

SAN JOAQUIN HISTORIAN

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THE SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

"YOUR MUSEUM"

Yesterdays headlines may not be todays news but they are necessary in order to review the events of the past. They give an equal understanding of the strong foundation upon which this museum is being built.

With the passing of William G. Micke in 1961, the remainder of his estate was given to the County of San Joaquin. Previously he and Mrs. Micke had given the 60 acres of oak grove to the county.

Three memorials were given in memory of his wife. They were the Julia Harrison Micke Memorial Building, swimming pool and zoo. A trust fund was established to help defray the cost of operation.

The estate, as given to the county, includes 125 acres for development of a golf course and 73 acres to the North of the present park. The North section contains the 12 acre Museum Complex as set aside by the County Board of Supervisors.

It is quite fitting that the museum be based on man's dependency upon the soil. An ecological approach is new to this area. It is most timely when we consider our very existence depends upon the clean air, clean water and the plant world. It was by Mr. Micke's hard work and ability as an agriculturist that the harvest was good. The park, which we are now enjoying, owes its existence to the soil and the profits thereof.

In 1961 the furnishings from the dining room and parlor, of the Micke home, along with other items, were placed in storage. The two rooms are to be recreated, as near as possible, in the main museum building.

The museum will stress the growth and development of San Joaquin County and the uses the native Indians and Pioneers put to the soil. The periods of the Indian, Trader and Trapper, Mexican, Spanish, Gold Rush, Cattle and early settlements will be depicted. Each in its own way depended upon the soil or natural environment. Such as the Trader and Trapper who sought the rich pelts of the land.

Children always get the impression history happened far away. Here will be San Joaquin County history alive and in reach of the child. It will also be a training ground for the new teacher, resident and tourist.

LAND DEVELOPMENT

The landscape design has been completed by a landscape designer. The entire 12 acres will be planted to California Native flora. One exception will be a group of Missouri Cedars. They will be planted near the main building entrance. The little cedars came

from the Micke childhood home in Missouri by the courtesy of George Lahmeyer of Acampo.

Roadways and curbing, in Phase I, have been finished.

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| MICKE GROVE NORTH PHASE I | URBAN PARKS GRANT PROGRAM |
| \$62,300.00 Federal Grant | Project No. Calif. B-125 |
| \$90,684.00 Micke Grove Estate | U.S. Dept. Housing & Urban Development |

Bids have been let to Custom Builders of Stockton for the construction of the Agricultural Implement/Vehicle Building, the first of several buildings to be erected.

The building, 40' x 100' will have an additional 8,000 sq. ft. of wall space for exhibits.

A grant has just been received by the County, which will in part, further the development of Phase I.

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|---|-------------|
| 1. Well, 40 H.P. pump, pressure tank and chain link fence. | \$12,000.00 |
| 2. Sprinkler systems for lawn areas, divider strips in parking lots, water lines to drinking fountains and restrooms. | \$28,000.00 |
| 3. Lighting for roadways, service underground to restrooms, picnic shelters and museum equipment building. | \$18,800.00 |
| 4. Two restroom buildings, complete with septic tanks and leach lines. | \$21,000.00 |
| 5. Picnic shelter, including lights, sink and water. | \$12,500.00 |
| 6. Plant mix floor in shelter. | \$ 1,200.00 |
| 7. Picnic tables, 7 barbecue pits. | \$ 2,526.00 |
| 8. Walk ways | \$ 2,500.00 |
| 9. Trees, shrubs, ground cover and lawns. | \$ 8,000.00 |
| FUNDS | |
| FEDERAL GRANT | \$57,902.00 |
| MICKE GROVE ESTATE | \$73,624.00 |

When the complex is completed, an estimated 350,000 will be in annual attendance. This will mean an economic gain to the business of the county.

MUSEUM OFFICE

The office of the museum, in the south section of the Grove, is open Mondays and Tuesdays from 9 to 12 and 1 to 4, other days by appointment. All items are handled by the staff. The San Joaquin County Historical Society is authorized by the County Board of Supervisors to direct the work.

Many interesting items are being received. Each will play a part in telling the story of the people and the land.

Space will not allow a complete listing of donors. The following sampling will give an idea of the variety of items being received.

A wooden chest brought to San Joaquin County in 1859 and a Winchester 25 - 30 Model 1892 was given by Mrs. Sue Gann Beery of Stockton.

DellAringa Brothers of Stockton gave, and delivered, a Cat Ten, one of the last in the county that was built with the high engine for row crop use in the delta.

Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Holmquist of Ripon gave an 1885 hand made loom.

