

**COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
HISTORIC CONTEXT STATEMENT**



County of Santa Clara
Department of Planning and Development
Planning Office

ARCHIVES & ARCHITECTURE, LLC.

December 2004
(Revised February 2012)

The Valley of Heart's Delight

The Santa Clara Valley is
To those who hold it dear
A veritable paradise
Each season of the year

One loves it best in April
When the fruit trees are in bloom
And a mass of snowy blossoms
Yields a subtle sweet perfume.

When orchard after orchard
Is spread before the eyes
With the whitest of white blossoms
'Neath the bluest of blue skies.

No brush can paint the picture
No pen describe the sight
that one can find in April
In the Valley of Heart's Delight.

—Clara Louise Lawrence

Photo Credit (previous page): Mrs. Alice Iola Hare, #639 Cherry Orchard in the Willows, circa 1905,
Alice Hare Photo Collection, Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley

PUBLICATION CREDITS

PRESERVATION PLANNING GUIDELINES AND PUBLICATIONS

This report was prepared using the following guidelines and publications:

- *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation,*
- *Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning* (National Register of Historic Places Bulletin #24),
- *Instructions for Recording Historical Resources* (California Office of Historic Preservation)

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ALL ROADS LEAD TO
Santa Clara County
AND "THE VALLEY OF HEART'S DELIGHT"

of which Chauncey M. Depew said:
"Say for me, as a much travelled man, that this is the richest valley in the world."

For the Tourist, the Farmer and the Homeseeker
Study the above map and observe the county's ideal, sheltered location between two ranges of mountains; its nearness to San Francisco; its possibilities of deep water transportation; its splendid position on the State Highway; its excellent railway system.

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Aerial View of Santa Clara County 2010



Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

Data LDEO-Columbia, NSF, NOAA – image enhancement © 2011 Google, Inc.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The County of Santa Clara is one of 27 original county jurisdictions created in 1850 when California became a state. Within its boundaries was the seat of California's first capital city, San José. The first legislative sessions occurred in the town of San José in 1849 through 1851.

During its early years, Santa Clara County gained a worldwide reputation as an important agricultural region, known as the "Valley of Heart's Delight." As the County entered its second century following the Second World War, it continued to be a preferred destination of American westward migration and also began to draw new immigrants from around the world. As a result of an explosion in urban growth to accommodate this rapid influx of new population, the region lost much of its pastoral setting. This emerging megalopolis, fueled by industrial development, helped to create the new "Silicon Valley" as we know it today.

The present urban and rural landscape of Santa Clara County is diverse, a complex social and economic setting that overlays a rich historic, multi-cultural and natural environment. Beyond the environs of the cities that constitute the urban topology of the county, much of the rural character that was once known as the "Valley of Heart's Delight" exists today. Contemporary development pressures continue to reduce this rural agricultural economy, and the physical remnants of this historic era of our past may soon be gone.

This historic context statement and related inventory update supplements the documentation of historic resources that have been identified by the County of Santa Clara within other previous survey efforts. The context statement also serves as a tool to better understand the potential for resources that have not yet been listed on the Santa Clara County Heritage Resource Inventory. Further detailed investigations into historic themes and development will append this document over time. Diverse influences, including the multitude of ethnic groups that continue to shape the built environment of Santa Clara County, are yet to be fully understood. Future updates of this context statement will make it more inclusive.

As the region continues to grow, significant physical aspects of our past might be preserved when feasible within the context of community development. Sensitive new development that preserves important historic sites, buildings, objects, and districts provides a social and educational benefit that sustains long-term community identity.

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1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND

Historic resource surveys and historic context statements are technical documents developed by communities throughout the United States to provide a comprehensive planning tool for the identification, registration, and protection of historic properties. Preservation of the nation's heritage has long been part of the national purpose, and the Federal government has been an active partner in historic preservation since the beginning of the twentieth century. In 1966, Congress called upon the Secretary of the Interior to give maximum encouragement to state governments to develop statewide historic preservation programs in passing the National Historic Preservation Act. The National Park Service (NPS) has since provided leadership in enabling this directive, by developing methodologies for survey planning and preservation programs that are outlined in a number of published guidelines, their origins within the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*.

Surveys and their resulting resource inventories provide a basis for sensitive and effective planning decisions that affect the preservation and celebration of the culture of our communities. The quality of resource inventories depend on intensive research into the background of historical patterns of development, understanding and identification of diverse community values associated with the built environment, and comprehensive evaluations that assess the significance of potential resources within the context of their evolution and their continued ability to convey their associations to our past.

The methods for conduct for surveys are specified in National Register Bulletin 24, *Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning*. The Secretary of the Interior, through the NPS, has developed the National Register program, and prepared a number of associated bulletins that address the study and registration of the full range of historic resources that community planners may encounter.

The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) is responsible for administration of federally and state mandated historic preservation programs in California in partnership with the State Historical Resources Commission, governmental agencies throughout the state such as the County of Santa Clara, and the people of California. Its mission is to preserve and enhance California's irreplaceable historic heritage as a matter of public interest so that its vital

legacy of cultural, education, recreational, aesthetic, economic, social, and environmental benefits will be maintained and enriched for present and future generations.

1.1.1 Past Survey Efforts in Santa Clara County

The first historic resource survey conducted for the County of Santa Clara occurred in April 1962 and encompassed the greater Santa Clara Valley. The County of Santa Clara Planning Department published the “Preliminary Inventory of Historical Landmarks in Santa Clara County.” This report, the first document of its type in the region, identified 123 buildings and sites of significance in the county. It presented a case for historic preservation consistent with the County’s basic General Plan objectives of community identity and conservation of resources, and it proposed a planning program that would include a County landmarks commission (modeled after previously established commissions in the cities of San José and Santa Clara), an ongoing process of identification and evaluation, and incorporation of a specific plan for historic preservation within the County General Plan, which was to be called “Plan for the Preservation of Historical Landmarks.” The document also identified policy directives such as (1) “public acquisition” which later was institutionalized within the County Parks Charter Fund, (2) use of federal and state funds for park acquisition to include historic sites, (3) “urban renewal” as a means of protection and restoration, (4) promotion of “adaptive reuse” and “relocation” as a means of preservation, including grouping relocated buildings into museum settings (proposed for the fairgrounds and later established on Senter Road) and rural museums such as New Almaden and Henry Coe State Park.

Following the establishment of the County of Santa Clara Historical Heritage Commission in 1972, the County published an official inventory in 1975 called the Heritage Resource Inventory (hereafter called the Inventory) and updated this document in 1979. In 1993, local historical consultant Mardi Bennett conducted the Burbank Historic Home Survey for the Historical Heritage Commission under the management of the office of Board Supervisor Rod Diridon (District 4). Significant properties identified in the Burbank survey were subsequently incorporated into the Inventory. A later update to the Heritage Resource Inventory, led by former Historical Heritage Commissioner Beth Wyman, was published in 1999 and limited Inventory inclusion to properties located within the unincorporated areas of the County.

The survey that constitutes this report and recordation forms (DPR523 series) for individual properties was conducted as a comprehensive update to the 1999 Inventory. The work was

accomplished in two phases; Phase One updated the documentation to properties in South County that are listed on the Inventory, and included a focused context statement for that region. Phase Two, of which this report concludes the effort, updates the documentation in the remainder of properties in the county that are listed in the Inventory, and includes a countywide statement of historical context, integrating the focused work from the first phase.

1.1.2 Scope of Project – Heritage Resource Inventory Update and Historic Context Statement (2002-2004)

Phase One of the inventory update, the South County Survey (South County), consisted of the resurvey of 57 properties listed in the Inventory, and was completed by the firm of Dill Design Group in early 2003. Phase Two consisted of the resurvey of approximately 118 properties in the remainder of the County that were also listed in the Inventory. The preparation of Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 series forms for these listed properties included an intensive investigation into their history, a description of their architectural characteristics and character defining features of the extant buildings and structures located on the properties, and an evaluation of the potential historical and/or architectural significance using the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and the California Register of Historical Resources.

DPR523 series forms are the standardized historic resource documentation forms developed by the California Office of Historic Preservation, and are the state-recommended forms for recording historical information. The DPR523 series forms are similar to nomination forms for the National Register of Historic Places that have been in use for a number of decades, and include an evaluation of National Register significance criteria as a part of their format. The type of resources that merit recordation and the level of documentation required are established within a set of guidelines prepared by the Office of Historic Preservation, called Instructions for Recording Historical Resources.

The update includes the preparation of a context statement (this document) that summarizes the history of Santa Clara County within the framework of its built environment. The context statement defines historic periods and themes that are relevant to understanding the history of the region after 1769, when Euro-Americans first entered the area with the intent of establishing permanent settlement.

Occupation of the region by indigenous peoples began many thousands of years ago, but is not the subject of this report. Development planning that involves archaeological resources must conform to a separate set of methodologies for investigation, identification, recordation, and treatment of prehistoric resources. Therefore, the context statement contains only a brief overview of Santa Clara County’s prehistoric past.

This context statement will serve as the foundation for future landmark designations under the County of Santa Clara’s historic preservation ordinance, and will be used as a planning tool within the development review process of the County Planning Office.

1.1.3 Boundaries of Survey Area

The study area consists of the physical land within the jurisdictional boundaries of Santa Clara County, California, exclusive of the fifteen incorporated cities and towns located within its limits. The Geographic Context section provides a detailed visual description of the county in its topographic setting, and the Historical Origins section provides an historical overview of the boundaries as established by the California State Legislature.



Figure 1 Topographic view of boundaries of Santa Clara County

1.2 METHODOLOGY OF SURVEYS

1.2.1 Development of a Historical Context Statement

Historic resource surveys link extant resources to their associated historic contexts. In order to evaluate buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts for historical significance, a statement of context must first be defined. An historic context statement establishes the background chronology and themes of a specified area. In doing so, it describes the significant aspect and broad patterns of that area's history and cultural development.

The methodology for creating a historic context statement consists of five steps:

- Identify the themes, relevant time period and geographical limits of the study area.
- Review existing contemporary information such as past surveys, recorded information about the study area on file at the local, state and national level.
- Perform original research using available primary and secondary sources of information.
- Synthesize the historical information into a written narrative.
- Define existing property types within the study area and group them using shared physical and/or associative characteristics. Property types should be understood by character defining features associated with extant resources, patterns of development, and a statement of current conditions and the level of historic integrity necessary for a resource to be a contributor to be considered significant.

Historic context statements are not intended to be static planning documents, but to evolve as additional information is acquired by planning agencies which might affect future assessments of properties within the study area. The development of a historic context statement must therefore include a description of adopted community preservation goals and strategies, as well as defining what individual property research might be necessary in the future to better evaluate specific development proposals within the study area. The historic context statement is the foundation for decision-making regarding the planning, identification, evaluation, registration, and treatment of historic properties. The criteria for historical significance are the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, and in the County of Santa Clara, landmark designation criteria defined in the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

The County of Santa Clara historic context statement is arranged into the periods that group events into an understandable developmental history. A number of time periods were identified to organize and understand the history: Prehistoric Period, Spanish and Mexican Period, Early American Period, Late Nineteenth Century, Early Twentieth Century, Inter-War Period, and Industrialization and Urbanization Period. Historical themes span across the historic periods. Themes are also identified that recognize the significance of certain historical activities in Santa Clara County, as assessed from the values of contemporary society.

The State Historical Resources Commission has identified nine general themes covering the entire range of California's diverse cultural heritage. These themes are: Aboriginal, Architecture, Arts/Leisure, Economic/Industrial, Exploration/Settlement, Government, Military, Religion, and Social/Education. In 1999, the Office of Historic Preservation started work on a strategic statewide plan to describe the vision for historic preservation in California. The plan attempted to identify and bring in new preservation partners to more fully consider all cultural resources, and to provide sound goals and objectives for future preservation planning. It became a goal to develop a better understanding of historic and cultural property types that had been little recognized in the past. These included post World War II architecture and suburban development, Cold War era structures, cultural landscapes and traditional cultural properties, and cultural properties associated with the diverse communities that are found throughout California. In 2005, the Office of Historic Preservation updated the plan's vision, issues, and goals, and as of 2011 the Envisioning 2016 Plan for California was under development.

Using these broad California themes as a guide, specific themes for the historical development of Santa Clara County were introduced as a part of the historical context statement. These themes are Ethnic and Demographic Influences; Transportation and Public Infrastructure; Resource Exploitation and Environmental Management; Agriculture and Related Industries; Architecture/Shelter; Government Entities; Education; Social, Religious, and Cultural Communities; and Parks and Leisure.

1.2.2 Conducting the Survey Update

Prior to initiating work on the Inventory Update, former Historical Heritage Commissioner Beth Wyman was consulted regarding her role in the publication of the 1999 Heritage Resource Inventory. This consultation provided a foundation for understanding the

methodologies used in earlier survey efforts, as well as the challenges that could be expected in conducting intensive-level research for unincorporated County properties.

The Inventory Update began with an investigation into the location of listed resources using Assessor Parcel Maps, regional topographic maps, and existing property descriptions taken from the Inventory. The Planning Office provided a database of existing information. Data collected as a part of the Inventory Update project was added to this electronic database. The electronic forms related to this database were developed by the Planning Office to conform to the DPR523 series format.

Site visits to most of the South County properties were conducted in Fall 2002 and Spring 2003. Site visits to most of the remaining listed properties were conducted from Spring 2003 to early Summer 2004. Properties identified in the Inventory were field checked when possible to ensure that the resources were still extant. In some cases, access to private properties was not available when owners could not be reached or denied access. Current Assessor data regarding addresses and parcel numbers were compared to Inventory information, and in many cases corrections were made to resolve inconsistencies. Those properties that were not accessible, but were visible from public rights-of-way, were photographed and their visible characteristic features noted. Where property owners provided access, historic resources were photographed on-site and more detailed notes on the primary resource and outbuildings were completed. With each resource, the surrounding setting was studied to help determine the level of historic integrity remaining.

The architectural descriptions included in the DPR523 forms were based on field notes and photographs. The historical data was based on research that included visits to major repositories of local historical source material. These repositories included the offices of the County of Santa Clara Recorder and Surveyor, local historical museum archives, local libraries and the California Room at the San José Public Library.

Files in the Planning Office were reviewed, as well as the 1999 Heritage Resource Inventory. In addition, oral interviews were conducted with local residents, property owners, and historians; four public meetings were held between November 2002 and July 2003, at Morgan Hill, Burbank, New Almaden, and Campbell. The public provided input and supplementary historical background information at these meetings.

All extant buildings and associated outbuildings may not have been identified, as access to private property was limited in many cases (as noted above). For the most part, only those resources considered “historic” (i.e., at least 50 years in age) were identified as a part of the recordation process. Some historic outbuildings may remain undocumented, as many of the resources are located on vast rural properties that make the identification, documentation, and evaluation of resources problematic.

Several properties listed in the Inventory are under the jurisdiction of other public agencies such as school districts, the state university system, or are state or federal property. In one such case, Moffett Field Naval Air Station and NASA/Ames, the Navy had established its own historic preservation planning office to evaluate historic resources that could be affected by with the de-commissioning of the base. State properties, such as Henry Coe State Park, and the University system’s Lick Observatory, are under the administration of state agencies. Schools throughout rural Santa Clara County are administered by separate district entities, under the guidance of the County Office of Education. Properties under control of these agencies are outside the jurisdiction of the County of Santa Clara, although the County Planning Office is often consulted as a part of intergovernmental coordination. Resources owned by state and federal public agencies and school districts that were documented in this Inventory Update were recorded for information purposes only.

Other properties that are owned by local or regional district entities, such as Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, or non-profits and/or private educational institutions such as Stanford University, are subject to land use and building code requirements of the County of Santa Clara.

Under California law (AB133), any “religiously-affiliated” organization owning “non-commercial” historic property may be exempted from local landmarks laws, regardless of the purposes for which the property is used. This state law includes residential and other properties owned by religious institutions. In order to invoke exemption under AB133, the religiously affiliated organization must formally object to the application of the law, and determine in a public forum that application of the law will result in a substantial hardship, that is likely to deny the organization either an economic return on its property, the “reasonable use” of its property, or the appropriate use of its property in the furtherance of its religious mission. Religious properties in the Inventory, such as St. Andrews Church (New Almaden), or Presentation Center (near Lexington Reservoir), may be reviewed within the

framework of AB133 when the religiously affiliated organization applies to the County for land use development.

Many properties listed in the Inventory are County-owned and located within the County park system. The Inventory does not contain all historic resources owned by the County. The Parks and Recreation Department, through its master planning process, typically identifies and considers the resources within county parks, and ideally includes a plan for the treatment and interpretation of significant historic resources that have value to the public use of the facility.

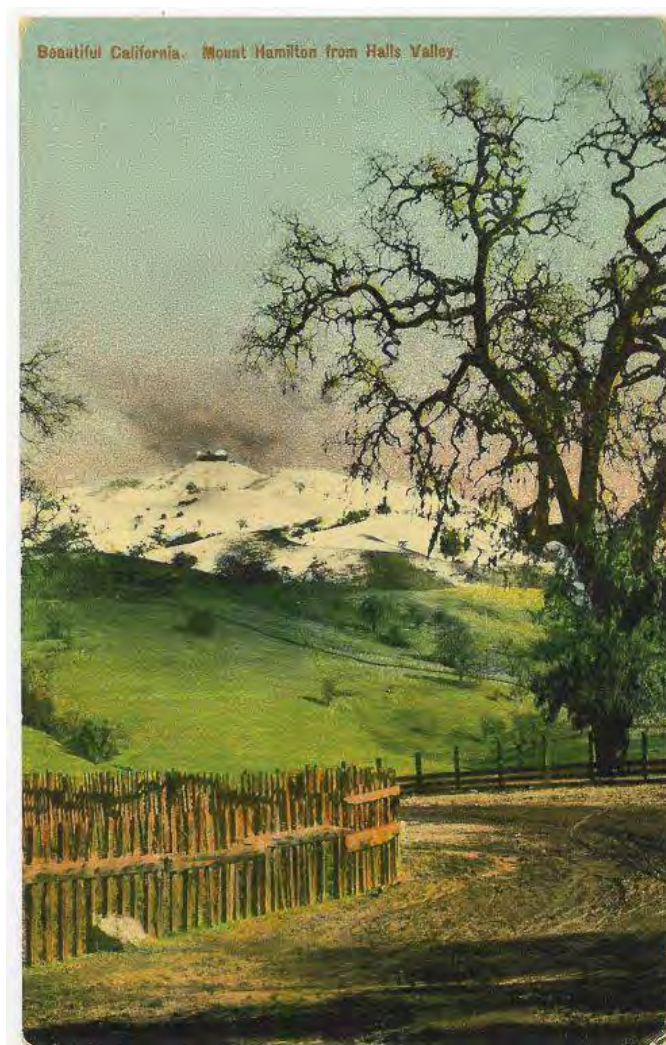


Figure 2 Early postcard view of Hall's Valley and the then future site of Joseph D. Grant County Park.

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2.0 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Within the boundaries of Santa Clara County are a full range of cultural and historic resources. With human settlement and occupation activities beginning in prehistoric times and continuing into the present, the County continues to be a destination for immigrants from throughout the world. The inventory of prehistoric and historic archaeological deposits, extant buildings and structures, sites, historic landscapes, and traditional culture properties located within the County is extensive. Many of the resources have been previously documented in various cultural resource studies, surveys, and local history books and publications.

The County's rich and diverse history reveals information on important people, events, and historical themes of national, state, and local interest. Many personages associated with the Early American Period of development of Santa Clara County (1848-1869) were key players in the last western expansion of the United States and were subsequently involved in the establishment of the County's local communities that now comprise the region's urban areas.

The following section divides the historical development of the County into seven general chronological periods. This temporal model is commonly used in researching and documenting historic properties. The historic periods help to define a general period in which a dominant culture lived on the land, or when economic activities or world events helped shape our view of the past.

An emphasis has been placed in the narrative on historical events and developments during the earlier temporal periods, as archaeological resources from these periods are more likely to yield information not otherwise available in the written record. Geographical patterns of land use also emerge throughout the historical narrative.

2.1 Prehistoric Period

The first inhabitants of the greater Santa Clara Valley and the hills that frame it were members of the Ohlone or Costanoan cultural group. Although the Ohlone people shared cultural and linguistic similarities, the tribe consisted of eight politically autonomous subgroups that populated the coastal area from the San Francisco peninsula and the Carquinez Strait south to northern Monterey County. A number of Ohlone tribes occupied the southern portions of the San Francisco Bay area.

These early people typically established their settlements near a dependable water source and other easily available natural resources that served their subsistence needs. Early inhabitants of the Santa Clara Valley were able to exploit the creeks, grasslands, and oak woodlands for fish, game, and vegetable materials. Temporary camps were established in scattered locations in order to collect seasonal foodstuffs or materials that were not locally available.

Women harvested plant foods, involving a large variety of seeds, nuts, fruits, and bulbs. Women also spent much of their time preparing food and weaving baskets. Men augmented the food supply by fishing and hunting for large and small game. They also made tools and weapons. A few important resources were obtained from greater distances through an extensive trade network. Trade items included obsidian from the Napa region, shells from the coast, sinew-backed bows from the inland areas, and tobacco, basketry materials, and ornamental pigments from various locations.



Figure 3 Bedrock mortars at Chitactac Adams Heritage County Park.

Houses were small, hemispherical huts with grass bundle thatching that sheltered anywhere from four to twenty-four nuclear or extended family members. Villages were presided over by a male leader, who was later identified by the Spanish settlers as *capitán*. Foreign relations between tribes in the greater region took the form of trade, warfare, and intermarriage.

Little above-ground physical evidence remains of this extended period of prehistoric human habitation, although features in the landscape, as well as subsurface deposits found as a part of archaeological investigations, are evidence that significant settlements existed in the area for many thousands of years.

The archaeological record is vulnerable to adverse impact by land development. Its treatment is of concern to contemporary descendants of these early peoples. Survey, evaluation, and treatment recommendations for properties with resources that are associated with the prehistoric period is not a part of this historical context and Inventory Update. Protection and preservation of prehistoric resources are managed through a set of state and federal regulatory processes separate from what is required for resources extant from historic times (beginning in 1769 with the first significant presence of Euro-Americans in the region).

2.2 SPANISH AND MEXICAN PERIODS (1776-1848)

2.2.1 Early Founding

In the fall of 1769, Spaniard Gaspar de Portolá and a company of sixty-four men were the first Euro-Americans known to visit the place that would become known as the Santa Clara Valley. This expedition was intended by the Spanish government to expand the frontier territory of *España Nueva*, Spain's new world colony in North America. The Portolá Expedition first approached the valley near the river they named *Pajaro*, but then continued up the coast around the Monterey Bay to an encampment place north of present-day Santa Cruz. A small contingent of seven men, led by Sergeant José Francisco Ortega, crossed the coastal range in early November 1769 and unexpectedly came across the bay and valley. These Spanish soldiers worked their way across the southern edge of the bay and explored the shore up to about present-day Hayward.



Figure 4 Anza Lancers – reenactment at the Knoll in Cupertino (2001)

The following year and again in 1772, Spaniard Pedro Fages led small expeditions from the new Royal Presidio of Monterey across a plain they named *San Felipe* in today's South County, and journeyed up through the valley. These expeditions were soon followed by several other Spanish visitations, including that of explorer Juan Bautista de Anza in 1774. It was Anza who identified the valley as an ideal candidate for permanent settlement for the Spanish government. In 1776, Juan Bautista de Anza returned, leading a large group of settlers (*pobladores*) across the valley on the way to establishing the Presidio of San Francisco.

The *El Camino Real* (King's Highway) was established as the major transportation route that linked the evolving system of Franciscan missions and presidio outposts that were being developed during this period of expansionism by Spain, into what was then called *Las Californias*.

In 1990 the United States Congress, recognizing the importance of the Anza Expedition to the modern settlement of the West, designated the expedition's route the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. The National Park Service was authorized to administer interpretive programs and published a driving tour that passes through Santa Clara County along the historic route, looping to Gilroy Hot Springs via Cañada and Roop Roads in the eastern portions of the county. The route follows the rim of the Santa Clara Valley along its southwesterly edge. An encampment site in Cupertino is recognized for its role in this watershed event in California history.

2.2.2 The Spanish Period (1777-1822)

In 1777, Spanish Lt. José Joaquín Moraga and Fray Tomás de la Peña of the Franciscans established *Mission Santa Clara de Assis*, named after the sister saint of Assisi, Clara. The original location of the mission was on the west bank of the river that had been named by Anza, the *Río de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe*. It was located near what is now Trimble Road near the boundaries of the cities of Santa Clara and San José. Later that year, under orders of Viceroy Antonio María Bucareli, a site was selected for a civilian settlement by Governor Felipe de Neve who had visited the valley in June 1777. This settlement, named *El Pueblo de San José de Guadalupe* was located on the Guadalupe's east bank approximately 1.5 miles to the southeast of the mission, near what now are Hobson and San Pedro Streets in San José. The Guadalupe River became the boundary between the valley lands controlled by the Franciscans at the mission and the *pobladores* at the pueblo. The Franciscan presence in the region was

further augmented in 1797 when *Mission San José de Guadalupe* was founded just north of what is now Milpitas to serve the area on the eastern side of San Francisco Bay.

The Spanish colonization strategy utilized three institutions—military, civil, and religious. The military government, installed in Alta California shortly after the Portolà Expedition, was intended to protect the Spanish frontier in *Nueva España* from encroachment by other countries of Europe. More specifically, military efforts were directed against Russian global advancement into North America during this historical period. The first presidios at San Francisco and Monterey were established to address this threat. The Franciscans, acting on behalf of the Roman Catholic Church, established missions to convert and proselytize the aboriginal population. The church's partnership with government authorities had existed for decades during Spain's colonial period. The missions were the dominant colonizing influence in Alta California during the Spanish period from 1769 to 1821. Each mission's sphere of influence radiated from its center (with buildings for worship, housing, and industries) outward to surrounding grain fields and livestock grazing lands.

Mission Santa Clara was at the northeastern edge of Tamien tribal territory, a subgroup of the Ohlones. The missionaries arrived with cattle, mules, horses, sheep goats, pigs, and chickens. Livestock were let to graze on the fields that had originally supplied the local Ohlone tribes with plants and seed harvests.

In November 1777, Lt. Moraga set out from San Francisco to the Santa Clara Valley with fourteen families, totaling sixty-six people to establish and settle a pueblo at San José. The new community consisted of 15 men and 51 women and children. Retired soldiers with some farming experience headed nine of the families, and others were colonists who had arrived with the Anza Expedition. The settlers were generally of mixed Hispanic, Native American, and African ethnicities. These *pobladores* had originated from the northern region of *Nueva España*. They arrived on two colonizing treks: the 1774 expedition led by José Francisco Ortega up the coast of the Baja Peninsula from Loreto, and the 1775/1776 second expedition of Juan Bautista de Anza that had crossed the Sonoran desert to California from Túbac (in present-day Arizona). The pueblo at San José was the first civil settlement established by the Spanish Crown in the northern reaches of *Las Californias*. The pueblo's primary function was to supplement the crops grown at the missions and to support the garrisons in Monterey and San Francisco. Representing the Spanish government, Moraga laid out the town, allocating house lots (*solares*) and cultivation plots (*suertes*) to each family. The Spanish government

retained ownership of the land, and the *pobladores* could not divide or sell their allocation during the period of Spanish authority. Much of the property within the pueblo remained in possession of the descendants of the original colonizing settlers until the region came under the jurisdiction of the United States at mid-nineteenth century. The common lands (*ejidos*) located to the east of the pueblo were used primarily for grazing the livestock of the pueblo inhabitants.



Figure 5 Mesa Adobe near the site of the first San José pueblo.

Throughout the 1780s and 1790s, natives continued to relocate into the missions. Disease and environmental factors contributed to the pressures to abandon tribal life. By the end of 1795, all of the Tamien villages had been abandoned and their inhabitants had been baptized into the mission system (Milliken 1995).

The pueblo at San José was subjected to severe winter flooding during the first years of the settlement, and was moved to a site approximately one mile south to higher ground during the 1790s. Historical literature refers to a 1785 petition for relocation, but the actual relocation may have occurred anytime between 1791 and 1797. In 1871, San José historian Frederick Hall theorized the exact location of Pueblo Antigua in north San José, and the duration it served as town site. Subsequent histories have not expanded his research to any substantial degree (Hall 1871).

The Plaza, which extended along present-day Market Street, between approximately St. John Street and San Carlos Street in downtown San José, was the center of the second and final pueblo site. The dwellings faced both sides of the plaza, generally in a north/south alignment.

The apparent randomness of the placement of the buildings of the second pueblo, when viewed in plan, would appear to indicate an unstructured development process. The original pueblo site near Hobson Street had been sectioned in a grid, reflecting Renaissance town planning methods. Dynamic, late-Baroque forms of town and regional planning, rather than solely static, orthogonal forms were being adopted in both new and old Spain by the late eighteenth century. These “organic” town designs were intended to fit into the natural environment, both for aesthetic and utilitarian reasons, particularly oriented around the water supply. They commonly also had a trivium system, three roads converging at a focal point. There were also a variety of open spaces for different kinds of public uses, instead of the typical sixteenth-century central plaza (Muntanola-Thornberg 1988).¹ The only extant built remnant of this early town is the Peralta (Gonzales) Adobe located near West St. John and North San Pedro Streets within today’s historic Peralta/Fallon Site. Up to 100 adobe structures once surrounded this early town square. Other than the Peralta Adobe, only subsurface artifacts remain from the pueblo at San José.

The first activity of the colonists’ of the pueblo at San José was to build a dam above the settlement that collected water in a pond for distribution throughout the pueblo by way of an *acequia* (water hole) or ditch. The *acequia* provided both household and irrigation water. The colonists’ homes were structures constructed of adobe blocks or adobe and wood and were clustered along the east side of the *acequia*, around the plaza, and at the crossing of the roads to Monterey, the Santa Clara Mission and the embarcadero at Alviso. The major transportation routes during this period were little more than trails. They included the El Camino Real that connected the pueblo and the mission with the presidios at Monterey and San Francisco. This road closely followed the route of Monterey Road (south of San José), and El Camino Real, (northwest of the City of Santa Clara) today. The Alameda (literally meaning a public walkway lined with trees) in central San José follows the old route between the pueblo and Mission Santa Clara. In the 1790s, the Franciscans directed the planting of three rows of willow trees that shaded travelers between the two settlements. San Jose’s North First Street follows the alignment of the Alviso Road, and Trimble Road closely follows the route of the connection between Mission Santa Clara and the mission *milpas*, or cornfields where present-day Milpitas is located. With the later expansion of the mission system to Mission San José, an additional route connected San José to northern areas closely aligned with the present day Union Pacific

¹ The description of a single central plaza in the pueblo was published in the Munro-Fraser history of San José in 1881 and was a recollection of an early resident. This sketch, drawn by José Fernandez, who had lived in the pueblo was also published in Francis Fox’s book on the Peralta Adobe (Munro-Fraser 1881; Fox 1975). The plaza, in reduced sized, continues to exist today as Plaza de César Chavez.

railroad line that transverses San Jose's Hensley and Northside neighborhoods. Highway 17 follows the route of the early Spanish road between Mission Santa Clara and Mission Santa Cruz, which was established on September 25, 1791 by Franciscan Father Fermín Lasuén. This road through the Santa Cruz Mountains was originally an early Indian trail that was improved by mission neophytes in 1791. The route through Los Gatos and Campbell followed much of what is now known as Winchester Boulevard.

