

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| STATE:<br>California |             |
| COUNTY:<br>Tulare    |             |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY     |             |
| ENTRY NUMBER         | DATE        |
|                      | FEB 23 1972 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1. NAME</b>                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| COMMON:<br>Allensworth Historic District                                                                                                                                              |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| AND/OR HISTORIC:<br>Allensworth                                                                                                                                                       |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>2. LOCATION</b>                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| STREET AND NUMBER: On State Highway 43 between Wasco and Corcoran<br>approximately 9 miles west of U. S. Highway 99.                                                                  |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Allensworth                                                                                                                                                          |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| STATE<br>California                                                                                                                                                                   | CODE<br>06                                     | COUNTY:<br>Tulare                                                                                                  | CODE<br>107                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>                                                                                                                                                              |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| CATEGORY<br>(Check One)                                                                                                                                                               |                                                | OWNERSHIP                                                                                                          | STATUS                                                                                                                                                              |
| District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/><br>Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/><br>Object <input type="checkbox"/> |                                                | Public <input type="checkbox"/><br>Private <input type="checkbox"/><br>Both <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    | Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/><br>Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/><br>Preservation work<br>in progress <input type="checkbox"/>                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                | Public Acquisition:<br>In Process <input type="checkbox"/><br>Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/><br>Restricted <input type="checkbox"/><br>Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/><br>No: <input type="checkbox"/> |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)                                                                                                                                        |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                                      | Government <input type="checkbox"/>            | Park <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                      | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                             |
| Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                                                   | Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                         | Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                            |
| Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                                       | Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | Religious <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                                                | Museum <input type="checkbox"/>                | Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>                                                                                                                                                           |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| OWNERS NAME:<br>Multiple public and private                                                                                                                                           |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>City of Allensworth                                                                                                                                             |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Allensworth                                                                                                                                                          | STATE:<br>California                           |                                                                                                                    | CODE<br>06                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>                                                                                                                                               |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:<br>Tulare County Court House                                                                                                                      |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>County Civic Center                                                                                                                                             |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Visalia                                                                                                                                                              | STATE:<br>California                           |                                                                                                                    | CODE<br>06                                                                                                                                                          |
| APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 150 acres+                                                                                                                                 |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>                                                                                                                                          |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| TITLE OF SURVEY:<br>Allensworth State Historic Park Study                                                                                                                             |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| DATE OF SURVEY: November 1970 Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/>               |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:<br>State Department of Parks and Recreation                                                                                                            |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>1416 9th Street                                                                                                                                                 |                                                |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Sacramento                                                                                                                                                           | STATE:<br>California                           |                                                                                                                    | CODE<br>06                                                                                                                                                          |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER DATE

FEB 23 1972

## 7. DESCRIPTION

|           |                                                                                |                               |                               |                                                                                  |                                |                                    |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One)                                                                    |                               |                               |                                                                                  |                                |                                    |
|           | Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>                                             | Good <input type="checkbox"/> | Fair <input type="checkbox"/> | Deteriorated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                 | Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> | Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| INTEGRITY | (Check One)                                                                    |                               |                               | (Check One)                                                                      |                                |                                    |
|           | Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> |                               |                               | Moved <input type="checkbox"/> Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                |                                    |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The townsite consists of about 15 square blocks and contains approximately 60 acres including streets. Allensworth is typical of California's southern San Joaquin Valley's small farming communities.

Originally the settlement had 8 commercial and public buildings, and 31 residential dwellings. The 8 buildings were the school, church, library, general store, drugstore, hotel, post office, and railroad ticket office. There is no dominant architectural style evident in the town's structures.

Some residential structures have deteriorated and collapsed. A large number of those that have withstood the years are in need of extensive repairs, including the home of Col. Allensworth, the town founder. The school which is the largest structure in Allensworth is in excellent condition and is currently being used for school purposes. Many residences are in an advanced stage of deterioration but are still salvageable.

Allensworth's early citizens conducted a successful tree planting program. Today vegetation is virtually non-existent due to a number of critical water shortages experienced by the town over the years.

The townsite is located on the outer edge of the Tulare Lake Basin and the general terrain is extremely flat. Large deposits of alkali and saline salts are visible on the ground surface.

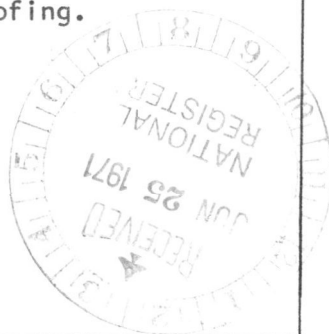
Originally the town was ringed with farms. This condition has changed with large farming corporations dominating the scene.

Current development proposals by the State recommend the preservation and restoration of the entire townsite. Those structures non-worthy of restoration will be preserved in their existing stage of deterioration. Those structures that are restorable will be opened to the general public for viewing. The preservation program will focus on the 1908 through 1918 historical scene.

