

December 30, 1986

Director, FAA Beer and Wine Branch
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms
Federal Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20226

Re: Petition to Establish Wild Horse
Valley Viticultural Area

Gentlemen:

The undersigned hereby petition the B.A.T.F. to establish the grape growing region known as "Wild Horse Valley" as an American Viticultural Area under Part 9 of 27 CFR.

INTRODUCTION

Wild Horse Valley is a small upland valley with a viticultural history dating back to the 1870s. It is located five miles east of the city of Napa in the mountains between Napa and Solano Counties, and contains vineyards in both counties. The valley is physically isolated from the wineries and populated areas of Solano County by precipitous terrain and a consequent lack of public roads. It is, however, accessible from Napa by two county roads, and Napa has been the source of supplies and services for residents of Wild Horse Valley since its settlement. The development of Wild Horse Valley as a winegrowing district was a natural extension of the Napa Valley wine industry. Traditionally, grapes and wine from Wild Horse Valley were sold to wineries in the Napa Valley.

The proposed viticultural area is a north/south running basin approximately five and one-third miles long and one and two-thirds miles across at its widest point. The total area

encompassed is thirty-three hundred acres. Vineyards in the area are growing at elevations ranging from about eleven hundred to fourteen hundred feet. Currently there are seventy-three acres of winegrapes in Wild Horse Valley (seventeen acres of Johannisberg Riesling, forty-eight acres of Chardonnay, and eight acres of Gewurztraminer). Recent studies of other sites in Wild Horse Valley indicate the feasibility of more than tripling the number of acres planted to winegrapes, and additional plantings are being considered. There are currently no bonded wineries in Wild Horse Valley, but two small wineries are planned. The first will begin operation for the crush of 1987 or 1988.

Because of its proximity to San Francisco Bay and its elevation, the viticultural conditions in Wild Horse Valley are different from other winegrowing valleys in the eastern coast ranges of Napa County, such as Wooden, Gordon, Pope, Foss, and Chiles Valleys, which tend to be more continental in climate, as well as more fertile (Exhibit A). The area's soils, climate, and elevation are also different from the nearby Green Valley of Solano County and the adjacent Coombsville area of Napa Valley. The long growing season, rocky soil, and windy conditions produce grapes of excellent quality and high acid content at maturity.

THE NAME

The name Wild Horse Valley is well documented. It is found on U.S.G.S. maps of the 7.5 and 15 minute series and on Napa County road maps. One of the two roads leading to the valley is named "Wild Horse Valley Road," and a creek flowing

EXHIBIT A

OTHER VALLEYS OF THE NAPA COUNTY EASTERN COAST RANGES

CAPPEL VALLEY

Elevation: 800 feet

Soils: Yolo loam, Pleasanton loam, Diablo clay, Millsholm loam

FOSS VALLEY

Elevation: 1600 feet

Soils: ~~Maxwell clay, Bale clay loam, Aiken loam~~

GORDON VALLEY

Elevation: 400 feet

Soils: Bale clay loam, Cole silt loam, Yolo loam, Bressa-Dibble complex

WOODEN VALLEY

Elevation: 600 feet

Soils: Bale clay loam, Sobrante loam, Cole silt loam, Haire clay loam, Diablo clay, Clear Lake clay, Bressa-Dibble complex

CHILES VALLEY

Elevation: 1000 feet

Soils: Pleasanton loam, Perkins gravelly loam, Henneke gravelly loam, Tehama silt loam, Maxwell clay, Bressa-Dibble complex

POPE VALLEY

Elevation: 800 feet

Soils: Pleasanton loam, Millsholm loam, Tehama silt loam, Maxwell clay, Henneke gravelly loam, Bressa-Dibble complex

from the southeastern portion of the valley into Green Valley, Solano County, is named "Wild Horse Creek." The large, well-known horse ranch and equestrian center, Wild Horse Valley Ranch, located at the north end of the valley, has given the name ample publicity in recent years.

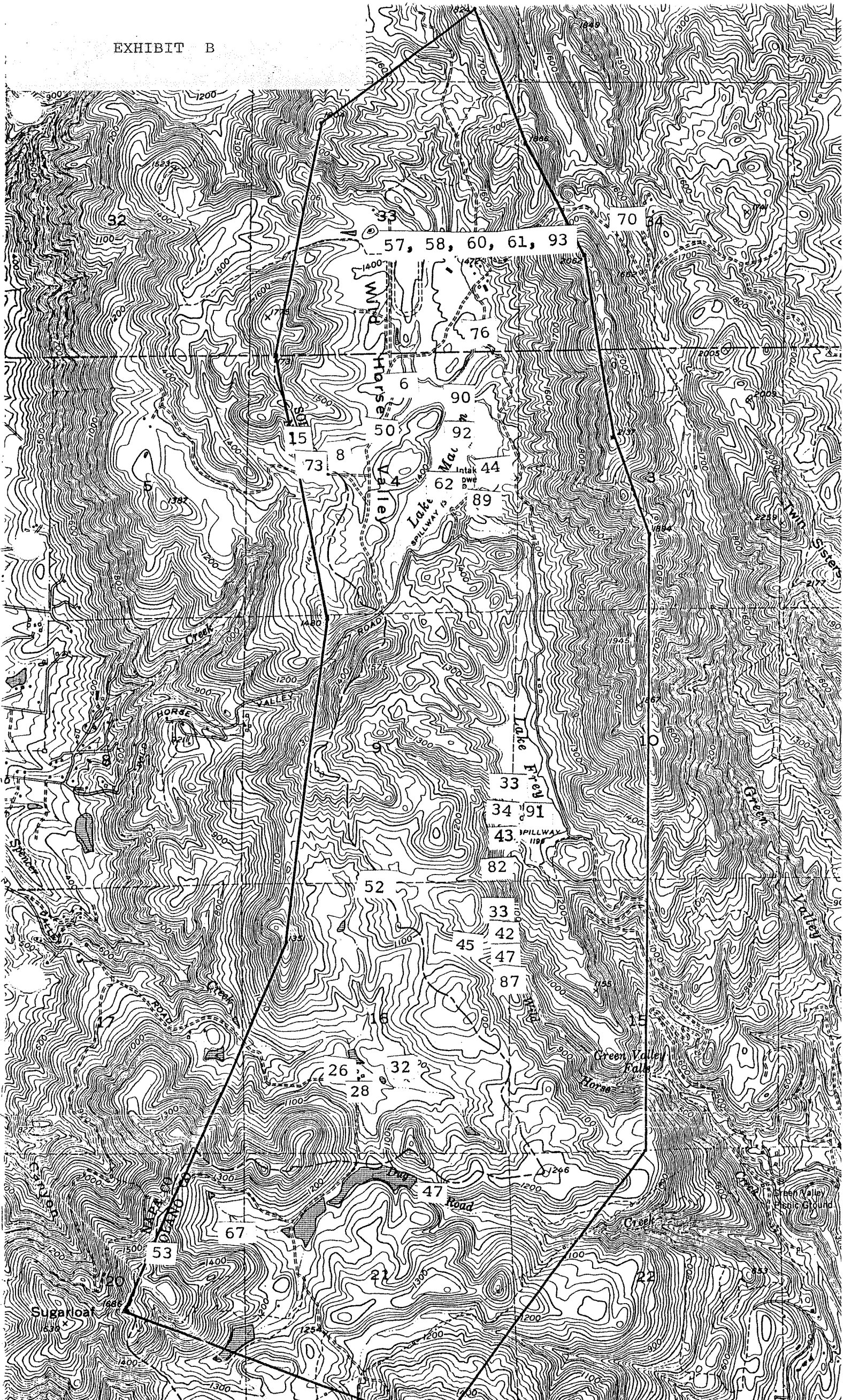
Attached as an appendix to this petition is a report by wine historian William F. Heintz, entitled "Wild Horse Valley's Viticultural History." This report describes in detail the historical use of the name, as well as its viticultural significance.

THE BOUNDARIES

The natural boundaries of the place-name "Wild Horse Valley" are defined by the terrain of the area. This hilly upland valley is rimmed by higher peaks on all sides. In its center are two large man-made lakes which supply water to the City of Vallejo. To the west, south, and southeast, mountainous terrain soon gives way to alluvial plains. To the north and northeast the terrain is ruggedly mountainous.

For ease of definition, the boundaries of the proposed viticultural area consist of straight lines, for the most part connecting prominent peaks surrounding the valley. This approximation is quite accurate in enclosing the area which has been known as Wild Horse Valley historically. Exhibit B shows the location of places referred to in Mr. Heintz's report (indicated by page numbers) superimposed upon a map of the proposed viticultural area. Virtually all of the references are clustered within the proposed boundaries.

EXHIBIT B



DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

In general, valleys in the coast ranges east of Napa Valley tend to have a drier, more continental climate than the Napa Valley floor and vineyard sites in the mountains to the west (Exhibit C). Many factors, including distance from sources of marine air, sunny exposure, and heat-absorbing rocky outcroppings, contribute to warmer summertime temperatures. Because of its location, Wild Horse Valley is an exception to this generalization.

Exhibit D shows annual average temperature and annual temperature range for the San Francisco Bay Area. The temperature isobars illustrate the more coastal character of southern Napa Valley and Wild Horse Valley (lower annual temperature and smaller annual temperature range), as compared with the northern Napa Valley and most of the eastern Coast Ranges of Napa County, which fall into a zone with a higher annual temperature and larger annual temperature range.

Wild Horse Valley's southerly location near San Pablo and Suisun Bays exposes it to cool westerly winds blowing in from the ocean and the bay, especially in spring and summer. Its proximity to the Carquinez Straits and its unprotected position rising out of bayshore flatlands on two sides make Wild Horse Valley an unusually windy location. The California Energy Commission Wind Resource Map (a portion of which is reproduced as Exhibit E) shows Wild Horse Valley to be on the edge of a zone where wind speeds average eleven to fourteen miles per hour. The effect of its windy location is

Vineyard Views

EXHIBIT C

May 25, 1973

Plantclimates of Napa County

Napa County can be divided into four major plantclimate zones: Maritime, Coastal, Transitional and Interior, depending largely on the degree of ocean influence.

The Maritime area includes all of the county lying south of the city of Napa. The day verses night temperature is a narrow range as is the seasonal change. Summer fog is characteristic of the area. This area is best suited for the early ripening grapes such as Pinot Noir and Chardonnay.

The second area is called the Coastal zone and extends from Napa to about Lodi Lane, north of St. Helena, and from the hills on the east to the Sonoma County line. This zone can also be subdivided into a cooler southern section (Napa to Yountville) and a warmer section north of the summer fog line which stops at the Yountville Hills. This coastal zone is suitable for growing both early and late ripening varieties of good quality.

The valley north of Lodi Lane through Calistoga to the north end of the county falls into the Transitional zone, and is best suited for later maturing varieties.

Pope, Berryessa and Chiles valleys and surrounding areas are in the Interior zone which is the least influenced by the ocean air and dominated by the continental air.

There are small microclimate differences within all of the four major zones due to exposure, air drainage and elevation and of course, the other major factors of soil type and moisture can materially change the quality of a given variety within a zone.

New Publications

HEAT SUPPRESSION IN VINEYARDS USING OVER-VINE SEQUENTIAL
SPRINKLING - Progress Report

Available at Agricultural Extension office, 1930 Clay Street
Napa, California, 94558, (707) 226-3794

-FREE-

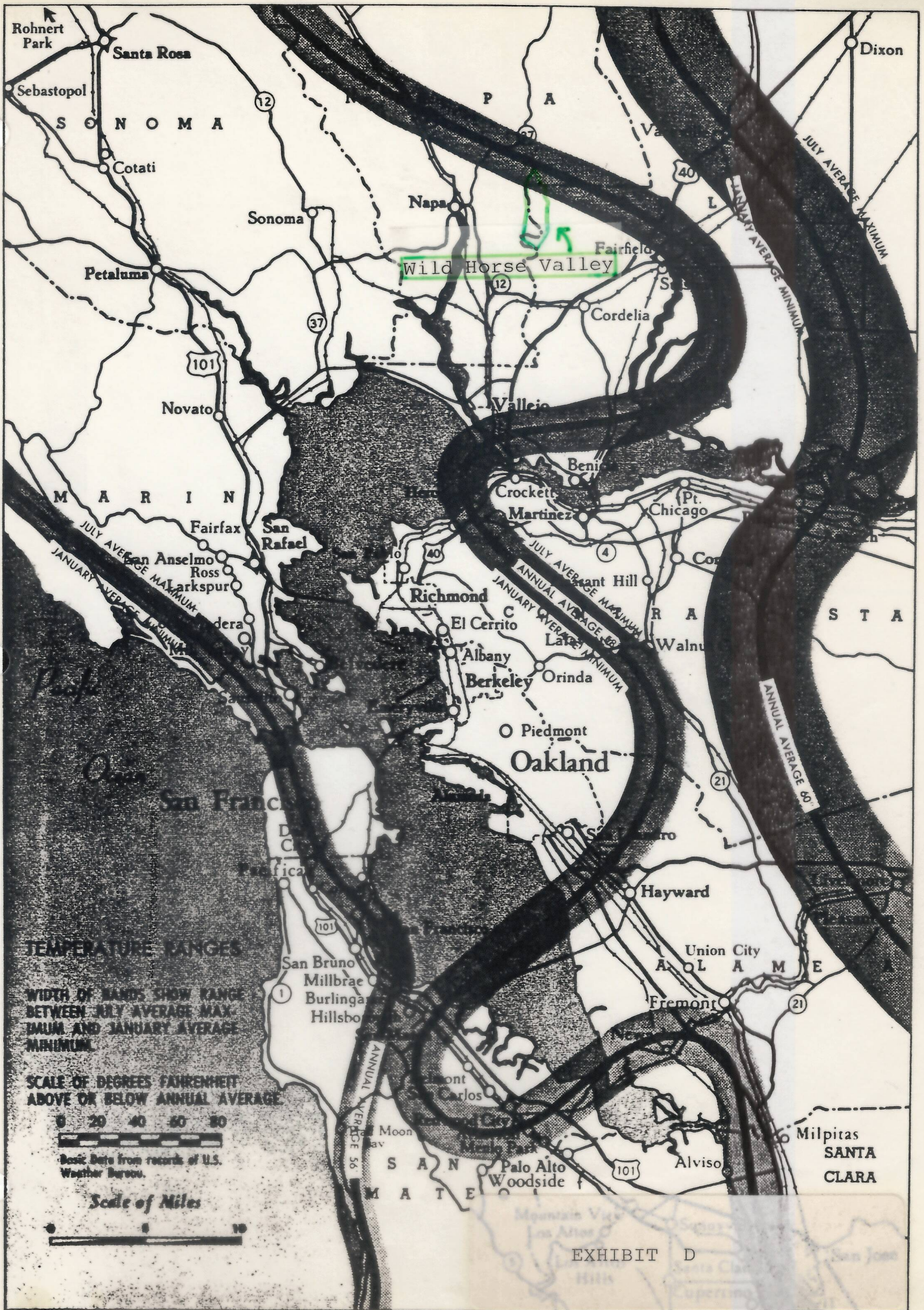




EXHIBIT D



EXHIBIT E

LEGEND	
 	<p>WIND SPEED</p> <p>11 TO 14 mph</p> <p>ABOVE 14 mph</p>
	<p>ENERGY POTENTIAL</p> <p>GOOD</p> <p>EXCELLENT</p>

WIND RESOURCE DATA BY: DAVID WACO, CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION, MARCH 1984

Note: Windspeeds Are Based Primarily On Data Collected Through Wind Studies Sponsored By The California Energy Commission. In Areas Of Sparse Data, Some Interpolation Was Necessary

enhanced by its elevation. Diurnal local winds created by the sun's warming of the ground tend to flow upslope or upcanyon during the day. This air movement combines with the marine breezes blowing in the same direction to make Wild Horse Valley windier than the lower elevation Coombsville district of Napa to the west, the more inland coast range mountains and valleys to the north, and the more sheltered vineyard district of Solano County Green Valley.

The proposed viticultural area also enjoys longer hours of sunlight than Coombsville and Green Valley. Summer fogs that blanket lower elevations in evening and early morning often stop below the altitude of Wild Horse Valley. Early mornings there are clear and bright. Around nine in the morning the fog will sometimes rise briefly into the valley as it warms and dissipates. In spite of the longer period of daylight, however, Wild Horse Valley's customary cool winds keep afternoon temperatures low. A thermograph study done in 1965 at the ranch of James Birkmyer in the north end of the valley indicated that this Wild Horse Valley site has a Region I climate (less than 2,500 degree days) as classified by the University of California at Davis system of heat summation.

The experience of growers in Wild Horse Valley confirms that the growing season climate is cool. James Birkmyer's twenty-two year old plot of Johannisberg Riesling on his ranch in the proposed viticultural area consistently ripens late, at the end of September or beginning of October, with

unusually high acid levels. The character of the fruit has been compared to Carneros Riesling (John Gibson, personal communication December 4, 1986). Chardonnay grapes harvested from the south side of Wild Horse Valley also exhibit cool climate character, as demonstrated by the following harvest dates and sugar/acid balance figures:

Year:	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Harvest:	10/1	10/5	9/8,9	9/22,24	9/23
Brix:	22.5	22.5	22.9	23.5	22.6
pH:	3.30	3.30	3.40	3.35	3.38
Total Acid:	1.00	0.98	0.92	1.01	0.85

The proposed viticultural area overlaps the Solano County Green Valley viticultural area, which encompasses the entire Solano County portion of the proposed area. However, the Wild Horse Valley Solano County acreage was not included in the statistics presented by the Green Valley petitioner, nor are the growing conditions in Wild Horse Valley the same as those in Green Valley below.

The climates of Wild Horse Valley and Green Valley are different. Available thermograph studies (1973-74) of Green Valley places the climate in mid-Region III as classified by the University of California at Davis system of heat summation. In contrast, available thermograph data (1965) places Wild Horse Valley's climate in Region I. These studies were made during different years, and may for that reason exaggerate the difference in climate. However, Green Valley is clearly more sheltered and on the average warmer than Wild Horse Valley. This is in part due to the simple difference in elevation. When air rises, in general it

expands and cools at the rate of about five and one-half degrees Fahrenheit per thousand feet.

The difference in climate is also suggested by the viticultural statistics of the two areas. Although the winegrapes grown in Solano County Green Valley (including Gamay, Petite Sirah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Carignane, Zinfandel, French Colombard, Chenin Blanc, Early Burgundy, Gamay Beaujolais, and Gray Riesling) are not especially early-ripening varieties, harvest is normally early in the season--late August or early September. As stated earlier, Wild Horse Valley grapes--even the early-ripening variety Chardonnay--are normally picked late in the season.

Because of the difference in elevation, fog is more prevalent in Green Valley than in Wild Horse Valley. The average annual rainfall in Green Valley is twenty to twenty-five inches per year. Over the last twenty years the rainfall in Wild Horse Valley has averaged thirty-two inches per year (data collected by John Tuteur, 1967-1986).

The soils in Wild Horse Valley also set it apart from neighboring vineyard districts. The soil in Green Valley is primarily Conejo clay loam, a nearly level, deep, fine-textured alluvial soil found only at low elevations. Soils in the nearby Coombsville district of Napa Valley immediately west of Wild Horse Valley consist of Coombs loam with areas of Kidd, Haire, Forward, and Sobrante soils. Exhibit A lists soils found in other Napa County grapegrowing areas to the north and east. The soils in Wild Horse Valley are primarily shallow, well-drained, sloping stony loams of the Hambright-

Toomes association found only on mountainous uplands. Specific soil types include Hambright, Toomes, Gilroy, Coombs, Sobrante and Trimmer loams. Vineyards in Wild Horse Valley have been established on Hambright and Trimmer soils. Petitioners' research has established that Wild Horse Valley has the only vineyard planted on Trimmer soil in either Napa or Solano Counties.

SPECIFIC BOUNDARIES

The boundaries of the proposed Wild Horse Valley Viticultural Area are delineated on the enclosed U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute series map entitled "Mt. George, California" (1951, photorevised 1968, photoinspected 1973). The Wild Horse Valley viticultural area is located entirely in Napa and Solano Counties, California.

(1) The point of beginning is the point on the section line boundary between Section 33, Range 3 West, Township 6 North and Section 4, Range 3 West, Township 5 North, Mount Diablo Range and Meridian, marked with an elevation of 1,731 feet, which is a northwest corner in the boundary between Napa and Solano Counties.

(2) From the beginning point, the boundary runs in a north-northeasterly direction approximately .9 mile to the summit of an unnamed hill having a marked elevation of 1,804 feet.

(3) Then northeasterly approximately .7 mile to the summit of an unnamed hill having a marked elevation of 1,824 feet.

(4) Then south-southeasterly approximately .6 mile to the summit of an unnamed hill having a marked elevation of 1,866 feet.

(5) Then south-southeasterly approximately .5 mile to the summit of an unnamed hill having a marked elevation of 2,062 feet.

(6) Then southerly approximately .7 mile to the summit of an unnamed hill having a marked elevation of 2,137 feet.

(7) Then south-southeasterly approximately .4 mile to the summit of an unnamed hill having a marked elevation of 1,894 feet.

(8) Then southerly approximately 2.3 miles to the midpoint of the section line boundary between Sections 15 and 22, Range 3 West, Township 5 North, Mount Diablo Range and Meridian.

(9) Then southwesterly approximately 1.3 miles to the summit of an unnamed hill having a marked elevation of 1,593 feet.

(10) Then west-northwesterly approximately 1.2 miles to the summit of an unnamed hill, on the Napa/Solano county boundary, having a marked elevation of 1,686 feet.

(11) Then north-northeasterly approximately 1.5 miles to the summit of an unnamed hill having a marked elevation of 1,351 feet.

(12) Then north-northeasterly approximately 1.2 miles to the summit of an unnamed hill having a marked elevation of 1,480 feet.

(13) Then north-northwesterly approximately 1.0 mile to the point of beginning.

CONCLUSION

Wild Horse Valley is a unique and distinctive grapegrowing area. Historically considered a "tributary" of the Napa Valley, it has again earned a reputation in modern times for producing excellent quality winegrapes (Exhibits F, G, H). However, this single geographical area has lost its historic identity, because it is split by the political boundary between two counties into two separate viticultural areas. Wild Horse Valley's establishment as an American Viticultural Area and subsequent use as an appellation on wine labels will enable this small area to preserve its heritage as an established winegrowing region.



STAG'S LEAP WINE CELLARS

5766 Silverado Trail • Napa, California 94558

(707) 944-2020 or 944-2782

EXHIBIT F

December 23, 1986

To whom it may concern:

Stag's Leap Wine Cellars has been purchasing White Riesling grapes from Birkmyer Vineyards, (James Birkmyer, proprietor), located in Wild Horse Valley since 1973. With 14 years of experience with the fruit, we have become very familiar with its attributes.

Being of higher elevations than most plantings of the Napa Valley and also being situated facing to the east, Birkmyer Vineyards is above the usual spring and summer fog level, therefore it receives the earliest sunshine possible. One would tend to think that under these conditions, that the Vineyard would have a warmer growing season than the rest of the Napa Valley. However owing itself to the southern opening of Wild Horse Valley facing Suisun Bay, afternoon breezes start early thus keeping the afternoon even temperature much lower than Napa, directly north.

These overall cool conditions for grape growing have produced wines with greater acidity and structure.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John R. Gibson".

John R. Gibson
Stag's Leap Wine Cellars



EXHIBIT G

ACACIA

November 14, 1986

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

For the 1985 harvest we purchased Chardonnay grapes from Heron Lake Vineyard. The grapes were picked on September 24th, which was very near the end of our season. The grapes were of high quality and produced a very good wine which was used in our Napa Valley blend.

Sincerely,

L. M. Brooks
Winemaker

LMB/pb

ACACIA WINERY
2750 LAS AMIGAS ROAD
NAPA, CALIFORNIA 94558
(707) 226-9991

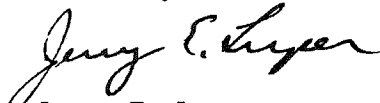
BOUCHAINE

To Whom it May Concern:

In 1983 and 1984, Bouchaine Vineyards purchased Chardonnay grapes from Blue Heron Lake Vineyard. The fruit quality was excellent.

Having visited the vineyard, I feel the unique aspects of the site are worth noting. Possessing a generally north and east exposure, the fruit is not directly exposed to hot afternoon sunlight. Also, the morning and evening fogs provide tempering coolness. These two situations extend the length of maturation time, which, I am sure, contribute to the unique qualities of the fruit.

Sincerely,



Jerry E. Luper

We therefore respectfully request that Wild Horse Valley viticultural area be approved as proposed.

Very truly yours,



John Newmeyer

1681 Green Valley Road
Napa, CA 94558



David Mahaffey

503 Hunt Street
Napa, CA 94559



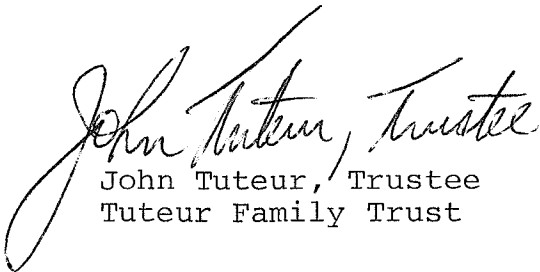
Sara Schorske

1048 Wild Rose Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95401



Jim Birkmyer
Grapegrower

Wild Horse Valley Road
Napa, CA 94558



John Tuteur, Trustee
Tuteur Family Trust

1393 Green Valley Road
Napa, CA 94558

William F. Heintz
Post office box 418
Sonoma, Ca. 95476



"Winery and vineyard historical research and business histories."

707 · 938 · 0827

WILD HORSE VALLEY'S VITICULTURAL HISTORY

[Napa Valley/County, California]

By

William F. Heintz

August, 1986

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EARLY HISTORY - SOURCE OF THE NAME

Directly east of the City of Napa, California, less than ten miles, lies a small valley not well known even to the thousands of residents of Napa County or the famous Napa Valley. It is to be found in the hills which partially form the border between Napa and Solano counties and has an average elevation of perhaps twelve hundred feet. The valley is called "Wild Horse Valley," and it has been known by that name since about the time of the American Civil War.

The earliest published reference to the name is in the Historical and Descriptive Sketch Book of Napa, Sonoma, Lake and Mendocino Counties, California, Napa City, 1873. The book is the first history of Napa Valley. The reference, from pages 38-39 reads in part:

"The Minor Valleys. Connected with the valleys thus far named, and at various angles on both sides of the mountains, where the main range is broken into branches extending easterly or westerly, are numerous smaller valleys, each having a communication more or less direct with all the rest. Thus Foss, Wild Horse, Wooden, Gordon, and Conn Valleys connect directly with the main valley of Napa."

