

SAVING THE DOUBLE SPRINGS COURTHOUSE

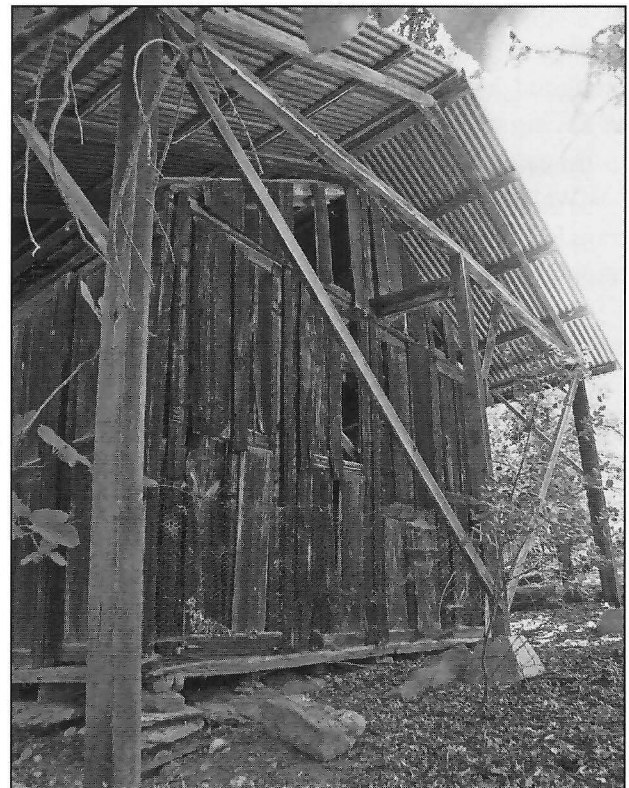
Part 2 of a Two Part Series

by Bonnie Miller and Wally Motloch

In our last issue we reviewed the history of the original Calaveras County courthouse. The first courthouse was a prefabricated building imported from China at the early days of the Gold Rush. It was hastily erected as the only available structure at the time. Being as there were no carpenters, no lumberyards, and no mills to make the lumber, the best source of a building was the imported prefabricated houses from China.

This unique building only served as the courthouse for fourteen months. It briefly continued in public service as a post office. The Double Springs Post Office was first listed in the Postal Guide on the first of May, 1851 and the postmaster was confirmed in Washington on July 10 of that year. The six postmasters who served out of this building served from six months to two years until service was discontinued on 31 March 1860.

The building transferred ownership and ultimately became a vacant storage building on a family cattle ranch. The family always recognized its rare historic value and in fact over subsequent generations offered the building back to the county for permanent storage. No agreement was



Even under the protective cover structure, severe weatherization was taking its toll on the Double Springs courthouse by 2006.



Severe shrinkage of the wall panels had rendered the sides no longer tight and well fitted. Nails were required to hold the structure together.

reached between the Double Springs ranchers and the county for one hundred years.

In 2005 Calaveras County Historical Society elected as their new president Mountain Ranch resident Wally Motloch. He had learned of the fascinating Chinese building when he moved to Calaveras County. The mystery of the building intrigued him, but more so was the importance of saving the relic before it was thoroughly lost to time.

Wally drafted a simple agreement regarding transfer of the building. The building would be transferred from the legal owners within the family

Double Springs Post Office

Postmasters

David Shall appointed July 10, 1851

Alexander Borlean appointed February 20, 1852

Joseph L Hunt appointed August 20, 1852

Daniel Thompson appointed November 25, 1853

Nelson Norcross appointed February 19, 1855

David W. Briant appointed September 4, 1857

Post Office Service discontinued March 31, 1860

directly to the county. The agreement was made in memory of Percy and Sadie Hunt. The Hunt family had resided on the ranch in the 1930s and attempted to transfer the building to the county's custodianship seventy years earlier. Longtime members of the Historical Society may recall that Sadie Hunt was one of the founding members of the Historical Society. The agreement met with the approval of the family and the transfer was finally, and formally executed and notarized on 16 May 2006.

A giant step had been made toward realizing the dream of salvaging this poor relic from the past. What to do with it now? It had to be dismantled and relocated

to... somewhere. Wally had the support of the Historical Society, and public support never hurts a good project. Then famous folk singer Randy Sparks got into the act. Or rather, put on an act. In January of 2006 Randy Sparks and The New Christi Minstrels performed a lively musical show of original Calaveras songs written by Randy himself. The show was complemented with a dinner by chef Don Cuneo, former president of the Historical Society.

