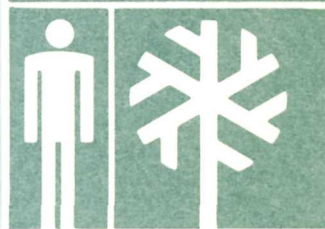


historical resource study

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WHISKEYTOWN

NATIONAL RECREATION AREA/CALIFORNIA



HISTORIC RESOURCE STUDY
WHISKEYTOWN NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
CALIFORNIA

by

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PREFACE

Recently describing the widowlike existence she led as a miner's wife, Mrs. Elta Proebstel, now in her late eighties, called gold mining a "disease." In the gold rush era of the nineteenth century the term more likely used was "fever," but the same implication persists today--that the quest for gold is consuming and infectious; it can cause blisters and sores, delirium, disorientation, and even death, if caution is not taken.

Gold can also make a man rich, momentarily or permanently, depending on the deposit and the side effects of the gold fever. And so it did for a few California miners in the past century. Most miners, however, departed the mines destitute, or died there without family or ceremony. The search for gold was, and still can be, a lonely, shifting occupation requiring miners to wander along crevice and creek in pursuit of the heavy mineral which might bring wealth and fortune. Like the substance they seek, miners must be malleable and durable. They must persevere; and so they do. Today the numerous treasure clubs and magazines and the frequent site of miners panning or sluicing along mountain creeks in the once-rich gold districts of the West stand as testimony to the enduring fascination and attraction for gold.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am sincerely grateful for the efficient assistance I received from the employees of the California Historical Society library, the California Division of Mines and Geology library, and the Society of California Pioneers library in San Francisco; the Bancroft Library of the University of California at Berkeley; the Shasta State Historical Monument in Shasta; the Shasta County Courthouse and Shasta College Museum in Redding; the Colorado School of Mines library in Boulder, Colorado; and the Denver Public Library's Western History Room.

I would also like to express my special appreciation for the information, suggestions, and assistance offered me by Superintendent Leone Mitchell and Chief of Interpretive Activities Branch Robert Grom at Whiskeytown National Recreation Area; Mrs. Clinton Peltiers, Veronica Satorious, Jean Frost, Mr. and Mrs. Paul McDermott, Joseph Ganim, Darold Bickett, and Joan H. Canizares in the Redding area; James F. Harvey of Denver; and Francis R. Holland, formerly a co-worker in the Denver Service Center and currently Chief, Cultural Resource Management Branch, National Park Service.

I. CALIFORNIA GOLD SETS PACE FOR EARLY STATE, REGIONAL, AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Discovery Creates Worldwide Reaction

After John Marshall discovered gold at Sutter's Mill on the American River in January 1848 gold fever spread rapidly across state and national boundaries and soon flashed around the world. By spring of that year the young city of San Francisco had been abandoned and miners were panning for gold up and down some 150 miles along the western slope of the Sierra Nevadas. Argonauts from the Atlantic seaboard, Hawaii, Latin America, Europe, and the Orient began to plan their migration to the gold fields of California, which according to the treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo of May 1848 had passed from Spanish rule to U.S. territorial status. Regardless of diplomatic jostling, the gold mines were open to everyone, and the waves of immigrants began pouring into the area during the summer of 1849.¹

California applied for and received U.S. statehood in 1850. By that year the mining population was estimated at some 50,000 people, approximately ten times the number in 1848. The flush years of California gold mining lasted until 1853 when the mining population hit its peak of approximately 100,000 and the total gold production reached a record \$65,000,000. By 1855 the U.S. had increased its gold production seventy-three times, and during the latter four years had provided nearly forty-five percent of the world's total gold output. The glut of gold on the international market created such a shock that nearly every country in the world suffered an inflation in 1854.²

B. Northern California Rush: Delayed But Not Deficient

In 1848 Pierson B. Redding, one of the few ranchers in the upper Sacramento Valley, discovered gold on Clear Creek, 200 miles northwest of Sutter's Mill (Coloma). By the close of the year, "miners were washing rich auriferous dirt . . . over a space of about fifteen miles square, near the place now known as the town of Shasta, in the Coast Mountains, at the head of the Sacramento Valley." The fifteen miles

1. Rodman Wilson Paul, California Gold, The Beginning of Mining in the Far West (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1947), pp. 22-23.

2. Rodman Wilson Paul, Mining Frontiers of the Far West (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1963), p. 16. In his California Gold, p. 21, Paul gives the California census count at the close of 1849 as 100,000 people and at the close of 1852 as 223,000.

square no doubt took in all of the area now included in Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, since Shasta lies less than one mile from the park's east boundary, and Clear Creek runs directly through the center of the recreation area, on the east to west diagonal.³

Although the first influx of miners to northern California in 1848 eagerly panned on Clear Creek, the following season some of the gold seekers concluded that "Shasta . . . was quite small and the miners were not very rich,"⁴ and moved on to explore other locations. In their impatient quests for rich gold pockets the miners rolled back the wilderness of northern California to the west and north, over the coastal mountain range. Except for small numbers of adventuresome souls, however, the rugged mountainous northern country remained unknown. In August 1849 the Alta California (San Francisco) announced that an exploring party had found gold on the Trinity River. But the reporter admitted that "very little is known respecting this portion of California."⁵

While the northern miners continued to work in the shadow of the Sierra Nevadas for yet another season, the mining population of California grew by leaps and bounds. In November 1849, after only one month's absence, J. D. B. Stillman recorded his impressions of Sacramento, the burgeoning transportation center for the central and northern mines:

When I passed through this place, in September, there were not more than half a dozen wooden houses in the city, with a population chiefly floating, of about five thousand. There are now several hundred buildings and the place is thronged with miners who are driven from the mines by want of provisions . . . ⁶

3. Paul, California Gold, p. 95; Philip A. Lydon and J. C. O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources of Shasta County California, County Report 6, 1974 (Sacramento: State of California, 1974), p. 3; John S. Hittell, Mining in the Pacific States of North America (San Francisco: H. H. Bancroft & Company, 1861), p. 17.

4. Edward Washington McIlhany, Recollections of a '49er (Kansas City, Missouri: Hailman Printing Company, 1908), p. 39.

5. Alta California, August 2, 1849, quoted in Mae Helen Bacon Boggs, My Playhouse Was A Concord Coach (Oakland: Howell-North Press, 1942), p. 30.

6. J. D. B. Stillman, The Gold Rush Letters of J. D. B. Stillman (Palo Alto: Lewis Osborne, 1967), p. 37. In the early mining days the northern mines were all those found on tributaries on the Sacramento River. For the purposes of this report, they constitute the mines to the west and north of Shasta. Paul, California Gold, p. 91.

Despite a far more critical shortage of supplies in the vast territory northwest of Sacramento, the gold miners pushed into northern California early in 1850. On February 2, 1850, Sacramento's Placer Times printed an account by J. S. Bowles that "at Redding's Diggings [later Shasta City--M. H. B. Boggs] operators were doing well, the gold being of large-sized grains." The following month the Alta California's headlines read, "The New Gold Region," telling of mining in the vicinity of Trinidad Bay and Trinity River, where the diggings abounded "with the precious ore in much greater abundance than any of the places hitherto discovered." In August of that year a reporter of the Sacramento Transcript reported that Clear Creek contained deposits of great promise:

Clear Creek. It was our fortune yesterday to fall in with a gentleman who had passed a few months on Clear creek. . . . Our informant states that there are extensive ravine diggings all along each side of Clear creek, . . . very rich.⁷

While such accounts obviously attracted the first large waves of immigrants to the northern mines, the account in the Sacramento Union of June 18, 1851, very likely determined the route of the subsequent years' migrations through the emerging town of Shasta. Formerly known as Reading's Springs, Shasta, the seat of Shasta County, was on the verge of becoming the hub of transportation for all areas of northern California:

NEWS FROM SHASTA--RICH DIGGINGS. From Mr. Taylor of Taylor's Shasta Express . . . at Mad Mule Canyon, on Whiskey Creek, a company of seven men struck a rich lead, and took out \$10,000 in 15 days' work, the largest lump weighing \$900. The gold was all in very course pieces, varying in value from \$10 to \$900. . . . In the same canyon, a Mr. Montgomery and his son took out \$8000 in 25 days. The miners in the vicinity of Whiskey Creek are doing remarkably well, from \$15 to \$30

7. Quotes from Sacramento Placer Times, February 2, 1850, Alta California, March 21, 1850, and Sacramento Transcript, August 13, 1850, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, pp. 41, 46, and 60; see also Paul, California Gold, p. 95. The rich deposits of gold on the Trinity River prompted the rapid development of a stage line to Weaverville. The Sacramento Placer Times of May 24, 1850, announced the "New Stage Arrangements For All The Northern Mines." The line ran through Hangtown to Weaverville and missed Shasta altogether. A month earlier the Alta California announced the opening of a land route from Sonoma to Trinity Diggings which could be covered by horse or wagon. Quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, pp. 50, 54.

being a common day's work. Clear Creek and its branches are also astonishing the miners by their yields.⁸

Such news drew miners from California's older mining regions who hoped to find less crowded conditions and more prosperous diggings in an area still remote, without wagon roads, supply centers, or permanent settlements to compare with those found in the counties along the Sierra Nevadas. By 1852 the population of northwest California had increased fourfold and while their numbers only represented a small percentage of the state's mining population, their arrival spurred the rapid development of transportation routes and all the usual social and physical aftereffects related to a growth in population.⁹

C. Shasta County: Early Growth

In 1850, the year Shasta County was established, William Magee arrived in Reading's Springs where he found some 300 people living in tents and cloth houses. That night he slept on the ground that was within the year to become the main street of Shasta, the county seat of Shasta County.¹⁰

According to a correspondent for the Sacramento Union, Reading's Springs was first settled in 1849 by miners who "were attracted to the spot by the pure unfailing waters of the springs." The site was also convenient for the miners, for it stood along one of the few established trails of northern California, one no doubt taken by the first miners in 1848. As news of the rich diggings in the northern mines spread through

8. Sacramento Union, June 18, 1851, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 85. The newspaper reporter also added that he had just received a letter from a friend in Shasta who found himself "occasionally startled by the exhibition of large lumps of pure gold taken out of the mines in this vicinity." In contrast to the initial account of the weight of gold lumps coming from Whiskey Creek, the writer explained that miners daily extracted lumps ranging in weight from \$5 to \$100.

9. The statistics on population come from Paul, California Gold, p. 106.

10. Pen Pictures from the Garden of the World, Memorial and Bibliographical History of Northern California (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1891), p. 785; Owen C. Coy, Guide to the County Archives of California (Sacramento: California State Printing Office, 1919), p. 491. Coy explains that the act of February 18, 1850, creating Shasta County included practically all of the northern portion of the state. In Pen Pictures, p. 785, William Magee is described as one of the country's most prominent citizens. During the 1860s he served as the U.S. land surveyor for the county, and joined Charles Camden in the discovery of silver and gold on Iron Mountain, later to be famous for copper deposits.

the central and southern regions of California, the traffic to Reading's Springs increased. In February 1851 the county fathers moved the seat of government from Reading's Ranch, in the upper Sacramento Valley, to Reading's Springs, which had been renamed Shasta the summer before.¹¹

Prior to 1850 travel to Shasta was arduous, slow, hazardous, and undependable. Argonauts coming from the Atlantic seaboard, for instance, may have begun their long journey by taking the quickest route possible to San Francisco--steamer through the Isthmus of Panama--paying between \$200 and \$400 to reach their destination. Next they would have traveled a day or more by land or steamer to Sacramento, where, hopefully, transportation provisions were available to launch a 180-mile trip over the rough trail to Shasta. In 1849-50 the only land route between Sacramento and Shasta was a mule trail used in earlier days by the Hudson's Bay Company. In 1850 the route was surveyed and declared a public highway, although it was still just an improved mule trail.¹²

The transportation routes soon showed improvement, however, since vested interests in Shasta and Sacramento wished to see their supplies and potential customers carried to their destinations quickly and safely. Moreover, like the miners they served, the commercial speculators all kept to the trails and roads during the early years to seek

11. Sacramento Union, March 20, 1852, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 121. Hubert Howe Bancroft, The Works of Hubert Howe Bancroft, (San Francisco: The History Company, 1888), vol. 6, History of California 1848-1859, p. 440. According to Albert F. Ross, the people of Reading's Springs assembled on June 8, 1850, and changed the name to Shasta. In February 1851, after the first county officials had been elected, County Judge W. R. Harrison and two justices went to Reading's Ranch, made the decision to move the county seat, and that very evening took the records back with them to Shasta, with the full approval and consent of Major Reading. Albert F. Ross, "Whiskeytown," July 16, 1963, MS, H14 Files, Historic Preservation Team, National Park Service, Denver Service Center, Denver, Colorado, pp. 2-3 (depository hereinafter cited as NPS, DSC). On February 16, 1851, the county records noted "what is called now Town of Shasta the Seat of Justice for Shasta County State of California (formerly known as Reading's Springs.)" [Named after Major Reading, the correct spelling was Reading's Springs, but often was spelled Redding's.] Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 75. No doubt most, if not all, of the early white men in northern California followed Indian trails through the wilderness, as did Charles Camden and Levi Tower on their return to Humboldt Bay from the mines in May 1850. San Francisco Alta California, May 25, 1850, cited in ibid., p. 54.

12. Paul, California Gold, p. 30; Oscar O. Winthrop, Via Western Express and Stagecoach (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1945), p. 8; Rosena A. Giles, Shasta County, California, A History (Oakland: Biobooks, 1949). p. 47.

protection in the company of others when traveling through territory inhabited by often-hostile Indians.¹³

By January 1851 the trail to Shasta was rarely found untraveled. A reporter for the Sacramento Transcript remarked that "scarcely a day has passed, within the past week, that we have not observed large trains of mules, heavily packed with sacks of flour, boxes, and kegs, leaving the city for the Northern mines. The recent discoveries there seem to have imparted an impetus to all." The merchants in Shasta were making a fast profit by selling their provisions at a high price, and the traders in Trinity County let it be known to the Sacramento Transcript in February 1851 that they preferred to take the longer and more difficult road to Trinidad Bay to get their supplies rather than pay the price in Shasta City. "A large extent of country," however, remained "dependent entirely on Redding's for their supplies."¹⁴

Not only did Shasta have a captive audience to the north and west where little settlement and development had taken place, but it also had a steady influx of new customers and supplies to finance its continued growth. Moreover, once the town was selected as the county seat in early 1851, it possessed the added status and permanency which local government affords.

In mid-March 1851 the Sacramento Transcript informed its readers that Shasta was improving rapidly, that it stood "at the head of wagon navigation, being the point where wagons stop and where packing commences." In addition, it already boasted three hotels, a large number of stores, three blacksmith shops, and two tenpin alleys.¹⁵

By March of 1852 Shasta had taken on even greater significance because of the discovery of rich gold deposits along Clear and Whiskey creeks. The Sacramento Union explained that "the mines on every side are rich and extensive. Real estate is worth more than ever before. Rents have steadily advanced . . . the demand for lumber is so great that sawmills in the vicinity are unable to supply the demand." In May of that year the San Francisco Alta California featured an article on Shasta which defined the town's importance in northern California:

13. According to Charles Camden, several miners were killed in the vicinity of Shasta during the spring of 1851, one of whom died of arrow wounds near the "Four Mile House" close to Whiskey Creek. Charles Camden, The Autobiography of Charles Camden (San Francisco: By the Author's Family, 1916), pp. 142, 147, 151-52.

14. Sacramento Transcript, January 22, 1851, and February 1, 1851, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 73.

15. Sacramento Transcript, March 12, 1851, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 76.

The town of Shasta is situated in a small valley about three miles west of the Sacramento river and about 180 miles north of Sacramento City. The valley is watered by unfailing fountains of pure water, formerly known as Reading's Springs . . . [in] the heart of a very fine mining region. . . . [It is] the terminus of wagon travel to the north, . . . there are four lines of stages running from Colusa and Marysville and terminating at this place. They generally come up filled and still are unable to accomodate the great increase of travel tending in this direction.¹⁶

The article also noted that an estimated 700 people were arriving in Shasta each week, many of whom continued on to the mines. Two months earlier, a Shasta Courier correspondent claimed that the northern region contained at least 50,000 people and that there was a lack of mail facilities in the areas beyond Shasta, where the transportation routes continued to be unimproved mule trains often impassable due to bad weather or other unexpected hazards. Shasta County was rapidly developing, but beyond the limits of the county seat the wilderness remained a formidable barrier to progress. For that reason, articles such as the one quoted above were sent out by the Shasta Courier to encourage permanent settlers to the area--settlers who would invest in the future of the county and the local communities that had appeared along the roads and trails to the mines.¹⁷

D. Local Development in the Vicinity of Shasta

1. Pioneer Charles Camden's Story

The earliest description of the local scene to the west of Shasta--now within the Whiskeytown National Recreation Area--comes from The Autobiography of Charles Camden. Although this book was written when Camden was an octogenarian, it contains numerous recollections directly verified in nineteenth century county records and newspaper accounts.

16. Sacramento Union, March 20, 1852, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 121; San Francisco Alta California, May 19, 1852, quoted in ibid., p. 129.

17. San Francisco Alta California, March 19, 1852, copied in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 121. In March 1851 the state of California was investigating post routes from Sacramento to Shasta by horseback and that summer established Shasta as the post office serving all the region west to Weaverville. Sacramento Transcript, March 5, 1851, quoted in ibid., p. 77; Ross, "Whiskeytown," p. 3, NPS, DSC. Judge Ross received his information on the post offices in the area from the records of the U.S. Post Office Department. See Ross's "Amplification of Sources," at the end of "Whiskeytown."

Camden prided himself on his clear, rational thinking and his exceptional physical and mental fitness. Therefore, this account not only serves as a tribute to his own life, but as an intimate view of the activities around Shasta prior to the establishment of a county newspaper to report local news.¹⁸

Charles Camden and his partners, Levi H. Tower and John Hindman, set sail in March 1850 for the gold region around Trinity Bay and Trinity River which the Alta California had heralded in San Francisco that month. Having found their way by blazing trails and by following Indian paths 150 miles through thick forests to the Trinity mines, they passed the spring and summer mining among the forty-niners on the Trinity and Salmon rivers. Late in October they decided to winter in Shasta County, where the weather was more temperate. Since supplies reportedly "were very cheap at Humboldt Bay, Unionville," Tower and some new mining friends took the mules west to stock up on provisions, while Camden and another friend, Luckey, crossed into Shasta County over a trail which Major Reading had reportedly blazed in 1845, and which miners had used since 1848 to reach Weaver[ville] basin and the Trinity County mines.¹⁹

When Camden and Luckey reached the current location of Tower House Historic District, at Clear Creek's sharp bend to the northeast, they

18. The family provided a note to the end of the autobiography which reads in part: "The foregoing narrative was written by Mr. Camden in his eighty-fourth year. He survived for almost twelve years after finishing it, . . . He retained the splendid health and mental and physical vigor that had been his through life. . . . The original manuscript of this narrative, in the plain, steady penmanship and customary concise style of the author, is preserved and treasured by his family." Camden, Autobiography, p. 173. In 1891 Camden received considerable mention as a pioneer who had offered much to the development of northern California but who had never displayed ostentation or vanity. Pen Pictures, pp. 643-44. According to his obituary: "The pioneer was easily the most prominent man in the business affairs of Shasta County from the earliest days. He was a man of the strictest integrity, and though prominent he could never be induced to accept a political position." [Redding] Courier Free Press, August 21, 1912. For additional biographical information on Camden, see Anna Coxe Toogood and David Henderson, Historic Structure Report, Tower House Historic District, Historical and Architectural Data, Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, California (Denver: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 1973.)

19. Camden, Autobiography, pp. 109, 113, 116, 119, 123, 131-33, 135-36; San Francisco Alto California, May 25, 1850, and March 21, 1850, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, pp. 46, 54; H. E. and E. G. Rensch and Mildred Boone Hoover, Historic Spots in California Valley and Sierra Counties (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1933), p. 367.

found a man named Schneider who was running a limited trading post business selling common miners' supplies in his eight- by ten-foot log cabin. Schneider, Camden related, had no customers that October 1850, as "all had left, he said, for below Shasta and the southern diggings [the latter meaning below Marysville]." Schneider importuned them to stay with him and mine the good diggings there, but Camden and Luckey, anxious to continue on to Shasta, left that day and soon took up prospecting along Olney and Salt creeks southwest of the town, where most of the miners in the vicinity were digging.²⁰

Camden and Luckey wrote to Tower to bring the provisions and mules on to Shasta, and the partners reunited early in November 1850, in time to decide where they would camp for the winter. Tower and his company had also stopped at Schneider's trading post, where Schneider and two men, "a negro and Jockey Woods, the only men left about there, except Schneider," had urged them to remain, explaining that "they did not want to leave and would feel safer if more men were around, on account of Indians." The two men tempted Tower and his party with the fact that they had mined there all summer and "'knew all and lots of good places.'"²¹

After discussing the matter among themselves and investigating Clear Creek in the vicinity of Schneider's post, Camden and Tower agreed to winter at the site that would soon be their home for most of the remainder of their lives. From this choice location they stood right at the junction of the trails to Shasta, Weaverville, French Gulch, and Yreka--then or shortly to be the headquarters for the major mining districts in northern California. The mining company was surrounded by Clear Creek and two smaller creeks, which Camden named Granite and Crystal creeks, and they had no difficulty obtaining the water they needed for their diggings. The area had been mined already, but the prospects of good deposits were undeniable. Mining equipment was available at Schneider's store, as well as at Shasta only twelve miles distant, less than a day's walk. Even though few miners were left after the rush to the southern mines, the opportunity which lay in Clear Creek and in the future trade from miners on their way to or from the diggings in Trinity, Siskiyou, and Del Norte counties far outweighed the danger from Indian attack.²²

20. Camden, Autobiography, pp. 136-37.

21. Ibid., pp. 138-39.

22. Camden and Tower were well aware of the profits to be made by selling supplies to miners in the frontier mining outposts, for a few months later they embarked on a trip to Shasta Flats, or Yreka, with a mule train of provisions. Camden, Autobiography, pp. 139, 141-42, 155.

As was often the case on mining frontiers, Camden and Tower developed a close friendship through their mining partnership. They worked well as a team, for Camden received special satisfaction from mining and prospecting, while Tower showed his preference for commercial endeavors by taking the mules south to Sacramento or San Francisco to purchase provisions at a more reasonable price than in Shasta. Tower maintained his interest in the mining claims until the fall of 1851, when he broke the partnership and turned his attention to acquiring the land at Schneider's trading post.²³

Camden felt no disappointment at the loss of his partner, for he and Tower were still closely affiliated in social matters, yet were free to pursue their own business ambitions. Camden devoted most of his time to gold mining both in his life experiences and in his autobiography. For over fifteen years Camden concentrated his mining to about a two-mile stretch along Clear Creek and its tributaries. He extracted an average of \$10 a day and totalled an estimated \$80,000 from his efforts.²⁴ Camden's enduring success in gold mining on Clear Creek was a rare exception in the Shasta area, as well as in the other mining districts of California. In his recollections Camden himself underscored the sharp differences between his mining experiences and those of the average miner. The primary difference, he concluded, was that "one man will double the work of another, either by skill or will." According to Camden, others readily recognized this trait in him. "You, Camden, have the reputation of doing double the work of any of the rest of us," a friend remarked one day in 1854, when soliciting Camden's assistance and advice.²⁵

Camden also stressed his own characteristics of patience, perseverance, and permanence in contrast to the average miner. As an

23. Ibid., pp. 139, 141-42; for further information on Tower and his commercial accomplishments in Shasta County, see Toogood and Henderson, Tower House Historic District. For several contemporary accounts and recollections of the gold rush partnerships, see Charles Howard Shinn, Mining Camps: A Study in American Frontier Government (1885; reprint ed., New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1948), pp. 105-7. Paul, in California Gold, p. 123, explains that the high cost of living and high interest rates made partnerships the only practical way to avoid hiring the necessary help when mining with more efficient methods than the pan or rocker.

24. Camden, Autobiography, pp. 154-57; Pen Pictures, p. 643; for more specific information on Camden and his mining, see Toogood and Henderson, Tower House Historic District, pp. 37-44, and the "Historical Base Map's" section of this report.

25. Camden, Autobiography, pp. 163 and 168.

example, he cited the time he mined on Slate Creek where three others had already worked diggings.

Knowing that these miners had not worked the diggings clean, Camden proceeded to extract \$23 worth of gold in half a day. The trouble with the average miner, Camden explained, was his impatience with the hard work and low returns. He observed that most miners came to the mines expecting to net \$50 to \$100 a day, so that the \$10 or less average seemed like a dismal disappointment. Probably discouraged by back-breaking labor and small rewards, many a miner turned to drink or gambling. As Camden witnessed:

The most common cause of non-success of so many in those, the palmy days of California, was gambling and drinking. Regularly a number of my neighbors would go to Shasta with large purses of gold on Saturdays, returning in a few days "broke." It was the same everywhere. Many of those who had as good or better a claim than I had, I have known to die in the poor house. Success was called LUCK by those that failed. From observation, nine-tenths of the "luck" came from hard work and judgment.²⁶

Once broke again, miners often wandered on to new locations, hoping to find a rich strike. They came to the mines, for the most part as young men, often single, but if married, alone, leaving their families in more civilized surroundings until they came home wealthy. Because most of the miners in the gold rush never struck it rich, or kept their profits for the future, many did not return to their homes, but instead continued to follow the rainbow of gold and silver discoveries which appeared over the California, Nevada, and Colorado horizons for the following two decades. In contrast, Camden was one of the first to marry in Shasta County (November 1852), and one of the only miners in the area to gain local and state recognition for his public and private contributions to the development of northern California.²⁷

26. Camden, Autobiography, pp. 162, 166-67, 169. Paul points out that there was "a surprising degree of homogeneity" among the miners on account of the sharing of common problems under "conditions of extreme difficulty." Paul, California Gold, p. 69. These circumstances allow for certain generalizations and assumptions about the miners of Clear Creek and vicinity. The drinking problem is discussed later in the text.

27. Paul, California Gold, p. 83; Paul, Mining Frontiers, pp. 17, 26. Paul also reported that the 1850 census showed that almost 92½ percent of the population of California was male, and that even as late as 1859 "a well-informed writer" claimed that there were six men to every woman in the mining regions. Paul, Mining Frontiers, p. 39. On (continued)

2. Physical Growth 1850-1880

As a result of the overall lack of family permanence in the mining camps and the corresponding restlessness or irresponsibility among many miners, physical development came slowly to the area west of Shasta, except along the trail to the mines. Commercial interest sprang up to meet the miners' needs at or near the mining camps on Clear Creek and its tributaries. In August 1851, according to the records of the county supervisors, Reed and Company at Oak Bottom, and Smith and Company near the mouth of Whiskey Creek, were conveniently enough located to be designated election centers. When recalling an incident in the spring of 1851, Camden mentioned the Four Mile House which later records indicate stood near and to the east of Whiskeytown on the road from Shasta. The throng of miners who came to the area following the June 1851 announcement that rich gold strikes had been found in Mad Mule Canyon, Whiskey Creek, and Clear Creek for the most part lived in cloth houses or tents, which were portable and convenient, and which, after their removal, left only surface scars as reminders of the brief, but undoubtedly disruptive, encampment.²⁸

a. Hotels and Inns

The influx of miners, however transient they were, did spur the local and regional economy. Shasta, as a regional supply center, sent out long trains of mules bearing supplies to the mining camps near and far. A pioneer to the area recalled seeing the streets of Shasta blocked by "heavily loaded wagons drawn by five yokes of oxen each," and some 500 pack mules loaded and ready to leave. According to one of the early

November 11, 1852, Camden married Levi Tower's sister, Philena, and Tower married Mary Shuffleton of Iowa in a double wedding at the Free Bridge House, which would become known as the Tower House the following year. San Francisco Alta California, November 17, 1852, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, pp. 139-40 [note that his local wedding made San Francisco news]; Toogood and Henderson, Tower House Historic District, pp. 43-44.

28. Records of the Court of Sessions, Shasta County, February 1851-February 1855, pp. 25-26, Probate Office, Shasta County Courthouse, Reddings, California; Camden, Autobiography, p. 152. Paul, in California Gold, p. 75, explains that because construction costs were so high and the miners' impatience so great, until the late 1850s the majority of houses in city, town, and camp were constructed of wood and canvas. Frank Marryat described what he saw at a mining camp on the American Fork in July 1851: "On the banks was a village of canvas that the winter rains had bleached to perfection." Frank Marryat, Mountains and Molehills or Recollections of a Burnt Journal (1855; reprint ed., Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1962), p. 121.

Shasta Courier editions, each mule carried an average load of 300 pounds, and each week an average of 100 tons were shipped out of Shasta to mines in more remote areas. The multitude of beasts and men on the trail through the area to the west of Shasta required frequent stopping points for food and water, and, often, for overnight accommodations. By 1855 five hotels or inns had opened along the twelve miles from Shasta to the Tower House--Nicholas Maher's Four Mile House, four miles west of Shasta; Mix's Hotel at "Whiskey Creek"; the Oak Bottom House at Oak Bottom, near the mouth of Boulder Creek; Brown's House at the mouth of Grizzly Gulch; and the Tower House at the upper crossing of Clear Creek and the junction of the Weaverville/Yreka roads. That year the Shasta Courier printed a traveler's account of a trip from Shasta to Weaverville which described these five public houses, as well as other physical developments along the way:

On Saturday last he did saddle his mule . . . and in a job trot vamosed over the hills and far away. He passed in succession Nick Meyer's, Mixe's, Van Deventer's, Brown's, and finally reached the Tower House. . . . We observed that all along the road there were evidences of the permanent improvements of this County--that fine houses were taking the places of miserable old shanties; and that instead of being a labor to go from here to Weaverville, it is now a delightful pleasure trip. Every two miles between this and the Tower House you can find entertainment for man and beast, not such as was to be obtained in early days, but chicken fixins, eggs, fresh butter, and all the delicacies of city life.²⁹

b. Sawmills

To serve the community's need for lumber to build these hotels and houses, as well as the miners' dams, flumes, sluices, long toms, and rockers, at least three sawmills opened early in the 1850s: Caleb Wingate and Nathan Farrington's on Clear Creek, near Whiskey Creek; Charles Camden's on Clear Creek, near the Tower House; and Everett Crocker's on Brandy Creek, near the forks. Another in 1856 may have

29. Shasta Courier, October 13, 1855, p. 3. Whiskeytown in the decade of the 1850s more commonly was referred to as Whisky Creek, the spelling almost always having no "e." The Records of the Court of Sessions, Shasta County, February 1851-February 1858, p. 9, lists the public houses along the road in May of 1855. According to William Greever, hotels in the less developed mining camps of the gold rush which presumably includes the camps around Whiskeytown) were typically furnished with a barroom in front, a dining room with long, clothless tables and benches, and one or more bunk rooms for overnight guests. William S. Greever, The Bonanza West: The Story of Western Mining Rushes 1848-1900 (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1963), p. 59.

been operated by M. C. Davis, who that year claimed the waters of Brandy Creek "for a sawmill to be erected by him."³⁰

c. Gardens and Orchards

To help feed the multitude of miners, those few pioneers who established ranches, hotels, or inns in the area planted small crops of vegetables for themselves and their customers or sold cattle and produce from their orchards. Although the terrain to the west of Shasta was mostly mountainous and rough, and the soil often parched or flooded by violent rain storms, the flat lands along the several tributaries of Clear Creek provided a suitable setting for such minimal agricultural pursuits. In May 1853 the Shasta Courier published an article on gardening in the vicinity of Shasta, remarking, "We are glad to perceive that so many persons have turned their attention to cultivating the arable portions of the mining division of the county. Many spots which, last summer, wore a dreary and forbidding aspect, now present a delightfully home-like appearance."³¹

30. A plat and survey of ninety-seven acres about four miles northwest of Shasta City was completed in November 1852 for Wingate and Farrington. The land lay on the bend of Clear Creek above the sawmill. Record Book B, p. 329, Recorder of Deeds Office, Shasta County Courthouse, Redding, California (depository hereinafter cited as RDO, SCC). Between March and November 1854 Camden completed his saw and flour mill on Clear Creek. Record Book R, pp. 263, and 314, RDO, SCC. Everett F. Crocker was a lumber merchant doing business in Shasta by May of 1854. Liens, 1852-1862, p. 67, RDO, SCC. M. C. Davis' water rights claim is recorded in Record Book R, p. 523, RDO, SCC. In 1871 E. C. Crocker sold his sawmill to John Fleming who since 1868 had been operating his own sawmill nearby on the forks of Brandy Creek. Deed Book 3, p. 492, RDO, SCC. Fleming advertised his Brandy Creek Sawmill with its warehouse outlet in Shasta in the Shasta Courier on July 24, 1869, p. 1. Almost no mention was made in the local press or records to the logging industry, although it definitely continued during the 1850s and 1860s, and until most of the timber had been exhausted. A description of Shasta in the late 1860s noted that the town had twelve sawmills capable of cutting from 1,000 to 6,000 feet of lumber daily, which makes evident the existing supply of forest was promoting a good business for lumbermen around Shasta. Titus Fey Cronise, The Natural Wealth of California (New York: H. H. Bancroft & Company, 1868), p. 220. Cronise also noted that "the entire northern and western portions of the county are covered with forests of conifers of nearly every variety, except the red wood." Ibid., p. 216.

31. Shasta Courier, May 28, 1853, p. 2. J. D. Borthwick, after visiting the northern mines in 1851, noted, "These little wayside inns, or 'ranches,' as they are usually called in the mines, are generally (continued)

Most of the area's farming activity developed near Shasta or the major mining camps along the road west from Shasta. In 1852 Frank Vandeventer constructed an irrigation system for the crops and orchards he planted around his ranch at Oak Bottom, and Levi Tower did the same on his newly purchased property at the junction of the Weaverville and Yreka roads. The next year Benjamin Mix acquired a lot for a hotel in the community growing at the mouth of Whiskey Creek, and two years later laid claim to additional land for "agricultural grazing and corralling purposes." Other individuals not connected with specific business properties also claimed tracts of government land near the road, but evidently the visual improvements did not counter the physical destruction carried out by the local miners and lumbermen. In September 1855 the Shasta Courier appealed to its readers to beautify the countryside by planting more trees:

No person who has passed a summer in our almost tropical climate, can fail to regret the unnecessary destruction of shade trees, which has taken place. The beauty of the Scripture quotation about sitting under one's own vine and fig-tree, is nowhere more apparent than here, where the deprivation is so seriously felt.

To remedy this defect--to change in some degree the appearance of sterility and desolation which reigns about Shasta, everyone who owns a lot of ground, even if he does not expect to make this his abiding place, should, so soon as the season will permit, plant a few trees around his residence.³²

situated in a spot which offers . . . cultivation." He went on to say that land on the typical ranch was cleared and fenced in and that most ranchers raised oats and barley, all lending an air of comfort and civilization. J. D. Borthwick, Three Years in California (Oakland: Biobooks, 1948), pp. 149-50.

32. Shasta Courier, September 1, 1855, p. 2. In May of 1852 Franklin Vandeventer had a survey of 160 acres at Oak Bottom made on land he claimed for farming and ranching purposes. Record Book B, p. 100, RDO, SCC. Vandeventer ran the hotel at Oak Bottom until 1856, when he sold the property to A. J. Van Wie. Record Book E, p. 368, RDO, SCC. For further information on Oak Bottom, see the "Historical Base Maps" section of this report. Levi Tower won both local and regional fame for his orchards and gardens which he first planted in 1851. Shasta Courier, August 19, 1854, p. 2. Tower gave Philena, his sister, "a full right and interest in the ditch that brings water for the purpose of irrigation," as part of her wedding present in November 1852. Record Book C, p. 241, RDO, SCC. Mix's land claim for building purposes was made on July 12, 1853. Record Book R, p. 109, RDO, SCC. His additional land claim made on March 14, 1855. Record Book R, pp. 330, 356, 428, RDO, SCC.

Of all the citizens who chose to farm in the area, only Levi H. Tower won the local and regional fame for his crops. Numerous articles about the sumptuousness of his fruit appeared in the Shasta Courier in the early 1850s by a writer evidently well rewarded for his complementary commentary. Perhaps more believable, as it came from a traveler who had nothing to win by his praise, was the excerpt from the journal of Richard G. Stanwood, who visited the Tower House in 1861:

Next morning, the 25th, were up early and took a walk through the orchard, which is one of the finest in the State. The fruit is principally apples and peaches. All the trees were loaded down with splendid fresh looking fruit. We did full justice to them, for at Yreka it had been so scarce and high, prudence had compelled us to be abstemious. . . . we were charmed with the locality and our excellent accomodations and fine fare, and decided that the Tower House was the best place to stop at we had seen in our travels.

Shortly thereafter Stanwood again stopped at the Tower House, and as if he had never before marveled about it, he wrote, "a delightful spot with the finest orchard I have seen in the State, though not the largest, and plenty of beautiful shade trees."³³

Tower's two acres of orchard and sixty acres of valley land seemed a peaceful oasis to many travelers or miners in the area in contrast to the hot and dusty scene along the creeks and roads between Shasta and the Tower House. Anxious to get rich quick, and perhaps, to return to the families or life they had left, most citizens of Shasta County during the 1850s came to dig up the earth for mining rather than cultivation.

d. Mining Claims and Structures

As was typical throughout California prior to about 1880, placer mining, or mining with the use of water to wash the gravel from creek beds, was far more popular than the arduous method of lode mining which required expensive equipment, heavy financial investment, and sophisticated technology to operate profitably. Between Shasta and the Tower House flowed Clear Creek and all its several tributaries--Mill, Slate,

33. Shasta Courier, August 19, 1854, September 16, 1854, July 28, 1855, and August 18, 1855; Pen Pictures, pp. 644-45; "An Ascent of Mount Shasta in 1861" (from the journal of Richard G. Stanwood), California Historical Society Quarterly 6, no. 1 (March 1927):69-70. For quotations from the Shasta Courier articles, see Toogood and Henderson, Tower House Historic District, pp. 45-49. The above Stanwood journal description was not included in the historic structure report for the Tower House.

Boulder, Grizzly, New York, Brandy, Whisky, Dry, and Salt creeks, to name the principal ones. From 1848 to the mid-1860s these creeks were worked over numerous times by impatient, reckless miners or by thorough, persevering mining companies, to the physical detriment of the surrounding countryside.³⁴

Until 1855 enthusiasm and productivity characterized the mining in the area around Shasta. San Francisco's Alta California reported in June 1852 that a "magnificent" seven- to eight-pound lump of gold interspersed with quartz had been found by Ben the Boatman and Harry Dickens in Whiskey Creek. Later accounts by Charles Camden and Hugh Shuffleton testified to lumps as large as \$75 and \$65 mined with rockers from Clear Creek early in the 1850s.³⁵

Although at the close of 1852, after five years of steady mining, few such large lumps remained in the surface diggings, expectations for gold production still ran high, as witnessed by the concentration of miners and mining camps around Shasta. The California Census of 1852 recorded a population of 4,050 in Shasta County. Nearly half were miners living in the general vicinity of Shasta, in the nine-county mining localities identified--French Gulch, Mad Ox Canon, One Horse Town, Clear Creek, Mad Mule Canon, Whiskey Creek, One Mule Town, Grizzly Gulch, and Middle Town.³⁶

Realizing that their continued success in the area depended on improving their mining techniques, many of these miners in 1852-1853 put aside the rocker and pan to construct flumes, ditches, and sluices--mining improvements which were already in widespread use in older gold regions of California. Because the construction of these works required more money and labor than one man alone could profitably provide, the

34. For an excellent contemporary description of the various types and methods of placer mining, see "Modes of Placer Mining," Mining and Scientific Press 3, no. 13 (June 23, 1861): 3; no. 14 (June 29, 1861): 3; no. 17, (July 6, 1861): 6; and no. 18 (July 27, 1861): 2. In Mining Frontiers, p. 32, Paul states that a modern statistician has claimed that 99 percent of all the gold obtained between 1848 and 1860 came from placer mines. Paul provides a very readable explanation of placer mining in the first fifty pages of the same source, as well as in California Gold, pp. 55-65.

35. Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 135; Camden, Autobiography, p. 140; Pen Pictures, p. 647.

36. Shasta Courier, April 16, 1853, Supplement, p. 3, July 30, 1853, p. 2, and October 8, 1853, p. 3; California Census of 1852, vol. 9, California State Library, Sacramento, California (copied by the Genealogical Records Commission, Daughters of the American Revolution of California, 1935).

miners soon organized into mining companies or partnerships. In May of 1852 San Francisco's Alta California reported on the ambitious projects of one mining company on Clear Creek:

WATER COMPANIES. Among the different projects for supplying the mines with water, there are none that yield more satisfactory results than the Shasta County Mining and Water Company, which has been organized, under the act, for the purpose of turning off Clear Creek, upon one of the richest sections of country in the northern mines. The company own the saw mill and are now rapidly sawing out the lumber, for their flumes. They have nine miles to carry the water. The work is seven feet wide and four feet high and will be able to carry twenty-eight solid feet of water eight months in the year.³⁷

A year later expectations still ran high in the Shasta community. In April 1853 the Courier assured its readers, "The mines are very numerous . . . [there is] not a river, creek, gulch, or ravine that does not contain gold," and in August reported with satisfaction, "The numerous companies on . . . [Clear] creek are now busily engaged in building flumes, preparatory to giving their claims in the bed of the stream a thorough searching for the precious ore." In spite of a heavy rainstorm which caused unexpected damage to the construction, these flume companies by early October had completed their work and already were doing "remarkably well." "Nearly all of those who have claims are working upon the bedrock," the Courier reported, "and we seldom hear of a yield of less than two ounces to the hand per day."³⁸

News of extensive and rich diggings around French Gulch the following spring, as well as glowing reports sent in from Whiskey Creek during the summer of 1854, not only testified to the success of these mining companies' efforts, but attracted yet more investors and miners to the area around Shasta. By 1855 at least eleven mining companies had set up operations along the creeks between Whiskeytown and the Tower House, and in November the Clear Creek Ditch Company completed a staggering forty-three miles of ditches from the Tower House south to the rich mines around Middletown, Mulestown, Horsetown, Texas Springs, and Jackass Flat. In October 1855 the Shasta Republican printed the following

37. San Francisco Alta California, May 19, 1852, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 129. A flume is an inclined channel for conveying water from a distance to be utilized for power, transportation, irrigation, etc. For a chronological sketch of mining throughout California, see Paul, California Gold, passim.

