

Volume 23 Number 2

December 2001

# CALIFORNIAN

THE

Magazine of the California History  
Center Foundation/De Anza College—  
A Foundation Supporting the Study  
and Preservation of State and  
Regional History



**Milestones:**  
**A History of Mountain View, California**

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT

## The There, There



Tom Izu

It is hard for me to chase Gertrude Stein's famous quote, "there is no there there," in reference to her childhood hometown of Oakland, from my thoughts whenever I think of "Silicon Valley." Taken from her 1937 work, *Everybody's Autobiography*, her quote is often misconstrued as a put-down of Oakland, but when left in context it is clearly more of a statement of how a change in one's personal identity in turn changes the nature of place and time.

Stein's words make sense of my own childhood recollections of this place now called "Silicon Valley." I grew up during a time in the valley when developers were clearing the land of orchards. In fact, one of my earliest recollections is of accompanying my father to saw up some cherry tree stumps left as "free firewood" for those industrious enough to take up the task of cutting and hauling. Once the stumps were gone, I remember the rapid growth for miles and miles around of suburban tract homes and shopping centers quickly built to house and supply the military-aerospace industrial boom of the valley. When I returned from college many years later, the "there" of my childhood was no longer. There was no there as far as I could tell; no clear definition of a place with borders and a definable history—just a lot of conflicting stories. If there is a place lacking a "there," it was definitely here. The good and bad of my remembered childhood had disappeared and had been replaced among my neighbors with either a nostalgia for the agricultural days of bountiful orchards, fields and small towns, or a present-focused technological rush built upon a wonderland filled with renaissance-type electronic geniuses. None of this matched what I remembered and what I had now become.

At first, I tried to separate myself from all of this, ignoring some stories, disagreeing with others, especially those that left out my newly understood and appreciated ethnic identity. What was really here before and what was it really like, and what value system did it all really represent? I had no clear opinions but arrogantly thought everyone else was wrong. What changed my mind were the young people I met over the following years who had a totally different view of what this place was. Their perceptions lumped *me* together with everyone else in an alternative "there" they felt no longer existed or never had existed.

This conflict gets at the heart of an issue I think is key to heritage and local history organizations such as the California History Center Foundation. All of us may have differing

views on the history of a particular place. We may have stood on the same ground and have been at the same place at the same time (give or take a few years) as others, and have retained totally different perspectives on what happened there and what it really meant. We create a heritage that emphasizes what we value of the past we remember. This potential for conflict creates a rough terrain, difficult to negotiate for organizations such as ours. We deal with history and heritage, the personal and the civic. And somehow we must also promote mutual understanding and the value of knowledge in order to aid an incredibly diverse population that exists here and in our state overall.

I believe the center can do this because it represents such a unique collaboration between a community-based heritage organization and a public community college. The former brings personal stories, traditions, and the surrounding communities' values to the table, while the latter brings academic scholarship and most importantly, an insistence on democratic principles, into the discussion and execution. To loosely paraphrase our college district's chancellor, Leo Chavez, community colleges are one of the most important democratic institutions in our nation today because they promote higher education as a civic activity for all people.

It is my fondest hope that our center can be at the forefront of promoting a new civic awareness and appreciation of history, place and the importance of democratic discussion. I would like to make the center a place that can bring us all together whether we are newly arrived immigrants from lands far away or from families that have lived in the valley for many generations. And regardless of how old or how young we may be our stories and sense of place—even if they conflict and even if we disagree—can give us the raw material to forge a common heritage that promotes respect and understanding.



In this issue of **The Californian**, you will find a chapter from Mary Jo Ignoffo's soon-to-be released book, *Milestones: A History of Mountain View, California*, to be published by CHCF in conjunction with the Mountain View Historical Association. Mary Jo's book is an important contribution to local history and we are proud to have served as its publisher. Her work definitely gives a "there" to a place!

—Tom Izu, Director

**COVER:** Whelan's blacksmith shop in old Mountain View—see story on page 5. Photo courtesy of Mountain View History Center, Mountain View Public Library.

# CALENDAR

<b>Dec. 4</b>	<b>CHC holiday open house, 2-4 p.m.</b>	<b>Feb. 10</b>	<b>Arts of the Bay Field Trip.</b>
<b>Dec. 17- Jan. 6</b>	<b>CHC closed for the holidays</b>	<b>Feb. 15</b>	<b>Lincoln's Birthday observed. CHC closed</b>
<b>Jan. 7</b>	<b>CHC reopens. First day of Winter Quarter</b>	<b>Feb. 18</b>	<b>Washington's Birthday observed. CHC closed</b>
<b>Jan. 21</b>	<b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Observed. CHC closed</b>	<b>March 9</b>	<b>The John Steinbeck Era in Salinas and Monterey Field Trip</b>
<b>Jan. 26</b>	<b>Preservation and Politics in Marin County Field Trip</b>	<b>March 10</b>	<b>Arts of the Bay Field Trip</b>
<b>Jan. 30</b>	<b>Arts of the Bay Field Trip</b>	<b>March 16</b>	<b>California's Utopian Colonies Field Trip</b>
<b>Feb. 2</b>	<b>Arts of the Bay Field Trip</b>	<b>March 23</b>	<b>The John Steinbeck Era in Salinas and Monterey Field Trip</b>
<b>Feb. 9</b>	<b>Preservation and Politics in Marin County Field Trip</b>	<b>March 29</b>	<b>Winter Quarter ends</b>

*Coming Up—Mark Your Calendar*

## Exhibits to Focus on African American Memorabilia and Social Justice Movements

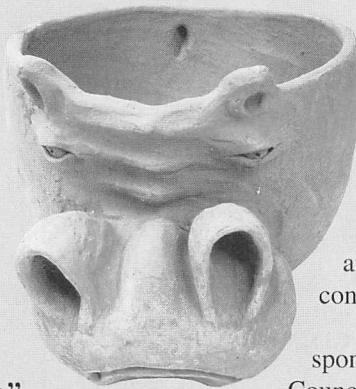
The beginning of 2002 will bring two exciting exhibits to the California History Center.

The first, titled **"A Window for Viewing Arts, Crafts, and Memorabilia Within the African American and African Diaspora,"** will be presented in February in conjunction with Black History Month at De Anza College.

The other exhibit, scheduled for April 15-June 10, is titled **"The Whole World's Watching: Images of California's Social Justice Movements of the 1960s and 1970s."**

The African American Art Exhibit, coordinated by CHCF trustee Cozetta Guinn, will focus on visual images and items of pottery, basketry, quilting, blacksmithing, shoemaking, farming, photography, musical instruments, and other domestic or utilitarian objects. She said the exhibit will present form and content relating the artifacts to the complex cultural context from which they sprang.

