

UNIT 243


SONOMA STATE HISTORIC PARK

GENERAL PLAN

June 1985

**LIBRARY COPY**

Return to  
**DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**  
Room 905



**SONOMA STATE  
HISTORIC PARK  
GENERAL  
PLAN**



State of California—The Resources Agency  
**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

George Deukmejian  
*Governor*

Gordon Van Vleck  
*Secretary for Resources*

Wm. S. Briner  
*Director*

November 1986

THIS REPORT WAS PREPARED BY STATE PARK STAFF:

Mary Helmich, State Park Interpretive Specialist  
Eileen Hook, State Park Interpretive Specialist  
Larry Martz, Supervisor, Technical Reports Section  
R. Don Michaely, Landscape Architect, Project Manager  
George Stammerjohan, State Historian II  
Chris Stokes, Ranger, Sonoma State Historic Park  
Rob Ueltzen, Environmental Review  
Willie Yee, Graphic Services

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF:

Robert D. Cates, Chief, Development Division  
H. Lee Warren, Supervising Landscape Architect  
George Rackelmann, Senior Landscape Architect  
Keith Demetrak, Chief, Office of Interpretive Services  
William Pritchard, Supervisor, Interpretive Planning Section  
Richard G. Rayburn, Chief, Resources Protection Division  
Mike Doyle, Environmental Review Section  
Bill Emrie, Environmental Review Section  
Curtis Mitchell, Regional Director, Northern Region Headquarters  
Dale Buschke, Deputy Regional Director, Northern Region  
Glenn Burch, Regional Historian, Northern Region  
Larry Ferri, District Superintendent, Sonoma District

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

## STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

P. O. BOX 2390, SACRAMENTO 95811



RESOLUTION 41-85  
adopted by the  
CALIFORNIA STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
at its regular meeting in Santa Rosa, California  
on June 14, 1985

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

WHEREAS, this reflects the long-range development plans 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 Sonoma State Historic Park Preliminary dated March 1985, subject to such environmental changes as the Director of Parks and Recreation shall determine advisable and necessary to implement the provisions and objectives of said plan.

SONOMA STATE HISTORIC PARK  
GENERAL PLAN

November 1986

George Deukmejian  
Governor of California

Gordon Van Vleck  
Secretary for Resources

Wm. S. Briner, Director  
Department of Parks and Recreation

State of California - The Resources Agency  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
P.O. Box 2390  
Sacramento, California 95811  
(916) 324-9067



# C O N T E N T S

	<u>Page</u>
SUMMARY . . . . .	1
INTRODUCTION . . . . .	3
RESOURCE ELEMENT . . . . .	5
Unit Identification . . . . .	7
Summary and Evaluation of Resources . . . . .	7
Resource Policy Formation . . . . .	20
Allowable Use Intensity . . . . .	31
LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT . . . . .	33
General Objectives . . . . .	33
The Regional Setting . . . . .	34
Surrounding Land Uses . . . . .	34
Land Use and Facilities . . . . .	37
Mission San Francisco Solano . . . . .	38
Casa Grande Complex . . . . .	45
Sonoma Barracks . . . . .	48
Toscano Hotel Complex . . . . .	50
Parking Lot . . . . .	55
Park Grounds . . . . .	58
Blue Wing Hotel . . . . .	59
Lachryma Montis - General Vallejo Home . . . . .	61
INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT . . . . .	75
Mission San Francisco Solano . . . . .	76
The Casa Grande Site and Servants' Quarters . . . . .	79
Sonoma Barracks . . . . .	80
Blue Wing Hotel . . . . .	83
Lachryma Montis . . . . .	85
Toscano Hotel Complex . . . . .	88
Park Visitors and Their Needs . . . . .	91
Environmental Influences . . . . .	93
Interpretive Media and Facilities . . . . .	94
Interpretive Collections . . . . .	98
Interpretive Matrix . . . . .	99
Research Considerations . . . . .	101
Interpretive Priorities . . . . .	101
CONCESSIONS ELEMENT . . . . .	105
Description of Current Concession Activities . . . . .	105
Appropriate Concession Policies and Guidelines . . . . .	105
New/Additional Visitor Services and Revenue . . . . .	106
OPERATIONS ELEMENT . . . . .	107
Visitation . . . . .	107
Maintenance . . . . .	107
Law Enforcement . . . . .	108
Administrative Services . . . . .	109
Emergency Preparedness . . . . .	109
Support Organizations . . . . .	109

	<u>Page</u>
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT . . . . .	111
Project Description . . . . .	111
Description of the Environmental Setting . . . . .	111
Significant Environmental Effects of the proposed project . . . . .	111
Unavoidable Significant Environmental Effects . . . . .	111
Proposed Mitigation Measures . . . . .	112
Alternatives to the Proposed Action . . . . .	112
The Relationship Between Short-Term and Long-Term Productivity . . . . .	112
Irreversible Environmental Changes Resulting from Project Implementation . . . . .	112
Growth-Inducing Impact of the Proposed Action . . . . .	112
Effects Not Found Significant . . . . .	112
COMMENTS AND RESPONSE TO COMMENTS . . . . .	115
BIBLIOGRAPHY . . . . .	145
MAPS	
Location . . . . .	6
Existing Facilities . . . . .	147
Land Use and Facilities Proposals: Mission Unit . . . . .	149
Land Use and Facilities Proposals: Lachryma Montis . . . . .	151

## SUMMARY

Sonoma State Historic Park will be maintained, interpreted, reconstructed, refurbished, and operated as a state historic park.

The following primary periods have been established for each element:

	<u>Historical</u>	<u>Interpretive</u>
o Sonoma Mission (including the Chapel, Convento, and Courtyard)	1823-1846	1823-1846
o Casa Grande Site and Servants' Quarters	1835-1852	1836-c.1852
o Sonoma Barracks	1840-1846	1840-1853
o Toscano Hotel Complex (including the Kitchen, Annex, and Tank House)	1880-1910	1886-1910
o Blue Wing Hotel	1851-1856	1849-1856
o Lachryma Montis	1851-1880	c.1852-1890

More specifically, this plan calls for historical reconstruction, refurbishment, and/or interpretation of the following facilities:

1. Sonoma Mission, including the:
  - a) Convento
  - b) Courtyard, landscaping, outbuildings, and adobe wall extension
  - c) Chapel, including roof and floor
  - d) Restrooms
  - e) Adobe wall and buildings on north and east side of courtyard.
2. Servants' Quarters
3. Barracks floor and courtyard
4. Toscano Hotel, Kitchen, Annex, and Tankhouse
5. Barns
6. Bathrooms - Mission, Toscano Hotel, and Vallejo Home
7. Casa Grande site
8. Blue Wing Hotel
9. Landscaping



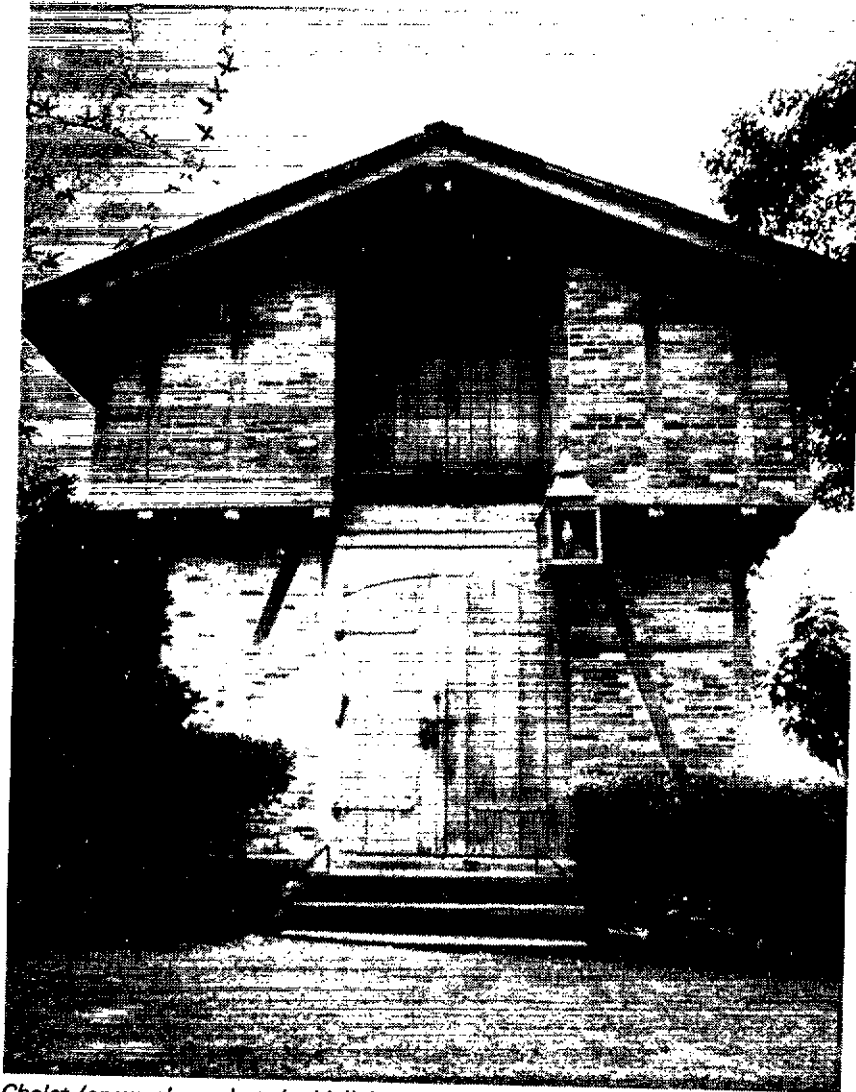
10. Lachryna Montis, including:

Vallejo Home  
Kitchen  
Chalet  
Carriage Shed  
El Delirio  
Gothic Barn  
Picnic Area  
Reservoir  
Hermitage

Bath House  
Henery  
Pavilion  
Orchards  
Vineyards  
Gardens  
Outbuildings  
Alameda

And relocation of the functions and facilities of:

- o Administration
- o Operations
- o Maintenance



*Chalet (or warehouse) at the Vallejo home built in the mid-1850s.*

## INTRODUCTION

### Purpose of Plan

The purpose of the General Plan is to provide guidelines for management, interpretation, and development, in accordance with this unit's classification and approved Declaration of Purpose.

This plan is in response to the mandate of the Public Resources Code, which requires that a general plan must 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.

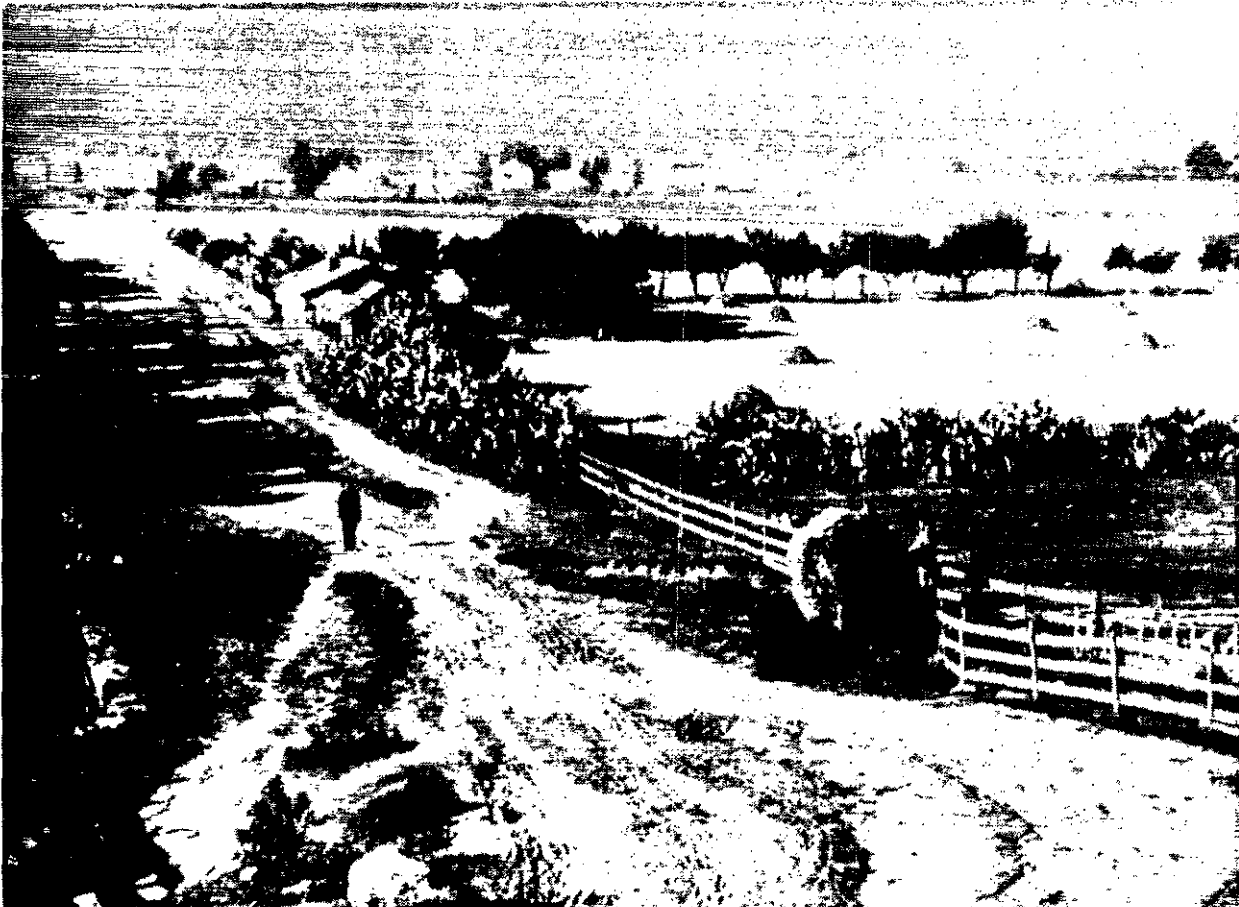


*Trellis and walkway around the Vallejo home pond.*

## 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 units. 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. The discussions are intended to present broad historical perspectives, and are intended for long-range planning purposes; they do not represent a desire, intention, or commitment for acquisition.



*Historic photograph looking south toward Sonoma. Note the row of trees in the middle background which once lined the drive to Vallejo's Lachryma Montis.*



### Unit Identification

This unit is comprised of approximately 25.6 hectares (63.3 acres) of State Park System land, in two locations in the City of Sonoma. The first portion forms the eastern one-half of the north side of Sonoma Plaza, and the northeast corner of the same plaza. All of this portion of the unit fronts on East Spain Street. The second subunit, the American-period Vallejo Home, is located along Spain Street, 336 meters (1,200 feet) west of the Sonoma plaza. There are no other units of the State Park System in the immediate vicinity. Within a 50 to 100-mile radius, however, there are many units of the State Park System offering a variety of recreational activities. In particular, there are units which are directly associated with the Vallejo era, such as Petaluma Adobe, Bale Grist Mill, and Fort Ross State Historic Parks. Fort Ross and the Russian port at Bodega Bay created part of the reason for the Hispanic colonization efforts north of San Francisco Bay. In addition, there are a number of National Park Service sites and county and city recreational units. Also, this area, the Napa-Sonoma-Petaluma valleys, offers a vast array of commercial ventures catering to the public.

### Summary and Evaluation of Resources

Mariano G. Vallejo (1807-1890) was possibly the most prominent of the Hispanic Californios; he was obviously among the influential leaders of the Mexican era. Sonoma State Historic Park reflects and honors the world he was born to, and the contributions and developments he directly or indirectly fostered.

The following resource information is summarized from the large collections of literature, primary and secondary, held in the offices of the State Park System unit, the Resource Protection Division, and the Office of Interpretive Services, Department of Parks and Recreation, in Sacramento; and the wide array of published and unpublished material concerning the era and the life of Vallejo, and the town of Sonoma. Besides the examination of published literature, the collections of primary material of the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, were scanned. The vast collections of documents at the Bancroft Library were not thoroughly examined. Time did not allow, for example, more than a casual search of the 11,000 plus documents given to the Bancroft Library by General Vallejo himself.

Coupled with a literature search, field surveys of the unit were conducted during the fall of 1983. These were aided and compared with previous archeological, historical, and natural studies conducted or sanctioned by the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Due to limitations of time and the quantities of the material available to the authors, no formal inventory was prepared. It should be noted that most of the published accounts have lavished fictional praise on Vallejo, in some cases creating myths in lieu of examining reality. The work by George Tays, published in the California Historical Society Quarterly in the late 1930s, remains the best account of Vallejo before the occupation by the United States, while Madie Brown Empanan's The Vallejos of California, 1968, remains the best account of the immediate Vallejo family and the U.S. period.

## Natural Resources

The primary resources at Sonoma State Historic Park are cultural. Therefore, only a limited literature investigation was made of the natural resources. This research was supplemented by brief field examination of this site, to identify natural resource management problems.

### Topography

Sonoma State Historic Park is located in the Foothill and Low Coastal Mountains Landscape Province on the easterly edge of Sonoma Creek Valley, at the foot of the Sonoma Volcanic Highlands; elevations range from 25.91 meters (85 feet) to 60.96 meters (200 feet), and slopes generally range from 0 to 2%, except for the northerly 1.5 hectares (3.67 acres) of the Vallejo Home sub-unit, where slopes range from 5 to 40%.

### Meteorology

Sonoma State Historic Park is located in the inland portion of Sonoma County, which has a Mediterranean climate with hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters. Monthly mean maximum temperatures in the city of Sonoma range from 28.8 to 31.7 degrees Celseus (83.8-89.0°F) during the summer months; extremes were 44.4 degrees Celseus (112°F). Maximum temperatures during the summer are frequently moderated by afternoon incursions of marine air northward from San Francisco Bay. Monthly mean minimum temperatures for November through March range from 2.7 to 3.4 degrees Celseus (36.9 to 38.1°F). Frost-free growing seasons in inland Sonoma County generally exceed 220 days. It is probable that downslope air drainage at Sonoma SHP lessens the frequency and severity of frost. Mean annual precipitation is 27.96 inches at Sonoma. Monthly temperatures and precipitation are presented in Table 1.

Note: The information on climate was published in 1964. Temperatures and precipitation are based on a ten-year period. It is probable that the mean precipitation and range of temperatures would be slightly different if information for the last 20 years were included.

### Hydrology

No information has been obtained on the hydrology at Sonoma State Historic Park.

### Geology

Sonoma State Historic Park is situated on Quaternary alluvial fan deposits, composed of coarse to highly coarse gravels which range from 0 to 150 feet thick in this area. The location of these two sub-units place them closer to the deeper zone of deposition, and depths probably exceed 100 feet.

Table 1. Mean Monthly Temperatures and Precipitation  
City of Sonoma<sup>1</sup>

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
<b>Temperature</b>													
Highest (C)	21.1	23.9	30.0	32.2	35.6	44.4	43.3	40.0	43.3	38.3	30.6	34.4	44.4
(F)	70	75	86	90	96	112	110	104	110	101	87	94	112
Mean Max. (C)	13.1	16.4	18.3	21.8	24.2	28.8	31.7	30.8	30.2	25.2	18.7	14.1	22.8
(F)	55.6	61.6	65.0	71.2	75.6	83.8	89.0	87.5	86.3	77.3	65.7	57.5	73.0
Mean (C)	7.9	9.9	10.9	13.3	15.4	18.7	20.6	19.9	19.2	15.7	11.0	8.4	14.3
(F)	46.3	49.9	51.6	55.9	59.7	65.7	69.0	67.8	66.6	60.3	51.9	47.1	57.7
Mean Min. (C)	2.7	3.4	3.4	4.7	6.6	8.6	9.4	8.9	8.3	6.3	3.4	2.6	5.7
(F)	36.9	38.2	38.1	40.5	43.8	47.5	49.0	48.1	46.9	43.3	38.1	36.7	42.3
Lowest (C)	-6.7	-5.0	-3.9	-2.2	-2.8	-9.6	3.3	3.3	1.7	-1.1	-4.4	-5.5	-6.7
(F)	20	23	25	28	27	31	38	38	35	30	24	22	20
<b>Precipitation</b>													
Mean (cms)	17.14	12.55	8.38	6.12	1.87	0.96	0.05	.25	1.47	2.46	6.38	13.36	71.02
(ins)	6.75	4.94	3.30	2.41	0.74	0.38	0.02	0.10	0.58	0.97	2.51	5.26	27.96

<sup>1</sup> Based on Appendix Tables 2 and 6 of Climate of Sonoma County, U.S. Department of Commerce, Weather Bureau, January 1964. Note: Based on 10 years of record. Celsius temperatures are  $\pm 0.3^{\circ}$  for highest and lowest temperatures and  $\pm 0.03^{\circ}$  for mean maximum, mean minimum, and mean temperatures. Precipitation in centimeters is  $\pm 0.03$  centimeters.

## HISTORY OF DAMAGING EARTHQUAKES IN SONOMA COUNTY

Table 2<sup>1</sup>

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>MMII*</u>	<u>Comment</u>
3/8/1865	Santa Rosa	VII	Severe damage in Bennett Valley.
1/3/1876	Fulton Fruston	VI-VII	Walls cracked.
2/29/1888	Petaluma	VII	Walls cracked.
10/11/1891	Sonoma Valley	VII-VIII	Many chimneys fell. Every house in Sonoma Valley damaged to some extent.
8/9/1893	Santa Rosa	VII	Many chimneys damaged. Some damage in Petaluma.
10/12/1899	Santa Rosa	VII	Some chimneys down.
4/18/1906	San Andreas	X+	Some damage in Santa Rosa.
4/25/1968	Santa Rosa	VII	Chimneys and plaster damaged.
10/1/1969	Santa Rosa	VII-VIII	Six million dollars of building damage. Old buildings damaged beyond repair.

\*Modified Mercalli Intensity Index.

<sup>1</sup>Based on Table 3, page 7, Geology for Planning in Sonoma County, by M. E. Huffman and C. F. Armstrong, California Division of Mines and Geology, Special Bulletin 120.



Sonoma State Historic Park is located just east of the San Andreas fault zone, which was formed by the right-lateral motion of the Pacific and North American tectonic plates sliding past each other. (Right lateral motion means that structures across the zone from a point of observation are offset to the observer's right.) Seven sub-fault zones of the San Andreas system have been identified in Sonoma County, and three of these have been mapped in southern Sonoma County. The San Joaquin Fault is situated approximately 40 kilometers (24.9 miles) southwest of the unit, and Tolay Fault is situated approximately 11 kilometers (6.8 miles) southwest of the unit. The Rogers Creek Fault consists of a broad zone of braided (roughly parallel) fractures, approximately 5 to 8 kilometers (3.1 to 5.0 miles) southwest.

More than 140 earthquakes have been felt in Sonoma County since 1865, and ten of these have caused damage. Table 2 presents information on nine of these with epicenters in Sonoma County. The 1891 earthquake caused extensive damage. Many chimneys fell, and every house in the Sonoma Valley was damaged to some extent. It is predicted that potentially damaging groundshaking will occur somewhere in Sonoma County every 20 to 30 years. The magnitude of an earthquake and the distance of structures from the epicenter have a great effect on the amount of damage that occurs. Subsurface geology can greatly modify ground motion and consequent damage. Ground motion is generally greater on alluvial formations, and the greater the depth of unconsolidated fill, the greater the motion. The 100+ feet of alluvial material underlying Sonoma State Historic Park indicate a relatively high danger of damage.

#### Soils

Five soil types occur in Sonoma State Historic Park. Predominant soil types are Huichica loam, 0-2% slopes; Huichica loam, 2-9% slopes, and Red Hill clay loam, 2-15% slopes. Small areas of Clough gravelly loam, 2-9% slopes, and Goulding-Toomes complex, 9-50% slopes, occur at the north end of the Vallejo Home sub-unit.

The fertility of these soils is generally moderate, and the danger of erosion is slight to moderate. However, for the Goulding-Toomes complex, the hazard of erosion is moderate to high.

#### Plant Life

Sonoma State Historic Park is in an urban setting. The landscape plantings are primarily non-indigenous exotic species, and many are not appropriate to the Vallejo era. The open fields at the Vallejo Home sub-unit were farmed for a century, so the native ecosystem was largely destroyed, except for a small remnant of oak woodland on the hill at the north end of the sub-unit.

#### Animal Life

Animal life at Sonoma State Historic Park needs to be inventoried.

There are rodent control problems at the Vallejo Home, and at the Mission. Rats are a problem in the maintenance area at the Vallejo Home, and bats have invaded the attics at the Vallejo Home and the Mission.

## Cultural Resources

### Native American Resources

#### Lachryma Montis

Archeological surveys conducted in the fall of 1983 have indicated a probable large site located about the Vallejo Home site, Lachryma Montis. This area, before the arrival of Hispanic occupation, was traditionally known as "Chiucyem," and was translated as "tears of the mountain". Artifacts associated with pre-Euroamerican occupation were found on several sides of the Vallejo Home, along with a small midden site east of the home.

A 1952 identification recorded by Dr. James Bennyhoff indicated the area known as the "Spain Street Dump" as a Native American site. However, work on this location since then has revealed that this location is a Euroamerican-era garbage dump, where city trash and building materials from demolished adobes were discarded. There has been no subsequent notation of Native American artifacts recovered from this immediate area.

There are no known Native American sites located in the other portions of Sonoma State Historic Park. Before occupation of the area by Hispanic missionaries, the valley was generally intensively used by Native American people. Therefore, it is possible to consider the whole area of these portions of the unit as a use site.

The Native American group living in the Petaluma and Sonoma areas at Spanish contact is identified by anthropologists as the Coast Miwok. The Coast Miwok are linguistically affiliated with the Bay, Plains, Lake, and Sierra Miwok, and the Ohlone (Costanoan). The Ohlone inhabited most of San Francisco, Santa Clara, Alameda, and Santa Cruz Counties.

At historic contact, the Coast Miwok occupied Sonoma County south of Duncan's Point, and all of Marin County. The Coast Miwok's first European contact was probably Sir Francis Drake, in 1579. This contact is best described in the diary of Francis Fletcher, a companion with Drake. The most significant Coast Miwok contact with Europeans came with establishment of missions at Mission Dolores (San Francisco) in 1776, San Jose in 1797, San Rafael in 1817, and Sonoma (San Francisco Solano) in 1823. Coast Miwok people were baptized at all four of these Franciscan missions. Early historic disruption of the Coast Miwok left few individuals who retained traditional knowledge to be gathered by late 19th-century and early 20th-century anthropologists. The principal ethnographer of the Coast Miwok is Isabel Kelly, who was able to identify only three Coast Miwok (and interviewed only two of them) in the 1920s.

Kelly identifies the Coast Miwok as hunters/gatherers, dependent on a yearly cycle of seasonal resources. They hunted, snared, and trapped most of the terrestrial fauna locally available. Many of their villages were located near the coast, and marine resources were gathered intensively. The Coast Miwok were familiar with a large number of floral resources, with acorns supplying the principal carbohydrate base.

Clothing was similar to that worn by other Central California groups, with children (pre-pubescent) wearing only what was necessary for protection from the cold. Men wore little or nothing most of the time, while women favored the double apron skirt associated with most central California groups. Dwellings were generally grass-covered conical structures, housing up to ten persons. Other structures included sweathouses, dancehouses, and possibly menstrual huts.

The Miwok had a bipartite social organization commonly called a moiety system. Marriage was commonly into the opposite moiety, with certain ceremonial functions, including funerary practices, handled by the opposite moiety.

Group leadership was complex, with large villages having a chief (an elected position, commonly a man, but sometimes a woman), and four elderly women, who constituted both the electoral body and advisors to the chief. There were also two important female leaders, one who helped direct mixed ceremonies, and one who functioned as ceremonial and social leader for the women. There are a number of modern place names in both Marin and Sonoma Counties of Miwok origin. Cotati (kot-ati), Olompali, Tamalpais (etca-tamal), Olema, (olema-loke), and Petaluma are known to be Miwok, while Tomales, Marin, Novato, and Nicasio are thought to be Miwok. The area around Petaluma is known to contain the villages of susuli, tulme, tuchayelin, likatiut, etem, wotoki, and Petaluma. The area around Sonoma is known to contain the villages of wuki liwa, huchi, tuli, and temblek. The above-mentioned Miwok place names are anglicized for ease in printing, following the rules outlined in the Smithsonian Institution Handbook of North American Indians, Volume 8. Only city or place names in common usage are capitalized.

Archeological sequences for Sonoma State Historic Park were identified by Dr. David A. Frederickson in 1973. He identified five major periods for the coast ranges north of San Francisco.

They are:

- 1) Palaeo-Indian, to 8000 BP (before present), representing what appears to be a big-game-hunting culture, with lakefront adaptation. Artifacts recovered are principally large "dart" points, with no known milling tools.
- 2) Lower Archaic, from 8000 to 4000 BP, associated with the Early Borax Lake Pattern. Artifact assemblages include milling tools and a characteristic wide-stemmed projectile point called the borax lake point. In some areas, the Lower Archaic is followed by an assemblage called Middle Archaic.
- 3) Upper Archaic, 4000 to 1700 BP, which generally follows Lower Archaic, and is identified with the Houx Aspect of the Berkeley Pattern. It is during this period that the transition from small seed milling tools (mano and metate) associated with the Lower Archaic were augmented and partially replaced with tools (pestle and mortar) commonly associated with acorn processing. Hunting tools grew in complexity during this period. Socio-technic (social or religious) artifacts are more frequent in sites from this period.

- 4) The Emergent period, 1700-200 BP, most clearly associated with the Augustine Pattern in the Bay Area. During this period, the slab mortar and the hopper mortar replaced the bowl mortar. The introduction of small projectile points is interpreted as a replacement of the atlatl (short spear with throwing stick) with the bow and arrow. Society became more diverse during this period, with a growing emphasis on complex exchange patterns, growth of social and religious institutions, possible occupational apprenticeship, and development of ranked societies. These changes are based on the growing complexity of socio-technic artifacts and changing mortuary patterns.
- 5) Historic, 200 BP to present, represented in Sonoma and Petaluma by the Coast Miwok. The Southern Pomo and Wappo are also closely associated with the historic period at Sonoma State Historic Park.

#### Euroamerican Resources

The primary Euroamerican resources of Sonoma State Historic Park reflect the broad scope of settlement in Sonoma. Beginning with the Franciscan missionaries in the early years of Mexican independence, overshadowed by the aggressive young presidial officer, Mariano G. Vallejo, overtaken by fear in the "Bear Revolt," and transformed by the new aggressiveness of the Americans who virtually turned the world upside down, Sonoma has moved from a small outpost of Christian colonization to 20th-century urbanity. The resources of Sonoma State Historic Park capture in stark relief the rapidly changing world--an image of 80 years of change, frozen since 1910.

In the unit, which is divided into two parts located about three-fourths of a mile apart, are a number of historic structures and sites. For clarity, the historic features are given in a basic chronology:

Priest Quarters and Chapel of Mission San Francisco Solano: The current priest quarters or convento of four rooms, two large and two small, is not only a small surviving portion of what was a much larger adobe and redwood timbered building of 27 rooms, but all that remains of the original mission complex founded in 1823. Mission San Francisco Solano was the last mission established in Alta California, and the only mission established under Mexican rule. The mission was shortlived, yet reached a progressive degree of sophistication before secularization. At its height, some twenty adobe and palisaded structures were situated about the existing convento. To the east was situated a large adobe church and the Campo Santo, or cemetery, now in private hands. The mission complex of semi-ruined structures was sold by the Catholic Church in 1889. The convento, the only structure to survive, was used for numerous purposes before being acquired by the state in 1906. A number of restorations were carried out from time to time, some inaccurate, others which returned the structure back toward its mission era. Total historic restoration has not occurred, and during the years of work, part of the building was not reconstructed. The current version of the convento measures 21 x 126 feet, and is probably the oldest adobe construction north of San Francisco Bay. The priest bedroom, now shown as part of the convento, is not original. Until the 1912 restoration, it was a gated-fenced passageway.

