

***Cultural Resources Inventory of
Las Posadas State Forest
Napa County, California***

Prepared by

Michael Jablonowski, Leigh A. Martin, and Tina M. Toriello

**Principal Investigator:
Dr. Adrian Praetzelis**

Anthropological Studies Center
Academic Foundation
Sonoma State University
Rohnert Park, California

in accordance with Contract Number 8CA94015

Prepared for

**The California Department of Forestry
and Fire Protection**



**CDF Archaeological Reports
Number 18**

June 1995

Volume 1 of 2

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**CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY
OF
LAS POSADAS STATE FOREST
NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

VOLUME I

June 1995

Prepared for

**California Department of
Forestry and Fire Protection,
Sacramento, CA**

PREFACE TO VOLUME I

This report, Cultural Resources Inventory of Las Posadas State Forest, Napa County, documents the results of the cultural resources inventory conducted at Las Posadas in two separate volumes. Volume I reviews archaeological, ethnographic, and historical background information and presents non-confidential archaeological site information and the final archaeological site inventory. Volume I is intended to serve the interests of the general public as well as the California Department of Forestry and others interested in the cultural resources of Las Posadas State Forest. More copies of Volume I than Volume II will be printed and distributed.

Volume II contains the confidential documentation of archaeological sites and is intended for limited distribution to qualified archaeologists and agencies with a legitimate need to access such information. Both Volumes I and II will be available at the Northwest Information Center, which serves Napa County and is located at Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California.

This cultural resources inventory for Las Posadas State Forest is part of the continuing work of the California Department of Forestry to protect the cultural resources under its management. To promote public awareness regarding cultural resources, CDF has sponsored publications, such as this report, in the CDF Archaeological Report series. Special acknowledgment goes to the series editor, Daniel G. Foster, Chief Archaeologist at CDF and Agency Preservation Officer, Sacramento, California.

ABSTRACT

A cultural resources inventory of the approximately 800-acre Las Posadas State Forest on Howell Mountain in northern Napa County, California, was conducted by the Anthropological Studies Center for the California Department of Forestry between November 1994 and June 1995. Background research identified a long documented history, beginning with lumber operations in the 1840s at George C. Yount's Rancho La Jota. While relatively little information was found on the area's early American-period use, a rich documentary record covers the period after 1878.

Las Posadas State Forest includes the property that was the home, farm, and ranch for the Morris family between 1878 and 1910; was used as a residence, farm, and ranch by Anita D.S. Blake between 1910 and 1929; and has been used since 1928 by the 4-H Club as a children's camp. In 1929 Anita D.S. Blake gave Las Posadas to the State of California. The Forest is important in the history of the State Forest System due to its function in fire-prevention efforts including the operation of a fire station since the late 1920s, demonstrating the efforts of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) during the 1930s, the U.C. Extension Department of Forestry and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. In 1945 the property officially became Las Posadas State Forest when the California Department of Forestry was created.

This study constitutes a preliminary effort to inventory and document the cultural resources of Las Posadas State Forest. The cultural resources survey identified and recorded 18 archaeological sites representing precontact Native American occupation and most elements of historic period use. These sites were given official trinomials CA-NAP-872 through -888. The only previously recorded site CA-NAP-195 was supplemented.

Archaeological sites include: prehistoric sites with multiple bedrock milling stations and extensive obsidian tool and flake scatters. Historic sites include the Moore Creek Ranch Complex, the Morris Family Cemetery, the Blake Cabins site, remnants of the 4-H Club Camp facilities constructed by the CCC during the 1930s, and mineral-prospecting pits.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors sincerely thank the following people for the assistance and information provided in the preparation of this cultural resources inventory for Las Posadas State Forest:

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Daniel G. Foster, Manager of the CDF Archaeology Program and the Agency Preservation Officer, Sacramento, California.

Steve Sawyers, Forest Manager Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest

Kurt Schieber, Forest Ranger St. Helena

Former Resident of Las Posadas

Mr. Lynn Wright

Anthropological Studies Center

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INTRODUCTION

This first cultural resources inventory of Las Posadas State Forest was conducted during 1994 and 1995 under a contract between the Anthropological Studies Center (ASC), Sonoma State University Academic Foundation, Inc., and the State of California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF). The need for the inventory was identified in the first Management Plan for Las Posadas State Forest, which stated that the archaeological and historic resources of the Forest were not well-documented (CDF 1992:30-31). The purpose of the cultural resources inventory was to identify and record prehistoric and historic archaeological resources within the boundary of the approximately 800-acre property.

The archival research for Las Posadas State Forest uncovered a rich documentary history for the period after 1878. The field survey identified and documented 18 archaeological sites representing precontact Native American occupation and most elements of historic-period use. This cultural resources survey provides a preliminary foundation for further archival and field research.

The property of Las Posadas State Forest has been called by various names through time, including *Moore's Creek Ranch*, *Morris Ranch*, *Uncle John's Ranch*, *Howell Mountain Ranch*, *Hacienda de Las Posadas* (ranch of the little guest houses), *Las Posadas* and *Las Posadas State Forest*. For purposes of consistency and clarity in this report, the terms *Las Posadas State Forest*, the *State Forest* or the *Forest*, refer to the property as given to the State of California in 1929 by Anita D.S. Blake. The term *Moore's Creek Ranch* refers to the area along Moore Creek used historically between the 1870s and the 1930s, that includes the residence, farming and ranching operations of the Morris family, later used by Anita D.S. Blake and her resident caretakers. These terms were selected in an effort to be consistent with the historical period and property owners. For example, John Morris wanted to retain the name Moore Creek to document the early settlement of the area by the Moore family during the 1840s. Anita D.S. Blake variously referred to the ranch as Hacienda de las Posadas, Las Posadas, and Howell Mountain Ranch in her many letters from 1911 to 1920.

PROJECT AREA LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

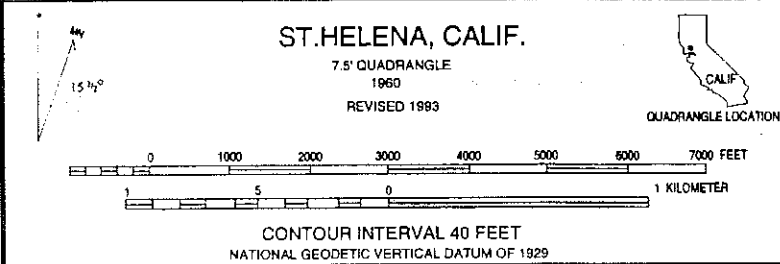
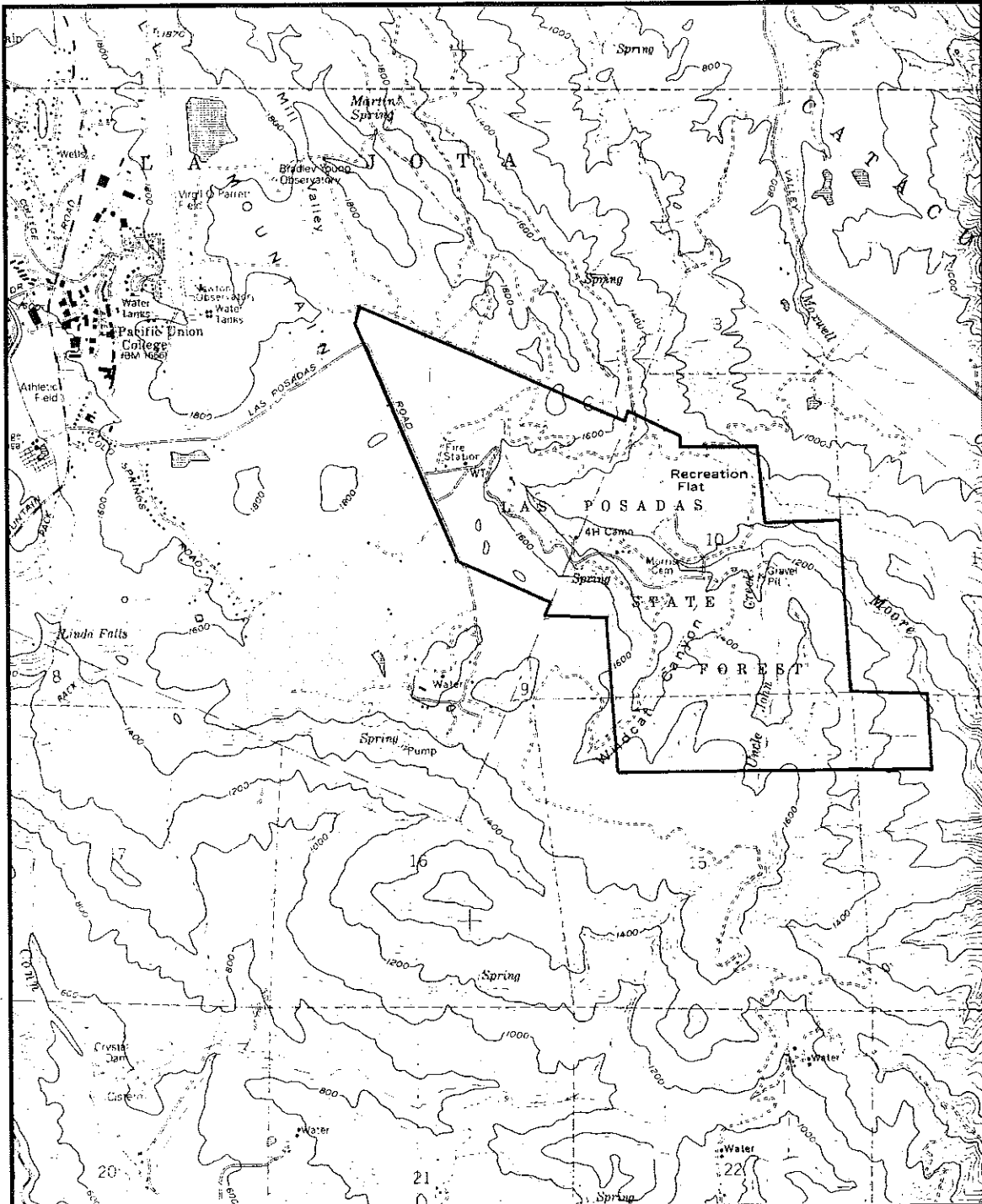
CURRENT FACILITIES

Las Posadas State Forest is located at 755 Las Posadas Road, approximately 1-1/2 miles east by road from Angwin in Napa County, California (Map 1, Figure 1). Entrance to the property requires the permission from CDF by contacting the St. Helena office. Las Posadas State Forest includes the current facilities for the CDF Las Posadas Fire Station located at the Forest entrance and the 4-H Club Camp located approximately 3/4 mile inside the Forest off Camp Road. Since the late 1920s, an extensive network of unpaved roads and trails has criss-crossed Las Posadas State Forest (Map 2). Some are reported to have been developed for fire-prevention work and for the 4-H Club Camp by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) during the 1930s. Between the 4-H Club Camp and the western side of the Ridge Road loop, the historical operations of the Morris Family ranch (1878-1910) and the Blake ranch (1910-1929) were situated along Moore Creek and are called the Moore's Creek Ranch Complex in this report. Near the northern boundary of Las Posadas State Forest, off Fire Road in the Rancho La Jota section of the Forest, is an 8-acre tree plantation called "Roosevelt Grove," which was planted in 1934 by the CCC.

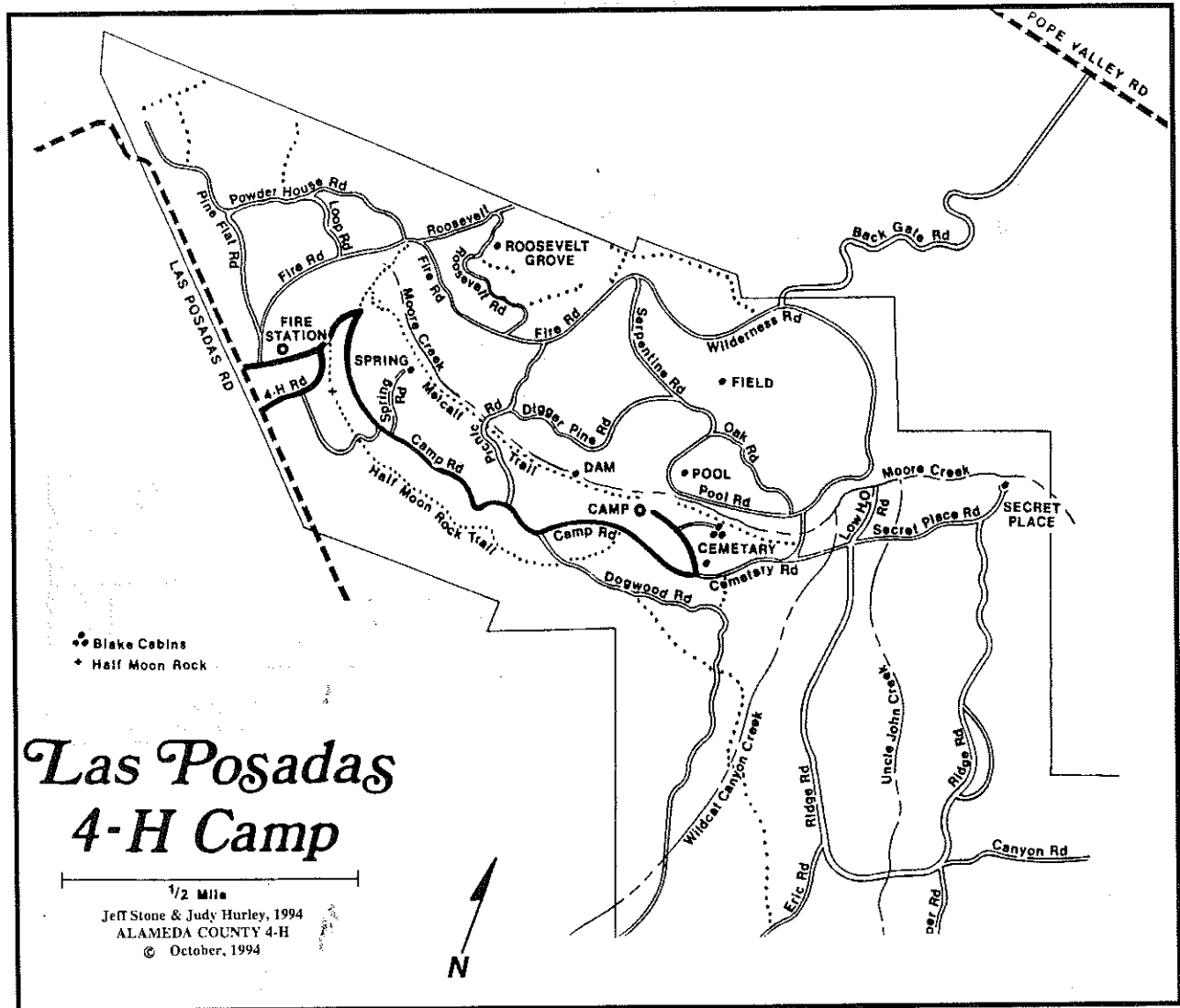


Tina M. Toriello

Figure 1: Forest Entrance at CDF Fire Station on Las Posadas Road.



**Las Posadas State Forest
 Cultural Resources
 Inventory
 Map 1
 Location Map**

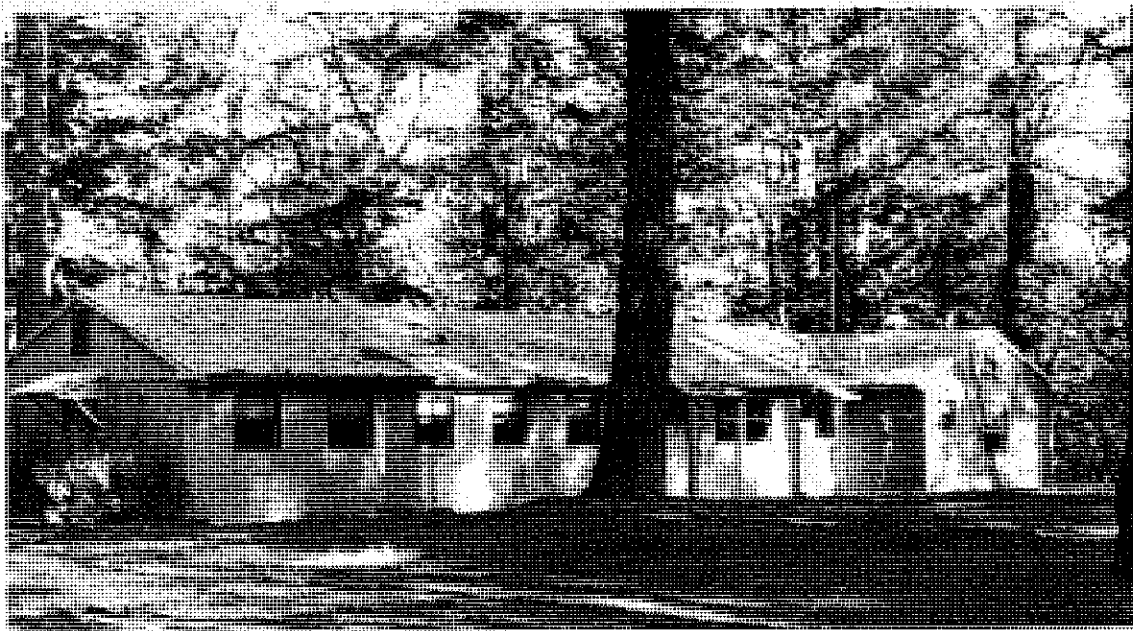


Map 2: Las Posadas 4-H Camp Road Map - Drawn by Jeff Stone and Judy Hurley in 1994.

The CDF Fire Station facilities at the entrance to the Forest, including the fire station, living quarters, garage, pump house, and storage shed, were completed in 1954 (CDF 1992:25). The storage shed was reported to have been relocated from St. Helena (Schieber 1995 pers. comm.). A CDF spring house of similar construction to the Fire Station and two concrete-block water tanks are located off Camp Road on the southern side of Moore Creek.

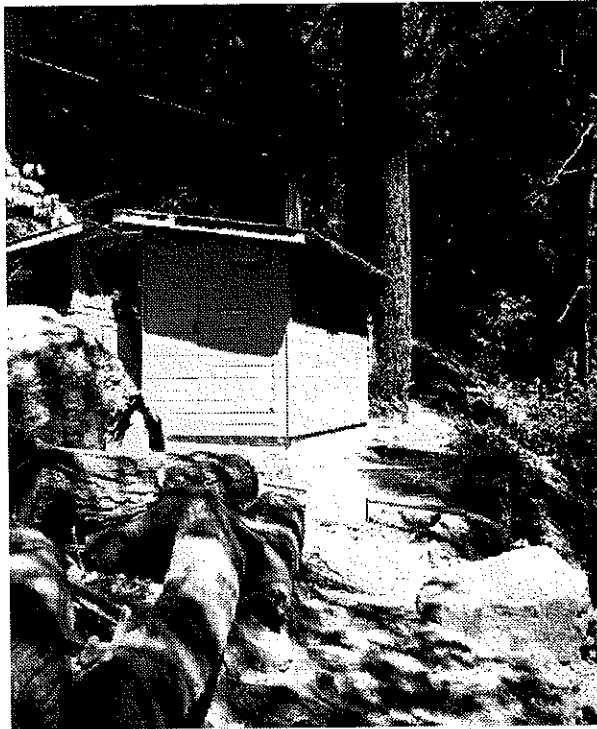


Tina M. Toricello



Tina M. Toricello

***Figures 2 & 3: Current CDF Fire Station Barracks
(front and back)***



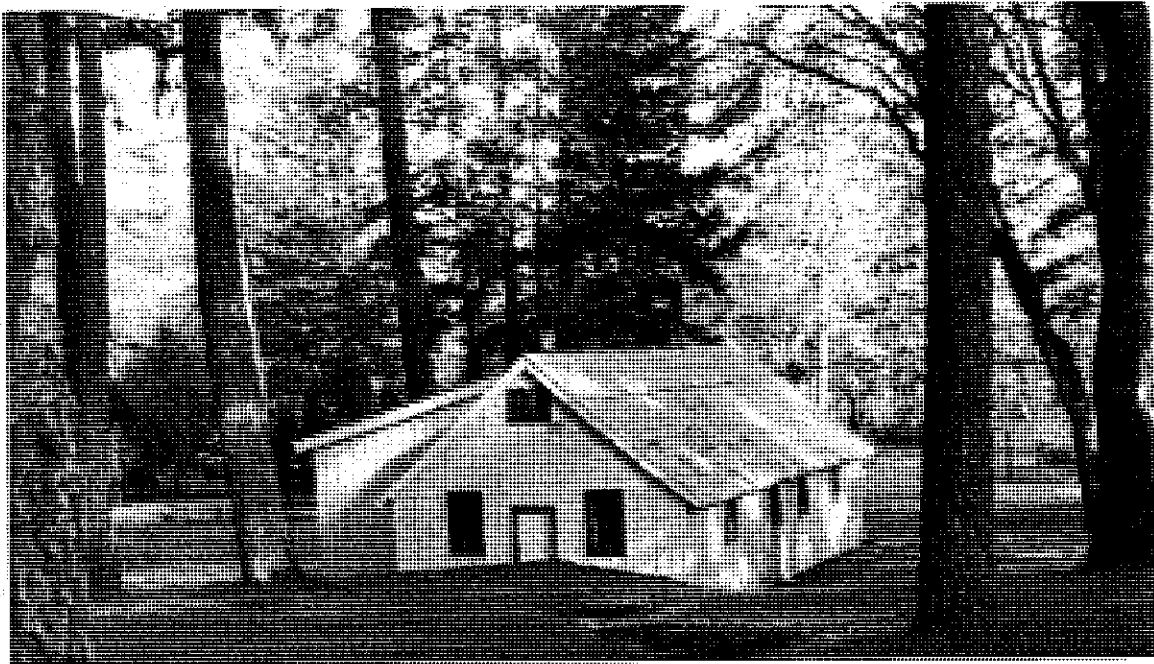
Tina M. Tortello

Figure 4: Moore Creek Spring Pump House



Tina M. Tortello

Figure 5: Fire Station Watertower



Tina M. Tortello

Figure 6: Current CDF Fire Station Garage



Tina M. Toriello

Figure 7: Current CDF Fire Station Storage Shed

Since 1928 the 4-H Clubs of Napa, Sonoma, Contra Costa, Solano, Alameda, and Sacramento counties have used Las Posadas to conduct summer children's camps under the auspices of the University of California. In 1976 the State deeded the campgrounds to the 4-H Club as a leasehold within the Forest and will continue to use the Forest for "the foreseeable future" (CDF 1992:27).

The 4-H Club Camp facilities include an administration building, a kitchen with a covered dining area, a small hospital or infirmary, a small building with picnic tables and stone fire ring, separate boy's and girl's toilets and showers, outdoor tent and sleeping platforms, the outdoor Burnside Amphitheater, a wooden bridge across Moore Creek, and the Merritt B. Pratt Swimming Pool. A large field, called Recreation Flat, is used for ball sports and the site of the former Blake cabins is used as an archery range.



Tina M. Torcilo

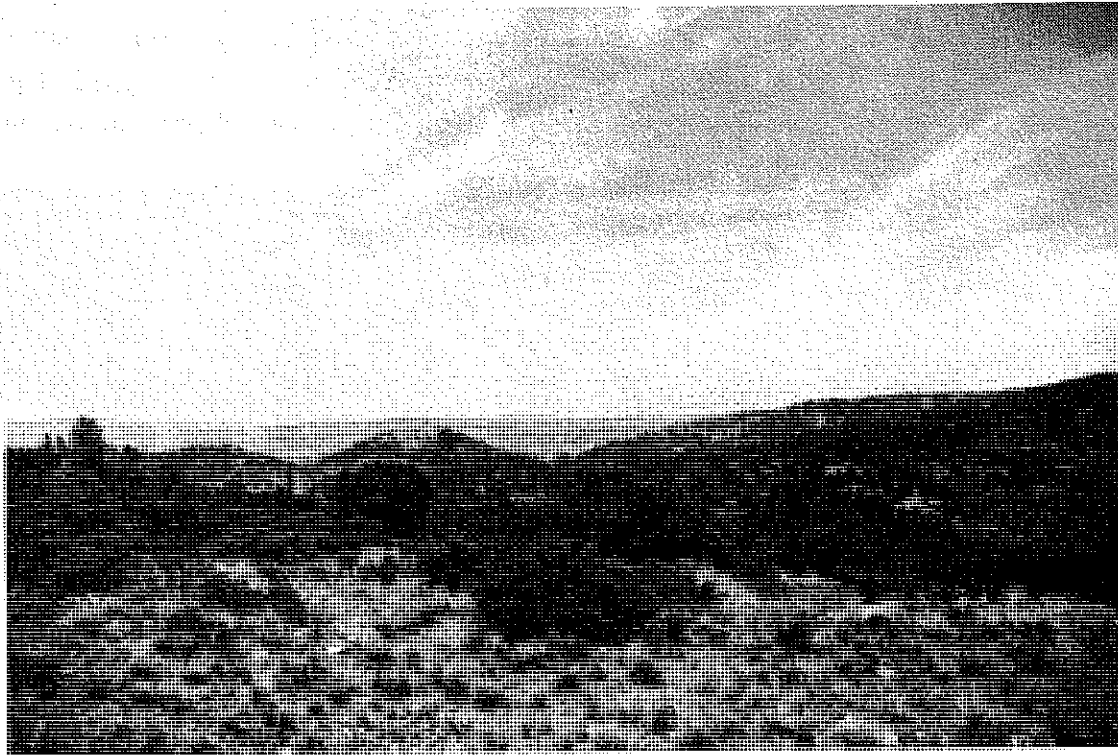
Figure 8: 4-H Club Camp Administration Building and Covered Dining Area



Figure 9: 4-H Camp Recreation Flat and Ball Diamond

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Las Posadas State Forest lies in the volcanic Mayacmas Mountain range, in the southeastern part of the California North Coast Ranges. The State Forest is on the southeastern side of Howell Mountain, between the Napa Valley to the west, Pope Valley to the northeast (Figure 10), and Chiles Valley to the east.



Tina M. Toriello

*Figure 10: A view of Pope Valley to the north of Las Posadas.
An example of a chaparral community's dominant species:
Chamise, Toyon, and Manzanita.*

In 1873 C.A. Menefee described this mountainous region east of Napa Valley in his county sketchbook,

It is exceedingly difficult, and perhaps impossible, by any mere written description, to convey any adequate idea of the mountains of California. If we say, in general terms, that any two ranges are parallel, we do not tell the exact truth, for these ranges are in many places united with each other by mountains running in all directions, some of which are as high as those which form the ranges themselves. It would perhaps be as near the truth to say that our mountains form a stupendous network, irregularly woven, with occasional threads running in nearly parallel lines [1873:33].

