

---

National Park Service  
Cultural Landscapes Inventory  
2005



Modoc War Historic District  
Lava Beds National Monument

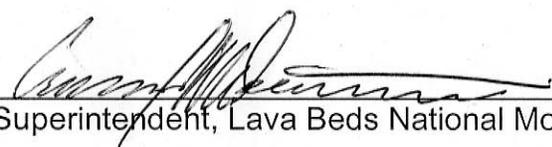
---

# Cultural Landscape Inventory: Modoc War Historic District

Lava Beds National Monument concurs with the general findings of this Cultural Landscape Inventory, including the Management Category and Condition Assessment as listed below:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY B: **Should be preserved and maintained**

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: **Fair**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent, Lava Beds National Monument 5-19-05  
Date

*Please return this form to:*  
Erica Owens  
CLI Coordinator, Seattle Office  
National Park Service  
909 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Floor 5  
Seattle, WA 98104

## MODOC WAR HISTORIC DISTRICT (Proposed)

### LAVA BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT

#### California SHPO Eligibility Determination

##### Section 110 Actions Requested:

- 1) SHPO concurrence with the Determination of Eligibility of the proposed Modoc War Historic District for listing on the National Register,
- 2) SHPO concurrence that the Setting, as identified in the CLI, contributes to the significance of the district.
- 3) SHPO concurrence with the addition of structures to the List of Classified Structures (LCS). (See chart below)

1)  I concur,  I do not concur with the proposed Modoc War Historic District's eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

2)  I concur,  I do not concur that the **Setting** as described in the CLI contributes to the Modoc War Historic District (see the following landscape characteristics: natural systems and features, spatial organization, views and vistas, and topography).

3) The following structures, located within the proposed historic district, are **already listed** on the National Register as contributing elements:

LCS number	Structure Name	NRIS Number
007658	Captain Jacks Stronghold Fortifications	73000259
007657	Hospital Rock Army Camp Fortifications	73000227
058653	Thomas-Wright Battle Fortifications	78000366
058650	Gillems Camp Cemetery Wall	75002182
058651	Gillems Camp Howitzer Circle	75002182
007656	Gillems Camp Sentry Posts/Fortifications	75002182

Based on the information provided in the CLI, the following previously unevaluated structures have been identified as **contributing** to the Modoc War Historic District:

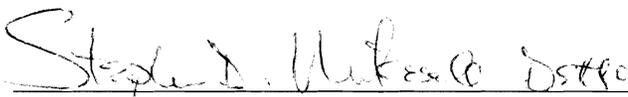
LCS number	Structure Name	Date Built	Concur	Do not Concur
441484	Other Battlefield Stacked-Rock Fortifications	1873	X	
441485	Gillems Bluff Trail	1873	X	

Based on the information provided in the CLI, the following previously unevaluated

structures have been identified as **not contributing** to the Modoc War Historic District:

LCS number	Structure Name	Concur	Do not Concur
058652	Canbys Cross is a reconstruction that is managed as a cultural resource.	X	
NA	CCC Water Tank on Schonchin Rock	X	
NA	Fee Station at Gillems Camp	X	
NA	Kiosk at Captain Jacks Stronghold	X	
NA	Rock Wall at Thomas-Wright Battlefield Overlook	X	
NA	Vault Toilets at Captain Jacks Stronghold and Gillems Camp	X	
NA	Overlooks: Devils Homestead Overlook, Thomas-Wright Battlefield Overlook, West Wildlife Overlook	X	
NA	Roads: Main Park Road, Lyons Road, North Entry Road, and Road to Schonchin Butte	X	
NA	Parking Lots at Captain Jacks Stronghold, Gillems Camp, Hospital Rock, and West Wildlife Overlook	X	
NA	Contemporary Trails: Schonchin trail, trail to Thomas-Wright Battlefield, trails through Captain Jacks Stronghold, trail to Hospital Rock, trails through Gillems Camp, walkway to Canbys Cross, and West Wildlife Overlook path	X	

Reasons/comments why any 'Do Not Concur' blocks were checked:

 Stephen D. Weber

9/28/05

California State Historic Preservation Officer

Date 9-26-05

Please return forms to the attention of:  
Kimball Koch  
Cultural Landscape Program Lead-Oakland  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Regional Office-Oakland  
1111 Jackson St. Suite 700  
Oakland, CA, 94607  
(510) 817-1398  
kimball\_koch@nps.gov

---

## Table of Contents

	Part 1
General Introduction to the CLI .....	1
Park Information.....	3
Property Level and CLI Number .....	3
Inventory Summary .....	3
Landscape Description .....	4
Hierarchy Description.....	5
Location Map .....	6
Boundary Description.....	7
Site Plan.....	8
Chronology.....	10
Statement of Significance .....	19
History .....	Part 2a
1872-2004 .....	1
Analysis and Evaluation .....	Part 3a
Summary .....	1
Natural Systems and Features.....	2
Spatial Organization.....	7
Views and Vistas.....	8
 	Part 3b
Topography .....	1
Archeological Sites.....	8
Buildings and Structures .....	17
Circulation .....	19
Management Information .....	Part 4
Descriptive and Geographic Information .....	1
Boundary UTM .....	1
National Register Information.....	2
Cultural Landscape Type and Use.....	5
Ethnographic Information .....	5
Adjacent Lands Information .....	5
General Management Information .....	6
Condition Assessment and Impacts.....	6
Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access .....	9
Treatment.....	10
Approved Treatment Cost .....	10
Stabilization Costs.....	10
Documentation Assessment and Checklist.....	12
Appendix .....	
Bibliography .....	13
Supplemental Information .....	22
Additional Maps:	
A) Site Plan (11x17)	

---

---

B) Table #1 Archeological Sites with Known, Reported, or suspected Modoc War Components

C) Table #2 Terms Applied to Stacked Rock Features by Historical Sources

---

## Executive Summary

### General Introduction to the CLI

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) is a comprehensive inventory of all historically significant landscapes within the National Park System. This evaluated inventory identifies and documents each landscape's location, physical development, significance, National Register of Historic Places eligibility, condition, as well as other valuable information for park management. Inventoried landscapes are listed on, or eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places, or otherwise treated as cultural resources. To automate the inventory, the Cultural Landscapes Automated Inventory Management System (CLAIMS) database was created in 1996. CLAIMS provides an analytical tool for querying information associated with the CLI.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures (LCS), assists the National Park Service (NPS) in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, NPS Management Policies (2001), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management (1998). Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report on an annual performance plan that is tied to 6-year strategic plan. The NPS strategic plan has two goals related to cultural landscapes: condition (1a7) and progress on the CLI (1b2b). Because the CLI is the baseline of cultural landscapes in the National Park System, it serves as the vehicle for tracking these goals.

For these reasons, the Park Cultural Landscapes Program considers the completion of the CLI to be a servicewide priority. The information in the CLI is useful at all levels of the park service. At the national and regional levels it is used to inform planning efforts and budget decisions. At the park level, the CLI assists managers to plan, program, and prioritize funds. It is a record of cultural landscape treatment and management decisions and the physical narrative may be used to enhance interpretation programs.

Implementation of the CLI is coordinated on the Region/Support Office level. Each Region/Support Office creates a priority list for CLI work based on park planning needs, proposed development projects, lack of landscape documentation (which adversely affects the preservation or management of the resource), baseline information needs and Region/Support office priorities. This list is updated annually to respond to changing needs and priorities. Completed CLI records are uploaded at the end of the fiscal year to the National Center for Cultural Resources, Park Cultural Landscapes Program in Washington, DC. Only data officially entered into the National Center's CLI database is considered "certified data" for GPRA reporting.

The CLI is completed in a multi-level process with each level corresponding to a specific degree of effort and detail. From Level 0: Park Reconnaissance Survey through Level II: Landscape Analysis and Evaluation, additional information is collected, prior information is refined, and decisions are made regarding if and how to proceed. The relationship between Level 0, I, and II is direct and the CLI for a landscape or component landscape inventory unit is not considered finished until Level II is complete.

A number of steps are involved in completing a Level II inventory record. The process begins when the CLI team meets with park management and staff to clarify the purpose of the CLI and is followed by historical research, documentation, and fieldwork. Information is derived from two efforts: secondary sources that are usually available in the park's or regions' files, libraries, and archives and on-site landscape investigation(s). This information is entered into CLI database as text or graphics. A park report is generated from the database and becomes the vehicle for consultation with the park and the

## SHPO/TPO.

Level III: Feature Inventory and Assessment is a distinct inventory level in the CLI and is optional. This level provides an opportunity to inventory and evaluate important landscape features identified at Level II as contributing to the significance of a landscape or component landscape, not listed on the LCS. This level allows for an individual landscape feature to be assessed and the costs associated with treatment recorded.

The ultimate goal of the Park Cultural Landscapes Program is a complete inventory of landscapes, component landscapes, and where appropriate, associated landscape features in the National Park System. The end result, when combined with the LCS, will be an inventory of all physical aspects of any given property.

## Relationship between the CLI and a CLR

While there are some similarities, the CLI Level II is not the same as a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR). Using secondary sources, the CLI Level II provides information to establish historic significance by determining whether there are sufficient extant features to convey the property's historic appearance and function. The CLI includes the preliminary identification and analysis to define contributing features, but does not provide the more definitive detail contained within a CLR, which involves more in-depth research, using primary rather than secondary source material.

The CLR is a treatment document and presents recommendations on how to preserve, restore, or rehabilitate the significant landscape and its contributing features based on historical documentation, analysis of existing conditions, and the Secretary of the Interior's standards and guidelines as they apply to the treatment of historic landscapes. The CLI, on the other hand, records impacts to the landscape and condition (good, fair, poor) in consultation with park management. Stabilization costs associated with mitigating impacts may be recorded in the CLI and therefore the CLI may advise on simple and appropriate stabilization measures associated with these costs if that information is not provided elsewhere.

When the park decides to manage and treat an identified cultural landscape, a CLR may be necessary to work through the treatment options and set priorities. A historical landscape architect can assist the park in deciding the appropriate scope of work and an approach for accomplishing the CLR. When minor actions are necessary, a CLI Level II park report may provide sufficient documentation to support the Section 106 compliance process.

## Park Information

**Park Name:** Lava Beds National Monument  
**Administrative Unit:** Lava Beds National Monument  
**Park Organization Code:** 8410  
**Park Alpha Code:** LABE

## Property Level And CLI Number

**Property Level:** Landscape  
**Name:** Modoc War Historic District  
**CLI Identification Number:** 725048  
**Parent Landscape CLI ID Number:** 725048

## Inventory Summary

**Inventory Level:** Level II

### Completion Status:

#### Level 0

Date Data Collected - Level 0: 7/1/1998  
Level 0 Recorder: Bright Eastman  
Date Level 0 Entered: 7/1/1998  
Level 0 Data Entry Recorder: Bright Eastman  
Level 0 Site Visit: No

#### Level II

Date Level II Data Collected: 5/12/2004  
Level II Data Collection: Shaun Provencher, Erica Owens, Doug Wilson  
Date Level II Entered: 1/20/2005  
Level II Data Entry Recorder: Shaun Provencher, Erica Owens, Doug Wilson  
Level II Site Visit: Yes  
Date of Concurrence: 5/19/2005

#### Explanatory Narrative:

Field work for this cultural landscape inventory was completed following a two-day scoping meeting (May 10-11, 2004) that included PWR and park staff.

## Landscape Description

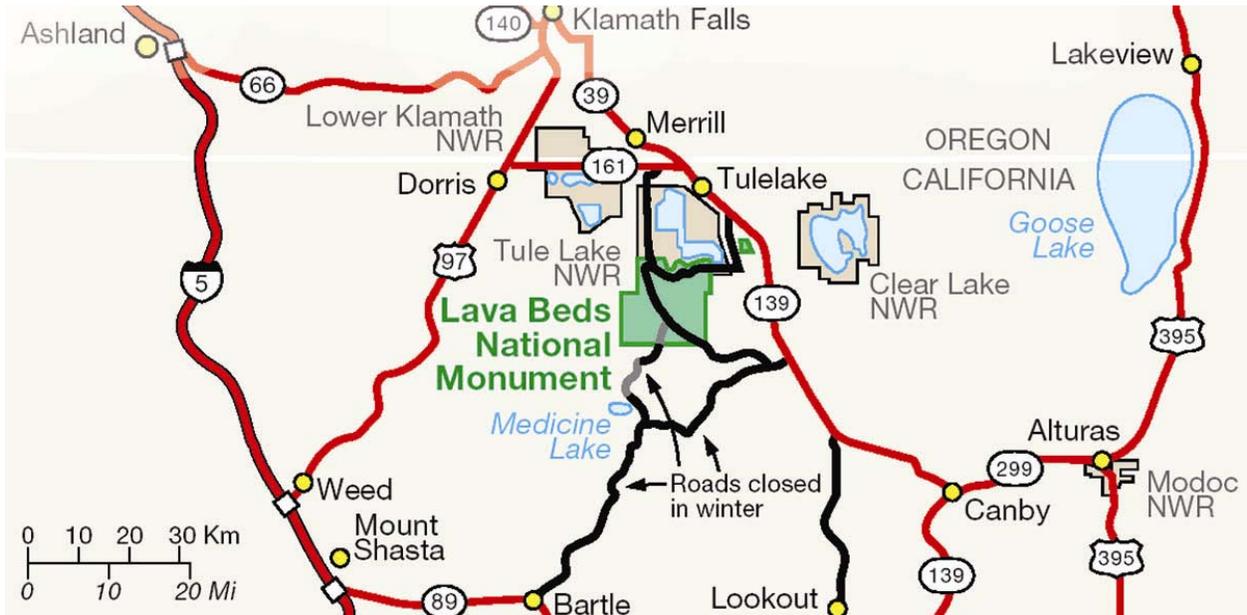
The Modoc War Historic District, located within Lava Beds National Monument, is set within a high elevation, semi-arid grassland containing lava tube caves, cinder cones, spatter cones, and lava flows. The district encompasses approximately 16,764 acres within the northern half of the monument as well as three discontinuous locations: the Petroglyph Point Unit of the monument, the Caldwell Ice Caves, and Captain Jacks Ice Cave. The boundaries of the district are drawn to include a large portion of the lands where battles and events associated with the Modoc War occurred. The major battle sites encompassed by the district include the locations of the first and second Battles for Captain Jacks Stronghold and the Thomas-Wright Battlefield. Also included are two important U.S. Army encampments, Gillems Camp and Hospital Rock, and the Modoc encampment, Captain Jacks Stronghold.

The period of significance is 1872 - 1873, beginning with the events at Lost River Camp that caused the Modocs to flee to the Stronghold and ending with the surrender of Captain Jack seven months later. Due to minimal development of the area since the war, the nature of the battlefield structures, and the sparse vegetation, the proposed district possesses historic integrity. The remaining landscape features are the hundreds of rock walls built during battle by both the U.S. Army and the Modocs, but also include natural rock outcroppings, caves, lava flows, and ravines that became critical defensive and offensive positions during battle. The landscape characteristics that contribute to the significance of the district are natural systems and features, spatial organization, views and vistas, topography, and archeological sites. In addition, one non-contributing structure (Canbys Cross) is compatible with the historic significance of the district and is managed as a cultural resource. The area discussed in this inventory contains a number of CCC-period historic resources. These will not be discussed in this inventory but will be addressed, park-wide, at a later date through another cultural landscape inventory.

## **Cultural Landscapes Inventory Hierarchy Description**

The Modoc War Historic District is a landscape that does not contain any component landscapes. (Component landscapes are smaller physical units within the larger landscapes that are individually eligible for the National Register and warrant individual documentation to adequately record their physical character and significance.)

## Location Map



The Modoc War Historic District is located within the Lava Beds National Monument in northern California.

## Boundary Description

The boundary for the Modoc War Historic District roughly encompasses the northern half of Lava Beds National Monument as well as three discontinuous locations: the Petroglyph Point Unit of the monument, the Caldwell Ice Caves, and Captain Jacks Ice Cave . This boundary is intended to include all archeological sites and features directly attributable (or likely attributable) to the Modoc War, as well as those landforms (or portions thereof) that played a direct role in the events of 1872-1873, under a single district whose significance is determined exclusively for Modoc War related criteria.

### Primary Monument Portion

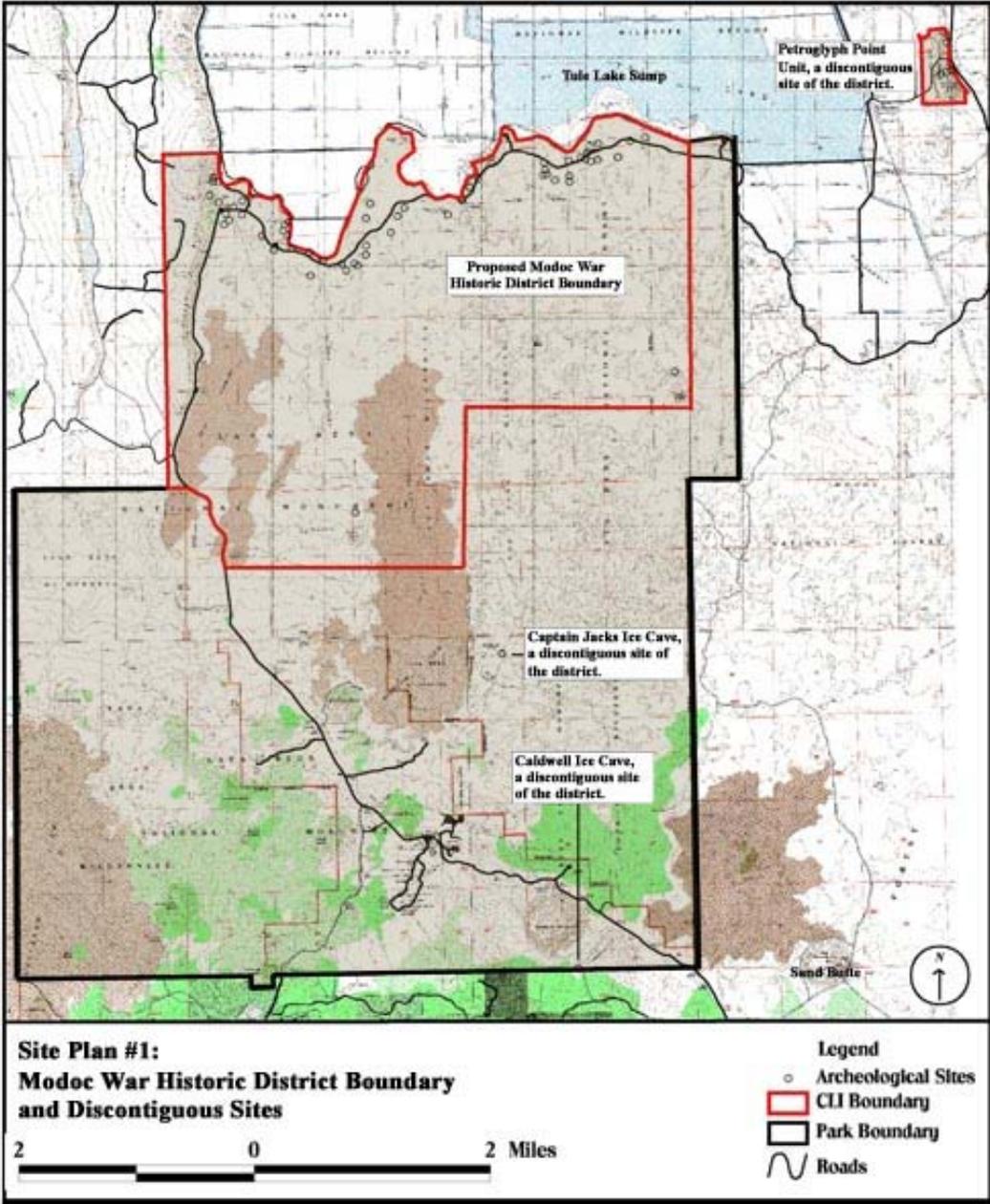
Beginning at a point one half mile west of the northeastern corner of the monument (on the northern park boundary) the CLI boundary travels due south for 3.2 miles to a point immediately southeast of Juniper Butte, the location of a likely U.S. Army lookout post during the war; it then turns due west for 2.7 miles passing just south of Juniper Butte to the eastern side of the Schonchin Lava Flow, the landform used as an escape route for the Modocs. The boundary then turns south for two miles along the flow before turning west again for 2.8 miles, cutting across the flow, passing south of the Thomas-Wright Battlefield, until reaching the main monument road. The boundary then follows the main monument road to the northwest for 1.3 miles before reconnecting with the monument boundary immediately to the west. Moving northward along the western monument boundary for four miles to the northwest monument corner, the boundary takes in the gap between the Schonchin and Devils Homestead Lava Flows which were used by the U.S. Army en route to the Thomas-Wright Battlefield, as well as Gillems Bluff, a key tactical landform heavily utilized by the U.S. Army. From this point at the northwest corner of the monument, the district boundary follows the shoreline and concurrent monument boundary to the starting point at the northeast corner of the district.

