



The Land

This is a view of the city of Concord taken about 1930. Note the dark spot in the center of the picture. These are the eucalyptus trees growing in Todos Santos Plaza. Lime Ridge can be seen, extending down from the base

of Mt. Diablo.

Mt. Diablo is the most prominent landform in Contra Costa County, rising 3,849 feet above the city of Concord. Plate tectonics played a major role in the formation of the mountain. Plates “float” on a layer of semi-molten rock, moving and jostling each other, creating landforms in the process.

The rise of Mt. Diablo to its present height is the result of tectonic forces. Faults surround the mountain. The Coast Range Fault and the Mt. Diablo Fault join forces to circle Mt. Diablo. Compression forces began to thrust the mountain upward around 4.83 million years ago. Geologists believe that the mountain is still growing at the rate of 2 millimeters per year.

Culturally, the mountain plays an important role, with many hiking trails and camping sites to welcome visitors. Every December 7, the aircraft beacon on the top of the building at the summit is illuminated to memorialize the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941; the start of World War II.

Major faults surround the city of Concord. The Calaveras Fault is an important branch of the San Andreas Fault. It lies to the east of the Hayward Fault, another branch of the San Andreas Fault Zone. All of these faults are right lateral strike-slip faults. The Concord Fault and the Clayton-Marsh Creek-Greenville Fault continue to be active, playing a role in the growth of Mt. Diablo.

Lime Ridge extends from Mt. Diablo into the valley that lies at its base. The soil in the valley is a mixture of organic material and clay. The soil is ideal for agriculture, which explains the orchards of almond, walnut, and pear trees, as well as grape vineyards that covered the valley around Concord from the early 1900's through the 1960's.

Major streams include Grayson Creek, which flows north easterly from its origin in Briones Regional Park to Pacheco Slough before emptying into Suisun Bay at Martinez. Other creeks include: Russellman Creek, Marsh Creek, Walnut Creek, and Pacheco Creek.

The Chupcans

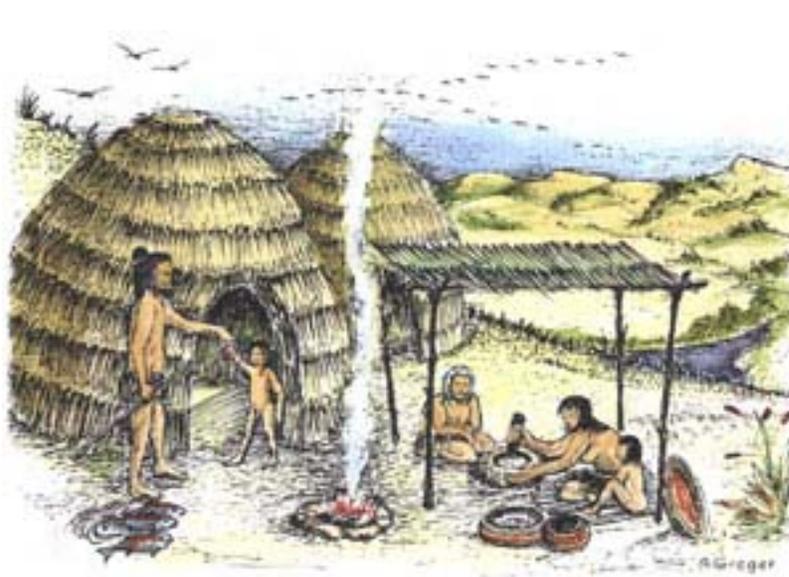
The Chupcan Indians were the first inhabitants of the lower Diablo Valley. Their main village was on the lower Pacheco Creek near the present day city of Concord, called Monte del Diablo by the Spanish, meaning "The Devil's Woodlot" or "Devils Willow Thicket."

When a Spanish expedition, led by Lieutenant Pedro Fages and Father Juan Crespi came to the area, Father Crespi compared the Chupcan to other Native Americans they had encountered:

"Almost all of them are tall in stature, most of them are the whitest and fair-headed of any that I have seen in these lands, and in quickness, clothing and the nature of their weapons, they resemble the Santa Barbara Channel heathens. The women are the most modest we have seen; the men wear their hair long, most of them with it tied into a kind of queue..."

