

240 Years of Ranching:
Historical Research, Field Surveys,
Oral Interviews, Significance Criteria, and
Management Recommendations for Ranching
Districts and Sites in the San Diego Region

Attachment III
A Roundup of Ranching Features
In San Diego's Backcountry
Prepared by Heather Thomson

A Round-up of Ranching Features in San Diego's Back-country



The buildings, structures, objects and sites that comprise Southern California's historic ranches are symbols of our livestock ranching heritage. They are important sources of information about the industry, and the individuals and families who made it their life.

As we have seen after the wildfires of 2002 and 2003, these symbols of our ranching history are fragile and easily destroyed. However, their protection is essential to preserve and to interpret this history for future generations.



The construction style of ranch-related features is a reflection of the people who built them and the materials that were available. A successful ranching operation is dependant on many factors. Although environmental factors, like weather, are out of a rancher's control, pasture and water can be improved upon with good management techniques. Constructed features like corrals depend solely on the resourcefulness of the rancher in making use of available materials.

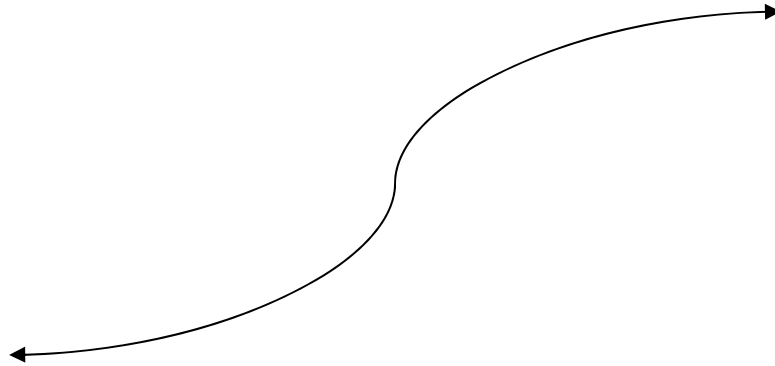
Lands recently acquired by California State Parks are historical ranches. Many of these were owned or developed by multi-generational ranch families, well known in San Diego history. They contain examples of historic ranching features that will be described in the following sections. The features that are on land owned by California State Parks, Colorado Desert District land are the Tulloch Ranch, the Lucky 5 Ranch, the Campbell Ranch (Vallecitos), and a portion of the San Felipe Ranch. Other CDD owned features are located on part of the former Jasper J9 Ranch lands and Paroli lands in Culp Valley and McCain lands in Carrizo. Several privately owned ranches scattered throughout the back-country have been included in this report as well.



What does it take to have a successful cattle ranching operation?

Water, pasture, corrals, and cowboys are just a few elements. You also have to consider weather, calves, bulls, cows, steers, markets, breeding, and health. Corrals, windmills, water troughs and even barbed wire fences are part of the landscape that helps tell San Diego's cattle ranching story. Many urban dwellers, particularly children, have little understanding of how their food is produced.

Interpretive programs could provide education about ranching systems which were historically an integral part in the development of San Diego's back-country. Historic structures are a link with the past. They provide information about the culture and technology of long ago, which can help us prepare for the future.



What comprises a successful cattle ranch?

Cattle need water.

Windmills, stock ponds, reservoirs, troughs, and springs are all tools the rancher used to water his livestock. Where water flowed year-round, water from improved springs was piped to nearby troughs. Where naturally occurring water was unavailable or inadequate, wells were excavated.

Culp Valley

In Culp Valley, year round springs were abundant. Lavina Paroli leased the land surrounding the Paroli home site in Culp Valley to Ranchita cattleman Charlie Ponchetti. He diverted water from Bubbling Spring, to supply the two troughs pictured to the right. The troughs are constructed of concrete and lined with white ceramic tile. (P-37-026466)



Ponchetti troughs at Paroli home site.



Wilson trough at Cottonwood Spring.

Also in Culp Valley, rancher Alfred Wilson used a concrete trough to impound water from Cottonwood Spring for his livestock. Inscribed in the concrete are the words "*Made by Wilson*". (P-37-026468)



At Pena Spring, water was piped into a wooden trough. The overflow went back into the streambed. Although the exterior of the trough was blackened during the recent Pines Fire, the water inside the trough kept it from being destroyed. (P-37-026467)

Tulloch Ranch

Tulloch Ranch

The 2,100 acre Tulloch Ranch is located at the junction of Hwy. 79 and Sunrise Highway, just south of Julian. Acquired by George Sawday in 1943, the ranch recently was sold by his great grandchildren to the Nature Conservancy for acquisition by California State Parks, Colorado Desert District. According to Betty-Anne Tulloch, (Sawday granddaughter) the name "*Tulloch Ranch*" is something new. The family has always called the property "*The North End*", because it is at the north end of Cuyamaca.

On the portion of the Tulloch Ranch west of the Highway 79–Sunrise Highway junction, on the east slope of North Peak, a redwood spring box located in the creek supplied water to three concrete drinkers located downstream. Water was piped from the spring box to the drinkers, each one filling and flowing into the next with the overflow running back into the creek from a pipe located in the last drinker.

(P-37-026455)

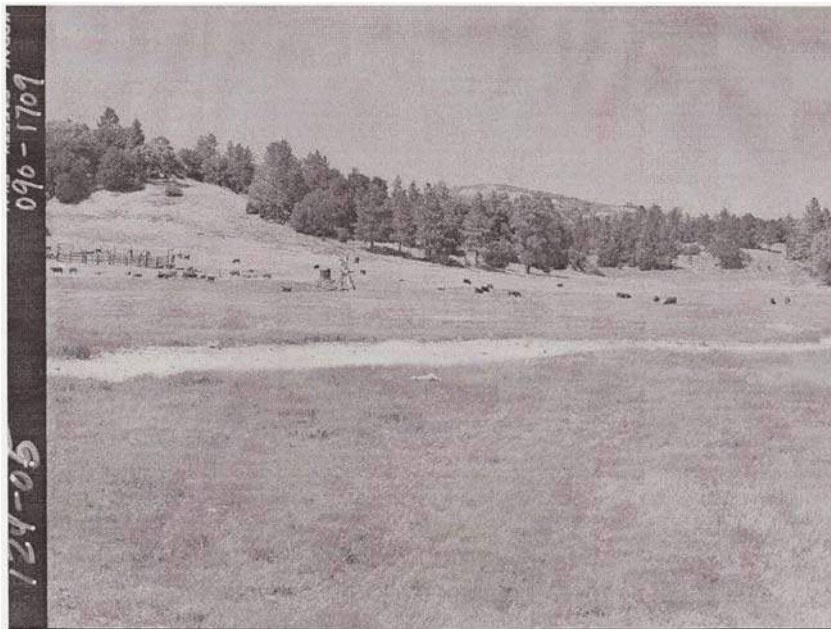


In the early 1990's the spring box silted in and Bill Tulloch drilled a well. Water was pumped from the well, using a solar pump, into a metal trough. The trough had a float attachment, and when the water dropped to a certain level, the trough would automatically refill.



