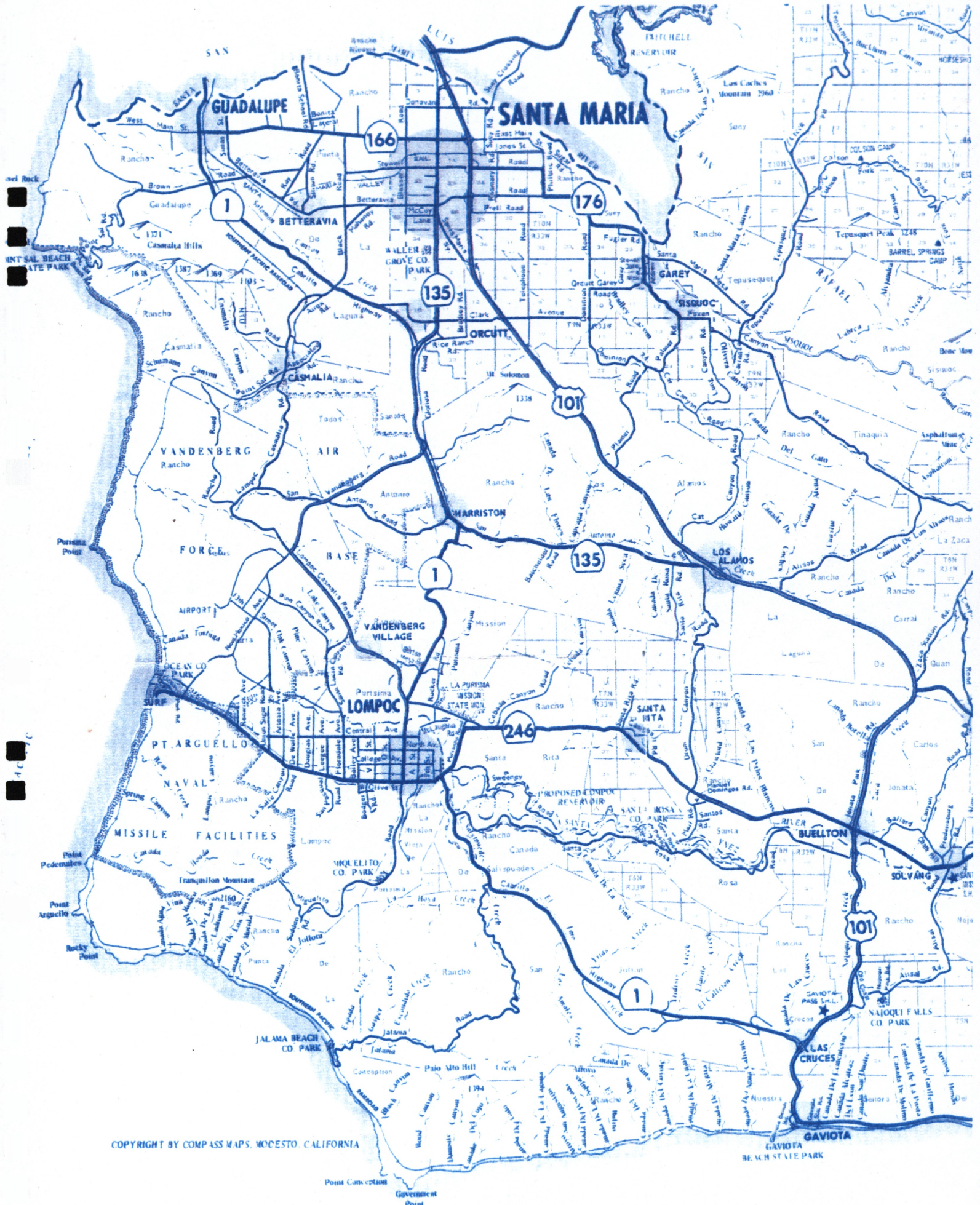


Cordero

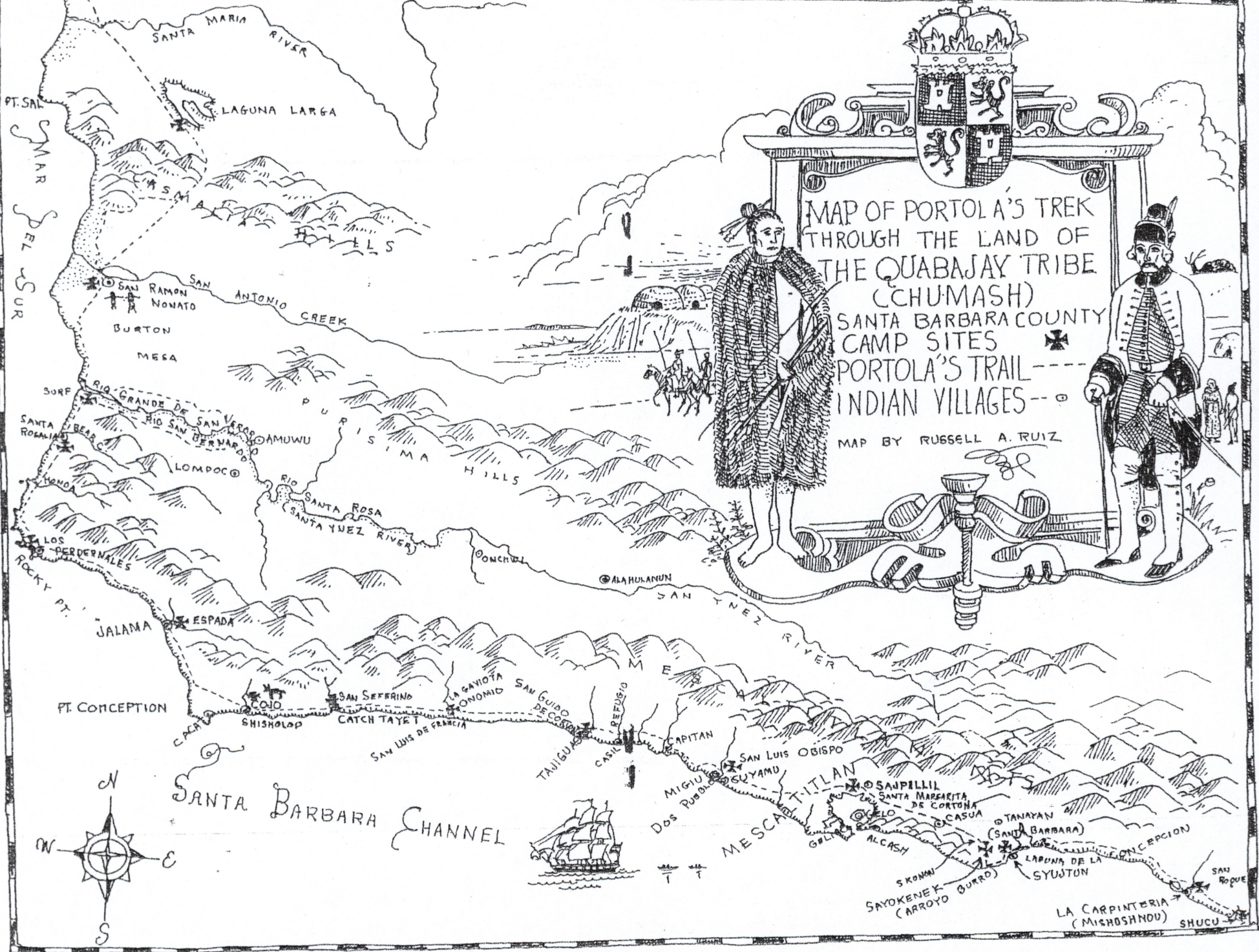


Spain



COPYRIGHT BY COMPASS MAPS, MOCESTO, CALIFORNIA

SANTA 1967, 2M



1769-1769

A HISTORY OF THE LAS CRUCES ADOBE

In its desire to secure a power base in California, the Spanish government in 1769 established a series of presidios along the coast, each of which was to act as a catalyst for future colonial development. It was hoped that growth would radiate from these areas as well as along the major connecting roads. As early as August 17, 1773, we find the beginnings of a land grant system in California under Viceroy Antonio Bucareli who issued a decree giving Commandant Rivera y Moncada the power to grant the native population land for raising sheep and cattle. Land grants were also made available to citizens of the pueblos under the stipulation that the grantee reside on the land given.¹ Under Spanish rule, however, little land was actually granted. It was not until Mexico declared its independence on April 9, 1822, after 280 years of Spanish domination, that we find any significant change in land grant policies.

Between the years 1822 and 1847, Mexico encouraged colonization through the passage of liberal laws which allowed the governor to cede large tracts of land ranging from one to eleven leagues [4,428 to 48,708 acres]² in sparsely populated areas. These grants were most always located outside the pueblos.³ The 1824 law passed by the Mexican Congress stipulated that "no one person shall

be allowed to obtain the ownership of more than one square league of irrigatable land, four leagues of land dependent upon the seasons [i.e., seasonal rainfall] and six for the purpose of raising cattle."⁴

One obtained a grant through petition to the governor submitted with a diseño (rough map) of the desired land. Since land was so plentiful at this early date, there was little stress placed on specific boundaries. Thus, the diseño would refer to marked rocks or trees to define the property limits. This laxity in surveying and specifically defining the boundaries would later prove to be the cause of serious problems following the Mexican War for those who received land grants. The petition requesting title would indicate the state of the petitioner's Mexican citizenship, military and/or citizenship activities, as well as other relevant information concerning the assets and character of the petitioner.

Upon receipt of a request for a land grant the governor would refer the matter to a local prefect or another local official who would verify the information of the petition, ascertain the loyalty and character of the petitioner, as well as check to insure that the desired land was part of the public domain. The finished report was then returned to the governor, which would serve as the determining factor if the governor had no personal relationship with the petitioner or local official. If the governor agreed to the grant, he would issue a concedo, an official order to make ready the grant papers.⁵

Once issued, the concedo gave the petitioner the legal right to develop his land, even though he still lacked title. The grant was then submitted by the governor to the territorial legislature for final approval. If denied, the petitioner could appeal to the central government.

When approved, most land grants required that certain conditions be executed on the part of the grantee. Briefly these were: 1) that the grantee construct and occupy a permanent residence on the land granted within a year of the grant; 2) that the land may be fenced off, yet not interfere with public roads; 3) that the right of those living on said lands be respected [i.e., native Indians]; and 4) that the grantee have the local magistrate define and measure the boundaries, and that once defined, the grantee mark them "with fruit trees or forest trees of some utility."⁶ After this final requirement was fulfilled, the grantee, now with legal possession of the land, would ceremonially pull up grass and earth, and throw it about his land in the four cardinal directions, symbolizing his ownership.

Following the secularization of the mission lands, Miguel Cordero, a soldier at the Royal Presidio of Santa Barbara, applied to the Governor of California Mariano Chico in 1835, for a land grant outside the Presidio. The area he desired was the land on which he had been living since his retirement from military service in 1833.⁷ Cordero's family had been long established in California. His grandfather Mariano Cordero, along with other members of the

Cordero family, were among the Spanish troops who came with Gaspar Portola in 1769, aiding in the colonization of Monterey, San Francisco, and Santa Barbara.⁸ Due to his family heritage, his own work at the Santa Barbara Presidio, and the Mexican government's desire to settle sparsely populated areas, in 1837 Miguel Cordero was granted two leagues of land formerly belonging to Mission San Ynez.

His first petition, submitted to Governor Mariano Chico, noted Cordero's large family and possession of a large quantity of cattle as sufficient justification for a land grant. His request was approved by Chico on July 12, 1836, and the grant was confirmed by the assembly within a month. However, before it was confirmed, Chico was forced to vacate office. Not knowing the fate of his request, on May 2, 1837, Cordero submitted a second petition, this one bringing attention to his livestock, military services and old age as reasons for the request for the grant, to Governor Juan Bautista Alvarado.⁹ Alvarado who was in Santa Barbara at this time consented to the grant on May 8, 1837. The grant was signed on May 11 and received final approval exactly one week later.¹⁰ Along with the requested lands, Cordero also was granted the sobrante or lands unaccounted for between the land shown on his diseño and other nearby rancho lands already accounted for.¹¹ It was not until eight years later that Cordero had his boundaries officially measured and defined.¹²

While living on this property, probably as early as

1833, Miguel Cordero built his adobe home. His grant of 8512.81 acres¹³ soon consisted of two fields under cultivation with primarily wheat and barley crops, a garden near his home, a vineyard containing approximately two thousand grape vines, and an orchard of fruit trees including pears, apples, and peaches. Cordero, who also raised cattle, surrounded his garden, house, and one field with a fence as permitted by the provisions of the grant. In 1876, Cordero's eldest son Vicente added a third orchard of fruit trees.¹⁴

For many people the years between 1849 and 1856 represented the height of the cattle boom. Cattle pulled in record high prices and those involved in this trade scored record profits. Many times those who got rich quick had more money than they were accustomed to. Saddles allegedly laden with silver, as well as spurs of gold were examples of this new encounter with riches. One writer, Robert Cleland relates:

...a lady in Santa Barbara amused me by describing the old adobe houses, with earthen floors covered with costly rugs; four-post bedsteads with the costliest lace curtains, and these looped up with lace again; and the señora and señoritas dragging trains of massive silk and satin over the earthen floor. It must have been an odd mixture of squalor and splendor. 15

Though such may not have been Cordero's situation, it is

probable that he too partook in the high profits of the time. This is evident in the fact that Cordero did engage in the cattle business (leaving over one thousand head of cattle at the time of his death),¹⁶ although there is no extant record of his income.

