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Diary Reveals Life of San Jose Newcomers

By Paul Bernal

In November 1849, Missourian Morgan Fine and his family settled in San Jose. He was one of the first to arrive by wagon. The Fines' house was one of the first houses built between San José and Santa Clara, near The Alameda. Using a shingle froe (L-shaped axe tool), Fine built a crude structure of boards near the northwest corner of (what is now) Park Avenue and Naglee Street, in the area kitty-corner from what later became the Rosicrucian Museum.

California had yet to become a territory of the United States. Although Morgan Fine witnessed the shift of Alta California from Mexico to America, he was more concerned with how to survive as a newcomer. He spent all his energy building a farm, selling crops, providing for his family, and fighting illness.

In 1853, Fine purchased a blank diary book for his annual account of "Importante Occurrences." California Pioneers of Santa Clara County member Irene Johnson donated Morgan Fine's diary to the Pioneers.

Morgan Fine was Irene Johnson's great grandfather. His daughter, Amanda Fine married Josiah McDaniel and they were Irene Johnson's grandparents.

Fine's diary provides wonderful insight into the daily life of an early American farmer in Santa Clara Valley, including the entire family's never-ending foiled attempts to eradicate squirrels. The most striking information in this diary details how hard it was to build a farm from nothing (especially with chronic illness); how difficult it was to secure and keep quality laborers at this time; how many valley residents came from Missouri; and how these Missourians stuck together for business and survival.

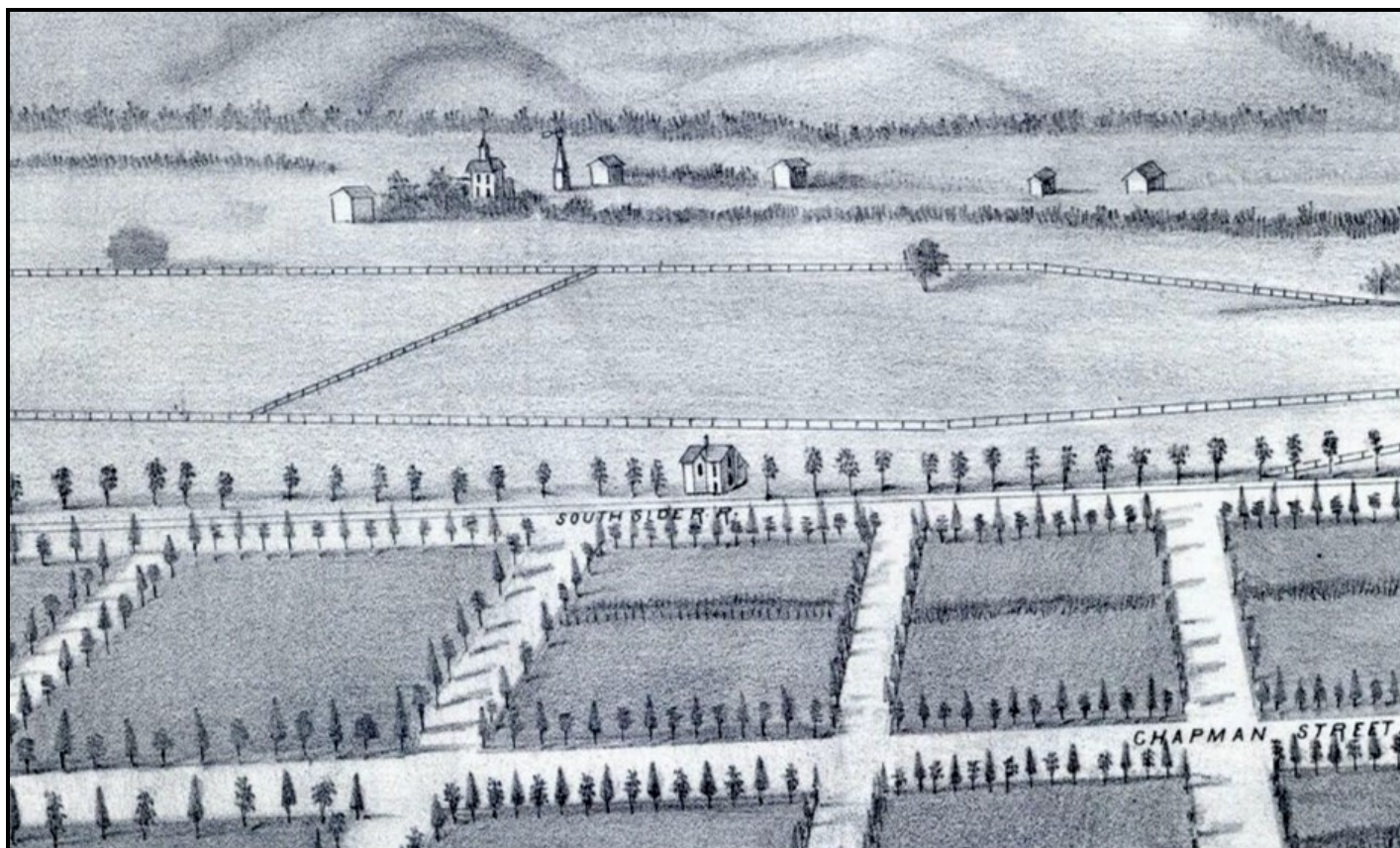
Morgan Fine was a squatter, as were most of his American neighbors, as they did not get deeds to existing Mexican land grants.

