



LAYERS...

OF ROCK...

The Cerrillos Hills are the skeletons of volcanoes formed 30 million years ago. Orange-brown rock indicate areas where lava mixed with water, depositing silver, lead and iron that miners would pry from the ground millions of years later.

OF TIME...

About 1100 years ago, Native Americans were mining lead to make a distinctive pottery glaze, as well as turquoise north of the park. Spanish explorers and colonists, lured by tales of silver, mined the hills for over two hundred years. In the late 19th century, thousands of prospectors broke their hearts and backs working on claims that rarely delivered the hoped-for fortune. Stricter mining laws put an end to the short-lived mining boom in 1884.



OF LIFE...

Most of the evergreen shrubs dotting the hills are one-seed junipers. Here and there are a few pinons, survivors of a devastating bark beetle outbreak in 2002-2004. The park's rocky dry soils host a remarkable diversity of plants including some 24 species of native grasses and a variety of wildflowers accent the hills in the spring and fall. Natural seep springs in drainages provide a respite to thirsty birds, bobcats, cougars, fox and coyotes.



Photo courtesy of Patrick Mohn

GENERAL INFORMATION

HOURS:

Open sunrise to sunset year-round for hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding and picnicking.



Trails: Five miles of trails offer scenic views of Northern New Mexico. Mine shafts are safeguarded and signed with interpretive information. Elevations range from 5,800 - 6,100 feet.

OFFICE:

37 Main Street. Entrance to the office is in the rear off Railroad Avenue, just south and west of the railroad crossing. The back gate is signed. Our phone number is 505.474.0196.

FEES:

- The daily entrance fee is \$5 per vehicle. Cash or checks accepted. Use the self-pay envelopes to deposit your fee.
- Annual New Mexico State Parks passes provide day-use entrance for all 35 state parks one year from the month of purchase. They cost \$40 and are available from any park ranger.



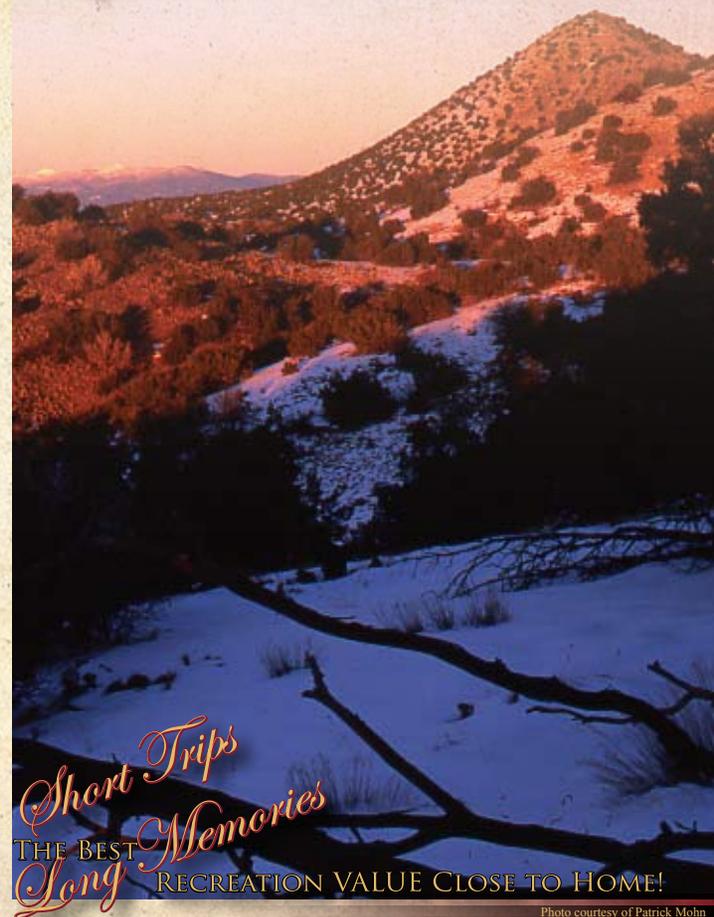
PLEASE -

- Keep pets leashed.
- Stay on the trail
- Pack litter out.
- Respect private property boundaries. Do not trespass.
- Yield to horseback riders by stepping off the trail on the downhill side, making sure you are visible to them.



