

Big Basin Redwoods State Park
Preliminary Cultural Resources Inventory

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Introduction

Between 1996 and 2001 a cultural resource survey was conducted within Big Basin Redwoods State Park, located approximately 25 miles northwest of Santa Cruz, California and 65 miles south of San Francisco. The study was intended to provide an inventory and analysis of all the prehistoric and historic resources within the Park.

The cultural resource investigations entailed intensive pre-field research, field survey and resource recordation. Pre-field research included the review of all known Department of Parks and Recreation resource files, maps and other historical documents related to this area. Prior surveys within the park were reviewed and knowledgeable Parks staff were consulted. The field surveys and resource recordation were performed using standard archaeological survey methods and forms.

Almost 400 potentially significant culturally sensitive sites/features were identified and recorded within the park and several potential Cultural Landscapes (following the National Park Service guidelines for Cultural Landscape identification) were identified. The various Cultural Landscapes will need to be inventoried and their boundaries delineated through completion of a Cultural Landscape Inventory. Standard Cultural Landscape treatment recommendations have been included and further Cultural Resources Inventory tasks identified.

This report is a compilation of the field survey data collected by Associate State Park Archaeologists Daniel A. Bell and Jim Woodward. The original copy of this report, field notes, photographic records, and other documentation is on file at the Northern Service Center in Sacramento, CA. No artifacts were collected for this project.

Project Description and Methodology

The purpose of this project at Big Basin Redwoods State Park was to locate and identify culturally sensitive features and areas within the State Park. As a part of this project, DPR 523 forms were begun for all the cultural features, such as those buildings, structures, objects, sites and areas identified as potentially significant (see Office of Historic Preservation 1995 for feature definitions). The CCC-era structures and facilities, pre-State Park and early State Park-era features, and post-war features all fall within the scope of this Cultural Resource Inventory. Many of the features have been used through time in the manner that was intended by their designers. This continuity of integrity and function contributes to the sense of place as well as contributing to the feeling of living and evolving Cultural Landscapes. The overall features within Big Basin contribute to the history of the State of California, to California State Parks and to the history and origins of Big Basin Redwoods State Park itself.

Project Methodology

From 1996 through the spring of 2001, Daniel A. Bell, and Jim Woodward, Associate State Park Archaeologists, Northern Service Center, California State Parks, completed the pre-field research and fieldwork necessary for the Cultural Resources Inventory. This involved the recording, photographing, and mapping of all identified structures and features of historical significance as well as identifying and noting areas where historic structures or features were located in the Area of Potential Effect (APE). The APE is defined as all Big Basin Redwoods State Park roads, trails, facilities, buildings, and campgrounds that were identified on the United States Geologic Survey topographic maps and Big Basin State Park maps, and all areas subject to impacts from park users, operations or maintenance.

In June of 2001 Ray Benson, Philomene Smith and Kelly Turner, Associate State Park Archaeologists, began writing the Preliminary Inventory of the collected field data. Cultural resource records, documents, maps, field notes and personal documentation were used to develop the Inventory. Historic park maps dating to the turn of the century were used by Bell and Woodward to identify many of the man-made features that existed in the park, and an effort was made to re-locate, re-visit and record the cultural features shown on them. Sites where historic structures or features were once located but do not currently exist have also been noted as potential historic archaeological sites. All potential historic and prehistoric resources will be recorded on DPR523 forms, and all appropriate historic plans, maps, records, photographs, diaries, logs and other sources collected or identified will need to be inventoried, compiled into a unit data file and archived for preservation. Copies of

these records, sources and this report are filed with the Northern Service Center and the Santa Cruz District Office, California State Parks.

Natural Setting

Big Basin Redwoods State Park is California's oldest State Park, established in 1902. It is home to the largest continuous stand of ancient coast Redwoods south of San Francisco. The park consists of over 18,000 acres of old growth and recovering Redwood forest, with mixed conifer, oaks, chaparral, and riparian habitats. Elevations in the park vary from sea level to over 2,000 feet. The climate ranges from foggy and damp near the ocean to sunny and warm ridge tops. Big Basin has been divided into twelve ecological units based on the various watersheds that flow through the basin, and includes the entire watersheds of Waddell and Año Nuevo Creeks.

The coast Redwood is an ancient species, once covering much of the northern hemisphere, but now confined to a narrow coastal strip which extends from the about the Monterey-San Luis Obispo county line on the south to some 14 miles north of the California-Oregon border. This strip corresponds to the coastal fog belt on whose moisture these giants depend. The Redwood habitat is a composite name for a mix of conifer species that grow within the coastal influence zone. Accompanying the Redwoods in this type of community are Douglas-fir, tanoak, California laurel, and madrone. While the towering height of the Redwoods, which may reach over 300 feet, shades out most understory shrubs, huckleberry, western azalea and several varieties of ferns thrive in all but the most dense stands.

The Coast Ranges are a complex series of more or less independent ranges and valleys with ridge crests averaging between 2,000 and 4,000 feet in elevation; the highest peaks seldom rise more than 6,000 feet above sea level. Most of the crests are rounded by erosion and have not been affected by glaciation. The Ben Lomond Fault has been a major force in the development of park landforms, uplifting such peaks as Eagle Rock and creating basins on the downthrow side.

Cultural Setting

Regional Prehistory

PaleoIndian land use of the California Central Coast region has been documented in the archaeological record, with evidence of hunting, collecting, and resource processing activity occurring as early as 10,000 BP (Moratto 1984). Moratto

(1984: 276-283) summarizes the archaeological investigations, Carbon-14 (C-14) dates and models interpreting prehistoric settlement types and resource procurement strategies over time. The biogeographic landform between Monterey and San Francisco Bay is generally referred to as the Central Coast and encompasses that part of the South Coast Range between the latitudes of Año Nuevo and San Luis Obispo, south of San Francisco Bay. The inland highlands forming the western edge of the Central Coast region include the north-south trending mountains of Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties.

