

S U R V E Y

of

19-186569

California Registered Historical Landmarks

Name LANG Number 590

County Los Angeles

Location Soledad Canyon, Lang Station Road, 0.4 mile south of State Highway 14, (PM 35.6) at
Shadow Pines Blvd., 4.7 miles east of Canyon Country

Type of Plaque PLAQUE PLACED BY CALIFORNIA STATE PARK COMMISSION IN COOPERATION
WITH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, JUNE 15, 1957.

Condition of Plaque Excellent, could use cleaning

Condition of Base Excellent

Condition of Surroundings Excellent

Wording on Plaque LANG SOUTHERN PACIFIC STATION

ON SEPTEMBER 5, 1876, CHARLES CROCKER, PRESIDENT, SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD,
DROVE A GOLD SPIKE HERE TO COMPLETE HIS COMPANY'S SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY LINE,
FIRST RAIL CONNECTION OF LOS ANGELES WITH SAN FRANCISCO AND TRANSCONTINENTAL
LINES.

Are there Highway Directional Signs? No

If so, where? State Highway 14
Should be on Δ at Shadow Pines Blvd. and at site.

Remarks: Plaque on S.P. Railroad Right of Way

Vicinity of Santa Clarita

Submitted by J. Arbuckle Date 8/13/80

NAME LANG

COUNTY LOS ANGELES COUNTY

APPROVAL COMMITTEE:

J. R. KNOWLAND

AUBREY DRURY

HENRIETTA TOOTHAKER

Approved May 17, 1957, Meeting
STATE PARK COMMISSION


DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

REGISTERED LANDMARK NUMBER 590

DATE May 22, 1957

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL LANDMARKS
REGISTRATION OF LANG, LOS ANGELES COUNTY

DATE:

May 31, 1957

APPROVED:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert H. ...".

DISAPPROVED;

COMMENTS:

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL LANDMARKS
PLAQUE APPROVAL, LANG, LOS ANGELES COUNTY

DATE:

text not received

APPROVED:

DISAPPROVED:

COMMENTS:

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL LANDMARKS
REGISTRATION OF LANG, LOS ANGELES COUNTY

DATE: 5/28/57

APPROVED:

Carl J. Wheat

DISAPPROVED;

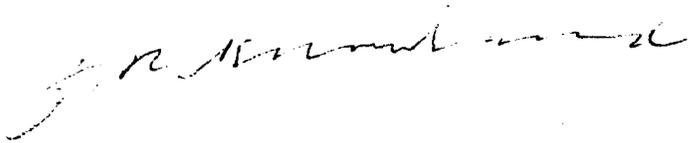
COMMENTS:

19-186569

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL LANDMARKS
REGISTRATION OF LANG, LOS ANGELES COUNTY

DATE:

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. R. ...", is written over the "APPROVED:" label.

DISAPPROVED;

COMMENTS:

19-186569

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL LANDMARKS
REGISTRATION OF LAND, LOS ANGELES COUNTY

DATE:

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Aubrey Dwyer".

DISAPPROVED:

COMMENTS:

19-186569

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL LANDMARKS
PLAQUE APPROVAL, LANG, LOS ANGELES COUNTY

DATE: *May 18, 1957*

APPROVED:

Henrietta Tothaker

DISAPPROVED:

COMMENTS:

19-186569

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL LANDMARKS
PLAQUE APPROVAL, LANG, LOS ANGELES COUNTY

DATE:

May 31, 1957

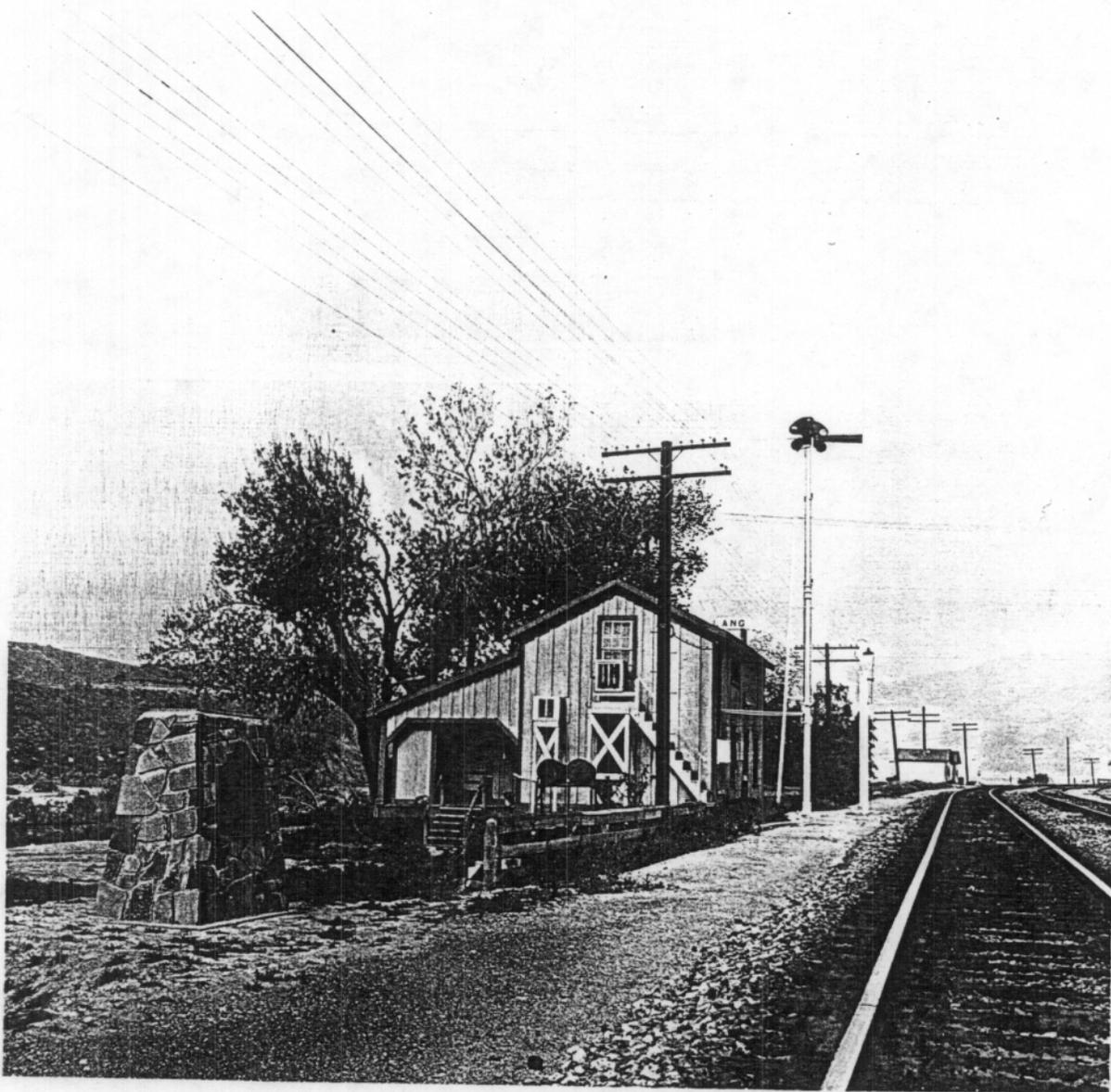
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