

Cultural Resources

The land area of Fort Hunter Liggett contains prehistoric and historic cultural resources that illustrate the broad sweep of history in California. Fort Hunter Liggett cultural resources include prehistoric archeological sites with constituents ranging from sparse to dense lithic flake scatters, milling equipment, bedrock mortar complexes, midden containing dietary debris, housepits, rock shelters, rock art, and human remains. Historic sites include buildings, adobe ruins, historic landscape elements such as stone alignments, and other structural ruins (See Figure 7: Cultural Resources in the “Figures” section and Table 2: Documented Cultural Resources Within the Northern Cantonment and Jolon Areas on page 35).

This section provides an overview of the study area’s cultural resources within their cultural and historical context. The cultural and historical context as described in the 1994 “Fort Hunter Liggett Preservation Plan” is divided into the following periods:

- Prehistoric Period (before A.D. 1769)
- Hispanic Period (A.D. 1769–1850)
- Settlement Period (A.D. 1850–1880)
- Consolidation (A.D. 1880–1940)
- Hunter Liggett (A.D. 1940–present)

Prehistoric Period (before A.D. 1769)

Prior to historic contact in 1769, the San Antonio Valley was occupied by hunter-gatherers now referred to as Salinans. Salinans occupied areas on both sides of the Santa Lucia mountain range. Anthropologists describe two divisions of Salinans, the Antoniano and the Migeleno, based on geographic and linguistic differences. The Antoniano inhabited what is currently Fort Hunter Liggett.

The Salinans were hunter-gatherers who would occupy several semi-permanent camps and villages as they traveled seasonally for subsistence. Subsistence for the Salinans involved collecting acorns and other vegetal foods, hunting mammals and collecting shellfish.

The earliest human presence at Fort Hunter Liggett is estimated at 10,000 years before present (B.P.). Prior to 5,000 B.P. the hunter-gatherer populations were likely small, mobile groups that foraged across the landscape, often traveling extensively. From 5,000 B.P. to 2,000 B.P. Salinans incorporated marine resources in their diet, made greater use of acorns, and increasingly occupied coastal areas. Trade and exchange with other regions declined and social and political organizations were more focused on the local region. Important technological innovations and population growth characterize the period from 2,000 B.P. to present. Formal trade systems and villages with larger populations developed. At least 20 villages are known to have been located throughout the Salinan territory at the time of historic contact. Smaller temporary sites were found along the coast and inland waterways (Army Corps of Engineers 2000b).

More than 600 sites, including ceremonial paintings, burial sites, other sacred sites, pre-European village sites and historic villages, relating to this period have been documented on Fort Hunter Liggett (Eidsness and Jackson 1994b). One of the most well-known Native American sites is La Cueva Pintada (The Painted Cave). Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, La Cueva Pintada is a cave located at 3,000 feet above sea level on Fort Hunter Liggett. The cave is significant for the white, red, black and ochre colored pictograph painted on the cave walls. It was likely used by Salinans for the celebration of special events such as the winter solstice.

HISPANIC PERIOD (A.D. 1769–1850)

The Hispanic Period begins in 1769 when a Spanish expedition led by Captain Gaspar de Portola passed through the area and made contact with the native population (Eidsness and Jackson 1994b). During Portola's journey, the location for the San Antonio de Padua was noted. Based on this recommendation, Father Junipero Serra established the Mission San Antonio de Padua on July 14, 1771. Father Serra is famous for suspending bells from the oaks and making the exclamation, "Oh ye gentiles! Come, come to the holy Church" shortly after arriving in the area (Older 1938). This was the third of twenty-one missions established in California.

In 1771, Serra raised a small shelter and cross at the original Mission site 3 miles south of its current location. The Mission was moved shortly after initial settlement to its current site to take advantage of Mission Creek's perennial flow of water. The original mission structure was an adobe building with tile roofs.

Shortly after the Mission became established, Juan Bautista de Anza began an expedition leading nearly 200 settlers and their escorts from Sonora, Mexico to found a settlement at San Francisco Bay. This expedition established an overland settlement trail from Mexico to California. In 1776, the Anza expedition camped at the Mission San Antonio de Padua. Journal entries from the expedition describe the striking oak landscape and life at the Mission.