The Chupcan lived in two villages. They fished in the wetlands for salmon and shellfish, and they hunted and gathered, and prepared food in the plains and hills of Diablo Valley. They gathered and ate acorns, buckeyes and grass-seeds. They purposefully set fires to increase seed harvests and to force new growth that would feed deer, elk and antelope. The burns also produced long, straight, flexible shoots, which were used for making baskets. Sturdy hardwood sprouts were used for digging sticks and straight poles were used for building houses.

Efforts by the Spanish to confine California's Native American population to missions led to violence. Epidemics of malaria and smallpox between 1827 and 1844 decimated the Native American population.



Compare the text and pictures of the life style of Chupcan Native Americans with how you live with your family. What do you eat that is similar? What do you eat that is different? How are your houses similar? How are they different? What do you notice about their clothing. How is that different?

The Explorers - Pedro Fages

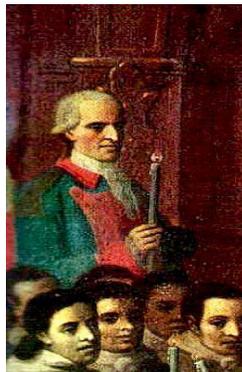
When Pedro Fages first saw the Chupcan he wrote:

“As soon as we entered this valley four heathens shouted at us, making signs that we should go and receive a bow trimmed with feathers, the pelt of an animal, and arrows, which they had thrust into the ground. The Captain went forward with a soldier and received their present, returning it with beads, with which they were well pleased.”

Captain Pedro Fages, led a group of 12 men on an exploration of the area known as Monte del Diablo in 1772. Standing on a hill by present day Willow Pass the explorers looked over the valley. Fages was known as industrious, energetic, a rugged frontiersman and an explorer. He was skillful as a hunter and a great horseman.

He was fond of children and kept his pockets full of candy to give to the children who would crowd around him.

Pedro Fages became Governor of California in 1782. He then moved his family to Monterey in 1783. He gave up his office as governor in 1791 and moved back to Mexico where he died in 1794.



The Explorers - Father Juan Crespi

Father Juan Crespi was born in 1721 in Spain, he entered the Franciscan order of the Catholic Church when he was 17 years old. He became a well-known missionary and explorer. He came to America in 1749 where he accompanied Father Junipero Serra on his exploration of California.

He went with Pedro Fages and others to check the map of the East Bay, or the other coast, "La Contra Costa" of San Francisco Bay in 1772. That expedition discovered the Sacramento Delta and the San Joaquin River. Crespi mistakenly assumed it was one river and called it accordingly, "The Great River of St. Francis".

His diaries provided a valuable record of these explorations and they provided the first record of the Native American populations.

When the expedition first came through the area, the Indians warned them away from a willow thicket, which was their burial ground. Father Juan Crespi and the other Spaniards called the ground "Monte del Diablo," which meant "Devil's Willow Thicket." Early American settlers thought the word "Monte" meant mountain and so they called the mountain at the foot of the valley, Mt. Diablo.

Father Juan Crespi died in 1782 in Carmel, California.

The Founders-Don Salvio Pacheco

Salvio Pacheco was born in 1793 in Monterey. He joined the army at the age of 17 and finished his service in San Francisco. In 1820, Mexico - which included the territory of California - won independence from Spain. Salvio became a part of the Mexican administration of the territory of California.

Salvio received a land grant of 17,921 acres in 1834. Because his land grant was so far from where he was living, he sent his son, Fernando, to build a small house and start raising cattle.

In 1846, when California came under American influence, Don Salvio built a new house and moved the rest of his family to Rancho Monte del Diablo. The name meant "Devils Willow Thicket," referring to a grove of willows, some believed to be inhabited by mischievous spirits.

Items for the new house were imported from Spain. They came to San Francisco and then by ferry to Pacheco Landing.

The walls of the house were made of large adobe bricks, made from clay and straw. Separate buildings served as a kitchen and servant's quarters. A bullring and a dance pavilion were located near the house.

Religion was an important part of life for the pioneers, with Padres coming from San Jose and Benicia to say mass, officiate at weddings, baptisms and funerals.