The colonists at the San José pueblo planted crops of corn, beans, wheat, hemp, and flax, and set out small vineyards and orchards. A portion of the crops was taxed to support the soldiers at the presidios and to provision ships in the harbors. Surplus crops were traded in Monterey for manufactured goods shipped from Spain and Mexico. Rudimentary industrial activities included grist milling, making wine and brandy, hemp processing, and soap making. As the cattle herds increased, the hide and tallow trade became an important element in California's economy.

The period of Spanish governance in the region lasted from 1770 to 1821. Little physical evidence remains within Santa Clara County from this early development period. In downtown San José, some resources remain below the ground. The Peralta Adobe is the only above ground artifact from this period. Other sites in the outer edges of the Santa Clara Valley are associated with early agricultural or industrial development. Rancho activities, which became more prominent during the subsequent Mexican Period, apparently existed during the Spanish Period as a means to facilitate the movement of cattle and goods between the pueblo and the presidios. Soap production evolved as early as the 1790s in South County near modern day Gilroy (then known as San Ysidro).

The cultural landscape that existed during this period is mainly discernable by the alignment of many contemporary transportation routes with roads that originated during the Spanish Period. The many Hispanic place names throughout the County remind us of Spain's involvement in the settlement of the region by non-indigenous immigrants.

2.2.3 The Mexican Period (1822–1846)

When civil war erupted throughout *Nueva España* in 1810, Alta California was temporarily cut off from the seat of its government in Mexico City, the source of supplies and primary market for surplus crops. During this period, illegal trading took place with the foreign ships that

surreptitiously visited California ports. Seamen from these ships became the vanguard of the introduction of American and Anglo-European settlers in California.

With Mexico's new independence, and the formal change of governmental control from Spain to Mexico in 1822, came changes in government organization, land utilization and local ownership patterns. By the 1820s, the lagging economy of the area under Spanish rule began to turn around due to attempts to change territorial administrative policies by the newly formed Mexican government. Two of these policies had important local ramifications. The first was the legalization of trade with foreign ships in the ports of San Francisco and Monterey. The new non-Hispanic traders exchanged tea, coffee, spices, clothing, leather goods, etc., for tallow and hides. Under the stimulus of this commerce, the settlements around the San Francisco Bay became lively trade centers.

The second change in policy to have far-reaching effects in Alta California was the secularization of the Franciscan missions and the establishment of large private land grants. In 1824, Mexico passed a law for the settlement of vacant lands in an effort to stimulate additional colonization of the territory. Any citizen, whether foreign or native, could select a tract of unoccupied land so long as it was a specific distance away from the lands held by the missions, pueblos and Native Americans. The grantee petitioned the territorial governor for a specific tract. After investigation and if there were no objections, the land was often made (Broek 1932).

Until the Mexican Period, the area outside the missions and the pueblo settlements was largely undeveloped and utilized primarily for the grazing of livestock. In the late 1820s and the 1830s large tracts of land were granted by the Mexican government to local residents. When a citizen was granted land for a rancho, he was required to occupy the property and to build a dwelling within a certain time period. Many of the ranchos granted in the Santa Clara Valley had received provisional grants from the Spanish *alcalde* (mayor) several years before the official petition to the Mexican Governor. Each rancho had a hacienda which was in many cases a self-supporting village, composed of the main rancho residence, laborers' housing, corrals, grist mill (*tabona*), tannery, and other ancillary buildings surrounded by vineyards and cultivated fields. Thirty-eight land grants were issued between 1833 and 1845 in the Santa Clara Valley and environs that now constitutes Santa Clara County.



Figure 6 Peralta Adobe at Peralta Adobe and Fallon House Historic Site in San José.

Overseeing the immense acreage and herds of cattle, the California *ranchero* and his *vaqueros* spent many hours on horseback. Cattle, allowed to range freely, were rounded up twice a year during a rodeo—in the spring to brand the calves and again during the late summer for slaughter. The rodeo was often an occasion for socializing with the neighboring rancho families. With *fiestas* and *fandangos* (celebrations), the rodeo festivities often lasted a week or more.

In the early years of the Spanish Colonial Period, the slaughter, or *matanza*, was solely for domestic needs. Cattle supplied beef to be eaten fresh or dried for future use; hides for shoes, lariats, and outerwear; fat for cooking; and tallow for candles and soap. During the period of Mexican rule, the *matanza* became more systematic and extensive. Hides were carefully stripped from the carcasses and the lard and tallow was rendered. The lard was retained for domestic use and the tallow was saved for export. In trade the tallow brought six cents per pound, from 75 to 100 pounds were obtained from each carcass. Hides brought from one dollar to \$2.50 a piece, became known as “California banknotes.”

With the relaxation of immigration regulations by the Mexican government in 1828, more foreigners began to settle in California. The valley’s first “foreign” settler was Antonio Suñol, a native of Spain who arrived as a seaman on a French ship that weighed anchor in San Francisco Bay. Of the approximately 700 people who lived in the San José pueblo in 1835, forty were foreigners, mostly Americans and Englishmen. The first overland migration arrived

in Alta California in 1841, and by 1845, the American immigrants had increased the population of the pueblo to 900.

The American presence in San José was rapidly changing the character of the pueblo from a Mexican village to a bustling American town. For example, Charles Weber, upon his arrival in the valley in 1841, established a general merchandise store, a blacksmith shop, a flourmill, a bakery, a salt works, a soap and candle business, and a restaurant/saloon that catered to foreigners. He also purchased a large rancho in the area. The presence of the growing American population prepared the way for relatively easy occupation of California by American forces in 1846.

By the time of America's military excursion into Alta California, the establishment of the Anglo-American's commercial presence was well underway. The Mexican population in Alta California observed the influx of European and American settlers with a sense of helplessness. The Mexican governor, Pio Pico, articulately expressed his concern for California's future in 1846:

We find ourselves threatened by hordes of Yankee immigrants who have already begun to flock into our country, and whose progress we cannot arrest. Already have the wagons of that perfidious people scaled the almost inaccessible summits of the Sierra Nevada, crossed the entire continent and penetrated the fruitful valley of the Sacramento. What that astonishing people will next undertake, I cannot say; but in whatever enterprise they embark they will sure to be successful. Already these adventurous voyagers, spreading themselves far and wide over a country which seems to suit their tastes, are cultivating farms, establishing vineyards, erecting mills, sawing up lumber, and doing a thousand other things which seem natural to them (Hall 1871, 143).

In the Spanish period, the Santa Clara Valley was characterized as an agrarian landscape with a pueblo, mission village, and a few outreaching ranch settlements with little or no commercial activity. With the change to Mexican governance, foreigner immigrants began to settle in the area establishing small-scale commercial operations. As the Anglo-American population increased during the 1840s, the native Californians found themselves suddenly in the minority and their way of life seriously threatened.

2.2.4 Development of the Rancho in Rural Santa Clara County (1794–1846)

Business and commerce during the Spanish and Mexican Periods consisted of cattle-raising and limited agriculture. Alta California was a frontier province that included the Baja Peninsula as well as the area we now know as California.

Forty-three ranchos were granted in the Santa Clara Valley between 1802 and 1845 (see table on page 35). During the Mexican Period, ranchos were primarily devoted to raising large herds of cattle for the hide and tallow trade in the Americas, the basis of the regional economy during this period. A typical rancho included houses, corrals, garden, small orchard often enclosed by a fence or cactus hedge, and an enclosed tract of grain fields occasionally accompanied by a small gristmill. The remainder of the rancho, where the cattle roamed, was unfenced. Products produced on the ranchos were traded at the nearby ports, Monterey or Alviso, where ships brought necessary goods and foodstuffs (Broek 1932).

One of the earliest of the Spanish ranchos was the 13,000-plus acre *Rancho San Ysidro*. Located in the vicinity of present-day Gilroy, *Rancho San Ysidro* was granted to Ygnacio Ortega, and is associated with Ortega's soap manufacturing efforts near Soap Lake in South County. Within a few years a settlement evolved on the rancho of over 50 persons. John Gilroy, the first English settler in California, found his home at *Rancho San Ysidro* in 1821. Gilroy arrived in California in 1814 aboard a British vessel and was employed at several of the local missions making barrels and building and repairing equipment. From 1819 to 1820, Gilroy served as an English interpreter to Spanish Governor Sola. In March 1821, he married Clara Ortega and settled on *Rancho San Ysidro*. In 1833, Gilroy was granted 4,500 acres of his father-in-law's 13,000-acre rancho by Mexican Governor Figueroa. From 1833, Gilroy traded in Monterey with what he called his "industries"— soap, onions, and flour from his gristmill. He also manufactured millstones for flourmills throughout California (Laffey 1992; Detlefs 1985).

The first American settler in California was Tomas Doak, who came to California in 1816 aboard the American vessel Albatross. According to John Gilroy, Doak was a "trade pump and block maker," but worked as a carpenter. While living in San Juan Bautista, Doak met José Mariano Castro's daughter, Maria Lugarda de los Nieves Castro. The couple was married in November of 1820. Tomas and Maria Doak had four children and resided at her father's *Rancho Las Animas* in South County (Laffey 1992).

Soap was made at *Rancho San Ysidro* from tequesquite, an alkali substance harvested from the plain south of San Felipe Lake (then known as Soap Lake) about three miles east of San Ysidro. The *tequesquite*, or sodium carbonate, was added to tallow and other ingredients, then boiled, solidified, and cut into bars. Monterey merchant Thomas Larkin sold the soap to sailors, who liked it because it lathered easily with seawater. Letters written to Larkin in the 1840s indicate that soap making was a thriving business involving many residents in the San Ysidro area. In 1845, Thomas Larkin and José Maria Sanchez formed a partnership to build a soap factory on the shore of San Felipe Lake. This enterprise came to an end in 1848 with the discovery of gold in the Sierra Nevada (Laffey 1992).

Flour milling was also known to have occurred on these early ranchos, which sustained wheat production. The inventory of Ignacio Ortega's estate upon his death in 1829 included "one mill" (Laffey et al 1986). Quentin Ortega and others were also producing flour at San Ysidro (Munro-Fraser 1881). An "adobe mill" was located on Soap Lake (San Felipe Lake). By 1845, Juan Alvires had a mill on Laguna Seca, north of present day Morgan Hill. The exact location of these mills are unknown, nor is it known if they were animal-powered or water-powered (Detlefs 1985; Laffey et al 1986).

Other similar industrial activities began to evolve during the Mexican Period at outlying Santa Clara Valley ranchos as the Hispanic community began to decentralize. While the pueblo remained the center of local governance and religious services, most economic/agricultural activities were occurred at the Rancho haciendas during the final pre-American Period.



Figure 7 Bernal-Gulnac-Joice House at Santa Teresa County Park (Friends of Santa Teresa Park).

By 1845, the era of Spanish and Mexican colonization of the Santa Clara Valley was coming to an end. The Missions had been secularized and all the desirable lands had been granted to the local citizenry. The dominant industry was cattle ranching with the export of hides and tallow being the primary source of income. With the exception of soap and wheat, manufactured articles and finer foodstuffs were imported.

Little physical remains of the rancho period are extant in Santa Clara County. It is no longer known where most of the rancho headquarters were located. It is difficult to discern from the complex primary records pertaining to litigation over land titles during the 1850s and 1860s. Resources from the Spanish and Mexican Periods potentially remain both above and below ground at some of the early rancho headquarters and manufacturing sites. Some of these sites have been irreparably harmed by development activities. The *Rancho Pala de Canada* headquarters, located near Mt. Hamilton Road (just below and on the west side of the ridge where the road crosses over to Hall's Valley) was recently developed with estate homes. Other *haciendas*, such as San Vicente and Yerba Buena, are located in rural areas that have been partially developed, but have the potential for important sub-surface remains that could be affected by modern development.

Local planning agencies lack detailed information on the location and integrity of these early California sites; they are not recorded as a matter of practice on archaeological sensitivity maps. Work conducted by Berkeley researchers Hendry and Bowman in the late 1930s resulted in a catalogue of detailed information about the adobes associated with these sites, but the unpublished 1940 manuscript remains with the Bancroft Library in Berkeley and is minimally used by local researchers. The acquisition of this information and inclusion in sensitivity maps should be a high priority in the preservation planning programs of the County of Santa Clara and local municipal jurisdictions.

The chart that follows outlines the ranchos of Santa Clara County, shown as the name, grant date and recipient by Spanish or Mexican authorities (some have multiple grant dates), and recipient of American patent with acreage and case number. Additional detail can be found in a number of contemporary publications, such as C. N. Perez's *Land Grants in Alta California*, 1956.

SPANISH AND MEXICAN RANCHOS OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY *

Rancho Name	Grant Date	Grantee	Patentee/s	Acreage	Case No.
Agua Caliente	1839	Fulgencio Higuera	Fulgencio Higuera, 1858	9,564	133 ND
Canada de Pala	1844	José Jesus Bernal	José Jesus Bernal, 1863	15,714	373 ND
El Corte de Madera	1844	Maximo Martinez	Maximo Martinez, 1858	13,316	036 ND
El Potrero de Santa Clara	1844	James A. Forbes	Robert F. Stockton, 1861	1,939	077 ND
Embarcadero de Santa Clara	1845	Barcelia Bernal	Barcelia Bernal, 1936	196	220 ND
La Purisima Concepcion	1843	José G. & José R. Gorgonio	Juana Briones, 1871	4,439	130 ND
Los Capitancillos	1842	Justo Laríos	Charles Fossat, 1865	3,360	132 ND
Los Coches	1844	Belimino & Roberto -Indians	Antonio Sunol, 1857	2,219	289 SD
Los Huecos	1846	Luis Arenas & John Roland	John Roland & J. L. Hornsby, 1876	39,951	221 ND
Milpitas	1835	José Maria Alviso	Heirs of José Maria Alviso, 1871	4,458	037 ND
Pala	1835	José Higuera	Ellen White,, 1866	4,454	233 ND
Pastoria de las Borregas	1842	Francisco M. Estrada	Mariano Castro, 1865	4,172	097 ND
Posolmi	1844	Lopez Inigio	Robert Walkinshaw & Thomas Campbell, 1881	1,696	410 ND
Quito	1841	José Z. Fernandez & José Noriega	Manuel Alviso, 1866	13,310	226 ND
Rincon de los Esteros	1838	Ygnacio Alviso	Rafael Alviso et al,, 1872	2,200	204 ND
Same as above	1838	Ygnacio Alviso	Francisco Berryessa, 1873	1,845	239 ND
Same as above	1838	Ygnacio Alviso	Ellen White, 1862	2,308	238 ND
Rincon de San Francisquito	1841	José Pena	Teodora & Secundino Robles, 1868	8,418	081 ND
Rinconada del Arroyo de San Francisquito	1841	Maria Antonia Mesa	Maria Antonia Mesa, 1872	2,229	129 ND
Rinconada de los Gatos	1840	José Hernandez & Sebastian Peralta	José Hernandez & Sebastian Peralta, 1860	6,631	164 ND
San Antonio	1839	Juan Prado Mesa	William A. & Henry Dana and James Weeks, 1857	3,542	383 ND
San Francisquito	1839	Antonio Buelna	Maria Concepcion Valencia de Rodriquez et al, 1868	1,471	206 ND
San Juan Bautista	1844	José Agustin Narvaez	José Agustin Narvaez, 1865	8,880	007 ND
Santa Teresa	1834	Joaquin Bernal	Augustin Bernal. 1867	9,647	181 ND
San Vicente	1842	José Reyes Berryessa	Maria Zacarias Bernal de Berryessa, 1968	4, 438	363 ND
Soquel Augmentation	1844	Martina Castro	Martina Castro, 1860	****32,702	343 ND
Tularcitos	1839	José Higuera	Heirs of José Higuera, 1870	4,094	228 ND
Ulistac	1845	Pio, Marcelo & Cristobal	Heirs of Jacob D. Hoppe, 1868	2,217	323 ND
Yerba Buena	1840	Antonio Chaboya	Antonio Chaboya, 1859	24,343	213 ND
Pueblo Lot #6	1840	Pedro Chaboya	Pedro Chaboya, 1876	366	192 ND
Las Animas	1802, 1808	Francisco Castro, Mariano Castro	José Mariano Castro		
Same as above	1835	Joséfa Romero y Castro	José Ma. Sanchez Heirs, 1873	26,519	136 ND
San Ysidro (Ortega)	1808, 1833	Ygnacio Ortega, Ortega heirs	José Quentin Ortega, 1868	4,439	163 ND
San Ysidro (Gilroy)	1808, 1833	Ygnacio Ortega, Ortega heirs	John Gilroy/John Martin, 1867	4,461	216 ND
San Ysidro (La Polka)	1808, 1833	Isabel Ortega y Cantua	Martin J. C. Murphy, 1860	4,167	159 ND

Solis	1831	Mariano Macario Castro	Rufina Castro, et al., 1859	8,875	405 ND
Ausaymas y San Felipe	1833, 1836	Francisco Perez Pacheco	F. P. Pacheco, 1859	**35,504	79 SD
San Francisco de las Llagas	1834	Carlos Castro	Martin & James Murphy, 1868	22,283	147 ND
Llano de Tequisquita	1835	José Maria Sanchez	Heirs of Sanchez, 1871	**16,016	106 SD
Juristac	1835	Antonio & Faustino German	Sargent Bros. & R. Carlisle, 1871	4,540	009 ND
La Laguna Seca	1834	Juan Alvires	Liberata C. (Fisher) Bull, 1865	20,052	211 ND
Ojo de Agua de la Coche	1835	Juan M. Hernandez	Martin J. C. Murphy, 1860	8,927	379 ND
Cañada de San Felipe y las Animas	1844	Francisco Garcia	Charles M. Weber, 1866	8,788	332 SD
Las Uvas	1842	Lorenzo Pineda	Martin Murphy, 1860	11,080	174 SD
San Luis Gonzaga	1843	Juan P. Pacheco/José Maria Mejia	Juan Perez Pacheco, 1871	***48,827	62 ND
Salsipuedes	1823/1840	Francisco de Haro/ Manuel J. Casarin	James Blair/John P. Davidson, 1861	****31,201	201 SD

*From Perez (1996), Arbuckle (1968), and Hendry and Bowman (1940) **Also in San Benito County***Also in Merced County****Also in Santa Cruz County

2.3 EARLY AMERICAN PERIOD (1846-1869)

The American frontier period in California began with a military excursion into Alta California in 1846, and came to a close with the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869. Within this period, the hostilities between the United States and Mexico resulted in the creation of the American territory of California, followed by California's admittance to the Union. Subsequent American westward migration by wagon and boat set the stage for the rapid development and economic growth to follow in the ensuing decades. The frontier period was dominated by the imposition of American culture on the Hispanic way of life.

In May 1846, the United States declared war on Mexico; and shortly thereafter, the American flag was raised in Monterey and San José. The hostilities ended less than a year later with the Battle of Santa Clara in January 1847. In 1848, the United States acquired a portion of the Mexican province of Alta California in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. On the heels of the acquisition of California by the United States was the discovery of gold in the Sierra foothills, which precipitated a sudden influx of population to the state from the continental United States, Europe, Mexico, South America, and Asia. This event accelerated California statehood, which was achieved in 1850. San José was selected as the first state capital within the newly established County of Santa Clara.

Following the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, it soon became apparent to the rapidly growing, land-hungry population, that the pre-existing system of land ownership would not satisfy the needs of the new residents. American settlers did not understand or accept the old Mexican concept of land tenure and they were frustrated since much of the best land in the San Francisco Bay area was already owned due to land grants established during the Spanish/Mexican era land grants. In many cases, the boundaries of the ranchos were only roughly identified. Throughout California, new American settlers, mistakenly believing that the territory ceded by Mexico in the Treaty was now the public domain of the United States, tried to make claim to lands outside the pueblos. They immediately came into conflict with landowners who had acquired title under Spain or Mexico. Under the Treaty, the pre-existing property rights were to be preserved. Many settlers took matters into their own hands and occupied the land in defiance of the law. Squatters in this period maintained the belief that the lands were public and attacked the legality of Mexican titles. To bring order out of chaos, the United States government created the California Land Claims Commission in 1851 to provide a process to validate the Mexican titles by determining legal ownership and establishing fixed

boundaries for property granted under Spanish and Mexican authority. Intended to protect the pre-existing landowner, this process in many cases worked to their detriment. The process of title confirmation was long, cumbersome, and expensive, and many ethnic Mexican rancheros found the economic and legal difficulties insurmountable. Even when the property owners gained legal title to their land, the eviction of the numerous squatters was an almost impossible task (Gilreath and Duval 2002).

In 1847, pressure was exerted upon the San José town council (known during this unsettled period as the Junta) to make more land available for public ownership. The council decided that the vast areas of unoccupied pueblo lands (*ejidos*) that extended into the eastern foothills would be subdivided into 500-acre lots and sold. In July, James D. Hutton was hired to survey this land into 500-acre lots, to be distributed to heads of families. This plan went forward, but with unsatisfactory results. Hutton was a poor surveyor, and most lots were later discovered to be short several hundred acres. In 1848, a new surveyor, Chester Lyman, resurveyed most of the lots, and found them to be “wretched in every respect.” Title to these lands was conditional and in most instances, the conditions had not been met. Therefore, in 1850, the council declared them forfeited. The Governor of California determined that the Junta had no authority to dispose of these lands (Hall 1871). In spite of their invalidity, however, references to the Five-Hundred-Acre titles continued to be mentioned in deed records for many years to come. In response to pressure by American settlers, the junta also commissioned a survey of the pueblo. The survey embraced lands east of Market Plaza to Eighth Street, north to Julian and south to Reed streets, all of which were adjacent to the occupied pueblo area. Those with claims to land in the surveyed area were granted legal title and the unclaimed lands were sold by the *alcalde* at \$50 per city block. Additional surveys occurred over the next several years. In 1850, Thomas White’s survey extended the San José city limits to Coyote Creek on the east, and just beyond the Guadalupe River on the west. The city was approximately three miles long, northwest by southeast, and about two miles wide. These limits were not expanded until the early twentieth century. Aside from the overall effect of facilitating speculation, these early surveys were important elements in the evolution of the first urban area in Santa Clara County. Once a street plan has been established it becomes relatively inflexible as structures are erected and money is invested to lay road surfaces.

The discovery of gold in 1848 made the establishment of cities even more important. The life in the gold fields was difficult and the miners sought the city for relief from these hardships by having well-cooked meals and enjoying what entertainment could be found. San José was one

of several towns in northern California that responded to the stimulus of gold fever by establishing hotels, houses of entertainment, restaurants, saloons, and stores that provided merchandise needed by the miners. California statehood was achieved in 1850, and San José was selected the first state capital. The combination of migrating miners and the arrival of legislators, newsmen, and interested onlookers, spurred the rapid development of the Santa Clara Valley region.

In 1850, the California legislature created twenty-seven counties, including the County of Santa Clara. At this time, the southern portion of Alameda County was included within the boundaries of Santa Clara County. In 1853, however, the area known as Washington Township was split off and included in the newly formed Alameda County. Washington Township was settled early due to its close proximity to both the Pueblo de San José and Mission San José.

As the County of Santa Clara contained the last urban area on the route to the southern Mother Lode, large numbers of the miners, who formerly had been farmers in the eastern United States and Europe, could not fail to recognize the agricultural potential of the Santa Clara Valley. After a period in the Mother Lode, many of these miners returned to the valley to take up farming. The high cost and scarcity of flour, fruit, and vegetables during the early Gold Rush made agricultural and commercial pursuits as profitable as and more dependable than mining.

As the productivity of the gold mines fell off and the enthusiasm of the Gold Rush began to wane, many pioneers of the Early American Period began to look to the cities and fertile rangelands as sources of income. At the time of the Gold Rush, beef was the only commodity that could be supplied in large quantities by the Californians. However, it was necessary to import other foodstuffs plus additional supplies of beef and mutton. Until the drought of 1864, cattle ranching continued to be the primary economic activity in the region. During the Spanish and Mexican Periods, open range methods were followed since grazing lands were ample. As smaller farms began to spread throughout the county, pasture land was reduced, and cattle ranching became concentrated in the foothills. More intensive stock farming began in the 1860s when cattle were moved from the foothill pastures to valley feed yards until they were ready for marketing. Paralleling the rise and fall of the cattle industry, but on a smaller scale, was sheep ranching. Sheep ranches were particularly prevalent in the San Felipe portion of southern Santa Clara County (Broek 1932; Gilreath and Duval 2002). Dairy farming also

began in South County in the 1850s and 1860s, and was followed by similar developments in Blossom Valley portions of Santa Clara Valley, and later the eastern valley floor.

Many large ranchos were acquired by American immigrants prior to 1846. After hostilities ceased, the new settlers quickly acquired more of the rancho land in the valley. With fortunes acquired during the early gold rush, early settlers such as the Martin Murphy family purchased large parcels of land in Santa Clara County and throughout the state. Of significance during this period were the acquisitions of Henry Miller. In 1859, Miller purchased 1,800 acres of the Rancho Las Animas from the heirs of José Maria Sanchez. Known as Bloomfield Ranch, the property became the headquarters of the vast Miller and Lux cattle ranching empire. After his arrival in California in 1850, Miller worked as a butcher. He soon decided that the way to control the local meat market was by raising his own cattle. In 1858, Miller formed a partnership with Charles Lux of San Francisco. Lux managed the firm's business affairs, and Miller purchased the livestock and oversaw the ranches. Miller and Lux bought land from the government, from squatters, and from Hispanic Californians who did not wait for their properties to be patented by the American government. Miller's goal was to have ranches a day's ride apart so both the cattle and men would have a place to rest at night (Pierce 1976). Gradually, Miller purchased most of the southern portions of the Santa Clara Valley around Gilroy. Miller, however, reckoned his holding in square miles not acres, estimating his Santa Clara County holdings at 192 square miles (Sawyer 1922). Miller amassed a fortune of \$250,000,000, and at the time of his death in 1916 owned millions of acres of land in California, Nevada, and Oregon (Treadwell 1966; Laffey 1992).

The staple agricultural product after the Gold Rush became wheat. The easy cultivation and high fertility of the soil of the Santa Clara Valley facilitated wheat production with little capital investment. By 1854, Santa Clara County was producing 30 percent of California's total wheat crop. In the summer of 1868, an observer noted that the Santa Clara Valley was almost an unbroken wheat field. Other grain crops, primarily barley and oats, followed wheat in productivity (Broek 1932; Detlefs 1985).

The agricultural potential of Santa Clara Valley was recognized by the Franciscans. They established small orchards and vineyards, and cuttings from these trees and vines later provided the basis of the first orchards and vineyards in the American period. By 1852, the first pioneer nurserymen were importing and experimenting with various types of fruit trees. By the 1860s, orchards were being set out in East San José, Milpitas and the north valley.



Figure 8 San Jose in 1856.

In 1850, Commodore Stockton, who had purchased the Rancho El Potrero from J. A. Forbes, ordered the mapping of the property for a subdivision called The Alameda Gardens. Stockton brought in 10-16 prefabricated houses from the East Coast and had them set up at various locations including The Alameda, Stockton Avenue, and Brokaw Road (Hunt 1907; Kennedy 1938). In 1853, Stockton sent a large stock of plants with Christopher Shelton (who died en route to California), and B. F. Fox (a botanist and professional nurseryman), to establish a nursery on the rancho. In addition to many varieties of fruit trees, the nursery stock included strawberry and asparagus plants, as well as a hive of honeybees--the first in California. The nursery was established in April 1853 and was, for a time, the major supplier of plant material in the Santa Clara Valley (Munro-Fraser 1881; Laffey 1981).

The decade of the 1860s saw the introduction of railroad transportation into Santa Clara County. In 1860, a company was formed in San Francisco with the goal of building a railroad to San José. This company included San Francisco businessman Charles B. Polhemus, who joined other backers of the project: Dr. Davis Devine, Henry Newhall, and James Donahue. In order to gain right-of-way for the railroad through the Stockton Ranch, Polhemus and Newhall purchased the entire tract for \$110,000 (James and McMurry 1933). In the early 1860s, Charles McLaughlin, the contractor who was to build the railroad, became the owner of a 600-acre plus portion of the Stockton Ranch between the City of Santa Clara and the Guadalupe River. In 1863, he deeded the right-of-way for the San Francisco & San Jose Railroad (SF&SJ RR) across his acreage (Hylkema and Garcia 1996). The San José station was established on Bassett Street, east of the Guadalupe River. The first train arrived in San José on January 16, 1864. A few years later, the Central Pacific (originally known as the Western Pacific Railroad) line was completed from San José to Niles. The line connected San José with the transcontinental railroad in 1869. San José, Santa Clara, and Milpitas thus became part of the national and world economic network that opened new markets for the agricultural and manufactured production of the Santa Clara Valley. The railroad, increasing population, and agricultural developments, ushered in a new era of land use.

2.4 LATE AMERICAN PERIOD/PERIOD OF HORTICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (1870-1900)

With train service first arriving in the county from San Francisco in 1864 and the Western Pacific Railroad connecting San José to Niles and northward in 1869, the stage was set for the rapid development of the agricultural potential of Santa Clara Valley. The Niles connection linked the valley to the transcontinental railroad, and that same year the Santa Clara & Pajaro Railroad line was completed through South County bringing access to the railroad to the throughout the length of Santa Clara County. This event precipitated many changes in the region as a whole, as it spurred the development of towns along the railroad lines and catalyzed changes in land use due to the accessibility of new markets outside the region.

By 1870, nearly all acreage in the rural areas of Santa Clara County was devoted to wheat and barley production. In late 1879-80, however, the area experienced poor yields coupled with increased wheat production in the Central Valley. Farmers responded by initiating a diversified farming approach. Farmers increased numbers of cows for milk and butter, sheep for wool, poultry for eggs, swine for meat, hay, grapes, and fruit trees in an attempt to protect

themselves during bad crop years in the 1870s and 1880s. By the late 1880s however, orchard products dominated agricultural production. The most popular of the orchard products was the prune. Acreage expanded rapidly during the 1890s. By 1890, orchards were spreading to the edges of the valley floor and South County, and completely dominated agriculture in Santa Clara County by the end of the decade (Broek 1932).

The canning industry was pioneered in San José by Dr. James Dawson in 1871. The fruit canning and packing industry quickly became the urban counterpart of the valley's orchards. Other support industries such as box, basket, and can factories were also established during this period. Orchard and food processing machinery and spraying equipment also became important local manufacturing industries. W. C. Anderson started a canning machinery factory (Anderson Prunedipping Co.) in 1890. Anderson Prunedipping Co. absorbed Barngrover, Hull, & Cunningham in 1902 becoming Anderson-Barngrover Manufacturing Co. This company merged with the Bean Spray Pump Company in 1928 and became Food Machinery Corporation (FMC). The fruit industry thus came to dominate the lives and livelihoods of most residents in both city and county by the advent of the twentieth century. Early industrial development located near transportation lines that began to appear in 1864.



Figure 9 Postcard of workers drying apricots in Santa Clara Valley .

Commercial growth in Santa Clara County boomed during the 1880s and continued with a steady increase in population toward the end of the nineteenth century. Changes in transportation during this period were a major influence on developmental patterns. In 1877, the narrow gauge South Pacific Coast Railroad was completed from Niles. The alignment came through Alviso, along the eastern edge of the Town of Santa Clara, (intersecting with the Southern Pacific tracks, formerly the San Francisco & San Jose Railroad), through the College

Park area of San José to its station just south of The Alameda at Cahill Street. Samuel Bishop built the first electrical streetcar line in America when he electrified the line between San José and Santa Clara in 1887/1888. The streetcars were converted to overhead electrical trolley lines in 1891. The Interurban Railroad had lines to Saratoga, Campbell, and Los Gatos by 1905. The Peninsular Railway had lines from San José to Palo Alto and Cupertino by 1915.