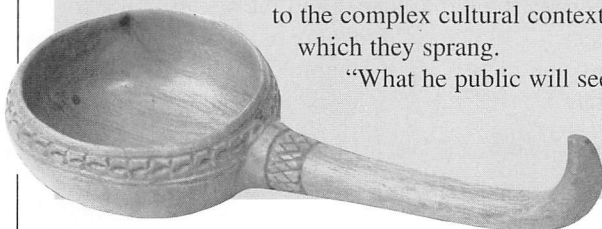
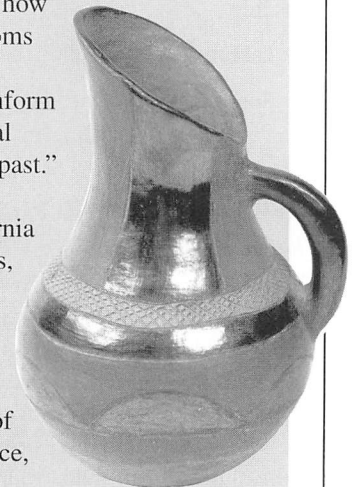
"What he public will see," Guinn



said, "is a diversity of experiences, some of which are shared by many, while others are entirely personal. One commonality is that each item within the exhibit shows how tradition and customs have passed along values to educate, inform and keep an individual connected to his or her past."

The other exhibit, sponsored by the California Council for the Humanities, will examine activism and social protest, and explore how these movements redefined our own history.

Although popular impressions of the 60s and 70s focus on adolescence, drugs, permissiveness and riots, the period actually began a profound time of social change for minorities, women and environmental activism. This was particularly true in California and the Bay Area, which came to symbolize the cultural "revolt" for 60s America.



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# EDUCATION

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## State and Regional History

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The following courses will be offered Winter Quarter through the California History Center. Please see the California History Center class listings section of the De Anza College Winter Schedule of Classes for detailed information. For additional course information, call the center at (408) 864-8712. And don't forget, as a benefit of being a history center member, you can register for history center classes (CHC classes only, not other De Anza classes) at the Trianon building.

### THE ARTS IN THE BAY AREA

*Betty Hirsch*

The most action-packed melodrama, the most preposterous opera plot, the farthest-fetched tall tale—none of these could achieve the theatricality of life in San Francisco during the Gold Rush years—the feverish rush, the perpetual carnival atmosphere of an instant boomtown. This course will look at the Bay Area arts scene from the Gold Rush on, and includes attendance at two live performances: a Theaterworks play, "Old Money" (a time-traveling dramatic comedy by award-winning playwright Wendy Wasserstein), and Pocket Opera's sparkling Mozart comic opera "The Abduction From Seraglio" or "Yanked From a Harem." There also will be tours of Theaterworks' backstage/scene shop and the San Francisco Performing Arts Library and Museum.

**Lectures:** Thursdays, Jan. 10, and March 7

**Field trips:** Wednesday, Jan. 30; Saturday, Feb. 2;  
Sunday, Feb. 10; Sunday, March 10

### PRESERVATION AND POLITICS IN MARIN COUNTY

*Chatham Forbes*

Though less than a mile across the Golden Gate from San Francisco, Marin County is politically, economically, and demographically different from its metropolitan neighbor. The separation between Marin and nearby communities has historically been more than physical, as exemplified by the locally originated environmental process that has protected large areas of the county from industrial and residential development. Though not always entirely successful, this grassroots movement has provided a model for environmental protection at the county level. The political process will be described in the classroom; the protected areas will be experienced in the field.

**Lectures:** Thursdays, Jan. 17 and 31

**Field trips:** Saturdays, Jan. 26 and Feb. 9



*John Steinbeck*

### THE JOHN STEINBECK ERA IN SALINAS AND MONTEREY

*Chatham Forbes*

John Steinbeck earned both Nobel and Pulitzer prizes by describing with authenticity and power the lifestyles and conditions of the people he observed in depression-era California. Reared in Salinas, he lived also on the Monterey Peninsula during those difficult times, and left a penetrating historical record in a succession of largely fictional works. The class will hear classroom and on-site lectures and will visit scenes of Steinbeck's life and fiction in Salinas and on the Monterey Peninsula.

**Lectures:** Thursdays, Feb. 28 and March 21

**Field trips:** Saturdays, March 9 and 23

### CALIFORNIA'S UTOPIAN COLONIES

*Betty Hirsch*

The people who founded and lived in California's utopian colonies dreamed of creating an ideal state, of righting the wrongs of society, or of escaping the competition of modern life. California during the last 150 years contributed more colonies than any other American state. Although varied in background—religious, secular, cooperative, socialistic, theosophical—they all tested new patterns of living and envisioned a resplendent, reformed mankind gathered in the ideal society. They gave their colonies names such as Icaria, Speranza, Alturia, Fountain Grove, Holy City and Kaweah. Their stories throw light on a great ideological issue—the conflict between the individualist and the socialist way of life. The class will visit the remnants of a San Francisco Bay Area colony and view a photographic exhibit of colonies all over the state.

**Lecture:** Thursday, March 14

**Field trip:** Saturday, March 16

## Milestones: A History of Mountain View, California by Mary Jo Ignoffo

*The following is excerpted from Milestones: A History of Mountain View, California—a book by Mary Jo Ignoffo to be available next spring in honor of the centennial of Mountain View’s incorporation on November 7, 2002. The work was commissioned by the Mountain View Historical Association and funded by a donation to that organization by John Arrillaga and Richard Peery. The book, to be published by the California History Center as volume 39 in its Local History Series, will be offered as a premium to center members at the \$50 level in 2002. The following excerpt is taken from Mountain View’s early history.*

Two parallel roads ran through Mariano Castro’s land linking San José and Yerba Buena (San Francisco). The *Camino Antiquo Verano* (literally the old summer road but usually called the Lower San Francisco Road) was the more direct route, which ran very near today’s Bayshore Freeway, Highway 101. During the rainy weather, though, this road would often be an impassable, muddy bog. The alternate route, the Upper San Francisco Road or *El Camino Real* (today’s road of the same name) became the path of choice because it was dry most of the year. A logical resting-place on the road between Yerba Buena and San José was where El Camino came to Stevens Creek. It is no wonder that a stagecoach stop grew up there.

Early on, the Lower San Francisco Road was more heavily travelled. California’s first wayside inn, Fremont House, was established on the lower road in 1847 by George and Sarah Harlan. The Harlans built a “little clapboard redwood house” and christened it Fremont House, in honor of the enormously popular explorer and topographer Captain John C. Frémont. When Fremont Township was created in 1851 out of a northwest portion of Santa Clara County including the Mountain View area, it was named for Frémont as well. In 1848, a gold hungry George Harlan



*Members of the Castro family on the front porch of the family home built about 1850.*

### About the Author

Mary Jo Ignoffo, author of the upcoming book *Milestones: A History of Mountain View, California*, holds a bachelor’s degree from Santa Clara University and a master’s degree in history from San Jose State University. The vice president of the board of trustees of the California History Center Foundation, she has been curator for historical exhibits, edited historical publications, and written articles and local history books. One of her latest books is *Gold Rush Politics: California’s First Legislature* (2000)—a colorful yet realistic depiction of the beginning of American government in California.



left his wife at home and set out to try his hand at gold mining.