### Discontinuous Portions

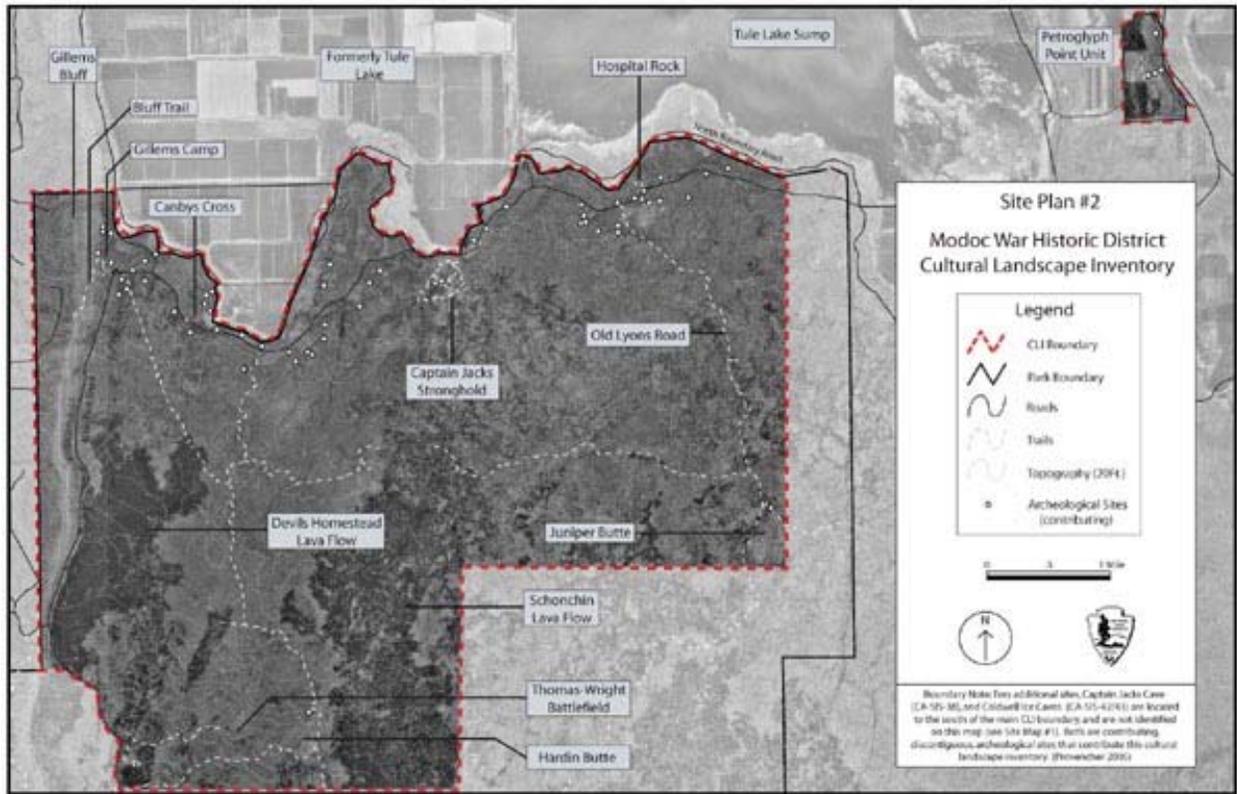
The historic district boundary is concurrent with the monument boundary at the discontinuous 212-acre Petroglyph Point Unit in order to encompass four possible Modoc War sites. In addition, the Caldwell Ice Caves and Captain Jacks Ice Cave are included in the district as single UTM points, representing two stopping points on the Modoc escape route that may reveal additional features upon further investigation and which hold significant meaning for the contemporary Modoc.

# Site Plan

Site Map #1: Modoc War Historic District overview (see Appendix for full-scale image).



Site Map #2: Modoc War Historic District (see Appendix for full-scale image).



## Chronology

Year	Event	Description
1864 AD	Established	The Treaty of 1864 was signed by the Klamath, Paiute, and Modoc Indians, forming a reservation on traditional Klamath lands.
1872 AD	Established	On November 29th, U.S. Army troops attack Captian Jack's Camp at Lost Creek on the northern shore of Tule Lake (outside the current boundaries of the Monument). On the same day, citizens attack Hooker Jim's Camp on other side of river.
1872 AD	Inhabited	On November 30th, the Modocs fled from Lost River to the Lava Beds, corralled 100 head of cattle found grazing there, and occupied the maze-like lava formation later known as Captain Jacks Stronghold.
1872 - 1973 AD	Altered	Horses, sheep and cattle were grazed in the Lava Beds depleting groundcover fuels and greatly reducing wildfire cycles in the lava beds. Over time, the fire-maintained grassland began converting to western juniper woodlands.
1872 AD	Military Operation	On December 14th, U.S. Army forces arrived at the southwest corner of Tule Lake where they could see from Gillems Bluff above, across the Lava Beds to Captain Jacks Stronghold.
1873 AD	Military Operation	On January 17th, the First Battle for the Stronghold occurred, but U.S. Army troops were hampered by a deep ravine on the eastern edge of the Stronghold. By this date the trail from Gillems Bluff down to the edge of Tule Lake was likely established.
1873 AD	Military Operation	On January 17th U.S. Army troops occupied Hospital Rock, one of the few high points on the terrain two miles northeast of the Stronghold, for the first time.

1873 AD	Military Operation	On January 17th a line of U.S. Army fortifications, originally reported to be one and a half miles long were also constructed on the eastern edge of a deep ravine to the east of the Stronghold.
1873 AD	Built	Numerous rock walls were erected around Gillems Camp in April; as of 1951, at least fifteen of these were still standing.
1873 AD	Military Operation	On April 1st, General Canby moved his headquarters, all commissioners, and all troops to a well visited campsite, now called Gillems Camp, at the southwest corner of Tule Lake, 2.5 miles to the west of the Stronghold.
1873 AD	Military Operation	On April 2nd, a Peace Commission tent was erected on flat land .75 miles southeast of Gillems Camp at the current site of Canbys Cross.
1873 AD	Military Operation	On April 6th, a signal post was erected on an outcropping seventy-five feet above Gillems Camp. This signal was high enough to communicate with troops at Hospital Rock and the Peace Commission tent.
1873 AD	Military Operation	On April 11th, General Canby and Dr. Thomas were killed at the Peace Commission tent. Within the year, a thin, simple wood cross was erected in the location of the attack.
1873 AD	Built	By April 15th, the Modocs erected stone fortifications at the northwest corner of the Stronghold.
1873 AD	Military Operation	From April 15th to 17th, U.S. Army troops attempted to capture the Stronghold for the second time.
1873 AD	Military Operation	On April 15th, U.S. Army troops erected stone fortifications large enough to hold five or six men to the northwest of the Stronghold. Howitzers are fired into the Stronghold for the next two days.

1873 AD	Military Operation	On April 16th , Majors Mason and Green joined their forces from the east and west, north of the Stronghold. This maneuver cut the Modoc off from Tule Lake, their only source of water at the Stronghold.
1873 AD	Military Operation	At night on April 17th, the Modocs escaped from the Stronghold and moved south into the Schonchin Lava Flow, using the rough terrain as camouflage and to prevent the U.S. Army from following. The same day, the U.S. Army occupied the Stronghold.
1873 AD	Military Operation	On April 26th, U.S. Army forces, under Captain Thomas and Lieutenant Wright, moved south over level ground from Gillems Camp, between the Devils Homestead and Schonchin flows, investigating the feasibility of moving artillery into the lava beds.
1873 AD	Military Operation	At noon on April 26th, the troops rested in a depression in the lava flows west of Hardin (Sand) Butte. There, the troops were attacked by Modocs from the surrounding higher ground of lava ridges. The U.S. Army suffered great casualties.
1873 AD	Abandoned	In April and May, the Modocs continued eluding the U.S. Army. After reportedly resting at Captain Jacks and Caldwell Ice Caves (known water sources).
1873 AD	Military Operation	On May 10th, fighting continued in the vicinity of Sorass (Dry) Lake, outside the current monument boundary.
1873 AD	Military Operation	On May 18th, the U.S. Army abandoned the Stronghold and moved to Gillems Camp.
1873 AD	Removed	On May 20th, Gillems Camp was dismantled and the infantry moved to Van Bremers ranch (east of the current monument boundary).
1873 AD	Military Operation	On June 1, Captain Jack surrendered to the U.S. Army at Willow Creek (outside the current monument boundary), ending the Modoc War.

1873 AD	Ranched/Grazed	Beginning in 1873, the area that would become Lava Beds National Monument was grazed by large numbers of wild horses left over from the Modoc War.
1875 AD	Removed	In November a number of graves in the cemetery were disinterred, it is not known when the remaining graves were removed.
1888 AD	Built	Lieut. John B. Parks replaced Canbys Cross, likely with another wooden version.
1905 - 1920 AD	Engineered	The Klamath Reclamation District, under the Federal Reclamation Service, was authorized to drain Tule Lake in order to expose arable farm land and irrigate fields. Actual draining did not proceed until 1920, which dramatically altered the shoreline.
1910 - 1930 AD	Altered	During this period, only 3500 acres of park lands burned at Lava Beds National Monument.
1916 - 1920 AD	Ranched/Grazed	During this period, the lava beds were heavily grazed by sheep and cattle. Their selective grazing practices began the near-elimination of native bunch-grasses and the establishment of non-native groundcovers such as cheatgrass, thistle, and mustard.
1920 AD	Engineered	The draining of Tule Lake by the Klamath Reclamation District began. By 1941, 3500 acres of land were under cultivation.
1920 AD	Land Transfer	The lava beds were added to the Modoc National Forest. Federal policies of fire suppression were likely implemented. By this date cattle grazing had generally ceased on the lava beds and the Forest Service began to reduce sheep grazing permits.
1920 - 1928 AD	Built	The Forest Service installed main and spur roads (including the north road into the lava beds), telephone lines, interpretive signs, and cave ladders in the lava beds).

1920 - 1925 AD	Developed	A pre-existing road between Hospital Rock and Juniper Butte (Lyons Road) was improved by the US Forest Service in the early 1920s.
1925 AD	Established	Lava Beds National Monument was established and the land transferred to the National Park Service.
1930 - 1940 AD	Altered	18,600 acres of park lands burned both within and outside of the proposed district.
1934 AD	Built	By 1934, Canbys Cross was raised above the ground on a stacked rock base in the original location.
1934 AD	Ranched/Grazed	Historic photographs of Canbys Cross from 1873 and 1934 show change in vegetation in the area from bunchgrasses to non-native grasses, sage brush, and junipers. This change may have
1935 AD	Built	The CCC (introduced to the park in 1933), moved their camp from Bearpaw to the Gillems Camp site. The establishment of this camp likely destroyed much of the archeological remains of the U.S. Army occupation at the site.
1935 AD	Naturalized	Photos taken of the CCC camp show numerous well-established junipers in the area.
1937 AD	Built	In January, construction of the western portion of the main park road began, establishing the main route through the Monument to Indian Well.
1937 AD	Built	In August, construction of permanent CCC buildings at Gillems Camp began. This camp ultimately contained an officer's quarters, garage, commissary, and living quarters and other features.
1937 AD	Built	Also in August, construction of a trail through Captain Jacks Stronghold was begun, and was completed the following year. Most of this trail is still in use today.
1937 AD	Built	In November and December, wooden CCC barracks were constructed at the camp.

1938 AD	Built	In October, the overlook above the Devils Homestead was constructed. In May, road construction from the northwest entrance into the park was underway. (CCC reports)
1939 AD	Built	The original north entrance kiosk at the northeastern entrance was completed.
1940 AD	Built	In this year, the first interpretive signs were placed in the Stronghold, the road to Schonchin Butte, the Schonchin Trail and Lookout were constructed, as well as the northern section of the main park road underway.
1940 - 1950 AD	Altered	During the 1940s, the effects of fire suppression in the monument are highlighted by five fires that burned over 60,000 acres, the majority of the park, especially on the northern park lands associated with the Modoc War.
1942 AD	Platted	In May, a survey of northern boundary was completed and accepted by the NPS, Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Reclamation. (Superintendent reports)
1942 AD	Abandoned	The CCC Camp was disbanded in July, and nearly all portable buildings were dismantled by December. (Superintendent reports)
1943 AD	Altered	In September, the former CCC technical office at Gillems Camp was remodeled as a ranger station. The former CCC sign shop was used as a garage. (Superintendent reports)
1944 AD	Altered	In June, the former CCC sign shop at Gillems Camp was converted into a bunkhouse for the fire suppression crew. (Superintendent reports)
1945 AD	Built	In July, Canby's cross was damaged by high winds and replaced. In August, the main road between the former CCC camp and Captain Jack's Stronghold was widened to a full two-way road. A large parking area was also constructed at the Stronghold.

1948 AD	Altered	The northern section of the main park road was graveled.
1950 - 1960 AD	Ranched/Grazed	In the late 1950s, only one sheep grazing permit was left in the monument. This lifetime grazing permit would be utilized until the early 1970s.
1950 - 1959 AD	Damaged	In the 1950s, the Monument's archeological resources were heavily looted.
1957 AD	Built	The rock wall at the end of the Thomas and Wright Battlefield trail was constructed.
1958 AD	Demolished	Four buildings were removed from the Gillems Camp area.
1958 AD	Reconstructed	The Thomas and Wright Battlefield trail was reconstructed.
1959 AD	Altered	NPS projects this year included: removing the CCC barracks building from the Gillems Camp area, paving the beginning of the Stronghold (surfaced), and placing new signs in the Stronghold.
1960 AD	Demolished	The original checking station at the northwest entrance was torn down.
1961 AD	Built	The North Entry Road, inside the park boundary, was completed from the northeastern corner of the park.
1961 AD	Excavated	Archeological sites within the landscape boundary were excavated by B.K. Swartz, under the University of Arizona and Klamath County Museum.
1964 AD	Excavated	Excavations were done in preparation for the paving of the North Boundary Road.
1965 - 1972 AD	Settled	Captain Jack repudiated his signature on the treaty, left the reservation with a group of Modoc followers, and returned to his camp at Lost River, on the north shore of Tule Lake.

1966 AD	Altered	The North Boundary Road, was paved and two buildings at the northwest entrance were burned. In addition, the last of the CCC Camp structures were removed, the terrain “restored” to the Gillem era, and bunchgrass was planted on the site.
1968 AD	Destroyed	The Stronghold trail paving efforts were halted and the northwest entrance house was burned by the park.
1971 - 1974 AD	Ranched/Grazed	This appears to have been the last year sheep were grazed in the park (Supt. yearly reports), although other records state that grazing continued to 1974 (GMP).
1972 AD	Maintained	At least sixteen fortifications were still visible from Hospital Rock.
1972 AD	Abandoned	After the establishment of two wilderness areas in the park, the Lyons Road was closed to the public.
1973 AD	Established	Following a fire that threatened the park developed area, south of the district boundary, a park prescribed fire program was implemented.
1977 AD	Naturalized	Erhard’s “Plant Communities and Habitat Types in the Lava Beds National Monument” identified most of the northern park as being dominated by non-native cheatgrass and cheatgrass/cereal rye plant communities. Big sagebrush stumps were "occasionally found."
1979 AD	Removed	Restrooms at Gillems Camp were removed in the late 1970s.
1998 AD	Altered	A controlled burn was performed at the Thomas-Wright Battlefield.
2003 AD	Naturalized	By 2003, a number of cheatgrass communities identified by Erhard (1977) had gone through successional vegetation change to sagebrush, altering a number of grasslands to shrublands (Burke 2003).

2003 AD	Naturalized	By this year, it had been observed that many cheatgrass communities contained a high percentage of native bunchgrasses (Burke 2003).
2004 AD	Altered	A prescribed fire totaling 584 acres was completed along the east side of the main park road, north of Devils Homestead Overlook and south of Gillems Camp. Prior to ignition, Fire staff used chainsaws to cut large junipers inside the burn unit.
2004 AD	Altered	A 600 acre controlled burn was performed south of Gillems Camp.

## Statement Of Significance

A number of prominent Modoc War sites and an archeological district have been previously listed on the National Register of Historic Places and are located within the boundaries of the Modoc War Historic District. These include Captain Jack's Stronghold, Hospital Rock, Thomas-Wright Battle Site, and the Modoc Lava Beds National Monument Archeological District. The historic district boundary has been drawn to include these previously listed sites and archeological district, in addition to three additional sites: Petroglyph Point, Caldwell Ice Caves, and Captain Jacks Ice Cave.

### Existing Documentation

In 1973 both "Captain Jack's Stronghold" (NRIS #73000259) and the "Hospital Rock Army Camp Site" (NRIS #73000227) were listed with unspecified criteria and a period of significance of "19th century." In 1978, the "Thomas-Wright Battle Site" (NRIS #78000366) was also listed with unspecified criteria and a period of significance of 1800-1899. In addition, the "Modoc Lava Beds National Monument Archeological District" (NRIS #75002182) was listed in 1991 under Criteria A, B and D with a period of significance of 5000 BC to 1873. This 1991 nomination extensively documents the significance of the numerous prehistoric sites within the park, as well as those sites directly related to the Modoc War. The following statement of significance will summarize and update those portions of the 1991 nomination that directly relate to the events of the Modoc War of 1872-1873, while adding additional information relating to the significance of the cultural landscape in the events of 1872-1873.

### Summary

The Modoc War Cultural Landscape is nationally significant under Criteria A, B and D for the years 1872-1873. It is included under the following historic context themes: "Ethnohistory of Indigenous Populations" subgroup "Varieties of Conflict, Conquest, or Accommodation," "Communication" subgroup "Written Word," and "Political and Military Affairs 1865-1939" subgroup "Indian Wars, 1860-1890." Under Criterion A, the proposed district is associated with the Modoc War of 1872-1873, a nationally significant event in the history of Native American-Anglo relationships, as well as the history of journalism in the United States. Sites dating to the period of significance include Gillems Camp, defensive and battle sites, and Captain Jacks Stronghold. Under Criterion B, the proposed district is nationally significant for its association with Captain Jack who was the principal Modoc leader during the Modoc War and a significant figure in the areas of American military history and Modoc ethnic heritage. Under Criterion D, archeological sites in the proposed district have the potential to yield information important to the history and documentation of events associated with the Modoc War.