Seven years later, Wild Horse Valley received the same cursory treatment in the History of Napa and Lake Counties, California. This massive work of 906 pages was published in the year 1881 by Slocum, Bowen & Company, San Francisco. On page 228, under a section labeled "Topography" of Napa Township, this descriptive paragraph is to be found:

"The topography of this township is fully as varied as that of any of the other sections of Napa County. Beginning at the western line, we find it on the summit of a range of mountains. Passing to the east, we come to the Napa Valley, which in this township is much wider than in the ones to the northward. It opens out into a broad open flat a few miles south of Napa City, which is covered with tules. Passing on to the eastward, the remainder of the township is very rough and mountainous, having here and there small and fertile valleys interspersed amid the mountain peaks, such as Foss', Wild Horse, Capelle and others."

There is one other minor reference to the valley in the same book, which suggests it was known as "Wild Horse" by the year 1866. In a description of the valley of Berryessa, this statement is included:

"In November, 1866 Abraham Clark brought the first load of lumber into the valley. There were twelve hundred and twenty-three feet of lumber on the wagon, which he brought over the top of Wild Horse Mountain with four horses. He was moving in from Sonoma and he concluded the road over the mountain was too rough, so he brought the next load, consisting of household goods, by way of Suisun Valley" (page 311).

The quotation does not make clear whether the name "Wild Horse Mountain" was in place in 1866 or the name applied later and utilized in describing the route taken by Clark to first reach Berryessa. There is no Wild Horse Mountain now on Napa County maps. Clark may have given the name to what is known now as Mt. St. George.

There is no certainty as to who first applied the name to the valley or when.

Ernest Wichels, who has written a column for the Vallejo, Ca. Times-Herald for twenty-three years, entitled "Pages From the Past," believes Wild Horse Valley was named by Cayetano Juarez. He admits to having no published evidence but recalls reading this in some journal many years ago. (Wichels, a native of Napa County, is 90 years old.)*

Juarez certainly is the most likely person to have given the name to this special geographic region straddling Napa and Solano's borders. Juarez was the second or third permanent resident of the county, excluding the native Indian population. In 1841, he was granted a Mexican land grant, named "Tulocay," some 8,865 acres encompassing what is now a portion of east Napa City and extending almost to the Solano County line. When he rode over his vast domain, he may have included "Wild Horse Valley" in his holdings since boundary lines were but loosely drawn, or recognized.

Another newspaper columnist, Louis Ezettie of Napa's Register ("Looking into Napa's Past and Present"), claims the name dates back at least to the 1870's. Writing in a May 15, 1976 edition, Ezettie states:

"Wild Horse Valley, scenic section that bears that intriguing name and lies in the hills some eight miles east of Napa, came by its names authentically. Wild horses actually roamed the area in the 1870's and early 1880's.

*From a telephone interview of July 16, 1986.

NAPA TOWNSHIP.

GEOGRAPHY.—Napa Township is bounded on the north by Yount Township, on the east and south by Solano County, and on the west by Sonoma County. July 7, 1873, the following boundaries were established by the Board of Supervisors:

Beginning at a point on the Sonoma County line due west of the source of a small creek, on which was situated Fisk's saw-mill; thence due east to the source of said creek; thence down said creek to its mouth; thence down Dry Creek to its mouth in Trubody's Slough; thence north-easterly, passing one hundred yards north of the residence of G. W. Crowley, to the top of the ridge west of Soda Cañon; thence northerly along said ridge to the top of a sharp point on the south side of Rector Cañon; thence north-easterly, in a direct line to a point on Tebipa or Capelle Creek, one-half mile below the house of George Clark; thence east to the top of the point north of Capelle Valley; thence south-easterly along the top of the ridge to the south end of said ridge, near the head of Rag Cañon; thence due east to the line between Napa and Solano Counties; thence southerly and westerly along said line to the line of Sonoma County: thence northerly along said line to the place of beginning.

TOPOGRAPHY.—The topography of this township is fully as varied as that of any of the other sections of Napa County. Beginning at the western line, we find it on the summit of a range of mountains. Passing to the east, we come to the Napa Valley, which in this township is much wider than in the ones to the northward. It opens out into a broad open flat a few miles south of Napa City, which is covered with tules. Passing on to the eastward, the remainder of the township is very rough and mountainous, having here and there small and fertile valleys interspersed amid the mountain peaks, such as Foss', Wild Horse, Capelle and others.

SOIL.—The soil of this township is similar to other portions of the county, being very rich and productive in the valleys, and equally well adapted to the production of all classes of fruits, vegetables and cereals. The soil in the tule section is quite rich, and is very productive where there is not too much salt in its composition. The soil of the mountains is the common red detritus from volcanic substances, and is well adapted to the

little used. The new grade, surveyed by T. J. Dewoody, formerly County Surveyor, is one of the best mountain roads in the State. The steepest grade in it is one foot in eight. Another road passes from Calistoga, over the South side of Mt. St. Helena to Lake County, another Southwestward to Santa Rosa, the County Seat of Sonoma, and another Westward to Russian River Valley and Healdsburg.

In the range separating Pope Valley from Napa are numerous Quicksilver mines, which are now being successfully worked, attracting a considerable immigration, and affording a home market for many farm products. Cinnabar is found in this range for a distance of twenty miles North of the Pope Valley Mines. Another road passes from Napa Valley through Conn Valley and cañon, into Chiles Valley, which is connected with Pope, only a low "divide" intervening. This road presented to the engineers most formidable difficulties, the cañon through which the road passes for some five or six miles, being very steep on both sides, and so narrow as to afford only room for a small stream called Conn Creek. This creek when suddenly swollen by rains often rises to a great height within a few hours, sweeping every thing before it. The road formerly passed along its bed, but of course, in the rainy season it was useless as a highway. The grade has been raised and greatly improved, being protected for long distances by substantial stone walls. Portions of it, however, are still very steep and narrow, and a large sum will be necessary to make it a good road even for Summer travel. To place it beyond the reach of floods would probably require a much higher grade and a reconstruction of the whole road.

THE MINOR VALLEYS.

The valleys East of the mountains separating Napa Valley from Pope are comparatively narrow and short, and are connected by roads passing over moderate elevations. Beginning with Coyote Valley in Lake County, on the North we pass into Pope Valley over a very steep hill, high enough to pass for a mountain in England. The latter valley is about ten miles long, and in some places three miles wide. It is dotted over with fine oaks, with occasional pines

and madronas. A large portion of it is excellent grain land ; other parts being gravelly and sandy, would be better adapted to fruit or vines. It is still very sparsely settled, except immediately about the quicksilver mines, and the price of land is very moderate. This valley is connected with Chiles by a road which passes over a low "divide." Chiles Valley is about five miles long, and is very fertile.

In a southerly direction are Gordon Valley, about five miles long, and Wooden Valley, of still less dimensions. Connected with the valleys thus far named, and at various angles on both sides of the mountains, where the main range is broken into branches extending easterly or westerly, are numerous smaller valleys, each having a communication more or less direct with all the rest. Thus Foss, Wild Horse, Wooden, Gordon and Conn Valleys connect directly with the main valley of Napa.

The valleys of Lake county are also connected with each other and with those of Napa, forming a chain of valleys, large and small, each of which has its own peculiar beauty. Among them are many only large enough for a single farm, but all possess similar characteristics of soil and climate. Some of them are apparently encircled wholly by mountains as is a jewel by its' setting, beautiful in themselves, yet almost completely isolated. About twelve miles Northeast from Napa City on the east side of the dividing ridge, is the small but beautiful Capel Valley, apparently shut out from all the world, but connected with Napa City by a mountain road, and with Berryessa Valley by a cañon six miles long. Coal has been found here, but little is known of its extent or value.

East of Pope Valley is another range of mountains, some of which are very lofty and precipitous. Commencing at the Redington Mines, which are near the Northerly boundary of the County, the traveler passes Southeastwardly through Sulphur Cañon. This cañon is very steep and narrow, but occasionally widening out so as to afford a limited area of arable land. It is about twelve miles long, and is traversed by a small creek, with high and steep banks, very crooked, and crossing the road many times, making a difficult thoroughfare for the traveler.

This cañon opens into Berryessa Valley, which is about fourteen miles long, and from one to three miles wide, next in size to Napa Valley, and scarcely second to it in beauty and productiveness. It

"The late Mrs. Grace Santos, whose father Paulus Nelson farmed 400 acres there and who grew to young womanhood in the valley, was authority for the authenticity of the name."

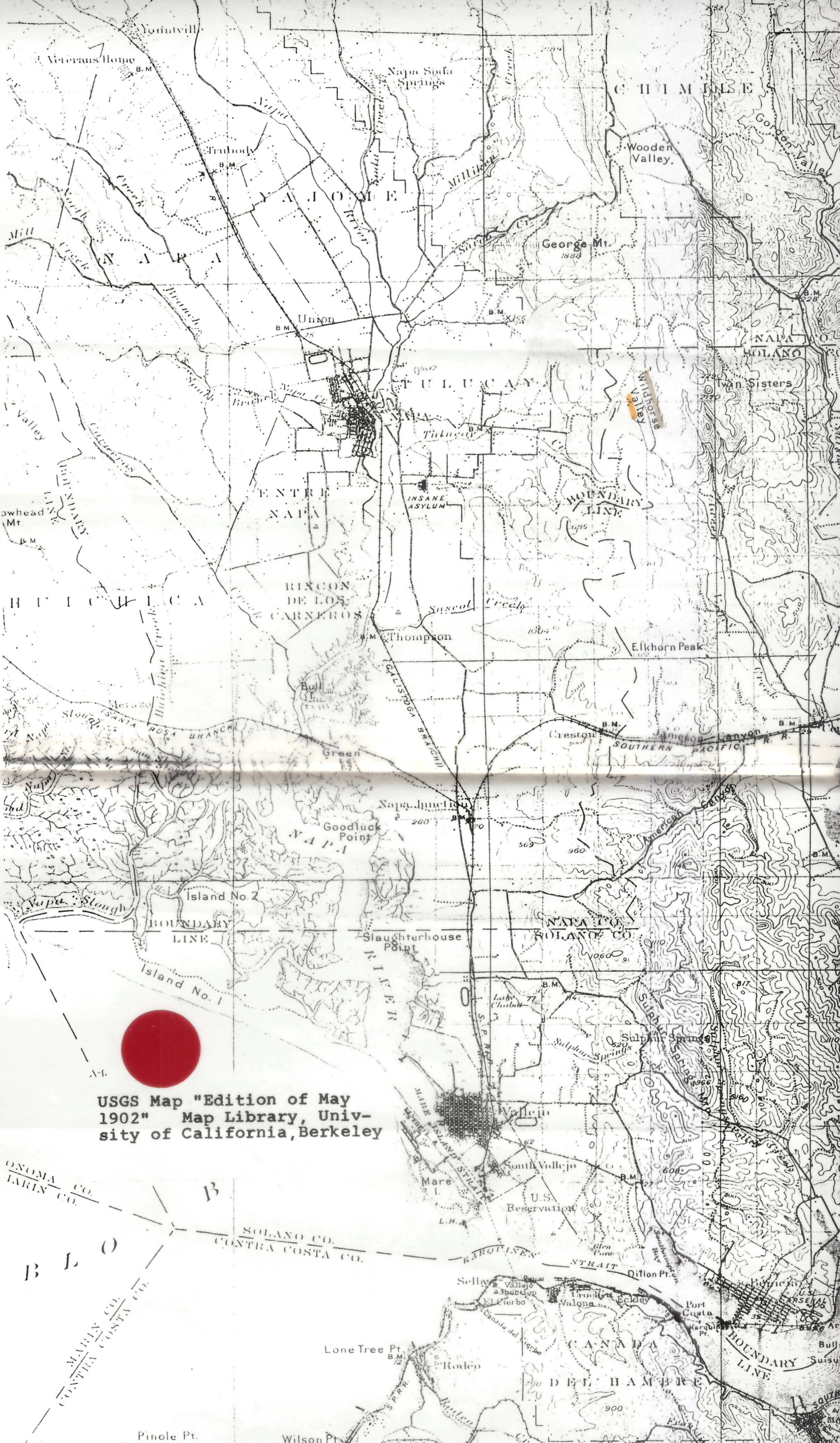
Mrs. Santos claimed a white stallion, which had escaped the confines of a corral, eventually found an acceptable home in the valley--running loose. In time, several mares of low breed it is claimed, joined the stallion and a small herd was formed. The herd did so much damage to crops, including young vineyards, that the horses had to be destroyed. The demise of the horses seems pure hearsay--they more likely were captured and "broken" for riding or drayage uses.

By the late 1890's, when a United States Geological Survey team crisscrossed Napa and Solano counties, dragging a surveyor's chain with them, "Wild Horse Valley" was permanently affixed to this hilly locale. (See xerox copy of map, "Edition of 1902," following page.)

In spite of the same precipitous road Clark found in 1866, a dozen families had settled in Wild Horse Valley by the year 1873. The Napa County Reporter newspaper lists 28 students at the "Mountain School." Four families contributed 21 of the students enrolled: James, 6 (children); Burrel, 5; Swift, 5; and Galispy, 5.

For some unexplained reason the enrollment dropped to only 8 students the following year, then was back up to 30 in 1875. There are no records as to how long the school operated but a map in the Napa County Assessor's Office for 1924, indicates a school district for taxing purposes, was still intact.*

*See Reporter of June 7, 1873, August 16, 1874, July 24, 1875.



USGS Map "Edition of May 1902" Map Library, University of California, Berkeley



THE FIRST VINEYARDS

Because of the remoteness of Wild Horse Valley in all of the nineteenth century, an accurate history of vine planting in the region is impossible. The first significant vineyard was likely that of Joseph F. Vorbe who settled in the valley in 1881.

The word "significant" is used to designate a vineyard of sufficient size to produce grapes in commercial quantities for wine production or eating. Grapes were routinely planted by pre-Gold Rush settlers because they were a ready source of sugar for cooking--when left to ripen late into the fall. (Extremely high sugar content grape juice can be distilled into a concentrate which by further cooking can produce a crystallized sugar.)

Joseph Vorbe was born in France and, like his brother Ephrem, came to San Francisco about the time of the Gold Rush. Eventually both purchased sizable acreages in Wild Horse Valley and on the sides of Mt. St. George. Joseph's vineyard was even known as "St. George Vineyard," the vines covering fifty acres according to a biography of the Vorbes carried in the 1912 published History of Solano and Napa Counties. (See complete text, following page.)*

The large size of the Vorbe vineyard may have been the reason Wild Horse Valley was included in a survey made of the number of vines in southern Napa Valley in August, 1881. The recently formed "Napa Wine Growers Association" carefully divided the valley into vine growing sections. The Napa County Reporter of August 5, 1881 carries one result of the vineyard survey:

*The large home built in full view of Napa residents, with a high turret, became known as "Frenchman's Castle." It burned in 1913.

 EPHREM VORBE.

The loyalty of the citizens of Napa county is a well established fact and were it not for this pride and loyalty so rampant in the hearts of its citizens, the far-famed beautiful county would lose half its charm. Natural beauty it has in abundance, but the most striking feature to the visitors' eyes is the appearance of cultivation and thrift so apparent on every hand. One of these best known ranches, superbly located on the western slope of Napa mountain, is the abiding place of Ephrem Vorbe, who was born in Doubs, France, in March, 1840. He remained there until his college days were over and at the age of nineteen, set out for the new world, well equipped to take a responsible position, for he had not only had a substantial college course, but had been graduated from a business college as well.

Mr. Vorbe's trip to this country was not without its adventures, and one less courageous would have been disappointed in the undertaking. After reaching New York and investigating the best route to the west he decided that a trip by water was less hazardous than crossing the plains with ox team, stories of the horrors of which had come to his ears. It was his plan after crossing the Isthmus of Panama to go north to San Francisco. His plans were delayed however, for upon reaching the coast of Florida, the vessel ran onto a rock on one of the small islands which detained him for eight days. After this period of rest, the vessel again set sail for San Francisco, arriving there without further mishap. Forty years is a long period to spend in one city, but such was the time spent by Mr. Vorbe, during twenty-five of which he held the amenable and lucrative position of teller and subsequently cashier of the old Swiss-American Bank of San Francisco. When the bank liquidated, and realizing that the confinement and close work was telling upon his constitution, he entered in the real estate business.

It was in San Francisco that Mr. Vorbe was united in marriage with Miss L. Geniller, one of his country-women, and two children were born of their union, Louise and Marie. Louise is the wife of Auguste Vorbe and the mother of five children, George, Leonie, Raymond, Louise and Rene. After the death of his first wife Mr. Vorbe married Adele Gensoul, a native daughter of California, and two children were born of their marriage, Julia and Louis, the first-mentioned still at home, and the latter attending Heald's Business College.

A brother of our subject, Joseph F. Vorbe, came to California in 1850 by way of Cape Horn and became a large property owner in San Francisco, being one of the early upbuilders of that metropolis. When he retired from active business he purchased a ranch in Wildhorse valley, locating upon it in 1881 and at once beginning its improvement. The ranch is now being kept up by his two nieces, Mrs. A. Vorbe and Marie Vorbe, who own the place. It is known as St. George vineyard and farm and is beautifully located on Mt. St. George, overlooking the beautiful Napa valley and commanding a view of San Francisco bay and from which that metropolis can be seen with the naked eye on a clear day, a distance of about fifty miles. Joseph F. Vorbe died in June, 1896, well known and much respected, particularly among pioneers.

After living the strenuous life for sixty years and being amply remunerated for his arduous toil, Ephrem Vorbe cast his lot with the retired men and settled down in Napa county, where with his daughter he resides on St. George ranch of seven hundred acres, enjoying the peace that is his due. Of this seven hundred acres, there is meadow and pasture land where from thirty to sixty head of cattle and horses are kept; fifty acres are in vineyards, the wine being made in their own winery. Although essentially American, Mr. Vorbe and family are all of the French Catholic faith. He has a pleasing personality, and many of the sterner qualities that denote the man of character, which have won for him the respect and admiration of a host of friends.

"Mr. J. Buckley, of the sub-committee appointed to ascertain the number of vines in the district bounded on the north by a line east from Napa City, taking in Wild Horse Valley, by Solano on the east and south and by Napa River on the West, filed a report, showing there are 139 acres containing 117,150 old bearing vines, and 134 acres containing 97,000 newly planted vines." Total: 274 acres.

Another early vine grower in Wild Horse Valley may have been Pierre Fournier. The Napa Register of December 28, 1883 apologized for "omitting the name of Pierre Fournier [in our annual wine report], of Wild Horse Valley, near Napa, who made 1,000 gallons. He has 15 acres of grapes but sold most of them to Migliavacca."

Either Fournier rented land in Wild Horse Valley and/or he had vineyards northeast of town on the Berryessa road for the Register contains many references to him in differing locales.

In the 1893 published study of phylloxera damage in Napa County ("Report of E. C. Priber") undertaken by the Board of State Viticultural Commission, Fournier is clearly not placed in Wild Horse Valley:

"P. Fournier, Napa-Total, 22 acres; all in bearing; infested by phylloxera, 5 acres; soil gravelly; vineyard low lying; crop 45 tons; cooperage 60,000 gallons, of which 10,000 is oak and 50,000 redwood." (Page 18. Underlining added.)

(Fournier could have leased the Vorbe winery since the Vorbes seemingly hired others to run their winery. The brothers were gentlemen farmers, of some wealth, who could afford to have others undertake the crushing of the grapes, etc.)

The 1893 Phylloxera study just referred to is one of the best documents available today for recreating the scope of viticulture

and wine production in Napa County and valley. There are mistakes in the spelling of names and some vineyardists were placed in the wrong towns.

The staff or volunteers who undertook the survey in Napa County were somewhat remiss in not diligently seeking out the names of growers in remote locations--such as Wild Horse Valley. The name "Vorbe" is missing and so is any other grape grower except possibly a name listed as "J. Vopt, Napa.":

"J. Vopt, Napa--Total, 60 acres; all in bearing, soil loam, vineyard mountain; exposure west and south; crop, 100 tons; cooper-
age, 50,000 gallons, of which 10,000 is oak and 40,000 is redwood.

"This vineyard is on the extreme ridge of hills dividing Napa from Wooden Valley" (page 23).

The MAP OF NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, 1895, which shows all property owners, does not contain the name "J. Vopt." On the other hand, the MAP OF SOLANO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, 1890 does list John Votypka as being a large landowner in Wild Horse Valley. Votypka probably lived in Napa City where he was contacted by the 1893 Phylloxera survey members.

(The same overlooking of vineyardists is very evident in the flourishing vine growing region of the "Napa Redwoods-Mt. Veeder" area northwest of Napa City. The small vineyards here, as in Wild Horse Valley, were semi-remote and the difficulty of access tended to dissuade visitors, etc.)

The Directory of Grape Growers, Wine Makers and Distillers of California, published in 1891 by the Board of State Viticultural Commissioners, also suffers from the same sins of omission. The

book is an excellent survey of vine growing, etc., county by county in the state, but many, if not most small growers in hilly regions were overlooked. This is particularly true for Wild Horse Valley and the Napa Redwoods.

Fortunately, the 1912 History of Solano and Napa Counties offers one more piece of evidence of vine growing in Wild Horse Valley, this time by the Furtado family. Antonio F. Furtado settled in the valley in 1881, first as a ranch hand, then purchasing 80 acres near Twin Sisters Mountains, just south of the Napa County line in Solano County. By the year 1911, he had "eleven acres in vineyard, which in 1911 produced twenty-two tons of an excellent quality of grapes." (See biography copy, following page.)

Herbert Hocken, of 6052 Wild Horse Valley Road, is a surviving eye-witness to the widespread planting of small vineyards in Wild Horse Valley at the turn of the century. He is just six years short of being 100 years old, having been born in 1892. Except for a brief period of service in the army in World War I, Hocken has never left the east Napa City area where he was born and raised. He is or was a mechanic by trade. The day an oral history was taped with him, July 28, 1986, he was overhauling a DC-8 caterpillar tractor.

Hocken insists that most of the farmers, including Constance Malandrino, had a small vineyard.* After a discussion of Malandrino's death in 1980, Hocken was asked:

*Constance Malandrino's death from appendicitis in 1908 is a test of Hocken's ability to recall events of many years ago. In questioning Hocken, the statement was made that Malandrino died in 1908. Hocken instantly replied: "I remember when he died because he used to drive up to the ranch. They lived in town and he was getting thinner and thinner and he said he was sick and didn't feel good. The only thing that helped him was white wine..." See transcript of interview in Appendix to this report.

ANTONIO FRANCISCO FURTADO.

Born on the island of Flores, one of the Azores, in February, 1854, Antonio F. Furtado is a splendid example of the man who, unaided and alone, can make a competency for himself. When seventeen years of age he left his homeland and came to the Pacific coast, in 1871 locating in Half Moon bay, San Mateo county, Cal., where he accepted the first employment that came to hand. Altogether he remained in that locality for about two years, and in 1873 went to Petaluma and followed dairying for a short time. Subsequently coming to Solano county he worked as a ranch hand until 1881, when he located on a ranch which he rented and in 1884 he bought the nucleus of his present ranch at Twin Sisters Mountain. To his first purchase of eighty acres he has since added until he now has one hundred and sixty-five acres in his home place, of which sixty acres are under cultivation. Besides fruits and berries for his own use, he has eleven acres in vineyard, which in 1911 produced twenty-two tons of an excellent quality of grapes. Some of the land is in grain, and the remainder is in pasture.

Mr. Furtado was united in marriage with Mary Vieira, also a native of the Azores, and to this marriage five children were born. He is a member of the U. P. E. C., a Republican in politics, and has been a school trustee in District No. 12 for three years. In his religious faith he is a Catholic.

Tom Gregory, HISTORY OF SOLANO AND
NAPA COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA, 1912
vineyard near Twin Sisters Mountain
Wild Horse Valley

Q: Did he have grapes up there?

A: Yes.

Q: Were there many acres? Have you any idea how many acres?

A: No.

Q: Just a small plot?

A: Yes, like that place over there. About two acres. They had just a little vineyard. All those farmers had small vineyards, you know.

Hocken often visited the Sequira family as a youth because they had teenage boys his own age. That family had a small vineyard, "not too many [acres], just little scattered places." "They'd haul down there [to the Carbone winery] maybe a load a day, they'd come down with two horses and then leave the horses here at the foot of the hill, two horses, and take the grapes there and pull the wagon and then here they'd put the four horses on the empty wagon to go up the hill."

Q: When do you remember that? In the twenties or later?

A: Oh, not in the twenties. That was about the turn of the century.

Q: Do you think their vineyards were gone by 1925 or the 1930's?

A: Oh, I think so because the deer came in.

Q: . . . Do you remember the Furtado family?

A: Furtado?

Q: Yes, they were quite close there to the Sequiras.

A: . . . All those people up there had grapes. There's pretty good soil up there and the grapes done good, but the deer came in here.

Q: Do you remember the Furtados having a vineyard over near Twin Sisters? Is there a mountain called Twin Sisters?

A: Yes, they lived on the other side of the hill looking at Fairfield.

Hocken recalls, too, the Vorbe ranch, the vineyards and volunteered the information: "They had a wine cellar there."

Between the years 1890 and 1920, the following individuals were growing grapes in Wild Horse Valley: Vorbe, 50 acres; Furtado, 11 acres; F. W. Behrens, 8 acres; and lesser size vineyards grown by Malandrino, Sequira, possibly Pierre Fournier and John Votypka. There may be another six to ten names for which no solid documentation has been found at this time.

WINE MAKING FOR WILD HORSE VALLEY

The first winery established in Wild Horse Valley is undoubtedly that of Joseph and Ephrem Vorbe. It very likely came into existence in the later 1880's, shortly after the Vorbe family vineyards were planted.

The 1880's were a period of high vineyard and winery expansion in Napa Valley, as indeed was the case in dozens of other counties in California. Napa Valley and county had less than 50 wineries when the decade began; ten years later there were 166 wineries. Vineyards expanded from 3,500 acres to nearly 20,000 acres in the same ten year period. The St. Helena Star carried each year a listing of operating wineries in the early 1880's. The issues of December 11 and 25, 1885, for example, list 49 cellars in the county in 1880, 165 by 1886; a production of 2,910,000 gallons of

wine in 1880 and 4,800,000 gallons in 1886. The Directory of wine makers and grape growers, published in 1891 by the Board of State Viticultural Commissioners provides statistics for the close of the decade.