When California became a state in 1850, the U.S. government recognized Don Salvio's original land grant.

During the 1850's and 1860's Don Salvio sold off much of his land. The new comers, the Americans, grew many acres of wheat, which gradually replaced cattle ranches.

The town of Pacheco was started in 1853 at the site of Pacheco Landing, a wheat-shipping center. In the 1860's the town was devastated by a series of floods.

In 1868 Don Salvio, with his son, Fernando, and his son-in-law, Francesco Galindo, founded the new town of Todos Santos.

Don Salvio



Pacheco died in 1876.



The Founders – Fernando Pacheco

Fernando Pacheco, Don Salvio's son, moved to the wilderness of Rancho Monte del Diablo when he was 17 years old to fulfill the requirements of the land grant; to build a house within 1 year and to mark the rancho's boundaries with trees or other permanent markers. The boundaries were set with stone markers.

The original land grant was big enough to hold 850 head of horned cattle, a flock of sheep and approximately 90 horses.

He was 21 years old when his father gave him 1,500 acres of Rancho Monte del Diablo. A year later he received an additional 2,000 acres.

Fernando was known as a kind and generous man. He donated the land for the Concord Grammar School, which was completed in 1870. He was famous for hosting fiestas at his adobe, which included barbecues, horse racing and dances. As many as 30 guests would gather at his dinner table, which was set under a covered patio to the left of his house.

When Fernando died in 1884, the community paid tribute to him as one of the founders of the city of Concord.



The Founders - Francisco Galindo

Francisco Galindo was baptized in 1824 at Mission Dolores in San Francisco. In about 1850 he married Manuela Pacheco, a daughter of Salvio Pacheco. When they were married, Francisco and his bride were given an allotment of cattle and 1,000 acres of Monte del Diablo.

In 1856 Francisco built a wood frame, two-story house. Later generations added on to the house.

Francisco was successful in the growing pioneer country. He purchased an additional 4,000 acres from his father-in-law, Don Salvio. He was known as a horse breeder, raising racing and show horses. He also raised many cattle and sheep. Later he reduced the size of his livestock herds and began producing wheat on the land.

In the late 1870's he expanded his business interests to Oakland, where he built the Galindo hotel. When he died in Oakland in 1891, many pioneer dignitaries from the entire Bay Area attended his funeral. He had played a role in the development of California, from remote wilderness to the growth of prosperous settlements.



Todos Santos or Concord?

The first settlement built on Rancho Monte del Diablo was the town of Pacheco. It was located on Grayson Creek, which was deep enough to allow ships to deliver merchandise to the town. Every year the town flooded. Floods and silt soon left the creek too shallow for ships to navigate.

In 1862, a surveyor planned 20 acres for a new town to be built on higher ground. 19 blocks were laid out around a central plaza, which was to be used as a park. Don Salvio Pacheco offered to sell land around the plaza for \$1, if a merchant from Pacheco would move to the new town. The new town was called Todos Santos, which meant All Saints. They were eager for merchants to come to the new town and wanted to attract business.

Some people had started to call the town "Drunken Indian" because of a man who frequently appeared drunk on the city sidewalks. The town's name was changed by an announcement in the Contra Costa Gazette on April 17, 1864.

THE NAME!—"CONCORD" is the name, as we hear, by which the sponsors have decided to call the new village that is to form the east extension of Pacheco town. For significance and euphony no finer designation could have been found, and, in the spirit of the name, we congratulate our neighbors on its adoption.

CONTRA COSTA GAZETTE

April 17, 1869

The Pacheco family did not agree with the name change and placed their own announcement in the Contra Costa Gazette on September 22, 1869. It seems people ignored this announcement and the name of the town remained Concord. The park in the center of Concord today bears the name Todos Santos Plaza.

Notice

K NOW ALL MEN, AND IN PARTICULAR ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN :

That the new town started to the East of Pacheco, in the Monte del Diablo Rancho and county of Contra Costa, has falsely acquired the name of *Concord*, and in reality its true name is "TODOS SANTOS," as may be seen in the County Record. Wherefore, all business men who have any business in said town, will please remember its name, and particularly in making Deeds or any other land transactions—for in fact the town of "Concord" does not exist.

Sept. 22, 1869.