The Mayacmas Mountains run approximately parallel to the Pacific Coast through Napa, Sonoma, Lake, and Mendocino counties. The range is noted for its timber stands, geothermal resources, and mineral deposits. Lumber operations, mineral-springs resorts and cinnabar mining for mercury have been important developments in the area for over a hundred years (Beck and Haase 1974:90,98; Kaysing 1974; State of California Department of Natural Resources 1951).

Las Posadas State Forest includes approximately 800 acres of the summit and southeastern slopes of Howell Mountain, with elevations ranging from approximately 1,100 to 1,800 feet above mean sea level (CDF 1992:23). Howell Mountain includes a lava-capped plateau covered with conifers, broadleaf evergreens, and deciduous trees. Steep canyons with



Tina M. Forellio

Figure 11: Moore Creek

redwoods are located on the southeast side of Howell Mountain and extend into the Forest along Moore Creek (Figure 11).

Large springs from under the Howell Mountain plateau lava cap furnish Moore Creek with year-round water. Moore Creek has archaeological evidence of precontact Native American use and has been used historically for over a century. The State Forest includes the headwaters, watershed, and stream course of approximately 1-1/3 miles of Moore Creek. The creek begins as a marshy bog in the relatively flat Rancho La Jota land grant portion of the State Forest. Eastward from the CDF Fire Station, Moore Creek cascades down from the

Howell Mountain plateau approximately 100 feet. The creek then flows eastward within a steep-sided channel through a redwood grove that extends to the 4-H Club Camp facilities. Once out of the redwoods, Moore Creek continues to flow easterly within a relatively open and gently down-sloping drainage through the oak woodland and grassland (Figure 12).

Two named creeks and other seasonal drainages flow toward Moore Creek on the southern side of the Forest. Wildcat Canyon Creek and Uncle John's Creek flow in wooded canyons

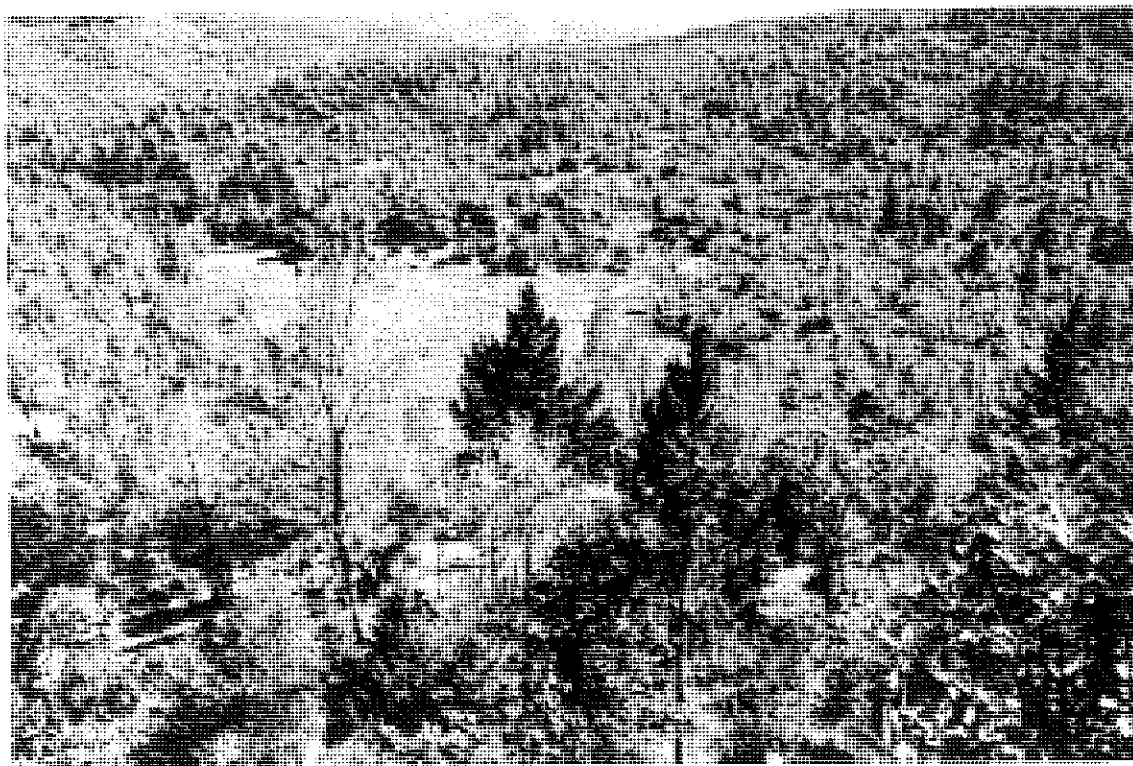
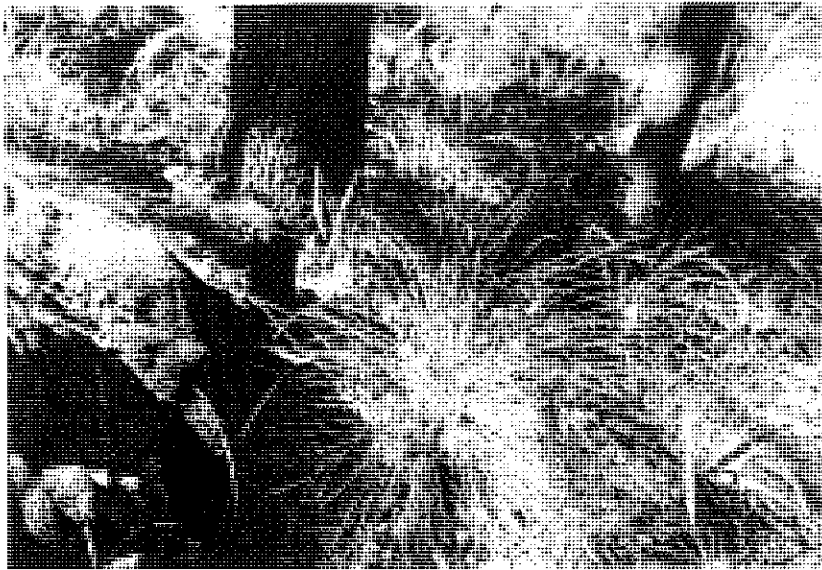


Figure 12: A view looking south from Wilderness Road to Recreation Flat. An example of a mixed evergreen forest. This species-diverse community includes: Madrone, Tanbark Oak, and Big-leaf Maple.

from steep conifer-covered ridges through dense chaparral and oak woodland, and then flow between open grass meadows into Moore Creek. On the northern side of Moore Creek, seasonal drainages flow from the upper elevations southward toward Moore Creek. As part of the eastern Napa River drainage, Moore Creek flows to the Napa River, which enters San Pablo Bay approximately 30 miles to the south.

Las Posadas State Forest and the surrounding territory of Howell Mountain have been of special interest to botanical researchers due to the mix of vegetation communities, including coastal redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*). Spring and summer in Las Posadas present an astonishing array of wildflowers, along with native and introduced grasses that are not currently grazed or harvested (Figures 13 and 14).



Tina M. Torcillo



Tina M. Torcillo

Figures 13 and 14: Bunch Grass and Rye Grass

In 1911 Willis Linn Jepson made an intensive survey of the flora of the entire region of Howell Mountain. Jepson noted the uniqueness of the area due to the characteristic growth of the redwood region to the north, the Franciscan flora of the open hills and valleys of the bay region to the south, and the flora of the dry interior coast range mountains to the east. Within the State Forest, the redwoods of Moore Creek grow within 300 feet of foothill grasslands, chaparral, and gray pine (Jepson 1911:132-133). These trees on the eastern slope of Howell Mountain are regarded as the easternmost extent and farthest from the Pacific Coast stand of coastal redwood (Blake in Gregory 1956a:2; Jepson 1911:132-133; Metcalf 1953). For a list of trees found in the Forest, refer to Appendix E, written by State Forester Woodbridge Metcalf in 1953.

DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH

Documentary research for the cultural resources inventory of Las Posadas State Forest included a prefield review of archaeological, ethnographic, and historical materials. Additional documentary research regarding historical land use was conducted as the field survey progressed.

Prefield archaeological, ethnographic, and historical research was conducted at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System, located at Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California. Research regarding historical land use and property ownership was conducted at the Napa County Assessor's and Recorder's offices in the city of Napa. Historical research regarding the former landowners was conducted at the Bancroft Library and the Environmental Design Library at the University of California at Berkeley.

Readers of this report are encouraged to refer to CDF Archaeological Report #15, *History and Prehistory of Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest, Lake County, California*, by Brian Dillon (1995). Dillon's report provides a comprehensive and interesting narrative on the archaeology, ethnography, and history for Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest and vicinity, including overviews for Napa, Sonoma, and Lake counties. Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest is located approximately 25 miles northwest of Las Posadas State Forest.

NWIC RECORDS SEARCH

Prior to field work, a cultural resources records search for Las Posadas State Forest was completed by the NWIC at the request of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (NWIC letter dated 2 June 1994 from Jack Meyer to John Betts, File No: 94-CDF-2). Within the Forest boundary, the records search identified one recorded archaeological site (CA-NAP-195) and one place of historical interest (the Morris Family Cemetery, dedicated by the Native Sons of the Golden West in 1978). No properties within the Forest are listed in the Historic Property Data File of the National Register of Historic Places. Two Napa County National Register properties are listed near Las Posadas:

- the "Hume Place" or "Residence", dated to 1900, at 200 Las Posadas Road, Angwin (Property #70167), approx. 1/2 mile from Las Posadas.
- "Krug Winery, Howell Mountain" or "Noveau Medoc Winery, Howell Mountain", dated to 1886, at 150 White Cottage Road, Angwin (Property #000018), approx. 2 miles from Las Posadas.

Recommendations to CDF from the NWIC records search included the following:

1. Conduct additional archival and field research due to the possibility of prehistoric and historic cultural resources.
2. Evaluate buildings and structures prior to commencing projects within the Forest boundary following the State Office of Historic Preservation "45 years and older" time frame to determine potential historical significance.

3. Contact the local Native American tribal council regarding concerns at the Forest.
4. Avoid altering cultural resources until a cultural resources consultant has evaluated the situation.
5. Record identified cultural resources on California Department of Parks and Recreation forms.

This cultural resources inventory at Las Posadas State Forest addressed the recommendations for archival and field research to identify and record cultural resources within the Forest boundary.

NAPA COUNTY RECORDS

The property comprising Las Posadas State Forest was acquired by Anita D.S. Blake and presented as a gift to the people of the State of California in 1929 (Official Records 49:308; see Appendix D for a copy of this deed of transfer).

The current size of Las Posadas State Forest is approximately 800 acres, including 263 acres of Rancho La Jota and almost 600 acres of sectioned public land. There are discrepancies regarding the size of the State Forest, depending on what document source is used. For example, the CDF 1992 Management Plan states the Forest is 796 acres (1992:9); historical references vary from 826 to 880 acres; the Napa County Assessor's Office records the property size at 826 acres (Map 2). The discrepancy appears in the figures for the public land of the State Forest.

The property of Las Posadas State Forest has a long documentary record that extends back to the Rancho La Jota land grant of 1843. The following list indicates materials located in the official records of Napa County.

Napa County Assessor's and Recorder's Offices Maps

U.S. General Land Office

1857 Survey of Rancho La Jota.

1872 Survey Plat of T8N/R5W, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian.

Napa County, California

1876 Official Map of the County of Napa, California. David L. Haas. Napa, California.

1881 Map of the La Jota Rancho. May 6.

1881 Map of the Subdivisions of the La Jota Rancho. October 27.

1895 Official Map of the County of Napa, California. Punnett Bros., San Francisco.

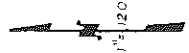
1915 Official Map of the County of Napa, California. O.H. Buckman, County Surveyor. W.B. Walkup Map Publisher, San Francisco.

1955 Napa County Assessor's Parcel Map Book 25, Page 03

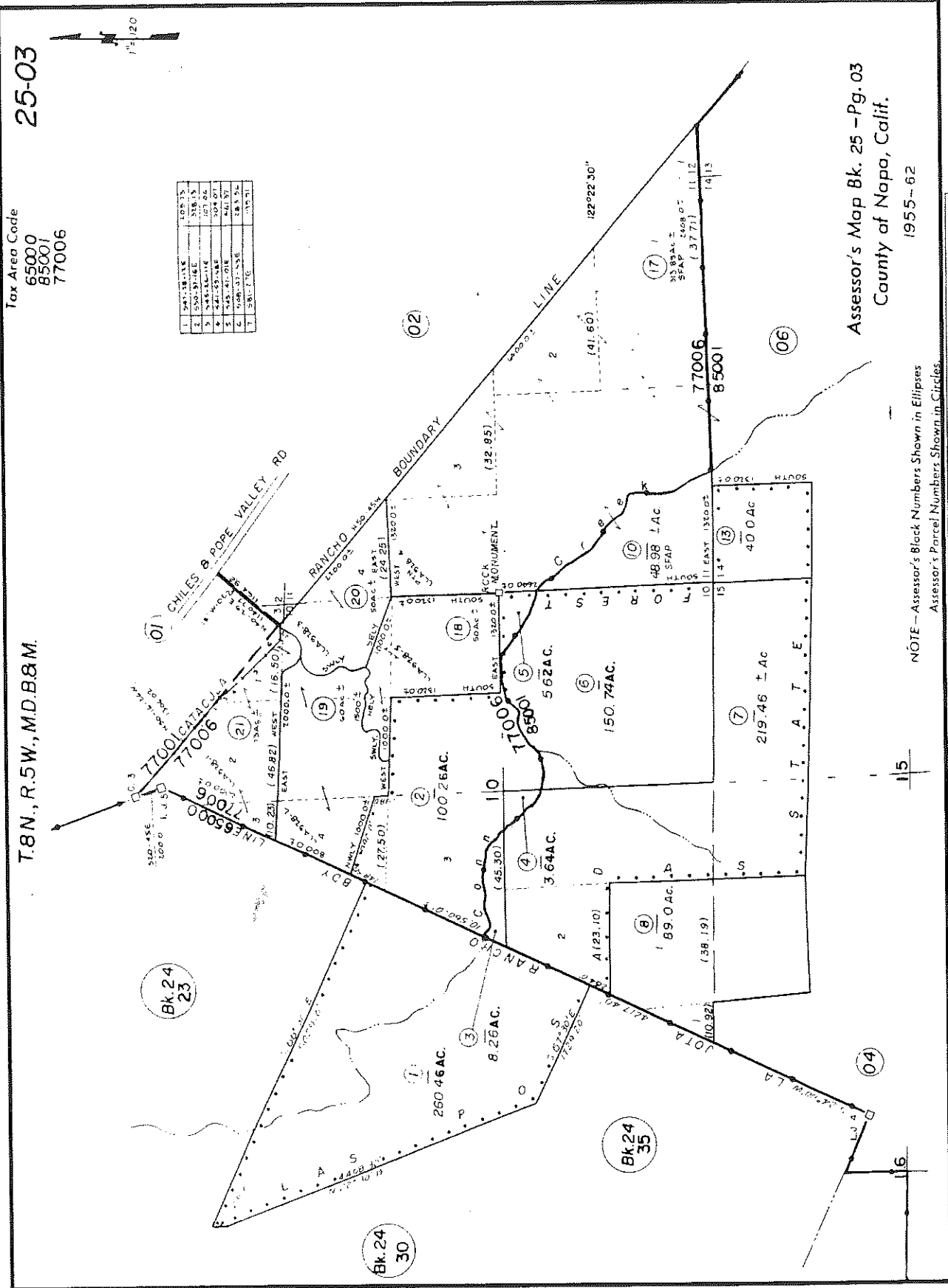
Tax Area Code
 65000
 85001
 77006

T.8N., R.5W., M.D.B&M.

25-03



1	541.18 AC	100.00
2	500.97 AC	100.00
3	241.53 AC	100.00
4	241.53 AC	100.00
5	241.53 AC	100.00
6	241.53 AC	100.00
7	241.53 AC	100.00



Assessor's Map Bk. 25 - Pg. 03
 County of Napa, Calif.
 1955-62

NOTE - Assessor's Black Numbers Shown in Ellipses
 Assessor's Parcel Numbers Shown in Circles

Map 3: Napa County Assessor's Parcel Map (Napa County 1955)

Napa County Recorder's Office Records

Book of Deeds

Liber 29:288, 22 October 1881, W.C. Watson to J.M. Morris.
Liber 31:64, 2 January 1882, S.D. Mitchell to J.M. Morris.
Liber 61:219, 21 April 1897, M. McMann and Catherine A. McCann to H. Wadsworth.
Liber 97:533, 1 June 1910, Regina Elvira Simmon, Frank Simmons and Vincent Irenaeus Morris to Anita D.S. Blake.
Liber 138:32, 23 December 1922, Anson S. Blake to Anita .D.S. Blake.

Official Records

Liber -:308, 6 April 1928, Anita D.S. Blake lease to Alpha Greyson.
Liber 49:308, 23 April 1930, Anita D.S. Blake to the State of California. (Actual transfer date 19 October 1929).

Book of Patents

Liber E:239, 25 March 1912, U.S. Government to Anson Blake.

Book of Leases

Liber 2:137, 24 July 1923, Anita D.S. Blake lease to Charles Sozzoni.

Registry of Deaths

2 February 1891, death of Milton Morris 83y 11mo 19d, recorded by J.M. Morris and W. Morris.

NAPA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Napa County Historical Society has sketches on file from John Winchel's lectures on Morris family history. Winchel, a director of the Society, based his sketches on the material compiled from the diaries of John Morris by Morris' niece Edith Tracy Gregory (see Gregory 1938, and 1956a and 1956b).

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY LIBRARIES

Bancroft Library

The Bancroft Library contains the collections of interest regarding the history of the Morris and Blake families.

The Morris Family Papers

- (1) John Morris 1885 Diary and 1903-1906 Autobiography (Microfilm C-D 5209). Two pages from his diary are reproduced in Appendix A.

- (2) Edith Tracy Gregory, a niece of John Morris, original manuscript of *Pioneers of Las Posadas* (see Gregory 1953 and 1956a and 1956b). Includes a photograph of John Morris's parents, Milton and Sally Dodge Morris.

The Blake Family Papers (CB 903)

The collection has a finding key to arrangement and includes four boxes, one carton, and a portfolio of manuscript articles written by Anson Blake. Boxes No. 1 and No. 2 are arranged chronologically and contain original letters written by Anita D.S. Blake to her husband Anson S. Blake, relating to family activities. A collection of letters dated 1911-1920 were written by Anita to Anson from the ranch at Moore Creek and she referred to the property variously as *Hacienda de Las Posadas* or *Las Posadas*, and *Howell Mountain*. These letters express Anita's interest in animal and plant husbandry and details of the ranch operations. A copy of one of these letters is reproduced in Appendix C.

The miscellany file contains a map of the ranch property parcels possibly drawn by Anita D.S. Blake (ca. 1910-1912). Also in this file are found Anson Blake's membership card in the Society of California Pioneers, Anita Blake's certificate of her cattle brand registration, an AKC certificate for one of the Blake wolfhounds, family genealogy, photographs, and many newspaper clippings relating to the family.

Regional Oral History Collection, Igor Blake (MS 88 193C)

Original materials of the Igor Blake interview in 1986 by Suzanne Riess, *A Nephew's Recollections, 1945-1962*. This material is described under the U.C. Environmental Design Library section below.

Environmental Design Library

The Environmental Design Library contains copies of oral history interviews of Igor Blake and Woodbridge Metcalf.

Igor Blake

The Blake Estate Oral History Project manuscript contains the 1986 interview of Igor Blake, a nephew of Anita and Anson Blake, by Suzanne Riess entitled, *A Nephew's Recollections, 1945-1962*. The original interview material is located under Regional Oral History at the Bancroft Library.

Igor Blake's interview was part of the University History Series: Blake Estate Oral History Project conducted in 1986-1987. The Blake Estate is the official residence of the President of the University of California and the garden is maintained through the School of Environmental Design. The Blake Estate includes the former Blake home and garden given to U.C. Berkeley. The garden was designed by Anita D.S. Blake and her sister Mabel Symes.

Woodbridge Metcalf

The Woodbridge Metcalf oral history interview entitled, *Extension Forester, 1926-1956*, was conducted in 1968 by Evelyn B. Fairburn. Woodbridge Metcalf was an important early figure in California Forestry as a University of California Extension Forester and a co-founder of the U.C. Department of Forestry.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

Las Posadas Forest Fire Station

Two documents are on file:

- (1) The Las Posadas State Forest Management Plan (CDF 1992).
- (2) The University of California Agriculture Extension *Las Posadas Conservation Guide* written sometime after 1953 (University of California n.d.).

Las Posadas 4-H Club Camp

A 1953 California Department of Natural Resources map of Las Posadas State Forest is mounted on the wall of the 4-H Club Camp administration building. The map contains hand-drawn map notations that may date to the 1950s-1960s which show the specific location of archaeological and historical sites.

Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest CDF Office

This office has a small file of correspondence relating to the Blake transfer of the Las Posadas property to the State of California. This correspondence contains letters by Anita D.S. Blake regarding the specific deed restriction prohibiting recreational use of Las Posadas and use of the forest by the 4-H Clubs.

St. Helena CDF Fire Station

Two documents are on file for Las Posadas:

- (1) The University of California Agriculture Extension *Las Posadas Conservation Guide* written sometime after 1953 (University of California n.d.).
- (2) A copy of a 37-page typed manuscript with no author, no title, and no date. This local history has a cover engraving, George C. Yount "Pioneer of Yountville." Based upon content, the manuscript was put together after 1956. Morris family and Moore Creek history are included in the history (CDF n.d.).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

Las Posadas State Forest falls within the Russian River subregion of the North Coast Ranges archaeological region which roughly corresponds to the current political boundaries of Napa, Sonoma, Lake, and Mendocino Counties (Fredrickson 1984: 505,522; Moratto 1984:Figure 6.4). A little more than a decade ago, Fredrickson (1984:512) regarded the Napa area as one of the best understood archaeological districts of the Russian River subregion due to archaeological investigations during the late 1940s and early 1950s. Some areas of Napa County had been extensively surveyed and several large habitation sites were excavated by University of California Berkeley archaeological field schools. U.C. archaeologist Robert Heizer (1953) summarized this work in *The Archaeology of the Napa Region*, which remains the definitive work for the area. Both Napa and Sonoma county archaeological excavations and survey through 1979 were summarized in the ASC publication *Prehistoric Overview of the Northwest Region* (Stewart 1982). Some portions the mountainous northeastern area of Napa County where Las Posadas State Forest is located, has been surveyed for archaeological sites, primarily due to environmental compliance activities related to development projects. Since the 1980s, a larger database has developed for Sonoma County and the Clear Lake region in comparison with Napa County.

Hypotheses regarding settlement patterns and chronological cultural sequences have been developed for the Napa region based upon work in Napa and Sonoma Counties during the 1970s and revised based upon subsequent work, such as the Anderson Flat project in Lake County (Fredrickson 1977; Stewart 1982:44; White and Fredrickson 1991). General hypothesis regarding settlement patterns include:

LATE PERIOD HYPOTHESES

- (1) The majority of sites, representing the greatest time depth and number of cultural patterns, should be located on the edges of small valleys and alluvial drainages. Occupation may have been permanent for several thousand years and will have deep, complex middens.
- (2) Narrow canyons should contain isolated summer residences of protohistoric age, represented by single housepits associated with small workshops and downslope middens.
- (3) Ridge crests and other high area are likely to contain extensive flake and point sites representing recent hunting stations and/or early period camps.
- (4) Small task groups should be found away from relatively permanent villages in terrain favorable for obtaining resource based on the assumption that social groups were larger and more sedentary than in the early periods.

EARLY PERIOD HYPOTHESES

- (1) Sites should occur on ridges and terraces. Extensive flake and point sites may represent early period camps and/or recent hunting camps.
- (2) Sites should reflect seasonal movements of complete social groups based on the assumption of small relatively nomadic groups following game and availability of vegetable foods.

Other working generalities regarding prehistoric archaeological site location include:

- Large, deep sites are regarded as large winter villages.
- Small, deep sites regarded as specialist's sites.
- Sites tend to be adjacent to ecotones.
- Sites tend to be in oak savannah, mixed chaparral or mixed evergreen forest.
- Sites tend to be next to or within 1000 feet of water.
- Sites tend to be on slopes less than 40% in grade, facing south, southeast, or southwest.

The development of chronology for archaeological sites, projectile points and grinding tool types have been significantly advanced by researchers based upon studies since the 1970s in Napa, Sonoma and Lake Counties (Stewart 1982:16; Gerike and Stewart 1988:12-18; White and Fredrickson 1991). The following rough guide can be used to describe site chronology and associated diagnostic artifacts:

Post Pattern (12,000-8000 B.P.): Paleo-Indian Period. Fluted points, crescent stones.

Borax Lake Pattern (8000-5000 B.P.): Lower Archaic Period. Widestem, large side-notched, and large concave-base points, and millingstones.

Mendocino Pattern (5000-3000 B.P.): Middle Archaic Period. Concave-base, leaf-shaped and large stemmed points, millingstones and handstones, mortars and pestles.

