

PAULINE - H.

Desert

Foothills

Scenic

Drive



DESERT FOOTHILLS SCENIC DRIVE

Report Prepared by
The Maricopa County Planning Department

May 1966

Price: Fifty Cents

MARICOPA COUNTY

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FOREWORD

The idea for this report was conceived with the thought in mind that it might serve as an inspiration to other communities to take ACTION IN THE PRESERVATION OF natural beauties in their respective areas.

Credits due to various individuals in addition to the Board of Supervisors, County Planning and Zoning Commission and Department, the County Parks and Recreation Commission and Department, and the County Highway Department, are too numerous to mention; suffice it to say that almost everyone in the Cave Creek-Carefree area became involved in this civic enterprise. Included were grade school and high school boys and girls who assisted in painting, several business men who worked often and long in routing, sawing, constructing the signs, installation along the route, cleaning of the plant types and site around them, the local lumber yard who provided material at cost, and the numerous individuals who gave financial assistance. This is a truly outstanding example of a community doing things for itself with a minimum of governmental assistance.

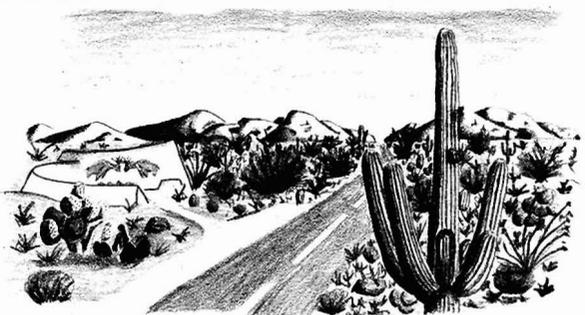
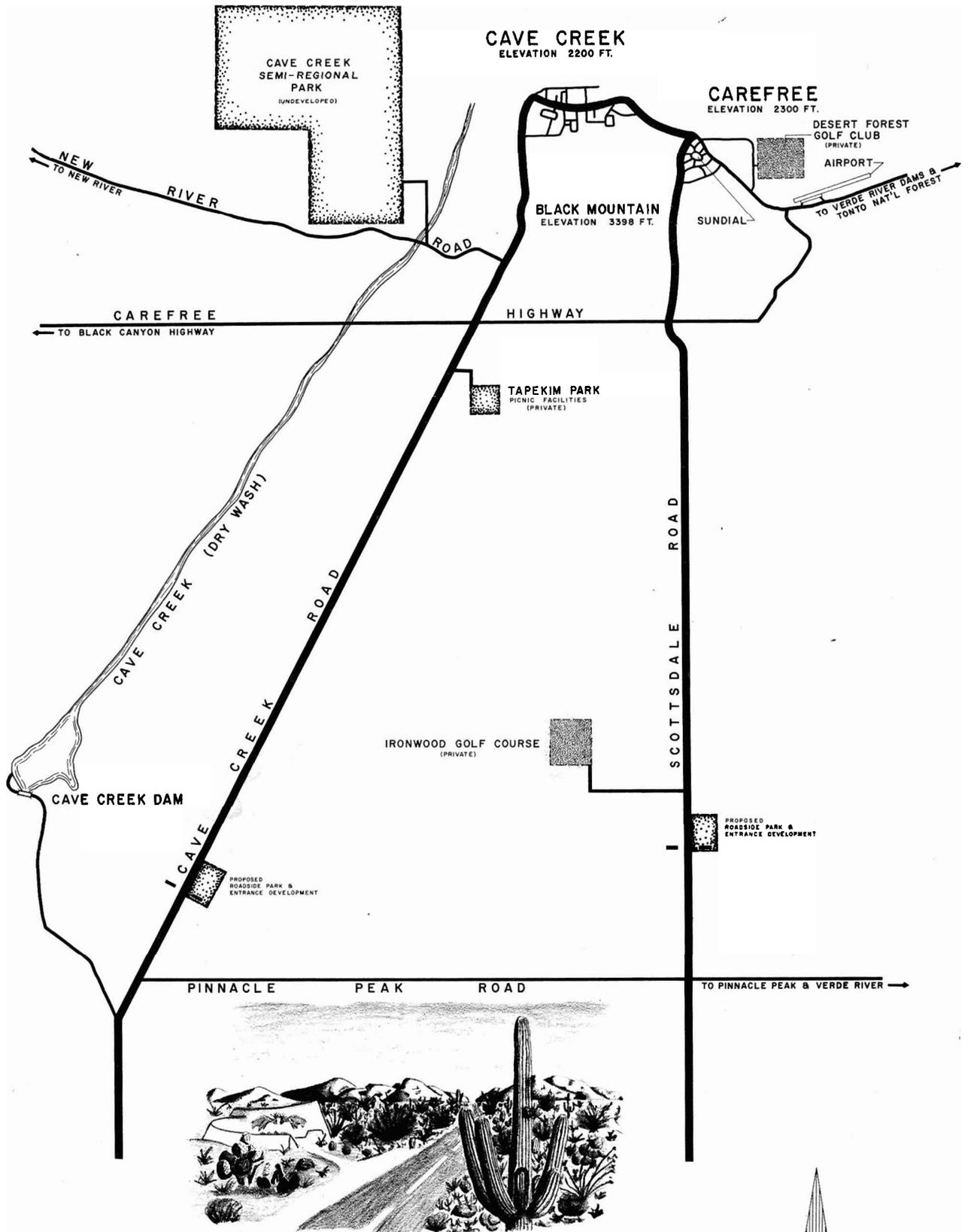
Vincent Thelander
Member of the County Planning Commission
and Chairman of Study Committee

