



# TRI-VALLEY DIRECTORY OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES AND PLACES OF INTEREST

*The past is not the property of historians; it is a public possession. It belongs to anyone who is aware of it, and it grows by being shared. ...*

*Dr. Walter Havighurst*

The material in this searchable directory was extracted, often intact, from a number of sources, including internet sites, tour guides, articles, and books already written by our local authors and historical agencies. We wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to those who have so freely shared their expertise and knowledge. Among those who have made material available to the compiler of this directory are Ann Pfaff Doss, Anne Homan, Anna Siig, Bill Nale, Charles Huff, Gary Drummond, Richard Finn, George Anderson, Mary Jo Wainwright, Victoria Christensen, Shelly Lewis, Isabel Ziegler, Museum of San Ramon Valley, Livermore Heritage Guild, Museum On Main, Dublin Heritage Center, Blackhawk Auto Museum, Livermore Area Recreation and Park Department, Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society, Pleasanton Public Library, Alameda County Library-Dublin Branch, Contra Costa County Library-Danville Branch, Livermore Public Library, San Ramon Public Library, Maxine Trost, Forest Homes Historic Park and the Glass House Museum, and the Tri-Valley Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

The Tri-Valley History Council, <http://www.l-ags.org/HistoryCouncil/>, is a network of local history centers, historic sites, libraries, museums and genealogical societies whose historical fields of interest include the eastern part of Alameda County and the southeastern part of Contra Costa County, California.

We hope you find this directory useful and enjoy your exploration of the Tri-Valley!

Terry Lee Berry and the Tri-Valley History Council, September 2011.

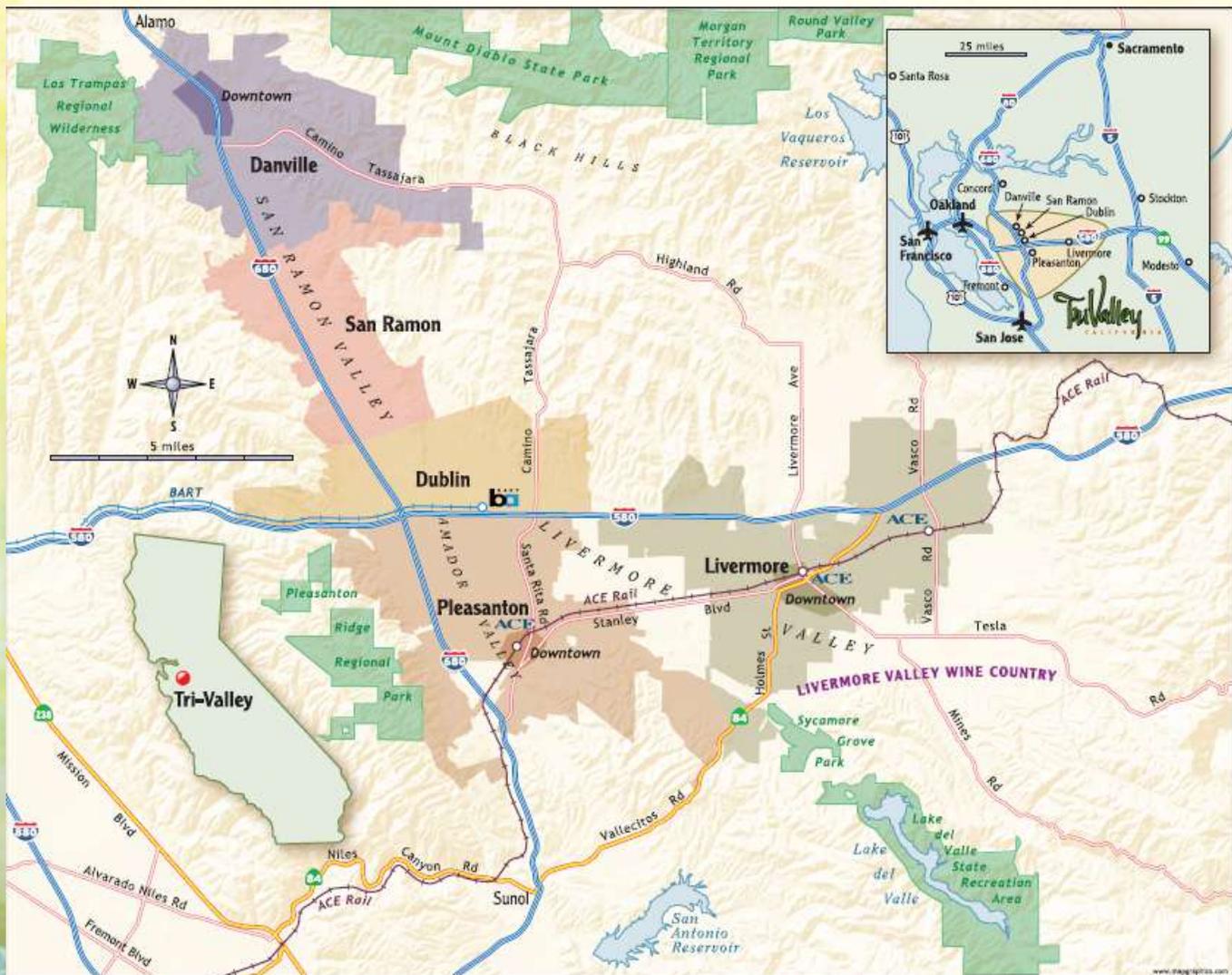
# TABLE OF CONTENTS



MAP OF THE TRI-VALLEY	4
ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS	5
LIBRARIES	16
PARKS	23
HISTORICAL WINERIES	34
SITES OF HISTORIC INTEREST	
Danville	42
Dublin	83
Livermore	92
Pleasanton	136
San Ramon	176
Sunol	180
BIBLIOGRAPHY, LOCAL	185

# MAP OF THE TRI-VALLEY

The Tri-Valley region, located in the eastern San Francisco Bay Area, consists of three adjacent valleys: Amador, Livermore, and San Ramon. The Tri-Valley cities of Danville, San Ramon, Dublin, Pleasanton, Sunol, and Livermore provide a variety of attractions for visitors, including historic downtowns, modern shopping areas, wineries, and regional parks.



# ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS



The following organizations collect and preserve historical source information.

# Blackhawk Auto Museum

3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle • Danville, CA  
925.736.2277 <http://www.blackhawkmuseum.org>

The Blackhawk Museum, a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation, was established to ensure that significant automotive treasures blending art, technology, culture and history would be exhibited for public enjoyment and educational enrichment. Blackhawk displays about 90 cars, many of which are on loan from Museum friends in many different parts of the world. Car collectors enjoy sharing their automobiles and Blackhawk has the most dramatic presentation of coach-built cars in the world, without exception.

An Automotive Research Library and the Museum's shop and bookstore are located just off the Main Lobby.

Our library is updated on a continuous basis and contains a great deal of information to satisfy the needs and questions of auto enthusiasts. We love books, magazines, and miscellaneous reference material dating back to the beginning of the auto industry.



Photo Courtesy of Blackhawk Museum

# Dublin Heritage Park

6600 Donlon Way • Dublin, CA  
925.452.2100 <http://www.ci.dublin>

The mission of the Dublin Heritage Center is to collect, preserve and interpret the material culture of Dublin and to provide an historical and cultural focal point that will enrich the community.



Photo Courtesy of Terrv Berrv

The Center is home to the 1856 Murray Schoolhouse, 1859 St. Raymond's Church, a Pioneer Cemetery, and the Kolb Family Ranch properties. The park grounds are open during daylight hours, and the museum is open six days a week. Admission is free during regular hours.

The original Murray School House, built in 1856, houses the permanent collection of artifacts from the everyday life of Dublin's early settlers, dating from the early 1800s to the present. Throughout the year, the Schoolhouse

Gallery features changing exhibitions that reflect a broad scope of topics organized by the staff or on loan from other institutions.

The Center's collection includes photographs, documents, letters, books, yearbooks, clothing and textiles, furniture, oral histories, and memorabilia from Dublin. Research is by appointment. The museum is open Wednesday-Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

# Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society

<http://www.l-ags.org>

The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society was formed in June 1977 by students of a Livermore Adult Education Class, who wanted to help beginning genealogists start genealogical research, exchange information with fellow members, learn more about sources available for genealogical research, and undertake genealogy-related public service projects.

Our membership has a combined experience of many hundreds of years in the field of genealogy. All of us want to share our experience with you, and in turn to learn from your experience. A unique gift from L-AGS is the "Master Online Index of names associated with the history of eastern Alameda County."



Our General Membership Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Programs have featured genealogists, historians, authors, and business people who can offer insights into the history of the Livermore-Amador Valley. Some of our more popular meetings are those in which members share their recent genealogy breakthroughs with the audience, or seek help from the audience on research "brick walls" that have them stumped. Please check our website, [www.L-AGS.org](http://www.L-AGS.org) for more information on our special events, special focus groups, membership, our genealogy collection, and our research desk at the Pleasanton Library.

# Livermore Heritage Guild

2155 Third Street • Livermore, CA  
925.449.9927 <http://www.livermorehistory.org>

In 1973, the Livermore Heritage Guild was founded in reaction to the impending demolition of the Southern Pacific Depot building. A group of local citizens realized that there were a number of historically valuable buildings and sites that would disappear in the name of progress if no one organized to prevent it. This led to the founding of the Guild. Our goal is expressed by our motto: "Helping save yesterday for tomorrow." To that end, the Guild collects and preserves historical artifacts, documents, photographs, oral histories, newspapers, and other information resources for those who are interested in the history of Livermore.

The Guild maintains a History Center in the Carnegie Building at 3rd and K Streets in Livermore. Although research appointments are recommended, a docent is always in attendance to assist visitors with access to information in our archives.



Photo Courtesy of Bill Nale

# Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Archives

7000 East Avenue • Livermore, CA  
925.422.6539

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory opened in 1952 as a nuclear weapons research laboratory. The Laboratory also conducts research in biology, energy, climate, and national security and has supported supercomputing, international treaty negotiations, disaster response, and a variety of other national priorities.

The LLNL Archives holds materials documenting Laboratory science, administration, and staff activities, including documents, photographs, internal newspapers, videos, and artifacts.

While the Archives' primary focus is supporting Lab programs and personnel, the general public can request many materials relating to the history of the Lab, the Tri-valley, and its inhabitants by calling 925-422-6539 or emailing <mailto:trost5@llnl.gov>.



Photo Courtesy of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

# Museum of San Ramon Valley

255 Railroad Avenue • Danville, CA  
925.837.3750 <http://www.museumsrv.org>

The Museum of the San Ramon Valley was founded as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization in 1985. The Museum is housed in the restored 1891 Southern Pacific Depot in Danville on Railroad Avenue at Prospect.

The Museum of the San Ramon Valley is dedicated to preserving and celebrating our rich history and heritage. The collections and exhibits reflect our human experiences, institutions, and cultures that were shaped by the valley's landscape, environment, and early settlers.

The Valley's past is featured in a permanent exhibit that includes artifacts, an historical narrative frieze, and pictures of historic buildings. The Museum collects, stores, and protects artifacts from the San Ramon Valley. Archival research is available by appointment.

In addition to a permanent exhibit on Valley history, the Museum sponsors revolving exhibits and guided tours, including tours of the Alamo Cemetery and Old Town Danville.

School children are served with special Indian Life programs for fourth graders in the fall and the Tassajara One-Room School program for third graders in the spring. Classrooms are invited to tour the various exhibits.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Museum On Main

603 Main Street • Pleasanton, CA  
925.462.2766 <http://www.museumonmain.org>

Tuesday – Saturday: 10  
a.m.-4 p.m.  
Sunday: 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

The Museum on Main,  
located in historic  
downtown  
Pleasanton, tells the  
fascinating stories of  
those who came  
before— illustrating  
characters, places,  
and events that have  
shaped the



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

community. Founded in 1963 as the Amador-Livermore Valley Historical Society, the Museum on Main is a non-profit organization dedicated to linking the past to the future by preserving, clarifying, and disseminating information about history specific to the region.

The Museum on Main invites the public, school groups, and families to enjoy exhibitions and programs throughout the year. Permanent and temporary exhibitions focus on regional history, culture, and art. A variety of guided walking tours, from Local History to Ghost Walks, are available.

Museum on Main actively works to acquire and preserve historic artifacts, documents, and photographs that enhance the role of the Museum on Main as a cultural resource. Researchers may make appointments to access the museum library and extensive archive of historical documents and photographs. Museum on Main welcomes visitors and invites the public to come learn more about the region's past, present, and future!

# Pacific Locomotive Association

5550 Niles Canyon Road • Sunol, CA  
925.862.9063 <http://www.ncry.org>

In an effort to preserve our Pacific Coast railroad history for the enjoyment of future generations, the Pacific Locomotive Association has been collecting rare and unusual railroad equipment since the early 1960s.

Thanks to the assistance of the Union Pacific Railroad, 8 January 2005 saw almost all of our collection come together at the Niles Canyon Railway. Completing a journey that began 18 years earlier, twenty-two locomotives and cars traveled to Niles Canyon from the old Oakland Army Base via Hearst siding, our rail connection to the outside world that was completed in September 2004. We were able to use our own motive power for the move, with long-time member Lou Bradas serving as the engineer. The public is encouraged to come see the many interesting pieces of this collection, including our archival materials, when you visit the Niles Canyon Railway.



Photo Courtesy of Bill Nale

# San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

<http://www.srvgensoc.org>

The San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society (SRVGS) was formed in 1985 and now has over 170 members. Meetings are held in the facilities of the Danville Family History Center at Stone Valley and Smith Roads, Alamo, California from 10:00 a.m. to noon on the third Tuesday of every month except August and December. Guests are welcome. Each meeting includes a speaker who is expert in some aspect of family research, as well as a member who shares a significant breakthrough. SRVGS conducts educational classes for its members and has various special interest groups. These include: English, German, Irish, Scandinavian, DNA, and Publishing, as well as three brands of Genealogy software.

SRVGS members enjoy the expertise of the Family History Center staff and the vastness of their resources. A monthly Newsletter is published, and SRVGS's many reference books are housed at the Danville Library.



Photo Courtesy of San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

# Tri-Valley Heritage Families Project

What Tri-Valley family was involved with the Donner party in the murderous winter of 1846? What Tri-Valley family was killed in the most deadly U.S. avalanche? What Tri-Valley cemetery was partly washed away in a flood? What Tri-Valley pioneer had a city, county, and high school named after him? What Tri-Valley pioneer had a store and road named after him? What Tri-Valley pioneer was killed over a chicken? These are just a few of the questions raised as we research Tri-Valley Heritage Families – families that were in the Tri-Valley area before about 1910.

The information in this privately maintained project is provided to all Tri-Valley history centers, genealogical groups, museums, libraries, historians, and other interested researchers, including descendants of early Valley families. We are collecting data on pioneer families of the Amador, Livermore, and San Ramon valleys – from Alamo to Sunol and from Dublin to Altamont.



Photo Courtesy of Richard Finn

We have information on over 8000 Tri-Valley families in our data base. We are in contact with descendants of a number of pioneer Tri-Valley families, and each has given their support and has promised more information.

If you have queries about a pioneer family or information to share please contact Richard Finn at <mailto:rwfinn@wecare.net>.

# LIBRARIES



The following libraries maintain a collection of books, brochures, and newspaper clippings related to the history of their communities and the Tri-Valley region.

# Danville Public Library

400 Front Street • Danville, CA

925.837.4889 <http://ccclib.org/locations/danville.html>

The Danville Community Library is one of 26 libraries in the Contra Costa County Library System. Library service in Danville was originally established in 1906 when the Danville Grange borrowed 50 books from the State Library. The first Danville Library opened in the Improvement Club above the Post Office on Front Street (then Main Street) on 9 November 1913. The Danville Library returned to Front Street at its current location at 400 Front Street on 4 August 1996.

The Danville Library boasts a strong and diverse collection of over 84,000 items including books, music CDs, DVDs, audio CDs, large print, periodicals, Spanish language books, Chinese language collection, local history and California history circulating and reference materials, and a genealogy reference collection in partnership

with the San Ramon Valley Genealogy Society. The Danville Library also offers 33 public Internet research workstations, 6 catalog computers, and 2 early literacy workstations. The Danville Library is also proud to be able to coordinate and host over 200 free library programs a year including historical, art, educational, travel, and literary events for customers of all ages including children, teens, adults, and seniors.



# Dougherty Station Library

17017 Bollinger Canyon Road • San Ramon, CA  
925.973.3380 <http://ccclib.org/locations/dougherty.html>



The Dougherty Station Library opened in 2007 and is a joint-use library serving the needs of San Ramon's growing population and the Diablo Valley College, San Ramon campus. The joint-use partnership includes the City of San Ramon, Diablo Valley College, and Contra Costa County Library. The library building is designed to incorporate new technology and efficient service. Library collections focus on the needs of children, teens, and community college students, and include a well-rounded collection, along with resources on California history and local regions. The library includes unique seating areas for young people and families, a community room for library programs, study rooms, computer lab, free wireless Internet access and 44 computers for public use.

# Dublin Public Library

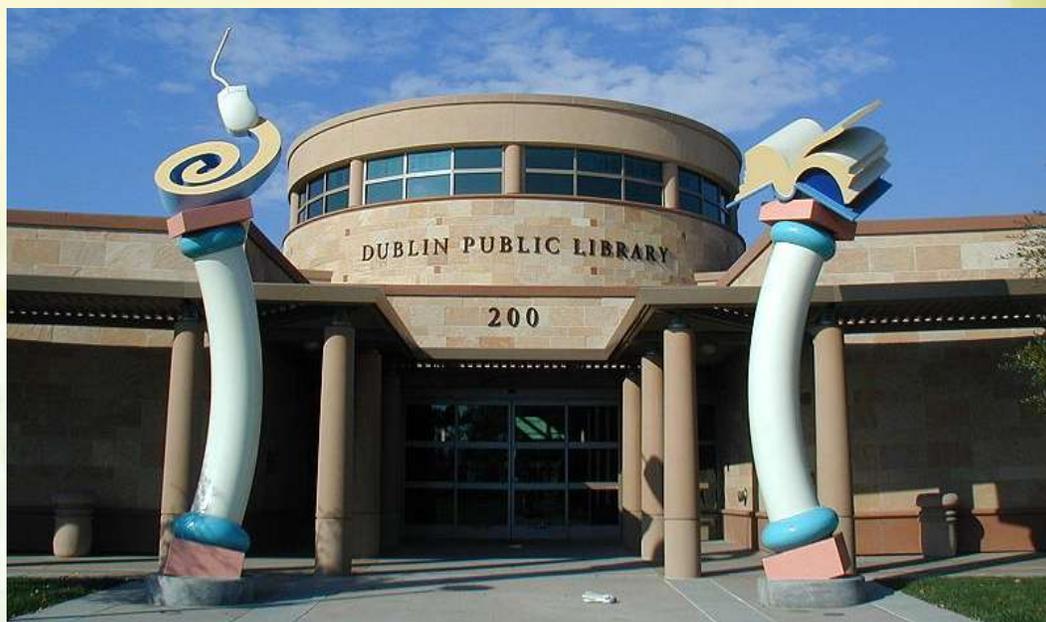
200 Civic Plaza • Dublin, CA  
925.803.7252 <http://www.aclibrary.org>

The Dublin branch of Alameda County Library opened on May 21, 1914, “occupying a room” in the historic Green Store, built in 1860. The handmade book, [A History of Alameda County](#), (1939) describes the library: “Right out in the country at the four corners of the crossroads, the Dublin branch library was established in May, 1914. To the public opening, people came from all about in such numbers one wondered where they came from.”

The Library’s local history collection consists of a newspaper clipping file, a few books, a few reels of microfilm for the Valley Times covering the 1970s and 1980s, the Dublin High School yearbooks from 1969+, and the clipping and photo albums collected by former Branch Librarian and local historian, Virginia Bennett, covering Dublin from about 1965 to 1979.

Virginia Bennett is the author of the book [Dublin Reflections](#). In 2007, the Library partnered with the Dublin Heritage Museum to digitize 200 historical photographs as part of the California Local History Digital Resources

Project. Those photographs are now accessible online, through Calisphere (<http://www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu/>)



# Livermore Public Library

Civic Center Library

1188 South Livermore Avenue • Livermore, CA  
925.373.5500 <http://www.livermorelibrary.net>



Rincon Library:  
725 Rincon Avenue  
925.373.5540

Springtown Library:  
998 Bluebell Drive  
925.373.5517

Dating back to a private library founded in 1878, the Livermore Public Library was formally established in 1896 by the Ladies League of Progress. Originally located at 1158 West First St, this library started with 3,800 books purchased from the Odd Fellows Hall Association Library in Oakland, and was supported by gifts, benefits, subscriptions and a small gift shop. The second location for the library was a new building at 2155 Third Street, funded in part by the Andrew Carnegie Foundation. Designed by William H. Weeks, this was the library's home until 1966. Funded by an electorate-approved bond issue, a new library was built on the Civic Center site on South Livermore Ave. The current Civic Center Library, opened in May, 2004, was funded by a joint library, park district and school bond measure. It houses over 250,000 items in a 56,000 square foot, state of the art facility. Included in the library collection are microfilms of Tri-Valley newspapers and a small assortment of genealogy and local history materials.

# Pleasanton Public Library

400 Old Bernal Avenue • Pleasanton, CA  
925.931.3400 [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library.html](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library.html)

One of the first projects of the Pleasanton's Women's Improvement Club was to establish a reading room. In 1909, it was opened to the public. From these modest beginnings, the Pleasanton Public Library has grown to keep pace with the City of Pleasanton, as it changed from an agricultural town to a suburban residential community and modern business center.

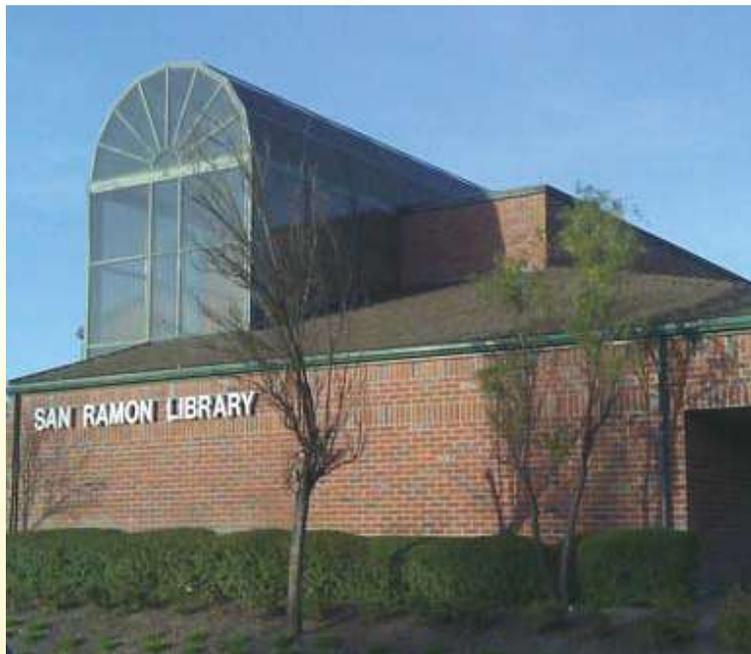
Today the Pleasanton Public Library is located in a 30,000 square foot building that holds more than 169,000 items in its collection. Included in its holdings are books related to the history of the Tri-Valley, microfilm of the local newspaper the *Pleasanton Weekly*, various documents and studies published by the City of Pleasanton, a clippings file organized according to historic topic, a genealogy collection of books, CDs, and a number of online databases.



Photo Courtesy of Terrv Lee Berrv

# San Ramon Library

100 Montgomery Street • San Ramon, CA  
925.973.2850 <http://ccclib.org/locations/sanramon.html>



The San Ramon Library opened in 1980 and is a vital center of community activity. The library is located in the Marketplace Shopping Center across the street from Central Park and the San Ramon Community Center. San Ramon Library is particularly proud of its jazz collection, which includes biographical and historical jazz books and resources, audio-visual materials, and serial subscriptions. The San Ramon Library also presents a yearly “Jazz in the Library” concert series, currently in its fifteenth year. The library offers a large children’s area, teen area, and makes available public access computers and wireless Internet access. The general collection includes materials in a variety of formats that support the educational and entertainment needs of the community.

# PARKS



The following parks are known to have sites of historical interest or historical landscapes.

# Alviso Adobe Community Park

3465 Old Foothill Road • Pleasanton, CA

925.931.3483 [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/recreation/alviso-adobe.html](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/recreation/alviso-adobe.html)

The theme of this seven-acre community park and historic and interpretive site is “A Window to the Past.” The main entryway frames the window, taking visitors back through three eras of the site’s history: Ohlone encampment, Santa Rita Rancho, and the Meadowlark Dairy.



The path to the adobe winds by an Ohlone grinding rock, heritage oaks, and native plants. It contains a timeline, which enables visitors to learn as they walk. The park’s foothill location offers spectacular views of the valley and includes gardens and orchards.

Site buildings are the Alviso Adobe, constructed in 1854, re-creations of the bunkhouse for the milking staff, and the milking barn. All are outfitted to reflect the 1920s, when the Meadowlark Dairy, California’s first certified dairy, was established.

The park is open to the public every day from dawn to dusk. Buildings are open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. Weekend programs are listed in the Pleasanton Activities Guide, and tours can be arranged with the City’s naturalist.

# Brushy Peak

3894 Laughlin Road • Livermore, CA  
925.373.5705 [http://www.ebparks.org/parks/brushy\\_peak](http://www.ebparks.org/parks/brushy_peak)

Brushy Peak Regional Preserve is an East Bay Regional Park District park. This 1,833-acre preserve offers eight miles of trails for hiking, horseback riding, and mountain biking.

Within the preserve is Brushy Peak, a 1,702-foot landmark at the juncture of the San Francisco Bay Area, the California Delta, and the Central Valley. The peak and its environs have been recognized as sacred by generations of native Californians. Because of its geographical position, the area lies at the center of a network of ancient trade routes that linked Bay Area Ohlones, Bay Miwoks, and Northern Valley Yokuts, who were drawn to the area for economic, social, and ceremonial events.