38. Shasta Courier, April 16, 1853, Supplement, p. 8, July 30, 1853, p. 3, and October 8, 1853, p. 2. See Appendix G for a sample list of placer mining companies.

description of this spectacular canal, written by the proprietor, J. B. Smith, whose two partners in the enterprise resided in Sacramento and San Francisco:

The Clear Creek Canal. This important work which has been in course of construction since last Christmas, will, we are informed, be completed with all its branches, by the middle of November.

A low dam has been built at the head of the Eastern bank of Clear Creek, a few hundred yards above the Tower House. The Western Fork, also, is damed and its waters received into the ditch which then enters the flat below Camden's mill. Passing through the mill race which is made tributary, the water is conducted two hundred yards in a flume, along the almost perpendicular mass of rocks which form the bluff on the west side of Clear Creek. Following the west bank a mile and a half, it crosses the creek in an aqueduct forty-five feet above the stream and is then introduced upon a flat, a few acres in extent, through which an ancient channel of the creek passes, where some well-paying claims are now being worked.

Passing on, the canal winds among the hills,--now running in a channel blasted through the rock, then piercing a ridge, until after a course of thirteen miles it reaches Whisky Creek, which is crossed in a flume sixty feet above the water. The line is then thrown upon a rocked and rugged hillside; where, for nearly a mile, the excavation was mostly performed with powder and the drill. On arriving at the twenty-fourth mile, which is a little below Dog Gulch, a rocky ridge is met with, through which for many weeks a tunnel 460 feet in length has been in course of construction. Nearly the entire bore has been through gneiss rock, containing crystalline veins of quartz, so exceedingly hard, that when they were encountered, the most carefully tempered drills would break in a few moments.

Since this tunnel was commenced, two sets of hands at each end have been employed upon it night and day; and frequently, an advance of eighteen inches or two feet in twenty-four hours was all that could be made. This hard job was, we understand, finished yesterday.

A mile further on, the line enters Salt Creek, where it seems to get entangled amid a labyrinth of mis-shapen ridges and hallows, and for a distance of four miles is as crooked as the Stygian tributary of Hades. It finally arrives, however, at the South Branch, over which is raised

the largest aqueduct on the Canal--500 feet in length, and eighty feet above the bed of the creek.

. . . [Muletown and Middletown are] the richest and most extensive mining districts in California. . . .

The entire length of the main trunk to Olney Creek, is upwards of forty miles, to which has been added ten miles of side ditches, and a reservoir, capable of containing a sheet of water about four acres in extent. The whole undertaking, when complete, will rank among the most costly and durable of the kind, in our State. The canal will carry a volume of water equal to fourteen square feet. The descent is a little more than seven feet per mile, giving a current on the surface about four miles an hour. It may be a year before the ditch tightens sufficiently to hold its full volume of water, but when it becomes impervious by a coating of sediment, it will supply a clear stream to about one hundred and fifty sluices.³⁹

The Clear Creek Canal, with its dams, ditches, aqueducts, flumes, and 460-foot tunnel through hard rock, immediately altered the physical surroundings and gold production around Shasta. The first eighteen miles of the canal had been completed from the Tower House southwest along Clear Creek, past the mouth of Grizzly, Boulder, Whiskey, Brandy, Dry, and Salt creeks, as early as June 1855. The water, running through ditches three feet deep, four feet wide at the bottom, and six feet wide on the top, provided sufficient power to mine by the new hydraulic method, a method which caused such severe damage to the countryside that the state banned it from use in 1884.⁴⁰

39. Quote from Shasta Republican, October 20, 1855, p. 2; see also Shasta Courier, April 1, 1854, August 22, 1854, p. 23, and November 24, 1865, p. 2, and Record Book E, pp. 655-56, RDO, SCC. For specific names and locations of the mining companies along Clear Creek, see "Historical Base Maps" section of this report.

40. Shasta Courier, August 11, 1855, p. 2, and June 9, 1855, p. 2; Otis E. Young, Western Mining: An Informal Account of Precious-Metals Prospecting, Placering, Lode Mining, and Milling on the American Frontier From Spanish Times to 1893 (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1970), p. 131. Mining and Scientific Press 16, no. 2 (January 11, 1868):2 describes some of the methods other than "hydraulicking," used by the miners to break down hillsides and creek banks for ready washing in the sluice boxes: "To this end pits were opened in the alluvial flats and basins, shafts were sunk and audits driven into the deep-seated gravel beds, and immense magazines of powder, placed in chambers excavated for the purpose, were exploded, shattering to fragments thousands of tons of earth, and thus rendering it easily broken down and washed away in currents of water." Such methods also called for a ready water supply and thus promoted ditch digging in the mining regions.

But the miners, disregarding their surroundings, focused their attention on the rich diggings which in August 1855 were reportedly "averaging about \$100 to the hand, per day," and which, if the Courier's estimates were correct, still had a good two to three months of ditch water available for continued mining. Around Whiskey Creek, specifically, and all along Clear Creek, the miners were "laboring in very good spirits." In particular, the Messrs. Richard Barney and Company, whose operations stood only a quarter of a mile below the Tower House (where the correspondent had established himself), had taken from their claim thirty-three ounces--nineteen ounces in fine gold and a lump of fourteen ounces. At the adjoining claim, Henry Bateman had taken out fifteen ounces the same day. And, the writer assured his readers, "there are many instances of smaller, yet handsome, amounts being obtained by others, and everyone appears to be very hopeful of soon having the desired 'pile.'"41

Evidently unable to contain himself, the enthusiastic correspondent continued: "At Oak Bottom, on my way hither, I was shown a lump of gold weighing \$225, and one of \$60--very pure--which had been found a few days previous in Grizzly Gulch, a short distance above. Two lumps of the largest size were found at the same time." Moreover, the reporter noted, "I . . . was exceedingly surprized at the manner in which the whole valley approaching [French Gulch] . . . has been turned up, and yet the earth continues to pay remarkably well."42

The spurt of unrestrained enthusiasm kindled by such reports during the summer of 1855, however, paled the following January when the Shasta Republican reported, "The miners have never been visited with a season so disastrous as the present." Frustrated by the late rains and the subsequent insufficient water supply for mining, many miners who had come to the Shasta area in the fall of 1855 returned to the southern mines. Their departure aroused considerable concern among the commercial interests in the mining communities, for, as the reporter so accurately summarized, "the merchant, the mechanic, the hotel keeper, and in fact all the branches of business are dependant on the yield of gold in the mines."43

For a brief time in the spring of 1856 the tension eased, and the Courier once again printed exuberant reports from the mines: "The mines seem here [French Gulch], even now in embryo. Daily discoveries of new

41. Shasta Courier, August 11, 1855, p. 2, and August 25, 1855, p. 2.

42. Ibid., August 25, 1855, p. 2. Very likely about this time Camden dug his largest single piece of gold, which weighed \$190. Camden, Autobiography, p. 153.

43. Shasta Republican, January 5, 1856, p. 2.

Diggings are being made, and I think before the coming Summer ends, our mining population will have doubled in numbers." Rich diggings near the Tower House, on Grizzly Gulch, and at Oak Bottom received special notice. But the nagging problem of water persisted, as voiced by the correspondent's qualifications for the rich mining region of Grizzly Gulch: "It is, however, almost impossible to work these gulches during the dry months of summer, owing to its high and dry situation."⁴⁴

Those who had purchased water rights to the Clear Creek Canal, however, continued to show profits, despite the dry season. Although other mining interests throughout Shasta County were suffering "for want of water" in November 1856, those miners "in the vicinity of the line of the Clear Creek Ditch" were doing well.⁴⁵

Many of the mining companies in the area evidently became acutely aware in 1856 that additional water channels were needed. In that year a "multitude of ditches" were dug, and the Shasta Republican optimistically wagered that there was reason to hope the prosperity would continue "far into the Summer."⁴⁶

Indeed, in the summer of 1857, news of the remarkable profits at French Gulch lifted spirits in Shasta and along the heavily traveled road between the two points. Speculation among the mining investors began to pick up, and in February 1858 the Courier reported that "prom-

44. Shasta Courier, March 1, 1856, p. 2; see also Shasta Republican, April 12, 1856, p. 2. The latter described the mining operations at Grizzley and Oak Bottom: "Large nuggets are frequently found in this region !Grizzley Gulch!, and high up upon the tributary gulches of Grizzly the richest deposits are found deep in the hillsides, in the beds of the 'lost' ravines which have been obliterated by the volcanic agencies which formed the present mountains." The hillside deposits were usually broken up by high water pressure or by explosives, and then washed in the sluice boxes. At Oak Bottom "about a mile below Grizzly, the country exhibits similar features," the article continued. "On the west side of Clear Creek, a lead of richly paying ground has for about two years been worked with the 'hydraulic apparatus,' by Messrs. Eastman & Co. If we recollect rightly, the depth of the deposit at these diggings is about thirty feet, and the general course of the lead appears to about northwest and southeast. Following its course across Clear Creek, the same deposit can be seen in the point of the hill at the end of Oak Bottom, and at some future day, it will no doubt be followed far into the hill by some enterprising miners."

45. Shasta Republican, November 15, 1856, p. 2.

46. Ibid., January 24, 1857, p. 2.

inent citizens have in contemplation the fluming of Clear Creek, at the mouth of French Gulch . . . [which] portion of Clear Creek has always been considered the richest piece of ground hereabouts." That same month the Clear Creek Canal Company surveyed for a branch ditch to run from the point where the main canal crossed the road leading from Shasta to Whiskeytown, to the mining district around Lower Springs. According to the company's surveyor, the branch canal would require a 2,600-foot tunnel through the Whiskey Divide (or Shasta Divide), and would cost an estimated \$30,000. Its purpose was to channel the water to richer grounds than the canal then passed through. Such an elaborate proposal indicated the continued confidence in the gold deposits around Shasta, and, as well, that the mines to the southwest of the county seat no longer were meeting up to the miners' expectations.⁴⁷

The canal company evidently carried out some construction on their proposed branch ditch, for in September 1858, C. M. McKinney et al., sued the company for damages of \$20,000, "sustained by reason of diversion of water by the defendant from flume and ditch of the plaintiffs." "The Great Ditch Case" remained in the local news for over a month, and on October 30 the jury reached a verdict in favor of the plaintiffs. The Clear Creek Canal Company received a fine of \$10,000, which apparently discouraged any further development of the controversial project.⁴⁸

If only symbolically, the case against J. B. Smith and the Clear Creek Ditch Company helped to signal the decline of placer mining in the Shasta area. So also did the storm in February 1858 which, according to the Shasta Republican, was the most severe storm to hit the northern counties "since the winter of 1852-53." The damages to the mining operations along Clear Creek no doubt influenced the course of events during the subsequent year:

On Clear Creek the dam of the Clear Creek Ditch, the dams of Farrington's saw mill and Townsend's quartz and numerous mining dams, were broken and destroyed . . . Camden's flume near the Tower House was blown down. The Clear Creek Ditch was broken in several places and injured by slides. Some of the bridges were slightly damaged, but all of

47. Quote from Shasta Courier, February 20, 1858, p. 2; see also Shasta Republican, August [13], 1857, p. 2, February 13, 1858, and February 27, 1858, p. 2.

48. Shasta Republican, September 25, October 9, 16, 23, and 30, 1858. The Republican noted on March 5 that the survey had been completed through to Lower Springs and that the construction would take less than three months, so that any work done must have been between that date and the law suit notice.

them endured the flood. The damages on Clear Creek cannot be repaired for less than \$20,000.⁴⁹

Although reports on the mining operations occasionally found their way into print after 1858, placer mining in the vicinity of Shasta had lost its bloom. In 1862, when passing through Whiskeytown, a busy mining camp during the boom of 1855, William Henry Brewer only noted "Whiskey, a little mining place on Clear Creek, once clear, but foul enough from mining now."⁵⁰

Although it declined, placer mining continued in the area for yet another decade and at times showed moments of promise. In 1861 one or two companies industriously flumed Clear Creek from Horsetown north to Oak Bottom, and by August were in operation at the latter spot. In January 1868 Richards and Walker reported excellent returns at their claim near Whiskeytown. According to the Courier, the claim "yielded gold dust in regular old '49 style." At the same time the Mining and Scientific Press announced that

all the claims on Mad Ox and Mule Canyons have yielded an ounce a day to the hand, some of them double that amount--the gold generally being coarse, many of the pieces weighing several ounces. These diggings are said to pay nearly as well now as when they were first discovered, some sixteen years ago [1851]. . . . At French Gulch many small companies have taken out as [much as] \$75 daily for weeks in succession.⁵¹

Around Clear Creek, however, the mining operations were close to a standstill. When the Clear Creek Ditch nearly filled with a great quantity of sand and gravel washed in by the heavy rains which fell in late February 1867, probably little repair was initiated, because, as Titus Cronise wrote, "[Shasta County] . . . contained at one time a great extent of rich placer mines, and . . . the most of these are now pretty

49. Ibid., February 20, 1858, p. 2.

50. William Henry Brewer, Up and Down California in 1860-64, The Journal of William Henry Brewer, ed. Francis P. Farquhar, (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1930), p. 325.

51. Quotes from Shasta Courier, January 11, 1868, p. 2, and Mining and Scientific Press 16, no. 2 (January 11, 1868): 20; see also Mining and Scientific Press 3, no. 18 (August 3, 1861): 5.

well worked out . . . the exhaustion of the placers in the immediate vicinity of Shasta has left it dull in this respect."⁵²

In his fifth annual report in 1872, U.S. Commissioner Rossiter Raymond also described the demise of placer mining in Shasta County:

following the exhaustion of the surface-placers the country was rapidly depopulated. The once lively mining camps and prosperous towns were deserted and remained in this condition until the construction of the Oregon and California Railroad infused new vitality into both agriculture and mining.⁵³

e. Roads and Bridges

Although it proved an economic asset to some areas of Shasta County, the construction of The California and Oregon Railroad diverted traffic from the main road to Yreka via Shasta, Whiskey Creek, and the Tower House. In 1870 the railroad's affiliated stage line decided to route their coaches north up the Sacramento Valley instead of by the Shasta road to Yreka. The railroad followed suit and gradually, between 1872 and 1887, a community grew up around the train stop at Redding Station, seven miles east of Shasta. In 1887 the town of Redding incorporated and the next year Redding stole the title of the county seat from Shasta.⁵⁴

The construction and maintenance of roads to the west of Shasta had always related directly to the prosperity of the trade and the mines along the routes to Yreka and Weaverville. The rich strikes near Whiskey and Clear creeks in 1850 and 1851 prompted local merchants to take an interest in the improvement of the rough trails to and from

52. Cronise, The Natural Wealth of California, pp. 218, 220; see also Shasta Courier, March 2, 1867, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 481. Even though the mining had dwindled, the voting registers of 1867 for Whiskeytown precinct showed that of the fifty-nine registered voters, 73 percent were miners. General List of Citizens of the United States, Resident in the County of Shasta and Registered in the Great Register (Shasta: Shasta Courier, 1867), p. 317.

53. Rossiter W. Raymond, Statistics of Mines and Mining in the States and Territories West of the Rocky Mountains For the Year 1872 Being the Fifth Annual Report (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1863), p. 143.

54. Ross, "Whiskeytown," pp. 12-13, NPS, DSC; Drayton Gibbs, comp., "Map of the States of California and Nevada" (San Francisco: Warren Holt, 1875), reproduced in Carl Wheat, The Maps of the California Gold Region 1848-1856 (San Francisco: The Grabhorn Press, 1942), no page.

their businesses. When the county supervisors appointed twelve road supervisors in 1852, three were hotelkeepers on the road between Shasta and the Tower House--Levi H. Tower, Vandeventer, and Short. By the close of 1853 Levi H. Tower and the partners Wingate and Ferrington, who owned a sawmill near Whiskey Creek and a store in Shasta, had financed nearly all of the improvements to the section of road between Shasta and Whiskey Creek:

We understand that Messrs. Ferrington and Wingate have had some ten or twelve men employed the past two weeks, in improving the road leading from this place to Whiskey Creek. We are further informed, that they have done their work in a most thorough manner, so that now it is quite practicable for a team to draw a full load of hay over the road, and Messrs. Ferrington and Wingate expect to be able to haul lumber from their saw mill to this place the entire winter through. Up to this time, there has been, we presume, not less than \$2,000 expended in improving this road, by Messrs. L. H. Tower, Ferrington and Wingate, and other enterprising citizens.⁵⁵

Tower applied, a few months later, for a license to charge a toll over the bridge across Clear Creek at the Tower House, no doubt to help defray the construction cost of the wagon road to Whiskey Creek.⁵⁶

55. Shasta Courier, November 19, 1853, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 180. According to Charles Camden, Tower's brother-in-law, this was "the first preliminary free wagon road from Tower House to Shasta. Pen Pictures, p. 645. The twelfth road district ran "from the crossing of Clear Creek at Shorts and Smith trading post to the County line on the French Gulch Road to trinity river." Court of Sessions, February 1851-February 1858, pp. 70-72, Probate Office, SCC; see also Ross, "Whiskeytown," p. 3, NPS, DSC. According to the records of the Court of Sessions in September 1852, the mouth of Mad Mule Canyon, Whiskey Creek, and Oak Bottom all were collection areas for county and state taxes, indicating the concentration of population at these localities. Court of Sessions, February 1851-February 1858, p. 99, Probate Office, SCC.

56. Records of the Board of Supervisors, February 1851-February 1858, Shasta County Court of Sessions, pp. 104, 170, 185; Shasta Courier December 3, 1853, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 181. When Tower purchased the Tower House property late in 1852, a free bridge had already been constructed at the site. Record Book A, p. 463, RDO, SCC. Tower renewed his license through 1857, and in 1858 he constructed a new bridge. See first item in this footnote for license renewal citations. The Shasta Republican, June 26, 1858, p. 2, reported that the new bridge across Clear Creek at the Tower House would soon be completed. See also Shasta Courier, October 28, 1854, p. 2.

The community leaders then turned their attention to improving the mountainous routes from Shasta to Weaverville and Yreka. In October 1853 the Shasta Courier voiced the importance of the projects:

The more important roads, or trails, have been almost entirely neglected. It is of vital importance to the property of Shasta that we have good trails leading from this point to Weaverville and Yreka, and yet, with the exception of a few detached portions, neither have been improved in the slightest degree during the past summer.

Moreover, the reporter warned that "citizens of Scottsburg and Crescent City are expending thousands in making trails . . . with a view of drawing the trade of Yreka" away from the road through Shasta.⁵⁷

But having to depend on the private sector to finance county roads was a serious problem for the county officials. After 1853 contributions were scarce from the merchants, wagoners, steamboat owners, packers, hotelkeepers, and other businessmen who used the road frequently. Finally, in 1855 the threat of a competing road up the Sacramento Valley swung private interests along the trail to Yreka in line. Nearly half million dollars worth of freight passed over the route to Yreka annually, and tradesmen such as Levi H. Tower of the Tower House began to show concern for the loss in business which would result should traffic be diverted up the Sacramento Valley. Having received a request for his support to improve the trail to Yreka into a wagon road from leaders in Siskiyou County, Tower explained, in an open letter printed in the Shasta Courier on November 17, 1855, his reasons for pledging \$10,000 towards the road's construction and his expectations for additional contributions from other citizens on the line of improvements:

Messrs. A. B. Little, Herd & Brother, A. Steel, C. McDermott, T. Masterson, & Others. Gentlemen: Your communication relative to the practability of building a wagon road to Yreka via Scott's valley is before me, and I am pleased to see that you feel so deep an interest in the enterprise. There can be no doubt of its feasibility, nor of the advantages which such a road would offer not only to the citizens of Siskiyou, but of Shasta, and I venture the assertion that the road can and will be made by individual enterprise. The people on the line of the proposed improve ment can and will subscribe as liberally on the Shasta side as you propose doing on the Yreka side of the mountain. I think we may perhaps obtain aid from the citizens of Weaverville in making a portion of the road, that portion of it from Shasta to the waters of the Trinity, as

57. Shasta Courier, October 22, 1853, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 178.

by so doing they would be overcoming the chief impediment in the way of making a wagon road to Weaverville. I have not had an opportunity of conversing with many of my neighbors since the receipt of your favor, but I feel that I can pledge them all to donations or subscriptions proportionate with their means. Personally, I would not be pecuniarily benefitted at present, but would certainly be a loser were the road to be diverted up the line of the Sacramento River, and for this reason I will subscribe the sum of ten thousand dollars, payable in installment whenever needed: and many others, as I before remarked, have signified a willingness to aid the enterprise by labor and money. When I first located where I now reside, few supposed that wagons would ever reach me, but now stages make regular trips, and with expenditures of a very few thousand dollars, any load could be taken to my place than be hauled to the town of Shasta. This improvement is a result of little more than my individual labor, and the expenditure of a few thousand dollars, and from actual observation of the country.⁵⁸

In addition plans were underway for a wagon road to Weaverville in 1855. Tower, as one of fifteen county road supervisors, again played a role in the early stages of planning, but both the Weaverville and Yreka road improvements suffered extensive delays. Not until April 1858 did the Courier announce the completion of the former road and August 1858 that of the Yreka road.⁵⁹

While the Weaverville road was under construction in 1857 and optimism was running high concerning the increase of traffic over the improvements, Benjamin Mix, properietor of the Whiskeytown hotel, announced his plan for constructing a new bridge over Whiskey Creek:

A FREE BRIDGE is proposed across Whisky Creek, near the mouth, where the wagon road crosses it, in Shasta County. It will be 165 feet in length, and will be built above

58. Shasta Courier, November 17, 1855, p. 2; see also ibid., January 7, 1854, p. 2, and Shasta Republican, March 15, 1856. The statement that the county depended on private investments for road building is based on comments made in the Shasta Courier, November 19, 1853, and Camden, Autobiography, p. 159.

59. In February 1855 Tower was a member of the Shasta County Board of Supervisors for Roads, and in November 1855 he was unanimously elected its chairman. He continued to serve on the board at least until March 1856. Shasta Courier, March 1, 1856, p. 2; and April 3, 1858, p. 2; Shasta Herald, June 12, 1858, p. 2; Records of the Board of Supervisors, p. 9, RDO, SCC.

the freshet mark. The Shasta Republican states that Benjamin Mix, under whose direction the work will be done, subscribes \$400, and as soon as the sum is made up to \$1,200, the bridge will be commenced.

Other businessmen in the vicinity of Whiskeytown began to cooperate in the effort to improve the roads. Tower constructed a new bridge over Clear Creek at the Tower House in 1858, and in February 1860 the Shasta Turnpike Road Company completed a survey for a new wagon road from Shasta to the Four Mile House. Nicholas Maher, the proprietor of that hotel, financed a road from the Four Mile House south to Salt Creek in 1861 while Charles Camden furnished most of the labor force and funds in 1862-63 to complete the wagon road from the Four Mile House to the Tower House.⁶⁰

To some who traveled over the road between Shasta and the Tower House early in the 1860s, the improvements seemed marginal, judging from the comments in William H. Brewer's journal on September 23, 1862: "Tower's . . . is on the great Yreka road, many heavy teams are met, and the road is dusty almost beyond endurance." Brewer was witnessing the continued extension of trade with the northern counties, a trade which nearly all passed over the Shasta to Yreka road at that date. But even in 1862, plans were announced to build a road up the Sacramento Valley to Yreka, and, in response, the California Stage Company vowed to invest as much as \$100,000 to keep the traffic on the road through Shasta, as

60. Quote from Sacramento Union, October 16, 1857, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 288; Shasta Republican, June 26, 1858, p. 2, and May 16, 1861; Record Book G, p. 56, RDO SCC. In January 1858 L. H. Tower and six associates announced that they intended to form a joint stock company to construct a "Turnpike Road" between the Mountain House and Yreka, and that their preliminary planning meeting would be held the following February. Shasta Republican, January 16, 1858, p. 3. In the Shasta Courier of December 28, 1861, as quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 399, Charles Camden and associates William Magee, Edmund Hindman, Grant I. Taggart, William McKeag, Joseph Chitwood, John F. Camden, S. W. Clark, and James Bushee announced their intention "of constructing a Turnpike Road from the Tower House to the Four Mile House," and that they planned to meet at the Tower House on January 18, 1862, for a preliminary meeting. Evidently, the route surveyed by Camden's group did not satisfy the entire community, for in the same newspaper edition, another group of men--Mathew Burns, J. W. Moddy, Gottell Duboice, Howard Turner, Kenton Sevedge, Jos. Louis, James Wade, Mathew Donahue, Pat Donahue, Joseph Grant, and Michael Foley--gave notice that they would meet at the Tower House on January 9, 1862, to discuss their plan to construct "a Turnpike Road from the mouth of Grizzly Gulch to the Tower House bridge, on Clear Creek . . . and to run above Smith and Company's ditch, on the side of the ridge, on an easy grade, and above all high water."

the company owned a long stretch of the wagon road north of the Tower House.⁶¹

At the same time troubles plagued the newly constructed Weaverville wagon road, causing traffic over the mountainous, windy route to come to a near standstill during the winter months. But the twelve-mile stretch between Shasta and the Tower House, which opened as the Camden Toll Road in 1863, evidently satisfied travelers, for Camden later admitted that the tolls collected rewarded him handsomely for his initial \$20,000 investment in road construction. Camden recalled that his company had faced a difficult task to cut a road over mountainous terrain and, at times, through solid rock.⁶²

The Camden Toll Road, purchased by the county in 1912, remained the principal route between Shasta and the Tower House until 1924, when the state of California constructed a new highway through the area. Camden maintained the toll road adequately, at least until the early 1870s, when the railroad out of Redding Station began to sap some of the toll road's profits. In 1864 he improved the bridge over Clear Creek, as the Courier described:

The Bridge across Clear Creek, at the Tower House, has recently been much improved by being covered with substantial siding and a good shingle roof. It is the most substantial bridge structure in the county, and the proprietors, for excellent repair in which it is always kept, merit the commendation of the traveling public.⁶³

Three years later Camden built a sturdy replacement for the Whiskey Creek bridge after heavy rains in March 1867 damaged the old one. The Courier again admired the quality of the work: "The framework

61. Brewer, Up and Down California, p. 325; see also Shasta Courier, February 15, 1862, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 401.

62. Shasta Herald, February 25, 1860, p. 2; Camden, Autobiography, p. 159; Shasta Courier, March 28, 1863, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 405; Toogood and Henderson, Tower House Historic District, p. 40.

63. Shasta Courier, September 3, 1864, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 415; see also R. H. Cross, "The Early Inns of California, Shasta County," March 1, 1941, MS, at California Historical Society, San Francisco, California.

of the bridge is composed of the best oak timber, and the foundation is built up in such a manner as to insure its safety."⁶⁴

These improvements, however, were made before 1870, when the California-Oregon Stagecoach and Railroad Company decided to reroute their coaches from the Shasta-Yreka road to the road up the Sacramento Valley, thus bypassing the Shasta area completely. By 1880 Shasta no longer greeted the majority of travelers to northern California and much of the area's population had moved away. The golden days had faded, but not without many an account and memory of the adventures, fears, and festivities of pioneer life along the heavily traveled Shasta-Yreka road.

3. Social Developments, 1850-1880

a. Hotels as Social Centers

Because of the composition of the population during the first decade of growth, traditional social customs emerged slowly around Shasta. With only a fraction of the inhabitants women, and with mostly restless, wandering miners camped out near the mining centers, the social amenities known in the eastern and European communities had small place in frontier living. Instead, the mining camps at Whiskey Creek, Oak Bottom, Grizzley Gulch, and Tower House featured hotels with saloons or bars, and most likely, gambling tables. In 1856 the Whiskeytown hotel became the first post office, with Ben Mix, the owner, as postmaster, and in 1858 the Tower House became a stage depot for the California Stage Company, leasing stables to provide fresh horses for the trip on to Weaverville and Yreka. Thus the hotels became convenient social centers for travelers and local citizens alike who wanted refreshment, company, entertainment, and news of family affairs elsewhere, as well as the latest happenings and gold strikes in the mining regions of the West.⁶⁵

64. Shasta Courier, August 17, 1867, quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 500. On March 2, 1867, the Courier reported on the heavy damages which the rain storm caused to Camden's road: "The heavy rains caused Whisky Creek to rise to such a height that the waters flowed over the top of the old bridge," and Mr. Craddock, a stage driver found the grade between Shasta and Whiskeytown in "horrible condition." In some places the holes in the road had been washed out to the depth of two or three feet, and were wide enough for wagon wheels. Quoted in ibid., pp. 480-81.

65. The California Census of the 1852 for Shasta County records a population of 3,448 men and 252 women, or approximately .07 percent women. California Census of 1852, vol. 9, California State Library; Leases, 1:1, RDO, SCC; Ross, "Whiskeytown," p. 14, NPS, DSC. The Whiskeytown post office served a large territory, for in 1859 the mail service deliveries, as announced in the Shasta Herald, departed Tuesdays and Thursdays from Shasta and made stops only at Whisky Creek, Lewiston, and Weaverville, with return trips on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Shasta Herald, August 20, 1859. p. 1.

Certain merchants who chose to remain in the Shasta area assumed the leadership in creating a social atmosphere conducive to permanent settlement which would provide a dependable, long-range market for their wares. In the area between Shasta and the Tower House, Levi H. Tower and Benjamin Mix showed the most interest in the community's social development. Both men furnished their hotels with dance halls and sponsored formal balls for ladies and gents from near and far. The Shasta Courier of May 13, 1854, printed Tower's effusive invitation to a Fourth of July festivity:

I WOULD ANNOUNCE TO THE PUBLIC that every preparation is being made to celebrate the approaching anniversary of our nation's birth day, at the "TOWER HOUSE," In a style worthy of the glorious occasion. Indeed no exertions or expense shall be spared in order to secure a large, as well as a happy gathering. As an earnest of this I will here state that I will run several free coaches down the vally as far as Tehama, for the accomodation of all ladies, and for those gentleman who may bring ladies with them. Recollect, then, the 4th of July celebration at the "Tower House."

May 13 Levi H. Tower⁶⁶

Evidently worried that he would not have an adequate number of women at the ball, Tower purchased space in the June 24th issue of the Courier to explain his unusual open invitation and to urge its ready acceptance:

It is almost impossible to obtain a complete list of the names of the ladies living in the surrounding country. To prevent the possibility, therefore, of neglecting any one, I have determind to issue no cards of invitation, but do in this public manner, respectfully solicit the attendance of every lady in this and the surrounding counties. I trust that this invitation will deem sufficient by all. I have almost every possible arrangement for the comfort and pleasure of those who may attend. As it is my intention to run a sufficient number of coaches as low down as Tehama to this place, for the special accomodation of the ladies, free of charge. I would be glad if those living on the road would immediately advise me of their intention to avail themselves of such conveyance, so that there may be no dissappoint ment for lack of room.⁶⁷

While not so effusive, Benjamin Mix's invitation to his opening ball in December 1855 matched Tower's in its ambitiousness, stating that

66. Shasta Courier, May 13, 1854, p. 2.

67. Ibid., June 24, 1854, p. 2.

"Benjamin Mix would inform the public and lovers of Dancing, that he will give a GRAND OPENING BALL at his new Hotel at Whisky Creek, . . . on which occasion he would be most happy to see his friends and acquaintances." Mix went on to list a total of fifty-five managers from Shasta, Lower Springs, Canon House, Clear Creek, American Ranch, Cottonwood, Prairie House, Red Bluffs, Tehama, Bald Hills, Eagle Creek, Horse-town, Briggsville, Nebraska, Middletown, Spring Creek, Four Mile House, Whisky Creek, Oak Bottom, Grizzley Gulch, Mad Ox, Tower House, French Gulch, Grass Valley, Weaverville, Trinity River, Ridgeville, Bate's Ranch, and Yreka.⁶⁸

Mix's ball received flattering comments in the Shasta Republican:

Notwithstanding inclemency of the weather of Wednesday afternoon, the attendance at Mr. Mix's hotel was very large, and everything passed off in the most agreeable manner. The music was excellent, the repast sumptuous, and every body was in perfect good humor and enjoyed themselves to as full an extent as could be desired. About forty ladies graced the festive scene with their presence.⁶⁹

Both of these proprietors not only organized social events but also participated as managers of activities in neighboring communities such as French Gulch, Lower Springs, and Briggsville. By the second half of the 1850s, their gregariousness and hospitality had won them reputations. In August 1856 the Shasta Republican reported on a pleasure party which had recently gathered at Tower's:

We know of no place more inviting for the lovers of pleasure than the Tower House, twelve miles north of Shasta. We understand that a very agreeable party of ladies and gentlemen from our town have been luxuriating upon the choice of fruits and melons now to be had at this love of a place. Four or five days spent with agreeable ladies amid the fine scenery, somewhat noted for sentimentalities once told, beneath the shaded bowers, the walks through the fine gardens and along the rippling streams abounding with mountain trout and bright shining gold as it is taken from the riffle-box by the hardy miner, the promenades amid the splashing of fountains, by moonlight, all all [sic] conspire to elevate the spirits and to convince us that "it is not good for man to be alone." At no place will this be more

68. Shasta Republican, November 27, 1855, p. 3.

69. Ibid., December 8, 1855, p. 2.

fully realized than by a visit to this oasis among the mountains.⁷⁰

In September 1857 the same press tipped its hat to Ben Mix:

A Grand Ball will be given by Mr. Benjamin Mix at this large and commodious Hotel in the town of Whisky Creek. . . . Mr. Mix is known for giving the most agreeable parties in Shasta County. It has been many months since he has afforded his friends an opportunity of dancing in his well finished halls. . . .⁷¹

While Tower's popularity clearly stemmed largely from the attractive setting at his property, Mix's popularity seemed to be based on the enthusiasm sparked at his festivities. Whiskey Creek was at its peak in the mid-1850s, and had yet other gracious hosts for traditional social evenings:

The pleasant entertainment given by Mr. S. Trip and lady, to the denizens of this place, on the 25th inst., deserves passing notice. It is the best possible evidence we can give to "outside barbarians" that Whisky Town is progressing--in fact already possesses the elements of good respectable society. It was only in the fall of '52 that the first lady became an actual resident; and now we are blessed with damsels and dames sufficient to form "a merry dance," besides a number who do not "join the festive throng." On this occasion there were about twenty present, and nearly twice that number of gents, but as the room would only accomodate two setts, the "double duty" was not onerous. The room was tastefully festooned with evergreen and the evening delightfully cool.

Such concern for a proper social atmosphere reflected the gradual strengthening of traditional amenities in the Shasta area. Like many other California mining communities, Whiskey Creek was receiving a healthy proportion of German and other Old World immigrants who were introducing their formal customs at social gatherings such as at Mr. Trip's home:

Gus discouraged the "fairy-like music," which if not so soft and melodious, was at least as energetic as the famed "gondoler's strains." The arrangements of the cusine was elegant and ample, (considering it was a private residence) and reflected great credit on the culinary skill of Mrs.

70. Ibid., August 16, 1856, p. 2; see also Shasta Courier, October 29, 1853, p. 2; January 14, 1854, p. 2; November 7, 1855, November 24, 1855, p. 3; and December 22, 1855, p. 2.

71. Shasta Republican, September 19, 1857, p. 2.

T's. The "new rule," which you so kindly praised as distinguishing our Fourth of July ball, is, in our Vaterland, an old custom. 72

By the close of the decade, however, Whiskeytown's population was on the decline, as were its grand social gatherings. When reporting on the Whiskey Creek Ball in April 1860, the Shasta Herald noted, with a subdued delivery, that the local affair "was a pleasant gathering of pleasure seekers and pleasure enjoyers. . . . Burke has hosts of friends, and the hospitable manner in which he treats them gives few opportunities of there ever growing any less."73

While the Whiskeytown social activities diminished in scope, the Tower House broadened its appeal as a resort for political and private parties. G. I. Taggart, manager of the Tower House in 1861, hosted the Union Democratic Senatorial Convention during the heat of summer, and because of the hotel's location "in a gorge of Clear Creek," the convention proved to be an excellent retreat, with "cool and pleasant breezes." In 1864 the Soldiers' Aids Society of Whiskeytown, French Gulch, and the Tower House chose the latter location for a benefit festival to raise money for their sanitary fund. According to the press report, "the Tower House Sanitary Festival was the most magnificent affair ever gotten up in this county, and reflects the greatest credit upon those having charge." Apparently in a spirit of celebration

72. Shasta Courier, September 1, 1855, p. 2; see also Paul, California Gold, p. 28, Paul also noted that the German immigration to California during the gold rush was second only to England among the European countries. Tower's property has received rave reviews as early as August 1855 by the Shasta County correspondent: "Rusticating a few days for my health, at one of the most delightful places in this State, and the only spot in this section of the country for recreation; surrounded by majestic mountains, luxuriant verdure, flowers and rich fruit, with cool bracing air, invigorating the system after the depressing effects of the great heat of the valley." Shasta Courier, August 25, 1855, p. 2.

73. Shasta Herald, April 28, 1860, p. 2. According to Judge Ross's research, "Whiskeytown itself never was very large. Probably no more than 150 people lived at the town at any one time. The district, however, which covers Whiskeytown voting precinct, took in the territory covering all of Whiskey Creek and its tributaries, Oak Bottom, Grizzly Gulch and along the crest of the hills to the East Fork of Clear Creek above French Gulch, and there were usually more persons in the district outside the town than at the site of the town. It is said there were over 1000 people in the district in the year 1855, which was probably the high point in its population." Ross, "Whiskeytown," p. 13, NPS, DSC.

at the close of the Civil War, Taggart hosted a May party at the Tower House for which he boasted, "no pains or expense" would be spared.⁷⁴

Throughout the 1870s the Tower House continued to enjoy a local and regional reputation as a pleasant summer resort, but its earlier use as a community center, election precinct, mining district, communication hub, and quasi-courthouse faltered as the area's population dispersed. During the 1850s the Tower House's spacious public rooms and its convenient and comfortable location prompted groups of multiple purpose to gather there for business and pleasure. Levi Tower's familiarity with the local clientele helped to win him political positions in the county government and social acceptance in the Masonic Fraternity in Shasta.⁷⁵

On a smaller scale, the hotels and their owners at Oak bottom, Whiskey Creek, and Four Mile House experienced the same exposure to travelers, local groups, and political positions. Ben Mix and Nicholas Maher, hotel owners at the latter two locations, both ran for the office of Sheriff of Shasta County in 1855--no doubt against more influential candidates from Shasta, where the money and political incumbents were concentrated. Whether they won the elections is not known, but their aspirations provide a minor key to the social development of the communities in which they lived.⁷⁶

Little detailed information has turned up to shed light on the actual day-to-day affairs at these public houses or on the personality of the owners, but an interesting journal entry made in 1860 by J. Lamson depicts a few days' visit at the Oak Bottom House. Lamson's impressions of the hotel's proprietary suggest the spontaneity and tension of California's mining frontier society:

74. Shasta Courier, July 27, 1861, p. 2, quoted in Cross, "Early Inns," pp. 28-29, California Historical Society. Judge Ross related that during the Civil War Whiskeytowners went to Shasta frequently for some patriotic occasion, and that most of them, like the majority of Shasta County citizens, were behind the Union cause. Ross, "Whiskeytown," p. 12, NPS, DSC.

75. Toogood and Henderson, Tower House Historic District, pp. 33, 45-53. The latter page reference provides information concerning the Tower House as a cultural microcosm prior to ca. 1880. Judge Ross maintained that after the close of the Civil War, the social calendar at Whiskeytown resumed, with balls and other typical gatherings. Ross, "Whiskeytown," p. 12, NPS, DSC.

76. Shasta Courier, July 30, 1853, p. 1, and June 20, 1855, p. 2; Court of Sessions, Shasta County, February 1851-February 1858, pp. 26, 70-72, RDO, SCC.

"A Queer Fellow." April 18, 1860. Mr. Van Wee was one of the queerest compounds of oddity, with whom it was my fortune to meet in my miles from Shasta. Two Irish women, sisters, were his housekeepers and servants. Many a lively scene was enacted about his establishment and scarcely a day passed without bringing some extraordinary excitement. One day there was great excitement in and around the house occasioned by the arrival of a skunk on a visit to the chickens. The dogs barked, the hens cackled, the women screamed, and Van Wee flew round wild with excitement, his gun was brought to him, the intruder chased into the stable and shot, and quiet was restored.

Next day two valuable dogs, very useful for barking at travelers and eating superfluous food, which would otherwise be thrown to the pigs and lost, strayed away or were stolen. A boy and an Irish woman were sent off on horseback after them, and great was the rejoicing in the afternoon on the safe return of the dogs, horses, boy and woman.

On the morning of the third day I was surprised to learn that there had been a wedding in the house, and that Mr. Van Wee, in obedience to a sudden impulse had married one of his housekeepers. The wedding had been very private, so much so, that the sister of the bride was not aware that such an event was in contemplation until the hour before its consummation.

This Van Wee, as I have said before, is a queer fellow. He hates the liquor business, but keeps a bar, drinks with all his friends--and they are numerous--and gets mellow every day. He is, or rather was, a Know-Nothing in politics, and hates all foreigners of whatever nation, although his father and mother are Dutch, and his wife is Irish. An infidel in religion, he read me a chapter from Tom Paine's Age of Reason. He contributes freely to churches and is hospitable to clergymen, of whatever creed. He receives a great many rudely expressed, but hearty congratulations from his friends, whom he invites to see "the gal," who receives her friends in the kitchen, while attending to her duties over the stove, with her gown pinned up in true Irish style. His affection for his wife continues unabated, notwithstanding he has been married three days--this was when I last saw him,--and he betrays it in many acts of coarse kindness; calls her Biddy, ridicules her nation and her religion, damns her priests and feeds them all.

He has sent invitations to all his friends, far and near, men, women and children, to assemble at his house, next

week for a grand jollification in commemoration of his wedding. Long may he flourish.⁷⁷

b. Schools, Hospitals, Churches

Even with such irregularity in the social framework, the local leaders in the Shasta area did make provisions for the welfare of their sick and their children. On the western outskirts of the county seat a hospital that was within a few hours' ride from the Tower House was erected in 1855. In the same year a school was opened in Whiskey Creek. After five years the school population remained small, as the Shasta Courier in February 1860 observed:

Whisky Creek School District, No. 12. Miss A. Hathorn teacher. Number of children in the district, 26, this school was commenced January 9.

