Presidential Visits Then and Now

Submitted to

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County

Essay Contest

April 2011

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Table of Contents

Prologue	3
The Vice President Becomes President	3
The President Takes a Trip	3
The President Plants a Tree	4
The Common People	6
The Tree Thrives	8
The Tree Is Threatened	9
A Myth Is Debunked	9
The Tree is Down But Not Out	10
The Bench	11
A Tree Grows in Campbell	12
The President Stops Here	13
A Candidate Appears	15
A New Era	15
Acknowledgement	16
References	16
List of Illustrations	18

Presidential Visits Then and Now

Prologue

On Saturday, May 10, I was among a group of excited citizens who waited in anticipation for the arrival of the train carrying President Theodore Roosevelt. Finally, we heard the steam engine puffing up the mountain, and cheered as the train arrived at the platform of the Roaring Camp Railroad station in Felton, California. The president and a group of dignitaries disembarked to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Teddy Roosevelt's visit to the Big Trees. Admittedly, our President was an actor, and our dignitaries were modern folk in period dress. President Roosevelt addressed us in his energetic, forthright way, as he had on that first presidential visit, in May of 1903. That occasion was deemed significant enough to warrant this recreation in 2003.

The Vice President Becomes President

On September 14, 1901, President William McKinley died. He had been shot at a reception in Buffalo, New York by Leon Czolgosz, an anarchist. At age 42, Theodore Roosevelt "was the youngest man ever called upon to preside over the United States—itself the youngest of the world powers."[1] He plunged into his new responsibilities with enthusiasm, energy, and boldness.

The President Takes a Trip

In 1903, President Roosevelt embarked on a speaking tour through the west, to explain his legislative program to the people. On the afternoon of April 1, 1903, he rode with the engineer in the locomotive of the Pacific Coast Special for forty-nine miles, from Altoona, Pennsylvania to Seward. He was beginning an ambitious eight-week trip, traveling fourteen thousand miles through twenty-five states, visiting nearly 150 towns

and cities and giving an estimated two hundred speeches. His train was six cars long. It included a baggage car, a club car complete with barbershop, a diner, a large Pullman which carried reporters, photographers, telegraphers, and Secret Service men; a sleeper car for White House staff, and the president's own *Elysian,* which was seventy feet long and had two sleeping chambers, two bathrooms, a private kitchen, a dining room, a stateroom with picture windows, and an airy rear platform. [2]

The train reached Redlands, California on May 7, Los Angeles on May 8, and three days later arrived in the redwoods above Santa Cruz. He admired the trees but was upset when he saw the calling cards and advertising posters. " 'Those cards pinned up on that tree give an air of the ridiculous to this majestic grove,' he said angrily. He began to lecture bystanders. 'Do keep these trees, keep all the wonderful scenery of this wonderful state unmarred by vandalism or the folly of man'. Refusing an official escort, he went to cool off in a nearby grove. When he came back, the cards had been taken down." [3] His words were preserved and reprised 100 years later under the same redwoods trees that he had admired.

The President Plants a Tree

Before the train had reached California, citizens of Campbell were preparing for the historic visit. J. Fred Smith, the principal of the newly created Campbell High School District, hoped that if the president planted a tree, a high school might be built on the site. In 1903, high school classes were held on the second floor of the Campbell Grammar School building [4]. Mr. Smith wrote to the president on April 23, and received a reply on White House stationary, dated May 2, 1903, Sharon, Kansas, from William Loeb, Jr., the president's secretary. Mr. Loeb said "the details of the President's visits at the various

places where he stops are necessarily left largely in the hands of the local committees of arrangements. I would therefore suggest that you confer with the local committee in your city regarding the matter to which you refer." [5] Mr. Smith did so.

By May 11, the citizens of Campbell were ready. The President rode in a horse drawn carriage down streets decorated with flags, bunting, and roses and lined with crowds of people on both sides. [6] The 1903 *Oriole*, the Campbell High School yearbook, included a photo and a verbal description of the visit.

> Campbell enjoyed a peculiar distinction among the high schools of the State during President Roosevelt's visit to the Coast. During his ride though this valley he stopped at Campbell to plant a tree in the name of the high school. At his arrival he was greeted by "America" sung by the children lined up at the corner of Campbell Avenue and Los Gatos-Santa Clara Road.
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> After planting the tree, Mr. Roosevelt turned to the children and said: "It is a great pleasure to take part in planting this tree in the presence of the children of Campbell. I do not know of anything that bids better for our material well being than the tree culture, and I know of nothing among the great many things that the National Grange has done that it has done better than fostering the habit of caring for the forests where they exist and the planting of new trees. And then even above trees come the children, that is the important part. It is a peculiar pleasure for me to address the children. I have just one word to say to you; it is something I should say to your elders also. I believe in play and I believe in work. I want to see you play hard while you play and when you work do not play at all." [7]

"After pictures were taken, the President in true political fashion leaned over the perambulator of infant Matthew Burns and gave him a presidential kiss on the cheek. Matthew Burns was the son of plumber James Burns and the family was aglow over the unexpected honor" [8]

That evening, the President requested that his train car be pulled onto a siding in the orchards of Campbell, where it was peaceful and quiet.[9]

The following day, Mr. Roosevelt visited San Jose.