The next year the Harlans sold Fremont House to James Lynn, whose son-in-law, Washington Moody, operated the inn. Then Cyrus Saunders, an innkeeper, farmer, justice of the peace, and county supervisor took over the management of Fremont House, leasing the land from Castro. Saunders built there and generally improved the site, but within two years, he defaulted and filed bankruptcy. The district court of Santa Clara County rendered a judgment against Saunders, ordering him to pay Mariano Castro almost \$700. At this time, title passed from Castro to his daughter, María Josefa, and her husband, Peter Davidson. They sold to John Sullivan, and for the entire second half of the twentieth century, the Fremont House was occupied by a Sullivan descendent, Mrs. Mary Murphy O’Connell.<sup>2</sup>

Not long after the Harlans opened Fremont House, forty-year-old John W. Whisman<sup>3</sup> and his wife, Margaret, opened Willigrove Inn on the southwest corner of Inigo’s land. They had come overland in 1846 with four children from Missouri. Whisman staked out the land with a ditch that extended around three sides of the property. “Whisman’s ditch” became a landmark for surveyors and appears on hundreds of property deeds through the 1850s. The Whismans harvested grain, raised livestock, and operated Willigrove Inn, which was likely named for the nearby willow groves.

While Fremont House practically fronted the south side of Lower San Francisco Road, Whisman’s was to the north, set back about a half mile. When Harlan contracted “gold fever,” the Whismans gained the lion’s share of road-weary customers. By 1848, Whisman’s was the most popular inn between San

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Francisco and San José and an 1849 advertisement gives us a glimpse of Willigrove Inn:

The travelling public are respectfully informed that a House of Entertainment has been opened under the above name.... The Table will be well supplied, the Bar amply furnished with choice Wines and Liquors; while the convenience and beauty of the locality—its excellent water and abundant pasturage, render it a desirable stopping place for those visiting the interior. The Inn is situated about forty miles from San Francisco, and twelve miles from the Pueblo de San Jose. J.W. Whisman<sup>4</sup>

Whisman laid out a neat and inviting drive up to his little inn, where the house and two small outbuildings were nestled among the willows. From the front of the house, visitors could see the San Francisco Bay and Mount Diablo beyond; one visitor claimed that on an exceptionally clear day he could see the peaks of the Sierra Nevada in the distance.<sup>5</sup> Behind the house was a thick growth of trees and fields of wild mustard. Today, the site of Whisman's house is marked with a sign, just outside the main gate to Moffett Federal Airfield.

Guests commented on the quality of the fresh butter churned by Margaret Whisman, a commodity not yet readily available in California. An Indian took care of the livery for guests when they arrived at the inn. In the spring of 1850, one traveler described his trip to Whisman's: "Our host is a true Yankee, and his wife and three or four noisy children transported us back to Yankeeland."

Perhaps responding to the requests of travelers at his inn, Whisman started the first stagecoach line in California in 1849 and it ran between San Francisco and San José. Fare between the two towns was two ounces of gold or \$32; the trip took nine hours. In 1849, a driver earned \$300 per month, but he also made money when people paid him to deliver mail. Since there was no official postal service, individual drivers were asked to make deliveries and allowed to pocket the money.

Whisman's stagecoach venture was shortlived. His rig was "an old French omnibus" pulled by poorly treated "mules and mustangs." Not only was his equipment poor, but the fiercely stormy winter of 1849-50 made the road between San Francisco and San José so muddy that the coach "wheels soon sank to the hubs."<sup>6</sup> Worse yet, his driver was stealing from him. By February of 1850, driver Preston K. Woodside was ordered by the district court in San José to pay Whisman and his partner, a Mr. Jarvis, \$676 that he had evidently collected in fares on the stage line. Whisman was represented by attorney James Jones in his suit against Woodside, the same Jones who represented Davidson and Castro.

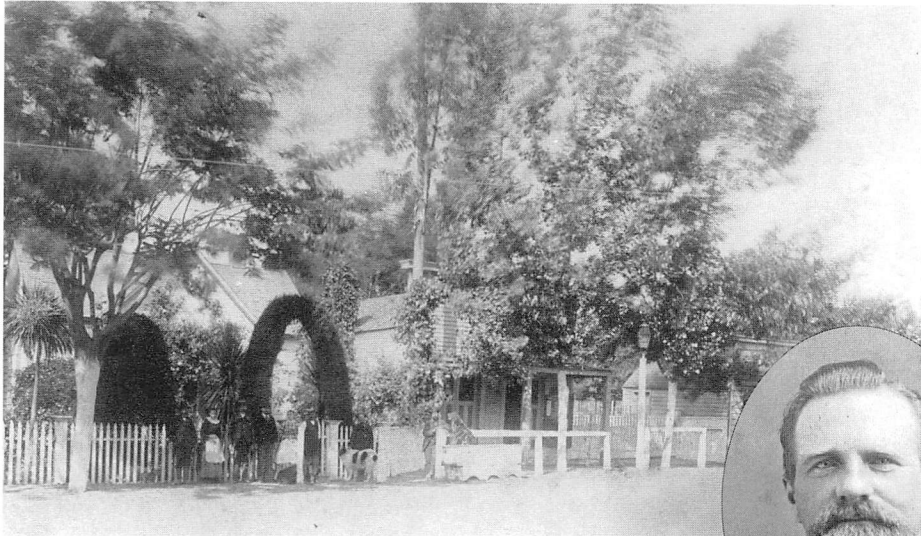
Whisman thought he could keep his business alive by running his stage between Willigrove Inn and the embarcadero at Alviso, but a competing stage line with better equipment and horses beat him out. And even though the court ordered Woodside to pay his debt, Whisman could not salvage the beleaguered stagecoach line. In the fall of 1850, he sold out to his main competitors, Hall & Crandall.

By 1855 Whisman was drowning in debt and several portions of his property were auctioned at Sheriff's sales. He was also ordered to satisfy a \$3,600 debt. Margaret Whisman had died and John promptly remarried. When John appeared to be going bankrupt, his new wife, Mrs. Hannah Whisman, declared herself financially independent of her husband and published a legal notice saying: "I intend to carry on, in my own name and on my own account, the business of farming, and the buying, selling, and raising of stock...." The Whismans, like many couples, were probably trying to protect whatever other property she had owned previously or that she and her new husband owned together from attachment for old debts.<sup>7</sup>

California's first legislature, which convened in San José in 1849-50, established twenty-seven California counties, including Santa Clara County. On September 9, 1850, California was admitted to the Union after over a year of heated and angry debate in the nation's capital. More than a month passed before news of admission reached California shores. When Governor Peter Burnett, California's first American civil governor who happened to be in San Francisco, heard the news, he wanted to deliver it personally to the state capital in San José. He commanded Jared B. Crandall, the proprietor of the Hall & Crandall stage line that had bought out Whisman, to rush him to San José. When another coach driver tried to beat Crandall and Burnett to San José, a race ensued with the two coaches careening down the peninsula at top speed to spread the news of statehood. Burnett's stagecoach won by a tiny margin, and perhaps not so coincidentally, Hall & Crandall were soon awarded a four-year contract to deliver the U.S. Mail for \$6,000. The contract allowed them to reduce San Francisco-San José stagecoach fares to \$16, and later to \$10, driving any competitors out of business.



In the fall of 1852, two New Englanders built a new stage stop west of the creek and added a small hotel, a saloon, and a barn. Over the next several years a tiny hamlet named Mountain View began to emerge around it. Among the descriptions of early Mountain View, the most vivid are those written by a young ranch hand, Alfred Doten. Although he earned his keep in Mountain View as a farm foreman, Doten was moonlighting as a corresponding journalist and sent descriptions of California



One of the earliest photographs of old Mountain View. On the left is the Richard Harjes home, then the Harjes Saloon, and an unknown structure. Date unknown.