The number of scholars in attendance is ten, some less than one half of the school district census. There is quite a respectable school house belonging to this district, erected five years ago, at a cost of \$200.

Reminiscent of the sense of disorder and tension depicted by Lamson at the Oak Bottom House, the article closed with a sharp rebuke to those parents who showed no interest in the education of their children: There is something wrong when we see only ten scholars, in a school district of twenty-six children, attending public school."⁷⁸

77. J. Lamson, Round Cape Horn. Voyage of the Passenger-Ship James W. Paige From Maine to California in the Year 1852 (Bangor: Press of O. F. and W. H. Knowles, 1878), pp. 135-37. Frank Vandevanter sold the Oak Bottom House to A. J. Van Wie in February 1856. Deed Book E, p. 358, RDO, SCC. Judge Ross provided an undocumented detail concerning the social events at the Whiskeytown hotel: "Ben Mix used to have turkey shoots near his hotel in the fifties." Ross, "Whiskeytown," p. 11, NPS, DSC.

78. Shasta Courier, February 4, 1860, p. 3; see also Ross, "Whiskeytown," pp. 7, 11, NPS, DSC. According to Ross (Whose sources are not given), "A school was started in Shasta in 1853 and a schoolhouse built late in 1854, and first used in January, 1855. By then there were quite a few children of school age in Shasta, and there must have been some in Whiskeytown. It was declared to be a part of the Shasta School District, but there is no record available showing that any pupils went into Shasta to school, nor that a teacher went to Whiskeytown. The Whiskeytown School District formed in 1859 and an elementary school was continuously maintained until with the consolidation with French Gulch in the past year." During its first three years the Whiskeytown school could not have been very active, for in January 1858, the Shasta Republican noted that "no school has been kept at Middletown, nor Whisky Creek, nor French Gulch." Shasta Republican, January 30, 1858, p. 1.

That "something wrong," presumably, was the fact that many of the rough, antisocial habits of the early gold fever years still prevailed in the Shasta area in 1860, despite nearly a decade of settlement. Traditional social mores, as known in the eastern states, had not taken sufficient root in Whiskeytown by 1855 to make way for a church of any denomination, although by 1859 the community did share the services of Reverend William Kidder, who reportedly also preached in Weaverville, and taught school at Whiskey Creek.⁷⁹

c. Intemperance and Disease

Both Camden and Lamson indicated that a more popular pastime than school or church on the mining frontiers was socializing at the numerous bars, saloons, or hotels. All the hotel owners between Shasta and the Tower House assured their customers that they had stocked a wide variety of liquors and choice cigars. Their advertisements probably were unnecessary, however, because excessive drinking often posed a problem in the area. The Shasta Courier in August reported that Henry Wood, who had been mining for two years in the Oak Bottom precinct, had died becoming "another victim . . . [on] the long list of deaths by intemperance." In a somewhat lighter vein, the same press related the experiences of a traveler to Weaverville in October who "passed in succession Nick Meyer's Mix's, Van Deventer's, Brown's, and finally reached the Tower House. At each one of the before-mentioned places the hospitable landlords invited us to smile, but as we were on the temperance list we were forced to decline, so we reached Tower's sober."⁸⁰

The heavy drinking so common in the vicinity of Shasta no doubt closely correlated with the rate of violence and crime in the mining camps and along the road, as did probably the poor physical conditions and frequent disappointments met by the average miner. In addition to alcoholism, the mining camps were often hotbeds of dysentery, diarrhea, land scurvey, typhoid, chills, fever, and ague. Worn or frustrated by the harsh physical labor in the mines, the meager product of a day's dig, the current disease of the camp, or the quick disappearance of their profit into food, supplies, and liquor, the miners were laid victim to all sorts of personal shortcomings. As if to set the mood for the subsequent experiences in the mining camps of California, a miner in 1850 entered in his diary:

79. Ross, "Whiskeytown," p. 7, NPS, DSC.

80. Shasta Courier, August 11, 1855, p. 2, and October 13, 1855, p. 3; see also Shasta Courier, July 23, 1853, July 30, 1853, p. 3, March 11, 1854, p. 1, and January 2, 1858, p. 1.

This morning, notwithstanding the rain, we were again at our work. We must work. In sunshine and rain, in warm and cold, in sickness and health, successful or not successful, early and late, it is work, work, WORK! Work or perish! All around us . . . are the miners at work--not for gold, but for bread. Lawyers, doctors, clergymen, farmers, soldiers, deserters, good and bad, from England, from America, from China, from the Islands . . . all, all at work at their cradles. From morning to night is heard the incessant rock, rock, rock! . . . Cheerful words are seldom heard, more seldom the boisterous shout and laugh which indicate success, and which, when heard, sink to a lower ebb the spirits of the unsuccessful. We made 50 cents each.⁸¹

Ten years later John Hittell's description of miners for his government publication Mining in the Pacific States of North America gave official confirmation of the emergence of a reckless and riotous lifestyle in the mining camps of California:

Most of the miners live in a rough manner. . . . Not one half of them lay up any money. Many earn with ease, and spend it as fast as they make it. Men engaged in mining are not noted, as a class, for sobriety and economy. Their occupation seems to have an influence to make them spend-thrifts, and fond of riotous living. Not more than one Californian miner in five has a wife and family with him. Most of them are unmarried, and have no prospect of matrimony. . . . The people as a mass, in the mining districts, are very intelligent.⁸²

d. Violence and Outlawry

The Shasta press kept its readers abreast with the latest acts of violence and crime. A sampling of the news reports follows:

[June 1856] Tower Safe Robbery--Antomode Le Crus was arrested on Wednesday last on suspicion of being one of the party that lately stole a safe from the Tower House.

81. Daniel B. Woods, Sixteen Months at the Gold Diggings (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1851), pp. 102-103. Woods was mining at Curtis' Creek, California. Paul, Mining Frontiers, p. 26. As Greever pointed out and as this writer personally experienced, poison oak was troublesome in the mining areas; also, for the miners, mercury evaporation from the gold pans and sluices often caused eye troubles. Greever, The Bonanza West, p. 58.

82. Hittell, Mining in the Pacific States, quoted in Paul, Mining Frontiers, p. 95.

[August 1856] On Monday last, a teamster from Chico, while on his way home and near Clear Creek, was stopped on the highway and robbed by two men in Masks . . . in broad day . . . [who] obtained [\$170], which the teamsters had realized by the sale of fruit in their market.

[August 1856] On Sunday last, the till of the bar room at the Four-Mile House, kept by Mr. Davis, was robbed of \$43 by John Barry, a deserting soldier.

[February 1857] Affray at the Tower House. . . . occurred about one mile beyond the Tower House, on the Weaver road, between John Henley and Mr. Bennett, two partners in mining . . . a difficulty arose in relation to their claim, and Henley made an assault upon Bennett with a shovel . . . several blows . . . upon the head . . . upon which Bennett struck Henley upon the head with his shovel . . . [his] skull being fractured. . . . His recovery is doubtful.

[February 1858] Robberies. Two cabins, belonging to some miners about two miles this side of the Tower House, were entered on Monday last, and robbed of a considerable amount of dust. We did not learn the exact sum, but it is stated to be between two and three hundred dollars.

[April 1858] Murderous Assault. Isaac McCullum assaulted a man, whose name is unknown to us, with an axe, on Monday morning last, near Oak Bottom. The difficulty arose in question to a mining claim. The wounds inflicted were very severe, and one on the head fractured the skull. . . . The wounds were not mortal.

[April 1858] Two Murders. Two most fiendish murders were committed upon two mining partners near Whisky town, in this county, on Saturday evening last--one German, named Feldbush and an Italian, named Lewis [?].

[September 1864] Attempted Robberies. On Saturday night last, at a late hour, a Mr. James King and Mr. Moppin, of Whiskeytown, were returning home from French Gulch, they were stopped by three men who places [sic] themselves square across the road, between Grizzly Gulch and the Tower House, evidently for the purpose of robbery. Being unarmed, King and Moppin suddenly wheeled their horses and rode back to the Tower House, where they

remained until daylight, when they proceeded home without molestation.⁸³

e. Law and Order

Although Shasta County boasted a sheriff and jailhouse in the county seat by the mid-1850s, most law and order evidently was maintained by vigilante groups and by a code of honor among the miners. In his autobiography Camden recalled that in 1851 a fellow traveler, a "man of good appearance" whom he and Tower had joined on their return to Shasta County from Yreka, stole his gold specimens worth about \$300. Realizing the man had fled with their valuables, Camden and Tower followed him to French Gulch "and accused him of it; searched him, but found nothing; cursed and threatened to lynch him, but all to no effect; had him watched. . . . But with all our caution, he slipped out, and we never saw him or the specimens again."⁸⁴

Not all thieves alluded their victims so successfully. The Shasta Courier reported in February 1856:

ALMOST A LYNCHING. On Friday last a man who had been suspected of stealing for some time past, from the miners near the Tower House was caught and taken to the Tower House where a jury of miners was empaneled, and the guilty fairly established upon him by the miners jury's verdict. . . . [He was] whipped by rope and let go.⁸⁵

In cases of manslaughter or physical violence, the law apparently was more flexible, at least as far as convictions and punishments were concerned. In the incident of 1857, when Bennett and Henley attacked each other with shovels, the latter died and the former turned himself in to Sheriff Follansbee, who discharged him, citing the fact that Bennett had acted out of self-defense. The next year a Chinaman, who was confined for several days in the Shasta jail on suspicion that he was involved in "the late horrible murder of Feldbush and Lewis, near Whiskytown," was released without mention of further investigation or other suspects.⁸⁶

83. Shasta Republican, June 7, 1856, p. 2, August 23, 1856, p. 2, February 7, 1857, p. 2, February 6, 1858, p. 2, April 3, 1858, p. 2, and April 24, 1858, p. 2; *ibid.*, September 1864, as quoted in Cross, "Early Inns," p. 28, California Historical Society.

84. Camden, Autobiography, pp. 152-53; see also Winthrop, Via Western Express, p. 83, and Greever, The Bonanza West, p. 77.

85. Shasta Courier, February 23, 1856, p. 2.

86. Shasta Republican, February 29, 1857, p. 2, and May 15, 1858, p. 2. In Mining Frontiers, p. 8, Paul concluded, "Through carelessness,

Bennett's decision to turn himself in illustrates the code of honor frequently reported among the miners, many of whom had come to California imbued with strong traditions of honesty, integrity, and self-respect. In developing his theory that "the free, strong life of the mining camp has been a factor of prime importance in the social, literary, and institutional development of large and prosperous American communities," Charles H. Shinn gathered testimonies from several gold rush journals about the system of self-government developed during the 1850s. He quoted Dr. J. B. Stillman's description of 1849-50 that "there was no government, no law," but "more intelligence and good feeling than in any country I ever saw. . . . Men are valued for what they are. . . . One feels that he has a standing here that it takes a man until he is old and rich to enjoy at home." Hilton R. Helper's 1855 journal, Land of Gold, declared that there was "more real honesty and fairness among the miners than among any other class of people in California. Taken as a body, they are a plain, straightforward, hard-working set of men."⁸⁷

The overall sense of comraderie and individuality pervasive in the mining camps spawned a crude form of self-government which all members of a camp faithfully observed. As Mr. Helper testified, "Almost every bar is governed by a different code of laws, and the sizes of the claims vary according to locality. . . . One-fourth of an acre is an average-sized claim." As late as 1857 Blackwood's Magazine reported, "It is an agreeable and unexpected feature in the mines themselves, that order, justice, and courtesy reign," and that "patches of a few square feet, teeming with gold, are as sacred as if secured with title deeds." In 1855 Frank Marryat came to the same general conclusion in his Mountains and Molehills:

The mining population have been allowed to constitute their own laws relative to the appointment of "claims," and it is astonishing how well this system works. . . . every digging has its fixed rules and by-laws, and all disputes are submitted to a jury of the resident miners . . . the by-laws of each district are recorded in the Recorder's Office.⁸⁸

Shinn summarized his thorough research on the system of law in the mining camps:

unfamiliarity with one another, and absorption with money-getting, the early mining population allowed local government and the administration of justice to lapse very nearly beyond recovery," which may explain the seeming indifference to convicting or pursuing law breakers.

87. Shinn, Mining Camps, pp. 7, 184, 151-52.

88. Marryatt, Mountains and Molehills, p. 124, quoted in Shinn, Mining Camps, pp. 146, 152.

But these rough and busy men, . . . established and enforced a code of ethics governing their relations with each other and their property rights, enforced justice though without written law, and in the end created a system of jurisprudence that has won the approval and endorsement of the highest courts of the land.⁸⁹

With the gradual exhaustion of rich placer deposits towards the close of the 1850s, however, self-government began to be altered and replaced. As Shinn observed, the laws of each mining district had to be changed from time to time, as the area came to be reworked. "This reworking of a district increased the size of a claim: with rich, virgin soil, 10 or 20 feet sufficed, but with the fifth reworking, the claims were restaked with 100 or 200 feet of frontage on a creek or river." By 1860 California had established state laws governing mining claims, and finally in 1866 the United States government started to issue regulations and laws which gradually supplanted the self-government found on the mining frontiers.⁹⁰

f. Prejudice and Discrimination

The code of ethics and the sense of freedom and individuality characteristic of the first decade in the gold mines, however, did not often include minority groups. The Anglo-Saxon population predominated in the mines and maintained racial prejudices often learned in their early life. To his dismay, Camden discovered that a group of miners he and Tower had joined in 1851 while on a trip north of Shasta Flats had disguised their real purpose--"to kill Indians and to take their ponies." The Indians in the area of the Tower House and Whiskey Creek made initial efforts in 1851-52 to drive out the white men from their lands, but with notable failure. Except in the northernmost mining districts, little further reference was made to the native population.⁹¹

Chinese immigrants who came to California to make their fortunes in the gold rush presented a more subtle threat than the Indians, for they

89. Shinn, Mining Camps, p. 140.

90. Shinn, Mining Camps, p. 159; see also Hittell, Mining in the Pacific States, pp. 176 ff., and William Irelan, Jr., Sixth Annual Report of the State Mineralogist, Part II (Sacramento: James J. Ayers, 1886), pp. 132-63.

91. Camden, Autobiography, pp. 141-42, 147, 152, 158. The last reference relates that Camden traveled to Europe in 1859 with his two children "and the Indian girl Kate," which may indicate that at least some of the Indian population assumed roles in the serving class of the white man's society. Camden, however, was an exceptional individual in the area of Shasta, and may have broken an unwritten social code without suffering the usual consequences born by poorer members of the community.

chose to live near and compete with the Anglo miners. Prejudice and rigid discrimination flared up early in the 1850s and grew into a serious racial problem which, although greatly tempered, persists. In his analysis of frontier mining camps, Shinn observed, "There were large numbers of camps where none [Chinese] were allowed to work or hold claims at any time." In the Churn Creek mining district of Shasta County Chinese miners were forbidden not only to own a claim but even to secure employment as late as 1882.⁹²

In the vicinity of Shasta the Chinese apparently received mixed messages from the whites. While they were allowed to set up a shantytown-like camp on the outskirts of Shasta, their community reportedly received the racial slur of "Hong Kong." The Shasta Republican in 1856 indicated the economic benefit that the entire community derived from the Chinese population by announcing that \$243 had been collected from the sale of fifty-four mining licenses to Chinamen, and urging the sale of "many more to increase the county revenue." In the county at that time, the article continued, there were "at least one thousand foreign miners"--foreign obviously meaning only Chinese in this reference, even though immigrants from other countries also lived in the area.⁹³

The ambivalent, rather than intolerant, treatment of the Chinese by the citizens around Shasta evidently attracted more to the area, for the same newspaper reported the following year: "The Chinese population of our country is rapidly on the increase. What has been known as Chinatown in the suburbs of Shasta, and which has become much dilapidated during the last two years, is being revived and rebuilt." The growth of the Chinese population around Shasta marked the end of an era; as Paul observed, "Since white men rarely allowed Chinese to come into a prosperous district, the ubiquitousness of the Orientals in the later 1850s was in itself clear evidence of the declining appeal of the placers."⁹⁴

92. Shinn, Mining Camps, pp. 203-4; see also Paul, California Gold, p. 28.

93. Shasta Republican, April 5, 1856; see also Ross, "Whiskeytown," p. 45, NPS, DSC. In his California Gold, p. 28, Paul notes that the state census of 1852 claimed that the Chinese population had reached 25,000, an enormous increase over the federal count of 660 in 1850. By 1860 the Chinese population was 34,933 out of a total population in California of 380,000. Paul, Mining Frontiers, p. 35. Shinn qualified his statements on the restrictions put on Chinese miners with the observation: "In many of the camps of the flush period, however, Chinamen were allowed to hold and work claims, by paying their foreign tax." Mining Camps, p. 204.

94. Shasta Republican, December 26, 1857, p. 2; Paul, Mining Frontiers, p. 35.

Even though the placer mines had been worked over several times by the Anglo miners before most Chinese were allowed to mine the tailings, the continued proximity of the Oriental community in the Shasta area finally prompted open support of discriminatory policies from the local press. In February 1860 the Shasta Herald editorialized:

CHINAMEN-Mr. Lawrence from the Committee on Mining and Mining Interests, has reported a bill providing for the exclusion of the Mongolian race from the State. It provides for a tax to be increased every six months until by 1863 it shall be \$20 per month. We think the plan the most effectual that can be adopted, and hope the Legislature will pass the bill.⁹⁵

Despite such open hostility towards their presence, some Chinese remained in the area during the 1860s, as shown in the sale of the Oak Bottom House to "Qui Chin and 19 other Chinamen" in May of 1868. The twenty Chinese owners paid a high price for the property--\$5,100--and only four years later sold it to Dennis Desmond for a mere \$300, which appears to be a clear reflection of the prejudicial treatment given them during their brief period of landownership at Oak Bottom.⁹⁶

The 1872 deed of sale for the Oak Bottom House listed twelve Chinese as owners of the property, only one of whose names appeared on the 1868 deed of purchase. During the short time of ownership, there had been nearly a 100 percent turnover, which may suggest the restlessness or discomfort of the Chinese as residents in the Shasta area. Judge Ross briefly related what he had learned of the departure of Chinese from the area: "[They] were herded out of places by the whites at times, . . . some settled in Trinity County and some in agricultural parts of Shasta County." Possibly influenced by the more stereotyped picture of the Chinese laborers, Ross also noted that "many went to work on the railroad construction, wherever that happened to be." Thus, ironically, those Chinese who met with harsh treatment in the vicinity of Shasta may have helped to bring the town to its knees, for the completion of the railroad from Oregon to Redding in 1872 slowly began to cut off the economic pulse of Shasta and its neighboring communities along the road to Yreka and Weaverville. With the decline of Shasta came the close of the frontier chapter in the history of the area included within Whiskeytown National Recreation Area.⁹⁷

95. Shasta Herald, February 25, 1860, p. 2.

96. Deed Book 3, p. 45, and Deed Book 5, p. 31, RDO, SCC. Chinese miners were also working around the Tower House in October 1866, as a damage suit was brought against them by Charles Camden for washing away his toll road. Deed Book 2, p. 478, RDO, SCC.

97. Ross, "Whiskeytown," p. 11, NPS, DSC.

II. EXHAUSTION OF SURFACE GOLD SPURS NEW MINING METHODS IN SHASTA COUNTY

In giving the 1880s as a cutoff date for his discussion of frontier mining in the West, Rodman Paul explained, "It was clear the book should stop before railroads, the cyanide process, electricity, and the internal combustion engine had drastically altered operating conditions. On the whole, the opening of the 1880s seemed to be as good a watershed as could be discovered."¹

Paul's considerations applied in general to northern California and the area around Shasta. Implied in his statement was the exhaustion of the placer mines throughout the West and the consequential reshifting of the mining population to areas where work could more readily be found. According to a county directory, only thirty-eight individuals--thirty-one miners, two clerks, a gardener, a supervisor, a teacher, a blacksmith, and a merchant lived in Whiskeytown in 1881. While the main occupation continued to be mining, the small population indicated the limited expectations from the available gold deposits. Toward the close of the nineteenth century the factor of greatest limitation for all gold miners rested in the various requirements of quartz mining and the process of extracting gold from quartz lodes embedded in the mountainous terrain often distant from the main thoroughfares of traffic.²

A. Quartz Mining

1. 1850-1880

a. Tower, Camden, et al.

To those familiar with geology, the area west of Shasta displayed signs of potentially rich gold deposits in quartz lodes; as Paul explains:

It was in the mountainous rather than the level parts . . . that minerals were found, because the deposits were formed originally during periods of earth movement. . . . hot liquids carrying mineral constituents . . . flowed into fissures and cracks in the earth's crust, to form "veins." When several veins are found close together,

1. Paul, Mining Frontiers, p. xii.

2. B. F. Frank and H. W. Chappell, The History and Business Directory of Shasta County 1881 (Redding: Redding Independent Book and Job Printing House, 1881), pp. 169-70.

so that they and the intervening rock can be worked as a unit, that is, technically speaking, a "lode."³

As early as 1852 a lode of gold-bearing quartz was discovered and mined near French Gulch. The Washington Mine proved profitable to its owners and no doubt inspired other efforts to mine by milling quartz. A survey investigation of the county records indicated that in July 1853 thirteen men, including Levi and Jason Tower, Charles Camden, and Edmund Hindman, recorded thirteen claims "of 150 feet each in a Quartz Vein discovered by Moise Auling . . . about two miles from Shasta City on the Western side of the Mountain known as the dividing Ridge." But no other reference was found concerning this claim, suggesting failure or abandonment in an age when easy gold came from placer mining.⁴

By 1859, when the creeks in the vicinity of Shasta had been worked several times, five quartz mills had opened in the county at a total construction cost of \$48,000--an enormous expense in contrast to the equipment and supplies needed for placer mining. While the 1859 source did not indicate where the five mines were located, very possibly they were all situated in French Gulch which won a reputation as the most important gold quartz district in the county.⁵

Quartz mining within the present Whiskeytown National Recreation Area boundaries did not become popular or large in scale prior to 1880. Hittell generalized in 1861 that in northern California quartz mines were "not so numerous or so large as in the Sacramento district" along the western slope of the Sierra Nevadas. But in the mining areas surrounding the existing recreation area quartz mines were yielding their worth in gold during the middle and late 1870s--at French Gulch, along the northernmost tributaries of Grizzly Gulch and Whiskey Creek, and near Clear Creek below the park's present southern boundary.⁶

2. 1880-1896

A critical shortage of gold on the market in 1886 prompted the state mineralogist to extol the working of existing mine tailings as highly profitable, and to describe in detail the machinery and process

3. Paul, Mining Frontiers, p. 3. For a description of a quartz mine and its operations at French Gulch in 1855, see Shasta Courier, August 25, 1855, p. 2.

4. Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, p. 41; Record Book R, p. 11, RDO, SCC.

5. The [California] State Register and Year Book of Facts: For the Year 1859 (San Francisco: Henry G. Lanley and Samuel A. Morison, 1859), p. 41.

6. Hittell, Mining in the Pacific States, p. 98.

required to operate a stamp mill. The financial risk of such an investment, however, evidently discouraged major quartz developments within the park area, for an 1888 mineral report listed only nine working mills in Shasta County, none of which were located inside the recreation area boundaries.

The potential mining companies found the required financial investment formidable. Moreover, the technical expertise needed to run the constantly altered and improved mill machinery was not readily available. The state mineralogist's report for 1886 noted that "many ingenious inventors have spent years of their lives and much money in the construction of machines and in the planning of processes, many of which have been patented until the art of concentration has reached a point approaching perfection."⁷

Besides the obstacles of expense and skilled technology which limited quartz mining in the area around Shasta and Whiskeytown, the actual composition of the ores restricted the use of the quartz milling process. The 1886 state mineralogist's report explained, "The ordinary quartz mill saves only free gold," but in Shasta County,

comparatively few of the mines carry a true, free-milling ore, but depend upon the sorting and shipping of the high-grade sulphide ores, leaving lower grades in the mine. None of the mines have attained a great depth, from an apparent fear of the owners that the pay ore does not extend down, although the success of such mines as the Uncle Sam and the Texas Consolidated would appear to indicate that these fears are groundless.

7. Henry G. Hanks, Sixth Annual Report of the State Mineralogist, Part I (Sacramento: J. J. Ayers, 1886), pp. 11-13; see also William Irelan, Eighth Annual Report of the State Mineralogist (Sacramento: J. D. Young, 1888), p. 692, and Paul, Mining Frontiers, p. 32. For a discussion of contemporary stamp mills, their operation and power; of assaying and sampling gold; of specifications for a twenty-stamp quartz mill; and of mine timbering methods, see Irelan, Sixth Annual Report, pp. 90-92; E. B. Preston, California Gold Mill Practices, California State Mining Bureau Bulletin no. 6 (San Francisco, 1895), 85 pp.; W. H. Storms, Methods of Mine Timbering, California State Mining Bureau Bulletin no. 2 (San Francisco, 1894), 58 pp. The freight costs of the required stamp mill equipment must have also been prohibitive to some people, for a five-stamp mill weighted 23,825 pounds and a ten-stamp mill weighed 39,810 pounds according to the state mining report for 1886. Irelan, Sixth Annual Report, pp. 88-90.

And, as a 1902 report summarized, "Quartz mining was of slow development, owing to the base character of the ores in most of the districts in which gold-bearing veins were early discovered."⁸

Nonetheless, miners in the vicinity of Whiskeytown in the 1880s found the incentive and means to expedite quartz mining. Transportation, provisions, labor, and fuel were all cheaper "than during the delirium of the first gold excitement," according to the 1886 annual report, and "every ounce of gold obtained is practically of double value." And, as if addressing the Whiskeytown area prospectors directly, a state mining bureau bulletin of 1895 explained, "Although the arrastra has been largely superseded by the stamp-mill, the fact remains that it is the best and cheapest all-round gold-saving appliance we have. Hence, its use is always indicated where small, rich veins are worked in the higher mountain regions."⁹

- a. Bell and Woodward, Shasta, Marion, Phoenix, Red Rover, and West End Mines

Interest in quartz mining had picked up in the vicinity of Whiskeytown even as early as 1883. The Courier reported that "the Bell and Woodward Mine, several years ago supposed exhausted, has again come to the front with a three-foot vein, paying from \$15 to \$100 per ton," and that miners were steadily taking out rich rock and were driving a tunnel to tap a five-foot ledge of good milling ore discovered in the north drift of the Shasta Mine, later known as the Gambrinus. The Marion Mine at Whiskeytown had produced fifty tons of \$300 assay ore, and the miners held expectations of adding fifty more tons to the ore dump. A ten-stamp water-powered mill at the Phoenix Mine was processing its own mine ore, as well as receiving advance orders from the nearby Red Rover Mine. And news of the West End Mine held promise for those prospectors who had not yet struck on a good vein, for the owners rebonded the mine after the first six months of taking out good rock.¹⁰

8. Quotes from Hanks, Sixth Annual Report, p. 11, and P. C. Du Bois, F. M. Anderson, J. H. Tibbitts, and G. A. Tweedy, The Copper Resources of California, California State Mining Bureau Bulletin no. 23 (San Francisco: California State Printing Office, 1902), p. 41; see also J. J. Crawford, Twelfth Annual Report of the State Mineralogist (Sacramento: A. J. Johnston, 1894), p. 244. As Paul notes in Mining Frontiers, p. 32, free milling gold is gold which amalgamates freely with quicksilver after being freed from the rock through the milling or crushing process.

9. Hanks, Sixth Annual Report, p. 11; Preston, California Gold Mill Practices, p. 10.

10. As quoted in Mining and Scientific Press 47, no. 18 (November 1883):284, and no. 26 [?] (December 1883):397.

b. Dreadnaught, Pugh and Lindsay, and Iron Mask Mines

A few accounts of gold strikes on or near Clear Creek early in the 1890s testified to the continued ambitions of small operators in the area. In 1892 the state mineralogist reported that "on Grizzly Gulch there has been some prospecting done during the past year with promising results." In 1893-94 success marked the functions on the northern tributaries of Whiskey Creek, at the Spring Gulch, Banghart, and Mad Ox mines, none of which stood within the park, but were owned by residents of Whiskeytown. On a smaller scale, the Dreadnaught Mine (Secs. 10 and 11, T32, R6W) worked its quartz "in a ten-foot arrastra, run by water from the South fork of Spring Creek." The fact that the water supply lasted only four months of the year, however, automatically limited the mine's production.¹¹

A more efficient amalgamation process was in motion on Clear Creek to the southeast, at the Pugh and Lindsay Mine (Sec. 27, T32, R6W), which boasted a Kendall-rocker mill with a duty of six tons every twenty-four hours, in contrast to the one-ton per day crushed at the Dreadnaught arrastra.¹²

At least one other mining outfit exploited Clear Creek's waters during 1894 in order to work a quartz mill. The owners of the Iron Mask Mine (Sec. 31, T33, R6W), set up a five-stamp mill at the foot of Grizzly Gulch, 3-1/2 miles from their mine, to tap a dependable power source.¹³

11. William G. Hodgson, "Shasta County," Eleventh Report of the State Mineralogist (Sacramento: A. J. Johnston, 1893), pp. 397-98; J. J. Crawford, Twelfth Report, pp. 247, 248, 250, 252, 253, 257. At least one mine owned by a Whiskeytown resident was operating within the park. The West End Mine, mentioned in an 1883 report, was still being worked in 1894. Crawford, Twelfth Report, p. 260. In the 1890 state mineralogist's report no mines were described for the area within the park. Mining, however, in the area north of the park, and in French Gulch, did receive specific mention. Alexander McGregor, "Shasta County," Tenth Annual Report of the State Mineralogist for the Year Ending December 1, 1890 (Sacramento: California State Printing Office, 1890), pp. 627-41.

12. Crawford, Twelfth Report, p. 254. By 1902 the Pugh and Lindsay Mine had changed hands and moved sites. The Pugh and Menzall Mine in Section 34, however, still operated with a stamp mill which processed six tons in twenty-four hours. Register of Mines and Minerals, Shasta County, California (San Francisco: California State Mining Bureau, 1902), p. 13.

13. Crawford, Twelfth Report, p. 250.

3. 1896-1914

Despite the excellent water power for quartz mills, and the scattered discoveries of rich, free-milling gold deposits, the area within the Whiskeytown and Shasta mining districts did not attract many major investors until 1896, when gold mining in Shasta County received an unexpected impetus from copper mining:

In several portions of [Shasta] county where properties were abandoned years ago, either because the ores were not free milling or because their treatment was not understood, work is being resumed extensively. New prospect work is also being followed to a greater extent than has been done for many years. Much of this is due to the impetus given by the Mountain Copper Company in the purchase and, also, custom treatment of ores. Old dump piles of ore, that were considered waste, have been tested by the newer treatments and found to be of value.¹⁴

By 1897 copper replaced gold as the primary metal mined in Shasta County. The smelter treatment used base ores as flux to extract copper, and this process also worked to extract gold, so that the industries benefitted mutually once an agreement was finalized between the gold miners and copper companies.¹⁵

The Copper Mountain Company referred to above began operations in 1895 at Iron Mountain, only a few miles northeast of Whiskeytown, in the heart of the copper belt. An 1899 mining report described the functional and physical interrelationship between this copper district and the gold quartz lodes nearby:

Lying adjacent to the copper belt, and extending from Cow Creek on the east, to Clear Creek on the west, is a district rich in gold-bearing quartz. Some mines throughout this district have been operated on quite an extensive scale, but, as a rule, the ordinary methods of crushing and concentrating resulted in a heavy percentage of loss, and this fact, to a great degree, precluded the development of our gold mines. The introduction of smelters has, to a great degree, overcome the disadvantages [of quartz mining].¹⁶

14. Mining and Scientific Press 77, no. 12 (September 1898):285.

15. Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, p. vii.

16. M. E. Dittmar, "Northern California Resources," in California Mines and Minerals, comp. Edward H. Benjamin (San Francisco: California Miners Association, 1899), p. 373.

Between 1896 and 1914 several quartz mines in the area west and south of Shasta showed promising returns, particularly the Mount Shasta Mine near Salt Creek, and the Gambrinus and Red Cross Mines near Whiskey Creek. A 1902 analysis of Shasta County's mineral resources listed each of the mines in the county, with their section, township, and range, and with the character of their ore. Of the 222 mines in the county, fifty (or about 22 percent) were located within the present confines of Whiskeytown National Recreation Area. More than half of this number stood in the southeast quarter of the park, where base or sulphide ores predominated. The second highest concentration of quartz mines was found near Whiskeytown, where free milling ores were more characteristic. A scattered number of mines were located in T32, R7W, but their production prior to 1915 was not particularly noteworthy in comparison with the quartz mines in T32, R6W, and T31, R6W. Suggesting the high rate of ore shipment to the copper smelters, only three quartz mills, of relatively low stamp power, were operating in the park area in 1902.¹⁷

a. Mount Shasta Mine

In 1897 the Mount Shasta Mine (Sec. 33, T32, R6W), 2-1/2 miles west of Shasta, was opened and operated by Behrens and Levisay and sold to a San Francisco company, Hirshly, Vair and Farfst, for \$10,000. The first owners took advantage of the Keswick smelter near Iron Mountain, and received \$80 to \$90 per ton for their ore. The development was minimal, however, with an open cut of forty feet and a shaft sunk **eighty feet deep**.¹⁸

By February 1898 the San Francisco firm had hired fifteen men to work the Mount Shasta Mine, sack the ore, and ship it to Keswick. The following fall the mine had reached 140 feet in depth where "a streak of high grade ore" had been uncovered on a three-foot ledge, all of which was hauled by wagon team to the smelter.¹⁹

In 1899 C. M. Dittmar reported that the ore from Mount Shasta Mine ran from \$50 to \$400 a ton in value, and that about twenty-five tons were carried each day to the smelter. To underscore the financial opportunities awaiting potential investors in similar quartz mines in the area, Dittmar remarked, "it has returned the purchase price to the owners, paid for the equipment, and now pays a regular dividend."²⁰

17. Register of Mines and Minerals, Shasta County, pp. 4-13. See Appendix J for the list of 1902 quartz mines and mills on the Register which fell within the park boundaries.

18. Mining and Scientific Press 75, no. 18 (October 1897):414.

19. Ibid. 76, no. 9 (February 1898):233, and 77, no. 12 (September 1898):288, and no. 20 (November 1898):485.

20. Dittmar, "Northern California Resources," pp. 373-74.

Early in the year of Dittmar's comments, the San Francisco owners incorporated the property under the name the Mount Shasta Gold Mine, Ltd., and announced an imminent increase in manpower from forty to sixty, as well as an expected need for a more extensive hoisting plant, presumably to facilitate loading the ore onto wagons for the run to Keswick. Also, the transfer of Mount Shasta properties to corporation status made clear that the operations consisted of several individual mine claims, including those known as Mount Shasta, Lucky Boy, El Chiquita, and the Algo-American quartz mines. Frequent openings of new veins during the year were indicated in the April 1899 edition of Mining and Scientific Press which reported that the company had "secured within ten days" eighteen new claims.²¹

In the summer of 1899 the Mount Shasta Mine reached its peak when it hit a pay shoot of free gold ore and had ninety men working. Sometime between 1899 and 1902 the corporation owners erected an eight-stamp steam-powered mill, each stamp weighing 1,050 pounds, with a capability of crushing fifty tons in twenty-four hours. Of the forty-two mills or arrastras listed in the county in 1902, the Mount Shasta Mine mill represented one of the four most effective.²²

With such successful returns from its quartz mining, the Mount Shasta Gold Mines Corporation expanded its interests in 1901. As the state mining bureau bulletin explained,

The Mount Shasta Gold Mines Corporation, composed mainly of Chicago capitalists, which owns the Mount Shasta Gold Mine in this county, entered the copper field in 1901 and has secured some copper properties, the most important being . . . on Bully Hill.²³

This purchase of copper mines seemingly coincided adversely with the future production at the Mount Shasta Mine, for the mine was shut down on various occasions from 1901 to 1904. Even though in December 1904 the company optimistically announced that it had driven the main shaft to 500 feet with intentions of pushing on to 550 feet, the mine folded early the next year and remained closed for most of the subsequent six years. In 1912 A. A. Lindsay & Associates of Portland, Oregon, purchased the mine claims for \$35,000, and in December announced their intention "to start extensive work early next year and employ over 100 men." But in May of 1913, after cutting a new ore-shoot two to four feet wide, the new owners sold the then-idle mine to H. O. Cummins and

21. Mining and Scientific Press 78, no. 16 (April 1899):436; see also ibid., February 1899: 155, 211, and March 1899: 267.

22. Ibid. 78, no. 25 (June 1899):670; Register of Mines and Minerals, Shasta County, p. 13.

23. Du Bois et al., The Copper Resources, p. 51.

Associates, who evidently represented the Mount Shasta Mining Company of San Francisco, the last investors to operate the mine successfully.²⁴

During 1913 the mine had passed its production peak. Only four men worked a shaft 465 feet deep, dug on seven levels, with a 300-foot drift on the seventh level and several stopes and short tunnels. The eight-stamp mill stood idle. Between 1897 and 1911 it had furnished \$178,000 worth of minerals from quartz ore, which had varied in value from \$4 to \$43 per ton. In 1926 the state mineralogist's report evaluated the benefit of the mine with hindsight: "The principal producer [of Shasta Mining District] was the Mount Shasta Mine . . . [which] produced about \$180,000 to a depth of 465 feet from ore said to have averaged \$42.69 a ton." The report also noted its fate: "It has been idle for years and the plant has been burned down."²⁵

b. Gambrinus Mine

Since the Gambrinus Mine (Sec. 16, T32, R6W) at Whiskeytown contained free-milling ore, it had an earlier start than the Mount Shasta Mine, but did not prove to be as lucrative over the years. Between 1870 and 1912 the mine produced \$127,000 worth of gold. In 1912, after three years of working the claim, the owner (the Shasta Monarch Mining Company) decided to invest in a ten-stamp mill "to replace the small prospecting mill formerly used." In February 1913 the Mining and Scientific Press reported: "The outlook at Whiskey Creek is bright . . . a twenty-inch vein of rich ore is being opened at the Gambrinus mine." Since the mine owners maintained a five-stamp mill with two concentrators in operation full time during 1912, and a ten-stamp mill with two concentrators in 1913, it is unlikely that they chose to ship any of their ore to the copper smelter, although they had the option to do so if that process was favored. After 1813, little mention of the

24. Mining and Scientific Press 80, no. 23 (June 1900):646; ibid. 83, no. 26 (December 1901):289; ibid. 89, no. 23, (December 1904):380; ibid. p. 102, no. 219 (November 1910):687; ibid. p. 104, no. 4 (January 1912):182; ibid. p. 104, no. 8 (February 1912):322; and ibid. p. 105, no. 25 (December 1912):no page.

25. C. A. Logan, "Sacramento Field Division, Shasta County," chapter of Report XXII Mining in California and Activities of the State Mining Bureau (Sacramento: California State Printing Office, 1926), p. 169; see also Mining and Scientific Press 106, no. 6 (February 1913):251, and no. 18 (May 1913):669; Harry G. Ferguson, "Gold Lodes of Weaverville Quadrangle, California," United States Geological Survey Bulletin no. 540, Part I (1912), p. 39; and G. C. Brown, "Shasta County," Report XIV of the State Mineralogist, Part VI (Sacramento: California State Printing Office, 1916), p. 794.

Gambrinus Mine appeared in the annual mineral reports, suggesting that the company closed the mine, or geared down drastically.²⁶

c. Red Cross Group or Desmond Mine

The Red Cross Group or Desmond Mine (Secs. 4 and 9, T32, R6W) opened in 1896 at the head of Nevell's Gulch and Red Gulch, near the eastern tributaries of Whiskey Creek. Its owners, the Desmond brothers, were members of a family who had lived in the area for more than twenty years and who owned the Oak Bottom Hotel. In 1898, after they had sent about thirty tons of ore to the Keswick smelter, the Desmonds realized that the ore was sufficiently free to justify the purchase of a small water-powered stamp mill with 450-pound stamps.²⁷

The mine's three claims--Red Cross, Aurora, and Blue Bird--had tunnels varying 50 to 500 feet in length. By 1905, however, the work had slowed considerably, partly because the mill was unable to process the copper-laden quartz effectively: "It took only a short run in the mill, however, to convince the owners that they were not catching the values. The gold seems to be associated with copper, and in such a way as to make amalgamation impossible."²⁸

The Desmond Mine continued to turn up in mining journals and county mineral reports through 1939. In 1913 the owner, Jerry Desmond, uncovered a three-foot vein, but Desmond needed financial assistance and gave bonds to H. W. McEwen, who also took over the famous Mad Ox Mine to the northwest that year. In 1939 the state mineralogist stated that "the mine was idle, and workings below the adit-level (the 35-ft. level of the shaft) were full of water," thus explaining the abandonment of a mine which appeared on the 1944 USGS quadrangle map

26. Mining and Scientific Press 106, no. 6 (February 1913):257; see also Ferguson, "Gold Lodes," pp. 39, 50. Brown in his "Shasta County," pp. 786-87, reported that the mine had four parallel veins with a payshoot of free milling ore 220 feet long and eighteen inches wide. The workings consisted of several tunnels, the main one being 410 feet long with a crosscut 110 feet long. The mine equipment in 1913 included cars, tools, shop, dwellings, and a new ten-stamp mill with two concentrators.

27. Qui Chin and others to Dennis Desmond, June 22, 1872, Deed Book 5, p. 3, RDO, SCC; Shasta's Resources (Redding: Supervisors of Shasta County, 1905), p. 32.