By 1781, San Antonio de Padua had become the largest Mission community in California. Salinans were baptized (neophytes) and married by the Mission padres. The neophytes were taught agriculture and stock raising and provided the primary labor force for the Mission.

In the early 19th century, land associated with the Mission stretched from Junipero Serra Peak, just north of the current Fort Hunter Liggett Boundary, south to Bradley (approximately 25 miles south of King City). From west to east, the Mission land swept from the Pacific Coast to just



Mission San Antonio de Padua in 1906, San Antonio Valley Historical Society

east of the Salinas River. There were at least ten outlying Mission ranches or grazing areas that were occupied by Mission Indians. Of the ten ranches, San Miguelito de Trinidad, El Piojo, Los Ojitos and Pleito were the largest agricultural operations associated with the Mission and included the only recorded permanent dwellings. The ruins of San Miguelito and Los Ojitos are the only known remains of the four rancho sites on Fort Hunter Liggett.

The number of neophytes that lived and worked at the Mission reached its peak of 1,300 in 1805. The Mission complex experienced much growth during this time period. In 1813, a new church was completed and the Mission continued to thrive until Mexico received its independence from Spain in 1821.

Despite the growth of the Mission in the early 19th century, the Salinan population suffered. Although the Salinans were documented as having adapted easily to mission life, their population declined drastically. Contagious diseases from Europe caused an abnormally high death rate. Missionaries had legal rights over the Salinans who were punished if they were not obedient. Stress and occasional upheavals against the Mission also impacted the Salinans (Margolin 1997).

After Mexican independence from Spain, the new Mexican government began a program to remove the missions and their landholdings from church control. Salinans were released from bondage. With the secularization of the missions in the 1830s, the vast holdings of the Mission San Antonio de Padua were claimed by civil authorities

and divided into at least ten Mexican land grants. The land grants were awarded to soldiers, administrators, and other individuals in favor of the Mexican government. Four of the land grants, Rancho Milpitas (Little Fields), Rancho El Piojo (The Louse), Rancho San Miguelito de Trinidad, and Rancho Los Ojitos (Little Springs), were located within the boundaries of what is now Fort Hunter Liggett (Margolin 1997).

In 1846, the United States went to war with Mexico. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the war in 1848 and established that the property rights of the Mexicans under the land grant system would be respected.

Cultural resources related to the Hispanic period at Fort Hunter Liggett include the Mission San Antonio de Padua and associated archeological sites and features, the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail and camp site, and the Portola Trail and camp site.

SETTLEMENT PERIOD (A.D. 1850–1880)

The Settlement Period begins shortly after the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed in 1848. The U.S. Land Claims Commission was established in 1851 to investigate land claims and ownership under the Mexican land grant system. The Commission demanded excessive proof and documentation. This proved to be difficult and costly as the Mexican land grant system was sometimes casual in its documentation. Appeals were expensive and required lawyers to represent clients in court hearings. Because it was so difficult to prove Mexican land grant ownership; many of the land grants were eventually acquired by Americans. By 1875, all of the land grants on what is now Fort Hunter Liggett were claimed by American speculators.

Many Mexican landowners lost their land to American settlers while the Land Commission was sorting out the Mexican land grants. Ownership battles at the Rancho Milpitas exemplify these discrepancies. Faxon Atherton purchased the Milpitas Rancho from Ygnacio Pastor. Somehow during the conversion of land,

records under the Land Commission, records were changed and Ygnacio's small ranch that was comprised of several thousand acres became listed as a 42,000-acre landholding. Owners of land that had not originally been owned by Pastor included Indians, Mexicans and Spaniards that had small plots dating back to the Hispanic Period. George Atherton, and his wife Gertrude, who later became a well-known novelist, dispossessed fifty-three families from the Rancho Milpitas in 1878. The Athertons arrived with sheriffs and guns and burned houses and possessions of the residents who were considered to be squatters (Fisher 1945).

