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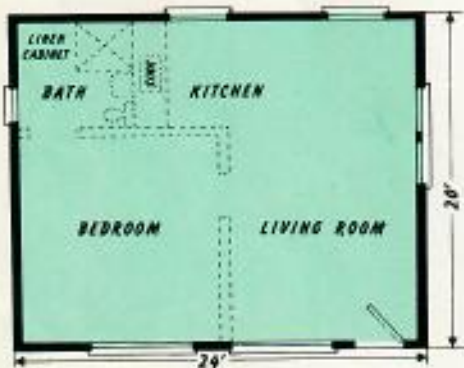
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5 DETAILED MAPS AND INFORMATION ON ALL ACTIVITIES

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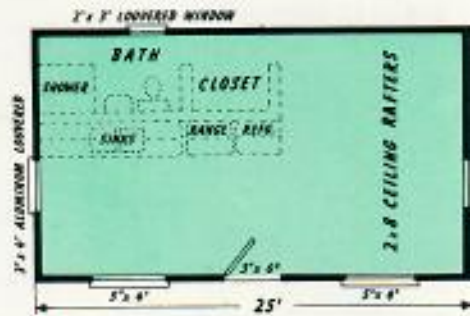


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Modern motels and hotels are ideally located so you are near the things you like — swimming, tennis, riding, desert and mountain jeep treks, hiking or just plain loafing around a heated pool in the sun and smog-free air.

The Anza-Borrego State Park, with its 426,000 acres of desert and mountains that form a backdrop for the entire valley, offers every attraction for nature lovers.

Beautiful homes encircle the new 18-hole De Anza Desert Golf Course which is a sparkling jewel of green in Borrego Valley.

It's always the right time to truly enjoy Borrego Springs.

We Hope To See You Soon . . .

BORREGO SPRINGS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Borrego Springs, Calif.

Rockwell 7-5555

Please Turn To Page 16 For More About Borrego Springs

Welcome to the Desert

SOMEWHERE along these fascinating highways and byways you'll discover exactly the "brand" of recreation, sport, and relaxation that meets your particular requirements. In the following pages you'll find accurate and up-to-date information about the region's vast variety of recreational adventures. Here's an irresistible combination of year 'round activities that's certain to appeal to all who seek the desert's treasures. The advertisers who have made this guide possible hope that it will increase your enjoyment of California's Desert Paradise. Happy wandering, and good luck!

Take a copy of this guide back home with you, and keep it handy for future reference. You'll want to plan trips to each of the areas described sometime during the year. Your friends and relatives will enjoy a copy too; in fact, many people first become interested in the desert while reading about its many attractions in this guide, and plan their weekends and vacations directly from its pages. You may easily obtain the phone numbers and addresses necessary for reservations, accommodations, or any other information you need. Just check the handy classified index on pages 6, 7, and 8 for the services you want.

When the desert has captured your interest — and that's likely to happen long before you've visited all of the areas described in these pages — you'll want to know far more about it than any single publication could possibly contain. There are many other good sources of information in addition to those indicated here, but these will get you started in whatever fields are of greatest personal interest.

Few men could ever hope to know the desert as well as Edmund C. Jaeger, and his books reflect the intimate knowledge and affection he has for the desert and its plants and animals. Jaeger's "Desert Wildflowers" is an excellent reference work, while "Our Desert Neighbors" and "The California Deserts" are informative and interesting to read.

Lulu O'Neal's "A Peculiar Piece of Desert" describes the Morongo Basin, and will appeal primarily to those who love the high desert and its fascinating history.

The Trees and Shrubs of the Southwestern Desert, by Benson and Darrow, is useful for those with a serious interest in this field.

Examine these publications and the others you'll find in the desert's many shops and stores. As your time permits, travel to all the inviting areas via the maps and articles on these pages. And now's the time to begin, for you'll find more things to see and do than are likely to be accomplished in one lifetime.

"Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where Nature may heal and cheer and give strength to body and soul alike."
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Desert Builders Emporium, Yucca Valley
Jackson Electric, Borrego Springs
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Tripp Electric, Joshua Tree
Wilson Construction Co., Joshua Tree

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Betty's Sportswear, Borrego Springs
Def's Bargain House, Yucca Valley
Desert Lampmaker, Yucca Valley
Teodor's, Yucca Valley
Trading Post, Yucca Valley

DRUGS - GROCERIES - LIQUOR

Borrego Pharmacy, Borrego Springs
Borrego Liquors, Borrego Springs
Desertaire Cut Rate, Joshua Tree
Don's Liquor, Joshua Tree
Joshua Tree Market, Joshua Tree
Kenneys Drug Store, 29 Palms
Niland Fountain & Sundries, Niland
Nite Spot Liquors, Banning
29 Palms Super Market, 29 Palms
Yucca Valley Drug, Yucca Valley

MOTELS - HOTELS - INNS

Buret Mt. Rancho Motel, Yucca Valley
Desert Sky Motel, Yucca Valley
Fountain Manor Motel, Joshua Tree
Hacienda del Sol, Borrego Springs
Hot Rack Motel, Yucca Valley
Dr. Hayes Lodge, Indio
Molina Verde Guest Ranch, Borrego Springs
The Oasis Motel, Borrego Springs
Sands Motel, Yucca Valley
29 Palms Inn, 29 Palms
Whitehorn Ranch Motel, Joshua Tree
Wilson's Motel, Joshua Tree

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You can send a copy of this guide to your friends anywhere in the U.S.A. for just a few cents in postage. Additional copies may be obtained from any of the merchants listed in these pages, from selected newsstands, and from the sporting goods stores of Southern California. Your friends will enjoy the maps, photographs, and articles showing the interesting places you've visited. Mail them an extra copy today!



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Thresher's Sporting Goods, Riverside.....
Victory Sporting Goods, Coachella.....

TRAILER PARKS & CAMPGROUNDS

Date Palm Trailer Park, Indio.....
Walt Holman's Palms Trailer & Boat Sales,
Palm Springs.....

ATTENTION

Photographers -

Desert Paradise is now a limited market for western free-lance photographers, and we would like to see your best available work if you wish to submit it as suggested below:

1. We are interested only in photographs and picture stories taken within the area shown on the access map in the middle of this magazine.

2. Subject matter may be anything which may suitably be presented in these pages.

3. Preferred size is 8 by 10 inches, though other sizes will receive every consideration.

4. We require only first publication rights; you may sell the same photos elsewhere at a later date if you wish. We reserve the right to publish the prints which you purchase in any of our publications at any time.

5. Desert Paradise is published annually and photos submitted should be mailed to the next edition to reach us between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31, 1959. Do not send material before Oct. 1, 1959.

6. Photographs which we cannot use will be returned only if accompanied by stamped, self-addressed return envelopes.

7. We assume no liability for loss or damage, although we will make every effort to handle correspondence and photos with care.

8. Information concerning photos should accompany the submission; include all technical data, where taken, and when.

9. Photos accepted will be paid promptly; not less than \$3.00 and not more than \$25.00 per print.

10. If you prefer to query us first before sending your photos, please do so. We will write you only if we wish to see the work outlined in your query. We would like to reply to all queries, but our time is limited.

11. Please send correspondence or photos only during the period between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31, 1959. Mail to:

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Riverside, Calif.

DESERT PARADISE

Hugh Manessier, Editor & Publisher

Olive Manessier, Art Editor & Cartographer

Howard Wilson, Advertising

Robert Leatherman, Wildlife Photographer

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- CREDITS -

Front Cover: Les Wagner, Harold Gaston, Don Wheeler, and Curly Wilson with their catch of scrappy Corvina from the Salton Sea. Wildlife photographs by Bob Leatherman. Special Event photographs courtesy of Ken Bonser. Map information courtesy of Joshua Tree National Monument, U. S. Forest Service, California Dept. of Fish & Game.

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To Julie Ann

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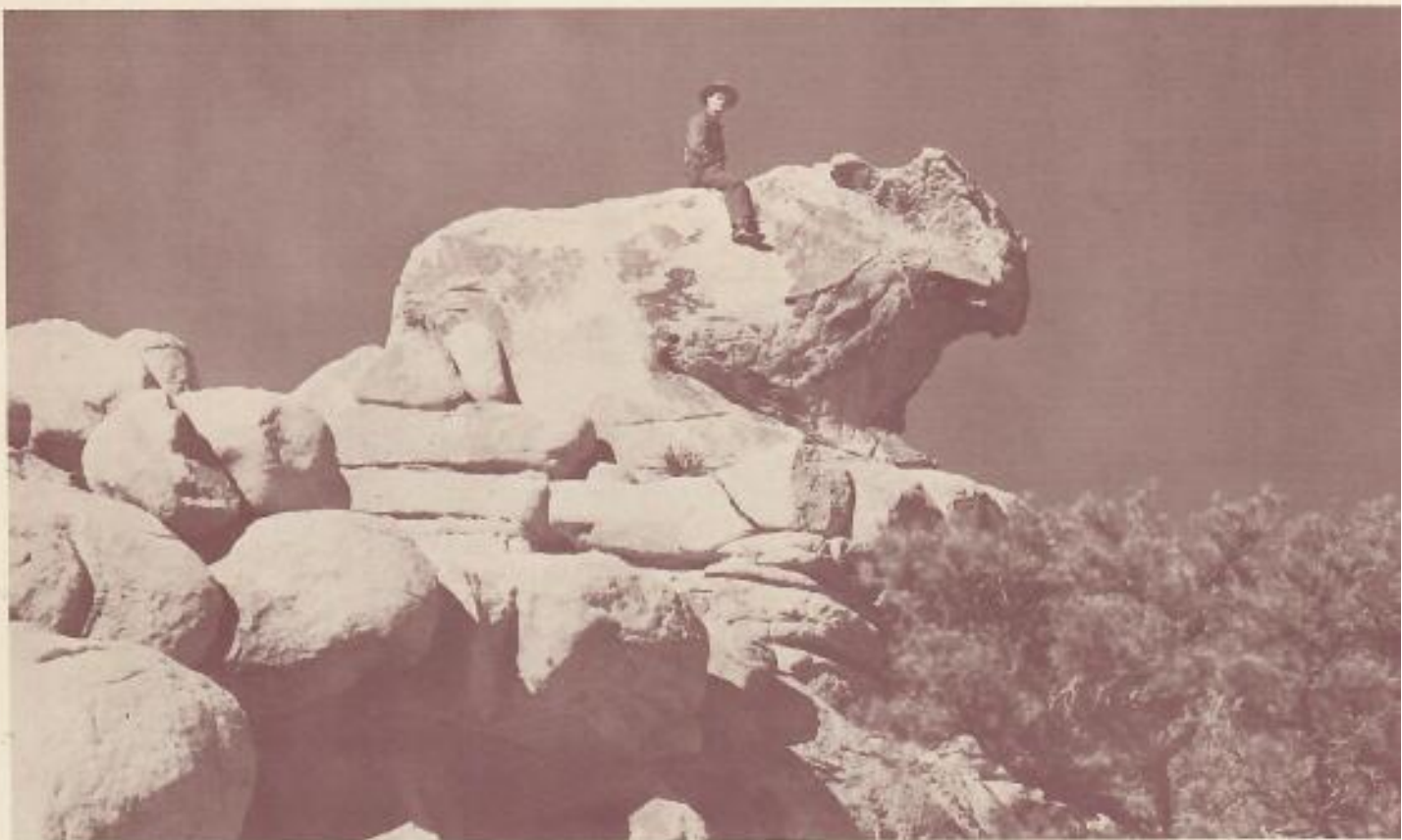
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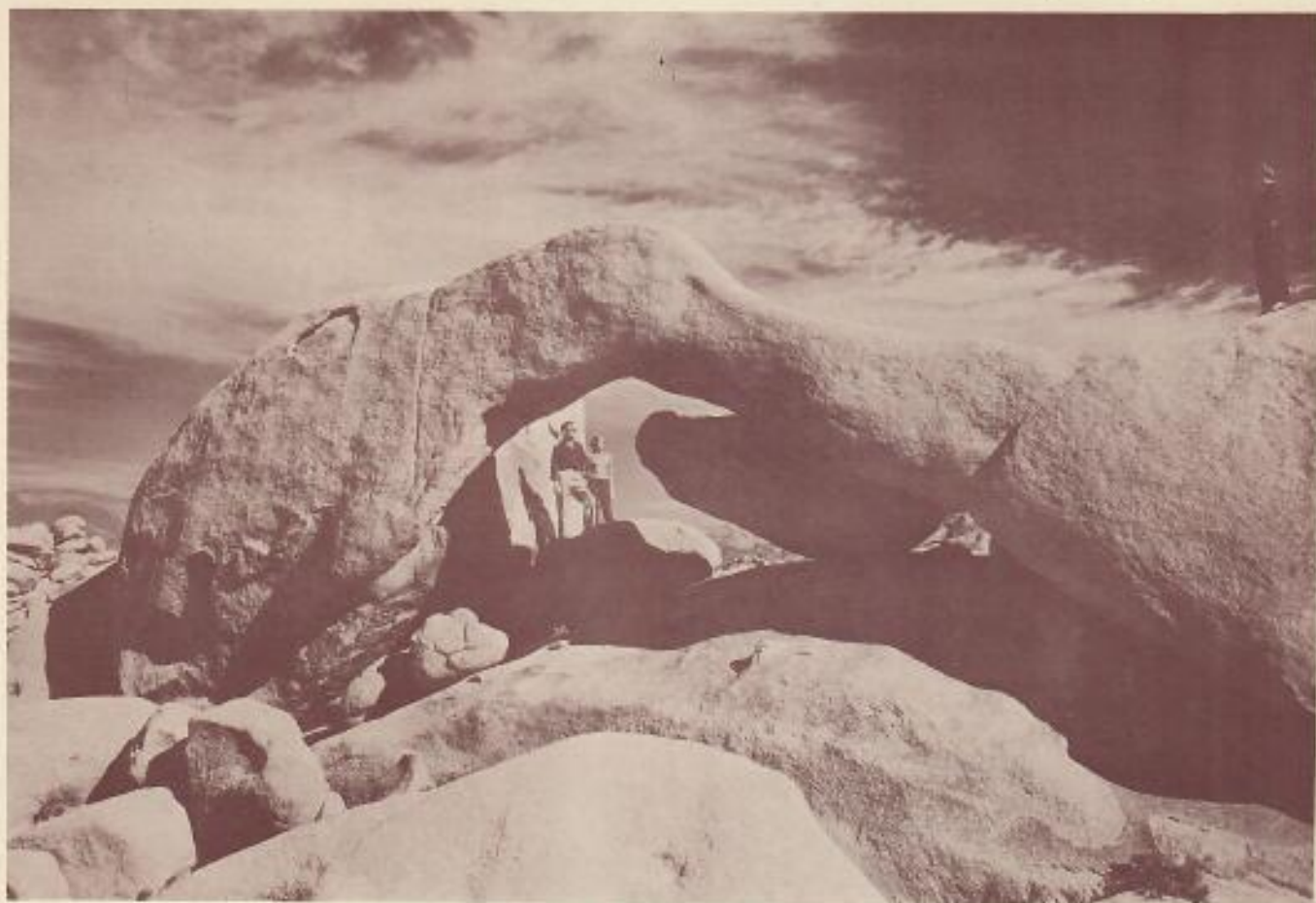
A
Self-guiding
Tour
Of
JOSHUA
TREE
NATIONAL
MONUMENT

WITHIN the widespread bosom of the series of Joshua Tree National Monument you'll discover many remarkable natural attractions. Spectacular desert plants, delightful and supporting a variety of wildlife, and unique rock formations are among many inviting natural features. When conditions are favorable, an incredible colorful blanket of wildflowers adds a final touch of magic to Spring in the desert. The monument is so appealing during every season of the year, in fact that it now annually draws more than a quarter of a million visitors. And so much of the monument lies at altitudes of 3,000 to 4,000 feet and more, it is reasonably pleasant to travel much of the area even during the summer months.

This introductory tour has been designed to give you an opportunity to visit and enjoy all of the best-known features. While wandering along highways and byways, you'll experience virtually all of the major attractions along the paved roads within the monument, plus some of the more interesting graded side-roads maintained for your enjoyment. While it may be possible to travel to all of the points of interest outlined in one day, this is not recommended. It should not even be considered, in our opinion, unless it will be impossible for you to return. The



The Ox is one of many interesting natural rock formations in beautiful Hidden Valley. Here Ranger Bruce Black shows the comparative size; it is located in the far end of the valley on your left.



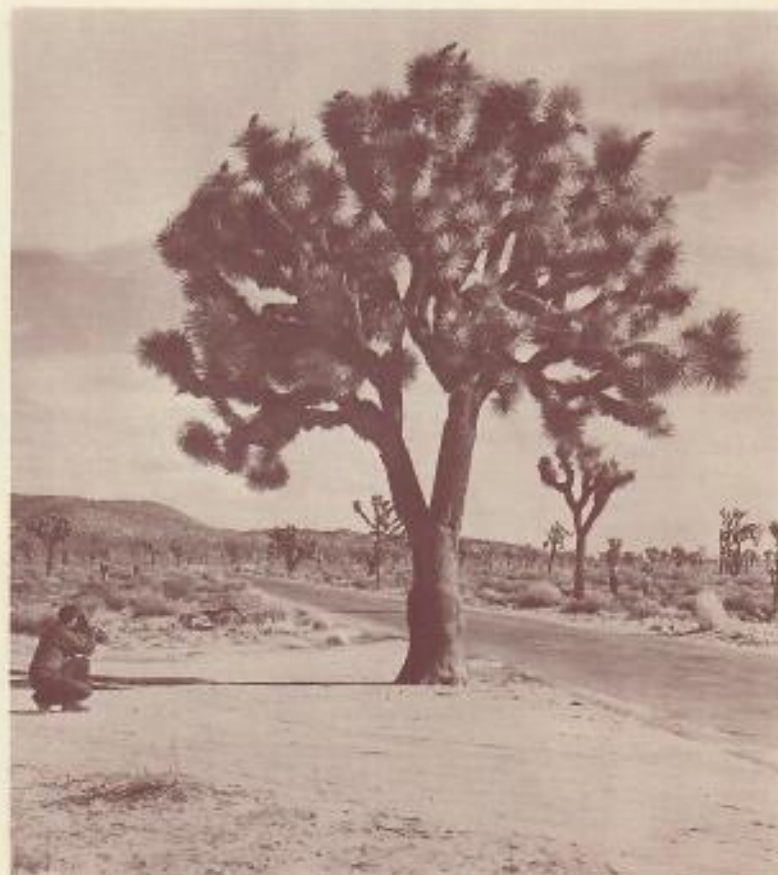
For many visitors, Arch Rock is one of the most appealing photographic targets in the monument. It is reached over a short trail from White Tank Campground.

is designed for two days—a weekend is perfect—and this is barely enough time for a nodding acquaintance.

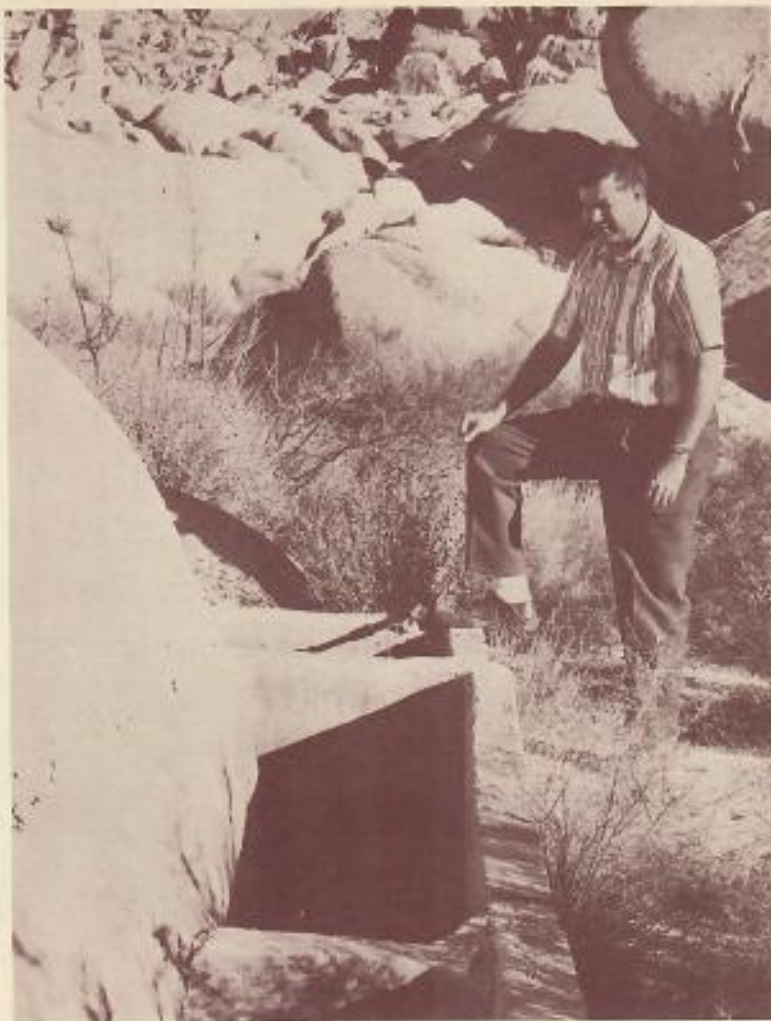
This self-guiding tour is divided into two sections, and you can begin with either section as you wish. From Twentynine Palms, you may start at the Visitor Center and continue with that section first. From Yucca Valley or Joshua Tree, you can take the scenic drive into the monument and travel that section first if this is more convenient. The total mileages are not extensive, so that you can easily return to the community of your choice for meals and accommodations, or camp out in one of the pleasant public campgrounds listed elsewhere in these pages. Take a picnic lunch along if you wish, for there are many picnic tables handy for your use in the campground areas.