28. Shasta's Resources, p. 32.

for French Gulch, and which still shows the scars from many years of mining and milling on the site.²⁹

- d. Bonanza, Whiskey Creek Group, Australia, Iron Clad, Oro Fino, Shasta Quartz and Placer Mining Company, Hope, Mascot, Happy Jack, and Ganim Mines

As typified by the Gambrinus and, in part, the Red Cross mines, much of the ore in the vicinity of Whiskeytown was free milling and easily crushed, and an abundant water supply was readily available to all prospectors. During the first decade of the twentieth century many "pocket hunters" followed contacts of slate and metaandesite by systematically panning to their source; they then gouged a shallow tunnel into the hillside, extracted the rich pocket of gold, and abandoned the site.³⁰

Several other quartz operations within a four-mile radius of Whiskeytown also produced small but rich gold deposits prior to 1914. Late in 1898 the Redding Free Press reported, "J. Brown recently took out a \$3000 pocket near Whiskeytown," and during the subsequent decade a rash of mines in the same area made mining news, including the Bonanza Mine (Sec. 7, T32, R6W), Whiskey Creek Group (Sec. 8, T32, R6W), Australia Mine (Secs. 19 and 30, T32, R6W), Iron Clad Group, (Secs. 22 and 27, T32, R6W), Oro Fino Mine (Sec. 34, T32, R6W), Shasta Quartz and Placer Mining Company (Sec. 8, T32, R6W), Hope Mine (Sec. 8, T32, R6W), Mascot Mine (Sec. 8, T32, R6W), Happy Jack Group (Sec. 28, T32, R6W), and the Ganim Mine (sec. 8, T32, R6W). Of the above, only the Happy Jack and Ganim mines survived the second decade of the century.³¹

29. Charles V. Averill, "Mineral Resources of Shasta County," in Thirty-Fifth Report of the State Mineralogist 1939 (Sacramento: State Printing Office, 1939), p. 135; see also Engineering and Mining Journal 95, no. 10 (March 1913):542, and 96, no. 25 (December 1913):1192.

30. Ferguson, "Gold Lodes," p. 46.

31. Redding Free Press quoted in Mining and Scientific Press 77, no. 20 (November 1898):485; see also Register of Mines and Minerals, Shasta County, pp. 3-12. Logan, "Shasta County," 1926, p. 181, gives a table of fifty-four quartz mines and prospects in Shasta County in 1912, only three of which were located within the park; see also Ferguson, "Gold Lodes," pp. 39, 49; Brown, "Shasta County," pp. 779, 780, 790, 796; Shasta's Resources, p. 32; and "Map of the Central Mineral Region of Shasta County, California" (Redding: U.S. Mineral Surveyor, 1908).

In his report to the state mineralogist for 1913-14, G. Chester Brown affirmed the fact that the mines around Whiskeytown were said "to rank next to French Gulch in total gold output," but explained also that none of the properties at that time were being worked on an extensive scale. This mining slowdown no doubt related to the setback in the copper industry that year "due to the fume agitations and lawsuits" which closed all but one of the smelters in the area and "caused material decrease in the amount of gold produced" in the county. Specifically, Brown noted, "several of the quartz mines supplying ore to these plants have stopped operations."³²

4. 1915-1941

Even though gold mining in Shasta County during the late nineteenth century and into the twentieth century often depended heavily on the copper industry, gold production held its own until 1941, with peak years from 1908 to 1915, and 1936 to 1941. The United States' involvement in World War I had its repercussions on mining in California, causing shutdowns of mines throughout the state. By 1919 most of the larger mines in the Redding Field Division had closed, including those in the French Gulch district, "the most famous gold producing district of the north." Mining reports for 1922 and 1923 showed that gold mining in Shasta County had not yet recovered from the high costs of war.

Towards the middle of the 1920s "pocket miners" invaded the Whiskeytown mining district and left "a great number of shallow workings" no more than a few hundred feet deep in their wake. Depending on the success of these pocket miners, the district produced from a few hundred to \$15,000 in gold per annum. In the Shasta mining district to the south and east, many claims were being held, but little actual mining was being done.³³

a. Gamin Mine

As mentioned earlier, Joe S. Ganim's mine on New York Gulch, two miles northwest of Whiskeytown, remained in operation after most of the mines in the area had closed down. According to Ganim's son, who

32. Brown, "Shasta County," pp. 751, 773, 775, 779.

33. Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, p. 19; W. Burling Tucker, "Redding Field Division," Monthly Chapter of Report XIX of the State Mineralogist 19, no. 1 (January 1923):11; C. A. Logan, "Sacramento Field Division, Notes on Mining During the Year 1923," Chapter of Report XX of the State Mineralogist 20, no. 1 (January 1924):15. In 1926 Logan noted, "Free gold quartz milling . . . has been quiet and production has fallen off since 1916. . . . In Whiskeytown district . . . only a little development work is going on, although at one time the district had several small gold producers." Logan, "Shasta County," 1926, pp. 123, 168-69.

still owns the mine site and lives in Redding, Joe was a Lebanese immigrant who first came to the Whiskeytown area as a traveling merchandise dealer in 1906. By the close of 1913 Ganim had established his mine, hired his miners, and struck two feet of good ore. By 1926 the San Francisco-based Ganim Gold Mining Company consisted of fourteen claims spread over Sections 5, 8, and 15 (T32, R6W) and was producing white quartz "reported to carry \$15 per ton in gold." The mine processed its own quartz, using a ten-stamp Straub mill, one concentrator, and a small electric light plant. That year, however, discovery of talc on the claim temporarily altered the direction of the mining company's efforts. During the 1930s, however, gold extraction from a number of crosscut tunnels varying in length from 50 to 400 feet resumed, producing gold that assayed from \$1.50 to \$50.00 per ton.³⁴

b. Happy Jack Quartz Mine

As early as 1908, Charles Paige owned and operated the Happy Jack Quartz Mine (Sec. 28, T32, R6W), about two miles south of Whiskeytown. By 1920, when the property was available for lease, the mine consisted of six patented locations--the Happy Jack, Nonpareil, Langtry, Mountain Belle, Mountain View, and Knickerbocker--and three unpatented claims--the Illinois, Peoria, and Greenstone. Despite the number of locations, development by that year had not proceeded very far; according to the state mineralogist's report, there were no deep workings and many of the shallow shafts or pockets had already caved in or collapsed. The quartz carried both free and base gold ores. The free ore deposits had been worked by bucket and windlass. Paige had assembled only an arrastra and "an old cannon-ball mill" to harness the good water power available from Boulder, Brandy, and Clear creeks, possibly in part because the surface of the property was "steep, with deep ravines and gulches," and only a fair wagon road extended to the mine. By 1920 all the mine buildings had burned down, and later reports do not indicate whether Paige was successful either in his own mining or in his efforts to lease the property to other quartz mining interests.³⁵

c. Index Mine

About four miles to the northwest of the Happy Jack, I. F. Rice and A. Kaleel of Whiskeytown had three men employed at their gold lode

34. Interview, Anna C. Toogood with Samuel Ganim, October 14, 1974; see also Mining and Scientific Press 106, no. 6 (February 1913):257, Logan, "Shasta County," pp. 171-72, and Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Minerals, Resources, p. 96. Talc mining at the Ganim Mine will be covered in another section. The mine also produced silver.

35. C. McK. Laizure, "Redding Field Division, Shasta County," Report XVII of the State Mineralogist Mining in California During 1920, (Sacramento: California State Printing Office, 1921), p. 522; see also "Map of the Central Mineral Region."

mine, the Index Group (Sec. 6, T32N, R6W), from 1923 to 1926. They held twelve claims on a ridge above Clear Creek, a half-mile north of Oak Bottom, with developments consisting of two tunnels, penetrating 140 and 150 feet into the hillside, and "a number of shallow prospect holes and open cuts."³⁶

d. North Star and Gladys Mines

Close by the Index Mine, C. P. Baker, also of Whiskeytown, operated his gold quartz mine, the North Star (Sec. 6, T32N, R6W), in 1920. To the southeast, in the Shasta mining district, E. E. Hart and Donald McPhail of Shasta were the only hands employed at the four claims comprising the Gladys Mine (Sec. 34, T32N, R6W), first located 1899. Both of these mines appeared to be small producers. Hart and McPhail built only a blacksmith shop and cabin on their property, and worked the quartz with a single hand drill.³⁷

e. Shasta View Mine

In the mid-1920s development work commenced at the Shasta View Gold Mining Company's property just north of the Weaverville road, 1½ miles west of Shasta. Having located several well-defined veins ranging in width from two to fourteen feet, the company erected a small stamp mill on the property, and also had plans to construct a cyanide plant in 1925.³⁸

f. West End Quartz Mine

The West End Quartz Mine (Sec. 16, T32, R6W) stood just west of the Shasta View Mine, one mile southeast of Whiskeytown. Between 1923 and

36. Tucker, "Redding Field Division," p. 57; Logan, "Shasta County," pp. 174-75.

37. Logan, "Shasta County," pp. 521-23. Logan noted that the Gladys claims had been located in 1899 and had been worked "only by the owners." The 1902 Register of Mines and Minerals, Shasta County lists a mine, the Fox, in Section 34, owned by Edward Hart of Shasta. This very likely is the same mine later known as the Gladys. At the same time, however, the Register also lists the "Blackstone Mine in Section 34 under the ownership of Hunter and McPhail of Shasta, which leaves the same possible conclusion--that this claim later became the Gladys. See Appendix J and the "Historical Base Map" section, for further information on these mines.

38. Engineering and Mining Journal 120, no. 7 (August 1925):263. In 1933 the Shasta View Mine consisted of twenty-one unpatented claims and a mill site in Sections 26, 27, 34, and 35, T32N, R6W, but the mine stood idle. Charles Averill, "Gold Deposits of the Redding-Weaverville Quadrangles," California Journal of Mines and Geology Quarterly Chapter of the State Mineralogist's Report 29, nos. 1 and 2 (January and April 1933):48.

1926 C. D. Jones and Company of Santa Barbara, California, leased the mine and worked the white quartz with equipment consisting of a nine horsepower Hercules gasoline engine that drove a six-inch Mast-Foss rod pump, and a thirty horsepower boiler and steam hoist. The ore contained both free gold and iron pyrite in two veins varying from a few inches to two feet in width. The company evidently did not foresee future strikes, however, and the mine stood idle in 1926.³⁹

g. El Dorado Mine

At least one quartz mine, the El Dorado Mine (Sec. 3, T32N, R7W), located less than a half-mile south of Tower House, within the park boundaries, remained in operation after the 1914 slowdown. Although discovered in 1885 and worked more or less steadily from 1894 to 1919, the mine remained a small producer until 1915, when the Redding Courier Free Press reported that the mine was "making a good showing." The Engineering and Mining Journal in December of the same year explained that the owner, James Connor, was "mining high grade ore and treating it in a two-stamp mill," and that in one ten-day cleanup that year, the mine produced \$400 in gold.⁴⁰

According to a 1926 mining report, the El Dorado continued in operation from 1912 to 1919, when "numerous fine specimens showing free

39. Logan, "Shasta County," p. 180.

40. Quotes from Redding Courier Free Press, February 13, 1915, and Engineering and Mining Journal 100, no. 24 (December 1915):987; see also Logan, "Shasta County," p. 71, and Crawford, Twelfth Report, p. 247. In 1896 Crawford described the El Dorado and Eureka mines as comprising two claims located at 3,000 feet elevation, with developments consisting of a 150-foot tunnel on the vein and a 150-foot crosscut tunnel through the porphyry on the west side to the vein. The pay shoot had been traced 200 feet at the east end of the claim, and was found to be well mineralized, carrying high-grade copper sulphides. Two men were employed. J. J. Crawford, Thirteenth Report of the State Mineralogist for the Two Years Ending September 15, 1896 (Sacramento; A. J. Johnston, 1896), pp. 355-56. Ferguson described the mine in 1912: "The Eldorado mine (J. G. Connors, owner; Garvin & Gatney, lessees), is on the west side of Mill Creek about half a mile south of the Tower House. The property was located by William Paul about 1885, and the total production has been estimated at \$25,000, of which \$3,500 has been obtained by the present lessees between August, 1911, and July, 1912. . . . The gold is noticeably light colored and its fineness is much below the average for the district. It is said that its average value is about \$14 an ounce and that some of it falls as low as \$12." In the same year Brown remarked that as a free milling mine it was a small producer, and ranked fifth in the French Gulch Mining District, after the Gladstone, Milkmaid, Franklin, and Brunswick quartz mines. Ferguson, "Gold Lodes," p. 56; Brown, "Shasta County," pp. 773-74, 785.

gold through the quartz" were taken out. The developments, consisting of a 450-foot-long main adit tunnel driven northwest on the lode, stood on a north ridge of Mill Creek, at 1,500 feet elevation. The gold occurred entirely in pockets in the quartz, and at one raise of the mine, 340 feet from the mouth of the tunnel, \$4,000 worth of free milling gold reported was extracted.

In 1926 the equipment at the mine consisted of a blacksmith shop, tools, a bunkhouse, and two stamp mills with 850 stamps each. The mill processed the quartz with triple discharge mortar and amalgamation plates, and ran on an eight-horsepower Fairbanks Morse Gas Engine. Only two men were employed.⁴¹

Frank C. Bickford, the El Dorado Mine's last owner, leased the property from 1931 to 1936, when he worked a 400-foot shaft. In 1957 he returned to work the mine again, remaining until 1967, when the National Park Service purchased the forty-acre property. In 1959 he began to dig the existing shaft, which he claims continued 500 feet back from the surface.⁴²

Like the Bickfords, numerous families during the depression migrated to California's historic gold fields and set up small mining operations. On the outskirts of Whiskeytown a tent camp called "Hooverville" reportedly grew up to accommodate the men panning and sluicing on the legendary Whiskey and Clear creeks, as well as those who chose the more arduous quartz mining. Generally speaking, the gold production paid little more than subsistence, and only underscored the decline of an age of small, independent mining companies in the vicinity of Whiskeytown.⁴³

41. Logan, "Shasta County," p. 171. According to a 1919 account, the El Dorado mine operators were shipping bar bullion to the mint, and it had been mortared. Engineering and Mining Journal 105, no. 11 (March 1918):531. The mill was constructed in 1909, when the Sherk Brothers leased the mine. Engineering and Mining Journal 87, no. 3 (January 1909):181.

42. Notes on taped interview, Seasonal Ranger Bob Alward with Mr. Bickford, August 10, 1969, in Whiskeytown National Recreation Area (WNRA) files.

43. Clarence Coates, "A Brief Historical Sketch of the Whiskeytown Area," 1974 MS, p. 7, WNRA, Whiskeytown, California; Redding Searchlight, July 1, 1932, p. 1; Anderson Valley News, June 30, 1932, p. 1. In 1933 Charles Averill discussed the mining resurgence in Shasta County: "Development of gold mines and prospects has been very active recently, and evidently will continue so for some time. The quartz or lode mines and prospects are described in considerable detail in the present report, and probably not very many of them have been missed. . . .

h. Betty May, Mad Dog, Isabel and Queen, Porcupine Mining Company, and East View Mines and Prospects

In his report to the state mineralogist in 1933 Charles Averill described the gold quartz mines and prospects and the few sizable placer mines he had visited during 1932, twelve of which stood within what is now Whiskeytown National Recreation Area. Of these twelve properties, only one was described as a gold quartz mine. The Betty May Mine (Sec. 8, T32N, R6W) had just reopened under the ownership of F. G. Mauthe of Los Angeles, after Ed Ragos had completed three years (1929-1932) of producing free gold by the amalgamation treatment in a 3½-foot Huntington mill.

Four of the gold quartz prospects--the Mad Dog (Sec. 10, T32N, R6W), Isabel and Queen (Sec. 8, T32N, R6W), Porcupine Mining Company (Sec. 35, T32N, R6W), and the East View (Sec. 6, T32N, R6W)--had only been open since 1929 and had shown only occasional good gold assays. As a result, they had never appeared in previous state mineralogist's reports.⁴⁴

Evidently none of the above mining endeavors survived the decade, for according to the state mineralogist, only four gold lode mines were operating within the present park boundaries in 1939--the Hall Brothers Mine near the southeast park property line; the Desmond and Phoenix mines near Whiskeytown; and the Merry Mountain Diggers Mine, which stood close to the Tower House, on the Redding-Weaverville highway.

In the case of placer mines the situation is a little different. Hundreds of persons have been at work on the streams of the area, during the past year and longer, engaged in small-scale placer mining, with pans and small sluice boxes, into which the gravel is shoveled by hand. One result of this is that practically all public land along the streams has been taken up by placer claim locations. The gravels of the area have already been so thoroughly worked by such methods, that the average return to the present day small-scale placer miner is barely enough to buy his food. When the small amounts produced by each individual are added up to make the statistical totals, however, the aggregate production is found to be considerable." Averill, "Gold Deposits," p. 5.

44. Averill, "Gold Deposits," pp. 11, 21-22, 31, 35, 60, 72-73, Five other gold quartz prospects described--the Shasta View, Gambrinus, Happy Jack, Oro Fino, and Mount Shasta--were mines worked prior to 1930 and were, at time of Averill's report, apparently idle. *Ibid.*, pp. 26, 31, 38, 42, 48-49. The other two gold quartz prospects, the Ganim Mine already described, and the Kanaka or Sunshine Mine (Sec. 28, T32, R6W) were producing sporadic deposits of gold. See section on placer mining for information on placers referred to above.

i. Hall Brothers Mine

In 1938 the Hall Brothers Mine (Secs. 2, 11, T31, R6W) consisted of four quartz claims and one placer claim, which were reached from Shasta by four miles of mountain road and a half-mile of trail. The mine reportedly was first opened and worked in 1912 by a man named Scharrel, and was relocated by H. T. and E. E. Hall of Redding in 1932. The mine produced two small, but rich, deposits of gold assayed at \$300 and \$500 for the Hall Brothers. The ore regularly proved to be of "a very good milling grade" and a few tons of rejected ore from old shipments assayed at \$25 per ton. With such promising results, the owners planned in 1938 to construct a wagon road to replace the half-mile of trail, and to sink the thirty-nine-foot shaft ten feet deeper.

The equipment at the Hall Brothers Mine included a rocker-mill with a capacity of reducing fifteen tons of ore from 3/4-inch size to thirty-mesh in twenty-four hours. A Buick automobile engine provided power for the mill.⁴⁵

j. Phoenix Mine

As mentioned earlier, the free-milling ore of the Phoenix Mine (Secs. 15, 16, T32, R6W) had been worked during the 1880s by a ten-stamp mill on the property. In 1893 some of the silicious ores were hauled to the Bully Hill smelter. The mine apparently stood idle until the 1930s, when its owner, Henry Roberts of Shilling, reopened the mine on a hill "about a quarter of a mile north of the Redding-Weaverville highway at a point one mile east of Whiskytown [sic] (Schilling postoffice)." The main vein produced ore assayed at \$4 per ton in gold, and, on occasion, "bunches of ore of much better grade." In 1838 Charles Averill asserted that the mine had not been worked in recent time.⁴⁶

k. Desmond Mine

Averill also found the Desmond Mine (Sec. 9, T32, R6W) idle in 1939. But it evidently had recently been a good producer, for Averill identified it on a map accompanying his annual report on Shasta County's principal mineral deposits.⁴⁷

l. Merry Mountain Diggers

Less than a mile east of the Tower House, on the Redding-Weaverville highway, part of 2,120 acres owned by the Merry Mountain Diggers

45. Averill, "Mineral Resources," p. 138.

46. Ibid., p. 148.

47. Ibid., p. 135.

Corporation (Secs. 34, 35, T33N, R6W; Secs. 1, 2, T32N, R7W) was being mined early in 1938 under the management of Carl Harding of Redding. Although corporation officers, residents of Hollywood and San Francisco, California, invested a large sum of money on equipment early in the 1930s, the mine stood idle for most of 1938.

"The plan was to mine surface material from the side of the mountain, on a large scale, with power shovels, and to recover gold by amalgamation and by gravity concentration on Wifley tables," Averill wrote in his report to the state mineralogist. The first manager of the operations scraped off a huge amount of topsoil in the attempt to put the plan into action:

Course material was first rejected by a trommel (Bodinson) with 3/8-inch holes. Under the first manager, a large stationary plant of this kind was built, and two test runs of a total of roughly 20,000 tons were made. The longest run was 18 days, and about 1000 tons per day were handled during that time.

How much of this type of strip mining occurred on the land within the park cannot be ascertained from Averill's account, the only written description found of the mine. The Merry Mountain Diggers Mine is located in Section 2, T32N, R7W on Averill's 1939 map of Shasta County's principal mineral resources. The work accomplished during the 1930s is still visible to park visitors who jeep or hike north from the present U.S. Highway 299 along the dirt road which leads to the mine site.⁴⁸

5. 1941-1975 - Sunshine Mine

Although gold mining in Shasta County was minimal during World War II, it resumed in mid-1945, reached a peak value the next year, and declined steadily thereafter. "The value of gold mined each year since 1951 has been lower than for any year during the seven preceding decades since 1880," Lydon and O'Brien noted in Mineral Resources of Shasta County.⁴⁹

During the decade of the 1940s the state mining reports made mention of only one quartz mine within the Whiskeytown National Recreation Area boundaries. Located about one mile east of Schilling (Whiskeytown) and just north of the Redding-Weaverville highway, the Sunshine Mine (Sec. 15, T32N, R6W) was readily accessible to J. C. O'Brien during his tour of inspection in the spring of 1947. O'Brien reported that the Nevada-based Sunshine Gold Mining Company owned 530 acres of patented land, including the Sunshine Mine and other quartz prospects formerly held by location, and that the company had already begun to implement plans to improve the Sunshine Mine:

48. Ibid., p. 142; "Map of Shasta County" in ibid.

49. Lydon and O'Brien, Mineral Resources, pp. 4, 19.

A concrete dam was built near the mouth of the adit to make a water reservoir of the old workings. A new adit is being driven from a point farther west and must be driven 60 feet to reach the vein. A quartz vein 10 inches wide in the new adit strikes N. 70 E. and dips 73 S. . . . The property will be mined by open cuts with a drag-scraper pulled by a double-drum hoist driven by a Chevrolet automobile engine. The ore will be dumped into a raise from the adit, drawn into mine [?] from a chute, and trammed to the mill.

The mill is situated below the adit, and mine cars are dumped into a bar grizzly spaced at 6 inches. The oversize is crushed in a 6 by 16- [?] inch Joshua Hendy jaw crusher belt-driven by a Buick automobile engine. The undersize drops to a fine-ore bin of 100-ton capacity. The ore is crushed to 100-mesh in a 5-by 5-foot Denver Engineering Company ball mill, belt-driven by a 110-horsepower International diesel engine. The crushed ore is fed to two amalgamation barrels 20 inches in diameter by 4 feet long, where 40 to 60 percent of the gold is recovered. The tailing is delivered to a Dorr double-rake classifier which returns the sand to the ball mill and delivers the slime to a Grouch Engineering Company flotation machine. The mill will have a capacity of about 4 tons per hour. Five men are employed getting the property ready to operate.⁵⁰

The "old workings" mentioned above possibly refer to one of the quartz mining operations which flourished around Whiskeytown early in the 1880s or early in the twentieth century, but under another name and owner. The 1944 USGS quadrangle for French Gulch shows that the Sunshine Mine already was located in Section 15 at that date, but maps and reports of area mines published in the 1930s do not mention or locate any Sunshine Mine. In 1933 Averill described the Kanaka Prospect and set "Sunshine" in parenthesis after the name, but located this prospect in Section 28, south of Schilling.⁵¹

Lydon and O'Brien lumped the Kanaka and Sunshine together as one in Section 15, and thus indicated that the mine remained in operation for two decades. However, it appears that the Sunshine Mine only operated sporadically during the 1940s and that around 1949 the mine closed, because in that year Averill and Norman reported that although the Sunshine Gold Mining Company had developed a drift east from the

50. J. C. O'Brien, "Current and Recent Mining Activities in the Redding District," California Journal of Mines and Geology 44, no. 4 (October 1948):358.

51. Averill, "Gold Deposits," p. 33.

old Spanish adit, "the ore was stock piled while waiting for electric power to be connected to the treatment plant which was equipped with a ball mill, classifier, jig, amalgamator and flotation cells. No gold production was reported."⁵²

The mining books in the county recorder's office list a number of gold mining claims made during the 1940s and 1950s within the present park boundaries, especially the twenty-seven claims recorded between 1948 and 1955 in Section 28 and the twenty-six claims recorded between 1941 and 1955 in Section 34, T32N, R6W. In August 1959 J. S. Ganim recorded two claims, the Jackpot Quartz and claims 1 and 2, in Section 5, T32N, R6W. John T. Desmond also recorded one, Aurora Quartz, in Section 9, T32N, R6W, thus continuing a family mining tradition of more than half a century for Desmond, and close to that for Ganim.⁵³

Whether the Ganim or Desmond mines saw any productive activity in 1959 is questionable considering the gold prospects. In 1962 John P. Albers, as mining engineer, wrote, "The Whiskeytown district has a low future potential for gold as compared to the French Gulch-Deadwood district." With the exception of one mine operating a mile north of the park's northern boundary, mining in the area in 1960 was only "small-scale . . . [and] intermittent."⁵⁴

52. Charles V. Averill and L. A. Norman Jr., "Counties of California, Mineral Production and Significant Mining Activities of 1949," California Journal of Mines and Geology 47 no. 2 (April 1951):370; see also Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, p. 119. Averill and Norman also couched their description of the Sunshine Gold Mining Company mine in the past tense: the company "held" a group of claims near Schilling. Lydon and O'Brien's tabulated list of mines compiled between 1957 and 1962 indicated that the mine stood idle and that it was owned by a Houston-based company. Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, p. 119. In addition, see section on existing historical resources in this report.

53. The sectional index to mining claims provides easy access to the claims within the park boundaries. A tabulated list of all the mines in California in 1954-55 shows nothing within the park area. Henry H. Symons and Fenelon F. Davis, "California Mineral Commodities in 1955 and 1954," California Journal of Mines and Geology 54, no. 1 (January 1958):67-205.

54. As quoted in Alvin H. Lense, "Mineral Report for Placer and Quartz Mining Claims Located in the Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, California," June 15, 1973, MS, p. 9, WNRA, Whiskeytown, California; see also Ian Campbell, Fifty-Sixth Report of the State Mineralogist (San Francisco: California Division of Mines, 1960), p. 146, Ian Campbell, Fifty-Seventh Report of the State Mineralogist (San Francisco: California Division of Mines, 1961), p. 136, and Gordon B. Oakshott, Fifty-Fifth Report of the State Mineralogist (San Francisco: California Division of Mines, 1959); p. 91.

On September 12, 1962, the Bureau of Reclamation's First Form Reclamation Withdrawal designated a large segment of the present park area for the construction of Whiskeytown Lake and Dam, thereby withdrawing these lands from mining claim entires. The creation of the Whiskeytown unit of the Whiskeytown-Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area on November 8, 1965, withdrew all the park acreage from mining, except on a small-scale, recreational basis.

But the limited gold potential itself also apparently directed mining interests elsewhere. Mining engineer Alvin Lense observed in 1973 that even though a sharp rise in the price of gold (\$90 per ounce in February 1973) had revived a widespread interest in gold mining, it "only spurred minor activities by weekend prospectors and amateur miners" in the Whiskeytown area. In 1975 many day visitors still prospected on the area's extensive creek beds using gold pans. Thus, ironically, these miners have returned to the earliest and most simple placer methods reminiscent of the great gold rush of the mid-nineteenth century.⁵⁵

B. Singular or Short-Lived Mining Operations, 1896-1960

1. Copper Mining

Although copper was first discovered in Shasta County in 1865, it remained an insignificant mineral resource in the county for another thirty years because of its low market value. In 1895 the Copper Mountain Mining Company purchased the Iron Mountain Mine, and the following year the copper industry replaced gold as the number one mineral producer in Shasta County, a distinction it retained until the 1950s. Between 1896 and 1965 the county mines yielded almost 704 million pounds of copper metal, which represented more than half the statewide production during the same period.

The principal copper deposits in the county were located in two copper-zinc belts extending about thirty miles in an easterly direction from Iron Mountain. The only important copper mine developed in the county outside of this crescent-shaped copper-zinc belt was the Greenhorn Mine, which stood just outside of the park's northwestern boundary.⁵⁶

55. Lense, "Mineral Report," pp. 7-9, WNRA; Early Stages of Development at WNRA, File H14, WNRA, Whiskeytown, California.

56. Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, pp. 17, 28-29; Laizure, "Shasta County," p. 514; Logan, "Shasta County," p. 140. The copper production between 1895-1902 made Shasta County the leading mineral producer in California. Register of Mines and Minerals, Shasta County, p. 1. In his report on mineral production for 1930, Henry H. Symons explained that Shasta County experienced a marked production decrease after 1918 on account of the "falling off in the output of

a. Mountain Monarch Mine

No major copper mines ever operated within the present park boundaries. During the peak years of copper production between 1896 and 1919, however, patches of mineral property owned and mined by the large copper companies extended into the park's eastern lands, and an independent company opened the Mountain Monarch Mine, one of only two copper producing mines to locate entirely within the present recreation area.

The Mountain Monarch Mine (Secs. 29, 32, T32N, R6W) appears on the 1908 map of the central mineral region of Shasta County. In 1912 Ferguson described its location and general appearance:

The Mountain Monarch is a copper prospect about 2 miles due south of Whiskeytown, on the flat-topped ridge west of the valley of Clear Creek. The workings consist of a small shaft on the top of the ridge at an elevation of about 2,400 feet, filled with water at the time of visit, and a tunnel in the hill, about 400 feet below the shaft, which has been driven 720 feet of the 1,200 feet that it has been calculated is necessary in order to reach the ore body shown in the shaft. . . . A few tons of ore has been stacked near the shaft.

Ferguson concluded this description of the Mountain Monarch Mines with the statement, "No data could be obtained as to the size or shape of the ore body or the value of the ore."⁵⁷

In 1920, only eight years later, the state mineralogist's report noted that the Happy Jack and Mountain Monarch mines formed a group owned by Charles L. Paige of Santa Barbara, or Redding, California, and that the latter copper mine comprised the Great Slide, Boulder, and nos. 1 to 17 locations, with a total area of about 560 acres. At that date there was an 850-foot tunnel on the Mountain Monarch Group which, if extended some seventy-five feet, would "tap the main vein about 650 feet below its outcrop." Apparently the owner had tired of mining, because the mine description read very much like a brochure advertisement for land sales, and no mention was made of any active mining operations on the property.⁵⁸

copper, the large plants of the Mammoth and the Mountain Copper companies being shut down." Henry H. Symons, Mineral Production and Directory of Mineral Producers for 1930, California Bureau of Mines Bulletin no. 105 (San Francisco, 1931), p. 153.

57. "Map of the Central Mineral Region"; Ferguson, "Gold Lodes," p. 49.

58. Laizure, "Shasta County," p. 522.

b. Sulphide Mine

The only other known copper mining within the park boundaries occurred at the Sulphide Mine in Section 16, near Whiskeytown (T32N, R6W), where the low-grade sulphides provided a short span of production. In 1913-14 the mine stood idle and never received mention again.

c. Elizabeth Con Mine

A 1902 map of the sulphide copper district also indicated that a copper mining property called "Elizabeth Con" extended over the eastern boundary of the existing recreation area into Sections 10, 14, and 15 (T32N, R6W), but no written description of this property could be found. The Mount Shasta Mine was also shown on this map, which suggests that the base ore quartz mines just outside the copper belt were then included as copper properties because the sulphides served as flux for the copper smelter process.⁵⁹

2. Placer Mining

Hydraulic mining was outlawed in 1884 by the Sawyer decision, which reflected the farmers' opposition to the slickens dumped into the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys, ruining their crops. Mining investors rapidly rallied forces to reintroduce hydraulic mining, because, as the state mineralogist argued in 1889, the economic losses caused by the Sawyer decision required correction to protect both agricultural and hydraulic mining interests:

The recent suppression of hydraulic mining by judicial decisions, has reduced the annual gold product of California by at least \$10,000,000; has thrown thousands of men out of profitable employment, and has withdrawn enormous sums of money from circulation in the various channels of trade. . . . fortunately, however, the interdependence of the various industries of the State in this respect is becoming generally recognized and thoughtful men, of whatever profession, are awakening to the desirability of rehabilitating the hydraulic mining of the state. It is greatly to be hoped that some method will shortly be devised for the effective prosecution of hydraulic mining, in a manner which will at the same time insure to the Farming interests of the State the

59. Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, p. 109; Du Bois, The Copper Resources, opp. p. 48.

protection to which they are entitled and preserve the navigable rivers of the State as well.⁶⁰

a. Princess Hydraulic Mining Company

Evidently a satisfactory compromise emerged soon after, for hydraulic mining made a strong comeback in the late 1890s. At least one major company, the Princess Hydraulic Mining Company, operated within the park boundary at this time. In November 1898 the Redding Free Press reported, "The Princess Hydraulic Mining Company contemplates making extensive additions to its water rights and ditches on Broad Creek, near Whiskytown [sic]. The extension is one mile long, including a tunnel of 700 feet." Maps of Shasta County published in 1902 and 1904 both locate the Princess Hydraulic Company to the east of Clear Creek, within the southeastern sections of the park, which clearly indicates that the company maintained extensive hydraulic operations typical of the type of mining late in the century. As the California Miners' Association reported in 1899:

The hydraulic mines of California are noted the world over for the extensive plants with them . . . extensive dams and reservoirs required, the long pipe lines, the immense quantities of water used under enormous pressure and the vast quantity of material moved under this system.⁶¹

Adding that hydraulic mining was of great interest to all miners because it was "the cheapest method of mining," the writer proceeded to explain the process of hydraulicking: "of breaking down and disintegrating the auriferous gravel as it stands in place, and carrying it into the gold-saving appliances by means of water discharged through iron pipes upon such gravel under great pressure." In order to dislodge hardened or indurated gravel in the hillsides the hydraulic companies typically employed gunpowder and other explosives and then washed the gravel to the processing appliances. The destruction to areas along

60. William Irelan, Jr., Ninth Annual Report of the State Mineralogist For the Year Ending December 1, 1889 (Sacramento: State Office, J. D. Young, 1890), pp. 121-22; see also Young, Western Mining, pp. 127-31.

61. Redding Free Press, quoted in Mining and Scientific Press 77, no. 20 (November 1898):485; Charles G. Yale, "The Mineral Industry of California," in California Mines and Minerals, comp. Edward H. Benjamin (San Francisco: California Miners' Association, 1899), p. 18; "Denny's Map of Shasta County, California and Eastern Portion of Trinity," compiled from official sources, by Edward Denny & Company, San Francisco, 1904; "Map of Shasta County, California," issued by the State Mining Bureau, Ferry Building, San Francisco, 1902.

Broad and Clear creeks by the Princess Hydraulic Mining Company must have been considerable, and the scars from the explosions, reservoirs, and dams are perhaps still visible as reminders of the gold mining era around Whiskeytown.⁶²

b. Vergnes Property

Creekside placer mining, as already noted above, experienced a brief revival during the 1930s, when the depression forced many persons into occupations otherwise not considered practical or profitable. Two placer mines within the park received individual mention in Averill's report to the state mineralogist in 1933: Vergnes property (Secs. 7 and 17, T32N, R6W) and the Clear Creek Placer Company (Sec. 34, T32N, R6W).

Chester Vergnes claimed that although the gravel near Oak Bottom had been worked by small-scale placer miners it still contained "fine gold and valuable black sands." Four different placer operations were then in process on his property, each being worked by different parties with different placer mining methods.

c. Clear Creek Placer Company

The Clear Creek Placer Company purchased eighty acres of placer ground on Clear Creek, just south of the existing National Environmental Education Development (N.E.E.D.) camp, from James E. Paige. The Washington-based company operated more sophisticated machinery than the men on Vergnes property, but with more frequent problems. When Averill visited the site, the company had already run into trouble trying to coordinate the 1-1/4-yard Thew gasoline shovel with the attached machine for washing gravel, and had found no way to dispose of the mining tailings that interfered with the operation.⁶³

62. Yale, "The Mineral Industry of California," California Mines and Minerals, pp. 18-19. The duration of the Princess Hydraulic Company's operations on Clear Creek were not determined by this research, but most likely did not continue after 1913-14, when Chester Brown reported: "Hydraulic mining operations are very limited, due to the State debris law, as Shasta is one of the counties affected by this law." Brown, "Shasta County," p. 751.

63. Averill, "Gold Deposits," pp. 38, 72-73. For a brief period in 1950 Charles Tripp leased his property one mile southeast of the Tower House to James I. Scott who bulldozed the gravel above Clear Creek, and processed it with a trommel and sluice box. Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, p. 131.

d. M. D. Baker

Dredging river and creek bottoms for placer gold came into fashion in Shasta County around 1895, and continued intermittently through the 1950s. In the park area only three such placer mining methods were reported, one in the 1930s and two others in the 1940s.⁶⁴

M. D. Baker mined Clear Creek about four miles southwest of old Shasta with a power shovel, washing the gravel in a "dry land dredge." This operation only lasted for a short time in 1937.⁶⁵

e. B. H. K. Mining Company

One of two other companies known to dredge within the recreation area boundaries was the B. H. K. Mining Company which operated a dragline dredge on Boulder Creek (Sec. 34, T32N, R6W) during the early 1940s. The company dredge processed 174,040 cubic yards of gravel, recovering 1,099 ounces of gold and 152 ounces of silver. The gravel deposit lay eight to twenty-two feet deep on top of a hard bedrock intermixed with numerous boulders of quartz diorite. Lydon and O'Brien explained that the dredging process featured both traditional and modern mining techniques and equipment:

The gravel was dug by a P. & H. dragline equipped with a 1½-cubic-yard bucket. The hull, built on steel pontoons, was 22 feet wide, 36 feet long, and 36 inches deep. Gravel was directed to a trommel 48 inches in diameter and 24 feet long, having 12 feet of 12-inch screen. Oversize material was not stacked but slid into the pond through a chute. Undersize material was fed into two sluice boxes 12 feet wide and 12 feet long, both on the same side of the trommel, one mounted above and discharging into the other. The lower box discharged into a downstream sluice box five feet wide and 20 feet long. All sluice boxes were lined with expanded metal

64. For a good explanation of dragline and dry-land dredging, with illustrations and descriptions of equipment and methods used, see Charles V. Averill, "Gold Dredging in Shasta Siskiyou and Trinity Counties," California Journal of Mines and Geology 34, no. 2 (April 1938):96-126.

65. Ibid., p. 114. Earlier in the article Averill explained that dry-land dredging had failed throughout northern California, because most of the machines "were so poorly designed and constructed that they had no chance to succeed." Ibid., p. 97.

over rubber matting. Mercury was placed in the sluice boxes to catch the fine gold.⁶⁶

f. Hammer Placer of A. R. Potts

In 1947 A. R. Potts of Schilling operated a low-powered dredge machine to work the bottom of Clear Creek (Sec. 7, T32N, R6W), near Oak Bottom. The three patented claims he worked stood on land owned by J. J. Hammer of Schilling. J. C. O'Brien visited the operation in the spring of 1947, and later described it in his report to the state mineralogist:

The property is mined with a small suction dredge consisting of a wooden barge on which a suction pump 25 inches in diameter, and a sluice box two feet wide and 16 feet long is mounted. The pump is driven by a Ford Model "A" engine. A trench about 15 feet wide is dug within 3 feet of bedrock with an International TB-40 bulldozer. The remaining sand and gravel is then pumped through a hose 4 inches in diameter and discharged into the sluice box. An undercurrent 3 feet wide fitted with metal lath over corduroy cloth is used to recover the fine gold. The sand concentrate is treated further in a Denver gold pan. Potts had one man employed on April 10, 1947.⁶⁷

3. Granite Mining - Masterton Brothers' Quarry

Granite quarrying evidently has been one of Shasta County's infrequent mining activities. In fact, the massive granite deposit extracted prior to 1906 at the Masterton Brothers' Quarry (Sec. 20, T32N, R6W) was the only dimension stone of its kind listed in Lydon and O'Brien's compilation of mines, past and present, in the county.

66. Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, p. 129. In his report Gold Dredging in California, J. E. Doolittle explained that the first successful dredge operated in California in 1897, and that the only type of dredge that worked successfully at the time of writing (1908) was the continuous bucket dredge. Doolittle believed that dredging was the only way to mine gravel "with an excess of water, and 50 feet of bedrock." J. E. Doolittle, Gold Dredging in California, California Bureau of Mines Bulletin no. 36 (Sacramento: California State Printing Office, 1908), pp. 10, 15, 19.

67. O'Brien, "Current and Recent Mining Activities," p. 358. Lydon and O'Brien also listed a dredge operation by A. W. Pipenstack at Oak Bottom for a brief time during 1946, but O'Brien made no mention of this in his report.

In 1896 J. J. Crawford, the state mineralogist, reported that the Masterton Brothers' Quarry, located 1½ miles south of Stella (Whiskey-town), on Brandy Creek, contained coarse-grained dark granite "similar to the Lincoln granite, in Placer County," and that four men--two quarrymen and two stone cutters--were working boulders into pieces 2" by 10" by 10' for curbing and coping, as the quality of the granite was "hardly fine enough for monumental work."

In 1913, G. Chester Brown explained further that the:

granite in Shasta County is generally of a light color, containing some hornblende and shows the effect of strong pressure, as the rock, when not decomposed, is much jointed and crossjointed. It is not much used for building or monument purposes on account of fracture planes and quartz seams cutting through rock. . . .

and that the sixty-acre Masterton Brothers' Quarry then stood idle.⁶⁸

4. Talc Mining - Ganim Mine

Talc mining, too, seems to have been a singular occurrence in Shasta County, for Lydon and O'Brien listed the Ganim Mine (Secs. 5, 8, T32N, R6W) as the only talc operation. The 1926 report of the state mineralogist made the first mention of a "good-grade white-grinding" talc deposit of uniform quality on Ganim's gold mining properties: "At time of visit attention had temporarily been diverted to a body of good grade talc which was encountered in both drifts. . . . Four men are employed and several carloads of talc have been shipped." With the benefit of hindsight, Lydon and O'Brien noted that "small lots of steatite talc were shipped from the Ganim mine . . . during 1925-27 and in 1940 and 1946. No other potentially commercial occurrences of talc are known in the County."⁶⁹

After an interruption during the 1930s to return to gold mining, the Ganim company leased the property for talc mining:

In May 1941 the Pomona Tile Company leased the Ganim mine and mined a carload of talc from a stope about 600 feet from the portal of the main adit. In October 1951, Paul E. Littel of Redding mined a second carload of talc from the same stope. There was no further production from this deposit until March 1946 when Littel

68. Quotes from Crawford, Thirteenth Report, p. 623; and Brown, "Shasta County," p. 804; see also Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Minerals, p. 154.