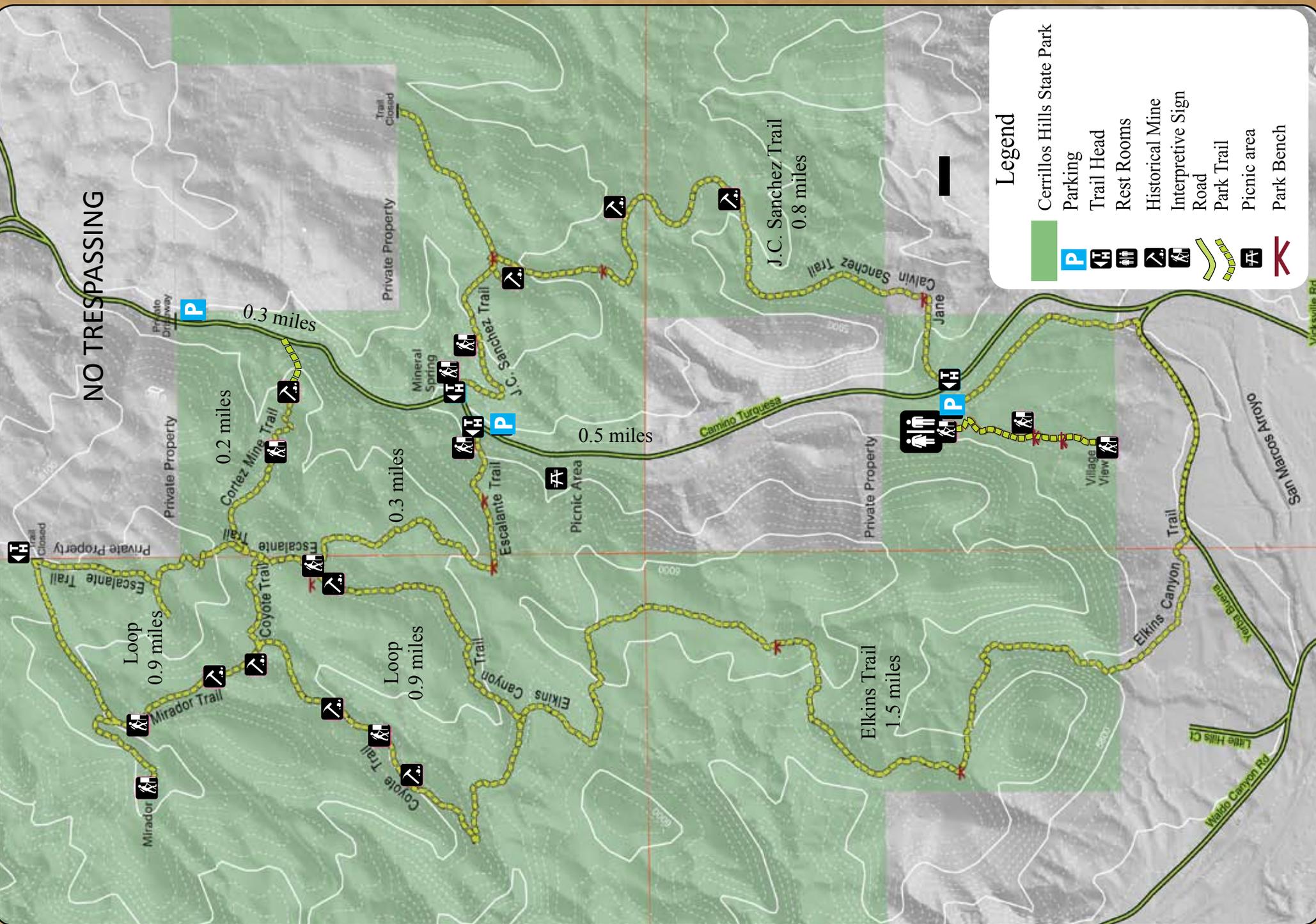
CERRILLOS HILLS STATE PARK

37 Main Street • PO Box 460
Cerrillos, NM 87010
505.474.0196



Short Trips
Long Memories
THE BEST RECREATION VALUE CLOSE TO HOME!
Photo courtesy of Patrick Mohn

NO TRESPASSING



Legend

- Cerrillos Hills State Park
- Parking
- Trail Head
- Rest Rooms
- Historical Mine
- Interpretive Sign
- Road
- Park Trail
- Picnic area
- Park Bench