
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory



Lady Bird Johnson Grove Historic District
Redwood National Park
2021

Redwood National Park
Cultural Landscape Inventory

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Lady Bird Johnson Grove Historic District
Redwood National Park

Redwood National Park concurs with the finding of the Cultural Landscape Inventory that the Lady Bird Johnson Grove Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a cultural landscape.

DocuSigned by:

Steve Mietz

9/7/2022

8815748A67964C8...

Steven N. Mietz, Superintendent

Date

Please return to :

Kevin McCardle
Historical Landscape Architect
Redwood National Park
121200 Highway 101
P.O. Box 7
Orick, CA 95555



**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Armando Quintero, *Director*

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March 15, 2022

In reply to: NPS_2022_0131_001

Steven N. Mietz, Superintendent
Redwood National Park
1111 Second Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

**RE: Section 110 Evaluation, Lady Bird Johnson Grove, Redwood National Park,
Humboldt County, California**

Dear Mr. Mietz:

Pursuant to Section (a)(2)(A) of Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the Office of Historic Preservation has been asked to review the determination of eligibility of resources associated with the above identified property, per Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act, located in Redwood National Park, Humboldt County.

This office concurs with your determination regarding the eligibility of Lady Bird Johnson Grove. The property is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) under Criteria A and B at the local level of significance, meeting the requirements of Criteria Consideration F, with a period of significance of 1968-1969, based on the boundary and characteristics described in the Cultural Landscape Inventory and retaining sufficient historic integrity for listing. The property's significance based on its association with the formal establishment of Redwood Park, and its direct association with First Lady Claudia Alta "Lady Bird" Johnson, based on her important role in the park's establishment. A list of contributing and non-contributing buildings and structures follows this letter.

If you have any questions about our assessment of this document, please contact William Burg of my staff at (916) 445-7004 or william.burg@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Julianne Polanco".

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer
California Office of Historic Preservation
Enclosures

Table 1:
Contributing/Non-Contributing Properties, Lady Bird Johnson Grove Historic District

Asset Number	Description	Contributing
301011	Sign	No
301014	Aluminum sign	No
301015	Parking surface	No
301017	Split-rail fence	No
5385	Wood sign	No
608723	Aluminum sign	No
608724	Aluminum sign	No
610594	Sign	No
481221	Vault Toilet	No
593800	Wood laminate footbridge	No
1530141	Iron Ranger	No
1521658	Pedestrian counter station	No
301553	Aluminum sign	No
301562	Aluminum sign	No
301567	Wood sign	No
301572	Wood sign	No
301662	Wood sign	No
301673	Wood sign	No
301587	Metal sign	No
301681	Metal sign	No
301687	LBJ Loop Trail	Yes, 2,500 feet
301732	Wood retaining wall	No
301771	Wood fence, 20 feet	No
301772	Wood bench, 6 feet	No
301773	Wood bench, 6 feet	No
301774	Wood bench, 6 feet	No
301775	Wood bench, 6 feet	No
301776	Wood bench, 6 feet	No
301784	Wood bench, 6 feet	No
1092364	Steel culvert	No
--	Stone retaining wall	No
603296	Berry Glen Trail	Yes, 3,000 feet

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Inventory Unit Summary & Site Plan

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's (NPS) database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. The set of CRIS records for cultural landscapes is referred to as CRIS-CL. CRIS-CL records conform to a standardized data structure known as the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI). The legislative, regulatory and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CRIS are: Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act, NPS Management Policies (2006), Director's Order 28 (Cultural Resources) and Director's Order 28a (Archeology).

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI)

The CLI is the data structure within CRIS is used to document and evaluate all potentially significant cultural landscapes in which the NPS has, or plans to acquire, any enforceable legal interest. Each CRIS-CL record is certified complete when the landscape is determined to meet one of the following: The landscape individually meets the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) criteria for evaluation; or, the landscape is a contributing element of a property that is eligible for the NRHP; or, the landscape does not meet the National Register criteria, but is managed as cultural resource because of law, policy or decisions reached through the park planning process. Cultural landscapes are historic sites, historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes, and historic ethnographic landscapes, but may also include more than one type. Those eligible for the National Register have significance in the nation's history on a national, state, or local level, as well as integrity or authenticity.

The legislative, regulatory and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)). Each Federal agency shall establish a preservation program for the identification, evaluation, and nomination to the National Register of Historic Places...of historic properties....

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(a). Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall prepare an assessment of the current status of its inventory of historic properties required by section 110(a)(2) of the NHPA...No later than September 30, 2004, each covered agency shall complete a report of the assessment and make it available to the Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Secretary of the Interior....

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(c). Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall, by September 30, 2005, and every third year thereafter, prepare a report on its progress in identifying...historic properties in its ownership and make the report available to the Council and the Secretary....

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Standard 2: An agency provides for the timely identification and evaluation of historic properties under agency jurisdiction or control and/or subject to effect by agency actions (Sec. 110 (a)(2)(A) Management Policies 2006. 5.1.3.1 Inventories: The Park Service will (1) maintain and expand the following inventories...about cultural resources in units of the national park system...Cultural Landscape Inventory of historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes, ...and historic sites....

Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22 issued pursuant to Director's Order #28. As cultural resources are identified and evaluated, they should also be listed in the appropriate service-wide inventories of cultural resources.

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries and archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the site's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit. Unlike cultural landscape reports, the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

Inventory Unit Description:

The Lady Bird Johnson Grove is a 420-acre, old-growth coastal redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) upland forest south of Little Lost Man Creek within Redwood National Park. The grove became historically significant as the site of the formal dedication ceremony for Redwood National Park, and later, the dedication of the grove to Lady Bird Johnson. The formal dedication ceremony for Redwood National Park was held on November 25, 1968. The event was attended by First Lady Claudia "Lady Bird" Johnson, her staff, as well as numerous dignitaries and NPS executive staff. Nine months later, on August 27, 1969, another ceremony was held at the same location dedicating the grove to Lady Bird Johnson in honor of her important contributions to conservation, one of which was her role in the establishment of Redwood National Park. President Richard M. Nixon presided over this event, which was attended by his wife Pat and their children, former President Lyndon Johnson and Lady Bird Johnson, their children and families, California Governor Ronald Reagan, as well as other dignitaries and NPS executive staff.

Site Plan

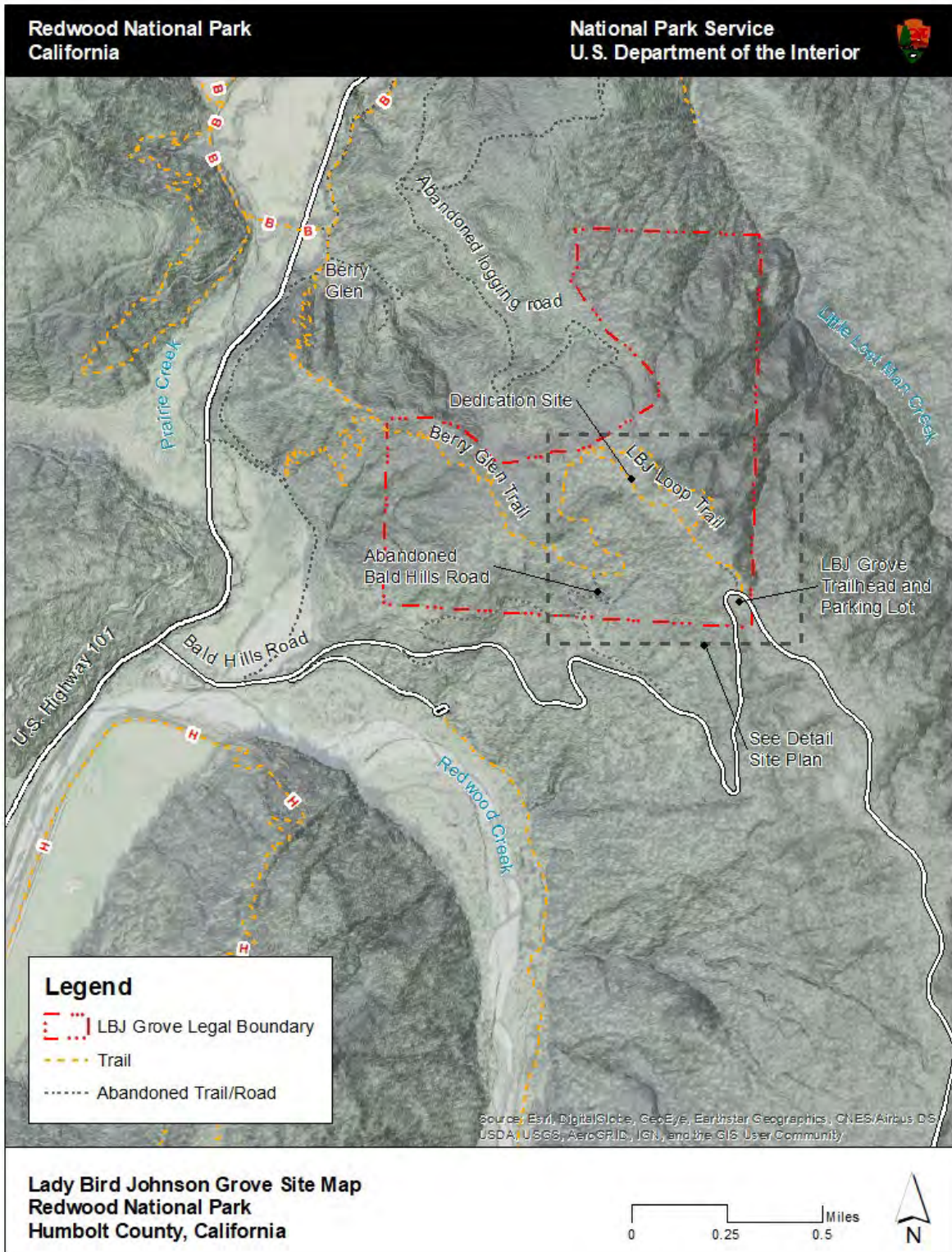


Figure 1. Lady Bird Johnson Grove overall site plan (NPS 2021).

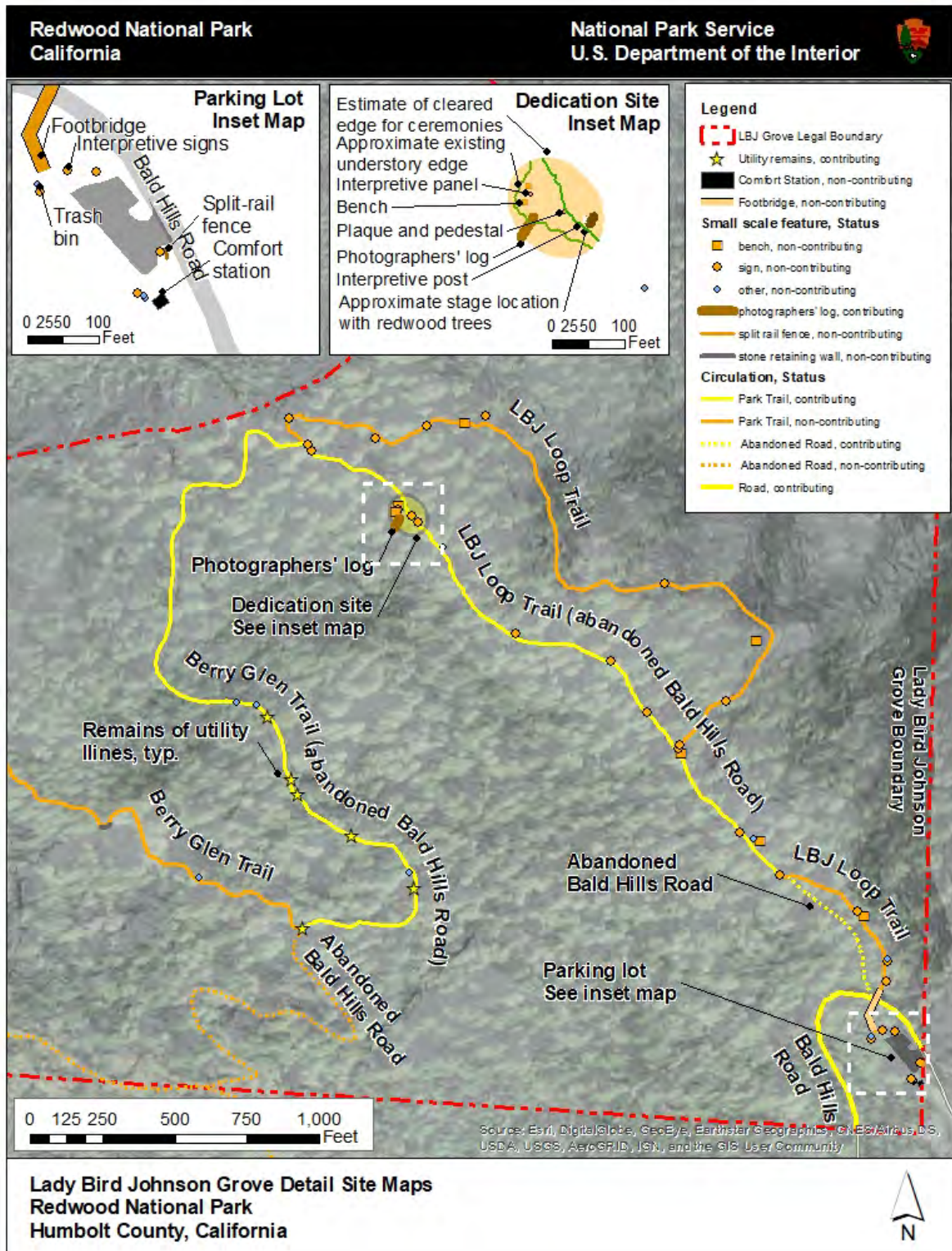


Figure 2. Lady Bird Johnson Grove site detail plans (NPS 2021).

Inventory Unit, Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Lady Bird Johnson Grove
Inventory Unit Size:	420 acres
Property Level:	District
CLI Identification Number:	975810
Parent CLI Name:	none
Parent CLI Identification Number:	none

CLI Hierarchy Description

CLI Hierarchy Description:	There is no parent landscape.
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Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	Redwood National Park (REDW)
Park Organization Code:	8480

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Fieldwork was done carried out by National Council for Preservation Education (NCPE) interns Nicole Rehnberg, Jacob Torkelson, and Redwood National Park Historical Landscape Architect Kevin McCardle in the summer of 2018. Background and historical context were completed by Timothy Babalis, PhD, Historian, Pinnacles National Park, in spring/summer 2018. The additional field work and finalizing the report was done by NCPE intern Megan McPherson and Kevin McCardle in 2021.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Complete
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	September 7, 2022
National Register Eligibility:	Complete
National Register Concurrence:	Eligible - SHPO
Date of Concurrence Determination:	March 15, 2022

National Register Concurrence Narrative:

This district is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as significant at the local level under Criteria A and B and meets the requirements of Criteria Consideration F, with a period of significance of 1968-1969.

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

Boundary Description

The memorial grove boundaries were defined by Presidential Proclamation No. 3925 as follows:

Beginning at the NE corner of sec. 26, T11N, R1E, thence southerly along the east line of said sec. 26 to the southeast corner thereof; thence westerly along the south line of said sec. 26 to the south quarter corner thereof; thence northerly along the north-south centerline approx. 2,200 feet through forest types 004/R, 002/R, 01/R, 002/R as depicted on the NPS map NPS-RED-7114-B of Redwood National Park as referred to in Section 2 of PL 90-545, October 2, 1968, to its intersection with the northerly line of forest type 002/R, thence easterly and northerly along the northerly line of forest type 002/R and northerly along the westerly line of forest types 03/RD, 002/RD and R3/R to its intersection with the north-south centerline of said sec. 26; thence easterly along the north line of said sec. 26 to the northeast corner, the Point of Beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Grove were defined in the Presidential Proclamation No. 3925 of August 27, 1969 that established the memorial designation. It includes the old-growth redwood forest within section 26 but excludes the previously harvested area to the northwest.

