

DAI LOY GAMBLING HOUSE MUSEUM

"The Dai Loy Gambling House Museum is located in the Sacramento River Delta in Locke, Sacramento County. Locke is the only intact Chinese community in the United States which was both founded and in the early years wholly populated by Chinese. Although gambling houses were once popular and populous in the Delta, the Dai Loy Gambling House is the only gambling house in the area which has been restored."

-from a Museum handout

The Museum was opened for the 1984 season on March 10th. By June 14th, 6,642 visitors had toured the Dai Loy. Among those groups welcomed by Clarence Pratt were 18 classes from the Pittsburg School District, 4 classes from Bates School in Courtland, and one class each from Galt and Watsonville. [The Watsonville youngsters earned money to make the trip to Sacramento where they stayed overnight and the following day visited the museum in Locke.] The Exploration Cruise Line ships dock at Locke every three days during the season, and from 68-83 passengers visit the museum each stop. The ship has a capacity of roughly 80 passengers. Clarence, as of June, has scheduled another four groups to tour the museum this summer.

Other special guests visiting the museum have been the following: Brian Kenny of New South Wales, Australia, who is associated with the Australian Department of Agriculture Land Management Bureau and is currently studying at UC Davis; Violet Chu, president of the Chinese American Historical Society and member of the Asian Art Commission and the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco; Jet Lowe, a photographer for the Historical American Buildings Survey and Engineering Record, a division of the National Park Service, who recorded Locke for the Smithsonian Institution; Kenneth Payton, a staff writer for the *Sacramento Bee*, who took pictures of school children visiting the Museum and collected story material for an article which was published in the Out and About section on June 21 entitled "Locke's Last Domino"; and the University of California Chinese Alumni Association who toured the museum and donated \$100.00

Mary Fulster is in charge of staffing the Dai Loy Museum this year. Each member is asked to sit at least once during the season. Everyone is urged to support Mary and the Museum by doing his share. A special thank you from the Board of Directors is extended to Jim Dahlberg, Bob Peters, Jim Gualco, and Don Quesenberry for pre-opening cleaning on March 6.

Jean Harvie, Jean Brown, and Jo Lyman undertook a Postcard Project to add to the interest of visitors at the museum. Jo drew pictures of the four musical instruments displayed at the museum, and Jean Harvie wrote the captions with Jean Brown's expert help. Jo then had the cards printed. Many thanks to all! The postcards are very attractive and selling well. They are offered at the museum along with the four booklets: *Locke, the Dai Loy Museum, the Delta, and Walnut Grove.*

The four booklets have attracted attention also from others. The Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley, placed a set in the Library's California Collection and sent the Society a note of thanks for the donation. The Denver Public Library in Colorado budgeted \$25 to purchase the same four booklets, which were sent to the Library at the more modest charge.

History Week will be August 4th through 12th this year. Sponsored by the Sacramento County Historical Society, the celebration will recognize the contribution to the growth of the city of Sacramento by the breweries which provided employment for hundreds over the years. The Board of the Society is considering keeping the Dai Loy Museum open the entire week and presenting a slide show at the Museum.

EARLY AMERICAN RIVER NAMES

Gabriel De Portola named the river *Rio de la Ilegas* (river of sorrow). Jedediah Smith named it Wild River, after the "wild" Indians. Capt. Cooper's name for the river was *Rio de 'Obju'*, River of Hunters in a Russian-style dialect. Finally, its last name was granted: *Rio de Los Americanos*, named for the so-called revolutionary proclivities of the Americans as exemplified in the 1846 Bear Flag Revolt.

MORE ON THE AMERICAN

There was a Maidu Indian village at the mouth of the river where now the I Street Bridge crosses. This was the original mouth. The river made a "C" curve from B Street and 28th and I Streets. The early citizens felt this subjected them to too many floods. In 1868 the river channel was changed, eliminating the curve and emptying the river into the Sacramento at what is today Discovery Park. The old riverbed still shows on topographical surveys as low ground, and there is still considerable subbing and seepage near the present City Water Works. During floods before the channel was changed and the streets built up, the water often reached five feet at 3rd and K Streets, and during floods, the water on the "C" curve built two feet higher on the side of the curve which was nearest the city, pushing over and through the low tidewater levee.