The first automobiles appeared in Santa Clara County in the late 1890s. Several pioneer automobile factories, the first in California, were established in San José after 1900. Clarence Letcher opened the first “garage” in the west in 1900, and in 1902 opened the first service station (James and McMurry 1933).

Through most of the Late Nineteenth Century Period, grain continued to be one of the primary agricultural pursuits in the county although production had peaked around 1875. Large stock ranches continued to operate in the eastern foothills and southwest of Gilroy during this period. The largest of these ranches were owned by the C. M. Weber estate, Henry W. and Charles Coe, Horace Willson, J. P. Sargent, and Henry Miller (SJ Mercury 1896). When the cattle industry shifted to more intensive methods with the introduction and use of feedlots, hay production became a necessity. The planting of forage crops and the establishment of feeding sheds led to better utilization of the range. Hay and forage crops were also used by the dairy industry, which was still prevalent in the late nineteenth century. Portions of large land holdings were often leased, as the second generation of the settler families that owned these lands were less interested in farming and ranching.



Figure 10 Postcard of cannery workers in San José.

The County of Santa Clara was emerging as a horticultural region connected to the national economy and the valley began to draw new immigrants to the area from around the world. The rapid agricultural development near the end of the nineteenth century and the ensuing population increase provided the impetus for the establishment of many of the government, economic, and cultural institutions that remain evident in Santa Clara County in the twenty-first century. Most of the communities in the County outside of San José, Santa Clara, and Gilroy, began to evolve in response to horticultural development and the related transportation needs. By the end of the nineteenth century, the topology as we know it today was established. Over the next century as the County continued to grow in population and the number of incorporated cities reached fifteen. Today, Santa Clara County is a continuous metropolitan area of thirteen cities located within the valley floor and two municipalities in South County.

2.5 EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY (1900-1918)

The business of fruit production, the combination of growing, packing and canning, continued to be the focus of Santa Clara County agriculture in the early twentieth century. Fruit production peaked in the 1920s. With the increased ratio of crop value to land unit, large farms that had evolved in the nineteenth century out of the ranchos became unnecessary. The increased land prices, cultivation costs, and growing population of ready buyers led to the subdivision of large farmlands into highly specialized “fruit ranches” that were 3 to 50 acres in size.



Figure 11 Pine Ridge Association Museum at Henry W. Coe State Park.

While many of the smaller farms were devoted to fruit production, the larger farms at the edge of the valley and in South County continued to practice diversified farming strategies. It was not uncommon for large farms to have fruit orchards, vineyards, hay and grain fields, and in some cases, tobacco fields. A variety of stock could also be found on these farms, including dairy cows, pigs, and poultry.

The introduction of the automobile and commercial development of the trucking industry in the early part of the twentieth century had a significant impact on land use patterns throughout Santa Clara County. Until about 1910, local residents relied on horse-drawn vehicles for local transportation and the railroad, with its many depots, for longer distances. The automobile greatly extended the distance an individual could travel to acquire goods and services.

2.6 INTERWAR PERIOD (1918-1945)

In the early 1920s, the Western Pacific Railroad alignment between Fremont and San José was constructed. The freight (1921) and passenger depots (1923) were built on East Santa Clara Street between North Twenty-Seventh and North Twenty-Eighth Streets (Holmes 1985). The construction of this railroad changed land uses in some areas from residential and agricultural to industrial use. In 1931, Western Pacific ended passenger service and the East San José passenger depot was closed. Both depots have since been demolished. In 1982, Western Pacific was merged with Union Pacific, which still owns the old right-of-way through East San José (Holmes 1985). In 1927, the Southern Pacific Railroad constructed the Newhall Yard on the old Stockton Ranch property east of the City of Santa Clara.

By 1928, all of San Jose's city streets had been paved and old wooden bridges were being replaced by concrete bridges. In 1930, San José had the greatest weekday auto traffic count in California and was the only city in the state whose weekday traffic count exceeded that of holidays (James and McMurry 1933). Highway improvements included the widening of the San Francisco and Oakland highways in 1929-1932, the construction of the Bayshore Highway in the Santa Clara County in 1927 and realigning and widening the Santa Cruz Highway. With increased automobile competition, streetcar lines were abandoned in the 1920s and 1930s and replaced by private bus lines. In the mid-1950s, Bayshore Freeway (101) was completed, bisecting the East San José area.



Figure 12 Road construction in Santa Clara County.

World War II, like the Gold Rush a century before, had a major effect on the changing complexion of Santa Clara County. The San Francisco Bay area was the gateway to the Pacific theater from 1941 to 1945. The large naval air station at Moffett Field became a center of much activity. Thousands of military personnel were brought to the area for training and processing, exposing the Santa Clara Valley to public view.



Figure 13 Moffett Field's Hanger One under construction, *ca.* 1933.

Events at Stanford University were also setting the stage for significant developments in the post-war period. Frederick Terman became an engineering professor at Stanford in 1930. Under his guidance the university became a leader in the field of electronics. Many of Stanford's pre-war graduates played important roles in the post-war development of the local electronics industry.

2.7 PERIOD OF INDUSTRIALIZATION AND SUBURBANIZATION (1945-1975)

William Hewlett and David Packard, two of Professor Terman's students at Stanford University, developed electronic test equipment in a Palo Alto garage in 1939. During World War II this small company obtained government contracts and continued to grow during the post-war period. In 1954, the Stanford Industrial Park was established attracting the companies of Hewlett-Packard and the Varian brothers (also students of Terman) as well as Sylvania, Philco-Ford, General Electric, and Lockheed's research laboratory. These companies formed the nucleus of what became known as Silicon Valley.

Soon after World War II, the business community launched an active campaign to attract new non-agricultural related industries to Santa Clara County. Early industries that established plants in the Santa Clara Valley included Chicago's International Mineral and Chemical Corporation's Accent plant in 1946, the General Electric plant in the early 1950s, and in the 1950s International Business Machines (IBM) began to expand their West Coast operations in San José that established in 1943. By the 1960s, Santa Clara County's economic base was dependent upon the electronic and defense industries. The 1970s saw the development of the personal computer industry stimulated by Apple's "user friendly" computers.



Figure 13 IBM's punch card plant established in downtown San Jose in 1943.

In 1949, the San José Airport was completed on the remaining undeveloped Stockton Ranch acreage. Attracted by the increasing job market, the population of the Santa Clara Valley experienced phenomenal growth after 1950. Between 1950 and 1975 the population increased from 95,000 to over 500,000. Correspondingly, the municipal boundaries of the City of San

José spread from 17 square miles in 1950 to over 120 square miles in 1970. Orchards were replaced with subdivisions and shopping centers. San Jose's expansion and urban growth can be directly related to the appointment of City Manager Dutch Hamann in 1950 by the pro-growth city council. Under Hamann's pro-annexation policy, San José annexed 1,419 outlying areas by the end of 1969 when Hamann left the position. Between 1950 and 1969, residential subdivisions replaced orchards at amazing speed. Rural roads were widened into freeways, and expressways and boulevards were lined with restaurants and automobile salesrooms.

The automobile was the basic mechanism that allowed the development of the Santa Clara Valley. In the years following World War II the American public intensified its love affair with the automobile. Beginning in the early years of the twentieth century, America, and California in particular, became a car-oriented society by mid-century. This aspect of American culture is reflected in the architecture and resource types of the contemporary period. Suburban housing tracts are characterized by prominent, attached two or three car garages. Commercially, the Industrialization and Urbanization Period is characterized by the proliferation of fast food chains and other quick service, car-oriented establishments.



Figure 14 Downtown San José in 1956.

Santa Clara County cities and towns along major transportation arteries grew exponentially. The commercial migration, once centered in downtown San José, started in 1956 when the first store at Valley Fair, San José's first regional shopping center, opened for business. Major and minor strip mall shopping centers sprung up to serve outlying residential areas throughout the County, attracting additional residential and commercial development.

3.0 GEOGRAPHICAL DEVELOPMENT

3.1 Historic Boundary origins and definition

California under Spanish rule, then known as Upper California and later Alta California, contained two political boundaries, the north and south prefects, with headquarters in the Pueblo of Los Angeles and the Presidio of Monterey. Two more prefectures were later established at the Presidio of Santa Barbara and the Pueblo of San José, and by 1829 there were *ayuntamientos* (administrators) at all four. From 1831 to 1834 there existed five “districts,” San Diego being added to the group. The boundaries of these districts, however, are not known.

With a change in jurisdictional control over Alta California in 1848, an attempt was soon made to establish districts within the new territory. In 1849, at the first constitutional convention, the 48 delegates represented 10 districts that had been defined by the governor. San José was one of the districts.

During this convention, a committee headed by General Vallejo was assigned to divide the state into counties. Vallejo was selected for this role based on his authority on geography, population, and nomenclature.

The boundaries of 18 counties were established in a report dated January 4, 1850; one county was named “San José.” In the ensuing deliberations, the boundaries were modified, counties were added, and names were changed. In the process, the name “San José” was changed to “Santa Clara.” The governor approved the legislature’s final arrangement of 28 counties on February 18, 1850.

General Vallejo prepared a report to the legislature at that time explaining the traditions associated with the proposed names. Seven counties were named for the early Spanish settlements within their boundaries; Santa Clara County’s name recalled the first Spanish settlement of the region at Mission Santa Clara.

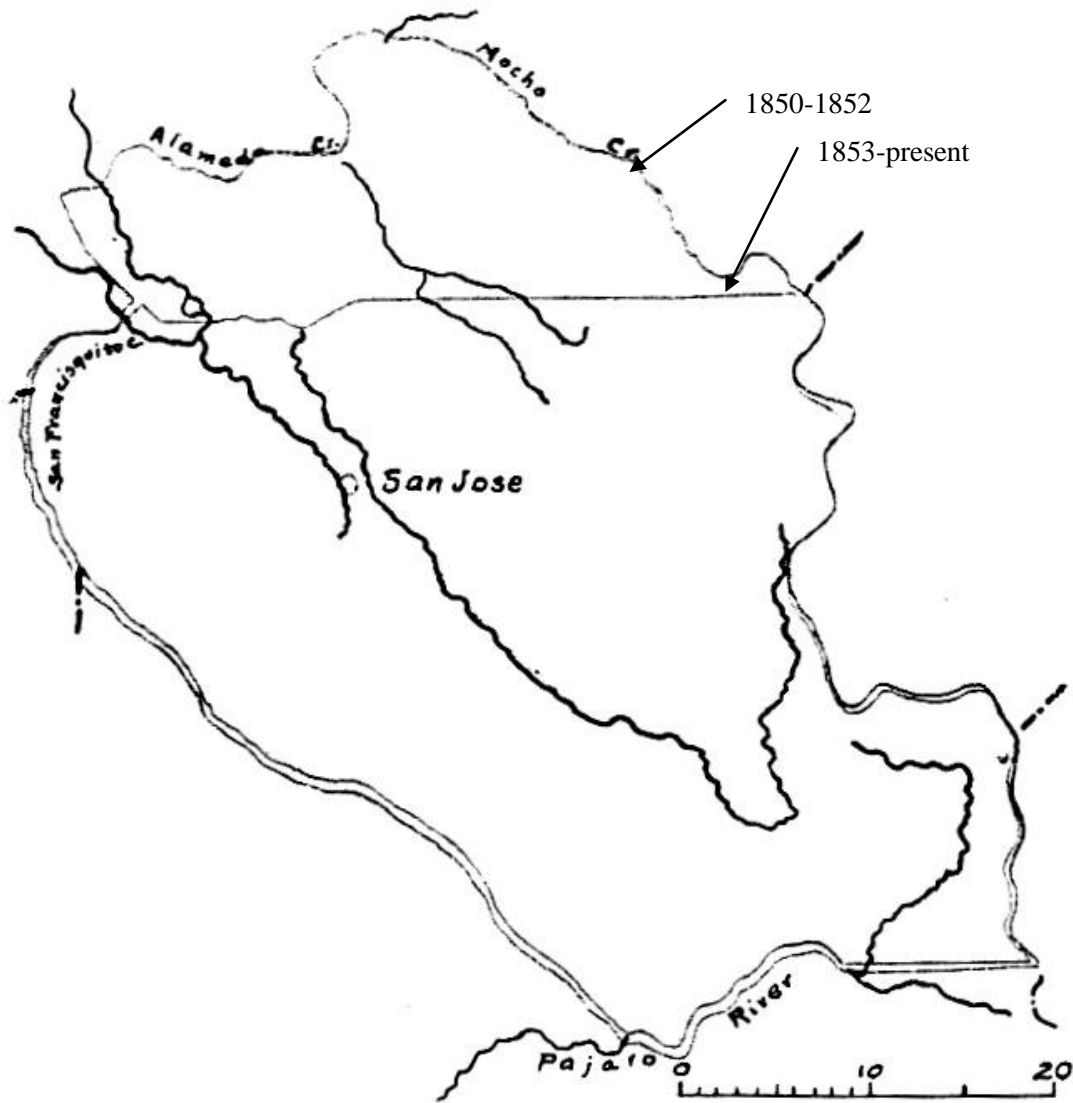
The original boundaries of Santa Clara County were defined in this report as follows:

Beginning at the mouth of Alameda Creek, and running up the middle of said creek to its source in the Coast Range; thence in a southeasterly direction, following the summit of the Coast Range, to the northeast corner of Monterey County; thence in a westerly direction, following the northern boundary of Monterey County to the southeast corner of Santa Cruz County; thence in a northwesterly direction, following the summit of the Santa Cruz mountains, to the head of San Francisquito Creek; thence down the middle of said creek to its mouth; and thence in a direct line to the mouth of Alameda Creek, which was the place of beginning.

Two amendatory bills were adopted shortly thereafter in subsequent legislative sessions. One of those bills modified the original boundaries of Santa Clara County. This 1852 modification was between the southern line of Contra Costa County and northern line of Santa Clara County, and was defined as follows, "...the head of Mocho Creek, in a direct line; thence down the middle of said creek to its confluence with Alameda Creek; thence down the middle of said creek."

In 1853, the northerly portion of Santa Clara County was detached to contribute to the territory of the newly organized Alameda County. The map on this page shows the original boundary with an overlay of the modified boundary. It has been the most significant county boundary change to occur in the last 150 years. The boundary between these two counties was changed to the following:

Beginning at a point at the head of a slough which is an arm of the bay of San Francisco, making into the mainland in front of the Gegara ranches; thence to a lone sycamore tree that stands in a ravine between the dwelling of Fluhencia and Valentine Gegara; thence up said ravine to the top of the mountain; thence on a direct line eastwardly, to the junction of the San Joaquin and Tuolumne counties.



Santa Clara County.

Blue	Stats.	1850:156; 1851:174; 1852:178.
Red	Stats.	1853:56; 1855:228; Pol. Code (1872), §3952; (1919), §3951.

For key to maps see page ix.

Figure 15 Boundaries of Santa Clara County in 1850 and 1853.

In 1872, the Nineteenth Session of the Legislature codified the county boundaries. The boundaries of Santa Clara County defined in Section 3952 of the Political Code of 1872 are as follows:

Beginning at a point opposite the mouth of San Francisquito Creek, being common corner of Alameda, San Mateo, and Santa Clara, as established in section 3951; thence easterly, to a point at the head of a slough, which is an arm of the bay of San Francisco, at its head, making into the main land in front of the Gegara Ranches; thence easterly, to a lone sycamore tree that stands in a ravine between the dwellings of Fluhencia and Valentine Gegara²; thence easterly, up said ravine, to the top of the mountains, and as surveyed by Horace A. Higley, and shown on survey and map of Alameda County, eighteen hundred and fifty-seven; thence on a direct line easterly, to the common corner of San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Alameda, and Santa Clara, on the summit of the Coast Range, as established in section 3932; thence southeasterly, following the summit of the Coast Range, to the northeast corner of Monterey County, as established in section 3948; thence westerly, following the northern boundary of Monterey County to the southeast corner of Santa Cruz County, as established in section 3949; thence northwesterly, following the summit of the Santa Cruz mountains, to the head of San Francisquito Creek; thence down said creek, to its mouth; thence in a direct line to the place of beginning.

Additional counties were added to California following the adoption of the Political Code of 1872, although the process generally came to a halt in 1893. In 1894, a referendum was adopted by the people of the state that placed restrictions on the Legislature, preventing the creation of additional jurisdictions unless certain specified conditions were met. Although the constitutional amendment of 1894 did not restrict the Legislature from altering county boundaries, the level of activity slowed, little occurred following the referendum. By 1907, one additional county was added (Imperial), and in Santa Clara County, the Legislature saw a petition by property owners of the southern parts of the county protesting against any attempt to divide their region from the main part of the county.

The last change to the description of the Santa Clara County boundaries came in 1919, partly due to uncertainties in the description of some of the boundary lines. The 1919 revision to the Political Code included a new more detailed description, and includes terminology related to the mapping of the region by the United State Geological Survey (USGS) that occurred in the 1890s. These boundaries have remained in place to the present:

3951. Santa Clara. Beginning at a point distant north thirty degrees west, one thousand two hundred fifty-four feet from the southwest corner of section twenty-two, township five south, range two west, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian; said point being hereby establishes the corner common to San

² Fluhencia Gegara is Flugencio Higuera, grantee of the 9563 acre Agua Caliente rancho that extended into both Santa Clara and Alameda counties.

Mateo, Santa Clara and Alameda counties; thence southeasterly in a direct line to the southwest corner of section twenty-six, township five south, range two west, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian; thence easterly in a direct line to the point where the center of the Coyote River is intersected by the west line of township five south, range one west, Mount Diablo Base and meridian; thence easterly along the center of the Coyote River to a point from which a sandstone monument set on the southwesterly side of the county road leading from San José to Oakland, or state highway, as described in the field notes of the survey of the boundary line between the counties of Alameda and Santa Clara, filed June 2, 1873, in the office of the clerk of Santa Clara County, California, bears north fifty-seven degrees, thirty-five minutes east, four thousand three hundred forty feet distant, more or less; thence north fifty-seven degrees, thirty-five minutes east, four thousand three hundred forty feet, more or less, to said sandstone monument; thence north easterly and easterly along the boundary line between Alameda and Santa Clara counties, as described in the field notes of said survey, to the corner common to Alameda, San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Santa Clara counties; thence southeasterly following the summit of the Coast Range to the corner common to San Benito, Merced and Santa Clara counties, situated in section twenty-one, township eleven south, range seven east, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian, as established by Charles T. Healy, deputy surveyor general of California in September, 1858; thence westerly on the present surveyed line between Santa Clara and San Benito counties to a point on the San Felipe Creek, near San Felipe lake; thence around the eastern and northern side of said lake to the Pajaro River; thence down said river to the southwest corner of Santa Clara County and the southeast corner of Santa Cruz County, as established in section three thousand nine hundred fifty-two; thence northwesterly, following the summit of the Santa Cruz mountains, being northeasterly boundary of Santa Cruz County, to the head of the south fork of the San Francisquito Creek; thence down said creek to its mouth; thence in a direct line to the place of beginning.

3.2 Geographical Description

Santa Clara County contains a rich variety of geographical settings, from bayside to valley floor, and from foothills to mountains. The topography, vegetation, and availability of water and other natural resources shaped the nature of human development in pre-historic times, and have continued to transform its topology in historical times since the first settlement of Euro-Americans in 1777. The area is now the urban region home to fourteen municipalities and a population of about 1.7 million.

The jurisdiction of the County of Santa Clara includes portions of the San Francisco Bay along part of its northern border. Arcing around the southerly edge of the bay is the Santa Clara Valley. This central portion of the county is the fertile agricultural flatland once referred to as “The Valley of Heart’s Delight.”

To the northwest of the greater part of Santa Clara Valley, the County reaches into the San Francisco Peninsula at Mountain View, and extends west from the bay into the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains south of Palo Alto, where it touches the Portola Valley in San Mateo County. The County line reaches the summit of the Santa Cruz Mountains near the intersection of Skyline Boulevard and Alpine Road, and then follows the mountain range southerly along the summit to a point south of the peaks of Mount Thayer, Mount Umunhum, and Loma Prieta, in an area now known as Sierra Azul.

To the northeast, the County line follows along the north side of the town of Milpitas, and continues into the Mount Diablo Range to the top of Monument Peak. From this peak, the northerly line of the County follows an east/west line as the crow flies, crossing Calaveras Reservoir, Oak Ridge, Mount Lewis, and Valpe Ridge until it reaches the peak of Mount Boardman. To the south of the northerly border line with Alameda County is a vast rural mountainous region bounded by the Santa Clara Valley to the west, and the foothills of Stanislaus County of California’s Central Valley in the east. This mainly uninhabited region contains the San Antonio and Isabel Valleys, Mount Hamilton, and two large public parks: Henry W. Coe State Park which lies east of Pine Ridge, and Grant Ranch Park at Hall’s Valley.

The topology of Santa Clara County can best be studied as four zones that exhibit distinct characteristics within their development history: the urban areas north of Coyote Valley, South County, the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains, and the Mount Diablo Range.

3.2.1 Urban Area/Santa Clara Valley Floor

The urban areas of metropolitan San José and the Peninsula cities have merged together in the last half of a century, and now are part of a continuous urban region that wraps around San Francisco Bay from the northerly extent of Richmond in the East Bay to San Francisco. The evolution of the municipalities in Santa Clara County that constitute the South Bay region have a common history related to its early agricultural development, and the transportation systems that served to expand the economy of the area that facilitated population growth.

Within and around the twelve municipalities north of the area defined as South County, unincorporated pockets of land remain. Some early, unincorporated communities such as Willow Glen, East San José, and Alviso were annexed into San José during the twentieth century, while other unincorporated urban areas such as Burbank, Monte Vista, New Almaden, East Highlands, and Stanford remain under the jurisdiction of the county government. Expansive annexation practices following World War II brought most of the developed areas in the county within local municipal control. Intergovernmental policies and regulations now require that most new development in unincorporated areas annex to the jurisdiction that maintains the adopted “sphere of influence” as a pre-condition to development entitlements.

The county pockets are difficult to study from an historical point of view without taking into consideration the context of the larger areas that surround them. Within these pockets are many historical resources that have been identified and recorded during cultural resources studies over the last 40 years, as well as other potential resources that have not yet been identified. Because current development review within these county pockets often begins with pre-annexation and environmental review at the appropriate agency that maintains the sphere of influence, they are not included within this larger context for Santa Clara County. Other properties that undergo redevelopment under the county development review process are best studied for historical context on a case-by-case basis. For the two unincorporated communities that have substantial numbers of historic resources (Burbank and New Almaden) and the urban area of Stanford, brief context histories are provided to better place their evolution in perspective compared to the rest of Santa Clara County.

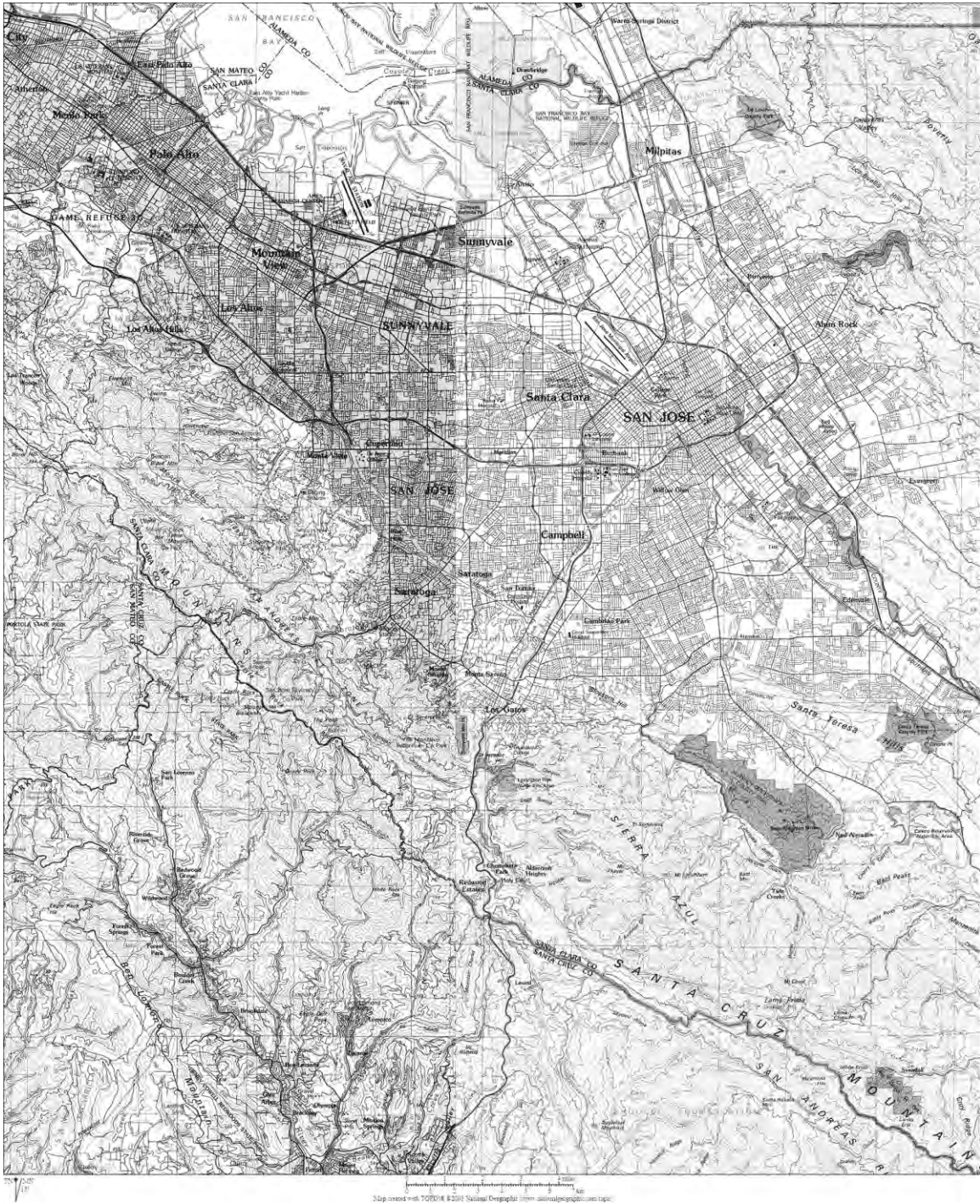


Figure 16 Urban areas and portion of Santa Cruz Mountain within Santa Clara County.

3.2.2 South County

“South County” is defined and referenced in this report as that portion of the County of Santa Clara that lies south of Coyote Narrows, roughly the point where Metcalf Road intersects with Highway 101. Foothills frame the southern portions of the Santa Clara Valley, and the county lines lie within these hills. The eastern and southern boundaries follow the county line in the Mount Hamilton Division of the Diablo Range, and the southwestern boundary lies along the county line within the Santa Cruz Mountains. The southern boundary of South County corresponds with the south boundary of Santa Clara County, roughly following the Pajaro River. The area is largely rural in character with the exception of the cities of Morgan Hill and Gilroy, the small unincorporated town of San Martin, and the unincorporated communities of Coyote and other early settlements that remain extant in the rural areas of the region.

3.2.3 Santa Cruz Mountains

The Santa Cruz Mountains are a portion of the Pacific Coast Ranges, and within Santa Clara County are two areas; Sierra Morena, located from the Los Gatos gap to California State Route 92 in San Mateo County, and Sierra Azule, located to the south and ending at Salinas Valley. The highest point is Loma Prieta Peak at 3,78 feet. The foothills were historically wooded with redwood forests although the foothills also included chaparral and some oak-studded hills. Clearing land and logging was a significant part of the early history of development in this area. The difficulty of transportation in the steep area, coupled with its natural resources, added to the pioneering attitude of early settlers. The area is described in the 1881-1882 recollections of Lyman J. Burrell, one of the first Americans near Summit Road:

At that time there was no one living in this vicinity. It might truly have been called a ‘howling wilderness’; for these beautiful hills and valleys, now covered with orchards and vineyards, comfortable houses, school houses, good roads, with all kinds of improvement going on, and everywhere teeming with busy life, were then the abode of fierce and dangerous animals. They made their homes in the [thickets] and hollow trees, and went forth both day and night to seek food for themselves and for their young.

3.2.4 Diablo Range

The Diablo Range is a portion of the Pacific Coast Ranges and within east Santa Clara County extends from the large mountain area east of Milpitas to generally State Route 152. This

mountainous region that takes up the eastern half of the county's area has historically been a rural, sparsely populated, dry, grassy area suitable for cattle grazing. Springs, both hot and cold, provide water sources in numerous places throughout the region. Three valleys are found within its confines: Hall's Valley, which is located south of the Alum Rock Canyon; Isabel Valley, located to the east of Mount Hamilton; and San Antonio Valley, located to the northeast of Isabel Valley. Santa Clara Valley is connected to the Central Valley by a sequence of rural roads: Mount Hamilton, San Antonio, and Del Pureto Roads which meander through a series of canyons and valleys, and across hilltops. The remote character has restricted development. Within this region are two large rural parks: Joseph D. Grant County Park, located in Hall's Valley just to the east of Santa Clara Valley, and Henry W. Coe State Park, located to the east of Coyote Valley. The region extends beyond Pacheco Pass on the south, where the Diablo Range continues to Cholame and State Route 46. The early rancho south of Pacheco Pass was called *Quien Sabe*, Spanish for "who knows," a description that remains fitting even today.

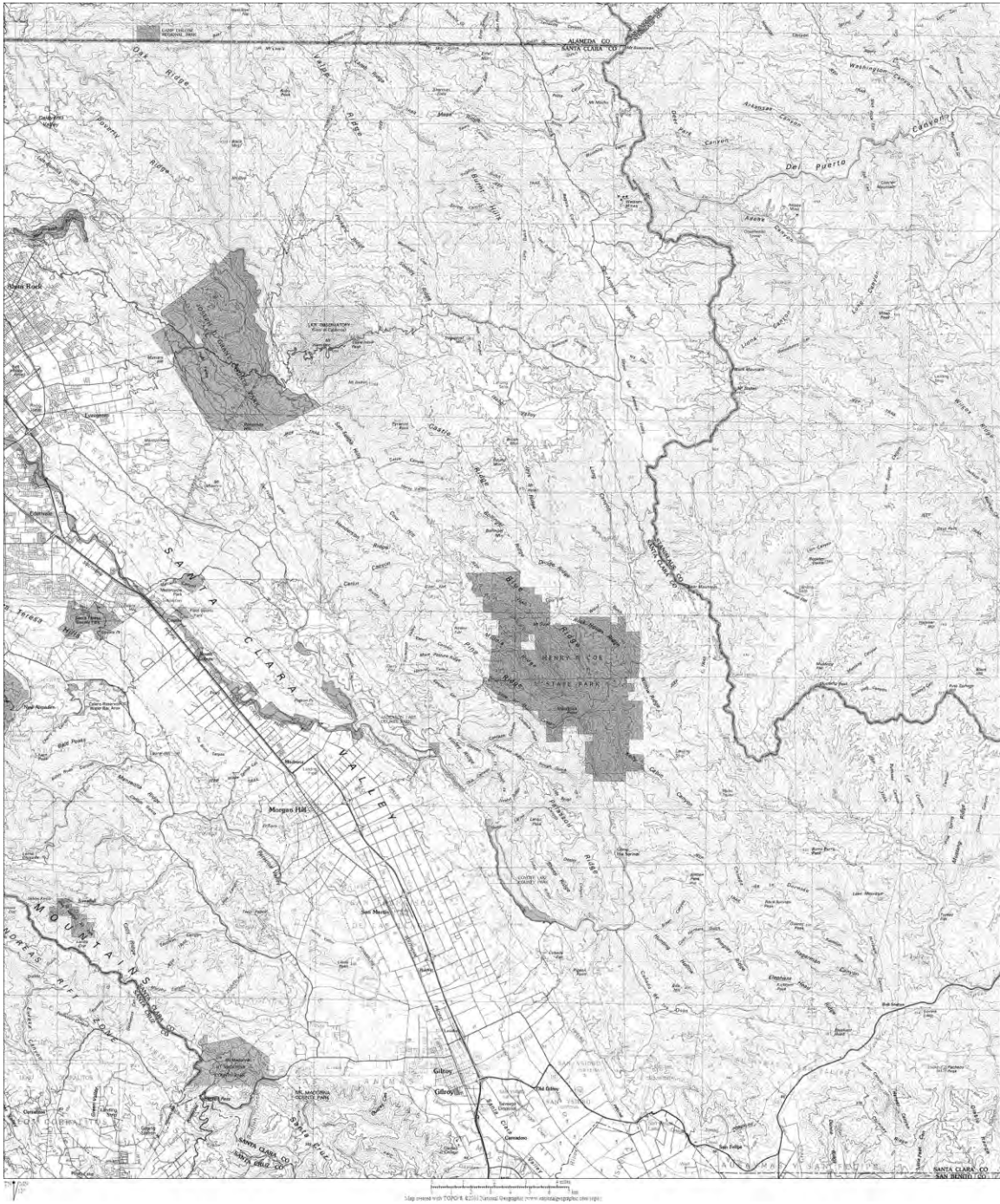


Figure 17 Diablo Range and South County areas of Santa Clara County.