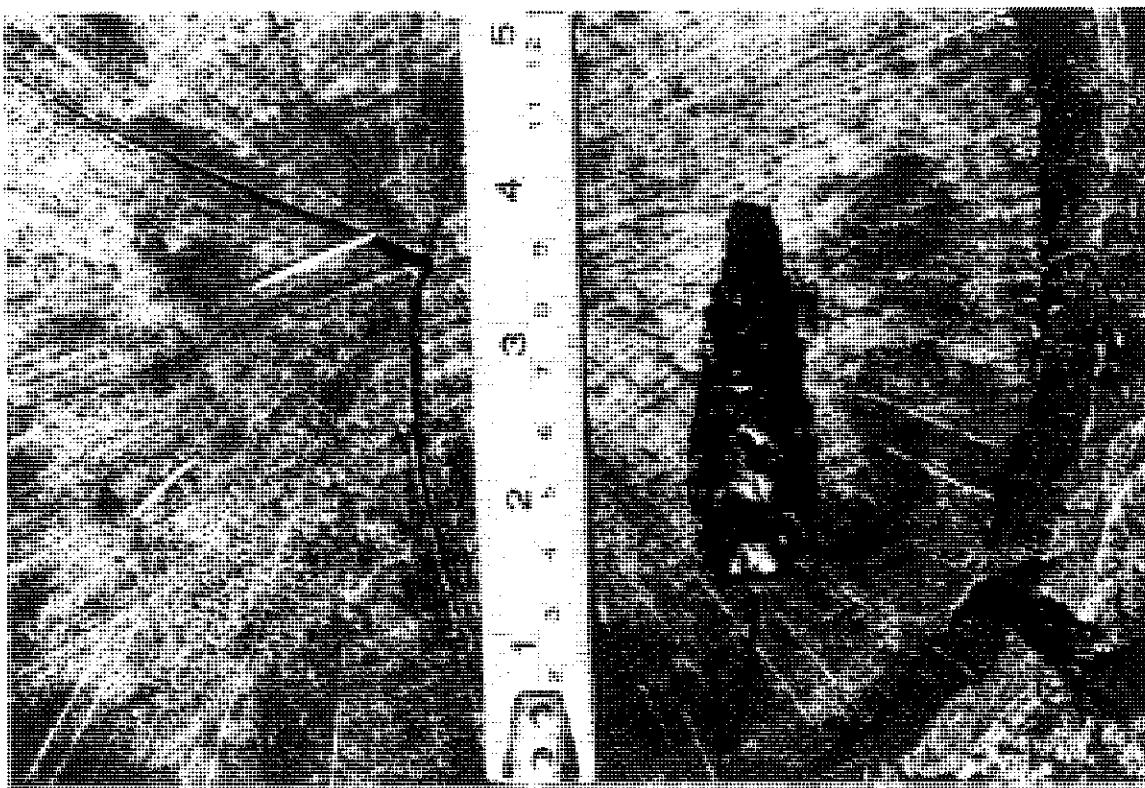
Berkeley Pattern, Houx Aspect (3000 B.P.-500 A.D.): Small "Excelsior" points, small leaf-shaped points, mortars and pestles only.

Augustine Pattern, Clear Lake Aspect (500 A.D. - historic contact): "Gunther" barbed points, small "Excelsior" points, small leaf-shaped points, mortars and pestles only.

The Borax Lake site, in the Clear Lake area to the north of Napa County, has yielded ample evidence of the earliest known culture in California. This culture, called the Post pattern of the Paleoindian period, dates to approximately 12,000 to 8,000 years before present (B.P.). Besides the Borax Lake site, an important cave deposit dating to approximately 9,000 B.P. was recently investigated along the Sonoma Coast near Bodega Bay by Ray Schwaderer (Jones 1991:427). Elsewhere in the North Coast Ranges, evidence of Paleoindian use is limited to a few artifacts or obsidian hydration readings from widely scattered locations. Napa Valley, with its rich alluvial terraces and diverse resources may well have been utilized at this time depth. While obsidian artifacts found at Napa sites are temporally equivalent to the Borax Lake pattern at Clear Lake, no archaeological deposits dating to that time depth have been identified in the area. The lack of reported Paleoindian sites may be a function of the small size of these early population groups and site impact from extensive soil deposition that has occurred over the past 8,000 years.

Northern Napa Valley archaeological site excavations in 1951 by U.C. archaeologist Clement Meighanin at CA-NAP-131, the Hultman site, and at CA-NAP-129, the Merriman site, first suggested a "basement culture" for the Napa region. The Hultman phase is represented by millingstones, concave base and lanceolate projectile points, an array of chipped stone tool forms, and basalt core tools (Fredrickson 1984:12; Stewart 1982). The Hultman and Merriman sites were referred to as representing a basalt-using culture occupying the Napa area before the use of obsidian became popular (Stewart 1982:27). The Hultman phase, dating from approximately 5,000 B.P., was initially placed in the Mendocino aspect of the Borax Lake pattern but has more recently been recognized as a distinctive and long-lasting pattern in its own right (White and Fredrickson 1992). Although Hokan affiliations have been suggested for the Hultman phase, the culture may instead represent a Proto-Yukian (ancestral Wappo/Huchnom/Yuki) occupation (Fredrickson 1984:512).

A number of phases for Napa archaeology have been identified by Bennyhoff, although most are represented by few artifacts (Fredrickson 1984:512). The archaeological cultures subsequent to the Hultman phase in the Napa area demonstrate increasing influence from the lower Berkeley pattern populations of the San Francisco Bay. Bale, Rutherford, Kolb, Goddard and River Glen phases are represented and include an emphasis on spear and dart points, mortars and pestals, and flexed burials. Over time, additions to this initial assemblage included elaborate bone-tools, cobbles stained with red ocher, shouldered lanceolate points, and split-beveled Olivella beads. This development suggests the expansion of Miwokan peoples from the Bay, first appearing in the Napa area well before similar traits were found in the Sacramento Valley. The final phases in the Berkeley pattern in



Tina M. Toriello

Figure 15: Serrated lanceolate point of Napa obsidian from CA-NAP-195. A Houx Aspect Berkeley Pattern marker, beginning ca. 2500 B.P. and continuing somewhere between 1500 to 1000 B.P.

the Napa area are similar to the Houx aspect which dominated the Clear Lake region beginning about 3,000 B.P. (Fredrickson 1984:513). Serrated points, such as the point from CA-NAP-195 collected during the current cultural resources inventory at La Posadas State Forest (Figure 15), are one of the marker points for the Houx aspect at Clear Lake (Stewart 1995 pers. comm.).

The later Berkeley pattern phase seems to represent the height of Miwokan occupation of the Napa Valley, with an associated displacement of the Proto-Wappo people. Recent work in southeastern Clear Lake and Sonoma County has indicated that Berkeley and Mendocino pattern peoples may have co-existed fairly amicably throughout this time period, with Berkeley pattern people focused on lacustrine settings and adjacent valleys and Mendocino pattern people focused on the surrounding uplands (White 1984; White and Fredrickson). The late period in the Napa area, called the St. Helena aspect of the Augustine pattern, is poorly represented in the earliest phases. This is the case throughout much of central and northern California and may be due to considerable population displacement. At this time, the Wappo are believed to have entered or returned to the Napa area, bringing with them small serrated projectile points used with the bow and arrow, the

hopper mortar and pestle, and a sociopolitical structure similar to the ethnographic triblet. The protohistoric Lyman phase is well represented throughout the Napa area, with large intensively occupied midden sites on the valley floor and in small intermontane valleys to the east.

Research questions addressing prehistoric change in the North Coast Ranges have focused on linguistic movements and adaptive responses to differing environmental conditions over the past 8,000 years, in addition to questions regarding responses to population growth and increasing cultural complexity over the past few millennia. Dynamically situated with the influence of the regions of the Sacramento River Delta, San Francisco and San Pablo Bays, and Clear Lake, the Napa area has great potential for contributing information to address questions of cultural changes for people through time.

A specific review of archaeological sites and surveys was made for the area of Las Posadas State Forest at the Northwest Information Center. Within a 3-mile radius of the State Forest, 16 surveys and 19 sites (18 prehistoric and one historic) have been recorded. Records for the prehistoric archaeological sites closest to the State Forest (CA-NAP-161, 162, 163, 541, 691) reported middens, bedrock mortars, manos, obsidian tools and flake scatters, and a single basalt point (at CA-NAP-691). Located approximately 1/2 mile to the east of Las Posadas State Forest, CA-NAP-691 was identified and recorded in 1984 as part of a CDF archaeological survey by Daniel Foster, Ray Utterback, Donald Shaw and Reggie McConnell. The site was described as "an extensive village site" with great quantities of obsidian debitage, broken bifaces or blanks, leaf-shaped bifaces and projectile points (including a Gunther series point) and "one heavy stemmed point of basalt."

Prior to the present cultural resources inventory, only one prehistoric archaeological site, CA-NAP-195, had been recorded within the boundary of Las Posadas State Forest. The site record for CA-NAP-195 dates from 1956 and provides limited information. The hand-drawn location map renders the over 800 acre Forest as a 2 x 2-1/2 inch outline with a small arrow pointing to the center to show site location. The record does not include a sketch map, the context for recording the site is not stated, and the name of the recorder is difficult to decipher, but may be a last name of Avila. The record reported the presence of five bedrock mortars and an extensive scatter of obsidian projectile points, flakes, and debitage. Regarding the condition of the site, the recorder stated, "rangers rakes (sic) site for chips and arrowheads" and "This site is a children's camp. Draw your own conclusions."

A review of the archaeological surveys at the Northwest Information Center uncovered an obscure reference to another possible prehistoric site within the State Forest. A partial record was submitted to the Northwest Information Center from an archaeological survey conducted for Pacific Union College sometime in the 1970s and may be an excerpt from an Environmental Impact Report document (Lisa Hagel 1995 pers. comm.). The record regarded the area of Howell Mountain as high in archaeological potential and made the following specific mention of Las Posadas State Forest and Moore Creek:

Personal observation by Mr. Steven Wilson during a visiting lecture to the Las Posadas 4-H camp, notes that at least one-half mile of the Moore Creek drainage is littered with waste flake from the processing of obsidian in aboriginal times. This flake waste concentrates at certain points along the uphill course, most notably at a point locally termed "Arrowhead Flat." Here the material exists in a heavy concentration including waste flakes, biface fragments, and fragments of "preforms" all mixed in a matrix of apparent culturally sterile soil and forest duff [Wilson n.d.:71-72].

As a result of the present cultural resources inventory at Las Posadas State Forest, 18 archaeological sites were recorded including a supplement to record CA-NAP-195 according to current standards. Four prehistoric and 14 historical archaeological sites were identified and recorded. Table 1 on page 58 is a summary listing of these sites. Refer to "Cultural Resources Inventory" for the descriptions of these sites. Refer to "Historical Overview" and "Documentary Research" for background information for the historical archaeological sites. Confidential site documentation has been published for limited distribution as Volume II of this report and all records have been submitted to the Northwest Information Center files at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park, California.

ETHNOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW

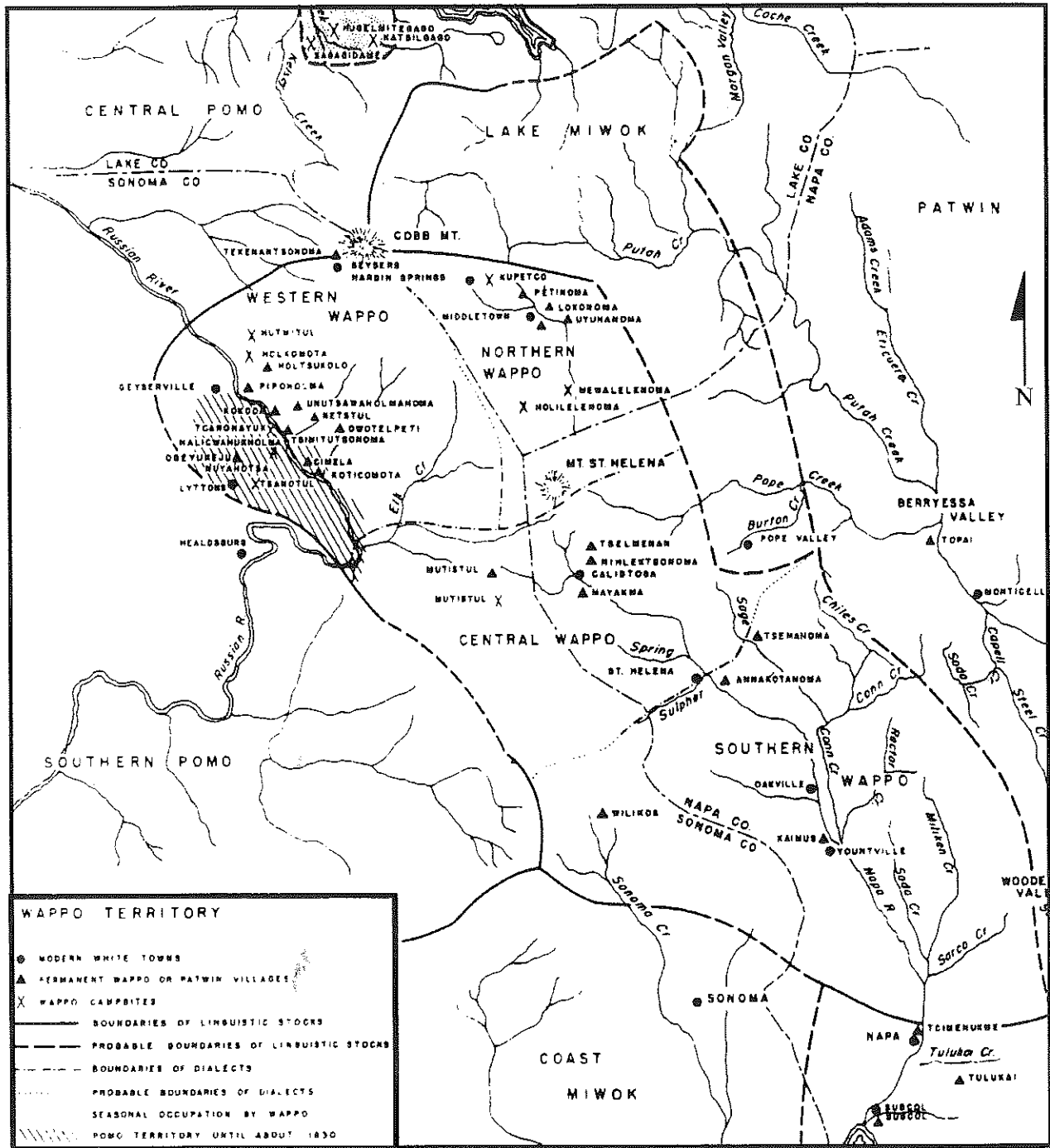
Las Posadas State Forest is part of the area attributed ethnographically to the Southern Wappo, who spoke one of five dialects of the Wappo language (Map 4). Standard ethnographic sources on the Wappo include the writings of Stephen Powers (1877), S.A. Barrett (1908), Alfred Kroeber (1925), and Harold E. Driver (1936). Both Robert Heizer (1953) and Jesse Sawyer (1978) have used these ethnographic sources in their writings on Napa Valley archaeology and Wappo ethnography. The ethnographic boundary for the Wappo in the mountainous region northeast and east of Napa Valley has been the subject of uncertainty; some areas may have been occupied at different times by the Wappo, Lake Miwok, and Patwin (Barrett 1908:264-265; Kroeber 1925:219, 273; Powers 1877:218).

The Wappo are linguistically part of the small and very old Yukian family of four California languages that includes Yuki, Coast Yuki, Huchnom, and Wappo (Driver 1936:183; Sawyer 1978:256). The former range of the Wappo was a territory some 50 miles long and from 15 to 20 miles wide north of San Pablo Bay, along with a separate 5 square mile area located at the southern edge of Clear Lake (Driver 1936:181; Heizer 1953:234). At the time of contact, Wappo territory was bordered by lands of Pomoan, Miwokan, and Patwin speakers (Sawyer 1978:257-258). The physical separation of the Wappo from the related Yukian language groups in northern Mendocino County resulted from several millennia of population intrusions into the North Coast Ranges. The separation may have occurred about 3,000 years ago, making the Wappo ancestors of the first settlers in the region.

Kroeber and Driver regard the name *Wappo* as an Americanization of the Spanish *guapo*, meaning "brave." According to Kroeber, this "sobriquet" was "earned in Mission times by their stubborn resistance to the military adjuncts of the Franciscan establishments" (1925:217). Driver noted that other names had also been used, such as *Ashochimi* (a name possibly of Pomo origin) given by Powers (1877), and localized names given by Barrett (1908). The Wappo may have referred to themselves as *Kolijolmanok*, or "People who lived back up in the woods" (Dillon 1995:108; Heizer 1953:232; Sawyer 1978:263).

The closest ethnographically known village to Las Posadas State Forest was the Wappo village of *Tsemanoma*. The village is reported to have been located in the foothills approximately 2 miles northeast of St. Helena (Barrett 1908:269; Kroeber 1925:Plate 27). Although the project area is approximately 4 miles northeast of St. Helena, the drainage patterns depicted on Kroeber's and Barrett's maps suggest that Tsemanoma may have been located on Moore Creek within or near Las Posadas (see Map 1).

Kroeber reported three "important" southern Wappo settlements, or towns, *Kaimus* or *Caymus* at Yountville, *Anakotanoma* near St. Helena in the Napa drainage, and *Wilikos* at the head of the Sonoma Valley (Kroeber 1925:218). According to Kroeber, Wappo town names were perpetuated in Spanish land grant designations. Both the Mexican and early



Map 4: A Map of Wappo territory. The Wappo village of Tsemanoma, on Sage Creek, is located on the eastern side of Las Posadas State Forest. Pope Valley is located to the north and Chiles Creek to the east. Reproduced from Heizer, 1953: 234.

American settlers used town names as “tribal” designations, not recognizing that they referred to localities (Kroeber 1925:219).

Driver (1936) conducted ethnographic research at the Wappo reservation near Geyserville in 1932 long after traditional lifeways had been disrupted. No Wappo remained in the Napa Valley at the time of Driver's ethnographic work in 1932 (Heizer 1953:233). Various aspects of Wappo culture were described based on information passed down through several generations to his informants on aspects of social life, villages, dwellings and structures, subsistence, beliefs and language.

The smallest social unit was the bilateral group of kin and the largest the village community (or tribelet according to Kroeber). There was no overall unification among the Wappo. Headmen or chiefs exercised leadership through the strength of personality, with the mark of rank being a string of beads. The chief's four important functions were described in Driver as war chief, town chief, dance/ceremonial chief, and newscarryer/town crier. Group affairs were discussed in meetings by all men of the community. Although a chief could override a community decision, he seldom did.

Men and woman were reported to share tasks such as gathering acorns and wood, carrying water, and packing during journeys. Most men hunted and fished, making their own equipment and clothing. They built houses and made musical instruments, beads, and ornaments. Women made all utensils and baskets, tanned hides for their double apron clothing, gathered grass seeds, and prepared food. Women gathered the grass for house coverings.

According to Driver's informants, the Wappo had lived in village communities of as many as two to three hundred individuals but usually numbering around one hundred. Driver reported their descriptions of the 1870 village called *Unutsawaholma* ('toyon woods camp') near Geyserville. The village included 11 grass houses for 21 families totaling 92 persons (Driver 1936:201). Dwellings were jointly occupied by two or more families related by blood. Each family had its own fire and entrance. Driver reported that house sites were clearly marked by the shallow depressions dug out for beds (Driver 1936:207).

The Wappo settlement pattern involved two types of habitation sites: permanent winter towns and temporary summer towns. Winter dwelling houses were built with an elliptical floor plan and consisted of “grass thatch on a framework of poles stuck into the ground and bent over to form a dome” (Driver 1936:187). Both temporary and permanent towns included sweat houses; other constructions included subterranean earth-covered dwellings and dance houses, and summer brush structures. Smaller temporary camps were established near important resource areas, often in upland areas such as Las Posadas.

Subsistence was based on a food collecting economy with the acorn supplemented with various seeds, roots, nuts, small game, insects, deer, and some fish; seafood was eaten during

trips to the coast. The Wappo shared many cultural traits with their Pomo neighbors, including excellent skills in basketry and the practice of cremating the dead (Driver 1936; Kroeber 1925:221).

The Wappo used various weapons including the bow and arrow, spear, sling club, harpoon. Arrows points were notched or stemmed for hafting, and made by chipping with an antler flaker (Driver 1936). Wappo territory included Glass Mountain, a primary Napa Valley obsidian source, located 2 miles north of St. Helena and approximately 4 miles to the southwest of Las Posadas State Forest. Napa obsidian is a jet black glass noted for its fine flaking characteristics and, according to Bennyhoff, was traded, into the Delta as early as 5,000 B.P. (Stewart 1982:47). Controlling Napa obsidian use by other groups would have provided the Wappo with access to a wide range of exchange goods from the Bay Area, the Central Valley, and elsewhere in the North Coast Ranges.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The history of Las Posadas State Forest is visible in both the documentary record and the area's cultural landscape, telling the story of how this place was used by different people through time. This historical overview links information from the documentary record with features of the cultural landscape. More detailed information regarding the the cultural resources identified during the field survey is reported in the "Cultural Resources Inventory" section of this volume.

The 1992 CDF *Management Plan for Las Posadas* noted a gap in information for the history of Las Posadas between the time that the property was owned by the Morris Family and the point at which the property was given to the State of California (CDF 1992:12). This historical overview sheds some light into this temporal gap, "the Blake years" from 1910 to 1929. Documentary research revealed that these years span the time between which Anita D.S. Blake received title to the property in 1910 from the Morris family, included her use of the property for ranching and possible agricultural experimentation through the 1920s, and ended with her preparation for the transfer of the property as a gift to the State of California in 1929.

The documentary record for Las Posadas State Forest is unusually rich in both primary and secondary documentary materials. Historical maps; official county records, including property deeds and leases; recollections of people associated with the place, including diaries, memoirs, private papers, photos, and interviews; and local historical accounts have been used to tell some of the story of this very special place and aid in the identification of the features of the cultural landscape. Only a brief review of this abundant database was possible during this study. This survey and report should be regarded as a preliminary investigation.

The historical overview for Las Posadas State Forest has been sepatated into temporal periods to reflect use by different people through time. These periods are presented as follows:

Historical Setting before 1878

Moore Creek Ranch: The Morris Family Years (1878-1910)

Moore Creek Ranch: The Blake Years (1910-1929)

Las Posadas State Forest (1929 to the Present)

HISTORICAL SETTING BEFORE 1878

Both Native Americans and early settlers are remembered as occupants of the area of Moore Creek before 1878. Both the documentary and archaeological record provide some insight into this occupation. Edith Tracy Gregory, the niece of the first titled resident, John Morris, visited the Moore Creek Ranch as a child sometime between 1878 and 1910. She recorded her remembrances in letters and eventually went on to write the Morris family history (see Gregory 1938 and 1956). She recalled discovering "an indian campground . . .

a considerable settlement now buried in the underbrush" (CDF 1992:30-31, reference to Gregory letter dated 21 April 1933). Four prehistoric sites were located during the cultural resources inventory field survey, sites that include bedrock mortar outcrops and extensive scatters of obsidian tools and debitage. See "Cultural Resources Inventory" for additional information regarding the prehistoric sites identified during this survey.

During the mid-19th century, the Napa region was transformed by the displacement in occupation of the native inhabitants by new settlers during the Mexican and early American periods between the 1820s to 1840s. Epidemics, warfare, and the disruption of the traditional community's basic relationship with their land and resources were major factors in the rapid decline of the native population of California during the 19th century (Cook 1976;Heizer 1953).

The decline in Wappo population in the Napa Valley has been recounted in many sources. Settler George C. Yount recalled that 8,000 Native Americans were in the Napa Valley in 1836, including one group of Miwok and four groups of Wappo (Heizer 1953:233). By 1843 Yount estimated that 3,000 Native Americans remained in Napa Valley, including Wappo and Wintun. Of these, 400 were in the Wappo village of Caymus at his rancho. By 1855 Yount thought no more than 500 Wappo remained in the whole Valley (Sawyer 1978:259). Cook (1976) estimated the population of the Wappo at the time of contact to have been approximately 1,650. At the time of Driver's ethnographic work with the Wappo at the reservation near Geyserville in 1932, no Wappo remained in the Napa Valley (Heizer 1953:233).

As the northern frontier of Mexico, portions of the the Napa region were first explored by non-natives in 1823 by Franciso Castro, Jose Sanchez, and Father Jose Altamira. The expedition resulted in the founding of the Mission San Francisco Solano and identified the areas of Petaluma and Napa for future use as mission cattle ranches (Hoover, Rensch, and Rensch 1966:239; Hoover, et al. 1990:231).

In 1833 Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo was sent to the northern frontier to select a pueblo site and to inspect Fort Ross, the Russian outpost established on the coast in 1812. As the dominant figure of Mexican provincial affairs, Vallejo founded the pueblo of Sonoma in 1835. Vallejo laid out the pueblo around a square plaza with a mission church, soldier's barracks, and a large two story adobe mansion. Vallejo's "country" home was located at Rancho Petaluma with its massive two-story square residence that was built on a grander scale than any other adobe in northern California (Hoover, Rensch and Rensch 1966:531-532). As military commander and the director of colonization for the northern frontier, Vallejo involved Native Americans extensively in rancho operations.

George C. Yount was the first settler in the Napa Valley from the United States. He first visited the area in 1833 and remained in Vallejo's Sonoma until 1835, working on the mission and making shingles for Vallejo's Petaluma Adobe. Yount also assisted Vallejo in his campaigns against the native inhabitants (Heizer 1953:231). In turn, Vallejo assisted

Yount in receiving his first land grant, Rancho Caymus, on 23 February 1836. As a prerequisite to receiving a land grant, Yount converted to Catholicism and became a citizen of Mexico. Rancho Caymus consisted of nearly 12,000 acres in the heart of Napa Valley and included the large Wappo village, called *Caymus* (also *Kaimus*). Yount used the residents of Kaimus as rancho laborers and farm hands and to fight against other native villages (Heizer 1953:240). Rancho Caymus included a blockhouse and adobe house, and by 1845 a flour and sawmill had been built (Hoover, Rensch, and Rensch 1966:240).

Las Posadas State Forest includes 263 acres of the 4,453-acre Rancho La Jota land grant that Yount received from the Mexican government on 23 October 1843 (Hoover, Rensch, and Rensch 1966:240). According to Charles Camp in *Chronicles of George Yount*, La Jota was derived from *Hoter*, the name of an "Indian Chief" who had given Yount much trouble in his early years in the Napa Valley (CDF n.d.:2). Rancho La Jota offered stands of timber that Yount exploited, and the Rancho was among the early areas of commercial timber harvesting in California (Beck and Hasse 1974:98). In 1845 Yount built a sawmill on Rancho de la Jota to process the pine and redwood timber of Howell Mountain. The lumber was intended for rebuilding his flour mill on the Napa River and to sell as building material and shingles (Hoover, Rensch, and Rensch 1966:240; Hoover et al. 1990:232). Yount's customers included the other American and European grantees in the Napa Valley, as well as a number of American settlers.

With the end of the war between Mexico and the United States in 1848, California was transferred to the United States government by the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The discovery of gold in 1849 resulted in a massive influx of people into California. Conflict arose regarding confirmation of Spanish and Mexican land grants, which included extensive litigation that for some extended well into the 1870s. Many original grant holders were not able to confirm their ownership or sold all or part of their property to cover the legal costs involved in the confirmation process.

Land squatting on both rancho and public lands was common and was a source of conflict between landowners and squatters. Evidence for squatting was not found for the Rancho La Jota portion of Las Posadas State Forest, but was identified for the public-land portion. The first settlers along the public land of Moore Creek were reported by John Morris to be an Irish couple named Moore, who settled there sometime during the 1840s (Gregory 1956a:9).

