

**UNIT 551**

**PIO PICO STATE HISTORIC PARK**

**GENERAL PLAN**

**June 1982**

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# **PIO PICO STATE HISTORIC PARK**

## **GENERAL PLAN**

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April 1983

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

**STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

P.O. BOX 942896, SACRAMENTO, CA 94296-0001



Resolution 29-82  
Adopted by the  
CALIFORNIA STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
at its regular meeting in Los Angeles, California  
on June 10, 1982

WHEREAS, the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation has presented to this Commission for approval the proposed General Plan for Pio Pico State Historic Park; and

WHEREAS, this reflects the long-range development plans 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 approved the Department of Parks and Recreation's General Plan for Pio Pico State Historic Park preliminary dated July 1981, as revised after 1981, subject to such environmental changes as the Director of Parks and Recreation shall determine advisable and necessary to implement carrying out the provisions and objectives of said plan.

PIO PICO STATE HISTORIC PARK

GENERAL PLAN

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## SUMMARY

Pio Pico State Historic Park is located at the intersection of Pioneer Boulevard and Whittier Boulevard in the City of Whittier. The unit lies in the midst of the busy and extensive Los Angeles urban basin. It is approximately 15 miles east of the downtown Los Angeles.

Pio Pico State Historic Park became a state museum in 1915; in 1927, it became a part of then - the Division of Beaches and Parks (now the Department of Parks and Recreation).

The unit commemorates Pio Pico, the last official governor of Mexican California. He was a governor twice: an interim governor in 1833, an interim governor from February 1845 to April 1846, and constitutional governor from April 1846 to September 1846, when California became part of the United States.

Pio Pico lived at the adobe after the beginning of the American period. He built the original adobe in 1852, and lived there until 1892, when he was evicted from the property. Pico died at the residence of a relative in 1894; he was 93 years old. The adobe was his last personal home--a small tract when compared with the vast holdings of land, cattle, and horses that marked his property at the zenith of his political and financial career.

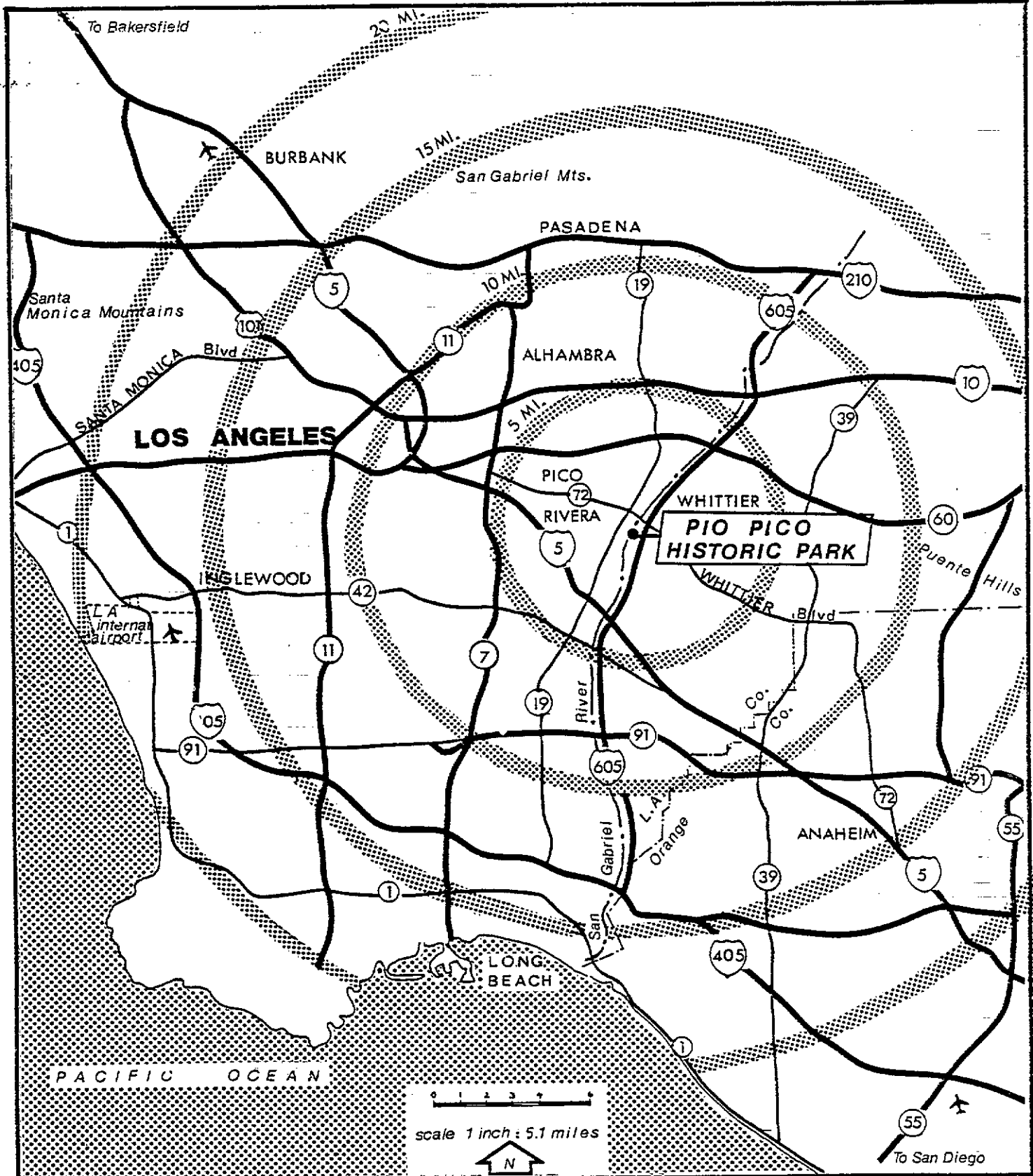
This document describes the general policies for rehabilitation, restoration, development, interpretation, management, and operation for Pio Pico State Historic Park. In producing these management policies and development plans, those involved recognized the structural sensitivity of the existing adobe and the need for accurate historical interpretation of the adobe as well as the man, Pio Pico.

The unit, the Department, and the State owe much to the few dedicated individuals, docents, who have helped manage and operate the unit throughout the years, and who provided invaluable assistance in producing this document.

### Plan Recommendations

Numerous proposals and recommendations are discussed in this document. The following is a summary of the major recommendations for Pio Pico State Historic Park.

1. The top priority for unit improvements is rehabilitation of the adobe.
2. Restoration of the unit grounds for historically accurate interpretation.
3. Reorganization of the adobe interior for historically accurate interpretation.
4. Expansion of the docent program and public involvement.
5. Protection of existing artifacts, and continued research pertinent to Pio Pico.



# LOCATION MAP

## PIO PICO STATE HISTORIC PARK

CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION



## INTRODUCTION

### Purpose of Plan

The purpose of the General Plan is to provide guidelines for management, interpretation, and development of Pio Pico State Historic Park, in accordance with its classification and approved Declaration of Purpose.

This plan is the first for this unit in response to the mandate of the Public Resources Code, which requires that a general plan be submitted to the State Park and Recreation Commission for its approval before any major work takes place. In addition, the report includes an Environmental Impact Element, conforming to requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.

The objectives of the plan, listed below, are intended to be broad and flexible. They are:

1. To identify the cultural, natural, and recreational resources of the historic unit.
2. To establish policies for management, protection, research, and interpretation of these resources.
3. To determine visitor activities and land use that are compatible with the purpose of the park, the available resources, and the surrounding area.
4. To determine the potential environmental impact of visitor activities, land use, and related development.
5. To establish guidelines for the recommended sequence and scope of park restoration and development.
6. To provide an informational document for the public, the legislature, Department personnel, and other government agencies.

### Project Description

#### Location

The accompanying map shows that Pio Pico State Historic Park lies in the center of a busy and extensive Los Angeles freeway system and urban development. Major traffic corridors, the San Gabriel Freeway (Interstate 605), Whittier Boulevard (State Highway 72), and Pioneer Boulevard (a short residential access street) are close to the unit.

The unit is located at 6003 Pioneer Boulevard in the City of Whittier, in Los Angeles County. It is about 16 miles from downtown Los Angeles, and 2.5 miles from downtown Whittier.

The unit is close to the four major Los Angeles basin airports; Los Angeles International, Hollywood-Burbank, John Wayne (Orange County), and Ontario.

## Size--Ownership

The accompanying map, (fig. ) discloses leasing and ownership at Pio Pico State Historic Park.

The state-owned and operated adobe structure is located on 1.2 acres of state-owned land. The state also leases the adjoining 2.3 acres of City of Whittier land. The existing residence, park service quarters, and public restrooms are located on the leased land, and two city pumping stations and reservoir also occupy part of the leased land. The City of Whittier owns an additional + 3 acres of surrounding land, where old gravestones are being stored.

## Public Involvement

Citizen participation has been important to the existence and continuing success of Pio Pico State Historic Park.

