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GUBSERVILLE THE FORGOTTEN COMMUNITY

I have lived in the Westgate area of San Jose for over twenty years. This small part of the Santa Clara Valley is very built up with major shopping centers on all four sides of the main intersection at Saratoga Avenue. My home is on a small street tucked away in a quiet neighborhood a short distance from the hustle and bustle of the shopping centers. The roads are tree-lined which makes them very shady and cool in the summertime. It's a joy to walk here. I can do two and one-half miles around the perimeter (Saratoga Avenue, Graves Avenue, Lawrence Expressway, and Doyle Road) in about forty-five minutes if I walk fast and don't stop to chat. It's a friendly area and clean. People care about their homes and take great pride in making their front yards look nice with pretty flowers and trees. There are a lot of children here and a wonderful little elementary school called Country Lane. All this makes my neighborhood an ideal place to live and a nice place to walk.

When I first moved to the Santa Clara Valley, I went to the library and checked out a number of books about the valley history and read them. It was a way of making this area mine. Stephen Payne captures the essence of what I tried to do when he wrote, "To understand local history is one of the most important things that an individual can do to develop a sense of belonging to a place."¹ I might also say that it is an additional way of honoring the area you live in---by not just physically taking care of it, but by cherishing the memories that come with it and the people who lived here before.

¹ Payne, Stephen M. Santa Clara County: Harvest of Change. Northridge, California: Windsor Publications, Inc., History Book Division, 1987.

In my neighborhood walks, I pass a California landmark on the west side of Saratoga Avenue just north of Graves. It's a few short blocks from my house. Here is what it says:

GUBSERVILLE

Named after Frank Gubser, a German immigrant and barber. Gubserville was an important stage, mail, and transfer stop on the road between San Jose and Saratoga. Gubser served as the village's first and only postmaster beginning July 5, 1882. Gubserville ceased to exist officially when the post Office was discontinued on April 15, 1897². California Registered Historical Landmark No. 447. Originally registered November 2, 1949. Plaque placed by the State Department of Parks and Recreation...

It is difficult to find any information on Gubserville. Only the old-timers seem to remember the name; yet, here on the site of the old community of Gubserville is where I live and understanding more of its history is important to me. I know that the postmaster, Frank Gubser, walked where I walk today. I know that there were houses, gardens, fruit orchards, vineyards, a saloon, a blacksmith and wagon shop, a post office, and other buildings that I could walk to if I were walking in the 1880s and 1890s. I know there were men and women and children who worked hard to develop this area. They are not here any more, and there are very few traces of them. The only thing that remains of Gubserville is the plaque put up by the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

Please come with me on this journey as we piece together the community known as Gubserville in the 1880s and 1890s. Together we can try our best to make a picture and step back in time.

² The Gubserville Post Office was discontinued in 1899, not 1897 as shown on the plaque.

CHAPTER 1

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE GUBSERVILLE AREA FROM THE RANCHOS TO THE OPENING OF THE POST OFFICE IN 1882

On the 21st day of June in the year 1882, Frank Gubser applied to the United States Post Office in Washington, D.C., to be postmaster of a new post office in the Santa Clara Valley named Gubserville (see Exhibit 1). His application and site plan, received in Washington on June 29, 1882, were approved immediately, and the Gubserville post office officially opened its doors the next month.³

Less than 40 years before, the Santa Clara Valley had been primarily divided into large tracts called "ranchos," with the exception of the Mission Santa Clara and the Pueblo de San Jose. These "ranchos" (see Exhibit 2) had been granted to individuals by Spain prior to 1822 and by Mexico between that date and 1846 when the American flag was raised over the Pueblo de San Jose. The land that Frank Gubser's post office stood on had been part of the Rancho Quito, an 1841 grant of more than 13,000 acres by Mexican Governor Alvarado to Jose Noriega and Jose Zenon Fernandez.⁴ In this rancho, roads were nonexistent. Small trails accommodated riders and their horses, and wider trails accommodated wagons. Receiving mail was certainly not a common occurrence, and sending mail was simply not dependable. Settlers had their gardens, planted grain on their lands, and grazed livestock.

³ As the photograph on the front cover of this report shows, the Gubserville Post Office was a small built-in addition to Gubser's Half Way House, Frank Gubser's saloon and general store.

⁴ Hoover, Mildred Brooke; Rensch, Hero Eugene; Rensch, Ethel Grace. Historic Spots in California, 3rd Edition, Revised by William N. Abeloe. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 1966 describes Rancho Quito as being "between the town of Saratoga and State Highway 82" (El Camino Real) "and along its eastern boundary flows the Arroyo San Tomas Aquino." Noteworthy is the fact that William N. Abeloe who revised this edition signed the application in 1949 for the registration of Gubserville as an historic landmark.

Excited by the stories of the mild climate and fertile soil, the pioneers came overland and changed the face of the Valley forever. The large "ranchos" were divided up, and where there had been trails, new roads crisscrossed the area. Small communities began to dot the Valley. Initially, the new settlers continued planting their land with grain and grazed livestock as had been done previously, until they realized there was more profit to be made by efficiently utilizing their lands to grow fruit and grape vines. The new settlers had a desire for the wood houses of their former homes not the cold adobe homes in the ranchos, and the lumber industry thrived, centering in Saratoga. Transportation took giant steps. By the end of the 1850s, stagecoaches traveled all over, and in the 1860s the railroads arrived in San Jose from San Francisco. The decade ended with San Jose connected to the transcontinental railroad, a boon to travelers and commercial interests alike.

Hand in hand with improved transportation came improved methods of handling and preserving produce. Fruits, especially the newly introduced prune, were dried and bulked in gunnysacks and hauled to the railroad for delivery all over the United States and abroad. Canneries sprung up close to the railroads where fruit could be hauled for canning and immediately shipped off. Refrigerator cars were introduced in the 1870s. This allowed fruit to be shipped off to markets, arriving fresh. San Jose became the fruit capital of California⁵.

In the 40 years before the post office opened at Gubserville, not only had the Valley's economy changed dramatically, but also the postal system had improved. In 1849, the United States Post Office established its official office in San Jose. Mail

⁵ Arbuckle, Clyde. Arbuckle's History of San Jose. San Jose, California: Smith & McKay Printing Co., 1986.

delivery became more dependable at this time and became even better as the stages and railroads made delivery of mail to the area quicker. Still, farmers complained of the inconvenience involved in the long, dusty trip to San Jose to collect their mail over less-than-desirable roads. The settlers had been demanding better roads, better transportation, and better access to their mail and news of the outside. In response, more roads were built, and existing roads were improved. Saratoga Avenue, in front of the new post office, was such an improved main road⁶. It had been widened to 100 feet in the 1850s to accommodate the traffic between Santa Clara and Saratoga. It was now maintained regularly by the big water coaches which sprinkled the road to keep the dust down.

In response to the demands of the settlers for better communication, little post offices sprang up all over the Valley so mail could be more easily obtained. There were twenty-seven post offices in Santa Clara County by 1888, Gubserville being one of them.⁷

⁶ Cunningham, Florence R. Saratoga's First Hundred Years. Edited by Frances L. Fox. Fresno, California: Saratoga Historical Foundation, Panorama West Books, 1967. Miss Cuninghame relates the legend that in an effort to make the third Mission Santa Clara stronger, the Mission Indians brought timber back from Saratoga to reinforce the adobe walls. The trail they cleared was the beginning of today's Saratoga Avenue.

