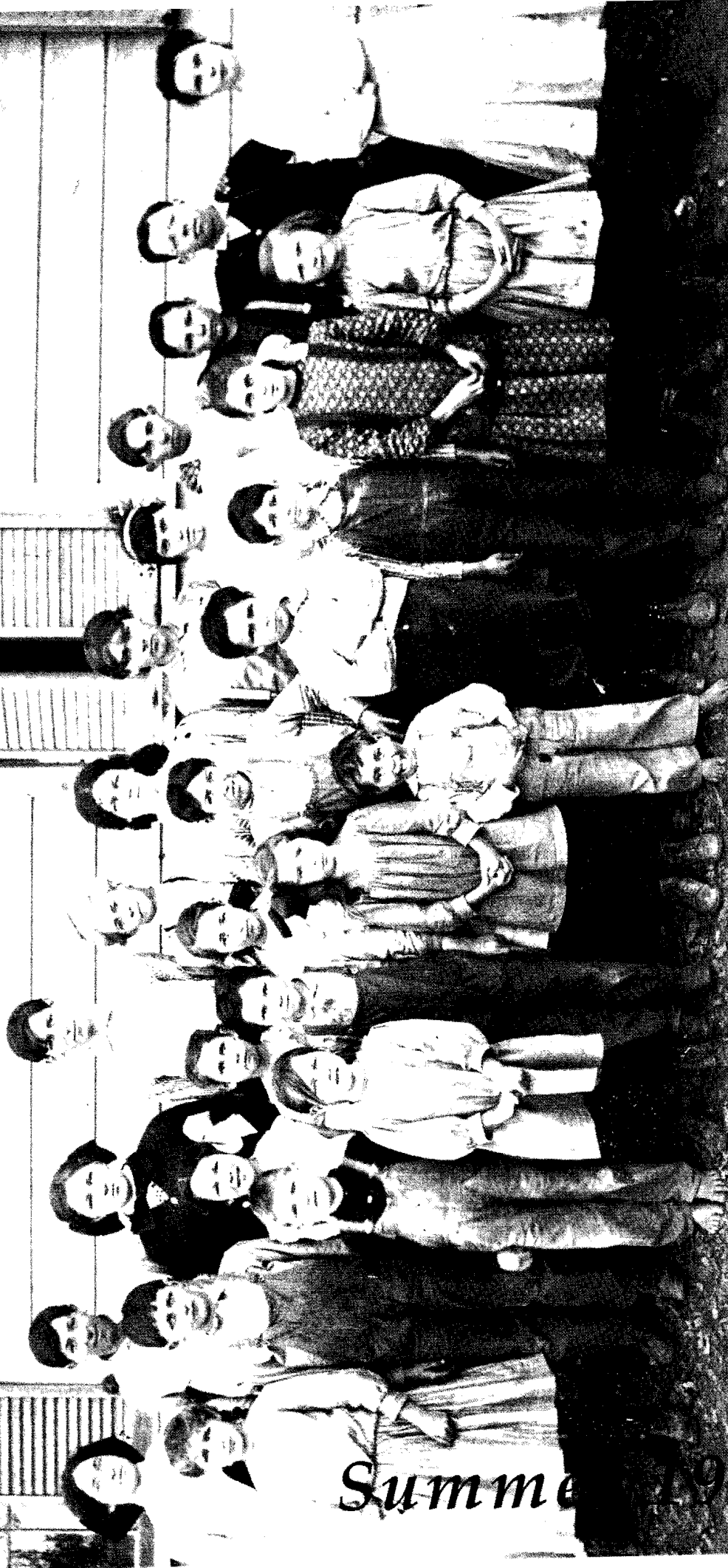


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The Society, a non-profit corporation, meets the fourth Monday monthly except July, August and December. Membership includes subscriptions to the *San Joaquin Historian* and the monthly newsletter, *News and Notes*. Additional copies may be purchased at the Museum.

The Society operates the **San Joaquin County Historical Museum** at Micke Grove Regional Park in partnership with San Joaquin County. The Society maintains an office at the Museum.

Manuscripts relating to the history of San Joaquin County or the Delta will always be considered. The editor reserves the right to shorten material based on local interest and space considerations. Inquiry should be made through the Museum office.

**San Joaquin County
Historical Society and Museum**

Michael W. Bennett
Director

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This Issue...

We should have found a way to subtitle Peggy Engh's history of Elliott as "in the nick of time." Sadly, important bits and pieces of local history are lost everyday and we were on the verge of losing the story of Elliott forever. Delving into her own family history, interviewing the few surviving old-timers who can remember something of Elliott, and with exhaustive and precise research, Peggy has saved the memory of this proverbial "wide spot" hamlet for all of us. It was obviously a labor of love and we love presenting it to you. Watch for little nuggets such as the description of early north county fences and the rigors of early rail travel.

Peggy has managed to include the names of over 100 pioneer Elliott individuals in her story. We hope each of their descendants will add this issue of the *Historian* to their stash of family treasures.

Fuzzy Photos...