Cattle will stay close to their water supply. To encourage cattle to use different pastures, water sources were developed in outlying areas. Windmills provided power to pump water to the surface where it could be used by the cattle.

On the Tulloch Ranch, east of SR79, water was pumped from a well into a tank that stood on the wooden platform in the foreground of the photo on the right. This in turn supplied a concrete reservoir with power generated by a windmill. In recent years, the windmill had fallen into a state of disrepair. Bill Tulloch replaced it with a solar pump. This was located on the pole just to the right of the windmill. (P-37-026454)



Windmill and tank on the Tulloch Ranch- 1970's

Cumming Ranch



Windmill and reservoir on Cumming Ranch.

At Cumming Ranch, private property located northeast of the intersection of Highway 67 and Highland Valley Road in Ramona, a Sears brand windmill was used to pump water to a square concrete reservoir. This windmill was very briefly mentioned in the site record for CA-SDI-17169, prepared by Affinis for a “*Cultural Resource Evaluation for Cumming Ranch.*” (Gross 2005);

“...A non-operational windmill is approximately 50m to the northeast.”

Owens

Formally the Owens ranch, this private property located at the corner of Highland Valley and Traylor Road in Ramona, was operated by W.J. Owens from 1935 into the late 1940's. A windmill (now missing blades) and a square concrete reservoir were used for watering cattle. Shown on the 1954 San Pasqual USGS topographic map, the feature dates back at least fifty+ years. The reservoir is similar to several found in the vicinity. Today, Willy and Steve Tellam, (Sawday descendants), lease the land to graze beef cattle.



Well and windmill tower on the Owens Dairy property.

Cagney Ranch

The remains of the windmill in the photo to the right, is located north of Highland Valley Road, along the east side of Rangeland Road in Ramona. Shown on the 1954 USGS San Pasqual 7.5 min. topographic map, the windmill likely supplied a small reservoir that is located a short distance to the south.



Oak Country/ Ramona

This improved spring is located in the heart of the Ramona Grasslands on Oak Country, a property previously slated for development and recently acquired by the Nature Conservancy. Water was piped from the spring to two concrete drinkers which are located a short distance away. These historic features were not documented during the Cultural Resource Inventory for the Oak Country development project.



Harper/ Lucky 5

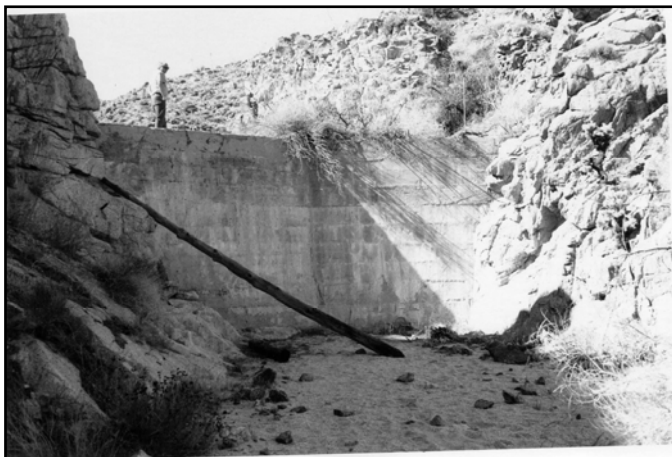
Formerly called The Harper Ranch, the Lucky 5 Ranch is located in the easternmost mountain range of San Diego County. The ranch is bordered by Cuyamaca Rancho State Park on the west and Anza-Borrego Desert State Park on the east. A large portion of the ranch, excluding the central portion in Rattlesnake Valley, was acquired by California State Parks, Colorado Desert District in 2001.

In 1885, Dr. Eli Harper and his two sons, Julius and Amby moved to the eastern portion of the Cuyamaca Grant and settled in Rattlesnake/Harper Valley. The Harpers used the ranch as summer pasture and moved them down to the desert in the winter.

Early in the 1920's the Harper Brothers attempted to use the area that is now known as Harper Flat for winter graze. They constructed dams with the intention of storing enough water to make their venture feasible. Their project failed when the reservoirs silted in after a heavy rain. To make things worse, their herd suffered an outbreak of anthrax. The brothers ended up abandoning the desert operation in that area. Historic features related to the Harper endeavors in the Harper Flat area include: the Harper Dams, a one-room cabin (CA-SDI-15402H) in which it is said that Julius and Sarah Harper spent their honeymoon in this cabin (Brigandi:153), and a concrete water tank.



Harper Concrete Trough (Accession # 625-20-1945) CSP archives



Harper Dam (Accession # 625-20-1955) CSP archives

In 1940 the ranch was sold to Charles Luckman who renamed the ranch the Lucky 5 for the five members of his immediate family. He was an absentee owner who used the ranch as a vacation home. The cattle were managed by ranch supervisors, Pete and Marion Anderson, who lived full time at the ranch.



Ranch house designed by Charles Luckman

In 1954, the ranch was sold to Lawrence Daley, of the Daley Corporation. Daley used the rich ranch resources for his cattle (as well as buffalo for a time). Often he leased the ranchlands to other cattlemen such as brothers Jim and Sandy Kemp, as pasture for their herds. In 2004 the majority of the ranch was acquired by California State Parks, Colorado Desert District.