Look at the map of the monument area on the adjoining page, and you can visualize the two sections of the tour quite readily. One section travels south from the Visitor Center at Twentynine Palms, west at the junction, and includes a number of attractions along the way. It ends at Hidden Valley, Joshua Tree, or Yucca Valley, depending on where you wish to stay overnight. The other section begins at Joshua Tree or Hidden Valley, then travels east and south through the various featured areas

(Continued on next page)



No two Joshua Trees are ever exactly alike. This magnificent tree is found beside the highway; you will easily find it while enjoying the self-guiding tour.



Above: In past years, these watering troughs at Squaw Tank were vitally important for livestock grazing in the area. Tour takes you to this scenic region.

Right: This historic old well played an important part in the early development of the desert area. Located along the Oasis Trail, it is still in operation today, providing water for the birds and animals which make their home at the oasis.



to Cottonwood Spring. There are several alternate return routes.

No special preparations are necessary. Just fill your gas tank and take along some drinking water. Don't forget your camera, and include plenty of film. Except where specifically mentioned in the text, all of the roads recommended on the tour are maintained in good condition, and when traveled with care, are safe even for the latest automobiles with their ridiculously low ground clearance. The condition of other unpaved roads within the monument varies, and it is best to inquire at monument headquarters about these before attempting them.

VISITOR CENTER TO HIDDEN VALLEY

At the Visitor Center you may first wish to examine the exhibits at Monument Headquarters, then enjoy the Oasis Trail which begins here too. The trail booklet (available at office) may be used free, or you may purchase it for 10¢. On this trail you'll learn about the early history of the oasis, and many of the native trees and plants are identified and described. This is one of a number of interesting nature trails within the monument, and certainly one of the most enjoyable and important. The pleasant loop trail may be covered in from 20 to 40 minutes, depending on individual interests.

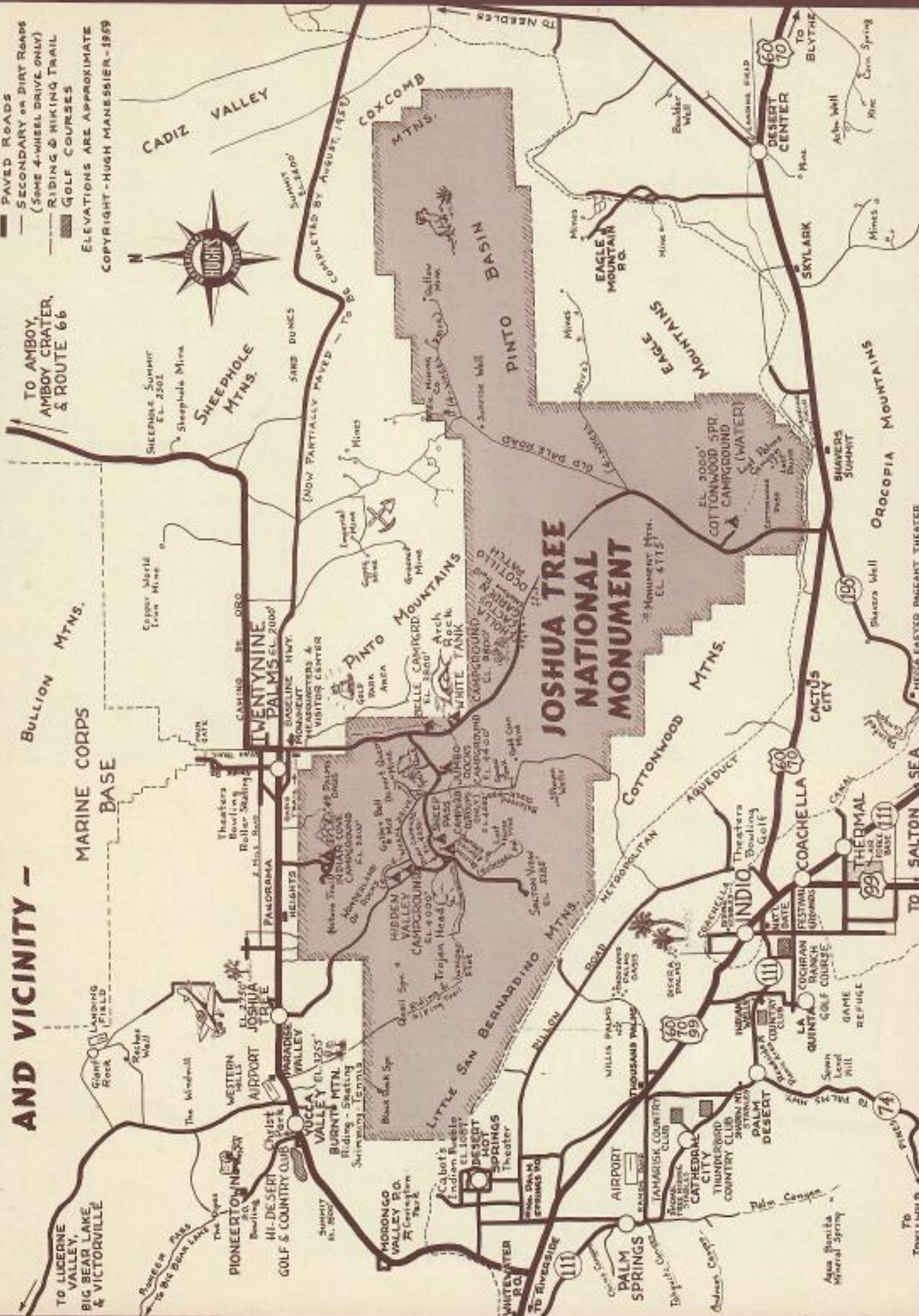
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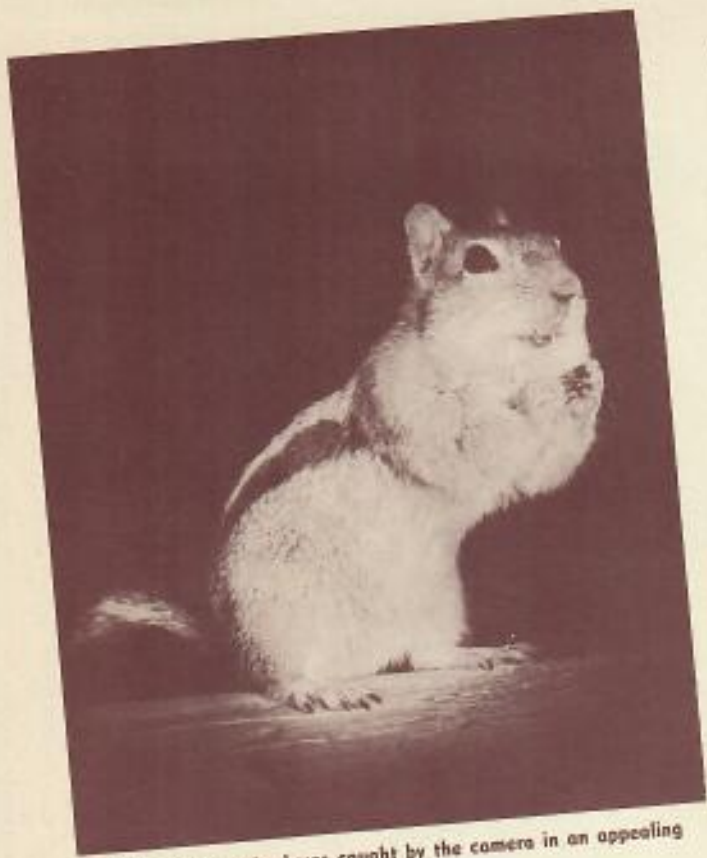
JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL MONUMENT AND VICINITY -

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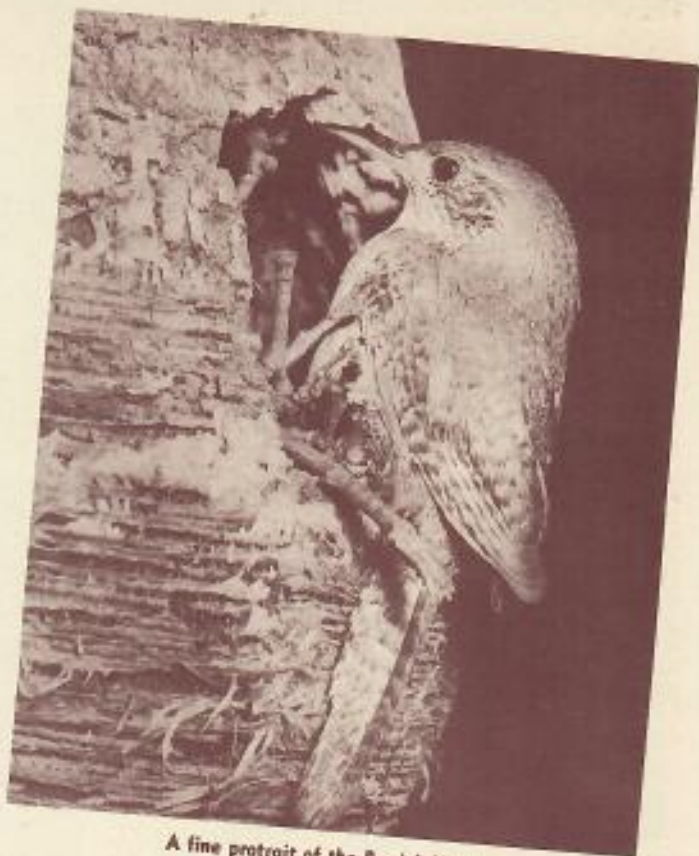
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This ground squirrel was caught by the camera in an appealing position.



A fine portrait of the Bewick Wren.

PHOTOGRAPHING

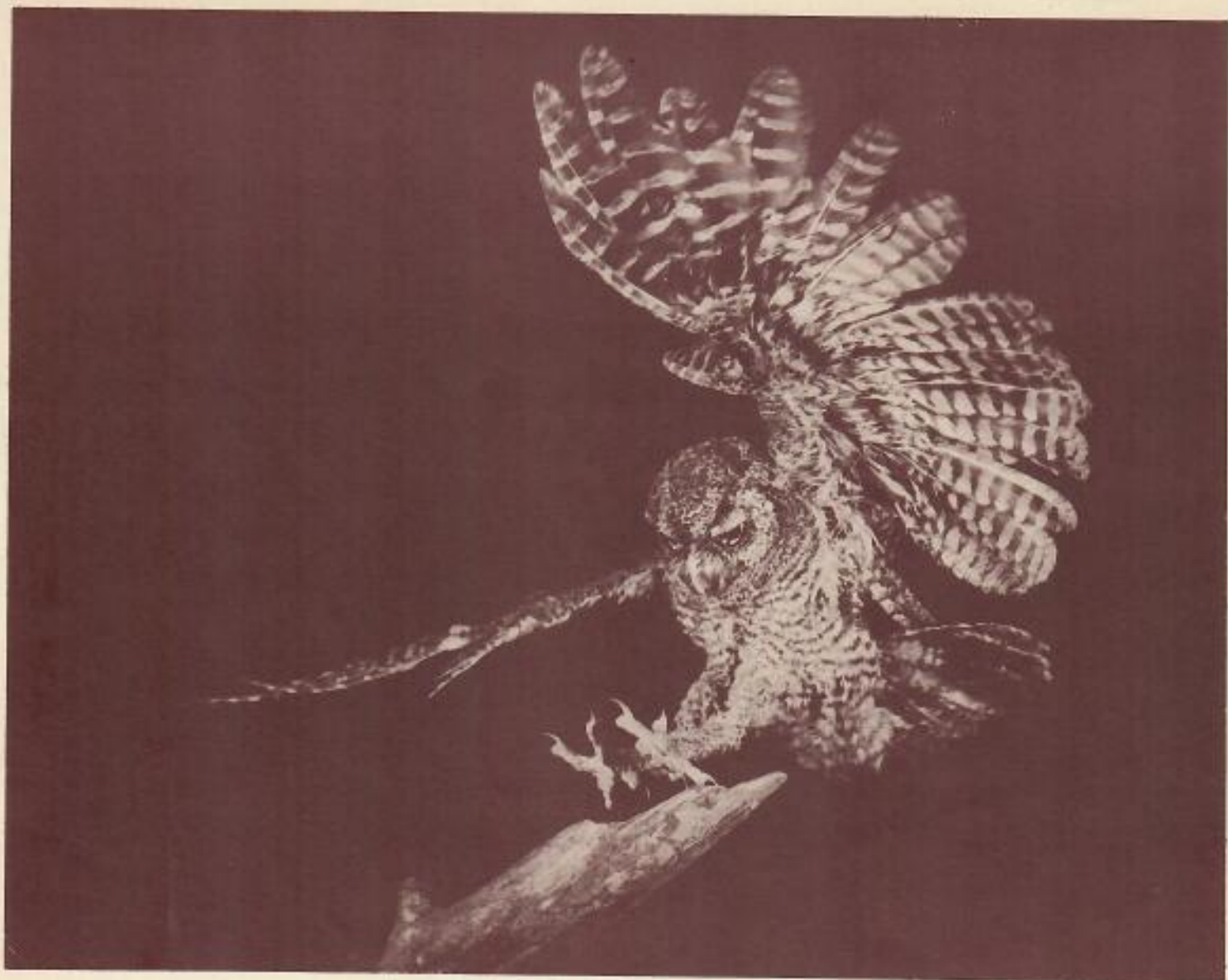
NATURE'S CRITTERS



The badger is very strong, with powerful claws on the forefeet to dig out the rodents which make up much of his diet. They are not often seen by tourists, as most hunting is done at night.

THE spectacular outdoor theatre of Nature itself provides one of the most fascinating fields for photographers to explore, offering literally a lifetime of fun and adventure in an unsurpassed setting. The subject material is unlimited; from tiny organisms too small to be seen with the naked eye to the largest birds, plants, and animals — all are suitable targets for the camera's inquiring eye. Invigorating and relaxing, nature photography offers one of the most interesting ways to become intimately acquainted with the delicate beauty of the desert.

Many excellent books are available to introduce you to the desert's great variety of unusual plants and interesting birds and animals. Some of the area's inhabitants are more difficult to photograph than others, yet many are comparatively easy to film once you understand their wants and ways. But don't be disappointed if their behavior sometimes differs from your reference books; these appealing creatures haven't yet



"Landing Gear Down." The Screech Owl is a desert resident.

read about themselves and have no psychiatrists to guide them. When approached with consideration and gentle treatment, wild birds and animals respond to kindness just as our domestic pets do, and they can become comparatively tame in a short time.

I remember one wild dove which became so tame in just four days that she actually came within reach. This dove came to the feeding platform outside my photographic blind, less than two feet from the camera. Although initially cautious, by the second day I had to tap the camera to get her attention. On the third day I banged away on the tripod to get her to look my way, and before long this was also ignored. By the fourth day I could lean forward and blow my breath on her. After I did this several times, she'd look at me as if to say, "Don't bother me while I'm eating."

Generosity definitely pays off when attempting to entice desert subjects to

(Continued on Page 40)



Editor's Note: Here's nature photographer Leatherman at work. His outstanding pictures have won national recognition, and we are delighted to present some of them here for your enjoyment.



Lane and Pat Sharman of Los Angeles enjoy golf at the beautiful new 18 hole course at Borrego Springs.

WELCOME TO



Borrego Springs is proud of its churches and schools.

HERE'S a sparkling desert community that says welcome a hundred different ways. A friendly atmosphere, warm sunshine and a wide variety of attractions beckon every traveler to return again and again. Borrego Springs is literally surrounded by the vast Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Loaded with scenic beauty and sightseeing attractions, its countless recreational opportunities appeal to visitors and residents alike. Here you find an irresistible today combined with a most promising tomorrow.

There's plenty of sightseeing, swimming, tennis, riding, hiking, and other activities to satisfy even the most energetic visitors. The year 1959 is a promising year for Borrego too; nestled beneath the towering mountains is a brand new 18 hole golf course that's attracting nationwide attention. You'll also discover that just plain relaxing has been developed into a widely-practiced



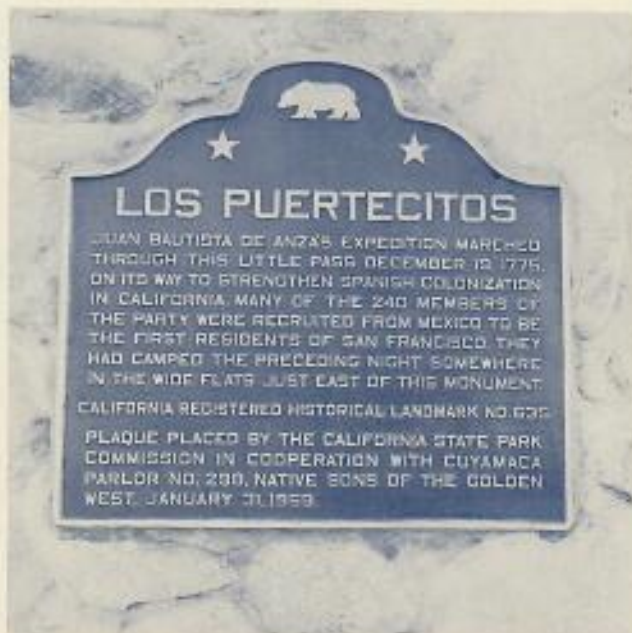
This is one of several scenic desert views from Fouts Point. Borrego Valley lies in the background.

BORREGO SPRINGS

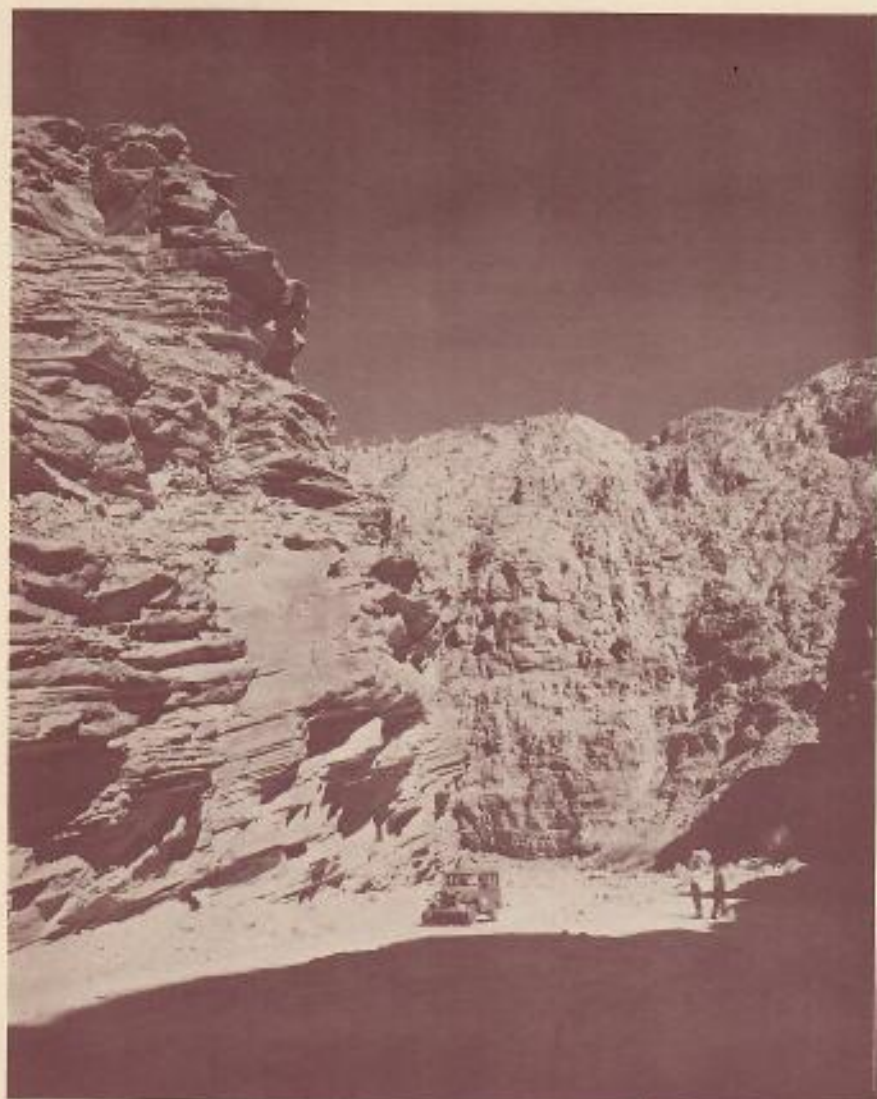
"sport" at Borrego, and its wonderful accommodations are partially responsible for this. Many of the sightseeing attractions can be reached easily with the average passenger car if driven with care, while others may be explored via horseback, hiking, and inexpensive jeep tours. No matter how happy you are in Borrego itself, you should take one or more trips into the remote portions of the state park. California didn't set those 426,000 acres of desert and mountain scenery aside for recreational use without justification. A few minutes study of the accompanying map will familiarize you with the area; make local inquiry concerning the current conditions of unpaved roads at the State Park office before wandering into the remote areas.