3.3 AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION

Until recent times, Santa Clara County's primary economic force was agricultural. Originally a Spanish frontier colony with an economy based in cattle ranching, wheat became the primary agricultural product by the mid-nineteenth century. A diversification of agricultural products, dominated by fruit orchards by the late 1880s, led to the County being ranked as one of the foremost agricultural districts on the Pacific Coast.

Until the beginnings of the American period in the mid-nineteenth century, the area outside of the settlements of Mission Santa Clara and the San José pueblo were largely undeveloped and used primarily for the grazing of livestock. In the late 1820s and early 1830s, following Mexico's achievement of independence from Spain, the Mexican government granted large tracts of land to its citizens throughout Alta California. Rancho owners constructed residences, laborers' housing, corrals, gristmills, tanneries, etc., in order to serve the basic needs of the rancho settlements, or haciendas. These haciendas were located within the present limits of Santa Clara County; however, few extant resources associated with the rancho period remain.

Geographer Jan Broek (1932) identified three agricultural phases through which the Santa Clara Valley passed after 1850. The first phase (1850–1865) was characterized by cattle ranging, extensive wheat cultivation, and general crop experimentation. During the second phase (1865-1875) wheat farming surpassed cattle raising, and the foundations were laid for specialization in horticulture. In the third phase (1875 to the 1930s) horticulture superseded the declining wheat culture, and many other forms of intensive land utilization were developed with increasing developments in irrigation. Decreasing ranch size was closely correlated with these changing land uses. The Mexican ranchos consisted of several thousand unfenced acres for cattle to roam. Early American ranchers followed the Mexican practice of free ranging their cattle for some years; however, the spread of farm enclosures and environmental factors caused the large stock ranches to give way to more intensive land uses: smaller stock breeding ranches or dairy farms were confined to several hundred acres. Wheat farms during this period also ranged from 100 to 500 acres, averaging 213 acres in 1880. With the increasing crop value per land unit, the large ranch could not compete with small intensive farms, and the correlated increase in land prices, cultivation costs, and growing population led to the general subdivision of farm lands into highly specialized "fruit ranches" of 3 to 50 acres.

During the Mexican period, small orchards were planted in the area on the western edge of the San José pueblo between the *Acequia* and the Guadalupe River. The first early American orchards generally followed this practice, being established north of town along the acequia, Guadalupe River, and Coyote Creek. After the discovery of artesian water in 1854, orchards were more widespread, but were still fairly small in size and concentrated within the city limits. In 1856, the first experimental orchards were set out in the Willows area (what would become Willow Glen) and in the wake of their success, more extensive orchards during the 1860s were planted. As the production of various types of fruits proved successful, more and more orchards were planted throughout the valley during the 1870s and 1880s and even into the foothills. By 1890, orchards were spreading into the Evergreen area and also south of San José along Monterey Road, completely dominating valley agriculture by the end of the decade.

Figure 3.4 Number of Farms in Santa Clara County (by size), 1880–1930 (based on Broek 1932)

<i>Year</i>	<i>< 100 Acres</i>	<i>> 100 Acres</i>
1880	721	771
1890	1427	750
1900	3057	938
1910	3096	825
1920	4390	626
1930	5616	621

Figure 3.5 Grain Production in Santa Clara County (bushels), 1859-1929 (based on Broek 1932)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Wheat</i>	<i>Barley</i>	<i>Oats</i>
1859	549,195	116,207	17,960
1869	1,188,137	405,575	15,134
1879	648,055	716,860	4,771
1889	282,536	589,303	2,000
1899	175,230	1,392,430	51,048
1909	10,198	200,893	9,424
1919	22,199	85,672	8,123
1929	24,844	51,305	1,322

3.4 SUBURBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

3.4.1 Suburban Development around San José

The City of San José had originally been surveyed and plotted by the early 1850s to serve the new influx of settlers from the Eastern United States. The city was framed by the Guadalupe

River and Coyote Creek, and the planned northern edge was Rosa (now Hedding) Street. To the south, residential blocks were plotted to Keyes Street. By the late nineteenth century, developers had surveyed and plotted suburban lands adjacent to this frame, in the area between San José and Santa Clara, to the east of the Coyote River, and southward into an area known as Cottage Grove. These areas developed slowly, however, despite attempts to extend horse-based public transportation to connect the new population to the urban core.

The development of these subdivisions coincided with similar expansions in the county that had begun to occur in the late 1880s. Speculative residential subdivisions had begun to occur at that time that were not associated with specific townships, but rather were created to accommodate an anticipated influx of populace to the County. The local region was heavily marketed by local chambers of commerce as the “Valley of Heart’s Delight” to publications in the east. Large landowners hoped to profit from this influx and were subdividing their holdings into smaller farms and rural residential areas associated with the new orchard-based economy.

In 1903, the San José & Los Gatos Interurban Railroad was constructed along West San Carlos Street and Stevens Creek Boulevard to Meridian Corners, where it turned south on Saratoga Avenue to the unincorporated village of Saratoga and the Town of Los Gatos. Easy access to the Interurban from adjacent lands encouraged the development of residential subdivisions west of downtown San José.

The development and growth of the Interurban during the beginning of the twentieth century catalyzed renewed attempts to expand outward. The areas of East San José, Willow Glen, College Park, and Burbank were rapidly subdivided during this period of growth, and provided new bedroom communities near San José that were in reach of manufacturing jobs located in the downtown as well as the orchards nearby. These new suburban areas remained unincorporated for a while. In the cases of East San José and Willow Glen, these communities eventually created municipalities to address urban infrastructure needs like police and fire services.

In Burbank, local residents banded together to create their own school, fire, and sanitary districts, but did never incorporate as a city. The Luther Burbank School was constructed in 1906 in response to the increased population of families in the area; the district later assumed the name of the school. Burbank residents were successful at managing their infrastructure

needs through these overlays of special districts. Consequently, while the other suburban areas around the downtown had been annexed to the City of San José by the 1930s, Burbank had stabilized as an unincorporated place; a unique suburban district of houses associated with families of moderate means.

In the 1980s, in response to State of California enabling legislation, the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) permitted local municipal jurisdictions to annex small discrete areas surrounded by the city without a vote of the property owners. During this period local communities annexed numerous urban neighborhoods that met the State-defined criteria, including some portions of unincorporated Burbank. Burbank as a whole, however, has remained largely unincorporated despite these annexations to this day.

The town of Alviso is one example of an early incorporated town that was later merged into another city. The town began in 1840, when a newcomer pitched a canvas warehouse beside the rude landing place (embarcadero) on the Guadalupe Slough. The town, surveyed in 1849 and incorporated in 1852, became an active transfer point for travelers and freight between the Santa Clara Valley and other bayshore lands, especially San Francisco until 1865, when the railroad diverted traffic away from the Bay's embarcaderos. The construction of the South Pacific Coast Railroad through Alviso in 1876 revived business somewhat. By the 1920s, the principal industries of the town included the Bayside Cannery (which operated from 1906 to 1932), two evaporator companies, and a shell business (Sawyer 1922). Alviso was annexed into the City of San José in the 1980s.



Figure 17 Alviso port in the early twentieth century.

The strongest agent in the formation of commercial clusters in the Santa Clara Valley proved to be the roadway from San Francisco through San José to points south. This transportation corridor development during the Spanish period was reinforced in the 1860s with the construction of a railroad that followed the same route. Settlements along this corridor were established both to the north and south of San José included Palo Alto, Mountain View, Sunnyvale, Coyote and Morgan Hill.

Commercial service clusters developed at major crossroads within the valley. The village of Evergreen developed near the crossroads of White and Aborn Roads (then known as Evergreen Road). The settlement served as the local service cluster for the surrounding district in the Evergreen Valley. A schoolhouse was serving the area by 1858 and the Evergreen School District formed in 1866. The school building was located on the corner of White and Aborn Roads and served as the social hall until 1886. In the late 1860s, a blacksmith shop, saloon, and general merchandise store were established, followed by a post office in 1870 and butcher shop in 1872. Evergreen continued to serve the surrounding farms and ranches into the twentieth century with little change until the development of the large suburban shopping centers and residential neighborhoods in recent decades.

The village of Berryessa grew up at the intersection of Capital Avenue and Berryessa Road, in the center of the rich fruit-growing region northeast of San José. The village consisted of a schoolhouse, church, store, blacksmith shop, post office, telephone office, and numerous residences. The major employer of the area was Joseph Flickinger, who established a large cannery in the midst of his orchards in 1886, providing work for hundreds of Valley residents through the 1920s. Flickinger's orchards were subdivided for residential development in 1935 (Sawyer 1922).

Along Monterey Road, which was straightened and improved in the 1850s, small hotels were established at periodic intervals as way stations for travelers and stagecoach stops in the 1850s and 1860s. Small settlements grew at each of these roadside inns, especially after railroad depots were built nearby (Munro-Fraser 1881). Coyote developed around the Twelve-Mile House (or Laguna House at Coyote), established in 1852. In the 1870s, a village developed around the Southern Pacific depot. The town became a trading and shipping point for the surrounding community and consisted of two stores, a large seed warehouse, grange hall, post office, and train depot (Sawyer 1922). Perry's Station was originally known as the Fifteen-Mile House. In the twentieth century it gained a freight shipping depot on the railroad line.

Eighteen-Mile House (Madrone) and the Twenty-One-Mile House (Tennant Station, first built by William Host in 1852 and bought by William Tennant in 1853) completed this series of stagecoach stop settlements in Santa Clara County.

Five miles west of San José, at the intersection of Saratoga Avenue and Stevens Creek Boulevard was the small community of Meridian Corners. This village consisted of two stores, a blacksmith shop, and a station on the electric road between San José and Saratoga (Sawyer 1922). The village of Guberville developed at the intersection of Saratoga and Payne Avenues.

Robertsville, five miles south of San José at the intersection of Almaden Road and Branham Lane, also developed as a traveler's rest stop and neighborhood service center consisting of a small cluster of residences, general store, saloon, and in the twentieth century, a gasoline service station.

3.4.2 Rural Settlements

Of the four regional zones in Santa Clara County, the valley floor has largely been urbanized and will be covered in Section 3.4.2.1. The New Almaden area is a significant and distinct rural settlement in Santa Clara County. The number of other past and present rural settlements are too numerous to address here individually, and will be presented as part of the remaining three regional county zones.

3.4.2.1 New Almaden

The Quicksilver Mine at New Almaden, located in the hills at the southern end of the Almaden Valley, was California's earliest and largest mining endeavor. Cinnabar, the ore from which quicksilver (mercury) is extracted, had long been exploited by the Native American population that lived in this portion of California. Even though the mercury was poisonous, they utilized the (ground) red ore as a pigment. In the early 1820s, local Californios rediscovered cinnabar while prospecting for gold, but failed to recognize its potential. In 1845, Andres Castillero, a captain in the Mexican Army, located cinnabar on Rancho San Vicente, which had been granted to José Reyes Berryessa in 1842. Castillero filed an official claim, the first mining claim ever filed in California. Castillero was trained in geology and metallurgy and recognized the potential significance of a quicksilver deposit. Called back into military service

in 1846, he sold the mine to the Barron, Forbes Company, a British firm with offices in Tepic, Mexico. The mines at New Almaden were named after the famous Almaden mines in Spain. Quicksilver was the primary reduction agent for gold, making it extremely valuable during California's Gold Rush beginning in 1848. Litigation over the title to the mines began in 1851, and lasted for twelve years. The findings of the court resulted in important California property laws. During Barron, Forbes ownership of the mine, attorney and West Point graduate Henry W. Halleck, assumed local management. Halleck also served as legal representative for the firm and was notable later as a General in the American Civil War. In 1863, Barron, Forbes Company was forced to sell their holdings to the Quicksilver Mining Company as the courts ruled unfavorably regarding their title to the mine. During Barron, Forbes Company's ownership, the mines at New Almaden produced 15 million dollars worth of quicksilver, a significant component of Santa Clara County and the state's economy.



Figure 18 Casa Grande at New Almaden Quicksilver County Park re-dedication in 2011.

During the Quicksilver Mining Company's tenure, the New Almaden mining community, unlike the typical Gold Rush mining town, evolved into the classic company town. By 1865, Hacienda (on the villages of the mine) is said to have had 600 residents, representing 28 nationalities. The mine and its three villages: Hacienda, Spanishtown, and Englishtown flourished under the leadership of James Randol, who took over as general manager in 1870 when S. F. Butterworth retired. The health, economic, and social needs of the workers were provided by company-owned or sponsored mechanisms, and "strenuous and untiring efforts to rid New Almaden of its bad influences and elements" were made. Restricted access to New

Almaden resulted in a nearly closed society behind the mines' gates. Randol retired in 1892, signifying the end of New Almaden's finest hour and the beginnings of its economic decline.

In 1912, the Quicksilver Mining Company went bankrupt; and in 1915, the New Idria Quicksilver Company, headed by George Sexton, began operating the concern. The company experienced some prosperity during World War I, but closed again in 1926. The Lake Almaden Properties Company acquired much of Hacienda through foreclosures and in December 1927, the property was subdivided and the homes sold to private owners. In 1958, both Hacienda and Mine Hill (the location of the mining shafts and the settlements of Englishtown and Spanishtown) were made a National Historic Landmark District, in recognition of the site's significant history. In 1974, the County of Santa Clara purchased the Mine Hill area and the site of the Reduction Works in Hacienda for use as a County park. It was also the inspiration for the creation of a County Historic District Zoning Ordinance to assure preservation of the historic resources in that remained in private ownership. In 1997, the county purchased the Casa Grande house, which has since housed the New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum.

Hacienda is the only one of the three residential settlements once located at New Almaden to have survived to the present day. It was during the ownership of the mines by the Barron, Forbes Company (1846-1863) that most of the structures identified as contributors to the New Almaden Historic District were constructed. Harry J. Bee testified that in 1846, under the supervision of James A. Forbes, he had eight Indians making adobe bricks at the mine. In 1858, William Chard testified that between December 1845 and August 1846, he was building houses at New Almaden. It is assumed that construction during this time would be of adobe, which was typical of that period, and that among these buildings were the three adobe houses that remain extant. Buildings built during the 1850s up to 1863 consist of the Casa Grande (the Mine Manager's home), the homes lived in by upper management, as well as employee cottages and boarding houses. During Randol's tenure, the Quicksilver Mining Company constructed several other buildings including the Hacienda Hotel (1875) and the Helping Hand Club (1886). St. Anthony's Church was built around 1900 during Robert Bulmore's tenure as General Manager. The Hacienda Cemetery, located on either side of Bertram Road, was one of three cemeteries at New Almaden; the other two were located on Mine Hill.

3.4.2.2 South County

A small settlement named Martinsville or San Martin, developed in the foothills east of today's town of San Martin. Martin Murphy Sr. founded the settlement at the juncture of San Martin and New Avenue. Nearby at Church and New Avenue, Murphy constructed St. Martin's Church (no longer extant) in 1852. It was a small Catholic chapel, and the first church to be built in South County (Loomis 1985, Pierce 1977).

In 1853, George H. Bodfish established a lumber mill known as Bodfish Mills about eight miles west of Gilroy in an area then known as the French Redwoods. Lumber from this mill was used for the construction of most of the homes and businesses in South County. In 1867, William Hanna and W. N. Furlong acquired the mill, followed by Whitehurst and Hodges in 1871. The partners constructed another mill on nearby acreage in 1869 (Munro-Fraser 1881). Today Bodfish Mill Road is known as Hecker Pass Road. Early in the American Period, Hecker Pass Road became the primary route to Watsonville for south Santa Clara County residents, replacing the San Juan route that connected San Juan Bautista with the central and northern Monterey Bay coastal areas.

3.4.2.3 Santa Cruz Mountains

Native Americans have been recorded as residing in the Scotts Valley area of the Santa Cruz Mountains as early as 12,000 years ago (Cartier 1996). In 1791, a trail through the mountains used by the indigenous people was shown to Father Fermin Francisco de Lasuen. The trail roughly followed the Los Gatos Creek Gap through the mountains to the coast. Padres from Mission Santa Clara did some of the first logging in the Los Gatos area. In the 1830s, the summit between Los Gatos and Santa Cruz was called *Cuesta de los Gatos* (the ridge of the cats). Fremont reportedly camped at Cuesta de los Gatos in February 1846 on his trek between San José and Santa Cruz (Wulf 1979).

The first occupation of the area by non-indigenous peoples (later to become known as Lexington), was located a few miles south of Los Gatos. Permanent settlement began about 1848 when Captain Julian Hanks and Isaac Branham built one of the first operating sawmills in Santa Clara County on the Los Gatos Creek. By February 1849, the mill had been sold to Zechariah Jones who had built a stone dam for the sawmill in 1848. He also built his residence in the area sometime after 1850. The site of this mill is now located under the

Lexington Reservoir. Portions of Jones Road that ran between Los Gatos and the mill are still extant on St. Joseph's Hill. The last remnants of the flume alignment that ran between the mill and Forbes Flour Mill in Los Gatos were demolished in the 1980s.

During the 1850s, hunters, as well as sawyers cutting timber for Jones Mill accessed the subject area extensively. Persons attempting to locate mineral resources also scoured the hills. Deposits of lime, quicksilver, coal, copper, marble oil, silver and gold were sought and in varying degrees located within the area between Highway 17 and Hicks Road by 1861 (Wulf 1979, 2000). As early as 1855, Nathaniel Skuse was quarrying and burning lime along Hicks Road; and between 1864 and the 1890s, lime deposits were exploited by Frank Verser's Remillard Lime Company and Cowell and Davis (Wright 1855; Munro-Fraser 1881; Hamilton 1921). In the early 1900s, some of these deposits were quarried by the Spreckles family and used to process sugar cane (Robison 2000).

Josiah Belden first identified cinnabar in the Guadalupe Creek/Hicks Road area in 1850. By 1854, the Guadalupe Mine was being operated by the Santa Clara County Mining Association of Baltimore (Hamilton 1921). The Quicksilver Mining Company owned property along the northern and eastern slopes of Mt. Umunhum by the mid-1870s (Thompson & West 1876). Cinnabar was also discovered on the Los Gatos Creek side of the project area by James Alexander Forbes and the Swain Bros in the early 1860s, but evidently not in sufficient quantities to justify exploitation (Wulf 1979).

Oil was found primarily in Moody Gulch during this period, but some was also found on St. Joseph's Hill (Wulf 1979; Foote 1888).

Lumbering continued to be an important land use during the 1860s. By 1867, the Lexington area was home to eight sawmills and the Redwood Pipe Factory was manufacturing redwood pipe at Lexington (Hoover 1966).

Few families made their homes in the Santa Cruz Mountains in the 1850s, but Zechariah Jones moved his family to a house he built for them on his property. During the 1860s, settlement was concentrated primarily along Los Gatos Creek near Lexington, founded in 1858 by John Henning at the former site of the Jones Mill, and along Hicks Road on the eastern boundary of the subject area. Lexington soon enjoyed a reputation as a thriving lumber community, and

families settled in the hills surrounding the town. The mountains in between Lexington and Hicks Road however, continued to be sparsely inhabited.

By the early 1870s, homesteaders, particularly Austrian, German and later Swiss and Italian immigrants, were attracted to the area known as Austrian Gulch and the area between Mt. Thayer and Loma Prieta, as this area contained undeveloped public land and was less expensive than the farms occupying the valley. These homesteaders planted vineyards and orchards in areas where the topography was suitable. Earthquake and fires have always been a problem for settlements in this area, and extensive burns occurred in 1861, 1899, and 1923 (Young 1984; Wulf 1979, Robison 2000).

In 1880, the South Pacific Coast railroad was completed between Los Gatos and Santa Cruz. This event facilitated the tourist trade as well as the transport of fruit and wine shipments out of the mountains. Resorts that catered to the tourists such as Sunset Park were constructed near the railroad stops at Wrights and Alma (MacGregor 1968; Payne 1978).



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Figure 19 Building at Wright's Station (courtesy of Bancroft Library).

oda Springs Creek and Soda Springs Road get their name from a mineral spring that was located a short distance up the creek. A man named Meysenheimer attempted to exploit this resource for medicinal purposes in the 1870s without much success and Jacob Rich, a well-known horse railroad line owner in San José, also owned the spring for a while after Meysenheimer(Young 1984).

The area above Soda Springs Road was the location for two hotels, one of which started as a boarding school for children recovering from serious illnesses like tuberculosis. It later became a boarding school for children from divorced families, as well as children with behavioral problems. Among the early residents of the Upper French Hotel were Georgette and Alice Berganton, Maurice Puech (who became a violinist, later playing in San Francisco) and children from the Bosc family. The Upper French Hotel, constructed by Caesar and Marie Boussy, first opened in the early 1900s, but burned down in the 1930s. The lower French Hotel which primarily housed a restaurant with a dance floor, was constructed in the 1920s (Boussy 2000).

Other residents of this area during the 1900s include famous violinist Yehudi Menuin, who spent portions of his youth in the Alma and Los Gatos areas (Hoover 1966, Coate 2000). Flora Loughhead, whose sons were the founders of Lockheed Corporation, lived with her children in the hills above Alma from the turn of the twentieth century until she sold the property to George Dennison and Frank Ingerson. Dennison and Ingerson became world-famous artists. Their most noted art piece was a well-researched replica of the Ark of the Covenant for the Temple Emanuel in San Francisco (Wulf 2000; *San Jose Mercury News* 5/2/1994, Coates 2000, Douglas 1997, Berttold 2000).

In the early 1950s, the towns of Lexington and Alma were demolished during the construction of the Lexington Dam and Reservoir. The San Jose Water District, as part of their watershed system, owns other large portions of this area east of Highway 17 still today.



Figure 20 Alma in 1910 (courtesy of Bill Wulf collection).

In 1935, the new wider highway to Santa Cruz was completed. In the early 1950s, this road was realigned when Lexington Reservoir and Dam began construction (McArthur 1981).

3.4.2.4 Diablo Range

The 17,044-acre *Rancho Canada de Pala*, a large mountainous cattle ranch, was given by land grant by Governor Alvarado to José Jesus Bernal in 1839. The land grant was located in San Jose's east foothills from just south of Alum Rock Park to just north of the San Felipe Valley. The rancho is believed to have been occupied at least as early as 1835, and may have been originally been granted to José de Jesus Bernal by José Castro during his brief term as governor from September 29, 1835 to January of 1836, when the province was placed under the authority of Nicolas Gutierrez. Later records incorrectly refer to Castro as the 1839 grantor, which was a period when Juan Bautista Alvarado was Governor.

The Canada de Pala rancho headquarters, identified by Hendry and Bowman, was located just southwest of Mt. Hamilton Road on the west side of the ridge north of Hall's Valley. This area, near what was later a stage stop and the location of the Grandview restaurant, was recently developed as the Three Springs subdivision within the County of Santa Clara, and contains a number of large estate homes. Three adobe sites were known to have existed in that location near a small pond, but all three had been demolished by 1890. The original site may have been the residence of one or all of the three Bernal brothers (who were the claimants of the Rancho Canada de Pala) and their families. The brothers, José de Jesus, José Antonio, and Juan, were the sons of Dimisio Bernal and Maria Dolores Castro of the Pueblo of San José.

The patent for the rancho was approved by the United States District Court on March 9, 1863, consisting of 15,714.10 acres. Portions of the property had been sold by that time, specifically, areas in the northeast portions of the rancho above Alum Rock canyon, and possibly areas at the southern end towards San Felipe Valley. The 1876 *Thompson and West Atlas* shows Frederic Hall and others owning much of the northern portion, and John D. Shafter owning the 5800-acre southern portion. Juan Bernal died in 1862, and his wife Barbara Espinosa y Bernal inherited the large central portion of the rancho, including much of what is now known as Hall's Valley. Barbara was the daughter of Gabriel Espinosa and Mauricia Tapia, and had been raised on the Salinas Rancho near Monterey.

In 1867, portions of the northwest areas of the rancho, including the original rancho headquarters, were sold to Juan Pablo Bernal of the Santa Teresa Rancho. By the 1870s, it appears that Barbara Bernal was living in Hall's Valley and is attributed with constructing sometime in the 1870s the schoolhouse that is still extant on the Tiernan Ranch. In 1875, Barbara married George Washington Bellomy, who was the son of an early area settler of the same name who had married the Bernal brother's sister Ignacia. On the 1876 Thompson and West Atlas Barbara is identified as owning 1900 acres of what is now known as Hall's Valley. Hall's Valley on the 1876 map is shown at the southerly end of what is now Grant Ranch Park to the east of Panochita Hill. By the 1880s, a community of the relatives of the Bernal, Bellomy, and Espinosa families were living in Hall's Valley. Most of the houses appear on the west side of Mt. Hamilton Road; however, the alignment of the road through Hall's Valley has changed over time. It is not known if the extant buildings in this area along Mt. Hamilton Road on the Tiernan Ranch and on Grant Ranch property are part of the larger Bernal family holdings from this period.

Joseph D. Grant began to acquire former *Rancho Canada de Pala* lands in 1880. Born in 1858, he was the only son of Adam Grant, who came to California in 1849 and made a fortune with his San Francisco mercantile business. Joseph Grant started his career in his father's dry goods store, but branched out into multiple business interests. He founded the Columbia Steel Company in 1908 and was president of the California-Oregon Power Company in 1911. In 1912, he was on the Board of Directors of the General Petroleum Company. Grant was a good friend of Leland Stanford and replaced Stanford on the board of the Central Pacific Railroad after his death. Grant's social life was equally elite. He joined the Bohemian Club in 1882 and founded the Burlingame Country Club. Besides the Hall's Valley ranch, Grant owned a mansion in San Francisco as well as houses in Burlingame and Carmel. He supported Stanford University as a life trustee, belonged to the Sierra Club, and was president of the Save-the-Redwoods League. Grant invited the rich and famous to his ranch retreat to enjoy sports and entertainment.

From his initial purchase in 1880, Grant's ranch holdings grew. By 1911, Grant owned Shafter's southern portion of the rancho, the northern third, and a connecting strip along the western side. The Bernal family owned only a narrow strip of land along the west side of Aguague Creek. The remainder of the central portion of the rancho was owned by the Tiernan family and by Frank Hubbard.

Grant demolished most traces of the Bernal's as he acquired their property. His earliest ranch compound was near Quimby Road, at the site of the current Grant Ranch stables. That compound consisted of a cookhouse, a ranch manager's house, a granary, and a blacksmith shop.



Figure 21 Grant House at Joseph D. Grant County Park.

In the 1930s, Grant acquired Frank Hubbard's holdings. The main Grant Ranch complex of buildings is on the site of Hubbard's lands. Grant remodeled Hubbard's ranch house into an elegant country home and added a cookhouse and servants' quarters. Other buildings on the main complex site that date from the Grant ownership period are a two-story tank house, a carriage house, a guest house (which is now the park office), the McCreery cottage (McGee Casa), the Snell barn, and a rat-proof shed.

After the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. Grant in the 1940s, the ranch was left to their children. Josephine Grant McCreery bought out her siblings' interests in the ranch and resided in the main house until her death in 1972. Mrs. Josephine McCreery willed half of the ranch to the Save-the-Redwoods League, of which she had been a member of the board. The other half was willed to the Menninger Foundation in Kansas, another of her board affiliations. Both groups sold their parts of the ranch to the County of Santa Clara in 1975, and the park was dedicated and opened to the public in 1978.

Beyond Hall's Valley at the summit of Mount Hamilton is Lick Observatory. It is one of the oldest major observatories still in operation and still producing important research results. The funds to build it were donated by James Lick, a wealthy real estate entrepreneur and mill

owner who wished to leave a monument to himself and was convinced by leading scientists that an observatory would be a fitting memorial. Many of the early events surrounding the establishment of the observatory took place in 1876. Lick agreed to place the observatory on Mount Hamilton if the County of Santa Clara would build a suitable road to the summit. In February 1876, the county awarded a contract for building the road. A workforce that peaked at 600 workers in the summer of that year raced to complete it by December 1876, before the winter rains began. In June of that year, the U.S. government transferred 1,350 acres atop Mount Hamilton to the Lick Trust. (Other grants and purchases later added to the trust's summit property.) On October 1, 1876, James Lick died, but the Lick Trust continued to carry out his intentions.

The small dome was completed in 1881 and a 12-inch refracting telescope was installed that October. The large dome for the 36-inch Lick refractor was completed in 1886. On January 8, 1887, James Lick was disinterred and reburied beneath the foundation of the large telescope. On June 1, 1888, the Lick Trust officially transferred the observatory and all of its property to the University of California Regents, who continue to own and operate the observatory to this day.

3.5 URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Within the boundaries of Santa Clara County are 15 municipalities. The following section is an alphabetical listing of these 15 towns and cities, including date of incorporation and current population.

3.5.1 Campbell

In 1888, about a decade after the railroad was laid between San José and Los Gatos, Benjamin Campbell established the roots of the city of Campbell when he subdivided and started selling a portion of his property to build a new community around the local train stop. This West Valley settlement was part of the fertile Santa Clara Valley floor, and agriculture was the primary form of commerce. A small “dry” business district sprang up as part of this small (six square mile) rural settlement, and the city became known as “The Orchard City.” Campbell now includes successful commerce, industry, and housing areas. Incorporated in 1952 when the population was between 5,000 and 12,000; there are now over 38,000 residents in the city.

3.5.2 Cupertino

Early pioneer Elisha Stephens settled in the western foothills in the late 1840s, above present-day Cupertino, and established a thriving wine vineyard. In 1864, Stephens relocated to the Bakersfield area because he considered the Santa Clara Valley to be overpopulated. In 1882, a post office was established in a small but growing area called “West Side” at the crossroads of what are now called Stevens Creek and De Anza Boulevards. The city of Cupertino was incorporated in 1955, when it had only a few thousand citizens and when its focus was still primarily agricultural and equestrian in nature. The Apple Computer corporation established its headquarters in Cupertino in the 1970s, increasing the pace of the city’s development. Cupertino currently consists of approximately thirteen square miles and has around 51,000 residents. It borders Saratoga, San José, Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, Los Altos, and unincorporated Santa Clara County, including unincorporated Monte Vista.

