USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form
Goffs Schoolhouse
Goffs, California

1
AUG 27 2001
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

102

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

==========

historic name Goffs Schoolhouse

other names/site number

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2. Location

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street & number 37198 Lanfair Road not for publication N/A
city or town Goffs vicinity N/A
state California code CA county San Bernardino
code 071 zip code 92332

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official — Date 8/22/01

California Office of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

_____ _____
Signature of commenting or other official Date

_____
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

_√_	entered in the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.	Entered in the National Register	10/11/01
____	determined eligible for the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.		
____	determined not eligible for the National Register		
____	removed from the National Register		
____	other (explain): _____		

_____ _____ _____
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

_X_ private
___ public-local
___ public-State
___ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

_X_ building(s)
___ district
___ site
___ structure
___ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Sub:
Education	School
Social	Meeting Hall
Defense	Military Facility

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Sub:
Recreation and Culture	Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals
Mission/Spanish

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	Concrete
roof	Metal: red painted tin tiles
walls	Stucco
other	

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

_X_ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

____ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

____ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

____ B removed from its original location.

____ C a birthplace or a grave.

____ D a cemetery.

____ E a reconstructed building, object,or structure.

____ F a commemorative property.

____ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Education
Military
Social History

Period of Significance 1914-1937
1942-1944

Significant Dates

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

_____

Cultural Affiliation _____
_____
_____

Architect/Builder Beimer, Anthony

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)
___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
___ previously listed in the National Register
___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
___ designated a National Historic Landmark
___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data
___ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
_X_ Other
Name of repository: Mojave Desert Archives

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property <1

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	11	677680	3865710	3	__	_____	_____
2	__	_____	_____	4	__	_____	_____

__ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Andrew Kirk, Laurie Boetcher, Corrine Miller, Thonni Morikawa, Ross Nelson, Joe Thomson

organization University of Nevada, Las Vegas date April 9, 2001

street & number 4505 Maryland Pkwy telephone (702)895-3544

city or town Las Vegas state NV zip code 89154-5020

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)
name Mojave Desert Heritage and Cultural Association

street & number 37198 Lanfair Road telephone (760) 733-4482

city or town Goffs state CA zip code 92332

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Summary

The Goffs Schoolhouse is a one-story, wood framed, Mission/Spanish Revival building with a square plan, a flat roof with unique red tin tiles covering the eaves, and a porch surrounding two sides. The walls are finished with stucco, and the foundation and porch floors are built of concrete. The interior is divided into three rooms: an 800-square-foot classroom, with an entry hall and two smaller rooms. The building was designed by well-known San Bernardino architect Anthony Beimer. Constructed in 1914, it was built to be the school and social center for the 1,000-square-mile Goffs School District. It is located in the town of Goffs, which was founded in the late 19th century as a railroad junction in the vast east Mojave Desert. Today, the schoolhouse, still standing on its original site, serves as the museum and headquarters of the Mojave Desert Heritage and Cultural Center. The property is in excellent condition and retains significant integrity for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Historic Physical Appearance

The Goffs schoolhouse is located on a one-acre site. The building is situated 48'10" from the southwest property line and 82'9" from the southeast boundary.

The exterior dimensions of the schoolhouse are 42' 10" wide by 46' 11" long, for a total of 2,009.59 square feet. Within the north corner of the structure lies the enclosed portion of the schoolhouse. On the southeast and southwest sections of the structure are two significant porch enclosures. The interior dimensions of the enclosed porch area on the southwest side of the structure measures 8' 1" by 40' 8", or 328.71 square feet. The interior dimensions of the enclosed porch on the southeast side of the structure measures 8' 2" by 36' 8", or 299.41 square feet.

The foundation is constructed of concrete footers, which support wooden floor joists. The exterior walls of the building are of 2' x 6' construction wrapped in wire mesh and covered in stucco.

The southwest exterior wall includes a set of 5' French doors with two windows to the south and three windows to the west. The double-hung windows measure 3'x 6'. The window casings are of all-wood construction. On the south side of the entry doors is a water fountain. There is a 5' transom window above the French doors.

The southeast exterior wall contains two double-hung windows to the south and a set of 5' French doors located 6 feet south of center. The windows measure 3' by 6'. The window casings are of all-wood construction. There is a 5' transom window above the French doors.

The northeast exterior wall has six 2'8" x 8' double-hung windows that proceed from the north corner of the building. The window casings are all-wood construction with a grid pattern that creates eight individual sections per window.

The northwest exterior wall has five windows. Three 3'4"x3'4" windows at an elevation of 8'6" proceed from the northern corner. The two remaining windows measure 3'x6' each and are double-hung with window casings of all-wood construction.

A wooden truss system supports a flat roof structure. Surrounding the exterior of the building at an elevation of 16'6" is a cap of eave rafters that protrude 2'8" from the edge of the building. This structure is composed of exposed wooden rafters covered with wooden panels and topped with unique red-painted tin Spanish-style tiles. An additional section of this roof covers the porch areas on the southwest and southeast elevations.

The walls that comprise the elevations of the southwest and southeast sides of the building were constructed in the same manner as the remainder of the building. Both elevations have five arches, one centered arch for entry flanked by two arches on each side. The arched walls are 16" thick. The side arches include 9 ½" thick pony walls capped by a 10 ½" concrete seat. The seated arches on the southeast side have a 5'10" diameter while the seated arches on the southwest side have a 4'10" diameter. The entire porch area has a concrete slab floor.

These arcades were especially designed and arranged to shelter the main entranceway from desert heat and wind and to provide protected outdoor areas when the weather was extreme. When it was very hot, the porches provided deep, relatively cool shade; children played here. In the winter, the porches acted as protection against the strong cold wind blowing from the north and northeast.

The interior area of the schoolhouse is divided into four sections. An entry hall from the southwest side of the structure separates two small rooms to the southwest and southeast and enters into the main classroom. The main classroom is 25' by 32' or 800 square feet. The southeast room is 9' 9" by 11' 9" or 117.81 sq. ft. with a 36" door that leads to the classroom. The southwest room measures 14'6" by 11' 9"or 173.74 sq. ft. with a 36" door also leading to the classroom. The entry way is 6'8" by 11'9"or 80.92 sq. ft. with a 36" door leading to the southeast room. The ceiling height in the classroom is 12'10" and 9'4" in the other three rooms.

The southeast room was designed as a "sloyd" room (a Scandinavian term for a place where young men are trained in the manual arts) but was always used as a cloakroom and "lavy", or place for the students to wash up. The southwest room became the school's library, and in fact was also a branch of the county library (for which the schoolteacher was paid an extra stipend).

