CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT:

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE INVENTORY OF OREGON CAVES NATIONAL MONUMENT

WINTER 1992

OREGON CAVES NATIONAL MONUMENT

CULTURAL RESOURCES DIVISION * PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION * SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION....3

IDENTIFICATION....4

HISTORY....8

- 1909 - 1934....9
- 1934 - 1941....11
- 1941 - Present....16

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION....20

- Response to Natural Features....21
- Spatial Organization....22
- Land Use....23
- Circulation....25
- Cluster Arrangement and Structures....29
- Vegetation....38
- Small Scale Features....41

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE....48

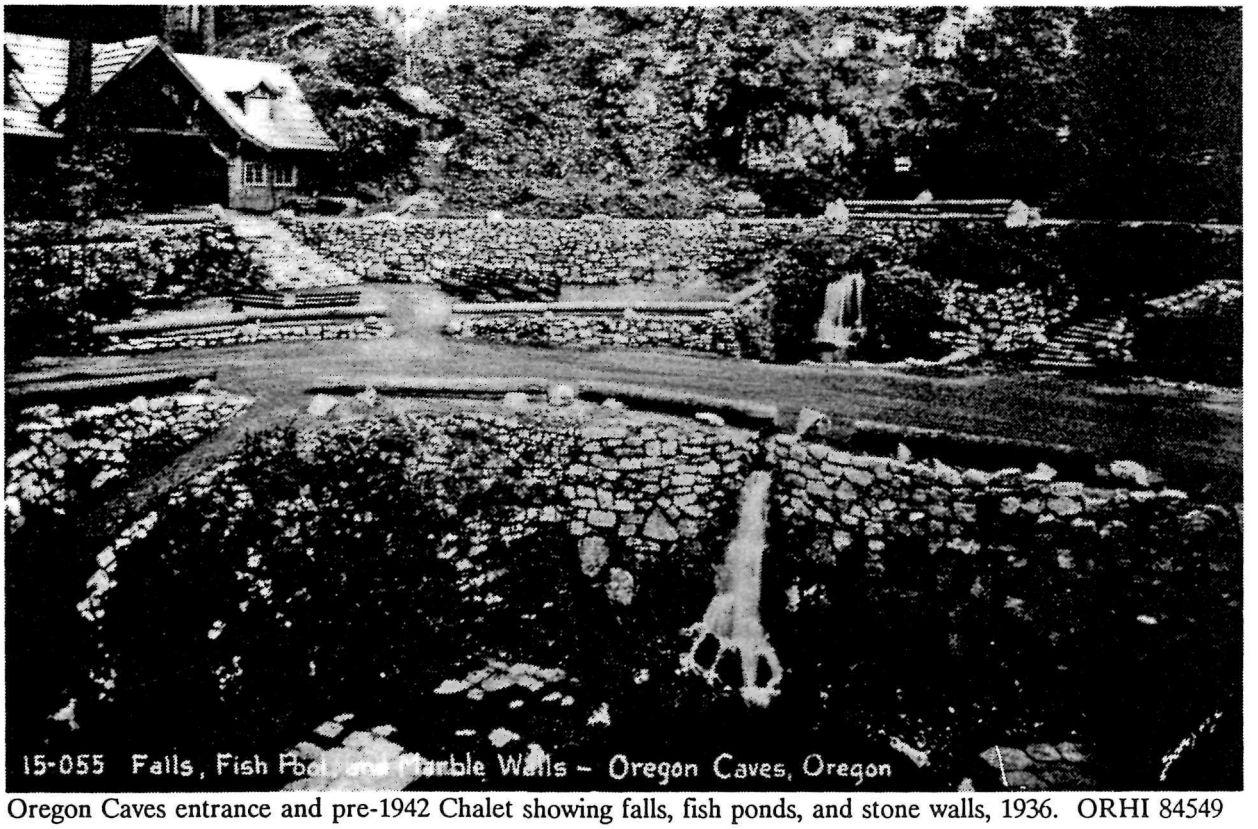
ENDNOTES....51

REFERENCES....53

INTRODUCTION

This Cultural Landscape Report identifies the historic landscape at Oregon Caves National Monument and documents its characteristics. The purpose of the report is to identify historic landscape resources for future evaluation. This is a final step in the development of guidelines and recommendations for preservation, rehabilitation, maintenance, and interpretation of those resources. Project boundaries are based primarily on the proposed Oregon Caves Historic District boundaries, yet are drawn to reflect the physiographic characteristics defining the district. This document is a technical supplement and does not replace a standard cultural landscape report. Additional work and review will be required prior to development of specific recommendations and/or design concepts. Both the report and future projects resulting from the report's information will receive review from appropriate local, state and federal entities.

This document was developed in the Pacific Northwest Regional Office by the Cultural Resources Division. Previous documents addressing historic resources at the monument include: Historic American Building Survey documentation for Oregon Caves Chateau, Oregon Caves Chalet, and Oregon Caves Ranger Residence, 1989; and Oregon Caves Concession Cottages, 1988. The historic district has been nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.



Oregon Caves entrance and pre-1942 Chalet showing falls, fish ponds, and stone walls, 1936. ORHI 84549

IDENTIFICATION

NAMES
COMMON: Oregon Caves
HISTORIC: Oregon Caves Resort

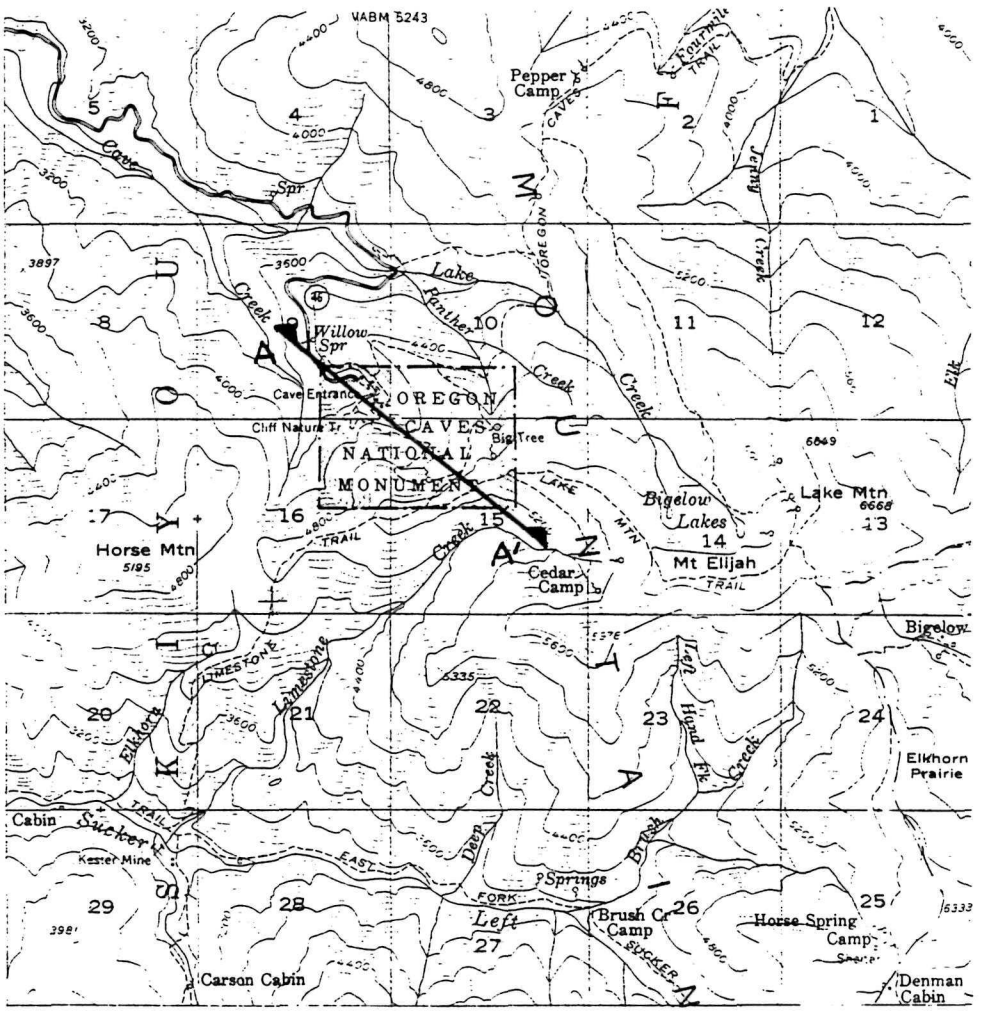
LANDSCAPE TYPE
HISTORIC: Resort
CURRENT: Resort / Administrative / Residential

LOCATION
USGS Quadrangle: Oregon Caves, Oregon-California
COUNTY: Josephine T40S R6W Sections 9, 10, 15, 16

ACCESS
X YES--Unrestricted
__YES--Restricted
__NO ACCESS

OWNERSHIP
_Public
__Private
X_Both

NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS
X Listed: Oregon Caves Chateau, NHL, 1987
Oregon Caves Historic District, nomination submitted, 1991



IDENTIFICATION

CONTEXTUAL BOUNDARIES

PHYSIOGRAPHIC

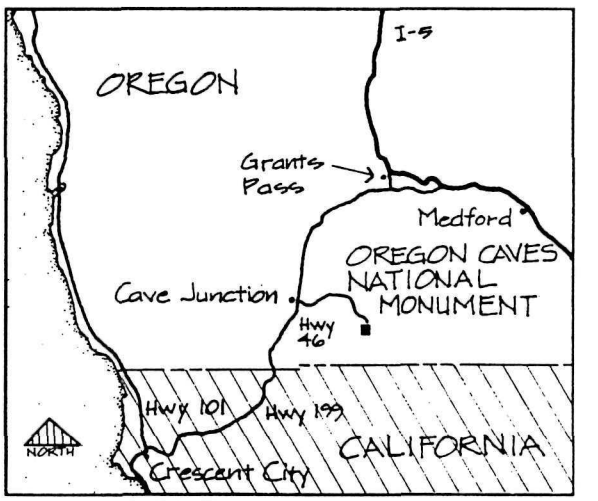
The monument is located in the Siskiyou Mountains of southwest Oregon at a range of 3680 to 5280 feet above sea level. The monument is characterized by extremely steep topography and complex geology within an enclave of mixed conifer forest. The developed area of the monument is situated on a narrow bench above a canyon formed by Cave Creek. A gorge was formed where a normally dry ravine to the southeast of the main cave entrance meets Cave Creek. Cave Creek flows westward through the canyon to Sucker Creek.

CULTURAL

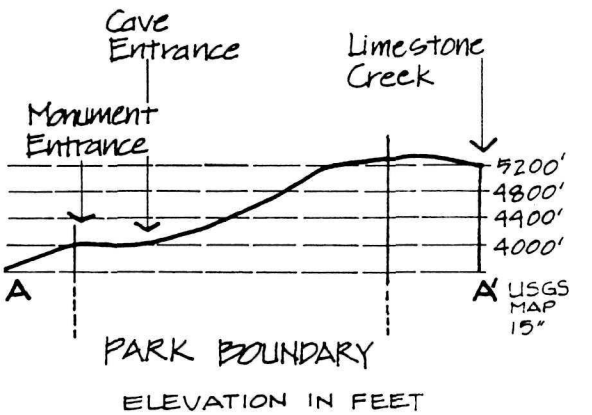
The monument is located seven miles north of the California/Oregon boundary and 40 miles east of the Pacific coast. From the junction of U.S. 199 and Oregon 46 at Cave Junction, Highway 46 winds easterly 20 miles and terminates at the monument parking lot. Big Tree, Lake Mountain, and Cliff Nature trails create a boundary arching north, east, and south of the developed area.

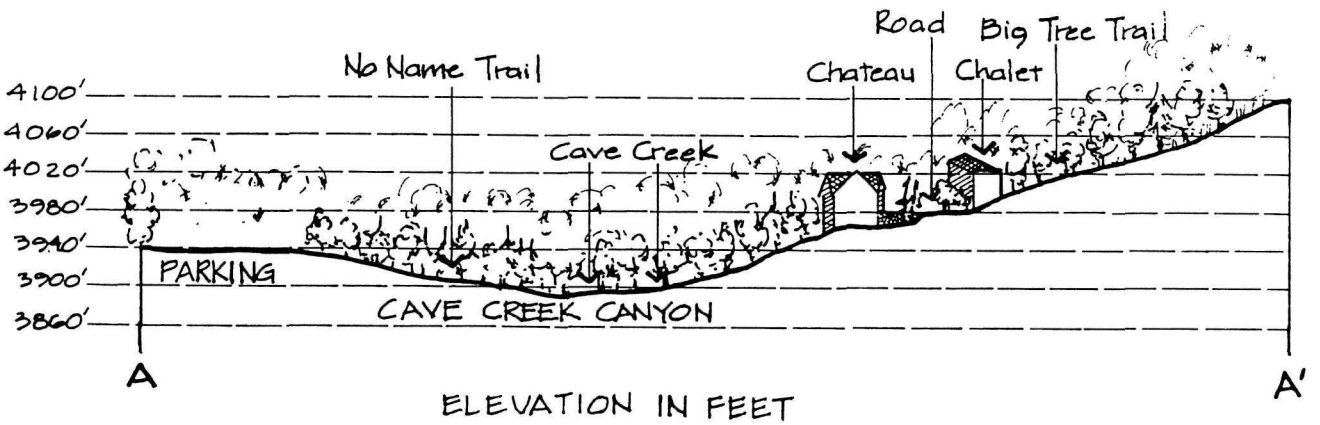
POLITICAL

The developed area contains a visitor information and ranger office for on-site administration, utility buildings and seasonal employee housing. The property is administered by the National Park Service. Services are provided by the Oregon Caves Company under concession contract.



LOCATION MAP





IDENTIFICATION

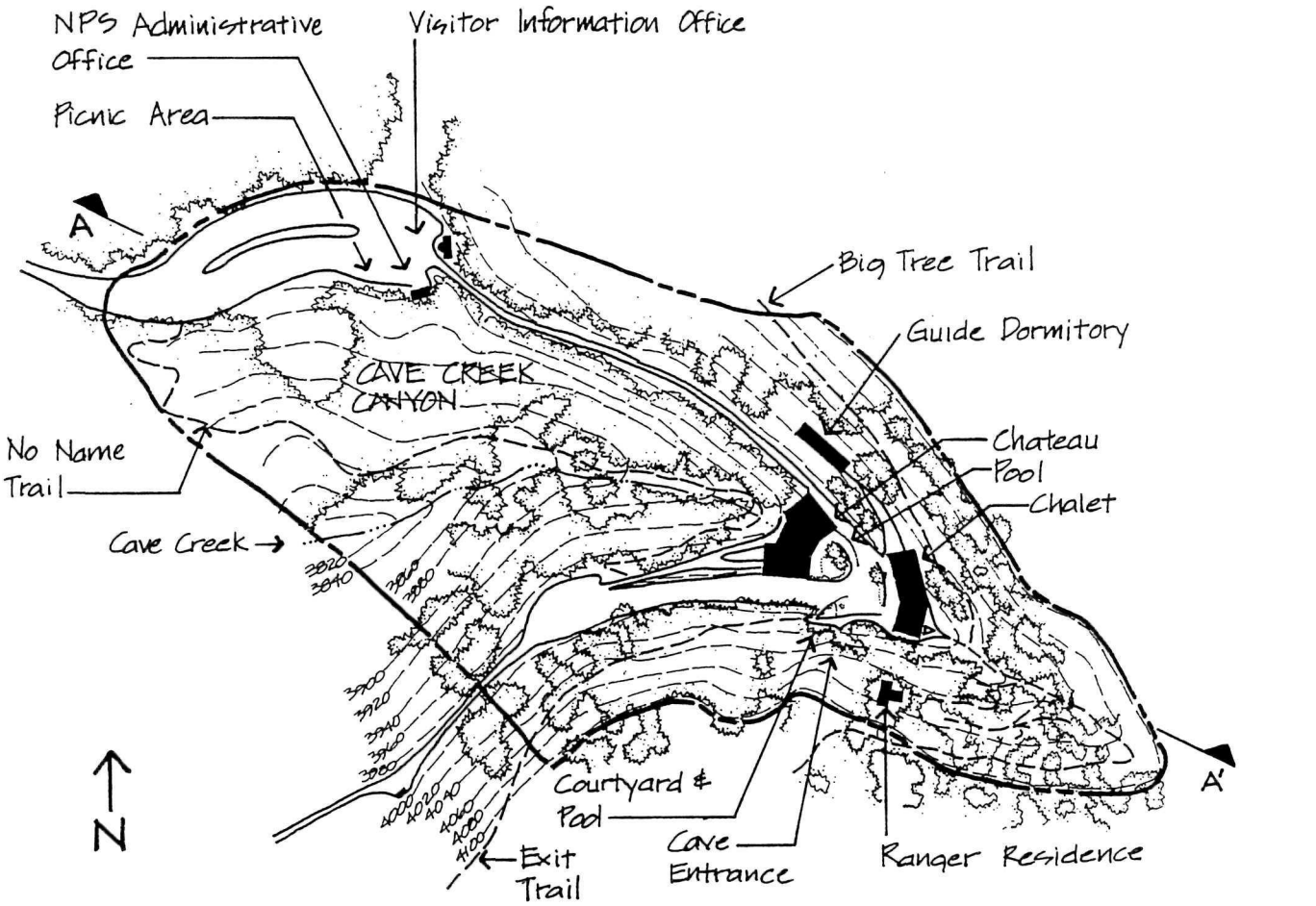
SITE BOUNDARIES

VEGETATION
A tall forest canopy covers most of the developed area and creates an edge along a narrow roadway which connects the cave entrance and lower parking lot along the north canyon wall, continuing on to connect the upper parking lot and maintenance sheds along the south canyon wall. Clearings in the canopy cover mark the site entrance and lower parking lot in the north, the Chateau and Chalet in the southeast, and the upper parking lot in the southwest portion of the site.

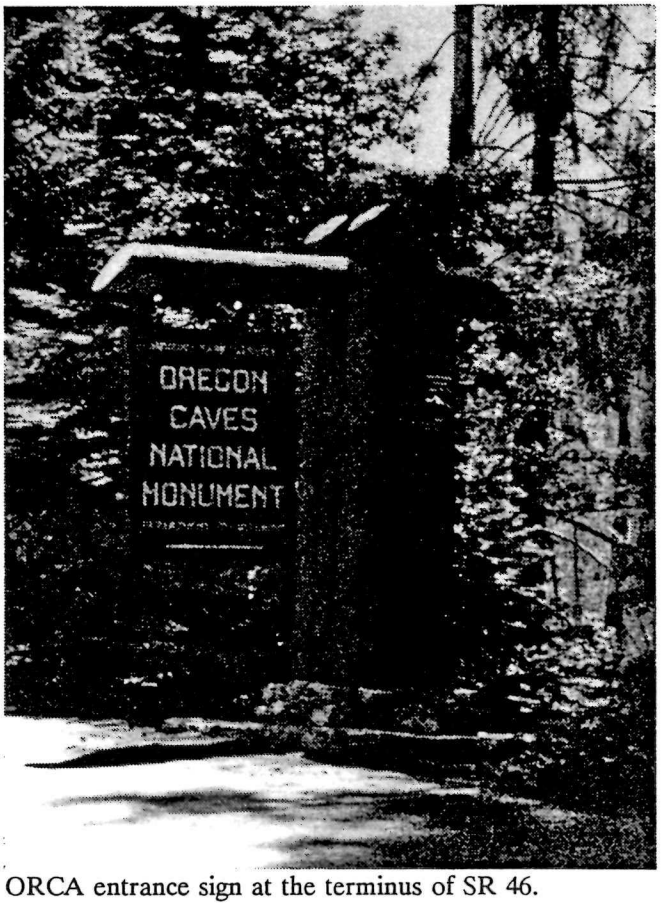
TOPOGRAPHIC
Steep slopes define strong north, east, and south boundaries for the developed area. The steep walls of Cave Canyon create a west-trending boundary.

CIRCULATION
The lower parking lot defines a physical entrance and sense of arrival to the monument in the north. A narrow roadway provides passage along north and south canyon walls to a central terrace at the canyon's east fold, and to smaller south terraces which contain the upper parking lot and maintenance sheds.

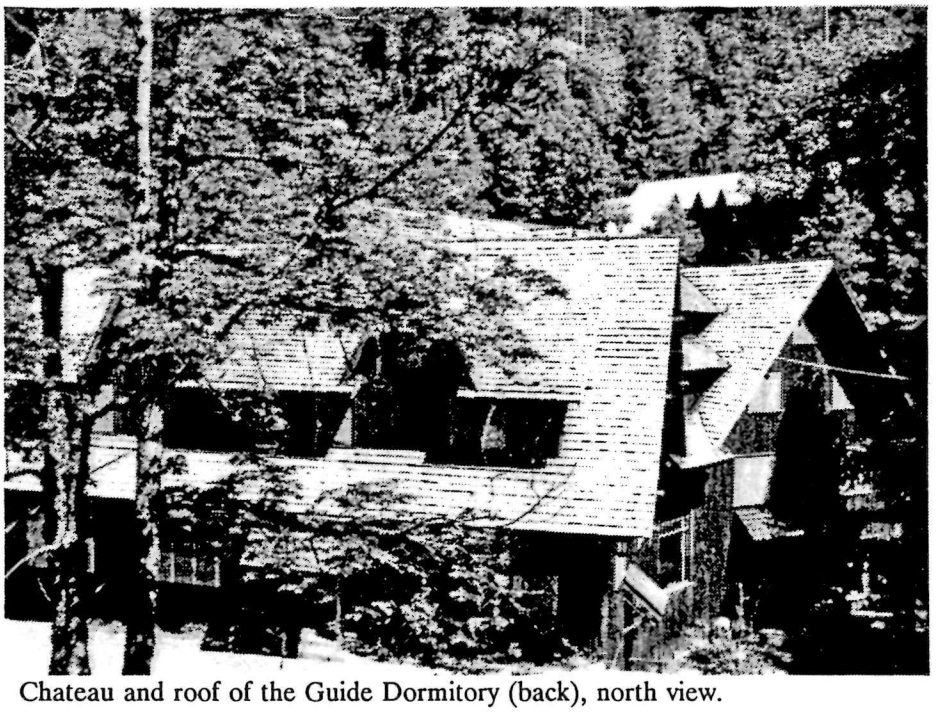
STRUCTURES
A rustic wood post sign delineates the monument entrance. Stone curbing and retaining walls delineate the Chateau-Chalet plaza and cave entrance.