Sparse populations occupied coastal environments for resource procurement between 7000-4000 BP, evidenced by more than 80 C-14 dates from 12 Santa Cruz and San Mateo archaeological sites (Hylkema 1991). In his study, Hylkema identifies both temporary special-use sites and multi-use occupation sites. Archaeological collections associated with temporary special-use site types include shell, faunal, and burned rock artifacts and display low tool diversity. Multi-use sites have longer occupation periods, have similar resources, a greater diversity of tool types, occasional human remains and include well-defined activity features. Hylkema evaluated prehistoric settlement patterns by using ecological zones with artifact or feature associations. Of the 182 sites recorded throughout the Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties, 65.5 percent are located along the coastal terrace, 11 percent along ridges, 10 percent along rivers and 13.5 percent are found in the upland meadows. Archaeological assemblages recovered from excavations at CA-SMA-22 are diverse and appear to represent a Middle Period forager residential location.

Archaeology of Big Basin Redwoods State Park

A preliminary review of the documented prehistoric archaeological sites in Big Basin Redwoods State Park shows a concentration in the upland meadow zones, including the Waddell Creek drainage. This drainage eventually descends to the coastal zone. Other sites have been discovered in various locations at higher elevations in the park unit. State Park Archaeologists have conducted various cultural resource surveys within the park, including a large survey in 1983.

Hylkema (1991) provides an archaeological overview of Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties based upon selected sites, including some within Big Basin Redwoods State Park. His research is based upon a series of test excavations and examination of archaeological assemblages collected by local individuals within his study area. CA-SMA-244, a significant site addressed in his study, is located on a ridge near a drainage at the park's extreme northern boundary. Artifacts recovered from this site included diagnostic obsidian projectile points, shell bead ornaments, *Haliotis* pendants, and stone beads. Hylkema (1991) utilized the *Olivella* bead terminology developed by Bennyhoff and Hughes (1987) in analyzing the shell beads from this site. Both the shell beads and the Stockton serrated projectile points suggested a Late

Period occupation. In addition, obsidian-sourcing techniques indicate that long-distance procurement or trade/exchange networks existed in the area.

Two more prehistoric archaeological sites within the park, CA-SCR-183 and CA-SCR-83, represent two upland sites, one includes a bedrock outcrop with three mortar cups and one contained a portable mortar. CA-SCR-37, located further down the Waddell drainage near the coast, was identified as a habitation site with midden deposits. The artifacts found included chert tools (pre-forms), bone awls, a bi-pointed bone pin, antler-horn artifacts, and ground stone.

Researchers in Central California have postulated that shifts in milling tool types may indicate changes in adaptive orientations. The research discussion has focussed on the supposed increased use of mortar and pestle over handstones and milling slabs prior to or during the Middle Period. The cobble tools recovered from Hylkema's study sites show that both milling tool technologies co-occur through the Middle and Late Periods and that one set of tools was not replaced by the other. The Late Horizon highlands site CA-SMA-244 contained a balanced number of artifacts reflecting both types of milling tool sets.

Dietz and Jackson (1981) have applied Binford's (1980) model of forager and collector adaptive strategies to the Central Coast region. They hypothesize that the early foraging populations were organized into small groups. These small communities made seasonal residential moves along a series of resource locations in the coastal and interior regions, gathering food and other materials and then returning to their residential base. Because this adaptation required mobility, food storage was not be a major aspect of their economy. It was expected that such people would locate themselves within areas having a high diversity of resources. Residential bases, on the other hand, were predicted to be adjacent to complex coastlines with terrestrial and marine resources. Because these places were highly productive, it was expected that their repeated use as residential areas though time could result in a high level of archaeological visibility. Basically, the forager strategy required that consumers move to the goods, while the collector method moved goods to the consumers. The dearth of archaeological materials recovered so far in the mountainous park regions prevents researchers from providing specific cultural descriptions for the Ohlone beyond the general prehistoric cultural chronologies that exist for the Central Coast region. In addition, the vegetation density, soil types, and soil moisture have, through time, diminished the chances of recovering any further organic cultural resources deposited in the past.

The interpretive value of prehistoric archaeological sites is only enhanced by the education and preservation activities of State Parks through appropriate Cultural Resources Management. The knowledge we gain from past cultures who utilized and occupied these parklands will stimulate thought about the relationships between

foragers and their environments, the management of natural resources, and the use of archaeology as a learning tool.

Ethnography

Big Basin Redwoods State Park lies within the ethnographic and historic boundaries of the Ohlone speaking people, also referred to as *Costanoan* by anthropologists. The term “*Costanoan*” is derived from the Spanish word *Costanos*, meaning “coast people” or “coastal dweller” (Kroeber 1925:462). After the establishment of the Hispanic mission system, they were named after the missions to which they were assigned. The Ohlone ethnogeography is identified with the lands from the southern shores of San Francisco Bay, south to Point Sur, and from the ocean coast inland, to the crest of the Coast Range.

The reconstruction of the Ohlone lifeways is based primarily on ethnographic information sources falling into five major categories: 1) accounts of exploration expeditions traversing Ohlone territory from 1769 to 1776; 2) replies of missionaries to the interrogatorio of 1812; 3) accounts of seafarers visiting the seven missions in Ohlone territory; 4) ethnographic data collected by anthropologists between 1900 and 1935; and 5) statements by the Ohlone themselves (Levy 1978:495)

Ohlone refers to different groups of people who shared similar cultural traits and belonged to the same linguistic family. Linguistic data include borrowed terminology for the coastal ecosystem plants and animals and suggests an interior origin for Proto-Miwok/Ohlone culture. In addition, diffusion of lexical items into Ohlone language supports the theory that their ancestral homeland was the east Bay area. The Ohlone moved into the San Francisco and Monterey Bay areas about AD 500. This correlation is also supported by the archaeological components of Late Horizon sites in the Bay Area (Moratto 1984).

With the exception of the small Coast branch of the Miwok, the Ohlone were the only Utian branch of the Penutian language stock to dwell along the ocean shore. Levy (1978) reports that the eight branches of the Ohlone family all had separate languages. However, some scholars contend that the language was more uniform. Differences were dialectical and each language group shared similar linguistic ties with their nearest geographic neighbor. The exception to this theory is the relationship between Awaswas and Chalon. Each language group/dialect clustered around one of the seven Franciscan missions founded in their territory.