Alterations

Despite problems from weather and vandalism, the Goffs Schoolhouse remains in its original location and retains its architectural and historical integrity.

In 1982, the Goffs Schoolhouse and surrounding land were purchased by Jim and Bertha Wold. They shored up the schoolhouse roof, added a small kitchen, replaced windows and remodeled the building into a home, where they lived until 1990. At that time, they sold the property to Dennis and Jo Ann Casebier.

In 1993, the Casebiers, with a group of volunteers, formed the Mojave Desert Heritage and Cultural Association (MDH&CA). The major goal of the organization was to restore the schoolhouse to its original condition by removing the Wolds' makeshift kitchen and other minor interior alterations, and refurbishing the exterior. More than 40 former students, residents, and others who had first-hand knowledge of the period of significance contributed oral history interviews, photographs, and other materials. This enabled the restoration project to proceed with full historical accuracy.

The concrete sidewalks immediately surrounding the house were mostly in good shape, but some squares were badly cracked, so new sidewalks were poured. Approximately 25% of the current sidewalk is original.

A new coat of stucco was applied over the original exterior surface on all four walls and painted a desert tan with white trim, in accordance with the original specifications.

Two-thirds of the northeast wall was reconstructed using historic documentation and authentic materials, including wooden studs overlaid with lath and mesh and covered with stucco.

Damage to the eaves was repaired and most of the original red-painted tin tiles were reinstalled on the roof area. The few tiles needing to be replaced were fabricated to original specifications. The roof covering the classroom area was reconstructed with a new truss system and elastomeric roofing, and was insulated with new material. Rafter extensions and the wood surfaces, which were damaged, have been replaced and re-covered with a new membrane. The membrane is made of bitumen to replace the original tarpaper.

The interior walls have been restored with wood, sheet rock, and wood moldings along the ceiling and floor. The old tongue-and-groove flooring was replaced. New doors and windows were installed to original specifications. A new drinking fountain was installed in the original position, based on historic photographs.

In the restoration of the cloakroom, the plumbing for the sink was put in place, but the sink has not been installed.

The completely restored schoolhouse is now the museum for the Mojave Desert Heritage and Cultural Association. After restoration, the Goffs Schoolhouse retains its historic character. The property is in excellent condition and appears to retain sufficient integrity for listing.

Summary

The Goffs Schoolhouse is significant at the local level under Criterion A in the area of education. It was the only elementary school serving the Goffs School District, which encompassed 1,000 square miles of rural San Bernardino County, during the years 1914 to 1937. The Goffs School District was incorporated into the Needles School District in 1937, and students from Goffs transferred to the school in Essex, approximately 15 miles southwest. The Goffs Schoolhouse is also significant under Criterion A in the area of social history, for its role as an important community center and as a branch of the county library. Finally, the schoolhouse is significant under Criterion A in the area of defense as it was used as a canteen for U.S. Army soldiers training in the desert from 1942 to 1944.

Significance

Early Mining and Railroad Period in Goffs

In 1854, Amiel Weeks Whipple became the first person to travel in a wheeled vehicle through the east Mojave. Three years later, Lieutenant Edward F. Beale led the U.S. Army Camel Corps on an expeditionary force that set out to create a route across the desert southwest. These two expeditions would be the U.S. government's first attempts to link southern California to the east, and resulted in a wagon trail that would become known as the Mojave Road. However, the Mojave road was a trail not suitable for a railroad because it went straight over the Providence Mountains at steep grades. When the Southern Pacific Railway was extended from Needles to Barstow in 1883, the rails were laid fifteen miles south of the Mojave Road. Stagecoaches followed the railroad's tracks on their journeys to southern California.

Goffs, California was founded on March 19, 1883 as a station for the railroad. In 1884, Atlantic and Pacific Railway (A&P) operated the line through Goffs under a lease agreement with the Southern Pacific. At that time, Goffs Station consisted of a turntable and the limited structures needed for dropping off railroad cars for the delivery of freight. Goffs did not become a permanent settlement until the 1890s, when gold was discovered in the New York Mountains.

By 1892 a boom was on, and Goffs was the nearest railroad shipping point for the mining camp of Vanderbilt. Tent businesses sprang up in Goffs, and the busy mines attracted the usual entrepreneurs. One of these, Isaac C. Blake, was involved in building the Needles Reduction Works on the Colorado River. In order to haul ore to his mill, Blake built a short line railroad directly from Goffs to Vanderbilt in 1893. Called the Nevada Southern Railway, it connected to the A&P rails at Goffs. However, Blake's project -- using the Nevada Southern to bring ores from the desert mines to his mill in Needles on a daily basis -- failed for several reasons, and the Nevada Southern went into receivership in 1894. It was reorganized as the California Eastern Railway in 1895.

In 1901 the Santa Fe Railroad acquired substantial stock in the California Eastern and constructed an extension. The Santa Fe purchased the rest of the California Eastern in 1902, and the short line became part of the Santa Fe. At that time, the Santa Fe decided to improve Goffs, including a new depot and a deep well at the site. An additional extension was constructed in 1907 to accommodate the mining boom in Searchlight, which had begun in 1897. The short line operated until 1923, when it was abandoned.

All of this activity changed the face of Goffs. Tent businesses became a permanent business district by the early 1900s. Most of the land on either side of the tracks belonged to the Santa Fe Railroad. In fact, there was only one plot of private land, 160 acres immediately north of the Santa Fe right-of-way and depot grounds. William Seibert filed a homestead entry for this property in 1898. In 1907, prominent businessman Henry Peace Ware purchased the Seibert homestead. Eventually, the Goffs Schoolhouse would be built on a portion of this land.

Creation of the Goffs School District

The 1910 census listed 58 persons in Goffs. The details of this census reflected the importance of the railroad: 42 of the 58 persons counted in the census were living in Goffs because they were connected to the railroad. The others ran local businesses -- the hotel, the general store -- and were employed by Wells Fargo, in mining, and as general laborers. In addition, many miners, prospectors, and ranchers lived in the area.

The 58 people counted in the census included 11 children, either of school age or approaching that age. Within one year, the Santa Fe Railroad transferred some Mexican section workers to Goffs. These workers arrived with their families and settled in the town. Soon there were enough children to justify the building of a school. Therefore, in December 1910 the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors approved a petition from the residents of Goffs, requesting that the Goffs School District be created. The district was formally incorporated in January 1911.