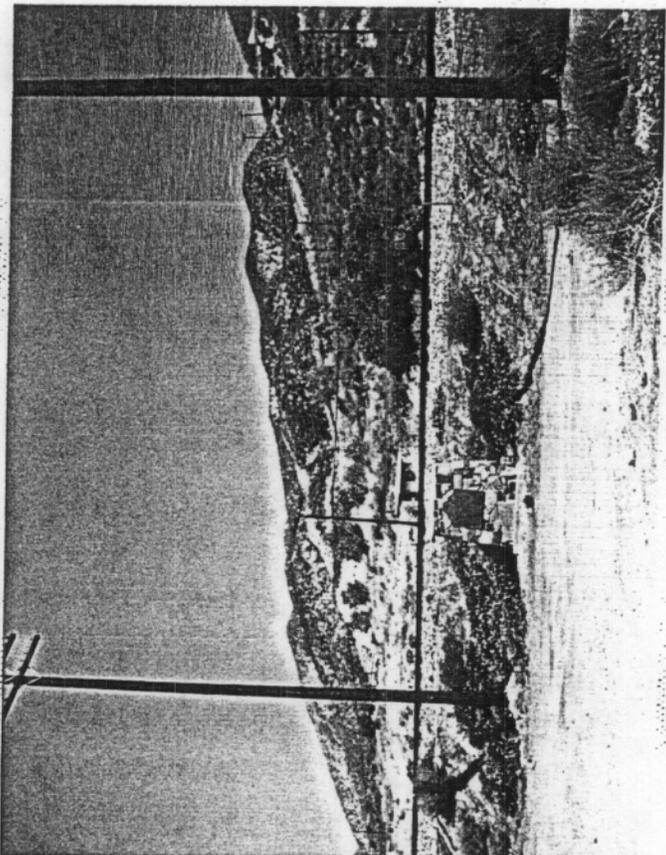
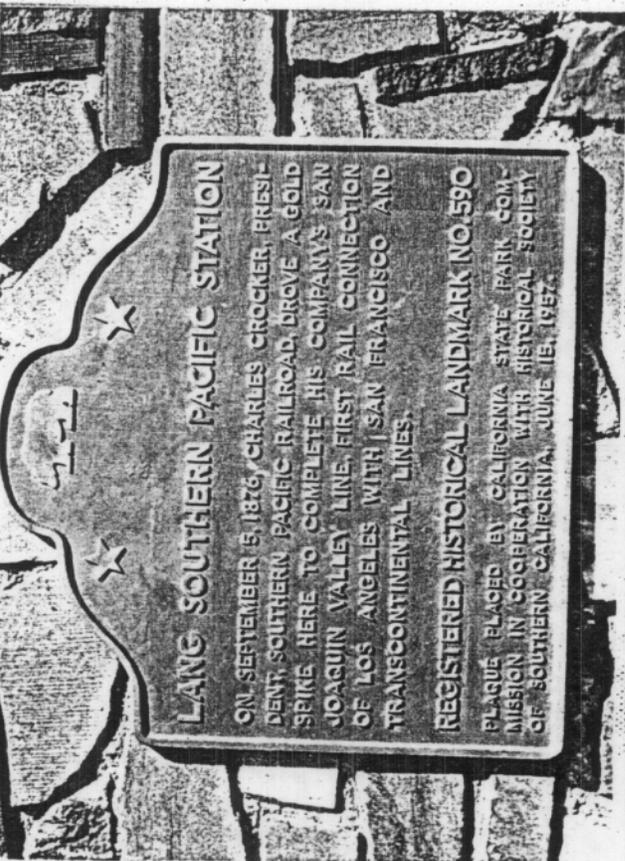
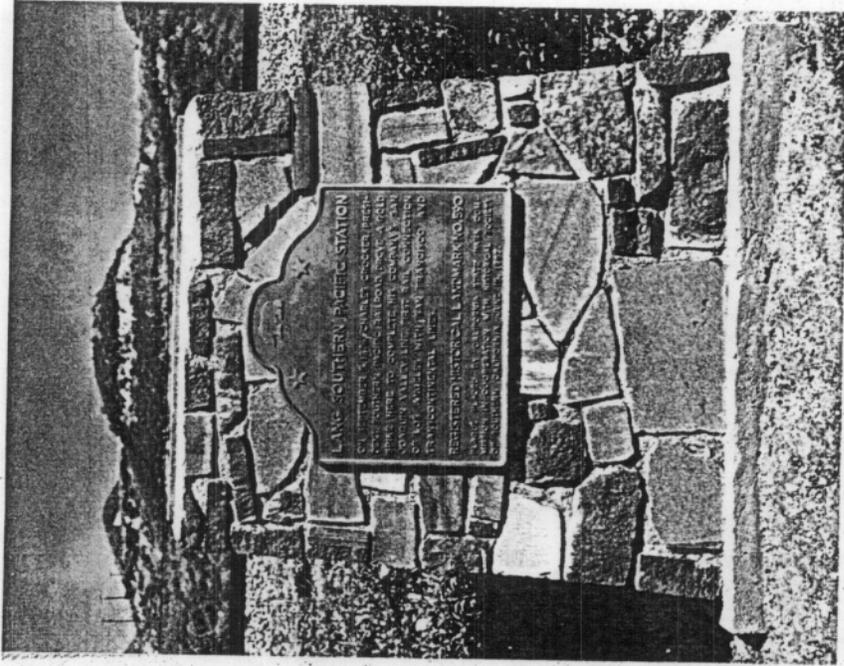
Peter S. Tomney