⁷ Foote, H. S. , Editor. Pen Pictures from the Garden of the World, or Santa Clara County, California. Chicago, Illinois: Lewis Publishing Company, 1988. The editor provides the following list of twenty-seven post offices in Santa Clara County in the year 1888: Agnew, Alma, Alviso, Bell's Station, Campbell, Coyote, Cupertino, Evergreen, Frohm, Gilroy, Gilroy Hot Springs, Gubserville, Hillsdale, Lawrence, Los Gatos, Madrone, Mayfield, Milpitas, Mountain View, New Almaden, Patchin, San Felipe, San Jose, Santa Clara, Saratoga, Sargent, Wright.

CHAPTER II

GUBSER'S HALF WAY HOUSE A GOOD PLACE FOR A POST OFFICE

Gubserville was in an ideal location for a new post office. It already was a very busy stage stop with coaches traveling up and down Saratoga Avenue and along the small roads which branched off to Campbell, Moreland, the West Side, and other areas. There was a small community there already. Frank Gubser⁸ had built a small general store and barbershop with a saloon, named Gubser's Half Way House, on his one and one-half acre property fronting Saratoga Avenue. Out in front of his establishment was a large watering trough for the horses, mules, and oxen. Local settlers, stagecoach drivers and passengers, freight men, lumbermen, and travelers alike stopped to rest and water their horses at the large watering trough in front of the Half Way House. They could rest, obtain needed supplies and refreshments, get a haircut from Frank, and visit with a neighbor or a fellow traveler. There must have been an outhouse or two to accommodate their physical needs. It was a place where one could get news of what was going on outside the immediate area.

William Forbes had purchased three acres adjacent to Gubser's Half Way House. He had a blacksmith shop and a "manufactory of agricultural implements"⁹. He could easily take care of any horse problems, fix broken stage or wagon parts, and sell any kind

⁸ The Great Register for 1892 shows that Frank Gubser was born in Switzerland and was 53 years old. He was naturalized in San Jose in 1867. Various records show him as a barber, saloonkeeper, and a blacksmith. In 1882 he added to his list the title of post master.

⁹ Shortridge, Charles M. Santa Clara County and Its resources (Sunshine, Fruit and Flowers). San Jose, California: San Jose Mercury Publishing & Printing Company, 1895 defines this as "for implements especially suited to the business such as low-set wagons that will easily pass under the branches of fruit trees, special forms of cultivators, etc."

of wagon or cultivator needed to the local settlers. His house was still standing in the 1950s (See Exhibit 3). All in all, it was definitely a good place to establish a post office, and the expenses would be held to a minimum since it already was an existing stage stop.

Frank Gubser was required to fill out an official post office application, and he did so on June 21, 1882. It wasn't too difficult because it was one of those fill-in-the-blank types and, besides, it was reviewed and certified by the Santa Clara Postmaster as being accurate. According to the document, the new post office at Gubserville was to be on the existing Saratoga Avenue postal route approximately half way between the cities of Santa Clara and Saratoga. Gubser certified that the "population to be supplied by proposed office" was 300 and that the new post office would not be displacing any existing station. He was required to fill out a site plan which showed that the location would be one-half mile from Campbell Creek (now Saratoga Creek), and that the nearest railroad would be the Southern Pacific Coast Railroad. He was also required to submit a locator showing the position in respect to the townships. The application was approved immediately, and Gubserville joined the ranks of the other post offices close by--- Campbell, Cupertino, Lawrence, Los Gatos, San Jose, Santa Clara, and Saratoga. The new post office opened in July of the year 1882, and the three hundred postal customers on Gubser's application could pick up their mail at least six days a week conveniently. The Gubserville Post Office proved to be a fine location for everyone.

The picture on the cover of this report shows Frank Gubser standing second from the right in front of the Gubserville Post Office and Gubser's Half Way House¹⁰. The addition to the building on the right is the post office.

¹⁰ This picture is from the archives of the Saratoga History Museum.

CHAPTER III

THE COMMUNITY

The Gubserville Post Office was in the center of a small community. The community had schools and churches and, of course, its own post office and general store, with a saloon, and a blacksmith and wagon shop. It had a main street with stagecoaches, lumber wagons, freight wagons, pedestrians, and neighbors on horseback traversing up and down. It had sightseers coming to see the Quito Olive Farm and the Sorosis Fruit House. It had main roads nearby and smaller roads branching all over. It had creeks and fields and orchards and horses and cows and the other things that bring people together as a community. It had kids who would race through the fields on their way to see and hear the big, heavy lumber wagons drive by. It had neighbors who cared for each other and helped each other out. Together they shared the ups and downs of the community --- the depression of the 1870s, the wine boom of the 1880s, the depression and drought in the 1890s, and the decimation of their vineyards by the root louse. They worked hard to plant their fields, to get their produce fresh to market, and to preserve their fruits and vegetables by drying and canning. Gubserville may not have been a town like Saratoga or Los Gatos or San Jose or Santa Clara, but it was a community of people who saw each other on a regular basis around the neighborhood and at the post office where they picked up their mail.

They were true pioneers who went through great hardship to come to this Valley. They came from everywhere --- New York, Massachusetts, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Canada, etc. Jacob Graves came with his family on the pioneer trail from St. Joseph, Missouri. He walked the entire way. Ira J. Lovell and his family also came via

that route. L. R. Mills and some friends purchased a schooner and came to San Francisco around the Straits of Magellan. Sarah Morrison came overland by herself with three small children to join her husband.¹¹ They all had a story to tell. Once here, the settlers had to work long and hard hours. Some had no money to purchase land. Samuel R. Williams worked three years clearing 100 acres and planting grapes. In return for his efforts, he received 50 acres.

In Exhibit 4 are three maps from the Santa Clara Valley Agricultural and Viticultural Newspaper 1885 with descriptions of the Quito, Saratoga, and Cupertino areas, including names of the landholders and property descriptions. Exhibit 5 has copies of those sections of the San Jose City Directories for the years 1887 and 1889 which provide the names of those people who received their mail at Gubserveille¹². The maps have been colored to show the landowners who picked up their mail at Gubserveille in either 1887 or 1889 or both years (yellow), the schools (pink), the churches (green), the roads (brown), and creeks (blue), and the railroad (brown xxxs).

The Quito area is the most significant map because it is the area immediately surrounding the post office. If we were to divide this land up into the cities it is in today, it would be located in areas of San Jose, Campbell, Los Gatos, Saratoga, and Cupertino. We can see that the Gubserveille Post Office is central to the Quito map and stands on Saratoga Avenue across from Mrs. C. Randol's Quito Farm on a small parcel of land marked F. Gubser. Next to it is another small parcel marked William Forbes, the blacksmith at Gubserveille. Roads branch out in all directions from Saratoga Avenue, and we can also see the closeness of the area to the Central Pacific Coast Railroad where produce was hauled for shipment out of the area. In the Quito area is the Goodrich property and the Quito Olive Farm which, by 1885, was planted entirely with olive trees

¹¹ Loomis, Patricia, Signposts. San Jose News, San Jose, California. Friday, July 6, 1973.

and grape vines. Sightseers came to see the farm, and its olive oil did quite well in competition. Many of its olive trees were transported from the Farm to San Francisco, dramatically lining one of the streets for the Panama Exposition in 1915.