(Continued pg. 2)



Morgan Fine (1800-1879), his wife Louiza Belt Porter Fine (1809-1891), and their son John Finley Fine (b. 1852). They lived at what later became Park Avenue and Naglee Street in San Jose.

Diary (Continued)



The Fine house in the center (on the later-developed “South Side R.R.”) is near the intersection of what would become Park Avenue and Naglee Street in San Jose. This farmhouse depicts the Morgan Fine homestead and fenced fields (beyond the house). The neighbor Moses Davis’s subdivided farms (foreground with the tree-lined avenues) came only at the end of Fine’s life. (From “Bird’s Eye View Poplar City, Moses Davis,” Thompson and West Atlas, Santa Clara County, 1876. Location determined by Paul Bernal.)

The Mission Santa Clara land became federal government lands upon California joining the United States. So Fine did what most Missouri newcomers were taught to do—just take up space and say it’s yours. After many years in court, and after some lot adjustments, Fine’s land was finally confirmed to him.

Morgan Fine’s main business was the planting of potatoes. His secondary farming was that of pigs and corn. He was constantly buying lumber and nails as his business and wealth grew. In just the one year of his diary, he was constructing new fences, pens, barns, and improving roads along his property.

Fine gravitated toward fellow Missourian Methodists who also came to San Jose. They tended to do business

with each other, as opposed to bartering with Mexicans, Catholics, Bostonians, or others. Missourians liked to buy their nails and boards from Missourians; they tended to float loans to each other, and they visited each other on the Lord’s day of rest. When a new arrival came from Missouri, those already here assisted with the transition. As one would expect from siblings, Morgan Fine and his later-arriving brother John Fine relied heavily on one another—for loans, labor, building materials, and advice. As was typical of farmers, some months Morgan was down in assets, some months John was. They carried each other through the down times.

As the diary reveals, most every day was a struggle for Morgan Fine; setbacks, illness, bad weather, potato

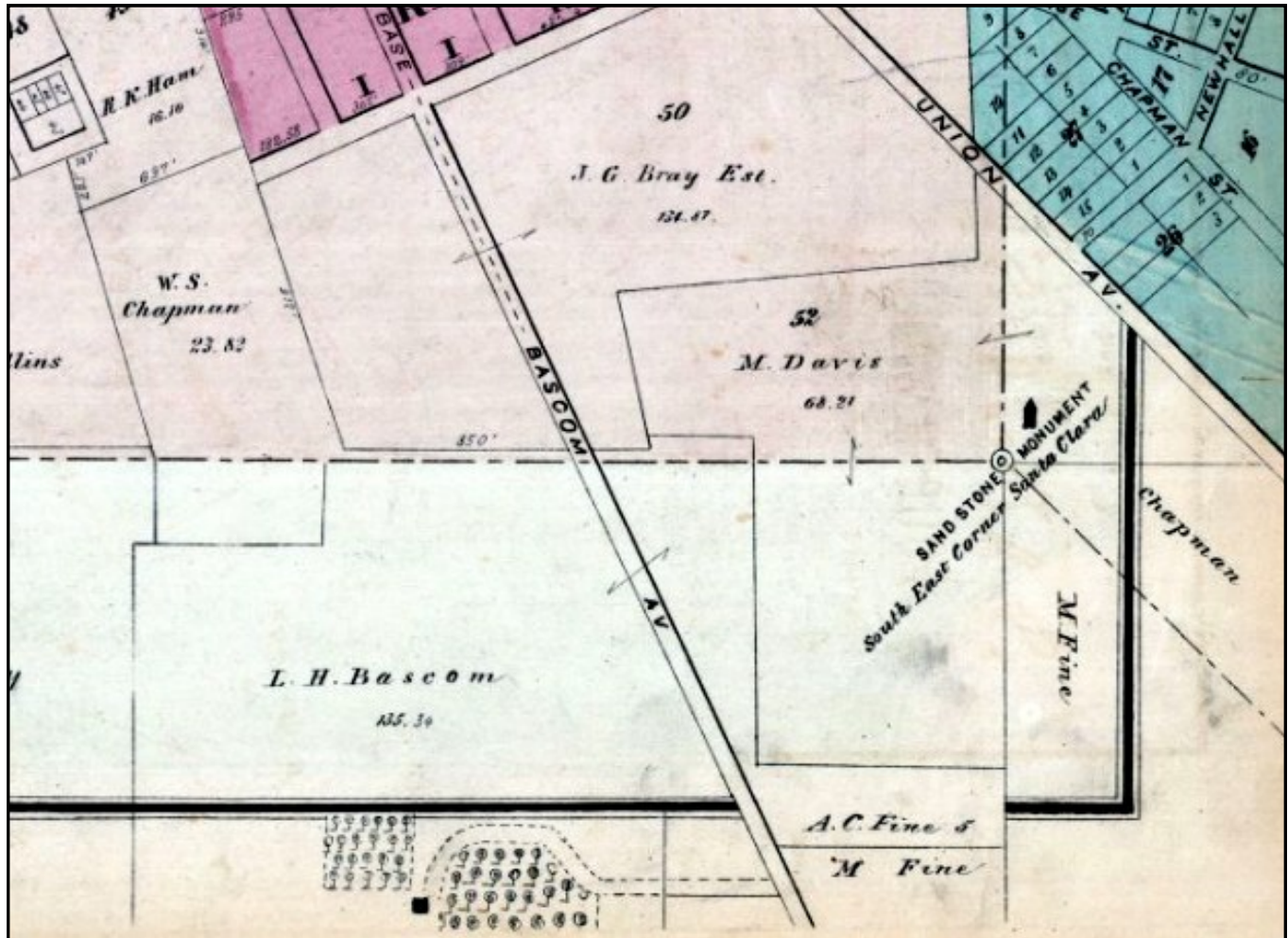
blight, laborers not showing up, changing economies, and strife. His writings are tempered with humor, keen observations, faith, and focus. Fine persevered and succeeded, becoming a farmer who made it in his newly adopted Santa Clara Valley home.