FERNANDO PACHECO

CONTRA COSTA GAZETTE
September 25, 1869

A City Grows

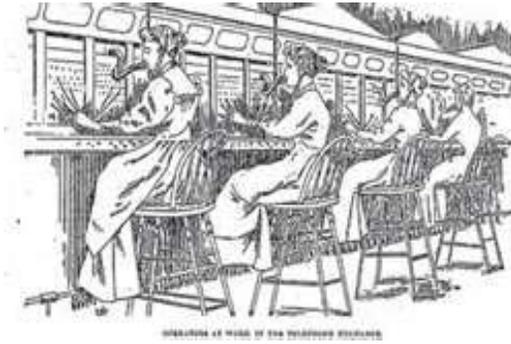


1. The striped line shows the original land grant, Monte del Diablo, over a modern day map, which shows major roads and landmarks. Where do you live? Where is your school?

Census Data for the City of Concord

Year	Number of People
1870	400
1880	399
1890	373
1900	586
1910	703
1920	912
1930	1,125
1940	1,373
1950	6,953
1960	36,208
1970	85,164
1980	103,251
1990	111,348
2000	121,780
2010	122,067

1. What year showed the greatest growth?
2. What years showed the slowest growth?
3. Why did your family move to Concord? When?



Telephone Communication

In the early days, telephone communication was established through exchanges. Calls would come into the exchange and the operators would send the call to the home. Often, more than one home would be included on a party line, with each house having a different number of rings so that they would know the call was for them. Anyone on a party line could listen in on the phone call for another on the line. Usually, 2 to 4 homes were on a party line.

The Concord Telephone Exchange was first established in 1881. It was the fifth exchange founded in Northern California. There were originally two switchboards. In 1938 each switchboard received 50 to 75 calls a day.

On September 15, 1950 the first extended service station, out of area calls, was started in Concord. The seven-digit dial system went into effect on May 24, 1953. The automatic answering equipment was installed by December 12, 1954. In December 1955, 1300 to 4900 calls went through operators each day. In November 1955, the direct dialing system was introduced, eliminating the need for operators for most calls.

The Number of Phones in Concord from 1893-1966

Year	Phones
1893	2
1900	6
1910	233
1915	309
1930	529
1935	547
1945	1,361
1951	4,554
1954	10,334
1956	14,748
1960	23,431
1962	28,080
1965	41,155
1966	45,961

1. How has telephone communication changed since 1966?
2. Compare the number of telephones to the Census Data for 1950 and 1960. Write the number in the space below the dates. What do these numbers show? Why?

Number of Telephones	Census Data
1951	1950
1960	1960

Concord Grammar School

Education was always important to Concord's founding fathers. Salvio Pacheco gathered his children and the children of his ranch hands together in a room in his adobe beginning in 1860. Professor Gomez taught the children in Spanish and English. 10 years later, enough children from other families gathered to demand a proper schoolhouse. Within 2 years enough money was raised to build the first Concord Grammar School on the corner of Grant and Bonifacio Streets. The lower grades met on the first floor, while the second floor housed the upper grades and the library.

The school's first teacher was Annie Carpenter. Another teacher during these early days was Charles Boles.



Attendance at school was not mandatory; students were often absent so that they could help in the fields during harvest and round-up times. The students who lived in town walked to school, returned home for lunch and then walked back to school. Others rode horses or arrived by horse and buggy.

In 1884, 190 students attended the school.

Determined to have the "largest and most important structure yet built to house a school," the town decided to raise money to build the new Concord Grammar School. It was completed in 1892 on Willow Pass Road. It was three stories high and included a belfry, whose bell called students to school and could be heard far and wide.

By 1913, there were seven teachers (paid a total of \$6,540) and 279 students. Also in 1913, a wild storm with wind and rain swept across the town, ripping shingles from the roof of the school. Windowpanes were blown in and rain poured into the school, flooding the wooden floors.

Finally in 1923 a single story building was built in front of the three-story schoolhouse and the top floors of the original building were removed. The remaining lower floor was used as a classroom, an auditorium, and finally for storage.

The school continued to serve elementary students until June 1974. Since 1976 the buildings on the site serve as Olympic High School.