Following the 1849 Gold Rush, mining and farming homesteaders began settling in the San Antonio Valley. Gold deposits were found on the Rancho Milpitas. Several hundred mines were located in other parts of the Santa Lucia Mountains including many areas along Los Burros Creek (Margolin 1997). The Homestead Act of 1862 created incentives for settling by offering inexpensive or free land. One of the first settlers to the area during this time was Jose Maria Gil who migrated from Madrid, Spain to mine for gold in the Sierra Nevada. He built an adobe in the area, the remains of which are still standing (Eidsness and Jackson 1994). Settlers from Mexico, Germany, the northeastern United States, and other parts of California also settled on small farms during this period (Margolin 1997).

With hundreds of settlers migrating into the area to mine in the hills or ranch in the valleys, a number of small towns were established. The town of Jolon was founded in the late 1870s on the route of the El Camino Real, the road that connected the Missions along the California coast. Jolon was a Salinan word that translated to "Place of the Dead Oaks." Settlers included both Mexicans and Chinese. Two "China towns" formed for the Chinese that came to pan gold. George Dutton and Captain Thomas T. Tidball purchased and expanded an existing adobe inn which came to be known as the Dutton Hotel. They later added the Tidball Store. In addition to the Dutton Hotel and the Tidball Store, saloons,

blacksmith shops, a dance hall, a jail and a post office were also built. Most of the land surrounding Jolon remained in cattle ranching (Margolin 1997).

Jolon's boom period ended in 1886 when the Southern Pacific Railroad extended through King City, 23 miles east of Jolon (Margolin 1997). Remaining structures related to this era include the ruins of two ranchos (San Miguelito and Los Ojitos), the Gil Adobe, the Tidball Store and the Dutton Hotel. The land grants in the study area have remained unusually intact when compared to other ranching areas in California (Eidsness and Jackson 1994b).

The United States returned title of 33 acres of land and the Mission San Antonio de Padua to the Catholic Church in 1862. After the death of Father Ambris in 1882, the Mission had fallen to ruin. During this time rancheros and Native American families continued to visit the crumbling Mission to say prayers. Restoration of the Mission was initiated in 1903 by the California Landmarks League. Despite a setback from the 1906 earthquake, the restoration of the main chapel was completed in 1907. A complete reconstruction of the Mission later took place around 1948 with the assistance of the Hearst Foundation and the Franciscans of California.



Jolon Valley, 1911, San Antonio Valley Historical Society photo

Today the Mission exists in the most intact original setting of any California mission. In addition to the Mission church and convent, which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, portions of the extensive water system, a cemetery, ruins of a military barracks (built for Spanish soldiers), out-buildings, structures, and substantial and significant archeological deposits remain. Archeological deposits associated with the first contact period between Native Americans and Euro-Americans have been found and documented in the vicinity of the Mission. Archeologists have conducted annual investigations at the Mission since 1976, and continue to uncover and document additional deposits.

Structures and archeological sites related to the Jolon townsite also remain. Sites on Fort Hunter Liggett include structures such as the Tidball Store, the Gil Adobe and ruins of the Dutton Hotel.



Top: Tidball Store (Ganoung Hotel) area, 1910;
Bottom: Dutton Hotel, 1923, San Antonio Valley Historical Society photos

CONSOLIDATION (A.D. 1880–1940)

During the Settlement Period the four ranchos at Fort Hunter Liggett went through a succession of owners as the Land Commission attempted to sort out the area and ownership of the Mexican land grants. By 1880, all of the ranchos had been consolidated along the lines of the original land grants. The James Brown Cattle Company owned and operated the Milpitas and Los Ojitos Ranchos and the Newhall Land and Farming Company operated the San Miguelito and the El Piojo ranchos. These ranching operations were not very profitable and were run by absentee landowners (Eidsness and Jackson 1994a).

The most significant change during this period occurred during the mid-1920s when William Randolph Hearst began buying property in San

“William Randolph Hearst has developed not only buildings at San Simeon, but he has vastly increased the acreage. He owns nearly 240,000 acres in Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties, a ranch about half the size of the State of Rhode Island. One agent is said to have bought for him twenty-three ranches in one day.”