The first schoolhouse, built by Henry Peace Ware, was a typical simple wood frame structure, which the school district rented from Ware for $12.00 per month. The citizens of Goffs were proud to have a school and were not satisfied with a rented building. Their landlord also believed that the district should have a permanent

building that belonged to it alone. So in 1913, Ware donated one square acre of land to the district. The Board of Trustees then hired San Bernardino architect Anthony Beimer and contractor William Thomas Waer to design and build the school. The board appropriated $2300 to complete the project.

The Goffs Schoolhouse was built primarily with volunteer labor, with the county providing the materials. This was common for the time, as the schoolhouse served the community in many ways. For instance, the Goffs Schoolhouse was a community center and a branch library, as well as a venue for religious services, elections, and monthly dances. However, at the time of construction, this building was designated primarily as a one-room school for grades one through eight, all children to be taught by one teacher. Classes commenced in the fall of 1914.

The total number of students enrolled at the Goffs School averaged 29 per year for 24 of the 26 years of the school's existence (attendance data for school years 1916-17 and 1935-36 are missing). One teacher supervised all the children in one room -- a common instructional method of the time.

According to Dennis Casebier, author of *Goffs and Its Schoolhouse*, "[O]ne consistent characteristic of the Goffs School was that throughout its existence the enrollment included a large percentage of Mexican children -- 50% on the average." These students were, for the most part, the children of the Mexican railroad workers who began coming to Goffs in 1910. Reminiscent of today's schools, there were children in every class who did not speak English, and most teachers were not bilingual. Therefore, since children of all levels were taught in one classroom in Goffs, older bilingual students assumed the role of teacher's assistants, communicating with those children who did not speak English.

One of the unique aspects of the Goffs Schoolhouse was the size of its one classroom -- 800 square feet of unobstructed space. In addition, it possessed a magnificent hardwood floor -- just right for dances. Throughout much of its history, dances and other social events were held in the schoolroom as often as once a month.

A most illuminating oral history interview covering the education and social history years is that of Inez (Pineda) Cisneros, who attended the Goffs School with her sister Frances and brother Joe from 1932 to 1937. Their father worked for the Santa Fe Railroad as a laborer. According to Mrs. Cisneros, her brother was born in Goffs in 1923 and "Goffs was then a thriving little town." As a student, Mrs. Cisneros remembers particularly saying the Pledge of Allegiance on the schoolhouse porch each morning prior to class, and trading lunches with non-Mexican students, who became very fond of her mother's homemade chicken burritos. Once a year the students would have a "Tacky Day," a special day when the children could come to school dressed in their worst -- almost like dress-up, which children love to do. Mrs. Cisneros also recalls something called an "outhouse raffle" for boys and girls (she doesn't explain this) and taffy pulls in which the children took part.

Recesses and lunches broke up the school day. The two broad schoolhouse porches were particularly suited for outdoor play in both hot and cold weather. The school sat in the center of a one-acre lot, large enough for the children to play baseball, a favorite game. In addition, the yard contained typical playground equipment -- a set of rings for swinging, a maypole, and a glider or seesaw.

Memories of social events held at the school are particularly vivid. Square dancing ("That was the center of the recreation."), Saturday night dances, religious services, Bible study, men's club functions, lectures, and poetry recitations were some of the events held at the Goffs School. Dorothy Overson Burrier, who moved to Goffs about

1936, remembers attending a dance and the eighth grade graduation at the schoolhouse. According to Mrs. Cisneros, "Anything that was important…was done at the school. It happened at the school. The school was the center of everything."

Goffs continued to prosper. During World War I, the town once again became a mining center, this time for tungsten, a strategic war material. From 1910 through the war years, hundreds of people moved into the area, filing claims for homesteads along the short line railroad. But what became essential to the post-war survival of Goffs and its schoolhouse was business spurred by the automobile, and the road that was to be called the Main Street of America, Route 66.

The Mother Road and Its Relationship with Goffs

In 1913, the road alongside the Santa Fe Railroad from the California coast to New Mexico was designated as part of the National Old Trails Road. The National Old Trails Road was a configuration of routes from Baltimore to Los Angeles that included portions of what would become U.S. 1, U.S. 240, U.S. 40, U.S. 56, U.S. 85 and U.S. 66. The Auto Club of Southern California promoted the National Old Trails Road as the most convenient route to Los Angeles, and their efforts were not wasted. Goffs already had well-developed railroad facilities and was a major center for mining and ranching activities in the east Mojave Desert. By the time the Goffs schoolhouse was built, automobile traffic was coming through Goffs on a regular basis. By 1916 an average of 40 vehicles per day passed through. Businesses built due to road travel included three garages, a free overnight campground, and the Wayside Inn. As the mining and railroad industries declined in the early 1920s, the National Old Trails Road became the lifeblood of the Goffs community. In the meantime, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, pressured by state highway officials, created an organized highway numbering system of

significant U.S. roads. Cyrus Stevens Avery, a state highway representative from Oklahoma, proposed a 2,400-mile road from Chicago to Los Angeles. The proposition was approved in 1925, and in November 1926, the National Old Trails Road was designated U.S. Highway 66.

According to records kept by the Daggett quarantine station in Needles (which monitors horticultural products entering California), 5412 automobiles traveled into southern California via Route 66 in July 1927 alone. By July 1928, the number was up to 6214, and 6742 in 1930. Prospects for Goffs as a major highway town were promising until 1931, when the California Highway Department decided to reroute U.S. 66 for financial reasons. The original alignment of route 66, which followed the Santa Fe railroad, curved around the Piute Mountains, south of Goffs. By building a new highway through the mountains, the California Highway Department could save $245,000 by shortening the route by six miles. A newly rerouted and paved Route 66 opened in December 1931, bypassing Goffs.

The "Ghosting" of Goffs

As a result of the rerouting of Route 66, local businesses either folded or relocated to the new stretch of road. With World War I long over, mining at a relaxed pace, and the homesteading boom finished, Goffs quieted down considerably. There was a brief period in the early 1930s when Goffs became an "Air Navigation Site," with runways, maintenance buildings, and a tower to accommodate emergency landings of transcontinental mail planes. However, as the field was intended only for irregular, unscheduled emergency landings, there was no reason for people to relocate here.