Randy lives in Mokelumne Hill and has a keen interest in local history. The concert was performed to a sell-out crowd, and patrons enjoyed Randy's good humor, his love of Calaveras County, and his famous music. The funds from the show were earmarked for the Chinese building. His generous fundraiser helped to raise more than the needed restoration funds, but also raised public awareness about the declining historic building. So the project was already funded with a generous starting budget. The building's reputation was reaching beyond the county seat.

A Maritime Connection

The Chinese building had reached Calaveras County by way of the Pacific Ocean, and after 140 years, the ocean still maintained a tenuous connection to Double Springs.

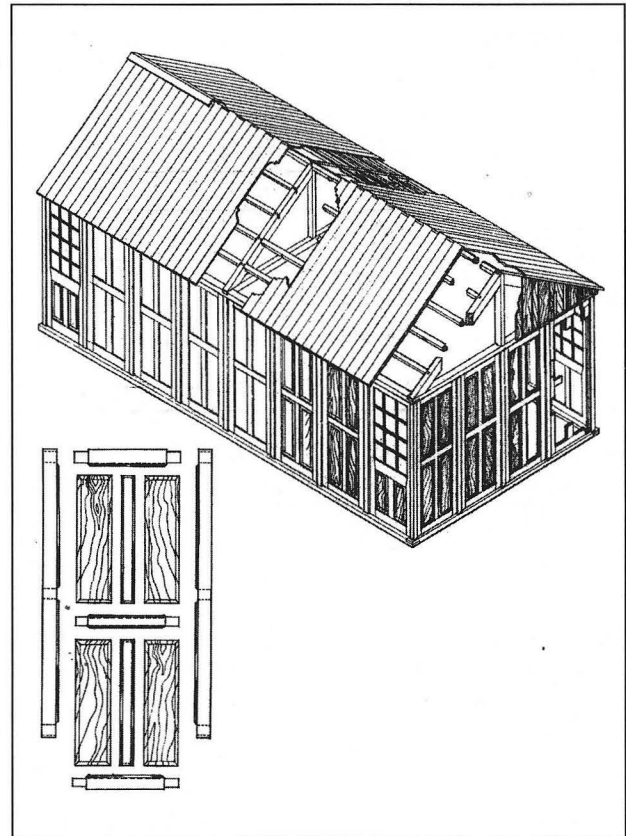
In 1850 several of the Chinese homes had been imported and erected in California, most of which found their way to their new lives as homes in San Francisco. Newspaper accounts of the day often advertised a variety of imported goods from China. These were often the most readily available household goods for the time. Included in those Chinese imports were often the prefabricated houses of two rooms each. Some were advertised as measuring 13 X 26, others at 12 X 24. Soon the construction of these buildings became a common sight about the growing city. Bayard Taylor, a '49er who wrote of his time in California in his 1859 memoir *Eldorado* wrote:

"On my way to call upon colonel Fremont, whom I found located with his family in the Happy Valley [of San Francisco], I saw a company of Chinese carpenters putting up the frame of a Canton-made house."

Taylor was referring to the famous California personality John C. Frémont. Frémont himself later lived in one of the Chinese buildings for a period. His wife, the prolific author Jessie B. Frémont, described the house in her book *A Year of American Travel*, published in 1878:

"It was put up without nails, except the shingling on the roof; all the rest fitting in together like a puzzle, and was of smooth wood, making a very good temporary lodging... Our little house had but two rooms, but they were large and clean..."

Most of the wood structures built during the early days of the gold rush perished in the numerous fires that ravaged San Francisco. Diligent research by subsequent scholars



Architectural rendering of a Chinese house with an exploded view of a side panel. Based on the Double Springs courthouse. From the book *Gifts from the Celestial Kingdom* by Thomas Layton.

determined that all of the imported Chinese prefabricated buildings that were known to have been erected in the San Francisco area did indeed perish in fires.

By 1852 China was exporting a different kind of building: those constructed of prefabricated granite blocks. These block buildings were granite stones hand cut by skilled Chinese masons. The granite blocks were shipped to California then reassembled in an inter-locking pattern. The most famous of the Chinese granite block buildings was the three story Parrot Block Building in San Francisco. It survived the 1906 Earthquake but was later demolished to make way for the Financial Center Building in 1926. The Parrot Block Building location is California Historical Landmark No. 89.

In an odd twist, bounty from a shipwreck along the northern California coast began to surface, sparking the interest of Professor Thomas Layton of San José State University. In 1984 Dr Layton began working on identifying some incongruous

RANDY SPARKS
of the New Christy Minstrels

BENEFIT FUNDRAISER
For the Historic Double Springs Courthouse

Folksinger Randy Sparks will perform his original Calaveras County songs.

Thursday, January 26th at 6pm
At the Metropolitan in San Andreas
Dinner prepared by chef, Don Cuneo
Dinner: \$35 per person. Please prepay.
Send your check to CCHS, P.O. Box 721,
San Andreas, CA 95249.