A BIT OF TRIVIA

John Sutter, when he arrived in Sacramento in 1835, disembarked at approximately 28th and A Streets--near the site of the present City Dump.

DELTA VIGNETTES: NAMES FROM THE PAST

In 1880, Delta School District Clerks were O.R. Runyon, Onisbo; P.B. Green, Richland (now Hood); J.F. Parker, Slough School; John E. Baker, Emmaton; Dr. M. Pietrzycki, Rio Vista; E.F. Fitch, Walnut Grove; P.H. Gardiner, Isleton; G.A. Knott, Georgiana (Andrus Island);, and J. Shafer, Brannan.

Early Lodge Officers can be found listed in records.

FRANKLIN LODGE #143 F & AM: Organized in 1860, the original officers were these: George A. Blakeslee, Master; Stephen T. Morse, Senior Warden; Reuben Kercheval, Junior Warden; J. Runyon, Treasurer; Simon L. Reed, Secretary; Malachi Kanady, Tyler; A. B. Hustler, Senior Deacon.

GEORGIANA LODGE I.O.G.T.: Organized in 1875 it had among the first officers and charter members Mrs. M.T. Shafer, V. Arrasmith, Flora Hensley, A.M. Wolfe, H. Anderson, Robert Webb, Herbert Crew, S. and F.M. Kitrell, Alexander Wylie, Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Allington, Annie, A. & J. Allington, R.F., Charles and Angie Davis, Laura and L.J. Wells, Sarah, N.J., Martha and Ida Pool.

GEORGIANA GRANGE #122 PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY: This group was organized in 1873 by Deputy W.S. Manlove of Sacramento County and Brother Rich, Secretary of the Sacramento Grange. The first officers and charter members were F.M. Kittrell, Master; H.F. Smith, Overseer; C.P. Hensley, Lecturer; J.H. Staten, Gatekeeper; F.M. Pool, Chaplin; J.P. Norman and Peter Hansen, Stewards; G.A. Knott, Secretary, J.N. Holt, Treasurer; Mary Hensley, Ceres; Sarah Rany, Pomona; Sarah Pool, Flora; and Louisa Holt, Assitant Steward.

The Sacramento County History Center is creeping slowly towards completion and is continuously collecting and receiving historical donations. Among recent gifts have been these items: a beaded dress of the 1920's, Hotel Senator photographs of the dining room, kitchen and coffee shop, circa 1931, a lady's equestrian silk topper, a photograph of the 16th Street American River Bridge at the 1935 opening, a paintin of an old Sacramento waterfront view, an electric Maytag washing machine of the 1930 era, menus from 32 local resaurants coverin; a span of years, clothing, photographs, and documents collected by the Sacramento County Historical Society, the photographic collection of the late Michael T. Benning of North Sacramento who worked from 1932 to 1960 recording schoolchildren from elementary through high school in class pictures.

Serry Hatch, who recently attended the Society's May meeting in Walnut Grove, still asks for men's and children's clothing of the 19th century--pre 1890 and the earlier the better. She also seeks everyday wear for the 30's, as well as clothing for men and children of the 40's. Most types of clothing are needed for the post-1900 era. In the old clothing line, don't forget such items as uniforms worn by waiters, waitresses, nurses, conductors, workmen (coveralls, work shoes, etc..) These are to be used to dress display mannequins. She is also looking for early driving ensembles for both men and women: dusters, goggles, scarves, hats, gauntlets, etc.

Commerical artifacts are also needed. Giveaway items from the city and county merchants of former years, such as badges, ribbons, documents, calendars, mirrors, and other promotional gifts would make outstanding displays.