Despite the town's ill fortunes, the Goffs School continued to operate. It drew students from the towns on Route 66. In addition, the children of Mexican railroad

workers continued to attend the school. In the 1930s the school district began drawing on a much larger area for students, which required a bus and driver. Residents argued that the Goffs Schoolhouse, by this time over 20 years old, required expensive repairs, and that the school should be more centrally located in Essex. In 1936 the Goffs School District ceased to exist, and was incorporated into the Needles School District. The last classes in the Goffs Schoolhouse were held in June 1937. In December 1937 the Goffs Schoolhouse property was conveyed back to Henry Peace Ware.

Goffs and the Army Desert Training Center

Although it ceased to be a school, the Goffs Schoolhouse remained in service to its community. From 1940-1942, the Goffs Schoolhouse property was a dairy and a residence/store for the Bill Campbell family. From April 1942 to April 1944 it also served the country, for it became an Army canteen for the Desert Training Center (later the California-Arizona Maneuver Area). The DTC/CAMA encompassed an area larger than England, covering parts of southern California, southern Nevada, and northeastern Arizona. It was the biggest Army training area in the United States, and the only desert training center. This unique Army training theater of operations included 7 major camps, 9 airdromes, 42 landing strips, and 5 major hospitals. Nearly 200,000 troops trained for Europe and Asia at any one time.

Herb Bender, a railroad brakeman who passed through Goffs quite frequently, remembers vividly the Goffs Schoolhouse during the Army period: "…[M]y only recollection of the school house…was having been over there once or twice, and visited them, and got something to eat when it was a big PX for the Army." Mr. Bender further recalls that "it was one of the largest PX's for our United States government during the war," and that it was operated solely by soldiers. The sheer number of soldiers who lived and worked temporarily in the vicinity of Goffs during the war, and who patronized the Army canteen in the schoolhouse, is clearly portrayed in Mr. Bender's reminiscence.

Inez (Pineda) Cisneros also remembers the Army in Goffs: "Tents? As far as the eye could see. I mean everywhere." She also recalls how the Army tore down everything surrounding Goffs. "But here sat the schoolhouse. They used it."

Goffs Schoolhouse After World War II

After the fighting in North Africa and Italy during World War II concluded, the Goffs Schoolhouse served as a home/store/café for Tom and June Craig (1944-1945). The building was then occupied on and off as a residence until 1954, when it was abandoned. Between 1954 and 1982, people camped and took up occasional residence in the building. However, by 1982, the Schoolhouse was in a generally dilapidated state due to vandalism.

At this time, Jim and Bertha Wold purchased the building and surrounding land. They shored up the schoolhouse roof, added a small kitchen, replaced the windows, and remodeled the school into a home, where they lived until 1990. At that time, they sold the building and land to Dennis and Jo Ann Casebier.

The Casebiers and assorted volunteers restored the building to its original 1914 incarnation as a schoolhouse. The Goffs Schoolhouse now belongs to the Mojave Desert Heritage and Cultural Association, for which it serves as a museum, cultural center, and research facility for the eastern Mojave Desert.

Primary:

Oral Histories

All oral history interviews were done by Dennis Casebier and are part of the Mojave Desert Archive collections. Of over 200 interviews those sited below were used to document the evolution and uses of the Goffs Schoolhouse.

Kathryn Marie Beimer, June 8,1994.
Herb Bender, March 25, 1994.
Dorothy Overson Burrier, February 2, 1991.
Inez (Pineda) Cisneros, August 19, 1992 and March 11, 1994.
Kenneth Clay, December 17, 1990.
Dorothy (Blythe) Cryer, December 1, 1994.
Lillian (Hammond) Emmett, August 8, 1990.
Emory Donald Hiebert, September 16, 1992 and October 20, 1992.
Roscoe M. Lyon, August 3, 1991.
Jean & Robert McCord, January 13, 1992.
Gary Overson, February 13, 1992.
Elizabeth (Pettit) Papierski, June 11, 1993.
Mary (Blythe) Smith, May 28, 1992.
Beatrus Elizabeth Speith, September 12, 1991.
Maurice & Lenna Swain, May 1 1990.
Amy (Imel) Taylor, April 4, 1994.
Win (Tienken) Terrell, March 1991.
Lizabeth (Ordway) Vandiver, January 15, 1994.
Irene (Verbeck) Wells, March 13, 1992.

Correspondence

Lawrence H. Romeiser to Dennis G. Casebier, 4/4/94, Lawrence H. Romeiser Collection.

Dennis G. Casebier to Judy Rood, 2/28/94, Dennis G. Casebier Collection.

Secondary

Newspaper, Magazine, Newsletters and Pamphlets

"Army and Navy" *Time,* July 1943.

Casebier, Dennis G, et al.. Guide to the Goffs Cultural Center: Schoolhouse Outdoor Museum Nature Trail. Essex, California: Mojave Desert Heritage &

Friends of the Mojave Road. *Mojave Road Report # 97, 15 January 1991.* Essex, California: Friends of the Mojave Road, 1991.

Kennedy, Chaplain R.C., Lt. Betty M. Baker, Lt. La Verne Clark, History of the 102nd Evacuation Hospital (SM). Germany undated. (located in the Angie A. Olsen Collection, Mojave Desert Archives: Goffs Schoolhouse.)

Books

Baker, Kent. 66/99-An American Road Trip on Route 66. New York: Ipso Facto Publishers, 1999.

Casebier, Dennis G. East Mojave Heritage Trail Needles to Ivanpah. NORCO, California: Tales of the Mojave Road Publishing Co., 1987.

_____. Goffs & Its School. Riverside, California: Tales of the Mojave Road Pub. Co., 1995.

_____. Mojave Road Guide- An Adventure Through Time. Riverside: Tales of the Mojave Road Publishing Co., 1999.

Crump, Spencer. Route 66-America's First Main Street. Corona Del Mar: Zeta Publisher, 1996.

Darlington, David. The Mojave. New York: Henry Holt and Co., 1996.

Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management. Desert Training Center: California-Arizona Maneuver Area Interpretive Plan. California Desert District, California: Bureau of Land Management, 1986.