During California's Gold Rush period, the rocky outcrops of Brushy Peak became retreats for bandits, and a favorite retreat of the legendary Mexican bandit Joaquin Murrieta. During the 1870s, homesteads were settled on and around Brushy Peak, and the land itself was probably grazed as part of the Rancho de los Vaqueros.

Between the 1890s and World War I, local ranch families held picnics and dances around the rock outcrops, and in 1900 and 1901 San Francisco's Bohemian Club held outings on the peak for prominent local citizens. During the 1920s and 1930s Joseph Laughlin built farm buildings on the property. What are probably the remains of the buildings are seen in the parkland today.

The park is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. unless otherwise posted. Visitors desiring to access the top of Brushy Peak and the northern part of the preserve should contact LARPD directly at (925) 373-5707 for information on guided tours.



Photo Courtesy of George Draper

# Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area

18600 Corral Hollow Road, Tracy, CA  
925.447.9027 <http://ohv.parks.ca.gov>

Carnegie SVRA is one of the Bay Area's most popular places to ride or drive an off-highway motor vehicle. In the 1960s the Carnegie Cycle Park provided a setting for motorcyclists to test their off-road skills. The site was purchased by the state in 1979 and Carnegie SVRA opened in 1980.

One hundred years ago, however, Carnegie was an industrial center which provided the building materials for a growing state. Constructed in 1902, by 1910 Carnegie Brick and Pottery was shipping up to 110,000 "Carnegie" bricks daily. The company also produced architectural terra



Photo Courtesy of Dan Mosier

cotta used to decorate new buildings. Carnegie's legacy can be seen in stately brick buildings such as the Oakland Hotel, the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum, and the Carnegie Libraries in Livermore and Lodi.

When the business failed in 1916, the buildings were torn down. On 27 May 1917 the tall smokestacks at the plant were dynamited as a small crowd stood watching. The foundations of the Carnegie Brick and Pottery Company are still visible in the park today. Uphill from the brickworks site, the remains of a brick and stone lime kiln and mine may be seen. The park is moving forward with plans to make these sites more accessible to visitors.

# Eugene O'Neill

## National Historic Site

P.O. Box 280 • Danville, CA  
925.838-0249 [http:// www.nps.gov/euon](http://www.nps.gov/euon)

Eugene Gladstone O'Neill, the only Nobel Prize winning playwright from the United States and the architect of modern American theater, lived at Tao House in the hills above Danville from 1937 to 1944. It was at this site that he wrote his final and most successful plays: *The Iceman Cometh*, *A Long Day's Journey into Night*, and *A Moon for the Misbegotten*.

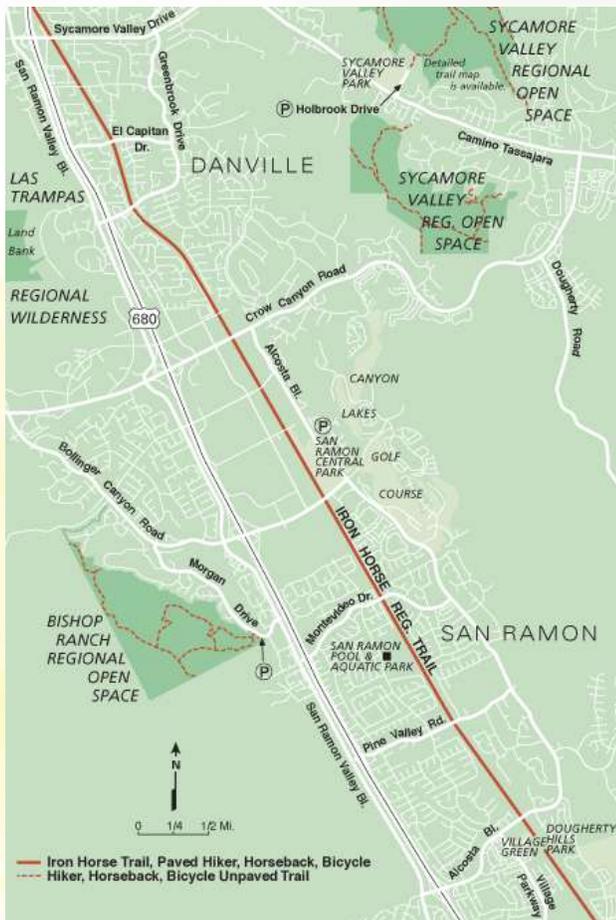


This 13.19 acre site, acquired by the National Park Service in 1979, includes the historic home built by the O'Neill's, a restored Taoist courtyard, a collection of period and original furnishings, walnut and almond orchards, pre- and post-O'Neill barns and O'Neill's swimming pool. Working cooperatively with the Eugene O'Neill Foundation, the park commemorates O'Neill's contribution to American literature by offering guided tours as well as artistic and community educational programs for the public.

For more information regarding public programs and/or scheduled and drop-in tours please visit [http:// www.nps.gov/euon](http://www.nps.gov/euon) or call 925.838-0249.

# Iron Horse Regional Trail

[http://www.ebparks.org/parks/trails/iron\\_horse](http://www.ebparks.org/parks/trails/iron_horse)

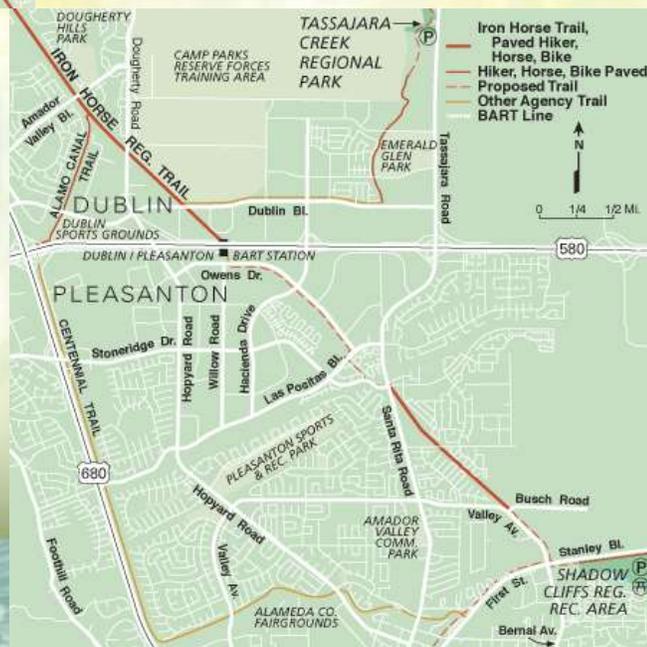


This multi-use, whole-access trail between the cities of Concord and Dublin follows the Southern Pacific Railroad right-of-way established in 1891 and abandoned in 1977.

The completed Iron Horse Regional Trail will span the distance from Livermore in Alameda County to Suisun Bay in Contra Costa County, a distance of 33 miles, connecting two counties and 12 cities.

Representing interagency cooperation and a community-wide effort by individuals and groups, this trail creates an important recreational and commute component for the communities it serves.

The 20-foot-wide trail connects residential and commercial areas, business parks, schools, public transportation (BART, County Connection), open space and parks, regional trails, and community facilities.



# Las Trampas Regional Wilderness

18012 Bollinger Canyon Road • San Ramon, CA  
[http://www.ebparks.org/parks/las\\_trampas](http://www.ebparks.org/parks/las_trampas)

Las Trampas Regional Wilderness offers over 5,000 acres of wilderness and a trail system that allows hikers, bikers, and horseback riders to enjoy its remote and rugged areas. The park's size and terrain allow visitors a feeling of privacy and escape from urban hustle and bustle.

Las Trampas is Spanish for "The Traps" or "The Snares." According to Erwin G. Gudde's *California Place Names*, traps were once set in the hills by native Californians to catch elk. Historical records indicate that antelope and mountain lions were plentiful during the last century.

Two major Bay Area faults – the Las Trampas and Bollinger faults – account for the uplift and exposure of geological formations that hold remnants of ancient beach and shoreline. Fossil bearing compressed rocks and rock layers can be seen at the top of the park's ridges. Stone outcroppings on Rocky Ridge are beautifully sculptured by the wind and colored by many lichen species. Wildflowers abound in season and are especially beautiful after a rain.

The Madrone Trail, at the park's northeast section in Danville, goes by the Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site. Las Trampas Park gates are open typically from dawn to dusk unless otherwise posted. An outside parking area is also available during park hours 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. There is no fee.

Bring plenty of water for yourself, your dogs, and your horses when visiting the park.

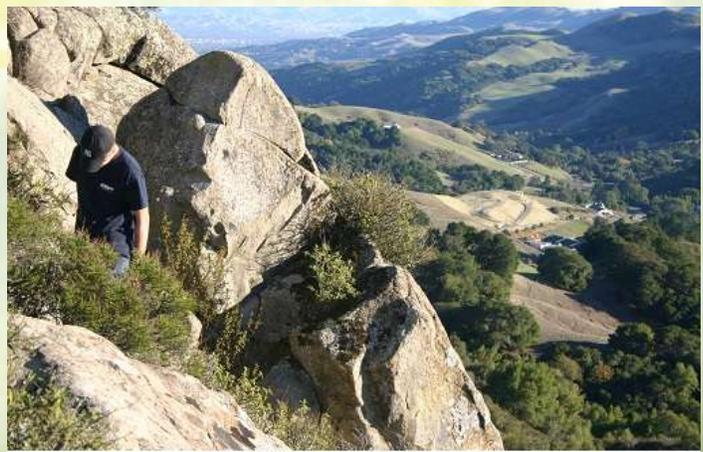


Photo Courtesy of Shelly Lewis

# Mount Diablo

96 Mitchell Canyon Road • Clayton, CA  
925.837.2525 [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

Mount Diablo State Park is one of the ecological treasures of the San Francisco Bay Area. At 3,849 feet above sea-level, it provides extraordinary views of the Tri-Valley region. Discover the mountain's beautiful wildflowers, its extensive trail system, fascinating wildlife, and distinctive rock formations. View the stars from its lofty heights, ride bikes to its summit, or explore the more remote trails by horseback.

Mount Diablo, believed to be the creation point for the Miwok people, is a sacred mountain to California native people. Archaeological studies indicate that, immediately below the summit, generations of Indians rendezvoused annually for intertribal ceremonies.

Mount Diablo was also a critical reference point for Spanish explorers in the eighteenth century and for American trappers and settlers in the nineteenth century.

The Park's Visitor Center is located in the historic stone building atop Mount Diablo's highest peak. The tower was constructed during the late 1930s of sandstone blocks quarried in the park. The Mitchell Canyon Information Center, on the north side of the mountain, displays exhibits that chronicle the history of the park. A rock wall with instructional video examines the geological forces which created the mountain and a diorama offers an overview of the park's ecosystems and its cultural history.



# Pleasanton Ridge

Foothill Boulevard. • Pleasanton, CA

<http://www.ebparks.org/parks/pleasanton>

This beautiful 6,500-acre parkland on the oak-covered ridge overlooking Pleasanton and the Livermore Valley from the west is a favorite destination for hikers, equestrians, and cyclists.



Photo courtesy of Dreama Little

The park occupies Pleasanton Ridge and beyond. To the northwest it spills down off Pleasanton Ridge into upper Kilkare Canyon, where it continues up onto Sunol Ridge, finally terminating at its westernmost corner in Stoneybrook Canyon. Inside the park, elevations exceed 1,600 feet.

Thermalito Trail runs along the west side of the park, overlooking Kilkare

Canyon. The trail is named after the Thermal Fruit Company, which cultivated non-irrigated orchards of apricot, cherry, prunes, and almonds in the southern area of Pleasanton Ridge above the town of Sunol. The company operated from 1904 until the early 1930s, producing dried fruits. In that area of the park, one can still see the faint marks on some hillsides from the now-gone rows of trees, or of vineyards that also existed at various times.

Another popular trail is Olive Grove Trail, running just north of the intersection of Ridgeline and Thermalito trails. It passes through lovely historic olive tree orchards. The orchards were planted between about 1890 and the 1920s. There is no historic record of who planted these trees.

Park gates are open typically from dawn to dusk unless otherwise posted. An outside parking area is also available during park hours 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. There is no fee. Mountain biking is especially popular at this park.

# Ravenswood

2647 Arroyo Road • Livermore, CA  
925.443.0238

Ravenswood was built by Christopher A. Buckley Sr., who was known as the "Blind Boss" of San Francisco politics in the 1870s and 1880s. While it served as a summer home for the Buckley family from 1885 to 1920, it was also one of the larger early vineyards in the Livermore Valley, with 100 acres in grapes and winery production of 500,000 gallons per year. In 1931, the estate was acquired by a Catholic order, the Redemptorist Fathers. Called "Villa San Clemente" by the priests, Ravenswood served as their religious retreat for more than 30 years. In 1968, Ravenswood was purchased by developer Masud Mehran, who gave the core 32.6 acres to be used as a park. The 1891 Main House and 1885 Tank House were restored by LARPD in 1979. The 1885 Cottage was restored in 1986. Ravenswood is on the National Register of Historic Places, is a State of California Historical Point of Interest, and is a City of Livermore Historic Preservation Landmark Site. Free public tours are given by costumed docents on the second and fourth Sundays of each month (except the fourth Sunday in December), from noon to 4 p.m.



Courtesy of the Livermore Heritage Guild

# Vasco Caves Regional Preserve

<http://www.ebparks.org/parks/vasco>

Vasco Caves Regional Preserve is home to a stunning and unique combination of resources. Spectacular rock outcrops break suddenly from the rolling eastern foothills of Mount Diablo, providing magnificent scenery for hikers and geologists alike. Though ancient, the Preserve's resources are extraordinarily fragile and exist today because of the land's isolation and past efforts to keep it secret.

The Preserve is home to endangered red-legged frogs, tiger salamanders, and fairy shrimp and is habitat for kit foxes, eagles, and a variety of nesting raptors. Its robust grasslands are a successful demonstration of native bunchgrass restoration using sheep grazing. The archaeological sites of Vasco Caves Regional Preserve contain Indian rock art, part of a complex that reaches back nearly 10,000 years.

Vasco Caves Regional Preserve exists because of the combined efforts of the East Bay Regional Park District and the Contra Costa Water District. Because of the sensitivity of Vasco Caves' resources-rare, state- and federally listed plant and wildlife species, fragile rock outcrops, and Native American archaeological sites- all access is by advance reservation guided tours only. The Preserve is not open to general public access. The



Photo Courtesy of East Bay Regional Park District

guided tours stage from Round Valley Regional Preserve in Brentwood or Brushy Peak Regional Preserve in Livermore aboard Park District-provided bus transportation. There is a fee. For tour information and reservations, call 1-888-EBPARKS or 1-888-327-2757, press option 2, then 3.

# HISTORICAL WINERIES



# Concannon Winery

4590 Tesla Road • Livermore, CA

James Concannon had a successful business as a rubber stamp salesman, so successful that his territory ranged from the Canadian border to Mexico. In the spring of 1883 he decided to buy 47 acres of vineyard land off Vineyard Avenue in Livermore, and he planted his first vines that fall. He also recognized that there was a great and regular need for sacramental wine, so he sent to France for white wine cuttings and began serving that market. From the early 1890s until Prohibition, Concannon Vineyards shipped both bottled and bulk wine as far as the East Coast.

In 1958, the winery became a California Historical Landmark.

In 2002, the vineyard was sold to The Wine Group, a San Francisco based company. The sale included 170 acres of vineyards and the historic winery.



# Cresta Blanca

5050 Arroyo Road • Livermore, CA

The quality of wine being produced in California in the 1870s and early 1880s was very poor, often selling for only ten cents a gallon. In order to improve the quality of local wine, in the 1870s Charles Wetmore went to the Bordeaux district in France to study that area's viticulture methods. Putting what he had learned into action, Wetmore established Cresta Blanca vineyard in 1882. As a result of his efforts, at the 1889 Paris International Exposition, Wetmore's sauternes earned the Grand Prix, a first place win over 17,000 other entries.



Courtesy of the Livermore Heritage Guild

Charles Wetmore's brother took over the winery in 1892 and operated it until Prohibition. The property is now owned by Wente Brothers.

Cresta Blanca is recognized as California Historic Landmark Number 586.

# Olivina

Wetmore and Arroyo Roads • Livermore, CA



Photo Courtesy of Bill Nale

Before he came to Livermore Valley, Julius Paul Smith made his fortune mining borax. In 1881, he purchased 2,000 acres of land and created the largest pre-Prohibition vineyard in Livermore Valley. Smith and his foreman J. M. Davis assembled a crew of men, including 50 Chinese workers, and planted 450,000 cuttings over 400 acres. Smith then turned responsibility of the vineyard over to Davis, while he and his wife went to Europe. When they returned in 1884, the vines were ready to bear.

Smith also planted a large number of olive trees. The combination of olives and vines prompted him to name his vineyard "Olivina". After Smith died in 1904, his widow managed the vineyard. In memory of her husband, she erected a gateway at the corner of Arroyo Road and Wetmore Road. The gate is now recognized as a California Point of Historic Interest.

# Ruby Hill Winery

400 Vineyard Avenue • Pleasanton, CA

Originally planted by John Crellin, by 1884 Ruby Hill Winery was making about 150,000 gallons of sauternes and clarets a year. Some of the vines that Crellin planted in 1896 were still productive in the 1960's.

A fire destroyed the winery building in 1989, but it was rebuilt using many of the original bricks. The original keystone was replaced over the entry.

Ruby Hill now operates as Mitchell Katz Winery.



Courtesy of the Livermore Heritage Guild

# Vienna Winery

Highway 84 East of Ruby Hill Housing area • Livermore, CA

The Vienna winery was built in 1893 and demolished in 1958. The home of Dr. Joseph Altschul, the founder of the Vienna Winery, is located just east of highway 84 and the Ruby Hill housing area.



JOS. ALTSCHUL'S RESIDENCE.

...e of the place for four years, has | man by birth, and an educated com  
...ly improved and beautified the place. | seur of wines. Mr. Duvall selected

Courtesy of the Livermore Heritage Guild

# Wente Bros. Winery

5565 Tesla Road • Livermore, CA

Carl Heinrich Wente came to Livermore Valley to take over a bearing vineyard that had been planted by local dentist Dr. George Bernard. Wente continued to increase his vineyard with a variety of cuttings. The winery produced only bulk wine before Prohibition, but Wente sometimes entered his wines in viticulture competitions under other names. For example, at the 1915 Pan Pacific International Exhibition, four of his wines won gold medals under names such as Beaulieu and A. Fink's Widow. It was not until after Prohibition that the Wente Brothers wine labels appeared.

Continuing the 125 year legacy, the winery is managed by the fourth generation of the Wente family. The winery has grown to include over 2,000 acres of vineyards in the Livermore Valley and 800 acres in Monterey. In 1983, Wente Bros. Winery was listed as a California Historic landmark. Today Wente Vineyards is the oldest family-owned, continuously operating winery in the United States.

PHOTO FROM THE COLLECTION OF  
THE LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD



# SITES OF HISTORIC INTEREST



The following list of sites includes public institutions such as museums and historic houses, privately held businesses and homes, plaques and memorials.

# DANVILLE

For over 150 years, Danville's history has been one of change and growth. Danville was first populated by Indians who lived next to the creeks and camped on Mount Diablo in the summer. Later it was part of Mission San Jose's grazing land and a Mexican land grant called Rancho San Ramon.

Danville was settled by Americans drawn here by the California Gold rush. Daniel and Andrew Inman bought 400 acres of Old Town Danville with their mining earnings in 1854. By 1858, the community boasted a blacksmith, a hotel, a wheelwright, and a general store. Most new residents were farmers who squatted or purchased land and who established ranches, farms, and businesses. Settlers raised cattle and sheep and grew wheat, barley, and onions. Later the farms produced hay and a wide variety of fruit crops, walnuts, and almonds.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Century found Danville affected by the wars, the Spanish flu, the Depression, and new immigrants. It became a melting pot of Chinese, Portuguese, German, and Japanese immigrants. They often began working in the hay fields or as cooks and gardeners, later becoming blacksmiths, landowners, teachers, and storekeepers.

Residents worked diligently to improve their community. In 1910, a public high school district was organized; a library opened in 1913; St. Isidore's Catholic Church was established; and an Improvement League spearheaded the first streetlights and paved roads in 1915.

Danville continued to be farm country well into the 1940s. When the new I-680 freeway sliced through Danville in the mid-1960s, Danville was permanently altered and the population leaped. But, in 1982, Danville citizens showed their strong sense of identity by voting to incorporate their community, allowing themselves to shape future changes more directly. After 150 years, the small settlement has now grown from a blacksmith shop to a thriving community.

# Albert J. Young House

911 San Ramon Valley Boulevard • Danville, CA



Photo courtesy of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley

The Albert J. and Mary Shuey-Young house was rehabilitated in 1983 and is currently part of a medical care complex.

The Folk Victorian home was built by the Young's in 1885. Mr. Young and his wife Mary Shuey were both school teachers. A. J. taught in several valley grammar schools, including San Ramon and Danville, and was a member of the county board of education. Albert also served as the Superintendent of the Presbyterian Sunday School.

A plaque commemorating their home of 63 years was dedicated in August 1984.

# Alamo School

Stone Valley Road and Danville Boulevard • Alamo, CA

Alamo's first public school was built in 1876 on Jones property. Three grammar schools were built on approximately the same site and used until the 1960s.

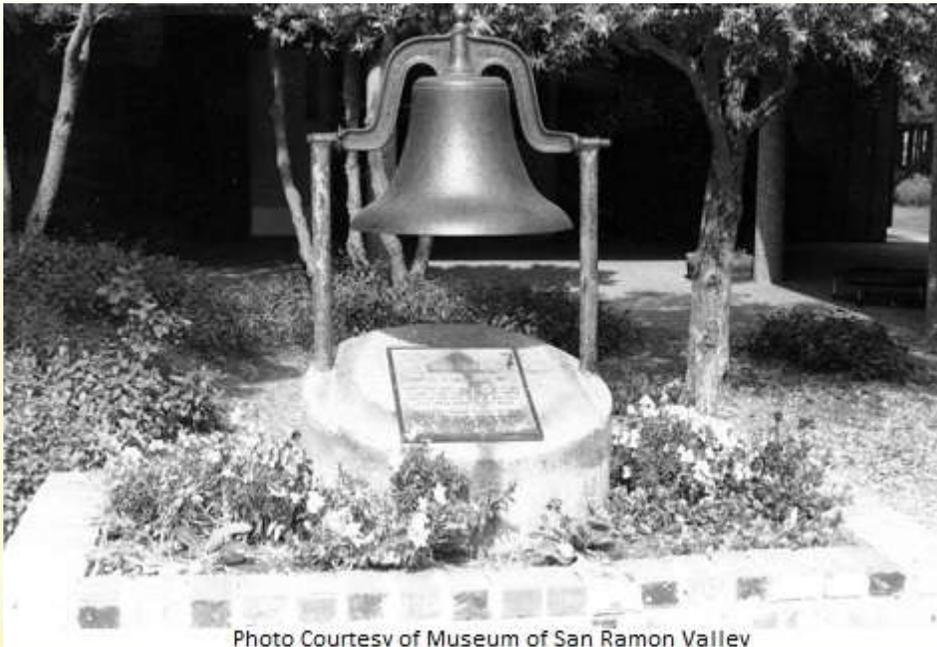


Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

# Alamo Cemetery

130 El Portal • Danville, CA



Photo courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

The Alamo Cemetery was established in the 1850s and includes burial plots of many San Ramon Valley pioneers. Some names important to early San Ramon Valley history include: Jones, Wood, Stone, Bollinger, Baldwin, Humburg, Boone, Cox, Young, Love, Close, Wiedemann, and Hall. The first recorded burial, in 1856, was a six year old girl, Callie Chrisman.

This area was an important one in the early history of Alamo and Danville. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church was established in 1856 and located on the east side of today's Danville Boulevard, not far from the cemetery. The Union Academy, a large boarding high school which served the county from 1859-1868, was on the west side of Danville Boulevard.

The streets inside the cemetery are named for trees and the paths are named for flowers, a practice established in the nineteenth century. Everything in the cemetery was intended to provide a park-like atmosphere.

Tours of the Alamo Cemetery are offered by docents from the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, located at 205 Railroad Avenue, Danville, California. For more information call 925.837.3750 or email [info@museumsrv.org](mailto:info@museumsrv.org).

# Austin Root House

120 West Linda Mesa • Danville, CA

Austin and Elizabeth Root originally built this Craftsman house in 1919 near the northwest corner of Linda Mesa and Hartz Avenue. Their three children were born here. The house was moved in 1950 when Shell Oil bought their property.



Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

# Bert Read House

571 Hartz Avenue • Danville, CA

Also known locally as the Doyle house, the original address for this building was 355 South Hartz Avenue, before the street names and addresses were changed by the town in the 1980s. The structure was built in the late 1900s and has the typical features of a Neo-classical Row House, with symmetrical windows, center door, and gabled roof. It has, however, no columned porch, which would have been typical for the period. It is believed that the original home had a porch, but at some point it was removed. The building is no longer a residence but a commercial property.

Bert Read was the local constable who married Ramona Lynch (from a San Ramon Valley family) and lived in this home. The house was later sold to George Brazil who lived there for many years before Dorothy Kelly, believed to be his daughter, obtained the property.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Cabral House

552 Hartz Avenue • Danville, CA

The Cabral House was built in the 1930s and was first owned by Tony Cabral. The structure was built in a simple depression-style eclectic bungalow/craftsman architecture that was characteristic of the time period.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Berry

Kept in pristine condition, the structure remained a private residence in the core downtown area until 2002. At that time a significant addition was built in the rear of the property, but the original structure was left essentially the same as before. The building is currently being utilized for office space and as an upscale spa business.

# Cabral/Foster House

402 Hartz Avenue • Danville, CA

The Tony Cabral House, also known as the George Foster House, was built sometime around 1926 by Mr. Cabral. In 1941, Cabral sold the property to George Foster, who resided in the home for a number of years.

During the Depression, Mr. Foster worked for the Works Progress Administration, a federal relief measure established in 1935 that offered employment in public works such as highways and building construction. Mr. Foster's skills were used to help grade the Danville High School track. Mrs. Foster was a "Rosie," who drove a truck during World War II. They also raised foster children.

