

GUIDE'S COMMENTARY AND RESUME OF STATIONS

(note to Guide: Read this to your group at the start and then re-read each Station (site) again as you arrive at it and remind them they may ask questions of the SSMPA Station Guide. Also, please make notes on the attached blank sheet (first put your name & phone # on it)..jot down your comments and your group's as you go as to most common questions, most impressive part of trail, problems, least impressive part of trail, ask what community group is from...anything you think helpful-thanks) READ FOLLOWING TO GROUP:

" The following are stations along the trail where we will stop and hear something about the history and significance of the site:  
(Before #1)-GEOLOGY - Significant geologic history of the area (maybe)

#1.- PICTOGRAPHS - Ancient Indian paintings on the rocks and geology of area  
Please stay on foot path.

#2.- ROCK QUARRY - Rocks for the San Pedro harbor were quarried here in 1890

#3.- COMMISSARY FOUNDATION - Evidence indicates this was the commissary used by the quarry workers. Stay clear of cellar area.

#4.- LOWER CISTERN - Built to store water, possibly overflow from a spring higher up on the hill.

#5.- LARGE CISTERN - Used as water storage for the way-station (site #6). Also description of plant life in area. Note view of valley from here including Devonshire, old church and general direction of stage trail.

#6.- SPANISH BUILDING FOUNDATION - The site of "La Cuesta", the Mountain Station where fresh horses were obtained for the harrowing trip up the Devil's Slide (site #8).

(#6½) NATURE TALK - Wildlife of area & owl's nest.

#7.- BOTTOM OF DEVIL'S SLIDE - Note Southern Pacific Railroad Tunnel leading under Santa Susana Mountains for a mile exiting in Santa Susana. Also speaker will discuss Fire Ecology. ..Please use trash cans placed along trail. To make donations which may help us preserve these sites simply leave your donation at one of several places where you see a sign "SSMPA LAND TRUST FUND"..ANY AMOUNT from 10¢ to \$10,000 will be most gratefully received.

#8.- DEVIL'S SLIDE - Learn about the chaparral and native plants as well as the colorful and somewhat 'infamous' history of this rugged part of the trail. This was bandit territory. Watch your step.

#9.- PLAQUE - RUTS - SPANISH TRAIL - Be sure to read the plaque and listen to the explanation of the ruts and trail visible from here.

#10.-PROMONTORY- Sit down and enjoy the general view from this promontory. A guide will be here to answer any questions you have regarding what you have seen as well as a SSMPA INFORMATION BOOTH & DISPLAY where you may express your thoughts and ideas about SSMPA and the Stage Trail and obtain further information about SSMPA and it's activities. Now is the time to find out what you can do to help save this trail and if you haven't already given a donation you will find someone happy to help you here. There is also an Audobon Student Naturalist booth here to serve you. A few steps further will bring you to the refreshment and souvenir area. Rest and chat a while. When you are ready to descend return to the information booth area where guides will take groups back down. We hope you have enjoyed your visit. Membership forms are available here and at the park entrance. Watch your newspaper for articles about our big turn of the century "Country Fair" and parade as well as other activities.

Thank you for coming

I wrote this - (David M.)