The Pio Pico Docent Committee of the Whittier Historical Society and the minimal unit staff have been successfully conducting informal tours, research, and fiestas at the adobe.

On November 20, 1980, Department of Parks and Recreation staff members conducted the first public workshop to begin the planning process for a General Plan for the unit. The DPR staff conducted another workshop March 5, 1981, to review the proposed plan which had been prepared from the results of workshops and contacts between the staff and involved citizens. Newsletters, announcing the results of the workshop and the status of the planning process, were mailed to participants. Comments received during the public involvement process were incorporated in this plan.

## RESOURCE ELEMENT

This Resource Element was prepared to meet requirements set forth in Section 5002.2, Subsection (b) of the Public Resources Code and Chapter 1, Section 4332 of Title 14 of the California Administrative Code. In compliance with this section of the Public Resources Code, the Resource Element sets forth long-range management objectives for the natural and cultural resources of the unit. Specific actions or limitations required to achieve these objectives are set forth in the element; for other objectives, details of management are left for inclusion in specific management programs that will be prepared at a later date.

Discussions about land not now owned by the Department of Parks and Recreation have been included. These lands represent potential acquisition opportunities, based on available data. However, the discussions are intended for long-range planning purposes only, and do not represent a desire, intention, or commitment for acquisition.

### Unit Identification

This unit is comprised of somewhat more than .4 hectares (1.2 acres) of State Park System owned land and .9 hectares (2.3 acres) of land leased from the City of Whittier. No other units of the State Park System are located in the immediate vicinity. About 22.5 kilometers (14 miles) away is El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historic Park which has a relationship to the business-financial career of Pio Pico. There are numerous city and county urban parks located in the immediate community areas.

### Summary and Evaluation of Resources

The following resource information is summarized from the rather large collections of literature, primary and secondary, held by offices of the Department of Parks and Recreation in Sacramento and at the unit, and the vast array of published literature available concerning Pio Pico and his time. Because of the extensiveness of the above-noted literature concerning the primary issues of this document, no formal inventory was prepared. The sharing of information by the Docent Committee associated with Pio Pico State Historic Park is deeply appreciated.

### Natural Resources

The house (casa) of Pio Pico, once the center of a rural rancho on the bank of the San Gabriel River, has been so completely engulfed by development in the greater metropolitan Los Angeles area that there is scarcely any vestige remaining of the indigenous environment which it once boasted. Even the river itself is no longer visible from the site, since a railroad embankment now intervenes. The vegetation of the site, none of it natural, is a result of urban type landscaping which includes a few species that are suggestive of the historic period, but almost surely not historic to Pico's time period.

There are no known rare or endangered species of plant or animal life here. Likewise, there are no known occurrences of fossil plant or animal forms, nor are they to be expected under these conditions of soil and geology.

Further information on the natural features of this area can be found in the literature referred to above.

### Cultural Resources

Management of the cultural resources at Pio Pico State Historic Park is governed by state statutes, and departmental policies and directives. The following portions of the Public Resources Code pertain to the management of cultural resources: Chapter 1, Section 5019.74 (if a cultural preserve is designated); Chapter 1.7, Section 5097.5; and Chapter 1.75, Section 5097.9.

The following Resource Management Directives pertain to the cultural resources of Pio Pico State Historic Park: 10, 24, 25, 32, 50, 51, 52, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 69, 70, 71, 72, 75, and 76.

The gist of the resource management directives is that all alteration or improvement of any kind can be done only in accordance with thorough and complete historical research.

### Native American History

There are no known Native American sites located within the boundaries of Pio Pico State Historic Park. Prior to Spanish occupation of the Los Angeles Basin, there was a Gabrielino village located nearby along the old river course. This settlement may have been known as "Sehat" (Sejat or Suka), which may or may not have been the same site as a settlement later known as "la rancheria". La rancheria was identified during Pico's time as being downstream on the east bank of the new river.

The ethnographic population of the area around the Pio Pico unit was recognized by A. L. Kroeber as Gabrielino, a variant derived from the name of the closest mission (San Gabriel). The Gabrielino, a Shoshonean-speaking people, moved into the region about 800 years ago, and archeological and linguistic evidence would indicate that these people replaced an earlier Hokan-speaking population.

The Gabrielino possessed an intricate culture that was both complex and extremely fragile. Gabrielino burial practices prior to the arrival of the Spanish featured cremation and included the property of the deceased. This practice caused cultural remains to be scarce and very valuable for understanding pre-European culture.

The removal of these people to the missions, the imposing of European influences, the later agricultural use of the land and, then, urbanization of the landscape have caused definite voids in the understanding of these Native American people.

## Euroamerican History

The house of Don Pio Pico could have several dates of construction or it may be declared as being a composite building dating from several time periods. If examined from another viewpoint, the casa may even be the first reconstruction (replica) of a historical dwelling (with many modifications) in the state's history. Whatever it is, in its current physical form it represents a historic and truly fascinating person and time.

### History of the Rancho's Land

La Casa del Ranchito (House of the Little Ranch) was first begun in 1852, but the history of the land on which it sat goes back much further. The land was declared the property of Mission San Gabriel, which was founded in 1771. A retired soldier, Jose Manuel Nieto, in 1784, received grazing rights to the region. Nieto claimed an area of 30,000 acres. Following his death, the mission authorities reduced the claim, divided the property into five sections, and then transferred these to the Nieto heirs.

A portion of the divided "Rancho Los Nietos" was later claimed by Juan Crispin Perez (1833), based on his contention that he had been grazing cattle there since 1803. On June 12, 1835, Governor Jose Figueroa granted Perez this portion, which was named Rancho Paso de Bartolo. In March or April 1847, Juan Perez died, creating an opportunity for former Mexican governor Pio Pico to acquire the property. Beginning in August 1850 and continuing until March 1852, Pico paid out \$4,642 to Perez's children and to Bernardino Lopez who managed Senora Perez's affairs. By 1852, Pico apparently had not purchased all of Rancho Paso de Bartolo, for when he filed claim for his land before the U.S. Land Commission that year several other men also filed claims on part of the Rancho. It would not be until August 5, 1881 that Pico would acquire clear title to the land for which he had paid money in the early 1850s. Pico received a patent on 8,891 acres. It was his smallest ranch and was apparently entitled El Ranchito (The Little Ranch).

Pico was evicted from the property in 1892 through the chicanery of a supposed friend and financial aide, Bernard Cohn. Cohn apparently had no interest in the house which was already in a condition of decay.

### History of the Casa

Pico began his casa in 1852. From the various survey plats (to be found in Eugene H. Zandora's history of the casa), the house underwent gradual improvements and additions. Several other structures also appear on the plats. Across the Los Angeles Road (now Whittier Boulevard) was a group of buildings later known as Jimtown. There is apparently an unresolved argument whether or not the flood of December 1867 destroyed part of the casa. What does seem to be true is that the floods of 1883-1884 did considerable damage to the house. Shortly thereafter it was rebuilt. This 19th century reconstruction was based on the walls and foundations that survived the flood. The available floor plans of the 1870s and of the 1884-1885 casa reconstruction period, while possessing many similar lines, are not the same.

In 1904 or 1905, Mrs. Harriet Strong, who had once lived in the house, organized local citizens to save the Pico Casa. Roadbuilders, needing land fill, had already demolished a mill and a chapel in Jimtown and the adobe corrals near the casa. In March 1909, after an expenditure of \$900 to rebuild or repair the walls and roof, the Governor Pico Museum and Historical Society opened the casa to the public. Restoration continued until 1915 and included the planting of grape vines, a fig tree, and rare plants. A room had been removed and the facade of the building was altered from "a country store style to a mission style".

In 1944-1945, the structure underwent a second restoration followed by a third restoration in 1946-1948. In both cases, major alteration was done to the structure. In late 1967, another restoration project was begun which abruptly ended on July 1, 1968 as funds became depleted. It was during this restoration that 28 inches of river silt were observed under the floors; it has been suggested that the deposits come from the flood that destroyed the original house in the 1800s. Since this 1960s work, maintenance and improvements have been made sporadically on the structure.

#### Esthetic Resources

Pio Pico State Historic Park is located in a heavily urbanized area. It is a small island of greenery hemmed in by development, freeway, street traffic, and a railroad embankment. Scenic value and esthetics would have to be formed from a combination of self-induced isolation and imagination.

#### Recreational Resources

The main visitor activities are divided into two opposing actions. On the one hand, visitors come to the unit to view the casa and to learn about Pio Pico and the California he lived in. On the other hand, the unit is in an urban area in which individuals and groups participate in passive recreational activities.

Regularly, organized festivals are staged at the unit despite its limited area. These events have been quite successful due to proper crowd behavior, control, and management. The success of these festivals has caused problems in parking and lack of adequate facilities to service both the visitors and the participants.

#### Evaluation

The significance of this property to the State Park System does not lie totally in the resources or characteristics it possesses, nor even in the historic events that may have taken place on the property itself. Rather, it is a setting for memorializing the man, Pio Pico, and the historic events that he influenced in the surrounding region. Specifically, it constitutes an excellent location for interpreting Pio Pico in his numerous roles as an active participant in Mexican era California and his transition to an American period businessman.