Help the Historical Society
save this Historic Courthouse

Chinese pottery shards found in the Mendocino coastal area and their relationship to a Native American site, when he learned of the shipwreck. Over ten years he researched the shipwreck and found more was wrecked than the ship. The social impact of a British ship on a previously undisturbed community of Pomo Native Californians proved to be a turning point in their culture. You can read about his fascinating research in his books, noted in the bibliography.

What Layton learned was that the wrecked ship, the *Frolic*, had left China loaded with numerous household items intended for sale in the bustling gold rush-commerce city of San Francisco. The *Frolic* was a two-mast clipper, a fast ship originally intended for drug running. With the opium trade waning, her last voyage was to have been this load of Chinese goods. Included on the ship's inventory was a complete Chinese prefabricated house, appointed with oyster-shell windows.

The ship never made it because it relied on inaccurate maps produced by the famous naval explorer George Vancouver. The *Frolic* wrecked off of the coast on the hazy night of July 25, 1850, near what would one day become Mendocino. Today the point of land is marked with the Point Cabrillo Lighthouse which was constructed in 1908. Although decommissioned, the lighthouse serves as a museum today with a fine display on the wreck of the *Frolic*.

Layton learned of the Double Springs courthouse through a 1988 California State Department of Parks and Recreation publication entitled *Five Views: An Ethnic Historic Sites Survey for California*. He recognized that the Double Springs courthouse was probably similar, if not identical, to the prefabricated house listed on the *Frolic's* inventory.

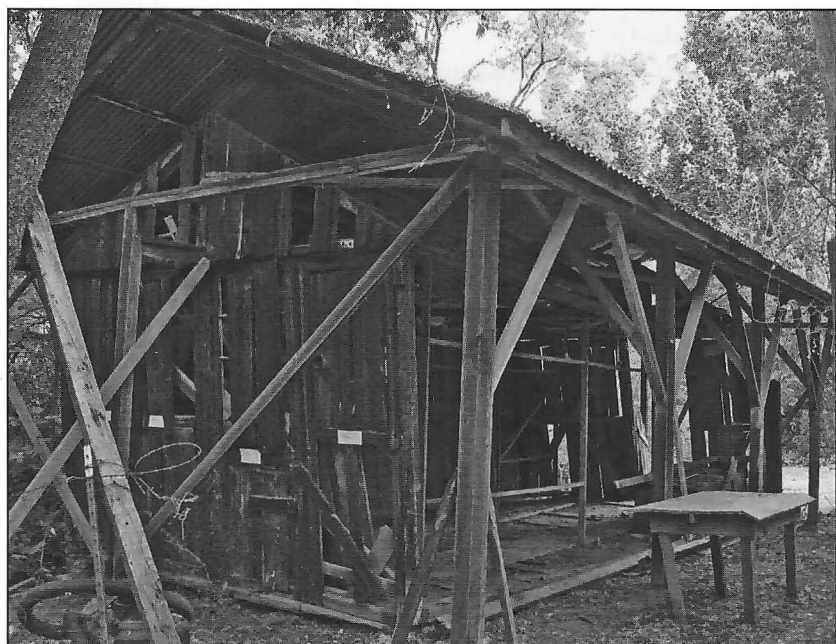
Meanwhile, Richard Everett of the Maritime Museum of San Francisco was constructing a display commemorating the wreck of the *Frolic* in conjunction with California's sesquicentennial activities. Layton's work on the *Frolic* had discovered one of the greatest

detailed accounts of actual gold rush era commerce from China. Coupled with the *Frolic's* sordid drug history, the sesquicentennial display was sure to be fascinating. Yet he knew that there were no Chinese prefabricated houses that survived the gold rush era in San Francisco, as all had perished in the numerous San Francisco fires.

Layton advised Everett of the Double Springs courthouse in 1997. Over the next few years Everett researched the Double Springs courthouse, the Calaveras County Historical Society records, and befriended the Taylor family of Double Springs. Using the Calaveras Chinese house as a model, an architectural rendering was developed. Formally the building was recorded as an historic feature.

A Team of Experts

When Wally became involved in the project, he had immediately recognized the depth of value of the building. He knew that the scope of the project was far beyond his elementary archeology skills. In order to give this project the service it justified, he would have to call in a team of historic and archeological experts. Locally he was able to tap into the skills of Judith Marvin, gold rush architectural historian, and archeologist Dr. Julia Costello both of Foothill Resources, and the Historical Society's historian the late Bill Fuller. But Wally went beyond our local expert talent.



Peeling away the layers of time...