We well know modern technology has led you to expect sharp and dramatic photos and illustrations in your favorite publications. Alas, a history magazine such as ours is captive of whatever is available. We are lucky to have these old pictures, imperfect as they now appear. They are our window to the past.

On The Cover...

We present the entire student body of the Elliott School, c. 1908. The author's grandfather is in the top row—second from the left. (Note shoes were optional).

Cover photo from the collection of Peggy Ward Engh

SHADOWS OF FORGOTTEN ANCESTORS

MEMORIES OF ELLIOTT, CALIFORNIA

BY

PEGGY WARD ENGH

Once a year, typically on a windy spring day, a group faithfully gathers to reminisce upon a town that once was. They meet at the Elliott Cemetery, these descendants of hardworking rural San Joaquin County pioneers. Affiliated with the Galt Historical Society which holds a separate account for their donations, they congregate to raise funds for the upkeep of the cemetery, to renew old family friendships, and to honor and reflect upon the pioneers who once lived there—the residents of Elliott, California.¹

Elliott as a town and community no longer exists. If we drive down Liberty Road five and one-half miles east of Highway 99 in northern San Joaquin County, we would now scarcely see any sign of the little community which boasted about one hundred citizens at its peak in the 1880's. All that remains is the cemetery, with its moss-covered obelisks and toppling tombstones. However, if we could step back precisely one hundred years ago today, we would be greeted by a farm community complete with its own blacksmiths, school, churches, general merchandise store, carpenters, veterinarian, and insurance agent.

Located six miles north of Lockeford in the Elliott Township—the county district named for pioneer rancher Dr. George Elliott—the town of Elliott was originally known as Hawk's Corners for a Mr. Hawkins who had established a store on his

property near the northwest corner of Elliott and Liberty Roads. John Hurd Hickey purchased Mr. Hawkins' land which joined Hickey's to the south, and the store was moved one-half mile west to the south side of Liberty Road. John Hickey's brother, William, and Frank Johnson purchased the store, and from this building the nucleus of the town was established.² Hawk's Corner was renamed "Elliott" when a post office was established on November 25, 1863, with George W. Parsons as the first Postmaster.³

By the late 1870's, the town consisted of eight buildings, including a saloon, a blacksmith shop, and a two-story general merchandise store. The original post office continued to be used until October 9, 1871, when a new post office was established in town.⁴

The town also served as headquarters for several organizations. Organized in 1858

William Hickey also operated a stock range, running about 3,500 sheep, 200 cattle, 400 hogs, and 100 horses on his Elliott ranch. Some of the other men who also settled in Elliott included Franklin Ritter, who arrived in San Joaquin County in 1856 and farmed 250 acres; Daniel W. Boyd, who arrived in 1867 and farmed 49 acres; J. H. Olson, who arrived in 1867; W. W. Mayberry, who arrived in 1861 and farmed 160 acres; F. M. Miller, who arrived in 1874 and farmed 160 acres; and Simon Prouty who had arrived by 1868 and farmed 1800 acres. By the time of the elections held September 5, 1877, Elliott had 67 people voting.⁶

Elliott bustled with growth in the 1880's. By 1881, approximately seventy percent of the men working in the Elliott vicinity were farmers.⁷ Thus, businesses catering to the needs of rural folk prospered, and many

tradesmen called Elliott home—blacksmiths Walter S. Barton, Jesse W. Derrick, John W. McCulloch, and Thomas Russell; saloonkeepers T.C. Evans and George R. Silvey; carpenters George Favinger and Hiram H. Pugh; teacher Frank Lannig; collier Joseph K. Payne; shepherd Ed Reynolds; coal miner John Rogers; and shoemaker William F. Smith.⁸

There was also a small population of Chinese who worked as house servants, cooks, and wood cutters. However, by 1900, the Chinese population in the Elliott Township had been drastically reduced for two significant reasons—the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 enacted by Congress as a response to an economic downturn that made Chinese labor seem a threat to society and the popularity of anti-Chinese political positions taken by such well-known San Joaquin County residents as women's rights activist Laura De Force Gordon and future California Governor James H. Budd.⁹

By 1883, there were one hundred people living in the town of Elliott. Some farmers who owned more than five-hundred acres in the Elliott district included A. R. Campbell, W. L. Campbell, Edward Hart, John H. Hickey, William Hickey, B. F. Langford, Simon Prouty, Henry H. West, and William J. Russell. Russell's ranch—with its white house and green roof, expansive lawn, shady trees, and large red barn—was considered one of the nicest in the area. Wheelwright John McCulloch had now formed a partnership with blacksmith Jeremiah Coleman in a blacksmith, carriage and wagon-making business. They had acquired the shop from Norman Misener, who had abandoned blacksmithing after he had broken his right wrist. Ephraim H. McIntire and A. G. Butler were saloonkeepers. William H. Sheets was the schoolteacher at the Elliott School, Milton Bovard ran a barley mill, and a widow, Mrs. Jane Pinkerton, had established a boarding house.¹⁰

By the Light of the Silvery Moon...

According to Historian Ray Hillman in Cities and Towns of San Joaquin County, at one time the Elliott Grange "...met on the first Saturday after a full moon."