### Criterion A

The Modoc War of 1872-73 is nationally significant under Criterion A for both the prominence of the Modoc War in American and Native American history as well as for the significance of the resulting media coverage, a first of its kind. Like other major "Indian Wars," the Modoc War was fought during the period of U.S.-Native American policy termed "Removal and Relocation, 1828-1887" (Freiser, 1988).

The initial events of the Modoc War arose from U.S. Government attempts to relocate the Modocs to a reservation in southern Oregon, initially designated for the Klamaths, with whom the Modocs were unfriendly. Some of the Modocs, under the leadership of Captain Jack, resisted and fled south to the lava beds in November of 1872, where they were pursued by the U.S. Army, beginning the siege of the Modocs in Captain Jacks Stronghold—a natural and easily defended lava-rock formation. Arising from the period leading up to and following the five-month "siege" of the Stronghold, 46 U.S. Army, 4 volunteers, 16 civilians, and at least 16 Modocs were killed in the hostilities (Thompson, 171). The

hostilities culminated in the eventual relocation of the Modocs (some to another reservation in Oklahoma), the death of General Canby (the only regular Army general officer killed in the Indian Wars), and the execution of Captain Jack (and other prominent Modocs) following his capture. Considering the shortness of the war and the number of Native Americans involved, the Modoc War was the Army's most expensive "Indian War" (Murray 1959:3).

The significance and events of the war cannot be understood without addressing the role of the setting and topography of the lava beds. It was the location of the Modoc War in this rough terrain on the southern shore of Tule Lake that proved a decisive factor in the tactics used on both sides, and consequently the outcome of the war. The extremely rough lava-rock topography was well known to the Modocs but was, however, completely foreign to the U.S. Army. Captain Jack's Stronghold, a maze-like collection of lava crevices and caves provided an almost impenetrable haven for the Modocs (albeit with no water source), while the surrounding lava fields proved an imposing barrier to the U.S. Army. However, from the U.S. Army positions on top of and at the foot of the Gillems Bluff escarpment to the west, the military could keep watch over the Stronghold across 2.5 miles of open and treeless but rough terrain. From there, they watched events unfold, and were able to plan mortar and howitzer fire. Field skirmishes were fought in the lava crevices surrounding the Stronghold, and it is the dozens of defensive rock walls from these skirmishes that remain as the primary constructed features from the Modoc War. Following the April 17th nighttime escape of the Modocs from the Stronghold through the Schonchin Lava Flow, a decisive battle was fought at what is now known as the Thomas-Wright Battlefield, where the Modocs soundly defeated a U.S. Army detachment by using their knowledge of the topography and their enemy's tactical mistakes to their advantage.

Cited as the only major organized battle between a California Indian group and the U.S. Army, the press coverage of the events drew national attention in newspapers from San Francisco to Chicago to New York City, making it a primary media event in the United States during the 1870s. Because the first five months of the war involved a siege at Captain Jack's Stronghold, the war provided the first occasion in the "Indian Wars" where journalists and photographers (such as Eadweard Muybridge, a key figure in the history of photography) were able to report on the events of the war as they unfolded. Initially, the general public sympathized with the tenacity of Captain Jack and his band, but especially after General Canby of the U.S. Army was assassinated during a truce, the event attracted national attention, and public opinion called for revenge on the Modoc. "The Modoc War was the first campaign on the Western War to be covered extensively, it was the first in which newspapers competed energetically to be first in print with the news, and it was one of the earliest of all wars in which the [press] pool was used in war reporting. Moreover, the correspondents reported a war and concurrent diplomacy, as it were. Four reporters had the unusual experience of crossing enemy lines and interviewing the enemy commander during a truce period (Knight, 1960: 155-6)."

#### Criterion B

Captain Jack, whose Indian name was Kientepoos, is a nationally significant figure in the area of military history. He led a band of dissident Modoc against the federal government, its agents, their treaties and the reservation system, in a series of events which culminated in the Modoc War. The historical accounts of Riddle (1914), Murray (1959) and Thompson (1967), among others, detail his role: as the principal leader of the Modoc in defense of the Stronghold, in the peace negotiations and assassination of Canby, and in the flight with his band from the Stronghold to several ice caves to the south. Captain Jack is also significant in the area of ethnic heritage for contemporary Modoc and other Indian people, being a prominent and nationally known figure in Native American history. Future consideration should be made of other potentially significant persons associated with Modoc War cultural resources. These include other prominent Modocs such as Schonchin John, second in command to Captain Jack; Curley Headed Doctor, the religious leader of Captain Jack's band; Scarfaced Charley, who led the Modoc ambush

against the Thomas-Wright patrol; Toby Riddle (Winema), a Modoc woman who served as the foremost interpreter and go-between for the Army; Hooker (or Hooka) Jim, a prominent Modoc figure during the war; as well as General E.R.S. Canby, Colonel Alvan C. Gillem, Alfred B. Meacham, Captain Thomas F. Wright, and Captain Evan Thomas of the U.S. Army.

#### Criterion D

The cultural resources of the Modoc War Historic District have the potential to address a number of research domains, including regional chronology, prehistoric settlement/subsistence patterns, Native American exchange relationships, Native American and military architecture, and prehistoric art/religion. In addition, these research domains are relevant to Native American ethnic heritage, specifically, Modoc culture history through the Modoc War of 1872-1873.

The archeologically recorded stacked rock features associated with the Modoc War are unique defensive structures that are a result of the geology and topography of the battlefields, combined with mid-nineteenth century development of firearms and the tactical responses to these developments. As such, the Modoc War sites are unique historical archeological features on the landscape. Likewise, many of the site forms suggest that surface artifacts related to the war are scarce due to intensive artifact collecting. While this may be true, the experience of archeologists at Modoc War sites just east of the park (see Gates [2001]; Gates and Bain [n.d.]) suggest that many historical artifacts associated with the battle areas are located in subsurface deposits that are amenable to discovery using metal detectors. As large areas of the battlefields and camps have not yet been surveyed using either traditional archaeological techniques or battlefield survey techniques, it is possible that extensive sites associated with Modoc War stacked rock features and subsurface historical archeological remains are present within the district.

## Physical History

### 1872-2004

In lieu of a site history, the annotated chronology in this inventory traces the physical history of only those sites and features associated with the Modoc Wars that fall within Lava Beds National Monument. While a number of excellent histories have been written about the tactical, social, and political aspects of the war and its aftermath, (Thompson 1971, Murray 1959, Quinn 1997) the annotated chronology tracks the physical changes in the landscape of the war that occurred as both results of the hostilities and the subsequent management of the sites by the National Park Service. For day by day tactical chronologies of the hostilities, see the “Maps and Illustrations” section of Thompson’s “Modoc War, Its Military History and Topography” as well as a number of Modoc War histories listed in the bibliography of this inventory.



*History #1: An 1873 photograph showing the entrance to Captain Jacks Cave within the Stronghold. The Modoc Breastworks, a defensive rock wall, can be clearly seen above the cave entrance. (LBE archives)*



*History #2: A 1934 photograph showing the entrance to Captain Jacks Cave within the Stronghold. The Modoc Breastworks has become slightly obscured by the growth of grasses and sage brush. (LBE archives)*



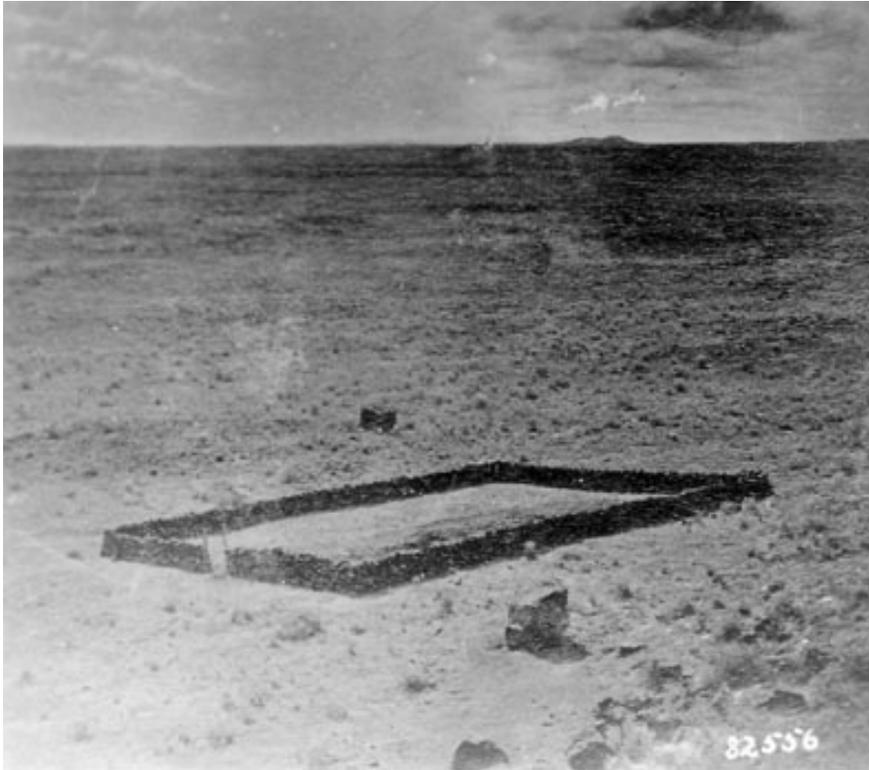
*History #3: An 1873 photograph of a natural ravine (right) within Captain Jacks Stronghold. Ravines were used by the Modocs to defend their Stronghold from the U.S. Army. (LBE archives)*



*History #4: A photograph of Gillems Camp taken in 1873 from Signal Rock shows the historic shoreline of Tule Lake. The topography was relatively flat with far-ranging, unobstructed views. (LBE archives)*



*History #5: An 1873 photograph of Signal Rock with two signalmen waving a flag (right). Low grasses and sagebrush allowed for expansive views of the terrain below. (LBE archives)*



*History #6: An 1873 photograph of the U.S. Army cemetery wall, built in the same year. (LBE archives)*



*History #7: A 1934 photograph of Hospital Rock. (LBE archives)*



*History #8: An 1934 photograph of the Thomas-Wright Battlefield showing a depression surrounded by ridges. The Modocs took advantage of these ridges to attack unsuspecting U.S. soldiers. (LBE archives)*



*History #9: A photograph of Canbys Cross, taken in 1873, shows the original cross was a simple wood structure placed directly in the ground and surrounded by native bunch grasses. (LBE archives)*



*History #10: This 1934 photograph reveals that after the period of significance, the cross was enlarged and placed atop a rock base. In addition, sagebrush had become more prevalent. (LBE archives)*



*History #11: A photograph, taken ca. 1937, shows the buildings constructed by the CCC at Gillems camp. By this year, juniper trees had become prevalent in the landscape. (LBE archives)*

## Analysis And Evaluation

### Summary

The Modoc War Historic District is a deceptively complex landscape containing numerous resources, both natural and constructed, that provide physical evidence of the events of the Modoc War. Despite added improvements, such as roads, trails, and vault toilets, the landscape appears much today as it did during the period of significance (1872-1873). Today, the district retains the following six landscape characteristics from the period of significance: natural systems and features, spatial organization, views and vistas, topography, and archeological sites. No contributing buildings and structures remain within the district, however, one structure (Canbys Cross) is managed as a cultural resource and is therefore discussed in the buildings and structures section. In addition, due to their close affiliation with most historic archeological sites in the district, the stacked rock wall fortifications (as well as two other walls) are discussed in the archeological sites section.

Several natural systems influenced the war, including geology, climate, hydrology, soils, vegetation, and fire regime. When combined, these natural systems created an expansive, semi-arid, rocky grassland along the southern shore of Tule Lake. Geologic activity created a rough terrain of collapsed lava tubes and rock outcroppings. Low precipitation in the high desert, combined with porous soils, resulted in a lack of free-flowing drainages in the area. However standing water was accessible from Tule Lake and in ice caves. Tule Lake, outside of the district boundary, has since been dramatically modified, but the ice caves used by the Modocs still exist. Historic vegetation within the northern portion of the Monument was characterized as a grassland community dominated by bluebunch wheatgrass. After the Modoc War, livestock grazing and fire suppression had dramatic impacts on the plant community, leading to introduction of exotic species, such as cheatgrass, and an increase of woody species, such as juniper. The termination of livestock grazing combined with a new fire management program may slowly encourage the return of vegetation to a more historic and native state over time.

The spatial organization of Modoc and U.S. Army campsites within the district follows patterns directly related to historic natural systems, topography, and views within the landscape. Access to water, natural shelter or protection, view sheds, and accessibility all played roles in determining the placement and use of Captain Jacks Stronghold, Gillems Camp, and Hospital Rock. The spatial organization of these camp sites, as well as the placement of associated landscape features, provides a tangible link to the strategies used in locating encampments, and the qualities that made them advantageous to the warring parties.

Expansive views were used to the advantage of both the U.S. Army and the Modocs. Today, views between the camps are being encroached upon by the growth of juniper trees, which are restricting views across the landscape. Many junipers have grown up in and around Captain Jacks Stronghold, impacting the historically expansive and unimpeded views that the Modocs benefited from within this natural fortress. However, views provided from Gillems Bluff, Signal Rock, and Hospital Rock are relatively intact due to their distant vantage points.

Topography had a broad influence on the events of the war by influencing where camps were situated, the movements of the Modocs and the U.S. Army, the events of the first and second Battles for the Stronghold, and the Thomas-Wright Battle. The Modocs had a distinct advantage in this landscape, which had been their home for thousands of years. With their knowledge and familiarity with the topography of the area, the Modocs were able to hold off the U.S. Army for five months against incredible odds during the winter. Some of the more prominent topographical features utilized by both the Modocs and the U.S. Army during the war included Gillems Bluff, Signal Rock, Hospital Rock, Schonchin Lava Flow, Captain Jacks Ice Cave, Caldwell Ice Cave, natural ravines and caves in Captain Jacks Stronghold, and ridges and

depressions at the Thomas-Wright Battlefield. Frozen River Cave may also have been used by the Modocs as a water source during the war (Murray 1959, 243). With little change in the natural topography of the area since the period of significance, all of these features utilized by the Modocs and U.S. Army during the Modoc War still remain.

Archeological sites include ruins, traces, or deposited artifacts in the landscape that are associated with the period of significance and are evidenced by the presence of either surface or subsurface features. Nearly all of the archeological sites associated with the Modoc War fall into the category of constructed basalt or andesite stacked rock fortifications. While descriptions of sites and site features vary widely, it is possible to identify a number of types of sites associated with the Modoc War. The most frequent type of site is associated with one or more stacked rock features, usually identified as “fortifications.” These have been described variously as stacked rock rings, circles, cairns, piles, linear piles, fortifications, and walls. Sites with modified tumulus (schollendome) cracks were the next most frequent type. These features typically include stacked rock walls to build-up low areas along the natural walls of cracks in tumuli (schollendomes).

Before the war, formal paths and roads did not exist within the area. During the war, the U.S Army created a trail known as Gillems Trail to provide access between Van Bremer Camp (west of the monument) and Gillems Camp. Segments of this trail still remain. Other movements through the landscape during the war were more informal or are difficult to pinpoint, such as the use of Tule Lake by both the Modocs and the Army to move between camps, the paths taken by troops during the battles for the Stronghold, the flight of the Modocs through the Schonchin Lava Flow following the second Battle for the Stronghold, and the march of troops from Gillems Camp en route to Hardin Butte leading up to the Thomas-Wright Battle.

No permanent buildings were constructed during the period of significance since the military encampments were temporary by nature. One structure related to the war is Canbys Cross, which has been replaced and modified several times since the period of significance and is no longer a contributing feature of the cultural landscape. However, this structure is listed on the List of Classified Structures (LCS) and is managed by the park as a memorial to General Canby.

The landscape characteristics and their associated features continue to convey the historic character of the Modoc War Historic District and the events that occurred there during the period of significance. The six landscape characteristics contribute to the significance of the historic district, which retains its integrity as a historic battlefield site.

## **Landscape Characteristics And Features**

### **Natural Systems And Features**

Natural systems and features is defined for purposes of the CLI as natural aspects that have influenced the development and physical form of the landscape. Several natural systems influenced the Modoc War between 1872-1873, including geology, climate, hydrology, soils, vegetation, and fire regime.

#### **Geology**

The draft Lava Beds National Monument Cultural Resource Overview (2004) offers a concise description of the geology and lava flows of the Lava Beds National Monument. The following two paragraphs are adapted from pages 5 and 72:

Lava Beds National Monument is situated along the southeastern margin of the Cascade Mountain

Range\ and the western margin of the Modoc Plateau. The plateau is a broad plain composed primarily of basaltic lavas that rose to the surface along a series of northerly-trending extensional faults. The Monument resides on the northern slope of a large shield volcano that forms the Medicine Lake Highlands, and contains numerous cinder and spatter cones that have produced a broad fan of complexly inter-fingered lava flows composed of basalt, basaltic andesite, and some andesite. The low-silica basalt flows are characterized by relatively smooth or “ropy” surfaces known as “pahoehoe,” while the higher-silica flows exhibit very rough or blocky surfaces known as “aa.” Many of the flows exhibit north-south cracks, some of which are more than 10 meters wide and deep, formed by ongoing east-west expansion on the region. Some of the older flows have also been fractured and vertically offset by faulting, such as that which formed Gillems Bluff, a major structural features within the Monument (NPS 2004, 5).

The basalt flows contain hundreds of known lava tubes, some of which are easily accessed through openings (caves) at the surface, while others are well hidden and have yet to be explored or “discovered.” The collapse of the ceiling in some of the tubes has produced a series of pits and sinuous depressions that are clearly visible in aerial photos of the Monument (NPS 2004, 5). Caves are defined by the Monument as having “a habitable surface deeper than it is wide and a limited distribution of light” (NPS 2004, 71). The majority of caves in the Monument are the result of lava tubes formed during lava flows dating to 30,000 years ago. Where the tubes had thin or unstable roofs, they collapsed. Those caves or tubes with impervious rock floors collected precipitation and condensed moisture in pools that would freeze in the winter.

The volcanicc activity of the area has created the rough terrain that was the setting for the Modoc War from 1872 to 1873. The Modocs who were familiar with the landscape were able to use this rough terrain to their advantage, while the U.S. Army greatly underestimated the difficulties that the landscape would present in capturing the Modocs.

#### Climate

The Modoc Plateau is a high elevation, semi-arid desert environment that receives an average of 15 inches of precipitation annually. The climate is characterized by warm, dry summers and cold winters with a mean annual high temperature of 64.8 degrees Fahrenheit and a mean annual low temperature of 29.6 degrees Fahrenheit. However, temperature extremes can range from -18 degrees to 102 degrees Fahrenheit. Average annual snowfall is 44 inches. The five month siege of Captain Jacks Stronghold began in November 1872 in the cold of winter. During the first Battle for the Stronghold, the U.S. Army’s attack on the Stronghold was hampered by dense fog. As the war continued on into April, both sides of the war had to endure snow and cold temperatures.