> After addressing the thousands of men, women and children assembled around the platform which had been erected for the occasion, and fittingly decorated with bunting, palms, and flowers, he went for a drive, accompanied by a mounted escort of citizens…Besides these there were a large number of carriages containing the members of the President's party, the reception committee, and the newspaper representatives. The route was along the beautiful and well kept roads, and many were the pleasing incidents that occurred to heighten the pleasure of the distinguished guest. On Santa Clara Street the ruler of the United States halted to greet the pupils of Notre Dame College, and to accept a bunch of magnificent rosebuds…After passing along the famed Alameda, he was warmly greeted by Rev. Robert E. Kenna, president of Santa Clara College, who with the faculty and students of this historic seat of learning, had gathered in front of the grand old mission cross. [10]

One incident that was not pleasing became a "tall tale" involving Sarah Winchester, as related by local author and artist Ralph Rambo. The legend grew that "When President Theodore Roosevelt's entourage passed the Winchester

House…he expressed desire to visit this now world-famous dwelling. At the great front door our nation's leader was more than astonished to be coldly told by the butler, 'Mrs. Winchester is not at home.'" The real story, he writes, is that "President Theodore Roosevelt did not personally seek admittance to the house. He was driven directly by it. (The writer was standing directly across the road that day!) The San Jose Chamber of Commerce *did* ask permission to show off her house to the President. They received her sharp, ' No!' " [11]

The Common People

What made the trip worthwhile, in Roosevelt's view, were the throngs of common folk who rode or walked from near and far to see the first president they really felt to be their own. Roosevelt afterward told John Hay,

> Wherever I stopped at a small city or country town, I was greeted by the usual shy, self-conscious, awkward body of local committeemen, and spoke to the usual audience of thoroughly good American citizens…That is, the audience consisted partly of the townspeople, but even more largely of rough-coated, hard-headed, gaunt, sinewy farmers and hired hands from their neighborhood, who had driven in with their wives and daughters, and often with their children, from ten or twenty or even thirty miles round about. For all the superficial differences between us, down at bottom these men and I think a good deal alike, or at least have the same ideals, and I am always sure of reaching them in speeches which many of my Harvard friends would think not only homely, but commonplace….Most of these people habitually led rather gray lives, and they came in to see the President…It was something to talk over and remember and tell

their children about…I think that besides the mere curiosity there was a good feeling behind it all, a feeling that the President was their man and symbolized their government, and that they had a proprietary interest in him and wished to see him, and that they hoped he embodied their aspirations and their best thought. [12]

The Tree Thrives

The California redwood, Sequoia sempervirens, one of the West's most famous trees, was an inspired choice. It is the tallest of the world's trees, almost entirely pest free, and almost always fresh looking and woodsy smelling. It does very well planted in a lawn. [13] The Roosevelt redwood thrived, and the hopes of Principal J. Fred Smith came to fruition when the first high school building was constructed in 1904. It was located on the southeast corner of present-day Winchester Boulevard and Campbell Avenue. [14]

The tree, and its history, continued to grow in size, and in importance to the community. The shovel used in the planting was engraved with the inscription "The Shovel used by President Roosevelt in planting the Roosevelt Redwood, C.U.H.S., May 11, 1903." [15] The tree is seen in a photo on a 1910 postcard of the high school,[16] and is shown surrounded by water in a postcard photo of the flood of 1911.[17] The redwood is much taller in the later photo which accompanies the poem "Our Sentinel: A Living Monument to the Memory of Theodore Roosevelt" written by Mary Maxson Lanphear in 1924. The poem ends with the lines "…his words spoken then we read o'er and o'er. And we gather each year around the dear tree that was planted by Roosevelt in nineteen three."[18] [19] A 1925 newspaper article, "Roosevelt's Memory is Honored at Campbell", describes the observation of T.R.'s birthday and Navy day, held on the high school

grounds near the tree. "The exercises were held under the auspices of the Redwood Tree Association". [20] A photomontage entitled "Roosevelt's Redwood—Spans Campbell High's Yesterday and Today" describes the tree as 40 feet high and now diagonally across the street from the new high school complex.[21] ("Although a beautiful structure in 1904, the two story wooden building that was the first Campbell Union High School came far from meeting the needs of the students by 1935…In 1935 the Board of Trustees applied to the federal Public Works Administration for a grant to assist in the construction of a ten room classroom building to be situated diagonally across from the old school on the corner of Campbell and Winchester Roads." Additional plans, actions and funding resulted in a larger project that was completed in October 1938.) [22]