It is evident that Las Cruces and nearby environs were not completely settled from a report that as late as 1846 the Tulare Indians still fought with the Coast Indians and made frequent attacks on residents of the area, stealing horses and cattle. In 1846 there was an alleged attack on the original Las Cruces Rancho in which sixteen persons were to have been trapped within the adobe walls in a raid by the Tulare Indians. Accounts of this raid spoke of arrows sticking out of the walls of the house. Perhaps typical of western justice of those years, the Indians were later pursued and all but one killed. The horses were returned to their owners.¹⁷

Other evidence that this area was still frontier-like is found in an article in the Los Angeles Star. The Star reported on October 20, 1855:

We well recollect of hearing of the robberies committed on the San Buenaventura and Santa Clara Rivers, in the county of Santa Barbara, the actual capture and spoilation of the Mission of Santa Buenaventura by the Indians, while San Ynez, Santa Rosa, Lompos [sic], Los Alamos and other exposed Ranchos in the same country were actually stripped of all their horses.¹⁸

In early March, 1851, Miguel Cordero died suddenly after a less than twenty-four hour illness.¹⁹ Due to his unexpected death, there was no will prepared. His estate was comprised of a thousand head of cattle, a considerable amount of horses, his land, and his house. It is unknown how much money was left as part of his estate.

Shortly thereafter, on March 3, 1851, the United States Congress passed legislation entitled "An act to ascertain and settle Private Land Claims in the State of California." Since many of the original Mexican and Spanish land grants were vague in their description of boundaries, the purpose of this act was to specify the boundary lines and determine the validity of the titles of the various grants now that California was part of the Union.

The act required recipients of Mexican land grants to appear before a Board of Land Commissioners within two years with proof of title. If no such proof was available, the grantee would many times loose his land. If proof was presented, and the decision was in favor of the claimant, the decision would be appealed by the United States to the United States District Court where the presentation of proof of title was repeated. Following a verdict in this court in favor of the claimant, the case was then again appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. All this took place at the expense of the defendant. Attorneys'

fees were often paid in parcels of land. After the process had reached the Supreme Court, the question of title was resolved.

Following this a second legal process began pertaining to the patent. These latter proceedings demanded that the Surveyor General survey the land, at the expense of the grantee after which the District Court would decide if the patent should be issued.²⁰ Basically, the Act passed in 1851 was a legal measure to delay as long as possible the official recognition by the U.S. government of the ownership of lands by Mexicans and native Californians.

Granted, as Kathleen Lane notes, "the task assigned to this commission was great, it being asked to decide upon titles to a domain larger than many kings of the world, with no knowledge of the Spanish people and customs, and much less a knowledge of Mexican law."²¹ However, as a result of this law many of the lands granted originally to native Californians fell into the hands of bankers and lawyers during the time the case was under legal consideration.

Since Cordero's widow, María Antonio Jimenez Cordero could not read, write or speak English, she was not aware of the legal requirements of this act. Though even if she had been able to read, Santa Barbara did not have a local newspaper until May 1855 and thus there was little way that she would have known. She continued to reside on the land with her children, paying taxes on it until her death in 1857.²²

María Cordero also died intestate and the Rancho was

distributed among the nine children in undivided interests.²³ Each built their own dwellings on the land and continued to live on Rancho Las Cruces breeding sheep, cattle and horses. Between 1857 and 1876 six other adobe structures were constructed on the ranch not including additions made to the original adobe house of Miguel Cordero.²⁴ The adobe presently referred to as the Las Cruces Adobe was probably built during this time, perhaps about 1860.

Also during this time, the Corderos engaged in various real estate transactions selling undivided interests in their land probably to compensate for financial losses following a glutted cattle market in the North. In 1860 the Corderos rented land to Frank L. Birabend²⁵ and in this same year Pedro Baron settled on Rancho Las Cruces, engaging primarily in merchandising and stock raising. Baron remained in Las Cruces until 1870.²⁶

The years between 1861 and 1864 represent a period of extremely hard times in Californian history. During these years the populous was first subjected to abnormal rains causing serious flooding across the state, followed immediately by two years of drought. These forces of nature, plus an oversupply of cattle in the north by 1860, caused a large depreciation in the value of live stock. Fortunes were lost; the most vulnerable people being the native Californians and the Mexican populous. Cattle was sold cheaply so taxes could be met. Adding to the glutted northern markets and the extremes of nature, in some areas of California, including Santa Barbara, grasshoppers invaded, consuming vital summer and fall pasturage.

In 1861, Pedro C. Carrillo noted in Santa Barbara:

Everybody in this Town is Broke not a dollar to be seen, and God bless everyone if things do not change. Cattle can be bought at any price, Real Estate is not worth anything...

The "Chapules" [grasshoppers] have taken possession of this Town, they have eat all the Barley, Wheat &c. &c. there is not a thing left by them, they cleaned me entirely of everything and I expect if I do not move out of this Town they will eat me also. "Dam the Chapules," I have lost about two thousand dollars.²⁷

Resulting from these series of disasters including the drought, the floods of 1861 which reached an extent "unknown to the oldest inhabitant,"²⁸ the inundated cattle market in the north, and the chapules, one of the most romantic periods of California's history came to an end. By 1864 most Spanish-Americans had been forced to sell their lands in order to meet daily living expenses as well as to pay taxes, though primarily for the latter reason. As Cleland notes, "Reduced by mounting debts and unpaid taxes to the condition of a 'devastated grain field,' the little that was left of their once lordly estates passed forever into alien hands."²⁹

That the Corderos were affected by these series of disasters is unquestionable. Over nine-tenths of the cattle, horse and sheep population in Santa Barbara County is said to have died during the drought of 1863-64.³⁰ Though no records exist of the Corderos' financial condition at this time, in their 1876

petition to Congress for the official patent, it is mentioned that the Corderos were poor and lived solely off their land.³¹ This suggests that they were unable to make a financial comeback following the series of disasters of the sixties.

Following the Homestead Act of 1862, the United States Surveyor General began to measure tracts of land for the thousands of Yankee settlers heading west. Since the Corderos never fulfilled the requirements demanded by "An act to ascertain..." the Federal Government considered Rancho Las Cruces as part of the public domain. Thus in the latter half of this decade, lands on Rancho Las Cruces were surveyed to be catalogued as such and therefore eligible for homesteading.

Seeing this as a potential threat, along with increased activity in the area due to the stage lines, the Corderos and others who had purchased undivided interests in Rancho Las Cruces³² submitted a petition to the United States Congress in 1876, requesting permission to secure their land patent. Though the title was confirmed to Vicente Cordero et al on September 7, 1871,³³ without the patent the title was meaningless.

Submitted as part of their petition to Congress were numerous letters from prominent citizens of Santa Barbara attesting to the character of the Corderos and verifying that they indeed had resided on Rancho Las Cruces from 1833. Those submitting depositions included Lewis T. Burton who knew Miguel Cordero, the original grantee of the lands, since 1831; Judge Charles Fernard; County and District Court Clerk H. P. Stone who testified that Vicente Cordero had paid taxes on the land since 1850; Judge John Maguire; and James L. Ord. Other prominent

citizens included State Senator Antonio María de la Guerra and president of the Board of Supervisors Thomas Moore.³⁴

Congress granted the Corderos permission to have their case tried before a district court (as required by "An act to ascertain...") and finally on August 31, 1880, the grant was confirmed.³⁵ The land survey was completed in August 1881 and the patent was finally approved July 7, 1883 by A. C. McFarland, Commissioner of the General Land office.³⁶

Map 4

In 1864 one of the bloodiest murders in the history of Santa Barbara County took place at Las Cruces over a change of stage coach routes. During this time period, most distant travel was made primarily by stage. A stage stop at one's house provided the owner of the house with a substantial income, the owner providing meals for the travelers and many times night's lodging as well. This, in addition to a crew who boarded full time in order to serve the needs of the coach line, resulted in considerable revenue.

Thus in 1864, a proposal to alter the existing stage line which stopped at Gaviota to a point closer to Las Cruces generated much competition for the new station. The final route approved was to pass at the house of an American, Wilson Corliss, a sheepherder owning 2-3,000 head as well as an interest in the Las Cruces Ranch. Corliss, who lived with his wife and a shepherd Franc[isc]o Coronado, a native Californian, built a house within a mile and a half of the crossroads in order to serve the new stage line.

Within a few days after they moved into their new home,

Corliss and his wife were beaten and placed inside their house, the door locked from the outside, and the structure burnt to the ground. Coronado was found sixteen days later, his bloody body wedged between some rocks.

The murder caused a huge uproar in town and a vigilante committee of fifty men from Santa Barbara formed at the St. Charles Hotel along with a sheriff's posse of fifteen men, to pursue the murders. Following a brief inquest they drew up their plan of pursuit. "Both parties were well armed and composed of determined men whose purpose was to make short work of the murderers if found."³⁷

In a cloak and dagger escapade, a plan was devised where one group was to go to Gaviota concealed in the stage with its curtains closed so no news of their coming would precede them. The second group waited until dusk before departing. Upon their arrival in Gaviota, the men in the stage immediately arrested members of the Cota family, one of whom was "Cabeza Blanca," a known desperado. Suspicious-looking characters were picked up along the road by the second group who also collected testimony from nearby residents.

After a sixteen day investigation at the site of the murder, three major suspects emerged. These were the Williams brothers--Bill, Elize, and Steve--from Oregon, who lived fairly close to the Corliss' and who competed to get the stage coach stop in Las Cruces.³⁸

So sure were they that they'd get the new station that the brothers even had a corral and barn built for the stage horses. They probably remodeled the interior of the house at

this time as well as built the exterior wooden additions. Changes on the interior probably included the partitioning off of what is now the central bedroom as well as the addition of the fireplace in order to meet the new demands to be placed on the adobe as a hotel. The exterior rooms were to serve as bedrooms for the travelers as well as a kitchen and dining room.

While the Cotas from Gaviota also had motive, there was no evidence to use against them. One woman, a Californian named Ysabel Yorba testified that one of the Williams brothers solicited her to place strychnine in the Corliss' milk which she delivered daily, thus tending to implicate the brothers as the prime suspects.

It was suggested that the Williams brothers be arrested and mock hung until they confessed. However, many of the vigilante members felt this type of action a bit rash. A vote was taken among the members who finally decided the evidence was only circumstantial, with the only proven fact being that one brother proposed to poison the Corliss family.

When the affair was finally over the Williams were acquitted for lack of concrete evidence though it was generally believed by the townspeople that they were indeed guilty. After the excitement died down the eldest brother, Bill, left town to return to Oregon and shortly thereafter the two remaining brothers were murdered while camping one night in San Luis Obispo. They had left Las Cruces to move their sheep to the Tulare Valley, away from the drought-ridden areas. Their murder was evidently unrelated to the Corliss incident and appeared

to be for money. The suspect, a man named Stanner, was wearing a gold watch owned by one of the brothers which led to his arrest. Stanner had only been working for the Williams a short time and most likely had no motive other than cash and jewelry. Stanner hung for his crime.³⁹

The Williams brothers lived in what is now called the Las Cruces Adobe. While the adobe was probably built by the Corderos in the late 50s, most likely the Williams brothers constructed the wooden exterior additions in 1864 in anticipation of getting the stage route. The original barn that they erected no longer stands; the present barn having been constructed in the 1880s by W. W. Hollister. The old stage road passed between the adobe and where the Hollister barn now stands.

Following the death of the Williams brothers, a fourth brother, A. Bascom Williams arrived in Santa Barbara to investigate the circumstances surrounding his brothers' deaths as well as to tie up any loose business affairs of theirs. He decided in the fall of 1866 to take up residence in Las Cruces and remained there until he was elected County Clerk of Santa Barbara in 1880.⁴⁰ While living in the Las Cruces adobe, Williams "had the unique distinction of being postmaster, deputy sheriff, constable, and justice of the peace there."⁴¹ A man of many facets, Williams also served as judge of the township court⁴² (a position held formerly by his brother Elize)⁴³ as well as managed his adobe as a stage stop.