Observing planting signs?

Not so. Apparently this arrangement provided the best light to travel to meetings by buggy at night.

Practical folk in old Elliott.

Manuel Luis of Ripon is Deputy State Master of the Grange. He reports the Elliott Grange was chartered on March 18, 1874 with 25 charter members. The first master was H.H. West.

RS

By the mid-1880's, the general merchandise store owners—the Hickey brothers and Norman Misener—had prospered sufficiently to add clerk Donald McLane; and they sold such diverse items as groceries, dry goods, clothing, boots, shoes, medicines, hardware, glassware, and crockery. Norman Misener also served as Elliott's Postmaster and Notary Public.

Ephraim McIntire and his son Charles were the proprietors of the Elliott Feed Stable and Saloon, which provided excellent accommodations for teams as well as select wines, liquors, and cigars.

By 1884, the blacksmith Jeremiah Coleman had formed a new partnership with fellow blacksmith Charles O' Hearn, and they labored together beside one employee, Charles Gerber. Meanwhile, Mrs. Jane Pinkerton continued to operate her boarding house.¹¹ By 1887, the population consisted of one hundred eleven people; and Minister Matthew J. Gough, shoemaker George R. Wilson, and peddler Thomas Fowler were now living in Elliott.¹²

In the 1890s, the dirt roads leading to Elliott were narrow and ungraded: in the winter they were muddy; and in the summer, dusty. When the wind blew, streaks of dust could be seen for miles, and dust from the roads always announced visitors to Elliott. Farmers who did not own their own land could rent land for one dollar an acre per year. Less desirable land could be rented for as little as twenty-five cents an acre per year. Fences used to separate properties from each other were rare; and coyotes, cotton-tail rabbits, and bobcats roamed the gently rolling landscape.¹³

James B. Hickey, reared in Elliott and

the nephew of John H. Hickey, recalled:

Up to this time there was [sic] no lumber fences in this part of California. The only fences consisted of brush. The farmer first dug a ditch about 16 inches wide and 18 inches deep, and put all the dirt on the side opposite the field, to be fenced. Then cut brush ...[was] laid on the dirt side of the

...the dirt roads leading to Elliott were narrow and ungraded: in the winter they were muddy; and in the summer, dusty. When the wind blew, streaks of dust could be seen for miles, and dust from the roads always announced visitors to Elliott.

trench. These fences were very good for horses, sheep, and cattle, but just about a failure for hogs; they soon got a hole through the brush. For corrals they used buckeye and

willow poles, as they were about the straightest small poles.¹⁴

At the intersection of what is now Elliott and Liberty Roads, there was a windmill and a large trough where people could stop to water their horses. In Elliott water was a precious resource, for at that time there were very few wells.¹⁵

In the 1890's, Elliott businesses reflected certain economic changes in the country as a whole. The first half of the decade was a time of prosperity while the second half ushered in many changes. By 1891, Elliott boasted a tri-weekly stage from Galt, and several new businesses helped fulfill the needs of the small community: Francis M. Brown was a veterinary surgeon; Frank Town, a mail carrier; Solomon Tuttle, a butcher; Rev. Hayden of Galt, pastor of the Methodist Church South; and Francis A. Millner, operator of the post office and the general merchandise store, its shelves filled with unsold, dust-covered, cobweb-laden shirts and overalls.¹⁶ Millner was "deaf as a bat," so children who wanted the hard stick

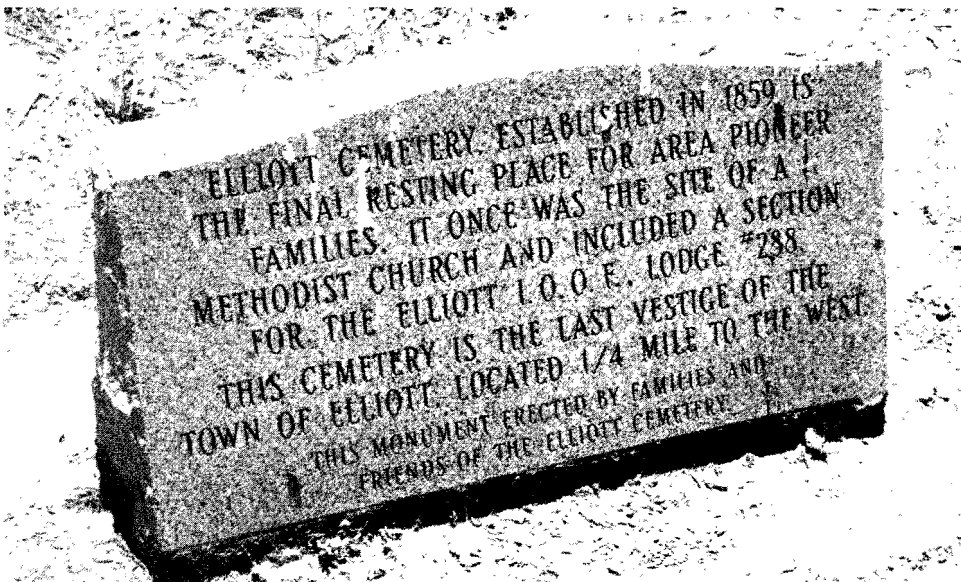


The Elliott Methodist Church, built 1876, stood in the Elliott Cemetery.