The descriptions in the 1885 maps of what was being grown in the Quito, Cupertino, and Saratoga areas in the year 1885 are invaluable because they reflect the fact that the economy had changed from being primarily involved with grain and livestock to becoming an important fruit and grape growing area of California and this is only forty years after the American Flag was raised in the Pueblo de San Jose. The section heading for the Cupertino map says, "The Cupertino District --- The Great Grape-Growing Section --- The Bordeaux of the Pacific Coast." In this area lived the viticulturalist, William Pfeffer, who settled here in 1869, purchasing some of his land from Frank Gubser. He was well known for his experiments in his vineyards and for his fine winery. He wrote a regular column which appeared in local newspapers relating to the wine industry and its problems. Its dateline was "Gubserville" (see Exhibit 6) .He is also remembered for his Cabernet Pfeffer.

The Saratoga area is described as "Our Prolific Foot-Hills." On that map we can see the property of William Farrington. Farrington built a mansion on this property and later sold it to Frank (Borax) Smith. It became a very well known social hall, the famous Sorosis Fruit Farm.

In the Quito area, "There are many happy homes producing enough to support the family, and give all needed comforts, and even luxuries, and only covering from five to ten acres...Large grain fields still remain, but their history can be foretold, and a few years will see the orchard and vineyard in their place...The soil is very rich and deep and it requires only frequent cultivation to keep the moisture always at the surface. Potatoes

¹² The San Jose City Directories had listings for residents not only in the City of San Jose but also in the county of Santa Clara. Gubserville is listed as a post office in Santa Clara County.

and all kinds of vegetables are raised without irrigation. Fruit trees and vines grow remarkably and bear abundant crops. Water is obtained from wells 50 to 100 feet deep”.

In this community as reflected on these three maps, there were schools close by, the nearest to the post office being the Moreland School which originated in 1851 in settlers' homes but by this time was housed in a two-story house on Payne Avenue and Saratoga. The San Tomas, Doyle, Lincoln, and Saratoga Schools provided education for children in their vicinity, and the Santa Clara College was in Cupertino.

Sunday was a day of worship in the community. Florence R. Cunningham in her book, Saratoga's First Hundred Years, says that “Property maps show that little wayside churches or chapels were springing up all over the county during the seventies with most of them of Methodists of various persuasion....The Methodist South Rucker Chapel, built in 1876, was at the corner of Saratoga Avenue and Williams Road...The first convert in this church was Jacob Graves, immersed in Saratoga Creek by the Rev. Isaac Owen, Circuit-riding preacher.” According to William N. Abeloe, in 1870 the Rucker Chapel had a membership of over one hundred.¹³ This was quite a sizeable membership. The Cupertino map shows a Presbyterian Church on Stevens Creek and Saratoga and Mountain View Road. Miss Cunningham also points out that, “In 1878, the Disciples of Christ organized the Christian Church. This congregation was mainly comprised of new settlers. It was largely through the efforts of Rev. W. D. Pollard.” The Rev. W. D. Pollard also stopped by the Guberville Post Office for his mail.

These maps reflect the importance of this community and its hard-working families to the Santa Clara Valley.

¹³ Abeloe, William N. Application for Registration of Historical Point of Interest, July 26, 1949

CHAPTER IV
1882 - 1899
THE END OF THE LINE
FOR THE GUBSERVILLE POST OFFICE

In the late 1890s, mail service continued to improve. In 1897, Campbell became the first office in this locale to provide rural free delivery.¹⁴ Saratoga provided it in 1900. The other post offices would follow shortly. Rural free delivery brought mail to the homeowners' front door. Post offices, which had been the centers of communities, were no longer meeting places.

In 1899, the United States Government did not renew Frank Gubser's postal contract. The Santa Clara Post Office, which originally had to sign Frank Gubser's application, took over the mail service.¹⁵

In the application for a landmark (See Exhibit 7), William N. Abeloe cites Mrs. Fremont Older who said in a speech before the Cupertino Del Oro Club that, "When Cupertino became a post office, Gubserville died." Cupertino's post office was opened in May of 1882, two months before Gubserville. But in 1892 the West Side Post Office also opened in the Cupertino area. Eventually in 1894 the Cupertino Post Office was discontinued and in 1895 the name of the West Side Post Office was changed to Cupertino. The mail for the Cupertino Post Office also originated from the Santa Clara Post Office. It certainly may have been more workable for Cupertino to provide mail service to those people who previously got their mail at Gubserville .

¹⁴ Exhibit in the Campbell Post Office Prepared in Cooperation with the City of Campbell Historical Museum Association.

¹⁵ Peck, Willys. The San Jose Mercury, San Jose, California, October 28, 1951.

After Frank Gubser lost the mail contract in 1899, his business folded. People no longer came to get their mail at the Gubserville Post Office. They no longer stopped to pick up supplies, get a haircut, and maybe a drink or two. Soon the familiar sights at the Half Way House were gone forever.

In the early 1900s the Interurban Lines came up and down Saratoga Avenue. Gubserville was a stop for a short time after the postal contract was lost and the Gubser business was no more.

With the demise of the post office came the demise of Gubserville.

Epilogue

I am grateful to the California Historic Resources Commission for providing the Landmark on Saratoga Avenue. If I hadn't stopped to read it as I walked by one day, I would never have had the pleasure of doing this research and knowing about the Post Office, and the small community around it on which I now live.

This report would not be complete until mention is made of the Rev. William N. Abeloe who, in 1949, took the time to research the area of Gubserville and apply for the landmark. Still, even with an official landmark on Saratoga Avenue, Gubserville remains a forgotten name. Little is written of it in the history books. Most people who live in the Santa Clara Valley never heard of it. Part of the reason may be that this area did not become part of any one city, rather it was split and became parts of several cities. I think it must be difficult to be split up and keep your own history alive.

Now when I walk, I think of Mrs. Randol. How would she feel knowing her land was under the Westgate Shopping Center? I picture Frank and the boys waiting for the Campbell Brewery Company wagon (see Exhibit 8), and I remember Jacob Graves who walked all the way from St Joseph, Missouri, and he most certainly wasn't wearing Reeboks or the latest in hiking shoes.

How fortunate I am to be living in an area where the climate is mild and the soils so fertile my fruit trees need very little care. The pioneers who settled in this area of the Santa Clara Valley left their homes and went through great hardships to be here. California Landmark No. 447 will help us to always remember them.

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Resources

United States Postal Historian, National Archives & Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20408-0001

1895 Atlas California G Map
The Great Register of 1892

The San Jose City Directories, Including Santa Clara, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, San Benito and Monterey Counties for the years 1887 and 1889.

Exhibit in the Campbell Post Office Prepared in Cooperation with the City of Campbell Historical Museum and the Campbell Historical Museum Association.

California Department of Parks and Recreation State Historic Preservation, P. O. Box 942896, Sacramento, California 94296-0001

Grateful for the Various Knowledgeable Conversations with Vince Garrod, Willys Peck, Bob Sneed, William Wulf.

Grateful to the Saratoga Historical Museum for the Photographs in this Report.

Grateful to the staffs and volunteers at the Saratoga Historical Museum, The Martin Luther King Library, The Campbell Historical Museum, The California History Center at DeAnza College, the West Valley Library, the Saratoga Library, the Cupertino Library, the Cupertino Historical Museum, the San Jose Historical Museum, the Santa Clara Library, the Sunnyvale Library.



