

CONCORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1971



The name on the wooden facade of the store above is not at all misleading. All the businesses pictured are "pioneer" firms, located on the south side of Salvio Street between Galindo and Mt. Diablo Street. The photo includes the fronts of Weicher's Hotel, the Newstaedter Pioneer Store, and a doughty saloon.

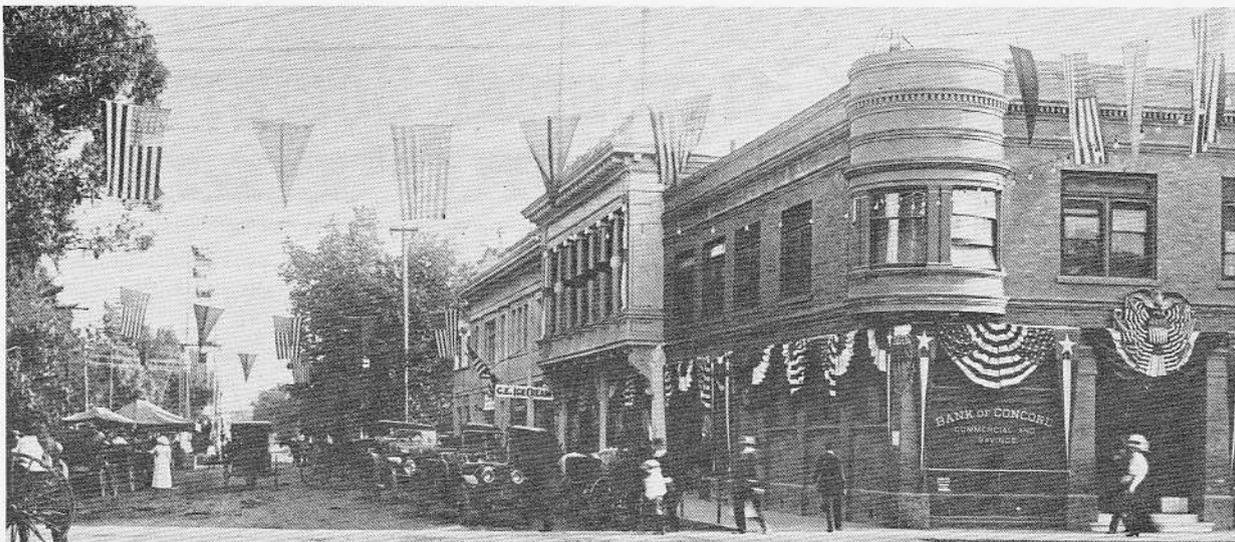
NEW GROUP HAS HISTORICAL MISSION

Hope for the future rests upon the rich, deep roots of the past. Today, all generations are expressing "a genuine yearning to understand where we have been in order to deal with where we are going. That yearning must be met, and the Concord Historical Society is committed to its fulfillment."*

History is both remembering and creating. Actually, we are living it now, so all of us have a part in the whole gamut of its pageantry. In Concord, the picturesque past of

our Spanish founders, Don Salvio Pacheco, Fernando Pacheco, and Francisco Galindo, moved forward: at first slowly, then with such phenomenal rapidity that it was acclaimed the fastest growing city in the state of California. Today, we are solidifying our progress, and through our newly formed Concord Historical Society we are taking steps to preserve our heritage and examine it

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Independence Day in Downtown Concord around the turn of the century.

A TIME FOR EXCITEMENT!

It is with a great deal of pride and excitement we put forth our first Concord Historical Society bulletin to bring our members articles of historical interest and a calendar of coming events. With a membership of over 270, we can be quite effective in any undertaking.

I urgently request your physical and oral participation in this and all future society programs.

Concord, as the county's leading city, should also develop the leadership in historical preservation but we must function as an aggressive concerned organization to achieve any measure of success.

Let's not be satisfied to keep pace when we can set the pace.

Sincerely,
Your President
JERRY WENTLING

NEW GROUP *Continued from Page 1*

to enlighten our understanding of what we are and what we may become.

Our young people took initiative at the

Clayton Valley High School, gathering data, taking pictures, and delving into the past, which resulted in the first printed book on Concord, titled, "Concord - In the Town of Todos Santos," in 1967. The students are still enthusiastic to work further, in cooperation with the Concord Historical Society in enlarging the scope of our historical data.

On March 30, 1971, the Concord Historical Society was formed to bring into focus the colorful history of Concord, "to discover, establish, and preserve structures, objects and materials of interest, importance and value, in relation to the history of the City of Concord, California, and its vicinity, and to discover, preserve and disseminate knowledge of the history of the City of Concord, California, and its vicinity."** The interest, enthusiasm, and magnitude of its beginning was a gratifying indication of the feeling of the community.