## Classification

In the early part of this century, Mrs. Harriet Strong took a keen interest in preserving the decaying adobe of Pio Pico located along the old "Los Angeles Road". Mrs. Strong organized the Governor Pico Museum and Historical Society amongst the local citizenry, and funds were raised. In March of 1909, the casa, referred to as the "mansion", was opened to the public. During 1913, the Society began overtures to turn the Pico adobe over to the State of California and in 1915 the State Legislature authorized the preservation of the structure as a state museum. In 1917, the State of California accepted the deed to the building and its immediate surroundings. The City of Whittier retained 3 acres surrounding the site. In 1927, the Legislature transferred the property from the Department of Finance to the then newly created Division of Beaches and Parks. Thus, this State Historic Park is one of the oldest in the State Park System.

In 1960, a legislative act decreed that all State Park System units be classified during a State Park and Recreation Commission meeting in each local district. In October 1964, Pio Pico State Historic Park was classified as one of the State Park System's historical units.

The Public Resources Code (Section 5019.59) defines a historical unit as follows:

Historical units, to be named appropriately and individually, consist of areas established primarily to preserve objects of historical, archaeological, and scientific interest, and archaeological sites and places commemorating important persons or historic events. Such areas should be of sufficient size, where possible, to encompass a significant proportion of the landscape associated with the historical objects. The only facilities that may be provided are those required for the safety, comfort, and enjoyment of the visitors, such as access, parking, water, sanitation, interpretation, and picnicking. Upon approval by the commission, lands outside the primary historic zone may be selected or acquired, developed, or operated to provide camping facilities within appropriate historical units. Upon approval by the State Park and Recreation Commission, an area outside the primary historic zone may be designated as a recreation zone to provide limited recreational opportunities that will supplement the public's enjoyment of the unit. Certain agricultural, mercantile, or other commercial activities may be permitted if those activities are a part of the history of the individual unit and any developments retain or restore historical authenticity. Historical units shall be named to perpetuate the primary historical theme of the individual units.

## Declaration of Purpose

On October 23, 1964, the following Declaration of Purpose was approved for Pio Pico State Historic Park by the State Park Commission:

"The purpose of Pio Pico State Historic Monument, near Whittier in Los Angeles County, is to make available to the people forever, for their enjoyment, the home of Pio Pico, the last governor of California under Mexican rule, and the historical and cultural resources related to the era.

"The function of the Division of Beaches and Parks at Pio Pico State Historical Monument is to preserve, maintain, and interpret the historical values of the unit, in accordance with the declared purpose of the unit."

A new Declaration of Purpose is established as part of this Resource Management Plan:

The purpose of Pio Pico State Historic Park, located in the City of Whittier, Los Angeles County, is to provide for the people an opportunity to view the last rural home of Pio Pico, the last governor of Mexican California, and an early practitioner in the American Era of large-scale animal husbandry; and, the historical and cultural resources related to that era.

The function of the Department of Parks and Recreation at Pio Pico State Historic Park is to foster the preservation, restoration, and interpretation of the Pico casa and to develop interpretive displays of the events and personalities associated with this structure.

## Declaration of Resource Management Policy

### Zone of Primary Interest

Due to its small size, the entire unit, comprising both State Park System owned land and the leased land, is the Zone of Primary Interest.

### Management Policies

#### 1. NATURAL RESOURCES

Vegetation: The trees and lawn which provide an urban park setting for the Pio Pico house are not inappropriate to the type of use the area receives; but, it would be preferable if the trees, in particular, were more closely related to the historic period.

Policy: When new trees are planted on this property, particularly in the vicinity of the casa itself, they shall be species that relate directly to the historic period, and shall be species actually in use during Governor Pio



Pico's time, if it is possible to determine the species. This policy shall apply to additional trees planted and to replacements for existing plants removed for any reason.

## 2. CULTURAL RESOURCES

Each proposed development that will affect an established sensitivity zone must be field-reviewed by a composite group made up of representatives of the Development, Operations, and Resource Protection divisions, before preparation of the budget package (Directive 70).

Native American Resources: There are no known Native American sites in the historic park.

Policy: The department will maintain a sensitivity toward any Native American resources identified in the future and will preserve their integrity. Furthermore, in keeping with the Department of Parks and Recreation recognition of the flow of history concept, the Gabrielino story both before and after the coming of Euroamericans will be represented through interpretation as a background to the main story of Pio Pico and related events.

Euroamerican Resources: As noted earlier, the Pico Casa has lost a great deal of its historical accuracy by the many restorations to the structure. There appears at this time no reason to restore or reconstruct either the 1850s or 1880s plans. There are no other cultural values of significance located on historic park property.

Policy: Preservation and enhancement of the present structure shall be the department's goal; and, interpretation will play a key role in enhancing visitor understanding and enjoyment of the story of the man, Pio Pico, and his times. Development will consist of minor restoration and reconstruction, necessary for maintenance or for enhancement of interpretive display. Such work may be accomplished only after careful historical and architectural research is done with the objective always in mind to complete the project with historical accuracy.

Extraneous Artifacts: Artifacts that are not appropriate to the historic purposes of the unit are found on the grounds immediate to the casa and at the west end of the property. These consist mainly of historic gravestones.

Policy: These artifacts should be removed to such a distance and properly labeled to make clear to the visiting public that they do not have a direct relationship to the unit. They may be preserved in the unit until such time as a more appropriate locality is found.

Intrusions on the Historic Scene: The City of Whittier water installations and residence owned by this department are intrusions on the historic scene and the historic atmosphere of Pio Pico casa.

Policy: The park residence shall be removed at the earliest practicable time, and it shall be located at a site that does not intrude on the historic scene and is not conspicuous to visitors, such as a location farther south along Pioneer Boulevard. Negotiations shall be conducted with the City of Whittier to induce them to replace their facilities on the State Historic Park at the earliest possible time with installations elsewhere that will serve the same purpose. If it is totally impracticable to remove them from the property, an effort shall be made to place the facilities underground and out of site of visitors to the historic park, or develop floral screening, which may be preferred due to the potential historic architectural values of the water facility.

Recreation: Recreational activities are both passive and active. These activities have appeared to be compatible with the functioning of the unit as both a historic site and an urban park.

Policy: Current usage of the unit for both historic sightseeing and culturally connected activities celebrating related community holidays or other related cultural events or activities may be continued.

#### Allowable Use Intensity

California State law (Section 5019.5, Public Resources Code) requires that a land carrying capacity survey be made before any park or recreational area development plan is prepared. As a step in determining carrying capacity, the department considers allowable use intensity.

Appropriate use intensity is determined by analysis of three components: 1) management objectives, 2) visitor perceptions and attitudes, and 3) the impact of any development and use on natural and cultural resources.

The management objectives for Pio Pico State Historic Park are generally set forth in the statutes defining a State Historic Park (see the classification section of this resource element).

The second component, visitor perceptions and attitudes, is sometimes referred to in relation to "social carrying capacity," and involves assessing the social objectives of the department, what recreationists perceive as an acceptable recreational environment, what degree of isolation or crowding is acceptable, and other perceptions and attitudes pertaining to the quality of visitor recreation experiences. These factors are very difficult to quantify. State Park System planners must take a leading role in increasing the public's awareness and appreciation of a high-quality recreation experience.

The third, and most important, component in determining allowable use intensity involves an analysis of the natural and cultural resources, to determine the area's physical limitations for development of facilities, and the ability of the ecosystem to withstand human impact (ecological sensitivity). This analysis is based on a number of environmental considerations, including: soils and their erosion and compaction potential; geologic factors, such as

slope stability and relief; hydrologic considerations, including the potential for pollution of surface waters, flooding, and depleting surface and ground water through water use; vegetation characteristics, such as durability, fragility, and regeneration rates; occurrence of paleontological strata; and wildlife considerations, such as tolerance to human activity, wildlife population levels, and stability. Additional considerations in determining ecological sensitivity are: rare and/or endangered plants and animals, unique botanic features and ecosystems, and examples of ecosystems of regional or statewide significance (marshes, riparian areas, and vernal pools).

Based on the preceding factors, allowable use intensity for lands in Pio Pico State Historic Park were determined to warrant high density use.

## LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT

### Goals and Objectives for Future Development

1. To prioritize development projects for park improvement.
2. To provide a facility that will tell the history of Pio Pico and the adobe.
3. To develop an integrated and comprehensive program of historical interpretation.
4. To provide a special congregating place for understanding and interaction among ethnic groups.
5. To provide visitors with necessary conveniences and services.
6. To provide open space relief within the surrounding urban development.

### Visitor Use Analysis

#### Visitor Attendance

Visitor attendance records for the unit show the following:

<u>1973/1974</u>	<u>1974/1975</u>	<u>1975/1976</u>	<u>1976/1977</u>	<u>1977/1978</u>	<u>1978/1979</u>	<u>1979/1980</u>
11,294	9,937	8,324	4,589	3,233	6,491	7,930

Attendance variation could be attributed to a change in the attendance recording procedure, the rise in gasoline prices, and cutbacks in school trip funds.