Courtesy Rhona V. Dieterich, descendant of Elliot Township resident Nathaniel Peck.



Current view of the oak shaded Elliott Cemetery. This is the only visible remnant of the little community that was once an economic and social center of northeast San Joaquin County.



Monument erected by family and friends of this little rural cemetery.

candy from the store had to hammer on the back of the building to get him to open.¹⁷

Three organizations now met weekly at the Odd Fellow's Hall: the Elliott Lodge, No. 288, I.O.O.F., on Saturday nights; the Farmers' Alliance, on Tuesday nights; and the Good Templars' Harmony Lodge, on Thursday nights.¹⁸ The stately Aldrich home, built in 1891 near the southeast corner of Elliott and Liberty Roads when there was still a town, continued to stand well into the twentieth century, one of the last reminders of the little community.¹⁹

Unfortunately, by the beginning of the twentieth century, Elliott's fortunes had already begun to decline. Elliott lost most its businesses and much of its population in a twenty-year period, but no single factor caused its demise. Elliott-resident James Hickey observed that "things continued to run along very smoothly until ... the year of the great railroad strike."²⁰ Mrs. Delia Hammond Locke—the wife of Dr. Dean Jewett Locke, the founder of the nearby town of Lockeford—kept a daily diary from 1855 until 1922, and noted on June 29, 1894:

The storm which has for days been threatening has burst upon us, and there is a "Railroad Strike," and all trains west of Chicago are tied up, so that even the mails cannot go across the country Pullman, the great railroad car manufacturer, on account of a decline in the business, took occasion to reduce the wages of his workmen—those who live in the town which is called by his name near Chicago, and who form the population of the place. Whereupon, they declined to work, a strike was declared, and moreover, they declared that no trains with Pullman cars attached to them should be allowed to run. And as the [r]ailroad business will not pay unless passengers are allowed to travel, and as they cannot travel without Pullman Sleepers, they will not run at all, so the

mails cannot go. This is the first day trains do not run between Sacramento and San Francisco. Telegrams announcing the fact were sent from headquarters to all the Station Agents—"No trains until further notice."²¹

Without trains, neither mail nor supplies could reach larger cities, not to mention remote communities like Elliott. Hickey also observed:

in 1896, the bottom fell out of prices just for about everything. And in the next year or so, you could buy most [sic] anything at your own price. My father bought about forty head of unbroke [sic] horses for thirteen dollars a head (as a contrast in 1882, he bought ten head of mules for \$2,000 dollars.) Cattle were about the same. He sold about 130 head of cows for fifteen dollars a head and throwed [sic] the calves in. Sheep were around \$1.00 to \$2.50 a head; hogs, two and one quarter cents a pound. But prices in the stores were just about on ... par with farm prices. You could buy work shirts for fifty cents each; Levi Strauss overalls, for fifty cents a pair. The best whiskey was \$4.00 a gallon ... Wheat was about \$1.25 a sack, and the sack cost[s] eight or nine cents each; barley was \$.75 cents a sack if you could sell it Wages were so very low that you could get all the help you wanted for seventy-five cents a day, and twenty [d]ollars a month [W]hen the hard times hit the country, just about every one went broke.

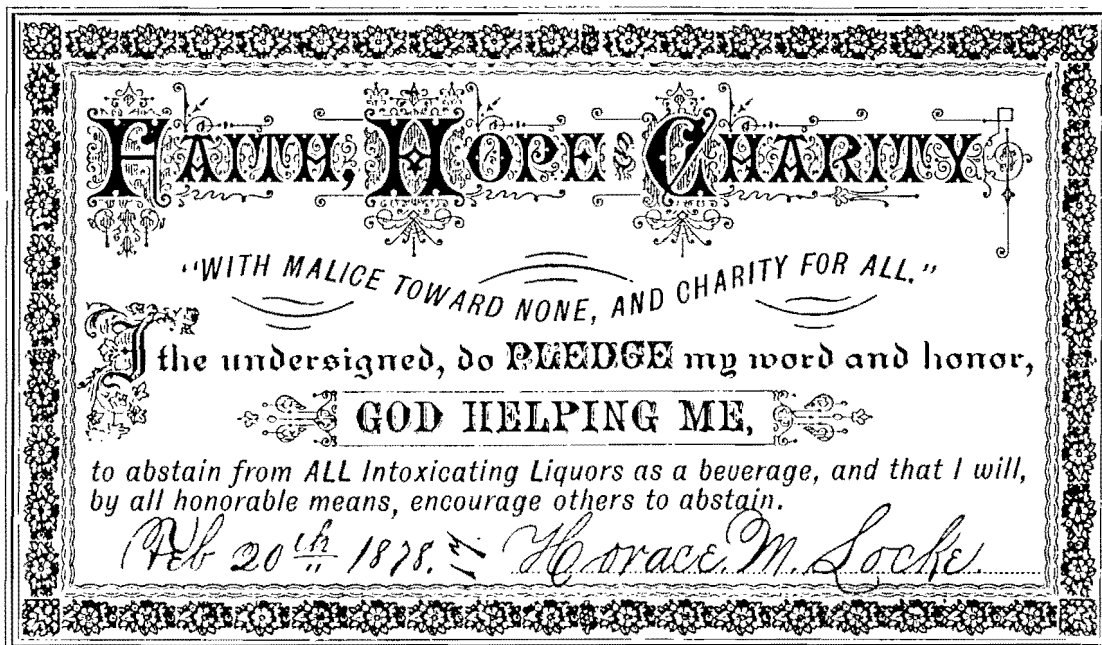
Because of economic hardships, Mr. Hickey's family sold and moved to Lemoore, California, in 1898. James eventually was offered a job with the Standard Electric Company.²²