This one-story stucco Craftsman Cottage has a low-pitched front gable roof with exposed eave overhang. The half-width porch has arch-in-vault trim and a roof supported by tapered-square columns that extend to ground level. There are double-hung windows on the front and side. The unaltered house remains in excellent condition.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Close Property Historical Plaque

Diablo Road between Hartz Avenue and Front Street • Danville, CA

The James Close Property can be found on the south side of Diablo Road between Hartz Avenue and Front Street in Danville. The property site was originally owned by pioneer Daniel Inman. James Close was a naturalized citizen who emigrated from Canada. In 1875, Close purchased the property, including a blacksmith shop, where he practiced his trade and lived with his family. The San Ramon Valley Historical Society dedicated a monument in memory of the Close family on 22 September 1996.

A pedestal mounted plaque is located adjacent to the parking lot midway between Hartz Avenue and Front Street.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Danville Grammar School Historical Plaque

279 Front Street • Danville, CA

The town's first grammar school was built south of Danville in 1858. In 1867, a new grammar school was built on this Front Street site. That structure was razed in 1896 and replaced with a one room school that served the community until 1927. Teacher A. J. Young taught in both the old and new school houses from 1883 until 1900. The plaque dedication commemorating the grammar school was held on 18 October 2006.

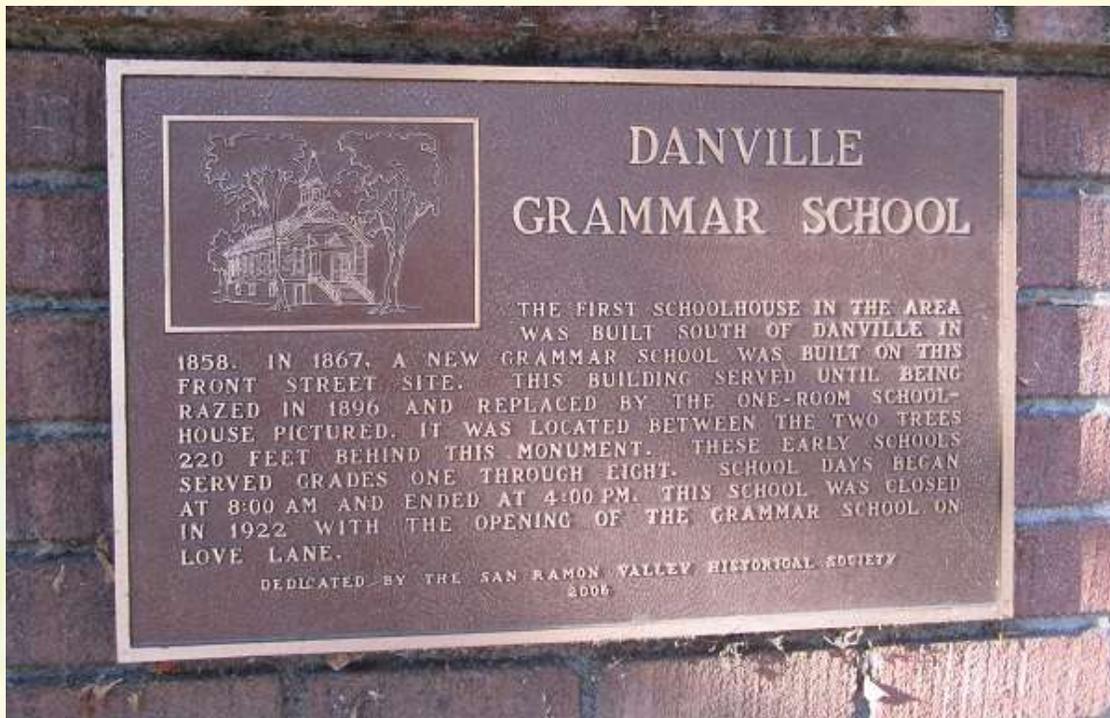


Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Danville Grange Hall #85

233 Front Street • Danville, CA

The Grange hall was built in 1873 by Nathaniel Howard, who also built several other historic homes still standing in Danville. The hall, or the Grange, as it was commonly known, was the first and only meeting place for local events and was a cornerstone of Danville social life for fifty years.

The building, which is in the National Fold Style, was enlarged in 1913. That work entailed lifting the original structure, constructing another story under it, and rotating the entire building 90 degrees. An auditorium was soon added. The Grange is wood with a side gabled roof, with two stories in front and 1 ½ stories in the rear. The plywood siding with applied batts achieve the effect of a barn or pioneer meeting hall.

In 1952, the Grange moved to its new location on Diablo Road. The original hall served as the Village Theater for a period of time and was purchased by the Town in 1987.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Berry

# Danville Hotel

411 Hartz Avenue • Danville, CA

The two-story hotel, now painted red with white trim, was built after the railroad came to Danville. The hotel originally faced Railroad Avenue, across from the Southern Pacific station. In 1927, when it was evident that Hartz Avenue would be Danville's main street, the hotel was turned around and moved to this location.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Berry

The McCauley family ran the 8-to-10 room hotel with salesmen and railroad workers occupying most of their rooms. The McCauley's one-story house sits to the south of the hotel and is considered to have a transitioning style between Queen Anne Cottage and Colonial Revival.

Today the hotel is part of the Danville Hotel Territory site.

# Danville Meat Market

114 East Prospect • Danville, CA

Originally used by the Lawrence family as a meat warehouse and market, this Classical Revival structure was constructed in 1924. The rectangular building replaced an earlier meat market that had burned down. Later the building was altered using elements of the Spanish Eclectic style.



Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

# Danville Oak Tree

Diablo Road • Danville, CA

The Danville Oak Tree has become a symbol of the community and, in many cases, a central point of meeting and communication in the town. Each year in November, Danville gathers on Diablo Road at the base of the tree to celebrate the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. Adults and children of all ages come together for a festive evening that includes a visit from Father Christmas. Through the years, the Tree has provided support for signs announcing a special birthday or anniversary for a Danville citizen. Estimated to be 350 years old, the Oak Tree has recently started to show its age. The tree was discovered to be in jeopardy of weakening. With the support of the community, a special metal support structure was installed to prevent the tree from falling. The Tree remains the most notable landmark in town and is the symbol for the Town of Danville.



Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon

# Danville Town Meeting Hall

201 Front Street • Danville, CA

This property is the site of the First Presbyterian Church of Danville, the oldest church in the San Ramon Valley. The cornerstone for the original building was laid on 1 October 1875 and the building dedicated on 18 June 1876 with 59 members. As part of the ceremonies, the Reverend R. L. Symington planted a California redwood tree in the front of the church. The tree is still standing.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Berry

This one-story building, with wood frame, stucco walls, and building parapets, is one of the few examples of Spanish Revival architecture in the town of Danville and the only church building of that style. The major exterior features include the barrel tile roof, arched windows in the front gable, and end and wood casement windows. The original church burned down on 27 May 1932. A new building was erected in 1933, which was used until 1951 when a larger church was built on West El Pintado. The tree and a small section of land was donated to the church by Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Wiester. In 1989, the Town of Danville bought the historic building for use as the Town Meeting Hall and restored it to its original colors of light brown walls with blue and green trim.

# Diablo Country Club

1700 Clubhouse Road • Diablo, CA



Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

The area now known as Diablo Country Club has a storied past. Once home to Native Americans and then Spanish rancheros, for decades the area was used as ranchland. It was called the Railroad Ranch, Cook Ranch, and Oakwood Park Stock Farm.

In 1895, the Farm included 6000 acres and was an example of a San Ramon Valley diversified ranch. According to the Contra Costa News, on 1 July 1897, 2500 acres were planted to hay, wheat, barley and alfalfa and 200 acres had orchard fruits. A 30-million gallon reservoir, called Diablo Lake, provided irrigation and recreation.

In 1912, Robert Noble Burgess purchased Oakwood Stock Farm and transformed it into a swank summer resort. One of the first California country clubs, it eventually encompassed 50,000 acres.

Special electric trains brought visitors to the club, and the San Francisco and Oakland society pages often featured articles about the parties and dances held at the Mt. Diablo Park Club. World War I brought an end to the Burgess enterprises and, in 1919, Burgess dissolved his company and sold his Diablo house.

Members bought the club in 1961 and have owned it ever since. Although Diablo is no longer the only country club in the valley, it has a uniqueness and a history unrivaled among communities in the East Bay.

# Dodge House

425 Hartz Avenue • Danville, CA

This Folk Victorian house was probably built in the late 1890s. The Dodge family lived here for 37 years. Emma Dodge, postmaster of Danville between 1913 and 1933, resided in the home until her death. Her husband George, who was blind, would get the mail at the train station and deliver it to his wife.



Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

# Eddy House

500 Hartz Avenue • Danville, CA

This Queen Anne Cottage style house was built around 1900. Members of the Eddy family, descendants of Leonard Eddy who built a cabin in the Sycamore Valley area in 1853, lived in the home continuously from 1903 until 1946. A separate structure at the rear of the property, since removed, served as the first San Ramon Valley Union High School. As a side note, one of the Eddy's was married to a relative of Walt Disney, who had visited the home.

The house was nearly demolished in 1988, but the demolition permit was denied when the historic significance of the house was brought to the attention of town officials. This one-story clapboard structure has a pyramidal hipped roof and single front gable. It has a partial width porch, turned porch supports, and two pane windows.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Elliott's Bar

369 Hartz Avenue • Danville, CA

Elliott's Bar is one of Danville's oldest businesses. Hiram Elliott was once a jockey, who decided to learn the saloon business. He worked at the Crockett Hotel and in Walnut Creek. His brother-in-law Charles Gust owned the Lawless Bar at the corner of Diablo and Front Streets, and Hiram came to Danville to run the saloon.

Hiram married Tillie Hartz in August 1907 and purchased the bar from Gust that same year. Local residents often tell a story in which Hiram sent two unruly drunks out to settle a disagreement, saying "you tigers work it out in the alley," thus giving the nickname Tiger Alley to the little street called Prospect.

In 1911, as the creek ate away at Front Street and businesses moved to Hartz Avenue, Elliott built a store on Hartz, which he rented out. Then he built a new false front commercial building next door and moved Elliott's



Bar into the new building in 1912. The bar was owned and operated by Hiram and his sons, Duane and Gordon, for 70 years.

After the first fire station was built directly across the street, Elliott's became a favorite spot for volunteer fireman who, of course, could not predict when a fire would occur.

In the 1920s, Elliott's became the Danville Ice Cream Parlor since Hiram refused to break Prohibition law and sell liquor.

# Elliott House

146 Diablo Road • Danville, CA

This Craftsman style house was built in 1909 for Hiram and Matilda Hartz Elliott. With their son Duane, they moved into it on Thanksgiving Day, 1909. Originally the house was on a larger lot that included a big front yard.



Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

# Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site

P.O. Box 280 • Danville, CA  
925.838-0249 [http:// www.nps.gov/euon](http://www.nps.gov/euon)

Eugene Gladstone O'Neill, the only Nobel Prize winning playwright from the United States and the architect of modern American theater, lived at Tao House in the hills above Danville from 1937 to 1944. It was at this site that he wrote his final and most successful plays: *The Iceman Cometh*, *A Long Day's Journey into Night*, and *A Moon for the Misbegotten*.



This 13.19 acre site, acquired by the National Park Service in 1979, includes the historic home built by the O'Neill's, a restored Taoist courtyard, a collection of period and original furnishings, walnut and almond orchards, pre- and post-O'Neill barns and O'Neill's swimming pool. Working cooperatively with the Eugene O'Neill Foundation, the park commemorates O'Neill's contribution to American literature by offering guided tours as well as artistic and community educational programs for the public.

For more information regarding public programs and/or scheduled and drop-in tours please visit [http:// www.nps.gov/euon](http://www.nps.gov/euon) or call (925) 838-0249.

# Fages Historical Plaque

El Portal and Danville Boulevard • Danville, CA

This San Ramon Valley Historical plaque is located at the corner of El Portal and Danville Boulevard. In early 1772, a Spanish expedition led by Captain Pedro Fages and accompanied by Franciscan missionary Juan Crespi traveled through the East Bay. They were the first westerners seen by local Indians. Father Crespi wrote that the valley had a large variety of trees, fertile land, plenty of water, and "numerous villages of very gentle and peaceful heathen. "



Photo courtesy of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley

# Firehouse Building

340-356 Hartz Avenue • Danville, CA

In 1925, the Danville Fire Protection District purchased this lot for \$600, and a San Francisco architect designed a building that cost approximately \$5,000 to build. Randolph Hook completed construction of the firehouse on 2 December 1925. According to the locals, volunteer firemen could hear the siren as far away as Alamo. In 1954, the station was remodeled. In 1975, after 50 years of use, the Fire District moved to a new building. The town of Danville installed a plaque on the old firehouse in memory of the town's volunteer firemen.



Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

# Fredrickson House

172 East Prospect • Danville, CA

Built in the early 1900s, in 1922, this Craftsman style house was moved by Danville barber Bob Monroe to make room for the Veterans' Memorial. The James Fredrickson family moved into the residence after 1934. James was a local butcher. In 1978, the home was converted into retail space and then into the popular local destination Father Nature's Shed.



Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

# Freitas House

439 Hartz Avenue • Danville, CA

Joseph Francisco Freitas, Jr. bought this house when he and his bride, Anna E. Regello, were married on 24 September 1913. Anna died six months later of tuberculosis. Four years later Joseph married Julia Margaret Noia, the daughter of a wealthy rancher. They lived in this home for three years, then moved to a ranch and rented the house to two unmarried school teachers. In those days, only unmarried school teachers could teach.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Hartz House

455 Hartz • Danville, CA

Another Folk Victorian design, this 1910 built house was the residence of John and Catherine Hartz in their later years.

Johann and Catharina Johnson Hartz came from the same town in Holstein, Germany and married in America. He arrived in 1865 as a boy of 18 and she came in 1874 also at age 18. They married in 1876 in a Lutheran Church in San Francisco.

Johann leased a ranch in Dublin where their three children were born, Henry, Hannah and Matilda. By 1888, the couple had earned enough to buy a large 220 acre ranch in west Danville. Their ranch stretched from west of Front Street to today's San Damiano Retreat. They planted wheat, barley and corn, had fruit orchards and raised hogs and milk cows.

When the Southern Pacific Railroad built the San Ramon Branch Line through Alamo and Danville to San Ramon, Hartz sold 8.65 acres of his ranch to the railroad for a depot and right of way. In July of 1891, John Hartz filed a subdivision map for 12 acres of his land between the Danville station and the rear of the properties on Front Street, the historic Danville downtown. He subdivided his land into 74



lots, many located on the new Hartz Avenue, which eventually replaced Front Street as the main street in Danville.

# James Root House

90 Railroad Avenue • Danville, CA

This Queen Anne cottage was built in the late 1800s by Joel Haden Boone, a descendent of Daniel Boone. Joel was married to Sophie Live, the daughter of Danville pioneer Robert B. Love. Later, their daughter Ina and her husband James Root lived in the home. The house was located one building north of Linda Mesa on Hartz Avenue, until 1950, when it was moved to its present site with a Linda Lane address. Linda Lane merged with a widened Railroad Avenue in the 1980s.

Ina and James Root raised four children in the house, which was surrounded by a pear orchard and bee hives. Later, the Root family established the Mount Diablo Dairy located just west on Linda Mesa, where they processed, bottled, and delivered milk locally until 1945.

In the nineteenth century the Love and Boone families owned most of the land in northern Danville, from Prospect Avenue to Del Amigo. The family which lived in this house and their descendants were active in the community for many years, providing educational, business, civic, and church leadership.



Photo courtesy of Terry Berry

# Legion Hall

400 Hartz Avenue • Danville, CA

The Veterans' Memorial, or Legion Hall, has served veterans and the Danville community for over 80 years. This Neo-classical Revival building, designed by architect James T. Narbett and constructed by Dinnie Construction for \$18,000, was completed in 1925.

When it was dedicated on 2 April 1925, the Danville Improvement Club donated a piano, and the China Club provided a large American flag. Soon after that, monthly "dollar dances" were held, where attendees could practice their two-step, schottische, mazurka, and polka.

From the start the veterans created a community hall. They provided a meeting place for patriotic, welfare, and civic organizations. Plays were performed by different groups, and from 1926 to 1961 the building housed the Danville library.

In 1978, the Hall was renovated as a Senior Citizens' Center. A complete kitchen, ADA compliant restrooms and ramps, and upgraded electric and plumbing systems were installed.

After more modern renovations are complete, the Legion Hall will continue to serve the community.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Love House

357 Love Lane • Danville, CA

This Victorian Stick style house was originally built by early Danville pioneer Robert Love in 1860 on his property, which extended west to the Las Trampas Hills. It included orchards and a bee farm. The house is well maintained, having been restored and redecorated by several owners.



Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

# Markey Building

370-374 Hartz Avenue • Danville, CA

This brick commercial building was constructed and owned in the 1920s by the Markey family. Throughout the years it has included a bakery, the Fredrickson and Markey barber shop, the post office, Dr. John Blemer's office, and many other stores.



Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

# McDonald's Drug Store

345-349 Hartz Avenue • Danville, CA

This was the original site and building of McDonald's drug store, built in 1922 as a two-story structure in the Spanish Eclectic style at a cost of \$10,000. The first floor was a drug store, ice cream fountain, and news depot, and the second floor contained an apartment originally occupied by the McDonald family. Later the building was used as a pharmacy owned by the Rodgers (1938-1945) and the Randall family after 1945. The open arches and brick façade are additions. Today part of the structure is used as a restaurant.



Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

# Osborn Home

928 Diablo Road • Danville, CA

In approximately 1870, the Osborn Home was designed and built by Charles Howard. Beginning in 1871, Leonidas L. Boone, the great-great-grandson of Daniel Boone, owned the property and resided there for 11 years. The land became part of the Henry Ranch from 1880-1911 and was owned by the Strahlendorf family from 1911-1926. In 1926, I. Melvin and Myrtle Osborn purchased the property, which remained in the Osborn family for 62 years.

It is believed the brothers Andrew and Daniel Inman lived on the site of the Osborn Home during the 1850s. The town was named for Dan (and for Danville, Kentucky) in 1858 when the first post office was established. At the time, Dan owned all of downtown Danville. Andrew was also prominent and served as State Assemblyman from 1856-1857.

The house is built in the Greek Revival Style, which is attributed to the period 1820-1860. Although the front door and kitchen roof have been replaced, the house still contains several signature Greek Revival characteristics, including the style of the window, the pediment roof, the mantel piece and details inside the door frame. The building, which was moved, turned to face Diablo Road, and completely restored and remodeled in the early 1990s, is currently a private residence.



Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

# Podva House

809 Podva Road • Danville, CA

The Podva Farmhouse is a Stick-Eastlake (Victorian) architectural style home. It was built around 1890 and was originally purchased by Adolphus Godfrey Podva for ten gold coins. This wood frame house has a steeply pitched hipped roof and is a transitional example with double cross gables. This represents a transition to more of the Queen Anne style building. It has a one-story entry porch supported by classical columns that have diagonal braces. The entry door has double-paned windows in the upper half with a horizontal window over the top. There is a vertical board pattern in each gable apex, meeting a horizontal pattern beneath. Moved to its current location and restored in 1980, the building was originally situated where the Livery Mercantile is now located.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Pynn's Dry Goods Store

327 Hartz Avenue • Danville, CA

Built in 1921, this structure was originally an Italianate style that is now much altered. Several businesses occupied parts of the building, including Pynn's, Carl's Harness Shop, Acee's Market and the Diablo Beauty Shop, run by Mildred Fereira and her mother. It is thought to be one of the oldest buildings constructed for commercial use in downtown Danville.



Photo Courtesy of Terrv Lee Berrv

# San Ramon Valley High School

140 Love Lane • Danville, CA

The San Ramon Valley Union High School District was formed in August 1910. The initial classes were held in Danville at two different locations. In 1916, ten acres were purchased at the present site, and the school was built and opened in time for the 1916-17 school year. Additional classrooms and a gym were built in 1936. In the 1950s, adjacent land was acquired and allocated for a sports field, tennis courts, and a swimming pool. The original building was taken down in 1950. The school located at 140 Love Lane had a commemorative plaque dedicated 23 August 2003 near the school's electronic sign.



Photo Courtesy of Terrv Lee Berry

# Shuey/Podva House

100 School Street • Danville, CA

The only two-story residence in downtown Danville, this Italianate home was constructed in 1892. The original owners, John and Leila Shuey, owned a general store, as well as hay and grain warehouses west of the Danville Depot. John was the postmaster from 1889-1893. LaMay and Cecil Podva lived in the home from 1938 until 1999. Branagh Development rehabilitated the home and constructed an addition.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Southern Pacific Depot, Danville

255 Railroad Avenue • Danville, CA

The Southern Pacific Railroad Depot was built in 1891, after the railroad line was completed from Avon to San Ramon. In order to build the depot, 8.65 acres of land were sold to the Southern Pacific by John Hartz. The coming of the railroad caused Hartz to survey and sell lots known as the Hartz Addition which were adjacent to the new depot. This changed the Front street commercial orientation of Danville to the Hartz and Railroad areas to the west.

The Depot was built similarly to all of the Southern Pacific Depot buildings of the period, as Standard Station No. 22. It was designed as a two-story passenger and freight station, which provided room on the ground floor for a waiting room, baggage room, freight room and office space for the station agent, ticket agent, telegraphy operator and Wells Fargo agent. The upstairs area housed the station agent and his family.

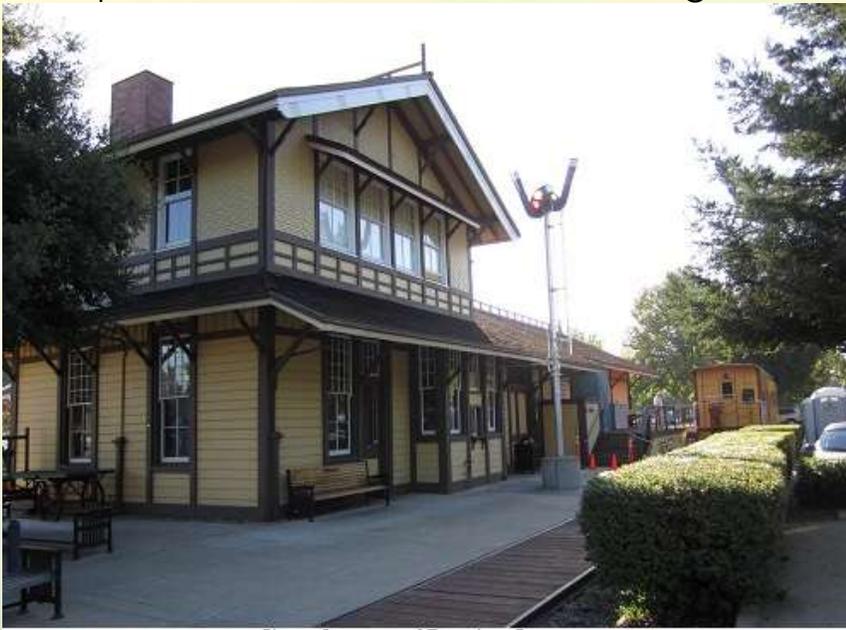


Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

The architecture of the Depot is a typical two-story Southern Pacific company plan. As were all of the depots along this line, it was painted a faded dandelion yellow/gold color and trimmed in brown. The original water tower collapsed many years ago through "demolition by neglect". The building

was sold in the mid-twentieth century to Joseph B. Ramos, who operated the Danville Feed and Supply in the building. In the 1990s, the depot was purchased, relocated about 100 yards north of its original location, turned around, and restored to house the Museum of the San Ramon Valley.

# Tassajara Grammar School

1650 Finley Road • Danville, CA

The Tassajara School House was the second Tassajara grammar school and was built when the student population outgrew a smaller structure.

Students from first to eighth grade walked, rode horses, and took buggies to get to school. In 1889, Richard D. Williams was the teacher and 41 students attended that August. In 1890, there were 42-75 students at the school, sitting two to a desk. Students learned mental arithmetic, reading, geography, spelling and writing. A picture of George Washington hung on the wall.

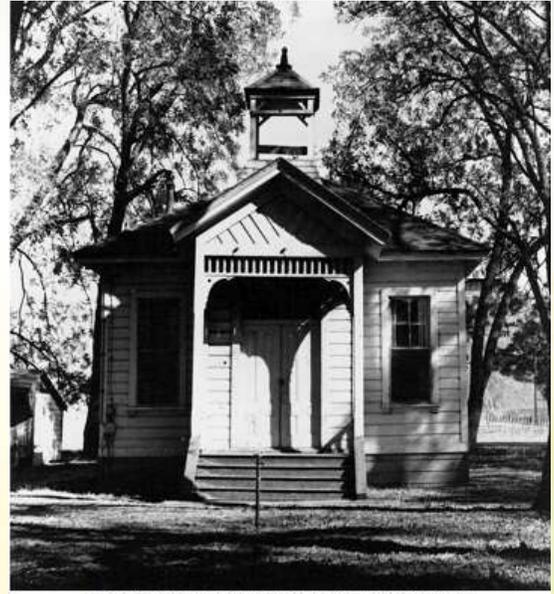


Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

In 1946, Tassajara School enrollment shrank to 11 after two large families moved away. The school closed, and students and teacher Gertrude Arendt went to Danville for elementary school. The desks were transported to Danville as well.

The abandoned school fell on hard times. The bell disappeared, windows were broken, and Washington's picture was stolen. Residents of the Tassajara community organized to restore and care for the School House, replacing the foundation and roof and putting in new wiring and floors. They created the Tassajara-Highland Improvement Association and, in 1970, a new fire district.

Today the Museum of the San Ramon Valley runs a third grade historical interpretive program called the "One Room School House," that is based on the 1888 style classroom experience.

# Union Academy

Danville Boulevard and Wayne Avenue • Danville, CA

The Union Academy was a private high school begun by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in 1859. Built on part of August Hemme's land, the two-story building provided education for both day and boarding students. The curriculum included a rigorous academic program, daily exercise, music, and art. The school burned down in 1868, leaving the Valley without a high school until 1910.

