

diaries, Clara mentions him only a few times. During the period of their marriage, Clara took several trips abroad. It was while she was away on one of these trips that she received the news of the second husband's death. He died on March 8, 1909, as the result of a stroke.

As early as 1896, there is evidence that Clara was involved with the newly conceived Women's Movement. In an entry in her diary dated July 17, 1896, she states, "I heard Susan B. Anthony speak along with Anna Shaw this evening". For this lecture she traveled to Pacific Grove. Later that year on September 1, she attended a women's suffrage meeting in Oakland. As a delegate from the Washington Township Country Club, Clara attended a Women's Convention in Stockton on February 16, 1911. A year later, the Country Club convened and papers concerning women's issues in India and China were read. A somewhat humorous piece of information regarding Clara's involvement in the Women's Movement comes from a letter written to her by Amy Bowers of San Jose on June 5, 1909. Apparently, Clara had sent a youngster to work for Mrs. Bowers. In response, Mrs. Bowers states, "He certainly is a chauvinist and I will train him up to vote for women".

Clara also enjoyed the opera, tennis, going to plays in San Francisco, reading, and learning about the cultures that she encountered while traveling. Her travels included trips to Japan, India, Tibet, Spain, Egypt, Israel, Greece, Italy, France, and Germany. Newspapers from around the world announced the arrival of Clara Hawley Patterson Layson in major cities.

THE SONS

George and Clara had two sons. Henry Hawley Patterson was born at Ardenwood on April 7, 1878, while William Donald arrived two years later on December 4, 1880. The boys grew up on the farm and lived there as adults. Except for some early pictures of the boys and a few entries in Clara's diaries about their early childhoods, most of the information that can be found is in reference to William D. Patterson. One of these rare entries mentions that, "The boys got the small billiard table from the depot - their Christmas present". Another mentions that Henry and James Hawley (Clara's father),

were putting up backstops on the tennis court on May 25, 1898. Henry graduated from U.C. Berkeley in the class of 1900. He married Sarah Morgan, a graduate of U.C. Berkeley, class of 1909, in 1913. They had three daughters: Marjorie, Sally, and Georgia. Henry died November 11, 1955, in the same house in which he was born.

In 1901, William built his own yacht, and on July 7, 1902, Clara states in her diary that, "Will had new yacht 'Starlight' at Landing." On July 1, 1903, William D. Patterson married May Florence Bird. They had three sons: Donald Patterson Jr., John B. Patterson, and David George Patterson.

In 1904 it was decided that at the age of 24, William and his new bride were to have their own house. (Henry continued to live in the house his father built.) On April 6, 1904, it was agreed that William would receive an allowance of \$12,000 for his new house, and on May 5 of the same year, the foundation of the house was started. As construction continued, William kept a diary detailing the building of his new house. In this diary he kept records of the costs of construction, heating, plumbing, wiring, painting, fixtures, etc. He also documented the then going prices for such things as tables, chairs, and brass beds. The W.D. Patterson house contained four bedrooms, a dining room, a billiard room, an office, a sewing room, and a kitchen. William was able to furnish his entire house for as little as \$1,500.

William described the grounds around his house in a diary entry dated October 1, 1904. He planted tulips, Shasta daisies, Blue African daisies, double white daisies, Longfellow daisies, double pinks, azaleas, geraniums, and dahlias. He planted six varieties of eucalyptus, four varieties of poppies, six varieties of chestnuts, and over 18 varieties of grapes. In his next diary, dated 1905, he lists more flowers that he planted, including Wisteria, Bouganvillea, Enchantress, and over 11 varieties of roses. In the family garden he planted summer queen apples, strawberries, Pete's plums, watermelons, muskmelons, winter pineapple, parsnips, beets, turnips, chicory, spinach, radishes, kale, cabbage, dandelions, artichokes, asparagus, Conover's colossals, palmetto olives, loganberries, Himalaya giant blackberries, and raspberries. By 1907, William had increased the number of varieties of eucalyptus surrounding his house from six to 22.

