

19-186535
Condor Peak 1363

S U R V E Y
of

California Registered Historical Landmarks

prop. no. 090660

Name THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST Number 717

County Los Angeles

Location San Gabriel Mountains, Clear Creek Vista Point, State Highway 2
(p.m. 32.8), 8.3 miles north of I-210, La Cananda.

Type of Plaque PLAQUE PLACED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE PARK COMMISSION IN COOPERATION WITH THE HISTORY AND LANDMARKS ASSOCIATION OF THE SAN FERNANDO AND ANTELOPE VALLEY PARLORS, NATIVE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE GOLDEN WEST; AND RANCHO SAN FERNANDO PARLOR NO. 285, NATIVE SONS OF THE GOLDEN WEST, JANUARY 31, 1960.

Condition of Plaque Excellent, but in dire need of cleaning

Condition of Base Excellent

Condition of Surroundings Excellent

Wording on Plaque THIS WAS THE FIRST NATIONAL FOREST IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, SECOND IN THE UNITED STATES, CREATED BY PROCLAMATION, DECEMBER 20, 1892, BY PRESIDENT BENJAMIN HARRISON.

THE FIRST NAME GIVEN TO THE FOREST WAS "SAN GABRIEL TIMBERLAND RESERVE". IT WAS CHANGED TO "SAN GABRIEL NATIONAL FOREST", MARCH 4, 1907, AND THEN "ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST", JULY 1, 1908.

Are there Highway Directional Signs? No

If so, where? Should be 500 feet each side of site.

Remarks:
Plaque on U.S. Forest Service property.

Submitted by Jim Arbuckle Date October 2, 1979
I-8820C

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF HISTORICAL POINT OF INTEREST

Name of Historical Point THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST

Location THE GREATER PART OF THE SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS FROM ANTELOPE VALLEY

ON THE NORTH TO THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY ON THE SOUTH; FROM THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AND THE LOS ANGELES BASIN ON THE WEST AND EXTENDING INTO SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY ON THE EAST.

Name of Owner UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY,

Street R. F. DROEGE, FOREST SUPERVISOR
115 SOUTH LOS ROBLES,

City PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

The Angeles National Forest, first National Forest created by proclamation in the State of California by President Benjamin Harrison on December 20, 1892 and the second created in the United States.

The story of the creation of this national forest springs to life out of the files of the Supervisor of the Angeles National Forest, in Los Angeles, out of the Library of the Regional Forester, in San Francisco, and out of the records of the General Land Office and National Archives, in Washington D. C.

The first report of the California State Board of Forestry presented to Governor Stoneman in 1886, included this comment of Abbott Kinney, an officer of the American Forestry Association, and the chairman of California's first Board of Forestry established in 1885.

"The necessity of the hour is an intelligent supervision of the forest land and brush lands of California, with a view to their preservation in such proportion to the other lands of the State as scientific forestry may demonstrate to be necessary to the welfare of the commonwealth."

It also reproduced a petition from "irrigators in the San Gabriel Valley, "addressed to Abbott Kinney as a member of the board, calling attention to the fact mountain lands were being taken up for lumbering, pointing out that this would destroy the springs and water courses in the mountains, the waters of which were used to irrigate the plains and valleys below, and asking for Kinney's influence to stop the devastation of the forests. The report to the Governor was signed by Abbott Kinney, James V. Coleman and A. Kellogg, of the State Board of Forestry. One of its concluding paragraphs: "The destruction of the forests in the southern counties means the destruction of the streams and that means the destruction of the county."

The California movement for the preservation and supervision of the forest was part of a national movement. Magazine articles by John Muir activated it. Congress responded by granting the President authority on March 3, 1891, to set aside as ~~public~~ public lands bearing forests wholly or in part covered with

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Under this act the Department of the Interior appointed B. F. Allen special agent to investigate timbered lands and water sheds on the Pacific Coast with a view to their reservation.

On file in the General Land Office at Washington is the petition of eighteen "prominent citizens of Los Angeles County." dated November 2, 1891, asking Allen at his earliest opportunity to investigate "the territory covered by the San Gabriel Range... embraced within the redlines on the enclosed map and marked "Reserve", and pointing out that by the reservation of this area "the water will be preserved in the mountains the snow saved from being speedily melted, the waters protected from pollution by large droves of cattle and sheep, disastrous floods will be prevented in winter, and the valleys below saved from drowth in the irrigation season."

The Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County passed a resolution favoring the project, Abbott Kinney wrote a letter setting forth the value of the same to the people of California, and Congressman W. W. Bowers from California wrote to John W. Noble, Secretary of the Interior, saying, "this action should be taken."

The proclamation to create the "San Gabriel Forest Reserve" was transmitted to the Secretary of the Interior on July 6, 1892 by Thos. H. Carter, Commissioner, who wrote: "The future prosperity of Southern California depends upon protecting the water supply of the numerous streams which have their source in the mountains embraced in the reservation....I respectfully recommend that the enclosed proclamation... be submitted to the President for his signature."

The proclamation was submitted to President Benjamin Harrison who signed it at Washington on December 20, 1892,

The first name was "San Gabriel Timberland Reserve". The forbidding word "Reserve" was discarded on March 4, 1907, when the title was changed to "San Gabriel National Forest" and later on July 1, 1908 to "Angeles National Forest."

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST



ADDRESS REPLY TO
FOREST SUPERVISOR
AND REFER TO
1650

115 SOUTH LOS ROBLES
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA
July 9, 1959

Mrs. Ethelwynne Fraisher
216 Alexander Street
San Fernando, California

Dear Mrs. Fraisher:

Ranger Ed Corpe has referred your letter of May 25, 1959 to the Forest Supervisor of the Angeles National Forest for an answer.

We should be most happy to have your organization sponsor the Angeles National Forest as a State Registered Historical Landmark. Briefly, the Angeles National Forest was originally withdrawn from the public domain as the "San Gabriel Timber Land Reserve" under a proclamation signed by President Benjamin Harrison on December 20, 1892. This was the first timber land reserve established in California and the second in the entire United States. The Yellowstone Park Timber Land Reserve preceded it by having been proclaimed on December 16, 1891.

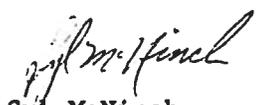
The "San Gabriel Timber Land Reserve" was originally administered by the U. S. Department of Interior. In 1905 Congress passed a law which placed it under administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. On March 4, 1907 the name was changed from the "San Gabriel Timber Land Reserve" to the San Gabriel National Forest. On July 1, 1908 the name was again changed to Angeles National Forest, which name continues to the present day.

We are enclosing a booklet called "The Forest and the People" which may be of interest to you since it gives some of the background relative to the establishment of the forest and some of the history of the Angeles Forest.

If we may be of any further assistance to you don't hesitate to call on us.

Very sincerely yours,

R. F. DROEGE
Forest Supervisor


By Syl McNinch

Dictated by W. T. Dresser
Signed in his absence to
avoid delay.

October 10, 1959

Dr. Aubrey Neasham, Historian
State of California
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Beaches and Parks
1125 Tenth Street
Sacramento 14, California

Dear Dr. Neasham:

Enclosed is an application to have the Angeles National Forest registered as an historical landmark.

The History and Landmarks Association of the San Fernando and Antelope Valley Parlors, Native Sons and Native Daughters of the Golden West, would like, at the same time to petition for assistance in placing a plaque on this landmark.

We hope to have the marking soon but it will be up to the Rancho San Fernando Parlor No. 285, Native Sons of the Golden West, to set the date and I will not be able to send you that until after their next meeting. However, we hope to have it before the end of the year, if possible.

The following is the proposed inscription for the plaque:

THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST

THE FIRST NATIONAL FOREST IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SECOND IN THE UNITED STATES, CREATED BY PROCLAMATION,
DECEMBER 20, 1892, BY PRESIDENT BENJAMIN HARRISON.

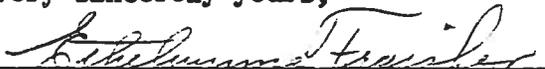
THE FIRST NAME GIVEN TO THE FOREST WAS "SAN GABRIEL
TIMBERLAND RESERVE", IT WAS CHANGED TO "SAN GABRIEL
NATIONAL FOREST", MARCH 4, 1907 THEN TO "ANGELES
NATIONAL FOREST", JULY 1, 1908.

