

NATURAL HABITATS

THE JOURNAL OF RESEARCH ON THE LEPIDOPTERA is starting a continuous series of illustrations of natural habitats. This series will include general as well as specific illustrations of habitats, ecological niches, of food plants of LEPIDOPTERA.

The purpose of this series is to show from an ecological standpoint the type of habitat or niche in which a particular species or race is to be found; in addition, the purpose is to record these for historical purposes. Many habitats are being destroyed yearly by the encroaching "civilization". For example, most of the habitat for Glaucopschye xerxes and Plebejus icariodes pheres-missionensis has been destroyed in the area of San Francisco and these are now most likely extinct races or species. The largest part of the popular collecting locality at the mouth of the San Gabriel River canyon near Azusa, California has just this year been almost completely obliterated. The illustrations which follow show the small remaining portion of that once extensive area.

LEPIDOPTERISTS, whether members of the FOUNDATION or not, are urged to submit photographs of habitats for inclusion in this series. Each should be accompanied by a short description of the locale, the name of the species or race concerned and if possible an illustration of and the name of the food plant. Each submission will be acknowledged.

WILLIAM HOVANITZ

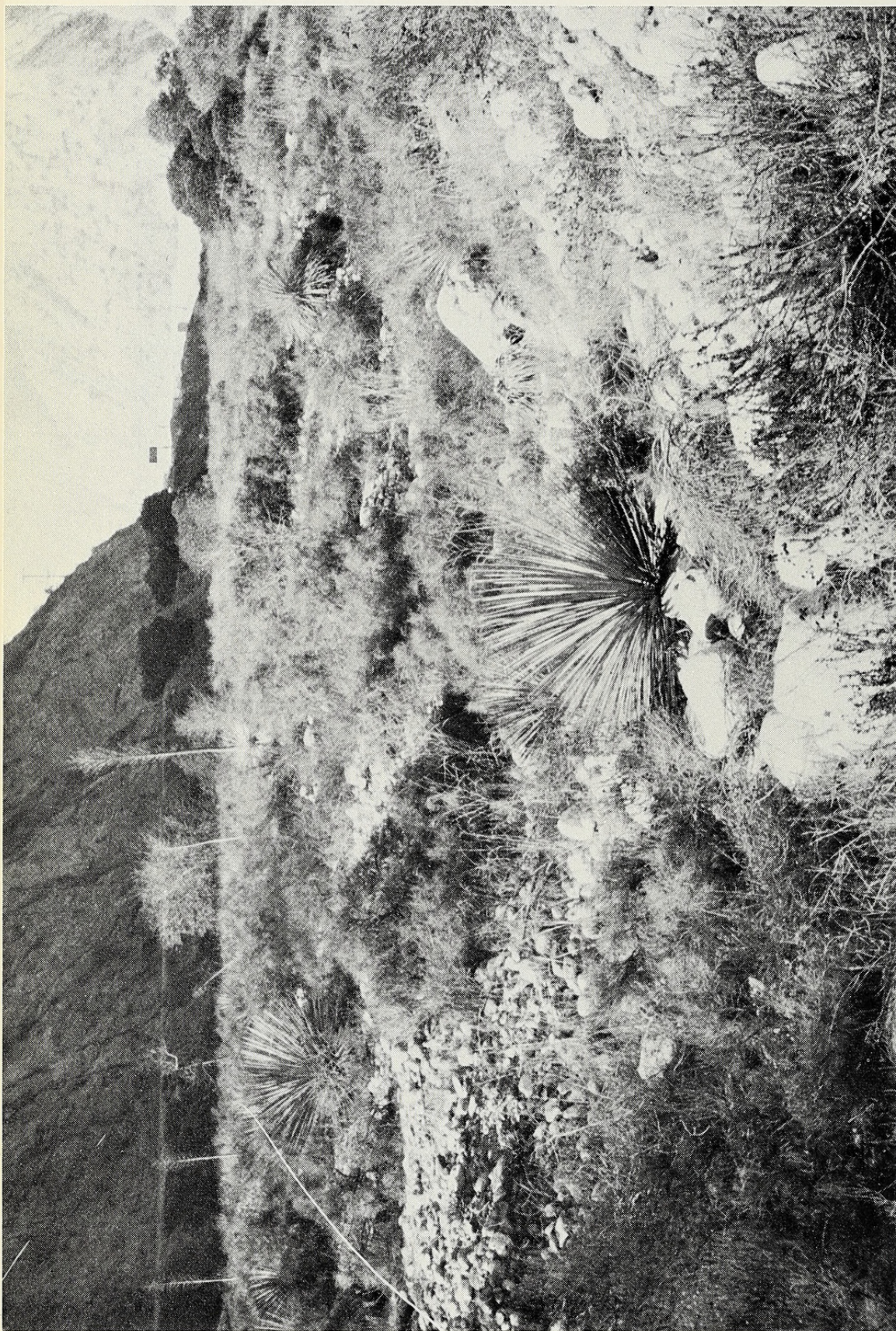


Fig. 1. Habitat at the mouth of the San Gabriel River canyon just north of Azusa, California looking southwest. The area in the immediate foreground is the location where the next two photos were taken. Under the bushes shown grow the food-plant (Dudleya lanceolata) also known as Rock Lettuce or Desert Savior, a member of the

J. Res. Lepid. 1(4): 237- 244, 1963). In the distance may be seen a portion of the rock pile that is nearly all that is left of the formerly much wider range of the species at this location.



Fig. 2. Dudleya lanceolata, shown by arrow, as exposed by pushing the brush away.



Hovanitz, William. 1967. "Natural habitats." *The Journal of Research on the Lepidoptera* 6(3), 199–202. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.266948>.

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