Yount's Rancho La Jota grant was confirmed and the first General Land Office Plat for Rancho La Jota was prepared in 1857. A.W. Tompson, the surveyor, wrote that the Rancho was "of value almost solely for the timber which it abounds" and was "generally unfit for agriculture" (U.S. GLO 1857:16). Rancho La Jota remained under Yount's ownership as timberland until his death in 1865.

In 1870 Yount's executors, G.R. Goodman and Nathan Coombs, sold the Rancho La Jota property at public auction. The entire property of Rancho La Jota was purchased by Smith Brown, of Napa, for \$13,000 or less that \$3.00 per acre. Brown sold a one-quarter

undivided interest in Rancho La Jota to W.C. Watson for \$3,000. Watson, who was married to Yount's granddaughter, was then a cashier at the Bank of Napa, and later became a Bank Examiner for the State of California. The 1876 Official Map of the County of Napa shows Rancho La Jota under Watson's ownership and indicates that the rancho had been surveyed and subdivided into lots of approximately 200 acres each (Napa County 1876). These lots were of interest to John M. Morris, who settled on public land adjacent to Rancho La Jota along Moore Creek in 1878.

Railroad, water transport and road construction were critical for the continued population increases of the mid- to late 19th century in the Napa region. The Napa River provided direct access to Pacific Trade by allowing commercial transport to San Pablo and San Francisco Bays, and the Pacific Ocean. The Napa River linked Napa City and Napa Valley agriculture, ranching, logging and mining, and other industries with local, national, and international trade and communication networks. Economic developments included the building of small towns and services, expansion of ranching and agricultural enterprises, viticulture; timber operations; the establishment of numerous mineral-spring resorts for health and recreation; and mineral exploitation, particularly cinnabar for the production of mercury.

Mercury was successfully exploited from cinnabar deposits scattered throughout Howell Mountain, mining within the boundary of Las Posadas State Forest appears to have focused on chromite and copper prospecting. The State Forest includes serpentine outcrops. When



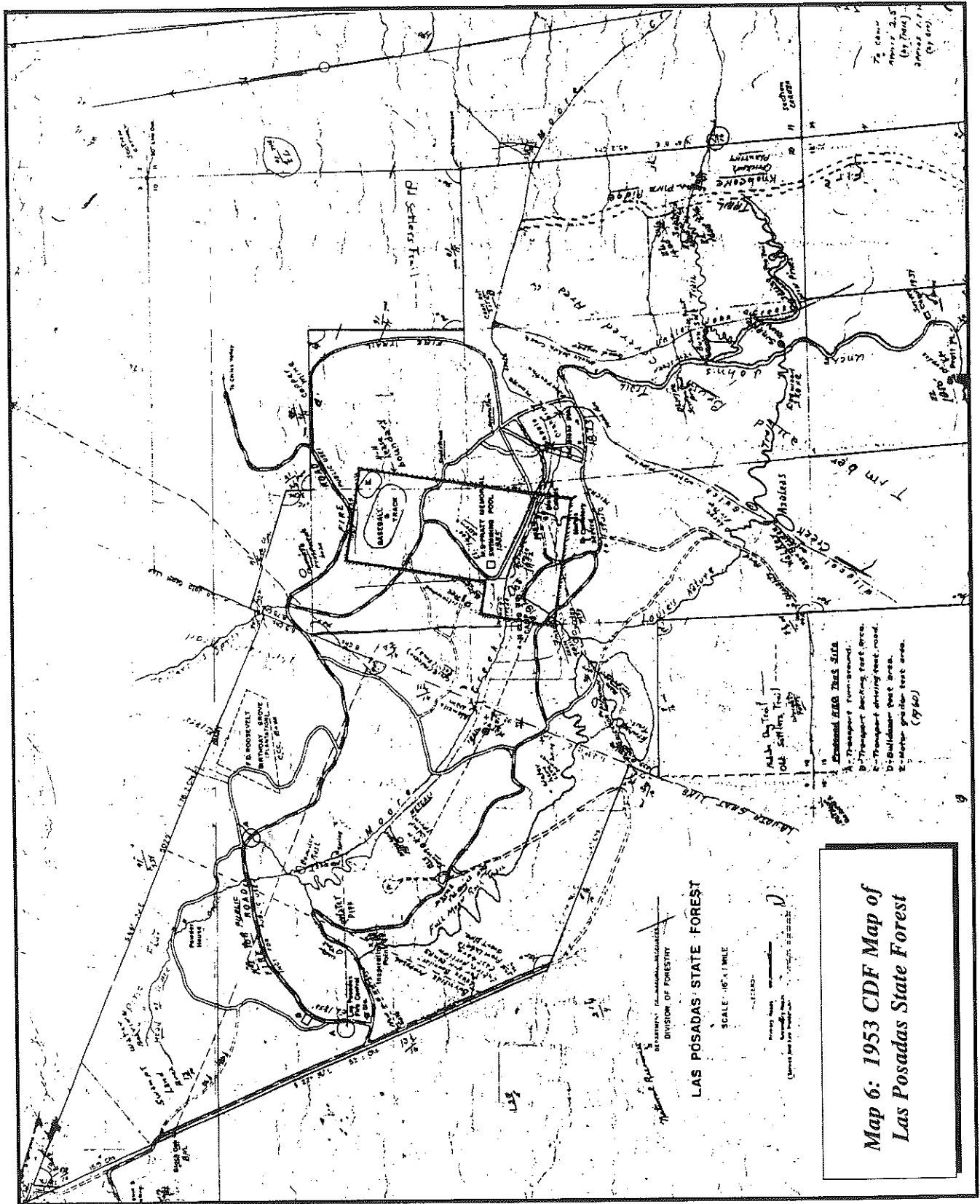
Figure 16: Chromite Prospector's Pit. Tailings visible on the left.

serpentine has been altered by carbonate-laden waters, it commonly contains mercury deposits and “the rock is known to miners throughout the Coast Ranges as quicksilver rock” (State of California 1951:272). Serpentine, also called peridotite, includes narrow veins of amphibole asbestos and chromite which have been commercially exploited in northern California (State of California 1951:271-272). Historical maps show two prospector’s holes within the Forest. One pit along the northern boundary of the Forest was specifically referred to as a chromite prospector’s pit (Figure 16). As the most valuable product obtained from peridotite, chromite is used in the manufacture of stainless and specialty steels and in chrome plating. The location of a copper exploration pit is hand-drawn along the northeast boundary of the Forest on a 1953 map, while a copper-mine claim was recorded for W.H. Wells approximately 1,000 feet from the northeast corner of the Forest (1953 CDF Map 6; Blake Map 7).

Waterway transport, local railway lines, and stage-road systems made mountainous regions such as Howell Mountain relatively accessible for health, recreation, and settlement. For the Napa Valley, the railroad terminus of Vallejo was linked to the Transcontinental Central Pacific Railroad in Sacramento by the California Pacific Railroad. Sam Brannan actively promoted railroad development in the Napa Valley to link the San Francisco region with the site of lands he had purchased as the future site of the Calistoga mineral-spring resort and development in 1859. By 1868 the Napa Valley Railroad had reached Calistoga (Nordhoff 1873; Smith and Elliot 1878).

The town of St. Helena was established in 1853, and its historical, but dilapidated, railroad depot remains standing. St. Helena was the center of the Napa Valley wine industry. St. Helena provided the rail link for the region's timber exploitation, bringing wood for both domestic heating, construction, and railroad use to the Bay Area. The Napa Wood Company purchased several parcels of land from Isaac Howell, adjoining Rancho La Jota. In November 1867 at least 3,000 cords of wood were reportedly stacked at Napa for shipment to San Francisco (CDF n.d.:7). The first mineral-spring resort development in Northern California may be White Sulphur Springs, which was built in 1848 and continues its operations today just a few miles west of St. Helena.

After the completion of the Transcontinental Central Pacific Railway in May 1869, Settlement and recreation in California was promoted through numerous railroad-sponsored publications, such as Charles Nordhoff’s *California for Travellers and Settlers* (1873). Outdoor living and the mineral-spring resorts and sanitariums of the West in general — and in California in particular — were promoted to a national audience (Baur 1959; Fifer 1988; Pomeroy 1957). Popular health books also promoted the benefits of mineral waters with a quasi-scientific specificity, such as Windslow Anderson’s (1890) *Mineral Springs and Health Resorts of California*. Railroad systems provided a means for great migrations of tourists and healthseekers and invalids to turn to California resorts and spas as an alternative to their European counterparts (Anderson 1890).



The attribution of healthfulness to the Howell Mountain region figured in the story of the settlement and residence along Moore Creek by the Morris family and by Anita D.S. Blake. This association of healthfulness was more than an idiosyncratic phenomenon; it was linked to a common notion actively promoted to a national audience. Hundreds of mineral-spring and summer resorts were established in California beginning in the mid- to late 19th century. The Howell Mountain region lies within an area renowned and extensively promoted for its hot springs, used for both health and recreation. Local and transcontinental railroad advertising literature beckoned tourists to the healing mineral springs that were developed especially in Napa, Sonoma, and Lake Counties (Anderson 1890, Fifer 1988, Kaysing 1974, Nordoff 1872, Pomeroy 1957). Sam Brannan's Calistoga was one of the most famous of the mineral-spring resorts, since its development brought the railroad up the Napa Valley to Calistoga. From the St. Helena Railway depot, connecting stage coaches brought passengers to the Howell Mountain resorts, such as the Angwin Summer Resort, and on to Pope Valley and resorts such as Aetna Springs (Toriello 1991 et al).

An impressive example of a late 19th-century mineral spring and resort development in the Howell Mountain area is Aetna Springs Resort, which operated continuously from the 1870s to the 1970s (Davis and Associates 1978; Stradford and Fredrickson 1977; Toriello 1992; Woodbridge 1987). Located approximately 8 miles northeast of Angwin, Aetna Springs Resort was linked to the railroad in St. Helena by way of the historical county route, Howell Mountain Road. The Rancho La Jota portion of the Moore Creek area was served by this road. In 1987 Aetna Springs Resort was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (Woodbridge 1987).

The popularity of the Angwin Summer Resort was described in the *St. Helena Star* on 10 July 1885,

The annual flight of summer from the cities has set in towards the mountains and Angwin's Resort is crowded to its utmost capacity, every available sleeping apartment being engaged; the persistent applicants preferring to occupy tents rather than to be sent away. Among them is a large assembly of guests who seem to consider an annual pilgrimage to the shrine of health and pleasure as indispensable to their physical wants and well being [CDF n.d.:18].

The Seventh Day Adventist Church, organized in Napa County in 1872, located their Pacific Union College near St. Helena. The college was founded in 1882 on the property that was the former Angwin Summer Resort, approximately 2 miles northeast of St. Helena; the college property currently borders Las Posadas State Forest. The site of the current St. Helena Hospital is the Seventh Day Adventist enterprise that began as the St. Helena Sanitarium, built in the 1880s. The sanitarium was used as a health retreat by many people, and the current hospital is well known for its recovery programs for alcohol, drug, and tobacco dependency.

THE MORRIS FAMILY YEARS (1878-1910)

John M. Morris was an educated and literate man who kept a diary and devoted time to his memoirs. These materials are included in the Morris collection of the Bancroft Library. Edith Tracy Gregory, a niece of John Morris, used these materials to write the Morris family history (Gregory 1938, Gregory 1956a and 1956b). The following information, which provides a rich background for the Morris family tenure at Las Posadas, has been drawn from the Gregory materials.

THE MORRIS FAMILY

In 1857 John Milton Morris arrived in California by wagon train from Missouri with his parents, Milton Morris and Sally Dodge Morris (Figure 17).

The stories of this pioneer family would fill a book. They came to California in 1857, returned to Iowa in 1863 by ox-wagon, and came again to California in 1867. Ox-wagon Commuters. That was not enough. In 1869, about three months after the transcontinental railroad was finished, they took a train ride to Iowa and back, having almost as adventurous a trip as their ox-wagon journeys, though a much shorter one—five days instead of four months [Gregory, 1938:10].

Milton Morris was born in 1807 in Lynchburg, Virginia, and was raised on his grandparent's plantation in Knoxville, Tennessee. He developed a hatred for slavery that influenced his life decisions. After experiencing a religious conversion, he left his slave-owning family to work his way westward. In 1830 he arrived in rags and barefoot at the Western Missouri Harmony Mission, where he met Sally Dodge, the daughter of a Methodist preacher.

Sally Dodge was born in Barre, Vermont, the daughter of a preacher and his wife. In 1821 when she was 9 years old, her father led a party of missionaries into the Osage Indian territory of western Missouri. The family traveled by steamer to Philadelphia, by covered wagon across the Allegheny Mountains, then by keelboat up the Mississippi and Missouri rivers to the banks of the Big Osage, where the Harmony Mission was established. Sally grew up with Osage Indian girls at the mission. She learned their language, how to carry water jugs on her head, and how to swim. "This was a most unusual accomplishment for a white girl at a time when the fashion was for girls to be frail and delicate" (Gregory 1938:2). Sally used her knowledge of native languages to serve as an interpreter between the Osage chiefs and the U.S. Government officers.

At the Harmony Mission, Milton married Sally Dodge and became a licensed Methodist preacher in 1831. The ceremony, which was performed by Sally's father, Rev. Nathaniel Dodge, may have been the first white marriage on Kansas soil. Milton's anti-slavery views conflicted with those of the mostly slave-owning farmers of Missouri. In 1849 he moved to Iowa with his wife and eight children, including 13-year-old John Milton Morris.



*Figure 17: Milton and Sally Morris, ca. 1888.
The parents of John Milton Morris.
Courtesy of The Bancroft Library.*

When the Nebraska Indian Territory was opened in 1854, Milton led a party of 10 families to settle along the west bank of the Missouri River. His sons broke the prairie ground with oxteams and participated in organizing the Nebraska legislature. In 1857, after his favorite son Nathaniel died, the Morrises sold the farm to join a wagon train to California.

Milton preached in the Trinity mines in Northern California and at the Old White Church in Napa; in 1863 Milton and Sally moved from California back to the Missouri River. In 1867 John Morris left California and found his parents living in poverty in Missouri. Two years later, John brought them back across the plains to California, this time by Transcontinental Railroad.

After arriving in California in 1857, John Morris had worked as a miner in Trinity County and in the Virginia City silvermines of Nevada, and as a guard at San Quentin. As a book agent for the Old Book Company, John Morris sold subscriptions between Napa and Humboldt counties. While selling books in Eureka, John met Sarah Melissa Harmon at her brother's house.

Sarah Melissa Harmon was a native of Foxcroft, Maine. She came to Eureka, California, in the early 1870s to keep house for her brother, Charles. She was a beautiful woman with dark eyes and curling red-brown hair, dainty and fashionably dressed. She worked in a dressmaking shop where she was in "constant demand to choose materials, patterns and trimming for the ladies of the town" (Gregory 1956a:6).

John and Sarah married in 1875 and moved from place to place with their infant son, Vincent Irenaeus Morris. Sarah Melissa was ill with tuberculosis, and the Morris family needed a place to settle down. Because the Howell Mountain area of Napa County was thought to be a place "unsurpassed for the sufferers of lung trouble" (Gregory 1956a:7), they returned to Napa and looked for suitable land.

Sarah Melissa lived at the Moore Creek Ranch for less than two years before she died from tuberculosis on 12 March 1880. Where her husband saw only "dirt and rocks and unprofitable timber," she had marveled at the natural beauty of the place with its "fair earth and flowery hills, shadowy forest and bright sky" (Gregory 1938:8). Sarah Melissa was buried in the St. Helena Cemetery and was later reinterred at the Morris Family Cemetery on Moore Creek Ranch.

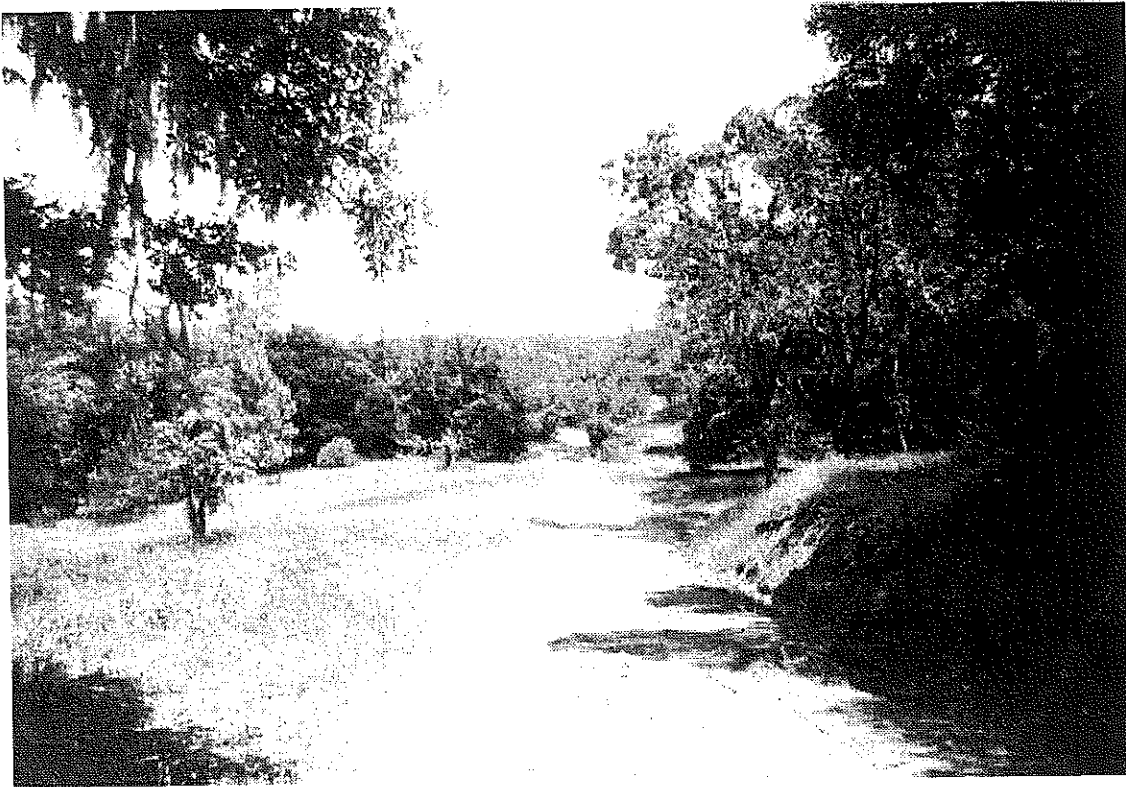
John Morris remarried in 1894 and had four daughters. Only the names of two daughters are known: Regina Elvira, who survived her father, and Delphine, who died at the age of three.

John's father, Milton Morris, selected a knoll called "Lookout Hill" to be his final resting place at Moore Creek Ranch. When he died in 1891 at the age of 84, he was the first to be buried on the knoll known today as Graveyard Knoll, the Morris Family Cemetery. This cemetery is described under "Cultural Resources Inventory."

THE MOORE CREEK RANCH

Although the U.S. General Land Office Survey Plat prepared in 1872 for the public lands in the Moore Creek area shows no detail of physical features, homestead claims or patents, the area had been settled beginning in the 1840s. John Morris recorded in his diary in October 1878 that he took possession of land at Moore's Creek by giving an Irishman named "Musso" \$1,000 and a cow for the 500-acre "squatter's claim" on government land (Morris in Gregory 1956a:7). Morris retained the original name of the property and explained how the ranch came to be named:

Away in the forties a family by the name of More [sic] had settled here and lived for some years. The husband was a drunken Irishman. All of a sudden the old Lady More took sick and died. Some of the neighbors hinted that the drunken husband may have helped his wife off from these mundane shores, but the suspicion was not sufficient to cause anyone to dig up the old lady after she had been buried at St. Helena. All agree that never was there such a time getting any one into a coffin or out to a cemetery. . . . The road to St. Helena was nearly impassable, so everybody engaged in that act of philanthropy remembered ever afterward their last respects to Old Lady More. Moore's [sic] Creek, it is, not Morris [Morris in Gregory 1956a:9].



Tina M. Toriello

Figure 18: Moore Creek Ranch Complex, view to the east; orchard to the left in photo, house site and historic road to the right in photo.

John Morris described the property in his diary, noting that there was nothing worth mention done on the claim,— no substantial fencing, no barn except a log shanty, and no land cleared. Milton and Sally moved in with them and lived in the shanty, a cabin with two rooms and a stone fireplace. John hired H. Risley, a carpenter from St. Helena, to build a “rough little new board house of two rooms and pantry” for his wife Sarah Melissa and young son, Vincent (Gregory 1956a:8). “We had tackled a forest of rock and timber, with little good soil, but said by doctors to be the healthiest place in the world” (Morris in Gregory 1956a:8).

Cabins were built along the level land near Moore’s Creek by various members of the Morris family out of redwood, whip-sawed from trees growing on Milton and John Morris’ homestead claims. The conditions of the Homestead Act of 1862 allowed an individual to claim only 160 acres (a quarter section), and required residence and improvement to the property in order to secure title on a homestead. John and his father Milton developed separate claims for a total of 320 acres, with the dwellings close together along Moore Creek.

The cabin where Father, Mother, and Mittie [John Morris’s orphaned cousin] lived was only fifty yards away and we had a milk house under the hill on the bank of Moore’s Creek, within thirty steps of Mother’s door. There we kept our butter and milk cool. There was enough hay on the ranch to feed the three cows and one horse for six months. Mother went to raising chickens and making butter to sell. There were plenty of speckled trout in Moore’s Creek, but I did not know how to catch them. Brother Sawyer—Sawyer’s Tannery [in Napa]—camped in the summer and came every day to see my wife, bringing her a few fresh shining trout. The woods were full of deer, too, and we would see the hunters carry them off. They would never give us a mouthful of the venison, shipping the carcasses whole to San Francisco [Morris in Gregory 1938:12-13].

Orchards and berries were planted on both sides of the creek, irrigated by ditches drawing water from the creek. Anson S. Blake later wrote about the development of the irrigation system at the Morris ranch,

. . . the abstract of title for the property shows that the appropriation notice of water from Moore Creek for these ditches was the first such notice of irrigating water to be filed in Napa County [Blake in Gregory 1956a:2].

Apple, peach, and walnut trees, raspberry and blackberry vines, and irrigation ditches remain as visible features of the historical cultural landscape of the Moore Creek Ranch Complex (Figure 18). (See "Cultural Resources Inventory" for details regarding the features identified for the Moore Creek Ranch Complex.)

By 1880 John Morris still lacked full title to his family ranch on Moore Creek. While they had laid out and improved their claims, John and his father could not file homestead entries until the sections they had settled were surveyed. His diary for Friday, 26 March 1880, records one of his trips to San Francisco to file on his land: "Most of the day at the U.S. General Land Office. Deposit money in the U.S. Treasury for the survey of the land we were squatted on" [Morris in Gregory 1956b:157-159].

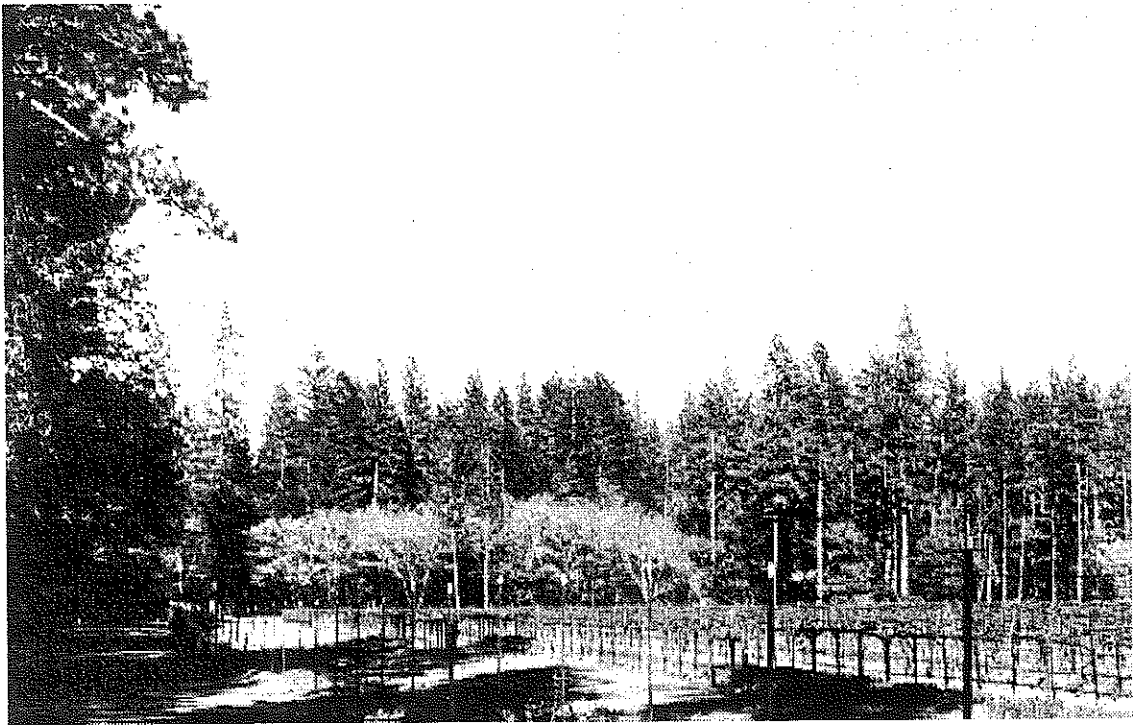
According to John Morris, he later decided to commute his homestead claim to government land by filing preemptions. After living on the land for six months, making improvements, and paying \$200 plus expenses, one could obtain title to 160 acres. At the same time, Morris could claim on an adjoining 160 acres. After living on the homestead for five years and improving the property, title was received for payment of office fees. According to John Morris's memoirs, when Milton Morris received title for his 160-acre parcel, he gave John 80 acres and John bought the other 80 acres from his father for \$500 (Gregory 1938:15). Neither the updated GLO plat depicting the Morris property survey nor other documentation for these claims was reviewed.

In addition to his public land, John Morris was interested in securing some of the adjoining lands of Rancho La Jota. Official Napa County maps from May and October 1881 show the survey and subdivision of the grant, reflecting the division of the rancho into smaller parcels for sale (Napa County 1881a, 1881b). Five lots shown on these maps, numbered 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14, ultimately were to become part of Las Posadas State Forest. Lots 10, 11, and 12 were to be purchased by John Morris in 1881.