William followed in his father's footsteps regarding water conservation. In 1900, he and Henry began to fight salt water intrusion by building levees around about 100 acres of salt marsh. William helped to establish the Alameda County Water District and served on the board for 43 years. He was president from 1932 to 1954. He resigned in 1957. In 1912, William began several mining ventures in Alaska. The records of his experiences with the Kensington Mine Co. and the Alaska Development Company are contained in his 1912 travel log.

William died en route to Washington Township Hospital on November 28, 1961, at the age of 80, after an illness of nearly three years. In February 1962, his 13 - room house was burned to the ground in accordance with the terms of his will, which stipulated that the house be destroyed if none of his three sons wanted to live in it.

Near the turn of the century, the Patterson family constructed tennis courts, a swimming pool, and a yacht for their leisure time. The pool was the first concrete swimming pool built in Alameda County. After the 1915 Pan-American Exposition in San Francisco, the family bought the Japanese Commissionaire's'

Office, one of the most impressive structures constructed for the Japanese exhibition. This Japanese style pavilion was disassembled and, in part, reconstructed on the Patterson Ranch. Plans were drawn up by Julia Morgan (architect for the Hearst Castle) to convert the interior into a residence for Clara Patterson. This came at a time when Clara was sharing the Patterson House with Henry, Sara, and their three children. The building of the residence was underway, but never finished as Clara died in 1917. The structure burned down in the 1940's.

RECENT HISTORY

In 1955, the U.S. Army wished to install a NIKE missile site near Coyote Hills. Donald Patterson, however, would not sell the land to the Army, because he believed they would resell it to some other party. Instead, he leased the land to them for one dollar a year, thereby retaining his title to the land.

In the early 1970s, the Patterson family sold the Preserve site to a private housing development company. In 1974, the City of Fremont announced an intention to withhold development permits in the Preserve area pending a revision of the General Plan. There were a number of lawsuits filed in response. The out-of-court settlements of these suits included the gift deeding, in 1978, of 46 acres of the Preserve site to the City. This land included the George Patterson House. Additionally, the Fremont Park Facilities Corporation purchased 122 acres of the land to be held for park purposes. The City of Newark opposed the purchase in court because part of the purchased land was within the Newark City limits and was not planned for park use. The settlement of this lawsuit, in 1978, included realignment of the city limits and provisions for the extension of Lake Boulevard across the Dumbarton Freeway to the southern gate of the park. In 1981, the City of Fremont approved the Ardenwood Forest - New Town development proposal which included the dedication of the final 39 acres of the park. On July 28, 1985, Ardenwood Regional Preserve (Ardenwood Historic Farm) officially opened to the public.

ENTRIES FROM CLARA HAWLEY PATTERSON'S JOURNALS: 1892 - 1907

(Courtesy California Pioneer Society's Patterson Collection)

April 6, 1892

Got rooms ready for Clara Whipple's wedding

April 8, 1892

Blanche Ingalls came from San Jose. Clara W. and Henry May married at Ardenwood

Aug. 15, 1892

Henry entered High School in Centerville

Sept. 27, 1892

Drove to Warm Springs, with Mother, to Beard's

Oct. 1, 1892

Ed married to Belle Scott Coulter

Oct. 22, 1892

Took Willie to S.F. for glasses.

Oct. 22, 1892

To Belevedere to spend night with, the Baker's

Nov. 19, 1892

Boys sold their pigs for \$25.00

Jan. 31, 1893

Went to Richard Realf entertainment in Oakland

March 14, 1896

Feb. 1, 1893

"First meeting of our branch Chatauqua Club at Brown's"

Sept. 1, 1893

Tennis Tournament at Overacker's. Went with Henry.

Nov. 18, 1893

Boys went hunting 6 quail, 1 duck, 1 rail

May 1, 1894

Celebrated Father and Mother's Golden Wedding. 41 members of family there.