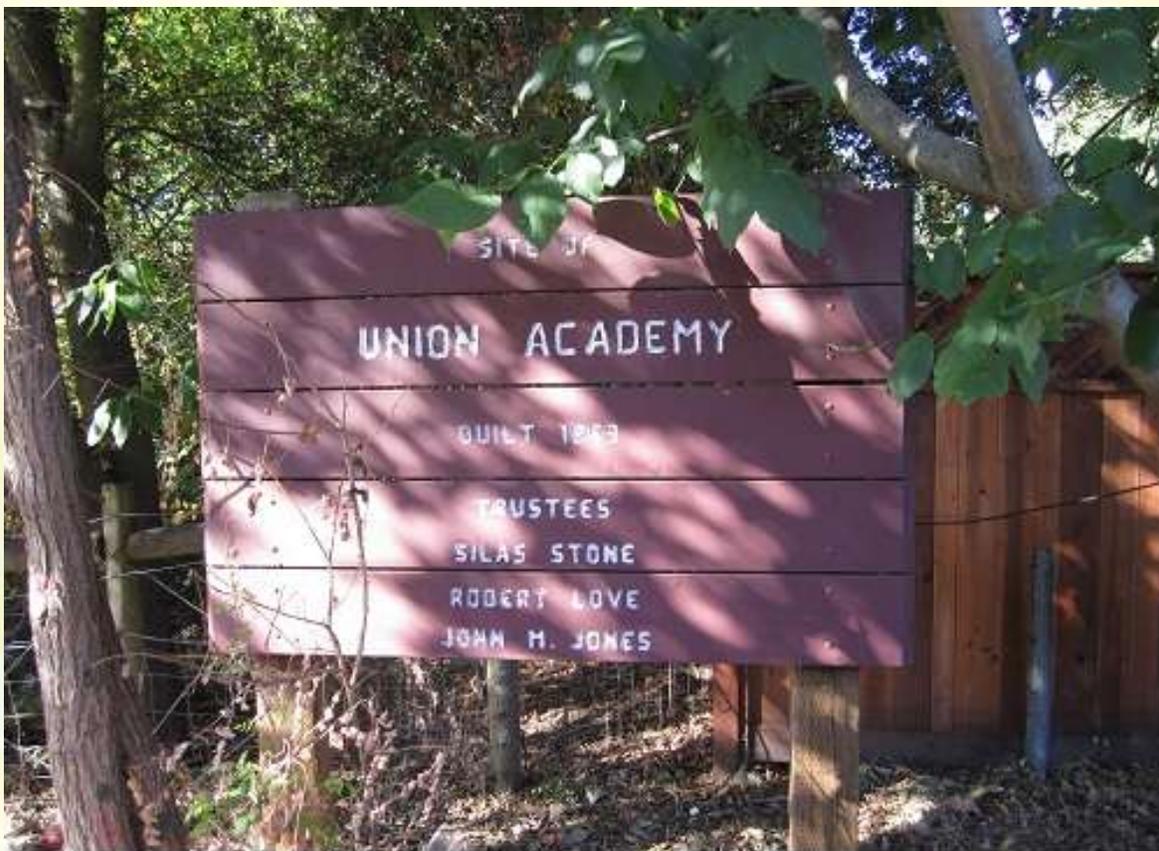


Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Vecki House

169 Front Street • Danville, CA

The Vecki House is the one of the oldest buildings in Danville and is a great example of how preservation and redevelopment can be joined together for the benefit of the community.

The original structure was built in 1866 for the Michael Cohen family by the Howard brothers, reputable local builders. The Vecki House gets its name from Dr. Victor John Vecki, Danville's first dentist, who resided in the home with his family from 1906 to the 1930s. At some point in time, the exterior wood siding was removed and replaced with stucco, an addition was built to the rear, a foundation was built, and some windows and doors were replaced. In 2002, the structure was moved forward on the property, closer to Front Street, and a significant addition was built in the rear of the property. The Vecki House is currently being utilized for offices.

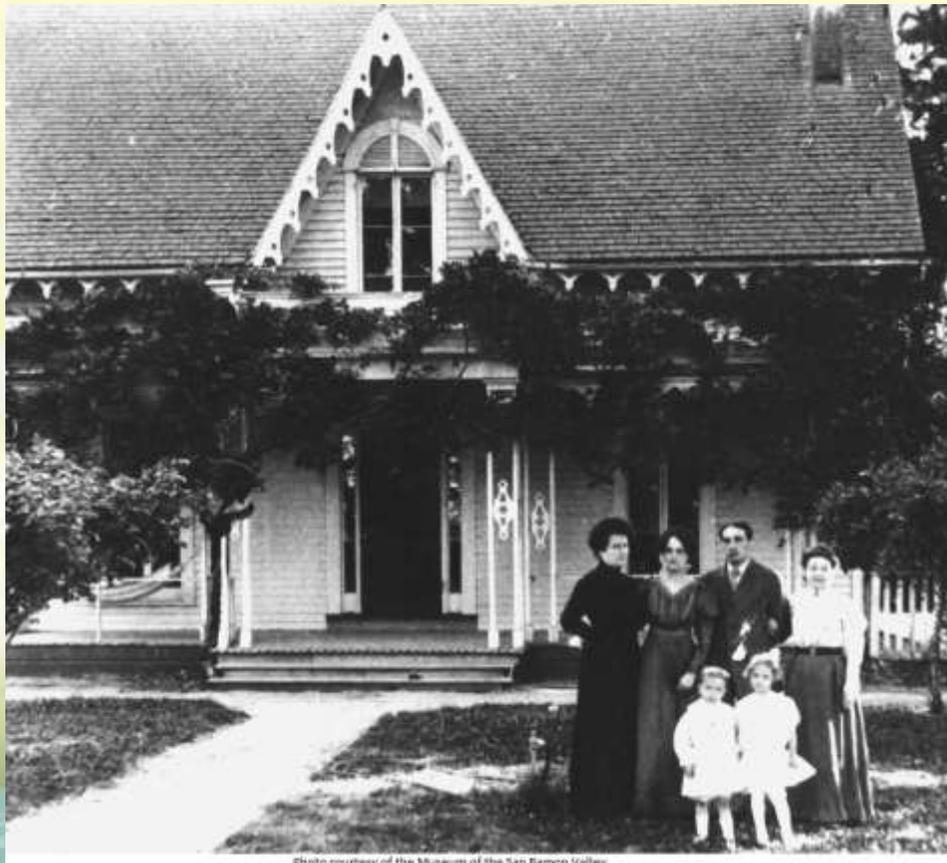


Photo courtesy of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley

# Wiedemann Ranch

2301 Norris Canyon Road • Danville, CA

The Gothic Revival home located on the old ranch was built in 1865 by Christian Wiedemann and his partner Schwerin out of redwood timber cut in Oakland. Of the buildings pictured in the 1880s, the home, a barn and some storage sheds still stand. The ranch has been a family run, family inhabited working cattle ranch for over 100 years.



Photo Courtesy of Museum of San Ramon Valley

# DUBLIN

Dublin sits at the crossroads of two major highways: Interstate 580 and Interstate 680. However, the significance of the crossroads dates back more than 200 years when Dublin served as the crossroads of two important stage routes - one from the Bay Area to Stockton and the other from Martinez to San Jose. Alamilla Springs, located in the Dublin area, provided a place for travelers to change horses and freshen up before continuing their journey.

Although first home to Native Americans and then used as mission lands by Mission San Jose, in 1835 Jose Maria Amador received a land grant that included present day Dublin as payment for his years of service as a Mexican soldier and as an administrator of Mission San Jose. He built several adobe homes and small workshops where his Indian workers made soap, blankets, shoes, and farm tools for use on his ranch.

In 1850, Michael Murray and Jeremiah Fallon came to this area from Ireland. They purchased 1,000 acres of land from Jose Amador and built homes for their families. The area began to grow as many settled in the area. In 1867, Alameda County was created from parts of Contra Costa and Santa Clara counties. Both Murray and Fallon served on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. Townships were established the next year and Murray's name was chosen for this area.

By 1877, the first schoolhouse in the Amador-Livermore Valley was constructed in Dublin, along with a church, two hotels, a general store, a wagon and blacksmith shop, and a shoemaker's shop. Since mail was delivered to the Dougherty Station Hotel, the area became known as Dougherty's Station. Later, the area became known as Dublin and, in 1982, the City incorporated.

The City of Dublin, which is located at the crossroads of the Tri-Valley and has contributed to the planned growth and forward thinking of the area, continues to enhance the quality of life for members of the community.

# Alamilla Springs

7100 San Ramon Road • Dublin, CA

The Alamilla Springs historical marker designates the site of a natural spring once used by Native Americans traveling along pathways that ran through the region. The spring was later used as a water source by Jose Maria Amador. Amador, born in 1794 at the San Francisco Presidio, spent his early years in the Mexican Army as a soldier and explorer. After leaving the army in 1827, he served as the mayordomo for Mission San Jose in Fremont, CA. Amador was paid for his service as a soldier and administrator with a land grant of four leagues, or approximately 18,000 acres of land. His land grant, which he called Rancho San Ramon, stretched from Danville to Pleasanton and from the crest of the western ridge to the crest of the eastern ridge of the Dougherty Valley. He built a home about 300 feet west of the Alamilla Springs historical marker and raised cattle, horses, grapes, and grain on his land.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Bonde House

11760 Dublin Boulevard • Dublin, CA

This Craftsman bungalow, built by John Bonde around 1920, is possibly the oldest extant dwelling in Dublin.

Bonde was a Danish immigrant who came to Dublin in 1895, where he got a job running the inn Dougherty's Station. Eventually, Bonde purchased four acres of land at this site, including the old inn. Around 1920, he built the existing bungalow on the southwestern corner of his property and the Amador Garage on the eastern part of the lot. During the 1950s, the property was purchased by George and Gladys Lydiksen, who converted the former garage and service station into a manufacturing facility. They continued to live in the Bonde House until they sold it in 1977. The new owners converted the house into a daycare center and it has served that function until today.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Berrv

# Camp Parks

6200 Dougherty • Dublin, CA

Camp Parks, designated Parks Reserve Forces Training Area in 1980, is named after Rear Admiral Charles W. Parks, CEC, USN. It was built for the Navy and was commissioned 19 January 1943 as home to the Navy Seabees. Adjacent Camp Parks to the east lay Camp Shoemaker and the U.S. Naval Hospital Shoemaker, also built during the war. The three Navy bases laying side by side were called "Fleet City." In 1946, at the end of World War II, the Secretary of the Navy disestablished the three facilities, and from 1946 to 1951, the Navy leased the land to the County of Alameda for use as a rehabilitation center. In 1947, the Santa Rita County Jail became operational.



Photo Courtesy of DHC

In 1951, the Navy reacquired control of most of the land, with the exception of the county's 900 acres, and transferred the property to the U.S. Air Force. Although construction of Air Force facilities began in 1951, the official transfer of ownership occurred in 1953. The facility was renamed Parks Air Force Base and functioned as a basic training center, overseas replacement depot, and air base defense training area during the Korean War.

In July 1959, the installation was transferred to the United States Army. By 1973, the U.S. Army determined that Camp Parks was needed as a mobilization and training center for Reserve Components in the event of war or natural disaster. On 11 December 1980, the Army officially designated Camp Parks as a semi-active installation and renamed it Parks Reserve Forces Training Area.

# Dublin Pioneer Cemetery

6600 Donlon Way • Dublin, CA

Many of Dublin's pioneers were buried in the Dublin Pioneer Cemetery, which was established in 1859 with the burial of Tom Donlon. Tom Donlon fell to his death while helping construct Old St. Raymond's Church.

Step back in time as you stroll through the Dublin Pioneer Cemetery. A walk along the path in the shade of giant oak and walnut trees takes visitors back in time. An easy history lesson can be obtained by reading the inscriptions on old tombstones and spending a few moments gleaning the facts from the family historical signs. Located at the Dublin Heritage Park and Museum, the cemetery provides a glimpse at the history of Dublin's early settlers.

The Dublin Pioneer Cemetery is currently an active cemetery with approximately 200 burials; however, there are no plots available for purchase.



Photo Courtesy of Dublin Heritage Center

# Green Store

11873 Dublin Boulevard • Dublin, CA

The Green store was built in 1860 by John Green, who came to Dublin from New York. Green purchased Michael Murray's farm and built a mercantile store and hotel. He became Dublin's first and leading businessman. By 1870, Dublin had two hotels, a store, a wagon repair shop, a blacksmith shop, a shoemaker, a school, a church, and a Sunday school building.

The building has been in constant use since its construction, first as a general store, then as a neighborhood pub run by Virginia Madoff, a restaurant, and now as a church.

From 1914 until 1948 the northeast corner of the building was the Dublin Branch of the Alameda County Library.

In 1980, the structure was saved from destruction through the efforts of the Dublin Historical Preservation Association and was restored and expanded in 1984 by the Star Foods Corporation.



Photo courtesy of Tarry Berry

# Kolb Ranch

6600 Donlon Way • Dublin, CA



Photo Courtesy of Dublin Heritage Center

The Dublin Heritage Park and Museums combines the existing "Dublin Heritage Center" with an additional 4.3 acres of park and historic buildings from the Kolb farm. Born in Bavaria in 1866, George Kolb came to America, made his way west, and purchased Dublin's general store in 1894. George married Wilhelmina Hartung in 1896, and they lived in a little cottage behind the General Store. In 1899, the couple welcomed their first child, Edwin. Their second son, Harold, was born in 1900.

In 1905, George purchased 300 acres that extended from Dublin's "downtown" to what is now Bernal Avenue, once considered a part of Dublin. The family lived in a small house, the old house, until their Craftsman Bungalow was completed in 1911. In the 1920s, Edwin married Pauline Bernal and Harold married Elsie Kroeger, both daughters of pioneer families. Each built homes on the Kolb property and raised their own families. Members of the Kolb family helped establish Dublin's first library, school boards, and churches and worked to incorporate Dublin.

When the last Kolb residing in the Kolb house passed away in 2006, the family offered the buildings to the City of Dublin. The cities of Dublin and Pleasanton worked together to relocate the buildings to the new Heritage Park, adjacent to the existing "Dublin Heritage Center."

# Old Murray Schoolhouse

6600 Donlon Way • Dublin, CA

In 1856, the Murray School District was formed. Murray School was built on Flanagan Way, housing an average of 40-50 students from grades one through eight each year. The school was built on land donated by James Witt Dougherty and named after Michael Murray, one of Dublin's earliest settlers and a supervisor of the township.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Berry

By 1860, it was apparent that the school's location (where the Stoneridge Mall now stands) was subject to flooding. Horses and oxen moved the schoolhouse to its new site on Dublin Canyon Road. A side building was added and, by 1936, grades 5-8 were meeting in the larger classroom while grades 1-4 met in the small side addition. The building used wood and oil stoves for heat. Indoor toilets were added in 1936.

The original bell tower was removed in 1940 and, according to local legend, the bell was later melted down for the war effort. The tower was replaced in 2001 by the Dublin Historical Preservation Association.

Eventually the growing community outgrew the one-room schoolhouse and built new schools. The last class graduated in 1952 and the school closed. The Primitive Baptist Church took over the site and maintained the structure, saving it from vandalism and probable destruction. When I-580 was widened, the old building stood in the way. The building was again on the move - this time moved by modern house movers. The schoolhouse now has a permanent home on the Dublin Heritage Park and Museum grounds.

# Old St. Raymond's Church

600 Dublin Way • Dublin, CA

Old St. Raymond's Church, currently located at the Dublin Heritage Park and Museum, was built in 1859 and dedicated in 1860. It is the oldest extant Catholic Church in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. The church was originally a mission church served by a priest who rode out from Oakland on horseback. The first wedding was performed in the pioneer church in 1865, and the original belfry was added to the building in 1880. The little church served the Dublin community for many years, then stood vacant for many more.

In 1966, the New St. Raymond's Catholic Church opened on Shannon Avenue. The Oakland Diocese gave the old church to the Amador-Livermore Valley Historical Society to be preserved and restored. The building had many uses during its years with ALVHS but in 1993 was sold to the City of Dublin.

Old St. Raymond's Church has experienced many repairs and restorations over the years, beginning as early as 1922. The most recent renovation began after the City of Dublin acquired ownership. The improvements included bringing the building up to structural code, adding handicap accessibility, and refinishing the original redwood flooring.

Since the completion of the current renovation, the Old St. Raymond's Church has been made available for community and private use. The intimate, historical setting is perfect for small weddings, funerals, memorials, baptisms, recitals, and lectures of 84 people or less.

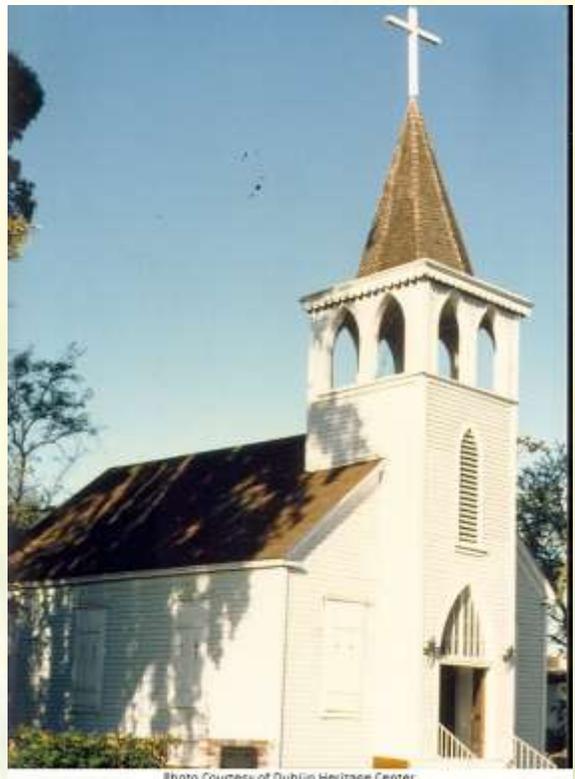


Photo Courtesy of Dublin Heritage Center

# LIVERMORE



Livermore, incorporated in 1876, is the oldest city in the Livermore Valley. William Mendenhall, credited as the city's founder, helped bring the railroad to the town in 1869, a development which cemented the town's value as an agricultural center. The prosperous city had an extensive mercantile and wine industry in the late 19th century.

This scenic ranching community took on a dual personality when, in 1952, a surplus World War II naval base was transformed into the internationally renowned Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. The city welcomed Sandia National Laboratory in 1956. These labs helped swell the city's population from 4,000 residents in 1950 to 40,000 in 1970. Livermore's population is now over 84,000 people.

Livermore vineyards, such as Wente Vineyards and Concannon Vineyards, have graced the valley since 1849. In 1984, Livermore's microclimate was deemed perfect for growing varietals like Sauvignon Blanc, Semillon and Cabernet grapes.

Today, Livermore's centralized location, pro-business attitude, and scenic setting make it an ideal community for new businesses. Topcon, FormFactor and Bridgelux have discovered that Livermore provides a cost effective alternative to other Bay Area locations.

The City of Livermore and the Livermore Chamber of Commerce have made business retention, expansion, and new business their primary goals. The City and the Chamber are committed to making Livermore a point of destination for business, tourism, technology and education.

Livermore is surrounded by more than 43 wineries and over 5,000 acres of vineyard and is becoming recognized as one of the California's premiere wine regions.

Livermore's downtown is the place to be. It is a vibrant district that serves the living, dining, shopping, cultural, and entertainment needs of the city.

# Arroyo Del Valle Sanatorium

5555 Arroyo Road • Livermore, CA

In 1918, Alameda County opened a tuberculosis sanatorium on 258 acres south of Livermore. At that time the treatment for tuberculosis, also known as consumption, was rest and open air, and the dry, warm air of the Livermore Valley was considered good for the patients. The hospital had facilities for both adults and children, and included buildings for occupational therapy and vocational training. The children's area was called Del Valle Farm and was founded on the sale of Christmas seals. In 1945, doctors began to treat tuberculosis with the antibiotic streptomycin and the case load began to decline. Having cared for over 10,000 patients, the sanatorium released its last patient in 1960.

After lying vacant for a number of years, the property was eventually placed under the care of the East Bay Regional Park District. In 1998, the Taylor Family Foundation partnered with EBRPD to open a summer residential camp program for children with life-threatening diseases. After clearing the old sanatorium buildings and constructing a new dining hall, swim complex, and living facilities, Camp Arroyo began operation.

During the school year, the site is used by the YMCA East Bay for environmental education programs.



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

# Bank of Italy

2250 First Street • Livermore, CA

Constructed on the site of the old Victorian McLeod Building, the Bank of Italy designed this building in the Italian Renaissance Revival styles and built it from bricks supplied by the Livermore Fire Brick Company. On the west and south sides of the building, a granite façade covers the bricks up to waist level. Above that is a special tile manufactured by the brick company. The Bank of Italy, the largest bank corporation in the US in 1921, opened its new Livermore branch in January 1922. The Bank of Italy consolidated with Bank of America in 1930 and continued operations in the same building until 1957.



Photo Courtesy of Bill Nale

In July 1957, the City of Livermore purchased the building and used it as a city hall until 1977.

In May 1978, the old bank building was placed on the National Register of Historic Landmarks.

In 1991, Joan and Lynn Seppala

purchased the building, restored it, and opened it as the new home for their local publication, *The Independent*. Visitors can still see two of the original bank vaults and footprints made by customers standing in line at the teller windows.

# California Water Service Company Pump

699 North Livermore Avenue • Livermore, CA

Constructed in 1929, this site consists of a tall, narrow, gabled wooden building with a dominating, curved false front parapet. The structure has a stucco exterior and wooden detailing. Incised on the front of the building directly under the arched segment is signage which states: "California Water Service Co. 1929 Station 4."

The pump house, which is still operational, covers the pump and a well which is approximately 630 feet deep.

California Water Service Company (Cal Water) is the largest investor-owned American water utility west of the Mississippi River and the third largest in the country. Formed in 1926, today the San Jose-based company serves more than 460,000 customers through 28 Customer and Operations Centers throughout the state.



Photo Courtesy of Richard Finn

# Carnegie Library

2155 Third Street • Livermore, CA

The Carnegie Library is a fine example of Greek Revival architecture. It was designed by William Weeks, a San Francisco architect, who did the plans for many of California's Carnegie buildings.

Although Livermore's first library opened in 1875, it was not until 1902, when the state of California passed a new law allowing Sixth Class cities to organize tax-supported municipal libraries, that Livermore was able to secure regular funding for the organization. With regular funding and staff, the existing library building soon became too small and community members began fundraising for a larger site.

In 1909, the Livermore Library Board purchased the present lot, once the site of Peter McKeany's slaughterhouse and corral. A grant request for \$10,000 was successfully submitted to the Carnegie Foundation allowing for the construction of a new building. The new library opened its doors in 1911 and remained Livermore's Public Library for 55 years.



The building, one of the few Carnegie library buildings still standing in the Bay Area, now houses the Livermore Heritage Guild's History Center and the Livermore Art Association's art gallery.

# Dania Hall

N and Second Streets • Livermore, CA



Photo Courtesy of Bill Nale

Livermore's chapter of the Dania Society was founded in 1892. The Society originally met on Second Street in the original town hall but built this lodge in 1911. A large lodge room occupied the upstairs, while the downstairs included a large dining hall.

A large number of Danes settled in Livermore and the Tri-Valley region, so the lodge offered opportunities for socializing and match making. One of the favorite get-togethers was the annual Christmas party, which included dancing and good food. In 2003 the Dania Society held its last Christmas party in the lodge and then sold the building because of the high cost of retrofitting it to withstand earthquake damage.

# First Presbyterian Church, Livermore

K and Fourth Street • Livermore, CA

The first recorded Protestant sermon delivered in Livermore occurred in May 1866. Subsequent church meetings were held in school houses, the Collegiate Institute on College Avenue, and over the saloon at the Bank Exchange Hall. The first Protestant church building in Livermore, the Presbyterian Church at the corner of Fourth and K Streets, was dedicated on 26 July 1874. It was constructed at the cost of \$3500 and included local dignitaries Jesse Bowles, Hiram Bailey, and Daniel Inman among its first trustees.

Originally the entrance was on K Street, with the pulpit at the west end of the sanctuary. A classroom section was added about 1890. When the church was renovated in 1915, the floor plan was reversed, the belfry moved, and the building exterior resurfaced with stucco. Further modifications were made in 1928 and 1952. This building, now called the Founders Memorial Chapel, was replaced by a new sanctuary in 1964.



Photo courtesy of First Presbyterian Church of Livermore

# Foresters' Hall

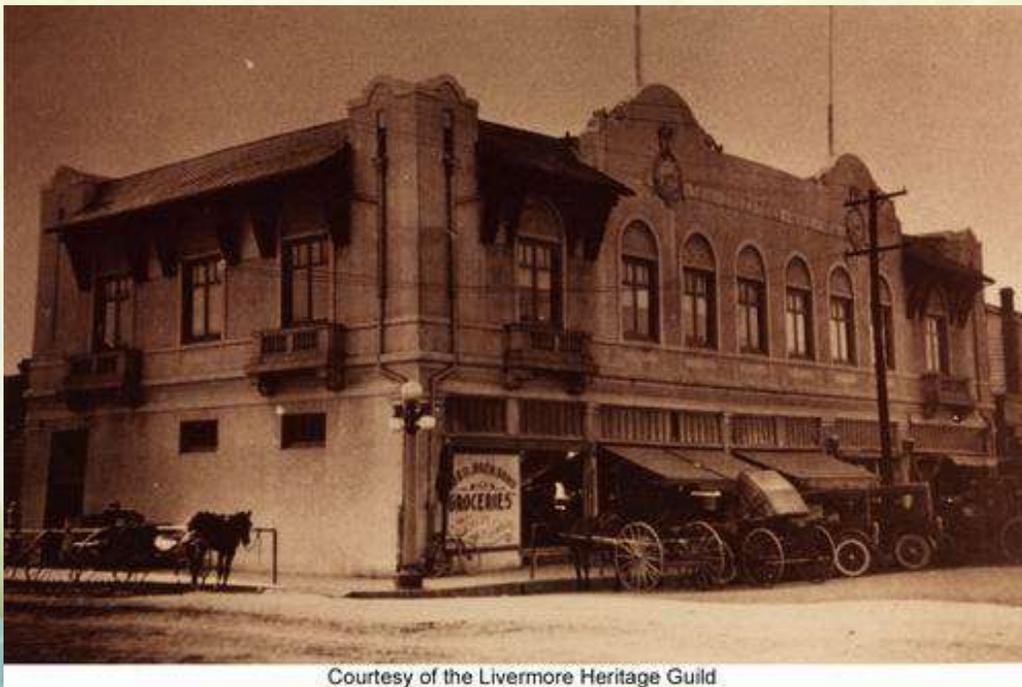
157-187 J Street • Livermore, CA

The Foresters of America Court #77 built this brick, two-story building in 1914. The structure consisted of a large two story building, constructed in the Mission Revival style, and was meant to be used as both a social hall and commercial building.