The Tree is Threatened

In July 1956, the local paper ran a photo of a man and a tree and the query, "Is it Doomed—Sam Cava, secretary-manager of the Campbell Chamber of Commerce, takes a look at the historic 'Teddy Roosevelt Tree' at the corner of Winchester road and Campbell avenue. The redwood is due to be cut down for widening of Winchester road. A long-time Campbell resident, Mrs. Alice Joy Keith, has objected, saying the towering memorial should be preserved. Thanks to her efforts, the tree was spared for a few more years". [23]

A Myth is Debunked

The same Mrs. Alice Joy Keith was featured in a lengthy July 5, 1956 *Campbell Press* story entitled "Now It Can Be Told; Long Time Resident Reveals Secret of Replanting of Memorial Tree". The article explains that Mrs. Keith was a graduate of Campbell High in 1903, and witnessed the now famous tree planting. From time to time,

a rumor circulated that the original tree had perished and been replaced. Not so, she said. She confessed that one night in 1913, under a bright moon, she secretly replaced a small dead Monterey pine with a small potted Monterey pine from Navelet's in San Jose. The deceased pine had been planted on the other north corner of Winchester and Campbell Avenue in memory of J. Fred Smith (Campbell High's first principal), who died in 1912 while on a summer camping trip with several of his high school students. The long story ends with Mrs. Keith exclaiming, "'Alas! Little did I dream that my well meant secrecy would lend itself, forty years later, to a rumor belittling Roosevelt's beloved Redwood. Here let the rumor cease!'" [24]

The Tree is Down But Not Out

In October 1964, the Campbell City Council voted to have the tree removed in favor of widening Winchester Boulevard. [25] "The day after the Council made its final decision, the tree came down." [26] A newspaper article, "End Comes to Campbell's Roosevelt Redwood" shows photos of "the fallen monarch being pushed around and sawed up." But, there will be "a sequel. By Council decision, benches will be made from the tree. Suitable plaques attached to the benches will explain the historical significance." The same article relates that the "decayed stump of the 60-year old tree was rescued from the dump" and replanted at Vasona Park "with appropriate fan-fare, ceremony, and dignitaries present." The effort was spearheaded by Mrs. Ward Brannon and Mrs. Merrill Mack. [27]

Another photo from another local paper is entitled "Teddy's Tree Gets New Start" and shows Mrs. Merrill Mack, President of the Campbell Garden Club, and Girl Scout Robyn Wormle grasping the same shovel used by T.R. in 1903. [28]

Tree stories seem to sprout. On Sunday, April 20, 1969, Robert Wise, in the *San Jose Mercury-News,* wrote a column headed "How Teddy's Tree Was Saved", in which Mrs. Lillian Brannan (elsewhere spelled Lilyann Brannon) of San Jose single-handedly arranged for the rescue and replanting of the stump at Vasona Park. Unfortunately, no one was able to rescue the bronze plaque. Mr. Wise reported, "The plaque was even gone, stolen the night before the tree came down." [29] According to Julia DeVere of the Campbell Historical Museum, the plaque has never been located.

Jeanette Watson wrote that a tree grew from the stump, and the new tree was thirty feet tall in 1975 when Garden Club members placed a plaque there. [30]

The Bench

Apparently, a bench or benches were made from the tree trunk. Julia DeVere said that local lore asserts that the bench was constructed in the Campbell High School wood shop, but that story had not been verified at this time.

The bench chapter of the tree story was reopened about ten years later. According to newspaper staff writer Jose Stell, Los Gatos resident Rich Nelli became concerned about the state of the bench. It had been installed beneath the spreading walnut tree at East Campbell Avenue and Harrison Street, hard by the railroad tracks. Mr. Nelli "wrote a 600 word letter to Mayor Norman Paul in which he pointed out the fact that the Roosevelt redwood bench is being desecrated by those vandals who would stoop to carving their initials in the seat and backrest."[31] Mr. Nelli followed up his letter by delivering a speech to the Campbell City Council on August 12, 1974. He was quite concerned about the condition of the bench. After a lengthy historical preamble, and several quotes from Theodore Roosevelt, he proposed that a bronze plaque be made, with

specific suggestions for its inscription, and he offered to "recondition the bench subject to its relocation to a more suitable location." [32]