The several owners of the Lucky 5 used different methods to provide water to the livestock. On the lower portion of the ranch, a generator supplied power to pump water from the well, into a water trailer where it was then piped to a metal trough. A float was used to regulate the water level in the trough. This was likely developed by the Daley's post-1950. (CA-SDI-17369)



Trough on the lower Lucky 5.



Water trailer on the lower Lucky 5.

On the west side of the Lucky 5, in the Cuyamaca Meadow, water from an improved spring was gravity fed to two concrete troughs. The troughs were surrounded with native rock to give the cattle stable footing and to help prevent down-cutting the soil and damaging the troughs. (P-37-026462)



Water trough on the Lucky 5.

South of Sunrise Highway, a windmill-driven pump brought water out of an adjacent well to a nearby water trough. The well also supplied water to a large tank located on the hill to the north. The tank gravity-fed two troughs located ½ mile northwest on Sunrise Highway. (P-37-025131)



The tank had an ingenious float attachment that raised and lowered a hubcap on a cable on the outside of the tank. The height of the hanging hubcap enabled the ranch hands to determine the water level from a distance and could fill the tank if necessary.



Gravity fed trough on the Lucky 5 – east side of La Cima entrance.



Gravity fed trough on the Lucky 5 – west side of La Cima entrance.



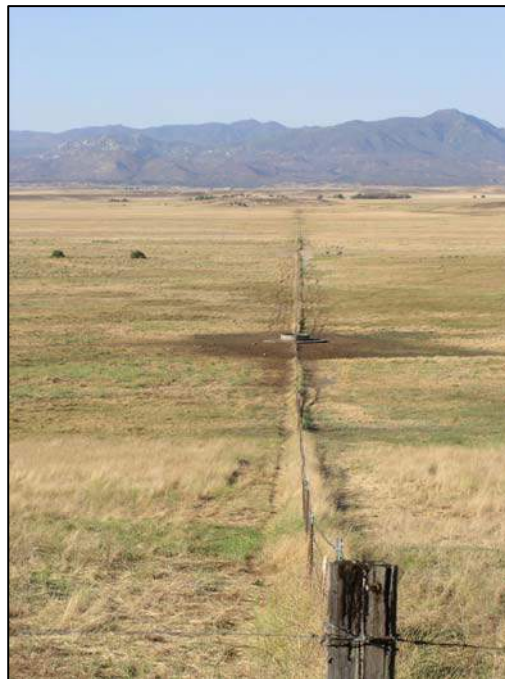
Buoys and windmill on the Lucky 5.

Warner Ranch

Long ago, it was common to see cattle on the Warner Ranch drinking from the metal containers that were at one time used to ship plane engines. Today, the standard practice is to set forms and have a concrete truck pump the concrete for these large round troughs.



Below is another trough on Warner Ranch. The pasture fence bisects the trough, a common practice, which allows the cattle to access the water from either pasture.



Campbell Ranch

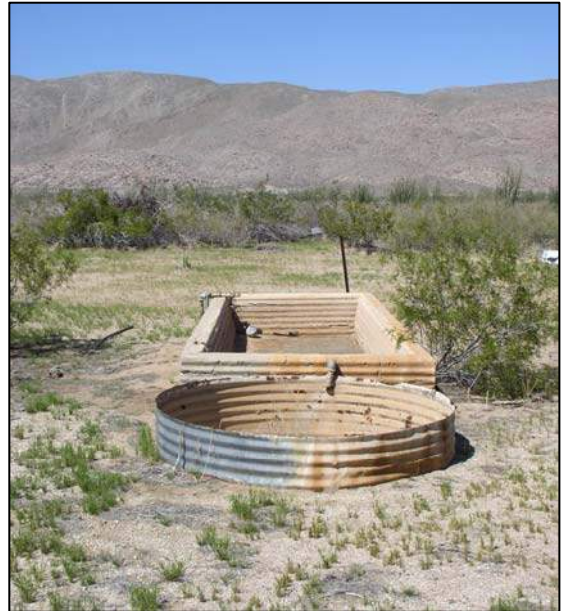
At the Campbell Ranch in the Anza-Borrego Desert, a series of round metal troughs were fed by spring water piped from springs in the mountain foothills nearly three miles to the west. (P-37-028211)



Well water was also accessed with the use of windmills for many years. Because the wind was often unreliable, gas powered engines replaced or augmented windmills to pump water to the troughs.



A windmill supplied water to the troughs shown in the photo to the right. The rear trough was constructed using corrugated sheet metal as forms for poured concrete. The sheet metal was then used to construct the round trough in the foreground. Inscribed into the concrete of the rear trough are initials which cannot be deciphered. The date [1-11-26] however, is legible.



Mason Valley

This poured concrete trough is located in Mason Valley on the Daley property. Located at an old home site, it was constructed using forms with barbed wire as reinforcement. Water was supplied to the trough from the spring pictured at bottom of page.



Beginning during the Depression, numerous soil conservation dams were built in the back-country. The Soil Conservation Service provided the engineering, and men who were participating in Work Project Administration (WPA) and Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) programs, provided the labor. The theory behind these dams was to catch silt and sediments before they were carried downstream into the larger reservoirs such as Cuyamaca or El Capitan.

Tulloch Ranch

These reservoirs became a natural water source, impounding waters from the winter and spring rains. After a reservoir silted in, it became a nice grazing area. (2002 Tulloch; personal communication) The reservoir shown above is located on the Tulloch Ranch. It is an excellent example of a Post-World War II soil conservation project. The headwaters of Boulder Creek filled the reservoir and still provide water, for the most part, year-round. (P-37-026456)



Reservoir on the Tulloch Ranch.

Oak Country

On Oak Country, private property in Ramona, Willie and Steve Tellam's cattle use this stock pond. Circa 1950-60, an earthen dam was constructed across the tributary. It is spring-fed and provides water year-round.



Lucky 5

Four earthen reservoirs on the Lucky 5 property were utilized for as long as the water in them lasted after each rainy season.



