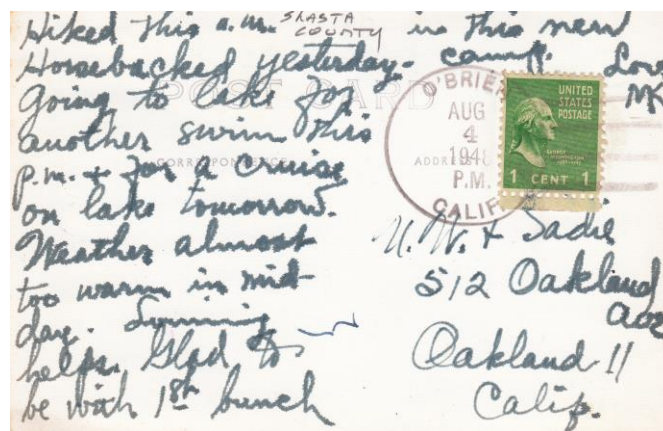


The monthly newsletter is a service to the community and our members. We welcome requests to research specific topics from the public and accept articles on local history. Please note that the Society reserves the right to accept or decline any article or material at its discretion. The Society is not responsible for the loss of or damage to any submitted material so please keep a copy for your records. Please include a note authorizing Anderson Historical Society to publish the material. We need two things from all members or those interested in local history: please be sure the Society has an updated email address and please spread the word to friends and neighbors about the Newsletter. Please contact us at: www.andersonhistorical.com.

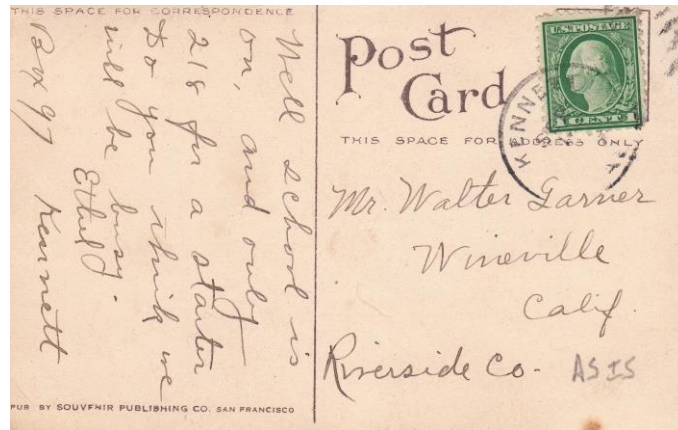
O'Brien Post Office



Post card mailed at O'Brien August 4, 1948.

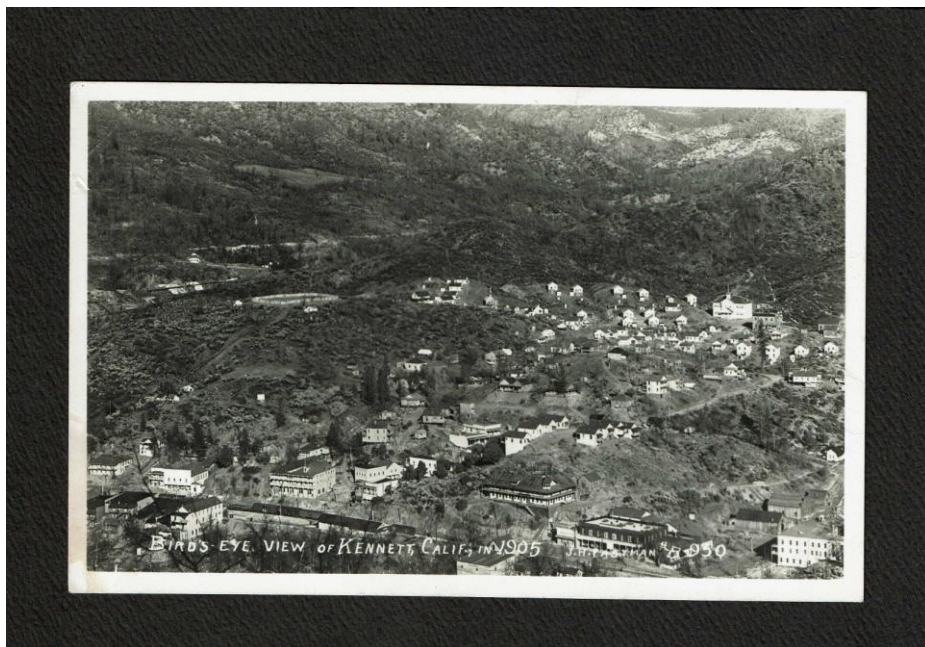
The history of O'Brien begins with the establishment of the Sacramento-Yreka wagon road and the need to accommodate stops for wagon and stages. Jack Conner established a stop two miles north of Allen's Station in 1863 (two and a half miles north of the Baird Fish Hatchery). The spot was popular because it was after a long grade while going north. In 1873 Con O'Brien purchased the hotel and the top of the grade became O'Brien Summit and his name was given to O'Brien Creek and O'Brien Mountain. With the construction of Shasta Dam the railroad had to be rerouted and the site became the location of a siding in 1942. As Shasta Lake began to fill a resort was established at O'Brien Inlet (O'Brien Creek) on the Sacramento River and the O'Brien Post Office was established in 1945 eight miles south of Lakehead and eighteen miles north of Redding. In 1966 the post office became a rural branch of Lakehead and remains in operation.