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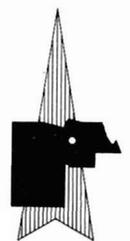


DESERT FOOTHILLS SCENIC DRIVE

PREPARED BY: MARICOPA COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

MAY, 1966

G. L. B.



DESERT FOOTHILLS SCENIC DRIVE

The Desert Foothills Scenic Drive, shown on Plate 1, is 17 miles in length and consists of certain portions of Cave Creek Road and Scottsdale Road lying north of Pinnacle Peak Road. This route passes through the communities of Cave Creek and Carefree.

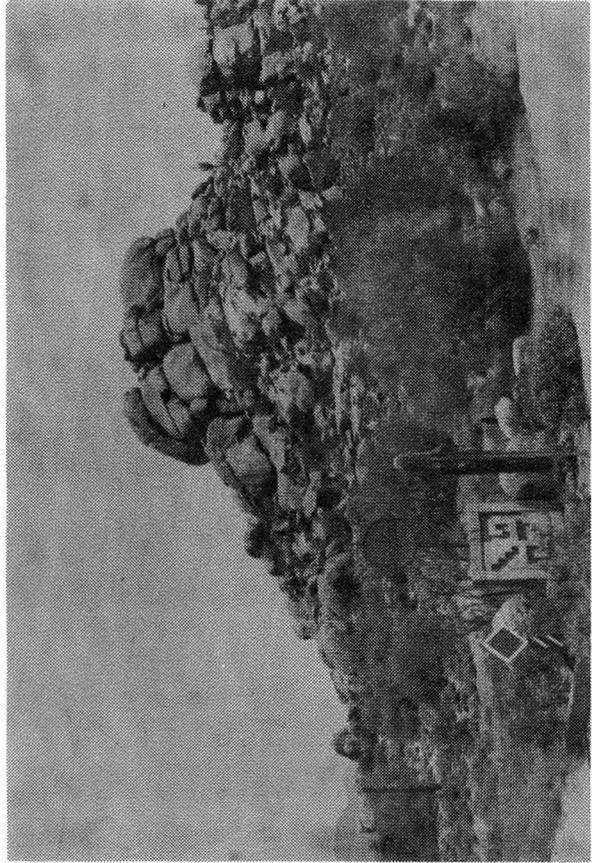
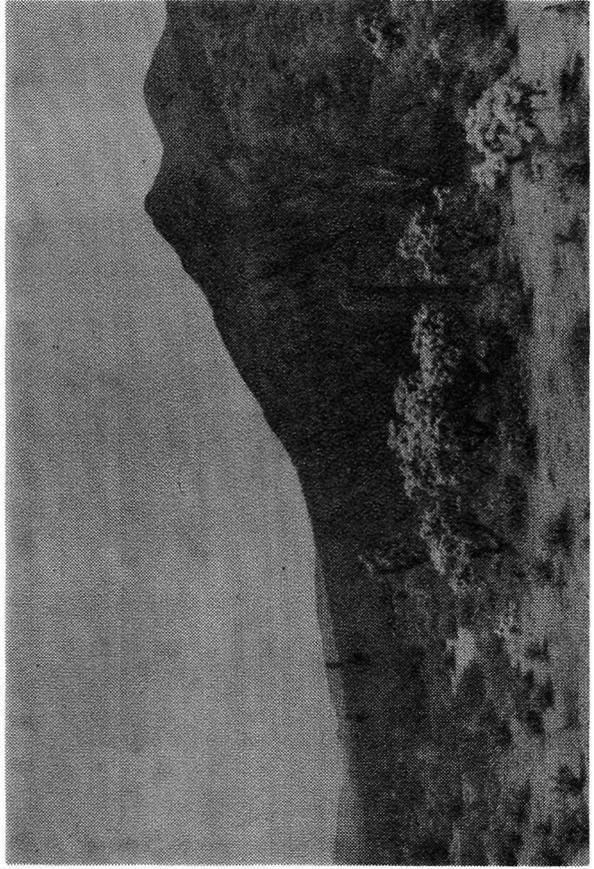
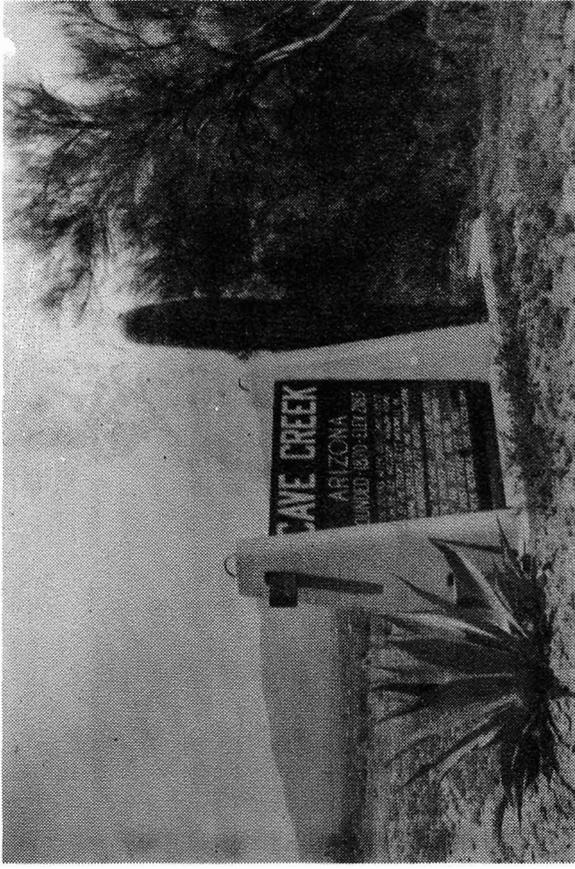
The following is a discussion of how the scenic drive came to be designated, regulations enacted to prevent building within future right of way requirements, distinguishing features of the Drive including a brief description of the location and kind of plant materials that can be observed along the route, and existing and proposed recreational facilities along the Drive or within a short distance thereof.

The photographs shown on Plate 2 illustrate far more adequately than words the desert country through which this route traverses.

History of the Scenic Drive

The Desert Foothills Scenic Drive was established as a result of close cooperation between the Cave Creek Improvement Association, various individuals, and governmental agencies. Study leading to the subsequent designation and establishment of this Drive date back to April 8, 1963, when the Cave Creek Improvement Association addressed a letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting that the County Planning and Zoning Department prepare a study of Cave Creek Road from the village limits to the 11 mile cattle guard, which is four miles north of Bell Road, and Scottsdale Road from the community of Carefree to Currys Corner, which is at Pinnacle Peak Road, as shown on Plate 1.

The Cave Creek Improvement Association requested that the study have the following objectives in view: "1) To preserve the natural desert area; 2) To plan for future roadways leading into Cave Creek, Carefree and Tonto Forest in view of their tremendous future growth, and coordinate these roadway plans to be compatible with future State and Federal highways; 3) To prepare a strip map suggesting establishment of minimum setback lines so