The first floor of the building housed commercial enterprises, while the second floor was devoted to Foresters Lodge activities. An early occupant of the lower floor was George Beck, who moved here from his first store at 2212 First Street in 1914 and stayed in the building until 1924.

Founded as the ancient Royal Order of Foresters in England in 1745, the Forester's came to the U.S. in 1832. At its peak, the local Lodge membership roll totaled 350 men, plus female members of the Companions of the Forest, the female auxiliary.

In 2005, after years of declining membership, the members decided to sell their building, which is now designated as a local historic site.



Courtesy of the Livermore Heritage Guild

# Ellen Hart Home

799 South L Street • Livermore, CA

Ellen Hart's cottage is one of the oldest remaining residences in the community. It was finished in December 1875 by architect/builder Julius L. Weilbye. This was one of his first commissions in Livermore, and it stands at 799 South L Street.



Photo Courtesy of Livermore Heritage Guild

Weilbye later designed and/or built the Odd Fellows Hall on First Street, the Masonic Temple at Livermore and First, the William Mendenhall residence, and the Dr. McGill home (now Stocking Realty) at Livermore and Fourth Streets.

Mrs. Hart was the widow of Thomas Hart, who operated The Half Way House, a tavern on the Dublin Road. Hart later took up farming. He passed away in 1871. Ellen Hart survived him by 46 years, passing away in 1917. The cottage has obviously been added on to over time, but its essential characteristics still stand out.

# Fifth Street School

2253 Fifth Street • Livermore, CA

Built in 1922 on land originally donated by William Mendenhall, the school was a replacement structure for the 1876 Livermore Grammar School that stood on the same site. Until 1951 this stucco building was the only grammar school in Livermore but, after two more schools were opened and it lost its position as the only elementary school, its name was changed to the Fifth Street School.

The school was designed by Alameda County architect Henry Meyers and erected by E. T. Leiter and Son of Oakland. The site consists of a single and two storied building designed in an "H" shaped configuration.

Today the school is the home of the Del Valle Continuation High School but, if the district chooses to stop using the site, the land will revert to Mendenhall family descendants.



# First Livermore Library

2136 First Street • Livermore, CA

From 1878 to 1911, this small pitched roof building housed Livermore's first library. When the Carnegie Building on Third Street was completed, all the holdings were transferred to the new site. The building has had a number of tenants since the library left. After the library vacated the building, a bakery and ice cream parlor opened; later a print shop; and later still a business machine repair shop.

The site consists of a single story commercial building constructed on a rectangular plan and designed in a stripped pioneer architectural style which has been modified over time. The structure itself is sheathed in stucco. A smaller, flat roofed, commercial space has been joined to the building.



# Gardemeyer/Sangmaster House

309 North Livermore Avenue • Livermore, CA

In approximately 1879, Christ Gardemeyer, a Livermore saloon keeper, constructed this wooden, single family residence. His estate sold the property to Charles Bredhoff who then sold the home to Fred L. Sangmaster in 1897. Sangmaster was partners with Norman McLeod and together they owned a saloon until about 1919. In 1920 Sangmaster is listed in 1920 Voter Register as a farmer.

The home is built on a rectangular plan with a truncated hipped roof and flattened center. A low-angled shed roof defines the entry porch area, while tall wooden turn posts support the veranda.

A wooden picket fence surrounds the property.



Photo Courtesy of Richard Finn

# George W. Langan House

587 South H Street • Livermore, CA

One of Alameda County's best known lawyers, George W. Langan, built his first home at the corner of Sixth and H Street. He had come to California in 1872; by 1877 he had been admitted to the bar. He practiced for a short time in Oakland before coming to Livermore.

Langan married Ella Mendenhall, daughter of the town founder, and they moved into their spacious new six room home in 1885. Construction costs were \$2,000. It was in this home that the Langans raised their three children.

On an evening in late August 1903, while the family was attending an entertainment sponsored by the Methodist Church Ladies Aid Society, the Langan home caught fire. By the time the firemen arrived the house was beyond possibility of being saved. Sadly, many mementos of the Mendenhall family were lost in the fire. George Langan had a new home constructed, which was completed in early 1904.

In December 1904, the Langans moved to Oakland, and the home was sold.



Photo Courtesy of Livermore Heritage Guild

# Gordon House

4590 Tesla Road • Livermore, CA

This Queen Anne residence built by Dr. Cameron G. Gordon at the corner of Fourth and K Streets has moved twice and now rests behind the winery buildings of the Concannon Winery.

Dr. Gordon opened his medical office in 1889 in the McLeod building in Livermore. In late 1894, the doctor received a bid of \$2,200 to erect a new home, and the house was completed in 1895. The Gordons moved to Arbuckle, Colusa County and rented out their Livermore house.

In 1902 Mrs. Gordon returned to Livermore to dispose of the property. After the Gordon's, several other families occupied the house. Dr. Kenneth Kemp, a local dentist, bought the home planning to demolish it. Then Dorothy Neilsen took possession of the house, which she moved to the intersection of South Livermore and Tesla Road.

In 2002, the Virginia and John Madden acquired the property, and later the Wine Group, owners of Concannon Vineyard, bought it. Unoccupied and unsecured, the house was vandalized several times, and the owners decided to move it back on the Concannon property, where it has undergone a complete renovation.

When first constructed, the house had an apartment in the turret, a 48' foot chimney, and 32 kerosene chandeliers.



Photo Courtesy of Bill Nale

# H. Callaghan House

3057 East Avenue • Livermore, CA

This structure was built in 1880 for Henry Callaghan, a sheep rancher, who was one of six brothers to come to Livermore from County Tyrone in Ireland. When constructed, the house had ten rooms, a marble fireplace, a concrete kitchen, and an 18 landing staircase to the second floor. The Callaghan's built their home next to their 28 acre vineyard.

The site consists of a large, two-storied single family farmhouse constructed on a rectangular plan and designed in a simple Italianate Victorian architectural style. The building is sheathed in wide shiplap with narrow corner boards and has a narrow full façade front porch supported by narrow square posts and an enclosed balustrade.

A water tower is located behind the house.



# Hagemann Ranch

455 Olivina Avenue • Livermore, CA

The Hagemann Ranch Historic District consists of nine contributing buildings, two contributing structures and one site dating to the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries that are associated with the Livermore Valley's early agrarian industries.

All the buildings were constructed by Martin Mendenhall, who established the ranch in 1870 and continued farming and ranching on the property until 1896. It then passed to the Hagemann Family who continued farming and ranching until 1962 when it was sold. It continued to operate as a small ranch until 2005.

The property is a good and rare surviving example of early Livermore Valley farmstead architecture. The district demonstrates the distinctive characteristics of agrarian architecture, including a layout typical of historic ranch properties and features common to agricultural building types, including: farmhouse, barns, and outbuildings.



The historic construction methods represented in the district include a simple western building technology referred to as "plank-frame" construction, typical wood-frame, and post-and-beam construction. The district also exemplifies the common practice of using inexpensive materials for agricultural architecture and the customary adaptation of utilitarian farm buildings.

The ranch now serves as the home for Hoofprints on the Heart Adaptive Riding Center.

# Julius Jacobs House

615 Sixth Street • Livermore, CA



Photo Courtesy of Livermore Heritage Guild

The Julius Jacobs home is an outstanding representative of Queen Anne Eastlake architecture. Jacobs purchased the Livermore Soda Company in 1895 and moved the business to property he had purchased on K Street. In mid-block he built a barn and several other structures where he had his bottling facility.

Julius Jacobs and Adelina Reimers were married in November 1896, and by May 1897, Almon Weymouth, a local contractor, was building a home for them on the corner lot.

Julius Jacobs sold his business in 1902 and moved to Santa Cruz to open another soda works. In 1905, he and a business partner were killed when a pressurized tank exploded. Mrs. Jacobs returned to Livermore to live in the cottage for some years.

# Laughlin Moy House

690 South K Street • Livermore, CA

The original construction date for this house is about 1879. It was built by John O'Brien, who at one time was the owner of the Livermore Hotel, located at the southeast corner of First Street and Livermore Avenue.

The house has an association with Laughlin Moy, a native of County Donegal, Ireland. Before he came into town, Moy was employed as a sheep shearer in the Midway area. He moved into town in 1886. Part of his property was used as a dairy until 1900.

For some years, Moy was employed by Peter McKeane as a butcher. In 1908, he and Dan Moy, his brother, purchased McKeane's butcher shop and took the business name California Meat Market. H. P. Madison purchased the shop from the Moys in 1910. Later, Laughlin was employed as the library park gardener. He passed away in 1925.



Photo Courtesy of Livermore Heritage Guild

# Lawrence Livermore National Lab

7000 East Avenue • Livermore, CA

The lab now occupied by the LLNL was once home to the Livermore Naval Air Station. In 1942, the U.S. government purchased 629 acres and constructed an inland air base. The station was deactivated in 1946. Six years later, the University of California Radiation Laboratory, forerunner of the Lawrence

Livermore National Laboratory, moved into the old Navy buildings. The old naval base infirmary became the administration building, with the director's office located in a former x-ray room. LLNL is the largest employer in Livermore and the third largest in Alameda County.



Today Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory conducts some of the most innovative science and technology research in the nation-whether it's ensuring the performance of the nation's nuclear stockpile, developing capabilities to strengthen homeland security, cleaning up the environment, battling cancer, or deciphering the human genome.

# Lincoln Highway Garage

Portola and L Street • Livermore, CA



Courtesy of the Livermore Heritage Guild

The Highway Garage was built in 1915 by F. H. Duarte on the original route of the Lincoln Highway, the first transcontinental U.S. Highway. When the Carquinez Bridge was opened in 1927, the highway was re-routed and this section was eventually renamed Portola Avenue. The garage has a redwood frame with a brick front and corrugated iron sides and roof.

The garage sold Associated gasoline and oil products and also performed repairs. In 1923 the south half of the garage was added and became an automobile dealership, selling Durant Star and Flint models. Robert Livermore Jr. was one of the salesmen in the early 1920's.

In the early 1940's the garage was converted into a machine shop for rebuilding winery and farm equipment. During the 1970's the City of Livermore purchased the Duarte Garage and surrounding land for use as a park. The Livermore Heritage Guild signed a lease in 1976 to restore and maintain the garage for use as a museum.

The Duarte Garage and Lincoln Highway Museum is open the 3rd Sunday of each month.

# Livermore Centennial Light Bulb

4550 East Avenue • Livermore, CA

The longest burning light bulb in history, is located in Livermore's fire station 6. Manufactured by the Shelby Electrical Company, the bulb is pear-shaped with a carbide filament. The bulb was first installed in 1901 and provides about three candles worth of light.

The bulb has been moved four times, from a hose cart house on L Street to the Hook and Ladder Company's Second Street firehouse to the firehouse at First and McLeod Streets to its present location.

The light bulb is listed in Ripley's Believe-It-or-Not and *The Guinness Book of World Records*.



Photo Courtesy of Bill Nale

# Livermore Post Office

220 South Livermore Avenue • Livermore, CA



Photo Courtesy of Richard Finn

Constructed in 1939, this site consists of a one to one-and-a-half story building designed in a late vernacular adaptation of the Spanish Colonial/Mediterranean Revival architectural style.

The first Post Office in Livermore was founded in 1865 in Laddsville, with R. W. Graham as postmaster. In 1869, new Postmaster A. J. McLeod moved the post office to the corner of First Street and Livermore Avenue. The Post Office continued to change locations until 1939, when the existing site was opened.

# Marx-Rosenthal Building

2062 First Street • Livermore, CA

This large two-story building has changed its street side appearance significantly since it was first constructed.

The building was first constructed by A. J. Palmer, contractor, to house E. Fried's general store and residence. In July 1888, Fried also had a hay warehouse constructed. In May 1900, Mrs. Lena Marks purchased the Fried building, which was occupied by the Eastern Auction Company. The building then became known as the Marx Building.

In May 1904, Charles Livermore, the grandson of Robert Livermore, had leased the building to house his expanding grocery store from his shop in the adjoining building.

When first built in 1887, this structure was known as one of handsomest Italianate style buildings in the area. Over the years it has housed a variety of business enterprises: tailor, millinery shop, restaurant, dry cleaners, and even had an upstairs boarding house.



Courtesy of Richard Finn

# Masonic Building

First and Livermore Avenues • Livermore, CA

The Masonic Building, one of Livermore's most distinctive structures, was designed by local architect Julius L. Weilbye in the Colonial Revival style and erected on Mill Square in 1909 by C. C. Wilder for the Free & Accepted Masons Mosaic Lodge #218.

The earliest fraternal organization in Livermore, the Lodge organized in 1871. For two years, the members met at a schoolhouse in Pleasanton but moved to the new Odd Fellows Hall in Livermore in 1874. The lodge later met at the McLeod Building on Mill Square, where they stayed until their new building was completed in 1909.

Through the years, the three-story reinforced concrete building has been an important downtown asset, with various businesses occupying the first floor. The second floor contains the meeting hall and library, along with several offices. Characterized by its dormer windows, the third floor exists only on the First Street side of the building. In 1910, it included a 35' by 26' banquet room, a kitchen, storerooms, dressing rooms and a hat room.



# McGill Home

392 Livermore Avenue • Livermore, CA

This site consists of a two-story family residence constructed on a rectangular plan and designed in a vernacular Colonial Revival architectural style. The structure exhibits a low-hipped roof punctuated by a tall, rectangular shaped brick chimney, molded cornice, and wooden exterior shingles.

This ten-room home, built in 1910, was originally the residence and office of Dr. H. G. McGill, a Livermore dentist. Dr. McGill and his family moved to Oakland in 1915. It is believed that C. S. Victor, proprietor of Victor and Harris Clothing, owned the homes from 1915-1926. The property was then purchased by Margaret Callaghan Owens, daughter of John Callaghan and Margaret Moy. Margaret's husband, Charles Owen, was one of the stockmen who founded the Livermore Rodeo.

In 1967, the home was converted to commercial use.



Photo Courtesy of Richard Finn

# Memory Gardens

3873 East Avenue • Livermore CA

This cemetery is owned and operated by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows #219 of Livermore, California. From the pages of the Livermore Herald 7 August 1909 we read, "Now that the Lease of Peter Murray on the old slaughter house on East Avenue has expired, Livermore Lodge of Odd Fellows will proceed to lay out the property as a cemetery. The cemetery will be conducted according to the most modern ideas."

It wasn't until 1 October 1911 that the first plot was purchased by Jacob Waggoner. The first body to be buried in the new cemetery was Beatrice Waggoner, daughter of Logan Waggoner of San Francisco.

Due to financial reasons, in 1959 the cemetery was incorporated. A period of renovation and beautification was undertaken during 1959 and 1960. On 1 April 1960 there was an unveiling of an Italian marble Christus Statue of Carrara marble which had been placed in the center of a new section of the cemetery, The Garden of Peace.

Many members of pioneer families are buried at Memory Gardens including Anderson, Armstrong, Bargmann, Beck, Christensen, Crane, Dutcher, Groth, Hansen, Kamp, Lassen, Madsen, Nissen, Rasmussen, Rees, Taylor, and Tretzel.



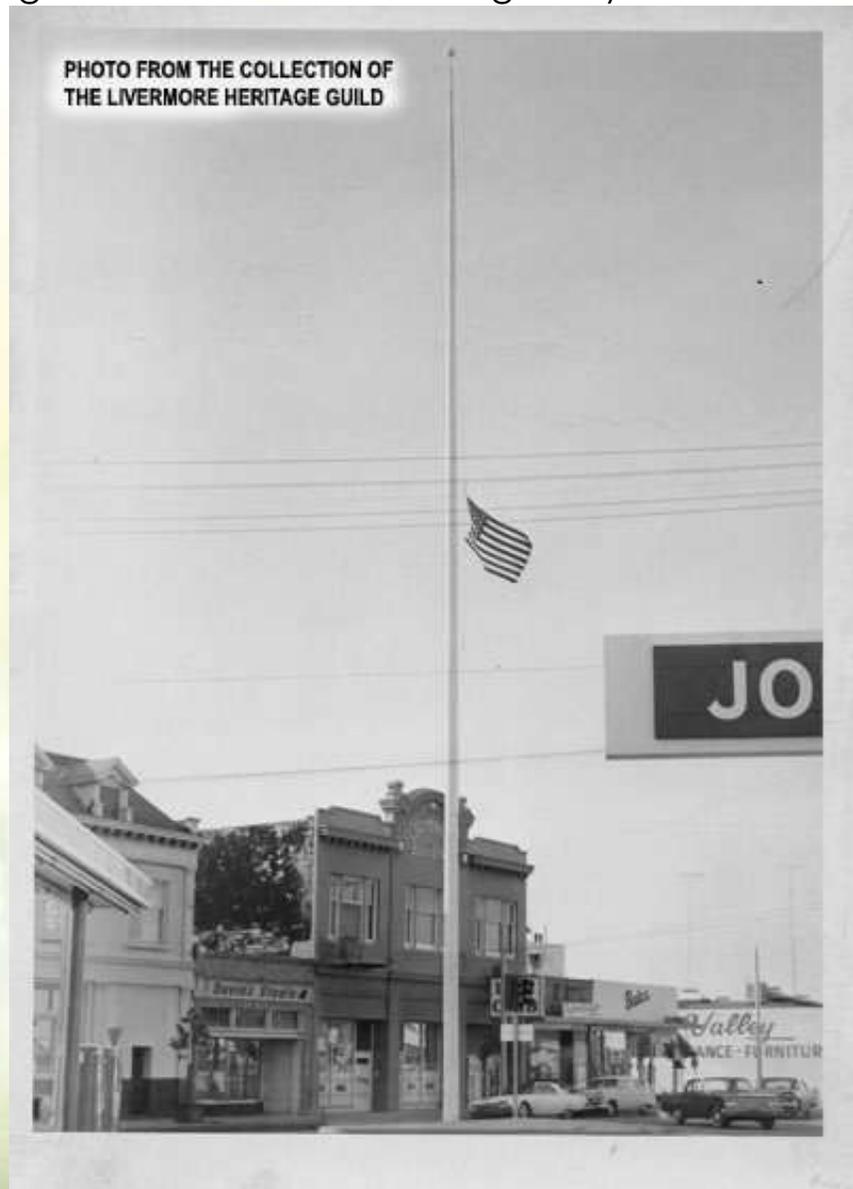
Photo Courtesy of Richard Finn

# Mill Square Flagpole

Corner of First Street and South Livermore Avenue • Livermore, CA

The small park in the southeast corner at the intersection of Livermore Avenue and First Street has been named Mill Square in memory of Livermore's first gristmill, which ground grain into flour. The mill and its attendant storage buildings once filled the area diagonally across the street, now called Lizzie Fountain Park, extending west for much of that block and along the railroad tracks. The intersection itself is often called Mill Square.

The Mill Square Flagpole, located at the corner of First Street and South Livermore, was dedicated on Admission Day, 9 September 1905. The flag pole was constructed of Oregon pine and was 126 feet tall and 18 inches in diameter. Because of excessive damage, the pole was replaced in 2005 with a fiberglass pole. Three 20-foot sections of the old pole were salvaged and pieced together to form a 60-foot pole that was installed in Carnegie Park, next to the Veteran's Memorial.



# Odd Fellows Hall

2160 First Street • Livermore, CA

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows organized a Livermore lodge in May 1873. The eleven original lodge members contracted local architect Julius L. Weilbye to design and construct this two story structure, which is now the second oldest building in Livermore. The Hall was enlarged in 1874, which explains the asymmetrical window placement on the second floor.

The street floor of the building has housed numerous commercial enterprises, including a harness shop, a furniture store, jewelers, and the local post office. The upper floor has always been used as the IOOF Lodge hall.

The building was named a Livermore city landmark in 1998.



Photo Courtesy of Richard Finn

# Old Town Hall and Firehouse

2365 First Street • Livermore, CA

Constructed in 1882 of bricks from the Pleasanton brickyard, the F. H. Hawley Building was originally used as a bank building. It had a large upstairs meeting room that was reached by an outdoor stairway and seated approximately 300 people. From 1896 until 1903 the building was used as a boarding house.

In 1903, the building was purchased by the Livermore Town Trustees for \$3000 to use as city offices. The city added a new firehouse to the east of the structure and a wooden jail to the rear. The wooden jail was replaced by a concrete jail in 1923.



In 1937, the Works Progress Administration provided 2/3 of the \$15,000 needed to reinforce the building and to cover the exterior brick with stucco. In 1957, the city offices were relocated to another site; the police and fire department continued to use the building until the late 1970s.

The building was named a Livermore Heritage Site in 1985.

# Oscar Meyers House

580 South L Street • Livermore, CA

The Meyers were early residents in the new town of Livermore, coming to the community in 1872. Jacob Meyers managed the Livermore Hotel until 1875 when it was sold. Seeing an opportunity to enlarge the housing stock in the new community, Jacob Meyers and his sons contracted for construction of many of the structures, homes, barns, and wineries in the area.

The family purchased properties on both sides of South L Street, between Fifth and Sixth Streets, and it was on one of the lots that Oscar constructed his home in 1894. At his marriage in 1895, it was reported that “the happy couple will occupy an elegant home, which the groom has so long had in readiness for the reception of his bride.”

The Oscar Meyers family moved to Oakland in 1904 where he was engaged in the home construction trade, and over a year later they sold their home to the local Presbyterian Church for use as a manse. It was not sold again until 1956.

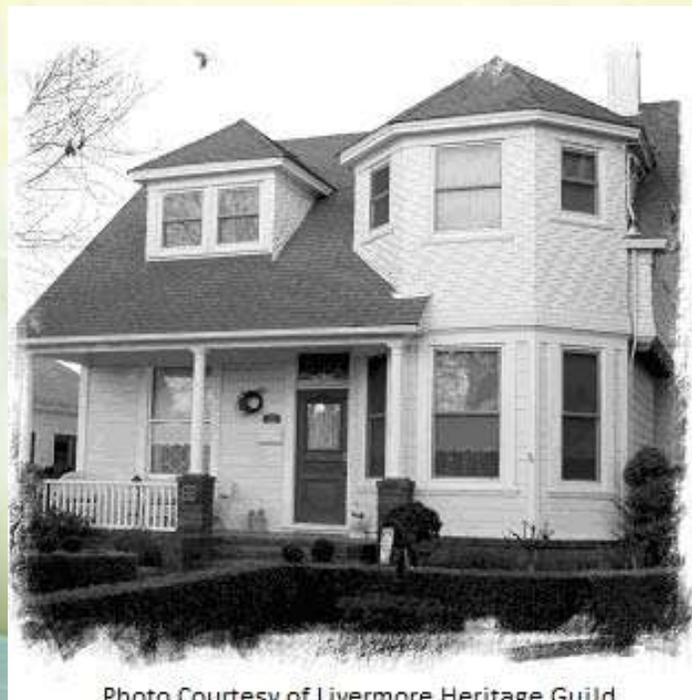


Photo Courtesy of Livermore Heritage Guild

# Raboli Family Home

2046 Second Street • Livermore, CA

The Raboli family home, erected in 1917, is often cited as a must-see home for those interested in Livermore's historic character. The Raboli brothers, Peter and Charles, were the builders of the C&P Raboli Winery building at 2074 Second Street. In 1901, after both were married, the brothers purchased this property and built a small Queen Anne style house, in which both families lived.

In 1917 they tore down the older house and had a San Francisco design firm build a new brick home, with yellow bricks purchased from the Livermore Brick Company. Charles and Peter, along with their wives, raised their families—a total of nine children—in the home. Charles died in 1936 and Peter passed away in 1946.



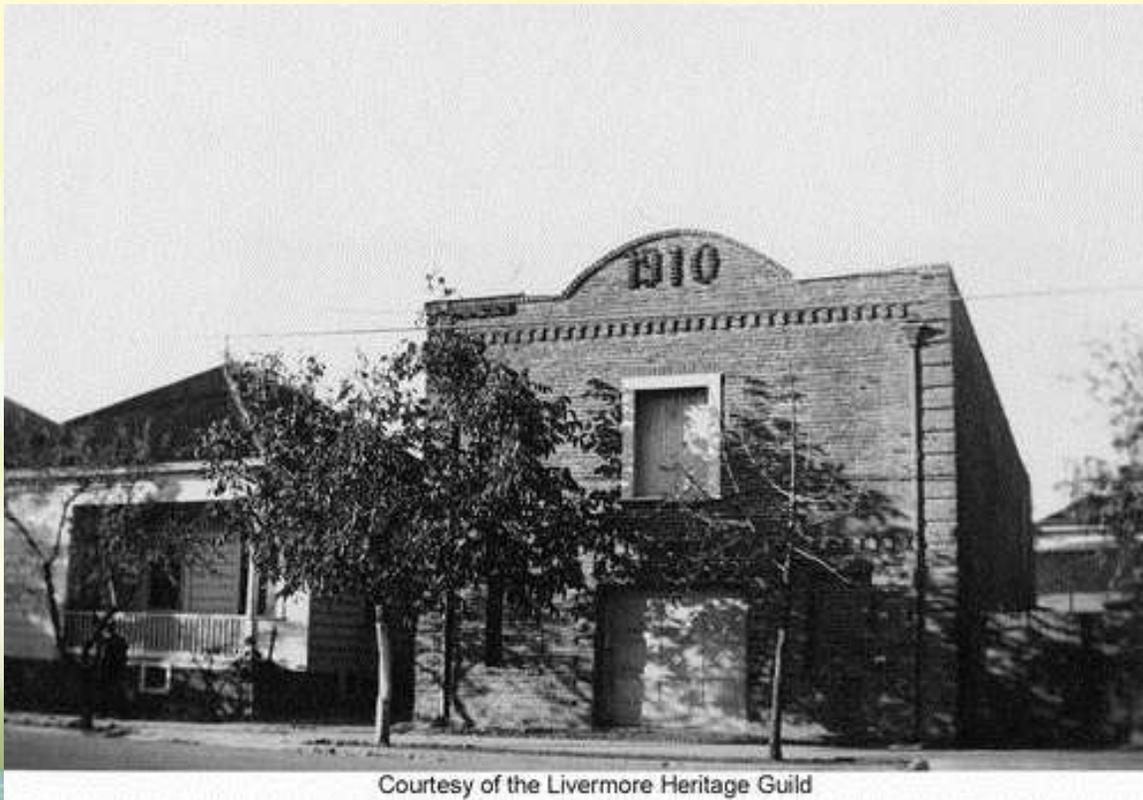
Photo Courtesy of Bill Nale

# Raboli Winery

2074 Second Street • Livermore, CA

Among the many Italian vineyard workers who came here in the 1880's were Charles and Peter Raboli. The Raboli brothers first opened a saloon in downtown Livermore and then, after purchasing an old blacksmith shop at 2074 Second Street, they began making wine in a shed at the back of the property. In 1910, they tore down the blacksmith shop and built a brick building to house their expanding winery business.

