region, NPS

Vida Germano, Cultural Landscape Program Coordinator, Pacific West Region, NPS

Comments from Laura Feller: FHPO WASO

Phone Conversation notes May 5, 2003

1. Page 15 says that the Upper Lyons Road is a contributing element to the district says dates are 1952 to 1966. But the period of significance ends in 1959. It may make sense to extend the period of significance to the period of decline of the sheep ranching industry in the Bald Hills
2. School House pasture on Page 27 says circa 1963-1966, page 14 says its in the 1936 to 1962 category
3. Large Scale USGS Quads needed in original with copy to be sent to the keeper
4. Page 69 first paragraph, may be missing some text.
5. Page 88 says that all Lyons Residences were burned prior to park's ownership and then on page 81 it says that the Home place residence was removed by the park
6. Good case to end the period of significance at 1959, but also a good case could be to end it when Gene Lyons stopped Ranching.
7. We do need to look into redrawing the district boundary unless we want to get concurrence from the private landowner to include this portion of the district.
8. Dooleyville Line Cabin is shown on the wrong side of the park boundary. Either the park boundary is drawn incorrectly or the cabin is plotted incorrectly.

Responses to FHO Comments

1. Need to decide how to approach period of significance. May try to consult with SHPO and/or with Kimball and Shaun on this
2. Not sure how to figure out which is the correct date for Schoolhouse Pasture, may need to contact Denise Bradley
3. Ask Dave Best/Van/Judy to print out USGS quads if we can. If not buy from sporting goods store
4. Revise paragraph as necessary
5. Ask those in the know about the Lyons Residence and what happened to it
6. Same issue as No. 1. When will we end the period of significance
7. Determine where district boundary extends into private land. Discuss with Terry H if we know who the private landowners are and if they would be willing to incorporate their portion into the district. Also ask Terry about the barn or house that is on private land that was part of the Lyons. We could include their stuff in the Historic District and they would then qualify for funds for historic preservation of the structures there that are contributing. How could we go about doing this.
8. Ask Shaun Provencher for the GPS of the fenceline and the Dooleyville Line Cabin, give info to Judy when she returns and incorporate changes into maps.

LYONS RANCHES HISTORIC DISTRICT
REDWOOD NATIONAL PARK

California SHPO Eligibility Determination

Section 110 Actions Requested:

- 1) SHPO concurrence with **Determination of Eligibility (DOE)** of the proposed Lyons Ranches Historic District for listing on the National Register,
- 2) SHPO concurrence with the addition of structures to the List of Classified Structures (LCS). (See chart below).

I concur, Additional information is needed to concur, I do not concur with the proposed Lyons Ranches Historic District eligibility for listing (DOE) on the National Register of Historic Places.

* See attached comments below.

I concur, Additional information is needed to concur, I do not concur that the **Setting** as described in the CLI contributes to the historic district (see the following landscape characteristics: natural systems and features, spatial organization, cluster arrangement, topography and vegetation).

Based on the information provided in the CLI, the following previously unevaluated structures have been identified as **contributing** to the proposed Lyons Ranches Historic District:

| LCS number | Structure Name | Structure Construction Date | Concur | Do not Concur |
|------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|---------------|
| 058552 | Coyote Creek Line Cabin | 1920-1940 | X | |
| 058553 | Coyote Creek Outhouse | 1920-1940 | X | |
| 058553 | Coyote Creek Line Sheep Shed | 1920-1940 | X | |
| 021070 | Dolason Sheep Shed | c. 1914 | X | |
| 021074 | Dooleyville Line Cabin | c. 1925 | X | |
| 058581 | Elk Camp Garage | 1910-1940 | X | |
| 021071 | Elk Camp Sheep Shed | 1900-1914 | X | |
| 055737 | Home Place Barn | c. 1898 | X | |
| 021072 | Home Place Bunkhouse | c. 1905 | X | |
| 058559 | Home Place Shed | c. 1900 | X | |
| 058555 | Long Ridge Sheep Shed | 1900-1914 | X | |
| 343219 | Elk Camp Retaining Wall | c. 1955 | X | |
| 343220 | Lane House | c. 1955 | X | |
| | Long Ridge Herder's Trailer | c. 1868-1900 | X | |
| 343222 | Stock Ponds | 1868-1959 | X | |
| 343223 | Well | 1868-1959 | X | |
| 343046 | Bald Hills Road | c. 1860s | X | |
| 343040 | Bald Hills School Road | c. 1872 | X | |

| | | | | |
|--------|-------------------------------------|-----------|---|--|
| 343040 | Coyote Creek Road | c. 1914 | X | |
| 343040 | Coyote Peak Road | Pre 1958 | X | |
| 343040 | Coyote Peak Spur | Pre 1958 | X | |
| 343040 | Elk Camp Road | 1900-1914 | X | |
| 343040 | Home Place Cemetery Trail | 1895-1959 | X | |
| 343040 | Long Ridge Road | Pre 1958 | X | |
| 343040 | Lyons Road | Pre 1958 | X | |
| 343040 | Main Stem Road | c.1958 | X | |
| 343040 | Maneze Road | Pre 1950 | X | |
| 343040 | Ranch Road | Pre 1958 | X | |
| 343040 | Rock Fork Road | Pre 1958 | X | |
| 343040 | Schoolhouse Pasture Road | c.1958 | X | |
| 343040 | T. Bear Road | c.1958 | X | |
| 343040 | Upper Lyons Road | c.1958 | X | |
| 343224 | Lyons Ranches Concrete Troughs (10) | c.1958 | X | |
| 343225 | Lyons Ranches Fences | c.1958 | X | |
| 343227 | Lyons Ranches Spring Boxes (2) | c.1958 | X | |
| - | Coyote Pipelines | 1950s | X | |
| 058561 | Home Place Cemetery | 1895 | X | |