The Protohistoric period is considered by some archaeologists to be equivalent to Phase 2 in the Late Horizon terminology used for Central California. For the Awaswas, Tamyen, and neighboring Ohlone tribes, protohistory probably began around 1602 when the Rumsen encountered the Sabastian Vizcaino expedition.

There may also have been some Manila galleons stopping in Monterey Bay after this time. Monterey was named by Gaspar de Portola in 1769, from which begins the historic period.

The current boundaries of Big Basin Redwoods State Park encompass a natural landscape that was likely utilized and occupied by Ohlone groups in general and the Awaswas in particular prior to contact. Unfortunately, precise and definitive ethnographic boundaries are difficult to determine due to the lack of ethnographic data. The Big Basin Redwoods State Park boundary lies adjacent to and includes three primary watersheds—the Gazos Creek on the north, the Waddell Creek, and the Scott Creek watershed on the southern boundary.

Awaswas is the Mutsun name for the Santa Cruz people (Merriam 1966-1967). The Awaswas speakers occupied the lands that comprised the Waddell Creek, San Lorenzo River, and Soquel Creek watersheds of Big Basin Redwoods State Park. The Awaswas, or Santa Cruz Ohlone, are one of many ethnic groups or tribelets documented in 1770 during the initial exploration and settlement of Europeans on the Central Coast. Levy (1978:485) reports approximately 600 people speaking Awaswas were living along the ocean shore between Davenport and Aptos in Santa Cruz County.

The Ohlone tribelet consisted of one or more villages and outlying camps. Villages were the center of social and political unity under the leadership of a male or female tribelet chief, whose position was inherited patrilineally and associated with that kinship group. Territorial boundaries of tribelets were identified by physiographic features and restricted to use by only those groups. The Ohlone were grouped in clans (Harrington 1933:3) and were divided into deer and bear moieties (Harrington 192:12).

Variable populations of between 50 and 300 people were identified within a restricted territory. People radiated out from the villages during various seasons of the year to scattered locations within their territory to hunt, fish, gather plants and other resources (Broadbent 1972; Heizer 1974; Levy 1978; Millikan 1983).

Biogeographic patterns and the available local resources shaped the settlement/subsistence patterns of the Ohlone. The Ohlone organized their settlement system of sedentary (permanent?) and seasonal villages and temporary camps to optimize the retrieval and storage of those resources.

In October 1769 the Portola party observed abandoned houses and large villages on the coast. When they returned in November, all of the coastal villages were occupied. The Rivera Expedition found all of the coastal villages abandoned during December of 1774 and Palou concluded, “The people of the villages, which

they found on the first expedition we thought, must be in the mountains collecting acorns (Bolten 1926:296). Four oak species were common to the area, including coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*); valley oak (*Quercus lobata*); tanbark oak (*Lithocarpus densiflora*); and California black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*). In addition to acorns, fall procurement activities for stored winter foods focussed on grass seeds, berries, buckeye nuts, and numerous other vegetal species available in the coastal scrub and oak woodlands. The valley and montane riparian ecosystems of the south coast range also contained useable resources.

Native American burning in controlled areas was practiced to promote annual seed production. The management of natural resources also increased habitat for small and large game. Numerous large game species now endangered or extinct including grizzly bear, Roosevelt elk, antelope, and mountain lion were hunted. Smaller mammal species and waterfowl were taken, utilizing various hunting methods. Fish species included local freshwater and saltwater species. The most important fish were steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), salmon (*Oncorhynchus* sp.), sturgeon (*Acipenser* sp.), and Pacific lampreys (*Entosphenus tridentatus*).

Many other species are mentioned in the vocabularies but are not specified as a food source. An extensive list of flora and fauna is listed in Levy (1978:491-492).

Other valuable resources occurring naturally in the area included hematite and cinnabar deposits. The cinnabar's red pigment was highly desired by many California ethnic groups, including those farther north of the Columbia Plateau region. Since cinnabar was a valuable trade commodity, wars between neighboring tribes, including the Awaswas and Tamyen groups, were caused by disputes over territorial ownership and access to the quarries.

The Ohlone houses observed by early Spanish expeditions of the coast were described as domed structures thatched with tule, grass, and other vegetal materials. The southern Monterey Bay area Rumsen, whose ethnographic territory shared similar environmental characteristics with the Awaswas, constructed conical houses of split Redwood or Redwood bark.

Large ceremonial houses were utilized for various seasonal and religious purposes. These enclosures were circular or oval in shape with a single doorway and a small opening placed in the opposite wall. The Portola expedition noted a large thatched assembly house on Gazos Creek and speculated that it could hold all 200 inhabitants of the village.

Hunting, fishing, collecting, processing tools and technological adaptations were associated with the availability of seasonal marine and inland resources. Ohlone hunters used the bow and arrow, lances, nets, snares, and balsa canoes. Acorns,

buckeye nuts, and seeds were processed at bedrock milling stations utilizing mortar and pestle. Milling tools included both stone and wood material. Stone technology included metates and portable mortars.

Ohlone basketry consisted of twined construction with local materials of willow (*Salix* sp.), rush (*Juncus* sp.), tule (*Scirpus* sp.), and 'cut-grass' roots. Ohlone basketry had varied appearances; the different types were used primarily for collection, preparation, and storage of vegetal species. Baskets were also ornamented with abalone pendants, quail plumes, and woodpecker feathers.

The colonization of the West Coast by the Spanish included the Costanoans/Ohlone however these interactions likely sporadic and selective with long term contact associated with the presence of the missions, presidios, and secular pueblos. Historic accounts document the various forms of acculturation beginning as early as 1769. Impacts to these local native cultures included the introduction of European diseases, loss of traditional homeland and resources, and alterations and influences by other California Native American groups and Hispanic cultural systems.