Like a house of cards, Elliott continued to fall. Little is known about the health of the Elliott residents, but there was a tuberculosis epidemic in Clay Station, the little town located seven miles north of Elliott, and a

diphtheria outbreak in Lockeford in the 1890s.²³ Whether illness was a factor in Elliott's demise may never be ascertained. A second post office which had been established in Elliott on January 15, 1872, was discontinued on June 29, 1901, and all mail was delivered to the more heavily populated Galt. By 1902, the tri-weekly stage from Galt is no longer mentioned in the San Joaquin County directory as a service to Elliott, and the town had only one building remaining besides the schoolhouse. Newcomers bought pieces of land and tore the old buildings down. By 1905, Elliott was not even listed as a separate town in the San Joaquin County directory, and by 1910, the population of the town was approximately fifteen people. Elliott's demise was complete on June 10, 1929, when Elliott School was annexed to the Oak View Union School District.²⁴

The Ward family was typical of those who resided in the Elliott area in the late 1800's. Three generations of Wards lived, worked, and played in Elliott. The family moved to the community in 1877, and today Wards continue to live near where the town once stood.

In November 1871—after the devastation of the Civil War and the deaths of his father, Adonijah B. Ward, and paternal grandparents, Levi and Catherine Ward—Abraham Carper Ward left Randolph County, West Virginia, with his wife Lucinda (née Woolwine) and their children, Lafayette (Lafe) and Xantippe (Tippy). Like many families who lost children, the Ward's firstborn daughter, Gertrude, almost ten months old, had died in April, 1864, and was buried in Randolph County.²⁵ Initially, they stopped in Kansas



Holt-Atherton Department of Special Collections, University of Pacific Libraries

The Independent Order of Good Templars was one of several lodges and societies devoted to the cause of temperance in the late 1800's. In 1878 the Templars boasted more than 200 lodges and 10,000 members in California. The lodge in Elliott was one of nine active in San Joaquin County at that time.

RS



Sharp featured, slight of build, and hardworking, Lucinda Woolwine married Abraham Carper Wood at her father's Randolph County, Virginia, residence in 1862, before Civil War and family misfortunes altered the course of their lives.

ca. 1875 Author's Collection



The last photograph of James B. Ward, Sr., with his namesake, great-grand nephew James Ward, taken May 4, 1991, at Elliott Cemetery Picnic. James, Sr., would die just over a month later.

Author's Collection

City and stayed for a few years and then traveled to Texas before arriving by train in Colledgeville, eight miles east of Stockton, in 1876. After attempting to farm that area and discovering that the small hooves of his mules became stuck in the adobe soil, Mr. Ward—known as "Carper," a humorous, amiable, short, stocky, bald-headed man with an oversized gray mustache—moved his family to Elliott in 1877 partially because he knew Elliott-area residents Senator Benjamin F. Langford and Jim Henderson.²⁶ First, he farmed the area on the southeast corner of Sowles and Liberty Roads, immediately west of the town. Carper then leased one-thousand acres from Langford and Henderson, later purchasing a farm from Thomas J. Stacks near the corner of Elliott and Liberty Roads, land still in the possession of the Ward family.²⁷

While Carper farmed grain, Lucinda raised cows, horses, ducks, and chickens. Each evening, after putting on her bonnet, she would gather eggs, taking a bucket with her to the corral. Unfortunately, raising various kinds of animals together could have its perils. One evening her dog began chasing her cow, who had a calf. To protect its calf, the cow lunged for the dog, but instead hit Lucinda in the back, knocking her down. She convalesced for quite a while, but her posture was never completely straight after this incident. The family kept several hired hands, but one of the more memorable characters who helped Lucinda was George Dennis, an old laborer with long gray whiskers and hair. Always wearing a clean, almost white pair of coveralls, he cooked, washed dishes, and transported all the wood and kindling for the family.²⁸

The Elliott School District had been formed on November 10, 1855.²⁹ Carper's children, Tippy and Lafe, both attended the one-room Elliott school which was built before 1858. Tippy eventually married Elliott resident Henry Littleton "Judge" Emerson

on December 5, 1888. As a young man, Lafe met his future wife at one of the monthly dances held at Clay Station in Sacramento County. Lafe eventually married fifteen-year-old Daisy Dean Hatton in Stockton on June 14, 1893. Daisy, born in Fresno County on October 16, 1877, attended the one-room Laguna School her grandmother, Elizabeth Miller Lewins, helped build in Clay Station. (This schoolhouse was moved to the little town of Herald in the 1940's and was the meeting place for the Herald Garden Club for many years. Recently, the old schoolhouse was torn down).³⁰