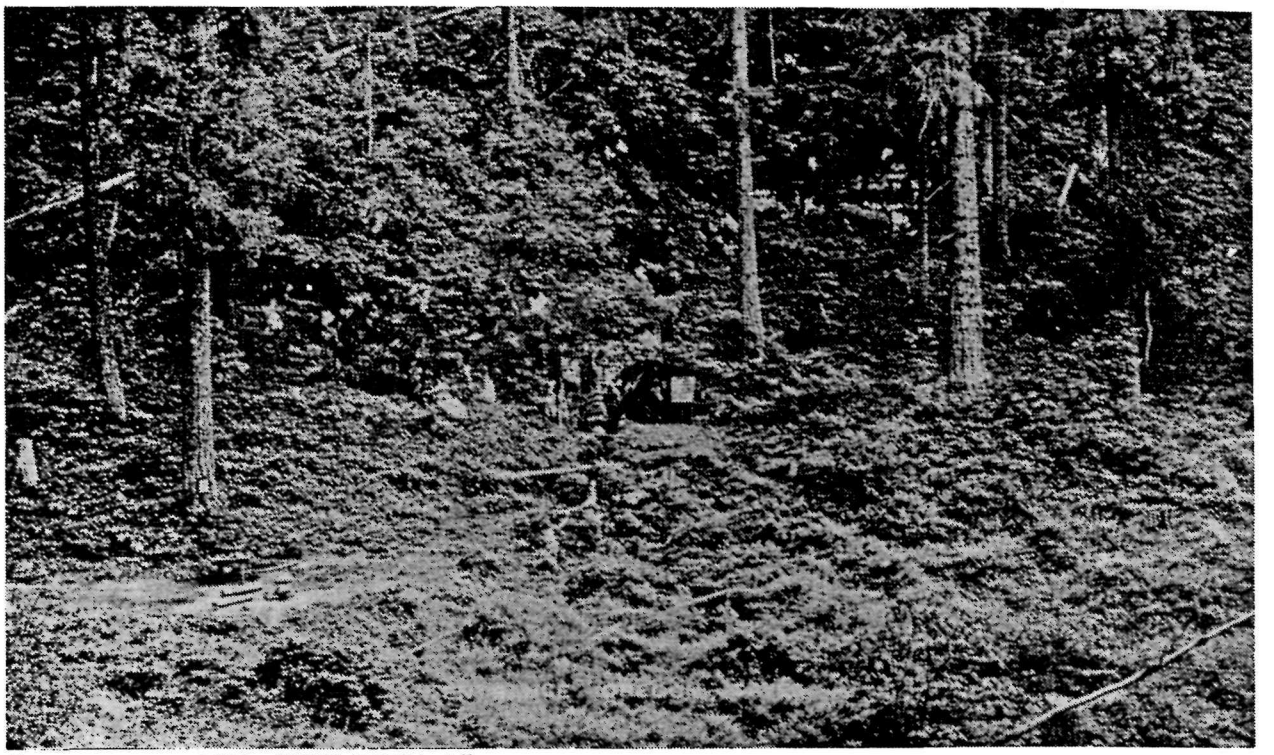
EXISTING CONDITIONS 1990



ORCA entrance sign at the terminus of SR 46.



Chateau and roof of the Guide Dormitory (back), north view.



Cave entrance, c.1920. USFS ORCA Album



Parking area at the monument, c.1922. USFS ORCA Album

HISTORY

FOREST SERVICE ADMINISTRATION AND CONCESSION DEVELOPMENT, 1909-1934

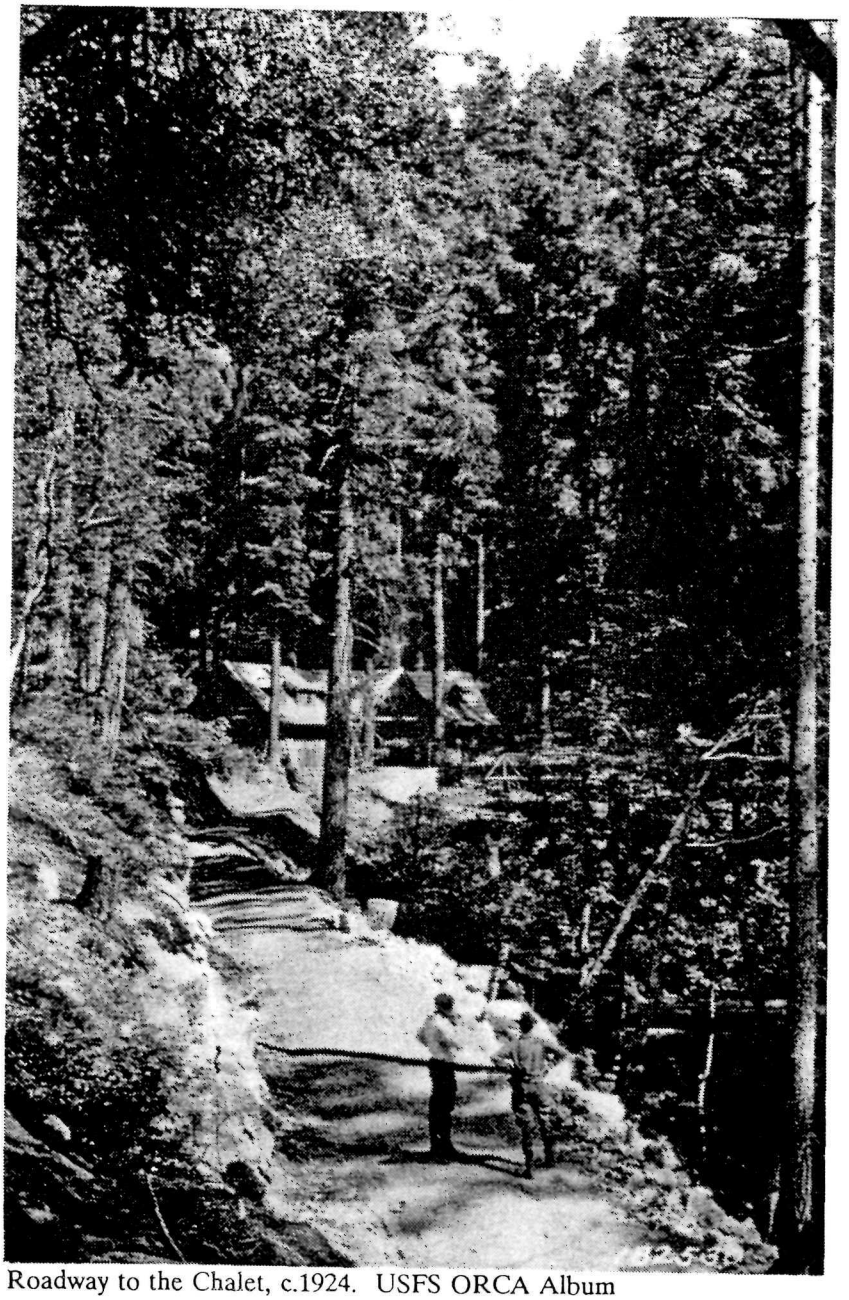
Oregon Caves, discovered in 1874, was administered by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) from its establishment as one of the country's first national monuments in 1909 until its transfer to the National Park Service (NPS) in 1933. Under authority of the 1906 Antiquities Act, a survey of the site was completed in 1908 and 480 acres were set aside as the national monument in 1909. Although potential as a tourist attraction was the driving force behind this designation, the caves were considered a "natural monument" set aside to preserve a "scientific object."[1] The amount of acreage reserved was considered the smallest area compatible with preservation of the resource while allowing lumbering activity in the surrounding forest to continue.

The remote location of Oregon Caves precluded permanent site design and development until 1922, the year the road from Grants Pass reached the cave entrance. However, hotel accommodations for visitors at Oregon Caves were proposed as early as 1891 and resort development plans began to take shape in 1912 when the road reached Holland, approximately 15 miles west of the cave. By 1915, when Congress passed general legislation to authorize the lease of land for recreational development in national forests, a collection of tent houses and small campgrounds had appeared at the monument. A 1917 Forest Service plan, drafted by E. H. MacDaniels, called for a number of small rustic style cottages to be sited 700 feet below the cave entrance, electrical lighting and steel ladders in the cave, roads and trails, and the Lake Mountain and Big Tree trails.

In 1923, while advertising for a concessioner for the site, the Forest Service amended the plan to include concession responsibility for operation of a guide service, cave tour equipment, meals and limited lodging. A group of Grants Pass business men were awarded a permit to build the "Oregon Caves Resort." The group hired Arthur L. Peck, a faculty member of the Oregon Agricultural College, to assist with the development of a site plan and scheme for a visitor service building which included a lunchroom, office, lodging, and employee dormitory. The Special Use permit issued by the USFS stated that "All buildings and structures shall be of the same general style and of an accepted type of rustic architecture."[2] Peck called for a gable-roofed Chalet of an "alpine type" to be located 100 feet east of the cave entrance on a flat area within a dry ravine. He recommended Port Orford-cedar bark sheathing on all structures, and designed most of what became the present system of roads and trails. Peck envisioned a porch extending beyond the Chalet" from which a view of the entire lower valley could be obtained," and an open archway connecting the two parts of the Chalet from which trail access to the cave entrance and up the dry ravine would begin.[3] In addition, the trail would be routed to reach several mountain lakes near the monument, and provide the setting for "one or more small buildings as on an irregular street" behind the Chalet.[4] Overall, the scheme would be "suitable to high elevations and surroundings of mountains and big timber." Peck's simple architectural scheme of brackets in the gables and shakes added interest to the roofs. Up to this point, landscape work at the cave entrance had been limited. Dick Rowley of the concessioner's staff directed construction of dry laid retaining walls forming the Chalet courtyard and a rectangular pond below the cave entrance in 1929. Native flora was transplanted around buildings, with particular emphasis on ferns which would compliment the stonework that had been placed in the cave entrance area as part of the Forest Service trail system.

It is unclear who designed the old Chalet, but Peck's recommendations affected its construction. In 1926, the concession commissioned a local architect/ contractor, Gust Lium, to design and construct seven cottages and the "Kiddy Kave", a structure used as a nursery. The rectangular duplexes had shake roofs and cedar bark sheathing, differing only by the entry design of hips, peaks, or dormers.[5] Built behind the Chalet and "Kiddy Kave" on the south side of the ravine, the cottages were accessed by short, steep paths with switchbacks from the main trail. Lium also located a Guide Dormitory north and slightly upslope of the Chalet instead of west of the cave entrance as Peck had suggested.

In 1931 construction began on the Oregon Caves Chateau which had been planned since 1929. Construction coincided with completion of the cave exit tunnel and work to pave the Oregon Caves Highway. Lium sited the structure below the cave entrance without constricting the view from the Chalet. It was "Fitted into the local scenery in such a way that will add to the natural beauty of the canyon and towering



Roadway to the Chalet, c.1924. USFS ORCA Album



Guide Dormitory under construction, July 1927. USFS ORCA Album

trees."[6] Peck supported the proposed site plan of the Chateau; however, his participation in the new development plan is unclear. Peck further advised the removal of concession tent houses to widen the path to the cave entrance for a "public concourse area."[7] The Chateau was completed in 1934, spanning the gorge below the main entrance. Part of Cave Creek was diverted into a basement conduit, appearing as a stream running through the dining room. The early 1930s also saw the placement of a marble monument to Elijah Davidson, the discoverer of the caves, and construction of a rustic filling station on the south edge of the lower parking lot near the site where a public comfort station was built in 1933.

NPS ADMINISTRATION, 1934-1941

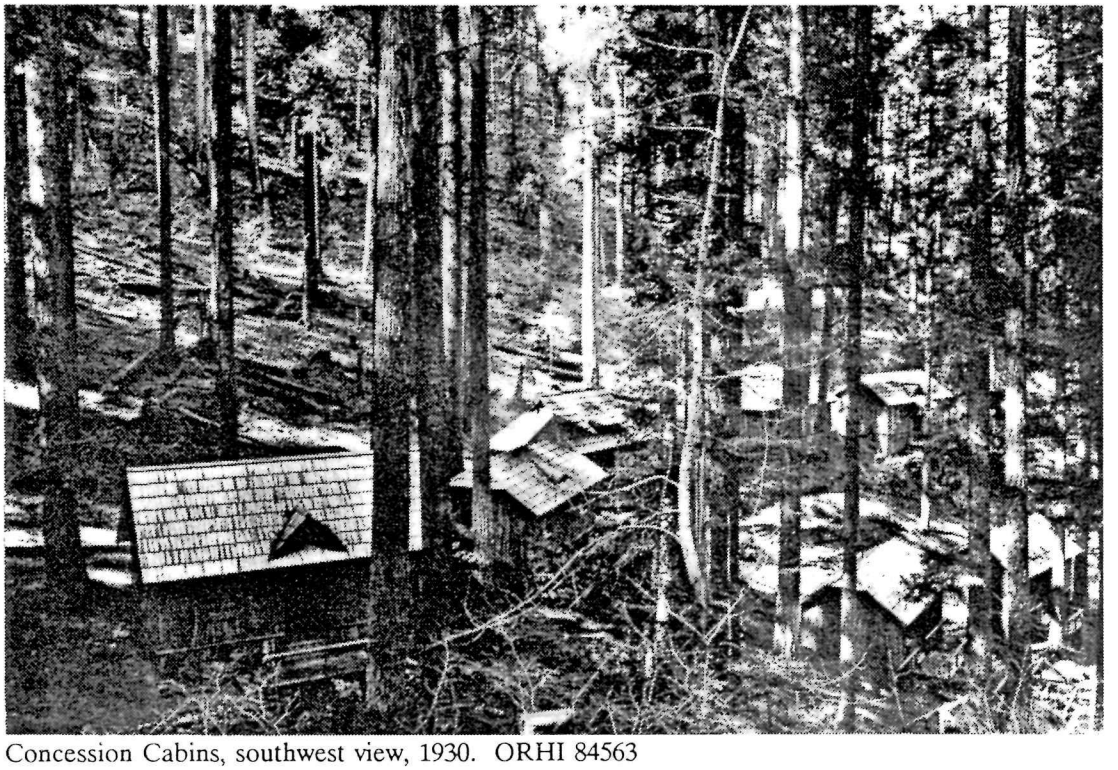
Nineteen thirty-four brought significant change for Oregon Caves resulting from the concurrence of the monument's formal transfer to National Park Service administration, the Chateau's opening, and the establishment of a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp at the confluence of Sucker and Grayback creeks. The CCC campsite, eight miles west of the monument, had once been proposed for the concession's resort site but the 1931 agreement was forfeited. Over the next eight seasons NPS-supervised CCC projects were designed to blend with the concessioner's admired development and subsequent improvements.[8]

Funds for CCC projects enabled the NPS to hire landscape foreman Armin Doerner. He prepared the first master plan for the monument in 1934 which included recommendations for roads, trails, utilities and siting of the future ranger residence. Initial landscape work was guided by the NPS chief landscape architect Thomas Vint, who directed that the monument remain as natural as possible. Vint recommended the use of native flora for cave entrance plantings and ruled out the placing of structures or campground development in the Cave Creek canyon.

Landscape work in 1935 concentrated on development of the Chateau courtyard and pond. The site was paved with log slabs, transplanted trees and shrubs were installed, and a dry-laid retaining wall was constructed between the courtyard and roadway. Under landscape foreman Howard Buford, Doerner's successor, stone steps were built which lead from the cave entrance to the trout pond next to the campfire, and, in 1936, dry laid stone benches were installed



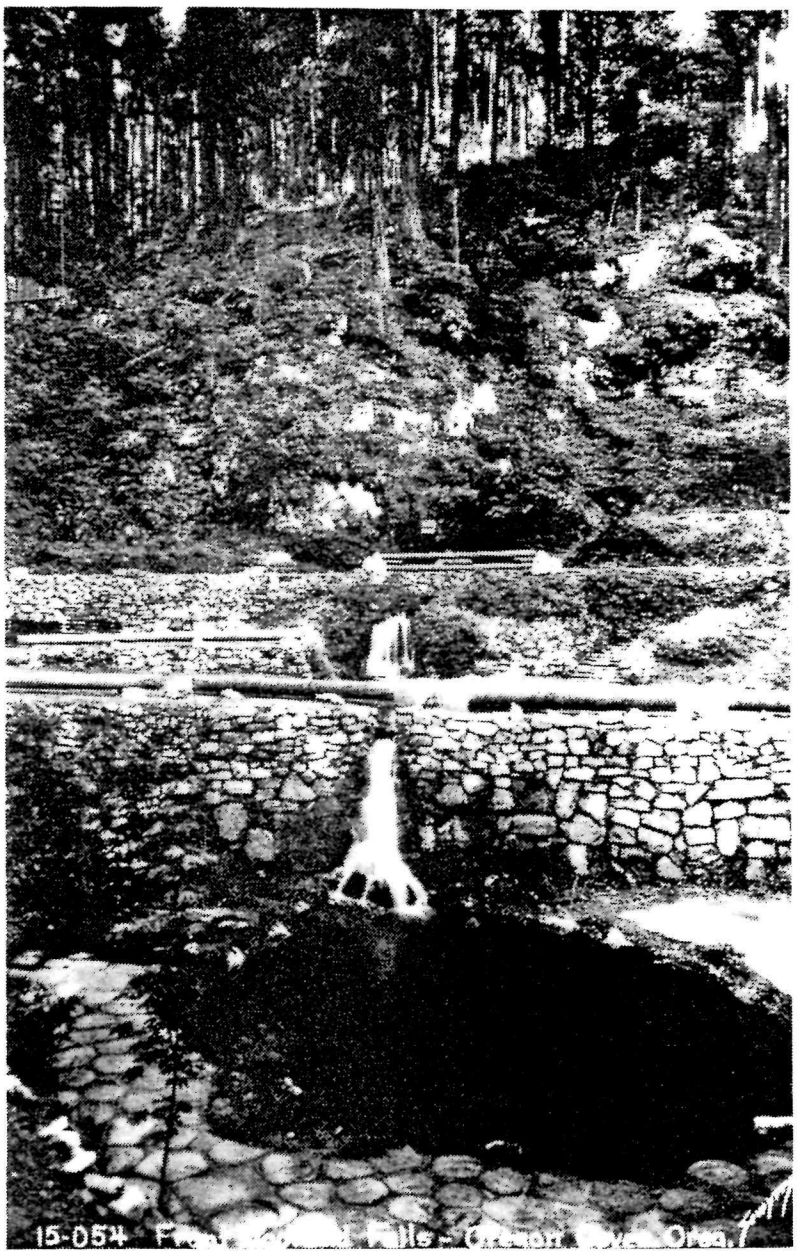
Parking lot near the cave entrance, 1929. Earl Dibble photo.



