

NOT JUST A SANITARIUM: GILROY HOT SPRINGS RESORT

An essay submitted to the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County
1995 Santa Clara County Historical Essay Contest

by

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Introduction

Gilroy Hot Springs is an important historical landmark in Santa Clara County. Developed between 1865 and the 1930s as a popular health and family oriented resort, it not only served local area residents, but people from throughout the Monterey and San Francisco bay areas. In 1938, (Harry) Kyuzaburo Sakata, a successful Japanese-American agriculturist from Watsonville, purchased the resort and renamed it Gilroy Yamato [Japanese] Hot Springs. Through his efforts, the resort became an important and rare Japanese-American resource that served as a recreational, leisure, and spiritual center, as well as a hostel, both before and after World War II. It was the only Japanese owned hot springs resort in California, and Sakata's ownership particularly speaks to the struggle of Japanese-Americans in California to attain full equality in American society.

Discovery and Early Development.

Gilroy Hot Springs is located approximately twelve road miles northeast of the City of Gilroy, near the base of the eastern slope of Palassou Ridge, part of the Mount Hamilton or Inner Coast Ranges that stretch along the east side of Coyote Valley in southern Santa Clara County. The name is given to a single hot mineral spring that is located approximately three hundred feet

above Coyote Creek, flowing south along the ridge base.¹ The terrain is fairly rugged and heavily wooded. Although Native Americans probably visited the area in seasonal hunting and gathering forays, they do not appear to have ever established settlements there.²

The first Europeans in the Gilroy Hot Springs area came as part of a late eighteenth-century Spanish exploratory expedition under the command of Juan Bautista de Anza. Trying to reach the Sierra Nevada by following the San Joaquin River from the delta that ended in San Francisco Bay, de Anza's party was frustrated by marshland. They gave up and turned down the San Antonio Valley, east of Mount Hamilton, eventually reaching the head of Coyote Creek. Following the stream's wandering southward course, they passed the hot spring on April 6, 1776, and camped overnight some distance past it at a site they named Cañada de los Osos.³

In 1881, local history compiler J. P. Munro-Fraser wrote that Francisco Cantua, a shepherd, had filed a squatters claim on the property in 1865. Although Fraser was inaccurate, Eugene Sawyer subscribed to this account forty years later in his History of Santa Clara County, and subsequent researchers have accepted it as true. In 1884, however, publicist and writer Newton H. Chittenden, although he wrongly placed the initial hot spring claims and property transfers in the 1850s, accurately identified Jose Quintin Ortega and Iganacio Maria Ortega as its discoverers and claimants. On September 4, 1865, they filed a preemption claim for 160 acres of land that included the site of the hot spring. The tract soon was referred to as either Ortega or Gilroy Warm Springs. Before March 1866, commercial development of the hot spring began, the Ortegases permitting Gilroyans George Roop and William F. Oldham to occupy the site.⁴

George Roop (b. 1833), of Pennsylvania, came to California in the 1850s. He drove cattle from Los Angeles to San Francisco and, before 1860,

settled and took up work as a plasterer in Gilroy. While still a drover, he met Frank William Oldham (b. 1826), a native of Greenville, South Carolina, who had come to California via Nicaragua in 1852 and found employment in San Francisco. In 1861, Oldham and his wife Martha moved to Gilroy, where he and Roop partnered in the livery and hotel business. Their enterprise, the Exchange Stage Hotel on Monterey Street, was a success and brought Oldham sufficient recognition to help win him election as a member of Gilroy's first board of trustees. They operated the business together until 1871, when Oldham entered farming near San Felipe, about ten miles east of Gilroy.⁵

After securing permission from the Ortegas to occupy the hot spring property, Roop and Oldham wasted no time in developing it. They erected cabins, built a bath, and opened for business in 1866, the resort's season stretching from March through November. Within a year, they spent \$2,200 buying the Ortega's interests in the property. In November 1866, Charles H. Twombly, cashier at the First National Gold Bank in Oakland, bought, for \$2,000, a one-third partnership in the springs. Roop and Oldham physically operated the enterprise as well as their Gilroy hotel during the next two years, but in December 1868, Oldham, perhaps deciding two establishments were too much, sold his interest in the nascent resort to his partners. During the next several years, George Roop served as the driving force behind development of Gilroy Hot Springs.⁶

A Favorite Health Spa.

During the early nineteenth century, upper-class Americans adopted from Europeans the practice of "taking the waters" at mineral spring resorts. By the 1830s, resorts at Saratoga, New York, and White Sulphur Springs,

Virginia, were well-known. Westward expansion fostered discovery and development of springs from Illinois to Michigan to the Pacific Coast, many of them promoted as the "Saratoga of the West." During the 1860s, particularly after the Civil War and with the expansion of railroads in California, springs were developed in Napa and Lake counties, north of San Francisco, and in various locations stretching southward to San Diego. The presumed medicinal benefits of mineral waters quickly made these resorts popular destinations for local people as well as tourists, and by the 1880s, they were part and parcel of a health boom in California that was inspired by climate and incited by promoters, the railroad, and doctors. Among the resorts described by a Chicago magazine in 1871 was Gilroy Hot Springs, "the favorite sanitarium of rheumatics."⁷

A good road from town was one key to Gilroy Hot Springs becoming a successful enterprise. From the start, two- and four-horse Concord coaches regularly carried passengers to the resort, connecting with the daily stage from San Jose at Roop and Oldham's Exchange Stage Hotel. But what roadway existed was inadequate. In May 1867, the partners subscribed \$500 toward building a new road, but raising sufficient funds to undertake the project proved difficult. In December 1869, the Gilroy newspaper reported that a San Francisco based joint stock company, negotiating with Roop and Twombly to buy into the resort, contemplated "construction of a road." A week later the paper reported a "notice of purchase" and said the best part of it would be "a good road, the present one being tedious and dangerous. The interests of the community of Gilroy require it."⁸ But the deal fell through. Still lacking funds to complete road improvements, Roop and Twombly led twenty-nine other local residents in May 1870 to petition the county's Board of Supervisors to "establish a public road to the Hot Spring and for benefit of residents of Cañada Valley along Coyote Creek."⁹

Santa Clara County supervisors approved construction of a public road to Gilroy Hot Springs later in 1870, but issues concerning the roadway persisted. In the short-term, for example, even as they sought public status and financing for the roadway, Roop and Twombly proceeded on their own to construct and improve portions of it. This did not please all their neighbors. In June 1870, Matthew Rahall alleged that Roop and Twombly had cut the road across his property, damaging both land and fencing. He petitioned the Board of Supervisors, asking that either Roop and Twombly or the county award him \$2,254 in damages. When the public road was approved, the supervisors settled with Rahall for \$800. Still, almost year passed before Peter Donnelly was awarded the contract to build the road in April 1871, and it took another year to complete it.¹⁰