GIS File Description:

State and Counties:

State: California
Counties: Humboldt

Size (Acres): 420 acres

Boundary UTMS:

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing
<i>GPS-Differentially Corrected</i>	<i>line</i>	<i>NAD 83</i>	<i>10N</i>	<i>414832</i>	<i>4574504</i>
<i>GPS-Differentially Corrected</i>	<i>line</i>	<i>NAD 83</i>	<i>10N</i>	<i>414790</i>	<i>4572837</i>
<i>GPS-Differentially Corrected</i>	<i>line</i>	<i>NAD 83</i>	<i>10N</i>	<i>413239</i>	<i>4572943</i>
<i>GPS-Differentially Corrected</i>	<i>line</i>	<i>NAD 83</i>	<i>10N</i>	<i>413263</i>	<i>4573720</i>
<i>GPS-Differentially Corrected</i>	<i>line</i>	<i>NAD 83</i>	<i>10N</i>	<i>413535</i>	<i>4573702</i>
<i>GPS-Differentially Corrected</i>	<i>line</i>	<i>NAD 83</i>	<i>10N</i>	<i>413740</i>	<i>4573535</i>
<i>GPS-Differentially Corrected</i>	<i>line</i>	<i>NAD 83</i>	<i>10N</i>	<i>414404</i>	<i>4573864</i>
<i>GPS-Differentially Corrected</i>	<i>line</i>	<i>NAD 83</i>	<i>10N</i>	<i>414022</i>	<i>4574313</i>
<i>GPS-Differentially Corrected</i>	<i>line</i>	<i>NAD 83</i>	<i>10N</i>	<i>414054</i>	<i>4574525</i>

Location Map:

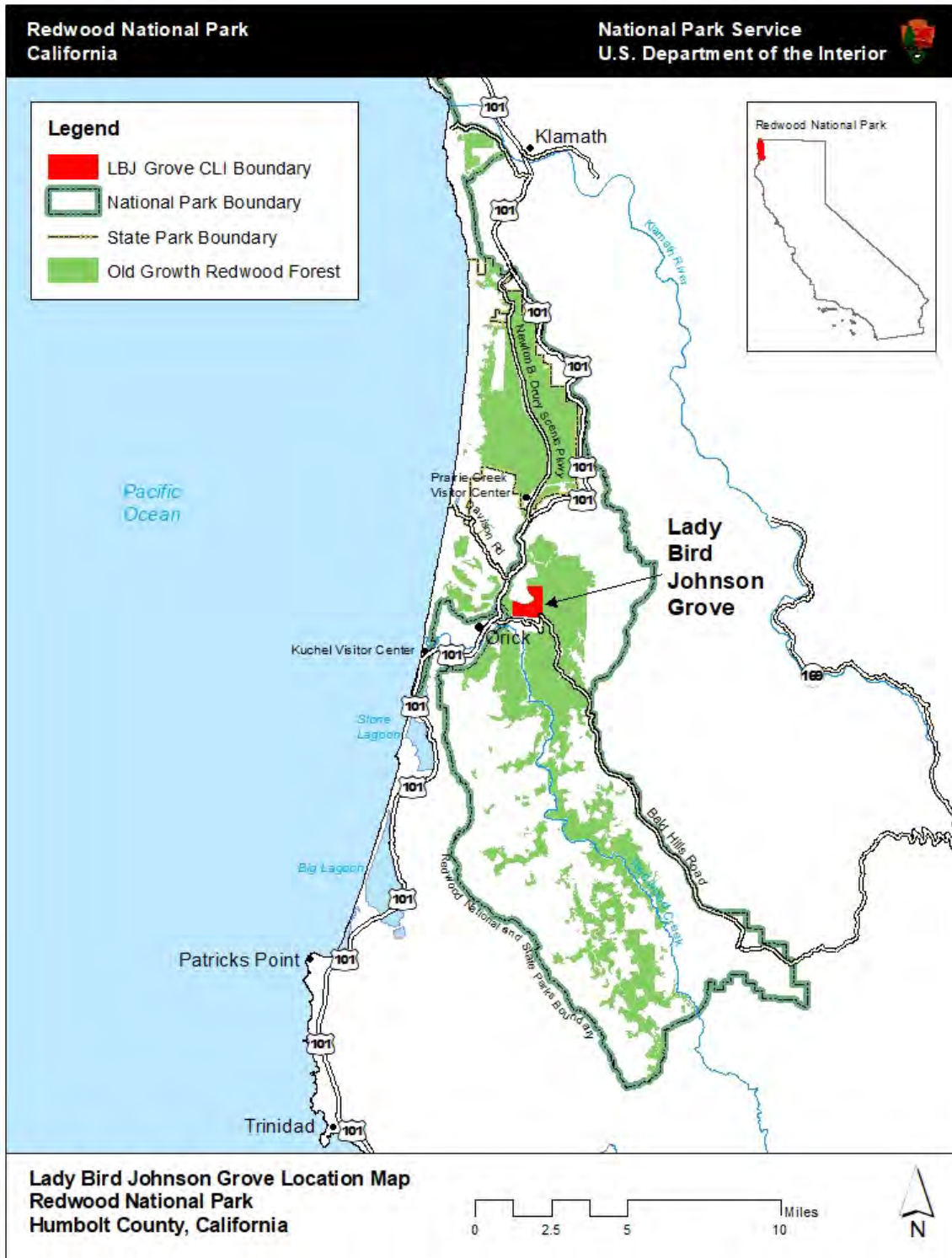


Figure 3. Location of Lady Bird Johnson Grove within Redwood National Park (NPS 2021).

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Recommend B: Should be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: TBD

Management Category Explanatory Narrative: Management of the grove as a cultural resource is not specifically addressed in the General Management Plan. There are no specific actions recommended for Lady Bird Johnson Grove other than “manage visitor use” in the grove.

NPS Legal Interest

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access

Type of Access: Not restricted

Public Access Explanatory Narrative:

Lady Bird Johnson Grove is open to the public all year. It can be accessed from the adjacent parking area off Bald Hills Road to the southeast, or from Berry Glen Trail from the west.

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? No

FMSS Assets

Lady Bird Johnson Parking Lot (Location 11036)

Asset	Description	Contributing
301011	Sign	No
301014	Aluminum sign	No
301015	Parking surface	No
301017	Split-rail fence	No
5385	Wood sign	No
608723	Aluminum sign	No
608724	Aluminum sign	No
610594	Sign	No
481221	Vault Toilet	No

Lady Bird Johnson Trail (Location 3421)

Asset	Description	Contributing
593800	Wood laminate footbridge	No
1530141	Iron Ranger	No
1521658	Pedestrian counter station	No
301553	Aluminum sign	No
301562	Aluminum sign	No
301567	Wood sign	No
301572	Wood sign	No
301662	Wood sign	No
301673	Wood sign	No
301587	Metal sign	No
301681	Metal sign	No
301687	LBJ Loop Trail	Yes, 2,500 feet No, remainder
301732	Wood retaining wall	No
301771	Wood fence, 20 feet	No
301772	Wood bench, 6 feet	No
301773	Wood bench, 6 feet	No
301774	Wood bench, 6 feet	No
301775	Wood bench, 6 feet	No
301776	Wood bench, 6 feet	No
301784	Wood bench, 6 feet	No

Berry Glen Trail (Location 115820)

Asset	Description	Contributing
1092364	Steel culvert	No
--	Stone retaining wall	No
603296	Berry Glen Trail	Yes, 3,000 feet No, remainder

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation: Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative: This district is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as significant at the local level under Criteria A and B and meets the requirements of Criteria Consideration F, with a period of significance of 1968-1969.

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence: Complete

Contributing/Individual: Individual

National Register Classification: District

Significance Level: Local

Significance Criteria: A—Associated with the formal establishment of Redwood National Park as the site where the park was officially dedicated.

B—Associated with former First Lady Claudia Alta “Lady Bird” Johnson who promoted conservation of natural areas and for whom the grove is dedicated. She attended both dedication ceremonies.

Criteria Consideration: F—A commemorative site that has been invested with its own historical significance by virtue of its close symbolic association with the establishment of Redwood National Park and the significant role that First Lady, Lady Bird Johnson played in that event.

Period of Significance: November 25, 1968- August 27, 1969

Historic Context Theme: Creating Social Institutions and Movements
Subtheme: Social and Humanitarian Movements
Facet: Environmental Movement

Historic Context Theme: Transforming the Environment
Subtheme: Conservation of Natural Resources
Facet: Scenic Conservation

Historic Context Theme: Transforming the Environment
Subtheme: Conservation of Natural Resources
Facet: Origin and Development of the National Park Service

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Conservation

National Historic Landmark Information

National Historic Landmark Status: No

World Heritage Site Information

World Heritage Site Status: Yes (Redwood National Park)

World Heritage Site Date: 9/5/1980

World Heritage Site Category: Natural

Statement of Significance:

Summary

The Lady Bird Johnson Grove is a grove of old-growth coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) within Redwood National Park located south and west of Little Lost Man Creek. The grove was the site of the formal dedication of Redwood National Park, held on November 25, 1968. The event was attended by First Lady Claudia Alta "Lady Bird" Johnson and her staff, as well as numerous dignitaries and NPS executive staff. Nine months later, on August 27, 1969, another ceremony was held at the same location dedicating the grove to Lady Bird Johnson in honor of her important role in conservation, including the establishment of Redwood National Park. President Richard M. Nixon presided over this event, which was attended by the president's family, former President Lyndon Johnson and Lady Bird Johnson and their family, California Governor Ronald Reagan, as well as other dignitaries and NPS executive staff.

In both instances, a clearing at the center of the grove was enlarged to accommodate a stage, podium, and seating for a limited number of guests. An abandoned segment of Bald Hills Road was cleared from the existing Bald Hills Road to access the site. The built features constructed for the ceremonies at the dedication site were temporary and have not survived. Although not constructed a redwood log, used as a photographers' platform for news reporters covering the ceremony, remains, along with the abandoned road used as a trail and the cleared area at the center of the grove. Subsequent to the 1969 event, a bronze memorial plaque was mounted on a masonry pedestal at the site of the dedication ceremony. Later improvements included construction of a nature loop trail around the grove along the upper ridge with keyed interpretive markers, a parking lot and picnic area on Bald Hills Road, a laminate wood pedestrian bridge connecting the parking lot with the grove, and a continuation of the lower trail to Barry Glen on U.S. Highway 101. None of the later improvements were directly associated with the ceremonies of 1968 and 1969. The grove itself has remained largely unaltered, however, and still and continues to convey much the same feeling and significance to present day visitors as it did to the dignitaries who attended the two dedicatory ceremonies a half a century ago.

National Register Significance Criteria:

Criterion A and B

The Lady Bird Johnson Grove is significant under National Register Criterion A at a local level for its association with the formal establishment of Redwood National Park as the site where the park was officially dedicated on November 25, 1968. The grove is also significant under Criterion B for its association with Claudia Alta "Lady Bird" Johnson, who attended the park establishment ceremony, and for whom the grove was named in a separate dedicatory ceremony on August 27, 1969. A redwood national park was formally proposed by the U.S. Department of the Interior in 1964 following a survey and assessment of old-growth redwood forest in northern California by the National Park Service (NPS) and the National Geographic Society. The Johnson administration quickly endorsed the idea, seeing the establishment of the park as an opportunity to realize an important element of its Great Society program - the preservation of natural beauty, a cause closely identified with First Lady, Lady Bird Johnson. Four years of difficult and sometimes acrimonious debate ensued as logging interests resisted the proposed park and conservationists disagreed over its location and size before a bill was finally enacted. Although the administration made compromises that angered many supporters of the park idea, such as agreeing to protect less old-growth forest than park supporters wanted, President Johnson's commitment to the park was indispensable to the success in passing the Redwood National Park enabling act (P.L. 90-545) of 1968. Just as important, though less obvious, was the inspiration and encouragement provided by Lady Bird Johnson, who had been involved indirectly with the Redwood National Park proposal since the time it was first presented to the President. President Johnson

acknowledged the First Lady's considerable influence on his decision at the White House signing ceremony on October 2, 1968. Lady Bird Johnson was the obvious choice to represent the administration at the dedication of the new park the following November.

Lady Bird Johnson's signature initiative during her five-year tenure as First Lady was "beautification." This term became identified with Lady Bird Johnson's well-known efforts to improve the appearance of highway corridors through her anti-billboard campaign, and to beautify the urban areas, parks, and monuments of the nation's capital with the planting of flowers and trees and installation of amenities such as fountains and play equipment, setting an example that was emulated in cities throughout the United States. Acknowledging this contribution to the promotion of natural beauty in urban settings, the NPS agreed to rename Columbia Island, a landscaped park along the George Washington Memorial Parkway that Lady Bird Johnson had helped beautify with numerous daffodils and flowering dogwoods, in her honor. Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall officially dedicated Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Park on November 12, 1968. It was a fitting tribute to all the work Lady Bird Johnson had accomplished to make the capitol's parks and roadways more pleasant, but it represented only one part of the First Lady's broader influence. Just as important to her as these designed landscapes in the nation's urban areas were the places of wild natural beauty in its countryside. She expressed this in her public lectures, often while traveling in the American West, but above all by her support for national parks such as Redwood. Acknowledging this wilder dimension to Lady Bird Johnson's beautification efforts, President Richard Nixon dedicated the grove where the Redwood National Park dedication ceremony took place in her honor, officially proclaiming it Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Grove on August 27, 1969. Together, these two sites—Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Park in Washington, DC, and Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Grove in northern California—convey the full breadth of the First Lady's historical significance, with the park on Columbia Island representing her promotion of natural beauty in a designed, urban context; while the memorial grove at Redwood National Park commemorates her support for beauty in wild nature.

Criteria Consideration F

National Register Criteria Consideration F applies to the Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Grove, since it is a property primarily commemorative in intent that has been invested with its own historical significance by virtue of its close symbolic association with the establishment of Redwood National Park and the significant role that First Lady, Lady Bird Johnson played in that event. On August 27, 1969 President Nixon issued Proclamation 3925 establishing Lady Bird Johnson Grove. The proclamation read, in part,

It is fitting that a magnificent redwood grove in Redwood National Park be dedicated in honor of Lady Bird Johnson, who has done so much to stir in the American conscience a deepened sense of unity with our national environment. Mrs. Johnson has given generously of her time and talents on behalf of the natural beauty of the land she loves so well. That beauty is uniquely expressed in the Redwood National Park established by the Act of Congress of October 2, 1968, while Mrs. Johnson was First Lady of the land.¹

¹ Richard M. Nixon, "Presidential Proclamation 3925—Lady Bird Johnson Grove, Redwood National Park," 27 August 1969, *The American Presidency Project* (John T. Woolley & Gerhard Peters), Santa Barbara, CA. <<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=105910>> (accessed 14 June 2018).

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type:	Historic Site
Current and Historic Use/Function	
Primary Historic Function–Major Category:	Landscape
Primary Historic Function–Category:	Natural Area
Primary Historic Function:	Forest
Primary Current Function–Major Category:	Recreation/Culture
Primary Current Function–Category:	Outdoor Recreation
Primary Current Use:	Other (Hiking trails)

Current and Historic Names

Current and Historic Name	Type of Name
Lady Bird Johnson Grove	Current and Historic

Ethnographic Associated Groups

Ethnographic Study Conducted:	Yes
Ethnographic Associated Groups: Association Historic, Current or Both:	Yurok Both
Ethnographic Associated Groups: Association Historic, Current or Both:	Chilula Both

Chronology

Year Begin	Year End	Event	Annotation
1912	1912	Birth	Claudia Alta "Lady Bird" Taylor is born on December 22, 1912 in Karnack, Texas.
1963	1963	Death	President Kennedy assassinated; Lyndon Johnson becomes President of the United States and Lady Bird First Lady.
1964	1964	Established	U.S. Department of the Interior formally proposes a Redwood National Park following a survey and assessment of extant old-growth coast redwood forest in northern California by the National Park Service and the National Geographic Society.
1965	1965	Established	The Highway Beautification Act of 1965 is passed, a law closely identified with Lady Bird Johnson.
1965	1965	Established	In April 1965, the Save-the-Redwoods League declares its preference for a park centered on the Mill Creek watershed. Laurance Rockefeller successfully lobbies President Johnson to support the Mill Creek location over the Redwood Creek centered proposal recommended by the Department of the Interior.
1966	1966	Established	In January 1966, Secretary Udall was compelled to recommend a Mill Creek-centered park comprising 39,000 acres with only a narrow band along Redwood Creek to Tall Trees Grove.
1966	1968	Established	On May 5, 1966 President Johnson establishes the President's Council on Recreation and Natural Beauty, and a Citizens' Advisory Committee on Recreation and Natural Beauty. Lady Bird Johnson stays in close contact with the President's Council during its two years of existence through her active role on the Citizens' Advisory Committee.
1968	1968	Established	In September 1968, the bill to establish Redwood National Park is passed by Congress. On October 2, 1968, President Johnson signed the Redwood National Park act into law (P.L. 90-545).
1968	1968	Established	Redwood National Park White House signing ceremony takes place on October 2, 1968.
1968	1968	Built	A stage, podium, and seating are built for the dedication ceremony in a clearing. An abandoned road is cleared from Bald Hills Road to the dedication site.
1968	1968	Established	Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall officially dedicates Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Park in Washington D.C. on November 12, 1968, representing Lady Bird Johnson's dedication to urban and designed landscapes.
1968	1968	Established	Redwood National Park dedication ceremony takes place in the grove on November 25, 1968. Lady Bird Johnson attends representing the President.

Lady Bird Johnson Grove
Redwood National Park

1969	1969	Established/Memorialized	At the same site as the establishment of the park, the grove is dedicated to Lady Bird Johnson on August 27, 1969. The ceremony is attended by President Richard Nixon, First Lady Pat Nixon, former President Lyndon Johnson, former First Lady Lady Bird Johnson, Governor Ronald Reagan, and other dignitaries.
1969	1969	Built	A bronze memorial plaque was mounted on a masonry pedestal near the site of the ceremony.
1971	1971	Built	A glue-laminate wood pedestrian bridge and a parking lot are constructed on the south side of Bald Hills Road between August 5 and October 28, 1971.
1973	1973	Built	A loop trail is constructed beginning just north of the dedication site and the new trail returns to the existing trail north of the pedestrian bridge.
1975	1975	Damaged	In April 1975, vandals cut down two large coast redwood in the grove.
1977	1977	Established	Lady Bird Johnson is presented the Medal of Freedom by President Gerald Ford.
1982	1983	Established	The National Wildflower Research Center is founded with a donation of \$125,000 and 60 acres of land by Lady Bird Johnson. Work begins in 1983 after matching donations bring the endowment to \$700,000 through the efforts of Lady Bird and her co-chair Helen Hayes.
1988	1988	Established	Lady Bird Johnson is awarded the Congressional Gold Medal by President Ronald Reagan.
1988	1988	Established	Lady Bird Johnson and Carlton Lees co-author <i>Wildflowers Across America</i> .
1995	1995	Damaged	In June 1995, an Orick resident attempts to cut down two trees in the grove. The smaller fir to the north falls in a storm the following December, but the redwood in the parking lot remains.
1997	1997	Established	The National Wildflower Research Center is renamed the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.
1999	1999	Established	Lady Bird Johnson is presented a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Native Plant Conservation Initiative.
2000	2000	Established	Lady Bird Johnson is awarded the Theodore Roosevelt National Park Medal of Honor by the National Park Foundation.
2010	2010	Built	The Berry Glen Trail is opened on October 20, 2010. It connects the Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail to Berry Glen near U.S. Highway 101.
2011	2011	Built	The first bronze dedication plaque was replaced on December 21, 2011. A new plaque was installed 25 feet to the north of the first and designed with the state and national parks partnership logo.