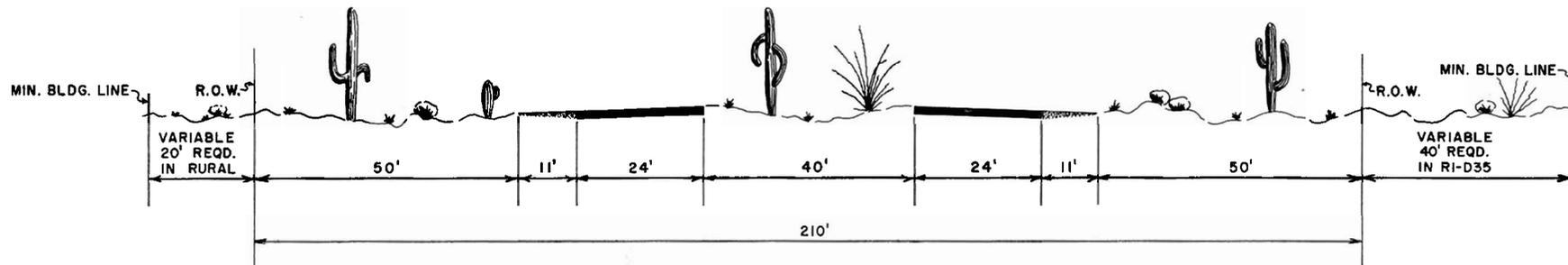


that future condemnation proceedings will not be necessary and that excessive public expense will not be entailed to secure the desired right of way; 4) To cooperate with the State and Federal governments in an effort to halt the sale of their lands along these roads during the time of the study and consider control of part of these lands as roadside parks."

Subsequently, the Maricopa County Planning and Zoning Department made a detailed study of existing conditions and future needs that were the basis of proposals for establishment of new minimum building lines along these roads. Then over a period of several ensuing months conferences were held with Planning and Zoning Commission Members, the State Land Department, Cave Creek Improvement Association, County Highway Department personnel and other individuals. Then the preliminary plans were discussed with the Cave Creek Improvement Association on August 12, 1963, at a meeting in Cave Creek that was attended by some 50 persons. At that meeting the Association concurred with the preliminary plans and adopted the following resolution:

"The Cave Creek Improvement Association requests that the Maricopa County Planning and Zoning Commission proceed with the study and recommendations made to them by the Planning and Zoning Department for the establishment of setback lines adequate to accommodate 210 feet future right of way plus the required building setbacks required under the zoning regulations on (1) Cave Creek Road from the 11 mile cattle guard north to the south boundary of the Village of Cave Creek, and (2) on Scottsdale Road from a point approximately one mile north of Currys Corner north to the south boundary of Carefree."

The aforementioned action was transmitted to the Maricopa County Planning and Zoning Commission in a letter dated September 19, 1963, from the Cave Creek Improvement Association. Subsequently, the Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing upon the proposed minimum building lines on November 7, 1963. Then the proposed minimum building lines were heard and adopted by the Board of Supervisors on December 30, 1963, and made a part thereof of the County Zoning Ordinance.



4-LANE DIVIDED SCENIC RURAL HIGHWAY

SUGGESTED FUTURE TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION

CAVE CREEK ROAD between NW cor., SW1/4, sec. 14, T4N, R3E and sec. 33, T6N, R4E

SCOTTSDALE ROAD between NE cor., sec. 10; T4N, R4E and sec. 3, T5N, R4E.

Building Setbacks Established

The setbacks adopted by the Board of Supervisors along portions of Cave Creek Road and Scottsdale Road on December 30, 1963, are described in the County Zoning Ordinance as follows:

"CAVE CREEK ROAD: One hundred and five (105) feet from the centerline of Cave Creek Road; from the NW corner of the SW 1/4. Section 14, T4N, R3E, to Section 33, T6N, R4E.

"SCOTTSDALE ROAD: One hundred and five (105) feet from the centerline of Scottsdale Road from the NE corner, Section 10, T4N, R4E, to Section 3, T5N, R4E."

The standards used as a basis for determining the aforementioned setbacks are illustrated on Plate 3, "Suggested Future Typical Cross-Section". The proposed cross-section would provide a minimum of 210 feet for right of way width for a four-lane rural divided highway designed to accommodate between 12,000 and 22,000 vehicles per day. The proposed cross-section would provide for a wide landscaped median strip separating opposing traffic lanes. There would be two moving lanes and a distress lane for each roadway. There would be a wide minimum distance between the roadways and the right of way lines.

Minimum building lines for any new construction, which would be back of the proposed right of way line, would be governed by the yard requirements set forth in the County zoning regulations applicable to adjoining properties. Under the proposed typical cross-section, structures on the opposite side of the road would not be closer to each other than 250 feet.