– Mrs. Fremont Older, *William Hearst, American*, p. 542



La Cuesta Encantada, NPS photo

Antonio Valley. Hearst began development of his newly inherited landholdings in 1919 when he commissioned architect Julia Morgan to design La Cuesta Encantada, his country house complex at San Simeon. In the 1920s and 1930s, Hearst gradually expanded his 60,000-acre inheritance in San Luis Obispo County to approximately 250,000 acres. The northernmost portions of his vast landholdings in the area of Jolon were acquired in 1925 (Gillett 1990). This included the town of Jolon and the Milpitas Ranch that surrounded Mission San Antonio de Padua.

By 1937, the estate stretched south and west of Mission San Antonio de Padua, covering miles of coast. Hearst’s rapid acquisition of land drastically changed life in the San Antonio Valley, as Anne Fisher writes in her history of the Salinas River:

“While Salinas folk swelled with pride over their own who had gained recognition, a man famed in another way was dreaming of his empire to come, and quietly buying up land in San Antonio Valley near Jolon, which was to be the nucleus of that empire. This man had great power and influence. He could do much to bring on war or to affect the peace of nations, through his daily columns in black and white. One day he would control whole communities in the Salinas and her tributaries and build a castle. William Randolph Hearst now owned land where padres and Indians had built ditches and labored in fields and chanted their Canticles to the dawn”
(Fisher 1945, p.283.)

The most well-known landmark associated with Hearst’s historic estate is the complex that he developed in San Simeon, located in coastal San Luis Obispo County, the southernmost portion of the estate. Hearst built La Cuesta Encantada (Spanish for “the enchanted hill”) on a prominent hilltop just west of the San Simeon Bay. La Cuesta Encantada, commonly known today as Hearst Castle®, included Hearst’s country home (Casa Grande), guesthouses, esplanades, pools, a zoo and other amenities. All of these structures were furnished and decorated with art, antiques and

building materials from time periods ranging from ancient Egypt to the Italian Renaissance.

The development of San Simeon provides an important context for understanding Hearst's intent for the Milpitas Hacienda as it relates to his larger estate. In addition to La Cuesta Encantada, Hearst had Morgan design what she called a "little Spanish Village" at San Simeon Bay in 1928 and 1930. San Simeon Village included five houses for Hearst's key employees and an ornate warehouse to store acquisitions that Hearst had shipped to San Simeon (Morgan 1931). These supporting structures were built in what Hearst described as "the early California style," a vernacular architectural style associated with the Hispanic Period.

Morgan also designed supporting facilities for the ranch operations at San Simeon (east of San Simeon Village) in the early California style. These structures included a poultry facility, known as the

Chicken Ranch, and a bunkhouse. The early California style buildings were handled differently than La Cuesta Encantada where Morgan's office acted as de facto contractor. While Morgan's office designed all of the early California style structures, most were built under a separate contract by W.J. Smith (Coffman 2003; Coffman 2004).

The early California style structures were components of what Morgan and Hearst describe in their correspondence as a "model farm." Sustainable model farms were often an important component in great 18th century European estates. Hearst's model farm included a state-of-the-art poultry ranch, horse ranch, orchards, dairy farm, dog kennel, and cattle ranches. (Horn 2004).

Hearst commissioned various agricultural studies in considering his model farm. Two ranch headquarters, one in San Simeon and the other at Milpitas, managed Hearst's massive cattle ranching operations. The Piedmont Land and Cattle Company, Hearst's subsidiary that



Clockwise from top left: San Simeon Village employee houses; The Milpitas Hacienda, Hearst's suite; Casa Grande, San Simeon Village stucco warehouse, NPS photos

managed the ranches, hired San Francisco engineer Thomas H. Means to assess the possibilities of the two ranches. Means recommended that San Simeon should be run as a stock ranch where limited farming to support grazing would bring the greatest return. It was also stated that the foothills of San Simeon would probably have great value as residential property someday (Means 1930). Mean's assessment of the Milpitas Ranch recommended that 10,000 acres along the Nacimiento and San Antonio Rivers could be used for farming dry crops such as oats, wheat, and barley.