The Legend of Black Bart

The question that has never been answered with any assurance was whether the teacher, Charles Boles, was also the stagecoach robber, Black Bart.

Charles Boles was born in England. He came to California with two brothers to prospect for gold in 1850. When the Civil War broke out he served with the 116th Illinois Volunteer Regiment, marching with General Sherman through Georgia where he was seriously wounded.

After the war Boles once again became a prospector, in Idaho and Montana this time. In 1871 he wrote to his wife, telling her about an unpleasant incident with an employee of Well, Fargo & Company, vowing to pay them back. He never wrote to his wife again and she assumed that he had died.

Black Bart committed 28 robberies of Well Fargo stagecoaches across northern California between 1875 and 1883. He took thousands of dollars a year. He was known for being courteous, especially to women. He wore a long linen duster coat and a Bowler hat. He covered his face with a flour sack with holes cut for his eyes. He always brandished a shotgun, but never fired a shot or harmed anyone. He was known to be afraid of horses and would stop the stagecoaches by stepping in front of them, telling the driver to "Hand down the box." He was an educated man and left a poem at some of his robberies.

He was captured in 1883 and sentenced to 6 years in San Quentin, but was let out in four years for good behavior. When he was captured he was using the alias Charles Bolton, but he was also known as Charles Bowles, Charles Boles, T.Z. Spaulding and Black Bart.

One rumor that followed Boles was that upon his release from prison, he was paid off by Well Fargo to keep him from once again robbing their stagecoaches. Another rumor was that Black Bart was a teacher who taught for 3 years at the Concord Grammar school beginning in 1874.

Left on July 25, 1878 at the holdup of a stage traveling from Quincy to Oroville:

Here I lay me down to sleep

To wait the coming morrow
Perhaps success, perhaps defeat
And everlasting sorrow.
Let come what will, I'll try it on
My condition can't be worse
And if there's money in that box
'Tis munny in my purse.

- Black Bart

Po 8



The infamous Black Bart

Walt Feggo Archives

Mt. Diablo High School

Few students went to school beyond 8th grade in 1900. In early 1900 only 12 high schools existed in the whole state of California. In 1901, voters from 12 grammar school districts, including Concord and Walnut Creek, established the Mt. Diablo High School district. As local residents raised money to build a high school, a temporary school was set in 2 classrooms of the Concord Grammar School. Chemistry and physics classes were held in a room at the Odd Fellows Hall a few blocks away.

By the time the funds were raised, A.W. Maltby donated 3.5 acres of land, bordered by Grant and East Streets, for the new school. In 1904 a four-room building was built on the site for a total of \$12,000, and the school was opened for students.

In 1911, school district trustees purchased 6 adjoining acres, and volunteers laid out a quarter-mile track and built a grandstand. A year later an auditorium was built.

When the principal, Roger Phelps, retired in 1917, Bertha Romaine, was named principal. She kept the position for 31 years and saw the school grow from 148 to 1,500 students by 1949.

Miss Romaine ran the campus much like private schools of the time. Girls wore middie blouse and skirt uniforms and all boys wore ties. The campus was closed at noon to keep students from going down town.

In 1920, the largest and best-equipped gymnasium in the county was completed. California's first physical education program was developed at Mt. Diablo Union High School.

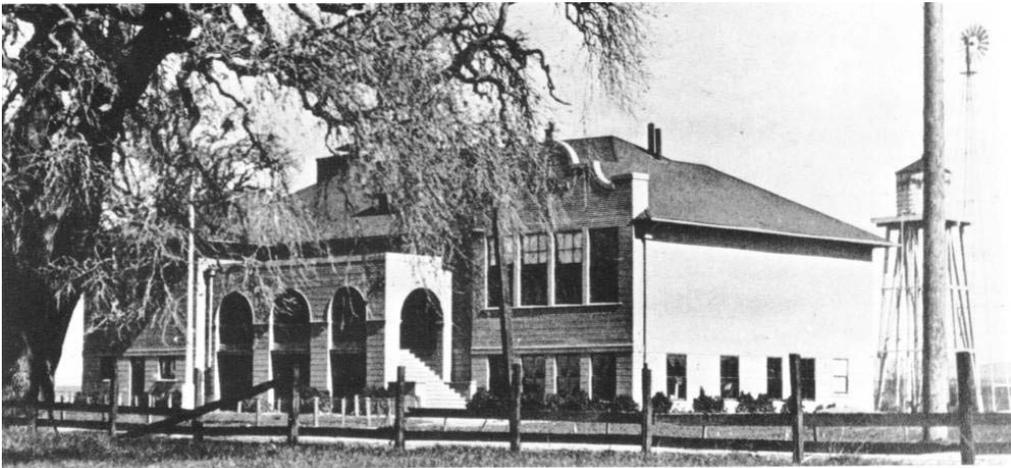
Students from all over Contra Costa County traveled to Mt. Diablo High by the Sacramento-Northern "Short Line," a train that dropped students off at Bacon Street, near the campus.