"Change" is the essence of history, and recording this change tells a romantic story of our community with interest for all.

Edna May Andrews (Mrs. Clinton A.)

**By-Laws of Concord Historical Society, a Non-Profit Corporation. **Centennial Statement 1871-1971, History and the California Historical Society.*

Concord: City In the State of Harmony

Todos Santos was the land of the Pachecos and Galindos, and a haven for the people of Pacheco who tired of fighting floods. To the old families it was "All Saints" and the new families might well have continued to call it that in gratitude for their sanctuary. But they took the land and gave it life and a new name "Concord," meaning a state of agreement and harmony.

In 1828, Don Juan Salvio Pacheco received a provisional grant of four leagues of land located in and about Concord. This grant was called Rancho Monte del Diablo. After he

established his right to the ownership of the Rancho to the United States Land Commission, he sold portions of the Rancho to American immigrants. Some of the descendants of the early settlers are still living in this community.

The first divisions of the Rancho were to members of the family. To his oldest son Fernando, Don Salvio gave over 3,000 acres lying to the north of Concord. At the time of the marriage of Manuela, Salvio's daughter, to Francisco Galindo, Salvio gave them land

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The tax statement below, sent by the Sheriff to Salvio Pacheco in 1860, called for the payment of \$1,603 or about twice the tax on one of the more modest Concord homes today. But when one considers that the bill covered some 17,000 acres of land, it seems quite "reasonable".

Sheriff's Office, Contra Costa County,
 13th day of Oct 1860

CALIFORNIA,

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that *Salvio Pacheco* has
 this day paid to me the sum of *Sixteen hundred and three* Dollars
 and *twenty eight* Cents, being the amount of his State and County Tax on Real Estate
 and Personal Property, as charged upon the Duplicate delivered me by the County Auditor.
James C. Kearsaker
 SHERIFF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, and
 Collector of State and County Revenue.

Value of Real Estate, - - - - -	
Value of Improvements, - - - - -	
Value of Town Lots, - - - - -	
Value of Improvements upon Town Lots, - - - - -	
Value of Personal Property, - - - - -	
Total Value of Property, - - - - -	39945
Delinquent Tax for previous years, - - - - -	3000
	19360
	58305

HARMONY *Continued from Page 3*

lying to the south of the Adobe and extending to Cowell.

When it became evident that the recurrent floods in Pacheco made the choice of the townsite unfortunate, Salvio Pacheco determined to establish a new town on the Rancho. He, his son Fernando and his son-in-law Francisco Galindo, laid out the town of Todos Santos in 1869. The original town consisted of nineteen square blocks with a Plaza in the center. The entire area was bounded on the west by Galindo Street, on the north by Bonifacio, on the east by East Street, and on the south by Clayton Road, formerly Contra Costa Street. To attract merchants to the new site, Don Salvio sold lots at a token payment of one dollar. Sam Bacon made the first purchase of lots on the corner of Salvio and Galindo, where he built a general store. Other lots were sold, and Todos Santos grew rapidly, but the name of Todos Santos was soon changed to Concord.

When Salvio Pacheco died in 1876, he owned 2,072 acres and 31 lots in the town of Concord. These holdings were deeded to his children and grandchildren. In this manner he completed the division of his vast Rancho Monte del Diablo.

Don Salvio and his Rancho are our link with Spanish California. The town of Todos Santos was his dream although he could hardly have imagined its development into the modern City of Concord. Reminders of him and the Rancho are with us today. Wherever we go in this community we find place names that bring to life the early history of California. The two adobes, the homes of Don Salvio Pacheco and his son Fernando, are still in use. The tree-shaded Plaza, in contrast to the busy town around it allows leisurely reflection on the colorful period during which it was dedicated.

RUTH GALINDO

NOTICE!

Membership Meeting

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1971

Contra Costa County
WATER DISTRICT MEETING ROOM

8:00 P.M.

HOME-MADE REFRESHMENTS

NEW MEMBERSHIP CARDS
will be distributed

"SHOW & TELL"

We plan to hold a "Show & Tell" Session at the October 28 meeting. Please bring an item, picture, article or subject that recalls a past event or activity that might be of interest to our members. Please let us know in advance what your subject will be by calling one of these telephone numbers:

685-7536 / 682-1100 / 685-2591

NOT SOON FORGOTTEN . . .

Jefferson Motors salutes the Concord Historical Society, believing that the advent of this new organization means we will have a better opportunity to know and preserve the heritage of our city.



JEFFERSON MOTORS inc.

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