Here are a few sample entries from Fine’s 1853 diary.

February 4: Morgan tried to get out of grand jury duty but was not released—he was unhappy about having to serve because he was spending the better part of the month building fences and chasing runaway animals, including “Bascom’s pigg.” Morgan was constantly sending his “waggon” into the Santa Cruz mountains to bring a

(Continued pg. 3)

Diary (Continued)



This 1866 map shows the lands of Louis Bascom, Amanda Fine, Morgan Fine, Moses Davis, and W.S. Chapman. Union Avenue was renamed Park Avenue. (Plat of Santa Clara, 1866.)

steadystream of redwood fence lumber and nails to his farm.

February 17: Morgan stopped his son Carmel from going to school because Morgan needed him to harrow the ground for potato crops—because the hired hands were still working on the fences.

Sunday March 13: “staid at home and had Brother Easton & Family, with Doct. Bascomb to dinner, Louiza brought a nice fowl to the table, the first of her raising in California, it seems like old times.”

April 4: Morgan lamented the high prices: “killed a fine hog worth \$50.00, it cost something to live in California.”

Tuesday, April 12: Morgan writes, “was

called to the house by my better half to shoot a cat for killing chickens, after 3 shots I succeed in slaughtering the varmint. Louiza thinks it has killed 50 chickens.”

April 19: Morgan was very excited that “a fine sow produced 14 piggs.” Four died, leaving Morgan with 10, which meant he would have a good lot of pigs that year.

A 10,000 word article regarding Morgan Fine’s fascinating diary will be available online for those who are interested. For more information contact author Paul Bernal at pbernal411@gmail.com. ❖

Note: A photo of Morgan Fine’s great granddaughter, Irene Johnson is on page 6 as well as additional photos of Morgan and Louiza Fine.

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Gayle Frank, Editor

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Santa Clara County

The California Pioneers
of Santa Clara County
is a 501(c)3 non-profit
organization

Pioneers Quarterly Luncheon

Saturday, June 2nd, 2018

11:00 AM to 2:30 PM

THREE FLAMES RESTAURANT

Banquet Room—1547 Meridian Ave. in San Jose

Luncheon Presentation

“Treasures of the Pioneers Film Archives”

Enjoy a trip across time and space through the medium of film, and see moving images that have never before made it onto the big screen.

presented by

Bill Foley

Make Reservations by Wednesday, May 30th

Email to sccpioneers@aol.com

or call 408-554-7587 with your menu selection

**If, after reserving, you cannot attend the Luncheon
PLEASE call or e-mail to cancel your reservations.**

WE HAVE TO PAY FOR NO-SHOWS !

LUNCHEON COST IS \$35

Lunch costs have risen.

Pioneers do not make any profit from these charges.

**Please make checks payable in advance to
California Pioneers and bring to Luncheon.**

Menu Selections

Three Flames Special Steak

tri-tip steak topped with sautéed mushrooms

Breast of Chicken Sauté

Boneless breast with white wine & mushroom sauce

[Both above served with red potatoes & fresh vegetables]

Pasta Rose

**Penne Pasta, tomato-Alfredo sauce, mushrooms,
green onions and fresh basil**

All of the above served with Salad, Coffee and Dessert

No-Host Bar for soft drinks, beer and wine

***Parking is limited in front of the restaurant; however,
ample parking is available in the rear and close
to a separate banquet room entrance.***



The Ladies at Lunch

**Thank you
ladies for
spending
your
luncheon
time behind
the tables.**

Meet the ladies who signed us in for the March Luncheon.

From left to right, Jan Paull, Barbara Peddy, Helen Rezendes and Tudy Johnson.

(Photo: Tim Peddy)

“When San Jose Was Young—Law and Order in the Pueblo”

This is a reprint of a 1916 series about local history written for San Jose's *Evening News* and attributed to Cora Older.

Part III

“At the close of the eighteenth century the Alcaldes [mayors], following the orders of the Governor, punished some persons who refused to work. In 1788 settlers were imprisoned and put in irons for refusing to work on the building for the Town Council.

In 1800 while Alcalde Castro was giving a ball his house was set on fire. Soldiers were called from the Presidio. No one could leave town without permission. In 1800 anyone abroad [out of doors, about] after 11 o'clock might be arrested.