For four years his adobe served in this capacity. Then,

from 1870 to 1872, the local stage company violated its contract with the United States Post Office Department. During this period the Las Cruces Adobe, while still considered the only post office in the third township of Santa Barbara, received and distributed no mail. A letter to the Santa Barbara Press in 1872 noted that this violation by the stage line subjected "the people of this part of the County to much inconvenience, and positive loss of time and money."⁴⁴ As postmaster, Williams received a total of \$12.00 per year in postage stamps as his salary, though for these two years his quarterly report simply read no mail received, none dispatched.⁴⁵

The stage company evidently remained in violation of its contract until late in 1873 when the Santa Barbara Weekly Press mentioned a new mail contact had been negotiated. The new stage route was to go through Gaviota, Las Cruces, Nojoqui, and the San Ynez Mission where it would connect with Bucklay.⁴⁶ This may have been the same stage line as that which was owned by Don Miguel Burke, traveling between Santa Barbara and Guadalupe.⁴⁷

Traffic to and from the adobe undoubtedly increased substantially after 1875 when W. W. Hollister along with Thomas and Albert Dibblee constructed a wharf at Gaviota to export their supplies of wool. The wharf soon became the major exporting site for the farmers of the San Ynez and nearby valleys. Many would bring their goods to the wharf by way of the Gaviota Pass to be shipped to market by steamer, stopping overnight at the adobe before making their way back

to San Ynez.⁴⁸

Map 5

During the late 70s, Williams was elected County Clerk of Santa Barbara and moved from Las Cruces into town. In 1877, J. R. Broughton moved into the adobe and assumed similar responsibilities of hotel manager, storekeeper, and postmaster.⁴⁹ Working at the Las Cruces station, one came into contact with many people. Thus the adobe seems to have served as a stepping stone to public office as in 1883 Broughton also became an elected county official, gaining the position of Santa Barbara County sheriff.⁵⁰

It has been suggested that at this time the adobe gained some notoriety as a brothel and whiskey emporium, serving the needs of the men on their trip back to San Ynez.⁵¹ But to what extent this is true remains in question because the adobe was managed during these years by Sheriff Broughton.

On June 28, 1880, Vicente Cordero sold his share of the Rancho Las Cruces to W. W. Hollister and the Dibblee Brothers, local land barons, for \$2,218. The exact acreage was not specified in the sale, rather the land was simply described as Rancho Las Cruces and named its neighboring ranches as defining the boundaries.⁵² Cordero sold the land in 1880 thought it was not until July 7, 1883, that his patent was finally confirmed.⁵³ Along with the sale there may have been a gentlemen's agreement whereby the Corderos were permitted to continue residing on the lands. As far as the occupants of the Las Cruces adobe were concerned, there was probably little if any impact by the change of ownership except that they paid their rent to a different landlord.

The Hollister-Dibblee empire continued to grow and by

1891 it was comprised of over 100,000 acres including Rancho San Juan, Salsipuedes, Espirada, Santa Anita, Gaviota, and Las Cruces. The entire area was referred to as San Julian Rancho and the partnership owned between 50-75,000 head of sheep and five hundred head of cattle.⁵⁴

With the arrival of the narrow gauge railroad at Los Olivos in 1889, farmers from San Ynez no longer had to make the long trip to the Gaviota wharf to ship their goods.⁵⁵ However, the loss of patronage from the San Ynez farmers did not hurt Las Cruces in any way as in the same year the Southern Pacific Railroad was extended to the coast. Those stages previously using the San Marcos pass now began taking the easier grade from Gaviota to Las Cruces.⁵⁶

Map 5

Following the death of Sheriff Broughton, Jacob Loustalot, a French basque shepherd, with his wife Rosaline, rented the adobe from the Hollisters. The adobe still fulfilled its established capacities as stage stop, cafe, and bar, though it was no longer a hotel. The station was also frequented by the numerous ranch hands working for the Hollisters, who stopped by for meals as well as drinks at the bar. During the Loustalots' stay at the adobe a tack room was added between the house and the barn to satisfy the expanded needs of Hollister's ranch.⁵⁷

With the completion of the Southern Pacific Railroad Coast Line use of the adobe dwindled rapidly. Though stages continued to link Solvang with the railroad at Gaviota as late as 1914,⁵⁸ the adobe only served in the capacity of a cafe-bar. Jacob Loustalot died in 1916 and three years later

his wife left Las Cruces. Others who lived in the adobe following the Loustalots were respectively Vicente Ortega, Oliver Johnson, and Frank Lugo, though only for short periods.⁵⁹

The Hollisters continued to use the ranch house as a stop-over when driving their cattle through the pass for shipment by the Southern Pacific. Dibblee Poett recalls driving cattle to Caviota in the late teens noting:

We usually left Rancho San Julian in the early morning arriving at Las Cruces about noon, where the cattle would rest and water there for about an hour; then go on down the pass. There were usually four or five riders in the lead to warn approaching drivers or to prevent the lead cattle from straying into the creek or nearby hills.⁶⁰

Poett also notes that vaqueros who rode in the lead wearing red bandanas would warn motor traffic coming up the pass to pull off the road and permit the herd to continue. After the early twenties cattle were still driven through the pass with the aid of California Highway Patrolmen who would warn traffic of what was coming down the road. This practice continued until shortly after World War II.⁶¹ During the twenties, also in the immediate area, was a small store owned by John and Cesarina Loustalot as well as an inn run by Charles Nicholas.⁶²

Adobe houses are fragile structures and if not cared for properly, they quickly fall to ruin. A photo of the Las Cruces

Rancho in 1940 shows its condition about ten years after it was vacated. Since this time a new highway has gone in and the adobe has remained virtually ignored, subject to much vandalism and malicious mischief. As the forces of nature take their toll, most of the shingles have blown off, the roof caved in, and walls fallen over.

Fig. 6

In October 1967,⁶³ the State of California purchased Rancho Las Cruces from the Hollister Company. Since this time plans have been made to restore the adobe to its condition at its most historically significant period of use - the 1880s and 90s. Though today it stands in its ruined state with the freeway as a backdrop the Las Cruces adobe serves to remind all of an important part of Santa Barbara County's historic past. By converting this adobe to a youth hostel, the traditional use of the adobe as a stopover for travelers making their way along California's coast will continue.

APPENDIX I

ESPEDENTE.

Promovido por el Ciudadano Miguel Cordero en pretension del
paraje nombrado las Cruces.

137.

Sor Gobernador

Miguel Cordero de este vecuedad ante V. S. con el
respeto debido y conferme a omi dro, combengo, digo;
que con el abjeto de dedicarme al interesante ramo de
la agricultura pr. hallarne poseedor de algim numero de
vienes de campo tengo presente qe. para este fin con-
forme a las leyes de colonizacion debo de denjir me a V.
S. como lo hago en solicitud del paraje nombrado las
Cruces; este terreno avunque ha pertinacido a la ex-
mission de Sta. Ines, se halla a la pha, desocupado, y el
cetado establecimiento no lo necesita, por tal motero lo
creo colonizable y sin atro impedimento a impediera su
adjudicacion elli edad abanzada mis mentos contracos
a el Sero, de las Amas y oteos muy notorios sou las que
mi impelsu dirigir esta representacion acompenada con
el correspondunte disenõ.

Portanto, A. V. S. Suplico se siena acceder como
pido su que receivre gracea admitendo esta en papel
concur pt. mo haber del Sello correspondente.

Jurando lo necessario.

Sta. Barbary, Mayo 2 de 1837.

A ruego del interesado.

JOSÉ DE LA GUERRA Y CARRILLO.

TRANSLATION OF ESPEDIENTE.

PROCEEDINGS

Instituted by the citizen Miguel Cordero, petitioning for the place named Las Cruces.

137.

To His Excellency, the Governor:

I, Miguel Cordero, of this vicinity, before your excellency, with due respect, appear and say: That, being desirous of devoting myself to agriculture, since I am the owner of a considerable amount of stock, and being aware that, under the laws of colonization, I must apply to your honor, as I do, asking for a grant of the place named "Las Cruces." This tract of land, although it has belonged to the ex-mission of Santa Ines, is at present unoccupied, and the said mission does not need the same. Wherefore I think that the same is in a condition to be colonized, and I think there is nothing to prevent the said place from being granted.

My old age, and the military services I have given to the country, impel me to make this petition to your honor.

Wherefore I pray your honor to be pleased to grant my petition, admitting this on common paper, for want of sealed paper.

Santa Barbara, May 2d, 1837.

At the request of the petitioner.

JOSÉ DE LA GUERRA Y CARRILLO.

APPENDIX II

En el refendo rancho de las Cruces y su el mismo día, mes y año [Nov. 2, 1845] D. Miguel Cordero reesino del Puerto de Sta Barbara, acompañado del Alcalde y testigos de Asist'a. de estos antos, dijo; que habiendose medido las tierras de este rancho segron consta su el anto anterior, tomaba y toma la herdadera y corporal posecion de dtias tierras medidas pues le pertenesen por justo titulo que obtiene de la concesion q'l. de ellas le hiso el Sup'or. Gob'no del Departamento entrò y pasò por ellas arrancò Urbac esparciò punados de tierra rompio ramas de los arboles e hiso otras danostracunes y actos de posesion en señal q'l. la q'l deajo tomada de dicha tierras y yo dicho Alcalde mandé que de sole entouces lo tubieran y reconocieran por Cordadero Señor y poseedor de ella.

De todo lo espuesto pedio decho D. Miguel Cordero que para memoria en lo handero y conserbacion de sus directros le fuese estendido por mi el repetido Alcalde una constancea, y lo ferino y los de mi asst'a. de que doy fe.

NICHOLAS A. DEN,

Asst'a RAYMUNDO CARRILLO,

Asst'a JOSE M'A. ORTEGA.

On the said Rancho, of Las Cruces, and on the same day, month, and year [Nov. 2, 1845], Don Miguel Cordero, a resident of the port of Santa Barbara, in company with the Alcalde and the assisting witnesses; he said, that the lands of this Rancho, having been measured, as shown by the foregoing proceedings, he took the true and corporal possession of the said lands, since they belonged to him by the just title, which was issued to him by the superior government of the department. He entered upon and passed over said lands, pulling up herbage and scattering handfuls of earth; breaking branches of trees, and making other demonstrations, as a sign of the possession, which he said he took of said land. Whereupon I, the said Alcalde, ordered that, from that time forth, he should be considered as the owner and possessor of the same.

Of all of which the said Miguel Cordero asked a testimony, for the future security of his rights, which I, the said Alcalde, gave, signing the same with the assisting witnesses.

NICOLAS A. DEN.

Assist. RAYMUNDO CARRILLO

Assist. JOSÉ Ma. ORTEGA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Primary Sources

In the Matter of Rancho Las Cruces - Petition to Congress
by Claimants, Washington, R. O. Polkinhouse, Printer,
1876.

Santa Barbara County Hall of Records, Book of Deeds, Book
C, p. 587.

_____, Book of Deeds, Book W, p. 62.

_____, Book of Deeds, Book Y, pp. 52, 539.

_____, Book of Deeds, Book 2207, p. 1050.

Santa Barbara County Surveyors Office, Patents, Book A, p.
584.

_____, Map of Rancho Las Cruces, March 1907.

Santa Barbara Historical Society, Genealogy of Miguel Cordero.

Secondary Sources

Anonymous, "A. B. Williams Services to be Tomorrow," The
Morning Press, Vol. LXXIV, No. 108 (February 16, 1937),
p. 3.

_____, "Indian Affairs in the South," The Los Angeles Star,
Vol. V, No. 23 (October 20, 1855), p. 2.

_____, "New Mail Routes," Santa Barbara Weekly Press, Vol.
V, No. 3 (July 19, 1873), p. 5.

Avina, Rose H., Spanish and Mexican Land Grants in California,
San Francisco, R. and E. Research Associates, 1973
(reprint of author's thesis, University of California,
1936).

- Bancroft, Hubert Howe, History of California, The History Company Publishers, 1886.
- Becker, Robert H., Diseños of California - Rancho Maps of thirty-seven Land Grants [1822-1846] From the Records of the United States District Court - San Francisco, San Francisco, The Book Club of California, 1964.
- Cleland, Robert Glas, The Cattle on a Thousand Hills, San Marino, The Huntington Library, 1951.
- Fessor, "Letters from Las Cruces," Santa Barbara Press, Vol. III, No. 51 (June 15, 1872), p. 2.
- Huse, Charles E., Sketch of the History and Resources of Santa Barbara City and County, California, Santa Barbara, Office of the Daily Press, 1876.
- Lane, Kathleen Rosella, The Early History of Goleta, Masters Thesis, University of Southern California, 1935.
- Mason, Jesse D., History of Santa Barbara County, Oakland, Thompson and West, 1883.
- O'Neil, Owen H., History of Santa Barbara County, Santa Barbara, Union Printing Company, 1939.
- Phillips, Michael J., History of Santa Barbara County, Chicago, S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1927.
- Poett, Dibblee, "The Gaviota Pass," Noticias, Vol. X, No. 2 (Spring, 1964), pp. 8-10.
- Santa Barbara Historical Society, List of Sheriffs of Santa Barbara County.
- Santa Barbara Planning Commission, The Master Plan of Santa Barbara: Roads and Highways, Santa Barbara, November 15, 1938.