69. Logan, "Shasta County," pp. 171-72, 210-11.

opened up a lens of talc on the surface, northwest of the underground stope. Talc was exposed for a width of 20 feet, and material selectively mined from the outcrop was valued at \$12.00 per ton delivered to the railroad at Redding; only a small production was reported. During 1959, lessees cleaned out some of the caved workings. . . . Page and Wright (1943) reported that the production of talc of all grades amounted to about 2,400 tons, and that the property had been worked "primarily" for gold and silver.⁷⁰

70. Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Minerals, pp. 96, 154. According to Averill, "Mineral Resources," p. 174, one of the talc shipments contained twelve to fifteen carloads which valued at \$10.00 to \$10.50 per ton.

III. TWENTIETH CENTURY SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PATTERNS

A. Population and Transportation

After 1880 the population in the Whiskeytown area declined markedly, reflecting the exhaustion of surface gold which had, for three decades, buoyed the fragile mining communities. The fast train transportation to northern California, Oregon, and points north, by way of the Sacramento Valley, bypassed the area, also discouraging those individuals who may have settled around Whiskeytown for commercial reasons. Other than relatively small quartz and copper mining operations, the economy of the area slowed to a near standstill.¹

During the late nineteenth century the economic focus of the area west of Shasta was in the French Gulch quartz mining district, just northwest of the present recreation area boundary, and after 1895, in the copper-zinc belt to the east of today's park boundary. Mostly local and some tourist traffic traveled over the hilly dirt road past Whiskeytown, the majority of which had been constructed in the early 1860s by Charles Camden. On the eve of the twentieth century the Camden toll road, once a well-received improvement in the area, had become "a curse to the people of Shasta County."²

1. Although not to be compared with a population census, the voting registers for Shasta County during the twentieth century give some indication of the size of Whiskeytown's community: in 1908, forty registered; in 1910, thirty-nine; in 1918, forty-four; in 1930, sixty; in 1940, 153; and in 1950, 139. [Shasta County, California] Index to Precinct Registers of Shasta County, California (individually bound volumes all published by Searchlight Print, Redding, in above given years). Peterson's research that showed Whiskeytown's population during the 1880s was about 150, and that during the turn of the nineteenth century Whiskeytown "regressed into 'ghost town' status, with a single store and post office serving a few outlying residents. A brief population spurt in the 1950s marked the death throes of this old town, as the workers who constructed the dam which would doom Whiskeytown . . . inhabited the village they were helping to destroy." Edward Peterson, In the Shadow of the Mountain (published by the author, 1965), p. 100. In 1926 Logan noted that most of Shasta County's 13,311 population lived in the valley regions contiguous to the Sacramento River. "Shasta County," p. 123.

2. Weekly Free Press, October 29, 1898, editorial page (as researched by Veronica Satorious of Redding, California).

Even though Shasta County took over the Camden toll road in 1912, the road supervisors did not allocate adequate funds for its maintenance. Despite the fact that M. E. Dittmar reported in 1913-14 that "a good wagon road connects French Gulch with Redding. . . . The haul is about twenty-one miles over an easy grade," Mrs. Elta Proebstel, the school-teacher in Whiskeytown during those years, recalled that no one came to (or left) the town because the all-dirt road was so bad. The one-lane avenue made passing a dangerous and time-consuming task, as the driver had to know where the road was sufficiently wide enough to allow two vehicles to pass at the same time. Moreover, the few cars and the wagons and stages often got stuck in the deep mud ruts when it rained or snowed, and cars always required chains during the winter. The county reflected its awareness of the inadequate road when it announced to the public in 1919 that it would do everything possible to keep the road open during the winter, only underscoring the hazards met by travelers during harsh weather.³

Finally, early in the 1920s, the state constructed Highway 20 which followed the Camden toll road or county road fairly closely. The existing highway (U.S. 299), however, represents yet later road construction in the 1950s and early 1960s. The latter work consisted of the construction of approximately five miles of new highway--2.5 miles east of Tower House to 2.5 miles east of Whiskeytown--including a new bridge over Whiskey Creek, to accommodate the forthcoming Whiskeytown Reservoir waters.⁴

B. Recreation

Beginning in the late 1930s Shasta County began to work with state and federal agencies to develop recreational facilities in the picturesque mountainous terrain no longer popular for its rich minerals. Just before World War II the Bureau of Reclamation began construction of the

3. Brown, "Shasta County," p. 775; see also Interview, Clarence Coates with Mrs. Proebstel of Redding, California, August 21, 1974, on tape at WNRA; Shasta Courier, September 26, 1919, p. 1; Edna Behrens Easton, "Charles Camden and the Camden Toll Road," The Covered Wagon 1960 (Redding: Shasta County Historical Society, 1960), p. 13.

4. Ross, "Whiskeytown," NPS, DSC. Grace Richards, Charles Camden's daughter, granted the state right-of-way for a "new state highway" in April 1924. Official Records, 55: 323-24, RDO, SCC. See also M. P. Brower, "Whiskey Creek Bridge," The Guardian 13, no. 10 (October 1961): 5. Neil Clay, "Whiskeytown Relocation Project," The Guardian 11, no. 12 (December 1959): 4. These California Division of Highways, District II, publications were generously researched and provided by Darold Bickett, of the Office of Local Assistance of the California Department of Transportation, Redding, California.

Shasta Dam; in 1955 the Trinity Dam; and in 1959 the Whiskeytown Dam. In May 1962 the first waters and first boaters entered Whiskeytown Lake, and on September 28, 1963, President John F. Kennedy presided over dedication ceremonies at the dam. Under a cooperative agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation, the National Park Service took over the management of the area in 1965.⁵

The purchase of 36,056 acres of land for the park caused further decline in the permanent population of the area, leaving only a few inholdings and a handful of park employee families as residents. The few Whiskeytown homeowners moved away, mostly reluctantly, after which time their houses were destroyed. The town cemetery with some eighty graves, and the schoolhouse, survived the demolition. The cemetery is now relocated within the park boundaries, to the east of the road to Igo, while the schoolhouse now serves as a church in Shasta.⁶

But the area welcomes more people today than at any time in its history, providing a water-based recreation area to thousands of annual visitors. Although many of the historic resources which concentrated around Whiskeytown have been demolished, the Whiskeytown National Recreation Area preserves the existing historic features without perpetuating further abuses to the land from mining and lumbering.

5. The Recreation Area Study Act of 1936 directed the National Park Service "to make comprehensive studies . . . to keep a national plan." The Whiskeytown Reservoir was part of the Trinity River Project authorized by Public Law 386, 84th Congress, August 12, 1955, the principal purpose of which was to increase the water supply for irrigation and other beneficial uses in the Central Valley of California. Early Stages of Development (Jan. 1957-1960) at WNRA, File H14, WNRA. See also Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, p. 1; Coates, "A Brief Historical Sketch," p. 8, WNRA.

6. Areas Administered by the National Park Service and Related Properties as of January 1, 1972 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1972), p. 98; Ross, "Whiskeytown," p. 10; NPS, DSC; Recollections of Mr. Frank Bickford, notes taken from taped interview, files, WNRA. According to Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, p. 1, approximately 85 percent of the county population in 1970 lived in the Redding-Enterprise, Shasta Dam, and Anderson-Cottonwood areas. In 1962 the Whiskeytown election precinct had only sixty-seven registered voters. Coates, "A Brief Historical Sketch," p. 7, WNRA.

IV. EXISTING HISTORIC FEATURES

The majority of the existing historic features within Whiskeytown National Recreation Area relate to mining and milling activities during the period from 1880 to the present. The gold rush placer mines of over a century ago cannot be distinguished from the occasional revivals of placer mining during the late nineteenth century and the depression years. However, an on-site investigation of the hills in Sections 4 and 9, north of Whiskeytown Lake, revealed rotted and buried pieces of wooden flumes, and configurations of abandoned earth-water reservoirs, which may date to the pre-1880 placer period. More scientific techniques will be needed to determine their approximate age.

Several "shallow pockets" were also found on steep hillsides, nearly impenetrable with scrub oak and poison ivy. These gouged holes in the quartz walls probably remain from the period between 1900 and 1926, when such short-term mining techniques were popular.

Considerable evidence exists to indicate the mining activities at the Ganim, Desmond, Sunshine, and Mount Shasta mines. These sites show all or some of the typical quartz mining components--water reservoirs, timbered mine shafts, mining equipment, large tailing dumps, quartz-laden rock debris, frame or tin structures, fruit trees, and fragments of daily living (plates, bottles, cans, etc.). At the Ganim and Sunshine mines water has filled in the shaft tunnels, and in the Sunshine Mine fig trees have nearly obscured sight of the rock-walled tunnel opening.

At Paige Bar, near where the B. H. K. dredge operated in the 1940s, the gravel still borders Clear Creek in wide bands and no doubt has been exposed to placer and dredge mining activities from the earliest period until the establishment of the recreation area. In the western third of the park, near the Tower House Historic District (covered in a separate report by this writer and David Henderson, architect), Clear Creek still runs free and along, or close to, its original course. (The writer did not walk along the creek bed in search of existing historic features, but the persistent mining along the banks of Clear Creek in both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries has undoubtedly left some visible traces, as well as several suggested features to remind the visitor of earlier times.)

The El Dorado quartz mine, one-fourth of a mile south of the Tower House district, already has been restored to operating condition by the National Park Service with the advice of a mining engineer who volunteered his experience in and knowledge of gold mining.

Most of the narrow dirt roads now used for park visitors' sporting jeeps originally led to mining or milling operations some distance from the main thoroughfare between Shasta and Weaverville. Thus many of the visitors to the recreation area have no access, other than by foot, to the Desmond, Mountain Monarch, Ganim, and Sunshine mines. The only mine readily accessible by four-wheel-drive vehicle over a dirt road is the Mount Shasta Mine in the southeast quarter of the park, not far from the relocated Whiskeytown cemetery. This small pocket of historic features also falls within an area mined heavily off and on from 1850 to about 1941, and thus holds an excellent potential for the interpretation of all aspects of gold and copper mining.

To the west of Paige Bar, cabins--reportedly built by Clinton Peltiers as a summer camp in the 1940s--stood on a hilltop of some 2,000 feet, reached now only by truck or jeep. He built these cabins at the time his family raised cattle and carried on selective lumbering there. In the 1860s pioneer Hugh Shuffleton took out a patent on this land and also used it for cattle grazing, so the Peltiers continued the historic use of the property.¹

The cabins have been removed and the area is used as a backcountry campsite, by permit only. The location, close to a stream, in the coolness of a forest setting, can be especially appreciated during the blistering hot summers endured historically in the Whiskeytown area.

About one-half mile southeast of the Peltiers cabins, the outline of several rock walls can be seen amongst thick brush and wild-grape bushes. Reportedly a writer from the east during the 1920s built trout streams and ponds here in hopes that a business would flourish--perhaps foreseeing the forthcoming development of the area for recreation. How long he remained at this idyllic spot was not determined from this research.²

To the northeast of the Peltiers cabins, via a very rocky, narrow, and steep road (nearly washed out in sections) traces of what appear to have been a milling operation can be seen--perhaps remnant of the Mountain Monarch or Happy Jack mining activities in the early twentieth century.

Nearby Brandy Creek, partly lost to Whiskeytown Lake, has been historically active as a water source for placer mines and sawmills. No doubt the surrounding areas still possess many traces of times past, however the writer did not walk Brandy Creek, or any of the other creeks frequently referred to in this report.

1. Interview, Anna Toogood with Mrs. Clinton Peltiers, by telephone, October 14, 1974.

2. Peltiers interview and information provided by Robert Grom, Chief of Interpretive Activities Branch, WNRA, in October 1974.

What has been labeled "the Draft Dodgers Cabin" stands in a remote section of the park, northeast of Little Bally, and has not been visited from the ground by recent National Park Service employees. Aerial photographs show the cabin in the middle of a cleared meadow in a forested, mountainous setting. According to oral tradition, this cabin was used by World War I draft dodgers and was left fully equipped and furnished when the National Park Service took over the land.³

The principal historic residential areas within the park now lie under the waters of Whiskeytown Lake, with exception of the Tower House district which once maintained quite a mining population, and the ground at the mouth of Grizzly Gulch, where a roadhouse stood during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The existing complex of structures and cabins composing the park's National Environmental Education Development (N.E.E.D.) camp at Paige Bar were built around 1960 by the Northern Valley Baptist Church and adapted to park needs after the land was purchased in 1968.⁴

Finally, a walk or a drive over the park areas away from the main roads immediately exposes remains of structures, mines, artifacts, and orchards from prior occupancy which cannot be definitely identified in this report, and which, for the most part, reflect random squatting in the area for mining and other reasons from the depression years to recent times.⁵

After this report was completed but not yet printed, Robert Grom, Chief, Interpretive Activities Branch, Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, located physical remains of what may have been a section of the Clear Creek Canal. The Clear Creek Canal was constructed in 1855 to provide a dependable water supply for the numerous mining claims between the Tower House and Middletown, some forty miles to the southeast (see chapter 1, "Mining Claims and Structures"). Following the traces of a large ditch near Clear Creek south of Whiskeytown Lake, Grom discovered the possible remains of a 460-foot tunnel cut through hard rock to carry the canal water to its destination. On the eve of its opening in 1855, the canal was thought to rank among the most costly and durable mining enterprises of its kind in the state with more than fifty miles of ditches and aqueducts.

3. Information and aerial photographs provided by Robert Grom, WNRA.

4. Information provided by Robert Grom.

5. By special permission, the aged Tolbert brothers still live within the park in their frame house on the road to Igo. Having come to the area to mine during 1930s, they no doubt would be able to remember the many makeshift mining camps set up in the vicinity of Clear Creek from that period to the present. According to Robert Grom, many squatters have been evicted from the park since its establishment in 1965.

Additional ground investigation will be needed to locate all the ditch remains within the park, and further study will be necessary to confirm that these historic features constitute vestiges of the Clear Creek Canal.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Recommend archeological surveys for locations of nineteenth century historic features, which have not been covered by lake waters, as indicated on historical base maps. Archeological investigations were completed prior to the construction of Whiskeytown Lake and Dam, but without historic resource documentation, they provided only information on the Indian habitation.¹

2. Recommend interpretation of placer, quartz, and copper mining history in southeast section of the park, featuring the Mount Shasta Mine, the cemetery, Clear Creek's gravel beds, and other identifiable historic traces.

3. Recommend further research in Shasta County Recorder of Deeds' office to locate early mining documents, such as local mining district bylaws, mine claims, and water rights within the Whiskeytown, French Gulch, and Shasta mining districts which pertain to park history.

4. Recommend an active park policy to interview on tape "old timers" in the area.

5. Recommend further inquiry among local families to locate and copy historic paintings and photographs, such as are in the possession of Mrs. Philena Hubbard, Charles Camden's granddaughter, or Mrs. Elta Proebstel, Whiskeytown's schoolteacher in 1913-14.²

6. Recommend interpretation of the Desmond Mine and machinery which still stand on the site. Off and on for more than half a century this mine continued to produce profits for the same local family, and it thus provides a wide range of local history themes for interpretation.

7. Recommend interpretation of the Sunshine Mine, even though the information on it is unclear. The mine site has no structures nor any visibly prominent mine drifts, but does have a large, concrete water reservoir and some fruit trees which present, in part, mining features unduplicated in other areas of the park.

1. The archeological base map prepared for the 1962 master plan is in the Map Files (RA-WHI/3005), NPS, DSC.

2. The writer, for instance, recommends that a copy of James Lamson's 1860 watercolor sketch entitled "Mr. Wingate's Dam on Clear Creek" be acquired for interpretive purposes at the park. The sketch is in the Lamson Collections, California Historical Society. (See section above on placer mining to identify Caleb Wingate as a local pioneer in the Whiskeytown area.)

8. Recommend restoration and interpretation of the Tower House Historic District as a local landmark which appeared on county and state maps for over a century.

9. Recommend interpretation of the Ganim Mine as a talc-producing mine--the only one in the county to date.

10. Recommend a continuous park policy of research in the Shasta Republican and Shasta Courier newspaper microfilm rolls at the Shasta County Public Library, Redding, to gather additional contemporary accounts of activities in the vicinity of Whiskeytown and the Tower House.

11. Recommend working with individuals or groups in French Gulch to cooperate in the development of a local history program. Likewise, to continue the close working relationship with Shasta State Historical Monument in Shasta.

12. Recommend further study and investigation of historic features thought to be traces of Clear Creek Canal. If these remains prove to be traces of the canal, recommend their nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

DOCUMENTATION FOR HISTORICAL BASE MAPS

Historical Base Map 1, 1850-1880

Tower House and Vicinity

1. Chitwood Placer Mine- Land Survey, March 3, 1874, U.S. Surveyor.
2. Tower House Hotel, Gardens, Outbuildings- Land Survey, Township 32 North, Range 7 West, October 16, 1868, Appendix A; Goddard, 1857, Map of the State of California; Gibbes, 1875, Map of the States of California and Nevada; Roeser, 1876, Map of the State of California.
3. Charles Camden's House- Appendix A; Record Book C, p. 241, RDO, SCC.
- *4. Charles Camden's Sawmill and Dam- Appendix A; Record Book R, p. 314, and Record Book S, p. 115, RDO, SCC; Shasta Courier, May 26, 1860, p. 2.
5. Charles Camden's Ditch and Toll Road- Land Survey, Township 32 North, Range 7 West, October 16, 1868; Appendix A.
6. H. Jackson's House- Land Survey, Township 32 North, Range 7 West, October 16, 1868.
7. Clear Creek Ditch and Dams- Land Survey, Same as no. 6 above; Shasta Republican, October 20, 1855, p. 2.
- *8. Richard Barney & Co. and Henry Bateman, Mining Claims- Shasta Courier, August 25, 1855, p. 2.

Bull Gulch and Vicinity

- *9. Clear Creek Ditch Co. Aqueduct- Land Survey, Same as no. 6 above; Shasta Courier, October 20, 1855, p. 2.
- *10. C. S. Snowk & Co. Dam on Clear Creek- Record Book R, p. 312, RDO, SCC.

*Located on historical base maps by approximate directions, such as "three miles west of Shasta," or according to given township's and section numbers.

- *11. John Donovan, Mining Claim, April 15, 1857- Record Book R, p. 546, RDO, SCC
- *12. Jones Kelley & Co., Mining Claim on Bull Gulch, September 23, 1860- Record Book R, p. 144, RDO, SCC.

Grizzly Gulch and Vicinity

- 13. Brown's House- Shasta Courier, August 11, 1855, p. 2.
- *14. Rich Gold Strikes, Grizzly Gulch- Shasta Courier, August 25, 1855, p. 2.
- *15. John Donovan and Jones Kelley & Co., Water Claims, Grizzly Gulch; April 15, 1857 and September 23, 1860- Record Book R, pp. 144 and 546, RDO, SCC.
- 16. George Store & Co., Water Claim, Grizzly Gulch, May 31, 1854- Record Book R, p. 263, RDO, SCC.
- *17. John Harrison & Co. Dam & Ditch Claim, September 1, 1867- Record Book S, p. 491, RDO, SCC.

Oak Bottom and Vicinity

- 18. Oak Bottom House and Grounds- Appendix B; Illustrations; Gibbes, 1875, Map of the State of California and Nevada.
- 19. Reed & Co., Oak Bottom- Court of Sessions, February 1851-February 1858, p. 25, SCC.
- *20. Wood's Ditch, September 29, 1854- Record Book E, p. 362, RDO, SCC.
- *21. Eastman & Co., Water Claim and Ditches; September 30, 1854- Record Book R, p. 295, RDO, SCC; Shasta Republican, April 12, 1856.
- *22. Franklin Company, Water Claim, New York Gulch, November 20, 1854- Record Book R, p. 314, RDO, SCC.
- *23. Boulder Creek Ranch and Ice Business; November 2, 1859- Record Book G, p. 450, RDO, SCC.
- *24. Timothy Desmond, Water Claim, Boulder Creek, February 19, 1879- Miscellaneous Record Book I, p. 459, RDO, SCC.
- *25. Dennis Desmond, Mining Ditches and Claims, Boulder Creek, June 11, 1875- Record Book G, p. 113, RDO, SCC.
- *26. Joseph Smith, Quartz Mill, Boulder Creek, July 26, 1880- Miscellaneous Record Book I, p. 573, RDO, SCC.

Whiskeytown and Vicinity

- *27. I. F. Stanley Water Claim, Dry Creek, November 14, 1859- Record Book S, p. 111, RDO, SCC.
- *28. Daniel Drussel Water and Dam Claim, Clear Creek, April 4, 1860- Record Book S, p. 123, RDO, SCC.
- *29. William Taggart, Land Claim, October 11, 1855- Record Book R, p. 428, RDO, SCC; Appendix K.
- *30. Hodes and Cooper's Dam, Clear Creek, April 4, 1860- Record Book S, p. 123, RDO, SCC.
- *31. Smith and Company, Mouth of Whisky Creek, August 1851- Court of Sessions, February 1851-February 1858, p. 26, SCC.
- 32. Whiskeytown- Appendixes C and D; Baker, 1855, Map of Mining Region of California; Milleson, 1854. An Improved Topographical Map of the Middle and Northern Mines; Goddard, 1857, Map of the State of California.
- *33. Clear Creek Ditch Company Flume- Shasta Republican, October 20, 1855, p. 2.
- *34. William & Company Ditch, February 1855- Court of Sessions, February 1851-February 1858, p. 15, SCC.
- *35. Four Mile House- Appendix F; Ross, "Whiskeytown," p. 7; Record Book R, p. 131, RDO, SCC.
- *36. Whiskey Creek Water & Mining Company, September 1, 1852- Record Book R, p. 131, RDO, SCC.
- *37. Mahoney Taylor & Company, Whiskey Creek, August 18, 1854- Record Book R, p. 280, RDO, SCC.
- *38. Harmon Meers, Water Claim, Whiskey Creek, July 13, 1880- Miscellaneous Record Book I, p. 569, RDO, SCC.
- *39. Charles Aufschneider's Mining Claim- Shasta Courier, February 6, 1869, p. 3.
- 40. Gambrinus Mine- Ferguson, "Gold Lodes," p. 50.
- *41. Caleb Wingate and Nathan Farrington Sawmill, November 17, 1852- Record Book G, pp. 424-25 and Record Book R, p. 329, RDO, SCC; Shasta Courier October 22, 1853; Shasta Republican, April 12, 1856, p. 3, and February 20, 1858, p. 2.

- *42. Empire State Ditch & Mining Company, December 8, 1856- Record Book E, p. 541, RDO, SCC.
- *43. Johnson and Bennett Ditch, Brandy Creek, January 2, 1858- Record Book G, p. 478.
- *44. Everett Crocker Sawmill, Brandy Creek, April 18, 1871- Deed Book 3, p. 492, RDO, SCC.
- *45. John Fleming's Sawmill, Brandy Creek- Shasta Courier, July 25, 1869, p. 1, and February 18, 1871; Record Book S, p. 520, RDO, SCC.
- *46. Richards and Walker Mining Claim- Shasta Courier, January 11, 1868, p. 2.
- *47. Kirkham and Company Ditch, Brandy Creek, February 4, 1854- Record Book R, p. 217, RDO, SCC.
- *48. Potter's Garden. Same as no. 47.

Dog Gulch and Vicinity

- *49. Camden, Tower, et al., Quartz Claim, July 19, 1853- Record Book R, p. 111, RDO, SCC.
- 50. J. D. Leonard & Co. Water and Dam Claim, Clear Creek, February 6, 1863- Record Book S, p. 251, RDO, SCC.
- *51. Clear Creek Ditch Company Tunnel- Shasta Republican, October 20, 1855, p. 2.

Salt and Boulder Creeks and Vicinity

- *52. Henry Boettger and Edward Viergutz, Water Claim, Boulder Creek, December 26, 1855 and October 17, 1857- Record Book S, p. 23, RDO, SCC.
- *53. Bxe and Wirae Water Ditch, Salt Creek, November 3, 1859- Record Book S, p. 110, RDO, SCC.
- *54. Raymond and Olendorf's Sawmill- Same as nos. 52 and 53.
- *55. S. V. Tripp Land Claim, January 1, 1855- Record Book R, p. 330, RDO, SCC.
- *56. James W. Corless, Water Ditch, Boulder Creek, January 22, 1861- Record Book S, p. 153, RDO, SCC.

- *57. Crocker and Leonard's Ditch- Same as no. 56.
- *58. James McKinly Crow, Water Claim, Boulder Creek, December 20, 1875-
Miscellaneous Record Book I, p. 250, RDO, SCC.
- *59. J. N. and Aron Bell and John Scott, Water Claim, Boulder Creek-
Record Book I, p. 300, RDO, SCC.

Transportation and Communication Lines

Wagon Road, Shasta to Tower House- Shasta Courier, November 18, 1853,
and March 28, 1863.

Wagon Road Tower House to Yreka- Shasta Herald, August 20, 1859.

Wagon Road, Shasta to Weaverville- Court of Sessions, February 1851-
February 1858, p. 9, SCC.

Wagon Road, Shasta to French Gulch- Court of Sessions, February 1851-
February 1858, p. 11, SCC.

Wagon Road, Four Mile House to Salt Creek- Shasta Republican, May 16,
1861, p. 2.

Crocker Sawmill Roads, Brandy Creek- Record Book 3, p. 492, RDO, SCC.

Bridges

Free Bridge, Clear Creek- Record Book A, p. 243, RDO, SCC.

Tower's Toll Bridges, Clear Creek- Court of Sessions, February 1851-
February 1858, p. 185, SCC; Shasta Courier December 3, 1853;
Shasta Republican, June 25, 1858, p. 2.

Camden's Toll Bridge, Clear Creek- Shasta Courier, September 3, 1864.

"Lower Bridge," Boulder Creek- Record Book G, p. 449, RDO, SCC.

Whisky Creek Bridge- Sacramento Union, October 19, 1857; Shasta Courier,
August 17, 1867.

Abbreviations for Documentation, Historical Base Maps 2.5

LS 1881 or 1890: Land Surveys, U.S. Surveyor General, California

M&SP: Mining and Scientific Press

E&MJ: Engineer and Mining Journal

OM 1891: Official Map of Shasta County, 1891

RM 1902: Map of Shasta County Accompanying Register of Mines, 1902

MCB 1902: Map of Shasta Copper Belt, California State Mining Bureau
Bulletin 23 (1902), opp. p. 48

DM 1904: Denny's Map of Shasta County, 1904

MSC 1905: Map of Historic Properties, in Shasta's Resources

MCMR 1908: Map of Central Mineral Region of Shasta County, 1908

MSC 1910: Map of Shasta County Showing Location of Dredging Land,
California State Mining Bureau Bulletin 57 (1910)

USGS 1912: Geologic Map of Part of Weaverville Quadrangle, 1912,
United States Geological Survey Bulletin 540

GM 1933: Gold Mines located and described by Charles V. Averill in
Averill, Report 29 "Gold Deposits" (1933)

MSC 1939: Map of Shasta County Showing Locations of Principal Mineral
Deposits Accompanying Report on Mineral Resources of Shasta County
by Charles V. Averill, "Mineral Resources" (1939)

USGS 1944: United States Geological Survey, California, French
Gulch Quadrangle, 1944

Historical Base Map 2, 1880-1896

1. Chitwood Placer (Patent April 22, 1875). OM 1891
2. Black Sentinel Quartz Mine. LS 1890; OM 1891
- *3. El Dorado and Eureka Quartz Mine. Crawford, Twelfth Report (1894), p. 247
4. Tower House. OM 1891; LS 1881 and 1890
- *5. Iron Mask Mine Mill. Crawford, Twelfth Report (1894), p. 250
- *6. Shasta Mine (Gambrinus). M&SP 47, 18 (Nov. 1883), p. 284
- *7. West End Mine. M&SP 47, 26 (Dec. 1883), p. 397; Crawford, Twelfth Report (1894), p. 260
8. Blair-Stella-Whiskeytown School. OM 1891
- *9. Bell and Woodward Mine. M&SP 47, 18 (Nov. 1883), p. 284
- *10. Red Rover Mine. M&SP 47, 18 (Nov. 1883), p. 284
- *11. Marion Mine. M&SP 47, 18 (Nov. 1883), p. 284
- *12. Dreadnaught Mine. Crawford, Twelfth Report (1894), p. 247
- *13. Phoenix Mine. M&SP 47, 18 (Nov. 1883), p. 284
- *14. Masterton Brothers Granite Quarry. Crawford, Thirteenth Report (1896), p. 623
- *15. Pugh and Lindsay Mine. Crawford, Twelfth Report (1894), p. 254
- *16. Mascot Mine. Crawford, Twelfth Report (1894), p. 252
- *17. Annie Mine. Crawford, Thirteenth Report (1896), p. 349

*Located by written description alone.

Historical Base Map 3, 1896-19141

1. Hazel Gold Mining Company Power Plant. MCMR 1908
2. Hope Mine. RM 1902. Brown, "Shasta County," Report XIV (1916), p. 790
3. Tower House. RM 1902; DM 1904; MCMR 1908
4. El Dorado Mine. Crawford, Thirteenth Report (1896), p. 355; E&MJ 87, 3 (January 1909), p. 181; E&MJ 87, p. 26 (June 1909), p. 1304; USGS 1912; Brown, "Shasta County," Report XIV (1916), p. 773
5. Brown's. DM 1904; MSC 1910; RM 1902
6. Bonanza Mine. RM 1902. Brown, "Shasta County," Report XIV (1916), p. 780
- *7. Ganim Mine. Brown, "Shasta Count," Report XIV (1916), p. 790; M&SP 106, 6 (Feb 1913), p. 257
8. Oak Bottom. MCMR 1908
9. Shasta Quartz and Placer Mining Company. MHP 1905
10. Whiskey Creek Group. MCMR 1908
11. Stella-Whiskeytown. RM 1902; DM 1904; MCMR 1908
- *12. Kanaka Mine. M&SP 77, p. 9 (July 1898), p. 9
- *13. Sulphide Copper Mine. Brown, "Shasta County," Report XIV (1916), p. 773
14. Gambrinus (Gabrinus). RM 1902; MHP 1905; USGS 1912; MCMR 1908
15. Dreadnaught. RM 1902
16. Red Cross Quartz Mine. RM 1902; MHP 1905; MCMR 1908
17. Iler. RM 1902
18. Elizabeth Con. MCB 1902
19. Toltec Group. MCMR 1908

1. For mines located on RM 1902, refer to Appendix J for descriptions of the mines and developments, and for the mine owners.

*Located by written description alone.

20. Blackbird. RM 1902
21. Unidentified. No. 94 on RM 1902
22. Happy Go Lucky. RM 1902
23. Stella Mine. RM 1902
24. Mountain Belle. RM 1902
25. New Year. RM 1902
26. Australia. RM 1902. Brown, "Shasta County," Fourteenth Report (1916), p. 779
27. Iron Clad Group. MCMR 1908
28. Sunlight. RM 1902
29. Eureka. RM 1902
30. Gold Hill. RM 1902
31. Mascot Mine. USGS 1912; Ferguson, USGS Bulletin 540 (1912), p. 49
32. Happy Jack. MCMR 1908
33. Mountain Monarch Group (copper). MCMR 1908; USGS 1912
34. Apex. RM 1902
35. Unidentified. No. 68 on RM 1902
36. Wall Street. RM 1902
37. Deer Trail. RM 1902
38. Fox. RM 1902
39. Keno. RM 1902
40. Oro Fino (three claims). RM 1902; Brown, "Shasta County," Fourteenth Report (1916), p. 796
41. Pugh and Menzell Mine and Mill. RM 1902
42. Santa Clara Mining Company. MCMR 1908
43. Unidentified. No. 34 on RM 1902
- *44. Connors Salt Creek Mine. M&SP 80, 8 (March 1900), p. 237

45. Mount Shasta Mine, Mill and Power Line. RM 1902; MCB 1902;
MCMR 1908, USGS 1912
46. Belcher. RM 1902
47. Lost Mine. RM 1902
48. Ono (three claims). RM 1902
49. Long View (two claims). RM 1902
50. Jay Bird. RM 1902
51. Unidentified. No. 41? on RM 1902
52. " No. 57 on RM 1902
53. " No. 61 on RM 1902
54. Venus. RM 1902
55. Nellie. RM 1902
56. Union Hill. RM 1902
57. Courier. RM 1902
58. White Rose. RM 1902
59. Princess Hydraulic Mining Company Ditch. RM 1902; DM 1904
60. Americas. RM 1902
61. Clear Creek. RM 1902
62. Unidentified, on RM 1902
63. Anaconda. RM 1902
64. Unidentified. RM 1902
65. " "

Note: Geographic features, roads, and trails from RM 1902 and MCMR 1908.

Historical Base Map 4, 1915-1941

1. Tower House. MSC 1939
2. El Dorado Mine. E&MJ 100, 24 (Dec. 1915), p. 987; Logan, "Mining in California," Report XXII (1926), p. 171
3. Merry Mountain Diggers. MSC 1939
4. Index Group. Tucker, "Redding, Review of Mining," Report XIX (1923), p. 57
5. Oak Bottom. See reference in #4 above
6. North Star (Prospect). MCK. Laizure, "Mining in California 1920," Report 17 (1920), p. 523
7. Ganim Mine. MSC 1939
8. Betty May. GM 1933; Averill, "Gold Deposits," Report 29 (1933), p. 11
9. Isabel and Queen. GM 1933; Averill, "Gold Deposits," Report 29 (1933), p. 31-2
10. Vergnes Property. GM 1933; Averill, "Gold Deposits," Report 29 (1933), p. 72-73
11. Mad Dog Prospect. GM 1933; Averill, "Gold Deposits," Report 29 (1933), p. 35
12. Desmond Mine. MSC 1939; Averill, "Gold Deposits," Report 29 (1933), p. 135
13. Gambrinus. GM 1933
14. Phoenix Mine. MSC 1939; Averill, "Mineral Resources," Thirty-Fifth Report (1939), p. 148
- *15. West End Quartz Mine. Logan, "Sacramento Field Div." Report XXII (1926), p. 180
16. Whiskeytown-Schilling. GM 1933; MSC 1934

Located by written description alone.

17. Kanaka Prospect. GM 1933; Averill, "Gold Deposits," Report 29 (1933), p. 33
18. Happy Jack. GM 1933; Averill, "Gold Deposits," Report 29 (1933), p. 31
- *19. Baker Placer Mine. Averill, "Gold Dredging," Report XXXIV (1938), p. 114
20. Clear Creek Placer. GM 1933
- *21. Shasta View Mine. E&MJ 120, 7 (1925), p. 263; Averill, "Gold Deposits," Report 29 (1933), p. 48
22. Porcupine Mining Co. GM 1933; Averill, "Gold Deposits," Report 29 (1933), p. 44
- *23. Gladys Mine. Mck. Laizure, "Mining in California, 1920," Report XVII (1920), p. 521
24. Oro Fino. GM 1933; Averill, "Gold Deposits," Report 29 (1933), p. 42
25. Mount Shasta. GM 1933; Averill, "Gold Deposits," Report 29 (1933), p. 38
- *26. Draft Dodgers Cabin. Interview, Robert Grom, WNRA, 10/14/74 (Reportedly built during World War I).
27. Hall Brothers Mine. MSC 1939

Note: Geographic features and roads based on MSC 1939.

Historical Base Map 5, 1941-1960

1. Tower House. USGS 1944
2. Bickford Mine. Interview, Bickford.
- *3. Tripp (Scott) Placer. Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, p. 131
4. Hammer Placer. O'Brien, "Mining in Redding, Dist.," Mines and Geology 44 (1948), p. 358
5. Oak Bottom dredge. Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, p. 130
6. Ganim Mine. USGS 1944
7. Whiskeytown. USGS 1944
- *8. West End (Spanish). Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, p. 127
- *9. B. H. K. Mining Company. Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, pp. 57-58
10. Mount Shasta. USGS 1944
- *11. Peltiers Camp. Interview, Mrs. Clinton Peltiers, 10/14/74
- *12. Elizabeth. Lydon and O'Brien, Mines and Mineral Resources, p. 115
13. Sunshine Mine. USGS 1944
14. Desmond Mine. USGS 1944

Located by written description alone.

HISTORICAL BASE MAPS

Historical Base Map 1, 1850-1880

1. Chitwood Placer
2. Tower House
3. Camden House
4. Camden Sawmill and Dam
5. Camden Ditch and Toll Road
6. H. Jackson's House
7. Clear Creek Ditch and Dam
8. Barney and Bateman, Mining Claim
9. Clear Creek Ditch Co. Aqueduct
10. Snowck Dam
11. Donovan Mining Claim
12. Kelly Mining Claim
13. Brown's at Grizzly Gulch
14. Rich Gold Strikes, Grizzly Gulch
15. Donovan and Kelly Water Claims
16. Store & Company, Water Claim
17. Harrison & Co. Dam and Ditch
18. Oak Bottom House
19. Reed & Co., Oak Bottom
20. Wood's Ditch
21. Eastman & Co. Water Claim & Ditches
22. Franklin Company Water Claim
23. Boulder Creek Ranch
24. Desmond Water Claim
25. Desmond Mining Ditches and Claims
26. Smith Quartz Mill
27. Stanley Water Claim
28. Drussel Water and Dam Claim
29. Taggart Land Claim
30. Smith and Company
31. Hodes and Cooper Dam
32. Whiskeytown
33. Clear Creek Ditch Company Flume
34. William & Company Ditch
35. Four Mile House
36. Whiskey Creek Water and Mining Co.
37. Mahoney Taylor & Co.
38. Meers Water Claim
39. Aufschneider Mining Claim
40. Gambrinus Mine
41. Wingate and Farrington Sawmill
42. Empire State Ditch & Mining Company

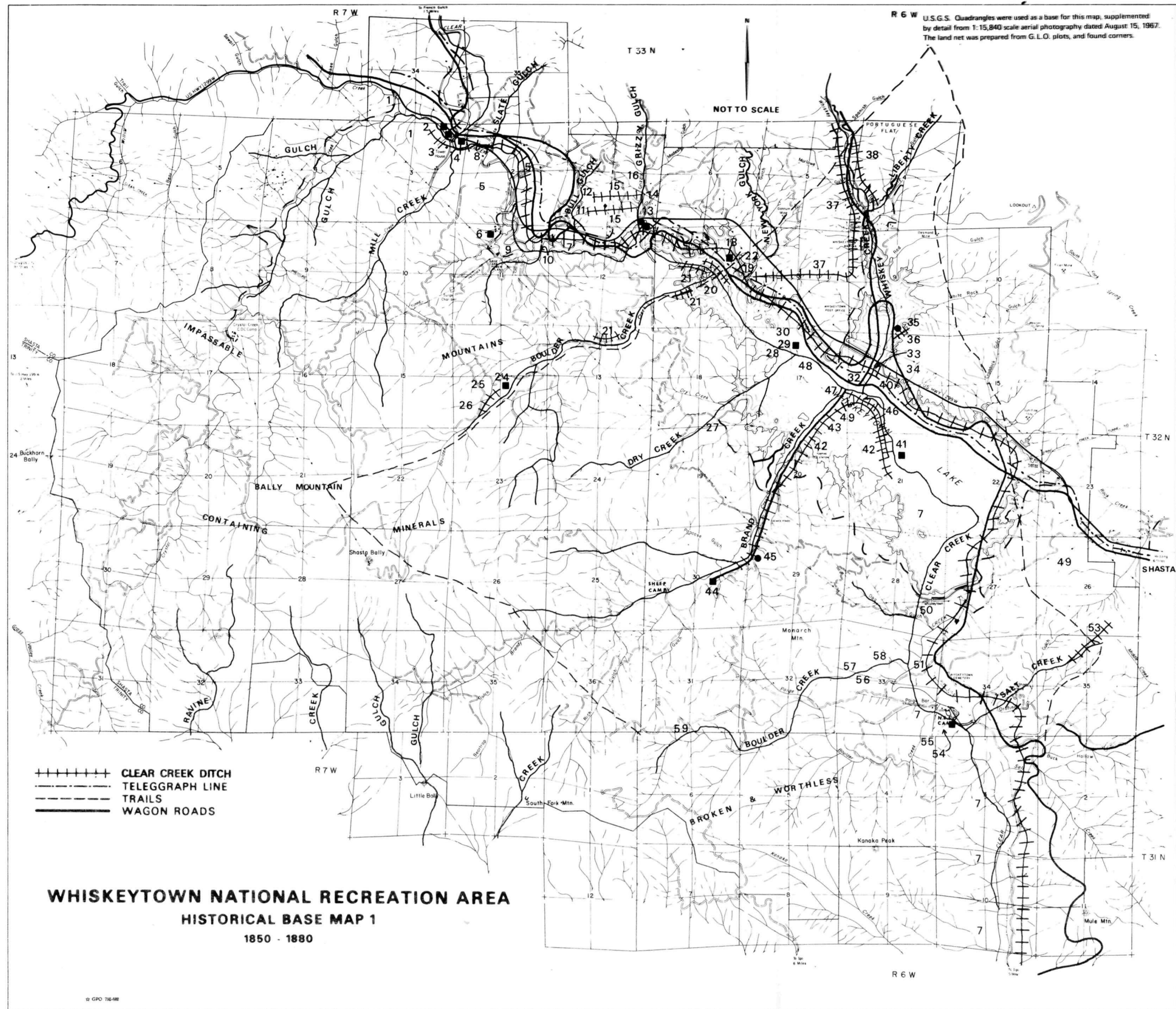
43. Johnson and Bennett Ditch
44. Crocker Sawmill
45. Fleming Sawmill
46. Richards and Walker Mining Company
47. Kirkham and Company Ditch
48. Potter's Garden
49. Tower, Camden et al., Quartz Claim
50. Leonard & Co. Water and Dam Claim
51. Clear Creek Ditch Co. Tunnel
52. Boettger and Viergutz Water Claim
53. Bxe and Wirse Water Ditch
54. Raymond and Olendorf Sawmill
55. Tripp Land Claim
56. Corless Water Ditch
57. Crocker and Leonard's Ditch
58. Crow Water Claim
59. Bell and Scott Water Claim

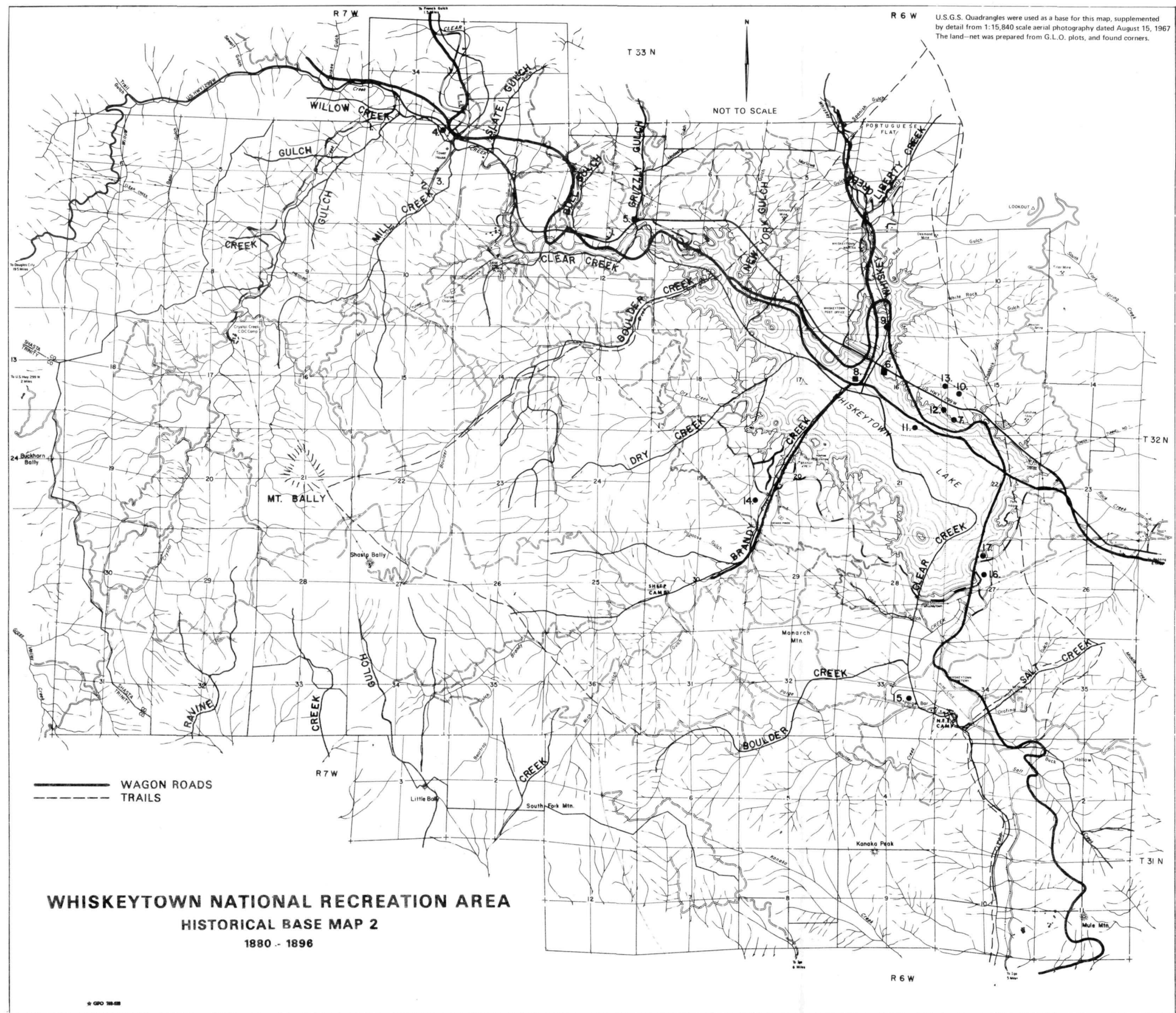
Notes:

Geographic features and most historic features in T32N., R7W and T31N., R6W have been taken from Land Surveys of the U.S. Surveyor General's Office, 1868-1881.