Post Office Department,

OFFICE OF THE FIRST ASSISTANT P. M. GENERAL,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Sir: Before the Postmaster General decides upon the application for a new post office at

County of Santa Clara, State of California

at which you are recommended for postmaster, he requires that the blanks in the following statement be filled, and the questions carefully and correctly answered, verified by your signature, verified by a neighboring postmaster, and returned to this Department, addressed to me. The contractor should be informed of this application; and if the site of the proposed office be off the mail route, you will forward his certificate as to the practicability of supplying it, and also as to the increase of distance. If the proposed office is not on any route now under contract, it can only be established as a "Special Office," to be supplied without expense to the Department other than net proceeds.

Be careful to designate the post offices by their true official names; and answer the subjoined questions fully and accurately, so the same will not be asked again.

Very respectfully,

FRANK HATION

First Assistant Postmaster General.

To Mr. Frank Gubser
care of the Postmaster of Santa Clara

who will please forward to him.

STATEMENT

The proposed office to be called

Gubserville

Select a short name for the proposed office, which, when written, will not resemble the name of any other post office in the United States.

It will be situated in the NE quarter of Section 29, Township 7, Range 1, (between West) on the County of Santa Clara, State of Calif.

It will be on or near route No. 46109, being the route from Santa Clara to Carlsbad, on which the mail is now carried.

The contractor's name is M. W. Nichols

Will it be directly on the route?—Yes

If not, how far from, and on which side of it?—Yes

How much will it increase the travel of the mail one way each trip?—Yes

Where will the mail leave the present route to supply the proposed office?—Yes

Where intersect the route again?—Yes

What post office will be left out by this change?—None

If not an existing route, is a "Special Office" wanted?—Yes To be supplied from

The name of the nearest office to the proposed one, on the same route, is Gubser, Calaveras

its distance is 4 1/2 miles in a S. direction from the proposed office.

The name of the nearest office on the same route, on the other side, is Gubser, Calaveras

its distance is 4 1/2 miles, in a S. direction from the proposed office.

The name of the nearest office to the proposed one, not on this route, is Gubser, Calaveras

distance by the most direct road 4 1/2 miles, in a S. direction from the proposed office.

The name of the nearest prominent river near it is None

The name of the nearest creek is San Joaquin

The proposed office will be on miles from said river, on the W. side of it, and will be on miles from said nearest creek, on the W. side of it.

The name of the nearest railroad is S.P.R.R.

If on the line of or near a railroad, on which side will the office be located? How far from the track; and what is, or will be, the name of the station?—Yes

What will be the distance from the proposed site to the nearest passenger station?—Yes

State name of station San Joaquin

What will be the distance from the proposed site to the nearest station where mail is made regular stops?—Yes

State name of station San Joaquin

State name of station San Joaquin

If the proposed office is located where it is, is it to be supplied from a train or by stage, or located over 40 miles from the station where mail is made regular stops, will the mail be carried to and from the proposed office without expense to the Department?—Yes

State name of station San Joaquin

State name of station San Joaquin

State name of station San Joaquin

State name of station San Joaquin

State name of station San Joaquin

State name of station San Joaquin

State name of station San Joaquin

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State name of station San Joaquin

EXHIBIT 1

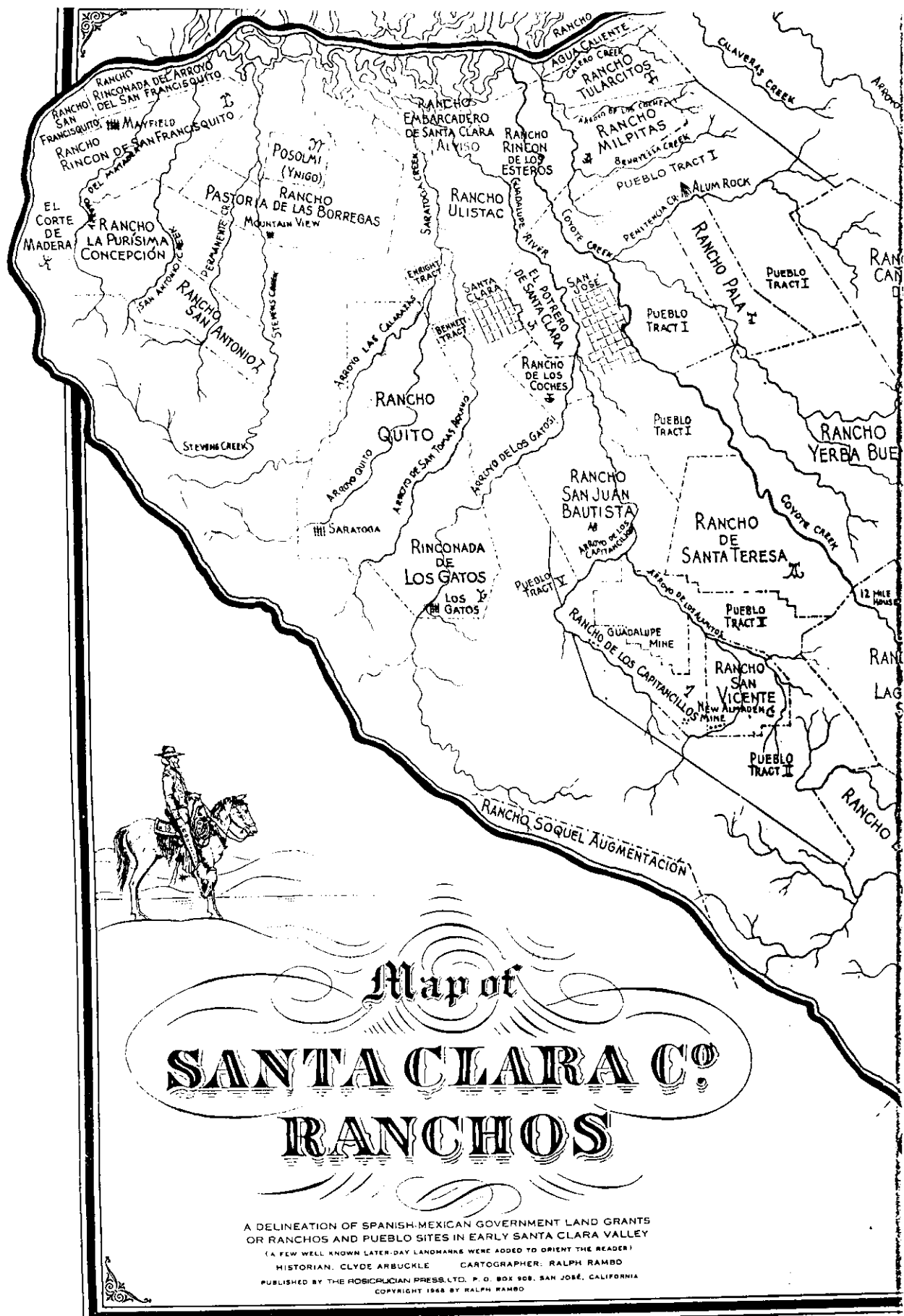


EXHIBIT 2

Arbuckle, Clyde. Santa Clara County Ranchos. San Jose, California: The Rosicrucian Press, Ltd. 1968.



EXHIBIT 3

Photograph from the Archives of the Saratoga History Museum

Cubserville.

A postoffice, about 5 miles from Santa Clara; the nearest express office is Los Gatos

Cubserville.