Today, the bench resides safely inside the Campbell Historical Museum. A photo of the bench, from the museum archives, has a caption stating "After insect infestation, fumigation, being lost and found, and multiple restorations, the bench was brought to the museum in 1984, where it was displayed out front. It was restored and refinished by Art Ring and moved inside in 2001." [33]

A Tree Grows in Campbell

Another sequel to the story was added by Laurance J. Hill, Campbell Union High School District Superintendent, although details vary in two different written accounts. A few years before (or several years before) the tree was cut, Mr. Hill had seven cuttings made (or had some of the seedlings on the burl at the tree's base removed and nurtured in cans). On May 11, 1966, this cutting (or seedling) was planted (or replanted) amid great fanfare (or no fanfare), and watched by a large crowd of Campbell citizens (or a small group). The Roosevelt shovel was used. [34] [35]

The high school was closed in 1980, and the property was leased, and then purchased by the city of Campbell. It became the present day Campbell Community Center. [36] Twenty years later, on December 3, 1986, the tree was covered with Christmas lights as the focus of the newly created event dubbed "The Carol of Lights". [37]

One Man—One Tree

The man continued to plant trees, save trees, and preach conservation and protection of the land for future generations. The first inductee into the National Wildlife Federation Conservation Hall of Fame, established in 1963, was Theodore Roosevelt,

"who during his presidency established the U.S. Forest Service, the nation's first wildlife refuges, 5 national parks and 18 national monuments." [38]

The tree continues to thrive in life, and in history. Long Live the Roosevelt Tree!

The President Stops Here

Other presidents have visited our valley. One such occasion was described by author Harry Farrell, who for many years was a reporter for the *San Jose Mercury News.*

> My first view of a live president came in 1948 when Harry Truman, fighting for his political life, whistle-stopped through San Jose on a tour billed as "non political." What I saw did not leave me in awe of the presidency.
>
> San Jose had not been planned as a stop for Truman, an omission that greatly displeased the late John P. McEnery (father of Mayor Tom), who was the city's "Mr. Democrat" of that time and a Truman loyalist since World War II. He had first met HST when the latter, then a senator, headed up the war-waste probe that set him on the route to the White House. Truman had come through Santa Clara County to inspect Sunnyvale's Joshua Hendy Iron Works (now Westinghouse) and the Kaiser magnesium plant at Permanente.
>
> McEnery, who was a passenger on the Truman Special in 1948, kept lobbying for a San Jose stop but ran into adamant resistance from the president's key staffers, Matt Connolly and Clark Clifford. The train would reach San Jose late at night, they said, and HST needed sleep.
>
> Finally, when the tour reached San Francisco, McEnery decided to bypass official channels. Talking himself past the Secret Service (things were much looser then), he made his way to the presidential suite at the Fairmont Hotel and

knocked on the door. Margaret Truman answered. From the bathroom the president called to ask who it was.

"It's Mr. McEnery, Dad."

"Well, he's seen a guy in the bathroom before. Send him in."

Entering the presidential presence, McEnery found Truman in wool underwear, shaving "with a straight razor like your grandfather would use."

McEnery put his plea directly: Why couldn't the president's train, which in about 24 hours would be southbound for Los Angeles, stop in San Jose for just a few minutes?

"How many people can you turn out?" Truman wanted to know.

McEnery promised 1,500.

"I'll stop anyplace for 1,500 people," the president said.

The next night when the train rolled into the San Jose depot, the crowd topped 4,000. On the rear platform, Truman turned to McEnery and said, "You're so conservative you ought to be a Republican."

If the throng expected a political stem-winder, though, it was disappointed. The president settled for a bad pun.

"I'm having a great time in California, he began. I heard yesterday about a man from Nebraska who was visiting in Palo Alto and asked a lady, 'How do I get to *San Josie*?' The lady explained to him that in Spanish, 'J' sounds like 'H', and it was *San Hosay*. Then she asked him how long he would be in California, and he replied, 'Oh, till Hune or Huly.'"

Probably Truman should have skipped the pun. For although he carried California narrowly the next November, he lost Santa Clara County to Tom Dewey by 11,000 votes.[39]

A Candidate Appears

There is a photograph in Harry Farrell's book is a photo, with the caption "Six days before his election in 1960, John F. Kennedy drew a crowd of 20,000 that overflowed the San Jose Civic Auditorium parking lot, now the site of McCabe Hall..." [40] I was there, along with a large number of other San Jose State students. The crowd was excited, eager, straining to see the candidate, and hear his words, spoken in that still-strange-to-my-ear Boston accent. His voice carried to us over a crackling sound system, and his remarks were met with cheers and applause. Looking back, I realize that we were participating in a long held American tradition of meeting our candidates face to face.