The park staff indicates that March is the busiest month for scheduled group visits, usually by school groups. The staff has noted that fewer busses are being used by schools. August is the busiest month for unscheduled visits. The busiest use season is from March to August.

#### Visitor Services

Services provided are now minimal. The park is open to the public Wednesdays through Sundays, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and is closed on Monday, Tuesday, and holidays. Special arrangements may be made for the unit to be open on Mondays or Tuesdays, or any mornings, for groups. On days when the park is open, the DPR Ranger and Pio Pico docents conduct a tour of the adobe interior on an informal basis, for a donation of 50¢ for adults and 25¢ for children 12 years old and under. With that donation, visitors are provided with a park brochure that briefly describes the history of Pio Pico and the adobe. The adobe tour takes about 30 minutes, and a park brochure is available.

## Visitor Origins

The visitor sign-up logbook maintained at the unit shows that visitors to Pio Pico State Historic Park come not just from the nearby vicinity and throughout the State of California, but from other states, and even from foreign countries. Appendix A summarizes visitor origins for the 1980 calendar year at Pio Pico SHP.

## Existing Land Use

The accompanying map, (see figure ) outlines the existing land use at Pio Pico State Historic Park. The park offers recreational and educational land uses, as well as limited facilities for operation and management of the park. During the yearly cultural events, some retail, cultural, and entertainment activities take place.

A small parking area for 20 cars is provided at the entrance, located at the northwest corner of the park. At the northwest corner of the park, the ranger residence takes about 1,200 square feet, the maintenance and equipment storage shed takes about 400 square feet, and the comfort station takes about 240 square feet.

Directly adjacent to the park residence and the parking lot, the City of Whittier has built, on its land, an emergency auxiliary pump house for its backup water system.

This pump building, with a + 30-foot standpipe, is about 20 feet tall, and is about 25' x 25'. It is visually and historically incongruent with park use.

To the west of the tank and the unit, the City of Whittier also owns about two acres of land, which is used for an overflow reservoir. Southern Pacific Railroad tracks run along the raised embankment, which is next to the overflow reservoir.

The City of Whittier also owns the land at the southwest end of the unit, and stores gravestones there. A privately owned residence adjoins the unit to the southeast. A row of private residences is sandwiched between Pioneer Boulevard and Interstate 605 to the east.

The state-owned adobe is a house museum with period furnishings, including pieces that once belonged to Pio Pico. One of the adobe rooms is a combined unit and docent office.

Most of the open space surrounding the adobe is owned by the City of Whittier, and is leased by the state. Non-native plant materials such as lawns, vines, and exotic ornamental trees are found on the grounds.

## Proposed Future Additions

Land use will continue as open space for recreation, education, and fiestas. However, existing facilities and plant materials may, except for the adobe, be removed or relocated, to historically and aesthetically improve the park.

Areas for orchards, crops, and a kitchen garden with medicinal and herb plants are proposed on the grounds surrounding the adobe.

Additional parking is recommended along Pioneer Boulevard on the southeast corner of the park.

Environmental living and living history programs should be organized to help interpret the adobe and grounds.

### Recommendations for Development

#### Purpose of Prioritizing Improvements

There are many possibilities for improvements at Pio Pico State Historic Park. Because there are so many different kinds of needs for improvement, it becomes important to distinguish between the repairs that are necessary to keep the building from falling apart and developments that improve the park beyond the existing conditions.

It is also important to separate improvements that can be made for hundreds of dollars from those requiring hundreds of thousands of dollars. Working with the existing structure, the adobe should be restored to the interpretive period.

The following prioritized list is intended only for describing the concept of getting crucial and inexpensive improvements made first. Additional and more detailed improvement ideas are likely to occur during the process of budgeting and construction. This General Plan recommends that all improvements to Pio Pico State Historic Park be in accordance with the general concept of the following priority list.

#### PRIORITIZED IMPROVEMENTS

1. The top priority is rehabilitation of the adobe. This would include (not in priority order):
  - a. Installation of fire and vandalism prevention systems.
  - b. Installation of heating and lighting systems.
  - c. Installation of proper weather stripping and repairing of cracks in and around doors and windows.
  - d. Installation of drainage systems along the foundation perimeter to keep the adobe footing dry.
  - e. Replacement of the existing temporary roof with historically appropriate materials.
  - f. Replacement of the original overhang on the west side to keep the adobe top protected.

- g. Replacement of doors and windows with historically accurate materials.
  - h. Reinforcement and stabilization of walls and foundations.
  - i. Stabilization and repair of the attic and its steps.
  - j. Painting of both exterior and interior walls.
  - k. Termite repairs, with an effective program of termite control.
2. Recommended grounds improvements include items that are useful to visitors, and are historically accurate for interpretation. Local garden clubs and college classes should be encouraged to participate in research, installation, and maintenance of the grounds proposals: (See accompanying General Plan Map for locations.)
- a. Overflow parking along Pioneer Boulevard.
  - b. A kitchen (vegetable) garden; a herb and medicinal garden.
  - c. A citrus garden with lime, orange, and lemon trees.
  - d. An orchard with fruit-bearing trees planted during Pico's time.
  - e. Field crops such as corn and barley that were commonly planted during Pico's time.
  - f. Ornamental garden beds with annual and perennial flowers of Pico's time.
  - g. A display of corral equipment, wagons, and farm implements at the northeast corner of the adobe.
  - h. A buffer of native vegetation, including willow trees, native wildflowers, grasses is recommended for the railroad embarkment. Natural grasses and wildflowers are recommended for the open field.
  - i. An overflow parking area on the area designated for a barley crop, south of the proposed orchard. Careful design details (such as earth berms) must be considered to direct the flow of cars from the proposed service gate into this area.
  - j. Removal of the fountain and pond and the Greek George gravestone.
  - k. Removal of a portion of existing lawn areas because lawns were not common in California during Pico's time. This plan recommends keeping the lawn area under the large Ash tree to the north of the adobe and under the grove of Sycamore trees, because the shady lawns are a favorite picnicking and play space.
  - l. Construction of a small, rectangular tool shed, wood-framed with siding, at a proposed fruit orchard.
  - m. Construction of new restrooms.

3. The long-range, more expensive improvements include:
  - a. Provision of an adobe perimeter wall along Whittier Boulevard and along Pioneer Boulevard, with adequate screening to prevent graffiti.
  - b. After research of the building dates and appearance, possible reconstruction of the 3-room northwest wing.
  - c. Relocation of the existing ranger residence, removal of the maintenance shed, provision of a new out-buiding for park storage, and provision of a new pedestrian entrance. The new pedestrian entrance features a small entrance plaza for park orientation and gathering at the corner of Whittier Avenue and Pioneer Boulevard. Various plaques, orientation, and informational signs can be displayed, and a bed of flowers will adorn this area. The historic alignment of the road before 1884 will become an entry into the adobe from the entrance plaza.
  - d. Relocation or screening of the existing water pumping and storage facilities of the City of Whittier, and provision of new parking along Pioneer Boulevard.
  - e. Replacement of the small wooden awning, storage shed, and smokehouse on the southeast corner of the adobe.
  - f. Separate building for park office and interpretive center.



## OPERATIONS ELEMENT

To insure future protection of the cultural resources of the park, it is essential that the existing operational staffing be continued, and expanded as necessary.

### Visitor Services

Typical visitor services provided include facilities for picnicking and interpretation.

Heavy emphasis on interpretation at Pio Pico SHP requires specialized staffing to implement the proposed interpretive programs. To accommodate these interpretive services, the department should encourage development of internships and docent programs.

### Visitor Control

The department's field staff is responsible for protection of all State Park System resources. The adobe structure is a sensitive cultural resource. Visitor movement and activities in and around the adobe will be controlled to protect these sensitive resources from indiscriminate use.

## TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT

Pio Pico State Historic Park is conveniently located near four major southern California airports and numerous freeways. The Hollywood-Burbank Airport is about 30 miles to the north on Interstate 5, the Los Angeles International Airport is about 30 miles to the west of Interstate 405, the Ontario Airport is about 32 miles to the east on Interstate 10, and the Orange County Airport is about 29 miles to the south on Interstate 505.

The Southern California Rapid Transit District's bus line #820 (serving Los Angeles, Whittier, La Habra, Puente Hills, Pico Rivera, and Montebello) stops at Whittier Boulevard and Pioneer Boulevard. SCRTD line #820 now operates between 6 a.m. and 12 midnight daily, and runs every 20 minutes. Further informations regarding line #820 or other lines can be obtained by calling the Southern California Rapid Transit District's 24-hour transit information service, provided both in English and Spanish, at (213) 626-4455, (213) 443-1307, or (213) 699-0954.

## INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT

The interpretive program for Pio Pico State Historic Park encourages visitors to experience the life and times of Pio Pico, a gracious and courtly man who was a figure of authority in Mexican California, and active in American affairs of the day. This aim will be accomplished through a variety of methods and medias, both in his "El Ranchito" adobe and on the park grounds. The following discusses the most important of these methods and medias. For a more detailed discussion of the interpretation proposed for the unit, see PIO PICO STATE HISTORIC PARK, Interpretive Prospectus, Part I, prepared by the department's Office of Interpretive Services, dated December 1977, and on file with the Department.

### Interpretive Period

The interpretive period will cover the span of Pio Pico's life from 1801 through 1894. The primary period of emphasis will be the years 1852 through 1870, when both Pio Pico and his adobe at "El Ranchito" were at the height of their liveliness, elegance, and importance. Secondary emphasis should be given to "El Ranchito's" history before Pico's purchase and after his eviction from the property.

### Interpretive Themes

Primary Theme: The life and times of Pio Pico, with emphasis on his political and business careers, which spanned the Mexican and early American Periods.

Sub Themes:

- 1) Early years
- 2) Pico as a revolutionary
- 3) A bridge between two cultures: Pico and the transition period
- 4) Pico's decline
- 5) Pico as host and personality
- 6) Life at the adobe

Secondary Themes: Owners and occupants of the rancho property before Pico  
The Adobe After Pico

### Expanded Themes

#### Primary Theme

The life and times of Pio Pico, with emphasis on his political and business careers, which spanned the Mexican and early American periods.

#### Sub Themes

- 1) Early years: Pico's ancestry will be of particular interest to minority visitors. What incidents in Pico's early years helped shape his character and interests?

- 2) Pico as revolutionary: Pico's revolutionary activities were an accepted manner for political change and personal advancement in Mexican California. Pico's commitment to the separation of military and policial authority guided him as a rebel leader, and became his goal as governor. Who opposed Pico's leadership? Was Pico a particularly responsive or innovative governor? Such questions are crucial to the understanding of Pico's political career, and the common political practices of the time.
- 3) A bridge between two cultures: Pico and the transition period: Pico was at the height of his wealth and influence during a time that brought major changes to the face of the land in agriculture, population, social customs, and business methods. How did Pico respond to these changes? Was his California background ever held against him? How quickly were the land-owning Rancheros (and Pico) displaced by Yankee entrepreneurs in Southern California? The portrayal of life during this exciting time, and the demonstration of Pico resiliency and ambitiousness, should be the intent of this time.
- 4) Pico's decline: After rising to political prominence and continued success during the transition period, Pico began a long period of financial and personal decline. Overspending, bad investments, exploitation by business associates, unpredictability of the climate, and personal tragedy were all factors in Pico's downfall. Visitors should understand how Pico's decline was more or less typical of that experienced by many Southern California Rancheros.
- 5) Pico as host and personality: This theme will do the most to make Pico come alive for visitors. Visitors should know of Pico's interests and idiosyncracies; and of his love, like many other California "Dons," early American Ranchers, and entrepreneurs, of guests and parties. This will help them better visualize him in his home at "El Ranchito."
- 6) Life at the Adobe: This will be the most important theme for living history and environment living programs. Who lived at the adobe? How often was Pico in residence there, and how did he spend his time? What festivities were held at the adobe? What were typical work activities? What physical changes were made to the adobe in Pico's time, and why? The answers to these questions will be important in deciding what historical portrayals, craft demonstrations, and recreational activities are appropriate for this unit.

### Secondary Themes

Owners and occupants of the rancho property before Pico: What was this area like at the time of Gabrielino Indian occupation? How did the early owners of "El Ranchito" use the land? This background information will give visitors an additional sense of how Southern California has developed.

The Adobe After Pico: After Pico's death, the adobe was left in very distressed condition. Under the direction of Mrs. Harriet Strong, a community effort was organized to preserve this landmark. The adobe has been administered by a variety of agencies, public and private. Several restorations have left their mark on the adobe we see today. The adobe was acquired by the state in 1915.

### Methods and Media

Guided tours, a house museum, publications, and limited exhibits have been used successfully, and should continue. With additional funds and increased staffing by volunteers and paid employees, a much more participatory approach to interpretation is possible and desirable for this unit. Environmental living and living history programs, demonstrations, an audio-visual program, and additional community involvement fiestas and pageants will bring more life and popularity to the unit. An environmental living program would furnish inner-city children with the opportunity to hear about the struggles Pio Pico faced in his attempt to adjust and succeed in a culture that was foreign to him, and to leave their urban neighborhoods.

### Interpretive Services

#### Visitor Activities

Pio Pico State Historic Park offers a unique opportunity in the Southern California area for children and adults to try their hand at historic crafts, and to experience what it was like to live and work in 19th-century Southern California.

The story of Pio Pico and his life at "El Ranchito" lends itself particularly well to a living history or environmental living programs. When Pico was alive, "El Ranchito" was the center of a large ranching and later, farming operation. Pico loved to fill his home with friends and festivities. It is appropriate that the man and heritage this unit represents continue to be celebrated in a lively and personal way.

Through living history demonstrations, visitors should be guided by docents and a unit ranger to try some of the activities of life on the rancho. These activities might include, among others, adobe-making and cooking. When a historic activity is demonstrated, the interpreter should explain the activity in its historic context.

Pio Pico State Historic Park is very small in size, and this necessitates a symbolic presentation of activities that were land-extensive in nature, i.e., animal husbandry and farming. However, a large-scale activity such as harvesting does not require a field of wheat for a demonstration. A sheaf of wheat and reproductions of antique harvesting implements can be used to demonstrate harvesting techniques just as well.

Play was also an important part of life at "El Ranchito." Living history and environmental living programs should involve visitors in the many recreational activities that took place here. Dancing and children's games are just two of the historic recreational activities that can be interpreted at this unit.

Community fiestas should be continued, to encourage living history interpretation at the unit. Demonstrations of cooking and crafts are now being done. In the future, fiestas could be planned to model the 1853 fiesta to honor the completion of the adobe and the christening of Pico's godchild. A complete list of foods and activities could be offered at a modern-day fiesta. Pageants of the Mexican-American tradition, such as the Las Posadas Christmas pageant, also being held at Pio Pico State Historic Park, to encourage Hispanic participation in the park's activities. It is also interesting to note that Pio Pico was born on May 5th, coinciding with the modern Cinco de Mayo.

Personal services will continue to be an important part of the interpretive programs at Pio Pico State Historic Park. An intelligent, well-versed docent can effectively convey the interpretive themes of the unit, protect the adobe furnishings, and gear tour content to visitor needs and interests. All tours should stress the peak years of Pio Pico's life--his entertaining, political, and business accomplishments. Pico's pursuits, his successes, and his failures should be evaluated in light of contemporary events. This way, visitors will receive more than a biographical commentary. They will come away with an understanding of economic, social, and political trends in 19th-century Southern California.

Visitor flow through the adobe could be improved. As it is now, orientation takes place in a small room that also serves as the docent office. To make matters worse, a large glass display case, housing some of Pico's personal effects, takes up a great deal of room in the orientation area. If possible, this case should be moved to the display room, where there is more space for it. Another problem concerns when visitors see the display room. Now, visitors get the chance to see it only briefly before continuing the adobe tour. Perhaps the tour could end in the display room. Visitors would then be able to look at the well-researched and interesting displays at their leisure, without feeling rushed. An orientation area should be located in the entrance plaza.

It is important that visitors be made aware of the fragility of the adobe furnishings. Rather than placing "Don't Touch" signs throughout the adobe, docents should explain any regulations in a friendly manner at the beginning of each tour.

Publications at Pio Pico State Historic Park offer an excellent supplementary information source. Along with numerous reports, articles, and photographs relating to Pio Pico and the unit, docents have compiled two helpful pamphlets, one on Pico's chronology and the other about the adobe. These publications can be purchased and, along with the unit brochure, located in the orientation room, or in the future interpretive center.

#### Interpretive Facilities

Participatory interpretation at Pio Pico State Historic Park, through environmental living programs, living history demonstrations, community involvement pageants, and fiestas, should involve a minimum of new construction. Craft demonstrations do not require new structures.

Participatory interpretation will take place mostly out-of-doors. Guided tours are centered indoors at the adobe house museum. It is most important that the adobe be assessed structurally. Adobe weathers easily, and requires a great deal of upkeep. At present, some of the adobe walls are in need of stabilization, and stabilization should commence as soon as possible.

Long-range plans for the unit call for acquisition of a neighboring house for the park office and visitor orientation center. This building could eventually house the multi-media exhibits and all the paraphernalia that are necessary for interpretation, but are not historically accurate. The proposed outdoor visitor orientation and entry area at the corner of Whittier and Pioneer Boulevards can also exhibit other necessary display cases, plaques, and signs.

The adobe, surrounded by the restored grounds, can thus become a more historically accurate house museum. Some removal, replacement, or exchange of furnishings and items, as well as new entry and tour routes through the rooms, will probably be necessary to achieve historical accuracy.