DISAPPROVED:

COMMENTS:

19-186569





APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF HISTORICAL POINT OF INTEREST

Name of Historical Point "LANG", Southern Pacific Station, formerly "LANG'S STATION",

Location On Southern Pacific San Joaquin Line in Soledad Canon between Newhall and Palmdale

Name of Owner Southern Pacific Company, Attn: D. J. Russell, President

Street 65 Market Street

City San Francisco 5, California

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

The Southern Pacific's San Joaquin Line was completed at Lang's Station at 1:58 P. M. on September 5, 1876 with the driving of the gold spike by Charles Crocker.

The station is now used primarily as a train order office. Train orders are telephoned to that point from Bakersfield, headquarters of S.P.'s San Joaquin Division. Then the orders are typed out and transmitted to the trains. Six passenger trains and an average of 16 freight trains pass Lang daily.

At present the U. S. Army is building a "NIKE" (guided missile) installation at Lang and there will be considerable activity there for some years.

Lang is the site of John Lang's Hotel and Sulphur Springs. John Lang is said to have purchased 160 acres for \$300 in 1870 and by 1889 had increased it to 1,200 acres devoted to diversified farming. There was formerly an express office there and the Lang Post Office.

On July 7, 1873 John Lang killed what was said to be the largest grizzly bear ever known. "This bear was for over 30 years the terror of California as he roamed over the entire state.... Many human beings fell before him and by his cunning hundreds of cattle, sheep, hogs, etc., were mowed down in his wake..... His weight was 2,350 pounds." (From: Los Angeles County, Pen Sketches from the Garden of the World, Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago, 1889, page 540.)

John Lang was born in Herkimer County, New York, May 5, 1828 and died in Los Angeles Jan. 20, 1909.

A daughter, Frances Lang who died in May 1875 is buried a mile or two east of LANG just south of the highway. She was 10 years, 9 months and 3 days old.

"One of the most lovely and excellent groups of springs of a mineral character" (in Southern California), "is the group of 10 white sulphur springs at Lang, on the Southern Pacific... The canyon, when deer, lions, wolves and bears made it their chosen home." "...under the greenwood shade sits John Lang and the wife of his youth and

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION (Continued)

old age, breathing the odor of myriads of flowers and trees gathered from all parts of the United States." "...the iron sulphur springs at Lang Station, 43 miles from Los Angeles, and at an elevation of 1,681 feet. These springs have quite a local reputation for curing rheumatism. There is a comfortable hotel for the accommodation of invalids." (California of the South. Dr. Walter Lindley, M.D., and Joseph P. Widney, M.D., D. Appleton & Co. New York, 1888, pages 124, 188-190.)