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Other Materials

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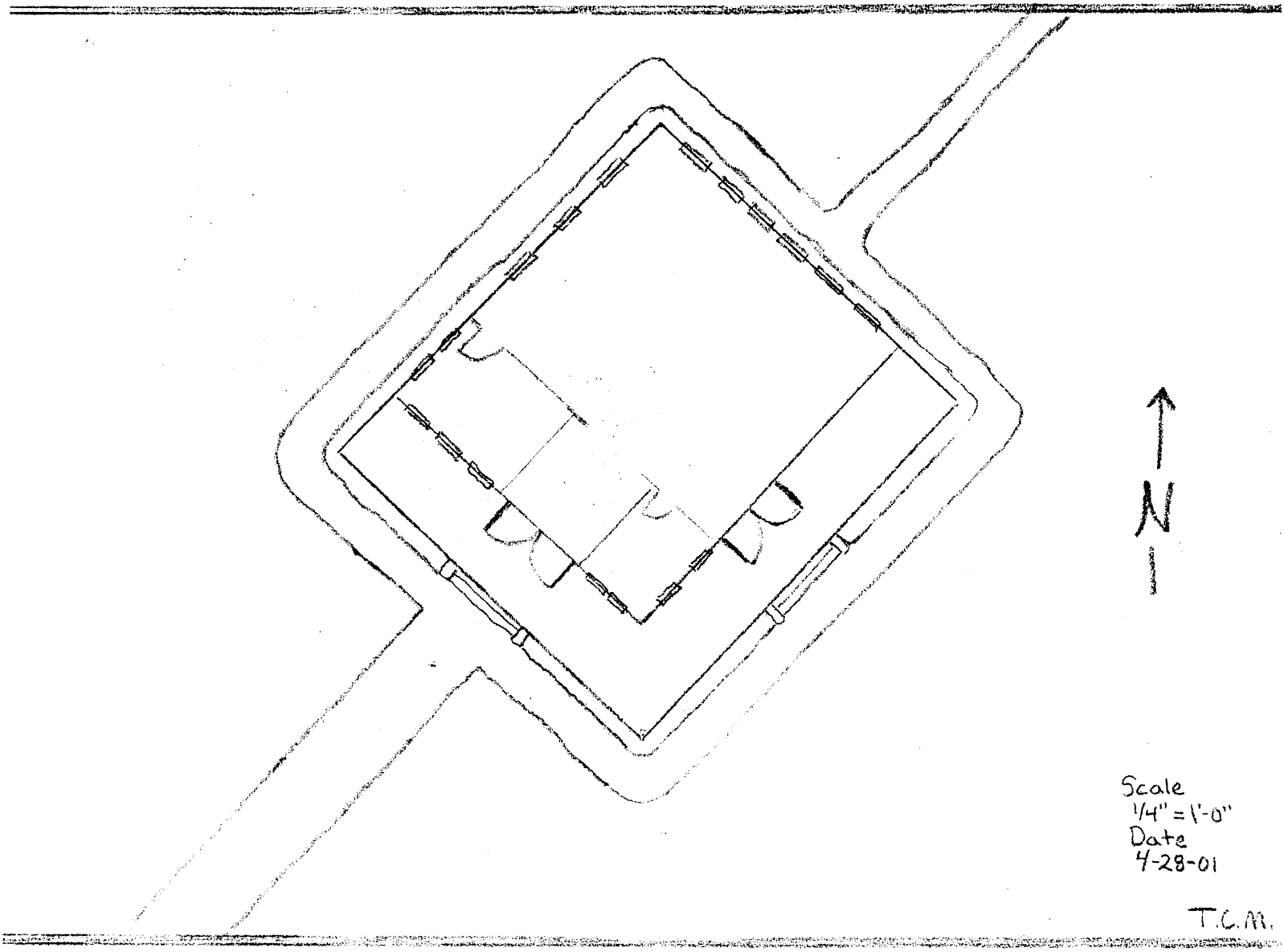
Verbal Boundary Description:



Boundary justification:

The boundaries include the significant resource and its immediate setting.

There are 13 photographs with this registration form. All are of the Goffs Schoolhouse, Goffs (San Bernardino), California.

Photograph #1

3. Original photographer unknown.
4. Original photograph 1914; reproduction April 2001
5. Original image in National Archives, Washington, D.C. (RG-49); copy in custody of Dennis G. Casebier, Mojave Desert Archives
6. View looking northwest towards the front and left side

Photograph #2

3-5. Same as above
6. View looking northeast towards the front elevation

Photograph #3

3. Joe Thomson
4. March 25, 2001
5. Original negative in custody of Joe Thomson
6. View looking northwest towards the front and left side

Photograph #4

3-5. Same as above
6. View looking northeast towards the front elevation

Photograph #5

3-5. Same as above
6. View looking southeast towards the left side elevation

Photograph #6

3-5. Same as above
6. View looking southwest towards the rear elevation

Photograph #7

3-5. Same as above
6. View looking northwest towards the right side elevation

Photograph #8

3-5. Same as above
6. View looking southeast towards the front and left elevations

Photograph #9

3-5. Same as above
6. View looking southwest from inside the porch area on the right side elevation

Photograph #10

3-5. Same as above
6. View looking northeast through a window on the front elevation

Photograph #11

3-5. Same as above
6. View looking southwest through the porch area on the right side elevation