The Vorbes were attracted to wine making because it was an investment opportunity for the wealthy of San Francisco, much like gold had been in the 1850's and 1860's and then silver. The vine disease called phylloxera had nearly wiped out the vine in France, and there was much press speculation that Napa Valley and California would replace France as the wine capital of the world. Ephrem Vorbe, cashier for the Swiss-American Bank in San Francisco, would have been aware of wine as an investment particularly, perhaps discussing this with other wealthy men such as Gustave Niebaum (founder of Inglenook), John Benson (founder of Far Niente), Morris Estee (Hedgeside winery), A. L. Tubbs (Tubbs winery) or Napa City bankers, James and George Goodman (Eshcol winery-Trefethen). James sat on the Board of Directors of several San Francisco corporations and may have been very influential in diverting investment funds to the Napa Valley.

The Vorbes hired Dominico Abate about 1900 to operate their winery. His son, George Abate, currently assessor for the County of Napa, California, recalls vividly being told by his father of the Vorbe winery operation. Dominico was a young immigrant from Italy who went to work for the Vorbes shortly after coming to California.

The Vorbe winery was essentially a tunnel and large room excavated into the hillside, the nearly solid rock giving the

cellar a substantial character. It was a room perhaps 20 by 30 feet in size and may have been able to hold 50,000 gallons. The Vorbes may have purchased grapes from nearby neighbors if that much wine was produced annually.

George Abate recalls that most of the wine was sold to the Carbone winery, approximately halfway between Wild Horse Valley and the city of Napa, in an area known as Coombsville.

"If there is one story about my father's work for the Vorbes that I remember best, it is the story of his hauling wine to the Carbones in September, 1913 and the great fire which swept the valley that night," states George Abate.

"My father would take a wagon load of wine down that steep grade on Wild Horse Valley Road, and then stay overnight with the Carbones and return the next day. When the fire swept through the valley, he said he didn't know if he would have a job to go back to, or even a place to sleep. He stood outside in the evening at the Carbone winery and watched the fire burning, the flames were even visible."*

Abate's memory is quite correct, for the Napa Weekly Journal of September 26, 1913 carries extensive coverage of the fire. This particular episode in the valley's history will be expanded in some detail later in this report.

The 1913 fire did indeed destroy most of the structures on the Vorbe ranch, including the wooden entrance to the wine cellar. Dominico Abate's small home, in the middle of the orchard, was the

*From an interview conducted by this writer at Abate's office, July 30, 1986.

only building to survive. The Vorbe family essentially abandoned the ranch (both Joseph and Ephrem being already deceased) and the vineyards were shortly overrun with cattle. The grazing of cattle was the primary utilization of the ranch thereafter, even to current times.

The John Votypka/Vopt winery "on the extreme ridge of hills dividing Napa from Wooden Valley" probably took some of the grapes, too, produced in Wild Horse Valley in the 1890's. With a capacity of 50,000 gallons, it is doubtful Votypka could have grown enough of his own grapes to fill his production of that much wine. Other than the "Report of E. C. Priber" on the phylloxera damage in Napa County, published in 1893, there are no records to support how long this wine cellar operated.

The Priber report also makes brief reference to a 15,000 gallon winery operated in Coombsville by E. A. Rety.

The Carbone winery in Coombsville deserves some special attention at this point because it in all likelihood was an intermediary destination for most of the wine produced in Wild Horse Valley. Carbone had a winery of at least 100,000 gallons capacity before Prohibition and was a major wine shipper in the Napa Valley. It was the place where Dominico Abate watched the Vorbe winery burn in late September, 1913.

The 1893 Priber report on phylloxera in Napa Valley contains this reference to the Carbone winery:

"A. Carboni, Napa-Total 40 acres; in bearing, 30 acres; infested by phylloxera, 25 acres; of which 10 acres are good for ~~only one crop~~ more; soil loam; vineyard low lying; exposure

southwest; no special treatment for phylloxera; crop 100 tons, cooperage, 10,000 gallons.

"Mr. Carboni is much discouraged with the outlook. Two years ago the vineyard was in fine condition; now it is rapidly dying out."

Carbone, an immigrant from Italy, had arrived in Napa Valley about the year 1868--long before most other Italian immigrants abandoned their homeland for America. He probably cut firewood for the Napa and San Francisco market during his early years, then gradually accumulated enough funds to purchase land east of Napa City. The Napa Register of April 17, 1885 reported that a strong interest in Coombsville had suddenly blossomed because it was claimed grapes ripened there earlier than some parts of the Napa region. The late afternoon sun, of course, hastened this process whereas the Napa Redwoods, for example, were often in the shadow of the sun and grapes were slow to ripen.

The Carbone winery began to take shape in March, 1889 according to the Register: "Work has been commenced on _____ Carbone's new stone cellar in Coombsville. Mr. Fransha is doing the work. Plans are prepared by L. M. Turton" (some words are illegible).

In June, 1895 a reporter for the Register stopped by Carbone's ranch and left this description in an issue of the 7th:

"Passing out on the main road again the scribe finds himself at A. Carbone's. Mr. C. owns 82½ acres, 60 acres of which now are in hay, 10 in young vines, 20 in corn and some fruit trees. Mr. Carbone at one time had 40 acres of vineyard but the phylloxera

got in its deadly work and the vines were pulled out. Resistants were planted. Mr. Carbone has two wine cellars, a fine dwelling, large barn, etc. He is shipping his wine (some of it east) at the rate of 3 or 4 carloads a month."

To ship "carload" lots of wine, Carbone's two wine cellars must have been of considerable size--regardless of how destructive the phylloxera was to his own vineyards. This suggests he purchased many grapes from neighbors or purchased wine, as from the Vorbe winery. The Napa newspapers contain a number of references to his shipping wine east and by 1906 his business had grown so large he maintained an office in downtown Napa, at #10 Bank Block, to retail his wines.

It is known that one of the wine cellars burned, about 1915, curtailing the ability of the Carbone winery to produce wine from Wild Horse Valley grapes. Antonio Carbone had died nine years earlier, in the year 1906, but the family continued its operations.

Wild Horse Valley presents some unusual problems in undertaking historical research on the general area. A majority of the valley lies within Solano County. Solano County histories, however, ignore the mountain^{ous} region almost entirely since no roads lead from any portion of the county into Wild Horse Valley--only ill-defined horse trails. Residents of the valley received their mail through Napa City, and all of their household provisions, their schooling, even voting in state and national elections were handled through Napa City. Wild Horse Valley might geographically lie largely in Solano County but Napa City (and county) was the business and personal center for the area.

The maps of Napa County for 1895 and 1915 (see copy on the following pages) provide a "directory" as it were, of residents on the Napa side of Wild Horse Valley (the majority of residents were on the northern side). Maps held in the Solano County Planning Office, Fairfield, California, which cannot be xerox copied, provide a list of property owners for the years 1890 and 1909.

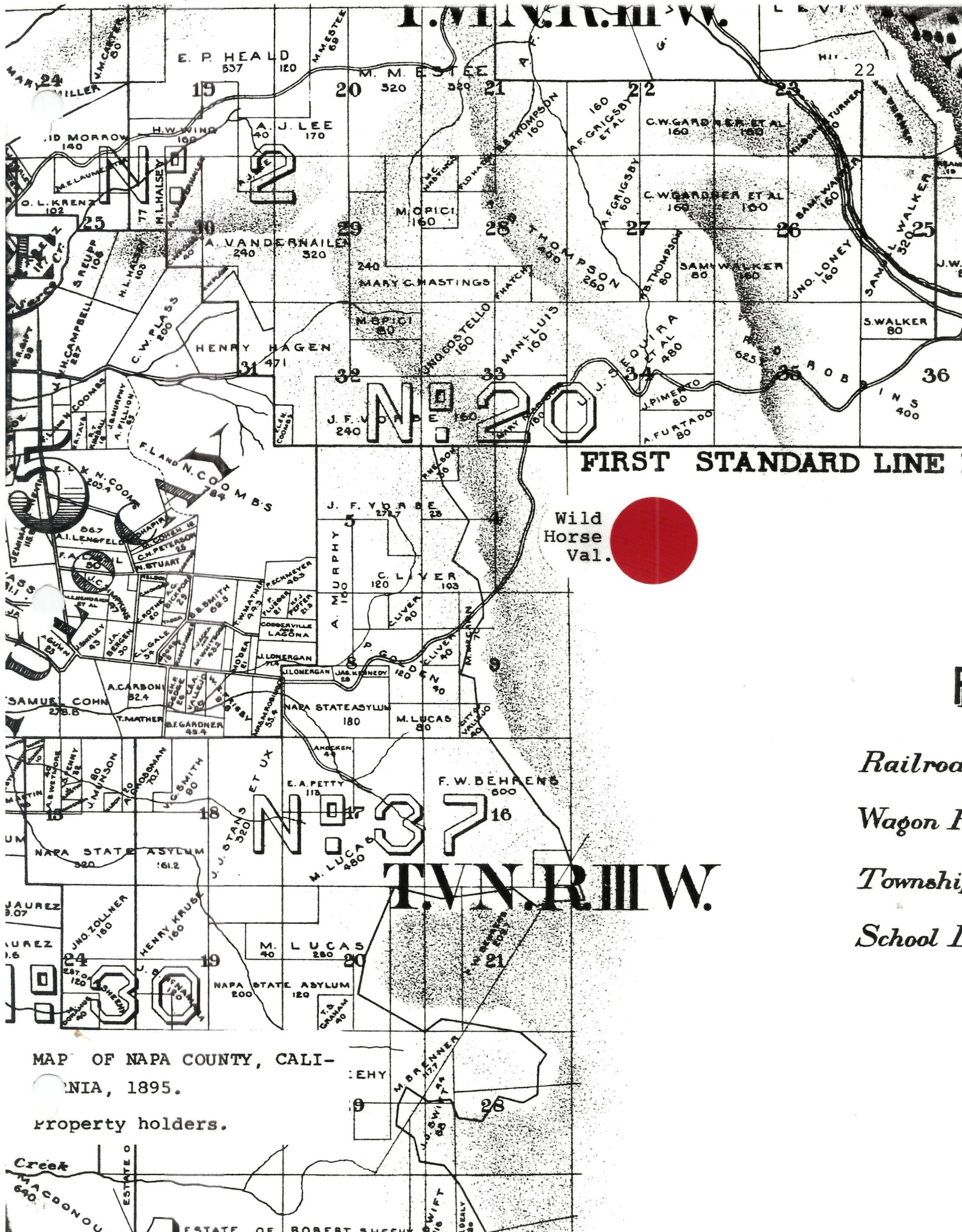
THE MALANDRINO RANCH

One of the largest single pieces of Wild Horse Valley property held during the years discussed so far in this report, is what has long been commonly known as the "Malandrino Ranch." The ranch was brought together in the 1880's by Frederick W. Behrens and covered about 850 acres.

Behrens, a native of Oldenburg, Germany, had come to the United States and California in 1849 because of the great Gold Rush. In 1874 he moved to Napa County and within a few years began buying land in the southern portion of Wild Horse Valley.

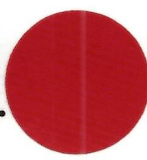
Because Behrens' holdings had such an abundance of water, from mountain streams, it is certain he was caught up in the vine fever of the 1880's when 100,000 acres of grapes were planted in California in just four years. There had never been such vine excitement in the state. The Behrens ranch had large open (free from trees) hillsides which were ideal for grape culture. Behrens probably began his vine planting about 1880-81, although he may predate the Vorbess to the 1870's.

The Directory of Grape Growers and Wine-Makers published in 1891 (with statistics for the year 1890) documents that Behrens was a small vineyardist but not a wine producer:



FIRST STANDARD LINE

Wild Horse Val.



Railroad
Wagon 1
Township
School 1

MAP OF NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, 1895.
 property holders.

T.V.N.R.III.W.

Creek
 MACDONOUGH
 640

ESTATE OF ROBERT SHEEHY

Listing of probable property owners within the greater WILD HORSE VALLEY taken from the MAP OF NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, 1895; and the MAP OF SOLANO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, 1890:

(Napa County)

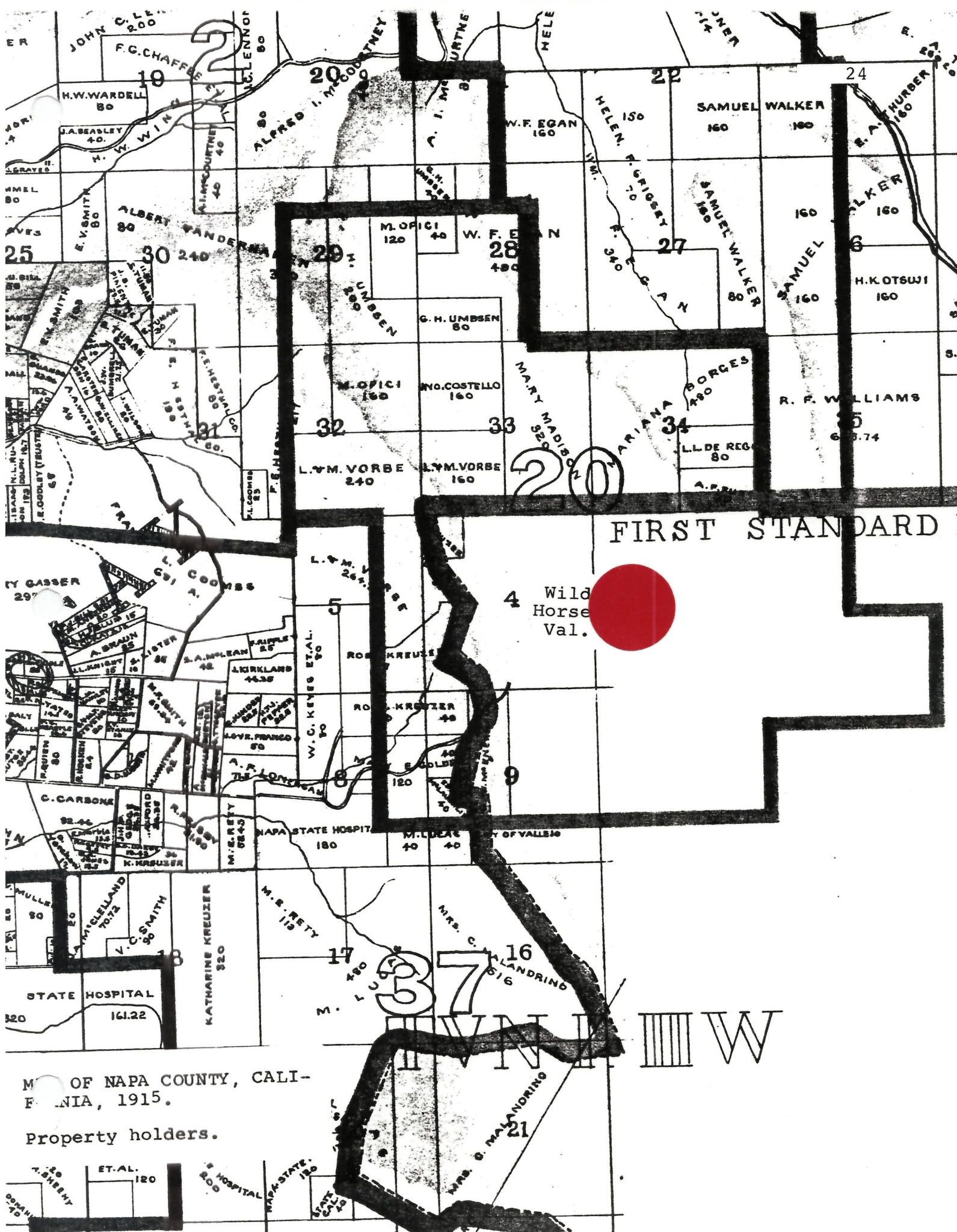
1. Behrens, F. W.
2. Costello, Jng.
3. Furtado, A.
4. Hatch, F.
5. Liver, C.
6. Luis, Man.
7. Maboor (?), Mary
8. McCann, M.
9. Nelson, P.
10. Pimento, J.
11. Sequira, L. J.
12. Thompson, A. B.
13. Vorbe, J. F.

(Nearly all of these individuals lived in Wild Horse Valley.)

(Solano County)

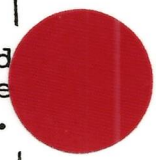
14. Alwes, Manuel
15. Behrens, F. W. (?)
16. Cook, Charlotte
17. Cook, George
18. Driscoll, J. D.
19. Furtado, A. P.
20. Hastings, Robert
21. Laver, C.
22. Madison, Peter & Mary (2 parcels)
23. Mahon, John
24. McMann, M.
25. Nelson, Paulus
26. Pimental, E. J.
27. Rosewell, Geo.
28. Solano County
29. Votypka, John

(Most of these individuals did not live in Wild Horse Valley--these are only property owners.)



FIRST STANDARD

4 Wild Horse Val.



MAP OF NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, 1915.
Property holders.

37

III W

MRS. G. MALANDRINO

STATE HOSPITAL
ET. AL. 120
A. SHEEN 20
STATE HOSPITAL 200
NAPA STATE 120
STATE CALIF. 20

Listing of probable property owners within the greater WILD HORSE VALLEY, taken from the MAP OF NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, 1915 and the MAP OF SOLANO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, 1909.

(Napa County)

1. Costello, Jno.
2. Madison, Mary
3. Opici, M.
4. Umbsen, G. H.
5. Vorbe, L. & M.

(Solano County)

6. Dodini, Julius
7. Groom, Mrs. C. H.
8. Furtado, A. P.
9. Jones, F. S.
10. Madison, Peter or May
11. Malandrino, C. (?)
12. Robbin, R. D.
13. Rosewell, G.
14. Rush, B. F.
15. Toynto, (?) G.
16. Vallejo, City of

"Behrns, W. F...Napa...8 acres in Grapes...Production 20 tons....(type) Zinfandel."

The last name is misspelled and the initials reversed but because of the frequent misspelling of names in this directory as well as other errors, the entry certainly is F. W. Behrens.

Between 1890 and 1900 the phylloxera vine disease spread rapidly in Napa County, decimating the vineyards as it did in France. But the phylloxera moved at a snail's pace to the higher hillsides of the county and it is possible that Behrens planted more acres to grapes than the eight listed previously.

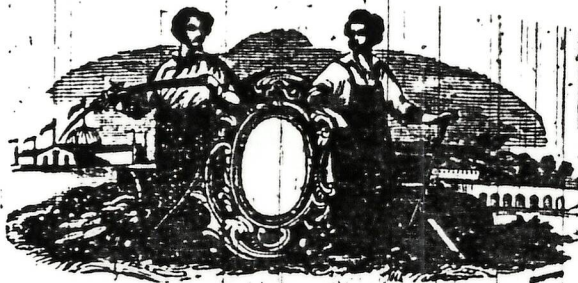
A theft of coins and other valuable papers belonging to Behrens helped bring attention to Wild Horse Valley in the year 1890.

The Napa Register reported on its front page of April 25, 1890:

"The dwelling of F. W. Behrens in Wild Horse Valley was Thursday morning entered by a burglar and \$75 in coin and a tin box containing deeds to the property, insurance policies and other valuable papers taken. Mr. Behrens was awakened by a noise in his sleeping apartment and raised up in bed. As he did so a man sprang up from beside the bed and ran. Mr. Behrens jumped up, grabbed his shot gun and tried to shoot the burglar but the weapon was not loaded. . . ."

Behrens reported two individuals as being involved as his two watchdogs (which did not sound an alarm initially) gave chase in two separate directions. (See full text on following page.)

Napa



NAPA, CAL., FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 1890.

AN INQUEST

Held by Coroner Lawrence Upon the Body of J. C. Commiskey.

Coroner Geo. Lawrence was Thursday afternoon summoned to the Veterans' Home at Yountville to hold an inquest upon the body of an inmate of the institution. Testimony was taken and a verdict rendered as given below.

J. Aiken, M. D., Medical Director at the Veterans' Home, was the only witness called. He testified substantially as follows: Am a graduate of medicine and practicing physician; knew the deceased in his lifetime; his name was James C. Commiskey, a native of Ireland, aged 48 years; he came to his death at the Veterans' Home near Yountville, Napa Co., Cal., on the 17th day of April, 1890; on the 26th day of last month deceased had some difficulty with one George Thompson, a steward at the Home; Thompson attempted by force to eject deceased from the room where he then was; in the course of the trouble I am informed that deceased was thrown against an iron bedstead and was struck on the left side over the ribs; deceased said his ribs had been broken in the encounter spoken of and demanded an investigation by the Board of Directors, which was deemed unnecessary by the Board; on April 10th, 1890, deceased was placed in the hospital, where he seemed to be partially delirious and was evidently suffering from fever and gradually grew worse until he died; held an autopsy on the body and found no evidence of any broken bones, nor any symptoms of bruises, either internal or external; found no evidence that his death was caused or induced by the injury which he had received on March 26th, 1890; his symptoms before death showed conclusively that deceased was suffering from fever of a bad nature and it is my professional opinion that his death was due to that cause.

ANOTHER BURGLARY.

F. W. Behrens Loses Coin and Papers.

The dwelling of F. W. Behrens in Wild Horse Valley was Thursday morning entered by a burglar and \$75 in coin and a tin box containing deeds to property, insurance policies and other valuable papers taken. Mr. Behrens was awakened by a noise in his sleeping apartment and raised up in bed. As he did so a man sprang up from beside the bed and ran. Mr. Behrens jumped up, grabbed his shot gun and tried to shoot the burglar but the weapon was not loaded. An examination revealed that the articles mentioned were stolen from a trunk. The sum of \$140 in a purse in the same trunk was not discovered by the thief. The papers had just been placed in the box and would Thursday have been brought to town and placed in a bank for safe keeping, had not frustrated this plan. They are valueless to anyone, excepting owner.

Mr. Behrens is of the opinion that there were two burglars as he has two dogs and each ran in different directions, barking as if after some one.

DEER SKINS SEIZED.

Deputy Fish Commissioners Make Another Raid.

The Deputy Fish Commissioners are still keeping a lookout for violators of the law prohibiting the killing of female deer, or male deer out of season.

Yesterday morning Chief Deputy Fred P. Callundan and Deputy Thomas Tunstead boarded the ferry-boat *James M. Donahue* on its passage to this city from Tiburon, and seized three bundles of deer skins, from which the evidence of

DR. BRIGGS' LECTURE.

An Able Discourse Upon an Interesting Theme.

held in the Methodist Episcopal church the first of a series of five delivered by Rev. M. D. D., of Santa Clara, formerly pastor of the church here. His subject was "Progress and Slavery vs. Poverty and Progress." Previous to the lecture the Y. M. C. Male Choir sang a slave song, entitled "Been a Listening."

Dr. Briggs' style of speaking is too well known to need comment. He is forcible and earnest, always commanding the closest attention of hearers. The contrast between "progress and slavery" and "progress and poverty" was elaborated upon in an able manner, and the speaker drew not sparingly upon his fund of humorous illustrations. The entertainment closed with another negro melody entitled "Steal Away to Jesus" by the Male Choir.

The next lecture of the course will be given next Tuesday evening, when Rev. F. F. Jewell, D. D., of San Jose, a very popular speaker, will lecture upon "The girl I left behind me and the girl they have left with me or the old girl and the new." It is to be expected that the attendance will be larger than it was last night, when the rain undoubtedly kept many away.

Pulpit Paragraphs.

On account of the absence of the pastor, who for the past four days has been attending Presbytery at Ukiah, no services were held in the Presbyterian church Sunday.

Rev. Richard Wylie preached from the pulpit of the Christian church in Ukiah last Sunday evening.

Rev. L. M. Schofield conducted services, under Congregational

CALISTOGA AGIT

Over the Standing of Board of Trustees on a Question.

Since the election and t of the high license ticket toga, discussion had been less animated between th of wet and dry. The named gentlemen comp Board: Dr. Gardner, W. Wm. Spiers, Geo.ully a tum. When the high license was up for passage, of these Gardner, E. Spiers, were understood full of people as saying th they would be guided by t having the most dignat sentiment of the comm sounded. It was decided of the ordinance, and th Trustees as recorded by th a meeting of the Board at and two against, Chairner deciding the matter in the affirmative. Last bet was made by a coup putants on Spiers' vote, claring that he voted for nance, the other that against it. This led to th of an affidavit by Spiers, a surprise of many the gent clares in that affidavit th for low license. How t reached could have been with Spiers voting in the r the thing that just now constituency which was su know the mind of enc servants on this license pr Members of the new Bo takes their seats soon and Spiers is a holdover there be no question that high lic still have a majority of one, the ordinance a few mo passed will stand.

Eight months later the Register reported the recovery of the Behrens documents, but not the money:

"Last Spring the residence of Mr. F. W. Behrens in Wild Horse Valley was entered by thieves, who carried away a lot of valuable papers and other articles. About a month ago a boy, while out hunting, noticed a sack in the brush, and upon opening it found all the papers intact and not in the least injured." (Issue of December 26, 1890.)

Behrens sold his ranch in October, 1897 to Constance Malandrino. The Deed, dated October 18, and recorded in Book #55, page 186, County of Napa, California, covers 849.82 acres of land. (Behrens died November 22, 1924 in Vallejo.)

When Constance Malandrino took over the Behrens ranch he could only have had the growing of grapes uppermost in his mind! Malandrino was no cattleman, probably not a hunter or sportsman. He was a Swiss immigrant of exceptional wine making talents!

Malandrino had left Switzerland when he was 18 years of age, in the year 1876. For some undocumented reason, he came straight to Napa Valley and went to work immediately in the winery of Peter Van Beever, known as the Uncle Sam winery. Located in Napa City, near the Napa River, it was by 1878, 30,256 square feet in space and capable of holding 400,000 gallons of wine. The Uncle Sam winery was the largest in Napa County.

~~When Ven Beever sold his winery to Frenchmen Charles Carpy~~
and C. Anduran, Malandrino was named foreman and in 1895 he became Superintendent of the winery for the California Wine Association (formed the year previously).

With hillsides similar to his native Switzerland and abundant water, it can be conjectured that Malandrino would have expanded the vineyards of his Wild Horse Valley ranch. There is another reason for this type of supposition by the year 1900. It had been conclusively proven that the phylloxera could be overcome with a resistant rootstock called the "Rupestris St. George." Every type of so-called American "resistant" rootstock had been tried in the Napa Valley the previous decade, from Lenoirs to the native "Californicus." After a flurry of growth and sometimes production of grapes for 3-5 years, the vines failed because of the long dry summer (most were from wetter climatic regions in eastern United States) or just were not resistant as was the case with the California grape.