PLAQUE PLACED BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA PARK COMMISSION
IN COOPERATION WITH THE HISTORY AND LANDMARKS ASSOCIATION
OF THE SAN FERNANDO AND ANTELOPE VALLEY PARLORS, NATIVE
SONS AND NATIVE DAUGHTERS OF THE GOLDEN WEST; and RANCHO
SAN FERNANDO PARLOR NO. 285, NATIVE SONS OF THE GOLDEN
WEST

_____, 1959

I hope that the above inscription will be accepted by you and the Historic Landmarks Commission.

Very sincerely yours,



ETHELWYNNE FRAISHER
216 ALEXANDER
SAN FERNANDO, CALIFORNIA

REFERENCES TO BOOKS, RECORDS, AND OTHER AUTHORITIES SUSTAINING THESE FACTS

THE FOREST AND THE PEOPLE

by W. W. ROBINSON
Title Insurance and Trust Co.
Los Angeles: 1946

ARE PICTURES ATTACHED? Yes.

IS STATEMENT OF OWNER ATTACHED? Yes.

Signed *Robert James Frasier*
City San Fernando, California
Date October 10, 1959

(This form when filled out completely is to be sent to the Historical Landmarks Advisory Committee, P. O. Box 2390, Sacramento 11, California)

55TH CONGRESS, }
3d Session. }

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

15758
27

{ DOCUMENT
} No. 181.

REPORT

UPON THE

FORESTRY INVESTIGATIONS

OF THE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

1877-1898.

By B. E. FERNOW,

FORMERLY CHIEF OF THE DIVISION OF FORESTRY, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

[PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PROVISION IN THE ACT MAKING
APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1899.]

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1899.

the Fifty-first Congress, through the earnest insistence of Secretary of the Interior John W. Noble, who was fully imbued with the necessity of some action such as was advocated by the association, the following section was added to the act entitled "An act to repeal timber-culture laws, and for other purposes," approved March 3, 1891:

SEC. 24. That the President of the United States may, from time to time, set apart and reserve, in any State or Territory having public lands bearing forests, any part of the public lands wholly or in part covered with timber or undergrowth, whether of commercial value or not, as public reservations, and the President shall, by public proclamation, declare the establishment of such reservations and the limit thereof.

Acting upon this authority, Presidents Cleveland and Harrison established seventeen forest reservations, with a total estimated area of 17,500,000 acres previous to 1894.

These forest reservations, together with the national parks which were established before, to be sure for quite different purposes, made thus the forest lands reserved by the Government aggregate over 20,000,000 acres as follows:

No.	Forest reservations.	Established.	Area.
			Acres.
1	Yellowstone National Park timber-land reserve (Wyo.)	Sept. 10, 1891.	1,279,040
2	White River Plateau timber-land reserve (Colo.)	Oct. 16, 1891.	1,199,080
3	Pecos River forest reserve (N. Mex.)	Jan. 11, 1892.	511,040
4	Sierra forest reserve (Cal.)	Feb. 14, 1892.	4,086,000
5	Pacific forest reserve (Wash.)	Feb. 20, 1892.	967,680
6	Pikes Peak timber-land reserve (Colo.)	Mar. 18, 1892.	184,320
7	Bull Run timber-land reserve (Oreg.)	June 17, 1892.	142,080
8	Plum Creek timber-land reserve (Colo.)	June 23, 1892.	170,240
9	South Platte forest reserve (Colo.)	Dec. 9, 1892.	683,520
10	San Bernardino forest reserve (Cal.)	Dec. 20, 1892.	737,280
11	Battlement Mesa forest reserve (Colo.)	Dec. 24, 1892.	858,240
12	Afognak forest and fish culture reserve (Alaska)	do	Unknown.
13	Grand Canyon forest reserve (Ariz.)	Feb. 20, 1893.	1,851,520
14	Trabuco Canyon forest reserve (Cal.)	Feb. 25, 1893.	49,920
15	San Bernardino forest reserve (Cal.)	do	737,280
16	Ashland forest reserve (Oreg.)	Sept. 28, 1893.	18,560
17	Cascade Range forest reserve (Oreg.)	do	4,492,800
	Total acreage of forest reserves		17,564,800
NATIONAL PARKS.			
18	Yellowstone National Park	Mar. 1, 1872	2,142,720
19	Yosemite National Park	Oct. 1, 1890	967,680
20	Sequoia National Park	do	161,280
21	General Grant National Park	do	2,560

^a The numbers refer to those used on map, Plate II.

