

# Home and Hostel

Sheep, cattle, and hogs once grazed on these rolling hills, which were part of a thriving ranch and dairy farm owned by Louis and Agnes DeMartin. For almost 60 years, the DeMartin family home was a popular stopping place for weary travelers. Mrs. DeMartin, known for her warm hospitality and excellent baking, offered meals and shelter to traders and others who trekked for days along the rugged Coastal Trail. The DeMartins' generosity and prosperous business ventures helped to establish transportation routes from Eureka to Crescent City in the late 1800s.

Continuing the tradition of hospitality, the former DeMartin home is now an American Youth Hostel, providing a cozy waystation for travelers from around the world.



The DeMartin home was a welcome stop for judges and lawyers traveling the circuit. The family offered all visitors a home cooked meal and a bed for 50 cents. The photo above is a reenactment of an 1858 mail run.



Ranchowner Miriam Kelly Rudisill and her daughter Alice Kelly take a walk near Wilson Creek, about 1940.