3.5.3 Gilroy

Settled early in the development of Santa Clara County, Gilroy, the city farthest south in the county, was incorporated in 1870. Located at the foot of the valley where the foothills of the Diablo Range and the Santa Cruz Mountains converge, the city was established at the crossroads of El Camino Real and the road to the Central Valley over Pacheco Pass. With over 41,000 residents in sixteen square miles, the city retains its rural and agricultural surroundings. Completely encircled by unincorporated county jurisdiction, much of its farmland, Gilroy is known for its production of food products, including garlic.

3.5.4 Los Altos

Los Altos was settled around an early railroad stop established in 1907. As one of the county’s agricultural shipping centers, Los Altos formed as a small business center that grew slowly. Although actively promoted, the community remained small and rural in feeling for years. After World War II, housing and commercial pressure increased in the area, and the city was incorporated in 1952 to control development and fend off annexation. Los Altos is located in the West Valley, adjacent to Los Altos Hills, Palo Alto, Mountain View, Cupertino, Sunnyvale, and unincorporated Santa Clara County. Its almost 28,000 residents are found within a seven square mile area.

3.5.5 Los Altos Hills

Los Altos Hills is a city of primarily single-family-residences on generous parcels that remain rural in character, but also includes the Foothill Community College campus. In 1956 citizens voted to incorporate the city and avert potential annexation attempts. The population remains modest, at almost 8,000, about twice as large as when the city was incorporated. The over eight square mile city is located in the West Valley foothills between Los Altos, Palo Alto, and the Palo Alto foothills; the city also borders unincorporated Santa Clara County to the southwest.

3.5.6 Los Gatos

A compact town of almost 29,000 residents in eleven square miles, Los Gatos was established in the late 1840s and early 1850s at the foot of the rugged track between Santa Clara County and Santa Cruz. It served as a focal point of commerce for the logging, and later orchard, industries in the Santa Cruz Mountains and foothills, first providing access to the earlier settlement of Lexington, and later growing around Forbes' Flour Mill. The community grew substantially after a toll road was opened in the late 1850s and even more when a narrow-gauge railway was opened to San José in 1878; it was incorporated as a town in 1887. It is sited in the mouth of a canyon of the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains on Los Gatos Creek. It is bordered by San José to the east and northeast, Campbell to the north, Monte Sereno and Saratoga to the west, and unincorporated County to the south.

3.5.7 Milpitas

Incorporated in 1954, Milpitas was a small agricultural community for much of its existence after about 1850, but it has grown hugely in the last forty years to include industry and housing, as well as commercial enterprise. In the 1960s Milpitas more than quadrupled its population while the average Santa Clara County municipality only doubled in size; in its more than fourteen square miles, it is now home to almost 63,000 residents. At the northeast corner of the county, the city is adjacent to San José on its west and south borders; it adjoins Fremont in Alameda County to the north and unincorporated county to east, where the city climbs into the Diablo Range foothills.

3.5.8 Monte Sereno

The most recently incorporated city in the county, in 1957, is Monte Sereno. The city, tucked between Los Gatos, Saratoga, and Campbell in the West Valley, extends into the lower foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains. This city of less than 3,500 residents retains its rural character in part because it is residential except for its City Hall and Post Office complex, in part because of its mature trees, and in part because it has no streetlights or sidewalks along its winding roadways.

3.5.9 Morgan Hill

Morgan Hill began as a railroad stop at the end of the nineteenth century, near the ranch home of Hiram Morgan and Diana (Murphy) Hill, and continues to serve as it first did, as an agricultural center; however, it now also acts as home to over 33,000 residents in its South County location. Incorporated in 1906, Morgan Hill spreads out along twelve square miles across the valley from the spurs of the Diablo Range to the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains; north of Gilroy and touching a portion of south San José, it is surrounded on most sides by unincorporated County, including the unincorporated community of San Martin.

3.5.10 Mountain View

Mountain View, extending in parklands and industrial areas along the shore of San Francisco Bay, encompasses a compact downtown and a variety of residential neighborhoods in its twelve square mile area. Incorporated in 1902, when it had only about 1,000 residents it served as a railroad shipping point for fruit and other agricultural products. It now represents a Silicon Valley success story, revitalized with high-tech money after the 1980s. The city has grown to more than 70,000 residents and borders Palo Alto, Sunnyvale, and Los Altos, as well as unincorporated County pockets and the federally overseen, but unincorporated, Moffett Field.

3.5.11 Palo Alto

Established at the same time as Stanford University, Palo Alto was incorporated in 1894. Conceived by the Stanfords and originally built as a “dry” town near the University’s student

population, Palo Alto serves as a home and central shopping area for the professors who work at the university. Located on the San Francisco Peninsula, not far from the bay and extending to the foothills of the Coastal Range, this city of over 58,000 is on the northern border of Santa Clara County, between unincorporated Santa Clara County and the cities of Mountain View and Los Altos. To the north, Palo Alto abuts San Mateo County, including the communities of Menlo Park and East Palo Alto.

3.5.12 San José

The largest city in Santa Clara County is San José, one of the largest cities in the United States as well. Its area encompasses 174 square miles, and almost 900,000 people today call it home. The city boundaries stretch throughout the Santa Clara Valley and surrounding foothills. The city extends from Alviso on San Francisco Bay to Coyote at the head of the South County and from Milpitas and the unincorporated east foothills to a complex western border that abuts the cities of Mountain View, Santa Clara, Cupertino, Sunnyvale, Saratoga, Monte Sereno, Campbell, and the town of Los Gatos, as well as numerous unincorporated County pockets. At its beginning in 1777, it was one of only two secular Spanish developments in California (along with Los Angeles) it was neither mission nor presidio when most Spanish settlements were one or the other. It was the first capital of the State of California, incorporated in 1850.

3.5.13 Santa Clara

The City of Santa Clara developed around the Mission established by the Spanish in 1777; the city contains more than 102,000 residents and was incorporated in 1857. Over nineteen square miles, it has grown to include a large area of industrial parks north toward San Francisco Bay, as well as its historic neighborhoods to the south. The city serves as a high-tech center and as home to the University of Santa Clara. Santa Clara meets San José along the majority of its perimeter, as well as Cupertino and Sunnyvale to the west.

3.5.14 Saratoga

Saratoga was established in the mid-nineteenth century, but only incorporated in 1956. The main village is nestled into the western foothills of the Santa Clara Valley along Saratoga Creek, once known as Arroyo Quito and then Campbell Creek after the founder of a water-powered sawmill established in late 1947. Established in 1850 as McCartysville, it became a

popular vacation destination in the late nineteenth century as a mineral spa and resort, and was then known as Congress Springs. As recently as 1950, Saratoga Village had less than 2,000 residents. The city now includes almost 30,000 people over its twelve square miles. It is surrounded to the south and west by unincorporated County, and the city borders Cupertino, San José, Campbell, Monte Sereno, and Los Gatos to its east and north.

3.5.15 Sunnyvale

The Martin Murphy, Jr., family, one of the earliest pioneer families to reach California overland by wagon in the early 1840s, purchased land around the site of present-day Sunnyvale in 1850 and developed a ranch in the center of the Santa Clara Valley. In 1897, an heir sold portions of the Murphy land around the local train stop to real estate developer Walter Everett Crossman. Crossman subdivided the property for residential lots, promoted the community to future residents and businesses, and renamed the city Sunnyvale in 1901. Only partially successful establishing an industrial presence in the area, after the 1906 earthquake, Crossman enticed the Hendy Iron Works from San Francisco to Sunnyvale for free land, and finally launched the city's now-successful industrial base, including such companies as Lockheed-Martin. The city was incorporated in 1912 with a population of less than 2,000, but now boasts almost 132,000 residents. A large city, almost 22 square miles, that abuts San Francisco Bay at its north border, Sunnyvale is surrounded by San José, Santa Clara, Cupertino, Los Altos, Mountain View, and unincorporated Santa Clara County land, including the federally managed, but unincorporated, Moffett Field.

Figure 3.6 Table of Santa Clara County Cities with Population Data and Incorporation Dates

City or Town and Date of Incorporation	2000	1980	1960	1940	1920	1900	1880
Santa Clara County	1,682,585	1,295,071	642,315	174,949	100,676	60,216	35,039
Campbell, 1952	38,138	27,067	11,863	--	--	--	--
Cupertino, 1955	50,546	34,015	3,664	--	--	--	--
Gilroy, 1870	41,464	21,641	7,348	3,615	2,862	1,820	1,621
Los Altos, 1952	27,693	25,769	19,696	--	--	--	--
Los Altos Hills, 1956	7,902	7,421	3,412	--	--	--	--
Los Gatos, 1887	28,592	26,906	9,036	3,597	2,317	1,915	555
Milpitas, 1954	62,698	37,820	6,572	--	--	--	--
Monte Sereno, 1957	3,483	3,434	1,506	--	--	--	--
Morgan Hill, 1906	33,556	17,060	3,151	1,014	646	--	--
Mountain View, 1906	70,708	58,655	30,889	3,946	1,888	--	250
Palo Alto, 1894	58,598	55,225	52,287	16,774	5,900	1,658	--
San José, 1850	894,943	629,442	204,196	68,457	39,642	21,500	12,567
Santa Clara, 1857	102,361	87,746	58,880	6,650	5,220	3,650	2,416
Saratoga, 1956	29,843	29,261	14,861	--	--	--	297
Sunnyvale, 1912	131,760	106,618	52,898	4,373	1,675	--	--

4.0 SUMMARY OF HISTORIC THEMES

The California State Historical Resources Commission has identified nine general themes covering the entire range of California's diverse cultural heritage. These themes are: Aboriginal, Architecture, Arts/Leisure, Economic/Industrial, Exploration/Settlement, Government, Military, Religion, and Social/Education. In 1999, the OHP started work on a strategic statewide Plan to describe the vision for California for historic preservation. The Plan attempted to identify and bring in new preservation partners, sought to better consider all cultural resources, and provide sound goals and objectives for future preservation planning. It became a goal to develop a better understanding of historic and cultural property types that had been little recognized in the past. These included post World War II architecture and suburban development, Cold War era structures, cultural landscapes and traditional cultural properties, and the inclusion of cultural properties associated with the diverse communities that are found throughout the state. Another Plan revision is under development again in 2004; OHP is conducting a phased approach at the present time to update the Plan's vision, issues, and goals.

Using these broad California themes as a guide, specific themes for the historical development of Santa Clara County were developed as a part of the Context Statement. These themes are: Transportation and Public Infrastructure, Resource Exploitation and Environmental Management, Agriculture and Related Industries, Architecture/Shelter, Government Entities, Education, Social, Religious and Cultural Communities, and Parks and Leisure.

Two of the themes identified by the State of California: Aboriginal, and Exploration/Settlement, are not reflected to a large degree in the following discussion. The California themes include aboriginal sites that relate to all aspects of Indian culture and occupation whether prehistoric or historic. Although aboriginal prehistoric and historic sites are important resources to preserve, the identification and preservation of such sites is specialized and distinct from the goals of this context statement. Aboriginal sites are not included in the Santa Clara County Heritage Resource Inventory. An overview of Exploration/Settlement is included, although few extant resources remain in the county from this era.

- Transportation and Public Infrastructure (4.1) includes all sites that relate to transportation and the related infrastructure of utilities and communication services.
- Resource Exploitation and Environmental Management (4.2) includes all resources that are related to the exploitation of natural resources, and the manipulation, preservation, or reclamation of the environment.
- Agriculture and Related Industries (4.3) combines the full range of agricultural practices and industries that have occurred within the county since first settled in modern times.
- Architecture and Shelter (4.4) as a theme includes: structures and sites representing various architectural periods and styles, structures designed by outstanding architects, and those resources that relate to residential living arrangements and landscaping.
- Government Entities and Public Services (4.5) discusses the evolution of county government and related agencies and public services such as hospitals. It also includes military themes, although these properties are not subject to county land use regulations.
- Education (4.6) is focused primarily on the development of K-12 education in the County and the County Office of Education. Included in this section is an overview of higher education in the county, with specific detail relating to Stanford University, which remains mostly under county land use jurisdiction, and Mt. Hamilton Observatory, which is an agency of the State.
- Social, Religious, and Cultural Communities (4.7) combines themes associated with the development of religious properties, and other social and cultural institutions that have located in unincorporated Santa Clara County, and also includes demographic and ethnic influences to the cultural development of the community.
- Parks and Leisure (4.8) is a portion of the state's themes of Arts/Leisure and Social Resources. Properties in the county in this larger subgroup are primarily in the form of parks or have represented lifestyles that are physically manifested on sites in the unincorporated areas.

The California Economic/Industrial theme was considered too broad for the classification of the multitude of the County's economic and industrial resources. Most industrial development in the County has taken place within the municipal jurisdictions. Agriculture and its related industries was separated out from the Economic/Industrial theme because it remains one of the most significant aspects of the use of land in unincorporated Santa Clara County.

Commerce was not included because most property resource that relate to the development of trade, finance, marketing, advertising and other commercial activities are located with the municipal jurisdictions.

The cultural landscape of Santa Clara County is complex. The waves of immigration of many distinct cultural and ethnic groups have created layer upon layer of values and historic uses that have been imposed on the land through time. Within the discussion of a historic era, recurring themes are identified and characterized by landscape features or resources that were introduced in, or were unique to, that particular era.

It is recognized that a multitude of ethnic groups made significant contributions to the development of the Santa Clara Valley. In the Ethnic and Demographic Influences portion of the thematic section, an attempt is made to identify some of the groups that have made contributions to the community that occupied the present unincorporated areas of the county. It is not possible within the scope of this report to identify all the ethnic groups that settled in Santa Clara County, as much of this discussion is associated with community histories within the fifteen municipal jurisdictions. The periods prior to the Americanization of the area formally starting in 1848, however, are ethnically and cultural distinct from the American period, even though the Hispanic and Native American cultures continue to exist into the present. Ethnic, as well as other demographic considerations, should act as an overlay to the thematic and temporal models.

4.1 TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

When California was ceded to the United States, the area's earliest transportation routes were little more than trails. The first official action by the Santa Clara County Court of Sessions regarding roads was on July 6, 1850, when four roads were declared public highways. Linking Santa Clara County with greater Northern California, these routes closely followed what became known as the Oakland Highway, Monterey Road, the El Camino Real to San Francisco, and the Santa Clara-Santa Cruz Road. Each of these routes had been established by the Spanish as primary routes from the pueblo of San José to the presidios at Monterey and Yerba Buena, and to the neighboring missions in Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Juan Bautista, and Mission San José.

On October 21, 1852, the county was divided into road districts, with the new Board of Supervisors responsible for overseeing road construction and maintenance within their own districts. As population increased and farms and ranches spread throughout the undeveloped parts of the county, new arrivals felt the need of a connection from their homestead to the main arteries of traffic. The Board was inundated with petitions for new or improved roads, consuming most of its attention through these early years of the American Period. In 1856, a road improvement fund was created from property taxes and fines imposed for breaking road laws.

4.1.1 Santa Cruz Mountain Road

Most of the traffic between San José and Santa Cruz in the 1840s traveled by one of two routes; stagecoach via Gilroy and Watsonville or a steamboat via San Francisco continuing down the coast to Santa Cruz. Population growth in the Santa Cruz Mountains coupled with increased commerce between San José and Santa Cruz created a demand to improve the road through the mountains in the early 1850s. This was probably one of the most difficult roads in the county to construct. The original route followed the Spanish trail between Mission Santa Clara and Mission Santa Cruz, roughly the same path as the subsequent San José-Santa Cruz Highway. This route was originally an Indian trail that was improved by mission neophytes in 1791 under direction of the Franciscan padres. Described as impossibly steep and dangerous, it was a trail barely suitable for use by pack animals. In the late 1840s, Zachariah Jones established a lumber mill above Los Gatos in the vicinity of Lexington Dam. To provide lumber for the rapidly developing valley, Jones opened a lumberyard in what is now the town of Los Gatos. Jones' employees transported lumber from the mill down the trail to the lumberyard. Using the bottleneck formed by Los Gatos Canyon, Jones was able to virtually control traffic between Los Gatos, his mill, and Santa Cruz for several years.

As early as August 17, 1850, the board received petitions requesting that the road to Jones' Mill be improved. It was 1852 before the Board of Supervisors responded to these requests by appointing a commission to view possible routes through the mountains. Taking no action for several years, the board in 1854 again designated an exploratory expedition to recommend routes to Santa Cruz. Led by Sheriff John Murphy, this committee reported that it would cost \$10,000 to build a road from Jones' Mill to the county line. Although Murphy's estimate for constructing this road was less than the 1852 estimate, the supervisors thought the cost of building and maintaining such a road was more than Santa Clara County coffers could afford.

The high cost of road construction was a problem throughout California. A solution for funding construction and maintenance of county roads was provided by the state legislature in 1853 with passage of the Plank and Turnpike Roads Act. This act allowed nine or more persons to organize a joint stock company to construct a turnpike road, operate it as a toll road for a period not exceeding twenty years, and then turn it over to the county as a public road. The Board of Supervisors and the State Legislature awarded several franchises to turnpike companies who constructed toll roads in Santa Clara County. The county approved the placement of tollgates and regulated tolls charged by the turnpike companies.



Figure 22 Postcard View of the Road to Santa Cruz (courtesy of Bill Wulf collection).

It was not until 1857, however, that a franchise was awarded to the Santa Cruz Gap Turnpike Joint Stock Company to grade a road from Los Gatos to the summit. At the summit, the road was joined by the toll road from Scotts Valley constructed by the Santa Cruz Turnpike Company in 1858. Teamsters and mountain residents soon resented paying tolls. In 1864, a

loaded wagon pulled by eight mules cost a teamster a \$1.50 to travel from Los Gatos to the Santa Clara County line, and then additional fees would have to be paid to use the Santa Cruz turnpike into Santa Cruz or Soquel. Fees varied according to the number of animals pulling a wagon and its weight, and an individual horse and rider could use the road for fifteen cents.

For an undisclosed reason, the board delayed taking over the Los Gatos toll road when the franchise expired in November 1877. Upset with this delay, teamsters took matters into their own hands; in January 1878, they tore down the gate in front of the tollhouse in Los Gatos. This action led to heated words and tense moments as the teamsters faced the irate toll road owners. Finally, the supervisors declared the road a public highway, much to the dismay of the toll road company's owners. Reluctant to give up this lucrative enterprise, the owners fought the matter in the courts, and lost.

4.1.2 The Alameda

A beautiful tree-lined street, The Alameda, between San José and Santa Clara and linking to El Camino Real on the San Francisco Peninsula was another road that the county found difficult to maintain. The triple row of willow trees that shaded The Alameda during the hot summers prevented evaporation of moisture from the adobe soil during the winter months.



Figure 23 Historic view of The Alameda (photo by Lorya & Macaulay).

The resulting quagmire made vehicular traffic almost impossible for four or five months out of the year. Hoping to escape the high maintenance costs for this road, the Board of Supervisors awarded a franchise to the Alameda Turnpike Company in 1862. The county

promised the company, organized by Hiram Shartzer, an 18 percent annual return on his improvements and to repay the full cost in 1872, when the franchise expired. Despite the tolls collected and subsidies from the county, the turnpike company never successfully kept the road repaired year round. The poor condition of The Alameda and the opening of other free roads through nearby fields cut into the toll company's revenues, forcing the county to make good its 18 percent guarantee. Finally, responding to citizen complaints, the board purchased the franchise in 1868 for \$17,737 and declared the road free once again.

4.1.3 Other Turnpike Developments

Other toll roads throughout Santa Clara County proved much less troublesome. The Pajaro Turnpike between Gilroy and Watsonville opened in 1854 and reverted to county ownership in 1874. The toll road through Pacheco Pass to the San Joaquin Valley was constructed in 1856. Purchased for \$6,000 in 1879, it was the last of the toll roads to be operated in the county. In 1861 the San José and Alviso Turnpike Company erected tollgates on the northern edge of San José. The county purchased this franchise in 1863. The Saratoga and Pescadero Turnpike Company received a franchise in 1867 to grade a road from Saratoga over the mountains. The county purchased this franchise in 1880, changing the name to Congress Springs Road, now the route of State Highway 9.

4.1.4 Mount Hamilton Road

In the 1870s, wealthy entrepreneur James Lick set aside \$700,000 to construct an observatory in California. Planned to incorporate the most advanced astronomical technology, this observatory would be the first to be located on the West Coast as well as the first mountaintop observatory in the world. Several mountains were considered as potential sites, including Mount Helena, Mount Diablo, Loma Prieta, and Mount Hamilton. Recognizing the tremendous tourist potential of the observatory, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors and San José Common Council encouraged Lick to seriously consider Mount Hamilton. In September 1875, Lick's representatives appeared before the Board of Supervisors with a proposal that the observatory would be located on Mount Hamilton if the county would construct a first-class road to the summit. The board, chaired by W.N. Furlong, accepted Lick's proposal, and construction of this road occupied the majority of the board's attention for the next several years. County Surveyor A.T. Herrmann's survey was accepted by the board in the latter part of January 1876 and construction was underway by the end of February.

Public concerns were expressed that Lick might change his mind about the location of the observatory and the county would be left with an expensive road with no practical use. Responding to these concerns, Lick agreed to deposit in a local bank \$50,000 that would be available for construction expenses. County bonds would be issued payable upon completion of the observatory. This action was followed by a protest that the county was not authorized to construct such a road to be paid for by the County at large. Answering this objection, the supervisors asked the legislature to pass an act authorizing the Santa Clara County to issue bonds up to \$120,000 to pay for the Mount Hamilton Road, with the excess to be applied to the indebtedness of the road districts. The act was passed in 1878.

The County encountered other problems before the road was completed. These were the years of active anti-Chinese agitation, which by the mid-1870s had reached a fevered pitch on the West Coast. Use of inexpensive Chinese labor on public projects was quickly noted and castigated by anti-Chinese forces. In February 1876 local newspapers condemned the road's contractor, E.L. Derby, for using Chinese labor, and by the following April, Chinese labor on the road had been reduced. Due to issues of labor following this controversy, construction was suspended for several months beginning in July, and then resumed in October under another firm. Under new leadership, the last portion of the twenty-eight miles of road was completed by December 1876.

Despite the problems encountered during the road's construction, it was an engineering feat accomplished in less than a year. Other than the use of blasting powder and two horse-drawn McCall graders, the road was entirely constructed by hand, with picks and shovels. Little changed today, the road has 365 curves as it twists its way to the summit rising over 4,000 feet above the valley floor.

On January 9, 1877, the finished road was inspected and approved by the trustees for James Lick and the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. The day was a general holiday throughout the County, with 5,000 people visiting the summit via the newly completed road to celebrate. Horace Foote, a reporter for the Argus, rode up the mountain in Supervisor Samuel Ayer's carriage. Ayer reportedly entertained his passengers with comments on the spectacular view of the surrounding foothills and the valley below

H.S. Foote noted later in his 1888 history of the county that there was considerable public opposition to the project and that the supervisors were often divided on the subject. Foote credits Supervisor J.M. Battee, Chair of the Road Committee, with diplomatically securing passage of the proper orders at proper times so that work could proceed smoothly.

4.1.5 Road Maintenance

From the beginning, the Board of Supervisors continually battled to keep the county's roads in good repair. At times it must have seemed like a losing battle. Geologist William H. Brewer recorded observations in his journal while traveling through Santa Clara County in the early 1860s. In the very dry summer of 1861, Brewer noted that:

San José and Santa Clara are large and thriving towns, but the whole country looks dry now....Hundreds of windmills pump water from the wells for the cattle and for irrigating the lands, but the streams are dry, and sand and clouds of dust fill the dry air. While seated on the stage we often could not see the leaders at all for the dust....The driver said the dust often became very fine, and eight inches deep, before the close of the dry season, filling the air with dust clouds....The roads at this season are dusty beyond description and the town looks accordingly.

Brewer returned to San José the following March [1862], and found quite different conditions:

We took the steamer to Alviso, at the head of the Bay of San Francisco, then stage for seven miles to San José. The roads were awful. We loaded up, six stages full, in the rain, and had gone scarcely a hundred rods when the wheels sank to their axles and the horses nearly to their bellies in the mud when we unloaded. Then the usual strife on such an occasion. Horses get down, driver swears, passengers get in the mud, put shoulders to the wheels and extricate the vehicle. We walk a ways, then get in, ride two miles, then get out and walk two more in the deepest, stickiest, worse mud you ever saw, the rain pouring. I hardly knew which grew the heaviest, my muddy boots or my wet over-coat. Then we ride again, then walk again, and finally ride into town, having made the seven miles in four hours' hard work. The pretty village was muddy, cheerless, and dull beyond telling.

During the latter part of the nineteenth century, the Board based their campaign rhetoric on promises to improve roads in their districts. By the 1880s, the Board of Supervisors developed the policy of each year selecting a prominent highway in each district for major construction

and maintenance, while minimally maintaining other roads. By this method, substantial improvements were made to all principal thoroughfares and the cost of maintenance was nominal. During dry seasons the roads were sprinkled with water, forming a base that remained smooth and hard year round, while minimizing dust. By the mid-1890s, it was reported that there were 280 miles of sprinkled roads in the county, with water wagons employed five months of the year. Water tanks were erected approximately a mile apart on well-traveled roads for use by water wagons.

By 1895, a network of roads reached all but the most remote areas of Santa Clara County. The Chair of the State Highway Commission reported that:

Santa Clara County has the best roads in the State, and it is a quarter of a century ahead of any other section of the State. It spends \$90,000 a year, one-half in the building and repairing of roads, and the other half in economically sprinkling 270 miles of graded and graveled roadway. The county officials are judiciously constructing culverts and bridges of concrete and masonry, thereby doing away with expensive repairs.

New roads were laid out under direction of the County Surveyor. The County Surveyor was also required to serve as one of three reviewers who recommended alteration of an old road or the opening of a new one. Although all those elected to the office of county surveyor were well-respected professional surveyors, it was not until 1893 that the state legislature required that those seeking the Office of County Surveyor be licensed by the state.

In 1874, the state legislature adopted a comprehensive program through which counties would establish road districts, road commissioners, and property taxes earmarked for road construction. The state highway system was established in the late 1890s, and in 1910 voters approved the first of several multimillion-dollar bond measures to finance large-scale highway construction. Spurred by the ever-increasing number of automobiles on the road, passage of the Savage Act in 1907 permitted counties to incur bonded indebtedness to finance road and bridge construction.

State law mandated in 1893 that the County Surveyor design or supervise the design of county bridges. John G. McMillan, the surveyor of Santa Clara County between 1890 and 1914, designed most of the county's bridges constructed during this period. Before his election as Santa Clara County Surveyor, McMillan was a railroad surveyor in California and Central

America, a mining engineer, an engineer for Stanford University, and a developer of San José's horse railroads. His earliest bridges were a combination of timber and metal trusses. In 1890, he began designing concrete bridges, experimenting with various methods of reinforcement. He was also sensitive to design considerations for bridges in rural areas, often working native stone into the surface texture to create aesthetic harmony with the natural environment. Remaining examples of McMillan's bridges are the 1902 Saratoga Creek Bridge on State Route 9 and the 1909 Penitencia Creek Bridge, both identified as significance historic resources by the State of California. Saratoga Creek Bridge is one of the oldest concrete bridges in California, and, with a span 136 feet, is the longest built before 1905.

4.1.6 Development of the Railroads

The first public transportation systems were established in Santa Clara County during the 1850s. Regional stage lines connected San José, Santa Clara, Alviso, and Saratoga, as well as San José with San Francisco and Monterey. Steamboats leaving the embarcadero of Alviso delivered passengers and freight to numerous landings around the perimeter of the San Francisco Bay.

The need for a railroad between San Francisco and San José was recognized as early as 1851. Acknowledging the importance of rail transportation in the development of California, the state legislature passed the first law enabling incorporation of railroad construction companies in 1851.

Three attempts to organize companies to construct a railroad to San José failed due to the cost of financing such a venture. In August 1860 the fourth attempt succeeded in bringing together Peter Donahue, Henry Newhall, and Judge Timothy Dame to incorporate the San Francisco & San José Railroad. To overcome some of the financial problems encountered by earlier companies, the legislature passed an act allowing counties through which the railroad was to pass to vote on stock subscription bonds. This act also required the endorsement of the voters at a regularly called election. The voters of Santa Clara County favored the plan with a majority of 722 votes, and the Board of Supervisors immediately subscribed and ordered issuance of \$200,000 in bonds for payment.



Figure 24 Stereoscope postcard of the San Jose Railroad Depot, *ca.* nineteenth century .

Construction commenced in 1861, and in January 1864 daily service between San José and San Francisco was initiated. The railroad line from San José to Gilroy was completed by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company (SP) in 1869.

In 1862, the officers of the San Francisco & San José Railroad incorporated a new enterprise—the Western Pacific Railroad (WP)—to build a line between San José and Sacramento, to meet the terminus of the transcontinental railroad. To support this effort, in 1863 the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors subscribed to \$150,000 of the railroad's capital stock to subsidize construction of the line between San José and Niles. Construction of this railroad was delayed due to financial and legal problems, and the line was eventually purchased by the Central Pacific. It was finally completed in September 1869, and regular passenger service commenced between San José and Sacramento. Successfully connecting San José with the transcontinental railroad, this line allowed San José to participate in the national and world economic network, opening new markets for the agricultural and manufactured products of the valley.

By the 1870s, the monopoly of the Southern Pacific and Central Pacific railroads allowed these companies to control shipping rates. In 1875, former Supervisor Carey Peebels led an effort by the Santa Clara Valley strawberry growers to form the Santa Clara Valley Railroad Company. Determined to avoid paying high shipping rates, the growers intended to construct their own narrow-gauge rail line from the Santa Cruz Mountains to Alviso. From Alviso they could ship their crops via schooner to San Francisco, breaking the control of the railroad. When construction of this line was aborted due to heavy rains that washed out newly laid track, the rights-of-way were purchased by James Fair and incorporated as the South Pacific Coast

Railroad (SPC). This company completed a narrow-gauge line between Alameda County and Santa Cruz. With depots at Alviso, Agnew, Lick Mill, Santa Clara, and College Park, the first South Pacific Coast Railroad train reached the San José narrow-gauge depot at The Alameda in February of 1877. By August 1877, the SPC established freight service from the East Bay to Los Gatos, and the line was completed through the mountains to Santa Cruz in 1880. Valley growers now had a choice of rail services.

Both the SP broad-gauge and the SPC narrow-gauge railroads constructed spur lines throughout Santa Clara County to serve fruit-packing companies and local industries. The SPC constructed spurs to the Garden City Gas Works to bring coal from the ships in Alameda, and to the San José Brick Company plant north of Campbell. In 1886, the SP and the SPC constructed competing lines to the New Almaden mines, which was freighting large quantities of mercury to world markets.

As the Southern Pacific increased in prominence, the company proceeded to acquire smaller competing railroads throughout the state. By 1887, SPC's owner, James Fair, was ready to sell the narrow-gauge so that he could finance other business ventures. In 1887, all of the SPC narrow-gauge railroad property was acquired by SP in a fifty-five-year lease. In one transaction, SP was able to totally eliminate its competition in Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and Alameda counties.

SP maintained its monopoly on Santa Clara County rail service until 1921 when WP extended its service into San José. Although SP tried to gain control of WP, it managed to continue as an independent competing company until it was absorbed by the Union Pacific Railroad (UP) in 1982.

4.1.7 Early Urban Transit

The first urban mass transit in Santa Clara County was a horse-drawn streetcar line chartered by Samuel Bishop in 1868. This line extended from downtown San José via Santa Clara Street and The Alameda to the City of Santa Clara. Coinciding with the public's disenchantment with The Alameda Turnpike's futile attempts at maintaining The Alameda, the Board of Supervisors purchased the turnpike's franchise and awarded a charter to Bishop. Under the terms of the new franchise, the San José and Santa Clara Railroad Company proposed to lay track along The Alameda, promising to keep the avenue in good repair for twenty years. Local

newspapers applauded the Board's action and looked forward to immediate abatement of the tollgate nuisance.