Geographic features, roads, and trails for T32N., R6W based on Brigg's & Company's Official Map of Shasta County, 1891. (OM 1891)

Bridges and telegraph lines are conjectural in location but based on contemporary references.





Historical Base Map 2, 1880-1896

1. Chitwood Placer
2. Black Sentinel Quartz Mine
3. El Dorado and Eureka
4. Tower House
- *5. Iron Mask Mine Mill
- *6. Shasta Mine (Gambrinus)
- *7. West End Mine
8. Blair-Stella-Whiskeytown School
- *9. Bell and Woodward Mine
- *10. Red Rover Mine
- *11. Marion Mine
- *12. Dreadnaught Mine
- *13. Phoenix Mine
- *14. Masterton Granite Quarry
- *15. Pugh and Lindsay Mine
- *16. Mascot Mine
- *17. Annie Mine

Note: Geographic features, roads, and trails based on OM 1891

*Located by written description alone.

Historical Base Map 3, 1896-1914

1. Hazel Gold Mining Company Power Plant and Power Line
2. Hope Mine
3. Tower House
4. El Dorado Mine
5. Brown's
6. Bonanza Mine
- *7. Ganim Mine
8. Oak Bottom
9. Shasta Quartz and Placer Mining Company
10. Whiskey Creek Group
11. Stella-Whiskeytown
- *12. Kanaka Mine
- *13. Sulphide Mine (copper)
14. Gambrinus (Gabrinas) Mine
15. Dreadnaught Mine
16. Red Cross Mine Quartz Mine
17. Iler Mine
18. Elizabeth Con Mine
19. Toltec Group Mine
20. Blackbird Mine
21. Unidentified
22. Happy Go Lucky Mine
23. Stella Mine
24. Mountain Belle Mine
25. New Year Mine
26. Australia Mine
27. Iron Clad Group Mine
28. Sunlight Mine
29. Eureka Mine
30. Gold Hill Mine
31. Mascot Mine
32. Happy Jack Mine
33. Mountain Monarch Mine
34. Apex Mine
35. Unidentified
36. Wall Street Mine
37. Deer Trail Mine
38. Fox Mine
39. Keno Mine
40. Oro Fino Mine
41. Pugh and Menzell Mine and Mill
42. Santa Clara Mining Company
43. Unidentified
- *44. Connors Salt Creek Mine

*Located by written description alone.

45. Mount Shasta Mine and Power Line
46. Belcher Mine
47. Lost Mine
48. Ono Mine
49. Long View Mine
50. Jay Bird Mine
51. Unidentified
52. "
53. "
54. Venus Mine
55. Nellie Mine
56. Union Hill Mine
57. Courier Mine
58. White Rose Mine
59. Princess Hydraulic Mining Company Ditch
60. Americus Mine
61. Clear Creek Mine
62. Unidentified
63. Anaconda Mine
64. Unidentified
65. "

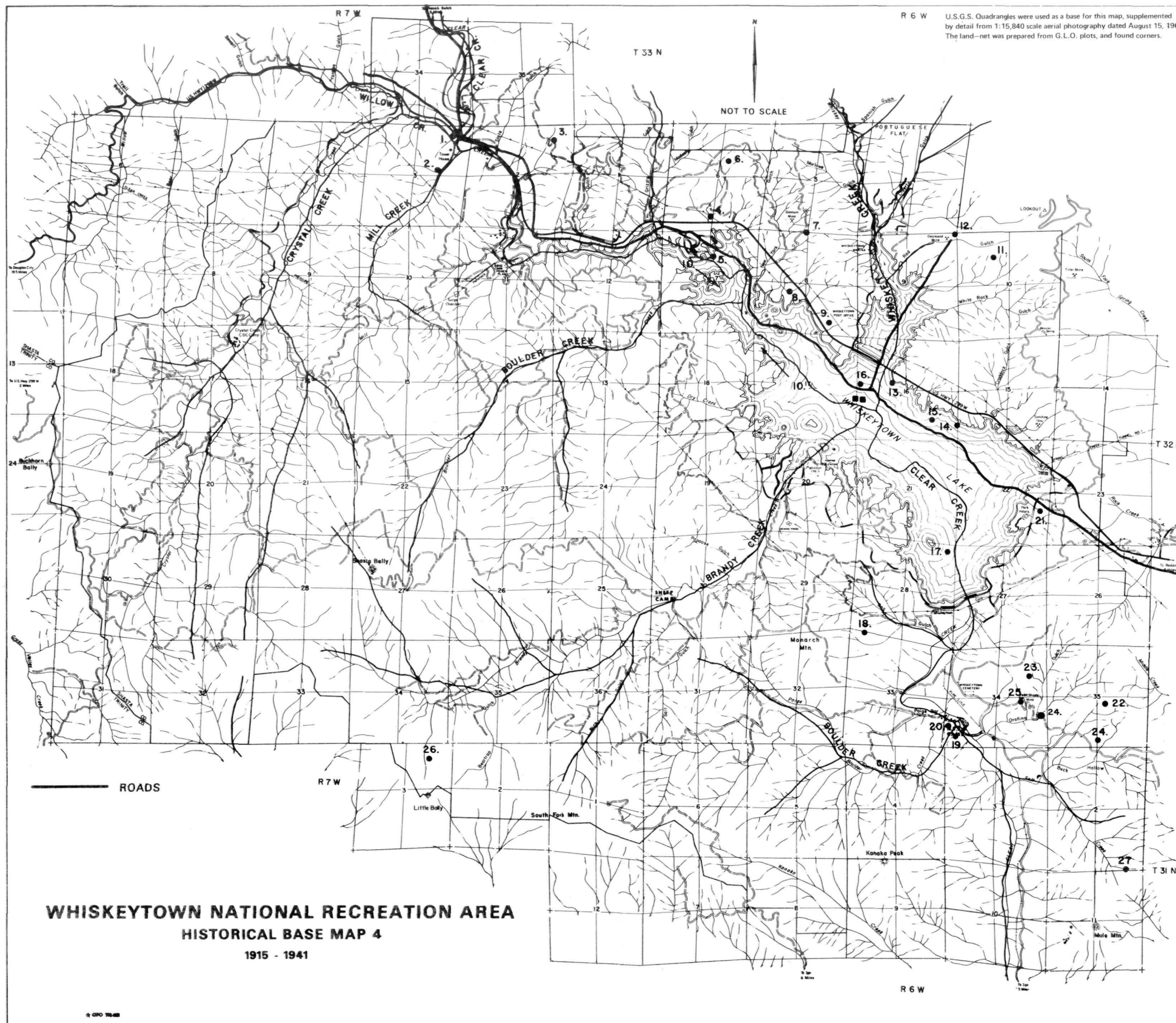
Note: Geographic features, roads, and trails based on RM 1902 and MCMR 1908.

U.S.G.S. Quadrangles were used as a base for this map, supplemented by detail from 1:15,840 scale aerial photography dated August 15, 1967. The land-net was prepared from G.I.O. plots, and found corners.

NOT TO SCALE

- POWER LINES
- WAGON ROADS
- TRAILS
- FLUMES OR DITCHES

WHISKEYTOWN NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
HISTORICAL BASE MAP 3
1896 - 1914

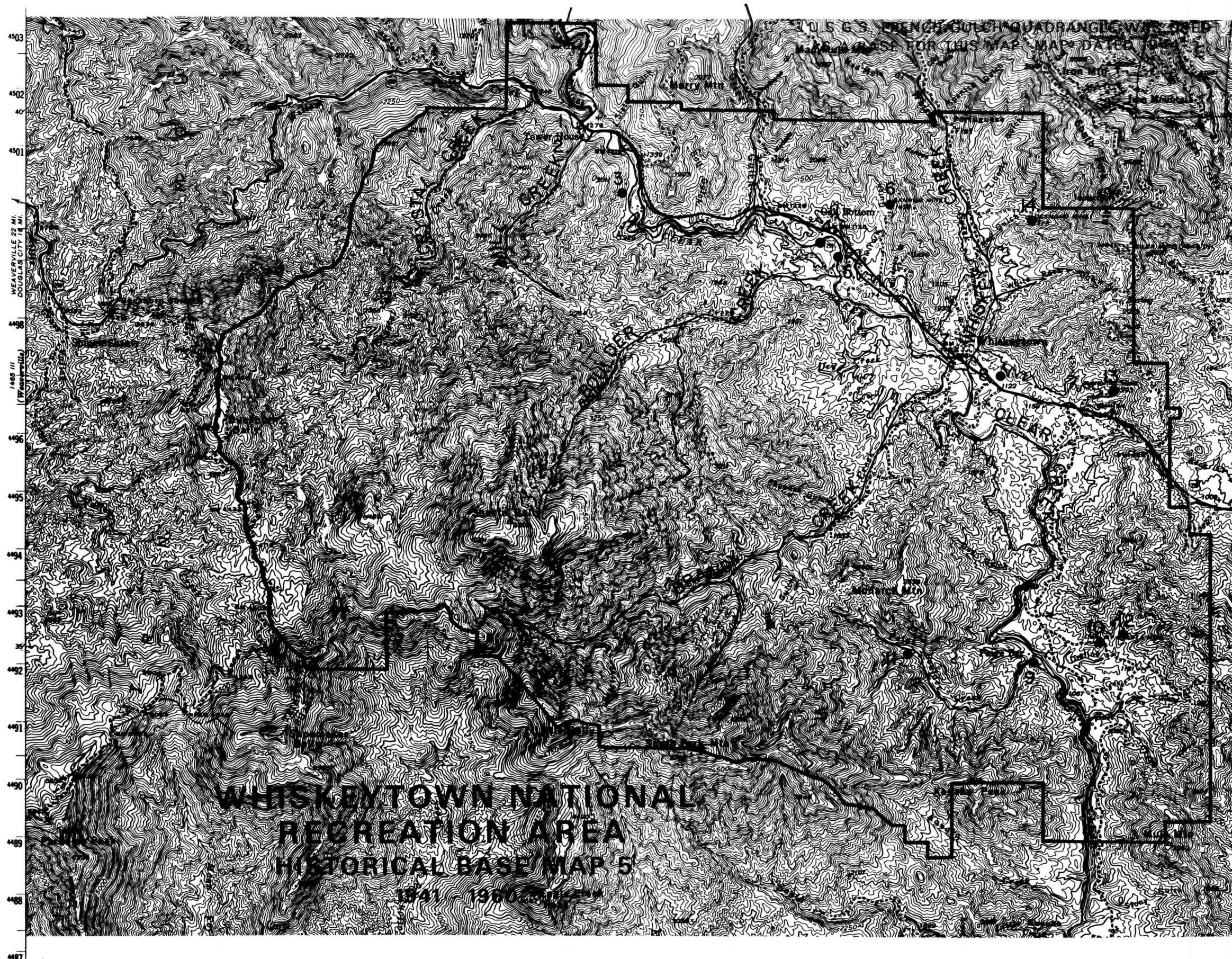


Historical Base Map 4, 1915-1941

1. Tower House
2. El Dorado
3. Merry Mountain Diggers Mine
- *4. Index Group Mine
5. Oak Bottom
- *6. North Star Prospect
7. Ganim Mine
8. Betty May Mine
9. Isabel and Queen Mine
10. Vergnes Property
11. Mad Dog Prospect
12. Desmond Mine
13. Gambrinus Mine
14. Phoenix Mine
- *15. West End Quartz Mine
16. Whiskeytown-Schilling
17. Kanaka Prospect
18. Happy Jack Mine
19. Baker Placer
20. Clear Creek Placer
21. Shasta View Mine
22. Porcupine Mining Company
23. Gladys Mine
24. Oro Fino Mine
25. Mount Shasta Mine
- *26. Draft Dodgers Cabin
27. Hall Brothers Mine

Note: Geographic features and roads based on MSC 1939.

*Located by written description alone.



Historical Base Map 5, 1941-1960

1. Tower House
2. Bickford Mine (El Dorado)
- *3. Tripp (Scott) Placer
- *4. Hammer Placer
- *5. Oak Bottom Dredge
6. Ganim Mine
7. Whiskeytown
- *8. West End (Spanish) Mine
- *9. B.H.K. Mining Company
10. Mount Shasta Mine
- *11. Peltiers Camp
- *12. Elizabeth Mine
13. Sunshine Mine
14. Desmond Mine

*Located by written description alone.

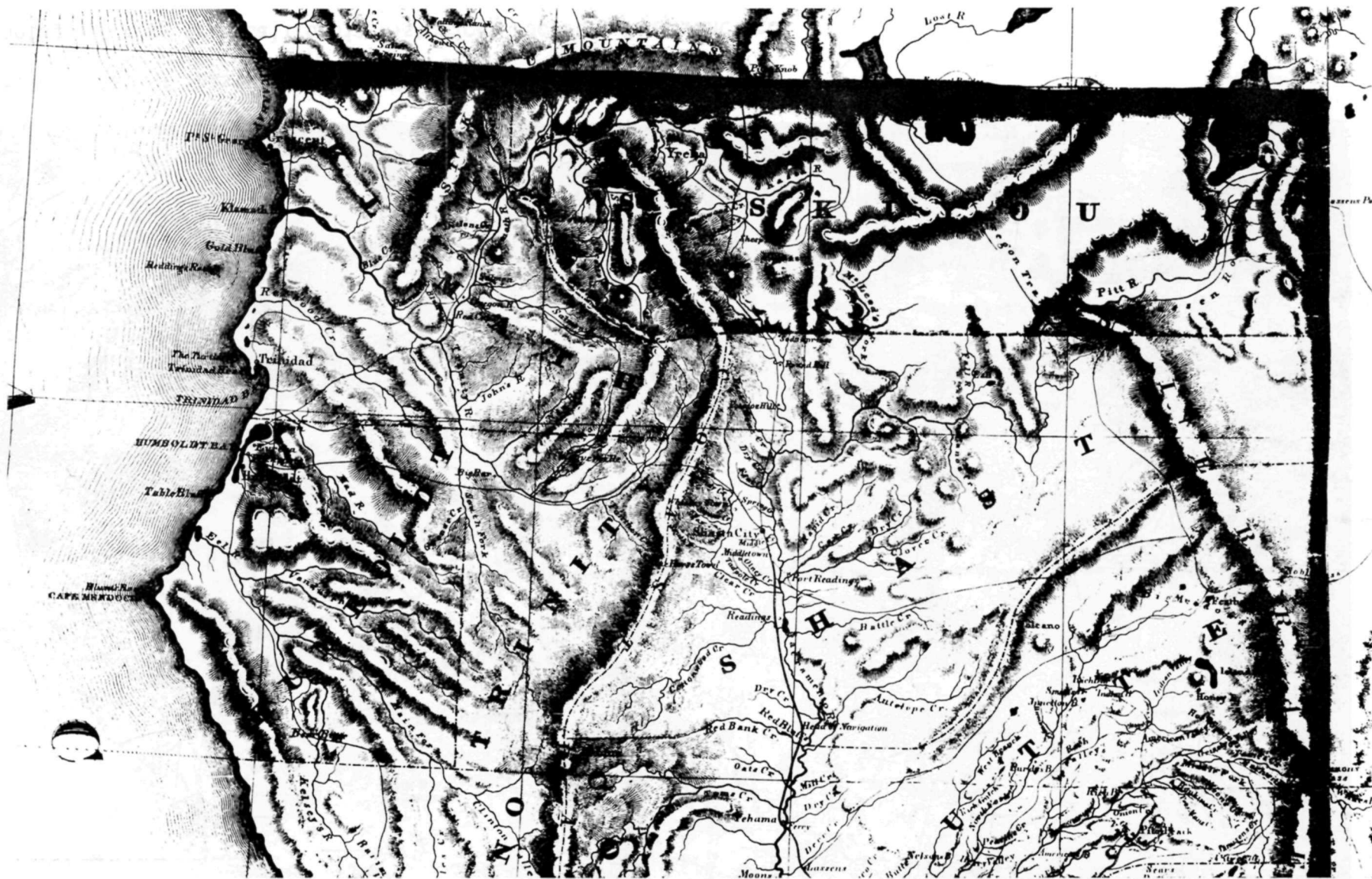
ILLUSTRATIONS

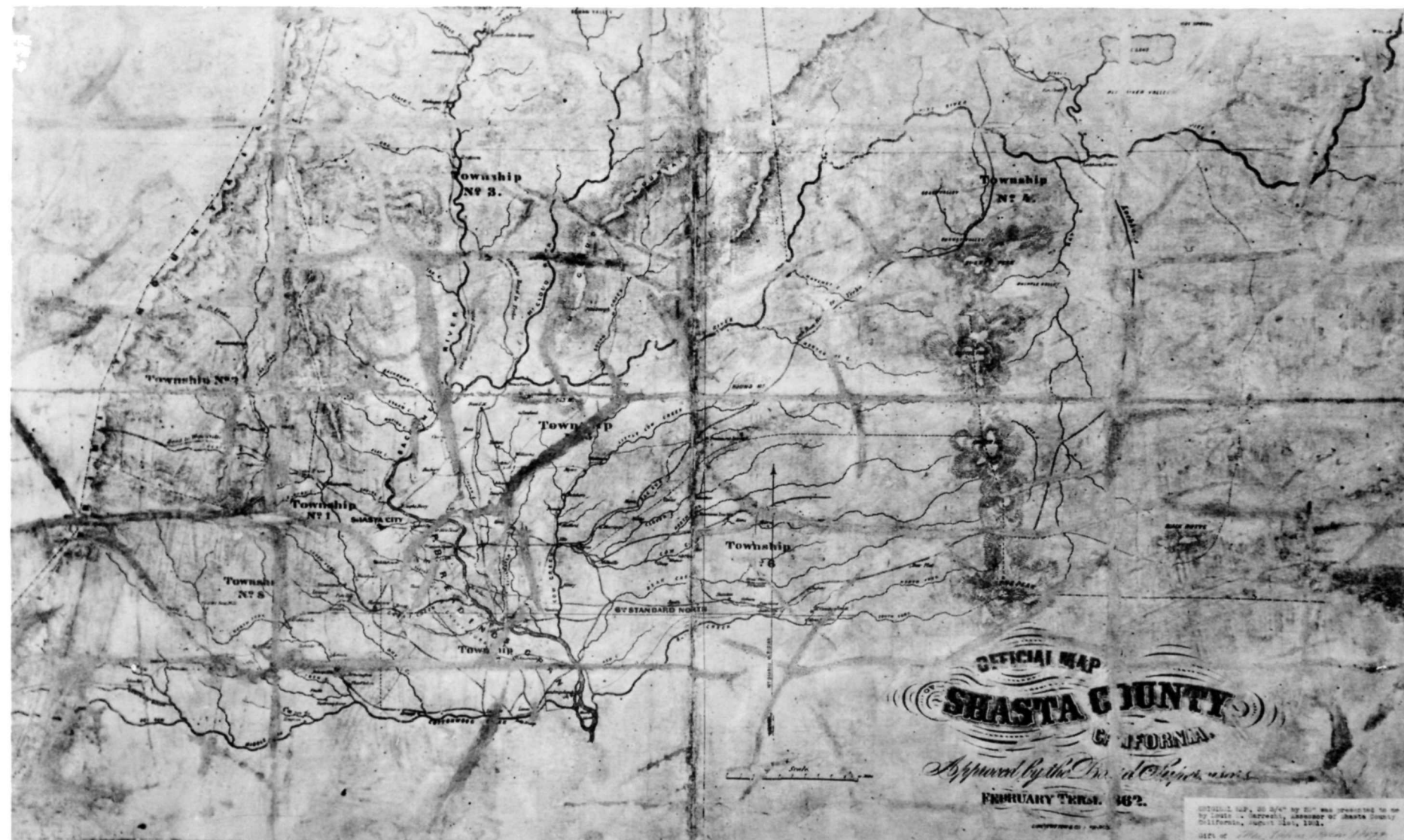
1. Shasta County Portion, Official Map of California, 1853
2. Official Map of Shasta County, California, 1862
3. Map of Township 33 North, Range 7W, 1868-1881
4. Map of Township 33 North, Range 7W, 1868-1881
5. Map of Township 32 North, Range 7W, 1868
6. Map of Township 32 North, Range 7W, 1868-1881
7. Map of Township 31 North, Range 7W, 1881-1882
8. Map of Township 31 North, Range 6W, 1856-1875
9. Map of Township 32 North, Range 7W, 1874 and 1890
10. Whiskeytown from Northeast (?), ca. 1913-1914
11. Whiskeytown Old Store, no date
12. Oak Bottom House, ca. 1913-14
13. Description and Sketch of a Five-Stamp Quartz Mill
14. Site of Whiskeytown, 1974
15. Shasta Bally and Site of Oak Bottom, 1974
16. Ganim Mine, 1974
17. Whiskeytown Lake from Ganim Mine, 1974
18. Main Tunnel, Ganim Mine, 1974
19. Secondary Tunnel, Ganim Mine, 1974
20. Structural and Mining Equipment Remains, Desmond Mine, 1974
21. Mining Equipment, Desmond Mine, 1974
22. Concrete Water Reservoir, Sunshine Mine, 1974
23. Concrete Water Reservoir, Sunshine Mine, 1974

1. Shasta County Portion of Sheet #1, Official Map of California, 1853.

This map was approved and declared to be the official map of the state of California by an act of the legislature passed March 25, 1853. Note Shasta City, Whiskey Town, Brandy and Clear creeks, and the trail joining Shasta with Weaverville. The fact that the trail does not run through Whiskey Town typifies the numerous inaccuracies of the early maps of the West.

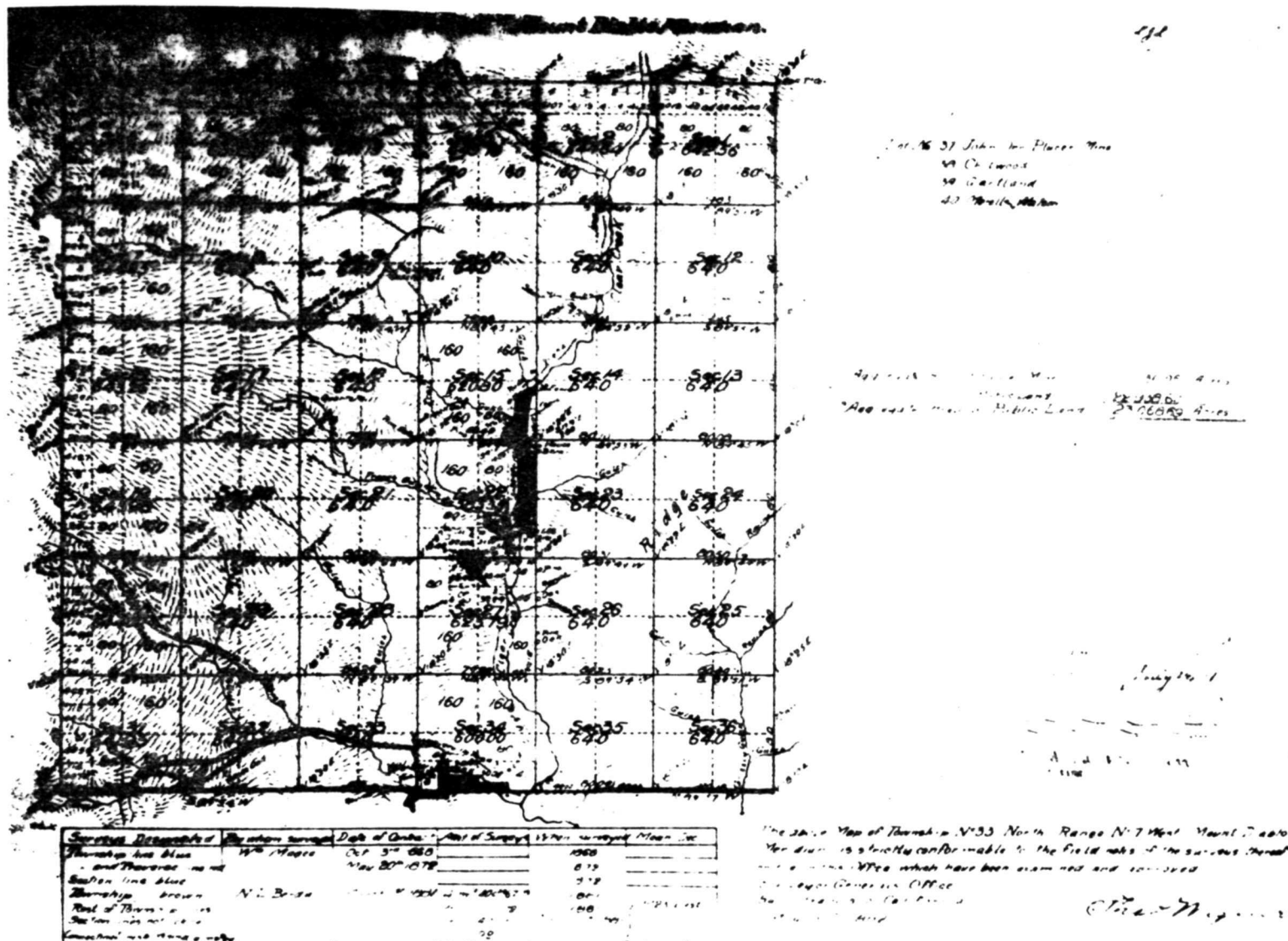
Compiled by W. M. Eddy, State Surveyor General. New York: J. H. Colton, 1854. Photostat copy of this map section provided by California State Library, Sacramento.





2. Official Map of Shasta County, 1862.

Photograph copy from California Historical Society, San Francisco.

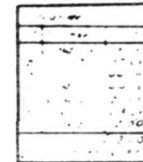
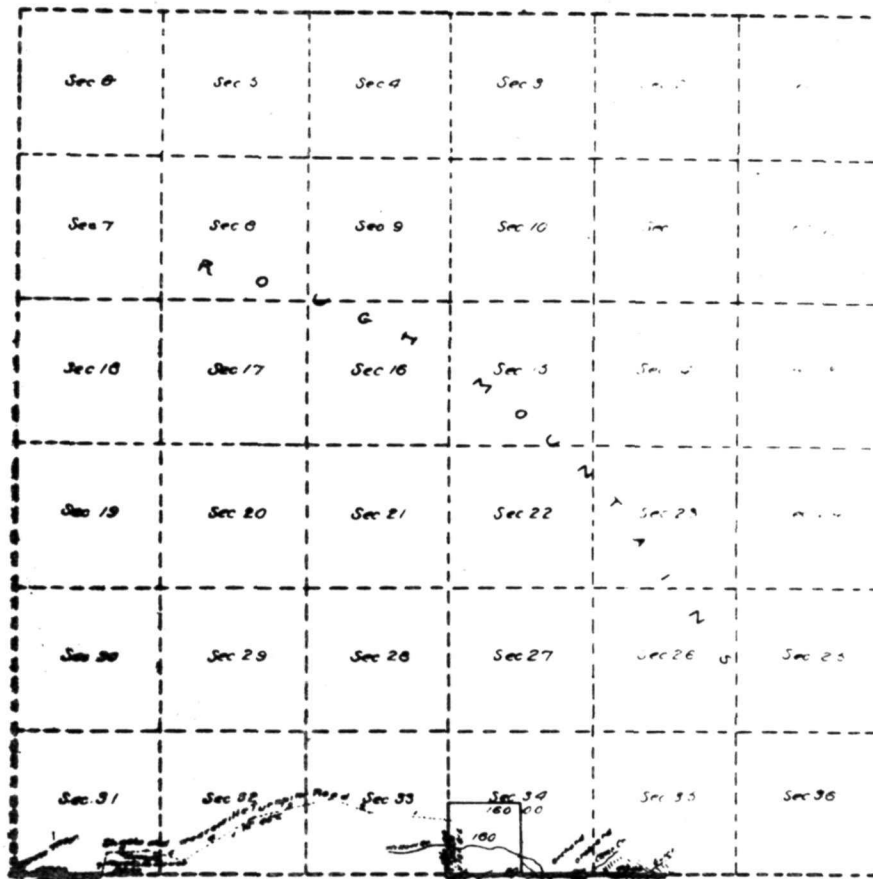


3. Map of Township 33 North, Range 7 West, M. D. M., 1868-1881.

Note location of roads and Chitwood Placer Mine.

Photocopy from Bancroft Library, University of California at Berkeley.

T33N R7W MD



Scale 1 inch = 1 mile
 60,000 feet
 22,000 feet
 22,000 feet

Original Section	Original Surveyor	Date of Conveyance	Amount of Survey	When Surveyed
Original Section	William H. Hays	October 3 rd 1866	0 mi 2700 ft 00 in	1866
Original Section	"	May 20 th 1872	0 - 60 - 00	1872
Original Section	"	"	2 - 68 - 00	May 20 th 1872

This map of Township N° 33 North, Range N° 7 West, Mount Diablo Meridian is a copy of the original map of the Surveyor General, showing an area of 3600 acres, which was surveyed and returned to the Surveyor General's Office, San Francisco, California, June 20th 1872.

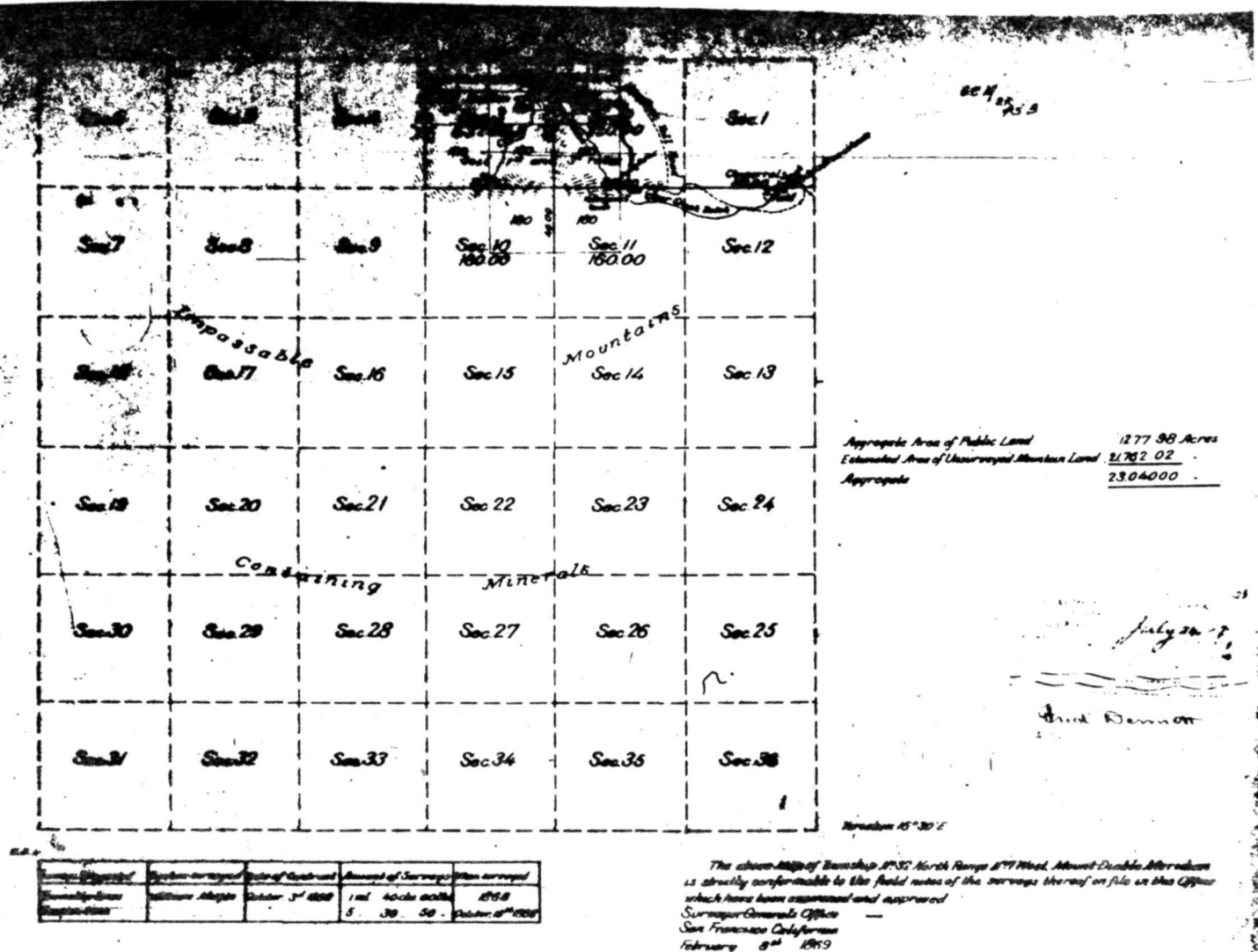
4. Map of Township 33 North, Range 7 West, M. D. M., 1866-1872.

J. R. Hordenbough
 Surveyor Cal

Note Camden's Ditch and Tower House orchards marked near the township's southern boundary.

Photocopy from Bancroft Library, University of California at Berkeley.

T33N R7W



5. Map of Township 32 North, Range 7 West, M. D. M., 1868.

Note location of Tower House, Camden's Ditch, Clear Creek Ditch, orchards, Camden's Toll Road, and Madam Brown's.

Photocopy from Bancroft Library, University of California at Berkeley.

T32NR7W

120



Public Land conveyed by W. H. Hayes	197.86	Acre
" " " " N. L. Burdick	21,097.60	
<u>Aggregate</u>	<u>22,295.46</u>	<u>Acre</u>
Ratio of Mining Claims	59.72	
<u>Aggregate</u>	<u>22,947.36</u>	

Aug 20 7

St. Paul W. ...

Overlays: <i>Reorganized</i>	<i>Spent on overlays</i>	<i>State of New York</i>	<i>Amount of change</i>	<i>N. Y. Surveys</i>	<i>Other Surveys</i>
<i>Re-Mapping of N.Y. and N.J. lines</i>	<i>200,000</i>	<i>March 1st 1900</i>		<i>1000</i>	
<i>Re-Mapping of N.Y. and N.J. lines</i>				<i>1000</i>	
<i>Re-Mapping of N.Y. and N.J. lines</i>		<i>March 1st 1900</i>		<i>1000</i>	
<i>Re-Mapping of N.Y. and N.J. lines</i>	<i>A. J. Stevens</i>	<i>March 1st 1900</i>		<i>1000</i>	
<i>Re-Mapping of N.Y. and N.J. lines</i>			<i>And N.Y. lines</i>		
<i>Re-Mapping of N.Y. and N.J. lines</i>			<i>60. 00. 25.</i>		
<i>Re-Mapping of N.Y. and N.J. lines</i>			<i>0. 0. 25.</i>		
<i>Re-Mapping of N.Y. and N.J. lines</i>			<i>0. 00. 00.</i>		

The above Map of Township N 33 North, Range N 17 West, Mount Diablo Meridian is hereby confirmed with this Plat of the Survey hereon set in this Office, which has been examined and approved
Surveyor General's Office,
San Francisco, California
April 24 1882

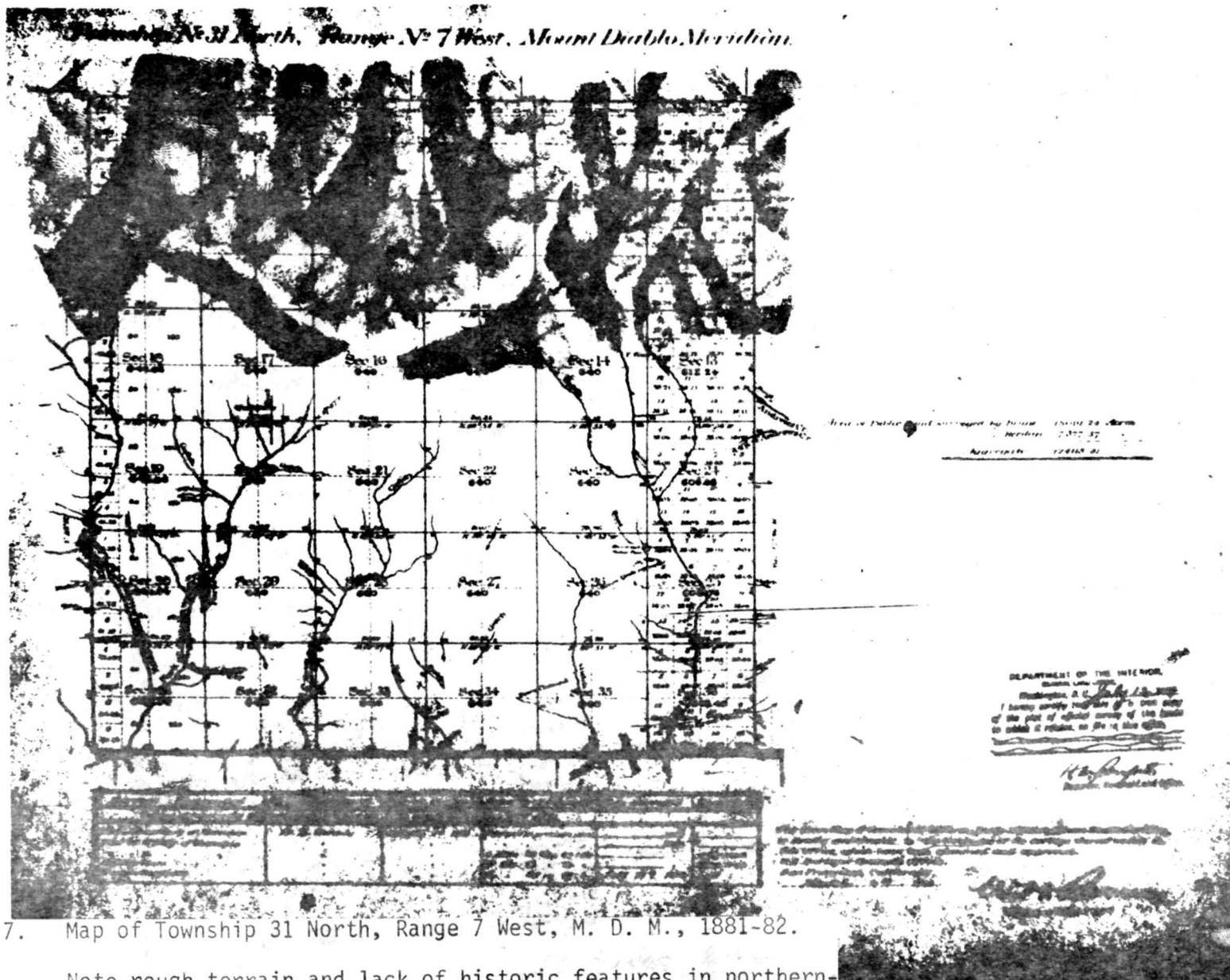
Thos. Wagoner

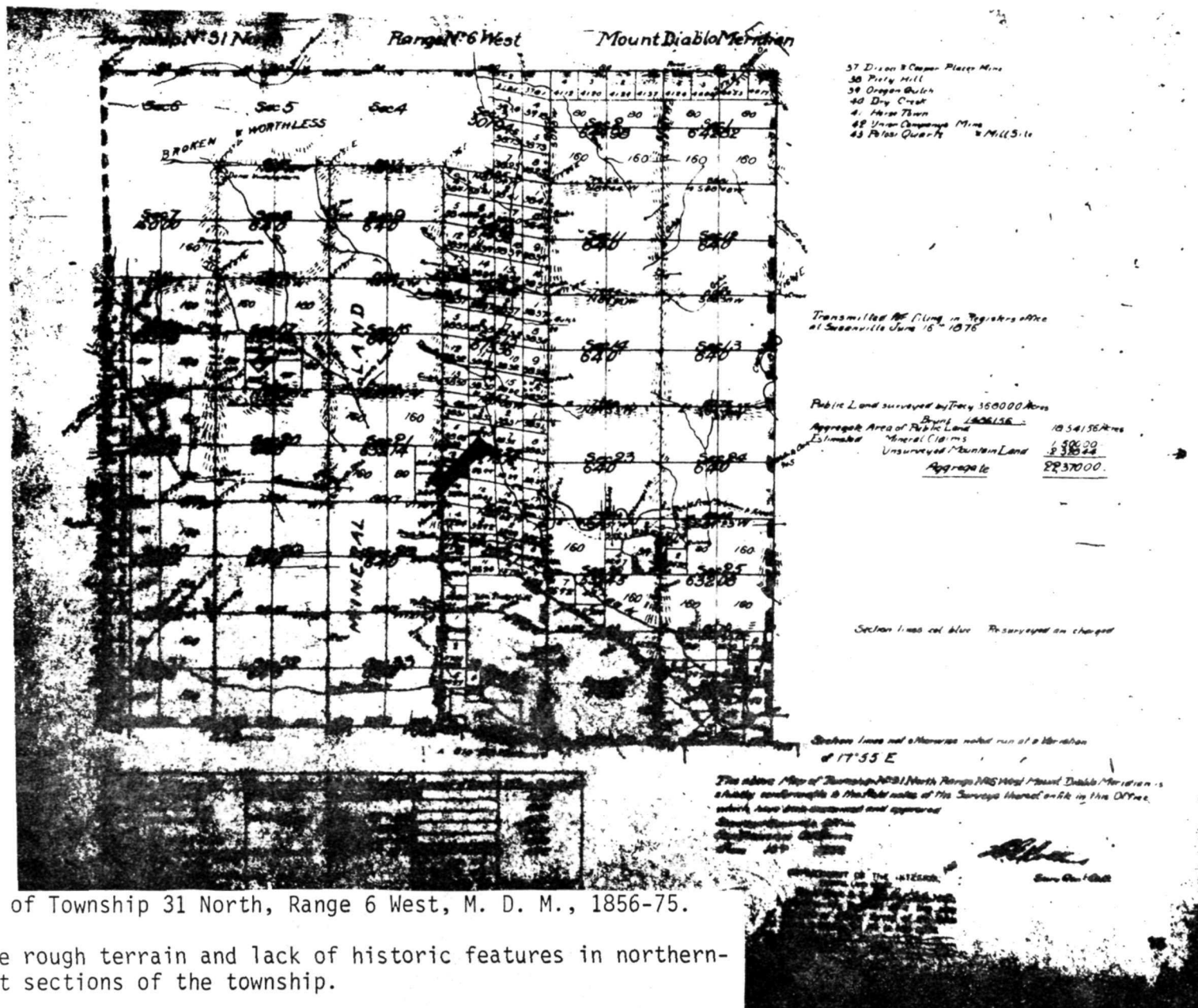
E. S. Sauer, Gen. Mgr.

