

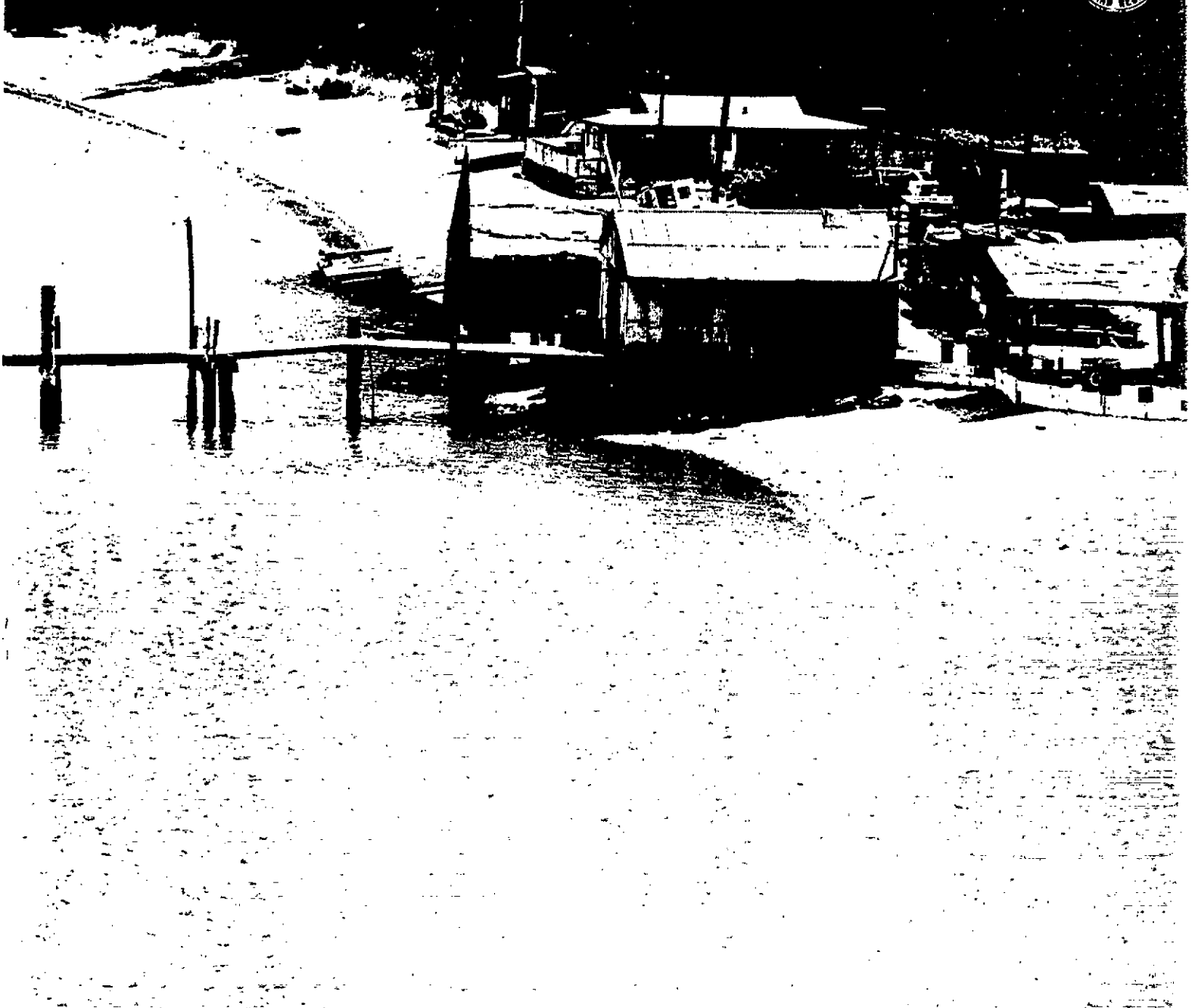
UNIT 202

CHINA CAMP STATE PARK

GENERAL PLAN

February 1979

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION



CHINA CAMP STATE PARK General Plan



June 1979

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and to all the homeowners associations and citizens that participated
in the planning process

CHINA CAMP STATE PARK

GENERAL PLAN

June 1979

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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Resolution 13-79
Resolution adopted by the
CALIFORNIA STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
at its regular meeting in San Rafael
February 16, 1979

WHEREAS the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation has presented to this Commission for approval the proposed General Plan for China Camp State Park, and

WHEREAS this reflects the long-range development plan as to provide for the optimum use and enjoyment of the unit as well as the protection of its quality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the State Park and Recreation Commission approves the Department of Parks and Recreation's "General Plan for China Camp State Park" Preliminary dated September 1978, subject to the following amendments:

- 1) Top priority to restoration/preservation of the Village area in China Camp State Park.
- 2) Authenticity and sensitivity of interpretation of Chinese and Native American cultures shall be emphasized.
- 3) Traffic impacts and traffic patterns shall be reevaluated and addressed in subsequent environmental impact reports.
- 4) Impact on public services supplied by city and county to park users shall be addressed and mitigation suggested.
- 5) Multi-use area to be established in Back Ranch Valley only on a reservation basis. Eliminate from plan all development in Center Valley.
- 6) Provide for an advisory committee for China Camp State Park.
- 7) Attach proposed amendments by the Department of Parks and Recreation entitled "China Camp State Park Changes to General Plan". (Appendix B)

All changes recommended by the commission have been incorporated in the text. A summary of these changes is on page 103, entitled "Appendix D."

contents

<u>Summary</u>	v
INTRODUCTION.	1
Purpose of Plan	3
Project Description	5
Historical Background	8
Planning Process.	10
RESOURCE ELEMENT.	11
Statutory Purpose of Unit in Relation to Classification	13
Resource Summary and Evaluation	15
Natural Values	15
Cultural Values.	19
Declaration of Purpose.	21
Declaration of Management Policy.	22
Natural Values	22
Cultural Values.	24
Human Intrusions	26
Allowable Use Intensity.	28
Recreation	31
Interpretation	31
LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT	33
Regional Planning Evaluation.	35
Study Area	35
Regional/Local Planning.	35
Transportation	38
Recreation Evaluation	40
Existing Land Use	45
Proposed Land Use	46
Proposed Facilities	49
China Camp Village	49
Natural Area	50
Interior Valleys	50
Operations Facilities.	50
Miscellaneous Facilities	51
Engineering Considerations.	51
Architectural Considerations.	55
IMPLEMENTATION.	56
OPERATIONS ELEMENT.	57
Concessions	59
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT.	61
SELECTED REFERENCES	70

APPENDIXES.	73
Appendix A - Glossary of Terms.	75
Appendix B Maps - Resource Element.	77
I - Cultural Resource Sensitivity Zones.	79
II - Architectural Evaluation	81
III - Detailed View of China Camp Village.	83
Appendix C - Review of Comments and Responses	85
Appendix D - Excerpt from Resolution 13-79.	103

List of Maps

Figure 1 - Allowable Use Intensity.	29
Figure 2 - Study Area	37
Figure 3 - General Development Plan	43
Figure 4 - Proposed Land Use.	47
Figure 5 - Site Map - Engineering Considerations.	53

SUMMARY

The early development of northern California is closely linked to the natural heritage of the San Francisco Bay and surrounding areas. Native American cultures flourished in the area during the pre-European period, only to be supplanted by Spanish explorers and the westward migration of Euroamericans. The gold discovery of the late 1840s intensified the migration, and increased the immigration of Chinese into the area. These early immigrants brought a rich cultural heritage with them, which allowed the Chinese to establish a major shrimp fishing industry in the San Francisco Bay area during the late 1800s.

Although there were many Chinese shrimping villages established during this period, China Camp represents the last identifiable vestige of the once-flourishing shrimping industry.

China Camp State Park, which contains approximately 664 hectares (1,640 acres), was established primarily on the basis of its natural and scenic values, along with the historical significance of Chinese shrimping and related cultural and natural values.

The Resource Element is based on an inventory and analysis of the natural and cultural resources of China Camp State Park. It presents the department's policies for insuring the protection and management of all resources for public use and enjoyment.

The emphasis of this document is on preservation, management, and interpretation of China Camp's cultural and natural resources. Public participation was an integral part of the development of these policies.

The recommendations in the General Plan supplement the Resource Element by identifying planning, recreation, facilities, and operations requirements needed to enhance public use and enjoyment of the park.

The General Plan recommendations are:

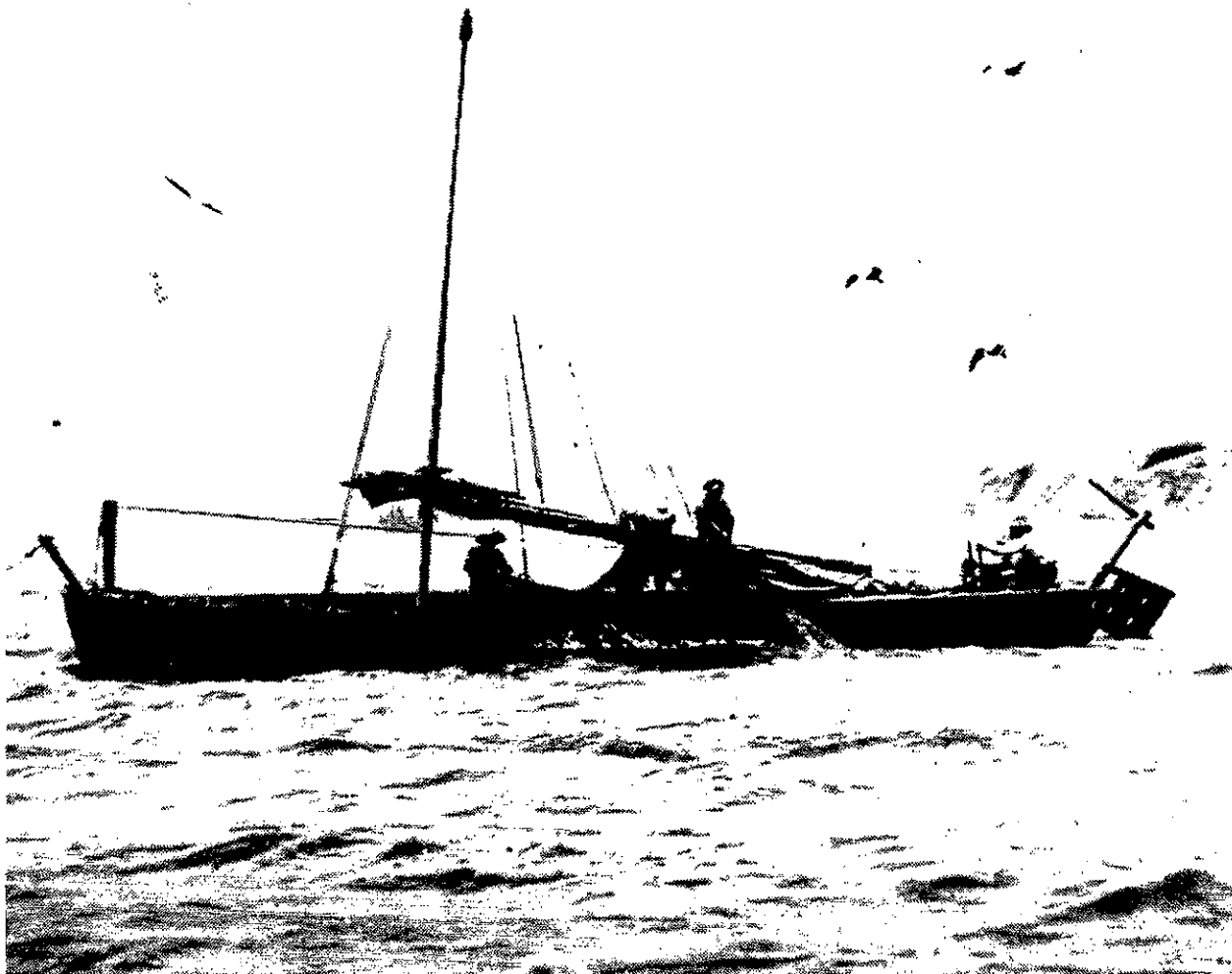
1. To preserve the natural and scenic values of the park.
2. To preserve and restore, where possible, the historical features of China Camp.
3. To preserve the Native American resources within the park.
4. To develop the following facilities in harmony with the proposed resource management and interpretation policies:
 - a. Historic Restoration and Interpretation 4 structures
 - b. Historic Reconstruction and Interpretation Various structures
 - c. Historic Preservation and Interpretation 7 structures
 - d. Parking Areas 300 car spaces
70 bike spaces
 - e. Day Use Interpretation/Picnic Areas 8 locations
(600 people)
 - f. Visitor Orientation Areas 2 locations

- g. Multi-use (Group and family camping/picnicking) Areas 1 location (132 people)
- h. Entrance Station 1 location
- i. Hiking Trails 8 miles
- j. Biking Trails 4.5 miles
- k. Equestrian Trails 3.5 miles
- l. Scenic Overlooks and Interpretation 5 locations

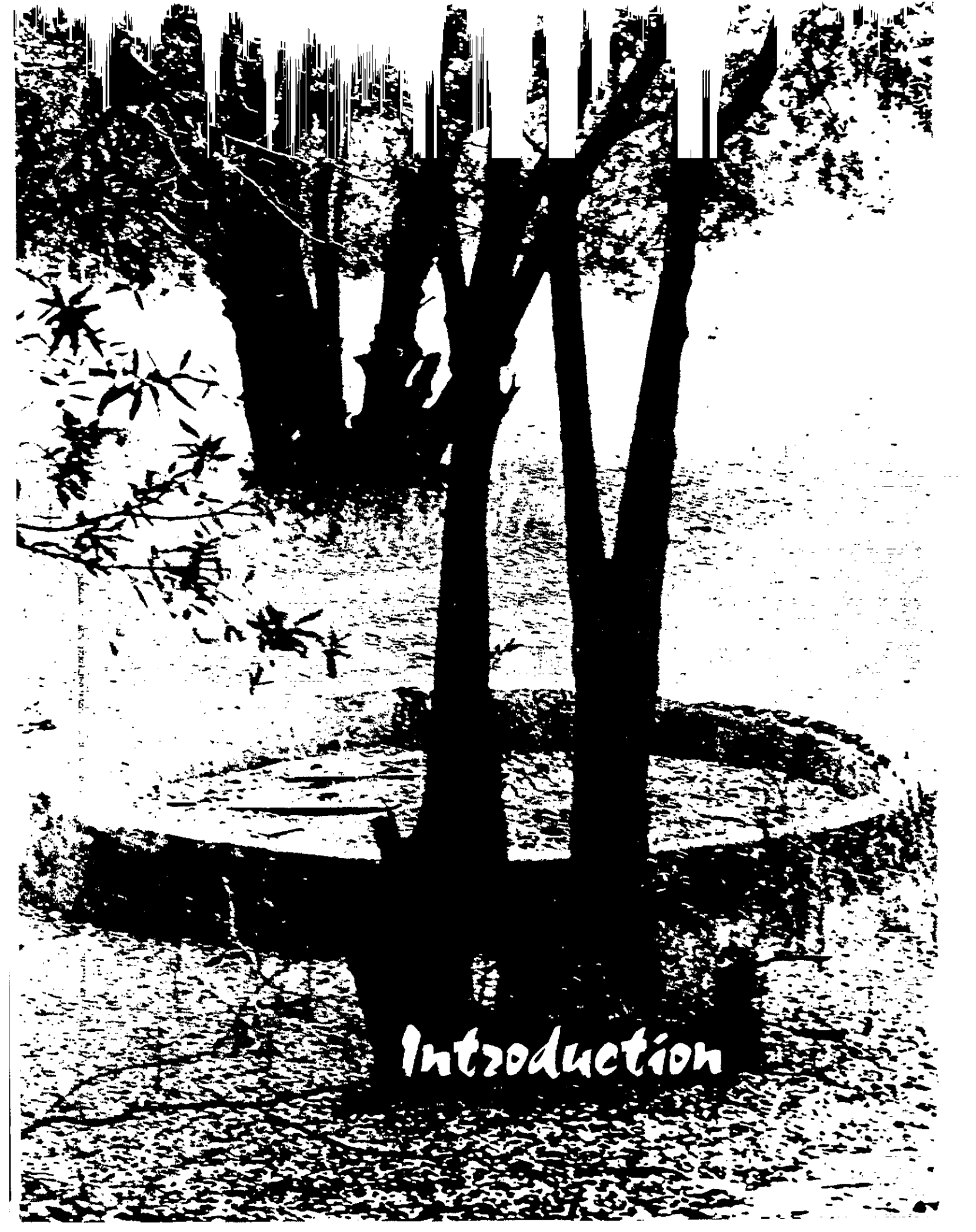
4. To identify and reserve areas for maintenance/operations development:

- a. Maintenance/operations Area 1 location
- b. Park Residence Areas 3 locations

The Environmental Impact Element discusses the expected effects of proposed development on the area, and what mitigation measures are to be taken to minimize any adverse effects.



Shrimp fishing, from a photo in the San Francisco Maritime Museum



Introduction



Drying shrimp, old photo courtesy Georgette Quan Daheka

INTRODUCTION

Purpose of Plan

The purpose of the General Plan is to provide general guidelines for the park's management and development, in accordance with the classification. Since the cultural resource significance of China Camp make it a unique unit, the emphasis for development and management of this park will be related to its historic and Native American values, and their relationship to the natural setting of the park, as well as preservation, interpretation, and public use of its natural and scenic values.

In the fall of 1977, China Camp became a unit of the California State Park System. On January 13, 1978, the State Park and Recreation Commission classified the unit as a state park:

"Be it resolved that, pursuant to Sections 5001.5 and 5002.3 of the Public Resources Code and after proceeding had in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act contained in Section 11370 et. seq. of the Government Code, the State Park and Recreation Commission hereby classifies the park known as the China Camp project a state park and name said park unit China Camp State Park; and...

Be it further resolved...that the existing shrimp fishing activities at China Camp be continued as part of the living historical interpretation of activities in the area and that the interpretation of Indian (Native American) life will be given strong attention in the development of the park..."(1)

Specific goals of the plan are:

1. To identify the natural, cultural, and recreational resources of the park.
2. To establish policies for management, protection, and interpretation of these resources.
3. To determine visitor activities and land uses that are compatible with the purpose of the park, preservation of resources, and the surrounding areas.
4. To determine the potential environmental impact of visitor activities, land use, and related development.
5. To establish guidelines for the sequence of park development.
6. To identify lands outside the existing park boundaries that would be valuable additions to the unit.
7. To provide an informational document for the public, the legislature, park personnel, and other government agencies.

(1) Quote from D.P.R. Commission Classification Hearing Minutes (1/13/78)



1974 Aerial of Marin peninsula, showing the location of China Camp S.P. Photograph by Ed Brady of Aero Photographers, Sausalito, California.

Project Description

China Camp State Park is located on the southwest shore of San Pablo Bay, about 4.8 kilometers (3 miles) northeast of San Rafael in Marin County, and forty minutes north of San Francisco, via U.S. Highway 101. It represents a large part of the peninsula that separates San Pablo Bay from San Rafael Bay.

San Pablo Ridge provides the most dramatic panoramic highlights of the area within the park. The bay coast can be viewed to its northern limit, where the Napa and Petaluma Rivers enter the northwestern bay coast. To the east, the Carquinez Straits, the east bay hills, and areas on either side of Point San Pablo can be seen. The view to the south encompasses the bay between San Pablo Bay and San Pedro Point, along with the north San Francisco Bay, the Tiburon Peninsula, Angel Island, and the San Francisco Peninsula. Mt. Tamalpais, the coast range, and the Marin Peninsula can be seen to the west. From the bay to the southern boundary, the slope increases, and rugged terrain becomes more pronounced, with a rise to an elevation of near 305 meters (1,000 feet). Upper canyon areas and ridges have steep slopes, rock outcrops, and landslide residue (conuvium). These easily eroded soils have dense vegetation cover.

The China Camp property is divided into two areas. The larger 640-hectare area is a primary natural, Native American resource and open space area, known as the Back Ranch. The smaller 16 hectare area is the primary historic area, known as China Camp (China Camp Village).

Existing main access is via San Pedro Road, a county road which traverses the park, effectively separating the upland and bay shore resources of the unit. Access to the park afforded by North San Pedro Road serves visitors entering from US 101 to the west, near the Marin County Civic Center. Visitor access is also available at the south of the park via San Pedro Road, connecting to US 101 after passing through streets of downtown San Rafael.

The resources of China Camp State Park are numerous, varied, and significant.

Exposed geologic features representing more than 180 million years of history are exhibited within the park. Ancient exposed rocks typifying the Franciscan formation dramatically accent the area. The shoreline consists of bay mud. The younger type of mud has a higher water content, and is extremely sensitive to seismic activity; the older mud deposits are more stable.

The Marin side of the bay is one of the oldest sections. San Pablo Bay was inundated with fine muds and silt residues from hydraulic mining in the Sierras, carried into the bay by the Sacramento River. The residue particles formed the large mud flats now evident. Other activities such as land clearing for development added waste materials to the bay, which also added to the mud accumulation.

China Camp has a pleasant and moderate climate. Marine influences keep summer and fall temperatures comfortable. An average of 200 or more sunny days are reported per year. The warmest months, July and August, have an average temperature of about 19° centigrade (66°F). About ten days per year, temperatures reach 35° centigrade (95°F) during the warmest month.

The annual rainfall is 26 inches, with the heaviest rainfall appearing between November and March.

The site is often free of fog on days when much of the bay area is covered. This condition draws summer sunbathers from other recreational areas. Occasional tule fog blankets the area during the winter.

China Camp is located near two earthquake faults. The San Andreas is about 20 Km (13.4 miles) to the west, and the Hayward is about 8 Km (5 miles) to the east.

Roads, trails, and off-highway vehicle tracks are serious human encroachments on the area. Motorcycles in particular have caused considerable erosion and scarring of the slopes in the Back Ranch valley.

Another distracting structure is a high-voltage transmission line across the west side of the property. Most structures, houses, and buildings are contained within the small area of China Camp, and there are few structures located along San Pablo Bay to the west.

The China Camp area was one of the most significant shrimp fishing camps on the Pacific Coast during its peak period of production. Today, there are several structures that date back to the earliest days of the camp (ca. 1870-1890). Information regarding existing historical structures which have interpretive potential is in the Resource Element.



1888 photograph by C.H. Townsend, showing China Camp, "first shrimp fishing north of Point San Pedro," from the National Archives.



View of China Camp to northwest, taken by C.H. Townsend, 1888-89, from the National Archives.

Much of China Camp has remained relatively undeveloped since pristine times. Some exotic plants were introduced when the area was used for livestock grazing, and ornamentals were planted when vacation homes and cabins were built along the bay front. Now considered undesirable intruders, the domestic grasses and herbaceous and woody plants have reduced or eliminated some native species.

The salt marsh habitat, predominant on the west side, has a sizable strand of pickleweed. Waves of salt grass appear on high ground at the upper end of the marsh. Rushes, sedges, and dock are abundant in the high-moisture areas, where valleys and drainage enter the salt marsh community.

There are 26 species of mammals residing in the general area, of which nine have been identified within the park. Eight species of reptiles within the unit have been identified. The arboreal salamander and Pacific tree frog are the only two amphibians that have been recorded. There are 14 marine invertebrates and 45 species of fish found in San Pablo Bay.

King salmon and striped bass (introduced in California bay water in 1879) are abundant, and are sought by fishermen in the area.

Shellfish, once plentiful as a major food source of the Miwok Indians, may be caught only for use as baits, since they are considered polluted; restrictions have been placed on shellfish consumption.

China Camp is extremely scenic, and inspires many recreation activities. There are many vistas to inspire artists, photographers, and sightseers. History buffs can explore the remains of the fishing camps, and can learn about the Miwok Indians who once inhabited the area. Imaginative minds can enjoy the lore, while picnicking in the sunny glens.

The sand and shell shoreline is ideal for picnicking and sunbathing. The bay, mud flats, and salt marsh will intrigue bird watchers. Sightseers, bikers, and joggers may want to appreciate the scenery from North San Pedro Road.

Historical Background

China Camp was originally part of the Coast Miwok territory. These Native Americans, members of the Penutian linguistic group, lived in the area, hunting small animals and deer, collecting acorns, and gathering flora, marsh plants, and shellfish. They made baskets, disk beads from clamshells, and traded them for locally unobtainable resources, such as high-grade obsidian from Lake County tribes.

The Coast Miwok were culturally and linguistically related to the Lake (Clear Lake), Plains (Central Valley), and Sierra Miwok. Their villages typically consisted of ten or twelve households, with eight to ten individuals living in each house. The remains of twelve villages have been found in the park.

Summer houses were built of grass and tule thatching over a dome framework of light poles. Winter shelters used heavier poles to support the redwood bark coverings. Coast Miwok dwellings differed from their lake and valley relatives, in that they were built on the surface, rather than being dug into the ground. Larger settlements often had sweathouses and dance houses.

Sir Francis Drake, after his initial contact with the Indians in 1579, described them as being peaceful, and of a loving nature.

In 1775, Father Vicente Santa Maria confirmed Drake's observation, and added that the Indians were both friendly and physically healthy.

In 1776, the San Francisco Mission was established. The intrusion of the mission and its sister mission -- San Rafael Archangel (1817) -- had a profound and detrimental effect on the Coast Miwok of the area. Many factors played a tragic role in the decline of the population. Disease, imprisonment, and sanitation problems drastically reduced the population, from about 2,000 in aboriginal times to only a few individuals by 1900.