Courtesy of Barbara McPheeters Kinchen



Richard Harjes

to his hometown newspaper the *Plymouth Rock* in Massachusetts. He also kept a voluminous diary where he recorded his daily activities. In 1856 Doten described Mountain View this way: it “consists of a post-office, hotel, a grocery or so, a dwelling house, a Jew shop.... It is very prettily located on the main road to San Jose, shaded by large, fine spreading oaks....”<sup>8</sup> The post office Doten mentions was run by Jacob Shumway, the hotel belonged to William Elliot, and the “Jew shop” was a general merchandise store owned by the Weilheimer brothers. Perhaps the New England newspaper would not approve of the four saloons Doten neglected to mention.

Elliot’s hotel was a saloon and boardinghouse where meals and drinks were served and rooms were let, both to stagecoach passengers and to many locals. One fourth of July Elliot’s was full just with the neighbors. “This was a profitable day for Elliot, for a great many folks were there getting tight—everybody who had any loose change spent it for whiskey.”<sup>9</sup> Although Elliot loaned money and helped people out, he would not tolerate an unpaid bar tab. One unfortunate customer left Elliot’s without paying, and the hotel keeper pursued him to San Francisco, searched several barrooms before finding the culprit, performed a citizen’s arrest and brought him back to Mountain View. Then he hog-tied the raucous fellow for a ride to a San José courtroom to extract what he was owed.

A small store stood where today’s Grant Road meets El Camino Real. It was run by bachelor Jacob Shumway, usually clad in overalls and a checkered work shirt. In 1854 Shumway was appointed Mountain View’s first postmaster and he dispensed postage along with general merchandise and groceries. A postmaster was often assigned the task of naming a locale for the U. S. government. Shumway is credited with naming Mountain View, as Doten wrote, “for the fine view of the coast range of mountains presented at this particular point.”<sup>10</sup>

Shumway adhered to a strict observance of the Sabbath by closing up shop

on Sundays.... Directly across Grant Road from Shumway’s, two German Jewish brothers opened a general store. Seligman and Samuel Weilheimer provided a bit of competition for Shumway because they were open for business on Sundays. Both brothers brought brides to Mountain View during the 1850s and began the families that would be important in Mountain View for almost fifty years.

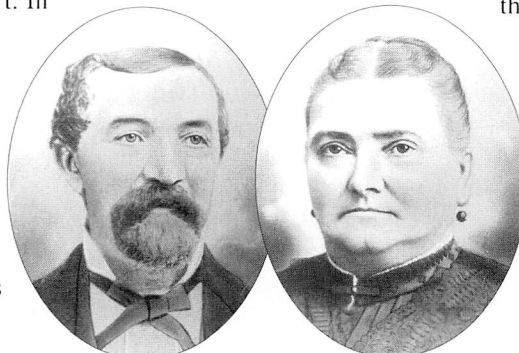
A blacksmith shop sat just west of Elliot’s hotel and across the San Francisco Road (El Camino Real) from Shumway’s and the Weilheimers’ stores. Evan Jenkins eventually took over as blacksmith, repairing farm implements and fashioning tools of all sorts for farmers in the surrounding countryside. John A. Wright established a lumberyard and mill on the north side of the San Francisco Road. The little town also featured a shoemaker named Douglass, and several Germans settled nearby, including saloon-keepers John Merkel and Richard Harjes. Locals were doctored by Nathaniel Eaton, a combination physician-dentist who also served as justice of the peace. Mountain View’s first jail, a two-roomed wood shed, sat near today’s Bay Street and El Camino Real. In 1853 the first telegraph line between San Francisco and San José began clicking out messages.

Many families moved to or near the little village. James Washington Mockbee, a forty-niner from Kentucky, married Clarissa Boone, reportedly a distant relative of Daniel Boone, in Mountain View in 1855. They had eleven children, many of whom became important in the town’s history

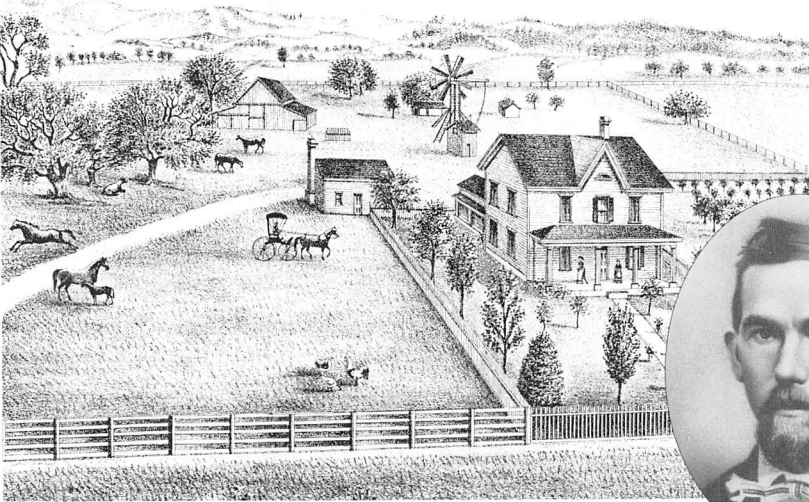
In 1852 some parents built a wood-framed, one-room schoolhouse near today’s Stierlin Road and the railroad tracks.

Among the families whose children enrolled in the school were the Bubbs, the Dales and the Yeagers.

William Bubb and his wife, Mary Ann, came overland to California in 1850 with their seven children. They settled off today’s Fremont Avenue on the Permanente Creek. One of their sons, Benjamin T. Bubb, married Sarah J. Smith, and they accumulated 165 acres north of his parents’ place. Their modest house stood at what today is Begen Avenue and Leona Lane. The couple had one daughter and six sons.



Seligman and Sophia Weilheimer



*Lithograph of the Benjamin T. Bubb Ranch, located off of Grant Road.*

From the 1876 *Historical Atlas Map of Santa Clara County* by Thompson & West



*Benjamin T. Bubb*

The Dales originally leased land from the Castros and, in 1864, purchased a ranch on the banks of the Stevens Creek from the Reverend Cornelius Yeager. The Yeagers and the Dales had come overland to California together. Yeager had purchased the ranch from Cyrus Saunders, county supervisor and justice of the peace. Soon after Yeager bought the land, he was willing to sell it for the same price to Edward Dale, but the government stepped in and informed the parties that a portion of the land was government land. After the land was surveyed again, Dale had to pay an additional \$1.25 per acre, the standard price for government-owned land.<sup>11</sup>

A few years later, the schoolhouse was “hauled by oxen”<sup>12</sup> to the edge of Permanente Creek and named the Permanente Creek School House. In 1854 the Mountain View School District was formed, and the next year Santa Clara County was divided into school districts. In 1857, Mountain View’s grammar school was built at Calderon Avenue and the Old San Francisco Road.<sup>13</sup> The new public school accommodated about forty students.