Certificate of De-Commission of Double Springs Courthouse

Whereas, the Double Springs Courthouse served the needs of the People of Calaveras County in the early years of the County's history, and

Whereas, despite Calaveras County's current need for courtroom space, the Double Springs Courthouse no longer meets the minimum requirements for as a courtroom, and

Whereas, the Calaveras County Historical Society has acquired the Double Springs Courthouse and desires to preserve it as a part of Calaveras County's History,

Now, Therefore, be it resolved by the Calaveras County Clerk that the Double Springs Courthouse be, and hereby is, de-commissioned as a Calaveras County Court, and

Let it further be resolved by the Calaveras County Clerk that the Double Springs Courthouse be, and hereby is, relinquished to the Calaveras County Historical Society to preserve it for the benefit of current and future Calaveras County Citizens.

By the power vested in me, I, Karen Varni, Calaveras County Clerk, hereby adopt the foregoing and set my hand hereto this 1st day of September, 2006.

Karen Varni
Karen Varni

Using Richard Everett's Maritime Museum connection they gathered together a team of experts. Along with Richard Everett and Tom Layton, they brought in Mabel Miyasaki from the Asian Art Museum, John Burke from the Oakland Museum and Phil Choy of the Chinese Historic Society of America.

Wally convened a meeting of his team of experts in August of 2006 to review the condition of the Chinese building. The goal of their meeting was to determine what the best course of action would be to preserve what was left of the building. Various members of the team had seen the building previously between the years 1992 and 1994. Those who had were shocked to see the accelerated level of deterioration that the building appeared to be experiencing.

The outcome of the 2006 evaluation of experts determined that there was not enough viable wood left in the structure to reconstruct the whole building. The best that could be done would be to use the remaining pieces to reconstruct thirty to fifty percent of the building, possibly supplementing it with replica components supplied by the Maritime Museum.

Wally gave his report from his experts' findings to the Board of Directors of the Historical Society soon thereafter. Everyone was in agreement that the building should be dismantled and salvaged as soon as possible. Wally was given the go-ahead from the Historical Society to begin the dismantling process. He understood the significance of removing a landmark, so he first conducted an appropriate ceremony prior to the building's removal.

On September 15, 2008 the Historical Society Board of Directors, together with descendants of the Wheat family and the current Calaveras County Clerk Recorder held a de-commissioning ceremony. In a final act of civil duty the old Chinese building hosted the joint meeting. Wheat family descendants Carol Gates, Jody Taylor, and Don and Sharon Clark helped to say good-bye to the building.

The gathering was largely ceremonial, but it served the purpose of properly retiring the



Johnny James carefully cleaning and wrapping each disassembled piece in the summer of 2006.



Shrinkage of the fitted joints required supplemental nails, not intended as an original requirement.

building from public and private use, while enlisting public support for the project. The county clerk, Karen Varni, even signed a proclamation declaring it so. The mock resolution found and stated:

“Now, Therefore, be it resolved by the Calaveras County Clerk that the Double Springs Courthouse be, and hereby is, decommissioned as a Calaveras County Court, and

Let it further be resolved by the Calaveras County Clerk that the Double Springs Courthouse be, and hereby is, relinquished to the Calaveras County Historical Society to preserve it for the benefit of current and future Calaveras County Citizens.”

The following day Wally and his hard-working partner, Johnny James, began the arduous task of disassembling the building.

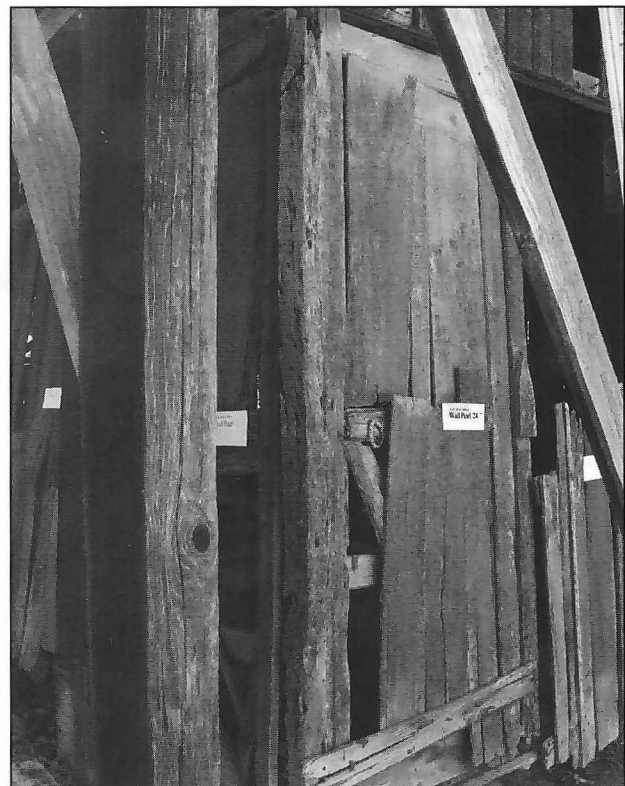
Piece by Piece

The concept of the Chinese construction was that the building was entirely held together with fitted joints; there were no nails in the construction. Since the building was almost 160 years old, it was very dry. Shrinkage had occurred and the joints no longer locked together securely as they had when the building was originally fitted together. As the wall panels or non-