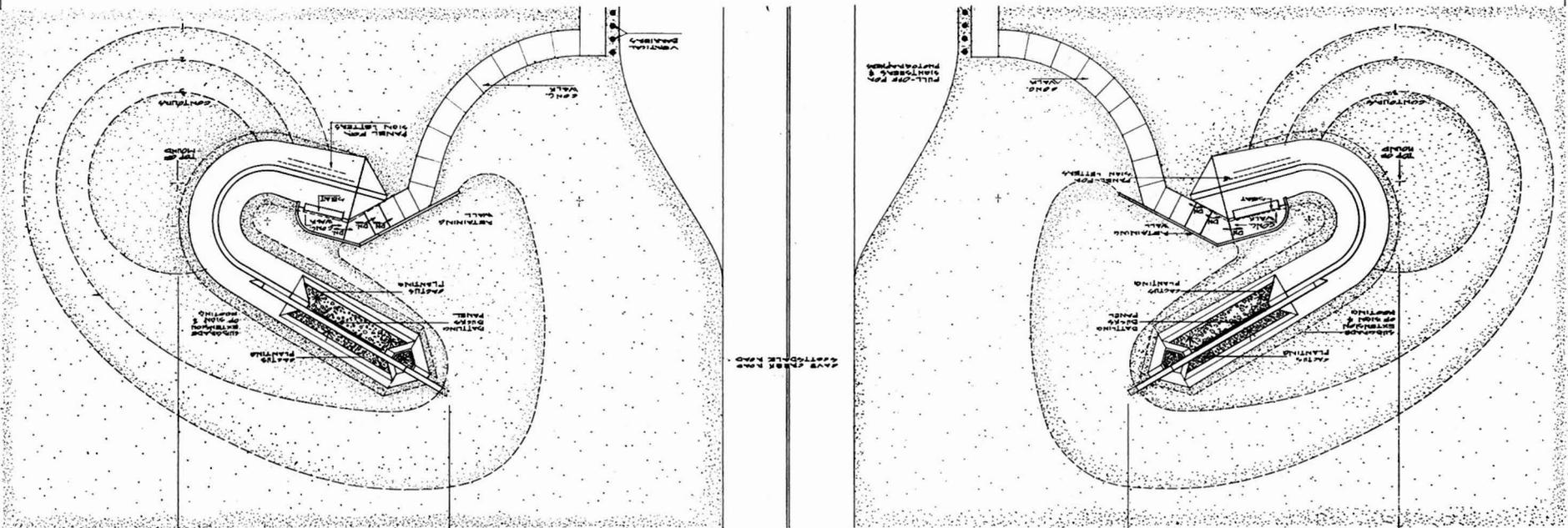
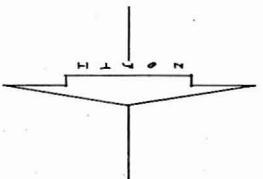
In summary under the adopted regulations new buildings are required to conform to minimum setbacks adopted by the Board of Supervisors on December 2, 1963, and as described under the aforementioned setback requirements.

MARICOPA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
 822 WEST TAMARISK AVE. PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85041
MASTER PLAN
 DESERT FOOTHILLS SCENIC DRIVE
 DEVELOPMENT
 APPROVAL BY: _____ DATE: _____
 DRAWN BY: _____
 CHECKED BY: _____
 REVISION NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION: _____
 P.S.M. 1/28-1/29
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
 PROJECT NO. 1
 SHEET NO. 4