Kennett Post Office

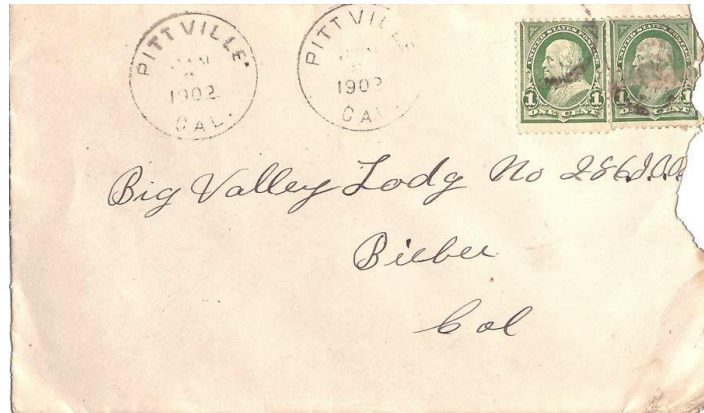


Post card mailed at Kennett about 1912-1914

The area where Squaw Creek enters the Sacramento River from the west was opened to gold mining by the 1850s. Some miners called the area Backbone but the town of Kennett did not exist until 1884 when the Central Pacific Railroad moved north from Redding and established a siding at the site. The siding was used as an emergency brake testing station and named Kennet. The siding was named after Squire Kennet a major stockholder in the California & Oregon Railroad (by 1884 a company owned by the Central Pacific Company). The railroad station remained Kennet but the town itself added a T and became Kennett. In about 1885 Charles Butters started buying 6,000 acres around the siding and laid out a town site. Butters who opened Butters Ore Milling Works in Kennett was a visionary who foresaw the major expansion of the copper industry center around Kennett. In 1886 the Kennett Post Office was established. By 1907 the Mammoth Copper Company built a smelter at Kennett and by 1910 the town was the second largest in the county with a population of 3,000. Kennett incorporated in 1911 but the major boom only lasted until 1919. The decrease in demand for copper at the end of World War One, a corresponding dropping in copper prices and an increase in law-suits closed the smelter in 1919. Ore production continued to struggle on and the smelter opened periodically but by 1925 the smelter was dismantled. By 1930 Kennett returned to unincorporated status. With the beginning of the Shasta Dam Project in 1935 the end of Kennett was projected. In March 1942 the railroad used the rerouted line to O'Brien. In 1942 the post office was closed and operations transferred to Summit City. The town of Kennett now lays under Lake Shasta about a mile north of the dam.