When the Depression hit in 1930 teacher's salaries were cut from \$175 a month to \$160, but the school became more and more a

center for community activities, like little theater productions, football games and picnics.

In 1948 the community voted for a \$3.2 million bond, with \$1 million earmarked for Mt. Diablo High School. New buildings were built. In 1971 the Mt. Diablo Unified School District hit its peak with 50,000 students. It became the largest employer in the county. Today the district has 32,000 students.

Mt. Diablo High School is the largest, continuously used high school campus in the state of California.



Mt. Diablo Union High School, before 1915, stood alone on a three-and-a-half-acre parcel bordered by Grant and East Streets.

“Real

Diablo Spirit springs from love for Diablo, a wish to serve her, loyalty to her traditions, to the principles by which she is governed, and to the ideals for which she stands”

- Bertha Romaine - 1927

Timeline

1903 First class graduates 3 students

1907 School song was composed and adopted, electric lights were installed in the school building

- 1916 163 students attended MDSH, 10 teachers taught
- 1917 Biology was added to the curriculum
- 1922 Science Building (now the Art Building) and shops were built
- 1936 The English Building is completed - 650 students were enrolled, 31 full time teachers
- 1940 The Commercial Building is built
- 1950 The Pete Kramer Gym is built, along with the Academic Building
- 1963-1964 Original 4-room building is torn down. A Multi-Purpose Cafeteria (Romaine Hall), a new Administrative Complex, the Music Building, the Science Building and Home Economics Building was constructed. Grant Street was closed to traffic from 7:30 - 4:00.
- 2000's Shop classrooms are converted to tech centers, the "quad" is rebuilt

The Plaza

In 1868 the town of Todos Santos was laid out on 20 acres of land divided into 19 blocks that surrounded one block in the center. The block in the center of town was bound by the present day streets of Willow Pass, Grant, Mt. Diablo and Salvio. The land for the plaza was dedicated by Salvio Pacheco to be used as a park.

Fast growing eucalyptus trees were planted in the 1870's. To protect the trees from roaming cattle, a picket fence with turnstiles was built surrounding the park. As the trees grew they provided a lot of shade and made a pleasant place for gatherings and community celebrations. In 1891, the plaza was named Pacheco Square after its founding father.

In 1903, 2 large cannons from the old battleship, the U.S.S. Independence, were obtained by former Justice of the Peace, John J. Burke, to decorate the park. They mysteriously disappeared during the 1940's, but this was during World War II (1939-1945), a time when metal was collected to support the war effort. It is quite possible that they were reclaimed, but no record was left.

The Native Daughters of the Golden West provided funds for a grandstand which became the place for concerts and performances attended by many in the town.

By 1931 the eucalyptus trees showed signs of suffering from old age and they were cut down. Civic groups raised funds for a plaza improvement project. An 800 foot long pergola, thought to be the longest in the world, was built and many varieties of wisteria were planted. In the spring, wisteria blossoms hung down from the pergola forming a beautiful, sweet smelling archway, under which people would stroll. For many years a wisteria festival was held in the park.

The 1950's were years of transitions. The pergola and wisteria were torn down because the timbers of the pergola had rotted, making the structure no longer safe. The bandstand and library

were removed. In 1961, benches, picnic tables and raised flower beds were added. New trees and flowers were planted. In 1969, the plaza was officially renamed Todos Santos Plaza, honoring Concord's original name.