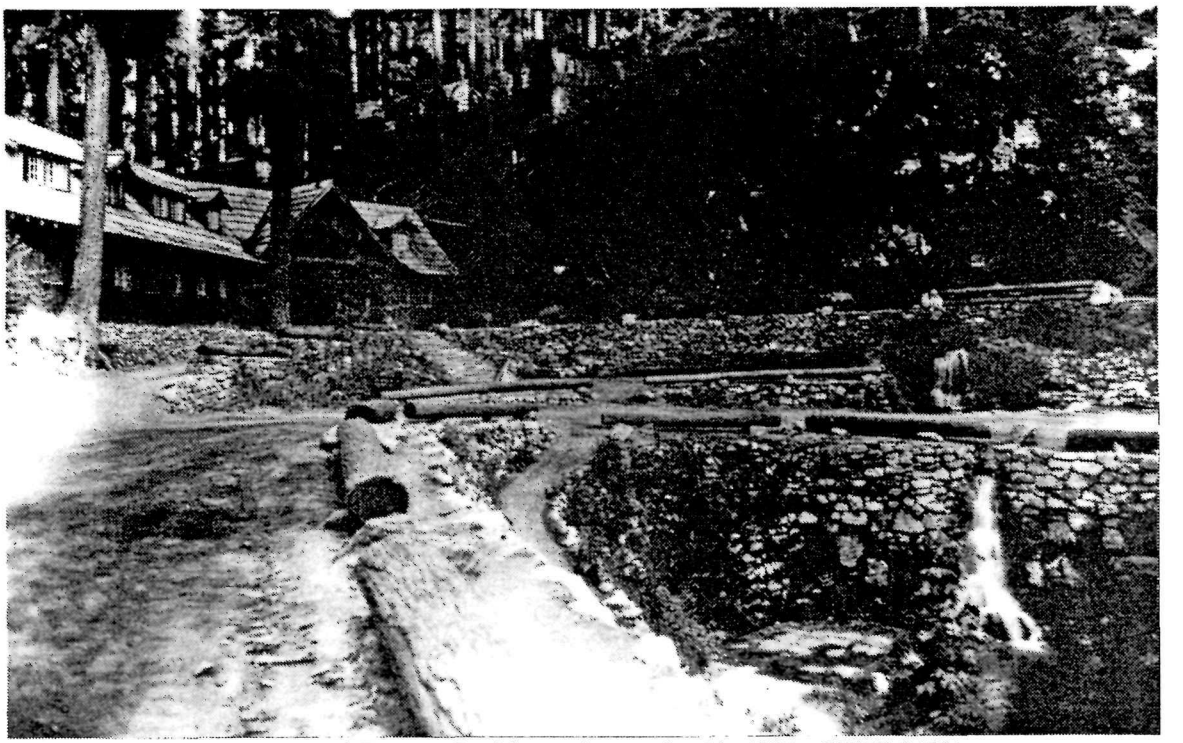
Concession Cabins, southwest view, 1930. ORHI 84563



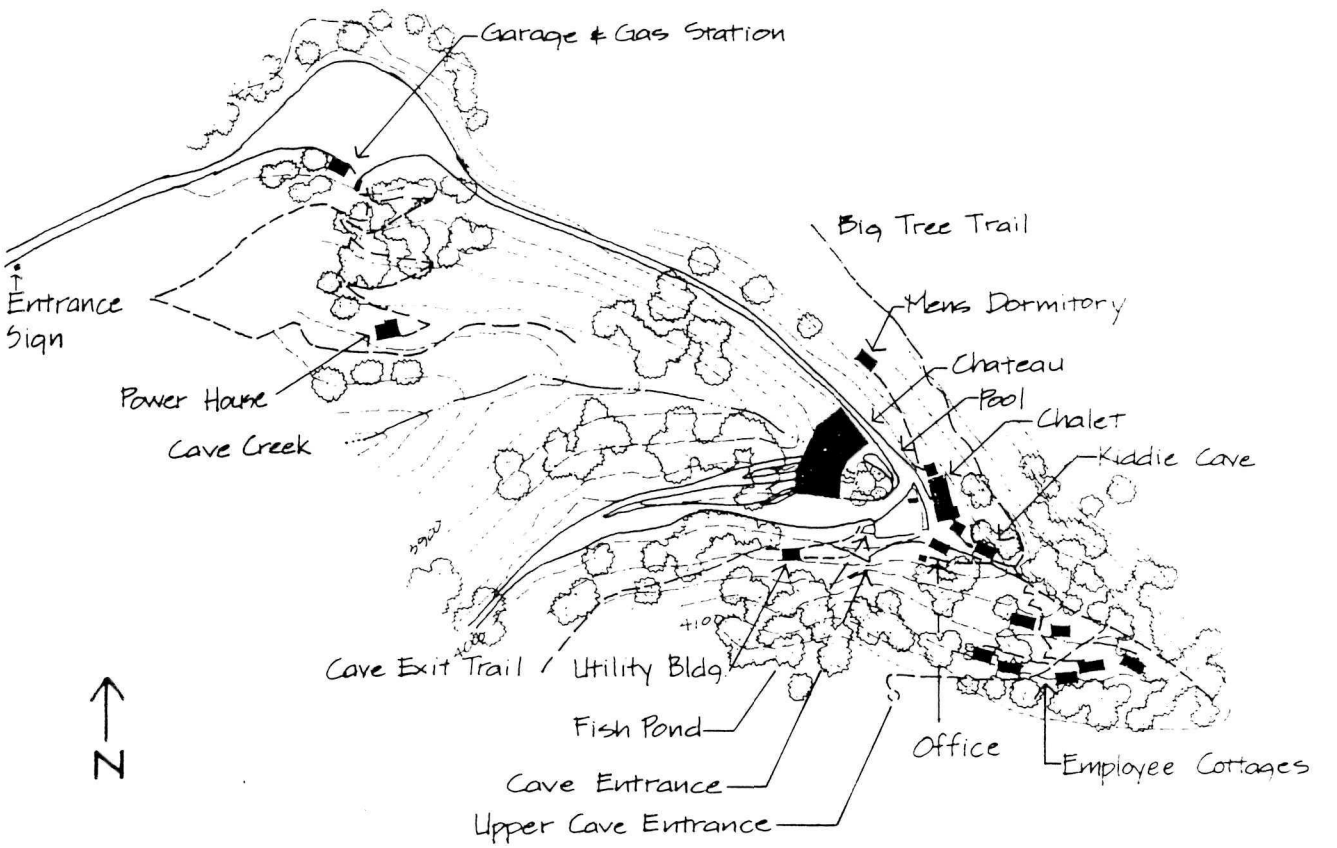
Old Chalet and cave entrance, 1934. ORHI 84532

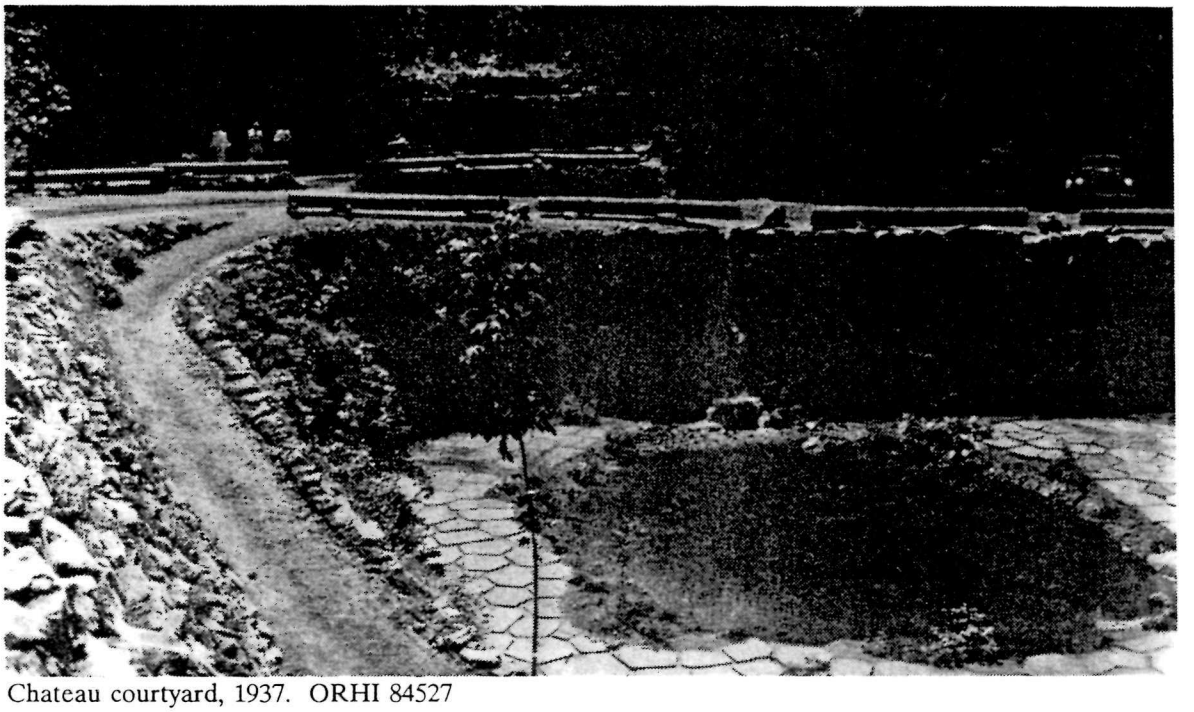


Chateau pond and falls, 1935. ORHI 84548



Old Chalet, cave entrance and Ranger Residence (center back), 1937. ORHI 84551





Chateau courtyard, 1937. ORHI 84527

along the Big Tree Trail. In late 1935 construction of the Ranger Residence began. The structure was first considered for additional use as a checking station and was sited near the Monument entrance. This option was rejected because the structure was thought to increase congestion and be visually monotonous.[9] The structure that was finally built on the steep slope south and upslope of the Chalet was designed by Crater Lake National Park's resident landscape architect, Francis Lange, to blend with the concessioner's structures. Extensive scaffolding and tight grading preserved much of the existing topography and trees and influenced changes to the building form throughout the construction process.[10]

In response to increased visitor use and the concessioner's desire to expand, Lange developed a master plan for the monument in 1936 (revised 1938). The main features of the 1936 plan included an expanded lower parking lot, extensive trail work, new signage, and the proposed removal of the Guide Dormitory. At the lower parking lot, as part of the rustic sign program initiated by Lange, a rough hewn wood sign with raised lettering was glued to the existing 1935 sign of routed yellow letters on a brown background.[11] Revisions to the plan in 1938 included improvement of the monument's lighting system and expansion of the Chalet. Lengthy negotiations between the concessioner and the NPS over the next three years resulted in the enlargement, rather than the removal of the Guide Dormitory, a north addition to the Guide Dormitory was built in 1940.

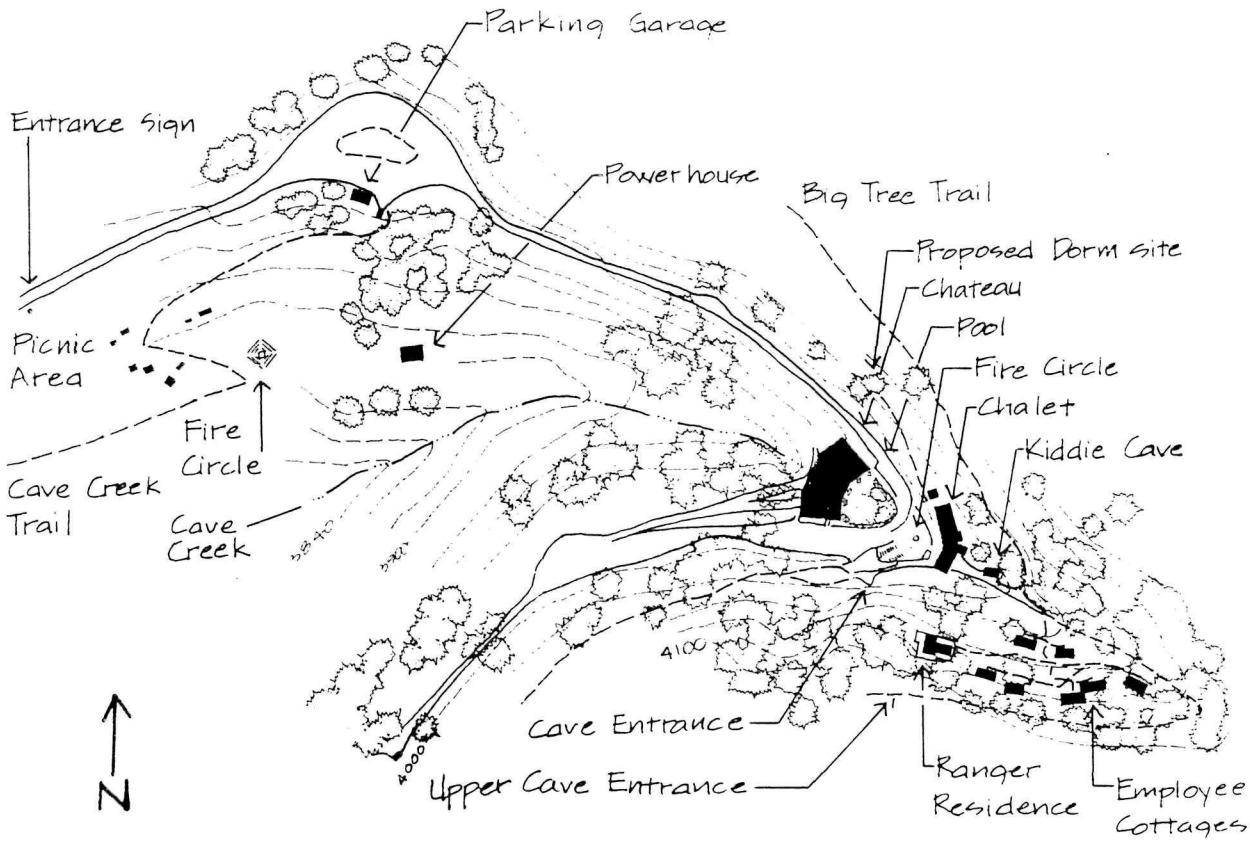
1941 - PRESENT

One of the final CCC projects at the monument involved removal of the filling station and restroom, which had been damaged by a landslide in 1940. The structures were replaced in spring 1941 with a checking station that was also used as an administrative office for the ranger who monitored overnight parking at the monument and traffic along the service road to the cave entrance.

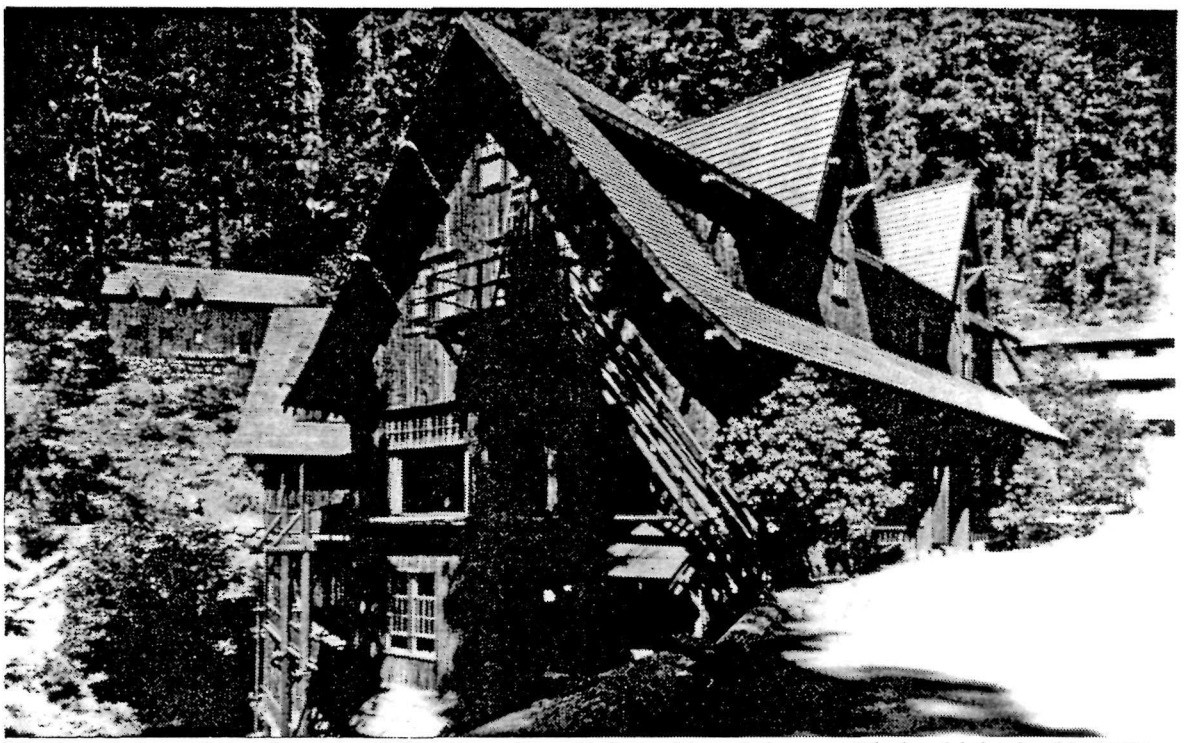
During that same year, Gust Lium was again hired to design and build the new Oregon Caves Chalet on the site of the old Chalet. Completed in 1942, the new structure, despite the change in building form and accentuated design of the breezeway, maintained the aesthetic balance of the cave entrance area through the use of the same Port Orford-cedar bark that sheathed the other monument structures.[12] During the construction process the Kiddy Kave was removed



View of the new Chalet from the cave entrance, 1945. ORHI 84530



1941



Northeast view of the Chateau, Guide Dormitory (left, back) and the new Chalet (right, back), 1945.
ORHI 84553



ORCA Concession Cottages, 1982.

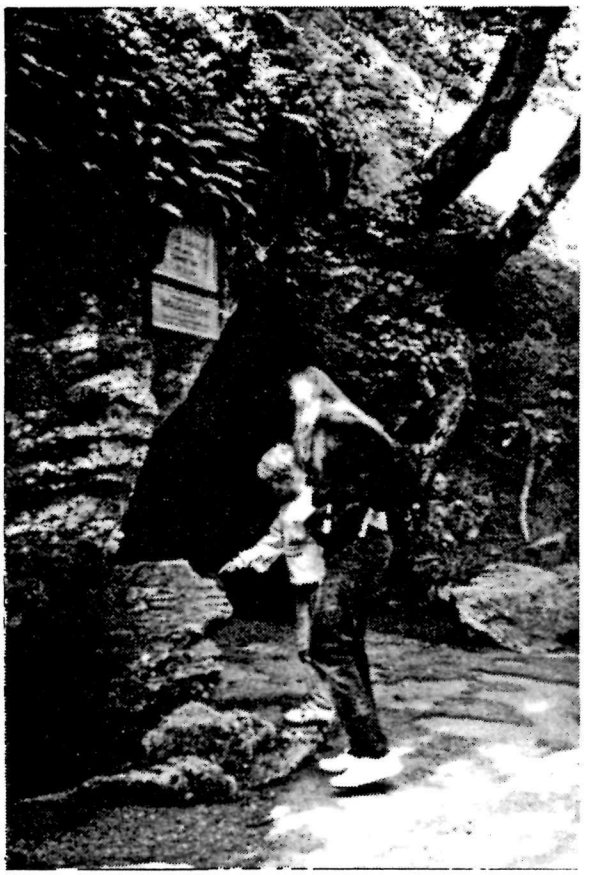
because the new structure incorporated a nursery, in addition to a dormitory, cave tour administration office, and lunchroom (the present gift shop).

By the eve of World War II, Oregon Caves appeared as a rustic alpine village nestled in the rugged Siskiyou mountains. The design motif envisioned by Peck was realized by careful site planning, the use of native plant materials, rough stone masonry, steeply pitched wood-shingled gable roofs with peaked dormers, and cedar bark sheathing. Postwar work focused primarily upon improvements in the cave, site utilities, and the monument's road system. In keeping with the rustic design precedent, native stone was used for benches, retaining walls, and curbing at the Chateau and Chalet courtyards, and cedar bark sheathing used for fire hose cabinets along the Big Tree trail. Utility work included the addition of recessed lights near the cabins and under the eaves of the Chateau.

The potential for winter floods and summer fires pose a threat to development at the monument. Mature stands of mixed broadleaf and conifer trees create dense crown fire conditions and produce ground fuels on canyon slopes surrounding the Chateau and Chalet. In response to the general accretion of time, weathering, and neglect, a revegetation plan was implemented in 1962. Yet, no natural event has been as calamitous to the developed area at the monument as the flash flood of 1964. A landslide obliterated the picnic area south of the main parking area. Several sections of the service road between the cave entrance and SR46 required reconstruction and resurfacing, plantings required rehabilitation, and extensive repairs and alterations to the Chateau and Chalet were needed.

Over the following decades seasonal repairs and interior changes comprised the extent of alterations made to the Concession Cottages and Ranger Residence. The first alterations to the cottages occurred in 1952; subsequent alterations, including changes to the Ranger Residence, coincided with a series of improvements associated with the Mission 66 era (1956-66). Visitors continued to rent the Concession Cottages until the summer of 1982. The Ranger Residence and Concession Cottages were in use until spring 1988. By autumn of that year, because of the deteriorated condition of the cottages and to reduce potential impact to the cave system below, all seven cottages were removed. However, the Ranger Residence is maintained.

Through the use of the naturalistic design principles that guided the rustic style of architecture practiced between 1922 and 1942 in western national parks and monuments, the development at Oregon Caves harmonizes with the surrounding topography and mixed conifer forest.[13] A vision for the site, initiated by the monument's concessioner under USFS administration, set the precedent for subsequent architectural and landscape design. Under NPS direction, CCC workers continued the tradition of using native plant materials and stone masonry, alpine-type structures and cedar-bark sheathing. Today, despite the loss of the cottages and some of the original infrastructure of plant materials and masonry features, the rustic character of the district retains the vision of its creators.



Cave entrance, metal plaques hanging at left of the entrance.



View northeast from the exit trail showing the guide dormitory (left back), and the Chateau roof (center) amid the forest canopy.



Cave tour group at the cave exit.