The reservations were established usually upon the petition of citizens residing in the respective States and after due examination, the forestry association acting as intermediary.

Meanwhile the legislation devised for the administration of the forest reserves, existing or to be established, specially urged by Representative McRae, chairman of Public Lands Committee, failed to be enacted, although in the Fifty-third Congress it was passed by both Houses, but failed in conference.

Secretary Hoke Smith, of the Department of the Interior, impressed with the importance of devising some adequate system of protection and management of the forests, both within the reserves and in the public domain, and urged by the committee of the Forestry Association, under date of February 15, 1896, requested the National Academy of Sciences, the legally constituted adviser of the Government in scientific matters, to investigate and report "upon the inauguration of a rational forest policy for the forested lands of the United States." He especially desired an official expression as to the desirability and practicability of preserving the forests from fire and maintaining as forested lands portions of the public domain now bearing wood growth; as to how far the influence of forests on climate, soil, and water conditions warranted a policy of forest conservation in regions where the public domain is principally situated; and what specific legislation should be enacted to remedy existing evils.

Under date of February 1, 1897, the academy submitted to Secretary Francis a preliminary report recommending the creation of thirteen additional forest reserves with a total area of 21,379,840 acres. These reserves were proclaimed, as recommended, by the President February 22, 1897. On May 1, 1897, the president of the academy submitted his complete report, embodying

News From the Field

NORTHERN REGION (R-1)

The Deerlodge National Forest has published a 5½"x8½" hardcover photocopy edition of The Philipsburg Story, 1905-1980 by Robert D. Oakley. . . Three volumes of the 1899-1914 work diaries of Michael Langohr, early supervisor, Gallatin National Forest, are in the State University library at Bozeman, Mont. . . A 1931 letter of a lookout, Hume Frayer, describing firefighting on an Idaho forest, was recently received by the Regional Office. He is a writer in California.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION (R-2)

~~The White River National Forest has just issued a 90-year illustrated history compiled by Walter G. Hatcher of Glenwood Springs. It was the second forest reserve in the country, proclaimed by President Benjamin Harrison on October 16, 1891.~~

Basil K. Crane, retired Deputy Regional Forester, has written an illustrated memoir of his "wild West" days on horseback in the Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada, beginning in 1938. Copies are available at \$7 from him at 6045 Estes, Arvada, Colo. 80215.

Cicero Peak lookout tower, Black Hills National Forest, out of service since 1974, has been sold and moved to Rapid City, S.D., as a tourist attraction.

SOUTHWESTERN REGION (R-3)

"Southwestern Forest Service Amigos" was formally organized January 20 in Albuquerque by retirees Dahl Kirkpatrick, Leroy Bond, R. W. Crawford, Robert E. Latimore and others. Latimore is president, succeeding George Worley, 1981 chief. . . Arthur C. Ringland, first Regional Forester, died in October in Bethesda, Md., in his 100th year. . . Clarence L. Forsling, 88, former Forest Service Chief of Research and former Chief, Bureau of Grazing, also died in October, in Albuquerque. . . William D. Hurst, retired Regional Forester now living in Basque Farms, N.M., has written recollections of his father, William M. Hurst, longtime Ranger, Panguitch District, Dixie National Forest,

which he has published in Thinking Back, 86 pp., illus.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION (R-4)

Recreation Staff has completed transcription of five more taped interviews with old-time retirees made by Arnold R. Standing of the Regional Office in 1965. The men were Moses and Hammer (Ham) Christensen, Wells Thursby, S. Bryson (Bike) Cook, and Harry (Rip) Van Winkle. Moses was then 89; he had worked on the Caribou National Forest, 1908-22, and then went into land sales. Ham (no relation) worked as a Ranger on the Fishlake, 1919-56, and then for Utah State Parks; he died late in 1981. Thursby was a Ranger on the Manti-LaSal, 1920-50, then became Assistant Utah State Forester for fire control. Van Winkle became a Ranger in 1928 and served on six National Forests and in the Regional Office (Recreation and Lands), retiring in 1963 at Teton Supervisor. Cook joined up as a Ranger on the Cache in 1925 and spent his later years on the old Powell (merged with the Dixie in 1945). He retired in 1960.