#### Interpretive Priorities

1. Stabilize adobe where needed: Interpretive efforts at the unit will be meaningless unless this resource is preserved and protected.
2. Receive or acquire additional furnishings (historically accurate) from state collections for house museums; re-print single-copy photographs at the unit.
3. Improve unit landscaping with historically accurate plant materials and land use.
4. Implement more appropriate entrance and tour routes through rooms; prepare audio-visual program.
5. Develop, continue, and expand participatory interpretation: fiestas, pageants, living history demonstrations, garden club involvement, college class involvement.
6. Develop environmental living and living history programs.
7. Improve and add to available publications, research, etc.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT

The entire General Plan constitutes the environmental document required by the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Sections 21000, et seq.). The different elements in the General Plan provide the resource information, the project description, the description of the existing environment, and some mitigation measures. The proposed development will primarily improve the existing facilities; therefore, no significant changes will occur.

Whenever a specific phase of the overall plan is budgeted and proposed for implementation, a more specific and detailed environmental assessment will be prepared for that particular project, as part of the budget package.

### Project Description

Proposed development and operations are described in the Land Use and Facilities Element and the Operations Element.

### Description of the Environmental Setting

General resource information can be found in the Resource Element. The existing facilities are described in the Land Use and Facilities Element.

### Significant Environmental Effects of the Proposed Project

None of the proposed development will have significant adverse effects. The natural resources have been extensively altered. Wildlife has been displaced by urban build-up. Native vegetation has been replaced by cultivated plants and exotics since the structure's original construction. The air quality and the viewshed have deteriorated with urban growth. The Southern Pacific Railroad line has separated the site from direct access to the San Gabriel River.

The primary cultural resource of the unit, Pio Pico's house, has been modified and reconstructed throughout its history; little of the original structure remains. The department plans to stabilize, preserve, and maintain the structure, and to reconstruct certain historical additions. No adverse effects should result.

The visiting public will benefit from the removal of historically and visually intrusive or inappropriate structures and vegetation.

No increase in visitor use will be generated by implementation of the plan. Essentially, the proposed facilities and improvements will enhance visitors' experiences, and any growth in visitation would presumably have occurred regardless of the development.

### Significant Environmental Effects Which Cannot Be Avoided if the Proposal is Implemented

There are no significant adverse environmental effects.



### Mitigation Measures Proposed to Minimize the Significant Effects

No mitigation measures are proposed. As specific development is proposed, mitigation measures may be developed to protect the cultural resources.

### Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Alternatives are being considered for relocation of the ranger residence and reduction of the visual intrusion of the City of Whittier's pumping plant. The ranger residence may be relocated outside the unit, further south along Pioneer Boulevard. Reduction of the visual intrusion of the pumping plant may be accomplished by either undergrounding the structure, relocating it outside the unit, or screening it with vegetation. This will depend on negotiations with the City of Whittier.

The "no project" alternative would continue operation of the unit in its present condition. This was rejected because the unstable condition of the house and the surrounding grounds interferes with the function of the unit as defined in the Declaration of Purpose.

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

The proposed short-term uses and long-term uses are preservation, interpretation, and recreation. The resources will be protected; should a future use prove more beneficial to the public than these uses, the site and its resources will be available.

The productivity of the site may be enhanced by planting fruit trees, a vegetable garden, and field crops. Any planting will reduce soil erosion and, therefore, will maintain soil fertility and long-term potential productivity. However, given the limited size of the unit, loss or maintenance of productivity is not a critical concern.

### Significant Irreversible Environmental Changes Which Would Be Involved in the Proposed Action Should It Be Implemented

There are no irreversible environmental changes. No land area or natural or cultural resources will be irreversibly committed as the plan is implemented.

### Growth-Inducing Impact of the Proposed Action

Implementation of the plan should not cause any significant growth-inducing effects, because the plan proposes no substantial increase in capacity of facilities.

## COMMENTS AND RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

The Draft General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report were circulated for review as required by the California Environmental Quality Act. The Environmental Impact Report was sent for review to the State Clearinghouse, which in turn circulated the document to state agencies, the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission, the Southern California Association of Governments, and the City of Whittier Planning Department. Notice of availability for public review of the document was published in the Los Angeles Times. Copies of the document were held for public review at this department's Orange Coast Area Office and the South Whittier Branch of the Los Angeles County Public Library.

Copies of the document were sent for review to those who attended the public meetings, docents who work at Pio Pico State Historic Park, and to anyone who requested a copy.

No comments were received during this review period. Therefore, there are no responses to comments.

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APPENDIX A

Visitor Origins

Visitor origins were analyzed for calendar year 1980 from the sign-up log maintained at the unit. The months of July and August saw more "out-of-state" and "out-of-country" visitors than any other months. In July 1980, visitors came from the states of Arizona, Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, New Mexico, Ohio, Texas, Utah, and Virginia; and from the countries of Mexico and Austria. In August 1980, out-of-state visitors, totaling 24, came from the states of Arizona, Arkansas, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington; and from the countries of England and Australia.

The following chart tabulates visitors to Pio Pico State Historic Park during the first three months of 1980.

	<u>January 1980</u> # Visitors		<u>February 1980</u> # Visitors		<u>March 1980</u> # Visitors
FROM CALIFORNIA:					
Northern Calif.	7		2		4
So. Calif.	93		60		104
City Not Listed	30		13		20
FROM STATES OF:					
Arizona	1	Arizona	2	Minnesota	1
Florida	1	Connecticut	2	Ohio	2
Illinois	1	Florida	2	Pennsylvania	1
Massachusetts	1	Illinois	2	Oregon	1
Maryland	2	Iowa	3	Wisconsin	2
Minnesota	1	Missouri	1		
New Jersey	1	New Jersey	1		
Pennsylvania	1	New York	1		
Washington	1	Pennsylvania	1		
		Utah	1		
		Wisconsin	1		
FROM COUNTRIES OF:					
Australia	1	Canada	2	Japan	1
England	1	England	2		
Japan	2				
Mexico	1				

## APPENDIX B

### Garden Restoration

#### I. Objectives

- A. A historically accurate landscape will provide a quiet setting in which to immerse oneself in the Pio Pico story.
- B. The gardens may also represent the aesthetic tastes of 19th century, Southern California rancheros.
- C. To restore the gardens would exhibit a facet of Pico's personality -- his love of show and beauty.

#### II. Accounts of Pico Gardens

- A. On November 15, 1858, Joseph E. Pleasants, in company with other young men, came upon the Ranchito, and later wrote:

" ... The Picturesque old ranch house at the Ranchito stood in the midst of a beautiful garden, fragrant with the flowers of 'ye olden time', prominent among them, and always in a place of honor, 'la Rosa Castilla'."<sup>1</sup>
- B. Harry Barrows, a long-time friend of Pico, visited the house in 1860. He wrote:

"... I have been in the memorable adobe house of Governor Pico at Ranchito...The house was white and neat and the gardens around it and the beautiful rancho or hacienda of which they were a part, were all worthy of being the country plat or home of an honored Governor of primitive California..."
- C. Harriet Strong and her husband bought 320 acres from Pio Pico in 1867 and lived in the Pio Pico Casa while awaiting for their home to be built. She described the beautiful garden on the western side of the house:

"...On the west side of the room were two large casement windows which looked upon a well kept garden of old fig, pear, orange, and pomegranate trees, five acres in extent, in high state of cultivation, and extending almost to the river..."

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<sup>1</sup> Rosa Damascena Bifera. Autumn Damask (Ancient) 3-4 feet. Flowers repeatedly in warm climates. Praised by Virgil and Ovid...widely known and grown in Roman times...this is one of the few repeat blooming roses recorded in ancient history. Brought to the New World by the Spanish, who called it Castilian, or Rose of Castile. The plant's intense damask perfumes makes it valuable for preparation of potpourri and rose oils.

Mrs. Strong further noted:

"... in the grounds were all kinds of fruit trees and vines, products of N. and S. thriving side by side. Corn, wine, and wheat. California is best adapted to figs, olives, and nuts, almonds in the northern, walnuts in the southern,...

...The 1867 flood swept away the beautiful gardens on the western side of the old mansion...the last bit of improvement which was done by him on his 'El Ranchito' was to plant willow trees along the river to protect the bank during floods..."

III. R. G. Ruxton survey plats in 1879 (12 years after the 1867-1868 flood):

- A. The plats proved invaluable in establishing the various adobe structures, including the chapel, mill, and corrals, and indicating also the orchards and corn and barley fields.
- B. A photo taken in the late 1880s shows orchard trees bordering the front of the mansion. On the balcony is Pio Pico.
- C. The General Plan Map for Pio Pico State Historic Park is based on the above findings.