Reservoir 3 - (P-37-026465)



Reservoir 2 - (P-37-026464)

Grapevine Canyon

Ranchita cattleman Ralph Jasper homesteaded land in Grapevine Canyon, now a part of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. He developed natural springs to water his livestock. These include, Angelina Spring (P-37-018339), Bitter Spring and pictured below, Stuart Spring. The water is piped from the spring located on the hill 20' above the wash. The old bathtub that Jasper had installed has been replaced by a concrete and stone trough. (Brigandi; 350)



Stuart Spring – Also known as Sumac Spring
Grapevine Canyon
P-37-018307

Coogan Ranch

The Coogan Ranch is located near Buckman Springs in Cottonwood Valley. This windmill supplies water to a round concrete trough on the Coogan Ranch. This ranch at one time belonged to child star Jackie Coogan. It was purchased in **** by George Sawday. The family still owns the ranch and it remains a base for Tulloch ranching operations in the area.



Cameron Ranch

The Cameron Ranch was settled by Samuel W. Cameron, whose homestead patent was issued on December 19, 1885. (<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/PatentSearch>)

A solar powered pump supplies water to this holding tank, which in turn keeps the metal trough in the foreground full. These features are located north of Old Highway 80, south of Interstate 8, east of Kitchen Creek Road, near the Cameron Ranch.



Corte Madera

The Corte Madera Ranch is composed of lands originally patented in the late 1800's to pioneers such as Robert H. Benton (1890), Frank Benton (1891), George Benton, (1892), Edward Warren (1895), James E. Flinn (1882), William E. Flinn, (1891), John F. Wolin (1891), and Axel W. Wolin (1899). Today the ranch is comprised of 4,500-acres and is a common land ownership type of ranch with ten individually owned home sites ranging in size from about 8 to 14 acres and 4,500 acres of open ranch land owned in common. Of the 10 home sites, eight have homes dating back to the 1920's and 30's. The home site owners comprise the Board of Directors of Rancho Corte Madera, a corporation formed in 1944 to own the common ranch land and conduct all ranch business. The cattle ranch is a cow and calf operation, run by a foreman who lives on the Ranch. The foreman also manages the overall ranch property.
http://www.propertyinsights.com/Property2/5050_home.html



This windmill and pumphouse are used to supply water to *****

This spring-fed lake is just one of many on the ranch. Not only does it supply the cattle and local wildlife with water, it also is a favorite fishing and swimming hole for residents of the ranch.



Mesa Grande

On the Scholder Ranch in Mesa Grande, this concrete trough is supplied with water by the windmill in the background of the photo above. Rick Moretti leases pasture from the current owners for some of his cattle.



The stock pond below is also located on the Scholder Ranch and serves as a water source for Moretti cattle. It has an earthen dam and according to the ranch caretaker, never dries up.



These spring-fed drinkers located on the Scholder Ranch have a poured concrete surround with the letters A. A. 50 written in the concrete. Art Alford is a well-known ranching name in the area, possibly these are his initials.



Round Potrero Ranch and Long Potrero

Located in southeastern San Diego County, Round Potrero is encompasses approximately 780 acres. It was first settled by the McAlmonds in the early 1900's. Round Potrero Valley was sold to Joseph Meyer and his brother in law Patrick Inglis.

George Meyer, son of Joseph Meyer, stated in his interview with Edgar Hastings, *“we ran it as a stock and farm ranch for a great many years. We usually had from 100 to 125 head of cattle. We did some dairying in the spring and summer time. We didn't raise much grain at first, but we to increased the acreage from year to year until there were probably 30 to 40 acres of grain, mostly barley and wheat and some oats Most of the hay that we raised was used for the stock some years it would be sold along the road to different road stations “.*

Mr. Hadley purchased the ranch in the 1930's and built the barn. In the 1940's he sold to a Chicago newspaper owner named Mrs. Kaveney. Her brother was to make the ranch a successful cattle operation but failed. Shortly after, she sold the ranch to Kyler Anderson and his father, who in turn sold it to Catherine Spencer.

Catherine Spencer was a huge cattle rancher in the San Diego backcountry who ran up to 5000 head of cattle in the 1950s and 1960s. Mrs. Spencer's wealth came from her family mining interests, the Pocahontas Mining and Railroad Company back in West Virginia. Upon her father's death in 1957 Catherine invested much of her inheritance in land and cattle.

She owned nearly 4000 acres in Long Potrero and Round Potrero Ranch and she also had over 500 acres down Horizon View Road, as well as many other smaller piece of land in and around Potrero.

She lived in Descanso at Rancho Samatagama just off Highway 80 and was a resident of San Diego County for 50 years. Mrs. Spencer was in the cattle business with the Kemp Brothers. Jim and Sandy managed her property in Potrero as well as the Campbell Ranch in Anza-Borrego. She passed away in 1975 at age 60 and her son Phineas sold off most of property in Potrero over the years. (2004: Reider, 112,113)



Stock pond in Round Potrero.
Located at the top of McAlmond Canyon.



Concrete trough at Round Potrero.



Windmill and concrete reservoirs in Long Potrero.

Horizon View



Located down Horizon View Road, near Round Potrero, this concrete trough pictured below, was supplied by the improved spring shown in the photo above.



Sentenac Ranch

The wooden windmill tower shown below dates to at least as far back as 1935 when it was depicted on a 1935 road map. Initials "Feb. 28, 1963" date the associated concrete stand and likely the concrete reservoir as well. (P-37-023838)



Cattle need feed.

Cattle need pasture. In the past, ranchers would pasture their herds in the mountains of San Diego during the summer months. There the cattle could graze on needlegrasses, bunchgrasses, wild oats, fescues, as well as shrubs like mountain mahogany.



East Mesa in **Cuyamaca Rancho State Park**

Before the snow came, the cattlemen would drive their herds down to the desert. There, the cattle would graze on mesquite, galleta grass, deer weed and screw bean, as well as flowering plants. According to Jack Graves, son-in-law of Robert Darrel McCain, he has seen cattle eat young cattails during hard times. Boots Paroli recalled that during the summer monsoon season in the desert, a type of grass called 6-week grass would grow. It was rich in vitamins and provided excellent graze for cattle. After the rain showers, his Dad and he would drive the cattle that were on the San Felipe down to Blair Valley and Little Blair Valley to feed on this grass that would only last for 6-weeks. (*Paroli interview*)



6-week grass

In an account written in 1916 by a visitor to the Campbell Ranch, the writer tells of cattleman burning the cholla. Apparently when burned and free of the stickers, the cattle would in her words, “*just go for them and eat them up*”. (pgs. 11-12; *MS160 SDHS*)

In the mountains, it was rare for pasture to be planted for grazing but during dry years when there was little or no natural pasture, the ranchers would create it. In some instances, prescribed burns kept heavily vegetated areas open. These were conducted in cooperation with agency brush management programs. Regular burning would clear the under story and open up areas to grazing with fresh new browse.