The Allensworth school was constructed in 1912 and is 40' x 40'. Its construction is wood frame with wood siding, cedar shingles and a concrete foundation. The building's interior can be separated by a sliding partition and has two dressing rooms, and a stage. It has served the community as a school, social hall, and place for community entertainment.

Col. Allensworth's house is wood framed with wood siding. Originally the house had shingles but has been altered to composition roofing.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





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|                  | FEB 23 1972 |

7. Description

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

Approximate boundaries of Allensworth Historic District: Beginning at a point on the southeast corner of two streets designated "Rd. not on ground" as shown on Allensworth Proposed Acquisition Plan (Drawing No. 11426), said point being about 750' west of Young Road and about 375' north of Palmer Avenue, thence south about 1312', thence east about 825' to a point near the center of Road 81, thence south about 1650', thence east about 2760' to the westerly line of the Atchison, Topeka and the Santa Fe Railroad right of way, thence northwesterly along said line about 1950', thence west about 187' to the easterly line of Higby Road, thence northwesterly about 1525' along said line and the westerly line of the canal right of way, thence west about 1575' to the point of beginning.



# 8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century ☒  
15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☐ 19th Century ☐

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) August 3, 1908 founding date

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

|                |              |                                     |                |                                     |                 |                          |
|----------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Aboriginal     | Education    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Political      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Urban Planning  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prehistoric    | Engineering  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Religion/Phi-  |                                     | Other (Specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic       | Industry     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | losophy        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                 |                          |
| Agriculture    | Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Science        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                 |                          |
| Art            | Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Sculpture      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                 |                          |
| Commerce       | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Social/Human-  |                                     |                 |                          |
| Communications | Literature   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | itarian        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                 |                          |
| Conservation   | Military     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Theater        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                 |                          |
|                | Music        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                 |                          |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

**AGRICULTURE:** Agriculture played a major role in the birth and death of Allensworth as a prosperous community. Originally the townsite was ringed with farms. Historians predicted Allensworth as destined to become a great center for raising sugar beets and poultry. Current development proposals by the Department of Parks and Recreation recommend acquiring an area adjacent to the townsite to interpret and illustrate the history of the area's agriculture.

**EDUCATION:** The Allensworth school was known throughout the State by black people. The school was involved in numerous heated political decisions concerning segregated school systems. During the 1913 through 1915 era, Allensworth and Furlong Tract, another black colony located near Los Angeles, successfully defended the right of black children to an education in this State.

**LITERATURE:** Black literature, specifically California Black History has placed the life of Col. Allensworth and the founding of the town of Allensworth at the forefront of black accomplishments in the State. Col. Allensworth's biography titled, "The Battles and Victories of Allen Allensworth" and "The Negro Trail Blazers of Calif." by D. L. Beasley along with numerous other articles have documented the founding of the town.

**MILITARY:** Col. Allensworth, the town founder, held the highest military rank by a black American during his day. Practically all of the founding fathers of the town were military men. Some white historians have described the town as a rest home for retired military men.

**POLITICAL:** Allensworth's political influence figured significantly in the political destiny of Black Americans throughout the State. Numerous political actions relative to black people were originated from the efforts of the citizens of Allensworth.

**RELIGIOUS/PHILOSOPHY:** A philosophy relative to the life and experiences of Black Americans has been a long sought goal of black people. Numerous attempts at formulating this philosophy have perished prior to arriving at a condition of conclusion. Col. Allensworth's personal writings placed the development of a black oriented philosophy foremost in tasks to be achieved. Religion, as perceived by Black Americans, has always played a major role in attempts to formulate a philosophical line of thought relative to the black experience. Allen Allensworth entered the ministry of the First Street Baptist Church, Louisville, Kentucky, on April 9, 1871. After wide experience as a minister, lecturer and teacher, on April 30, 1886 he received an appointment as Chaplain, 24th Infantry, Army of the

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

# 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Negro Trail Blazers of California by D. L. Beasley (1919)

The Battles and Victories of Allen Allensworth by Professor Charles Alexander (1914)

Allensworth State Historic Park Study by the State Department of Parks and Recreation (1970)

# 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY |                         |                         | O<br>R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY<br>OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE |                         |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER                                                                           | LATITUDE                | LONGITUDE               |        | LATITUDE                                                                                               | LONGITUDE               |  |
|                                                                                  | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds |        | Degrees Minutes Seconds                                                                                | Degrees Minutes Seconds |  |
| NW                                                                               | 35° 51' 58"             | 119° 23' 33"            |        |                                                                                                        |                         |  |
| NE                                                                               | 35° 51' 58"             | 119° 22' 51"            |        |                                                                                                        |                         |  |
| SE                                                                               | 35° 51' 30"             | 119° 22' 51"            |        |                                                                                                        |                         |  |
| SW                                                                               | 35° 51' 30"             | 119° 23' 33"            |        |                                                                                                        |                         |  |