Yet another generation of Wards was to call Elliott home. Tippy and Judge Emerson were the parents of two daughters—Bernice and Gladys—while Lafe and Daisy produced three children. Their firstborn, James Budd Ward—named after the "buckboard" Governor James H. Budd who was friendly with his grandfather Ward—was born on July 29, 1894, on the Sherman Ranch; and his brother, Tyrell Elford, was born on November 25, 1895, on the Caine Ranch.³¹ Finally, in 1897, Lafe and Daisy moved to the Henderson Ranch, located directly across from Lafe's parents, Carper and Lucinda, near the intersection of Liberty and Elliott Roads about one quarter of a mile off Liberty Road to the northeast of Elliott School. There, a baby girl, Bess Bell, (known as Beth) was born on September 19, 1908, with Molly (Hickey) Stacks, the wife of neighbor Tom Stacks, acting as midwife.³²

The Henderson Ranch is still operating though most of the buildings from the turn of the century are no longer standing. While young James was living there with his parents, the ranch had a large horse barn, a cow barn, a windmill, a tank house, the main house, a smokehouse, a privy, a woodshed, and a building which served as the bunkhouse, shop, and buggy shed. He recalled playing under a live oak tree with his brother Tyrell near the windmill and a



Abraham and Lucinda Ward's children, Tippy and Lafe, ca. 1875.

Author's Collection

large redwood water trough. The trough would flow over, and the boys would make ponds with the water. They would make toys which reflected the farm work that was being completed around them: string nails and spikes were pushed into the ground to make fences, and they would drag a roll block from the barn as their harvester. Molly Stacks gave James a couple of turkey eggs which he hatched and from which he eventually raised twenty turkeys. He bought his first shotgun in Stockton—a 16 gauge, double-barreled, hammerless L. C. Smith—with money he had earned by selling the turkeys. In addition to turkeys, the family raised grain, hogs, cattle, sheep, and chickens. They also kept several kinds of horses: three or four saddle horses, three or four driving horses, and a work horse.

When James was about sixteen, one of his chores was to saddle up a mustang, take his gun and his dogs, and check the conditions of the animals on the range.³³

During the 1890's Elliott was home for three generations of Wards. With his father Lafe serving as trustee of Elliott School, James attended school and recalled that "you brought your lunch in a lunch pail, and it [the school] had a wood stove and an old well dug out there in the yard. If you drop down one bucket and it didn't have a frog in it, you could drink it [the water]."³⁴

Attending school barefooted, he usually wore white shirts and bib overalls. Surrounded by a five-board fence with a flat board on top on which the children walked, the schoolhouse sat about one hundred yards from Liberty Road, surrounded by a woodshed, a well, privies for both the boys and the girls, a barn for the horses of children who rode to school, and a baseball diamond. An oak tree, which still stands today, served as first base. James recalled three teachers during his school years between 1901 and 1910: Lena Lower, Myrtle Haruley, and Frances Wade. Sometimes his grandfather Ward, whom he affectionately called "Poy," drove a horse and cart across the field, often waiting in front by the schoolhouse door, to give his two grandsons a ride home from school, especially in bad weather.³⁵

Though religion played a major part in the lives of many settlers, the Wards were not regular churchgoers. As a family they believed in God and called themselves Christians, but they did not attend church each Sunday. Lucinda was a notable exception: she was a member of the Christian Church in Elliott, located on the crest of a rolling hill on the north side of Liberty Road, and young James recalled that most people attended that church. The other church in Elliott, the Methodist Episcopal Church,

which stood in the midst of well-maintained Elliott Cemetery on the south side of the road near the blacksmith shop and the general store, had fewer members. He remembered that the Adams and Russell families belonged to the Methodist Church, and the Adams family had donated the land for the church.³⁶

As in any small rural town, births, marriages, and deaths usually occurred in the family home, and the Wards were no exception: the drama of the family patriarch's death occurred in his own home. After suffering a cerebral hemorrhage, sixty-two-year-old Carper died in his home at 6:00 p.m. on November 15, 1903. When Carper became stricken, Lucinda implored Lafe to fetch the doctor, so he jumped on the back of old McKenney, the saddle horse, and persuaded Dr. Joseph G. Priestley of Lockeford to come and stay the night. Unfortunately, even though Lafe eventually called Dr. Henderson of Sacramento for a second opinion, Carper died one week later, and Lucinda buried him in the Elliott Cemetery. For the next year she would drive her buggy on the dirt road to Lockeford to sell eggs, butter, and other things until she could afford to place a large obelisk tombstone on Carper's grave.³⁷

Judge George R. Garretson, the Justice of the Peace for Lockeford and the town undertaker, laid out Carper for two days in the Ward's front parlor. Even though Lucinda occasionally lifted the sheet to gaze at her husband's face, James recalled looking at his dead grandfather and having trouble sleeping that evening. After the casket and a hearse arrived on the day of the burial, a preacher conducted the one o'clock funeral in the residence. Then the coffin was borne through the front gate and down the road to the cemetery. The undertaker drove the hearse to the cemetery, with his two horses outfitted with

large plumes for the occasion. James remembers that many people attended the burial, some driving but most walking the half-mile from the family home to Elliott Cemetery.