Granville Martin, a long time backcountry resident and self-proclaimed “*Vaquero*” said that when leaving the mountains for the desert, they would “set the land on fire”. (****(

In the late 20th century, when burning was not possible; the land was cleared of brush using many ingenious, albeit destructive, methods. For example, on the Lucky 5, the Daley’s used a method called “chaining” to create pasture. Each end of an enormous chain, (still located on the ranch), was attached to a tractor. The tractors then drug the chain across the land to clear brush and create pasture. The cleared land on the Lucky 5 was then seeded in “*tall wheat grass*”, a hardy and productive perennial feed grass.



Lucky 5 Chain (P-37-026460)

Another method of knocking down brush was to attach two large orange buoys to a tractor and drag them around. The buoys rolled and would swing up onto small hillsides crushing and clearing anything in their path. These buoys still remain on the Lucky 5 Ranch.



The Tellam's have what Willy Tellam says is "*The best pasture in San Diego County*". The lush fields pictured below are Ramona Municipal Water District effluent spray fields located in Ramona off of Rangeland Road.



In recent years on Esquilago, property slated for development in Ramona, when it turns out to be a bad growing year and it is not worth the effort to cut and bale, it is not uncommon for a herd of cattle to be brought in to graze down a field of failed oat hay.



Several attempts at cultivation of cattle feed were made in the desert. At the Campbell Ranch, in Vallecito, now part of the Anza Borrego Desert State Park, Everett Campbell constructed a dam across Vallecito Creek in the lower end of Mason Valley. A rock-lined concrete ditch used in connection with an impressive wooden flume. The flume was designed to avoid ditch excavation in solid rock or along hillside contours. Water was then piped to a reservoir (see below) on his ranch at the foot of the Campbell Grade and used to irrigate his fields. When the desert browse was exhausted, the cattle would be let into the alfalfa fields to graze. This enabled Campbell to keep cattle in the desert for longer periods of time. To get his cattle out of the desert during the hottest part of the year, Everett would drive his cattle up Storm Canyon to Laguna, where he rented the Lucas Ranch as summer range.

When the Spencer family acquired the ranch in the 1940's, the fields were expanded and wells were drilled to supply the increased amount of water that would be needed for irrigation.



Reservoir on the Campbell Ranch. (P-37-028212)

At Carrizo in the 1950's, Buster McCain cleared some land and planted alfalfa. (1956 *Ranger Reports*) The tractor he used to accomplish this remains in the area, on the other side of "Clay Hill", at the old Graves camp.



To irrigate his field, Buster created a berm around the bottom of the east side of clay Hill. The plan was for rain run-off to be channeled to a small earthen dammed reservoir he had constructed at the southern end of the hill. Consequently, this activity is what destroyed a large portion of what remained of the Carrizo Stage Station.



Supplemental Nutrition

These wooden feeding troughs were located on the Campbell Ranch in the Anza Borrego Desert. In an interview with Jim Kemp, he recalled that “sometimes, particularly during drought years, cattle were fed a mixture of salt and cottonseed cake to supplement the desert pasture. The cottonseed was highly nutritious and the salt kept the cattle from eating it all at once.” Jim, with his brother Sandy Kemp, managed the ranch for Spencer. (P-37-028211)



This feeding trough is located on the San Felipe Ranch. It was built by Sawday's ranch foreman Bill Paroli.
(Paroli; personal communication)



This wooden feeder is located on the Daley property in Mason Valley. It was likely used to feed cottonseed cake.



Creep Feeders

The small corral-like structure below is a "creep feeder" built in the 1940's during Charles Luckman ownership of the Lucky 5 Ranch. Horizontal boards are nailed to the outside of the uprights. A small opening allowed calves to "creep" in for special feeds but kept full grown cattle from pushing their way inside. Unfortunately this unique feature was destroyed by the Cedar Fire in 2003.



Pictured to the right is another example of a "creep feeder" located on the Scholder Ranch, private property in Mesa Grande.



Cattle maintenance requires corrals.

Today, as well as in the past, when it came time to gather the cattle for sorting, branding, castrating, or inoculations, a cattleman had to have a place to put his herd. He had to have some type of corral. Although construction materials and techniques varied, most corrals have some basic components in common.

A working corral should have an access or collecting alley to bring cattle from the pasture to the holding pen. There should be at least one holding pen sized to hold the herd and preferably a second pen for sorting. A crowding pen and gate are necessary to force cattle into the working chute. The working chute leads cattle from the holding pen to the squeeze. Blocking gates prevent unwelcome animal movement. They are usually placed at the entrance and exit of the working chute. One way gates in working chutes allow cattle to move forward in the chute, but by design prevent them from backing up. A cutting gate is located part way along the chute for releasing particular animals. Herd health care is virtually unfeasible without a head gate and/or squeeze for restricting cattle. A cage (basket) in front of the head gate will stop an animal and prevent it from getting through. Palpation gates at the rear of the squeeze serve to block the working chute and provide access to work at the rear of an animal. A loading chute should be located with easy stock trailer access in mind. One thing all cattlemen had in common was that they used whatever suitable building materials they could get, wherever they could get them and the cheaper the better!

Because these unique structures reflect the personalities of their builders, the discussion following is organized by the ranching families who built them.

Luckman – Lucky 5 Ranch

The corral below was located on the Lucky 5. It was built during the Luckman period of ownership on what the family called “The Lake Pasture”, in the 1940's.