George Schoenwald of St. Helena was the first to prove in California that the Rupestris St. George was the right rootstock for the state. Georges de Latour of Rutherford followed by importing millions of bench-grafted resistant vines to replant California's vineyards. It is very possible that Malandrino would have caught the second wave of vine-planting fever in Napa County, precipitated by the Rupestris St. George, and planted ten, twenty or thirty acres of grapes on his Wild Horse Valley ranch. It is simply inconceivable that a person of his viticulture and wine making background would not have been intrigued by the potential of his hillsides for a superior quality grape.

Unfortunately, there are no directories, no lists of grape growers and acreage for Napa Valley or county from the years 1900 to 1920 and Prohibition.

ARTER.

Which Taken.

are aware of in preliminary before the ques- new charter for d to the people the Board of City the question sub- must be presented lly by three-fifths tizens who voted el election, ask- a be held. The order and a nar- sary for the r charter. ons are laboring that under a pense of govern- materially in- sion is errone- Trustees will be Council, the ill constitute a tion, the then- elected at the the offices of will be separ- tions; but the ter will be nomi- deal out justice taking the place sice court. He es and will re- lly the office Assessor will be vo offices. The earn his own der the present ent municipal a very large taxes are levied erty of persons ven the assess- it who have re- age residents of when the taxes er the new char- sor will proceed ounty Assessor r to collect per- es immediately ne is fixed. In ndred dollars per d the city, prob- ough to pay the

ns between the nters is that the power to create a mproved streets sine a mill in d being created. d be of conse- to some stated ago. It is not d) work, in the d) ment to the d) least three lg election in

The Wink. Tapped in Hires. Mounts.

Athletic Club of is monthly ex- The feature of ight to a finish. It, formerly of \$hammon. The

the city fathers, "of potting that \$5,000 into a new reservoir to be situated 100 feet above the present one, that we may have a pressure sufficient to throw one or more streams over the highest buildings in town. I think that it would be more of a benefit to the town to aid the Water Company that much, if so large a sum be needed, than expend the money for a steam fire engine, which, in winter, could not be huddled over half of our soft streets."

"I'm with you on that," said the other trustee, "if the 'Y's' and 'T's' of the mains will stand the pressure. I understand that the opinion has been expressed that they are too weak but they were put in under the eyes of a competent engineer and I don't believe that they are too weak. At any rate, they could be easily tested."

The little knot of men then separated and the newspaper man folded his note book and stole away.

Agate in the Tolls.

J. P. Cooper, a peddler of Japanese wares, was some months ago arrested in Woodland and sentenced to pay a fine of \$15 or go to jail for fifteen days for insulting women who refused to buy goods of him. The same chap served fifteen days in the Suisun jail for peddling without a license. To get even with the officers who had thus administered upon him, he subsequently sent them heavy and worthless packages through Wells, Fargo & Co's Express, on which big charges had to be paid by the consignees. By means of these shipments Detective Hume located the "Jack O' Lantern," who, ever since the robbery of the Mendocino stage last January and since the Pixley train robbery in February, had been dropping facetiously worded and taunting postal cards to him through the mails, and arrested him in San Jose last week. Cooper is now in jail in San Francisco. He says he wrote the postals signed "Jack O' Lantern" and guying Hume, "just for fun;" that he sent the heavy packages to the judges who sentenced him to get even; that he knows nothing about the Mendocino stage or Pixley train robberies and was in no way connected with them. He is a smooth one and an investigation may prove that he is a bigger rascal than he acknowledges himself to be.

Considerable Ficting.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Supervisors several attempts were entered upon for public travel in the town of Monticello. A resident of that town writing to the *Winters Express* says:

Between petitions and remonstrances, there is considerable ficting in regard to the opening of the streets of our town. Parties who have had several streets fenced for years, and deprived the benefits of crops raised thereon, are now un-

WINE MAKING.

It Has Now Begun in Earnest—Four of the Cellars—Low Prices.

Wine-makers are now very busy in this vicinity. The cellars of the Napa Valley Wine Company, C. Carpy and G. Migliavacca were visited by a REGISTER news-gatherer and at each laborers were pushing different branches of the work.

At the Uncle Sam winery, Constance Malandrino was overseeing a large force of men, attending to the receiving of grapes and the giving out of boxes. He informed the reporter that crushing was begun Tuesday afternoon. The first grapes received were from C. L. LaRue's Yountville vineyard. None but first-class grapes of the finest varieties have been taken. In the grapes saccharine matter is very plentiful, running from 24 to 26 per cent, while the required standard is but 22 per cent.

Mr. Carpy arrived from San Francisco on the steamer *Zinfandel* this morning and upon being questioned in regard to the prices he is paying and will pay for grapes, replied: "Prices are very low; I pay from \$7 to \$15 per ton, according to the variety and the character of the soil upon which the fruit is grown. The latter figure is given in but a few cases for the very finest varieties. I think the crop in this valley is an average one despite contrary reports. I will this year buy none but Napa valley grapes and have as yet no idea how much wine I will make this season."

At G. Migliavacca's cellar, crushing was also begun Tuesday afternoon on Riesling grapes. "Grapes are plentiful, of good quality and contain an abundance of sugar," said Mr. Migliavacca, "while prices rule very low."

At the Napa Valley Wine Company's cellar, three wagons loaded with grapes and all from the vicinity of Yountville, stood waiting to unload. The grapes were mostly Rieslings for which the growers received about \$9 per ton. Crushing was begun at this winery on Thursday of last week.

With these three cellars purchasing none but Napa valley grapes, our vineyardists should experience no difficulty in disposing of their crops, providing the quality be good.

Grapes are this year very sweet and W. L. Johnson of Yountville had some that contained as high as 28 per cent of saccharine two weeks ago. In a week all the wineries will be running full blast.

From conversations had with several grape growers from St. Helena, Yountville and Napa, it is learned that the crop is this year slightly less than usual and the vintage later than ordinary. In many cases *Zinfandels* are rotting upon the vines. This is caused by the continual fogs and cool weather and is more prevalent within a radius of several miles from this city than in the upper valley.

Hon. M. M. Estee began wine-making week before last. F. Borreo commenced crushing at his Bay View Vineyard, near Napa



Malandrino became ill from an inflamed appendix in 1908 and died, probably from the effects of the appendix rupturing before surgery. His illness, death and funeral were extensively covered in the Napa newspapers, the news rating front-page treatment. (See copies of news articles, following page.)

WATER SUPPLY, MALANDRINO AND WILD HORSE VALLEY

Fortunately for the history of Wild Horse Valley, Constance Malandrino also had a short temper when it came to curtailing or interrupting his supply of water for his ranch. The story of his lawsuit against the City of Vallejo, continued by his widow Christina for many years, kept the name Wild Horse Valley on the front pages of Napa newspapers. In the immediate decade before the onset of Prohibition, Wild Horse Valley became so familiar to Napa County residents that it may have overshadowed all other geographic regions except the big Napa Valley itself.

The City of Vallejo, home of the largest ship repair facility in California and largest West Coast U.S. Naval base, circa 1900, had a constant struggle providing fresh water to its residents and naval personnel. Lake Chabot, built in the 1880's northeast of the town, was not a certain source of water in dry years and it was in the 1890's that Vallejo councilmen began hearing stories of high rainfall in a very obscure part of Solano County called "Wild Horse Valley." There were no roads to the valley, only horseback trails that led over the rather steep terrain to the city of Napa.

Funeral of Constance Malandrino--Eloquent Eulogy of Chas. Carpy.

Amid the tears of countless friends and relatives, all that was mortal of the late Constance Malandrino, was tenderly returned to the embrace of mother earth out in silent Tulocay Wednesday afternoon, there to repose undisturbed until time shall be no more.

The funeral was held from the family home on Seymour street at 1:30 o'clock, and brief but impressive services were conducted by the Rev. Father H. Cantillon of St. John's Catholic Church.

The procession which slowly wended its way to the cemetery was one of the longest ever seen in this city.

By the side of the open grave, Charles Carpy of the California Wine Association, of which the deceased was a trusted, honored and faithful employe for a third of a century, delivered a fitting eulogy. Mr. Carpy's eloquent words touching all hearts.

He spoke as follows:

"Friends: We are assembled here to pay a last tribute of affection and respect to the memory of an honest man.

"Constance Malandrino had all the attributes which combine to make a desirable citizen of this country of his adoption and an honor to the country of his birth.

"A devoted husband, a good father, a man of highest integrity, of conspicuous ability, and of loyalty to interests committed to his charge seldom equaled in these days of restless change.

"He devoted his life and intelligence to one line of effort and how well beloved he was by his employers is amply evidenced by the fact that from boyhood to manhood, from manhood to middle age, he remained for almost thirty-five long years in one continuous employment. Owners and principles might change, but Constance Malandrino was as faithful and valuable that, like the Rock of Gibraltar, he remained steadfast, even unto death, at his post of duty.

"With his neighbors and all those with whom he was brought into daily intercourse, his fine qualities were appreciated and respected. His life was a brilliant example for all to follow.

"To his sorrowing family we tender our heartfelt sympathy for a loss, the extent of which they can hardly yet realize, so suddenly, in the prime and vigor of life, was the husband and father taken from them, but the consciousness of the outearn in which he was held by all will be to them a precious heritage and a lasting consolation and pride.

"The Almighty has stretched out His arm and taken him to that rest and peace which passeth all understanding, and in this hour of grief and sorrow, we can almost hear a voice resounding, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the House of the Lord.'"

There was a profusion of choicest floral offerings, which completely hid from sight the newly made mound.

GOOD MAN GONE.

Sudden Passing of Constance Malandrino Causes Universal Sorrow.

"Constance Malandrino is dead." As this sad piece of news passed from the lips of one citizen to another early Monday afternoon, men in all walks of life forgot for the minute their business cares, and jangled in lowered and sorrow laden voices the untimely end of one of the best known and most universally liked men in all the City of Napa.

It had been a long time since the people of this city had been so sadly and unexpectedly shocked, and many were loath to give credence to the awful tidings.

In the best of health and spirits on Sunday a week ago, and feeling poorly on Monday last, taken suddenly ill and removed to the Clara Barton Hospital on Tuesday, operated upon for appendicitis on Wednesday, and reported out of danger and getting along nicely up to Sunday afternoon, there could be little wonder that the news of his sudden passing from life was so hard to believe.

But only too true was the report of his demise, for the Angel of Death early Monday morning laid its icy hand upon his brow. Sunday evening Mrs. Malandrino was advised that her husband's condition had taken a sudden and serious change. On Monday morning, accompanied by W. J. Lindow, Mrs. Malandrino went to San Francisco, but upon reaching the hospital was prostrated by the news that her husband had passed away a few minutes before.

Constance Malandrino first saw the light of day in the snow-capped republic of Switzerland, just 50 years ago. When a boy of 18 he left his native land and came straight to Napa. Here he immediately entered the employ of Peter Van Beaver, who at that time conducted the winery now owned by the California Wine Association. When Van Beaver sold out to C. Anduran & Co. young Malandrino was promoted by the new company. Some years later, when Carpy & Co. succeeded Anduran & Co., Malandrino was made Superintendent of their immense plant, and when Carpy & Co. disposed of their business to the California Wine Association, so well versed was he with the business that Malandrino was given sole charge of the company's affairs, a position which he held and filled with honor and credit up to the day he was taken ill. He was the oldest man in point of service in the employ of the California Wine Association.

(Oct. 22, 1908)

Some eighteen years ago he was united in marriage to Miss Tena Ulrich, daughter of the late John and Mrs. C. Ulrich of 120 Seymour street. In addition to the grief-stricken and bereaved widow, two sons, Armand, 16, and Waldo, 7, survive.

A better man than Constance Malandrino never lived, and a more upright, honest and highly respected citizen than he there were none. More than that, he was a loving husband, and a kind and indulgent father—a man wrapped up and devoted to the fireside and his loved ones.

Genial, jovial, kind-hearted and a staunch and true friend, it is not strange that every man, woman and child who knew him is to-day sorely grieved.

No man in Napa county knew more about the details of the wine business than the deceased.

A natural born business man, frugal, industrious and saving, yet generous and free-handed, he amassed a comfortable and neat fortune during his 32 years' residence in Napa, owning some fine properties in this city, and in Solano county.

At the time of his death he had pending in the Superior Court here a law suit for possession of Vallejo's water supply, which passes over his ranch in Wild Horse Valley.

His word was the equivalent of his bond.

The remains will arrive here on this (Tuesday) morning's train, and although the arrangements are not yet completed, the funeral will probably occur Thursday.

Deceased was a member of the Swiss Benevolent Society.

SERIOUSLY ILL.

Constance Malandrino Taken to San Francisco to be Operated Upon.

The hosts of local friends of Constance Malandrino, the well known and popular Superintendent of the California Wine Association, will learn with surprise and regret that he will be operated upon for appendicitis at the Clara Barton Hospital in San Francisco to-day (Wednesday).

Mr. Malandrino was feeling poorly on Monday, but his condition grew so serious that it was necessary to take him from his

(October 14, 1908)

Napa Daily Journal Oct. 20, 1908
 Obit of Constance Malandrino
 Napa Daily Journal Oct. 22, 1908

A part of the town's problem stemmed from the attempts by a private water company to supply fresh water at very high prices. Vallejo citizens additionally did not want to fall into the trap San Franciscans found themselves in--victims of the Spring Valley Water Company. Part of San Francisco's notorious historical past involves the often unscrupulous dealings of the Spring Valley Water Company in providing fresh water.

In the year 1894, the City of Vallejo completed a small dam in the eastern hills of Wild Horse Valley and called it Lake Frey. The water was both piped and carried by open aqueduct to Lake Chabot and thence into the city's water supply.

Vallejo was growing so fast that water was again chronically short by 1905. Again the City of Vallejo began negotiating the purchase of additional lands in Wild Horse Valley for another water storage reservoir. In order to forestall speculation in land values in Wild Horse Valley, the negotiating was carried out entirely in secret. Much of the best farm and vineyard land was purchased from the widow of Robert P. Hastings, about 1,657 acres.

What apparently occurred next, however, was an oversight on the part of the surveyors for Vallejo. No one had bothered to ask or notice that Constance Malandrino owned a very small portion of the creek draining the large new reservoir planned for the center of Wild Horse Valley. That water was his to do with as he wished, including dam it and divert the water to his ranch. Malandrino either did notice the oversight by Vallejo (rather unlikely) or just kept his mouth shut until after the new reservoir was well underway.

In April, 1908 Malandrino approached the City of Vallejo about the purchase of 1,500 feet of creek right-of-way through his ranch. The City would not pay the price he wanted. In July, he instructed his attorney, Theodore Bell, to obtain an injunction from the courts to halt Vallejo from interfering with his taking all the water he wanted out of his creek. Malandrino even constructed a small diversionary dam.

That same month, water reached such a critical low point in Vallejo that the City asked Benecia for emergency assistance in supplying fresh water. Completion of the large Wild Horse Valley reservoir could not come quickly enough.

Fate seemingly stepped in to assist the City of Vallejo when Malandrino was stricken with appendicitis and died in October, 1908. In January, 1909 Mother Nature supplied all the water the new reservoir could hold and then some. In the city of Napa the streets were knee-deep in water. The story is partially told in the Napa Daily Journal of January 9:

"SOME RAIN. The storm which broke with full force shortly after midnight Friday morning and continued with unabated fury for about five hours, was a stemwinder, sure enough.

"The rain came down in torrents and the wind blew great guns, and little pistols, too.

". . . From 5 o'clock Thursday evening until 5 o'clock Friday morning 3.67 inches of rain fell at the Vallejo dam in Wild Horse Valley. The storm was much heavier up the valley and when the morning S.P. train passed Friday, the track at Bale station north of St. Helena was under water for a considerable distance."

Seven days later another gully-washer, as it might have been called, spread exceedingly heavy rain over all of Napa County. The Journal put the uncertain status of the new Vallejo dam in the headline on the front page of its issue of January 16. (See xerox copy on following page.)

"Great interest was manifested here on Friday afternoon in the fate of the new Vallejo water works dam in upper Wild Horse Valley," claimed the newspaper, but the earthworks held.

Flood waters reached First Street in Napa City again in early February, and then during the last week of the month swamped even Main Street from Pearl to Yount streets:

"The storm sewer on Calistoga avenue proved too small to handle the immense volume of rainfall and the flood waters which rushed down from the Union Station section. As a result the surplus overflow formed a river and came down Hayes street in a torrent. The entire west side of Main street for five blocks was flooded to such a depth that for hours many people were marooned in their homes." The Journal of February 25 reported three foot depths of water in many places in Napa City.

Every newspaper must have been read with great curiosity, to see if the Wild Horse Dam had withstood each new onslaught of Mother Nature. The seventy foot high dam did hold but not the diversionary dam built by Constance Malandrino. That one gave way the third week of January, 1909, sending a substantial amount of water down into Solano County's Green Valley. The Journal of January 24 carried the story in a prominent front-page location, including a description of a ten-foot high, 150 feet wide wall of water observed rampaging through the hills by Fred Jones.

THE FLOOD.

Steamer Unable to Run--- New Vallejo Dam is in Danger.

The rain still continues, and the flood and high water are still with us. After midnight Friday morning the water continued to raise, and between half-past three and half-past five in the morning the highest marks were reached. At the latter hour the river crawled over its banks at the steamboat landing, and ran upon the floor of the warehouse.

At the same hour the storm waters entered the doors of the electric power house on First street.

During Friday the high water receded somewhat, only to gradually raise again towards evening. The electric road's track is submerged at the Metcalf place, and the passengers are carried across in busses.

All the way up the valley the electric line is under water in many places, and flat-cars were run ahead of all passenger coaches on Friday to "feel" the way. One of the spans of the electric road's bridge this side of St. Helena was carried away Thursday night, but the cars were able to pass over safely on Friday.

The S. P. tracks are covered in many places, especially below town, and trains are of necessity running at slower speed.

Vallejo Dam May Go.

Great interest was manifested here on Friday afternoon in the fate of the new Vallejo water works dam in upper Wild Horse valley.

Late in the afternoon when several Napa citizens left the dam the water was within a foot and a half of the top and still raising, although during the three hours preceding 3 o'clock the raise amounted to only one inch. Despite the fact that the big 18-inch pipe has been running for two days, it cannot carry the overflow away. The "waste" way already provided proved of but little use, and a force of men were engaged Friday afternoon in an effort to blast another way through the rocks on one side of the dam.

If the waters reach the top of the new dam, and it only lacks 18 inches of climbing over the 65 foot wall, the work will be damaged to the extent of many thousands of dollars.

The new dam is quite a ways above the old one.

On Friday afternoon a man came to town at a life and death clip from the dam for a thousand empty sacks, which were to be filled with dirt and sand and if necessary used to hold back the flood.

NOTES OF THE STORM.

Despite the storm and the flood, there are at present more tramp craft in the river than has been seen here in months. The Annie is unloading lumber for the Napa Lumber Co., the J. J. Stofen is in with a cargo of building material for Frank G. Noyes, and the Andrew Jackson, unloaded, is tied up at the A. Hatt W. & L. Co. wharf waiting for the receding of the waters. Two other loaded scows are tied up below the steamboat landing.

The steamer Zinfandel did not make her usual trip to San Francisco Friday evening owing to the high water. Se-

Jones immediately sued the Malandrino family for damages to his cherry orchards, claiming it could have been much worse had the water not been slowed by huge tree trunks being carried at the head of water, which tended to slow the motion. (See xerox copy of story, following page.)

THREATEN TO SUE

Green Valley Farmers Will Ask Damages from Malandrino Estate on Account of Flood.

Vallejo Times, Jan. 23.

Attorney T. T. C. Gregory of Suisun has been retained by Louis Oberti and Louis Crovera, two well known Green valley cherry growers, to sue the estate of the late C. Malandrino for damages to the amount of at least \$5,000 for the injury to the property of the plaintiffs in the breaking of the dam put up by Malandrino in Dug Road canyon creek.

This is the dam built by Malandrino to prevent the city of Vallejo from securing water in Dug Road and to hamper the city system.

In speaking of the break Fred Jones, the wealthy Green valley cherry grower, stated to a reporter of the Suisun Republican that the volume of water coming down the canyon was 180 feet in width and ten feet high and that greater damage did not result from it was probably due to the fact that immense trees which were carried down between the two ridges formed an embankment at a narrow point in the course and broke the force of the current. Some of the large oak trees which were torn from their roots were from three to four feet in diameter and there were quite a number of them. There were also boulders weighing several tons each that were carried down by the current.

Immediately at the base of the canyon are the beautiful and productive cherry orchards and homes of Louis Oberti and Louis Crovera. Each has about fourteen acres of land which is devoted principally to early cherries and each owner estimates his loss at about \$1,500. Jones was also damaged somewhat, but his large cherry orchard was protected by a stone fence which diverted the course of the water.

The Malandrino dam was constructed a little over a year ago and is generally supposed to have been built for the purpose of diverting the water so that it could not be used by the city of Vallejo. In a suit in Napa county, decided by Judge W. S. Wells of Martinez, presiding, the city of Vallejo was enjoined from using the water running through the Malandrino place or interfering with it in any way. By the breaking of the dam 150 feet of Vallejo's new water main, 100 feet of the old main and between 700 and 800 feet of 7-inch pipe was destroyed. Vallejo will therefore probably be the plaintiff in a suit against the Malandrino estate and interesting developments are anticipated.

IN COLLISION.

White Star Liner "Republic" Rammed by Unknown Vessel in Fog.

BOSTON, Jan. 23.—The White Star Line steamer Republic, which sailed from New York yesterday for Mediterranean ports, carrying 250 first-class and 211 steerage passengers, was rammed by an unknown vessel and disabled twenty-six miles south of Nantucket while threading her way along the Nantucket south shoals in a thick fog early to-day.

The passengers, who included several members of European nobility, physicians, ministers and American men and women of letters, were thrown into a panic, but they were finally subdued and taken off in safety by the Italian steamer Florida, from Naples to New York. Several were slightly injured in the pell-mell rush and confusion following the collision.

Among the steerage passengers the confusion was frightful.

Wireless Brings Aid.

Immediately after the accident the wireless apparatus on the steamer flashed the news of her plight in all directions and within a short time several vessels, including the French line steamer La Lorraine, westward bound; the White Star liner Baltic and the revenue cutter Acushnet and the revenue cutter Gresham were on their way to offer every assistance to the disabled steamer.

The first message indicated that the damage was more serious than later appeared, as all of the messages asked that assistance be sent immediately and one flashed to the navy yard here said that the steamer was sinking. Later Captain Seaby of the Republic sent a wireless message which read: "When twenty-six miles south of Nantucket lightskip this morning was run into by an unknown vessel. Engine room full of water. Can remain afloat. No lives lost."

TO TUNNEL THE BAY.

Trains Would Make Trip From Oakland to San Francisco in 6 Minutes.

Oakland Enquirer, Jan. 22.

To construct a tunnel beneath the bay for the purpose of passenger and freight traffic between Oakland and San Francisco, a company is now being formed. Plans have been drawn for the tunnel, and details of the boring and construction worked out by F. T. Newbery, a prominent civil engineer, connected for many years with the Southern Pacific Company, and noted for his work on this road as well as in some of the largest mines of the West.

The feasibility of a tunnel and the great value it would be to both cities, has long been recognized. The construction of tunnels beneath rivers, notably the Hudson in New York, has proved the possibility of making such a bore as would be necessary to make an all-rail route between Oakland and San Francisco.

According to the estimates of Engineer Newbery, the work would not prove so expensive, in comparison with other work which has been undertaken of a similar nature. The total cost of boring the tunnel, laying a double track, providing a power house (it being planned to run the trains by electricity) and purchasing rolling stock, he estimates to be \$3,000,000. This does not include the price of terminals, the cost of which would depend upon location. The promoters of the company are keeping their proposed sites secret, lest the announcement cause an unwarranted increase in price. The purchase of a site in Oakland is thought to be an easy matter, but on the San Francisco side, inasmuch as it would be desired to land near the business section, the problem is more difficult.

Capital To Be \$5,000,000.

Napa Daily Journal January 24, 1909
 Malandrino estate sued over collapsing dam



NAPA, NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY JANUARY 26, 1909.

SCHOOL MONIES.

County Superintendent Appor-
tions State and County
Funds.

County Superintendent of Schools
Miss Leta A. Jackson, recently appor-
tioned among the fifty-one school dis-
tricts of Napa county the State and
county apportionments of school
moneys. Twenty-seven thousand,
three hundred and ninety-two dollars
and fifty-five cents of State, and
\$804.10 of Library funds were divided
up as follows:

	State.	Library
Sooca	\$328 38	\$10 00
Franklin	363 39	10 00
Carneros	355 57	10 00
Napa	8116 51	210 00
Jefferson	296 92	10 00
Browns Valley	363 39	10 00
Yount	316 47	10 00
Yountville	691 59	20 00
Liberty	300 83	10 00
St. Helena	2454 04	70 00
Tucker	351 86	10 00
Callistoga	1516 12	40 00
Pope Valley	277 37	10 00
Rutherford	312 64	10 00
Cherry Valley	285 19	10 00
Vineland	363 19	10 00
Redwood	296 92	10 00
Wooden Valley	273 46	10 00
Soda Canyon	289 10	10 00
Mountain (joint)	137 05	4 50
Upper Pope	289 10	10 00
Capell	281 28	10 00
Monticello	347 75	10 00

"MOTHERS' CONFERENCE."

An Interesting Programme Ar-
ranged by New Century
Club For To-Day.

The regular social afternoon of the
New Century Club will be held at
their club rooms to-day at the Cham-
ber of Commerce building, the pro-
gramme to begin promptly at 2:30
o'clock.

The Club has recently installed a
stove, and the room will be comfort-
able.

The programme for the afternoon is
a "Mothers' Conference" under the
leadership of Mrs. P. F. Powers, and
the following programme will be ren-
dered:

- "Norma" (by request), Miss Grace Mosher.
 - "Probation Officers," Mrs. O. E. Clark.
 - "Domestic Science in Our Schools," Mrs. W. H. Young.
 - "Manual Training," Mrs. Wm. Fisher.
 - Song, by School Boys.
 - "Just Boys," Mrs. Henry Brown.
 - "School Days."
 - Song, Miss Marie Behrens.
 - "Manners," Mrs. E. H. King.
 - "Home Duties," Mrs. F. V. Atwell.
- The public is cordially invited. Ten cents admission.

