

# California Trip #127

Palomar Observatory for many years was the largest in the world. It still operates every night the sky is clear. It is operated by Cal Tech.





The observatory was finished in 1948. The telescope was once the largest in the world – 200 inches. Made by Corning in New York. Now there are a couple that are larger in Russia and Hawaii.

Of course the optics are now supplemented by computers and digital sensors. It keeps the observatory functioning even though ambient light from San Diego and Orange county make things difficult.



There are two other telescopes on the mountain which is about 5,500 feet high. They are off limits because they are in use. There are a lot of good websites that discuss the politics and mechanics of all this. There are twice as many astronomers who want to use as there is available time.

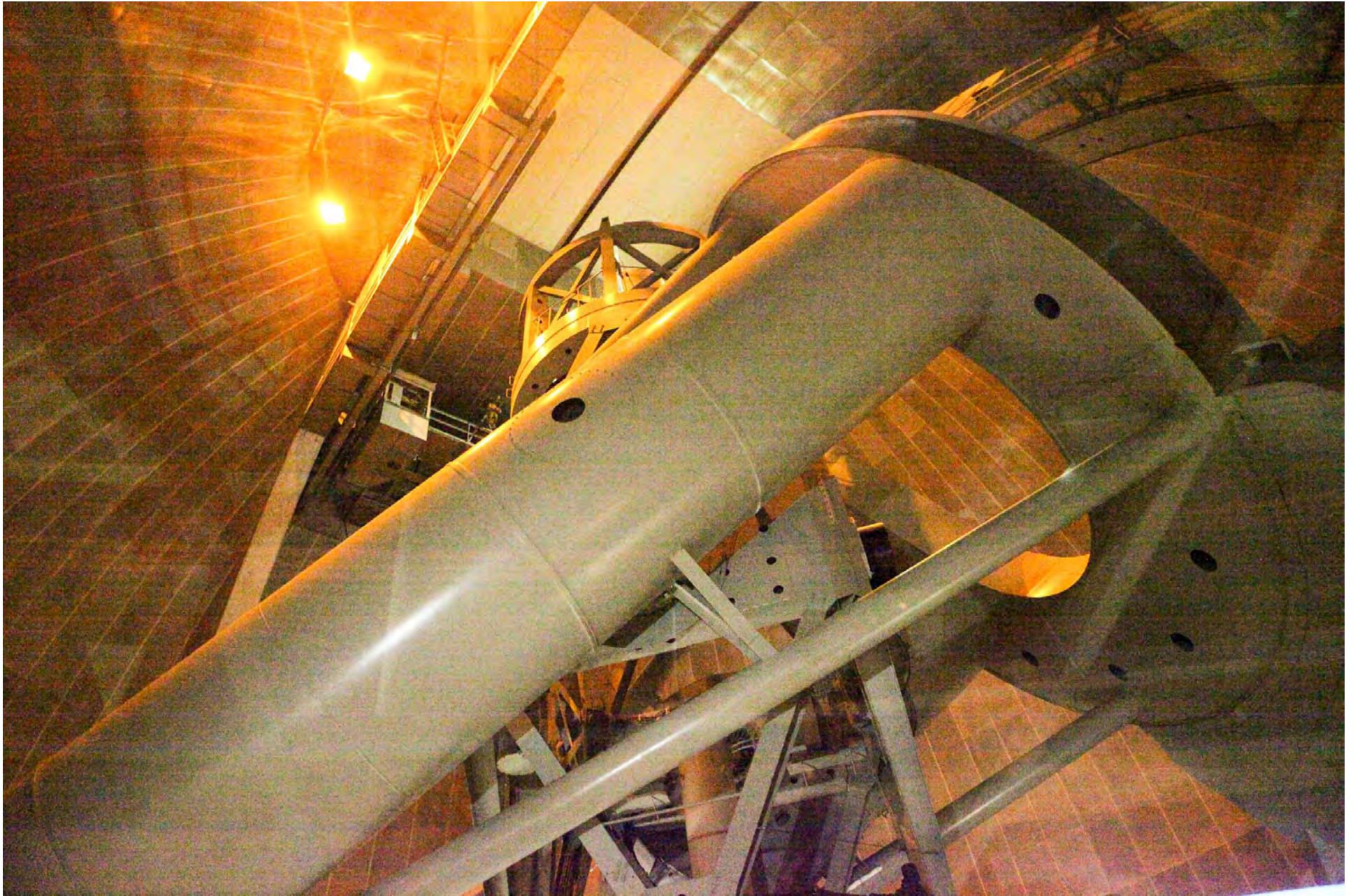


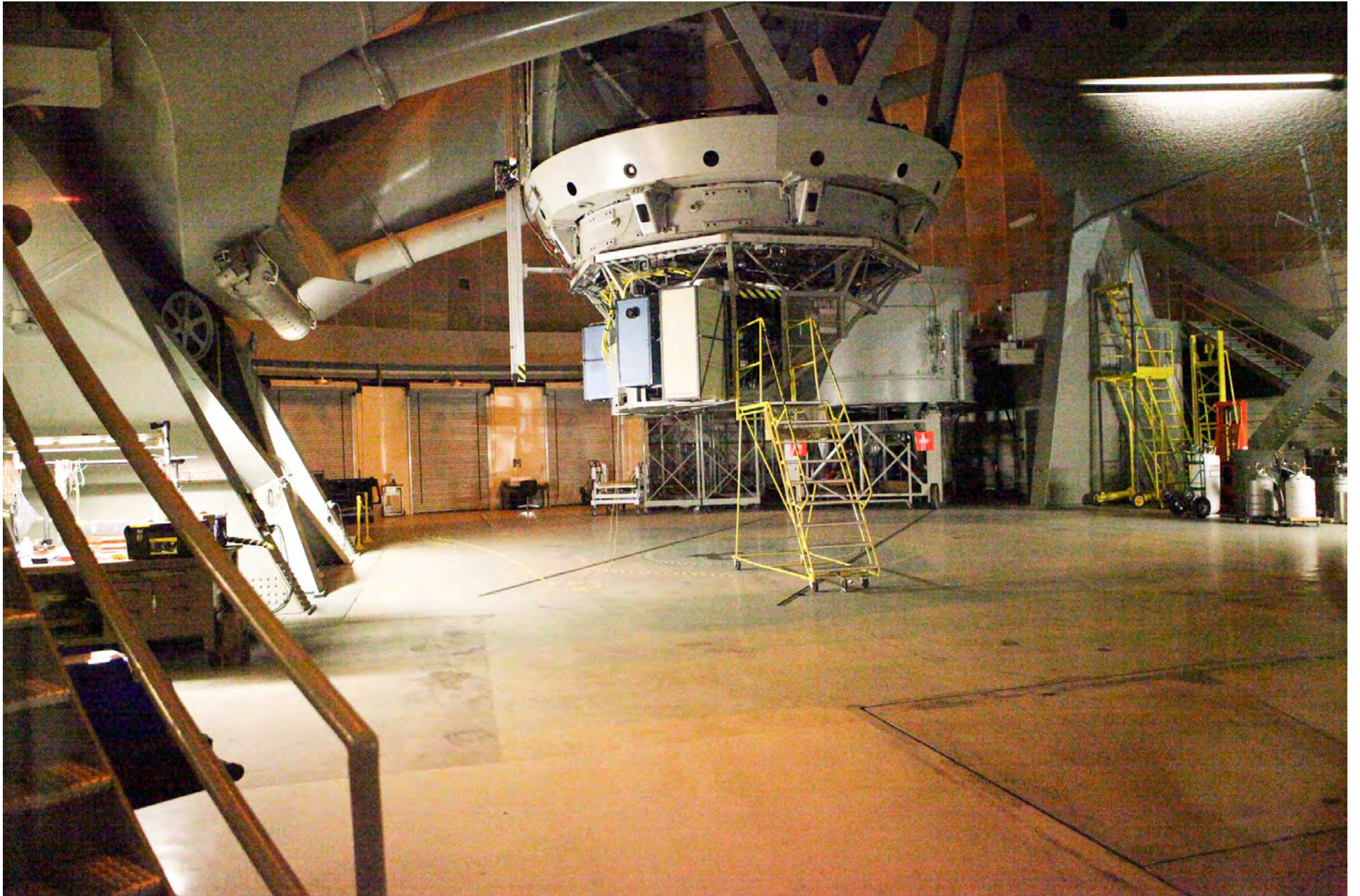
George Ellery Hale created the observatory. He also created the Mt. Wilson Observatory. He died in 1938. He had a profound effect on astronomy, creating observatories, making discoveries, encouraging astronomers. He was also a bit strange. He believed in elves!