May 24, 1894

Will finished grammar school

Sept. 10, 1895

George Washington Patterson sick all night

Sept. 11, 1895

Had Dr. for George Washington Patterson.

Sept. 12, 1895

George Washington Patterson died, 7:30 AM - 73 years old

March 2, 1896

Rainy - snow on hills

March 7, 1896

Will went to Mission Peak to see the snow

March 14, 1896

Men drove stock to mountain ranch. Henry went to Sunol with them, and Will all the way, and stayed over night.

May 15, 1896 Luncheon for Louise Brier Stratton - 18 guests

May 20, 1896
Bray (colored man) here cleaning carpets

June 5, 1896
Henry graduated from Centerville High School - essay on the X-Ray

June 24, 1896
Went, with boys, to Berkeley to see the University of California

July 14, 1896
At Pacific Grove - Mrs. Allen came - Chatauqua graduation

July 17, 1896
Went with Mrs. Allen and the Cloughs to the Phrenologist in the morning. Heard Susan B. Anthony and Anna Shaw speak

Sept. 1, 1896
Went to Woman's Suffrage Meeting in Oakland

Nov. 8, 1896
Heard Mr. Layson preach at Newark

Nov. 15, 1896
Mr. Layson called

Dec. 25, 1896
Henry and Will gave me opera glasses

Jan. 6, 1897
Began work on new ranch house

March 2, 1897
Had operation at Waldeck Sanatorium by Dr. Henry Barbat

Sept. 11, 1897
Went with Mr. & Mrs. Chadbourne and Mrs. Merrill to Smith Creek and Mt. Hamilton - shown about observatory by Professor Sharburle. Saw Saturn and Lyra through telescope

Oct. 14, 1897
Had reception 1:00 to 5:00 - 70 here. Maud and Pearl Noble and Gertrude Judd, entertained with music

Apr. 18, 1898
Got Will's X-ray chart from Dr. Barbat. Scar on one lung.

May 25, 1898
Father and Henry putting up backstops on tennis ground

May 28, 1898
Centerville High School gave "As You Like It" among the trees in deer park, in the evening

June 9, 1898
Red Cross Society organized in Centerville

July, 19, 1898
Mr. Brown here with Mr. Prentice (SPRR man) to see about putting in Flag Station

Aug. 2, 1898
Julia Hinckley came to live with us

March 13, 1899
Drove to Monticito in AM, Mission in afternoon. Heard Sousa's Band in the evening.

Dec. 25, 1899
Gave boys music box and gramophone. Beard's and Hawley's to dinner

1899
Article (newspaper) Annual meeting of Woman's Club, Clara Hawley Patterson presided

1900
Trip to Egypt

Apr. 15, 1901
F. Smith began work on new barn

Feb. 23, 1902 Mexican dinner at Ardenwood	Dec. 23, 1903 Telephone put in house
Mar. 13, 1902 Men set out walnut trees	Jan. 12, 1904 Will bought an auto a Knox
Apr. 29, 1902 to May 5, 1902 To Federation at L. A. in Brunting's car and to oil to wells near Bakersfield	Jan. 26, 1904 Mr. Layson started east - to Sandusky, Ohio
Oct. 24, 1902 Kitchen utensil party - 45 guests	Mar. 11, 1904 Henry went to Dyers to first meeting of "500" Club
Nov. 6, 1902 to Dec. 18, 1902 Trip east to Washington, D. C.	Mar. 16, 1904 Agreed on allowance of \$12,000 for Will's house
Feb. 26, 1903 Trip to Mexico	May 5, 1904 Foundation of Will's house started
May 13, 1903 Saw President Roosevelt review school children on Van Ness Ave., S.F.	June 9, 1904 Steamer for San Diego
May 17, 1903 Signed papers asking for release of guardianship	Oct. 4, 1904 Trip east
May 20, 1903 Met May Bird at "Senior Fara" Stanford	Apr. 8, 1905 Heard Caruso in Pagliacci
May 29, 1903 Bought wedding present for Will and May	Apr. 24, 1905 D. A. R. breakfast at California Hotel with May Morres
June 1, 1903 Will married to May Bird	Apr. 28, 1905 Saw Margaret Anglin in the "Eternal Feminine" with Mrs. Bird
June 6, 1903 Henry started to Alaska	July 1, 1905 W. D. Patterson, Jr. born 8:00 AM, weight 9 lbs.
July 10, 1903 Gave Mexican luncheon - 14 present	July 5, 1905 W. H. L. started for Astoria, Oregon
Sept. 11, 1903 Henry's 1st automobile came - Oldsmobile runabout	July 10, 1905 Started for Portland and Yellowstone Park with Nell and Bob Cornell
Sept. 24, 1903 Garden party and handkerchief bazaar	