The Chapel of Sonoma was constructed by Mariano G. Vallejo in the period 1840-1841, on the earlier site of the wooden chapel of Mission San Francisco Solano. This chapel was built to replace the demolished church of the mission, which was originally located opposite the east boundary of the state-owned mission convento site. The chapel served the community of Sonoma until 1882. In 1889, the property was sold by the Catholic Church to Solomon Schoken, a local merchant. He used it as a warehouse and barn. In 1903, spurred by efforts of local and statewide historic preservation groups, the property was deeded to William Randolph Hearst, who headed the preservation efforts. At one point, during the latter part of the 19th century, a small wooden structure was built in front of the convento door. This was a small cooper shop. For a short period of time (less than ten years), a saloon, which was originally located just north of the intersection of Spain and East First Streets, and in the middle of the street, was moved directly in front of the chapel. It was a wooden structure, with a main doorway facing the intersection and side doors on East First Street. The saloon had been removed by 1905. In 1906, Hearst deeded the property to the State of California. Over the years, successive alterations have transformed this "Monterey" or "Mexican Colonial style" adobe with planked floors and shake roof, into a "Spanish Mission era" church, with a tile roof and adobe flooring. Only the adobe walls of the chapel remain of the original church built by Indian labor and Yankee craftsmen. Many of the interior features were donations of Harry Downie, known for his work on mission restorations. At various times since acquisition by the state, the chapel has been used as a museum, featuring many local artifacts; today, it reflects a mission-era church.

The Mission Courtyard contains modern interpretive and comfort facilities. The current walls bisect several historic mission sites, while next to the existing convento are the archeological remains of the original northern portion of the convento.

Site of the Casa Grande, Vallejo's first permanent house: After establishment of the garrison villa of Sonoma, Lieutenant Vallejo began construction of a house for himself, fronting the plaza that lies to the south of the site. The house, built partially of material salvaged from the ruined mission, was completed by 1836. From that year to 1852, the Casa Grande was the permanent home of Vallejo. It might also be said that before 1846, the home served as a military headquarters for the Mexican forces of California and the northern frontier district.

In the American period, the Vallejos, on occasion, returned to the home, while remodeling was conducted on their new residence (after 1852) at Lachryma Montis. Here, also, Vallejo maintained an office, where in the 1860s he worked on his history of California. The fire that destroyed the Casa Grande in 1867 destroyed the first draft of the history. Some time later, Vallejo was encouraged to start a new draft, and produced the five-volume manuscript that is now in the Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley.

In addition to his private use, Vallejo leased rooms to other residents. At times (1849-1851), army officers assigned to the Post of Sonoma rented rooms. In 1854, Dr. John Van Mehr established his St. Mary's Hall for Young Ladies in the Casa Grande. The school was so successful as a boarding school that Rev. Van Mehr, in 1855, expanded into an adjacent wing of the Casa Grande, which is known today as the Servants' Quarters.

The late summer of 1856 witnessed the beginning of a diphtheria epidemic that raged into the fall of that year; four of Van Mehr's children died. He sent their bodies to San Francisco, and, apparently in December, closed the school in Sonoma, and transferred his residence to San Francisco.

As noted earlier, the Casa Grande burned in February 1867, and the debris was apparently either allowed to crumble about the current buildings or was removed, possibly to the area known as the "Spain Street Dump." The western edge of this structural site is not on state park property. Archeological work during the past 20 years has revealed that much of the foundation still exists.

Servants' Quarters or dormitory: Mentioned above as housing part of Van Mehr's school, the existing remnant of the Casa Grande, an adobe two-story wing running north and south and measuring 18 feet wide by 109 feet long, once intersected the Casa Grande at its western end. Identified in 1849 "as a dormitory for the Indians on the premises, of whom there were a great number, and a kitchen", it survived the fire of 1867. Originally, it probably had four barracks-like rooms on each floor. On the upper floor, there is the addition of a squared chamber at either end. Following the fire that destroyed the Casa Grande, the structure saw use as a tenement, and, on the ground floor, as a wine cellar.

Tower site: At the extreme southwest corner of the Casa Grande site, there exists the site of a sentinel tower built of adobe, three stories high, with an upper balcony, dating to the original house construction. This tower was no doubt part of the defense system of early frontier Sonoma during the Vallejo years. It apparently fell into ruin in the 1850s, and was gone by the early 1860s. This site is not on state park property.

In addition to the Casa Grande complex, there were a number of small outbuildings constructed by the Vallejo labor force. These small adobe structures have all disappeared as changes or improvements were made to the grounds during the American period (see Toscano Hotel and Annexes). The area including the current parking facilities for the unit was historically a vineyard and a house garden for the Vallejos.

In 1957, the Casa Grande site, the Servants' Quarters, and the Toscano Hotel complex were purchased by the state from Amelia Walton.

Barracks: The "cuartel" or barracks of the Compania de Presidio Nacional de San Francisco was started in 1837, with construction of walls beginning in 1839. Work continued on this unique Mexican military structure until 1844, when Vallejo stopped construction. This building, which is the only Mexican-era military structure in California, and possibly in the United States, was built to house troops, but also as an administrative office and equipment storage space for the Company of San Francisco after its transfer to a duty station north of San Francisco Bay. Sonoma was also, for a short period, the home and headquarters for the Compania de Infanteria Permanente de Sonoma, a regular Mexican Infantry Company composed of young, not-so-willing Californio draftees, and for the shortlived Compania de Infanteria Indios, the Indian Infantry Company. After Vallejo disbanded the presidial company in the fall of 1844, he used the structure to store the government weapons and equipment

which could have been used to arm the national militia if called to duty. For Vallejo, the Mexican era ended on the morning of June 14, 1846, as members of the self-proclaimed "Popular Movement" captured a sleeping Sonoma. To history, they would be known as the "Bear Flaggers."

Following the shortlived Bear Flag Revolt and occupation, the U.S. Navy and then a company of New York volunteers used the barracks until the end of the Mexican War. The navy had the roof raised, and the tiles replaced by wooden shingles. Following the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848), the headquarters of the 10th Department (California) moved to Sonoma, and Company C, 1st U.S. Dragoons were assigned as garrison, and occupied the barracks. Ultimately, all of the three companies of the 1st Dragoons assigned to California were relocated to Sonoma before a move to Oregon. In early January 1852, the military era of the barracks closed.

While the military had effected a number of minor changes to the building, it had remained substantially a barracks. Now, with civilian use, change continued to alter the internal and external appearance of the structure. It was used as a winery, general store, offices, newspaper office, and low-rent apartments, until little remained of the original internal appearance.

In 1957, Walter Murphy sold the barracks to the State of California; research and restoration to refurbish the structure occupied ten years, from 1969 to 1979. The barracks now gives an outward appearance of a large Mexican territorial structure, while the interior has been adapted for museum and other departmental use.

Blue Wing Hotel: The building which became known as the Blue Wing Inn is believed to be originally a one-room adobe constructed by Antonio Ortega, who was the reputedly unsavory mayordomo of the Solano Mission under Vallejo's administration for secularization. James C. Cooper reached Sonoma in early 1847, and by the middle of the year, had rented the Ortega adobe. Apparently at this point, Cooper added the eastern section of the ground room, creating a kitchen and dining room. In 1849, Cooper combined with Thomas Spriggs, reportedly a former partner of Cooper earlier in Yerba Buena (San Francisco), where they had operated a saloon or tavern. In mid-1849, they had decided to open a hotel. It was the third hotel to open in Sonoma. Cooper had been in partnership in an earlier hotel venture with Jesse L. Beasley, at the corner of Spain and East First streets. Soon after formation of the Cooper and Spriggs partnership and the move to the Blue Wing site, the western addition went up. In October, the hotel's saloon was moved from the old central portion into the western addition. The upper story was probably added at this time. The structure, now basically complete, was a low, two-story hotel, about 95 feet in length by 35 feet in width. The doors on the ground floor opened directly onto the street, and onto front and back wooden verandas on the second floor. During this same time period, a north-south extension was added to the southwest corner of the hotel. The purpose of this structure is not known. An adobe wall, located in the rear of the site, was built of salvaged material by the last owner of the property, William Black.

The hotel was called the Sonoma House. The title "Blue Wing Hotel" apparently replaced "Sonoma House" in mid-1851. Spriggs died in mid-1851, and Cooper apparently continued the hotel until shortly before his death in early September 1856. In late May 1856, Cooper had sold the property to Martin E. Cooke, his lawyer. It would appear that at this time, the hotel ceased to operate.

The building was subsequently used as an apartment, with the downstairs remaining as a saloon, the Blue Wing Tavern. During the next roughly one hundred years, the structure passed through the hands of many owners, serving as both business establishments and residences.

Lachryma Montis: Mariano Vallejo purchased the area which became Lachryma Montis from Oliver Beauleau, or Bolieu, in November 1849, and from John McCracken in May 1850. The McCracken lot became the site for most of the outbuildings of the ranch headquarters: the almacén, or warehouse (which has become known as the chalet), a carriage shed, a "large pavilion made of bamboo, iron, and glass" which was imported from either Germany or China, a bath house, and beyond what is now the parking lot, a stable (barn) and corral.

The home was constructed in the period 1851 to 1852; on October 3, 1852, the San Francisco Daily Alta announced that "General Vallejo has just completed a beautiful cottage." The other buildings were probably finished within the next few years. Both the house and the warehouse (i.e., the chalet) were prefabricated. In addition, Vallejo improved the fields, vineyards, and orchards, and had gardens landscaped about the house. Within two years of moving into the house, remodeling began, probably with addition of one of the two back bedrooms and changing of the "ducks and geese" lake into the reservoir. A number of alterations and improvements to the reservoir have occurred from time to time.

In addition to these structures, there was a hennery, or chicken house, and the grapery, where nursery and vineyard stock could be started and grown to rooted stock status. As the years passed, Vallejo remodeled the house several times, constructed a new separate kitchen with an employees' dining room and quarters for the cook, and built the Hermitage, which Vallejo called "The Guest House," but which has traditionally been called "Napoleon Vallejo's Cottage" (with limited evidence to support the latter title). Vallejo had also built a small structure known as El Delirio, a second garden pavilion. El Delirio may have begun life as a gazebo, then was altered as a small office, where Vallejo reputedly wrote the second copy of his "La Historia de California." The first draft, three complete volumes and notes for the fourth, burned in the Casa Grande fire in 1867. It may have been nearly a decade before Vallejo attempted the effort again. While early maps show a structure west of the house, no positive identification of this structure and El Delirio has been made. In fact, El Delirio may have existed in a totally different area until moved to its current site by the Works Project Administration during a mid-1930s restoration of grounds and structures. Other small structures, a tree house, for example, have been noted on the grounds during the Vallejo years.



Toscano Hotel and associated buildings: There are six structures which make up the Toscano Hotel complex. The hotel structure, in part, is dated to the mid-1850s, with additions and alterations which are associated to the period 1880-1910. The hotel building may have begun life as the Nathanson retail store and rental library. In 1877, the owner, Christian F. Leiding, leased the structure to Frank McKeague, the proprietor of the recently burned Eureka Hotel. McKeague moved the business into the store, transforming it into the new Eureka Hotel. Shortly thereafter, the shape of the Nathanson Store-Eureka Hotel building was dramatically altered in its appearance. The structure was enlarged on its western side, enclosing a staircase. A new facade and balcony added. Leiding purchased the Casa Grande site, plus almost everything else west of the barracks to the location of the present Swiss Hotel, in 1879.

In 1886, John and Maggie Phelan appeared to be the new leasees of the Eureka Hotel, but a county directory lists the hotel's name as Tuscano, and that the proprietors are Settimo Ciucci and Leonido Quatorolie. This arrangement survived approximately five years; in 1891, Ciucci is listed as proprietor, in partnership with his wife. Ciucci, in November 1898, purchased the hotel and an enlarged lot (67 x 600) where the hotel is situated. Behind the hotel were located several sheds, small outbuildings, and, where the kitchen is today, a cellar. Some time before finalization of the sale, a long shed was built along the property line, north-northeast of the hotel. At about the same time, Leiding constructed or allowed to be constructed a frame building in front of the adobe servants' quarters, which was being used as a storage downstairs and apartments or rooms upstairs. The new structure was leased as a store. To the rear was a small, two-story structure, noted as a residence in 1886 and in 1897. Behind this structure was the ruins of Vallejo's wine cellar. In 1897, the store in front of the adobe servants' quarters had been transformed into a residence.

Settimo Ciucci built the kitchen annex in 1902, and, during the next year or so, acquired the remainder of the lot which now composes the property owned by the unit. Ciucci then moved the house from in front of the servants' quarters, elevated it above a newly constructed ground floor, and had at his service nine new rooms for guests and boarders. This new structure became the Hotel Annex, and today is the area office. At the same time, several sheds, one near the kitchen and one behind the new annex, were converted into barns. This conversion may be more a case of semantics than actually major overhauling of structures. What is certain is that a number of wooden board and batten buildings existed at the rear of the Toscano Hotel.

Ciucci died in 1922, and operation of the hotel continued under the proprietorship of his son-in-law and daughter, Jack and Amelia Walton. When Jack died in 1955, Mrs. Walton closed the Toscano Hotel. The modification of the name from Tuscano to Toscano had occurred before Ciucci's death. The State of California acquired the Casa Grande-Toscano Hotel lot in 1958.

In the process of restoration in the 1960s, many of the earlier architectural elements of the earlier store and the Eureka and Toscano Hotel were inadvertantly removed from the building. The main building today represents the period when the hotel was in transition between the Eureka Hotel and the Toscano Hotel.

## Esthetic Resources

The principal esthetic resources of Sonoma SHP are the various historic structures. These esthetic resources have been severely affected by urban development and agricultural improvements, from the second half of the 19th century to the present. The dramatic view toward San Pablo Bay from the mission, barracks, Casa Grande site, and Lachryma Montis has been severely affected by urban growth and the growth of agricultural windrows. In the Lachryma Montis sub-unit, the entrance road is lined with large trees, principally Fremont poplar, forming the traditional "Spanish Alameda." The poplars are declining from age, and they are interspersed with eucalyptus, which are overtopping the neighboring trees. The hills to the north and northeast provide a pleasant setting. The grounds at Lachryma Montis are landscaped, creating an attractive environment. The fallow fields to the west, south, and east of the home allow views of the intrusive suburban surroundings.

The most negative esthetic feature at Lachryma Montis is the DPR corporation yard. The yard contains several buildings and open storage areas which are unsightly, and intrude on visitors' experiences.

The esthetic qualities of the Blue Wing Hotel are diminished by the view of commercial structures to the south, from the yard and balcony. The current condition of the building itself has a negative esthetic value.

Although the urban view from the front of the mission has negative esthetic value, the enclosed Mission yard has strong positive esthetic potential.

The esthetic impact of the Sonoma town square, immediately south of the barracks/Toscano/Casa Grande complex, has either a positive or negative value, depending on the attitudes of visitors. Although the barracks has been reconstructed by the department to reflect a Mexican-era structure, the partial restoration of the yard has negative esthetic value. A ramada, carreta, and stalls have been constructed, using incorrect materials and techniques. Eucalyptus branches are historically and esthetically inappropriate. The non-historic exotic trees planted in the parking lot median to the north of the Casa Grande have a negative esthetic value.

## Recreation Resources

Sonoma State Historic Park provides opportunities for recreational activities of a varied nature. The primary resource is historic sightseeing, coupled with occasional festive activities staged by the community. The sites also offer opportunity for general study and appreciation of the historic structures and the various settings. The remainder of the grounds are either used for parking, or are currently undeveloped as historic agricultural orchards and vineyards. Small portions of the grounds allow for informal relaxation, picnicking, nature appreciation, photography, and informal play.

The department's Park and Recreation Information System (PARIS) indicates that demand for visiting historic and cultural areas in Sonoma County was 394,000 participation days in 1980. A participation day is one person visiting one area for any part of a calendar day. PARIS projects that demand for visiting historic and cultural areas in Sonoma County will increase by 51% by the year 2000. Total demand for recreation outside the home in California

is projected to increase by 28% during the same period; thus, use at Sonoma SHP should increase much faster than total use of the State Park System, if adequate parking and support facilities are provided.

The prime recreation resources are the cultural features of the unit: the historic structures, artifacts, and interpretive programs. Supportive facilities consist of picnic tables and the parking lots in the rear of the Toscano Hotel and at the Lachryma Montis.

### Resource Policy Formation

#### Classification

Beginning as early as 1906, public efforts were underway to acquire various structures and groups of structures in the City of Sonoma, for purposes of preservation and interpretation by the State of California. Initial acquisition of part of the San Francisco Solano Mission complex began March 23, 1906. This property was transferred to the state January 8, 1909. Later additions to the mission property took place April 12, 1939 and March 12, 1957. The other sub-units near the plaza include the Casa Grande complex, the barracks and yard, and the Blue Wing Hotel. The Casa Grande complex, including the only remnant of Vallejo's adobe Casa Grande (the Servants Quarters) and the Toscano Hotel and associated outbuildings, were purchased by the state February 25, 1957, and transferred to the Division of Beaches and Parks September 5, 1957. The barracks and yard were purchased by the state March 12, 1957, and transferred to the Division of Beaches and Parks January 27, 1958. The Blue Wing Hotel was purchased by the state January 2, 1969, and transferred to the Department of Parks and Recreation in the fall of 1983. The final sub-unit of Sonoma SHP is Lachryma Montis (Tears of the Mountain), the Vallejo Home, initially acquired for State Park System purposes June 7, 1933, with several later additions, including acquisitions, in 1959, 1972, and 1974. All of the sub-units except the Blue Wing Hotel were classified as Sonoma State Historic Park in March 1962. The Blue Wing Hotel was added to the unit when it was transferred from the Department of General Services in November 1983.

Mission San Francisco Solano is California Historic Landmark #3. Lachryma Montis is California Historic Landmark #4. The Blue Wing Hotel is California Historic Landmark #17. The Sonoma Barracks is California Historic Landmark #316. The Casa Grande and Toscano Hotel complex are not currently registered as California Historic Landmarks. All of the sub-units near the Sonoma Plaza are part of the Sonoma Plaza Historic District, entered in the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. Lachryma Montis was entered in the National Register of Historic Places as the Vallejo Home in 1972.

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 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

The state Park and Recreation Commission approved a Declaration of Purpose for Sonoma State Historic Park July 19, 1963:

The purpose of the Sonoma State Historic Park is to make available to people forever, for their inspiration and enjoyment, the early history of the Sonoma area and its significance to the history of California and the United States.

The function of the Division of Beaches and Parks at Sonoma is to preserve, recreate and interpret the various features appropriate to the events and people of the historic period at Sonoma; and to provide facilities and services consistent with the purpose of the unit.

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

The purpose of Sonoma State Historic Park, located in the City of Sonoma, is to provide for the people an opportunity to view a group of historic structures from the Mexican and early American periods in the City of Sonoma. These structures represent religious, military, agricultural, mercantile, and domestic cultural values for the Sonoma area and for the State of California, dating from the founding of the mission in 1823 to the prime period of the Toscano Hotel at the turn of the 20th century.

The function of the Department of Parks and Recreation at Sonoma State Historic Park is to foster the preservation, restoration, and interpretation of these various structures, and to develop interpretive displays depicting the personalities and events associated with these structures and surrounding Native American and Euroamerican sites.

### Zone of Primary Interest

The zone of primary interest at the Lachryma Montis portion of the unit is the entire plot of land owned by the Department of Parks and Recreation. For the downtown portion of the unit, it would be the structures and grounds currently a part of State Park System ownership, and, in a more general sense, all of the property included in the Sonoma Plaza National Register District. Activities associated with the city and continued urbanization could affect use patterns, esthetics, and visitor access to and enjoyment of the historic sites.

In addition, the department is concerned about all lands that can, through their development and use, adversely affect the resources and features in the unit. Activities on distant lands that currently affect resources include air and noise pollution generated from urban areas, and industrial construction, which mars viewsheds.

#### Management Policies

Resource management policies concerning state historic parks are stated in the Public Resources Code (PRC), the California Administrative Code (CAC), and the department's Resource Management Directives (RMD). Management of natural resources is obviated by replacement of original, native vegetation with exotic species selected for function or decoration, and commensurate reduction of native fauna except burrowing rodents and some passerine birds. Management of geologic resources is, however, important to the future safety of the resource base.

## Natural Resources

Management of natural resources in the State Park System is governed by statutes, policies, and directives found in the Public Resources Code, the California Administrative Code (Title 14), and the Department's Resource Management Directives. The specific Resource Management Directives that pertain to or affect management of the natural resources of Sonoma State Historic Park are: 1, 10, 24, 26, 33, 34, 37, 46, 47, 51, and 70.

### Geology

Seismic shocks pose a major natural hazard at Sonoma State Historic Park because of the potential for destruction or damage of historic structures, and the threat to visitor safety.

Policy: A structural survey shall be made of all unit buildings to define remedial measures needed to provide adequate protection of historic structures commensurate with the State Historic Building Code, and to adequately protect visitors and employees.

New buildings constructed within the boundaries of Sonoma State Historic Park should be constructed to withstand a Richter magnitude 7.0 earthquake, with repeatable ground acceleration of 0.33 gravity (g). The expected maximum peak horizontal bedrock acceleration for a seismic event of magnitude 7.0 would be approximately 0.5 g.

### Soils

Accelerated erosion is occurring near the northern boundary fence at the Vallejo Home, and just uphill from the rock retaining wall on the north side of the hillside pool.

Policy: The department shall undertake soil stabilization measures, such as mulching and vegetative plantings, as appropriate, to overcome the problem of accelerated erosion.

A number of the soils at Sonoma State Historic Park have high to moderate hazard of erosion. These soils are, in descending order of hazard: the Goulding-Formes complex, Red Hill clay loam, Haire gravelly loam, Clough gravelly loam, and Haire clay loam.

Policy: The department shall initiate a vegetative management program to reduce the hazard of erosion in areas covered by these soils.

### Plant Life

The landscaping at Lachryma Montis and the Sonoma Barracks contains a number of non-indigenous exotic plants that are not appropriate to the prime historic periods of these units. The Fremont poplars lining the Alameda (driveway) to the Vallejo Home were planted for landscaping purposes by Mariano Vallejo.

Policy: Ornamental shrubs and trees planted on the grounds of Sonoma State Historic Park shall be limited to those species that occurred naturally or were planted during the prime historic period. Inappropriate vegetation shall be replaced.

Policy: The Alameda at Lachryma Montis shall be reestablished with Fremont poplar.

Policy: No non-indigenous species capable of naturalizing, other than containable species that are historically appropriate, shall be introduced at Sonoma State Historic Park.

Policy: A vegetation management plan shall be developed to manage the vegetative resources of the unit in their historic context. The grounds will be managed to depict the authentic historic setting, to the extent that this setting is consistent with existing uses and public safety.

A commercial vineyard and orchard were located on the Vallejo Home property during the historic period. These facilities were part of the economic livelihood of Mariano Vallejo.

Policy: To complete the historic appearance of Lachryma Montis, this vineyard and orchard will be reestablished, using historically correct vines and fruit trees.

## Cultural Resources

Management of the cultural resources at Sonoma State Historic Park is governed by state statutes and departmental policies and directives. The following portions of the Public Resources Code pertain to 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 Sonoma State Historic Park: 10, 24, 25, 32, 50-52, 58-72, and 75-76.

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 Division, Operations Division, Office of Interpretive Services, and Resource Protection Division, before preparation of the budget package (Directive 70).

### Native American Resources

There are at least two Native American sites identified at Sonoma SHP.

Policy: The department will maintain a sensitivity toward any Native American resources identified now or in the future, and will preserve their integrity. Furthermore, in keeping with the department's recognition of the flow of history concept, the story of the Coast Miwok and other migratory tribes both before and after the coming of Euroamericans should be presented through interpretation, as a background to the main story of the settlement of Sonoma and related events.

### Euroamerican Resources

There are a number of primary resources located within the boundaries of Sonoma State Historic Park. Each historic resource reflects a different era in the settlement and growth of Sonoma, from a lonely missionary outpost to an established agricultural service town. All elements of the unit will be treated with both overall and selective policies which address their merited values. It is important to establish primary periods for each element of the Euroamerican resources found in the unit. Several structures have already been restored to established time periods; modification of these restorations could lead to costly alterations and further damage to the resources.

Policy: The following primary periods are established for each element of Sonoma State Historic Park:

- a. The mission complex shall reflect a primary historical period of 1823-1846, the era of the Franciscan Mission of San Francisco de Solano and the Franciscan-operated chapel of the Mexican garrison village of Sonoma.
- b. The site of Casa Grande and the Servants' Quarters shall reflect a primary historical period of 1835-1852, a period of colonization, growth, and control dominated by the young Mexican officer, Mariano G. Vallejo.



- c. The barracks shall reflect a primary historical period of 1840 to 1846. The barracks, the only surviving Mexican-era military structure in California, shall reflect the era of Mexican control and colonization of the territory of Alta California north of San Francisco Bay; the economic expansionism of Vallejo; and the sudden decline and transition to the American occupation of this territory.
- d. Lachryma Montis shall reflect a primary historical period of 1851 to 1880, a time when Vallejo attempted the transition to American methods of business and agriculture, while retaining the social gentility of his Mexican heritage.
- e. The Blue Wing Hotel shall reflect a primary historical period of 1851 to 1856, when, under the management of James Cooper, the building acquired its basic historic appearance, and flourished as a hotel and a center of community activities.
- f. The Toscano Hotel complex shall reflect a primary historical period of 1880 to 1910, when, under the management of Frank McKeague, Maggie Phelan, and Settimo Cuicci, the structure was developed from a store into the Eureka-Toscano Hotel.

Previous adobe restoration projects have often entailed excessive use of modern materials in "stabilizing" and "restoring" historic building fabric. Recent findings, however, indicate that some of these techniques are actually detrimental to the buildings in question (see following policy references to the State of California Historic Building Code and Department of the Interior criteria).

Policy: When replacement of historic fabric is essential, it will be replaced in kind whenever possible, rather than being replaced with more modern materials. This policy is to be applied to hidden structural elements, as well as surface finishes. The use of modern material will be justified only by overriding and clearly demonstrable concerns for the safety of the occupants of the structure, as guided by application of the California Historic Building Code. Arguments that modern materials are simply "better" (i.e., cheaper, require less maintenance, easier to acquire, prepare, or install, more durable, esthetically more pleasing, etc.) will not alone constitute adequate justification for use of non-historic building materials.

Policy: No plans, designs, or drawings for restoration or reconstruction shall be undertaken unless there is sufficient information to assure accurate and authentic work. Necessary historical, archeological, and architectural research shall be accomplished to establish accuracy and authenticity. Further research of the building's evolution and of the various people

who inhabited the site is required to cover the flow of history (PRC 5097.3 and RMD 58, 64a, 65, 70-72). All restoration or reconstruction at Sonoma SHP shall be carried out using the California Historic Building Code (Title 24, Part 8, 1979); Preservation of Historic Adobe Buildings (National Park Service Technical Brief No. 5, 1978); the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation Projects (1979); the Manual of Mitigation Measures (Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 1982); Historic American Building Survey Standards; and SB 1652 (September 25, 1980). A department cultural resource management specialist shall function as a full-time member of the restoration crew. Additionally, an interim policy of preservation and maintenance shall be established. Preference will be given to architectural and engineering alternatives that maximize the preservation of remaining historic building fabric. When possible, the original historic materials themselves will be retained and employed in restoration.

Several of the structures within the boundaries of the unit have undergone various degrees of restoration; some of these efforts have not produced the exacting historical accuracy sought by the Department of Parks and Recreation. While to totally undo certain aspects of already accomplished restoration/reconstruction is currently financially unfeasible, it is possible to make modifying alterations which would increase the accuracy of the work so far performed.

In the same sense, many of the structures have not been restored, or have been only partially restored. Partial restoration has not always been accomplished with the historical accuracy which should be a prerequisite of this department. Each existing structure which is not accurately restored should feature an interpretive exhibit explaining its historical transition.

Policy: The department will require a historic structures report to be prepared on each historic building before making any change in the structure or any change in the appearance of the building.

Policy: Structures which have been restored will have a historic structures report prepared to determine whether modification to more exacting standards is feasible.

Policy: On completion of a historic structures report, should rehabilitation, restoration, or reconstruction be planned, exterior appearances will adhere to those known for the historical prime period.

Policy: All reconstruction of previously existing structures will be based on exacting archeological and historical research to determine actual locations and construction methodology. Reconstructed exteriors will reflect the established prime period associated with the portion of the unit in which the reconstruction is located.

Policy: Exacting historical research shall be conducted in the areas of historic land use, native and exotic plants, and livestock which would have been found in the various portions of the unit, to assist in carrying out the policies to be found in the Natural Resources section of this Resource Element.

Policy: To enhance the department's goals of historic preservation of the various sections of Sonoma State Historic Park, it is necessary to budget annually for a program of rehabilitation, restoration, preservation, and maintenance. The following items will be considered part of a regular program of preservation and maintenance treatment:

- a. Regular care, painting, maintenance, and replacement (if necessary) of exterior walls, framing, railings, woodwork, whitewash, adobe plastering, window frames, glass, porches, and roofs, in a fashion consistent with the prime period of each structure.
- b. Regular care, painting, maintenance, and replacement of interior plaster, walls, moulding, woodwork, floors, fireplaces, and other internal fixtures, in a fashion consistent with that of the prime periods.
- c. A regular evaluation, maintenance, and upgrading of all fire and intrusion alarm systems.
- d. A regular evaluation, maintenance, and, when needed, replacement of the various structures' electrical systems.
- e. A program to regularly inspect for and prepare controls of insect-rodent infestations, using environmentally safe methods.
- f. A prepared, regular, and systematic plan for interior room restoration. All restoration planning will be based on exacting historical and architectural research, to determine the authenticity of each step of the process, and/or to determine the correct materials.

The unit will be managed to enhance visitor understanding and enjoyment of Native American lifeways, the story of the Hispanic settlement of the Sonoma area, the influence of the era of Mariano G. Vallejo, and the events which tell the story of the transition of Sonoma as a community in 19th century California.

#### Historic Artifacts

The department has been fortunate in being able to acquire some items once owned by Vallejo, and other items associated with the time frame of the community of Sonoma. Some artifacts are still being donated by concerned individuals. Recently, a successful environmental living program (for grade-school children) has been created in the Sonoma area at Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park; this could potentially be implemented as an overnight program

at one of the sub-units of Sonoma State Historic Park. A short day-length environmental studies program is in operation, using the courtyard of the mission sub-unit. This type of program has necessitated reexamining the use of original artifacts in light of the type of use they can survive. Most of the historic artifacts at Sonoma State Historic Park are not able to withstand any type of constant use, or, because of their scarcity and association, should not be used at all. Some items are unique, one-of-a-kind, with direct association to Vallejo that makes them irreplaceable. These programs have created a need to acquire reproduced items that can be used without endangering fragile or difficult-to-replace originals of a historic nature.

Policy: The unit shall continue to acquire original artifacts associated with the Vallejo ownership, as well as items which are similar in time and type to those once used by the owners and inhabitants of the various historic properties, in accordance with department policies regarding artifacts. There shall be a policy of replacing original items that are lost by theft or irreparable damage. Broken items will not be left on display unless historic research can document the item as being in that condition during the prime period. There will be a regular policy of funding for professional artifact conservation, and upgrading of artifact maintenance programs through professional services and quality equipment associated with professional maintenance of artifacts.

Policy: A determination shall be made of areas suggested for use by environmental living programs, and their needs for usable hands-on items. For rooms/areas so designated, use items shall be reproductions of historically correct artifacts. Consideration will be given to the fact that some items are consumable, and will have to be replaced from time to time. Replicated items will receive regular care and maintenance, and will be replaced when necessary, to maintain the aura of a busy frontier and agricultural establishment.

### Strategic Concerns and Colonization

Sonoma State Historic Park is one of the few places north of San Francisco where the story of Mexican colonization and the dramatic transition to the American occupation is told from the viewpoint of the colonizer and newcomer, and, in particular, from the viewpoint of the prime mover of that colonization-transitory epoch.