Following the success of Bishop's streetcar service, numerous streetcar companies were formed and lines extended throughout San José, connecting with Willow Glen and Alum Rock Park. Bishop, in the meantime, obtained permission from the Board of Supervisors in 1870 to devise a means for conducting cars by steam. Unsuccessful with this plan, Bishop attempted to electrify the streetcars on The Alameda with underground rails. This plan also proved unsuccessful. In 1889, Bishop's company was purchased and the new owners successfully installed overhead electric lines, leading to the electrification of all competing streetcar lines throughout the area.



Figure 25 Early electrified streetcar in Santa Clara Valley.

By 1905, streetcar service had been established from downtown San José to Willow Glen, Oak Hill Cemetery, Alum Rock Park, and Santa Clara. In addition, numerous lines served areas within the city of San José, converging at the railroad depot on San Pedro Street.

4.1.8 The Interurban

Bridging the gap between the transcontinental and statewide railroads and the local trolley lines, the Interurban Railroad (IR) was organized by James W. Rea in 1902. In 1904, the IR established regular service between San José and Los Gatos. About this time, SP was eyeing local electric streetcar lines as part of a strategy to establish a unified network of trains throughout the Bay Area. This strategy included plans to acquire the San José-Los Gatos interurban line, electrifying all East Bay suburban steam lines, and building new electric roads

from San Francisco and Oakland to San José, down both sides of the bay. In this way SP could undercut all its electric adversaries. Forming the Peninsular Interurban Railroad Company in 1905, the SP acquired smaller companies throughout the Bay Area until 1915, and continued to expand its service area into the 1920s.

By the late 1920s, competition from automobiles and private bus lines began to cut into the company's profits. The company was also adversely affected by the economic woes of the Great Depression beginning in 1929 and began to slowly abandon routes throughout Santa Clara County. In 1934, only the lines within the city of San José were still operating, and the last run of the South Bay's IR after seventy years of service, was in April 1938. Subsequently the abandoned rails were salvaged as scrap metal and sent to Japan for pre-war industrial development.

4.1.9 Air Transportation and Airports

Santa Clara County was the venue for many early experiments in aviation. John Montgomery, a professor at the University of Santa Clara, flew the first heavier-than-air glider in 1893. After making significant aeronautical discoveries, he was killed in a glider accident in 1911. Santa Clara County aviation pioneer Roy Francis began carrying passengers in a biplane of his own design in 1911, taking off from the infield of the San José Driving Park on Monterey Road. After three hours of instruction from the Wright brothers, Robert Fowler, a native of Gilroy, flew from Los Angeles to Florida in seventy-two hours in 1912, breaking the transcontinental distance record established in 1911. In 1913, Fowler flew the first nonstop flight from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean across the Isthmus of Panama.

After World War I, several San José pilots bought surplus planes from the government and returned to the area to put on exhibitions and open flying schools. The county's first airport, located on Alum Rock between Capitol Avenue and White Road in 1919, was used by a succession of barnstorming and commercial companies and in 1923, by an Army Reserve squadron.

The first regular airmail service flown between San José and Oakland was established in 1928, and the Alum Rock airfield was selected as San José's municipal airport in 1929. The airport was closed shortly thereafter, however, because of dust problems it created in the surrounding neighborhood. Airmail service was resumed from the new San José airport at King and Story

roads. The first commercial flights used this field with daily stops en route from San Diego to Vancouver, but this airport closed in 1959 because of the expanding Tropicana Village subdivision.

Cecil and Robert Reid established the Garden City Airport on Bonita Avenue in 1934. This site was condemned for the construction of Highway 101 and was moved to Tully Road in 1939, its name changed to the Reid Hillview Airport. The county purchased this airport in 1961 to provide services to general aviation. To provide further service, the county leased the Palo Alto Airport in 1964 and opened the South County Airport in 1972.

In February 1949, after many years of planning, the San José Municipal Airport north of downtown was dedicated, and the first Southwest Airlines flights departed and arrived at the airport. The airport has experienced steady growth since then. A six-story control tower (now demolished) went into service in 1957 and the runways were lengthened, opening the airport to jet aircraft. By the time the new passenger terminal was opened in 1965, San José was ranked as the sixteenth busiest airport in the nation, and by 1967 it had advanced to the eighth busiest airport in the country. It is now known as the San José Mineta International Airport (SJC).

4.1.10 Era of the Automobile

The first automobiles appeared in the valley in the late 1890s, generating a great deal of local interest. Several pioneer automobile factories were established in San José in the early 1900s. Clarence Letcher opened the first "garage" in the West in 1900, and in 1902 he opened the first service station, boasting a 110-gallon gasoline tank with a pump that measured the amount of gasoline sold. The area's first auto show took place in 1909, after which the citizens of Santa Clara County enthusiastically embraced the automobile. The first motorized bus line in the state was started in 1910 with a route that conveyed passengers up to the Lick Observatory on Mount Hamilton.

In the 1920s, Supervisor Joseph McKinnon was active in developing a system of paved farm-to-market roads. McKinnon was one of the first people to advocate that a white line be painted down the center of streets to establish a two-way traffic flow. In 1936, he designed a white-line road striper and used it to mark the roads in his district. By 1928, all city streets and most county roads had been paved and old wooden bridges were being replaced by concrete

ones. Following the lead of Clarence Letcher, automobile dealerships and auto-related repair and supply services spread throughout Santa Clara County. In 1930, San José had the greatest weekday auto traffic in the state, and was the only California city to have weekday traffic that exceeded holiday traffic. The California State Department of Highways was building and improving state highways throughout the County. The Bayshore Highway (U.S. Route 101) was constructed in 1927, the San Francisco (El Camino Real) and Oakland Road highways were widened between 1929 and 1932, and the Santa Cruz Highway (State Route 17) was widened and realigned during the 1930s, before it was rerouted in the 1950s into its current route.

As the SP began to abandon interurban rail lines to outlying Santa Clara County areas in the 1920s, private bus companies were established to provide service to these areas. A county-wide transit system was established, consisting of city and suburban bus systems designed to move riders from outlying areas to downtown San José.

During the rapid industrial and residential growth of the 1950s and 1960s, significant new development took place away from established bus routes. The trend for workers to live in one town and work in another also began to evolve. Residents relied largely on personal automobiles, using expressways and federally funded freeways. This system worked until traffic congestion, air pollution and energy consumption became serious concerns.

Transportation routes and development throughout the county progressed quickly with no thought given to an overall regional plan. While municipal governments expanded and campaigned to attract more and larger industries during the post-war period, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors was still philosophically rural in outlook. Although the board did recognize the importance of developing an overall planning strategy, it was not until the early 1970s that the county began to actively participate in regional planning organizations.

4.2 RESOURCE EXPLOITATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Significant development in Santa Clara County was associated with the utilization of natural resources. Resource exploitation included: large-scale logging operations in the Santa Cruz Mountains, mining in New Almaden and the Eastern Highlands, quarrying in the Santa Teresa Hills, and water management throughout the county, as well as other more geographically focused processes such as oil production in the west foothills. These activities brought about

the construction of buildings and structures, focused labor populations, and in many cases completely changed the landscape itself.

4.2.1 Mercury Mining

The Quicksilver Mine at New Almaden, located in the hills at the southern end of the Almaden Valley, was California's earliest and largest mining endeavor. Cinnabar, the ore from which quicksilver (mercury) is extracted, had long been exploited by the Native American population that lived in this portion of California. Even though the mercury was poisonous, they utilized the ground red ore as pigment. In the early 1820s, local Mexican residents discovered cinnabar while prospecting for gold, but failed to recognize its potential. In 1845, Andres Castillero, a Captain in the Mexican Army, located the cinnabar on Rancho San Vicente, owned by José Reyes Berryessa. Castillero filed an official claim, the first mining claim ever filed in California. Castillero was trained in geology and metallurgy and recognized the potential significance of the quicksilver deposit. Called back into military service in 1846, he sold the mine to the Barron, Forbes Company, a British firm with offices in Tepic, Mexico. The mines at New Almaden were named after the famous Almaden mines in Spain. Quicksilver was the primary reduction agent for gold, making it extremely valuable during California's Gold Rush in the 1850s.

Litigation over title to the mines, which lasted twelve years, began in 1851. The findings of the court resulted in important California property laws. One of the primary litigants, Zacarais Bernal y Berryessa, the widow of Reyes Berryessa (who had been murdered by Kit Carson during the early days of the Bear Flag Revolt), is one of more significant women in the history of the State due to her actions involving this suit. She lived during this period at the rancho headquarters at the base of the Santa Teresa Hills (near the entry of Santa Teresa Park at Fortini Road today), and later resided at the landmark Berryessa Adobe in the city of Santa Clara, which is now a landmark on the Juan Bautista National Trail and one of the only adobes still extant in Santa Clara County.

During Barron, Forbes ownership of the mine, attorney and West Point graduate, Henry W. Halleck assumed local management. Halleck also served as legal representative for the firm and was notable later as a Civil War general. In 1863, Barron, Forbes Company was forced to sell their holdings to the Quicksilver Mining Company as the courts ruled unfavorably regarding their title to the mine. During Barron, Forbes Company's ownership, the mines at

New Almaden produced 15 million dollars worth of quicksilver, a significant component of Santa Clara County and the state of California's economy.

During the Quicksilver Mining Company's tenure, the New Almaden mining community, unlike the typical Gold Rush mining town, evolved into the classic company town. By 1865, the Hacienda is said to have had 600 residents, representing 28 nationalities. The mine and its three villages (the Hacienda, Spanishtown, and Englishtown) flourished under the leadership of James Randol, who took over as general manager in 1870 when S. F. Butterworth retired. The health, economic, and social needs were provided by company-owned or sponsored mechanisms, and "strenuous and untiring efforts to rid New Almaden of its bad influences and elements" were made. Restricted access to New Almaden resulted in a nearly closed society behind gates. Randol retired in 1892, signifying the end of New Almaden's economic maturity and the beginning of its fiscal decline.

In 1912, the Quicksilver Mining Company went bankrupt; by 1915, the New Idria Quicksilver Company, headed by George Sexton, was operating the mines at New Almaden. The company experienced some prosperity during World War I, but closed again in 1926. The Lake Almaden Properties Company acquired much of the Hacienda through foreclosures. In December of 1927, the property was subdivided and the homes sold to private owners. In 1958, both the Hacienda and Mine Hill (the location of the mining shafts and the settlements of Englishtown and Spanishtown) were made a National Historic Landmark District, recognizing the site's significant history. In 1974, the County of Santa Clara purchased the Mine Hill area and the site of the Reduction Works in the Hacienda for use as a county park. It was also the inspiration for the creation of a County Historic District Zoning Ordinance to assure preservation of the historic resources that remained under private ownership. In 1997, the County purchased the Casa Grande, which has since housed the New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum.

The Hacienda is the only one of the three residential settlements once located at New Almaden to have survived to the present day. It was during the ownership of the mines by the Barron, Forbes Company (1846-1863) that most of the structures identified as contributors to the New Almaden Historic District were constructed. Harry J. Bee testified that in 1846 under the supervision of James A. Forbes, he had eight Indians making adobe bricks at the mine. In 1858, William Chard testified that between December 1845 and August 1846 he was building houses at New Almaden. It is assumed that construction during this time would be of adobe,

which was typical of that period, and that among these buildings were the three adobe houses that remain extant. Buildings built during the 1850s until 1863 consist of the Casa Grande (the Mine Manager's home), the homes lived in by lower scale managers, as well as employee cottages, and boarding houses. During Randol's tenure, the Quicksilver Mining Company constructed several other buildings including the Hacienda Hotel (1875) and the Helping Hand Club (1886). St. Anthony's Church was built about 1900 during Robert Bulmore's tenure as General Manager. The Hacienda Cemetery, located on either side of Bertram Road, was one of three cemeteries at New Almaden, the other two were located on Mine Hill.

In 1850, Josiah Belden first identified cinnabar in the Guadalupe Creek/Hicks Road area, across the nearby foothills from New Almaden. By 1854, Guadalupe Mine was being operated by the Santa Clara County Mining Association of Baltimore (Hamilton 1921). Cinnabar was also discovered on the Los Gatos Creek side of the project area by James Alexander Forbes and the Swain brothers in the early 1860s, but evidently not in sufficient quantities to justify exploitation (Wulf 1979).

4.2.2 Magnesite

Magnesite is a mineral used as a building finish, similar in some ways to concrete or stucco. The first magnesite deposits were discovered in California in 1885 at two widely separate locations in Santa Clara County. The earliest mining activity began in 1887 on the Cochrane deposit one-and-a-half miles south of the confluence of Coyote and San Felipe Creeks. A small production of magnesite was made from this and "other deposits in the vicinity." Although these deposits were favorably situated with respect to rail transportation, they were small in size and low in grade compared to the rich deposits located in the Red Mountain area in eastern Santa Clara County. Although the more remote Red Mountain deposits were first mined in 1899, they were not extensively exploited until after 1912 (Davis and Jennings 1954; Hamilton 1921).

4.2.3 Lime

Lime has had many uses throughout the history of its exploitation; primarily its use was as a component in industrial processing of shell and limestone. It was used initially in chemical sugar processing and in fertilizers. As early as 1855, Nathaniel Skuse was quarrying and burning lime along Hicks Road; by 1864 until the 1890s, lime deposits were exploited by

Frank Verser's Remillard Lime Company and Cowell and Davis (Wright 1855; Munro-Fraser 1881; Hamilton 1921). In the early 1900s, some of these deposits were quarried by the Spreckles family and the Alameda Sugar Company and used to process sugar cane (Robison 2000).

In 1939 the first large operation of limestone quarrying began with the development of Permanente Canyon near Cupertino. Henry J. Kaiser first developed this quarry to provide cement to construct Shasta Dam, but by the end of World War II it had evolved into the largest cement plants in the world.



Figure 26 Permanente Quarry in the late 1940s.

4.2.4 Quarrying at Greystone

Quarrying of sandstone in the Santa Teresa Hills on the eastern slope of the Almaden Valley was begun in 1874 by Levi Goodrich, a prominent local architect. Goodrich had bought the quarry from Nathaniel Skuse in January 1874, and in 1875, Jacob Pfeiffer came to the Almaden Valley to work as a stonecutter at the Goodrich Quarry. Jacob and his sons cut the sandstone by hand and hauled it first by wagon and then by rail in 1886 to San José where it was shipped all over California. Some of the buildings constructed of this stone were Stanford University, the Federal Post Office in San José (now the Museum of Art), and Agnew State Hospital. In 1887, Levi Goodrich died and Jacob Pfeiffer leased the quarry from his heirs. In 1901, the quarry was renamed Greystone Quarry, and operated by Jacob until his death in 1905. A year later, the 1906 San Francisco earthquake led to the curtailment of sandstone as a popular building material, and the quarry closed.

4.2.5 Water Resources

Early settlers in Santa Clara County located their home sites near creeks and springs. The availability of water and the right to use it was a primary concern in pioneer settlements. In the pueblo and at the rancho settlements, Spanish and Mexican residents developed systems of water ditches (*acequias*) that served to supply both household and agricultural irrigation needs. By the late 1840s, wells had been sunk due to sanitation concerns, but then in 1854 artesian water was discovered in San José. This discovery set the direction of development of the County for the next 80 years. In 1863, it was reported that 318 artesian wells were flowing in an area of ninety square miles, producing about two million gallons of water a day.

Most of the farmers in Santa Clara County during the 1850s and 1860s engaged in dry farming. In the late 1850s, the first irrigation companies were formed by landowners with riparian rights who then sold water to their neighbors. As orchards spread through the region during the later part of the nineteenth century, farmers sought more abundant and reliable water sources. Deeper wells were dug and water transportation systems developed. During years of drought, more and more wells were drilled and by 1915 over eight billion gallons of water were being pumped to irrigate valley crops.

In the early 1870s, the San José Water Company began purchasing property in the Los Gatos canyon to begin development of an alternative to private wells. In 1865, Donald McKenzie, proprietor of the San José Foundry, obtained the exclusive right to provide "good and pure water" to the residents of San José (Arbuckle 1985). McKenzie and his associates incorporated the San José Water Company in November 1866. The artesian wells that originally supplied water became inadequate, and in 1868, the San José Water Company formed a franchise with the Los Gatos Manufacturing Company (formerly Forbes' Mill) and filed a petition to condemn land and water rights for use by the company (Parks 1983). The company's primary target was the right to appropriate water from Los Gatos Creek (Parks 1983; Arbuckle 1985). As a result of the petition, the San José Water Company purchased the water rights to the Los Gatos Creek in 1869 and 1870. The creek was tapped at a point two miles north of the town of Los Gatos in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Water from the creek was transported via flumes and pipes to reservoirs where it was taken by water main to San José. By 1874, the Water Company began expanding the development of its watersheds in the Santa Cruz Mountains

until it had purchased all the necessary land and water right-of-ways to secure the Santa Cruz Mountain/Los Gatos Creek water source (Parks 1983).

Ground water replenishment continued to become a growing concern even with private efforts to capture water runoff in the western foothills. Between 1915 and 1931, water table levels dropped about 109 feet. Although water conservation was promoted, it took state legislation to authorize the formation of a local irrigation district to initiate conservation and flood control measures in an attempt to bring the problems associated with the dropping water table under control.

The Santa Clara County Water Conservation Committee was formed in 1920 through the efforts of local farmers, the Board of Supervisors, the County Chamber of Commerce, the Grange, and various trade unions. With a district formed and engineering reports completed that analyzed issues of water conservation, the recommendations included constructing 17 large reservoirs, small dams, and percolation ponds. With the passage of the Jones Act of 1921 (Federal Water Power Act), the formation of a water district was facilitated by the federal government, and was finally approved by voters in 1929 after two failed attempts. Aided by President Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration (WPA) funds during the Great Depression, the district began construction on dams throughout Santa Clara County, which continued over the next several decades. By 1952, the Board of Supervisors took on the responsibility of flood control, and a new district, the Santa Clara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District was formed and operated alongside the Water Conservation District. The two were merged in 1968 and are now known as the Santa Clara County Water District (SCVWD).

4.2.6 Mineral Water

Soda Springs Creek and Road above Los Gatos get their name from a mineral spring that was located a short distance up the creek. A man named Meysenheimer attempted to exploit this resource for medicinal purposes in the 1870s without much success. Jacob Rich, well-known horse railroad line owner in San José, also owned the spring for a while (Young 1984).

In 1865, members of the local Cantua and Ortega families discovered hot springs in the foothills northeast of Gilroy. In 1866, the springs were sold to George Roop who developed the Gilroy Hot Springs Resort. The property grew to include a hotel, cottages, bathing pools

and bathhouses (Salewske 1982). Wheat farming and mining activities made sizeable profits for many and were only conducted seasonally. Therefore, the Gilroy Hot Springs Resort and other similar establishments in the county were popular among those with leisure time and money (Broek 1932). The railroad line leading south of San José increased tourism opportunities for southern Santa Clara County. The facilities at Gilroy Hot Springs were expanded when Madrone Soda Springs, six miles north of Gilroy Hot Springs, became a popular retreat for tourists. In 1938, Gilroy Hot Springs was purchased by Henry Sakata who successfully operated that resort until it closed during World War II (Salewske 1982).

Similar sources of mineral water were exploited for recreational and medicinal use during the late nineteenth century in Alum Rock Canyon and also above Saratoga. Alum Rock became a regional park under the management of the City of San José, and Saratoga Springs, also known as Congress Springs, was developed as a private park.

4.2.7 Petroleum Products

Within *the Rancho Juristac*, located at the southern tip of Santa Clara County, tar springs were located on approximately 60 acres. The oil and asphalt seeps were mined along La Brea Creek as early as 1860. Tar was shipped from Sargent's Station (later known also as just Sargent), established near the tap springs along Monterey Road, to San José where it was used for street paving. By 1864, a refinery was in operation at Sargent's Station to distill coal oil and kerosene (Laffey 1992).

Around the turn of the twentieth century, the Watsonville Oil Company began operating on 3,269 acres of James P. Sargent's land. By 1948, when the Sargent oil fields were abandoned, the fields had produced a cumulative total of 780,000 barrels of oil. This was the largest amount of oil produced by any oil field in the San Francisco Bay Area. While most of the Sargent oil fields were located approximately three miles west of Sargent's Station, several wells were only a quarter of a mile west of the Station (Laffey 1992).

Oil was found and extracted from Moody Gulch in the Los Gatos area in the mid-nineteenth century; and although some was also found on Saint Joséph's Hill in the Los Gatos foothills, it was not utilized to the same extent (Wulf 1979; Foote 1888).

4.2.8 Lumbering

During the Spanish period, the forests were under the charge of the *ayuntamiento* or town councils. Nearby forests were set aside for the use of the inhabitants for building purposes. Early Spanish settlers, with labor provided by neophyte Indians, exploited nearby redwood forests for the basic wooden elements needed for adobe architecture. These elements included lintels, roof plates, tie beams, loft joists, and door and window frames. Typically, the easiest available logs or lumber were utilized. In the vicinity of most of the missions and ranchos, there was a tree growth of some quality that could be utilized. If not, lumber was dragged, carried, carted or transported by ship to building sites. Due to the difficulties in transportation, only as much lumber needed for a specific building project was obtained. During this period, trees were felled with axes, although dead and damaged trees may have also been utilized. Trees chosen were from 7 to 20 inches in diameter. Once felled, heavy structural timbers were split and hewn with a broad axe and dressed with an axe to the desired size. These early lumbermen utilized only trees of a size that provided the needed elements. While it seems likely that the practice of taking small trees was a product of the desire to minimize the labor involved, it is interesting to note that Spanish law specifically forbade wasteful lumbering methods. Around 1820, American whaling ships brought and traded six to seven-foot saws that were made for one- or two-man operation. The invention of the whipsaw was the most important change in lumbering during this period. After these large saws made processing logs more efficient, lumbering became more widespread.



Figure 27 Lumbering in Santa Cruz Mountains, ca. 1879 (courtesy of Bill Wulf Collection).

One of the earliest business entrepreneurs in Santa Clara County was a young Spaniard named Antonio Maria Suñol. He arrived in San José in 1818, and in 1820 opened the first mercantile store and saloon. Among Suñol's many enterprises was the region's first lumberyard. Suñol

obtained axe-split and whipsawed lumber and redwood shingles from Americans immigrants working in the Las Pulgas redwoods of what is now Woodside and Sears Point (Delgado 1977; Payne 1987).

The Mission fathers may have exploited the abundant redwood forests above Los Gatos; however, available evidence indicates that the Las Pulgas redwoods were the primary source of Santa Clara Valley lumber. Redwood from this area was dragged down what is now Page Mill Road. Evidence indicates that access and removal of timber from the Los Gatos redwoods was extremely difficult, and didn't begin until after 1847. Although a water-powered lumber mill was constructed in Southern California as early as 1822, a commercially viable mill was built on the Russian River in 1834, and water-powered mills were introduced in the early 1840s above Santa Cruz, it was Santa Clara County's Issac Branham who was the first to build a water-powered sawmill on the Santa Clara Valley side of the Santa Cruz Mountains. His mill was on the *Arroyo de Los Gatos*, where the Lexington Dam is located today. Branham hired Zachariah Jones of San José to construct a dressed stone dam for the sawmill's pond in 1848. Sawmills of the period were all of the sash type, which was primarily a water or steam driven mechanized whipsaw that operated in a vertical manner. After Branham, William Campbell built a sawmill on the Arroyo Quito near present-day Saratoga. During this same year the first sawmills were constructed in San Mateo County and John Sutter built one at Coloma.

With the onset of the Gold Rush, the demand for lumber for new construction in San José was immediate; however, Branham and his crew had abandoned the sawmill in order to investigate the gold fields themselves (Wulf ca. 1980s). In February 1849, Branham sold his rights to the sawmill to Zachariah Jones. The road from San José leading to the Branham mill site was steep; it was almost impossible for even a team pulling a half load to ascend the grade. Jones solved the problem of transportation to the mill by establishing a lumberyard at the base of the mountain near today's College Avenue in Los Gatos. The market for lumber grew at an astronomical rate after 1848. In addition to locally supplied lumber, building materials were being shipped from the lumber districts along the north Pacific Coast as well as around the Horn of South America from the eastern United States and anywhere else materials could be obtained to satisfy the rising demand (Cox 1974).

By the early 1850s, several small sawmills were established in the Los Gatos redwoods. As the area was cleared of trees, the loggers moved their operations deeper and deeper into the mountains. Land in the mountains, originally believed to be inaccessible or too remote for

logging or settlement, immediately became more valuable when the toll road from Los Gatos to the summit was constructed. The cleared hillsides attracted farmers who planted grain crops, orchards and vineyards. Within a short time this mountain area became famous for its fruit production.

Sawmill technology changed rapidly in the later half of the nineteenth century. The old vertical sash saws were largely replaced by circular saws in the 1860s. Circular saws had the advantage of being capable of continuous cutting, were more efficient and did not have to overcome the inertia of the sash saws. However, they were limited in the diameter of the log they could cut and their teeth dulled quickly. By 1880, insertable teeth had become the standard throughout the lumber industry (Cox 1974). In 1885, the first band saw was installed on the Pacific Coast. Band saws with a circumference of 51 feet could cut a plank eight inches wide. By the beginning of the twentieth century, band saws had replaced circular saws. Each of these advances in milling technology can be traced by the saw marks left on the plank of wood.

The following description of saw marks can be used to place lumbering methods within historical context:

- Hand-hewn lumber: split and hewn timbers are easily recognizable. The faces of the beam or plank are rough with visible broad-axe scars. Often the bark is still attached to one side of the beam.
- Pit-sawn lumber (after 1792): characteristics of pit-sawn lumber are its irregularities in size, the planks often varying in dimensions from one end to the other. The saw scars are irregular and not perpendicular to the axis of the board, suggesting that the saw was held at a slight angle to vertical. In some instances, the saw scars are hooked at one end, perhaps indicating the top of a stroke, where the saw's motion was reversed (Felton 1985:23).
- Whip-sawn lumber (after 1820): scars are straight, at a slight angle (5° to 30°), and spaced from six to twelve scars per inch.
- Sash-sawn (mechanized) lumber (after 1845): scars on sash-sawn lumber are perpendicular to the axis of the board and evenly spaced.
- Circular-sawn lumber (after 1860): circular marks on boards represent lumber that was milled in the 1860s.

4.3 AGRICULTURE AND RELATED INDUSTRIES

Land utilization in Santa Clara County has progressed through four main phases: stock grazing and dairying, grain cultivation, horticulture, and modern residential, commercial, and industrial development. The first three of these are agriculturally related. The fourth phase in recent times has resulted in the elimination of most agriculture and related industries to the Santa Clara Valley area, with the Coyote Valley and South County area containing the last vestiges of the County's agricultural past. Fragments of each of these agricultural eras can still be found in the unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County.

4.3.1 Stock Raising

At the time of the Gold Rush and the era of Mexican authority over the region, beef was the only commodity that could be supplied in large quantities by the Californians themselves. Although the population was fairly self-sufficient prior to the Gold Rush, it became necessary to import other foodstuffs, plus additional supplies of beef and mutton at mid-nineteenth century. Until the drought of 1864, stock raising continued to be the primary economic activity in Santa Clara County. At first, Mexican open-range methods were followed since grazing lands were ample. As smaller farms began to spread throughout the Santa Clara Valley, pasturage was reduced, and stock raising was concentrated in the foothill ranges. More intensive stock farming began in the 1860s with the cattle being moved from the foothill pastures to Valley feed yards until ready for marketing (Broek 1932).

On a smaller scale, sheep raising paralleled the cattle industry. During the Gold Rush, large flocks were imported and thrived in the mild California climate, particularly on the cheaper range in the low foothills around Santa Clara Valley. Sheep populations peaked during the 1870s; the number declined thereafter as cultivated farmlands were extended, and markets for local wool and mutton decreased (Broek 1932).

When the cattle industry shifted to more intensive methods, hay production became a necessity. The planting of forage crops and the establishment of feeding sheds led to more efficient utilization of the range. Hay production developed during the 1880s and 1890s and only began to drop with the increased appearance of the automobile after the turn of the century.

Most hay and forage crops were used by the dairy industry in the later part of the nineteenth century (Broek 1932). The dairy industry developed in those areas that had well-watered pastures, such as the lowlands along the bay or in swampy areas such as Blossom Valley and areas of South County near San Felipe Lake. Transportation of fresh milk was a problem in the early years, so in the outlying districts the majority of milk was used for butter and cheese production. Most small farms in Santa Clara County kept milk cows, with self-sufficiency being the primary goal (Broek 1932). Although dairymen sometimes owned lands in the outlying areas, it appears that their dairy operations were generally located on lands more conveniently located near population centers and transportation lines. Outlying acreage was utilized as pasture for non-producing dairy cows and for hay production for the dairy farms elsewhere in the Valley.

4.3.2 Grain Production

The staple agricultural product after the Gold Rush became wheat. A ready market was assured, and the crop was easily handled. The easy cultivation and high fertility of the soil of the Santa Clara Valley facilitated wheat production with little capital investment. By 1854, Santa Clara County was producing 30 percent of California's total wheat crop. In 1868 one observer noted that in summer the valley was an almost unbroken wheat field. Other grain crops, primarily barley and oats, followed wheat in productivity. Production of wheat fell off during the 1880s and 1890s when new wheat-producing areas in the San Joaquin Valley were developed. Local production of barley for malting purposes continued to rise until 1900, when it fell rapidly due to the conversion of agricultural lands to orchards (Broek 1932; Detlefs 1985).

4.3.3 Horticulture

The remnants of the Mission orchards and the small orchards of the San José residents were the only source of fresh fruit at the onset of the Gold Rush. Early settlers in the Valley recognized this scarcity as a potential source of profit, and seedlings and nursery stock were imported from the East Coast and Europe. The earliest commercial orchards were planted in San José in the early 1850s, and their success prompted others to experiment with horticulture. Initially it was believed that abundant water was necessary for the successful production of fruit, and the early orchards were concentrated near rivers and creeks, as well as in the

northern Santa Clara Valley where abundant artesian water was available for irrigation. This would change as irrigation techniques in the Valley advanced.

In 1868, the first dried fruit was shipped to the East Coast where it yielded high prices. The completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869 opened the large eastern U.S. market for local fruit. The first commercial canning operation succeeded in Santa Clara County in 1871. All the factors were in place for the horticultural industry to boom; indeed, orchards increased rapidly during the 1870s and 1880s throughout the County. As experimentation in outlying areas proved that orchards could succeed with less water than originally thought, the ready market, high prices, and rapidly developing support industries made the switch to horticulture low risk and highly profitable. This change from grain cultivation to horticulture also saw changing land ownership patterns. As profits from wheat production began to decline due to the opening of new competing wheat regions, farmers realized their lands were better suited for more valuable crops and they could make greater profits by subdividing larger tracts and selling plots for small family orchards. A 20 acre orchard was able to produce enough fruit to support a family. By 1890 the transfer to horticultural was spreading into the outer corners of the county. However, the scarcity of water was a more serious problem in these areas and dry farming and ranching continued to be the major land uses until well into the twentieth century (Laffey 1981). As water resources were developed, more orchards were planted in this region.

One of the unique crops cultivated early in Santa Clara County history was tobacco. Grown in the San Felipe area near Gilroy and started by J. D. Culp about 1859, the tobacco crops supported a cigar factory, the Consolidated Tobacco Company, which was initially built about two miles west of Gilroy in 1862. The factory was destroyed by fire in 1865, and another facility was constructed in the city of Gilroy in 1869. The primary laborers for this activity were Chinese. An estimated 75 to 100 Chinese were living in the San Felipe area in the 1860s and 1870s (Broek 1932; Munro-Fraser 1881; Paulson 1875).

