UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
INDIAN BURIAL GROUNDS NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 0-35

PART 1

PROPOSED MONUMENT
INDIAN BURIAL GROUNDS ETC

IMPORTANT

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ARNO B. CAMMERER,
Director.
May 1, 1934.

Hon. George Burnham,

House of Representatives.

My dear Mr. Burnham:

Reference is made to your letter of April 6, in regard to lands in San Diego County, California, which you have requested be set aside so that a detailed investigation can be made of them.

This service has made a detailed study of the areas described in your letter and, although they possess certain features of historical interest, it is felt such features are not sufficiently significant in our national history to warrant giving them a national park or national monument status.

Accordingly, it is not considered proper for this service, at this time, to request that the lands in question be withdrawn from public entry with a view to bringing them into the national park and monument system.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) ARNO E. CAMMERER

Arno B. Cammerer,
Director.
Superintendent of Dept. of Parks,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

About sixty miles from San Diego, on the desert slope, there are two large valleys, which are well supplied with water. One is the Mason Valley, the other the Vallecitos Valley. The greater portion of these two valleys are unoccupied, and at one of them, the Vallecitos, we have recently established a six acre San Diego County Park, and have restored the old Butterfield over-land Stage Coach Station, and development is going along rapidly.

Formerly there was a large amount of game in this area. The restoration and Park project was originated and sponsored by Mrs. Strahlmann and myself, and we are very anxious to establish in these two valleys a Game Refuge. We believe it would be an ideal place for quail, partridge, pheasant, deer, antelope, mountain sheep, and other animals, which have been almost wiped out here by hunters since the advent of the automobile. As these two valleys slope directly to the timbered mountains of Cuyamaca and Laguna, practically every climate from the desert to the snow area is represented. The Residents in the Vallecitos are anxious to cooperate in this, and should like to know how we may bring this about. It would even be easy to construct a small lake for migratory water birds.

If this letter is not addressed to the proper authorities would you kindly forward to them and have them reply. We would prefer to have this a National rather than a State Refuge. This section is of great Archaeological and Historical interest, and some of the finest Indian specimens in the Museum have been unearthed in this country.

Any assistance you render us would be greatly appreciated.

Very sincerely yours,

Louis Strahlmann, M.D.

LS/RM
Mr. Ben H. Thompson  
Acting Chief, Wildlife Division  
Room 4157, National Park Service  
Washington, D. C.  

Dear Ben:

In reply to the letter of Louis Strahlmann of December 31, which has gone astray in the mail, I would say that the refuge which he proposes in Mason and Vallecitos valleys is, in my opinion, of state park rather than national park caliber.

This area is near my former home at Escondido and I have visited it several times. As stated, there are many features of historical and of archaeological interest; I am not so enthusiastic as to its possibilities as a game refuge.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Joseph S. Dixon
Indian Burial Grounds Natl. Monument, Calif.

General:
Location: In San Diego County, in twps. 13 and 14 south, ranges 7 and 8 East.
Area:
Ownership: Public land

General Characteristics:
(a) Scenic:
(b) Historical: Used by San Diegueno Indians for burial grounds. Also two stage coach stations of interest are included, the "Old Butterfield Stage Station" and "Old Carrizo Stage Station."
(c) Geological:
(d) Recreational:
(e) Biological:

Accessability:

Interested Individuals:

Reports
First brought to our attention by letter from Cong. Burnham dated Feb. 12, 1934, to Secy. Ickes, enclosing letter from Mr. J. H. Johnson, requesting the Congressman to introduce legislation for the preservation of these sites.

In reply, the Secy. stated that this matter has been considered by the Park Service, and G.L.O. and while it presented some interesting problems of history which have been briefly investigated, it is not believed desirable to proceed with any plans until more is known about each of these historical areas. He suggested that Mr. Johnson supply us with further information and pictures of the areas in question.

2/24/34.

H.R. 1994 and 1995 have been introduced by Mr. Burnham to provide for the selection of certain lands in Calif. for use of Calif. State Park system.

Action