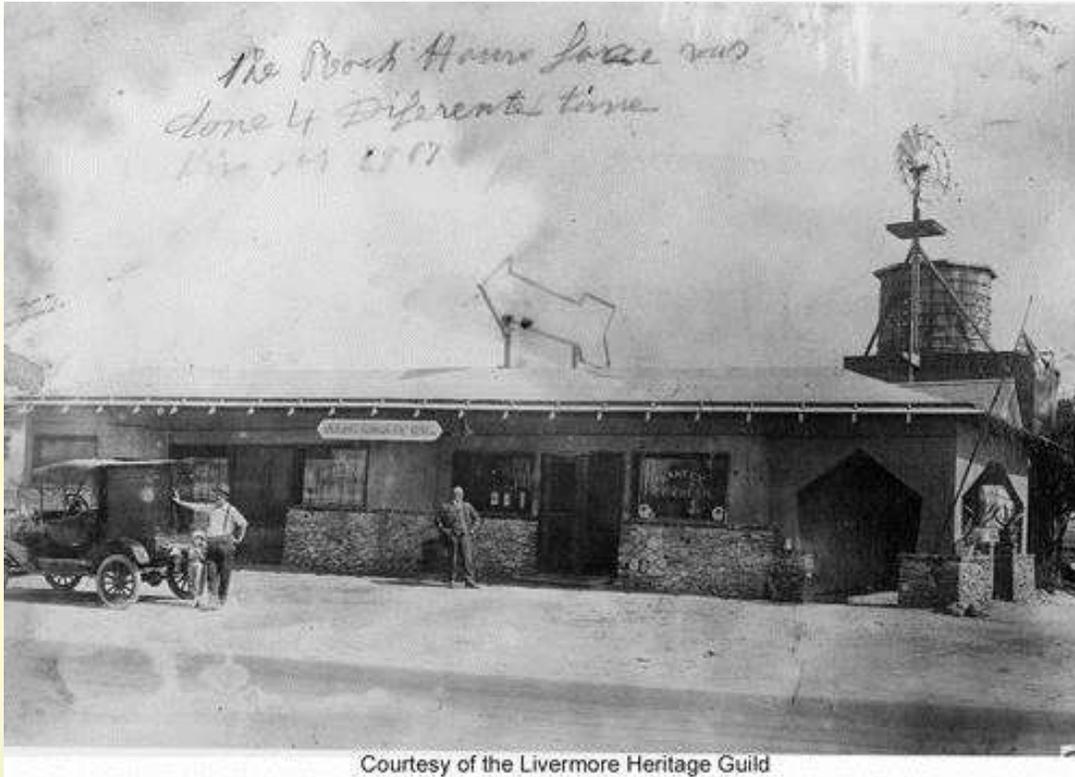
The winery closed during Prohibition but, in 1933, Peter's son Lionel reopened the business and ran it until he was drafted in World War II. Since the closing of the Raboli winery, the building has housed other retail shops, including Knodt's Flowers and Meritage Photography. Although not visible, the original brick of the Raboli Winery still exists under the existing stucco façade.



Courtesy of the Livermore Heritage Guild

# Rock House

1840 Portola Ave • Livermore, CA



In 1917, “Joe” Caratti purchased an old dance hall on old Highway 50, just across the street from the Highway Garage. They converted the dance hall into an inn, which later morphed into Club Joesville. Caratti also built a 10 cabin motor court just across the street from the club. Construction workers from Hetch Hetchy and the Veterans Administration Hospital, World War II service personnel, and rodeo fans all spent time at this local landmark.

Joe, who collected rocks and boulders as a hobby, incorporated some of his collection in the club building. After the original building was torn down in 1977, the rock arches and rock bar and fireplace were incorporated into the new structure, which is now known as the Castle Rock Restaurant.

# Roselawn Cemetery

1240 North Livermore Avenue • Livermore, CA



Photo Courtesy of Richard Finn

This cemetery was established in 1883 by the Masonic Order Mosaic Lodge #218 of Livermore, California. The original property was purchased by the Masonic Lodge in 1883 from Dennis Bernal who had in turn acquired it from the Livermore family. In 1960 the cemetery property was sold to the Art Monument Co., Inc. of Hayward who still own and control the property.

This cemetery has several individual plots or blocks for different ethnic and fraternal organizations: Germans, Danes, Eagles, Druids, Protestants, Jews, F.O.E. #609, IOOF #219, and Military.

Many members of Livermore's pioneer families are buried at Roselawn including Allen, Anderson, Armstrong, Bargmann, Beck, Beyer, Block, Bordes, Christensen, Clausen, Cockerton, Colldeweih, Foscalina, Graham, Hagemann, Hansen, Henry, Horton, Inman, Jensen, Kennedy, Laughlin, Livermore, Mally, May, Mendenhall, Nissen, Stanley, Sweet, Teeter, Twisselmann, Waggoner, Wentz, Weymouth, and Young.

# Schenone Building

2235 First Street • Livermore, CA

In 1913 Louis Schenone and his wife, Catherine Livermore, hired a San Francisco architect to design a two-story concrete building with steel reinforcement and terra cotta ornamentation.

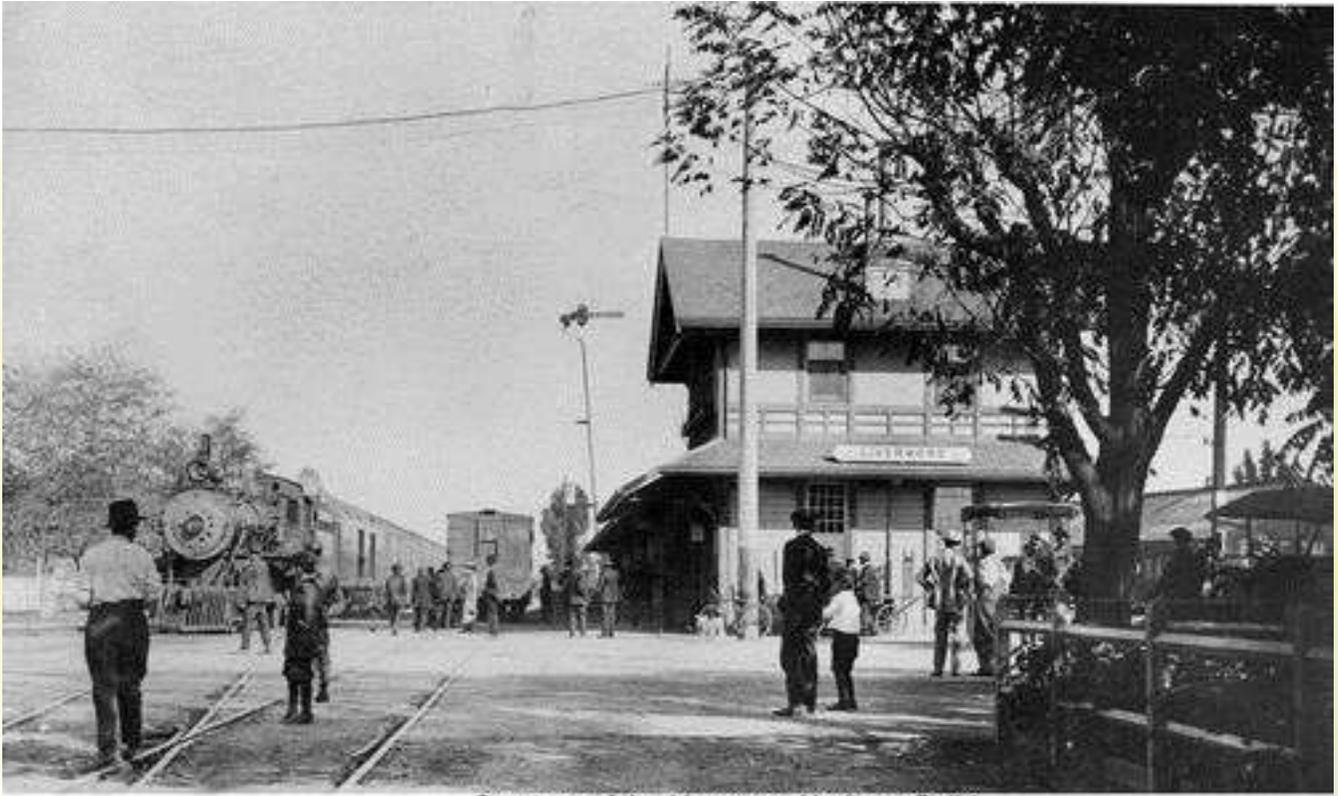


The main floor had space for two businesses and a 14 foot wide corridor leading to a motion picture theater. The second floor, which originally had space for offices, meeting rooms, and a meeting hall for the Native Son, was remodeled in 1924 and turned into restaurant space.

The Bell Theater, later called the California, and finally the State, occupied the site until the mid-1950s. The theater ticket kiosk was located in the center section of the building façade. The auditorium was at the end of a long passageway.

# Southern Pacific Depot, Livermore

20 South L Street • Livermore, CA



Courtesy of the Livermore Heritage Guild

Built in 1892 on land donated by William Mendenhall, this depot was one of the busiest sites in town. Trains carried passengers and freight from and to Livermore from San Francisco, the Central Valley, and the rest of the nation. The original rail tracks ran along the north side of the depot, and on the far side of the tracks were the water tank and the stock corrals.

The building served as a depot until 1970, when it fell into disrepair. In 1976 it was declared a local landmark under Livermore's Heritage Preservation Ordinance and was renovated by the Livermore Heritage Guild.

# St. Michael's Catholic Church

458 Maple Street • Livermore, CA

Originally established as a mission church in September 1872, St. Michael's was later designated as a parish church in August 1878. The first pastor, Father Cassidy, supervised the construction of a Gothic style church built at 2558 First Street on a piece of land donated from the Alphonso Ladd estate. The wood frame church was destroyed by fire in August 1916.

Supervised by Father Donald McKinnon, construction of the new church took place between 1916 and June of 1918. The church was designed in the Spanish Colonial Revival style, with blue plaster cupolas crowning the twin towers. The stained glass windows were donated by a number of longtime Catholic Livermore families, including the Concannons, the Livermores, the Buckleys, and the Connollys.

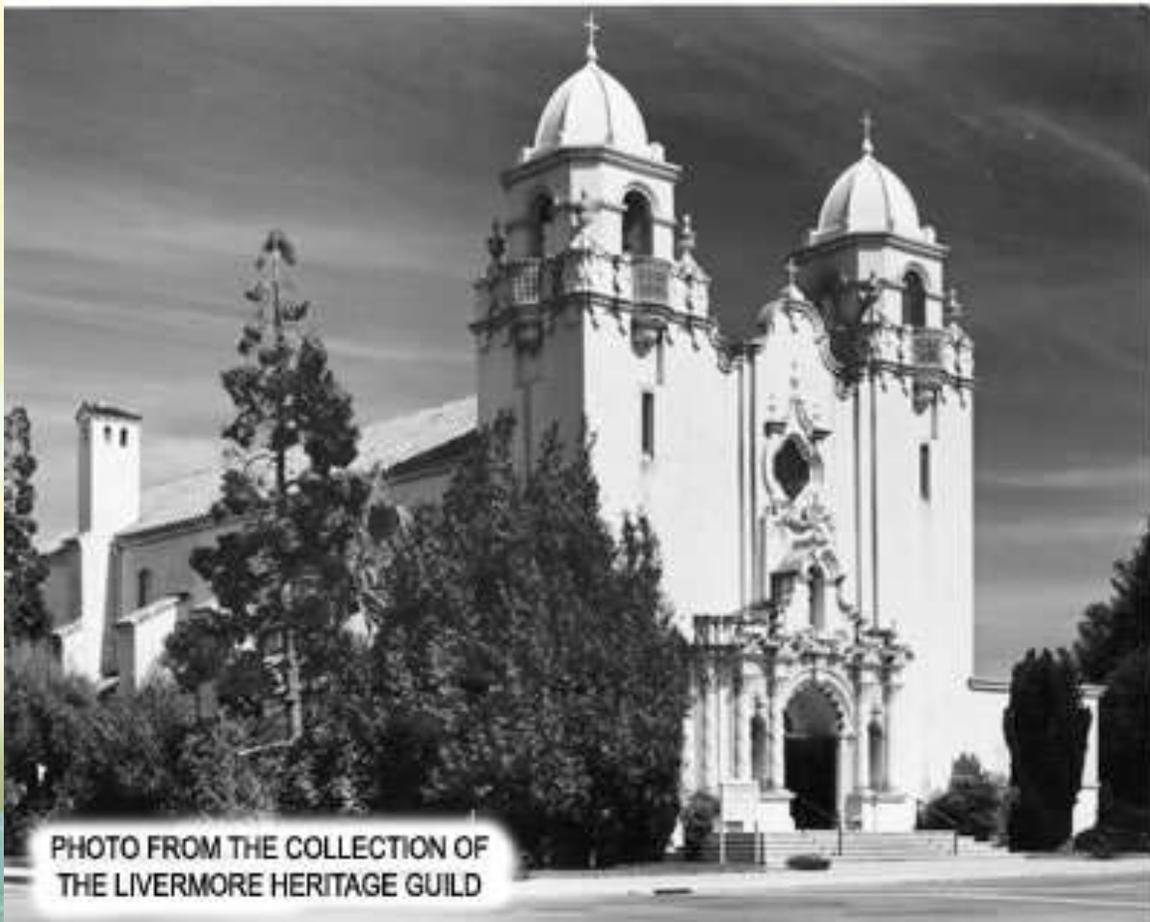


PHOTO FROM THE COLLECTION OF  
THE LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD

# St. Michael's Cemetery

3873 East Avenue • Livermore, CA

This cemetery, which is still operating, is located just past the Memory Gardens Odd Fellows Memorial Park.

The first Catholic Church to be built in Livermore was blessed in 1872. The first cemetery, however, was not opened at that time. According to *The story of St. Michael's--People, Bricks & Timbers*, "On March 4, 1879 Father Patrick Power was transferred to St. Michael's. By 1881 he had built a parish house and for \$310 he purchased from a Mr. M. McCollier 10 acres out on East Avenue to establish a church cemetery." This is the earliest date that is known for the establishment of St. Michael's cemetery.

Many members of pioneer families, including many from the Californio period, are buried at St.

Michael's Cemetery, including



Courtesy of Richard Finn

burials from the Alviso, Amaral, Azevedo, Barthe, Bettencourt, Borges, Callaghan, Cardoza, Concannon, Connolly, Croak, Devany, Egan, Fagundes, Fallon, Ferrario, Flynn, Fragulia, Frates, Gallagher, Gleese, Higuera, Kelly, Livermore, McCormick, McGlinchey, Moy, Mulqueeney, Murphy, Murray, Nevin, Raboli, Sachau, Sangmaster, Schenone, Scullion, Stanke, Twohey, Vargas, and Volponi families.

# St. Paul's Hospital

813 South J Street • Livermore, CA

Constructed in 1927 by Dr. Paul Dolan, this building was the only major medical facility between Stockton and Oakland that handled accidents and emergency care. The original building was constructed of cream colored stucco with a red tiled roof. It was designed to house 11 patients, with private rooms, as well as two wards which held three beds and a maternity room. By 1940 the hospital had been enlarged to hold 24 beds and a modern nursery. After Dr. Dolan's death, the hospital was converted to a residential care home.



Photo Courtesy of Livermore Heritage Guild

# Taylor-Twohey House

2173 Fifth Street • Livermore, CA

The cottage at 2173 Fifth Street is a fine example of Italianate architecture, a prominent style in the 1880s. George V. Taylor, the Livermore town marshal and later a rural route mail carrier, started construction of his home in December 1881 and completed it in the spring of 1882.



Photo Courtesy of Livermore Heritage Guild

In 1906 Thomas Twohey, Jr. became the owner of this property. Twohey, a cement contractor, is best known for his sidewalks. One of his contracts with the City was to create a sidewalk all around the Carnegie block.

As you walk around the community, look for Twohey's mason's mark on the Presbyterian Church's L Street side. It says "T. M. Twohey. 1911." It's one of the few left in the Old South Side.

# Thomas Scott House

2175 Seventh Street • Livermore, CA



Photo Courtesy of Livermore Heritage Guild

Thomas Scott came to Livermore in about 1887. As a young man, Scott had studied law. He was admitted to the California bar in 1889 and opened his practice in Livermore. His law offices were located on K Street between First and Second.

In the spring of 1894, Scott's home was built at the corner of Seventh and J Streets. It was initially a single story structure, but in 1897 a second story was added to accommodate his two growing sons.

Scott's law practice required him to commute on alternate days to Oakland. In the fall of 1903, Scott announced that he was moving his practice to Bakersfield.

# Veterans' Administration Hospital

4951 Arroyo Road • Livermore, CA

Opened in 1925, the site was chosen because the dry climate was believed good for tubercular patients. Although no longer dedicated to the treatment of veterans with tuberculosis, the hospital continues to serve U.S. military veterans with varying types of illness and disability.



(06-45B-15) (5-23-33-10:00 AM) (12-000) VETERANS BUREAU HOSPITAL LIVERMORE CALIF.

Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

# Veterans' Memorial Building

522 South L Street • Livermore, CA



Donated to the county by the Livermore Post American Legion, the Veteran's Memorial Building was constructed in 1931. A 5,000 square foot building constructed in the Mission Revival style of architecture, the Veteran's Memorial Building was used by American Legion Post #47 as their headquarters.

In 1977, Livermore Area Parks and Recreation Department took possession of the building and became responsible for its upkeep. After a fire in 1981, LARPD repaired and restored the building, maintaining its original appearance.

Today the building can be rented for special occasions and private parties.

# Yin-Yin Building

2083 First Street • Livermore, CA

Although significantly altered over time, this structure is acknowledged as the oldest commercial building in the community. Constructed by Charles Whitmore around 1871 to house his mercantile concern on the first floor, the second floor was initially a family dwelling. The building was done in the Italianate architectural style and the remains of the original decorative elements are still seen under the eaves of the west side. Whitmore sold the building in 1877 to Fred Schoenstedt, who opened the Magnolia Saloon on the first floor and lodging on the second. The building has been a saloon or restaurant since that time.



Photo Courtesy of Richard Finn

# PLEASANTON

Pleasanton is located in the eastern portion of the San Francisco Bay Area. The geographic location has been one of the major factors in shaping its past and will continue to shape its future.

Two hundred fifty years ago, the Valley was home to several villages of Native Americans, now called the Ohlone. The arrival of the Spanish in 1772 brought enormous changes. Mission San Jose, the fourteenth California mission, was founded on 11 June 1797. The Ohlone were aggressively incorporated into the life of the mission, while the Valley became the mission's pasture lands. In 1821, Mexico won its independence from Spain and, by the late 1830s, the vast majority of mission lands had been granted by the Governor to loyal Mexican politicians, soldiers, and supporters.

The huge influx of Yankee gold seekers, squatters and settlers, and the admission of California to the United States in 1850, quickly brought an end to the Spanish/Mexican period of California's history. Alisal, as Pleasanton was known at the time, was considered a desirable location and returning miners and new settlers began to relocate to the area. Thanks to the Central Pacific Railroad, Pleasanton soon became a farming service center and home to the oldest horse racing track in the nation. The hops grown here were sought by many of the largest beer producers in the United States and Europe, making Pleasanton internationally famous.

After being chosen as the background for the movie, "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm," starring Mary Pickford, Pleasanton served as the location for many films that desired the historic downtown and rural environs for their sets.

Home of the Alameda County Fair, Pleasanton has managed to retain its small town feel, despite the population and business growth which began in the 1960s.

# Alviso Adobe Community Park

3465 Old Foothill Road • Pleasanton, CA

925.931.3483 [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/recreation/alviso-adobe.html](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/recreation/alviso-adobe.html)

The theme of this seven acre community park/historic and interpretive site is "A Window to the Past." The main entryway frames the window, taking visitors back through three eras of the site's history: Ohlone encampment, Santa Rita Rancho and the Meadowlark Dairy.

The path to the adobe winds by an Ohlone grinding rock, heritage oaks, and native

plants. It contains a timeline, which enables visitors to learn as they walk. The park's foothill location offers spectacular views of the valley and includes gardens and orchards.

Site buildings are the Alviso Adobe, constructed in 1854, re-creations of the bunkhouse for the milking staff, and the milking barn. All are outfitted to reflect the 1920s, when the Meadowlark Dairy, California's first certified dairy, was established.

The park is open to the public every day from dawn to dusk. Buildings are open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. Weekend programs are listed in the Pleasanton Activities Guide, and tours can be arranged with the City's naturalist.



Photo by Ron Simmons

# Alameda County Racetrack

4501 Pleasanton Avenue • Pleasanton, CA

The Alameda County Fair racetrack is the oldest one-mile horse racing track in America, dating back to 1858. The family of rancho owner Augustin Bernal constructed the track, selling the property to Monroe Salisbury in 1880. Salisbury established a breeding facility known as the Pleasanton Stock Farm and used the track as a training facility famous for its sandy soil and red hay. The track continued to change hands, with improvements such as the extension of the original track to a regulation mile, the addition of a second track, and the construction of buildings such as the Heritage House.

When betting was outlawed in 1911, the track closed for 20 years but reopened in 1933, when pari-mutuel betting was legalized. During World War II, the track once more closed. The grandstand was used as a lookout tower and the track buildings were used to house Mexican laborers who were needed to harvest local crops.

After the war, the track resumed operations, but harness racing ended in 1968 and the inner track was removed.



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

# Arendt Building

500 Main • Pleasanton, CA

The Arendt family, once one of Pleasanton's most prosperous, opened their first store on this site in the early 1860s. They tore down the original structure in 1912, so that they could build this one-story Neo-Classical structure. Significant is the use of concrete. Often carved stone or plaster was used to create the smooth wall texture characteristic of the Neo Classical style. However, concrete was available and was used by this building's more technologically advanced designer.

The building has been the home of a number of local enterprises, including the Bank of Pleasanton, Pleasanton's first locally owned bank, and a branch office of the Bank of Italy, predecessor to the Bank of America. It was also the location of the local post office and the telephone exchange. The Baci Café is now operating in the old bank, where the old bank vaults are used as the restaurant's wine cellar. The English Tea Room occupies the old post office site.



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

# Arendt Commission House

450 Main • Pleasanton, CA



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

This brick Italianate-style building was completed in 1893 as the Arendt Commission House and General Merchandise Store, one of Pleasanton's first mercantile businesses.

The store sold farm produce, supplies, clothing, shoes, groceries, and building materials. The original building could be entered through doorways on three sides. About ten years after the core building was constructed, an addition was added to the back which doubled the existing floor space. By 1903, a side addition, which served as Pleasanton's post office, was added to the south side. The core building had a basement that was used for curing meat. The Druids, a fraternal order, used the second floor as their meeting hall and had a symbol for the Druid order placed in the pediment at the top of the building. H. Arendt and Co. went out of business during the depression years, and 450 Main was vacant until it was purchased in 1941 for use as a feed and hardware store. In 1973, it was leased as a furniture store.

In 1984, the building was purchased by Joe Callahan of Callahan-Pentz and was completely rebuilt using some of the original bricks and in a style to suggest the original. Vestiges of its use as a feed and grain store remain in the large loading doors facing West Neal Street.

# Arendt Home

625 Main • Pleasanton, CA

This two-and-a-half story Colonial Revival home was originally the residence of Harris Arendt, a local businessman. The house was constructed in 1888.



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

Some local residents believe that, in 1917, silent film actress Mary Pickford, who filmed portions of *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm* in Pleasanton, stayed either in this home or in the Arendt home on Second Street.

The home, which was eventually subdivided into apartments, also served as the office for the Pleasanton School District. The Superintendent of Schools lived upstairs with his family. In 2008, the building underwent significant renovation, and today it is the home of the Blue Agave Restaurant.

Some of original landscaping, including the two palm trees located in the front yard, remain but the enclosed front porch is a later addition.

# Bohemian Café

443 Main • Pleasanton, CA



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

Built in 1879 in the Richardson Romanesque style, this building was first the Bohemian Café, then Hap's, and then another bar called the Starting Gate.

With its cut brick façade, it may be Pleasanton's last remaining example of a commercial Queen Anne inspired façade. A. J. Bicknell's *Wooden and Brick Buildings with Details*, published in 1875, may have been used as a guideline by a local bricklayer to create the surface animation found on the front of the building. The Italianate keystone arches and the ornate brick detailing were re-exposed during the building's renovation in 1990.

# Castlewood Country Club

707 Country Club Circle • Pleasanton, CA



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

After her husband's death in Washington in 1891, Phoebe Apperson Hearst commissioned architect Julia Morgan to complete a mansion that her son, William Randolph Hearst, had started on her Pleasanton property. Phoebe built a 53 room structure of Mediterranean and California Mission architecture, which she named La Hacienda del Pozo de Verona.