By the late 1890s, C. C. Morse & Company was the first to explore large-scale seed production in South County. Chinese farmers planted onions, strawberries, corn, and pumpkins on land leased from owners who no longer wanted to work their farms (SJ Mercury 1896). Seed growing became an increasingly important land use in the County early in the twentieth century when SP built the Braslan Seed Growers Company warehouse in Coyote. The Braslan Seed Company began operating in 1902. By 1922 the company had seed farms covering 400 acres of the Edenvale, Coyote, and Gilroy areas, and some 5,000 acres in Santa Clara, San

Joaquin, and San Benito Counties. The Braslan Seed Company also had substantial acreage in other parts of California. For years Braslan Seed Growers had large government contracts. Onions, radishes, lettuce, carrots, and cauliflower were raised in Braslan's seed fields in the Coyote and Gilroy areas. Bags of garden seeds were shipped to large nurseries and seed distributing establishments on the East coast, Europe, and Asia (Sawyer 1922; Malech 1996).

4.3.4 Viticulture

Between 1849 and 1852, viticulturists in Santa Clara County planted their vineyards using cuttings from the Mission Santa Clara vineyard. During these years, the area attracted up to 1,500 French settlers, many realizing the potential of the valley for a wine district. Many of these Frenchmen—Pierre Sainsevain, Charles LeFranc, Etienne Thee, Antoine Delmas, and the Pellier brothers, to name a few—set out vineyards in the Valley and foothills during the 1850s. Elisha Stephens, one of the earliest American settlers in the West Valley planted Mission grapes on his land by 1849 (California History Center [CHC] 1975; Arbuckle 1985). The Pelliers established plants between 1850 and 1854; Delmas planted a vineyard in 1851 and began producing wine in 1855. In the Highland area of the Santa Cruz Mountains, Lyman Burrell set out vines in 1853.

About 1861, in the South County area, José Maria Malaguerra planted vineyards on 200 acres of what had been the Laguna Seca Rancho, and in 1869 developed the first commercial winery in that area, the Malaguerra Winery. In the West Valley, with the redwood groves cleared, many farmers were setting out vines, but one of the first commercial winegrowers was Dennis Freely in the early 1860s. At about the same time, John Snyder settled on Permanente Creek four miles south of Mountain View and had soon planted 96 acres of foreign grapes. A Spaniard named Novato, living in the foothills near Permanente Creek, planted cuttings from the Stephens vineyard. Because the land was covered with chaparral and the soil was largely considered to be infertile, further efforts to establish vineyards in that area did not take place until the 1870s. Other early wine pioneers included the Jesuits at Santa Clara College ridge in the foothills around Stevens Creek Canyon around 1871 and at Villa Maria around 1875.

The failures of French and other European vineyards due to phylloxera (a microscopic root louse) contributed to the rising financial success of California wines in the late 1870s. This, and the proven accomplishments of the pioneer wine growers, led to the wide-scale development of many areas of Santa Clara County as vineyards. By the end of the 1880s, Santa

Clara County had 15,000 acres of vines producing 2,500,000 gallons of wine a year (Arbuckle 1985:176).

Around 1895 phylloxera attacked local vines. It destroyed approximately 75% of the vineyards in five years. Though the discovery of a Central American rootstock resistant to the disease eventually allowed for some vineyards to be reestablished, much of the land had already been replanted as fruit and nut orchards. Some local vintners did rise above these challenges; Frenchman Paul Masson established his champagne vineyards above Saratoga about 1896. At this site Masson planted specialty grape varieties, and in 1905 yielded an acclaimed champagne that he marketed aggressively at expositions.

Meanwhile, continued problems led to the decline of most wineries during the beginnings of the twentieth century. Water supplies were a constant concern. The 1906 earthquake destroyed much of the wine production machinery and buildings. Government regulations, property taxes, and competition also contributed. Prohibition was the final blow to many operations. Masson was also unique because he got a permit to continue to make wine for medicinal purposes during Prohibition. Another winemaking facility that stayed open through Prohibition was the Novitiate Winery, who was permitted to continue producing sacramental wine for religious purposes, but most other wineries suffered in the 1920s, and agriculture in Santa Clara County shifted even further toward fruit production. Even after Prohibition was repealed in 1933, wine production was not generally reestablished, and by 1941 the County had only 8,000 acres of vineyards and only 40 wineries remaining in operation. After World War II, development pressure changed the face of agriculture in the County, and wine was not a widely consumed drink. Winemaking in Santa Clara County languished until the late twentieth century when wine connoisseurship became popular again, and local vineyards became successful based on their ability to produce specialty wines that were compared favorably to other international wines.

4.4 ARCHITECTURE AND SHELTER

4.4.1 The Context of Architectural Significance

Most of the buildings and structures that exist today in Santa Clara County are within the urban areas. In the outlying areas of unincorporated county, rural property types are the norm. The historic architectural context for the unincorporated areas is predominately vernacular,

although there are stunningly pure examples of specific styles associated with a range of properties and a variety of uses throughout the jurisdiction.

History can be understood from reading primary and secondary resources. Just as a diary serves as a primary source for historical analysis, buildings are also primary historical records that illustrate the lifestyle, tools, materials, priorities, economic situations, and values of people from earlier eras. The vernacular buildings are important for their representation of early approaches to design and shelter, particularly when their construction illustrates the use of local materials, such as adobe or redwood, and when their construction illustrates the importance and interrelation of early local functions, such as barns, granaries or wineries. Some of the most appealing creations are found where high-style designs combine with rural or agricultural uses. The crenellated, brick Frenchman's Tower with its lancet openings is surprising in its remote location near Stanford, as is the Cordes House, a fully realized Craftsman masterpiece in a distant corner of the South County. Some vernacular buildings aspire to a specific style by including characteristic design elements, such as the use of flattened Tudor arches on the otherwise stylistically simple porches in New Almaden and the use of wood quoins and faux-stone wood siding on the one-room Laguna schoolhouse near Milpitas. Appealing in a different way are the high-style estates and summer homes that dot the foothills of the county. Most of these are architect-designed and express specific styles very clearly, but the variety of designs that were considered appropriate for their rural settings is extensive, from extremely rustic "cabins" with bark on the siding, to modernist structures with exaggerated horizontal lines, to more grandiose summer houses ornamented with Eclectic Revival detailing

4.4.2 Spanish and Mexican Colonial Architecture

The Spanish colonists who settled California after 1769 had a cultural tradition that stemmed from the dry Mediterranean area and Mexico. By necessity their culture exploited stone and masonry, and because of its scarcity, wood became valued. Spanish architecture is characterized by the use of adobe as the primary building material and in spite of abundant forests found in California, the colonists persisted in the use of traditional building materials.

Spanish and Mexican architecture in Alta California stemmed from easily built wood and mud dwellings in its early years to use of handmade sun-baked adobe bricks, stone and mud, and crudely fashioned fired tile roofing or roofs that were thatched with tules. Adobe brick were

made on the building site by digging a pit, which was filled with water and mixed with the adobe soils. The adobe mud was mixed with sand and straw as binders, and then packed into wooden forms usually measuring 4-by-11-by-22 inches. The bricks were dried in the sun for about thirty days. A one-room, single story building required between 2,500 and 5,000 bricks. Adobe structures had foundations of cobble or stones packed in a trench (Delgado 1978). The adobe bricks were cemented to the top of the foundations and mortared together with adobe mud. The brick were laid so that the walls were about two feet thick, providing excellent insulating qualities. Rafters and ceiling joists, lintels and doorframes were of wood. Oak, pine, and redwood were most sought after for these uses, although sycamore and cottonwood were also used. It has been said that sometimes the length of an available beam dictated the dimensions of a large room (Clar 1959). The walls of an adobe building would often be finished with a lime plaster, as well as having wide, overhanging eaves to protect adobe walls from the rain and weather.

In later years, use of poured-in-place adobe mud was used, as is found today within the Berryessa Adobe in Santa Clara and the Briones Adobe in Palo Alto. Used of fired clay bricks also occurred towards the end of the Mexican Period, as was utilized in the Amesquita Adobe in San José, those bricks still existing in a building at the Fremont Older Open Space Preserve. In the early years of the American Period, use of the Hispanic construction techniques continued until the availability of bricks and wood became prevalent. American-constructed adobe architecture is believed to have been designed and constructed all or in part by early California pioneers Harry J. Bee and William Chard. The influence of these men rather than by local Hispanic builders, explains why the dimensions of Early American Period buildings are measured in feet rather than *varas*.

There are very few Spanish or Mexican Period buildings left standing; not only are all extant structures from this period significant as rare representations of this early California era, but remaining historical archeological sites can provide significant information as well. In Santa Clara County, these buildings are primarily adobe residences associated with early ranchos. Some sites have been identified and documented, but some need further investigation and study.

4.4.3 Construction Methods of the Early Pioneers

The early American period introduced many varieties of building materials to the area, as well as continuing some less widespread use of adobe. This is an era when the new arrivals were demonstrating their independence from established Mexican customs, and many buildings illustrate new use of local materials as well as construction techniques from a variety of backgrounds. At the same time, new technologies were introduced to the area, such as lumber mills and brick kilns. Building structures from the time included brick and stone masonry, log assemblies, wood-frame, and board-wall construction. In Santa Clara County the majority of the buildings that remain from this period are residential board-wall; however, there are still agricultural buildings, churches, schools, and meeting halls associated with this timeframe. The houses tend to be simple, utilitarian, National style forms, but some buildings incorporate elements of styles that were prevalent in that era. Colonial, Greek, and Gothic Revival features are found throughout the county. Many houses were single story, but often they included a half story or second story, often balloon framed. Barns from this era took on their standard local form: typical area barns were built with vertical board construction; they had central gabled portions flanked by shed wings. Some barns included open bays supported by simple posts with knee braces. An identifying feature from this era is the square nail; however, many later buildings have been fashioned from salvaged wood, so square nails and square nail holes can often be seen on more recent structures. Buildings from this era are valuable as rare built representations of the new patterns of change.



Figure 28 Postcard Example of a typical Early American Residence .

Wood kit houses are another form of construction that was employed for housing in the early 1850s. These packages of boards and trim that came from the East Coast via ship were

assembled for pioneers who wanted conventional, familiar designs and materials after they arrived in California. These houses are rare, and difficult to identify without intensive investigation, but continue to exist today.

4.4.4 The First Evolution of Local Architectural Styles

Toward the end of the nineteenth century, residences in Santa Clara County became more commonly board-wall and balloon-framed, as well as utilizing the innovative platform frame, and the styled buildings became more commonly Italianate, Queen Anne, and Shingle style. Other Victorian styles, such as Stick and Second Empire, do not appear to have been as often emulated in the outlying areas of the County. Wood-frame vernacular residences most often took the form referred to as National Style, sometimes also called Victorian Farmhouses. These simple houses had moderately pitched gabled roofs, boxed eaves, projecting porches, and simple trim. Channel Rustic siding became prevalent as styles and technologies changed. Schoolhouses were built by carpenters who became skilled at specific building styles. Some stone and brick vernacular buildings continued to be built, mostly for non-residential purposes, such as wineries. At Stanford University, a unique composition of stone buildings in a modified Richardsonian Romanesque style, some with Mission Style, Neo-Classical and Beaux-Arts overtones, created a Western campus prototype. Early high-style residences of Italianate, Shingle, and Beaux Arts styles were also associated with the university. Although board-and-batten barns in the traditional gabled form remained prevalent throughout the region, the Stanfords built an atypically high-style, Stick-style horse barn near Palo Alto. These well-designed buildings are architecturally significant for their representations of specific styles, not only for their representation of the passage of history or their association with specific people or events.

4.4.5 Building in the Twentieth Century

By the turn of the twentieth century, frame construction was the norm for residential structures. Vernacular cottages started to reflect the Craftsman approach, represented by compact Neo-Classical cottages and low bungalows that express their structure with beams, knee braces, and stone foundations. Larger residential projects also utilized the design aesthetics presented in such magazines as *Craftsman*, but some of the more innovative houses were designed in the Prairie Style that was first conceived by Frank Lloyd Wright in Illinois, but well-executed by local designers.

Santa Clara County has many agricultural outbuildings from the early twentieth century. These buildings are utilitarian, and traditional, and do not vary greatly from nineteenth century agricultural structures although they were more likely to use milled lumber for their framing. At least one commercial building is extant in the County from this era, in the Burbank neighborhood. It has a wood-frame structure with a false front and large storefront windows with wood casings, transom windows, and wood-panels below the windows. The store has horizontal wood siding on the side elevations

The San Francisco Earthquake of 1906 had a widespread impact on the character of architecture in the Bay Area. Construction techniques changed because unreinforced masonry was proven unsafe. The earthquake's impact on architecture in the unincorporated County is not clear due to a lack of structure records, although it changed the appearance of Stanford forever, and was likely the cause of the demolition of a number of adobe structures throughout the region.

Craftsman houses began to take on new exterior detailing reminiscent of historic and international examples, and in the 1920s and 1930s, the Eclectic Revival or Period Revival Style became characteristic of both residential and non-residential construction. Such styles like Spanish Eclectic, French Eclectic, Mission Revival, Mediterranean, Storybook, and others became popular. Common wisdom says that soldiers returning from the First World War had become enamored with Normandy cottages and imported the design style to America, but other eclectic styles also became popular at this same time. Even the more modest residences included Eclectic Revival detailing such as Spanish tile roofs, inset plaster ornament, arched picture windows, or ornamental columns. Simple buildings can represent a style with only a few characteristic features, so the vernacular versions of this style are most noteworthy in neighborhood groupings where a wide-ranging assortment of simplified styles can create visual interest. Differing from this trend in terms of level of ornament, but similar in that the original models were those constructed in the International-style, and some buildings of these decades introduced the Streamline Moderne Style to Santa Clara County. Flat roofs and cubist forms were sometimes blended with Eclectic features for regional effects.

One of the premier examples of this blended design is the Lou Henry Hoover House at Stanford, which combines International Style forms with selected Pueblo details on the exterior and includes English Tudor interiors. Growing out of a similar desire for traditional

and historical forms, many houses from this era were Colonial Revival. Looking to colonial New England and the Middle-Atlantic states for design features, designers included gambrel roofs, cantilevered upper stories, blocky proportions, shuttered windows, and classical pediments over symmetrical front entries. Some vernacular houses, particularly later in this period, were alternately built very simply in what is referred to as Minimal Traditional Style. In this area, the style is most often unadorned, stucco, gabled forms with narrow eaves and simplified porch designs. This style is seldom individually architecturally significant. From the Minimal Traditional Style evolved a 1940s residential style that featured horizontal window lites, steel casements, as well as simplified roofs, often hipped. These buildings are the transition into post-war Ranch Style houses. One of the new building types that emerged in this period is the automobile garage. Although early garages were sometimes based on carriage-house prototypes, and so were detached, had board walls and board-and-batten doors, garages soon were being built along with the primary residences, and so matched the materials and forms of the house. The 1930s and early 1940s were a lean time for construction; the financial atmosphere and the need to use materials for the war effort diminished the ability of people to erect new buildings, but after World War II, the boom years began.

4.4.6 Regional Styles in the Period of Industrial Growth

The Santa Clara County Heritage Resource Inventory has little representation of the architecture of the period after the Second World War, and the significant resources have yet to be identified. These buildings have only recently reached fifty years old, the commonly accepted age for buildings to be evaluated for historical significance. Additionally, the very nature of construction after 1945 was rapid. Much of what was built is not individually representative of the era in a significant way. The G.I. Bill and the industrialization of Santa Clara Valley helped create suburban neighborhoods where there were once orchards. Single-family residences in the planned subdivision neighborhoods around the South Bay Area were most often designed according to the Ranch Style aesthetic. This style, championed by *Sunset Magazine* in the 1940s, included mostly single-story construction, rooms that opened into the landscape, and attached carports or garages. It was the urban design impact that was most important in the county, as these neighborhoods replaced prime agricultural land with housing. Modernism began to reach widespread popularity, as its simplicity was both practical and aesthetically pleasing for commercial and industrial construction in the post-War economy. Agricultural construction changed in the last half of the twentieth century as well. Such materials as galvanized metal roofing and prefabricated sheds changed the appearance

and use of even long-established farms and ranches. Custom homes were also built in this era. High-end Ranch Style houses were built on large semi-rural lots.

Buildings significant for their architectural character in Santa Clara County can be identified using the architectural chronology above. Because of the vast diversity of architectural styles, uses, and settings in the unincorporated county, a broad variety of buildings can be considered historic resources. Buildings from the Early American Period are now rare, and are usually considered to have some level of architectural significance, even if their historical integrity may be comparatively compromised. Later buildings can be significant for their rarity, utility, beauty, associations, or ability to convey information as primary resources.

4.5 GOVERNMENT ENTITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES

4.5.1 County Government

California's first legislature established 27 counties for the state on February 18, 1850. Santa Clara County was among this first division of the state into regional political jurisdictions, with the Town of San José as its seat. The establishment of county jurisdictions in California was intended to provide for the management of land use and public works, health services, a local justice system, and property tax collection.

The original administrative body of Santa Clara County was the Court of Sessions. Judicial in nature, it administered the County government with a judge as presiding officer and two justices of the peace. By 1855, the state had settled on an alternative form of county of administration, managed by a Board of Supervisors, a form that continues today. A Board of Supervisors had replaced the Court of Sessions in 1852, and the number of board seats, as well as who they represented was changed a number of times between 1852 and 1883, at which time the present system of five supervisors, each representing a geographical portion of the county was established.

The Board of Supervisors was initially endowed by the state legislature with a wide range of powers and responsibilities. The board had policy and management control over various county institutions such as the jail, library, and hospital, and administrative services such as elections and the preservation of records. The board also had the power to create, change, or abolish political subdivisions and special districts. Special districts such as irrigation, utilities,

water, fire, highway, sanitation, water conservation, etc., were managed by the board, or could also be appointees of the supervisors, selected by the courts, appointed by state authorities, or elected by the people.



Figure 29 Initial County of Santa Clara Courthouse, 1866.

During the first three decades of the County, the supervisors were primarily associated with the agrarian economy, due to the nature of the local economy and the geographical nature of the districts. By the 1880s, even though the local economy was still agriculturally based, political power vested in utility ownership, with the railroads, the local power company, and San José Water Company effectively controlling political elections, government contracts, and general policy direction in the physical development of the county. It wasn't until the end of the nineteenth century that a local "good government" movement, spearheaded by E. A. and J. O. Hayes, wrested control of the County government from the political machine that had grown under local agriculturalists James W. Rea. The goal of this political change in at the turn of the century was to focus on bring new commerce to the region and reduce growth-inhibiting taxes, while encouraging new construction of public infrastructure. Although political leadership had changed at the beginning of the twentieth century, power remained under control of the Republican political machine, with the leader in the group being Louis Oneal. It wasn't until the late 1940s following World War II that the first fundamental change in the management of Santa Clara County took place.

The form of government of Santa Clara County remained the same until 1951 when the voters approved a charter that enabled the County to establish its own powers and to coordinate functions to meet its individual needs, rather than just those that were state mandated. State constitutional amendments had been made in 1911 and 1914 that allowed this change at the

county government level to allow “Home Rule”, but in Santa Clara County efforts to effect the change starting with an election in 1933 but failed a number of times. Finally approved by the voters in 1948, the first success by election was ruled invalid by the Superior Court. In 1951, a second attempt was made which passed by an overwhelming majority of voters. Under the new charter, Santa Clara County was mandated to hire a County Executive to take over management of the government that had been divided up between the five district supervisors. The supervisors took on the role as policy makers in this system, which was further revised and streamlined in 1976, 1992, and 1994.

After two unsatisfactory attempts to bring effective management of the County under the supervision of the County Executive, Howard Campen was hired as County Executive in 1956, a job he performed for 19 years until 1976. During the exponential growth period of the County’s urban areas, Campen directed the creation of the transit district and development of the County expressway network, and major expansion of the Valley Medical Center. It was during the period that the County’s LAFCo agency was formed to bring order to the annexation of unincorporated lands into local cities and towns. The Local Agency Formation Commission (or LAFCo) continues to exist today

4.5.2 Health Care

4.5.2.1 County Hospital

As early as 1850, the California Legislature mandated that county governments should "perform all other acts necessary to the county welfare." During the early 1850s, sanitation in San José was a serious problem. There were various epidemics of cholera, small pox, diphtheria, and typhoid fever, among other diseases. Although several doctors had settled in the Santa Clara County, no hospitals were available and medicines and medical supplies were difficult to obtain. Dr. Benjamin Cory, the first physician to settle in Santa Clara County and a member of San José's city council, campaigned tirelessly to pass much needed sanitation ordinances and establish some type of health service for the poor. While the city council agreed with Dr. Cory that hospital facilities were needed, no city funds were available for this use.

The Board of Supervisors first addressed this issue in 1854 when they appointed three of their members—George Peck, Ransom G. Moody, and William Daniels—to serve as a health

committee. During this year, the County received \$869 as its share of the state relief fund. The County's health committee met with a similar committee of the San José City Council to discuss ways and means of caring for the sick and homeless. During these discussions the County offered to pay two-thirds of the cost if the city would cover one-third. The council did not agree, however, stating that they could take care of their own sick.

In 1855, the board appointed a County Physician, and the city agreed to pay \$50 a month toward care of the sick. The County rented a building for use as a hospital for \$40 a month, but continued to seek a more suitable hospital facility. At the end of the year, the Merritt brothers offered to sell the county "the old Sutter House" and adjoining property in northeast San José for \$5,500. The offer was accepted, and the County occupied this "aristocratic structure" for a few months until February 1856 when the deal fell through. At this point, the supervisors decided to contract with a local doctor to care for the sick. The services of Dr. G. B. Crane, obtained for \$4,600 per year, were to provide medical care for not more than seven County patients a day. In 1857, Dr. Caldwell agreed to care for Santa Clara County patients at the cost of \$2.50 each per day.

Santa Clara County continued to contract-out medical care until the need for a county hospital became acute. In 1860, the supervisors purchased twelve acres from Hiram Cahill near the western limits of San José. Costing \$4,000, the buildings were enlarged and a pest house was constructed near Los Gatos Creek. A pest house was an isolation ward for patients with serious contagious diseases. With the passage of time, the occupied limits of San José expanded, and the city objected to having a pest house in such close proximity to its boundaries.

During these crucial years in the history of medical care in the county, the supervisors appointed Dr. Andrew Jackson Cory, Dr. Benjamin Cory's brother, as the Santa Clara County Chief Medical Officer. Dr. A.J. Cory led efforts to improve County medical facilities. In 1871, the County purchased 114 acres from John S. Connor on Los Gatos Road, three and a half miles from San José. This site is now known as Valley Medical Center on South Bascom Avenue.

To serve until a new building was completed in 1875, the old buildings from the Cahill property were moved to the new hospital site. Much of the new construction was financed by the subdivision and sale of the Cahill property and of unneeded acreage on Los Gatos Road.

When completed in 1876, the County infirmary had six wards to accommodate sixty-five patients. Over the years additional buildings were added to the complex that included a tuberculosis hospital, Old Ladies' Home, Old Men's Home, isolation hospital and pest house, and residences for nurses and the superintendent. Orchards and gardens on the unoccupied portion of the property provided food for the institution's patients and inmates and additional income from the sale of surplus.

Until 1884, the homeless poor were also cared for at the Old Ladies' Home and the Old Men's Home on the grounds of the County Hospital. Orphaned children were cared for by the Ladies' Benevolent Society at its facility on Martha Street. Supervisors were responsible for the destitute in their districts, and all allowances from county funds for care of homeless and orphans were made on their recommendations.

In 1883, a committee of the Board investigated the possibility of purchasing property for a County farm, choosing an old ranch near Milpitas. The property included John O'Toole's three-story 20 room mansion constructed in the 1860s, a granary, wagon house, barn, dairy, and artesian wells. The purchase of this property by the County for \$25,000 was questioned by a grand jury.

The O'Toole ranch was converted into an almshouse, and the aged poor were moved to the new facility in 1884. With the help of able-bodied inmates, food was raised to supply both the almshouse and the county hospital. The dairy produced more milk than the County could use, allowing surplus to be sold to outside agencies. It was not until Supervisor "Sandy" Wool, serving from 1937 to 1953, took over as administrator of the almshouse that the operation was able to support itself. When the operation showed a profit in excess of \$50,000, it was such a surprise to County officials that Wool was accused by a grand jury of falsifying records.

In the 1940s, inmates of the almshouse were asked to share their quarters with prisoners from the County Jail. In 1957, the entire facility was transferred to the sheriff's department for an extension of the County's jail facilities. The supervisors changed its name from the County Jail Farm to Elmwood, reportedly inspired by the large elm trees on the grounds.

Inadequacies inherent in a charitable medical facility with a small budget and limited medical resources were apparent during the early twentieth century. Dr. George Washington Fowler, Director of Santa Clara County Hospital and its only surgeon in 1903, described the County

Hospital's surgical facilities. They consisted of one room with a cement floor. The furnishings were one table, one sheet, and one iron stove with a tall pipe held up by wires from the ceiling. Instruments were stored on a wooden shelf around the walls. The doctor supplied his own instruments, which were boiled in a pot on the stove.

Santa Clara County Hospital's brick buildings were severely damaged by the 1906 earthquake. Three patients were killed and seven others seriously injured. Wasting no time, the County built a new hospital, which was completed in 1907. The E-shaped wood-frame building with neoclassical portico and pillars served as the core of the hospital complex until it was razed in 1968.

Under the direction of Dr. Doxey Wilson, the facility became a well-respected teaching hospital in 1913. The nursing school established in 1905 received top ranking in the state. In 1953 the facility was affiliated with the Stanford University School of Medicine.

The spectres of overcrowding and inadequate funding were constant companions of the hospital staff and the board of supervisors throughout the hospital's history. During his tenure in office, Supervisor McKinnon worked closely with hospital administration to resolve these problems. After losing a bond election in 1934, the County sought federal assistance to fund construction of a new wing; however, instead of accepting the government's initial offer of \$305,000 in 1935, the supervisors turned it down and asked for 45 percent more, hoping to receive a larger grant at a time when hospital and patient needs would be more visibly urgent. This gambit failed, however, when the Federal Relief Administration (FRA) notified the Board of Supervisors in 1938 that the FRA had withdrawn the hospital project from consideration.

Despite these problems, the supervisors continued to find necessary funding for continual expansion of the hospital facilities and development of state-of-the-art treatment centers. A seven-story addition was completed in 1960, and the 1906 building was replaced in 1970 by a large rehabilitation wing. At the end of 1966, the supervisors changed the name of the institution from the County Hospital to the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center.

Hospital funding reached a crisis point again in 1975 when the supervisors considered turning the facility over to private, profit-oriented interests. After nearly ten years of battling over this issue, the supervisors, at the urging of Supervisors Dan McCorquodale and Rod Diridon, finally voted to continue the county operation of the medical center in January 1976.

4.5.2.2 Agnews

The Agnews Developmental Center, portions of the West Campus in Santa Clara and the East Campus in San Jose still extant at the time of preparation of this document, was established by an act of the California Legislature in 1885 as a facility for the care of the mentally ill. It was initially called the California Hospital for the Chronically Insane in Agnews. The first patients were received in 1888 on the former West Campus. Which is located off Montague Expressway near Highway 101 (now largely demolished). The original asylum was a multistory, unreinforced masonry building designed by Jacob Lenzen, which crumbled tragically in the 1906 earthquake, killing over 100 patients. Like the County Hospital, it was redesigned and built with a number of specialized low-rise buildings spread out over the site like a college campus. Later renamed Agnews State Hospital, it was significant as the first modern mental hospital in California, and subsequently other State facilities, followed the example of Agnews. The Colony, or West Campus was first opened in 1931 The patient mix began to shift in the 1960s as more community-based programs became prevalent for treating mental illness. Individuals with developmental disabilities were first admitted in 1965. After programs for the mentally ill were discontinued in 1972, the center has been used exclusively for the care and treatment of persons with developmental disabilities. In 1996 the West Campus closed, and the East Campus was declared surplus. Sun Microsystems restored key historic buildings on the property where it built its corporate headquarters, office/research and development space for more than 3,000 employees. The East Campus was declared surplus at the same time, and in 1999 Cisco Systems purchased the land. The East Campus was the subject of a development proposal by Santa Clara Unified School District as of 2011.

4.5.2.3 San José Hospital

San José Hospital (675 E. Santa Clara St., San José) opened in 1923. The merger and subsequent of the City of San Jose to adequately meet patient need spurred a group of local doctors belonging to the Santa Clara County Medical Society to declare the need for a modern hospital containing the latest in medical technology. At the time of opening was considered the only first class and strictly modern hospital between Santa Barbara and San Francisco. It was designed to accommodate the emerging middle class living the central San Jose that were excluded from city, county, and state run hospitals that served the poor and the private hospitals that catered to the more affluent. In 1996, the community-based non-profit hospital

was purchased by a national hospital management firm now known as HCA (The Healthcare Company), and was closed in 2004.

4.5.2.4 Wheeler Hospital

Wheeler Hospital (651 W. Sixth St., Gilroy) opened in 1929 in a building designed by William Weeks. It was the only hospital to serve the South County until 1989, when Sainte Louise Hospital opened in Morgan Hill and South Valley Hospital opened in Gilroy. Parts of the original Wheeler Hospital building were saved from demolition and rehabilitated as part of Wheeler Manor, a senior housing project that opened in 1993.

4.5.2.5 Other Local Medical Facilities

The remaining hospitals in Santa Clara County were constructed in the post World War II period to serve a rapidly expanding county population:

Figure 4.5 Table of Santa Clara County Hospitals

Hospital	Address	Date Opened	Notes
O'Connor Hospital	2105 Forest Ave., San José	1953	Original hospital site opened 1889 at Race and San Carlos Streets, San José; demolished 1955
Stanford University Medical Center	300 Pasteur Dr., Stanford	1959	Medical school and hospital originally located in San Francisco
Palo Alto Veterans Medical Center	3801 Miranda Ave., Palo Alto	ca. 1960	
El Camino Hospital	2500 Grant Rd., Mountain View	1961	Funded by taxes levied in a local hospital district and managed by a board appointed by the County Board of Supervisors
Community Hospital of Los Gatos	815 Pollard Rd., Los Gatos	1962	
Regional Medical Center of San José	225 N. Jackson Ave., San José	1965	Known as Alexian Brothers Hospital until its sale to HCA in 1998
Good Samaritan Hospital	2425 Samaritan Dr., San José	1965	Founded by local Episcopalian and Methodist churches; sold to HCA in 1996
Mission Oaks Hospital	15891 Los Gatos-Almaden Rd., Los Gatos	Before 1972	Operated as Valley West General Hospital until being renamed in 1986; sold to Good Samaritan in 1989 and used as satellite outpatient facility
Sainte Louise Hospital	18500 Saint Louise Dr., Morgan Hill	1989-1999	Vacated in 1999; plans for it to become new home for San José Christian College fell through; no new plans for site
Sainte Louise Regional Hospital	9400 No Name Uno, Gilroy	1989	Opened as South Valley Hospital; sold to Daughters of Charity in 1999
Lucile Salter Packard Children's Hospital	725 Welch Rd., Palo Alto	1991	Opened in 1920 as the Stanford Home for Convalescent Children, housed in a part of the old Stanford family home that was spared by the 1906 earthquake. Stanford home demolished in 1969 to make way for new children's hospital, which was replaced by the present facility.
Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara	900 Kiely Blvd., Santa Clara	Before 1980	New hospital at Homestead Road and Lawrence Expressway under construction
Kaiser Permanente Santa Teresa	250 Hospital Parkway, San José	Before 1980	

4.6 EDUCATION

4.6.1 K-12 Schools

The first recorded school established in the region was located in the Pueblo of San José in July 1795. By order of Governor Diego de Borica, Manuel de Vargas, a retired San Francisco Presidio sergeant, was dispatched to start the school, which was housed in the pueblo's granary. Education in the pueblo was mandatory, and included reading, writing, and learning the doctrines (faith). Little information remains regarding this early institution, and the historical record does not contain any references to the location of the building that housed the classroom. By 1811, Antonio Buelna was teacher, and a new classroom was provided, although the location of that building is also not known. It is possible that a building to house the first chapel to become St. Joseph's Church served a dual purpose. The only structure identified in early maps of the pueblo that does not have a specified use was located just northwest of the present day intersection of West San Fernando and South San Pedro Streets in downtown San José.