However there was one crime in San Jose that seemed to go unpunished. This was killing Indians. In 1784 two boys of the Pueblo drowned an Indian to amuse themselves. Because of their youth they were given only twenty-five lashes in the presence of the natives.

In 1822 the people of the Pueblo had a lapse in industry. They could not pay their tallow tax. They appealed to the Governor to be released from the tax for that year. The Governor very reluctantly conceded their request. At the same time he reproached them for having squandered the abundance of former years in vice.

In the Pueblo law was enforced by the Alcalde, who was a despot, but occasionally benevolent. He walked with a gold-headed cane, an emblem of justice, doubtless descending from the Romans. When a new law was sent to San Jose by the Governor at Monterey, the Alcalde dispatched one of his officers through the Pueblo beating a snare drum. The citizens all came into the Plaza, and the Alcalde read them the new law.

When one had a grievance against his neighbor he went before the Alcalde and told the story. If the Alcalde felt that the citizen had been wronged he summoned the offender. He sent one of his officers who carried aloft the Alcalde's cane, which was law, order, justice, the King and God combined. No one was ever known to disobey the summons of the Alcalde's cane except Captain John C. Fremont when he came on his great exploring expedition.



John C. Fremont

The ordinary citizens never failed to follow this emblem of justice to the Juscado, where the Alcalde held court. The Juscado later became the city hall. Ordinary cases the Alcalde heard in a very few minutes. When there seemed to be important issues at stake the Alcalde called in two or three distinguished citizens to hear with him [the] testimony. The most intricate cases in those days did not occupy more than two or three hours.



There are a very few of the Alcaldes' records in existence, but by consulting the archives of the Governors, one finds out what the Alcaldes did. However, one record at the court house shows that a man brought suit against an Alcalde for ordering him flogged. Another man went before an Alcalde and complained that his wife would not live with him. The Alcalde sent for the wayward wife, locked her in jail with her husband, [and] told them that they must remain there till they stopped quarreling. (No record reveals how long the quarreling couple were imprisoned.)

(Continued pg. 7)

A Fine Secretary Cabinet at Suñol House By Paul Bernal

How many of us can trace pioneer family heirlooms to the day and place they were purchased? California Pioneers of Santa Clara County member Irene Johnson (97 years old) can. The Pioneers members are thrilled to receive a donation from Irene of a secretary cabinet bought by her ancestor Morgan Fine on Tuesday, January 4, 1853, in San Francisco. Fine purchased the secretary and a table for \$30.

A secretary, or escritorio, is a kind of cabinet designed for conducting business. A secretary is made of a base of wide drawers topped by a desk with a hinged desktop surface, which is in turn topped by a bookcase usually closed with a pair of doors, often made of glass. The secretary is now part of the Governor Burnett Office at the Pioneers' Roberto Adobe & Suñol House museum, 770 Lincoln Avenue, San José.

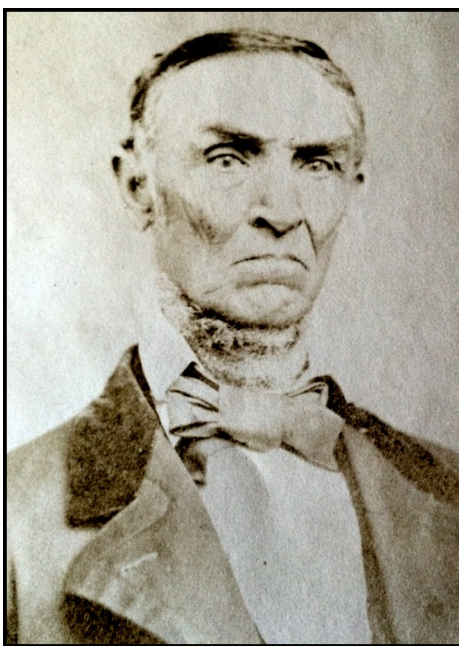
Irene also donated:

- A beautiful Empire Shelf Clock made by Anson Atkins & Ephraim Downs in 1831-1832.
- A historically valuable 1853 diary of Morgan Fine (see article on page 1).
- A small Briggs rotary ball-escapement clock, which sits within a tabletop glass dome. It was manufactured by E. W. Welch in 1864. This clock belonged to Irene's ancestor Eliza Findlay. (Eliza Findlay was Morgan Fine's sister, born Eliza Fine in 1812 in Tennessee. She married James Findlay and they ended up in San Jose, too.)

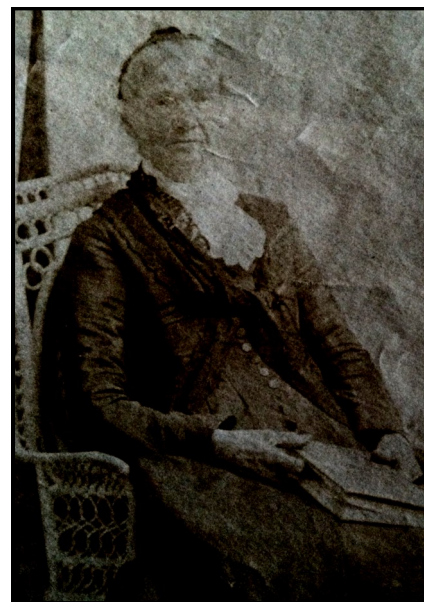
They are incredible pieces for the museum because they fit the period of Governor Burnett's office, and furthermore, Morgan Fine did business with Governor Peter Burnett. The items mentioned above have had loving care from donors Bob and Irene Johnson who have been very active with the Pioneers their whole lives. The provenance establishes the original owners of the secretary, Morgan and Louiza Fine, who were true pioneers of our valley. ❖



