

Project 1. Selkirk Historical Trailhead Restoration April - May 2022

The Historical Conservation Subcommittee of owners restored the trailhead and chimney area with new authentic 1800s style zigzag fencing along Selkirk Ranch Road and within the enclosure along the original dilapidated fence post lines. The post and wire fence along the 4th fairway and between Selkirk and the fairway was replaced using existing post holes. The Selkirk Ranch area was enhanced by encircling it with a zigzag fence, exposing the root cellar area, and defining the footprint of the home in wood. In this way the chimney will be protected from potential degradation from trail walkers. Further, new interpretive signs replaced the damaged ones, including a new map of the complete trail at the entrance. A new Historical Preservation Brochure and Trail Map were created. Finally, based upon the City Fire Marshal's request, brush and dead tree limbs were removed without ground disturbance along the eastern edge of the enclosure near homes.

Project Leader Steve Wilcox was assisted by Scott Blevins and Mike Dwight with fencing, Scott Blevins with metal signposts, and Darryl Stretars and Bob Beeding with brush and tree limb clearing. Steve Archer took the lead with interpretive signs design and implementation and the trail guide, and Susan Barich created the brochure. Thank you all for your support!

Before



After



Trailhead at Selkirk Ranch Road



Before

Selkirk Ranch House and Chimney

After



Junction of Trail and Smith Flat Wagon Road Looking South – New Fencing

The Native Americans One of the oldest village sites in California, dating to at least 10,000 years ago, is located only 8 miles down the Angels Creek drainage from Greenhorn Creek. Although there is no evidence of their presence here, the site is likely a village site located within Greenhorn Creek. The site is likely a village site located within Greenhorn Creek. The site is likely a village site located within Greenhorn Creek.

About one thousand years ago, the climate became dryer and warmer, causing population shifts throughout California. The site is likely a village site located within Greenhorn Creek. The site is likely a village site located within Greenhorn Creek. The site is likely a village site located within Greenhorn Creek.

The Gold Rush and After The discovery of gold in California in January of 1848 forever changed life in the Sierra Nevada foothills. Angels Camp was one of the earliest and largest Gold Rush camps and the major Angels to Stockton road passed through Greenhorn Creek. Located just west of the Mother Lode gold vein, however, gold mining here was limited to hopeful prospecting and some hand working of placer deposits by Chinese miners.

The history of Greenhorn Creek is closely intertwined with one ranching family, the Selkirk who came in 1836 and then children and grandchildren. The beautiful stone chimney, built of local riverstone masonry in 1862, marks the homestead of David and Perina Selkirk. Early on, David was blinded in a hunting accident, leaving Perina, their four daughters, and Ah-San, a Chinese worker, to run the ranch. Sarah Jane Selkirk married James McCauley, and they continued to run the ranch after the death of her mother. Perina. Two of their three sons operated a dairy on the ranch until the 1950s, after which the land was used for grazing until Greenhorn Creek developed the property.

Greenhorn Creek's

First Residents

History

Greenhorn Creek

Discover a Wealth of Human History in the Heart of Gold Country

The hearth chimney, remnant of the Selkirk family home built in 1862.

Site Stewardship

Successful protection of Greenhorn Creek's historic resources depends on a partnership between several parties:

- The City of Angels Camp
- The staff of Greenhorn Creek Golf Course
- Qualified Archaeologists
- The residents of Greenhorn Creek

Formal monitoring of the PCR area is undertaken each year. It is of utmost importance, however, that people who daily live and work at Greenhorn Creek are actively involved in making sure that these historical areas are treated with respect and preserved for future generations.

If any resident or staff member notices any evidence of mismanagement to the PCR areas, an infraction of the Protection Policies or known of any threat to their preservation, they should immediately contact the City of Angels Engineer, Rebecca Nelson at 916-822-3953 or RNelson@ciangelscamp.com.

Archaeological Preservation

Archaeological sites contain remnants of human history which are treasured remnants of the past. Disturbance of artifacts on the ground or sub-surface can destroy pieces of the puzzle, weakening our ability to reconstruct our historical evolution.

Please help us preserve our rich heritage.

Greenhorn Creek

Angels Camp, California

Archaeological Preservation

Greenhorn Creek counts among its many assets its archaeological sites that preserve the history of both thousands of years of Native Americans and the past century and a half of modern immigrants. These sites are important for several reasons:

- It is rare that sites such as these have survived to the present day.
- The sites contain the unique human history of the Greenhorn Creek property, and
- The sites are important to living peoples as treasured remnants of the past.

An archaeological site can be thought of as a jigsaw puzzle: the elements can be reassembled to give us a picture of past lives and events. The physical position of artifacts on the site—both on the surface and underground—provides vital clues needed for interpretation. Disturbance of these fragile surface patterns or underground layers, or removal of any material from a site, destroys a part of the puzzle. Once these disturbances are made, the original context can never be reconstructed.

Protective Policies

As part of its commitment to the preservation and interpretation of its cultural resources, Greenhorn Creek placed its most important historic sites into Protected Cultural Resource (PCR) areas, donated to the City of Angels Camp. A commitment to protect these sites was formalized in an agreement with the National Advisory Council of Historic Preservation. The locations of these PCR areas are shown on the map below and a short description of each follows.