Storke, Yda Addis, A Memorial and Biographical History of
the Counties of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and
Ventura, Chicago, The Lewis Publishing Company, 1891.

Streeter, William A., "Recollections of Historical Events
in California, 1843-1878," California Historical Society
Quarterly (edited by William Henry Ellison), Vol. XVIII,
No. 3 (September 1939), pp. 254-78.

Tompkins, Walker, Yankee Barbarenos, unpublished manuscript
at Santa Barbara Public Library.

_____, "Las Cruces Hotel ruins," Santa Barbara News-Press,
Vol. CXX, No. 277 (February 23, 1975), p. C8.

Interviews

Mr. and Mrs. I. A. Bonilla, March 17, 1975.

Caroline D. Henning, April 26, 1975.

Cesarina Loustalot, May 5, 1975.

Vicente Ortega, April 24, 1975.

Dibblee Poett, April 15, 1975.

1. Rose H. Avina, Spanish and Mexican Land Grants in California, San Francisco, R. and E. Research Associates, 1973, p. 16.

2. Between 1822 and 1847, 428 Mexican land grants were approved in California. For a complete listing of these grants see Avina, Ibid., pp. 36-90. Map 1 shows the area covered by Mexican land grants in California by 1847.

3. Charles E. Huse, Sketch of the History and Resources of Santa Barbara City and County, California, Santa Barbara, Office of the Daily Press, 1876, p. 14. Different sources quote different acreage equivalents for Spanish leagues. Huse notes 4438 acres per league while Avila notes 4428.

4. Robert H. Becker, Diseños of California Ranchos: Maps of thirty-seven Land Grants [1822-1846] From the Records of the United States District Court - San Francisco, San Francisco, The Book Club of California, 1964, p. xii.

5. Ibid., pp. xiii-xiv. United States District Courts, later, when verifying individual claims of Mexican land grantees considered this date of the concedo as the legal succession of land from the public domain.

6. Ibid., p. xiv.

7. Ibid., Chapter 28.

8. Hubert Howe Bancroft, History of California, San Francisco, The History Publishing Company, 1886, Vol. 11, p. 767.

9. For the text of his request see Appendix 1.

10. For the text concerning the ceremony following approval see Appendix 11.

11. Becker, loc. cit.

12. Ibid. The Rancho Las Cruces was defined until this time as being bordered to the north by Rancho Santa Rosa and Nojoqui; to the n. e. and east by the Cuchilla or ridge and Nojoqui; to the south by Rancho la Gaviota; and to the west by Rancho San Julien.

13. This figure represents the final size of the Ranch ultimately determined by the United States Surveyor General in 1881. Santa Barbara County Surveyors Office, Patents, Book A, p. 584.

14. In the Matter of Rancho Las Cruces, Santa Barbara County, California, Petition to Congress by Claimants, Washington, D. C., R. O. Polkinhouse, Printer, 1876, pp. 12, 20.

15. Robert Glas Cleland, The Cattle on a Thousand Hills: Southern California 1850-1880, San Marino, The Huntington Library, 1951, p. 106.

16. In the Matter of..., op. cit., p. 20.

17. Jesse D. Mason, History of Santa Barbara County, Oakland, Thompson and West, 1883, p. 301.

18. Anonymous, "Indian Affairs in the South," The Los Angeles Star, Vol. V, No. 23 (October 20, 1855), p. 2.

19. In the Matter of..., op. cit., p. 21.

20. Huse, op. cit., p. 23.

21. Kathleen Rosella Lane, The Early History of Goleta, unpublished manuscript (thesis at USC), 1935, p. 33.

22. In the Matter of..., op. cit., pp. 22, 24.

23. Ibid., p. 22. The children were José Antonio Vicente, Miguel Higinio, Juan de Parma, José de Jesus, Tomas de Jesus, Isabel, José Salvador, and María Teresa. Santa Barbara Hist. Society Genealogy Records.

24. Ibid., pp. 36, 39, 44.

25. Owen H. O'Neil, History of Santa Barbara County - Its People and Its Resources, Santa Barbara, Union Printing Company, 1939, p. 142.

26. Relatives of Baron, Pierre and Iran Baron, purchased land at an auction held by order of the Superior Court in 1861. Santa Barbara County Hall of Records, Book of Deeds, Book C, p. 587.

27. Cleland, op. cit., p. 126.

28. Ibid., p. 130.

29. Ibid., p. 136-7.

30. According to Huse, in his Sketch of the History and Resources of Santa Barbara..., less than eight inches of rain fell this year. Huse, op. cit., p. 14.

31. In the Matter of..., p. 25.

32. The nine parties listed in the 1876 Petition include:
1) Vicente Cordero; 2) Juan J. Cordero; 3) Heirs of Ysabel Cordero Valenzuela (deceased) - Refugia, Felipa, María Antonia, Concepcion, Micaela, Gertrudio, Juan, and Eugeno; 4) A. B. [ascom] Williams; 5) Thomas B. Dibblee, Albert Dibblee, and W. W. Hollister; 6) Ramon Gonzales; 7) J. M. Short; 8) O. D. Metcalf; 9) Heirs of Augustus J. Dinsmore (deceased) - Sarah, Albert, Bradley T., Fanny E., Thomas, Irwin W.

33. O'Neil, op. cit., frontispiece.

34. In the Matter of..., op. cit., pp. 5 ff.
35. Becker, op. cit., Chapter 28.
36. Santa Barbara County Surveyor's Office, Patents.
Book A, p. 584.
37. William A. Streeter, "Recollection of Historical Events in California, 1843-1878," California Historical Society Quarterly (edited by William Ellison), Vol. XVIII, No. 3 (September, 1939), p. 262.
38. Elize Williams was justice of the third township at the time of the murder.
39. Ibid., pp. 262-64.
39. Anonymous, "A. B. Williams Services to be Tomorrow," The Morning Press, Vol. LXXIV, No. 108 (February 16, 1937), p. 3 and Santa Barbara County Archives, Office of the Clerk of the Board.
41. Anonymous, "New Mail Routes," Santa Barbara Weekly Press, Vol. V, No. 3 (July 19, 1873), p. 5.
42. Loc cit., The Morning Press reported on his death in 1937 that Williams was proud of his record as judge "for he never opened a docket but was able to get litigants together in a conference, at which they invariably settled their differences amicably out of court."
43. Streeter, op. cit., p. 262.
44. Fessor, "Letter from Las Cruces," Santa Barbara Press, Vol. III, No. 51 (June 15, 1872), p. 2. This letter also brings attention to Las Cruces as a future rural retreat for pleasure and health seekers due to the nearby sulfur hot springs (temperature 95°), located less than one mile from the adobe.
45. Ibid.

46. Anonymous, New Mail Routes, loc. cit.

47. Walker Tompkins, Yankee Barbarenos (unpublished manuscript on file at the Santa Barbara Public Library). According to an advertisement in the Santa Barbara Press (Vol. III, No. 39, March 23, 1872, p. 1), in the 1870s it took forty eight hours to travel from Santa Barbara to San Francisco via the Coast Line Stage.

In March, 1874, Burke changed the stage route to bypass Las Cruces and go through San Marcos Pass and Ballard, however, according to O'Neil (op. cit., p. 460), Las Cruces was a stage stop from 1878 through to 1901. It is probable that more than one stage serviced this stop. So though Burke changed his route, other stages continue to stop at the Las Cruces adobe.

48. Dibblee Poett, "The Gaviota Pass," Noticias, Vol. X, No. 2 (Spring, 1964), p. 8.

49. Yda Addis Storke, A Memorial and Biographical History of the Counties of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura, Chicago, The Lewis Publishing Company, 1891, p. 491.

50. List of sheriffs of Santa Barbara County, Santa Barbara Historical Society Archives.

51. Walker Tompkins, "Las Cruces hotel ruins," Santa Barbara News-Press, Vol. CXX, No. 277 (February 23, 1975), p. C-8.

52. Santa Barbara County Hall of Records, Book of Deeds, Book W, p. 62. The land was described as bounded on the south by Rancho La Gaviota, which is part of the Pancho Nuestra Señora del Refugio; on the west by Rancho San Julian, and land of the parties of the second part (i.e., the Hollisters and Dibblees), on the north by Rancho Santa Rosa and public lands

of the United States, and on the east by Rancho Nojoqui, the Cuchilla or ridge of the Nojoqui and by public lands of the United States.

53. Santa Barbara County Surveyor's Office, Patents, Book A, p. 584.

54. Storke, op. cit., p. 652.

55. Poett, op. cit., p. 8-10.

56. Tompkins, YB, op. cit., p. 609.

57. Interview with Vicente Ortega, April 24, 1975.

58. Tompkins, YB, op. cit., p. 609.

59. Interview with Caroline D. Henning, April 26, 1975.

60. Poett, loc. cit.

61. Ibid.

62. Interview with Caroline D. Henning, loc. cit.

63. Santa Barbara County Hall of Records, Book 2207, p. 1050, October 10, 1967.



THIS WAS THE SCENE IN ABOUT THE YEAR 1903 in front of the old adobe at Las Cruces during the period when it was occupied by members of the Jacob Loustalot family. Mrs. Cesarina Loustalot of Santa Ynez, widow of Jean (John) Loustalot who lived at the adobe as a boy, identified some of those in the photo. From the left are Vincente Ortega, Mrs. Jacob (Rose) Loustalot, an unidentified little girl, Justine Loustalot Meloling, unidentified man, little Jean Loustalot and his brother, Pierre (Pete). Behind latter is the old Indian Fernando, who began his life at Old Mission Santa Ines and who later lived with the Loustalot family for 21 years. He was a handyman for the Loustalots and lived to the ripe age of 111 before succumbing to the flu in an epidemic in Santa Barbara in 1919. Mrs. Cesarina Loustalot believes Vincente Guevarra is standing behind Jacob Loustalot, while the Guevarra boys, David and Dan, are at the extreme right. State of California is now considering restoring adobe, now almost in complete ruins, as a historical landmark.

Restoration of Las Cruces Adobe

The State Resources Agency has acquired title to the land at the intersection of State Highway 1 with U.S. 101 in Gaviota Pass, and has turned its attention to the possibility of restoring the old adobe hotel, store and stage station at Las Cruces as an historical landmark.



Rasmussen's gift shop features a wide variety of imported gifts, imported and domestic fabrics, hand knit imported sweaters and many other beautiful Scandinavian items. This interesting shop has delighted shoppers in Solvang for over twenty years. 1697 Copenhagen Drive in Solvang, Telephone 688-6636.

Hit by Rains

The heavy Winter weather nearly completed the demolition of the old landmark. However, the structure has been made the subject of a preliminary historical values analysis by Allen W. Welts, supervisor of the history section of the Resources Agency of California. He has recommended that the adobe walls and deteriorating timbers be stabilized until a study

COME — PUTTER A-ROUND
DENNISON'S
Pee Wee Golf

Fun For All Ages
1645 MISSION DR., SOLVANG
(ACROSS FROM SOLVANG PARK)

HOMES - RANCHES
George
RE
In the Beautiful
444 ALIBABA
PHONE

can be made of their
James P. Tryner, of
sion of resource man
has endorsed the W
officially known as
Hollister Adobe.

The adobe-walled s
obscure, but it is b
late Mexican period
the 8,152 acre Las Cr
ta Pass, originally
Miguel Cordero and
ants in 1883 by Pres

The ranch became
land empire acquired
partnership in the la
the partnership wa
Dibblee retained ov
ranch and Col. W. W
ranches, Las Cruces
Hollister Estate.

Las Cruces became
settlement during the
Century, and was an
farmers delivering gr
the Santa Ynez Valle

The original adobe
hotel, saloon, stable, b
coach depot. Over
roofs were installed.



HOMES - RANCHES - ACREAGE - RENTALS

George Burtness

REALTOR

In the Beautiful Santa Ynez Valley

444 ALISAL RD., SOLVANG
PHONE: 688-5596

La Petite Galerie

BUELLTON

● Paintings by
FORREST HIBBITS
MARIE JAANS

26 HWY. 246

PHONE 688-6112

can be made of their potential value and use.