Irene Johnson next to the Morgan Fine secretary cabinet she and her husband Bob donated to the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County. (Photo: Paul Bernal)



Morgan Fine,—Irene's great grandfather and the original owner of the secretary cabinet.
(See page 1 for more on Fine)



Louiza Fine, Irene's great grandmother

Members Visit Grant Ranch County Park

Members of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County toured the Grant Ranch House at the Joseph D. Grant County Park on Saturday, April 21. The group was treated to an excellent guided tour by Lisa Pappanastos, County Park Ranger and Ron Bricmont, Park Historian. You may remember Lisa from our December luncheon where she presented a fascinating talk about the history of the Grant Ranch and its occupants. Lisa has worked for the County Parks since 1995, much of it at the Grant Ranch Park.

We met in front of the ranch house and cookhouse and admired the stately oaks in front. The house was originally built by Adam Hubbard in 1881 and was much smaller and less grand. J.D. Grant (1858-1942) expanded and remodeled



Lisa Pappanastos discussing the Grant Family Tree in central hall. Below, front entry of the Ranch House. (Photos: Tim Peddy)



the two-story house to 13 rooms beginning in 1927 with 7 bedrooms, 6 baths, an office and several large sitting rooms.

We first toured the cookhouse, the staff living quarters and then proceeded to the large ranch house, which was a pleasant surprise. It was like entering the 1930s, and although much of the furnishings were not original, the look and feel was authentic. Near the front door, J.D. Grant's office was to the right, holding his safe, ledgers, desk and copies of stocks/bonds and company

certificates on the walls. He was quite the business man and made his money in a power company, oil, steel, real estate and railroads. Grant was an important contributor to the industrial development on the West Coast along with his influential friends such as Leland Stanford. Their endeavors resulted in less dependency on East Coast products.

One of the downstairs bedrooms, belonging to Grant's eldest daughter Josephine, is filled with photos and mementos of her life at the ranch. After her father died, Josephine managed the ranch until 1972. A second downstairs bedroom holds photos and artifacts from the younger Grant daughter, Edith.

(Continued pg. 8)

Law and Order (Continued)

But October 15, 1787, there was great joy among sinners and criminals in San Jose, for on that day the Twins, Don Carlos and Don Felipe, were born to the king of Spain.¹

Guns boomed, flags waved, [and a] pardon was extended to all."

*—Sept. 30, 1916
Evening News*

¹ *Date is questionable. According to records online, the twins were born in 1783 to King Charles III's son, heir to the throne. The twins died a year later, one in October and the other in November of 1784. Charles IV became King of Spain in 1788 after his father died.*

Grant Ranch (Continued)

A large bedroom upstairs, with a dramatic view of Lick Observatory through a wide bay window, holds artifacts, photos and a few original furnishings belonging to J.D. Grant.

In the upstairs hall, an exhibit and photos illustrate Grant's passion for saving the redwood trees. He served as President of Save the Redwoods League for 21 years and was instrumental for legislation creating a centralized state park system.

The main kitchen was separately maintained in the cookhouse next door but a small pantry with appliances and a sink was installed off the main rooms of the house for simple preparation of snacks or light meals.

Original photos and artifacts of the family are displayed throughout the house, many donated by Grant's living granddaughter, Elspeth Grant Bobbs.

The 10,000 acre Grant Ranch was almost lost to development. In the 1970s, thanks to a one-vote margin by Dominic Cortese, the County Supervisors approved the purchase of the Grant Ranch to be transformed and preserved as a county park. This site, with its wide expanses of natural settings, is an excellent reminder of the early history of our Valley.

Continued pg. 9)



Top, Lisa and Ron relate Grant stories to Pioneers members in the upstairs bedroom. The wide bay window with a view of Lick Observatory is on the right.

Above, one of the formal sitting/game rooms on the first floor. Family photos adorn the walls.

Left, a bedroom downstairs. The wallpaper is original.



(Photos: Tim Peddy)

Grant Ranch (Continued)

The following is a quote from a letter dated October 2, 1975 from John B. Dewitt, Secretary and Executive Director of Save the Redwoods League who wrote to then Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Dominic L. Cortese:

"Dear Mr. Cortese, I want to thank you for your effective action to complete the Grant Ranch Park purchase. Future generations will praise your leadership and foresight in making possible this great public park for the people of the South Bay Area. The public will long remember your wise decision to make this park a reality. Sincerely, (Signed) John B. Dewitt" (*Santa Clara County Archives: Grant Ranch*). ❖

(Photos: Tim Peddy)



Left, Grizzly bear rug in the sitting room.