The hotel was burned in a huge brush fire that swept over the hills. About the turn of the century Howard Slayton was S. P. Agent at Lang and bought the Lang property. A daughter, Mrs. Philip Quinn lives on the Lang property; a son, Frank Slayton lives at 23315 W. 8th Street, Newhall.

Lang has been the scene of several celebrations by railway clubs etc. on anniversaries of the completion of the S. P. which linked Los Angeles and San Francisco.

REFERENCES TO BOOKS, RECORDS, AND OTHER AUTHORITIES SUSTAINING THESE FACTS

Los Angeles Evening Express, September 5th and 6th, 1876.

From Trail to Rail, The Story of the Beginning of Southern Pacific, Southern Pacific Bulletin, July 1928 pages 12-13

Southern Pacific, the Roaring Story of a Fighting Railroad. Neill C. Wilson and Frank J. Taylor, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc. 1952, page 238.

Los Angeles County: Pen Sketches from the Garden of the World. Lewis Publishing Company., Chicago, 1889 page 540.

California of the South. Dr. Walter Lindley, M. D., and Dr. Joseph P. Widney, M. D.; D. Appleton & Co., New York, 1888, pages 124, 188-190.

Croft's New Overland Tourist and Pacific Coast Guide. Overland Publishing Company, Omaha and Denver, 1882, page 219.

City Makers, Remi A. Nadeau. Doubleday & Co., Inc. 1948, pages 230-236

Southern Pacific Bulletin, Oct. 1926, Page 3
" " " , July 1928, Page 3

ARE PICTURES ATTACHED? Yes, Two

IS STATEMENT OF OWNER ATTACHED? No, will be sent directly to Aubrey Neasham, Historian, Division of Beaches and Parks by the Southern Pacific.

Signed HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

City 2425 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles

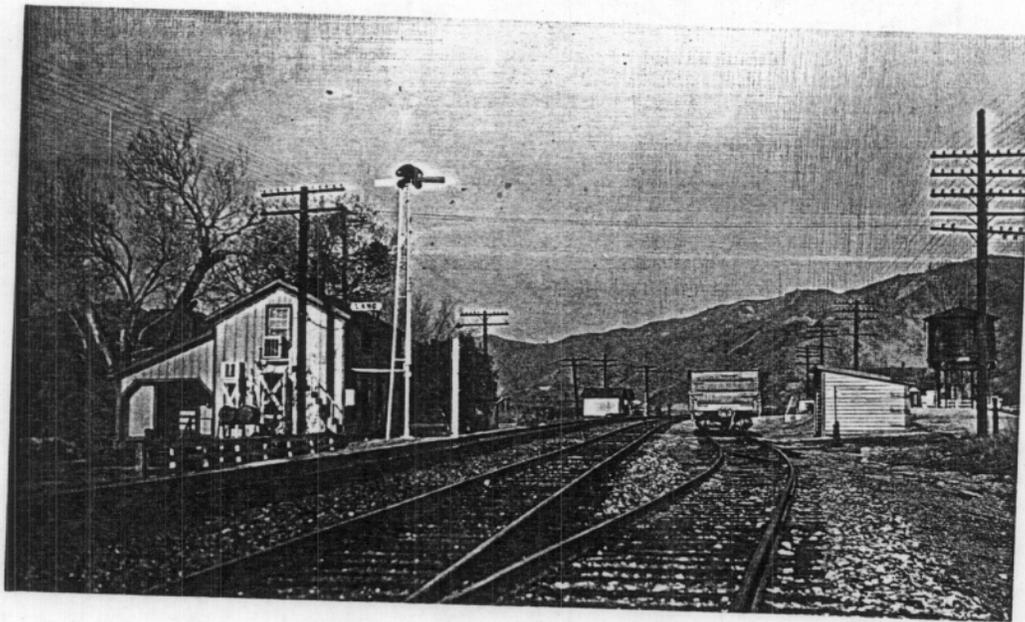
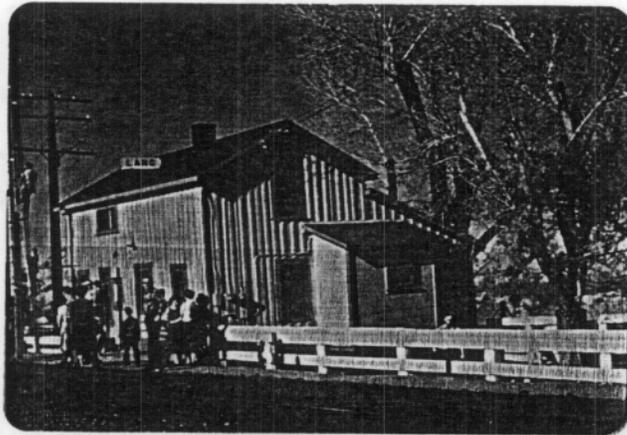
Date May 12, 1957 E. B. PUTNAM - TREAS.