The first teachers were Protestant ministers, beginning with the Reverend Wesley Gallimore. When the hefty (he weighed almost three hundred pounds) Presbyterian first taught in Mountain View he was also serving as the Santa Clara County Assessor and on the county board of supervisors (at that time called the Court of Sessions). Evidently he meted out rather harsh punishments; after striking the son of fellow minister Cornelius Yeager, he was sorely criticized and found himself without a teaching job.<sup>14</sup> Much later Gallimore owned almost three hundred acres of the Inigo ranch, although he and his family lived on The Alameda in San José. His daughter, Elizabeth, would go on to become one of Santa Clara County’s first women physicians, popularly known as “Dr. Bess.”

There were several preachers in the environs of Mountain View. Wesley Gallimore, Cornelius Yeager, and John Eusebius Braly were of the Cumberland Presbyterian faith, while Orrin Crittenden was a Baptist. The Bralys had a farm near Lawrence Station on the way to Santa Clara, but they were influential in Mountain View because John E. Braly helped establish the Cumberland Presbyterian Church there in 1851. It was the first Protestant congregation between San Francisco and San José.

Braly’s open-air revival meetings every summer on Permanente Creek drew very large crowds.

Braly and his wife, Susannah, had seven children, three of whom were girls. One son died in 1862 after being kicked by a horse. Their second son, John Hyde Braly, followed in his father’s footsteps and was a Cumberland Presbyterian minister in Mountain View where he and his father alternated leading the congregation. The younger Braly was also a schoolteacher, and eventually was the superintendent of schools in Santa Clara County. Another son, James, married John Whisman’s daughter, Mary Elizabeth. The Braly’s eldest child, Sarah, married Dr. Benjamin Cory, a prominent San José physician.

The Reverend John E. Braly’s wife, Susannah, kept a diary for most of her life and it illuminates her perceptions of everyday farming tasks as well as a woman’s life in nineteenth-century Santa Clara County. The family routinely rose at 6 a.m. and began the day with prayer. After a morning meal, they would set to farm work. Susannah killed hogs to render lard and to “make a kettle of sope [sic].” Her other farm tasks included picking the feathers from her geese, drying fruit, and churning butter. Mrs. Braly sold many of the products from the family farm, and hotel keeper and store owner Seligman Weilheimer was a regular customer. She charged \$.30 for a dozen eggs and five pounds of butter would bring in \$1.70. On at least one occasion Weilheimer bought twelve geese from her for \$15.<sup>15</sup>



Orrin Crittenden came to Santa Clara County in 1852 and established a 160-acre dairy farm between Henry Rengstorff’s land and Daniel Frink’s acreage. Besides being a farmer, he was a Baptist preacher, speaking in Mountain View and as far away as Healdsburg and the San Ramon Valley. Crittenden went to considerable expense to defend his claim to this land. He suffered many financial setbacks, especially when Stevens Creek flooded his farm, and in 1880 when the family home burned to the ground.

Early in the 1850s, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors directed a committee to lay out a public road beginning at “the New Embarcadero” near Whisman’s, to a lime kiln near the west hills. It had been a path that ran from the bay toward the Mountain View stage stop and on toward the foothills. The new road was to be sixty-six feet wide for a distance of 7.76 miles<sup>16</sup> and it ran roughly from the site of Moffett Federal Airfield south to connect with Grant Road toward





*The 150-acre Crittenden Ranch was established by Baptist Minister Orrin Crittenden when he arrived in Mountain View in 1853. The property was sold to the federal government for the establishment of Moffett Field.*



*Orrin Crittenden*

today's Los Altos. For a time it was called Emerson Road, then later, Grant Road. It became the backbone of Mountain View.

One of the neighbors living on this road was the Kifer family. John Kifer and his wife had attempted to set up housekeeping at least twice before, but were forced to move on when they were found to be squatting on someone else's land. First they were chased off land owned by Martin Murphy, Jr.; then they were evicted from John Sullivan's land. Finally they purchased land on Grant Road for a ranch. Several of their children married children of their neighbors, creating a network of family allegiance along Grant Road. Martha Kifer married John Snyder, Lucy Kifer married William Dale, Shelby Kifer married Isabella Smith and Letitia Kifer was already married to hotelier Samuel P. Taylor.

John and Martha Snyder's homestead consisted of more than 1,000 acres of hillside property just west of today's Highway 280. Today Gate of Heaven cemetery and a retirement community, The Forum, occupy the former Snyder ranch. Wagons heavily laden with hay and grain clambered downhill toward the landings at the bay. Snyder planted grapevines and owned the first commercial vineyard in the Santa Clara Valley. He eventually added a winery and a distillery.

Two of the Snyder children, Arthur and Sarah, walked three miles from their home to the old schoolhouse. In 1865 the family built a big colonial-style house near the banks of Permanente Creek. After three more children were born to the family, the house was enlarged.

The younger Snyder children attended the San Antonio School, which was built in 1867 much closer to home.

When the children grew up, the Snyder's son, John Henry, owned a livery stable on Front Street. Their other son, Arthur, helped in management of the home ranch and several other properties that his parents had come to own. In 1920, the former Snyder ranch of 1,000 acres was purchased by the Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco for \$150,000 and became St. Joseph's Seminary.

George Grant and his brother, Theodore F. Grant, settled in the foothills near Permanente Creek, the site of today's Deer Hollow Farm. Theodore married Margarite Shaw, and their chil-

dren also attended San Antonio School. When the schoolhouse was salvaged and rehabilitated as a home during the 1980s, an amazing discovery was made. As the siding was removed for restoration, workers found several drawings and notes by one-time San Antonio School students from a century before. One note was penned by Bella (Isabella) Grant, Theodore and Margarite's daughter. It was written to the young John Snyder, and read: "Dear John, I think the teacher is a longtoed fool don't you? P.S. a long assed one

too. I.G." Then in another hand, "Tis true."<sup>17</sup> The long forgotten messages give us a glimpse of school days of long ago. Young Bella Grant died of tuberculosis in 1884, but her parents lived until 1924. Today's Grant Road takes its name from this family.

Early in 1861, hotel proprietor William Elliot died of consumption. Two years later, the fifteen-room hotel was bought by Samuel P. Taylor who was married to Letitia Kifer. The Taylor Hotel continued to serve travelers on the stage line for \$2 per night with an extra 25¢ for a bath.

Daniel Whelan, an Irishman, purchased Evan Jenkins' blacksmith shop. He and his wife, Margaret, carried on the business and raised their children in Old Mountain View. Whelan served for a time as Road Master, a local official charged with maintaining the roads. In 1865 he purchased an acre of land adjacent to the blacksmith shop from M.T.P. de Castro for \$300. Little did he know his business would remain in his family for the next eighty years, until 1945. In 1960, when Daniel's son, Charles Whelan, died at age 80, the newspaper recalled the passing of an "old time smithy."