Policy: Interpretation, in its many facets, will continue to be the key means of sharing this important story with visitors.

### Esthetic Resources

Sonoma SHP has both positive and negative esthetic values. Positive values include all of the structures. The immediate grounds and hills backing Lachryma Montis also have a positive esthetic value. Negative esthetic values include the deteriorated Alameda, corporation yard, and surrounding viewshed at Lachryma Montis; the Blue Wing Hotel; and the grounds at the Blue Wing Hotel, mission, barracks, Toscano Hotel, and Casa Grande.

As previously mentioned, there is still research to be done in numerous aspects of Sonoma SHP. There are areas affecting this plan which have been positively identified; therefore, the following policies are specific to those problem areas.

The existing Alameda and a vineyard and orchard were established by Vallejo during the historic period, and they are significant features of the appropriate esthetic setting.

Policy: It is the policy of the department to reestablish the Alameda at Lachryma Montis with Fremont poplar. To facilitate reestablishment, all eucalyptus trees shall be removed and replaced with poplars, and the remaining aged poplars replaced as warranted, as part of an ongoing policy of reestablishment of the Alameda.

Policy: It is the policy of the department to plant appropriate fruit trees and grape vines so as to re-create the orchard and vineyard which existed at Lachryma Montis during the prime period.

The corporation yard at Lachryma Montis, the Sonoma public facility to the east, and the surrounding urban intrusions to the west, south, and east have major adverse impacts on the appropriate esthetic setting.

Policy: It is the policy of the department to remove the corporation yard from the area immediately adjacent to the Lachryma Montis complex. If the corporation yard is relocated in Sonoma SHP, new structures must be appropriate to the historic scene, and outside storage must be masked by native trees and shrubs or orchard plantings.

Policy: The department will establish windrows of appropriate native trees to help mask the surrounding suburban viewshed to the west, south, and east of the sub-unit. Partial masking of the Sonoma police facility to the east of Lachryma Montis could be accomplished by reconstruction of the stable.

The use of exotic plants which are not appropriate to the historic period in the landscaping of the Blue Wing Hotel, the barracks, the Toscano Hotel, the Casa Grande site, Mission San Francisco Solano, and the paved parking area adversely affect the appropriate esthetic setting.

Policy: It is the policy of the department to evaluate the landscaping in the yard to the south of the Blue Wing Hotel, and to plant native shrubs and trees along the southern perimeter to help mask the view of commercial structures.

Policy: It is the policy of the department to remove all exotic plants other than producing fruit trees and shrubs from the barracks, Toscano, Casa Grande, Mission San Francisco Solano, and parking area grounds. These exotics must be replaced with native plants or with fruit trees, shrubs, or vines appropriate to the prime period.

Commensurate with the previous historic policy statements, and in order to enhance the historic scene for the public benefit, the Blue Wing Hotel, mission courtyard, and barracks yard shall be addressed as follows:

Policy: It is the policy of the department to restore the Blue Wing Hotel yard in a historically appropriate manner, to enhance its own esthetic values and the esthetic values of the mission across the street to the north.

Policy: It is the policy of the department to restore the mission courtyard so as to esthetically complement the remaining mission structures. Restoration of the yard must be carried out using available historic documentation.

Policy: It is the policy of the department to restore the barracks yard to an appearance commensurate with its prime period use as an area for quartering presidential calvary horses. All of the inappropriate eucalyptus branch constructions will be removed.

### Recreation Resources

Recreational activities have been divided into two types, passive and active. The active types of recreation are traditionally low-keyed. These activities appear 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 history sightseeing and culturally-connected activities celebrating related community holidays, historic personalities, or other related cultural events or activities may continue. Recreational activities traditionally associated with an urban park setting may continue, but formal picnic facilities will not be provided except in areas noted as not being part of a cultural zone, or where traditional facilities have been provided in the past.

### 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 the first step in determining carrying capacity, the department determines allowable use intensities for the various parts of the unit. This evaluation serves as a general guide, indicating areas in which natural or cultural resource sensitivity will affect development planning.

Allowable 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 Sonoma State Historic Park are set forth in the statutes defining a state historic park.

The second component, visitor perceptions and attitudes, 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. Although these factors are very difficult to quantify, this component's influence is extremely important. 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 considerations, including: cultural resources sensitivity; soils and their erodibility 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 groundwater 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 or ecosystems, or examples of ecosystems of regional or statewide significance (marshes, riparian areas, and vernal pools).

## LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT

This Land Use and Facilities Element describes existing land uses and facilities and the conditions affecting visitor use and activities at Sonoma State Historic Park. Recommendations and proposals are included for restoration and use of the buildings, enhancement of historic grounds, parking improvements, and development of interpretive, administrative, and public-use facilities. It is intended that this plan will serve as a long-range but flexible guide to future park planning and development, consistent with the management policies set forth in the Resource Element, Interpretive Element, Operations Element, and specific objectives established by this element.

This plan is not, however, an implementation plan. It is not prudent at this time to identify and prioritize all sequences of development. Engineering studies have to be initiated. Some architectural studies have yet to be done, and economic strategies have to be outlined, in conjunction with historic and interpretive studies, plans, and priorities.

Action plans generally depend on availability of funds, such as the General Fund, bonds, donations, concessions, etc. These funds are difficult to identify at any specific time and for any length of time, making it difficult to plan long-range construction projects.

Expansion programs and projects cannot be undertaken until sufficient department staff has been funded to operate and maintain the facilities. Concession contracts need time to be carefully written and initiated. Equipment money needs to be budgeted.

These items will be identified in this General Plan; on approval of the General Plan by the state Park and Recreation Commission, implementation can then be initiated.

### General Objectives

The primary objective of this plan is to provide visitors with quality recreational experiences. For individual visitors, enjoyment of their own chosen interests will determine their satisfaction with the unit as a whole. All structures shall be constructed in accordance with State Building Code (Title 24).

General objectives include:

1. Recognizing historical and architectural significance through adequate building and artifact preservation, maintenance, restoration, appropriate use, and security.
2. Evaluating and determining the appropriate and necessary interpretive, administrative, and public-use facilities.
3. Enhancing the grounds and historic setting with appropriate structures, furniture, and landscaping.
4. Determining park administrative and facility needs to accommodate and encourage continued volunteer programs and community assistance.



5. Provide access for the disabled in all structures, where possible.
6. Installing security and fire protections systems in all structures.
7. Determining future research and planning necessary to carry out desired interpretive programs and historic restoration projects.
8. Determining future needs for coordinated planning and development between the department and the City of Sonoma.

### The Regional Setting

The 63 acres of Sonoma State Historic Park are divided into two separate parcels within the northern end of the city limits of Sonoma.

The park is located in the southeastern part of Sonoma County, at the lower foothills of the Sonoma-Napa Mountains. These mountains run along the eastern side of Sonoma Valley and the Valley-of-the-Moon, both of which terminate at San Pablo Bay. Santa Rosa is to the north.

The park lies between the predominant landscapes of northern oak woodland and valley grasslands. The area around the park, for the most part, is changing from agricultural to urbanization. The characteristic 75-foot tall oaks and woodlands with interspersed bunch grasses have yielded to invasions of European annual grass; to irrigated fields, orchards, vineyards, and dairies; and, most recently, to commercialization and residential property.

### Surrounding Land Uses

Sonoma State Historic Park is located within the Sonoma city influences, with a wide range of commercial, residential, institutional, and rural land uses and facilities surrounding the six separate parts of the park: the Blue Wing Hotel, the Mission San Francisco Solano, Lachryma Montis (General Vallejo's American-period Home), the Toscano Hotel Complex, the Sonoma Barracks, and the site of the Casa Grande.

The Sonoma Barracks, Toscano Hotel, and district office complex fronts East First Street, with East Spain Street as a side street. These state facilities primarily occupy the northeast corner of Sonoma Plaza.

Sonoma Plaza, the heart of downtown Sonoma, is an entire square block containing city government offices, set in a wooded park. The interior block is surrounded by commercial establishments, making Sonoma SHP readily available to casual drop-in visitors.

The department's parking lot lies on the block between First Street West and First Street East, and north of Spain Street--primarily residential housing, except for the commercial outlets along Spain Street. To the north of the state property lies Depot Park, a local community park with a railroad theme, centered around the re-created railroad station, with ball fields, playgrounds, and a bicycle trail.

The Blue Wing Hotel fronts the south side of East Spain Street, with commercial establishments on each side. It is half a block from the main downtown Plaza shopping area. The rear of the Blue Wing Hotel is used primarily for private parking and commercial delivery truck access, using a 20-foot right-of-way.

The Sonoma Mission lies across the street from the Blue Wing Hotel, on the corner of East Spain Street and East First Street. The mission terrace is to the north. The mission is surrounded by private residences on the north and east property lines. The downtown plaza area is half a block away.

Lachryma Montis, commonly referred to as the General Vallejo Home, lies about a half-mile to the west of the Sonoma Mission, and encompasses approximately 50 of the total 63 acres. This sub-unit fronts West Spain Street, principally a residential street. The west boundary borders private residences. The north and northeast sides back up to open, rural terrain, with the north boundary rising up a steep, oak-wooded hillside. The southeast corner backs up to primarily residential property. There are two inholdings along the south boundary; one to the west of the entrance is a small residence, and the other is a church, on about 1.9 acres.

A paved bicycle trail following the old Northwestern Pacific Railroad right-of-way transects Lachryma Montis, and connects it to Depot Park. Many local residents and visitors jog, bicycle, and walk between Sonoma's historic units and residential neighborhood using this path.

The surrounding setting at Sonoma State Historic Park indicates that with the residential and commercial property situation, there is little opportunity for expansion. Also, there is an ever-increasing visual intrusion of roof lines that are inconsistent with the historical setting.



*Mission San Francisco, Solano, 1985.*

## Land Use and Facilities

### Existing Conditions, Objections and Proposals

Existing facilities have been well identified and defined in the Resource Element and the Interpretive Element. This section reviews the existing conditions, identifies objectives, and makes proposals for improvement of facilities.

The primary approach is to accurately portray history in an exact and true manner, with as much attention to details as possible. Obviously, not everything can be precisely restored or replicated, but this approach represents the basic direction of the department, as opposed to generally creating nostalgic examples of life representative of the 1800s.

All structures shall be constructed in accordance with the State Building Code (Title 24). This legislative law includes: the Uniform Building Code, Uniform Building Code Standards, the Uniform Plumbing Code, the Uniform Mechanical Code, the National Electrical Code, the State Historic Building Code, and the State Handicap Code.



*Bear flag monument in Sonoma plaza, 1985.*

## Mission San Francisco Solano

The mission's visitation rate indicates that use is neither heavy nor extreme and that the existing facilities are capable of handling present usage. Low visitation days may have about 20+ people. On an average weekend day, the sub-unit may have 100 to 200 people visiting, depending on the weather. A maximum-use day might have 500+ people passing through the mission.

### The Chapel of Sonoma - Existing Conditions:

The Chapel of Sonoma parallels First Street East on a north-south axis. It is a Monterey-style adobe chapel, built after the Mission period by Vallejo. The original structure had planked floors and a shake roof. The existing adobe floor and roof were installed as part of rehabilitation work performed shortly after the turn of the century. It is not authentic to the building's original construction during the years 1841 to 1846.

#### Objective:

- o Refurbish the Chapel to re-establish the more authentic 1841-1846 historical period.

#### Proposals:

- o Complete engineering, architectural, and historical studies in regard to structurally appropriate materials and methods and historic appearances.
- o Restore the wood planked floor, using authentic materials and methods.
- o The existing tile roof should be removed and replaced with a historically accurate shake roof.
- o Authentic interpretation of the Chapel will be accomplished through the guidelines established in the Interpretive Element in this document, to represent the 1841-1846 period.

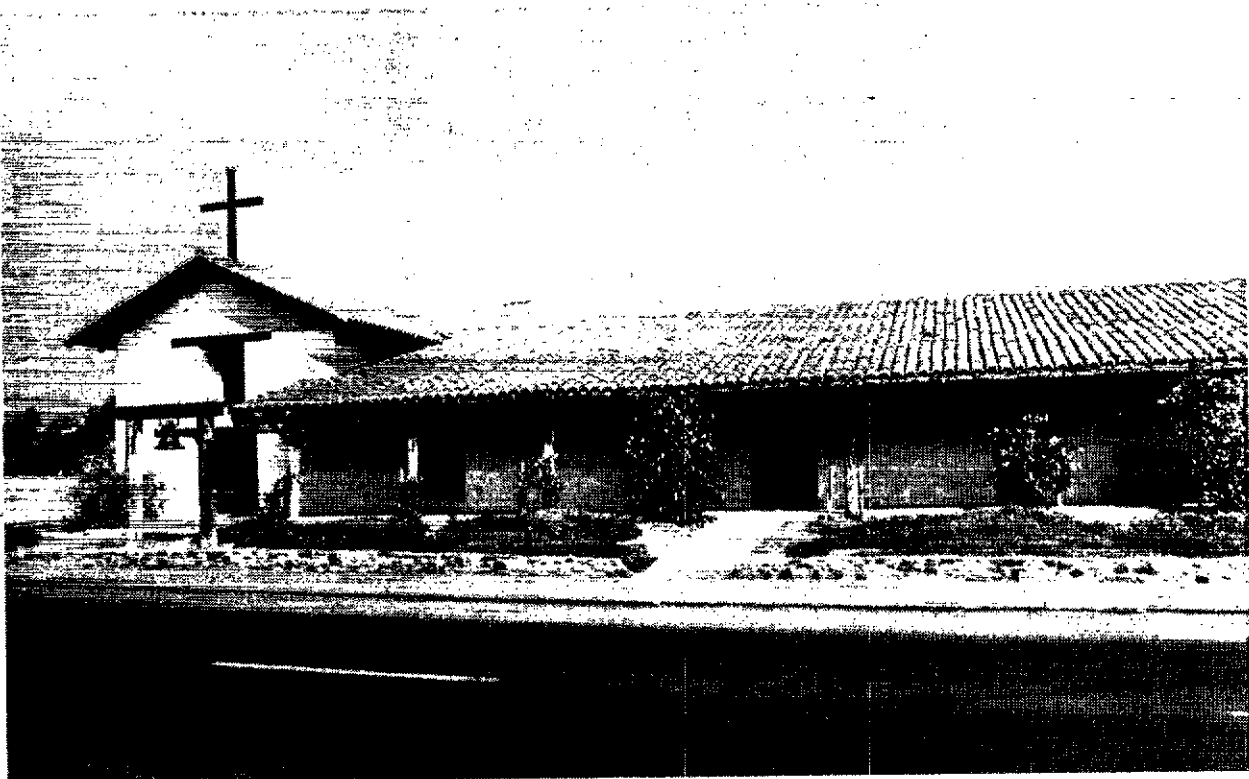


*Chapel of Sonoma, 1985.*

### Convento - Existing Condition:

The existing four room convento, or priest quarters, is the part of the mission that now faces south toward East Spain Street and the Blue Wing Hotel. The present structure represents only part of what is believed to have been a convento. Historical evidence supports the explanation that the north half of the building deteriorated, and was subsequently destroyed. It appears that the east end may have been shortened, and the breeze-way between the west end of the convento and the chapel enclosed.

The adobe structure itself is in a stable, maintainable conditions, but is in need of constant repair. Adobe structures, by their very nature, need constant, continuous maintenance. This is absolutely necessary for adobe preservation.



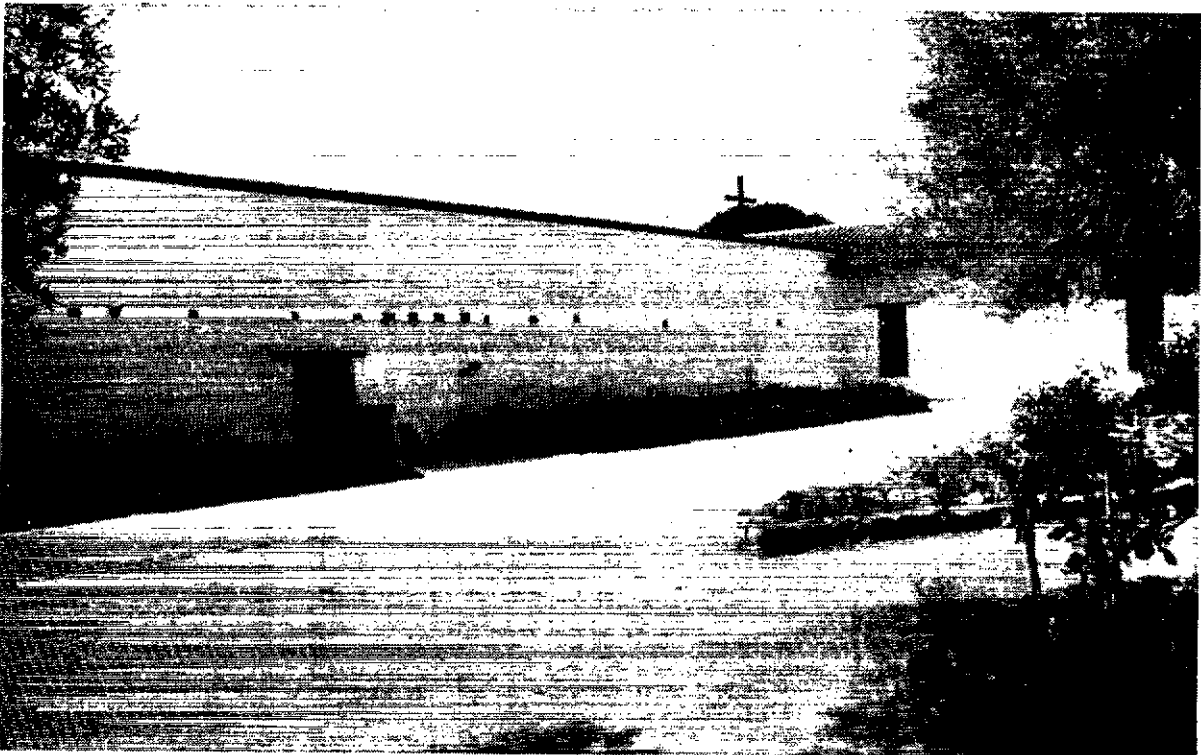
*San Francisco Solano Mission-front, 1985.*

### Objective:

- o To reconstruct, refurbish, and interpret the convento to represent the historic period of 1823 to 1846.

## Proposals:

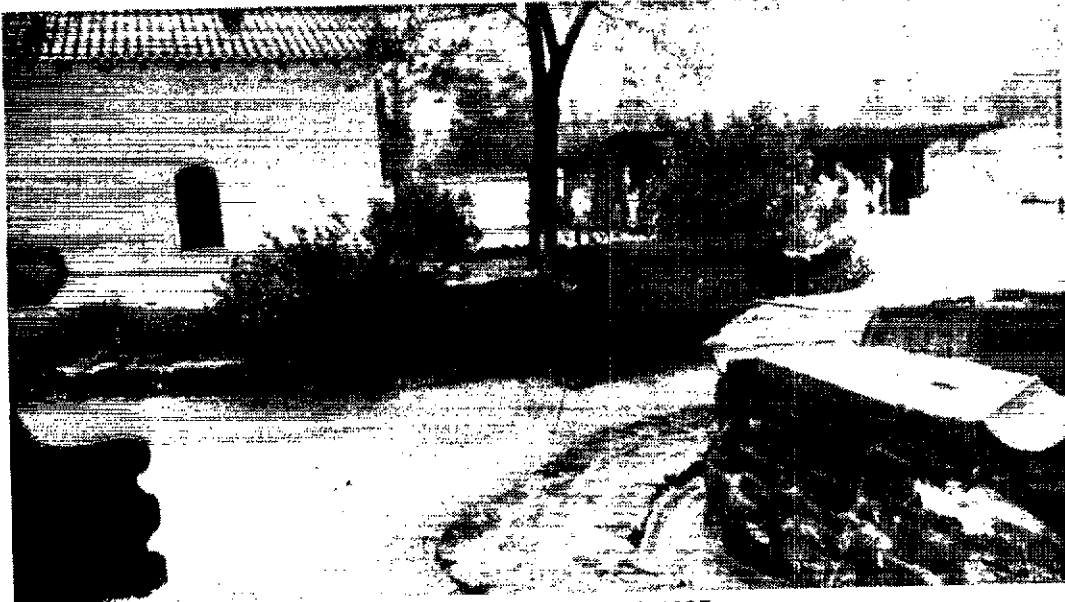
- o Complete archeological and historical research to determine the historic convento's size, shape, and dimensions.
- o Complete architectural and engineering studies regarding use of authentic materials and public health, safety, and welfare, specifically with respect to structural stability in reconstruction. An accurate assessment of all utility requirements is needed.
- o Reconstruct and refurbish the convento as authentically as possible, including the north half of the structure and the east end of the convento, up to the state's property line. The breeze-way between the convento and chapel may be reconstructed, if structurally feasible and historically correct.
- o Authentically interpret the convento exterior and interior through a mix of formal exhibits, a house museum, and environmental living spaces, as outlined in the Interpretive and Resource Elements of this document.
- o Incorporate all modern utilities in the construction if possible, but otherwise, design them to blend with the historic architecture.



*San Francisco Solano Mission — rear wall of the Convento, 1985.*

### Mission Courtyard - Existing Condition:

The existing courtyard has endured many modifications through the years, with additions of planters, sitting walls, wishing wells, restrooms, etc. However, these items are not consistent with the historic period of 1823-1846, which is to be interpreted. Archeology and historic research has provided evidence of several outbuildings, sheds, tile walks, etc., that are not now present, but were there in the historic period.



*San Francisco Solano Mission courtyard, planters, and well, 1985.*

### Objectives:

- o Authentically reconstruct and interpret the Mission Courtyard to the established interpretive period, 1823-1846.
- o Develop positive grading and drainage of the courtyard.

### Proposals:

- o Complete archeological and historical research, and develop interpretive furnishing plans, authenticating locations of courtyard buildings and furnishings.
- o On completion of adobe wall reconstruction surrounding the courtyard, remove all inappropriate elements in the compound, as determined by historic research.
- o Regrade the surface to sufficiently handle rainwater runoff, and install unobtrusive drainage structures to protect buildings, as directed by a qualified engineer and a park historian.



- o Install authentic and appropriate historical and interpretive items in the compound, as per the interpretive furnishing plans.
- o The cactus patch may remain as long as it is not located within the dimensions of any of the historical structures to be constructed. Otherwise, its growth is not to be encouraged.
- o Reconstruct appropriate historic structures.

Mission Landscaping - Existing Conditions:

The mission's front and side yards have been modestly landscaped with a few low-growing and upright shrubs, a couple of trees, and a handful of grapevines, most of which require minimal maintenance (except the grapes). Historical accounts do not indicate if there were any rock walls or brick walks. More than likely, there were only barren soil, weeds, and dusty paths.

Objective:

- o Maintain landscape plantings as a visual transition between present urban surroundings and the historical setting.

Proposals:

- o Maintain existing landscaping, but do not plant new, modern vegetation that "greens up" the setting.
- o After development of a historically accurate landscape plan, replant the area to reflect the historic period.



*Cactus patch in courtyard of San Francisco Solano Mission, 1985.*

### Restrooms - Existing Conditions:

The restrooms lie in the northeast corner of the courtyard, and are integrated into the east adobe wall design. They are fairly well screened by existing vegetation around the present wall. The restroom are not accessible to many disabled visitors.

The restrooms are connected to the city sewer system. They can be classified as adequate for the current use they receive.



*Existing restrooms in courtyard of mission, 1985.*

### Objective:

- o Authentically recreate the courtyard to the 1823-1846 period. The restrooms will have to be relocated.

### Proposal:

Leave the restrooms in their current location until they can be incorporated into one of the reconstructed courtyard buildings, or into a nearby building.

Adobe Wall - Existing Conditions:

The existing adobe wall surrounding the mission courtyard does not accurately portray the entire historic enclosure of the 1823-1846 period. The original wall encompassed much more square footage, particularly to the north.

Objectives:

- o Relocate, reconstruct, and interpret the mission courtyard adobe wall as accurately as possible, representing the original design and location of the 1823-1846-period wall.

Proposals:

- o Complete archeological surveys and reports, determining the original wall location.
- o Relocate and reconstruct the historic adobe walls as accurately as possible.



*Mission courtyard adobe wall and cactus, 1985.*

## Casa Grande Complex

### Casa Grande Site - Existing Conditions:

Vallejo's first permanent home was built around 1835-1836, and now no longer exists. However, there are still some traces of the original house foundation.

There is an existing free-standing orientation panel that needs modification.



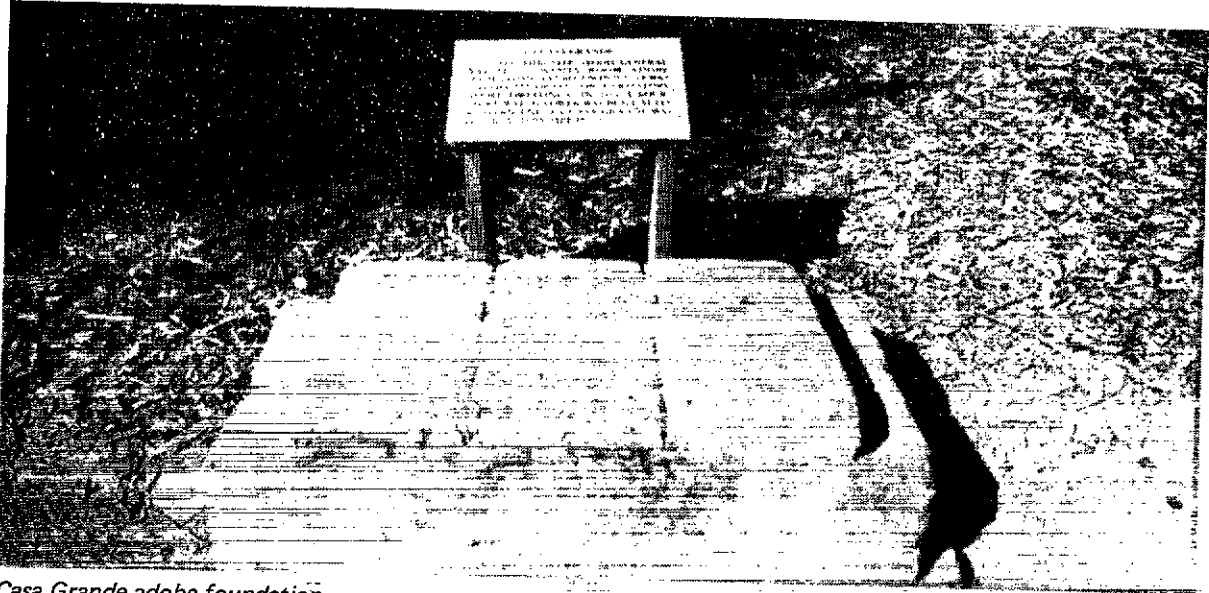
*Casa Grande site, 1985.*

### Objective:

- o Identify and interpret the home of Vallejo from 1836 to 1852, as both a residence and a headquarters for the Mexican military command.

### Proposals:

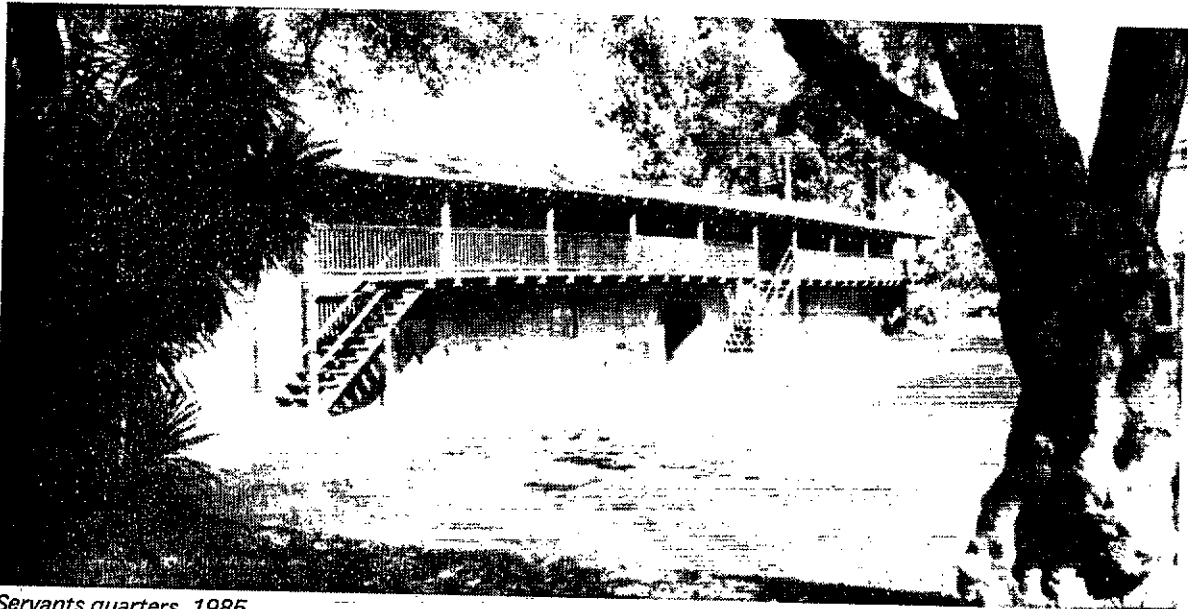
- o Conduct archeological and historical investigations, surveys, and reports to determine the correct size and appearance of the structure.
- o Accurately locate, delineate, and interpret on the site the proportions of the Casa Grande and foundation.
- o Interpret the Casa Grande as outlined in the Interpretive Element, which recommends converting the first floor of the old Tank House into an interpretive display.
- o Redesign and develop the orientation panel.



*Casa Grande adobe foundation.*

### Servants' Quarters - Existing Conditions:

The Servants Quarters is the west-wing extension of Vallejo's Casa Grande; it still stands today. It is an two-story adobe structure, oriented on a north/south axis. Today, the building is used for storage, and the ground floor is open for viewing. The second-floor rooms have low ceilings and doorways, and are not accessible to the disabled.



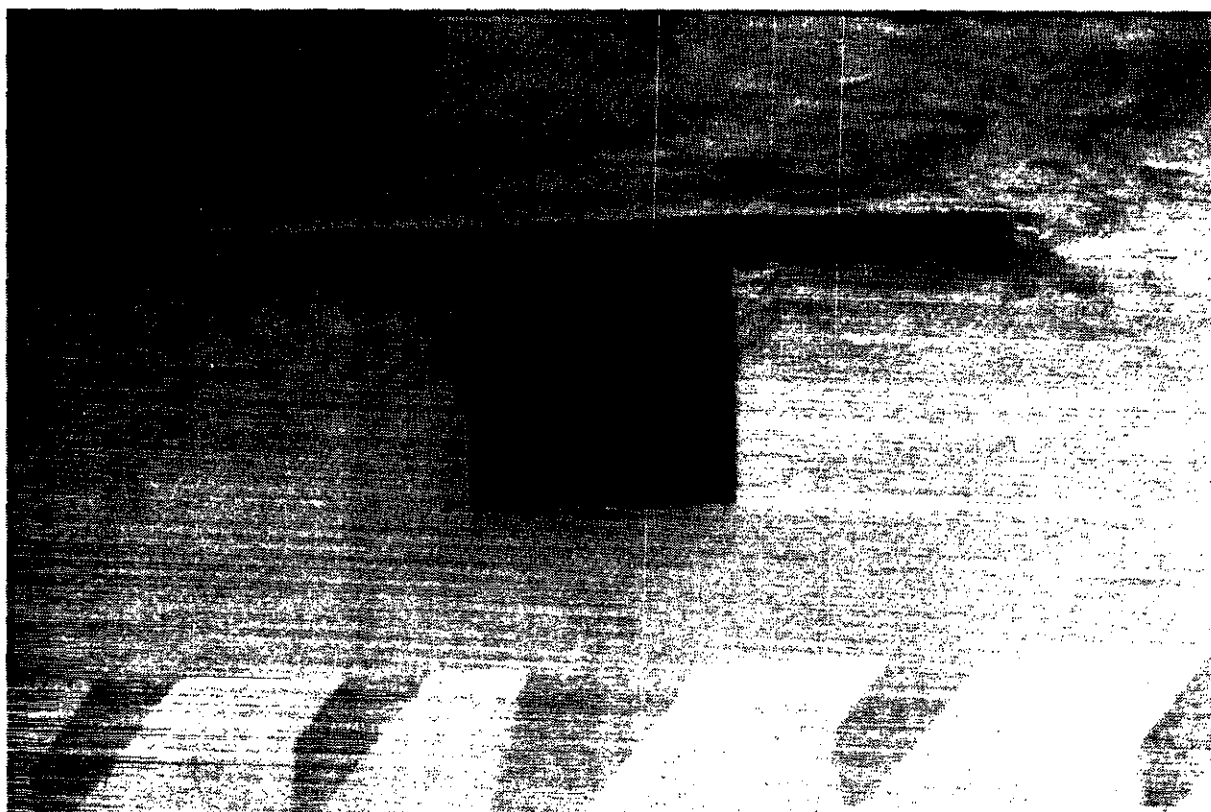
*Servants quarters, 1985.*

Objective:

- o Interpret the Servants' Quarters during the years 1836-1852.