Labeled and dated photographs are also welcomed. If anyone has any of these items and is willing to donate or loan them to the museum--or has something else which would be suitable for display--please call Sherry Hatch at 916-447-2958.

ECONOMIC UPDATE

It has been recently reported that 50 to 70% of the tourists coming to California have indicated that California historical and cultural resources play a part in their travel plans. This suggests how important California history is to the California economy!



BOOKS

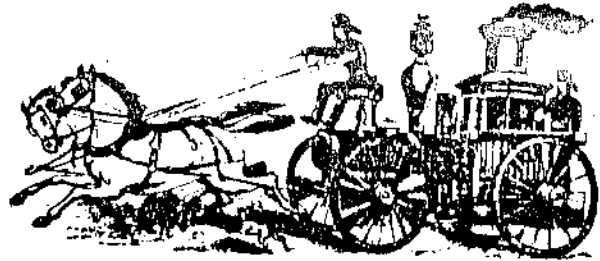
FOR YOUR READING PLEASURE, PLEASE CHECK THE ENCLOSED LIST OF CURRENT BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN THE HISTORY OF CALIFORNIA AND SPECIAL LOCAL AREAS.

Welcome to Our New Members

Clare Anderson
 Frank & Sara Brunker
 John Buffo
 Dwayne & Joanne Buzzard
 Marie Campos
 Roger & Joanne Carr
 Gregg Campbell
 Perry S. Cook
 Manuel & Carmel Ferreira
 Darrell & Sandy Ferreira
 William & Barbara Fraser
 Beverly Fischer
 John & Patricia Garimendi
 Marie Genes
 Robert D. Gromm
 Susie Griffiths
 Glyta Hedges
 Robert & Isabelle Heringer
 Mary Hutton
 Curzon & June Kay
 Alfretta Lee
 Walter & Celestine Lind
 Clement & Lucy Llano
 Don McClain
 James Marshall
 Phyllis Manica
 Newell McMullen
 Loyal & Natalie Mealer
 Gus & Mary Olson
 Russell Ooms
 Marian Pieretti
 Elberta Pylman
 Enver & Cynthia Salman
 Jack & Winnie Saunders
 Robert & Judith Seward
 William & Carol Schauer
 William Schauer, Jr.
 Frank & Jeanie Schmiedel
 Theodore & Virginia Seamans
 Emma Squaglia
 Helen & Bruce Towne
 Patrick Urquidez
 Leo Waters
 Willard & Dorothy Wheeler
 John & Zara Whittles
 Alfred B. Aranzon
 Larry & Dorothy Huggett
 Alvin & Shirley Machado

Membership in the Sacramento River Delta Historical Society is open to all interested in gathering and preserving the history of the Delta area.

SACRAMENTO HISTORY CENTER



"Grandma's Kitchen" will be featured at the History Center this summer. The kitchen will feature a Hoosier kitchen cabinet and a Universal woodburning stove common appliances in the kitchen of 60 or more years ago. The story of food processing will be described, both home and commercial canning, in conjunction with the kitchen display. The Hoosier cabinet was loaned with its flour sifter, sugar dispenser, and condiment containers. The cabinet, itself, still retains its original paint and stenciled patterns.

RAILROAD MUSEUM RIDES

There will be Steam Trains at the Railroad Museum in Old Sacramento. A passenger service will operate on weekends this summer until September 3. The trains will be made up of mixed freight and passenger cars suitable for excursion rides and will run between the State Railroad Museum and Miller Park near Sutterville Road. The Museum hopes to be able to eventually extend the trip to Freeport, and museum officials are now negotiating with the Southern Pacific for the use of the abandoned right-of-way on the old Southern Pacific Walnut Grove Short Line.