PCR-1: Taboret Center and Milling Station. This is the largest village site in Greenhorn Creek and was likely a tribal center up to the time of the Gold Rush. A large, flat rock containing 44 milling holes in which acorns and other foods were ground with stone pestles by women of the community. No trespassing is allowed.

PCR-2: Selkirk Historic Preserve. This encompasses the 1836 home site of the Selkirk family and includes remains of the house, office, rose court, and Stockton-Angels road. This area is a public, interpretive park. There are abundant artifacts around the chimney that may be picked up freely for inspection and then placed back where they were found. Visitors are prohibited from collecting artifacts, removing artifacts from the site, digging, using a metal detector, defacing the stone chimney, cutting vegetation, or climbing on or disturbing the stone walls.

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Preserving the Region's Historical Evolution

The Miners

When gold was first found in California in 1848, placer prospectors flocked here to "pan color" from the many streams in the Mother Lode, including Greenhorn Creek. Unfortunately, by 1855 the panning for surface gold had petered out.

A major quartz strike, the Davis-Winters Lode, was discovered between Atholville and Angels Camp in 1854. The strike initiated hard-rock mining in the area. This development was hampered by low-grade ore with sulphurates and the effort needed by the early 1860s.

Advanced mining and milling techniques spurred a boom starting in the 1880s. The Union, Angels, Lightner, Nickle, Selkirk, Gold Cist and Fritz mines were most productive through the 1920s. In total, more than 1.5 million dry ounces of gold were mined in the Angels Camp area worth more than \$2.7 billion today.

The Native Americans

One of the oldest villages in California, at least 10,000 years old, is located eight miles down Angels Creek from Greenhorn Creek. The four village sites within Greenhorn Creek, however, all date to within several thousand years ago. The largest was a tribal center, while the small ones may have been seasonal hunting camps.

About 1,000 years ago, the climate became dryer and warmer, causing population shifts throughout California. The Mi-Wuk people are thought to have arrived in our area at this time. The Mi-Wuk used the acorns as a staple, creating multiple grinding holes in rock outcrops for producing flour. Plants were collected, and fish, fowl and deer were taken for food. Tribes - alliances of family groups - were created but disbanded during the spring, following deer to the high country. They gathered together again in their winter village sites. The Calaveras Band of Mi-Wuk Indians consists of descendants of those early people.

The Settlers

Henry Angel, the founder of Angels Camp, set up a trading post in 1848 to support the multinational influx of miners. A year later the population was 300, with over 100 being Chinese placer prospectors. By 1855 with the discovery of the main Mother Lode vein, the town had swollen to 4,000 with saloons, hotels, groceries and dry goods stores, as well as a church and school.

Agriculture arrived, raising stock and working market gardens on the open grasslands to support themselves and the miners. This development was hampered by the false external perception that the area was mostly rocky and infertile.

It was into this environment that David and Perina Selkirk came, staked a claim, and built their first cabin in 1856.

Protected Cultural Resources Preservation Guide

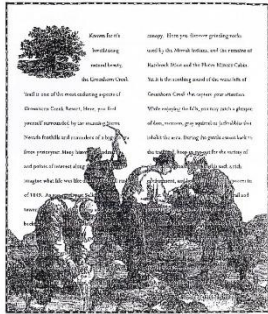
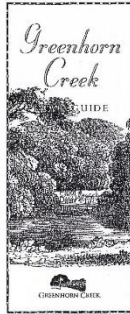
Before

After

GREENHORN CREEK TRAILS
HIKING DISTANCES

1. Selkirk Ranch	8.63 miles
2. Stone Corral	0.10 miles
3. Church	0.10 miles
4. End of Springhouse Rd	0.16 miles
5. Wetlands	0.31 miles
6. Miner's Cabin Ruins	0.97 miles
7. Greenhorn Creek	0.75 miles
8. Harbuck Mining	0.89 miles
9. Waterfall-Big Rock	0.98 miles
10. Hunting Camps	1.11 miles
11. Vegetation	1.22 miles
12. Trailhead to Trailhead	1.69 miles

GREENHORN CREEK
700 W. Selkirk Ranch Rd., Selkirk, CA 95212 • 530.724.1900 • www.greenhorncreek.com



On the far I can't read the picture, but I assume it is the same as before.

UPPER TRAIL (SELKIRK RANCH RD)

This trail starts at the Selkirk Ranch and ends at the Selkirk Ranch. It is a public trail and is open to the public. It is a public trail and is open to the public. It is a public trail and is open to the public.

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Greenhorn Creek

HISTORICAL SELKIRK TRAILS GUIDE & MAP

UPPER

LOWER

PROTECTED WETLANDS

GREENHORN CREEK

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GREENHORN CREEK TRAILS

HIKING DISTANCES

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PROTECTED WETLANDS

GREENHORN CREEK

UPPER TRAIL (SELKIRK RANCH RD)

LOWER TRAIL (SMITH FLAT RD)

PROTECTED WETLANDS

GREENHORN CREEK

Historical Selkirk Trails Map

UPPER TRAIL (SELKIRK RANCH RD)

LOWER TRAIL (SMITH FLAT RD)

PROTECTED WETLANDS

GREENHORN CREEK

UPPER TRAIL (SELKIRK RANCH RD)

LOWER TRAIL (SMITH FLAT RD)

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GREENHORN CREEK

Selkirk Historical Trail Guide and Map