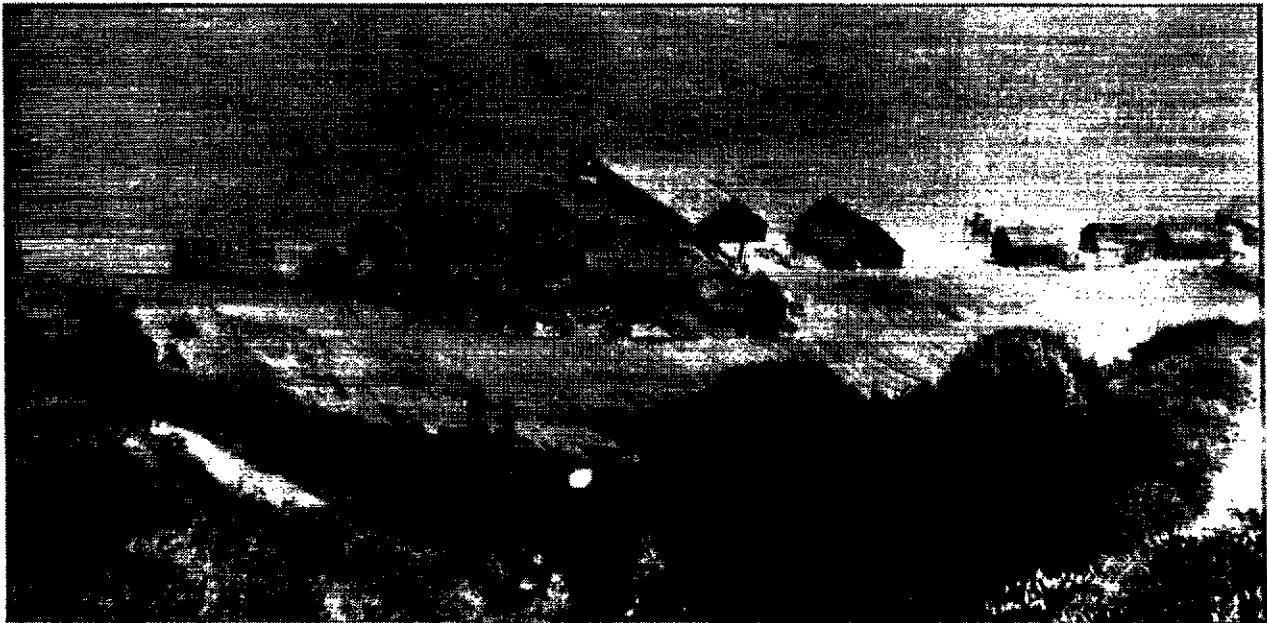
The area of the park then became part of a large land grant held by Timoteo Murphy - the Rancho San Pedro, Santa Margarita y las Gallinas. Murphy held the grant until his death in the early 1850s, when it was divided and sold. The area now owned by the state was purchased by John and George McNear, who leased major portions of it for grazing. These operations continued into recent times, and some features such as cisterns may still be seen in secluded areas of the park.

A significant era began for China Camp in the mid-1860s, when the Chinese immigrants began shrimp fishing. Using the shores of both the San Francisco and San Pablo Bays, they began what was to become a major enterprise. Physical remains of the shrimp fishery located in China Camp State Park represent the largest and most productive camp in the bay area.

The shrimp industry flourished, and reached its peak in the late 1880s and early 1890s. Early in the 1890s, competitive fishing interests and state officers put heavy pressure on the Chinese fishermen. Attempts were made to legislate the Chinese out of the industry. Seasonal restrictions of the fishing and regulations on suitable net types were enacted, and ultimately, a ban on the export of dried shrimp was enforced in 1905. The result of this pressure was a decline in the population and production of the camp.



"Threshing shrimp meats and sacking for shipment." Photo by C.H. Townsend 1888-89, from the National Archives.



Early photo of China Camp, Courtesy Georgette Quan Daheka

Some made successful adjustments to the new regulations. The Quan family, for instance, continued to shrimp, using motorized junks and trawling nets. By using western fishing techniques, the Quans were able to supply fresh and dried shrimp to the California market.

The effects of World War II and postwar pollution of the bay further curtailed shrimping endeavors. However, one descendant, Frank Quan, continues to shrimp out of China Camp. Most of his catch is sold for bait, and his activities continue to give life to the history of China Camp.

Planning Process

A comprehensive planning program for China Camp, as well as other units of the State Park System, is authorized by Sections 540 and 541 of the Public Resources Code. Section 540 charges the State Park and Recreation Commission to consider the entire problem of recreation in California, and in cooperation with other agencies, to recommend a comprehensive recreation policy for the state. Section 541 charges the Department of Parks and Recreation to assist the commission in the performance of its functions; to investigate and report on facilities and services needs; to make studies, surveys, and long-range plans of recreation activities, facilities, and programs necessary to meet recreation needs throughout the state; to participate with other federal, state, and local government agencies in advance planning; and to advise, cooperate with, and encourage community recreation agencies.

The diversity of conditions within the state prevents the application of a single meaningful set of uniform standards for determining appropriate recreation activities, facilities, and levels of use within units of the State Park System. Resources (natural and cultural values), demographic considerations, land use factors, and recreation facilities needs vary greatly among urban areas and rural locations of the state. This diversity, coupled with Resource Code requirements and a growing citizen interest in park planning, has fostered the public involvement planning program which was undertaken for China Camp State Park.

A series of public planning workshops were conducted. The meetings were developed around key phases in the department's planning process, with emphasis placed on existing resources, potential recreation, land use, and recreation needs in and surrounding China Camp.

Public meetings were held in February, April, and June 1978, at Gallinas, Glenwood, and Terra Linda, in Marin County. The meetings provided the public and the department with the opportunity to address the key planning concerns, and to exchange ideas and information relevant to the future management, development, and use of China Camp State Park.

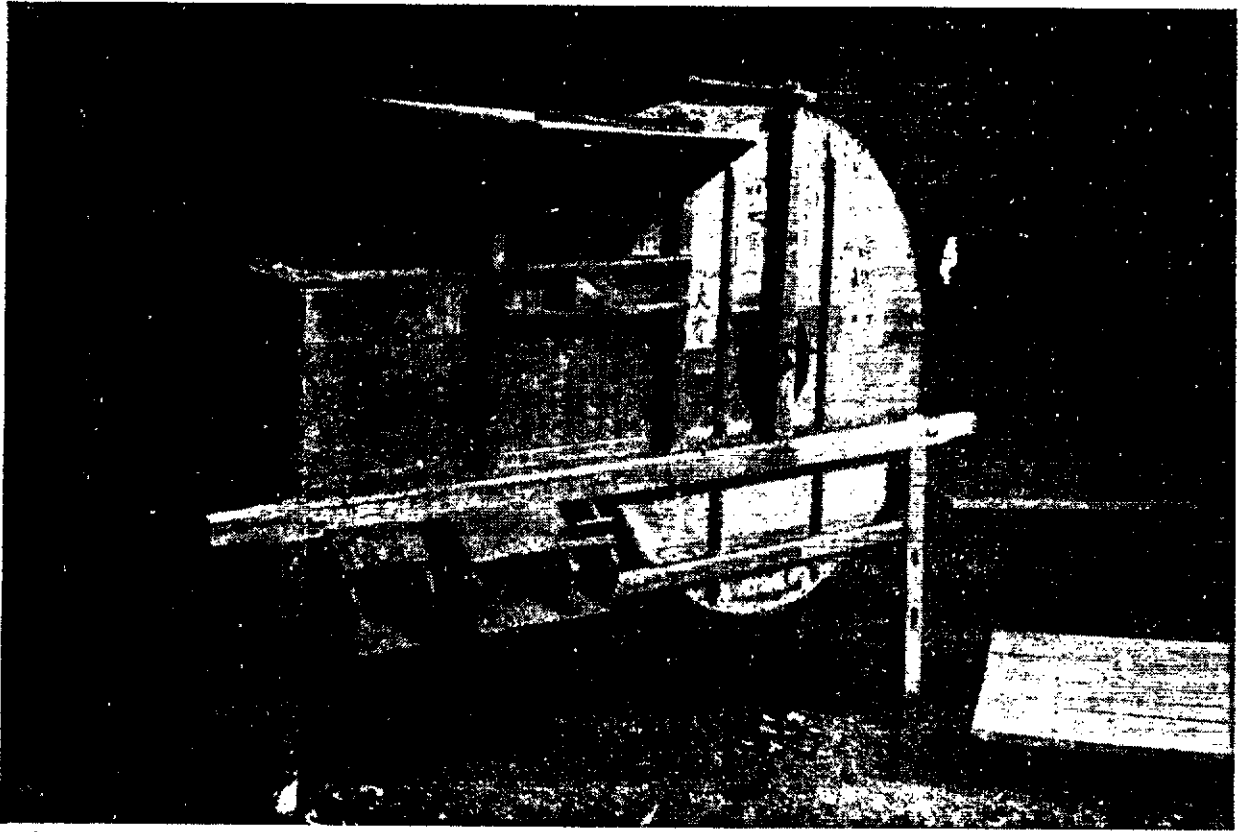
Throughout the planning process, citizens actively presented various points of views and proposals for recreation and related matters, ranging from no development to specific recommendations for development in various areas of the park. All citizens' points of views and proposals had the benefit of public review and discussion within the department's public planning forum, and with staff and other government interests.

The plans presented here are responsive to the interests and concerns presented throughout the public planning process, as well as being responsive to the department's purpose, as set forth in the Resources Code.

At the time of presentation of the General Plan to the State Park and Recreation Commission in February 1979, the commission directed that a citizens' advisory committee be established for China Camp State Park. This will be done.

Resource Element





Fan mill used for separating, shrimp meats and shells, photo by C.H. Townsend



Early photo showing houses viewed from the wharf. Photo courtesy Georgette Quan Daheka

RESOURCE ELEMENT

Statutory Purpose of Unit in Relation to Classification

The purpose of a state park is described in Section 5001.5 of the Public Resources Code:

"The purpose of State Parks shall be to preserve outstanding natural, scenic, and cultural values, indigenous aquatic and terrestrial fauna and flora, and the most significant examples of such ecological regions of California..."

"Each State Park shall be managed as a composite whole in order to restore, protect, and maintain its native environmental complex to the extent compatible with the primary purpose for which the park was established."

The state park classification was given China Camp for its outstanding natural values, which include: the salt water marsh ecosystem; a relatively natural example of undeveloped low coastal foothills next to San Pablo Bay; and the scenic values of the bay area. There is also a rich cultural heritage that extends from unrecorded prehistoric times through the Chinese occupation and their shrimp fisheries to the current recreational use.

The specific objectives of China Camp State Park will be:

1. To keep the marsh area in an undeveloped and unaltered natural condition.
2. To preserve the natural scenic views of San Pablo Bay and the upland areas, and to keep them free from development that might be seen by visitors traveling on North San Pedro Road.
3. To rehabilitate and restore the areas degraded by past human abuse, and where feasible, to restore the natural area to pristine conditions.
4. To preserve and protect native plant and animal populations.
5. To preserve, protect, and interpret the Native American heritage of the area.
6. To preserve, protect, restore, and interpret the heritage of the Chinese shrimp fishery and other historical aspects of the park.

Resource use, management, and protection philosophies and objectives for China Camp State Park are to be based on the Public Resources Code:

"Improvements undertaken within State Parks shall be for the purpose of making the areas available for public enjoyment and education in a manner consistent with the preservation of natural, scenic, cultural, and ecological values for present and future generations. Improvements may be undertaken to provide for such recreational activities as, but not limited to, camping, picnicking, sightseeing, nature study, hiking, and horseback riding, so long as such improvements involve no major modifications of



lands, forests, or waters. Improvements which do not directly enhance the public's enjoyment of the natural, scenic, cultural, or ecological values of the resource, which are attractions in themselves, or which are otherwise available to the public within a reasonable distance outside the park, shall not be undertaken within State Parks." (Public Resources Code, Section 5001.5).

The following concepts shall be instituted at China Camp State Park:

1. Public use facilities shall be constructed only to place the visiting public in an optimum relationship to the resources, consistent with the ability of the unit's environmental and cultural resources to withstand the impact without showing harmful or degrading effects.
2. When certain features of primary importance merit special consideration and special protection, natural or cultural preserves will be established to give added protection.
3. Special management techniques will be used in managing the vegetation and associated faunal community, to protect the prime values from destruction through wildfires.
4. Vegetation management will be directed toward reestablishment of native species in all suitable natural areas, and removal of competitive exotic plants.
5. Management of faunal resources will be through restoration and maintenance of the natural habitat in a condition similar to that existing before human modification.

Resource Summary and Evaluation*

Natural Values

China Camp State Park lies within the Low Coastal Mountain Landscape Province, although it is generally influenced by the bay, and takes on many characteristics of the Coastal Landscape Province.

Geology

The major bedrock material in this area is from the Franciscan Formation. Almost all of the San Pedro Ridge is composed of this material, and the rather shallow soils derived from it. This formation originated as marine deposits in the Jurassic to Cretaceous periods (180 to 89 million years ago), and then was uplifted to its current position. The Franciscan is predominantly composed of sandstone and shale, very often greatly sheared and broken, and intermixed with other materials. Franciscan Melange is the name given to this type of Franciscan. Melange is a disruptive assemblage of small and large masses of various rock types, separated by areas of intensely sheared and crushed rock material. Within melange, there are often hard rock projections composed of sandstone, greenstone, chert, serpentine, and glaucophane schists. In addition, serpentine and unusual metamorphical rocks can be found within Franciscan deposits, though none were identified by State Park System personnel during initial surveys of China Camp.

Since the end of the Cretaceous period, about 80 million years ago, the Marin side of the bay has remained above sea level, contributing sediments to the surrounding seas. The Marin hills were actively faulted, compressed, folded, and uplifted during the past 89 million years, with most activity occurring during the Pleistocene epoch. The result of these relatively recent movements, in combination with the recession of the ice age, resulted in the shaping and flooding of the San Francisco Bay valley. The bay as we know it today was formed within the last 10,000 years.

Soils

During Pleistocene and recent times, alluvium and bay muds were deposited. The alluvial material was deposited along the mouths of canyons, where intermittent streams bring sediment down from the ridge. The bay muds come from sediments brought into the bay by the Sacramento River and other drainage systems. The bay muds are of two types; younger bay mud (recent), and older bay mud (Pleistocene).

The Franciscan Formation tends to have greatly different stability characteristics, depending on local history. The sheared melange is quite weak, and often is associated with landslides and slippage. The more consolidated blocks of sandstone and shale tend to be more stable. Both forms have relatively shallow soils which are easily eroded away in areas of moderate to steep slope, especially when protective vegetation cover has been removed. Older bay mud is considered rather stable; younger bay mud is unstable for building foundations. Alluvium is relatively weak and unconsolidated. Schists and soils originating from them are also relatively weak.

*For a detailed description of resources, see the China Camp Inventory of Features, on file with the department.

Climate

China Camp's location to the east of the coastal mountains places it in a rainshadow area, and the amount of both precipitation and fog is less than in the areas immediately to the west. The vegetation composition within the area includes a number of plants that exist in rather dry habitats, and other plants that ordinarily prefer a moister climate. The small redwood groves (Sequoia sempervirens) found here are examples of the latter.

There is an average of 200 or more sunny days per year in the China Camp area. The coldest month tends to be January (about 8°C); the warmest is July or August (average 19°C).

Average annual rainfall is about 66 centimeters (26 inches). Relative humidity in January is about 80%; it is 60% or lower in July. Nearly 80 percent of the annual precipitation falls between November and March.

Flora and Fauna

There are seven identifiable plant communities found within the park boundaries. Of these, the oak woodland community is the most extensive. Several species of oak and associated understory are found along many of the upper ridges and canyons. The pickleweed marsh is a rather homogenous plant association, extending from the shoreline toward Gallinas Creek channel.

There are at least three redwood groves, Sequoia sempervirens, interspersed within the oak woodlands. In addition, small groups and single specimens of redwoods are found throughout the upland areas. Judging by the absence of rather typical redwood grove ground cover and associated animal species, these isolated populations seem to be at the edge of their distribution range.

Within the large valleys exists a mixture of exotic and endemic grasses and sedges, loosely described as a grassland community. Though of limited distribution now, grasslands appear to have been more widespread before Euroamerican activities. There are several intermittent stream channels draining into these valley areas. Associated with these water courses are plant species characteristic of riparian habitats. Of special note are the large, rather old California bay trees, Umbellularia californica.

No endangered plants have been found in China Camp State Park. However, this conclusion is based on limited field work, and an ongoing plant inventory is being carried out by the Marin Chapter of the California Native Plant Society.

A variety of animal species is associated with the various habitats in the park. More than 140 species of birds, perhaps 26 species of mammals, at least 44 species of fish, and 15 species of reptiles and amphibians are found here.

A known inhabitant of the marsh is the endangered salt marsh harvest mouse, Reithrodontomys reviventris. In addition, the endangered clapper rail, Rallus longirostris, and the rare black rail, Laterallus jamaicensis, may be found here. Many other water-related birds such as herons, gulls, shore birds, and wintering waterfowl can be observed in the marsh, mudflats, and bay.

Environmental Changes

In spite of being close to San Francisco, this area has been largely undeveloped. Some changes probably occurred with the first Euroamerican settlers, who used the area for livestock grazing. Euroamerican settlement brought a reduction in the number of native peoples, through the introduction of diseases and relocation of natives.

With the introduction of livestock came the introduction of exotic plant species, primarily from the Mediterranean region. Many of these species were highly competitive with native species; they became well established, and still exist as a large element of the current flora. The area used for grazing has probably been modified and enlarged by grazing practices.



Several plant communities are found within the park



Development of the first trails occurred during the Native American period. Wagon roads were probably established very early in modern times. These were located on the edge of the area, and gave access to grazing lands. Later, inland road systems were developed, also associated with grazing activities. Stock watering devices were installed in suitable locations.

Until the 19th century, little unnatural alteration occurred within San Pablo Bay. However, some dramatic things began to happen about the time Sierra gold mining reached its peak, especially after hydraulic mining was established. The fine muds and silts carried from the gold fields by the rivers were deposited in the bay, resulting in large mudflats. Other activities such as development and construction in many areas of the watershed, particularly land clearing, added to mud accumulation. The marsh areas increased in size with the increasing deposition of silt and mud. In the mid-1860s, the Chinese began their shrimp fishery in the area. However, their activities were largely restricted to the edge of the bay and the nearby hillsides, which they cleared for shrimp drying fields.

In later years, people built vacation cabins and houses along the bayfront. Most of these people brought with them exotic plants and trees, which they planted around their homes. Some bluegum eucalyptus (Eucalyptus globulus) were planted in the uplands along San Pablo Ridge.

As the communities around the bay area grew, so did the pollution problems. To these communities, the bay seemed an excellent place to dump all sorts of waste. This became increasingly harmful as time went on. Pesticides, drained off from farmlands in more recent times, increased the toxic effects of the pollution. In very recent years, there has been a concerted effort to abate pollution, and to restore the bay. It appears that conditions have greatly improved. However, the accumulated pollution from past years still exists.

A paved road was constructed for better access along San Pablo Bay. This road cut across several fingers of the marsh, which extend up two of the valleys within the park. Power lines were constructed across the property with increased development of the Marin Peninsula. Scenically, the cleared rights-of-way and power lines blighted the naturalness of the area and the unobstructed views that once existed.

Under natural conditions, fires periodically burned the vegetation on the hillsides, and maintained plant succession at an earlier stage. Modern fire prevention and suppression techniques have kept fire out of the area, and as a result, the fuel buildup has increased to dangerous proportions.

A Nike missile guidance facility was established at the top of San Pablo Ridge, just west of the park. A paved road was built to this installation; the road also serves a microwave station south of the project area. This road roughly follows the western park boundary.

More recently, public use has increased, resulting in extensive modification of the natural environment. Off-highway vehicles have caused severe compaction and erosion on the open hillsides. The use of the area for a large fair has added to these problems, and as a result, many places are now devoid of vegetation.

In summary, there have been a number of changes in the natural habitat since pristine times. The bay and marsh ecosystems have been significantly altered through various modern human activities in the vast bay watershed. The most drastic visual and physical changes have come about through the use of off-highway vehicles and construction of a power line right-of-way. Although not noticeable to the untrained eye, vegetation composition, as in most areas of the state, includes many introduced species.

Cultural Values

The cultural values of China Camp State Park fall into two broad categories. These are: the archeological remains associated with the Native American Era; and the archeological and structural remains associated with the shrimp fishery begun by immigrant Chinese, ca. 1865.

Existing Sites and Features

Twelve Native American habitation sites have been discovered within park boundaries. These can be identified by the presence of broken shells, fire-fractured rock, and dark midden soils. Most of these sites are mounds, variable in height and breadth, which can be distinguished from the surrounding topography. These cultural deposits have been grouped into six zones of cultural sensitivity within the park (see Appendix B).

The zones are delineated to provide buffer areas where significant cultural resources are located. High sensitivity areas contain sites that meet the criteria for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Moderate sensitivity areas include sites that have intrinsic scientific, interpretive, and cultural value. However, specific conditions prevent their National Register eligibility.

Zone 1 lies on the southeast side of the first large valley encountered when entering the park from the west on North San Pedro Road. Three sites are located in this zone (CA:MRN:118, CA:MRN:119, and C.C.1).

Sites 118 and 119 lie close to North San Pedro Road. Site 118 is a large mound which has been disturbed by construction of a dwelling during the 20th century. Site 119 lies on the valley floor, and has been extensively disturbed by construction of a road. Site C.C.:1 (temporary enumeration) lies in the southwestern part of the valley, and has been extensively damaged by vehicular activity, the Renaissance Faire, and YMCA day use.

The second zone lies in the next valley to the east. Two sites (CA:MRN:117 and CA:MRN:116) are located here.

Site 117 is an elongated site in the inland parts of the valley. It has been damaged by vehicle use, which has resulted in loss of vegetation, surface compaction, and ensuing erosion. Site 116 is located near North San Pedro Road, and is cut by the intersection of two roads, resulting in extensive destruction of the cultural deposit.

Zone 3 lies in the next small valley to the east. Four shell mounds are located here (CA:MRN:113, CA:MRN:114, CA:MRN:115, CA:MRN:328).

Site 113 lies north of North San Pedro Road, while the others are inland. As a consequence of their isolation, the sites have not been damaged by vehicles; however, vandals have removed a great deal of midden, possibly for garden soil. Site 115 was the location of an excavation conducted by U.C. Berkeley in 1948. Several house floors, house timbers, basket fragments, and other artifacts were discovered. This valley is the location of possibly the only permanent water source in the park area.

Sites CA:MRN:112 and CA:MRN:111 are located along the bay shore, and comprise Zone 4. Site 112 is next to a modern dwelling. Site 111 lies along North San Pedro Road, and has been damaged to some degree by road construction.

The remaining sites (CA:MRN:110 and CA:MRN:347) fall into two zones. Site 347 is located in the most southeasterly finger of the park, and has been extensively damaged. This has been designated Zone 5. CA:MRN:110 lies within Zone 6 (this zone has been designated historic, because it includes the China Camp fishery). This site is being rapidly eroded into the bay, as a result of the damage caused by trails and an adjacent parking lot.

The cultural values of the park from the Euroamerican Era are of two types. The first includes the physical remains of the ranching operations that occupied the park area. These include two brick and concrete circular watering basins, in Zones 2 and 3. In addition, a brick spring head of undetermined age is located in the upper valley portion of Zone 3. The Thomas home, which belonged to a ranching family in the area, stood atop site CA:MRN:118 in Zone 1. Presumably, these remains date from the early part of the 20th century, although precise ages have not been determined.

The more significant and extensive values are the remains of the China Camp shrimp fishery. Most of these remains are within Historic Zone 6, specifically in Rat Rock and China Camp Coves, and on the intervening point of land (see Appendix B). Research has indicated that some shrimp fishermen may have based their operations in the coves northwest of this zone, although no physical evidence of this use has been located.

Rat Rock Cove was the site of an extensive settlement based on the shrimp fishery; however, no standing structures remain today. A photograph taken in 1889-90 indicates the presence of at least 24 structures in this cove. In addition, several piers are shown.

The hillsides surrounding this cove were used as shrimp drying fields. Extensive archeological deposits, including foundation remains, brick, ceramic, and glass debris, testify to the extent of the settlement. In addition, the floor of the cove contains the remains of three redwood boats, presumably sampans.

The point of land between Rat Rock and China Camp Coves was the site of several structures. These were located on the upper portions of this point, and along the rocky shoreline. Little physical evidence of these structures remains, because the area has been used for parking, and recent erosion has stripped the soils down to bedrock in most places.



Rat Rock Cove was the site of an extensive settlement based on shrimp fishing. The surrounding hillsides were used as shrimp drying fields. Photo by C.H. Townsend, 1888-89, from the National Archives.

China Camp Cove to the southeast contains the remains of a once-thriving fishing community (see Appendix B). Of the 16 structures in the cove, only four can be dated to the early days of the camp (pre-1900), while most of the rest were constructed in the first quarter of the 20th century. Photographic records indicate that at least 28 structures stood in this cove before 1900. Physical evidence, in the form of debris and foundation remains, indicates the extent of the settlement in this early period.

Declaration of Purpose

The purpose of China Camp State Park is to make the varied resources and values of the unit available to the people forever, for their inspiration and enjoyment, in a condition of unimpaired ecological integrity. These include: the marshland and other habitats along the shores of San Pablo Bay; the valleys, canyons, and ridges of the uplands, with their woodland, chaparral, and grassland communities; the scenic values dependent on these natural features; the archeological and structural evidences of successive cultural lifestyles, from the distant past to the 20th century; and related scientific and interpretive values, with compatible recreational values.

Special attention will be given to protecting, preserving, and restoring the cultural resources, and authentically and sensitively interpreting the Native American and Chinese uses of this area.

Declaration of Management Policy

Natural Values

The State Resources Agency has adopted a policy to protect and preserve the wetlands in California. To conform with this policy, the marsh areas at China Camp State Park will be a completely protected habitat. The only development or manipulation allowed in this environment will be for the purpose of perpetuating or interpreting the marsh ecosystem.