Physical History

i. Background and Context

Claudia Alta Taylor Johnson

Lady Bird Johnson was born Claudia Alta Taylor on December 22, 1912 in Karnack, Texas, a small town near the Louisiana border. The nickname "Lady Bird" was given to her as a very young girl and stuck her entire life despite efforts to outgrow it. Lady Bird Johnson's life-long appreciation for natural beauty also originated at a young age. Many years later she observed that, "my interest in beauty dates way, way back to my girlhood. Some of the most memorable hours I've ever spent have been in the out-of-doors, communing with nature and reveling in the scenic beauty which abounds."² She would bring these interests to the White House after her husband, Lyndon Baines Johnson, became John F. Kennedy's vice-president in 1960. Following Kennedy's assassination in 1963, Johnson would complete Kennedy's term of office, then ran for, and won the presidential election in November 1964.

One of President Lyndon Johnson's final accomplishments before leaving office at the end of 1968 was the establishment of Redwood National Park, which the First Lady, Lady Bird Johnson dedicated that November. This was also one of the few bright spots illuminating the final years of the Johnson administration, which had become increasingly unpopular with the worsening crisis in Vietnam. Redwood National Park was a culminating achievement of President Johnson's "new conservation," an aspect of his Great Society program, but it also reflected Lady Bird Johnson's abiding interest in natural beauty and the influence she exerted on the President to keep this idea foremost in his considerations. Although Lady Bird Johnson would be widely remembered for her "beautification" of urban parks and highway corridors, her interest in natural beauty was much broader than this word suggests, extending to wild nature as well as designed landscapes. Her promotion of natural beauty in all its aspects helped legitimize efforts to protect places like the coast redwoods of northern California and contributed to the broad national support for a redwood national park.³

Natural Beauty and the Great Society

The core of President Johnson's domestic policy was the Great Society, an idea he proposed during the first year as President (after the JFK assassination). Presenting this idea in a speech given at the University of Michigan on May 22, 1964, Johnson challenged the nation to overcome racial injustice, economic inequality and a polluted environment to build a society that was not just rich and powerful but truly great. The President defined three areas where efforts to build the Great Society would focus: in the cities, by overcoming poverty and improving the quality of life for all Americans; in the classroom, by improving the educational system; and in the countryside, with the preservation of environmental quality. Natural beauty was an integral part of the latter focus, complementing the administration's efforts to establish basic environmental standards such as clean air and water. A great society depended on these natural resources for its sustenance, but it also required beauty for spiritual fulfillment, as Johnson emphasized,

² Quoted in, Lewis L. Gould, *Lady Bird Johnson and the Environment* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1988), p. 7.

³ Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall saw Lady Bird Johnson as the "environmental standard bearer in the White House" and her involvement was central to his plan to add considerably more land to the national park system, from Julia Sweig, *Lady Bird Johnson: Hiding in Plain Sight* (New York: Random House, 2021), p. 365.

...once our natural splendor is destroyed, it can never be recaptured. And once man can no longer walk with beauty or wonder at nature his spirit will wither and his sustenance be wasted.⁴

Over the ensuing months, the administration organized conferences and meetings to address each of the aspects of the President's program. In its efforts to address natural beauty, the administration would organize a Task Force on Natural Beauty, a White House Conference on Natural Beauty, and a President's Council on Recreation and Natural Beauty. The First Lady's own efforts to promote the beautification of urban parks and highway corridors were undertaken within this larger context.⁵

President Johnson's Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall later recalled that Lady Bird Johnson played an important role in encouraging the President to support a more conservation-oriented vision, which led to his early establishment of the Task Force on Natural Beauty in 1964 to advise him on ways to "preserve a beautiful America."⁶ Its eleven members included such prominent conservationists as Laurance Rockefeller and the biologist Loren Eiseley. The Task Force completed its work in November of that year, shortly after the election, and submitted its final report to the President. Soon afterwards, on February 8, 1965, President Johnson issued a detailed message to the Congress on the subject of natural beauty and his proposal for a comprehensive "new conservation." Here Johnson proposed that conservation play an integral part in his broader vision for a Great Society.

Our conservation must be not just the classic conservation of protection and development, but a creative conservation of restoration and innovation. Its concern is not with nature alone, but with the total relation between man and the world around him.

The President went on to outline specific measures his administration was taking, or planned to take, in order to improve environmental conditions for all Americans in both city and countryside through clean air and water legislation; the regulation of solid wastes, pesticides, and other pollutants; the preservation of wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, and hiking trails; and the establishment of new parks and recreation areas. Johnson interjected the concept of beauty into all of these proposals as the measure of their value, explaining,

In this conservation the protection and enhancement of man's opportunity to be in contact with beauty must play a major role. This means that beauty must not be just a holiday treat, but a part of our daily life. It means not just easy physical access, but equal social access for rich and poor, Negro and white, city dweller and farmer.

The administration understood beauty as fundamental to all humans. Like clean air and water that are essential to the health of our bodies, President Johnson observed that "the beauty of our land is a natural resource. Its preservation is linked to the inner prosperity of the human spirit." Access to natural beauty was a basic need that pollution, social injustice, and poverty denied. This was an understanding of beauty that lent much greater significance to the efforts of the First Lady to promote beautification, though this

⁴ "Entry 357," in *Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1963-64* (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1965), pp. 704-707.

⁵ Lady Bird later said "I'll never forgive Lyndon's boys for turning my environmental agenda into a beautification project. But I went ahead and talked about wildflowers so as not to scare anybody..." quoted in *The Hour of Land: A Personal Topography of American National Parks* (New York: Picador, 2017), pp. 263-265

⁶ Gould, *Lady Bird Johnson*, p. 42.

unfortunate word seemed to trivialize her actions and obscured the larger context of her intent.⁷ The President concluded his message to the Congress by calling for a White House Conference on Natural Beauty to be held later that year. The First Lady would play an active role in planning and hosting this important event.

White House Conference on Natural Beauty was held May 24-25, 1965. Over 800 people attended with 120 panelists participating. Laurance Rockefeller was chairman, while Lady Bird Johnson opened the conference with a plenary address. According to one historian, the conference served "as a constructive catalytic event that provided a national impetus to the conservation and beautification policies of the Johnson years."⁸ Among other things, the White House Conference urged the establishment of a National Council on Natural Beauty. President Johnson followed through on this recommendation one year later (on May 5, 1966), when he established by executive order the President's Council on Recreation and Natural Beauty, chaired by Vice-President Hubert Humphrey. A Citizens' Advisory Committee on Recreation and Natural Beauty was established at the same time, with Laurance Rockefeller serving as chairman. Lady Bird Johnson stayed in close contact with the President's Council during its two years of existence through her active role on the parallel Citizens' Advisory Committee. The President's Council would conclude its work in the fall of 1968 with publication of the report, "From Sea to Shining Sea," which outlined progress on conservation since the White House Conference on Natural Beauty, and presented proposals to stimulate further action to improve both environmental quality and beautification.⁹

In the years subsequent to the White House Conference on Natural Beauty, Lady Bird Johnson applied herself to fulfilling the goals of beautification most prominently through an anti-billboard campaign, resulting in the Highway Beautification Act of 1965; and through the beautification of monuments and urban parks in Washington DC with the planting of flowers and trees and installation of amenities such as fountains and play equipment. Far less controversial than the billboard campaign, this latter effort also proved more successful, producing many tangible results that were emulated in cities around the country.

Although these "small steps," as Laurance Rockefeller had characterized them, were the efforts for which Lady Bird Johnson was best known, she also played an important role in supporting many of the larger goals of the administration's new conservation by her support of the President's Council on Recreation and Natural Beauty, and above all through her numerous public speeches. Addressing a well-attended

⁷ In a report issued near the conclusion of the Johnson presidency, the breadth of meaning that the administration associated with the term "natural beauty" and "beautification" was clearly defined, "The natural beauty movement has from the start meant far more than "beautification." It means a vigorous expansion of traditional concepts of the American conservation movement started by John Muir, Gifford Pinchot, and Theodore Roosevelt. It means turning also to the problems of the cities, where most Americans live. It means the control of pollution and litter and the elimination of public eyesores. It means a resurgence of civic pride in the neighborhoods and towns of America. It means a new emphasis on amenities in the man-made environment such as grass, flowers, trees, parks and open spaces, fountains, art in public places, and design excellence in buildings and streets. It means broadening the process of decision-making by public agencies to include humane and esthetic considerations. The natural beauty movement implies a faith in the capacity of technology to solve the problems it has created and an imaginative determination to find innovative solutions. Finally, the idea central to the natural beauty movement is the belief that exposure to nature in some form contributes to the renewal and fulfillment of every human being, in body and in spirit." [Hubert H. Humphrey, et al., *From Sea to Shining Sea: A Report on the American Environment, Our Natural Heritage* (Washington, DC: President's Council on Recreation and Natural Beauty, 1968), pp. 25-27.]

⁸ Gould, *Lady Bird Johnson*, p. 74.

⁹ Hubert H. Humphrey, et al., *From Sea to Shining Sea: A Report on the American Environment, Our Natural Heritage* (Washington, DC: President's Council on Recreation and Natural Beauty, 1968); and Gould, *Lady Bird Johnson*, pp. 213-217.

audience at Yale University in 1967, Lady Bird Johnson insisted on the broadest possible meaning of beautification, which included both small steps and large ones,

Though the word beautification makes the concept sound merely cosmetic, it involves much more: clean water, clean air, clean roadsides, safe waste disposal and preservation of valued old landmarks as well as great parks and wilderness areas. To me ... beautification means our total concern for the physical and human quality we pass on to our children and the future.¹⁰

Through the influence she had on the President, Lady Bird Johnson would help to further every one of these diverse aspects of beautification. Her contribution to the preservation of parks and wilderness areas, for instance, included a small but important role in the campaign to prevent damming the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon during the early 1960s. While Lady Bird Johnson could not formally oppose the idea, which was being proposed by her husband's administration, she indicated her support—or at least her respect—for preservation by giving attention to the prolific mail coming from opponents of the project, much of which was answered directly by her staff. This had the effect of legitimizing the preservationists and publicizing their cause.¹¹ Lady Bird Johnson would play a similar role in the campaign for a redwood national park, which was beginning even as the Grand Canyon controversy was well underway.

Redwood National Park

Lady Bird Johnson's involvement with the redwoods began in 1964, when Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall arranged a meeting with President Johnson at the White House to discuss the idea of a redwood national park.¹² Udall was aware of Johnson's interest in parks and conservation, and thought that the present administration might be the best opportunity the long-proposed park might have,

With President Johnson's interest and Mrs. Johnson's interest in parks and park preservation I thought I saw a wind at our backs that we could use. I went to the President and recommended in 1964 that he have a meeting in the White House, which he did, in the Cabinet Room and say that he thought there ought to be a Redwoods National Park and that he was going to push this as an idea.¹³

Udall made sure the First Lady would be present, knowing that, if he could gain Lady Bird Johnson's interest in the redwoods at this early stage, her commitment would help push the park proposal forward with her husband's administration. This strategy proved successful, as Udall later recalled, "This then became something she identified with and from time to time mentioned and pushed in speeches and so on."¹⁴ Given strong opposition to the park from the logging industry and its powerful sympathizers, Udall knew that it would be impossible to get a park bill passed without committed support from the President.¹⁵ President Johnson reacted enthusiastically to the redwood national park idea at the June 25

¹⁰ Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, The University of Texas at Austin, <<http://www.ladybirdjohnson.org/quotes/>> (accessed 5 June 2018).

¹¹ Gould, *Lady Bird Johnson*, p. 218.

¹² Stewart L. Udall, Oral History Transcript, Interview 2, 19 May 1969, by Joe B. Frantz, Internet Collection, LBJ Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/oh-udalls-19690519-2-74-259-b>> (accessed 2 July 2018), p. 12.

¹³ Udall, Interview 5, 16 December 1969, p. 15.

¹⁴ Udall, Interview 2, p. 12.

¹⁵ Udall, Interview 5, p. 16.

meeting, and requested that the National Park Service continue studying the issue and report back to him through the Secretary of the Interior.

By this time, the National Park Service, with the support of the National Geographic Society, had already completed a comprehensive study of California's north coast redwood forests and proposed a park centered on Redwood Creek in northern Humboldt County.¹⁶ The emphasis on this location reflected the influence of preservationists at the Sierra Club—particularly that of *Sunset Magazine* editor Martin Litton—who had informally advised the initial National Park Service field surveys. The NPS proposal proved controversial after meeting resistance from timber companies that had interests in the Redwood Creek basin. By early 1965, in response to their complaints, the administration became increasingly reluctant to support the Redwood Creek location, though President Johnson nonetheless remained enthusiastic about a redwood national park in principle. In April 1965, the Save-the-Redwoods League, a conservation group with close ties to industry, declared its preference for a park centered on the less-controversial Mill Creek watershed in Del Norte County, and in July of that year Laurance Rockefeller, influenced by his close association with the League, wrote to President Johnson arguing that a Mill Creek park was a reasonable compromise between what he characterized as the extreme positions of the Sierra Club, on the one hand, and the more intransigent supporters of industry on the other. Johnson was persuaded by these arguments, and by Rockefeller's prestige, to abandon the recommendations of his own Interior Department and adopt the League's more industry-friendly proposal instead. In January 1966, Secretary Udall was compelled to recommend a Mill Creek-centered park comprising 39,000 acres with only a narrow corridor along Redwood Creek to the iconic Tall Trees Grove. This became the official administration proposal for a redwood national park and two months later was submitted to Congress for enactment. The original NPS proposal was preserved in a more ambitious Sierra Club version totaling 90,000 acres, mostly comprising lands in the Redwood Creek basin, and was submitted to Congress soon afterwards. These alternatives would define the parameters of the debate for a redwood national park over the subsequent two years.¹⁷

Lady Bird Johnson did not play an active part in this debate and would not become involved in the redwoods controversy for at least another year, though she did visit California in the fall of 1966 for the dedication of Point Reyes National Seashore and spoke favorably of the idea of a redwood national park.¹⁸ But in April 1967, *Sunset* editor Martin Litton, one of the Sierra Club's most ardent supporters of a Redwood Creek-centered national park, contacted Sharon Francis, a member of the First Lady's staff, to request Lady Bird Johnson's support of the Sierra Club proposal. Francis characterized Litton as representing "the most idealistic faction of the club in terms of preserving large tracts of unspoiled land in

¹⁶ U.S. Dept. of the Interior, *The Redwoods: A National Opportunity for Conservation and Alternatives for Action* (San Francisco, Calif.: National Park Service, Western Regional Office, 1964).

¹⁷ Michael McCloskey, "The Last Battle of the Redwoods." *American West* 6, no. 5 (1969): 55-64; Susan R. Schrepfer, *The Fight to Save the Redwoods: A History of Environmental Reform, 1917-1978*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1983); and Mark David Spence, *Watershed Park: Administrative History, Redwood National and State Parks*. Seattle, Wash.: National Park Service, 2011).

¹⁸ "Remarks of Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson upon Arrival at Hamilton Air Force Base, California," "The White House, Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Johnson, 20 September 1966, in Redwood National Park Establishment Papers, REDW 15828, Box 4, f. 12, Redwood National Park Archives, Orick, CA; and Gould, *Lady Bird Johnson*, p. 219. It was on this trip that Lady Bird Johnson saw her first redwood trees while touring the Big Sur area south of San Francisco. Big Sur lies at the southernmost extent of the redwoods' range and does not possess the dramatic old growth forests one finds farther north in Mendocino, Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. The First Lady would not make it up to the northern redwood forests until 1968 when Redwood National Park was established.

park and wilderness areas," and said that he was "in great despair" over the administration's endorsement of a much smaller protected area, referring to the Mill Creek proposal. According to Francis, Litton was convinced that Lady Bird Johnson would appreciate the need for protecting the largest area possible of old-growth redwood forest, and her support, he believed, could sway the debate in this direction. Francis, well-aware of industry pressure on the administration, was reluctant to involve the First Lady in a controversy that might pit her against her husband and refused to commit Lady Bird Johnson to making a visit to northern California. But, intrigued with Litton's arguments, she agreed to go herself. Meeting with both preservationists and timber industry representatives, Francis was less-than-impressed with the former, who struck her as unsympathetic and unrealistic. Nonetheless, she concluded that the Sierra Club's proposal promised a much better national park,

Of the two areas—generally a northern area being the smaller one and an area centered around Redwood Creek being a larger one—being debated by proponents and opponents of the legislation, it was obvious to me that, if the larger unit could be afforded, it offered a better ecological whole. The area to the north was largely protected in state park anyway, where the area to the south, if it could be afforded, would add more to protected status, more redwood trees.¹⁹

Francis conveyed her opinions to White House staff when she returned. She admitted that the principal factor motivating the administration's preference was financial, especially in light of the growing unpopularity and cost of the Vietnam War, and that the Sierra Club proposal (and the NPS preferred alternative) was undesirable due to its great expense. Deferring to these considerations, Francis avoided pressing the Bureau of the Budget or insisting on what, she now suspected, was the better alternative from every other consideration. She informed the First Lady of her observations and noted that Lady Bird Johnson "kept in close touch with these matters," though, like Francis, Lady Bird Johnson "didn't try to touch the purse or pocketbook, but it was certainly known and felt throughout the administration that she was supporting as much as we could do."²⁰

Although the final Redwood National Park bill was a compromise that fell short of most expectations, even this could not have been passed without the strong support of the administration. As Melville Grosvenor of the National Geographic Society recalled, "Everybody up and down the line got behind it [the park bill] because at the top the President was for it."²¹ It may be an exaggeration to say that Lady Bird Johnson was responsible for this support, but her interest in the redwoods is well-established, and Secretary Udall observed that this interest persisted for the duration of Johnson's term of office. Given her influence on the President, it is not unreasonable to conclude that Lady Bird Johnson contributed to his support of the bill. The National Park Service, in official comments on the dedication of Redwood National Park, would describe Congress' action as "encouraged by the President and inspired by the First Lady."²²

¹⁹ Sharon Francis, Oral History Transcript, Interview 2, 4 June 1969, by Dorothy Pierce (McSweeney), Internet Collection, LBJ Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/oh-franciss-19690604-2-81-69>> (accessed 2 July 2018), p. 3.

²⁰ Francis, Interview 2, p. 4.