With new American immigrants entering the region in large numbers after 1840, the Americanization of the pueblo also brought new educational institutions. Early on, like their Catholic predecessor, religious organizations started private schools to teach reading, writing and religion. In 1846, Mrs. Olive Mann Isbell opened the first school for children of her overland immigrant party in a vacant adobe near the mission in Santa Clara. In San José William Daniels ran a new school adjacent the *Juzgado* (jail).

At the Constitutional Convention at Monterey in 1849, the delegates had established the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and declared that the Legislature "shall encourage the promotion of intellectual, scientific, moral and agricultural improvement." A school fund was established with proceeds to derive from sale of lands granted by Congress and estates of deceased persons that escheated to the state, and made it mandatory upon the Legislature to provide for a system of common schools and that these schools should be kept open at least three months in every year.

Although the constitutional provisions were adopted at the convention on November 13, 1849, it was not until 1851 that the State Legislature passed its first act pertaining to schools. This measure provided for the distribution of the proceeds of the state school lands to schools

in proportion to the total number of children in the state between the ages of 5 and 18 years. It enabled the creation of a superintending school committee in each city, town or incorporated village within the State, and additional committees for each school to administer itself and to examine the various candidates for teachers. It also provided for the creation of school districts including permission to levy a school tax, authorized the establishment of high schools, and provided for the examination and certification of teachers.

In 1852, the system was enlarged to provide for a County Board of School Commissioners and a State Board of Education. This act was again revised in 1855, creating a school district in each city, town and township.

In San José, as in the other townships in Santa Clara County, “common schools” were soon founded which developed in parallel with the non-secular institutions. Schoolhouses were built in 1853, 1854, and 1857 in San José, and by 1855 the county had six school districts outside of San José that began to draw funds from the state. The first wave of schools outside of San José were constructed in this early period, such as the 1856 Milpitas School, a one-room classroom 24 x 30 feet in size. This school was subscription based, one of the founders, Joseph Weller, had been a teacher in New York prior to coming to California. Rural schools established from 1855 to 1865 were built by early settlers rather than trained carpenters and builders. Land, materials, and labor were often donated. Some, like the Lexington school of 1858 that also served as temperance hall, served dual purposes.

The first available teachers were pioneers who had been trained as educators prior to coming west. California’s first Normal School, intended to prepare teachers for careers in education throughout California, began in 1862, and was located in San Francisco. In 1863 a State Normal School Board was instituted and a Board of State and County Examiners was created to determine the qualification of teachers.

In 1865, the Education Code was amended to include a general plan for local taxation and election of trustees. This method of bonding and taxation facilitated the construction of new schools, fueling a wave of construction in both the urban and rural areas of Santa Clara County. By 1867 the enrollment at the Normal School in San Francisco had swelled. The institution had a difficult time keeping prospective teachers enrolled, as job opportunities drew many away before graduation, as noted in the Normal School’s report for its 1866–1867 school year which stated that, “The attendance was larger than in any previous year, reaching at one

time one hundred and twenty-five, every seat being taken and many applicants rejected for want of room. This number was diminished toward the close of the year by the unusual demand upon the school to supply teachers (Gilbert and Burdick 1979)”.

The effect of the School Bond Act was clear, and soon afterward, pressure began to build for a permanent home for the Normal School. San José competed against several other locales in northern California, including: Oakland, Berkeley, Stockton, San Francisco, Sacramento, Napa, and Martinez. San José was selected because of its climate, its accessibility, and its size, “not so large as to present the disturbance and temptations of a city, and yet large enough to offer suitable boarding accommodations for students” (Gilbert and Burdick 1979).

The cornerstone for the San José Normal School was laid in October 1870, and the first school session in San José opened in June 1871.



Figure 30 The San Jose State Normal School, *ca.* 1870s

The Education Code evolved during this period as a collection of the active laws of California relating to the establishment, maintenance, government, and operation of schools, libraries, and institutions of learning, arts and sciences. Not a system of law, but a collection of governmental rules and procedures for the organization and administration of the state’s education system, it had originated from the need to administer the small rural schools throughout California that were built during the period following the Gold Rush. In striving for equality in education, the goal had been to raise the funds in the urban centers and distribute them equally in order to reach the rural school systems that do not have sufficient taxing power to support themselves at state educational standards. “Average daily attendance” is the tool that was developed to apportion state funds to school districts.

In 1872, the Education Code was modified and included within the Political Code, Title 3 (Sections 1385 to 1878, inclusive). This new code was devoted to the educational system, including the State University and the Normal schools.

By the mid-1870s, the availability of teachers locally had catalyzed the construction of new schools throughout all the rural areas of the County, and by 1887, Santa Clara County had 71 schools in operation outside of the towns of San José and Santa Clara (see table at the end of this section).

Unlike the earlier pre-1865 buildings that may have been built by local ranchers, these schools appear to have been contractor built according to state standards. Typical features included stove heaters, dual entries and rear exits for separation of the sexes (and separate outhouses in the rear yard), a platform in the front center for the teacher, cloak rooms, and it a roof-mounted or freestanding flagpole. Most blackboards were horizontally installed large flat redwood boards installed above eraser trays, sanded smooth and painted black, although prefabricated units soon became available. The school was generally set on one acre of land that contained playground equipment. In some cases, small sheds were built at the rear of the property to provide shelter for the teacher's carriage.

K-12 education throughout Santa Clara County relied on these small schoolhouses into the mid-twentieth century. In communities that urbanized during the later part of the nineteenth century, such as Morgan Hill, Los Gatos, and Campbell, the early schoolhouses were soon replaced by larger facilities to accommodate the expanding population. In rural areas, the schools remained in use, changing in shape to respond to new ways of teaching, and to the introduction of electrical power and new sanitation methods.

By 1876, Santa Clara County had 53 school districts, with 83 school buildings, served by 105 teachers and an average daily attendance of 4892 pupils; 12 years later, by 1887-1888, Santa Clara County had 73 school districts, with 174 teachers, and an enrollment of 11,259 children between the ages of 5 and 17 years.

Until the 1929 adoption of the School Code of the State of California, various changes in the school system were made at each session of the Legislature. Following 1929, other economic and industrial changes have been accompanied by the enactment of closely related laws in the

educational field. In 1933, the earthquake in Long Beach with its destruction of property called attention to the necessity of safeguarding the children, and was followed by the “Field Act” providing for a carefully supervised plan of school building construction. Many schools were closed or replaced in response to the Field Act. Other social changes resulting from the Depression of the 1930s led to the enactment of the community recreation law. With the outbreak of World War II, provisions were made for education in national defense, and laws enacted to provide free tuition for children of disabled veterans. Foreign language schools, such as Midway, located between San José and Alviso that had served the local Japanese community, were placed under supervision and childcare centers established to free the parents for war work.



Figure 31 School children at Hall's Valley School

Today over 150 years after the establishment of the county's first “common school,” the Santa Clara County Office of Education reports that K-12 enrollment is about 251,000 students served by 32 school districts. There are presently 348 school sites serving K-12 students.

Within unincorporated Santa Clara County today, a number of the early schoolhouses that served Santa Clara County residents during the nineteenth century exist, although none are used to house classroom studies. A number of them, such as Hall's Valley, San Antonio, Llagas, and others have been converted to residences (San Antonio has been relocated to another site). Collins has been modified and is used as a club, while others such as Highland and Laguna remain vacant. Others may still exist, but have been lost to time or relocated to nearby sites that are not presently recorded. Others, such as San Ysidro that was demolished

in 2003, continue to be subject to school improvement projects, or development pressures where the land has been sold to private parties. The following table was constructed from a Board of Trade publication of 1887, and identifies the Santa Clara County schools in operation at that time outside of the cities of San José and Santa Clara.

Figure 4.8 Table of Santa Clara County school buildings

Name	Location	Extant?	Notes
Calavaras			
Laguna		Extant	Vacant
Oakridge			
Sierra			
Milpitas			
Eagle			
Alviso			
Midway		Demolished 1999	
Orchard			
Berryessa			
Pala			
Huyck			
Mt. Pleasant			
East San José			
Jackson			
Oakhill			
Hillsdale			
Evergreen			
Hall's Valley	Hall's Valley	Extant	Residence
San Isabella			
Mt. Hamilton			
Highland		Extant	Vacant
Burnett			
Soda Springs			
Hot Springs			
Rhodes			
Pacheco			
San Felipe			
Comstock			
San Ysidro		Demolished 2003	
Gilroy			
Carnadero			
Live Oak			
Adams			
Redwood			
Mt. Dell			
Uvas			
Llagas		Extant	Residence
Hacienda			
Hill			
Encina			
Guadalupe			
Loma Prieta			
Summit			
Lexington			
Lakeside			
Montezuma			
Los Gatos			

Austin			
Vineland			
Union			
Pioneer			
Willow Glen			
Hamilton			
Cambrian			
San Tomas			
Moreland			
Saratoga			
Booker			
Lincoln			
Doyle	Stevens Creek Rd.	Demolished	
Meridian			
Hester			
Milliken			
San Antonio		Extant	Relocated
Collins		Extant	
Jefferson			
Braly			
Mountain View			
Whisman			
Mayfield			

4.6.2 Higher Education

Higher educational institutions were first established within Santa Clara County in 1851 with the founding of the College of Notre Dame in San José by the Sisters of Notre Dame, Santa Clara College in Santa Clara by the Society of Jesus, and the University of the Pacific, also in Santa Clara under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Of these three early institutions, only Santa Clara College has remained in the County, now called Santa Clara University. In 1923, the College of Notre Dame relocated to Belmont and the University of the Pacific moved to Stockton 1925.

The State Normal School was relocated from San Francisco to San José in 1870, and continues to operate today as San José State University.

The only other institution founded during the early American period in Santa Clara County was the Garden City Business College and Academy, which was rooted in the 1869 founding of San José Commercial College and the San José Institute. These were private schools that were created around specific educators. Other private colleges have evolved during the twentieth century, these located in downtown San José and serving specialized communities.

In the 1880s, the Education Code was expanded to accommodate the philanthropic wishes of the state's wealthy benefactors. The first enactment providing for the establishment and acceptance of such gift institutions was in 1885 when the Legislature provided for the acceptance of educational foundations and trusts, followed in 1887 by an act for the acceptance of foundations for arts and sciences. In 1888, Lick Observatory was accepted into the University of California system. In 1884, Senator Leland Stanford announced his intention of founding an institution of learning, as a monument to the memory of his deceased son, and to endow it with property valued at that time at \$10,000,000. In 1901, Leland Stanford Junior University was incorporated and granted tax exemption. A judicial proceeding was prescribed for the validation of educational trusts and provision was made whereby widows could release their interests in educational foundations.

In Santa Clara County, both of these institutions developed large and sophisticated campuses beginning in the 1880s.

4.6.3 University of California / Lick Observatory



Figure 32 The Lick Observatory

Lick Observatory is one of the oldest observatories in existence and is still producing important research results. The funds to build it were donated by James Lick, a wealthy real estate entrepreneur and mill owner who wished to leave a monument to himself and was convinced by leading scientists that an observatory would be a fitting memorial. The County of Santa Clara agreed to build the road to the construction site in 1876, and the Federal government transferred the 1,350 acres atop Mount Hamilton to the Lick Trust. The Trust carried out Lick's intentions after his death in 1876.

A small dome was completed in 1881, and a 12-inch refracting telescope was installed that October. A large dome for what is known as the 36-inch Lick refractor was completed in 1886. On June 1, 1888, the Lick Trust officially transferred the observatory and all of its property to the University of California Regents.

4.6.4 Leland Stanford Jr. University

The Stanford University campus is located within the area originally known as *Rancho San Francisquito*. In 1876, Leland Stanford acquired 650 acres from the estate of San Francisco financier George Gordon, who had begun purchasing the rancho lands in 1863. Stanford later acquired most of the rest of the original rancho lands, along with other adjoining properties, including in 1882 the 1,200-acre stock farm of Peter Couatts. This brought Stanford's total holdings to 8,180 acres.

Starting out as a Sacramento merchant in the 1850s, Leland Stanford went on to be elected Governor of California in 1861, and as one of the "Big Four" financiers, he would bankroll the Central Pacific Railroad's segment of the transcontinental railroad, completed in 1869. As one of his several homes and properties, Leland Stanford raised trotting horses on this land, which he called the Palo Alto Stock Farm.

Leland Stanford and his wife, Jane Lathrop Stanford, had one son, Leland Stanford, Jr., who died at the age of 15. The following year, in 1885, Leland and Jane Stanford set out on a six year project to plan and construct a university on the site of the Palo Alto Stock Farm as a memorial to their son. They began by granting the entire 8,180 acres to the University as an endowment. The Founding Grant stipulates that the land can never be sold, and that the proceeds of leasing the land be used to further the University's academic objectives.

In the summer of 1886, Leland Stanford brought the landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted and Francis A. Walker, the president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to Palo Alto to site the campus. Olmsted worked out the general plan for the grounds and the buildings, but the architecture of the original campus buildings was developed by a Boston architect, Charles Allerton Coolidge, whose mentor had been architect Henry Hobson Richardson. The style is now called Richardsonian Romanesque. Though the original Stanford architecture differs considerably from California Mission style from which it drew inspiration, both are derived from the Romanesque. Stone for the buildings came from the Greystone Quarry, south of San José, the source of sandstone used for many historic buildings in the Santa Clara Valley.

Stanford University was opened to its first class on October 1, 1891. Leland Stanford died less than two years later, on June 21, 1893. Over the last century the university has become one of the nation's pre-eminent educational institutions.

Stanford's endowment is attributed to the way the Stanford lands have been managed over the years. Many private residences have been built on Stanford lands under the required permission of Jane Stanford (or from the Stanford Trust after her death in 1905). The University owns the underlying land of these buildings, and residences cannot be sold to anyone outside of the Stanford community. In the early years, some of Jane Stanford's friends were given permission to build at Stanford, but later residences were restricted to faculty and staff.

The remainder of the land bore income from grazing and agricultural leases until after World War II. In the late 1940s and early 1950s, the Board of Trustees began to investigate further land development, both to meet the university's growing enrollment and to accommodate increased residential and industrial pressures in northern Santa Clara County.

The Board of Trustees reserved 6,200 acres for academic uses. Of that, 2,300 acres cover the central campus area; 1,190 acres cover land set aside for biological research, the Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve; and 2,700 acres are open or lightly used lands, such as the agricultural lands along Highway 280 and the rolling hills along Page Mill and Sand Hill Roads.

Stanford Research Park was created in 1951 in response to the demand for industrial land near university resources. Most of the 704 acre park was developed through long-term ground

leases with companies engaged in research and development. Lessees designed and constructed their own buildings with university approval of exterior architectural design. Today, the Stanford Research Park is home to more than 150 companies in electronics, software, biotechnology, and other high-tech fields. A number of law firms, financial service firms, strategic consultants, and venture capital companies also lease land.

At the northern end of campus is Stanford Shopping Center, another lessee of Stanford lands. Opened in 1956 and expanded in 1978 and 1983, the approximately 70 acre center is occupied by 140 stores, restaurants, and service outlets.

Of the 8,180 acres of Stanford lands, 5,178 acres are located within Santa Clara County. Of that, 1,161 acres are located within the City of Palo Alto, and 4,017 acres remain in the unincorporated area of the county and subject to county jurisdiction. The remaining 3,002 acres are in San Mateo County.

4.7 SOCIAL, RELIGIOUS, AND CULTURAL COMMUNITIES

Over time, a myriad of cultural overlays have evolved which give alternate or special meanings to places throughout the state and Santa Clara County. Community subgroups of all kinds, including ethnic, religious, and civic groups, may see significance in a place that may be little understood by the general public or even recognized by others in the community. These places are associated with events, patterns of development, personages, or even building styles that represent the values of the smaller community distinct from the wider surrounding context. Many of these potential resources have not been identified and evaluated, as often these social and cultural subgroups have not been documented themselves, and their values have not been related to the built environment. Sometimes the extant resources associated with these groups or important personages are modest in scale and design, and would not have been recognized in resource surveys that have tended in the past to focus on landmarks of architectural distinction or on community events or personages that are mainstream in character.

In 1998, the State of California completed an ethnic historic site survey for California in order to broaden the spectrum of community participation in historic preservation activities. This particular survey focused on five prominent ethnic groups that have extensive involvement in the development of the state: American Indians, Black Americans, Chinese Americans,

Japanese Americans, and Mexican Americans. In the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan Update currently underway by the Office of Historic Preservation, an attempt is being made to better understand and identify cultural properties associated with the diverse communities that are found throughout the state.

In Santa Clara County, for over 235 years of modern development, waves of immigrants from throughout the world have left a complex and diverse population mix. This pattern continues today as the technological boom that created Silicon Valley still remains a destination for engineers and hi-tech workers from Southeast Asia, India, the Middle East, and portions of the former Soviet Union.

In conducting a historic resource survey in such a large and diverse region as Santa Clara County, it is not possible to address its cultural diversity in a simple and understandable way that relates easily to the community development process. Although the establishment of some ethnic groups in Santa Clara County has been studied, such as the early Hispanic settlers, Chinese and Japanese immigrants, and the large Italian migration of the early twentieth century, the history of the County is filled with others who have immigrated from Croatia, Prussia, Moldavia, Dalmatia, Samoa, Chile, and elsewhere, who have contributed to the broader community, and whose traditions and cultures still survive, sometimes at neighborhood level.

While the urban areas of the county contain most of the physical manifestations of this multi-cultural history, many unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County have features that have been formed around social, cultural, and other neighborhood based activities. The significance of one-room schools, rural churches, small community halls, and ethnic neighborhoods is often greater than what appears by casual observation. The importance awarded to the families that participated in and led the formation of local institutions is evident in the local history books and folklore. The importance of local leaders who brought friends and family to live near them, cannot be overstated. Although the history of many of the county's small towns and places begins with some form of physical development, many communities were created from the need for social interaction.

Many people in Santa Clara County continue to struggle today to maintain and bring forward their identity, while others assimilate into American culture leaving only traces of their past to be appreciated by future generations. The framework for identification and preserving the

individual history of each of the discrete cultural components of our areas rich history ultimately rests with the contemporary population and their willingness to participate in the public process of development.

4.8 PARKS AND LEISURE

4.8.1 County Parks System

As the County moved away from difficult economies brought on by the Great Depression and World War II, focus turned to quality of life issues. Business was booming, almost everyone could afford an automobile, a television, and numerous labor saving home appliances. Government agencies were under pressure to provide more public services, better freeways, and more parks and recreational facilities.

The first County park properties, Stevens Creek Park and Mount Madonna Park, were acquired in the 1920s. Urged by Supervisor Charles Cooley, the supervisors purchased the first 400 acres of Stevens Creek Park in 1924 for \$27,500. Mount Madonna Park was the summer home of cattle baron Henry Miller. Located on the summit of the mountains west of Gilroy, Mount Madonna was a place where Miller could escape from business with his family and friends. After his death in 1916, the buildings fell into disrepair. During the 1920s, they were a cache for rum runners, and in the 1930s they provided a haunted house for local high school students. In need of cash, Miller's heirs put portions of the property up for sale in 1927. At the insistence of supervisors Henry Hecker and Charles Cooley, the county purchased the property for \$50,000. Additional acreage has been added to the park over the years.

In the 1950s, the supervisors' attention turned to saving the county's open space and creating county parks. The county acquired its third park in 1953, when Sada Coe Robinson donated 12,500 acres of the Henry Coe Ranch in the hills east of Morgan Hill. The County owned this property for several years before it became part of a land exchange between the County and the State in 1957. It has since become Henry W. Coe State Park, the second largest state park in California.

Responding to recommendations made by the grand jury in 1946, the Board of Supervisors began to consider expanding the county's parks and recreational facilities. In 1953, the Board of Supervisors commissioned a recreation survey that assessed existing facilities and programs.

A 1955 report made by the County Planning Department recommended that a Parks and Recreation Commission be created, that professional Parks and Recreation staff be hired, that a parks master plan be developed, and that acquisition of land and funding be sought. In September 1956, the Board established the Department of Parks and Recreation with Buford V. "Bob" Amyx as its first director. The Supervisors at that time were Arthur Brown, Sam Della Maggiore, Ed Levin, Walter Gaspar, and Oran Slaght. Passage of a bond election in 1959 made it possible to acquire property for parks.

Supervisor Ed Levin was particularly diligent in seeking property for county parks and recreational facilities. He was instrumental in laying the groundwork for the present network of regional parks. It was while he was examining potential park property near Stevens Creek Dam that he suffered a fatal heart attack on March 12, 1965. Because of his active campaign in obtaining the 478 acre Airport Park property in the east foothills above Milpitas, it was renamed Ed Levin Park in his honor in 1966. Levin had also been asked to serve on a State Department of Parks and Recreation advisory council formed to study a plan for the state park system. At the time of death, he was working with Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall on plans for acquiring a vast Alaskan national park.

Recreational boating became a popular pastime in the 1950s. One of the first tasks of the Department of Parks and Recreation was to obtain formal agreements with the water conservation districts to operate recreational facilities at the major reservoirs. Since the 1950s, a number of large recreational venues were created in South County. In 1950, the Cochrane ranch was purchased by the Santa Clara Valley Water District, and Anderson Lake was created. The lake, now part of the Santa Clara County park system, was named after conservationist Leroy Anderson. In 1969, Coyote Lake was incorporated into the Santa Clara County park system. Also in the 1960s, Supervisor Charles Quinn pushed hard for multiple-use of valley percolation ponds for recreation as well as for flood control and water conservation.

In 1972, Supervisors Victor Calvo and Dominic Cortese actively supported a charter amendment that set aside ten cents from property taxes to go into a trust fund for the acquisition and development of parks. Rod Diridon, who was then a Saratoga city council member, co-chaired this campaign. Since that time, supervisors have aggressively purchased acreage for parks throughout the county. Historic sites, such as the Malaguerra Winery in Madrone, and the Old Stone Building in Coyote, came into public ownership in the late 1970s.

The County now owns over 40,000 acres in county parks. In recent years the county has contributed money and land to the development of widely used city-owned parks. In addition the county has worked with other agencies in developing a trail network throughout the county for use of hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians.

As a result of the 1972 Park Charter Amendment and the two subsequent extensions, several of the county parks became very substantial in size. First, at the urging of Cortese, in 1976 the county purchased the historic Grant Ranch at the foot of Mount Hamilton, adding almost 10,000 acres and the historic ranch house and sport facilities. Second, with Diridon's assistance, the Sanborn Skyline Park was expanded from the original 200 acres to over 3,500 acres through a sequence of carefully negotiated acquisitions. Other parks developed include the Coyote Creek Park Chain, which extends for 15 miles north from Anderson Lake along the east side of the Santa Clara County Valley, and Uvas Canyon Park (1,049 acres) is located on the western margin of South County.

With the leadership of supervisors Geraldine Steinberg, Becky Morgan, and Dianne McKenna, much of the Catholic Church's Maryknoll Seminary and St. John's School property was acquired and added to pre-existing park lands in the hills above Cupertino to become the County's San Antonio Park. Several County parks were also expanded, such as the Baylands Park between Sunnyvale and Santa Clara, upon which the multi-diamond Twin Creeks Softball Complex was franchised. This rapid parks expansion, coupled with the efforts of the Midpeninsula Open Space District, has set aside nearly 100,000 acres in permanent open space for current and future generations.

4.8.2 Private Parks

One of the major attractions of Santa Clara County during the nineteenth century was its mild weather and beautiful scenery. Many resorts and pleasure gardens developed in San José and the surrounding mountains. Mineral springs near Saratoga became an attraction in the later 1850s and early 1860s. Several large landowners in the City of San José opened their beautifully landscaped grounds for profit and enjoyment.

Other resorts included Pacific Congress Springs near Saratoga (opened in 1866), the Gilroy Hot Springs in the hills east of Gilroy (opened in 1874), and Camp Sargent on the banks of

the Pajaro River. Streetcars and railroads made regular trips to these recreational facilities. The South Pacific Coast Railroad made scheduled excursions to Sunset Park at Wrights, the redwoods in Felton and the beach at Santa Cruz.

Luna Park, San José's first amusement park, operated from 1909 to 1920 at Berryessa Road and North Thirteenth Street. It boasted a baseball diamond, scenic railway, devil's slide, carousel, roller coaster, sideshows, carnival games, and concessions. Other private amusement parks have been opened throughout the urban areas of the county. In 2001, the Bonfante Gardens Family Theme Park opened on 28 acres of land off Hecker Pass Road in unincorporated Santa Clara County. This horticulturally-based park incorporates the renowned Tree Circus, originally a roadside attraction in Scotts Valley, Santa Cruz County. Its creator, Axel Erlandson, devised ways to graft trees into a variety of strange and unusual shapes.

4.8.3 San José Driving Park and the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds

In 1909, the racetrack associated with San José Driving Park, operated by Ray Mead, had been constructed between Tully and Umbarger Roads, east of Monterey Road. The construction of this racetrack attracted persons associated with that business/pastime to the area, including Mary A. Burke who bought the property where the old Umbarger house was located (2662 Monterey Road) about 1910 and the Macomber family who eventually purchased the track. The track accommodated both horse and automobile racing. The property would eventually become the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds (Arbuckle 1985; U.S. Census 1910; Pierce 1976).



Figure 33 San Jose Driving Park

5.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Purpose of the Heritage Resource Inventory

The Inventory is an important component of Santa Clara County's preservation planning efforts. It is a resource that informs land use and development decisions of the Santa Clara County Planning Office. Properties listed in the Inventory are subject to a demolition review process by the Historical Heritage Commission and the Board of Supervisors [Santa Clara County Code, Article 7, Section C1-91](#). Review is also required in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act to determine if any significant historic resources will be adversely impacted by proposed projects. In addition, the Planning Office considers proposals for other permits, and the Inventory provides a source for identifying properties that require special consideration in the permitting process. The Inventory may also be used to respond to inquiries about the development potential of properties, and to educate the public of Santa Clara County's historic, cultural and architectural heritage.

5.2 Maintaining the Inventory

The HHC, in conjunction with the Board of Supervisors, maintains the Inventory. The Inventory is intended to be dynamic and to change as resources are added or revisions are made to existing listings. Formal procedures for this process are in ordinance form. The Inventory is not a definitive list of all of Santa Clara County's historic resources. The Inventory only includes those properties located within the unincorporated areas of the county and many properties in this vast area have not yet been identified. It is the goal of the HHC and the Historic preservation Program to continue this important survey work to evaluate the historic significance of properties throughout the county.

5.3 Historic Resource Surveys

Historic resource surveys are the foundation of preservation planning across the country, and form the basis for many preservation-related decisions. Surveys identify, record, and evaluate properties and provide a local base of information about community history and architecture. They create a written and photographic record of historic places that is important in recognizing, and preserving physical aspects of the past and a community's memory. Survey files are maintained as a permanent record to assist in evaluating properties for nomination to

local, state and federal registers, and facilitating decision-making about the potential impact of public and private projects affecting historic properties. Surveys can also educate and raise awareness, directing new attention to familiar sights, or forgotten places, and focusing new investment in those resources.

5.4 Summary of this Context Statement

The County of Santa Clara Historic Context Statement lists historical resources that represent the major historical patterns, significant personages, and architectural features that shaped Santa Clara County. The predominantly agricultural nature of the historic County is embodied in many areas that continue to be economically viable as agricultural properties, most of these in the South County. The extant farmhouses, farm buildings, and rural industrial facilities in these areas remain important reminders of the past. Additional contextual themes that represent the historical development of Santa Clara County are identified in the diverse resources that are listed in the inventory, including residences, resort and recreational structures, churches, and community buildings.

The Historic Context Statement serves as a foundation for future identification and registration of historic properties in the county. Many resources listed in the Heritage Resource Inventory are eligible for designation as County Landmarks and/or listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Many can also be nominated to the California Register of Historical Resources, the official state listing of historical and cultural resources that contribute to our common California heritage. The identification and characterization of these resources provide a means to plan for the future, insuring that the preservation of the significant physical aspects of Santa Clara County's past is considered sensitively as a part of the ongoing community development.

5.5 Update on Goals, Policies, and Regulations

On April 18, 2000, the Board of Supervisors accepted the "Final Report of the Historical Heritage Assessment Project: Improving the Effectiveness of Santa Clara County's Historical Heritage Activities." The report calls for the creation of a system which functions effectively and efficiently when dealing with historic properties in the county.

Subsequent to the Board of Supervisors' action and in keeping with the Board of Supervisors' direction, the Historic Preservation Ordinance was prepared to improve the organization and clarity of county regulations pertaining to historic properties in a variety of ways:

- Enhances the implementation of the County's General Plan policies:
 - Inventory and Evaluate Heritage Resources;
 - Prevent or Minimize Adverse Impacts on Heritage Resources; and
 - Restore, Enhance and Commemorate Resources.
- Defines the roles of the Historical Heritage Commission and clarifies its powers and duties.
- Clarifies the roles and content of the existing Heritage Resource Inventory.
- Provides review procedures and criteria for designating landmarks, heritage properties and heritage trees.
- Provides timelines, sequences of steps in process, necessary findings, and appeal procedures for the treatment of historic properties.
- Protects designated resources by providing a framework for development review appropriate to the level of designation of the resource.
- Facilitates the County's compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act with regard to historic properties by providing a process for identifying eligible resources and reviewing proposed work on designated and eligible landmarks, heritage properties and heritage trees to avoid adverse impacts to historic properties.
- Enables the County to apply for Certified Local Government (CLG) status through the provision of a comprehensive historic preservation ordinance. The CLG program encourages the preservation of cultural resources by promoting a partnership among local governments, the State of California, and the National Park Service, which is responsible for the National Historic Preservation Program. Becoming a CLG can provide local staff and commissions grant monies, technical training, and more meaningful leadership roles in the preservation of the community's cultural heritage. Local interests and concerns are integrated into the official planning and decision-making processes at the earliest possible opportunity.

6.0 CONTACT INFORMATION

County of Santa Clara Historic Context Statement (2011)

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Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Commission (see above) (2011)

The Historical Heritage Commission (HHC) was established in 1973 by the Board of Supervisors in order to protect, preserve, and promote the appreciation, recognition and preservation of historic resources in Santa Clara County. The HHC serves in an advisory capacity to the Board of Supervisors. It is comprised of 11 volunteer members, with 2 commissioners representing each of the 5 county supervisor districts and 1 member serving at-large. The HHC meets the third Thursday of the month in the Board of Supervisors Chambers on the first floor of the County Government Center at 70 West Hedding St. in San José. Commission meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. and are open to the public. Monthly meeting agendas are available on the Planning Office web site. Contact Priya Cherukuru for placement on the Commission agenda.

California State Office of Historic Preservation (2011)

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