PLATE 4

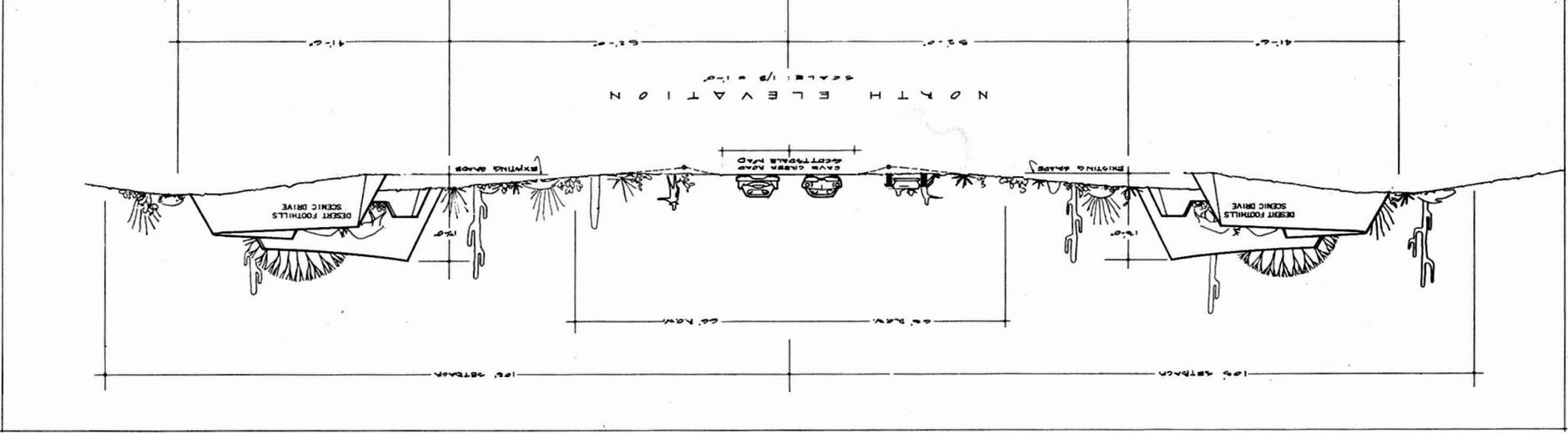
DESIGN OF THE SCENIC DRIVE

PLAN VIEW



NORTH ELEVATION

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



Parks and Recreational Facilities

There are a number of existing or proposed parks and other recreational facilities accessible from the scenic drive or roads connecting therewith. The following is a discussion of these facilities and certain other improvements:

Proposed Entrance Development

Plate 4 is a plan of proposed entrance development to be located on Cave Creek Road and on Scottsdale Road at the general locations shown on Plate 1. This plan was prepared by the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department. These features will provide a distinctive and attractive entrance marking for the route.