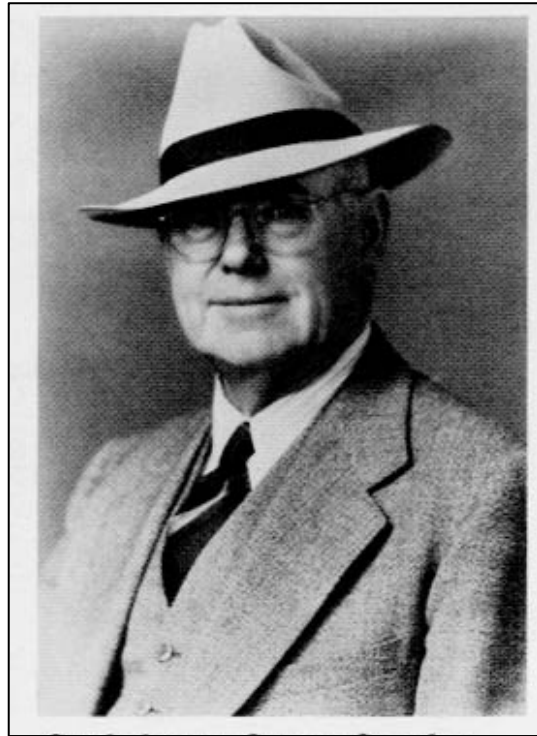
Unfortunately, it was lost during the 2003 Cedar Fire. Thankfully, a very detailed site recordation was completed by Colorado Desert District, Associate Archaeologist Sue Wade just weeks before the devastating firestorm. P-37-025128



Sawday

George Sawday (1876-1949), ran one of, if not *the*, largest cattle ranching operation in the history of San Diego County. When George was in his 20's, he began running cattle on the family ranch in Witch Creek. Soon, his ranch holdings stretched from *Warners Ranch* in the north, all the way south to the Mexican border. It has been said, that a man could ride from the Riverside County line, clear to the Mexican border and not step foot off of property that Sawday either owned or leased.

Several of George Sawday's corrals were constructed of demolition materials acquired when the Cottonwood Bridge near Lake Morena was rebuilt sometime in the late 1940's. George Sawday bought the bridge for \$1.00.



George Sawday (1876-1949)

Sawday
Sentenac Ranch

The corral pictured to the right is located in the Sentenac Acquisition portion of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Originally homesteaded by James Lowe in 1888, the property was leased by George Sawday from 1915 until he eventually purchased the property in 1945. (2001; Schwaderer) Built from the Cottonwood Bridge salvage material, it consists of a gathering/holding pen, a crowding pen and loading chute. (P-37-023839)



Note the road surfacing material still remaining on the bridge planks making up this section of corral.



Sawday
Tulloch Ranch

This Sawday corral was built from Cottonwood Bridge lumber as well. Located on the Tulloch Ranch in Cuyamaca, the corral was destroyed during the October 2003 Cedar Fire. (P-37-026455)



Warner Ranch

"Big Corral"

This is the "Big Corral" located on the Warner Ranch, owned by the Vista Irrigation District. . George Sawday and his family held the lease on Warners from 1913 until 1960. It was initially constructed in the early part of the 20th century. Eddie Guacheno (****_****), who spent his entire life working as a cowboy in the area, remembered, "...that goes back quite a ways. The 20's at least." The corral has been added onto, repaired and modified several times throughout the years. It is constructed using assorted salvage materials such as power poles, well casing, railroad ties and naturally, the ever-present bridge lumber. Not the Cottonwood Bridge however, the materials were from the bridge at Morettis Junction, located at the southern end of the Warner Ranch.



Upright made from used well casing.



Loading chute at the "Big Corral" at Warners Ranch.

With a cowboy perched on the catwalk, cattle would be pushed down the working chute. Using swinging gates, with handles made from boat oars, the cattle would either be directed up to the guillotine (or head gate) which was used to "work" cattle, that is, to immobilize them for branding, dehorning, or application of medication or on out into a holding pen to rejoin the herd



Working chute and head gate (guillotine) with catwalk in left side of photo.



Chunk of concrete used as ballast for guillotine.



Tar covered upright made from bridge salvage material.



Warner Ranch

"Little San Jose" Corral

The "Little San Jose" corral is located at the southern end of Warners Ranch. Construction materials include railroad ties, solid metal pipes, along with an assortment of milled lumber.



Holding pens at the Little San Jose corral on Warner Ranch.



Warner Ranch foreman, Stan Ring, inspecting a squeeze.



Access alley at the Little San Jose on Warner Ranch.



Image © 2008 DigitalGlobe

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© 2008 Tele Atlas

Pointer 33°13'48.74" N 116°42'51.87" W elev 832 m Streaming ||||| 100%

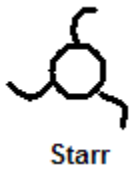
Eye alt 1.11 km

Starr
Hoskins Ranch

Hans Starr was a son-in law of George Sawday. The corral pictured below was built by Starr during the 1960's and is constructed of demolition materials from railroad boxcars. The circular configuration of this corral was beneficial due to the fact that cattle do not have the opportunity to bunch up in a corner as in a rectangular corral. However, the rounded corral had drawbacks. According to Steve Tellam, (George Sawday great-grandson), when working in this type of corral, air flow was restricted and it was often necessary to have a water truck onsite to help keep the dust down in the corral. Boots Paroli (son of Bill Paroli, ranch foreman for both Sawday and Starr,) added that when a cowboy found himself in a bad position and needed a quick escape, this was a bad corral to be in. This was because the interior walls were straight and tall with no footholds, therefore – there was no easy way out.



Tear-drop shaped corral located just west of Julian on the private Hosking Ranch property. P-37-025402





Starr
San Felipe

Another "box-car" corral built by Hans Starr is located at Paroli Spring, private property in the San Felipe Valley. (CA-SDI-*****)



Loading chute at Paroli Spring, in San Felipe Valley.



Blocking gate to restrict cattle access.



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Pointer 33°09'48.05" N 116°33'24.55" W elev 862 m Streaming ||||| 100%

Eye alt 1.07 km

Cumming
Cumming Ranch

The corral below dates to the 1940's and is located on the Cumming Ranch, private property in Ramona. Orville Cumming (1904-1987), a Sawday son-in-law, constructed his corrals out of used runway materials, well pipe, telephone poles and assorted lumber. The corral is briefly mentioned in the DPR site form for CA-SDI-17169.



Orville & Lucy
Cumming



Loading chute and crowding pen at Cumming Ranch in Ramona.



Loading chute at Cumming Ranch.