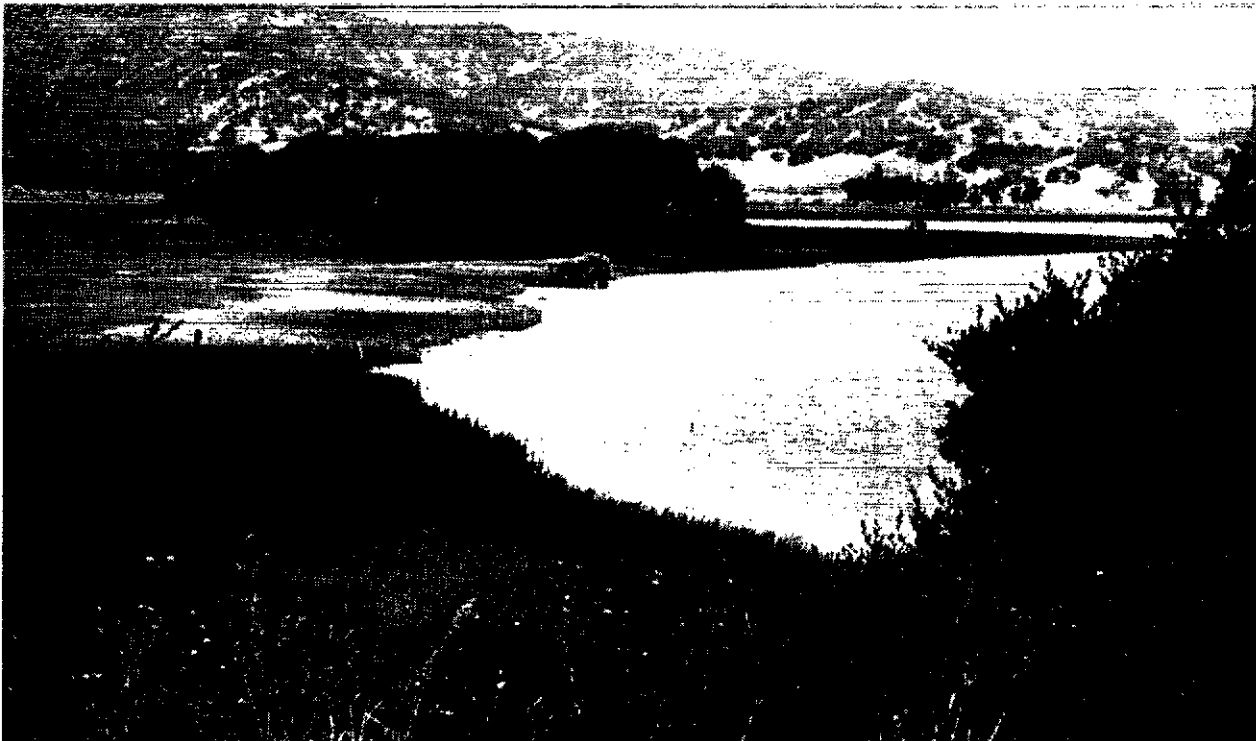
When rare or endangered plants or animals are found or known to be present in the area, they will be located and given the protection needed for their survival. No activities will be permitted in places where they would threaten these species.

It will be the department's policy to control or eliminate exotic plants which compete with native species and tend to take over natural areas. Exotic plants in cultural areas may be left only if they are part of the cultural history.

It will be the department's policy to restore and rehabilitate the natural areas that have been degraded by off-highway vehicles and other uses.

Periodic fires are an important contributing factor to the vigor and perpetuation of many plant and animal species in China Camp State Park. Since wildfires cannot be tolerated near urban locations, it will be the department's policy to develop a resource management program which may include prescribed burning and/or other methods of vegetation management.

Overnight and day use recreational facilities may be provided for park visitors, to the extent that such facilities do not interfere with the prime scenic, natural, or cultural values present.



The marsh areas at China Camp State Park will be a completely protected habitat

Overnight and day use recreational facilities may be provided for park visitors, to the extent that such facilities do not interfere with the prime scenic, natural, or cultural values present.

All department activities within China Camp State Park will be carried out within the guidelines established by the Resource Management Directives of the department.

The following are measures for implementing the management policies for natural values:

1. Staff work will be performed leading to classification of the marsh areas of China Camp State Park as a natural preserve, since it is the policy of the state to preserve and protect all wetlands. These marsh areas harbor one endangered species, the salt marsh harvest mouse. The natural preserve should include all land at China Camp State Park subject to inundation by tidal action.
2. Since it is not practical or feasible to eliminate all introduced exotic plants in the natural areas at China Camp State Park, the main effort will be concentrated on species known to be aggressively competitive with native flora. Such species as French broom (Cytisus monspessulanus), Scotch broom (Cytisus scoparius), and pampas grass (Cortaderia jubata) will be the first to be removed. Eucalyptus that is extending its range from planted sites or blocking scenic vistas will be removed. Lesser plants such as exotic thistles may be removed if it appears they are taking over or preventing native species from becoming reestablished. The common non-native species that are found throughout the grasslands of California will gradually be replaced by natives, as the result of termination of grazing and introduction of occasional fire by prescription.
3. Approximately 70 acres of park land are scarred by OHV use; this land needs to be returned to natural conditions. About one-third of this acreage is in need of immediate action to stop accelerated erosion. These areas consist of steep slopes (25-50%), deep gullies, and completely denuded and compacted trails. Suggested procedures include, but are not limited to: water bars, to divert water from severely eroded slopes; repair of drainage ditches on existing roads; rock and brush filling of gullies; sand or soil bagging; jute netting on slopes greater than 25%; and hydromulching with fertilizer, seed and mulch. On the other two-thirds of the area, simple mulching and seeding of native species should be sufficient. Native species could include Stipa pulchra, Melica sp., and Koeleria sp.

The department will work closely with power company authorities to correct erosion problems associated with the power line right-of-way. Off-highway vehicle use has contributed to this problem in the past; however, since the unit has been classified as a state park, off-highway vehicle use will be eliminated.

The current road and trail system, part of which resulted from OHV use, will be evaluated, and those roads not needed for access and management will be restored to natural conditions, or converted to non-motorized trail use.

Only vehicles on official business will be allowed on the steep upland areas of San Pedro Ridge.

4. To protect resources from wildfire, it will be necessary to develop a fire protection plan that includes a program to reduce fuel in key areas. Areas where this should be done are along the side roads that follow the crest of San Pedro Ridge from the east to the west, and along the ridge on the west boundary of the property. The fire protection plan will encircle a major portion of the park. Additional fuel reduction can be accomplished along the power line from the San Pedro Ridge crest south to the road along the south ridge boundary, and along the road and ridge to the Greenwood School Road. In addition, fuel reduction programs will be conducted in areas that have high esthetic values, such as the redwood groves, and where groves and specimen sizes of redwood, bay, or other large trees exist.

The program of fuel reduction in critical areas may include, but is not limited to: prescribed burning; thinning; pruning; selective hand removal of brush, trees and slash; and planting of grasses. This program will be implemented in coordination with the rehabilitation of seriously eroded areas. The material removed may be placed in gullies, to help reduce erosion.

5. Due to the high erodibility of the soils, all bicycle, horse, and foot trails developed in the area will be carefully graded and drained to avoid future erosion problems. Where switchbacks are necessary, they will be made in areas that discourage shortcutting; i.e., in thick brush or poison-oak thickets, cliffs, etc. All trails will be kept away from archeological sites.

Cultural Values

All Native American values will be protected from future disturbance by vehicles, foot traffic, vandalism, and erosion. Programs will be implemented to repair damage already present. All sites will be carefully mapped, noting contour of site, presence of surface materials, and location of damage. Stabilization efforts will include control of erosion or of the potential for erosion, filling holes, trails, or gullies with clean fill, and reseeding, where possible. All such work will be coordinated with and monitored by qualified personnel from the Cultural Heritage Section. Site specific measures for implementing the management policies for cultural values are as follows:

1. All sites which have been damaged by either vandals or erosion (specifically CA:MRN:110, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, and 119) will be recontoured, using clean fill. All potholes, gullies, and trail scars will be filled.
2. Erosion control measures will be instituted where erosion has altered or threatens to alter the integrity of the site. These measures are critical in the cases of CA:MRN:110 and 114, although erosion poses a significant threat in almost all areas.

3. Sites CA:MRN:118 and 119 (Zone 1) and 116 and 117 (Zone 2) will be isolated from any recreational activities planned for these valleys. This will be accomplished by routing trails and locating parking lots, roads, restrooms, picnic sites, or other facilities at a distance, to be determined by department archeologists, from these sites.
4. The small valley (Zone 3), where sites CA:MRN:114, 115 and 328 are located, will be isolated from heavy public use. Specifically, the trailhead on North San Pedro Road will be closed.
5. Sites CA:MRN:110 (Zone 6), 111 and 112 (Zone 4), and 113 (Zone 3), located next to the bayshore, will be isolated from development, and visitor contact will be discouraged.

All historic remains will be protected from disturbance by vehicles, foot traffic, vandalism, and erosion. Existing damage (primarily caused by vandals) will be repaired. A continuing program of investigation aimed at locating and assessing the integrity of specific features within Historic Zone 6 will be instituted. Specific measures are as follows:

1. A survey of Historic Zone 6 will be instituted. This will include preparation of a detailed map of the coves, as well as collection and analysis of surface remains.
2. All potholes in both coves caused by vandals (primarily bottle hunters) will be repaired with clean fill.
3. In consultation with a qualified marine archeologist, a program will be developed for the preservation and possible removal of the sampans embedded in the floor of Rat Rock Cove (Cove 1).
4. Ongoing archival and oral-historical research will be undertaken to facilitate analysis of all materials recovered, and to enhance understanding of the shrimp fishery and villages, including a determination of the year when the village first became known as China Camp.
5. All repair work will be planned in consultation with and will be monitored by qualified personnel from the Cultural Heritage Section.
6. The existing shrimp fishery will be perpetuated by encouraging the current person carrying on this activity to continue by whatever means are feasible, and to train a successor(s) to pursue the activity when he no longer wishes to do so.

All buildings outside the China Camp village area (Historic Zone 6) will be removed, except for those structures retained for administrative or maintenance purposes. Specific structures within China Camp village which do not conform to the historic period will be removed. Remaining structures will be preserved and based on a plan developed by the Interpretive Services Section; certain structures will be restored to conform with their appearance during the early historic period of the village. Specific measures are as follows:

1. The following structures, which do not conform with the historic period or the primary or secondary themes of the area, will be removed: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7.*
2. The following structures, which do conform with the historic period and theme will be preserved (in order of need): 9, 10, 11, 8, 12, 13, 14, 6, 5, 16, and 15. Preservation will be sufficient to protect the structures from collapse or fire, and from any other hazards which pose a threat to the structures themselves, or to the public.
3. The following structures, which have been determined to be of primary importance to the early historic period, ca. 1865-1900, will be restored to their appearance during that period (in order of need): 9, 10, 11, and 8. Restoration will be sufficient to allow on-site interpretive programs to take place within these structures.
4. At the time of removal of any structures or during other ground-disturbing activities in Historic Zone 6, all work will be monitored by qualified personnel from the Cultural Heritage Section. Additionally, Interpretive Services personnel will inspect all materials for possible use in later reconstructions or interpretive programs.
5. At the time of removal of structures 21 and 22 (located at 244 N. San Pedro Road), care will be taken not to disturb the adjacent prehistoric site (CA:MRN:112).
6. Any reconstruction of buildings in China Camp will be done with complete historical accuracy, to be established by archeological and documentary research.

Every effort will be made to acquire artifacts related to the history and development of the Chinese population and the fishing industry of the village area (Historic Zone 6). Many such artifacts are now in the possession of Frank Quan, resident of the site. In addition, artifacts recovered which relate to development of the camp or the fishing industry will be retained and used for interpretive purposes, where needed.

Human Intrusions

All structures outside Historic Zone 6, and the structures within this zone specified above, shall be removed. The current program of trash removal shall continue, and shall be extended to Historic Zone 6, to facilitate the removal of debris determined not to be of historic interest.

*All structures are shown in Appendix B.



China Camp today



Buildings Nos. 6 and 8



Building No. 9



Buildings Nos. 10 and 9



Building No. 11

Allowable Use Intensity

Public Resources Code Section 5019.5 requires that before a development plan is made, the department shall prepare a survey of the sensitivity or fragility of the natural and cultural resources of a unit, and a determination of the maximum use intensity allowable for preservation of these resources. Factors included in making this determination are: topography; soil moisture and erodability; fire hazard; faunal and floral values; archeological and historical values; and the purpose of the unit.

Use intensity at China Camp is broken down into the following three general levels: (1) light use, which generally limits contact to 0 to 5 persons per acre, and includes activities which do not generate physical contact with the resources, such as viewing, photographing, or off-site interpretive programs; (2) moderate use, which ranges from 5 to 15 persons; and (3) heavy use, which allows greater than 15.

The pickleweed marsh, with associated fauna, will be subject only to light use. Since this habitat is fragile, no foot traffic will be allowed within most of the marsh. Exceptions may include construction of above-ground walkways in selected portions of the marsh, to provide better viewing access. In addition, access for small boats may be allowed in specific areas of the marsh.

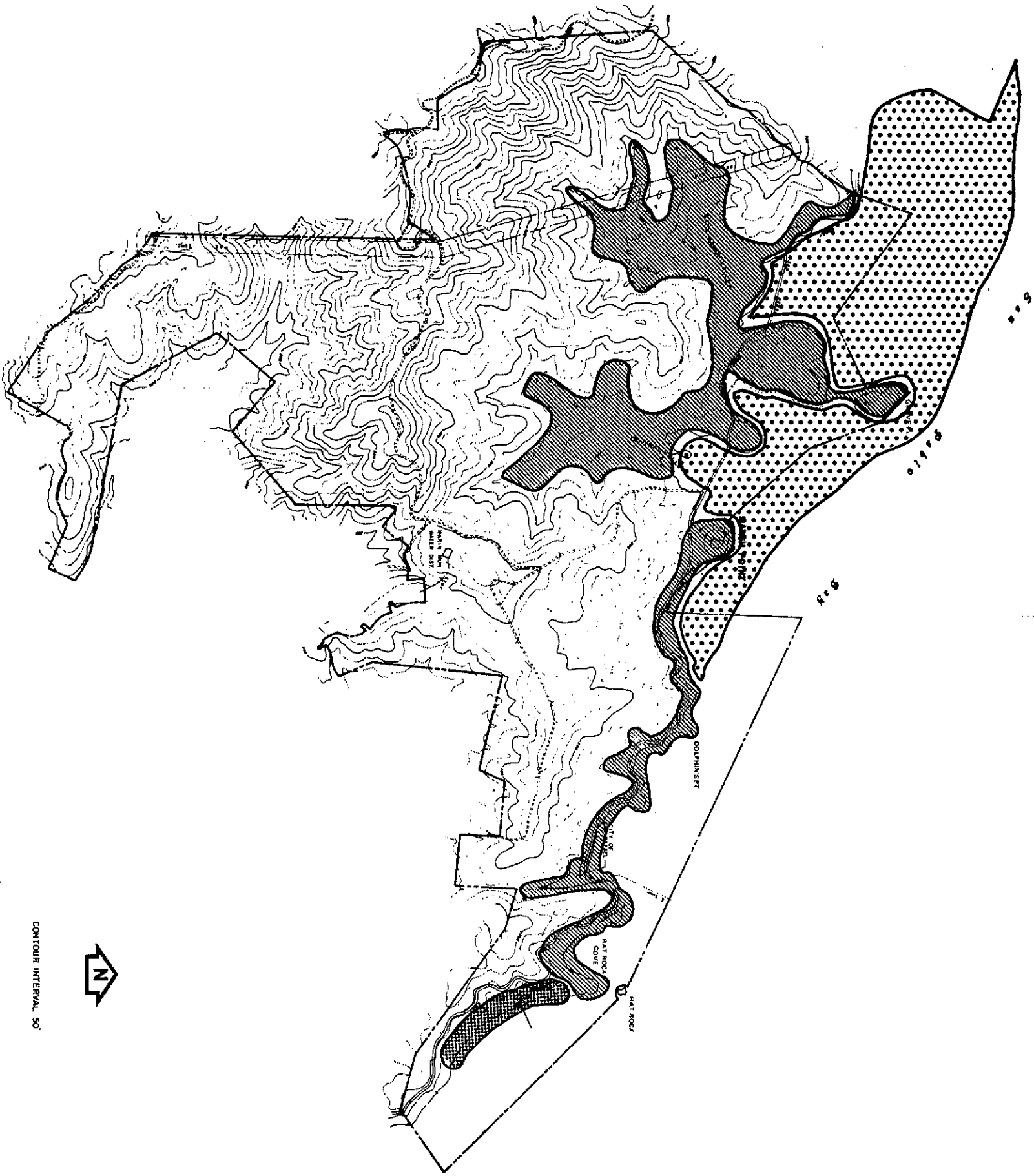
The entire upland area, which has a slope greater than 15%, will be limited to light use. This allowable use level, as defined above, would be modified to accommodate the concept of trail capacity, rather than acreage capacity. Greater use levels in these areas would result in erosion and increased fire danger. Activities compatible with this designation include individual or small group hiking, nature study, picnicking, horseback riding, and photography. Several small redwood groves in the uplands are to be included in this designation.

The two valleys located in the northeast part of the park will tolerate moderate levels of use, due to their relatively low slopes and low fire danger. However, because of previous misuse (mainly from off-highway vehicles), considerable erosion problems exist in both valleys. After completion of rehabilitation work, moderate use will be allowed on areas with slopes of less than 15%.

All areas within the park determined to be Native American archeological sites will be subject to light use only. The fragility of the midden soils and the danger of vandalism necessitate a use restricted to off-site interpretation. At no time will these sites be open to anyone but interested Native Americans, park personnel, or qualified scholars.

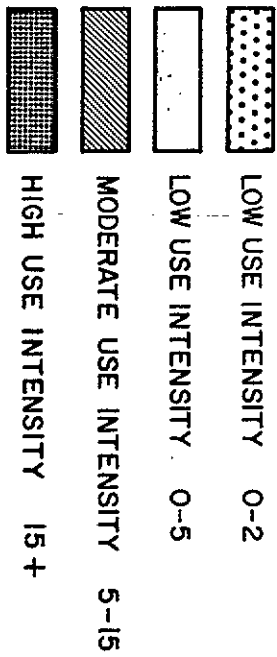
The Rat Rock Cove area will be restricted to a moderate use level, after completion of the protection programs outlined in this document. The fragile historic archeological materials in this area are subject to danger from foot traffic and possible vandalism or theft.

The China Camp Cove area will allow a heavy use level, after completion of the building preservation and restoration programs.



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SCALE IN FEET

CONTOUR INTERVAL, 50'



LEGEND

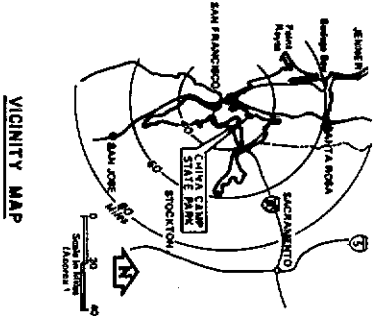


FIGURE 1

**CHINA CAMP STATE PARK
ALLOWABLE USE INTENSITY**

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

APPROVED _____ DATE _____

REVISIONS

DATE

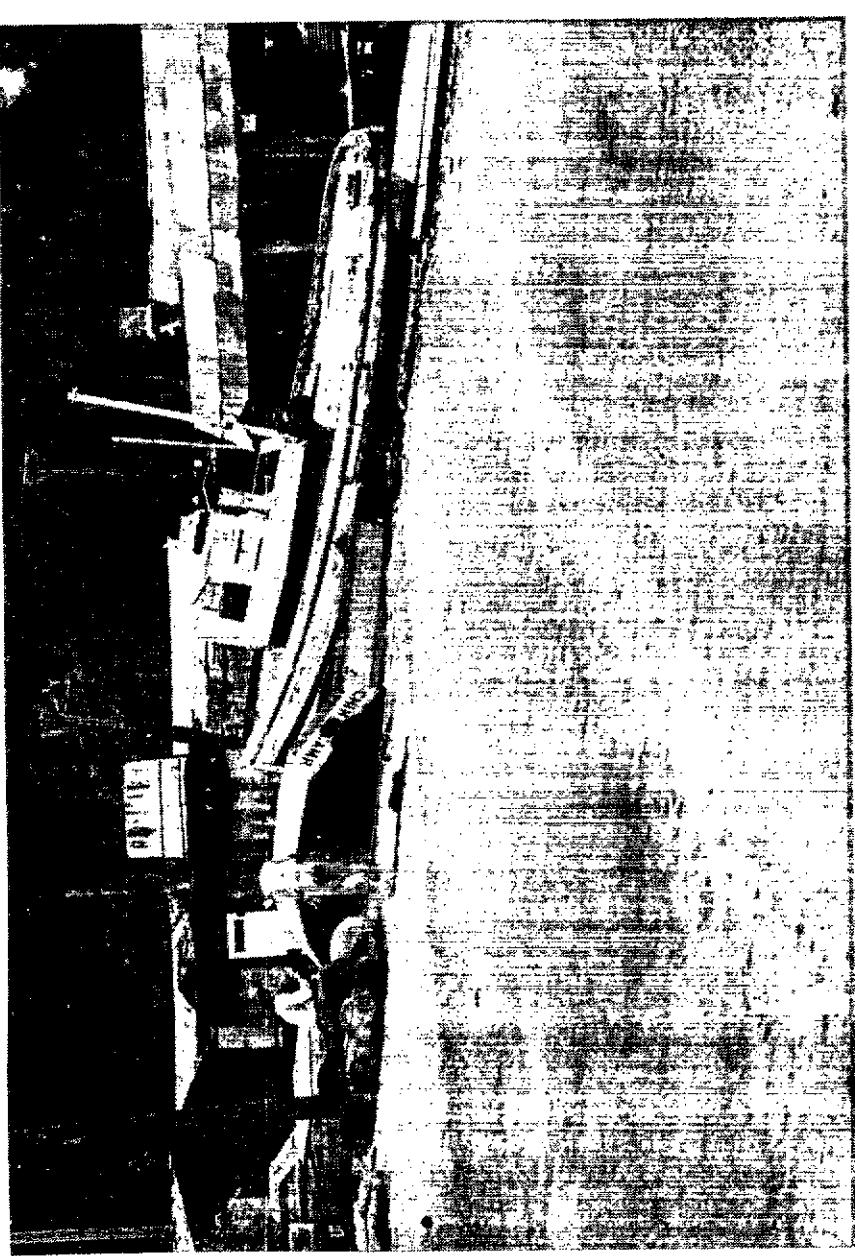
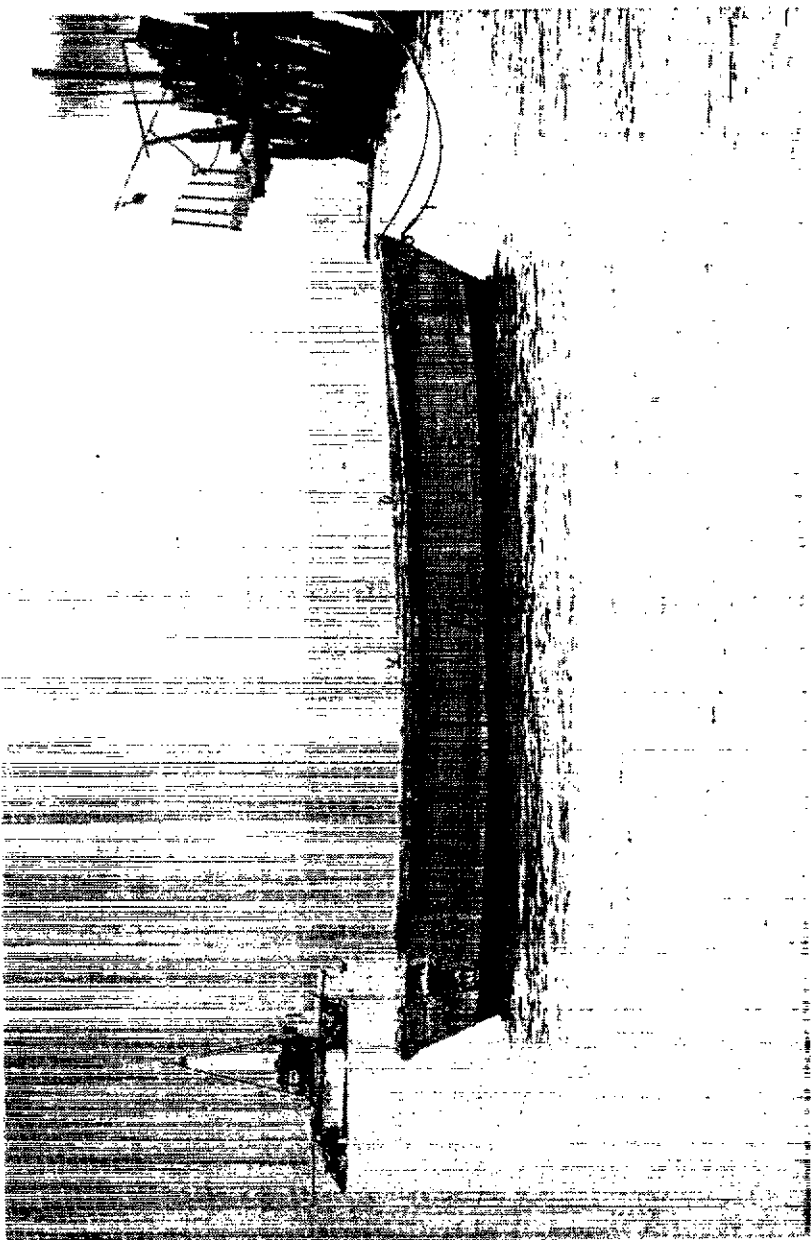
DESIGNED

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Access to San Pablo Bay is an important resource of China Camp State Park. Consequently, sport fishing, which has occurred around China Camp proper (including the rental of boats, fishing from shore, and launching of small, hand-carried boats), will be allowed to continue. However, any new facilities designed to increase the size of boats using this area, or otherwise detracting from the cultural significance of the area or altering the pattern of use, will not be allowed.

Day and overnight use of China Camp State Park will be allowed only to the extent that these activities do not infringe on the integrity or interpretation of natural, cultural, and scenic values.