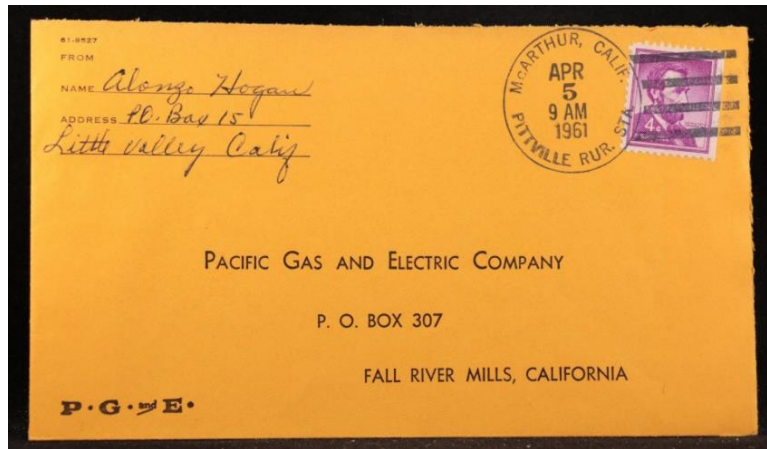


Pittville Post Office



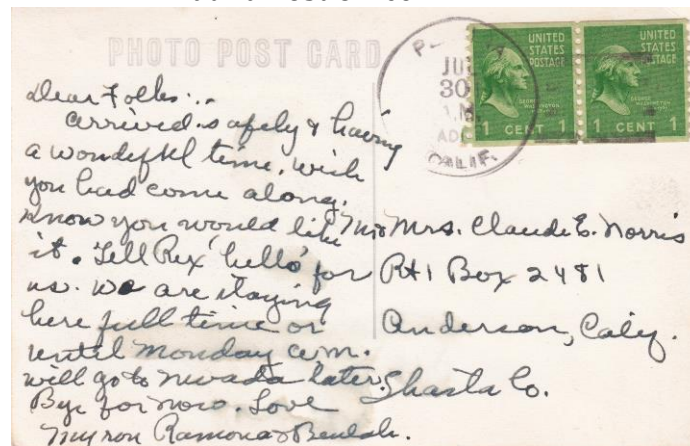
The history of Pittville is tied in with that of McArthur four miles to the west. In 1869 John McArthur purchased 12,400 acres of swampland along the Pit River that he and his sons drained creating profitable agricultural and grazing area. McArthur formed a land company that grew to 60,000 acres and began selling land. McArthur was also an ardent prohibitionist and required purchasers to be the same. In 1873 the Pitville Post Office was established at Pitville. The Pit River takes its name from pit traps dug along the banks of the river to trap large game such as elk or bear and the name transferred to the town that was built on both banks of the Pit River. In 1864 when Lassen County was established from part of Plumas and Shasta County the border ran north and south through the town. The Post office was discontinued in 1875 but was reestablished in 1878 using the local form Pittville. The post office remained in Shasta County until 1905 when the post office was relocated in Lassen County. From 1910 until 1923 the post office again resided inside Shasta County. From 1923 to 1928 the post office resided in Lassen County. From 1928 to 1937 the post office returned to Shasta County. From 1937 to 1956 the post office was in Lassen County. The post office returned to Shasta County in 1956 and operated until February 1961 when it became a Rural Station of McArthur. Postal services were discontinued in August 1961.

Pittville followed in the prohibitionist steps of John McArthur and became a temperance (dry) town in 1889. No sale of alcohol was allowed in the town and new settlers were required to post bond not to sell alcohol. Like McArthur it was decades before the ban was lifted.

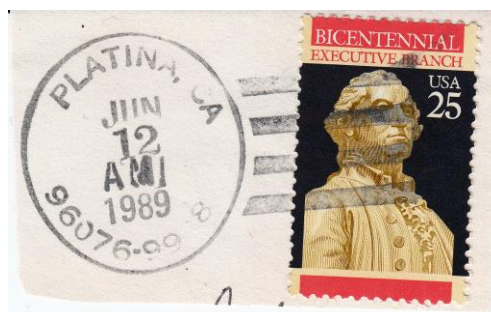


Envelope dated April 1961 when the post office was a rural station of McArthur.

Platina Post Office



Post card mailed at Platina after 1939



Platina Cancellation that includes the Zip Code

The Platina Post Office was established in 1921 about two and a half miles northwest of Beegum and seven miles southeast of Knob. The location was initially called Wolcott's Station for Franklin and Sarah Wolcott (the first postmaster at Beegum) who opened up a store serving traffic from Ono, Beegum, Harrison Gulch, and Hayfork. In about 1902 Don Noble purchased the store and changed the name

to Noble's Station. Services were expanded to include a boarding house, service station and for a period a small sawmill (later moved to Wildwood in Trinity County).

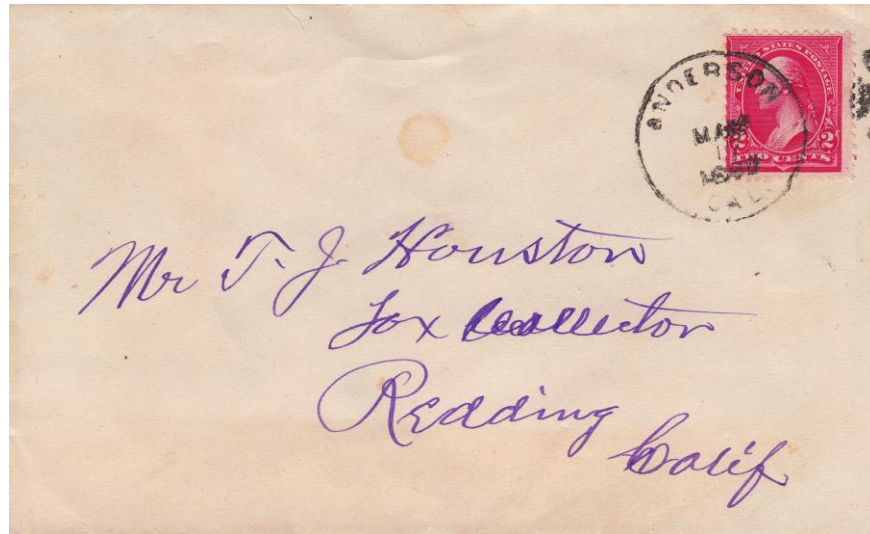
Metals of the platinum group (platinum and osmiridium) were known to exist in small quantities from copper smelting and black sands of the Gypsy Mine but the discovery of a small deposit at nearby Beegum Creek in 1917 led Don Noble to change the name of the town to Platina. Most books state the name comes from the Spanish plata for silver which is the general color of platinum but some locals say it was just a corruption of the word platinum. In either case there was limited production between 1917 and 1927.