²¹ Melville Bell Grosvenor, Oral History Transcript, Interview 1, 28 April 1969, by Joe B. Frantz, Internet Collection, LBJ Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/oh-grosvenorm-19690428-1-81-27>> (accessed 2 July 2018), p. 37.

²² "Comments on the Redwood National Park and the National Park Service," in U.S. Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service, "Redwood National Park, California: Dedication," 25 November 1968, copy in Redwood National

In September of 1968, the final conference version of S.2515, originally authored by Senators Henry Jackson (D-Wash.), Thomas Kuchel (R-Calif.), and Alan Bible (D-Nev.), was voted on and passed by the 90th Congress. It would establish a Redwood National Park consisting of two units and totaling 58,000 acres. Of this, 27,468 acres were already protected within state parks, leaving 30,532 acres of newly-protected lands. The northern unit, located in Del Norte County and centered around the Mill Creek basin, included the Jedediah Smith and Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Parks. The much larger southern unit included Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park and the lower third of the Redwood Creek basin, with a small extension, known by critics as the "worm," continuing a few miles up Redwood Creek to include the Tall Trees Grove. It was much less than most preservationists had wanted, but more than the logging industry had been readily willing to give up. The administration, however, was relieved that any bill had passed at all.²³ On 2 October 1968, President Johnson signed the Redwood National Park act into law (P.L. 90-545). It was one of four major conservation bills the president signed that week, the others being acts to create a North Cascades National Park, a National Trails System, and a Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Speaking at the signing ceremony in the East Room of the White House, the President proudly declared,

It is a great victory for every American in every State, because we have rescued a magnificent and a meaningful treasure from the chain saw. For once we have spared what is enduring and ennobling from the hungry and hasty and selfish act of destruction.²⁴

Among the many people he credited for making this legislation possible, he mentioned his wife, Lady Bird Johnson, "who has been an ardent, enthusiastic, pernicious, tenacious advocate—long before she ever dreamed that she would be in this house—but every minute that she has been in it, for the complete cause of conservation."²⁵

The following month, on November 12, 1968, Lady Bird Johnson attended a ceremony to celebrate the results of her beautification efforts on Columbia Island, a landscaped park along the George Washington Memorial Parkway at the west end of the Arlington Memorial Bridge. Columbia Island had been one of the showpieces of the First Lady's three year urban beautification program in the Washington, DC area. She and her staff had arranged for a million daffodils and numerous flowering dogwood trees to be planted there. In appreciation, the National Park Service, which managed Columbia Island as part of its National Capitol Region, had agreed to rename the island Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Park. Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall made this surprise announcement at the November 12 celebration.²⁶ It was a fitting tribute to all of the work Lady Bird Johnson had done to make the capitol's parks and roadways more pleasant and to inspire similar efforts in cities and along highways throughout the nation, but it represented only one part of the First Lady's broad influence. Just as important to her as these designed landscapes in the nation's urban areas were the places of wild natural beauty in its countryside. Although

Park Establishment Papers, REDW 15828, Box 4, f. 12, Redwood National Park Archives, Orick, CA.

²³ Michael McCloskey, "Last Battle of the Redwoods," pp. 55-64; and Schrepfer, *Fight to Save the Redwoods*, pp. 130-162.

²⁴ President Lyndon B. Johnson, "Remarks of the President upon Signing S.2515 - Redwood National Park, S.1321 - North Cascades National Park, S.827 - The National Trails System, S.119 - The Wild and Scenic Rivers System," The White House, Office of the White House Press Secretary, 2 October 1968, copy in Redwood National Park Establishment Papers, REDW 15828, Box 4, f. 12, Redwood National Park Archives, Orick, CA.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ U.S. Dept. of the Interior, *George Washington Memorial Parkway—Lady Bird Johnson Park: Cultural Landscape Inventory* (Washington, DC: National Park Service, National Capitol Region, 2005).

she had been less directly involved, Lady Bird Johnson had done much to encourage the administration to protect the latter through its establishment of national parks such as Redwood (among others). Appropriately, the First Lady would travel to northern California two weeks later to represent the administration at the dedication of Redwood National Park. The following year the grove where the dedication ceremony was held would be named Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Grove in her honor. Taken together, these two sites—Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Park in Washington, DC, and Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Grove in northern California—convey the full breadth of the First Lady's historical significance, with the park on Columbia Island representing her promotion of natural beauty in a designed, urban context, while the memorial grove at Redwood National Park commemorates her support for beauty in wild nature.

ii. The Dedicatory Ceremonies

Dedication of the Park (November 25, 1968)

In late November, following the dedication of Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Park on Columbia Island, the First Lady set out on a final tour that included New Orleans, the Kennedy Space Flight Center at Cape Canaveral (only recently renamed Cape Kennedy by President Johnson), and finally the California Redwoods. Arriving on Sunday evening, November 24, in the north coast town of Eureka, Lady Bird Johnson and her entourage stayed at the Eureka Inn. After breakfast the following morning, they drove by motorcade to the newly-established Redwood National Park, arriving at Bald Hills Overlook (near the current parking lot), a short distance above Orick on Bald Hills Road, a little before 10:30 am. From there, the First Lady, accompanied by numerous reporters, administration officials, and other VIPs, walked the short distance to the dedication site within what would eventually be known as the Lady Bird Johnson Grove.²⁷

Lady Bird Johnson had never been to the north coast redwoods before and depended on the advice of others to prepare her. Melville Grosvenor's wife warned Mrs. Johnson, "it's gray out there, dark, so wear something bright. Then when the pictures come, the color pictures, it will pick you up."²⁸ The First Lady took this advice and wore a bright scarlet dress with matching coat for the dedication ceremony, providing a memorable image that has remained iconic to the present day. As it turned out, the day proved anything but gray. Although it had been raining steadily for days prior to the event, the morning of the dedication dawned clear and sunny with some of the most pleasant weather the north coast can offer. The following day, the customary winter rains would resume.²⁹

The site had been chosen as a good example of an old-growth redwood grove within the new park that was, at the same time, relatively accessible by road (Figure 4). Planners for the event noted the following advantages:

1. Gives the feeling of being deep in among the old-growth redwoods.
2. Offers a natural amphitheater site where First Lady stands beneath a large redwood tree.

²⁷ "Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, Daily Diary for Monday, November 25, 1968," Lady Bird Johnson's White House Diary Collection, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/ctjd-ctjdd-19681125>> (accessed 6 July 2018).

²⁸ Grosvenor, Interview 1, p. 40.

²⁹ George Hartzog, Jr., Oral History Transcript, Interview 1, 20 December 1968, by Joe B. Frantz, Internet Collection, LBJ Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/oh-hartzogg-19681220-1-74-125>> (accessed 2 July 2018), p. 30.

3. Sylvan site offers great photographic opportunities to photograph the principals and old-growth redwood.
4. Informal setting with ease of access including short walk through redwoods to site.

Its chief disadvantage was the small size of the clearing within the grove where the ceremony would be held could not accommodate a large crowd or allow construction of large facilities.

Participants to the ceremony drove approximately two and a half miles up Bald Hills Road from U.S. Highway 101 to a parking area on the southeast side of the road. From here, members of the official party, including the First Lady, crossed Bald Hills Road and walked north about half a mile along a trail through the midst of the great trees, emerging at the dedication site behind a single, old-growth redwood (Figure 5 and 6). In front of this tree—that is, facing north into the clearing—was a small platform that had been erected for the First Lady's party to sit. A speaker's podium stood in the middle of the platform, and to one side was a dedication plaque, covered for its official unveiling by the First Lady at the end of the ceremony. To the First Lady's right (east) was a choir from Humboldt State College; to her left (west) were benches for ten dignitaries, and beyond these were seats for the remainder of the official guests. Directly in front of the speakers' platform were members of the press, with photographers standing on a fallen log for better vantage (Figure 7). Behind them, occupying the remainder of the clearing north of the platform, were invited members of the public (Figure 8).

Physical development of the dedication site was minimal, limited to construction of the temporary speakers' platform and the entrance trail, which was brushed, leveled, and strewn with wood chips to provide a stable surface. (The present park trail from near the footbridge to the dedication site follow the same alignment as the original 1968 official party trail and is more or less unchanged.) The trail followed an old alignment of Bald Hills Road. The trail and clearing at the dedication site were likely brushed in preparation for the event, but there is no formal record of these suspected minor improvements.³⁰

Other sites were also considered, including the open meadow at the bottom of Redwood Creek near Orick, and the Tall Trees Grove approximately eight miles up Redwood Creek near the southern end of the park. The former offered the fewest logistical problems but was considered inappropriate because it lacked redwood trees (except along a ridge in the distance). Tall Trees Grove was the most significant of the sites because of its close association with the establishment of the park and its exemplary trees, which included three of the tallest trees then known, but it was remote and difficult to reach, especially in late November when Redwood Creek could be a raging torrent, precluding secondary access across the creek from the west, while access from Bald Hills Road to the east was down a long logging road followed by an arduous trail. With these limitations, the challenge of providing adequate security for such a large party of White House dignitaries was found to be insurmountable.³¹

The dedication ceremony began shortly after Lady Bird Johnson's arrival with an invocation by Dr. Melville B. Grosvenor, president of the National Geographic Society. George Hartzog, Jr., director of the National Park Service, acted as master of ceremonies and introduced the official guests, which included

³⁰ Misc. notes, Redwood National Park Establishment Papers, REDW 15828, Box 4, f. 12, Redwood National Park Archives, Orick, CA.

³¹ "Itinerary for Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson's Trip to Redwood National Park, November 26 - 27, 1968," White House Social Files, 1963-1969: Liz Carpenter, f. Last Hurrah Trip 11/22-27/1968, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX.; and Redwood National Park Establishment Papers, REDW 15828, Box 4, f. 14, Redwood National Park Archives, Orick, CA.

members of Congress such as Don Clausen (R-Calif.), who represented the local district; and Jeffrey Cohelan (D-Calif.) who had been one of the most ardent supporters of a redwood national park. (Cohelan had authored a bill for a much larger park, reflecting the interests of conservation groups such as the Sierra Club.) Governor Ronald Reagan had declined to attend, sending Norman B. Livermore, Jr., his Secretary for Natural Resources.

Livermore gave a brief address prior to the First Lady's speech. While acknowledging the significance of the accomplishment, he expressed only lukewarm praise for the new park, noting his concern, and that of the state administration generally, for the potentially negative effect it would have on the local economy,

We need to preserve our parks [Livermore observed], but we also need to sustain the economy that produces the standard of living in our society which enables the enjoyment of these parks. This involves, among other things, a stable natural resource base here in the redwoods as well as in all other forest communities.³²

This polite yet barbed criticism was one of the few reminders of the long and acrimonious controversy that lay behind the park bill during this otherwise cheerful event. Another reminder was the crowd of nearly 400 conservationists protesting just outside the grove (Figure 9). Believing that the park was too small and had saved too few old-growth trees, they carried signs reading, "Ladybird, tell the world the park still has a long way to go," and similar messages.³³

Norman Livermore was followed at the podium by Lady Bird Johnson, the principal attraction of the morning (Figure 10). After describing her personal impression of the redwoods, she quickly placed their preservation within the larger context of her husband's Great Society program, noting that,

Our thriving nation, busy in its efforts to educate the young, heal the sick and conquer poverty, recognizes also that we must save our natural heritage. We have declared these trees to be a precious part of that heritage.³⁴

The First Lady acknowledged the lateness of the hour at which the park was established, as land prices were rising and the harvest of old-growth forest quickened, leaving increasingly less to protect (Figure 12). But Lady Bird Johnson graciously thanked the lumber companies for their magnanimity in hastening the inexorable transition of the north coast's economy from timber to tourism. She only worried that the latter might bring the same aesthetic blight she battled in her anti-billboard campaign three years earlier, substituting chainsaws with "neon strips and honky-tonk development." She hoped that instead "the things man builds here seek to match the beauty of what God has wrought," for,

The gift of the redwoods is peace. Here in the woodland, one can sense the great contrast between the slow, steady life of trees, with all their majesty and solitude, and our pell-mell

³² Norman B. Livermore, Jr., "Outline of Remarks on the Occasion of the Dedication of the Redwood National Park by Mrs. Lyndon Johnson," 25 November 1968, typescript copy in Redwood National Park Establishment Papers, REDW 15828, Box 4, f. 12, Redwood National Park Archives, Orick, CA.

³³ Tracy Wood, "Lady Bird Dedicates Redwood Park," *Daily Courier*, Grants Pass, Oregon, 26 November 1968; "Redwood National Park: First Visit By a First Lady," *Medford Mail Tribune*, Medford, Oregon, 26 November 1968; and unidentified newspaper clippings, Redwood National Park Establishment Papers, REDW 15828, Box 4, f. 12, Redwood National Park Archives, Orick, CA.

³⁴ "First Lady's Remarks Upon Dedicating the Redwoods National Forest," 25 November 1968, audio file, Tape 201, Special Collections, Humboldt State University Library, Arcata, CA, digitized by California Audiovisual Preservation Project, online <https://archive.org/details/carcht_00001> (accessed 6 July 2018).

daily life; our headlong urban bustle with its taxi rides, red lights, and jet-powered mobility. People who seek tranquility—a chance for reflection—will find and love this place.³⁵

Although Lady Bird Johnson had never been among the north coast redwoods before this trip, their beauty had immediately impressed her, and she was proud of the administration's accomplishment in protecting them. NPS Director George Hartzog believed her interest was heartfelt and genuine. He later recalled,

It was perfectly obvious in her remarks and in remarking on the President's interest in this that she did it with a great deal of feeling and a great deal of sincerity. It was likewise perfectly obvious throughout the day that this was a great personal and inspirational experience for her.³⁶

Once she had finished speaking, Lady Bird Johnson unveiled the dedicatory plaque staged near the foot of the tree behind the speakers' platform (Figure 13). The ceremony was then brought to a conclusion shortly before 11:00 am with a benediction by Right Reverend Monsignor Andre Tournier, the pastor of Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Eureka.

After departing the dedication grove, Lady Bird Johnson was driven down Bald Hills Road to the visitor center at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park, a short distance north along the Redwood Highway from Orick. Here she changed out of her showy red outfit into a more modest and practical beige pant suit and boots in order to hike through the old-growth forest while she waited for the buses with the bulk of the press corps and other official guests to finish congregating in the parking lot (Figure 14). Once everyone had arrived, the large group walked en masse to a campfire nearby, where they were served a "lumber jack" lunch consisting of a tin cup of steaming split pea soup, sandwiches, and fried chicken (Figure 15). Two college students provided the entertainment, playing guitars and singing, followed by a folklore talk given by Richard Harville, vice-president of the California Historical Society (Figure 16).

Following lunch at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park, the First Lady, accompanied by her press secretary Liz Carpenter, Congressman Don Clausen, and Director George Hartzog, drove north for a sightseeing tour along the Redwood Highway, followed by the buses loaded with reporters. They stopped at False Klamath Cove to view Wilson Beach, and Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, where they took a two mile hike through the dramatic old-growth forest along the Nickerson Ranch Trail (Figure 17). Afterwards, they were served an early dinner in the picnic area, consisting of smoked salmon and hot clam juice, while local Native art and regalia were displayed followed by a Tolowa demonstration ceremony, and a presentation of wood craft and logging techniques by local lumbermen (Figures 18 and 19). At 4:45 pm, Lady Bird Johnson left the park and drove south to Arcata where her chartered plane was waiting. Festooned with streamers and balloons, the plane provided a gala celebration for the First Lady and her staff on their last official trip of President Johnson's administration. They arrived early the following morning in San Antonio, Texas, where Mrs. Johnson departed for the Johnson Ranch while everyone sang "Auld Lang Syne."³⁷ President Lyndon Johnson was succeeded in office by President Richard Milhous Nixon the following January.

³⁵ *Ibid.*

³⁶ Hartzog, Interview 1, p. 30.

³⁷ "Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, Daily Diary for Monday, November 25, 1968," Lady Bird Johnson's White House Diary Collection, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/ctjd-ctjdd-19681125>> (accessed 6 July 2018); Peggy Ann Hutchinson, "Overwhelming Logistics Involved in Organizing First Lady's

Dedication of the Grove (August 27, 1969)

Just over half a year after taking office, President Nixon honored Lady Bird Johnson by naming the dedication grove at Redwood National Park for her. The idea was suggested by Congressman Don Clausen, who represented the local district in the House. The attribution would help demonstrate the full breadth of Lady Bird Johnson's legacy of beautification by providing an example of wild natural beauty—appropriately located on the west coast—to balance the well-known examples of designed beauty she had promoted in urban parks and along highway corridors in the east. The latter were already formally commemorated at Lady Bird Johnson Park on Columbia Island in Washington, DC. The former would now be commemorated at Redwood National Park in northern California. On August 27, 1969 President Nixon issued Proclamation 3925 establishing Lady Bird Johnson Grove (Figure 23). The proclamation read, in part,

It is fitting that a magnificent redwood grove in Redwood National Park be dedicated in honor of Lady Bird Johnson, who has done so much to stir in the American conscience a deepened sense of unity with our national environment. Mrs. Johnson has given generously of her time and talents on behalf of the natural beauty of the land she loves so well. That beauty is uniquely expressed in the Redwood National Park established by the Act of Congress of October 2, 1968, while Mrs. Johnson was First Lady of the land.³⁸

That same day a ceremony was held in the grove at Redwood National Park, attended by President Richard Nixon, former President Lyndon Johnson with former First Lady Lady Bird Johnson, California Governor Ronald Reagan, and Congressman Don Clausen, as well as other dignitaries (Figure 20 and 22). Secretary of the Interior Walter Hickel acted as master of ceremonies, while the Reverend Billy Graham provided the invocation. The organization and physical layout of the event appears to have been nearly identical to that of the park dedication, held scarcely nine months earlier in the same location.³⁹

President Nixon provided the keynote address for the dedication. He invoked the legacy of President Theodore Roosevelt, who had been responsible for establishing some of the nation's earliest and most enduring conservation principles. Aligning himself, and the Johnson administration that preceded him, with this venerable precedent, Nixon commented on the significance of preserving places of such natural beauty as the redwoods. Their value transcended the utilitarian needs of society, providing spiritual meaning and emotional comfort, even—as Nixon reflected—for a president,

...to stand here in this grove of redwoods, to realize what a few moments of solitude in this magnificent place can mean, what it can mean to a man who is President, what it can mean to any man or any woman who needs time to get away from whatever may be the burdens of all of our tasks, and then that renewal that comes from it—to stand here makes us realize the great service that a President of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt, rendered when he put so much emphasis on conservation; that these Congressmen and Senators and Governors have rendered by their support of conservation and that our very honored guest,

Trip," *Medford Mail Tribune*, Medford, Oregon, 26 November 1968; and Redwood National Park Establishment Papers, REDW 15828, Box 4, f. 12, Redwood National Park Archives, Orick, CA.