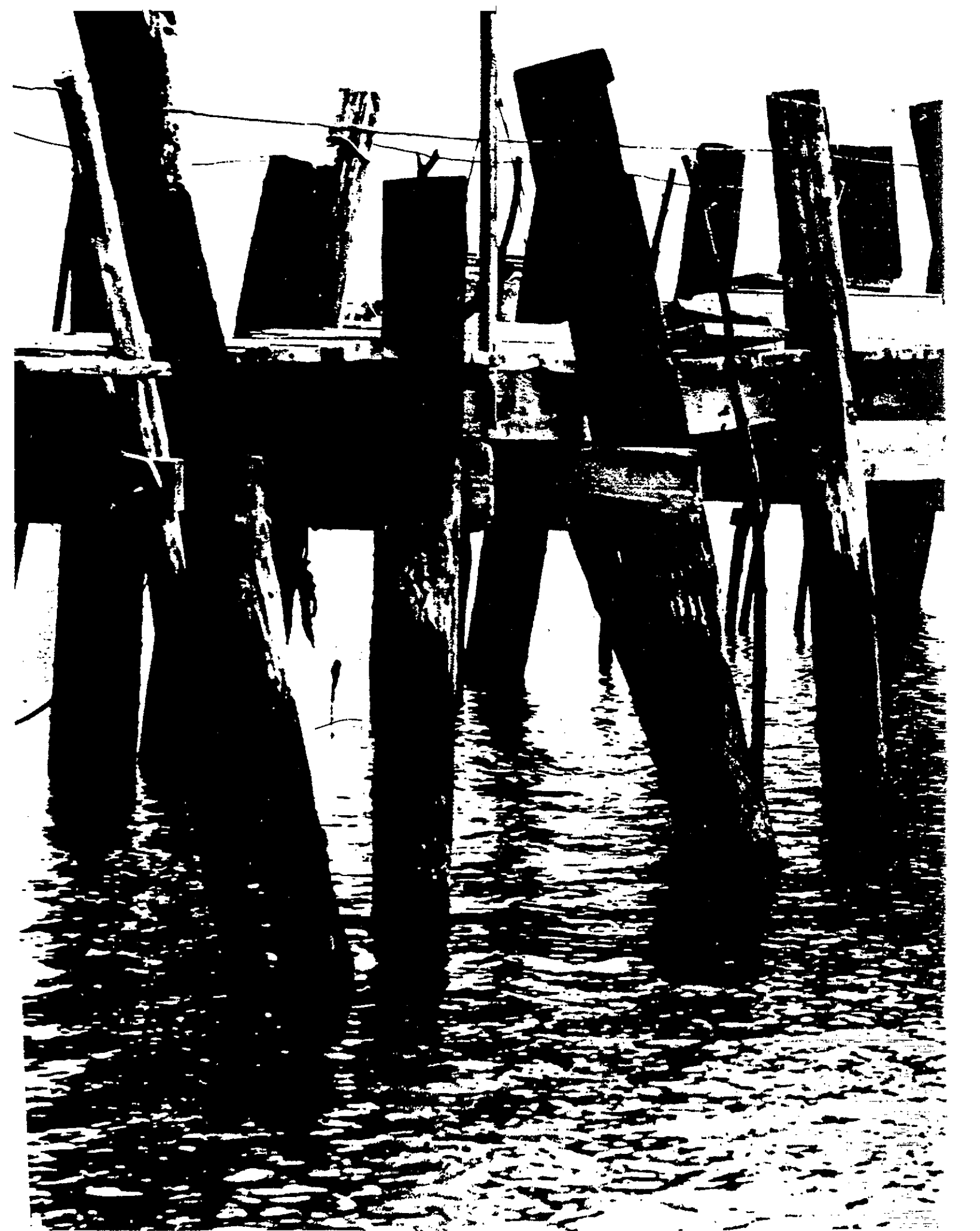
Interpretation

It shall be the policy of the department to interpret the cultural history of the park, with specific emphasis on authentic and sensitive interpretation of Native American inhabitants and the Chinese fishing industry. The interpretive policy will embrace the following points:

1. Interpretation of Native American occupation of the park area shall emphasize settlement patterns, material culture, subsistence technologies, relationships with other Coast Miwok groups and more distant societies, resource exploitation, and the history of contact with Euroamerican populations.
2. Every effort shall be made to determine and apply appropriate place and object names of Coast Miwok origin to areas and elements of the park, as part of the interpretive program.
3. Interpretation of the Chinese fishing industry shall include emphasis on the early history of the enterprise, including the relationship of the Chinese population with Euroamerican society, and every effort shall be made to perpetuate the fishing activity now being practiced.
4. Such interpretation shall also include emphasis on development of the industry from its beginning to the present. This shall be facilitated through the use of existing and reconstructed buildings, artifacts, and photographic displays.
5. The Asian-American and Euroamerican interpretive period for the park shall be 1865 to the present, which spans the major development of the fishing industry and the growth of the settlement.

All natural values of China Camp State Park are to be interpreted, to the extent that such activities do not significantly reduce the character or quality of these values. Interpretation of the salt water marsh may include observation platforms, displays, and walkways; however, foot traffic through the pickleweed marsh will not be allowed. Other natural features of the park may be interpreted through small displays, brochures, and especially a well-planned trail system.

A fuller treatment of the interpretive program for the natural and cultural values of the unit will be developed in the Interpretive Prospectus.





*Land Use
and
Facilities Element*



The county has acquired some open space lands along the western boundary of the park, and is considering additional acquisitions in the area, but there are no plans for development or use other than hiking and horseback riding trails in the foreseeable future.

Currently, all state park lands within the county are essentially undeveloped, except for China Camp Village and several bayshore residences that are scheduled to be removed. Future park development and uses are discussed in the proposed land use and facilities sections of this document. They are considered compatible with the Marin Countywide Plan.

There are three parcels of private land along the western boundary of the park which may play a role in the planning, development, and use of China Camp. Two parcels are referred to as Buck's Landing, and one parcel is commonly referred to as Boyd's Ranch. These are classified in the county plan as developable areas. This land use status suggests that these areas are strong candidates for future residential and commercial development. Such developments in the area would significantly affect the park viewshed and the quality of open space and recreation, as well as creating additional traffic burdens along San Pedro Road. The department will monitor future planning and development considerations for these parcels.

McNears Beach is a county park with beach lands adjoining China Camp State Park at the southwest boundary of the state park. McNears Beach is one of the county's heaviest used recreation facilities with weekend and holiday visitation averaging 1,213 people per day (368 cars).

At peak use periods for McNears Beach, a high level of people and traffic congestion occurs within the park, on San Pedro Road and in the surrounding communities. City officials and local citizens are concerned over traffic safety and trespass problems that occur near the park. The county has plans to regulate use of the park to control existing abuses in the surrounding communities which should go into effect soon. Both city and county police agencies survey the area, issuing citations and warnings in an effort to control the community impact problems.

It is not expected that improvements at China Camp State Park will significantly affect the overuse and congestion at McNears Beach. The swimming pool, tennis courts and swimming beach of the county park will not be duplicated in the state park, so the appeal of China Camp will be basically to a different recreationist.

San Rafael. - A minor portion of park lands along the south boundary is located in the incorporated city limits of San Rafael. The San Rafael General Plan identifies all land in the study area within the city's purview as: (1) existing open space preserves; (2) developed residential lands; (3) undeveloped lands; (4) multiuse activity centers; and (5) water-oriented review areas. Of the five, only nos. 1, 2, and 3 are considered of immediate concern to park planning. Existing open space preserves and undeveloped land uses predominate the park land areas. It is not expected that these lands would be developed for purposes other than recreation-related, low-density, low-impact use, appropriate to preserving the city's natural open space policies.

LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT

The Land Use and Facilities Element is a narrative and graphic description of the facilities that will be provided at China Camp State Park. Its goal is to provide for and enhance the public's use and enjoyment of the park's natural and cultural resources, while exercising control to manage and preserve these values. The plan identifies development elements, such as roads and parking, day use facilities (picnic sites, comfort stations, etc.), multi-use facilities (sites usable for picnicking or camping), interpretive facilities (natural and cultural resource features), trails, and maintenance and operation facilities.

The General Plan is the product of a comprehensive evaluation of regional planning, recreation, land use, and facilities needs, as well as other pertinent planning factors. It remains as a flexible planning tool to guide future development and use of the park.

Regional Planning Evaluation

Study Area

The study area is a comprehensive planning unit, consisting of lands that affect or potentially affect the management, future development, and use of the park and its resources. The area consists of those lands comprising San Pedro Ridge and its watersheds, ranging from the tidal mud flats and marsh environments of the bay coast through the Back Ranch valley to the uplands and ridgetops. The area is bounded on the north, south, and east by San Pablo and San Rafael bays, and on the west by U. S. Highway 101.

It is not intended that all lands within this area should be considered for acquisition, or in any way be directly managed or influenced by the current plan. The department feels that local and county planning regulations and zoning restrictions for public and private lands in the study area are adequate tools for managing these lands in harmony with China Camp State Park.

Regional/Local Planning

There are two governmental planning jurisdictions/agencies within the study area which have an immediate effect on the planning for China Camp - the County of Marin and the City of San Rafael.

Marin County. - The major portion of park lands within the study area is located in the unincorporated area of Marin County. The Marin Countywide Plan identifies this land as urban open space. The lands have been zoned to allow for low density/low impact development appropriate to preserving the county's open space policies. Provisions within this land use allow for recreation and other low density/low impact developments appropriate to preserving the county's natural open space policies.

The Marin Countywide Plan's Environmental Quality Element defines special zones of interest and management within the study area, including open space/ridge and upland greenbelts (scenic community separations) and conservation/water edge lowlands (1,000 yard inland) zones, which provide for more detailed restrictions of use.

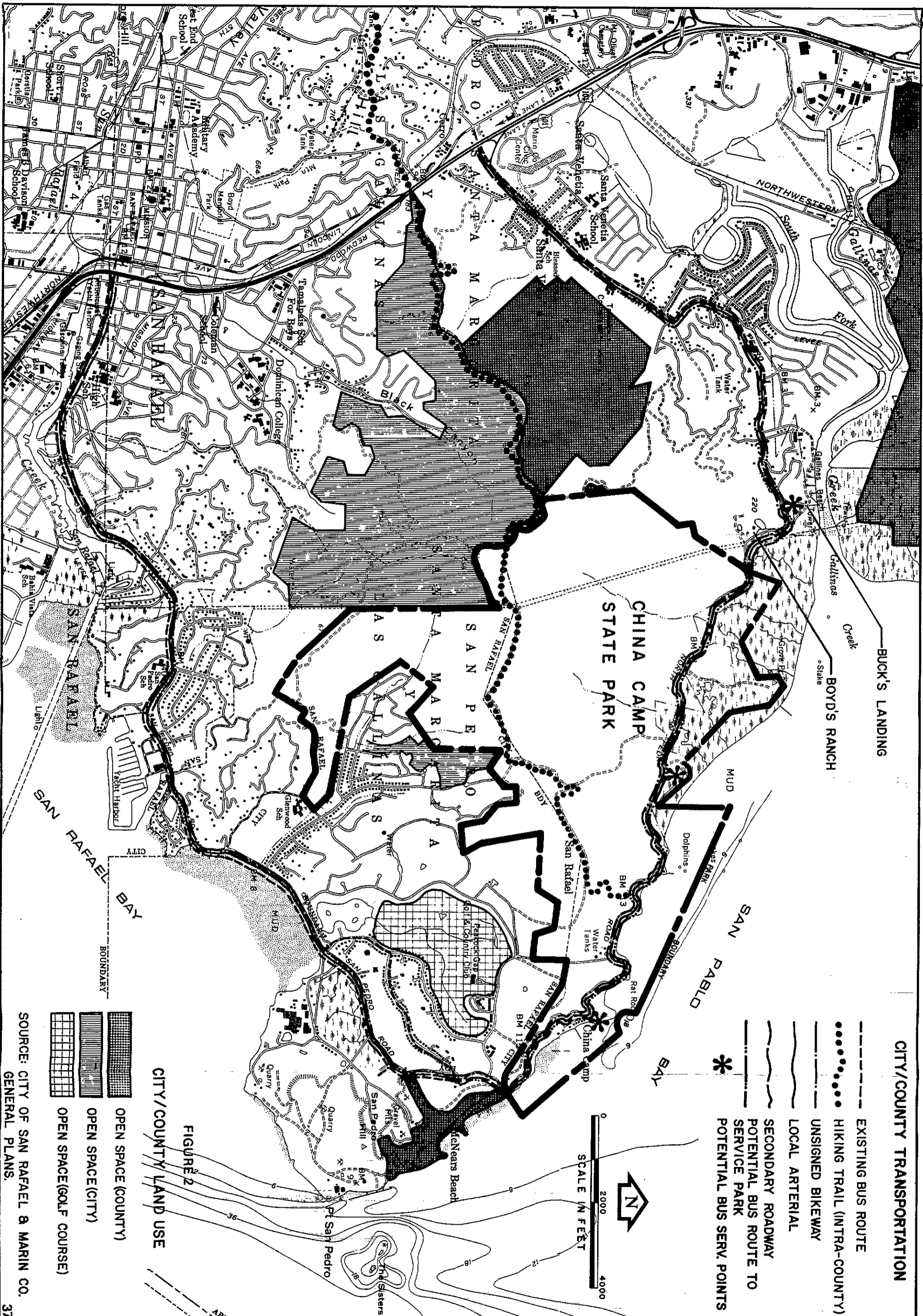


FIGURE 2
CITY/COUNTY LAND USE

SOURCE: CITY OF SAN RAFAEL & MARIN CO. GENERAL PLANS.

CHINA CAMP STATE PARK
STUDY AREA

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

DESIGNED	DATE	REVISIONS
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SHEET NO. 07

APPROVED _____ DATE _____



Developed residential lands along the park's southeast boundary (the communities of Glenwood, Peacock Gap, etc.) and west of the park (the communities of Gallinas, Santa Venetia, etc.) are more immediate concerns to park planning. The interest of city officials and local citizens in developing park and recreation uses compatible with local residents' needs was a major issue in planning the park.

Traffic congestion and visitor impacts on adjoining communities were also major planning considerations.

Currently, all park lands within the city are undeveloped, except for a municipal water tank site, high-voltage transmission lines, and fire roads, all of which will continue in their current form. Future park uses and developments are discussed in the proposed land use and facilities section of this document, and are considered compatible with the City of San Rafael's General Plan.

Transportation

Regional and local transportation, as it relates to China Camp, is not simply a park planning matter. There are several transportation and recreation travel aspects that require detailed evaluation; roads, mass transportation, hiking and biking, and boating access are the primary concerns.

Roads. - The park is served from the west by North San Pedro Road, and from the southeast by San Pedro Road. North San Pedro Road is county-improved from its connection to a point just west of the community of Gallinas; it is a narrow, low-maintenance road as it passes through the park to San Pedro Point near McNears Beach, where it joins an improved San Pedro Road continuing on to San Rafael, with a connection at U.S. 101.

The department will work with the City of San Rafael, County of Marin, and CALTRANS to provide appropriate signing for access to the park.

Mass Transportation. - Mass transit, and particularly recreation transit, is a primary consideration for public access to China Camp. It is important that an alternative to individual transportation be considered as a vital part of overall public access to the park. As proposed, about 10 percent of total park use will be served by mass transit - municipal, school, and charter bus services. On-site facilities will be provided to enhance mass transit use. Off-site facilities and program support will be sought by the department to facilitate the proposed level of visitor mass transit service. County and public transportation officials have been contacted to identify the potentials for China Camp. It is recommended that a joint effort be undertaken by the Department of Parks and Recreation, regional recreation agencies, and others interested in bay area transit, to comprehensively define and evaluate the full range of transportation and related issues surrounding recreation travel needs for the park and other recreational facilities within the surrounding service area(s).

It is felt that until such an evaluation is made, no comprehensive proposal for altering or enhancing regional transportation can be implemented.

Existing regional capabilities are adequate for current use levels until evaluations are finalized and recommendations are made and/or implemented.

Hiking and Biking. - Hiking and biking trails are another important consideration in providing visitor access to the park. These are the most viable alternatives to motorized individual transportation. As proposed, about 15 percent of total park use will be served by existing and proposed county and city trails. These trails, coupled with future off-site mass transportation capabilities (Golden Gate Transit, Bay Area Rapid Transit, etc.) would extend hiking and biking access beyond Marin County into other bay area counties and beyond.

A number of hostels, proposed at various locations off-site in Marin County, would contribute to the success of hiking and biking access to China Camp.

Boating. - Boating is not considered a major transportation alternative for China Camp. Docking in the park is limited to China Camp Village. This dock is accessible at high water, but silt accumulation in the bay precludes access at low water. Dredging is not feasible, as resiltation would quickly recur. At Buck's Landing, a property adjacent to the northern tip of the park, boats can gain access to the shore; there is a permanent channel next to the shore. The department included Buck's Landing in an acquisition program, but funding was insufficient to allow the acquisition to be consummated. This would be a desirable addition to the park, but it is not known that funds will be made available for the purchase. Boat launching and landing are feasible and allowed at China Camp Village and Rat Rock Cove when waters are sufficiently high. Boats can tie up at the pier and anchor in the waters offshore.

Recreation Evaluation

The Recreation Evaluation for China Camp State Park is a planning evaluation which identifies the existing recreation values of statewide, regional, county, and local interests, as they would influence future development and use of the park. Consideration has been given to the evaluation of existing recreation conditions (needs and deficiencies) in the areas which influence the project, and projections as to what the future recreation needs and facilities requirements will be.

The Recreation Setting

China Camp State Park is located within the California Outdoor Recreation Resource Plan's (CORRP 1974) Planning District 4. This is a nine-county district surrounding the San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun Bays. In addition to Marin, it includes the counties of Sonoma, Napa, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo, and San Francisco.

Although the planning district contains only about 6 percent of the state's total land area (9,473 square miles), it is the home of nearly 23 percent of the state's population. The area has a density average of some 661 persons per square mile, which is almost double that of the next most densely populated planning district.

Planning District 4 has little open space and recreation land in public ownership, particularly in the most heavily populated counties. Additional lands are required for recreation.

Recent trends (CORRP 1974) indicate that there is an increasing interest within the district and Marin county for federal and state recreation agencies to acquire additional lands and provide more recreation opportunities along the coast and bayshore areas. There is also a growing demand for back-country experiences close to the urban centers.

Recreation Needs and Deficiencies

When evaluating the recreation picture for China Camp State Park, consideration must be given to identifying unsatisfied recreation demands within Planning District 4 and Marin County. These demands provide the fundamental information from which realistic values can be developed for establishing potential recreation use for China Camp.

Recreation needs and corresponding facilities deficiencies (CORRP 1974) are generally divided into 3 basic groups: (1) picnic units; (2) camping site units; and (3) miles of trails.

Additional, more detailed breakdowns within these categories are generally provided when detailed recreation activity potentials for individual park units are considered.

Summary of Recreation Deficiencies*
(Marin County and Planning District 4)

	Existing Facilities	Projected Deficiency for 1990	Total Facilities Needed for 1990
<u>Marin County</u>			
Camping Units	350	3,266	3,616
Picnic Units	643	4,663	5,306
Trails (miles)	229	680	909
<u>Planning District 4</u>			
Camping Units	6,571	10,312	16,883
Picnic Units	14,017	10,073	24,090
Trails (miles)	885	3,672	4,557

*Source: PARIS (Park and Recreation Information System), 1976



Proposed Recreation Use

In evaluating the basic needs and deficiencies within Planning District 4 and Marin County, and in discussing the recreation potentials for China Camp with citizens and government agencies, it becomes apparent that it is neither practical nor desirable to accommodate any major level of recreation use at the park.

The recreation needs of China Camp are those that relate to the basic resource values of the park -- its natural and cultural resources. Emphasis will be placed on providing a range of outdoor recreation opportunities, to enhance visitors' enjoyment of the resources, and to preserve the park's natural and cultural values.

Day Use - There is a need for day use facilities at China Camp. These needs include facilities for picnicking, fishing, hiking, and natural and cultural resource interpretation.

Because a high percentage (84%) of park visitor use is expected to originate from within the day use travel zone, filling day use needs will be the principal objective.

Overnight Use - There is a need for overnight use facilities at China Camp to provide some level of "extended day" recreation opportunities for group park visitors who are outside the normal day use travelling zone. These needs require facilities for group use, camping, hiking, and natural and cultural resource interpretation.

Because the principal objective for use of this limited resource is to give priority to day use (thus satisfying more people), a small percentage of the use will be given to overnight (16%).

Although the phrase "overnight use" connotes an emphasis on camping, its intended definition for China Camp includes multi-use considerations, such as group day use and group camping.



MULTI USE AREA
 INTERPRETIVE FACILITIES
 30 CAMPSITES
 COMFORT STATION
 PARKING
 CONTACT STATION

DAY USE AREA

50 PICNIC SITES
 INTERPRETIVE FACILITIES
 COMFORT STATION
 PARKING
 PARK RESIDENCE

NIKE SITE
 OVER LOOK

INTRA-COUNTY
 TRAIL

DAY USE
 3 PICNIC SITES
 OVER LOOK

VISITOR INFORMATION AREA

INTERPRETIVE FACILITIES
 5 PICNIC SITES
 COMFORT STATION
 OVER LOOK
 PARKING

DAY USE AREAS

INTERPRETIVE FACILITIES
 16 PICNIC SITES
 COMFORT STATION
 FISHING ACCESS
 SMALL BOAT LAUNCH
 PARKING

DAY USE AREA

INTERPRETIVE FACILITIES
 10 BEACH PICNICKING
 FISHING ACCESS
 SMALL BOAT LAUNCH
 CONCESSION
 COMFORT STATION
 PARKING

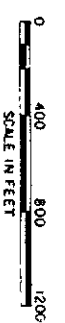
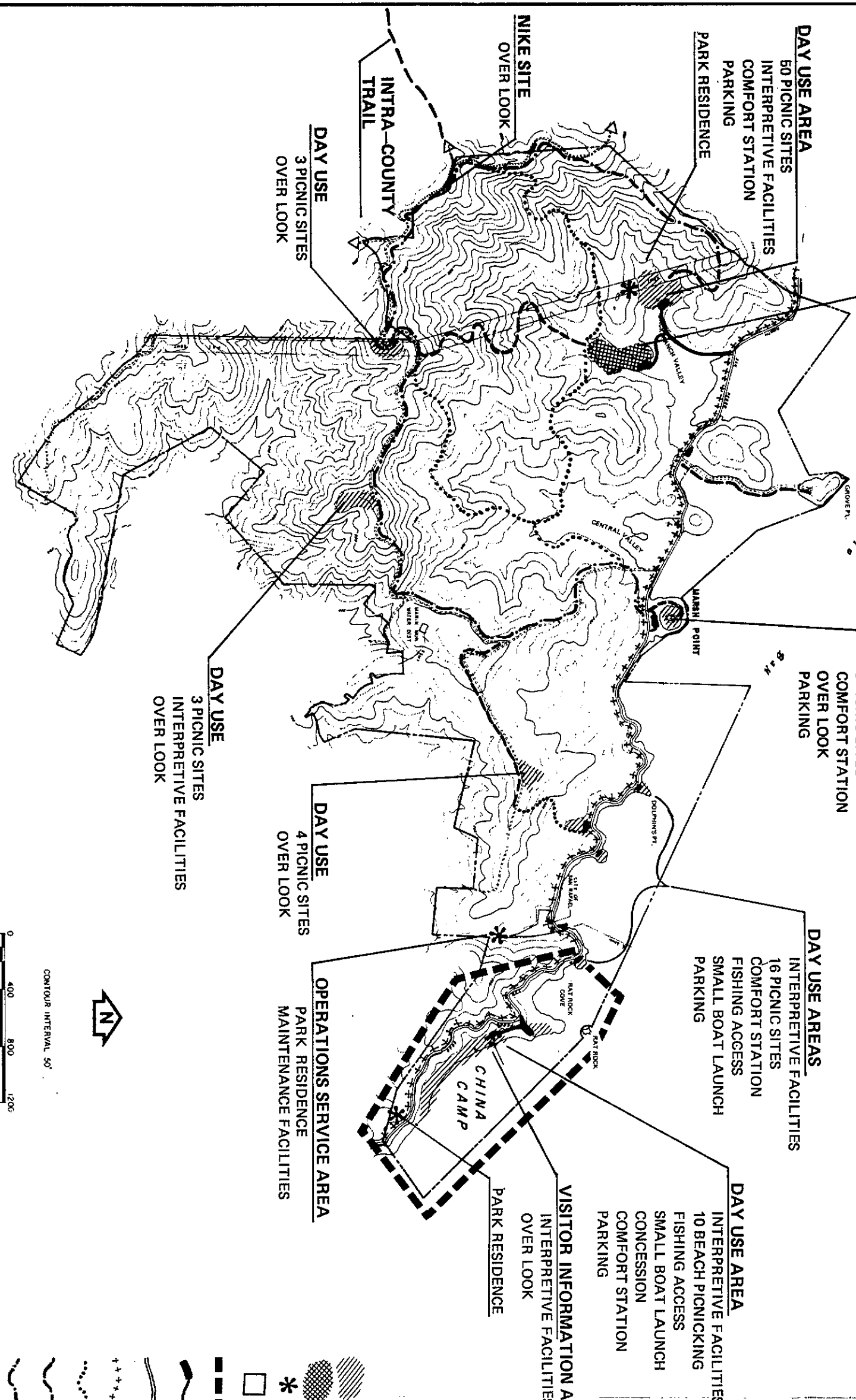
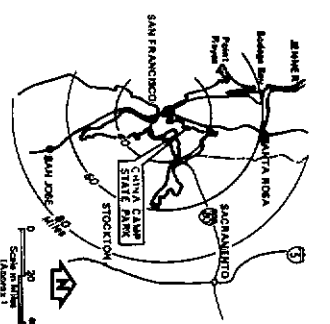
DAY USE
 4 PICNIC SITES
 OVER LOOK

OPERATIONS SERVICE AREA
 PARK RESIDENCE
 MAINTENANCE FACILITIES

DAY USE
 3 PICNIC SITES
 INTERPRETIVE FACILITIES
 OVER LOOK

FACILITIES SUMMARY

DAY USE	1,000 VISITORS
MULTI USE	200 VISITORS
PARKING	360 CARS
	70 BIKES
	6 BUSES



CONTOUR INTERVAL 50'



LEGEND

- DAY USE AREAS
- MULTI USE AREAS
- MAINTENANCE/OPERATIONS AREA
- ENTRY STATION
- CHINA CAMP HISTORICAL AREA
- PARK ROAD/PARKING
- COUNTY ROAD
- BIKE ROUTE
- PROPOSED HIKING TRAILS
- EXISTING HIKING TRAILS
- EQUESTRIAN/HIKING TRAILS
- FIRE ROADS
- LINKAGE TO OPEN SPACE TRAILS
- PARK BOUNDARY

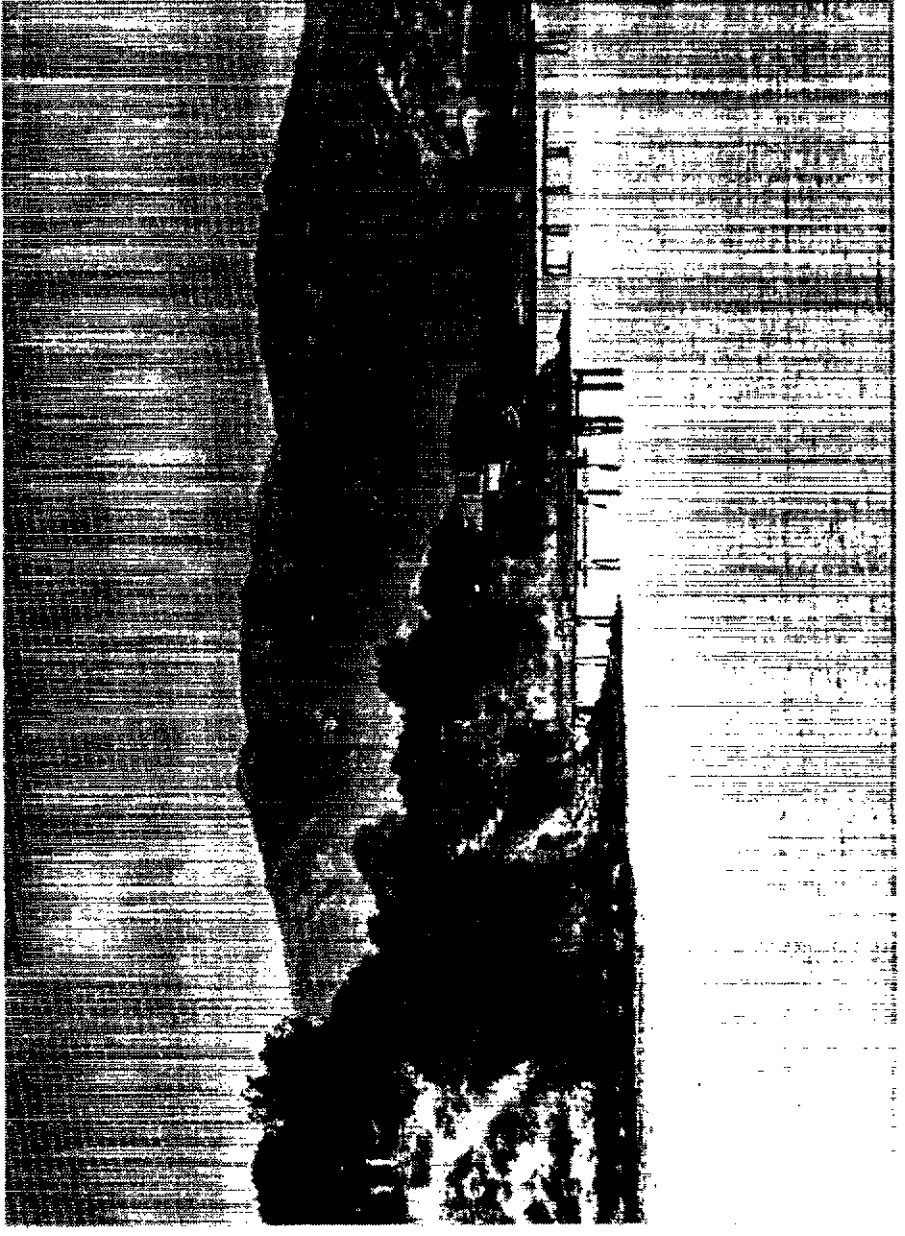
**CHINA CAMP STATE PARK
 GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
 APPROVED *Russell W. Cahill* DATE 6/21/79

REVISIONS	DATE	DESIGNED

DRAWING NO. _____
 SHEET NO. _____
 OF _____

FIGURE 3



Existing Land Use

The Land Use Plan is a graphic and narrative planning evaluation which identifies areas or zones of existing and/or proposed uses within China Camp State Park and the nonpark lands immediately surrounding it. The plan is based in part on the Park Unit Classification, Resource Element and Recreation Evaluation for the park. The plan identifies the principal areas within the unit that are environmentally suitable for the various kinds of recreational and related uses consistent with the allowable use intensities required by the Resource Element.