structural components were removed, this left the framing vulnerable to gravity, necessitating securing the building lest it fall down. Securing the building during disassembly was accomplished by using the existing cover structure frame as support. As pieces of the building were removed, the skeleton of the building was suspended from the cover structure. The ensemble resembled a spider web of ropes inside a carport.

As each piece of the Chinese building was removed, it was meticulously photographed, hand cleaned and numbered, laid against a sheet of plywood to discourage warping, then hand wrapped in clean butcher paper. These packages were neatly stacked inside a weatherproof cargo trailer for

storage. Wally removed the components, photographed them, and Johnny carefully cleaned and packed them for storage. The two worked side by side, in the waning hot days of the summer of 2008, for two solid weeks.



Extreme weatherization and shrinkage of the wood had left much of the original structure vulnerable to time.

As Wally and Johnny worked, they peeled away the layers of the Chinese building as though it were telling a story. The roof of the building had a corrugated metal roof, but that had been added much later in its life by the ranchers who had used the building for storage. Under the sheet metal were years of abandoned yellow jacket nests, but they had done their damage. The nests had caused rot to the original roofing material. When the buildings came from China in 1850, they were only fitted with board ceilings, and it was incumbent upon the buyer to supply shakes. There had once been shakes on this building, but when the metal roof was lifted, it was discovered that the wasps' nests had rotted away most of the original shakes. The missing shakes became a personal project for Johnny to recreate.

The wood from China is camphor. All of the components of the Chinese building are made of camphor wood which naturally repels termites. This is part of the secret to the longevity of the building. The cedar shakes were added later in this country. When the courthouse was dismantled, years of non-Chinese features and embellishments were removed. Everything that was not camphor wood showed signs of termite infiltration. The bottom eight inches of the frame and corner posts were rotted as this was the area closest to the ground.

Wally confirmed that the building was in fact entirely held together with fitted joints. However,



Samples of original Chinese assembly instructions discovered inside the fitted joints.

he found plenty of superfluous nails that were added over the years. He and Johnny carefully removed several jars worth of square and round nails that adorned the building as though it were a porcupine.

Some areas of the walls had escaped direct weatherization and still depicted red paint from China. As the wall panels were removed, intact Chinese writing on the bright red paint was found inside the joints. Wally later had the writing translated. He learned that the red paint was made from a mixture of linseed oil and pig's blood, and that the writing was assembly instructions.

The cargo trailer went into quiet storage while the fate of the building was determined.

For the next eighteen months no definitive location could be pinpointed as to where a reconstructed permanent display could



Original Chinese writing was discovered on the fitted floor joists.

Shingles versus Shakes

Have you ever wondered what the difference between a wooden shingle and a wood shake is? Sometimes you may hear the two terms used interchangeably, and that may be in error. There really is a difference between the two types of historic wooden roofing or siding materials.

A wood shake is split. A shingle is sawn. A shingle has relatively smooth sides, whereas a shake has fairly rough hewn sides. In the days before sawmills, it was easier to split the wood by hand (called “riving”) than try to saw it. The tool used for splitting the wood and making the shake is called a froe.

Most shakes and shingles are made of cedar wood, because the wood splits easily and is resistant to insect damage and weathers well. So there is quite a difference, but nothing to get shaken up about.

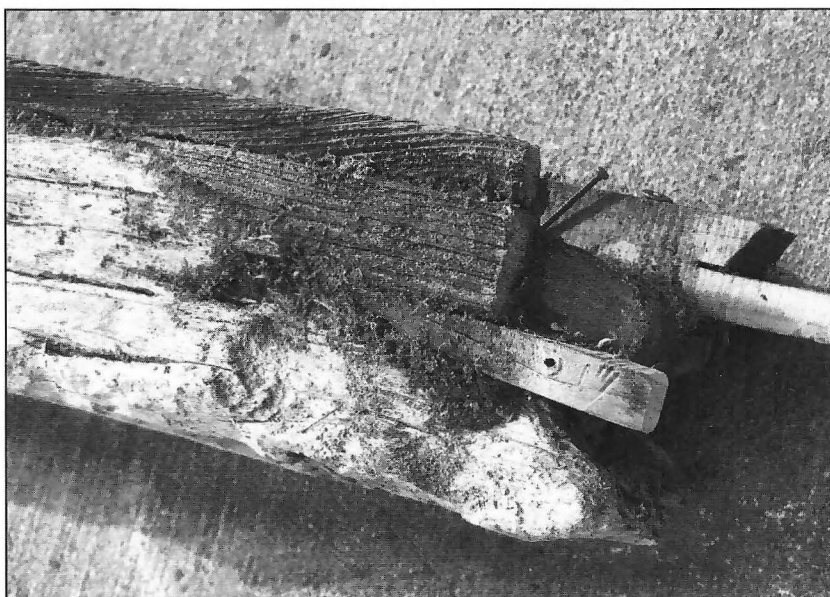
be housed. Finally after careful study of the minimum required space, it was determined that the best available location would be inside, upstairs in the museum complex where the geology display was located. However installing the courthouse display would necessitate relocating the geology display. Once again the Historical Society had to call upon the county for their consent.