After Carper died, Lucinda lived alone for seventeen years until her death in 1921, although James, his brother Tyrell, or Tippy's daughter Gladys usually spent the night with her. One of James' most vivid memories of his tiny, frail grandmother, who was suffering from cancer, was her last trip from her home in Elliott to the home of her daughter Tippy in Lodi: "When I went over there to pick her up that morning, it was ... rainy ... I remember I put her in the back seat [of the green Hudson] and put a lap robe over her leg and had the side trims on ... as we turned and went out the gate, she turned around and looked back at the house; and just as far as I drove, she kept looking back."³⁸ It was the last time Lucinda would see the place she had called home for forty-four years—Elliott, California.

Today at Elliott Cemetery, one sees tombstones with familiar names—Adams, Hart, Peck, Lamb, Brown, Coleman, Ward, Russell, and Misener. However, it is the inscription on the tombstone of Eliza Ann Peter, who died at age twenty-three on July 27, 1865, which reminds us that even though the town of Elliott is gone, its residents are not forgotten:

*Remember me, as you pass by,
As you are now, so once was I;
As I am now, you soon will be,
Prepare for death and follow me.*



ABOUT THE AUTHOR...



Peggy Ward Engh—a San Joaquin County native and a descendant of pioneer families who settled in Elliott Township in San Joaquin County—holds a B.A. and M.A. in English literature and has taught at the high school, community college, and university levels. She was very active in the San Joaquin General Hospital Auxiliary, where she served as the 1987 President; and Junior Aid of Stockton, a group which honored her in 1995 with the Eleanor Young Volunteer of the Year Award. She is presently involved in the Associates of the UOP Libraries; the Harmony Grove Cemetery Association; the Allegheny Regional Family History Society, and the El Toyon Chapter, National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, where she is currently

serving as Regent. She is married to attorney Christopher Engh, a San Joaquin County Historical Association board member. She is currently completing a book on the Elliott Township pioneers buried at the Harmony Grove Cemetery near Lockeford.

Notes

1. Telephone interview with Bill Ward, organizer of the annual Elliott Cemetery fund-raiser, 8 February 1996. Part of the title of this article, *Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors*, was derived from the Ukrainian director Sergei Parajanov's 1964 film of the same name.
 2. Robert Bonta, annotator, "Minute Book A—Court of Sessions (Civil) San Joaquin County - California - 1850-52," *San Joaquin Historian*, 16, (1980), 221; F. T. Gilbert, *Reproduction of Thompson and West's History of San Joaquin County, California, With Illustrations* (1879, rpt; Berkeley: Howell-North Books, 1968), p. 122, 124; James. B. Hickey, Typescript, May, 1968, p. 2. According to the Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, California, San Joaquin County, p. 945, John L. Hawkins is the only resident bearing that last name in the Elliott Township. Hawkins was a 25-year-old farmer from Indiana whose mailing address places him in the right location for Hawk's Corner's to be named for him.
 3. Harold E. Salley, *History of California Post Offices 1849-1976* (Spring Valley, Calif.: Heartland Printing and Publishing Co., 1977), p. 67. According to Thompson and
- West's 1880 *History of Sacramento County, California*, Dr. George Elliott had developed an earlier settlement known as Elliott's Station on the "Stockton Road" near the present intersection of Bruella Road and Dry Creek. There, on the north side of the creek, he operated a stage station, hotel, and possibly a ferry. A post office had been established there in 1852 with Dr. Elliott as first Postmaster and Lewis T. Mitchell serving as Postmaster after Dr. Elliott. After the stage route was changed, this post office was discontinued in 1857, and Dr. Elliott died at his residence on Dry Creek on February 17, 1858. Possibly when the new town, which was located two miles southeast of this previous one, required a name in 1863, the residents chose "Elliott" for Dr. Elliott and his settlement on Dry Creek. Even though the community was now called Elliott, as late as 1876, Mrs. Delia H. Locke—the wife of Lockeford's founder, Dr. Dean Jewett Locke—is referring to the community as Hawk's Corners.
 4. Gilbert, p. 124; Frickstad, p. 160.
 5. Gilbert, p. 124. In the 1860 Census, there is only a "Frank Johnson" and no "F. Johnston" listed in the Elliott Township; Gilbert had spelled his name "Johnston."
 6. James. B. Hickey, p. 10; Gilbert, pp. 138-9; 30. Mr. Hickey, the son of William Hickey and a resident of Elliott from his birth in 1873 until 1898, typed his memoirs between October, 1967, and May, 1968, in Lodi, California, when he was ninety-five years old. On p. 24 of his narrative, Mr. Hickey relates that his father never sent him to public school because at school, "kids learned more meanness than good." He therefore asks the reader "to make allowance[s] for poor typing, poor spelling, bad grammar, and poor punctuation." I have