(This form when filled out completely is to be sent to the Historical Landmarks Advisory Committee, P. O. Box 2390, Sacramento 11, California)

19-186569

PHOTOGRAPHS: Attached are 2 photographs of the station at Lang, the colored one was taken Jan 31, 1954 and the other on March 3, 1957.

Have not found any old photos or pictures of the Lang Hotel.



Southern Pacific Company

65 Market St., San Francisco 5

19-186569

PHONE DOUGLAS 2-1212

OFFICE OF VICE PRESIDENT
SYSTEM PASSENGER TRAFFIC—PUBLIC RELATIONS

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO

C. E. PETERSON
VICE PRESIDENT
F. Q. TREDWAY
ASSISTANT TO VICE PRESIDENT
J. G. SHEA
GENERAL PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER
ERLE HEATH
ASST. TO GENERAL PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER
E. G. FITZPATRICK
ASST. GENERAL PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER
S. T. MOORE
ASST. GENERAL PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER

May 22, 1957

CM: 3.5-L

Mr. Aubrey Neasham, Historian
Landmarks Advisory Committee
721 Capitol Avenue
Sacramento 14, California

Dear Mr. Neasham:

Attached please find two copies of a completed statement of property owner, authorizing the registration of our station at Lang, California as a point of historical interest.

We are sending them at the request of Mr. Frank B. Putnam, treasurer of the Historical Society of Southern California, who has been seeking the registration of the station as such a point. Mr. Putnam asked that we send them directly to you in the interest of saving time.

We hope that this action meets with your approval. If we can be of additional service in this matter, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Attach.

19-186569

STATEMENT OF PROPERTY OWNER TO THE PARK COMMISSION

AUTHORIZING THE NUMBERING AND REGISTRATION OF HISTORICAL POINT OF INTEREST

The Southern Pacific Company, owner of the station at Lang, California, hereby authorizes the park commission of the State of California to register and number the station at Lang as a historical point of interest.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY

By B. F. Biaggini
B. F. Biaggini,
Vice President

STATEMENT COVERING PROCEDURE FOR REGISTRATION OF
HISTORICAL POINTS OF INTEREST IN CALIFORNIA

Application for registration of Historical Landmarks is to be made on the attached form. It is important that complete information be given in order to assist the Historical Landmarks Advisory Committee in making its decision regarding qualification of the point of interest for actual registration. It is of equal importance that two or more photographs be made a part of the application, together with a statement, in writing, from the owner of the point of interest, requesting or authorizing the State Park Commission on the approval of the Director of Natural Resources to register and number the historical location. Requests or applications for registration are to be sent to the Historical Landmarks Advisory Committee, P. O. Box 2390, Sacramento 11, California

AUBREY NEASHAM
Historian