While dealing with the road issue, George Roop vigorously developed Gilroy Hot Springs. By May 1872, he had in place "forty cottages, elegantly furnished," and set for his guests a "table supplied with the choicest food that rich Santa Clara Valley can afford."¹¹ In July, John A. Cottle bought out Twombly.¹² With the local paper hyping that "the medicinal properties of the waters are superior to any yet known in the world," and with as many as seventy-five people a week checking into the resort during the summer months, Roop and Cottle laid plans to enlarge their operation.¹³ The Hot Springs was designated a U.S. Post Office on March 28, 1873, and toward the end of the year, the partners constructed and furnished for \$18,000 a three-story hotel that became the centerpiece of their resort. "The magnificent structure," crowed the Gilroy Advocate, "is a model building both in architectural design and interior arrangement."¹⁴

The new hotel's Italianate style gave it a modern flair. The first floor had a lounge with a fireplace, a sixteen-hundred-square-foot dining room,

kitchen and storeroom, office, two additional rooms, and a toilet. The second floor had four two-room suites and ten single rooms, each with a sink and running water, and two toilets down the hall. In September 1874, the third floor attic was finished with eight sleeping rooms.¹⁵ The hotel, combined with the cottages, provided a substantial number of sleeping rooms, certainly capable of providing overnight accommodations for one hundred guests. In July 1874, the Advocate reported that since March, when the Hot Springs season generally started, "from 150 to 200 visitors have been sojourning there . . . and there is no diminution of the travel." It added in a second article, drawn from the San Jose Mercury News, that "the number of guests has averaged 80 and greater numbers are expected. The accommodations are ample for 170 persons."¹⁶

By the the mid-1870s, some of the original forty cabins probably were razed. The last half of the decade brought changes to a number of the Hot Springs facilities. In 1875, Cottle hired carpenters in Gilroy to build more cottages and perhaps remodel others. In early 1877, two or three additional cottages were added. Within two years, a two-story sleeping annex with seventeen rooms, the Lick House, had been constructed, and other facilities reportedly available to guests included the hotel and nineteen cottages. In 1881, the cottages numbered twenty-two. The Hot Springs could accommodate two hundred guests, reported The Valley Record, and they would enjoy up-to-date bath houses, plunges, mud baths, and other appurtenances. Indeed, 170 guests registered at the hotel in July 1878, 146 in 1879, and 285 three years later in 1881.¹⁷

Gilroyans both benefited from and took great pride in their Hot Springs. The Advocate exulted in the increasing number of visitors to the resort and praised, as the "spring of life which De Soto sought for in Florida," the "healing virtues" of its average 110°F water.¹⁸ A pamphlet

celebrating "Gilroy as a Home" devoted three pages to describing and praising the resort as "the finest springs in the State."¹⁹ The Advocate regularly reported on Hot Springs improvements, as well as counseled Roop and Cottle to expand, to provide the best possible facilities, and to appeal not just to invalids seeking the curative powers of the water but to healthy pleasure seekers as well. The town had to take advantage of the Hot Springs if it were to become prosperous. The Hot Springs, thought the paper's editor, was an important element in Gilroy's potential as a winter resort for San Franciscans and other people "seeking retirement from care."²⁰ By the end of the 1870s, probably few Gilroyans would argue with the Advocate's position that the Hot Springs was "one of the most celebrated watering places in California."²¹

The last two decades of the nineteenth century were prosperous for Gilroy Hot Springs. Mention of it appeared in travel guides, and Roop regularly placed advertisements in the Daily Hotel Gazette and San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose, Sacramento, and other newspapers. The Advocate also continued promoting the resort, an 1886 "extra edition" likening it to Germany's famous Baden-Baden Hot Springs. San Francisco residents were alerted to Gilroy Hot Springs as early as 1875, when a Southern Pacific Railroad agent's broadside advertised the rail and stagecoach trip from San Francisco to the Hot Springs as only seven hours in duration. When the 1880s opened, the resort was a favorite destination for San Franciscans, some of them quite notable.²² San Francisco voice teacher and singer Margaret Alverson Blake was a regular guest. In 1878, she organized a musical festival at the Hot Springs to raise funds for San Francisco's Mercantile Library, and the next year her birthday was feted by 150 friends. In June 1885, Adolph Sutro and future reform mayor of San Francisco, James Phelan, spent a week at the resort. Phelan's wife, accompanied by a nurse, stayed

on, well into July. During the 1890s, A. B. Spreckels was also among the notable guests to visit Gilroy Hot Springs.²³

The resort's popularity brought increased traffic, and in the 1880s, road improvements again became mandatory. The road followed the bed of Coyote Creek for almost two miles on its upper end and was not always passable after heavy rains. Between 1883 and 1886, Roop paid the county regularly for repair work. Gilroy business people feared the rough road would cause "people who are in search of a pleasurable resort" to go elsewhere, and over one hundred of them petitioned the county in November 1886 to build a better road. San Franciscan F. A. Hyde owned property along the creek and consented to have a new forty-foot wide road cross his land and also waive damages. Hyde's consent opened the way for a road to be cut along the creek's northwest bank, but viewers reported in February 1887 that, even so, the lower portion would be too costly to build and land loss mitigation with some neighbors too high. The viewers recommended the road extend along the creek's southeast bank, from Cañada de los Osos to a bridge at the upper end by the Gilroy Hot Springs. They estimated a bridge would cost \$1,000 and road grading \$3,619. A survey of the new route was completed in May, and county supervisors authorized the road in August 1887.²⁴

In 1883, Cottle sold out to William Tennant. Born in London in 1830, Tennant had immigrated to California in 1851. He acquired and ran the Twenty-one Mile House near the community of Morgan Hill, farmed several hundred acres, was a director of the Bank of Gilroy, and owned the Williams Hotel in Gilroy. In 1888, Tennant died unexpectedly and without a last will and testament. Probate records, along with other descriptive accounts of the Hot Springs during the 1890s, provide a richer sense of the resort during this period. In addition to the hotel and Lick House, there was a Club House

housing a bar, billiard room, barber shop, offices, and telegraph and telephone station. In addition to baths and plunges, the grounds had a croquet turf, flower gardens, drinking fountains, and paths and walkways that, along with the main buildings and cottages, were lit at night by acetylene gas fixtures fed from a central generating system. To help in meeting the needs of their guests and carrying out day-to-day tasks, the proprietors kept some horses, housed a wagon and buggy in the barn, maintained two other four-horse wagons, operated a wash house, kept a carpenters shop. They employed some fifteen people, including waiters, cooks, dishwashers, occasional day laborers, a pantryman, kitchen helper, hostler, porter, gardener, barkeeper, and milker. Among the employees were individuals of Chinese, Japanese, French, and Irish extraction. Finally, the proprietors raised animals for the table. The inventory for August 1888 included thirteen hogs, twelve small pigs, eighteen ducks, and over one hundred poultry. They used a meadow one-quarter mile south of the hotel complex to graze an old bull and twenty-eight cows and calves.²⁵

A Leading Family Resort.