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|--------|------|
|        |      |        |      |
|        |      |        |      |
|        |      |        |      |
|        |      |        |      |

# 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Mrs. Elena Albert - Program Director - San Francisco  
African American Historical and Cultural Society

ORGANIZATION: Allensworth Advisory Commission DATE: 1-30-71

STREET AND NUMBER: 1812 Delaware Street, Apt. 301

CITY OR TOWN: Berkeley STATE: California CODE: 06

# 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name [Signature]

Title State Liaison Officer

Date June 21, 1971

# NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date FEB 23 1972

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date February 14, 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UTM REF: 11/285040/3971520  
52676

@ 11/283980/3970710

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| STATE            |             |
| California       |             |
| COUNTY           |             |
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|                  | FEB 28 1972 |

(Number all entries) RELIGIOUS/PHILOSOPHY (cont.)

United States. His appointment was at the rank of Captain and his first duty as an army Chaplain was at Fort Supply, Indian Territory. He served at numerous posts with a broad range of duties through the Spanish American War, with distinguished service in Cuba and the Philippines. Having attained the service rank of Major, Chaplain Allensworth retired from the army April 7, 1906, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. After founding the Allensworth Colony, he continued in the ministry until his death in 1914.

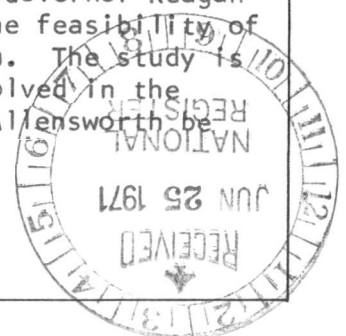
SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN: Allensworth is California's only town which was founded, financed and governed by black Americans. While Allensworth is not nominated to the National Register primarily as a memorial to its founder, the townsite and proposed park and Historic District represent in fact a memorial to Colonel Allen Allensworth and his pioneering colonists, and to the black race in America. Colonized in 1908 by Col. Allensworth and the California colony and Home Promotion Assoc., this unique pioneering venture presented to the black Americans a critical element in the struggle for total freedom.

Although this nation had outlawed slavery with the emancipation proclamation, no efforts were being directed towards psychological emancipation for the millions of newly freed slaves. Col. Allensworth, who was born a slave and sold twice at slave auctions, became cognizant of this condition and dedicated himself to creating an environment which might fill this critical need. His dream was to establish a community where his people might live and develop themselves free from the direct influences of slave oriented attitudes. His dream became a reality on August 3, 1908 when the town of Allensworth was officially founded. On August 8, 1908 the Tulare Register newspaper described the town as the only enterprise of its kind in the United States. Early historians specializing in California Black History predicted Allensworth as destined to become a great city.

In 1914, there were a reported 160 persons in Allensworth - farmers, dairymen and businessmen. The citizens were depicted as "prosperous, happy and contented". Allensworth has remained a small rural community wholly dependent on the surrounding agricultural economy. Aridity and the presence of alkaline and saline deposits in the soil have inhibited productive growth and development.

The California State Department of Parks and Recreation with assistance from the Allensworth Advisory Commission is currently attempting to develop Allensworth as a State Historic Park dedicated to the Black Pioneers of California.

Senate Resolution No. 66, and Senate Bill No. 557, signed by Governor Reagan on September 18, 1970, requested that the Department study the feasibility of Allensworth for inclusion in the California State Park System. The study is currently (1971) being submitted to the various agencies involved in the development of the project and its recommendations are that Allensworth be developed.



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

|                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| STATE<br><b>California</b> |                            |
| COUNTY<br><b>Tulare</b>    |                            |
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(Number all entries) SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN (cont.)

The primary purpose of developing a State Historic Park dedicated to the Black Pioneers of California is to assist the general public in developing healthy attitudes towards people of different backgrounds and cultures.





Tulare

# Allensworth Historic District

RECEIPT PROPERTY STATE **CALIF.**

DATE OF RECEIPT 6/24/71 YES ☒ NO ☐ NUMBER 29

DATA PAGE 29

PHOTO (S) ✓

PHOTO DESCRIP (S) ✓

MAP (S) ✓

MAP DESCRIPTION (S) 2

LOGGED ✓

ACKNOWLEDGE 6/25/71

RESUBMIT \_\_\_\_\_

FEB 23 1972  
72000263

REVIEW *My only question would be explanation of what (why) is included in agric. area. Also maps pointing out where structures are. Could get a tree. Otherwise OK* Mausin 7/15/71

HISTORIAN *I'm inclined to favor this. appearance does not overwhelm, but the history is important and the area with its remains are appropriate to tell the story.* Levy 7/21/71

