MEN IN THE MAKING

Pico Blanco
SCOUT RESERVATION

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to three volunteers — leaders of their generation — men unaffected by impossible obstacles — who gave so much of themselves to completion of one of the nation's great Boy Scout camps.

Edward M. Seifert
Walter R. Tavernetti
Lewis A. Terven, Jr.
Written by

ALFRED YOUNG, Scout executive of this council from its beginning April 1933 to September 1961, during which period Pico Blanco Scout Reservation was constructed.

Consultants

TED DUREIN, Managing Editor, Monterey Peninsula Herald

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GEORGE T. C. SMITH, Pacific Grove

Localities

Unless otherwise indicated, localities listed are in California

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The American Way

Pico Blanco Scout Reservation was built with voluntary gifts of money and service, the American, or free enterprise, way of doing things.

The free enterprise way results in the greatest amount of inner satisfaction, and requires the belief that it is in the Divine Plan for each generation of mankind to help the next generation.

It is hoped that Pico Blanco Scout Reservation will so inspire young America that they will be sufficiently appreciative of what has been done for them by today's grown-ups that when they become adults, they too will perpetuate the free enterprise system for America's future of their day.

This would be character building and citizenship training in their highest forms — the objectives of the Scout program.
Pico Blanco History

Adventure is all around the Pico Blanco section of California. It is a land of spectacular scenery. The Little Sur River, wending its way through a primitive forest of giant redwoods, a waterfall gushing from the mountainside into the river, its spaciousness, its wild tempestuous backdrop, and its latent opportunities for wilderness treks and exploration are symbolic of the area's rugged beauty.

Records show that the land was first settled by homesteaders who obtained parcels of acreage through United States government patents as early as the year 1891. These settlers were William F. Notley, 1891, Thomas W. Allen, 1891, Isaac N. Swetnam, 1894, Harry E. Morton, 1896, Samuel L. Trotter, 1901, Abijah C. Robbins, 1901, Antere P. Lachance, 1904.

Because tanbark was a lucrative source of income at that time, by 1916 the Eberhard and Kron Tanning Companies, of Santa Cruz, acquired most of the acreage from the original owners. Timber was brought out by muleback and on clumsy wooden sleds and loaded by cable onto waiting vessels at Notley's Landing, located near the entrance to the present Palo Colorado road.

Interest in preserving the abundant growth of redwoods in the area prompted William Randolph Hearst, newspaper publisher, on November 18, 1921, through his Hearst Sunical Land and Packing Company, to purchase the entire acreage from the tanning companies at a cost of approximately $50,000.

Through the efforts of Albert M. Lester, Carmel, on July 23, 1948, the property was conveyed to the Boy Scouts of America, Monterey Bay Area Council, Inc., for $20,000.

Today, Pico Blanco Scout Reservation stands on this land, set aside to the sole end that it be preserved as a primitive area where the American boy can have the inestimable experience of untouched wilderness and unspoiled natural beauty. It is a reservation for boys, away from civilization, intended to offset the softening influence of our modern social life, and to help in the development of America’s future men to be self-reliant, of strong character, and physically fit.
Pico Blanco Scout Reservation

One of the few remaining primitive areas in California, Pico Blanco Scout Reservation is owned and operated by the Monterey Bay Area Council, Inc., Boy Scouts of America.

Its 1,445 acres of rugged virgin country is cradled in the vast Los Padres National Forest, abounds with wild animal and plant life, and has ample water.

Located on the north fork of the Little Sur River, Monterey County, it is reached by traveling 16 miles south from Monterey and 10 miles southeast on the Palo Colorado road.
Development Highlights


1949 Plans made for camp development. National and local council, federal, state, county engineers participated.

1950 April. Building of road started from Hoist to camp area, eight miles of rugged, mountainous terrain. October. Lewis A. Terven, Jr., Salinas, appointed volunteer chairman of committee to raise capital funds for camp development.