Maps from 1876 and 1881 show Moore Creek and the springs in the area of the La Jota lots adjoining the Morris section land. John Morris recalled in his diary,

On the west [of the Morris property], one mile uphill brought us to the top of Howell Mountain, a country of flat, poor lands covered with fir, pine, oak, manzanita, madrone, and, in the gulches, some redwood. The water privilege was the best part of the purchase. Excellent springs in the redwoods formed a creek that would irrigate ten or fifteen acres of flats and hillsides. But most of the water came out on grant lands owned by one Watson, cashier of the bank in Napa City [Morris in Gregory 1956a:8].

W.C. Watson, the husband of one of George Yount's granddaughters, was a part-owner of the La Jota property with Smith Brown of Napa. In October 1881 Rancho La Jota lots were put up for sale at public auction. Concerned that the price would be higher because of his known interest in buying La Jota lots adjoining his property, John Morris had his visiting nephew, Milton Martin, bid on the lots. The terms of the auction stated that if one lot was purchased on the bid, there was an option to buy two adjoining lots at the same price. Milton Martin successfully bid \$6 per acre for the 163 acres of Rancho La Jota, Lots 10, 11, and 12 (Morris in Gregory 1956b:158). According to official records, on 22 October 1881,



Tina M. Toriello

Figure 19: View of La Jota Vineyard Lots (Charles Krug) and La Jota Section of Las Posadas State Forest (in the background).

John M. Morris purchased the three lots from W.C. Watson for \$580 gold coin (Napa Deeds 29:288). The price recorded in the deed does not match Morris's recollection, since the deed price is closer to \$3.50 per acre.

Roads were cut to accommodate the various prospective owners of the La Jota lots. By 17 July 1885, a reporter from the *St. Helena Star* complained of the Howell Mountain roads, not because of their condition, but because of their bewildering numbers:

The mountain is completely threaded with a network of wood road and private thoroughfares These branch off from the main thoroughfare every few feet, and some of them are so well traveled that it is impossible to determine which is the main road [CDF n.d.:10].

In 1883 John Morris contracted out timber harvesting on his property. At the top of the ridge, teams had access from the county road at the border of La Jota Lots 12 and 13. Morris sold fir and oak firewood for 25 cents a cord and in 1894 he made fence posts and grape stakes from his redwood trees. On 10 July 1885, a reporter from the *St. Helena Star* gave his impression of Howell Mountain:

The denudation of our mountain tops and canyons still continues, uninterruptedly; the click of the vandal axe of the woodchopper being heard on every hand, and it is only a matter of a very few years when a

dense forest of oaks and pines, the habitation of coyotes and grizzlies, will be transformed into one long stretch of vineyards and studded with comfortable homes and dwellings [CDF n.d.:9].

Fence posts and grape stakes were important to the burgeoning Napa Valley wine industry. Watson sold more than 2,000 acres of Rancho La Jota (Figure 19), suitable for vineyards, to eight purchasers who operated wine cellars in the Napa Valley below Howell Mountain, including Charles Krug, Jacob Schram, John Thomann, and Brun & Chaix (CDF n.d.:6). Howell Mountain and Rancho La Jota lots were sold for approximately \$10 to \$15 per acre (CDF n.d.:6). John Morris recalled:

The grape boom had set in. People ran mad in the wine-making business, died in tanks, hung themselves up on trees. Land went up to one thousand dollars per acre. In five years some of the lands would not bring the price of the buildings erected thereon [Morris in Gregory 1938:16].

By 1884 phylloxera, the grapevine pest, made its appearance in Napa County. The overproduction of wine and the devastation to the vineyards by phylloxera caused a depression in the wine business, falling to an all-time low between 1885-1895. The price of grapes fell from \$24 per ton in 1884, to \$8 per ton in 1895. Some growers allowed hogs into the vineyards to harvest the crop (CDF n.d.:10).

John Morris was pleased that he stayed out of the wine business,

People thought us crazy because we put out no grapes, shunned me as a crank, a fanatic, and would hardly speak to me; but when the crash came the same men came to shake my hands and call me sagacious, complimenting me on my good judgement [Morris in Gregory 1938:16].

The redwood timber that Morris sold paid for the land three times over and they had "more to eat than ever before in life" (Morris in Gregory 1956b:160). During this period of timber cutting in the 1880s, virtually all the old-growth timber had been removed from the Morris property. Since that time no commercial harvesting has been done (CDF 1992:5).

In addition to timber and viticulture, Moore Creek Ranch was impacted by the health and recreation boom on Howell Mountain. Edwin and Alfred Angwin had purchased 200 acres of Rancho La Jota and established the Angwin Summer Resort in 1874. John Morris wrote that fishermen and hunters came in the summer and Howell Mountain became a famous resort place:

Some forty families from different cities came to camp on the mountain . . . Angwin went to building and we could sell him more vegetables and berries than we could raise (Morris in Gregory 1938:15).

Two additional land acquisitions were made to the Morris Creek Ranch after the purchase of the three Rancho La Jota lots. On 2 January 1882, John Morris was deeded 10-2/3 acres

from S.D. Mitchell for \$29.26 and 2/3 cents (or \$2.75 per acre) called "Lot 4 of Section 10" (Napa Deeds 31:64-65). Sometime prior to 1 June 1910, a small parcel of less than 30 acres, called "Lots 2 and 3 of Section 10," was added to the ranch.

John Morris died in 1907 and was buried on Graveyard Knoll near his beloved first wife, Sarah Melissa, his father and mother, a daughter, cousin, and niece. According to Edith Tracy Gregory, John Morris deeded Graveyard Knoll, the Morris Family Cemetery, to the State of California to "protect the graves of his family" (Gregory 1956a:2). No deed was located for this land transfer. No specific details regarding the Morris family after the death of John Morris in 1907 were found in the documentary record.

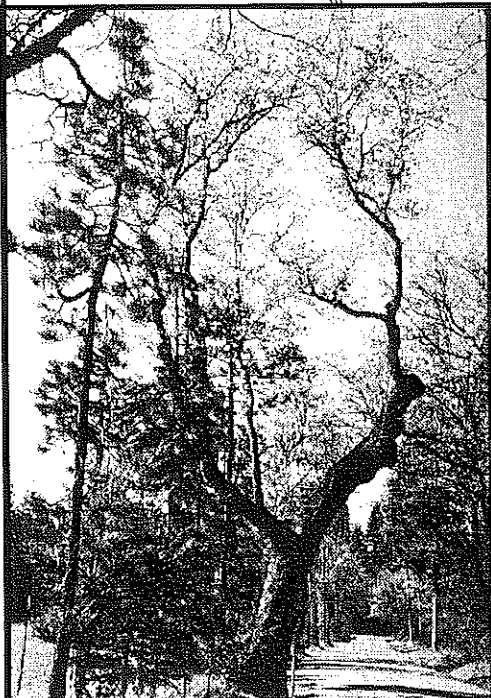
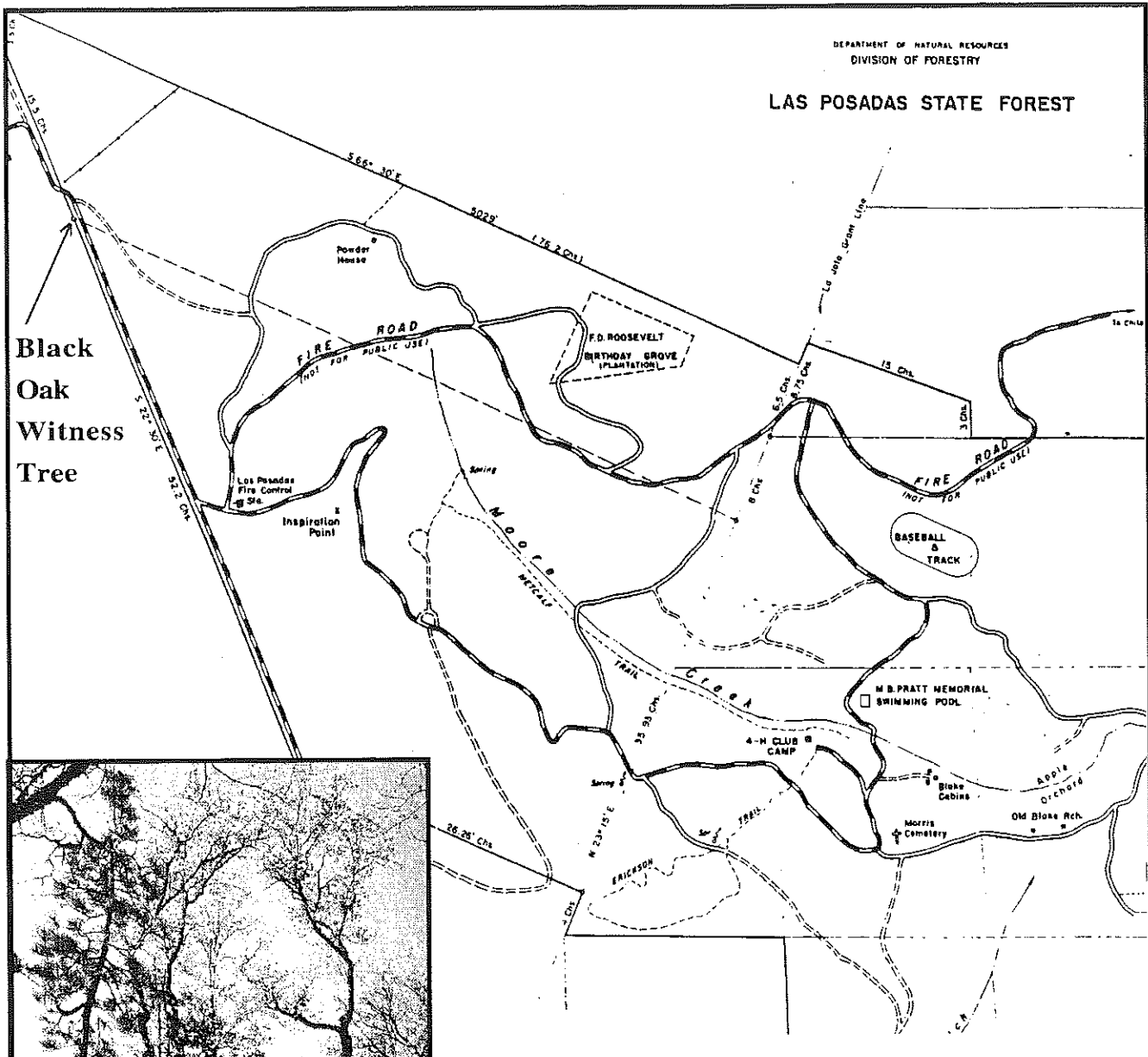
On 1 June 1910 the Moore Creek Ranch was sold by John Morris' daughter Regina Morris Simmons, his son Vincent Irenaeus Morris, and Regina's husband, Frank Simmons, to Anita D.S. Blake of Berkeley, California (Napa Deeds 97:533).

MOORE CREEK RANCH: THE BLAKE YEARS (1910-1929)

The CDF Management Plan (1992) noted a gap in the history of the Forest property between the ownership of Moore Creek Ranch by the Morris family and the transfer of property from Anita D.S. Blake to the State of California in 1929. Some insight has been gained on this study through a review of the documentary record left by Anita D.S. Blake. The Bancroft Library contains a collection for the Blake family, including many letters written by Anita D.S. Blake during her frequent stays at Moore Creek Ranch from 1911 to 1920. This collection could only be examined in a limited way for this historical overview. One of the Anita D.S. Blake letters to her husband, Anson, dated 17 February 1915 from "Las Posadas" is included as Appendix C.

A boundary description of the Moore Creek Ranch property is found in the 1 June 1910 deed from the Morris family to Anita D.S. Blake (Napa Deeds 97:533). This deed indicates that an 103-acre parcel of Rancho La Jota and a 40-acre parcel of public land was added to the property owned by Anita D.S. Blake.

The Rancho La Jota parcel included two lots numbered 13 and 14, not owned by the Morris family but acquired by Anita D.S. Blake sometime before 1912 based upon historical maps (Blake map in Bancroft Collection). The background information for these lots is shown in the official records of Napa County. The 1895 Official Map of Napa County (Punnett Bros. 1895) shows M. McCann as the owner of Lots 13 and 14, as part of a larger 460-acre holding. Bordering McCann's Lot 14 is the property of Henry Wadsworth. The "County Road" from St. Helena is shown going to the northwest corner of Morris's Lot 12 (at the black oak witness tree, Figure 20, Map 7), where it continues in a northerly direction through McCann's Lots 13 and 14. On 21 April 1897, Lots 13, 14, and 15 were transferred from M. McCann and Catherine A. McCann to H. Wadsworth for \$10.00 gold coin (Napa Deeds 61:219).



Map 7: Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry undated map showing the location of the Black Oak Witness Tree. Note the Morris Cemetery, Blake Cabins, Old Blake Ranch, F.D. Roosevelt Birthday Grove (Plantation), 4-H Club Camp, and M.B. Pratt Memorial Swimming Pool.

Figure 20: Photo insert of Black Oak Witness Tree located along Las Posadas Road. Original boundary marker for Rancho La Jota lots 12 and 13.

The 40-acre parcel of public land was identified as “U.S. Government” land on the hand-drawn map in the Blake Collection (Map 5). Anson S. Blake filed for a patent on this land from the U.S. General Land Office and was awarded the parcel on 25 March 1912 (Napa Patents E:239). On the day before Christmas eve, 23 December 1922, Anson transferred this 40-acre parcel to Anita D.S. Blake for \$10.00 (Napa Deeds 138:32), perhaps as a holiday gift.

Of historical interest is the variation in the record regarding when, to whom, and for what sum the Morris property was transferred to the Blakes. According to the formal deed of 1 June 1910, the property was sold for “\$10 gold coin,” and “Anita D.S. Blake” was the grantee from Regina Morris Simmons, Frank Simmons, and Vincent Irenaeus Morris. However, Igor Blake (a nephew of Anita D.S. and Anson S. Blake) recalled that Anson purchased the “Howell Mountain land” sometime around 1908 as a gift to Anita:

My uncle bought that with the fee he received as being trustee for Scofield Construction when it went bankrupt. Scofield had the contract to build the Mare Island drydocks . . . he ran Scofield Construction and kept the crew and the people and the equipment together to complete the Mare Island contract. The bonding company had to pay for that. With that fee—that was a two or three year job—he acquired the piece of land and gave it to Anita [Blake in Riess 1988:40].

Anita Day Symmes Blake (1872-1962) was the daughter of Frank J. Symmes, a banker and president of Thomas & Co., a San Francisco gas and electric company. Anson Styles Blake (1870-1959) was the son of Charles Thompson Blake and Harriet Waters Stiles, and the grandson of Eli Whitney. These were prominent, well-to-do California families. Both Anita and Anson were graduates of the University of California at Berkeley, Anson graduating in 1891 and Anita in 1894. They were married in 1894 at the Unitarian Church in San Francisco (Figure 21).

Anita had studied Greek, Latin, and the humanities at U.C.



Figure 21: May 1894 wedding photo of Anita Day Symmes Blake. Courtesy of The Bancroft Library.

Berkeley. She was a noted horticulturalist and later became a student in the U.C. Agricultural Extension Program during the time she was staying at Las Posadas. She was recognized for her work designing formal gardens and seed programs. The current official residence of the U.C. Berkeley President is the former Blake home in Kensington; the grounds include the formal landscape garden designed by Anita and her sister, Mabel Symes (Power and Heeger 1995:25-16).

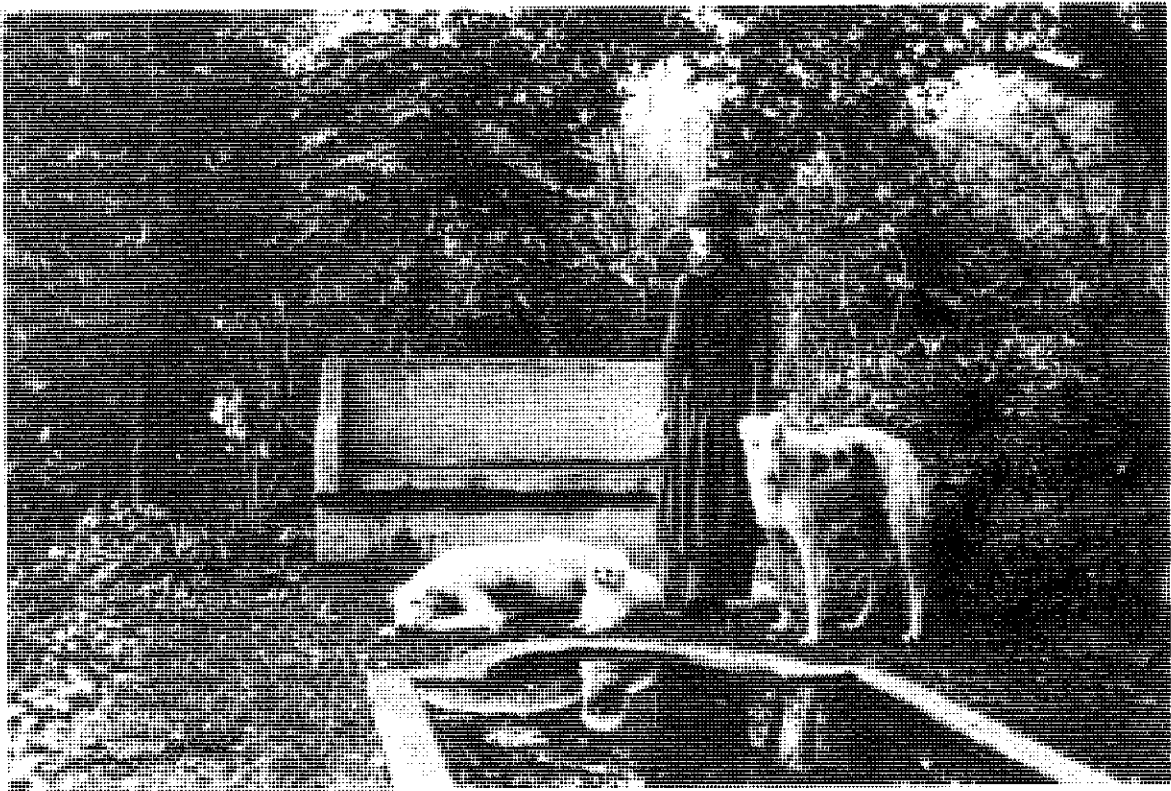
Anson Blake went into banking following his graduation from Berkeley in 1891. After the San Francisco earthquake and fire in 1906, he and his younger brother took over the family sand-and-gravel business, variously named the Oakland Paving Company, Blake and Bilger, and Blake Brothers Co. The business had been made possible by his grandfather Eli Whitney's invention of the rock crusher. Anson's company reclaimed considerable land in the Sacramento Delta. Supervising projects in the Delta, he was away from his wife for extended periods of time.

Like the Morris family, Anita Blake was drawn to Howell Mountain due to its reputation for healthfulness. She suffered from severe headaches and neuralgia and spent six or more months a year at the Howell Mountain Ranch to improve her health. Just down the road to St. Helena, W.A. Pratt, among others, had built the Seventh Day Adventist "Rural Health Retreat" in 1877. Anita's nephew Igor Blake recalled that Anita Blake utilized the "rest cure program" at the facility, later called the St. Helena Sanitarium—today's St. Helena Hospital (Riess 1988:40).

Anita continued the ranch operations with the help of resident caretakers and leaseholders, including the Lundells, the Hedbergs, Alpha Greyson (1928), and Charles Sozzoni (1939). A current neighbor of Las Posadas State Forest, Mr. Lynn Wright (b. 1923), lived at Moore Creek Ranch in the Morris family house with his family when he was between five and eight years old (1928-1931). Mr. Wright's description of the Moore Creek Ranch is included in Report of Survey Findings. Mr. Wright reported that Alpha Greyson was a Cherokee Indian. When asked if he remembered Anita Blake, Mr. Wright replied, "She was a tall woman. But then, I was a very small boy" (Wright 1995, pers. comm.).

Anita Blake was an independent woman in her affairs. In an interview conducted by Suzanne B. Riess in 1986, nephew Igor Blake described how his Aunt Anita "commuted" in the early days to Howell Mountain. Anita would bring her horse with her if she went for a long period of time. She rode to Richmond from Kensington, crossed the bay to San Rafael by ferry with her horse, spent the night in San Rafael, and continued up the Napa Valley on horseback to Las Posadas. Igor remembered that, "although childless," Anita was busy and very effective as she turned her time and energy to a "passionate care for the land" (Riess 1988:39).

From Howell Mountain, Anita wrote Anson many descriptive and detailed letters between 1911 to 1920. She wrote to her "dearest husband" about picnic lunches by Moore Creek



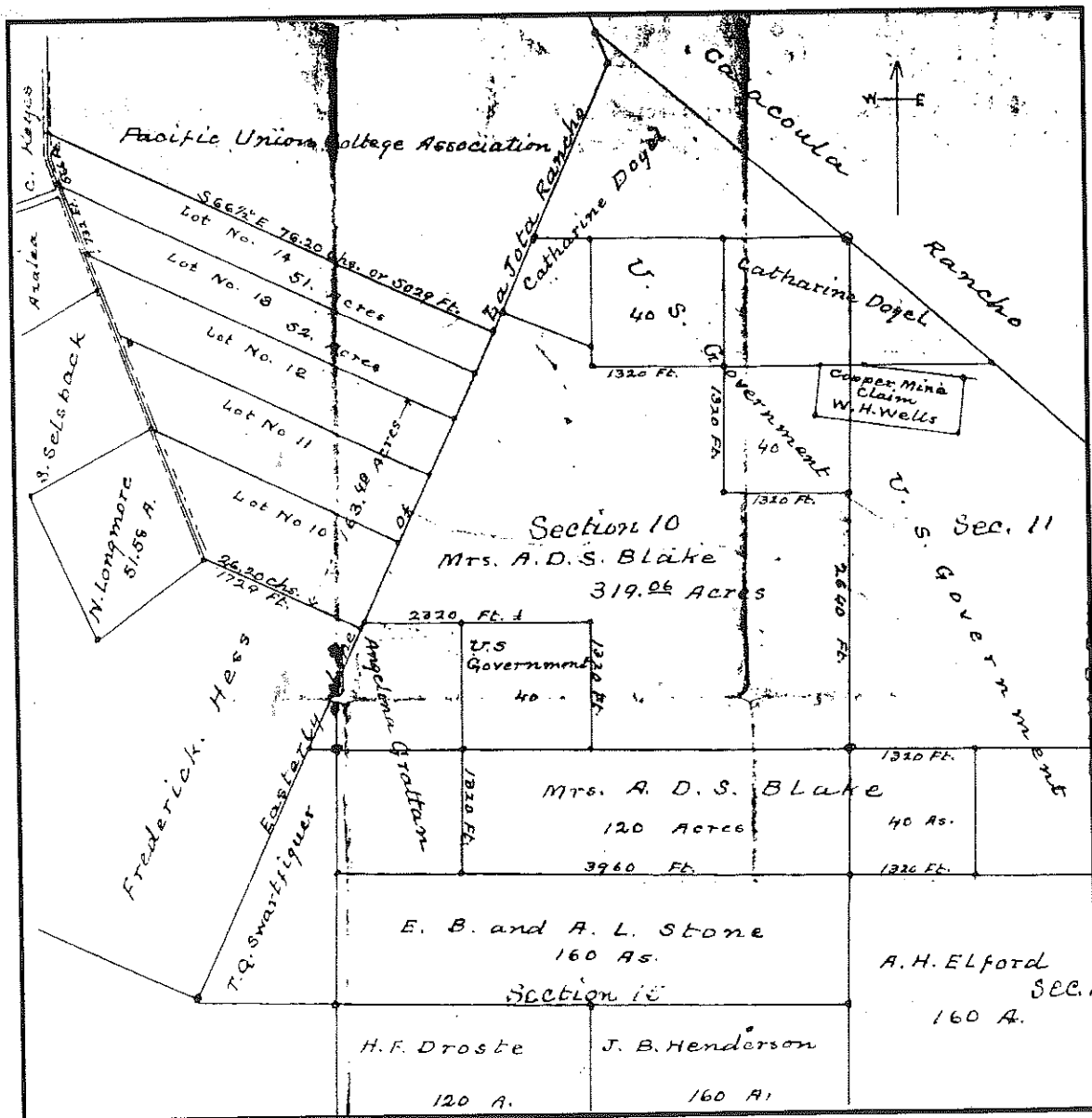
*Figure 22: Anita D.S. Blake with her dogs in her Berkeley garden.
Courtesy of The Bancroft Library.*

with friends, relatives, and her dogs (Figure 22). She was immersed in her U.C. Agriculture Extension Division studies in dairy and poultry husbandry, and alfalfa and hay cultivation. Her letters, course certificates, and correspondence work are part of the Blake Family Papers Collection at the Bancroft Library.

Anita's letters reflect her passionate interest in her animals and plants at Las Posadas. She described for Anson in vivid detail the progress and defeats in various projects about the ranch--the color of paint used for the buildings, the number of turkey hatchlings that survived, building changes by the resident Hedbergs. She had fruit trees shipped from Niles to St. Helena, she made blackberry jam, butter, and melon pickles. There was a vegetable patch in the orchard, and alfalfa and hay crops in the field. The ranch supported horses, cows, pigs, and various types of fowl, including chickens, turkeys, ducks, and guinea hens.

When Anita was staying at her "Hacienda de Las Posadas" Anson would travel by the railroad to the station in St. Helena, and then by horse drawn-carriage to spend the weekend at the ranch. Later, this trip was made by automobile. This was a common pattern of residence in the region with its various resorts and hot springs used by middle- and upper-middle-class families. The wife, and children if any, would go to north for the summer to escape the fog and chill of summer around San Francisco Bay. Husbands would come to visit via the railroad for the weekend (Harris 1987; Theodoratus et al. 1979).

During the early part of 1927, Woodbridge Metcalf, a U.C. Extension Forester and a founder of the university's Forestry Department at Berkeley, was informed by Anson S. Blake that Anita D.S. Blake had a piece of property in Napa she wanted to give to the University of California or the State of California. Metcalf recalled that the Moore Creek Ranch included a small house and large barn still in usable condition and that the Blakes had built two small summer cottages on the south bank of Moore Creek (Metcalf 1953a:1). Remnants of the Blake's Las Posadas improvements are still visible as part of the cultural landscape of the State Forest. Stonework and foundations for the Blake cabins and Moore Creek Ranch barn are still extant. Poultry pens are located at the site of the former Blake cabins, remnants of the orchard continue to grow along Moore Creek, and areas of open field grow with distinctive non-native grasses. See Archaeological Site Inventory for report of findings.



Map 8: Hand-drawn Map of the Blake property. Possibly drawn by Anita D.S. Blake (ca. 1910-1912).