ARCHAEOLOGIST \_\_\_\_\_

ARCHITECT *The story is more impressive than the site, but the site is of course the most appropriate to telling the story.* Chambers 7-19-71

ASST. KEEPER *When informing SLO of Nat. Reg. entry, ask him to send copy of 1970 Park Study.* Mullen 2/11/72

KEEPER *OK* H. Brown 2/14/72

ENTRY \_\_\_\_\_

CHIEF, OAHP WU 2-23

EDITORIAL PROCESSING, EDITOR *I am in agreement with Sally. This does not convince me, but possibly it is the way the form is written.* CO 7/19/71

Federal Register Entry 4/4/72 Date \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Edition Entry \_\_\_\_\_

Logged FEB 22 1972

Card FEB 22 1972

WORKING NUMBER 62471-2

COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED  
FEB 25 1971  
NATIONAL REGISTER

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_



















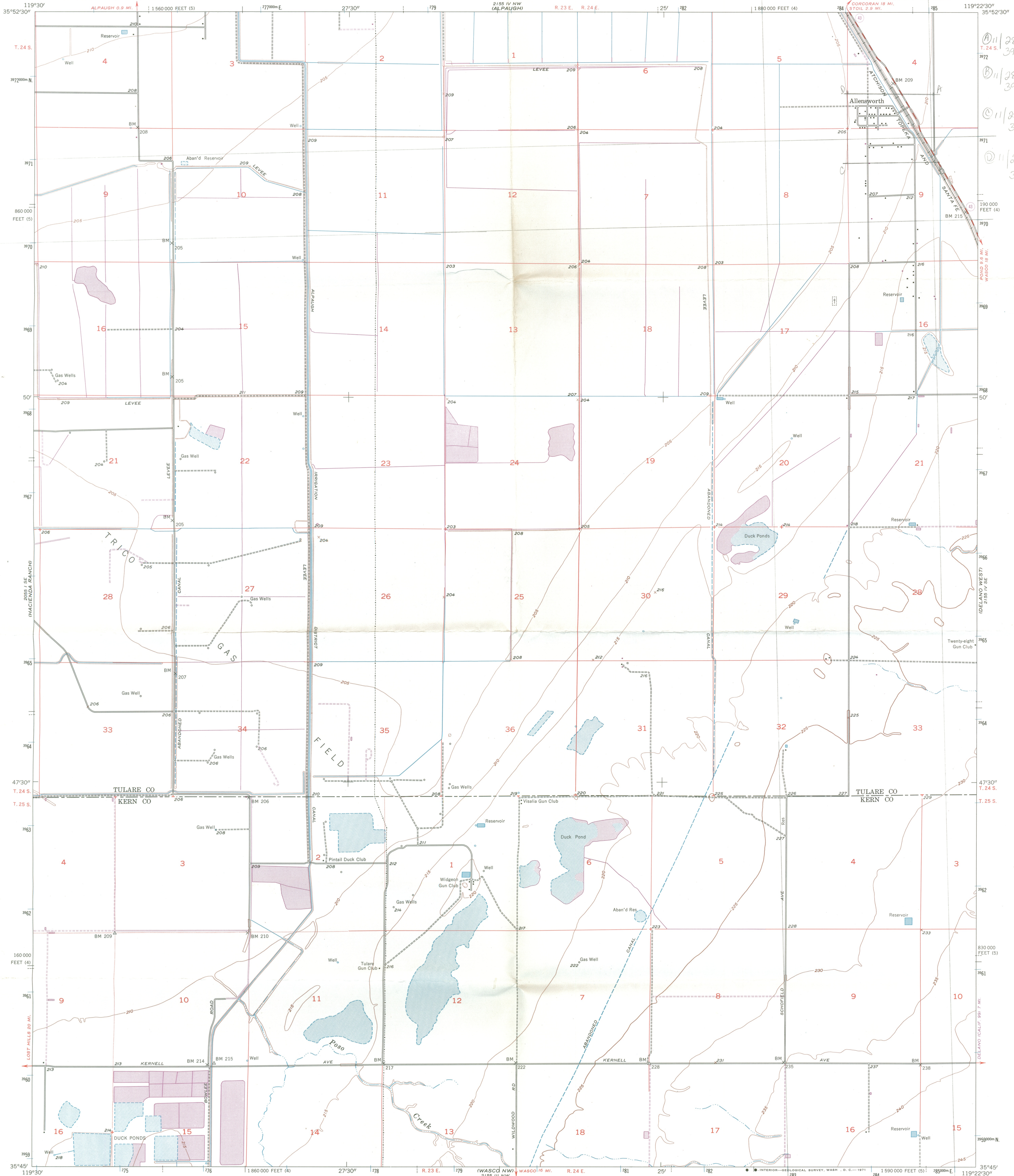




UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

ALLENSWORTH QUADRANGLE  
CALIFORNIA  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
SW/4 EARLMART 15' QUADRANGLE



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by plane-table methods 1954  
Culture and drainage compiled from aerial photographs  
taken 1946. Field check 1954