³⁸ Richard M. Nixon, "Presidential Proclamation 3925—Lady Bird Johnson Grove, Redwood National Park," 27 August 1969, *The American Presidency Project* (John T. Woolley & Gerhard Peters), Santa Barbara, CA. <<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=105910>> (accessed 14 June 2018).

³⁹ Misc. notes and papers in Redwood National Park Establishment Papers, REDW 15828, Box 4, f. 14, Redwood National Park Archives, Orick, CA.

Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, Lady Bird Johnson, has rendered in her work for beautification, and particularly her work with regard to this very grove in which we stand.⁴⁰

Although Lyndon Johnson had been responsible for actually signing the Redwood National Park's enabling act, Nixon made it very clear that the former First Lady had played an instrumental role in making it possible through her influence and inspiration. Standing beside Nixon on the speakers' platform, Lady Bird Johnson acknowledged the President's comments and politely observed that conservation is fundamentally bipartisan in nature—Nixon was a Republican—as it provides lasting benefits for all Americans, both for the present and future generations (Figure 22).

A wood plaque had been created for this event and was unveiled at this point of the ceremony (Figure 21), reading,

Lady Bird Johnson Grove, dedicated in honor of Mrs. Johnson by President of the United States Richard Nixon, August 27, 1969, in recognition of her devoted service to the cause of preserving and enhancing America's natural beauty for the enjoyment of all the people.

"One of my most unforgettable memories of the past years is walking through the Redwoods seeing the lovely shafts of light filtering through the trees so far above, feeling the majesty and silence of that forest, and watching a salmon rise in one of those swift streams—all our problems seemed to fall into perspective and I think every one of us walked out more serene and happier."

Lady Bird Johnson
July 30, 1969⁴¹

The plaque had been brought to the dedication site shortly before the ceremony and now hangs in the Kuchel Visitors Center.⁴²

iii. Continued Advocacy

Claudia Alta Taylor "Lady Bird" Johnson's advocacy for the environment did not stop when she left the White House, nor with the death of her husband in 1973. She continued to speak and advocate for beautification, but her major accomplishments in later life was to found the National Wildflower Research Center with the University of Texas in Austin in 1982, later renamed the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in 1997. The mission of the center is "to inspire the conservation of native plants through its internationally recognized sustainable gardens, education and outreach programs, research projects, and consulting work." Her own description echoes her previous statements on beautification, "Our Center works for more than the lovely blossoms in our open spaces. We are concerned for all of North America's native plants, from the smallest sprout to the tallest tree."⁴³ It has become a constructive

⁴⁰ Richard M. Nixon, "Remarks at the Dedication of Lady Bird Johnson Grove in Redwood National Park in California," 27 August 1969, *The American Presidency Project* (John T. Woolley & Gerhard Peters), Santa Barbara, CA. <<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/print.php?pid=2213>> (accessed 14 June 2018).

⁴¹ Richard M. Nixon, "Presidential Proclamation 3925—Lady Bird Johnson Grove, Redwood National Park," 27 August 1969, *The American Presidency Project* (John T. Woolley & Gerhard Peters), Santa Barbara, CA. <<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=105910>> (accessed 14 June 2018).

⁴² "Check List," in Redwood National Park Establishment Papers, REDW 15828, Box 4, f. 14, Redwood National Park Archives, Orick, CA.

⁴³ "About the Center," The University of Texas Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center <<https://www.wildflower.org/about/overview>> (accessed 13 September 2018).

force for the environment nationally and in 2017 it was named the official state botanic garden and arboretum of the State of Texas.⁴⁴

Lady Bird Johnson did return to the grove and Redwood National Park at least once in 1986 with her granddaughter Rebekah Nugent.⁴⁵ Two years later she co-authored a best-selling book *Wildflowers Across America* with Carlton Lees.

iv. Later Development

Subsequent to the dedication of Lady Bird Johnson Grove a visitor parking lot was built on the southeast side of Bald Hills Road, with a restroom, picnic tables, and a pedestrian overpass, or footbridge, providing access over Bald Hills Road to the grove. This footbridge is a single-span arch of laminated wood. The parking area and footbridge were constructed between August 5 and October 28, 1971; the parking area at a cost of \$20,800.00 and the footbridge at a cost of \$33,000.00.⁴⁶

The trail leading from near the north end of the footbridge, approximately half a mile to the dedication site, is the same trail alignment as that was used by Lady Bird Johnson and other official guests on November 25, 1968 and again on August 27, 1969. An abandoned segment of Bald Hills Road was used for about a half mile to the dedication site and as access for security beyond that (Figure 4). The current trail is the only known constructed feature still present from the period of significance within the grove. A short segment of the original route was bypassed with the construction of the pedestrian overpass and has become overgrown but can be clearly seen immediately west of the overpass over the current Bald Hills Road. The abandoned road (and current loop trail) continues to the east past the dedication site, and then west and north as the current Berry Glen Trail for about another half mile. From this point the Berry Glen Trail, constructed in 2010, leaves the abandoned road alignment for another mile within the grove boundary, and then to Berry Glen at U.S. Highway 101. In 1973 a connecting loop was added south of the trail that extends from a tenth of a mile east of the overpass to east of the dedication site.⁴⁷ This addition now allows visitors to hike an approximate one mile loop within the Lady Bird Johnson Grove.

Shortly after period of significance (November 25, 1968 to August 27, 1969), a commemorative bronze plaque was mounted in a masonry pedestal within the dedication site. The original plaque was later removed in December 2011 and replaced with the present commemorative plaque. The location of the current plaque is about 15 feet north of the original plaque location and the original unveiling site during the dedication ceremony.

In April 1975 vandals cut down two redwoods within the grove with chainsaws, presumably in protest of the park's establishment, although no suspects were ever found.⁴⁸ Another vandalism incident occurred in June 1995 when an Orick resident damaged two trees attempting to cut down an eleven-foot diameter redwood in the parking lot, and a Douglas Fir north of Bald Hills Road. The redwood remains standing, but the fir collapsed the following December.

⁴⁴ Gould, 126.

⁴⁵ Robert Belous, "Lady Bird Johnson Visits Grove," Del Norte Triplicate Parklander. August 16, 1986. In *Redwood National Park File*, Del Norte Historical Society, Crescent City, CA.

⁴⁶ RG 004, REDW 34245, Series 002.1.7, Box 1, f. 8, RNSP Archives, Orick, CA.

⁴⁷ RG 002, Interpretive Division Coll., INDI-1, Box 17, RNSP Archives, Orick, CA; and Spence, *Watershed Park*, p. 324, n. 201.

⁴⁸ Peggy Wayburn, "The Short, Sorry History of Redwood National Park," *Sierra Club Bulletin* 60, no. 8 (October 1975): 55; and Spence, *Watershed Park*, p. 92.

The opening within the Lady Bird Johnson Grove where the dedication ceremonies of 1968 and 1969 both took place has not substantially changed since the period of significance. All structures installed during the period of significance were temporary by design and removed at the conclusion of each event. The only notable exception was the access trail used by Lady Bird Johnson and other members of the official parties, which is still extant. The fallen log used as a photographers' platform for both ceremonies is extant. Natural changes have undoubtedly occurred with the growth of vegetation, the decomposition of fallen logs, and the falling of new logs.

Despite natural changes, the site retains its original character with little or no loss of integrity. The non-contributing commemorative plaque, the loop trail extending north and east of the dedication site, and interpretive waysides are the only non-historic additions that have been made within the boundaries of the Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Grove since the period of significance.

Physical History Graphics

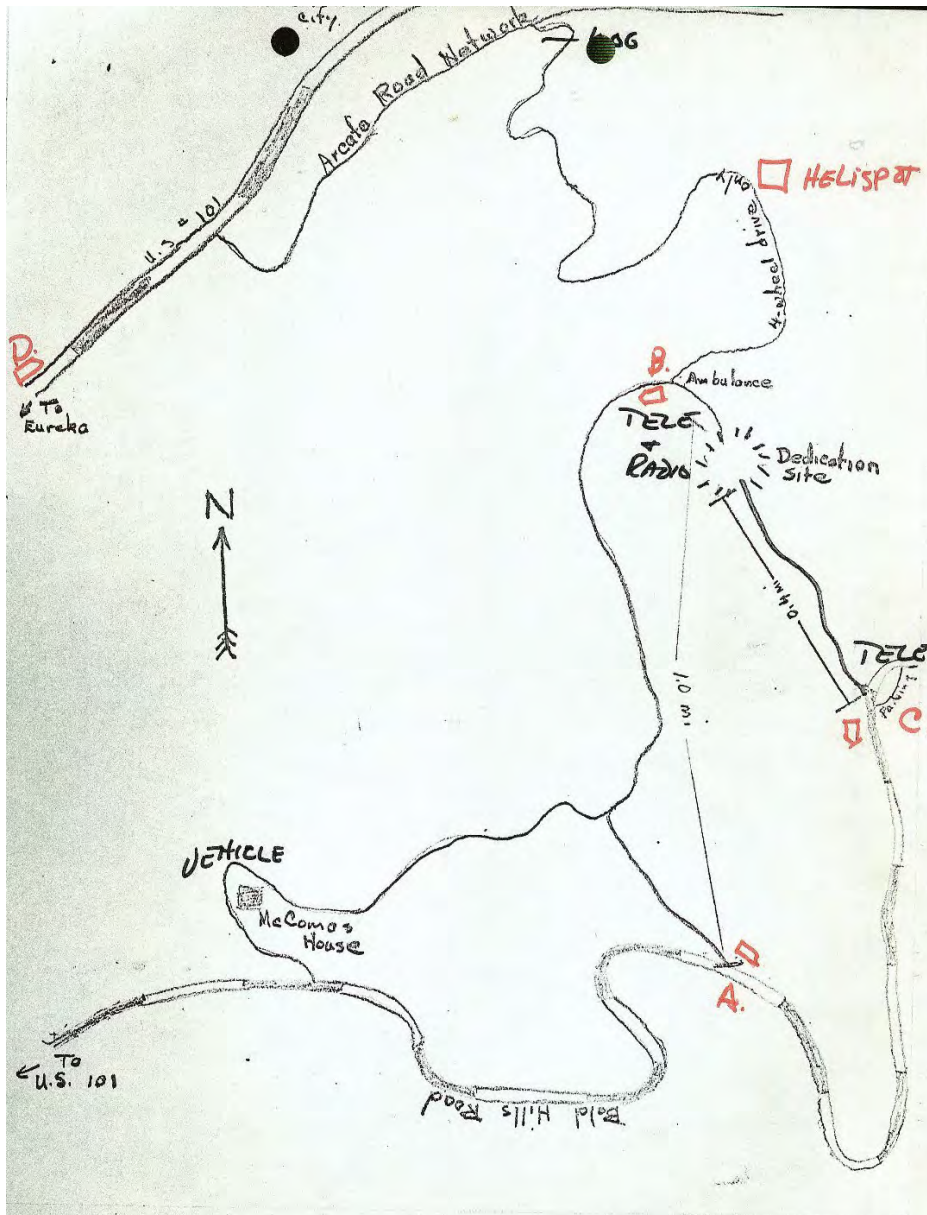


Figure 4. Sketch map of park dedication site showing emergency and security positions. Entrance trail is the thicker line following the abandoned section of Bald Hills Road beginning on current Bald Hills Road at marked point "C" (location of current parking), while secondary ambulance access began at marked point "B" (location of current trail junction of Loop Trail and Berry Glen Trail to the left). The road marked "4-wheel drive only" no longer exists. This was near where the clear-cut area met the preserved grove [Redwood National Park Establishment Papers, REDW 15828, Box 4, f. 14, RNSP Archives, Orick, CA.]



Figures 5 and 6. *Guests walking along entrance path toward park dedication site. Vegetation has been cleared along both sides of the path, providing a broad open corridor.* [Photograph contact sheet, 1968-11-25-D2600, 25 November 1968, White House Photo Office Collection, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/img-cont-1968-11-25-D2600>> (accessed 5 July 2018).]



Figure 7. *Press photographers standing atop fallen log facing the speakers' platform.* [Photograph contact sheet, 1968-11-25-D2628, 25 November 1968, White House Photo Office Collection, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/img-cont-1968-11-25-D2628>> (accessed 5 July 2018).]

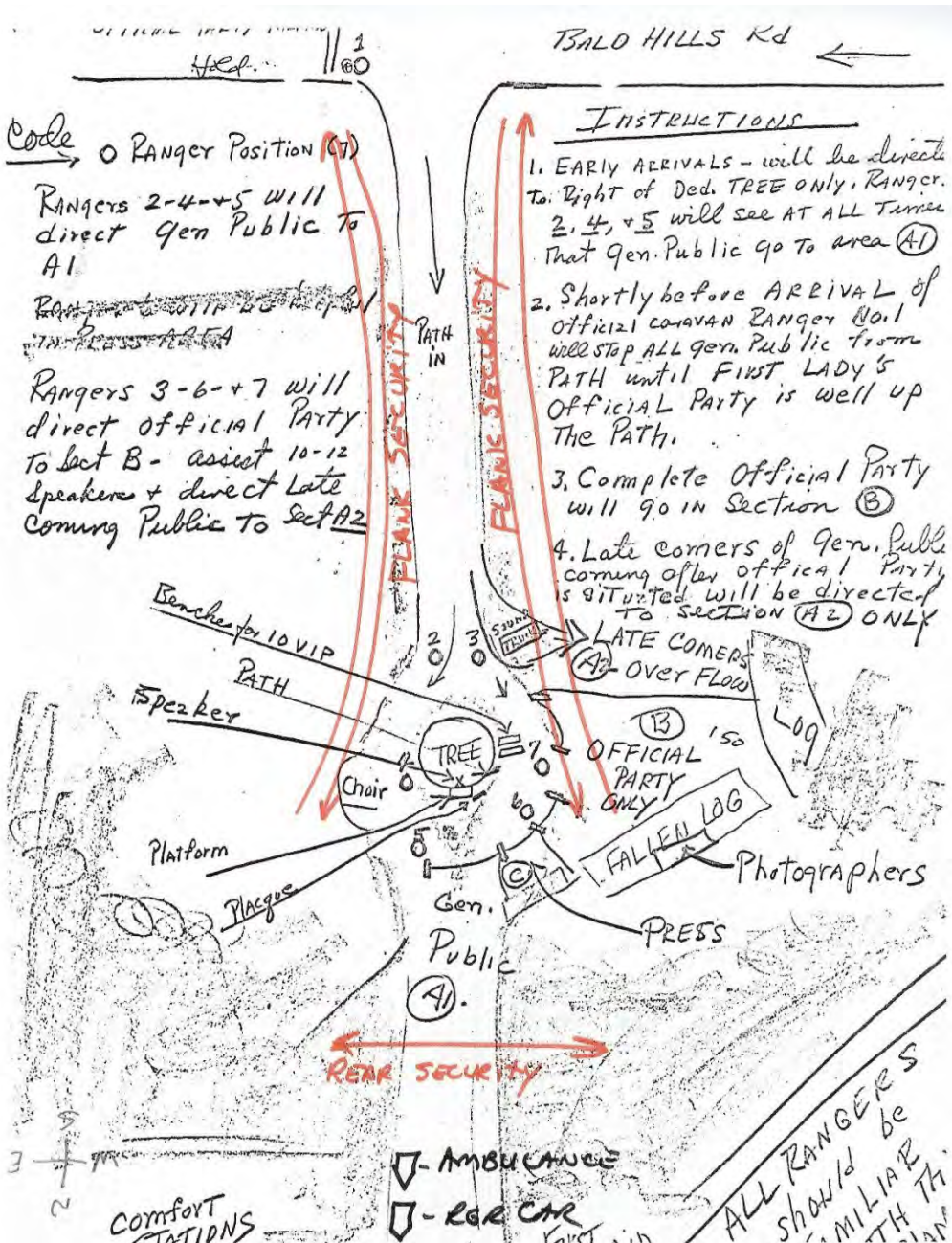


Figure 8. Sketch plan of ceremony layout for security staff. Entrance path, speaker's platform, and positions of various participating groups are clearly shown. [Redwood National Park Establishment Papers, REDW 15828, Box 4, f. 14, RNSP Archives, Orick, CA.]



Figure 9. Protesters gathered outside the memorial grove during the park dedication ceremony. Most of their placards are asking for enlargement of the newly established Redwood National Park. [Photo by Jack Kightlinger, D2596-7A, 25 November 1968, White House Photo Office Collection, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX. <<http://www.lbjlibrary.net/collections/photoarchive.html>> (accessed 2 July 2018).]



Figure 10. *Lady Bird Johnson speaking at park dedication ceremony. Covered object to her left is the memorial plaque that will be unveiled at the end of the ceremony.* [Photograph contact sheet, 1968-11-25-D2628, 25 November 1968, White House Photo Office Collection, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/img-cont-1968-11-25-D2628>> (accessed 5 July 2018).]



Figure 11. *Current condition where Lady Bird Johnson spoke at a podium at the 1968 park dedication and 1969 ceremonies.* [NPS 2021.]



Figure 12. *Lady Bird Johnson addressing public in dedication grove, seen from behind.* [Photograph contact sheet, 1968-11-25-D2628, 25 November 1968, White House Photo Office Collection, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/img-cont-1968-11-25-D2628>> (accessed 5 July 2018).]