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T32N R7W MD

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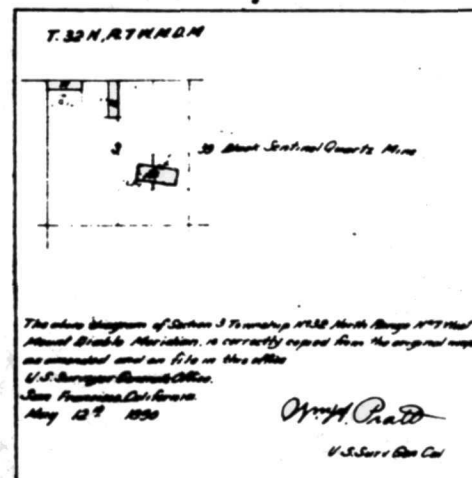
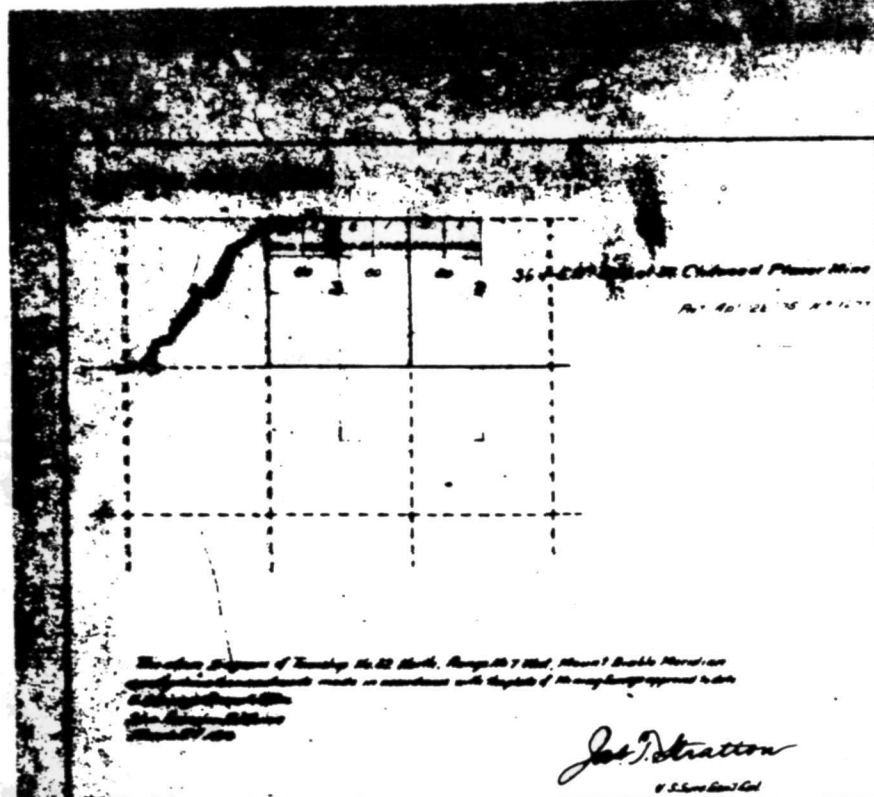




8. Map of Township 31 North, Range 6 West, M. D. M., 1856-75.

Note rough terrain and lack of historic features in northernmost sections of the township.

Photocopy from Bancroft Library, University of California at Berkeley.



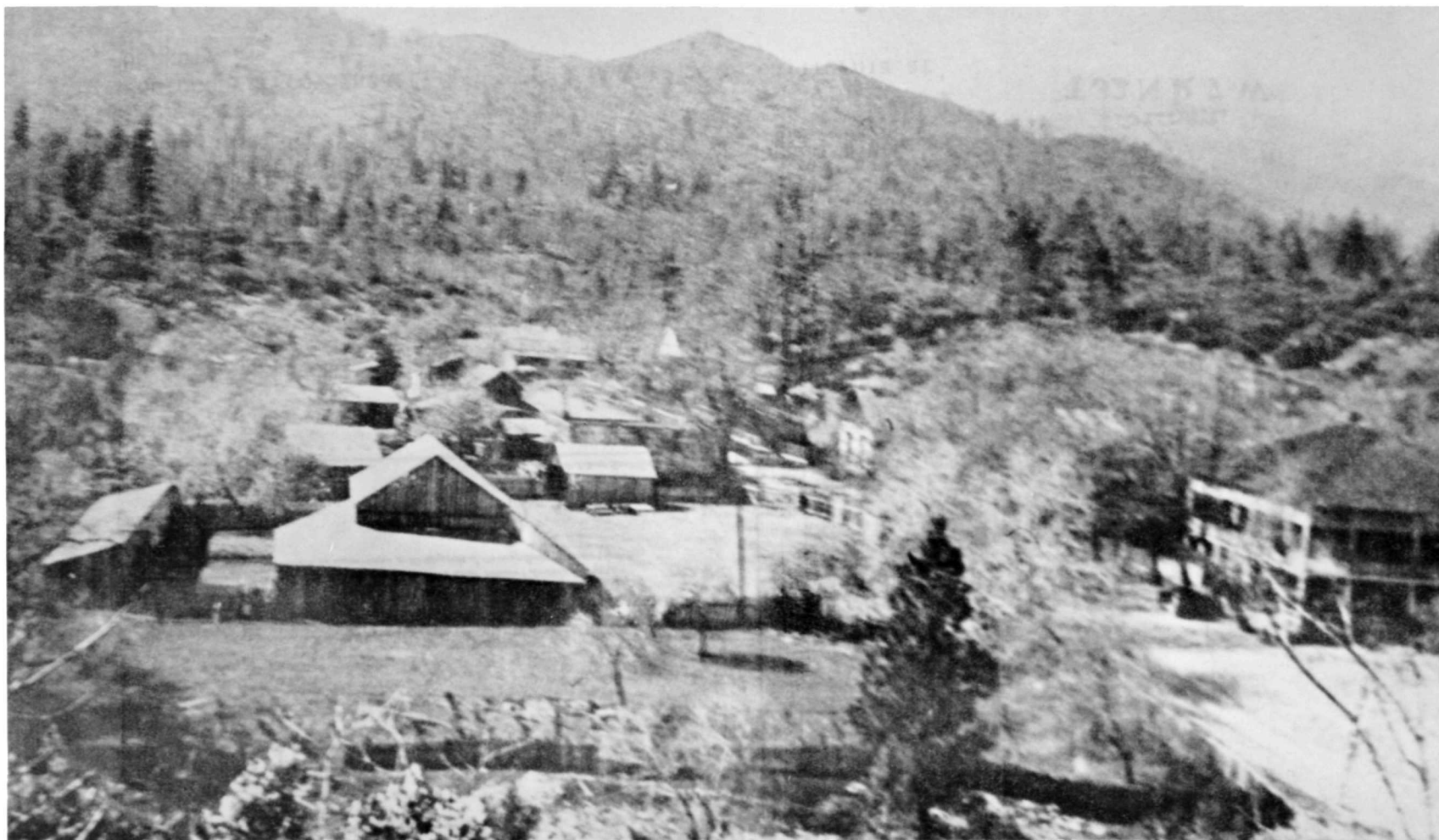
9. Map of Township 32 North, Range 7 West, 1874 and 1890, including Chitwood Placer and Black Sentinel quartz mines.

Note location of Black Sentinel is same as El Dorado mine, opened in 1894.

Photocopy from Bancroft Library, University of California at Berkely.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Washington, D. C. July 29, 1894
Having verified the correctness of the survey of the property of official survey of the same in which it appears as per this report.

T 32 N R 7 W



10. Whiskeytown from Northeast (?), ca. 1913-14.

Note Whiskeytown Hotel on right-hand side. The barn and corral opposite the hotel no doubt belonged to the hotel owner. This photograph was originally in the collection of Elta Proebstel, who worked in Whiskeytown as a schoolteacher in 1913-14.

Photocopy from Proebstel Collection, Shasta College Museum, Redding, California.



11. Whiskeytown Old Store, no date.

This may have been the remains of W. H. Gooch's store, or of L. William's blacksmith shop.

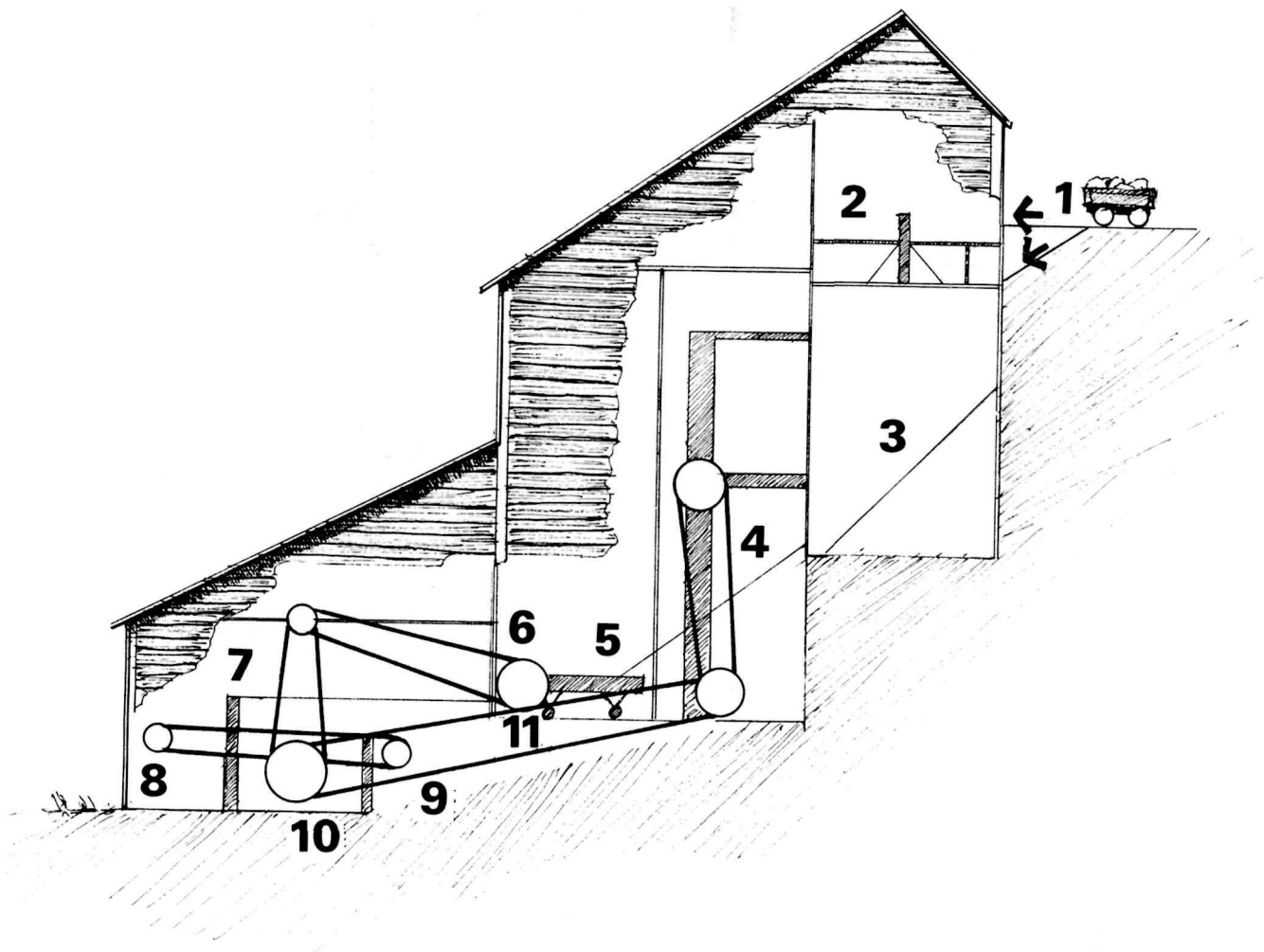
Photocopy from California Historical Society, San Francisco.



12. Oak Bottom House, ca. 1913-14.

Note the continuation of the second-story balcony around the eastern side of the structure. Compare with similar features at Tower House and Whiskeytown.

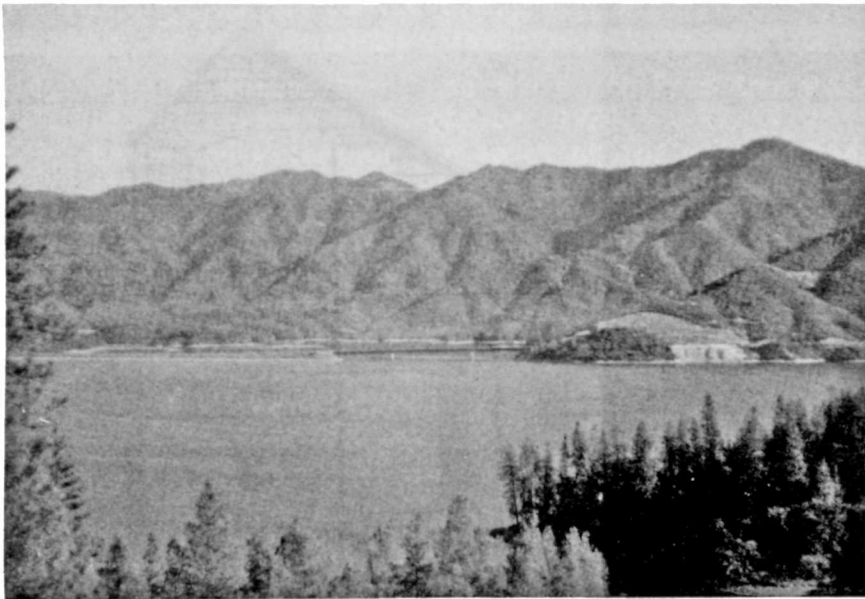
Photocopy from Proebstel Collection, Shasta College Museum, Redding, California.



13. Description and Sketch of a Model of a Five-Stamp Quartz Mill (model built by Union Iron Works Co., San Francisco, and displayed in the California Division of Mines Library, Ferry Building, San Francisco).

"The course of the ore, as indicated by the line of arrows, begins where it is dumped from the mine car upon the GRIZZLY (1). The fine ore falls through and slides into the ORE BIN (3), while the large pieces slide down to the platform and are fed into the CRUSHER (2), from which it falls into the BIN (3). From the Bin the ore goes to the FEEDER AND STAMPS (4). Part of the gold is amalgamated in the stamps. The crushed material passes out over the COPPER APRON TABLE (5) to which the amalgam adheres. Upon passing from the apron the pulp drops into the AMALGAM TRAP (11), from which an iron pipe conveys it to the CONCENTRATING TABLE (7), which separates the heavy materials, such as sulphides, from worthless tailings. The concentrates are caught at the TANK (8), while the tailings pass off over the lower end of the TABLE (9) the CLEAN UP BARREL (6) is used to separate amalgam from the crushed pulp collected in the mortar. MOTOR (10)."

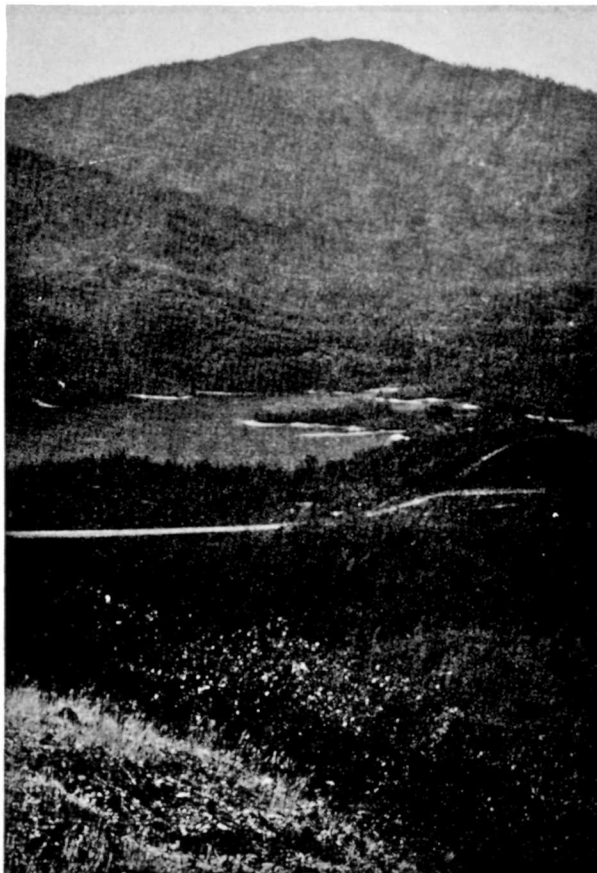
Sketch courtesy of James Harvey. Recopied by Mike Hart, Graphics Division, Denver Service Center, National Park Service.



14. Site of Whiskeytown, Looking North From South Shore of Whiskeytown Lake, October 1974.

Below the waters of the lake, on the western end of the Whiskey Creek Bridge, stood Whiskeytown.

Photo by James Harvey, October, 1974.



15. Shasta Bally and Site of Oak Bottom, From Hilltop North of Highway 299.

Below the waters of the lake, Oak Bottom House and grounds stood near the cove shown on the right-hand end of the lake.



16. Ganim Mine, on Hillside North of Highway 299.

Trace of the mine can be seen in the center of the photograph. Photo taken from roadside.

Photo by James Harvey, October 1974.



17. Whiskeytown Lake, from Ganim Mine.

Photo by James Harvey, October 1974.



18. Main Tunnel, Ganim Mine.

Note pool of water, indicating flooding of the mine shaft.

Photo by Anna Coxe Toogood, October 1974.



19. Secondary Tunnel, Ganim Mine.

Note rock tailings along gulch.

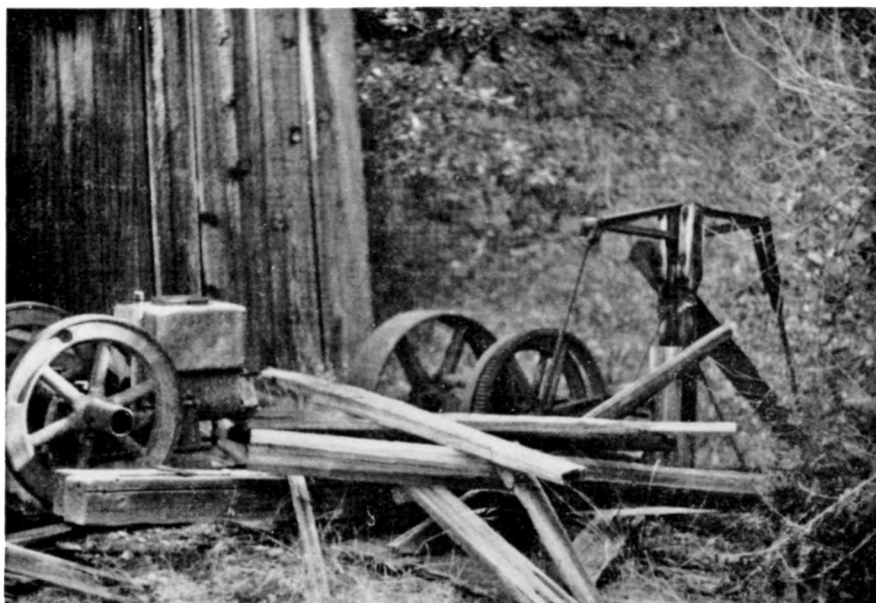
Photo by James Harvey, October 1974.



20. Structural and Mining Equipment Remains, Desmond Mine.

A mine shaft stood just behind the cabin. The open pit presented a safety hazard for visitors.

Photo by James Harvey, October 1974.



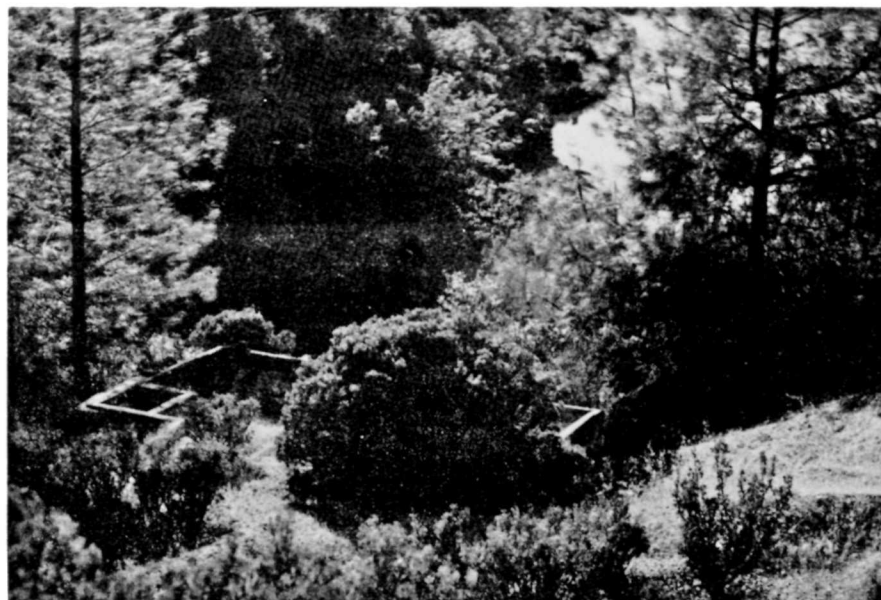
21. Mining Equipment, Desmond Mine.

Photo by James Harvey, October 1974.



22. Concrete Water Reservoir, Sunshine Mine.

Photo by James Harvey, October 1974.



23. Concrete Water Reservoir, Sunshine mine.

Photo by James Harvey, October 1974.

APPENDIXES

A. Tower House in Shasta County Records and Publications

Record Book A, p. 243:

[Tower's purchase of the land in May 1852] at the crossing of Clear Creek and at the fork of the trail leading from Shasta to Weaverville and to Scotts River likewise lying in the fork of Said Creek together with the houses corrals the free bridge and all the appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining these premises have heretofore been known as the free bridge house.

Shasta Courier, March 26, 1853, as printed in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 159:

Mr. L. H. Tower has also built a large and elegant house at his old stand, the Free Bridge House, a few miles this side of French Gulch. He has long enjoyed the reputation of keeping one of the best hotels north of Shasta.

Shasta Courier, March 11, 1854, as quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 191:

TOWER HOUSE. At junction of Yreka and Weaverville Roads, twelve miles from Shasta. The undersigned would announce to the public and particularly to persons traveling to and from Yreka and Weaverville, that having leased this long established stand, formerly known as the "Free Bridge House" he is prepared to entertain customers in a style not surpassed by any hotel in Northern California. Having completed his commodious building, and furnished it in the best possible manner, he is enabled to promise the very best accommodations. The table, as heretofore, will always be supplied with the best viands the market furnishes, while from the large garden attached to the premises, all the vegetables grown in this part of the state will be furnished in great abundance. He has also a secure Corral connected with his establishment, and always supplied with an abundance of Barley and Hay.

Shasta Courier, May 28, 1853, p. 2:

Last year the enterprising proprietor, L. H. Tower, Esq., was living in a house anything else than elegant in appearance, surrounded by a spot of land that failed to attract the

admiration of even our poetical eye; now he is residing [sic] in a fine and commodious building, and his grounds several acres in extent, are enclosed in good paling fence, and in a high state of cultivation--producing in abundance all the vegetables grown in this section of the state. He has also growing large numbers of peach, apple, pear, cherry, and other fruits. And not the least attraction about his premises are two or three hundred chickens and several hundred hogs. In short he has a regular old fashioned home.

Shasta Courier, August 19, 1854, p. 2:

L. H. Tower has several trees in his garden at the Tower House, of but three years growth, now bearing a goodly number of very large peaches. . . . We also observed in the same garden a large bunch of grapes hanging upon a vine of the present season's growth; while water melons, musk melons, etc. were lying about in rich profusion.

Shasta Courier, August 25, 1855, p. 2:

Mr. Tower's establishment is equal to any of our eastern watering places, and must so soon as 'tis well known, become a fashionable resort from the heats of the Valley; and the traveler will ever find it the most hospitable inn upon the road.

Shasta Courier, October 13, 1855, p. 2:

It is useless to say anything of the Tower House. Every one who has heard of Shasta has heard of the Tower House . . . but possibly every one does not know that there you can always find pleasant and agreeable society, attracted thither by the known comforts and pleasantness of the place.

Leases, Volume 1, p. 1.

Charles Camden

and

Levi Tower

to

California Stage Co.

Nov. 1, 1858

This indenture made the 1st day of November A.D. 1858 between Charles Camden owner and Levi H. Tower lessee of Shasta County State of California of the first part and W. Mayhew of Tehama County State of California agent for the California Stage Co. of the Second part--Witnesseth that the first part for and in Consideration of Covenants and Acquirements herein after mentioned & Contained on the part and behalf of the Party of the Second part to be Kept and

performed have granted and Leased and Demised unto the said party of the second part for the uses of the California Stage Co. their Executors administrators and all that Certain piece or lot of ground inside of the following boundaries Commencing at the Corner of the garden fence north by west from the Tower House and Running S.W. by the garden fence to the Brink of Crystal Creek thence up the bank of said to a large oak stump about 82 feet. From thence N.E. to the fence near a telegraph pole, from thence down the front to place of beginning to have and to hold above described premises for the uses of stable and yard from this the 1st day of November A.D. 1858, forever or all time that it shall be used for the purposes herein designated, giving and permitting the parties of the first part their heirs [?] and assigns priviledged [sic] to remove and hold all manures that is made at the stable free of cost as Likewise the priviledge [sic] of a small hog pen, say 40 feet square at the End of the Stable where the manure will be Discharged, the parties of the Second part, shall at these Cost Keep a substantial fence around the lot, and it is granted and Required by the parties of the first part their heirs [?] and assigns, that the parties of the Second part their heirs [?] and assigns may at all times have and Conduct from the ditch nearby water for the use of the stable free of Cost. Providing always, nevertheless, that the parties of the Second part shall not use the premises herein mentioned for any other person or persons for any other purpose, and if in the Event of any time hereafter the parties of the second part their heirs [?] and assigns, should not have use for the premises hereby granted, for the purposes herein stated the lease shall cease and end, and the parties of the first part their heirs [?] or assigns, shall and may ----- [?] without cost or delay, In Witness whereof the said parties have hereunto set their hands and Seal the day and year first above written.

Sealed & Delivered
in the presence of
Witness

H. Brownnell D. Dumm [?]

Chas. Camden
L. H. Tower
W. P. Mayhew

Know all men by these presents that the California State Company for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred dollars to its in hand paid by Louis McLane [?] of San Francisco California have sold and by these presents do grant convey assign transfer and set over unto the said Louis McLean [?] the foregoing Indenture of Lease to have and to hold the same according to its Terms.

In witness [thereof] the said California Stage Company have hereunto caused its corporate seal to be hereunto affixed and the name of the president to be subscribed thereunto on this ninth day of June, A.D., Eighteen hundred and Sixty Six.

California Stage Co.

By

A. G. Richardson, Prest.

Shasta Courier, February 27, 1869, as quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 522:

\$2000, AT A SACRIFICE ON ACCOUNT OF DEPARTURE, I will sell the Tower House Hotel, together with Barns, Corrals, Blacksmith-shop and outhouses and about Two Acres of Orchard and Garden all for the above sum, if applied for immediately. Apply on the premises to Charles Camden

Shasta Courier, March 6, 1869, p. 2:

Andy Cusic has purchased the Tower House property to Mr. Camden. The Tower House has long been noted as the most pleasant place of summer resort in this portion of the State, and we presume Andy will endeavor to render it still more attractive if possible.

Descriptive Circular of Shasta County, 1882, p. 9:

The Tower House . . . has been a great resort for pleasure and health seekers.

B. Oak Bottom in Shasta County Records and Publications

Court of Sessions, Shasta County, February 1851-February 1858, p. 26:
August 8, 1851

Reed & Co. at Oak Bottom as a place of election for Fortunate
Township

Record Book A, p. 31:

September 8, 1851

Mortgage: . . . that I John Howell in consideration of \$2800
to me . . . paid . . . by Josiah Roop . . . sold & conveyed
. . . that tract of land situated on Clear Creek in Shasta
County . . . known and designated as "Oak Bottom" lying on the
road from the town of Shasta, together with all the Improve-
ments, buildings, cooking stove all the tables counters and
shelves and fixtures of said Oak Bottom house, also all plates
and dishes and everything pertaining to the table and bar
furniture together with the potatoes now growing in said
Bottom . . . also two thousand dollars worth of goods that
may be in the store at any time, or in or about said Bottom
Establishment, together with all the heridements and every
thing belonging to Oak Bottom Establishment*

Court of Sessions, Shasta County, Feb. 1851-Feb. 1858, p. 70,
Road Districts: February 16, 1852

No. 9 From 1/4 mile Northwest of the Town of Shasta to the
Oak Bottom House.
No. 10 From Oak bottom House to the Upper Crossing of Clear
Creek

Record Book B, pp. 100-101:

May 6, 1852

A Plat and Field notes of a survey made at Oak Bottom on the
north side Clear Creek about eight miles North West of Shasta
City . . . containing 160 acres . . . the same for farming
and ranching purposes . . . Franklin Vandeventer.

*Judge Ross, in his report "Whiskeytown," NPS, DSC p. 6, claimed that
John Howell started the Oak Bottom Hotel in 1850, giving the location
its name, but that the building shortly thereafter burned to the ground.
This writer found no documentation for this statement.

Court of Sessions, Feb. 1851-Feb. 1858, p. 99: September 15, 1852

Receiving locations for State and County Tax, 1852

Oak Bottom

Shasta Courier, January 12, 1856, p. 4:

OAK BOTTOM RANCH FOR SALE

The undersigned, Being desirous of withdrawing from the Hotel business, would announce that he is willing to dispose of the old Hotel stand, known as the

Oak Bottom Ranch

situated on the road leading from Shasta to Weaverville and Yreka, and about 8 miles distant from Shasta, on fair conditions, if applied to be the first of March next. This property is so well known--being the first Ranch established in the county North of Shasta--that I deem it unnecessary to describe it. I will say, however, that the house is now in possession of a very profitable run of custom.

Frank Vandeventer

Oak Bottom, December 15, 1855

Record Book E, p. 358:

February 18, 1856

F. Vandeventer	. . . all that certain tract or lot of land
to	situated at Oak Bottom in Shasta County
A. J. Van Wie	which is held [by] . . . said Vandeventer
for \$3000	. . . upon which the Hotel known as the
	"Oak Bottom" house stands.

Shasta Courier, January 2, 1858, p. 1

OAK BOTTOM HOUSE

On Weaverville and Yreka Trail

This well known house, located on the French Gulch Road, about eight miles from Shasta, is every way prepared to accomodate the public. OUR TABLE is always supplied with all manner of fresh meats that the market affords, and every variety of vegetables from the garden attached--while at the

BAR

the thirsty, weary, panting wayfarer may constantly obtain a good article of all such invigorating LIQUORS as do tickle and please the appetite--and the smoker, a choice CIGAR. There is also a good CORRAL belonging to the HOUSE, Which is always furnished with an abundance of hay and barley.

George P. McGuire

Oak Bottom, May 29, 1857

Aaron W. Van Wie . . . All that certain piece or parcel of
 to property . . . commencing at a point on the
 Qui Chin and 19 Clear Creek ditch North Easterly from the
 other Chinamen Oak Bottom Hotel. Said point being Twelve
 for \$5,100 feet north of a pine tree with three notches
 . . . running in a South Easterly direction 585 steps to a buck-
 eye bush . . . said bush being 6 feet north of the toll road as
 located July 22, 1867 and six feet south of the old County road,
 thence running west 160 steps to a Willow tree standing on the
 Bar marked with 3 notches on the North side continueing west
 110 steps to a forked willow tree standing at the waters edge . . .
 continuing west along the waters edge 52 steps to a scrub wil-
 low . . . continuing north of west up to and along the South
 Fence of the Orchard South of the Toll road to the West corner
 of the South Orchard fence and within 8 steps of a Pine Tree
 five inches in diameter . . . thence North West 248 steps to
 Clear Creek ditch and an Alder Tree Standing on said ditch
 marked with three notches . . . thence running along and on
 said Clear Creek Ditch to the place of Beginning . . . to in-
 clude the property deeded by John S. Follansbee Sheriff to A. W.
 Van Wie and known as the Oak Bottom property and also certain
 mining claims taken up by said A. W. Van Wie below the Old
 Corral together with all the hereditaments and appurtenances,
 of the House known as the Oak Bottom House, Barns, out houses,
 sheds, fences, orchards of Trees Vines &c also one Short ditch
 about 300 yards long (With no water right) immediately on the
 hill above the south orchard and originally used to convey
 water out of Boulder Creek across Clear Creek. Also one Small
 Bar Room Store.[?]

Qui Chin & Others . . . certain lot or piece or parcel of land
 to . . . Situated on the Toll Road leading from
 Dennis Desmond Shasta to the Tower House, and commonly known
 for \$300 as the Oak Bottom place consisting of the
 House known as the Oak Bottom House, and the Garden connected there-
 with, with the fencing on and around the same. . . . include, all
 the property heretofore sold and Deed by Aaron Van Wie . . . (save
 and except certain mining Claims situated in the Bed of Clear
 Creek, and also occupying a space of 20 feet on the east side of
 the said creek.)

D. Desmond
 Proprietor
 OAK BOTTOM HOUSE
 Seven Miles North of Shasta, Shasta County, California a Large
 Corral and Stable Attached

C. Whiskeytown in Shasta County Records and Publications*

Court of Sessions, Shasta County, February 1851-February 1858, p. 26

August 8th 1851 Ordered that . . . the place of holding elections be at Smith & Co. near the mouth of Whiskey Creek.

Whiskey town Hotel:

Deed Book R, p. 109

July 12, 1853

Be it known that We the Undersigned have taken possession of and claim for building purposes the following described lot of Ground to Wit Beginning at the North West Corner of the lot formerly owned and occupied by A. Murdock in Franklin City as a Store House and on the South line of Main Street Running from thence West along the line of said street 36 feet to a post thence back at right angles with said street 199 feet to a post thence parallel with said street 36 feet to a post thence in a northerly course at right angles with said street to the place of Beginning . . . July 12, 1853, B. Mix & Co.

Shasta Courier, July 30, 1853:

MIX'S FRANKLIN HOUSE,
WHISKEY CREEK

The Undersigned Would Inform the public that his Hotel, pleasantly situated in Franklin City, on Whisky creek, six miles north of Shasta, on the Yreka and Weaverville road, is now open for the reception of travelers, boarders, and customers generally. The Table is constantly supplied with all the varieties of meats and vegetables procurable in this market, while the Bar is furnished with almost every kind of liquors of the very best quality. There is also a good and secure
Corral

attached to the establishment, always supplied with an abundance of hay and barley, for the accomodation, of packers,

*Without changing the content, the writer abridged and altered the above record citations, and thus they do not represent exact quotations. The underscoring is the author's. The above does not represent a comprehensive list of citations on Whiskeytown.

travelers, etc. The subscriber has no hesitation in promising full satisfaction to all who may patronize him.

BENJAMIN MIX
Whiskey Creek, July 30, 1853

Shasta Republican, November 27, 1855:

OPENING BALL AT MIX'S HOTEL

Benjamin Mix would inform the public and the lovers of Dancing, that he will give a Grand Opening Ball at his new Hotel at Whiskey Creek, on Wed. Eve.

Shasta Republican, June 4, 1856:

FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION AND BALL

[Benjamin Mix] . . . his large hall is completed, and is capable of accommodating a large company.

Whisky Creek, June 6, 1856

Shasta Courier, March 25, 1858, as quoted in Ross, "Whiskeytown," NPS, DSC p. 9:

A RARE CHANCE FOR A PERMANENT INVESTMENT.

The undersigned, because of long-continued ill-health, is desirous of disposing of his property and returning to the Eastern States. It consists of a large and commodious well-furnished Hotel! Situated six miles from Shasta, on the road leading to Weaverville and Yreka. The house is abundantly supplied with all necessary hotel furniture, such as beds, bedding, tables, chairs, &c. &c. The stages and passenger train stop at this House twice every day. It is also a favorite stopping-place with the numerous pack trains trading between Red Bluffs and Trinity and Siskiyou. Attached to the hotel is a large and extensive BARN and CORRAL, well supplied with water, sheds, and all improvements usually found in connection with such establishments. This hotel-stand has been established for some six years, and is doing the best paying business of any establishment north of Marysville. There is also attached to these premises a TRACT OF LAND! of some ten acres in extent, the principal part of which is fenced and under cultivation. Also for Sale all the stock on the place, consisting of HORSES, MULES AND CATTLE, Also several carriages and wagons, and all descriptions of Farming Implements, &c. Any persons wishing to make a permanent investment in this kind of property can do so upon very liberal terms, by making early application to the proprietor.

BENJ. MIX, WHISKY CREEK, March 25, 1858.

Shasta Courier, September 4, 1858:

FIRE AT WHISKEY CREEK--We are pained to record the destruction, by fire, of the large and well furnished hotel of B. Mix & Co., in the town of Whisky Creek, in this county. The conflagration occurred on last Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, and is supposed to have started accidentally. The house was a very good building, 80 x 150, two stories high, and was well furnished. The entire loss to the proprietors, we presume, is somewhere near \$10,000. The community at large sympathize with the proprietors. The loss falls especially heavy to on Mr. Mix, who for months past, has been incapacitated for business by injuries resulting from a fall from his horse.

Shasta Republican, September 11, 1858, p. 2:

BURNED. We neglected to state last week that the large and fine hotel at Whiskytown, owned by Mr. Benj. Mix, burned down on Sunday, the 29th ult. The loss sustained was scarcely less than \$10,000. The hotel is being rapidly rebuilt. A liberal subscription has been made by our citizens for the purpose of assisting Mr. Mix in his difficulties.

Shasta Courier, January 7, 1860, p. 1:

THE MIX HOTEL, WHISKY CREEK

The Undersigned announces to the public that they assumed proprietorship of, and will hence forth conduct the new and commodious

MIX HOTEL,

In the town of Whisky Creek.

THE BAR AND TABLE

will always be furnished with the choicest liquors and eatables that can be procured.

They also promise their customers good, clean beds, and no bugs. Attached to the house is a large and safe

CORRAL

where Packers, Wagoners and Traders may always obtain Hay for their animals.

I. Mc Intosh

G. M. Benjamin

Whisky Creek, July 23, 1859

Shasta Herald, April 28, 1860, p. 2:

WHISKY CREEK HOTEL.--LEW BURK--known by almost every traveler through the northern country--has leased the Mix Hotel

at Whisky Creek, and is not fitting it up in good style, as a first class house. Under its new management we shall expect to see it become the great resort of summer evening promenaders, and resume its old position among the leading hotels of the Northern country.