After it was evident that the university was not interested in Blake's gift, Metcalf contacted State Forester Merritt B. Pratt regarding the possibility of its acquisition as a State Forest. Metcalf and Pratt went with the Blakes to Las Posadas in the summer of 1927 and "sat in their old summer cabin there, and talked about their giving the 880 [sic] acres to the state"; he noted that "Mr. Blake was very anxious that she get rid of it for she was not particularly well at that time and he felt it was too much of a problem for her" (Metcalf 1953a:1; Metcalf in Fairburn 1968:471). They also discussed the possible development of a 4-H Club summer camp site for the use of five or six Bay Area counties. Development of the 4-H Club camp was begun in 1927 during the negotiations with the State Board of Forestry for transfer of the property to the State of California.

Pending the acceptance of the gift of the Blake property by the State of California, Anita D.S. Blake executed the 10-year lease of the property to Alpha Greyson on 6 April 1928 (Napa Official Records). According to Metcalf, "a clause was inserted safeguarding the use of the camp site by the University of California for 4-H Club camps during the life of the lease" (Metcalf 1953:1).

LAS POSADAS STATE FOREST (1929 to the Present)

Anson S. and Anita D.S. Blake gave Las Posadas to the California State Board of Forestry on 19 October 1929. The deed was recorded in Napa County on 23 April 1930 (Napa Official Records). The deed included references to the 10 year Alpha Greyson leasehold and a 10 year Blake access right for use of their cabins. The Blakes deeded the property to the State of California with the following restrictions:

This grant is made on condition that the premises hereby conveyed shall be used, managed and controlled by the State Board of Forestry of the State of California, for the study and research work in forestry, botany and kindred subjects and experimentation in tree propagation, and not for recreational purposes, and that the same be used so far as is consistent with the aforesaid objects so that the natural plant and animal life on the said lands may be preserved [Napa Official Records; CDF 1992:Appendix D].

The use of Las Posadas by the 4-H Club would remain a source of conflict between Anita D.S. Blake and the State well into the late 1940s. Metcalf regarded "the caretaker" as "not cooperative" and stated that he did not know what kind of information Anita D.S. Blake received from him (Metcalf in Fairburn 1968:472).

Metcalf recorded details regarding the 4-H Club for the years 1928 to 1947 in his article "Las Posadas State Forest and the 4-H Club Camp" (Metcalf 1953a). Construction of the 4-H Club Camp began in April 1928 and by June, a log-and-sand-bag dam, a 16 x 24 ft. cookhouse, four latrines and 1,400 feet of water pipe from the spring to the cookhouse and wash racks had been completed. In 1929 shower bathhouses, a water heating system, a hospital, and a general utility cabin were erected. The swimming-hole dam in the creek was repaired, the pool deepened, the playground was graded, and in 1931 sleeping platforms

were constructed. Due to significant reconstruction of the camp since the 1950s, none of these features of the 4-H Camp could be identified during the cultural resources survey.

During the Great Depression, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was involved with various fire-fighting, fire-prevention, and construction projects at Las Posadas State Forest. Fires raged in Las Posadas during the summer and fall of 1931. A severe fire was kept out of the 4-H Camp through the efforts of State Forest Ranger E.A. Erickson and the CCC fire crew. According to Erickson, in May a fire “started back of the ball park...burned a strip south past the old ranch house up Wildcat Canyon and to Conn Valley,” and in September a fire burned the area north of Moore Creek (Erickson 1953:1). During the early 1930s, Metcalf noted that minimal improvements were made at Las Posadas and the year 1933 is simply described, “Very hard times” (Metcalf 1953a:3).

In 1934 a CCC crew of 200 young men was dispatched to Las Posadas State Forest. The location of the CCC Camp is thought to be at the current site of the CDF Fire Station. CCC projects at Las Posadas included cutting fire trails and roads and clearing brush. On 30 January 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s birthday, Las Posadas CCC Camp Company 1909 planted an approximately 80-acre tree plantation in the fire-damaged area north of Moore Creek:

The trees were Monterey, Coulter and Knobcone pines. The first spring after the planting a flock of goats from the college came through the fence and ate the tops out of some of the pines. Although most of the trees came back, it did set the growing back some [Erickson 1953:3].

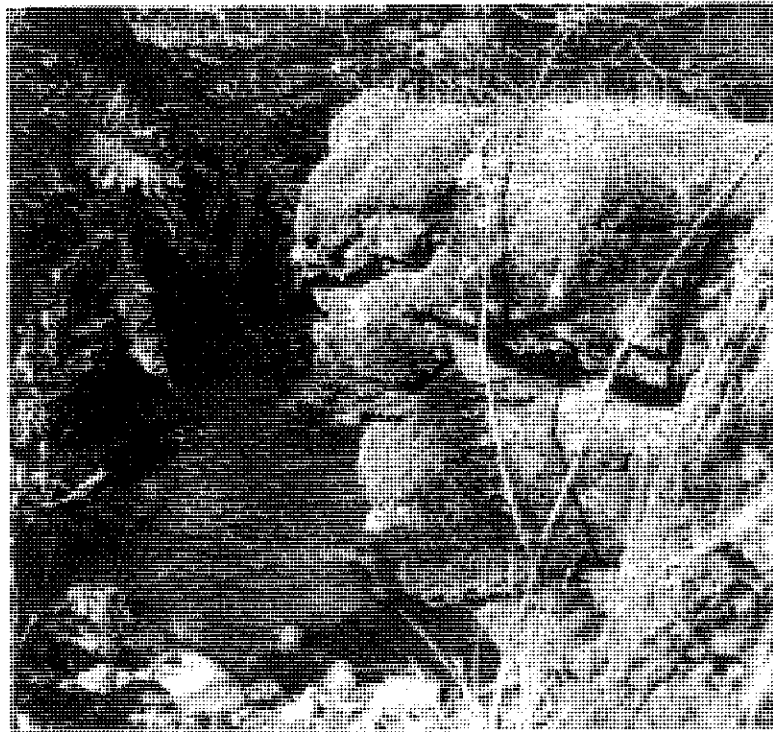


Tina M. Torfello

Figure 23: Entrance sign at Roosevelt Grove.

This experimental planting of exotic trees was not a success. According to the CDF, after 60 years, “the few remaining original specimens that survive are either diseased or of extremely poor form” (1992:17).

The 4-H Club Camp children had used a dammed section of Moore Creek as a swimming hole located just below the camp footbridge (Figure 24). In the winter of 1935-1936, the earthen dam was washed out during a heavy storm. Erickson indicated that a small CCC crew repaired the dam, which served as a crossing over Moore Creek (Erickson 1953:4). In 1934 plans had been made to build a new swimming pool, and the route over the dam was needed to transport building materials across the creek.

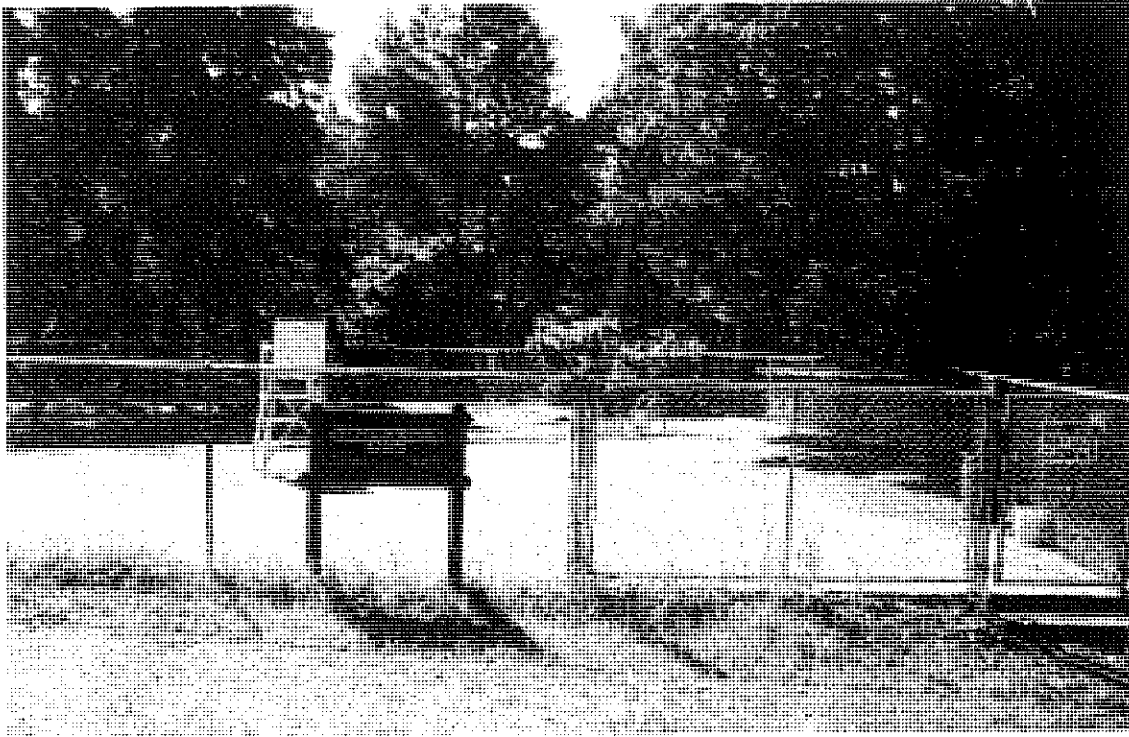


Tina M. Torchio

Figure 24: Remains of the dam along Moore Creek used to contain the Pratt Swimming Hole.

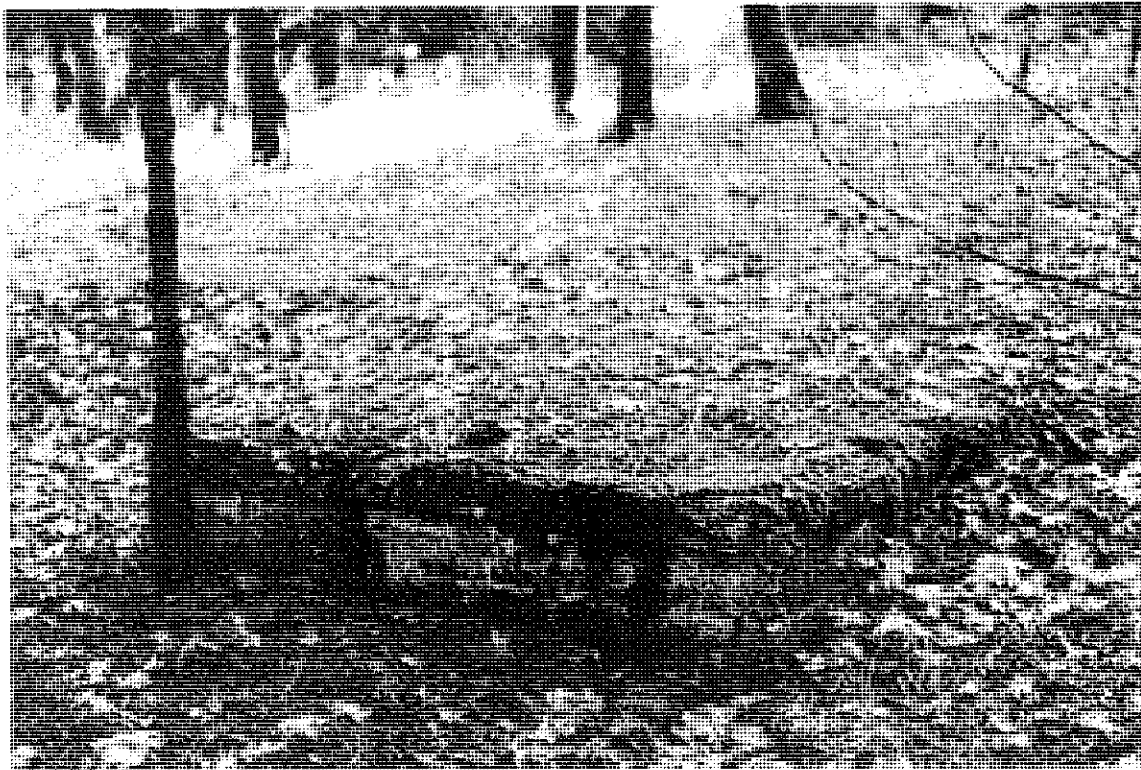
In 1935 “a fine concrete swimming pool” was constructed and 1,300 feet of intake water pipe was installed by the CCC through the support of State Forester Merritt B. Pratt (Metcalf 1953:3). Pratt assigned J.B. Brown, an Extension Specialist in Agricultural Engineering, the task of designing the 1934 concrete swimming pool. Metcalf remembered that there was a “question about the swimming pool” involving a conflict with the caretaker regarding its location (Metcalf in Fairburn 1968:472). Remnants of the original CCC swimming pool include portions of the intake water pipe that brought water from Alameda Dam on Moore Creek to the swimming pool. Behind the current pool (Figure 25), a seasonal creek retaining wall was constructed with riprap from the original pool.

Between 1936 and 1946, the last years of the Great Depression and World War II, few improvements were made at the 4-H Club Camp. Metcalf related that the future of the camp was “very uncertain because of the restrictive provisions in the [Blake] deed of gift of this property” (Metcalf 1953a:4). Due to the prohibition of recreational use, the State Board of Forestry considered returning the property to the Blakes unless they agreed to constructive multiple use in the future. Members of the 4-H Clubs met with the Blakes and, by 1947, Metcalf indicated that development of the facilities would be allowed.



Tina M. Torcello

Figure 25: Merritt B. Pratt Swimming Pool currently used by the 4-H Club Camp.



Tina M. Torcello

Figure 26: Buiding foundation located near the CDF Fire Station on Las Posadas Road.

In 1936 a log cabin was built at the entrance to Las Posadas State Forest for use as office headquarters (Erickson 1953:4). According to Erickson, the log cabin was still standing in 1953, when it was used to house the fire crew. A building pad located near the present entrance to the Forest may be the site of this log cabin. According to information from CDF Ranger Kurt Schieber, this site is the original fire station built by the CCC in the 1930s (Schieber 1995 pers. comm.). Former resident of Moore Creek Ranch, Mr. Lynn Wright (1995 pers. comm.) remembered the location as the home of the Neil family. Ranger Erickson recorded that, in 1935, he hired Roy Neil as a foreman for the nine-man fire camp crew to be housed in CCC camp buildings (Erickson 1953:4). See Figure 26.

In 1945 the property officially became Las Posadas State Forest through the legislation that created California's State Forest system (PRC Sections 4631-4658; CDF 1992:1). A unique complication arose for Las Posadas State Forest managers, since the property had been deeded to the State 16 years before the creation of the State Forest system:

the terms of the original Deed of Conveyance are so restrictive as to preclude many of the management goals for the state forests that were outlined in the 1945 legislation [CDF 1992:4].

The 4-H Camp has continued to maintain a summer camp under the auspices of the University of California. In 1976 the State deeded the campgrounds as a leasehold within the State Forest to the 4-H Clubs and they will continue to use the Forest in "the foreseeable future" (CDF 1992:27).

CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

SURVEY METHODS

Field survey of Las Posadas State Forest and site recording were conducted on nine days between November 1994 and April 1995 with a total investment of 36 person-days (28 November to 30 November 1994, 11 February 1995, 4 March to 6 March 1995, and 20 April to 21 April 1995). Due to the unusually heavy rainfall, no field work was attempted during December or January and on only one day in February. Field survey was coordinated by Leigh A. Martin and Tina M. Toriello of the Anthropological Studies Center assisted by Teri Ebert, Holly Hoods, Michael Jablonowski, Mim Joycen, Joy Longfellow, Barbara Polansky, Glenn Simpson, and Kathleen Zahniser. Maps used to guide the survey included: the USGS St. Helena 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map (1993), the California Department of Natural Resources Map of Las Posadas State Forest (1953), the California Department of Natural Resources Map of a portion of Las Posadas State Forest (U.C.1953), and a 4-H Club road map of Las Posadas (Stone and Hurley 1994). Identified archaeological sites were recorded by teams using the December 1993 version of DPR form 523 (State of California OHP 1993).

A nonexclusive mixed-strategy survey was employed. The survey strategy was based upon the physical terrain, which varies dramatically from level to gently sloping grassland to extremely steep slopes within the approximate 800 acres of the Forest. Survey coverage of the project area varied from 10- to 50-meter-wide parallel transects depending upon slope and density of vegetation.

Locations with a high potential for containing prehistoric and historical archaeological sites were inspected closely, usually by means of 5-meter-wide transects. For historic archaeological sites, information from the documentary record, including historical maps was used to guide the field survey. Locations with a high potential for prehistoric sites included ridgelines, small flats, midslope terraces, meadows and meadow margins, streambanks, and stream terraces; also given special attention were disturbed areas, such as erosion channels, road cuts, and trails, which allowed examination of subsurface soils. The channel of Moore Creek, its feeder creeks, and adjacent flats were intensively inspected using 5-meter-wide transects. Rock outcrops were checked for the presence of bedrock mortars, rock art, or shelters. In areas covered by thick surface duff, the ground surface was trowel-scraped every 10 meters to facilitate visibility of the soils. By April 1995, grasses and poison oak were thick in some areas. Very steep and/or densely chaparral-covered terrain that posed safety hazards were examined from as close as possible, usually by way of road and trail cuts.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE INVENTORY

During this cultural resources inventory, 18 archaeological sites were identified within the boundary of Las Posadas State Forest. Table 1 provides a summary list of the 4 prehistoric and 14 historic archaeological sites. Except for CA-NAP-195, all sites were identified through this study. The results of the field survey and descriptions of the sites are provided below. Due to the confidential nature of archaeological site records and location data, the site descriptions provided below are brief. Volume II of this report contains copies of the archaeological site records and location map data for limited distribution to individuals, agencies, and institutions authorized to use this confidential material. Both Volume I and II are on file at the California Department of Forestry and the California Historical Resources Information System at the Northwest Information Center at Sonoma State University.

During the survey numerous mapped and unmapped road cuts and trails were found to criss-cross the entire Forest. Remnants of barbed-wire fencing and associated redwood posts were also found throughout the Forest, including the steepest ridge areas located in the southern portion. While these roads, trails, and fencing may predate 1945, they were not recorded at this time as features of the culutral landscape. In the Rancho La Jota section of the Forest, there are numerous 2-3 ft. round depressions that range in depth from 2-3 ft. These pit-like depressions appear to be the result of tree-stump removal and were not recorded.

In some cases, references in the documentary record indicated a potential for the presence of possible sites, yet the field survey did not locate them. During this survey, the following were looked for but not found: a copper mine, a prospector's pit, a powder house, a 1937 survey camp, and an obsidian outcrop. The copper mine is marked by a hand-drawn circle along the northeast boundary, on a map of the Forest (California Department of Natural Resources 1953). According to CDF Ranger Kurt Schieber, the small copper mine was filled in for safety reasons sometime in the 1970s (Schieber 1995 pers. comm.). The obsidian outcrop was reported by CDF Ranger Steve Sayers to be located somewhere in the vicinity of Recreation Flat but was not noted by the survey crew (Sayers 1995 pers. comm.). The prospector's pit and powder house were depicted on the original California Department of Natural Resources Map (1953).

In the Rancho La Jota section of the Forest there are numerous 2-3 ft. round depressions that range in depth from 2-3 ft. These pit-like depressions appear to be the result of tree stump removal.

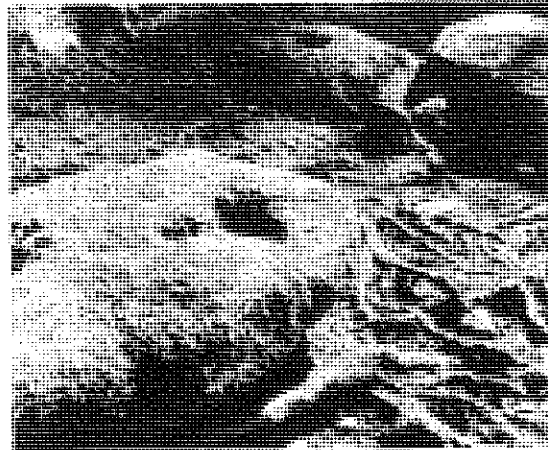
**Table 1: Las Posadas State Forest
Archaeological Site Inventory**

TRINOMIAL	PRIMARY	SITE NAME	DESCRIPTION
CA-NAP-195 Supplement	P-28-000178	"73" Avila (Recorded in 1956)	Prehistoric BRM outcrops with associated obsidian scatter of points and flakes.
CA-NAP-872	P-28-000723	Redwood Site	Prehistoric site with obsidian scatter of points and flakes.
CA-NAP-873	P-28-000724	Manzanita Site	Prehistoric site with obsidian scatter of points and flakes.
CA-NAP-874	P-28-000725	Chaparral Site	Prehistoric Site with lithic scatter.
CA-NAP-875/H	P-28-000726	Moore Creek Ranch Complex	Prehistoric BRM and historical ranching complex with building and structure pads, orchards, barn site, historical road, stone wall, and trash dumps (late 19th century to 1930s).
CA-NAP-876H	P-28-000727	Morris Family Cemetery	Morris family cemetery used between 1891 and 1907.
CA-NAP-877H	P-28-000728	Pool Road Site	Historical building pad with associated privy and trash dump (late 19th century to 1930s).
CA-NAP-878H	P-28-000729	Reservoir	Earthen dam reservoir.
CA-NAP-879H	P-28-000730	Chromite Prospector's Hole	Mineral exploration pit.
CA-NAP-880H	P-28-000731	Prospector's Hole	Mineral exploration pit.
CA-NAP-881H	P-28-000732	Woodcutter's Camp	Redwood timber cutting area (ca. late 19th century).
CA-NAP-882H	P-28-000733	Blake Cabins	Building and structure pads stone fireplace and foundations, poultry pens, and creek bank rock retaining wall (ca. 1910 to 1920s).
CA-NAP-883H	P-28-000734	Pratt Swimming Hole Dam	Remnants of a CCC rock and mortar dam (1935-1936).
CA-NAP-884H	P-28-000735	Alameda Dam and Water Pipeline to Pratt Swimming Pool	Remnants of a CCC concrete and rock dam, 1300 foot water supply line, and rip rap from the 1935 swimming pool.
CA-NAP-885H	P-28-000736	Secret Place Dam	Remnants of a CCC-style rock and mortar dam and rock BBQ (ca. 1930s).
CA-NAP-886H	P-28-000737	Picnic Road Fireplace	Remnants of a CCC-style rock and mortar fireplace with redwood lumber pile (ca. 1930s).
CA-NAP-887H	P-28-000738	Las Posadas Road Site	Building pad, possible CCC Fire Station site (ca. 1930s).
CA-NAP-888H	P-28-000739	Roosevelt Grove	Tree plantation planted by CCC in 1934.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE INVENTORY

CA-NAP-195 Supplement

This prehistoric archaeological site was first recorded in 1956 as a bedrock mortar milling station consisting of 5 bedrock mortars and some obsidian chips. Located on the edge of Moore Creek, this site is heavily impacted by the 4-H Camp. The 1995 survey identified an additional 4 milling stations in the site area, one of which contains 8 mortar cups. A lithic scatter of Napa obsidian (5-10 flakes per square meter) and two projectile points were noted. The larger of the two points measures 60 x 21 x 6.5 mm and weighs 8.3 grams; a small portion of the tip and base is missing. A finely worked serrated lanceolate of Napa obsidian, this point is a Houx Aspect Berkeley Pattern marker, beginning ca. 2500 B.P. and continuing somewhere between 1500 to 1000 B.P.



Tina M. Toricello

Figure 27: CA-NAP-195, bedrock mortar milling station

CA-NAP-872 Redwood Site

This prehistoric archaeological site consists of a dense lithic scatter (>15 flakes per square meter). Located on a midslope terrace surrounded by redwood and Douglas fir trees, this site is bounded by 2 seasonal drainages and near Moore Creek. Obsidian artifacts noted included small cores, projectile point fragments, and debitage. The obsidian was visually sourced as being Napa Valley. A 4 x 2 x 1 meter depression is located in the midsection of the site. Approximately 8 small pits with side fill appear to be the result of "pothunting."

CA-NAP-873 Manzanita Site

This prehistoric archaeological site is a lithic scatter located on a low knob at the base of a steep hill between two seasonal drainages. A large, flat, open meadow is located within 150 meters of the site. The area had recently been cleared of dense manzanita and the debris burned, resulting in excellent ground visibility. The site boundary was determined by the absence or presence of obsidian and extends over an area approximately 20 x 30 meters. Artifacts noted were all visually sourced as Napa Valley obsidian and included obsidian flakes, utilized flakes, and a small (25 x 15 x 3 mm) serrated projectile point.



Figure 28: Manzanita Site

This prehistoric archaeological site consists of a sparse lithic scatter located on a small flat above Moore Creek and near an intermittent drainage adjacent to the east boundary line of Las Posadas State Forest. This is an area of chaparral and includes manzanita, scrub oak, Gray pine, chamise, coffee berry and soaproot. Two Napa Valley obsidian worked tools and one chert point were noted.

CA-NAP-875/H Moore Creek Ranch Complex

This prehistoric and historic archaeological site is located in an open, level area along Moore Creek and consists of 11 associated features: a bedrock mortar, a graded house site and shed remains, a trash dump eroding from a drainage, an orchard, a "u" shaped rock feature along the creek bank, a historic road, a linear rock retaining wall supporting a section of the historical road, a rock foundation and dirt ramp of a barn site, trash dump I and trash dump II each with an associated house pad, and the remains of an irrigation ditch.

John Morris described this site when he purchased the property in 1878 as having an "acre of two of garden land partly cleared on one side of the house and about 150 blackberry vines, some two dozen apple trees set out the spring before we moved onto the place, and eight or ten peach trees nearly big enough to bear" (Morris in Gregory 1956b:155). Located in an open, flat area bisected by Moore Creek, the remains of the orchard include neglected, but viable, peach, apple, and English walnut trees. The blackberry vines are abundant along both sides of Moore Creek.

Bedrock Mortar

Feature 1 consists of one bedrock mortar cup in a basalt boulder. Located adjacent to a seasonal drainage, and its confluence with Moore Creek.

Morris Residence

Feature 2 consists of the former location of the Morris residence and the remains of upright redwood posts located near by that may have been used to support a shed. The location of the residence is not visible because of grading and construction of the present road. Cemetery Road now passes directly through the former house site.