Garden Restoration Guidelines

The following guidelines for garden restoration are suggested by Rudy J. Favretti and Joy P. Favretti in their books, A Guide for Reproducing Period Gardens and Landscapes and Gardens for Historic Buildings. The authors deal mainly with garden samples in the East Coast. However, the following notes pertain to future garden restoration work at Pio Pico State Historic Park:

- A. For design of the landscape, strictly follow the evidence obtained through your own research.
- B. Use plants that are authentic to the period.<sup>2</sup> Don't over-manicure. Don't mow your lawn. Just mow once a month with sickelbar-type mower, to produce rougher-surfaced lawn in keeping with the period.
- C. If portions of the original property have been sold off, don't try to telescope the whole scheme into the small piece of land. If you do, the scale relationship will be wrong, and you will lose the proper effect. Instead, reproduce only the part that pertains to the section in present ownership.

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<sup>2</sup> The garden restoration period for Pio Pico State Historic Park is the 1880s. Pio Pico once owned almost half of Mission San Luis Rey lands, and the Pio Pico SHP land was once part of Mission San Gabriel. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that many plant materials common in Spanish missions could have been found at Pio Pico State Historic Park. Some literature on Spanish and mission gardens and their plant materials can be found at the unit.

- D. Don't fall into the herb garden trap. Specific herb gardens, as such, were rarely planted. Rather, the herbs were mixed with flowers and vegetables. The borders along the outside were planted with roses and shrubs, as well as with currants (or grape vines at Pio Pico State Historic Park).
- E. Avoid contrived features in the landscape. Gardens were not cluttered with quaint objects or purportedly ornamented with "knick-knacks."
- F. Flower gardens were found next to the house for both visual purposes as well as sensory purposes.
- G. The garden was usually at the rear of the country house or at its side, and the central walkway was an extension of the central hallway of the house. (This was particularly true for the garden in the north-west corner of the Pio Pico Adobe, which was washed off during the major floods.)
- H. One popular 19th-century practice was to plant trees to commemorate births in the family or special patriotic events. These were often planted to outline or shade the approach road to the farmstead, or as shade trees near the house.
- I. Shade trees continued in popularity as landscape features, and were planted to enframe an approach to the house, along the street, or in informal groupings around the house.
- J. Many farm chores, such as butchering, cooking, etc., took place in the yard near the house. Fruit trees were planted around the yard.

APPENDIX C

Plant Materials

Plant materials indicated by various literatures as specifically found around the Pio Pico Adobe during Pio Pico's stay:

	Scientific Name	Common Name
trees & shrubs	Salix sp.	Willow
	Citrus sp.	Oranges
	Citrus sp.	Limes
	Citrus sp.	Lemons
	Punica granatum	Pomegranates
	Ficus palmeri	Figs
	Ficus sp.	Figs
	Pyrus communis	Pears
	Olea europea	Olives
	Juglans californica	Walnuts
	Chaenomeles sp.	Quinces
annuals & peren.	Althaea rosea	Hollyhocks
	Geranium sp.	Geraniums
	Pelagorium sp.	
	Lonicera sp.	Honeysuckles
	Tagetes sp.	Marigolds
	Arctotis sp.	African Daiseys
	Rosa damascena bifera	Rose of Castille
	Rosa damascena triginity-petala	Rose of Castille
vege. & wines		Corn
		Barley
		Wheat
		Wine (grape vines)

D-0333I



**PIO PICO VICINITY MAP  
STATE HISTORIC PARK**

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SHEET No. 1  
DRAWING No. 18012

REVISIONS

DATE	DESIGNED 11-80
	DRAWN
	CHECKED

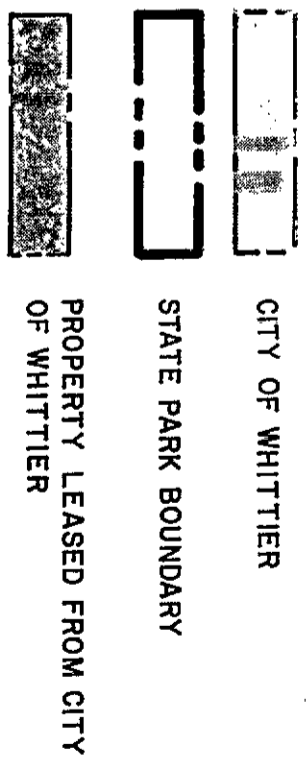
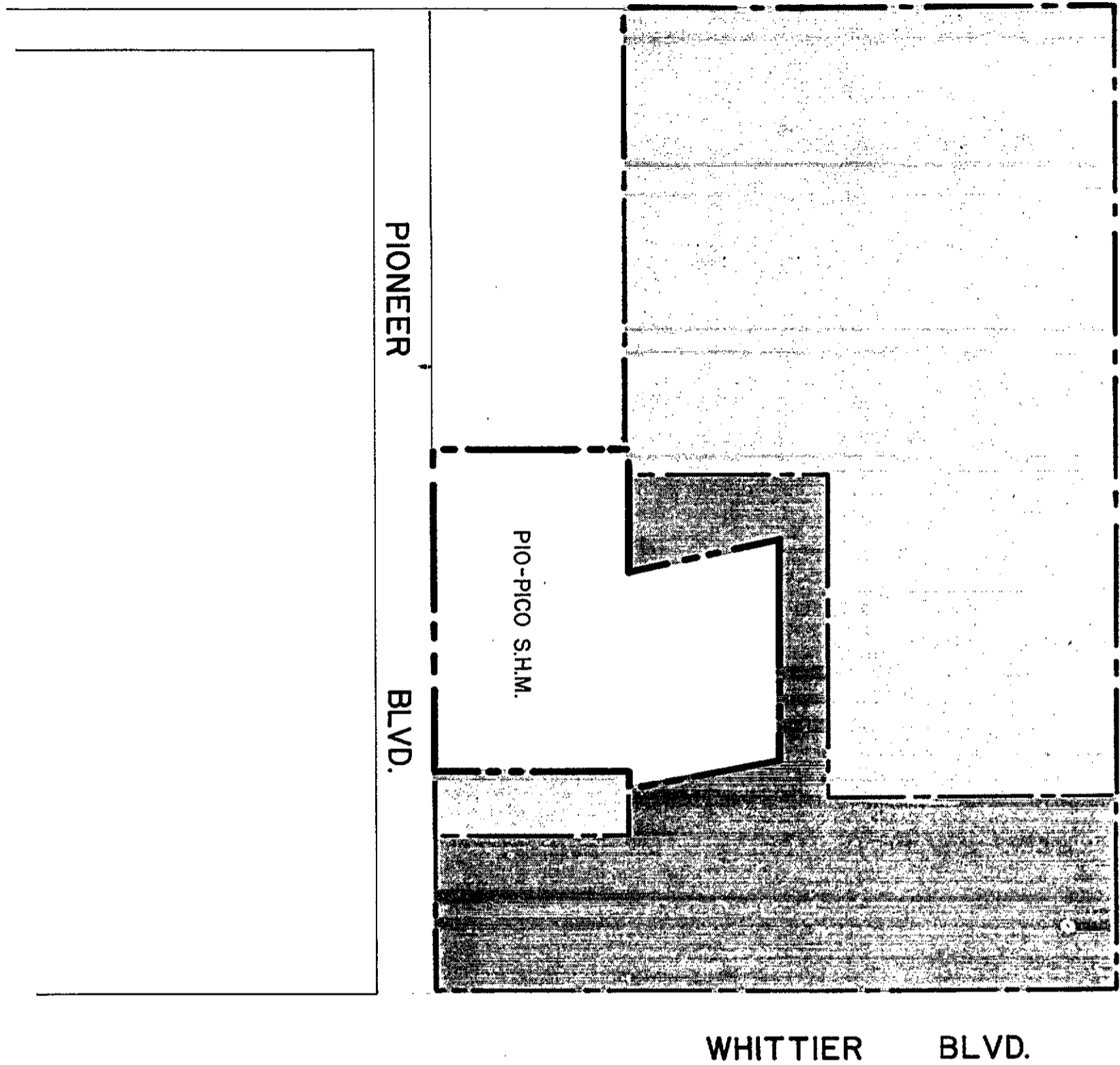
**L E G E N D**

- Corporate Boundary
- Water Bodies
- Railroad
- State Highways
- Roads
- Schools
- Parks

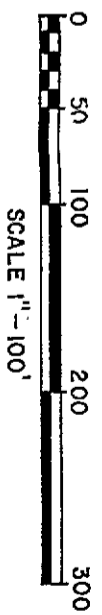
SCALE 1" = 2000'