Desert Scenic Drive Roadside Park

Two roadside parks are proposed at the general locations shown on Plate 1. One is proposed to be located on Scottsdale Road just north of Pinnacle Peak Road and one is proposed to be located on Cave Creek Road just north of Pinnacle Peak Road. These would be part of the County system of parks.

Tapekim Park

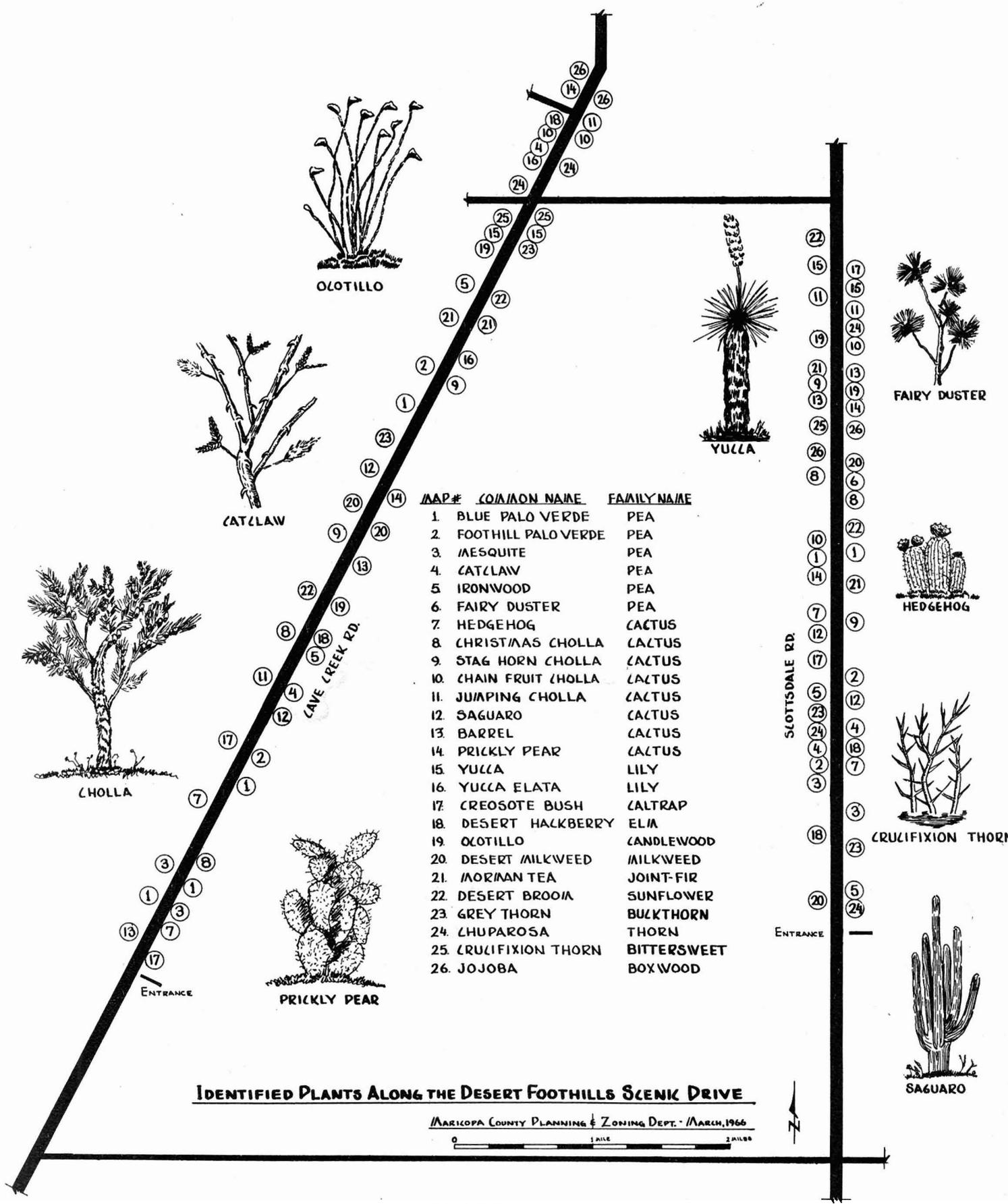
This small privately owned park is located one mile east of Cave Creek Road and north of Pinnacle Peak Road at the general location shown on Plate 1. This small privately owned park provides picnic facilities for which there is a small charge.