1951 Road extended to central part of camp and trees cleared from area.

1952 Work continued.

1953 Water lines laid and construction of central buildings begun.

1954 Facilities completed: bridges and fords, camp headquarters, camp ranger’s lodge, Catholic chapel, central kitchen, central lodge, ceremonial grounds, electrical system, health lodge, pioneer camp, Scoutcraft areas, trading post, twelve troop campsites, utility building, water system. May 31. Open house and dedication. Pico Blanco Scout Reservation designated as official name of camp. June-September. First council-operated summer camping sessions held and continued each summer thereafter.

1955 Additional facilities completed: archery range, dam for lake, rifle range.

1956 Other facilities added: aquatics, three outpost camps, Protestant chapel.

1957 Parking area developed.

1958 July 23. Road dedication. Five miles of original road (from Hoist to Bottcher’s Gap) turned over to State of California and Monterey County.

1959 Three miles of council portion of road, from Bottcher’s Gap to camp area, improved.

1960 Pioneer trail developed.

1961 Meditation grove completed.

1962 Campfire circle built.

1963 Recognition center completed.

Value of Reservation

From 1948 to 1963 it is estimated that $500,000 has been expended for land, facilities, and equipment at Pico Blanco Scout Reservation, which includes $200,000 for construction of eight mile road. Today, considering the unlikelihood of locating acreage equal to Pico Blanco, a conservative replacement figure would be in excess of $1,000,000.
Explanation of Names

Pico Blanco — means white peak — name of mountain near Pico Blanco Scout Reservation.
Little Sur River — means Little River of the South — passes through Pico Blanco Scout Reservation and discharges into the Pacific Ocean.
Big Sur River — means Big River of the South — located south of Little Sur — runs through Pfeiffer Redwood State Park into the Pacific Ocean.
Bottcher's Gap — named after John Bottcher who homesteaded there in 1885-1886.

Elevations in Feet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Elevation (feet)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bottcher's Gap</td>
<td>2,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pico Blanco</td>
<td>3,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pico Blanco Scout Reservation</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ventanas</td>
<td>4,833</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rivers and Streams

Rivers and streams crossing Palo Colorado road to Pico Blanco Scout Reservation are: Rocky Creek, Turner Creek, Bixby Creek, Mill Creek, Lachance Creek, Little Sur River.

Council Camps

1933 April. Council organized in midst of great depression without camping facilities or funds.
1934- Makeshift Camp Wing built in Big Sur State Park, Monterey County; 1937 abandoned after 1937 summer camping season.
1938 Camp Esselen constructed in another location of Park and occupied during summer months.
1945 Program handicaps, proximity of civilization, and conflicts of jurisdiction, forced council to request State of California to make reimbursement of council's $8,000 investment in Camp Esselen, which was done in August 1945.
1946- Camp Esselen used for three to four weeks during summer months of 1946 through 1953.
1954 Pico Blanco Scout Reservation occupied.

Training Opportunities

At Pico Blanco Scout Reservation Boy Scouts and Explorers have opportunity for training in —

Aquatics — swimming, life-saving, water sports, boating, canoeing.
Field Sports — trap shooting, rifle range, archery range, fishing.
Scoutcraft — map and compass, nature, conservation, signaling, pioneering, rope work, axemanship, first aid, handicraft, merit badge counseling in subjects related to out-of-doors, advancement in rank requirements.
Woodcraft — camping, hiking, wilderness outpost camping, cooking.
Spiritual — religious services to suit wishes of individuals.
Those Who Gave
A Helping Hand
For America’s Future
Through Living
and
Memorial Gifts
For An
Enduring Remembrance
Acknowledgment

In varying degrees, hundreds, perhaps thousands, of people had a part in the construction of Pico Blanco Scout Reservation. Their participation was inspired by a desire to help strengthen America through camping — the Scout way.

To list them all and explain what each did would require space, even in condensed form, beyond that available in this book.