Photograph #12

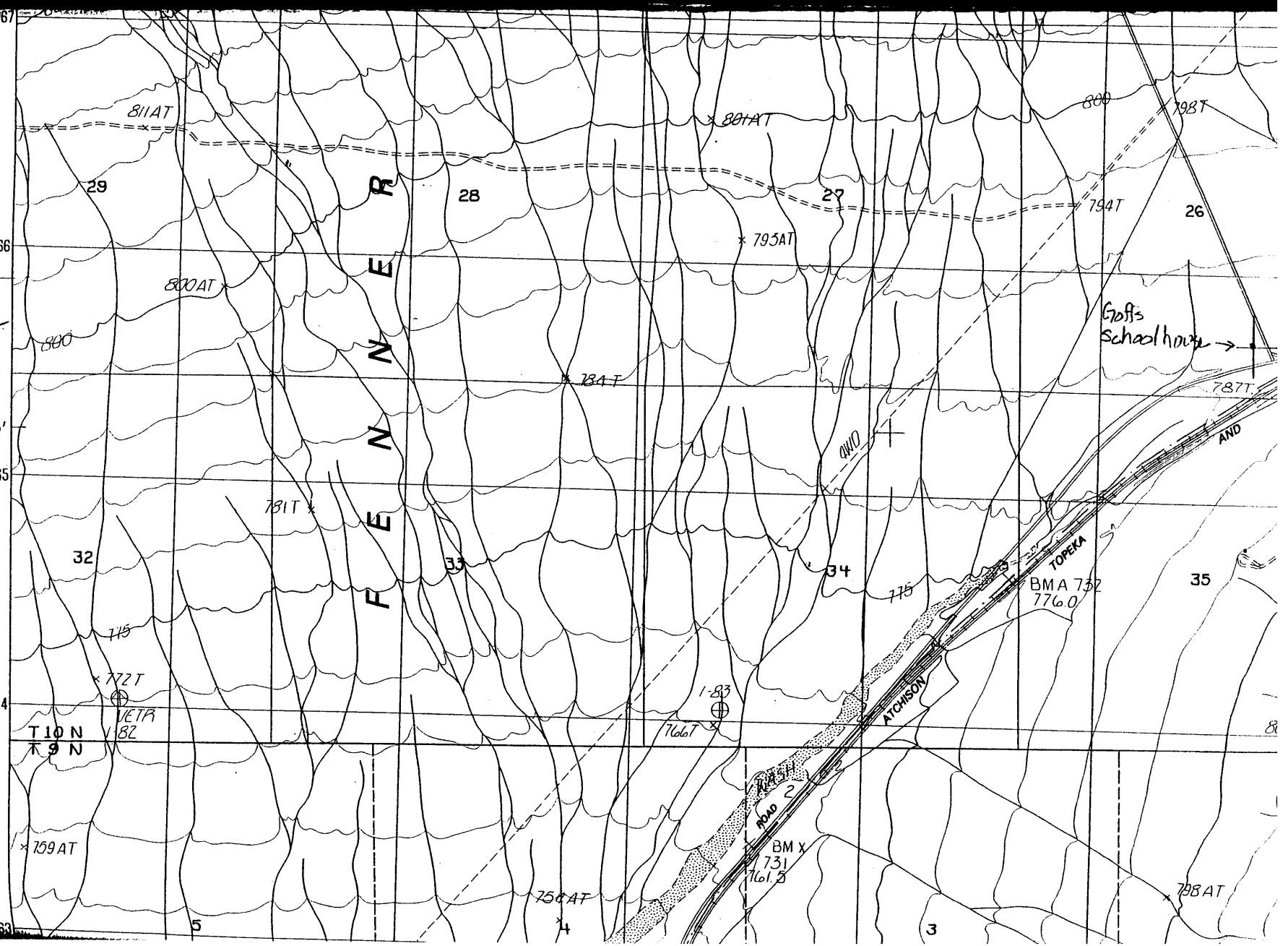
3. Dennis G. Casebier
4. 2000
5. Original negative in custody of Dennis G. Casebier
6. Aerial view looking north, showing Goffs Schoolhouse and surrounding area

Photograph #13

3-5. Same as above
7. Aerial view looking south, showing Goffs Schoolhouse and surrounding area

Goffs
Schoolhouse
Zone Easting
11 677680
Northing
3865710

San Bernardino
County
California



GOFFS SCHOOL, 1914.

GOFF'S SCHOOL HOUSE
SAN BERNARDINO CA.

GOFFS SCHOOL, 1914.

2 GOFF'S SCHOOLHOUSE
SAN BERNARDINO CA.

3 GOFF'S SCHOOLHOUSE
SAN BERNARDINO CA.

4 GOFF'S SCHOOLHOUSE
SAN BERNARDINO CA.

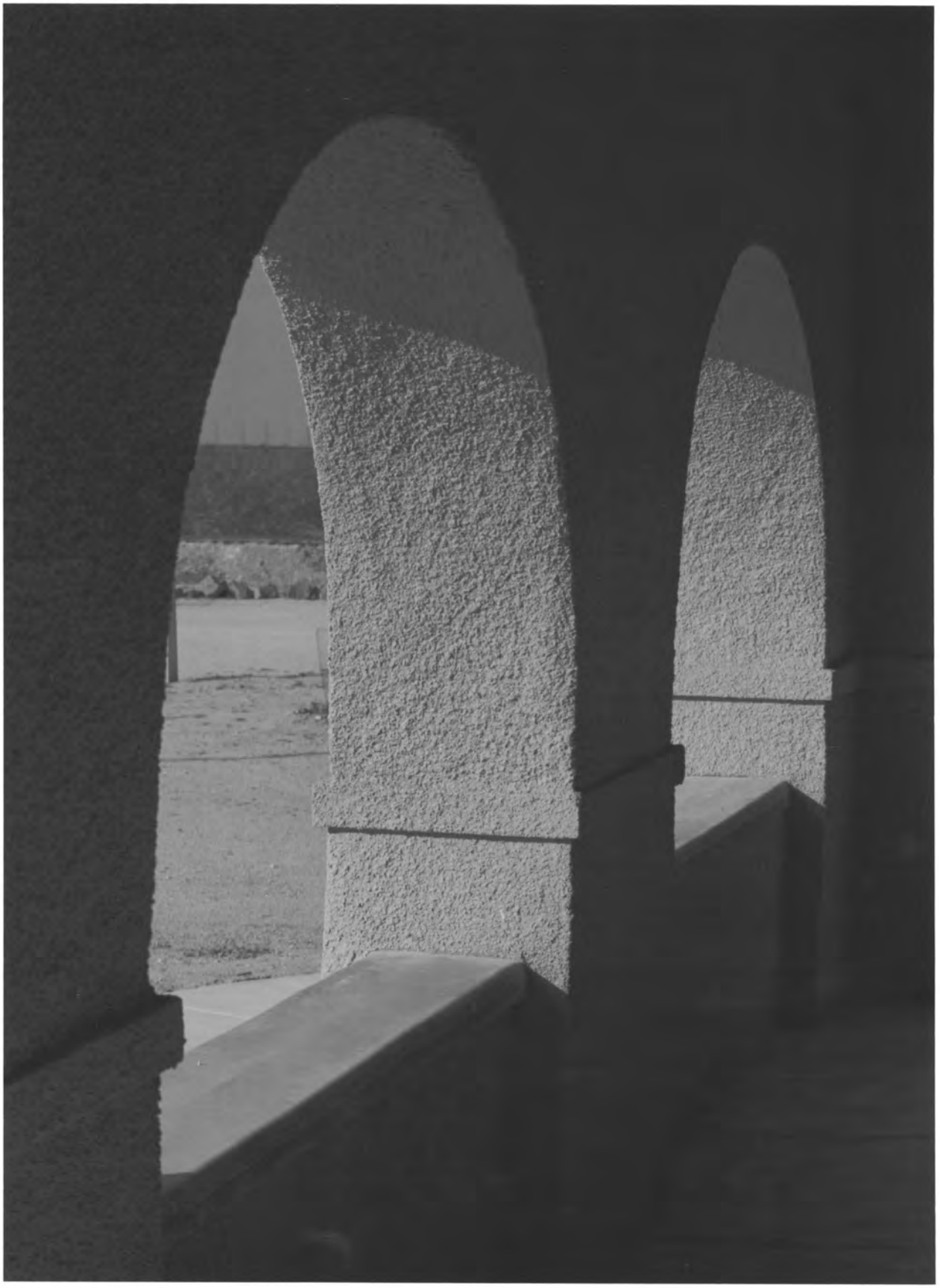
5 GOFFS SCHOOLHOUSE
SAN BERNARDINO CA.