If you're interested in the large variety of desert plants within the borders of

(Continued on next page)



Interesting historical markers help inform visitors about the region's fascinating past. This new one is located on Highway 78 a short distance east of Ocotillo Wells.



Left: The Split Mountain area is popular with visitors, and it is easily reached with the family car. See accompanying map. Signs posted by the state park are most helpful in finding the various points of interest.

Below: Guided jeep tours to the major attractions are featured at Borrego Springs. Here a guide is describing a geological oddity revealed by the forces of nature.

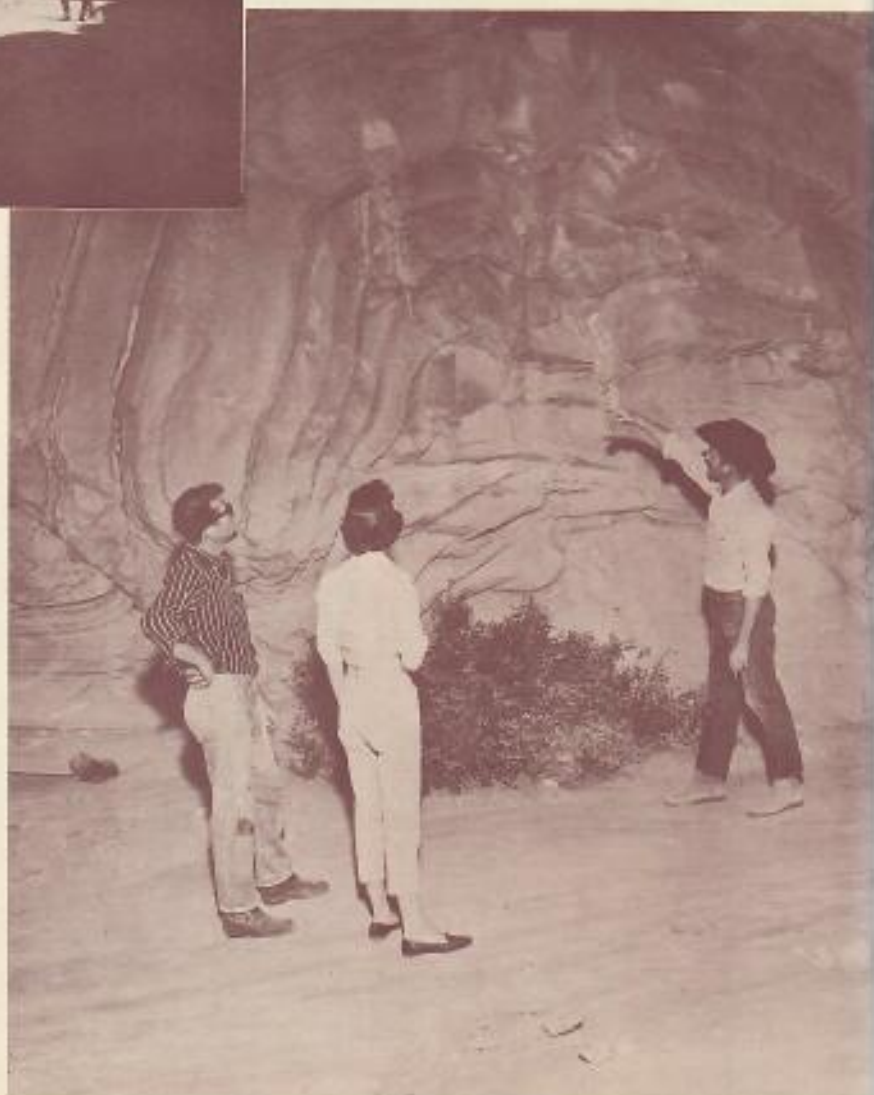
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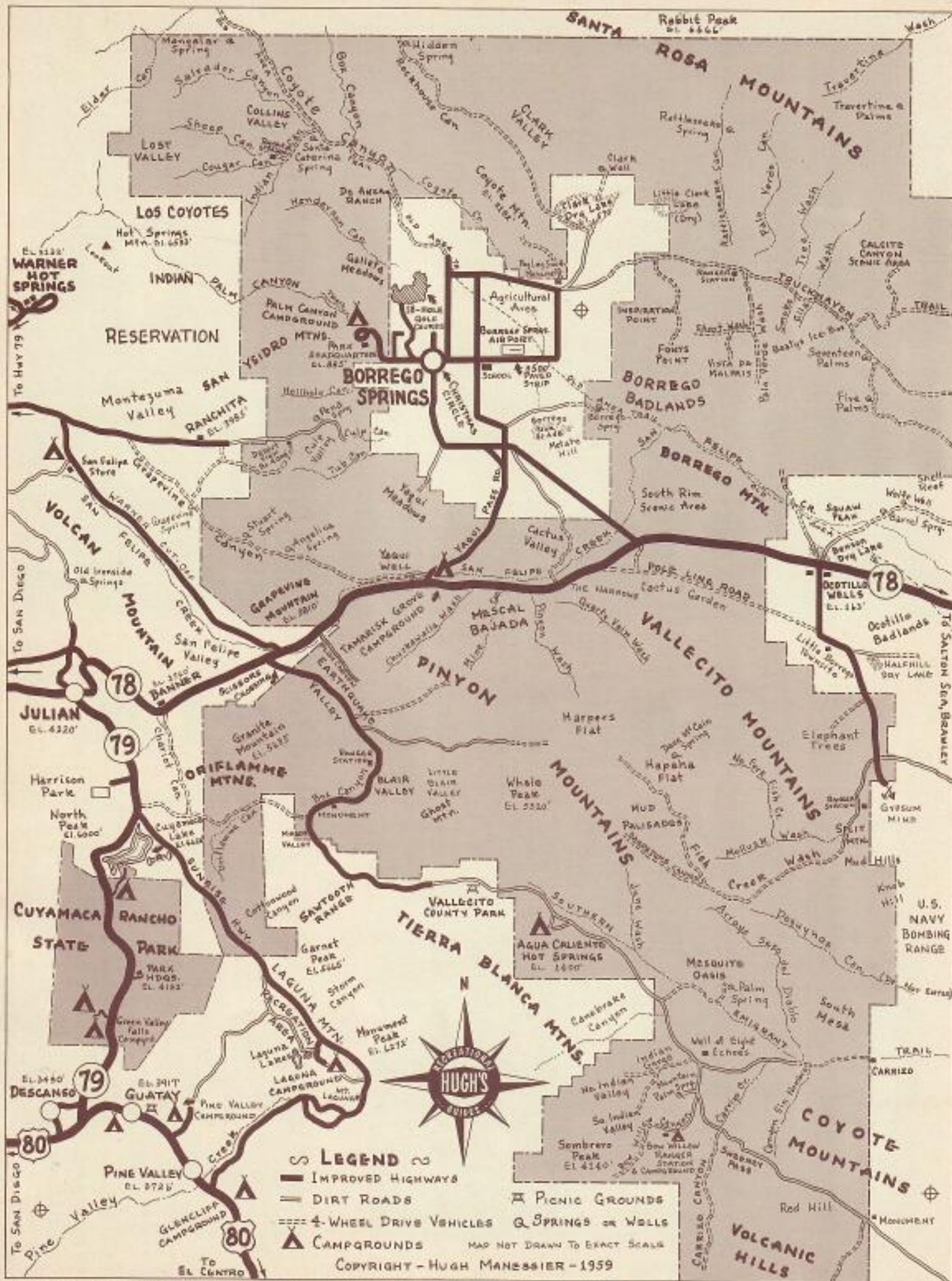
the state park, this area is an outstanding choice for photographing typical, rare, and unusual species. If you come during the Spring wildflower season you'll enjoy a special picture-taking bonus. The interesting Elephant Trees require a hike or 4-wheel drive vehicles, but many other desert plants are easily accessible with your family car.

In addition to the points of interest near Borrego Springs itself, you may enjoy pleasant drives to scenic attractions close by. The short trip to the Split Mountain area south of Ocotillo Wells can easily be made in half a day, or you can take along a picnic lunch and enjoy a more extended outing. Passenger cars can normally be driven into this area without inconvenience, and the road is often in such good condition that you can also travel a portion of Fish Creek Wash. Inquire at headquarters for the latest information at the time of your arrival.

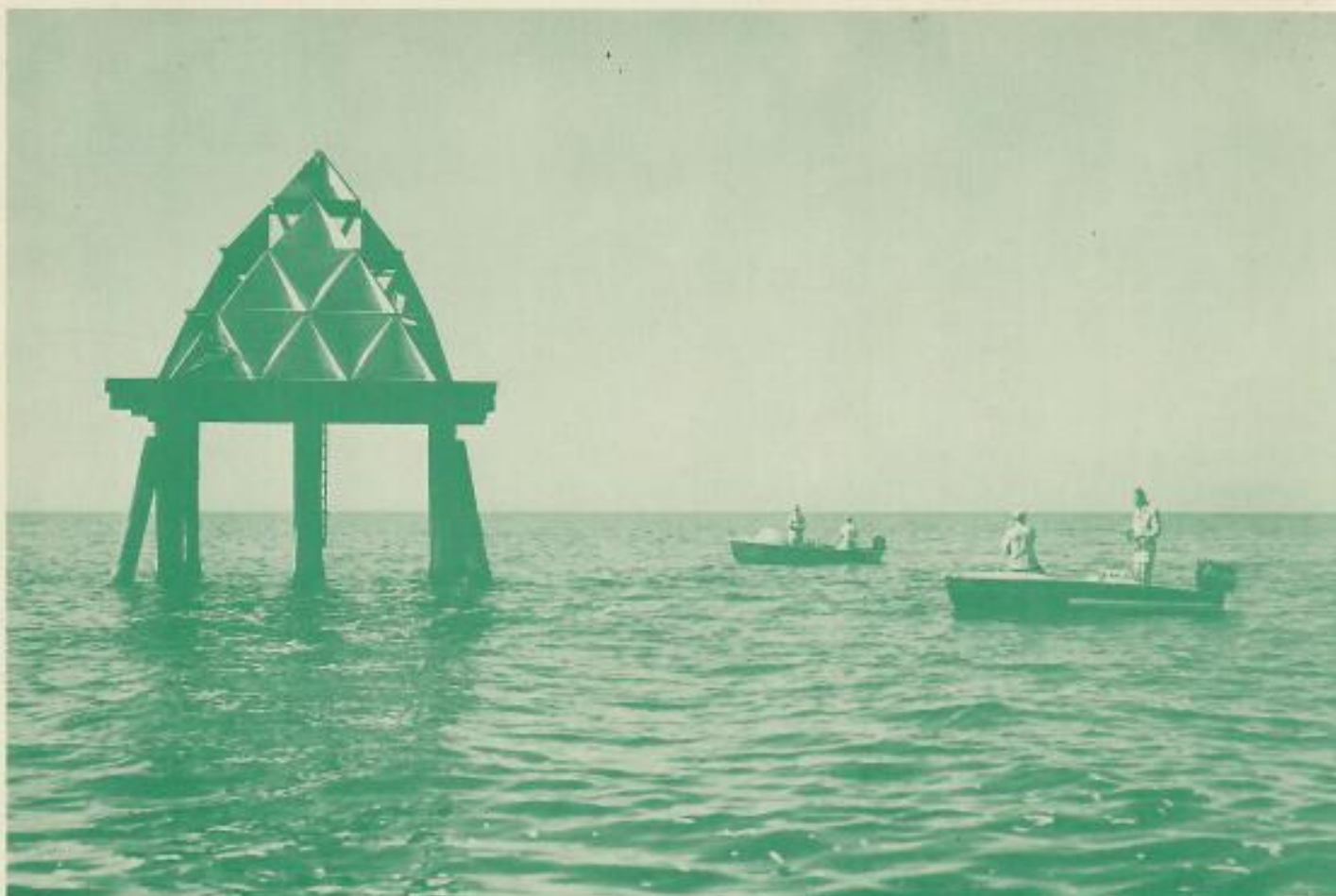
Another pleasant drive takes you south from Borrego over Yaqui Pass to the highway, then west to Scissors Crossing. From there you travel in a

(Continued on Page 54)





REPRODUCTION IN ANY FORM PROHIBITED



Fishing around this old radar marker often yields big Corvina.

FISHING AND FUN

Corvina . . .



Don Wheeler is really happy with his big Corvina.

WHEN Harold shut off the motor, Don dropped the anchor and the boat drifted the full length of the rope. Picking up his spinning outfit, Harold cast the big spoon in toward the old radar marker. Before I could get into my own boat, Harold was hooked with a scrappy Corvina that was tearing up lots of line, and bending the dickens out of his salt-water spinning rod. A few minutes later, Don finally netted a big Corvina for Harold, and held it up for me to see. It was a beautiful, hard-fighting fish of more than 8 pounds, and I still didn't want to give up. The Corvina flopped out of Don's grip and into the bottom of the boat. Hurriedly, Don and I rigged our own outfits, and within a few minutes we'd both sampled the exciting new sport at the Salton Sea. Harold had the fish to prove it!

"Pretty good-sized snipe," said Harold, grinning as he hoisted his Corvina out of the boat.

(Continued on Page 58)



You'll enjoy the excellent boating and skiing at Salton Sea.

AT SALTON SEA

Boating & Skiing . . .

THIS year, you'll find many exciting changes at the Salton Sea —boating and water skiing are more popular than ever, and the newly-developed Corvina fishing has now become a tangible sport. Then there's duck hunting in season, swimming, or just relaxing in the warm desert sunshine on a secluded sandy beach.

The regularly-scheduled inboard and outboard races add lots of weekend excitement, and even the spectators are thrilled by the outstanding performances possible at the Sea. It's generally regarded as the fastest body of water in the world, and many national speed records have been established here. The reasons are obvious and dramatic. At 234 feet below sea level, both inboard and outboard motors can pack more oxygen into their combustion chambers. Tuned to perfection, motors attain peak performance that just couldn't be duplicated anywhere else. You'll find some of

(Continued on Page 62)



. . . but don't go near the water.



Left: There's good quail hunting in the desert, but to find 'em you've got to learn their habits.

Below: Bluegills, bass and catfish are caught from the irrigation canals; it won't take many bluegills like this to fill the frying pan.

Hunting and Fishing



IN THE DESERT

IF YOU haven't yet sampled the many kinds of sport now available in the desert, you've been missing some of the best in the West. In the portion of California covered by this guide, you'll find excellent waterfowl shooting in either the state-developed areas or the open sections of the Salton Sea; nearby are dove, quail, and pheasant in season. Deer hunting in the San Jacinto mountains is pretty rugged in some areas, but it's a real challenge to sportsmen who like to work for their bucks.

Fishing? The sensational new Corvina angling at the Salton Sea (see page 20) rates the headlines this year, but there's

also other exciting fishing waiting for you. Few anglers except those living nearby know anything at all about the desert's productive canal fishing. Fighting rainbows are also available in a limited number of trout streams and lakes in the San Jacinto mountains, and trout fishing is covered in that feature. There is, in fact, some kind of fishing or hunting open to sportsmen every day of the year.

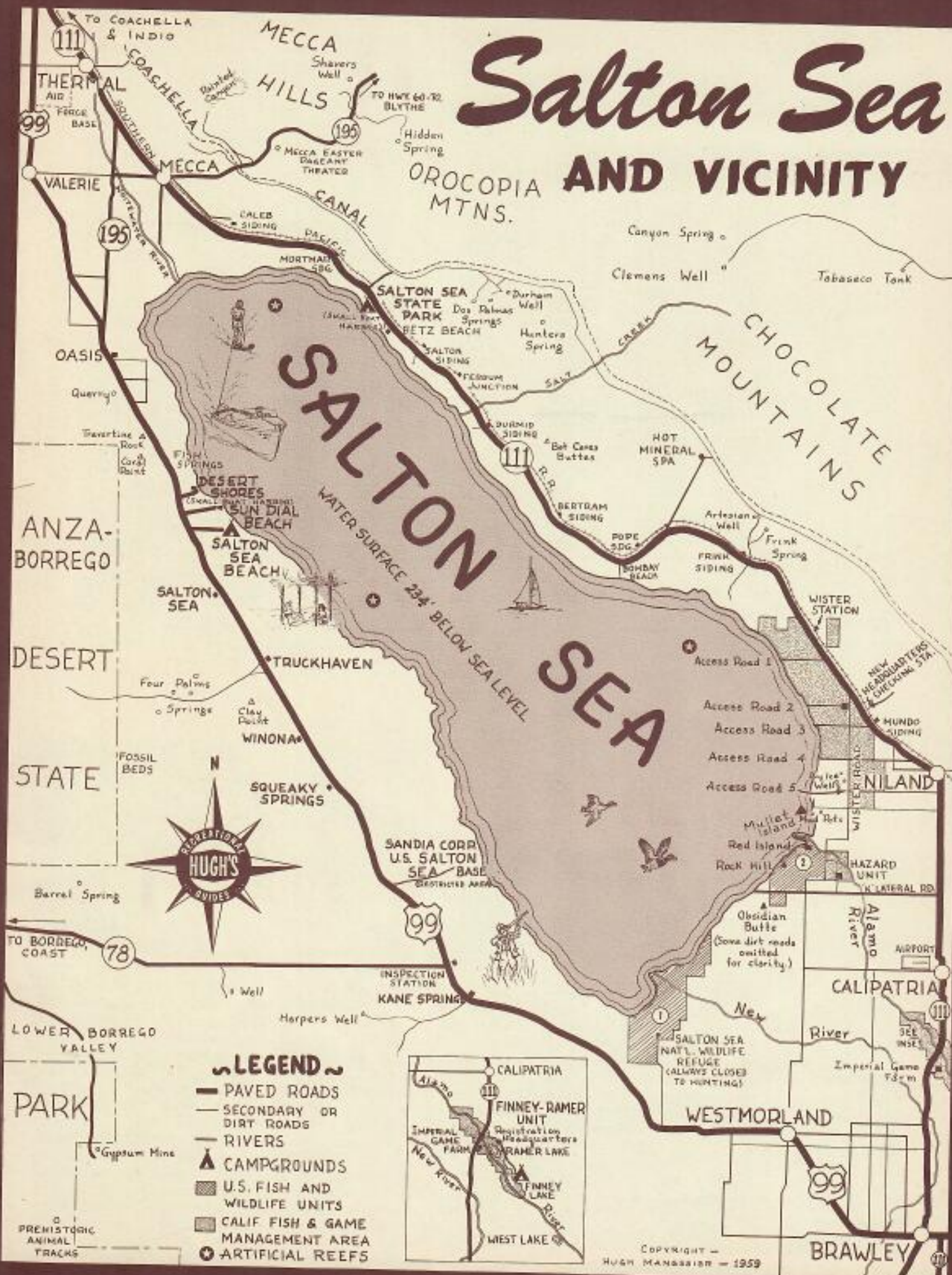
If you're interested in duck hunting, check the map of the Salton Sea on page 23. It shows the controlled shooting areas for hunters, along with the location of the new headquarters and checking station in the Wister unit. Note the

access roads through the controlled shooting areas to the shoreline of the Sea. If you don't wish to shoot in the controlled areas, or cannot get a place on the most crowded weekends, you always drive on through to the Sea and enjoy hunting there.