Oral informant Lynn Wright's father leased the old Moore Creek Ranch house from Alpha Greyson, a Cherokee Indian who in turn leased the ranching operation from

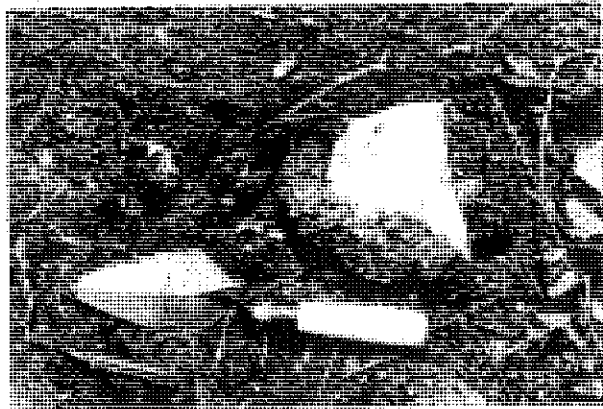


Figure 29: Oak tree located behind former location of Morris Ranch house.

Anita and Anson Blake. Lynn Wright was about 8 years old when he lived there and describes the Morris' house as a wood frame building with a 3 to 4 ft. high rock foundation and a porch in the front and back. The elevated foundation would have enhanced the view, kept the house cooler in summer, and protected it from possible flooding by Moore Creek. The back of the house faced an oak tree that is still there today (Wright 1995, pers. comm.). Artifacts noted at the house site include fragments of clear window glass, clear bottle glass, a porcelain doll's arm, and white ceramic sherds.

Trash Dump

Feature 3 is a trash dump eroding out of the bank of Wildcat Canyon Creek and extending to Moore Creek. Artifacts noted include a rusted 1934 California license plate, cast iron stove parts, cut nails, and clear glass fragments. In addition, several large white ceramic fragments, green on white, printed with "Ironstone China" above Royal Arms above "Johnson Bros." above "England" (ca. 1883-1913) were noted (Godden 1964:355). See Figure 30.



Tina M. Tortello

Figure 30: "Ironstone China" ca. 1883-1913 from the Morris residence trash dump.

Orchard

Feature 4 consists of the remains of an orchard extending over approximately 2 acres along an open, flat area bisected by Moore Creek. Trees noted include: peach, apple, and English walnut (Figure 31).



Figure 31: A view looking north of the Morris Orchard along Moore Creek.

Rock Foundation

Feature 5 consists of a 9 x 9 ft. "u" shaped rock foundation or structure built into the bank of Wildcat Creek. John Morris refers to a milk house that was built into the bank of Moore Creek. This feature is located on a drainage within 100 ft. of the Moore Creek channel and may or may not have been used to keep milk cool.

Historical Road

Feature 6 consists of sections of a historical road that runs along the southeast edge of the location of the former Morris residence and crosses Wildcat Canyon Creek. The road extends eastward 200 ft. and merges into the present-day Cemetery Road approximately 100 ft. from the barn site.



Tina M. Torcillo

Figure 32: A view looking southeast of historical road behind the former Morris residence.

Rock Wall

Feature 7 is a two- to four-course dry-laid rock wall constructed of basalt boulders along the south edge of Cemetery Road. The wall extends eastward for approximately 115 ft. from Wildcat Canyon Creek and appears to be a retaining wall to support the bank of the historical road (Figure 33).



Tina M. Torcillo

Figure 33: Linear rock wall along cemetery road.

Barn Site

Feature 8 is the remains of the rock foundation and ramp of the Morris barn located at the intersection of Cemetery and Ridge Roads. According to informant Lynn Wright, the barn was a very large log-and-peg

construction built on an elevated stone foundation. The entrance to the barn was located on the west side and consisted of a wide ramp constructed of large basalt boulders and covered with dirt (Lynn Wright 1995, pers. comm.). The remains are visible today and cover an area measuring approximately 63 x 55 ft.

Trash Dump I and Pad

Feature 9 consists of a leveled pad and Trash Dump I located 325 ft. on a rising elevation along Ridge Road. The pad measures 31 x 21 ft. and the trash dump nearby extends over the edge of steep slope and into a seasonal drainage. This area measures approximately 50 x 50 ft. and is densely wooded with oak, grey pine, grasses, and poison oak. Artifacts noted include white ceramic fragments, glass bottles (whole and broken), tin cans, tin buckets and pipes, cast-iron stove fragments, and enameled pots and pans.

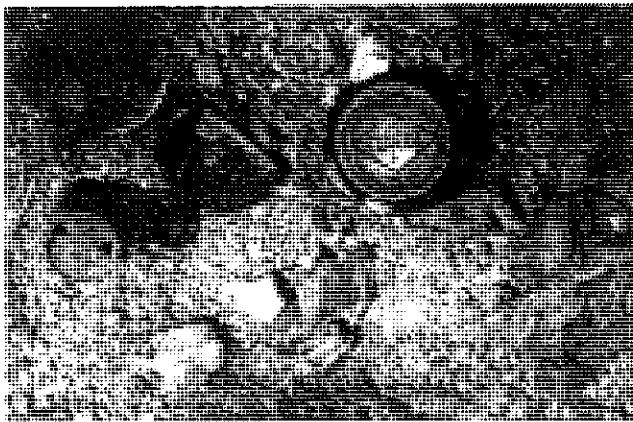
Trash Dump II and Pad

Feature 10 is located approximately 370 ft. from Trash Dump I just off Ridge Road in a steep area of dense chaparral. There are a few very large grey pines along the west side of a leveled (machine-graded) earth pad approximately 100 x 130 ft. (Figure 34). There is a trash scatter along the sloping northeast edge between the pad and an unnamed seasonal drainage. This may have been a former house site. Historical debris noted includes amber glass "Clorox" bottles and fragments, ceramic fragments, rusted metal bedsprings, tin cans, and a brown glazed insulator (Figure 35). No direct



Tina M. Toriello

Figure 34: A view looking east of the house pad along Ridge Road.



Tina M. Toriello

Figure 35: Trash Dump II

documentary links could be found for Features 9 and 10. Perhaps one of these house features belonged to John Morris' brother, William. Morris writes in his diary that from November 1881 to early fall 1882, his brother, William, and his family lived at the Moore Creek Ranch. John and William formed a partnership as "there was too much for one man to manage." He states that they bought sheep and herded them, selling the flock a year later when William and his family returned to Iowa (Morris in Gregory 1956b:160).

Irrigation Ditch

Feature 11 consists of a small section of a man-made ditch running along the 1,160 contour off Wilderness Road. This intact section of ditch is approximately 2 to 3 ft. wide and 1 to 2 ft. deep cut along a steep hill contour between two seasonal drainages. The ditch runs approximately 165 ft. south-north through grey pine, oak, and fir woods. This may be the irrigation system referred to by John Morris which was extended in 1881 when black and English walnuts and some shellbark hickorynuts were planted (Morris in Gregory 1956b:159). There are several hickory and walnut trees presently growing near the site.

CA-NAP-876H Morris Family Cemetery

The Morris family lived at the Moore Creek Ranch from 1878 to 1910. The Family Cemetery, also known as "Lookout Hill" and "Graveyard Knoll," is located on a small, oval knoll overlooking the Moore Creek basin. There are seven identified graves on the knoll, including those of grandparents Milton and Sally Morris; John Morris and his first wife, Melissa; a daughter, Delphine; a cousin, Martin Modrel; and a baby niece, Emma Martin. There are two unidentified possible gravesites within cemetery, one marked with a small eroded granite headstone and the other a depression completely covered with rocks. The entrance path to the cemetery begins at the base of the knoll, near a large basalt boulder bearing a brass plaque (Figure 36) that reads:

LAS POSADAS PIONEER CEMETERY
EARLY INDIAN REST AREA. PART OF LA JOTA
RANCHO PURCHASED BY JOHN MORRIS IN 1878. SEVEN
MEMBERS OF MORRIS FAMILY BURIED ON "GRAVEYARD
KNOLL." ANSON & ANITA BLAKE DEEDED LAND TO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND 4-H CLUBS BEGAN
SUMMER CAMPS IN 1928.
DEDICATED JULY 15, 1978
NATIVE SONS OF THE GOLDEN WEST
CHARLES E. KOLBERT, JR. - GRAND PRESIDENT

It should be noted that the cemetery was not part of the La Jota Rancho as the inscription states; the La Jota boundary line lies approximately 1,600 ft. west of the cemetery.

The cemetery path is marked on the west side with a 4-ft.-tall wooden sign bearing the name "Graveyard Knoll." The path winds northward 200 ft. to the top of the knoll. The cemetery is situated on level ground surrounded by oak and madrone trees, manzanita, wild bunch grass, poison oak, and forbs. Facing east, the cemetery measures 42 ft. north-south by 45 ft. east-west. There is a wooden post and a barbed/sheep-wire fence around the perimeter of the cemetery (Figure 37). A rusted iron gate, located on the south side, is

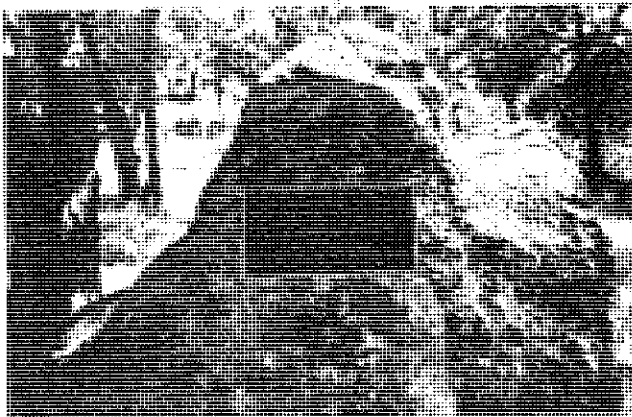


Figure 36: Brass cemetery plaque installed by the Native Sons of the Golden West in 1978.



Figure 37: A view looking north of the Morris Cemetery entrance with gate closed.

the only entrance to the cemetery. Some vandalism may have occurred through the years, evidenced by the broken and repaired headstones. Many of the gravemarkers are small, loose, and therefore portable, so it is possible that some markers may have been moved from one grave to another.



Figure 38: Granite obelisk monument in Morris Cemetery.

The known alteration to the cemetery site is the construction and demolition of a two- to three-course dry laid basalt rock wall around the perimeter of the graves and within the wire fence. Each individual grave is outlined by, and sometimes covered with, small to medium-sized rock. According to CDF Ranger Kurt Schieber (Kurt Schieber 1995, pers. comm.), the cemetery has been maintained by the nearby 4-H Club Camp. He stated that the rock wall was constructed as a 4-H project “to make the cemetery look old” and was later knocked down after an architectural historian informed the CDF or the 4-H Club that construction of the wall was “historically inaccurate.”

The dominant feature of the cemetery is a large polished black gray and white speckled ¹granite obelisk erected by John Morris in memory of his beloved first wife, Melissa, who died in 1880 of tuberculosis (Figure 38). Melissa’s death occurred only 18 months after the family moved into their new home on Moore Creek Ranch. John and Melissa were married five years and had one son, Vincent Irenaeus. Melissa was originally buried in St. Helena and was reinterred at Graveyard Knoll sometime after her father-in-law’s death in 1891. Along with Morris family members, John Morris’ first daughter by his second wife, Delphine was the child John Morris loved most. She lived three years at Moore Creek Ranch, chasing “the big yellow butterflies” and amusing her busy father, “Before she had lived to know anything but loving care, she became just a happy memory. In small proportions we just beauties see, And in short measures life may perfect be” (Morris in Gregory 1938:9).

There are six small white ²marble gravemarkers, inscribed with the initials of the deceased, loosely set at the head of each of six graves. One grave has a small eroded granite marker with no inscription and one unmarked depression (a probable grave) is simply outlined by, and covered with stones. The grave of Martin Modrel is marked with granite tablet headstone set on a base of white marble. All the gravestones face due east toward the rising sun. Detailed information on the grave features is presented in Appendix B.

¹Granite is an extremely hard and therefore durable stone, one that was difficult to carve until the advent of pneumatic tools around the turn of this century. A tapered stone shaft topped with a pyramid, the Egyptian obelisk was adapted by Europeans in the 18th century as a gravemarker and was popular among the upper classes through the 19th century (Crabtree 1988:52).

²Marble is a metamorphic rock commonly used for gravestones, most particularly white in the 19th century. It is no longer often used for gravemarkers, as it is considered to be too soft and easily erodes (Crabtree 1988:54).

CA-NAP-877H Pool Road Pad and Trash Scatter

This historic archaeological site is situated on a rise above a seasonal drainage near Moore Creek. The area is an open oak woodland on a saddle, with grasses and wildflowers covering the ground and poison oak growing along the drainage. The site consists of a level earth pad, measuring 18 x 18 ft. with a two- to three-course dry-laid basalt rock retaining wall along the sloping edge of the pad. A sparse scatter of rock continues in a "u" shaped outline from the retaining wall and along the edge of the level pad area suggesting the remains of a cabin foundation. A possible privy hole measuring 3 x 2 ft. and filled within 1-1/2 ft. of the ground surface with loose soil and duff was noted 25 ft. north of the leveled earth pad.



Figure 39: Pool Road pad and trash scatter site.

A trash dump and scatter was located 12 ft. southeast of the pad. The only historic artifacts noted are approximately 20 rusted 12-ounce hole-in-top tin cans. This is a can with a single pinhole filler hole closed with a drop of solder ca. 1900. The presence of several potholes nearby may indicate site disturbance by bottle hunters.

CA-NAP-878H Reservoir

This historic archaeological site is located near the eastern boundary of the Forest in a chaparral and mixed oak woodland ecotone. It consists of an earthen dam constructed to contain a body of water at the north end of a seasonal creek that flows south towards Moore Creek. The dam is approximately 30 ft. long and 10 ft. high. The pond of water measured approximately 20 x 20 ft. as of November 1994 (a non-drought year). Pond depth is unknown; it appears heavily silted.



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Figure 40: Reservoir at CA-NAP-878H

CA-NAP-879H Chromite Prospector's Hole - Wilderness Road

Located on an open ridge along the north boundary of the Forest, this historic archaeological site is a small mine excavation or "glory hole," with the tailings piled along the edge and to the side of the hole. The hole is approximately 5 to 6 ft. deep and measures 18 ft. east-west axis by 12 ft. north-south. Hand-written information on a 1953 Las Posadas State Forest map (see Map 6) indicates the location as a chromite prospector's hole.

CA-NAP-880H Prospector's Hole

This historic archaeological site is located on the side of an oak, madrone, and manzanita covered knoll. A possible mine prospector's "glory hole," this oval depression measures 9 x 6 ft. and varies from two- to four-ft. deep. A cluster of 5 oaks, approximately 1 ft. in diameter grow near the edge and the tailings from the hole are evident around the edge and sides of the depression.

CA-NAP-881H Woodcutter's Camp

This historic archaeological site appears to be the remains of a woodcutter's work camp. Located in a circular clearing or "transport turn-around" as indicated by the 1953 Las Posadas State Forest map, this site measures approximately 75 x 78 ft. At the base of a steep hillside, the clearing is surrounded by a thick forest of Douglas fir, alder, and redwood trees with a seasonal drainage flowing west to east between very large moss-covered basalt boulders. Located on the site are a pile of cut redwood debris and three partially plank-cut redwood logs measuring from five- to ten-ft. in length. The remains of old logging skid roads criss-cross through this area. Artifacts noted include several rusted pieces of a hand whipsaw and a fragment of blue-on-white Chinese porcelain.



Figure 41: Woodcutter's camp off Spring Road.

CA-NAP-882H Blake Cabins

This historic archaeological site along Moore Creek was the summer home built by Anita and Anson Blake ca. 1910. The site is located on a flat clearing edged by Moore Creek and Metcalf Trail to the north and a seasonal drainage along the south boundary. Measuring 120 x 90 ft., this open area is surrounded by oak, bay and mixed pine and dominated by a huge Ponderosa pine located on the north edge where the slope into the creek begins. This steep slope of the creek bank has been



Figure 42: A view of the Blake Cabin Site looking eastward.

reinforced with a dry-laid basalt rock wall. The site consists of the remnants of three cabin foundations, including structural footings, a demolished rock fireplace, a stone footbridge, and a poultry pen. Single-course rock alignments outline two smaller cabins on either side of the road at the entrance to the main cabin. There is a large, flat, basalt boulder on the west side of the larger foundation, partially embedded, that may have been a part of the entrance to the main cabin. The only artifacts noted were several sherds of non-diagnostic white ceramic, and a 6-in.-long red abalone shell.

CA-NAP-883H

Pratt Swimming Hole - Dam

This historical dam was constructed of logs and sand bags in 1928 to contain the original Pratt swimming hole used by the 4-H Camp. In 1930 the swimming pool dam was repaired and the pool deepened (Metcalf 1953:2). Located on Moore Creek approximately 300 ft. east of the 4-H Camp footbridge, this rock-and-earth dam was washed out during a heavy winter storm in 1936. The dam, which also served



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Figure 43: The original swimming hole/dam in Moore Creek.

as a crossing over Moore Creek, was rebuilt later that year by the Civilian Conservation Corps crew stationed at Las Posadas using rock with mortar construction. The CCC crew used this dam/bridge in order to get construction materials across to the new Merritt B. Pratt Swimming Pool located on the north side of Moore Creek. The remnants of the dam are covered with moss and extend 5 to 6 ft. into Moore Creek from the north side; the lower portion of the north side is heavily eroded causing the top portion to overhang the creekbed. The distance between the remnants of the north and south sides of the dam measures 12 ft. The south portion of the dam consists of a 10-course dry laid rock wall that varies in width from 2-3 ft. across the top. Part of this wall is embedded into the creek-bank and extends approximately 20 ft. from the south edge of Moore Creek to the north edge of Metcalf Trail.

CA-NAP-884H

Alameda Dam and Water Supply Pipeline to Pratt Pool

This historic archaeological site is located approximately along the rising elevation of Moore Creek within a redwood stand of forest and ferns. Moore Creek is spring fed and runs year round. This site consists of two features built by the Civilian Conservation Corps



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Figure 44: Alameda check dam in Moore Creek.

in 1935, a dam and a water conveyance pipeline. Feature 1 is the 29 ft. long Alameda checkdam located 750 ft. west of the 4-H Camp footbridge. It is constructed of a dry-laid rock wall with concrete poured along the top edge and retains metal guides for a sluice gate set on either side of a 5 ft. wide center opening. No sluice gate was observed and the water in Moore Creek was flowing freely through the channel opening as of March 1995. Both the north and south sides of the dam extend 12 ft. from the bank to the channel opening in the middle. Feature 2 is a historic water pipeline constructed to transport water 1,300 ft. from the Alameda checkdam on Moore Creek to the Merritt B. Pratt Pool at the 4-H Camp. Sections of the 3-1/2 in. (outer diameter) threaded iron pipe and support timbering are visible above the north bank of Moore Creek. This checkdam is located approximately 750 feet westerly along Moore Creek from the 4-H Camp footbridge.

CA-NAP-885H
Secret Place Dam

This historical archaeological site is a small 3-4 course mortared stone dam built in the CCC style across Moore Creek at the Secret Place Picnic area. The dam extends 36 ft. north-south and varies from 2 to 3 ft. in width. There is a 3-ft. opening in the center of the dam for a sluice gate; none was noted in June 1995. Bay and



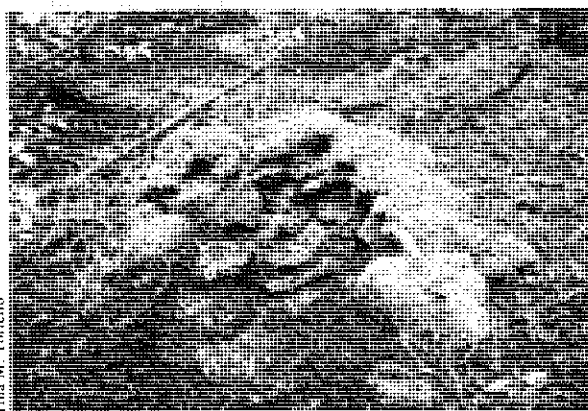
Tina M. Toriello

**Figure 45: Secret Place dam
in Moore Creek.**

white alder trees grow along the bank of Moore Creek on either side of the dam. Between the dam and Secret Place Road, there is a stone and mortar barbeque that measures 3 x 2 x 4 ft.

CA-NAP-886H
Picnic Road Fireplace

This historical archaeological site consists of a U-shaped basalt rock-and-mortar fireplace and a small, flat area above the rock fireplace with a pile of redwood lumber. Located along the west bank of Moore Creek in a redwood grove, this



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**Figure 46: Picnic Road fireplace along
Moore Creek.**

area is known to be a picnic spot and may have been constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps sometime between 1934 and 1937. The fireplace measures 6-1/2 x 4 -1/4 x 4 ft. There is a thick layer of charcoal covering the bottom of the fireplace,

and some of the sidewall rocks have fallen into the center and to the front of the feature. A 10 x 10 ft. flat area is located on a rise 10 ft. to the west of the fireplace with a pile of rough redwood 2 x 4s, 4 ft. long, and cut square nails. This may possibly have been a picnic shelter or table area. No other artifacts were noted.

CA-NAP-887H Las Posadas Road Site

Located near the entrance to Las Posadas State Forest, this historic archaeological site consists of a structural foundation, a leveled earth pad measuring 54 x 30 ft., and the remains of a mortared stone fireplace. In 1936 a log cabin was built at the entrance to Las Posadas State Forest for use as office headquarters and was still standing in 1953 as housing for the fire crew (Ericson 1953:4). According to CDF Ranger Schieber, this site was the original CDF Fire Station built by the CCC in the 1930s (Kurt Schieber 1995, pers. comm.). Ericson noted in his report that in 1953 he hired Mr. Roy Niel as a foreman for the fire camp crew (Ericson 1953:4). A differing view comes from Mr. Lynn Wright who recalls the site as being the home of the Neil family (Lynn Wright 1995, pers. comm).

CA-NAP-888H Roosevelt Grove

Located at an elevation of 1850 ft. along the north boundary of Las Posadas State Forest, this historical site consists of approximately 8 acres of plantation trees which include Monterey pine, Coulter pine, Leppo pine, Knobcone pine and yellow pine. According to CDF Forest Ranger E. A. Erickson, a severe fire in 1931 swept through Las Posadas Forest from the north and destroyed all of the timber down to Moore Creek. At the suggestion of Professor Woodbridge Metcalf from the University of California Agriculture Extension, conifer trees from the State Nursery in Davis were planted in 1934 by the CCC crew, and the area dedicated as "President Roosevelt's Birthday Grove" (Erickson 1953:3).



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Figure 47: Sign at entrance to Roosevelt Grove.

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APPENDIX A

JOHN MORRIS DIARY EXCERPT (1885)

Monday Sept 8th 1885
 Just two months ago
 today I left for
 Boston via San Fran-
 cisco. How long I am
 going to be detained
 I can't tell. But I hope
 not long and begin-
 ning to give Father's
 medicine. He is to
 take it one month
 and then stop it
 while and so on
 for a year or so. Poor
 boy I am fearful he
 will never be better.
 But I trust all will
 be well in the end.

Came out into the City
 and visited Independence
 Hall where the first Con-
 gress of the U.S.A. sat and
 saw many old war relics
 and strange things. The
 suits of the signers of
 Declaration of Independence
 once worn by D. Palmers
 sword Washington's spec-
 tacles that he wore in the
 Revolutionary war. Old
 cannon balls. J. Adams
 little dresses when he was
 a baby. The first painting
 we ever remember seeing
 of Penn beating with
 the Indian. The Bell
 used in the revolution.
 of 1786 & 87

APPENDIX B

THE MORRIS FAMILY CEMETERY

There are a total of 10 features at the Morris Family Cemetery site. Seven are identified graves, two are unidentified graves, and one is an obelisk style monument. Of the two unidentified graves, one is marked with a very worn small granite stone without inscription and one is an unmarked depression covered with stones. The polished granite obelisk is located at the center, and to the west side of the plot. Used as datum to record the graves, it is the most significant feature of the cemetery. Six graves have small, white-gray marble gravemarkers with the initials of the deceased inscribed on the face (Figure 50). All stones are placed in the "head" position facing due east toward the rising sun. Measurements and bearings were taken from the east side of the obelisk to the center of each gravemarker or to the similar location at the head of each stone-outlined grave.

FEATURE 1

This grave is located in northwest corner of the cemetery, 6 ft. from the post-and-wire fence that marks the north boundary, and 10 ft. at 14 degrees from datum. The grave is evidenced by a slight depression outlined in rock measuring 40 x 48 in., with an east-facing white-gray headstone measuring 8 x 6 x 2.5 in. with the initials "S.D.M." incised on the face. The headstone is freestanding, leaning against rocks. A chip of marble is broken away from the upper left-hand corner, and the upper part of the letter "S" is missing. Probably the grave of Sally Dodge Morris.

FEATURE 2

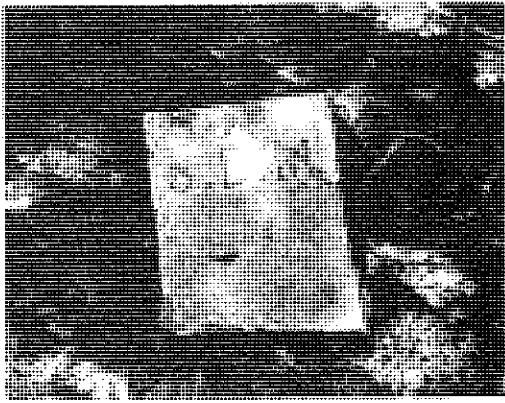
Located 4 ft. south of Feature 1, and 6 ft. at 14 degrees from datum. A white-grayish marble headstone 11 x 6 ft. x 2.5 in. on a 9-in. granite base. The base is graduated from 6 in. at the bottom to 3 in. at the top. The tablet is inscribed with the initials "M.M.," probably for Milton Morris. There is a break across the marble tablet that runs 4 in. from the bottom left side to 5 in. from the bottom right side. The rock outline around the grave measures 7 x 5 ft.

FEATURE 3

This probable "grave" has no marker to identify the burial. The 6-in.- deep depression is completely covered with small to medium basalt rocks embedded into the soil. The rock outline measures 4 x 5 ft. and is located in front of the obelisk 4 ft. at 28 degrees from datum.