People who move, like Ora Hammer Leffler, the Edmund Durstons and Mrs. Leona Boyd are a boon to the museum, that is, if they call the office first, the staff can often see items of importance that may otherwise be overlooked.

A little farm sand wagon was given by Grace Nelson. It was used by her family in the islands during the winter months. It will be shown in the Agricultural

building along with other interesting and unusual items.

Henry Osterman of Clements donated mining equipment that was used on the Mokelumne. Yes, Henry even gave a sample of the yellow stuff.

Ezra Johnson, Post Commander, and Ross Dawson of Lodi Barricks #1314 Veterans of World War I have been busy among their members and friends.

Mr. Micke's hay rake is being restored by our hardworking Elwood Myers. It is in contrast to the bunch rake donated by Fred Witt of Stockton.

One of the most useful items, a safe, came from the City of Lodi.

A project of this magnitude could not grow without the hardworking museum committee, board members, volunteers, and members and friends of the project.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Robert Angermeier, President | Carol Lahmeyer | Howard Letcher, Vice Pres. |
| Celia Myers, Secretary | Earle E. Williams | Mickey Mc Masters |
| Gertrude Kettelman, Treasurer | Beatrice Schwartz | Medora Johnson, Museum Dir. |

MUSEUM COMMITTEE

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Celia E. Myers, Secretary | Micke Mc Masters | Robert Angermeier |
| Elwood Myers | Horace Spencer | Theodosia Benjamin |
| Beatrice Schwartz | David Schwartz | James H. Beardsley |
| R.W. Friedberger | Nathalie Gardner | Earle E. Williams |

CONSULTANTS

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Merton E. Hinshaw | Irene Neasham |
| Ruth I. Mahood | Norman L. Wilson |

The museum and society asks your help in locating the following:

HOUSEHOLD - Lighting devices, clocks, lamps and china. A complete set of dishes is not always necessary. A place setting plus compote, covered dish or platter will suffice in most patterns.

WOMAN'S REALM - handcrafts, quilts, coverlets, personal adornment

MEN'S WORLD - guns and edged weapons, both military and sport, duck and goose decoys
We have the box but not the beaver hat. Can you locate a good one?

INDIAN ARTIFACTS - preferably those of this area. A study collection of other areas of the state is being compiled.

LITERATURE - botany books and prints, county histories, and copies of the California Farmer and Pacific Rural Press are needed. Volume II of Knight's American Mechanical Dictionary 1876. The materials on hand are already being used.

CRAFT TOOLS - Coopersmith, Wheelright, Shipright, Cabinet Maker, Blacksmith, Cobbler and Tinsmith.

BUSINESS - Ledgers, day books, etc. photographs, negatives and equipment.

AGRICULTURE - vehicles, implements and tools.

Your assistance in furthering this worthwhile project is greatly appreciated.

COMING EVENTS

State Barbed Wire Society Meet and Show - Sutter Creek, January 31. Our member Mrs. Frydendahl is a State Officer.

Ripon Almond Festival - February 26, 27 & 28. Mrs. Louise Sanford will again be actively engaged in the society exhibit.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|------------------------|----------|
| Mr. & Mrs. Lorn Wade | Tracy | Mrs. Barbara Sisson | Acamp |
| Mr. & Mrs. Art Frydendahl | Tracy | James E. Fahey | Lodi |
| Miss Myrtle Hanson | Lodi | Howard Babcock | Lodi |
| Mrs. Edna Lowe | Lodi | Mr. & Mrs. Frank Nunes | Ripon |
| | | Arthur B. Otts | Stockton |

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

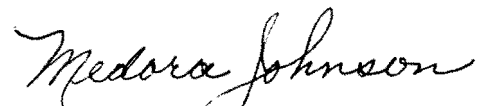
Members and friends may make monetary gifts to the SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT FUND, such gifts may be made at the time of death in lieu of flowers, but contributions may be made at any time, and pioneer family names have been so commemorated. The names are inscribed in the Book of Remembrance, which will be on display in the museum.

Names heretofore unpublished are:

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Emil E. Denuit | Mary Belle Davidson |
| Mary E. Palmaymesa | Ennid Woodson Sullivan |
| Christopher N. Adams | Christina Horst |
| Mary E. Adams | Wendell Phillips |
| Howard Myers | Elsie Weber McPherson |
| Lilly Myers | Clarence Reed |
| Warren W. Breitenbucher | J. Philo Thorpe |
| Gertrude E. Bewley | Lois Winsor |

Those wishing to make monetary as well as historical contributions to the museum may call the museum office for further information. Lodi 368-9154 or 368-0268.

The year of 1970 promises to be a good one with construction underway. Thanks to each and every one and to the County Board of Supervisors.



Medora Johnson, Museum Director