The Department of Fish and Game has established a wildlife management area of approximately 12,000 acres of wetlands adjoining the northern boundary of the park.

Three primary land uses existed in the park before the Department of Parks and Recreation took possession: open space use, residential use, and recreational use (day and overnight use).

Open Space

The major portion of park land is comprised of steeply sloping upland, and marshy, low-lying wetland areas, which traditionally are not considered suitable for development. These physical characteristics of the land have, over the course of time, precluded development within these areas. Fire roads and trails have traditionally been located here. No major changes are expected in these areas.

Residential Use

A number of residences and related buildings exist along North San Pedro Road, at various points on the bay coast. Many of these residences, now abandoned, were occupied year-round, and some were used only seasonally. Residents enjoyed an exclusive right to the resources of the bay and adjoining open space lands. A major concentration of residences, seasonal cottages, and historic buildings exists within the China Camp Village area, which has traditionally served as the core of residential and recreation use within park lands.

Much of the once-flourishing residential use has declined, to a point where many of the existing buildings are in an unusable condition, and will have to be considered for removal.

Special consideration will be given to continuing residential use within China Camp Village, to the extent that Frank Quan will be permitted to continue his life-long tenancy in the area.

Recreational Use

Traditionally, all park lands have been used for recreation purposes, especially in recent years. The tremendous urban build-up in the surrounding areas of Marin County have played a significant role in increasing recreation use of the undeveloped lands within the park.

A wide variety of recreation use has occurred in the area, including hunting, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, nature walks, archery, boating, and off-highway vehicle uses.

Of all of these uses, only one has had a serious detrimental effect on the environs of the park - off-highway vehicles. Individuals and group users have, over a period of 2 to 3 years, caused considerable damage in the valley and upland areas of the park. Significant scarring and advancing of erosion problems attest to the OHV presence during this period.

China Camp Village has served as a commercial/residential/recreation core of what is now China Camp State Park for about 33 years, with fishing, photography, painting, and other passive recreation activities playing a major role in its use. Boat rentals, bait sales, groceries, and prepared food services have been provided by Frank Quan and his family.

Proposed Land Use

The land use plan delineates the zones or areas of potential use and/or development. The plan is based partly on carrying capacity considerations, and partly on departmental recreation planning and design guidelines.

The Land Use Plan for China Camp is divided into four basic categories of use: day use; multi-use; indirect use; and operations/maintenance use.

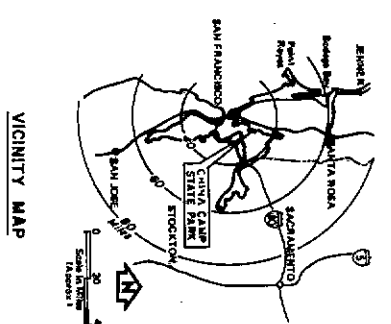
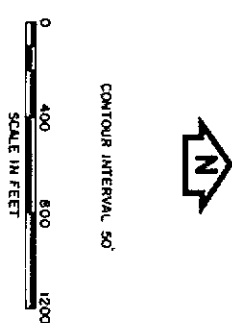
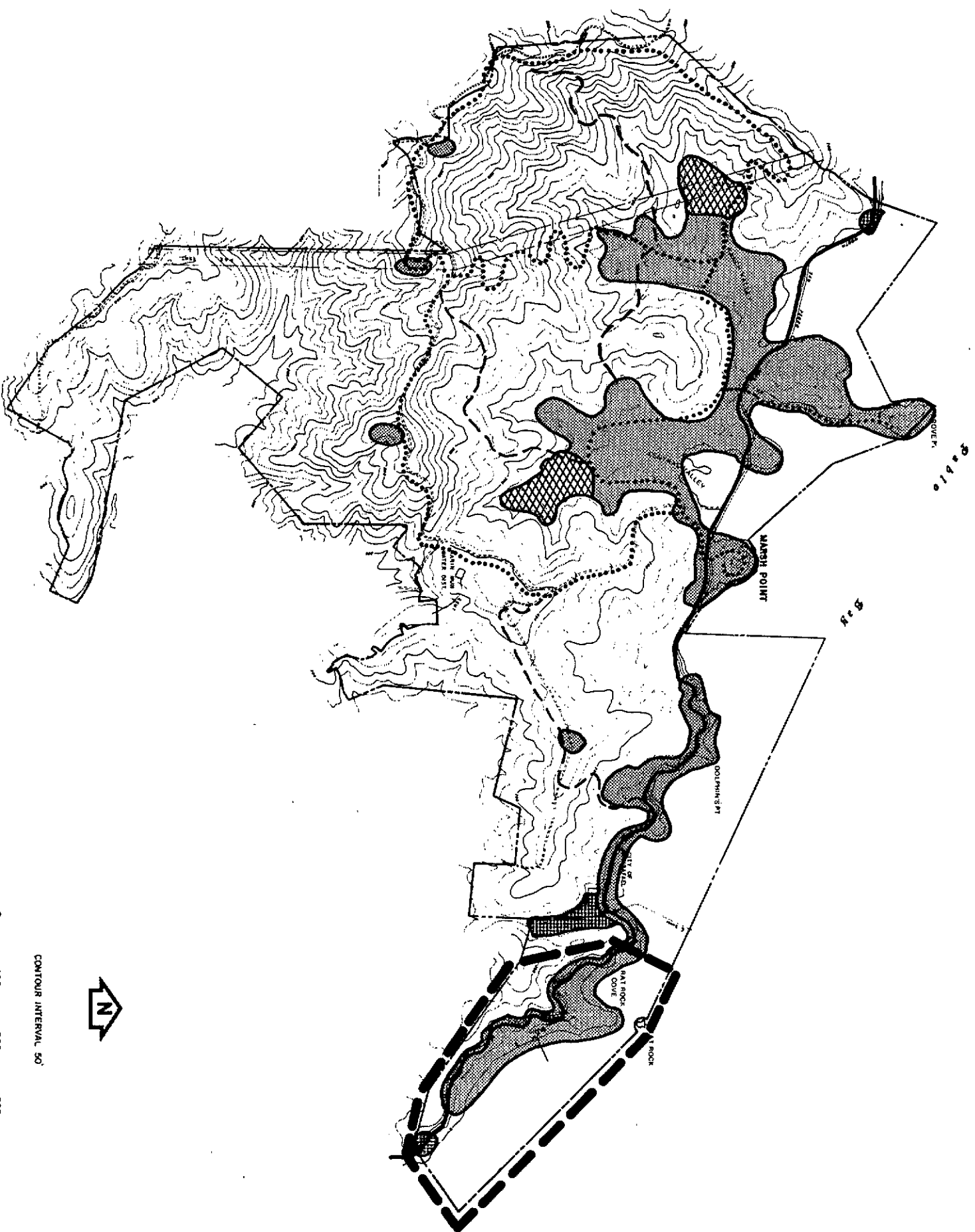
Day Use Area - Day use area will be located at China Camp Village, along the bay terraces, and within the park's Back Ranch Valley. The principal recreation activities/uses for these areas will be picnicking, fishing, sightseeing, natural and cultural resource interpretation, walking, and hiking.

Multi-Use Area - A multi-use area will be located within the Back Ranch Valley. The principal recreation activities/uses for this area will be camping and picnicking, hiking, sightseeing, and natural resource interpretation. Facilities will be designed so that park staff can have flexibility in administering the resources and meeting the public needs.

Indirect Use Areas - Designated indirect use areas will be located in the pickleweed marsh and the major parts of the upland areas of the park. The principal recreation activities/uses for these areas will be photography and natural/cultural resource studies. Minor access will be provided to these areas, to enhance the intended use potentials.

Maintenance/Operations Use Areas - Park residences will be located along North San Pedro Road near both the east and west park boundaries, and at the existing municipal sewage treatment plant, central to the project. A maintenance center will also be located near the sewer plant; it will provide for park unit maintenance, operations, and administrative management.

The Proposed Land Use map, Figure 4, page 47, shows recreation development potential in Center Valley. It should be noted that the State Park and Recreation Commission approved the General Plan with the stipulation that there will be no development in Center Valley.



LEGEND











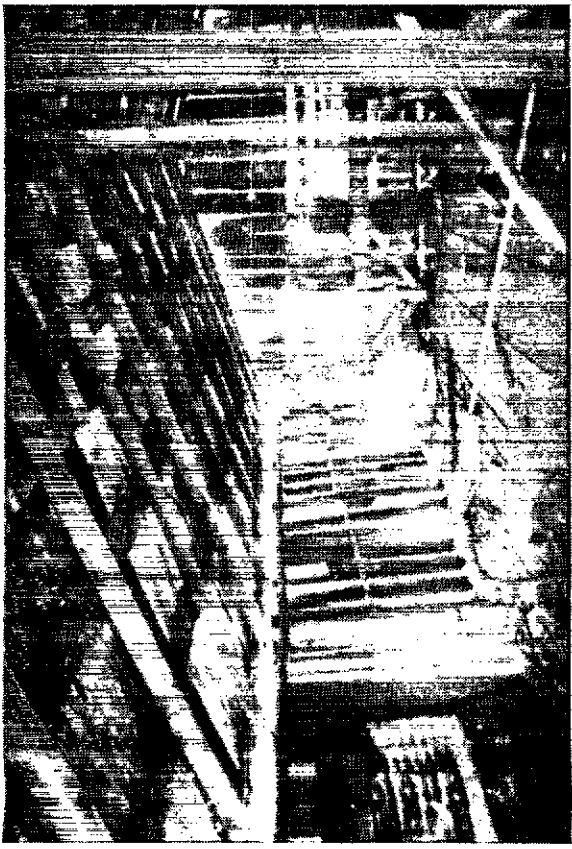
-  DAY USE
-  MULTI USE
-  INDIRECT USE
-  MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS
-  HISTORIC BUILDINGS
-  ZONE OF HISTORICAL INTEREST
-  VEHICULAR ROAD CORRIDOR AND BIKEWAY CORRIDOR
-  PRIMARY EQUESTRIAN AND HIKING TRAIL CORRIDORS
-  SECONDARY HIKING TRAIL CORRIDORS
-  PARK BOUNDARY

FIGURE 4

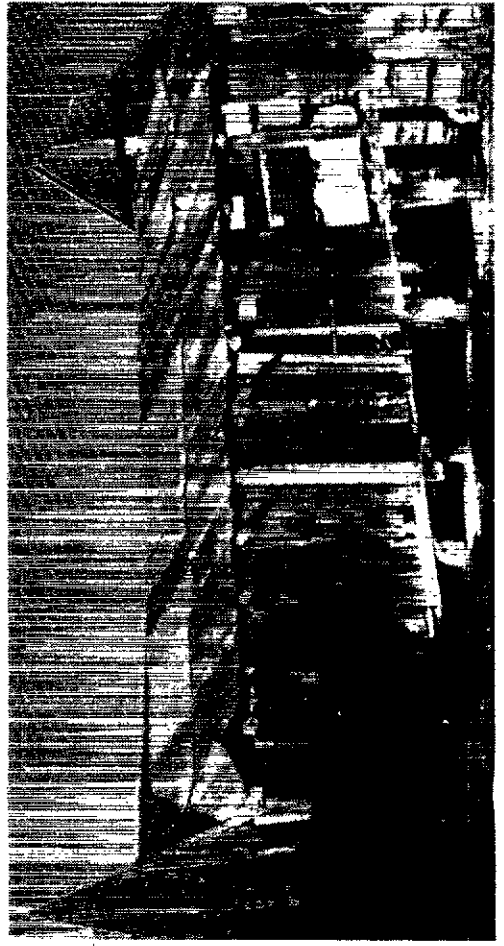
CHINA CAMP STATE PARK PROPOSED LAND USE	RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION		REVISIONS	DATE	DESIGNED
	APPROVED _____ DATE _____				DRAWN
	DRAWING NO.	SHEET NO.			CHECKED



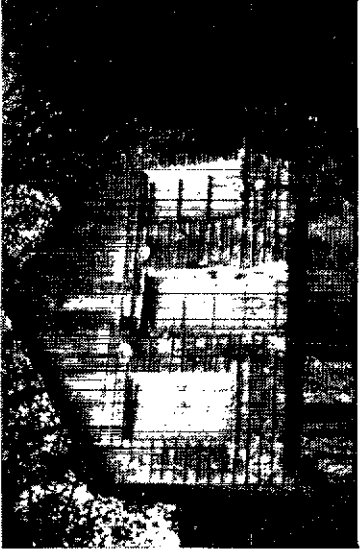
Inside Building No. 9



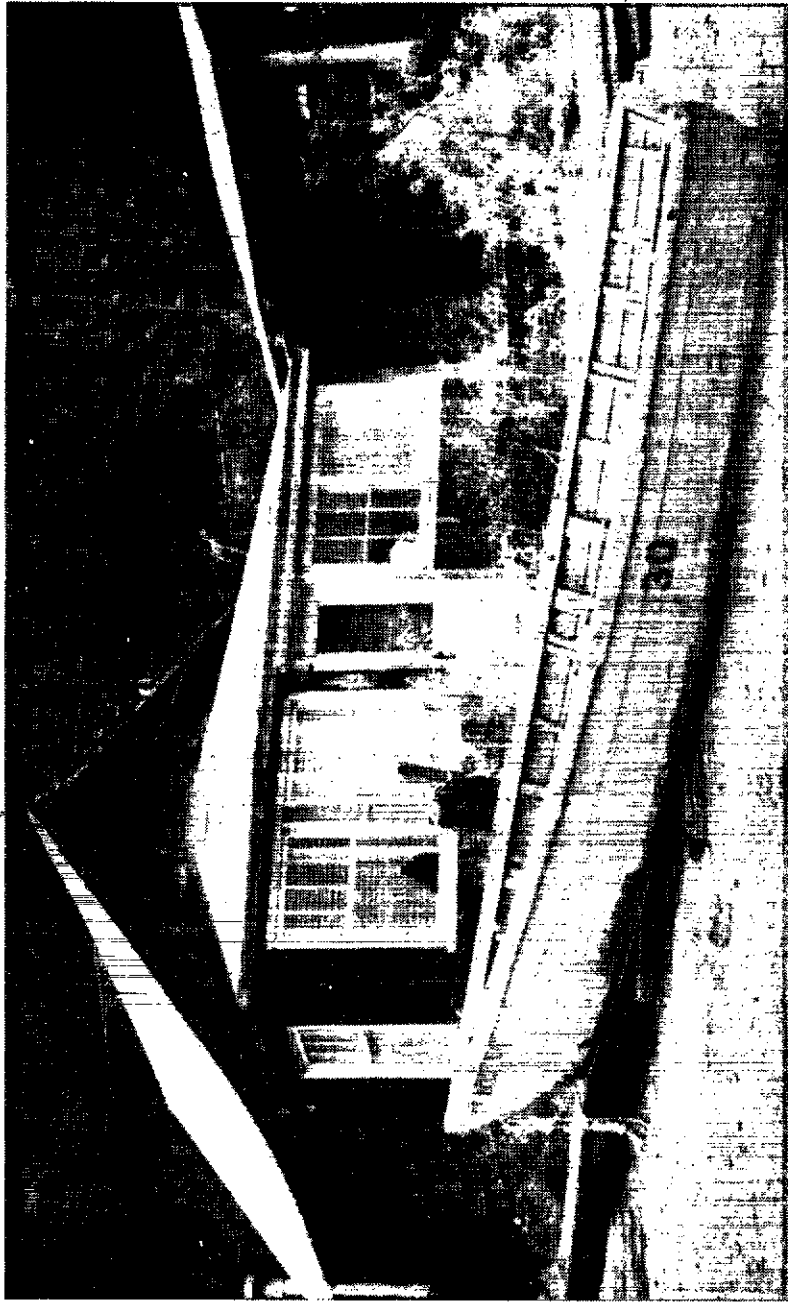
Building No. 6



Building No. 9



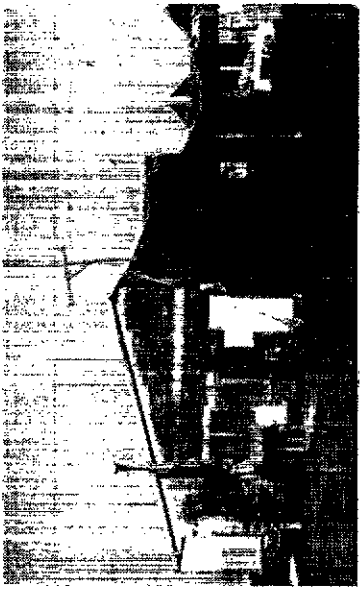
Building No. 15



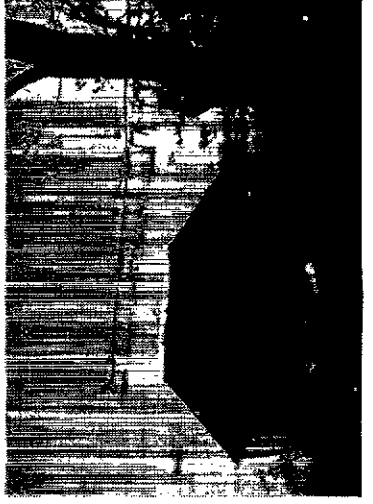
Building No. 12



Building No. 5



Building No. 11



Building No. 14

Proposed Facilities

Major facilities will be provided in the China Camp Village Historic Area, at locations along North San Pedro Road, and in the Center and Back Ranch Valleys.

China Camp Village Area

Interpretive Facilities - Within the China Camp Village area, buildings and structures nos. 9, 10, 11, and 8 will be preserved and restored (total building restoration and/or exterior restoration), in this order. Nos. 5, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 will be preserved and/or rehabilitated. All of these buildings combined will serve as the interpretive core for the historic shrimp fishing village. Special attention will be given to rehabilitation of parts of building no. 11 (concessions facilities), and also to buildings 12, 13, 14, and 5, in this order.

The existing pier (structure no. 10) is not suitable for public or private access in its present condition. It is proposed that the pier be reconstructed, to accommodate public or private access, as well as to enhance the village scene. The existing shrimp fishing and boat rental operations will be based at the pier.

Day Use Facilities - Picnic and related improvements (tables, comfort stations, parking, walks and pathways, overlooks, etc.) will be provided to supplement the historic interpretive facilities in the village area, as well as to enhance other passive bayside activities such as photography, fishing, sunbathing, etc.

The village area will be considered for programs that enhance the historic interpretive purposes identified in the Resource Element.



Building No. 10

Natural Area

Interpretive Facilities - Within the Natural Area, interpretation will emphasize natural history and Native American cultural themes. A program center (visitor orientation, natural history displays, etc.) located at Marsh Point will serve as the interpretive focus for the area. A number of themed trail loops will originate from the center, each presenting the varied resources, with trailside displays. Trails will also provide access to the center from developed areas inland from North San Pedro Road.

A minor equestrian trail loop paralleling portions of the hiking trail system is provided. It will originate from the Back Ranch Valley multi-use area. Picnic facilities will be provided in the Natural Area, along North San Pedro Road.

All trail access within the park will be limited to points along North San Pedro Road within the park boundary. Consideration has been given to connecting park trails with the city and county open space trail systems adjoining park lands, as future needs and conditions warrant.

Interior Valleys

Day Use Facilities - Tables, comfort stations, parking, etc., will be provided for picnicking, and to supplement resource interpretive facilities in the Natural Area, as well as to enhance other recreation use activities such as photography, bird-watching, jogging, horseback riding, fishing, hiking, etc.

Day use facilities located in the Back Ranch Valley will accommodate individuals and families. The total capacity for these facilities will be 120 people.

Multi-Use Facilities - For group or family picnicking/camping, tables, campfire centers, tent sites, comfort stations, parking, etc., will be provided, to supplement day use and resource interpretation in the Natural Area, as well as to provide day and overnight use activities such as biking, hiking, camping, horseback riding, etc.

Multi-use facilities will be located in the Back Ranch Valley and will accommodate organized groups in units of 15, 25, 50, or 100 people at one time. The total capacity for the multi-use facilities will be 132 people. The Back Ranch multi-use area will be available to the public by reservation only.

Operations Facilities

These will be provided at various locations in both the historic and natural areas of the park, to insure adequate visitor orientation, control, security, administration, and maintenance/services for the unit.

One contact station is provided to control access to the day use and multi-use developments inland of North San Pedro Road. No contact stations are provided for facilities along the bayshore side, primarily because physical limitations would require too many contact points.

Minor administrative activities are provided in the visitor information facilities at China Camp Village. Park residences and maintenance/service facilities will be located at park boundaries and between the historic and natural areas, to provide extended park surveillance, and to insure adequate park maintenance.

Miscellaneous Facilities

These include roads, parking, bike trails, signs, and related facilities not directly associated with the recreation improvements cited above; they will be provided to enhance the park visitor experience. Bike trails within the park will be provided to facilitate bike visitor access and use of the recreation facilities. About 15 percent of all park use is planned to accommodate bike visitors. Appropriate biking facilities, parking (70 units), and bike trails (4.5 miles) will be provided.

Bike trail connections to the park from adjoining city and county roads will be a crucial factor in developing park biking facilities. Continued planning discussions with city and county governments will be required, to insure timely coordination and development of these facilities.

Engineering Considerations

Sewer

The San Rafael Sanitary District sewerline enters state property from the area of the Peacock Gap Golf and Country Club, and terminates in an existing sewage treatment plant within the park, next to North San Pedro Road. Currently, there is a moratorium on new hookups to this plant, imposed to control construction and growth in the area. It is expected that some park developments can best be served by hookup to this district, if permissible. Despite the location of the treatment plant within the park, the park is within the Las Gallinas Sanitary District, and hookups to this district may best serve some proposed park developments.

In some areas, soil conditions and cost factors may indicate that septic tanks and leach fields will be feasible.

In some areas, cost factors may indicate that pumping and hauling will be most feasible.

The existing buildings at China Camp Village are on septic tanks and leach lines. These facilities are in violation of county ordinances; they are too close to the beach frontage. The state may be restricted from continuing use of these facilities. If the state cannot use them, immediate development of acceptable sewage disposal will be necessary before China Camp can be occupied or made available for use.

The existing vacant residences along North San Pedro Road outside China Camp Village are not on septic tanks and leach lines; in some cases, they expel sewage directly into the bay. The county has condemned these structures; thus, the buildings should be removed at the earliest possible time.