Ironwood Golf Course

This is located one mile west of Scottsdale Road and two miles north of Pinnacle Peak Road. This is a private 9-hole golf course which is open to the general public.

Desert Forest Golf Club

The Desert Forest Golf Club is located on Mule Train Road about one fourth of a mile north of Cave Creek Road in Carefree. This is a championship 18 hole private golf club.



MAP #	COMMON NAME	FAMILY NAME
1	BLUE PALO VERDE	PEA
2	FOOTHILL PALO VERDE	PEA
3	MESQUITE	PEA
4	CATCLAW	PEA
5	IRONWOOD	PEA
6	FAIRY DUSTER	PEA
7	HEDGEHOG	CACTUS
8	CHRISTMAS CHOLLA	CACTUS
9	STAG HORN CHOLLA	CACTUS
10	CHAIN FRUIT CHOLLA	CACTUS
11	JUMPING CHOLLA	CACTUS
12	SAGUARO	CACTUS
13	BARREL	CACTUS
14	PRICKLY PEAR	CACTUS
15	YUCCA	LILY
16	YUCCA ELATA	LILY
17	CREOSOTE BUSH	ALTRAP
18	DESERT HACKBERRY	ELM
19	OCOTILLO	CANDLEWOOD
20	DESERT MILKWEED	MILKWEED
21	NORMAN TEA	JOINT-FIR
22	DESERT BROOM	SUNFLOWER
23	GREY THORN	BULKTHORN
24	CHUPAROSA	THORN
25	CRUCIFIXION THORN	BITTERSWEET
26	JOJOBA	BOXWOOD

IDENTIFIED PLANTS ALONG THE DESERT FOOTHILLS SCENIC DRIVE

MARICOPA COUNTY PLANNING & ZONING DEPT. - MARCH, 1966
 0 1 MILE 2 MILES

Cave Creek Regional Park

The Cave Creek Regional Park contains 2,592 acres. This is a large undeveloped county park located two miles west of Cave Creek Road accessible from a road that connects with New River Road as shown on Plate 1.

Tonto National Forest

The Scenic Drive provides direct access to Bartlett Lake, Horseshoe Lake and Recreational Area and Seven Springs Recreational Area in the Tonto National Forest by continuing along Cave Creek Road east of Carefree.

Plant Materials Located Along the Scenic Drive

Plate 5 shows the location and kind of desert plant materials that may be found along the desert drive. These may be readily located if one drives along the route as attractive identification signs have been installed by members of the Cave Creek Association and other interested citizens in the Cave Creek Area. Although all are not shown on the attached drawing nor are they identified on the ground, altogether some 50 distinct trees and shrubs representing 20 plant families, can be found along the drive. These include the towering Saguaro which can reach an age of 400 years and a height of 50 feet, the willowy and yellow blooming blue Palo Verde, the Spiny Red Blooming Ocotillo, disarmingly attractive "Teddy Bear" Cholla and dagger like Yucca.