#### Hydrology

No free-flowing drainages occur in the Monument, however, standing water was once found along the historic Tule Lake shoreline and in ice caves scattered throughout the lava beds (NPS 2004, 7). During the period of significance, Tule Lake had higher water levels that brought the shoreline up the northern edges of Captain Jacks Stronghold, Gillems Camp, and Hospital Rock. Between 1920 and 1945, the Klamath Reclamation District directed a project that partially drained the lake to make farmland available. Although the lake no longer exists within the Monument, water can be found in certain lava tube caves within the Monument. A few caves that have impervious rock floors that allow standing water to collect from precipitation and condensed moisture. This water alternates between liquid and solid states depending on the season (NPS 2004, 72-73).

The limited amount of water in the lava flows made Tule Lake a critical resource for survival. During the second Battle for the Stronghold, the Modocs were cut off from Tule Lake, their only reliable water source. Surrounded by the U.S. Army on only the west, north and east sides, the Modocs were able to

flee southward to the Schonchin Lava Flow where they made a camp near small water pools (location unknown). When this source of water was depleted, they were able to move to ice caves familiar to the hunters of the group. Fortunately for the Modocs, several ice caves were located to the south, which enabled them to postpone their surrender for a while longer. Captain Jacks Ice Cave was located between the lava flow and Juniper Butte, Frozen River Cave is located a quarter mile away from the first ice cave, and Caldwell Cave is located four miles south. (Murray 1959, 243)

### Soils

The draft Lava Beds National Monument Cultural Resource Overview (2004) offers a concise description of the soils of the Lava Beds National Monument. The following paragraph is adapted from pages 7-8:

The entire Monument is characterized by a porous substrate, which – coupled with a low annual precipitation – has produced a scant desert habitat. Vegetation patterns in the Monument are closely related to geological substrate, with soil thickness and maturity heavily conditioned by the age of the lava flow. Older lavas are more weathered and have a well-developed sandy clay soil, with in-place weathering supplemented by deposition of more recent tephras (ash and pumice). The older lavas tend to have more varied vegetation cover. Younger, late Holocene lavas lack soil, and thus few cover species have been established (NPS 2004, 7-8).

### Vegetation

“Plant Communities and Habitat Types in the Lava Beds National Monument, California” by Dean Hamilton Erhard (1979), offers a concise description of the historic and present vegetation communities of the northern portion of the monument. The following paragraphs are adapted from pages 12-15:

A theoretical reconstruction of 1873 vegetation by Johnson and Smather’s (1976) describes the major plant community within the northern portion of the Monument as a grassland community dominated by bluebunch wheatgrass (*Agropyron spicatum*).

After the Modoc War, livestock grazing had a dramatic impact on the plant communities. Thousands of cattle grazed in this area with the arrival of white settlers after the Modoc War. Large numbers of wild horses were also reported to have grazed in this area. In 1900, sheep were introduced with a corresponding decrease in cattle numbers. By 1920, the only grazing in the area was by sheep. During this period, sheep grazing was uncontrolled. Consequently, the Monument was heavily grazed, especially in that portion lying adjacent to Tule Lake. With the creation of the Modoc National Forest in 1908, which included the area of the present-day Monument, grazing regulations were gradually imposed, until the last grazing permit was no longer in use by 1974. Uncontrolled grazing during the early 1900s reduced many native perennial plants allowing several exotic plants to invade. Presently the exotic grass, cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*), occurs in most plant communities within the Monument.

The impact of fire was not recognized when the Monument was established in 1925. Both the Forest Service and the National Park Service maintained a vigorous fire suppression policy. Fire exclusion has led to an increase of many woody species and altered the structure of several plant communities.

As a result of these impacts on vegetation, the historic grassland community currently supports many exotic plant species, such as cheat grass, and there has been an increase in woody plants, such as juniper. The increase in juniper has had the greatest visual impact on the cultural landscape, changing the feeling of the historic open, rolling grasslands to a sparsely treed landscape with impeded views (Erhard 1979, 12-15).

### Fire Regime

The report, “Fire regimes, pre- and post-settlement vegetation, and the modern expansion of western juniper at Lava Beds National Monument, California” (2003), offers a concise description of the historic and present fire regimes of the monument. The following paragraphs are adapted from page 1:

Historically, fires were probably an important ecosystem process at Lava Beds National Monument, based on the presence of charred wood, fire-scarred pre-settlement trees, and abundant post settlement trees. However, modern fires are rare. The distribution of western juniper and other species at Lava Beds National Monument historically varied across a gradient of moisture availability that is driven by variation in topography and soils. This variation in moisture availability resulted in differences in the abundance and continuity of fuels, and hence to spatial variation in fire regimes. For example, old western juniper trees, some in excess of 300 years, occur at Lava Beds National Monument, typically occupying rocky lava flows and relatively dry, coarse-textured pumice soils in plant communities characterized by western needlegrass (*Stipa occidentalis*). These low-productivity sites supported little understory vegetation and hence fire spread was limited, allowing western juniper trees to reach maturity. In contrast, many other sites did not historically support mature western juniper trees, based on our observations of tree size, growth form, and lack of large dead trees (>30 cm in diameter), and old photographs. These sites are in the relatively more productive plant associations occupied by bluebunch wheatgrass (*Agropyron spicatum*) and Idaho fescue (*Festuca idahoensis*). Like western juniper, mountain big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata* ssp. *vaseyana*) occurs throughout Lava Beds National Monument, but varies across plant associations with varying moisture availability.

The dominant diagnostic perennial grass in these plant associations (in order of decreasing moisture availability) is specifically (i) Idaho fescue, (ii) bluebunch wheatgrass, (iii) Thurber’s needlegrass (*Stipa thurberiana*), or (iv) western needlegrass (Franklin and Dyrness 1973). Although past work suggests pre-settlement fire-return intervals within several plant associations in the mountain big sagebrush alliance were less than 25 years, pre-settlement fire regimes likely varied among plant associations within this alliance at Lava Beds National Monument (Miller et al. 2003, 1).

### Summary

Although Tule Lake (outside of the boundary of the Monument and proposed historic district) has been drained, and vegetation patterns on the landscape have been altered following the period of significance, many of the natural systems and features that influenced the events of 1872-1873 continue to contribute to the setting of those events. The volcanic geology that created the lava beds as well as the adjacent Gillem’s Bluff escarpment remain as the original landforms. Further, with a fire-regime re-established and removal of juniper, changes to native vegetation since the period of significance are being reversed. As a result, natural systems and features contributes as a landscape characteristic to the significance of the proposed historic district.



*Natural Systems and Features #1: When compared to history photos #4 and #11, the changes to Tule Lake and native vegetation since the period of significance are evident (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).*



*Natural Systems and Features #2: A 2004 photograph looking north from Hospital Rock toward the 3,500 acre Sump 1B shoreline, a remnant section of historic Tule Lake. (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).*

## **Spatial Organization**

Spatial organization is defined for the purposes of the CLI as the three-dimensional organization of physical forms and visual associations in the landscape. The spatial organization of Modoc and U.S. Army campsites within the Modoc War follow patterns directly related to natural systems, topography, and views within the landscape. Access to water, natural shelter or protection, views around U.S. Army and Modoc encampments, and accessibility all played roles in determining the locations of Captain Jacks Stronghold, Gillems Camp, and Hospital Rock.

Common elements in the locations of the three camps were their access to water and the ability to take advantage of the natural topography. All three of the camps were sited along the historic shoreline of Tule Lake. In such a dry landscape, a steady source of water was critical to survival for both the U.S. Army and the Modocs. All three camps also had high points that provided strategic views to the other camps and/or had natural rock features that provided protection.

The Modocs were very familiar with the terrain south of Tule Lake as part of their traditional hunting grounds. When the Modocs fled their Lost River camp after a skirmish with the U.S. Army, they chose a campsite they knew could accommodate their group of approximately 150 people with access to game late in the year. The area now known as Captain Jacks Stronghold was a natural rock fortress that was easy to defend and provided protection, shelter, and access to water. Their choice in location gave them enough advantage to withstand a five-month siege against incredible odds, both in numbers of people and through the harsh winter season.

The U.S. Army's first encampment was located at Hospital Rock, just one and three-quarters of a mile northeast of Captain Jacks Stronghold. This area was chosen for its close proximity to the Stronghold and for its natural defensive advantage, views, and access to water (Tule Lake). This rock outcropping provided 360-degree views of the surrounding terrain, including those toward Captain Jacks Stronghold and to Gillems Camp.

A second camp was set up by the U.S. Army after the first Battle for the Stronghold, just three miles west of the Stronghold. This area was chosen because of its accessibility from Van Bremer Camp to the west and proximity to the Stronghold. The site also had a prominent lookout point and access to water. Signal Rock, located partially up the slope of Gillems Bluff, allowed for communication with troops at Hospital Rock via flags, and to monitor Modoc activity.

Today, the spatial organization of these three encampments is still evident. Despite alteration of the historic shoreline of Tule Lake, prominent views between camps and the natural topographical advantages that each site provided still remain. These remaining landscape features emphasize the strategies in choosing the encampments and their resulting spatial relationship to one another. As a result, spatial organization contributes as a landscape characteristic to the significance of the proposed historic district.

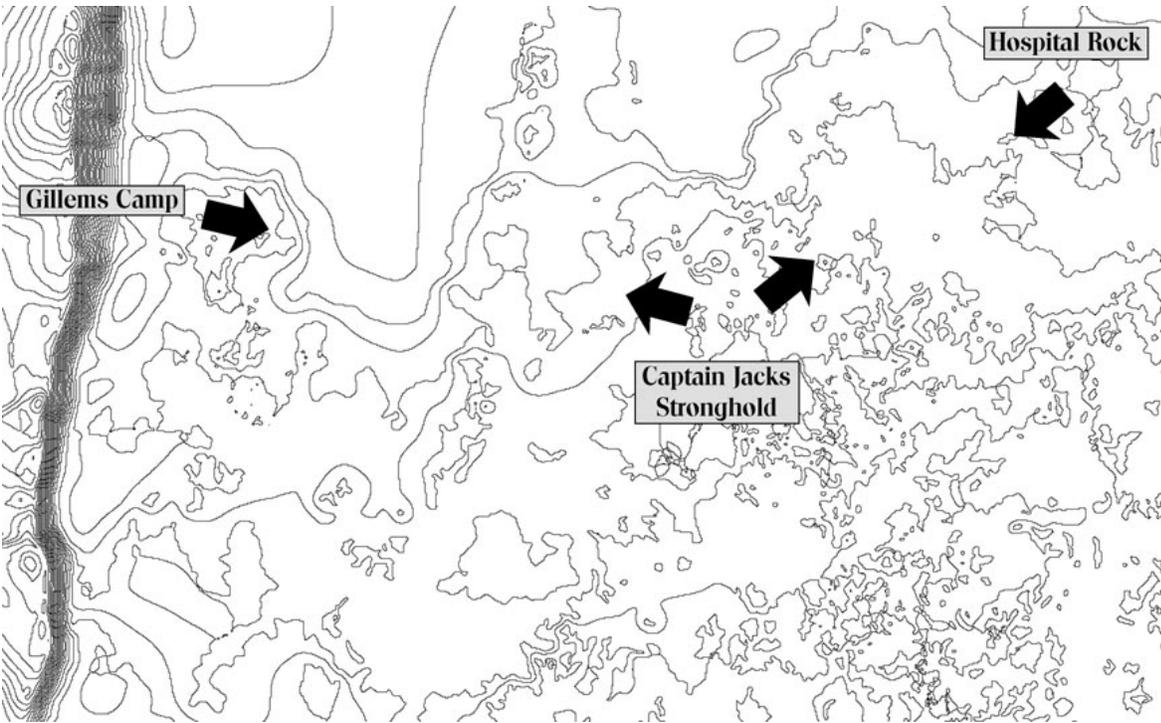
## Views And Vistas

Views are defined for the purposes of the CLI as the expansive and/or panoramic prospect of a broad range of vision which may be naturally occurring or deliberately contrived. At the Modoc War Site, naturally existing expansive views were used to the advantage of both the U.S. Army and the Modocs. The relatively flat landscape of the site combined with low-growing native bunch grasses (and the absence of junipers), allowed for far reaching views from high points within the landscape. As a result, high points in the landscape, such as Signal Rock at Gillems Camp and Captain Jacks command post, became important lookout points to watch for enemy attack and movements, as well as relay messages received from Hospital Rock or soldiers in the field. Conversely, any rock formations that could impede the opponent's views, had the potential to be a strategic defense, such as the rock outcroppings surrounding Captain Jacks Stronghold.

One of the most prominent viewpoints was from the top of Gillems Bluff. From this vantage point the U.S. Army could survey a broad scope of the landscape below. Part way up the slope of Gillems Bluff was Signal Rock which provided unobstructed views of Hospital Rock. This unimpeded view allowed signals to be passed back and forth between the two camps and to coordinate attacks on the Stronghold by using flags (Murray 1959, 168). In addition, soldiers used this vantage point to watch for Modoc activity, especially during the four months of attempted peace negotiations, and to communicate with troops out in the field (Murray 1959, 173 and 182).

Historically, Captain Jacks Stronghold had unimpeded views toward Gillems Camp and Hospital Rock. This gave them the advantage of being able to watch army activities and prepare for attacks. However, the rock outcroppings, trenches and the generally complex landscape of the Stronghold obscured the activities of the Modocs from the army encampments at Gillems Camp and Hospital Rock. The Modocs used this advantage in conjunction with the cover of night to escape undetected during the Second Battle for the Stronghold.

Today, views between the camps have been impeded by the growth of juniper trees, which detracts from a key aspect of the war. Many junipers have grown up in and around Captain Jacks Stronghold, impacting the expansive and unimpeded views that the Modocs benefited from within this natural fortress. Views from Signal Rock are predominantly intact, however, juniper growth below the rock formation has blocked views down into Gillems Camp. Despite the impact of the junipers on the historic views from 1872-73, views and vistas contribute as a landscape characteristic to the significance and setting of the proposed historic district.



Views and Vistas #1: Primary views diagram.



Views and Vistas #2: Expansive view from Gillems Bluff of the battle sites below still remain (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).



*Views and Vistas #3: A northeasterly view from Sentinel Rock in Captain Jacks Stronghold show vast views with intermittent junipers in the distance (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).*



*Views and Vistas #4: Views from Signal Rock still remain, but junipers are growing at the base of the rock (see bottom of photo) and are beginning to impact historic views (see History photos #4 and #11) (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).*

## Topography

Topography is defined for purposes of the CLI as the three-dimensional configuration of the landscape surface. Topography at the Modoc War site had a broad influence on the events of the war, influencing where camps were sited, movements of the Modocs and the U.S. Army, the events of the first and second Battles for the Stronghold, and the Thomas-Wright Battle. The Modocs had a distinct advantage in this landscape, which had been their hunting grounds for thousands of years.

At first glance, the landscape appears simple and relatively flat with undulating low hills bordered on the west by a high bluff. However, the sage brush and grasses obscure a rough and rocky terrain created by volcanic activity in the region. The terrain is difficult and often treacherous to traverse – full of uneven rocky surfaces, ravines, collapsed lava tubes, and rock outcroppings. In this subtle, but rough landscape, every change in topography, from ravines, caves, hills, rock outcroppings, lava flows, to depressions and ridges, provided opportunity for defensive and offensive strategies used on both sides of the war.

Some of the more prominent topographical features utilized during the war included Gillems Bluff, Signal Rock, Hospital Rock, Schonchin Lava Flow, Captain Jacks Ice Cave, Caldwell Ice Cave, natural ravines and caves in Captain Jacks Stronghold, and ridges and depressions at the Thomas Wright Battlefield. These topographical features are still extant and help to convey an understanding of the unfolding of events during the Modoc War. With little to no change in the natural topography of the area since the period of significance, all of these features utilized by the Modoc Indians and U.S. Army during the Modoc War still remain and appear today as they did historically. They are the most prominent remaining features that help to convey the events of the war.

### Captain Jacks Stronghold

Captain Jacks Stronghold is a natural rock fortress that was well-known by the Modoc who hunted in the area. After the Lost River Fight, the Modocs fled from their camp along the northern banks of the Tule Lake in November 1872 to the Stronghold. An approximately one-half square mile area of collapsed lava tubes and rocky outcroppings provided the Modocs with numerous advantages such as caves, lookouts, ravines, and natural corrals that they used to withstand U.S. Army troops for five months during the harshest winter months.

Several caves and depressions in the Stronghold were used to shelter the Modocs and their families. Important caves known to have been used as living quarters include Captain Jacks Cave and Schonchin Johns Cave. Caves were the result of collapsed lava tubes that created depressions in the ground requiring inhabitants to climb down rocky slopes to their entrances. The cave ceilings were typically high enough to stand up inside and had a single room large enough to shelter several members of a family. The bottoms were littered with boulders that were moved to the side to make room for families to live, cook, and sleep on the cave floors. They hung skins or blankets to cover the entrances for protection from the weather (Murray 1959, 122 and 217). Other possible shelters were documented on a 1953 map showing locations for “Schonchin Petes Cave,” “Curly Headed Doctors Cave,” “Ellens Man Cave,” “Hooka Jims Cave,” and the “Indian Sentry Bunk Cave,” however, these locations need further verification to determine historical accuracy and to determine if they meet the Monument’s current definition of “cave.”

Within the western portion of the Stronghold was a small, grassy area that was enclosed by high natural rock walls. This naturally enclosed area was used as a corral to keep livestock. Food was scarce during the winter months, and the ability to retain cattle was a critical element in the survival of the Modocs during the five-month siege.

Several highpoints within the Stronghold were utilized as lookouts to monitor U.S. Army troop movements. Captain Jack's command post was located at a rocky highpoint from which he could monitor the eastern side of the Stronghold. Similarly, Schonchin John had a command post at a highpoint within the western side of the Stronghold from which he could monitor Army activities on that side. These outlooks were unaltered rock outcroppings that provided the Modoc leaders views of the surrounding landscape.

A symbolically important topographical feature during the war was Medicine Flag Rock. Upon one of the highest points of the Stronghold, the Modocs erected a medicine flag. When the Army took control of the Stronghold after the Second Battle for the Stronghold, the soldiers were photographed upon this rock.

Natural ravines were used as trenches from which the Modoc riflemen could defend the Stronghold against army attacks. Cracks around the perimeter of the Stronghold ranged in depth from two feet to ten to twelve feet deep (Murray 1959, 123). Some of the ravines within the Stronghold were deep enough to not require any alterations for increased protection. Other ravines were altered with the construction of rock walls. The Modocs used these as rifle pits to defend their Stronghold. Ravines also acted as defensive barriers that were difficult for the U.S. Army troops to traverse.

During the first Battle for the Stronghold, Captain Bernard's forces attacking from the east were stopped by a deep ravine that seemed impassible without huge losses to Modoc fire (Murray 1959, 120). On the west side, the U.S. Army had to cross ravines and cracks 20 feet deep. The Modocs hid and waited at known crossing points for the soldiers, then fired and retreated before the soldiers could pinpoint their location. The Modocs knowledge of the landscape and topography allowed them to effectively run back and forth to defend a large area of the Stronghold. As a result of their ease of movement, they had the soldiers convinced that they were up against an equal number or greater of Modocs, when in fact during the first battle, the U.S. Army greatly outnumbered the Modocs with over 300 soldiers to 50 fighting Modoc men (Murray 1959, 122).

#### Gillems Camp

Gillems Camp was situated on a flat area at the base of the steep slopes of Gillems Bluff and along the southern shore of Tule Lake, an ideal site that required little preparation. The adjacent 500-foot high bluff provided significant views of the battleground below, and Signal Rock jutted from the slope above.