A postoffice, about 5 miles from Santa Clara; the nearest express office is Los Gatos

Ball B, vineyard, 146 acres
Barker S, farmer, 162 acres
Battall B, fruitraiser, 20 acres
Bayne J, farmer, 160 acres
Beaver Miller D, orchard, 80 acres
Beaver G W, 85 acres. re-tarn-i-sepn-p-ccer
Blanket B, vineyard, 49 acres
Brown C G, orchard
Bruce, G M, 280 acres
Bubb J B, nursery
Bucknell W C, orchard and vineyard, 30 acres. re-aarn-i-orn-m-pnn
Campbell C, orchard and farm, 200 acres
Champion H B, farm, 35 acres
Corpsstein N, vineyard, 155 acres
Cox John, farmer, 102 acres. re-srn-i-onn-p-tnn
Cox William, farmer, 292 acres. re-cwepn-i-cwv-p-ccer
Cranz D M, farmer, 54 acres
Davidson H, farmer, 91 acres
Easton E, orchard, 60 acres
Etchells William, farm, 38 acres
Farrington A, vineyard and farm, 320 acres
Farrington William, farmer, 202 acres. re-ccsn-i-snn-p-aven
Fellom C J, 100 acres. re-tnn
Ginty W M, 25 acres
Goodrich E E, olive orchard and farm, 81 acres. re-lawn-i-plar-p-enn
Gravis Jacob, farm, 160 acres
Graves L, farm, 140 acres
GUBSER FRANK, postmaster
Hanrahan Edward, farmer, 160 acres
Hickey John, farmer, 135 acres

of Vermont, has established a Branch on the Pacific Coast to receive deposits, and gives a good bond for the same. See Page XXI.
E. E. SWANTON, MANAGER, 9 WEST SANTA CLARA STREET.

NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK,

Burt & Pfister, 105 acres. re-crt-i-sm-penn-m-cnnnn
Carter J B, 2 acres. re-pr-c-cnn
DeWitt Mary E, farmer. re-ccan-i-cnn-p-ath-m-cann
Downer H H, farmer 3 acres. re-raon-i-cnn
Farren J W, Jr, farmer. p o
Guadalupe. re-prs
Guadalupe Quicksilver Mining Co of Baltimore, 1489 acres. re-accen-i-i-rnnn-p-rerr-m-rnnnn
Gutierrez Julian, farmer, 160 acres. re-onn-i-cnn-p-cnn
Hahn D H, farmer, 390 acres. re-onn-i-cenn-p-esn-m-penn
Hobin Ann, farmer, 147 acres. re-ocn-i-rnn-p-cen
Horning John, farmer, 297 1/2 acres. re-cspr-i-pnn-p-cnnr-m-cwp
Ingham John, 3 acres. re-er-i-cnn
Josselyn J S, farmer, 247 acres. re-pnn-i-onn-p-rpn-m-snn
Love G A, farmer, 160 acres. re-aen
Killen John, farmer, 80 acres. re-cann-i-rpn-p-csn-m-cnnn
Klohe Valentine, farmer, 37 acres. re-ccsn-i-rnn
Lanfield L, farmer, 72 acres. re-cee-i-onn-pnn
Magenheimer L, farmer, 150 acres. re-str
Montoya Pedro, farmer, 155 acres. re-ccer-i-cnn-p-accn-m-snn
Potts Sallie, farmer, 80 acres. re-cann-i-cnn
Reynolds John, farmer, 92 acres. re-cnn-i-cnn
Sullivan James T, farmer, 80 acres. re-ter-i-rn
Urage Chris, farmer, 160 acres. re-pnn-i-pn-m-pnn
Zeyse J M, farmer, 160 acres. re-aonn-i-rtr-p-aen-m-wnn

Higgins & Collins, orchard and vineyard, 126 acres. re-ccan- i-eshn	Hotchkiss H, farmer, 40 acres.	re-aonn-i-cpen-p-cwr-m-wnn	Kieley Mrs Mary, 79 acres. re- tecn-i-sn-p-cwr-m-ennn	Klotz C M, vineyard, 20 acres	Lovell, H W. i-awn-p-pnn	Lovell I J, farmer, 205 acres.	re-cpar-i-aen-p-wen	Maher D, orchard and farm, 80 acres	McBurey John W, fruit-grower, 40 acres	McCoy R, farmer, 116 acres. re- opon-i-sen-p-wnt	McGee U, orchard, 80 acres	McNally D, orchard, 57 acres	Meek W A, farm, 104 acres	Mills L R, Seltzer Springs, 161 acres	Mitchell C, orchard, 100 acres	Munier Annie, 80 acres	Myrick M H, orchard and vine- yard, 80 acres. re-tann-i-enon- p-ann	Northrop Miss C, orchard, 5 acres	Pfeffer Wm, vineyard, 160 acres	Punkett R, 49 1/2 acres	Pollard W D, orchard, 46 acres.	re-cwv-i-wnn-m-cann	Proctor C W, fruit-raiser, 35 acres	Randel Mrs C T, 218 acres. re- cwsan-i-enn	Ravenna V, farmer, 40 acres.	re-pnnn-i-ttn-p-prt	Regnart Arthur, 40 acres	Regnart Wm, farmer, 80 acres	Ross M, orchard, 20 acres	Santos M S, 4 acres. re-pnn-i-pr	Scully Thomas, farmer, 368 acres. re-aonn-i-cnn-p-corr	Serighelli S, farmer, 22 acres.	re-csn-i-onn-p-ocr	Snively Dan, farmer 36 acres.	re-pnn-i-cnn-p-rn-m-crrt	Steller C B, orchard, 30 acres	Stewart G, vineyard, 140 acres	Stiller R C, 80 acres	Thomas R K, 60 acres,	Van Dine E, vineyard, 80 acres	Westlake C, farmer, 88 acres.	re-tean-i-csn-p-cavr-m-totw	Westlake D C, 10 acres. re-onn- i-cen-p-err	Wilcox C F, 60 acres, re-ernn- m-annn	Williams S R, 20 acres	Wood Miss A L, orchard 3 acres.	re-aer-i-cen	Wood L L, orchard, 4 acres, re- per-i-owr-p-ccr
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EVERY BUSINESS MAN SHOULD HAVE A COPY.

THE

San Francisco Business Directory

FOR 1887.

PUBLISHED BY THE

CALIFORNIA PUBLISHING CO.

(Successor to L. M. McKenney & Co.)

606 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, Cal.

18-n-n-600 pp., Price \$2.00 per Copy. Sent by Mail, post-
age paid, on receipt of Price.

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For good accommodations for families or the Trav-
elling Public this house takes the lead for the price.
Corner South First and San Antonio, San Jose, Cal.
N. VINCENT & SON, PROPRIETORS.
Terms, \$1.25 and \$1.50 per Day.
SPECIAL RATES by Week or Month.

NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK,

of Vermont, has established a Branch on the Pacific Coast to re-
ceive deposits and gives a good bond for the same. See Page XXI.
E. E. SWANTON, MANAGER, 9 WEST SANTA CLARA STREET.

SAN JOSE CITY

DIRECTORY

—INCLUDING—

Santa Clara, San Mateo, Santa Cruz San

Benito and Monterey Counties,

A postoffice, about five miles from Santa Clara
express office is Los Gatos.

GUBSERVILLE,

GIVING NAME, OCCUPATION AND RESIDENCE OF ALL
PERSONS IN THE FIVE COUNTIES,

—ALSO—

*Names of Farmers, Stock Raisers, Millmen, Fruit
ers and Vineyardists*

WITH THEIR

POST OFFICE ADDRESSES, THE NUMBER OF ACRES OWNED
ASSESSED VALUE OF THEIR PROPERTY.

TOGETHER WITH A

CLASSIFIED BUSINESS DIRECTORY OF THE FIVE CO

1889.