After her death from the Spanish flu in 1919, William sold the mansion and land to a group of businessmen, who turned the property into Castlewood Country Club. They added two golf courses, one on the hillside in 1926 and one in the valley in 1948. Lots in the area were sold primarily as second homes for wealthy residents of Oakland and San Francisco.

The Hacienda served as the Castlewood Club House until it was destroyed by fire in 1969. A new clubhouse now stands in the same spot, but two buildings from the original estate still remain—the dressing rooms at the swimming pool and a two-story structure that was once used as an apartment.

# Century House

2401 Santa Rita Road • Pleasanton, CA

The Century house is a gothic revival style home built in 1870. This style was very popular on the East Coast in the pre-Civil War period. The cottage style is associated with pastoral country life. The main architectural feature is an emphasis on vertical lines. Several rooflines have steeply pitched gables and windows that are usually quite tall and narrow.



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

A San Franciscan by the name of George Atkinson built the original structure as a vacation home and hunting retreat. The area was suited for a hunting lodge since most of the surrounding area was tule marshes and a migratory stop for ducks. People from San Jose and San Francisco saw Pleasanton

and Niles Canyon as retreats for hunting and swimming and as pleasant places to escape the hustle and bustle of the big city.

The marshes were drained and the Spring Valley Water Company bought the property for the water. The 50 acres of land surrounding the home was used to raise wheat, alfalfa, hops, and supported an orchard. The Blacow family lived in the house and made it their home until the 1940s.

The City of Pleasanton took over ownership in 1970 and restored the house to its original splendor. The grounds and the home are rented out by the Pleasanton Park and Recreation Department for weddings and other ceremonies. The house and surrounding grounds have become part of Pleasanton's Bicentennial Park.

# Cheese Factory

824-830 Main • Pleasanton, CA

Originally this site contained two separate buildings. Mrs. José Maria Amador, wife of rancho Don José Maria Amador, lived in the 824 Main Street address until approximately 1907. Her home was a simple one-story frame building, with a second story false front highlighted with a Queen Anne sunburst pediment.



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

The terra cotta brick building, a one-story cinderblock structure with an Art Deco styled brick façade, was built in 1916.

In 1917, Jimmy Voultides brought his cheese recipes from Greece and opened the Parnassus Cheese Factory in the new building. Although the factory remained in family hands, in the 1930s, it was renamed the Standard Cheese Corporation and, in the 1970s, the Cheese Factory.

# C. H. Dall's Harness and Saddlery

520 Main • Pleasanton, CA

One of the first Pleasanton commercial buildings to have large display windows, Antone Silver purchased this site and began operating a pool hall in 1890. City records show that he paid the City of Pleasanton \$35 for his liquor license.



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

Dall's Harness and Saddlery opened in the 1920s. The shop crafted leatherwork for ranching and horseracing needs, including those of Phoebe Hearst. Living quarters for the owner and his family were upstairs.

By World War II, the structure was once more used as a pool hall, offering entertainment to visiting sailors from Camp Parks.

By the 1970s, the building had been plastered with stucco and lacked detail or ornamentation. New owners renovated the building in 1975, removing the stucco and adding the wooden awning and plank sidewalk.

# Christesen's

629-633 Main • Pleasanton, CA



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

In 1929, Peter Christesen and partner Andrew Greve built a terra cotta building at 633 Main Street for their retail business, which sold such items as shoes, hosiery, jeans, and other work clothing.

Christesen became the sole owner and expanded the business into the neighboring furniture store located at 629 Main. He also filled in the carriage way located between the two buildings and opened the Tack Room, a saddlery which sold goods to both the racetrack and local riders. Eventually all three buildings were connected and integrated into one store.

Christesen's remains the original occupant and is Pleasanton's longest surviving commercial establishment.

# Fiorio's Market

272 Rose • Pleasanton, CA

This two-story structure was built in 1898 by Frenchman Louis Giraud. The building was a combination saloon and general merchandise store with a residence upstairs for family members. The layout was typical for a 19<sup>th</sup> century commercial building.

Louis Giraud sold the building, and eventually the Fiorio family became the owners and operators of the market. The store was small and primarily stocked canned goods. Fresh produce and meat were purchased from local vendors. Later a curing room was added. During Prohibition the saloon closed and the store expanded into the entire bottom portion of the building.

Additions to the original structure include the enclosure of the exterior stairs on the northwest end of the building and a second story room on the east end. Large plate glass windows and stucco siding have also been added.



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

# First National Bank of Pleasanton

700 Main • Pleasanton, CA



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

This Mission Revival style building was constructed in 1910 as the First National Bank of Pleasanton. When it first opened, the bank was capitalized for \$25,000 and had three employees. Because the assistant manager spoke Portuguese, the bank served many of the area's Portuguese speaking families.

On 8 January 1926, the bank was robbed by three masked men, none of whom were ever captured. Later, the bank was to be known as the home of the annual Jackson and Perkin's Rose show.

In 1968, the bank relocated to 749 Main and the old building was remodeled as office and retail space.

# First Presbyterian Church, Pleasanton

100 Neal Street • Pleasanton, CA

In 1876, forty-seven Pleasanton citizens met to form a Protestant Church. Thirty-five voted for the Presbyterian denomination, winning the vote. Plans were immediately made to buy property and build a church. Three sites were considered, but the Neal Street site was chosen when Joshua Neal offered to donate the land. After this New England Gothic style church was completed, a number of denominations, including Lutherans and Methodists-Episcopalians, used the church for Sunday services.

The original structure was substantially different from what is visible today. The instructions given to two local carpenters, John Walton and Charles Neal, were to construct a church “in the style of the old school house (28' x 44') with a plain belfry.” Old photos of the school house suggest a simple Italianate structure with a bell tower set atop the roof, while an 1888 photo of the church shows that the belfry was located to the rear of its present position.

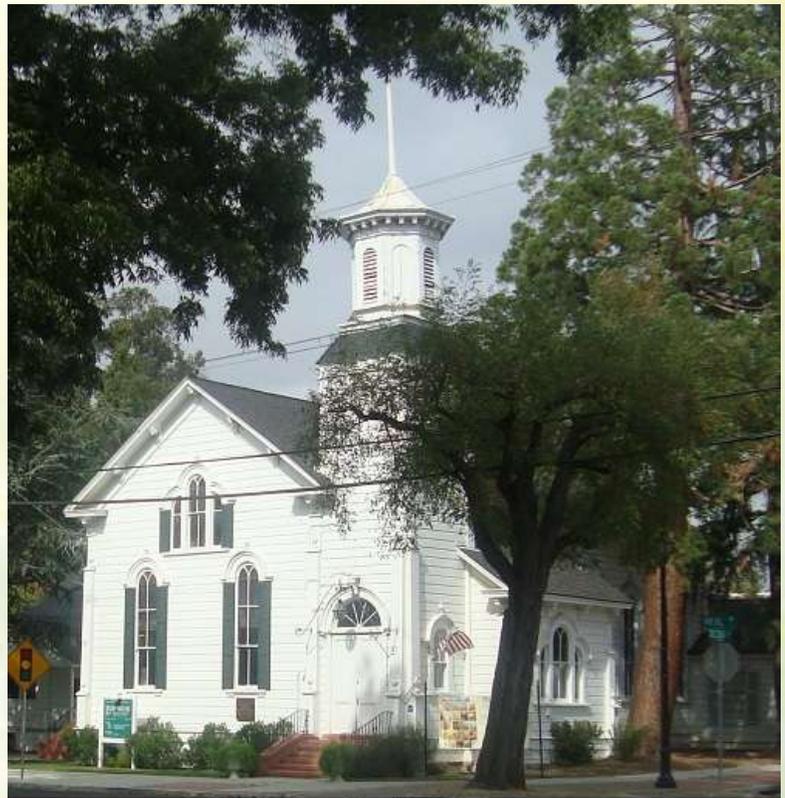


Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

In 1889, the first of several improvements and renovations were made and, by 1923, the church building had become the building that we see today.

# French Steam Laundry

550 Main • Pleasanton, CA

The site of the Fashion Livery Stable from 1902-1937, this terra cotta brick building was erected in 1937 as the French Steam Laundry.



# Gale Building

62 West Neal • Pleasanton, CA

In 1882, C. H. Wise, the builder of Kolln Hardware, erected a two-story brick building for Phillip Wenig, a local butcher. Mr. Wenig raised much of his own stock for his butcher shop on a ranch west of Pleasanton and opened one of the first meat markets in Pleasanton. The back part of the first floor was for the processing and curing of meat, while meat sales occupied the front of the building. Two large entry doors, part of the original building, may still be seen. The second floor served as the family living quarters.

With the incorporation of Pleasanton came new demands for office space. In 1895, the Wenigs decided to expand the building to the east and south, giving it a truncated pie shape that parallels both Neal and the old railroad tracks.



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

This building has been owned continuously by one family--first the Wenig family and then their in-laws, the Gales. The building first housed law offices in the 1890s when T. W. Harris opened his offices there. It later held the law offices of other family members, Charles and William Gale. At one time, the building also housed the Bank of Pleasanton and the Pleasanton Justice Court.

In 1995, the building underwent significant renovation, but the exterior appearance remained similar to its original perspective.

# Gay Nineties Pizza Co.

288 Main • Pleasanton, CA



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

This structure is believed by some to be the oldest commercial building in the city of Pleasanton.

It has been the home to at least three local enterprises, including Lucas Pain Shop in the 1890s. In the early 1930s, the building housed the Blue Goose Saloon, a restaurant and bar run by Mario Adami. Before that, it was operated by Pete Regalia.

In 1959, the building became home to the Gay Nineties Pizza Co. and has now become a local landmark and tourist site.

# Gold Creek

5422 Pleasant Hill • Pleasanton, CA

On 2 April 1988, the Joaquin Murrieta Chapter 13 of E Clampus Vitus unveiled this historical plaque commemorating the discovery of gold in Gold Creek in 1871. Taken from "Dublin Gold" by Dan Mosier and Page Finney, the plaque reads:

Gold Creek  
the Great Gold Discovery of 1871

On 8 February 1871, two men, by the names of Neal F. Taylor and Timothy Cox, who were looking for coal in the area found more than they were looking for. On this creek, which comes down through the then Dougherty Ranch the two men found a gold nugget. They prospected the area finding more nuggets and gold dust. Soon others heard of this and there was a grand rush to Gold Creek. There were 20 claims staked and some 30 men working the creek for gold, which never produced much and was deserted by April 1871. There is no longer gold in the creek, but it is yet another chapter of gold mining in Alameda County.

Dedicated to the hardy miners of the 1800s this April 2, 1988 by Joaquin Murrieta Chapter 12 E Clampus Vitus



Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

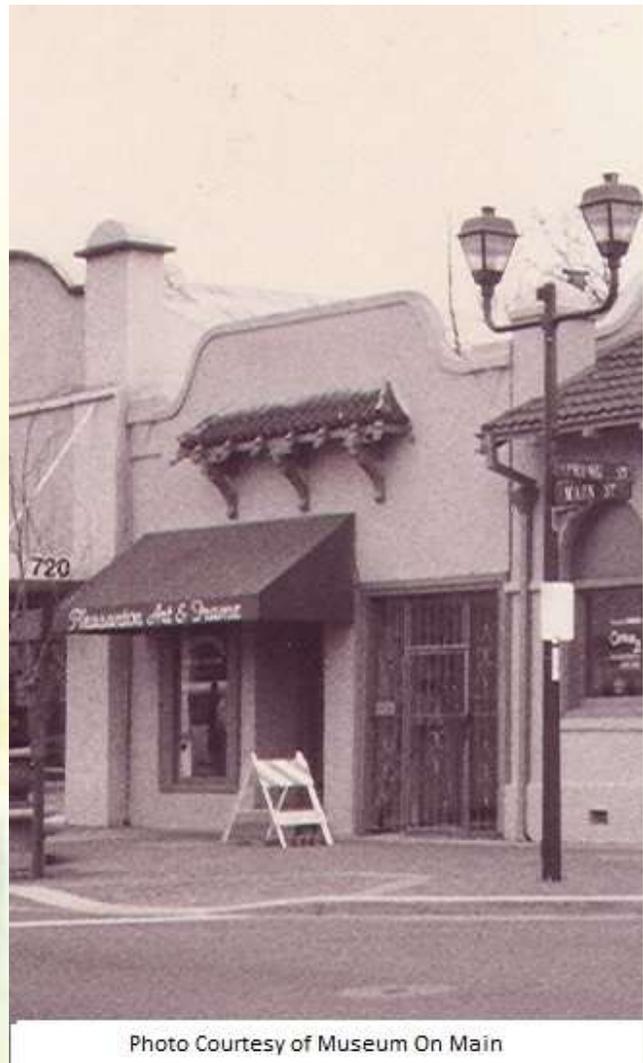
# Graham Mortuary

706 Main • Pleasanton, CA

After marrying the daughter of Pleasanton's first mortician, Charles Graham opened Graham Mortuary in 1904, operating out of a small wooden structure located at 4417 Railroad Avenue.

In 1910, he built this mission style building to house his undertaking business. In 1939, Graham sold the business to Ralph Hitch, who renamed the enterprise Graham-Hitch Mortuary. Hitch built a new mortuary in 1954 and vacated the 706 Main site. In a strange twist of irony, the first funeral conducted out of the new building was that of Charles Graham.

The old Graham Mortuary is the longest used mortuary structure in Pleasanton and is an example of California's indigenous architectural expression, the Mission style. The building displays standard Mission features, such as simple stucco walls, overhanging roof eaves, and end towers. The alley, now enclosed, was originally a hearse entrance and the large display window in the front was used to display coffins.



# Hap's

122 West Neal • Pleasanton, CA

Hap's Restaurant has become a local institution. Originally a bar owned by Hap Bonde, it was sold to Milt and Julie Dunhan in 1949. Local legends allege that Milt promised Julie that he would get out of the horse racing business someday. When one of their horses finished last at Bay Meadows, Milt decided it was time to buy Hap's bar. Since he couldn't afford the \$50 to change the sign, he kept the bar's original name. They later bought a home just behind the bar and connected the two structures. Hap's became known as a family place, and children were welcome to sleep in the adjoining home if they got tired before their parents were ready to leave.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Harzell's Drugstore

645-649 Main • Pleasanton, CA



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

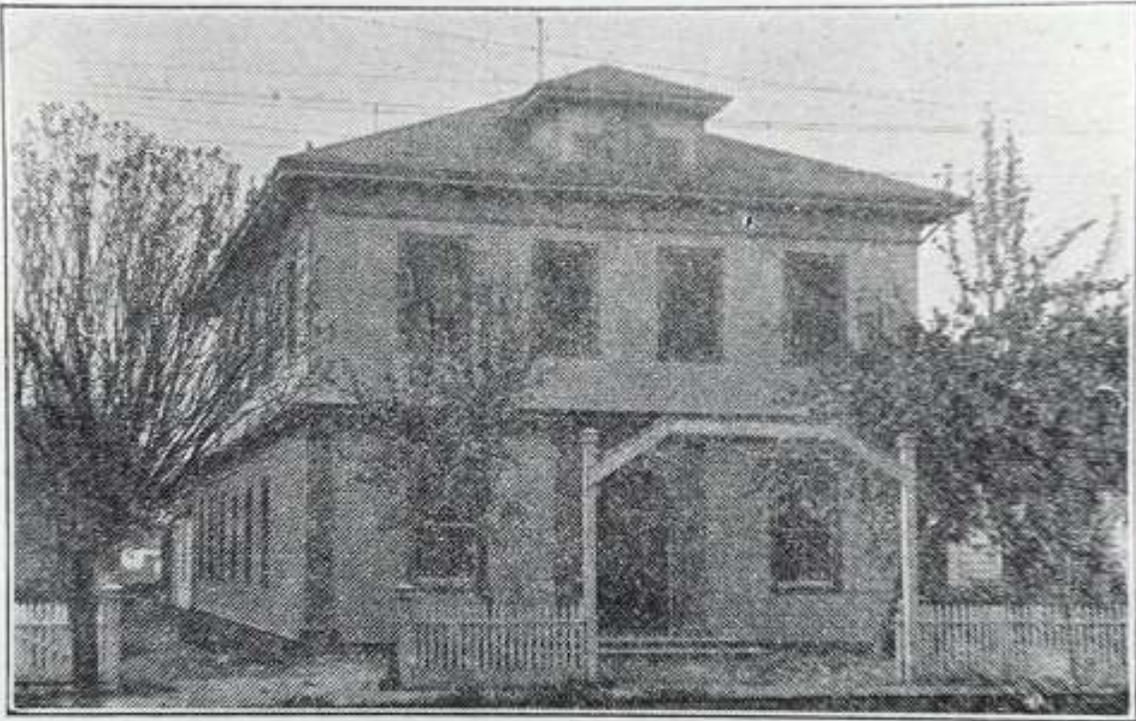
Herman Kolln built these terra cotta brick style buildings in 1928. One part of the building (645-647) served as the Greyhound Bus Station until 1956.

The 649 address became the home of Harzell's Drug Store, whose new owner supposedly won the pharmacy in a poker game. When Harzell died in the late 1930s, Andrew Jorgensen took over the business and changed the name to Jorgensen's Drug Store. The drugstore changed hands again, this time purchased by Rusty Hewitson who named his business Alisal Drug. In 1976, Hewitson vacated the site and, in 1989, Strizzis Restaurant moved in.

In 2007, local artist Gary Winters painted a mural on the northern wall, depicting iconic scenes from Pleasanton's history.

# I.D.E.S. Hall

404 St. Mary • Pleasanton, CA



**EDIFICIO DO CONSELHO No. 15. PLEASANTON, CALIF.**

Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

This Craftsman Stick-Eastlake building was constructed in 1910 as the meeting hall for the Irmandade de Devino Espirito Santo (Brotherhood of the Divine Holy Spirit).

The Irmandade do Devino Espirito Santo, more commonly known as the I.D.E.S., is a Portuguese society first organized in San Jose on 9 July 1891. The I.D.E.S. provided a number of social and fraternal programs for its members and offered a benefit system that included a protection program to member families, a charity fund, and a scholarship fund.

This building served as the social hall for the Pleasanton Portuguese community, whose members organized the first annual Pleasanton Holy Spirit Parade in 1903.

# J. J. Amaral Gas Station

707 Main • Pleasanton, CA

In 1874, the Victorian style Germania Hotel was built on this site by John Kottinger. In 1881, it was renamed the Pleasanton Hotel.

The hotel was torn down in 1931 when John Amaral built the present gasoline station in the Mission Revival style for \$5,000.

The 711 Main address was used as a garage for the adjacent gas station. The arches for the garage are still visible on the southern wall behind the gas station.

The gas station is the oldest station in Pleasanton and the only one remaining on Main Street.



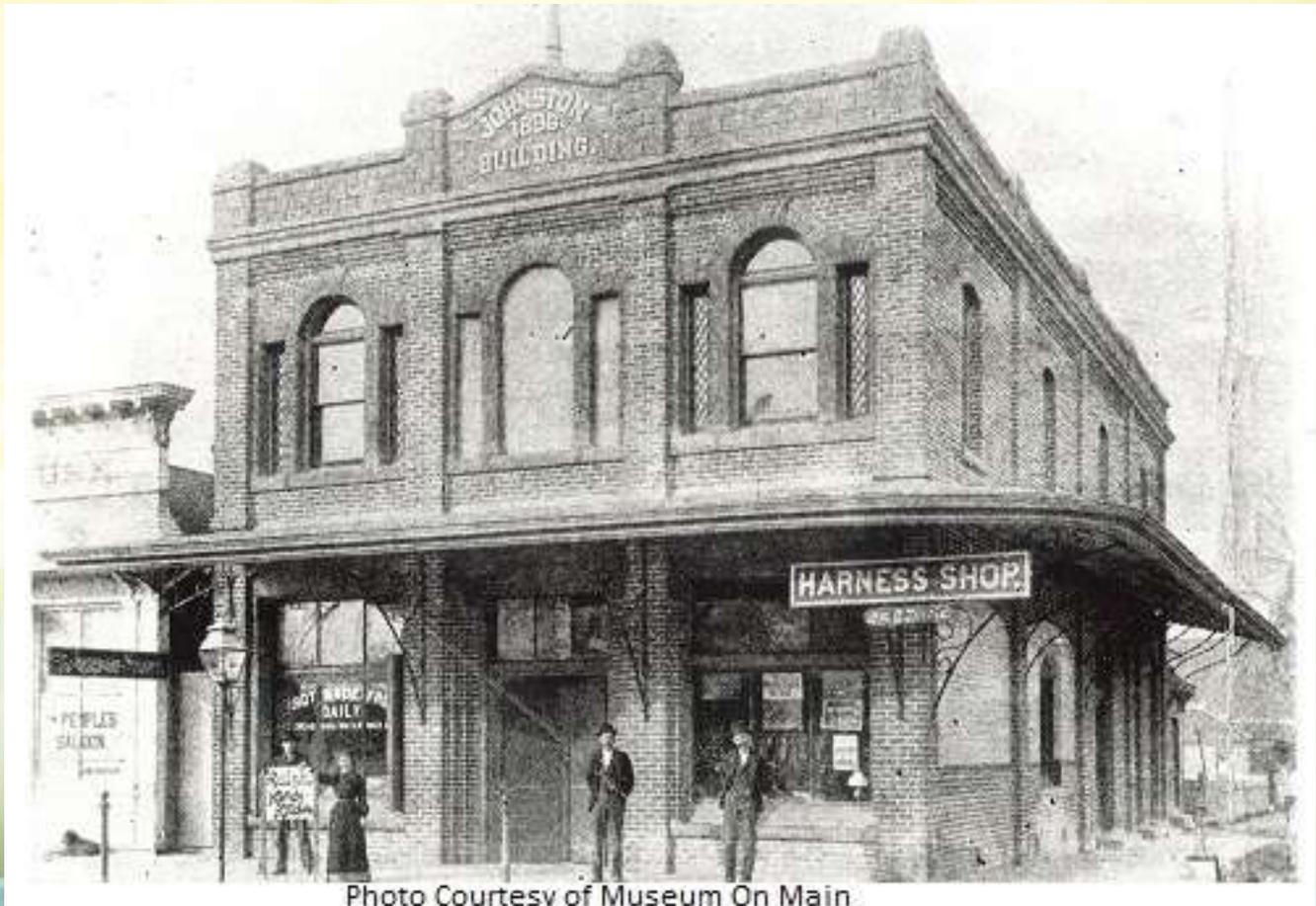
Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

# Johnston Building

465 Main • Pleasanton, CA

The remodeled and rehabilitated Johnston Building was built by George Johnston in 1896 and was used as a harness shop and candy store. It has housed a number of businesses since it was first constructed, including a mercantile store, a bakery, and a shoe shop.

The most notable architectural feature of the building is the cut-stone parapet. While still retaining a 19<sup>th</sup> century flavor, the building has been totally renovated. The exterior was sandblasted, the wood interior torn out, cement floors put in, and the brick skeleton reinforced with steel beams and structural grade plywood.



# Kolb General Merchandise Store

624 Main • Pleasanton, CA

Philip H. Kolb came to Pleasanton in 1878 and opened a bakery and general merchandise store. In 1890, he erected a new two-story building on the site of the old one. The downstairs and the basement housed his merchandise store, and the upstairs served as living quarters for his family, which included six children. The structure had a large balcony, similar to the one at the Pleasanton Hotel, and the basement was accessed from the exterior.

The family moved out of the upstairs and turned the space into a rental hall. In 1897, the upstairs was remodeled and became home to the Pleasanton Justice Court. The family closed the business in the 1920s, and the new owners applied stucco over the wood siding and closed in the area under the original balcony.

A number of retail stores occupied the building, until 1954, when Dean's claimed the site as its home. Home to Dean's Café for a number of years, the restaurant is considered a local landmark.

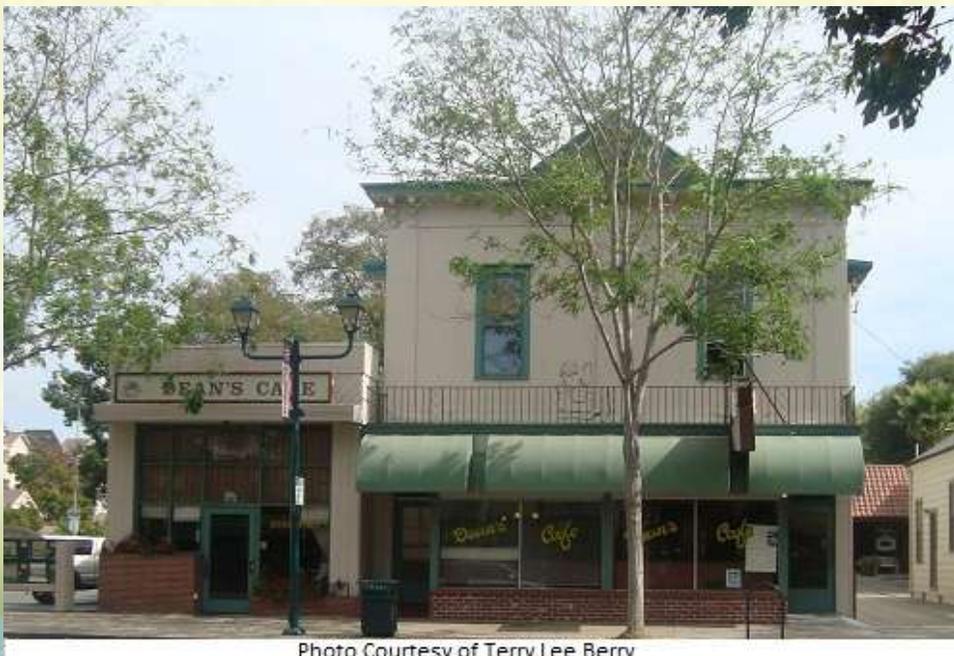


Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Kolln Hardware Store

600 Main • Pleasanton, CA



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

The original hardware store at this location, the Pinkley Tin Store, was constructed in 1876. It was moved when a new hardware store was built in 1899 by C.A. Wise.