6 GOFF'S SCHOOLHOUSE
SAN BERNARDINO CA.

7 GOFF'S SCHOOLHOUSE

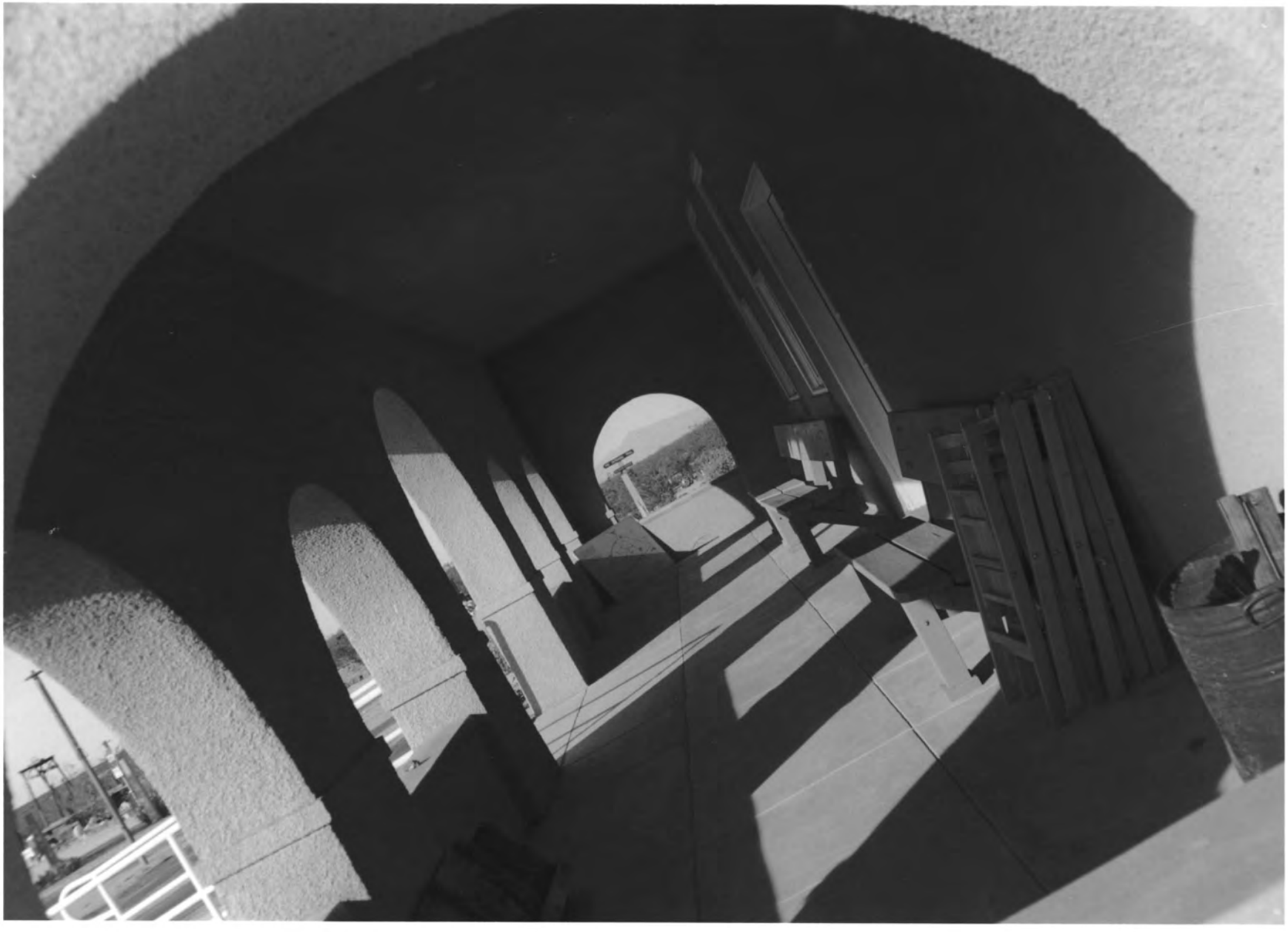
SAN BERNARDINO CA

8 GOFF'S SCHOOLHOUSE
SAN BERNARDINO CA.

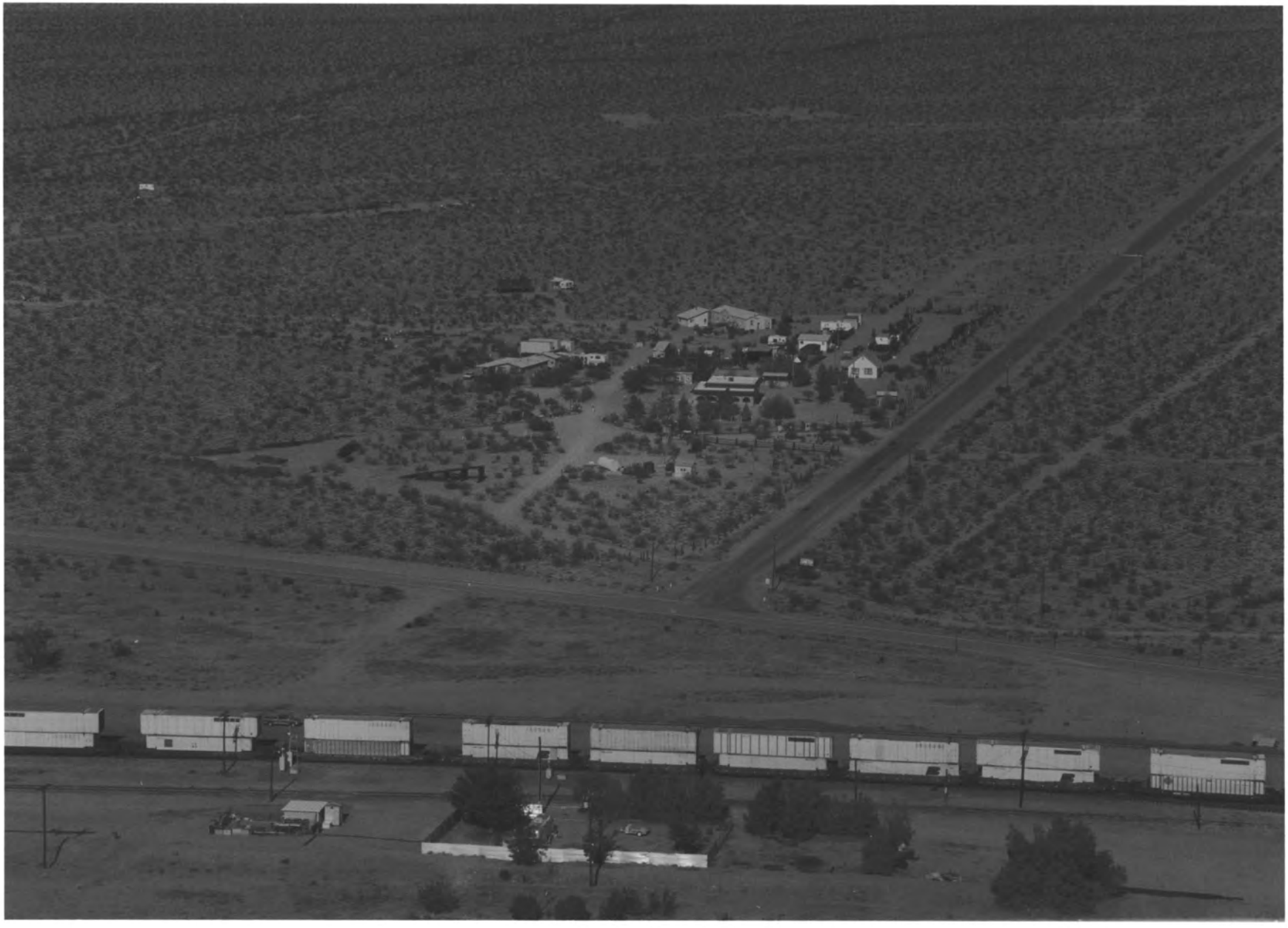


9 GOFF'S SCHOOLHOUSE