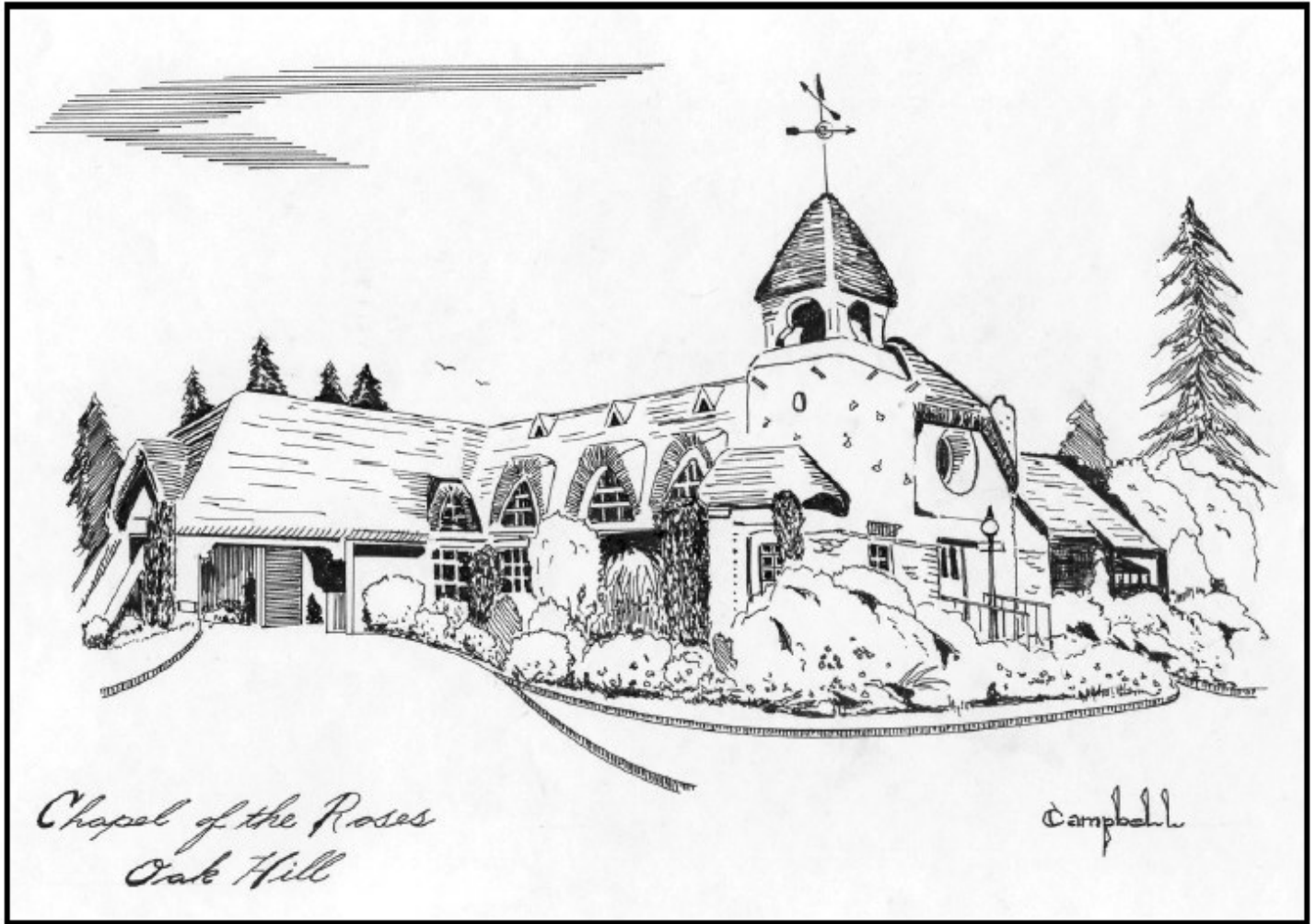
Below, Grants office.

Lower left, Grant's safe & ledgers.

Bottom, sitting room with bear



Chapel of Roses, Oak Hill—A Sketch By Jim Campbell



Oak Hill Memorial Park has been in constant use since 1839—at that time it known as Pueblo Graveyard. California's oldest secular cemetery, Oak Hill was the burial place for Spaniards who arrived here with Juan Bautista de Anza. In December 1858, the common Council, now the San Jose City Council, appointed a committee of two Protestants, two Catholics and two Jews to aid the county surveyor in selecting enough ground with sufficient and separate space for each faith to bury its dead.

In 1858 the forty-acre site was known as "Oak Hill Cemetery." Now named Oak Hill Memorial Park, it covers more than three hundred acres. Many of the early pioneers who crossed the Great Plains and the Rockies in covered wagons, and others who came on foot across the jungles of Panama, and those who sailed

"around the Horn" are buried here among the protective oaks.

Buried at Oak Hill are members of the Stephens-Townsend-Murphy party of 1844, who opened the Truckee River route to California and brought the first wagons through the Sierra Nevada. Dr. John Townsend from the 1844 party and the first American licensed physician in California, is buried here, along with his wife Elizabeth Shallenberger Townsend. Both died from treating cholera patients during the San Jose epidemic in 1850. There are also other survivors of the 1844 wagon-party and the ill-fated Donner Party buried here.

Examples of other notables buried here at the Memorial Park are Paul Masson, Mountain Charlie" McKiernan and many Civil War veterans.

A stone marker at Oak Hill honors the pioneers who made their way to early California by wagon trains and settled in Santa Clara Valley. Sponsors of that stone marker include the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County and the Argonauts.