It is understood that two distinct profound alterations occurred to Ohlone lifeways. Colonization during the mission period, from 1770-1835, imposed cataclysmic changes on almost all areas of Ohlone life. There were 1,506 baptisms in Santa Cruz (Cook 1976:184) and seven missions were established within Ohlone territory between 1770 and 1797. As a result of introduced diseases and a declining birth rate, the Ohlone population fell from 10,000 or more in 1770 to less than 2,000 in 1832 (Cook 1976).

The other profound alteration involved the commingling of the Ohlone with people of differing linguistic and cultural backgrounds during the mission period. During the mission period and after secularization, other California Native American ethnic groups, primarily from the interior valley, likely occupied traditional Ohlone territory. The Bancroft Library's first few years of baptism records from each mission show a series of village names, obviously local in character, and denoting the first spread of conversion among the Indians in mission territory. These names then cease to appear in the records with a hiatus of approximately five years in the decade from 1800-1810. An entirely new series of names then appears, having a non-Ohlone sound and which are specified in many instances as being from the "Tular," from the Yokuts territory. This pan-Indian phenomenon also occurred in other areas of California, due to runaway neophytes and inter-ethnic cohabitation in refugee camps. Mission baptismal records demonstrate that the last Ohlone tribelets living an aboriginal existence had disappeared by 1810.

Cultural change, or acculturation, was viewed as the assimilation of native peoples into the material world of Europeans, Euro-Americans and Hispanic culture.

The acculturation process can be traced in stages related to the primary periods of exploration, colonization, and agricultural economy of the region. During the mission period neophytes learned non-Indian skills and trades, including plowing, carpentry, leather working, candlemaking, weaving, sewing, blacksmithing, and herding livestock. Undoubtedly, these labor skills became a form of trade or payment to the new dominant culture. In addition, inter-ethnic marriages and subsequent mixed families became part of the diverse ethnicity of the Central Coast.

The Europeans, Californios, and later early American settlers introduced material culture into the native populations at the missions, ranches and farms as well as into traditional homelands. During the American period neglect and continued assimilation into the dominant culture left few traditional lifeways and identities. From the late 1800s until the 1930s only a few ethnographic *entradas* were completed.

Regional History

Established in 1902, Big Basin is California's oldest State Park. Interwoven in the story of Big Basin are several themes, which generally run through the annals of all of California, and several themes that are uniquely Big Basin's. One element of California's natural history represented by Big Basin is the value of preserving and protecting California's natural resources. The acquisition of the Big Basin, originally known as California Redwood Park, represents the first successful effort to save coast Redwoods from logging.

Early Explorations

Europeans were late in discovering the giant red trees that grew along the California coast. It was not until 1769 when the Don Gaspar de Portola expedition failed to recognize Monterey Bay and pushed north into the "thickest, tallest and straightest trees they had ever seen" that Europeans first recognized "palo colorado," the Redwood. The Franciscan missionary that accompanied Portola, Fr. Juan Crespi wrote in his diary,

"Friday, October 20, (1769). In order to leave this place (on upper Scott Creek) --We traveled for a long space on the ridge of a chain of rough broken hills which drop to the sea, and halted on the same beach at the mouth of an arroyo or valley about a league from where we started. In this short stretch the coast runs northwest by north. The valley is open to the north-north-westward, and it enters the land in the same direction something like a league.... This spot or arroyo I have named Valley of San Luis Beltran."

Saturday, October 21. This day was set aside for the explorers to spend

in reconnaissance, and to serve as a rest for the sick, who do not feel any worse, although their improvement is slight.... This afternoon and in the night heavy rain fell, together with a strong wind from the south which stirred up a storm on the sea.

Sunday, October 22. This day broke very cloudy and dark, with all the people wet and fatigued from loss of sleep for lack of tents, so that it was necessary to rest today and dry the clothing, our greatest anxiety being lest the poor sick persons with us might be harmed by the wetting. But exactly the contrary happened, and it seemed as though God had sent them health with the drenching, for to the surprise of everybody they began to improve, and in a short time were entirely recovered, thanks to God, to whom we attributed this special blessing. For this reason the valley was renamed La Salud [Salvation; now Waddell Creek].

Monday, October 23. About half-past eight we set out from this valley of La Salud, following the beach, where there is pasture, but after half a league passage is cut off by the precipitous Sierra Blanca...." (Verardo, 1973: 9)

These early explorers were only the first to delve into the mysteries that lay in the shadows of the towering giants. Fremont and his men were the next to arrive in the area, camping in what is now Big Basin Redwoods State Park, while marauding during the Mexican American War on behalf of the United States government. One of the Park's trees has been named for Fremont to commemorate this event.

Between 1866 and 1867, the U.S. government surveyed and mapped the Big Basin area. The area was divided into townships and sections. The sections were numbered and subdivided into quarters of 160 acres each, although many quarters were found later to contain either more or less than 160 acres. It wasn't until the spring of 1869 that the area was opened for civilian development by the federal government, through cash purchase, land grants, special congressional grants or grants for military service. Only six homesteads were filed under the 1862 Homestead Laws in the area that forms the State Park.

The first official land grants were not issued until the end of the 1870s, but studies show that logging in the Big Basin region began as early as 1833. Don Morton's *History of the California State Parks* (1937: 14) states that Isaac Graham began logging in 1833, followed by Paul Sweet in 1840; Peter Lassen in 1841; Captain Elisha Stephens in 1845 and William W. Waddell in 1851. Waddell first began logging in the southern part of the park near old "Williams' Landing". In 1862, Waddell moved his logging operation to "Big Gulch" or "Waddell's Canyon". It was here that Waddell

established his fourth and last mill, shipping lumber out from a wharf at Point Año Nuevo.