The Library

The Concord library began on November 13, 1906 as a subscription library. Membership cards for the subscription library cost 25 cents per month. The librarian, Elizabeth Skinner, worked from a room in the Fireman's Hall, where the original 62 donated books were kept. A reading room was later opened in another building. Money to buy new books and to subscribe to local and national periodicals was raised through community efforts. The owner of the popular new Nickelodeon donated half of each Monday night's profits to the library.

By 1916 a large space in the Foskett and Elworthy building was set aside for the growing library which now had 301 books and 239 members holding library subscription cards.

In 1917, the Andrew Carnegie Foundation donated \$2,500 towards the construction of a library. Carnegie was a wealthy businessman and philanthropist who donated money to build libraries across the United States. Between 1883 and 1929, 2,509 libraries were built. Most of the library buildings were unique, and Concord's was no exception, built in a modified Spanish Colonial style. The conditions under which the Carnegie Foundation would give money to cities included:

- a demonstrated need for a public library
- a building site is provided
- the city must provide 10% of the cost to build the library and support its operation every year
- provide free service to all

The amount of money donated to Concord was based on the 1910 census, at \$2 per person.

The library was built in the plaza, facing Salvio Street. Many disagreed with the placement of the library because they thought it violated the plaza agreement, that the land must to be used as a park. The city paid the monthly utility bill, the county provided books and periodicals, took care of repairs and paid staff salaries.

By the mid-1950's the city had grown so much that the library could no longer accommodate the community needs. A group, the Concord Library League, formed to find ways to improve library services. In 1958, the Concord City Council agreed to a lease-purchase agreement for the construction of a new library near the new civic center. The Carnegie library was torn down and a new library was built, one that could accommodate the growing city population.



The Japanese American Religious and Cultural Center

Kumetaro Tamori was born on September 29, 1867 in Fukuoka, Japan. He came to America as a young man, first arriving in Seattle, Washington, then coming to San Francisco, and finally, settling in Lafayette, California.

He learned all he could about growing fruit, particularly Bartlett pears and apples. He became an expert on trimming the trees in order to harvest the best fruit. In 1910 he returned to Japan to marry his wife, Nobu, but he soon returned to Lafayette, to the Taylor Ranch on Spring Hill Road. His two sons, Kumeo and Shoji were born there.

When 20 acres of land became available for tenant farming, on the land where Acalanes High School now stands, the family moved there. This land was owned by Mr. Lawrence, who also owned the Walnut Creek Meat Market. They grew straw on part of the land and used it to spread under the trees. Every morning they would pick up the fallen pears, putting the ripe pears in boxes and setting aside others to be dried. During World War I the farm was very successful and Mr. Tamori began to think about owning his own property.

In 1925 he found a plot of land on Treat Road in Concord, but he could not buy it because of the Alien Land Law. This law would not allow a person who was not a citizen of the United States to own land. Aliens, people not born in the U.S., we're denied citizenship if they were not white or persons of African descent. The problem was solved when Mr. Hedeo Hoshi, born in Concord,

and thus a U. S. citizen, purchased the property and turned it over to Kumeo and Shoji Tamori, both citizens because they were born here.

A portion of the land owned by the Tamori family was dedicated to the Concord Japanese Language Institute, now known as the Diablo Japanese Religious and Cultural Center.

A Japanese language school was originally established at the "Adobe House" in Concord; with the donation of 2 acres of land, money was raised from 1927 - 1930 to build a community center. Two issei (first generation, born in Japan) carpenters came from San Jose to help build the center.

While the Tamori family continued to raise fruit and vegetables, offering some of their produce from a "self help" stand on Treat Road, the building became a center for issei and nisei (second generation, born in the U.S.) families. A nisei baseball team, known as the Concord O'Doul Baseball Team competed in the Nisei league, playing teams from all over the area.

During World War II (1941-1945) the building was leased to a Caucasian man who had agreed to pay rent and taxes. A local lawyer was given power over the property when Concord Japanese families were moved to internment camps in Gila River and Poston, Arizona. Upon returning, the families discovered that the taxes had not been paid, but the community donated money to pay back taxes and lawyer's fees.