The Appendix contains detailed listings of the various plant materials that can be found along the drive.

In summary in addition to the natural desert scenery the Desert Foothill Scenic Drive provides access to a number of existing or proposed park and recreational facilities which will become increasingly important with increasing population growth in the valley area. The designation of this route as a scenic drive and the establishment of minimum building lines thereon will help to protect its scenic beauty and prevent improvements within the area that will ultimately need to be acquired for future right of way.

APPENDIX

PLANT MATERIALS THAT CAN BE FOUND IN THE VICINITY OF THE DESERT FOOTHILLS DRIVE

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Botanical Name</u>	<u>Plant Family</u>
Mormon Tea	Ephedra Nevadanensis	Joint-Fir
Mexican Tea	Ephedra Trifurca	Joint-Fir
Blue Yucca	Yucca Baccata	Lily
Soap Tree Yucca	Yucca Elata	Lily
Arizona Black Walnut	Juqlans Rupestris	Walnut
Desert Hackberry	Celtis Pallida	Elm
Western Hackberry	Celtis Reticulata	Elm
Sagebrush	Antriplex Polycarpa	Goosefoot
Red Barberry	Berberis Haematocarpa	Barberry
Arizona Sycamore	Platanus Wrightii	Sycamore
Crossosoma	Crossosoma Bigelovii	Crossosoma
White Thorn Mescal	Acacia Constricta	Pea
Cat Claw	Acacia Greggii	Pea
Fairy Duster	Calliandra Eriophylla	Pea
Blue Palo Verde	Cercidium Floridum	Pea
Foothill Palo Verde	Cercidium Microphyllum	Pea
White Ratany	Krameria Grayi	Pea
Ratany	Krameria Parvifolia	Pea
Desert Ironwood	Olneya Tesota	Pea
Velvet Mesquite	Prosopis Juliflora	Pea

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Botanical Name</u>	<u>Plant Family</u>
Creosote Buch	Larrea Tridentata	Caltrop
Turpentine Bloom	Thamnosma Montana	Rue
Crucifixion Thorn	Canotia Holocantha	Bittersweet
Jojoba	Simmondsia Chinensis	Boxwood
Menodora	Menodora Scabra	Olive
Pale Lycium	Lycium Pallidum	Potato
Bush Pentstemon	Pentstemon Microphyllus	Figwort
Western Desert Willow	Chilopsis Linearis	Bignonia
Desert Honeysuckle	Anisacanthus Thurberi	Thorn
Goldenhead	Acamptopappus Sphaerocephalus	Sunflower
Snakeweed	Gutierrezia Lucida	Sunflower
Turpentine Bush	Aplopappus Laricifolius	Sunflower
Desert-Broom	Baccharis Sarothroides	Sunflower
Thread Leaf Groundsel	Senecio Longilobus	Sunflower
Chill Weed	Baccharis Pteronoides	Sunflower
Brittle Bush	Encelia Farinosa	Sunflower
Bur Sage	Franseria Deltoides	Sunflower
Burro Bush	Hymenoclea Monogyra	Sunflower

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Botanical Name</u>	<u>Plant Family</u>
Desert Prickly Pear	Opuntia Engelmannii	Cactus
Silver Dollar Cactus	Opuntia Chlorotica	Cactus
Buckhorn Cholla	Opuntia Acanthocarpa	Cactus
Teddy Bear Cholla	Opuntia Bigelovii	Cactus
Smooth Chain Fruit Cholla	Opuntia Fulgida	Cactus
Desert Christmas Cactus	Opuntia Leptocaulis	Cactus
High Region Cholla	Opuntia Whipplei	Cactus
Bush Cholla	Opuntia Arbuscula	Cactus
Sweet Potato Cactus	Peniocereus Greggii	Cactus
Saguaro	Carnegiea Gigantea	Cactus
Strawberry Hedgehog	Echinocereus Englemannii	Cactus
Candy Barrel Cactus	Ferocactus Wizlizeni	Cactus
Beehive Cactus	Coryphantha Arizonica	Cactus
Ocotillo	Fouguieria Splendens	Candlewood