

Bayside Calif.
Oct 19th 1977

Dear Mr. Irwin.

Enclosed are some more pictures for the Museum - I've been going through old films and these show what a nice little old Darwin was back in the 1910's - before our fires. The faint two show how the main street looked "wide - to turn a 16 mule team around in" also the barn door was high and wide to drive team & wagons in - the big corral in back & side - (right) the house behind the fence (left) we called "McCloud's house" in early 1900's was built in boom days by them - Planted the locust trees from slips from Lone Pine 1876. Survived many years until 1918 fire - front porch of the original store & front of the old hotel. It was a good place to live - fine old timers and will always be "up home" to me, tho a horrible sight now. Hope you found my Darwin article also my Beginning and end of Millspaugh where I grew up - my horses & dogs my companions & going to school in Darwin and staying

with my beloved Mrs Doughrey and family.
Catalina was a half sister of "Aunt Annie"
Ducea - (Jatzoo) "Jatzumbie" of whom so
many tall tales were written a few years
back. She delighted in "filling" the reporters
up and they allowed it whole! I'm
looking forward to The Saga of Inyo County -
due out next month, as they tell me. a
year of preparation! I've a couple of our old
characters of Darwin days. I'll get around
& writing for you - when the "spirit" moves!
Darwin has always interested people - ~~in~~
this pen wants its own way! So many letters
from people in the past 20 yrs. wanting
information of the old town - it seems to
fascinate any who see it, but it is no
longer the same old place - I go "across the
wash" and spend a few quiet moments
with my beloved friends and old timers
at peak there. Old redwood head boards
were at all the old graves when we were
kids - later in the '20's "straps" came in &
burned them for fire wood! Quite a few
chinese are buried at north west corner - now
impossible to find - some were rumormongered & at
one time we knew where they were. Enough for
now. Sincerely Elizabeth L. Mechem.