Each individual must measure in his own mind the value of his part in the total effort. Regardless of the value he places on his effort, he should enjoy a happy and compensating feeling of accomplishment.

The gratitude of the many who have received and will receive the benefits of Pico Blanco Scout Reservation will never be denied those who by their generous gifts of money or service pioneered the conversion of a wilderness into a Boy Scout camp within a wilderness.
Citations

Citations are made to the following as the donors of the most outstanding gifts during the period from September 1948 to April 1963.

George W. Beeman, Pebble Beach
California, State of
Bing Crosby Fund, Monterey
Hearst Foundation, Inc., New York
Edie Westphal Herold, Gonzales

Ivy M. Myers, Salinas
Michel and Mary Orradre, San Ardo
Walter Rosenberg, San Ardo
Edward M. Seifert, Carmel
Lewis A. Terven, Jr., Salinas

Recognitions

Following are recognized for special services, direct or indirect, in connection with the development of Pico Blanco Scout Reservation.

State Senator Fred S. Farr, Carmel
Einar and Russell Hansen,
    First Contractors
Paul Harlan,
    Camp Ranger and Pioneer
Labor Unions
Lewis Service & Supply Co., Salinas
William J. Lidderdale,
    Assistant Scout Executive
Louis Electric Co., Salinas
Robert G. Macdonald,
    Assistant Scout Executive
Monterey County Board of Supervisors

Monterey County
    Planning Commission
Monterey County Road Department
Monterey County Sportsmen’s
    Associations
Monterey County Surveyors, Inc.,
    Salinas
Pacific Telephone Company,
    San Francisco
Assemblyman Alan G. Pattee, Salinas
Road Contractors
State of California Officials
    U.S. Army, Fort Ord

Appreciation

Men who gave extra help with a special fund-raising effort during a period of crisis:

Ted Durein, Monterey
Fred W. Flodberg, Watsonville
Bela Banathy, Monterey
John Doyle, King City
William B. Grainger, Salinas
Ree C. Grim, King City
Jack A. Hayes, King City
Frederick R. Hudson, Watsonville

Darrell Cardiff, Santa Cruz
Jack Chiorini, Santa Cruz
Captain Elgin Hurlbert, U.S.N.,
    Pacific Grove

Edward M. Seifert, Carmel
Dan Kohn, Monterey
Maj. General R. B. McClure, U.S.A.,
    Carmel
Edward F. Pearce,
    San Juan Bautista
Loren Smith, Monterey

Elmer A. Jensen, Salinas
John Martin, Monterey
Guy J. Pedroni, Salinas
C. B. Ward, Pacific Grove
The Recognition Center is located in the midst of this grove of redwood trees, near Camp Headquarters. Here honor is given to the great pioneers and others who made Pico Blanco Scout Reservation possible.
FRANK E. GRANTHAM, Pacific Grove: Supervised construction of Camp Esselen, which experience was invaluable in development of Pico Blanco Scout Reservation.

HARVEY W. EDMUND, Santa Cruz: His background as an executive of a utility company enabled him to contribute greatly to plans for Pico Blanco.

WALTER R. TAVERNETTI, Salinas: Volunteer camp construction engineer. His work included building an eight mile road through rugged, mountainous terrain.

EDWARD M. SEIFERT, Carmel: Council president when Pico Blanco construction started. Gave continuous leadership and service for twelve years.

LEWIS A. TERVEN, JR., Salinas: As volunteer chairman of original committee to raise capital funds responsible for basic impetus to financing Pico Blanco.

F. E. DAYTON, Salinas: A leader in the organization of the council and devoted to the development of Pico Blanco.
Pico Blanco Pioneers

DR. HENRY G. WATTERS, Watsonville: First council president, 1933-1937, a period of five years. Pioneered Boy Scout program in this area.

THOMAS B. HAWKINS, Hollister: First chairman of San Benito District and member of original capital fund committee.

GUY J. PEDRONI, Salinas: In a quiet, unassuming way, did much to aid in the capital fund program.