Many successful duck hunters use motor boats, but there is no really good launching area along the edge of the Sea in this area. The mouth of the Alamo River is usually one of the best boat launching sites, although you can also gain access at other points. When you're launching your boat, campsite hunting along the edge of the Sea

(Continued on Page 63)

Salton Sea AND VICINITY



LEGEND

- PAVED ROADS
- SECONDARY OR DIRT ROADS
- RIVERS
- CAMPGROUNDS
- U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE UNITS
- CALIF FISH & GAME MANAGEMENT AREA
- ARTIFICIAL REEFS

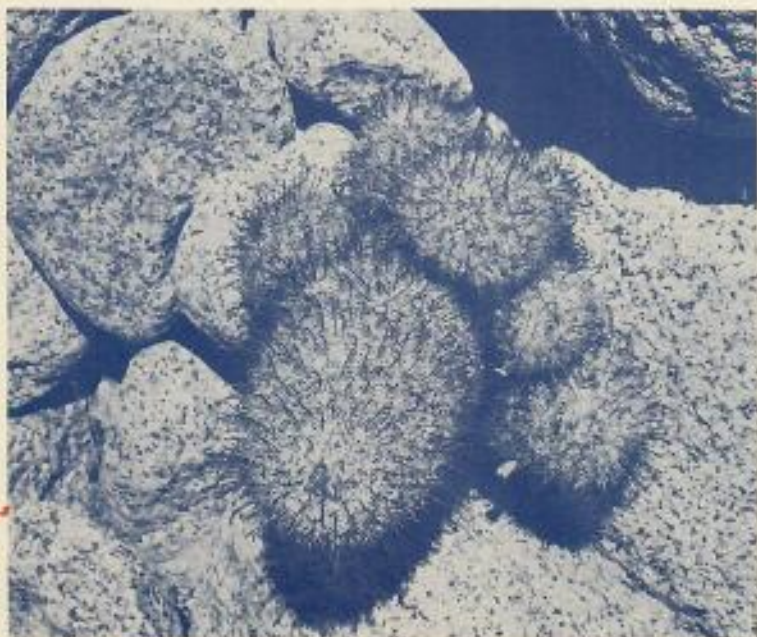


COPYRIGHT - HUGH MANASSER - 1959



The Elephant Tree, extremely rare in the U. S., grows in Anza-Borrego State Park.

IZZATA CACTUS



Because of its tiny size, the Fishhook Cactus is often overlooked.

NO, NOT necessarily, should be the answer to the title question above. Not all plants bristling with needles, spines, or thorns are members of the cactus family. Some seem like cactus, however, that they can easily fool all but the experts. You enjoy the desert's amazingly resourceful vegetation far more if you become acquainted with the characteristics and peculiarities of some of the more interesting species. The constant struggle each plant must endure to stay alive in all is remarkable, and once understood may create a deep respect for every growing thing in the desert.

What is the secret of desert plant life, faced with almost constant adversity? The brilliant desert sunshine, frequent rainfall, and warm climate are all things which man finds attractive in the desert. This is because there's am

(Continued on Page 27)



The magnificent Joshua Tree is unquestionably one of the most spectacular features of our western desert. It belongs to the lily family, though the spear-like leaves could readily lead any but experts to assume it is a cactus when first encountered. The strange blossoms (left) have an odor somewhat like mushrooms. The fruit of the Joshua is equally curious, and when it drops from the tree, may roll with the wind or be carried downhill by gravity, shaking out seeds as it travels. Note especially the contrast of the size of the Joshua Tree above with Ranger Bruce Black. Estimated to be about 40 feet tall, this Joshua is believed to be one of the largest in Joshua Tree National Monument.



This Ocotillo (above) is the most vigorous and largest plant of the kind that we have seen in the desert. Located near Borrego Springs, it is easily accessible by car. The Ocotillo might be considered the optimist of the desert. It grows leaves during each rainy season, and will also leaf out with torrential summer rains, though the leaves are dropped during each intervening dry spell.

When Spring comes, every member of the family can enjoy the color which, in good years, virtues carpets the floor of the desert. This photo, taken at Panoramic Heights along the main highway, shows a sample of the wildflowers which covered the desert last season.

IZZATA CACTUS . . .

(Continued from Page 24)

sub-surface water for our healthful desert communities. Yet this very same sunshine, lack of rain, and dry climate makes life difficult for vegetation. It must depend completely on the infrequent and irregular rainfall for life-giving moisture. How is survival possible when there is no rain at all during most of the year? The answer is that all successful desert plants have solved the water problems of their arid environment in astonishingly ingenious ways.

The Elephant Tree has an enlarged trunk and boughs, which store quantities of water from the brief desert rains. This is used during the prolonged dry periods. Cacti have enlarged succulent stems which store water. The widespread Creosote Bush conserves moisture by a reduction in the size of the leaf area, and by coating these small leaves with a resinous surface which reduces transpiration. The Barrel Cactus stores its water in the inner pulp, and during a single rainy season can absorb and store enough water to last through years of drought. Some plants, such as the Ocotillo and Palo Verde, have an abundance of leaves during rainy periods, but lose them when conditions become extremely dry. Other less fortunate plants can survive dry periods only in the seed or resting stage, which explains why some plants which may look dead can later seem to come to life when conditions are favorable.

Most of the trees and shrubs have some kind of waxy or resinous coating on the surface, which almost eliminates loss of moisture through evaporation. The Cacti and Palo Verde are good examples of plants which have transferred food-manufacturing functions to the stem. Unfortunately, space limitations do not permit the inclusion of as much information here as would be desirable, and those with a serious interest in this field should obtain one or more of the fine books which really cover desert plants in detail.

The Ocotillo is a splendid example of a thorny shrub which is not a cactus. Once recognized, it will never be mistaken for anything else in the desert, and its waving blossoms nodding in the breeze create one of the desert's most attractive bouquets in delicate motion. The yuccas

(Continued on Page 66)

The Barrel Cactus (above, right) is found in many parts of the desert. It usually leans toward the southwest, a condition believed to be caused by more rapid evaporation on the side facing the sun. This is an unusual Barrel; the typical cactus may be seen in the upper left background.

The Mohave Yucca (right) is the most widespread yucca of our desert area. Under favorable conditions, it reaches a height of 10 feet or more. It is a member of the lily family. The fruits, which ripen in summer, were used by the Indians.



IT'S COOL AND CLEAR



Above: Phil Harris and Desi Arnaz were among the stars who helped climax the drive for a new hospital in the Hi-Desert. Phil is just finishing a joke on Desi, who awaits a mortal wound with the punch line coming up.

Right: Phil Harris coaxes a putt into the final hole during the golf tournament at Yucca Valley's hospital fund drive. The golf course is open to the public, and very popular with visitors and residents.

LIVING in the Hi-Desert is like living in a world apart, and you ought to be part of it. The dramatic growth of this magical land of the Joshua forests emphatically proves its fascinating appeal for thousands of happy desert families. Thousands more are moving to the desert every year, and this is only the beginning. Search anywhere you like in this vast desert playground at the higher elevations — from Morongo Valley to Yucca Valley to Joshua Tree — and you'll find inviting subdivisions extending in every direction.

The invigorating climate of the Hi-Desert is as appealing to plant life as it is to us; Joshua trees and other plants grow here in profusion, and a cool bubbling stream wanders between the tree-lined banks at Morongo Valley. With an average elevation of around 3,000 feet, the Hi-Desert offers an unsurpassed climate and modern congenial communities that assure the good life.

(Continued on Page 44)



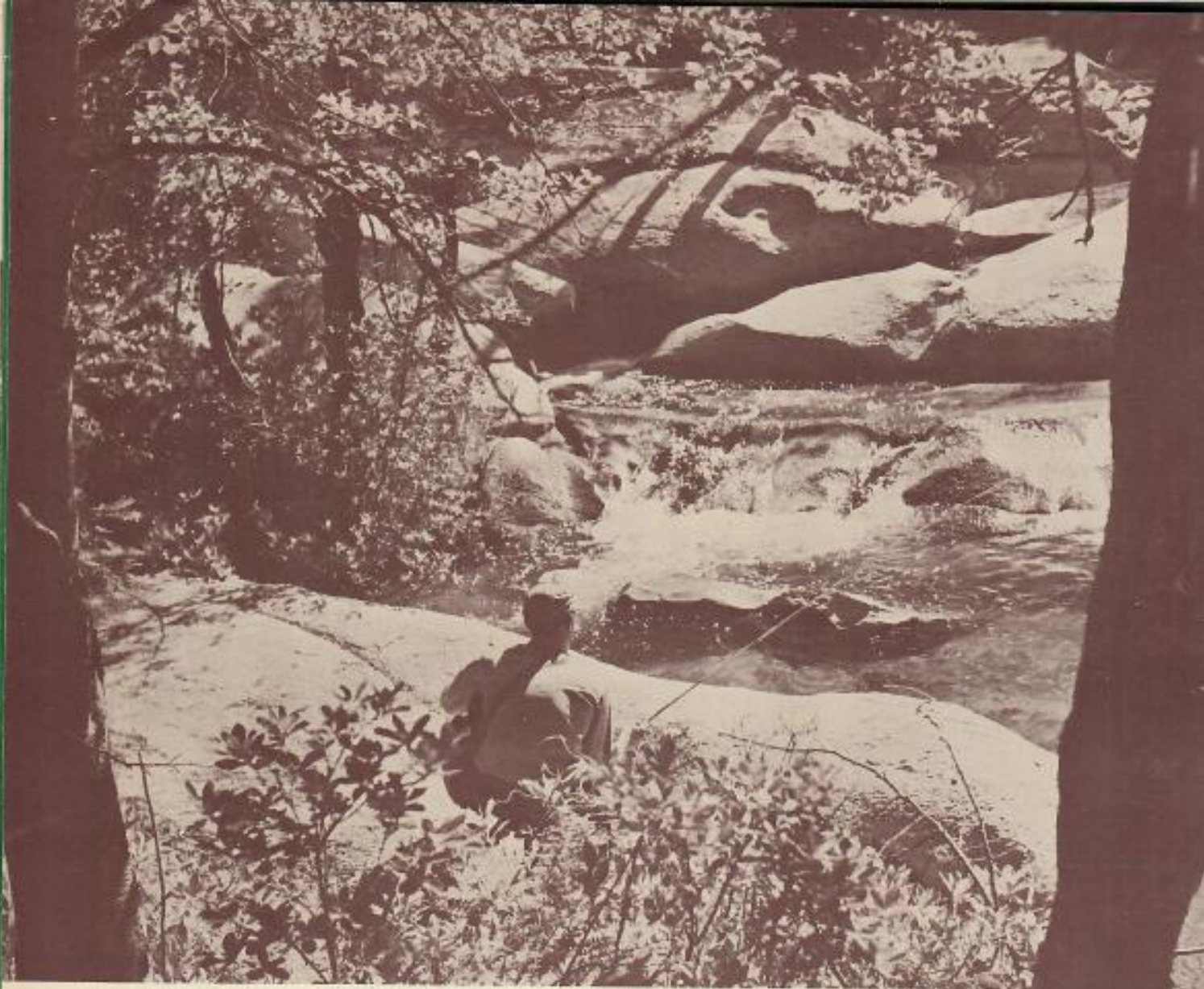
ON THE HI-DESERT



Above: This is the well-known Hospital House at Yucca Valley, which symbolized the fund drive for a new hospital. Many local residents, contractors, and other businesses donated their time and money to erect the Hospital House. It's typical of the fine homes now being built in the Hi-Desert.

Right: Quarter-midget races will again be featured as one of many attractions during Grubstake Days, an annual event at Yucca Valley. The 1959 dates will be May 8th, 9th, and 10th. Don't miss out on this exciting three-day event — be there!





Trout fishing is but one of many attractions in the beautiful San Jacinto mountains.

COME UP AND EXPLORE

The San Jacinto Mountains

HERE YOU'LL discover exciting new recreational attractions to match every holiday and vacation interest. Sightseeing, riding, hiking, swimming, fishing and hunting; these and many other fascinating activities are waiting for you among the fragrant pines. There's fun for every member of the family, no matter what their interests, and a wide variety of things to see and do. Plan on a weekend or more for your first visit if you possibly can.

Excellent motels and hotels, lodges, cottages, and guest ranches are located throughout the mountain area. You may stay anywhere you prefer. Fern Valley, Idyllwild, Mountain Center, and Pine Cove are only a few minutes apart, and other nearby guest ranches and motels

extend a hearty welcome to every visitor. Facilities range from luxurious to rustic, with accommodations and prices to suit every purpose. Modern trailer parks with every convenience are located in the mountains and in nearby communities. If you enjoy camping out, you'll find a complete and detailed listing of the public campgrounds near the end of this feature.

You'll find all kinds of fun in the mountains — swimming, bowling, dancing, riding, hiking, a theatre, fishing and hunting, and winter sports in season. If you like to combine rest and relaxation with the genuine pleasure of education and entertainment, the Idyllwild Arts Foundation has much to offer both students and visitors to the mountain area.

The fire hazard is often extreme in the San Jacinto Mountains, and a few areas must be closed to public use from August 1 until fire danger is decreed, usually by rainfall later in the season. Campfires are permitted only at designated campsites; smoking only at designated sites and posted areas. Always obtain a free campfire permit at one of the Ranger Stations or at State Park Headquarters. Special campfire permits are required for the wilderness area. Be careful with your fires.

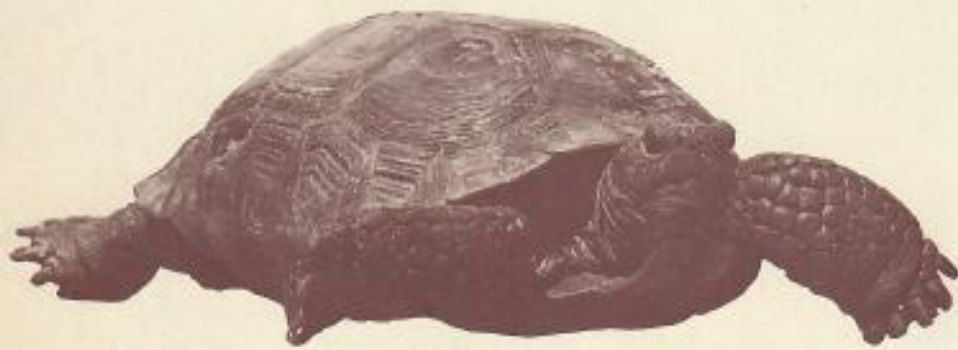
The San Jacinto Mountains offer a wonderful system of riding and hiking trails, with an estimated 9,000 to 10,000 people exploring these fascinating ways each year. The primitive

(Continued on Page 63)



Annual Christmas Pageant at Joshua Tree attracts visitors from all over the Southland. Pageant is presented nightly at 7:30 p.m., December 18 through 24 each year. Admission is free.

J
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A



DON'T MISS THE 14th ANNUAL

Joshua Tree Turtle Races

MAY 2 & 3, 1959

Festivities begin with the big Western Parade at 10 a.m. Saturday. Two full days of Turtle Racing, plus inviting displays, exhibits, and booths of many kinds. Big Barbecue Dinner - Special Saturday Night Dance. Plan now to join us at this exciting "Country Fair" in the heart of the High Desert.

EVERYBODY WELCOME

JOSHUA TREE, CALIF.

MORE than a dozen years ago an unknown and possibly legendary visitor stopped at the road junction destined to become the town for Joshua Tree. Glancing around what was then a rather bleak and lonely crossroads, the visitor derisively asked a loaded question at the local real estate salesman.

"Whadda ya do for amusement around here?"

Momentarily nonplussed, the real estate representative blurted out the first frantic thought that came to mind.

"Why, we race turtles," he said, trying to get matters back on a more familiar and humorous basis. But the visitor took the comment literally.

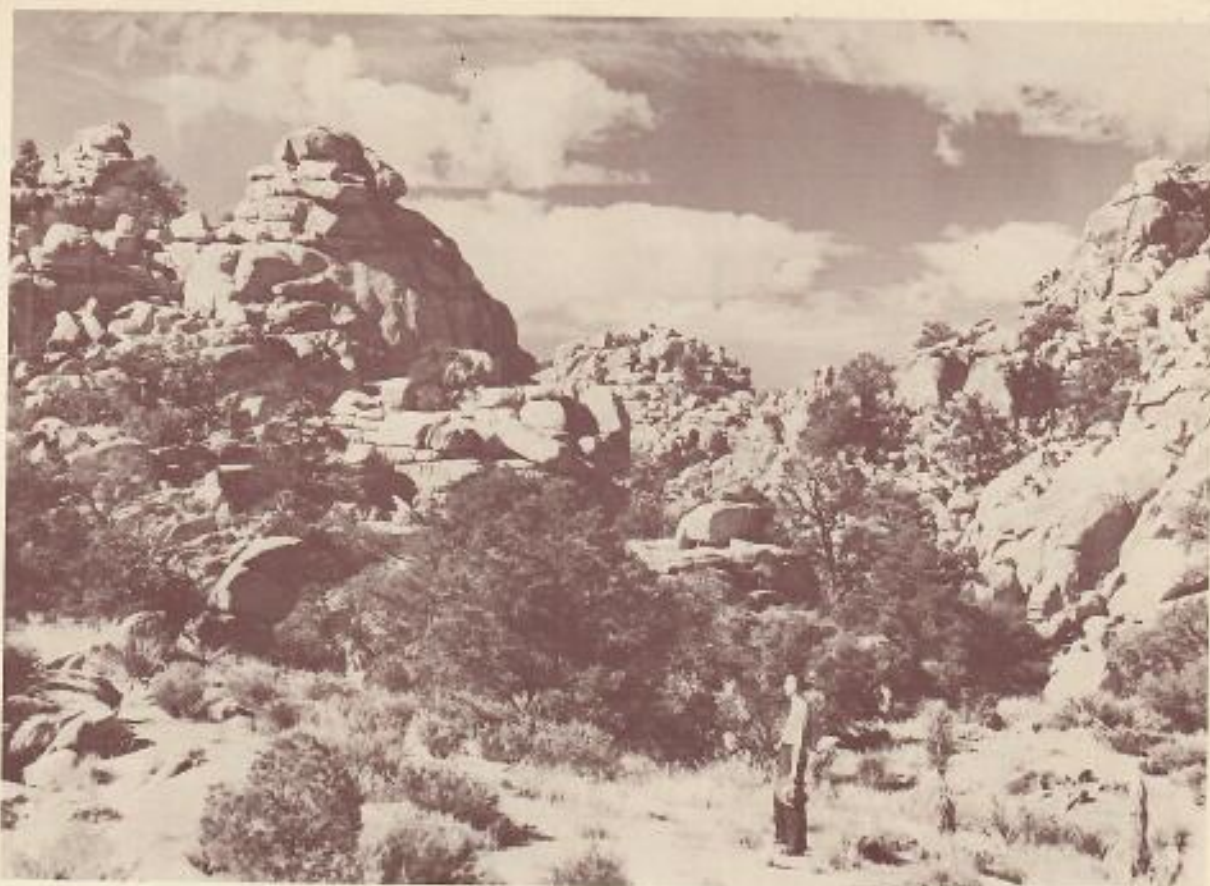
"Yeah? When are the races held?"

"First weekend in May," the salesman smoothly replied. "Don't miss it."

Though nobody knows whether the visitor who inspired this promotion was a genius ever came back for the first races, the idea did catch on, and an annual celebration has now become one of the desert's most enjoyable events. And few if any other desert towns of similar population feature two interesting presentations each year. If you should plan to be in the High Desert for both of Joshua Tree's exciting events.

The annual Christmas Pageant is one of the region's most heart-warming presentations, with many local residents volunteering much time and effort.

T R E E



This is legendary Hidden Valley, easily reached via Joshua Tree, the scenic gateway to the monument.

make it a bigger success each season. Christmas songs fill the evening air, and a number of different scenes are attractively lighted and dramatized by costumed players as the narrator tells the story. Presented nightly during the week before Xmas, the Pageant always brings enthusiastic crowds to witness this stirring biblical dramatization.

Joshua Tree can be proud of its special events, and of the citizens who make them possible. This pleasant desert community has shown remarkable progress in every field but one — the training of turtles for the annual Turtle Races in May. Wonderful stories could be written about the outstanding performances of individual turtles if they'd just cooperate a little. But the truth is that only the turtle itself knows where it wants to go, how fast, and why. So far, at least, whatever training is accomplished must result from the owner or backer adapting himself to the turtle.

Apparently turtles are single-minded creatures, somewhat stubborn about the direction in which they think the nearest food or shade may be obtained. It is debatable whether turtle study is a rewarding profession, but some advantage may or may not be gained by picking the turtle up, placing him on the ground again, and noting which direction he tends to go.