Based on the information provided in the CLI, the following previously unevaluated structures have been identified as **not contributing** to the Lyons Ranches Historic District:

| LCS number | Structure Name | Concur | Do not Concur |
|------------|--------------------------------|--------|---------------|
| N/A | CDF Fire Lookout | X | |
| N/A | Elk Camp Wooden Retaining Wall | X | |
| N/A | Generator Building | X | |
| N/A | #1551 | X | |
| N/A | #1554 | X | |
| N/A | Bridge Road | X | |
| N/A | Dolanson Trail | X | |
| N/A | Long Ridge Loop | X | |
| N/A | Lowe Mid-Basin Road | X | |
| N/A | Lower Rock Fork Road | X | |
| N/A | School Loop | X | |
| N/A | Upper Mid-Basin Road | X | |

Based on the information provided in the CLI, the significance of the following previously unevaluated structures to the Lyons Ranches Historic District could not be determined:

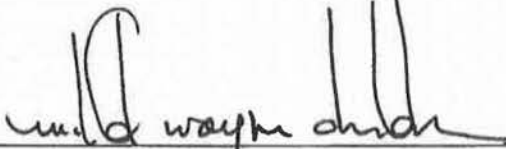

| LCS number | Structure Name | Concur | Do not Concur |
|------------|----------------|--------|---------------|
|------------|----------------|--------|---------------|

| | | | |
|-----|------------------------|---|--|
| N/A | #1555 | X | |
| N/A | #1555A | X | |
| N/A | #1556 | X | |
| N/A | Boundary Road | X | |
| N/A | High Prairie Road | X | |
| N/A | Johnson's Road | X | |
| N/A | Lookout Road | X | |
| N/A | Ranch-Spring Spur | X | |
| N/A | Robbers Ranch Loop | X | |
| N/A | Rock Ranch Loop | X | |
| N/A | Spring Spur Road | X | |
| N/A | Upper Coyote Peak Road | X | |
| N/A | Upper K & K Road | X | |

Reasons/comments why 'Additional Information Is Needed To Concur' or 'Do Not Concur' were checked:

The CLI presents a good case for the ranch's significance under criterion A as one of the only surviving intact examples of the sheep ranching industry in northern Humboldt County. It documents the prominence of the Lyon family in the industry and in the community for most of the ninety years of Anglo settlement in the area. The report also presents a well documented argument for the property's significance as a sheep ranching landscape which exhibits a full range of resource types and integrity. The SHPO concurs that the property is eligible under these two criteria.

However, the eligibility of the property under criterion A as an example of the socio/economic relationships between Anglo settlers and Native Americans is poorly documented and appears to rest primarily on the evidence of intermarriage between the Lyon family and members of the local Hoopa community. The report indicates that this intermarriage did not result in a blending of cultures or in the Lyon family participating in local Native American ceremonies or cultural life. The fact that the ranch employed Native Americans is evidence of economic interaction/dependency, but the report fails to provide any detail regarding this relationship and how it was representative or unique within the area. The SHPO does not concur that the property is eligible under criterion A for its association with the establishment and development of social and economic relationships between Native Americans and settlers in the Bald Hills area.


 California State Historic Preservation Officer _____ Date 

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

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(916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053
calshpo@parks.ca.gov
www.ohp.parks.ca.gov



January 30, 2017

Stephen Prokop, Superintendent
United States Department of the Interior
Redwood National Park
1111 Second Street
Crescent City, California
95531

RE: Lyon Ranches Historic District Nomination for the National Register of Historic Places

Dear Mr. Prokop:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) nomination for Lyon Ranches. I concur that the district identified and evaluated in the nomination is eligible for listing in the National Register. The nomination clearly associates the property with the historic contexts of Agriculture, Exploration/Settlement and Native American Ethnic Heritage (Criterion A) for its association with sheep ranching in the Bald Hills, and Architecture (Criterion C) as an example of a large-scale designed ranching landscape featuring circulation features, work structures, buildings, vegetation and water related features.

For future reference, we recommend that National Register nominations be submitted on current NPS 10-900 forms, accompanied by color digital photographs and decimal degree maps, in order to facilitate electronic submission of nominations.

I have signed the application as commenting authority. If you have any questions, please contact William Burg of my staff at (916) 445-7004 or wburg@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julianne Polanco".

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240


IN REPLY REFER TO:

JAN 30 2018

H32(2280)

Memorandum

To: Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

From: Acting Associate Director, Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science,
and NPS Federal Preservation Officer 

Subject: National Register Nomination for Lyons Ranches Historic District,
Redwood National Park, Humboldt County, CA

I am forwarding the National Register Nomination for the Lyons Ranches Historic District. The Park History Program has reviewed the nomination and found it eligible under Criteria A and C, with Areas of Significance of Agriculture, Architecture, Exploration/Settlement, and Ethnic Heritage: Native American.

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and chief local elected official(s) were sent the documentation on December 5, 2017. Within 45 days, the SHPO x supported supported with comments did not respond. Any comments received are included with the documentation.

If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Spradley-Kurowski at 202-354-2266 or kelly_spradley-kurowski@nps.gov.