A New Era

Today's newspaper announces, "2012 CAMPAIGN LAUNCH, Obama, Zuck to go live online. Town hall streamed from Facebook headquarters to kick off president's 2-day visit to Bay Area on April 20. Hoping to grab some high-tech luster and begin filling the campaign war chest he'll need in 2012, President Barack Obama will visit Facebook this month for an online town hall event with CEO Mark Zuckerberg before going to San Francisco for a series of pricey fundraisers, including a $35,800-a-plate dinner hosted by Salesforce.com CEO Marc Benioff."[41]

Theodore Roosevelt traveled by train and horse drawn carriage, was heard by those within the sound of his voice, had his photograph taken, and was reported on in newspapers.

Harry Truman traveled by train, auto, and plane. He could be heard over loud speakers, on the radio, and seen on television. Pollsters of his day predicted that he would be defeated by Thomas Dewey.

John F. Kennedy engaged in televised debates with his opponent, Richard Nixon. They both utilized television advertising to proclaim their messages. Campaigns were fueled by extensive fund raising efforts, and propelled by masses of organized volunteers. Today we live in a time of rapidly changing reality with its own new vocabulary—Silicon Valley, high-tech, CEO, online town hall event, pricey fundraisers, dotcom, Facebook Live, tweet, twitter, and blog. And what about tomorrow?

The words of Bob Dylan are truer than ever—"The times, they are a changin'."

Acknowledgement

Invaluable research assistance was provided by Julia DeVere, Campbell Historical Museum and Ainsley House Collection Specialist.

[1] Morris, Edmund, *Theodore Rex* (New York: Random House, 2001), 3, 8, 9.
[2] Ibid, 214-215
[3] Ibid, 227
[4] Jeanette Watson, *Campbell, the Orchard City* (Campbell Museum Foundation, 2000), 81
[5] Letter of May 2, 1903 from William Loeb, Jr. to Principal J. Fred Smith, Campbell Historical Museum Archives.
[6] Watson, *Campbell,* 81.

[7] Campbell Union High School, *The Oriole* (June, 1903), Campbell Historical Museum Archive
[8] Watson, *Campbell,* 82.
[9] Ibid, 84.
[10] Eugene T. Sawyer, *History of Santa Clara County* (Los Angeles, Historic Record Company, 1922), 100.
[11] Ralph Rambo, *Pen and Inklings, Nostalgic Views of the Santa Clara Valley* (San Jose, California: San Jose Historical Museum Association, 1984) 53.
[12] H.W.Brands, *T.R.: The Last Romantic* (Basic Books, 1997), 141-142.
[13] Kathleen Norris Brenzel, editor *Sunset Western Garden Book* (Menlo Park, CA: Sunset Publishing Corporation, 2007) 623.
[14] Watson, *Campbell*, 228.
[15] Photo of Shovel with written description, 1974.01.1014, Campbell Historical Museum Archives.
[16] Postcard, 1974.01.0224, Campbell Historical Museum Archives.
[17] Postcard, 1974.01.0217, Campbell Historical Museum Archives.
[18] Photo and poem Our Sentinel, 2001.18.003 a-b Print, Photographic, Campbell Historical Museum Archives.
[19] Letter of January 19, 1968 from Mrs. Gertrude Stanford to Mrs. Alice Longworth, Campbell Historical Museum Archives.
[20] Newspaper article, "Roosevelt's Memory is Honored at Campbell", Campbell Historical Museum Archives.
[21] Photo montage with descriptions, "Roosevelt's Redwood"…Spans Campbell High's Yesterday and Today, Campbell Historical Museum Archives.
[22] *Campbell High School, 1900-1980,* Souvenir Year Book.
[23] Article with photo and caption from July 1956, Print, Photographic 1974.01.0160, Campbell Historical Museum Archives.
[24] "Now It Can Be Told, Long Time Resident Reveals Secret of Replanting of Memorial Tree," *The Campbell Press,* Thursday, July 5, 1956, 7.
[25] Watson, *Campbell,* 84.
[26] "End Comes to Campbell's Roosevelt Redwood: Campbell Historical Museum Archives
[27] ibid
[28] "Teddy's Tree Gets New Start: Campbell Historical Museum Archives.
[29] Roger Wise, "How Teddy's Tree Was Saved," *San Jose Mercury-News,* Sunday, April 20, 1969, p. 20.
[30] Watson, *Campbell,* 84.
[31] Jose Stell, "Remember Roosevelt Redwood? Tree Issue Sprouting Again", Campbell Historical Museum Archives.
[32] Speech Delivered to Town Council on August 12, 1974 by Rich Nelli, Campbell Historical Museum Archives.
[33] Photo, Bench, 1985.28.0001, Campbell Historical Museum Archives.
[34] Watson, *Campbell,* 417.
[35] Bob Sneed, "Putting A Human Face on Downtown Campbell, Campbell Historical Museum Archives.
[36] Watson, *Campbell,* 417.
[37] Ibid, p. 84.
[38] Honoring Conservation Heroes, NWF pays tribute to Americans who have made a difference, *National Wildlife,* February/March 2011, 46.
[39] Harry Farrell, *San Jose –and other famous places* (San Jose, CA: San Jose Historical Museum Association, 1983), 28-29.
[40] Ibid, 30.
[41] Mike Swift, "Obama, Zuck to go live online", *San Jose Mercury News,* April 6, 2011, A1.