Power pole with insulator posts still attached.

Photos credit; Ramona Sentinel



Young George Sawday,
nephew of George Sawday
at Cumming Ranch.
July 1977.



Bill Paroli at Cummings Ranch.
July 1977.



Cumming Ranch July 1977.



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33°00'59.61" N 116°54'36.35" W

elev 1413 ft

Feb 2003

Eye alt 2179 ft

Tellam
Rangeland Rd.

Willie, Steve and Mike Tellam, grandson and great-grandsons of George Sawday, continue in the cattle ranching tradition. They can still be found tending to the needs of their herds scattered around the county at various acreages they lease. The corral pictured below is located on Rangeland Road in Ramona. It is constructed of telephone poles and assorted lumber.



Loading chute and access gate.

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Willie & Steve
Tellam

PO
Willie & Eileen
Tellam





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Pointer 33°02'44.88" N 116°56'10.44" W elev 412 m Streaming ||||| 100%

Eye alt 538 m

Tellam

Highland Valley / Owens Ranch

This Tellam corral, located at the intersection of Highland Valley Road and Traylor Road in Ramona, is used for gathering the Tellam cattle. It also serves as a holding pen for small groups of cattle being moved in or out. A squeeze is used to restrain cattle when branding, giving inoculations, or as in the case of the picture below, castrating. The holding pens also enable the men to keep a watchful eye on any animals who may need special care.



Willie and Steve Tellam castrating a young calf.



Steve Tellam on left bending over
Willie Tellam on catwalk to the right.



Group of young steers in holding pen.



McCain
Carrizo Creek

George Washington McCain (1810-1882), was a pioneer/settler/cattleman in the back-country of San Diego County. Like many ranching families, members of the McCain family used the desert for winter pasture. Due to the isolated locations and lack of timber, corrals found in the desert areas tend to be constructed of whatever the rancher found nearby that would serve his purpose. In this instance, at the Carrizo Stage Station site (now part of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park), Buster McCain (McCain's great-grandson) constructed his corrals, holding pens, and barbed wire fence posts out of mesquite poles. (P-37-026458)



Feed storage area at the Carrizo Stage Station site.



Round pen at Carrizo Stage Station Site.

Campbell

Everett Campbell married into the McCain family. His wife Lena was the Great granddaughter of George Washington McCain. The couple settled in Vallecito Valley in the Anza Borrego Desert, on what came to be known as the Campbell Ranch. The property is now a part of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. The corral located at the Campbell home site was built in the first part of the twentieth century. (CA-SDI-****)



Corral at Campbell Ranch.



Cattle squeeze at Campbell Ranch.

Spencer
Campbell Ranch

This corral is located at the eastern end of the Campbell Ranch near the Olin Bailey cabin. It is similar in style to the one at the Campbell homestead, with each having a round crowding pen. This corral kowever, was built by ranch foreman Sandy Kemp and his ranch hands for the Catherine Spencer who obtained the ranch from the Campbell's in ****.



Loading chute with gathering pen in background to the right of the chute.

Mason Valley

This small enclosure is located alongside the Overland Stage Road, in the southern end of Mason Valley. It was likely used as a secure spot to store supplemental feed. It is constructed of railroad tie upright posts and wire field fencing. (P-37-026457)



Cauzza
Oak Country

This corral located on the Oak Country property in Ramona was built by the Cauzza family. Sawday descendants Willie, Steve and Mike Tellam lease the property to graze cattle today (2005 Cauzza; *personal communication*). This corral has recently been removed and reassembled elsewhere as is common with this type of structure. It has been formally recorded and the associated site number is (*****).



Squeeze located at Cauzza corral on Oak Country in Ramona.

5E
Elmo Cauzza



Blocking gate to restrict cattle access.

Kemp
Grand Ranch

Campo Valley cattle rancher Jim Kemp is descended from Archie Chilwell, partner in the early 20th century Campo Cattle Company. Mr. Kemp stated that his corrals are constructed of “*anything he happened to have on hand*”. The corral at the old Grand Ranch, now leased by Jim Kemp, is constructed of various raw materials such as cottonwood limbs.

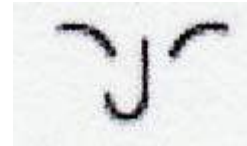




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Pointer 32°37'45.75" N 116°27'14.58" W elev 805 m Streaming ||||| 100%

Eye alt 942 m

Kemp
The "Hook Place"

When nearby Camp Lockett decommissioned at the end of World War II, salvaged siding from the base structures (diagonally laid planks) was put to use in the construction of this corral located on the Hook Place, which is now owned by Jim Kemp.



Power pole used as horizontal beam.

Kemp Laguna

In 1879, Johnny Gray traded the land that his father had settled, to Campbell and Chilwell for the La Posta. The partners first raised sheep. Not long after, drought, a tax on wool and troublesome burrs” forced them to make the switch from sheep to cattle. By 1887, cattle were on the Laguna. One year later, Chilwell was killed when he was thrown from a horse. His wife, Louisa, married his partner Campbell. Chilwell and Louisa’s son Archie and son-in-law, Trevor Kemp continued ranching. In 1970’s the 1500+-acre ranch was sold to the Forest Service. Jim Kemp retained the right to graze cattle and maintain the family cemetery. The corral on the Laguna was constructed around 1939-1940. Portions are made from lumber scrapped from an earlier corral located nearby. As with many back country corrals, the corral has been modified several times. (1981-A *Cultural Resource Survey of the Laguna Mountain Recreation Area*)





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Pointer 32°51'53.71" N 116°27'32.20" W elev 1668 m Streaming 100% Eye alt 1.83 km

Jasper
J9 Ranch - Ranchita

Ralph Jasper (1854-1942) got into the cattle business early in life. As a young man he learned the ropes by living and working for Wid Helm. By 1919, Jasper had cattle of his own and also had acquired the old Wid Helm Ranch which he renamed the J9. Jasper then acquired land in Montezuma Valley, Grapevine Canyon, Yaqui Well, and Culp Valley to use for grazing his cattle. Although he sold much of his property to California State Parks, he was able to continue using the land for his cattle by obtaining one of the first grazing concessions permitted in the Borrego State Park. His grazing concessions in various areas of the park lasted until 1960. His Grandson Craig Jasper now lives at the ranch and runs a small herd of about 20-30 head.