In 1929, a large fire burned most of the town of Jolon and the original Milpitas Ranch house (Gillett 1990). Hearst asked Morgan to design a new ranch headquarters building, the Milpitas Hacienda. The structure was to include lodging for ranch employees and rooms for Hearst and visiting guests.

The Milpitas Hacienda has both one -and two -story sections, with the second story areas situated over the wings. Towers at the Hacienda reach as high as three stories (see Figures 8 and 9 in the "Figures" section). The design included a suite of rooms intended for use by Hearst, a community dining room, a ranch superintendent's suite, and rooms designed for ranch personnel (Horn 2001). Ten of the forty cowboys who worked at the Milpitas Ranch stayed in quarters at the Milpitas Hacienda (California State Parks 1974). Henry Taylor, the ranch's manager, lived in one wing of the building and Hearst's rooms and visitor accommodations were located in its distinctive northwestern tower facing Mission San Antonio de Padua (Gillett 1990).

Interior and exterior walls of the Milpitas Hacienda are reinforced concrete. The ceiling beams of the porches and major interior beams are likewise formed concrete, stained to resemble wood. Ceilings utilize wooden joists and wood decking that was recycled from the original concrete formwork used for the pouring of the

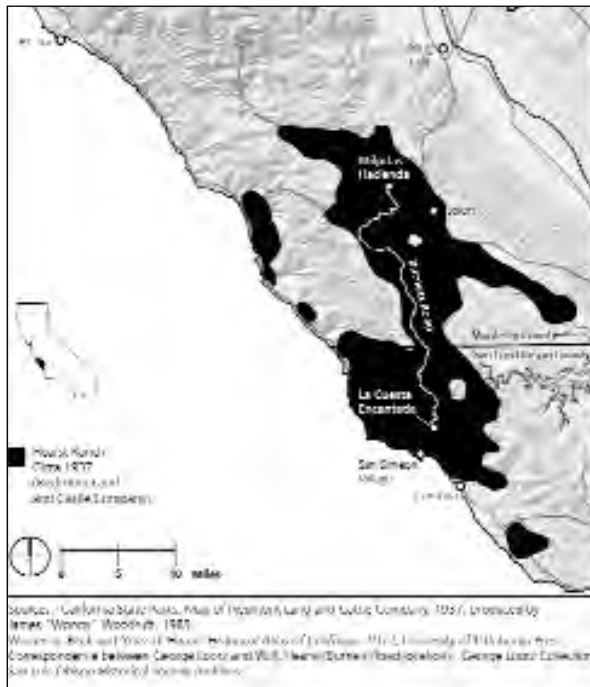
Hacienda walls. The roof is pitched and tiled with clay barrel tiles and has no gutters. Windows, doors, and screens are custom designed wood. The exterior walls are coated with Portland cement plaster (stucco).

Hearst's use of the Milpitas Hacienda was much greater than that of the other utilitarian buildings at his estate. The primary use of the Milpitas Hacienda was to be the ranching headquarters. However, providing a destination for rides and picnics was also an important use for the new building (Kastner 2000). Hearst is described as having brought guests to the Hacienda for picnics and parties to capture the flavor of 19th century California. One party was known to include Spanish music and barbecues of beef, salsa, beans, tortillas and enchiladas with waitresses wearing "billowy white dresses and lace mantillas (California State Parks 1974)." Such a lavish party is known to have occurred only once at Milpitas; however, correspondence from that era indicates that Hearst took guests there on other occasions (Coffman 2003).

Shortly after the Milpitas Hacienda was built, Hearst ordered the construction of a 20-mile road² that would connect San Simeon to the Milpitas Ranch. Before the construction of what was referred to as the Burnett Road, the route from San Simeon to the Milpitas Ranch was a more than 100-mile journey, requiring travel south to San Luis Obispo and then 100 miles north to Jolon. Despite this distance, Hearst had taken guests to the Milpitas Ranch on several occasions via this route (Coffman 2003). The Burnett Road traversed from La Cuesta Encantada along Burnett Creek, connecting to Salmon Creek in Monterey County, where it followed along the scenic palisades area and then crossed over the Nacimiento River, tying into existing trails past the San Miguelito Ranch (Loorz 1932; Loorz 1933).