MALANDRINO DAM

Was Constructed by Compe-
tent Workmen--Was Not
Built to Hamper Vallejo.

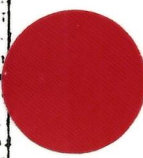
Ed. Journal: Articles have appear-
ed in the local papers copied from So-
lano county papers concerning the
breaking of the dam on the Malan-
drino ranch, and the consequent dam-
age due to the recent extraordinary
rainfall. Kindly permit me to correct
certain statements which misrepresent
the true state of facts.

First, let me say in answer to one
paper's reference to a "poorly con-
structed dam," that great care was
used in its construction. The most
competent workmen to be obtained
were employed, and an experienced,
skillful engineer supervised the work.
Of this undoubted proof is at hand.

Second, one paper states that this
dam was built "to prevent the City of
Vallejo from securing water in Dug
Road and to hamper the city sys-
tem." This is not true, and seems lit-
tle short of libelous in its nature. The
dam was built with honorable motives
and intentions, and for the purpose of
making the best legitimate use of the
land.

I request you to publish this in be-
half of truth, and in justice to the
dead unable to speak in self-defense.

T. MALANDRINO.
Napa, Cal., Jan. 25, 1909.



Napa Daily Journal Jan 26, 1909
Malandrino dam collapse-continued

When the floods ceased that spring of 1909 in Napa Valley and Wild Horse Valley seemed about to disappear for awhile from the front pages of local newspapers, Mrs. Constance Malandrino brought suit to have the City of Vallejo remove the new dam permanently. Wild Horse Valley was back in the news.

The complaint read in part: ". . . That there is a natural course of water flowing over and across said lands, commonly known as Wild Horse Valley creek; that a natural stream of from 50,000 to 1,000,000 gallons of water flows over said lands daily, and said lands are riparian to said Wild Horse Valley creek; that the defendants are constructing a dam across said stream, two miles above the Malandrino lands, through which and by which a large quantity of the waters of Wild Horse Valley creek are now being and will continue to be, impounded, for the purpose of supplying Vallejo and its residents with water; and not for riparian purposes . . ."

The new reservoir which the City of Vallejo wanted to name "Lake Madigan" in honor of the town mayor, would hold 400,000,000 gallons of water when completed with another 20 feet of rock and gravel on the top.

From January 3 through April 4, 1909 when Mrs. Malandrino accepted a payment of \$5,000 for her 1,500 feet of land over which Wild Horse Valley creek passed, at least fifteen stories appeared just in the Napa Daily Journal. Copies of the Napa Register for this period do not exist, but it can be assumed the case received just as much attention in that newspaper. The story has not been researched in the Vallejo city newspapers but in all likelihood,

was almost a daily subject of reporting. Certainly the story received much further coverage, in the nearby Fairfield newspapers (county seat of Solano County), in San Francisco Bay Area news journals and Sacramento. (See xerox copies of newspaper stories on following pages, and see Appendix.)

MRS. MALANDRINO

Begins a Sensational Suit Against City of Vallejo In Superior Court.

LOCAL LADY WANTS WORK ON NEW DAM STOPPED, AND PORTION OF IMPROVEMENTS ALREADY DONE REMOVED—THIS WOULD RESULT IN RENDERING NEW 400,000,000 GALLON RESERVOIR USELESS.

Through her attorneys, Edward E. Bell and Theo. A. Bell, Mrs. Christina Malandrino, executrix of the last will and testament of Constance Malandrino, deceased, commenced a sensational action in the Superior Court on Wednesday against the City of Vallejo and three fictitious named persons.

After alleging the date of the death of her husband, and the issuance to herself of letters testamentary upon his estate, Mrs. Malandrino avers that the estate is the owner of a certain tract of land consisting of 49.62 acres in Green Valley, southeast of this city, and situated in Napa and Solano counties.

The complaint then alleges that there is a natural course of water flowing over and across said lands, commonly known as Wild Horse Valley creek; that a natural stream of from 50,000 to 1,000,000 gallons of water flows over said lands daily, and said lands are riparian to said Wild Horse Valley creek; that the defendants are constructing a dam across said stream, two miles above the Malandrino lands, through and by which a large quantity of the waters of Wild Horse Valley creek are now being, and will continue to be, impounded, for the purpose of supplying Vallejo and its inhabitants with water, and not for riparian purposes; that said dam is now obstructing, and will continue to obstruct, the natural and customary flow of waters in the stream named, and will continue to prevent the natural and customary flow of said stream across plaintiff's lands unless abated and removed; that the dam has caused great and irreparable damage to the plaintiff, and if the construction thereof is continued, will cause damage that cannot be afforded relief by pecuniary compensation.

The complaint avers that the plaintiff has no plain, speedy and adequate remedy at law; that the three defendants sued under fictitious names are contractors, servants and employees of the defendant municipality.

The prayer of the complaint asks for the following relief:

That the defendants may be perpetually enjoined from further construction of said dam, and from obstructing the natural and customary flow of the waters in said stream, and that the defendants be commanded by the court to abate and remove the portion of the dam already constructed so as to permit the natural flow of said stream as it existed prior to any work upon such dam, and that such other and further order be made as shall be meet in equity.

Mrs. Malandrino also asks her costs. Mrs. Malandrino's action is much more sweeping, far-reaching and interesting than the cold, matter-of-fact allegations of the complaint would indicate.

It means that the widow of the well known local citizen not only wants all future work on Vallejo's big new dam No. 2 and reservoir, now in course of construction, forever stopped, but she would have the court compel Vallejo to remove and tear away that portion of the dam already built, a contingency that would result in making the new reservoir utterly worthless and useless.

This dam and reservoir are now well along in construction, many thousands of dollars having already been spent upon them.

The new reservoir will have a capacity of 400,000,000 gallons, over 200,000,000 gallons more than that held by the old storage plant now in use.

If the city is compelled to stop work on the dam and tear away that portion of it already built, the big new reservoir will be of no use, as all the water which it is proposed to store in it will be taken from Wild Horse Valley creek.

Judge Geaford signed an order citing the defendants to appear on February 15th and show cause why a restraining order should not be granted.

The attorneys for plaintiff might have asked for this temporary injunction on Wednesday, and the same would probably have been granted, but as no work can be done in this weather, Messrs. Bell decided to give the defendant municipal corporation a chance to show cause.

It will be remembered that about five weeks ago Judge W. H. Wells of Contra Costa county, presiding for Judge Geaford, decided in favor of the plaintiff an action commenced by the late Constance Malandrino during his lifetime against Vallejo. Under this decision the city was perpetually enjoined from obstructing or preventing the plaintiff from the free and unrestricted use of all the waters of Wild Horse Valley creek passing through the Malandrino ranch.

Napa Daily

NAPA, NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY FEBRUARY 5, 1909.

ANOTHER SUIT.

Vallejo Preparing to Commence Condemnation Action Against Malandrino Estate.

Vallejo News, Feb. 3.

City Attorney Frank Powers is preparing to institute condemnation proceedings for the City of Vallejo to obtain "the bone of contention," the basis of the recent Malandrino suit which the plaintiff won by a decision legal lights declare to be not only weak but unenforceable. The suit which will be filed when the appeal taken in this case is perfected, will aim to condemn about 135 acres of land owned by the Malandrino estate along Green Valley creek below Wild Horse Valley Dam No. 1.

Steps have already been taken to file the suit and it is this prospective litigation that makes City Attorney Powers anxious about the balance remaining of Wild Horse Valley Dam No. 2 fund. If this reserve, which may be an amount between \$15,000 and \$18,000, is spent promiscuously in advance by the Trustees and the Board of Public Works there will be none left to prosecute the suit or pay the condemnation price to be determined by a jury. It is thought that if Vallejo succeeds in condemning the Malandrino acres \$5,000 at least will be required to complete the transfer. City Auditor George Hildreth had this object in view in deciding to give city officials notice that the Dam No. 2 fund should be held in strict reserve.

City Attorney Powers is sanguine of winning the Malandrino suit on his appeal as the decision favoring the Malandrino estate is contradictory. If Vallejo succeeds in condemning the property all further trouble would be blocked for all time. It has been estimated that a jury in condemning the 135 acres sought would fix the value of the land at not less than \$5,000.

A MAD DOG.

Creates Panic in San Francisco School--Three Children are Bitten.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 4.—While the girls of the John Swett Grammar School were marching from the yard into their rooms this morning at 9 o'clock, a huge shepherd dog, frothing at the mouth, as though wild with rabies, dashed into a class room full of little girls just seating themselves, and bit three children, 12-year-old Ida Fitchner, daughter of Dr. G. E. Fitchner of 954 McAllister street, 9-year-old Ida Bailey, of 360 McAllister street, and little Fred Schimonowsky.

After biting the three children the wild animal rushed through the rest of the frightened school children and disappeared through the door. The principal, Mrs. M. F. Fitzgerald, immediately took the Bailey girl to the Central Emergency Hospital and sent the Fichtner lass to her father's office.

The latter is more severely injured, the fangs of the maddened animal having torn long lacerations in the calf of her leg. At the hospital the wounds of the Bailey lass were cauterized, and the little victim sent to her home. It is thought that the injuries inflicted by the mad dog will not prove fatal.

A block away from the school, Patrolman J. E. Maloney, who had been summoned by telephone, came upon the dog standing at Gough and McAllister streets, the corner of the block on which the school is located. The animal was glaring about, looking for more victims, and Maloney sent a bullet crashing through its head.

ART EXHIBIT.

At the Napa Chamber of Commerce on February 23 and 24.

The Horace K. Truner Traveling Art Exhibit has been secured by the New Century Club and may be seen at the Chamber of Commerce on the afternoons and evenings of February 23rd and 24th.

The object of this exhibit is to bring before the public something of the best in art.

The exhibit contains 200 large pictures of ancient and modern art, chosen from all publishers the world over, and occupies 1,200 feet. The productions include the finest brown prints, carbons, engravings, etchings, photographs and color fac-similes, exact replicas of the original in drawing and color, so that one visiting the collection sees many of the most famous masterpieces as they appear in the great galleries of the world.

There is something for every taste, and no one will be disappointed. All moneys made, after express charges are paid, will be spent for pictures to decorate the walls of our school rooms.

President Elliot, late of Harvard University, says: "The best place to inculcate the love of the beautiful is in the school room. To the rising generation the most effective lessons can be given, and from the school millions of children will carry the lessons to millions of homes."

Napa Daily Journal February 5, 1909
Vallejo preparing condemnation suit
against Malandrino

ANOTHER JOLT.

Judge Gesford Stops Work on Vallejo's Big Dam.

The belligerent and insistent City of Vallejo on Monday received at the hands of Judge of the Superior Court Henry C. Gesford another serious jolt in the long string of litigation in which the city finds itself involved over its efforts to provide a water supply sufficiently large to accommodate itself, its inhabitants and Mare Island.

At the conclusion of the regular calendar on Monday morning, Judge Gesford took up the hearing of the order to show cause in the action of Mrs. Christina Malandrino, as executrix of the last will and testament of the late Constance Malandrino, against the City of Vallejo et al, recently commenced in the Superior Court. Pending the trial of the cause, Mrs. Malandrino asked that the city be temporarily enjoined from completing or doing any further work upon the big 600,000,000-gallon dam and reservoir which Vallejo is now constructing in Wild Horse Valley.

It developed during the hearing that 70 feet of this new "water catcher" have already been built, and that 20 feet more will be added before the big structure is finished.

When the case was called Attorneys Theodore A. Bell and Edward S. Bell were on hand for Mrs. Malandrino, while the defendant municipal corporation was represented by its City Attorney, Frank E. Powers, and Attorney Frank J. Hennessey of San Francisco.

A number of affidavits were presented by the city's lawyers, after which City Engineer Arthur G. Noyes of Vallejo gave some interesting testimony.

Then the lawyers argued hard and earnestly for several hours.

The ~~right~~ ~~to~~ ~~reversity~~ over, Judge Gesford said that the point involved was a hard one to decide without having a chance to hear the real issues involved fully and completely.

He urged the attorneys for the defendant city to file their answer as soon as possible, in order that the trial of the case may be had at an early date.

The Court then stated that he would grant the temporary restraining order petitioned for by Mrs. Malandrino, upon filing a bond of \$3,000, as required by law.

The Judge further stated that at any time he would hear the defense should it apply for a modification of the order and make a proper showing.

And now as matters stand the finishing of that wonderful dam and reservoir will, no doubt, be suspended until the case is finally tried and decided.

Napa Daily Journal February 16, 1909
"Judge Gesford Stops Work on Vallejo's
Big Dam"

Napa Daily Journal

NAPA, NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

VALLEJO ACTS.

Navy Yard Town Officials Commence Action to Condemn Malandrino Land.

Vallejo News, Feb. 25.

Vallejo took the first steps to-day to condemn 135 acres of land belonging to the Malandrino estate. The summons and complaint were filed this morning by County Clerk G. G. Halliday, who received the documents last night after the signature of Mayor Madigan had been affixed. The object of the proceedings is to foil an attempt on the part of Mrs. Constance Malandrino to obtain a permanent injunction against further construction of Wild Horse Valley Dam No. 2, which invades a neck of her land. She has already obtained a temporary injunction but this court action will not bar condemnation proceedings.

The City of Vallejo has thirty days yet to answer the complaint which bases the temporary injunction. By that time City Attorney Frank Powers has hopes that the land in question will be in the city's possession. A reserve of the Wild Horse Valley Dam No. 2 fund will be set aside for the purchase of the land after its condemnation. It is thought the property will be appraised at about \$5,000.

TAFT'S CABINET

Unofficial List of Those Chosen as the President's Advisers.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—The Cabinet of President-elect Taft was completed yesterday when the acceptance of Franklin McVeigh was received for the Secretary of Treasury. While no official announcement will be made of the members of the Cabinet until just prior to the inauguration, it is known that the various places have been filled by the selection of the following:

- Secretary of State—Philander C. Knox, Pennsylvania.
- Secretary of the Treasury—Franklin McVeigh, Illinois.
- Secretary of War—Jacob McGavock Dickinson, Tennessee.
- Postmaster General—Frank H. Hitchcock, Massachusetts.
- Attorney General—Geo. W. Wick-ersham, New York.
- Secretary of the Interior—R. A. Delinger, Washington.
- Secretary of the Navy—George L. von Meyer, Massachusetts.
- Secretary of Agriculture—James Wilson, Iowa.
- Secretary of Commerce and Labor—Charles Nagel, Missouri.

MEADOW LARKS

Senate Committee Favors Bill Giving Farmers Right to Shoot Birds on Sight.

SACRAMENTO, Feb. 26.—It was natural history class in the committee on fish and game yesterday when Senator Lewis of Stockton dropped in to see about the bill legalizing the killing of meadow larks. Lewis wanted the bill passed, but Vogelsang of the game commission did not.

"Experts, scientists and ladies," said Lewis, scornfully, "confuse the meadow lark with the English skylark. From my mother's description of the flight and song of that bird over the downs of England, nobody could get me to kill it.

"But I know Mr. Meadow Lark. I've lived with him for 25 years. He's a lazy bird. He eats Johnny Grass-hopper when he doesn't have to chase him. In hot weather he hops under the vines where it is shady and cool and reaches up, and, bingo! he pecks a grape. He's a temperance bird, though, and doesn't hurt the wine grapes. He's increasing all the time. You've cut out the Italian and the small boy who made war on him, and now, be merciful. The farmer kills him with poisoned wheat, which

Napa Daily Journal February 27, 1909
 "Vallejo Acts"—begins condemnation of Malandrino land

A COMPROMISE.

Vallejo Makes Offer to Settle Water Rights in Wild Horse Valley.

Vallejo Times, Mar. 18.

After a long discussion the Board of City Trustees at last night's meeting decided to make a counter offer to Mrs. C. Malandrino for the settlement of the controversy over water rights in Wild Horse valley. Mrs. Malandrino sent in a letter offering to sell all of her water rights in that valley and a section of land 500 feet wide west of the creek for a distance of 1,500 feet along the creek for \$5,000, the city to release the estate from all claims for damages from the bursting of the Malandrino dam in Dug Road and to allow the Malandrinos to remove the pipes and pumps on the land in question.

The city authorities figure that the damage to the pipe line from the breaking of the Malandrino dam about two months ago will cost the city about \$2,500 to repair. What the city will offer is \$5,000 in cash for the 140 acres of land owned by Malandrino in the watershed and for all water rights in the shed; to release the estate from all claims as a result of the break in the Malandrino reservoir; to fence off the land if needed and to pay the court costs of the injunction suit (about \$50), and also for a right of way across the Malandrino land in Dug Road canyon and the water rights there and an option on 25 acres of land adjoining the city land in Dug Road at the rate of \$25 per acre at a time when the city is ready to take over this land.

Daily Journal.

CALIFORNIA. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1909.

MAY SETTLE. Vallejo Will Probably Pay Mrs. Malandrino \$5,000 For Water Rights.

Vallejo Times, March 16.
Advice from Napa yesterday stated that Mrs. C. Malandrino is in a mood to accept the offer of \$5,000 made by the Board of City Trustees for the water rights owned by Mrs. Malandrino in Green Valley at the junction of Dug Road creek. The purchase of these rights will give the city the last remaining water right in the valley. With the exception of the government reserve, which is probably in its good hands as if the city owned it.

The property sought by the city includes the Malandrino water rights and a space 200 feet wide for a distance of 1800 feet along the west side of the creek. All in all, the Malandrino heirs own 137 acres of land spread along the creek between the waterway and the ridge that divides Napa and Solano counties for a distance of 1800 feet. The entire 137 acres could be purchased for \$5,000, but, with a fence, the city authorities believe that they will have all of the property that they desire for water impounding purposes in the valley.

The money to purchase the rights of the Malandrinos will likely be taken from the balance in the fund of the new reservoir fund, which will be considerable after the claims of Contractor Moreing are paid.

Z. Z. Hennessy, M. D.,
Office and X-Ray Laboratory, Winship Block; residence 421 N. Main St. Telephone day and night.

This is the most dangerous time of the year to catch cold, and it is the hardest time to cure it. If you should take a cold, a few doses of Kennedy's Laxative Cough Syrup will act very promptly. Its laxative principle cures the cold by driving it from the system by a gentle but natural action of the bowels. Children especially like Kennedy's Laxative Cough Syrup, as it tastes so good, nearly like maple sugar. It is sold by Jcs. Levinson.

When you travel, keep track of HARPER signs. You will find Harper Whiskey on sale in practically every town, city and village where whiskey can lawfully be sold. This worldwide popularity means something—it means you should buy Harper whiskey from E. H. Manchester or B. Semorile & Son.

Tacoma Lager Beer on draught at "Dreyer's Buffet." 2-11

Lost—Dull care, worry and unhappiness while at The Assembly, where the famous Jesse Moore "AA" Whiskey is sold. Inquire of F. A. Numburger and T. A. Mayfield for particulars.

For any pain, from top to toe, from any cause, apply Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. Pain can't stay where it is used.

Napa Daily Journal March 17, 1909
"May Settle-Vallejo will Probably Pay
Mrs. Malandrino \$5000.."

Napa Daily

NAPA, NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA: SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 1909.

SETTLED AT LAST.

City of Vallejo Will Pay Malandrino Estate \$5,000 For Water Rights.

Vallejo Times, April 3.

Last night the Board of City Trustees, in special session and after an hour's debate, agreed to pay Mrs. Constance Malandrino \$5,000 for her water rights in Green Valley creek.

According to the agreement reached the city paid Theodore A. Bell, Mrs. Malandrino's attorney, \$1000 last evening and the remaining \$4,000 will be passed over when the deeds are signed and passed. The agreement states that the city shall receive all of the water rights in the watershed now claimed by the Malandrino estate and a strip of land along the west side of the creek for a distance of 1800 feet and 500 feet wide. The only exception to the water rights in the watershed is any water that may come from springs in the 135 acres retained by Mrs. Malandrino. The grant also includes a right of way 20 feet wide through the Malandrino property in that section, so that the city may reach its property in Green Valley and Dug Road creeks.

Commence Work on Dam Monday.

Work on the new reservoir, which has been held up pending the settlement of the injunction proceedings, will be started on Monday. Bell agreed to that last night and also to go into court at Napa on Monday and have the injunction against the city continuing work on the new reservoir dissolved.

GREAT CONCERT

California Glee Club Will Appear at Napa Opera House Next Friday Night.

The University of California Glee Club will appear in concert on Friday evening, April 9th, at Napa Opera House.

The Club has made a great reputation for itself this year and twenty-one newspapers throughout the State declare it to be the best club the University has ever had. Many critics say that it is the best College Glee Club in America.

The boys have rehearsed daily under experienced direction of Clinton H. Morse, until their ensemble work is well nigh perfect.

Beside the club members there is an excellent list of soloists, instrumentalists and monologists.

VALLEJO PIPE CASE SETTLED

— VALLEJO, April 3.—In accordance with the agreement reached between the members of the Board of Public Works and the City Trustees when Attorney Fred Hall was secured to represent the city in the suit against the municipality by the George H. Tay Company, the pipe contractors, the Board of Works practically agreed at last night's meeting of the Board to accept the offer of a settlement on a basis of \$14,500 for the claim of \$22,500, which represents the unpaid bal-

"MAN OF MYSTERY"

Will be Seen at the Napa Opera House To-Morrow Night.

One of the latest plays written by the noted author, Mark E. Swan, entitled "A Man of Mystery," will be presented at the Napa Opera House to-morrow evening by the Hulbert Stock Co.

The play is written with bright dialogue, up-to-date comedy and powerful climaxes.

This company is composed of people who can act, and the scenic equipment will be complete.

Illustrated songs and clever specialties will be given between acts.

SOMETHING DOING IN REAL ESTATE.

The following sales have recently been negotiated by Real Estate Agent J. Graves of Napa:

Eighty-six acres adjoining town limits of Callstoga from John H. A. Martin to M. L. Lord of Napa.

Forty acres on the Water Works road, two miles from Napa, known as "Palm Knoll Farm," from Wilson Harris to F. W. Zettle, regently from Petaluma.

Twenty acres on Big Ranch road, 3 miles from Napa, from David Stall to P. J. Marron of San Francisco.

Napa Daily Journal April 4, 1909
Wildhorse Valley dam- Vallejo litigator

THE 1913 WILD FIRE IN NAPA VALLEY
AND WILD HORSE VALLEY

Napa County Assessor George Abate recalls, whenever asked about his father's early years living in Wild Horse Valley, the wild fire which burned over much of the hills of east Napa Valley. He professes to be uncertain about the year but it was "either 1912 or 1913," says Abate.

"My father would take a wagon load of wine down that steep grade on Wild Horse Valley road, and then stay overnight with the Carbones and return the next day. When the fire swept through the valley, he said he didn't know if he would have a job to go back to, or even a place to sleep. He stood outside in the evening at the Carbone winery and watched the fire burning, the flames were even visible."

Miraculously, the small home set aside for workmen on the Vorbe ranch did escape the flames because it was surrounded by orchard and vineyard.

The Napa Weekly Journal devoted much space to coverage of the fire and Abate was right in that the fire occurred the last week of September, the year 1913. "More than 20 homes destroyed," was one headline in a September 26 issue. "Mother and Child Burned," was the story on the front page.

"The fire which started in Capell Valley on Monday developed into the most destructive forest fire ever recorded in the history of Napa County," stated the Journal of the 26th. "Over twenty homes succumbed to the fury of the conflagration."

". . . In the afternoon the fire took another start in Wooden and Capell Valley and burned down toward Gordon and Wild Horse Valley. On this side of the range the fire worked down to the Hedgeside and General Miller places [Silverado Country Club], and on to the old Hagen ranch and the Coombs ranch, destroying Mrs. Dumbrell's barn in its course.

"The fire then spread through Wild Horse Valley and over the range into Green Valley, where it worked its way toward Cordelia. The flames creeping along the top of the ridge, made a startling pyrotechnic display plainly visible in Napa."

Telegrams were dispatched to the Governor of California: "Fire raging in mountains near Napa. Twenty families are homeless. Fire beyond control. Can you help?"

The Governor ordered out the Napa Ambulance Boys, under the direction of Capt. C. H. Bulson (an early type of National Guard):

"It was decided that the need required their services so the Ambulance Boys were mustered and taken out to Wild Horse Valley, near the Malandrino ranch, where the fire had by this time gotten and was most dangerous and put to work."

The Ambulance Boys saved the day at the Malandrino ranch but the Journal reported: "The buildings on the Vorbe place, east of town, are reported burned, including several thousand gallons of wine. (See copies of stories, following pages.)

Stumps left burning after the fire passed, succeeded in rekindling the fire in unburned regions, reported the Journal of October 3: "Fire Again Springs Up. Big Blazes in Progress in Wild Horse and Conn Valley's Monday Night." However little further structural damage occurred in Wild Horse Valley.

MORE THAN 20 HOMES DESTROYED

Fire Forces Families to Flee from Their Dwellings.

Shortly before noon on Monday a devouring forest fire sprang up in Capell Valley, either on the Galbreath or Rowley ranch. There was a strong north wind blowing, which drove the flames rapidly up the brush-covered mountain side toward Foss Valley. The sky was soon darkened with dense volumes of smoke, and ashes from the conflagration fell thickly upon the streets in Napa.

Inhabitants of the fire-swept section who happened to be in town boarded their various means of conveyance and hurried homeward.

Fire Wardens Moore and Grassman rushed to the scene, with what men they could muster, and are now on the ground, fighting the fire.

Appeals for men to aid in arresting the progress of the fire were later sent in, but there was some difficulty in securing them, as the Board of Supervisors have no power to use county funds in payment for such services.

A report received at 10 p. m. from Mr. Moser, of Atlas Peak, said that the fire was still burning fiercely, but the flames seemed to have divided, one part creeping toward Foss Valley and the other toward Wooden Valley. Mr. Moser said it was reported that the house of J. Hammond, on Fir Creek, had been consumed, and it was also believed that the dwelling of Mr. Kuhart had been burned down, as the flames seem to have swept through his place.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

The fire which started in Capell Valley on Monday developed into the most destructive forest fire ever recorded in the history of Napa county. Over twenty homes succumbed to the fury of the conflagration, comprising the following:

ing the buildings on both, burned the homes of Steve Jones, Andrew Cassel and E. Malleh, and the buildings on the Spiess place, destroyed McGarvey's barn, and all the buildings on W. H. Murray's and L. F. McManus' places, and consumed the Columbus District School House.