BEN F. PETERSEN, Chuscar: Helped with equipment and service in the critical early days of construction.

FATHER F. J. FRANCHI, S. J.: Chaplain at council summer camps for over a quarter of a century. His spiritual guidance has inspired men and boys.

ALBERT M. LESTER, Carmel: Will always be envisioned as the man who obtained and arranged for financing purchase of Pico Blanco property.
AQUATIC FACILITIES

Gift of HERBERT G. MEYER, Salinas, in Memory of His Aunt,
EDIE WESTPHAL HEROLD, Gonzales
ARCHERY RANGE

Gifts of Others, in Honor of GUY J. PEDRONI, Salinas
BRIDGES AND FORDS

Gifts of Others, in Honor of F. E. DAYTON, Salinas
CAMP CONSERVATION

Gifts Of

CLYDE W. CRARY FUND, Monterey

O. W. IRWIN, Monterey

KAISER REFRACTORIES, Moss Landing
CAMP DEVELOPMENT

Gifts Of

A. C. BIGHAM, Salinas
WILLIAM B. GRAINGER, Salinas
LEWIS A. TERVEN, JR., Salinas

IVY M. MYERS, Salinas
WALTER ROSENBERG, San Ardo
CAMP HEADQUARTERS

Gift of WALTER ROSENBERG, San Ardo, in Memory of His Father, JOSEPH ROSENBERG
CAMP RANGER'S LODGE

Gifts of Others, in Honor of BEN F. PETERSEN, Chualar
CATHOLIC CHAPEL

Gifts of Others in Honor of
FATHER F. J. FRANCHI, S.J., Camp Chaplain

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CENTRAL KITCHEN

Gift of the BING CROSBY FUND, Monterey, in Honor of BING CROSBY
CEREMONIAL GROUNDS

Gift of FRED W. WALTZ, Santa Cruz
DAM FOR LAKE

Gift of CLARENCE CHURCH and Others in Honor of LEWIS A. TERVEN, JR., Salinas
ELECTRICAL SYSTEM
We're in this fight together, for the protection of one of our most important natural resources—and your cooperation has been appreciated.

But our work is not done. Not by a long way, because our country still suffers nearly 500 forest fires a day!

So, the need is constant to remind the public how they can help protect our forests from fire.

Many Thanks.

Smokey

FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT

Gift of MONTEREY PENINSULA VOLUNTEER SERVICES, in Honor of U.S. FOREST SERVICE
HEALTH LODGE

Gift of MONTEREY COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY
LAND — 1,445 ACRES

Gift of HEARST FOUNDATION, INC., New York in Honor of WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST, San Simeon
MEDITATION GROVE

Gift of K. W. MACDONALD, Banning, in Memory of His Wife, LUCILLE ELLICOTT MACDONALD
OUTPOST CAMPS

Gifts Of
PAUL FELLNER, Soledad, in Memory of PARENTS
A. H. CLARK, Soledad

ROTARY CLUB, Gonzales
PARKING AREA

Gift of CHUALAR COMMUNITY CLUB, in Memory of DONALD A. GILCHRIST, Gonzales
PIONEER CAMP

Gifts of Others, in Honor of ALBERT M. LESTER, Carmel
PIONEER TRAIL

Gifts of Others, in Honor of FRANK E. GRANTHAM, Pacific Grove
PROTESTANT CHAPEL

Gift of MR. and MRS. GEORGE W. TOMBLESON, JR., Salinas in Memory of Daughter, MARION ANN TOMBLESON
RIFLE RANGE

Gift of DR. J. ARTHUR RODGERS, Watsonville
in Memory of RICHARD M. ASHCRAFT
ROAD — 8 MILES

Gifts of Others, in Honor of WALTER R. TAVERNETTI, Salinas
SCOUTCRAFT AREAS

Gifts of Others, in Honor of THOMAS B. HAWKINS, Hollister