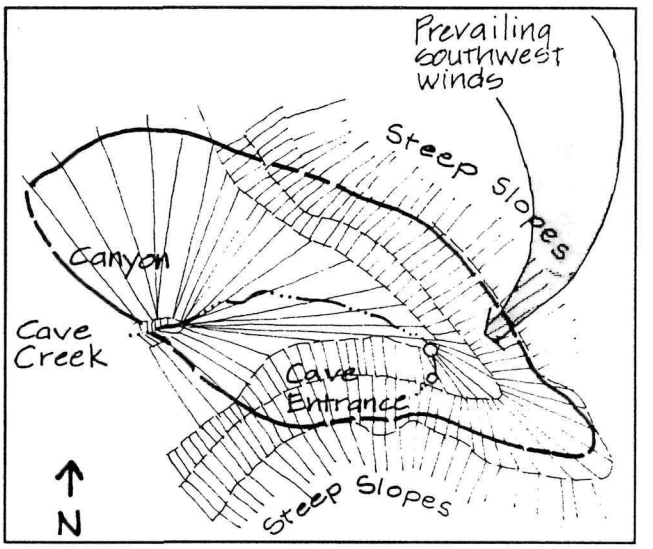
ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

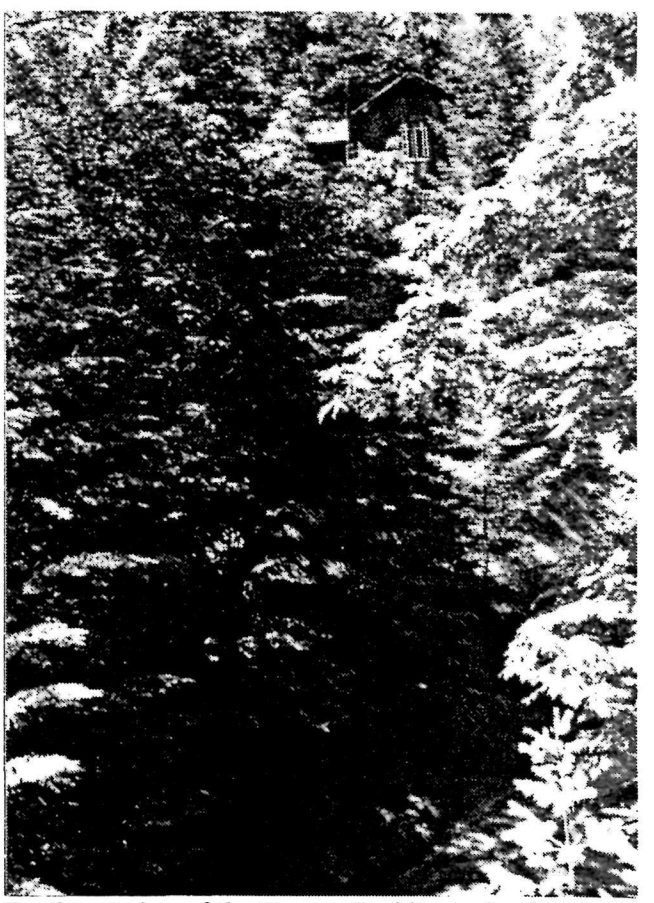
RESPONSE TO NATURAL FEATURES

The 480-acre monument is located on Mt. Elijah in the Siskiyou mountains and comprises the upper portion of the Cave Creek watershed, ranging in elevation from 3800 feet to 5450 feet. Cave Creek, the primary drainage, originates in the cave at 4000 feet, emerges near the Chateau, and flows westward through a steep canyon out of the monument. The caves contain a series of passageways and rooms dissolved out of marble. The tour covers 0.6 of a mile within the three-mile long cavern. Complex geology and steep topography created precipitous canyon walls near the cave leaving little space for development. The mixed broadleaf and conifer forest contain an understory of oaks, vine maple, chinkapin, laurel, and madrona occurring in clearings and along the streambanks. The diverse flora that includes several endemic species is characteristic of the monument and adjacent national forest.

Although weather at the monument is generally moderate, the canyon gorge contributes to special natural conditions. The average annual rainfall measures 50 inches and the average annual snowfall, 160 inches. Storms are intense and abrupt, fog prevails in winter and early spring. High moisture content snow creates difficult removal, although drifting is minimal. Roads are temporarily closed during heavy snow storms. High ridges and canyon walls generally protect the area from high winds, but prevailing southwest winds can gust to 70 miles per hour. Snow dams that have formed in the upper canyon can break to release a torrent of water. Brief but damaging floods, created by heavy rains after a snowfall of several feet, can descend the canyon where the Chateau is situated. In addition, soil creep, extending under fill areas along slopes becomes troublesome.

Sensitivity to canyon topography and the mixed conifer forest is evident in the evolution of naturalistic design for the developed area at Oregon Caves. Climatic conditions have weathered and aged the rustic architecture and landscape features to read more effectively as a cohesive unit with the surrounding environment.



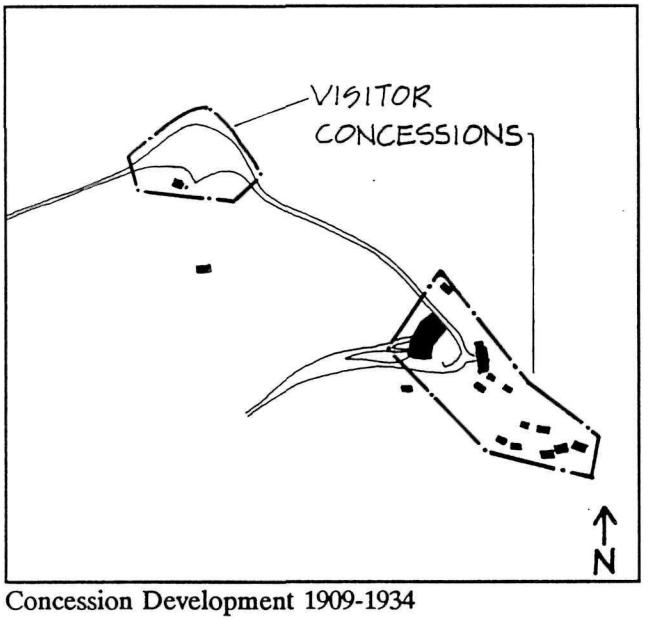


Southwest view of the Ranger Residence showing the mixed broadleaf and conifer forest, and the access path to Lake Mt. Trail and Cliff Nature Trail (foreground).

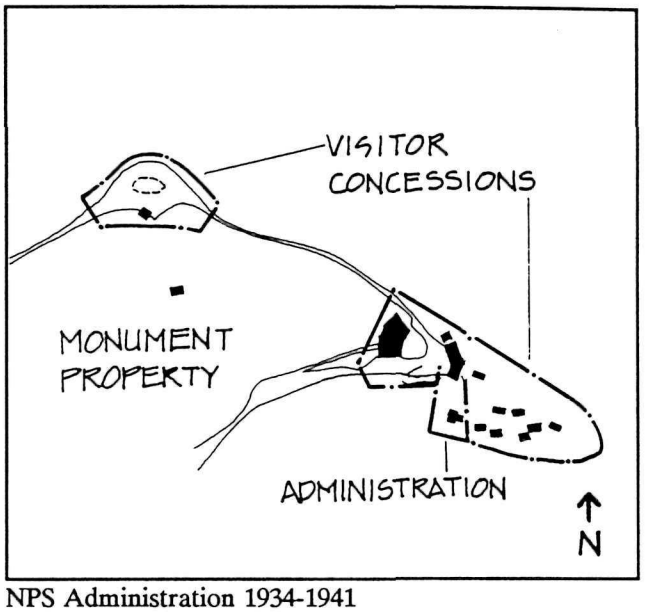
ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

SPATIAL ORGANIZATION

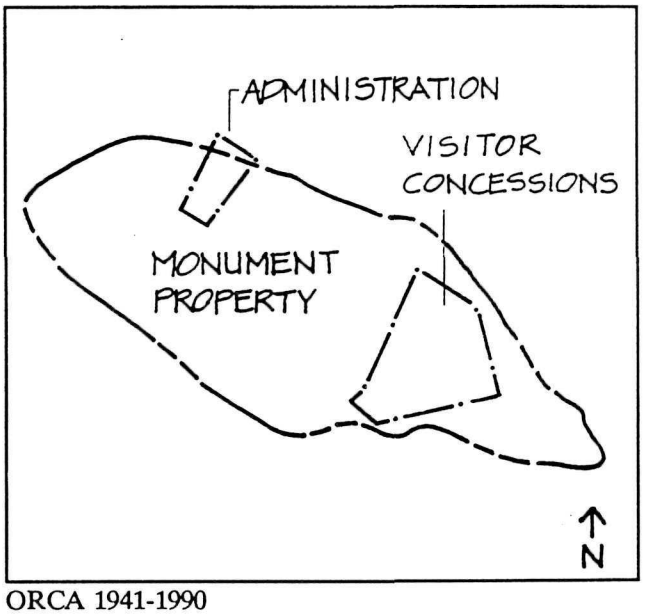
Narrow topographic benches, one formed by Cave Creek and the other located north at the monument entrance were improved to provide area for development. Both benches hold visitor concession and administration developments that have spatially characterized the monument since its establishment. Construction of road access to the caves from the northwest in 1922 allowed for concession development at the canyon apex. Parking requirements could be satisfied at the north bench and smaller benches to the southwest of the cave entrance. Though the monument is under NPS administration, concession operations have been the primary focus and organizing feature of site development. Definition of administrative space was not made until construction of the Ranger Residence in 1935. Administration held secondary spatial stance until 1941, when the Checking and Comfort Station, located at the upper parking lot, more clearly delineated NPS management of the monument. Spatial development eventually evolved to reflect the dual function of the monument-recreation and management of a natural resource.



Concession Development 1909-1934



NPS Administration 1934-1941

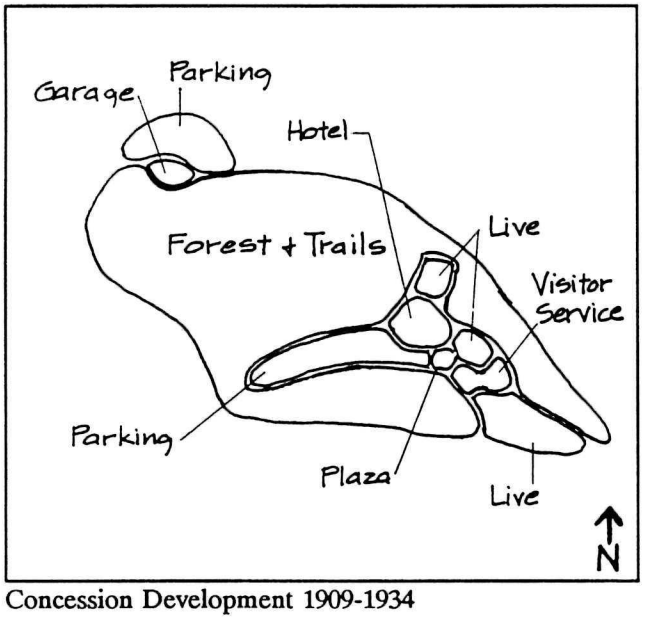


ORCA 1941-1990

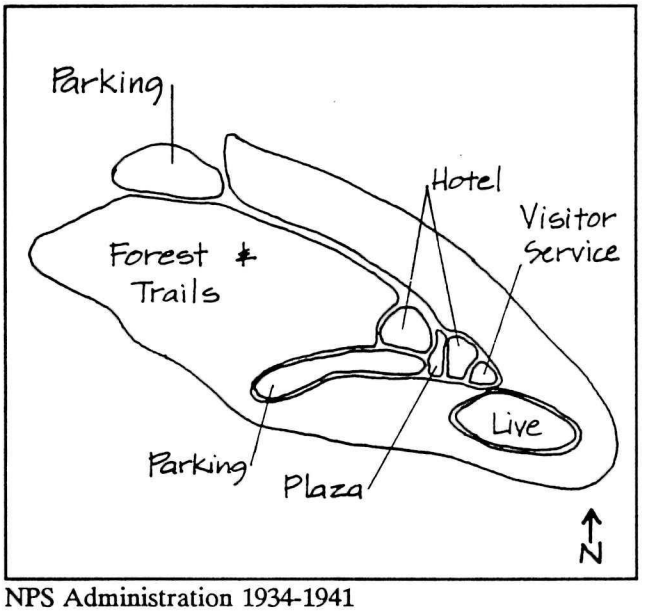
ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

LAND USE

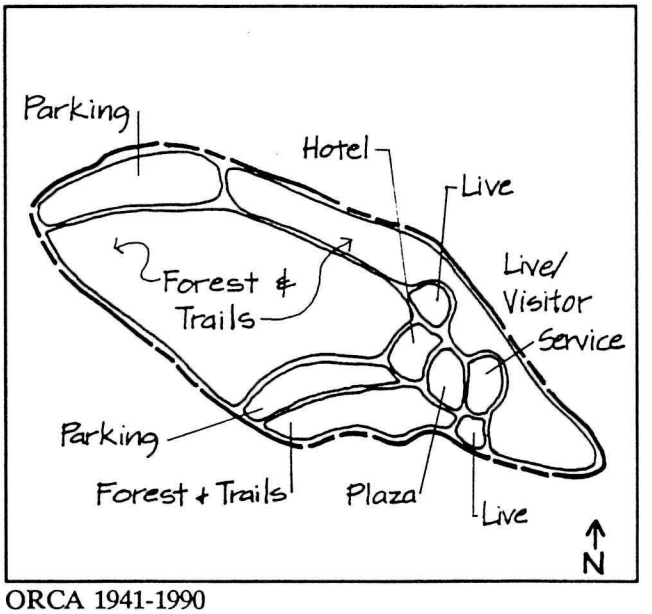
The cave entrance and creek outflow area was the focus of development at the monument. When the Oregon Caves Company hired Peck in 1922 to assist with site development, he approached the project with the notion that "There are no precedents as to design...All national areas now being fitted for recreation will require original solutions."[14] Topographic restrictions provided the opportunity to employ Peck's design philosophy: to design within the canyon terrain required original solutions. For example, concession development, including visitor and employee accommodations, was located central to and east of the cave entrance along the canyon bench. Parking was sited north and southwest of the concession area on narrower reaches of the canyon bench. Forest canopy covers the canyon slopes west, east and south of the developed areas. In addition to forest trails, views across the plaza from the Chateau and Chalet and into the forest were accented as part of the resort function of the monument. These patterns remain largely intact today.



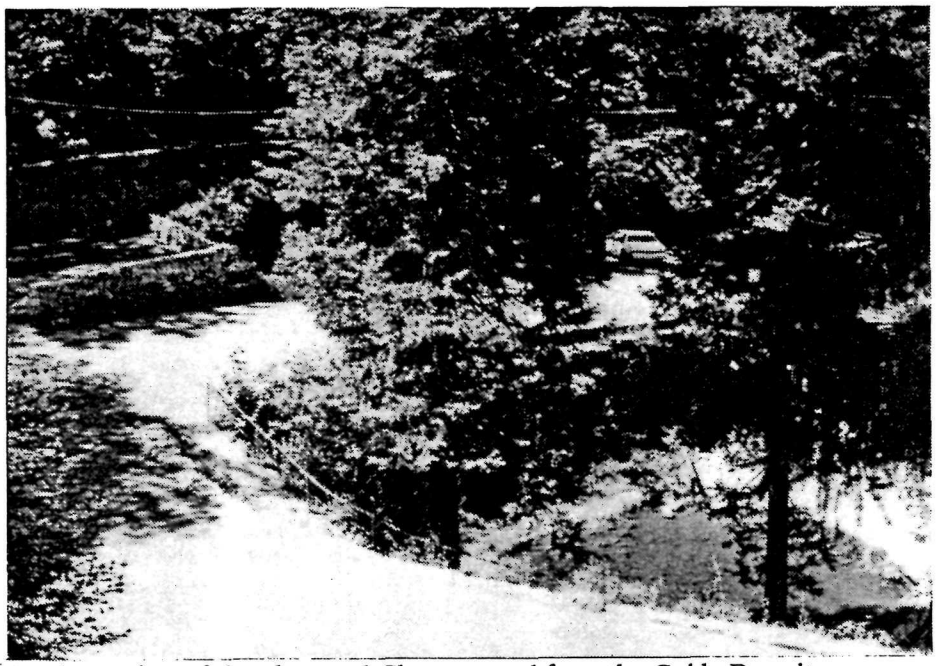
Concession Development 1909-1934



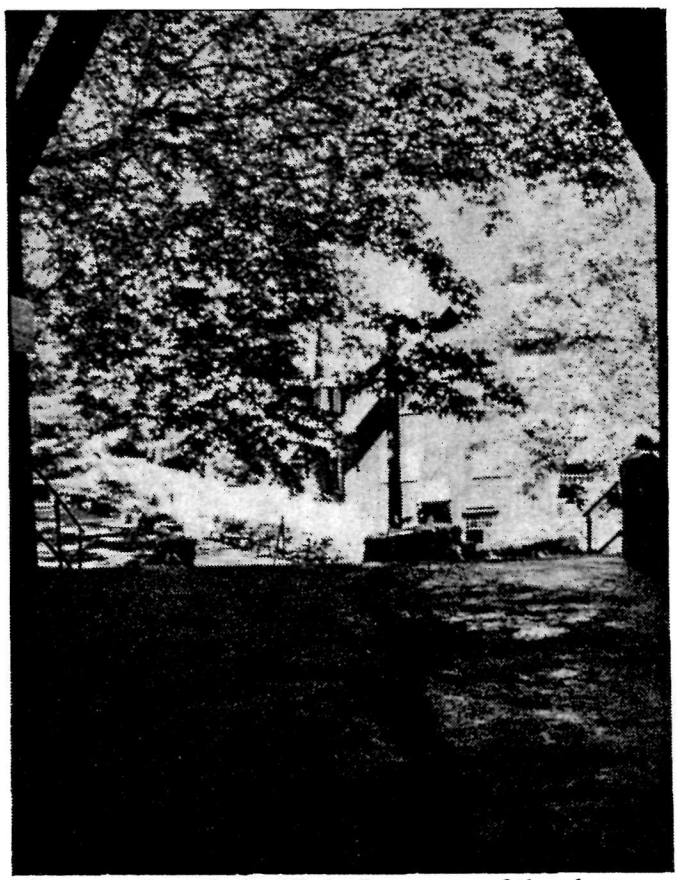
NPS Administration 1934-1941



ORCA 1941-1990



Southeast view of the plaza and Chateau pond from the Guide Dormitory.



View west through the Chalet breezeway of the plaza and Chateau.

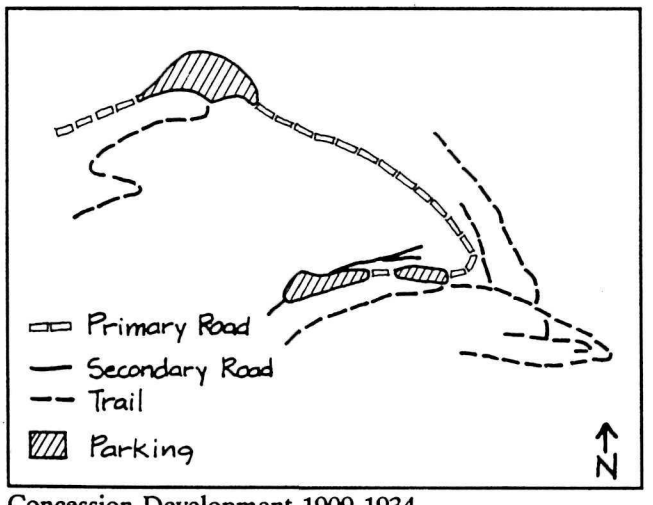
ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

CIRCULATION

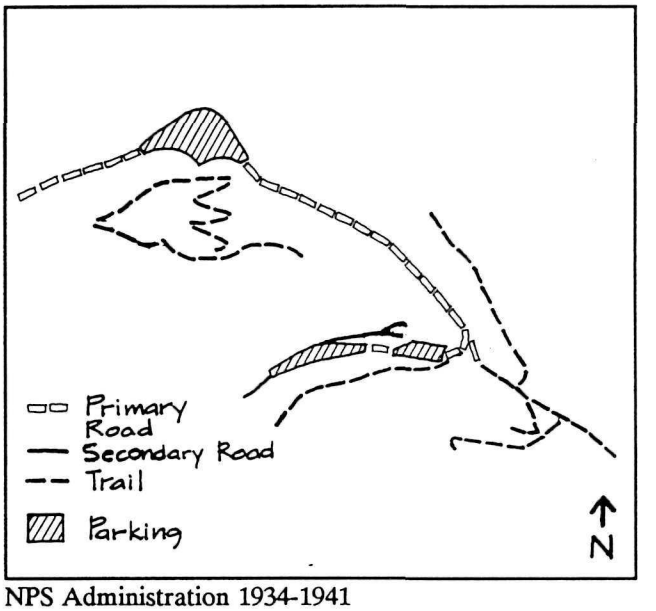
Roads and trails were the first features implemented from the USFS 1917 general development plan. Oregon Caves Highway (SR46), the primary access route, winds 19.5 miles southeast from Cave Junction and terminates at the monument's main parking lot entrance. Constructed in 1922, the completion of SR46 initiated permanent resort development at the monument. No significant changes in alignment have occurred. As the primary means of ingress and egress, SR46 reflects the intent of early forest road design wherein location "in relation to scenic vista and the beauties of the natural environment was encouraged."[15]

In 1923, a service road was built connecting SR46 with the cave entrance. To allow guests to park overnight near lodging, the narrow road was extended west in 1929 and again in 1934. Log railing lined the service road and cave entrance area until 1952. By 1960 asphalt surfacing came into use and stone walls had replaced the log railing as curbing. After the 1964 flood several sections of the wall were rebuilt.

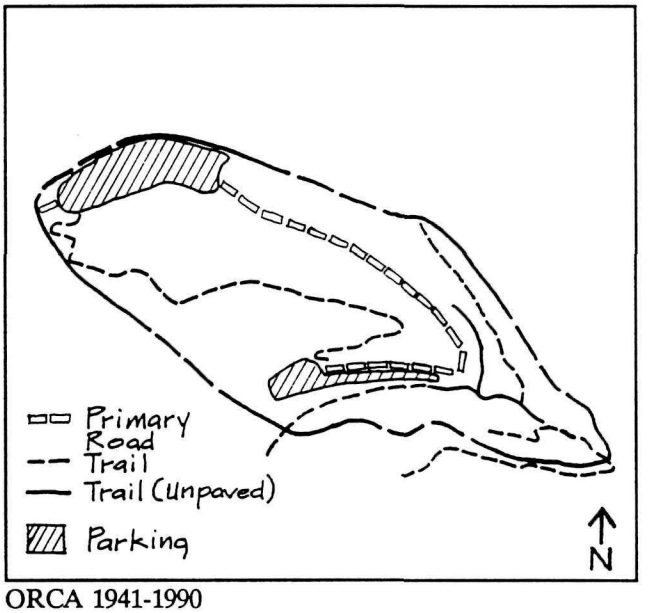
Topographic constraints have limited parking to the lower lot and a smaller area west of the Chateau. The lower lot has been enlarged twice since 1922, and a concrete traffic island installed in the 1950s. During this period and through the 1960s the lot has received extensive repairs due to landslide activity. Overnight guest parking has existed at an area west of the cave entrance since 1929. Concession employees park at a widened bend in the road further west of the proposed historic district and project area boundary.