Another topographical feature used at Gillems Camp is a cave at the base of the bluff historically known as "Winemas Cave" (although it is not considered a "cave" by current archeological definitions). This cave served as a residence for the Modoc interpreter Toby Riddle (later known as Winema) and her husband Frank. Riddle served as an interpreter and messenger during the tense peace negotiation period between General Canby and Captain Jack. During one tense moment in the peace negotiations, General Canby sent Riddle to the Stronghold alone to give Captain Jack a message while her husband watched from Signal Rock to ensure her safety.

Since the period of significance, the topography of Gillems Camp was slightly altered by the Civilian Conservation Corps who sited their camp at the same location in the 1930s. They constructed several rows of buildings with roads and paths in between. This required some leveling of the site. The development has since been removed, but traces of the developed area are still visible by patches of bare soil perhaps due to soil compaction or other effects of the development. In addition, the construction of the parking lot here in the 1960s also required some grading. Despite these developments, the topography of the area still appears very similar to its appearance during the war.

#### Hospital Rock

A U.S. Army camp was located at Hospital Rock, a natural lava formation that provided several advantages. Hospital Rock had a rounded base that rose approximately 50 feet above Tule Lake, which provided them with access to water and a good defensive position (Master Plan 1965). The top of the formation had an approximately 50 to 60-foot diameter flat area defined along its western, northern, and eastern edges by two to five foot tall natural lava tufts. These tufts provided some protection from wind and provided protected defense positions against possible Modoc attacks. Where the natural walls were not tall enough or did not exist, the soldiers enhanced them by stacking rocks in the gaps.

The natural protection and defensive advantages provided by Hospital Rock made it an important camp for the U.S. Army. The camp served as a base for troops attacking Captain Jacks Stronghold during the first and second Battles for the Stronghold (NPS, Cultural Resources Overview 2004, 3). As indicated by its name, Hospital Rock was also used by the First Calvary Headquarters under Colonel Mason as a hospital for the sick and wounded.

#### Schonchin Lava Flow

After the second Battle for the Stronghold, the Schonchin Lava Flow played a critical role in the flight of the Modocs. On April 16, 1873, the U.S. Army effectively severed the Modocs' access to Tule Lake. With a group of over 150 people camped within the Stronghold, the Modocs were forced to flee southward to find another camp with water. The Modocs were able to escape quickly without being seen or detected via a flat plateau just south of the Stronghold that turned into the rough and rocky terrain of the Schonchin Lava Flow. The Schonchin Lava Flow, also historically known as the Black Ledge (Murray 1959, 201), was difficult to maneuver, but the Modocs were familiar with the area and the rocks provided protection and cover from being detected. They set up camp at the edge of the flow at an unknown location of small pools of water and plenty of game (Murray 1959, 243).

#### Thomas-Wright Battlefield

The topography at the Thomas-Wright Battlefield played a significant role during the battle that occurred there on April 26, 1873. The battlefield was a large bowl-shaped depression surrounded by ridges with small rock outcroppings. Thomas's patrol was en route from Gillems Camp to Hardin (Sand) Butte in search of the Modocs when they stopped to rest in this natural depression. They were unaware that the Modocs were following them as they were hidden from their view by the surrounding ridges. The Modocs used their advantage to surprise the soldiers enabling them to inflict the largest numbers of casualties in a single day during the war.

#### Ice Caves

As their water sources in the lava flow declined, the Modocs moved to known ice caves to the east and south. These caves were used on a regular basis and well-known by Modoc hunters. Some caves remained frozen throughout the year while others thawed during the warmer seasons. The Modocs reportedly camped at Captain Jacks Ice Cave, Frozen River Cave, and Caldwell Ice Cave, moving from one to the next as the water ran out (Murray 1959, 243). Today, these caves still retain water during at least the wetter seasons and years of high precipitation.

#### Summary

The topography of the lava beds is in many ways the key to understanding the events of 1872-1873. It dictated Modoc and U.S. Army troop movements and provided the key components from which battle strategies were developed. The topography remains today nearly untouched and consequently contributes to the significance and setting of the proposed Modoc War Historic District.



*Topography #1: From Hospital Rock looking southwest, the deceptive topography appears flat, but is actually rocky and difficult to traverse. Gillems Bluff and Van Bremer's Mountain (Mount Dome) in the distance (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).*



*Topography #2: Captain Jack's cave appears as it did during the war, however, the Modoc Breastworks (a defensive stacked rock wall above the cave) has become obscured by sagebrush (see History photos #1 and #2) (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).*



*Topography #3: An example of a ravine in Captain Jacks Stronghold that would have been used as a defensive point by the Modocs (See History photo #3) (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).*



*Topography #4: Signal Rock remains relatively unchanged, however, an increase in sagebrush and juniper have altered views from the rock, evident when compared to History photo #5 (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).*



*Topography #5: Hospital Rock has changed little when compared to History photo #7 (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).*



*Topography #6: The Thomas-Wright Battlefield appears similar to what it did during the period of significance (See History photo #8). It is a landscape of rocky ridges and depressions (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).*



## Archeological Sites

Archeological sites inventoried by the CLI include the location of ruins, traces, or deposited artifacts in the landscape that are associated with the period of significance and are evidenced by the presence of either surface or substance features. The CLI takes every precaution not to disclose the location of sensitive archeological sites to preserve the resources.

This section references only those archeological sites that contain components associated with the Modoc War, 1872-73. Nearly all of the archeological sites associated with the Modoc War fall into the category of constructed basalt or andesite stacked rock fortifications. In a few cases, historical artifacts, often correlated with fortification features, have been identified on sites that date to the Modoc War period. In two cases, known camp sites of the U.S. Army have been identified.

### Archeological Survey Limitations

Unfortunately, most of the battlefield and camp areas have not yet been professionally surveyed by archeologists and none have been subjected to modern battlefield archeological survey using remote sensing techniques. However, there is anecdotal evidence of metal detector use on the sites in the mid-twentieth century, and the lack of shell casing and other small objects in the Monument suggests that battle sites have likely been looted. Emphasis of professional archeological surveys have been on the lakeshore area which has resulted in few Modoc War sites recorded south of the Eidsness (1998) survey boundary 1,000 ft. (305 m) south of the Main Park Road. Because of this, approximately two-thirds of the battlefields associated with Captain Jacks Stronghold have not yet been surveyed. In at least one case (site CA-Sis-2377/H), fortifications were noted as present to the south of a recorded site, but were not recorded as they were outside of the survey area. In addition, twentieth century grazing, CCC, and visitation activities along the shoreline and elsewhere have likely heavily impacted archeological sites and rock wall features, particularly at Gillems Camp, Captain Jacks Stronghold, and Hospital Rock.

The military trail across the top of Gillems Bluff has not yet been surveyed. A portion of the top of Gillems Bluff was surveyed recently and one scatter of historical refuse was discovered during that survey that appears to date to the Modoc War period. The CLI team visited this site briefly on May 11, 2004, and Wilson verified that the artifacts are consistent with an 1872-73 date. It is unclear, however, if this site has been recorded, and the site form was not available to Wilson in the preparation of this inventory. The Thomas-Wright Battlefield was only subject to cursory inspection in 1952, with very limited modern coverage on its edges associated with sites found along park trails. It has never been intensively surveyed archeologically using traditional pedestrian or remote sensing techniques.

A further complication to the inventory of Modoc War archeological sites is that many site boundaries have been set based on the distribution of rock features without regard to the historical reports of the battle. Site boundaries have often been set ignoring known unit/company presence and deployment at a camp or on a battlefield. While it is obvious in some areas that sets of sites form the tangible remains of skirmish lines, camp perimeters, and related picket locations, these sites have generally not been recorded with respect for other similar sites nearby or in a consistent manner. Many of the features are concentrated on rocky defensive ridges, which would have been the best for building rock fortifications, but it is unclear if more subtle pit or stacked rock features might be present in the areas between ridges.

There has also been no attempt to locate the subsurface remains of the military's or Modoc's uses of the battlefield. The practice of recording Modoc War sites as part of multi-component prehistoric/historical sites has, in this case, resulted in the dissecting of related war features and potential scatters of subsurface war-related artifacts and grouping them into smaller-sized management units as components of lithic scatters, rockshelters, and lakeshore sites of the prehistoric/protohistoric periods. Further, the footprint in

which the majority of the Modoc War engagements took place was also very heavily occupied in prehistoric and protohistoric times. The Modoc were prone to modify the distribution of rock features (pithouses, cremations, vision quest sites (VQs), hunting blinds etc.) to the extent that identifying “Modoc War” features can be problematic (Siefkin, personal communication, 2004). Unfortunately, these have the effect of diluting the quality of the data collected on the site forms for answering important archeological questions regarding the war. It also has the unanticipated effect of making the management of the archeological remains of the battlefields and camps more difficult. In the future, it would be better to uncouple the recording of prehistoric sites and later historical sites (where possible) from those related to the Modoc War.

Because of the survey limitations, noted above, it is expected that there are many more unrecorded Modoc War fortifications. Based on work on Modoc War sites in the nearby Modoc National Forest (Gates 2001; Gates and Bain n.d.; Gerald R. Gates, personal communication, 1 June 2004), it is also deemed very likely that relatively large numbers of subsurface historical artifacts (numbering in the thousands) are present at some or all of the battlefields and camps of the combatants. Given the existing distribution of battlefield stacked rock features and the size of the battlefields, which are based on the historical record, it is likely that archeological remains are spread across large areas. For example, during the first battle of Captain Jacks Stronghold, Green’s western force began to take Modoc fire after crossing the head of Canby Bay (Thompson 1971: chapter 4; Murray 1959:119). At a range of 1,000 yd. (914 m) this would put the initial Modoc positions a minimum of 500-600 yd. (457-449 m) southwest of the Captain Jacks Stronghold Site (CA-Sis-146/H) and probably over 1000 yd. (914 m) southwest. During the same battle, Bernard’s eastern force is reported to have formed a line that started 100 yd. (91 m) from the lakeshore and extended 1.5 mi. (2.4 km) to the south. If this is accurate, then the U.S. Army position could have extended over 1,000 yd. (914 m) southeast of the Captain Jacks Stronghold Site. As the U.S. Army forces were much larger for the second battle of Captain Jacks Stronghold, the size of that battlefield and the potential scatter of related historical artifacts should also be much larger.

#### Identification of Archeological Sites

A total of 87 sites and isolated finds were assessed as potential Modoc War archeological resources. These sites had been previously identified by archeologists as Modoc War sites or were deemed likely to contain archeological remains of the Modoc War (See Table #1 in Appendix). Ultimately, 70 were determined to be associated with the Modoc War or potentially associated with the Modoc War. In some cases, sites that were identified as prehistoric in age were deemed likely associated with the Modoc War due to the nature of the recorded stacked rock features present, their proximity and alignment with other Modoc War fortifications and camps, or their previous identification as Modoc War-related sites. One site (CA-Sis-106) is a lithic scatter that was listed on the nomination form as containing the remains of activities associated with the Modoc War but for which no evidence (such as stacked rock features or historical artifacts) was listed on the site form. This site is not considered contributing to this inventory.

There are some sites listed in Table #1 (see Appendix) that have been previously identified as being Modoc War related, but that do not fall near the historically-reported locations of U.S. Army or Modoc camps or are not within areas inferred to be battlefields. For example, the extensive rock features associated with the Big Crack area are more likely related to sheep herding than warfare. These sites have not been assigned a military interpretation and are not considered contributing to the significance of the proposed Modoc War Historic District.

There are a number of sites that may be related to the Modoc War and may represent significant, contributing elements of the proposed Modoc War Historic District. Unfortunately there is insufficient information on these sites to determine whether they are Modoc War in age or represent prehistoric, protohistoric, or later historic-period sites. These have been listed with a “?” in Table #1 and are

considered to be contributing to this inventory until further research can be completed. For example, the stacked rock fortifications around Canbys Cross and the head of Canby Bay are in the vicinity of the Warm Springs Scouts camp, but have also been attributed to other functions (e.g., see discussion of shoreline rock alignments, below). Likewise, it is unclear if all of the rockshelters near Gillems Camp were used during the Modoc War. Further archeological research would be necessary to determine if these sites contribute to the significance of the proposed historic district.

The four most commonly noted Modoc War sites are the hubs on which the war progressed within Lava Beds National Monument. The largest and most obvious is the Captain Jacks Stronghold Site (CA-Sis-146/H) which is 74 ha (183 acres) in size and contains over 160 stacked rock features, the natural cracks in tumuli used as defensive features, and the caves inhabited by the Modoc fighters and their families. Sites found to the east and west of the Stronghold represent the northernmost elements of the two battles for the Stronghold, comprising both Modoc and U.S. Army positions.

Gillems Camp (CA-Sis-111/H) at 9.7 ha (24 acres) is smaller in size and more highly altered by the later Civilian Conservation Corps camp that was constructed on top of it. The extent of damage to subsurface cultural deposits at Gillems Camp is unknown, however, as it has never been archeologically tested. In addition, the recorded site area for the camp does not include the historical trail to the bluff and the line of stacked rock features that form the perimeter around it. There are at least 12 other sites affiliated with Gillems Camp, at least six of which represent the fortified perimeter around the camp.

The Hospital Rock camp (CA-Sis-319/H) draft National Register District boundary overlaps with many sites related to the camp and the first and second Battles of Captain Jacks Stronghold. There are ten sites and one isolate associated directly with the Hospital Rock camp and five nearby that might represent either camp or battlefield fortifications. As noted above, the Thomas-Wright Battlefield (CA-Sis-73) has only been cursorily inspected by archeologists. Other sites recorded in the vicinity of the Thomas-Wright Battlefield may be related to the Modoc War, but further survey and testing work is necessary to determine the full scope of this important battlefield site.

#### Types of Sites

While descriptions of sites and site features vary widely, it is possible to identify a number of types of sites associated with the Modoc War. The most frequent type of site is associated with one or more stacked rock features, usually identified as “fortifications.” These are described variously as stacked rock rings, circles, cairns, piles, linear piles, fortifications, and walls. Sites with modified tumulus (schollendome) cracks were the next most frequent (excluding the stronghold, CA-Sis-146/H). These features typically include stacked rock walls to build-up low areas along the natural walls of cracks in tumuli (schollendomes).

Excluding the caves and rockshelters within the stronghold site (CA-Sis-146/H), at least five rockshelter sites are potentially associated with the Modoc War. Three of these are located at Gillems Camp, one of which may be related to the cave used by the interpreter Riddle and his family. A rockshelter near the Thomas-Wright battlefield, was recorded close to one of the Modoc positions, which contained historical artifacts, including tin cans. These artifacts have not yet been recorded in sufficient detail to determine age. One rockshelter, well east of Hospital Rock, has been reported as a possible Modoc War site (White 2003/4, 77), but this is deemed unlikely due to its position far from the known camps/positions of the combatants. Other rockshelter sites could have been used by the Modocs or U.S. Army for shelter during the battles, but these have not been listed in Table #1 unless they also contain war-related stacked rock features.

Three scatters of historical artifacts are listed in Table #1. Of these, CA-Sis-1424/H, near Gillems Camp,

contains twentieth century artifacts. The milled lumber dump at CA-Mod-44/46/Sis-79/H are not diagnostic and do not by themselves suggest a Modoc War site. The stacked rock features at that site appear prehistoric in age and it is unlikely that the site is related to the Modoc War. Tin cans noted at CA-Sis-69, just south of Modoc positions at the Thomas-Wright Battlefield, were not recorded in sufficient detail to assess their age. It is unknown if this site is related to the Modoc War.

Relatively few of the potential Modoc War sites contained historical artifacts whose manufacture or use dates are consistent with the battle. Site CA-Sis-101/H contained three .50-70 cartridges and leather fragments, while CA-Sis-131/H in the vicinity of Canbys Cross contained two hand-soldered hole-and-cap tin cans. Other sites with recorded historical artifacts are either twentieth century in age or were not recorded in sufficient detail to determine their likely date of manufacture/use.

White (2003/4, 78-80) identified four sites near the head of Canby Bay as “Shoreline Rock Alignments.” These sites have been identified as potential fortifications associated with the Modoc War. This interpretation is consistent with the historical record that indicates that the head of Canby Bay was used as a camp by the Warm Springs Scouts to prevent Modoc access to the lake. In at least one case, however, these sites may have had different functions. The rock features at Site CA-SIS-123/124 have been interpreted as a fish trap complex. The sites do appear somewhat different from the other Modoc War sites and confirmation of these sites as Modoc War-era will require additional survey and evaluation.

VQ sites, which typically contain one or more stacked rock features ranging from single rocks stacked on a bedrock outcrop to cairns, have been identified as “vision”, “crisis”, or “power” quest sites. Some researchers have identified them as trail markers or hunting blinds (see White 2003/4, 75-77). Identified VQ sites have not been included in the list of archeological sites associated with the Modoc War. However, White (2003/4, 77) notes the spatial association of some VQ features with Modoc War stacked rock fortifications. He suggests that some of the stacked rock features identified as VQ sites could represent decoys designed to draw enemy fire. Alternatively, the VQ sites and isolates could represent ritual remembrance of the Modoc War by historic-period or even contemporary Native Americans.

#### Archeological Descriptions of Site Features

Over 291 stacked rock features attributed to the Modoc War have been recorded at archeological sites. While over 130 rock features have been recorded at the Stronghold site (CA-Sis-146/H.), over 50% of the recorded rock features are described at other sites. Archeologists have periodically attempted to summarize the types of fortifications recorded. Swartz (1961; 1963, 25-26) noted two construction styles for stacked rock fortifications: (1) “a small circular rampart, usually situated in open areas, offering a panoramic view.” And (2) “a linear, wall-like construction, usually built on lava outcrops, bluff ridges, especially along the shoreline, and rugged areas where outcrops provide building materials and/or serve as natural buttresses” (see photos, Archeological Sites #1 and #2).

Hardesty and Fox (1974, 21-27), who recorded the nearby Hasbroucks and Masons Camp on the Modoc National Forest, identified basalt “forts.” These were “circular and paraboloid configurations, varying in height from four feet in the larger constructions to that of a single stone’s depth of a few inches in the case of the one-man rifle pits. Hardesty and Fox indicate that the “larger unit” features were elaborate and strategically located on lava outcrops. Features at Hasbroucks Camp were situated in two lines with one isolated feature. The stacked rock features at Masons Camp were distributed as a perimeter.

Eidsness and Smith (1992, 43) list the Modoc War features they recorded as single, grouped, or highly complex stacked rock fortification features. Most were inferred to be U.S. Army fortifications, described as “circular- or u-shaped, about waist-high or lower, and large enough for one or two adults to crouch

within.” Less frequent were features with a “linear or zig-zag configuration, or a combination thereof.” The fortifications were “carefully stacked with unshaped and un-mortared lava blocks, and the walls plumb.” Inferred U.S. Army fortifications were often associated with rises and oriented towards Captain Jacks Stronghold. Eidsness and Smith suggest that the inferred Modoc fortifications “lack the regular-constructed, wall-like configurations [of the U.S. Army features], instead, consist of several rocks strategically placed to fill gaps in natural rock features easily adapted for defensive purposes.” Two unique stacked rock features associated with the U.S. Army are the cemetery wall and “howitzer circle” (corral) located at Gillems Camp (see descriptions below).