James P. Tryner, chief of the agency's division of resource management and protection, has endorsed the Welts report. The ruins are officially known as the Gaviota State Beach Hollister Adobe.

The adobe-walled structure's beginnings are obscure, but it is believed to date from the late Mexican period when it was a part of the 8,152 acre Las Cruces land grant in Gaviota Pass, originally deeded in the 1810's to Miguel Cordero and patented to his descendants in 1883 by President Chester A. Arthur.

The ranch became part of the 125,000 acre land empire acquired by the Dibblee-Hollister partnership in the late 1860s. In 1862, when the partnership was dissolved, Thomas B. Dibblee retained ownership of San Julian ranch and Col. W. W. Hollister the contiguous ranches, Las Cruces becoming part of the Hollister Estate.

Las Cruces became an important crossroad settlement during the latter third of the 19th Century, and was an overnight stopover for farmers delivering grain and other crops from the Santa Ynez Valley to the Gaviota Wharf.

The original adobe became a combination hotel, saloon, stable, blacksmith shop and stage-coach depot. Over the years, three shingle roofs were installed, one over the other, to

protect the adobe walls below. These are in an extremely deteriorated condition today.

The Las Cruces Adobe was also known as the Loustalot Adobe after it was leased by Jacob Loustalot in 1894. Loustalot had come from Southern France to California and leased part of the Hollister Ranch and built the Loustalot Corrals, where sheep and cattle were held after being shipped to Gaviota Wharf on their way to the Lompoc Valley.

Loustalot died in 1919 and his wife left the adobe in 1921 to live in Santa Barbara. Jean Loustalot, born in 1899, was born and raised in the adobe. His widow, Cesarina, now of Santa Ynez, remembers the adobe as "just a shambles" in 1938.

More recently, following its acquisition by the State as part of a right of way for highway construction at the junction, deterioration has been rapid through vandalism, equipment storage, freeway construction and weather erosion.

"From the standpoint of environment, the present appearance leaves much to be desired," Welts reported. "However, the structure is one of only three in California, owned by the the state, which typifies in design an adobe ranch house and stage station. Its location offers opportunity for development as part of a wayside camp program, incorporating the historic Gaviota Pass iron bridge and stream bed into the scene."



Specializing in Danish Dishes

Møllekroen

Businessmen's Smørgaasbord Luncheon - Weekdays

Visit Our Viking Cocktail Lounge
(the newest cocktail lounge in town)

435 ALISAL ROAD - SOLVANG
PHONE: 688-4555

DAILY SMØRGAASBORD

June 1969, in the Beautiful Santa Ynez Valley 27

LAS CRUCES RANCHO

It is a legend that one day Joaquin Murrieta and his gang appeared at Las Cruces Rancho and found Senora Ortega alone. Joaquin said to her that he knew they had sold some cattle and asked her where the money was. The poor woman hesitated to tell him. Whereupon he grabbed her earrings and tore them off. The slit ear lobes pained her greatly and, fearing further harm she indicated to Murrieta where the money was buried under a tree. This spot later became a rendezvous for thieves and bandits. Some of the buildings are still standing.

(For the Good of the Country page 68.
Hattie Stone Benefield 1951.)

Indian name for Las Cruces in Alexander Taylor's column in the Calif. Farmer 1860's is Sajcay and can be found inside the cover of Dick Whitehead's book Mission La Purisima Concepcion.

Lillian Smith letter 5-24-80

LOS CRUCES BIBLIOGRAPHY

Los Cruces Hotel Ruins

Walker A. Tompkins News Press 2-23-75

Olden Days Mineral Springs Popular Spot.

Stella Nevada and Rouse News Press Sept 21-1963

IN THE MATTER OF RANCHO LAS CRUCES S. B. Co. Calif.

Petition to Congress by Claimants. Washington D. C. 1876

Hullen and Hyde of San Francisco Cal. and Smith & Redington Washington D. C.

Born: 1804 on Santa Cruz Island
 Brought to San Buenaventura Mission while a child.
 grew up there and worked until the mission was secularised.

Died: June 19, 1915 buried at Calvary Cemetery. Never married
 111 years old

Worked: Santa Inez Mission, ranches Santa Ynez Valley, last 21 years
 for the Lustalot Family at Las Cruces.

Name 4 generations all had the Indian name of Kitsepawit Father, Grand Father,
 Great Grand Father, and Fernando.

Fernando could not read or write. His primary language was Spanish but he
 spoke Ventureno, also also-Cruzeno, Inezeno and some Purismeno.

He began working with John P. Harrington in late 1912. He was his most
 important informant on numerous subjects.

Harrington usually used the abbreviation "F" for Fernando.

SPANISH PERIOD

F

1769 GASPAR PORTOLA = camped at Sanata

1804 S.Y. MISSION
 Battle won by Indians Padre put up + +.

MEXICAN

833 MIGUEL CORDERO Settles on ex Mission land.

1830 Grant by Gov. Cebico -

237 MAY 8 Grant by " Alvarado.

1833 1st adobe house 2 fields, garden, Orchard, Vineyard
 of 2000 grape vines.

1876 Vincente Cordero added 3 orchard.

- 1876 Patent compare to get patent to land
- 1880 Aug 31 Grant confirmed
- 1881 Aug Land survey completed
- 1883 Aug Patent approved & passed.
- 1862 Homestead act - passed. For Census
land open land to Government

1863-1864 1/2 acre area - where 10 people
Indian resided area 10 people

1846 TULARE Indians resided area 10 people
trapped by the attack.
AMERICAN PERIOD
Cordova died -

- MARCH 1851 MIGUEL Antonio Cordova Died - 9 children
- 1857 Maria Antonio Cordova built on grant.

- 1857-1876 6 adobe houses built on grant. BUILT?
- 1860 LOS CRUCES ADOBE BUILT?
- 1860 Frank Birabent
- 1860 O. No. Baron.

1912 Fenwick - Elmer & Manning
Jan 19, ~~1914~~ 1915 " " Died -
1930 Trust people Lincoln -
Oct 1967 Statog City Purchase -

1877 R J Broughton

1883 " " elected Sheriff of S.B. Co.

June 29 1880 Vincent Corders sold land to Hollister for \$2,218

1880'2 Hollister built Barn -

1889 Narrow gauge R.R. to Joe Oliver bought end of freight business -

1890-1916 JACOB LOUSTALOT & wife -

AMERICAN

3

1864 Menden - Wilson Corlies - wife & daughter
Williams
~~Williams~~ Bros: Bell returned to Oregon

BUILT WOODEN
ADDITION FOR
STAGE STATION -
Elija? Menden San. L. Co
Steve

Cotas of Granite had machine

1866 BASCOM WILLIAMS & 1880 became Co. - Clark.

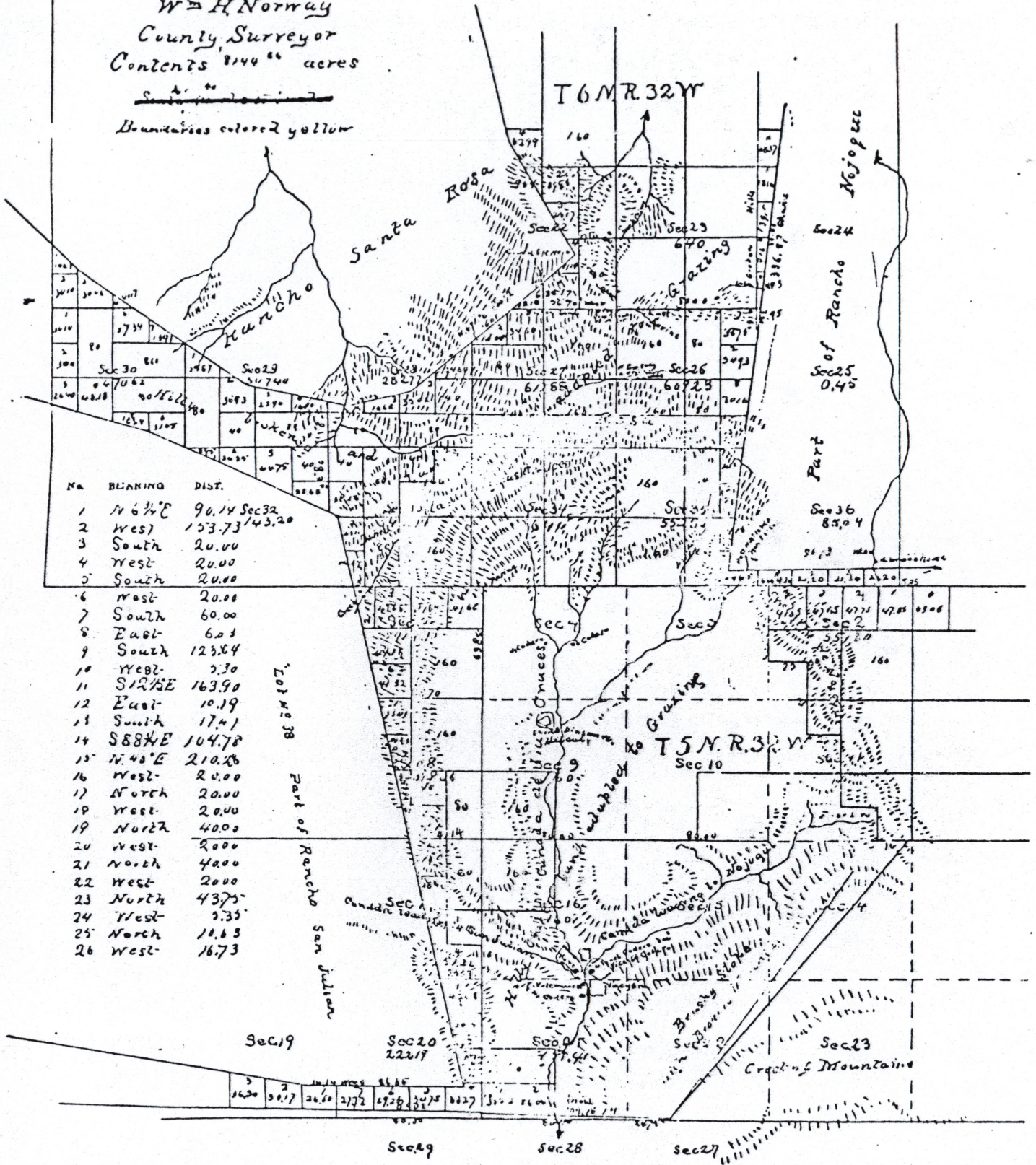
1870 - 1875 NO MORE LITTLE INTEREST ON TRUCKS:

1875 - W. H. HOUSTON & T & A. D. BIRGE
built what was at Grants.