Proposals:

- o Develop interpretation on the ground floor of the structure as indicated in the Interpretive Element, focusing on Vallejo's labor force.
- o Install soil cement or other appropriate material on the first floor.
- o Install electrical service, primarily for interior lighting, as unobtrusively as possible.



*Window in Sonoma Barracks, 1985.*

## Sonoma Barracks

### Sonoma Barracks - Existing Conditions:

The Sonoma Barracks is the prominent, two-story, white adobe and red tile structure that faces south towards Spain Street and Sonoma's downtown plaza. The first floor is primarily used for exhibits, while the second floor is used for departmental functions.

Numerous reconstructions and refurbishments over the years have altered the barracks' original concept very little. The building's basic structure has recently been reinforced to current earthquake standards.

The adobe-enclosed courtyard contains corrals and a barbeque area that are supposed to represent Mexican life. However, these elements have not been authenticated as being located here during the primary interpretive period. The present courtyard is much smaller than it was originally.

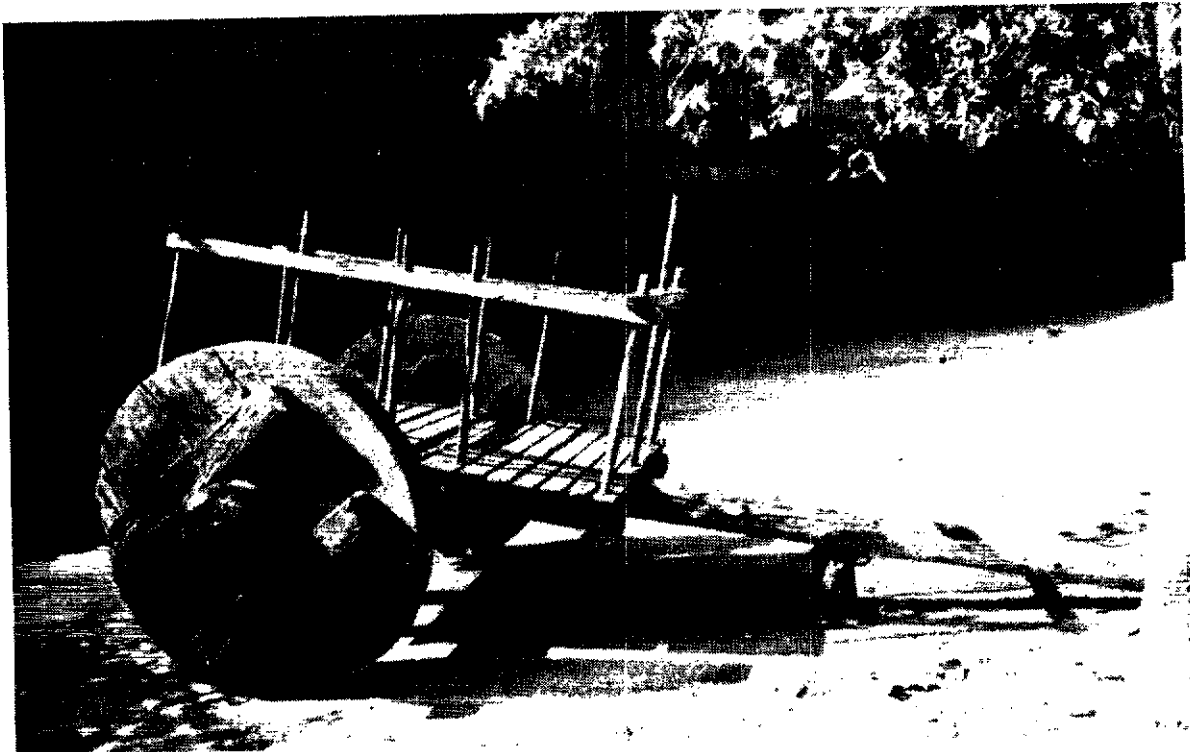
The concrete front sidewalk is owned by the City of Sonoma. Any modification will require joint city/state approval.



*Sonoma Barracks, 1985.*

Objectives:

- o Retain the existing basic architectural design in the primary historic period of 1840-1846.
- o Interpret the barracks during the years of military occupation from 1840-1853. Give secondary interpretive emphasis to the years 1853-present.



*Carreta (cart) in Sonoma Barracks courtyard, 1985.*

Proposals:

- o Complete all historical and archeological investigations before attempting any modifications.
- o Develop an interpretive/furnishing plan as indicated in the Interpretive Element.
- o Investigate replacement of the front sidewalk with a more historically looking material, such as decomposed granite or its equal.
- o Consider replacing the first-floor soil cement surface with more historically accurate material.
- o Increase the size of the courtyard, replicating its original space and configuration.



## Toscano Hotel Complex

The Toscano Hotel Complex consists of six buildings: the Toscano Hotel, the Toscano Kitchen, the Hotel Annex, two barns, and a tank house.

All of these buildings are in relatively good structural condition, but need constant and continuous maintenance, particularly the exteriors. Original adobe outbuildings, like the cellars and sheds, are gone now, replaced with mostly board and batten structures.

Current plantings around the structures need to be guided by a comprehensive historic landscape plan.

### Toscano Hotel - Existing Conditions:

The Toscano Hotel, is a two-story building adjacent to the west end of the Sonoma Barracks, facing south towards Spain Street and the downtown plaza. Restoration work on the building in the mid-1960s inadvertently removed early historic architectural elements. The structure as it has been refurbished represents the period when the hotel was in transition between the Eureka Hotel and the Toscano Hotel, before construction of the stepped balcony in the mid-1890s.

Public visitation is generally confined to guided tours on weekends. The hotel is not open to guided tours during slow periods; however, visitors can look through open doors and windows.

### Objectives:

- o Refurbish the hotel to reflect the primary historic period of 1880-c.1895, as part of the hotel complex's primary period of 1880-1910.
- o Interpret the hotel for the years in the 1886-c.1895, as part of the hotel complex's interpretive period, 1886-1910.



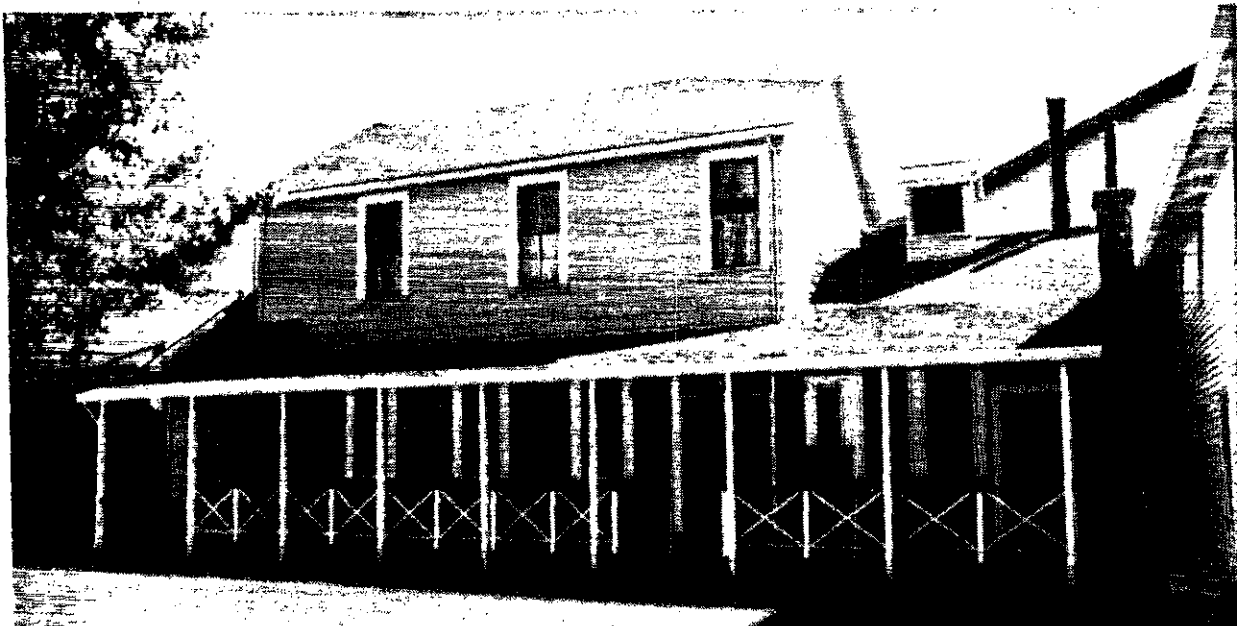
*Toscano Hotel, 1985.*

Proposals:

- o Maintain the existing structure until research and a historic structures report is done to establish the need for changes for historic accuracy.
- o Replace any modified elements that do not reflect the established historic and interpretive time periods.
- o Develop an interpretive/furnishing plan as outlined in the Interpretive Element.

Toscano Kitchen - Existing Conditions:

The Toscano Kitchen, ca. 1902, is the two-story building constructed immediately behind the Toscano Hotel. Its basic structural condition is generally good. Public access is by a guided tours on weekends and holidays. Exterior maintenance is a constant and costly function, but is necessary. The kitchen is now being operated by the Sonoma League for Historic Preservation.



*Toscano kitchen, 1985.*

Objectives:

- o Maintain this structure as a working kitchen and dining facility of the historic period, c. 1902-1910.
- o Interpret the kitchen in the primary historic period of c. 1902-1910.

Proposals:

- o Continue maintaining the kitchen and dining room with no major changes.
- o Establish an interpretive/furnishing plan for the building.

### Hotel Annex - Existing Conditions:

The Hotel Annex, ca. 1903, is the two-story building now being used by the department as a district office. It is located in the middle of the Toscano Hotel Complex, set back from Spain Street, facing the plaza.

The structure is basically in good condition, but in need of adequate and constant maintenance. Operational functions are in conflict with historic accuracy and interpretation. The best use of this structure is for historic interpretation. The need for this building as an interpretive facility has outgrown the building's use for operations. The Annex is now becoming inadequate to handle all the necessary people and services.

### Objectives:

- o Relocate operational and maintenance functions into an adequate and properly equipped location.
- o Convert the Hotel Annex for interpretation of the Toscano Hotel Complex, for the years 1886-1910. Secondary interpretive emphasis will be given to the mid-1850s-1886.

### Proposals:

- o On approval of an adequate location for the district office, most operational functions will be relocated.



*Hotel annex and current park office, 1985.*

- o After operational staff and equipment have been relocated, prepare a historic structures report to guide restoration. Develop an interpretive/furnishing plan to guide Hotel Annex interpretation, reflecting the prime historical and interpretive period of 1886-1910, and the secondary period of the mid-1850s-1886.
- o Consider use of this structure as an interpretive visitor center.
- o Make the Annex accessible to the disabled.

Tank House - Existing Conditions:

The Tank House was formerly used for water storage. It is now used for department storage and exhibits.

Its physical condition is typical, i.e., structurally sound but in need of constant maintenance, particularly the exterior.



*Tank house, 1985.*

**Objectives:**

- o Maintain the exterior of the Tank House to reflect the primary period established for the Toscano Hotel Complex, 1886-1910.
- o Interpret the nearby Casa Grande site.

**Proposals:**

- o Complete archeological, historical, and interpretive research to verify refurbishment processes and design details.
- o Restore the exterior of the Tank House according to the primary historic period, 1880-1910.
- o Develop an interpretive plan to guide refurbishment of the first floor, to interpret the Casa Grande site.
- o Make the first floor accessible to the disabled.

### The Barns - Existing Conditions:

There are two barns located in the Toscano Hotel Complex: one is next to the Toscano Kitchen, the other is behind the Annex. Both represent the wooden board and batten structures that existed in the primary interpretive period. Today, they are used for exhibits, storage, and maintenance.



*The two barns, 1985.*

### Objectives:

- o Maintain, preserve, and interpret the west barn.
- o Consider relocating the existing restrooms into the east barn.

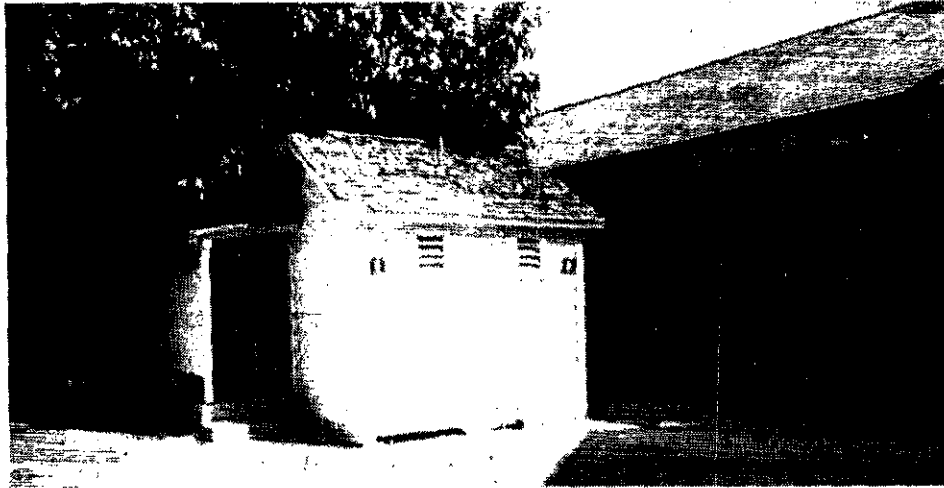
### Proposal:

- o Refurbish the east barn to include new toilet facilities.
- o Develop furnishing plans for the barns to guide interpretive development.

### Restrooms - Existing Conditions:

The existing set of restrooms is located between the two wooden barns behind the district office. It is connected to the city sewer system. The restrooms' facade resembles the other Toscano Hotel complex buildings, but is a visual intrusion on the historical integrity of the complex.

The restrooms, though lockable, are exposed to vandalism; this part of the park is not fenced.



*Restrooms next to east barn, 1985.*

**Objective:**

- o Relocate and integrate the restrooms into one the east barn, and restore the visual integrity of the complex.

**Proposals:**

- o Complete historical, engineering, and architectural studies to determine the best way to incorporate the restrooms into the east barn.
- o Complete archeological investigations.

Parking Lot

Parking Lot - Existing Conditions:

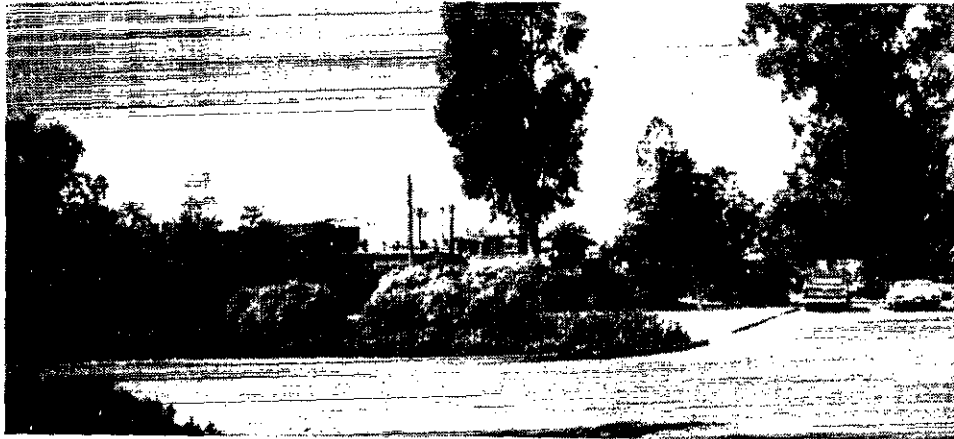
The 90+-space parking lot is located at the rear of the Toscano Hotel complex, with access off East First Street. Both the entrance road and parking area are paved, curbed, and landscaped. A couple of tables are scattered about for picnics. Historically, Vallejo probably had vineyards, house gardens, and bathrooms located here, and on the open field west of the parking lot. This field is now used for overflow parking on festive occasions. Parking is generally adequate for visitor demands most of the year. However, parking in the City of Sonoma is insufficient for weekend use during most of the year.



*Vehicle parking lot, 1985.*

The City of Sonoma has recommended modifications to the vehicular circulation pattern of the entrance, to gain delivery truck access to the rear of several commercial businesses that front Spain Street. This is designed to help relieve the increasing congestion between residents, tourists, and delivery vehicles.

There is inadequate orientation for park visitors coming into the unit from the parking lot .



*Entrance road and parking, 1985.*

At the northwest end of the lot is a paved bicycle and pedestrian pathway leading to Depot Park, a local community railroad-theme park. The path then leads on to Vallejo's home, Lachryma Montis, about a half-mile away. Eucalyptus and pine trees growing along the back fence of the lot provide a sound and visual barrier from Depot Park. Shrubs and fencing screen the homes along the east side. Most, if not all, plant materials are not native to the area, and do not reflect the historic period.



*Trail access to Depot Park, 1985.*

Objectives:

- o Maintain, if not increase, the number of off-street city parking spaces, both paved and overflow.
- o Maintain the physical connection to Depot Park.
- o Install, maintain, and encourage historically authentic landscaping.
- o Continue to work with the city to resolve parking and circulation conflicts.
- o Investigate methods of visually screening the parking lot from the historical part of the unit.
- o Provide better orientation to the public.

Proposals:

- o Complete archeological and historical surveys before any ground is disturbed.
- o Initiate engineering and planning studies regarding parking problems and solutions.
- o Develop a free-standing orientation panel adjacent to the parking lot.



*Present interpretive panel, 1985.*



## Park Grounds

### Park Grounds - Existing Condition:

Over the years, the park grounds have received varied attention and refurbishments, particularly with respect to plant materials. Plants used to "green-up" the starkness of the park conflict with the authentic historic time period.

Along with plant materials, and equally important, are the ground surfaces. Going through the different park elements, visitors encounter too many different walking surfaces, such as decomposed granite, brick, asphalt, concrete, tile, soil, etc. There is a need to unify these surfaces.

Park furniture, including benches, lighting, trash receptacles, and signs, can help to add to the believability of a historic park, if they reflect some sense of historic accuracy.



*Current entrance road and landscaping, 1985.*

#### Objective:

- o Establish an authentic landscape.

#### Proposals:

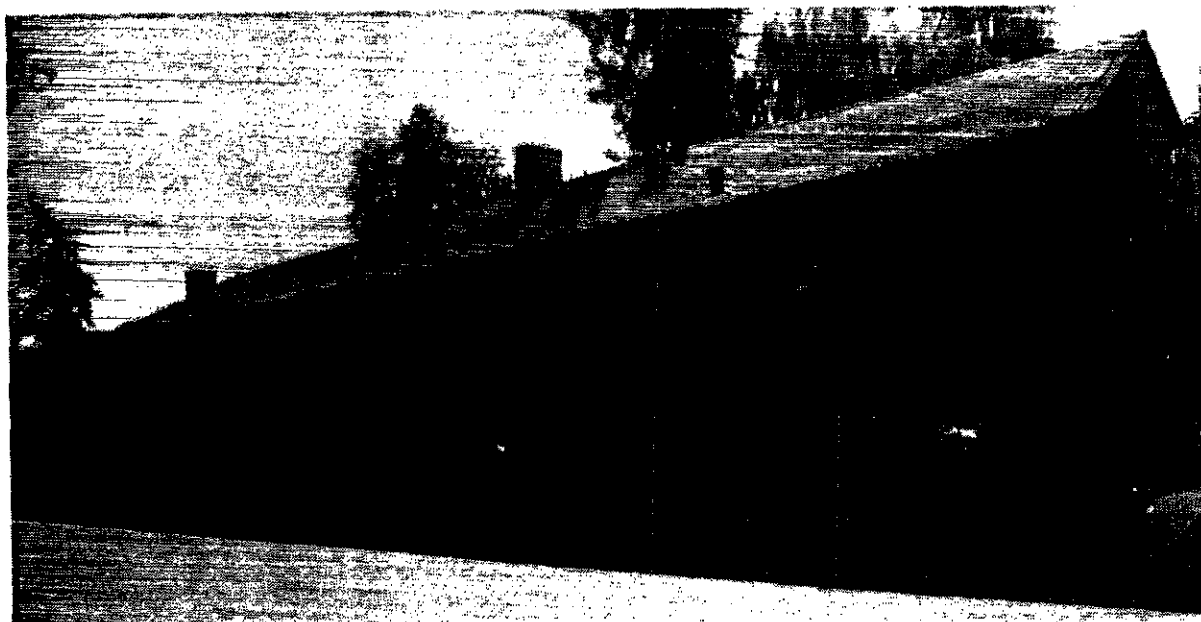
- o Prepare an accurate historical landscape plan.
- o Replant accordingly.
- o Place appropriate walking surfaces throughout the unit.
- o Install historically appropriate park furniture, as directed by a park historian.

## Blue Wing Hotel

### Blue Wing Hotel - Existing Conditions:

The Blue Wing Hotel is located on the south side of East Spain Street, across the street from the Sonoma Mission. It is now being leased to private individuals.

Previously, the building underwent many modifications as it changed owners and uses. Today, the building's basic structure is of questionable stability; e.g., the front porch has been condemned for public use.



*Blue Wing Hotel facade, 1985.*

### Objectives:

- o Restore the hotel to reflect the primary historic period of 1851-1856.
- o Interpret the hotel to reflect the historic period of 1849-1856.

### Proposals:

- o Prepare structural architectural and engineering evaluation reports.
- o Guided by the historic structures report and historic research, reconstruct and refurbish the exterior and interior, including the rear garden, to reflect the appropriate historical period.
- o Consider an interpretive concession agreement.



*Rear courtyard of Blue Wing Hotel, 1985.*

Other Structures - Existing Conditions:

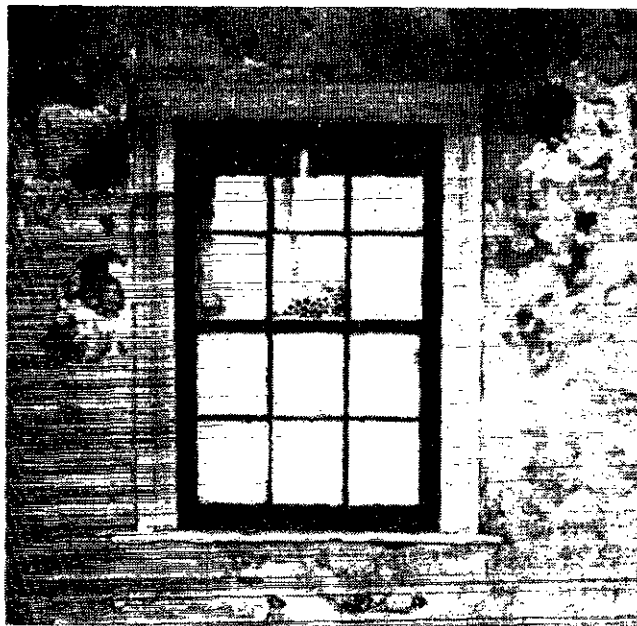
Three employee residences are located along Mission Terrace Road, which is the northern boundary of the mission property.

Objectives:

- o Determine the historic value of the property in regard to the mission courtyard.
- o Retain residences in the present locations.

Proposal:

- o Maintain as employee residences until property is needed for historic use or other park uses.



*A front window of Blue Wing Hotel, 1985.*

## Lachryma Montis - General Vallejo Home

General Mariano G. Vallejo's Home lies on about 50 acres of state-owned land referred to as Lachryma Montis. The home is about one-half mile west of the Sonoma Mission.

Lachryma Montis once included the Vallejo Home and many other structures, such as a warehouse or barn now called the Chalet, a carriage shed, stables, corrals, a bathhouse, a hennery, a garden pavilion, a guest house, and a grapery, to name a few.

### Objectives

1. The physical appearance of Lachryma Montis shall reflect a primary historic period of 1851 to 1880, as outlined in the Resource Element in this document.
2. Interpretation of Lachryma Montis will cover the years c.1852 to 1890, and will be guided by an interpretive plan, as per the Interpretive Element.
3. Prepare historic structures reports, stabilize, restore, and reconstruct the historic structures, as recommended.
4. Prepare a landscape plan and re-introduce historic vegetation accordingly.
5. Remove all structures and elements now existing that do not support the established historic and interpretive prime period.
6. Whenever possible, make structures accessible to the disabled, in an unobtrusive way.
7. Install a comprehensive security and fire protection system for the entire complex.
8. On approval of the General Plan, the department will prepare an area development plan to determine the precise locations of all physical elements of these proposals.

### Vallejo Home - Existing Conditions:

The Vallejo Home is a Gothic Revival-style prefabricated house, constructed at this location in 1851-1852. It has recently undergone some restoration, including reshingling, new shutters on the exterior, and some back bedroom interior restoration. However, additional restoration work is needed to accurately recreate the historic setting.



*Vallejo Home, 1985.*

### Proposals:

- o Complete historical research.
- o Prepare a furnishing plan to guide development of house museum spaces.
- o Restore completely.
- o Continue active maintenance programs.

Vallejo Kitchen - Existing Conditions:

The Vallejo Home Kitchen is located immediately behind (north side) and detached from the Vallejo Home. The structure is in relatively good condition, and may represent the established era.



*Vallejo Home kitchen, 1985.*

Proposals:

- o Complete historical research.
- o Prepare a furnishing plan to guide development of house museum spaces.
- o Refurbish authentically.



*Walk between Vallejo Home and kitchen, 1985.*

### Chalet - Existing Conditions:

The Chalet, as it is called today, was also called the "almacen," or simply the warehouse or barn. It is located immediately east of the Vallejo Home, and is now used as an interpretive center.

The basic structure of the building is sound. Earlier this century, the brick walls were remortared, and the structure refurbished. Historically, an arbor existed on the south side of the building. A concession contract with the Sonoma SHP Cooperating Association calls for the tasting and sale of water, wine, and agricultural products related to the historic time period.



*Chalet, 1985.*

### Proposals:

- o Prepare a furnishing plan to guide interior development.
- o Continue active maintenance programs.
- o Consider relocating the concession on construction of a more suitable structure, such as the Gothic barn.
- o Following archeological and historic research, reconstruct the arbor.
- o Make the building accessible to the disabled.
- o Interpret according to the Resource and Interpretive Elements and the interpretive plan.

Carriage Shed - Existing Condition:

The original carriage shed does not now exist. It was attached to the north side of the Chalet.

Proposals:

- o Complete archeological and historical research to verify the size, shape, and design of the carriage shed.
- o Reconstruct the carriage shed as authentically as possible.
- o Prepare a furnishing plan and develop the shed accordingly.

Reservoir/Pond - Existing Conditions:

The reservoir or "duck and geese" pond lies above and behind the Vallejo Home and Kitchen. Over the years, modifications have occurred that have changed the configuration of the reservoir. Today, its oblong shape is about 140 feet long by about 30 feet wide. There are also problems with water quality, particularly with algae; there is no recirculation system. The wooden shade trellis around the pond has deteriorated, as have the wooden benches.



*Pond behind Vallejo Home, 1985.*

Proposals:

- o Complete archeological and historical research to determine the original size and shape of the reservoir.
- o Complete engineering reports regarding structural stability of the sides and bottom, and water quality.
- o Restore the reservoir as prescribed by park historians and engineers.
- o Reconstruct the walkways, wooden trellis, and benches to their original designs and materials.



### Hermitage - Existing conditions

The Hermitage or guest house is a small, one-room, wooden building, located above and overlooking the reservoir, house, and property. The southern viewshed is now obscured by fully grown trees around the home. Evidently, the building's architecture has not been radically changed over the years.



*Vallejo Home Hermitage or guest house, 1985.*

### Proposals:

- o Restore fully, according to historical and interpretive research and architectural plans.
- o Develop the interior space following guidelines established in a furnishing plan.

### Bath House - Existing Conditions:

The outdoors or separated bath house does not now exist. It was located east of the Vallejo Home and south of the Chalet, probably on the same site as the grapery, which also existed at an earlier time.

### Proposals:

- o Complete archeological and historical research to positively identify the actual site and architectural design.
- o Reconstruct the bath house facade.
- o Develop the building for use as public restrooms.

### El Delirio - Existing Conditions:

The El Delirio is a small building now located west of the Vallejo Home, with a small water fountain in front. It has been referred to as a "garden gazebo," and also as Vallejo's office. Its current location has not been confirmed as the original site. The building may have been located elsewhere on the grounds, possibly closer to the home.

#### Proposals:

- o Complete historical research.
- o Restore the El Delirio on its present-day site, assuming that evidence demonstrates that the site is correct.
- o Develop the interior according to a furnishing plan.



*Vallejo Home, El Delirio, 1985.*

### Hennery - Existing Conditions:

The Hennery, or chicken house, was a structure located east of the Chalet, probably very close to the current public restrooms.

#### Proposals:

- o Complete archeological and historic research to determine the accurate location, design, and use of the building.
- o Reconstruct the Hennery after removing the existing parking lot.
- o Restore appropriate farm animals to the building.

### Pavilion - Existing Conditions:

The original pavilion (no longer standing) appears to have been a small, round structure, made of bamboo, iron, and glass. It was probably a garden-gazebo type of structure.

It was located east and north of the Chalet and Hennerly. Today, only the grading indicates the location of this structure, which means that more research is needed before anything can be specifically planned.

#### Proposal:

- o Rebuild the Pavilion on confirmation of the structure's architecture and site.

### Gothic Barn - Existing Conditions:

This barn no longer exists, except for its remnant foundations, which represent several alterations. It was located directly east of the current parking lot.

Historically, along with the barn, there were corrals, farm tools and equipment, and farm animals.

#### Proposals:

- o Complete archeological and historical research to verify the location, size, architecture, and historic use.
- o Reconstruct the barn on its original site.
- o Consider relocating interpretive concessions and public restrooms in the Gothic barn.
- o Develop and complete furnishing of the barn according to a furnishing plan.



*Old gothic barn.*

### Parking Lot - Existing Conditions:

The existing 35- to 40-space, paved parking lot is located immediately east of the Chalet, surrounded by a split rail fence and eucalyptus trees.

Generally, visitation of a park is controlled by the number of available parking spaces. The parking situation is not critical at this time, visually being adequate for most days. However, bus parking and turning radii are very limited. There is also a conflict with the paved parking lot's closeness and inappropriateness to the historic interpretive time period.

### Proposals:

- o Remove and relocate the existing parking lot and split-rail fence out of direct visual line with Lachryma Montis. Eliminate the eucalyptus trees.
- o Redesign the parking lot to accommodate more vehicles as well as larger vehicles, such as RVs and buses.
- o Construct a free-standing orientation panel near the parking lot.
- o All of the above will be done according to the department's area development plan, to be prepared.



*Existing restrooms and storage in parking lot, 1985.*

### Restrooms - Existing Conditions:

The public restrooms are a two-room attachment to a maintenance facility, situated at the north end of the parking lot. This structure is not part of the historical setting, but is necessary for park operation..

Aside from being visually intrusive, the building has had a history of many physical problems, particularly with the inadequate water and sewer systems that require continuous and expensive repairs.