Jan. 10, 1906

Donald's first tooth came

Feb. 9, 1906

Father died, 1:00 AM

Apr. 18, 1906

Earthquake and S. F. fire. Shocks all day, Small springs of wet sand on Ross & Gibbons places

Apr. 19, 1906

Ed and W. H. L. rowed across bay and got into S. F. on bicycles

Apr. 20, 1906

Will got home from Yreka

Apr. 25, 1906

Quakes at 1:00 and 3:00 PM

May 4, 1906

Quakes at 5:30 AM

May 5, 1906

Quakes at 10:30 AM. Rode from S. F. ferry outt Mission, Howard and Franklin St. Destruction and desolation everywhere

Sept 17, 1906

Salnagrundi party - 45 guests - different came at every table

Aug. 16, 1907

Bought (fumed?) oak furniture

Aug. 20, 1907

Box of "family trees" arrived \$3.50 express

Sept. 3, 1907

Annual Meeting and Basket Lunch of Country Club. Lunch on lawn - 60 here

Sept. 3, 1907

Final settlement with W. H. L. "Gift deed"

Nov. 27, 1907

Tokunaga (cook) went away

Nov. 29, 1907

S. Koga (Harry, new cook) came

Condensed History of Fremont

Compiled by Phil Holmes

The modern city of Fremont has been built on beautiful land with a long, interesting history. This rich, historical heritage fits readily into time periods that had their own specific influences on the history of Fremont.

The Ohlone People

Ancestors of the Ohlone people wandered into this land of great abundance several thousand years ago. They lived a simple life in harmony with nature and the land. They followed the cycles of the seasons as they hunted, fished, and gathered their food. They burned certain areas to encourage the growth of favored plants and improve grazing areas for animals that they hunted.

The Ohlones gathered a variety of plants, seeds, berries, roots, and nuts for food. They ground and leached acorns and made mush or bread. They caught rabbits, squirrels, birds, fish, and other small animals and gathered shellfish from the bay. Hunters stalked larger animals such as deer and antelope.

Permanent villages were located on higher ground near marshes, streams, or springs where drinking water was available. They built domed huts with a frame of poles thatched with grass or tules. They crafted baskets, clothes, decorations, tools, nets, beads, and weapons. They navigated the bay in remarkable reed boats and traded materials or products with other tribes.

Religion and ceremony were important in daily life activities, and special rituals were observed at important events such as birth, puberty, and death. The Ohlones maintained their culture by passing on stories, songs, dances, and tribal laws from parents to children. The Ohlone way of life minimized warfare and ensured the health of the land. Life was ordered and in tune with nature and the will of the creator.

Mission San Jose 1797 - 1836

Mission San Jose was founded by Father Fermin Lasuen June 11, 1797. It was the 14th California Mission and was located about 15 miles northeast of the Pueblo of San Jose near the foot of Mission Peak. Temporary thatched roof structures were erected until more permanent adobe buildings could be erected.