- corrected the spelling and punctuation where needed, but I have not altered the grammar or syntax.
7. *City and County Directory of San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, and Tuolumne* (San Francisco: L. M. McKenney & Co., Publishers, 1881), p. 274-77.
 8. *City and County Directory of San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, and Tuolumne*, 1881, p. 274-77.
 9. Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, California, San Joaquin County, Elliott Township, ED 103, pp. 158; Peter Stack, "Behind Chinatown's Gates," *San Francisco Chronicle*, 4 March 1996, Sec. D, p. 1, col. 2; Sylvia Sun Minnick, *Samfow: The San Joaquin Chinese Legacy* (Fresno, Calif.: West Publishing, 1988), p. 86, 132-33, 154.
 10. *City and County Directory of Stockton City and San Joaquin County for 1883-4* (San Francisco: J. W. Smith, 1883), p. 235-7; Personal interview with James B. Ward, Sr., 9 September 1988; James B. Hickey, p. 2-3.
 11. *Stockton City, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Calaveras, Tuolumne, and Contra Costa Counties, Directory* (San Francisco: L. M. McKenney & Co., 1884), p. 266-67.
 12. *Stockton City and San Joaquin Directory 1887-8* (San Francisco: California Publishing Co., 1887), p. 267-69.
 13. James B. Ward, Sr., 14 November 1987; 9 September, 1988; 22 August 1988.
 14. James. B. Hickey, p. 5- 6.
 15. James B. Ward, 9 September 1988.
 16. *Directory of Stockton City and San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Merced Counties 1891* (San Francisco: F. M. Husted, 1891), p. 287-89.
 17. James. B. Ward, 22 August 1988.
 18. *Directory of Stockton City and San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Merced Counties 1891*, p. 287-9.
 19. Baxter Sperry, *Old Buildings: Sacramento & San Joaquin Counties* (Galt, Calif.; The Laurel Hill Press, 1970), n. pag.
 20. James B. Hickey, p. 12.
 21. Delia Hammond Locke, *Daily Journals*, Vol. 10, 29 June 1894, pp. 139-40.
 22. James B. Hickey, p. 12-13.
 23. James B. Ward, 19 December 1984; and Delia Hammond Locke, Vol. 9, 18 May 1891, p. 451.
 24. James B. Ward, 22 August 1988; Frickstad, p.160; *Public Schools of San Joaquin County: 1852-1990*, (Stockton, Calif.: San Joaquin County Superintendent of Schools, 1991), p. 46. "The Elliott School," June, 1990, *The Second Annual Galt Area Historical Calendar* (Galt, Calif.: The Galt Herald, 1990), n. pag.
 25. The only reference known to baby Gertrude is found in Abraham and Lucinda Ward's family bible published in 1865, where both she and Carper recorded family births and deaths.
 26. James B. Ward, Sr., 27 May 1987; 28 December 1984; 19 December 1984. Train travel was rather primitive in the 1870's. According to James B. Hickey, "[t]he locomotives burned wood, and they stopped about every 75 or 100 miles to take on wood and water. The passenger cars were rather small They had a stove in one end that the women cooked on, and it also heated the car. The [r]ailroad had slats that were fastened together with cords, that you laid between two seats and made your bed on."
 27. James B. Ward, 27 May 1987; 21 July 1985; San Joaquin County, California, Book A of Deeds, Vol. 92, p. 612.
 28. James B. Ward, 8 August 1988; 4 March 1988.
 29. *Public Schools of San Joaquin County: 1852-1990*, p. 297.
 30. San Joaquin County, California, *Book M of Marriages*, Vol. 5, p. 435, Henry Emerson and "Tippe" Ward, 5 December 1888; and Wedding License, San Joaquin County, California, Lafayette Ward and Daisy Dean Hatton, 14 June 1893; James B. Ward, 29 July 1988; 3 August 1988; 22 August 1988. "The Laguna School," February 1990, *The Second Annual Galt Area Historical Calendar*, no pg.
 31. James B. Ward, 8 August 1988; 14 November 1987; 21 July 1985; 28 December 1984.
 32. James B. Ward, 9 September 1988; 11 August 1988. Mrs. Beth Ward Hitt, a resident of O' Connor Woods in Stockton, is the sole surviving member of this generation of Wards.
 33. James B. Ward, 11 August 1988; 4 March 1988.
 34. James B. Ward, 23 July 1988; 22 August 1988.
 35. James B. Ward, 21 July 1985; 22 August 1988; 23 July 1988; 19 December 1984; 4 March 1988; 8 August 1988.
 36. James. B. Ward, 19 December 1984.
 37. Ward family Bible, n. pag.; James B. Ward, 28 December 1984; 23 July 1988.
 38. James B. Ward, 28 Dec. 1984; 22 August 1988; 19 December 1984; 4 March 1988; "Died from Stroke of Paralysis," *Lodi Sentinel*, 17 November 1903, p. 3, col. 7.

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