After Tennant died, George Roop and his son, George B. Roop (b. 1869), continued operating the Hot Springs. It took fourteen years to settle Tennant's estate, and, in March 1902, the younger Roop bought his father's old partner's interests in the resort for \$12,000 at public auction. In November 1903, Bay Cities Water Company, which was buying up water rights as part of a scheme to become the sole water supplier to San Francisco, secured an option on the Hot Springs, but let it expire in 1904. A year later, the Roops turned over day-to-day operation of the resort to William J. McDonald and his wife, Emily. This began a new era at Gilroy Hot Springs, one that gained stride through the 1910s, as the the McDonald's acquired half

condition must be accompanied by an attendant. THE WATERS ARE OF NO BENEFIT WHATEVER TO CONSUMPTIVES."²⁹ Because the bathtubs and plunges were geared toward people seeking the spring water's medicinal value, the McDonalds decided to add a swimming pool to better serve healthy visitors. In 1917, they opened a three- to seven-and-one-half-foot deep, twenty- by sixty-foot, concrete lined swimming tank. Ten "gents" and eight "ladies" dressing rooms surrounded it, and soon Gilroyans began to undertake day visits just to enjoy the new bathing facilities.³⁰

Among their various improvements in 1913, the McDonalds also constructed an automobile garage. By 1919, the end of World War I, automobile ownership in California was rising quickly. In July, the Advocate reported: "Gilroy Hot Springs is the haven of numerous auto parties these weekends. Manager McDonald has been crowded nearly every weekend and on the 4th was compelled to turn away many who had not made reservations."³¹ Not surprisingly, the roadway to the Hot Springs became an issue. Henry Hecker, the county supervisor representing the Gilroy area, often visited the Springs, and he took a personal interest in improving the county road. By May 1921, County Engineer Irving L. Ryder had a force of men cutting down the length of Gilroy Hot Springs Road and widening it so that it would "permit the passing of autos at almost any point."³² Evidence suggests that, during this road improvement effort, Ryder also designed and constructed the steel truss bridge crossing Coyote Creek at the end of the county road.³³ The new road was described in 1925 as an excellent highway, costing \$60,000, and providing easy and safe access to the Hot Springs.³⁴

During the 1920s, the resort attracted the largest crowds in its history. Additional cottages were built, bringing the total to twenty-four, and the total number of registrants at the resort regularly surpassed three hundred almost every July and August. In 1923, 420 guests registered in

ownership in 1913 and entered formal partnership with George B. Roop in 1917.²⁶

The local press continued to report on activities at the Hot Springs, as well as show its appreciation of the resort's value to the community. For example, after the devastating April 1906 earthquake, the Gilroy Advocate took note of the fact that San Francisco's soon-to-be infamous mayor, Eugene Schmitz, along with Congressman Julian Kahn, Mayor Dunlap of Gilroy, and other local notables, stayed at the resort in July, dancing on Saturday night to Thiriet's Orchestra. In 1914, the newspaper made clear the value of Gilroy Hot Springs to the community in an editorial opposing a local prohibition measure on the June ballot. Observing that prohibiting liquor sales in unincorporated areas of the county would probably cut back on patronage at the resort, the editor wrote: "For over 30 years the Gilroy Hot Springs has been one of the principal assets to the trade of Gilroy, and has brought Gilroy before the country more than any other attraction." Guests at the resort were usually people of means, and their trade with local merchants was worth between \$18,000 to \$20,000 per year. Although not likely because of this one editorial, voters nevertheless turned down the ordinance two weeks later.²⁷

As had previous proprietors, the McDonalds made various improvements to the Hot Springs. Around 1913, they supplemented acetylene lighting in the main buildings with a gasoline lighting system, renovated the grounds, and both removed and replaced some of the older cottages, leaving a total of fifteen.²⁸ In their advertising, the McDonalds noted that "thousands of marvelous cures have been effected by [the spring] waters in cases of Rheumatism, Gout, Lead and Mercurial poisoning, Alcoholism, Kidney and Liver troubles, Bladder and Urinary complaints." But they underscored that they were not running "a sanitarium." "Rheumatics coming here in a helpless

July and 460 in August. Sunday, July 5, 1925, brought a record of over five hundred revelers to the Hot Springs, and McDonald had to turn away 133 people. Roy Alexander's orchestra from Salinas played, and McDonald put on a barbecue for over two hundred of the guests. The Hot Springs became a favorite destination for auto parties and other outings. During May and June 1924, for example, "a large delegation of the San Francisco Motorcycle Club" visited the resort, the three-day Memorial Day holiday drew a sell-out crowd, and the Gilroy High School Senior Class held its picnic and swimming party there.³⁵ Throughout the decade, the resort hosted a variety of events: birthday and swimming parties, Saturday night dances, local service club socials, a masquerade ball, the county public health nurses's barbecue, an outing of the Coast County Lumber Dealers Association, and regular Thursday night poker games that drew notable Gilroyans. No doubt a special attraction of Gilroy Hot Springs--well known but for which no documentation exists--was its ready stock of boot-leg liquor and slot machines.³⁶

The 1920s also brought changes in management and ownership. George B. Roop and his wife, Maud, moved to Hollywood and sold their interests in the resort to William and Emily McDonald and William's sister, Mary Elizabeth Allen. By 1923, Mary married Harry E. Maggard, who joined the McDonalds in managing the business. Then, unexpectedly and suddenly, in late-September, at the end of their most successful summer season, William died. Emily, joined by other family members and the Maggards, continued running the resort, but questions about its future began to surface. In 1928, the Gilroy Advocate reported that Emily McDonald was selling her interests to the San Francisco "Bay City Elks." Improvements were expected from the new owners, said the paper, and Mary Maggard would keep her share and run the hotel dining room. But the transfer never occurred. In the end, Emily McDonald was unable to pay a \$22,000 promissory note she and

her husband had given the Roops in 1924. The Roops finally brought legal action to secure payment, and, in September 1932, a foreclosure sale conveyed ownership of the Hot Springs to a trusteeship for the Roop's minor daughter Florence.³⁷

On September 12, 1928, an article in the automobile section of the San Jose News was headlined: "Gilroy Hot Springs Have Been Magnet of Valley for 60 Years." For almost four decades of the nineteenth century, George Roop and his son had been the catalyst behind the successful resort. For most of the first quarter of the twentieth century, William J. McDonald played that role, and his death marked the beginning of the end for the Hot Springs' reign as California's leading family resort. The number of guests diminished, slowly at first, but more quickly as the Great Depression impacted Californians. One of the last bits of novel excitement at the resort came in 1930. On July 29th, a Sacramento county school principal, Kenneth Hodge, age thirty, married, with three children, left home, telling his wife he was going to Reno to seek work. The same night, one of his pupils, Dorothy Bonucelli, age fifteen, left home, according to her father, under strange circumstances. A statewide search began for the "eloping couple," and reports of their whereabouts came from as far away as Seattle, Washington. In mid-August, Harry Maggard at the Hot Springs, reported the couple spent a Sunday night there, leaving the next day at noon in a new auto.³⁸