Map
RANCHO LAS CRUCES
 Santa Barbara Co. Cal^a

Surveyed by
 W. H. Norway
 County Surveyor
 Contents 2144⁶⁶ acres

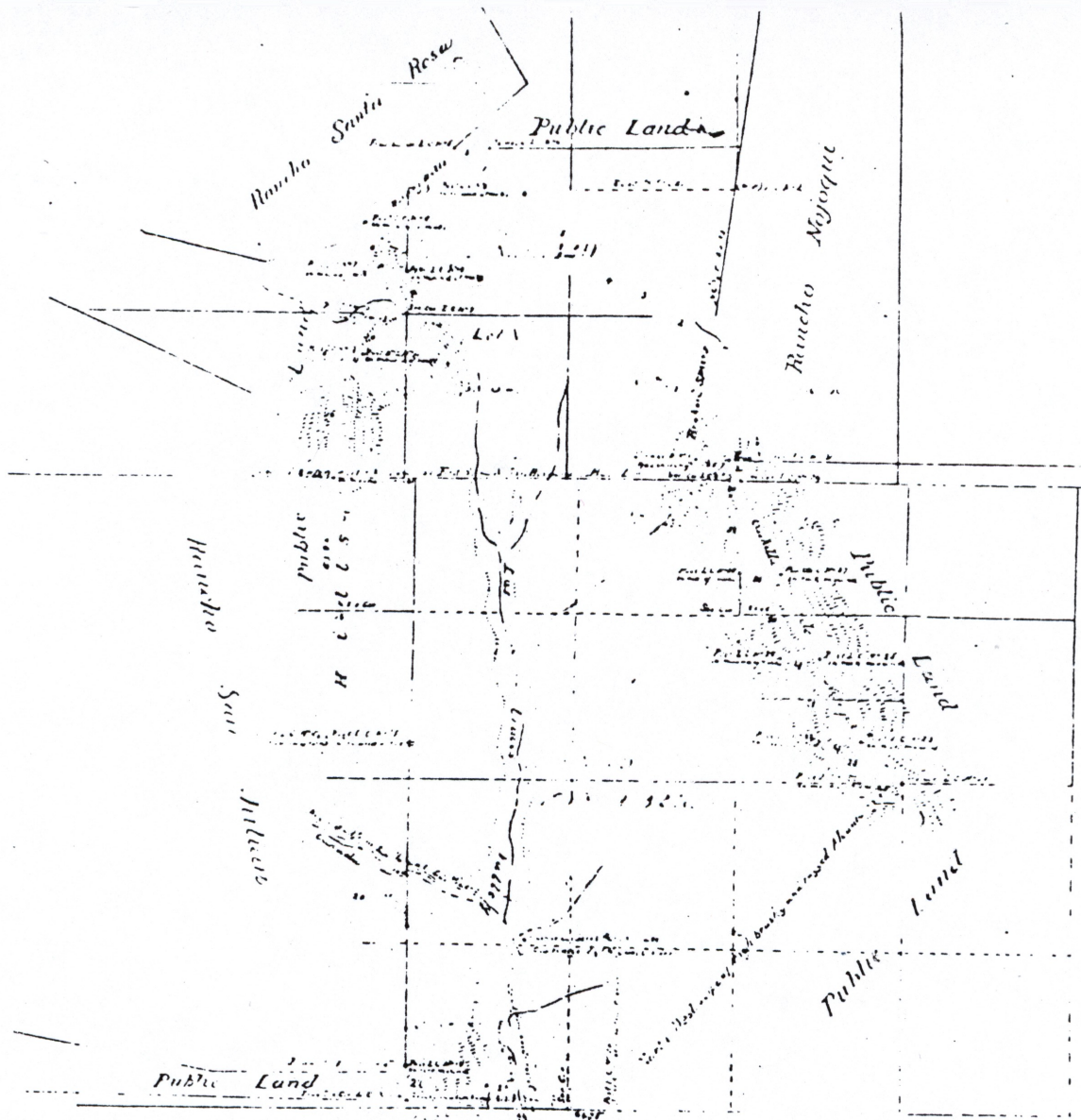
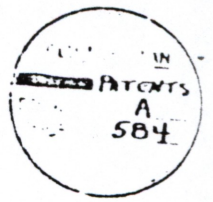
Boundaries colored yellow



No.	BEARING	DIST.
1	N 6 3/4° E	90.14 Sec 32
2	West	153.73 / 43.20
3	South	20.00
4	West	20.00
5	South	20.00
6	West	20.00
7	South	60.00
8	East	60.0
9	South	123.64
10	West	2.30
11	S 12 1/2° E	163.90
12	East	10.19
13	South	17.41
14	S 88° E	104.78
15	N 40° E	210.26
16	West	20.00
17	North	20.00
18	West	20.00
19	North	40.00
20	West	20.00
21	North	40.00
22	West	20.00
23	North	43.75
24	West	3.35
25	North	18.63
26	West	16.73

Rancho Lu Cariota

Part of Rancho Nuestra Señora del Refugio



PLAT
 of the
RANCHO LAS CRUCES
 in Santa Barbara County, California
 first opened to
VICENTE CORDERO et al
 Surveyed under instruction from the
U.S. SURVEYOR GENERAL
 By **W.H. Murray, Dep Sur**
 August 1881
 Containing **9512.81 acres**
 of unappropriated
 public land

584

Boundaries of the Rancho Las Cruces

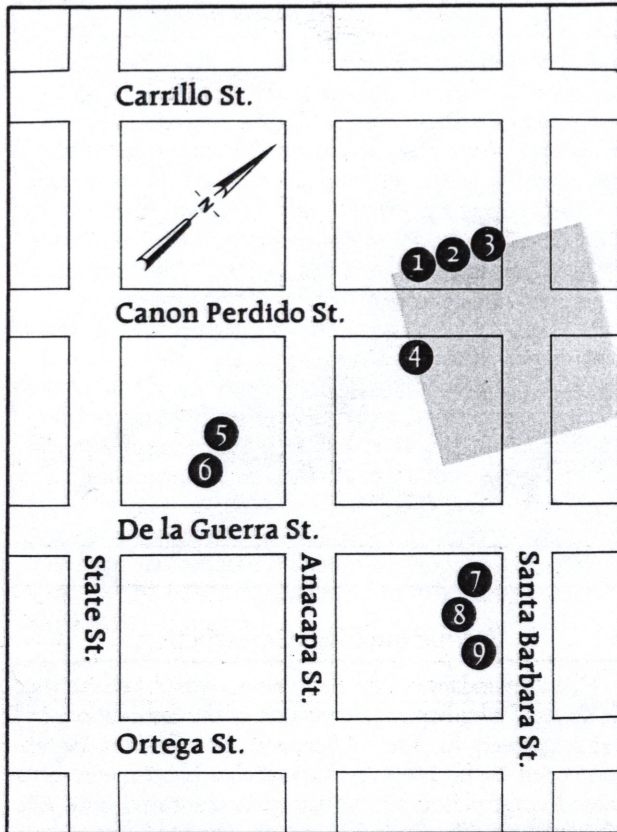
Section	Acres	Section	Acres	Section	Acres	Section	Acres
1	230.4	2	230.4	3	230.4	4	230.4
5	230.4	6	230.4	7	230.4	8	230.4
9	230.4	10	230.4	11	230.4	12	230.4
13	230.4	14	230.4	15	230.4	16	230.4
17	230.4	18	230.4	19	230.4	20	230.4
21	230.4	22	230.4	23	230.4	24	230.4
25	230.4	26	230.4	27	230.4	28	230.4
29	230.4	30	230.4	31	230.4	32	230.4
33	230.4	34	230.4	35	230.4	36	230.4
37	230.4	38	230.4	39	230.4	40	230.4
41	230.4	42	230.4	43	230.4	44	230.4
45	230.4	46	230.4	47	230.4	48	230.4
49	230.4	50	230.4	51	230.4	52	230.4
53	230.4	54	230.4	55	230.4	56	230.4
57	230.4	58	230.4	59	230.4	60	230.4
61	230.4	62	230.4	63	230.4	64	230.4
65	230.4	66	230.4	67	230.4	68	230.4
69	230.4	70	230.4	71	230.4	72	230.4
73	230.4	74	230.4	75	230.4	76	230.4
77	230.4	78	230.4	79	230.4	80	230.4
81	230.4	82	230.4	83	230.4	84	230.4
85	230.4	86	230.4	87	230.4	88	230.4
89	230.4	90	230.4	91	230.4	92	230.4
93	230.4	94	230.4	95	230.4	96	230.4
97	230.4	98	230.4	99	230.4	100	230.4

Rancho Nuestra Señora del Milagro
 Approved July 7th 1883
 T. C. W. Sherman
 Commissioner of the
 General Land Office



This plat of the Rancho Las Cruces is hereby
 certified to have been surveyed and approved
 and the same is hereby opened to public sale
 under the provisions of the Act of Congress of the
 16th March 1877, and the Commission of the
 General Land Office dated March 25 1883
 U.S. Survey - General Office
 San Francisco, California
 May 2 1883

W. T. Brewer
 U.S. Survey - Gen'l Off.



1. Caneda Adobe (Trust Headquarters)
2. Padre's Quarters
3. Presidio Chapel Site
4. El Cuartel
5. El Paseo
6. Casa de la Guerra
7. S. B. Historical Society Museum
8. Historic Adobe
9. Covarrubias Adobe

EL PRESIDIO
DE
SANTA BARBARA
STATE HISTORIC PARK

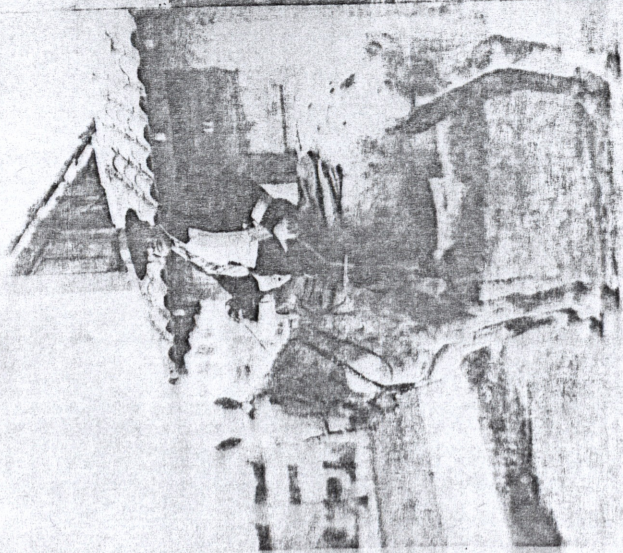
Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation
123 East Canon Perdido Street
Santa Barbara, California 93102
(805) 966-9719

Cover Photo: View of the reconstructed Padre's Quarters with the original Chapel bell. (Wm. Dewey). Design: Wm. Dewey & Russell Shultz

El Presidio de Santa Barbara



STATE HISTORIC PARK



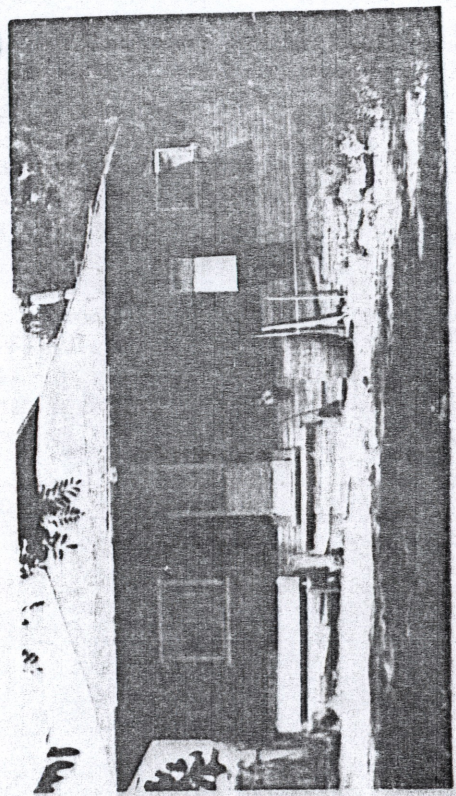
William Cordero



Eduardo Cordero



Don Guevappa



Los Cruces Rancho Homestead



SANTA BARBARA YESTERDAYS

Las Cruces hotel ruins

By Walker A. Tompkins
News-Press Historian

The ghost town of Las Cruces, located north of Gaviota Pass at U.S. 101 and State Highway 1 to Lompoc, was a booming little settlement a hundred years ago.

Today Las Cruces has been reduced to the sagging adobe and shingle ruin shown above. In its heyday before the turn of the century the building served as a stage station, store, saloon, restaurant, blacksmith shop and hotel.

Las Cruces means "the crosses." The name was applied to the area around 1790 when Franciscan friars, noting a number of unidentified grave mounds in the vicinity, marked them with wooden crosses. Historians theorize that the graves might have marked an Indian battlefield, since so many arrow and spearheads were found there.

A warm sulphur springs, now a county park, bubbled from a crease in the foothills

a half mile southeast of the town.

IN SPANISH DAYS, Las Cruces' proximity to Gaviota Creek made it an important watering place for travelers between La Purisima and Santa Barbara Missions by way of San Julian, the "kitchen ranch" granted to the Royal Presidio of Santa Barbara by King Carlos III.

Starting in April, 1860, Concord stagecoaches changed teams at Las Cruces on their way to the Lompoc Valley or, via the Alisal Canyon cutoff, to the Santa Ynez Valley and points north. A small settlement sprang up around the stage station and barns.

The center portion of the adobe pictured above served as a hotel for travelers in the late '60s. A barroom complete with counter and backbar mirror was added in the lean-to nearest the camera, the outer wall having been knocked out by vandals in recent years.

Whenever the shingle roof required patching, the successive owners of the structure laid new rafters, sheathing and shingles over the first, so that portions of the ruins show the wreckage of three layers of roofing.

THE INTERIOR adobe walls have also been heavily damaged in the past 10 years, more by vandalism than by the weather. Layers of old-fashioned wallpaper scab the main interior walls which enclosed a dining room for travelers, with a kitchen adjoining. The lean-to on the left, or west frontage of the building was cut up into cubicles for sleeping rooms. According to the late Sen. J. J. Hollister Sr., who was the last private owner of the property, the rooms at one time were a brothel.

The smaller additions on the right were shops and storage rooms. When Hollister and I explored the ruins in 1960 the walls were hanging with

branding irons, harness, chains and blacksmithing tools dating to the years when Las Cruces Ranch was part of the Hollister Estate ranching operation.

During the 1880s and 90s, farmers from the Santa Ynez Valley had to haul their grain via Alisal Canyon to Gaviota Wharf, operated by Hollister & Dibblee, a trip which required 14 fordings of the creek. The farmers stopped overnight at Las Cruces on their return, and the old hotel became a lively gambling hall and whisky emporium.