The race track itself is circular, approximately 100 feet across, with the

(Continued on Page 47)



"Rest Assured!"

WILSON'S MOTEL

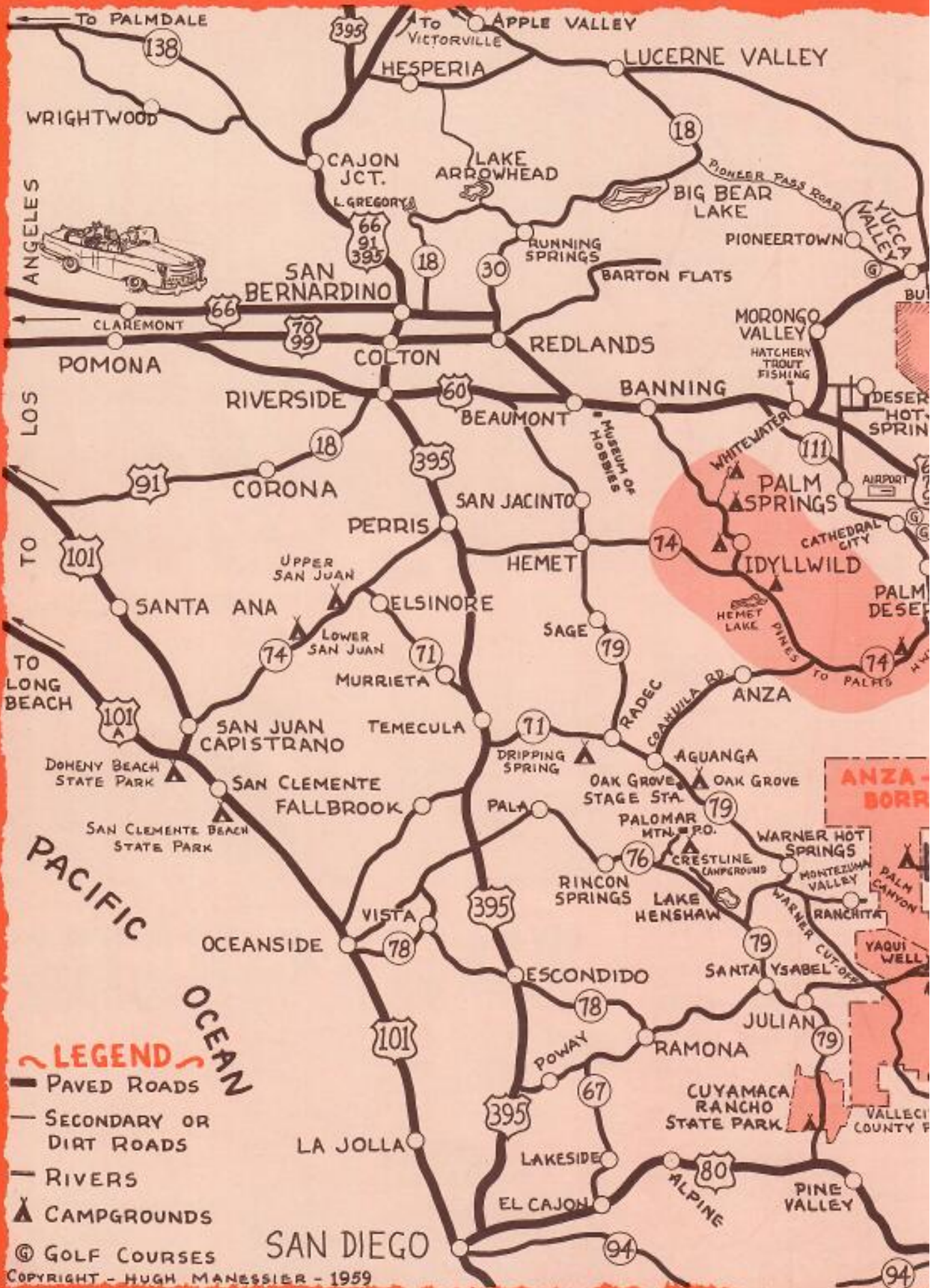
Virginia & Howard Wilson



Enclosed Heated Pool
Air Conditioned
By Refrigeration
Outdoor Barbecue Pit
Putting Green
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Off the Highway — You Sleep!

Phone Forest 6-2711
Box 501 Joshua Tree, Calif.



LEGEND

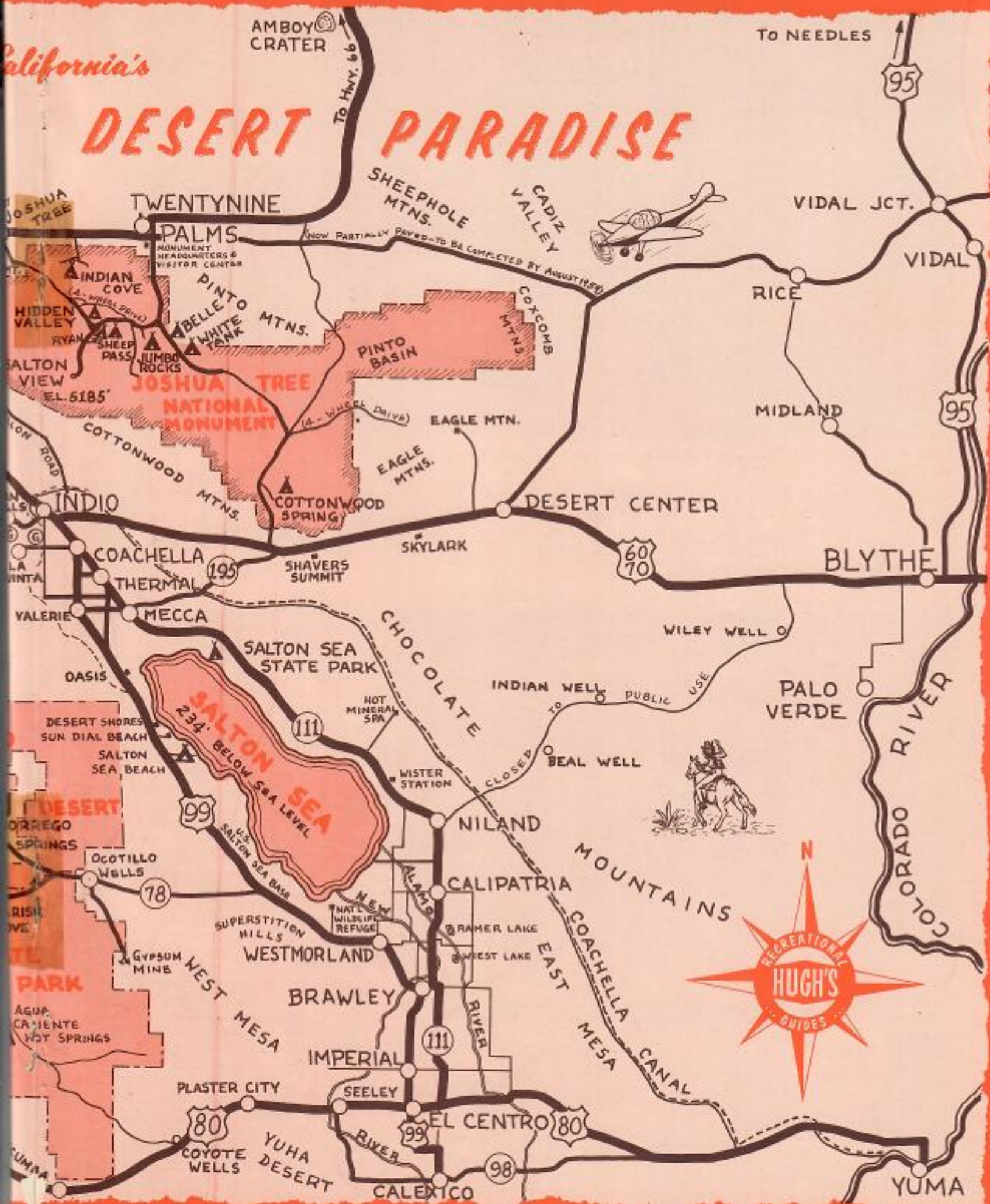
- PAVED ROADS
- SECONDARY OR DIRT ROADS
- RIVERS
- CAMPGROUNDS
- GOLF COURSES

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MAP NOT DRAWN TO EXACT SCALE

California's

DESERT PARADISE



INDIO



The colorful Arabian Nights Pageant is a spectacular evening attraction at the National Date Festival.

And The Enchanting

"Direct from
Ranch -
to You."

confections
d gift packs
a redi-dates
t butter
e bread



VAN B RANCH DATE SHOP



Try Our Exciting
New Product -
REDI-DATES



Phone Di 7-3056, 83-636 Hwy. 99, Indio, Calif.

THE COACHELLA Valley is a land with many blessings; it's the date capital of the U.S.A., a spectacularly successful agricultural development, and unquestionably one of the finest recreational areas in all the Southwest. Indio itself, long renowned as the home of the National Date Festival, has now added another jewel to its crown with the wonderful boating, skiing, fishing and hunting developed at the nearby Salton Sea. No other recreational area in the West can match its unusual combination of exciting activities. These sports are described fully elsewhere in these pages with special features, but there's far more to see and enjoy here than even this expanded coverage permits.

You'll find excellent motels, hotels and guest ranches in Indio and beneath the nearby date palms; their relaxed atmosphere and friendly western hospitality encourage visitors to linger far longer than originally planned. Fine restaurants, theaters, and many kinds of entertainment are only minutes away. Horseback riding, tennis, golf at the famous Cochran Ranch course — just name your sport or special interest and they'll produce it.

Many Festival visitors, for example, often stay on for days or weeks after the annual February event, combining their sightseeing tours with the many sports and activities to be enjoyed. The



You'll enjoy the scenic drives through the agricultural areas.

Coachella Valley

Indio Chamber of Commerce distributes a fine local sightseeing map listing dozens of interesting places that are all within easy driving distance.

If you like fishing, you'll just have to sample the exciting new Corvina sport in the Salton Sea, and any of the local sporting goods stores in this area can give you last-minute tips at the time of your arrival. The special feature on Corvina will give you the complete information you need to tackle these tasty scrappers, but it's still too new a sport to be completely documented. Check the classified index in the front of the guide for accommodations, stores, and service stations where you can obtain information, tackle and bait, gas and rental boats if needed.

Surprising as it may seem, there is also good fishing for such species as bass, catfish, bluegills and others throughout much of the Coachella Valley. Local sportsmen have developed fishing in the irrigation canals to a fine art; if you want to sample this unusual sport be sure to take your tackle along, and inquire at local sporting goods stores concerning the best locations and techniques at the time of your arrival.

No matter what your interests, you'll find plenty to see and do in Indio and the remarkable desert regions surrounding it. And Indio, like so many of its neighboring communities, has excitingly

(Continued on Page 59)



Dr. Hayes LODGE

- New Cottages, Furnished with Every Modern Appointment
- Heated, Filtered Swimming Pool — Spacious Grounds
- Putting Green — Ping Pong — Shuffleboard
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The public swimming pool offers warm-weather fun for the whole family.

You'll Enjoy The Desert



ART & STATIONERY MART

Artists & Photographers Welcome



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- ▶ CUSTOM PICTURE FRAMES
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- ▶ WESTERN GEM STONES
- ▶ MIMEOGRAPH INK & SUPPLIES

We'll Gladly Direct You To The Outstanding Scenic Areas In The Desert

Phone Forest 7-6221

6352 Adobe Rd., 29 Palms

WITH A fascinating history that dates back more than a hundred years, Twentynine Palms combines a proud past with a most exciting future. As the oldest, largest, and most completely developed of all the communities on the High Desert, it extends a warm welcome to every visitor. Modern shopping centers, fine restaurants, and inviting motels and inns make this progressive community an outstanding choice for weekends and vacations in the desert. Many who "just come for a visit" cannot resist the combination of appealing qualities it offers, and another happy traveler to Twentynine Palms is soon "converted."

This congenial desert community first began to gain fame shortly after the first World War, when veterans with various respiratory, arthritic, and other ailments requiring a high dry climate came here for relief. Twentynine Palms has grown steadily since then, and its progress during the last twenty years has been remarkable. Although its climate continues to attract those who can live comfortably in the desert, many residents in perfect health now live here entirely by choice.

The interesting Visitor's Center of the Joshua Tree National Monument, located in Twentynine Palms, makes this a convenient headquarters for exploring its scenic wonders. Evenings may be spent under the stars, enjoying the



You'll enjoy the exhibits and self-guiding nature trail at monument headquarters.

At Twentynine Palms

theaters, bowling, and other entertainment available for your pleasure. An interesting self-guiding tour of the monument (see page 10) will add greatly to your enjoyment of this area.

The fame of Twentynine Palms is widely known. Its remarkable climate, beautiful desert setting, and proximity to the fascinating features of the monument are all obvious advantages. Pleasantly situated at an approximate elevation of 2,000 feet, its sparkling smog-free atmosphere and warm sunshine add zest to all activities. And though not so obvious, its fine school system and recreational park are inviting features that communities twice its size would be proud to call their own.

A growing number of dedicated artists may also be considered as one of Twentynine Palms' most complimentary assets. Working in fields which permit them to live where they please, their choice of this area is most revealing. Art classes are scheduled throughout most of the year, and a visit to the local Art Gallery is a "must" for the artistically inclined.

Although space limitations obviously prevent the full story of this area's absorbing history appearing here, it is now available in book form. We're happy to recommend Lulu Rasmussen O'Neal's "A Peculiar Piece of Desert" to those

(Continued on Page 53)



29 PALMS SUPER MARKET

"Groceries And Meats At City Prices"

Open Friday Nights Till 9 P.M.

6355 Adobe Rd.

29 Palms, Calif.

The Desert's Most Complete
Shopping Center
Complete Variety Dept.
Desert's Finest
Vegetable Dept.
Choice Meats & Poultry
Featuring The Best
Name Brands In Food

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Twentynine Palms, Calif.

PIONEER DESERT

Serving The High Desert -



Above: This is the dove described by photographer Leatherman in the article, which lost all signs of fear in a few days.

Left: Here's the Desert Sparrow Hawk, shown with a grasshopper that has just been caught.

PIONEER DESERT BOARD OF REALTORS

WELCOMES YOU TO THE HIGH DESERT -

MORONGO VALLEY, YUCCA VALLEY, JOSHUA TREE

Plan Now To Enjoy All The Advantages

These Modern Communities Offer, Plus -

THE MOST HEALTHFUL CLIMATE IN THE COUNTRY

THE PUREST SOFT WATER TO BE FOUND ANYWHERE

YEAR 'ROUND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

ELEVATION AVERAGE - 3000 FEET

See Opposite Page For Members Qualified To Serve You

PHOTOGRAPHING

NATURE'S CRITTERS . . .

(Continued from page 15)

perform before your camera. It's well known that if you set a bountiful table you can expect many relatives to show up, and this is just as true with our bird friends. They respond remarkably well to kindness, water, and good food placed where they can find it.

Birds may be divided roughly into three groups; seed eaters, those that eat insects, and the flesh eaters. The insect eating birds often eat some insects and sometimes a small amount of fruit. Most seed eaters have strong, straight bills, while the insect eaters have slender beaks. Flesh eaters have strong, hooked bills curved at the tip. Many hawks and owls destroy many insects as well as mice, rats, and other small animals.

Knowing the usual diet of the bird you wish to photograph helps in selecting the bait for best results. Insect seed is fine for the seed eaters. However, finely chopped walnuts, peanuts, and stale doughnuts appeal to both insect and seed eaters. Suet or suet cake is popular with most birds. It can be made with finely-chopped suet, oatmeal, raisins, and nuts. Melt the suet and stir in the rest of the ingredients, then cool and shape into cakes. Be sure to chop everything up fine, so that the birds are able to grab a full meal at one time. They will return to give you additional opportunities to photograph them.

BOARD OF REALTORS

Morongo, Yucca Valley & Joshua Tree



Above: Note the tiny size of the baby Horned Toad (correctly named the Short-Horned Lizard) on photographer Leatherman's thumb.



Right: Looks like Mrs. Hummingbird has plenty of hard work ahead!

Hummingbirds can be photographed quite easily if you use a hummingbird feeder filled with sweetened water. It is made up of one part sugar to two parts of water, or one part honey to three parts of water. I also add several drops of food coloring to make the solution red, as this is attractive to hummingbirds.

Nearly all of the animals and some birds like cheese. Bacon, either cooked or raw, is also a favorite with desert inhabitants up to and including the coyotes and foxes. Nearly all of the rodents like peanuts and peanut butter, chopped walnuts, raisins and oatmeal. Many also like bird seed.

Insects such as butterflies, bees, wasps, and others can sometimes be attracted and kept busy at a flower long enough for the camera by using a drop of honey or sweetened water. There are also two other baits that can be used for moths, butterflies, and other hard-to-photograph insects. The first is a mixture of a pint of stale beer and a half cup of brown sugar. The second mixture consists of a pint of water, a half cup of molasses, and 5 tablespoons of Jamaica rum. Use either "recipe" you wish, but mix it well and let stand for 24 hours before using. Then apply the mixture to the rocks or other surfaces where you wish to work. If repeated on succeeding

(Continued on next page)

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The tiny western chipmunk is vivacious and appealing.



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(Continued from preceding page)

nights, the stations become more productive. The effects of the mixtures the insects are obvious, and while in condition they are less likely to be disturbed by the photographer working with his camera.

With any desert birds or animals, member not to make quick movements or loud noises. If you must move, move slowly and deliberately. I sometimes talk to my subjects in a low voice, which I believe tends to quiet their fears and make them curious. Never walk directly toward a bird or animal, or stare at it as this also seems to be frightening.

You can begin taking nature pictures with almost any camera you may happen to have, although some types and models are obviously better suited to the variety of requirements in the field than others. You should have some kind of flash equipment for best results. I use a 2 1/4 x 3 1/4 press-type camera for most of my black-and-white work. I also use a 35mm Exakta, often with extension tubes and bellows for extreme close-ups. The press-type cameras are very flexible in use, and offer easy methods for remote control. Cameras which can be used with a variety of lenses are desirable, but not essential. Long lenses permit a larger image on the negative without having to place the camera too close to the subject.

When your flash or strobe light is quite close to the subject, and the exposure properly adjusted for this short distance, the background sometimes tends to go completely black. This can be helpful or inappropriate depending on the circumstances, and you'll have to decide what you want to accomplish. Nests of some birds may be situated where they are always in deep shade even at midday, and artificial light provides the obvious answer for brilliant and sparkling photographs.

Some subjects are best photographed from blinds. Mine is made with a lightweight frame of half-inch tubing, and four feet square and five feet high. A blind will be stuffy if it is made too small. Put windows in it such as you find on the average tent, and an opening in the front for the lens to point through. If properly constructed, your blind will not be too heavy to carry while in the field, yet will be comfortable enough to provide many happy hours observing your desert subjects in their natural surroundings.

The field of nature photography is so large that a book would be required to cover all its aspects. Many of the techniques may be learned with a little study, others will come from your own experience.

Whatever your interests, remember always that you are the intruder on the natural scene and one who can become

(Continued on Page 49)

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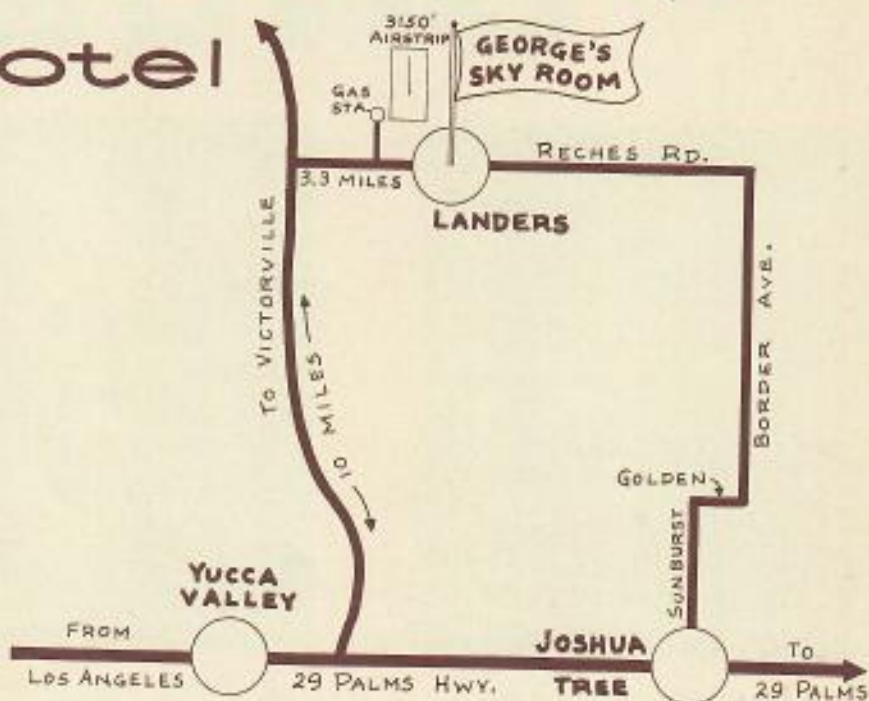
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COOL AND CLEAR . . .