Figure 13. *Lady Bird Johnson unveiling the memorial plaque honoring the establishment of Redwood National Park.* [Photograph contact sheet, 1968-11-25-D2628, 25 November 1968, White House Photo Office Collection, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/img-cont-1968-11-25-D2628>> (accessed 5 July 2018).]



Figure 14. *Lady Bird Johnson strolling through the old-growth redwoods at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park shortly after the park dedication ceremony.* [Photo by Robert Knudsen, D2624-7A, 25 November 1968, White House Photo Office Collection, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX. <<http://www.lbjlibrary.net/collections/photoarchive.html>> (accessed 2 July 2018).]



Figure 15. *Lady Bird Johnson with guests enjoying campfire and "lumber jack" lunch at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park following the park dedication ceremony.* [Photograph contact sheet, 1968-11-25-D2624, 25 November 1968, White House Photo Office Collection, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/img-cont-1968-11-25-D2624>> (accessed 5 July 2018).]



Figure 16. *Lady Bird Johnson being entertained by performers during "lumber jack" lunch at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park.* [Photograph contact sheet, 1968-11-25-D2624, 25 November 1968, White House Photo Office Collection, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/img-cont-1968-11-25-D2624>> (accessed 5 July 2018).]



Figure 17. *Lady Bird Johnson enjoying view of the ocean at Wilson Creek Beach (False Klamath Cove) shortly after dedication ceremony. She is accompanied by NPS Director George Hartzog and unidentified man (probably Congressman Don Clausen).* [Photograph contact sheet, 1968-11-25-D2625, 25 November 1968, White House Photo Office Collection, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/img-cont-1968-11-25-D2625>> (accessed 5 July 2018).]



Figure 18. *Tolowa dancers performing for Lady Bird Johnson's party at Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park following the park dedication ceremony.* [Photograph contact sheet, 1968-11-25-D2601, 25 November 1968, White House Photo Office Collection, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/img-cont-1968-11-25-D2601>> (accessed 5 July 2018).]



Figure 19. *Lumbermen demonstrating their skill with a two-man bucksaw competition at Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park following park dedication ceremony.* [Photograph contact sheet, 1968-11-25-D2601, 25 November 1968, White House Photo Office Collection, LBJ Presidential Library, Austin, TX. <<https://www.discoverlbj.org/item/img-cont-1968-11-25-D2601>> (accessed 5 July 2018).]



Figure 20. *Dedication of Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Grove on 27 August 1969.* [Photograph from unidentified source <<https://www.savetheredwoods.org/wp-content/uploads/Lady-Bird-Johnson-Grove-dedication-1969.jpg>> (accessed 2 July 2018).]



Figure 21. *Dedication of Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Grove on 27 August 1969 with Lady Bird unveiling framed proclamation text. This plaque currently hangs in the Kuchel Visitors Center. [Harpers Ferry Collection, Redwood National Park Archives, Orick, CA].*



Figure 22. *Lady Bird Johnson speaking at the dedication of Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Grove on 27 August 1969. Pictured from left to right are Reverend Billy Graham, Governor Ronald Reagan, Senator Thomas Kuchel, Interior Secretary Walter Hickel, Lady Bird Johnson, First Lady Pat Nixon, former President Lyndon Johnson, and President Richard Nixon. [Harpers Ferry Collection, Redwood National Park Archives, Orick, CA].*



Figure 23. *President Richard Nixon signing Presidential Proclamation 3925 dedicating Lady Bird Johnson Grove on 27 August 1969. [Harpers Ferry Collection, Redwood National Park Archives, Orick, CA].*

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Natural Systems and Features

The decision to use this location as the ceremonial site for the establishment of Redwood National Park and the decision to dedicate this grove to Lady Bird Johnson, are largely based on the old-growth coast redwoods within the grove. Factors, such as natural topography, geology, hydrology, and climate, explain why the coast redwoods and a variety of other plant species thrive in the forest. The grove's location on a high ridgeline is unusual for coast redwoods, since the trees require a lot of moisture to survive, some of which they acquire by absorbing the coastal fog.

Spatial Organization

The entrance walk from Bald Hills Road to the dedication site is along a forested ridge that roughly divides Lady Bird Johnson Grove in half. The redwood forest continues down the slopes away from the ridge. The forests have a dense shrub layer which creates enclosed "tunnels" of vegetation along the ridge with occasional views out. The steep descent away from the ridge allows for a more expansive forest space to be perceived as visitors can see over the shrubs under the dense tree canopy high overhead.

Land Use

Land use within the grove has changed over time. This grove is located in Yurok ancestral territory and the redwood groves continue to be used and managed since time immemorial for subsistence lifeways and ceremony by Yurok people. Beginning in the 1850s, European-Americans arrived with the gold rush, but soon began cutting trees across the region, although logging did not occur in the grove, the grove boundary was delineated to exclude a clear-cut area within the section. Transportation through the grove includes portions of current and extant former alignments of Bald Hills Road. With the establishment of the park in 1968, the grove was used for the park dedication ceremony and again when the grove was dedicated to Lady Bird Johnson in 1969. Today, the grove is used by Redwood National Park visitors for recreational purposes. A parking lot, comfort station, and trail modifications have been added in the years since the period of significance to accommodate the visitors.

Topography

The natural topography of the grove has changed very little. Most of the land manipulation occurred with the construction of the old Bald Hills Road as it cut across the slope descending from the ridge. Cut and fill construction methods were used, and the cut banks can still be witnessed along portions of the former road. Other topographic changes include small alterations, such as water bars, to construct trails throughout the grove.

Vegetation

No formal plantings were made in the Lady Bird Johnson Grove. The grove is significant for being an exceptional example of a natural old-growth, coast redwood forest. Please refer to the "Natural Systems and Features" section for details on the grove's ecology and vegetation.

Circulation

During the ceremonies in 1968 and 1969, visitors and dignitaries walked to the dedication site along the old Bald Hills Road from the current Bald Hills Road. Today, visitors arrive in the parking lot and walk to Lady Bird Johnson Grove via a wood glue laminate pedestrian bridge over Bald Hills Road. After the bridge, the trail joins and then follows a historic alignment of Bald Hills Road to the dedication site. The former road alignment continues after the dedication site and down the southeast slope back to the present

Bald Hills Road. Other trails were subsequently added, including the return loop for the Lady Bird Johnson Grove Trail and the Berry Glen Trail.

Building and Structures

There are limited buildings and structures in the grove. The only permanent building on the landscape is the comfort station located next to the parking lot. The brown, rustic style comfort station, while modern in materials, blends in with its surroundings. The most prominent structure on the landscape is the wood glue laminate pedestrian bridge that takes visitors from the parking lot over the Bald Hills Road. Both features were constructed outside the period of significance.

Views and Vistas

After the establishment of the park in 1968, the grove was chosen as the location of the park dedication ceremony in large part because of the continuous view of, and immersion into, an old-growth coast redwood forest. The immersion into the forest and continuous views remain an important characteristic of the grove.

Small-Scale Features

The Lady Bird Johnson Grove has various small-scale features throughout the area. Historically, only one feature existed during the ceremony. The fallen log used by photographers during the ceremony is extant. Since the period of significance, benches, a culvert, rock walls, and multiple types of signs have been added to the landscape.

Archeological Sites

Portions of the trail align with the old Bald Hills Road and associated glass insulators and their metal or wooden bases from former utility lines are still attached to trees.

Integrity

The Lady Bird Johnson Memorial Grove is a 420-acre, old-growth coast redwood forest within the Redwood National Park. The grove is historically significant as it was chosen as the site for the formal ceremony of the establishment on the National Park in 1968. A little less than a year later, the same site was used to officially dedicated the grove to Claudia “Lady Bird” Johnson for her contribution to conservation efforts and her role in establishing the park.

Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance under NRHP criteria. There are seven aspects that contribute to a resource’s integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. To retain historic integrity, a property will always possess several, and usually most, of the aspects. The Lady Brid Johnson Memorial Grove is a largely undeveloped site and retains aspects of location, setting, feeling, and association. Workmanship, design and materials also retain integrity however, the contributing built features are secondary to the redwood grove.

Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred. The location of the property, complemented by the setting, explain why the historic events of the dedication ceremonies took place here.

Setting is the physical environment of a historic property. The setting within the grove and the ceremony clearing have changed little since the period of significance. Outside the grove, adjacent logging, which once posed a direct threat to the grove, ceased with the establishment of Redwood National Park in 1968. Because of this, the setting around the grove has shifted since the period of significance with the rapid growth of second-growth forests to the northeast, but this is not a significant change from within the grove. Subsequent forest management and watershed rehabilitation have maintained and improved the health of the grove and adjacent forested lands supporting the Lady Bird Johnson Grove's integrity of setting.

Feeling is a property’s expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. Feelings of sublime “sylvan beauty” and “immersion within an old-growth redwood forest” were cited by the planners for choosing this location for the park ceremony. There is also a sense of arrival and drama coming into the clearing after a short walk enclosed by the surrounding forest vegetation. These feelings are still present.

Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. Associations are tied to the establishment of Redwood National Park ceremony in 1968, and the dedication of the grove to Lady Bird Johnson in 1969. Although the temporary constructed features of the ceremonies no longer exist, the clearing where they took place is evident as is the giant redwood log used as a photographers’ platform. This site was specifically chosen because of the proximity of the old-growth redwoods and ease of access along the former road into the site. The significance of these events, as well as the influential role that Lady Bird Johnson played in redwood conservation history, is still conveyed at the dedication site within the memorial grove.

Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. Built elements for both ceremonies were intended as temporary and no longer exist. Design is largely seen on the trails following the abandoned Bald Hills Road that traverse the grove. The former road was a native soil and gravel road, with minimal features but the cut banks on slopes are still evident. The abandoned road was cleared of vegetation for the park and dedication ceremonies which created a

corridor that creates a sense of drama and arrival at the dedication clearing. This sense of corridor and arrival is still felt today.

Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property. The primary built features are the trails following the abandoned Bald Hills Road that visitors and dignitaries walked on to the dedication site and was a native soil and gravel road. The material used for the road are the same as the current contributing trails and retain the surface materials. The fallen redwood log used by photographers existed before the ceremony, and used during both ceremonies for the same purpose, and is extant.

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. The trails following the abandoned Bald Hills Road retains is simple, unadorned workmanship and still evident.

Summary

The integrity of the grove is primarily in the location, setting, feeling and association of the old-growth coast redwood forest from the time of the ceremonies. The site was chosen because the ceremonies were surrounded by the old-growth redwood forest and the former road provided easier access than other groves. The feeling of walking through the grove today provides the same awe and wonder as it did during the dedication ceremonies, linking visitors via direct association to those historic events. Only temporary structures were built for the ceremonies and no longer exist. The primary contributing built features are the trails following the abandoned Bald Hills Road, which retains much of simple workmanship, materials and design as it had during the period of significance. Minor additions to the grove have been made to accommodate visitors since the period of significance, but the grove retains a high level of integrity.

Landscape Characteristics

Natural Systems and Features

Natural Systems and Features are the natural aspects that have influenced the development and physical form of the landscape. Among other aspects, the natural systems in a landscape include its climate, geology, hydrology, soils, and ecology. These natural features explain why the old-growth redwood forest exists here.

Geomorphology

Lady Bird Johnson Grove is adjoining the Bald Hills, a section of the Coast Range of California that run from Del Norte County to Santa Barbara County. The grove is situated near the southeast end of a ridgeline followed by Bald Hills Road, generally southeast to northwest. Elevation within the boundary of the grove ranges between 1,320 feet at the start of the Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail, and slopes downward to 360 feet. The highest point in the park is outside the grove along the same ridgeline at Coyote Peak at 3,170 feet. Northern California is tectonically very active, and the coast is a dynamic location where the North American and Gorda Plate plates of the Earth's crust form an offshore subduction zone. Earthquakes of magnitude 9 have occurred on an approximately 500-year intervals. Earthquakes have led to landslides and tsunamis in the region.

Geology

The Franciscan Complex underlies most of Redwood National Park. The complex was laid down on the ocean floor as deposits of sand and mud 150 to 100 million years ago. These deposits were carried eastward and uplifted to create the Coast Range. The bedrock is mostly composed of sedimentary graywacke sandstone, mudstone, and metamorphic schist. The relatively high precipitation of the area, paired with the insecure geology placed by the coastal uplift of the Franciscan Formation lead to debris slides, block falls, landslides, and earthflows.⁴⁹

The soils of the Lady Bird Johnson Grove are part of the Ladybird series and are primarily composed of two complexes of udic soils derived from sandstone and mudstone, found on mountains: the Sasquatch-Sisterrocks-Ladybird complex and the Tectah-Coppercreek-Trailhead complex. These soils are well-drained, have medium to high runoff, are very deep, and consist of a parent material composed of colluvium and residuum derived from sandstone and mudstone. The Tectah-Coppercreek-Trailhead complex is found predominantly along the loop trail area, on the relatively flat, broad ridge. The Sasquatch-Sisterrocks-Ladybird complex is found throughout the rest of the grove, but primarily it is found on steep, moist mountain slopes. This soil type is found at elevations ranging from 15 to 1,850 feet, along slopes that have a south to northeast aspect. The slope in these areas range from 30% to 50%.

Hydrology

While there are no significant streams in the Lady Bird Johnson Grove, it is in the Prairie Creek watershed. Water from the northeast side of the grove runs off into Little Lost Man Creek, a tributary of

⁴⁹ Sid Covington, "Redwood National and State Parks Geological Resource Management Issues Scoping Summary," (Crescent City, CA: Redwood National and State Parks, Geological Resources Division, August 27, 2014).

Prairie Creek. Water from the southwest side of the grove runs directly into Prairie Creek. Prairie Creek is a tributary of the larger Redwood Creek, which drains into the Pacific Ocean. The Redwood Creek alluvial valley is characteristic of the area with steep forested hillsides and meadows, that lead out to a wide plain as it nears the mouth and the Pacific Ocean.

Fog, especially during the summer, plays a prominent role in the hydrology of the grove. The tall trees can absorb the moisture of the fog through the stomata in the leaves. Fog can also greatly contribute to soil moisture when it condenses on foliage and drips to the ground, adding 25% to 50% of the annual water inputs in a redwood ecosystem.⁵⁰

Ecology

Lady Bird Johnson Grove is a notable example of an upland, old-growth redwood forest in the Coast Range (Figure 24). The coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) comprises much of the canopy within the grove along with Western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*), Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), tanoak (*Notholithocarpus densiflorus*), and red alder (*Alnus rubra*). The redwoods within the grove's boundaries are notable due to their size, despite their location along a ridge away from streams. The coast redwood are the tallest known trees in the world and grow in dense groves of redwoods and other trees. The trees average 200 feet tall and sixteen to twenty feet wide at breast height. Coast redwoods thrive in this location due to the coastal fog that comes in from the Pacific Ocean, which can cover leaves, reducing evaporation, or can be absorbed through stomata on the leaves and be drawn down through branches to the roots. The hydration is not the only benefit that fog provides a redwood forest; it also carries nitrogen, phosphorus, and other minerals that help nourish the entire ecosystem.⁵¹ Large coast redwood trees have been found to contain flora and fauna communities within their high canopies. Decaying plant material gathers in the crevasses of the tree and form a layer soil up to a meter deep, which can sustain a wide variety of plants and animals in the canopy.⁵²

The dense canopy of the redwoods that occupies most of the area allows little direct sunlight through. Plants that grow with redwoods forests must thrive on the speckled light that filters through the canopy (Figure 25). The understory, shrub, and groundcover species in the grove, include: salmon berry (*Rubus spectabilis*), salal (*Gaulthoria shallon*), evergreen huckleberry (*Vaccinium ovatum*), red huckleberry (*Vaccinium parvifolium*), redwood sorrell (*Oxalis oregana*), redwood violet (*Viola sempervirens*), trillium (*Trillium chloropetalum*), rhododendron (*Rhododendron macrophyllum*), azalea (*Rhododendron occidentale*), clintonia (*Clintonia andrewsiana*), and insideout flower or duckfoot (*Vancouveria hexandra*). There are also various species of ferns, including the bracken fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*), sword fern (*Polystichum munitum*), lady fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*), deer fern (*Blechnum spicant*), and leather fern (*Polypodium scolieri*) (Figure 26).

⁵⁰ Michael Barbour et. al, *Coast Redwood: A Natural and Cultural History* (Los Olivos, CA: Cachuma Press, 2001), pp. 12.

⁵¹ Michael Tennessen, "Clearing and Present Danger? Fog That Nourishes California Redwoods Is Declining," *Scientific American* (December 9, 2010).

⁵² Reed F. Noss, Editor, "The Redwood Forest: History, Ecology, and Conservation of the Coast Redwood (Covelo, CA: Island Press, 2000),pp. 57.

Located in the upper canopy of trees and on rotten logs is coffee berry (*Rhamnaceae californica*), Douglas iris (*Iris douglasiana*), colts foot (*Petasites frigidus*), Hooker's fairy bells (*Disporum hookeri*), Smith's fairybells (*Disporum smithii*), and candy flower (*Claytonia sibirica*).

Old-growth redwood forests also support several species of fauna in their ecosystems. Some species, such as Pacific salamanders (*Dicamptodon tenebrosus*), marbled murrelets (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*), and flying squirrels (*Glaucomys sabrinus*), need old-growth redwoods to survive. These groves can also support some large mammals, such as the Roosevelt elk (*Cervus canadensis roosevelti*), black-tailed deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), California black bears (*Ursus americanus californiensis*), and mountain lions (*Puma concolor*). Smaller mammals, such as California ground squirrels (*Spermophilus beecheyi*), redwood chipmunks (*Tamias ochrogenys*), and red tree voles (*Arborimus longicaudus*), are more successful and play a large role in the ecology of old-growth redwood groves. These small mammals are not only prey for larger mammals, but they spread spores of mycorrhizae, fungi that grow symbiotically on tree roots and trunks, supporting biodiversity in the broader area.