In 1905, James Cruikshank and H. G. Kolln took over the site and opened the Cruikshank and Kolln Hardware Store. The name was changed in 1933 when Cruikshank left the business. The building was a fine example of Italianate Colonial Revival style architecture and was fondly referred to as the "White Corner" by locals.

Kolln's remained in business until 2004, when the hardware store closed, and the building underwent major structural renovation. The exterior appearance was retained and the building appears much as it did when first constructed.

# Kottinger Barn

200 Ray Street • Pleasanton, CA

This adobe barn was built in 1851 by John Kottinger. Kottinger had married Maria Refugia Bernal, daughter of rancho owner Juan Pablo Bernal, and this property was part of her dowry.

Kottinger was the first American settler in Alisal (now Pleasanton). He was also the first justice of the peace of the new 400 square-mile Murray Township. His adobe home was located nearby on Main Street. He held court in his house and used part of the barn as a jail.

When first erected by John Kottinger, the two-story barn was built with 2 ½ foot thick adobe brick made from native clay. The barn had a redwood frame, with a sawed redwood shingle roof, bars on the windows, and a stone foundation. This is one of the two intact American-era adobe structures left in Pleasanton and is the only Pleasanton building on the National Register of Historic Places.



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

# Lincoln Theater

511 Main • Pleasanton, CA

The Gem Theater was a nickelodeon built in 1910 by J. P. Rosa. According to the local newspaper, the 28' x 80' building was fitted with three exits, had a rotunda front, a sloping floor so that patrons would not have to crane their necks, regular theater chairs, a stage, and good ventilation.

In 1917, after the motion picture theater was sold and the new manager had installed new opera chairs, the business was renamed the Lincoln Theater.

After the theater moved to a new location, Barry's Auto Garage occupied the space. Later the building was again remodeled and became Pastime pool hall.



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

# Lincoln Ziegenfuss Auto

720 Main • Pleasanton, CA

Built around 1920, this Mission Revival style building first housed a garage and car showroom owned by Lincoln Ziegenfuss.

In 1945, it became the Rancho Theater, Pleasanton's first Spanish-speaking movie house.



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

# Museum On Main

603 Main • Pleasanton, CA

Originally the site of a butcher shop, the property at 603 Main Street was purchased by the Women's Improvement Club in the early 1900s. In 1913, when the City of Pleasanton proposed construction of a new Town Hall, the Women's Improvement Club donated the property. The current building, designed by William Binder in the Spanish Colonial style, was erected in 1914 with brick from the Livermore Brick Factory at a cost of \$10,000.

In exchange for the land, the City leased a space for 49 years at \$1 per year to the Women's Improvement Club for use as a club room, library and reading room. During WWII, Women's Improvement Club members could be seen rolling bandages and making gauze pads for the military hospitals. The City used the remainder of the building as a City Hall with offices and Council Chambers. As the City expanded, the Police Department took over the building and remained there until 1983.

In 1983, the property was leased to the Amador-Livermore Historical Society. After an extensive historical renovation, it became the Amador-Livermore Valley Historical Museum, now known as "Museum on Main."

The Museum on Main is a non-profit organization dedicated to linking the past to the future by preserving, clarifying and disseminating information about history specific to the region. Visitors to the museum enjoy exhibitions, walking tours, lectures, and educational programs. For more information, call 925.462.2766 or visit the website at [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org).



# Pleasanton Arch

600 Main • Pleasanton, CA



Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

After two years of fundraising effort by the Pleasanton Women's Improvement Club, the city's first neon sign, the Pleasanton Arch, was dedicated on 8 March 1932. The Pleasanton Arch was installed at a cost of \$532, paid by the Women's Improvement Club, while the City of Pleasanton paid \$91.25 for the poles.

In 1935, electrical wiring was completed for an alarm horn and lights, so that the sign could be used by the police department as a communication device. The siren and flashing lights could notify the chief of police and the community about local emergencies. During World War II, the sign and its alarm was assigned the duty of air raid warning system.

# Pleasanton Jewelers

515 Main Street • Pleasanton, CA

This structure, originally a wood false front shop, is first listed in the Sanborn Fire Maps as the site of a Chinese-owned building. In subsequent years it is marked as B&S and the Pioneer Barber Shop, and today is the home of the Pleasanton Jewelers.



Photo Courtesy of the Museum On Main

# Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery

5780 Sunol • Pleasanton, CA

Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery, owned by the City of Pleasanton, is located at 5780 Sunol Boulevard, Pleasanton, approximately ¼ mile south of the Pleasanton Senior Center.

The Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery was formerly called the "Odd Fellows Cemetery." This cemetery was owned and operated by the International Order of Odd Fellows, who organized in Pleasanton on 17 January 1877 with six members. An early ledger held by the Museum On Main records 23 very early burials in the cemetery, starting in 1886. Of the 23 burials, there are still six surviving headstones.

The first recorded burial is of a Sunol Glen resident named Peek, first name not given. The burial was in Lot #91 on 2 May 1886. There is no surviving grave marker for Mr. or Mrs. Peek.

The City of Pleasanton acquired the former Pleasanton Memorial Gardens Cemetery from the International Order of Odd Fellows in early 2007.



Photo courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

# Pleasanton Hotel

855 Main • Pleasanton, CA



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

This is the third Main Street site to be named the Pleasanton Hotel.

Originally the location of a general store built and run by John Kottinger, in 1864, Kottinger built a small hotel that he called the Farmers Hotel. As it does today, Kottinger's hotel sat alongside the Arroyo del Valle at the north end of Main Street and was the first hotel in Pleasanton.

When the original hotel burned down in 1898, new owner Henry Reimers constructed a new building that had 14 rooms, a dining room, a bar, and electricity. After another fire in 1915, the hotel was renovated and renamed The Riverside Hotel. In 1934, it officially became The Pleasanton Hotel. By the 1960s, the hotel had stopped taking overnight guests and the upstairs rooms were converted to private offices.

# Pleasanton Shoe Store

525 Main • Pleasanton, CA

This building was originally used as the post office and a stationary store. Later businesses included a cigar manufacturer, a harness shop, and a shoe store.

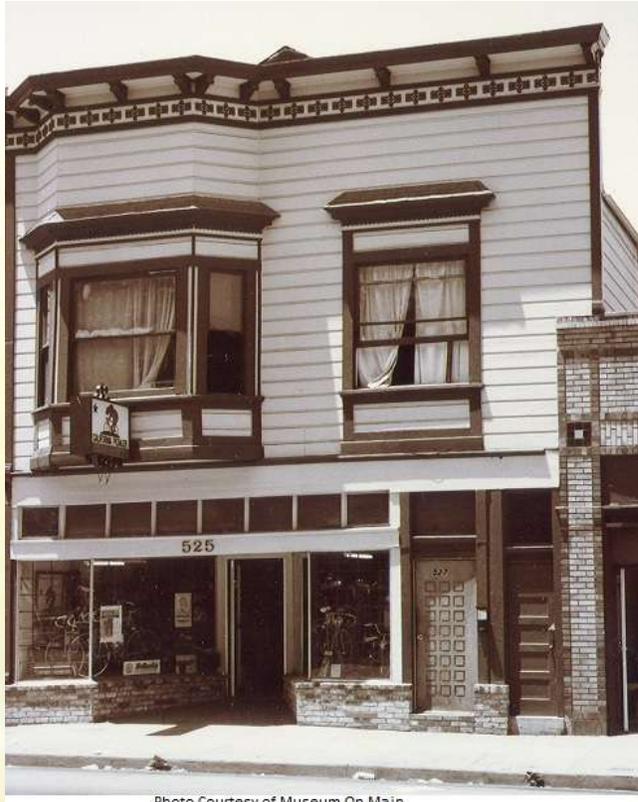


Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

Architecturally, this building is the only remaining intact example of the narrow false front Italianate building left on Pleasanton's Main Street. The second-story slanted bay window is common to both Queen Anne and the Italianate townhouses and is typical of late 19<sup>th</sup> century planning. The large second-story windows and the use of novelty siding also suggest a late 19<sup>th</sup> century date.

It was common practice for builders to use mail order catalogs that contained architectural elements that could be mass produced. The decorative artwork over the second floor windows and below the cornice possibly came from an 1879 George O. Stevens catalog.

# Roxy Theater

641 Main • Pleasanton, CA

Originally known as the New Lincoln Theater, this building was constructed in the 1927 by the architectural firm Miller and Warnecke. The new owners, Mr. and Mrs. Chicazola, opened the theater on 7 December 1928 with "Some One to Love" starring vaudevillian Charles Buddy Rogers.

In 1937, the theater was renamed the Roxy Theater, which operated from 1937 until 1955. The Roxy closed in 1955 and was remodeled as a retail space.

Today the Wine Steward occupies the site and a historical plaque, which highlights the building's history, is located outside the store.

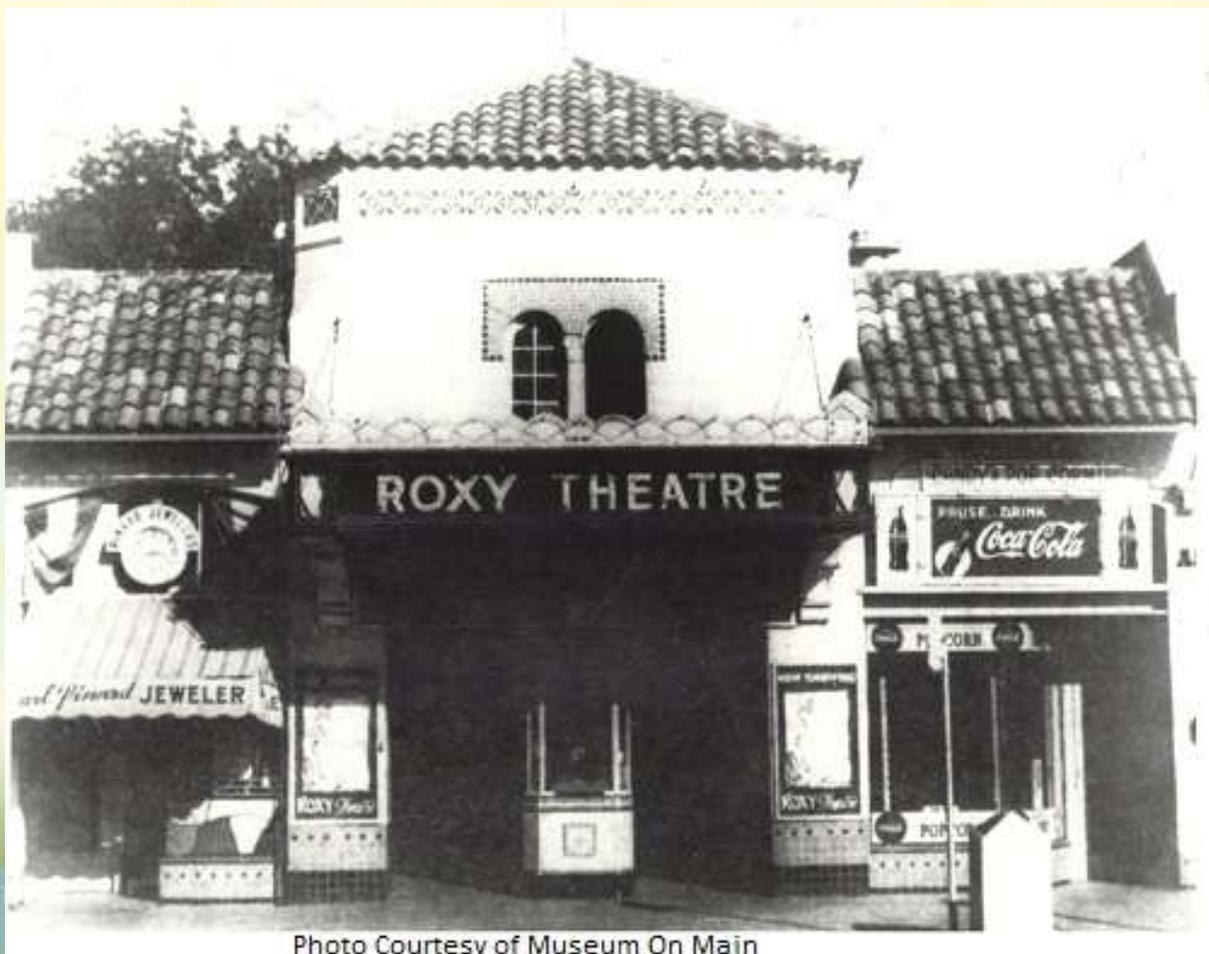


Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

# Southern Pacific Depot, Pleasanton

30 West Neal Street • Pleasanton, CA

This depot was built in 1895 as the Southern Pacific replacement for an earlier one-story Central Pacific station. The Southern Pacific attempted to standardize its depots, constructing two-story buildings that provided both office space and living quarters for the station master.

The Pleasanton depot closed in 1958 and was renovated in 1989 to house offices and a restaurant.



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

# St. Augustine's Cemetery

5780 Sunol • Pleasanton, CA

St. Augustine's Catholic Cemetery is located adjacent to the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery. The cemetery was blessed in 1908 during the pastorate of Father Joseph MacAuliffe.



Photo Courtesy of Terry Lee Berry

There were many burials in St. Augustine's Catholic Cemetery before 1908, so the land might have been used as a burial ground before the church assumed possession and consecrated the cemetery. Local tradition suggests that there are a number of unmarked graves in this cemetery and the adjacent cemetery, once known as the IOOF cemetery and now renamed the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery. Some of the unmarked graves are believed to be for the Indians and Chinese laborers who lived in the area. Some others may be for workers who were killed during the construction of the Hetch-Hetchy aqueduct, which traverses the Sunol Valley on its way from Yosemite to San Francisco. Prominent local citizens for whom no gravestones are to be found include Frances Apperson, wife of Randolph Apperson, and Kathrin Smith, mother of Mrs. Apperson.

# Veterans' Memorial Building

301 Main • Pleasanton, CA

Completed in 1933, the Pleasanton Veterans' Memorial Hall was built to commemorate veterans of World War I and dedicated to the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

In 1931, local veterans and community members started planning for a Veterans' meeting hall to be built on the site of the old H. Arendt hay warehouse.

Architect Henry Meyers designed the building in the Spanish Colonial Revival style, which was very popular at the time. Among the decorative ornaments incorporated into the structure is a medallion of a WWI doughboy, carved in plaster relief above the arched façade portal.



Photo Courtesy of Museum On Main

On 10 April 1932, the construction contract was awarded to W. M. Meyer for a final bid of \$38,800. The building was completed and dedicated in April 1933. The building continued to serve the needs of the military as the USO Center for Camp Parks during World War II.

Today the building is owned by the City of Pleasanton, which recently performed major structural renovation and restoration to the site. Veterans' groups still maintain their club room in the building, which is also available for rental to private groups.

# SAN RAMON

San Ramon is a dynamic young city, one of California's outstanding urban villages. It has a variety of homes, parks and stores and is a major employment center --- all in a setting of remarkable beauty.

Once home to the Seunen Indians, Ohlone/Costanoans who lived adjacent to the valley creeks, after 1797, it was Mission San Jose grazing land; later it included Jose Maria Amador's 16,000-plus-acre Rancho San Ramon. San Ramon Creek was named after an Indian vaquero, Ramon, who tended mission sheep here.

American settlers first came to San Ramon in 1850 when Leo and Mary Jane Norris purchased 4,450 acres of land from Amador. The first village developed at the intersection of today's Deerwood Road and San Ramon Valley Blvd. In 1873, when a permanent post office was finally established, it was called San Ramon.

During the 1860s the village became a hub of community activity. In 1864, a stage line ran from San Ramon to Oakland. A church was dedicated in 1860, the general store was built in 1863, and students left their home-based classrooms to attend the San Ramon Grammar School beginning in 1867. Saloons, a jail, Chinese wash houses, and blacksmith shops lined County Road No. 2 (later San Ramon Valley Blvd.). With the arrival of the Southern Pacific in 1891, other changes took place. Until 1909, San Ramon was the terminus for the line and boasted a two-story depot, an engine house, and a turnaround for the locomotive.

Agriculture was the basis for the San Ramon economy until suburban development began. The designation "San Ramon Village" first appeared in the 1970 census and developers Ken Volk and Bob McClain built the first San Ramon suburban homes close to the county line. In 1970, Western Electric purchased 1,733 acres and proposed a "new town" complete with a variety of housing, green belts, stores, and light industry. In 1983, San Ramon voters decided to incorporate as a separate city and took control over development, police, parks, and other services.

# Forest Homes Farms Historic Park

19953 San Ramon Valley Boulevard • San Ramon, CA

Forest Home Farms Historic Park is a 16-acre farm/park that was donated to the City of San Ramon in 1997 by Ruth Boone in memory of her husband, Travis. The property is on the National Register of Historic Places. There are 21 historic buildings on site including two houses and several barns, some of which date to the mid-1800s. There is a tractor museum with over 20 restored antique tractors and equipment, several interactive exhibits, a welcome center, and a gift shop. The park is open to the public on the second Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tours of the farm property and the Glass House Museum are available for a fee. Group tours and children's educational tours are available during the week, by appointment. Please call 925.973.3284 for information.

The Boone House, one of the historic structures located in the park, is a 22-room Dutch colonial that was remodeled several times since it was built in 1900. The other structures on the property vary significantly in date and size and include a barn originally built in the period from 1850 to 1860, a 7000 square-foot farm equipment and automobile storage structure, and a three-building walnut processing plant that includes a three-story hulling and drying structure.



# Glass House Museum



19953 San Ramon Valley Boulevard • San Ramon, CA

Another structure located at Forest Homes Farms Historic Park, the Glass House Museum is a restored Victorian Italianate style home built in 1877 by David and Eliza Glass. It has been fully restored to represent the lifestyle and traditions of farm families in the late 1800s through 1910 in the San Ramon Valley. Costumed docents lead group tours and hands-on education programs. For information call 925.973.3284



# Harlan House

19251 San Ramon Valley Boulevard • San Ramon, CA

The large Harlan-Young family arrived in California in 1846, barely escaping the early Sierra storms which sealed the fate of the Donner party.

The gold rush and gold fever transformed California in two short years. The Harlan family was there at the start. In April 1848, Joel Harlan and his cousin, Jacob Harlan, were running a livery business in San Francisco when they received a letter from their "Uncle Peter" Wimmer. He told them about the placer gold discovery and urged them to come to Coloma to mine immediately.



Photo courtesy of Jessica Kwong

Joel and Jake and their young wives left the livery business in San Francisco to set up a store in Coloma. With \$500 in capital and a loan of \$4500, Harlan bought the things miners would need: groceries, flour, beans, liquors, dry goods, shoes, tools, shovels, picks, tin pans, kettles and ammunition. They found that the miners would pay whatever "we demanded for our goods": flour cost \$1 a pound, coffee \$1.50. Jake made money selling colorful cloth with holes cut out as serapes to the Indians. Joel also did some prospecting and returned one night with \$1,600 worth of gold. The Harlan cousins sold their store in Coloma and returned to San Francisco, where prices had gone up astronomically. They moved to the San Ramon Valley in 1852, using some of their earnings to purchase land.

Their first house was listed as a landmark when Alameda County was carved from the original Contra County in 1853. In 1857-1858, they built a new Gothic Revival house, called "El Nido," which still sits at 19251 San Ramon Valley Boulevard in San Ramon. The Harlan's house and ranch land were well known and their nine children were among the builders of young California. Joel died in 1875 and Minerva in 1915.

# SUNOL

Sunol is a rural community located in Alameda County between the South San Francisco Bay and the Livermore Valley. Sunol was originally settled by the Ohlone tribe, who lived in small villages with well-defined territorial boundaries. When Mission San Jose was established by the Spanish, the Ohlone population fell from about 10,000 to 2,000, mostly as a result of contracting European diseases.

In the mid-1800s, Antonio Maria Sunol and Maria Bernal Sunol gained ownership of 14,000 acres of Rancho El Valle de San Jose. One of their sons built a complex of ranching support buildings near the present-day Sunol Water Temple. A larger community was created as returning gold miners settled as farmers. By the late 1800s the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific railroads both came through Sunol and Niles Canyon. Sunol developed as a vacation area for city dwellers. By the turn of the century, the town boasted four hotels, three grocery stores, a meat market, two barber shops, two restaurants, and a soda fountain.

During the same period, land and water rights were acquired by the Spring Valley Water Company which supplied water to Oakland and San Francisco. In 1906, William Bourn, a major stockholder in the Spring Valley Water Company, hired Willis Polk to design a "water temple" at Sunol where people could celebrate the "meeting of the waters."

In 1925, Hazel Glen Avenue (now Kilkare Road) was improved, and 100 log cabins were constructed as summer retreats among the trees 3-1/2 miles up the canyon. The current Sunol Glen School was built in 1925. In 1987, the Pacific Locomotive Association re-laid the tracks between Sunol and Niles. They now offer steam train rides through Niles Canyon.

Over the years, fires have consumed much of the historic structures in Sunol. Most recently, between 1987 and 1989, three separate fires destroyed seven businesses and a home on Main Street. Now they are being replaced.

# Little Brown Church

141 Kilcare Road • Sunol, CA

On 4 October 1885 the Congregational Church of Sunol held its first services in this building. With assistance from the American Home Mission Society of the Congregational Church, the church was built to serve families who used the town of Sunol as their summer resort. A fundraiser to purchase the church bell was held in 1893 and, in 1903, the church was fitted with gas lighting. The church parsonage, which now serves as an office, Sunday school, and bride's room, was added in 1907. The pews in the church were donated by the Congregational Church in Mission San Jose. In 1916, attendance dropped sharply and the church fell into disrepair, although during this time, the church did appear in some silent feature films.

In 1949, the church grew from four to more than 30 members and was again poised to serve the community. The church was painted brown in 1954 and was renamed "The Little Brown Church of Sunol" after the popular song of the time, "The Little Brown Church in the Vale."

The Sanctuary interior was renovated in 1998, and the exterior of the church was repainted in April 2000.

After 125 years, the church, under the direction of the United Church of Christ, remains in active service. For more information, call 925.862.2004.



Photo courtesy of Little Brown Church of Sunol

# Elliston Winery

463 Kilkare Road • Sunol, CA

In 1885, Henry Ellis bought a lovely oak-studded property in the agricultural district of Sunol, just east of the San Francisco Bay and its cooling breezes. Here, between 1885 and 1890 he built Elliston, a stately 17-room, three-story, neo-Romanesque mansion featuring graceful stone arches and 32" thick walls of blue sandstone quarried in nearby Niles Canyon. Celebrities of the day visited Elliston, including Prince Kuhio and Princess Elizabeth of Hawaii during their round-the-world tour to visit Queen Victoria in 1898.



Photo courtesy of Museum of Main

In 1890, Ellis planted a three-acre vineyard on his estate, and it is known that wine was produced here. This acreage was included when the Sunol Viticulture District was named in the 1898 report to the State Board of Viticulture. In 1969, the Elliston Estate was purchased by Ramon and Amy Awtrey and carefully restored and refurbished with period pieces. Today Elliston is on the National Register of Historic places.

In 1977, Sunol's grape growing tradition was revived by the planting of 55 acres of premium grape varieties on San Francisco Water Company land. In 1984, the Awtrey family obtained rights to the Sunol Valley Vineyards and also replanted Elliston's own vineyard at the estate with three acres of Chardonnay. The original carriage house was converted into the winery, and Don Blackburn was hired as Elliston's first winemaker. For more information, call 925.862.2377 or visit the Elliston Winery website at [www.elliston.com](http://www.elliston.com).

# Sunol Depot

6 Kilkare Road • Sunol, CA

The history of trains in Niles Canyon dates back to the building of the original transcontinental railroad. In September 1869, four months after the famous golden spike ceremony at Promontory Summit, Utah, the Central Pacific Railroad completed the transcontinental rail link between Sacramento and the San Francisco Bay, finishing the track through the canyon. The Central Pacific constructed a freight terminal at the west end of the canyon and a town quickly sprang up around it. The town was named for Addison C. Niles, a prominent judge and former railroad attorney.

The Central Pacific eventually became part of the Southern Pacific railroad system. Steam locomotives pulled trains

through Niles Canyon for eighty years before diesels took over in the 1950s. In 1984, after twelve decades of railroading in the canyon, the Southern Pacific ceased operating trains on the right-of-way, pulled up the tracks, and deeded the land to Alameda County.

The Pacific Locomotive Association entered into an agreement with the County and began rebuilding the rail line in 1987. Association volunteers worked for over a year on the first part of the track reconstruction between Sunol and Brightside. On 21 May 1988, almost 122 years after the first Western Pacific excursion, the Pacific Locomotive Association brought railroad passenger operations back to life in Niles Canyon.

Presently, the Pacific Locomotive Association's Niles Canyon Railway provides historic train ride experiences to the public year round between the 1880s depot in Sunol and Niles Station in Fremont, California.



# Sunol Water Temple

505 Paloma Way • Sunol, CA



The Sunol Valley Water Temple, located on the SFPUC Alameda Watershed near the town of Sunol, marks the confluence of three sources of water flowing into the Sunol Valley of southern Alameda County.

The 1910 beaux art landmark, built by the Spring Valley Water Company, was designed by renowned architect Willis Polk and modeled after the Temple of Vesta in Tivoli, Italy. The converging waters of Alameda Creek, Arroyo de la Laguna, and the Pleasanton Wells poured down into a tile basin at the temple bottom. Though the waters were once used for San Francisco's water supply before construction of

the Hetch Hetchy system, today only a small amount is diverted for local SFPUC uses and storage. The rest is released into Alameda Creek.

Visitors approach Sunol Temple on a long ceremonial drive lined with lilac bushes. A grove of Lombard poplar trees surrounds the temple, and a ridge of hills rises behind it. The 60-foot-high Sunol Water Temple's red tile roof rests on 12 Corinthian columns. Wedge-shaped paintings adorn the ceiling supported by elaborately decorated beams. The terra cotta roof elements were fabricated by Gladding McBean Tile Company of Los Angeles, and the painted wood ceiling was created by Yun Gee and other artists. Sunol Water Temple was designated a California Historical Engineering Landmark in 1976 by the American Society of Civil Engineers.

The temple is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information call 650.652.3212. Dogs and other pets are not allowed on SFPUC watershed grounds, including in the Sunol Water Temple.

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