(Continued from page 28)

An exciting new golf course nest beneath the rugged snow-capped mountains which loom in the distance. Yucca Valley's modern airport, lighted for 24-hour use, brings the Hi-Desert within a "commuting" distance of all of Southern California. New and modern schools assure the finest of educational facilities. This sparkling desert community is, in fact, exceptionally progressive for about 362 days a year. But then the old West returns; visitors should keep their palms close to their shootin' irons during Grubstake Days, May 8th, 9th, and 10th, 1959. During this gala weekend, Yucca Valley becomes the center of interest for the entire desert area.

This year, the festivities are planned around the Gay Nineties theme, with a wide variety of entertainment for your enjoyment. Those who have seen Grubstake Days in prior years will remember such activities as the impressive parades, gymkhana, beard-judging contests and the hole-in-one contest at Yucca Valley's fine golf course. The exciting quarter-midget races will be back again this year, and bigger crowds are expected than ever before. Be sure to bring the entire family, for there's plenty of fun for all.

The Spring of '59 will also find residents of the Hi-Desert working with "mountaineers" from the Big Bear La

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29 PALMS



Yucca Valley's fine golf course is open to the public.



The Grubstake Days Parade brings out a big crowd.

area to improve the road which joins these two popular resort regions. Named "Pioneer Pass" as the result of a recent contest, the road passes through some of the most beautiful sections of the desert and mountain areas. At present, the road is easily passable for a considerable distance from either end, but several miles just below the historic old Rose Mine are difficult or impassable for some passenger cars. April 18 and 19 are the dates set for the work project to improve this short stretch of difficult road. When the project is completed, Pioneer Pass will become a tempting alternate route for all who enjoy getting off the main highways and exploring this rewarding "back-country" region.

Enroute from Yucca Valley to Big Bear Lake, the road winds through some magnificent Joshua Tree forests, scenic mountain passes and valleys, and climbs steadily to the higher elevations. The old Rose Mine itself makes the trip worthwhile for the historically inclined. This is not a paved highway, but the splendid community spirit which is bringing about this needed improvement will help both the Hi-Desert and the San Bernardino Mountain area. Scenic and historical attractions along this beautiful drive will be available for all to enjoy.

The town of Joshua Tree, long renowned as the scenic gateway to Joshua Tree National Monument, now enjoys

(Continued on Page 50)



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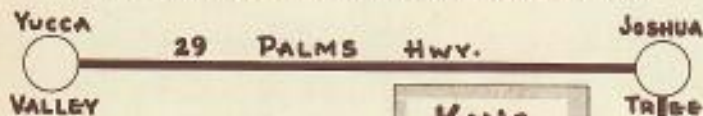
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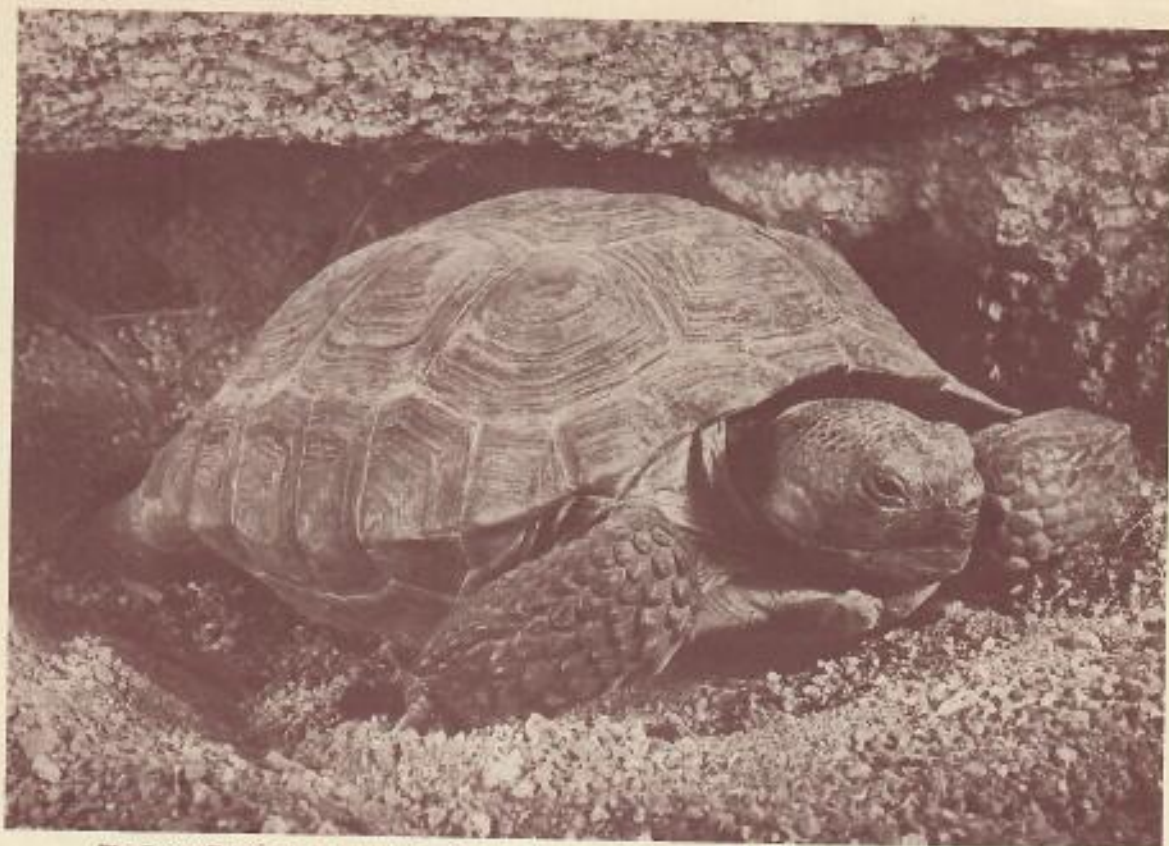
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The Desert Tortoise is an interesting character, most easily noticed during the Spring months when they are more active during daylight hours. They grow slowly, and a large tortoise with a shell a foot long may be more than twenty years old. Most of their water is obtained from the succulent plant tissues they eat, or is manufactured within their own bodies. The tortoise is shown here emerging from his burrow; they dig shallow summer homes, and more extensive winter burrows to meet their hibernating requirements. Enjoy them in the desert, but do not injure tortoises in any way or attempt to take them with you.

JOSHUA TREE . . .

(Continued from page 33)

starting pen in the center. So placing a turtle which seems determined to go south at the southern part of the starting pen does seem to make some sense. The first three turtles to reach the outer edge of the race track are the winners, and win, place, and show money is determined on a percentage basis from the entry fee for that particular race.

Each Spring, when the turtles emerge from their holes, Boy Scouts or other volunteers bring in plenty of turtles for the races. It is not necessary or even desirable to bring your own. Some individuals do bring their own entries, of course, supposedly guarding secret knowledge of what their "champion racer" is going to do. All entries are given identifying numbers at the race track with a special paint that does not injure the turtles, and other paints should not be used. Turtles may be selected free, from the corral, and "raced" as often as you like during the two-day celebration.

The 14th Annual Turtle Races will be held May 2 and 3, 1959. Festivities at Joshua Tree begin with the big parade at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, with the turtle races, barbecue dinner, dance, and other activities scheduled throughout the weekend. There's fun for every member of the family, so be sure to be there.

Located at an approximate elevation

(Continued on Page 49)



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The scenic drive into the monument via Joshua Tree travels through the beautiful Wonderland of Rocks.

JOSHUA TREE MONUMENT CAMPGROUNDS

You are invited to use and enjoy the picnic campgrounds located throughout the Monument. Camping is delightful the year 'round, although nights are sometimes cold in mid-winter. All campgrounds are provided with picnic tables, firewood and outside toilets. No light, water, or electricity connections for trailers. Cottonwood Spring is the only campground where water is available. Carry along your own firewood; none is available at the campgrounds and even the gathering of dead wood is prohibited. Picnic lunches may be enjoyed anywhere in the Monument, provided no fires are started and the area is left in a clean condition. Camping is restricted to the designated camping area and is limited to 30 days per year. See Joshua Tree Monument map on page 13 for further information. Elevations shown for the campgrounds below are approximate.

BELLE

Located 9.2 miles from Monument Headquarters in 29 Palms. Five improved campsites, no water or wood. Suitable for camping and small travel trailers. Elevation about 3,800 feet.

COTTONWOOD SPRING

Located 42 miles from Monument Headquarters near the southern border and highway 60-70. Ten improved campsites, good spring water, no wood. Camping gear must be carried a few yards to the sites. Cars and travel trailers should be parked on pavement in parking area. Elevation about 4,000 feet.

HIDDEN VALLEY

Located 13.6 miles from Joshua Tree via the northwestern entrance to the Monument. Ten improved campsites, no water or wood. Also an unimproved area suitable for informal group use by trailer clubs. Elevation about 4,200 feet.

INDIAN COVE

Located 3 miles south of main highway between Joshua Tree and 29 Palms. 14 improved campsites, no water or wood. 4 additional campsites in a separate section, available for groups by reservation. Educational self-guiding nature trail provided in the area; starts across from bulletin board. Elevation about 3,200 feet.

JUMBO ROCKS

Located 11.2 miles from Monument Headquarters at 29 Palms. Eighteen improved campsites, no water or wood. Elevation about 4,400 feet.

RYAN CAMPGROUND

Located 1/2 mile east of "Y" intersection in Hidden Valley. Primarily developed for riding and hiking groups, but may be used by others. Ten improved campsites, hitching rail, water to the site. Water must be provided by user. Elevation about 4,300 feet.

SHEEP PASS

Located 15.6 miles from Monument Headquarters at 29 Palms. This is a campground reserve for riding groups, and is available by request. Five campsites, no water or wood. Elevation about 4,500 feet.

WHITE TANK

Located 10.5 miles from Monument Headquarters at 29 Palms. Six improved campsites, no water or wood. Easy foot trail to photogenic Arch Rock here, and it is only a few hundred yards from the campground. Elevation about 3,800 feet.



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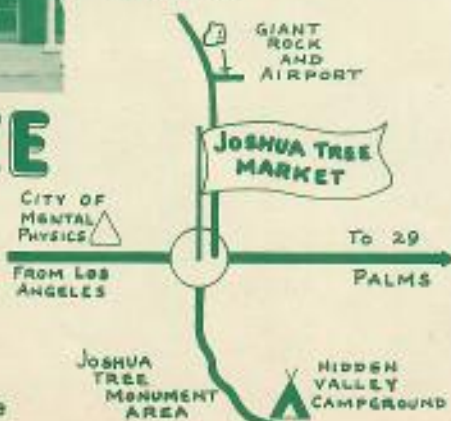
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JOSHUA TREE, CALIF.

JOSHUA TREE . . .

(Continued from page 47)

of 3,000 feet, Joshua Tree offers many advantages for visitors and residents during every season of the year. As the scenic gateway to many of the monument's most spectacular features, it is a popular headquarters for vacationists and weekend travelers. Fine motels, restaurants, stores, and other business services are handy for every necessity. If your interests include photography, you'll find Joshua Tree an excellent base for photographic tours. Many of the area's most photogenic attractions are nearby, and you can easily choose the time of day when the lighting is best for your favorite subjects.

No matter what your interests may be, you'll enjoy Joshua Tree's excellent climate and warm hospitality. Come for the Turtle Races and the Xmas Pageant, come for a visit anytime, or come to stay if you can. You'll have a wonderful time!

PHOTOGRAPHING

NATURE'S CRITTERS . . .

(Continued from page 42)

a welcome guest of the wee wild ones. Never do anything which would cause permanent harm to your outdoor models, such as disturbing birds from the nest so long that the eggs or young might be injured by temperature extremes. If you use your head before you click the shutter, you need never regret some thoughtless act.

Every creature on this earth has its place in the scheme of things, and nature photography can provide rich experiences and valuable visual records of your desert weekends and vacations. It's a challenging field, full of rewards, and always a lot of fun. Load up your camera and come on out soon; I heartily recommend the desert and its fascinating "characters" to you.



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COOL AND CLEAR . . .

(Continued from page 45)

an impressive population of permanent residents who love the desert and here to stay. Many visitors make Joshua Tree their headquarters while exploring the monument, returning to enjoy fine food, accommodations, and hospitality of this friendly community. The special events add much color for visitors and residents alike. The annual Turkey Races will be held here on May 2nd and 3rd, 1959. The Christmas Pageant always presented nightly during the week before Xmas. Both are described in detail elsewhere in these pages, and both will add much to your enjoyment.

And the monument itself is not only a special attraction offered to visitors in the Hi-Desert; golf, tennis, swimming, bowling, skating, horseback riding, and these and many other recreational pursuits are always more fun in the desert. If you take your outdoor exercise seriously, you'll enjoy the new riding and hiking trail through many of the most scenic portions of the monument. In the near future, this new trail will be joined with the existing sections of the California Riding and Hiking Trail. Check the map on page 13 for the location of the new trail system, and inquire at monument headquarters for details concerning its use. Park rangers will be glad to help you plan an exciting trip on horseback that few visitors have even thought

HIGH DESERT COUNTRY

Sky dwarfs this land,
As ocean dwarfs a liner.

Moonlight laves the valley floor,
Polaris spins the constellations
Past my open bed.

A meteor strikes green,
A coyote stalks the hill,
Wind pounds naturally.

No cynicism here —
Irony but no sarcasm,
Battles but no wars,
Death but no malice.

— Ted Carmack

about.

You'll feel welcome anywhere in the Hi-Desert. In this remarkable climate, folks live with less tension and have more fun; the irritations of city life just can't exist. It is, in the final analysis, the wonderful people of the desert who add the final touch of perfection. If you stay any time at all, it's impossible to remain a stranger.

What makes the Hi-Desert such an attractive place to live and play? Though we've tried to tell that story with words and pictures here, you'll have to become personally acquainted with this fascinating region and its wonderful people to completely understand its universal appeal.

All of the major highways into the Hi-Desert are safe and pleasant to travel; come one way and return another if your time permits. If you fly, the airport at Yucca Valley offers an inviting way to get acquainted. Just call any of the local motels listed in the handy directory on pages 6, 7, and 8 when you arrive; they'll gladly arrange your transportation to and from the airport.

Whether you like to ride and swim, play tennis, golf, or just relax amid beautiful surroundings — you'll enjoy the Hi-Desert. Its fine motels and guest ranches, good food, and nearby Joshua Tree National Monument provide an irresistible combination that's too appealing to be denied.

Stay wherever you wish; you're only minutes from most anything you'll want to do. There's a warm welcome waiting for you — maybe a new and excitingly different way of life. Come up and explore the Hi-Desert as soon as you possibly can.



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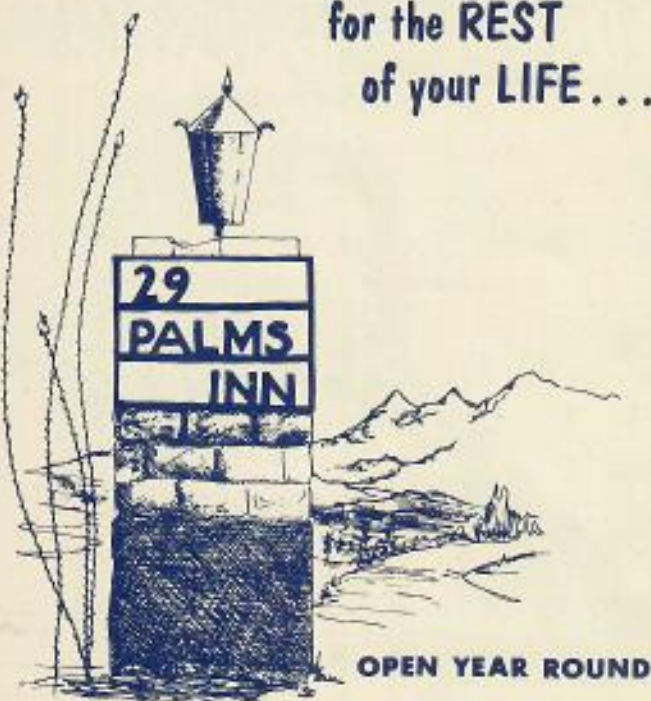
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SELF-GUIDING TOUR . . .

(Continued from page 12)

From the Visitor Center, take a mileage reading on your speedometer and drive south about 7.9 miles to the road junction where the signs appear. Note as you climb the slope from Twentynine Palms how the vegetation becomes more abundant, and that the variety of desert plants increases. Turn right at the junction, and drive 2.2 miles to the marked side roads to Split Tank and Ivanpah Tank. Both are near the highway, and take only a few minutes to see.

Take a careful mileage reading as you come back on the main highway, and continue west in the same direction. You'll pass Jumbo Rocks Campground, continuing on the highway to Squaw Tank turn-off at approximately 3.2 miles. There is only a small sign at the turn-off, and the side road is easy to miss while enjoying the scenery. Squaw Tank is about 5.5 miles south over a good graded road, and a pleasant drive for those who are seriously interested in the desert. The road passes through one of the more scenic regions of the monument, and also offers several points of interest. There is parking space and an easy place to turn around at Squaw Tank. On the far side of a large rock in the wash are several sections of concrete watering tanks, remnants of the days when cattle grazed here. The large water storage tank itself is just a few yards beyond, and is visible from the parking area. Built in 1934 by Bill Keys, these tanks were used for watering cattle and other livestock. On the opposite side of the parking area at the base of the large rocks, are mortar holes used by the Indians many years ago.

Travel beyond this point on this road is not recommended for visitors. While there have been some inaccurate reports locally circulated regarding the maintenance of this road to the edge of the monument, this is not so. The road is not maintained by the Park Service beyond Squaw Tank.

(Continued on Page 64)

TWENTYNINE PALMS . . .

(Continued from page 39)

who want to know more about this unusual region, and there are also other good historical sources locally available.

Equally appealing as a place to play or a place to live, Twentynine Palms extends a gracious invitation to all. Its attractions were summed up rather well recently by one old-timer who has watched this community grow for many years.

"Twentynine Palms is more than a swell place to live," he said with a sun-tanned grin. "It's really a way of life."



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see page 65



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BORREGO SPRINGS . . .

(Continued from page 18)

southeasterly direction to other points of interest in the state park. This drive makes a pleasant all-day outing, and here too a picnic lunch is most delightful. You'll find tables and campgrounds at several locations (see map) and may drive along the maintained roads as far as your time permits. Note that the map indicates roads which are suitable for passenger car use as well as those passable only to 4-wheel drive units.

As you drive effortlessly along the highways and byways of this scenic desert area, try to imagine if you could escape the trials and hardships which es-

ANZA-BORREGO STATE PARK CAMPGROUNDS

GENERAL INFORMATION: In addition to the campgrounds listed below, camping is encouraged in the primitive areas of this state park, but should be confined to dry wash bottoms and areas where barrels have been placed. Open fires are not permitted, but oil and gas stoves may be used. Gathering of any plant material, dead or alive is prohibited. Geological formations and wildlife are also protected by State Park regulations. In order to allow wildlife to approach water at night, camps should be at least 100 yards away from any well or spring. Do not leave paved roads to travel in the desert until you are fully informed of the conditions of the time of your arrival. Even then you should advise rangers of your destination and of return. Always carry water for emergency.

Dogs (except "Seeing Eye") are not allowed in state parks overnight. They are permitted between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m., but must be kept on leash.

BORREGO PALM CANYON CAMPGROUND

Located three miles west of Borrego Springs. Improved trailer spaces at \$1.50 per night plus campsite fee and trailer. Electricity 10c per day. 52 campsites at \$1.00 per car per night. Campsites have either gas plates or open stoves. Gas 10c per day; wood at park office. 47 picnic sites with tables, benches, etc., at 50c per car. Naturalist program in session from about Oct. 1 to May 31 each year.

TAMARISK GROVE CAMPGROUND

Located 12 miles south of Borrego Springs at junction of route 78 and Yaqui Pass road. 18 campsites with gas plates, tables, food lockers, and ramadas. Facilities may be used by trailerists, campers, or picnickers. Camping fees same as above.