In another time, the Hot Springs tiny connection to a scandalous elopement might have attracted some curious guests. Not this time. Resort attendance continued declining. A. A. Crabbe and his son Ernest took over managment on behalf of Florence Roop, but things did not improve. In August 1935, the Southern Pacific Railroad, which for many years had authorized the auto stage from Gilroy to the resort, told Crabbe to

discontinue its service. In April 1934, the orders were issued to close down the Gilroy Hot Springs Post Office. The next year, the sixty-eight registered guests at the resort in July were fewer in number than in any July since the 1860s, and only three times during the 1880s and 1890s had fewer than ninety-eight people registered in the month of August. In February 1936, George B. Roop died, and a month later his daughter Florence reached maturity and gained full title to the resort. That year the Gilroy High School Teachers held their annual banquet at the resort and guest registration in July reached 114. Although the rest of the season was poor, Florence undertook, perhaps in memory of her father, to renovate the hotel for the 1937 season. She sustained the resort's patronage through two years but, in September 1938, sold out.³⁹

Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs.

"Japanese Capitalist Buys Famed Gilroy Hot Springs Resort," announced the Gilroy Advocate on September 15, 1938. The L. and W. Land Company, controlled by (Harry) Kyuzaburo Sakata, a successful lettuce grower and shipper in nearby Watsonville, purchased the Hot Springs from Florence Roop. Sakata announced he would be investing \$50,000 in improvements, including building a tennis court, golf practice course, and a Japanese garden, the latter to be planned by Nagao Sakurai, the Imperial gardener from Tokyo, who helped design the Japanese exposition at San Francisco's World Fair Exposition at Treasure Island. He kept the Hot Springs open to the public, hired an "experienced manager" named Mrs. Tanaka, and by 1939 had installed Japanese style bathtubs for both men and women. Because Sakata also was prominent in activities of the Pajaro Valley Japanese Presbyterian Church, he opened the resort for Japanese Young People's

conferences and other church activities. Within weeks of his purchasing the Hot Springs, almost all guests signing the resort register had Japanese names. Through the winter, between fifteen and thirty people registered each week, largely coming from Monterey, San Francisco, and Oakland, some from southern California and the Central Valley.⁴⁰

Sakata's ownership of Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs symbolized, on various levels, the Japanese-American experience in the United States. Unlike some immigrant groups to America that chose to withdraw to separate cultural enclaves in the face of discrimination, Japanese immigrants persistently struggled against exclusion from full equality in American society, while at the same time retaining their own cultural traditions and pride. When oppressed by low wages and high rents, they resisted with their own agricultural cooperatives and living arrangements. They combated discrimination by forming Japanese language schools, organizing churches, and holding festivals to celebrate traditional Japanese holidays. When white Californians enacted the Alien Land Law Act in the 1913, legislation aimed at preventing Japanese immigrants from owning or leasing land, Japanese-Americans successfully bypassed it. By the 1930s, their struggle for full inclusion in American life seemed, in some ways, to have paid off. Despite the Great Depression, many Japanese-Americans, like Kyuzaburo Sakata, were economically successful, and Nisei (American-born, second-generation Japanese) were well acculturated to European-American society.⁴¹

Yet, Japanese-Americans, particularly those who immigrated from Japan, the Issei, continued to feel strong ties to their homeland and culture. Sakata himself came from the Wakayama Prefecture, near Osaka, Japan, an area known for its hot springs, and he envisioned Gilroy Hot Springs as "ideal for aging issei to take a rest physcially and mentally." By acquiring the resort

and renaming it Gilroy Yamato [Japanese] Hot Springs, he provided Japanese-Americans throughout California with a health, recreation, and entertainment center that tapped into strongly felt cultural tradition. The "prelude" of the advertising booklet he published soon after World War II particularly captured this: "We, Japanese," it began, "have special sentimental attachment to Hot Springs." Bathing and soaking in hot springs was an active part of Japanese life that also represented Japanese appreciation and enjoyment of nature. "Americans of Japanese ancestry became sentimental recalling their mother land by dipping into [Gilroy] Hot Springs." In 1939, an Issei visitor to the Hot Springs also expressed this: "Growing up in Japan, we have nurtured a longing for a hot spring since our childhood. We are proud of having added to our community a hot spring resort, though only one."⁴²

As the only Japanese-American owned hot springs resort in California, Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs quickly became a focal point for Japanese-Americans who, despite their struggle for inclusion in American society, desired a traditional and culturally comfortable hot springs experience. "It is hard to watch Japanese people being expelled from wherever they go," wrote one visitor in 1939. "Only here in Yamato Hot Springs, Japanese people can put on yukata [traditional robes] and make themselves feel at home." Keiji Kamenno, from Fresno, endorsed this view: "It would be impossible to enjoy the comfort of wearing Japanese yukata and geta [traditional wooden clogs] in hot springs managed by Americans."⁴³ But, Jinichiro Abe, from Sacramento, in calling Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs "a world of our own," underlined the profundity of feelings inherent in the fact of Japanese-American ownership:

I believe that it is not only me who, like it or not, feels an indefinable sense of oppression in everyday life. This oppressive feeling deepens

especially in public places such as American hotels, restaurants, swimming pools, entertainment centers or hot springs. In addition, it is not rare that, although often paying more than others, we are treated as a nuisance. Generally, hot springs managed by Americans welcome us only during the winter when the number of customers decreases, but during the summer when their business is good, they treat us coldly. What kind of rest can we take when we are received coldly and feel unpleasant? What kind of vacation is it?⁴⁴

Perhaps Abe had visited Mono Hot Springs, near Southern California Edison's Big Creek hydroelectric project in the southern Sierra Nevada. It was popular among Japanese-Americans during the late-1930s, and the Caucasian attitude, as reported by David Redinger, was that "they really took over the place. Whole families moved in and remained for the season; consequently, it was not so popular with other campers during that period." The dull throb of daily discrimination was everywhere. Even at Gilroy Hot Springs, before Sakata acquired the property, it seems to have been the rule. In 1941, Hiroshi Ryokaku wrote somewhat bitterly that Japanese-Americans previously felt unwelcome there: "under the previous management, puny legged white people frowned upon Japanese tourists and preferred nothing to do with us."⁴⁵

Ironically, under Sakata's proprietorship, although "a Japanese atmosphere took over, erasing the traces of American origin, . . . that did not mean the disappearance of American guests." Caucasians may no longer have registered as overnight guests, but they continued to be day visitors. In 1939, a Japanese-American visitor noted the pool "was almost exclusively filled with Americans enjoying swimming. Yukata-wearing Japanese in the bleachers looked upon those Americans in the pool. This was a really funny spectacle." The Japanese visitor went on to say that "Japanese guests have

an idea that they own this resort. As a result they are not constrained and can enjoy themselves. Americans seem to feel friendly toward Japanese people just be seeing us act naturally. This resort cultivates in silence friendly relations between America and Japan."⁴⁶