The "Storybook" Chapel of Roses, an English cottage style built in 1933, was designed by architect Francis Harvey Slocombe and is a similar design to another funeral chapel built in Berkeley a few years earlier. The bent/waved cedar shingle roofing is a signature element and requires technical skill for installation or repair. Other design characteristics include an interesting bell tower, huge dormers and many stained glass windows.❖

Source: "Down Memory Lane," by J. Howard Campbell, 2015.

We're Bringing it Back!

For 2019

History Essay Contest

Prizes Awarded up to \$900

For adult levels, 18 years and over

*Subject: Any person, place or event concerning
Santa Clara County from its beginning
to the recent past.*

Submittal Deadline: April 15, 2019

For Details and Rules go to: www.californiapioneers.com

For more information contact:
Dr. Michael Shea at md6996@sbcglobal.net or,
Bill Foley at film@californiapioneers.com

Busy Pioneers—Update on Projects

Roberto Adobe & Suñol House Update

Library

Tudy Johnson, our Librarian, has been working hard cataloging the essays from the Pioneers Essay Contests. We have 239 of the 340 known essays submitted since 1958. The California Room at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library has many more of the past essays. Not all 340 essays are available. Tudy has cataloged 1,400 newspaper articles, including 200 Signposts columns by Pat Loomis. The Library will eventually be organized to meet the needs of Pioneers members who might want to do research—perhaps to write an essay for the 2019 Essay Contest? Thank you Tudy!

Russ Robinson donated a computer for the library, which is important for the organization and cataloging of our books and ephemera. Thank you Russ!

Facilities

Jim Zetterquist and Tim Peddy have acquired new security cameras and improved exterior lighting for the Roberto Adobe & Suñol House. Tom Kearney scheduled a 5-year fire inspection, which included repairing and upgrading fire-suppression equipment and commissioning an advisory report detailing further work required. The Board has approved a budget for installing a new dual control thermostat for upstairs and downstairs. The furnace and air-conditioning systems have been inspected and maintained.

Thank you, Facilities Committee—Tim Peddy, Jim Zetterquist, Tom Kearney and Paul Bernal, for all the time spent taking care of our valuable historic resource.

Paulson House

Tim Peddy has arranged for new shades to be installed in the Stevens' Bedroom to reduce sun damage on the historic artifacts.

Hacienda Cemetery

A work day will be scheduled in May to spruce up the cemetery, repair cribs, and install new signage. Grave signs will be mounted with full names and date of birth/death at each plot. The cost for these waterproof/sun resistant placards will be donated. There are a few marble headstones stored at Casa Grande that need to be re-installed in the Cemetery, hopefully this year. Trees need to be trimmed, access signs are needed, and new brochures will be designed.

The Hacienda Cemetery Committee includes Jim Zetterquist, Tim Peddy, Bill Foley, Veronica Jordan, and Nicole Moreno.

The cemetery gate needed repair so Eric Johns, a Pioneers member who lives near the cemetery, has graded, leveled and installed a treated 12 x 12 x2 red-wood base for the guide wheels that he re-shimmed. The gate now opens all the way and closes more easily. Thank you Eric!



Repaired gate at Hacienda Cemetery. Work done by Eric Johns.

Millionaires Cruise of 1929

Rick Helin has informed us he has officially submitted our Pioneers' produced documentary "The Millionaires Cruise of 1929" to the PBS affiliate WGBH Boston for consideration on their "American Experience" history series. An evaluation will take approximately six weeks to determine if it falls within their television broadcast guidelines.

The documentary was spawned by the donation of Lon and Paul Normandin of film taken aboard the cruise by passenger Louis Normandin in 1929. Upon viewing the incredible footage, Helin began investigating the nature of the cruise. Because the recorded images of foreign lands were rare; the passengers were interesting; and the stock market crash was a significant turn of events, Helin dove into making a first-class documentary.

(Continued pg. 13)

Bellomy Ladies at Santa Clara Library

The Santa Clara City Library has accepted the donation from the City of Monterey of three early portraits of Santa Clara residents. The paintings, from the 1880s, are by Ernest Narjot who was well known for painting portraits, landscapes and fresco work for public institutions between 1850 and 1898, winning many awards. The portraits (pictured right) can be viewed at the Library and include the following.

1) The large 1883 painting of America Anna Bellomy Hoffman, named as such since she was born in Santa Clara on July 7, 1846, the day California became part of America. Her husband, Charles Hoffman was Superintendent of the New Almaden Mine in 1864.

2) A circa 1888 smaller painting is of Maria de Jesus Bernal, born in 1820 in California and was America Anna's mother. Maria de Jesus was the recipient of Mexican land grants. In 1845, she married George W. Bellomy (1806-1862), originally from Virginia—she speaking only Spanish and he only speaking English, as reported much later by her granddaughter.

George reached Santa Clara in 1844 after arriving with the first wagon train to Oregon in 1842. The Bellomys operated a small hotel, The Bellomy House, in Santa Clara near the current Bellomy Street. They also owned an orchard where Bellomy Field sits

today. Furthermore, George also opened the first tannery in Santa Clara.