Proposals:

- o Remove the restrooms and maintenance facility from their present site.
- o On reconstruction of the bath house and Gothic barn, relocate the restrooms to either or both of these buildings.
- o Consolidate the maintenance functions with the corporation yard relocation.



*Existing picnic area, 1985.*

Picnic Area - Existing Conditions:

The existing picnic area lies behind and uphill from the Chalet, and immediately east of the reservoir. Picnic tables are located on a small terrace, in an olive tree orchard of about 1/4 acre. Historically, through this orchard ran the path between the reservoir and the pavilion.

The picnic area is not accessible to the disabled. East of the picnic area is a lath structure; its date of origin is unknown.

Proposals:

- o Retain the existing picnic area, with some refurbishment.
- o Develop a path to the picnic area that is accessible to the disabled.
- o Remove the lath structure if it is found to be inappropriate to the prime period.

### Corporation Yard - Existing Conditions:

The corporation yard is located along the west side of the Vallejo Home grounds. It includes several storage and maintenance buildings, paint sheds, a carpenter shop, and staff parking, along with storage yards.

These elements, although necessary for proper operation of the park unit, are visually intrusive, and are incompatible with the historic nature of the park.



*Existing storage yard, 1985.*

### Proposals:

- o Remove all physical and visual indications of the corporation yard and buildings from the Vallejo Home area.
- o Combine operational, maintenance, and administrative functions of both the Vallejo Home and the Sonoma Mission in a convenient location.

### The Alameda - Existing Conditions:

The Alameda is the 1,600+-foot-long entranceway to the Vallejo Home, off Spain Street West. This two-lane paved roadway is lined on both sides by a combination of oak, cottonwood, and eucalyptus trees, and partially by split-rail fencing.

The existing paved bicycle path, which crosses the road near the Vallejo Home, has caused some surface problems by blocking or damming surface runoff; the clay soil does not allow fast percolation. There is no safe bicycle or pedestrian way along the Alameda from Spain Street.

### Proposals:

- o Remove all historically inaccurate vegetation, including inappropriate trees and shrubs, from along the Alameda and the park entrance.
- o Replant with historically correct trees, such as Fremont poplars.
- o Redesign the Alameda and the existing bicycle path intersection to include culverts, as determined by an engineer, on each side of the roadway under the bicycle path.
- o Install a new, safe bicycle path and pedestrian lane along the Alameda to the parking lot.



*Present entrance drive, 1985.*

### Orchards, Vineyards, Gardens, and Plantings - Existing Conditions:

The Vallejo grounds had many acres of fruit trees and grapevines, along with necessary vegetable gardens. Today, these fields have either been subdivided or lie fallow, with fire-susceptible weeds. There is a small plot of grapevines just south and west of the Vallejo Home, which serves as a representative example of his former acreage. Historically, it appears that orchards were planted to the west side of the Alameda, and grapevines to the east. Large vegetable gardens were located around the property, and small vegetable and herb gardens were located near the house.

Today, the surrounding viewshed is primarily one of residential housing and institutional buildings. They detract from the pastoral scenic landscape of the Vallejo days. There is also a variety of ornamental plantings surrounding the home. Indications are that Vallejo may have experimented with many of these decorative plantings.



*Present vineyard, 1985.*

Proposals:

- o After careful historical research, prepare a historical landscape plan. Consideration should be given to soil analysis for soil structure, nutrient content, and drainage.
- o Replant orchards, vineyards, and gardens.
- o Guided by the landscape plan, plant a vegetative visual screen along the east, south, and west boundaries of the park unit, using appropriate plant materials.



*View toward existing parking lot, 1985.*



### Ranger Residences - Existing Conditions:

Near the entrance of the Alameda, on the northwest side, there are two relatively modern houses and garages now being rented by rangers and their families. These structures do not add to the integrity of the historical setting. They were built by the department, and they provide security for the facility.

#### Proposals:

- o Assess the structural stability of each building, and its longevity.
- o Plant a temporary vegetative screen.
- o Consider eventual removal of the houses and garages from the historical setting.

### Other Structures - Existing Conditions:

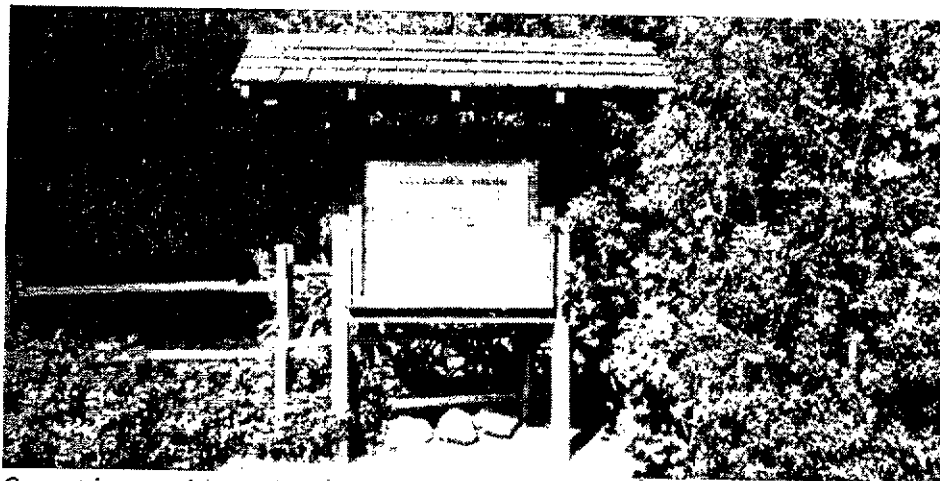
As information about other historic structures in the prime period becomes confirmed, an assessment will be made by department representatives to determine if, where, and when such structures are to be reconstructed. Existing structures proving to be inappropriate to the prime period will be removed from the immediate vicinity of the Vallejo Home.

### Interpretive Collection - Existing Conditions:

Currently, interpretive collections are stored in locations scattered throughout various park units. Most have inadequate security and fire protection, and no regular program for their preservation.

#### Proposals:

- o Identify interpretive collection needs for Sonoma SHP.
- o Consolidate interpretive collections, providing appropriate environmental controls, lighting, security, and fire protection.
- o Develop an ongoing program for care and maintenance of artifacts.



*Current interpretive panel, 1985.*

## INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT

### Interpretive Objectives

Sonoma and State Historic Park preserves a remarkable assemblage of buildings and sites related to one prominent individual -- Mariano G. Vallejo. In a three-dimensional form, they chronicle Vallejo's lifetime, and his responses to a changing California. In a very real sense, they provide us doorways to the past which can help us to understand an influential man of 19th-century California.

But the historic buildings and sites of Sonoma represent more than just one man. They have become unique records documenting, in three dimensions, the evolution of an entire community from its very earliest days. They reflect many hands from many different cultures involved in the community's construction. From a broader perspective, these buildings represent a dynamic period in California's history, when the community served as a focal point for state and international events. Each of these buildings and sites has preserved an important part of the California story that needs to be told.

Interpretation in Sonoma SHP will provide the key for unlocking the doors to these noteworthy sites and buildings. Through various interpretive media, visitors to the park units will be drawn beyond building facades to a better understanding of the lifeways, people, and events which have shaped a state, a community, and the lives of prominent individuals, like Vallejo, as well as the nameless thousands in history.

### Interpretive Period

The period to be interpreted at Sonoma State Historic Park shall be between 1823, when Mission San Francisco Solano was founded, and 1910, a span of 87 years. Each individual site, structure, or group of structures in Sonoma SHP shall have a specific, distinct interpretive time framework within the overall interpretive period, 1823-1910. Hence, the park shall represent a flow of history. The interpretive periods for the structures are as follows:

Mission San Francisco Solano: 1823-1846. The interpretive period includes the years from the mission's founding in 1823 through secularization, the establishment in 1840-41 of the new adobe chapel (which replaced the abandoned mission church), to 1846 and the Bear Flag Revolt.

The Casa Grande Site and Servants' Quarters: 1836-c.1852. The site and remaining Servants' Quarters of Vallejo's once impressive adobe home, fronting on the plaza, will be interpreted during the years when the Vallejo family used it as a principal residence. The interpretive period encompasses Vallejo's years as the Mexican military commander for northern California through the early period of American occupation of Sonoma, until Vallejo moved his family to the new home at Lachryma Montis, circa 1852.

Sonoma Barracks: 1840-1853. The barracks, a symbol of Mexican domination over northern California, will be interpreted from its early years through its occupation by the "Bear Flaggers" in 1846, and various United States military units from 1846 until 1853. The interpretive period has been expanded beyond the prime period stated in the Resource Element, 1840 to 1846, to include the entire period of military occupation. A secondary interpretive period from 1853 to the present will encompass the building's later uses.

Blue Wing Hotel: 1849-1856. The interpretive period's primary focus will be on those years when James C. Cooper operated a hotel and saloon in the building.

Lachryma Montis: c.1852-1890. The years the Vallejo family resided at Lachryma Montis will be interpreted up to the time of Vallejo's death in 1890.

Toscana Hotel Complex: 1886-1910. The primary interpretive period for the buildings comprising the Toscana Hotel complex will be from 1886, at the point of the main structure's transformation from the Eureka Hotel to the Toscana (also called the Tuscano), through construction of the new kitchen in 1902 and addition of several outbuildings and the hotel Annex, to 1910. The water tower will be maintained as a part of the Toscana Hotel complex, although its interior will be used for interpreting the Casa Grande site. A secondary interpretive period will begin with construction of the main building fronting on the plaza in the 1850s, through its years as a store, and adaptation as the Eureka Hotel between the years 1877-1886.

### Mission San Francisco Solano

#### Interpretive Approach

Through interpretation of Mission San Francisco Solano, visitors will gain an understanding of why it was established, the labor and other activities needed to sustain it, and the secularization movement which brought an end to the Mission era. The last built of twenty-one in California, Mission San Francisco Solano shared similarities as well as differences with its predecessors which will be presented. A major focus will also be the Native American peoples and the environment of the region, which were disrupted and changed forever by the intrusion of this Spanish institution. Despite the breakup of mission lands and property caused by secularization, Catholicism continued to be an important part of Sonoma community life for years to come.

Themes for the mission complex are listed as follows:

#### Primary Themes:

Politics and the Founding of Mission San Francisco Solano  
The Self-Sufficient Mission Community  
The Changed World of the Neophytes  
Secularization Causes the Sonoma Mission to Decline

#### Secondary Themes:

One of Twenty-One Missions  
Sonoma's Religious Observances Continue

## Expanded Theme Statements

The interpretive themes for Mission San Francisco Solano are further expanded below:

### Primary Theme -- Politics and the Founding of Mission San Francisco Solano

There was more to establishment of Mission San Francisco Solano than converting Native Americans to Catholicism. Interpretation will reconstruct the important issues of 1823 which led to the mission's founding. It will also look at the padres dedicated to the cause of the missions. Father Jose Altimira, in charge of San Francisco de Asis (Mission Dolores), wanted to remove his ailing Native American population from Mission Dolores to a warmer, more fertile locale. Without proper approval from the ecclesiastical authorities, he approached Governor Luis Arguello with his plan for developing a new mission inland. The newly established Mexican government of California, eager to find a means of checking Russian settlement from advancing below Fort Ross, consented to the plan. In 1823, Mission San Francisco Solano was established -- the last erected of California's twenty-one missions, and the only one created under Mexican rule.

### Primary Theme -- The Self-Sufficient Mission Community

On the edge of Spanish civilization in California, Mission San Francisco Solano was organized as a nearly self-sufficient community. Padres trained Native Americans, whom they called neophytes, in the trades necessary to maintain the mission. These trades included: stone-cutting; brick, tile, and adobe making and laying; wood carving; blacksmithing; metal working; spinning; cloth and carpet weaving; butter churning and cheese making; milling and baking; olive and wine pressing; tallow and soap making; hide skinning and tanning; harness and saddle making; sowing, reaping, planting, and picking; irrigating and plowing; and herding and sheep shearing and dipping. Goods not manufactured in the mission community were introduced by coastal ships, trading for mission-produced hides and tallow.

The mission activities were generally reflected in the buildings, shelters, and grounds which made up the mission complex. They comprised the tannery, granary, weaving and sewing rooms, kitchen, ovens, storerooms, library, music room, forge shop, carpenter shop, tool room, soap factory, tanning vats, corral, church, padres' house, dormitory, guard house, orchards, vineyards, etc. These mission facilities encompassed a wide area, covering more acreage than the present state park. Attention will be given to the organization and operation of the mission community, and the daily and seasonal activities dictated by the padres to maintain their self-sufficiency and religious integrity.

### Primary Theme -- The Changed World of the Neophytes

In the 1700s and early 1800s, Spaniards exploring the Sonoma region encountered Native American peoples whose cultures were well established and different in almost every respect from theirs. The Spanish missions' system for converting Native Americans to Catholicism and Spanish allegiance, while providing the necessary foodstuffs for colonization, disrupted and eventually

ended the traditional lifestyle of the Coast Miwok, Patwin, Southern Pomo, and Wappo Indians of the Sonoma region, as well as changing the natural environment.

The interpretive approach here is to examine the mission system from the Native American neophytes' perspective -- to compare their cultures before and after Spanish contact -- and to examine the impact of European plants and animals on the local ecosystem. Native Americans were often forcibly removed from their villages, and thrust into a mission environment totally foreign to their realm of understanding. Neophytes were expected to conform to a regimented schedule, learn Spanish (a new language to them), labor at unfamiliar tasks, use strange tools, wear European clothing, eat foreign foods, and accept a new religion and way of life with very different social values. The intent is not to evaluate the mission system, but to offer a different perspective, not often interpreted, of that system.

#### Primary Theme -- Secularization Causes the Sonoma Mission to Decline

Following a direction favored by many Mexican republicans, Governor Figueroa issued regulations in 1834 to secularize the missions of California. He appointed Lt. Mariano Vallejo comisionado (administrator) for Sonoma, to see his orders carried out. The regulations had a far-reaching impact on the Sonoma region. Like other missions, San Francisco Solano was directed to cease service as a mission, and to become a parish church. Regulations required neophytes to be released from the padres' control, and mission lands and property to be distributed among them. Antagonism developed between Vallejo and church authorities as the mission buildings, no longer maintained by the neophyte labor force, gradually fell into disrepair. Some of the structures were occupied by settlers and by the Mexican military (until the barracks building was constructed). Within a few years, the main adobe church was abandoned. Roof tiles, adobe bricks, and other building materials were scavenged for use elsewhere. Meanwhile, the vast, fertile ranchos developed by the mission padres through the years passed very quickly from Native American hands to non-Indian families.

#### Secondary Theme -- One of Twenty-One Missions

The mission system in California began in 1769. Fifty-four years later, Mission San Francisco Solano was founded -- the last of twenty-one established in California. A comparison of missions along the chain will provide some recognition of Mission San Francisco Solano's uniqueness, as well as its similarities to the other missions.

#### Secondary Theme: Sonoma's Religious Observances Continue

Despite secularization, Catholicism continued to be an important part of Sonoma life. After abandonment of the mission church, Vallejo directed construction of a new adobe church in 1841 (the present Chapel) on the site of the mission's first wooden chapel. The chapel was to continue to serve the religious needs of the community until the property was sold in 1881.

## The Casa Grande Site and Servants' Quarters

### Interpretive Approach

Interpretation for the Casa Grande site and the Servants' Quarters will help visitors to envision the historic appearance of the plaza, and, in particular, Vallejo's home (no longer standing), which dominated the town during its early years. The building served a dual role as headquarters for the Mexican military in northern California and as a residence for the Vallejo family. Interpretation will look at the family and beyond, to the lives of Native Americans serving the household. This should provide a broader understanding of people and life in Mexican-dominated California.

Themes for the Casa Grande site and the Servants' Quarters are listed below:

### Primary Themes:

A Residence and Headquarters for the Military Commander of the Northern Frontier

Vallejo's "Small Army of Employees"

### Expanded Theme Statements

The interpretive themes for the Casa Grande site and the Servants' Quarters are further amplified below:

#### Primary Theme -- A Residence and Headquarters for the Military Commander of the Northern Frontier

Vallejo's appointment as commander of the Mexican military forces made him one of the most powerful men in California. The large, two-story adobe building he constructed in 1836 reflected his position in the community. Interpretation will focus on the site of this building that once dominated the plaza, and served as both a residence for the Vallejo family and headquarters for the Mexican military. For many years, the three-story sentinel tower Vallejo built on the southwest wall of his home, with a commanding view of the countryside, was an integral part of Sonoma's defense system. Edwin Bryant, a guest of Vallejo during the Gold Rush, commented that "The interior of his house presented a different appearance from any house occupied by native Californians which I have entered since I have been in the country. Every apartment, even the main entrance hall and corridors, were scrupulously clean, and presented an air of comfort which I have not elsewhere seen in California."

#### Primary Theme -- Vallejo's "Small Army of Employees"

Native American laborers were widely used by Mexican households in the fields as vaqueros, in the manufacture of goods, and as servants. Many of these laborers were captured during raids on Native American villages, a practice begun during the mission years which continued well after secularization. Although Vallejo attempted to prevent many of these expeditions, he, too, employed many Native Americans. Visiting Sonoma in 1844, Dr. Manuel Torrez of Peru remarked on the "small army of employees" who worked for the Vallejo family. Francisca Benicia Vallejo explained to Dr. Torrez that each of her children had a personal attendant, "while I have two for my own needs..."

She noted that four or five of the Native Americans ground corn for tortillas, six or seven served in the kitchen, five or six were always washing clothes, and nearly a dozen were employed at sewing and spinning. Many more worked outside the household on the vast Vallejo landholdings. The attitude of Mexican employers to Native American servants was very paternalistic. Senora Vallejo related that "All of our servants are very attached to us. They do not ask for money, nor do they have a fixed wage. We give them all they need. If they are ill, we care for them like members of the family. If they have children, we stand as godparents, and see to their education."

### Sonoma Barracks

#### Interpretive Approach

Originally constructed to house Mexican troops, the Sonoma Barracks, along with the Casa Grande, became a symbol to the community of Mexico's domination over northern California. Guided by Vallejo, the administrator in charge of secularization, the Mexican military played a dynamic role in the defense of the northern frontier. Visitors will learn about the strategic importance of the settlement, its development, and the role the Mexican military played in maintaining order in the region, despite inadequate support from the government.

Interpretation in the barracks will focus on Sonoma's military story, providing the necessary background for not only understanding the Mexican military perspective, but also the anxieties and differing perceptions shared by Americans and other foreign settlers in the region, which prompted the Bear Flag Revolt. The "Popular Movement," as it was called then, set the stage for the larger conflict between the United States and Mexico. Following the "Bears" occupation, the barracks continued in use, serving American troops during the Mexican-American War and the years that followed. With the departure of the military, the barracks building was adapted for other purposes.

The central location of the barracks makes it an ideal site for presenting an overview of Vallejo's life and his ability to adapt to changing economic, social, and political situations. Interpretation will place into perspective the units of Sonoma State Historic Park which relate to the history of this remarkable individual, thus encouraging greater visitation to these nearby sites.

Specific themes for the barracks building are listed as follows:

#### Primary Themes:

Establishing the Community of Sonoma

Maintaining Order on the Mexican Frontier

The Americans' "Popular Movement"

American Troops Take Charge

Mariano Vallejo: From Californio to Californian

## Secondary Theme:

### The Barracks Building's Identity Changes Through Time

## Expanded Theme Statements

The interpretive themes for the Sonoma Barracks are further developed below:

### Primary Theme -- Establishing the Community of Sonoma

The government of Mexico was eager to secure its foothold in northern California through settlement. Vallejo's appointment in 1834 as military administrator in charge of Mission San Francisco Solano's secularization brought rapid changes to the mission and the surrounding area. In addition to distributing land, farm implements, domestic animals, and seeds from the mission stores, Vallejo was given the authority by the Mexican government to establish a town. He proceeded to survey nearby acreage, and to designate the lots, streets, and plaza which would become the city of Sonoma. Vallejo granted municipal lots to families, and was quite persuasive in promoting the settlement of Sonoma to his friends and relatives. Several soldiers under his command also strengthened the colonizing effort by settling on land grants set aside by the government as compensation for their services. As pay was low (sometimes nonexistent) and expenses high, many soldiers and their families worked for nearby rancheros, farmed, or did blacksmithing and carpentry, further ensuring the survival of the pueblo.

### Primary Theme -- Maintaining Order on the Mexican Frontier

The Mexican military played an important role in the early settlement of Sonoma. It was charged with the responsibility of quelling Native American uprisings, defending against foreign invasions, and maintaining order at the mission and in civilian settlements. Despite the Mexican government's neglect of the presidial system, Vallejo, as commander of the military forces, was able to devise several strategies for upholding order in a land where Mexican settlers were greatly outnumbered by often hostile native peoples. Through his association and alliances with Native Americans like Francisco Solano, and his recruitment of them for military service, he maintained control of the region. Ostensibly, the troops served the government, but very often, Vallejo employed them for his own needs, while providing for their support out of his own pocket.

The barracks, built under Vallejo's direction in the early 1840s, will be interpreted as the principal garrison for the military in the region, serving as a base of operations and providing shelter for the troops, as well as storage for armaments and supplies. The day-to-day life of a soldier in the Mexican army will be part of the interpretation. With the disbanding of the presidial company in the fall of 1844 and the reliance on an all-volunteer local militia to keep the peace, the barracks became an arsenal for the community. Among the military equipment stored here were "nine small old brass (and iron) cannon, most unserviceable, and some two hundred muskets, shopworn and out of repair, with a small quantity of ammunition, too old to be of much account" (Stammerjohan, 1975:41).



### Primary Theme -- The Americans' "Popular Movement"

Interpretation will incorporate the diverse perceptions of the people involved in the events which led to the Bear Flag Revolt. Many Californios resented the lack of support given by the Mexican government. During the years 1843-45, increasing numbers of foreigners, particularly Americans, settled in northern California. Concerned about reports of further American immigration, Jose Castro issued a proclamation April 30, 1846, stating: "that the purchase or acquisition of land by foreigners who had not become naturalized as Mexicans will be null and void, and they will be subject (if they do not retire voluntarily from the country) to be expelled whenever the country may find it convenient."

Americans and other foreigners in the Sonoma area, anxious about their tenuous position in California and the contradictory policies of the Mexican government, and believing in "Manifest Destiny," took action. Anticipating a war between the United States and Mexico, more than thirty foreigners organized, then easily captured Vallejo, his aides, and the barracks building, symbol of Mexican domination over northern California. A flag, depicting a grizzly bear and a star of independence, was quickly assembled, and hoisted to proclaim the independent republic.

After some internal dissention among the "Bears," the prisoners were taken to Sutter's Fort by those supporting California's annexation by the United States. The remaining "Bears," who preferred an independent republic, stayed, taking possession of the barracks as their military and governmental headquarters. The "Popular Movement" officially ended three weeks later, with word that the United States had declared war with Mexico. The American flag was raised at Sonoma July 7, 1846.

### Primary Theme -- American Troops Take Charge

Many of the former "Bears" continued their fight after the revolt, joining with John C. Fremont's men to form the California Battalion, which served throughout California in the armed conflict against Mexico. Interpretation will encompass the parade of American military commands which occupied the Sonoma Barracks at various times for the next six years. During the war with Mexico and in the years afterward, American forces continued, as the Mexican military before them, to engage hostile Native Americans, who resisted foreign settlement. The discovery of gold, and the subsequent "rush" that followed, disrupted all military establishments in California, and Sonoma was no exception. By 1852, all the troops had been ordered to new fronts in northern California and Oregon, and Sonoma lost its military population. The Americans, however, continued to use the barracks as a supply depot until August 1853.

### Primary Theme -- Mariano G. Vallejo: From Californio to Californian

Born in Monterey in 1808, Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo began his life like many upper class Californios, rising rapidly to assume positions of authority, responsibility, and respect. Interpretation will take the form of an overview of his unique life, and his remarkable ability to adapt to the awkward and difficult economic, social, and political situations which occurred with the

transition from Mexican to American culture. Interpretation will encompass Vallejo's early military career, as well as the political forces that brought him to Sonoma and established his position in the state and in the community. Vallejo was able to maintain prestige and respect despite constant intrigue and revolutionary upheaval in California, although new American aggressiveness greatly reduced his landholdings. In 1849, Vallejo served as a delegate to California's constitutional convention, and he was elected to the first state senate in 1850. Interpretation will encompass the various sites and buildings, now part of the State Park System, which reflect his changing personal fortune, and which demonstrate his ability to accept and adapt to different ideas and social situations while foreseeing new directions for himself as a Californian.

#### Secondary Theme -- The Barracks Building's Identity Changes Through Time

The barracks building was very quickly adapted for other uses after the troops were gone. Alexander J. Cox opened a newspaper office there from 1852 to 1855, and published the Sonoma Bulletin. Shortly thereafter, Vallejo established a winery in the building. His winemaking business peaked in the early 1860s. In 1862, he leased his winemaking apparatus at the barracks to Dr. Victor Faure for a five-year period, for \$50 a month. However, he retained the privilege to use the wine machinery, and to store wine in the cellar. Other parts of the building were leased by Vallejo in 1865 as a residence for the Aguillon family. In 1872, he allowed his two sons, Uladislao and Napoleon, to lease part of the building for one quarter of the net profits of their winemaking operation. The two brothers gave up their business in 1873. Part of the barracks was rented by a Mr. Newman in 1877, for experiments with silk worms. Beset by financial reversals and seeing his vineyards destroyed by the vine louse, Phylloxera, Vallejo sold the barracks to Solomon Shocken June 15, 1879. Shocken remodeled the Mexican adobe into a fanciful Victorian structure, adorned with a cupola. Thus transformed, it became a store, merchandising agricultural implements and groceries. It also held apartments. The building retained its Victorian dressing well into the 1930s, when it was purchased and refurbished by Walter and Celeste Murphy. The State of California subsequently acquired it in 1957, rehabilitated it, and adapted it for use as a museum.

#### Blue Wing Hotel

##### Interpretive Approach

While the origins of the Blue Wing Hotel have been lost in time, the years 1849 to 1856 mark a period of prominence for the building and Sonoma with establishment of a hotel -- one of the very earliest in the region. Interpretation will be directed toward the activities which made it a popular gathering place for travelers and local people. Its architecture, a reflection of the evolution of its use, will also be a focus for interpretation. In this way, visitors, armed with a knowledge of historic building details, will develop a greater appreciation and respect for architecture as an expression of history.

Themes for the Blue Wing Hotel are listed below:

Primary Themes:

The Blue Wing Hotel -- An Oasis of Rest and Refreshment

Reading the Architectural Record of an Adobe

Expanded Theme Statements

The interpretive themes are further defined as follows:

Primary Theme -- The Blue Wing Hotel -- An Oasis of Rest and Refreshment

One of the earliest hotels and public houses north of San Francisco was the Blue Wing Hotel. Its first-floor saloon, gambling, and dining rooms were popular with the local community, as well as with weary travelers. Ralph Cross, in his Early Inns of California, described the gambling rooms as being:

"...strategically located between the bar and the dining room, so that the gamblers would not have to waste valuable time in going too far afield to drink and eat. This department of the hotel was equipped with square deal tables, about the size of modern card tables, and two settees stood against the walls for the accommodation of onlookers (if there were any), or for the refreshment of such of the gambling fraternity as might have been temporarily overcome by their labors. The saloon seems also to have been the hotel's office, and in addition to the customary rough and ready drinking paraphernalia of those days it contained a pair of gold scales and a small iron strong box..."

Miners, American military officers, and passengers from Sonoma stagecoaches, including the young actress, Lotta Crabtree, found rest and refreshment in the hotel rooms upstairs. James C. Cooper operated the Blue Wing as a hotel and public house until 1856, when he sold it. Interpretation will enable visitors to envision the bustle of life which once permeated the building, and the activities which made it a popular gathering place for the Sonoma community.

Primary Theme -- Reading the Architectural Record of an Adobe

In today's world of plastic, prefabricated panels and extruded aluminum and steel construction, it is difficult to imagine creating a hand-made building, using no power tools. While the original date of construction of the Blue Wing Hotel has been forgotten, several of its hand-hewn door lintels and cut stone foundations, typical of Mission-period architecture, suggest a construction date as early as the mid-1830s. Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the structure is the physical record it has retained of alterations made by different owners, adapting and modernizing it through time. Interpretation will focus on various architectural building details of the old adobe, in order to provide visitors the opportunity of learning more about the evolution of this historic structure and other, similar adobe buildings.

## Lachryma Montis

### Interpretive Approach

The bucolic, Victorian landscape of Vallejo's family home, Lachryma Montis, subtly draws visitors backward in time. The goal of interpretation here will be to continue to preserve and enhance this sense of the past, as well as to provide visitors a better understanding of how the Vallejo family's lives were affected by California's transfer from Mexico to the United States. The public will see the buildings and grounds as a reflection of the Americanization undergone by Vallejo, as well as a demonstration of his openness to new ideas. Once a military officer in the Mexican army, he became a leader in the Sonoma community, and periodically assumed elective office. The gardens, fields, and associated farm buildings will interpret Vallejo's diverse horticultural pursuits and related commercial ventures. This was a man whose vision of California's future in agriculture was of "green gold." Stepping inside the house and other structures, visitors will catch a glimpse of the large Vallejo family, and its 19th-century lifestyle. The family's financial troubles will also be interpreted, along with the bitter legal battles Vallejo waged to keep his rancho properties.

Themes for Lachryma Montis are listed below:

#### Primary Themes:

The Americanization of Mariano Vallejo

Vallejo Cultivates California's "Green Gold"

The Struggle to Keep an Empire

The Vallejo Family Circle

#### Secondary Themes:

The Soldier Turns Politician

"Mountain Tears" for Sale

#### Expanded Theme Statements

The interpretive themes of Lachryma Montis are further developed below:

#### Primary Theme -- The Americanization of Mariano Vallejo

In November 1849, Vallejo began purchasing property near an artesian spring Native Americans called Chiucuyem. Vallejo translated the words meaning "Mountain Tears" to the Latin equivalent, Lachryma Montis. Here, he began to forge a new life for himself and his family, embracing new ideas, technologies, and living patterns introduced by Americans. The buildings and grounds of Lachryma Montis, which represent his transition from Mexican to American culture, will be a focus for interpretation.

As foremost citizens of Sonoma, Vallejo and his wife, Francisca, wanted a home for their large family that was both beautiful and practical. Their new American residence incorporated many American amenities. The home reflected their new lifestyle. The furnishings were eclectic, representing their Spanish and Mexican heritage, the China trade, and the styles popularized by Americans.

The fanciful Gothic revival residence which Vallejo erected was one of several structures, including a barn, hennery, bathhouse, and cottage, eventually constructed in that style. They demonstrate his inclination away from the austere adobe architecture of his past to building designs and landscapes popularized by Americans. The storehouse's unusual (chalet) style calls attention to Vallejo's eclecticism and openness to new ideas. The house and the Chalet were prefabricated, a method of construction probably introduced to California during the Gold Rush. The house also provides an example of Vallejo's ability to blend old technology with new. He had it insulated with adobe, a building material which had proven its practicality in California's climate.

#### Primary Theme -- Vallejo Cultivates California's "Green Gold"

Sometime while serving as administrator in charge of Mission San Francisco Solano's secularization, Vallejo realized the agricultural potential of the Sonoma's Mediterranean climate. Beginning with grain crops, fruits, and vegetables, which had proven successful at the mission, he developed vineyards, orchards, and gardens near the Casa Grande. His interest in horticulture grew, as did his belief in the future of agriculture in California.

While others mined for riches, Vallejo recognized the abundance of "green gold" that could be harvested from California soil. On moving to Lachryma Montis, he found the land surrounding the spring ideal for propagating many varieties of trees, shrubs, field crops, and ornamentals. Experimenting with Mediterranean-type crops, he planted: grapes, figs, olives, apricots, peaches, quince, pomelos, plums, apples, cherries, pomegranates, pears, nectarines, lemons, oranges, berries, wheat, barley, beans, and roses. His willingness to share knowledge and exchange nursery stock and cuttings secured his reputation as a respected horticulturist in California.