Concession Development 1909-1934



NPS Administration 1934-1941



ORCA 1941-1990

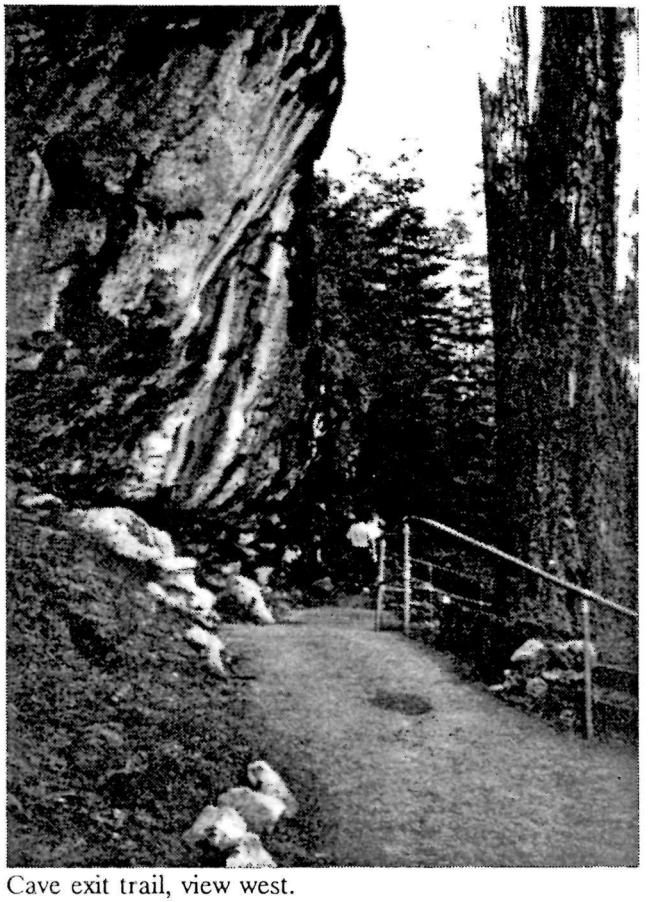
The walkway leading to the Chalet and the main cave entrance is a remnant of the first rough trails blazed to Oregon Caves in 1886. The walkway was graded and paved in 1923 as part of site development by the Oregon Caves Company. Flood damage necessitated repair work in early 1965. In 1940, a stone retaining wall containing seating was constructed along the walkway. The Chateau courtyard walkway, leading

from the road to the lower pond, was a 1935 CCC project, paved in 1952.

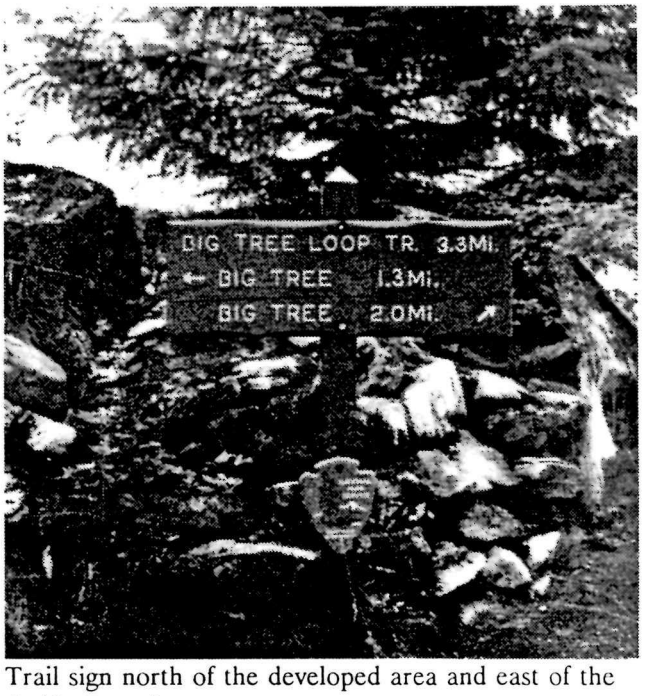
Four trails begin from the developed area of the monument. In 1922, starting east from the Chalet, the USFS constructed the Lake Mountain Trail, and branching from it, the Big Tree Trail. In 1931 USFS constructed Cave Exit Trail, terminating within ten yards of the cave entrance, was widened by CCC crew in 1935-37. As part of the same project, the Cliff Nature Trail, which connects the Cave Exit Trail with the Lake Mountain Trail was constructed. The No Name loop trail starts north from the Chateau following Cave Creek and returns to the service road west of the structure. These trails connect the monument to other hiking trails of the Siskiyou National Forest.



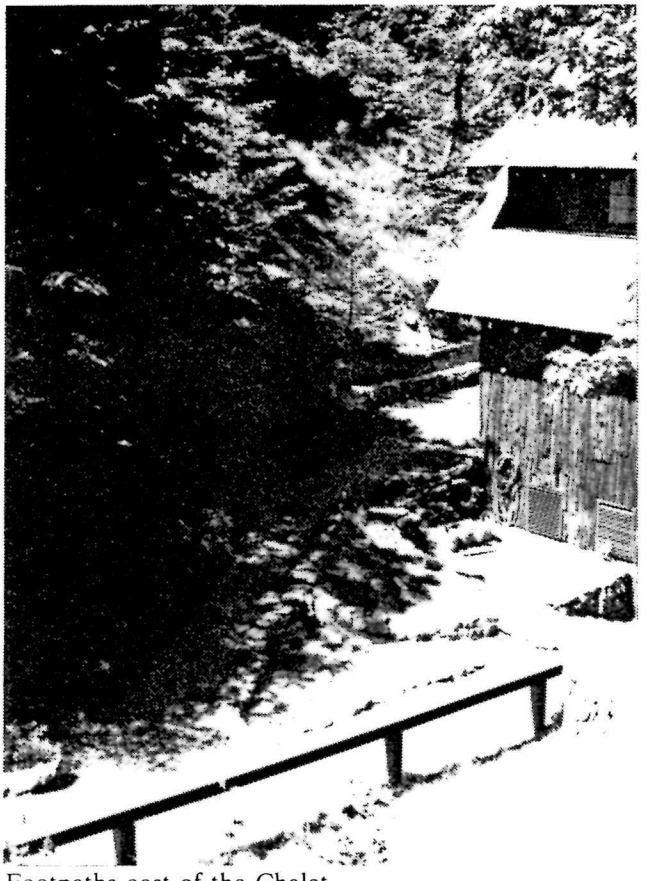
Walkway to the main cave entrance from the Chalet, view northwest.



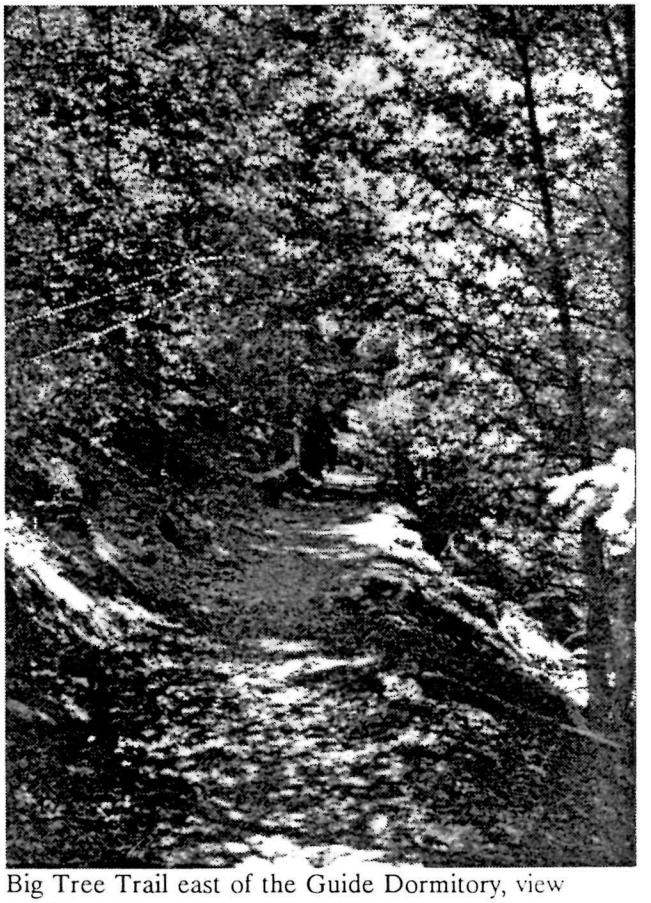
Cave exit trail, view west.



Trail sign north of the developed area and east of the Guide Dormitory.



Footpaths east of the Chalet



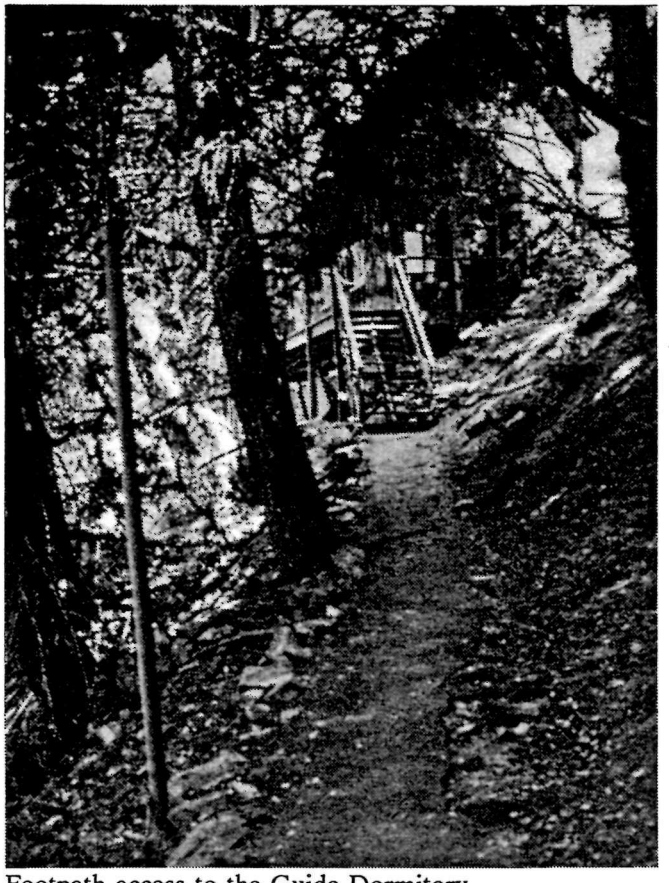
Big Tree Trail east of the Guide Dormitory, view south.



Fire hose box on Big Tree Trail east of the Chalet.



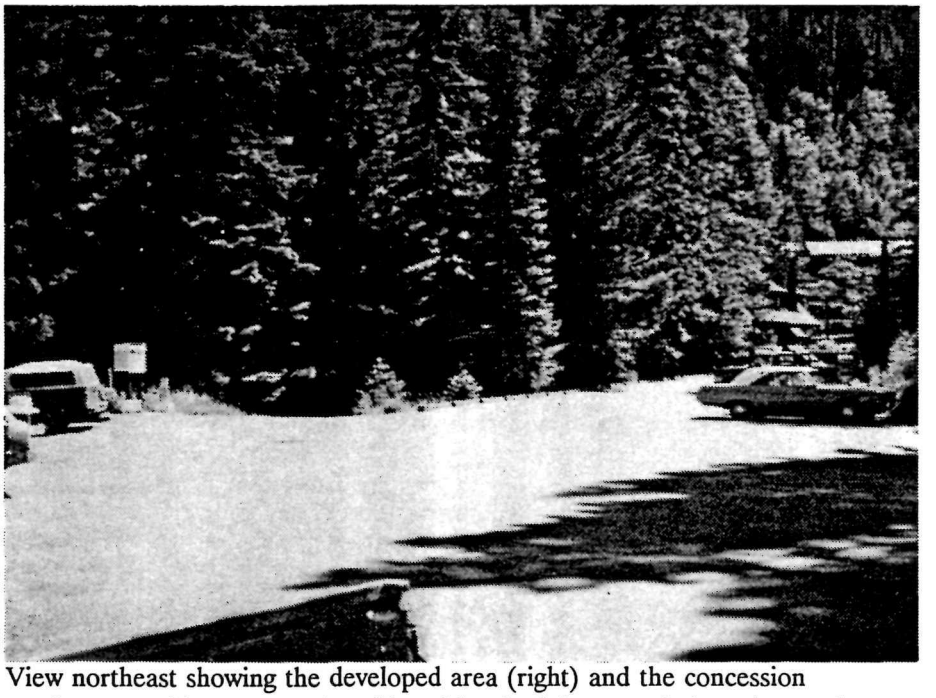
Foot bridge crossing Cave Creek along No Name Trail.



Footpath access to the Guide Dormitory.



View south of the service road connecting the lower parking lot and SR46 with the resort area.

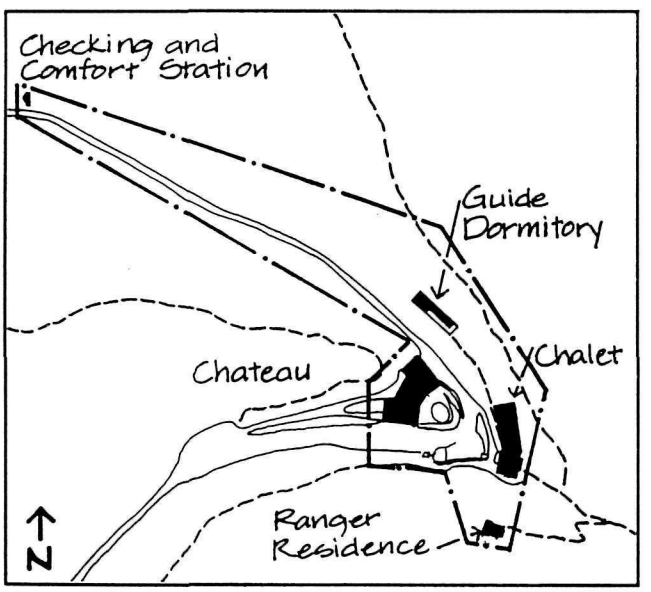


View northeast showing the developed area (right) and the concession employees parking area at the widened bend of the extended service road.

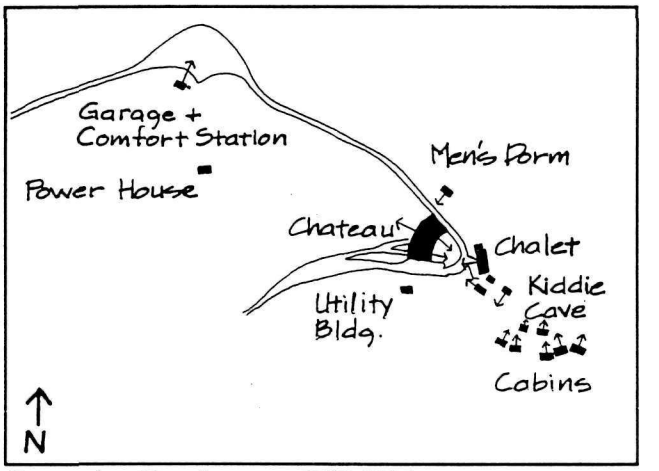
CLUSTER ARRANGEMENT AND STRUCTURES

Visitor concession and administrative structures at Oregon Caves, totaling sixteen during the historic period, are sited at the apex and right side of the triangular development along the canyon walls and benches. The Checking and Comfort Station and NPS administration office form a gateway to the narrow roadway leading to the courtyard and cave entrance. The Chateau and Chalet, respectively, form the north and southeast plaza boundaries.

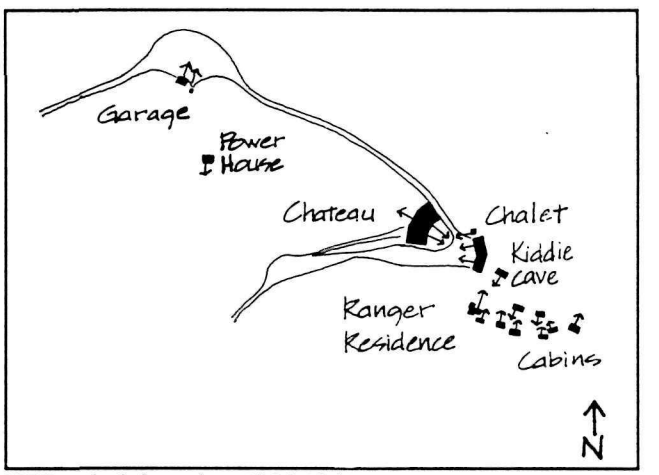
Five of the six structures within the boundaries of this project and the proposed historic district - the Chateau, Chalet, Guide Dormitory, Ranger Residence, and the Checking and Comfort Station - are considered contributing structures. Constructed of predominately native materials, these contributing structures were built between 1926 and 1942. Rough-cut limestone or marble and Port Orford-cedar bark sheathing are the most distinctive detail features of the monument structures. These features, together with wood-shingled gable roofs with round or hewn purlins, and sheathing weathered from brown to silver-gray, created the appearance of a rustic sylvan resort.



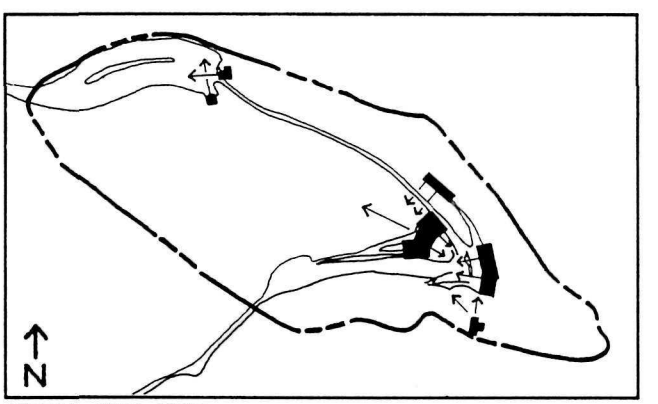
OREGON CAVES HISTORIC DISTRICT BOUNDARY



Concession Development 1909-1934



NPS Administration 1934-1941



ORCA 1941-1990

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

CHATEAU: Situated in a gorge downstream of the main cave entrance, the Chateau is a six-story hotel with ten sides. Since 1929, the Chateau has been the focus of planning and design work at the cave entrance. Much of its wood frame mass is hidden below the roadway and courtyard: landscape work and topography downscale the actual size to provide a proportional appearance from road grade. Part of Cave Creek passes through a conduit of the third floor (or first basement) appearing as a water feature in the dining room. Cumulative snow damage caused the replacement of wooden verandas in 1958 with steel catwalks and fire escape ladders on the northwest side of the fourth and fifth floors. Aside from the verandas and restorative repairs made to the Chateau foundation after 1964 flood damage, change in the exterior form and appearance to date is not evident. The Chateau was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1987.



Chateau courtyard and pond.

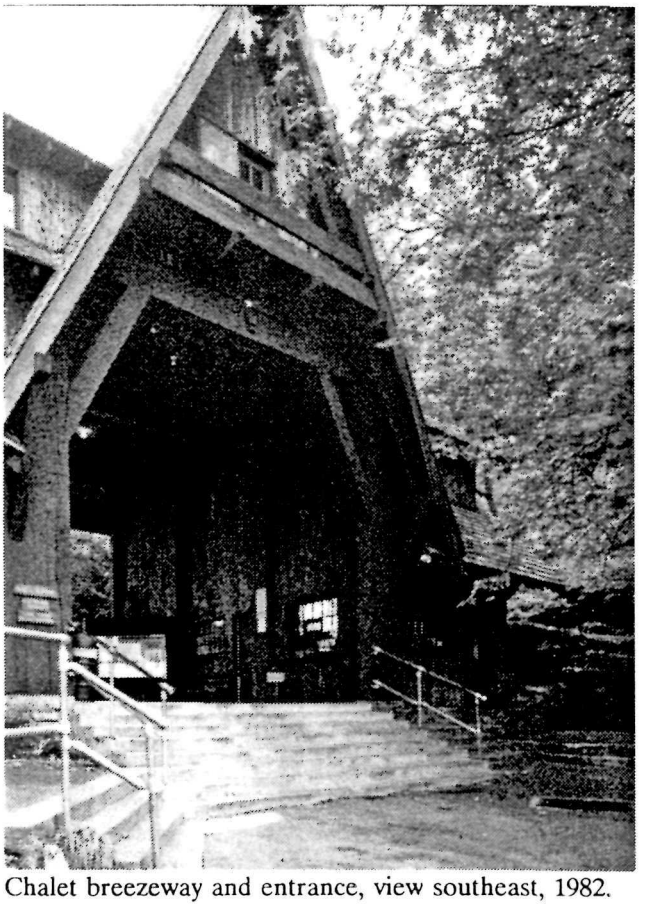


Chateau, view west.