Don Noble later lost the store and his ranch but the post office remained in the combined store-café and is still operational.

The post card above was addressed to Mrs. Claude E. Norris. This would be the second wife of Claude Emerson Norris who was born in Indiana in 1885. He was the son of Abraham and Nancy Norris and in 1900 was working on his father's farm in North Dakota. By the draft registration of World War One Claude was farming in Idaho, married with three children. His first wife was Edith Gertrude Shields (1886-1944) and the couple had three children while in Idaho: Una Edith 1908-1981, Muriel 1911-198 and Leslie (Lester) Joy 1913-1999. By 1920 Claude was farming in San Joaquin County and in 1930 he was a carpenter in Sonoma County. Some time after 1930 Claude and Edith were divorced. In 1940 Claude was listed as a dairy farmer in Olinda, Shasta County with his second wife Louisanna (1880-1961). For the World War Two draft Claude was working for Pacific Construction at Shasta Dam. Claude died in 1952 in Anderson.

The articles for June 2021 are: 1) Thomas James Houston, 2) Alexander M. Rosborough, District Judge, 3) Legal Documents, Writ of Habeus Corpus 1878, 4) Joseph E. Landis, and 5) Julius F. Cornaz.

Thomas James Houston



It is not known who mailed the letter shown above but it was mailed in May of 1897 and addressed to T. J. Houston the Tax Collector in Redding. Thomas James Houston was born in 1847 in Maryland and by 1860 his father, Copeland Houston, had moved to Missouri where he was a blacksmith. Thomas learned the blacksmith trade from his father as well as saddle making. In 1872 Thomas moved to California and took up farming at Buckeye in Shasta County. In 1886 Thomas opened up a saddle shop in Redding. Thomas was elected County Sheriff in 1894 when the office was combined with that of tax collector. After his term of office Thomas opened up a furniture business that also sold caskets. In the 1900 U.S. Census Thomas was listed as an undertaker in Redding and from 1906-1910 he was the County Coroner.

Thomas married Henrietta Beard (1853-1935), the daughter of Edward Beard in 1874. Thomas and Henrietta had two children: Mary J. born 1879 (died 1882) and Thomas Arthur born 1885. Thomas died in 1915.



T. J. Houston Company, Furniture and Undertaking in Redding. (Courtesy Shasta Historical Society)

Alexander M. Rosborough, District Judge



Express letter to Berry & Rosborough, Attorneys in Yreka mailed from the Wells, Fargo & Company office in Weaverville.

Alexander Madison Rosborough was born in South Carolina in 1815 and was the son of Dr. Alexander Rosborough (1768-1845) and Jane Stewart Porter (1786-1877). Doctor Rosborough moved his family to Tennessee in 1835 to take up farming. In 1836 Alexander, Junior enlisted in General Armstrong's Brigade of Mounted Tennesse Volunteers (composed of the 1st and 2nd Regiments of Tennessee Mounted Volunteers). The unit was initially assigned to the Creek War of 1836 (2nd Creek War) to help remove the Muscogee Creek in Alabama. The lower Creeks had allied themselves with the Seminole in fighting the occupation of their land. The brigade next moved to Florida and fought in the 2nd Seminole War that lasted from 1835 to 1842 and would be the longest and most costly of all the wars fought for Indian removal. Alexander was discharged in 1837 in New Orleans and entered the University of East Tennessee in Knoxville. After graduating in 1840 Alexander read the law with noted Tennessee politician Colonel Terry H. Cahal (1802-1851). Alexander was admitted to the bar in 1843 and entered a practice with his brother who had also read for the law with Cahal. In addition to practicing law the brothers purchased the *Columbia Register* newspaper. Alexander accepted the position as editor of the *Nashville Daily Whig* in 1849. After about a year in 1850 Alexander, his brother and about twenty others formed the Tennessee Mining Company to seek gold in California. At St. Joseph, Missouri, Alexander was elected captain of the wagon train that arrived in El Dorado County in August 1850. Alexander mined at Cosumnes River in El Dorado until 1851 when he joined his brother in San Francisco who was then editor of the *Evening Picayune* newspaper. Alexander worked as a writer until the spring of 1852 when he went to Trinity County to collect some claims and set up a law practice. At the end of 1852 Alexander and nineteen others