During the 1850s and early 1860s, Vallejo became a leader of California's fledgling wine industry. Encouraged by a growing population, he established more vineyards, and became one of the first commercial winemakers of the region. His wines and produce earned many premiums at state and local fairs. A friendship with another winemaker, Agostin Haraszthy, also promoted development of the industry in the state. In the 1870s, the vine louse, Phylloxera, devastated the vineyards of the region, as well as Vallejo's hopes for wine production.

Interpretation will focus on Vallejo's agricultural pursuits, and his commercial ventures related to horticulture. Lachryma Montis will be depicted as an operating mid-19th-century California farm. The crops, buildings, tools, technology, and activities appropriate for the period will be interpreted, along with the labor he employed to develop and maintain the farm, including Native American, Chinese, French, and Italian workers.

### Primary Theme -- The Struggle to Keep an Empire

The 1850s and 1860s were filled with financial reversals for the Vallejos. Businesses which had looked so promising in the early 1850s declined or failed, along with financial institutions. Vallejo's investments became liabilities. Despite the terms of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which guaranteed that "property of every kind" would be "inviolably respected," Californios very quickly learned that the burden for proving their land claims was on them, and not the United States government. Squatters settled on Vallejo acreage, and refused to recognize Vallejo property titles.

From the beginning, the land grants approved by the governments of Spain and Mexico were inadequately surveyed and documented. Confirmation of titles and boundary lines was bitterly contested by Americans, in court battles which lasted for years. The large legal fees required to confirm ownership eroded Vallejo's vast empire. Through time, Vallejo's control of several hundred thousand acres of land, including the Soscol, Suisun, and Petaluma land grants, slipped away. He was forced to sell large sections of these rancho properties to pay for the litigation.

Unlike his Mexican grants, Lachryma Montis was surveyed carefully; it was purchased one lot at a time, leaving no question about its title. The Vallejo family, while not destitute, resided here in a state considerably less grand, when compared to the wealth that once seemed secure within their grasp. Between taxes, legal fees, and the costs of improving Lachryma Montis and educating his children, Vallejo was hard-pressed financially. In 1881, he sold an easement to the Sonoma Valley Railroad, bisecting his property. At his death in 1890, the original 500 acres which once made up Lachryma Montis had dwindled considerably.

### Primary Theme -- The Vallejo Family Circle

Lachryma Montis became the center for family activities of the Vallejos. Francisca and Mariano Vallejo, like many Californios and Americans of the period, had a large family. Sixteen children were born of their marriage -- ten of whom survived childhood. Through marriage, the family network encompassed some of the most prominent families of early California, including the Carrillos, Lugos, Alvarados, Amestis, Leeses, Haraszthys, Coopers, and Fitches. Despite the long distances which often separated them, the Vallejos maintained close relationships. (Vallejo and his wife were quite successful in persuading several family members to settle nearby.) Those that did not live close by, or could not visit, corresponded. Vallejo wrote regularly to family and friends residing throughout California, from San Diego to San Francisco. Family gatherings filled the buildings of Lachryma Montis with noise and laughter. Interpretation of Vallejo's family members will bring the estate to life. Lachryma Montis will reflect the individuality and lifestyle of the occupants who made up the Vallejo family circle. It will also depict the servants employed to maintain the household, and the guests who periodically visited the home.

### Secondary Theme -- The Soldier Turns Politician

As a high-ranking soldier in service to the Mexican government, Vallejo was given the responsibility for administering the secularization of Mission San Francisco Solano. In this role, he commanded the authority and respect of the Sonoma community. Following the transfer of government to the Americans in 1846, Vallejo continued to hold a special position of leadership and respect, supported by the people of the region. He was one of several delegates chosen to represent the Sonoma District at the 1849 Constitutional Convention in Monterey. His political life included a term as state senator in the first legislature of California, election to the Sonoma City Council, and a term as Mayor of Sonoma.

### Secondary Theme -- "Mountain Tears" for Sale

The spring of Lachryma Montis from which the estate derived its name, "Tears of the Mountain," produced an abundance of water -- 6,000 gallons an hour -- more than enough to supply the estate. In 1873, Vallejo and his wife, pressed for money, entered an agreement with two partners to supply the citizens of Sonoma, who had no wells, with water. Redwood pipes were installed, and carried the water from the pond to the community, providing a small, regular income to the Vallejos.

## Toscano Hotel Complex

### Interpretive Approach

The random-width, rough-sawn planks, and narrow bar and muntin window details of the main Toscano Hotel building provide strong evidence for a construction date in the 1850s. Although it will be interpreted as an interesting example of vernacular architecture, the major focus for the building's interpretation will be on its use as a hotel, and the people who stayed there. The hotel business occupied the main building and others nearby from 1877 to 1955. Beginning in 1886, Settimo Ciucci and Leonido Quatorolie, taking over proprietorship of the Eureka Hotel, provided room and board for a growing Italian immigrant population. The hotel became a focus for Italian culture, and a gateway for gradual assimilation into American society. In a sense, the Toscano Hotel represents a microcosm of what was happening nationally. Interpretation will examine the reasons for the influx of Italians at the turn of the century, their lives at the hotel, the changes they had to undergo in America, and their contributions to the Sonoma region and California.

Other immigrant populations in Sonoma who have affected the growth and development of northern California will also be interpreted. The Toscano provides an excellent site for this. While it has accommodated many people in its hotel rooms through the years, its property history reflects the growth and changes in the community, including its early use as a store and its transformation to a hotel, and the changing ownership or leases by individuals of Mexican, American, German, Scot, Irish, and Italian descent.

Themes for the Toscano Hotel Complex are listed as follows:

Primary Themes:

The Toscano Mirrors Sonoma's Changing Population

The Hotel Becomes Home for Italian Immigrants

Italian Immigrants Struggle to Establish New Roots

The Ciucci Family - At Home in a Hotel

Secondary Theme:

A Vernacular Building, Though Altered, Survives the Test of Time

Expanded Theme Statements

The interpretive themes are further developed below:

Primary Theme -- The Toscano Mirrors Sonoma's Changing Population

Evolution and development of the Sonoma region is mirrored in the history of the people who have called the property and buildings comprising the Toscano home. Interpretation will follow the progression of people using the land, from Native American to Italian-American, including Mexican, American, German, Scot, Irish, and Italian. Each has made a lasting contribution to the history of the community, and to development of the region. The Chinese, who provided important labor for Sonoma's early industries and lived nearby, will also be included in the interpretation, although there is no evidence at this time to suggest that they lived at the Toscano.

Interpretation will look at the changing uses of the Toscano property as a reflection of the transformation of the community and its population. Through the years, the buildings evolved, meeting the community's needs as a store and lending library, a modest resort hotel, a temperance hotel, and lodging for working men and immigrants. In essence, the property has captured the early history of the town as it changed; it was variously an outpost on the Mexican frontier, a center of commercial and social activity, a destination for travelers reinforced by railroad advertising, and a gateway for immigrants eager to work for the good life.

Primary Theme -- The Hotel Becomes Home for Italian Immigrants

Taking over the proprietorship of the Eureka Hotel in 1886, Settimo Ciucci and Leonido Quatorolie called their enterprise the "Tuscano Hotel." Translated, Tuscano means a man from Tuscany (a northern Italian region). A true Tuscan was a descendent of ancient Roman aristocracy. The name appealed to Italian people because it implied the best accommodations. Between the years 1899 and 1914, 70 percent of all Italian immigrants were from the northern regions of Italy (Cinell, 1982:21). It can be assumed that the clientele during the hotel's early years was largely of Italian extraction. Italian men were probably the principal tenants. Many came here alone, without families. They expected their stay in America to be short, until they had saved a sizable nest egg from their earnings in the United States, at which time they would return to their family and friends in Italy.



Despite its name, the hotel was a modest undertaking. (A night's lodging and three meals were advertised for \$1 in 1906.) The main building was simply furnished. Its tenants were not wealthy, and neither were the Ciuccis, who gained title to the property in 1898. By the turn of the century, the hotel had begun to show wear from fifty years of use. Through time, the Ciuccis gradually modified and tried to upgrade the structure. They added new interior walls, changed the balcony, built sheds and barns, constructed a new building for a dining room and kitchen, and moved and raised a one-story frame structure nearby to serve as a hotel annex.

The hotel became home to immigrant working men and some families. It was a comfortable place where they could speak the same language, break bread together, share their American experiences, and provide support for each other in this foreign land. It was a nonthreatening environment, in which old ideas and traditions could be compared with those of America. Interpretation will depict the lifestyle of the Italian immigrants residing at the hotel. Where possible, it will highlight traditional elements of their former lifestyles, which were brought with them. It will also provide visitors an understanding of how their lives were altered as a result of their experience here.

#### Primary Theme -- Italian Immigrants Struggle to Establish New Roots

Italian migration, although rare in the 1870s, increased dramatically in the late 1800s, reaching mass proportions in the 1890s and early 1900s. Emigrants were driven to break with their Italian past to escape impoverishment, and were lured to the United States by the economic opportunities it seemed to offer. California was promoted in Italian and American literature as another Italy, having the identical climate, landscape, and working conditions. In the early years, most Italian immigrants considered their stay in the United States to be only temporary. Their general desire was to accumulate savings, then return to Italy.

Immigration proved to be a traumatic experience for most. Separated from home and family, immigrants had to cope with language and cultural differences which were often hard barriers to overcome. Many experienced discrimination. Small Italian enclaves developed in urban areas, like the Toscano Hotel in Sonoma, where common traditions and language could be shared. The available work was quite often strenuous. Hewing rock in the stone quarries near Sonoma demanded strong laborers, as did California's developing agricultural industries. Interpretation will examine the kinds of work available to people of Italian descent, which contributed to the growth and development of the Sonoma region and California.

Life in America progressively changed the goals of Italians, along with their perceptions of the United States. Many realized that they could break out of their poverty by permanently settling in America. They often sent home passage to the United States for relatives and friends, causing a chain migration from particular areas in Italy. For every immigrant, the painful process of assimilation began anew, as each struggled to establish new roots in the American soil.

### Primary Theme -- The Ciucci Family - At Home in a Hotel

Like many motel managers today, the Ciucci family resided in the hotel they managed. Their life revolved around the Toscano, orchestrating the use of space and the lives of its residents. Their Italian background was an asset in creating an environment that was comfortable yet affordable for Italian immigrants. They provided a sense of continuity with the newcomers' past, and a kind of psychological support for their present endeavors. Everyday operation of the hotel, its dining hours, and the social activities in its parlor created a satisfactory rhythm enjoyed by the people of the hotel.

Interpretation will present the Ciucci family's life in the hotel -- the public and the private spaces they called home. It will reflect the individual family members who resided here, and their roles in operation of the hotel.

### Secondary Theme -- A Vernacular Building, Though Altered, Survives the Test of Time

One of the most appealing things about the principal building of the Toscano Hotel is its apparent age and history of construction. Rehabilitation work performed in the 1960s revealed the building's original rough-sawn, random plank siding, single-wall construction, and other early building details typical of California in the 1850s. Apparently developed by individuals using available local materials, with rudimentary knowledge of architectural styles and building techniques, it could be defined using today's terminology as a vernacular structure. At one time, the building was much smaller, and had a gable roof. A shed addition, probably constructed in the mid-1850s, enlarged the structure to nearly twice its original size. Later, a new roof built to cover the entire building gave it the look of a "Saltbox."

In the 1960s, rehabilitation work was directed toward returning the building to its older Eureka Hotel appearance. This meant tearing out all of the vertical tongue-and-groove interior walls constructed during the Toscano Hotel's later years. (In the process, some earlier building details were inadvertently removed as well.) Also, the enlarged, stepped balcony created in the mid-1890s was replaced with one resembling the building's earlier period. At the project's end, the structure appeared as the Eureka Hotel, through its early years of transition to the Toscano Hotel.

Despite alterations throughout its history, the building has withstood the test of time. Interpretation will examine the evolution of the structure, highlighting architectural details still present which demonstrate its age, historic building techniques, and the changes it has undergone.

### Park Visitors and Their Needs

Sonoma State Historic Park has enjoyed consistently good visitation since its formation. Users have often been attracted to the park because of good local, statewide, and national media coverage, encouraging visitation. Most visitors to the park arrive by car, coming from within a radius of 150 miles. Many are casual drop-in visitors, traveling through Sonoma en route to other destinations.

The types of visitors and the amount of visitation to this unit are affected by the seasons, as well as by the day of the week. In general, during the week, organized school groups, bus tours, older tourists, and guests of local residents visit the sites, while on weekends, out-of-town families predominate. During special weekend events, local families also make use of the park. School groups make most of their visits to the unit in the spring and fall. Family groups use the park most often in the summer months. The lax period is in the rainy winter months.

Visitation differs markedly between sub-units. Mission San Francisco Solano has an active Environmental Studies Program\* for school children. Other visitation to Sonoma State Historic Park is more casual, undoubtedly due to its location near a commercial center. Of the Sonoma State Historic Park sub-units, the mission and Lachryma Montis garner the highest visitation.

The time spent by visitors at each sub-unit is relatively short, with the exception of organized school tours. In general, more time is spent at a particular sub-unit when there is a special activity, tour, or demonstration to see or participate in. Most use of the park is limited to the daylight hours. Vandalism and theft have been a problem in the unit.

At the present time, most park visitors have no clear understanding of the variety and extent of the state park resources in the area. Many do not choose to purchase the park brochure. Consequently, there is a need for better orientation for park users at Sonoma State Historic Park.

Access to the historic sites is also a particular problem for many disabled persons. There are no equivalent forms of interpretation for the upstairs rooms available for disabled park users. Most of the unit predates present-day concerns for access. Nevertheless, it should be retrofitted, or the department should provide disabled visitors access to the interpretive information in a different form.

A number of foreign-speaking people visit the park throughout the year. The department should take a survey of these tourists to determine if there is a need for brochures in other languages to promote better understanding of the park and its history. Docents fluent in foreign languages could also be trained to assist them.

In order to encourage return visits of local residents, and to dispel the "I've already been there" attitude of many, more special activities should be scheduled, like the Valley of the Moon Vintage Festival, which is organized for a three-day period in the fall. These would provide changing experiences for local residents, which could give them the opportunity to see the park from new perspectives. These programs might include evening tours, living history programs, workshops in which people learn about mission-related crafts or Mexican or Italian cooking, or seminars on California history or architecture. There are many possibilities.

---

\*As defined here, an environmental studies program is an educational, experiential program, often involving role-playing. While similar to the format of the department's environmental living program, it does not involve students in a 24-hour, overnight camping experience.

## Environmental Influences

There are a number of environmental factors which influence interpretation and visitors' perceptions of Sonoma State Historic Park. Mission San Francisco Solano, the Sonoma Barracks, and the site of the Casa Grande are no longer situated in their original open, rural environment. Sonoma has grown, and its urban development has gradually enveloped these historic sites. Spain Street passes nearby all of the Sonoma SHP sub-units, and carries a considerable amount of traffic and noise. Interpretation should try to relate park visitors to the historic setting of each of these sites, encouraging them to focus on the park, and not on the busy, urban streetscape.

At Mission San Francisco Solano, a modern wall enclosing the mission compound creates a false impression of its original size. Reconstructed walls aligned more closely with historic ones (on state-owned property) would provide visitors a much better understanding of the original space. In addition, reconstruction of the tile walkways and adobe buildings in the compound would convey more information about use of that space, resulting in better interpretation. The fountain in the courtyard, while aesthetically pleasing, does not represent the Mission period, and should be replaced with something more historically correct.

The concrete walkways in front of the Sonoma Barracks, and the hard surface floors within, do not give visitors an understanding of the building's historic character. The front of the building and the ground floor were originally dirt. Decomposed granite or another hard surface resembling packed earth could be laid over the concrete floor surfaces to create a more accurate historic environment. The corral and other features in the barracks' yard give a false impression of its historic appearance as well. These should be studied and corrected.

Continuous use of the Blue Wing Hotel is probably responsible for preservation of the structure. However, modernization and use of the building have altered it through the years. Before any changes are made or recommended, a careful study of the structure will have to be made. If a historic structures report recommends that the building reflect later changes as part of its flow of history, interpretation will have to work within the given environment, drawing visitors' attention away from later alterations, and directing it toward its use during the primary interpretive period.

At Lachryma Montis, the setback from the street allows visitors a visual break from modern Sonoma, and the opportunity to mentally step backward in time. It is impossible, however, to imagine this place as a working farm. The nearby fields are not planted in orchards, vineyards, or field crops, as they were in Vallejo's day. Both the nearby parking lot and the corporation yard are intrusive, and have a negative impact on the historic setting and adjacent historic structures. It would be better to move them some distance away. Moreover, other buildings associated with a working farm -- like the barn -- need to be reconstructed, to accurately portray the historic appearance. Other structures, like the family home, kitchen, El Delirio, the Hermitage, the pond, and the trellis and benches around the pond, should be restored to their appearance under Vallejo's ownership. The bath house and shed addition on the Chalet also need to be reconstructed for the same reason. Restrooms adjacent to the Chalet interfere with the historic setting, and should be removed and incorporated in one or more of the reconstructed structures.

The complex of historic Toscano Hotel buildings represents an evolution of wooden building construction. Overzealous restoration work in the mid-1960s, however, accidentally removed several architectural features and details from the main structure, which have affected the building's historic integrity and interpretation. After careful study and research, these should be replaced. Also, restrooms located near the Toscano kitchen are not only a visual intrusion on the turn-of-the-century character of the complex, but they are inaccessible to disabled visitors. They should be relocated and made accessible.

### Interpretive Media and Facilities

The diverse historical and cultural resources of Sonoma State Historic Park lend themselves to a variety of interpretive media. The types of media and facilities proposed for the unit's historic buildings and sites are briefly outlined below. This information is followed by a matrix which summarizes and relates the types of interpretive media to the interpretive themes appropriate for each historic site or building.

#### Orientation

Orientation for Sonoma SHP will be through use of park brochures and conspicuous, free-standing panels. They will be placed at the site of the Casa Grande facing the plaza, at the parking lot behind the Casa Grande and the Toscano Hotel complex, and at the parking lot of Lachryma Montis. Each will indicate nearby state park properties open to the public. The existing orientation panel in front of the Toscano Hotel Annex will be removed and replaced with a larger, more informative panel. The present exhibit on adobe construction will be redirected and re-used for orientation purposes in the parking lot. Lachryma Montis will have a separate orientation panel, illustrating the interpretive buildings and grounds of the unit.

#### Mission San Francisco Solano

Interpretation of the period 1823 through 1846 for Mission San Francisco Solano will be dependent on accurate reconstruction and restoration of mission walls and several mission buildings, including rooms used historically for specific mission functions, and the courtyard. Ideally, there will be a mix of formal exhibits and house museum and environmental living spaces. All the mission themes previously outlined will be interpreted through formal exhibits. However, particular focus will be given to the self-sufficiency of the Mexican mission community, the pre- and post-contact Native American story, and secularization. These themes will be amplified with demonstrations, living history, environmental living, environmental studies, and guided tours. Some rooms will be specifically furnished with replicas for use of environmental living and living history programs. Different interpretive media will provide visitors varied learning experiences. Because several related mission sites are not located on state property, interpretive contact through guided tours and environmental studies will be important to further reinforce information about the mission's original size, configuration, and activities.

The adobe Chapel, a representative of one effect of secularization on the community, will provide a background for detailing the story of the changes the mission has undergone. Recorded music, typical of Catholic music during the years 1823 to 1846, will be played periodically, to enhance the Chapel's interpretive experience. Recreating typical historical activities from Mission San Francisco Solano's past, like the Blessing of the Grapes Ceremony and weddings, should be encouraged. These special events promote the park, and encourage return visitation by local and out-of-town tourists.

Interpretive facilities at the mission must have an adequate security system and fire protection, as well as environmental controls, proper lighting, and safety devices. These should be unobtrusive, with as little impact on the historic building fabric as possible. Overall interpretation will be guided by an interpretive plan which details the interpretive techniques and use of space, in concert with the previously described themes. House museum rooms will be directed by a furnishing plan. These rooms will be reviewed and reassessed on a regular basis, to ensure the continued accuracy of the interpretation.

#### The Casa Grande Site and the Servants' Quarters

The major challenge for interpreting Vallejo's Casa Grande will be to convey to the public an understanding of its previous prominence on the plaza. Where possible, the boundaries of the original structure will be marked and labeled. The first floor of the water tower building adjacent to the site will be made accessible to the disabled. Inside will be exhibits on the theme of the Casa Grande as a residence and headquarters for the military commander of the northern Mexican frontier. It is proposed that a model be constructed as part of these exhibits, to indicate, in three dimensions, the Casa Grande's historic relationship to the plaza and nearby structures. A security and fire protection system and appropriate lighting will be installed as part of the interpretive development. The upstairs of the water tower will not be used for interpretation.

An exterior sign will identify the Servants' Quarters for the public. In the building, the ground floor will be given a hard surface, resembling packed earth. Here, the theme "Vallejo's Small Army of Employees" will be interpreted through formal exhibits and house museum spaces. Appropriate lighting, environmental controls, and security and fire protection equipment necessary for the exhibits will be installed and kept inconspicuous. These interpretive necessities should not affect the historic fabric of the structure. An interpretive plan will guide development of the space. House museum areas will be directed by a furnishing plan, which will be reviewed on a regular schedule to ensure historic accuracy. Because of height restrictions and access problems, the upstairs rooms will not be used for interpretive purposes.

Outside the Servants' Quarters, periodic demonstrations of work activities typical of the Mexican era and Vallejo's employees could be given.

## The Sonoma Barracks

At the present time, people walking along the street in front of the Sonoma Barracks are not drawn within the imposing structure. In fact, the numbers of visitors here fall short of those at the nearby mission. Interpretive methods should be employed to remedy this situation. Attendants costumed in Mexican military attire could be stationed near the entrance. In addition, Mexican or American military artifacts of the period 1840 to 1853 (they should be replicas of heavy pieces of artillery, like cannon) could be placed in the breezeway, to entice visitors to enter. These would add interest, and bring the barracks building back to life.

A new interpretive plan, based on the major themes outlined earlier, will direct interpretive development. A variety of media, including formal exhibits, house museum spaces, personal contact, audio-visual programs, living history, environmental studies, and demonstrations, will be used for interpretation. House museum areas will be guided by a furnishing plan, which will be reviewed on a regular schedule to ensure historic accuracy. Appropriate lighting, environmental controls, fire protection, and security necessary for the exhibits must be installed as part of any interpretive development, without doing damage to the historic building fabric.

Exhibits now located on the first floor will be modified, removed, or replaced with other exhibits and house museum settings. They will reflect the themes about the founding of Sonoma, the role of the Mexican military in the Sonoma region, the Bear Flag Revolt, and American military use of the barracks. The pre- and post-contact Native American story will be removed from the barracks, and told at Mission San Francisco Solano.

In the existing theater, an audio-visual program will provide visitors an overview of Vallejo's transition from Californio to Californian, and his relationship to nearby state park units. Another audio-visual program to be developed will be on the various uses, adaptations, and changes undergone by the barracks through the years, including its use as a winery. The existing program on the building's restoration should continue to be shown, along with other programs relevant to the themes.

Because of limited access to the upstairs, interpretation will be restricted to an amplification of the themes already expressed on the first floor. The two upstairs rooms facing the plaza should be developed for use by living history and environmental studies programs, depicting the Mexican or American military during the interpretive period. The programs should be video taped and shown on request in the small theater for those unable to climb the stairs and see the interpretive programs. When not in use, these rooms could be opened for the public to see first-hand barracks environments representative of the interpretive period. The remaining rooms may continue to be used for a library/archives, offices, and meetings. Interpretive space should not be occupied by storage. This function should be moved elsewhere.

The yard behind the barracks will be given the appearance of a staging area for military operations. The interpretive plan will emphasize redevelopment of this space, in concert with the prime period.

## Blue Wing Hotel

After a thorough architectural and historical study and report on the building, an interpretive/furnishing plan, blending historic details with modern needs, will be developed for the Blue Wing Hotel and its landscaping. The building could be operated as an interpretive concession, highlighting its historic activities as "An Oasis of Rest and Refreshment." Ground-floor activities will resemble those which occurred in the building during the years 1849-1856. Other forms of interpretation will include brief exhibits about its history and architecture, and guided tours. An interpretive pamphlet will be developed about the historic hotel and its architecture, in conjunction with any concession activities. Appropriate lighting, security devices, and fire protection must be part of the development. All development in the building will be guided by the recommendations in the historic structures report.

## Lachryma Montis

The historic buildings of Lachryma Montis will be used to interpret the themes previously proposed. Several structures will be restored or reconstructed for this purpose, while others may be developed to camouflage modern services, such as restrooms. The structures include: the family home, the kitchen, El Delirio, the hennery, the Hermitage, the barn, the carriage shed, the bath house, the pond, and the trellis and benches around the pond. House museum spaces will be developed in many of these structures, although some formal exhibits will also interpret the themes.

An interpretive plan will guide overall interpretive development for the sub-unit, while specific furnishing plans for each building will dictate room finishes and artifact selection and arrangement, assuring that objects exhibited support the themes and are not historically accurate, and are not just displayed because they are old. House museum spaces will be reviewed and reassessed on a regular schedule, to preserve the accuracy of interpretation. Appropriate lighting, security devices, fire protection, and environmental controls (wherever possible) must be part of the development, and shall be installed as unobtrusively as possible, without doing damage to the historic fabric of the structures.

Other interpretive media to be used include identification signs, a brochure, guided tours, demonstrations, living history, and environmental studies programs. An interpretive album of the facilities inaccessible to disabled visitors will also be provided. Whenever possible, park personnel should be dressed in historic garments representative of the interpretive period and Vallejo's activities. Costumed as farm hands, servants, or Vallejo family members, park attendants would add life to the sub-unit. The department should develop a "closet" of authentic replica clothing and artifacts of the interpretive period, to support the interpretive programs.

Orchards, fields, and gardens surrounding the home will be replanted with historic varieties propagated by Vallejo. A portion of the planted areas will be developed as an arboretum to acquaint visitors with the historic varieties. Historic farm equipment appropriate to the interpretive period should be displayed and historic farming techniques demonstrated, as a regular part of the interpretive experience for visitors. In addition, an



interpretive concession may be developed in the Gothic barn to give visitors the opportunity to purchase nursery stock or products Vallejo generated at Lachryma Montis.

### Toscana Hotel Complex

Interpretation will take several forms in the Toscana Hotel Complex. The main structure facing the plaza will remain basically a house museum, depicting a hotel for Italian immigrants and a home for the Ciucci family during the years 1886-c.1895. Next door, the ground floor of the hotel Annex will be made accessible to the disabled. Inside will be developed both formal exhibits and house museum rooms. Through formal exhibits, visitors will learn about Sonoma's changing population, evolution of the hotel, and Italian immigrants' struggle to establish new roots. House museum spaces will reflect immigrant life in the hotel between 1903 and 1910. An interpretive concession will operate the hotel kitchen and dining facility, bringing to life a building which was once a hub of activity for the hotel's operation. Other interpretive media to be employed will include guided tours, a brochure, demonstrations, lectures, and living history programs.

An interpretive plan will direct development of the hotel's interpretation. House museum spaces will be guided by a furnishing plan, which will focus on previously detailed interpretive themes. The house museum rooms will be reviewed and reassessed on a regular schedule, to maintain their historic accuracy. Appropriate lighting, environmental controls, and security and fire protection equipment must be installed, yet kept inconspicuous. They should have as little impact on the historic fabric of the structures as possible.

Because of access problems, the upstairs of the hotel Annex and kitchen will not be used for interpretive purposes. The main building's upstairs rooms will be photographed extensively, and interpreted in an album available for those unable to see the upstairs rooms.

### Interpretive Collections

State park interpretive collections used in exhibits, house museums, various interpretive programs, and research are now displayed and stored under inadequate conditions at Sonoma State Historic Park. Environmental controls, appropriate lighting, and better security and fire protection will remedy many of the problems of the artifacts used in interpretive programs. However, the park needs to have a collections facility, where objects can be properly cleaned, repaired, and preserved in a safe environment. Appropriate environmental controls, lighting, fire protection, and security are essential for creating this safe environment. A study identifying interpretive collections needs for Sonoma State Historic Park will be developed.

## INTERPRETIVE MEDIA AND FACILITIES

### INTERPRETIVE THEMES

	Identification Signs	Exhibits	Self Guided Tours Brochures	Arboretum	Personal Contacts	House Museums	Demonstrations	Envr. Lvg. History Envr. Studies	Audio Visual	Visitor Center	Interpretive Concessions
<b>SONOMA STATE HISTORIC PARK</b>											
<b>MISSION SAN FRANCISCO SOLANO</b>											
"Politics and the Founding of Mission San Francisco Solano"		▲									
"The Self-Sufficient Mission Community"	▲	▲	▲		▲	▲	▲	▲			
"The Changed World of the Neophyte"		▲	▲		▲						
"Secularization Causes the Sonoma Mission to Decline"		▲			▲	▲					
"One of Twenty-One Missions"		▲									
"Sonoma's Religious Observances Continue"		▲			▲	▲	▲	▲			
<b>THE CASA GRANDE SITE AND SERVANTS' QUARTERS</b>											
"A Residence and Headquarters for the Military Commander of the Northern Frontier"	▲	▲	▲								
"Vallejo's 'Small Army of Employees'"	▲	▲				▲	▲				
<b>SONOMA BARRACKS</b>											
"Establishing the Community of Sonoma"		▲			▲						
"Maintaining Order on the Mexican Frontier"	▲	▲			▲	▲	▲	▲	▲		
"The Americans' 'Popular Movement'"		▲			▲	▲	▲	▲	▲		
"American Troops Take Charge"		▲			▲	▲	▲	▲	▲		
"Mariano Vallejo: From Californio to Californian"					▲				▲		
"The Barracks Building's Identity Changes Through Time"		▲			▲				▲		
<b>BLUE WING HOTEL</b>											
"The Blue Wing Hotel -- An Oasis of Rest and Refreshment"	▲	▲	▲		▲	▲					
"Reading the Architectural Record of an Adobe"		▲	▲		▲						

## INTERPRETIVE MEDIA AND FACILITIES

### INTERPRETIVE THEMES

	Identification Signs	Exhibits	Self Guided Tours Brochures	Arboretum	Personal Contacts	House Museums	Demonstrations	Envr. Lvg. Lvg. History Envr. Studies	Audio Visual	Visitor Center	Interpretive Concessions
<b>SONOMA STATE HISTORIC PARK</b>											
<b>LACHRYMA MONTIS</b>											
"The Americanization of Mariano Vallejo"	▲	▲	▲		▲	▲	▲	▲			
"Vallejo Cultivates California's 'Green Gold'"	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲			▲
"The Struggle to Keep an Empire"		▲	▲		▲	▲	▲				
"The Vallejo Family Circle"		▲	▲		▲	▲	▲				
"The Soldier Turns Politician"		▲	▲		▲	▲					
"'Mountain Tears' for Sale"	▲	▲	▲		▲						
Orientation	▲	▲	▲								
<b>TOSCANO HOTEL COMPLEX</b>											
"The Toscano Mirrors Sonoma's Changing Population"		▲				▲					
"The Hotel Becomes Home for Italian Immigrants"		▲	▲		▲	▲	▲				▲
"Italian Immigrants Struggle to Establish New Roots"		▲			▲	▲					
"The Ciucci Family - At Home in a Hotel"	▲				▲	▲					
"A Vernacular Building, Though Altered, Survives the Test of Time"		▲	▲		▲						

### Research Considerations

Detailed research or completion of research (including archeological investigation, cultural, historical, architectural, and natural history research) must be undertaken in specific areas to properly carry out the interpretive proposals. These areas include:

The specific location and use of buildings and other structures at Mission San Francisco Solano.

The exact foundation lines of the Casa Grande.

Detailed information about the life of Native Americans serving Mexican families in early 19th-century California.

The historic use and appearance of the yard behind the Sonoma Barracks.

A historic structures report and chronology of architectural changes made to the Blue Wing Hotel.