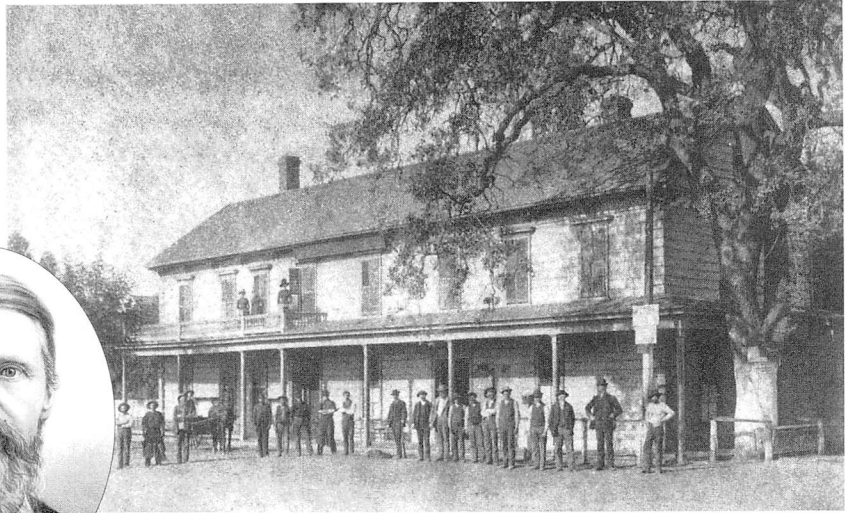
Among the settlers occupying the old Inigo land grant was Silas B. Emerson, a stock farmer whose ranch was two miles north of Mountain View's post office. Emerson took great pride in his stock; he raced his horses and sold bulls.

Emerson hired Alfred Doten as a farm foreman, and Doten's daily diary gives us a glimpse of working a hay ranch. Hay farming was an intensely laborious occupation. It required continual plowing, winnowing, and sowing. Harvest time demanded threshing and sacking over and above the usual chores of "milking, hunting, and serving as housekeeper."<sup>18</sup> Then there was a constant battle to keep wandering cows, particularly from the neighboring Murphy ranch, from trampling and chewing up the crop.

Predators such as coyotes and skunks had to be kept from the stock, and Doten often poisoned scraps of meat to kill them.

After the grain was threshed and winnowed, it was collected in sacks and hauled by wagon to Alviso, where it was loaded on

*The Taylor Hotel of old Mountain View, formerly known as Elliot's Hotel at the stagecoach stop. Date unknown.*



**Samuel Taylor**

a steamer headed for San Francisco. Then Doten would return to the ranch and take a stage from Mountain View to San Francisco to meet the grain at the wharf and try to find a buyer. While in San Francisco he would often treat himself to a bath and a haircut, have his boots blackened, and take in "a lyceum or other show." The profit margin was very narrow, one trip netting about \$35 after paying for shipping, laborers, and haulers.<sup>19</sup>



**F**ruit culture, for which Santa Clara County eventually became so famous, had its beginnings in these small orchards belonging to livestock ranchers. Farmers focused on grain-growing but were beginning to experiment with fruit trees and grapevines.

Alfred Doten was a Republican, and voted for John C. Frémont for President in the election of 1856. The "Mountain View Frémont Club" was formed, and the twenty locals who came to the meeting chose rancher Frank Sleeper president of the club. They believed Frémont would promote a railroad project from the East to the Pacific. Frémont lost to James Buchanan, a Democrat and a bachelor. Local women also rallied for Frémont with the slogan, "We want no old bach to rule over us!" which they carried on a placard in a pro-Frémont parade. Frémont's wife, Jessie Benton Frémont, was well-known in her own right, and had stayed in San Francisco and San José when her husband was California's first U. S. Senator in 1850. Mrs. Frémont was tirelessly supportive of her husband's political career. Her father, Thomas Hart Benton, was a powerful U. S. Senator from Missouri. The Republicans won in Santa Clara County but did not carry the nation.

The Sleeper family was well known in the community. Frank and Eunice, both New England natives, settled near the edge of Stevens Creek during the 1850s and established a farm. The Sleeper ranch was supplied with water by an artesian well that was five-inches in diameter and 194 feet deep; fifty gallons a minute reportedly flowed from it. The couple raised Mrs. Sleeper's two nieces and a nephew, the Beverly children. Today's Sleeper and Eunice avenues recall this family.

Frank Sleeper had emerged as a leader in the community when he headed up the local Republican club and worked for Lincoln's election. He was elected to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors in 1864 and served in that capacity for four years. In addition to his political activities, Sleeper helped Crisanto Castro lay out streets for a development in Old Mountain View, but

the arrival of the railroad thwarted some of their plans.

During Sleeper's term as county supervisor, some Mountain View projects were put on the county's agenda. In July of 1867 a request was made for the county to build Grant Road and to construct a bridge across "Stephen's or Cupertino Creek" at El Camino Real because "the crossing is now impassable for loaded wagons with two feet of water. Strangers come to it and turn back while the neighbors make out to get across with considerable trouble."<sup>20</sup> At this time the creek was known by both names and "Stephen's" was still spelled correctly, for pioneer Elisha Stephens. Soon the name was misspelled, and the creek and road became known as Stevens Creek.

The Sleepers hosted musical entertainments, where Mrs. Sleeper played the piano and sang ballads or recited poetry. The family also faced its share of hardship when in 1866, their daughter, Anna, died of diphtheria. Frank Sleeper died in 1872, when he was just fifty years old. His widow, Eunice, was somewhat unconventional, but remained important citizen in old Mountain View. She was also a devout spiritualist who espoused many religious teachings popular at the time, including the ability to communicate with the dead. For a time she lived in the former Shumway store, which she and her husband had owned. As early as 1870 she was an ardent suffragist and represented Santa Clara County in California's Woman's Suffrage Association. Eunice set up a trust that purchased a building in San José for the Y.W.C.A. and it became known as "Sleeper Hall."

In the early 1890s, by which time Mrs. Sleeper was a venerable old-timer, she had a house built behind Enterprise Hall in Old Town. The Hale family rented it and took in three school-teachers as boarders. After a very short time, however, the family and boarders moved out, claiming the house was haunted. Supposedly objects moved by themselves, strange noises were heard; the residents claimed they saw a ghost there. These strange appearances were credited to Eunice Sleeper's belief in the paranormal. The existence of the apparitions was never proven, but Mrs. Sleeper would not deny their presence.<sup>21</sup>

When Mrs. Sleeper died she left her property to her nephew, Judge Frank Beverly. The staunch Republican judge, who had been the local justice of the peace for over thirty years beginning in 1881, had presided over most court proceedings in Mountain

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View. The tall, lanky judge was an affable fellow but he had a persistent tubercular cough that often interrupted his discourse.

Daniel Frink and his wife, Pauline Reynolds, purchased four hundred acres of the old Inigo land.<sup>22</sup> The couple raised six children there. Frink had come to California in 1847 as part of Stevenson's Regiment of one thousand volunteers from New York state. The volunteers were discharged in 1848, and many became political and business leaders in American California. Frink established a successful stock farm, and he partnered with Theodore P. Shirley in 1865 to open the first hotel in Mountain View Station.

The Inigo property became the focal point of a court case involving several Mountain View neighbors. Evidently Daniel Frink had agreed to purchase the land with money he had collected from George W. Moody, James C. Braly, Jacob Shumway, Wesley Gallimore and Daniel L. Moody "on the court house steps," the common practice for land that had been foreclosed. Blacksmith Evan Jenkins contested the unlikely partnership. But Frink's purchase was legal, and an 1870s map shows the Jenkins acreage adjacent to that of Frink and Gallimore.