formed a company to establish a trade settlement at what became Crescent City. The company charter a vessel and upon landing in January 1860 located 160 acres each and laid out the townsite of the future city (each becoming owners of several lots). In about 1854 Edward Fitzgerald Beale the Superintendent of Indian Affairs for California and Nevada (1853-1856) appointed Alexander as special Indian Agent to ascertain the numbers and locations of groups using Fort Jones in Scott Valley as his headquarters. Alexander moved up the Klamath River to Yreka where he decided to settle after completing his mission for Beale. As the letter above would indicate Alexander quickly went into practice with Mr. Berry at Yreka. In 1855 Alexander was elected a judge of the Siskiyou County Court. The California court system consisted of a District Court over several counties, a County Court, and Justice of the Peace Courts until 1880 when the District Courts were replaced with a Superior Court in each county. Alexander served as the Siskiyou County judge until 1869 when he resigned to run for District Court Judge for Modoc, Trinity, Siskiyou and Shasta Counties. Alexander served as District Court Judge from January 1, 1870 to December 31, 1879. During the Modoc War of 1872 to 1873 Alexander was asked to serve at the Peace Commission by the Modocs. At the meeting in April 1873 General Canby and Dr. Eleazar Thomas were killed and two others wounded but because of his good relationship with the Modoc Alexander escaped unharmed.

Alexander was married in 1861 to Ellen Raynes born in 1843 in Maine. Ellen was the daughter of Solomon Raynes (1801-1875). Ellen was believed to have come west with her brother Alonzo E. Raynes (1830-1916) who was in Yreka prior to 1858 and was later Postmaster of Yreka. Alexander and Ellen would have six children: Helen 1863-1864, Mabell 1864-1864, Alexander Joseph 1865-1960, Frances Jane 1868-1905, Mary Agnes 1871-1875, and Joseph James 1876-1958. At the end of Alexander's term as District Court Judge in December 1879, he decided to move the family to Oakland for the educational benefits it offered the three surviving children. Alexander opened a private practice in Oakland that he maintained up until his death in 1900. Ellen survived her husband until 1921.

Legal Documents, Writ of Habeas Corpus 1878

In the Matter of the
Application of A. M.
Peck for Warrant
for Orpha Bell M. Peck.

Warrant.

Filed May 15th 1878

F. L. Tiffin
Clerk

2
450
6.50

Before Hon.

A. M. Rostorough
District Judge

Petition for Warrant
for Obtaining Custody
of Orpha Bell M. Peck.

Also

Order for Warrant.

Filed

May 15th 1878

F. L. Tiffin

Clerk

By Chas. McDonald
Deputy

Before Hon. A. M.
Rosborough and

Hon. W. E. Hopping

In the matter of the
Application of Amos
McPeck for his
infant child.

Order Giving the
Child to Parent

Filed May 16th 1878

F. C. Tiffin

Clerk

Amos McPeck brought a petition before District Judge A. M. Rosborough in May 1878 to obtain custody of his daughter Orpha Bell McPeck through a Writ of Habeas Corpus. Mr. McPeck was a resident of Fort Collins, Colorado who in June 1875 was renting a room from Mary Elkins in Topeka, Kansas. While McPeck was away on business, Mary Elkins took the eight-year old child and fled to Shasta County. Mr. McPeck was asking the Court to obtain custody of his daughter as he believed Mary Elkins who was living at Texas Springs would flee the jurisdiction. District Judge A. M. Rosborough ordered the warrant that was filed on May 15, 1878, with the clerk F. C. Tiffin and deputy Charles McDonald. The order directed the County Sheriff to take the child into custody in compliance with a Writ of Habeas Corpus and bring her before Judge Rosborough or in his absence County Judge W. E. Hopping. In response to the order a Warrant was issued to Sheriff Sylvester Hull to obtain custody of the child. The Warrant was annotated that the child was brought

before the Court on 16 May 1878 (signed S. Hull, Sheriff and Robert Kennedy, Under Sheriff).

Amos and Orpha McPeck as well as Under Sheriff Robert Kennedy appeared before County Judge W. E. Hopping. From the testimony of the three witnesses it was determined that Amos McPeck was the rightful father and the Court issued an order giving the child to the parent.

Nothing in the three-document file indicates that Mary Elkin was ever charged with any offense. Mary seems not to have fled the County as in 1880 Mary Elkins is listed as a boarder doing housekeeping (age 45) in Township 7.

Historical Notes:

A. M. Rosenborough is Alexander Madison Rosborough born in South Carolina in 1815. Alexander was County Judge of Siskiyou County from 1855 to 1869 and District Judge (Modoc, Siskiyou, Trinity, and Shasta Counties) from January 1870 to December 1879. Alexander died in 1900 (see the article above for a more complete history).

Charles McDonald was born 1829 in Scotland. In 1864 he was Postmaster and agent for the Cottonwood Express in Horsetown. He was elected County Clerk for two terms, 1864 to 1866 and 1866 to 1868. He was the proprietor of McDonald's Saloon on Main Street in Shasta in 1881. He was a member of the Lyon Light Infantry from 1864 to 1866. He probably part owner of Knox and McDonald Saloon in Redding in 1873. Charles married Mary F. Meager (Maher)(1847 Louisiana) at Horsetown in 1862. Charles and Mary had nine children: Jessie Mary 1863 (died 1865), Julia 1864 (died 1865), Alice Catherine 1866 (died 1866), Jennie (Jean) 1867, Charles Marcus 1869 (died 1871), Marion Claire 1872, John Royal 1875, Elizabeth 1877, and Maud 1879. Charles died in 1881 and is buried in the Shasta Masonic Cemetery. Mary died in 1897 but the burial location is unknown.