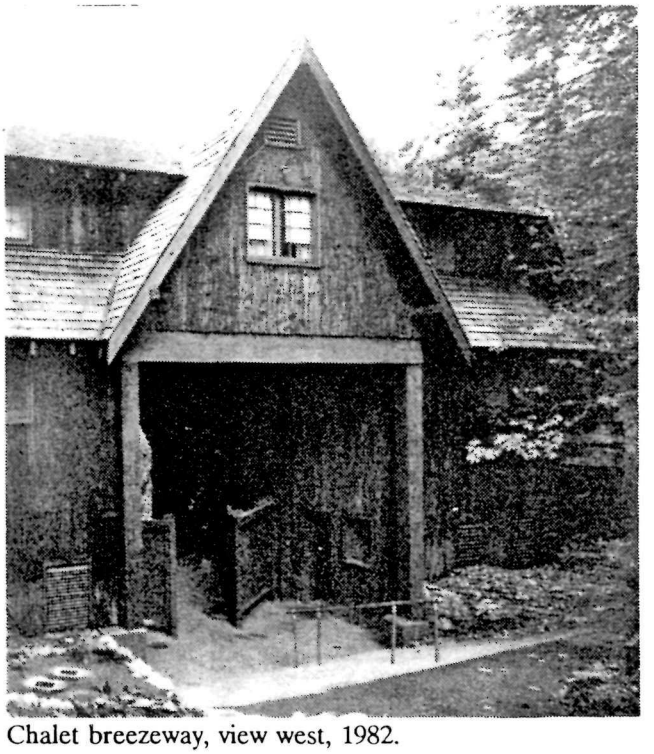
CHALET: The asymmetrical three-story Chalet is sited 50 yards southeast and upslope of the Chateau. A two-story breezeway separates the north side of the structure from the south, and allows visitors to access the Big Tree and Lake Mountain trails branching east of the Chalet. The north side of the Chalet contains a gift shop, nursery, and women's restroom. The south side contains the cave tour registration office and cover for waiting tour groups. Less earthwork was necessary around the Chalet to accommodate structural mass. Similar to the effect of natural rock outcroppings, native plant materials were placed within the retaining wall work as foundation plantings to soften the structure's appearance. Some planting occurred in 1962 along the east hillside when some diseased Douglas-fir were removed.



Chalet, view southeast, 1982

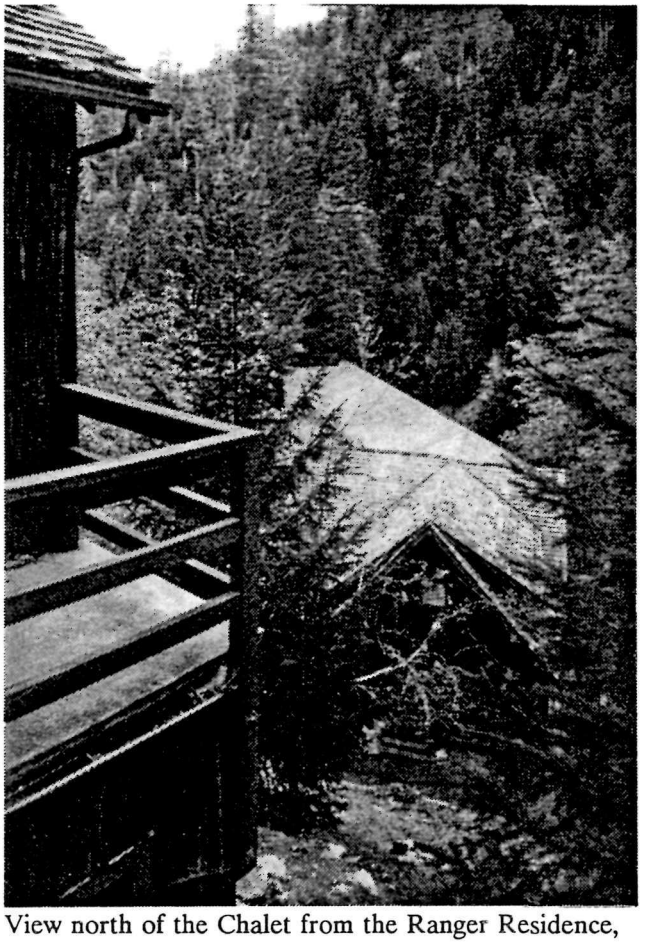


Chalet breezeway and entrance, view southeast, 1982.

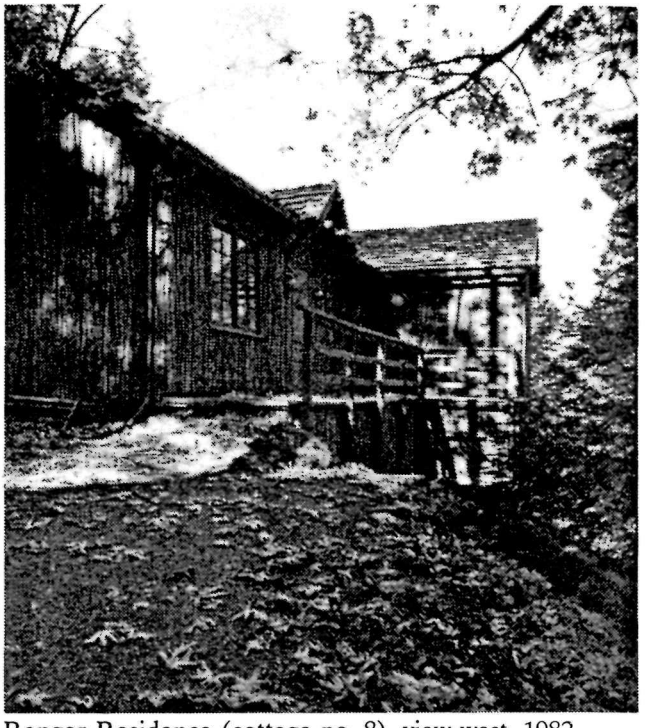


Chalet breezeway, view west, 1982.

RANGER RESIDENCE: The one-story L-shaped Ranger Residence is one of two NPS-owned structures at the monument. The wood frame structure is well-screened by vegetation; while views of the Chalet and Chateau downslope are possible from the north-facing porch, the residence is visible from the courtyard. In 1974, the structure was converted to office space and used on an intermittent basis.



View north of the Chalet from the Ranger Residence, 1982.



Ranger Residence (cottage no. 8), view west, 1982.



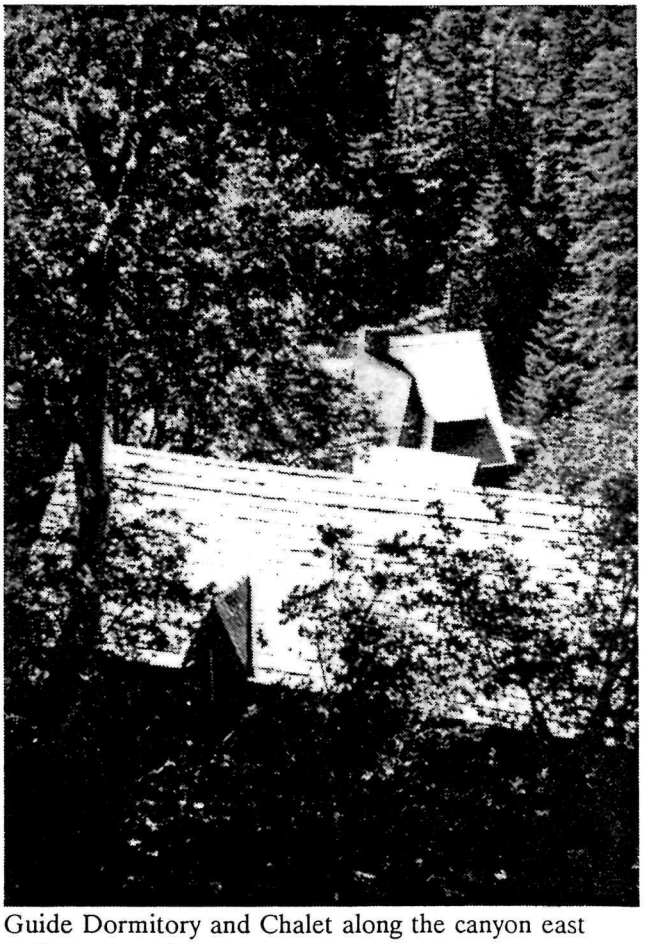
Ranger Residence, view east, 1982.

CHECKING AND COMFORT STATION: Wood frame and cedar bark sheathing unify the Checking and Comfort Station with other structures on site. It is NPS owned and presently contains a small visitor contact station and restrooms. Stone facing around the comfort station and around a drinking fountain on the north side was added in the 1960s. A concrete handicapped accessible walkway was added in 1979.



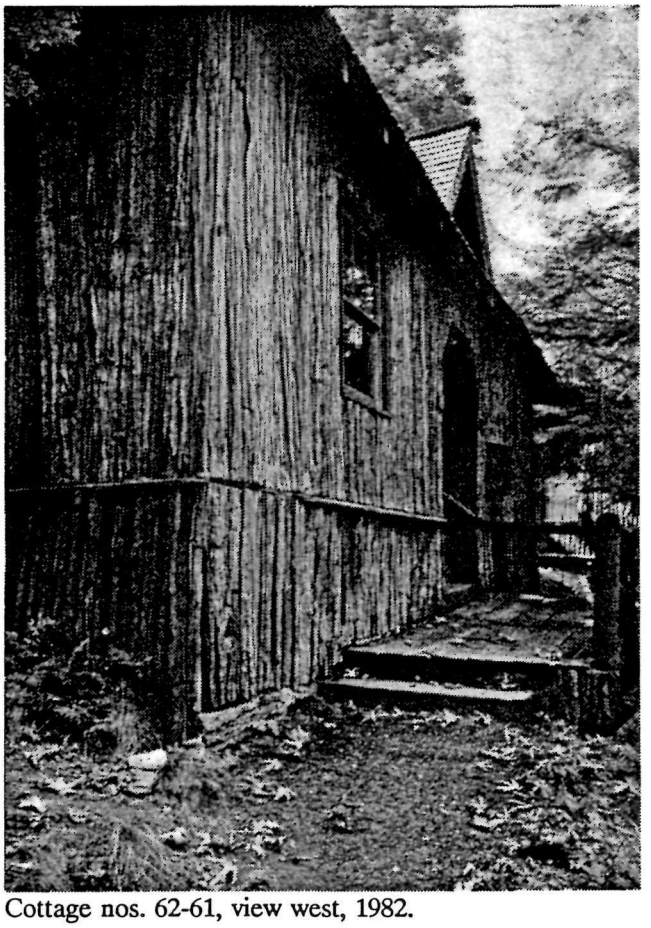
Checking and Comfort Station (left) and the NPS Administration Office (right), view south.

GUIDE DORMITORY: Constructed in 1927, the wood frame Guide Dormitory is the oldest extant structure at Oregon Caves. Additions in 1940 and 1972 have nearly tripled the footprint area. Peaked dormers above the second story windows remain the most distinct feature of the structure. The structure is located northeast of the Chateau, and is entered from the north, upslope of the Chalet.

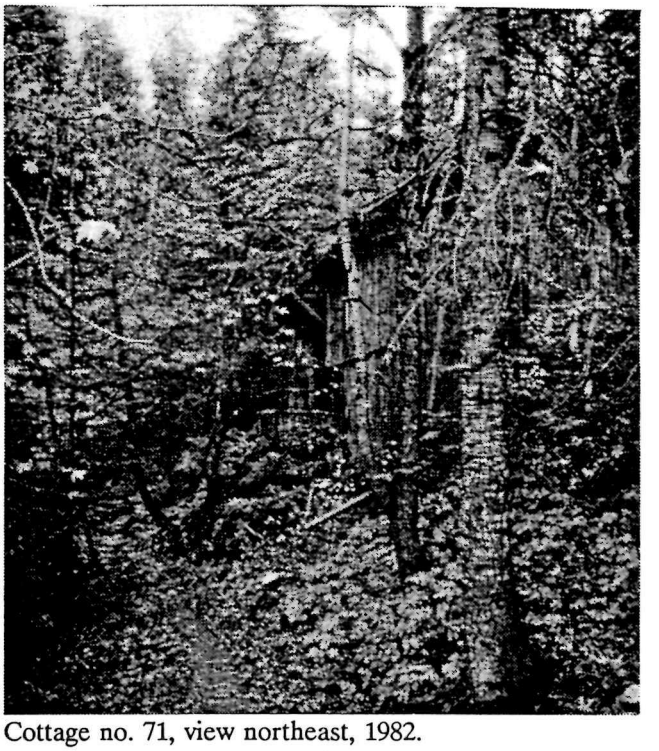


Guide Dormitory and Chalet along the canyon east wall, view southwest.

CONCESSION COTTAGES: In 1926, in addition to the Chalet and tent houses, the Oregon Caves Company built seven duplex cabins, upslope and south of the plaza. The one-story, rectangular cottages nestled into the forest mountain slope resembled a rustic alpine village. Sited to appear as though they fitted naturally into the surrounding landscape, glimpses of the wood frame cottages among the trees could be seen through the Chalet's arching breezeway. Narrow footpaths linked the cottages to each other and the Chalet. Despite slight differentiation of roof detail, wood-shingled gable roofs and cedar bark sheathing matched design features found on the nearby Chateau and Chalet. Visitors rented the cottages until the summer of 1982. All seven cottages were removed as of fall 1988.



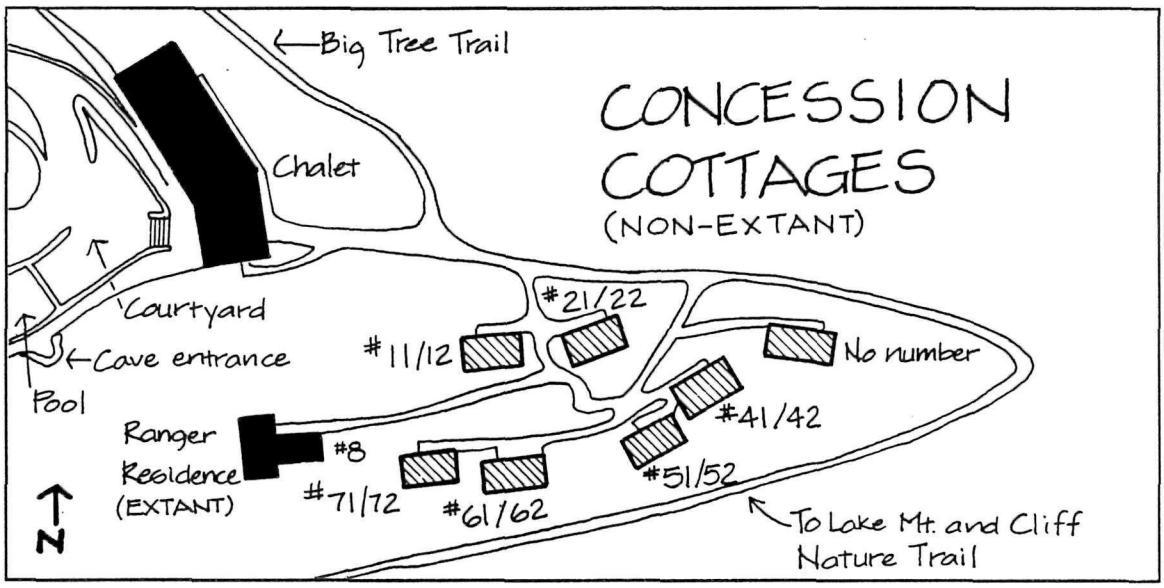
Cottage nos. 62-61, view west, 1982.



Cottage no. 71, view northeast, 1982.



Cottage no. 12, view west, 1982.

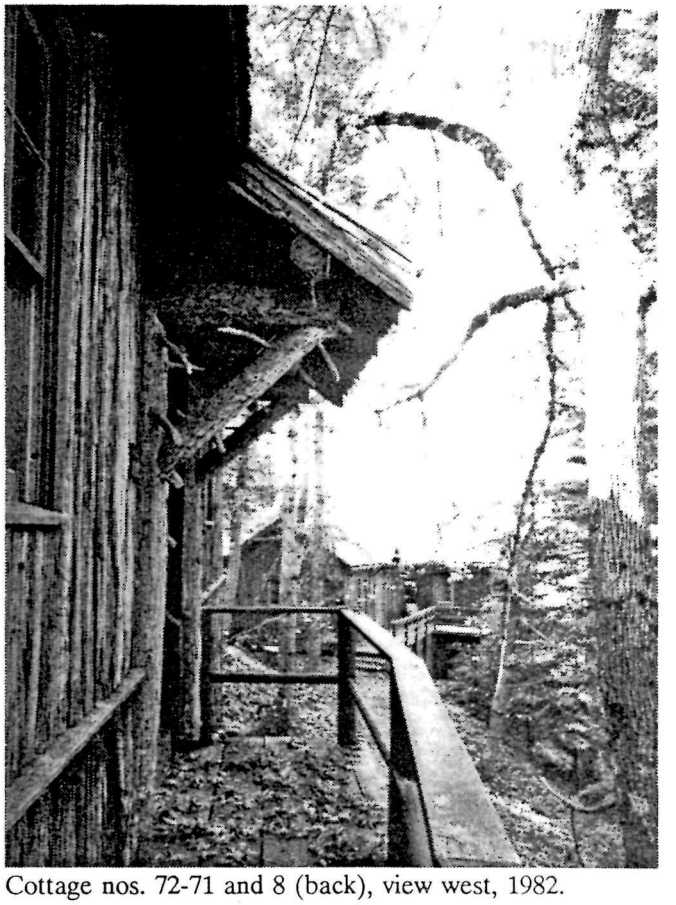




Concession Cottages, c.1930. ORHI 84525



Cottage nos. 11-12, view west, 1982.



Cottage nos. 72-71 and 8 (back), view west, 1982.



View south of cottage no. 22-21 showing access trail in front, 1982.



Cottage no. 42-41, view northeast, 1982.

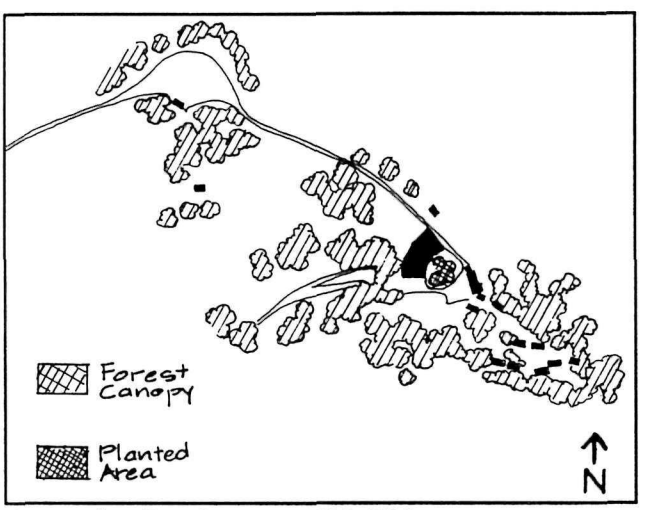


Cottage no. 52-51, view south, 1982.

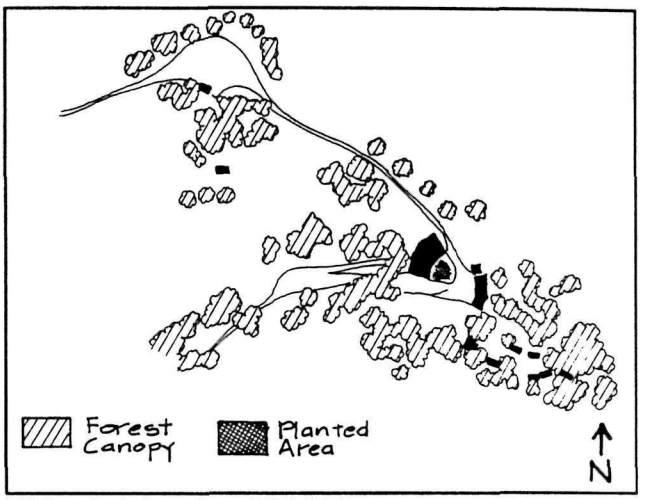
VEGETATION

The monument straddles a natural transition zone between two mountainside forest types occurring in southwest Oregon. Mixed broadleaf and conifer forests grow below 4000 feet where Douglas-fir and pines produce a tall canopy. Above 4000 feet all-conifer forests grow. Douglas-fir/oak type forest stands, characteristic of Merriam's Transition Life Zone, are found in the developed area. Additional dominant species include Oregon maple, Pacific madrone, Ponderosa and sugar pines, grand and white firs, Port Orford and incense cedars.

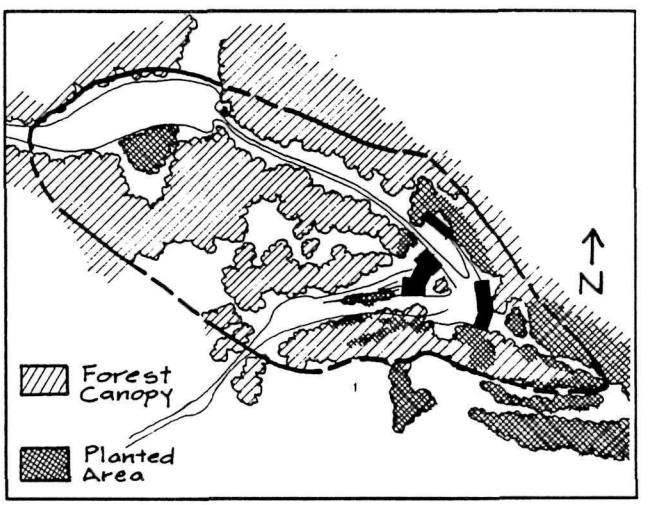
Detailed records of landscape work at Oregon Caves are absent, making differentiation between historic and more recent plantings difficult. Some information about the historic design intent - massing and location -is recorded in the 1936 and 1938 master plans, Superintendent's monthly reports of CCC work, and historic photographs. Efforts were focused around the Chateau and plaza, although some planting occurred along the creek, exit trail and cave entrance. With less magnitude, naturalistic design practices employed at Crater Lake between 1922 and 1942, were implemented at Oregon Caves. Plant materials native to the Siskiyou mountains were used as a feasible solution for plaza plantings. Transplants, "because they were the most suited to survive" were gathered outside the monument near the Oregon Caves Highway.[16] Bigleaf maple, Douglas-fir, and Port Orford cedar were carefully located to screen structures from view as well as provide shade and accent. Similarly, ferns were carefully massed below shrubs to enframe buildings and stone walls. Foundation plantings integrated structures near the cave entrance with the adjacent forest community.