Frink was a stalwart Republican and was elected to the California State Assembly in 1879. His claim to fame is his introduction of a bill to prohibit "keeping or the sale of animals with glanders," a highly contagious condition affecting horses and other livestock. For his human constituents he put forward a petition from four women requesting "the removal of political disabilities," that is, asking for the right to vote. That bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee but never acted upon.<sup>23</sup> In 1890, one of Frink's children tried to take over his affairs claiming addiction to alcohol was impairing his mind.<sup>24</sup> In the previous few years, Frink's wife, Pauline, his daughter of the same name, and a grandchild, all had died. Frink died 1891.



All was not totally peaceful in little Mountain View. Silas Emerson had quite a dispute with rancher Frank Gallimore, the Reverend Wesley's brother, and the two challenged each other to a duel. They never actually fought it, but Emerson had some other conflicts, too. He did not part friends with employee Alfred Doten when he refused to pay his wages. Doten called in arbitrators to force Emerson to pay, and, short of cash in the interim, Doten tried to borrow \$200 from the Murphys. He had no luck there, even though he had provided music at more than a few of their parties. Bar-keep Elliot ended up loaning Doten \$100 to help him get by. Eventually Doten repaid his debts and moved to Nevada's Comstock Lode region, where he worked full time as a newspaper man. He became a friend and colleague of another Nevada newspaper reporter, Samuel Clemens, alias Mark

Twain. In an interesting twist of fate, from 1896 to 1902, Doten's daughter, Bessie, came to Mountain View from Nevada and taught at the San Antonio School.

Doctor Bowling (D.B.) Bailey (his first name was actually "Doctor"; he was not a physician) had come to California from Tennessee with his brother, Boanerges Bailey in 1850. The brothers became financial successes and each has a street named for him; D.B. in Mountain View and his brother's in South San Jose. D.B. Bailey settled in Mountain View as a stockfarmer, and was a school trustee. He purchased land in Mountain View from Sherman O. Houghton and from M.T.P. de Castro, and he eventually owned well over 250 acres.

In 1859, after some stump speeches at picnics and other social gatherings, D.B. Bailey was elected as a Democrat to represent Santa Clara County in the state assembly. He served as chairman of the Committee on Education and in 1860 put forward a bill to establish the University of California,<sup>25</sup> although the bill was rewritten and not passed by the Legislature until 1868.

Late in the 1850s, a German immigrant named Henry Rengstorff bought land in several places in Santa Clara County, including acreage north of Mountain View near the bay. He had come to California during the Gold Rush and after working as a farm laborer for a few years, was able to establish a hay and grain-shipping business. Within a few years, he built warehouses that could accommodate as much as 3,000 tons of hay. Rengstorff's Landing grew into a major commercial enterprise serving the Santa Clara Valley, and was the departure point for schooners laden with tons of fruit, barrels of wine, and bushels of grain crops, as well as lumber from the western foothills.

While Rengstorff's Landing became one of the busiest ports in the state, other nearby landings dotting the edge of the bay also did considerable business. Guth's Landing at the end of Stierlin Road,<sup>26</sup> Jagel's Landing at Whisman Road, and a one named for Inigo to the east, all became shipping points for agricultural goods from the valley to San Francisco and beyond.

For a time Rengstorff worried that the railroad would put his shipping concern out of business, but rail-shipping fees remained higher than what he had to charge. Henry and his wife, Christine Hassler, purchased more land, and in 1867 they built a 15-room Italianate house on Stierlin Road for their growing family. Rengstorff House survives today at Shoreline Park where it was moved from its original site and rehabilitated in the 1980s. The Rengstorffs had seven children, and one of their descendants lived in that house until 1959.

Rengstorff employed several farm laborers to manage his crops, but he also rented out large tracts to other farmers. He partnered with farmer Peter Swall who grew strawberries on land on San Antonio Road, south of Charleston Road. Chinese



Henry Rengstorff

pickers harvested the crop there. A road leading to the Swall Ranch from El Camino was called Swall Road, but later became part of San Antonio Road.

In 1869 Whisman School District was formed, and in 1871 a one-room schoolhouse was built on an acre donated by Henry Rengstorff near his home off Stierlin Road. Both he and his son, Henry A. Rengstorff, served on the school board at different times. The younger Rengstorff married the schoolteacher, Nellie Baker. Over the years Whisman School's enrollment fluctuated dramatically, and it struggled to remain open.

The bitter and lengthy Civil War plaguing nation during the 1860s had significant repercussions in the West, and even though they viewed the battlefields from a distance, Californians were not immune to the hostilities. Many who had come to California during the Gold Rush returned to their native states to fight for the Union or the Confederacy. After Abraham Lincoln was elected President on the Republican ticket, sectional allegiance ran high in California and in Mountain View. A total of 557 men sailed out of San Francisco to fight for the Union

Old Mountain View residents tried to expand the little community at the stagecoach stop. In 1870 the Weilheimer brothers bought the land that their store sat on, along with eight other lots, for \$1,600 from the Sleepers.<sup>27</sup> Samuel Weilheimer, John Kifer and Jacob Shumway hired A. Van Dorn to lay out a large parcel of land south of the Old San Francisco Road (El Camino Real). A main street would bisect the El Camino about a block west of the existing stores and run "from the foothills to the railroad and embarcadero."<sup>28</sup> This subdivision was never built.

In 1867 St. Joseph's Catholic Church was built on land had been donated by John Sullivan on the Old San Francisco Road near the edge of Stevens Creek. Sullivan had been part of the

Stephens-Murphy emigrant party, speculated in real estate and was a founder of the Hibernia Bank in San Francisco. He was a major benefactor of the Catholic Church, having donated the land for both Old Saint Mary's Cathedral and Saint Patrick's Church in San Francisco. Although he never lived in Mountain View, he had purchased a swath of land from Peter Davidson and his wife María Josefa Castro de Davidson. Bishop Alemany solemnly blessed Saint Joseph's Church in 1868. The small, white house of worship could hold about 150 people but it was often so crowded that many had to kneel outside during the services. It was expanded during the 1880s to hold an additional 100 people. Mountain View's Catholic Church was serviced by priests from Santa Clara College and therefore considered a "mission" because it had no resident pastor until 1901.

When the storekeeper Jacob Shumway died at age seventy in 1868, Mountain View lost the long-time resident who had given the little community its name. The executors of his estate were also old-timers Evan Jenkins the blacksmith, and farmer Christopher C. Stierlin. Shumway's doctor, Nathaniel Eaton, and Daniel Whelan the blacksmith, had witnessed his will.

The little community of Mountain View was just setting its foundations. Businesses and homes clustered around the stagecoach stop became the nucleus of a community of farmers in the surrounding countryside. Accelerated commerce and a denser population made many Californians demand rail transportation. Indeed, the railroad had been an important political issue as early as 1856 when John C. Frémont ran for President. The public clamored for faster, more efficient transportation both within the state and to the East. But of the dozens of families who put down roots in Mountain View during this era, none could foresee that the construction of the Southern Pacific Railroad, which bypassed old Mountain View, would change all their expectations.

#### FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Ralph Herbert Cross, *The Early Inns of California : 1844-1869* (San Francisco: L. Kennedy, 1954), 131-132.

<sup>2</sup> Older, "Early History," *Register-Leader*, 26 July 1918, 2.

<sup>3</sup> There are two John W. Whismans, each was married for a time to a Hannah; To avoid confusion, this narrative focuses on the one with a significant impact on Mountain View history. He arrived in the valley in 1846 and sold the stage line to Hall & Crandall in fall of 1850.