The *Santa Cruz Sentinel* (April 16, 1864) stated that:

W. W. Waddell & Co. of Santa Cruz have been engaged, for more than two years last past, in extensive preparations for manufacturing lumber. Their situation is below New Years' Point on the Casa del Ursa, more familiarly known as Waddell's Creek. There are fine bodies of timber around the sources of all streams that flow into the Pacific between Santa Cruz and Pescadero, but the belt of timber upon Waddell's Creek is more extensive and compact than any other. This enterprising firm commenced (sic) by building a steam mill, about two and a half miles from the coast, [toward the western entrance of present village of the park] and an expensive road between these two points. They also constructed a wharf, into the ocean, which they intended should be a thousand feet long. After this wharf was nearly completed but had not yet reached a depth of water sufficient to admit of loading vessels it was found that a ridge of rock prevented driving piles any farther out into the ocean, and the wharf was abandoned. They then built a road from this wharf along the coast two and a half miles, and from this point commenced the construction of another wharf about 700 feet long. In the construction of these wharves and roads they have used 100,000 feet of lumber, and have expended about \$50,000. The lumber was sawed at their mill. The W. W. Waddell & Co. of Santa Cruz has the most extensive lumbering establishment south of San Francisco. (Morton, 1937: 15)

To convey his lumber to the wharf, Waddell built a five mile horse tramway between the mouth of the creek and Punta del Año Nuevo (New Year's Point), designed in as straight a line as possible. This followed the course of the stream, with twelve bridges crossing its meandering channel. The mill was located on high ground between the confluence of the east and west forks of the creek, known from then until now as Waddell Creek. A large number of men were employed; their mess house, their bunk house, the cottages of men with families, Mr. Waddell's own house, and the hothouse where he raised choice flowers were all located in the vicinity of the east and west forks and the mill. By 1864, twenty-eight sawmills spread throughout the region, cutting about 34,000,000 board feet of lumber a year (Meadows, 1950: 10).

The lumber boom halted when a depression hit the country following the Civil War. With the completion of the transcontinental railroad and the construction of the Southern Pacific Line from San Jose to Santa Cruz however, the lumber industry returned stronger than ever. George Stammerjohan (August, 1997) documents that

the first consolidation of property by the Boulder Creek lumber company, James F. Cunningham and Company, brought together approximately 1160 acres in 1882. Stammerjohan further states that the real consolidation of property began under the logo of the new Big Basin Lumber Company in 1900. This company was formed from the partial merging of a half-dozen companies with individual owners buying stock in the new corporation in March-April of 1900. By July 1900, the new company owned or controlled nearly 5000 acres of timberland. The owners continued to purchase or lease timber rights until 1902.

By 1870, the Archibald Dairy resort developed at the entrance of the valley on Scott's Creek. The resort was used by hunters and anglers and, in a sense, became the center of the campaign for the preservation of the Redwoods. Don Morton states in his Big Basin Redwoods report (1937: 19) that the controversy over use of the Redwoods escalated in 1877 when a hunter called Ralph Sidney Smith saw a large Redwood cut down. Smith, who was also a reporter for the *Redwood City Times and Gazette*, was so disturbed by what he saw that he returned to town and, in 1877, wrote the first plea on record for saving the giant Redwoods.

This earth holds few fairer landscapes than that which unveils itself from a thousand points, along the 'ridges' the backbone of our peninsula county. This landscape with its setting of evergreen mountains and fairy valleys, is our treasure trove, our Midas fingers, by which we are to change the floating wealth of the metropolis into coin current. But are we not unmindful of our privileges? Do we not undervalue the riches that lavish handed nature has scattered at our feet, and hung above our heads? Do we ever reflect that the reckless destruction of forest which has gone on without interruption for over twenty years, has stolen the bloom from a hundred lovely dells, that live as things of beauty, only in the memories of those who knew them in their unshorn youth. Does Pescadero reflect that its ever charming Butano a place where Homer might wander and find new images, where Plato might walk and learn a purer faith, is even now threatened with vandalism of trade and commerce? Yet what would Pescadero be without its Butano, though its pebble beach were piled high with pearls, and its trout swam ready cooked? The drive from San Mateo past Crystal sorins to Lake San Andreas was once a drive of all drives. Now its beauty is marred by axe and fire, and the brazen sunlight which drags the daintiest charms into the withering glare that robs them of their glamour. But all these wrongs can be righted, if we begin now. Let Pescadero buy the Butano, or, better still, let the counties of Santa Cruz and San Mateo buy it and hold it in fee simple for its children's children. And let Redwood City buy Capt. Greer's purple hill sides and robe them

anew with a million evergreens. Let our Lathams, our Howards, our Hansons, our Gorlans, prove their patriotism and their good taste by saving intact large tracts of growing timber. It will pay in dollars and cents surely, and the compound interest of gratitude, which accrues to worthy generosity always. . . . (Morton, 1937: 22)

In 1886, as the editor for the *Redwood City Times and Gazette*, Smith made his second plea for preservation. This time it was for the purchase of land in the Big Basin area and preservation of it as a state park. In 1889, Ferdinand Lee Clark wrote an article for the *Santa Cruz Surf* proposing that 1300 acres in Big Basin be put aside for a game preserve. This proposal was later abandoned due to difficulties in obtaining land titles. (Meadows, 1950: 12)

The first real effort to purchase land in Big Basin and preserve it as a State Park came with Andrew P. Hill in 1900. Hill is the man memorialized with the phrase "He Saved the Redwoods." In the fall of 1899, Andrew P. Hill, a photographer and artist living in San Jose, California, arrived at Felton, a small station on the railroad connecting Boulder Creek and Santa Cruz. He had come to take some pictures of the large Redwoods in the Santa Cruz Big Tree Grove. This was a privately owned forest, much visited by tourists who wanted to see the California "big trees." It was then commonly supposed to contain the largest specimens in the Coast Range. The owner, Mr. Welsh, had in fact, found the property sufficiently interesting to outsiders to warrant charging an admission fee and maintaining a hotel.

