

# Inventory of Existing Interpretive Facilities at Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park



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California Department of Parks and Recreation interpretive facilities include, but are not limited to, campfire programs, interpretive trails, guided walks, historic structures and sites, visitor centers, interpretive centers, museums, interpretive panels, and exhibits. A May 2007 inventory incorporated all existing interpretive and informative elements within Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park, including three interpretive trailhead kiosks near Chatsworth Park South and one informative kiosk at Lilac Lane.

The interpretive kiosks adjacent to Chatsworth Park South consist of two generic CDPR panels and four panels specifically designed for Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park. The Park-specific interpretive panels include “Messages in the Mud and Dust” (identifying the tracks of mammals who live in the Simi Hills), “A Pageant of Plants” (adaptations of Park flora), “Reptiles of the Simi Hills,” and “Brushland Birds.” Two additional panels focus on the subjects of California Indians and woodpeckers. Entitled “The Autumn Harvest” and “Voice of the Woods,” these items were part of the generic panel program operated by the Interpretation and Education Division and are no longer available.

At Lilac Lane, the fire-ravaged kiosk marked “Historic Stage Coach Trail” and accompanying bulletin board provide safety tips and information about local hikes. The Old Santa Susana Stagecoach Road, which winds through the heart of the Park, is not formally interpreted at this location beyond the Lilac Lane trailhead label. While no interpretive facilities currently exist along this trail, a 1939 plaque commemorating the “Old Santa Susana Stage Road” has the potential to inspire future interpretation of the historic trail experience.

All existing interpretive structures suffer from environmental weathering, fire damage, and vandalism. Future interpretive facilities should be incorporated into the Park’s maintenance schedule and derive from relevant topics, themes, interpretive periods, planning documents, ADA standards, and visitor-use studies.

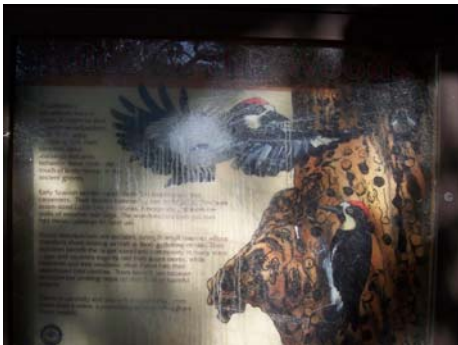
### Existing Interpretive or Informative Facilities and Structures

<b>Object</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Park-Specific Interpretive Content</b>	<b>Condition</b>
"The Autumn Harvest" panel	Kiosk adjacent to Chatsworth Park South	no	poor
"Brushland Birds" panel	Kiosk adjacent to Chatsworth Park South	yes	poor
"Messages in the Mud and Dust" panel	Kiosk adjacent to Chatsworth Park South	yes	poor
"Voice of the Woods" panel	Kiosk adjacent to Chatsworth Park South	no	poor
"A Pageant of Plants" panel	Kiosk adjacent to Chatsworth Park	yes	poor
"Reptiles of the Simi Hills" panel	Kiosk adjacent to Chatsworth Park South	yes	poor
"Historic Stage Coach Trail" trailhead	Trailhead at Lilac Lane leading to Old Santa Susana Stagecoach Road	none beyond the identification of the "Historic Stage Coach Trail"	very poor
1939 commemorative plaque	Old Santa Susana Stagecoach Road	none beyond the identification of the "Old Santa Susana Stage Road"	Some minor damage

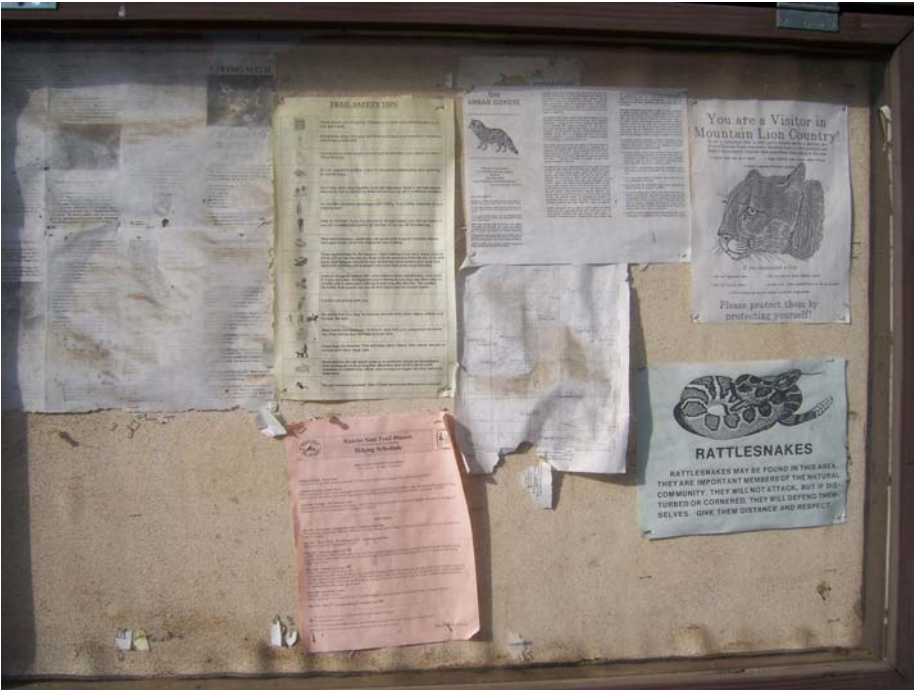


**Above:** Three interpretive kiosks located at trailhead adjacent to Chatsworth Park South

**Below:** Panels mounted within the three interpretive kiosks adjacent to Chatsworth Park South



**Existing structure at Lilac Lane trailhead and commemorative plaque along the Old Santa Susana Stagecoach Road**



## References

California Department of Parks and Recreation. 2007. Resources and Tools: Adventures in Learning. [[http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21700](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21700)]. Accessed May 2, 2007.

California Department of Parks and Recreation. 2007. Resources and Tools: Park Panel Program. [[http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=24257](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=24257)]. Accessed May 2, 2007.