F. C. Tiffin is Franklin Clark Tiffin who was born about 1839 in Ohio.

He served three terms as County Recorder, 1878 to 1880, 1880 to 1881 and 1881 to 1882. Franklin was a County Supervisor in 1885. In 1866 he was listed as a miner at Chicago. In 1875 he was cited as a merchant in Redding. In 1879 he married Elizabeth (last name unknown) and the couple had one child, Milton 1879. (Note Franklin may be the brother of John Edward Tiffin: both are from Ohio and in 1866 both were working in Chicago.)

Amos O. McPeck was born about 1830 in Ohio. Amos was the son of Richard McPeck born about 1800 in New Jersey. In 1850 Amos was farming in Ohio with his father. In 1854 Amos married Rebecca Fuller who was born about 1837. In 1860 Amos was farming in Ohio and the couple were listed with no children. In the 1870 U.S. Census Amos was still farming in Ohio but the couple had two children: Mary born about 1863 and an "infant 2/12th" (the census was done in July 1870). In 1874 Amos received a homestead in Topeka, Kansas and on the 1875 Kansas Census he was listed as a widower with Mary age 15 and B. McPeck age five. According to the court document Amos was renting a room in Topeka in 1875 but living in Fort Collins, Colorado when his

daughter Orfha (Bell or Belle) was taken. After the court case Amos returned to Colorado where in 1880 he was listed as a farmer at Denver with his daughter Bell age 10. After 1880 nothing was found concerning Amos or his daughter.

Orfha McPeck was the daughter of Amos O. McPeck and Rebecca Fuller born in Ohio in 1870. Her father's middle initial was O. so Orfha is possibly a family name but on the 1880 Census she was listed as Bell (Belle). Nothing was found on Orfha after 1880.

W. E. Hopping is William Ely Hopping who was County Judge from 1872 to 1880. William was elected to seven terms as County Sheriff, 1864 to 1866, 1866 to 1868, 1882 to 1884, 1884 to 1886, 1886 to 1888, 1888 to 1890 and 1890 to 1892. He died in office in January 1892 and Thomas Greene was appointed to fill his term. He was born about 1830 in New Jersey. Listed in El Dorado County in 1850. Reportedly arrived in Shasta County in 1852 as a miner. In the 1860 U.S. Census he was a butcher at French Gulch. In 1863 he was elected Captain of the Trueman Head Rifles in the California Militia. In 1860 he married Bridget Burk and the couple had one child Primrose 1860 (Bridget died shortly afterwards). In 1863 he married his second-cousin Harriet Hopping and the couple had three children: Phebe 1863 (died 1864), Harriet 1866, and William 1873.

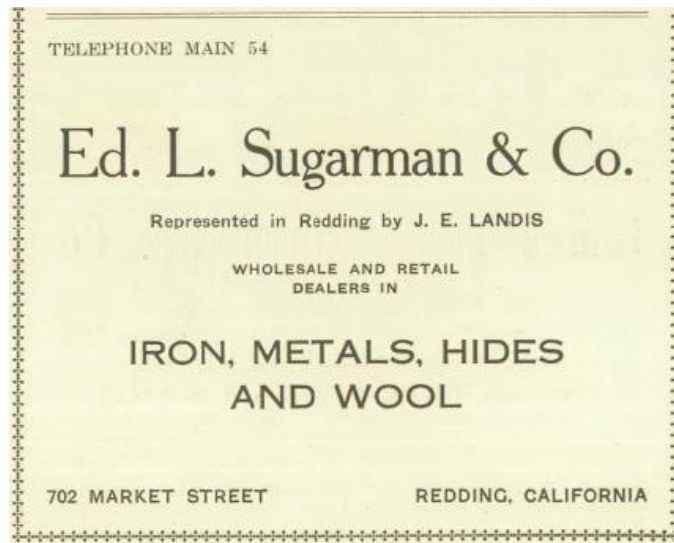
Clay Webster Taylor was a Democratic Senator at the 25th and 26th Sessions (1883-1886) of the California legislature. He was Democratic Delegate to the National Convention at St. Louis in 1876. He was born in 1844 in Michigan and was the son of Enos Taylor who bought a half interest in the Townsend Dam and Ditch. Enos died in 1865 leaving his mining interests to his wife and two sons, Clay W. and Fred A. Taylor. The Taylor group through settlements obtained the entire dam and ditch (renamed Taylor Dam), ten acres around the dam and 120 acres below the dam. Clay developed another ditch above the Horsetown Bridge. In 1875 the property was sold to Alvinza Hayward. Clay studied law and opened up a practice in Shasta in 1865. From 1870 to 1882 Clay was the District Attorney. After serving in the State Legislature he returned to private practice in Redding. Clay died in 1897.