#### Historical Descriptions and the Military Function of Site Features

The historical accounts of the battle refer to the stacked rock features variously (see Table #2 in Appendix). U.S. Army fortifications of the Indian War period were labeled after their Civil War counterparts, although at the time of the battle, changes in weaponry were affecting dramatically the nature of field fortifications. Fieberger (1903, 3-6) discusses the effect of improved firearms on the nature of entrenchment in the mid-nineteenth century. He suggests that the adoption by the U.S. Army of the percussion-cap, muzzle-loading rifle in 1855 increased the effective range of engagement (from a maximum of 250-500 yd. (228 m-457 m), such that, by the Civil War, entrenchment by troops in the field was common (see also Wiley 1971, 85). In 1869, the introduction of the 12-shot breech-loading rifle with a range of 1300 yd. fully revolutionized the tactics of the U.S. Army. Field fortifications, especially small, hastily constructed barricades or pits, became essential parts of late nineteenth century battles as it was no longer possible to deploy and charge rapidly across the space covered by enemy forces. At the time of the Modoc War this revolution in tactics was still in its infancy, however, and the nature of U.S. Army and Modoc fortifications reflect adjustments of the U.S. Army to the changes in firepower and range of firearms experienced on the field of battle. On the Modoc side, knowledge of the natural features of the Lava Beds assisted Modoc use of them as fortifications. While none of the Modoc fighters were schooled in European-style warfare, their use and augmentation of natural features that mimicked the newest in field fortifications proved effective against the U.S. troops.

A period student of military fortifications, Feibeger (1903, 1-3) identified three types of 19th century field fortification, two of which are pertinent to the Modoc War: “Hasty” or tactical fortifications and “Deliberate” or strategic fortifications (see also Wheeler 1882, 10-11). Tactical fortifications are “engineering devices resorted to by troops upon a battlefield to increase or prolong their fighting power.” Those fortifications “thrown” up during the course of the battles, especially at the first and second Battles of Captain Jacks Stronghold and at the Thomas-Wright Battlefield comprise tactical fortifications. Strategic fortifications are those set up “for the protection of depots, lines of communication and supply, lines of retreat, etc.” Fortifications set up to protect Gillems Camp and Hospital Rock would fall into the strategic category. Further, Feiberger (1903, 200-202) describes “shelter-trenches” or “rifle-pits” as the simplest form of tactical fortifications. The circular or u-shaped stacked rock fortifications attributed to the U.S. Army represent stacked rock versions of rifle pits, designed to provide cover for one to six men (Dictionary of Fortification 2004) identifies rifle pits as containing up to 20 men). Wheeler (1882, 200-201), as another period source, calls them “shelter-trenches,” although it is clear that rifle pit was probably used more commonly by the soldier in the field. The historical reports for the Modoc War battles suggest that rifle pits were constructed along skirmish lines by the U.S. Army during their advances on the stronghold, and were constructed in series along perimeters and lines to provide security for the camps. Those recorded stacked rock features from archeological sites that appear to conform to rifle pits have been identified as such in Table #1.

It is also quite likely that rifle pits were constructed in advance of skirmish lines and camp perimeters as pickets or picket posts. Isolated stacked rock features that do not appear to be associated with systems of rifle pits in skirmish lines have been identified as possible pickets in Table #1.

Both the Modocs and the U.S. Army often modified the cracks in the tops and sides of tumuli. Jackson (1892) calls these “natural rifle trenches”, which is a descriptive and appropriate term for them. Rifle trenches are extended linear field works that allowed protected communication between different parts of a line (see Dictionary of Fortification 2004). Long linear rock walls, recorded at some sites, may also have formed constructed features that approximate the military function of rifle trenches.

The Howitzer Circle at Gillems Camp is of unknown function, although it appears to have formed a more strategic function associated with the protection of arms or fortifying the battery of howitzers. Its description suggests that it is qualitatively and quantitatively different from the other small circular or u-shaped stacked rock fortifications. Historic photographs from 1873 show a circular wall made of loosely stacked lava rocks. It may have served as a howitzer ring or as a corral. This rock circle remained in place through the CCC-era camp that was built in the Gillems Camp area. Photographs from this time show the rock circle in the same location. The rock wall has probably been rebuilt several times, but it is probable that at least the base rocks are the originals. Today, the rock circle appears much the same as it did historically. Comparison of historic and contemporary photographs shows it has the same overall shape and character – a circle that is subtly elongated at the northern end. The circle is constructed of loosely stacked lava rocks approximately fifty feet in diameter with a three-foot opening on the north side.

A cemetery was established at Gillems Camp, where almost 100 soldiers were buried in 1873 (1965 master plan). A historic photograph from 1873 reveals a rectangular wall built of stacked lava rocks marking the perimeter of the cemetery. At the northern wall was an opening with a wood gate. Since the war, the bodies buried at Gillems Camp have been interred elsewhere. However, the cemetery wall remains to mark the location of the cemetery and appears much as it did historically. It retains its historic location, dimensions, and constructed of loosely piled lava rocks stacked two to three feet high. An opening is still located on the northern side, but it is no longer marked by a wooden gate. Over time, rocks have fallen and have been replaced.

#### Affiliation and Distribution of Sites within the Landscape

The distribution of recorded sites across the landscape is shown on the Site Maps (see Appendix). As noted above, most of the recorded Modoc War sites are concentrated along the shore of Tule Lake and within 1000 feet south of the Main Park Road along the lake as these are the areas that have been professionally surveyed. The large areas defined for the Thomas-Wright Battlefield and Hospital Rock reflect the boundaries on the draft nomination forms. Because of sampling bias, the distribution shown in the Site Map is unlikely to reflect the actual distribution of Modoc War sites within Lava Beds National Monument. It is highly likely that artifacts, stacked rock features, and modified tumuli are present east and west of the stronghold and across an unknown area of the Thomas-Wright Battlefield. In addition, four sites have been identified at the Petroglyph Point unit of Lava Beds.

#### Condition of the Sites

While there are some sites that have clearly been altered by road construction, vandalism, and other processes, most of the sites are in good condition. While some of the stacked rock walls have fallen, a number have likely been re-stacked by visitors or park staff, and some may have been toppled by juniper roots and branches, their general shape and size is still apparent and the information they contain is highly significant. It is unknown to what extent artifact collection has affected the battlefield and camp sites, but it is likely that subsurface archeological remains are still present in spatially-patterned deposits. Further archeological work will be required to assess the effects of past looting behavior.

#### Significance of Modoc War Sites

The archeologically recorded stacked rock features associated with the Modoc War are unique defensive structures that are a result of the geology and topography of the battlefields, combined with mid-nineteenth century development of firearms and the tactical responses to these developments. As such, the Modoc War sites are unique historical archeological features on the landscape. Eidsness and Smith (1992, 65) state, “A systematic survey and formal recodation of Monument fortifications would contribute to a better understanding of their architectural variability and would supplement the written record in the reconstruction of military strategies and battles of the Modoc War.” Such a study would contribute greatly to our understanding of the development of the U.S. Army after the Civil War.

Likewise, many of the site forms suggest that surface artifacts related to the war are scarce due to intensive artifact collecting. While this may be true, the experience of archeologists at Modoc War sites just east of the park (see Gates 2001; Gates and Bain n.d.) suggest that many historical artifacts associated with the battle are located in subsurface deposits that are amenable to discovery using metal detectors. As large areas of the battlefields and camps have not yet been surveyed using either traditional archeological techniques or battlefield survey techniques, it is possible that extensive sites associated with Modoc War stacked rock features and subsurface historical archeological remains are present in the park.

Archeological sites and their associated features constitute the large majority of contributing features in the proposed Modoc Wars Historic District landscape. The most significant features of most of these sites are the stacked rock fortifications that still stand as testament to the strategies of the Modoc and U.S. Army. As a result, archeological sites contribute as a landscape characteristic to the significance of the proposed district.



*Archeological Sites #1: U.S. Army-associated rock wall at the Thomas-Wright Battlefield (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).*



*Archeological Sites #2: A section of the Modoc Breastworks, a defensive wall built by the Modocs within Captain Jacks Stronghold (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).*



*Archeological Sites #3: The howitzer circle built by the U.S. Army at Gillems Camp (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).*



*Archeological Sites #4: The cemetery wall built by the U.S. Army at Gillems Camp (See History photo #6) (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004)*

<b>Characteristic Feature</b>	<b>Type Of Contribution</b>	<b>LCS Structure Name</b>	<b>IDLCS Number</b>	<b>Structure Number</b>
Captain Jacks Stringhold Fortifications	Contributing	Captain Jacks Stronghold	007658	CS3
Gillems Camp Cemetery Wall	Contributing	Gillems Camp Cemetery Wall	058650	CS1A
Gillems Camp Howitzer Circle	Contributing	Gillems Camp Rock Circle	058651	CS1B
Gillems Camp Sentry Posts/Fortifications	Contributing	Gillems Camp	007656	CS1
Hospital Rock Army Camp Fortifications	Contributing	Hospital Rock Army Camp Site	007657	CS2
Other Battlefield Stacked-Rock Fortifications	Contributing	Other Battlefield Stacked-Rock Fortifications	TBD	TBD
Thomas-Wright Battle Fortifications	Contributing	Thomas-Wright Battle Site	058653	TBD

## **Buildings And Structures**

For purposes of the CLI, buildings are defined as those features that are built primarily for sheltering any form of human activity. Structures are defined as features constructed for purposes other than sheltering human activities.

No permanent buildings were constructed during the war within the proposed Modoc War Historic District. The U.S. Army erected canvas tents that were immediately removed after the war and the Modocs lived in natural caves which they modified for habitation. As major topographical features, the inhabited caves are described in the topography section.

Structures built during the war include a collection of rock walls built by both the Modocs and the U.S. Army soldiers. These structures have traditionally been recorded and documented as “fortifications” by archeologists and are therefore described in the archaeological sites section of this inventory. Another structure from the period of significance is Canbys Cross, which has been replaced and modified several times since the war and is no longer a contributing feature of the cultural landscape. However, since this is a commemorative structure, it is listed on the List of Classified Structures (LCS) and is managed as a cultural resource as a matter of policy.

### **Canbys Cross**

In 1873, a cross was erected by U.S. soldiers to mark the location of General Canby and Reverend Eleazer Thomas’ murder by the Modocs during attempted peace negotiations on April 11, 1873. A photograph taken in the same year shows a very simple cross made of thin pieces of wood set directly in the ground. A later photograph taken in 1934, during the CCC-era, depicts a more sophisticated memorial to General Canby. By this time, the cross had been enlarged and set upon a mortared rock base.

Today the cross appears similar to as it did in 1934. The cross itself has been rebuilt of wood with the same dimensions. The replica wood cross is twelve feet high with four foot wide arms made of six-inch square timber. Some differences include a thicker wood base where the cross is set into the mortared rock base. The cross has been painted white and has text painted across the front stating, “Gen. Canby USA was murdered here by the Modocs April 11, 1873.” Close inspection of the four foot tall rock base reveals that many, if not all, of the rocks are in the same location and orientation as they were placed by 1934. A mortared lava stone patio and walkway has been installed around the base of the memorial. Although this cross has been altered in appearance since 1873 and no longer has integrity to the period of significance, it continues to reflect its CCC-era appearance. The cross is listed on the LCS and continues to be managed as a historic resource (memorial).

### **Other Non-contributing Features**

The CCC erected at least eighteen wood buildings at Gillems Camp by 1937. Most of these buildings were removed when their camp was closed and dismantled in 1942. A few buildings were retained and converted into a ranger station and storage building/garage used by park staff. The last of these buildings were removed in 1966 in an effort to restore the Gillems Camp to the period of the war.

One remaining structure built by the CCC is the CCC water tank behind Sentinel Rock on the slope above Gillems Camp that provided water to their camp below. This feature, and others parkwide, will be assessed by the CLI as a single, distinct landscape at a future date.

Buildings and structures built after the CCC-era include a fee station, vault toilets, and a kiosk at Gillems Camp, and vault toilets and a kiosk at Captain Jacks Stronghold.



*Buildings and Structures #1: An 2004 photograph of Canbys Cross (NPS, PWR, CLI digital photo, 2004).*

<b>Characteristic Feature</b>	<b>Type Of Contribution</b>	<b>LCS Structure Name</b>	<b>IDLCS Number</b>	<b>Structure Number</b>
Canbys Cross	Non-Contributing	Canbys Cross Memorial	058652	CS5
CCC Water Tank on Schonchin Rock	Non-Contributing			
Fee Station at Gillems Camp	Non-Contributing			
Kiosk at at Captain Jacks Stronghold	Non-Contributing			
Kiosk at Gillems Camp	Non-Contributing			
Rock wall at the Thomas-Wright Battlefield overlook	Non-Contributing			
Vault Toilets at Captain Jacks Stronghold	Non-Contributing			
Vault Toilets at Gillems Camp	Non-Contributing			

## Circulation

For purposes of the CLI, circulation is defined as spaces and features which constitute systems of movement within a landscape. Before the Modoc War, formal paths and roads did not exist within the area. During the war, the U.S Army created one formalized trail known as Gillems Trail to provide access between Van Bremer Camp and Gillems Camp. Other movements through the landscape during the war were more informal or are difficult to pinpoint, such as the use of Tule Lake by both the Modocs and the Army to move between camps, the paths taken by troops during the battles for the Stronghold, the flight of the Modocs through the Schonchin Lava Flow following the second Battle for the Stronghold, and the march of troops from Gillems Camp en route to Hardin Butte leading up to the Thomas-Wright Battle.

### Gillems Bluff Trail

Gillems Bluff Trail was established by the U.S. Army to move troops, supplies, and the howitzers from Van Bremer Camp (located outside and the Monument to the west) to the top of Gillems Bluff and down the slope to Gillems Camp. Throughout the war, this trail was the main route for moving people, supplies, and messages in and out of Gillems Camp (Lava Beds National Monument Cultural Resource Study, 103). Today, this trail is a simple dirt path with switchbacks, measuring two to three-feet wide and lacking any improvements such as footbridges, culverts or drainage ditches. The park maintains 0.7 miles of the historic trail from Gillems Camp to the bluff, which is used as a hiking trail by park visitors to access views from atop the bluff.

### General Movements of the U.S. Army and the Modocs

Movements of both the Modocs and the U.S. Army are difficult to pinpoint with exact routes because they were traversing a rough landscape without paths or roads. Historical accounts of the war provide general descriptions of the locations and directions of troop movements, but exact routes have not been concluded.

Important movements during the war, such as Army and Modoc movements during the first and second battles for the Stronghold, the U.S. Army's route from Gillems Camp to Hardin Butte in search of the Modocs before the Thomas-Wright Battle, and general Army and Modoc scouting movements are not known exactly and did not follow any formalized path. They likely followed paths of least resistance as parties attempted to reach their goals. During battles, the Army soldiers and Modoc fighters moved in skirmish lines or as individuals, covering large areas of land.

During the second Battle for the Stronghold on April 15-17, 1873, the Modocs fled south to the ice caves after they were cut off from Tule Lake, which was their only source of water at the Stronghold. Their exact route from the Stronghold to the ice caves is not known, but it is widely believed that they fled southward on a plateau to the Schonchin Lava Flow. The Modocs familiarity of the terrain would have given them the knowledge to choose the quickest and safest route between the two points.

Tule Lake was used by both the Army and the Modocs at different points of the war. The Modocs fled their camp at Lost River on November 29, 1872, after an attack by Captain Jackson's troops. The women, children, and wounded men crossed Tule Lake by boat to the southern shore where they set up camp at the Stronghold. Their exact landing point on the southern edge of the lake is unknown. In the interim between the first and second Battles of the Stronghold, at least one trip between Gillems Camp and Hospital Rock was made by Meacham via boat on Tule Lake (Murray 1959, 175). The locations of associated boat launching sites are unknown.

### Non-contributing Resources

All other roads, trails, and parking lots that post-date the war are non-contributing. These include features developed since 1873, including CCC features constructed in the 1930s.

The Main Park Road was constructed in the late 1930s through 1942 by CCC crews. The road was partially realigned in the 1960s. Today the road remains the main access route through the park. It is a two lane, curvilinear, asphalt road, without shoulders. Entering the park at the northeast corner, the road generally parallels the northern boundary until it reaches the base of Gillems Bluff. The road turns south and follows the base of the bluff until approximately halfway through the park where it starts to head southeast and then continues until it exits the park at the southeast corner.

Lyons Road was developed as a logging road sometime after the Modoc War. Its alignment begins near Hospital Rock and heads south past Juniper Butte. The road was improved by the Forest Service in the early 1920s as part of the Modoc National Forest and was later used as an access road by the National Park Service after the Monument was established in 1925. The Monument's 1965 Master Plan described the road as a rough and primitive fire road that was not accessible to the public. The Monument continues to maintain and use the access road between the main park road and Juniper Butte for park operations only. Visitors can access the road only by foot. After establishment of Wilderness in 1972, the Lyons Road section between Juniper Butte and Skull Cave was closed to all vehicular traffic.

Several parking lots and trail systems or walkways were developed at Gillems Camp, Captain Jacks Stronghold, Canbys Cross, Hospital Rock and West Wildlife Overlook after the period of significance by the CCC and the park. At Gillems Camp, the CCC developed trails associated with operations and use of the CCC camp established there. These were unpaved, narrow paths between buildings. All of these paths have been removed except for a trail above the cemetery where a memorial plaque was placed. At Captain Jacks Stronghold, the CCC developed a narrow, double-looped trail system through ravines and among rock outcroppings to guide visitors to important features of the Stronghold. At Canbys Cross, the CCC may have been responsible for creating the rock base on which the cross is now supported. More recently, the park installed the mortared walkway between the parking lot and the cross. At each of these sites, as well as Hospital Rock and West Wildlife Overlook, the park constructed paved parking lots in the 1960s in conjunction with development of the main road through the park. All of these parking lots, walkways and trail systems are non-contributing.

While the historic routes through the lava fields taken by both the U.S. Army and the Modocs in 1872-1873 are still present, there were few constructed circulatory features with the exception of the Gillems Bluff Trail. Consequently, circulation is not a contributing landscape characteristic of the Modoc War Historic District, although the Gillems Bluff Trail should continue to be managed as a cultural resource.

<b>Characteristic Feature</b>	<b>Type Of Contribution</b>	<b>LCS Structure Name</b>	<b>IDLCS Number</b>	<b>Structure Number</b>
Gillems Bluff Trail	Contributing	Gillems Bluff Trail	TBD	TBD
Devils Homestead Overlook	Non-Contributing			
Lyons Road	Non-Contributing			
Main Park Road	Non-Contributing			

North Entry Road	Non-Contributing
Parking Lot at Canbys Cross	Non-Contributing
Parking Lot at Captain Jacks Stronghold	Non-Contributing
Parking Lot at Gillems Camp	Non-Contributing
Parking Lot at Hospital Rock	Non-Contributing
Parking Lot at West Wildlife Overlook	Non-Contributing
Road to Schonchin Butte	Non-Contributing
Schonchin Trail	Non-Contributing
Thomas-Wright Battlefield Trail	Non-Contributing
Trail at Captain Jacks Stronghold	Non-Contributing
Trail at Hospital Rock	Non-Contributing
Trails at Gillems Camp	Non-Contributing
Walkway at Canbys Cross	Non-Contributing
Walkway at West Wildlife Overlook	Non-Contributing

## Management Information

**Management Unit:**

**Tract Numbers:**

**State and County:**

Modoc County, CA

**Size (acres):**

16,764.00

## Boundary UTM

Boundary UTM(s):	Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	621043	4631509
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	621890	4630322
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	622153	4630464
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	623575	4632732
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	623148	4632853
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	623781	4631779
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	624535	4631509
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	625360	4632832
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	627081	4633017
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	626541	4632384
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	627565	4633102
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	633782	4634736
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	634217	4633524
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	10	633875	4634062
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	633872	4634471
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	634177	4633326
	USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	634171	4633516

USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	633368	4633288
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	633333	4634532
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	633474	4634612
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	625317	4622723
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	633489	4634716
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	626775	4616676
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	629726	4632569
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	629812	4627463
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	624613	4627463
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	624571	4624377
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	620005	4624377
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	619721	4625401
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	618931	4625898
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	618818	4632327
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 83	10	619891	4632355

**GIS File Name:** C:\GIS\CLI\labe\modoc.apr

**GIS File Description:** This Arcview 3.2 .apr file is located on the Oakland CLI coordinator computer hard drive. All data used in the project, with the exception of the CLI boundary theme, was obtained from the park.