IN 1901, when the railroad put the Gaviota Wharf and the stagecoach lines out of business, Las Cruces began its toboggan slide into oblivion.

A huge haybarn east of the hotel ruins, a Hollister Ranch addition of the 1890s, has a manager incorporating two planks which may well be the largest piece of milled fir lumber in California. They are nearly four inches thick,

Skeleton of prehistoric Indian woman discovered

By Dick Smith

News-Press Staff Writer

The skeleton of an Indian believed to be that of a prehistoric woman who lived on San Nicolas is being investigated by scientists from the Barbara Museum of Natural History.

The skeleton, found in the sandy wastes of remote San Nicolas, was discovered accidentally by a sailor stationed on the island while off duty.

SAN NICOLAS, one of the Barbara Channel Islands lies more than 60 miles

offshore from Santa Barbara.

The U.S. Navy, alerted to the discovery of the wind-exposed bones, arranged transportation to the island, a Navy base, for Dr. D. Travis Hudson, museum curator of anthropology, and Mrs. Jan Timbrook, assistant curator.

Hudson and Mrs. Timbrook spent two days on the island researching the find.

They also discovered the site of a cremation, a rather unusual burial dated approximately 1600 AD, Hudson said.

The skeletal remains, upon close examination, were identified

as those of a female approximately 50 years of age who suffered from acute arthritis of the spine.

"DUE TO the nature of the windswept site," Dr. Hudson said, "I would not be able to give even an approximate date of the burial. However I am sure it is prehistoric."

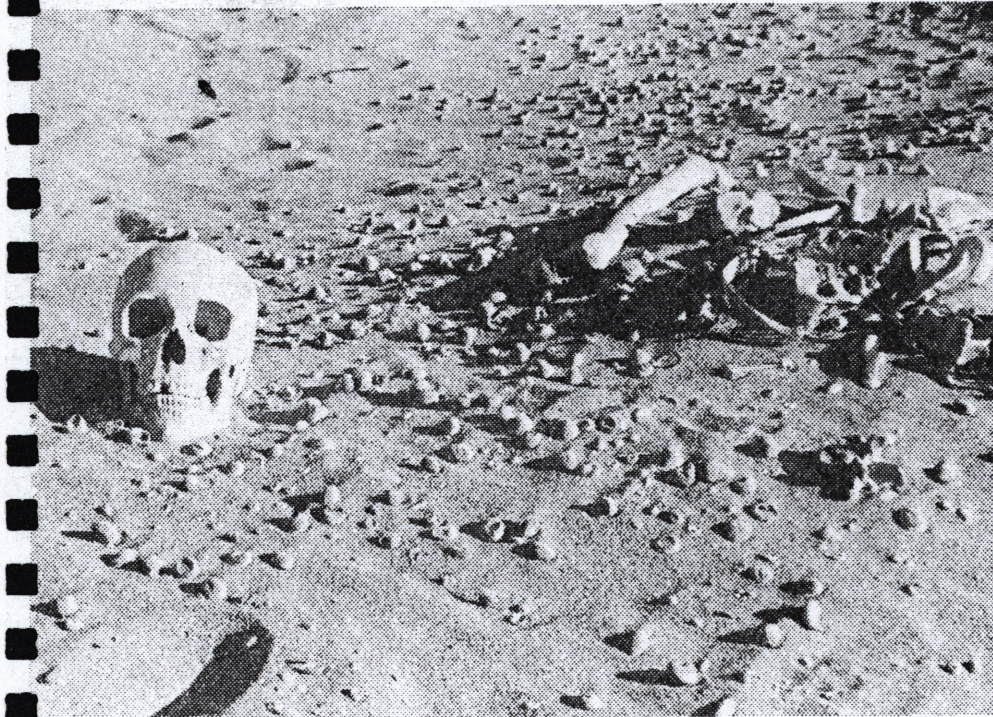
Hudson said that the skeleton had been covered and uncovered more than once by shifting sands. He and his assistant were unable to find any artifacts directly associated with the burial.

18 inches wide, and, believe it or not, 36 feet long—and free of knots.

The barn and roundabout land are now state-owned. A committee headed by Mrs. Cesarina Loustalot of Santa Ynez has been appointed to study the feasibility of restoring the old Las Cruces store, hotel and saloon as a historical landmark. Mrs. Loustalot's family operated a famous general store on the east side of the highway from the 1920s. It was a landmark that fell victim to the widening of the freeway in the late 1950s.

The best place to view Las Cruces ruins, which are closed to visitors by order of the state Department of Beaches and Parks, is from the north near the Lompoc-Vandenberg highway overpass above U.S. 101.

("Santa Barbara Yesterday" may be heard at 7:20 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. on KTMS 1250 on the AM radio dial Mondays through Friday with Walker A. Tompkins at the microphone.)



THESE BONES found on San Nicolas Island are those of a prehistoric Indian woman, according to the Museum of Natural History, which took the picture.

De Anza Trail no easy trek, report says

Continued from Page D-1
 playing out. Finally, the Spanish King Charles III had expelled priests in the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) from his realm and the Franciscans "were eager to seize the opportunity to expand the mission frontier in Upper California."

De Anza became the "right man at the right place at the right time."

He "had the foresight to recognize that opportunity, the courage to act upon his realization, and the leadership qualities to carry his enterprise to fruition," the study says.

The founding of the San Francisco mission and presidio means "De Anza's expedition was a clearcut success in the short run," according to the report's evaluation of historical significance.

But the development of an overland route to sparsely settled California was "rather minimal" in its importance. Indian hostilities closed the trail as a Spanish emigration and supply route in the 1780s.

Parts of the route, however, "were duplicated by the well-known 19th century trails, such as the Gila Trail and the Overland Trail, used by gold rushers, emigrants, and stage lines."

De Anza first left his presidio at Tubac on Jan. 8, 1774, with a small party, skirmishing with thirst and starvation before finding a mountain pass to coastal California. He arrived at Mission San Gabriel on March 22, 1774.

He was promoted to lieutenant colonel for that accomplishment. On Sept. 29, 1775 he set off from Horcasitas, about 175 miles south of Nogales, with a bigger party.

Events include the death of one mother in childbirth — the baby survived to live in California — and three marriages. There also were delays because of the sickness of people and animals.

Hardships included the harsh Arizona desert, crossing the Colorado River, the "shifting, sandy wastelands west of Yuma" with little water and, later, unusually cold weather and snow. But the party reached San Gabriel on Jan. 4, 1776 and waited until Feb. 21 before heading north.



The de Anza expeditions of 1774 and 1776 locally in 1976 by Fr. Kieran McCarthy.

Frontiersman right man for perilous trek

Juan Bautista de Anza has been described as a "desert-toughened frontiersman who had spent a lifetime battling the Indians of northern Sonora" in Mexico, now part of Arizona, when he undertook a journey that was to make him famous:

"He led a mixed band of soldiers and civilians, and women and children, through some of the most forbidding territory ever crossed, during one of the coldest winters on record, with only one death."

According to the National Trail Alternatives Study by the National Parks Service, De Anza made two treks to California, from 1774 through 1776. They led to the birth of San Francisco and proved an overland route to the Spanish outposts was available from Yuma to San Gabriel Mission.

It was "an accomplishment that has never been equalled" in trail party leadership, concludes the study of the proposed Juan Bautista De Anza National Trail. The 2,000-mile route leads through the tri-county area.

Until de Anza, scattered Spanish settlements in California were dependent on ships for supplies. The ocean route was hazardous and time-consuming and the settlements "were small, weak, and constantly threatened with starvation."

The Spanish also wanted "strategically placed harbors and outposts" in California to protect their treasure ships from the Philippines. They were watching other European nations' explorations, the study says.

Rich Spanish mines in Mexico and Central America also were

...right ...iber ...ng to ...nond ...rmer ...Gian- ...Adriana Gian- ...turco (her real name).
 On a number of Los Angeles freeways, fast-moving lanes (usually to the far left) were painted with big blue diamonds, just like on those kitchen-match boxes, and just before and after work hours, these lanes could only be used by

Secret revea
ervisor Carolyn Gil
ision system at the R

"The colonists were pleased with the seacoast around Santa Barbara, and were graciously received at Mission San Luis Obispo and Mission San Antonio," according to the study. The party reached the Monterey Presidio on March 10.

De Anza took a small party to San Francisco, choosing the site of a presidio and mission (named "Friday of Sorrows" or Mission Dolores for the day of its discovery).

Sleeping

Meeting due
 Huttenback said he w
 ily meet this week wi
 fischer, executive dire
 ommission.
 Wallace asserted that
 ity had given up trying
 nrollment, but Hutter
 at "had we not closed e
 n Nov. 30 and refused
 irected students from
 uses for the past two
 nrollment last fall would
 9,743 students — 2,807 more than
 re actually enrolled...
 "Actually, of course, more than
 2,000 of our students are not even
 here."
 are on
 2,044 at
 dents
 impact
 Other
 object
 parkin
 impus
 gns, at
 cans, t
 nds, t
 is anc
 sues.

arts of the plan the figure "seems

in relax. They were

Page D-4, Col. 1

2,000-mile route follows path of explorer de Anza

By Gail Steiger
Lompoc Bureau

Historical interest may accomplish a long-term present-day dream of recreational enthusiasts: Opening a huge stretch of the county's coast for a hiking-riding trail.

"This isn't another Joe Blow Trail. It's an important one," said county parks planner Jonathan Dohm of the proposed Juan Bautista de Anza National Trail under study by the National Parks Service. The service will accept public comments March 27 at a meeting in Santa Barbara.

The county portion of the proposed 2,000-mile route follows the coast from Ventura County to the northerly reaches of Vandenberg Air Force Base, where it moves inland, leaving the county at Guadalupe. The route would begin in Nogales, Ariz., and end at San Francisco Bay.

The meeting, starting at 7:30 p.m. at the supervisors' hearing room in the county Administration Building, is the fifth of seven scheduled in California and Arizona.

Don Olson, wilderness and trail coordinator for the service's San Francisco regional office, will lead the Santa Barbara hearing, said Holly Bundock of the public information staff.

Comments will be incorporated with the trail study and alternative designations and sent to National Park Service headquarters. Congress has asked the Interior Department for a recommendation.

The study found the trail does not meet criteria for National Scenic Trail designation, but it could warrant naming as a National Historic Trail. It also could become a Heritage Trail through special legisla-

tion similar to what created the Daniel Boone Heritage Trail.

Five alternatives offer varying degrees of government and private efforts that could be utilized to educate the public about the trail's history and importance — and to open more of it to public uses.

They are:

—Continue existing programs, with no unified effort to develop a connected trail along the route, mark it or interpret it through educational displays.

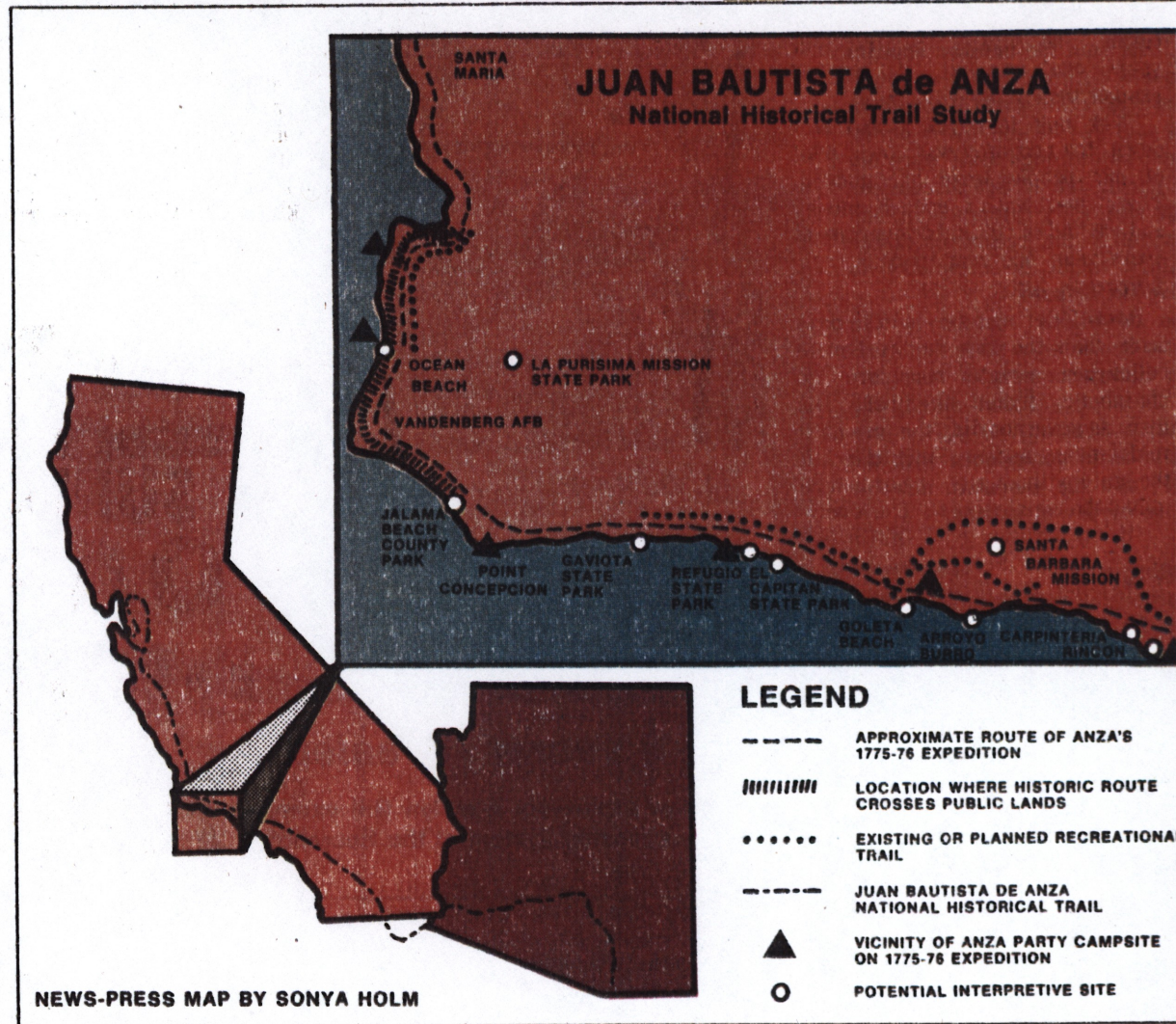
—Create a De Anza Trail Association of volunteers — many of whom joined in a 1976 De Anza reenactment during the Bicentennial and have continued interest — to promote public understanding and recreational trail development.