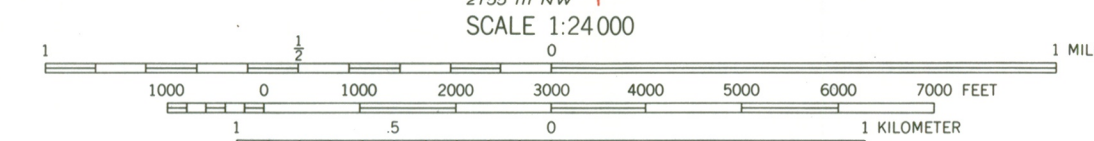
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grids based on California coordinate system,  
zones 4 and 5

Dotted land lines were established by private survey

This map lies within a subsidence area

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 11, shown in blue

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation  
with California Department of Water Resources from  
aerial photographs taken 1969. This information  
not field checked



CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET  
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———  
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———  
State Route ———

ALLENSWORTH, CALIF.  
SW/4 EARLMART 15' QUADRANGLE  
N 3545—W 11922.5/7.5

1954  
PHOTOREVISED 1969  
AMS 2155 IV SW—SERIES V895



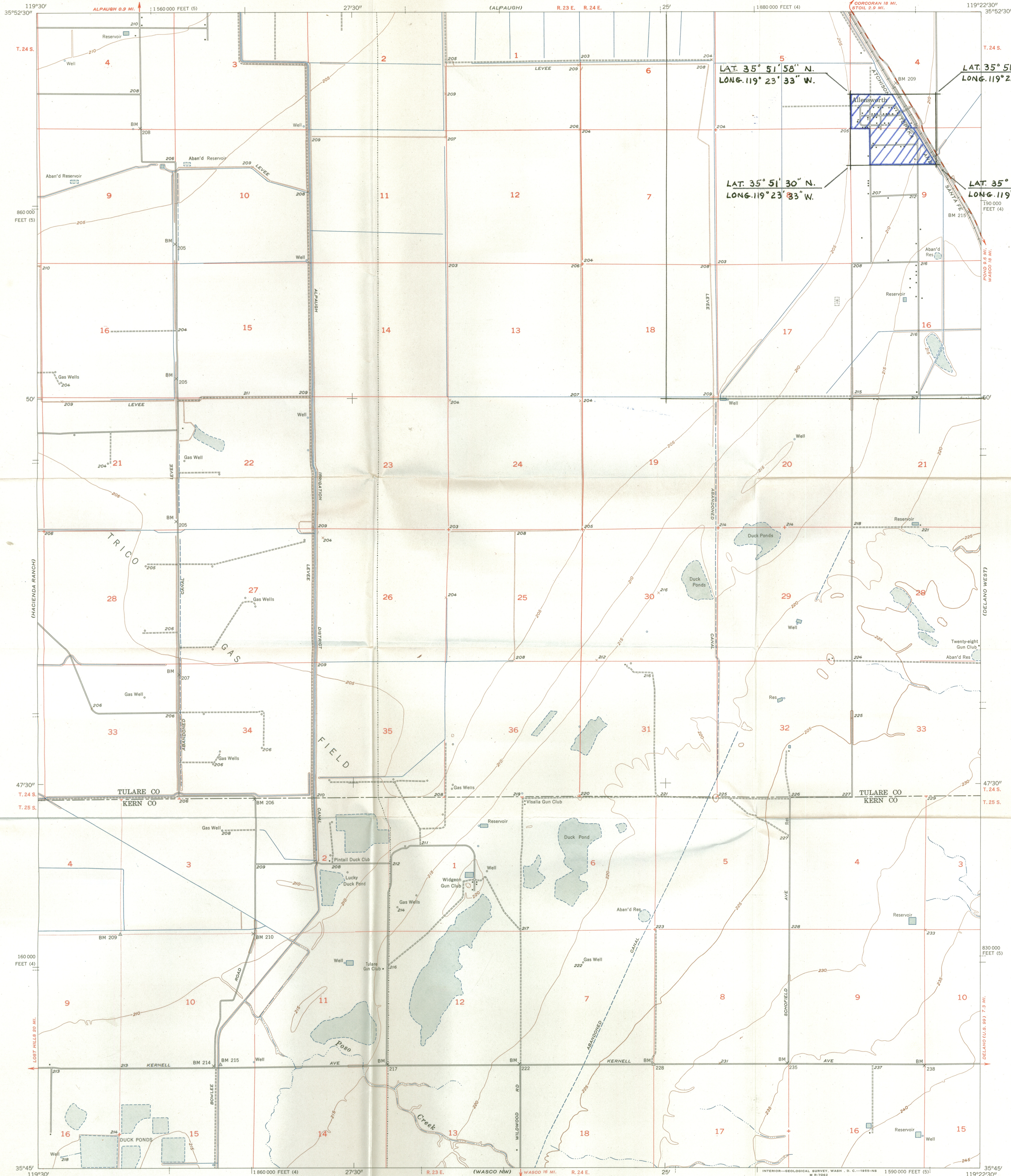
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
GOODWIN J. KNIGHT, GOVERNOR  
FRANK B. DURKEE, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS  
A. D. EDMONSTON, STATE ENGINEER