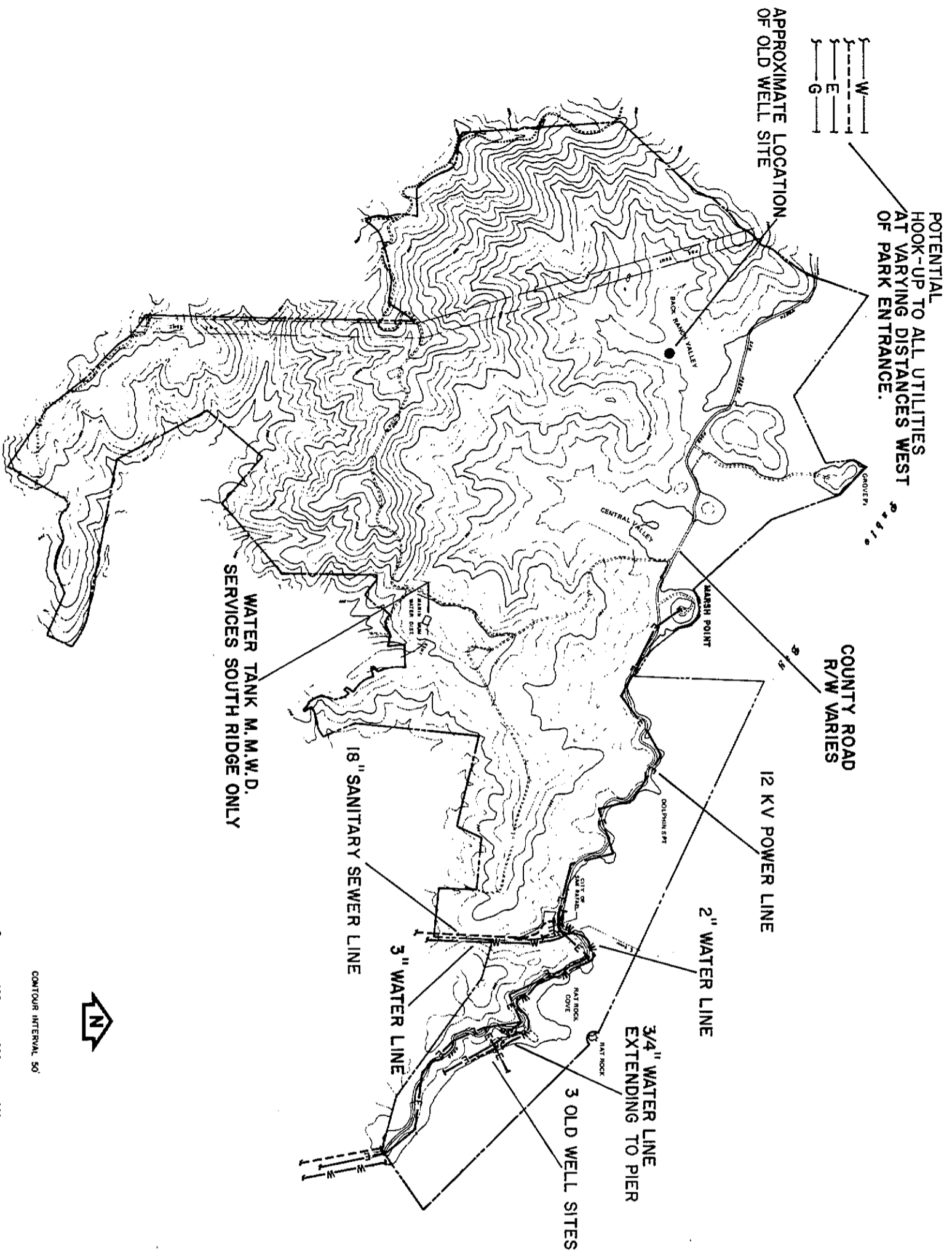
Potential sewer service is available outside the China Camp boundary, in two locations:

1. At San Pedro Road near McNears Beach, on the east side of the property. (San Rafael Sanitary District)
2. At North San Pedro Road near Gallinas Beach, at the west side of the property. (Las Gallinas Sanitary District)

These locations will be closer to certain park developments than the sewage treatment plant within the park. When these developments are funded, hookups to these systems will be considered.

Water

A 3-inch waterline enters state property parallel to the sewer line from the golf course. This line belongs to the Department of Parks and Recreation, and is in good condition. At North San Pedro Road, the waterline extends in both directions to the abandoned residences toward the west end of the project, and



W
E
G

APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF OLD WELL SITE

POTENTIAL HOOK-UP TO ALL UTILITIES AT VARYING DISTANCES WEST OF PARK ENTRANCE.

COUNTY ROAD R/W VARIES

12 KV POWER LINE

2" WATER LINE

3/4" WATER LINE EXTENDING TO PIER

3 OLD WELL SITES

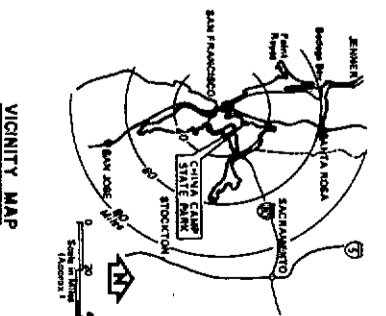
3" WATER LINE

18" SANITARY SEWER LINE

WATER TANK M.M.W.D. SERVICES SOUTH RIDGE ONLY



CONTOUR INTERVAL: 50'



LEGEND

- W — POTABLE WATER LINE
- - - SANITARY SEWER LINE
- E — ELECTRIC AND/OR TELEPHONE SERVICE
- G — GAS LINE
- ==== COUNTY ROAD

SERVICE AGENCIES

- POTABLE WATER:**
 MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
 220 Nellen Ave., Corte Madera (415) 924-4600
- SANITARY SEWER:**
 SAN RAFAEL SANITATION DISTRICT
 3100 Kerner Blvd., San Rafael (415) 454-4001
- LAS GALINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT
 300 Smith Ranch Rd., San Rafael (415) 472-1734
- ELECTRIC/GAS:**
 PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC
 3rd & Brooks, San Rafael (415) 456-8020
- ROADS:**
 COUNTY OF MARIN - DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS
 Civic Center, San Rafael (415) 479-1100 Ext. 2515

FIGURE 5

DRAWING NO.	CHINA CAMP STATE PARK		REVISIONS	DATE	DESIGNED
	SITE MAP				DRAWN
	ENGINEERING CONSIDERATIONS				CHECKED
SHEET NO.	RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION				
OF	APPROVED	DATE			

to China Camp Village. This part of the line has had numerous breaks, and is in poor condition.

Potential water service is also available outside the China Camp boundary, in three locations:

1. At San Pedro Road near McNears Beach, on the east side of the property.
2. At North San Pedro Road near Gallinas Beach, on the west side of the property.
3. At the Marin Municipal Water Storage Reservoir, on the ridge above the Peacock Gap Golf and Country Club.

These water sources will be closer to certain proposed developments, and will be evaluated for economic feasibility when the developments are funded.

Old wells in China Camp Village and the Back Ranch Valley have been investigated. They have all been filled in or covered. Connections to municipal systems will be more economical and dependable, and will conserve the park's ground water resources.

Power

PG&E serves the China Camp area with a 12 KV line, running generally along North San Pedro Road. This line is in good condition; however, the service lines into China Camp Village are old, and are in poor condition. New service will be provided in underground lines. Overhead lines within the village will be taken out of service but remain for historic and aesthetic reasons. Service to most of the abandoned residences along North San Pedro Road to the west has been disconnected.

Telephone

The Pacific Telephone Company serves the China Camp area; its lines generally follow the PG&E power pole service. Connections, in most cases, would be available at points along the main lines.

Hazards

Public hazards in the area appear to include the alignment of North San Pedro Road and points of access to it:

1. Extremely short sight distances in many locations.
2. Inadequate signing to warn motorists of hazards.
3. Poor access to many existing off-road areas; e.g. China Camp Village, Back Ranch Valley, etc.
4. Lack of guardrails on sharp curves along steep areas.

5. Inappropriate speed limits.

North San Pedro Road is in Marin County's jurisdiction. Changing the road's basic alignment would be costly and probably unacceptable esthetically for park development and use; however, minor realignments of the road may be possible. Some regrading may be desirable, to improve the safety of potential access points along the road's alignment.

Conservation

Although energy sources for China Camp State Park are considered adequate to meet future development and visitor use needs, conservation measures will be employed to reduce overall energy consumption to the lowest possible limit.

Case-by-case studies will be undertaken for all development elements (buildings, drinking water facilities, etc.) identified in the General Plan, as they are considered for implementation. Studies will be aimed at employing currently available conservation systems, such as thermo-insulation, low-water-use plumbing fixtures, active or passive solar systems, composting sanitary waste disposal systems (where applicable), and other conservation methods and systems, as appropriate technology warrants.

Architectural Considerations

China Camp State Park is divided into two different structure areas--China Camp Village and the Natural Area (i.e. various ravines, meadows, hills, and points along San Pedro Bay). In the village, there are 17 different structures, including privies, shacks, storage buildings, single-family residences, cottages, weekend retreats, a concessions facility (snack bar-type), restrooms, and a pier.

In the Natural Area, there are 15 different structures, including privies, storage buildings, residences, piers, and the like, located primarily along San Pablo Bay. These structures are in poor condition; some are in extremely poor condition, and present many unsafe, hazardous conditions; they are attractive nuisances for youngsters, vandals, and other curiosity seekers. Most of these buildings were poorly constructed, and are showing the ravages of time.

All existing buildings and structures are wood frame, except for one brick masonry building and one concrete block toilet building, both in China Camp Village. The foundation systems are wood post on wood block, or cinder block on grade or wood posts, in direct contact with the ground. Window types are wood, double-hung, fixed, awning and hoppers, and casements. Covering materials on structures include wood, board and batten, shingles, horizontal/vertical wood siding, stucco veneer, and asphalt shingles. Interior walls are either unfinished or have plywood, paperboard, or gypsum board walls, and floors are either carpeted, covered with linoleum, or are exposed wood. Roofing, for the most part, is tarpaper, built-up composition, or corrugated galvanized metal and asphalt shingles. Plumbing and electrical systems are rudimentary, and do not meet current code requirements. Most buildings and structures look as though they were built in the 1920s, '30s, or '40s, except for a few historic structures in China Camp Village which were built in the middle or late 1800s, of which only portions remain. There is no indication of reconstruction, and none of the buildings have been restored or rehabilitated.

Future architectural treatments, both historic (e.g. preservation, restoration, reconstruction, etc.) and contemporary, will be sympathetic to the building styles of the park.

Specific architectural treatments within the 36-acre China Camp Village Historic Zone will reflect historic materials and methods of the 1860s to the present, with emphasis on 1865 to 1930, including wood frame construction, siding, shingle roofs, and other appropriate historic details. Contemporary architectural treatments outside the historic zone will convey a neutral stylistic character.

IMPLEMENTATION

This General Plan is a guide for the future development and use of China Camp State Park. Providing adequate facilities and services is an important objective of the plan. However, funds to be allocated by the legislature for complete facilities and services at the park are not expected to be available in the near future. Therefore, a phased program of development is projected.

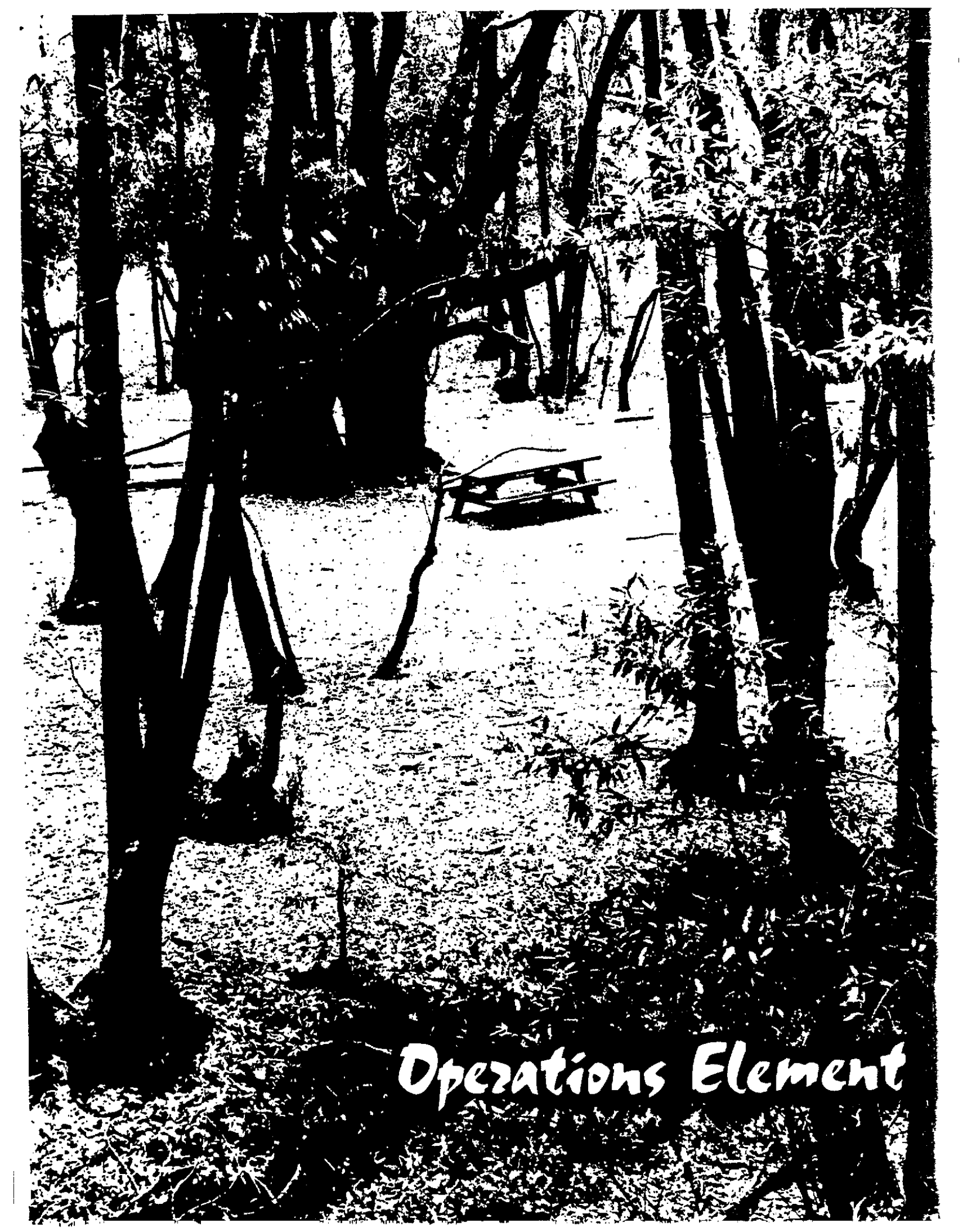
This program assesses and prioritizes development units, to meet the preservation and recreation facility needs of the park. The program provides for economical and timely completion of the work.

The phased development program for China Camp State Park will be balanced; it will emphasize preservation of natural and cultural resource values, and development of recreation facilities suitable for public use and enjoyment of the park.

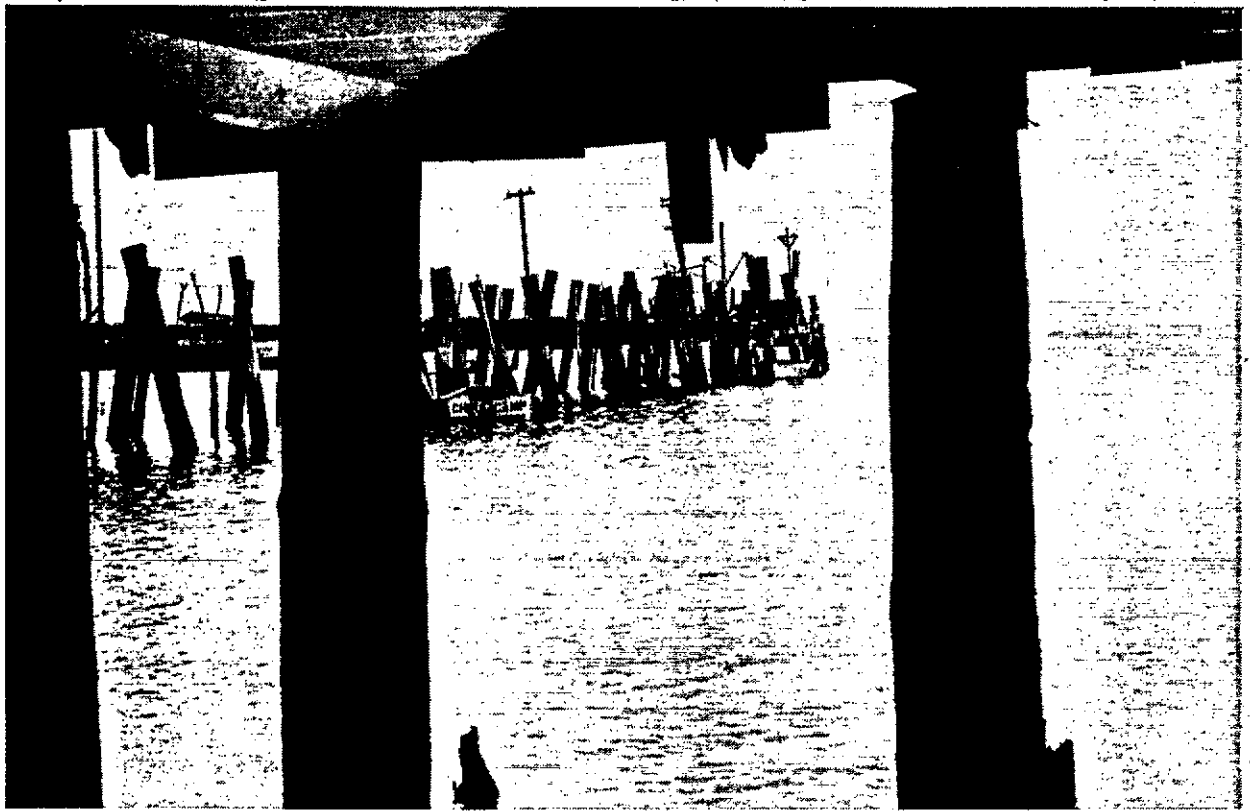
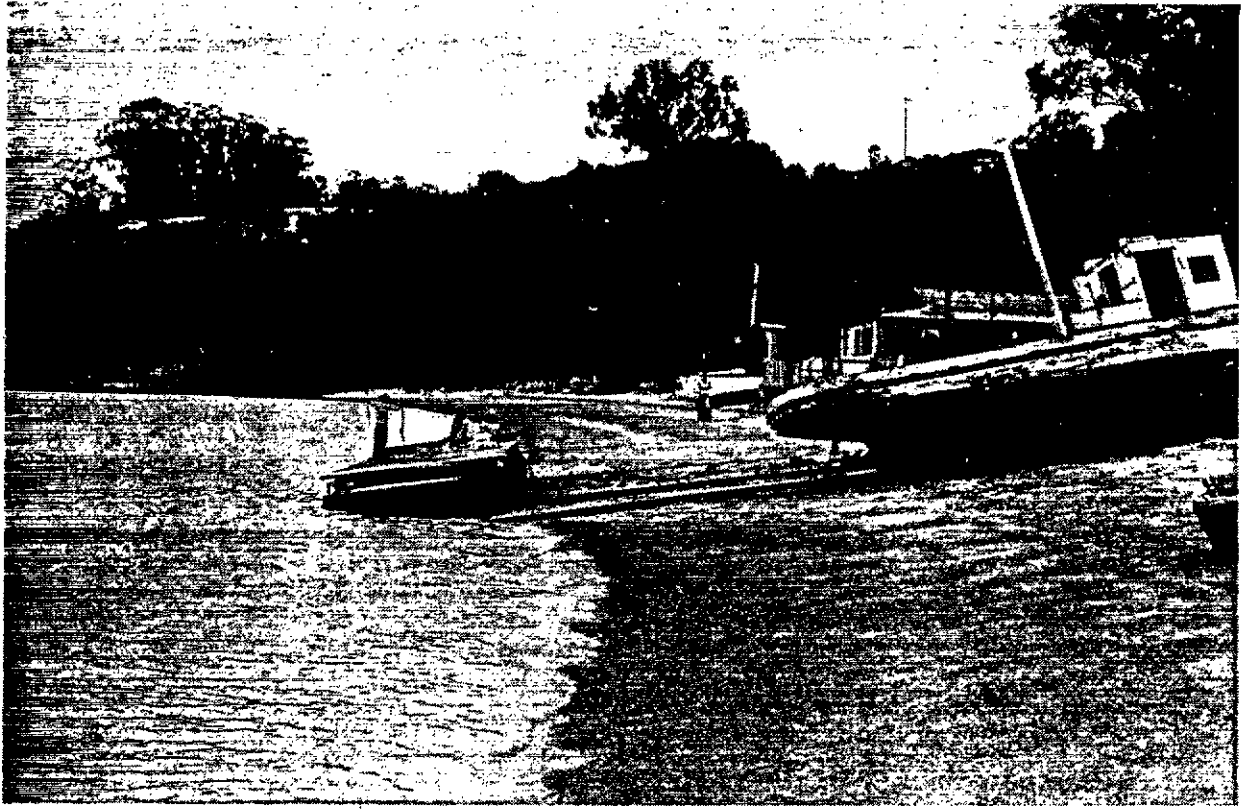
The first priority for development will be preservation (stabilization) of buildings/structures in the village area for future restoration and use, and provision for immediate recreation and interpretive facilities (parking, sanitary facilities, outdoor displays, utilities, etc.).

The eventual development will provide for the final restoration and rehabilitation of selected buildings/structures in the village area, and development of all facilities identified in the plan. Assuming that all funding for this development will not be provided in a single appropriation, the development will be budgeted on the basis of specific needs.

It is urgent that the department aggressively pursue the goal of obtaining oral histories from individuals having personal experience with China Camp's history.



Operations Element



* * * * *
OPERATIONS ELEMENT

Operation of China Camp State Park has been and will continue to be the responsibility of the Department of Parks and Recreation's Operations Division, headquartered in Sacramento. District field operations (resource management, administration, maintenance, interpretation) will be administered through the district office located in Santa Rosa and the area office located in Corte Madera, with the park unit office at China Camp State Park handling routine on-site duties. The scope of operations activity will be tailored to the various visitor activities, corresponding facilities, and management responsibilities identified in the General Plan.

An operations plan identifying the existing level of service is now in use. This plan will be augmented with additional detail, as development and other programming is expanded and/or implemented.

Concessions

Providing desirable services and facilities for the use and convenience of the public at China Camp State Park is an important department objective. However, funds allocated to the department cannot be expected to provide all services and facilities that might be desirable. Department funds will be used primarily for basic facilities, such as utilities, campgrounds, picnic facilities, restoration work, buildings and equipment required for park operation purposes, preservation, upgrading, and interpretation of the resources. Relatively little will be spent on ancillary services and facilities such as food service, recreation equipment rentals, etc. When appropriate, these are to be met primarily through use of private capital investment.

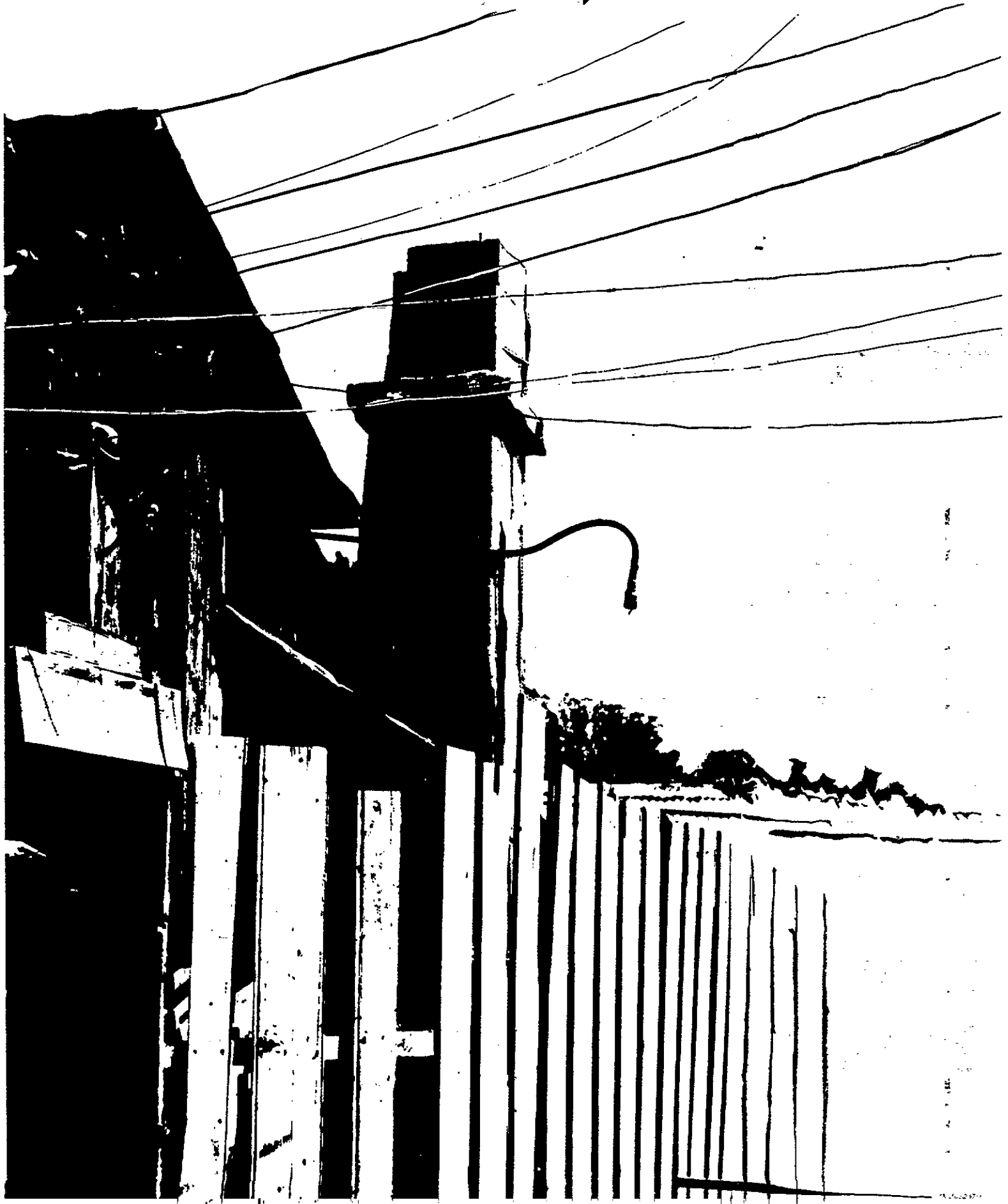
The Public Resources Code, Chapter 1, Article 1.5, Section 5019.10, provides authority for the Department of Parks and Recreation to enter into agreements with private business, and to control concessions activities:

5019.10 - Authority of the Department - The Department of Parks and Recreation may enter into contracts with persons, firms, or corporations to construct, maintain, and operate concessions within state park areas for the safety and convenience of the general public in the use and enjoyment of the State Park System.

Concessions activities at China Camp State Park are now limited to existing operations in the China Camp Village area. Frank Quan, the present proprietor of these facilities, is expected to continue providing the same level of service he has traditionally. This service is considered to be indispensable to visitor use. At this time, it is not expected that concession-related services in the village or at any other location within the park will be expanded.