Having a hot springs resort that they could call their own was an important part of the Japanese-American experience in California during the late-1930s. Keiji Kamenno, from Fresno, wrote in 1939 that lying down after a bath the sound of the surrounding natural environment led him to feel very sentimental: "It was the very first time in my life of more than thirty years in America that I relished the sound of rain and the singing of crickets: It enabled me to yearn for my beloved old home." In 1941, Abe, from Sacramento, wrote that he experienced "the illusion that I am relaxing in a rural hot spring located in a secluded ravine in Japan." He said, for people who might object to his suggesting that there could exist such "a place rich with Japanese mood in wild California, . . . "Yes, come to Yamato Hot Springs in Gilroy."⁴⁷

Sei Mitani, in a long article about the resort that appeared in the May 8, 1941, Los Angeles Japan Times, suggested he had found his "spiritual hometown in Yamato Hot Springs." Reminding him of Mt. Yoshino in the Nara area near Wakayama and other Japanese mountains, he wrote about the spiritual importance of Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs for Japanese-Americans. "The spirit of the Japanese people derives from the purity of their minds," he said. "Being clean and pure is the essence of the national spirit. If this spirit disappears, Japanese people will also disappear from the North American Continent." He suggested, therefore, that the Hot Springs was a gift to Japanese-Americans from Kyuzaburo Sakata, and they had a responsibility to "protect the pureness of the hot spring given by Mother Nature and make this a place to revive the Japanese spirit among our fellow countrymen along

the Pacific coast."⁴⁸

In 1940, Kisuke Yamada, a seaweed wholesaler and leading merchant from the Asakusa part of Tokyo, visited the Hot Springs and built a Buddhist Shrine there. Calling it "the North American Shrine," Mitani said the Imperial Rescript on Education, issued in 1890 in the name of the Meiji Emperor, was to be enshrined there as well. The approximately two-hundred-word long Rescript guided the conduct of Japanese at home and abroad, reinforcing in them a deep sense of racial and national pride and of conjugal harmony and family life. For Mitani it was not just "auspicious words from the great Emperor Meiji but also the eternal truth of heaven and earth given by our ancestral gods enshrined far away. . . . If we abide by the spirit of the Imperial Rescript and make it the law to govern our daily living, we will be eventually welcomed in American as respectable and virtuous citizens." At Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs, he said, "the North American Shrine will wait for you as your spiritual hometown. . . . [a] sacred place to purify and sanctify our family life and thus fulfill our mission for the further development of our race." By faithfully realizing the teaching of the Rescript "in our everyday life," both Issei and Nisei could fulfill "the most important mission given to us . . . and make the Japanese family life as a model for American family life."⁴⁹

In fact, it appears that Sakata found some of this a bit awkward. Salvation Army Captain Masuo Kitaji (1897-1973), leader of the Oakland and San Jose Japanese Corps of the Salvation Army before World War II and postwar manager of the resort, recalled that "Mr. Sakata was a good Christian man," committed equally to his beliefs and to his Japanese-American countrymen. Because many Japanese-Americans were Buddhists, Sakata often found himself torn between his religious beliefs and his people. "Ninety-nine percent of old people were Buddhists," said Kitaji. "Everynight they want

gambling. No good."⁵⁰ And, they drank as well, although Sakata opposed it and welcomed guests who sought to overcome problems with liquor. Indeed, Kisuke Yamada apparently came to the Hot Springs with a drinking problem and built the Buddhist Shrine as a memorial to his personal victory. While Mitano praised the presence of the shrine, Sakata actually opposed having a temple on the grounds but felt he could not refuse Yamada. He did, however, insist that Yamada locate it up the hill, some distance from the cottages above the hotel.⁵¹

In addition to running the Hot Springs as a resort, Sakata also offered Japanese-American friends and acquaintances the opportunity to pick out a spot on the property and build their own cabin, with the understanding that they could occupy the land as long as he owned it. In 1939, he made a verbal agreement with a San Francisco transport company owner named Fujii who built a house which Sakata took over after World War II, and with Ichizo Shikano and Sadakusu Enomoto. Shikano was a flower grower from Centerville (now Fremont, north of San Jose), who specialized in sweet peas and chrysanthemums. He chose a site a few hundred feet south of the hotel and had plans drawn for a small cabin by Hachi Yuasa, a graduate student at U.C. Berkeley's architecture school. Shikano bought his building materials in Centerville, gathered stone for a fireplace, chimney, and retaining wall from the creekbed below his building site, and constructed his cabin over the winter of 1939-1940. His family used it for vacations, their last visit on December 7, 1941. They did not return after the war. When Sakata finally sold the Hot Springs in the 1964, he compensated them for the cost of materials they had purchased for the cabin.⁵²

Sadaskusu Enomoto owned a nursery in Redwood City. Around 1938, he chose a site north of the spring and bathhouses to build, and one of his nursery employees, a carpenter named Fujio Matsuyama, designed and built a

cabin with two bedrooms separated by a kitchen. On a precipice overlooking Coyote Creek, Matsuyama also constructed a redwood tea house. Enomoto brought his family to the Hot Springs until the war began, and again in the years following the war. His son, John, who regularly brought his own children to the cabin during the 1950s and early 1960s, remembers that his father and mother often would take dinner with Sakata in the "dining room," located in the Club House. As a boy and later when he had his own family with him, John never joined his elders for dinner.⁵³

Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, American wartime fears and ethnocentrism engendered the greatest of oppressions against Japanese-Americans: their removal to internment camps and, in most cases, the loss of their property. As elsewhere in California, little was said openly, at the time, about the removal of Japanese-Americans in and around Gilroy from their homes. According to the Gilroy Advocate, 550 Japanese-Americans, about 400 of them Nisei, resided in the Gilroy area in 1942. Comprising about 13 percent of the Japanese-American population of Santa Clara County, they had been in the community for some years. They operated about forty-three farms in the area, some as tenants and some as owners. Some were quite successful, like Kiyarshi (James) Hirasaki, age 52, one of the largest garlic farmers in California. In early 1942, the Advocate, in three brief mentions, noted the size of the local Japanese-American population, indicated businesses owned or operated by them, and reported on Japanese and other aliens in the community. In a fourth report, the newspaper reported perfunctorily that gun shots fired into a Japanese-American home on New Years Eve had injured an adult and ten year old child. Then, on May 28, it reported simply that all Japanese in the Gilroy district had been removed the week before and taken to a reception center in Salinas.⁵⁴

From 1942 until 1945, Gilroy's Japanese-Americans, along with some sixty thousand other Japanese-Americans who lived in California, were held isolated camps far from their homes and, in most cases, their state. Almost all accepted relocation simply because the government of their nation asked them to do it. Their sons joined the military; they remained patriotic Americans. They continued striving for inclusion in American society, even as they experienced the worst possible exclusion. And, when they returned, they sought to heal the wounds inflicted on both themselves and their nation.⁵⁵