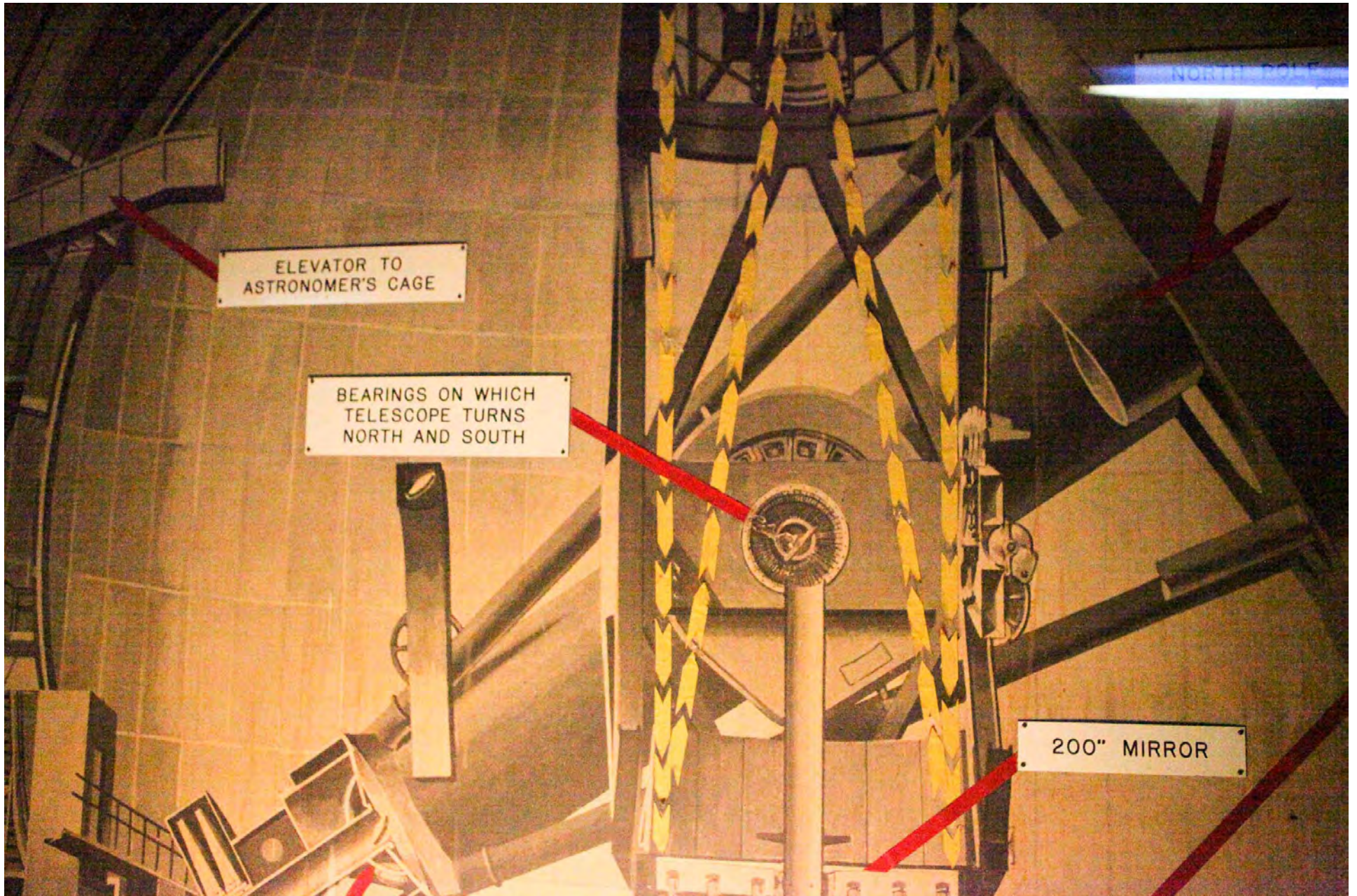
My wife and I are still trying to figure out just how this thing works. It is big. It is also cold. Took a little searching to find out why it is so cold – and dark. Lighting it will heat it up and it must be kept cold to eliminate the blurring caused by heated air.







Diagrams try to explain things.



There is a state park at the top of Palomar and a little village. People live here. The little soap company gets good reviews on Yelp.





UNITED STATES POST OFFICE  
PALOMAR MOUNTAIN, CA 92060

NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES

POSTAGE  
BY  
ACCESSIBLE

NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES



# MOTHER'S KITCHEN RESTAURANT

Gourmet Coffee

Entrees & Desserts

33120

NO  
OVERNIGHT  
PARKING  
EXCEPT FOR  
CITY OF CALIFORNIA  
EMERGENCY SERVICES

NO  
DIRT  
PARKING  
EXCEPT FOR  
CITY OF CALIFORNIA  
EMERGENCY SERVICES

OPEN

6PGG480

3THC1



# PALOMAR MTN. GENERAL STORE

Automobiles  
Gems & Jewelry  
Unique Gifts  
Groceries

Soups

RESERVED  
PARKING  
STREET SIDE PARKING  
NEVER VIOLATED

Lake Henley. A reservoir for the coastal towns. It is at the head of the San Luis Rey River which is at the end of the Valley. The river is 69 miles long.



Looking down from (Highway S7) Palomar toward the coast.