Sylvester Hull was born in 1831 in Ohio. Sylvester was County Sheriff for six terms, 1872 to 1874, 1874 to 1876, 1876 to 1878, 1878 to 1880, 1880 to 1881 and 1881 to 1882. In 1885 and 1898 he was Registrar at the Government Land Office. In 1866 he was listed as a merchant in Buckeye. From 1863 to 1866 he was Postmaster of Churntown. In 1862 he married Martha Whiting and the couple had two children: Evaline "Eva" 1865 and Samuel 1867. After Martha's death Sylvester married Celina Zorn in 1881 and the couple had one child: Milton 1887. Sylvester died in 1899.

Mary Elkins was born about 1835 but in the 1880 U. S. Census the entry is "unknown" for her birthplace and that of her parents. In 1880 Mary was listed as a border/housekeeper with Joseph and Ann Lewis in Township 7. Other than the one entry nothing was found in Shasta County or Topeka, Kansas.

Robert Kennedy was born about 1834 in Ireland. He first shows up in Shasta County in 1860 where he was a miner in Shasta. In 1861 Robert was naturalized in the Shasta County District Court. In 1870 Robert was listed as a miner in Shasta and in 1880 was listed as under-sheriff. Robert served from at least 1878 to 1882 under Sheriff Hull. At the same time Robert was the deputy tax collector. In 1886 Robert was listed as a miner in Shasta. In 1896 he was listed as an invalid with his right side paralyzed. Robert died in 1897. Robert appears never to have married.

Joseph E. Landis



From the Shasta High School Yearbook. Edward L. Sugarman was a hide and metal dealer during the period of the First World War in Shasta County. Edward's name at birth was Itze Leib Zukerman in 1894 when he was born in Lithuania (then Russia). By 1920 Edward had moved to Washington.

Joseph E. Landis was born in 1890 in Nebraska. In the First World War draft registration his middle name was given as Earl but all other documents use Evan. Joseph was the son of William Cox Landis born in 1869 in Illinois and Sydney Edwards born about 1870 in Wales. Joseph's father moved the family to California shortly after Joseph's birth and by 1910 was operating a grocery in Buckeye. Joseph's mother died in 1896 and his father died in Shasta County in 1913.

In 1911 Joseph married Sara Lavena Beckwith who was the daughter of Byron D. Beckwith (1872-1937) who in 1910 was a mine foreman at Delta. In the First World War draft registration Joseph was listed as an electrician for the Afterthought Copper Company in Ingot. Joseph must have attempted to enlist as a note on the document states he was rejected at Sacramento due to a double hernia. In 1920 Joseph was a machinist at a garage in Redding and agent for Ed. L. Sugarman & Company. Sara died in 1921 leaving Joseph with three children: Majorie

C. 1912-1995, Lewis William 1917-1975, Joseph D. 1920-1988. Around the time of Sara's death Joseph appears to have moved the family to Contra Costa County.

In 1930 Joseph was working as an electrician in Contra Costa County and married to Edna Florence Peterson (1904-1992). In 1930 Joseph had three additional children: James born about 1926, Edna born about 1927, and Albin born about 1928. In 1940 Joseph was working as an electrician at a petroleum refinery and the family had grown by two additional children: Sidney born about 1934 and Gertrude born about 1936. On the Second World War draft registration Joseph was working for a shipbuilding company in Richmond. Joseph died in 1956 and Edna survived until 1992.

Julius F. Cornaz

Number 6104

Declaratory Statement of
Julius F. Cornaz
of San Joaquin County, California.


Went to Decatur 1170
Settled 20 September 1188

SW 1/4 of NW 1/4 Sec 1
S 1/2 of N 1/2 Sec 8
NE 1/4 of S 1/2 Sec 8

Section No.
Township No. 35 N
Range No. 3 East
Mount Diablo Meridian.
Containing 16.0 acres.
Post Office, Melville
County, Butte

8 Nov. 1970

United States of America.



DECLARATORY STATEMENT OF

On Land *subject to Private Entry.*

I, *Julius F. Cornaz* of *Ferny Valley*
of *Shasta* County, California, a
Naturalized Citizen of the United States.

citizen of the United States, a *M.A.* married man, *1831* the age of twenty one years,
have on the *fourteenth* day of *September* A. D. 1868.