—Designate it a National Heritage Trail, which would use private money for placing markers on federal lands and, possibly, on privately-owned or non-federal lands as well.

—Designate it a National Historic Trail, which would involve the federal government in marking the trail on federal lands, supplying markers for other parts, and providing limited funding for interpretive sites. Cooperation with land-managing public agencies along the route would be required.

—Develop a combination plan, coupling the volunteer association with a federal trail designation. This "would produce the most intense activity toward realizing the objectives."

Along the long route, portions coincide with existing recreational trails while others cross highly urban areas where a recreational trail obviously cannot be developed, the study notes. It suggests a feasible



The 1775-76 de Anza expedition followed the county's coast on a trek that led to the birth of San Francisco. It may be commemorated as a national trail.

goal would the addition of non-continuous chunks for historic markers or public uses.

In Santa Barbara County, interpretive sites with commemorative markers, information kiosks or other displays could be placed at Rincon, Goleta and Ocean Beach county parks, all of which are near campsites of the de Anza expedition, according to the parks service

study. A map also shows other beach parks as potential sites.

Displays also might be placed at Santa Barbara and La Purisima missions, although neither was in the direct path of the expedition.

A network of existing or planned trails extends from Carpinteria to Goleta. A system of existing bikeways in Santa Barbara is to connect eventually to a planned coastal trail

from Goleta Beach to Gaviota State Park some 25 miles north, the study notes.

A designated trail from UC north to Gaviota would link the state parks. "You'd really be opening up that coast. I think it would be heavily used, especially if there's bikeway," said Dohm.

While the state studied a coast
See Page D-4, Col

2,000-mile trail planned

Continued from Page D-1
trail some years ago, the difficulty of acquiring land or rights-of-way — both because of costs and the numbers of land parcels — prevented its development, Dohm said.

New county revenues accompanying coastal oil development might be tapped for trail uses, Dohm said, but that is uncertain. At the very least, however, a national trail designation could assist the county in coaxing future easements from coastal developers.

"We have a Pacific Crest Trail in the mountains. We've been working for years to get a trail where people live, down near the coast" between Santa Barbara and Gaviota, said Vivian Obern of Santa Barbara.

She and her husband, George, participated in the 1976 De Anza expedition re-enactment. She is active in the informal statewide group supporting official trail designation.

Air Force officials at VAFB have ruled out a trail through the south base coast near space launch pads, including one under construction for the space shuttle. There would be "significant conflicts" — apparently including both security and safety — and it "would not be feasible," according to spokesmen.

A trail through portions of the north base "may be possible," however. The Air Force is continuing to work with the National Parks Service on the proposal, the spokesman said.

ally

tinued from Page B 1

nam Medicine, a member of eastern Iroquois Nation with a doctorate from Harvard, who is an assistant dean of graduate studies at Stanford University. She said that most Indian education programs run by the federal government promote racism and have caused Native Americans to lose their cultural identity. "We want to stay the way we are. We don't want to melt. We want to enhance the quality of our cultural life and the lives of our children," she said.

Another speaker, Sid Flores, an attorney who is a member of the Chumash band, said Reagan had been asked to meet with Native Americans in Santa Barbara — "in their homeland that he has visited" frequently during the eight years of his presidency.

Flores said Reagan will be asked to request that the Soviets turn over to the Chumash some sacred relics and other artifacts that were removed from the Channel Islands in the 19th Century by Russian whalers and placed in Soviet museums.

Reagan also will be asked to use his influence to allow Chumash to set up a condor sanctuary on San Rosa Island and to turn over a "significant" portion of Santa Rosa Island to the Chumash, rather than to the Nature Conservancy which now administers most

of the Channel Islands National Park.

Saturday's march was not intended as a protest, Michael Zarate said before it began, but rather as a walk that would be "peaceful and spiritual."

Americans rally at ranch



out 50 Native Americans and their supporters gathered at the ranch of President Reagan's ranch Friday to voice their displeasure over his disparaging Moscow remarks about them — but thank him for agreeing to mutually meet with them.

Under the watchful eyes of a full group of Santa Barbara County sheriff's deputies and Security Service agents, the group spent about a half hour singing, chanting and praying at the entrance to Rancho del Cielo. Led in prayer by Pitulaw Zarate, a member of the Chumash tribe from Goleta, the group called for more compassion and understanding of the needs and wishes of "the original people of the land."

The rally began about 8 a.m. and ended about 4:30 p.m. There were several incidents. About two dozen people walked to the ranch entrance and another two dozen people walked up the road to the gate.

"I would like to thank President Reagan for publicly inviting us to have a dialogue," Womono Rube, a member of the Chumash tribe from Goleta, told the group as they gathered outside the gate of the ranch.

"I hope that he keeps the door open and keeps a dialogue as long as he is president," Rubio added. "The meeting is not going to solve the problems, and I hope that the president if in mind this is going to be an ongoing dialogue."

The only visible activity inside the ranch was the departure of a man, Ron. He drove through the gate about 4:25 p.m. in a small red sedan driven by a woman, but did not acknowledge the small crowd outside.

About 100 people had gathered earlier in the day at a picnic area at Refugio State Beach, about 6 1/2 miles from the Refugio Canyon where the president and his family are vacationing. The march was organized by the American Indian Action Group, led by Michael A. Zarate, a member of the Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation.

Goleta resident who formed the ad hoc group, Zarate said he is "very pleased" by Reagan's decision to meet with Indian representatives in Washington, D.C., after he returns to work on Sept. 6.

The Indian leader said he met the day night with White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater after Reagan aide contacted the president to indicate the president would make good his offer to meet with American Indian peo-



Serge A. McCabe/News-Press



Serge A. McCabe/News-Press

Bill Rosse of Nevada joins the peaceful 6 1/2-mile hike, organized by the American Indian Action Group, up Refugio Canyon Road to the ranch.

Michael Zarate said the request to meet with Reagan stemmed from a "groundswell of indignation" after the president told Soviet university students in May that "maybe we made a mistake" in maintaining Indian cultures.

"Maybe we should not have humored them in that, wanting to stay in that kind of primitive lifestyle," the president was quoted as saying. "Maybe we should have said, 'No, come join us. Be citizens along with the rest of us.'"

Michael Zarate said that Reagan's comments, while offen-

sive to Native Americans, might ultimately benefit them because they could lead to a dialogue.

"I'm very thankful that's happened and that Mr. Reagan will use his office to influence the next president," he said.

Michael Zarate said he expected representatives of various tribes to discuss a wide range of issues with the president. The date of the meeting may be set within the next several days with White House aides, he said.

If he participates in the meeting, Zarate said he would tell

Reagan that "we want to hang onto our culture, we want to hang onto our traditions. What we need is the opportunity to do that. We need a place to live and the health care and educational opportunities that were promised us in treaties."

Michael Zarate said many Native Americans consider themselves both U.S. citizens and members of their tribes.

"The United States has promised us certain things and we're only asking for what has been promised," he said.

The Native Americans want to meet with Republican presidential nominee George Bush and Democratic nominee Michael Dukakis and the Rev. Jesse Jackson to discuss issues important to Indians, Zarate said.

Before the marchers left the Refugio State Beach to begin their walk to the ranch, they heard speeches from representatives of about 20 Native American tribes.

One of the speakers was Anne

Santa Barbara, California, Saturday, August 20, 1988



Karl Mondon/News-Press

As the water level in Lake Cachuma recedes, old landmarks such as a bridge, normally under water, reappear.

Cachuma history resurfacing

News Staff report

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY — Howard Alcock looked at the road disappearing into Lake Cachuma.

"You can see the old Highway 150 at the east end that actually went through the lake before they rebuilt it as Highway 154, and you can see an old narrow, concrete bridge that went over a creek," Alcock said of landmarks normally hidden under water.

Stressed by drought conditions, Lake Cachuma has plunged to its lowest level since it filled for the first time in 1958, five years after construction, according to Alcock, head of operations at the lake

and Bradbury Dam.

"Until now, the only time we saw the bridge was in 1977," another dry year, Alcock added.

The old asphalt road is covered with a heavy layer of silt, and the 26-foot-long flat, one-car-width bridge dating back to the 1920s is fully exposed as it stretches across dry De Vault Creek.

The bridge sits at the base of what once was Arrowhead Island, the lake's only island that has now become a peninsula because it is no longer surrounded by water.

"The ground is starting to bake like a dry lake bed," Alcock said. "It will proba-

bly be cracked and drying by the end of the summer when more of the moisture dries up."

At an elevation of 710.29 feet above sea level, the reservoir's high water mark has even dipped .27 of a foot below the previous record low of 710.56 feet above sea level reached in 1977.

"It will probably continue dropping until December unless we have heavy rains," Alcock said. "And that's the \$64 question. If we don't get heavy rains this winter, it will keep dropping. There's nothing to bring it up. This is just a reser-

See CACHUMA, Page A 6



Associated Press

Scientists remove mud from a mammoth skeleton unearthed during construction of an irrigation dam in Central Utah, 9,000 feet above sea level.

Mammoth skeleton found

Associated Press

FAIRVIEW, Utah — The skeleton of a mammoth, a forerunner of the elephant, has been unearthed at the surprisingly high elevation of 9,000 feet during construction of an irrigation dam, scientists said.

The discovery at Huntington Canyon excited paleontologists and archaeologists, who knelt around the mammoth's skull Wednesday and scraped away mud that has preserved the skeleton for 10,000 to 15,000 years.

The discovery is expected to enhance understanding of the mammoth and the envi-

ronment of central Utah after the last Ice Age.

"It essentially has been in a refrigerator for 10,000 years," said David Gillette, state paleontologist.

The presence of a mammoth at 9,000 feet above sea level was intriguing, Gillette said.

Mammoths generally foraged in lower-elevation grasslands. The high-altitude canyon's environment has not changed appreciably since the post-glacial period in which the mammoth apparently lived, he said.

The discovery was made Monday during construction of a dam that will provide water for the Huntington-Cleveland area.

Cachuma

Continued from Page A 1

voir on the Santa Ynez (River), which is dry. There's no inflow into the river."

Alcock said the lake is dropping about .08 of a foot daily, or 150 acre-feet every day from a combination of evaporation and demand.

When the lake is full, its surface is 750 feet above sea level and it holds 205,000 acre-feet. At the current 710-foot level, there are 104,740 acre-feet of water in storage. An acre-foot is 325,000 gallons, enough water to meet the annual needs of 10 households.

With Lake Cachuma, one of the principal water sources for Santa Barbara County, continuing to recede, Alcock stressed the need for conservation.

"Everyone should start to think about water storage," he said. "The only thing people can do is to start conserving water. They should do that every year because you never know when a situation like this could come up. We don't know if this is going to get better or worse."

Fish in the lake, meanwhile, are being forced to move to the deeper area as the water level drops.

"There's 3,100 acres for them to swim in when the lake is full. Today it covers 1,982 acres, so the fish have got over 1,100 acres less to swim in," Alcock said.