MCKENNEY DIRECTORY CO., PUBLI

604 MERCHANT STREET, SAN FRANCISCO.

MARCH, 1889.

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SANTA CLARA CO.—GUBSERVILLE.

4

Hanson Frank, res Moreland A-26-R-oclr-I-odr-P-oo

M-tul

Hersey Philo, res Moreland A-58-R-ecdr-I-ordl-P-artl

Hotchkiss H, res Moreland A-40-R-turr-I-stor-P-tc

M-art

Keith P W, res Moreland A-19-R-oddr-I-olr-P-su

M-str

Latimer Estate of B G A100-R-snoor-I-crr

Lawrence Thomas, res Moreland A-65-R-scoor-I-ol

P-cdr

Lovell H W, res Moreland I-orr-P-orr

Lovell I J, res Moreland A-157-R-slurr-I-cerr-P-del

McCoy, Estate of R, Moreland A-110-R-scoor-P-nd

I-ndr

McKee James, res Moreland A-70-R-ecrr-I-drr-P-str

Morrison J C, res Moreland A-94-R-serr-I-lsr-P-ol

Myrick M H, res Moreland A-80-R-srrr-I-nadr-P-sle

Payne J F, res Moreland A-94-R-stsrr-I-srrr-P-n

M-serr

Ravenna V, res Moreland A-40-R-tdrr-I-scol-P-nlr

Rodgers George, res Moreland A-20-R-clrr-I-sor-P-

Rucker R T, res Moreland A-158-R-clrr-I-arr-P-der

Santos Manuel S, res Moreland A-10-R-scl-I-tar-P-

Serighelli S, res Moreland A-22-R-catr-I-sclr-P-dor-

clrr

Sharp Pope, res Moreland A-8-R-srrr-I-nl-P-lr

Sloss J, res Moreland A-31-R-lanr-I-srr-P-csl

Snivley Dan, res Moreland A-36-R-tdl-I-scr-P-dl-

sl

Stewart G W, res Moreland A-93-R-soelr-I-odnl-P-t

M-olrr

Taft R K, res Moreland A-24-R-tdrr-I-clrr-P-cdr-M-l

West Chas C, res Moreland A-25-R-tulr-I-dar-P-car-

art

Westlake C, res Moreland A-88-R-srrr-I-otrr-P-se

M-drr

Westlake D C, res Moreland A-10-R-sclr-I-osl-P-otl-

orr

Westlake J F, res Moreland A-5-R-arr-I-lr-P-oal-M-

Wood L S, res Moreland A-4-R-tel-I-srrr-P-srr

RESISTANT VINES.

VIII.

GUBSERVILLE, CAL., Sept. 9, 1896.

EDITOR PACIFIC TREE AND VINE:

Since it has gone abroad that the University people intend to show photographs of young resistant grape vines, grown during this season from imported French cuttings, to the grape growers of the several wine-growing districts, my curiosity to learn all I can about these Riparia and Rip-Rupestris so highly spoken about, led me to address a letter of inquiry to Prof. Munson of Denison, Texas, regarding the origin of these vines.

As the information received from the gentlemen is of public interest, I request you to publish the same, under date of August 29, 1896. The Professor writes as follows:

"Prof. Hayne, in recommending Grand Glabre and Gloire de Montpellier Riparia for stocks is following the recommendations of best French vine growers based on the extensive experience of the French with stocks. Gloire de Montpellier was first selected by Mr. Louis Vialla, in France from among many other varieties of Riparia obtained from the U. S. on account of vigor and resistance to Phylloxera, and Grand Glabre was No. 13 of a collection of wild Riparia sent from Missouri to France by Mr. Meissner.

These are no doubt excellent in regions having moist air, and deep, sandy, subirrigated soils, but for droughty regions and where deep penetration of root is required they are not so well adapted. Likewise the Rupestris varieties are good in similar situations with Riparia, and will endure in more limy soils, but for the droughty soils, where very deep penetration is required and in very limy and chalky soils, something else must be used for good results. Lenoire and Herbemont are better there, and Doaniana, Champini and Berlandieri much better still. Of these Doaniana and Champini root from cuttings most

readily, make plants large enough to graft in one year, and are much longer lived than any Riparia or Rupestris. The three varieties of Rupestris that have given best results in France, and have been named are: 'Rupestris Mission,' 'Rupestris du Lot,' and 'Rupestris Martin.' These all have been selected or developed from among varieties sent to France either by Mr. Jaeger of Missouri or myself. But the climate and soils of California are very different from those of France, and California must do much original experimentation for herself. It is well to try the best varieties from France, and also others from their native habitats in this country, from climate and soil more like that of California, such are the Doaniana, Champini, and Berlandieri of Texas. I have collected many thousands of these for the dry, chalky regions of S. W. France, and have selected and planted a few of the best in my own grounds, and I believe I have as good stocks of all species as are to be found in the world.

They are just beginning to experiment in France with the Doaniana, Champini and Monticola, and some of their hybrids. The Rupestris-Monticola hybrid of which you speak, is one of these, and promises much as a stock. I have one such hybrid that I made by pollinating one of my best Monticola with a splendid Rupestris. The vine is a beauty, a model of vigor, perfectly healthy, it endures intense drought, grows easily from cuttings and in good soil will be large enough to graft in one year; it grows finely in all soils. I have a few young plants of it which I offer for trial. It is a bearing vine.

If you will take the trouble to test this with several others I am breeding for stocks, I will send you some * * *. I am only an introducer, cannot go into extensive growing of stock vines. Your people will soon get a start and then can grow their own supplies. There is no need going to France for American vines, when we have better still at home."

WM. PFEFFER.

NAME Gubserville

COUNTY Santa Clara County

APPROVAL COMMITTEE:-

C. L. Dwyer
Carl F. Wheeler
W. H. Hutchins
John C. Coughlin
W. H. Hutchins
J. V. Howard

J. V. Howard
STATE PARK COMMISSION

Warren G. Hamm
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

REGISTERED LANDMARK NUMBER 447

DATE NOV 2 1949

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF HISTORICAL POINT OF INTEREST

Name of Historical Point Gubserville

Location In Santa Clara County, California, 3.5 miles northeast of the Saratoga town park on the road to San Jose

Name of Owner Mr. and Mrs. Clarence R. Drake

Street Route 1, Box 141

City Saratoga, California

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

- A.- GUBSERVILLE--A small early day settlement on the north side of the Santa Clara-Saratoga Road, a short distance southwest of the Moreland School. It was the first mail stop on the old stage route between San Jose and Saratoga.
- B.- The town of Saratoga lies at the southwest corner of Rancho Quito near Campbell Creek. The old settlement of Gubserville was on the road from Santa Clara that stretches through this rancho. This little settlement, remembered by few today, was the first place on this stage route out of Santa Clara at which the driver paused to leave mail.

C.- Cupertino History Full of Interest

The following interesting material on the early history of Cupertino is taken from the address given by Mrs. Fremont Older before the Cupertino de Oro club. Mrs. Older said:

"...Before Cupertino was established there was a village with a post office on the Saratoga road, Gupserville*. That village has now vanished. It was near the Moreland School, and the few deserted buildings** on the left hand side of the road to the Stevens creek road from ~~S~~Saratoga ~~xxx~~ are all that is left of Gupserville*. William*** Gupser*, for whom Gupserville* was named, was a German barber. He was the first and only postmaster in the settlement. About 1870 Mr. Gupser* owned a part of the ranch later bought by William Pfeffer, and now**** owned by Fremont Older. There was a watering trough at Gupserville*, and all horses were watered there. Ken Sanborn, a down east Yankee, ran the saloon. Jasper Scott was the blacksmith. When Cupertino became a post office, Gupserville* ~~xxxx~~ died. //."