The Ohlone way of life was changed forever. The Franciscan Fathers began converting the Ohlones to Catholicism and changing them into farmers, herders, laborers, and craftsmen. Hundreds of them came to live and work at the Mission which became the center of their

religious, education, social, and economic lives. Under the Padres directions they learned to make clothes, shoes, utensils, tools, ropes, and candles. They cared for the animals, raised crops, erected adobe buildings, and eventually even constructed a big church. Mission San Jose baptized more Indians than any other mission and reached a peak population of 1,900. Disease and change of lifestyle killed many and decreased their number. Some Ohlone people did not want to live at the Mission, but their old way of life quickly disappeared.

The site was blessed with wonderful natural resources. Under the resourceful direction of dedicated Padres, Mission San Jose thrived and grew until it became the most prosperous and successful mission in Northern California. Its vast herds of cattle, horses, mules, and sheep roamed the East Bay and the valleys and hills far to the east. It furnished much of the food for other missions and government entities. Many foreigners came to visit and trade for Mission products.

Father Narciso directed the Mission from 1806 to 1833. Under his leadership the adobe church was completed in 1809 and the Mission gained recognition for its music and choir.

Mission San Jose survives today as a reminder of our Spanish heritage and a memorial to the thousands of Native Americans who lived, worked, and died here. This is where the first Christian Church, school, industry, farming, and cattle raising in Alameda County began. The adobe museum building is a surviving remnant of the huge original rectangle of living quarters, shops, and storerooms. A replica of the 1809 adobe church was completed in 1984.

The Rancho Era 1836 - 1848

Mexico won independence from Spain and began to reward soldiers and prominent citizens with huge grants of land known as ranchos. This process of secularization gradually brought an end to the Mission Era and ushered in the Rancho Era. Governor Juan Alvarado appointed his friend, Jose de Jesus Vallejo, administrator of the secularized Mission San Jose in 1836. He arrived with orders to distribute the Mission property.

Our area was carved into four large tracts: Rancho del Agua Caliente (Warm Springs area), Rancho Arroyo de la Alameda (Niles - Decoto area), Rancho Potrero de los Cerritos (Newark - Alvarado area). The land surrounded by these three grants was known as Ex-Mission San Jose (Mission San Jose - Irvington - Newark) and was granted by Governor Pico just before the Mexican War.

The rancheros ran vast herds of cattle that provided for their needs. Life revolved around the herds and was enlivened by fiestas and feasts. They were skilled horsemen and rode everywhere. They traded hides for things they could not grow or make. They were religious, gracious, healthy, family-oriented people who enjoyed their simple, vigorous, outdoor life.

The Mission system that had dominated the lives of the Ohlone people was replaced by the Mexican government. Many Ohlones went to work on the Mexican ranchos, but some returned to their former way of life or joined local Indian communities.

The peaceful, pastoral life of the ranchos began to change with the arrival of American settlers. The Brooklyn brought a group of Mormons to San Francisco in 1846. Some of them stayed and became prominent settlers in the East Bay. Colonel John C. Fremont came through, foraging and recruiting as he pursued the Mexican forces. He liked Mission San Jose so much he tried to buy it.

The treaty at the end of the War with Mexico made California part of the United States. The discovery of gold brought a horde of miners, businessmen, adventurers, speculators, and settlers from around the world in search of land, wealth, and a new life. They took over the Rancho lands, squeezed out the landowners, and ended the Rancho Era.

The Pioneer Era 1848 - 1860

American settlers migrated overland or came by ship to the San Francisco Bay area. They bought, rented, or just took over the fertile farm land in our area. Many squatters settled on the Ex-Mission San Jose grant because of confusion created by the doubtful title.

These American pioneers planted thousands of acres of grain and vegetables and changed the economy from peaceful pastoral to intensive agricultural (business, marketing, and industry). They took over the old Mission and rancho landings, built wharves and warehouses, and shipped their produce to San Francisco. John Horner farmed thousands of acres and was recognized as California's first farmer. The East Bay became the leading agricultural area in California.

Mission San Jose became a boisterous supply center for hordes of miners on their way to the gold mines. Elias Beard, Henry Smith, and others opened stores, lodging quarters, restaurants, and saloons in the old adobe buildings. A post office was established here in 1850 before California became a state.