² George Loorz, Building Superintendent for Hearst Castle from 1932-1938, referred to Burnett as a "pleasure road" in a letter to his business partner, Fred Stolte. A letter from W.R. Hearst to Loorz emphasizes that the road also had to serve the important utilitarian function "to get from one ranch to another quickly" (letter from Hearst to Loorz, May 29, 1932).

W.R. Hearst Central California Estate, Circa 1937



Julia Morgan was not involved in the design and implementation of the Burnett Road. F.W. Slattery, who oversaw the Hearst's ranch at San Simeon, and George Looz, Hearst's building superintendent from 1932 to 1937, were responsible for this job. Slattery built the first eight miles with work crews at San Simeon, and Looz completed the remainder of the road construction between 1932 and 1934 with the assistance of a contractor, the Tieslau Brothers. Hearst and Looz described the road as both a "pleasure road" and a utilitarian road in their correspondence (Coffman 2003).



Left: View of Burnett Peak looking north from La Cuesta Encantada; Right: View of Burnett Peak looking south from Bald Mountain, Fort Hunter Liggett; NPS photos

Construction of the Burnett Road was a priority for Hearst from 1932 to 1934. Correspondence between Hearst and Looz regarding the Burnett Road demonstrate that Hearst was heavily involved in decisions regarding its location and construction. Looz reported to Hearst every twist and turn and Hearst often weighed in on engineering considerations. Although the road was completed in late 1934, Hearst demanded improvements when he wanted to use the road in December and Looz had to inform him that it was not passable during the winter season (Hearst 1932). Orders immediately followed requesting Looz to make Burnett an all-weather road (Willicombe 1934). Looz would continue to improve and maintain sections of the Burnett Road during his time at San Simeon through 1938.

Hearst had airstrips built at both San Simeon and Jolon. While the Jolon airstrip was primarily for ranch operations at Milpitas, Hearst is known to have flown guests back to La Cuesta Encantada from Jolon on occasion after riding to Milpitas for picnics. One time, Hearst flew to Jolon during the renovations of the San Simeon airstrip in the early 1930s, and took the Burnett Road to La Cuesta Encantada (Coffman 2003).

The Milpitas Hacienda is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as the Milpitas Ranch House. Its significance lies in its connection to both Hearst and Morgan. The NRHP nomination classifies the Hacienda as "Mission architectural style." This style is more commonly referred to as Mission revival. Interest



in Mission revival evolved from the increasing public interest in restoring California missions that took place in the 1880s. Mission revival was officially recognized during the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago with architect A. Page Brown's design for the California State Pavilion. The style is characterized by simplicity of form, and features large expanses of stucco walls, red-tiled roof surfaces, curvilinear gables, bell towers, round arches supported by piers, and arcades. Concrete walls with the pattern of wood boards forming the finished surface later became closely associated with Mission revival (Gebhard 1968). Mission revival grew in popularity over the next twenty years and it was applied to the design of many public, commercial, and residential buildings throughout California (Eidsness and Jackson 1994a). Julia Morgan designed several structures in this style including the Mills College Bell Tower in Oakland, California and additions to Phoebe Hearst's Hacienda near Pleasanton, California (Gebhard 1968)

Some architectural historians contend that the Milpitas Hacienda is more closely associated with the Spanish Colonial revival style since Mission revival architecture had faded in use by 1919. At this time architects were in favor of the more ornate Spanish Colonial revival style that was featured at the 1915–1916 Panama-California Exposition in San Diego by architect Bertram Goodhue. Spanish Colonial revival incorporates a range of Hispanic-Moorish architectural features not present in Mission revival (Eidsness and Jackson 1994a). In early correspondence to Morgan when architectural styles for La Cuesta Encantada were being considered, Hearst expressed interest in the architecture displayed at the Panama-California Exposition. Morgan replied that Spanish Colonial revival might be too elaborate for the scale of buildings that they would build at San Simeon. They both agreed, however, that the California Mission style [Mission revival] was “too primitive” to use at that time (Coffman 1989).