Concession Development 1909-1934



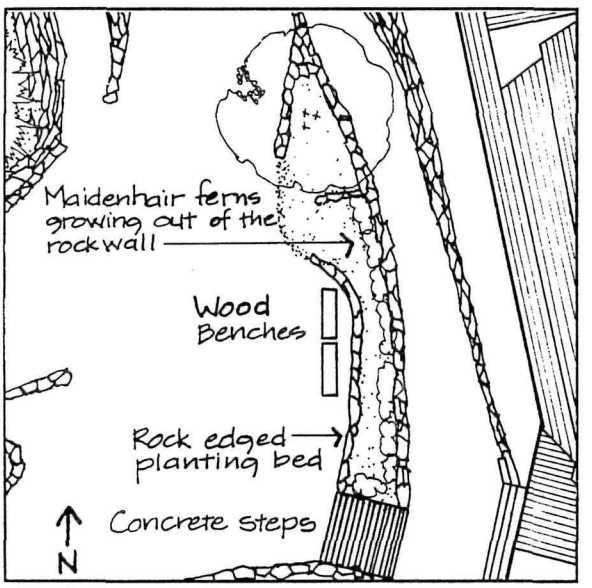
NPS Administration 1934-1941



ORCA 1941-1990

Major landscape work undertaken in 1962 by the Western Region, and after flood damage in 1964, concentrated on revegetating partially cleared areas. Twelve species of native plant materials were specified to "...maintain [and restore] a natural appearance for the developed area around the cave and parking facilities, [and to manage] plant and animal life...for visitor safety and enjoyment."[17] The steep slopes above the Chalet made replanting particularly problematic. Removal of Concession Cottages

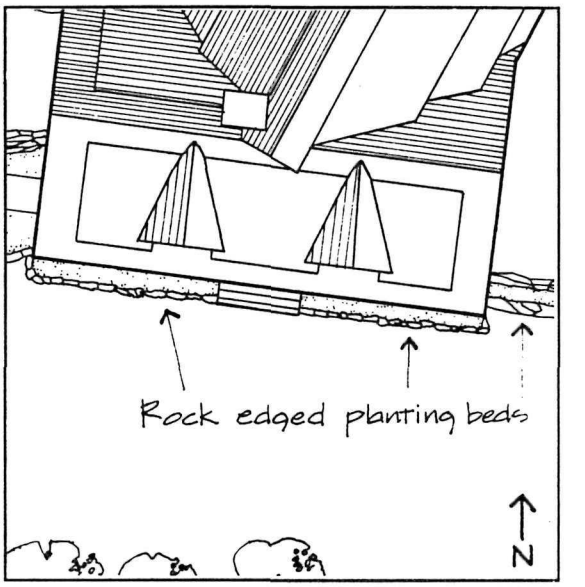
destroyed trees, impacting the appearance of the area.[18] Coppice growth has slightly obscured views south of the Ranger from the plaza and west of the Chateau. However, extant remnants of the historic period plantings are oceanspray and gooseberry found around the Chateau and plaza ponds, and fern species planted in the dry-laid stone walls.[19]



CHALET FRONT



Bigleaf maples accent the plaza and ferns soften the rough appearance of dry-laid stone walls.



CHATEAU FRONT



View northwest of the planting beds that edge the Chateau courtyard walls.

1962 PLANT LIST

Abies concolor	white fir
Acer circinatum	vine maple
Acer macrophyllum	bigleaf maple
Amelanchier pallida	service berry
Arbutus menziesii	Pacific madrone
Arctostaphylos carescens	manzanita
Cornus nuttali	Pacific dogwood
Holodiscus discolor	rock spirea
Mahonia aquifolium	Oregon grape
Mahonia nervosa	Cascades mahonia
Rhododendron macrophyllum	coast rhododendron

Common Plant Materials of the Monument include:

TREES	
Abies concolor	white fir
Abies grandis	grand fir
Abies procera	noble fir
Acer macrophyllum	bigleaf maple
Alnus rhombifolia	white alder
Arbutus menziesii	Pacific madrone
Calocedrus decurrens	incense cedar
Castanopsis chrysophylla	golden chinkapin
Chamaecyparis lawsoniana lawsoniana	Port Orford cedar
Cornus nuttalli	Pacific dogwood
Corylus cornuta	California hazel
Libocedrus decurrens	incense cedar
Lithocarpus densiflora	tan oak
Pinus lambertiana	sugar pine
Pinus ponderosa	Ponderosa pine
Pseudotsuga menziesii	Douglas-fir
Quercus chryolepis	canyon live oak
Quercus kelloggii	California black oak
SHRUBS	
Amelanchier florida	Pacific serviceberry
Arctostaphylos sp.	manzanita
Berberis aquifolium	Oregon grape
" nervosa	low Oregon grape
Holodiscus discolor	ocean spray
Philadelphus lewisii	Lewis mockorange
Rosa gymnocarpa	wild rose
Rubus laciniatus	wild blackberry
Symphoricarpos sp.	snowberry
GROUND COVER	
Achillea millifolium	yarrow
Achlys triphylla	deerfoot/vanilla leaf
Adiantum pedatum	maidenhair fern
Aquilegia l.	red columbine
Argostis exarata	spike bentgrass
Asarum caudatum	Sierra wild ginger
Athyrium filix femina	lady fern
Bromus carinatus	mountain brome
Castilleja sp.	painted cup
Chimaphila umbellata	Princes pine
Cirsium arvense	Canadian thistle
Collinsia torreyi	blue lips
Delphinium menziesii	larkspur
Elymus glaucus	blue wild-rye
Festuca idahoensis	Idaho fescue
Heuchera sp.	allumroot
Lewisia Lee	Lee lewisia
Linnaea borealis	twin flower
Moss	
Muhlenbergia filiformis	pull-up Muhly
Orchids	
Pea ampla	big blue grass
Phleum alpinum	alpine timothy
Polystichum munitum	sword fern
Pteridium aquilinum	bracken fern
Sedum oregonense	Watson stonecap
Snow plant	
Trientalis latifolia	star flower
Trillium ovatum	trillium sp.
Trisetum spicatum	spike trisetum
Veratrum californicum	California false-hellebore
Verbascum thapsus	mullein
Verena lasiostachys	verbena
Viola sp.	redwood violet
Whipplea modesta	modest whipplea
EXOTIC PLANTS	
Branus tectorum	cheatgrass
Cirsium edule	Canadian thistle
Dactylis glomerata	orchard grass
Digitalis pururea	foxglove
Dipsacus sylvestris	teasel
Hypericum perforatum	Klamath weed
Pea pratensis	Kentucky bluegrass

SMALL-SCALE ELEMENTS

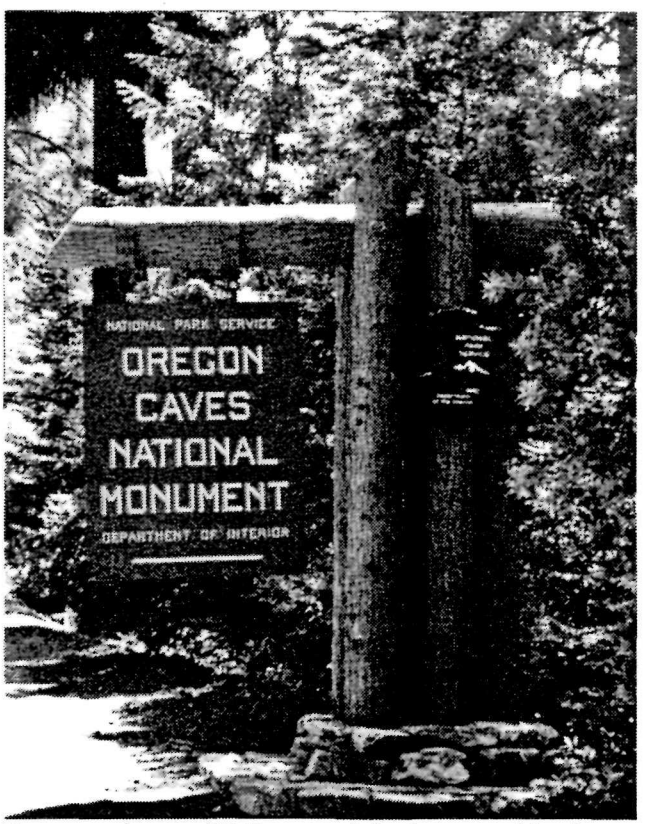
SIGNS: Production of the original entrance sign coincides with Lange's rustic sign program at Crater Lake in 1936. Using CCC labor, rough hewn wood signs with raised lettering and carved images were created. The existing sign is an amalgam of the original 1935 sign of oil-impregnated wood with routed yellow-orange painted lettering on a brown background, glued to a 1937 NPS rustic sign with raised lettering. The sign standard (post) is a 1962 replacement of the original bold-cut log form. Other signs at Oregon Caves, including directional, identification, and interpretive, were produced at the Crater Lake sign shop. Records indicate that some signs may have been produced at the sign shop in Yosemite.[20] Signs at Oregon Caves were replaced with routed wood signs of creme white lettering and brown background as part of the Mission 66 landscape improvement program. Today, there are few extant Mission 66 signs, as well as a few stencil signs produced by the concessioner in the 1970s. Other markers on site include the marble Elijah Davidson Monument. Erected in the early 1930s, the monument rests on a mortared stone base at the east side of the main cave entrance.



Elijah Davidson stone memorial inset into the masonry wall east of the cave entrance.



View northwest of the information kiosk adjacent to the NPS Administration Office at the lower parking lot.



Entrance sign on SR46 west of the lower parking lot.

BENCHES: Detail features, which extend design "far beyond the bare necessities of facility...[is where] the ingenuity of the CCC found it's greatest expression."[21] Although site details were often based on established designs, many were the innovation of the assigned CCC construction crew. Seating built in the stone retaining walls continued CCC design precedent by siting them "in locations that afforded a pleasing or beautiful view."[22] Although the benches of the plaza date after the historic period, four "dry wall" stone benches located on the Big Tree Trail, east and upslope of the Guide Dormitory, were built in 1936 by the CCC and are still extant. Ranging from two to four feet wide, native stone was set into the hillside to form a bench seat and back. Also found on the trail are benches made from half round logs and mortared stone bases.



Wood and metal benches in front of the Chalet



Wood and metal picnic table and benches at the fire ring.

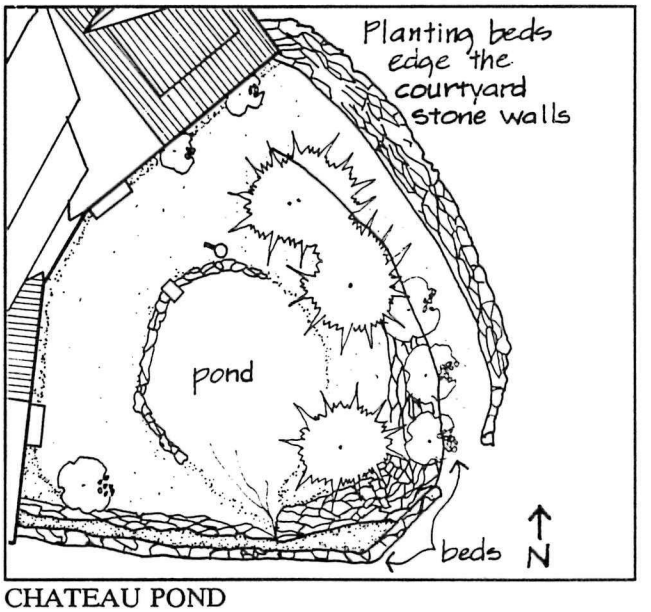


Half round log bench on mortared stone base along the Big Tree Trail north of the developed area.

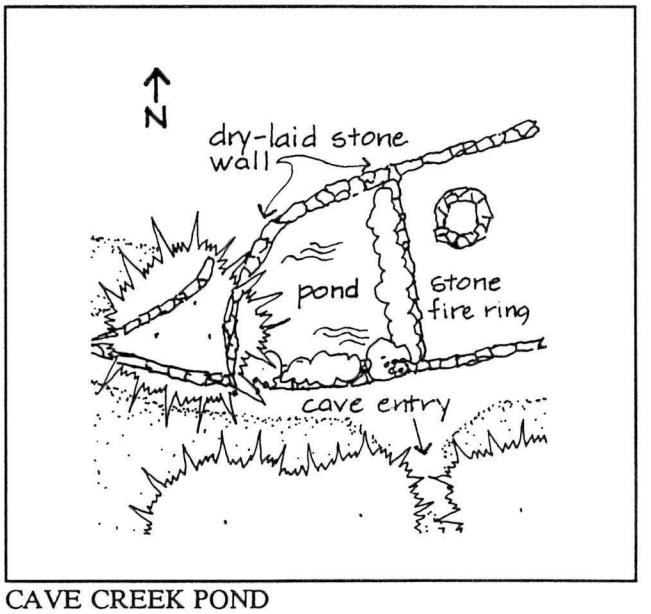
PONDS: Cave Creek has been diverted into two ponds: one is fed by an eight foot waterfall located directly below the main cave entrance; the other is in the Chateau's courtyard. The 1929 concessioner-built pond at the cave entrance was replaced by the extant CCC-constructed 1935 triangular shaped pond. This three-foot-deep, 20-foot-wide pond is lined with native stone and plantings were placed under the direction of Howard Buford. Also built by the CCC in 1935, the oblong Chateau pond is six feet deep, and is up to 40 feet long and 30 feet wide at points. Treated log slab paving in the courtyard was replaced with asphalt in 1952. In 1990, the pond was dredged and lined with native stone.



Waterfall and pond below the cave entrance.



CHATEAU POND



CAVE CREEK POND

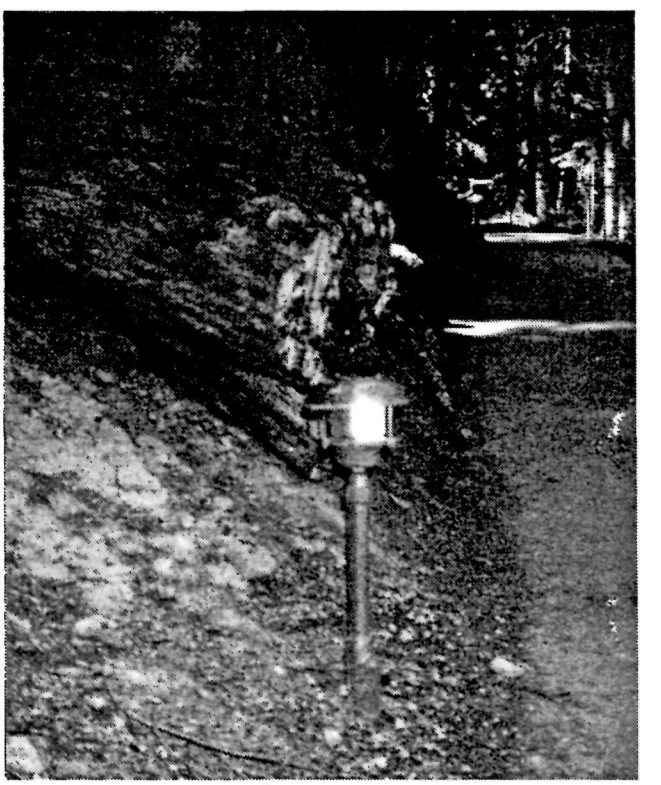
LIGHT STANDARDS: Installation of light standards along the roadway in 1937 and 1938 alleviated the "exceptional dark[ness]" caused by the tall trees of the canyon.[23] The 17-foot-high copper fixture suspended from a perpendicular cross piece on a peeled log pole was common to many parks during the 1930s. Although many of the standards installed at this time are extant, 18-inch standards lighting the Cave Exit Trail postdate the historic period. Lights along the Cave Exit Trail, where it meets the cave entrance area, are bronze louvered fixtures set in a mortared block wall standing approximately 18 inches high.



Bronze light fixtures set in mortared stone blocks at the cave entrance.



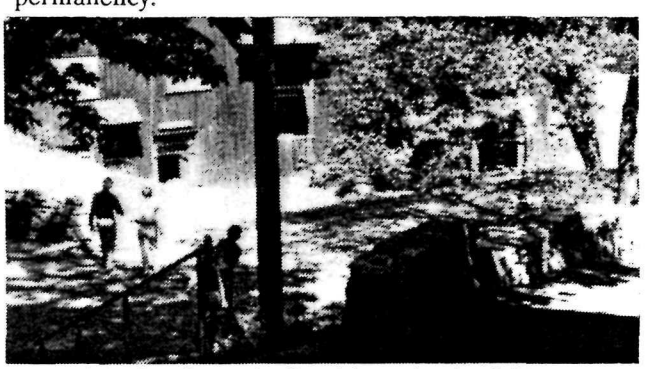
Peeled log light standards with copper fixture installed along the service road and plaza in 1937 and 38.



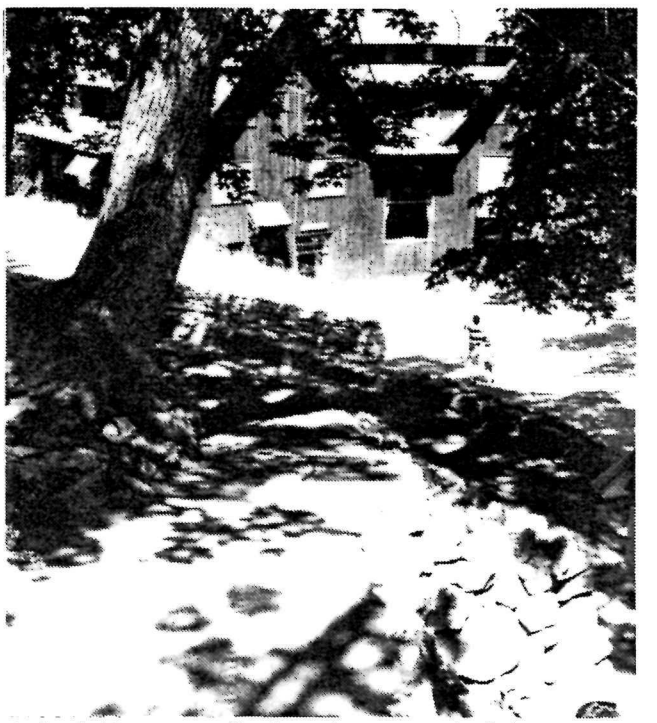
Metal light standards line the cave exit trail.

CEDAR SHEATHING: Prior to World War II, cedar-bark sheathing was obtained from small mill sites located near the Oregon Caves Highway. The durable bark required little maintenance and weathered to a silver gray, the shaggy nature of the sheathing created a rustic appearance. The use of Port Orford cedar-bark for sheathing blended the developed area with the surrounding forest in which cedars are one of the dominant tree species, and brought design unity among monument structures. The cedar-bark sheathing became a design feature of several extant structures in the adjacent Siskiyou National Forest during the late 1930s.

STONEWORK: Stone for structures of the developed area of the monument - steps, walls and buildings - was collected from aboveground sites and from the cave. Primarily limestone and marble were used to cast a rough texture and weathered appearance. Although some stonework was executed by the concessioner, much of the work was completed by CCC crews using battered stone to produce a crenelated texture and pattern that resembled other CCC work at Crater Lake. "Dry walls", or stone walls laid without mortar, are used to form the Chateau's courtyard, the wall west of the Chalet and one framing the south edge of the upper pond. A masonry wall built in 1940, made of fitted battered stone, lines the walkway connecting the Chalet and cave entrance. The workmanship of this wall, which is roughly 100 feet long, 18 inches wide, and up to ten feet tall, is better than the masonry wall that forms the campfire enclosure. Built after the 1964 flood, the wall enclosing the campfire area was made slightly higher in 1983. Stone steps lead from the walkway and wall to the roadway; those adjacent to the Cave Exit Trail are original. Concrete steps leading from the Chalet to the roadway replaced the original stone stairway after the 1964 flood. Stone masonry is a unifying design element of the development providing an overall appearance of "permanency."[24]



Stone drinking fountain fitted into the dry-laid stone wall.



A dry-laid stone wall edges the east end of the courtyard between the Chalet and cave entrance.