The Historical Society president at the time was Jeff Tuttle. He was also the county’s District Attorney. Being an attorney by day, but an historian at heart, the courthouse project had become a personal goal for Jeff to see built. He worked quietly behind the scenes at the government center to obtain the county’s consent to relocate the geology display at the museum for the purpose of constructing the courthouse display. On March 6, 2008, Jeff wrote a letter to Wally advising him that all permissions had been obtained and the project was to proceed.

In the spring of 2008, Wally pulled some pieces of the courthouse building from the storage trailer and took them to his home in Mountain Ranch. He has a wood shop in which he could work at the meticulous task of reassembly with minimal distraction. He dedicated the next several months to the work of reassembling a Chinese building.

Reassembly could not be conducted in the same order as the original house had been constructed. This irregularity was due to the fact that there were so many rotted pieces, or “missing links”, so to say. As recommended by the experts, the reassembly was to be an optimization of the best of the available parts. The objective was to fabricate a building of about one half the size of the original, without a back wall. Since the bottom eight inches of every post and panel was missing due to rot, Wally had to use the best of all of the parts just to get the fifty percent complete that he needed. To reconstruct the required ten floor-to-ceiling panels took almost the whole summer.

Wally learned much about Chinese construction, pig’s blood, camphor wood, and many things associated with the building. One of the more unique discoveries was that camphor was better than catnip! Every time he cut into the camphor wood, his cats would come out of their sleeping quarters for the privilege of rolling in the sawdust.



Reconstruction of a rotted corner post required the skillful fitting of numerous small pieces together to form a new whole.

The pleasant smelling sawdust was set aside. June Downum fabricated small pouches of the sawdust for a future use.

The floor of the original building had been replaced with a pine floor around 1900. As this flooring was not original, it did not make sense to re-use that lumber. The roofing presented another problem, though. The original roof was cedar shakes installed by the buyer. Auspiciously for the courthouse, Johnny James had experience in cedar shakes. Using a salvaged roof shake from dismantling the courthouse as a guide, Johnny went to his family cabin in Hermit Valley along the Ebbetts Pass Highway. Johnny had recently had to replace some cedar shakes and believed he had an historically accurate source for replacement parts. Fortunately for everyone involved, Johnny's old cedar shakes accurately matched those from the courthouse. Johnny was able to provide the cedar shakes to adorn the reconstructed courthouse exhibit.

Johnny's contributions to the project did not stop there. Besides assisting Wally in the dismantling and providing the shakes, he also constructed the podium stand for the graphics display. Many times throughout the arduous reconstruction process when Wally felt he was overwhelmed, Johnny provided the positive direction and inspiration needed to see through to the next phase. Johnny's quiet but thorough assistance to the project cannot be understated.

The summer of 2008 wore on and the pieces came together. Many a long hot day was completed with Wally's partner Lillian bringing him a cold beer and calling "enough!" They would sit down to watch the sunset together while the cats rolled in the camphor sawdust. In October Wally had finally constructed enough of the building to invite the Historical Society board over to see the product of his hard

work. A brief meeting was held in his driveway where the half-building stood. After months of not knowing what he was actually doing, they could finally see and touch the wood he had so carefully brought back to life. Then it was hastily covered with blue tarps as rain came splattering down on his handiwork.

Taking Shape

As the reassembly neared completion and the building began to take shape, attention turned toward construction of the final display. An empty wooden box of a building would mean nothing to a visitor without the history behind it. A flip-chart display was created to inform visitors of the history of the county seat, the county boundaries, and this unique building. Once one starts to turn the pages of the informative display, one cannot help but keep reading through to the end, the present, to find the final fate of the building standing before them.