Information about the historic furnishings of the Blue Wing Hotel.

Details of the Blue Wing Hotel's historic landscaping.

Evolution of building development and furnishings at Lachryma Montis.

Historic descriptions of the people residing and visiting Lachryma Montis in the interpretive period.

Varieties and locations of historic plantings at Lachryma Montis.

Detailed research on evolution of the Toscano Hotel buildings and their furnishings.

Historic structures reports on the Toscano Hotel buildings.

Information about the people who occupied the Toscano Hotel in the interpretive period.

Italian contributions to the Sonoma region and California.

A study of the interpretive collections' needs for Sonoma State Historic Park.

### Interpretive Priorities

Archeological investigation and cultural, historical, and architectural research should be performed before stabilization, restoration, and reconstruction occurs. After a comprehensive base of information for interpretive work has been compiled, the following list should serve as a guide for interpretive development priorities in the unit.

## SONOMA STATE HISTORIC PARK - Orientation

- Develop new orientation exhibits at the Casa Grande site, and revamp the existing exhibit structure in the parking lot behind the Casa Grande and the Toscano Hotel.
- Develop orientation exhibits at Lachryma Montis.
- Survey the need for foreign-language brochures at the unit.
- Prepare foreign-language brochures as needed.
- Continue to publish and update the brochure on Sonoma SHP.

## MISSION SAN FRANCISCO SOLANO

- Develop an interpretive plan for buildings and grounds.
- Develop furnishing plans.
- Reconstruct the historic mission wall enclosing the compound; restore and reconstruct mission buildings on state property in the compound.
- Restore the mission grounds and walkways.
- Produce house museums, formal exhibits, and identification panels.
- Develop guided tours, living history, and environmental studies programs for the redeveloped mission buildings and grounds.
- Produce a brochure.

## THE CASA GRANDE SITE AND SERVANTS' QUARTERS

- Identify and mark the boundaries of the Casa Grande
- Develop an interpretive plan for the Casa Grande and the Servants' Quarters.
- Produce exhibits on the Casa Grande for the first floor of the Water Tower.
- Develop a furnishing plan for the Servants' Quarters.
- Produce formal exhibits and develop house museum spaces in the Servants' Quarters.

## SONOMA BARRACKS

- Develop an interpretive plan for the building and grounds.
- Prepare furnishing plans.

- Produce or redevelop house museums and formal exhibits.
- Redevelop landscaping and structures behind the barracks to conform with the interpretive plan.
- Develop living history and environmental studies programs.
- Produce a video or slide program providing interpretation of the upstairs rooms.
- Produce audio-visual programs as directed by the interpretive plan.

#### BLUE WING HOTEL

- Develop an interpretive/furnishing plan for the building and grounds.
- Produce formal exhibits and identification signs.
- Develop an interpretive concession, as indicated by the interpretive plan and the Concessions Element.
- Develop guided tour programs.
- Publish a brochure on Blue Wing Hotel.

#### LACHRYMA MONTIS

- Stabilize existing structures.
- Develop an interpretive plan for buildings and grounds.
- Replant historic orchards, vineyards, and fields.
- Develop the arboretum.
- Develop furnishing plans.
- Restore existing structures.
- Redevelop house museums and formal exhibits in existing structures.
- Produce an interpretive album of facilities inaccessible to disabled visitors.
- Develop guided tours, living history, and environmental studies programs.
- Reconstruct historic buildings and structures, including: the Gothic barn, the Hennerly, the carriage shed, the bath house, the pond, trellises and benches around the pond, and other structures identified by the interpretive plan.

- Develop an interpretive concession as indicated in interpretive plan and the Concession Element.
- Produce formal exhibits and house museums in reconstructed buildings.
- Publish a brochure.

#### TOSCANO HOTEL COMPLEX

- Prepare an interpretive plan for buildings and grounds.
- Develop furnishing plans.
- Restore existing buildings according to historic structures reports.
- Develop house museums.
- Produce formal exhibits and identification signs.
- Produce an interpretive album of facilities inaccessible to disabled visitors.
- Redevelop guided tour programs according to the interpretive plan.
- Evaluate the existing interpretive concession, and suggest changes as needed.
- Develop a brochure.

## CONCESSIONS ELEMENT

Under legislation effective in September 1982, a concessions element is required in a general plan. The principal goal of this element is to encourage provision of concession facilities and appropriate services necessary for visitor use and enjoyment. The element consists of three phases: (1) a description of current concession activities, (2) appropriate concession policies and guidelines, and (3) new/additional visitor services and revenues.

### Description of Current Concessions Activities

Concession activity at the park now consists of small publications sales at the mission, and proposed spring water and agricultural products sales at Lachryma Montis. Guided tours are given by the Sonoma League for Historic Preservation at the Toscano Hotel's main buildings and the kitchen and dining room.

### Appropriate Concession Policies and Guidelines

The following are general statements of concession policies:

- Policy A: Ensure that concession developments are consistent with the purpose(s) for which the unit was established and classified, and in conformance with the General Plan for this unit.
- Policy B: Ensure that all concessions provide needed and appropriate visitor service at a fair and reasonable price to users; allow entrepreneurs an equitable profit; and ensure the State Park System of an adequate return.
- Policy C: Avoid duplication of visitor facilities or services that are adequately provided outside unit boundaries.
- Policy D: Allow for a wide variety of purposes and types of concessions.
- Policy E: Encourage private investors to fund and develop user facilities on a lease-purchase basis.
- Policy F: Solicit non-profit corporations to develop and operate user facilities, particularly when such facilities are provided in conjunction with restoring and interpreting historical units.
- Policy G: Evaluate potential concession services to determine whether such services are appropriate and will expand visitor enjoyment.

Appropriate concession activities are limited to:

1. Concessions that are interpretive or historic in nature, and that reflect the established primary periods;



2. Special events sponsored by non-profit associations to produce revenue for planned development, programs, and maintenance of the facility; and
3. Commercial/retail-type concessions, which consider:
  - a. planning and development guidelines (including compliance with historical and interpretive prime periods),
  - b. land use and development plans (including compliance with strict architectural and engineering requirements),
  - c. public needs (are the services and goods offered by nearby local business?),
  - d. compatibility with state development,
  - e. economic feasibility (benefits vs. costs to the state), and
  - f. plans showing --
    - (1) how proposed development relates to other development and the total environment,
    - (2) recreation needs, and
    - (3) conformity to state and local codes, laws, regulations, and ordinances.

#### New/Additional Visitor Services and Revenue

The concession's potential in the state historic park is considerably limited by the management principles established for historic preservation and interpretation. Consequently, all concession developments, programs, and services must be compatible with the unit classification and the General Plan provisions.

Interpretive use of the park and grounds is currently compatible with proposed improvements and the park's historical objectives. Interpretation can be aided by non-profit interpretive associations.

Specific commercial/retail proposals shall be handled on a case-by-case study, on submission of proposals to the department. It is not possible at this time to predict all the potential concession activities.

Currently, there is an interpretive concession contract with the Sonoma SHP Cooperating Association, for the tasting and sales of water, wine, and agricultural products related to the historic time period.

Feasibility analysis shall be conducted by the department's Operations Division and the Office of Economic and Fiscal Affairs, with compliance reviews by Resource Protection, Interpretive Services, Development, Acquisition, and Statewide Planning. Final approval will be given by the director of parks and recreation.

## OPERATIONS ELEMENT

The Operations Element is based on the Resource, Interpretive, Land Use and Facility, and Concessions Elements of the General Plan. It is a narrative and graphic delineation of the parameters within which the unit will be operated. It will serve as a guide for development of a unit operation plan that will best accomplish the unit's purpose, while properly managing and protecting its resources.

The purpose is to provide for public health, safety, and welfare, interpretive needs, protection of resources, and concessions.

Sonoma SHP is classified as, and will be operated as, a state historic park.

### Visitation

An extended visitor use season is experienced at Sonoma SHP, due to its mild climate, ready visitor access, and historic significance. The heavy visitor use season runs from March through October, and the light visitor use season runs from November through February. Visitor use patterns are very responsive to climatic changes, with heavy attendance possible in the dry season, during warm-weather periods. School groups visit the unit year-round, with especially heavy weekday attendance during April, May, and the first part of June.

### Maintenance

#### Description

The sub-units that comprise Sonoma SHP display and store a great number of historic artifacts. The district currently does not have adequate staff or storage space for these items. A small security room at the barracks is full, and the remaining artifacts are kept in one of the unused display rooms.

#### Proposal

Additional storage facilities need to be acquired, either by lease or construction, to properly store and maintain non-display and rotational display artifacts. The location for such facilities would ideally be at the relocated corporation yard and/or the district office.

#### Description

The district corporation yard, along with the regional yard, are currently located next to the Vallejo Home, and severely affect the historic scene. Vandalism and theft are a constant problem. The area is completely open to easy access, due to the closeness of the bike path.

#### Proposal

Relocate the corporation yard, and combine it with the district office. Two possibilities exist. Facilities could be constructed on existing department property. The second option is leasing facilities for a district office/shop complex. The location for such facilities should be somewhere in the general Sonoma/Glen Ellen area.

### Description

Small, inadequate, non-historic, non-disabled-accessible restrooms are located in the Toscano Hotel complex, and at the Vallejo Home.

### Proposal

Rebuild the Toscano Hotel complex restrooms in period design, or adapt an existing building (barn or hotel annex). Relocate the Vallejo Home restrooms in a reconstructed historic structure appropriate to the time period, such as the bath house. An additional site could be the Gothic-style Vallejo barn, when it is rebuilt.

## Law Enforcement

### Description

Sonoma SHP is located entirely within the Sonoma city limits. The Sonoma Police Department responds to and assists district ranger staff in handling both day and night enforcement problems. Police response time is 1-5 minutes. After-hours protection of the historic buildings and contents is provided by a variety of alarm systems.

Sonoma SHP does not have extensive enforcement problems. The six sub-units have experienced burglary, auto burglary, vandalism, and theft. During visiting hours, exhibit losses have occurred, and constant monitoring is necessary. Control iron grill work and glass screening devices are the only daytime protection, other than monitoring by unit personnel.

Current staffing allows for only daytime business hours operation of the Sonoma SHP sub-units. Daytime foot patrols of the grounds between the sub-units is handled on a problem call basis.

### Proposal

Provide additional staffing to handle fee collections and routine non-interpretive public contact. This would release existing ranger staff for daytime foot patrols, and would allow for random after-hours scheduling, to cut down on vandalism and other unauthorized after-hours activities.

### Description

Current alarm systems provide after-hours protection only, and no daytime protection of exhibits and artifacts. The age and type of these systems varies. Funding is difficult, making updating the systems nearly impossible.

### Proposal

Develop an electronic security plan to update and maintain alarms in all buildings. Addition of daytime exhibit and artifact security systems should be included in this plan.

### Description

Bicyclists and pedestrians walking to the Vallejo Home from Spain Street must walk along the same access road that is used by motor vehicles driving to and from the Vallejo Home parking lot.

### Proposal

Provide a separate hiking and biking path east of and parallel to the existing vehicle access road.

## Administrative Services

### Description

The district office and five employee residences are currently located in Sonoma SHP. The residences are adequate, and do not directly affect the historic scene. The district office is located in the Toscano Hotel Annex, in the Casa Grande area.

The current district office is crowded, and since it is in a historic building, cannot be expanded. District training and large meetings must be conducted at the Sonoma Barracks, in a currently unused display room.

### Proposal

Move the district office to a site suitable for district-wide operations. A plan should be developed to determine the location and feasibility of combining the district office with the district shop and corporation yard.

## Emergency Preparedness

### Description

Fire protection is provided by the City of Sonoma. Response time is 2-5 minutes, depending on which sub-unit is involved. None of the buildings have automatic fire control systems. Fire monitoring equipment is tied in with the intrusion alarms, and suffers the same shortcomings. (See law enforcement comments.)

No automatic fire control systems are built into any of the historic buildings.

### Proposal

Develop a fire detection and control plan for all major historic buildings, specifically looking into the feasibility of automatic fire control systems.

## Support Organizations

The Sonoma League for Historic Preservation provides funds and docents for the Toscano Hotel and the Toscano kitchen and dining room.

The Sonoma State Historic Park Association provides funds for interpretive efforts.

The General Vallejo Memorial Association has provided furnishings for the Vallejo Home.

The department would like to acknowledge and thank the many individuals and group volunteers and the City of Sonoma who have contributed towards preserving and interpreting the history of Sonoma State Historic Park.

The Sonoma State Historic Association began as an advisory group to the director in 1980, starting with 20 members. On completing their assigned task regarding the Blue Wing Inn, they converted into a Cooperating Association in December 1981. Today, they are highly involved in publication sales at Sonoma, providing money for the unit. They also provide the bread-baking demonstrations.

Another group called the Toscano Docents Committee for the Sonoma League for Historic Preservation is greatly involved with refurbishing and refurnishing the Toscano Hotel. This group is also responsible for the docent programs for public tours. Beginning in April 1973 with 25 people, this group now has about 60 members.

Another group called the General Vallejo Memorial Association was initiated before World War II, went inactive during the war, and then was reactivated in 1947 with approximately 45 members. Their major objective was to retrieve original furniture used by Vallejo. This group to date has returned 8 to 10 pieces of furniture, and has also paid for restoration and repairs on many other items, including restoring, repainting, and recarpteting the master bedroom at the Vallejo Home.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT

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

### Project Description

Proposed development and management objectives are described in the Resource Element, Land Use and Facilities Element, Interpretive Element, Concessions Element, and 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. The proposed plan is consistent with the City of Sonoma General Plan.

### Significant Environmental Effects of the Proposed Project

1. Traffic volumes, water consumption, fuel consumption, and waste production will increase, corresponding to the increase in visitation.
2. Cultural resources may be disturbed or lost in reconstruction, renovation, and stabilization of historic structures, and relocation of the administrative office, corporation yard, and parking lot at the Vallejo Home.
3. Noise levels will increase during construction of the relocated administrative and maintenance facilities. The impact is temporary. Use of farm equipment to maintain the orchard and vineyard at the Valljo Home will create periodic noise increases for nearby residences. These increases would be limited to normal workday hours.

### Unavoidable Significant Environmental Effects

1. Some historical features or resources may be lost when structures are reconstructed to the earlier historical period for interpretive purposes, or resources are disturbed in construction of new facilities.
2. Water consumption, fuel consumption, and waste production will increase, corresponding to the increase in visitation. However, visitation will increase regardless of implementation of the plan, as a result of increased demand for recreational facilities, and population growth.

### Proposed Mitigation Measures

Mitigation measures are identified in the Resource Element, in the policy statements.

### Alternatives to the Proposed Action

The "no project" alternative would continue operation of the unit in its present condition. Visitor use is projected to increase with increasing demand for recreational facilities, and population growth.

Other development, reduced development, or expanded development from that proposed in the General Plan is not precluded by adoption of the plan. Future use trends, acquisition of new properties, or addition of historical information or new interpretive materials may require amendment of the General Plan to reflect any substantial changes.

### The Relationship Between Short-term and Long-Term Productivity

The proposed short-term 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. Approval of the plan would not significantly alter the site and its resources, or preclude future options for other uses.

Productivity of the site may be enhanced by reintroduction of agriculture as part of the interpretive program and historical scene. However, given the limited size and location of the unit, loss or maintenance of productivity is not a critical concern. Construction would have the long-term and cumulative effect of reducing construction materials and fossil fuels.

### Irreversible Environmental Changes Resulting from Project Implementation

The irreversible changes would be the loss of historic fabric of structures or the loss of cultural resources in reconstruction or restoration of historic structures. Unknown cultural resources may be disturbed or lost by relocation of the corporation yard. Some building materials and fossil fuels would be irreversibly lost in construction, maintenance, and operation of the unit. Additional fossil fuels will be consumed by visitors in transportation to and from the unit.

### Growth-Inducing Impact of the Proposed Action

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

### Effects Found Not Significant

Due to the urban setting and the past modification of the natural environment by agricultural and urban development, impacts to the biotic/natural resources were not found significant. Native vegetation has been replaced by exotic vegetation; wildlife has been displaced by agricultural and urban development. Soil erosion is not expected to increase; no significant

soil-disturbing activities are proposed, other than relocation of the administrative and maintenance facilities. With the exception of the soil type found on the hill behind the Vallejo Home, the soil erosion hazard is slight to moderate. Air quality in the Sonoma Valley is generally very good, with the exception of ozone concentrations. Excessive ozone concentrations are a result of transported pollutants from the Bay Area. With the decline of the average pollution emission rates of automobiles, Sonoma has not exceeded the federal standards since 1979.





## COMMENTS AND RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

The Preliminary General Plan for Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park and Sonoma State Historic Park was circulated through the State Clearinghouse and to a number of organizations and individuals. Comments were received from the City of Petaluma and several individuals. The Department's responses follow the comments. The numbered responses correspond to the numbered sections of the comments. Development proposals included with the comments and not pertaining to environmental impacts are included for consideration by the Commission, but as they are out of the context of the environmental review procedure, no response is made.



PARMELEE & HAEUSER

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
466 FIRST STREET EAST  
P. O. DRAWER G  
SONOMA, CALIFORNIA 95476  
(707) 996-2131

THOMAS A. HAEUSER  
GEORGIANN ROVAL

R. A. POPPE (1893-1923)  
A. R. GRINSTEAD (1914-1966)  
R. D. PARMELEE (1956-1981) RETIRED

May 3, 1985

Mr. Mike Doyle, Supervisor  
Environmental Review Section  
California State Department  
of Parks and Recreation  
P.O. Box 2390  
Sacramento, CA 95811

Re: Comments on Sonoma State Historic Park  
Preliminary General Plan

Dear Mr. Doyle:

I feel that the Preliminary General Plan is generally a well thought out and good document. The fact that Sonoma State Historic Park is going to have a general plan is something to be happy about.

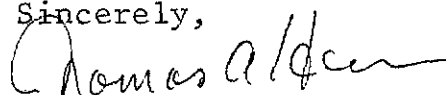
① There is a minor error in that the City of Sonoma's "Depot Park" is apparently referred to as "Hughes Park" (see page 46).

More importantly, I have concern about the Barracks. On page 26, the Mexican military period of 1840-46 is emphasized almost to the exclusion of the American military period of 1846-1853 and later American periods, which are included on page 41 for interpretive purposes. To me, these seem to be slightly contradictory statements.

② Also, on page 61, the statement is made that "... (t)he central location of the barracks makes it an ideal site for presenting an overview of Vallejo's life..." It seems to me that Lacryma Montis is a more appropriate location for an overview of Vallejo's life. I feel that the Barracks shows the evolution of Sonoma -- Mexican military post, American military post, declining agricultural town.

I hope that you will consider these comments.

Sincerely,

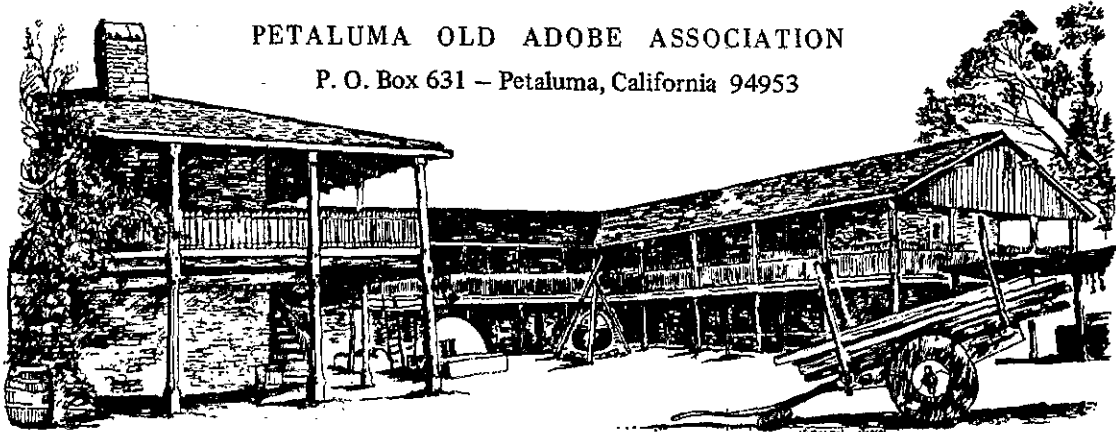
  
Thomas A. Haeuser

TAH:st



PETALUMA OLD ADOBE ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 631 - Petaluma, California 94953



1 May 1985

Mr. James M. Doyle, Supervisor  
Environmental Review Section  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
P.O. Box 2390  
Sacramento, CA 95811

Re: Petaluma Adobe State Historic  
Park-Preliminary General Plan

Dear Mr. Doyle:

This is in response to your letter dated April 4, 1985, wherein you requested comments regarding the matter cited above. This preliminary general plan has been reviewed by all of the members of this Association to whom copies were sent. In the interest of minimizing correspondence the consensus comments of these members are contained herein.

At the outset we want you to know that we consider this plan to have been done in a thoroughly professional manner. We feel that it will serve as a very clear guide to future park development.

It has clearly defined the tasks to be accomplished. However, it is in this area that we feel one additional step is required. Specifically, the plan should assign priorities to the various tasks, time phased as to short term, mid term, and long term. Included in this prioritization should be identification of those tasks that can be independently accomplished without waiting for accomplishment of more extensive long term tasks and without interference with the overall objectives of the total plan.

In the interest of assisting you in this effort we are preparing such a priority list, developed from our point of view, for your consideration. This list will reach you shortly under separate cover.

Finally, we want you to know that we are genuinely concerned that this plan, in its final form, shall come to meaningful fruition. To this end we are prepared to assist you, in terms of available finances and manpower, whenever called upon.

We thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Sincerely,

PETALUMA OLD ADOEE ASSOCIATION

By: Mary L. Lavezzoli  
MARY L. LAVEZZOLI, President

STATEMENT SHEET

YOUR NAME J. Rennie

ADDRESS 1621 San Marino Dr  
Petaluma Ca

PHONE NUMBER (707) 763-5337  
(415) 557-3455

GROUP REPRESENTATION None

PLEASE ADD TO MAILING LIST

WRITTEN STATEMENT/COMMENT REGARDING PLAN: Regarding the closing of Adobe Road and Casa Grande Blvd.: What do you propose doing with the traffic? 2 possibilities are apparent:

1. Move the road to a new alignment: What would be the impacts? How much productive farmland would be lost? What would the cost be? How do you propose to mitigate the impacts?
2. Divert to existing roads: via Frates Rd, Ely Blvd. So., and E. Washington Street: How much additional rural highway traffic would be diverted through the residential neighborhood of Petaluma? (along Ely Blvd. So.) What will be the effect on the four schools which require students to cross Ely Blvd So? What measures do you propose to protect the kids? What will be the added cost for maintenance of the streets for the City? How do you propose to mitigate the impacts?

STATEMENT TO BE SENT FOR C.E.Q.A. REVIEW?

YES!

J. Rennie

5/2/85





STATEMENT SHEET

YOUR NAME *Fred Schraim*

ADDRESS *515 Walnut St.  
Petaluma, California*

PHONE NUMBER *707-762-2203*

GROUP REPRESENTATION *Native Sons of the Golden West  
NICASIO PARLOR 183*

PLEASE ADD TO MAILING LIST *PLEASE*

WRITTEN STATEMENT/COMMENT REGARDING PLAN

*address the position of water flow in  
Adobe Creek - which until the 1930's had spawning  
salmon, trout and steelhead - Some minimal flow  
during the summer would assist the authenticity  
of the site. -*

⑤

*There is a law recently found that makes this  
possibility entirely feasible.*

*See Sunday's ~~Chronicle~~ - Chron on L.A. being worried  
about the outcome of this with Bridgeport, Cal. decision.*

STATEMENT TO BE SENT FOR C.E.Q.A. REVIEW?

*Please - Thank You  
LSF*



LIVING HISTORY - E.L.P. TEACHER  
I. PORTRAY (GEORGE YOUNT) 1840'S  
CARPENTER

STATEMENT SHEET

YOUR NAME TIM STARKS

ADDRESS 6 HAWTHORNE COURT, PETALUMA, CA 94592

PHONE NUMBER 707-263-8719-

GROUP REPRESENTATION ADOBE ASSOC. - LIVING HISTORY - E.L.P. TEACHER  
I TEACH 1830-40'S TRADITIONAL WOODWORKING TO ALL E.L.P. CHILDREN & SUNDAY VISITORS

PLEASE ADD TO MAILING LIST YES.

WRITTEN STATEMENT/COMMENT REGARDING PLAN

1. I REALLY FEEL WE SHOULD PUT REPLICAS OF WOODWORKING TOOLS - TO PRESERVE THEM.  
⑥ BECAUSE WE ARE DEMONSTRATING WITH REAL 1840'S TOOLS AT THE TIME.

2. THE MOVING OF RANGER'S HOUSE & LOSS OF ROADS IS ASSAULTING!

⑦ YOU PEOPLE SHOULD GET OFF YOUR PAYED DEAD ASSES, &  
HELP US MAKE THE ADOBE ALIVE. AGAIN!!!  
LET US HELP!!!

THE RESIDENT RANGER NEEDS TO BE THANKED!!!  
GET RID OF THE PERSON OR PERSONS WHO TAKES CARE OF  
THE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN SONOMA & ADOBE RANGER

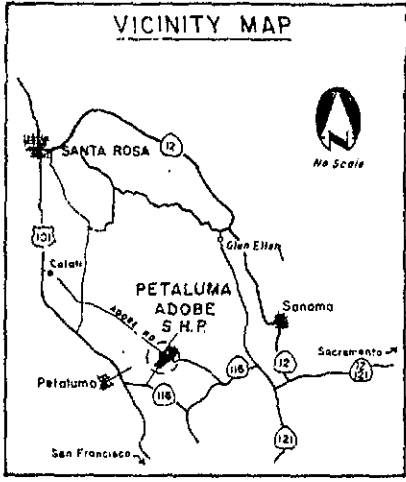
STATEMENT TO BE SENT FOR C.E.Q.A. REVIEW?

WE COULD USE THE FISSAVALS - E.L.P. & GET SET. TO FABRICATE A ADOBE SOILS  
B. SHINGLES & SET. SET. WOULD IT BE NICE TO COME BACK THRU OUT  
THERE LIVES & SAY I HELPED. I HAVE BEEN COMING TO THE ADOBE

FOR 28 YEARS.

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING  
TIM





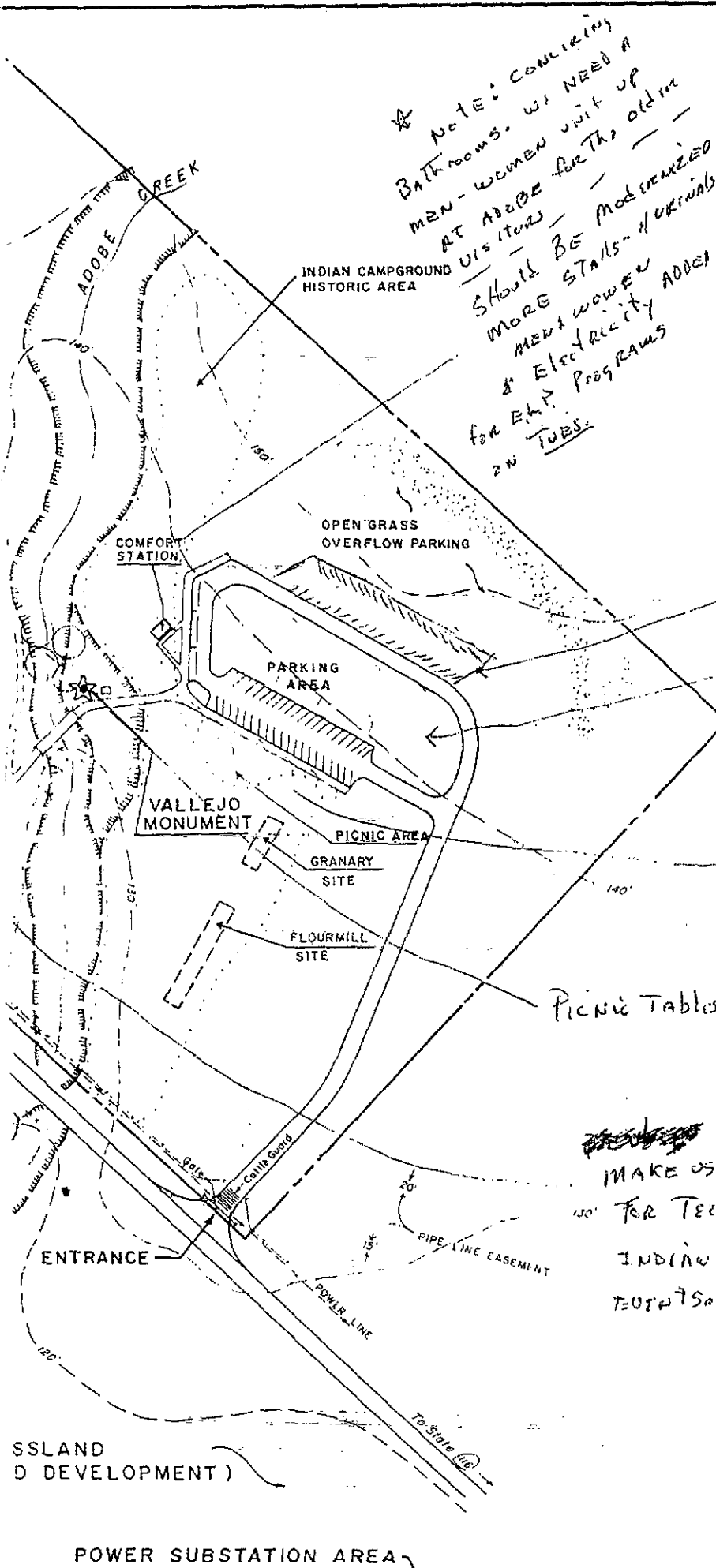
*\* Note: CONCERNING Bathrooms. WE NEED A MEN - WOMEN UNIT UP AT ADOBE FOR THE OLD VISITORS - SHOULD BE MODERNIZED MORE STALLS - MEET WOMEN & ELECTRICITY ADDED FOR E.H.P. PROGRAMS 2N TUBS*

*Parking lot SHOULD BE ADDED HAVE MORE TABLES HERE*

*REMOVE ALL NOW - PERIOD TREES WITH PERIOD TYPE*

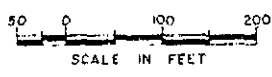
*Picnic Tables*

*MAKE USE OF THIS AREA FOR TEPEES & TENTS IN INDIAN AREA FOR ALL TENTS ALSO I.E. 1. FIESTA DAYS 2. E.H.P.'S 3. SUNDAYS 4. ALL EVENT FUNCTIONS*



SSLAND  
D DEVELOPMENT)

POWER SUBSTATION AREA



DESIGNED	DATE	REVISIONS	RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	PETALUMA ADOBE STATE HISTORIC PARK	DRAWING No <b>20409</b>
DRAWN H. Yee 9/84			APPROVED _____ DATE _____	<b>EXISTING CONDITIONS</b>	SHEET No. <b>1</b> OF <b>1</b>
CHECKED					

FROM: Tim STARKS 707-763-8719

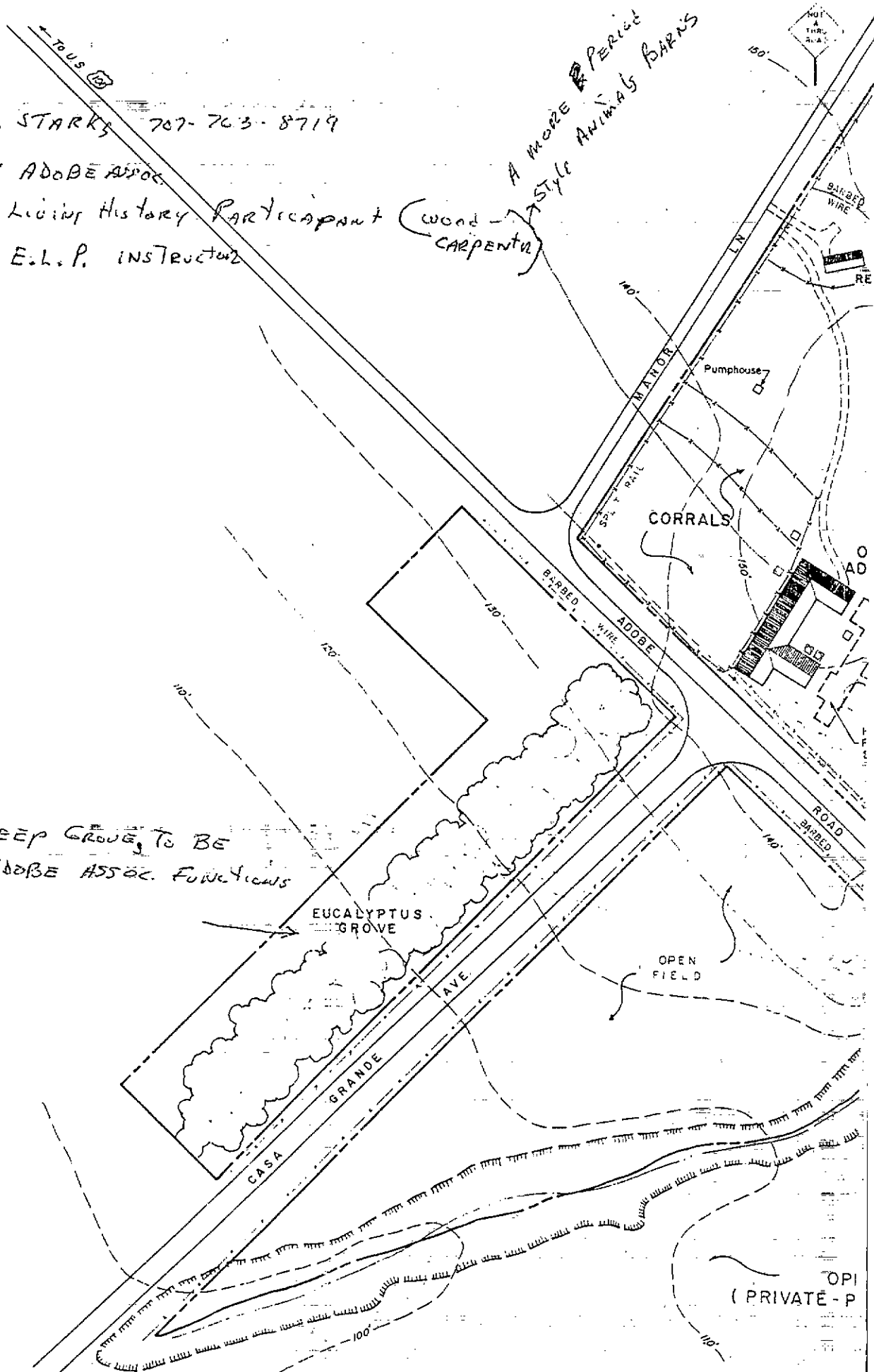
MEMBER 1 ADOBE ASSOC.