CLEANINGS from other HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

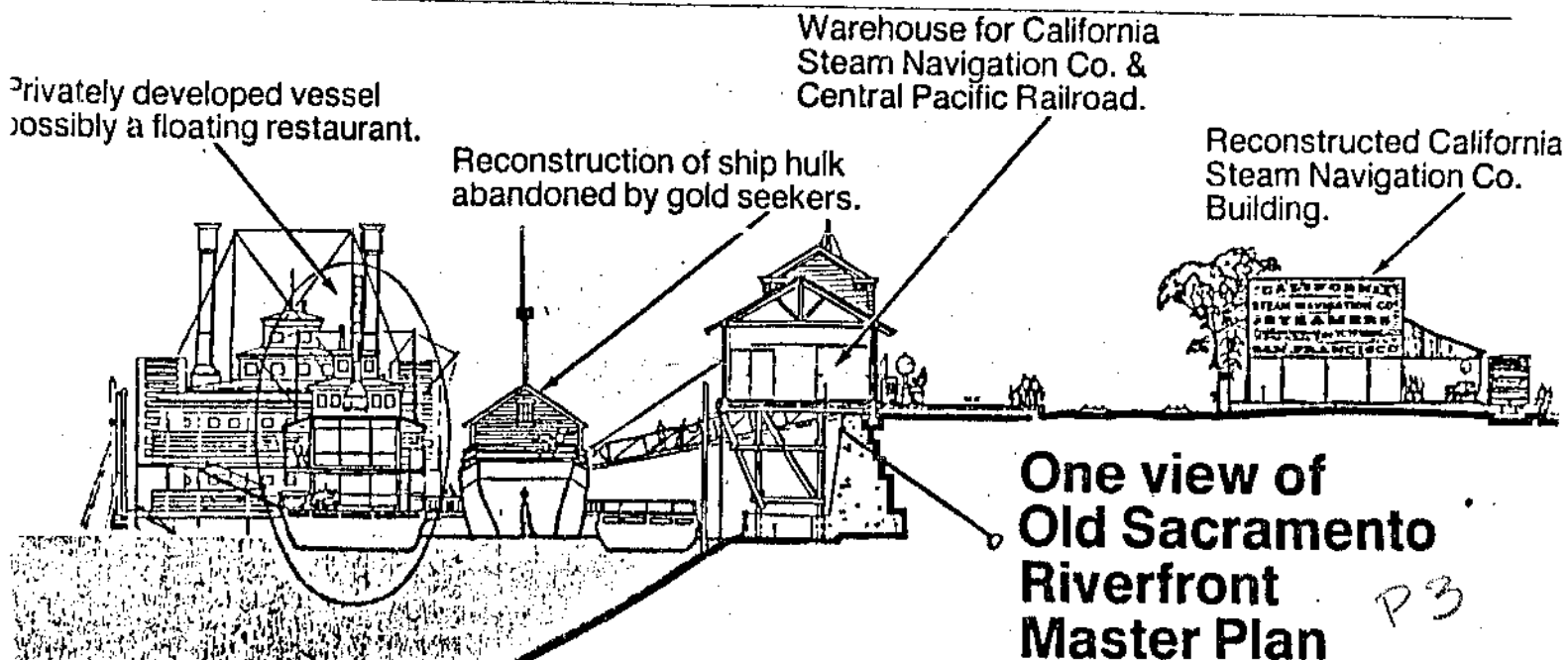
The Solano County Historical Society provided a small sum for a grave marker for one of the County's legendary figures, Frank "Deafy" Derrick. A former Pony Express rider and pioneer, he died in 1938 at age 96.

The Sierra County Historical Association operates the Kentucky Mine Museum, where visitors learn about hard rock mining and see one of the few remaining operable stamp mills in California.

The Moraga Historical Society recognized the city's founder, Col. William M. Smith, placing a bronze memorial tablet set in granite at his grave in Alhambra Cemetery.

Members of the Berkeley Historical Society wrote a book, *Exactly Opposite the Golden Gate*. The effort took two years and is a collection of historical essays on the city.

The Hayward Area Historical Society offers bits of its history on picture plates portraying Hayward area landmarks.