Local artists Lori and Pete Kelly were hired to develop and paint a perspective of the recorder's office on the back wall inside the building. The trompe l'oeil painting does just that, it tricks the eye into believing that the viewer is peeking



The reconstructed courthouse building, adorned with the 31-star flag, in the fall of 2008. Left to right, Johnny James, Jeff Tuttle, Duane Wight, Wally Motloch and Gary Herd.



The final display in the County Museum, with the perspective painting providing a glimpse of the 1850 working courthouse.

inside the building during business hours. With period furniture in the foreground, the illusion is complete.

When the State of California was formed in 1850, it became the thirty-first state of the United States, and Calaveras was one of the original twenty-seven charter counties. From the beginning it could proudly fly the United States flag with thirty-one stars. Wally set out to find such a flag to adorn the reconstructed courthouse. He did in fact find an authentic flag but it exceeded the project's budget. Rather, he used his persuasive skills to obtain photographs of the true flag. He then asked our local VFW hall to use a decommissioned flag and a good seamstress to reconstruct a "new" old flag, based on the photographs. So a fairly authentic and slightly used flag of thirty-one stars was born for the courthouse display.

The heavy rocks of the geology display were removed to their new location. The courthouse was reconstructed in its new home, inside the County Museum. Remember the camphor sawdust the cats loved? June Downum's bags of sweet smelling sawdust were presented to the board members as gifts of "Double Springs Gold", and Wally said it was time to open the refurbished building to public display.

Dedication

By special invitation, the Calaveras County Historical Society held a dedication ceremony to unveil the new display. Members of the Society got a sneak preview on the ninth of June, 2009. The following day was the 159th anniversary of the original Court of Sessions that had been held in Double Springs. That Court of Sessions had had to be held in the tent under the oak tree since the Chinese building hadn't been erected yet. The 159th anniversary in 2009 was far more comfortable.

The display was completed and opened to the public with much attention from the local press. The final product far exceeded anyone's vision of the display. Wally had brought the project in early and under budget.

Several quality museums across California have vied for the remaining scraps of camphor wood. They wish to own a piece of this unique history to enhance their own displays of gold rush-era Chinese artifacts. The significance of Calaveras County's first courthouse, the only surviving gold rush-era pre-fabricated building from China, is immeasurable.

Bibliography

- California Department of Parks and Recreation; *Five Views: An Ethnic Historic Site Survey for California*, Office of Historic Preservation, 1988.
- Everett, Richard; personal recollections.
- Layton, Thomas N; *Gifts from the Celestial Kingdom*, Stanford University Press, 2002.
- Layton, Thomas N; *The Voyage of the Frolic*, Stanford University Press, 1997.
- Layton, Thomas N; personal recollections.
- Mendocino County Museum, Willits, California.
- Motloch, Wally; personal recollections.
- Point Cabrillo Light Station, Point Cabrillo State Park, Mendocino, California.
- Taylor, Bayard; *Eldorado*, G P Putnam, 1859.

All photos and graphics, except where noted, courtesy of Wally Motloch.

Historical Society loses dedicated friend, **JEFF TUTTLE 1952–2010**

The Historical Society is sad to announce the passing of longtime member and board member Jeff Tuttle. Jeff Tuttle proudly called Mokelumne Hill home since the age of six.

Jeff attended Calaveras High School then obtained a degree in anthropology from UC Berkeley. Later he attended the McGeorge School of Law and pursued a distinguished year career in law in Calaveras County spanning more than thirty years. He worked a variety of legal positions at the county from deputy district attorney, county counsel, public defender, and most recently as the county's district attorney.

Our work required us to cross paths often while we were both in the service of the county. When I entered his office he would show me his latest find, usually something petrified, then he would dispatch promptly with the business at hand. We would then step outside while he snuck a forbidden cigarette and we would laugh at the silliness of the county bureaucracies and egos in action. Then his assistant would come find us and remind him of a pending appointment.

Jeff knew exactly how not to take the job too seriously, yet he was always very professional in his legal work. Many colleagues praised Jeff for his thoroughness and rarely found fault in his legal analysis. And many more admired Jeff for the courage to wear Hawaiian shirts to work every Friday.

Everything in the world around him fascinated him, from his natural environment to local history. He particularly loved geology and reptiles. I got to know Jeff best when he and his wife and I took Bill Fuller's amazing geology class together. We had so much fun picking up conglomerate rocks that held fast (cementite), or ones that held no interest and we quickly dropped them (leaverite). Over the subsequent years Jeff would use his fancy rock cutting tools to cut rocks open for me just because I wanted to see what was inside and he understood that curiosity.



Jeff Tuttle, as we remember him, happy to be playing music, in this case singing cowboy ballads on the sidewalk in San Andreas.