Hill would later write that Welsh was "very much disturbed to learn that I had photographed the trees and told me that no photographs of them were allowed The thought flashed through my mind that these trees, because of their size and antiquity, were among the natural wonders of the world, and should be saved for posterity. Thus was born my idea of saving the redwoods." On May 1, 1900 a group of people interested in saving the redwoods assembled in the library at Stanford. A new phase of the campaign was coined when the advantages of the "Big Basin" as a park were pointed out. It contained larger trees and, acre for acre, would be much cheaper to buy. The next logical step seemed that a committee should visit the region and report on it. Thus appointed, the committee started for the Big Basin on May 15, 1900. There were no trails then through this part of the Basin, and the explorers followed the ridge between Sempervirens Creek and the East Waddell. Unspoiled by fire, entirely free from road dust, this part of the region was indescribably lovely. There was a splendid stand of trees, running as much as 12 feet in diameter, the brush and ferns were of luxurious growth, and the successive falls on the creek dashed down a canyon bed of virginal black and green. The ridges had their own dappled beauty of madrone, chestnut, oak, and manzanita. Young quail and rabbits skirted away through the brush. It was a lovely prelude to the more impressive beauty of the deeper forest. (Verardo, 1973: 16)

The Sempervirens Club was created as an outcome of the Santa Cruz Mountains trip. The club became the voice for the preservation of the Redwoods and its members the driving force behind the effort. Next, it was decided to ask the legislature for the purchase money. D. M. Delmas, an orator and San Francisco lawyer, was persuaded to address the legislature. The bill was presented to the State Legislature in 1901. After a number of complications were overcome, the bill was passed in 1902, creating the first State Park in California. The first 3,800 acres were purchased for \$250,000 with an additional 300 acres added as a good will gesture by the H. L. Middleton Company. By 1904 the park was open to campers for the first time. However, disaster struck in September 1904 when a fire raged through the area and closed the new park once again. After 10 days of exhausting fire suppressant effort, all except the area immediately around park headquarters had been burned over.

Historic Development of Big Basin Redwoods State Park

The Park withstood both fire and graft and entered a new era marked by growth in the surrounding region and heavy visitor use. People were enjoying their park. In 1926, the State began an interpretive program, and in 1927 the California Legislature provided for the establishment of the State Park System. More and more parks were established, but more and more people visited them. Over time, it became apparent that the extensive use of Big Basin was also causing impacts to the natural resources. The people were destroying their own heritage. The Redwoods have attracted visitors for many years. In the early days travelers came on horseback or in buggies, however the traveling season was short, the number of visitors small. The large choice of attractive Redwood groves tended to spread the small number of camps over a wide field. Soil damage due to ground compaction during the tourist season was mainly reversed during the off-season. The winter rains had a chance to loosen the soil; undergrowth and ground cover were not significantly disturbed and contributed to keeping the soil in good condition.

Then came the opening of the Redwoods with modern roads and highways. The advent of the automobile did the rest. The road openings within the Park multiplied the number of people who traveled to the park. The use period also extended from spring until late fall. Within a period of twenty years the number of visitors and campers expanded from a few hundred a season to many thousands. The ground was quickly denuded of vegetation wherever the people congregated. The soil was compacted, and overuse quickly killed even those young seedlings which might come up in spite of the adverse conditions. The Parks took over responsibility for a number of unfavorable environmental conditions which were not of its own creation. Planning was needed on a large scale and the Park planners began to see that efforts were needed to preserve the fragile resources. The report entitled, The Effect of

Excessive Tourist Travel on the California Redwood Parks (Meinecke 1929), by E. P. Meinecke outlines what was happening in Big Basin during the 1920's and 1930's, and how those conditions came about. It remains one of the most preeminent reports on the problems of Redwood park administration.

Big Basin and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)

The next major development occurred in Big Basin partly because of a work relief effort created by the United States government in response to the economic collapse of the 1929 stock market. Plans for new development in Big Basin had been formulated, and plans for comprehensive changes of the old developed areas had been made when the depression struck the country in the early 1930s. All new appropriations for use within the park were curtailed due to lack of funds. Big Basin was badly in need of new facilities for the maintenance of the park and its administration, but neither money nor men could be had. It was at this point that the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was formed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to help relieve the stress of the nationwide unemployment with meaningful work, benefiting our nation's natural and scenic resources at the same time. One CCC camp, Camp SP-15, was headquartered in Big Basin. These men performed the duties that the park could not afford to perform itself, supplying the necessary labor force to maintain the park. In the early years park furniture and structures were built so that they harmonized with the environment. Most of these features were built out of native materials that could be gathered within the general park area. This mind-set meant that furniture and structures would vary in style and appearance from region to region and park to park. The CCC workers also constructed lookout towers, fire suppression quarters, telephone lines, truck trails, and fire breaks, as well as roads and trails. Most of the work was done by hand in order to avoid the damage that heavy equipment could do to the resources.

Post-War Construction in the California State Parks

By 1940, war efforts had brought the CCC work to a halt, pulling men and money away from the State Parks. The plans that had been made to meet the projected park needs were put on hold until the end of the war. When the war ended in 1945 General Fund monies began to be applied to the State Parks to improve and expand the facilities that already existed and to add new parks to the system. Even though the war had curtailed much of the parks work that needed to be done, Division Chief A. E. Henning directed Park Engineer Hull to develop a series of standard plans for all State Park facilities, including employee residences. In 1945, Colonel Edward Kelton was hired as State Beach Erosion Engineer and in 1947 took over for Hull when he retired. Kelton was responsible for implementing the Division's first post-CCC construction program. (Allen and Newland, 1998: 7)

Between 1945 and 1947, numerous new structures and facilities were built and many existing features were improved. Capital outlays for these two years alone totaled more than \$7.3 million. The State Park Commission's annual report of 1949-1950 notes the "very large construction" program that took place that year, despite the shortage of funds due to the impounded oil royalty revenues, and mostly attributable to the resourcefulness of Colonel Kelton. (Allen and Newland, 1998: 8)

The plans that were developed for this construction program were designed by the Division of Architecture under the Department of Public Works and, like the CCC, they developed general architectural types for different environmental regions. These were broken down into four general climatic and geographic areas: beaches, valleys, deserts, and mountain regions. In some cases, plans previously developed for CCC construction were reworked. New standard plans were being developed at the same time as plans were being created for structures unique to individual parks. The standard plans for all regions contained the same basic floor plan, but the building materials used depended on the local geographic needs. The standard plans developed between 1942 and 1954 are distinguished by their rectangular shapes, minimal architectural elaboration, and overall straight-forward design. For example, a comfort station plan developed for the beach, valley and mountain areas contained the following elements:

- a simple, rectangular "boxcar" shape;
- a simple gable roof;
- inexpensive materials such as concrete and wood;
- small inexpensive wood screen fences;
- inexpensive fixtures and unelaborated features such as windows; and
- very minimal architectural embellishment. (Allen and Newland, 1998: 21,22)

After World War II, California State Park architecture continued to follow the national trends. In the 1950s the design style began to move away from the picturesque and rustic styles and took on a more "modern" design. Gradually both the National Park Service and the State Parks moved away from the environmentally oriented, simplistic styles. Throughout the California State Park system the cultural landscapes of the various parks have evolved through use, creating truly unique landscape settings. Each park is different from those around it.

Inventory Overview

This section provides an overview description of the cultural resources identified in Big Basin Redwoods State Park by Jim Woodward and Daniel A. Bell. Although the listing is extensive, it is estimated that approximately 75% of the

resources have been identified and located and that further work is needed to complete the inventory park-wide and to identify and evaluate the potential for Cultural Landscapes.

The Cultural Resource Inventory Listing of Potentially Significant Cultural Resources, appearing in the appendix, includes inventoried features such as buildings, structures, trails, sites and objects within the Park that have been identified to date. The Listing contains descriptive and dating information for each feature. The potential significance of the resources was evaluated by Woodward and their location within or outside the core Park area identified. Woodward developed functional categories and sorted the various resources into one or more of functional and descriptive categories, such as lumber, agricultural or recreation sites, various building and structure types, and roads and trails. He separated out those resources appearing on four historic park maps, and assigned tentative dates to most of the cultural features.

The spreadsheet of Summary Listings, also in the appendix, notes the distributions of resources within Woodward's various functional categories. The Summary also shows the distribution of dated features from 1850 to 1956. Woodward's Historic Buildings, Structures, Objects, and Sites Listing, a document in the appendix, lists those resources appearing on four historic Park maps, including resources newly added, those existing from prior maps, and those that had been demolished since an earlier map was created.

Historic Campground Furnishings/Features

An inventory of the campground loops conducted by John Kelly and Joe Hood in 1994 identified thirty four concrete-base tables with both straight and tapered legs. Three complete log-base tables and benches and two partial log-base tables were also located. These tables may predate the CCC picnic furniture or may be a unique variation of the CCC table style. One hundred and eight Diablo-style stoves were also located throughout the camping sites. Many of the stoves were in good repair while others needed restoration. One stone retaining wall was also located within the camping area.

The Potentially Significant Cultural Landscapes Within Big Basin Redwoods State Park

Woodward's data suggests the presence of several possible significant Cultural Landscapes. The potential Cultural Landscapes within Big Basin Redwoods State Park exemplify the development and continual growth of a state park recreational

facility. Eight significant periods in history have been identified that may eventually affect the delineation of the Cultural Landscape boundaries within the park.

- **Cultural Ethnographic** (2900 BP (Before Present=1950) - approx. 1769)
- **Spanish Exploration** (approx. 1769)
- **Colonization** (1770-1835)
- **Homesteading** (approx. 1850-1902)
- **Logging** (approx. 1860-1902)
- **Original Park Land Acquisition** (circa 1902)
- **CCC** (ca. 1935-1942)
- **Post-War** (ca. 1942-1965)

This listing represents periods of cultural land use by various groups of people that may have influenced the character of or altered the area where Big Basin Redwoods State Park is located. According to the archaeological record, people began arriving in the area and modifying the environment of Big Basin approximately 8,000 years ago. However, there is little evidence of their use and the number of identified prehistoric sites are limited. The Spanish explorers also left little evidence of their passage through the area. The main landscape impacts to the region began in the mid-1800s when both logging and homesteading began to occur. The logging of the Redwoods had a long term impact on the area and led to the famous fight for their preservation. The main development of Big Basin began in 1902. By 1904 the Park opened to campers for the first time. This period of new development was short lived however. In September 1904 a devastating fire, originating outside the Park, ranged from one to three miles wide, crossing three ridges and creek canyons before it reached the Park. All but the headquarters area was burned over and the fire burned for twenty days before being extinguished by rain. Many of the Redwoods also have scars from more ancient fires that burned hundreds of years ago.

The Big Basin landscape was altered again when Sam Rambo, the Park Warden, arranged a covert deal with the State Forester to sell off some of the trees killed by the 1904 fire. Unfortunately, Rambo's contractor went beyond the intent of the sale and felled all the trees, dead or no, and split them for posts and shakes. It wasn't until 1910, when Hiram Johnson was elected Governor, that the logging operation was investigated and all involved with it were dismissed.

The next major impact to the Big Basin landscape involved Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) construction activities in the Park, as part of a work program begun by an 1933 Congressional act during the Roosevelt administration. It was created to alleviate the homelessness and unemployment among young men during the Great Depression of the early 1930s. One of the main goals was to conserve our nation's natural resources. The park continued to change and develop after World War II when the Post-War building boom began. Big Basin, as it appears

now, is a prime example of how continued use causes cultural landscapes to grow and evolve over time.