Henry Smith was elected to the California State Assembly and led the fight to create the new county of Alameda with the court house located in his store in his town on the bank of Alameda Creek. Pioneer Alameda County government was developed here at Alvarado. For a few years our area (which was named Washington Township) was the center for the political, social, and cultural activities of the county.

American pioneers built stores, schools, churches, and lodges. They developed industries, improved roads, provided transportation, and created a climate for business and development. Crops were good, business thrived, and money circulated in waves of prosperity until the panic of 1855 temporarily halted progress. Some pioneers lost almost everything in the panic, but they battled through the crisis and continued developing their farm and business enterprises. Farmers on Ex-Mission San Jose land finally obtained title to their land in 1867.

The Era Of Towns 1860 - 1945

Eight towns developed in Washington Township. Mission San Jose was the center that led to the founding of the others. Alvarado was a shipping center and served as the county seat from 1853 to 1856. Several organizations that served the entire township were located in Centerville because of its central location. Irvington began as a saloon but became the site of our first college and an educational and cultural center. The Spanish called Warm Springs Agua Caliente (hot water). Americans made it a health spa and resort.

The railroads brought great changes to our area in the Seventies. The little hamlet of Vallejo Mills became a railroad junction that developed into the town of Niles. The Decoto Land Company was incorporated to buy land and lay out the town of Decoto along the Western Pacific Railroad line. The town of Newark was started by the South Pacific Coast Railroad which built a narrow gauge line south to Santa Cruz and north to Alameda. Newark became famous for the Carter rail cars manufactured there.

The railroads moved freight faster than was possible by wagon or ship. Ship landings disappeared and wagons carried freight to nearby rail stations. People were now able to commute to work in Oakland or San Francisco.

Each town had its own stores, churches, schools, halls, post offices, and organizations. Each enjoyed periods of growth and suffered through floods, fires, and depressions. All survived the earthquakes of 1868 and 1906. Niles enjoyed a period of excitement from 1912 to 1916 when the Essanay Film Manufacturing Company made silent movies there. Bronco Billy, Charlie Chaplin, Ben Turpin, Evelyn Selbie, Wallace Beery, cowboys, Indians, and baseball players created an atmosphere of excitement and make believe.

Residents of Washington Township were united by geography and government but were separated into eight small towns. People visited freely and attended events throughout the township but retained a special loyalty to their own town. Organizations such as The Pioneer Society and some lodges and churches drew members from the entire township. Residents always joined forces to meet such dangers as floods, proposed legislation, and water shortage.

Building Union High School No. 2 at Centerville in 1892 became the greatest cultural, social, and economic force in the township. It was the hub of activities that joined people of all ages throughout the township. Students came from all eight towns to attend their high school. Generations of graduates went out to work in Washington Township with strong ties to their school. Many of the important events and meetings for the area were held at the high school. The musical, sports, and educational school programs drew people together and unified their efforts in a spirit of community service and improvement.

Orchards and vineyards replaced miles of grain fields. Disease wiped out most vineyards about 1900, and Prohibition devastated the wine industry. The water table dropped, crops had to be irrigated and a water shortage developed. Electricity was brought in to power industries, farms, and homes. Automobiles replaced buggies and wagons.

World War I interrupted life for many but was followed by a building boom in the Twenties. The stock market crash in 1929 threw the nation into a depression. Prices dropped, business slowed, unemployed workers went on relief, and farmers could not afford to sell their crops. The approach of World War II ended the depression and brought back development and economic prosperity.

Pearl Harbor changed everything for everybody. Many young men and women scattered around the world to fight the war. People of all ages worked in defense industries or on the farms. Life in Washington Township was filled with blackouts, Red Cross and defense programs, bond and scrap drives, price ceilings, restrictions, shortages, rationing, air raid signals, enlistments, draft calls, separations, and sad telegrams. All Japanese Americans were evacuated from the Township in May 1942. All development that was not part of the war effort was postponed.

Source: City of Fremont Web Page
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