BOW WILLOW CAMPGROUND

Located approximately 10 miles south of Borrego Springs. 10 campsites with tables, benches, ramadas, gas plates, and tent space. Water available. Pit toilets. Ranger on duty. Camping fees same as above.

SHEEP CANYON CAMPGROUND

Located approximately 15 miles northwest of Borrego Springs on the upper edge of Collins Valley. 3 primitive campsites with tables and shade ramadas. Pit toilets. No water available. Ranger on duty at nearby Sheep Canyon Ranger Station. Roads in this area suitable for 4-wheel drive vehicles.

BOX CANYON HISTORICAL AREA

Located 30 miles south of Borrego Springs on the Vallecito-Sweeney Pass road. Area has been developed around historical landmark commemorating the route of Mormon Battalion, Army of the West, and the Butterfield Overland Mail. Look-out point on trail. No water available. Parking lot and pit toilets. Primarily a picnic area, but camping is permitted. Blair Valley Ranger Station located near

travelers endured here. You can go farther in an hour than they could go in a long, hard day; and you have no food or water problems. Think of the difficulties of driving stock through the desert, trying to keep them alive with little water and forage. In those days the desert was often a place of suffering, where desperate men sometimes ate their own horses, in order to survive themselves. Today, the desert is a land of fun and healthful recreation, to which city dwellers happily escape for rest and relaxation. Such is the contrast between yesterday and today, in this land whose history affected the development of the West.

Many of the place names you encounter locally have historical significance, and it's unfortunate that space limitations prevent exploring this absorbing field. You'll find historical markers in a number of places, however, and these will provide a glimpse into the past. If history interests you greatly, you'll enjoy the area more if you read about the region's fascinating past before you come to Borrego.



Shaded ramadas are found in one section of the campground area at Borrego Springs. Another has excellent facilities for travel trailers.

Undoubtedly the sharpest contrast between yesterday and today is offered by Borrego's modern accommodations and fine airport. This popular resort area is only a few hours away from anywhere in Southern California by car—minutes by air—and it's a popular target for private planes and flying clubs. Many flyers enjoy looking over this part of the desert from the air, and then taking jeep trips into the remote areas to explore in detail its most outstanding attractions. There's a motel and ample tie-down facilities at the airport, and its paved strip easily handles planes as large as DC 3's.

In fact, nearly a score of motels and hotels offer a wide variety of accommodations, and more are now under construction. Borrego Springs is in the midst of a well-justified building boom, and its church and school facilities could proudly represent communities twice its size.

(Continued on next page)



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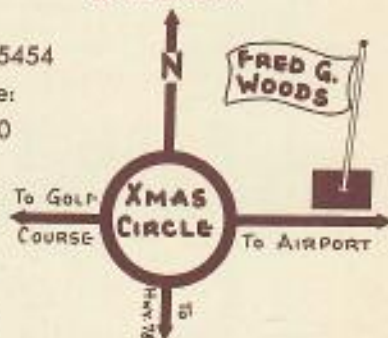
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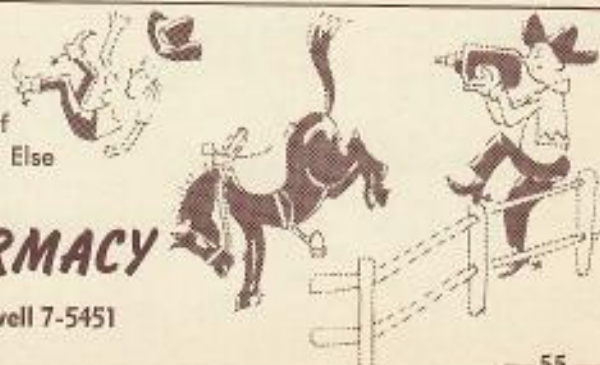
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Each star reflects
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My tears put comet's tails
On all the stars.

— Ted Carmack

BORREGO SPRINGS . . .

(Continued from preceding page)

Because of an unlimited supply of underground water, the valley has become an agricultural phenomenon. The table grape crop alone is valued more than a million dollars a year. Cotton, alfalfa, asparagus, grapefruit, tangerines, and other crops are continually being shipped to nearby and eastern markets. The winter of '59 also marked Borrego's first commercial crop of lettuce, which reached the market well ahead of other desert areas. This is indeed a versatile valley, bustling with vitality.



Agriculture plays an important part in the economy of Borrego Springs. In this sunny valley, cotton output is about twice that of many other areas.

If you haven't yet visited Borrego, you'll be pleasantly surprised by the wide range of accommodations and facilities. You can write or telephone for reservations, or enjoy camping under the stars at the state park. The park is operated on a membership basis, and visitors may arrange for a few rounds through the memberships of the motels or hotels where they stay. The attractions and facilities of the state park are open every day of the year.

From any and every angle, Borrego



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Desert lovers search the Borrego area for interesting types of cacti. (Photo courtesy of Union Pacific Railroad.)

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BAJA CALIFORNIA and the GULF?

... see page 65



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CORVINA FISHING . . .

(Continued from page 20)

We'd been kidding Harold about the relationship between snipe hunting and Corvina. For since the first fish was reportedly taken at the Sea by sport men, more than enough rumors have been flying around to convince many anglers that the snipe routine was a more honorable way to get attention. A good way to lose a real friend, it was said, was to tell him how you had caught some Corvina at the Sea. But honest fellow anglers and snipe hunters, you too can catch Corvina.

They don't bite every day—perhaps only because you can't always find the schools—but you haven't really lived till you've tackled and tasted fresh caught Corvina; they are without question the most delicious fish we've ever eaten.

Until now, only fragmentary and sometimes inaccurate information on this exciting new sport has been available. Some of the details are still to be filled in, but here's the latest and most complete report to date on how to catch Corvina at the Salton Sea. It's the result of lots of legwork, and the combined knowledge and cooperation of many individuals—plus the fine work of the California Fish & Game Department. Harold Gaston, Kirby Hester, Don Hughes, and many others with a deep interest in Corvina fishing have made this report possible.

You can catch Corvina with many different types of tackle, though salt water spinning gear is considered the most effective and efficient for the various techniques you'll want to try. Most of the anglers in our group used Mitchell 302's, and this is an excellent choice. Spinning rods are also ideal, but you can get by with surf or boat rods if necessary. You may lose a few more fish but if you hit a good school you'll soon have your six-fish limit anyway.

Boat fishing and shore fishing have both produced good results. From the standpoint of locating the Corvina, however, fishing from a boat offers a considerable advantage because of the ease and speed with which you can travel from one area to another. Whether fishing from a boat or on shore, it is almost always a mistake to linger too long in any area that isn't producing results. Corvina are a schooling species, and if you find them you'll have prompt action.

When you come to the Salton Sea, it's always a good idea to check with the nearby sporting-goods stores for the latest information. They'll be able to tell you when, where (and if) the fish are biting, and what method is working best at the moment.

When fishing by boat, you can either anchor or drift, depending on conditions. Not many sportsmen have apparently



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tried trolling, but that's a good method for Corvina in the Gulf of California where these fish came from. And it ought to pay off at the Sea too, when fishing is slow and you're having trouble finding fish. We anchored near one of the old radar markers, several miles out to sea and almost west of Bertram Siding. The technique we used was learned from Harold Gaston, and it really worked. First we fastened Hot Shot spoons, 3 to 4 inches long, directly to the end of the spinning line. If the fish are running large and you're losing spoons, add a short wire leader as terminal tackle for your line. The mouth of the Corvina is plenty rugged, and can weaken or cut the monofilament. With the larger spoons, however, they seldom take the spoon far enough into their mouths to expose the line to abrasion.

(Continued on next page)



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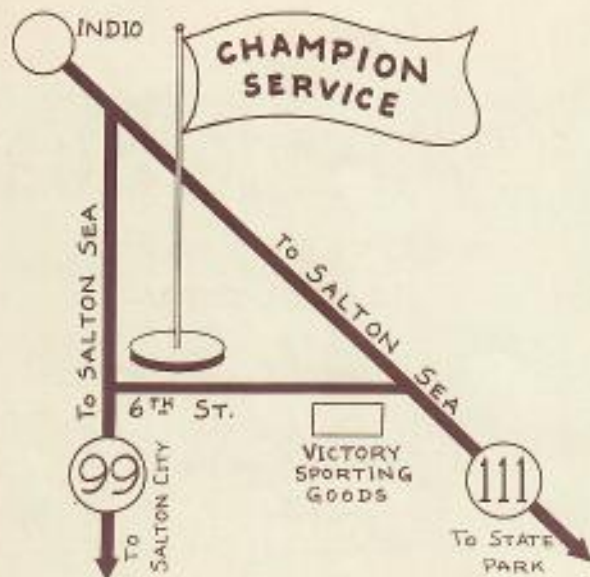
(Continued from page 37)

different attractions to match each season of the year. Choose your favorite sport or recreation, and come enjoy it soon. Indio and its graceful date palms will be waiting to welcome you.





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COACHELLA

(Continued from preceding page)

Cast the spoon out a considerable distance from the boat, and let it settle to the bottom. Keep your finger on the line all the way down, as they often hit the lure enroute. You'll have to strike immediately if you want to hook the fish. When the line goes slack, pick the spoon up off the bottom and reel in 10 to 15 feet, then let it settle back to the bottom again. This is repeated all the way back to the boat. You'll have to stay awake every moment; during the retrieve, while the spoon is settling to the bottom, and even when the lure gets quite close to the boat. They must follow it up and take it at any time.

Except for places like the radar marker where you've fished or the few rocky outcroppings, there are not too many snags on the bottom. When hooked in a clear area, a Corvina can be played as long as you like. You'll have to snub the runs where there are bottom obstructions, rocks, or risk losing many Corvina. They'll unbutton their hooks if they can.



The mouth of the Corvina is studded with tiny teeth which can break a hook in seconds.

A similar technique can also be used with live or dead bait, if you prefer, though we believe that artificials will produce more and better fish when properly handled. Perhaps this is because of the natural tendency of the fish to gulp down any cripples or stragglers, and the spoon definitely wobbling differently than the croakers and threadfin shad on which they normally feed. Whatever the reason, the Hot Shots really produce action for us.

The Salton Sea is a man-sized chunk of salt water offering 345 square miles of recreation. And since Corvina fishing is still such a new sport, we can offer plenty of advice about where to fish, but not nearly so much reliable information. In past months, the fishing off Whitewater and Salton Creeks has often been good, and Corvina has been taken along both shores in a number of areas. We've enjoyed excellent sport last November (1958) at the radar marker west of Bertram Siding. Other spots, such as the old salt works south of Bombay, have also been reported to produce good fish. We suspect that the Corvina are just as likely to be found in many other areas, and that the variations in their locations may be due to changes in food or oxygen supply, water temperatures, the spawning period, and a natural urge for travel. Most fishermen tend to go back where they've had good luck before, or to places they've heard about from others. None of us have time enough to fish all of the area, so it's logical that we'd be inclined to capitalize on what information is available.

We've got to admit that the crystal ball is still too cloudy to see through. With almost all of the fishing experience in the Sea jammed into less than a year's time, it

(Continued on Page 62)



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Boating & Camping Facilities Salton Sea Area

In addition to the listings shown here, there are now a number of new marinas being constructed along both shores of the Salton Sea. Specific information concerning their proposed facilities and completion dates had not been obtained at press time. Along the eastern shoreline between Salton Sea State Park and Bombay Beach are a number of undeveloped areas where small boats can be launched with husky help and some work, but the best spots for launching are the ones specifically listed below. Some areas have soft mud beneath an apparently solid surface; use care to avoid getting stuck in the undeveloped launching spots.

DESERT SHORES

Located 25 miles below Indio via highway 99, along the western shore of the Salton Sea. Motels, restaurant, beach, trailer park, and boat launching area. Three lane concrete boat ramp, suitable for outboards and inboards. Ramp, dock, and beach facilities — \$1.50 per day per boat. Gasoline and oil available. Boats, motors, and water skis for rent. Ski jump for public use. Ski races throughout the season; inboard races and time trials once or twice each year, usually in April and October.

NI-CAL SPORTSMEN'S RAMP

Located between Bertram Siding and Bombay Beach on the eastern shore of the Sea. Difficult to find without assistance. Boat ramp constructed with donations from local sportsmen in the Niland and Calipatria area. Suitable for small boats only, but nearest launching spot to radar marker where Corvina are sometimes caught. Do not leave litter in the area; express your appreciation for this free ramp by taking refuse with you. Boat trailers can be backed into the water over concrete slabs. Turn toward Sea off highway at exact point where there is a telephone pole marked with white streak on southern side; other nearby dirt tracks lead to Sea also, but have soft mud near edge which prevents their use. Suitable for use in dry weather only.

SALTON CREEK

Located at Salton Creek (see map) on Highway 111 along the eastern shore of the Sea. When coming south, cross Salton Creek on highway, then turn right on one of several dirt tracks leading to the water. Small boats may be launched with some difficulty, depending on weight and size of boat trailer wheels. Popular spot at certain times because of proximity to good fishing. No improvements here, and launching ease depends to some extent on weather. Suitable for use in dry weather only.

SALTON SEA BEACH

Located 28 miles south of Indio on highway 99, along the western shore of the Salton Sea. Restaurant, picnic area, excellent beach, and launching area for small boats. New motel facilities now available. Newly completed campground with 30 spaces for tents and trailers, which may be temporarily closed for improvements. Modern restrooms and showers. Store for camper's food supplies. Safe, shallow beach for swimming. Ping-pong, volleyball for youngsters. Boat launching, 50c per day. Interesting weekend programs, ski races, and other activities scheduled throughout the season.

SALTON SEA HARBOR

Located 28 miles south of Indio on Highway 99, between Sun Dial and Salton Sea Beach on the western shore of the Sea. Now under construction; concrete launching ramps scheduled for completion in May, 1959. When in operation, will offer gas and oil, boat storage, repair shop, boat and motor rentals and sales.

SUN DIAL BEACH

Located between Desert Shores and Salton Sea Beach, along the western shore of Salton Sea. Boating and water skiing facility. Launching area for small boats. Entrance fee, \$1.00 per day per car. Snack bar for refreshments. Boat repairs. Features boating and skiing events throughout the season.

SALTON SEA STATE PARK

Located 11 miles southeast of Mecca on highway 111, along the eastern shore of the Salton Sea. 25 improved campsites, with tables and ramadas. 25 picnic tables and ramadas on beach. Launching area and protected harbor for small boats. Modern restrooms, showers, and laundry tubs. Picnicking 35c, camping \$1.00, per car per day. Boat and/or boat trailer, 50c per day. Limit: 30 days per season. Dogs (except "Seeing Eye") are prohibited from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. every day. Unfortunately, this discriminatory and unreasonable anti-dog regulation usually prevents families with dogs from overnight or extended use of state park facilities. Mecca Beach, a short distance south of improved facilities, has an open beach area suitable for tents and travel trailers. Fair unimproved beach permits launching of small boat with some difficulty; other visitors are usually there to help with your boat on busy weekends. Outside toilets, no water or wood available.

WHITewater DRAINAGE CANAL

Located at the upper end of Salton Sea, reached via side road at Mecca junction on highway 111. South on side road to canal, then turn left on left side of canal over very sandy road to parking area about 50 yards from the Sea. Right side of canal (going south) is impassable. This is probably the worst of all named launching spots, and is not recommended for use. It is used by some local sportsmen, because of its proximity to periodically good fishing offshore. Most visitors will be well advised to launch at other areas and proceed to this area by water. You must slide or hand-carry your boat over yards of mud; boat trailers cannot be backed near the water. Not recommended for shore fishing.

FINNEY LAKE

Located three miles south of Calipatria via highway 111, (not on Salton Sea) a short distance from turn-off at north end of Alamo River bridge. A small campground with outside toilets, used primarily by duck hunters in season and at other times by anglers fishing in Romer Lake. Duck hunters stay at Finney campground, hunt at Romer Lake. Campers should bring their own water and supplies from nearby communities.

BOATING AND SKIING . . .

(Continued from page 21)

the biggest names in racing competing in the spectacular events scheduled throughout the season by the various resorts and boating organizations.

Even pleasure boating and water skiing are faster and more fun at the Salton Sea. Because your boat and motor also develop more speed and power under these favorable conditions, you can skim over the water at higher speeds. Water

skiers quickly discover that the Sea provides the most exhilarating combination of conditions their exciting sport produce.

When circumstances are favorable, surface of the Sea is as smooth as glass. There are no swells or breakers, there's plenty of room to ski as fast as you like. Water temperatures are always warmer and more comfortable than anywhere else in the Southwest. The gently sloping bottom of the Sea provides ideal conditions for learning how to ski safely—it makes take-offs and landings as easy as can be. Here really a boating and water skiing paradise, just a few hours drive from anywhere in the Southland.

You'll find well-developed resorts along the edge of the Sea. The state park also offers excellent beach and picnic facilities, and its marina is popular with boating and skiing enthusiasts. There are a number of new marinas at various stages of construction, and when completed they'll provide expanded facilities for the constantly growing number of visitors.

Hunting is one sport which may be seriously affected by the changes which will surely take place at the Niland, Brawley, and Westmorland. Convenient places for duck hunters to obtain supplies, food, and accommodations. The best duck and goose areas

(Continued on Page 64)



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SAN JACINTO AREA CAMPGROUNDS

Weather permitting, campgrounds in this area are open all year. Idyllwild and Hurkey are county campgrounds, others federal. Campfire permits are required for any type of fire, and may be obtained free at Ranger Stations. Fire danger is often extreme in this area; make sure your fire is always under control, and completely out when you leave. While a few of the smaller travel trailers may at times be able to negotiate some of the mountain roads to campgrounds listed below as unsuitable, this is not recommended without prior exploration by car alone.

BLACK MOUNTAIN

Located 16 miles north of Idyllwild off the Banning road. 19 stoves and tables, toilets, spring and piped water. Not suitable for house trailers. Fair mountain road. Elevation, 7,600 feet.

DARK CANYON

Located 9 miles north of Idyllwild off the Banning road. 24 stoves, 25 tables, toilets, spring and piped water. Fair mountain road, but not suitable for house trailers. Limit: 14 days. Elevation, 6,000 feet.

FULLER CREEK

Located 6 miles north of Idyllwild on Banning road. 15 stoves and tables, toilets. No space for house trailers.

HURKEY CREEK

Located 8 miles southeast of Idyllwild on Pines-to-Palms Highway, near Lake Hemet. 60 acres of camping space; best site for house trailers. Tables and stoves, toilets and showers, piped spring water. Caretaker. Supplies available at Hurkey Creek Store. Limit: 30 days. Elevation, 4,500 feet.

IDYLLWILD

Located 1/2 mile west of Idyllwild Ranger Station on Village road. Stoves and tables, toilets and showers, piped water. Space for house trailers. Caretaker. Elevation, 5,300 feet.

MARION MOUNTAIN

Located 8 miles north of Idyllwild off the Banning road. 28 stoves and tables, toilets, spring and piped water. Fair mountain road; no space for house trailers. Elevation, 6,300 feet.

PINE FLAT

Located 6 1/2 miles north of Idyllwild off the Banning road. 11 stoves, 16 tables, toilets, spring and piped water. Fair mountain road; limited space for house trailers. Elevation, 5,000 feet.

PINYON FLAT

Located 25 miles southwest of Indio and 15 miles east of Lake Hemet on the Pines-to-Palms Highway. 20 stoves, 25 tables, toilets, spring and piped water. Ample space for house trailers. Supplies available at stores near campground on state highway. Elevation, 4,000 feet.

LAKE FULMOR

Located about 11 miles north of Idyllwild on Banning road. Picnic area only, no camping. 16 stoves, 28 tables, toilets. Trout fishing in small lake adjacent to picnic area.

SAN JACINTO MOUNTAINS . . .

(Continued from page 30)

which constitutes the major portion of the State Park, is accessible only by foot and saddle trails. Devil's Slide and Deer Springs are popular access trails, and are usually in good condition. Other interesting trails also offer access on foot or horseback; see map for details.

The mountain area offers both lake and stream fishing for scrappy and delicious trout. Lake Fulmor is located

along the Banning-Idyllwild highway. Hemet Lake is larger, and located near highway 74 southeast of Idyllwild. Other privately-owned lakes offering good fishing are located in the mountains and along the highways approaching the area.

Dark Canyon and Strawberry Creeks are public streams, stocked whenever water levels permit. The North Fork of the San Jacinto River usually provides some of the area's most challenging stream fishing. Portions of other creeks may also be fished, though some flow through pretty rugged country. Always make local inquiry at the time of your arrival; local merchants can quickly advise you of the best fishing prospects during any season of the year.