SAN BERNARDINO CA.

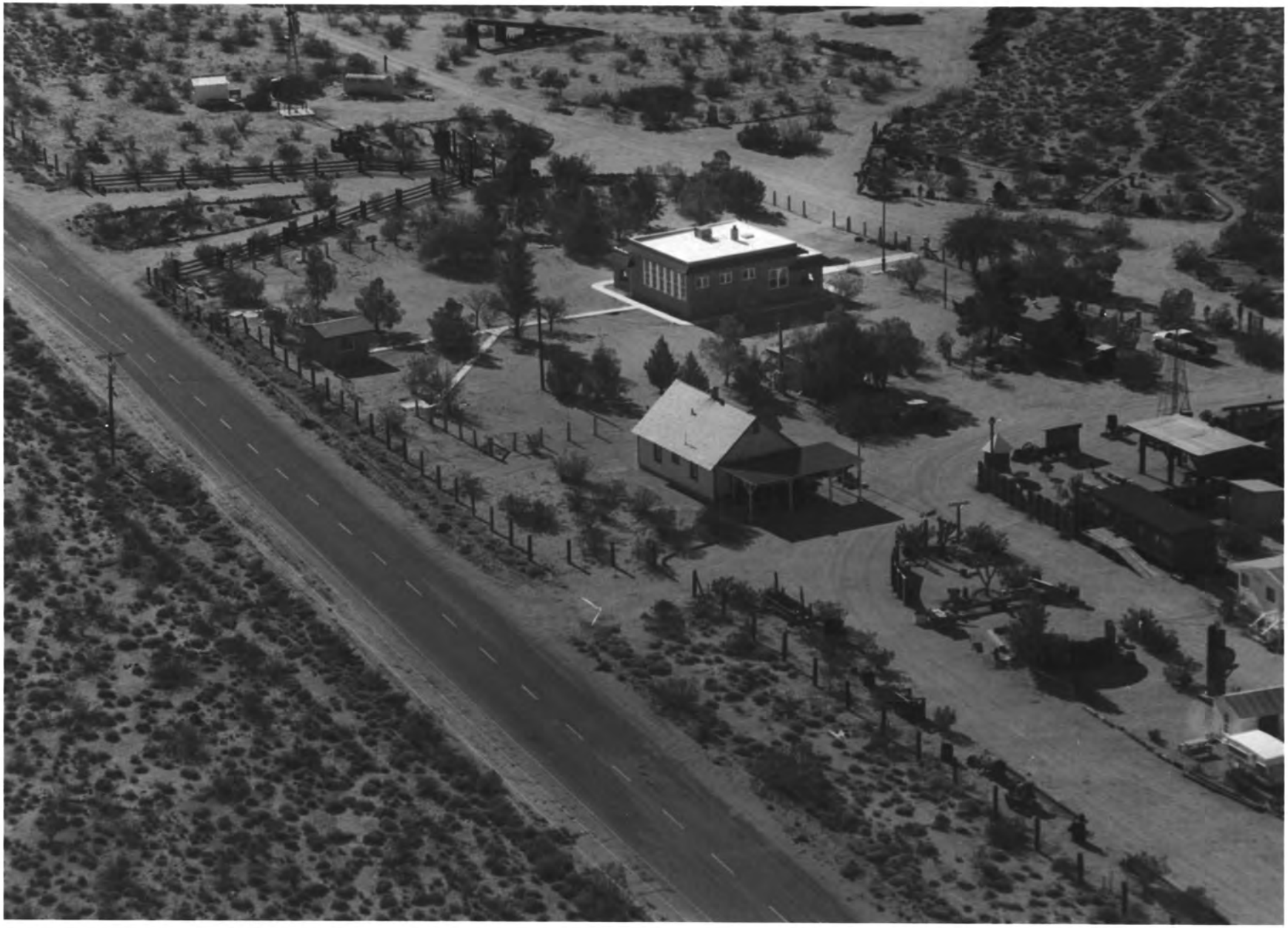
10 GOFF'S SCHOOLHOUSE
SAN BERNARDINO CA.



11 COFF'S SCHOOLHOUSE
SAN BERNARDINO CA.



12 GOFF'S SCHOOLHOUSE
SAN BERNARDINO CA.



13 GOFF'S SCHOOLHOUSE
SAN BERNARDINO CA