Shoji Tamori enlisted in the U.S. Army the day after the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941. He fought in Italy, France and in Belgium. His wife, Shizu, who was born in Hollywood, California, spent the war years in Manzanar. They met in Chicago. After the war they took a train to Martinez. A taxi driver picked them up and transported them to the property on Treat Road, for free, saying "No change. Welcome home".

In 1953 the building was remodeled and the language school was reopened, for the first time since 1942. In 1957 the fund-raising summer festival was started and continues to this day.

In 1971 the old building was moved across from the Concord Pavilion, renamed the "We Care Center," and a new building was built. The Concord Buddhist Sunday School became the holder of the deed for the new building on the property. The center continues to be a vibrant, active part of life in Concord with a school for learning Japanese, cooking classes, flower arranging, Judo and other Japanese sports and cultural activities.



Important Buildings Still Standing

Bacon Block - 2045 Mt. Diablo Street

Built in 1914 by Webster Bacon, a retired farmer from Modesto. There were four apartments on the upper floor of the building which rented for \$15 a month. In later years the rent rose to \$35 a month. On the ground floor, the original tenants included Bacon's Grocery, a bakery and an Ice Cream Parlor nicknamed "the palace of sweets."



Bacon Block c. 2000

Masonic Hall -1765 Galindo Street

Concord's Masonic Temple provided meeting rooms and a social hall for the Mt. Diablo Lodge 448 of the Free Accepted Masons. Constructed in 1927 for \$31,550, it was dedicated on October 6, 1928. The two level building was used by various groups over the years for social and fund raising events.



Masonic Hall c. 2000

Foskett and Elworthy Building - 2001 Salvio Street

Sam Bacon's store, considered to be the first commercial establishment in the village of Todos Santos, first copied this site. In 1911, the Foskett and Elworthy Corporation selected a

construction company from San Francisco to design and build the first modern, stone and stucco building in Concord. The mission style building had apartments and offices on the upper level. The first tenant, on the corner of the building, was the First National Bank in 1917. Over the years a series of banks, food markets, barber shops and Restaurants occupied space in the building. The building was completely restored in the 1970's. A large mural, depicting Concord in earlier days was painted on the east exterior wall in 1992.



Foskett and Elworthy Building c. 2000

Galindo House - 1721 Amador Ave.

The original house was built in 1856 by Don Francisco Galindo and his wife Maria Dolores Manuela (Pacheco) Galindo. The house is one of the few remaining Victorian ranch houses in Contra Costa County. The kitchen, which runs the length of the house is the oldest portion. In 1860 a parlor, a sitting room, a glass enclosed conservatory and 2 upstairs bedrooms were added.

In 1875 the house was remodeled and expanded to enlarge the basement, first and second floors. The house grew to 10 rooms, with 5 bedrooms on the top floor and 11 foot ceilings, making the house spacious and comfortable.

Don Francisco moved to Oakland, built and managed the Galindo Hotel. The name Galindo is associated with the earliest history of California. His son, Juan (John) and daughter-in-law Marina Amador Galindo moved into the house on Amador Ave. During this time life changed from the early Spanish way of life, raising cattle, to farming and agriculture. The cattle raised were sold for hides; there was no market for beef. The hides were shipped to eastern markets by schooners, many of which docked at Pacheco Landing. The hides then traveled around the Cape Horn of South America, taking many months.

Early villagers, though, mostly lived on beef, corn and a few vegetables raised on farm gardens. The corn was ground into flour and shaped into tortillas. Horseback was the only means of transportation and no roads existed until 1856.

John Galindo began raising wheat and shipping his crop to Pacheco to be ground into flour. His son, Fredrick was born in 1875 in the Pacheco adobe. Fredrick's sisters, Amelia and Sarah, were born in the Galindo house. Fredrick was known locally as an accomplished athlete; he graduated from St. Mary's College in Moraga and became a merchant in Concord. In 1907 Fredrick married Catherine Hittman at Queen of All Saints church. Their children, Harold, Ruth and Leonora lived in the house until the last descendant, Ruth died in 1999. Ruth Galindo was a well-known

educator, teaching Spanish at Mt. Diablo High School for 32 years. She was active in the community throughout her life, supporting the efforts of the Concord Historical Society.



Galindo House c. 2000