3) A third smaller painting is of Rebecca Bellomy, the daughter of George Bellomy Jr., brother to Anna Bellomy and son of Maria de Jesus and George Bellomy. Rebecca is about 13 years of age in this portrait and shows a definite re-



Update on Projects (Continued)

Millionaires Cruise of 1929 (Cont'd)

Members of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County and their guests enjoyed the film about the 1929 Millionaires Cruise at our March Luncheon. In fact, they were so enthusiastic that, with the encouragement of Tom Layton, most attendees pitched in donations at the end of the luncheon for a special project to professionally process a reel of 1929 color film. The reel was included in the Millionaires Cruise films given to the Pioneers.

These luncheon donations allowed Rick Helin to reach the dollars needed to pay for a special procedure to bring out the color trapped inside the film. The rare color film reel of Japan and China was shipped to Color Lab Corporation in Maryland last month. When professional processing is accomplished, these moving images will be the oldest known color film of Japan and China.



Thank you to all who made this possible and thanks to Tom Layton for helping Rick Helin reach his goal. ❖

Above: at the March Luncheon, Rick Helin (right) with author Don McPhail (left) who wrote the novel, "Millionaires Cruise: Sailing Toward Black Tuesday." McPhail's father was Assistant Cruise Director on the 1929 Cruise. (Photo: Carla Helin)

Welcome New Pioneers Members

Virgina Dahl, San Jose ~ Duane Johnson, San Jose ~ David Zittlow, San Jose

Roberto Adobe & Suñol House

770 Lincoln Avenue, San Jose

FREE TOURS
Saturdays 12 to 2

Not open on major holiday weekends

Gratis tours en Español con cita previa

CaliforniaPioneers.com

Docent or Greeter Opportunity for Roberto Adobe & Suñol House Museum

For more information or to
volunteer, contact Sylvia Hew at
408-265-5371 or hewmum@gmail.com

Join Us As a Greeter or Docent for the Paulson House at History San Jose

For more information or to
volunteer, contact Jonna Baker at
(408) 533-3256 or J234belle@yahoo.com

Join Our Team as a Greeter or Docent

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County would like to add more greeters and docents to our two facilities, the Paulson House at History San Jose and the Roberto Adobe/Suñol House on Lincoln Avenue.

The suggested commitment is only one Saturday a month from 12-2 pm at the Adobe or one Sunday afternoon per month at the Paulson House. Schedules are flexible and accommodating.

A greeter welcomes visitors to the facility and advises them that they can walk through on their own or take a tour. Responsibilities include keeping an eye on the visitors.

Docents conduct the tours and offer information and history on the house, furnishings, artifacts, etc.

A minimum of one greeter and one docent is scheduled at each facility, but the number increases on a busy weekend. Our docents enjoy meeting the visitors and often hear interesting stories from them.

Before a new greeter or docent starts, a training session will prepare you for the job. A new recruit will be paired with an experienced docent for the first few months.

If this sounds like something you might be interested in, call or email one of the volunteer coordinators listed above. Hope to see you at one of our sites soon! ❖



*Above, Paulson House.
Below Roberto Adobe & Suñol House*



Membership Report

The membership dues for the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County are **due on January 1st every year.**

If you haven't renewed your membership for 2018 please do so at the June luncheon or mail it in to CA Pioneers of SCC, Membership Chair, P.O. Box 8208, San Jose, CA, 95155. Basic dues are \$35.

Check your mailing label on your Trailblazer and it will indicate when

your dues have expired. For example, if after your name it says, Dec-18, your Pioneers membership is up-to-date until the end of 2018.

Additional donations or higher membership levels are always appreciated. Visit www.CaliforniaPioneers.com for more details. And please, don't forget the Pioneers in your estate planning and consider donating from your IRA's required minimum distribution. ❖

Please Note

Pioneers Board member Walt Gil is now our new Membership Chair. If you have questions about your member status, contact Walt at wgil@cpi-re.com or 408-978-1090.

Time Travel *(Past News from Newspaper Archives)*

San Jose, April 1911: The city school department announced May Day would no longer be observed as a holiday.

Los Gatos, 1913: An ordinance prohibiting noises within the city limits was aimed at the railroad with their blowing steam in the railroad yard. It was also a violation for them to blow their whistles within 1000 feet on the north and 500 feet south of the depot. The Lyndon Hotel here helped "engineer the action."

Sacramento, 1915: Annual state auto license fees were to be paid at the rate of 40 cents a horsepower. Also, vehicles, whether motor or horse-drawn, "shall utilize a light after dark."

San Jose, 1915: Possums were being collected by members of the Market



Street Fire Company in preparation for a "Southern Dinner." Word was sent all over the city that such game was quite numerous in creeks near town and were being trapped for the occasion.

Santa Clara, January 1927:
"Official recognition was given Santa Clara as a city when the state

legislature ratified the new city charter, adopted by a vote of 627 to 150 by the local citizens on April 5, 1926."

Santa Clara, March 1939:
"Glass milk bottles are soon to be displaced by paper containers according to the State Department of Dairy Service." ❖

Pioneers Gone to the Golden Hills



*Joseph Adama
Lolla McMurray*

*Carolyn Mancus
Darlene Thorne*



P.O. Box 8208
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Our Mission is to promote, preserve, and celebrate the history of Santa Clara County and the heritage of its past generations. We collect, archive, educate and encourage research and scholarship.