In the afternoon the fire took another start in Wooden and Capell Valleys and burned down toward Gordon and Wild Horse Valleys. On this side of the range the fire worked down to the Hedgeside and General Miller places, and on to the old Hagen ranch and the Coombs ranch, destroying Mrs. Dumbrell's barn in its course.

The fire then spread through Wild Horse Valley and over the range into Green Valley, where it worked its way toward Cordella. The flames, creeping along the top of the ridge, made a startling pyrotechnic display plainly visible in Napa.

There was an abundance of fire fighters, but their efforts to stop the progress of the fire were rendered almost futile by the force of the north wind.

While the fire was at its worst stage, Assemblyman James M. Palmer sent the following telegram for aid to Governor Johnson:

"Fire raging in mountains near Napa. Twenty families are homeless. Fire beyond control. Can you help?"

In response to this message, Governor Johnson wired to Capt. C. H. Bulson, in command of the Napa Ambulance Company, telling him that if in the opinion of Assemblyman Palmer and Sheriff Kelton the situation was sufficiently grave, he might order the company out to fight fire. It was decided that the need required their services, so the Ambulance boys

Napa Weekly Journal Sept 26, 1913
Forest Fire-Wildhorse Valley
Malandrino ranch, in Wildhorse Valley
threatened

(cont. next page)

(cont. next page)

— TERRILL
 — LITTEL
 — GREEN
 — SELBY
 ROBERT BLAIR
 W. L. ALEXANDER
 — ROSSI
 — TRUEHART
 — QUASH
 J. W. HAMMOND
 J. A. HAMMOND
 J. D. CARTER
 J. H. WOLFROM
 H. W. MURRAY
 COLUMBUS SCHOOL HOUSE
 L. F. McMANUS
 JOHN P. GRANT
 E. MALLEN
 W. R. COLLINS
 G. W. ALDER
 JOE HASS
 EVANS RANCH
 CARPENTER RANCH
 ANDREW CASSEL
 SPIESS PLACE
 HERMAN KUHNITZ
 E. M. ANDERSON

Wilson's Inn and the Napa Soda Springs property narrowly escaped being wiped out, as did Chris Moser's place.

At the Napa Soda Springs the guests on Tuesday morning became alarmed and came to Napa, but returned later, when assured that the property was out of danger. The flames worked right down to the Springs, and the pavilion and dining hall caught fire, but were easily saved by the force of men stationed there.

On Tuesday morning, after sweeping through Fols Valley, the conflagration split in two parts, one working northerly toward Rector Canyon and Napa Soda Creek Canyon, and the other southerly, toward Mt. George.

Joe Harris' cottage was burned, but the house and barn on the ranch escaped.

They then raced across the

were mustered and taken out to Wild Horse Valley, near the Malandrino ranch, where the fire had by this time gotten, and was most dangerous, and put to work. A dispatch was later received by Sheriff Kelton from Adjutant-General Forbes of Sacramento, saying that the latter was on his way to Napa, to take personal control of the company's operations.

The flames also found their way over into Green Valley and spread rapidly toward Cordelia. Men from Suisun and Fairfield were sent out to handle the situation at that end.

The wind shifted to the south late on Tuesday afternoon, thus making the work of subduing the flames much easier.

Much credit is due to the men from the Sawyer Tannery, Evans Shoe Company, and Napa Glove Company, whose efficient work, in conjunction with Sheriff Ed Kelton, was the means of saving the Napa Soda Springs property from being totally destroyed. The management sent a special message of thanks to Fred Blanchard, who brought the tannery employes to the scene, for his and their services.

Brush fires are still burning in Rector Canyon and in the vicinity of the Soda Springs, but there are enough men on hand to prevent any damage.

The statement of the property loss, as later learned, is as follows:

E. M. Anderson, house and barn.
 E. Mallen, house and barn.
 W. R. Collins, house and barn.
 J. H. Wolfrom, house.
 Joe Harris, cottage.
 J. D. Carter, house and barn.
 W. F. Alexander, house and barn.
 G. W. Alder, house and barn.
 H. W. Murray, house and barn.
 J. W. Hammond, house.
 J. A. Hammond, house.
 K. Truehart, house.
 — Terrill, house and barn.
 — Lyttell, house and barn.
 Robert Blair, barn.
 — Green, house and barn.

A California lion is reported to have been seen on East Third street late on Tuesday evening, probably driven down from the mountains by the fire. By a strange coincidence, a number of other fires, more or less destructive in their effects, are reported from a dozen different parts of the State.

As the Journal went to press, the conflagration was at its height about the Vallejo Lake, and the members of the Ambulance Company and others were laboring strenuously to prevent it spreading in the direction of the Napa Hospital, for the safety of which some fears were entertained. It was hoped, however, as the wind had died out, to get the flames under control.

MOTHER AND CHILD BURNED

Mrs. Mary Hutchinson and Little One Slowly Roasted to Death in Cellar Under Burning House—Progress of Forest Fires.

The horrors of death have been added to the distressing details of the loss of property caused by the terrible fires that have been raging in the mountains in the vicinity of Napa for the past three days. The charred remains of Mrs. Mary Hutchinson and her 3-year-old child are now lying at Kyser's undertaking parlors, as the result of the conflagration in Foss Valley on Tuesday.

Mrs. Hutchinson, her child, and a boy named Wm. Lanksted were living alone at Mrs. Hutchinson's home, her husband being absent in Northern California. When the flames, raging in the vicinity worked their way close to her home, Mrs. Hutchinson, taking her little boy, attempted to escape to the Lytle ranch, near by, but the fire and smoke forced her to return. She then sought refuge in a cellar dug into the side of the hill, just back of the house. This cellar was covered with some boards, with earth placed on top. By this time the house was afire, and was later entirely consumed. Mrs. Hutchinson and her child were hemmed in by the flames and perished.

The boy saw the two enter the cellar and ran into the orchard near the house, where he climbed into a tree, and thus escaped with only a few slight burns.

As soon as possible after the house was burned, search was made for the bodies of the unfortunate victims, but it was impossible to reach them until Wednesday morning, when they were found in the cellar.

The body of Mrs. Hutchinson was reduced to a crisp, her lower limbs being entirely burned off—only some charred bones remaining of them. The little child was also terribly disfigured, its body being found buried beneath a heap of dirt which had fallen from the top of the cellar, and roasted by the fury of the flames.

Coroner Brownlee was notified, and proceeded to the scene of the awful tragedy, where he held an inquest which developed facts substantially as given above. He was unable to conclude the inquiry on Wednesday, and it will be resumed at Kyser's undertaking parlors at 1 p. m. today.

The big forest fire is now practically extinguished.

The flames which were burning in Wild Horse Valley, threatening the State Hospital property and the Vallejo water works reservoir, were about extinguished Wednesday morning, by the efficient work of Napa Ambulance Company No. 1, under the command of Captain Bulson, and the personal

work of the company, and that he sent a telegram to Governor Johnson, expressing his appreciation. Dr. Bulson also wishes to express his appreciation of the assistance of Percy S. King, formerly captain of Company H, in Napa, whom Captain Bulson had invited to accompany him, on account of Mr. King's previous experience in military tactics.

The company returned to town Wednesday morning, there being no further need of their services.

On Wednesday afternoon a dangerous fire was burning in the vicinity of Yountville and Rutherford, but so far no loss of property has been reported.

A fire is also in progress in Conn Valley, and Sheriff Kelton went to St. Helena on Wednesday afternoon to see if it was necessary to draft men from that town to fight the flames.

The fire in Woodpeck and Gordon Valleys has about burned itself out, and danger seems to be over in that section.

The buildings on the Vorbe place, east of town, are reported burned, including several thousand gallons of wine. Also, Wm. Lanksted, on the Alexander ranch, was burned but the Bonham residence, back of Atlas Peak, was also burned. D. Kennedy lost a house and barn, and the barns of D. Rossi and Robert Blair were destroyed.

The properties of J. P. Grant, John Hammond, and Herman Kubitz, and the buildings on the Cassel and Mullen ranches were not destroyed, as at first reported.

S. Walkers' and Steve Jones' properties also escaped without harm.

Fire in Napa hills-Wildhorse Valley

Napa Weekly Journal Sept. 26, 1913

WILD HORSE VALLEY VITICULTURE AFTER 1920

George Abate believes his father left the Vorbe ranch within months of the disastrous fire of 1913 and moved to Napa. The Vorbe family certainly abandoned the locale, even leasing the vineyards for stock grazing--which meant the vines died out within two to three years.

Mrs. Constance Malandrino may have suffered some of the same disillusionment about Wild Horse Valley for she did not live at the ranch, preferring the family home in Napa City. Like the Vorbe place, she leased the Malandrino ranch for stock grazing and it is possible the vines were destroyed by the time Prohibition started.

Frances Goodwin, whose maiden name is Sequira (of the Wild Horse Valley Sequiras), recalls her father and aunts Lois and Eve, talking about grapes growing at the ranch when they were young. (Frank Sequira is deceased, Eve is 85 and Lois 80 so their recollections cover pre-Prohibition.) The grapes were hauled to the Migliavacca winery in Napa.

Frances Goodwin, however, has no family oral history of the vines producing during or after Prohibition! She works for the Napa County Agricultural Commissioner and has always had a special interest in Napa County agriculture.

If vineyards were indeed almost entirely gone from Wild Horse Valley by 1920, the valley's residents lost a remarkable opportunity to earn a high profit from the sale of grapes. In much of Napa Valley farmers paid off their farm mortgages during the first

five years of Prohibition because of the grape boom brought on by Prohibition.

The Volstead Act, which implemented the Eighteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution (Prohibition), provided for the making of 200 gallons of wine at home annually. It also allowed the production of wine for sacramental or church purposes.

Few California vintners anticipated what a boom this clause in the Volstead Act meant. The price of grapes had been averaging about \$25 to \$30 a ton, sometimes up to \$50 a ton for particularly good grapes. In the fall of 1919 the price of grapes escalated rapidly to \$90 a ton, then over succeeding years sometimes reached \$250-\$300 a ton. This was only for the so-called red-skinned grapes used for making red wine and primarily varietals such as Alicante Bouschet, Zinfandel, Petite Sirah or Carignane.

It is documented that Georges de Latour at Rutherford, sold prime Alicante Bouschet grapes as high as \$400 a ton during the first four or five years of the 1920's. After 1925, overproduction of grapes brought the price down so rapidly that grapes often could not be given away.

Still, Wild Horse Valley vineyardists who let their vines die, in anticipation of Prohibition (there was a California referendum on state Prohibition in 1916, for example), lost a unique opportunity to earn more money in five years than a farmer could make in an entire decade, and more.

Herbert Hocken, who has spent nearly all of his 93 years in Coombsville, east Napa and Wild Horse Valley, does not recall grapes growing at all in Wild Horse Valley during the 1920's or

even the 1930's. "The deer come in" and ate them all, is his recollection. And the cattle.

Still, there were vineyards on the Malandrino ranch as late as 1917. On July 30, 1917, Christina Malandrino leased her Wild Horse Valley ranch to Joe and Manuel Jardim, for a period of three years, for \$500 and "10 cords of stove wood" to be delivered each August or September. The document which is recorded in the Napa County Recorder's Office, includes this sentence: "Vineyards and orchards shall be tilled, cultivated, pruned and cared for."

Walt Crevilli of Napa leased the Malandrino ranch from 1938 to 1941 and states: "There were no vineyards at all up there during those years--we ran cattle over all of it."

Wild Horse Valley was virtually abandoned during World War II. With gasoline rationing, it was prudent to move to Napa City for the duration of the war. "There was one old man up there during those years, I guess he was a sort of recluse," says Herbert Hocken. "You had to be careful of him, he'd run you off with his gun."

THE VALLEY DURING MORE RECENT TIMES

A Napa school teacher named Joseph Acheson and his wife Betty, were among the first residents to begin the resettlement of Wild Horse Valley after World War II. In February, 1951 they were shown what was soon named "Wild Horse Valley Ranch." In January, 1951 they made their first purchase of land and then gradually added more acreage from such owners as Bucky West (owner of the first parcel the Achesons purchased), Louis E. Mason, Fred Williams and what was known as the Egan ranch.

By the time the Napa Sunday Journal carried a story and description of "Wild Horse Valley Ranch" in the October 26, 1952 issue, the Achesons had 1,600 acres linked together. They had four horses and 80 head of Hereford cattle.

The Mountain Schoolhouse was still located on one portion of the ranch, though in a badly deteriorating condition.

"The acreage is mostly devoted to pasturage, with comparatively few acres under cultivation," noted the reporter who also indicated he was surprised by the steep climb up Wild Horse Valley Road to reach the 1,350 foot site. (See xerox copy of story on following pages.)

The Achesons remember vividly two major wildfires which came through Wild Horse Valley, but without burning any of the ranch's buildings. The first was in 1953, the second in 1964.

The ranch was sold by the Achesons in February 1966 and went through a series of owners before being purchased by the Harrison/Murray families. They have developed the corrals and other aspects

Wild Horse Valley Ranch

Is "Sky High"

Strictly speaking, our home of the week isn't a home feature.

Instead, it's a story about a ranch—the Wild Horse Valley Ranch home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Acheson and daughter, Betty.

Joe, as he would rather be called, is a veteran teacher, having spent more than 25 years in the business, most of them in San Mateo, where for the final eight years of his tenure he was principal of the high school.

Today, he is still teaching—social studies and counseling at Napa High—but acquisition of the ranch was the first step on the road to retirement.

"Of course," he says, "it will be a retirement from education and a plunge into full-time ranching."

Wild Horse Valley Ranch today is a ranch of tame horses, beautiful scenery, grazing cattle, and one of the dog-gonest roads I have ever turned and twisted over to get anyplace.

And, with all that, it is exactly six miles from Third and Main streets, Napa, to the swing gate that separates the entrance to the ranch house area from the public road that borders Acheson's property.

Acheson and his attractive wife—he a graduate of Stanford and she of the University of California at Berkeley, and married on Big Game Eve—spent five years touring Northern California looking for THE spot to retire in. They almost missed this one—the place they think is "perfect."

It was February, 1951, and a miserable day. The Achesons had looked at a site farther north and were headed back to San Mateo. They had been told about the place, but were considering by-passing Napa. But they stopped—and stayed.

"One look at the place," said Joe, "in the company of

a real estate broker who had the flu and couldn't get out of the car into a drizzle, and we knew this was what we had been hunting. A week later, we signed the papers."

From Third and Main streets, it's a short drive to the Coombsville Road, and not too far distant from there to the spot where Wild Horse Valley Road intersects Coombsville. Then the fun begins.

It is almost straight up once you get past the halfway mark, until you get to a large swinging gate forbidding labeled "Keep Out—City of Vallejo." At that point, you're in Solano County.

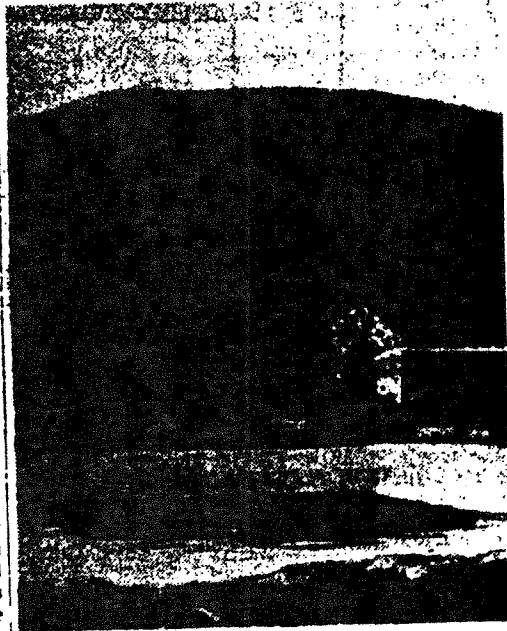
Disregarding the warning signs (with the aid of a key which opens the padlock) you drive over a graveled road which weaves alongside Lakes Madigan and Frye, both storage reservoirs for the water supply of the city of Vallejo. This access is made possible through the granting of a right-of-way permit by Vallejo.

The road straightens out and borders the upper pasture before it swings into the ranch home area.

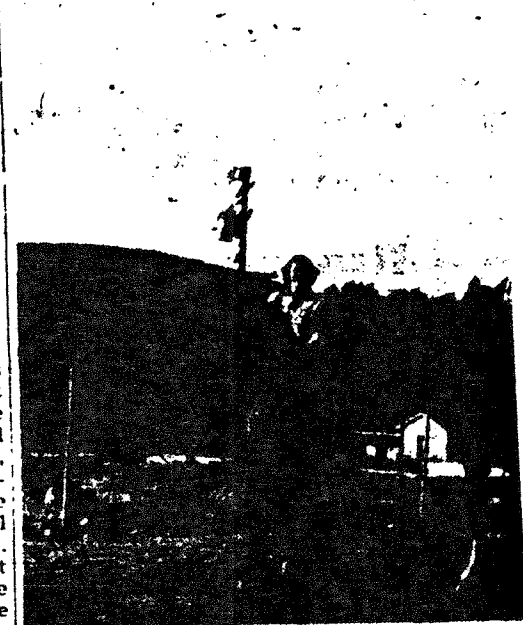
The ranch itself sprawls over 1600 acres, on which 80 head of Hereford cattle graze peacefully. Acheson keeps four riding horses, not only for ranch work, which he, his wife and his daughter share, but also for riding enjoyment. The acreage is mostly devoted to pasturage, with comparatively few acres under cultivation.

The land was purchased from Bucky West, and parts of it were formerly owned by Louise E. Mason, Fred Wellman and the Egan Ranch. At one time, an elementary school was located on the property, but the shift of population from rural to urban has closed the school. As late as the middle 1930s, it was still teaching the three "R's" to youngsters living in the area.

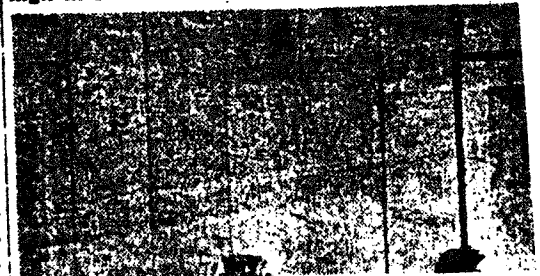
Before the Achesons moved into the home, Joe spent a great deal of time and personal labor in renovating it. Included were such items as painting the house, inside and out, and construction of a brick fireplace, accomplished entirely by Acheson, with little, if any, experience in brick laying. Atop the mantel is an elaborate set of candelabra, a gift from his pupils when he left San Mateo. Other items necessary to their comfort installed by the Achesons include a septic tank,



THIS IS THE HOUSE . . . modern, comforts unusual settling of any home in and around Wild Horse Valley, and is inhabited by Joe, cats.



AND THESE ARE THE PEOPLE . . . Betty, which they use to tend the 80 head of Here Valley Ranch, six miles, and 20 minutes, from high in Nevada.



Napa Sunday Journal, October 26, 1952
Wild Horse Valley ranch

Home Of The Wolf

(Continued from page 4)

pany to run a line into the property.

Joe clocked it around his boundary lines one day, and found that following the fence took him over 25 miles of hill, dale and pasture. During the ride, he saw such game animals as deer, fox, cougar, coons, quail and dove. As a matter of fact, returning to Napa at dusk, a doe and a fawn bounded across the road in front of the car, and farther down the hill another startled doe scrambled up a steep cut-bank.

To this reporter, living there, 1350 feet above sea level, with, besides the cattle and horses, three dogs, four cats and a dozen chickens, is like living in the eye of the sky.

Living in two counties may be rough from the standpoint of fighting with two tax assessors, but the Achesons feel that the advantages more than offset the drawbacks. And one of the drawbacks was the condition of the road last winter, when guests, arriving for a party, were ferried to the house from their cars and back again by four-wheel drive jeep. The mud was too deep for conventional cars to get through.

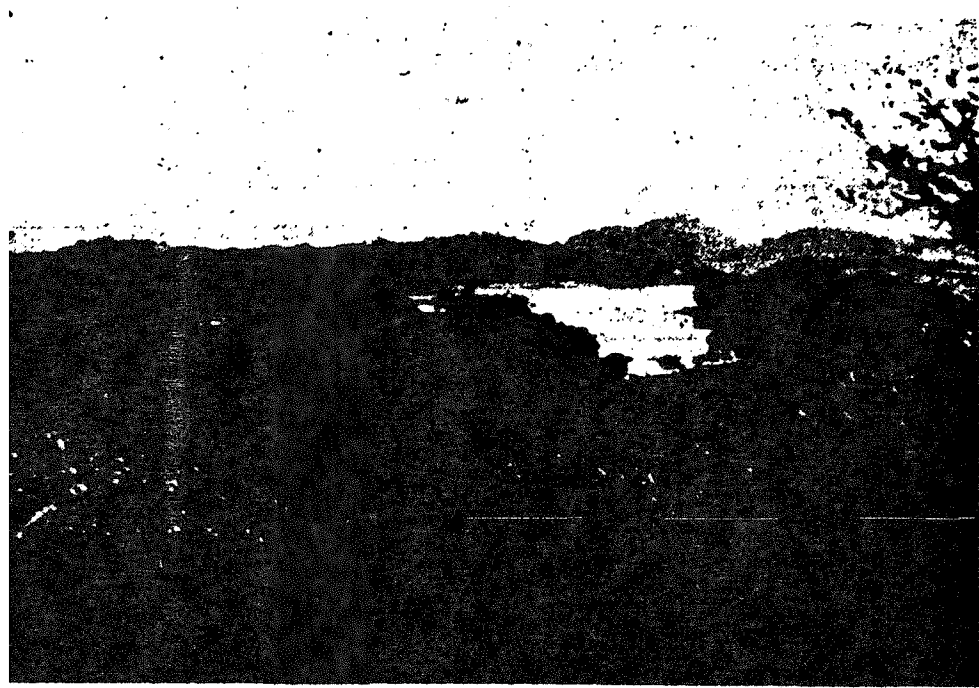
This year, they hope, no mud. Instead, they look forward to a fuller life living in the lap of

a valley a quarter-mile minutes away from matters to be found

A new mineral fiber aluminum oxide and been developed that stand temperatures h to melt cast iron.



THIS IS THE SETTING . . . Browsing cattle graze quietly in the green pasture adjacent to the Acheson ranch home. The pipes these cows are sidestepping are used for overhead irrigation. The 100-acre ranch is mostly in pasturage, with comparatively few acres devoted to crops.



ON THE DOORSTEP . . . well, not quite, but almost. This view of rugged terrain and Vallejo Bay is seen from a hillside about 200 yards behind the Acheson home. Deer, fox, raccoon, skunks and in the Acheson's mountain paradise, which is practically on Napa's doorstep.

of the ranch into a world-class training school for horsemanship. The United States Olympic Team for the Year 1982 trained for many months at Wild Horse Valley Ranch, before the Olympics at Los Angeles.

In part because of the strong interest in the Olympics and Napa Valley's unusual contribution through Wild Horse Valley Ranch, a number of newspaper stories brought special attention to the valley. The Napa Register of January 7, 1982 headlined one such story: "Wild Horse Valley-West Coast Riders Training 'At Home.'" (See xerox copy of story, following page.)

Louis Ezettie, Napa's resident historian and admirer of fine horses, visited the ranch in July, 1983 and, of course, repeated the history of the naming of the ranch in a column dated July 23. Ezettie pointed out that Wild Horse Valley Ranch had now doubled in size, or 3,000 acres.

The Wild Horse Valley Ranch has drawn an enormous amount of attention to the valley through large roadside billboards which advertise the stables and horses available for public use. On an average summer day, a hundred automobiles may fill the ranch's parking lot and over the riding trails, hundreds of horses and riders slowly ride along, obtaining rare vistas reaching to San Francisco on the south and Mt. St. Helena on the north. Wild Horse Valley Ranch offers, as does much of the valley, spectacular views of the great Napa Valley and its vines.

The vine has also come back to Wild Horse Valley.

James Birkmeyer was the first to begin the replanting of vines in 1964. His small farm is located just across the northern

Wild Horse Valley

West Coast Riders Training 'At Home'

By NANCY STENSON
Register Staff Writer

For the first time in over 15 years, West Coast equestrians are getting a chance to train for international competition on their home turf.

Ten top riders from Seattle to Topanga Canyon in Southern California, including one Napan, are undergoing 10 days of intensive training under United States Equestrian Team (USET) coach Jack De Goff in the spanking new, \$100,000 covered arena at Wild Horse Valley Ranch.

This and other sessions scheduled on the East Coast will give these riders the opportunity to develop their talent and possibly land them a spot on the four-man U.S. Olympic team that will compete in Los Angeles in 1984 and in other international events.

These riders, including 18-year-old Alden Murray of Napa, the youngest eventer, will spend hours receiving instructions on proper care of their horses and on all segments of eventing, including dressage, cross country riding and steeplechase.

Dressage stresses the classical components of riding, including grace, poise and the appearance of effortless control of the horse.

Anyone familiar with the motion picture "National Velvet" would be able to relate to the rigors horse and rider endure as they forge creeks and jump fences and barriers in cross country events.

La Goff said he was not sure any of the 10 West Coast riders were ready yet, but six lucky riders will be going to Luhmuhlen, Germany this September to compete in the world championships. Two of the six will go as alternates.

The 10 riders participating in the training session were picked during USET screening trials in Oregon last year.

Participants include Todd Trewin, 23, of Seattle; Laurie Niece, 22, Gayle Parker-Simantel, 28, Lee Jorgensen, 26, and Keith Schramm, 31, all from the Portland area; Allan Frederickson, 31, of Walnut Creek; Marilyn Crosgrave, 28, of Topanga Canyon; Alden Murray, 18, of Napa, and Gerald Bearden and David Collins.

Riding technique and critiques will be the responsibility of Le Goff, who has coached the USET for 10 years and has led the team to a spot that ranks among the top two or three teams in international events.

Barn work and care of the horse will be taught by Le Goff's assistant, and barn

manager, Jeanne Kane, who came to the USET after working in Buckinghamshire, England. She is a native of Massachusetts.

The USET is based in South Hamilton, Mass. and operates on a budget of approximately \$1 million annually with a staff including a secretary, three grooms, a stable manager and a fund-raiser.