## National Register Information

**National Register Documentation:** Entered -- Inadequately Documented

### Explanatory Narrative:

Three sites and one district have been previously listed on the National Register that are located within the boundary of the Modoc War Historic District proposed by this CLI. These previous nominations were for Captain Jacks Stronghold, Hospital Rock Army Camp Site, Thomas-Wright Battle Site, and the Modoc Lava Beds National Monument Archeological District (see Statement of Significance for more detail). These four nominations, however, focus primarily on archeological aspects of the park and do not adequately address cultural landscape features

associated with the setting. This CLI adds to the archeological information provided by the previous nominations by providing more detailed description of the setting and contributing landscape features.

**NRIS Information:**

NRIS Number:	78000366
Primary Certification:	Listed In The National Register
Primary Certification Date:	11/15/1978
Name In National Register:	Thomas-Wright Battle Site
NRIS Number:	75002182
Primary Certification:	Listed In The National Register
Primary Certification Date:	3/21/1991
Other Certifications:	Date Received/Pending Nomination
Other Certification Date:	2/19/1975
Name In National Register:	Lava Beds National Monument Archeological District
Other Names In National Register:	See Also:75000224;73000259;73000227;78000366;See Also:75000224;73000259;73000227;78000366
NRIS Number:	73000259
Primary Certification:	Listed In The National Register
Primary Certification Date:	9/20/1973
Name In National Register:	Captain Jack's Stronghold
NRIS Number:	73000227
Primary Certification:	Listed In The National Register
Primary Certification Date:	10/2/1973
Name In National Register:	Hospital Rock Army Camp Site

**National Register Eligibility:** Undetermined

**Explanatory Narrative:**

As of February 2005, this inventory has not been reviewed by the California SHPO.

**Date of Eligibility Determination:**

**National Register Classification:** District

**Significance Level:** National

**Contributing/Individual:** Individual

**Significance Criteria:** B -- Inventory Unit is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past

A -- Inventory Unit is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

D -- Inventory Unit has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history

### **Period Of Significance**

Time Period: 1872 - 1873 AD

Historic Context Theme:	Peopling Places
Historic Context Subtheme:	Ethnohistory of Indigenous American Populations
Historic Context Facet:	Varieties Of Conflict, Conquest Or Accommodation
Historic Context Theme:	Shaping the Political Landscape
Historic Context Subtheme:	Political and Military Affairs 1865-1939
Historic Context Facet:	Indian Wars (1860-1890)
Historic Context Theme:	Peopling Places
Historic Context Subtheme:	Westward Expansion of the Colonies and the United States, 1763-1898
Historic Context Facet:	Military-Indigenous Peoples Contact

### **Area Of Significance:**

Category:	Military
Priority:	1
Category:	Archeology
Sub-category:	Historic-Aboriginal
Priority:	2
Category:	Ethnic Heritage
Sub-category:	Native American
Priority:	3
Category:	Social History
Priority:	4

## **National Historic Landmark Information**

### **National Historic**

**Landmark Status:** No

## **World Heritage Site Information**

**World Heritage Site Status:** No

## Cultural Landscape Type and Use

**Cultural Landscape Type:** Historic Site

**Current and Historic Use/Function:**

Use/Function Category: Defense  
Use/Function: Battle Site  
Detailed Use/Function: Battle Site  
Type Of Use/Function: Historic

## Ethnographic Information

**Ethnographic Survey Conducted:** Yes-Restricted Information

**Associated Groups**

Name of Peoples: Modoc  
Type of Association: Both Current And Historic  
Name of Peoples: Klamath Tribes (Modoc)  
Type of Association: Both Current And Historic

## Adjacent Lands Information

**Do Adjacent Lands Contribute?** Yes

**Adjacent Lands Description:**

Numerous Modoc War-related sites have been identified on adjacent Modoc National Forest and Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge lands.

## General Management Information

**Management Category:** Should Be Preserved And Maintained

**Management Category Date:**

**Explanatory Narrative:**

The Modoc Wars Historic District meets National Register criteria, is compatible with the park's legislated significance, and has a continuing purpose or function that is appropriate to its traditional use or function. As a result, the proposed district falls under Management Category B – Should be Preserved and Maintained.

## Condition Assessment And Impacts

The criteria for determining the condition of landscapes is consistent with the Resource Management Plan Guideline definitions (1994) and is decided with the concurrence of park management. Cultural landscape conditions are defined as follows:

*Good:* indicates the landscape shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The landscape's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

*Fair:* indicates the landscape shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character-defining elements will cause the landscape to degrade to a poor condition.

*Poor:* indicates the landscape shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

*Undetermined:* Not enough information available to make an evaluation.

**Condition Assessment:** Fair

**Assessment Date:** 05/12/2004

**Date Recorded:** 01/20/2005

**Park Management Concurrence:** Yes      **Concurrence Date:** 5/19/2005

**Level Of Impact Severity:** Low

**Explanatory Notes:** Through analysis and evaluation of landscape characteristics and features and concurrence with park staff, it has been determined that the landscape is in "fair" condition. Based on the definition for "fair condition" above, this landscape shows clear evidence

of minor disturbances and deterioration by both natural and human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural values. Primary impacts to the landscape are vegetative succession and invasive plants. A secondary impact is visitation. These impacts are described below

Once the impacts of succession and invasive species have been adequately addressed and “no immediate corrective action is required to maintain its condition,” the landscape condition may be updated to “good.” This update will require a follow-up site visit by the CLI team and concurrence by park staff.

### **Stabilization Measures:**

#### **Impact:**

Type of Impact: Vegetation/Invasive Plants

Internal/External: Both Internal and External

#### Description:

Western juniper trees and sagebrush have colonized a number of stacked rock features, especially within the stronghold. Root systems and branches are partially responsible for toppled rocks (in conjunction with visitor impacts described below). Junipers and sagebrush growing on or within rock features should be a priority for removal by the Fire Management Team to defend against further deterioration. Removal should be done in coordination with an archeologist. Rock features should also be monitored on a regular basis to identify and remove newly established vegetation before it matures to prevent further damage.

Type of Impact: Release To Succession

Internal/External: Both Internal and External

#### Description:

The impacts from horse, sheep, and cattle grazing, combined with federal government fire suppression policies of the twentieth century (ending in Lava Beds National Monument in 1973) have altered vegetative groundcovers throughout the monument. Within the proposed historic district, open perennial grasslands in particular have been converted to annual grasslands with increasing western juniper encroachment. This process has, among other ecological impacts, begun to severely alter the historic scene from 1873 by obscuring sightlines and travel routes that were crucial to war tactics. An already established program of western juniper removal and controlled burning by the park’s fire management program should be continued with its stated goal of restoring the lands to pre-1873 conditions.

Type of Impact: Visitation

Internal/External: Internal

#### Description:

Well intending visitors have been known to re-stack stone walls that have collapsed or are failing. These efforts result in incorrect configurations without historical accuracy. Increased text regarding the sensitivity of cultural resources in park interpretive

materials, particularly the “Captain Jacks Stronghold Historic Trail” guide may reduce this impact.

## **Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access**

**NPS Legal Interest:** Fee Simple

**Explanatory Narrative:**

**Public Access:** Unrestricted

## Treatment

**Approved Treatment:** Preservation  
**Approved Treatment Document:** General Management Plan  
**Document Date:** January 6, 1996

**Explanatory Narrative:**

The General Management Plan outlines "preservation" as the prescribed treatment for Captain Jacks Stronghold, Hospital Rock, Thomas-Wright Battlefield, and the Modoc Lava Beds Archeological District, among other places in the park (13).

Much effort and planning by the park has already been directed at preservation of resources related to the Modoc War. The final goal to ensure preservation of these resources should be the removal of junipers that block significant views, have altered the feeling of the landscape, and are growing on the stacked rock walls thus threatening their existence.

**Approved Treatment Completed:** No

## Approved Treatment Cost

**LCS Structure Approved**

**Treatment Cost:** \$0

**Landscape Approved** \$0  
**Treatment Cost:**

**Cost Date:**

**Level of Estimate:**

**Cost Estimator:**

**Explanatory Description:** The LCS has not identified treatment costs for any features listed on the LCS.

## Stabilization Costs

**LCS Structure Stabilization Cost:** \$0

**Landscape Stabilization Costs:** \$0

**Cost Date:**

**Level Of Estimate:**

**Cost Estimator:**

**Explanatory Description:** The LCS has not identified stabilization costs for any features listed on the LCS. In addition, as no

stabilization measures have been identified, there are no landscape stabilization costs.

## Documentation Assessment and Checklist

**Documentation Assessment:** Fair

**Documentation:**

Document: General Management Plan

Year Of Document: 1996

Adequate Documentation: No

**Explanatory Narrative:**

While the GMP identifies the existing National Register of Historic Places documentation of certain landscape features, it does not address the landscape as a discrete entity in need of management.

## Appendix

### Bibliography

#### Citations:

Citation Author: Boyle, William H.  
Citation Title: Eyewitnesses to the Indian Wars, 1865-1890, Peter Cozzens, ed  
Year of Publication: 2002  
Source Name: Bancroft Library, Berkeley CA

---

Citation Author: Burke, M.  
Citation Title: Vegetation surveys within cheatgrass communities (Unpublished)  
Year of Publication: 2003  
Source Name: other  
Citation Type: Narrative  
Citation Location: LABE Resource management office

---

Citation Author: Eidsness, Janet and King Smith, Ann  
Citation Title: Modoc Lava Beds Archeological District, National Register Nomination Form  
Year of Publication: 1990  
Publisher: NPS  
Source Name: National Register of Historic Places  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: Eidsness, Janet, C., and Ann King Smith  
Citation Title: Archeological Survey 1989 and 1990, Lava Beds National Monument, California  
Year of Publication: 1992  
Publisher: NPS  
Source Name: LABE  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: Erhard, Dean Hamilton  
Citation Title: Plant Communities and Habitat Types in the Lava Beds National Monument, California  
Year of Publication: 1979  
Publisher: NPS  
Source Name: LABE

---

Citation Author: Fiebeger, G. J.  
Citation Title: A Text-book on Field Fortifications  
Year of Publication: 1903  
Publisher: John Wiley & Sons, New York  
Source Name: Internet  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative  
Citation Location: <http://civilwarfortifications.com/library/library.html>

---

Citation Author: Fitzgerald, Maurice  
Citation Title: The Modoc War  
Year of Publication: 1927  
Source Name: Library Of Congress/Dewey Decimal  
Citation Number: E81 .E989 2001  
Citation Location: Americana 21(4): 498-521. Reprinted 2002 in Eyewitnesses to the Indian Wars, 1865-1890, Peter Cozzens, ed., pp. 115-134.

---

Citation Author: Freiser, Leonard H.  
Citation Title: The Modoc War – A Symposium, The Journal of the Shaw Historical Library, Vol.3, No. 1  
Year of Publication: 1988  
Publisher: Oregon Tech Foundation  
Source Name: PWR-Oakland Library  
Citation Number: E 83.87.J69  
Citation Type: Narrative

---

Citation Author: Gates, Gerald R.  
Citation Title: Relocating the ‘Battle of Scorpion Point’  
Year of Publication: 1998  
Source Name: Library Of Congress/Dewey Decimal  
Citation Number: D25.5 .F54 2001  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative  
Citation Location: A Passport in Time Project – 1998. In P.W.M. Fremman and A. Pollard, eds., Fields of Conflict: Progress and Prospect in Battlefield Archaeology, pp 201-206. BAR International Series 958.

---

Citation Author: Gates, Gerald R. and Susan Bain  
Citation Title: The Post-Civil War Battlefield Pattern: A Modoc War Example  
Source Name: Modoc National Forest  
Citation Location: Ms. on file, Modoc National Forest, California. No date.

---

Citation Author: Hardesty, Donald L., and Steven Fox  
Citation Title: Archaeological Investigations in Northern California  
Year of Publication: 1974  
Source Name: University of Nevada, Reno  
Citation Location: Nevada Archeological Survey Research Paper Number 4. Robert Elston and L. Sabini, eds., University of Nevada, Reno.

---

Citation Author: Jackson, James  
Citation Title: Modoc War – Its Origin, Incidents, and Peculiarities  
Year of Publication: 1892  
Source Name: Library Of Congress/Dewey Decimal  
Citation Number: E81 .E989 2001  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative  
Citation Location: United Service, n.s., 8, no. 1. Reprinted 2002 in Eyewitnesses to the Indian Wars, 1865-1890, Peter Cozzens, ed., pp. 98-109.

---

Citation Author: Knight, Oliver  
Citation Title: Following the Indian Wars  
Publisher: University of Oklahoma Press: Norman  
Source Name: LABE Library  
Citation Number: 1960

---

Citation Author: Miller, Rick / Heyerdahl, Emily / and Hopkins, Karl  
Citation Title: Fire Regimes, Pre- and Post-Settlement Vegetation, and the Modern Expansion of Western Juniper at Lava Beds National Monument, California  
Year of Publication: 2003  
Publisher: Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center  
Source Name: LABE Resources Office  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: Murray, Keith  
Citation Title: The Modocs and Their War  
Year of Publication: 1959  
Publisher: Norman, University of Oklahoma Press  
Source Name: Library Of Congress/Dewey Decimal  
Citation Number: E83.87 .M87  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: NPS  
Citation Title: CCC Monthly Narratives Sept. 1937 – Sept. 1941  
Source Name: LABE Library  
Citation Number: 979.4 LAV  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: NPS  
Citation Title: LABE Superintendent's Annual Reports, 1933-1956  
Source Name: LABE Library  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: NPS  
Citation Title: LABE Superintendent's Monthly Reports, 1937-1940  
Source Name: LABE Library  
Citation Number: 979.4  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: NPS  
Citation Title: LABE Superintendent's Monthly Reports 1950-1960  
Source Name: LABE Library  
Citation Number: 979.4 LAV  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: Palmer, Kevin  
Citation Title: Administrative History - Lava Beds National Monument  
Year of Publication: 1993  
Source Name: PWR-Oakland Library  
Citation Type: Narrative

---

Citation Author: Palmquist, Peter  
Citation Title: Journal of California Anthropology, Vol 4 No. 2,  
Imagemakers of the Modoc War: Louis Heller and  
Eadweard Muybridge  
Year of Publication: 1977  
Source Name: LABE Library  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: Quinn, Arthur  
Citation Title: Hell With the Fire Out : A History of the Modoc War  
Year of Publication: 1997  
Publisher: Boston: Faber & Faber  
Source Name: Library Of Congress/Dewey Decimal  
Citation Number: E83.87 .Q56 1997  
Citation Type: Narrative

---

Citation Author: Swartz, B.K., Jr.  
Citation Title: A Preliminary Archaeological Survey Along the  
Proposed Highway, Lava Beds National Monument  
Year of Publication: 1961  
Publisher: Klamath County Museum/NPS  
Source Name: LABE  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: Thompson, Erwin N.  
Citation Title: Modoc War, Its Military History and Topography  
Year of Publication: 1971  
Publisher: Sacramento, Argus Books  
Source Name: Library Of Congress/Dewey Decimal  
Citation Number: E83.87 .T5  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: Thompson, Erwin and Hunt Watts, Jennifer  
Citation Title: Captain Jacks Stronghold, National Register  
Nomination Form  
Year of Publication: 1972  
Publisher: NPS  
Source Name: National Register of Historic Places  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: Thompson, Erwin / Hunt Watts, Jennifer / Huffman,  
Laurin C. II  
Citation Title: Hospital Rock, National Register Nomination Form  
Year of Publication: 1972  
Publisher: NPS  
Source Name: National Register of Historic Places  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: Thompson, Erwin / Hunt Watts, Jennifer / Huffman,  
Laurin C. II  
Citation Title: Thomas-Wright Battle Site, National Register  
Nomination Form  
Year of Publication: 1976  
Publisher: NPS  
Source Name: National Register of Historic Places  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: Wheeler, J. B.  
Citation Title: The Elements of Field Fortifications for the Use of the  
Cadets of the United States Military Academy at West  
Point, N.Y.  
Year of Publication: 1882  
Publisher: D. Van Nostrand: New York.  
Source Name: Internet Site  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative  
Citation Location: <http://civilwarfortifications.com/library/library.html>

---

Citation Author: White, Gregory G. et. al.  
Citation Title: Archaeological Overview and Research Design: Lava Beds National Monument  
Year of Publication: 2003  
Source Name: PWR-Oakland Library  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative

---

Citation Author: Wiley, Bell Irvin  
Citation Title: The Life of Billy Yank: The Common Soldier of the Union  
Year of Publication: 1971  
Publisher: Louisiana State University Press: Baton Rouge  
Source Name: Wilson collection

---

Citation Title: Dictionary of Fortifications  
Source Name: Internet site  
Citation Location: <http://civilwarfortifications.com/dictionary/dictionary.html> - accessed 2004

---

Citation Author: Johnson, A.H. and G.A. Smathers  
Citation Title: Fire History and Ecology, Lava Beds National Monument  
Year of Publication: 1976  
Source Name: Other  
Citation Type: Narrative  
Citation Location: LABE library

---

Citation Author: NPS  
Citation Title: Draft Lava Beds national Monument Cultural Resource  
Overview, 2004  
Year of Publication: 2004  
Source Name: Other  
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative  
Citation Location: LABE

---

Citation Author: Franklin, J.F. and C.T. Dyrness  
Citation Title: Natural Vegetation of Oregon and Waashington  
Year of Publication: 1973  
Publisher: USDA  
Source Name: Other  
Citation Type: Narrative

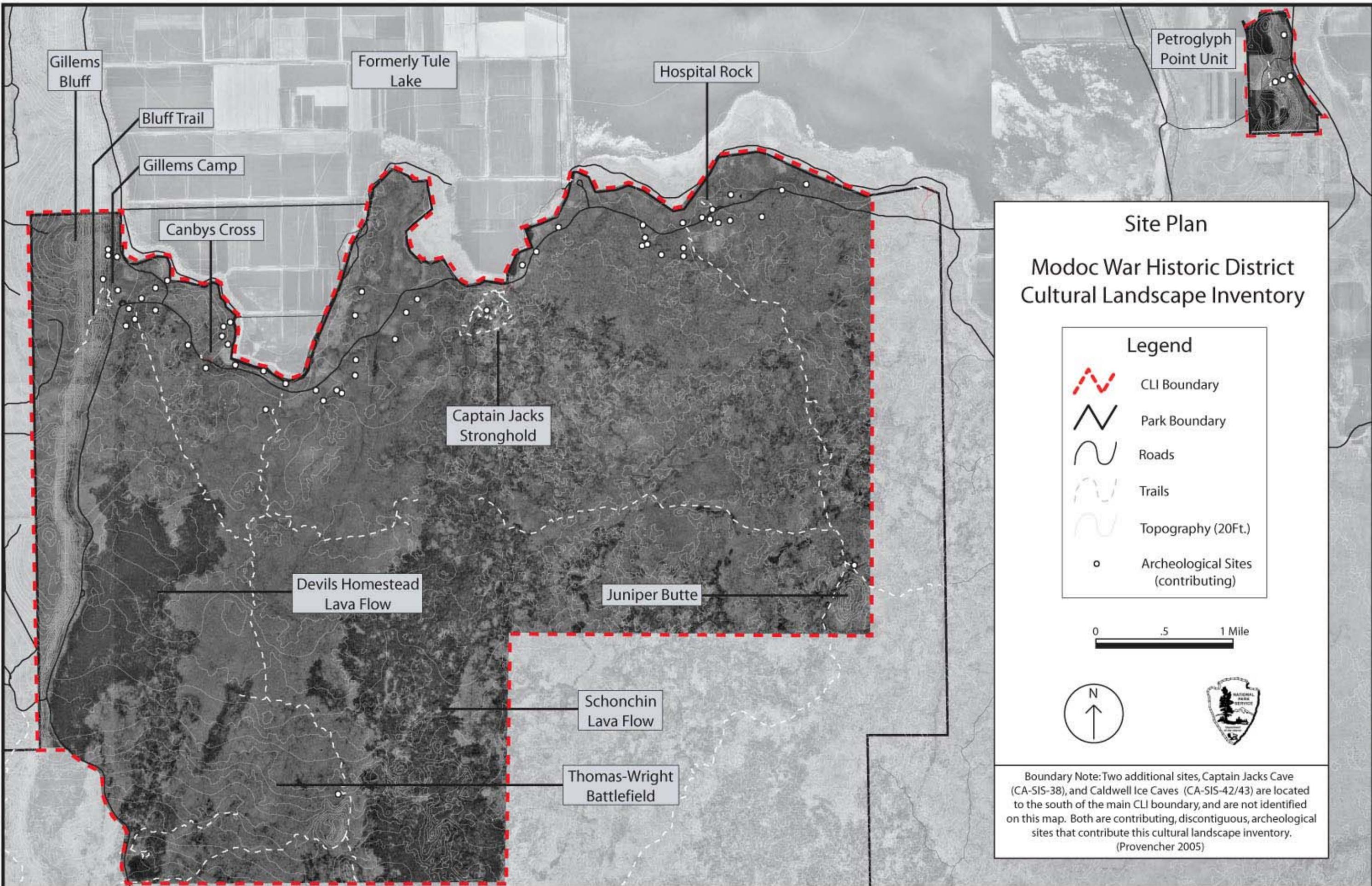
---

## Supplemental Information

**Title:** LABE GIS Data

**Description:** Park GIS data for political, geographic, and resource features was heavily used in the production of this inventory.