In the prelude to Kyuzaburo Sakata's postwar advertising booklet for Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs, one senses the Japanese-American struggle, their wounds, and their healing. Sakata invited his fellow Japanese-Americans to join him in "the blessing nature created in Hot Springs in our search for the power of healing." The springs were "once a place to cure illnesses and a place to rest souls. It was a peaceful rehabilitation." It should be again. Once more, "it is a place to refresh the body and soul and to prepare for life's real challenges." "Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs is the ideal place to satisfy all of these conditions and the very place of nature's grace." Sakata wanted "to build a recreation center with aesthetic Japanese sentiment and long to preserve our pride in the U.S.A. as a race of Japanese," and to that end he offered his resort to his people and to his country, both before and after the war.⁵⁶

Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor and before he and other Japanese-Americans were forceably evacuated from their homes, Sakata offered to donate the Hot Springs to the U.S. Army as a rehabilitation center for wounded servicemen. The government turned him down, on the grounds that the property was too hilly, and Caucasian partners in the L. W. Land

Company watched over the Hot Springs until Sakata returned after the war. In September 1945, Sakata asked for and got the War Relocation Authority and the Presbyterian Home Mission Board to jointly sponsor use of the Hot Springs as a hostel for Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, San Benito, and Monterey county Japanese-American servicemen, ex-servicemen, and families returning from concentration camps. The WRA provided equipment necessary to house up to 150 people in the hotel and cottages. Advertisements and announcements about the hostel were placed in Japanese language newspapers and special reports issued by the Salvation Army and Presbyterian Church. Every Sunday, from San Francisco, the hostel provided guests with automobile transportation.⁵⁷

In July 1946, Sakata reopened the Hot Springs for regular business, advertising in the Gilroy Dispatch. During the next few years, he raised some funds by selling 158 acres of the property to rancher Frank Coit and hired Henry Kato and Masaaki Kato, no relation, to manage the resort. The guests continued primarily to be Japanese-Americans, and they came from every corner of California to enjoy wearing yukata and geta in the special comfort of Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs. As the 1950s unfolded more Caucasians came, and overall attendance climbed, the number of guests reaching two hundred and more during July, August, and September. Church groups also met at the resort, such as conferences of members of the National Mission Staff of the Presebyterian Church working in the north coastal region of California. He replaced the hotel's mud sill foundation with cement, replaced the last original bathhouse in 1950 with a concrete brick one that incorporated the tile from the 1939 Japanese pavilion at the World Fair held on Treasure Island in traditional men's and women's Japanese soaking tubs, and, in September 1955, opened a new thirty- by sixty-foot swimming pool, with changing rooms, an adjacent barbecue area, and a bamboo forest

that shielded it from the back of the hotel. In addition picnicking, swimming, and soaking in the baths, visitors could rent horses for riding or lessons. Eighteen of the cottages were open to guests, each now equipped for housekeeping with butane cooking and heating stoves.⁵⁸

Sakata's use of butane stoves undid his efforts to maintain the Hot Springs resort. In the late 1950s, two people were gassed to death in a Santa Cruz motel because of a faulty butane heater. A subsequent statewide inspection of public accommodations using butane followed. When the Hot Springs were inspected, state officials told Sakata that he would have to modify the heating systems in the cottages. According to Kitaji, the state insisted the job had to be done on all the cottages at once. Since this was beyond Sakata's means, he locked up the cabins. Day use of the pool, barbecue area, and baths continued, but Sakata finally decided to sell out. In March 1964, Philip S. Grimes, a landscape architect and contractor from Portola Valley, his wife Marcia and Boyd C. and Jill Johnson Smith bought the Hot Springs, excepting the "Sakata cabin," standing just on the hill above the new pool and old hotel. Nine months later, Grimes organized the Gilroy Hot Springs Limited Partnership, to which he and Smith transferred the resort.⁵⁹

Between 1964 and 1988, Grimes's Gilroy Hot Springs Limited Partnership used the facilities as their own private resort. In September 1980, a fire, allegedly started by vandals, consumed the hotel, Club House, four cottages, and the ca. 1939 Sakata house (built by an unknown Japanese-American businessman and taken over by Sakata after World War II). In 1988, Grimes and his partners sold the Hot Springs to Fukuyama International, Inc., which launched plans to rehabilitate Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs as a Japanese-American cultural and recreational center.⁶⁰

Conclusion

Growing from a local spa into a regionally important health and recreational resort, Gilroy Hot Springs served residents Santa Clara County and the greater San Francisco Bay Area, as well as its local citizens. Not just a sanitarium, it played no small role in local economic and social activities, and the evolution of its facilities reflected the process of modernization through which all of American society went during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Finally, its role as a recreational, cultural, and spiritual center for Japanese-Americans during the years surrounding World War II, elevated it well beyond the ordinary. Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs is a testimony to the diversity and cultural richness of Santa Clara County and California.

DOCUMENTATION

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3. Herbert E. Bolton, Anza's California Expeditions (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1930), III:150-151 and 288-289; and Bolton, Outpost of Empire (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1931), 272.

4. Records Office, Santa Clara County, Preemptions, Book A, 4 September 1865, pp. 170-171, and Deeds, Book V, 4 March 1866, p. 324; Newton H. Chittenden, Health Seekers', Tourists', and Sportsmen's Guide to the Sea-side, Lake-side, Foothill, Mountain and Mineral Spring Health and Pleasure Resorts of the Pacific Coast (San Francisco: C. A. Murdock and Co., 1884), 174; J. P. Munro-Fraser, History of Santa Clara County, California (San Francisco: Alley, Bowen and Co., 1881), 41; Eugene Sawyer, History of Santa Clara County (Los Angeles: Historic Record Co., 1922), 91. The Cantua account is found in a number of local history sketches, as well as in the Schwaderer and Orlins cultural resources report.

5. U.S., Manuscript Census Schedules, Gilroy Township, 1870 and 1890; City of Gilroy, Assessment Roll, April 30, 1871; H. S. Foote, ed., Pen Pictures from the Garden of the World or Santa Clara County, California (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1888), 597-598; Sawyer, History of Santa Clara County, 292. Some records identify Oldham as Frank, others as William F., but on comparing them all, there is no doubt they refer to the same person.

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8. Gilroy Advocate, 18 December 1869, p. 3, c. 1, and 25 December 1869, p. 3, c. 3. Also J.H.A. Mills to Board of Supervisors, May 10, 1867, in Santa Clara County, Board of Supervisors, Gilroy Hot Springs Road File No. 195 (hereafter referred to as Road File No. 195); and Gilroy Advocate, 12 September 1868, p. 1, and 19 March 1870, p. 4, c. 4.

9. "Petition to Board of Supervisors by Twombly and Roop," May 15, 1870, in Road File No. 195.

10. Matthew Rahall to Board of Supervisors, June 13, 1870, and "Report of Viewers for No. 195, Gilroy Hot Springs Road," June 30, 1870, Road File No. 195; Gilroy Advocate, 8 April 1871, p. 3, and 11 July 1874, p. 2.