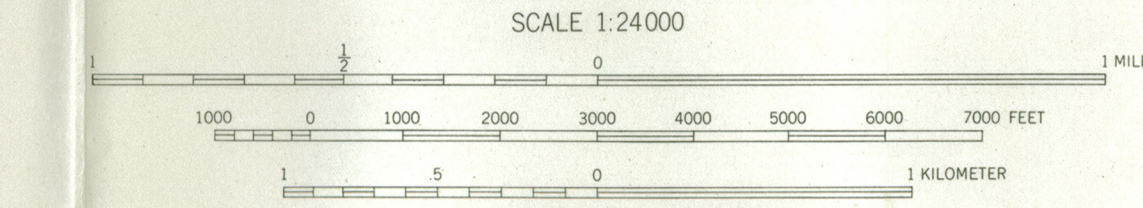
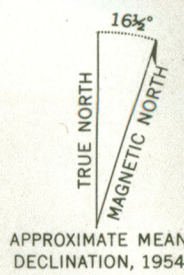
ALLENSTWORTH QUADRANGLE  
CALIFORNIA

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
SW 1/4 EARLHART 18' QUADRANGLE

CORCORAN 18 MI.  
STOIL 2.9 MI.



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Topography by plane-table methods 1954  
Culture and drainage compiled from aerial photographs  
taken 1946. Field check 1954  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grids based on California coordinate system,  
zones 4 and 5  
Dotted land lines were established by private survey  
This map lies within a subsidence area

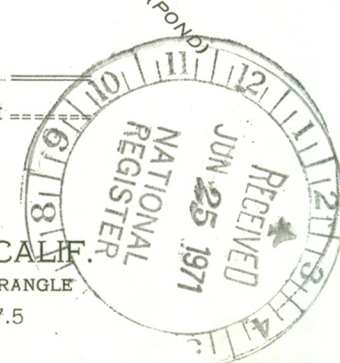


ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Light-duty  
Medium-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Unimproved dirt  
U. S. Route State Route

ALLENSTWORTH, CALIF.  
SW 1/4 EARLHART 18' QUADRANGLE  
N.3545-W11922.5/7.5

1954

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, FEDERAL CENTER, DENVER, COLORADO OR WASHINGTON 25, D. C.  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST









ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE CALIFORNIA

Date Entered FEB 23 1972

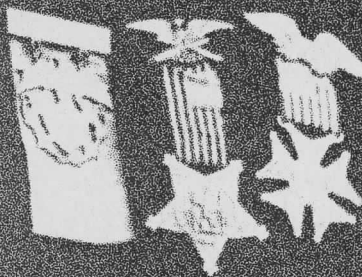
| <u>Name</u>                     | <u>Location</u>                               |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Amador County Hospital Building | Jackson<br>Amador County                      |
| Calaveras County Court House    | San Andreas<br>Calaveras County               |
| Thorn House                     | San Andreas<br>Calaveras County               |
| Colonial Dames Octagon House    | San Francisco<br>San Francisco County         |
| Rhine House                     | St. Helena<br>Napa County                     |
| Point Cabrillo Site             | Point Cabrillo Lighthouse<br>Mendocino County |
| Poverty Flat Site               | Morgan Hill<br>Santa Clara County             |
| Allensworth Historic District   | Allensworth<br>Tulare County                  |
| Patwin Indian Site              | Clearlake Oaks vicinity<br>Lake County        |
| Patrick Ranch House             | Chico<br>Butte County                         |
| <u>Also Notified</u>            |                                               |
| Hon. Alan Cranston              | State Liaison Officer                         |
| Hon. John V. Tunney             | Mr. William Penn Mott, Jr.                    |
| Hon. Harold T. Johnson          | Director, Department of Parks &               |
| Hon. Phillip Burton             | Recreation                                    |
| Hon. Don H. Clausen             | State Resources Agency                        |
| Hon. Don Edwards                | Post Office Box 2390                          |
| Hon. Robert L. Leggett          | Sacramento, California 95814                  |
| Hon. Robert B. Mathias          |                                               |

Director, Western Region

2/17/72

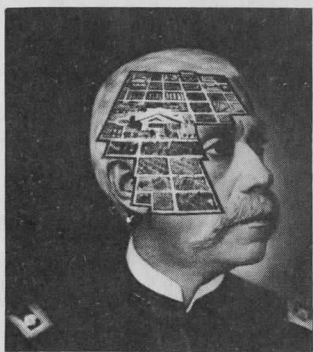
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**ALLENSWORTH**  
a proposed  
**State Historic Park**





# Allensworth Historical Project

## HISTORY:

Allensworth is Calif's. only town founded, financed, and governed by Black Americans. In 1908 it was recognized as the only enterprise of it's kind in the United States of America.