Celebrate the 100th anniversary of Teddy Roosevelt's historic visit to Santa Cruz and the Big Trees



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ADDRESS: _____

CITY, ST, ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE #:_____

TYPE OF CREDIT CARD:
[ ] Visa, [ ] Mastercard [ ] American Express

Card Number:_____

Expiration Date:_____

Full Name on Card:_____

TRAIN DEPARTURE:
[ ] 9:00 AM, [ ] 12 noon, [ ] 3:00 PM
[ ] Saturday, May 10th, [ ] Sunday, May 11th,

_____ # of Adult Tickets X's $19.00 = $_____

_____ # of Child Tickets X's $15.00 = $_____

_____ # of Presidential Box Lunches X's $14.00 = $_____

TOTAL = $_____



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mailed & postmarked or
returned by fax by May 5th - 5 PM



100th Anniversary of
Teddy Roosevelt's visit
May 10, 2003





photos by Susan Sargent

June 1903 CUHS Oriole, J974.01.0431



A Tree Planting.

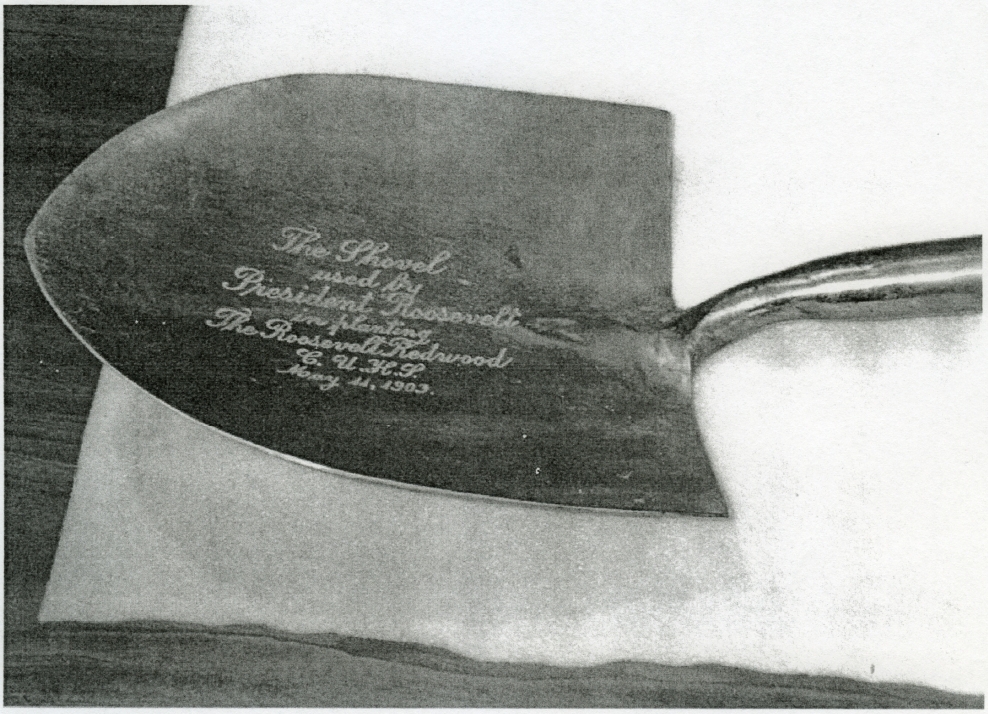
Campbell enjoyed a peculiar distinction among the high schools of the State during President Roosevelt's visit to the Coast. During his ride through this valley he stopped at Campbell to plant a tree in the name of the high school. At his arrival he was greeted by "America," sung by the children lined up at the corner of Campbell Avenue and Los Gatos and Santa Clara road.