Settled and improved the following described Government Lands, situate, lying and being
in the County and State aforesaid, and more particularly described as follows, viz: *In*
Ferny Valley Dist. The South West 1/4
of the North West 1/4 of Section Nine (9)
The South One Half of the North West
East 1/4 of Section (8) Eight and the
North West One Fourth (1/4) of the South
East (1/4) One Fourth of Section Eight (8)
all in Township No (35) State of California
Three East Hundred and Sixty acres (160)
Quarter of Section *Three East*
Township No. *Three East*
Range No. *Three East*
Mount Diablo Base and Meridian.

In the District of Lands subject to sale at the Land Office at Marysville, and containing *One*
Hundred and Sixty (160) acres; which land has *never*
been offered at public sale, and thus rendered subject to Private Entry. And I do hereby give notice
that I intend to claim said tract of Land as a Pre-emption right, under the provisions of the Act of
Congress of 3d March, 1853, entitled "An Act to provide for the Survey of Public Lands in Cali-
fornia, the granting of Pre-emption rights therein, and for other purposes."

In Presence of *J. D. H. Buckett* *Julius F. Cornaz*

Declaratory Statement of Jules F. Cornaz for his homestead. The declaration states the land in Section 8/9 of Township 35 North Range 3 East, MDM was settled in September 1868 and the declaration filed in February 1870. The patent was issued in August 1876 for 160 acres. The declaration protected the land prior to the patent unless occupation ceased for some reason. Courtesy of Ralph Hollibaugh.

Julius Francis Cornaz was born in 1831 in Neuchatel in what is now Switzerland. When Julius was born the canton belonged to Prussia although linked to the Swiss Confederation. In 1848 a bloodless revolution through off the Prussian title and Neuchatel became a republic within the Swiss Confederation. Julius was believed to have immigrated in 1853 and settled in Waukon, Iowa. Julius was

naturalized in the District Court in Allamakee County, Iowa in September 1863. Julius married Mary Ann Trayer in Iowa prior to 1857. The Shasta County Cemetery list has Mary Anne born in 1827 but most sources cite her being born in 1837 in Pennsylvania. Mary's parents were both listed as being born in France and Julius came from the French speaking area of Switzerland so this may have been a reason for the relationship. Julius was a farmer in Iowa and may have had six children while living there. William Cornaz was born in 1857 in Iowa (died 1924) and is reflected in the 1870, 1880, GLO and cemetery listings. Julia was born in 1859 in Iowa (died 1941) and is reflected in the 1870 and 1900 census. Teitus who is actually Louis was born in 1866 in Iowa and is reflected in the 1870, 1880, 1900, and GLO records. There is a Julius W. listed as being born in 1864 and possibly surviving until 1948 as well Julian born in 1861 who is shown in the 1870 U. S. Census. Lastly there is a Thrayer or Trayer born in 1863 but no where else. Since the census did not depend on documentation there may be errors in the early records as different names were used within the family. We know the family was in Oregon in 1868 as John L. Conaz was born there but we do not know if the family had settled in Oregon for a short period or were passing through to California. We know Julius settled in Burney Valley in September 1868. Julius settled on the toll road from Oak Run to Fall River Mills and established a trading post and public house for stage passengers and freighters. Julius received the patent under the name Jules F. Cornaz for the 160 acres in August 1876 and settled into farming. Julius and Mary Anne would have an additional four children on the ranch: Frank in 1871, George in 1873, Nancy (Nona or Nonie) in 1878 and Sicily (Cecelia) in 1881. Julius would live until 1908 and Mary Anne would survive until 1918.

Of Julius' children five would establish ranches in and around Burney Valley. The first was William who purchased 160 acres in 1882 from the Government Land Office (Section 20, Township 4 North Range 4 East, MDM). Lewis made a cash purchase from the Government Land Office in 1891 for 160 acres (Section 10/15, Township 35 North Range 3 East, MDM). John followed with a homestead of 160 acres in 1899 (Section 4/9, Township 35 North Range 3 East, MDM). In 1907 Frank made a 160 acre cash purchase from the Government Land Office in Section 5, Township 35 North Range 3 East, MDM, and George purchased 167 acres in Section 5, Township 34 North Range 4 East, MDM.



Cornaz Trading Post at Burney. Samuel Burney who had been a trapper and guide settled in Burney Valley as a caretaker on the Predmore Ranch in 1872. A few months later he was killed in his cabin and the area became "the valley where Burney was killed." The toll road from Oak Run to the Fall River Valley passed through the valley and in 1868 Julius Cornaz established a store and public house for stage passengers and freighters. The settlement of the valley was slow and centered around dairying and stock ranching. Henry Murphy was the probable owner of the Bunker Hill Store in 1872 when the Burney Valley Post Office was established there (about nineteen miles northeast of Montgomery Creek). The name was changed simply to Burney in 1894. The town remained little more than a store to support the surrounding ranches until 1936 when the Burney Lumber Company began operations. The Scott Lumber Company soon followed, and the town bloomed with the demand for lumber during World War II and the postwar construction boom. Through all the growth the Burney Post Office has continued to serve the community. Courtesy of Shasta Historical Society.