When Jeff left the county the first time for private pursuits I participated in the mass government center photograph of 100+ employees wearing Hawaiian shirts in his honor on his last Friday. A good-bye party was held at the Pioneer Hotel in his honor. I stayed behind long after the crowd was gone with a few close friends and his life-long guitar playing partner Phil McCartney. We sang Marty Robbins songs long past 2:00 am. It was the worst hangover I've ever had.

We continued to cross paths over the following years in a variety of

venues and eventually Jeff returned to county employment. I often heard he and Phil play music, or would invite Jeff over to play Mah Jongg (he was the only male guest to ever join us). Once he agreed to adopt some geckos that I was fostering. They had to be snuck into his District Attorney office early one morning, but he was thrilled. When he first ran for public office, it seemed as though every home in Moke Hill had a Tuttle sign in their yard. A friend remarked, "Now Calaveras County has their own Tuttletown."

Jeff joined the Historical Society as a Lifetime Member in 1981. It was just a matter of time before he increased his membership participation to active board member, and served as President from 2007–2009. He brought good humor and level insight to the board. He was serving the current Vice President's term.

Jeff had recently remarried and was raising a young family. A neighbor told me that he loved having Jeff bring his kids home, because he always heard Jeff singing old rock 'n roll lyrics to all the kids in the car.

Jeff was having a leisurely spring Sunday, doing a little prospecting, when he was struck with the heart attack that took his life. When Jeff left the employment of Calaveras County this time, he was running unopposed for his fourth term as the county's District Attorney. The CHP had to close down the town of Mokelumne Hill to accommodate his funeral, which I attended, and I wore a Hawaiian shirt.

—Bonnie Miller

Calaveras County Historical Society

30 No. Main Street P.O. Box 721 San Andreas, CA 95249

Officers and Directors

President	Donna Shannon, San Andreas
Vice President	****
Secretary	Pam Taylor, San Andreas
Treasurer	David Studley, Mountain Ranch
Director	Beverly Burton, San Andreas
Director	Bill Claudino, San Andreas
Director	Rosemary Faulkner, Jackson
Director	Gary Herd, Mountain Ranch
Director	Duane Wight, Lodi
Las Calaveras, Editor	Bonnie Miller
Office Manager	Karen Nicholson
Administrative Assistant	Marie Larsen

Las Calaveras is published quarterly by the Calaveras County Historical Society. A subscription to *Las Calaveras* comes with membership in the Calaveras County Historical Society for \$22.00 per year. Non-members may obtain copies from the Historical Society office. The original historical material presented in *Las Calaveras* is not copyrighted and anyone is invited to use it. Mention of the source would be appreciated. Contributions of articles about Calaveras County are appreciated and may be submitted to the Historical Society for consideration.

The Calaveras County Historical Society is a non-profit corporation. It meets on the fourth Thursday of each month in various communities throughout the County. Locations and scheduled programs are announced in advance. Some meetings include a dinner program, and visitors are always welcome.

The Society operates the Calaveras County Museum which is open daily from 10:00 to 4:00 in the historic County courthouse located at 30 Main Street in San Andreas; and the historic Red Barn Museum at 891 Mountain Ranch Road, also in San Andreas, which is open Thursday to Sunday, 10:00 to 4:00.

The Society's office is located in historic San Andreas, the Calaveras County seat. Visitors are always welcome to stop by the office for assistance with research, and are encouraged to visit the museums while in the area. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 4:00, and the telephone number is (209) 754-1058, or contact us at: CCHS@goldrush.com; Red Barn Museum (209) 754-0800.

New Members

The Calaveras County Historical Society welcomes the following new members:

January–March, 2010

Carl Stoughton, West Point
Sarah Lunsford, Murphys
Norm & Erin Miley, San Andreas
Cairn Barnes, Folsom
Karen & Jan Harper, San Andreas
Matt Riley, Antioch
Patsy Kurokawa, Sacramento

Donations

The Historical Society appreciates the following generous donations:

April–June 2010

Pump organ and stool, sheet music from 1880s–1920s—Jon Dashner
1862 Bible from the Mokelumne Hill Masonic Lodge #44
Photo of San Andreas Elementary School c. 1946—John Gibson
Cash donation—Jim & Deana Murchison
Memorabilia from an old Stagecoach Driver—Mrs. Temple
Cash donation in memory of Jeff Tuttle—John & Florence James
Cash donation in memory of Jeff Tuttle—Calaveras County Fair
Cash donation in memory of Jeff Tuttle—Brent Harrington
Cash donation in memory of Jeff Tuttle—Patsy Kurokawa
Cash donation in memory of Jeff Tuttle—Pam Taylor
Cash donation in memory of Jeff Tuttle—Mary Taylor
Cash donation in memory of Jeff Tuttle—David & Hallie Studley
Indian grinding rock—Estate of Priscilla Tangemann Thornton
1920s pull Road Grader—Doug Higgins