After planting the tree, Mr. Roosevelt turned to the children and said:

"It is a great pleasure to take part in planting this tree in the presence of the children of Campbell. I do not know of anything that bids better for our material well being than the tree culture, and I know of nothing among the many things that the National Grange has done that it has done better than fostering the habit of caring for the forests where they exist and the planting of new trees. And then even above trees come the children, that is the all important part. It is a peculiar pleasure to me to address the children. I have just one word to say to you; it is something I should say to your elders also. I believe in play and I believe in work. I want to see you play hard while you play and when you work do not play at all."

1974.01.1014 Shovel

Campbell Historical Museums



Description

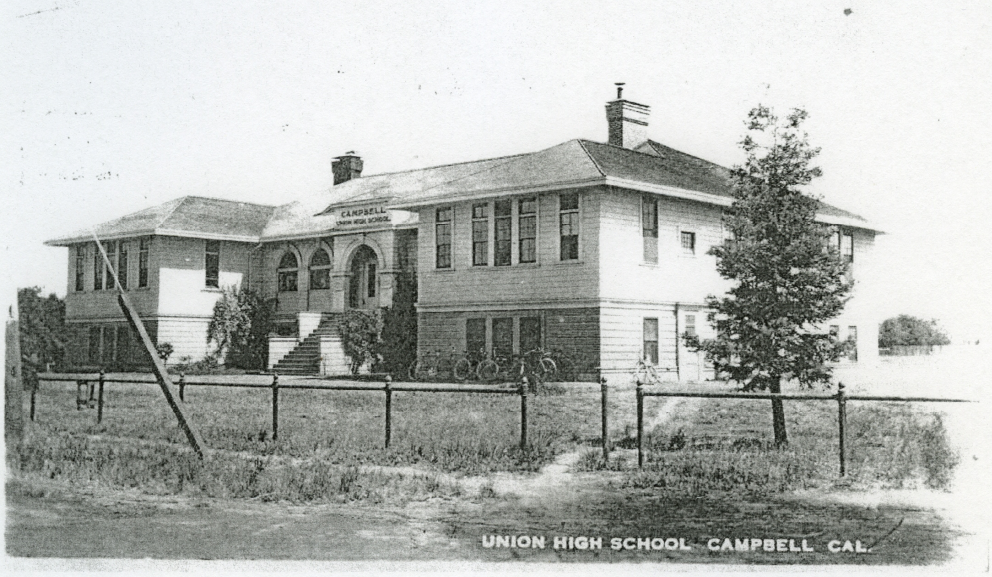
Ceremonial shovel, Roosevelt . Wooden handle with steel head reads "The shovel used by President Roosevelt in planting the Roosevelt Redwood C.U.H.S. May 11, 1903"

04/01/2011 09:13:36

j:\pp4\images\003\1974.01.1014B.JPG

1974.01.0224 Postcard

Campbell Historical Museums



Description
Photo postcard with "Union High School Campbell Ca." printed on front. Campbell High School view of building. "The 1904 Campbell Union High School on the southeast corner of Campbell Avenue and present-day Winchester Boulevard. Note the Roosevelt Redwood Tree in the foreground of the photo"