Environmental Impact Element





DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT

The Environmental Impact Element (EIE) is divided into three major sections: (1) description of project; (2) description of environmental setting; and (3) environmental impact. The degree of specificity of the latter two chapters is not in detail, due to the general, broad nature of the project description.

The General Plan for China Camp State Park is broad in scope; therefore, the EIE is also a broad assessment of the potential impacts. Whenever a specific phase of the overall plan is budgeted and proposed for implementation, a more detailed and specific environmental assessment will be prepared for that particular project, as part of the budget package.

Description of Project

Location: See Project Description, p. 5.

Objectives: See Purpose of Plan, p. 3.

Project Description: See Introduction, p. 5.

Description of Environmental Setting

Existing Environment: See Resource Summary and Evaluation, p. 15.

Environmental Impact

Significant Environmental Effects of the Proposed Project:

The greatest adverse environmental impacts of the proposed project would be caused by construction activities, physical alteration of the land, and the increased concentration of people and activities within certain areas of the project.

Short-term impacts are centered primarily on the construction of facilities such as parking areas, roads, trails, and sanitary facilities. Impacts would include increased dust, noise, and vehicular traffic related to construction.

After completion of the construction phase, long-term impacts caused by placement of structures may be expected. Long-term impacts could also result from the concentration of people, vehicles, and activities.

Following is a summary of possible long-range impacts on the existing natural environment, private and public services, and community health and safety.

Many long-term effects will be beneficial. Many proposed actions will result in improved protection, preservation, interpretation, and public enjoyment of the recreational, natural, and cultural resources.

1. Effects on Soils

The cuts and fills likely to occur in grading the parking areas, roads, group use, day use, and camping areas, trails, and the administrative area, as well as increases in visitation, could cause some soil erosion and eventual soil compaction by park visitors.

Soils are unstable in much of the project area. Erosion caused by trail development in upland areas and group use development in the Back Ranch Valley area may cause increases in soil erosion. Past off-highway vehicle use in the area has left scars on the landscape, bare earth, and subsequent accelerated soil erosion. Off-highway vehicle use is no longer permitted.

2. Geologic Effects

The San Francisco Bay is surrounded by several active earthquake faults. The main one is the San Andreas Fault, 20 km (12.5 miles) west of the project. The Hayward Fault is about 8 km (5 miles) east of the project. These, and most other faults in the area, are parts of the San Andreas system.

Shaking and ground disturbance occurred at China Camp during the 1906 earthquake. Since no development is planned on bay mud, liquefaction is not a factor. Landslides due to earthquakes may occur in the upland areas and near Back Ranch Valley, where unstable soils exist. Trails and other development in the Back Ranch Valley area may be affected.

Water from winter rains does not drain properly through China Camp Village. During these periods, the water forms pools, and threatens historic structures, as well as interfering with visitor use.

3. Energy Consumption Effects

The proposed buildings and operation of the project will consume energy.

4. Biotic Effects

None of the proposed actions will interfere with possible rare or endangered animal species in the area. The marsh area could support the endangered clapper rail, the rare black rail, and the salt marsh harvest mouse.

There are no known endangered plants in the area. The proposed project will not affect the salt marsh, redwood groves, and old bay trees in the project.

The Resource Element proposes to preserve native plant species, and to control or eliminate exotic plants which compete with native species, except where these plants are part of the cultural history.

There may be some minor destruction of plants and wildlife habitat, due to proposed development and increased human activity.

The northern boundary of China Camp State Park adjoins the San Pablo Bay Wildlife Area, comprising approximately 12,000 acres of wetlands managed by the California Department of Fish and Game (not all property has been acquired by DFG). Waterfowl hunting is an activity in this area, and duck blinds constructed along the property lines are used by hunters. There is a possibility of illegal hunting of waterfowl on State Park System water, by those unaware of the boundary lines.

5. Fire Hazard Effects

Increased visitor use, combined with highly flammable cultural and natural resources, will increase the possibility of fire.

6. Cultural Effects

Several areas in China Camp State Park include known archeological sites. These areas have high sensitivity and moderate sensitivity designations. Proposed developments and indirect human use in these areas could have adverse impacts. The areas of possible conflict, shown in the Resource Inventory, are Back Ranch Valley, Center Valley, the bay terraces, the upland areas, Rat Rock Cove, and China Camp Village. The most critical concerns are for the prehistoric archeological sites in the Center and Back Ranch Valleys.

There are archeological sites in the Back Ranch Valley that may be affected by the proposed roads and use areas shown in the General Plan. There are also archeological sites which may be damaged by trails connecting with North San Pedro Road.

7. Public Service Effects

Utility use, including gas, electricity, water, sewage, and telephones, will increase. Existing septic tank and leach fields in China Camp Village need to be eliminated, because they do not conform with pollution control practices.

Access to China Camp State Park on Point San Pedro Road and North San Pedro Road is good. This is a county road, which extends through the park. The road is narrow and winding along the southern entrance from the McNears Beach turnoff, for approximately 1-1/2 miles within the park. Turnoffs to China Camp Village and to the proposed day use areas along the bay terrace are hazardous. Traffic volume probably will not increase significantly because of the proposed facilities.

The City of San Rafael and Marin County have expressed concerns about increases in local government public services that will be indirectly caused by China Camp State Park. There could be such indirect effects as increased traffic congestion, increased parking on residential streets, and increases in medical services, law enforcement, and fire suppression services. There is concern that by having camping in China Camp State Park, vandalism, burglaries, traffic violations, and other crimes could increase. Other effects could be increases in noise, litter, abusive language, etc. McNears Beach, a heavily used county recreational facility, has had several of these deleterious effects.

Illegal camping could occur as a result of people being lured to the area by the State Park sign. This could add to traffic in the area's streets.

The impact on local community services, i.e., schools, hospitals, etc., caused by additional staff will not be significant, since the operations staff will not be large.

8. Demolition of Buildings

In addition to the non-historic structures to be demolished that were covered by a Negative Declaration in March 1978, five buildings have been selected for future demolition in China Camp Village. These buildings, designated as structures 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7 are shown in Appendix B.

These structures are not historic. No relocation of persons will be required, since these structures are not occupied.

9. Local Effects

The current shrimp fishery will be allowed to continue.

There has been concern that state park visitors, especially campers, may have an adverse impact on local residents.

Local people may be hired for maintenance of campgrounds and day-use areas.

On-site construction could require local labor supplies, and could temporarily increase local employment.

Although many visitors bring food supplies with them, the sale of supplies at local stores could increase. The economy in this area of Marin county should benefit from this project.

Significant Environmental Effects That Cannot Be Avoided If the Proposal Is Implemented:

All adverse impacts outlined in the above section are considered to be environmental effects that cannot be avoided if the project is implemented as proposed. There is a possibility that many impacts could be reduced to an insignificant level through mitigation, but it is highly unlikely that any of these impacts could be totally eliminated.

Potentially, archeological sites in the project area could be damaged or vandalized. Sensitive sites in the Back Ranch Valley are the most threatened by proposed development and subsequent increased visitation.

Mitigation Measures Proposed to Minimize the Significant Effects:

Resource protection measures are discussed in the Resource Element.

1. Soils

Measures for implementation of management policy for natural value (Resource Element, p. 22) detail ways in which accelerated soil erosion

due to off-highway vehicle use and other past mis-uses of the land will be mitigated. Approximately 70 acres have been damaged by off-highway vehicle use.

By comparison, soil erosion caused by implementation of the General Plan will be insignificant. Erosion control measures will include landscaping using native plant species, good drainage, water bars, and dissipaters. Development will not take place on steep slopes and unstable soil types. Trails will conform to the design in the department's Trail Manual, and will follow existing trails, whenever possible.

2. Geology

Facilities will be constructed according to good engineering practices, and not on bay fill or in slide areas. Poor drainage patterns in China Camp Village will be corrected.

3. Energy

Detailed energy conservation measures relating to building construction and design will be included when a more specific environmental assessment is prepared for implementation of a particular budgeted phase of the overall plan.

4. Biota

Measures for implementing the management policy for natural values, as outlined in the Resource Element (p. 22), will protect the marsh, and rare and endangered species which might inhabit such areas.

Exotic plants which aggressively compete with native species will be removed. Native plants will be planted in denuded areas.

Historically correct exotic plants will be permitted in the Historic Area only.

The department will work closely with the Department of Fish and Game, which manages the San Pablo Bay Wildlife Area. The two departments share a common management boundary in San Pablo Bay. Duck blinds which may be on state park lands should be moved to the wildlife area, rather than being demolished. Hunting will not be allowed on state park lands, and hunters will be made aware of this.

5. Cultural

China Camp Village will be preserved and protected. Historic structures will be stabilized to prevent further damage. Fire retardants will be used on wooden structures, and the amount of fire equipment will be increased. Remains of historic fishing vessels will be protected in Rat Rock Cove.

Native American archeological sites are found throughout the project. Development near these sites, and particularly near the sites in the Back Ranch Valley, will be planned so as to avoid possible damage. Trail construction should avoid known archeological sites.

Indirect damage to archeological sites from park visitors is a possibility, due to the closeness of park facilities. This is especially true in the Back Ranch Valley. Specific site locations will not be made available to the public. Appropriate measures will be taken to further conceal their existence.

Accelerated soil erosion which has been damaging sites will be controlled, and potholes will be filled, to prevent further damage.

6. Public Services

Effluent will be disposed of according to public health standards. A determination of the disposal system's design will be made when a particular project is budgeted.

Possible disposal systems include pump-out toilets, recirculating toilets, and septic tank and leach fields. This last system would not be used in China Camp Village.

The traffic hazards associated with North San Pedro Road will be ameliorated by minor realignments, adequate signing, guardrails, and improved access to use areas.

Many of the potential public services problems can be lessened and prevented. China Camp State Park cannot be compared directly with McNears Beach. The state park will not offer the type of recreational facilities that the county facility offers. China Camp will offer a more passive type of recreation. Recreation opportunities will consist of hiking, interpretive walks, fishing, picnicking, and camping on a reservation basis. It will presumably appeal to a wider age distribution than McNears Beach. Peak use will be less extreme than at McNears Beach, since attendance is less dependent on the weather.

Specific mitigation measures are:

- (1) There will be close coordination and cooperation between local and state service agencies.
- (2) Park personnel will be trained in law enforcement, fire prevention and suppression, first aid, and para-medical skills.
- (3) Visitors will be encouraged to use alternate types of transportation such as bicycles, busses, and car-pools, when cars have to be used.
- (4) By virtue of not providing "city type" recreation facilities, i.e., swimming pools, baseball diamonds, etc., there will be fewer of the undesirable indirect effects on the local communities.

The department will clean up the many tons of debris, such as old cars, mattresses, cans, and broken glass, which have been dumped in the area.

7. Demolition

The historic area will be made more authentic by removal of the five structures within China Camp Village.

8. Local Mitigation

The resident fisherman will be permitted and encouraged to continue his shrimp fishery at China Camp Village.

There is no reason to expect that park users will adversely affect residents in the community surrounding the unit. Trails will not connect to outside points near residential areas (see General Plan Map, p. 43). Signs will be posted along the boundary. Upland areas near the boundary form a natural buffer between the park and residents near the boundary.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

No Development: This alternative would mean that the current situation would continue. Resources would not be preserved adequately. Past misuses of the land would not be corrected, and recreational and interpretive facilities would not be provided for the public, except for existing facilities.

Greater Development: This plan would offer many recreation opportunities, but at the expense of adverse impacts on cultural and natural resources.

Less Development: Importance would be placed on open space and restoring the area to a natural condition. This alternative would do the most to protect natural, and especially cultural, resources.

Other Alternative Actions: There are a myriad of project alternatives resulting from combinations of possible individual actions.

The Relationship Between Local Short-Term Uses of Man's Environment and the Maintenance and Enhancement of Long-Term Productivity

Implementation of the proposed General Plan and Resource Element would protect and improve the unit's resources, and would increase the numbers of facilities for the public. The public should be able to enjoy the area for many years, and the resources would be better protected than they would with other uses. If China Camp were not a state park, it would most likely be subdivided.

Any Significant Irreversible Environmental Changes That Would Be Involved in the Proposed Action Should It Be Implemented

The following irreversible environmental changes are anticipated:

There will be a commitment of non-renewable resources such as oil, gasoline, and gravel, to construct roads, parking areas, and other park facilities. Some archeological sites could be irreversibly damaged by direct or indirect actions.

Growth-Inducing Impacts of the Proposed Action

There will be some indirect growth-inducing impacts. It is possible that the local economy near the park might be somewhat stimulated by the influx of visitors, and by initial construction activities involved in building the proposed new facilities.

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Appendixes



APPENDIX A
GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Included in this glossary are words and phrases used by the Department of Parks and Recreation that may not be in common use by other government agencies or the public.

General Terms

Day Use Area

An area in which recommended activities occur during daylight hours, when the park is open. Examples of these are picnicking, kite flying, field sports, bicycling, etc.

House Museum

A historically accurate restoration or reconstruction of a structure, using furnishings and other artifacts of a specified period of history. The objective is to present activities, events, and people of a particular period, in a historically accurate setting.

Multi-Use Area

An area designed for several activities, not necessarily occurring simultaneously, to accommodate group and/or individual picnicking and camping. Facilities may include typical picnic units, campfire centers, and tent sites, and will be designed so park staff can have flexibility in administering the resources and meeting public needs.

Orientation Center

A facility or group of facilities dedicated to providing information, orientation, and explanation concerning identified interpretive themes and stories. The center usually employs a number of modern techniques, often including multi-media, and may also include historic artifacts. The facility may contain administrative, operational, and visitor comfort features, artifact storage, study collections, and work rooms.

Picnic Unit

A developed picnic site, designed to accommodate one to eight park visitors. Facilities normally include a picnic table (six or eight feet long) and a pedestal barbecue. Water, trash facilities, and a comfort station are provided in or near the unit.

Preservation

Preservation is the process of sustaining the essential form and extent of a structure as it now exists. Preservation aims at halting further deterioration and providing structural stability, but does not include significant rebuilding.

Since each facility differs, preservation techniques may differ. They include, but are not necessarily limited to:

1. Complete stabilization of piers, foundations, and frames, with new internal frames and piers.
2. External bracing systems, with knee, x, and y braces or the like.
3. Bracing of the inside of a structure's frame, with knee, x, and y braces.
4. Stripping the exterior veneer, and applying a plywood diaphragm around an entire building; reapplying the siding.
5. Repair and/or replacement of roof frames and covers.
6. Securing all openings, to prevent further damage by weather or vandals.

Reconstruction

Reconstruction is the process of reproducing by new construction the exact form and detail of a vanished structure or part thereof, as it appeared at a specific period of time. Reconstruction should be undertaken only when the property to be reconstructed is essential for understanding and interpreting the value of a historic district, and when sufficient documentation exists to ensure an exact reproduction of the original.

Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation is the process of returning a property to a state of usefulness, through repair or alteration, that makes possible an efficient contemporary use. In rehabilitation, those parts of the property important in illustrating historic, architectural, and cultural values are preserved or restored.

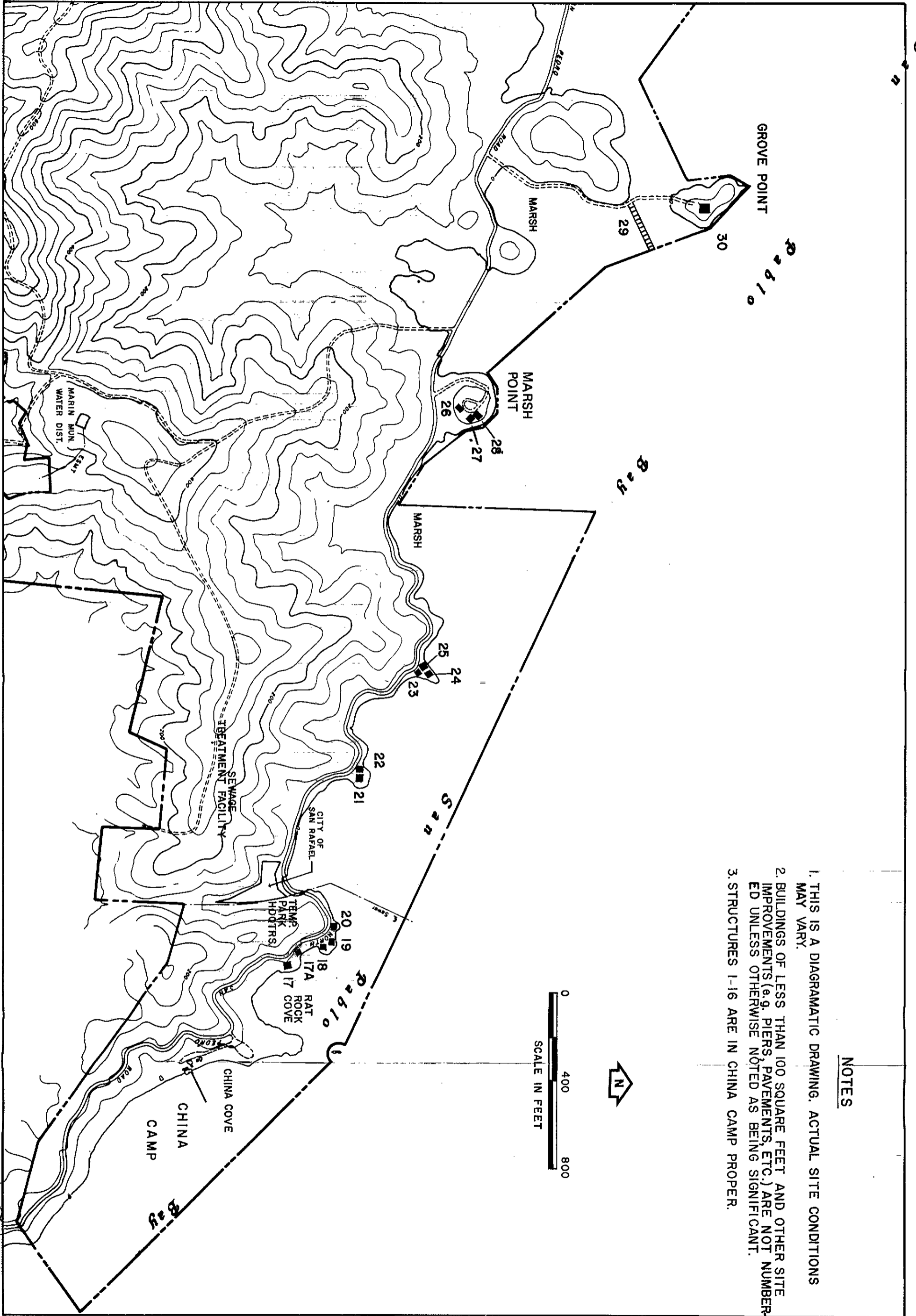
Removal

Structures in this category are not felt to be of sufficient interpretive significance, and are not necessary for park operations. Therefore, restoration would not be justified. It is recommended that a photographic record and measured drawing of each structure in this category be completed before removal.

Appendix B

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT MAPS

- I - Cultural Resource Sensitivity Zones
- II - Architectural Evaluation
- III - Detailed View of China Camp Village



NOTES

1. THIS IS A DIAGRAMATIC DRAWING. ACTUAL SITE CONDITIONS MAY VARY.
2. BUILDINGS OF LESS THAN 100 SQUARE FEET AND OTHER SITE IMPROVEMENTS (e.g. PIERS, PAVEMENTS, ETC.) ARE NOT NUMBERED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED AS BEING SIGNIFICANT.
3. STRUCTURES 1-16 ARE IN CHINA CAMP PROPER.

DESIGNED
DRAWN
CHECKED

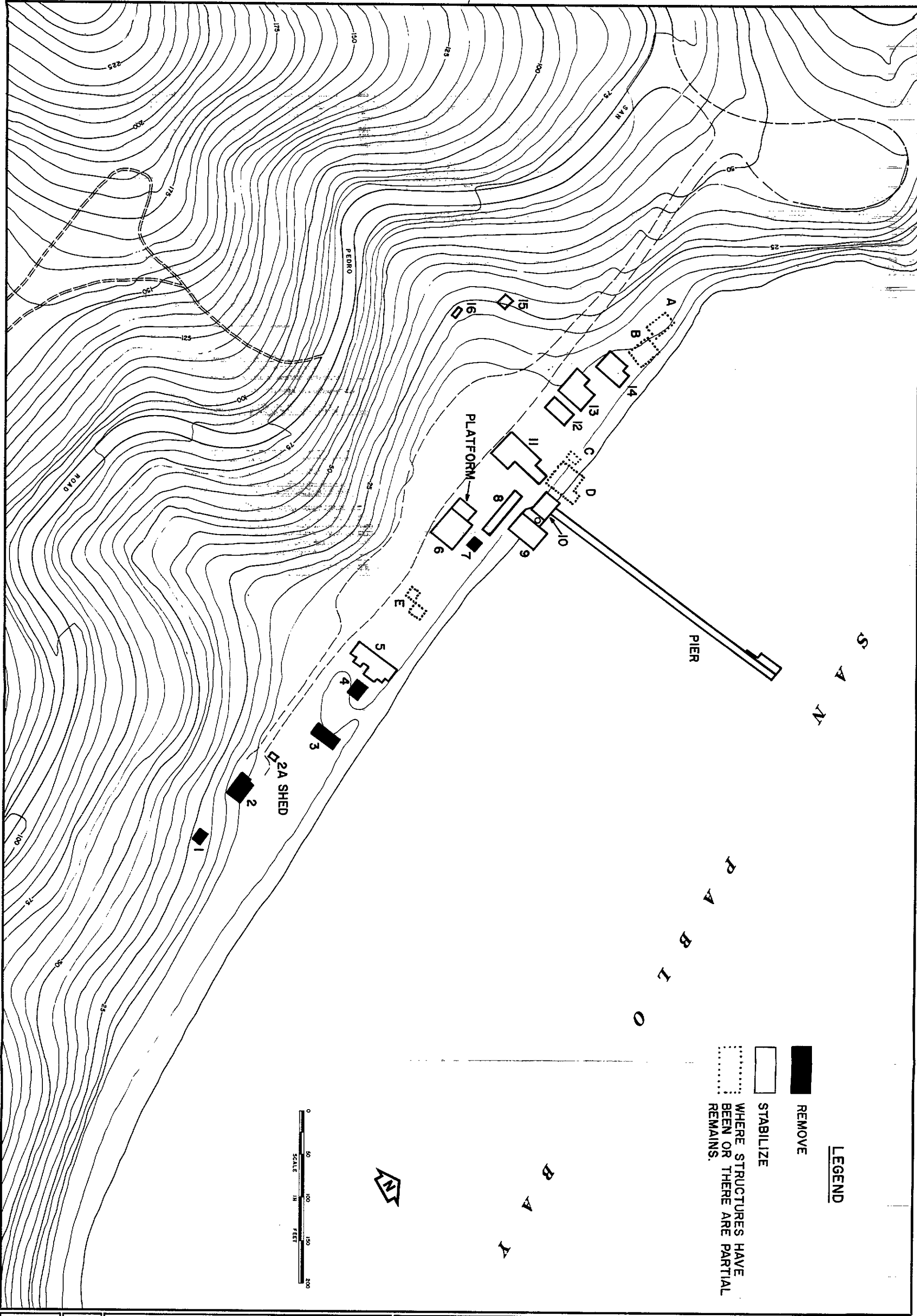
DATE

REVISIONS

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
 APPROVED _____ DATE _____

CHINA CAMP STATE PARK
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN
 ARCHITECTURAL EVALUATION

DRAWING NO.
 SHEET NO. **Map II** of 3



LEGEND

- REMOVE
- STABILIZE
- WHERE STRUCTURES HAVE BEEN OR THERE ARE PARTIAL REMAINS.



SHEET NO. Map III OF 3	DRAWING NO.	CHINA CAMP STATE PARK RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN DETAILED ARCHITECTURAL EVALUATION OF CHINA CAMP COVE	RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION APPROVED _____ DATE _____	REVISIONS 	DATE 	DESIGNED 	DRAWN 	CHECKED 	

APPENDIX C

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC AGENCIES
AND RESPONSES TO THESE COMMENTS

PART I: Comments from Public Agencies

Comments were received from the following agencies:

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
CALTRANS, District 4
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Region
City of San Rafael
County of Marin

These letters and memoranda are included here and specific responses to each are found in Part II beginning on p. 99. The numbered paragraphs in the letters and memoranda refer to the specific response.



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

State of California

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH
1400 TENTH STREET
SACRAMENTO 95814
(916) 445-0613

October 30, 1978

James M. Doyle
Parks & Recreation
Post Office Box 2390
Sacramento, CA 95811

SUBJECT: SCH# 78091964 - CHINA CAMP STATE PARK, RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT PLAN

Dear Mr. Doyle:

This is to certify that State review of your environmental document is complete.

The results of the State review are attached. You should respond to the comments as required by the California Environmental Quality Act. Please address your responses to the commenting agency with a copy to the Clearinghouse.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen V. Williamson".

Stephen V. Williamson
State Clearinghouse

SVW/na

Attachment

cc: Ken Fellows, DWR
Nancy Twiss, SFBCDC
Vernon J. Richey, CalTrans
Thomas E. Bailey, SWRCB

SAN FRANCISCO BAY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

30 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102
PHONE: 557-3686



October 3, 1978

RECEIVED
OCT 6 1978
PLANNING &
RESEARCH

Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, California 95814

SUBJECT: BCDC Inquiry File Nos. MR.MC.7036.1, MR.SR.7128.1,
MR.ED.7404.1, and SCH No. 78091964

Gentlemen:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the General Plan and EIR for China Camp State Park. Although the Commission has not had an opportunity to review the document, the staff has a few comments to offer at this time.

Jurisdiction

The Commission has jurisdiction over San Francisco Bay and the area 100 feet inland from the line of highest tidal action. We estimate the line of highest tidal action at the project site to be approximately +6 MSL using 1929 USGS mean sea level datum. Any construction or reconstruction within the Bay or shoreline would require a BCDC permit.

San Francisco Bay Plan and McAteer-Petris Act

A policy note heading on Bay Plan Map 12 has been amended to read "China Camp State Park" instead of "Point San Pedro to Gallinas Creek." The rest of the note states, "Create continuous shoreline recreational area, including beaches, marinas, picnic areas, fishing piers, and riding and hiking trails. Protect and provide public access to shellfish beds offshore." The area is also designated on the Plan map as waterfront park, beach, and tidal marsh.