**Sacramento River Delta
Historical Society**

"But what is the present, after all,
but a growth out of the past."

-Walt Whitman

THE SOCIETY HAS AN OFFICE!!! It is located in Bridgetender's Mall, Walnut Grove. The telephone number is 776-1992. Becky and Bill Wheeler donated the furniture and the file cabinets for which a generous thanks is due! Finally, there is a repository for the growing collection of memorabilia presented to the Society throughout the years. There is a desk for the secretaries and treasurer and files for the Oral History and Book Projects as well as other paperwork. Also a small library collection on local and connected history is available.

Harry Rasmussen has loaned the Society a collection of Delta and Vacaville newspapers. The papers will provide an especially good research source.

Newly elected Board Members were introduced at the Annual January Meeting: Neil Hamilton, Chris Giovanonni, Judy Merwin, and Harry Rasmussen will be helping to organize the activities of the Society through the next two years. Continuing members on the Board are Patty Merwin, Cathy Hemly, and Harvey Felt. Officers elected include Jim Gualco, President; Arthur Brown, Vice President; and Jim Dahlberg, Treasurer, who are each serving a second term, and newly chosen officers, Dorothy "Becky" Wheeler, Corresponding Secretary, and Jan Quesenberry, Recording Secretary. Becky Wheeler will also serve as Publicity Chairman. The Nominating Committee was co-chaired by Jennie Sheehan and Jean Harvie and included members Judy Merwin, Lucy Barnes, Joy Agosto, and Jan Quesenberry.

At the December general meeting President Jim Gualco thanked Kathie Graham and Yvonne Pylman for all their help with the semi-annual newsletter. He also recognized the efforts of Vice President Art Brown in obtaining outstanding programs for the general meetings and the hard work of many other volunteers who have given time and talent to the Society.

The Society donated \$25 to the Chinese American Historical Society, Richmond, California Branch, to help sponsor their forth coming book, *One Day, One Dollar*, written by Peter Leon.

Cathy Hemly gave a talk and slide show on Delta history this Spring term to the 4th through 8th grades at Bates School. Kathie Graham provided her with narratives and other written material, and Robert James provided the slides from the Society's collection. The classes then toured the Dai Loy Museum in Locke.

Claudine Frieders, Shirley Machado, and Judy Eddy have tentatively agreed to put together a 1985 calendar of old Delta photographs from the Society's excellent slide collection. The Society has over 400 slides from which to choose! The Slide Collection is our Society's most valuable resource, and so far, its most successful project, outside of the Dai Loy Museum. The Museum deals with only one segment of Delta history, but the slides cover a much broader range.

Another project sponsored by the Society, which doesn't seem to get further than the planning stage, except for a few sporadic contributions, is the Oral History Project. In the last year alone potential interviews, such as Charles Ostman, Dave Phipps, Betty Cleaves, Gertrude Dennison and others, were lost. [Gertrude Dennison asked that someone interview her thoroughly, BUT NO ONE DID.] We are losing these valuable human resources. Won't some of you HELP! It is only needed to get the interview on tape, and the transcription can be done at a later date. The interviewer does not have to type the manuscript. Won't some of you pledge to do one interview this summer? Call Jim Gualco if you will help.

Typists are needed, however, to transcribe the interviews. There is a machine in the office for transcription and a typewriter if you would wish to volunteer your time at the office rather than at home. The two parts of this project can make a lasting contribution to a full and vital history of the Delta.

The Society accepts memorial donations from members and friends and notifies families of the gift with appropriate cards. A Donation Card is stapled to this newsletter for your future use. Other contribution cards may be obtained from the Corresponding Secretary, Becky Wheeler.

In the Winter-Spring of 1983-1984, the Society received donations in memory of LENORE GREENE HEMLY ALLEN and MEGAN O'NEILL, daughter of Wayne O'Neill. Much appreciation is expressed for the lasting remembrances of Delta families.