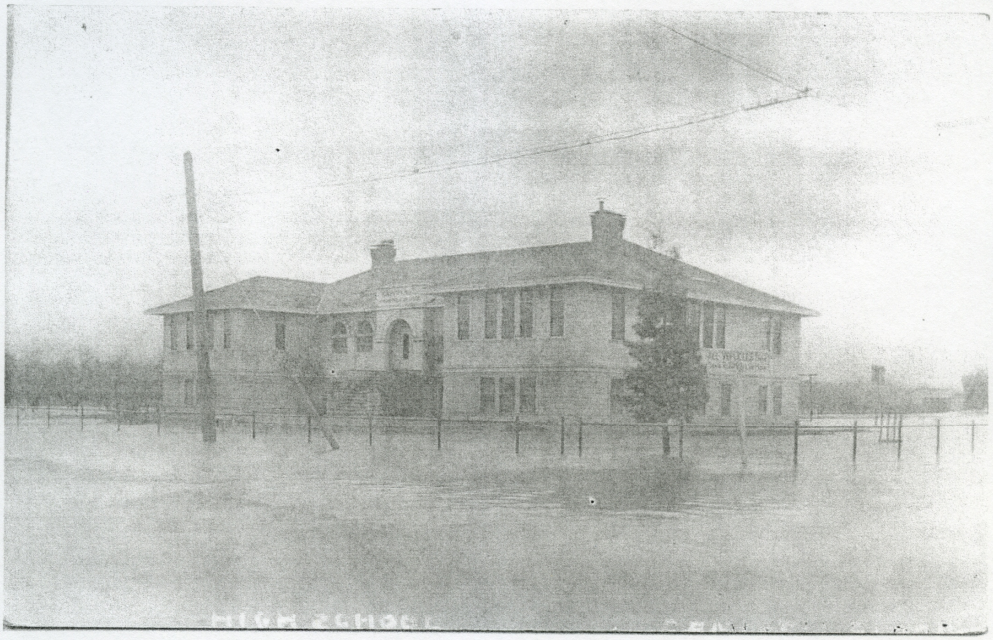
1910

04/01/2011 09:09:16

j:\pp4\images\001\1974.01.0224.JPG

1974.01.0217 Postcard

Campbell Historical Museums



Description
Flood 1911 Campbell Union High School surrounded by flood waters on southeast corner of Campbell Avenue and Winchester Blvd. Roosevelt Redwood is in foreground. Sign reads "All vehicles slow down to 10 miles/hour."

1911 Flood

04/01/2011 09:08:18

j:\pp4\images\001\1974.01.0217.JPG

2001.18.0003 a-b Print, Photographic

Campbell Historical Museums



Description
"Our Sentinel: A Living Monument to the Memory of Theodore Roosevelt" with picture of Roosevelt tree inside and poem "Our Sentinel"

04/01/2011 09:41:47

j:\pp4\images\034\2001.18.0003A.JPG

1974.01.0161 Print, Photographic

Campbell Historical Museums



Description
Roosevelt Tree. Redwood tree planted by Roosevelt in 1903. On back, article from July 1956 attached, "Is it Doomed - Sam Cava, secretary-manager of the Campbell Chamber of Commerce, takes a look at the historic "Teddy Roosevelt Tree" at the corner of Winchester road and Campbell avenue. The redwood is due to be cut down for widening of Winchester road. A long-time Campbell resident, Mrs. Alice Joy Keith, has objected, saying the towering memorial should be preserved. "

People
Cava, Sam

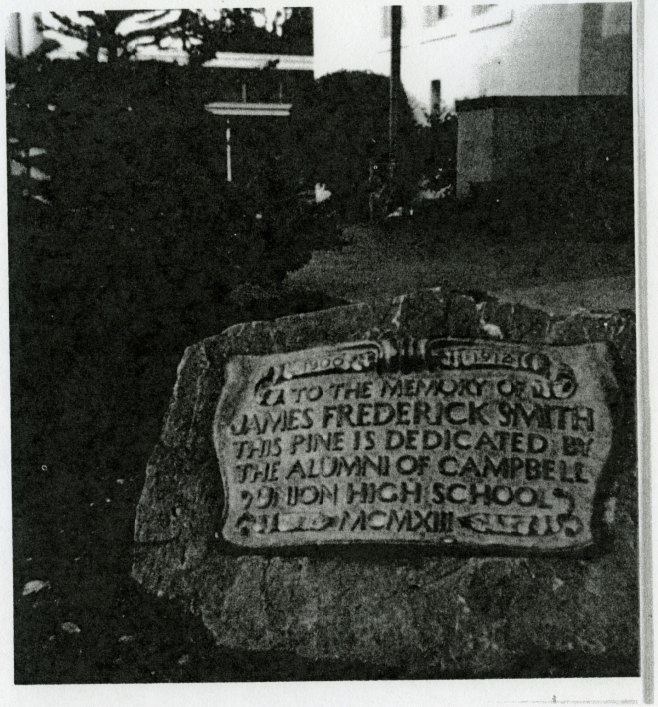
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Teddy's Tree Gets New Start

Stump of famed Roosevelt Redwood Tree, chopped down from its 61-year stand at Campbell avenue and Winchester road last week, looked for new life yesterday in Vasona Park. Campbell Garden Club, whose members salvaged stump from city dump, replanted it. In photo, Mrs. Merrill Mack, president of the club, and Girl Scout Robyn Wormle wield same shovel used by Theodore Roosevelt when he planted the tree on May 11, 1903. Club says tree will grow because it is a sequoia sempervirens—evergreen.





J. Fred Smith

Campbell's First Principal



Laurance J. Hill
Superintendent
1946 - 1969



Campbell Community Center



photos-
Susan
Sargent





Redwood Sprouts

April 2011

Campbell
Community
Center





Campbell Historical Museum March 2011

photos by Susan Sargent



San Jose Mercury News

Six days before his election in 1960, John F. Kennedy (arrow) drew a crowd of 20,000 that overflowed the San Jose Civic Auditorium parking lot, now the site of McCabe Hall. The camera points southwest toward a bar and drive-in (upper left of center) where the San Jose Public Library stands today.