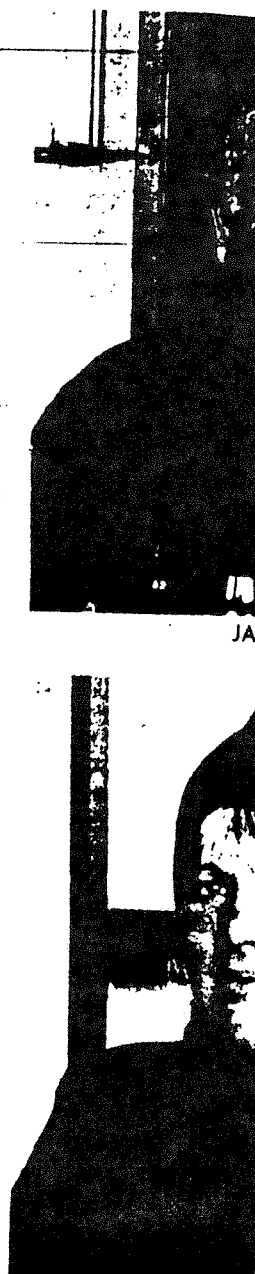
It holds screenings on the East and West Coasts, observing some 200 riders, some 30 of whom are selected to train for international competition. Only four of the 30 will actually compete.

Funds for the USET come primarily from private donations, although the team is trying to secure corporate sponsorship.

Within another decade, Le Goff is predicting that equestrian eventing will become a popular spectator sport in the U.S. just as it is in Europe now, particularly after the 1984 Olympics.

Members of the public wanting to watch these training sessions or pick up some riding tips are invited to visit Wild Horse Valley Ranch.

For information about the sessions, held between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., call 224-0727.



JAN

JEAN

1A—THE NAPA REGISTER

Saturday, July 23, 1983



By LOUIS EZETTIE

The name Wild Horse Valley Ranch is a misnomer. I never saw one wild horse on a recent visit I made there.

But I did see a most interesting array of beautiful horses all gentle and lame and in no way reminiscent of their wild predecessors that invaded the area in early years.

I and a friend, Hilary Hesley, were taken on a tour of the 3,000-acre horse park by G. Donald Murray, who with his wife, Edna, assist in managing the extensively developed property owned by Mrs. Murray's mother, Mrs. Mary Harrison.

Our visit there was made a few days in advance of the American Horse Show Association's sixth annual show at the ranch which opened Saturday, July 2 and concluded Monday, July 4. Workers were busy putting finishing touches on structural and water hazards the skilled riders would attempt to conquer during the steeplechase and cross country events.

We were impressed by the large, sturdy barns and other facilities that make up part of this far west center of a thrilling sport that has long been popular

with English royalty and which today is a training site for U.S. horses selected to participate in the coming 1984 Olympics. In charge of this highly important phase of the Olympics preparation is Jack LeDoff, world noted U.S. equestrian who coached U.S. teams in gold medals at the world championship in 1974, Pan-American Games in 1975, and Montreal Olympics in 1976.

As expected the three-day show was an outstanding success with the steeplechase and cross country drawing 4,000 thrilled spectators on Sunday, July 2. It was interesting to note that among the participants in the Western U.S. Young Riders' Championship there were three from Napa, namely Jana Jones, Sasha Murray, and N. Alden Murray. Sasha and Alden are children of Donald and Edna Murray. I and my companion, Hilary, had the privilege of watching talented 15-year-old Sasha going through her training paces under instruction of internationally known coach Sandra Howard. Our host Donald Murray pointed out that a new improved kind of footing was in use and proved an excellent development. Sasha, riding her handsome, expertly trained mount, gave a performance that seemed greatly pleasing to her instructor.

On a day preliminary to

the three-day show trainer LeDoff took the riders on a walk of the course to familiarize them with conditions pertaining to the steeplechase and cross country events. No detail was overlooked in the preparations to make the annual show one equal in all respects of the high standards demanded of the performers. Congratulations were the order of the day at the termination of the meet for those responsible for putting everything together. Mrs. Murray, who serves as an official of the national association, had a large part in the planning and success of the exhibition.

Adjacent to Wild Horse Valley Ranch which lies in a hill section some eight miles east of town, are two lakes, Lake Madigan and Lake Frey. Owned by the City of Vallejo, they are part of the water supply of the Navy yard community. The lakes were mentioned in the fascinating diary kept by the late William West, legendary businessman and sportsman, who, with companions, fished there when the lakes were open to the public.

The story about wild horses that once roamed the valley and gave it its name was told by the late Mrs. Grace Santos who grew up there on a 400-acre farm owned by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paulus Nelson. The story tells about a handsome stallion which unexpectedly made its appearance there and which was joined in following years by a few straggly mares of apparent low breed. In due time a

number of colts foaled by the mares made up a growing herd that became a serious problem for members of the four families that resided in the valley. The unwelcome intruders were a threat to the domestic animals owned by the families and were a threat to the safety of the people as well. Forced to take steps to rid the area of the wild animals the residents dug a wide, deep trench wet down its sides until it became too slippery for traction. A Coombsville resident who owned a pack of hounds was then called in to bring his dogs and drive the herd into the trench where they were dispatched with rifle fire.

Thus it was that Wild Horse Valley was once aptly named, but as stated the name today is definitely a misnomer, although truly an intriguing one.

If Mrs. Santos, who after her marriage lived with her husband on north Brown Street in Napa, could see her former home site today she undoubtedly would be awed and disbelieving at the transformation. I had not visited Wild Horse for many years and I was amazed at the change that has been made.

Wild Horse Valley Ranch is an important asset to our county. As a far western segment of the prestigious nationally and inter-

nationally known organization, American Horse Show Association, it brings to our valley men and women equestrians of exceptional skills together with other eminent personalities of a widely popular sport that reflects importantly in our economy.

One of the City of Vallejo's lakes, Lake Madigan, was situated on the ranch of Paulus Nelson, mentioned above, the father of Mrs. Santos, also mentioned above.

Napa Register July 23, 1983
"Looking Into Napa's past and present"
Wild Horse Valley

Napa-Solano County line but entirely in Napa County. He now has seventeen acres planted to Riesling grapes and all of the grapes are sold to Stag's Leap Wine Cellars where some of the highest quality wines in Napa Valley are produced by Warren Winiarski.

Oddly enough, it wasn't until 1980 that the second (new) vineyard was planted in the valley, that of Diamond Oaks Vineyard, owned by San Franciscan Maniar Dinesh. His vines now cover about twenty-five acres.

The historic Malandrino ranch, now owned by a group of investors headed by John Newmeyer, also of San Francisco, has a twenty-four acre vineyard flourishing on the hills of Wild Horse Valley.

THE MALANDRINO RANCH MAY BE THE OLDEST REPLANTED VINEYARD SITE IN THE VALLEY, HAVING FIRST BEEN PLANTED IN THE LATE 1870's BY F. W. BEHRENS. ONGOING RESEARCH MAY STILL PROVE BEHRENS BROKE GROUND FOR HIS VINEYARD BEFORE THE VORBE BROTHERS.

APPENDIX

Transcript of Interview with Herbert Hocken*

July 28, 1986

Q: My name is William Heintz and I'm going to be taping an interview. Give me your first and last name, please.

A: Herbert Hocken.

Q: What's your address?

A: 6052 Wild Horse Valley Road.

Q: You were born in Napa, weren't you?

A: Oh, yes.

Q: I won't ask you what year you were born, but you're 90 or you're over 90?

A: I'm 94. I would rather you not publish that kind of stuff. I don't like to get out in the limelight too much.

Q: I don't blame you. It's good you don't, there are so many kooks running around. It's okay, no problem. You grew up right in the area where we're sitting now, which is Coombsville?

A: Yes, but I joined the service, the army, early.

Q: World War I?

A: World War I.

Q: Were you sent overseas?

A: Yes.

Q: And then you came back here to live after the service?

A: Yes.

Q: Did your father and mother have a little farm in this area?

A: Yes.

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Q: Is it very far from where we're at now?

A: They had a farm on Second Avenue--25 acres, with prunes and grapes. They made a living. There was eight in the family.

Q: Did they have grapes during Prohibition and sell them, ship them East?

A: Yes, they were used as church grapes or . . .

Q: Sacramental?

A: Yes.

Q: Can you remember the highest price your father would get for those?

A: I think about \$12, along in there--a ton.

Q: During the early 1920's, didn't it go up to about \$100 for a couple of years?

A: Not that I know of. In the twenties?

Q: Yes, when Prohibition . . . you could make, everybody could make 200 gallons of wine at home . . .

A: Yes, right.

Q: And the market just shot way up there for awhile.

A: It might have, but I didn't get in on that. Course I didn't . . . but there was the government or the state, I don't know which, allowed the churches to have wine, and they were making wine for the church.

Q: Where did your dad sell his grapes? Who bought them? Do you remember what winery? Migliavacca or who bought them?

A: I don't know that.

Q: Okay. That's no problem.

A: It was hard to get rid of anything them days.

Q: When you were a young man, did you ride up over into Wild Horse Valley? Did you go up in that area at all?

A: No, I went the other way.

Q: Towards Sonoma? Oh, up Green Valley Road. Did that road go through, did Green Valley Road . . . the reason it's called that, it used to go through Green Valley and Solano County?

A: Well, it never was a road, alright for horseback and like that, but you could go through private places.

Q: Does that road go through the old Malandrino place?

A: Yes. They have a right-of-way through there, the Malandrino place.

Q: Were you ever over to the Malandrino farm?

A: Oh, yes.

Q: Did you know the kids? The Malandrino kids?

A: Yes, Armand and Waldo.

Q: Do you know how long they kept that farm? When did they sell out, do you have any idea?

A: Malandrino sold out not too long ago, maybe thirty years ago. Two or three fellows had it.

Q: Was Mrs. Constance Malandrino still alive when you were young? Do you remember her?

A: Yes. Constance was, he was the wine maker in there in Napa.

Q: Uncle Sam winery, wasn't he?

A: Yes.

Q: He died in 1908. I found an obituary in the newspaper.

A: Yes, he died in 1908, I guess that's about the time. I remember when he died because he used to drive up to the ranch. They lived in town and he was getting thinner and thinner and he said he was sick and didn't feel good. The only thing that helped him was white wine.

Q: Do you remember what he died of?

A: No, nobody seemed to . . . I think it was some kind of stomach trouble.

Q: He had appendicitis. The newspaper said he had appendicitis.

A: Well, that could be it.

Q: Did he have grapes up there?

A: Yes.

Q: Were there very many acres? Have you any idea how many acres?

A: No.

Q: Just a small plot?

A: Yes, like that place over there. About two acres. They had just a little vineyard. All those farmers, you know (had grapes).

Q: There wasn't enough to have a winery up there?

A: No.

Q: When Mrs. Constance M. died, was that after the war, do you think? Did she live up to World War II?

A: Well, I don't know the dates. The boy had it just till not too long ago and sold out. He went to Reno with his cash money and lost, lost it all.

Q: That's too bad.

A: Yes, they were nice people too.

Q: Was there anyone else up in that area who had grapes that you remember?

A: Yes. Up this way was more the open valley.

Q: Oh, in the valley itself? Near Wild Horse Dam up there?

A: Yes. Well, they don't call it--they have other names.

Q: Lake Madigan?

A: Yes, he was from the city of Vallejo.

Q: Yes, he was the mayor of Vallejo back in 1908, 1910.

A: When they built it. The grapes were certain places there, and I remember hauling them down to Carbone here. That's as far as I ever . . . the winery.

Q: Carbone had a winery?

A: Oh yes, a good one too.

Q: Where was it located?

A: Right here on Coombsville Road. You know where the Carbone ranch, where . . . just below Fourth Avenue, all that in . . . clean over to Spencer Creek. I think they had over 100 acres there. Good land.

Q: It's on the west side of Fourth Avenue, south of Coombsville Road. That whole corner down there?

A: Well, it could be. West side . . . right.

Q: Is the building still there, the old winery?

A: Yes, the old winery is there. Well they remodeled and, I think, rented them for, you know.

Q: About what is the address there, what would it be?

A: It's right across from the schoolhouse, Mt. George School. It takes in all that from Fourth Avenue, Coombsville Road, clean down to where you make that sharp turn on First Avenue.

Q: But the old Carbone winery didn't operate before Prohibition, did it?

A: Oh yes, that's when it did operate. I guess Prohibition kind of slowed them up.

Q: Oh, because you know there are a number of Carbone families. Well, maybe I'm spelling it differently.

A: Yes, there was. There was a couple of cousins in Napa, they lived in Napa.

Q: Didn't the Carbones have the old winery on Brown Street?

A: That's another Carbone, that's John Carbone. Well, he didn't have a winery, he had a liquor store.

Q: Well, didn't he lease the . . . there's an old stone winery that's being turned into a restaurant now, it's on Brown Street, a real nice winery.

A: By that schoolhouse.

Q: The Mathews winery. They used to call that the old Mathews winery.

A: Well, it had two or three different owners.

Q: Didn't the Carbones use to have a winery out on the highway going to Vallejo, somewhere out in that direction too?

A: Who was that?

Q: The Carbones.

A: Oh, they were all in the wine business.

Q: Did the Carbone winery, just down here, the one we've been talking of near Mt. George School--was it operating after World War II, do you think?

- A: I don't . . . oh, no. They may have had a lot of bottles and tanks, but after the old folks died that was the end of the wine.
- Q: What was the first name of the Carbone who had the winery down by Mt. George School?
- A: Gee, I don't remember.
- Q: But you said John Carbone had the old Mathews winery?
- A: He was one of the sons.
- Q: He was over at the old Mathews winery?
- A: No, he had a liquor store. He just sold it by the bottle.
- Q: Isn't it the Carbones who have a restaurant out on the highway?
- A: They've got a Lee Carbone who's up there at Yountville.
- Q: The Grapevine Inn?
- (A: Yes, but he said they're cousins. He's not the Carbone who's out in Coombsville.)
- Q: Okay, that's why I'm confused because his father was the one who had the old Mathews winery.
- A: I imagine they were, but I never knew them because . . . Course I went to school with all the Carbones.
- Q: When you used to take the old Wild Horse Valley Road up all the way to the end and you'd come by the lake and then if you go into Napa County, you said there were people who grew grapes up there?
- A: Oh yes, the Sequira. They were a big family, the Sequiras.
- Q: I know that name. I can remember seeing it.
- A: Is it there? Some of them are around town, yet.

Q: There was an L. J. Sequira who lived up there.

A: They own the ranch yet, so there must be relatives in there. The horse ranch kind of shut them off.

[That's Frances Goodwin. Remember I mentioned her on the phone, that's her family. And that's the one who's been having all the fights with Wild Horse Valley Ranch about access to their lands. That's who that is. I never knew the Sequiras, but I know Fran Goodwin. I'm pretty sure that's the Sequiras.] *

Well, they're all related. There are quite a few of them around. I know there's one who has a ranch--wine place over in . . .

Q: Wooden Valley?

A: No, the place where they claim the grapes do so good. Carneros.

Q: Yes, everybody thinks that Carneros is so good.

A: They say . . . they announced today that climate and everything is better for grapes here.

Q: Let's go back to the Sequiras for just a moment. Did you go up to the farm? Do you remember being there when you were a young man?

A: Oh, yes.

Q: How many acres in grapes do you think he had?

A: Not too many, just little scattered places.

Q: But maybe three, four, five?

A: They'd haul down here maybe a load a day. They'd come down with four horses and then leave two horses here at the foot

*All bracketed statements are by John Tuteur.

A: (Cont'd.)

of the hill and take the grapes there and pull the wagon and when they reached the foot of the hill they'd put all four horses on empty wagons to go back up the hill.

Q: When do you remember that? In the '20s or later?

A: Oh, not in the '20s. That was about the turn of the century.

Q: Do you think their vineyards were gone by 1925 or the 1930's? They weren't growing grapes in the '30s.

A: Oh, I think so because the deer come in.

Q: The Depression? Do you remember going up there in the Depression years, the '30s?

A: Well, I never knew much about the Depression because I was working and not worried about it.

Q: My part of the country the Depression was real. They remember it.

A: We didn't have it here, you know.

Q: Do you remember the Furtado family?

A: Furtado?

Q: Yes, they were quite close there to the Sequiras.

A: Yes, I think Furtado was either in the shooting or . . . they settled their arguments right up there.

Q: Nobody could prove it. The Furtados had some vineyard too, do you remember?

A: All those people up there . . . there's pretty good soil up there and the grapes done good, but the deer come in here.

Q: Do you remember the Furtados having a vineyard over in Twin Sisters, or something? Is there a mountain called Twin Sisters?

A: Yes. They lived on the other side of the hill looking at Fairfield. Furtados . . . there was a race of ranches right along, small places.

Q: How about the Vorbe family?

A: They lived right up here where Castle View Ranch is now. They bought from them, and that's where George Abate was born.

Q: Where is Castle View Ranch? Up Wild Horse Canyon?

A: Yes, right on top of that mountain there.

Q: Is it part of Wild Horse Valley though or not?

A: No. Oh, I guess you'd say it was. It's a little like Napa is. It's a little valley that runs down away from Wild Horse.

Q: Do you ever remember going to Castle View or to Vorbe--to the Vorbe place?

A: Oh yes, we'd go up there just for a hike. I'd play hooky from school and they'd make that hike--Mt. George and down.

Q: There were a couple of girls up there, weren't there, some sisters?

A: Oh, the sisters of George Abate. They were all family and they had grapes there.

Q: Didn't they have quite a few?

A: They had a wine cellar there.

Q: Ah, they had a winery, a wine cellar?

A: Just a hole in the ground. You went down there and it was just dirt and rocks.

Q: Did you go into it? Did you walk into the cellar?

A: Well, he wouldn't let you in there. They wouldn't let you down there, you know, kids. We were kids and they had to kind of watch us so we never had the opportunity to go down there. But I knew where it was because after it was done away with, nobody lived up there, we'd go--you could go any place.

Q: Was this just sort of a dugout into the side of the hill, is that what you're saying?

A: Yes, I would say so. But it was more in a valley where there was pretty good soil and they just dug down and rocked it. They had lots of rocks up there, and they rocked it so the dirt wouldn't be falling in. It wasn't much of a wine cellar.

Q: Did the Vorbes make the wine themselves or did they hire somebody?

A: Oh yes, I imagine they did.

Q: And they called it Castle?

A: No, it wasn't Castle. I don't think--I don't know what they . . . They had another name for that ranch. George Abate would know.

Q: Was he born up there?

A: Yes.

Q: I didn't know that.

A: I'm pretty sure he was born up there. He was the Assessor. He still is until January.

Q: But he wouldn't remember back before Prohibition.

A: That guy remembers everything. He's 71.

Q: Do you remember a Frenchman by the name of Fournier, Pierre Fournier?

A: He was on the ranch. I think he either rented it after Vorbes died or . . . he came up here from nowhere and took over the ranch, I think, but I'm not positive. Vorbes let him do that or wanted him to do that. Maybe he came from France, I don't know, but he ran the ranch.

Q: I have several references to him in the '80s, making wine it said on Wild Horse Valley Road.

A: The '80s?

Q: The 1880's. But I don't find him being a property owner so I figured . . .

A: No, he was just a renter or the wine maker, I guess.

Q: That stands to reason.

A: Vorbes was wealthy people, I think. They lived in San Francisco.

Q: Yes, I have a biography of Vorbes out of the Solano County history.

A: That didn't interest me. If we could steal some apples or fruit or something that interested me more than anything.

Q: Let me ask you about some other people who lived up there. Do you remember a Costello?

A: Yes. He was a fighter, a prize fighter and he had a little . . . Somebody gave him . . . I think up there was government land-- 160 acres. That's the way most of your place is.

Q: Did Costello live up there?

A: He worked for the city of Vallejo taking care of the lake, I think.

Q: Did they ever have any grapes?

A: No, Costellos didn't. They just had a place in the canyon.

Q: How about Mary Opico?

A: Yes, but that's later.

Q: Nabors, Mary Nabors, anybody like that?

A: Seems to me I heard that but I don't know.

Q: Or Manuel Luis?

A: Well, he could be. After the grapes went out they had dairies up there--cattle.

Q: How about Peter and Mary Madison.

A: Oh, but they're way [south] . . .

Q: They owned a lot of land in Solano, but they also owned in Napa.

A: I think the horse ranch bought their ranch.

Q: Wild Horse Valley?

A: I think so.

Q: Do you think they ever had vineyards--ever had a few acres of vines up there too?

A: They may have, they were kind of prosperous.

Q: How about Mariana Borges?

A: Yes, but I think that's further down towards Wooden Valley.

Q: Yes it is, but I thought they may have had a little bit of land that they might have had grapes on.

A: Well, you know, they had the school out there.

Q: Oh, they did! What was the name of it?

A: Wild Horse School. It got down to where there weren't enough kids then the horse ranch took it over.

Q: Was that in Napa County or Solano County?

A: It must be Napa because there wouldn't be a school there in Solano, I don't think. It could be but I don't think so.

Q: Do you remember anybody else making wine up there besides Vorbe?

A: I don't know anybody. Vorbe was kind of away from the other part of it, it was in a little ravine or valley like.

Q: When the reservoir, when Lake Madigan was put in, did that cover anybody's farm?

A: Oh yes, they had to buy several places.

Q: That would have been nice farmland in there where they put the lake, where Lake Madigan is, wouldn't it?

A: Well, it was nice, but just patches. It was in a little valley there. That's what made them put the lake there.

Q: I wonder whether any vineyards were covered up by the lake.

A: I don't think so because that one lake was built a long time ago, and then the other one about twenty years afterwards.

Q: Well, Lake Frey was built first. That was in 1894, and then Lake Madigan was built in 1908.

A: Yes, you see, there was quite a little difference here.

Q: Do you remember all the fights Vallejo had with Mrs. Constantino about the right-of-way? And do you remember when you were a kid about Constantino building a dam and the dam washed out, and the flood of 1909?

A: Yes, he died in the meantime. They subpoenaed Mrs. Constantino to come to court and she just had one story. She didn't know what was going on up there or nothing. What we heard and what

A: (Cont'd.)

stuck was that she got up in court and said, "My God, can't you let the dead . . . the living dead . . ." and it just turned the judge over and he decided to throw it out of court.

Q: I've read about it in the papers because it was in the papers day after day, week after week.

A: Well, it was kind of strange but she didn't know anything about that. They made her come in and question her and she'd give up.

Q: She had a crackerjack lawyer named Theodore Bell.

A: Oh yes, he was a good lawyer.

Q: He was the sharpest lawyer in Napa County in those days. . . . During World War II, did most of those people leave their farms in Wild Horse Ranch?

A: They were like Berryessa, they were bought out. The lake, Vallejo lakes took a lot of that land, what they needed to fill, you know. They bought all the watershed so that really did away with [farms] . . .

Voice: Who lived up at the Malandrino place, Herb?*

A: Nobody lived there. Sam Frisbie used to rent it for cattle.

V: Walt Crevelli had it for awhile, didn't he?

A: Oh, he rented it and he rented your place too and Cabral rented it. The Portuguese liked to put their cattle up there because they claimed it made good feet for the hills. You see, they lived in the land down here.

Q: Do you know whether any of the Kreuzer family is still alive?
*"Voice" indicates questioning by John Tuteur.

A: No, they're all gone. Well, there's distant relatives of the Kreuzers.

Q: Bob Kreuzer is gone? He died?

A: Willie Kreuzer, Olga, Mrs. Fornichon.

Q: Is she gone too?

A: Yes. And Alvina, the youngest . . .

Voice: Alvina Bolt was her name. She passed away about three or four years ago, but her son is alive. His name is Morango, Al Morango, and he lives over in Marysville, Yuba City.

Q: How old is he, I wonder?

V: He's my age. He's a little older than I am. He must be in his early fifties.

Q: Did the Kreuzers keep land up here? Do they still own land up here?

A: No, that's the place where the Vallejo lakes ran the dairymen out and that left 1,000 acres over here where the boy lives now, the Fornichon boy. He was going along there good and somebody came and sized it up, told him it didn't belong to him and took away 80 acres of it.

Q: Did the Kreuzers ever grow grapes?

A: No, they were cattlemen.

Q: Cattle people?

V: What was the name of that old guy, Herb, do you remember? You told me the story about the guy who used to come up in his wagon with the bells on it. Who lived behind Malandrino on the bottom . . . McDermott, was that his name?

A: Freitas, he lived over in the canyon?

V: No, that's the other one--way in back. McDermott or something like that. Remember you told me the story about him coming up in his wagon with the bells?

A: Oh, the wood wagon.

V: Yes, and he was drunk and he'd get his keys out and all his change would fall out. You'd sneak up and pick up all his change.

A: He'd carry a gun down as far as the gate and hide it. We'd always look by the gate, but we never could find the pistol. We knew he'd hide it because they wouldn't let him take it in town, see? They'd search him in there. But that gate was always locked and he'd come home, lit, I guess, and as soon as we'd see him come home we'd go up to the gate because we'd find dimes and nickels and pennies.

V: Where was your house?

A: Right down the canyon.

Q: Right down at the bottom?

A: Yes, we were about where it went in that road . . .

V: Where Jameson was, down that way?

A: It was down in there but not quite down at the creek, it was right on the side hill. If you ever made a slip, you went all the way down.

V: Herb's dad bought that. When did your dad buy that?

A: Well, he bought the whole place here. You've probably got some good maps here.

V: Oh, and he used to own the Petty place too, right?

A: The Rety place, and Rety had grapes. He planted all into vineyard. He came up here from San Francisco.

V: So Rety had grapes right up there in front of our gate?

A: Well, south of your road and clean down to the schoolhouse.

Q: How was Rety's name spelled?

A: It was Rignoli, too. Rignoli married Mrs. Rety when the old Rety died. This Italian man married Mrs. Rety. Grapes were out by that time.

V: But their children are still here. That's the Negri family I told you about, and his mother remembers this place. Fred's mother was a Rignoli.

[End side one.]

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Pages From The Past



Mountain Water

By Ernest D. Wichels

In two previous columns we quoted liberally from the handwritten diary of John Frey, early Vallejo businessman and City Trustee, whose single-handed efforts, begun in 1890, brought water to this city from Green Valley Creek in Wild Horse Valley, and created the first municipal water works.

Frey was the grandfather of George K. O'Hara, Archie MacDonell of this city, Mrs. Elma Freedom of Sacramento, Mrs. Marshall Loring of Napa, and the late Russell F. O'Hara, Sr.

They investigated a number of other locations, among them Green Valley Creek, a never-failing mountain stream of the purest of soft water.

THIS FAR-AWAY WILD HORSE VALLEY

"But the distance of this stream from Vallejo to the point where the waters would have to be diverted was by wagon road twenty-one miles which made the cost of piping very great. Also the height of the mountains intervening between Vallejo and Green Valley Creek (Wild Horse Valley) appeared to offer another insurmountable obstacle . . .