The SRDHS extended congratulations to Phyllis Manica and all parties who have come together to revitalize east Walnut Grove. The Society is delighted with such efforts.

HISTORICAL NOTES AND JOCS:::George Washington commenting on farm pests: taken from a congratulatory note to a brother-in-law and fellow planter on the birth of an heir: "I say, how will this (the happy birth) be reconciled to that anguished care and vigilance which is so essentially necessary at a time when our growing prosperity (meaning crops) is assailed by every villianous worm that has had an existance since the days of Noah. How unkind it was of Noah, ... to suffer such a brood of vermin to get aberth in the ark..."

BOOKS

The Brannan Saga

(about Sam Brannan and his part in the
Gold Rush) by Kay Archuleta
\$8.00--order from Illuminations Press
1451 Library Lane
St. Helena, CA 94574

*Stagecoach Heyday in the San Joaquin
Valley, 1853-1876*

Bakersfield: Kern County Historical Society
\$12.00-order from the society
P.O. Box 141
Bakersfield, CA 93302

California and the Golden West

(a guide book) by Carole Chester
\$4.95-order from Rand McNally & Co.
8255 Central Park Avenue
Skokie, Ill 60076

*Gentle's Photographs of San Francisco's
Old Chinatown*

ed. by Jack Tchen
About \$8.95 from Dover Publication, Inc.
180 Varrick St.
New York, NY 10014

*California Patterns: A Geographical and
Historical Atlas*

by Phillip Kane and David Fuller
\$10.95-order from Mayfield Publishing Co.
285 Hamilton
Palo Alto, CA 94301

The Chinese of America 1785-1980

by Him M. Lai, Joe Huang, Don Wong
\$6.95 order from Chinese Culture Foundation
750 Kearny St.
San Francisco, CA 94108

*The Mother Lode: A Pictorial Guide to
California's Gold Rush Country*

by Kristin Moore
\$12.95
Chronicle Books
870 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

*Benjamin Holt: The Story of the Caterpillar
Tractor*

\$10.95 order from Atherton Pacific Center
for Western Studies
University of Pacific
Stockton, CA 95211

Indians of California: The Changing Image

by James J. Rawls
University of California
Press

Exactly Opposite the Golden Gate

Berkeley Historical Society
\$19.95 (plus tax and \$2 postage)
Berkeley Historical Society
1414 Walnut Street
Berkeley, CA 94701

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*Alta California, 1840-1842: The Journal
and Observations of William Dane Phelps,
Master of the Ship "Alert"*

ed. by Briton Cooper Busch
order from The Arthur H. Clark Co.
Box 230
Glendale, CA 91209

*Overland to California with the Pioneer
Line: The Gold Rush Diary of
Bernard J. Reid*

ed. by Mary McDougall Gordon
\$19.95 (illustrated)
Stanford University Press
Stanford, CA

Indian Life at the Old Missions

by Edith Buckland Webb
\$35 University of Nebraska
Press
Lincoln, Neb. 68588

*The California Trail: An Epic with
Many Heroes*

by George R. Stewart
\$8.95 (paper) University of Nebraska
Press

*The Sacramento Cookery Book--The Culinary
Heritage of California*

by Sally A. Clifford
(features some photos of the Delta and
recipes given by Delta residents)

Birds of the American River Parkway
by the American River Natural History
Association

\$2.95 order from the Association
P.O. Box 241
Carmichael, CA 95608

Missions

by Dr. Stanley Truman and Michael Mathes
\$35 (photographic essay; limited edition)

*Coit Tower, San Francisco: Its History
and Art*

by Marsha Z. Jewett
\$9.50 Volcano Press

*Americans and the California Dream
1850-1915*

by Kevin Starr
\$9.95 (paper)

Matson's Century of Ships

by Fred A. Stindt
\$36.50

*A Companion to California
(reference)*

by James D. Hart
\$9.95 (paper) Oxford University Press

*Essays and Assays: California History
Reappraised*

ed. by George H. Knoles
\$6.95

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