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION (R-5)

The Regional Office's extensive historical documentary and photographic files are being organized and indexed by Lucinda Scanlon, a student at San Francisco State University, under the Regional cultural resources management program in cooperation with Office of Information.

The La Moine railroad logging system best-preserved narrow gauge line in northern California, in use from 1900 to 1922 the Redding area, Shasta-Trinity National Forest, has been accepted as a National Historic Site. The town of La Moine was destroyed by fire in 1917.

A very interesting and informative history of the Lake Tahoe Basin, mainly a long series of efforts to reserve lands there for parks and forests, often in conflict with lumbering and lakeshore development, is given in the article, "Preservation Efforts at Lake Tahoe, 1880 to 1980

(Continued on page

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
Angeles National Forest
150 South Los Robles Avenue, Suite 300
Pasadena, California 91101

Knox ✓
Storm
Stone
Stone
Sandy 2360
Dr. July 2, 1982

JUL 15 1982



Dr. Knox Mellon
State Historic Preservation
Office of Historic Preservation
Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 2390
Sacramento, CA 95811

Attn: Sandy Eller

Re: State Historic Lanmark #717 - Angeles National Forest

Dear Ms. Eller:

We have recently received information which may affect the significance attributed to the Angeles National Forest as a State Historic Landmark. The landmark description, documents the Angeles as the first Forest reserve created in California, and the second created in the United States. However, the enclosures indicate that the White River National Forest in Colorado was the second reserve created within the country. The Angeles still merits State Historic Landmark status for being the first Forest reserve created in the State. We request that the State file on the Angeles be amended to reflect this new information.

If you have any questions or information to the contrary, please contact our Forest Archaeologist, Michael McIntyre, at (213) 577-0050, ext. 204. Thank you for your prompt consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Gray F. Reynolds
GRAY F. REYNOLDS
Forest Supervisor

Enclosures

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL LANDMARKS

THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Date: 23 Oct. 1959

REGISTRATION APPROVAL

Approved ✓

Disapproved _____

PLAQUE APPROVAL

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Comments:

Harold F. Jaggart
(Signed) San Mateo, Calif

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL LANDMARKS

THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Date: November 10, 1969

REGISTRATION APPROVAL

Approved Yes

Disapproved _____

PLAQUE APPROVAL

Approved YES

Disapproved _____

Comments:

Mart. Kidge
(Signed)

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL LANDMARKS

THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Date: 10/23/59

REGISTRATION APPROVAL

Approved ✓

Disapproved _____

PLAQUE APPROVAL

Approved ✓

Disapproved _____

Comments: :

Richard F. Melanchy
(Signed)

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL LANDMARKS

THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Date: Oct 20-1959

REGISTRATION APPROVAL

Approved yes

Disapproved _____

PLAQUE APPROVAL

Approved yes

Disapproved _____

Comments: :

P. R. Espartero
(Signed)

Historical Landmarks Advisory Committee

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL LANDMARKS

THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Date: 10/23/59

REGISTRATION APPROVAL

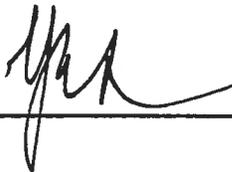
Approved _____



Disapproved _____

PLAQUE APPROVAL

Approved _____



Disapproved _____

Comments:



(Signed)