- *- Evidently misspelled. All other sources say Gubserville! *and the*
- ** - Now reduced to one, the old Forbes house, still occupied.
- *** - Official United States Post Office information says

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTIONS (Continued)

The local school and a nearby church predated Gubserville by many years. Moreland Elementary School is at Payne and Saratoga Avenues, .45 mile northeast of Gubserville towards San Jose; the site of Rucker's Chapel is .5 mile from the school, at Williams and Saratoga Avenues.

Moreland is probably the oldest rural school district in the State of California. Established in 1851, it was at first a subscription school, whose classes were held in private homes, the locations of which are now unknown. Its first teacher, Charles Lafollette, taught during the three months' term of 1851. For the six months' term of 1852, Abraham H. Featherman was the instructor. Its third teacher, Samuel Curtis Rogers, who served from September, 1852, to June, 1854, was successful in obtaining the first public school building, and the district became a part of California's public school system.

On November 13, 1852, citizens of the area met to plan for a school house. Zechariah Moreland ~~proposed~~ proposed to sell the district "the house occupied by him for a dwelling to be used as a public school building and meeting house," for \$300, and he promised to contribute \$50 of the purchase price. His offer was accepted and, during the winter of 1852-53, money to pay for the school and materials for much needed repairs to the building were collected. Most of the hauling and some of the labor was donated, but the teacher spent many days soliciting and collecting money and working on the school house.

At another public meeting, on January 4, 1853, the boundaries of the district and the site of the school were ~~selected~~ decided. The school has been on that site ever since.

In ~~February~~ February, 1853, Teacher Rogers drew up and circulated a petition "praying" the Board of School Commissioners of Santa Clara Township "to organize and number" the district "according to the Laws of the State." Such action was taken by the board April 28, 1853, and the school became Santa Clara Township School District No. 2.

In 1856, when a new and progressive state school law was passed by the legislature, No. 2 became an independent district with its own board of trustees, probably in 1857. Santa Clara Township's four numbered school districts did not receive names for 9 years, but on June 1, 1862, Santa Clara Township District No. 2 became Moreland School in the county's official records, named, of course, for its generous benefactor, Zechariah Moreland.

Moreland has had ~~xxx~~ at least three different school buildings, and possibly more. The present building, on the site selected at the 1853 public meeting, dates from 1894, and is the oldest school building in use in Santa Clara County. In April, 1948, a new building addition was dedicated. The

Rucker's Chapel of Santa Clara Circuit of the South Methodist Church was probably founded quite early in the 1850's. It was popularly known simply as Rucker's Chapel, named for William T. Rucker, on whose land it was situated. Rucker was one of the leaders of the church and a prominent rancher of the district.

For many years the Chapel was the leading church of Santa Clara Circuit. A number of times the conferences of San Francisco District, a very large ~~xxx~~ district, were held in it.

The church building, quite handsome for a country church, is gone, but the parsonage, built much later, still stands on Williams Avenue. It is now the Sunseri home, and has been extensively remodeled.

Rucker's Chapel was a strong, very active church. In 1870 it had a membership of over 100. The Toll Gate Camp Meeting Ground at Toll Gate, now Saratoga, was for many years a part of Santa Clara Circuit (Rucker's Chapel).

E.-

In the vicinity of Guberville were many ~~xxxxx~~ prosperous farms and ranches. Two of these deserve mention in the application for the registration of Guberville as a State Historical Landmark. Quito Farm is located at Quito and Saratoga Avenues, .6 mile southwest of Guberville towards Saratoga; Sorosis Farm is .5 mile farther.

Nine

Chapter ~~Eight~~ of Quito Farm is mentioned briefly in Miss Florence R. Cunningham's "Our First Hundred Years", the history of Saratoga. Her account~~xxx~~ follows:

"For many, ~~xxxxxxx~~ many years the olive trees at Santa Clara Mission had been a living demonstration of how well olives would grow here; but ~~if~~ it was not until 1865 that anyone in this part of the state attempted to raise them for commercial purposes. This first orchard was only a few miles from Saratoga, near the corner of the Quito and Saratoga-~~xxxxxxx~~ Santa Clara roads.

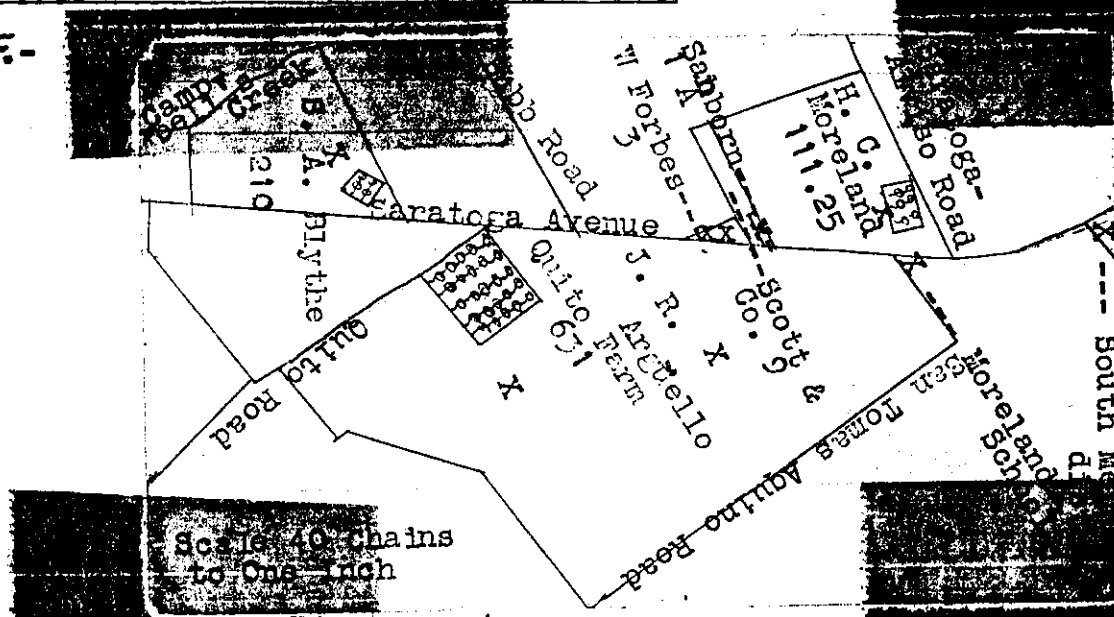
"Here Don Jose Ramon Arguello (N. 36), a native Californian who had acquired a large section of the Quito Grant, established his country home on acreage he had reserved for himself when disposing of his larger holdings.

"In the orchard he planted, he included a large number of little olive trees raised from seeds from the Mission orchard. These had been grown at his request by one of our famous gardeners, Mrs. Samuel (Serena Cox) Blythe. Her healthy little seedlings thrived and became hardy trees, but the death of Jose Ramon Arguello 11 years later ended for a time all experimentation with olive culture.

"A later owner, E. E. Goodrich, in the early '80's began extensive and expensive improvements in both the orchard and the plant for the manufacture of oil and pickled olives.