Deed Book G, p. 703:

January 3, 1861

Benjamin Mix . . . all those certain pieces or parcels of
to land situate at or near Whiskytown in Said
George P. McGuire County Beginning at a pine tree marked with a
[of French Gulch] cross standing on the east bank of Whisky
for \$3800 Creek a short distance from the crossing of
the main road leading from Shasta to Whiskytown; running from
said tree in a westerly course up and along the principal street
of said Whiskytown, about 135-yards, to where the corner of the
old "Bennet Cabin" was (now L. William Garden): thence back 103
feet to a post crossed and marked; thence in a westerly course
about 212 yards to a stake or post near a Gulch; thence in an
easterly course down said Gulch to the mouth of the same about
200 yards, thence about 250 yards to the place of beginning; be-
ing the entire premises upon which the "Mix Hotel" now stands,
including all the grounds appertaining to said Hotel. . . .
also all that certain property in said Whiskytown commencing at
the corner of Keslers lot, on the south side of Main Street,
running back at right angles with said street 100 feet on line
with Keslers; thence westerly to a blacksmith shop formerly
owned by John Kellus [?] thence at right angles 100 feet to the
Main Street; thence at right angles along the South Side of Main
Street to the place of beginning. Being the premises upon which
the Ball Alley and Barn of Benjamin Mix now stands, together
with all and singular.

Deed Book 1, p. 155:

December 8, 1863

George P. McGuire, Pauline McGuire, wife, French Gulch Township
to
Pauline Brown of Oak Bottom
\$2500

[Same Property Description as above.]

Deed Book 5, p. 384:

August 9, 1873

Pauline Brown . . . known as the Whisky Town Hotel and
to Correl lots, Commence the Survey at South
O. H. P. Woodward East corner of L. Williams [Blacksmith] lot
for \$600 on the North side of the Road leading from
Shasta to French Gulch first run North 2° 15' East along Williams
East boundary line 2 & 50/100 chains; 2nd run North 18° East
3 9/100 chains; third run south 85° 30' East 1 90/100 chains to
J. D. Blair's [Butcher] West boundary line Fourth South 14°

West 5 36/100 chains to the Shasta and French Gulch Road, fifth North 88° West along the North line of said Road to place of beginning containing one and 25/100 acres of this being the Hotel lot. . . . Correl lot . . . south side of the . . . Road at the North East corner of L. Williams Blacksmith Shop lot . . . to W. Keslers lot . . . containing 92/100 acres.

Directory of Shasta County, 1881, p. 71:

Woodward's Hotel!
Whiskytown
Shasta County California
O. P. Woodward Proprietor

A Good Meal and a Clean Comfortable Bed

Redding Record-Searchlight, July 1, 1952, pp. 1 and 7:*

[Photo cap] Good Spot for Meditating--Harland Shive, 73, sits contentedly on the top steps of the old O. P. Woodward hotel in Whiskytown, where for 96 years the town's post office did business. Post Office, which changes its name today from Schilling to Whiskeytown, moved out of the building in 1947.

The building was closed last year to occupants when it became unsafe for use.

A recent petition by Whiskey town residents to have their post office renamed from Schilling to correspond with the name of the town was quickly answered and the request granted. The Post Office was originally in the Woodward hotel building and remained there after the time of Woodward when the building was owned by Jack Schilling, after whom the post office was most recently known. After 96 years in the Woodward hotel, the post office moved into a combination grocery store, filling station and bar building which stands on the new highway one block south of the now-vacant hotel.

*The article's claim that the post office was in the subject hotel for 96 years, since 1852, is not true, since Mix's hotel burned in 1858. Judge Ross in "Whiskeytown," NPS, DSC p. 10, gave the recent history of the hotel: "Oliver P. Woodward continued to operate the Whiskytown Hotel successfully until his death in 1897. It was reputed to be one of the best stopping places in the north part of the state. One of his sons, Oliver P. Woodward Jr., administered his estate and operated the place until 1903. There was some litigation between the children of the deceased and his second wife, who wanted to be given a probate homestead on the hotel with the right to reside there. Oliver Jr., in one of the documents filed with the Superior Court of Shasta County, stated that it was

Whiskeytown stores:

Shasta Courier, April 9, 1853, p. 3:

CONSTABLE'S SALE

By virtue Of An Execution Issued out of the Court of J. C. Hinkley . . . at the suit of Richard J. Walsh, for the sum of 391.62 costs and accruing costs, I have this day seized and taken in execution, all the right, title & interest of the defendant, Alexander Murdock, in and to the following described property, to wit: the trading house known as the trading house of A. Murdock, on Whiskey Creek, together with the ground upon which the same is situated, including the Butcher stand and the corral adjoining the same on the east, known as the property of A. Murdock. The same being situated in the town of Franklin, on Whisky Creek, in Shasta County, California . . .

Jos. L. Holmes, Constable

Shasta Courier, January 2, 1858, p. 2:

WHISKYTOWN--NEW STORE

Where there can always be found a large assortment of

Miners' SUPPLIES

which will be sold as cheap, if not cheaper than at any other store north of Shasta.

N.B. Goods packed free of charge.

Wm. H. Gooch, December 26, 1857

Shasta Courier, January 2, 1858, p. 2:

250 MEN WANTED

AT WHISKYTOWN

With a small cash capital, to buy goods at Gooch, at bargains, at his new store.

Dec. 26, 1857

necessary for him to live there in order to operate the business, that the hotel was usually filled to capacity and that quite often he had to give up his own bedroom to some traveler who sought accommodations. The litigation was settled peaceably and the estate went to the sons and one daughter Susan M. Schilling. Her husband, John F. (Jack Schilling took over the operation of the hotel in 1903. Mrs. Schilling passed away in 1904 and her estate, which by then consisted of the whole property, devolved upon her husband and daughter, Grace Schilling equally."

Directory of Shasta County 1881, p. 37:

LUMBER
CHARLES BURNS
Located two Miles Above Whiskeytown Is Prepared to Furnish A
Superior Quality of All Kinds of Lumber for Building Purposes.
Charles Burns, Whiskeytown

Directory of Shasta County 1881, p. 40:

BLAIR'S SALOON
MAIN STREET
WHISKYTOWN CALIFORNIA
J. D. BLAIR, PROPRIETOR
Choice Wines, Liquors, Brandies and Cigars at the Bar.

Descriptive Circular of Shasta County, California, 1885, pp. 9-10:

Whisky Town, or Blair (the name of the post office), twelve miles northwest of Redding . . . now divides the trade with Shasta to a considerable extent.

A Golden Highway (1934), p. 233:

. . . [drive through Schilling] It is no longer Whiskeytown. It is merely an unimposing little mountain town stretching along the highway, catering to itinerant miners, cattlemen, hunters, travelers. It seems to have sloughed off its history and its romance with its name.

Redding Record-Searchlight, July 1, 1952, p. 7:

. . . a combination grocery store, filling station and bar building which stands on the new highway one block south of the now-vacant hotel.

In the Shadow of the Mountain (by Peterson, 1965), p. 100:

[Whiskeytown recently devastated] . . . a few delapidated buildings which remained as the sole vestige of the colorful mining center of Whiskeytown.

Miscellaneous:

Deed Book E, p. 495:

February 10, 1855

J. W. Johnson	. . . one lot in <u>the-town or village of</u>
to	<u>Franklin on Whiskey Creek</u> . . . commencing
C. H. Barkdull	. . . at the south easterly corner of the lot
for \$800	on the south line of the Main or principal
	street of said Town . . . known as <u>S. D.</u>

Bakers lot, thence along the line of said street south-easterly course . . . 60 feet to a lot belonging to B. Mix formerly owned by Alexander Murdock deceased thence running back at right angles with said street towards the creek 160 feet, thence north west parallel with the aforesaid street 60 feet thence at right angle with last named line 160 feet to place of beginning . . . also one other lot . . . on the north line of aforesaid street opposite the last described lot beginning at the south easterly line of said S. D. Bakers line thence running south easterly along the line of said street 60 feet to B. Mix's line thence back at right angles with said street 160 feet thence north west parallel with said street 60 feet thence at right angles with last named line 160 feet to place of beginning.

Deed Book E, p. 496:

September 15, 1856

C. H. Barkdull

to

Benjamin Mix

for \$1000 paid by Benjamin Mix and George Benjamin

One lot in the town or Village of Franklin on Whisky Creek . . . commencing at the South easterly corner of a lot on the South line of the main or principal street of said town or village known as S. D. Bakers lot thence along the line of said street in a south easterly course 60 feet to a lot belonging to B. Mix formerly owned by Alexander Murdock deceased thence running back at right angles with said Street towards the creek 160 feet thence at right angles with last named line . . . 160 feet to the place of beginning

Deed Book E, p. 741:

November 5, 1857

Jonathan M. Allen

to

W. H. Gooch

for \$400

. . . parcel of land situated in Whiskey Town and . . . Bounded as follows viz
Being two lots West of Mixes Hotel in said Town on the North side of Main Street being 80 feet front and running back at right angles with said street 200 feet and being the property now occupied by said party of the first Together with all . . . the rent issues and profits thereof.

Deed Book 3, p. 534:

June 19, 1871

Mrs. P. Brown

to

Wm. Kesler

for \$3.07

. . . All those certain lots or tracts of land in . . . Whisky Town described as follows . . . First lot commencing at the South East corner of Wm. Bangharts

lot on the North side of the main road and run North 73° 30'
 East 1 15/100 chains to L. Bohmens lot. Thence . . . to the
 place of beginning "2" lot commencing on the south side of
 main Street at the North East corner of Williamsons lot First
 run North 82 East 1 01/100 chains to L. Williams Lot thence
 . . . to the place of beginning. containing 1. 70/100 chains.

Deed Book 3, p. 546:

June 19, 1871

Mrs. P. Brown . . . lot of land in Whiskey Town described
 to as follows . . . commencing at the South
 J. D. Blair East corner of the hotel lot on the North
 for \$7.00 Side of the Main road . . . L. Williams lot
 . . . containing 5 12/100 acres.

Probate #150
 Clerk's Office:

1893

Estate of William Kessler 1893

First triannual account of Excrs and trustees

Property in Whiskeytown:	Brickstore	\$450
	Stone Warehouse	\$250
	Dwelling	\$300
	Interest in Ditch	\$200
	Furniture &c	\$200

Variations in the Town's Name and Spelling, 1850-1858:

August 8, 1851 (<u>Shasta Courier</u>)	Mouth of Whisky Creek
July 30, 1853 (<u>Shasta Courier</u>)	Franklin City, on Whisky Creek
August 3, 1853 (Court of Sessions, February 1851-February 1858)	Whisky Creek-Election Precinct
January 1854 (<u>Shasta Courier</u>)	Whisky Creek
August 1854 (Record Book R, p. 280)	Whiskey town
June 30, 1855 (<u>Shasta Courier</u>)	Whiskey Creek
June 14, 1856 (<u>Shasta Courier</u>)	Whiskey Creek
September 4 and 11, 1858 (<u>Shasta Courier</u> and <u>Shasta Republican</u>)	Whisky Creek and Whiskytown

July 23, 1859 (<u>Shasta Courier</u>)	Whisky Creek
April 4 and 28, 1865 (Record Book S, p. 123; <u>Shasta Herald</u>)	Whiskey town and Whisky Creek
January 3, 1861 (Deed Book G, p. 703)	Whiskytown
December 8, 1863 (Deed Book 1, p. 155)	Whiskytown
August 9, 1873 (Deed Book 5, p. 384)	Whiskey Town
1881 (<u>Directory of Shasta County</u>)	Whiskytown

D. Whiskeytown Postmasters and Post Offices, 1856-1952

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Appointment</u>	<u>Post Office Name</u>
Benjamin Mix	February 18, 1856	Whiskey Creek
Thomas D. Yates	October 9, 1861	Whiskey Creek
James A. Kesler	September 8, 1862	Whiskey Creek
Eunic T. Blair	January 6, 1881	Blair
Oliver H. P. Woodward	September 4, 1885	Stella
Oliver H. P. Woodward Jr.	October 26, 1897	Stella
John F. Schilling	October 31, 1903	Stella
Jerry Ford	April 25, 1917	Schilling
Alice M. Hess (act.)	February 10, 1928	Schilling
Vina Ris	April 18, 1928	Schilling
George G. Gilchrist	July 3, 1929	Schilling
Mabel Reel Johnson	December 5, 1931	Schilling
Rose Mary Machado	August 30, 1942	Schilling
Grace E. Rathbone	November 21, 1945	Schilling
Lida M. Graham	June 1, 1946	Schilling
Dorothy A. Herman	February 28, 1947	Schilling
		Whiskeytown 7/1/52

Note: The Whiskeytown post office did not remain open consistently during these years, as the 1860 U.S. Census for California does not list a Whiskeytown P.O., and between 1909 and 1917 no one could be found in Stella to serve as postmaster (The Redding Searchlight, June 14, 1917, as researched by Veronica Satorious of Redding).

E. Whiskeytown Cemetery Gravestones

October 12, 1974*

Frances T. Glasener, 1866-1946
Michael Campbell, 1868-1945
Mathew Sampson, 1878-1945
Wm Mc Comas, 1868-1940
William Kesler, 1828-1889
Priscilla Kesler, his wife, -1861
Avice [?] Davis, wife -1876
Maurice C. Dewitt, 1843-1908
Ann Romines, 1805-1860
Nancy C. Williams, 1840-1924
Lewellyn Williams, 1825-1893
Alice A. Warfield, 1857-1900
Sarah Williams, 1867-1891
Laura J. Derrick, 1872-1961
Ulysis S. Grant Derrick, 1867-1941
Ben Malee, Unk-1909
George Malee, Unk-1907
Louis Myer, 1859-1948
John E. Williams, 1881-1948
Miles W. Dillard, 1902-1949
Kenneth Frazier, 1888-1950
George J. Hightower, 1895-1916
Frank Henry Machado, 1883-1972
Rose Mary Machado, 1893-1973
Alban H. Machado, 1916-1964
Harry Burges, 1894-1949
Grover Dixon, 1892-1971
Lillis B. Burnett, 1885-1965
Raymond Gray, 1910-1961
Bessie Gray, 1887-1969
John Crawford, Unk-1939

C. & B. A. Farrington's children,
Susan and Ada, died 1859
Willie Hetschel, 1877-1895
Orval E. Scott, 1888-1955
Frederick C. Darrow, 1866-1959
May F. Rea, 1885-1953
Alex Simmons, 1888-1965
Richard A. McDermott, 1874-1970
Anna Susan Palmquist, 1877-1965
David Burns, 1938-1970
Sam Dock, 1870-1956
Gilbert B. Burns, 1938-1954
George W. Snyder, 1872-1953
Harland R. Shives, Unk-1952
Hugh Dormody, 1871-1952
Tony Williams Stamps, 1902-1956
Geraldine Roberts, 1895-1952
John Allen Roberts, 1893-1962
Theodore J. Driver, 1880-1972
Madge Pengelly, 1881-1946
A.K.A. Meekly
William J. Miller, 1856-1952
James B. Vining, Jr., 1903-1951
Terrell A. Hamlin, 1880-1950
Eric B. Johnson, 1884-1940
Maurice Ashton, 1883-1949
Charles Babbish, 1877-1937
Abe Miller, Unk-1938
Firman R. Beckett, 1861-1938
Jos. Farley, Unk-1938

*As recorded by writer

F. Four Mile House in Shasta County Records and Publications

Record Book B, p. 173:

June 21, 1852

Nicholas Maher
Land Claim for agricultural and grazing purposes

. . . beginning at a pine tree standing about one quarter of a mile from the road leading from Shasta to the Mouth of Whiskey Creek and about four miles from the Town of Shasta said tree bearing two blazes running from thence in a southerly course one half mile crossing said road to a stake thence in an eastern course one half mile to a stake from thence in a northern course one half mile to a stake from thence West to the place of beginning . . . on which lands I have valuable improvements.

Shasta Courier, July 23, 1853, p. 3:

FOUR MILE HOUSE. THIS COMMODIOUS AND PLEASANTLY situated hotel, four miles distant from Shasta, on the Trinity and Yreka road, is now ready for the accomodation of travelers and citizens generally. The house, a two-story building, is finished with a degree of comfort and convenience second to no hotel in this portion of the State. The table is always supplied with the best the market affords, while the bar is constantly supplied with a variety of choice liquors. The house, too, has the advantage of a never failing supply of excellent spring water. Attached to the establishment is a secure corral, always furnished with an abundance of barley and hay for the animals of the packers and travelers. The subscriber is determined to omit no means of rendering perfect satisfaction to all who may patronize his house.

NICHOLAS MAHER

Shasta Courier, June 25, 1858, as quoted in Boggs, My Playhouse, p. 313:

FOUR MILE HOUSE. The subscribers announce to the public and their friends in general, that they have taken this long and well established House, where they intend to dispense the very best "CREATURE COMFORTS" that can be found at any hotel north of Marysville. All we ask of our friends and the public is, to give us a call, and if we don't make it "satisfactory" with them, just say we are no such persons as BEN D. ANDERSON, WM. E. WOOD, Shasta April 28, 1858.

Shasta Courier, December 29, 1860, p. 1:

FOUR MILE HOUSE

Between Shasta and Whiskytown. The subscriber, having completely [sic] refitted this establishment announce [sic] to the traveling public, and especially to Teamsters and Packers, that there they will be furnished with Good Beds and Clean Bedding with the BEST OF FOOD, with the Choicest Liquors and Cigars, and with excellent Hay, Barley and Oats for their animals.

Thos. Ashworth
Four Mile House, December 31, 1859

G. Placer Mining Companies, 1851-61*

September 1852, Shasta County Mining and Water Company
September 1852, Whiskey Creek Water and Mining Company
May 1854, Samuel McKee and Geo. Stove & Company, Grizzly Gulch
August 1854, Mahoney and Talor & Co., near Oak Bottom
August 1854, Empire State Mining & Ditch Company, Brandy and Clear Creeks
September 1854, Eastman & Company, about 3/4 of a mile below Oak Bottom
November 1854, Franklin Company, near Oak Bottom
November 1854, C. S. Snouck & Company, c. 1 1/2 or 2 miles below Tower House
February 1854, Kirkham & Company, on Brandy Creek
February 1855, William & Company, on hill east of Whiskey Creek
February 1855, Clear Creek Water Company, Tower House to Hangtown
August 1855, Richard Barney & Company, Clear Creek below the Tower House
April 1856, Empire Ditch and Mining Company
January 1858, Johnson & Bennet, Brandy Creek
November 1859, I. F. Stanley & Company, Dry Creek
September 1860, Jones Kelly & Company, Bull Gulch
January 1861, Crocker & Leonard's Ditch, Boulder Creek

*The above list of companies does not represent a comprehensive one, but only a sampling of companies referred to in the process of reading deeds and other records in the Records Office, SCC.

H. Clear Creek Canal Company Incorporation, 1857

Record Book E, pp. 655-56:

Be it known to all Men that These present Certify That we John D. Smith of Shasta in the County of Shasta, Cornelius S. Whitney late of Shasta aforesaid and now of the City and County of San Francisco, and Washington P. McCseary of the City and County of Sacramento all in the State of California have this Twenty third day of May A.D. 1857 associated ourselves under and pursuant to the Act of the Legislature of the State of California Entitled an "Act to provide for the formation of Corporations passed April the 15th A.D. 1853," And under & pursuant to the provisions of an Act of the Said Legislature passed in the Eight Session thereof and approved March 27th A.D. 1857 Supplementary to the first above Mentioned Act for the purpose of forming an Incorporated Company for the following objects to wit,

To enlarge the dimensions & to extend the line and the Branches of a Canal or Ditch Called and known by the Name of the Clear Creek "Canal," Now owned by us and Jesse Rhodes of Shasta which Canal or Ditch commences at a point on Clear Creek called "Tower House" at the junction of the Weaverville & Yreka Roads and runs a distance of about forty five miles to within about three miles of the town of Shasta in the County of Shasta & State aforesaid and from which main Canal Seven principal Branches have been formed & Completed and which are called respectively Gravel Hill, Horse Town, Jackass Flat, Texas Springs, Squaw Town, Oregon Gulch, & Centre Ville and from which principal Branches Smaller Branches issue, and upon the line of which Canal there are Six Reservoirs Situated respectively at Horse Town, Briggsville, Hill, Middle Town Upper Texas Springs, and Oregon Gulch which are supplied with Water from said Canal & from some of the Branches thereof are made & Constructed by us between the 25th day of December 1853 and the 21st day December 1855 and of which Canal & all its appurtenances we have now and have had the possession & ownership Since the said 25th of December 1853 and of the revenue of which we are now in the enjoyment. Also to continue to Convey the Water of Clear Creek aforesaid in said Canal and its several branches and all water flowing into the same and along the south [?] there off [sic] for the purpose of supplying the mining Districts in the County of Shasta aforesaid along the line of said Canal and in the neighborhood thereof and all Mining Districts between the source of said Canal & Shasta aforesaid and particularly for the supplying the various places herein already Mentioned and the County Surrounding them with water for Mining and all other purposes And to Sell and dispose of said Water and of any other water which may be made tributary to said Canal for Mining & other Uses; and to apply the same to all the purposes of the Company:

That the name and Style of the said Corporation shall be the Shasta County Canal Company That the Capital Stock of the said Company Shall be three Hundred Thousand shares of One Hundred dollars a Share That the time of the existance of said Company shall be fifty Years from the date of these presents that the number of Trustees who shall Manage the Concerns of the Company for the first three months and untill their Successors are qualified shall be three and that such three Trustees shall be the said John D. Smith Cornelius S. Whitney Washington P. McCseary all of whom are native-born-American Citizens and that the principal place of Business of the Company Shall be in Shasta afore-said.
[May 23, 1857]

I. Shasta Turnpike Road Company Declaration, 1860

Record Book G, p. 564:

Shasta Turnpike Road Company Declaration	This is to certify that the <u>Shasta Turnpike Road Company</u> have located their road and adopted the following
--	--

survey an [sic] route for the road upon which they have organised to construct which is as follows viz: Commencing at the point in Shasta County near the road leading from Shasta to Whiskey Creek about Three hundred and fifty rods North West from the Shasta County Hospital building, thence running to the left of the present County road winding along the side of the mountain a distance of about Three hundred and fifty rods more or less to the summit of the divide known as the Whiskey Creek Divide to a point near where the County road now crosses said divide said road to be made on a grade of one foot to the rod on a rise from the starting point to the top of said divide. Thence from the point on the top of said divide following down the West side of the divide to the left of the present County road at a grade of one foot descent to the rod, a distance of about Three Hundred rods more or less to the "Clear Creek Ditch" Thence running North about Two hundred and fifty rods more or less on an easy grade to a point on the present County road near what is known as the Four mile house Said road and all bridges and aqueducts to be erected thereon to bring the same to the proper grade.

This further certifies that at a regular meeting of the stockholders in said company two thirds of said stockholders being present held November 19th 1859 the following stockholders now duly elected officers of said Shasta Turnpike Road Company: as follows Viz. C. C. Wingate Present H. A. Curtiss Secretary R. C. Babcock Treasurer. R. C. Babcock, Henry Poffenberger and George Penman Directors of said Company they each having received a unanimous vote of the stockholders present at said meeting: they were thereupon declared duly elected the officers of said company for the ensuing year. This is further to certify that the capital stock in said company is fixed at the sum of Three Thousand Dollars and divided into nine equal shares all of which stock has been duly subscribed and taken and that said stockholders have paid into the Treasury of said company the sum of One thousand and Sixty two 50/100 Dollars. all of which sum has been expended upon the line of said Shasta Turnpike Road Company as herein designated the said amount so paid in and expended upon said road, being more than Ten per cent upon the capital stock of said Company.

In witness whereof we have herunto set our hands at
Shasta this 20th day of February x 1860

Caleb C. Wingate, President
H. A. Curtiss, Secretary
R. C. Babcock, Treasurer

J. Quartz Mines and Mills, 1902 (within present Whiskeytown National Recreation Area Boundaries)

Register of Mines and Minerals, Shasta County, California, (March 1902) pp. 1-13:

<u>Mine</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Company Owner or Superintendent</u>	<u>Character of Ore</u>
1. Americus	Secs. 10-11 Twp. 31, R6	W. G. Scott, Redding	Gold, silver, copper
2. Anaconda	Sec. 3 Twp. 31, R6	B. McGinnis, Shasta	Quartz and sulphurets
3. Apex	Sec. 35 Twp. 32, R6	Charles Hufford, Shasta	Quartz with sulphurets
4. Austrailia	Sec. 30 Twp. 32, R6	L. Garrecht, Shasta	Gold & quartz
5. Belcher	Sec. 35 Twp. 32, R6	---	---
6. Blackbird	Sec. 15 Twp. 32, R6	W. E. Lile, Keswick	Copper and silver sulphurets
7. Blackstone (2 claims)	Sec. 34 Twp. 32, R6	Hunting & McPhail, Shasta	Quartz and sulphurets
8. Bodie	Secs. 32 6 Twp. 33, 32, R7, 7	F. B. Rossi, French Gulch	Gold quartz
9. Bonanza (3 claims)	Sec. 6 Twp. 32, R6	M. C. Dewey, et al., Stella	Free milling
10. Bowery Bell	Sec. 14 Twp. 32, R6	J. A. Kahny, Redding	Free milling
11. Bright Star	Sec. 31 Twp. 32, R6	S. W. Levy, San Francisco	Gold quartz
12. Clear Creek	Sec. 3 Twp. 31, R6	Dr. Lees, Shasta	Base, with sulphides
13. Continental	Secs. 7-18 Twp. 31, R6	A. Williard, Igo	Gold, silver, sulphides
14. Courier	Sec. 35 Twp. 32, R6	Robert Shaw, Shasta	Base with sulphides
15. Dear Trail	Sec. 34 Twp. 32, R6	J. Huges, Shasta	Base with sulphurets
16. Dreadnaught	Sec. 15 Twp. 32, R6	T. E. Lile, Keswick	Copper and silver sulphurets
17. Eldorado and Eureka	Sec. 6 Twp. 31, R5	E. P. Connor, Redding	Gold quartz, with copper sulphurets
18. Emigrant		C. A. Crovell, Stella	Gold quartz with sulphurets

	<u>Mine</u>	<u>Location</u>		<u>Company Owner or Superintendent</u>	<u>Character of Ore</u>
19.	Eureka	Sec. 26	Twp. 32, R6	Bell and Scanton, Shasta	
20.	Fox	Sec. 34	Twp. 32, R6	Edward Hart, Shasta	Base, with sulphurets
21.	Fremont	Sec. 10	Twp. 32, R6	W. L. McCaudess, Round Mountain	Free gold and sulphurets
22.	Gambrinus	Sec. 16	Twp. 32, R6	Barner and Riebe, Redding	Free milling gold quartz
23.	Gold Hill (2 claims)	Sec. 26	Twp. 32, R6	William Beckwith, San Francisco	Free gold
24.	Happy Go Lucky	Sec. 16	Twp. 32, R6	Roberts and Hampton, Stella	Free milling gold quartz
25.	Hope	Sec. 8	Twp. 32, R6	M. Welch et al., French Gulch	Gold quartz, with sulphurets
26.	Iler	Secs. 10-11	Twp. 32, R6	Elizabeth Gold Mining Co., San Francisco	Ribbon quartz, with copper sulphides
27.	Jay Bird (3 claims)	Sec. 35	Twp. 32, R6	H. and J. Earey, Shasta	Quartz with sulphurets
28.	Keno (3 claims)	Sec. 34	Twp. 32, R6	G. A. Schroter, Shasta	Quartz with sulphurets
29.	Long View (2 claims)	Sec. 35	Twp. 32, R6	John Hallam, Shasta	Quartz with sulphurets
30.	Lost Mine	Sec. 35	Twp. 32, R6	George Menzell, Shasta	Quartz with sulphurets
31.	Manzanita	Secs. 18-7	Twp. 31, R6	EL L. Ballon, Igo	Ochre and sulphurets
32.	Mascot			M. Herron, Redding	Gold quartz
33.	Mountain Belle	Sec. 20	Twp. 32, R6	DeVinnie and Gray, Stella	Gold quartz
34.	Mount Shasta (14 claims)	Sec. 3 Sec. 34	Twp. 31, R6 Twp. 32, R6	Frank E. Ware, San Francisco	Base with sulphurets
35.	Nellie	Sec. 2	Twp. 31, R6	Mr. Garrecht, Shasta	Base with sulphurets
36.	New Year	Sec. 19	Twp. 32, R6	F. W. A. Cunningham, Shasta	Free milling gold
37.	Ono (3 claims)	Sec. 35	Twp. 32, R6	Pugh and Menzell, Shasta	Quartz with sulphurets
38.	Oro Fino (3 claims)	Sec. 34	Twp. 32, R6	A. Lievsay, Shasta	Quartz with sulphurets
39.	Pedro	Sec. 35	Twp. 32, R6	J. T. Cooney, Delta	Base with sulphurets
40.	Pugh and Menzell	Sec. 34	Twp. 32, R6	Pugh and Menzell, Shasta	Gold quartz
41.	Red Cross	Sec. 4	Twp. 32, R6	Desmond Brothers, Shasta	Quartz with sulphurets
42.	Saddlebag	Sec. 35	Twp. 32, R6		Quartz with sulphurets
43.	Sandwich	Sec. 35	Twp. 32, R6	Charles Huffard, Shasta	Quartz with sulphurets
44.	Sonora	Sec. 20	Twp. 32, R6	Gibney Brothers, et al., Igo	Gold and silver

<u>Mine</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Company Owner or Superintendent</u>	<u>Character of Ore</u>
45. Stella	Sec. 16 Twp. 32, R6	C. Wood, et al., Redding	Gold quartz with iron pyrites
46. Sunlight	Sec. 25 Twp. 32, R6	N. A. Pryor, et al., Shasta	Free milling gold quartz
47. Union Hill	Sec. 2 Twp. 31, R6	J. H. Beaumont & Sons, Anderson	Quartz with sulphurets
48. Venus	Sec. 2 Twp. 31, R6	M. Russell, et al., Shasta	Quartz with sulphurets
49. White Rose	Sec. 3 Twp. 31, R6	Lees, Le Baron & Fowler, Shasta	Base with sulphurets

K. Agricultural and Grazing Lands, 1850-1880*

Record Book R, p. 330:

Land Claim	January 1, 1855
S. V. Tripp	for agricultural and grazing purposes

Beginning at an oak stump standing about 200 yards south of Clear Creek and about half-way between Blue Gulch and Boulder Creek and near the foot of a Hill. Said stump being blazed . . . and about three miles from the town of Shasta in a Southwest course from said Town . . . not more than 160 acres.

Record Book R, p. 356:

Land Claim	March 14, 1855
Benjamin Mix	for agricultural, grazing and corralling purposes

Beginning at a pine tree marked with a cross and standing on the east bank of Whiskey Creek a short distance below the crossing of the road leading from Whiskey Town or Franklin to Shasta. Running from said tree in a westerly course up and along Main or Principal Street in said Whiskey Town about . . . 135 yards to the corner of the old Bennett cabin on the said street from thence back in a Northerly Course about 193 feet to a post cross x marked . . . westerly course about 115 feet . . . northerly course about 212 yards to a stake or post near a gulch . . . easterly course down said gulch . . . to the mouth of same about 299 yards thence down the channel of said Whiskey Creek about 250 yards to the aforesaid place of beginning.

*Not intended as a complete list, but a representative example of land claims and secondary references which resulted from this research. Agricultural land claims are registered in deed books by date of entry and name of the individual claiming land, and thus, without prior knowledge of a name associated with ranching or farming, these occupations are difficult to trace. The above record citations have been condensed and edited by the writer and do not represent the exact text.

Record Book R, p. 428:

Land Claim	October 11, 1855
William Taggart	for agricultural and grazing purposes

Situated on the road running from Shasta City to Oak Bottom the East line running about 3/4 of a mile west of Whisky Creek and more particularly described by commencing at a small white oak tree in a small gulch above Clear Creek water ditch thence running south 80 yards to a small white oak tree near the road thence west 320 rods to a black oak tree thence 80 rods to a pine tree thence east 320 rods to the beginning. [or 160 acres]

Record Book R, p. 499:

C. J. Gooch & Brother	November 2, 1859
to	sale of 1/6 interest in Boulder Creek Ranch
J. S. Powers	and Ice Business

Situated on Boulder Creek (near the Oak Bottom Ranch) being about 2 1/2 miles from the confluence of said Boulder Creek with Clear Creek and commencing at a large blazed pine tree about 50 yards below the lower bridge, on said Boulder Creek, and running in a North West direction up said Creek to a blazed Spruce tree about one mile, thence in A South Westerly direction about 1/4 of a mile, to a large Blazed pine tree thence North East across said creek to place of beginning about 1/4 of a mile. Together with 1/6 interest in 3 mules, 1 wagon and one harness and buildings on said premises and 1/6 interest in the Ice business for the sum of \$350.

Miscellaneous Record Book I, p. 459:

Water Claim	February 19, 1879
Timothy Desmond	

Water flowing in the right hand fork of Boulder Creek . . . at a point about 3/4 of a mile above the mouth of said fork to divert same by dam ditch flume for irrigation purposes at and on a Ranch or piece of land situated on the right-hand bank . . . about three miles from Oak Bottom.

Shasta Courier, February 27, 1869:

[Tower House Sale Advertisement:] "about Two Acres of Orchard and Garden."

Pen Pictures, (1891), p. 647:

[Hugh H. Shuffleton brought dairy stock from the East and conducted a dairy business, receiving 75¢ per gallon for milk making about \$500 per month.]

To accomodate his increasing herds, he removed to the southwest of Shasta, in 1859, purchased a claim of 160 acres of land, and took 300 head of cattle there. All the lands in that vicinity were then free pastures and he had full scope for his stock. On that property he has since resided and continued the cattle business, not always with success, for in 1862, the hardest winter known here, he lost 200 cattle. He is now also raising hogs, sheep and horses. In speaking of the productions of his soil, he says he has 12 acres of alfalfa which he irrigates and gets [?] four crops per year, getting from it 60 tons of hay. Without irrigation he raises large crops of corn.

[A Shasta County planning commission property ownership map in the park files (no date) shows H. H. Shuffleton Jr. as a land owner in two sections of the general vicinity described above.]

L. Shasta County Voting Registers for Whiskeytown and Tower House, 1867-68, 1872, 1873, 1879*

Great Register, 1867-68

NAME	AGE	STATE OR COUNTRY OF NATIVITY	OCCUPATION	LOCAL RESIDENCE
Ashworth, Thos.	46	United States	Hotelkeeper	Whiskeytown
Anbershawn, Labaun	29	United States	Butcher	"
Andrews, William	40	"	Clerk	"
Aufschneider, Charles	35	Bavaria	Miner	"
Arnett, David	35	Iowa	Miner	"
Armentrout, John Wm.	30	Virginia	Blacksmith	Tower House
Bainbridge, Geo. Winifield	43	England	Miner	Whiskeytown
Banghart, Woolsten	40	United States	"	"
Baugh, John	33	"	"	Tower House
104 Brown, Joseph Gibbs	42	"	Cook	Whiskeytown
Benson, Claus	30	Germany	Miner	"
Behrens, Ludwig	41	"	"	"
Blair, James Drummond	37	Ireland	Butcher	"
Baker, Edward	21	Maine	Millman	"
Bannister, Joseph	37	Maryland	Miner	"
Byrne, Edward	39	Ireland	"	"
Chitwood, Jos. Alex.	48	United States	"	Tower House
Conner, William Dennis	42	Ireland	"	"
Carpenter, Benjamin	34	United States	Ditch tender	"
Camden, John Folner	27	"	Hotelkeeper	"
Clark, Samuel Welch	58	"	Miner	"

*Selectively compiled by the writer

NAME	AGE	STATE OR COUNTRY OF NATIVITY	OCCUPATION	LOCAL RESIDENCE
Cartright, Thomas James	36	England	Miner	Whiskytown
Clark, Charles Wesley	34	New York	"	"
Cooper, Richard Alfred	50	Delaware	"	"
Ellis, Augustus	42	Massachusetts	"	"
Finkelson, Christian	55	Norway	"	Tower House
Farrington, Nathan C.	47	United States	Mill Owner	Whiskytown
Fleming, John	37	Ireland	"	Whiskytown
Gainer, Michael	36	"	Miner	Tower House
Green, Horace Weir	32	United States	Miner	Tower House
Hammond, Frederick Charles	39	United States	Hostler	Tower House
Harrison, John William	32	"	Miner	"
Hazlett, James	39	"	"	Whiskytown
Huntsman, David	36	Ohio	"	"
Hall, Timothy	32	Maine	"	Tower House
Hansel, Mike	56	Pennsylvania	Herder	Whiskytown
Jackson, Homer	48	United States	Miner	Tower House
Johnson, George	29	New York	"	Whiskytown
Jull, William	50	England	"	Tower House
Kessler, William	42	United States	Merchant	Whiskytown
Ketchum, Robt. Burton	30	"	Miner	"
Kimble, James Hazen	48	"	"	"
King, James	31	Virginia	"	Whiskytown
Kesting, Josephy	41	Germany	"	"
Kemble, John Rorick	30	New Jersey	Miner	"
Ketchum, George	31	Missouri	Miner	"
Kisting, Jos. Burnum	42	Germany	"	"
Krafft, John Washington	34	Dist. Columbia	"	Tower House
Kunkel, Nicholas Peter	45	Germany	"	"
Kemble, David	35	New York	"	Whiskytown
Lewis, Joseph	35	Portugal	"	Tower House
Mahoney, James Buckley	48	Ireland	"	Whiskytown

NAME	AGE	STATE OR COUNTRY OF NATIVITY	OCCUPATION	LOCAL RESIDENCE
McNeil, Josiah	48	United States	Miner	Tower House
McDonald, Patrick	50	Ireland	"	Whisky Creek
Milbourne, Albert Pitt	46	Maryland	"	Whiskytown
Meers, Herman	51	Hanover	"	Whiskytown
Musgrove, James Dillon	50	Pennsylvania	"	Whiskytown
Price, Jeremiah	67	Wales	Laborer	"
Pugh, Hugh	35	"	Miner	"
Prather, Abner	61	Iowa	Teamster	"
Rymer, Peter James	46	North Carolina	Miner	Whiskytown
Rennie, John	46	Bavaria	Gardner	"
Rowe, John	47	Ohio	Miner	"
Smith, Jasper Enoch	36	United States	"	Tower House
Smith, Ebenezer James Augus	36	United States	"	"
Sprowls, John	36	"	"	"
Suttle, Thomas Erastus	42	"	"	"
Smith, Joseph Enock	36	"	"	"
Saban, Pierce	66	"	"	Whiskytown
Swain, Alexander Cartwright	42	"	"	"
Sevedge, William Harrison	31	Arkansas	Laborer	Whiskytown
Schmidt, Anthony	42	Germany	Miner	"
Taylor, Charles W.	32	United States	Hotelkeeper	"
Taggart, Grant Isreal	36	Pennsylvania	"	Tower House
Thomas, Henry,	40	Ireland	Miner	Tower House
Turner, Howard L.	30	Kentucky	Teamster	"
Van Wie, Aaron Walter	32	United States	Farmer	"
Williams, John Kaiser	33	United States	Miner	Whiskytown
Wright, William	35	"	"	"
Williams, Lewellen	41	S. Wales, England	Blacksmith	"
Williams, Robt. McDowell	42	Georgia	Miner	"
Williams, William Wallace	37	New York	Hotelkeeper	Tower House
Wood, James Alfred	31	New York	Miner	Whiskytown
Williams, Samuel Maine	39	"	"	Tower House
West, Brownell	47	Rhode Island	"	"

NAME	AGE	STATE OR COUNTRY OF NATIVITY	OCCUPATION	LOCAL RESIDENCE
<u>SUPPLEMENT 1868 (New Names Only)</u>				
Bates, Foradice	43	United States	Farmer	Tower House
Crocker, Everett French	45	"	Mill Owner	Whiskytown
Camden, Charles	51		Toll road owner	Tower House
Cullen, William	47		Miner	
Farrington, Asha	21	Maine	Miner	Whiskytown
Mitchell, John	34	"	Toll collector	Tower House
Mayer, Romulus Gomez	23		Miner	Whiskytown
Pockham, Nicholas Alford	60	Rhode Island	"	"
Smith, Jordan Bulls	61	Ohio	"	Tower House
Toutelotte, Jesse	38	United States	Hotelkeeper	"

1872 GREAT REGISTER (New Names not listed in 1867-68)

167 Allen, Benjamin Franklin	21	Illinois	Miner	Tower House
Jones, Rober V.	40	Wales	Miner	Whiskytown
Murray, John Emsley	21	Illinois	Tel. Operator	Tower House
Nelson, Chas. Robert	47	Sweden	Miner	Whiskytown
Reynolds, Thomas Benjamin	22	Wisconsin	"	"
Rizer, Benjamin Franklin	64	Virginia	Farmer	Tower House
Stafford, William	52	Rhode Island	Miner	Whiskytown
Woodhouse, John	60	Germany	Miner	"
Wonn, Henry	40	Germany	"	Tower House
Warfield, Robert	26	Pennsylvania	"	Whiskytown
Young, George	32	Ireland	"	"
Zedeger, Geo. Washington		Ohio	"	"

GREAT REGISTER 1879 (Names not listed in prior Registers)

Banghart, George Washington	21	California	Miner	Whiskytown
Banks, Chas.	39	Missouri	"	"
Brackett, Geo. Frank	28	Maine	"	"

NAME	AGE	STATE OR COUNTRY OF NATIVITY	OCCUPATION	LOCAL RESIDENCE
Burns, Charles	21	California	Laborer	Whiskytown
Jones, Joseph	21	"	Miner	"
Jackson, Wm.				
Knox, Geo. Herrick	45	Maine	"	"
McDonald, Lude	21	California	"	"
McManigal, Robert Moore	22	Pennsylvania	"	"
McDonald, Bernard	21	California	"	"
McNeill, Josiah	60	Pennsylvania	"	"
Mooney, John	46	New York	Lawyer	"
Peseli, Antonio	55	Austria	Miner	"
Reel, Louis	25	Germany	"	"
Rand, John Burnham	35	New Hampshire	"	"
Saulan, Andro	38	Austria	"	"
Thompson, Ashman	61	Maine	Carpenter	"
Zedeker, George Washington	44	Ohio	Laborer	"

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