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL LANDMARKS

THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Date: Dec 23, 1959

REGISTRATION APPROVAL

Approved ✓

Disapproved _____

PLAQUE APPROVAL

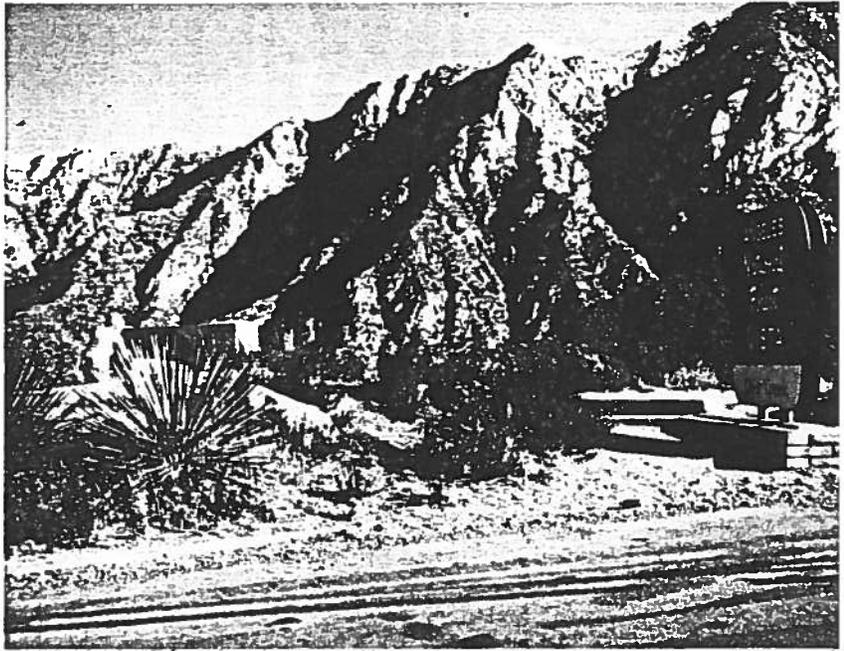
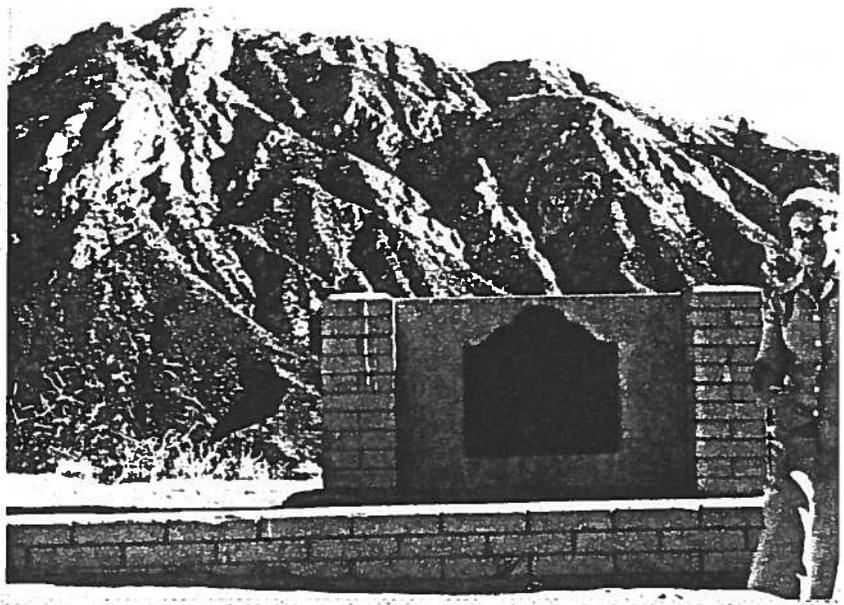
Approved ✓

Disapproved _____

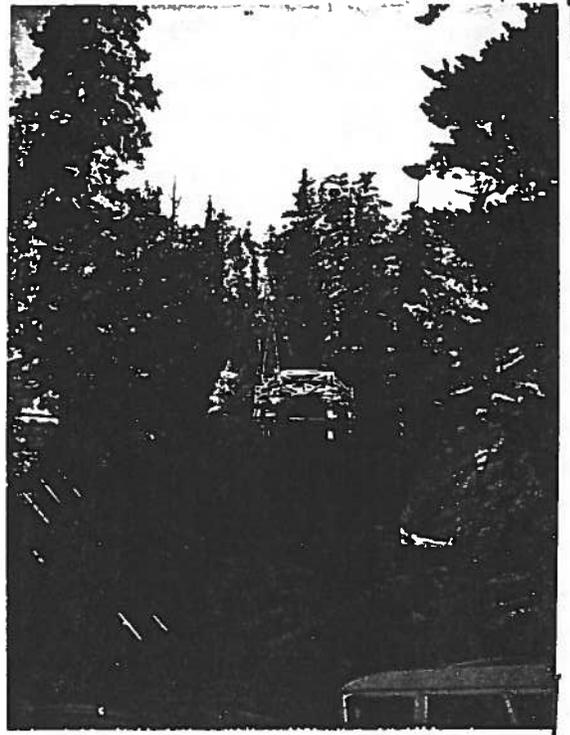
Comments: :