<sup>4</sup> *Alta California* (San Francisco), 12 July 1849, 3/2.

<sup>5</sup> Frank Merriman Stanger, "Letters of an Artist in the Gold Rush," *California Historical Society Quarterly*, 22 (1943): 245.

<sup>6</sup> Frederic Hall, *The History of San Jose and Surroundings: With Biographical Sketches of Early Settlers* (San Francisco: A.L. Bancroft and Co., 1871), 236.

<sup>7</sup> *San Jose Semi-Weekly Tribune*, 9 January 1855, 3/3 and 16 February 1855, 3/3.

<sup>8</sup> Doten, *Journals of Alfred Doten*, 305.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, 421.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, 305.

<sup>11</sup> Older, *Register-Leader*, 1 March 1918.

<sup>12</sup> Gates, *Contributions to Local History*.

<sup>13</sup> Anna Jagels Leu, "The Schools of Mountain View 1852-1970." Mountain View Historical Association, n.d.

<sup>14</sup> Older, "Early History," *Register-Leader*, 26 July 1918, 2.

<sup>15</sup> Susannah Braly diaries, January 22, 1869, California Historical Society, San Francisco.

<sup>16</sup> Santa Clara County Survey Book A, Survey No. 153, p. 161.

<sup>17</sup> Linda Sharman Schultz, *Buckeye and Brodeas: The History of a One-Room Schoolhouse* (Cupertino, CA: Cupertino Historical Society, 2000), 31.

<sup>18</sup> Doten, *Journals*, 310.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*, 388.

<sup>20</sup> Petition to Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, January 1, 1868.

<sup>21</sup> *San Jose Mercury*, 2 May 1892, 5/5.

<sup>22</sup> One source says from the Whismans in 1860 for \$10,000: Santa Clara County Deed Book N, p. 170-171, March 19, 1860; another says it was purchased by Sheriff's sale 21 September 1860: California Reports, Supreme Court of the State of California, vol. 30 p. 588.

<sup>23</sup> California, Legislature, *The Journal of the Assembly During the Twenty-Third Session of the State of California*, 1880, 215 and 265.

<sup>24</sup> *San Jose Daily Morning Times*, 4 March 1890.

<sup>25</sup> California, Legislature, Assembly Journal, Eleventh Session, 354.

<sup>26</sup> Stierlin Road was originally Sterling Road. It was changed to the correct spelling of the Stierlin family name in the 1930s.

<sup>27</sup> Santa Clara County Deed Book 17, p. 154-155.

<sup>28</sup> "Plat Map of Town Site of Mountain View," November 18, 1865, Mountain View Historical Association Collection, Mountain View History Center, Mountain View Public Library.

# FOUNDATION NOTES

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## Passing Farms, Enduring Values—Second Edition Unveiled

More than 50 community and center members gathered at the CHC on Oct. 6 to celebrate the publication of the new edition of *Passing Farms, Enduring Values—California's Santa Clara Valley*, a book by county native Yvonne Olson Jacobson.

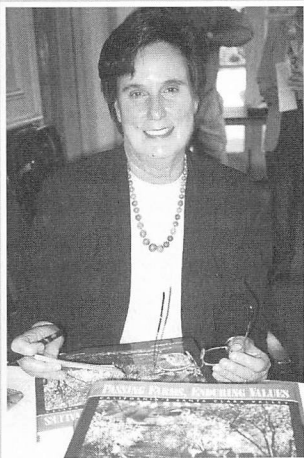
In many ways, the event was a "love-fest" with representatives of many farming families thanking Jacobson for her documentation of the valley's agricultural history, and the author acknowledging their contributions in farming.

The author talked about the new edition and signed books.



Photo by Martha Kanter

Author Yvonne Olson Jacobson, right, with members of several Santa Clara County farming families. From left, they are Mazie Zoria Rodriguez, Nina Zoria, John Zoria, Connie Zoria, John Cortese, Clara Bianchi, and Audey Butcher.



Author Yvonne Olson Jacobson

Originally published in 1984, the book traces agriculture in the valley from the 19<sup>th</sup> Century to the beginning of World War II. In the epilogue of the new book, Jacobson brings the story up to the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century by discussing the loss of farmland in the county and the across the state and nation. Recent photographs illustrate this new essay.

Among the attendees

were Greg Van Wasenhove, commissioner for agriculture for Santa Clara County; Don Weiden, the principal planner for the county; De Anza College President Martha Kanter; and several donors who contributed either photographs or funds toward the publication of the book.

Of the event, Jacobson said, "It was gratifying to me to be able to personally thank so many who had helped toward making the book possible, including the staff of the California History Center."

Jacobson recently served as the historian for the Los Altos History Museum, which opened earlier this year. She currently is part of a task force exploring ways to save farms in Santa Clara County. She also continues to manage the last three acres of her Olson Family Cherry Orchard in Sunnyvale.

## 90 Sip Wine, Hear “John Sutter” at Vintage Celebration III

About 90 CHC supporters attended the third annual Vintage Celebration—a benefit wine tasting and auction held at the history center on Oct. 20.

Supported by a generous grant from the Asset Management Company of Palo Alto, Vintage Celebration III—the center’s major fundraising event for the year—featured the wines of several Central California vintners, a dessert buffet, 50 silent and live auction items, and a presentation by Ken Bruce, De Anza College History Professor Emeritus, as pioneer John Sutter.

Co-chairs for the event were CHCF Trustees Darlene Thorne and Ron Bottini. Thorne reported the event cleared about \$9,000 for the center.

Musical entertainment was provided by San Francisco harpist Anna Maria Mendieta, desserts were by La Patisserie of Cupertino, floral arrangements were designed by Wild Geranium of Los Gatos.

Commenting on the evening, Tom Izu, CHC executive director, said, “We owe a debt of gratitude to Asset Management for its sponsorship and making this wonderful event possible. I also would like to thank our board of trustees, including Darlene Thorne and Ron Bottini for their hard work as the event’s co-chairs. And, of course, we appreciate the support demonstrated by all of the attendees who took part in our celebration. I hope everyone enjoyed the mixing of wine, history and fellowship.”



*Crowd prepares to enjoy Ken Bruce’s presentation.*



*CHCF Trustee Leslie Masunaga, above, and guests at dessert buffet, right.*



*De Anza President Martha Kanter, Carole Cassidy of the Foothill-De Anza district foundation, and Ben Dubin of Asset Management Co., left. CHC Librarian Lisa Christiansen prepares desserts, below.*



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*Ken Bruce as John Sutter, left. CHCF Trustee Bill Lester and newly elected Cupertino City Council member Dolly Sandoval, above.*



*Tom Izu, center director, and CHCF Trustee Jim Williams, above. Guests peruse silent auction items, left.*



*Harpist Anna Maria Mendieta and Vintage Celebration Co-Chair Darlene Thorne.*



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## CALIFORNIAN

is published tri-annually by the California History Center & Foundation. The Magazine is mailed to members as a benefit of annual membership in the CHC Foundation. Membership categories: \$30 Individual; \$40 Family; \$50 Supporter; \$100 Sponsor; \$500 Patron; \$1,000 Colleague.

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**ISSN: 0742-5465**

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