Standard Treatments for Cultural Landscapes

The National Park Service's Cultural Resource Management Guidelines (CRMG) for historic preservation (National Park Service, 1997) defines a cultural landscape as a "geographic area including both cultural and natural resources and the wildlife and domestic animals therein, associated with a historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values." According to the Secretary of the Interior's Preservation Brief 36, *Protecting Cultural Landscapes: Planning, Treatment and Management of Historic Landscapes* (Birnbaum 1994), the four types of cultural landscapes include:

- ***Historic Designed Landscape***--a landscape that was consciously designed or laid out by a landscape architect, master gardener, architect, or horticulturist according to design principles, or an amateur gardener working in a recognized style or tradition. The landscape may be associated with a significant person(s), trend, or event in landscape architecture; or illustrate an important development in the theory and practice of landscape architecture. Aesthetic values play a significant role in designed landscapes. Examples include parks, campuses, and estates.
- ***Historic Vernacular Landscape***--a landscape that evolved through use by the people whose activities or occupancy shaped that landscape. Through social or cultural attitudes of an individual, family or a community, the landscape reflects the physical, biological, and cultural character of those everyday lives. Function plays a significant role in vernacular landscapes. They can be a single property such as a farm or a collection of properties such as a district of historic farms along a river valley. Examples include rural villages, industrial complexes, and agricultural landscapes.
- ***Historic Site***--a landscape significant for its association with a historic event, activity, or person. Examples include battlefields and president's house properties.
- ***Ethnographic Landscape***--a landscape containing a variety of natural and cultural resources that associated people define as heritage resources. Examples are contemporary settlements, religious sacred sites and massive geological structures. Small plant communities, animals, subsistence and ceremonial grounds are often components.

Preservation Brief 36 recommends four Primary Treatments and several specific Treatment Methods for preserving and managing cultural landscapes (Birnbaum 1994). (The California Environmental Quality Act specifies that projects

which follow the Secretary of the Interior Standards for the treatment of historic properties shall be considered as mitigated to a level of less than a significant impact on the historical resource.) The four Primary Treatments include:

- **Preservation** of existing historic fabric or resources
- **Rehabilitation** of existing historic fabric or resources
- **Restoration** of historic fabric or resources
- **Reconstruction** of missing historic structures, objects or historic fabric.

Selecting a Primary Treatment for the landscape establishes an overall historic preservation approach, as well as a philosophical framework from which to operate. Selection of the appropriate Treatment can be based on the interpretation objectives for the landscape as a whole, the periods of significance, the integrity of the landscape and its character defining features, and the existing condition of these individual features.

This preliminary Big Basin Redwoods State Park Cultural Resources Inventory should be used as a guide to direct the preservation of integrity of this cultural landscape and the individual cultural resources within it. Although the four Primary Treatment types have been listed above, the *Treatment Methods* associated with each type differ.

Preservation is the least invasive treatment of a cultural resource. The methods for preserving resources might include protection, stabilization, repair and/or cyclical maintenance.

Rehabilitation of a historic resource can accommodate modern alterations or additions without altering the historic features or materials. Methods of rehabilitation might include preserving historic fabric, additions and alterations that are consistent with the existing historic fabric and construction and repairs to the fabric using historically accurate materials and construction methods.

Restoration attempts to recapture the appearance of a property or individual feature, based on historic research and documentation. Restoration methods can include the removal of modern or non-character defining features within the landscape and/or the construction of missing or lost features and materials. These methods all need to be substantiated by extensive historic research and thorough documentation of existing conditions before reconstruction work is attempted.

Reconstruction is used when all or part of a cultural landscape is missing. Reconstruction can depict missing buildings, structures, objects, and even the entire landscape. This treatment type is used only after significant levels of historic research and documentation have been completed, to avoid presenting an inaccurate depiction of historic information or events.

Portions of Big Basin Redwoods State Park fall most easily into the Historic Designed Landscape category. According to the National Park's Cultural Resource Management Guideline (CRMG) (National Park Service, 1997) historic landscapes are "...composed of a number of character-defining features which individually or collectively contribute to the landscape's physical appearance as the features have evolved over time." Historic Designed Landscapes may be associated with a significant trend in landscape architecture, such as the early development of the State Park or the CCC's use of natural materials in natural surroundings following the Park Rustic architectural tradition. The CRMG states that in addition to vegetation and topography, cultural landscapes can include water features, circulation features, such as roads and trails, buildings, and furnishings, such as benches and lighting.

Conclusions

Although a tremendous amount of effort has been advanced towards a unit-wide inventory of the cultural resources in Big Basin Redwoods State Park, there is a tremendous complexity of cultural resources within the Park. And although this Preliminary Inventory provides sufficient information to move forward with the General Planning Process while protecting the identified and potentially significant cultural resources within the Park, there are a few inventory tasks still to be completed. The next section outlines the tasks remaining to complete the Cultural Resources Inventory.

Further Cultural Resources Inventory Tasks

Some of these specific tasks have been taken from the 1981 Technical Proposal by Sonoma State University for a Big Basin Cultural Resource Inventory (Fredrickson). This section includes Park-wide tasks, tasks that specifically address the pre-historic and historic archaeological sites and potential sites and a task to inventory and evaluate the potential Cultural Landscapes as to their eligibility for listing on the National and California Registers of Historic Places (see Keller and Keller 1995, McClelland et. al. 1995, and Parker and King 1995).

Historic and Park-wide Tasks

- Prepare a Cultural Landscape Inventory to identify and evaluate all potential Cultural Landscapes within the Park, completing the appropriate DPR 523 forms for each identified Landscape
- Prepare the appropriate Historic Structure Inventory forms (DPR 523/750) for all historic structures in order to determine California and National Register of Historic Places eligibility.
- Continue the inventory for this park unit to complete all appropriate DPR 523 site records and obtain formal site numbers from the appropriate Information Center in the California Historical Resources Information System.
- Inventory and archive all historic maps, scanning the materials for entry into the Cultural Resource Division's archive database.

Prehistoric Site Tasks

- Identify which of the known prehistoric archaeological sites within the Park are eligible for listing on the National or California Registers of Historic Places.
- Complete and/or update the appropriate DPR 523 archaeological site record forms through on-site field survey. Submit the forms to the appropriate Information Center.
- Prepare a Cultural Landscape Inventory to identify and evaluate any potential Ethnographic Landscapes and/or Traditional Cultural Properties within the Park. This task involves on-site field work, document research, consultation with the appropriate Native American groups a submission of the appropriate documentation to the appropriate Information Center and/or to the National Register (see Birnbaum 1994, Parker and King 1995).

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Appendices

Cultural Resources Inventory Listing Spreadsheet

Cultural Resources Inventory Summary Tables

Historic Buildings, Structures, Objects and Sites Listing