Founded in 1908 by Col. Allensworth, this unique pioneering achievement presented to Negroes a critically needed element in the struggle for total freedom.

The Emancipation Proclamation of January 1, 1863, outlawed the physical institution of slavery but no efforts were directed towards psychological emancipation for the newly freed slaves.

Col. Allensworth became aware of this condition and dedicated himself to creating an environment which might fill this critical need.

His dream was to establish a community where his people might live and develop themselves free from the direct influence of slave-oriented social attitudes.

He invisioned Allensworth as a refuge where people might live permanently or come and educate themselves, technically and psychologically to meet the requirements needed to construct a meaningful and fruitful life in a hostile and competitive society.

Starting from an original purchase of 20 acres the town experienced rapid growth 'till reaching approximately 80 acres. Powered by its agricultural development and its sound business enterprises, the town became a school district in 1912 and a judicial district in 1914.

Politically aware and intellectually oriented, Allensworth stood as a refuge in the West for Negro settlers throughout the nation.

Negro historians specializing in black history predicted Allensworth as destined to become a great City.

For Col. Allensworth the reality of his dream was short-lived, a tragic accident claimed his life in 1914.

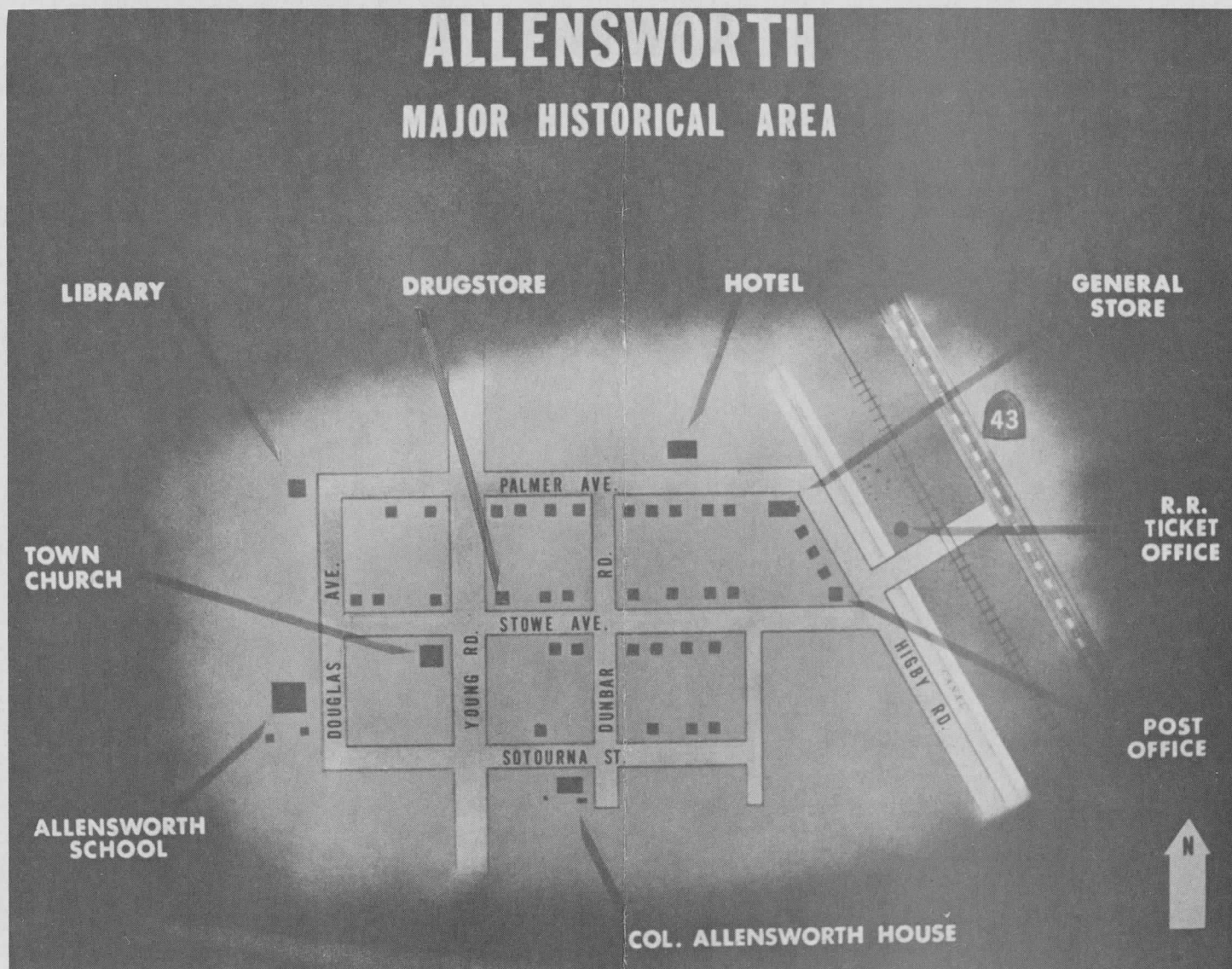


The qualities of patience and forbearance that enabled Col. Allensworth

- To endure the degradations of slavery
- To be sold as chattel property
- To escape the institution of slavery
- To volunteer his life to save this nation
- And yet be inspired to establish a community where others might live in freedom and dignity – These qualities are not common among us.



Allensworth Schoolhouse





The purpose of establishing a State Historic Park at Allensworth is to provide for the public a historical perspective of the Black American, his role, contributions, and concerns.