Architectural features of the Milpitas Hacienda: arcades, towers, windows, tiled roof, and formed concrete beams, all NPS photos except bottom right: Richard Crusius



Although Morgan and Hearst were adamant about not going back to Mission revival for Hearst's personal estate, there was a deliberate intent to keep the supporting buildings in the vernacular that Hearst described as the early California style. In correspondence discussing architecture for his model farm, Hearst writes to Morgan, "I want the farm buildings very simple, and I imagine the simplest thing we can do is adobe construction in the early California style, with wooden railings . . . tiled roofs – and our effects with the vines and the trees against the white walls and red roofs. (Hearst 1922)."

Assigning one architectural style to structures designed by Morgan and Hearst is difficult because they often borrowed from many styles during their collaborative efforts. Elements of both Mission revival and Spanish Colonial revival architecture can be seen in the early California style structures. In addition to the Milpitas Hacienda, several of the farm and ranch buildings at San Simeon were much more elaborate in execution than the "very simple" buildings that Hearst describes to Morgan in his 1922 letter. This study describes the architectural styles in the terms used by Hearst and Morgan.

Improvements to the Milpitas Hacienda were made in the 1930s despite the fact that Hearst was \$125 million in debt (Horn 2004). In 1937, a bunkhouse, similar to one Hearst recently had built at San Simeon's ranch, and a greenhouse, were planned for the Milpitas Ranch (Coffman 2003). When the depression finally caught up to Hearst that same year, he was forced to stop the rapid pace of construction that had occurred for almost 20 years. In 1940, Hearst sold 153,830 acres of his northern ranch, including the Milpitas Hacienda, to the U.S. Army. Although Hearst was forced to consolidate his holdings to pay off his debts, during World War II he was able to rebuild his fortune. Structures at San Simeon were maintained and renovated until Hearst passed away in 1951 (Horn 2004).

Today, the Milpitas Hacienda and several supporting ranch structures remain in the Fort

Hunter Liggett cantonment area. Portions of the Burnett Road are also still apparent and in use at Fort Hunter Liggett. At San Simeon, La Cuesta Encantada is open to the public at the Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument, a national historic landmark. Structures at San Simeon Village and the San Simeon ranch are still owned and maintained for private use by the Hearst Corporation.

HUNTER LIGGETT (A.D. 1940–PRESENT)



In 1940, in preparation for involvement in World War II, the U.S. War Department purchased land from William Randolph Hearst, other neighboring ranches, and the Los Padres National Forest to create a troop training facility known as the Hunter Liggett Military Reservation. The facility was named for Lieutenant General Hunter Liggett (1857–1935), commander of the 41st National Guard Division, and during World War I, commander of the Corps of the Expeditionary Forces, and Chief of Staff under General Pershing.

Under the command of Camp Roberts, Hunter Liggett Military Reservation was transformed into a semi-permanent training facility. U.S. Forest Service personnel built fire roads and provided fire protection, and the Civilian Conservation Corps built roads to supplement the existing



Armored reconnaissance vehicle, U.S. Army photo.

county network. The rolling hills, level valleys, and rugged peaks of Hunter Liggett Military Reservation were similar to the landscapes of World War II European combat theaters. During this time, it served as training grounds for thousands of infantry who marched up from Camp Roberts.

In 1953, the Hunter Liggett Military Reservation command was transferred to Fort Ord. In 1957, the Combat Development Experimentation Command began experimentation with new defense technologies at Hunter Liggett, a program that was to last for over forty years. The post was upgraded to Fort Hunter Liggett in 1974.

No historic buildings relating to the early WWII period are evident. The recently restored murals added to the main dining rooms of the Hacienda in the early 1950s clearly relate to the military use period. The Gil Adobe was adaptively used as a barracks but this use is not apparent. Most of the existing buildings that are now associated with the military, including administrative buildings, barracks, chapel, theater, post exchange, sports complex, and residences, do not meet the 50-year eligibility criterion for the National Register of Historic Places, and therefore, are not considered to be historic at this time. The military activity, however, is a historic use representing a rich 60-year history of military training use employing different warfare weapons, systems, and tactics.