**NORTH**





LEGEND



DRAWING NO.  
18012

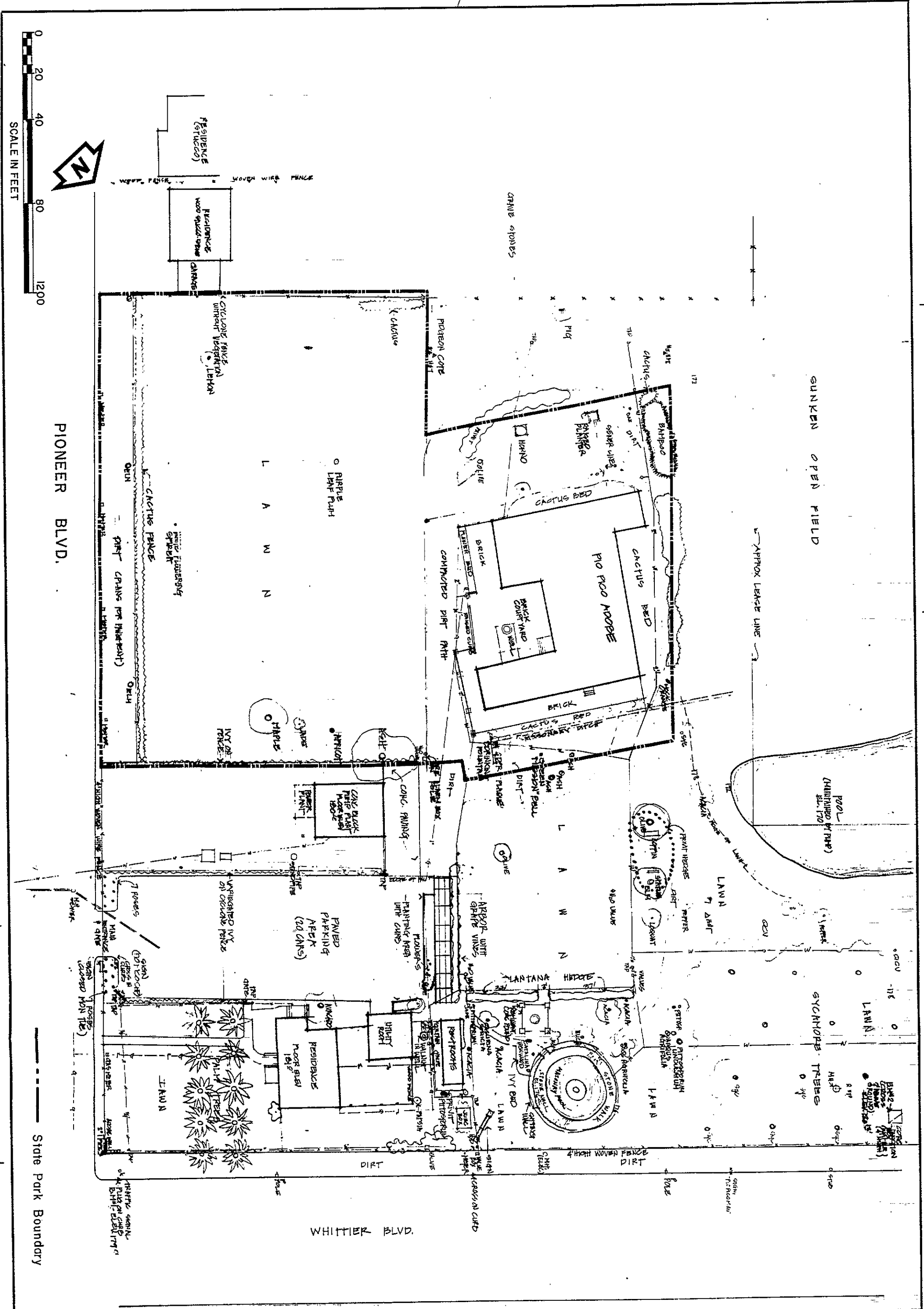
PIO-PICO STATE PARK  
EXISTING LAND  
OWNERSHIP PATTERNS

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

REVISIONS	DATE

DESIGNED  
DRAWN  
M. LEE 5/81  
CHECKED  
M.H.R.

SHEET NO.  
2 of 4



PIO-PICO STATE HISTORIC PARK  
EXISTING GROUND CONDITIONS

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

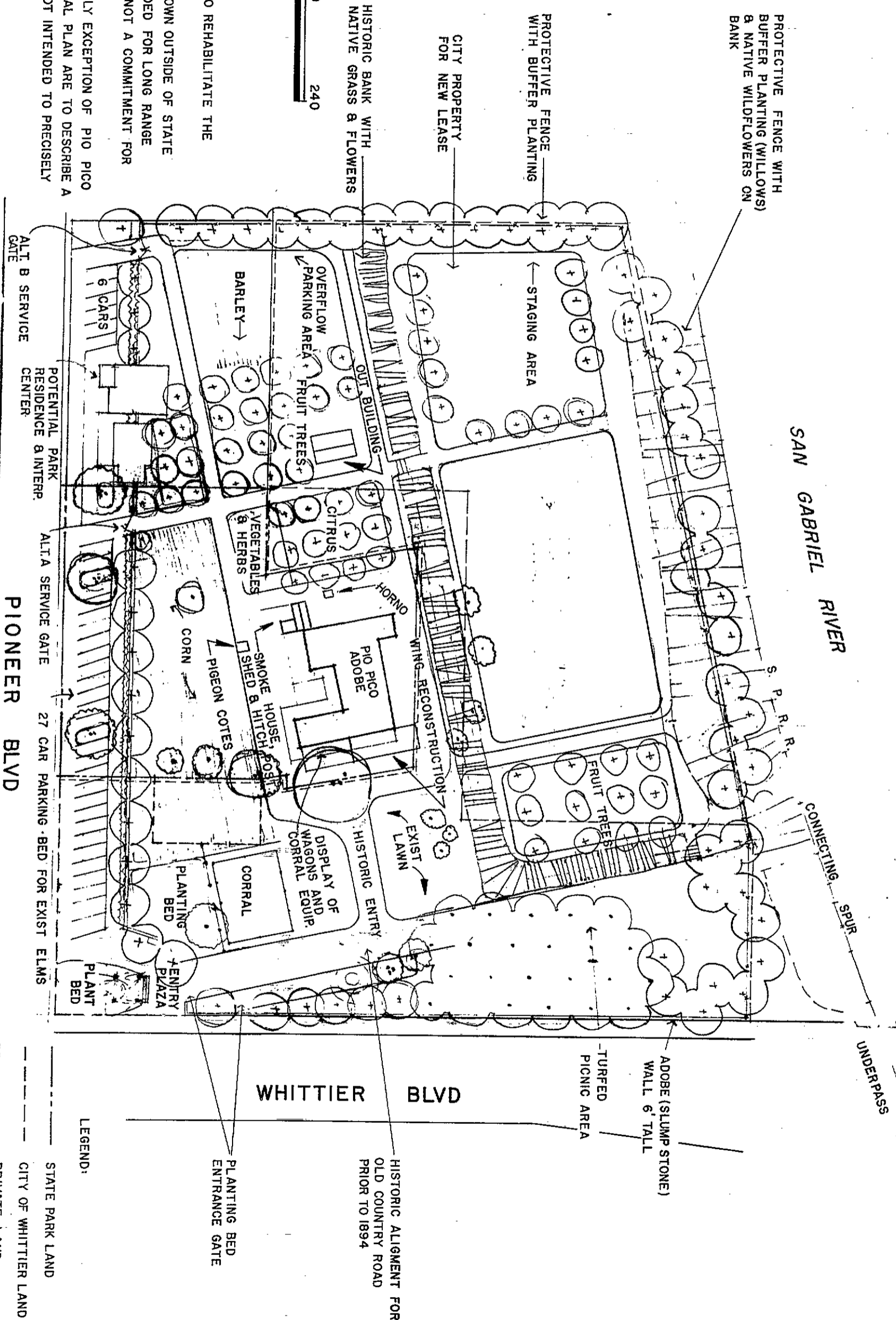
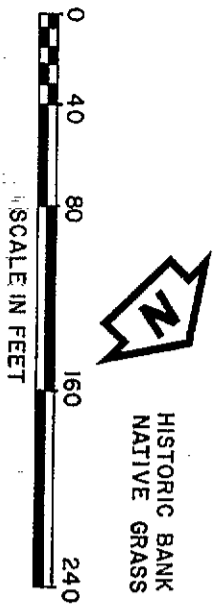
REVISIONS	DATE	DESIGNED
		11-80
		DRAWN
		CHECKED

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DRAWING NO.  
18012

SHEET NO.  
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- NOTES:
- THE #1 PRIORITY OF THIS IS TO REHABILITATE THE PIO PICO ADOBE.
  - DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS SHOWN OUTSIDE OF STATE OWNED PROPERTY ARE INTENDED FOR LONG RANGE PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY, & NOT A COMMITMENT FOR ACQUISITION.
  - ALL FEATURES (WITH THE ONLY EXCEPTION OF PIO PICO ADOBE) SHOWN ON THIS GENERAL PLAN ARE TO DESCRIBE A GENERAL CONCEPT ONLY, & NOT INTENDED TO PRECISELY DELINEATE A FINAL DESIGN.



PIO - PICO STATE HISTORIC PARK <b>GENERAL PLAN</b>		RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION APPROVED: <i>La M. Coyne</i> DATE: 4/11/83	DESIGNED DRAWN: M.LEE 5/81 CHECKED: M.H.R.
DRAWING NO. <b>18012</b>	SHEET NO. 4 of 4	REVISIONS	DATE

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