(Signed)

P. J. Wignan



Mt. Waterman ski lift -----

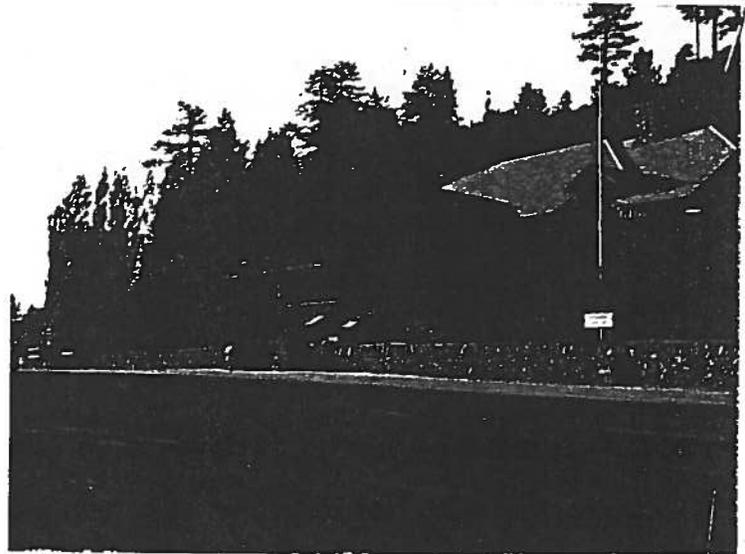


PHOTOGRAPHS: -



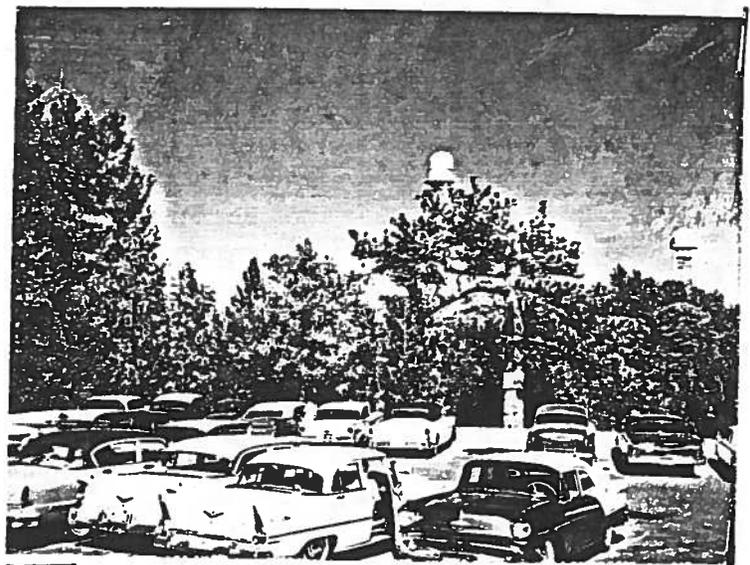
Snow-flecked mountains, western end of Angeles Forest.

Big Pines Lodge -----



From Angeles Forest overlooking Antelope Valley (desert)

Mt. Wilson Observatory -
not a part of the forest but surrounded
by it. -----



NAME THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST

COUNTY LOS ANGELES COUNTY

APPROVAL COMMITTEE:

PATRICK J. DIGNAN

LEON L. DWIGHT

RICHARD R. EMPARAN

JOHN ANSON FORD

RICHARD F. MCCARTHY

MARTIN B. RIDGE

HAROLD F. TIGGART

Approved at the November 20, 1959, meeting, Santa Barbara
STATE PARK COMMISSION


DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

REGISTERED LANDMARK NUMBER 717

DATE December 2, 1959