FEATURE 4

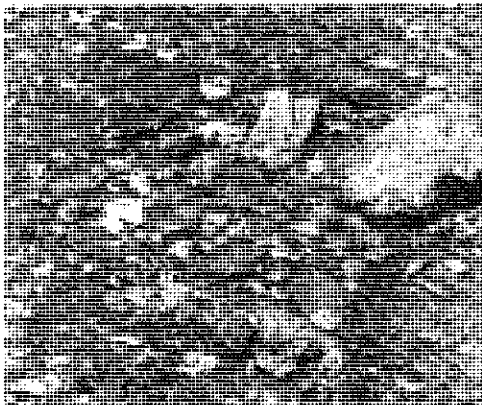
Located at 170 degrees and 7 ft. 5 in. from datum, this may be the grave of Sarah Melissa Morris. A white-gray marble freestanding headstone measuring 6 x 8 x 2.5



Feature 1: Sally Dodge Morris



Feature 2: Milton Morris



Feature 3: No gravestone



Feature 5: Emma Martin



Feature 6: Delphine Elizabeth Morris



Feature 7: John Milton Morris

Figure 48: Morris Family Cemetery gravestones.

in. is inscribed with the initials "S.M.M." The headstone is broken across the upper right-hand corner. There is evidence of repair and rebreak in the same spot.

FEATURE 5

Located 13 ft. at 172 degrees from datum, this may be the grave of baby Emma Martin, the niece of John Morris. There is a freestanding, white-gray marble headstone measuring 9 x 6 x 2.5 in. with the initials "E.H.M." inscribed on the tablet face. The rock outline around the grave measures 4 x 5 ft.

FEATURE 6

This grave is located in the southwest corner of the rock enclosed plot, 18 ft. at 174 degrees from datum. The freestanding, white marble tablet is inscribed with the initials "D.E.M." It has been broken in three sections and repaired; the upper-left corner is missing. The tablet measures 10 x 6 x 2.5 in. and rests against the rocks outlining a 5 x 4 ft. area with rocks scattered to the south of the grave. This may be the grave of three-year old Delphine Eden Morris.

FEATURE 7

Located in the southeast corner of the rock-enclosed plot near a large manzanita, this grave is 20 ft. at 140 degrees from datum. The white marble gravestone measures 10 x 6 x 2.5 in. and is inscribed with the initials "J.M.M." The upper left corner has been broken across the letter "J" and repaired. This marker is also freestanding, leaning against the rock outline which measures 5 x 6 ft. This may be the grave of John Milton Morris.

FEATURE 8

The grave of Martin L. Modrel is marked with a vertical upright tablet of gray granite, measuring 15 x 14 x 3 in., and resting on a white marble base measuring 18 x 8 x 8 in. The rock outline around the grave measures 7 x 4 ft. The headstone is located 15 ft. at 110 degrees from datum. There is evidence of a repair between the tablet and the base. The word "HUSBAND" is inscribed on the top edge of the upright marker. The inscription on the face of the tablet reads:

MARTIN L. MODREL

OCT. 8, 1827

JULY 31, 1902

FEATURE 9

This unidentified grave is marked with a small eroded granite stone, measuring 6 x 11 x 3 in., that is loose and is leaning against the rock outline. There is no discernable incising on this marker. The rock outline around the depression measures 4 x 4 ft. This grave is located 16 ft. at 96 degrees from datum.

FEATURE 10

An obelisk style monument of polished granite commissioned by John Morris sometime after the death of his father in 1891. The obelisk rests on a base of unpolished natural gray granite 22 x 22 x 9 in. It consists of a total of 7 ft. of highly polished black-and-white speckled granite comprising four distinct sections above the base level. The second level measures 18 x 18 x 7.5 ft. and is incised on the north side with "DEAR MELISSA." The third level measures 14 x 14 x 17.5 in. The sides have been inscribed as follows:

(north face) SARAH MELISSA
WIFE OF
J.M. MORRIS
DIED
MAR. 12, 1880
AGED 38 YRS.
& 7 DAYS
DEAR MELISSA

(east face) Rev MILTON MORRIS
BORN FEB. 15, 1807
DIED FEB. 4, 1891
I DIE IN PEACE WITH ALL MEN
SALLY DODGE
MORRIS
1811 - 1901

(west face) JOHN MILTON
MORRIS
1835 - 1907

(south face) DELPHINE EDEN
MORRIS
1896 - 1899

The third level of the obelisk consists of a tapered shaft made from the same polished granite graduating from 10 to 7 to 4 in. on each side and topped with a 6 in. pyramid.

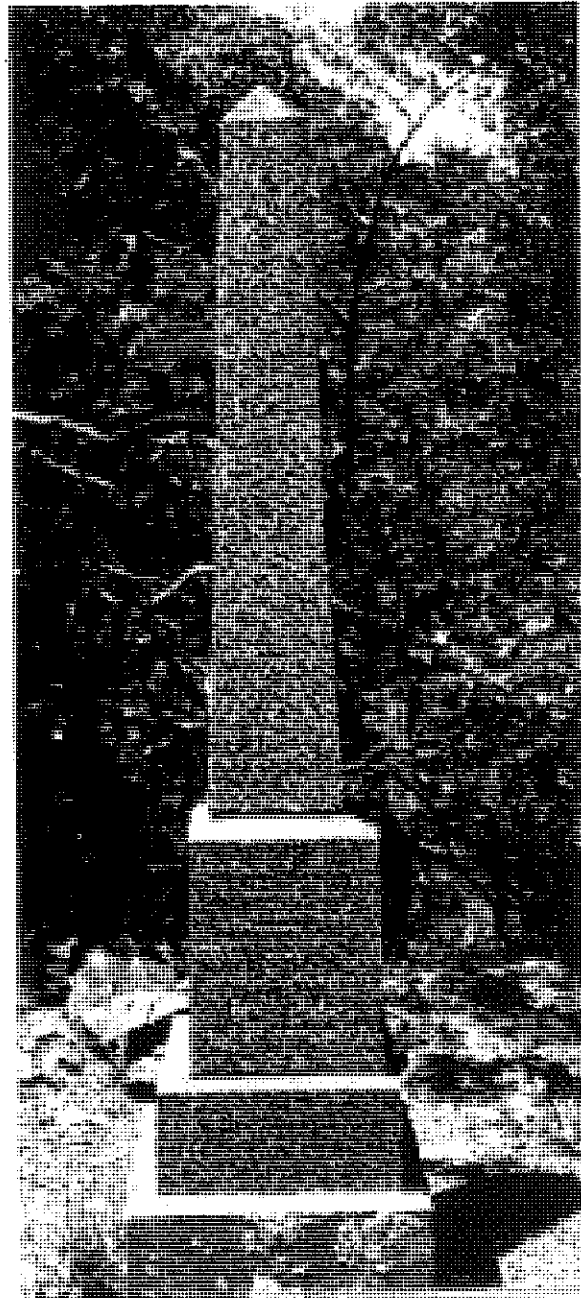


Figure 50: Granite obelisk monument in the Morris Cemetery.

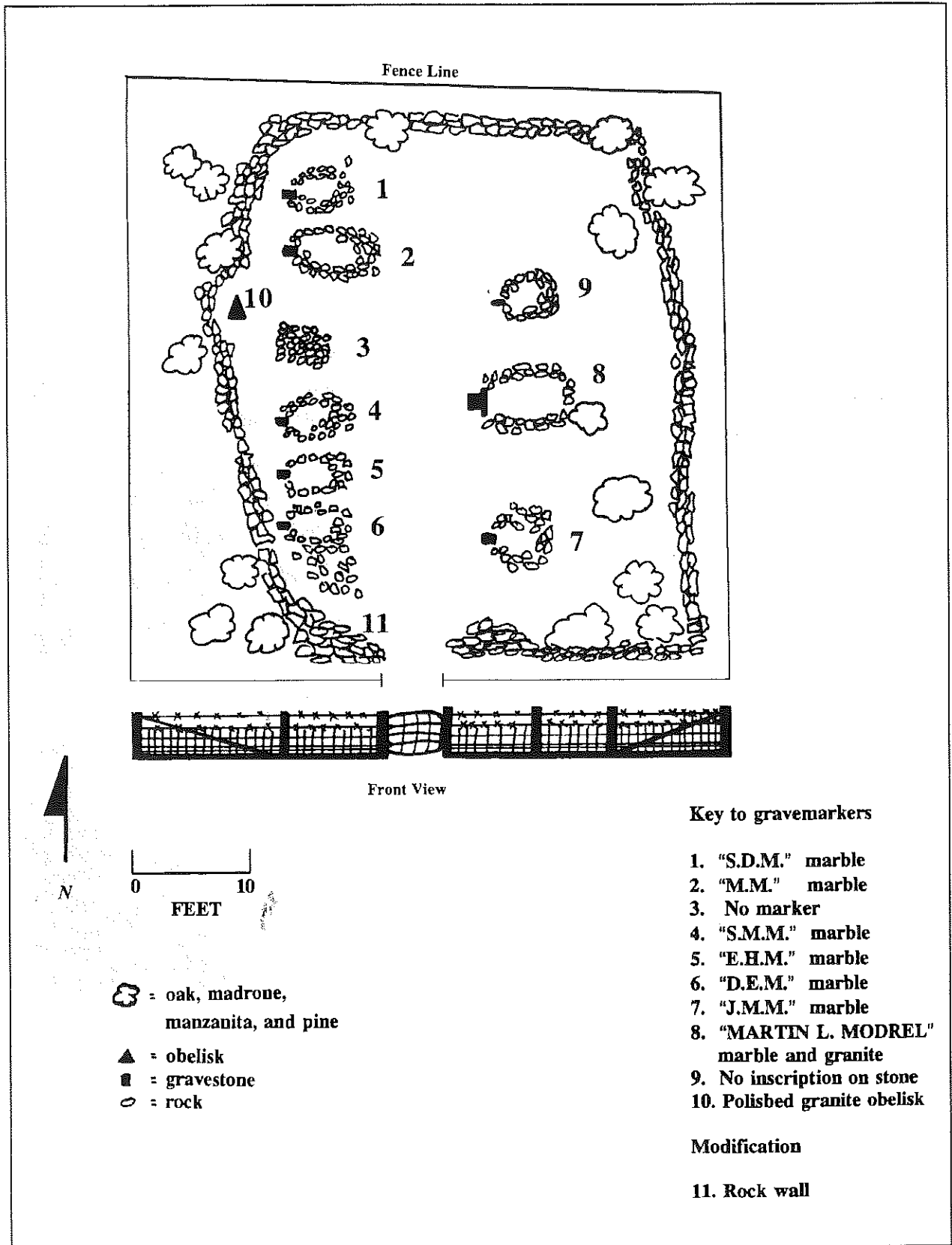


Figure 51: Diagram of the Morris Family Cemetery.

APPENDIX C

ANITA D.S. BLAKE LETTER FROM LAS POSADAS 1915

From the Blake Family Papers (BANC MSS C-B 903), courtesy of The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

An example of one of the many letters written by Anita Blake from Las Posadas to her husband Anson. In this letter, she describes the trip by horse drawn carriage from St. Helena to Las Posadas in a rainstorm, a journey which took almost 3 hours in 1915. Today, the same distance can be covered by auto in approximately 20 minutes. Anita also writes about the caretakers, the ranch stock, and the work recently completed on their cabin.

Las Posadas
Feb. 17- 1915

Dearest Anson -

I reached here safely after a very comfortable trip. It was not raining when I left Berkeley & big patches of blue sky, looked as tho' there would be showers - not steady rain. Lowell was not on hand at St. Helena & I was told there that the rain during the night & early in the morning had been very heavy there. I bargained for a vehicle at Mooney's & while it was being hitched did my marketing. We started out at about 11:30 and I feel that I played in great luck for hardly any rain fell at all during my entire trip but it began to come down hard almost the moment of my arrival and my driver must have had a soaking return trip. The stable sent me out in style behind one of the finest teams I ever travelled behind & in a new covered buggy well protected with waterproof in every possible way. I had an excellent driver & in spite of the roads we made the trip in 2 3/4 hours! The road is in very good order except for a few spots as far as the post-box - from there over it is almost impassable & I wondered whether I should be able to get out. Before we reached the Pine Crest Road we were driving entirely thro' water without seeing any road at all & the Pine Crest Road and all the level stretches inside our gate looked like the San Joaquin River - not only a great stretch of water but with considerable current & - it as well & the water up to the hubs of the wheels all the way. The Lowells were surprised to see me & it is evident that there has been a much heavier rain-fall here than with us. All our streams are rushing torrents. Below our kitchen the stream was fifty feet wide & boiling along like the Merced River. I have enjoyed seeing things under these conditions, but I listened to the rain last night as it poured down & hoped that the big valleys were not getting it as we were. This morning the clouds have been breaking & rolling away & the sun is out & every thing most beautiful. I found the Hedbergs established in our old bathroom 7 the next room - not the arrangement I

intended nor the best one, but Lowell explained to me that he wasn't willing to cut a hole in the roof for a stove-pipe for them in the new part! Mrs. Hedberg is neat & attractive & more buxom & wholesome looking than most of the Adventists I have encounter. She has a gentle-tender manner reminiscent of Dora - but with a contented air that D. never had. Paul had not begun his studies yet, so mail is not regular as I expected. Every one wanted to do all they could to help me & I do not want for any thing.

A good deal of work has been accomplished - both in the forest & in clearing around the barn. The cabin has been pretty well completed - not all the details just as I would have wished. Did you think you sent a moss-green paint for the roof? It is between a nile-green & a pea! I shall pray to be rich enough to re-paint it as soon as possible. Apparently Lowell used all the lumber that was left to build our new toilet - it is palatial & conspicuous. The stock all looks exceedingly well & the wild cow has suddenly taken to her moods again but is not far off & has found her last years' calf.

Last night when I lighted the lamp in the cabin I discovered two very beautiful photographic enlargements in very appropriate frames hanging on our wall with holiday greetings from the Lowells on them! One is taken on the Pine Crest Road not far from our gate & the other by the big rocks & both are quite wonderful successes. Miss Lowell took the originals.

I am glad to be here & it is an encouragement to the Lowell which I think they deserved - but I find my thoughts are in the San Joaquin with you much of the time. It is very disappointing not to have you here too & I feel that the various holidays of this month are entirely wasted.

I expect to come home on next Monday as I planned, unless more rain makes it impossible. I should not like to try to go thro' deeper water than I came up, but in any case would come out the first day I could & would have Lowell telephone your mother from St. Helena when I take the train if it is a day other than Monday.

I hope the levee work is progressing satisfactorily & that you do not get too tired. A great deal of love to you dearest ever from

Your loving wife,
Anita D.S. Blake

Las Posadas.
Feb. 17. 1915.

Dearest Weson -

I reached here safely after a very comfortable trip. It was not raining when I left Berkeley & big patches of blue sky, looked as tho' there would be showers - not steady rain. Lonell was not on hand at St Helena & I was told there that the rain during the night & early in the morning had been very heavy there. I bargained for a vehicle at Mooney's & while it was being hitched did my marketing. We started out at about 11:30 and I feel that I played in just luck for hardly any rain fell at all during my entire trip but it began to come down hard almost the moment of my arrival and my driver must have had a soaking return trip. The stable set me out in style behind over

of the finest teams I ever travelled
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in every possible way. I had
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I am glad to be here & it is an encouragement to the Lovells which I think they deserved - but I find my thoughts are in the San Joaquin with you much of the time. It is very disappointing not to have you here too & I feel that the various holidays of this month are entirely wasted. I expect

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as I planned, unless more
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should not like to try to go thro'
deeper water than when I came
up, but in any case would
come out the first day I could
& would have Lowell telephone
your mother from St. Helena
when I take the train if it is
a day other than Monday.

I hope the levee work is
progressing satisfactorily &
that you do not get too tired.
A great deal of love to you from
your loving wife,
Auntie D. S. Blake

APPENDIX D

ANITA D.S.BLAKE DEED TO STATE OF CALIFORNIA 1930

ANITA D. S. BLAKE, ET AL
TO
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE
OF CALIFORNIA

This Indenture, made the 19 day of October, 1929, between Anita D. S. Blake and Annon S. Blake, her husband, of the County of Contra Costa, State of California, parties of the first part, and the people of the State of California, party of the second part,

WITNESSETH: That the said parties of the first part, as a public gift, do by these presents grant and convey unto the said party of the second part and to its successors and assigns forever all those certain lots, pieces or parcels of land situate in the County of Napa, State of California, and bounded and particularly described as follows, to-wit:

Commencing at a black oak tree eighteen inches in diameter, marked 12 and 13, which stands on the Easterly line of the tract of land in the La Jota Rancho, formerly conveyed to Chas. Krug, running thence South 22° 30' East fifty-two and 20/100 (52.20) chains to a stake marked "McP2" at the South East corner of tract No. Nine (9), from which a black oak 30 inches in diameter, marked "BT" bears North 42° 15' East Sixty-seven (67) links distant, and a black oak 30 inches in diameter, marked "BT", bears South 88° East Forty-eight (48) links distant; thence South 67° 30' East twenty-six and 26/100 (26.26) chains to a redwood stake, marked "S" on the East line of the La Jota Rancho, from which a redwood twenty-four inches in diameter, marked "BT" bears South 29° 45' West 14 links distant, and a madrone 14 inches in diameter, marked "BT" bears North 56° West 32 links distant; thence along said Grant line North 23° 10' East thirty-five and 93/100 (35.93) chains to a white oak stake marked 12 and 13, and thence North 86° 30' West along the line between Lots 12 and 13 of said La Jota Rancho, Sixty-four and 8/100 (64.08) chains to the point of commencement.

Containing One hundred and sixty-three and 40/100 (163.40) acres of land, and being Lots Numbers Ten (10), Eleven (11) and Twelve (12), as the same are laid down and delineated upon a certain Map entitled "Map of the Subdivisions of La Jota Rancho, Napa County, Cal.," filed October 27th., 1881, in the office of the County Recorder of said Napa County.

Also, Commencing at the North West corner of the South East quarter of the North West quarter of Section Ten (10), in Township Eight (8) North, Range Five (5) West, M.D.M., and running thence North 23° 15' East along the Eastern boundary line of the La Jota Rancho Thirty-five (35) rods; thence Easterly in a direct line to a stake on the East line of Lot Number Four (4) of said Section Ten (10), which point is twelve (12) rods due North of the South East corner of said Lot Four (4); thence South twelve (12) rods to the aforesaid South East corner of said Lot Four (4), and thence Westerly along the South line of said lot to the point of commencement.

Containing Ten and two-thirds (10 2/3) acres of land, and being a portion of Lot Number Four (4) in Section Ten (10), Township Eight (8) North, Range Five (5) West, Mount Diablo Meridian.

Also, Lots Numbers Two (2) and Three (3), and the South West quarter of the North East quarter, and the North East quarter of the South West

quarter, and the South East quarter of Section Ten (10); the North East quarter of the North West quarter, and the North half of the North East quarter of Section Fifteen (15), and the North West quarter of the North West quarter of Section Fourteen (14), all in Township Eight (8) North, Range Five (5) West, Mount Diablo Meridian.

And being the same property conveyed to the aforesaid Anita D. S. Blake by Regina Elvira Simmons and Fred Simmons, her husband, and Vincent Irenaeus Morris by deed bearing date June 1, 1910 and recorded in Liber 97 of Deeds, page 533, Records of said County of Napa, to which records specific reference is hereby made.

Also, The Southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section Ten (10) in Township Eight (8) North of Range Five (5) West, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian, containing forty (40) acres of land.

And being the same property conveyed by the United States of America to the aforesaid Anson S. Blake by a patent dated March 25, 1912, and recorded in Book E of Patents, page 239 of said Napa County Records.

Also, Lot Number Fourteen (14) containing fifty-one (51) acres of land and Lot Number Thirteen (13) containing fifty-two (52) acres of land, as the same are laid down and delineated upon a certain Map entitled "Map of the Subdivisions of La Jota Rancho, Napa County, Cal.", filed October 27th., 1881, in the office of the County Recorder of said Napa County.

Together with the tenements, hereditaments, appurtenances, water rights and water privileges thereunto belonging or appertaining, and the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders, rents, issues and profits thereof, subject to the terms of a lease executed on the 6th day of April, 1928, between Anita D. S. Blake and Alpha W. Grayson, of the City of Vallejo, running for ten years from the date thereof.

This grant is made on condition that the premises hereby conveyed shall be used, managed and controlled by the State Board of Forestry of the State of California, for study and research work in forestry, botany and kindred subjects and experimentation in tree propagation, and not for recreational purposes, and that the same be used so far as is consistent with the aforesaid objects so that the natural plant and animal life on the said lands may be preserved. And on the further condition that the number of those admitted for study shall not exceed one hundred and fifty at any one time.

In Witness Whereof, the parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands the day and year herein first above written.

Anita D. S. Blake

Anson S. Blake

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, }
County of Alameda. }

ss.

On this 7 day of March, in the year One Thousand and Nine Hundred and Thirty, before me, J. P. Shaw, a Notary Public in and for the County of Alameda, State of California, residing therein, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared Anita D. S. Blake and Anson S. Blake, her husband, known to me to be the persons described in and whose names are subscribed to the within instrument, and they acknowledged to me that they executed the same.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Official Seal, the day and year in this certificate first above written.

J. P. Shaw
(Notary Seal) Notary Public in and for said
County of Alameda, State of California.

CERTIFICATE OF ACCEPTANCE
(CIVIL CODE 1158)

This is to certify that the Department of Natural Resources of the State of California hereby consents to the execution of this deed and accepts the property described therein on behalf of the State of California.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand at Sacramento, California, this 17th day of April, 1930.

Fred G. Stewart
Director Department of Natural
Resources of the State of California.

A true copy of an original recorded at request of Napa County Title Company, Apr. 23, 1930, A.D. at 3 mins. past 9 o'clock, A. M.

W.2. C9401 No fee

Dottie C. Wright
County Recorder.

RECORDED
BOOK 17
PAGE 3

By J. H. ...
Deputy Recorder.

PETER M. FALCONER, ET UX
TO
GEO. C. CIVLEY, ET UX

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That Peter M. Falconer and Mabel C. Falconer, his wife, the parties of the first part, in consideration

APPENDIX E

WOODBIDGE METCALF TREES OF LAS POSADAS 1953

Conifers:

- Douglas Fir, *Pseudotsuga taxifolia*
- Coast Redwood, *Sequoia sempervirens*
- Ponderosa Pine, *Pinus ponderosa*
- Gray Pine, *Pinus sabiniana*
- * Deodar Cedar, *Cedrus deodara*
- * Monterey Pine, *Pinus radiata*
- * Knobcone Pine, *Pinus attenuata*
- * Maritime Pine, *Pinus pinaster*
- * Japanese Black Pine, *Pinus thunbergii*
- * Scotts Pine, *Pinus sylvestris*
- * Coulter Pine, *Pinus coulteri*
- * Sierra Redwood, *Sequoia gigantea*

Broadleaf Evergreens:

- Coast Live Oak, *Quercus agrifolia*
- Highland or Interior Live Oak, *Quercus wislizenii*
- Canyon Live Oak, *Quercus chrysolepis*
- Tanbark Oak, *Lithocarpus densiflora*
- Madrone, *Arbutus menziesii*
- California Laurel, *Umbellularia californica*
- * English Holly, *Ilex aquifolium*

Deciduous:

- Valley Oak, *Quercus lobata*
- Oregon Oak or Pacific Post Oak, *Quercus garreyana*
- Blue Oak, *Quercus douglassii*
- California Black Oak, *Quercus kelloggii*
- White Alder, *Alnus rhombifolia*
- Fremont Cottonwood, *Populus fremontii*
- Western or California Sycamore, *Platanus racemosa*
- Bigleaf Maple, *Acer macrophyllum*
- Box Elder, *Acer negundo macrophyllum*
- Oregon Ash, *Fraxinus oregona*
- Western of Mountain dogwood, *Cornus nuttallii*
- California Buckeye, *Aesculus californica*
- Willows, *Salix* sp.
- * Pecan, *Carya illinoensis*
- * Shagbark Hickory, *Carya ovata*
- * Mockernut, *Carya tomentosa*

* Trees which have been introduced by planting.

APPENDIX F

PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

Project Participants from the Anthropological Studies Center, Cultural Resources Facility, Sonoma State University.

Project Coordinators: Leigh A. Martin and Tina M. Toriello

ASC Staff Archaeologist: Michael Jablonowski

ASC Director: Adrian Praetzelis, Ph.D.

Field Survey:

Teri Ebert
Holly Hood
Michael Jablonowski
Linda Jameson
Mim Joycen
Joy Longfellow
Leigh A. Martin
Barbra Polansky
Glenn Simpson
Tina M. Toriello
Kathleen Zahniser



Tina M. Toriello

Figure 52: March 1995 field crew at Las Posadas State Forest. From Left: Leigh Martin, Michael Jablonowski, Kathleen Zahniser, Mim Joycen, Teri Ebert (with Trixie). Front: Joy Longfellow and Tina Toriello (and Tess).

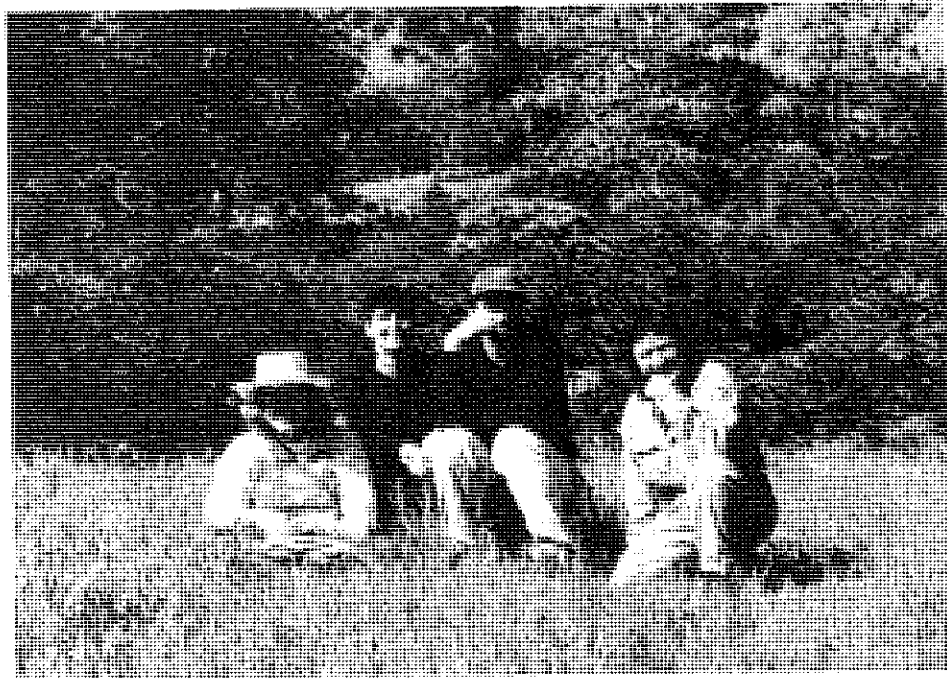


Figure 53: April 1995 field crew. From Left: Holly Hoods, Leigh Martin, Glenn Simpson, and Tina Toriello.