11. Gilroy Advocate, 25 May 1872, p. 3, c. 4, and 29 March 1873, p. 4, c. 6.

12. John A. Cottle may have been a member of the Royal Cottle family of the Willow Glen area of San Jose. In 1876, he sold his share in the Hot Springs to Rialto Don Cello Arrick, a twenty-one year old immigrant from Iowa. Roop and Arrick ran the resort together until 1879, when Arrick sold his share to Royal Cottle and went on to keep a hotel in San Ysidro and later in Berryessa. In 1883, when Royal Cottle sold out to William Tennant, John A. Cottle appeared on the conveyance of title owning the share in joint tenancy with Royal. John died in January 1890 in San Jose. See Records Office, Santa Clara County, Deeds, Book 42, 6 August 1876, p. 352, Book 51, 12 June 1879, p. 324, Book 66, 13 March 1883, p. 489, Book 67, 13 March 1883, p. 487; and Gilroy Advocate 4 January 1890, p. 5, c. 2. Also see the Great Register of Santa Clara County, 1884 and 1890, which helps identify Arrick.

Royal Cottle (1810-1891) started life in Missouri. After moving to Iowa and then Oregon and a brief stint in California during the Gold Rush, he finally settled in California in 1857, briefly in Gilroy, then San Benito, and permanently in Willow Glen. He served for many years as a San Jose school trustee. His son, Royal Cottle, Jr., was born in 1869 and entered farming in San Jose. See Sawyer, History of Santa Clara County, p. 411, and Great Register, 1890.

13. Advocate, 25 May 1872, p. 3, c. 4, 15 June 1872, p. 3, c. 3, and 27 July 1872, p. 3, c. 1; Records Officer, Santa Clara County, Deeds, Book 23, 29 September 1871, p. 481.

14. Advocate, 18 April 1874, p. 3, c. 2. Also see articles mentioning the hotel in issues for 28 February 1874, p. 2, c. 3, and 11 July 1874, p. 3, c. 3.

15. Edward M. Duerr, Architect, "Gilroy Hot Springs Existing Building--Hotel," Sheet No. 1 [floor plan], [ca. 1976]; James C. Williams, notes from visual inspection, 21 June 1978; Gilroy Advocate, 5 September 1874, p. 3, c. 2; Advertisement, Gilroy Advocate, 8 May 1915; Pamphlet, Gilroy Hot Springs, W. J. McDonald, Proprietor, [c. 1915], reprinted in "South Valley Living" supplement to the Gilroy Dispatch, 23 June 1971, pp. 2

and 4. A Gilroy Dispatch "Picture from the Past" showing Tony Serpa's Stanley Steamer Gilroy Hot Springs Stage (1913), Gilroy Hot Springs collection, Gilroy Museum, notes that "in 1874 running water was piped to second floor bedrooms from springs in the hillside."

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17. Ibid., 5 September 1874, p. 3, c. 2, 17 February 1877, p. 3., c. 3, 20 September 1879, p. 1, c. 4; Gilroy Weekly Leader, 25 June 1875, p. 3, c. 2; The Valley Record, 27 May 1881; Gilroy Hot Springs Hotel Register, Roop and Arrick, Proprietors, 1 April 1878 to 28 April 1880, and Arrick and Wilmarth, Proprietors, 25 August 1881 to 4 October 1883, Robert Thompson private collection, Mountain View, California.

18. Gilroy Advocate, 18 April, 1874, p. 3, c. 2. Also see 25 May 1872, p. 3, c. 4; 29 March 1873, p. 4, c. 6; 11 July 1874, pp. 2-3; 3 June 1876, p. 3, c. 1.

19. H. Coffin, Gilroy as a Home (Gilroy: "Advocate" Book and Job Printing, 1873), 31.

20. Gilroy Advocate, 28 February 1874, p. 2, c. 3, 24 April 1875, p. 2, c. 2, 9 November 1878, p. 3, c. 1, and, also see, 10 May 1873, p. 3, c. 2.

21. Ibid., 21 June 1879, p. 5, c. 4. Community pride continued to be evident in subsequent years, as evidenced by various newspaper reports. See, for example, The Valley Record, 13 August 1881, n.p., and 3 June 1887, n.p.

22. Henry T. Williams, ed., The Pacific Tourist (New York: Adams and Bishop, Publishers, 1881), 271, 274, and 277; Chittenden, Health Seekers', Tourists', and Sportsmen's Guide, 174; Roop and [William] Tennant Cash Book, June 1, 1886 to August 17, 1887, Thompson collection; "The Gilroy Valley: Its Resources and Home Prospects," Advocate Extra Edition, August 1886, p. 4; and Knowlton (Joseph) Co., San Francisco, 1874-1875, "Advertising Broadside showing stage and Southern Pacific Railroad connections, etc., for the areas of Gilroy...", California Historical Society, San Francisco.

23. Margaret Alverson Blake, Sixty Years of California Song ([Oakland, CA]: M. B. Alverson, 1913), 69-71 and 130-136; Gilroy Hot Springs Ledger, 1884-1886, pp. 108, 115-116, and 134, plus Gilroy Hot Springs Hotel Register, Roop and Son, Proprietors, August 22, 1895-March 31, 1905, Thompson collection.

24. Gilroy Hot Springs Ledger, 1883-1884, pp. 36, 47, 255, and 259, and Gilroy Hot Springs Ledger, 1884-1886, pp. 31, 78, 91, 250, 251, and 254, Thompson collection, "Petition to Board of Supervisors by Citizens of Gilroy," 10 November 1886; "Petition No. 346 to Board of Supervisors of George Roop, et al.," 6 December 1886; F.A. Hyde to Board of Supervisors, 22 November 1886; "Report of Viewers on Petition No. 346," 8 February 1887; "Second Report of Viewers on Petition No. 346," 5 May 1887; and "Ordinance Establishing Gilroy Hot Springs Road," 1 August 1887, in Road File No. 195. While County Surveyor A.T. Hermann was surveying the northwest bank

route, The Valley Record, January 11, 1887, reported he thought favorably of it and estimated its cost at no more than \$2,000. On July 29, 1893, after the new road was completed, Gilroy Advocate editors argued the road could be yet more direct, and called for further reducing its length from fifteen to twelve miles. Their suggestion went unheeded.

25. Sawyer, History of Santa Clara County, 42; Great Register, 1884; Munro-Fraser, History of Santa Clara County, pp. 575 and 608; Valley Record, 9 July 1881, n.p.; San Jose Mercury, 14 August 1892, p. 11; Records Office, Santa Clara County, Miscellaneous, Book T, 5 September 1888, pp. 372-385 (Estate of William Tennant). Also Account Ledger, March 1883-1884; Cash Book, March 23, 1883-September 4, 1884; Roop and Sons Ledger 1889, August 1890; Financial Record, April 1, 1896-July 30, 1898; Roop & Tennant Cash Book, June 1, 1886-August 17, 1887; and Gilroy Hot Springs Hotel Register, October 6, 1883-August 31, 1887, Thompson collection. Also see photograph of the Club House dated 1892 in The News Herald, 12 July 1972, p. 3, Gilroy Hot Springs collection, Gilroy Museum.