Climate

Lady Bird Johnson Grove is located within a Mediterranean coastal climate with a temperature range averaging between 40 to 65°F year-round with mild winters and warm, dry summers. Annual rainfall in the region ranges from 60 to 140 inches per year, with most precipitation occurring in November through April. The intensity and seasonality of precipitation is unique to the region; the grove gets very little snowfall but receives an abundance of coastal fog, especially during the summer months. This added precipitation helps the ecosystem thrive, even in the higher elevations.⁵³

Summary

Lady Bird Johnson Grove's establishment and dedication was primarily driven by its easily accessible location in an old-growth coast redwood forest. The geology, geomorphology, hydrology, and climate allow for the coast redwoods and other associated ecology to thrive in the area.

⁵³ U.S. Dept. of the Interior, *Environmental Assessment: Management Options for Redwood Creek, Redwood National Park* (San Francisco, CA: National Park Service, Western Regional Office, 1975), pp. 2-24.

Natural Systems and Features Graphics:



Figure 24. *Tall stands of old-growth redwood forest tower above the ground cover and shrubs.* [NPS 2018.]



Figure 25. *Understory plants that live beneath the giant redwood trees.* [NPS 2018.]



Figure 26. *Much of the ground cover in the grove is composed of ferns and fallen trees.* [NPS 2018.]

Spatial Organization

The spatial organization refers to the three-dimensional organization of physical forms and visual associations in the landscape, including the articulation of ground, vertical, and overhead planes that define and create spaces. Important aspects of the grove's spatial organization are the high redwood canopy and the natural topography.

Lady Bird Johnson Grove is roughly divided in half by a forested ridgeline. Redwood forest continues on the slopes away from the ridge. The old Bald Hills Road from the current Bald Hills Road to the dedication site is along this forested ridge and then descends the southeast slope. The trail that follows the old road moves through two distinct spaces created by the topography and vegetation.

The portion of the Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail from Bald Hills Road to the dedication site (old Bald Hills Road) is relatively flat and located along the ridgeline. The clearing is roughly 30 feet by 50 feet wide. The trail along the ridge is enclosed to either side by the large trunks of old-growth redwoods and shrubs (Figure 27). The shrubs and other ground plants range from 3 to 10 feet in height which enclose the trail and dedication site. The trail and dedication site are enclosed from above by a continuous canopy approximately 100 to 150 feet above. The dedication site is a small clearing of approximately 45-foot diameter, with no shrubs or groundcover (Figure 28). Shrubs have encroached into the clearing from the time of the ceremonies, but the trees used as background and the space is clearly seen.

The spatial organization changes in character as Berry Glen Trail (old Bald Hills Road) descends down and across the southwest slope. The shrubs to the downslope side of trail do not obstruct views down the slope to the huge redwood trunks in the near distance, but the trail is still enclosed by the uphill cut-bank side and the canopy far above (Figure 29). Similarly, the return loop of the Lady Bird Johnson Trail is also more open on the downhill northeast side as the trail is along the edge of the ridge and the greater forest can be seen on the steeper slopes to the northwest.

Summary

The grove's variances in spatial organization are determined by topography and vegetation. The portion of the Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail on the former alignment of the Bald Hills road rests on a forested ridgeline that is enclosed to either side by trunks of old-growth redwoods and shrubs, along with the high redwood canopy above. Further along this trail is an approximately 45-foot diameter clearing in the forest where the dedication ceremonies took place. Finally, the of portions of the former alignment of Bald Hills Road, now known as the Berry Glen Trail, and portions of the return loop of the Lady Bird Johnson Trail change as they descend down and across the slope, and at the edge of the ridge. Here, visitors are higher than the ground vegetation and can see slightly farther into the forest, but with the redwood canopy above.

Spatial Organization Graphics:



Figure 27. *Portion of the Lady Bird Johnson Grove Trail which rests along the forested ridgeline. Dense vegetation of shrubs and redwood trunks produce an enclosed spatial organization along the trail. [NPS 2018.]*



Figure 28. *The ceremony space and a section of the Lady Bird Johnson Trail that follows the former alignment of Bald Hills Road. The dedication site is clear of small vegetation.* [NPS 2018.]



Figure 29. *Berry Glen Trail and the return loop of Lady Bird Johnson Trail and located along the descending slopes outside the ridgeline. Views along these trails are more distant and open when looking out over the descending slope.* [NPS 2018.]

Land Use

Land use refers to the principal activities in the landscape that have formed, shaped, or organized the landscape as a result of human interaction. This grove is located in Yurok ancestral territory and redwood groves have been used and managed since time immemorial for subsistence lifeways and ceremony by Yurok people. Beginning in the 1850s, European Americans arrived with the gold rush and despite attempts of these recent arrivals to force Yurok people from their homelands, Yurok people maintain a thriving culture and presence today. When they arrived, European Americans also began cutting trees in the land surrounding the grove but halted within the national park boundary with the creation of the park in 1968. Although logging did not occur in the Lady Bird Grove, the boundary to the northwest was drawn to exclude the portion of the section that was clear-cut.

The grove was chosen as a site for the dedication ceremony of the establishment of Redwood National Park on November 25, 1968 because of the high density of redwoods that were easily accessible along a previous alignment of Bald Hills Road from the nearby existing, and current, Bald Hills Road. The historic road traverses the Bald Hills and constructed sometime around 1898. Overtime, the road alignment was altered in several phases to create the present-day Bald Hills Road. A section of the former road alignment connected Bald Hills Road to a clearing in the middle of the grove that served as the dedication site. There, a speaker's podium and temporary seating structures were assembled for the ceremonies.

Features to accommodate park visitors were constructed later. Added to the southeast corner of the grove was a 25-space asphalt parking lot, comfort station, and picnic tables, connected to the grove by a glue-laminate pedestrian bridge over the present-day Bald Hills Road. Additionally, new trails were constructed, including the return loop of the Lady Bird Johnson Loop trail and the Berry Glen Trail.

With the grove's connection to the establishment of the park and dedication to Lady Bird Johnson, accompanied by updated visitor's services, the grove is now one of the most popular places for recreation hiking in the park (Figure 30). The Lady Bird Johnson Loop trail is about 1.5 miles round trip that leads visitors through the old-growth redwoods and historic dedication site.

Summary

The grove contains a portion of the former alignment of Bald Hills Road used to access to site, and the current alignment of the road. In 1968, the grove was chosen as the site for the dedication of Redwood National Park as it existed as an intact old-growth redwood forest easily accessed from a road. A year later, the grove was dedicated to Lady Bird Johnson, with the ceremony taking place in the same location. Today, the grove is used for recreation.

Land Use Graphics:



Figure 30. *Today, the grove's network of trails is used for recreation by visitors to see old-growth redwood forest and the historic dedication site. [NPS 2018.]*

Topography

Topography refers to the manipulation of the natural topography and landscape that occurred during construction phases within the grove. Within the grove grades were altered to construct the old Bald Hills Road, particularly on the southwest slope. The grade was not significantly altered along the ridge where it is used as a trail. However, the first 600 feet of the old road along the ridge from Bald Hills Road is not part of the trail but is still clearly evident by the bank cuts of approximately 6 feet to either side where it intersects the current Bald Hills Road (Figure 31). This segment was bypassed when the pedestrian bridge was constructed. After the trail joins the old Bald Hills Road alignment there is little evidence of change from the natural grade. Shortly after the dedication site the former road descends from the ridge with gradual switchbacks. The uphill cut-bank is still evident on the former road on the slope (Figure 32). The cut ranges from three to ten feet high, creating a terrace of approximately 20 feet wide.

After the period of significance, minor topographic changes have occurred during trail construction of the Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail return and the Berry Glen Trail with trail construction and rock water bars used to divert water across the trail to prevent erosion. The portion of the Lady Bird Johnson Trail that does not follow the old Bald Hills Road, the loop return, also shows minimal manipulation of the natural grade. This portion thins to only about two feet wide as it follows the natural contours and curves of the area, at the edge of the ridgeline. Similarly, along the Berry Glen Trail extension after it diverges from the old road alignment, minimal manipulation is evident with two short rock retaining walls constructed to hold uphill slopes in place.

Summary

Within the grove, the natural topography has been altered in limited locations. The construction of old Bald Hills Road employed methods of cut and fill construction along the downhill slope and at the intersection with the current Bald Hills Road. The cut banks at these segments are contributing features. The construction of Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail that does not follow the alignment of the former Bald Hills Road alignment, follows the natural topography more closely with a narrower trail. The newest of the trails, Berry Glen, uses rock water bars and retaining walls to prevent erosion due to trail construction. These features were constructed after the period of significance and are not contributing.

Contributing, Non-contributing, and Undetermined Features

Feature: Cut Banks from Former Alignment of Bald Hills Road

Feature Identification Number:

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number:

Feature: Rock Water Bars

Feature Identification Number:

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-contributing

IDLCS Number:

Feature: Rock Retaining Walls

Feature Identification Number:

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-contributing

IDLCS Number:

Topography Graphics:

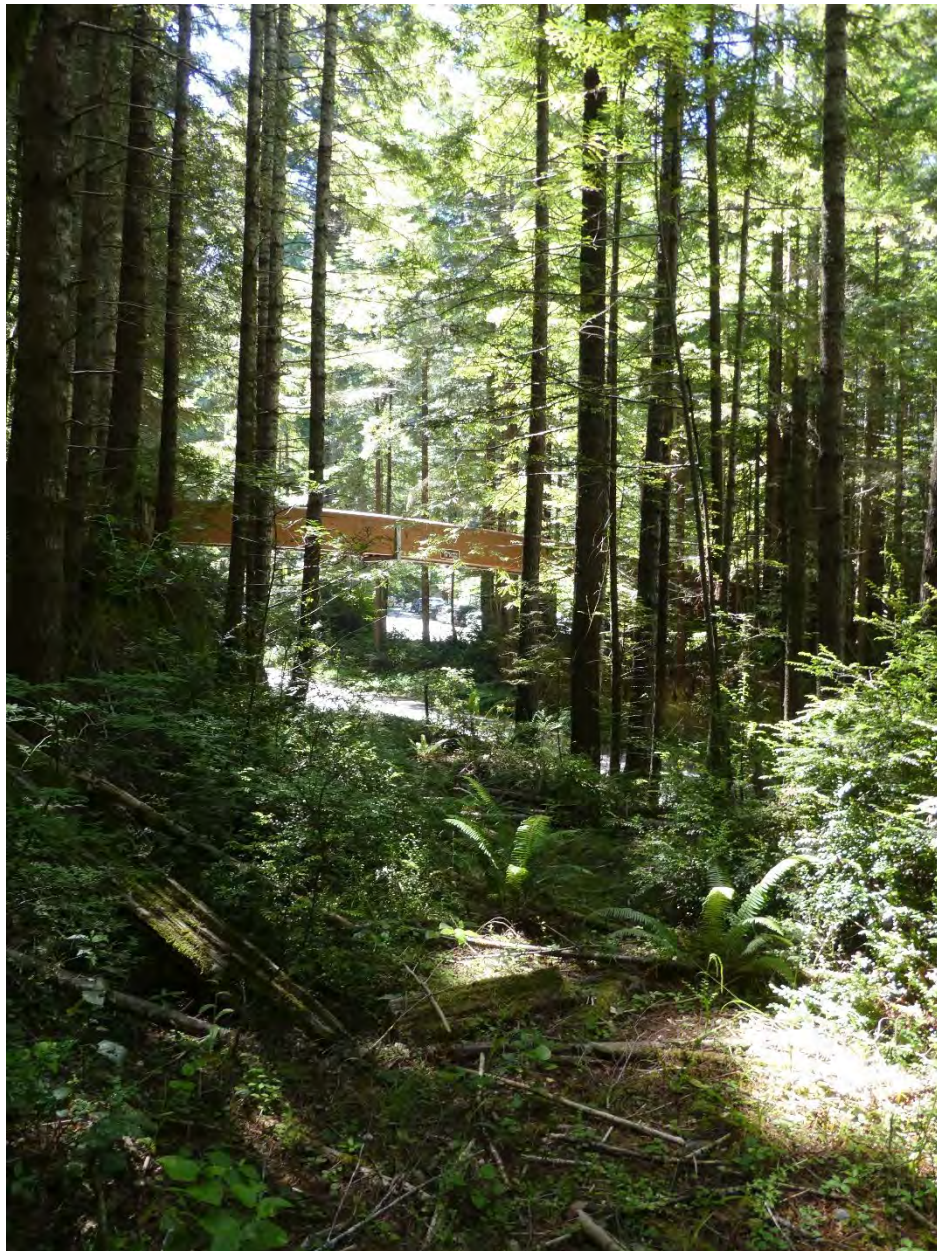


Figure 31. *The abandoned Bald Hills Road near the intersection with the current road. For the dedication ceremonies vehicles were parked on and across Bald Hills Road and visitors and dignitaries began the short walk to the dedication site here. The view is looking southwest to the pedestrian bridge and the current Bald Hills Road in the center. The road was graded during its construction and the cut bank is seen to the left. This section was bypassed with the construction of the pedestrian bridge and is no longer a formal trail. [NPS 2018.]*



Figure 32. *Evidence of topographic changes to construct the abandoned Bald Hills Road. The hill was cut to create the terrace for the road. Today, the terrace is vegetated with groundcover and used as the Berry Glen Trail, seen to the right.* [NPS 2018.]

Vegetation

Vegetation in a cultural landscape usually refers to the trees, shrubs, vines, and herbaceous plants planted or modified by humans. No formal plantings were made in the Lady Bird Johnson Grove. However, the dedication reflected the decision to preserve the natural vegetation and to highlight it at the dedication ceremonies (Figure 33). The native vegetation is described in greater detail under “Natural Systems.”

Summary

The majestic qualities of the old-growth redwood forest are why the grove was chosen as the dedication location, giving the grove historic significance. The surrounding vegetation and forest is a critical character defining feature to the historic district.

Vegetation Graphics:



Figure 33. *Lady Bird Johnson Grove is significant for its location and setting within an old-growth redwood forest.* [NPS 2021.]

Circulation

Circulation refers to the spaces, features, and applied material finishes which constitute systems of movement in a landscape. Circulation in the Lady Bird Johnson Grove consists of the current Bald Hills Road, Berry Glen Trail, and Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail. Portions of Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail and the Berry Glen Trail follow an abandoned alignment of Bald Hills Road. A segment of the abandoned alignment of Bald Hills Road that intersects the current Bald Hills Road is no longer used to access the grove but is still visible (Figure 33). Bald Hills Road was first constructed in the later 19th century and the current alignment of Bald Hills Road was constructed prior to the park sometime in the 1940s, which abandoned segments such as the one within the grove at that time.

During the dedication ceremonies the path to the dedication site followed abandoned Bald Hills Road alignment beginning at Bald Hills Road. The former Bald Hills Road ran northwest to the dedication site, then continued past it, turned west down the slope, then south back toward the current Bald Hills Road (Figure 2). Emergency vehicle were staged along the former road during the 1969 ceremony (Figure 4). Some of the current circulation follows the path of the former alignment of Bald Hills Road. The old Bald Hills Road alignment overlaps the current Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail approximately 550 feet north of the pedestrian bridge. From this point the Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail follows the alignment of the former Bald Hill Road and through the dedication site for approximately 2,100 feet. The former road then turns west and descends the slope the trail and is referred to as Berry Glen Trail. The Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail turns east, then south (Figure 34). The return section of the loop trail was constructed in 1973 and the Berry Glen Trail was constructed in 2010. Berry Glen Trail continues along the old Bald Hills Road for 3,050 feet. At this point Berry Glen Trail continues with a series of broad switchbacks down the slope, and the former road continued south into the forest back to the current Bald Hills Road with little trace.

Today, visitors arrive via Bald Hills Road to a 25-spot asphalt parking lot in the southeast corner of the grove (Figure 35). In the northwest corner of the parking lot, visitors cross a large wood glue laminate pedestrian bridge over the current Bald Hills Road to the Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail. The Lady Bird Johnson trail to the dedication site follows the former alignment of Bald Hills Road and is roughly ten feet wide (Figure 36). In 1973 the loop return trail was built along the ridgeline to the south and east and is generally four to six feet in width (Figure 37). The width of Berry Glen Trail is also about 4 feet wide, but where the upper trail follows the former road the 20-foot road terrace is evident (Figure 38).

Cut banks and terracing of the former alignment of Bald Hills Road are still evident on the slopes. The road cuts are most clearly seen in two locations: at the intersection with Bald Hills Road south of the pedestrian bridge where it is not currently a trail (Figure 39); and along the Berry Glen Trail section that aligns with the former road (Figure 40). The upper Berry Glen Trail is on the approximately twenty-foot former road terrace cut across the slope where cut banks of three to ten feet are seen to the uphill side. Some of the road terrace has been overtaken by ferns and shrubs and obscures the former road, but it can be clearly distinguished along most of the route. Where the Berry Glen Trail leaves the former road alignment the road is less evident without large cut banks on more level ground and denser ferns and shrub growth.

Summary

A short segment of the current Bald Hills within the historic district was used to access the grove and park vehicles during the ceremonies and is contributing. During the period of significance, the abandoned alignment of Bald Hills Road was the main circulation into the grove. The cut banks of former Bald Hills Road that intersects the current day Bald Hills Road can be seen from the current trail and is

contributing. The segments of Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail and Berry Glen Trail that follow the former road alignment through the dedication site and down the slope are contributing. However, at the location where Berry Glen Trail and the former road alignment split, little evidence of the former road can be seen and is not contributing. The portions of the trails built after the period of significance are non-contributing trails.

Contributing, Non-contributing, and Undetermined Features

Feature:	Bald Hills Road (current)
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Parking Lot
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail that follows former alignment of Bald Hills (2,100 feet)
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail return
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Berry Glen Trail that follows former alignment of Bald Hills Road (3,050 feet)
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Berry Glen Trail after diverging from former alignment of Bald Hills Road
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Former alignment of Bald Hills Road at Bald Hills Road intersection (550 feet)
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	

Circulation Graphics:



Figure 34. *Intersection of Lady Bird Johnson Grove Trail and Berry Glen Trail* [NPS 2018.]