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

A cultural landscape is a geographic area including both cultural and natural resources and wildlife or domestic animals therein associated with a historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values (NPS 1994).

Portions of Fort Hunter Liggett retain the cultural landscape character dating back to the Prehistoric and Hispanic Periods. Most Salinans lived on the Nacimiento and San Antonio rivers both within and around Fort Hunter Liggett. Four native village sites existing at the time of initial European contact have been identified along these two rivers, within the installation's boundaries. Because these

archeological sites have not been disturbed by modern development, they retain exceptional potential for studying an ancient culture and its relationship to the natural environment.

While all of the historic resources form part of a cultural landscape, the historic uses that affected the natural landscape features are not always apparent. As already noted, the Mission complex retains many historic features; however, the spatial relationships are not readily evident. The water system is located away from the mission buildings and its features and setting are obscured by vegetative growth. Portions of the aqueduct are still intact and visible.

Although much of Fort Hunter Liggett remains undeveloped, the ranching landscape that would have surrounded the Milpitas Hacienda is not readily apparent. The former wood barn located to the north of the Hacienda has been sided with sheet metal and foam and is used as the Fort Hunter Liggett fire station. The area between these buildings has been paved and all natural landscape elements removed. The ranch bungalows located along a road to the east of the former barn are associated with this period, but the relationships have been compromised through relocation. Landscape features usually associated with ranching operations, such as fences, corrals, pens, trails, and grazing areas, have been removed. Landscape elements that might be associated with the Gil Adobe, such as outbuildings, fences, or trails are also no longer apparent.

The present landscape more readily reflects the military use. Sections of concrete roads, dams, and bridges crossing some of the streams were constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps after the property was acquired by the military. The roads and paving system, siting of buildings, cleared fields, access roads, fitness and training equipment, and hillside scarring all attest to the various activities that are carried out at this training facility.

Table 2: Documented Cultural Resources Within the Northern Cantonment and Jolon Areas

Site Number/	Description	NRHP Status/Level of Significance	BRAC
Northern Cantonment Area			
CA-MNT-891/H	Modern landfill	Low Potential	No
CA-MNT-940H	Hacienda*	Listed in 1977/National Significance	Yes
CA-MNT-1566H	San Antonio Mission System	Eligible/High	No
CA-MNT-1569H	Sanchez Adobe	Eligible/High	No
CA-MNT-1563H	Camino Real/Caretta Trail	Low Potential	No
N/A	Building T-111, Housing*	Ineligible	No
N/A	Storage Building, T-119* (Blacksmith Shop)	Ineligible	No
N/A	Fire Station, T-120* (Tin Barn)	Ineligible	No
N/A	Building, T-124*	Ineligible	Yes
N/A	Building T-131* (Chicken Coop)	Ineligible	Yes
N/A	Building T-149*	Ineligible	Yes
Jolon Area			
CA-MNT-693H	Jolon Townsite	Eligible/High	No
CA-MNT-794H	Tidball Store Site*	Listed in 1976/Local Significance	Yes
CA-MNT-1081H/1561H	Saint Luke's Episcopal Church*	Listed in 1971/Local Significance	No
CA-MNT-1088H	Saint Luke's Cemetery*	Listed in 1971/Local Significance	No
CA-MNT-1562H	Jolon Stage Route	Low Potential	No
CA-MNT-0693H%	Dutton Hotel*	Listed 1971/Local Significance	No
CA-MNT-793H	Portola Expedition Camp	Not Determined	No
CA-MNT-963H	Gil Adobe*	Listed in 1974/Local Significance	Yes
CA-MNT-1089H	Gil Family Cemetery	Eligible/High	No
CA-MNT-1563H	Camino Real/Caretta Trail	Low Potential	No
Source: Eidsness and Jackson 1994. * = Pre-1945 Structures			