26. Records Office, Santa Clara County, Deeds, Book 247, 12 May 1902, p. 427; Superior Court, Santa Clara County, Case No. 13437, Judgement Book Y, 1 July 1901, p. 46; Title Abstracts for Gilroy Hot Springs, 1913-1917, Chicago Title Company, Santa Clara County; Gilroy Advocate, 29 March 1902, n.p., 14 November 1903, n.p., and 1 September 1917, p. 3, c. 2; Clipping, San Francisco Examiner, 10 November 1903, in Richard Schellen collection, section 56, vol. 1, cities C-G 1, pt. 2, Redwood City Library. Also see Norris Hundley, The Great Thirst: Californians and Water, 1770s-1990s (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1992), 174.

27. Advocate, 28 July 1906, n.p.; 13 June 1914, n.p.; 27 June 1914, n.p.

28. Pamphlet, Gilroy Hot Springs, [c. 1913], reprinted in Gilroy Dispatch, 5 May 1967, p. 4; "Picture from the Past," 1913, Serpa's Gilroy Hot Spring Stage, Gilroy Hot Springs collection, Gilroy Museum.

29. Pamphlet, Gilroy Hot Springs: California's Leading Family Resort, [c. 1915], reprinted in "South Valley Living," Gilroy Dispatch, 23 June 1971, p. 2.

30. Gilroy Advocate, 27 January 1917, p. 1, c. 6, 28 April 1917, p. 1, and 26 April 1918, p. 1, c. 6.

31. Ibid., 26 July 1919, p. 8, c. 3.

32. Ibid., 14 May 1921, p. 1, c. 4. Recorded visits of Hecker to the resort include a week in May 1919 and another week in 1923 (ibid., 10 May 1919, p. 1, c. 6, and 15 July 1923, p. 1, c. 6).

33. I. L. Ryder, Plans for Gilroy Hot Springs Road bridge, 1921, in Santa Clara County, Transportation Department, Bridge and Highway Design Section, Vertical File "Gilroy Hot Springs Road Bridge, Coyote Creek, log mile 6.66." The plans show a simple span steel truss, with timber stringers, timber transverse plank decking, and rolled steel floor beams. It is measured at 120 feet long by 20 feet wide and is placed on reinforced concrete abutments. Ryder is credited with design in 1921. The file also notes the

bridge was replanked in 1958-1960.

In Superior Court, Santa Clara County, Case No. 13437, 1901, reference is made to posting notices of property sale at the Williams Hotel, Hot Springs hotel, Zuck's Corners, and "at the steel bridge crossing Coyote Creek and on the County Road known as Hot Springs Road." This suggests that either the 1921 bridge plans in the county records are dated incorrectly or that Ryder replaced an earlier bridge with the 1921 bridge. The remains of abutments for a bridge are in the creekbed a few hundred feet upstream from the 1921 steel bridge. It seems likely that a previous bridge was removed when the major road work was completed in 1921.

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35. Gilroy Hot Springs Hotel Register, W. J. McDonald, Proprietor, April 1, 1920-April 1, 1924, Thompson collection. Gilroy Advocate, 17 May 1924, p. 5, c. 2; 24 May 1924, p. 5, c. 5; 21 June 1924, p. 1, c. 6; 26 July 1924, p. 8; (advertisement) 25 April 1925, n.p.; and 11 July 1925, p. 1, c. 5.

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clippings translated by Masaru Seido, April 1995, Masaru Seido private collection, San Francisco, California (page numbers refer to pages of typescript translation).

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42. Mitani, "Praise for Yamato Hot Springs" p. 7, and Jinichiro Abe, "Travel Sketches of Yamato Hot Springs," 1941, p. 14, in Scrapbook, Japanese language newspaper clipping translated by Masaru Seido, April 1995; Pamphlet, Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs, ca. 1945; untitled clipping, ca. 1939, in Scrapbook, Japanese language newspaper clipping translated by Masaru Seido, April 1995, Seido collection.

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50. Gary Middleton, "The Captain and the Ghosts," San Jose News-Herald, 12 September 1972, n.p.

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52. Telephone interview with Kazuo Shikano, San Jose, California, by Kent Seavey, November 20, 1994; interview with Henry Kato.

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1942, 12 March 1942, and 28 May 1942.

55. Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and James D. Houston, Farewell to Manzanar (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1973).

56. Pamphlet, Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs, ca. 1945, n.p.

57. Ibid; newspaper clipping from "Watsonville paper," 8 September 1945, and J.A.C.L. Reporter, September 1945, Seido collection; Middleton, "The Captain and the Ghosts;" Kitaji obituary, Gilroy Dispatch, 24 January 1973. During World War II, Byron Hot Springs was taken over by the Army and renamed Camp Tracy. It was used as an interrogation center for high-ranking prisoners of war, according to Joanne Whitfield, "Byron Hot Springs," Pacific Historian, 20 (Summer 1976):143-146.

58. Records Office, Santa Clara County, Orders, Book 2283, 14 September 1951, p. 87; Gilroy Hot Springs Hotel Registers, February 29, 1948-January 18, 1953 and January 1, 1953-May 4, 1956, and "Mission Staff Conference Ends" newspaper clipping in Scrapbook, Seido collection; "A Trip to Yamato Hot Springs," 1955, p. 22, in Scrapbook, Japanese language newspaper clipping translated by Masaru Seido, April 1995, Seido collection; advertisement, Gilroy Dispatch, 19 July 1946, p. 3, and "New pool open at Hot Springs," 1 September 1955, pp. 1 and 4; "Once-Posh Gilroy Hot Springs," San Jose Mercury-News, 3 July 1960. Also photocopies in possession of James C. Williams, from the Thompson collection, of an advertising broadside, 2 June 1955; informational data sheets on swimming pool, 1955 (typewritten); Gilroy Hot Springs Resort information sheet, c. 1955 (mimeographed); partial informational sheet, c. 1955 (photocopy); two pamphlets, Gilroy Hot Springs Health & Recreation, Henry Kato and Masaaki Kato (Gilroy: Gilroy Printers and Office Supplies, [c. 1955]) and Gilroy Hot Springs for Health & Recreation, c. 1955.

59. Middleton, "Captain and the Ghosts," n.p.; Records Office, Santa Clara County, Deed, No. 2778344, Book 6816, 15 January 1965, p. 495; Certificate of Limited Partnership, Deeds, No. 2778343, Book 6816, 15 January 1965, p. 487.

60. "Fire Razes Hot Springs," Gilroy Dispatch, 8 September 1980, p. 1; "Long-defunct Spa Near Gilroy May Be Remodeled," San Jose Mercury News, 12 September 1988, p. 2B.

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