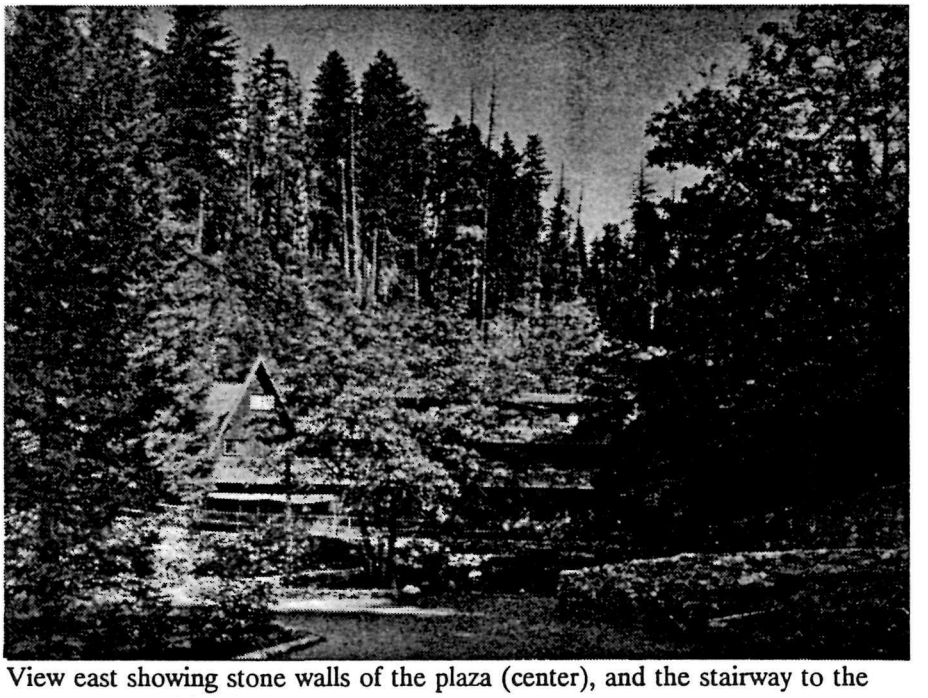
Dry-laid stone retaining walls form the northwest foundation of the Chateau.



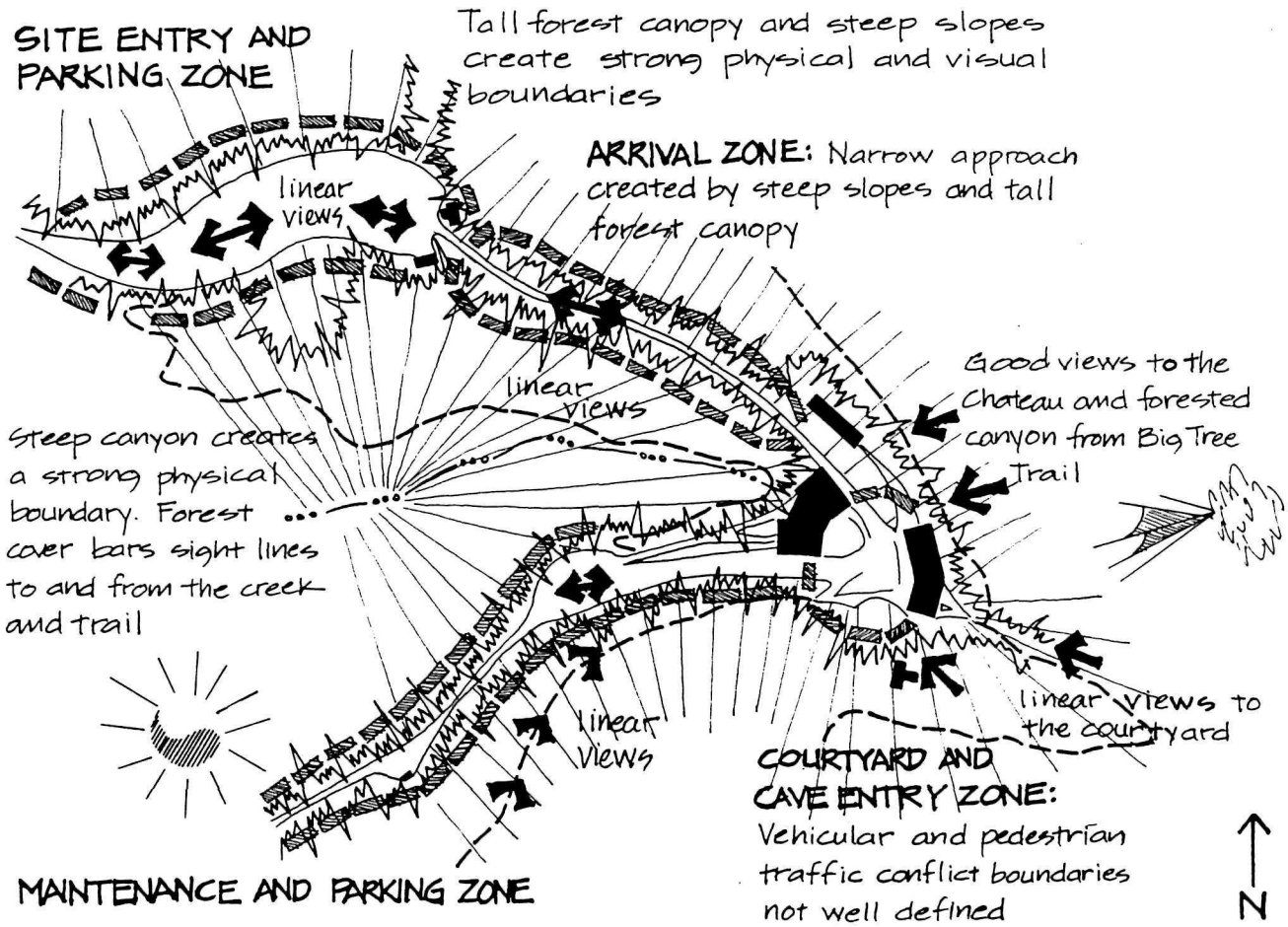
Mortared stone steps linking the No Name Trail with the service road west of the Chateau.



Mortared stone stairway linking the Chateau front parking area and the main cave entrance.



View east showing stone walls of the plaza (center), and the stairway to the cave entrance (right), 1982.



SITE AND VISUAL ANALYSIS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In February 1992 a considerable portion of the developed area at Oregon Caves National Monument was listed in the National Register of Historic Places as the Oregon Caves Historic District. The following statement of significance and integrity draws on information from the National Register nomination form; Historic American Building Survey reports documenting the Chateau, Chalet, Ranger Residence, and Concession Cottages; and the "Analysis and Evaluation" section of this document.

Under USFS administration, Oregon Caves was established in 1909 as one of the country's first national monuments. By the time the National Park Service assumed administration in 1934, resort development at the cave entrance had been underway for twelve years. During this time, architectural design of and circulation for the evolving development, as well-as the concessioner's presence, became well established. Over the next nine years, working within the rustic design idiom, NPS landscape architects and Civilian Conservation Corps workers continued "detail" development at Oregon Caves to attain the "rustic alpine village" nestled within a mountain setting envisioned by Arthur Peck. Naturalistic design principles dictated the use of indigenous plant materials and stone work, and careful siting of structures preserved the rugged topographic character of the canyon. Cedar-bark sheathing created design unity among buildings at the monument and effectively integrated the development with the mixed conifer forest to appear "naturalistic" in character.

Landscape architect Arthur L. Peck and architect Gust Lium set the tone for the rustic development at Oregon Caves, and NPS landscape architects Thomas Vint and Francis Lange continued to shape the monument landscape. Historic drawings, photographs, monthly project completion reports, and recent interviews with Lange provide detailed information about monument development and application of the non-intrusive design tenets known as the Rustic Style.

Landscape foremen Armin Doerner and Howard Buford managed landscape design implementation at the monument using CCC crews. Their contributions provided the design finish that distinguished CCC construction; the work was also consistent with design work undertaken at Crater Lake National Park and at state and U.S. Forest Service developments in the Siskiyou National Forest.

Monument development at Oregon Caves by 1942 had achieved a high degree of design cohesiveness under a public and private partnership. The structures and related landscape design embody the philosophies, themes, materials, and rustic architectural character practiced between 1922 and 1942 in western national parks, monuments and forests. Primary characteristics of the Oregon Caves designed landscape are the sympathetic use of native materials to define circulation, blend structures into the natural environment and augment visitor experience.

The Oregon Caves Historic District, designed and built between 1927-1942, is significant as a historic designed landscape under National Register Criterion A: for its association with events that made significant contributions to the broad patterns of history; under Criterion B: for its association with the lives of persons significant in our past; and under Criterion C: for distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of design.

CRITERION A: Oregon Caves is integrally linked to efforts by the National Park Service to develop, manage and protect the natural, recreational and scientific resources of one of the country's first national monuments. Extant landforms, major features such as roads and trails, and cedar sheathing and stonework, all contribute to the rustic character of the district. Components of the designed landscape survive in ample proportion to demonstrate the direction of park planning and construction of the Rustic design developed during the late 1920s and 1930s which endeavored to tie Rustic style buildings to their environment. Design implementation by CCC workers identifies the landscape of Oregon Caves as representative of the major expansion period in the National Park System during the early 1930s, when the Hoover administration's efforts followed by the New Deal public works programs made this work possible. Detail design features at Oregon Caves, specifically the cedar-bark sheathing and native stone masonry, set precedents for state park and USFS architecture in the Siskiyou National Forest.

CRITERION B: Rustic architecture and naturalistic design at Oregon Caves exemplify the tenets of site planning and design promoted first by private enterprise and later adapted by public agencies. Rustic

design development at Oregon Caves was initiated by Arthur Peck, and implemented by local architect/contractor Gust Lium, and NPS landscape architects Thomas Vint and Francis Lange, and CCC landscape foremen Armin Doerner and Howard Buford. Peck is noted for his contributions to the plantings and landscape design of the Oregon State University (OSU) campus (formerly Oregon Agricultural College) and the Oregon State Highway system. He was an important figure in the creation of an Oregon state park system and the city park layout of Corvallis, Oregon. Similarly, Peck was influential to generations of OSU students as an instructor and the first Landscape Architecture Department chair. At Oregon Caves, early rustic design development from 1916-1933 was directed by Peck's site plan and his recommendations for the use of native plant and building materials. Peck established an appropriate precedent for NPS efforts after 1934 and effectively differentiated Oregon Caves from other resorts in national forests.

Gust Lium continued the rustic theme established by Peck in the design and construction of the Guide Dormitory, Concession Cottages, Chateau, and the (second) Chalet. Locally prominent, Lium is credited with designing and building many structures in Josephine County. Lium's work on Forest Service lands began with the Oregon Caves Concession Cottages in 1926; his work with the Forest Service (1936-1940) included architectural designs for CCC projects. At Oregon Caves Lium transformed different design concepts into coherent expressions of rustic architecture. By allowing the site to dictate design, Lium established the Chateau as the central component for the development and used landscape work and details as accent.

NPS chief landscape architect Thomas Vint was responsible for planning the developed areas in western national parks and monuments. Although specific design development was performed by park landscape architects and CCC landscape foremen, Vint ordered the monument to be kept as natural as possible, and barred development in Cave Creek Canyon. Vint recommended acceleration of landscape work initiated by the concessioner through the use of CCC labor.

Crater Lake's resident landscape architect during the years 1934-1940 was Francis Lange. He had direct responsibility for development at Oregon Caves and supervision of CCC landscape foremen Armin Doerner and Howard Buford. Lange designed many of the CCC improvements at Oregon Caves and drew the 1936 and 1938 master plans for the monument, using a similar design strategy as that employed at Crater Lake. Lange's contribution to the monument which he oversaw to completion was his design for and siting of the Ranger Residence.

Armin Doerner prepared the initial 1934 master plan for Oregon Caves. However his main contribution to monument development, along with Howard Buford, was the implementation of the landscape design. While Doerner was specifically responsible for plantings at the cave entrance and exit trail, both Doerner and Buford were responsible for landscape design around the Chateau. Under Buford's direction, CCC workers completed the finishing portions of the planting and site details of the designed landscape at Oregon Caves.

CRITERION C: The designed landscape of Oregon Caves is significant nationally as an expression of naturalistic design developed and used by the National Park Service from the late-1920s to the early 1940s. The rustic design initiated by the concessioner at Oregon Caves set precedent for work continued by NPS landscape architects. The monument structures and site plan contain features associated with NPS Rustic, a design approach that influenced state park systems and national forests throughout the country. In western mountain parks and monuments, buildings were constructed of native materials and incorporated local colors, shapes, and textures: building forms were designed to suit local conditions and environments, and were sited to blend into the surrounding landscape. At Oregon Caves, larger site planning efforts and design detailing successfully blended the overall physical development with the natural setting. Principle features of the designed landscape at Oregon Caves are: structures skillfully sited into the forested canyon on an improved bench with minor disturbance to the surrounding natural topography; the use of cedar-bark sheathing and native stone to integrate the structures with the surrounding landscape; and the practical and aesthetic use of native plant materials, both in terms of location and massing, to provide shade and accent. View development and enhancement bring key aspects of the Rustic Style and naturalistic design into a cohesive landscape composition.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The historic designed landscape of Oregon Caves Historic District possesses integrity of:

Location: The primary landscape features defining the historic district at Oregon Caves, including buildings, the circulation system, vegetation, and detail elements such as rock walls and cedar sheathing, are in their original location.

Design: The original spatial organization for the site, including land use functions (resort/administrative/ residential) and activities is intact. Although snow, flood and landslide damage have necessitated revegetation work, the framework and intent of the original planting scheme is evident.

Setting: The landscape surrounding the Oregon Caves Historic District remains virtually intact and appears much as it did during the significant historic period. The Ranger Residence and Guide Dormitory sited along the steep slopes of the canyon walls, and the Chalet, Chateau, and Checking and Comfort Station sited on the canyon bench, retain the "rustic alpine village" appearance intended by the original developers/architects/designers. The surrounding forest continues to outline the service road and developed area with a dense canopy. Plaza trees continue to provide shade and accent. Views across the plaza between the Chalet and Chateau and from the plaza to the Ranger Residence remain unobscured.

Materials: Structures at Oregon Caves remain generally intact with the following exceptions: general site rehabilitation work has occurred due to landslide and flood damage; the stone steps in front of the Chalet were replaced with concrete steps; wooden verandas were replaced with steel fire escapes on the Chateau; and the Concession Cottages were removed from the site. Volunteers have generated from the stumps of trees removed from around the Chateau pond, and the original ferns planted within the dry-laid walls of the courtyard have regenerated. Also, view obscuring coppice growth has developed from maple stumps west of the Chateau. However existing plant materials are compatible with the historic site, and plantings in the plaza are remnants from the historic period.

Workmanship: The structures of the Oregon Caves Historic District are a cohesive collection illustrating Rustic Style architecture that is both reflective of NPS Rustic and CCC-designed construction in the national forests of the Pacific Northwest. Public and private design efforts over the years composed a complementary naturalistic design appearance to the overall design.

Feeling: The historic district possesses a distinct character, evoking a sense of an earlier era in which great thought went into the design and development of a complex which harmonized with the surrounding environment. The buildings, structures, circulation system, materials and organization all contribute to the rustic feeling associated with the district.

Association: Oregon Caves continues to function as it did historically, as a resort and destination for observing unique natural wonders. The historic district continues to reflect its associations with the CCC and the Rustic Style of design through its buildings, structures, circulation system, materials, and organization.

ENDNOTES



Construction of the new Chalet, east view, 1942. ORHI 84535

1. U.S. Department of the Interior. Division of Publications and the Employee Development Division National Park Service. The National Parks: Shaping the System, 1991, 33.

2. "Sample Permit," C.J. Buck, Assistant Forester, to E.H. MacDaniels, Forest Supervisor, January 14, 1922, page 3, section 22, History Files, ORCA in the Oregon Caves Historic District nomination.

3. MacDaniels to Buck, April 9, 1923, op. cit. in Oregon Caves Chateau HABS No. OR-145,7

4. MacDaniels to Buck, April 9, 1923, History Files, in Steve Mark. ORCA Habs Report #145.

5. "Floor Plan of Cottages - Oregon Caves Resort," by G.A. Lium, [1926], three sheets, Concession Files, Oregon Caves National Monument in the National Register Nomination for the Proposed Historic District 1991, 33.

6. Draft Historic American Building Survey No. OR-145, 1.

7. C.J. Buck, Assistant District Forester, to J.H. Billingslea, Forest Supervisor, Siskiyou National Forest, October 2, 1929, Interpretation Division Files, Oregon Caves National Monument in HABS No. 145, 8.

8. The monument was erected by one of Davidson's neighbors from Williams, Oregon. "Personal History Report," [Bruce Muirhead], n.d., History Files, Oregon Caves National Monument in the nomination for the proposed Oregon Caves Historic District, 36.

9. "Report to the Chief, Western Division on Emergency Conservation Work, Camps No. I and II and Building Construction," August 1934, National Park Service Records, RG 79, Landscape Architects' Reports to the Chief Architect, Box 2, "Crater Lake 1935-38," National Archives and Records Center, San Bruno, CA.

10. Oral history interview with Francis G. Lange by Stephen R. Mark, February 1, 1991.

11. Telephone conversation with Stephen R. Mark, Crater Lake Park Historian, August 12, 1991.

12. "New Chalet, to be filled with drawing O.C. 8001," by Cecil Doty, September 13, 1941, one sheet, Maintenance Files, Oregon Caves National Monument in the nomination for the proposed Oregon Caves Historic District, 38.

13. "...the term 'rustic architecture' must apply to all increments of development, including the built structures, furnishings, interior and exterior, and landscaping features as each was an integral part of the whole." Throop, 1979:54.

14. Peck, Arthur L. "Summary", pamphlet, January 1938, on file at the Oregon State University Archives, Corvallis.

15. Throop, 1979:51.

16. Lange interview, 1991.

17. Oregon Caves National Monument, Master Plan, 1975, 24.

18. Lange interview, 1991.

19. Draft ORCA Historic District nomination, 11.

20. Telephone conversation with Crater Lake park historian Stephen Mark, 8/21/91.

21. Throop, 1979:54.

22. Ibid, 55.

23. Lange interview, 1991.

24. Ibid.

REFERENCES

Engineering and Design Associates. Analysis Report of Electrical and Lighting Systems at Oregon Caves National Monument for the U.S. Department of Interior National Park Service., c.1986

Environmental Assessment, Master Plan: Oregon Caves National Monument, Oregon, National Park Service, Pacific Northwest Region, 1974.

Fire Management Plan, Oregon Caves National Monument, 1988.

"Floriculturist left leafy legacy," Gazette Times, Corvallis, Oregon, July 24, 1989.

Gilbert, Cathy A. and Gretchen A. Luxenberg. The Rustic landscape of Rim Village, 1927-1941, Crater Lake National Park. Seattle, WA: Pacific Northwest Region, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1990.

Good, Albert H. Park and Recreation Structures, Part I-III. Boulder, CO: Graybooks, 1990 Reprint of the Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1938.

Hubbard, Henry Vincent and Theodora Kimball. An Introduction to the Study of Landscape Design. New York MacMillan Co., 1929.

Lange, Francis G. A Tourist Center in a National Park. Washington University, St. Louis, 1932. Unpublished Master's thesis.

Lange, Francis G. Interviews with Crater Lake National Park Historian Stephen R. Mark. Vacaville, California, August 1987; 12-14 September 1988; 28 December 1990; 1 February 1991. Typed field notes on file in the park.

Luxenberg, Gretchen A. Historic American Building Survey documentation for Oregon Caves Concession Cottages (HABS No. OR-147), Files, Cultural Resources Division, Pacific Northwest Region, National Park Service, Seattle, 1988.

Mark, Stephen. Historic American Building Survey documentation for Oregon Caves Chateau, Oregon Caves Chalet, and Oregon Caves Ranger Residence (HABS NOS. OR-145, OR-146, and OR-149), History Files, Crater Lake National Park, 1989.

Miele, John R. Resource Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, Oregon Caves National Monument, 1982.

"Oregon Caves Historic District," National Register of Historic Places nomination form, 1991.

Oregon Caves National Monument Master Plan, Government Printing Office, NPS 506, 1969 and 1974.

"Oregon Caves National Monument" by Kurt Klimt, 1989 five sheets, Historic American Building Survey, National Park Service.

"Oregon Caves National Monument, Topographical Map, Headquarters Area," 1935, National Park Service, Office of Chief Engineer, San Francisco.

"Oregon Caves, Oregon-California," 1954, U.S. Geological Survey. 15 minute series.

Oregon State University Archives. "History of the Department of Horticulture" Corvallis, date unknown. Resources Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, Oregon Caves National Monument. Seattle, WA: Pacific Northwest Region, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1982.

REFERENCES

"Planting Plan, Oregon Caves National Monument," 1962, National Park Service, Denver Service Center (microfiche).

San Bruno, California. National Archives and Records Center. Record Group 79, Records of the National Park Service, Landscape Architects' Monthly Narrative Reports, 1929-1938. Copies on file in the PNRO Cultural Resources Division.

San Bruno, California. National Archives and Records Center. "Report to the Chief, Western Division on Emergency Conservation Work, Camps No. I and II and Building Construction," August 1934, National Park Service records, RG 79, Landscape Architects' Reports to the Chief Architect, Box 2, "Crater Lake 1935-38".

Seattle, Washington. National Archives and Records Center. Record Group 79, Records of the National Park Service, Crater Lake National Park.

Shiltgen, Lora. "Managing a Rustic Legacy: A Historic Landscape Study and Management Plan for Longmire Springs Historic District, Mount Rainier National Park." Master's thesis, University of Oregon, 1986.

Throop, Elizabeth G. "Utterly Visionary and Chimerical: A Federal Response to the Depression, an Examination of Civilian Conservation Corps Construction on the National Forest System Lands in the Pacific Northwest. Unpublished Masters thesis at Portland State University, 1979.

Tweed, William C. and Laura E. Souliere, Henry G. Law. National Park Service Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942. San Francisco, CA: National Park Service, 1977.

U.S. Department of the Interior. Division of Publications and the Employee Development Division National Park Service. The National Parks: Shaping the System, 1991, 33.

Walsh, Frank K and Halliday, William R. Oregon Caves Discovery and Exploration. (Grants Pass, OR: Te-Cum-Tom Publications), 1976.

Date of Inventory: July 1990

Project Team: Cathy Gilbert, historical landscape architect and Marsha Tolon, landscape architect.