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTIONS (Continued)

F.-



This is a copy of a section of a map from Thompson & West's Atlas of 1876. The X's indicate buildings; the numbers indicate acreage. On this map are shown most of the historical spots mentioned in this application. The S. A. Blythe property is now Sorosis Farm. J. R. Arguello's Quito Farm was already in existence, as shown on the map. The cluster of trees indicating an orchard shows approximately the location of the few remaining olive trees. W. Forbes' property is shown as three acres. The x at the left probably indicated his home, still standing; the other x perhaps shows the location of his blacksmith shop. Gubserville (Gubser's saloon and post office) had not yet come into existence, but it was probably located on the property ~~labeled~~ ~~Sanborn~~. Moreland School is shown on its present site, although the building indicated by the X no longer stands. The property of Zechariah Moreland across the road had by this time ~~***~~ passed into the hands of his son, H. C. Rucker's Chapel is on this map called by its official name, South Methodist. *Scott & Co. may refer to Jasper Scott, Sanborn to Ken Sanborn.*

STATEMENT OF PROPERTY OWNER

TO THE

STATE PARK COMMISSIONER

AUTHORIZING THE NUMBERING AND REGISTRATION OF HISTORICAL POINT OF INTEREST

July 19, 1949.

To Whom It May Concern:

As owners of the old Forbes house and the site of Forbes' blacksmith shop, we hereby give permission for the numbering and registration of Gubserville as a State Historical Landmark.

Clarence K. Drake
Ida Drake

PHOTOGRAPHS



THE

Looking southwest on the road through Gubserville; foreground, ① site of Gubser's saloon and post office; middle distance, ② site of Forbes' blacksmith shop; background, ③ old Forbes Home



THE old home of W. Forbes, the blacksmith, built in 1876 or before, now the Drake home, last remaining building at Gubserville

51a

ori



The present Moreland School (1894) and, at the right, the 1948 addition



The former Zechariah Moreland property across the road



Foreground, ① site of Rucker's Chapel, now occupied by gas station; background, ② former parsonage (hidden by trees)



Former Farm, showing part of old olive trees



Sorosis Social Hall



Sorosis Farm; left, ① vine and sign; right, ② site of Warrington Home

REFERENCES TO BOOKS, RECORDS, AND OTHER AUTHORITIES SUSTAINING THESE FACTS

- A.- Wyatt, Roscoe D., and Arbuckle, Clyde, Historic Names, Persons ~~Places~~ and Places in Santa Clara County, 1948, page 16, paragraph ~~1~~ 2.
- B.- Hoover, Mildred Brooke, and Rensch, H. E. & E. G., Historic Spots in California, Stanford University Press, Stanford, California, 1948, page 330, paragraph 11.
- C.- ~~San~~ The Evening News, San Jose, California, January 26, 1922, page 4.
- D.- Information supplied by Miss Florence R. Cunningham, Route 1, Box 25, Saratoga, California, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence R. Drake, Route 1, Box 141, Saratoga, California.
Saratoga Observer, Saratoga, California, April 14, 21, and 28, 1948.
- E.- Cunningham, Florence R., Our First Hundred Years, Saratoga Observer, Saratoga, California, 1948, Chapters Eight, ~~Nine~~ Nine, and Ten.
Other information supplied by Miss Cunningham in an interview.
- F.- Historical Atlas Map of Santa Clara County California, Thompson ~~Map~~ & West, San Francisco, California, 1876.

ARE PICTURES ATTACHED? Yes

IS STATEMENT OF OWNER ATTACHED? Yes

Signed William N. Abeloe William N. Abeloe
City Route 1, Box 354, Saratoga, California
Date JUL 26 49

(This form when filled out completely is to be sent to the Official Approval Committee, care of the California State Chamber of Commerce 350 Bush Street, San Francisco, California.)

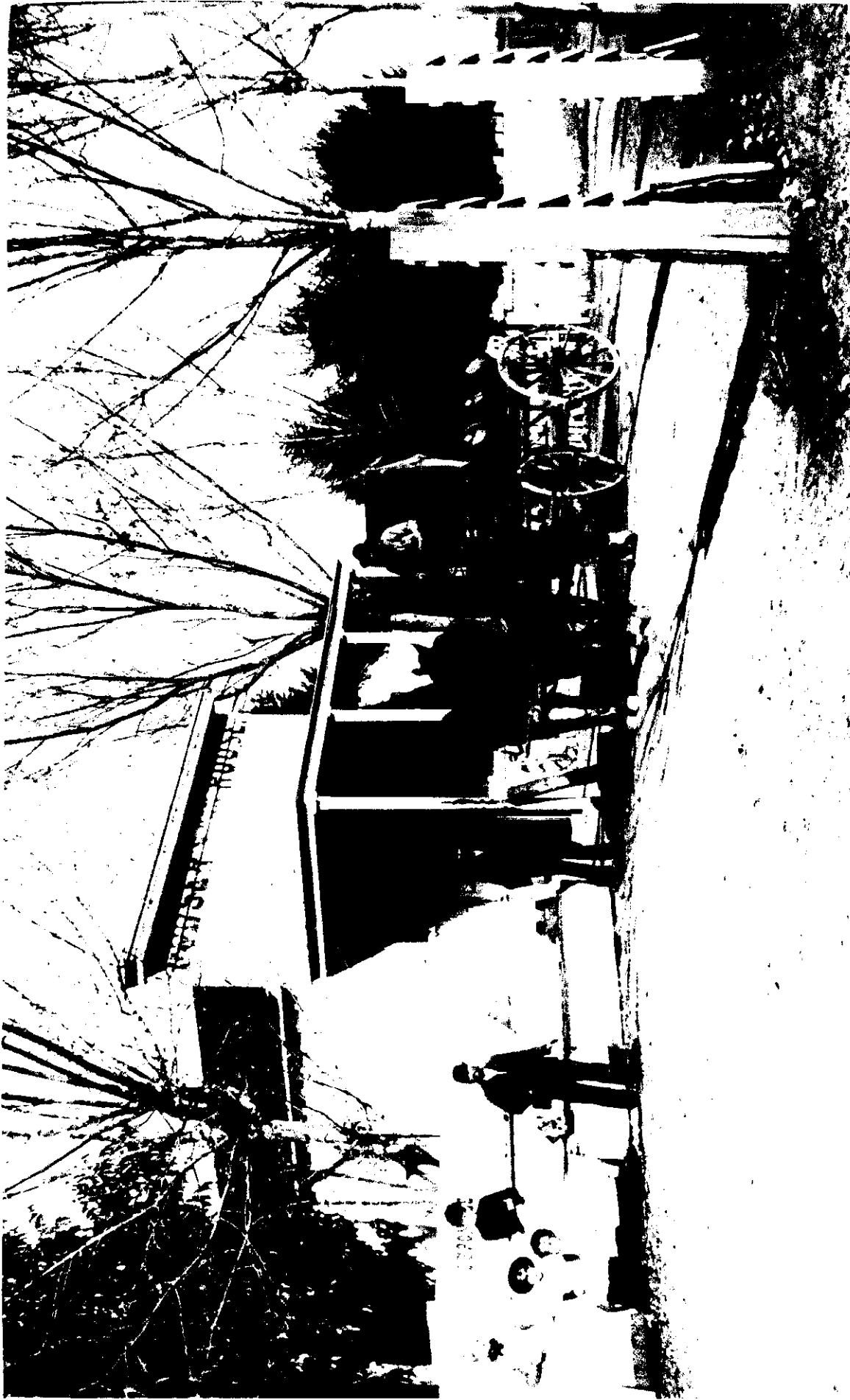


EXHIBIT 8

Photographs from the Archives of the Saratoga History Museum