Careful, considerate hunters are always welcome in the San Jacinto Mountains. While a number of species of game are found in various sections of the mountain area, deer and quail are two of the most popular. Much of the best hunting country is rugged and remote, and thorough preparation, some skill, and a little luck are usually necessary elements for bringing home a buck. Pack trips can be arranged with the stables, and are recommended. Several varieties of quail are found at the lower elevations around the base of the mountains near Beaumont, Banning, and other nearby communities. Local inquiry will save much time and effort; ask permission to hunt before entering private property.

Space limitations prevent a full description of all of the many wonderful recreational attractions of the San Jacinto Mountain Area. Golf, photography, nature study, inviting hot springs—these and dozens of other fascinating discoveries await your personal exploration and enjoyment. Every season of the year has its own particular charm. Spring wildflowers decorate the mountain slopes with unforgettable beauty and color; Autumn stages its own remarkable color show with the turning leaves. Many visitors feel that nothing else quite matches the beauty of freshly-fallen snow on the trees and floor of the forest. Summer, Winter, Spring, or Fall, you're sure to enjoy the San Jacinto Mountain Area. Plan to get acquainted as soon as you possibly can — you'll have a wonderful time!

HUNTING AND FISHING . . .

(Continued from page 22)

careful about soft spots. In some areas your car will sink right down to its framework if you get off the established roadway, even though the ground looks fairly solid.

The footing is treacherous in some of the duck hunting areas, and wading in the See can become actually dangerous if you aren't familiar with the region where you hunt. But there's no cause for alarm unless you try to hunt alone, a method that's better left to less hazardous areas.

Food and accommodations are available at Niland, Calipatria, Brawley, Westmorland, and other nearby communities. Since accommodations are sometimes hard to find during the peak hunting periods, it's a good idea to take along emergency camping gear if you haven't secured advance reservations.

Dove hunting is terrific in the desert; a large part of the annual bag taken in California usually comes from the Coachella and Imperial Valley areas. Pheasants are released from the Imperial Game Farm just ahead of the season, and the Coachella Valley Wild Game Propagation Club annually releases several thousand more birds they've raised for public shooting too. Desert quail hunting ranges from good to poor, depending on the area you hunt and whether you know the daily habits of your game. In the Indio area, the best quail populations are normally found in the Oasis and Mecca districts. In the high desert, quail coveys are more widely scattered, but if you can locate the water holes you can sometimes enjoy good sport in areas that are seldom hunted. It's best to learn this difficult sport with an experienced hunter if you can.

Trout fishing in the San Jacinto mountain area is another sport which should be investigated by every avid sportsman, since it's only a short drive from any part of the desert area. On page 31 you'll find a map showing the principal streams and lakes, riding and hiking trails, campgrounds and other features.

Canal fishing is probably the desert's least-publicized sport, yet it offers plenty of fun for anglers who enjoy channel cats, bass, and panfish. Of course the average fish taken from the canal aren't record-breakers, but channel cats up to 15 pounds have been caught; bass to six pounds or so, plus lots of panfish that seem destined for the frying pan. All are delicious to eat, and there's always the chance that you may tangle with a really large fish that will never be forgotten. This area falls under the liberal Colorado River regulations, which means that you can fish 24 hours every day of the year.

In most places, canal depths vary from 4 to 12 feet. Plug fishermen often use deep-running plugs in the daytime and surface lures at night. Bridges, curves, and other canal irregularities are good places to try. Best bet is to stop and ask about conditions at the time of your arrival at any of the sporting-goods stores from Indio to Brawley. They'll gladly tell you about any hot spots that have developed. Last Spring, for example, catfishing became so hot along the canal sections near Niland that it was almost unbelievable. Generally speaking, however, only the mid-winter months are slow by comparison, with any of the warmer months likely to produce good fishing.

(Continued on next page)

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HUNTING AND FISHING . . .

(Continued from preceding page)

You'll find large "No Trespassing" signs at practically every entry to the roads which run alongside the canals; these are ignored by local fishermen, but they're there for a reason. Although we didn't get it officially, it is our understanding that the "No Trespassing" signs serve primarily as a warning to relieve the local water companies of responsibility in case of drownings or any other accidents which might occur. The inherent danger is so great, in fact, that we do not advise anyone to go there. While the canal area may be fished safely by mature adults when proper precautions are taken, it is quite dangerous for irresponsible children. Never fish immediately above the tunnel siphons. Fish only on the downstream side.

Use extra care if you fish alone, for those parts of the canal with cement linings are impossible to climb out of. Take a rope along in case one of your party should fall in. Even the areas with earthen walls should be treated with respect; the canal currents are swifter than they appear, and the tunnels under the natural washes could easily drown the strongest swimmers. When safely approached, and treated with respect, the canal area offers good sport. We hope that if you choose to fish there on your own initiative that you'll have good luck.

Travel the roads with care, and stay away from gates and canal structures. Floating cans are a menace to canal maintenance. They may be pulled into the pumps, where they can cause much delay and expense. Leave no cans or trash along the banks, and you'll be just as welcome as the local sportsmen to enjoy this fine sport.

This is, admittedly, only an introduction to the exciting variety of fishing and hunting in the desert. But there's some kind of sport available every day in the year, and you can't try 'em all at once anyhow. Come on out to the desert for your favorite brand just as soon as you possibly can, and come back often. You'll find a warm welcome waiting for you.

CORVINA FISHING . . .

(Continued from page 60)

impossible to predict what the best fishing patterns will eventually turn out to be. Most of the local anglers we've talked with feel that the mid-winter months are the slowest, and that last October and November were really hot. Now that effective techniques for catching Corvina have been worked out, this Spring may also turn out to be most productive. Ward Gillilan (of the Fish & Game Dept.) says their research has indicated that Corvina spawn in the Sea at least as early as February, and as late as July. There's also evidence that these may be the peak months, but that some spawning also takes place throughout the period from late winter to early summer.

The Corvina are getting bigger all the time. Some anglers have already taken fish weighing more than 15 pounds. Our best Corvina during the weekend when these photos were shot weren't quite that heavy, and a number of smaller fish were also taken. Nobody knows just how big the Corvina in the Sea may eventually become, although the top weights may run 20 to 30 pounds. Generally speaking, the experience of the anglers we've talked with indicates that the larger fish are usually found in the deeper water areas, but this might not hold true at all during the spawning period. Limited numbers of Sargo have also been caught, and the catch on these may increase

after the artificial reefs are in place.

These reefs, which are scheduled to be established within the next few months (March or April, 1959) may help a lot in encouraging the fish population to "settle down" somewhat. There are now 300 old car bodies stockpiled at the U. S. Salton Sea Base, and when final approval is received they'll be dumped into the Sea at the locations indicated on the map on page 23. Such reefs have worked out well in other localities, and they should help get the fish and fishermen together. The Salton Sea map also shows the majority of the other landmarks you'll need for locating the fishing areas you'll want to try. The listing of boat launching facilities on page 62 should be helpful in planning your initial trips.

Fishing from shore can also be productive under favorable conditions, and it requires a minimum of time, tackle and effort. When shore fishing, stay away from the soft-bottom areas; the entire lower end of the Sea near the mouths of the New and Alamo Rivers, and near Whitewater Creek drainage canal at the northern end. Some pollution exists at these points, and the silt which is constantly being deposited makes the Sea extremely shallow and treacherous for some distance out. Wading is unpleasant in any of these areas, and could be dangerous.

The best areas for "surf" fishing extend from near the upper end of the Sea down to the restricted area at Salton Sea Base along the western shoreline, and down the eastern shore as far as Bombay Beach and slightly below that point. Good results have been enjoyed in many places along the eastern shoreline, perhaps primarily because there are a large number of easily accessible places to reach the Sea. The resorts along the western shoreline offer good access on that side.

The shoreline of the Sea tapers out to deep water very gradually in most places, so that it is often preferable to wade out some distance to fish. Last May, many anglers took Corvina on spoons around the inshore areas where the fish were spawning. During all of the warmer months the water temperature is quite comfortable, of course, and during the daytime hours in summer, you'll undoubtedly be happier in the water because of the extremely hot air temperatures. You can fish the Sea 24 hours a day, every day of the year, but we have no information on the effectiveness of night fishing at present.

If you use artificials, try various speeds and depths on the retrieve until you find the right combination. Cast out in a definite pattern to cover all of the area around you, and move on to another spot if you don't get prompt results. If you prefer to use live or dead bait, cast it out as you would an artificial, but don't work it as actively. Reel

(Continued on Page 66)

BOATING AND SKIING . . .

(Continued from page 62)

normally found along the bottom of the Sea from the Wister area south around the lower edge of the Sea to Westminster and beyond. There is no public access road to the Sea at the U. S. Salton Sea Base, and this area is not open to the public for boating or hunting. The increasing number of sportsmen who hunt at the Salton Sea bring along their families, and drop them off for a relaxing visit at one of the resorts along the Sea.

So take your choice—boating, water skiing, hunting, fishing, or just relaxing—but don't wait any longer to discover for yourself the wide variety of exciting sports awaiting your personal participation at the Salton Sea. Here's one of the Southwest's finest recreational areas: come on down and enjoy it so.

AS WE SEE IT . . .

The Salton Sea is a wonderful recreational area, which should continue to attract people with many interests for years to come. In view of widespread publicity which has appeared in recent months, however, we do feel obliged to report the truth about the Sea as we see it. Most of the months of the year are excellent for skiing, but because the Sea is such a shallow body of water for its size, it does cool off rapidly as winter approaches. Many ski enthusiasts find that water temperatures are too cold for their pleasure during mid-winter, though you always find a few rugged characters who seemingly don't mind it. Mid-summer is terribly hot, though this is less discouraging to most skiers than the cold.

In our opinion, the Salton Sea isn't Acapulco of anywhere; it is one of the best water-sports areas during many months of the year, but far from ideal in mid-winter and mid-summer. Then there's the matter of minerals and salts in the Sea. They're carried out of the farmlands and into the Sea by waste irrigation water of the area. The salinity of the water is now about the same as the ocean water, but is increasing slightly each year. Scientists say that perhaps within as little as 25 years the Salton Sea may become so heavily mineralized to support game fish. This may also make boating and skiing less desirable in the years to come.

Some people have already invested in property or in new businesses in the area. We suggest that all who are concerned in such matters investigate thoroughly the true long-term value of their particular interests. The Salton Sea is unchallenged for many of its recreational activities, but its desirability for year-round living should be carefully weighed by each individual.

SELF-GUIDING TOUR . . .

(Continued from page 53)

You may return to the main highway via the same road used to reach Squaw Tank, and the beauty of the area is more obvious going in the other direction. As you start up the graded road, you may be able to pick out Balanced Rock on the left, which is about a quarter of a mile off road at the nearest point. While not as spectacular as some balanced rocks in other parts of the country, it is of interest to many visitors. The slopes to your left may also be seen only readily accessible volcanic feature in the monument.

When you reach the highway again, check your mileage, turn left and continue west. About nine-tenths of a mile, you'll come to

(Continued on Page 66)



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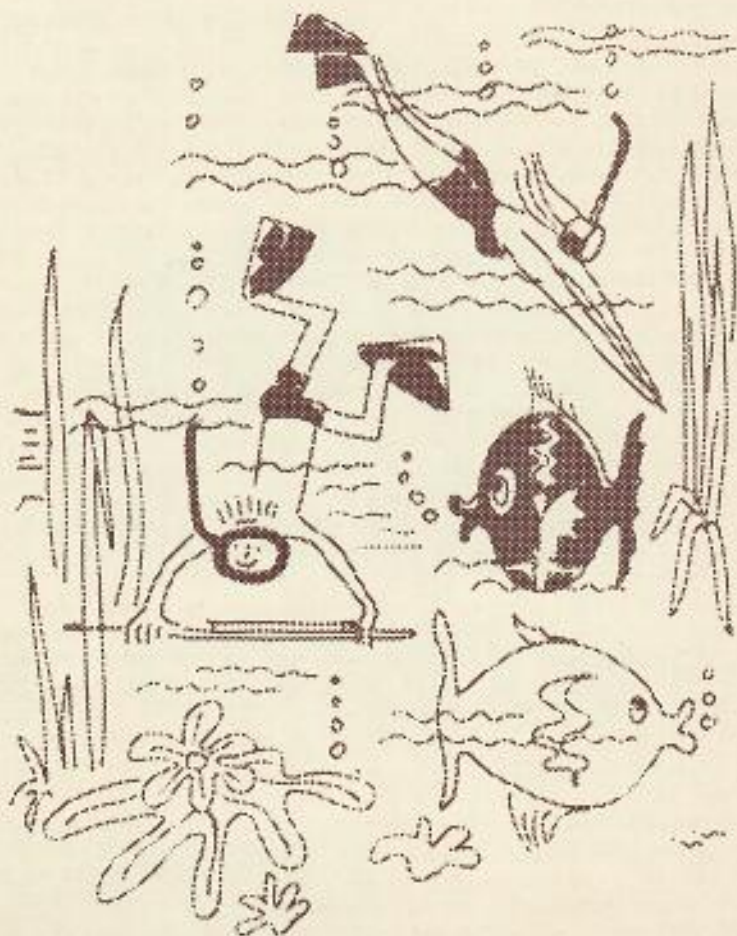
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IZZATA CACTUS . . .

(Continued from page 27)

would logically seem to be members of the cactus family, but are actually related to the lily. The Joshua Tree is easily the most imposing member of the yuccas, and is considered by many to be the most spectacular tree in our desert area.

So it goes with each and every living plant in the desert. All have an interesting story to tell, if you have the curiosity to seek it out. The vegetation of the desert is entirely different from that found anywhere else in the United States. Its most unusual plants offer an exciting challenge to photographers who enjoy capturing on film the strange and outstanding individuals of each species. The Ocotillo shown here is such a plant; it is not typical, of course, but is the largest and most vigorous in appearance of any we've discovered in the desert.

If you like the desert, perhaps you'll enjoy it even more as you begin to know and identify the courageous plants which grow here in the face of adversity. Spring is a time of much activity and pleasure in the desert; the cacti and wildflowers are unforgettable, and the colors seem to carpet the floor of the desert in many regions. And at its various altitudes, the desert is also enjoyable at virtually every season of the year. You'll find much to wonder at, much to learn and enjoy whenever you can visit the desert. Come on out soon and get acquainted.

CORVINA FISHING . . .

(Continued from page 64)

in a few feet of line every minute or so to attract attention. Few baits will stay alive long in the Sea, no matter how active they are initially. However, they'll continue to take fish anyway if you keep them moving from time to time. We have a personal preference for artificials, of course, but fishing with bait can also put plenty of meat in the frying pan.

With some game fish, the sport of catching them is by far the most attractive part of the whole deal. But not Corvina. They not only put up a commendable scrap, but will be long-remembered at the dinner table. Corvina of every size are fare fit for the king's taste, and you can easily become "addicted" to their delicious flavor. We prefer to fillet the fish as you would a fresh-water bass, and enjoy the first wonderful meal right there on the beach as soon as it can be prepared. Cook 'em any way you like, or even take some home for the freezer if you must; you just can't spoil the incomparable flavor of Corvina. Come on down soon and prove it for yourself!

SELF-GUIDING TOUR . . .

(Continued from page 64)

large "photogenic" Joshua Tree beside the highway. Here's a good spot for pictures of your car and family beside an impressive Joshua, and

this one shows the comparative sizes well.

Continuing along the highway, you'll find the parking area for Indian Cave on your left, at approximately 3 miles from the speedometer reading at Squaw Tank turn-off. The cave site itself is only a few yards from the parking area, and a detailed report of its historical significance is outlined there by the Park Service. The information is interesting, and is recommended to all visitors.

No exact mileage reading is necessary from this point as you continue along the highway past Ryan Campground to the road junction about 3 miles beyond Indian Cave. When you reach the junction, you have several alternatives. Your choice may be made in line with your interests; how early in the day you got started, and how much time has been used up so far. There's a natural history trail around behind the large rocks at the junction. Hidden Valley and the campground named for it are less than 2 miles beyond the junction, on your right. This is a good spot for a picnic lunch or for camping overnight.

If your schedule indicates sufficient time before lunch or dinner, you can turn left (south) at the junction and proceed to Salton View. Here you'll enjoy a vast panoramic view of the surrounding desert and mountains. On a clear day you can even see all the way to Mexico. The most important features to be seen from this viewpoint are easily located by sighting through metal tubes along the guard wall, and the detailed information about each attraction is written below the tubes.

When you have returned to the junction near Hidden Valley, you will have completed this section of the tour. Depending on your own time schedule, you may then explore Hidden Valley, return for meals and accommodations to Joshua Tree or Yucca Valley via the road which passes through the Wonderland of Rocks, or camp at Hidden Valley overnight.

JOSHUA TREE TO COTTONWOOD SPRING

When you are ready for this section of the tour, you may make some allowance for things you have or haven't yet seen on the other section of the tour. If you are starting with this section, you'll find many camera opportunities in the Wonderland of Rocks section on your way to Hidden Valley. From Hidden Valley, travel the main highway through the monument to the junction near Belle Campground, which is directly south of Twentynine Palms. Take a mileage reading at this junction and travel south. You'll soon come to the side road for Belle Campground, and continue on the main highway to White Tank Campground, about 2.7 miles from the junction. Turn left on the campground road, then left again into the campground area itself. Drive through the campground to the point where the trail sign indicates the way to Arch Rock. It is only a few hundred yards along the trail. There is interesting descriptive information at Arch Rock, posted by the Park Service. Striking photographs of Arch Rock against the contrasting sky are most easily made with a wide-angle lens. It is situated among the other rocks in such a way that it is difficult to photograph the entire formation with a normal lens.

When you return to the highway (no mileage reading necessary) and continue toward the southeast, you begin descending into the historically significant Pinto Basin. Here primitive men once lived beside an ancient lake, perhaps 9,000 years ago. When the lake dried up they had to move on, but evidence of their years here have been discovered. Pinto points and other stone artifacts have been found along the shoreline of the lake. Embedded along the shoreline were also the fossilized bones of camels, horses, antelope, and other animals.

If you view closely the plants and shrubs around you as you drive, you'll notice the changes which elevation and other contributing factors bring about. As you descend, observe how suddenly the chollas become the predominant cactus growth. There's a parking area and

a self-guiding nature trail on your right shortly after entering the cholla area. The trail booklet will identify the various species and their peculiarities, and the short trail takes only few minutes to complete.

As you continue along the highway, observe once again how the Ocotillo has suddenly become a major shrub. Beyond Fried Liver Wash the unimposing but hardy Creosote Bush comes predominant. Each of the desert's many trees, shrubs, and other vegetation find certain conditions ideal for their growth. Here they are at their best. In other places, rainfall, a tundra, or soil conditions may make life difficult or even impossible.

When you come to the Old Dale Road turn-off, about 22.6 miles from your original speedometer reading at the junction, stop a moment and check the map. The road which leads away to your left passes through much of the old mining region. It presents an interesting alternate return route, but only those who like old mines and who do not mind driving over bad roads. While this road is usually passable for experienced desert drivers, it should not be attempted in the heat of summer, and preferably not without a preliminary inquiry at monument headquarters to determine its current condition. Only a portion of the road is within the monument, and there are soft sandy stretches and some steep, narrow and rough road conditions to be traveled before you return to the Baseline Highway east of Twentynine Palms.

Take a mileage reading at this point, and continue along the main highway to Smoke Tree Wash at 1.7 miles. Here conditions are favorable for the Smoke Trees, and there are many all along the wash. The name comes from its appearance when viewed from a distance then it appears like a cloud of smoke because of the ashy gray color of the branches.

Five miles beyond Smoke Tree Wash is turn-off for Cottonwood Spring, a true desert oasis and one of our favorites. The parking area is just a little less than a mile off the highway and the side road is paved all the way. Here you can enjoy the stately Fan Palms, clustered around the spring itself, along with towering Cottonwoods and a number of other trees and shrubs. Shaded picnic tables and camps among the trees urge you to linger at this beautiful spot. There is always water here; it is the only campground in the monument blessed, and its isolation and distance from other attractions of the monument make it even more restful for those who really want to get away from it all.

Cottonwood Spring offers a fitting climax for this self-guiding tour, and from here you may return to the High Desert or to your home by a number of different ways. Routes 60 and 63 are reached via a short drive south over a paved road. You may also return via the monument highways, or choose to travel through the old mining area to Twentynine Palms if your interests dictate and road conditions are favorable.

We hope that you have enjoyed traveling Joshua Tree National Monument, and that you will return again and again to enjoy the desert at its best. Drive safely, and come back soon!

Beginning with this edition of Desert Paradise we are pleased to announce that copies of our publications may be obtained from the hundreds of sporting goods stores all over Southern California. As in past years, copies may also be obtained from our advertisers, from selected newsstands, and from the publisher.

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