The China Camp State Park General Plan does not show any access along the shoreline, although shoreline access is mentioned in the report. Since the drawings are somewhat schematic it may be that definite plans for the area have not been finalized. We would suggest that public access be provided at those locations where the access would not interfere with wildlife use or marsh vegetation.

①

The Bay Plan policies on recreation and public access apply to the project. All new projects in or on the Bay must provide maximum feasible public access. The Bay Plan also encourages parks close to urban centers which include such facilities as campsites, docks, picnic facilities, hiking, bicycling, riding trails, viewpoints, beaches and fishing facilities along the shoreline. Where shoreline open space includes areas used for hunting waterbirds, public areas for launching rowboats should be provided so long as they do not result in overuse of the hunting area. Where open areas include ecological reserves, access via catwalk or other means should be provided for nature study, if access does not excessively disturb natural habitat. Limited commercial recreation facilities, such as small restaurants, can be permitted within waterfront parks provided they are clearly incidental to park use, are in keeping with the basic character of the park, and do not obstruct public access to and enjoyment of the Bay. It would appear that the facilities proposed in the Plan would be consistent with these policies, with the possible exception of the lack of shoreline access.

EIR

We have also reviewed the EIR prepared for the General Plan. We do not feel that the project will have a significant effect on the Bay or marsh. However, our comments are based on facilities as shown at a schematic stage in the planning process and we would like to reserve the right to comment further as more detailed plans are developed.

Very truly yours,

Nancy Twiss

NANCY TWISS
Coastal Development Analyst

NT/dc


cc: Richard Humphrey
Senior Lands Director
Department of Parks and Recreation
P. O. Box 2390
Sacramento, CA 95811

Bob Batha

04-Mrn-101

Comments of CALTRANS, District 4 concerning the Preliminary
China Camp State Park General Plan in Marin County, State
Clearinghouse No. 78091964.

As stated under Transportation beginning on page 36, we agree that travel aspects require detailed evaluation. We believe the traffic impacts to Route 101 and its interchanges at 3rd Street-San Pedro Road and North San Pedro Road in San Rafael should be investigated. Peak hour traffic rather than daily traffic should be used in the analysis. (2)


VERNON J. RICHEY
Deputy District Director

RBP:as

cc: RDS, JB, LN, RWS-RBP(2)

Memorandum

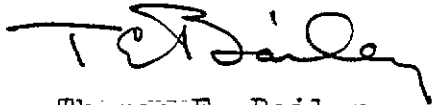
To : 1. Mr. L. Frank Goodson
Projects Coordinator
The Resources Agency
Resources Building, 13th Floor
2. State Department of Parks and Recreation
P. O. Box 2390
Sacramento, CA 95811

Date: OCT 10 1978
In Reply Refer
To: 420:SH
(916) 322-9873

From : **STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD**
DIVISION OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH

Subject: REVIEW OF NOTICE OF INTENT: SCH 78091964 - CHINA CAMP STATE
PARK, RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN, MARIN COUNTY

The attached comments from the California
Regional Water Quality Control Board
constitute the comments of the State Water
Resources Control Board.



Thomas E. Bailey
Assistant Division Chief

- Attachment

cc: California Regional Water Quality Control
Board, San Francisco Bay Region
1111 Jackson Street, Room 6040
Oakland, CA 94607

SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

INTERNAL MEMO

File No. 2138.02(DAM)DR

TO: DIVISION OF PLANNING & RESEARCHFROM: DENNIS MISHEK, SECTION LEADERATTN: MR. THOMAS E. BAILEYDATE: September 29, 1978SIGNATURE: *Dennis Mishek*

SUBJECT:

CHINA CAMP STATE PARK GENERAL PLAN DATED SEPTEMBER 1978 SCH #78091964

We have reviewed the subject preliminary plan with its environmental impact element and have the following comments based on statements from the report as given below:

A. (page 51)

"The existing buildings at China Camp Village are on septic tanks and leach lines. These facilities are in violation of county ordinances; they are too close to the beach frontage. The state may be restricted from continuing use of these facilities. If the state cannot use them, immediate development of acceptable sewage disposal will be necessary before China Camp can be occupied or made available for use.

The existing vacant residences along North San Pedro Road outside China Camp Village are not on septic tanks and leach lines; in some cases, they expel sewage directly into the bay. The county has condemned these structures; thus, the buildings should be removed at the earliest possible time."

(page 65)

"... Existing septic tank and leach fields in China Camp Village need to be eliminated, because they do not conform with pollution control practices."

The report should describe the pollution of State Waters now being generated and evaluate its hazard to public health. Include the effects on water contact recreation and shellfish beds. A schedule and description of the actions being taken to stop present pollution and protect public health should be included in the report.

③

B. (page 51)

"The San Rafael Sanitary District sewerline enters state property from the area of the Peacock Gap Golf and Country Club, and terminates in an existing sewage treatment plant within the park, next to North San Pedro Road. Currently, there is a moratorium on new hookups to this plant, imposed to control construction and growth in the area. It is expected that some park developments can best be served by hookup to this District, if permissible. Despite the location of the treatment plant within the park, the park is within the Las Gallinas Sanitary District, and hookups to this district may best serve some proposed park developments."

(page 68)

"Effluent will be disposed of according to public health standards. A determination of the disposal system's design will be made when a particular project is budgeted."

④

The above comments mention San Rafael Sanitary District and Las Gallinas Sanitary District but do not state that sewer service from the Districts is permitted and feasible. The proposed sewage disposal alternatives should be described in the report and reviewed by the public and concerned agencies. Until adequate sewerage facilities are provided, the waste at China Camp should not be increased.



1400 FIFTH AVE, SAN RAFAEL, CALIF 94902/PHONE: (415) 456-1112

MAYOR
C. PAUL BETTINI
COUNCILMEN
FRED JENSEN
JOHN A. MISKIMEN
LAWRENCE E. MULRYAN
JACK G. NIXON
CITY MANAGER
WILLIAM J. BIELSER

October 31, 1978

California Department of Parks & Recreation
Environment Review Section
P.O. Box 2390
Sacramento, California 95811

Attention: James M. Doyle, Supervisor

Dear Mr. Doyle:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Preliminary General Plan, Resource Management Plan, and Draft Environmental Impact Report for China Camp State Park. The City of San Rafael has several comments to make regarding the draft document.

On page 36, the Plan states that "traffic congestion and visitor impacts on adjoining communities were also major planning considerations". It is unclear from the text, however, exactly how the Plan responds to such considerations. The City's long-standing concerns about the Park's impacts on surrounding City urban areas are heightened by the lack of specificity of the Plan and its Draft EIR. (5)

For example, the conclusion on page 39 that "it is felt that this route (North San Pedro Road) can accommodate the moderate increase of traffic attributed to the Park development without significant road improvements and maintenance, and without significant impact on local communities" is apparently not based on quantitative traffic projections as none are referred to or contained in the Plan or the Draft EIR. No quantitative estimates of future visitors to the Park are in evidence to support the Draft EIR's tentative conclusion on page 65 that "traffic volume probably will not increase significantly because of the proposed facilities". (6)

Impacts on Point San Pedro Road are not addressed, although the highest use intensity is designated for China Camp Village. No recognition of the traffic implications of signing for the Park on Highway 101 is contained in the Plan or Draft EIR. (7)

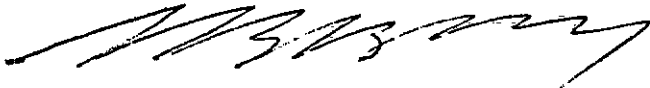
A second point of concern is that neither the Plan and Draft EIR details any measures to be employed by the Department which will mitigate the nuisance potential of the many stub roads in residential neighborhoods adjacent to the Park. This circumstance is frequent within the San Rafael neighborhoods of Peacock Gap, Glenwood and Loch Lomond. Will there be trail access to and from the Park in (8)

- ⑧ such locations? The potential for overtaxing City police and fire services exists whether such Park access points are officially designated or simply unofficially used. If the primary access is North San Pedro Road, this concern may be mitigated.
- ⑨ The City has previously expressed concern regarding China Camp State Park's impact on the City's 540 acre Black Canyon open space property. The Plan does not evidence response to nor does the Draft EIR include evaluation of that concern.

⑩ The City's opposition to overnight camping has been strongly and consistently presented to the Department on many occasions. The Plan and Draft EIR make no mention, however, of the fact that campgrounds in China Camp State Park will be attractive for reasons other than serving China Camp visitors residing outside the day use radius of the Park. There are limited numbers of public campsites in Marin County, and China Camp is very close to Marin and San Francisco's tourist attractions. The Plan should address and the Draft EIR should assess the potential for campground use by persons primarily interested in recreational resources other than those at China Camp State Park. The City Council continues to voice its opposition to overnight camping in this area. San Rafael does support the proposition that a more prudent assignment of overnight camping would be in the Golden Gate Recreation Area of West Marin.

In conclusion, the City questions the adequacy of the Draft EIR as detailed above. The Plan's response to City concerns about traffic, overnight camping, and neighborhood impacts is not satisfactory. I would hope that the final Plan and EIR will reflect the concerns the City has again brought to your attention. Now is the time for the Department to develop in specific terms, the mitigation measures which will be essential if the Park is to be a good neighbor to surrounding urban areas in San Rafael. The City's continuing recommendation is to utilize North San Pedro Road as the point of access, to prohibit overnight camping and to minimize impact on surrounding neighborhoods. The Department's commitment to provide directional signing to the Park at the North San Pedro Road/101 interchange would be a constructive first step in establishing such a good neighbor relationship.

Sincerely,

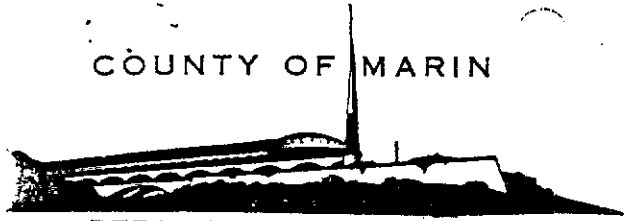


WILLIAM J. BIELSER
City Manager

WJB/lsr

cc: Bayside Acres Property Owners Association
Glenwood Homeowners Association
Peacock Gap Homeowners Association
Marin County Board of Supervisors
William Filante
Barry Keene
Michael Wornum
San Rafael City Council

COUNTY OF MARIN



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CIVIC CENTER, SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA 94903
TELEPHONE 479-1100 EXT. 2515

PIERRE JOSKE
DIRECTOR

November 13, 1978

Mr. Russell W. Cahill, Director
State of California
Parks & Recreation Department
P. O. Box 2390
Sacramento, California 95814

ATTENTION: Richard L. Humphrey
Senior Landscape Architect

RE: China Camp State Park Preliminary Plan

Dear Mr. Cahill:

The Marin County Board of Supervisors at their regular meeting of November 7, 1978 approved the following recommendations regarding the China Camp Master Plan dated September 1978.

General Comments - The multi-use camping facilities which are intended to serve organized groups should not be included as part of the Master Plan. The State should, however, work with the City of San Rafael and the local homeowners groups to determine if a trial small-scale camping program could be developed with the approval of the City and the local homeowners. (11)

The Plan should not encourage the use of North San Pedro Road as the principal access to the new Park but instead should rely on both North and South San Pedro Roads equally so that no one neighborhood is subjected to additional traffic more than another. (12)

The County believes that the State should consider the clustering of day use and multi-use activities in one of the two major canyons and leaving the other essentially undeveloped. The undeveloped canyon would then offer quiet nature study and other passive uses without the intrusion of automobiles and their associated pollution; visual, audio and air. The total amount of development within the park may have to be reduced to accomplish this goal. (13)

Detailed Comments: Regarding specifics within the plan, they are as follows:

Page 35, second to last paragraph, the last sentence beginning after the words, "...as urban open space...", should read as follows: "The lands have been zoned to allow for low density/low impact development appropriate to preserving the County's natural open space policies". (14)

- 15 Page 36, first paragraph, first sentence should read as follows: "The County has acquired some open space lands along the western boundary of the park and is considering additional acquisitions in the area, but there are no plans for development of use other than hiking and horseback riding trails in the foreseeable future."
- 16 Page 36, the Plan should acknowledge the existence of McNears Beach Park and discuss the implications of overflow use and other planning considerations such as mass transit potential, etc. McNears Beach Park presently accommodates approximately 2,000 persons when all parking spaces are full. The daily maximum including turnover is about 3,000. On busy summer weekends, as many as 250 cars have been turned away because the park was full. Many of these families will likely seek out the picnic facilities at China Camp once developed.
- 17 Page 39, under the paragraph regarding mass transportation, the last sentence recommends a joint effort in regional recreational transportation be undertaken before any comprehensive proposal for enhancing regional transportation can be implemented. The County believes that an extensive recreational transportation planning process would possibly be an exercise in futility and that the cost of such a study would not be warranted at this time. It is recommended that the State, jointly with the City and County Transit District, try a recreational shuttle that could serve both McNears Beach Park and China Camp State Park from the transportation hub of San Rafael at Fourth and Hetherton Streets possibly looping the San Pedro Peninsula. The inclusion of McInnis Park should also be considered if feasible. The cost of such a trial would probably be substantially less than a planning study that would eventually make similar recommendations.
- 18 Page 39, paragraph entitled "Hiking and Biking". The County believes that the State should consider inclusion of a Hostel Facility within the park.
- 19 Page 39, paragraph intitled "Boating". The State should explore in greater depth the possibility of utilizing private boats as a means of park access. Will private boats be allowed to land and dock at the existing or rebuilt pier at China Camp? Will private boats be allowed to or encouraged to anchor in the protected waters of China Camp such as they do at Ayala Cove at Angel Island State Park? The San Pablo State Wildlife Area directly to the north of China Camp State Park is not mentioned in the preliminary plan. Use of this area would be heavily dependent on small boating facilities to allow maximum public access to those wetlands as well as those of China Camp. The existence of the State Wildlife Area should be recognized and discussed.
- 20 Page 50, paragraph entitled "Operations Facilities". The sentence, "Park residences and maintenance/service facilities will be located at park boundaries and between the historic and natural areas to provide an extended park surveillance and to insure adequate park maintenance." County staff has discussed this with the State Park Planners because of our concern that residences and buildings in these locations could be visually prominent and destructive

Mr. Russell W. Cahill
RE: China Camp Preliminary Plan
November 13, 1978
Page 3

to the landscape. The State planners indicate that the intent is to locate the facilities in the general area of the park boundaries and not specifically at the boundary. (20)

Page 51, "Engineering Considerations". The County believes that more in-depth investigation into alternative water sources and particularly sewage disposal systems should be considered by the State. Low volume sewage systems such as Microfor and Envirovac have proven to be economical as well as practical and can eliminate expensive sewer line construction. (21)

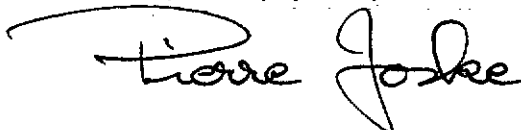
Page 54, fourth paragraph. The Marin Municipal Water District lifted the moratorium from new water hookups on March 8, 1978. (22)

Page 54, paragraph entitled "Power". The power lines serving existing buildings are all overhead. It should be the State's intention to underground those existing service lines and all new additional service within China Camp State Park. (23)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important Plan. It is our hope that the above comments and recommendations can be incorporated into the final draft and that we will have the opportunity to review the revised Plan before adoption by the State Parks & Recreation Commission or Department.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact me directly or Brian Wittenkeller, the County's Chief Park & Open Space Planner.

Very truly yours,



PIERRE JOSKE, DIRECTOR

PJ:hl

cc: Board of Supervisors
Administrator
City of San Rafael
Parks, Recreation & Open Space Commission



PART II: Response to Comments on Preliminary China Camp General Plan and
Draft Environmental Impact Report

Numbers below correspond to the number to the right of each substantial comment.

- 1) Public access to the shoreline is and will continue to be available at China Camp State Park. The best area for public access to the shoreline is along the eastern portion of the unit on the beach adjacent to China Camp Village. Shoreline access in sensitive resource areas will be limited to designated interpretive trails. Existing access will continue at the parking lot near the sewage treatment facility.
- 2) We do not feel that traffic from the project will have a significant impact on peak traffic along U.S. 101. No conflict should exist, because daily vehicular use to the park will be less than daily weekend use, and peak park traffic will probably be evenly distributed over the entire day. It should be noted that there will be phased implementation of the General Plan, and each phase will re-examine the traffic impact.
- 3) The water pollution being generated in China Camp Village at present will be eliminated when new restrooms are constructed. Pumpout vault restrooms are planned for the first phase. Also, past misuses of the land will be corrected and soil erosion will be decreased.

A detailed public health evaluation of the bay and marsh, including effects of pollution on shellfish and water contact, was not included in the General Plan. The department will coordinate closely with agencies that monitor these conditions.

- 4) Based on approximately 800 day use and 120 multi-use visitors per day, peak sewage flow at ultimate development, using low flush facilities, is expected to be approximately 8,000 gallons per day. Las Gallinas Sanitary District, working under its present allocation policy, has capacity available to receive waste from China Camp State Park. The ultimate total amount of waste and terms of necessary sewer agreements will require further study for feasibility.

Also, San Rafael Sanitation District plans to enlarge its treatment plant at North San Pedro Road. When this plant is expanded it will have capacity to receive waste from China Camp State Park.

Providing adequate sewage facilities at this time to serve the ultimate China Camp State Park development is not feasible. When planning and development of ultimate facilities have been funded, waste collection, treatment, and disposal will be studied in depth.

- 5) See response #2.
- 6) Traffic problems were discussed thoroughly by department planners with county traffic engineers. As discussed in #2, it was felt that existing roads could handle the added traffic. Traffic should increase from the present 100 average vehicles per day to approximately 300-400 cars per day when all phases are completed.

- 7) The department will work with the City of San Rafael, County of Marin, and CALTRANS to provide appropriate signing for access to the park.
- 8) In a meeting with the City of San Rafael the stub end streets were discussed, and the department staff explained that the Operations Division would have no authority to provide surveillance for residential areas. There will be no designated trail access into the park from the residential streets, and the main access points will be from North and South San Pedro Road.
- 9) The Black Canyon Open Space Area is adjacent to China Camp State Park. The park area adjacent to the Black Canyon Open Space Area will not be developed. Park personnel will patrol the state park's vast open space areas, including those areas adjacent to the city open space land. The hiking trail shown on the study area map was taken from the County General Plan map.
- 10) Camping will occur in the multi-use area in Back Ranch Valley. This will be designed to accommodate organized groups for either picnic or camping activities on a reservation basis. Park rangers will patrol all areas, including the multi-use area, and will take appropriate action if problems arise. It is anticipated that most campers will remain within the park, although a few will undoubtedly take trips to other areas. Absentee occupancy will be discouraged.
- 11) No facilities will be developed in Center Valley. Those in Back Ranch Valley will be for multi-purpose use. Camping would be limited to groups and only on a reservation basis.
- 12) The wording in the plan has been changed so that no preference is given for either South San Pedro Road or North San Pedro Road access.
- 13) Only Back Ranch Valley will be developed.
- 14) This suggestion will be reflected in the text.
- 15) This suggestion will be reflected in the text.
- 16) This suggestion will be reflected in the text.
- 17) The transportation study we propose would be funded by and be a part of the China Camp project administrative costs. It would not be a costly study. We are interested in coordinating and cooperating with local agencies. We do not anticipate financing a shuttle bus system at China Camp State Park at this time.
- 18) Hostel facilities are not being planned for China Camp State Park.
- 19) The text on "boating" will be expanded in the text to reflect the limited opportunities and problems involved with boating access and boating recreational opportunities.

The existence of the State Wildlife Area was mentioned in the Draft Environmental Impact Report. It will be discussed in other sections of the Final General Plan as well.

- 20) The location of the residences and administration building will not be in visually prominent sites. Buildings will be specifically sited during the development stage.
- 21) Alternate sewage treatment methods and water sources have been and will continue to be investigated. See #4.
- 22) The text will be changed to reflect the end of the moratorium.
- 23) The text will reflect this suggestion.



APPENDIX D

EXCERPT FROM RESOLUTION 13-79

"Appendix B

CHINA CAMP STATE PARK
CHANGES TO GENERAL PLAN"

The following proposed changes are based on comments that have been received since the preliminary draft of the plan was printed. The comments came from:

Marin County

(Board of Supervisors, relayed through County Parks and
Recreation Director, Pierre Joske)
City of San Rafael, through City Manager
Marin County Chinese Cultural Group
Native American Advisory Council
Feedback from review of Environmental Impact Element

Page 5, of the General Plan, paragraph 4, last sentence says, "The less favorable visitor access is available from the southeast via San Pedro Road." The change is to remove the "less favorable" connotation by saying, "VISITOR ACCESS IS ALSO AVAILABLE,..."

Page 8, paragraph 6, last sentence gives inaccurate information on Miwok population. The change is to say that the population was reduced "...FROM ABOUT 2,000 IN ABORIGINAL TIMES TO ONLY A FEW FAMILIES BY 1888."

Page 36, insert, after paragraph 3, acknowledgment of McNeers Beach, county park next to the state park:

"McNEARS BEACH IS A COUNTY PARK WITH BEACH LANDS ADJOINING CHINA CAMP STATE PARK AT THE SOUTHEAST BOUNDARY OF THE STATE PARK. McNEARS BEACH IS ONE OF THE COUNTY'S HEAVIEST USED RECREATION FACILITIES WITH WEEK-END AND HOLIDAY VISITATION AVERAGING 1,213 PEOPLE PER DAY (368 CARS).

"AT PEAK USE PERIODS FOR McNEARS BEACH, A HIGH LEVEL OF PEOPLE AND TRAFFIC CONGESTION OCCURS WITHIN THE PARK, ON SAN PEDRO ROAD AND IN THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES. CITY OFFICIALS AND LOCAL CITIZENS ARE CONCERNED OVER TRAFFIC SAFETY AND TRESPASS PROBLEMS THAT OCCUR NEAR THE PARK. THE COUNTY HAS PLANS TO REGULATE USE OF THE PARK TO CONTROL EXISTING ABUSES IN THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES WHICH SHOULD GO INTO EFFECT SOON. BOTH CITY AND COUNTY POLICE AGENCIES SURVEY THE AREA, ISSUING CITATIONS AND WARNINGS IN AN EFFORT TO CONTROL THE COMMUNITY IMPACT PROBLEMS.

"IT IS NOT EXPECTED THAT IMPROVEMENTS AT CHINA CAMP STATE PARK WILL SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT THE OVERUSE AND CONGESTION AT McNEARS BEACH. THE SWIMMING POOL, TENNIS COURTS AND SWIMMING BEACH OF THE COUNTY PARK WILL NOT BE DUPLICATED IN THE STATE PARK, SO THE APPEAL OF CHINA CAMP WILL BE BASICALLY TO A DIFFERENT RECREATIONIST."

On page 39, the second paragraph of "Roads" states that future park development and use favors vehicle access from North San Pedro Road near the Marin Civic Center. This paragraph should be replaced by one that says, "THE DEPARTMENT WILL WORK WITH THE CITY OF SAN RAFAEL, COUNTY OF MARIN, AND CALTRANS TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE SIGNING FOR ACCESS TO THE PARK."

At bottom of page 39, paragraph on boating should be expanded to clarify opportunities and limitations for boat access to park. New wording, "BOATING IS NOT CONSIDERED A MAJOR TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE FOR CHINA CAMP. DOCKING WITHIN THE PARK IS LIMITED TO CHINA CAMP VILLAGE. THIS DOCK IS ACCESSIBLE AT HIGH WATER, BUT SILT ACCUMULATION IN THE BAY PRECLUDES ACCESS AT LOW WATER. DREDGING IS NOT FEASIBLE AS RESILTATION WOULD QUICKLY RECUR. AT BUCK'S LANDING, A PROPERTY ADJACENT TO THE NORTHERN TIP OF THE PARK, BOATS CAN GAIN ACCESS TO THE SHORE AS THERE IS A PERMANENT CHANNEL ADJACENT THERETO. THE DEPARTMENT INCLUDED BUCK'S LANDING IN AN ACQUISITION PROGRAM, BUT FUNDING WAS INSUFFICIENT TO ALLOW THE ACQUISITION TO BE CONSUMMATED. THIS WOULD BE A DESIRABLE ADDITION TO THE PARK, BUT IT IS NOT KNOWN THAT FUNDS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE PURCHASE. BOAT LAUNCHING AND LANDING ARE FEASIBLE AND ALLOWED AT CHINA CAMP VILLAGE AND RAT ROCK COVE WHEN WATERS ARE SUFFICIENTLY HIGH. BOATS CAN TIE UP AT THE PIER AND ANCHOR IN THE WATERS OFFSHORE."

On page 45, the following is a proposed paragraph to acknowledge the San Pablo State Wildlife Area that exists next to the park. "THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME HAS ESTABLISHED A WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 12,000 ACRES OF WETLANDS ADJOINING THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE PARK.

"SEASONAL HUNTING ACTIVITIES OCCUR WHICH HAVE SOME DIRECT EFFECT ON THE PARK. HUNTERS SOMETIMES WALK ACROSS THE MARSH AREAS TO REACH DUCK BLINDS NEAR THE PARK. THERE WILL BE NO HUNTING WITHIN THE PARK BOUNDARIES, BUT TRADITIONAL HUNTING ACTIVITIES WILL CONTINUE ON THE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA. USES AND MANAGEMENT POLICIES OF THE TWO STATE AREAS ARE COMPATIBLE."

On page 54, in the paragraph on "Power", clarification should be added as to use of overhead and underground lines. The following should be added as the next to the last sentence: "NEW SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED IN UNDERGROUND LINES. OVERHEAD LINES WITHIN THE VILLAGE WILL BE TAKEN OUT OF SERVICE BUT REMAIN FOR HISTORIC AND AESTHETIC REASONS."

On page 60, the following should be added as a final paragraph under "Implementation", "IT IS URGENT THAT THE DEPARTMENT AGGRESSIVELY PURSUE THE GOAL OF OBTAINING ORAL HISTORIES FROM THOSE INDIVIDUALS HAVING PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITH CHINA CAMP'S HISTORY.

CHINA CAMP STATE PARK GENERAL PLAN: Addendum

The Proposed Land Use map, Figure 4, page 47, shows recreation development potential in Center Valley. It should be noted that the State Park and Recreation Commission approved the General Plan with the stipulation that there will be no development in Center Valley.