2. Living History Participant (WOOD - CARPENTER)

3. E.L.P. INSTRUCTOR

A MORE PERIOD  
STYLE ANIMAL BARN

KEEP GROVE TO BE  
USED BY ADOBE ASSOC. FUNCTIONS



STATEMENT SHEET

YOUR NAME *Jean K. A. Carter, C.R.M.*  
ADDRESS *P.O. Box 297, Sonoma CA 95476*  
PHONE NUMBER *707 - 996-7510*

GROUP REPRESENTATION *Sonoma State Historic Parks Assn, Inc*  
*and* *City of Sonoma Parks & Recreation Commission*  
PLEASE ADD TO MAILING LIST *Awonit - rec'd Neil Row*

WRITTEN STATEMENT/COMMENT REGARDING PLAN *My letter on*  
*Preliminary General Plan*  
*has gone to Sacramento*  
*already*

⑧

*We were told to note that Sonoma "Mission" would have roof*  
*changed from TILE to WOOD SHAKES - I am interested in*  
*any material which adds to safety - from FIRE - How do*  
*we reconcile FIRE PREVENTION with what made Ft Ross so*  
*easy to fire? - and destroy?*

STATEMENT TO BE SENT FOR C.E.Q.A. REVIEW?

*Many of us are vitally concerned*  
*with SAFETY - from fire & vandals.*  
*This is a knotty-gritty factor but*  
*very important when we discuss a*  
*LONG RANGE PLAN*







# City of Petaluma

11 English Street

Post Office Box 61 - Petaluma, California 94953

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
and PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
707/778-4301

8 April, 1985

Environmental Review Section  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
P.O. Box 2390  
Sacramento, CA. 95811

RE: Comments on the Preliminary General Plan for Petaluma Adobe State  
Historic Park

9 Thank you for the opportunity to review the plan for the Petaluma Adobe Park. Our department is just beginning a major revision of the Petaluma General Plan, which we hope to accomplish by the end of 1985. We have noted three areas in your plan that could be addressed in the upcoming revision, namely: the relocation of the intersection of Casa Grande Road and Adobe Road, the encroachment of urban land uses, and the protection of views (particularly to the west) as a means of enhancing the historical authenticity of the park. At this point we have no specifics as to how these matters might be handled, but please contact the Planning Department at 707/778-4301 if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Michael Moore  
Principal Planner

C: GP Work File  
Jim Raymond  
MM/RF

letter.adobe.park  
pd7

APR 10 1985



TO: James M. Doyle, Supervisor Environmental Review Section  
State of California D.P.& R.

FROM: Fern M. Southcott, Member of Native American Advisory  
Council, Director D.P.& R.

DATE: April 23, 1985

RE: Preliminary General Plans for Sonoma & Petaluma State  
Historic Parks

I have reviewed both preliminary documents and have found the overall plans for both projects to be basically well drafted with the exception of the interpretative portions dealing with Native American Indian people associated with the area as outlined in the documents.

⑩ More specifically, the conspicuous absence of any mention in either document to the Suisun Indian people formerly affiliated with the area in question—Who according to Dr. Platon Vallejo, son of General M.G.Vallejo, inhabited the north and east portions of San Francisco Bay extending far into the interior was a great tribe known as Suisunes. (Sanchez; 1929).

Their chief the six feet seven inch Solano, whose Indian name was Sumyeho (mighty arm), was a respected ally and personal friend of General Vallejo. According to historic accounts, Chief Solano was very instrumental in preserving order among the northern tribes in California, thereby, providing a measure of security to the northern settlements. He was capable of mustering a force of one-thousand Suisun men if need be, and was a most welcome guest at General Vallejo's home when the general moved to Sonoma.

In addition, it was through a personal request of General Vallejo that Solano County was named after his great friend and ally. The following statement made by Vallejo summarizes his esteem of Solano:

"To the bravery, and in particular to the diplomacy of that great chieftain of the Suisun Indians civilization is indebted for the conquest of the territory which today composes the counties of Solano, Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino, and Lake."

RECORDED

APR 25 1985

RFD

According to W. W. Robinson (Robinson: 1979), the map of the California ranchos of 1846 would disclose a scattering, north and south, of ranchos granted to Christianized Indians by Mexican governors. "The Suisun in Sonoma County whose first owner was Christianized Francisco Solano, chief of the tribes of the frontier of Sonoma."

The Suisunes once said to number in the thousands are now believed to be extinct. Between 1834 to 1838, the Suisun Indian people sustained considerable losses of their people from a small pox epidemic brought down from the Russian settlement at Fort Ross. Death came so swiftly during the small pox epidemic that it was virtually impossible to dig graves for the dead—Instead, Vallejo had them interred in shallow trenches, whereby, many corpses fell prey to bears and coyotes.

Other accomplishments and contributions made by the Indian people affiliated with the project area and not mentioned in either document are music and medicine.

Medicine—The mission priests borrowed many Indian medicinal herbal remedies from their charges for their own use—experience and observation taught the mission priests the value of Indian herbal medicine practices. The following are but a few adopted by the mission priests: yerba santa (holy plant); yerba buena (good herb); cascara sagrada (sacred bark). In addition, as late as 1844 Indian doctors who specialized in the treatment of arrow wounds were much in demand by the gente de razon for themselves and their wounded soldiers who had sustained gunshot wounds or who had been wounded by arrows inflicted during Indian attacks. One such Indian medicine practitioner was Doctor Petronio who resided in Sonoma.

Music—The Native American Indian people who became affiliated with the missions proved themselves to be very apt musicians having learned to play waltzes and polkas in addition to their repertoire of church music. An Indian band of musicians furnished the music for General Vallejo's wedding.

Thank you for sharing the preliminary plans with me and for inviting my comments. I sincerely hope that my comments are helpful to the project.

Respectfully,

*From M. Southeast*

cc: Office of Director D.P.&R.

Gordon Van Vleck, Sec. Resources D.P.& R.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Sanchez, Nellie Van de Grift, Spanish Arcadia  
Powell Publishing Company, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago  
1929

Robinson, W.W., Land In California  
University Of California Press, Berkeley, Los Angeles, London  
1979 (First Paperback Edition)

Arthur S. Wasser  
154 West Spain Street, No. F, Sonoma, California 95476

May 2, 1985

154 West Spain Street  
Sonoma, CA 95476

Gentlemen:

This statement is meant as a recapitulation and extension of my remarks during the public hearing on the Preliminary General Plan held in Sonoma April 30th.

\*I would like to state for the record that I have read every word of the proposed General Plan for the Sonoma State Historic Park and it has my hearty approval. As the local Park personnel will attest, during the past several years as a volunteer in almost daily contact with the local activities there have been frequent occasions when I have voiced objections to certain policies--in other words, I am better known for criticism rather than praise for the department.

In the matter of this proposed plan, however, I find that so much work by so many people has been painstakingly done and is for the most part very accurate that it should by all means be approved and put into motion as soon as possible. This was a tremendous job and it is unfortunate that something like this was not done years ago so that mistakes in rebuilding and the like would have been prevented.

My first criticism of the plan as written is an incomplete background for establishment of the Historic Park under state control. Sonoma in itself is a treasure of history and the very buildings that figured so prominently in our past would have long since disappeared were it not for the dedication and labor of so many citizens--not all of whom lived in the immediate vicinity.

In 1903 a campaign by both William R. Hearst and Joseph Knowland called attention to the condition of the Mission San Francisco Solano and restoration of the mission began the same year with the purchase of the dilapidated buildings by the California Historic Landmark League. Since that time many organizations such as the Sonoma Valley Historical Society, the Native Sons of the Golden West, The Sonoma Women's Club and the League for Historic Preservation have devoted time and money to keep up and refurnish the buildings and incidently, to urge the State of California to take over each property and to increase its holdings. It must be particularly noted that one local organization active for many years, The Vallejo Home Preservation group, has raised money for the upkeep of the home and has purchased many of the original furnishings that were once a part of it.

The point I wish to make is that the State did not just create this as a Historic Park but was able to take over and assist in what was

Arthur S. Wasser  
154 West Spain Street, No. F, Sonoma, California 95476

page 2.

and continues to be an ongoing campaign to preserve this most important site of early Spanish, Mexican and American historical events. The number of visitors from all parts of the world who come here to Sonoma to relive the past attest to its importance.

May I call your attention to an error and omission on page 34 of the proposed plan. You mention that the state property has at its northern border a local community park called Hughes Park with a railroad theme centered around the re-created railroad station.

There is no such place as "Hughes Park". The area is known as Depot Park and contains the rebuilt railroad depot which had been destroyed by fire. To further show the amount of historic interest in the local community, several hundred thousand dollars were raised and the building although owned by the city of Sonoma is operated by the Sonoma Valley Historical Society as a historical museum with constantly changing displays and a research library that receives many visitors and is in constant use. This is but a few steps from both the Mission and Sonoma Barracks and makes a logical continuation for a visitor's tour of local history.

The only other point I made at the meeting is to ask that once a plan is adopted that it be made adaptable to changing conditions. Also, that lines of communication with the local people and organizations on the one hand and the Department of Parks and Recreation, the State Architects Office and any other state body concerned with work on the Historic Park be kept open at all times. This would avoid the unpleasant situation discussed this evening where a crew suddenly appears and begins work on the Blue Wing Inn without any notice to the residents or any of us who are so very concerned with the proper treatment and respect toward our historic treasures.

Very truly yours,



Arthur Wasser



## OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH

1400 TENTH STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

(916/445-0613)

James M. Doyle  
Calif. Dept. of Parks & Recreation  
1416 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

May 8, 1985

Subject: Sonoma & Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park - General Plans  
SCH #84042412

Dear Mr. Doyle:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named environmental document to selected state agencies for review. The review period is closed and none of the state agencies have comments. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please call Price Walker at 916/445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. When contacting the Clearinghouse in this matter, please use the eight digit State Clearinghouse number so that we may respond promptly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John B. Ochanian".

John B. Ochanian  
Chief Deputy Director  
Office of Planning and Research

## RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

1. The error is noted and will be corrected.
2. The primary historical period selected for the restoration of the Barracks is the Mexican military period of 1840-46. The Barracks are unique as the only surviving Mexican-era military structure in California. Other periods will be interpreted in the Barracks and will show the evolution of the City of Sonoma. However, given the importance of Vallejo to the area and California history, and the ready access of the public to the Barracks, we feel that an overview of Vallejo's life should also be presented at the Barracks. We see no conflict between restoring the Barracks to its appearance in one historical period and providing interpretation of other periods in the structure.
3. The Department would appreciate suggestions on the priority of development of Sonoma State Historic Park. It should be recognized that the amount of funding and the sources of the funds (i.e., Federal grants, donations, etc.) may dictate development scheduling.
4. We are not proposing to close Adobe Road, but rather realign it further from the Adobe to reduce the noise and visual intrusion of the road and automobile traffic. No precise alignment has been drawn, but two concepts have been proposed: (1) route Adobe Road around the northeast side of the unit, and (2) route Adobe Road further to the southwest. The feasibility in terms of safety and economics have not been determined. The realignment would have to be coordinated with the City of Petaluma, Sonoma County, and the California Department of Transportation.
5. We concur that minimal flows would lend authenticity to site. Water flow appropriations are the jurisdiction of the State Water Resources Control Board. The new law permits the appropriation of flow to protect instream beneficial uses; however, the State cannot reduce the existing water rights and appropriations if there is no unappropriated flow. The Department currently reviews water right appropriation requests to determine impacts to flows through State Park System units. Flows are also dependent on the uses, management, and characteristics of the watershed.
6. The Department favors the use of replicas to preserve original historical materials and equipment (see Historic Artifacts, pages 28 and 29).
7. The ranger's residence will not be relocated until and unless an appropriate alternate site can be found. The relocation of the ranger's residence and roads is proposed to remove intrusions to the historical scene at the Adobe.

8. It is proposed to replace the tile roof of the Sonoma Mission Chapel with a shake roof to restore the Chapel to its original Monterey style adobe chapel appearance. The Chapel's location within the City of Sonoma gives the Chapel far greater fire protection than is available for Fort Ross State Historic Park.
9. Any realignment of Adobe Road would be coordinated with the City of Petaluma. The Department would be happy to work with the City in the resolution of the problems identified in the City's letter.
10. There was no intent to ignore the contributions of the Suisun Indian people in the General Plan. The purpose of the General Plan is to provide an overview of the development, management, operation, and interpretation goals for the unit. The primary focus of the Plan and purpose of the State Historic Park is interpretation of Vallejo's life, the Euro-American history of the area, and the history of the City of Sonoma. Interpretation of the contributions of the Indians would be provided as a secondary theme to this unit.

Sonoma State Historic Park  
General Plan  
Additions and Corrections

Addition to page 33, paragraph 6, under Land Use and Facilities Element ...  
All structures shall be constructed in accordance with the State Building Code (Title 24). ✓

Addition to page 36, bottom paragraph under Land Use and Facilities, Existing Conditions, Objectives and Proposals; ✓

All structures shall be constructed in accordance with the State Building Code (Title 24). This Legislative law includes: the Uniform Building Code, Uniform Building Code Standards, Uniform Plumbing Code, Uniform Mechanical Code, National Electrical Code, State Historic Building Code, and the State Handicap Code.

Correction all references to Hughes Park should read Depot Park.  
pp., 34 bottom paragraph, line 4 ✓  
35 paragraph 4, line 2 ✓  
46 lines 2, 5, and 18 ✓

Correction page 45, line 2, the word "east" should read "west" barn. ✓

Addition to page 91 under Support Organizations ✓

The Department would like to acknowledge and thank the many individuals and group volunteers and the City of Sonoma, who have contributed towards preserving and interpreting the history of Sonoma State Historic Park.

The Sonoma State Historic Association began as an advisory group to the Director in 1980 starting with 20 members. Upon completing their assigned task regarding the Blue Wing Inn, they converted into a Cooperating Association in December of 1981. Today they are highly involved in publication sales at Sonoma, providing money for the unit. They also provide the bread baking demonstrations.

Another group called the Tosceno Docents Committee for the Sonoma League for Historic Preservation is greatly involved with refurbishing and refurnishing the Toscano Hotel. This group is also responsible for the docent programs for public tours. Beginning in April 1973 with 25 people this group now has about 60 members.

Another group called the General Vallejo Memorial Association was initiated before World War II, went inactive during the war, and then was reactivated in 1947 with approximately 45 members. Their major objective was to retrieve original furniture used by Vallejo. This group to date has returned 8 to 10 pieces of furniture and has also paid for restoration and repairs on many other items including restoring, repainting, and recarpeting the master bedroom at the Vallejo Home.

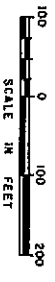
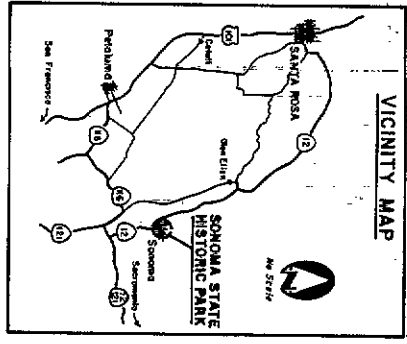
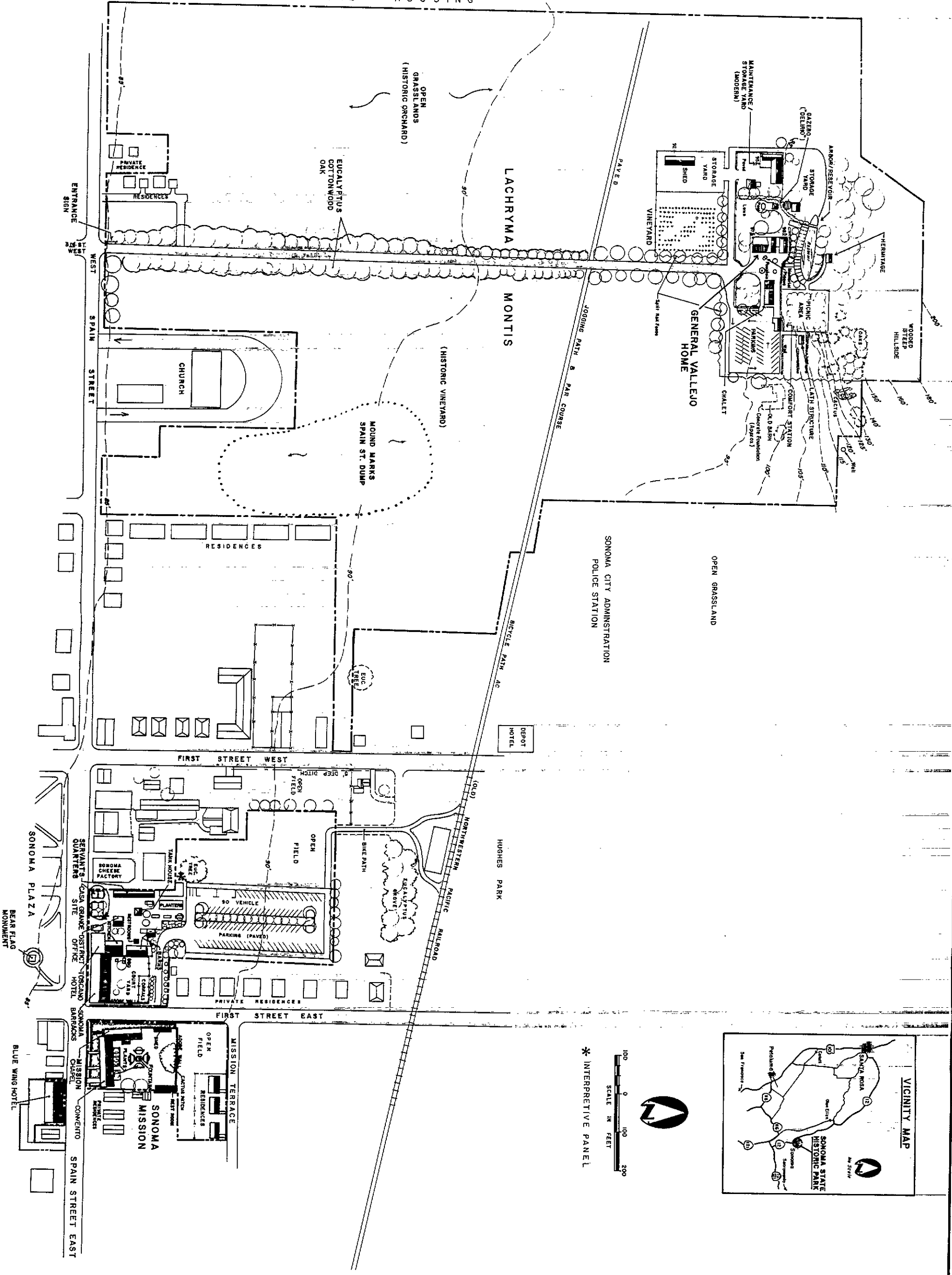
## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Beck, Warren A. and Ynex D. Haase, Historical Atlas of California, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK, 1974.
- Cinel, Dino, From Italy to San Francisco, the Immigrant Experience, Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA, 1982.
- Cross, Ralph, Early Inns of California 1844-1869, Cross & Brandt, San Francisco, 1954.
- Emparan, Madie Brown, The Vallejos of California, Gleeson Library Association, San Francisco, 1968.
- Gates, Paul W., California Ranchos and Farms, 1846-1862, the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis., 1967.
- Guthrie, Chester Lyle, "General Vallejo's Home," MSS. W.P.A. #4, Berkeley, on file Department of Parks and Recreation, Sacramento, CA, 1936.
- Historic Resources Inventory, Sonoma State Historic Park, prepared by James Alexander, DPR Historic Guide, on file Cultural Heritage Planning, Department of Parks and Recreation, Sacramento and Sonoma.
- Hubbard, Harry D., Vallejo, Meador Publishing Co., Boston, 1941
- Kirker, Harold, California's Architectural Frontier, Peregrine Smith, Inc., Santa Barbara, CA, 1973
- Lathrop, Marion Lydia, "The Indian Campaigns of General M. G. Vallejo," Quarterly of the Society of California Pioneers, San Francisco, CA, Sept. 1932
- McKittrick, Myrtle M., "Salvador Vallejo, Last of the Conquistadores," MSS, California Room, California State Library, Sacramento, CA, n.d.
- McKittrick, Myrtle M., Vallejo, Son of California, Binfords and Mort, Portland, OR, 1944
- Mosias, Leonard S. and Associates, "A Study: Architectural - Historical - Archeological, Sonoma Barracks, Sonoma State Historic Park, Sonoma, California," MSS. Office of Interpretive Services, Department of Parks and Recreation, West Sacramento, CA, 1966.
- Murphy, Celeste G., The People of the Pueblo, the Story of Sonoma, Binfords and Mort, Publishers, Portland, OR, 1937.
- Olson, Carlague, "Sonoma: Three Perspectives on the Past," MSS, Office of Interpretive Services, Department of Parks and Recreation, West Sacramento, CA, 1975.
- Parmelee, Robert D., Pioneer Sonoma, Sonoma Index-Tribune, Sonoma, CA, 1972.

- Pitt, Leonard, The Decline of the Californios, University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, CA, 1970.
- "Proposed Vallejo Home Winery Feasibility Study," MSS, Office of Interpretive Services, Department of Parks and Recreation, West Sacramento, CA, 1983.
- Smilie, Robert, The Sonoma Mission, Fresno, 1975.
- Sonoma County Records, Register of Deeds, Sonoma County Courthouse, Santa Rosa, CA.
- Sonoma State Historic Park, Research File, Office of Interpretive Services, Department of Parks and Recreation.
- Sonoma Valley Historical Society, Saga of Sonoma, In the Valley of the Moon, 1954, 1968.
- St. Louis, Cynthia, Historic Documentation for Restoration of North Addition of Vallejo Home, Sonoma State Historic Park, MSS. Office of Interpretive Services, West Sacramento, CA, 1977.
- Stammerjohan, George, "Sonoma Barracks: A Military View," MSS. Office of Interpretive Services, Department of Parks and Recreation, West Sacramento, CA, 1975.
- Tays, George, "Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo and Sonoma," in California History Society Quarterly for September and December 1937, and March and June 1938.
- Treganza, Adan E., "Sonoma Mission: An Archaeological Reconstruction of the Mission San Francisco De Solano Quadrangle, Department of Anthropology, University of California," MSS. Office of Interpretive Services, Department of Parks and Recreation, West Sacramento, CA, 1954.
- Van Sickles, Helen P., "The Life and Times of General M. G. Vallejo," Quarterly of the Society of California Pioneers, San Francisco, CA, Sept. 1932
- Vallejo, Mariano G., "Historia de California," 5 Vol., MSS, Bancroft Library, Berkeley, California.
- Vallejo, Mariano G., "Documentos Para la Historia de California," 36 vol. MSS, Bancroft Library, Berkeley, California.

B-2515/2868/2533L-PERM

RESIDENTIAL HOUSING



\* INTERPRETIVE PANEL

VICINITY MAP

DESIGNED  
DRAWN  
W. Yee 9/84  
CHECKED

DATE

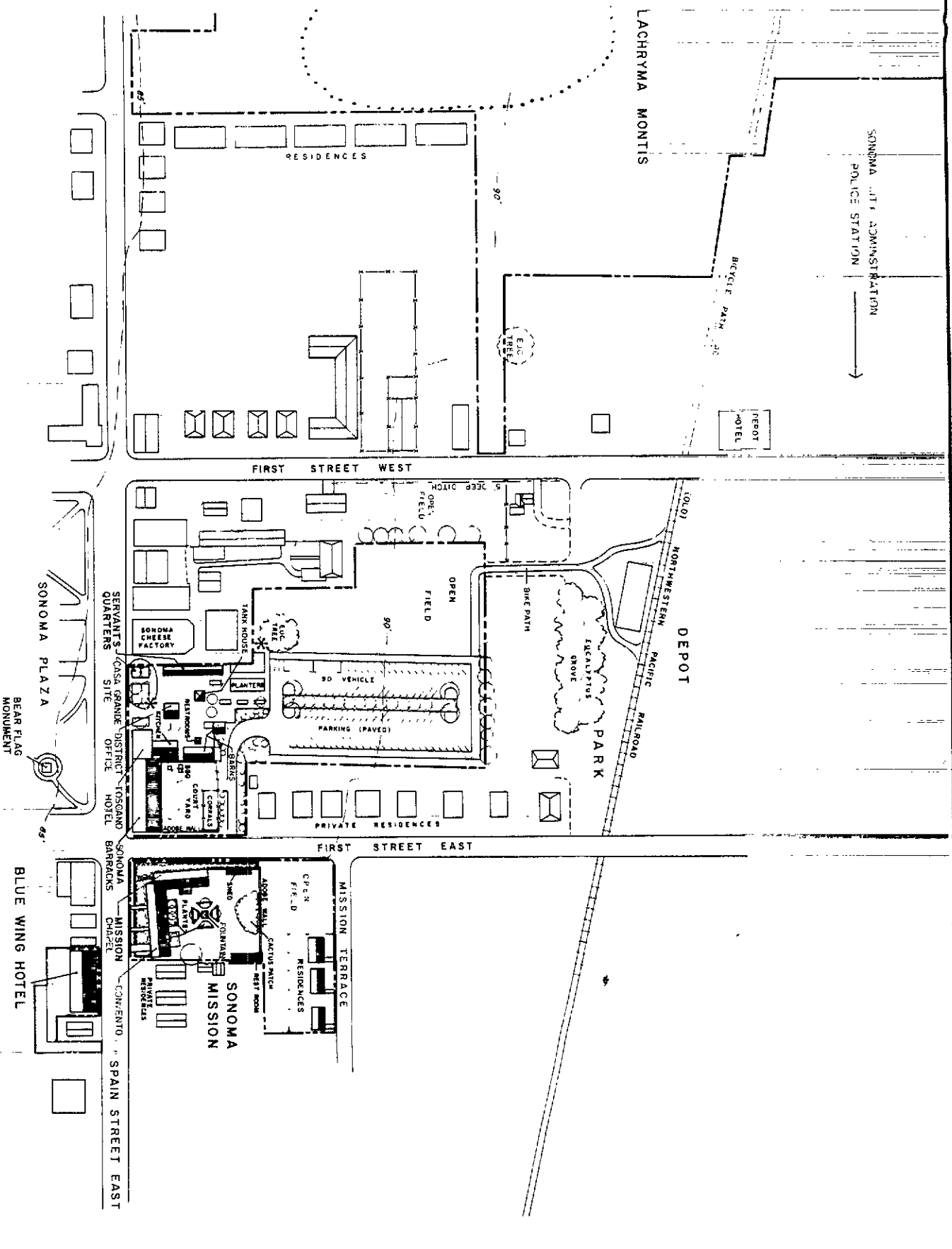
REVISIONS

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

SONOMA STATE HISTORIC PARK  
EXISTING FACILITIES

DRAWING NO.  
**20408**

SHEET NO.  
**1**  
OF  
**1**



SONOMA CITY ADMINISTRATION  
POLICE STATION

LACHRYMA MONTIS

DEPOT

PARK

FIRST STREET WEST

FIRST STREET EAST

SONOMA MISSION

CASA GRANDE COMPLEX

CASA GRANDE SITE

SERVANTS QUARTERS

TOSCANO HOTEL COMPLEX

TOSCANO HOTEL  
TOSCANO KITCHEN  
HOTEL ANNEX / OFFICE

TANK HOUSE

REST ROOMS

BARN

PARK GROUNDS

PARKING LOT

MISSION SAN FRANCISCO SOLANO

CHAPEL

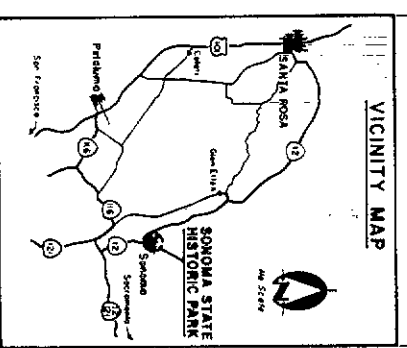
CONVENTO

MISSION COURTYARD

RANGER RESIDENCES

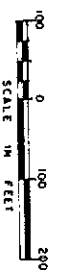
SONOMA BARRACKS

BLUE WING HOTEL



**NOTES & LEGEND**

- Install on-site security and fire alarm (intermittent) systems where necessary.
  - Complete archaeological and historical research where needed.
  - Complete all architectural and engineering studies where appropriate.
  - Applicable structures to be made accessible to the disabled.
  - Prepare specific interpretive and furnishings plans for each unit where appropriate.
  - Concession proposals - see concession element.
  - All structures shall be constructed in accordance with the State Building Code (Title 24).
- O.E. = Operation Element  
I.E. = Interpretive Element  
R.E. = Resource Element
- \* Interpretive park



SONOMA STATE HISTORIC PARK  
**GENERAL PLAN**  
LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT  
MISSION, BARRACKS & CASA GRANDE

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

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

DESIGNED	DATE	REVISIONS
DRAWN 2/85		
CHECKED		

DRAWING NO.  
**20713**

SHEET NO.  
1 OF 2