J9 Ranch corral, holding Ralph Jaspers OK brand.

Craig
Jasper @

Cameron
Cameron Station





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Pointer 32°42'57.97" N 116°28'18.66" W elev 982 m Streaming ||||| 100%

Eye alt 1.25 km

Leech-Johnson
Campo

Archie Leech, a descendant of Chilwell/Campbell tried his hand at several different ventures which included raising turkeys and in about **** in response to ***** he opened a feedlot on his property in Campo. The corrals pictured below were built around 1940 and used during an after the feedlot venture.





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Pointer 32°37'34.03" N 116°28'08.35" W elev 794 m Streaming ||||| 100% Eye alt 937 m

Mesa Grande

This corral is located on the north side of Mesa Grande Road in Mesa Grande. It was constructed by *****.



Barns & Bunkhouses

At some of the ranches in outlying areas, bunkhouses were needed to shelter the ranch hands, and barns were sometimes used to stable horses as well as to store tack and feed.

Warner Ranch

Sam Taylor became foreman for Vail and Gates, owners of Warner Ranch around the turn of the century. He and his family lived in the ranch house until 1916 when Sawday acquired the lease. During Sawday's tenure at the ranch, the old adobe ranch house became a bunkhouse, used to house countless men who worked as cowboys for Sawday. The adjacent barn was used to stable horses and also to store hay.



Sam Taylor and one of his children are posing on horseback in front of the old ranch house around the turn of the century.



The ranch house is in the foreground on the right; the roof of the barn is visible behind it. Circa ***



Warner's Ranch House - 2004



Warner's Barn - 2004

Campbell Ranch

This house was built in 1948 after the original Campbell house was destroyed by fire. The Campbell family lived there until 1959 when the ranch was sold to Catherine Spencer. It was then used as a bunkhouse for the cowboys who worked for Spencer.



The milking barn in the photo to the right dates to about 1916 when Everett and Lena Campbell settled on the ranch and began their dairy. During the Spencer tenure, Sandy Kemp was ranch foreman and according to his brother Jim who also worked at the ranch at that time, the barn was used to store feed and also fertilizer for the Bermuda fields.



McCain/ Kalin

The Quonset located in center of the photo below, was surplus material from World War II. It was brought in by Al Kalin, (brother-in law of Buster McCain), and used as a bunkhouse for his cowboys at Carrizo in the late 1940's. Kalin was the owner of the San Pasqual Land and Cattle Company, a feed yard located in Brawley. Although Kalin died in 1951, his widow, Louise Kennedy Kalin kept the business going and today it is operated by Kalin's two sons Al and Carson Kalin. (*IV Cattlemen 149-150*)



Jasper – J9 Ranch - Ranchita



Barn and corral at Ralph Jasper's J9 Ranch

Bailey - Vallecitos



Olin Bailey, part of Julian's founding family, took up a homestead and ran cattle in the early 1900's. He built an earthen structure which he lived in for a few years. Later Granny Martin and Mollie Birdsell spent their honeymoon in the cabin while also tending to Campo Cattle Company cattle. The building still is extant and has recently has had a shelter constructed over it to protect it from the harsh desert weather which has caused quite a bit of deterioration. It is the oldest surviving building in the Colorado Desert District.

(P-37-028213)

Bailey earthen structure - 1910



Bailey earthen structure - 2003

Cattle need fences.

On February 14, 1872, California passed the "no-fence" law. To protect agriculture from grazing cattle, and to prevent trespassing of animals upon private property in the County of San Diego, the burden was placed on the rancher to either enclose their herds or assume liability for damages to farmer's crops. The switch from open range to an industry governed by private property rights meant a change in ranching forever. It also meant hiring more cowboys and putting in miles of costly fence. The invention of barbed wire in 1873 made fencing large areas affordable for the first time. Today, although you might see the occasional pasture enclosed by white rail fencing, the standard is still barbed wire.



Just as corrals were of a variety of materials, we see the same unique assortment used for posts when erecting fences. Along Highland Valley Road in Ramona, still standing is a fence post that was burned during a wildfire in the 1960's.

There are still areas in San Diego County that are designated Open Range. Meaning, that where the county has designated it so, and the highway is signed as Open Range, then livestock can go wherever they want to. This means, that livestock have the right-of-way on the highway, where very often they can be found crossing or even sometimes resting in the middle of the road. As Bill Tulloch commented, “*Driver beware!*” However, even though livestock has the right-of-way, most of the ranchers in these areas have fenced their livestock to keep them off of public roads due to the increase in automobile traffic and to avoid having to deal with liability issues.



Cattle maintenance requires Cowboys.

To have a successful cattle ranching operation you have to have good men to take care of the cattle. You also need someone to handle chores such as mending fences and transporting the herd. Gone are the days of bunkhouses and cattle drives. Today, all it takes is a few good men. Men like Willie, Steve and Mike Tellam manage to run a sizable herd of cattle without a large crew. The father-son team tend herds of cattle, located on different ranches and spread throughout the back country. When it comes time to move herds or it is branding time, cattlemen still come together as they have for years. They pitch in and help each other out.



Pictured left to right; Mike, Willie and Steve Tellam.

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Willie & Steve
Tellam

Steve Tellam has put his years in the saddle to use. Steve and his father Willie are champion team penners. Steve is an 8-time *National Team Penning champion*.

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V

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V

Steve Tellam



The 45,000 acre Warner Ranch is owned by Vista Irrigation District. Hein Henniga leases the ranch for pasture for his cow and calf operation. Ranch foreman Stan Ring, and cowboys Rudy Osuna and Alvin Guacheno handle the cattle and perform essential daily duties.



Alvin Guacheno and Rudy Osuna work together, like a well-oiled machine, at a recent round-up in Mesa Grande.



The Tulloch's ranch in Witch Creek is used as a base of operations. When it is time to move the herd, the whole family pitches in and handles the chore. This photo taken in 2001 shows the Tulloch cattle being loaded for the move from Witch Creek to the "*North End*". This would ultimately be the last season cattle would be grazed on the Tulloch Ranch in Cuyamaca.