Figure 35. *View of Lady Bird Johnson Grove parking lot looking west to pedestrian bridge.* [NPS 2018.]



Figure 36. *Portion of Lady Bird Johnson Trail that follows the former alignment of Bald Hills Road.* [NPS 2018.]



Figure 37. *Lady Bird Johnson Loop return trail is slightly narrower than the section of the Lady Bird Johnson Trail that follows the old Bald Hills Road.* [NPS 2021.]



Figure 38. *Berry Glen trail follows the former alignment of Bald Hills Road. This trail is roughly four feet wide.* [NPS 2018.]



Figure 39. *View from the pedestrian bridge looking down onto the former road alignment. The former alignment of Bald Hills Road was the original entrance to the grove. Today, the cutbanks can still be seen to the right, but are vegetated.* [NPS 2021.]



Figure 40. *Example of a cut bank along Berry Glen Trail.* [NPS 2021.]

Buildings and Structures

Buildings refer to the elements primarily built for sheltering any form of human activities. Structures are the functional elements constructed for other purposes than sheltering human activity.

The comfort station at the southeast corner of the parking lot is the only building in the district. It is a modern pre-fabricated, cast-concrete building approximately 16 feet by 20 feet, with two rooms, each having a vault toilet (Figure 41). The exterior walls are cast to resemble rough wood siding and a shake roof in a rustic style and painted dark brown, with brown metal doors, intended to blend into the natural landscape.

The largest structure in the district is the glue-laminated wood bridge that connects the parking lot to Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail and grove (Figure 42). Constructed in 1971, the bridge is approximately 155 feet long and 5 feet wide, and crosses over the current Bald Hills Road, allowing for cars to pass under (Figure 43). It is a slight arch with a 4-foot walkway. The sides are solid laminated wood with no architectural detail. Since its construction, the bridge has been painted an orange-brown color to blend into the surrounding forest.

Summary

The minimal buildings and structures do not detract from the feeling and setting of the natural environment and are compatible. The comfort station and glue laminate pedestrian bridge were constructed after the period of significance and are non-contributing features.

Contributing, Non-contributing, and Undetermined Features

Feature:	Comfort Station
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Pedestrian Bridge
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:	

Buildings and Structures Graphics:



Figure 41. *Concrete comfort station with two vault toilet restroom cells located on the south side of the parking lot. [NPS 2018.]*

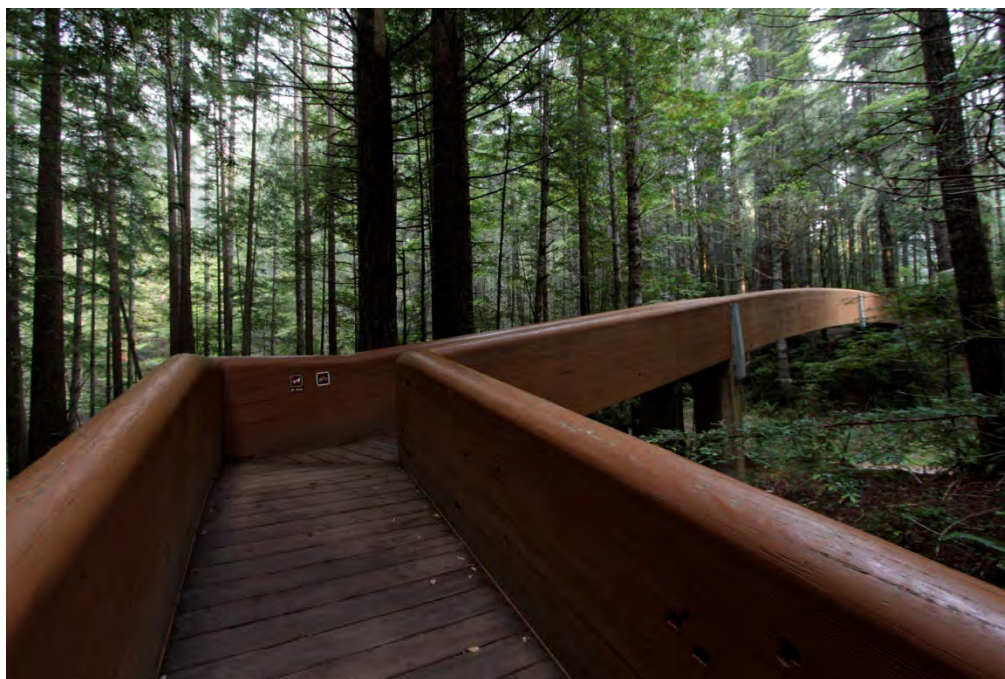


Figure 42. *Wood glue laminate pedestrian bridge connecting the parking lot to the present-day Lady Bird Johnson Grove trailhead, crossing over current Bald Hills Road. [NPS 2018.]*



Figure 43. *View of pedestrian bridge looking west from the current Bald Hills Road.* [NPS 2018.]

Views and Vistas

Views and vistas allow a cultural landscape to be seen through different levels of detail. Views are expansive, or panoramic, which may be naturally occurring or deliberately contrived. Whereas vistas have a more limited range of view, often with a specific focal point, often deliberately contrived but can also be naturally occurring. Views and vistas can also be of close objects, in the middle distance, or to the horizon. Finally, views and vistas are seen in motion (continuous) or from a fixed position (static). The trails through the grove pass massive redwood trunks, tall overhead canopy, and associated vegetation, create close continuous scenic views of the forest with occasional continuous middle-ground views where topography allows. On clear days distant views of the ocean can be seen

Other areas with views of old-growth redwoods in the distance were considered for the location of the dedication ceremony, but this grove was chosen for its immersion into the forest and ease of access from the road. Within the grove there are continuous views of the canopy high overhead, massive redwoods and surrounding forest. Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail follows a ridgeline with large redwood tree trunks and shrubs partially enclosing visitors to produce a close range viewshed, but an occasional view to the ocean can be seen through the understory on a clear day. This ridgeline and enclosed space forces views looking upward at the towering redwoods above (Figure 44). However, off the ridgeline on the slopes along the Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail return and Berry Glen Trail, more dramatic views of the greater forest occurs on the downhill side of the trail as visitors can look out over the top of shrubs with numerous redwood trunks rising above the shrubs and into the massive redwood trunks and the high canopy (Figures 45 and 46).

North of the grove, redwoods were clear-cut and there were distant views across the clearing and stumps. Over time this area of forest has filled in with trees and other vegetation limiting this view.

Summary

While there are no specific views or vistas, or specific named trees often found in redwood groves, the continuous overall views and vistas of the massive redwood tree trunks, high overhead canopy, and associated forest shrubs, are key to experiencing the grove and its significance. The changes as trails move from a ridgeline to across a steep slope affect the distance seen, and therefore what types of views and vistas are there. Located along the ridgeline, the Lady Bird Johnson Trail allows for close views, as the redwood trunks and shrubs limit the viewshed. Along the slopes of Berry Glen Trail and the Lady Bird Johnson Loop return, the viewshed opens to a farther distance into the forest. Overall, the continuous views and vistas of the redwood forest along the former Bald Hills Road communicate the same feeling from the period of significance that was sought out for the ceremonies and are contributing features. Similar view and vistas can be seen along the Lady Bird Johnson Trail return and Berry Glen Trail constructed later but are non-contributing.

Contributing and Non-contributing Features

Feature:	Continuous close views of redwoods along Lady Bird Johnson Trail that follows the former alignment of Bald Hills Road
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	

Feature: Continuous close and mid-range views of redwood forest along Berry Glen trail that follows the former alignment of Bald Hills Road

Feature Identification Number:

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number:

Feature: Continuous close and mid-range views of redwood forest along return loop of Lady Bird Johnson Trail

Feature Identification Number:

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-contributing

IDLCS Number:

Feature: Continuous close and mid-range views of redwood forest along Berry Glen Trail after the trail diverges from the former alignment of Bald Hills Road

Feature Identification Number:

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-contributing

IDLCS Number:

Views and Vistas Graphics:



Figure 44. *The Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail rests on a ridgeline with large redwood tree trunks and shrubs that direct views up to the high canopy above.* [NPS 2021.]



Figure 45. *Mid-range views of the Lady Bird Johnson Return Loop.* [NPS 2021.]



Figure 46. *More dramatic view of the forest looking out over the top of shrubs with redwoods in the distance along Berry Glen Trail.* [NPS 2021.]

Small-Scale Features

Small-scale features refer to the elements which provide detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in the landscape such as benches, signs, and trash cans. Most all small-scale features in the grove today were not present during the period of significance.

The largest feature that was present is the fallen redwood log at the dedication site used as a photographers' platform remains (Figure 47). The log is it approximately 30 feet long and five feet in diameter.

The most numerous small-scale features are signs. Just outside of the parking lot is a prominent wooden sign approximately 3 feet high and 5 feet long that states the location of "Lady Bird Johnson Grove" (Figure 48). Near the trailhead there are two signs that provide visitors with information. One, to the left of the bridge, is a diagonal sign on a metal post explaining the forest's ecology. The other, to the right of the bridge, is a vertical sign that provides visitors with trail and safety information (Figure 49). Other signs can be found in the parking lot explaining traffic and parking rules. Outside the parking lot are 5 signs labeling trailheads and directions to features (Figure 50). There are also 13 interpretive wooden posts located throughout the Lady Bird Johnson Trail. These posts are roughly 4-6 inches wide, 3 feet high and have a diagonal top with a number carved into it, which corresponds to an interpretive booklet (Figure 51). Additionally, there is a roughly 5 foot by 10-foot-high interpretive kiosk discussing endangered species in the park (Figure 52). The last interpretive sign is located near the dedication site. This 3-foot high diagonal sign on a metal post that discusses the Save the Redwoods League. At the dedication site is a bronze plaque noting the significant historic events that occurred here (Figure 53).

Seating features have also been added throughout the grove since the period of significance. Today, there are six benches along the trails (Figure 54). The wooden benches have a steel frame, wood plants and are six feet long. One wooden bench is located shortly after the pedestrian bridge entrance to the grove. Within the dedication site are two steel-frame, composite benches near the fallen log that face the bronze plaque and surrounding trees that are five feet long. The next bench is located near the intersection of the Lady Bird Johnson trail and the return loop. On the return loop, there are two wooden benches. Additionally, near the interpretive kiosk, is a chair carved out of a tree stump by an NPS crew that removed the tree during later trail construction (Figure 55).

Near the entrance to the parking lot, there is a section of split rail fence approximately 13 feet long and 2 feet high (Figure 56). Along the portion of Berry Glen trail that aligns with the old Bald Hills road, there are 3 rock water bars installed during later trail construction. Farther on the lower Berry Glen trail that was constructed in 2010, there is one culvert and two rock walls (Figure 57). One wall is approximately 35 feet long, while the other is approximately 114 feet long.

Finally, in the parking lot are two brown metal trash cans and one recycling can. Just past the bridge along the trail there is a 3-foot high brown, metal box that contains trail guides and an adjacent 3-foot-high "Iron Ranger" collections box for donations associated with the trail guides (Figure 58).

Summary

While there are small-scale features on the landscape such as signs and benches, most were installed after the period of significance and found in the parking lot and do not detract from the historic character of the grove elsewhere. Outside the parking lot, the non-contributing features are spread-out and small, and do not detract from the historic character of the grove. The only small-scale feature that is contributing is the fallen log used by photographers.

Contributing and Non-contributing Features

Feature:	Fallen Photographers' Log
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	"Lady Bird Johnson Grove" Sign
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Vertical Information Signboard in Parking Lot
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Information Signboard in Parking Lot
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Trail Direction Signs (5)
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:	Glass Insulators
Feature:	Wooden Kiosk
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Diagonal Signboard at Dedication Site
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Memorial Dedication Plaque
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Benches (6)
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Wooden Stump Chair
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-Contributing
IDLCS Number:	
Feature:	Split Rail Fence
Feature Identification Number:	

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:
Feature: Rock Water Bars (2)
Feature Identification Number:
Type of Feature Contribution: Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:
Feature: Rock Wall
Feature Identification Number:
Type of Feature Contribution: Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:
Feature: Trash Bins (2)
Feature Identification Number:
Type of Feature Contribution: Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:
Feature: "Iron Ranger" Collections Box
Feature Identification Number:
Type of Feature Contribution: Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:
Feature: Trail Guide Box
Feature Identification Number:
Type of Feature Contribution: Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:
Feature: Interpretive Wooden Posts (13)
Feature Identification Number:
Type of Feature Contribution: Non-contributing
IDLCS Number:

Small-Scale Features Graphics:



Figure 47. *Located on the edge of the dedication site, this fallen redwood log was used by photographers at the park establishment ceremony and dedication to Lady Bird Johnson ceremony.* [NPS 2018.]



Figure 48. *Located between the current Bald Hills Road and parking lot, this sign denotes the location and entrance to Lady Bird Johnson Grove* [NPS 2018.]



Figure 49. One of two signboards located in the grove parking lot. This two-paneled vertical sign tells visitors about the grove's history and how to stay safe in the grove. [NPS 2018.]



Figure 50. Typical non-contributing trail information signs found in the grove. [NPS 2018.]



Figure 51. *Example of wooden interpretation post with numbers that correspond to an interpretive program. There are thirteen of these posts found throughout the Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail system. [NPS 2018.]*



Figure 52. *Interpretive wooden kiosk structure that discusses endangered species in Redwood National Park located on Lady Bird Johnson Trail. [NPS 2018.]*



Figure 53. *Second dedication plaque in the dedication clearing with proclamation and speech excerpts from the grove dedication ceremony.* [NPS 2018.]



Figure 54. *One of six benches found throughout the grove's trail system.* [NPS 2018.]



Figure 55. *Wooden seat made crafted from a cut tree stump located on the Lady Bird Johnson Trail near the interpretive kiosk. [NPS 2018.]*



Figure 56. *Split rail fence located between Bald Hills Road and the Lady Bird Johnson Grove parking lot. [NPS 2018.]*



Figure 57. *Rock wall along portion of Berry Glen Trail after the trail turns west from the former alignment of the Bald Hills Road. [NPS 2018.]*



Figure 58. *Donation box, known as the “iron ranger,” and pamphlet distribution box located near the beginning of the Lady Bird Johnson Trail. [NPS 2018.]*



Figure 59. Interpretive sign at dedication site. [NPS 2018.]

Archeological Sites

Archeological sites are the location of ruins, traces, or deposited artifacts in the landscape, and are evidenced by the presence of either surface or subsurface features. Archeological sites inventoried within the CLI include ruins, traces, or deposited artifacts in a landscape that are associated with the period of significance and are evidenced by the presence of either surface or substance features. The CLI does not disclose the location of archeological sites. Evaluation of these sites and features under NRHP Criterion D is outside of the scope of this study and a complete archeological investigation was not conducted as part of this document.

Historically, the surrounding area was used by Native Americans and loggers. Road traces exist around and throughout the grove. Recorded sites include the former alignments of Bald Hills Road. Portions of the Lady Bird Johnson Grove Trail and the Berry Glen Trail align with a former alignment of the Bald Hills Road. Along the former alignment of the Bald Hills Road on the upper Berry Glen Trail are six small glass insulators and utility line remnants about 20 feet off the ground, tacked on to trees, which served as natural posts. It is likely many insulators were present before and during the period of significance, but a handful few remain today.

Summary

The archeological features found within the grove relate to the former alignment of the Bald Hills Road, a key reason the grove was used for the ceremonies and is a contributing feature.

Contributing and Non-contributing Features

Feature:	Former Alignment of Bald Hills Road, documented
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	

Feature:	Glass Insulators (#)
Feature Identification Number:	
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	

Condition

Condition Assessment

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 7/13/2021

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Through the analysis and evaluation of landscape characteristics and features, it is determined the proposed Lady Bird Johnson Grove Historic District is in “good” condition. The landscape shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or cultural forces. The inventory unit’s cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Erosion

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: A slight amount of erosion occurs in the Lady Bird Johnson Grove mainly related to trail use. Erosion can undermine vegetation and trails.

Type of Impact: Soil Compaction

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Soil compaction caused from visitors’ walking can have negative effects on the surrounding vegetation as it decreases the volume of ecologically active space available and alters water run-off. Compaction causes soil to become less permeable to oxygen and water. The reduction of oxygen in the soil reduces the depth in which roots can inhabit. Water is more likely to flow over the surface rather than infiltrate, reducing the amount of water in the soil and increasing the chance of erosion.

Type of Impact: Vegetation/Invasive Plants

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: The growth of invasive plants may encroach into the grove and will impact the historic character of the grove. It may also change the character of the trails and views and vistas in the grove.

Type of Impact: Neglect

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Forest vegetation continues to encroach into the historic dedication clearing. And the initial segment of the former alignment of Bald Hills Road not used as trails. The vegetation negatively effects the visiting public’s ability to perceive the historic clearing and the historic path to it.

Stabilization Measures

Vegetation

Former Alignment of Bald Hills Road near current day Bald Hills Road

- Remove trees and woody shrubs from old road and road bank area in order to prevent the cut banks from collapsing and clearly perceive the historic spaces.

Dedication Ceremony Site

- Remove select woody vegetation to better define the historic clearing and improve the visitors' perception of the space.

Photographers' Log

- Remove vegetation and biologicals from log. Cut back surrounding vegetation to keep the log clearly within the ceremonial clearing.

Berry Glen Trail Along Former Alignment of Bald Hills

- Widen this portion of the trail to at least a consistent ten feet to better reflect the old road and preventing larger woody vegetation from possibility damaging the former roadbed and cut banks.

Tail Maintenance

Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail and Berry Glen Trail

- Continue to maintain trails and control run-off.

Lady Bird Johnson Loop Trail and Berry Glen Trail

- Signage and small-scale features should be kept minimal to the extent practical along the trails within the grove. Remove structure such as the map box if not longer used. Parking area is a preferable area to display visit planning information.

Treatment

Approved Treatment: Undetermined

Approved Treatment Completed:

Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:
Text

Approved Treatment Document:

Approved Treatment Document Date:

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

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