---



Petroglyph Point Unit

Gillems Bluff

Formerly Tule Lake

Hospital Rock

Bluff Trail

Gillems Camp

Canbys Cross

Captain Jacks Stronghold

Devils Homestead Lava Flow

Juniper Butte

Schonchin Lava Flow

Thomas-Wright Battlefield

### Site Plan

## Modoc War Historic District Cultural Landscape Inventory

### Legend

-  CLI Boundary
-  Park Boundary
-  Roads
-  Trails
-  Topography (20Ft.)
-  Archeological Sites (contributing)

0 .5 1 Mile



Boundary Note: Two additional sites, Captain Jacks Cave (CA-SIS-38), and Caldwell Ice Caves (CA-SIS-42/43) are located to the south of the main CLI boundary, and are not identified on this map. Both are contributing, discontinuous, archeological sites that contribute this cultural landscape inventory. (Provencher 2005)

**TABLE #1**  
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES WITH KNOWN, REPORTED, OR SUSPECTED**  
**MODOC WAR COMPONENTS**

Site/Isolate Number	Modoc War Affiliation	Type	Military Interpretation (and side)	Associated Historical Artifacts	Signif.	Notes
CA-Mod-39/H	Big Crack Area	Rock walls	None	tobacco tins, "lavender" glass	No	Unlikely to be Modoc War age -- artifacts suggest later date
CA-Mod-44/46/Sis-79/H	East of Hospital Rock	Wood dump and stacked rocks	None	Milled lumber	No	Unlikely to be Modoc War age, stacked rock features appear prehistoric in age
CA-Mod-186	East of Hospital Rock	Rockshelter	None	None	No	Not Modoc War, noted as possible war fortification site in White 2003/4 draft
CA-Mod-189	Big Crack Area	Rock wall	None	None	No	Very limited data on site, but probably like other Big Crack area stacked rock features, site revisit necessary, listed on nomination
CA-Mod-2651/H	Prisoner's Rock	Rock walls	Unknown	milk can, amber glass, .22 shell casings	?	Possible Modoc War, possible CCC artifacts suggest reuse -- ID as CCC Feature
CA-Mod-2652/H	Prisoner's Rock	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pits	modern	?	Possible Modoc War with modern disturbance by hunters, White (2003/4 draft) identifies as likely a perimeter outpost or lookout
CA-Mod-2654/H	Prisoner's Rock	Rock walls	None	None	?	Linear rock walls. Identified as possible sheep fence by surveyors. Probably not Modoc War
CA-Mod-2655/H	Prisoner's Rock	Rock walls	None	None	?	Linear rock walls. Identified as possible sheep fence by surveyors. Probably not Modoc War
CA-Mod-3291/H	Big Crack Area	Rock walls	None	None	No	Linear rock walls and associated prehistoric/protohistoric site and stacked rock features (VQ). Identified as possible grazing area by latest surveyors. Probably not Modoc War.
CA-Mod-3500/H	Base of Juniper Butte	Modified Tumulus	U.S. Military natural rifle pit/trench	None	?	Possible Modoc War, White (2003/4 draft) identifies as likely a perimeter outpost or lookout
CA-Mod-3505/H	Big Crack Area	Modified Tumulus	None	early-mid 20th century	No	Not Modoc War--artifacts suggest early-mid 20th century
CA-Mod-3529/H	Big Crack Area	Rock walls	None	None	No	Unlikely to be Modoc War age, 1880-1930 date
CA-Sis-25/26/27/28	Headquarters	Rock walls	None	Cartridge, unknown type	No	Unlikely to be Modoc War age, further details on historical artifacts needed
CA-Sis-29/30/H	Merrill Ice Cave	Rock walls	None	19th century?	No	Unlikely to be Modoc War age, further details on historical artifacts needed
CA-Sis-38	Captain Jacks Ice Cave	cave	None	1800s-1900s material	?	Murray notes these caves were visited by the Modocs following abandonment of the stronghold, no thorough investigation has been done
CA-Sis-40/H	Heppe Cave/Heppe Chimney	Rock walls	None	Unknown?	No	Unlikely to be Modoc War age, further details on historical artifacts needed
CA-Sis-42/43	Caldwell Ice Caves	cave	None	1800s-1900s material	?	Murray notes these caves were visited by the Modocs following abandonment of the stronghold, no thorough investigation has been done
CA-Sis-48	Gillem's Camp	Rock shelter	Unknown	Unknown?	?	Possibly Riddles' Cave
CA-Sis-49	Gillem's Camp	Rock shelter	Unknown	Unknown?	?	Possibly Riddles' Cave
CA-Sis-50	Gillem's Camp	Rock shelter	Unknown	Unknown?	?	Possibly Riddles' Cave
CA-Sis-56/H	Merrill Ice Cave	Rock piles	None	20th century	No	Unlikely to be Modoc War age, ca. 1920s date
CA-Sis-69	Thomas-Wright Battlefield	Trash Dump?	Unknown	tin cans	?	Area just south of Modoc position for battlefield, further details on historical artifacts needed

CA-Sis-73	Thomas-Wright Battlefield	Rock fortifications	U.S. Military fortifications/ battlefield	None	Yes	Poorly recorded battlefield and related fortifications, on nomination form
CA-Sis-101/H	Captain Jack's Stronghold	Rock fortifications	U.S. Military rifle pits/ Battlefield	.50-70 shells (3), leather	Yes	U.S. Military fortifications associated with the Battles of the Stronghold, Kumbat village site?, on nomination form
CA-Sis-106	East of Stronghold	Lithic Scatter	None	None	No	Listed on nomination, probably not Modoc War as there are no stacked rock features or historical artifacts listed on the site form
CA-Sis-111/H	Gillem's Camp	Rock fortifications	U.S. Military Fortifications and Camp	20th century (CCC)	Yes	Site record does not include fortifications to the east, listed on nomination
CA-Sis-118/H	Canby Bay/Canby's Cross	Modified Tumulus	Modoc? Natural rifle pit/trench	None	?	Modified tumulus could be Modoc fortifications
CA-Sis-124	Canby Bay/Canby's Cross	Shoreline Rock Alignments	U.S. Military? Rifle trench	None	?	Linear rock features and Rock wall, possibly Modoc War age, see White 2003/04 draft, p. 78-80
CA-Sis-131/H	Canby Bay/Canby's Cross	Rock fortifications	U.S. Military rifle pits	hand-soldered hole-and-cap tin cans (2)	Yes	Clustered fortifications (first battle?)--could be more unrecorded to NW, listed on nomination
CA-Sis-135	West of Stronghold	Rock Circle	None	glass fragment	No	Unlikely to be Modoc War age, probably prehistoric in age
CA-Sis-136	West of Stronghold	Rock Rings	None	None	No	Unlikely to be Modoc War age, probably prehistoric in age
CA-Sis-146/H	Captain Jack's Stronghold	Rock fortifications	Modoc and U.S. Military complex fortifications/ camp	Yes	Yes	Concentration of fortifications, most not recorded archaeologically, listed on nomination
CA-Sis-300/H	Gillem's Camp	Rock fortifications	U.S. Military rifle pits	20th century insulator	Yes	Fortifications associated with Gillem's Camp, listed on nomination
CA-Sis-308/H	West of Stronghold	Rock fortifications	U.S. Military skirmish line	None	Yes	Probable U.S. Military fortifications associated with Battles of the Stronghold
CA-Sis-319/H	Hospital Rock	Rock fortifications	U.S. Military fortifications	not recorded	Yes	Very large group of features associated with Hospital Rock and fortifications well to the west and southwest--not fully recorded. Draft National Register District Boundary Overlaps with many sites, listed on nomination
CA-Sis-320/H	Hospital Rock	Rock fortifications	U.S. Military? Fortifications	None	Yes	Hospital Rock fortifications, one may be Modoc as it faces toward the lake, listed on nomination
CA-Sis-1325/H	Gillem's Camp	Rock wall	U.S. Military rifle pit?	20th century	?	Rock wall (Feat. 3) south of Hill Road aligns with fortifications at CA-Sis-1595/H
CA-Sis-1424H	Gillem's Camp	Trash Dump	None	20th century	No	Unlikely to be Modoc War age -- artifacts suggest later date
CA-Sis-1425	Canby Bay/Canby's Cross	Shoreline Rock Alignments	Unknown	None	?	Possible Modoc War fortification, see White 2003/04 draft, p. 78-80
CA-Sis-1426/H	Hospital Rock	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pits	None	Yes	U.S. Military fortifications, listed on nomination
CA-Sis-1554/H	West of Stronghold	Rock piles and rock circle	None	planks and hole-in-top cans	No	Unknown function, does not appear to be Modoc War age
CA-Sis-1564/H	West of Stronghold	Rock walls	Modoc picket?	None	?	Possible fortification- facing towards southwest suggest Modoc, not U.S. Military, listed on nomination
CA-Sis-1569	West of Stronghold	Rock walls	Unknown	None	?	Possible fortification associated with a prehistoric pithouse site, see White 2003/4 draft, p. 80
CA-Sis-1585/H	Canby Bay/Canby's Cross	Rock walls	Unknown rifle pits	None	?	Features are clustered, not linear, listed on nomination
CA-Sis-1590	Canby Bay/Canby's Cross	Shoreline Rock Alignments	Unknown rifle trench	None	?	Faces mag. north, probably not Modoc War, site revisit necessary, see White 2003/04 draft, p. 78-80

CA-Sis-1591	Canby Bay/Canby's Cross	Shoreline Rock Alignments	None	None	?	Possible Modoc War feature, site revisit recommended, see White 2003/04 draft, p. 78-80
CA-Sis-1592/H	Canby Bay/Canby's Cross	Rock walls	None	None	?	Single fortification faces north toward lake, unlikely to be Modoc War fortification, listed on nomination
CA-Sis-1593	Canby Bay/Canby's Cross	Rock wall	U.S. Military? rifle pit?	None	?	Possible U.S. Military Modoc War fortification, see White 2003/04 draft, p. 80
CA-Sis-1595/H	Gillem's Camp	Rock fortifications	U.S. Military rifle pits	20th century (CCC)	Yes	Fortifications associated with Gillem's Camp, listed on nomination
CA-Sis-1599/H	Gillem's Camp	Rock walls and path	None	None	?	Unlikely to be Modoc War age, probably associated with the old park road
CA-Sis-1600/H	East of Stronghold	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit and linear walls	None	Yes	Probably U.S. Military fortifications associated with battles for the stronghold, listed on nomination
CA-Sis-1850	Thomas-Wright Battlefield	Rock shelter	Unknown	D-cell batteries and cans	?	Related to Modoc position for battlefield, further details on historical artifacts needed
CA-Sis-2205/H	Hospital Rock	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit (picket)	None	Yes	Fortification associated with Hospital Rock
CA-Sis-2208	East of Hospital Rock	Rock wall	None	None	No	Not Modoc War, noted as possible war fortification site in White 2003/4 draft
CA-Sis-2208	Hospital Rock	Rock wall	Unknown	None	?	Possible fortification, faces north (towards Hospital Rock), see White 2003/4 draft, p. 80
CA-Sis-2210/H	Hospital Rock	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit (picket)	None	?	Probably U.S. Military fortifications associated with Hospital Rock camp, faces east, 850 yds. East of Hospital Rock
CA-Sis-2211/H	Hospital Rock	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit (picket)	None	?	Possible U.S. Military fortification, fallen over
CA-Sis-2213/H	Hospital Rock	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit (picket)	None	Yes	U.S. Military fortification
CA-Sis-2214/H	East of Stronghold	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit	None	Yes	U.S. Military fortification
CA-Sis-2215/H	Hospital Rock	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit (picket)	None	Yes	Fortification associated with Hospital Rock
CA-Sis-2216/H	East of Stronghold	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit	tin can fragment	Yes	U.S. Military fortification
CA-Sis-2217/H	East of Stronghold	Modified Tumulus	U.S. Military natural rifle pit/trench	None	Yes	U.S. Military fortification based on association with other sites
CA-Sis-2218/H	East of Stronghold	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit	None	Yes	U.S. Military fortification
CA-Sis-2219/H	East of Stronghold	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit	None	Yes	U.S. Military fortification
CA-Sis-2224/H	East of Stronghold	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit (picket)	None	Yes	U.S. Military fortification
CA-Sis-2225/H	West of Stronghold	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pits	None	Yes	Probably U.S. Military fortifications associated with battles for the stronghold
CA-Sis-2226/H	West of Stronghold	Rock walls	Unknown rifle pit (picket)	None	?	Possible Modoc War age, one features faces east and one west
CA-Sis-2227/H	West of Stronghold	Rock walls	Unknown rifle pit (picket)	None	?	Possible Modoc War age, U-shaped facing N towards lake
CA-Sis-2228/H	Canby Bay/Canby's Cross	Modified Tumulus	U.S. Military rifle pit	None	Yes	Modified tumulus, likely fortification associated with the U.S. Military
CA-Sis-2229	West of Stronghold	Rock walls	Modoc? rifle pit (picket)	None	?	Possible Modoc fortification on rise
CA-Sis-2230	West of Stronghold	Modified Tumulus	Modoc? rifle pit (picket)	None	?	Possible Modoc fortification associated with rock shelter, rock shelter rock alignment in White 2003/04:78
CA-Sis-2232/H	West of Stronghold	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit (picket)	None	?	Possible U.S. Military fortification
CA-Sis-2235/H	Canby Bay/Canby's Cross	Modified Tumulus	Modoc? rifle pit (picket)	None	?	Modified tumulus could be Modoc fortifications
CA-Sis-2244/H	Gillem's	Rock	U.S. Military	None	Yes	Fortifications associated with Gillem's Camp

	Camp	fortifications	rifle pits			
CA-Sis-2245/H	Gillem's Camp	Rock fortification	U.S. Military rifle pit	None	Yes	Fortifications associated with Gillem's Camp
CA-Sis-2246/H	Gillem's Camp	Rock fortifications, Modified Tumulus	U.S. Military rifle pits	None	Yes	Fortifications associated with Gillem's Camp
CA-Sis-2247/H	Gillem's Camp	Rock fortifications	U.S. Military rifle pit	20th century (CCC, later?)	Yes	Fortifications associated with Gillem's Camp, impacted by CCC and later activities
CA-Sis-2256/H	Hospital Rock	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit (picket)	None	Yes	Fortification associated with Hospital Rock
CA-Sis-2376/H	Hospital Rock	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit (picket)	artifact concentration	Yes	Fortifications associated with Hospital Rock, need to revisit artifact concentration
CA-Sis-2377/H	East of Stronghold	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit	None	Yes	U.S. Military fortification--noted unrecorded fortifications to the south!
CA-Sis-2378/H	East of Stronghold	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pit	None	Yes	U.S. Military fortification
CA-Sis-2381/H	Canby Bay/Canby's Cross	Modified Tumulus	Modoc? Natural rifle pit/trench	None	?	Modified tumulus could be Modoc fortifications
IF-LABE-97-16	Hospital Rock	Stacked rock feature	Unknown	None	?	Rock feature aligned between 2 Modoc War features, need revisit
IF-LABE-97-21	East of Stronghold	Linear rock pile	Unknown	None	?	Rock alignment near stronghold, needs revisit
IF-LABE-97-25	West of Stronghold	Rock alignment	Unknown	None	?	Rock alignment near stronghold, needs revisit
IF-LABE-97-26	Canby Bay/Canby's Cross	Historical rock cairn	Unknown	None	?	Rock cairn in alignment with CA-Sis-2228/H and CA-Sis-131/H
IF-LABE-98-9	Thomas-Wright Battlefield	Rock walls	U.S. Military rifle pits/natural rifle trench?	None	?	Possible defenses associated with U.S. Military

**TABLE #2**  
**TERMS APPLIED TO STACKED ROCK FEATURES BY HISTORICAL**  
**SOURCES**

Term	Location	Source	Note
Barricades	Second Battle of the Stronghold	Moore 1873	Primary
Breastworks	Second Battle of the Stronghold	Fitzgerald 1927	Primary, related to Modoc positions
Breastworks	Second Battle of the Stronghold	Moore 1873	Primary
Breastworks	Second Battle of the Stronghold	Boyle n.d.	Primary
Fort	First Battle of the Stronghold	Bernard in Thompson 1971	Primary
Glacis	First Battle of the Stronghold	Jackson 1892	Primary
Natural rifle trench	First Battle of the Stronghold	Jackson 1892	Primary
Outpost	First Battle of the Stronghold	Jackson 1892	Primary
Picket Post	Hospital Rock Camp	Mason in Thompson 1971	Primary, not necessarily associated with rock features
Picket Post	Gillem's Bluff	Murray 1959	Secondary
Rifle pits	Second Battle of the Stronghold	Jackson 1892	Primary
Rock Fortifications	Second Battle of the Stronghold	Murray 1959	Secondary
Rock Forts	Thomas-Wright	Thompson 1971	Secondary
Rock Shelters	Second Battle of the Stronghold	Murray 1959	Secondary
Rock Walls	First Battle of the Stronghold	Thompson 1971	Secondary
Six-man Forts	Second Battle of the Stronghold	Murray 1959	Secondary
Small Circular Fortifications	Thomas-Wright	Murray 1959	Secondary