The California State Park System Plan of 1968 states, by law and general public acceptance over the years the Department of Parks and Recreation is regarded as the major agency to act as trustee and guardian of California's major historical resources.

In March 1969 the Department of Parks and Recreation began a study to determine whether California possessed an area adequate in history to qualify as a unit of the State Park System.

This initial study indicated that the town of Allensworth with its unique racial, historical, and geographical location, be considered for possible development.

Preliminary development concepts have recommended the preservation and restoration of the townsite, see Fig. 1, plus the development of an educational and cultural complex which would include a museum, library and research center on Black History.

The museum will be adequate in size to properly tell the story of the development of the town of Allensworth and illustrate the history of California's Black pioneers as well as the history of the Black Race generally.

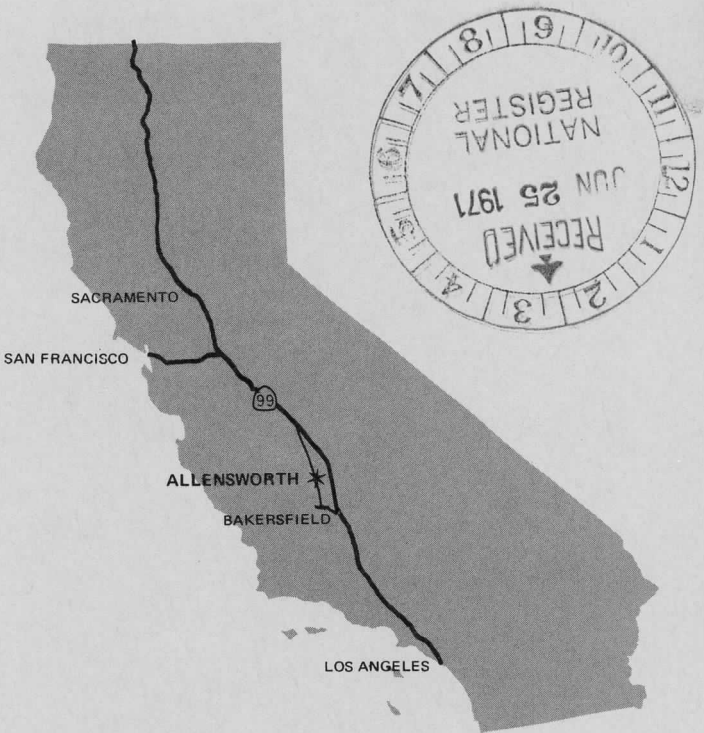
Additional support facilities such as campgrounds, picnic, and activity areas will be developed adjacent to the historical zone.

All support facilities will be designed in harmony with the general philosophy of the park to create a visitor experience oriented towards a genuine educational, recreational, and cultural experience in Black History.

### *Col. Allensworth's House*







## LOCATION

*Allensworth is located in the extreme southwest corner of Tulare county on State Hwy. 43 between Wasco and Corcoran.*

*It lies approximately 9 miles west of Earlimart and U.S. Hwy. 99, and is 70 miles south from Fresno and 30 miles north from Bakersfield.*

A citizens group, the Allensworth Advisory Committee, was established by the Governor's office to assist in developing the project.

This committee works jointly with the State Department of Parks and Recreation and the California State Parks Foundation.

The C.S.P.F. accepts donations from the private sector to assist in developing new projects.

The Advisory Committee is currently seeking donations through this organization to begin the Allensworth Project.

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