"Whatever was done had to be carried out in secrecy, for the Vallejo Water Company had plenty of coin and was anxious to defeat the people of Vallejo in their attempts to protect themselves . . .

"Surveyors could not be placed in the field because then the old water company would be given the opportunity to repeat its former trick."

The Trustees' committee itself secured surveying instruments and ascertained the elevations of the creek at various points, and also the elevations of the lands lying between the creek and the city.

The committee determined that the major mountain obstacle could be overcome by digging a tunnel.

obstacle could be overcome by digging

It had already been discovered by the committee that when the owners of any real estate learned that their property was wanted for the purposes of public water works that the price would rise to fabulous amounts, or in other words that the land would have to be covered with twenty dollar gold pieces no matter how little such property might be worth for any other purpose."

THE SECRET APPROACH

"Here was a case where great caution and secrecy were necessary.

"Public business could not be accomplished successfully on any other principle than secrecy, the same as used by successful private businessmen."

"The lands wanted for the new reservoir were owned by the widow of R. P. Hastings, consisting of 1,657 acres. There were improvements on this property costing about ten thousand dollars. It included some of the most beautiful scenery in the State of California, including a magnificent waterfall."

In a subsequent article we will continue John Frey's diary, and the effort it took, through a third party, to secure title to the lands.

And tell, too, of the celebration when the water reached Vallejo.

HISTORY OF NAPA COUNTY

COMPRISING an account of its geographical position and area; the origin of its name; topography, geology, springs, water courses and climate; township system; early settlements, with descriptions and scenes as viewed by the pioneers; the Indians; the discovery of gold and other minerals; the progress of population and agriculture; the Mexican grants; principal homicides; incidents of settlements; elections and history of its cities and towns, churches and schools, secret societies, etc., etc.; as also a full and particular biography of its pioneers and principal inhabitants.

ILLUSTRATED

W. F. WALLACE, HISTORY OF NAPA COUNTY,
1901.

NAPA COUNTY.

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ern line, we find it on the summit of a range of mountains. Passing to the east, we come to the Napa valley, which in this township is much wider than in the others to the northward. It opens out into a broad open flat a few miles south of Napa City, which is covered with tules. Passing on to the eastward, the remainder of the township is very rough and mountainous, having here and there small and fertile valleys interspersed amid the mountain peaks, such as Foss, Wild Horse, Capelle and others.

Soil.--The soil is very rich and productive in the valleys and equally well adapted to the production of all classes of fruits, vegetables and cereals. The soil in the tule region is quite rich, and is very productive when there is not too much salt in the composition. The soil of the mountains is the common red detritus from volcanic substances, and is well adapted to the growth of the vine. In Brown's valley the soil is adobe, having been formed by the decomposition of limestone, but there is enough sand mixed with it to make it friable, and fruits and vines do well in it; which is not common in that class of soil.

Geology.--Beginning on the west side of the township we find that the mountains are formed mostly of sand and limestone of the Tertiary period. Passing to the mountains on the east side of the valley we find the great masses of volcanic ash and tufa deposited there upon the occasion of some mighty eruption, and gradually, through the action of ages, formed into solid rock, affording much valuable stone for economical purposes. Farther eastward these mountains are still of volcanic origin.

Climate.--The lower end of Napa Valley is open to the breezes which sweep inland from the

VALLEJO LOSES

Sweeping Legal Victory For Estate of the Late Con- stance Malandrino.

County Clerk N. W. Collins received word from Judge W. H. Wells of Contra Costa on Saturday morning to the effect that he had decided the suit instituted about eight or nine months ago by the late Constance Malandrino against the City of Vallejo in favor of the plaintiff.

The decision, quite a lengthy one, arrived on Saturday evening's mail, and was duly entered up by Clerk Collins.

Judge Wells, who tried the case a few months ago for Judge Gosford, decides against the City of Vallejo on every point.

He finds that Malandrino is entitled to the natural flow of the stream (the Vallejo water supply) which passes through his ranch in Wild Horse valley, which flow is estimated at 50,000 gallons daily.

The defendant corporation is perpetually enjoined from interfering in any way with the plaintiff's pumps, or his use of all the natural flow of the stream.

The decision is a crushing defeat for the City of Vallejo.

Hon. Theo. A. Bell was the attorney for the late Constance Malandrino, who was not permitted to live to rejoice over the sweeping victory which he always claimed he was entitled to and would win.

Napa Daily Journal Jan. 3, 1909
"Vallejo Loses" Malandrino water suit
Wildhorse Valley

NAPA, NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, WEDNESDAY JANUARY 6, 1909.

WELLS' DECISION.

City of Vallejo will Appeal from Decision in Malandrino Case.

Vallejo Times, Jan. 5.

The decision rendered by Judge Wells is so ambiguous that it is impossible to understand just what he does mean. In any event the city will likely appeal the case to the Appellate Court. Thus spoke City Attorney Frank Powers last evening in considering the effects of the decision of Judge Wells of Contra Costa county, sitting for Judge Gesford on the Napa bench in the suit of the late C. Malandrino against the city of Vallejo to determine Malandrino's water rights in Green Valley.

Stories have been sent out from Napa that the city has lost everything; that its water supply is threatened and other wild stories, all of which are widely misconstrued.

If the city should lose eventually, it always can conquer Malandrino's land.

The decision, which is given below, to all appearances contradicts itself in first allowing Malandrino 50,000 gallons of water daily and later in allowing him all of the water, with the exception of the 50,000 gallons.

Malandrino has a triangular piece of land that crosses the creek down which the water gathered by the city of Vallejo flows to be lifted. The natural flow is small, but the artificial flow amounts to about a million and a quarter gallons of water daily, or the amount used by the city every 24 hours.

The decision in full is as follows:

"That at all times mentioned in the complaint there has been, and now is, a natural water course extending over and across the tract of land described as parcel 1 in paragraph 22 of the complaint herein, being all of section 16, township 5 north, range 3 west, Mount Diablo base and meridian, and said lands are riparian to said water course; but said natural water course does not extend over parcels 2 and 3 described in said complaint, nor are said parcels, or either of them, riparian in said natural water course.

"That during the Spring, Summer and Fall months of each year since the 15th day of October, 1907, there has flowed and is now flowing about one million gallons of water each twenty-four hours in said water course and across said parcel 1 of said lands, of which one million gallons of water fifty thousand gallons was, and is, the natural flow and the balance an artificial flow created by the reservoir by which the water was impounded by the city of Vallejo and released through this water channel.

ENTERTAINMENT.

To be Given Next Tuesday For Benefit of Suffering People of Italy.

A grand entertainment is to be given by the Napa State Hospital Band, in conjunction with the proprietors of the Hayes Theatre, next Tuesday evening, January 6th, for the benefit of the earthquake sufferers of Italy, under the auspices of the Napa branch of the Red Cross.

A fine programme is being arranged, and every one who attends will not only help a most worthy cause, but are promised a most enjoyable entertainment.

THE SENATORSHIP.

Strong Fight Being Made Against Perkins, but it will Probably Fail.

A Sacramento dispatch to the San Francisco Bulletin, dated January 5th, says:

A well-organized fight to prevent the re-election of United States Senator George C. Perkins is now being quietly waged in both houses of the Legislature. Although no open declaration of preference has been made, numerous Republicans, who want a progressive member of their party in the upper house of Congress, instead of a corporation-bound reactionist, have

NAPA IN RACE.

Miss Elizabeth Grigsby Has Been Selected by Business College to Represent Napa County.

WILL BE ONE OF PARTY OF 43 OF CALIFORNIA'S MOST FAIREST TO MAKE 30-DAY TOUR ALL OVER THE U. S.

Miss Elizabeth Grigsby has been selected by the Napa Business College to represent Napa and Lake counties in the California Publicity Tour to the Seattle Exposition and all through the West next summer. The candidates

"That the plaintiff, by reason of his ownership of said lands riparian to said water course and through which said stream flows, and by virtue of the proceedings against the city of Vallejo and the decree duly made and entered therein as alleged in paragraphs 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the complaint herein, which allegations are admitted by the defendant's answer, has been at all times since the 22d day of August, 1903, and now is, entitled to use the entire flow of said stream.

"That for the purpose of irrigating the said lands riparian to said stream, plaintiff has caused to be erected and installed two pumps in said stream through and by which he is using and taking from said stream during the months of May, June, July, August, September and October about 50,000 gallons of water per day; and plain-

Napa Daily Journal January 6, 1909
 Wildhorse Vallejo water reservoir-legal squabble

MORE TROUBLE FOR VALLEJO.

Mrs. Madison Wants \$1,000 For Road Destroyed by Water Dam.

NAPA COUNTY MAY ALSO HAVE A GRIEVANCE.

Vallejo News, Jan. 7.
No less a personage than ex-Congressman Theodore A. Bell loomed up on the Vallejo horizon last night to warn the Board of Trustees to be careful in its movements in constructing Wild Horse Valley Dam No. 2, that several property owners of the vicinity might rise in wrath and the County of Napa itself might be inclined to oppose further construction of the dam if financial balm were not forthcoming. Attorney Bell appeared before the Board of Trustees last evening as the representative of Mrs. Dolly Madison and announced his intention to fight the City of Vallejo if it did not pay his client at least \$1,000 damages for the destruction of a road to the Madison ranch. This declaration put a quietus on deliberations already under way to construct a road over the dam and City Engineer Noyes was instructed to visit Mrs. Madison and ~~the property owners in the vicinity~~ of the dam to-day to ascertain their feelings and if possible effect a settlement. Next Saturday afternoon Mrs. Madison, Theodore Bell and others will then confer with the Board of Trustees and until then Wild Horse Valley Dam No. 2 will be in the balance.

Until Theodore Bell's appearance on the scene it was believed by Mayor Madigan and other city officials that Mrs. Madison had been appeased ~~that~~ that the construction of the road over the dam which provided her an outlet from her ranch would block all interference from her interests. It was learned last night, however, that the road over the dam simply replaces a road long used by Mrs. Madison, but that it would not in any way be retribution for a road on which she possessed right-of-way which will be destroyed by the dam. This right-of-way did not appear in the transcript given Vallejo by the Solano County Abstract Company. This is another phase of the discussion which involves Attorney T. T. C. Gregory, a member of the abstract company. It seems the abstract company held itself responsible for any damages that might arise from errors in its documents. This provision will make Attorney Gregory an interested member of the conference to be held here next Saturday. Who the contestants will be outside of Mrs. Madison are not yet known, but it is thought at least four tract property owners will be on the city's heels.

which had not seemed to be the object of long litigation and probably the butt of an injunction that will prevent the completion of Wild Horse Valley Dam No. 2 and put Vallejo in the throes of a trouble far more serious than a mere water famine.
"Mrs. Madison told me," said Mayor Madigan, "everything was all right and for us to go ahead and I am surprised at this change."
"She spoke entirely different to me," replied Theodore Bell.
"That's why she changed," responded the Mayor.

That Napa county, too, may enter the contest is more than probable as it was announced by Attorney F. E. Johnston that the road destroyed by the dam was made a Napa county road as far back as 1861 and that he had records to prove this assertion. This was not shown on the abstract provided the City of Vallejo by the Solano Abstract Company and is another thread of the tangle.

What the city can do and will do in the matter is a puzzle for the officials. Whether they will settle with the property owners or go ahead and leave all damages for settlement by the Solano Abstract Company has not been decided. But Theodore Bell, to

Napa Daily To

NAPA, NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1909.

CLAIM SETTLED. BENEFIT 'CONCERT.

Mrs. Madison to Get \$1,000 From Vallejo For Right of Way.

Vallejo Times, Jan. 10.

After a conference of several hours between Mayor Madigan, City Attorney Frank Powers, City Engineer Noyes, Trustees Brownlie, Deininger, Sullivan and O'Reilly on the one side and Theodore A. Bell and Mrs. Dolly Stanton on the other, the rights of Mrs. Madison in Wild Horse valley were adjusted so that the city will be allowed to complete and fill reservoir No. 2 without being in danger of an injunction.

Mrs. Madison held a deed to an old road from Pauline Nelson for a right of way across the Nelson ranch which is now the bed of the new lake. The abstract furnished the city by the Nelson abstract concern omitted the right of way and so the city bought the ranch without knowing that Mrs. Madison held the title to a portion of the land.

The conference yesterday resulted in an agreement being reached for the city to pay Mrs. Madison \$1000 and to build a new road along the west side of the lake to take the place of another road that will be covered with water when the lake fills.

The road will cost about \$845 to construct, and this and \$1000 will have to be made good by the abstract company which failed to give a clear and full abstract.

Another feature of the agreement was the understanding that Mrs. Madison be allowed the use of a portion of the mountain side in the northeast corner of the Nelson purchase in exchange for the use of about an acre of the Madison land, where the water from the new lake may back up and cover.

Mayor Madigan and Trustee Deininger led in the discussion on the part of the city and the happy settlement of the controversy was materially assisted by their diplomacy.

Programme of Entertainment to be Given at Hayes Theatre To-Night.

The programme for the benefit of earthquake sufferers in Italy this evening at the Hayes Theatre, under the auspices of the Napa Red Cross Society, will be as follows:

1. Grand Triumphant March from "Aida," (Verdi).
 2. Overture, "Der Tambour des Garde," (Till).
 3. (a) Cornet solo, "Inflamatus," (Stabat Mater) (Rossini), Mr. Henry Harmon. (b) Baritone solo, "Cavatina" (Nubucco) (Verdi), Mr. Ed. Ingram.
 4. Fantasia from "Carmen," (Bizet).
 5. Hungarian Dance (Brahms).
 6. Moving Pictures.
 7. Solo, "Haymaking" (Needham), Miss Mazie Behrens.
 8. "The New Stenographer," comedy sketch adapted from moving picture of same name. Words by F. B. Bennett. Characters—Isaac Hammerstein, a dramatic agent, S. C. Lank; Mrs. Barbara Hammerstein, his wife, Mrs. H. Whitehead; Wm. Jennings Bryan Shakespeare, a strolling actor, H. Whitehead; Miss Fluffy Ruffles, Mrs. F. B. Bennett; Billy, an office boy, Master Wm. Thompson; Archibald, a puppy dog. Scene, San Francisco. Time, the present.
 9. Solo, "Legacies," (Carrie Roma) Miss Lady Johnson.
 10. Moving Pictures.
 11. Finale Wilhelm Tell (Rossini).
 12. Waltz, "Kaiser Walzer," (Strauss).
 13. Idyl, "The Glow Worm" (Paul Lincke). Intermezzo, "Rainbow," (Wernick).
 14. Selection from "Mlle Modiste," (Herbert).
- National anthem of Italy.
 Star Spangled Banner.
 Musical numbers by Napa State Hospital Band under the direction of Julius L. Weyand.
 Properties donated by Napa mer-

Napa Daily Journal January 12, 1909
 Wildhorse Valley water reservoir -
 Madison road suit - City of Vallejo

110 HISTORY OF SOLANO AND NAPA COUNTIES

paper, and has met with pleasing success as a newspaper ever since. The present owners are Messrs. Muller and Walker, who have the confidence of the public as newspaper men.

The City Water Works.—As long ago as 1890 the subject of the city owning its own water works was acted upon in the way of having an election for the issuance of bonds to build the same. At an election that year the project was defeated, but in 1892 another election proved favorable to the issuance of bonds and the scheme commenced development. Several ranches were purchased a few miles from the town of Cordelia. A record of the further work and completion of the city water works is gathered from a specially prepared article written by Mayor Tormey. It gives the status of the works up to date. The cost of land purchased amounted to \$61,622.29.

Contracts for reservoirs and pipe lines were let in 1893, and the work was completed the following year. The system as originally constructed included the following features:

1. A storage reservoir in Wild Horse valley, some twenty-two miles from Vallejo, having a capacity of 400,000 gallons and costing \$45,416.13. It is fed by a water shed of 1860 acres.

2. A diverting dam costing \$8,076.35, located about a mile down the canyon from the storage reservoir, and consisting of a small masonry structure used to collect the waters of the canyon and divert them from their natural channels into the city's mains. It is fed by a water shed of 1,500 acres, the natural flow from which supplies the system from December to April each year. When the stream became inadequate, additional water was let in from the storage reservoir above. The diverting dam is situated at an elevation of some 520 feet above tidewater. There are no live streams on the water shed.

From the diverting dam the water was conducted through a wrought iron pipe line to a distributing reservoir on Fleming hill, two miles north of Vallejo, on an elevation 212 feet above tidewater. This is a concrete structure, having a capacity of about 3,500,000 gallons and costing \$12,530.36.

The capacity of the original wrought iron pipe line as determined by actual measurement at Fleming hill was 715,000 gallons per diem.

The total cost of the original construction, including general, legal and engineering expenses, was as follows:

Real estate and rights of way.....	\$ 61,621.20
Engineering expenses	18,943.50
Legal expenses	9,370.58
Other general expenses	3,579.15
Total	\$ 93,514.43

Construction Proper.

Storage reservoir	\$ 45,416.13
Diverting dam	8,076.35
Distributing reservoir	12,530.36
Pipe lines	68,786.87
Distributing system	38,128.86
Tunnel	11,984.68
Total construction proper.....	\$185,296.45
Grand total	\$278,810.88

In 1902 the city authorities were brought face to face with the problem of increasing the supply and improving the service. Bonds were again voted and larger cast iron mains were laid on a part of the supply line and also in the distributing system. Again in 1905 additional bonds were voted and the

remainder of the main pipe line was rebuilt and run over a new and more advantageous route. Still again in 1908 the rapid growth of the city necessitated the issuance of more bonds for the construction of an additional storage reservoir. This one is known as Wild Horse Reservoir No. 2. It increased the total storage capacity of the plant to over a billion gallons, thereby insuring the city a bountiful supply of water for two years. The last addition to the municipal plant has just been completed, and consists of an additional distributing reservoir having a capacity of 13,000,000 gallons, and a duplicate 14 inch cast iron main running into town from the two distributing reservoirs. With this improvement completed, the city is in first class shape so far as its water supply is concerned.

The system has been a great benefit to the city, furnishing an adequate supply of pure water at a reasonable price. It is largely responsible for the recent rapid growth of Vallejo, and has greatly improved the sanitary condition of the city. The rates which were in force by the private corporation at the time when the city commenced business have been cut in half, thereby directly saving to the taxpayers and the United States government approximately a million dollars, or an amount practically equal to the gross income since the municipal plant was installed, and last, but not least, is the moral advantage enjoyed by the city by reason of the fact that it is free from the annual spasm of rate fixing with a private corporation, which in so many cities is attended with much controversy and expense to both parties. The water rates in Vallejo are about one-half the average rates paid by the other communities about the bay, which fact sufficiently demonstrates the advantages of municipal ownership in this community.

Receipts and expenditures of the Vallejo city water system for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910:

Receipts.

Sale of water.....	\$70,612.58
Tapping	685.25
Sale of material, etc.....	63.15
Total	\$71,360.98

Expenditures.

Expended for operation	\$11,438.00
Expended for betterments	4,126.80
Total	\$15,564.80

Gain of receipts over expenditures, \$55,796.18.

To the late John Frey belongs all the credit of establishing the city water works and placing it on a permanent basis. It was owing to his persistent work that today the city of Vallejo has the best supply of the very best water that comes from the mountains.

Vallejo City Water Company.—It is perhaps better known as the Chabot Water Works, it being owned principally, at the time of its incorporation, by A. Chabot of Oakland, Cal. The corporation was formed in 1870, and for a number of years, or until the city owned its own works, supplied the city, as well as the navy yard with the major portion of water used here.

The main reservoir of the company is situated near the Napa road about three miles north of the city, and was built on a portion of the 425 acres which was purchased for the sum of \$42,000. The dam is 300 feet wide, forty feet high, with 150 feet at the base and 100 feet at the apex, covering 160 acres of land.



Wild Horse Valley Ranch

Spread over 3,000 rolling acres on a high plateau east of Napa, Wild Horse Valley Ranch is the closest thing to paradise for those who love horses. Miles of trails take horsemen through the pristine high country, separated by distance and state of mind from the valleys below. Sunday afternoons during the summer months are when visitors come to watch fiercely competitive polo matches, left

photos, on a field specially maintained for this sport. Horses, including the rugged polo ponies, are boarded at Wild Horse Valley Ranch, where the public can also take lessons and rides. Visitors to the eastern valleys of Napa County will discover that horses are nearly as common a pet as dogs and cats are in the urban areas.

Napa Register March 30, 1974
Vintage Edit.—Wild Horse Valley

REGISTER, Napa, Calif. Saturday, May 15, 1976

Looking into Napa's past and present

The Lumber Co. Knapp operated the business for 40 years until he sold to Frank G. Noyes.

Location of the business was on the east side of Main Street, two doors north of the Connor Hotel where it remained until destroyed by fire in 1913. The fire originated next door in an oil room of Young Hardware Co.

In addition to the lumber plant, Knapp erected Knapp Hall next door and the hall was used by various organizations, including Napa Lodge of Elks, for meeting purposes.

Noyes Lumber Co. is now located on Third Street near the bridge with frontage also on Soscol Avenue.

+ + +

Wild Horse Valley, scenic section that bears that intriguing name and lies in the hills some eight miles east of Napa, came by its names authentically. Wild horses actually roamed the area in the '70s and early '80s.

The late Mrs. Grace Santos, whose father Paulus Nelson armed 400 acres there and who grew to young womanhood in the valley, was authority for the authenticity of the name.

The story about the wild horses tells of a handsome white stallion whose presence

in the valley was a mystery to three families who lived in the area. As years passed the lone stallion was joined by a few straggly mares of apparent low breed. In due time a number of scrawny colts foaled by the wild mares added to a growing herd that began to present a serious problem to the settlers. Not only did the untamed animals cause a disturbing element to dairy cows, horses, and hogs raised by the ranchers, but they presented a risk to the lives of the inhabitants as well.

The ranchers were forced to devise some way to rid the section of the unwelcome creatures if they wanted to save their properties and their own lives. At this time there were about 30 horses making up the herd.

It was decided to dig a wide and deep trench and wet its sides down until it became too slippery for traction. A Coombsville resident who maintained a pack of hounds was hired to bring his dogs and assist in the plan which was to drive the wild horses into the water filled trench and then use rifles to dispatch the animals. The plan was successfully carried out. Thus it was that Wild Horse Valley came to be given its curious



Louis Ezettie

but legitimately founded name.

+ + +

Napa Register May 15, 1976
"Looking Into Napa's Past and Present"

NAPA COUNTY—Continued.

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NAME OF OWNER.	Post Office and Name of Vineyard.	Total Acres in Grapes.....	Acres in Bearing.	Acres in Wine Grapes.....	Acres in Table Grapes.....	Acres in Raisin Grapes.....	Wine Maker.....	Product in 1890.	Varieties.
Sievers, F.	Childs	13	13	13			No.	40 tons.	Zinfandel, Riesling.
Taylor, J.	Childs	20	20	20			No.	100 tons.	Zinfandel, Burger, Chasselas.
Brownlee, Robt.	Creston Station	50	50	50			No.	120 tons.	Zinfandel, Burger, Chasselas.
Barnett, E. J.	Lidell	5	5	5			No.	15 tons.	Mission.
Duvall, J. B.	Lidell	5	5	5			No.	14 tons.	Zinfandel.
Lidell, W. H.	Lidell	15	15	15			No.	27 tons.	Zinfandel, Riesling.
Workover, Thomas	Lidell	15	15	15			No.	35 tons.	Mission, Riesling.
Allen, C. H.	Napa	12	12	12			No.	25 tons.	Zinfandel.
Bachman, Charles	Napa	8	8	8			No.	20 tons.	Chasselas, Cabernet, Mataro.
Banchero, L.	Napa	25	20	25			Yes.	30 tons.	Zinfandel, Malvoisie, Burgundy.
Bank of Napa	Occidental Vyd., Napa	80	60	80			Yes.	248 tons.	Chasselas, Malvoisie, Zinfandel, Burger.
	Napa	12	7	7			Yes.	4,000 gals.	Zinfandel, Gutedel Vert.
	Napa	50	50	50			Yes.	100 tons.	Zinfandel, Chasselas, Riesling, Burgundy.
Beagles, W. H.	Napa	10	10	10			No.	20 tons.	Zinfandel.
Behrns, W. F.	Napa	8	8	8			No.	20 tons.	Zinfandel.
Boetto, B.	Napa	12	12	12			Yes.	45 tons.	Chasselas, Zinfandel, Riesling.
Borreo, T.	Napa	60	60	60			Yes.	125 tons.	Zinfandel.
Bridgman,	Napa	20	20	20			No.	37 tons.	Zinfandel.
Carbone, Antonio	Napa	40	40	40			Yes.	125 tons.	Burger, Zinfandel, Mataro, Burgundy.
Chapman, Henry	Napa	17	17	11	6		No.	20 tons.	Burger, Chasselas, Zinfandel.
Crouch, Robt.	Napa	12	12	12			No.	50 tons.	Burger, Zinfandel.
Crowey, Mrs. J.	Napa	20	20	20			No.	40 tons.	Zinfandel.
Daniels, J. O.	Napa	4	4	4			No.	10 tons.	Zinfandel, Malvoisie.
Dell, C.	Napa	20		20			Yes.	9,000 gals.	Zinfandel, Black Burgundy.
Domergue, A. S.	Napa	15	15	15				30 tons.	Zinfandel, Black Burgundy.
Duhig, Jas.	Napa	60	60	60			No.	150 tons.	Zinfandel, Burger, Malvoisie.
Estre, M. M.	Hedge Side, Napa	400	350	400			Yes.	100,000 gals.	Zinfandel, Cabernet, and many others.
Fav, Jos.	Napa	10	10	10				25 tons.	Zinfandel.
Flannigan, P.	Napa	25	25	25			No.	65 tons.	Zinfandel, Burger.
Forbes, A. B.	Napa	35	35	35			No.	90 tons.	Zinfandel, Malvoisie, Burger.
France & Cotorelli	Napa	30	30	30			No.	70 tons.	Zinfandel, Riesling.
Garfield, L. W.	Napa	50	30	50			No.	50 tons.	Zinfandel, Malvoisie, Riesling, Chasselas.
Garrabrant, A.	Napa	5	5	5			No.	20 tons.	Zinfandel, Burger.
Garvin, Daniel	Napa	12	12	12			No.	30 tons.	Zinfandel, Burger.

DIRECTORY OF THE

DIRECTORY
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GRAPE GROWERS, WINE MAKERS AND DISTILLERS
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