

TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

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It is our mission to identify, preserve and promote the historic legacy of the Temecula Valley and to educate the public about its historical significance.

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This image of the Wolf Store is a painting done by Ralph Love. It currently hangs in the general meeting room of the History Center.

Finding the Proof

When Was the Wolf Store Built?

Anne J. Miller, Ph.D.

Over the years, there have been questions about when the Wolf Store was actually built. The plaque on the Wolf Store dated 1 October 1950 states "Treaty of Temecula Signed here on 5 Jan 1852" and "Later a Butterfield Stage Stop." Research has proven that both of these 1950s statements are false. The Wolf Store building was built years after those events; in the 1860s. The builder was most likely Julius Szubinski.

When dating a building such as the Wolf Store, it is important to consider why the previous information was not accurate as well as proving what was in that location prior to the building of the structure. And it is also important to determine where events, such as the signing to the Treaty of Temecula, really did occur.

One good source for answering these questions are surveyors' field notes. They are especially helpful for the Wolf Store research because the Wolf Store was so close to the boundary line between the large Temecula Rancho and the much smaller Little Temecula Rancho. This boundary line between the two ranchos is roughly near where the current sidewalk is in front of Kohl's, running past the current Vail Ranch Headquarters and the stores east of the Vail Ranch Headquarters. The northeast corner of the Wolf Store was less than 50 feet from that boundary line so it would not be likely to have been ignored by surveyors.

Other research on the location of the Southern Emigrant Trail is quite clear that this trail passed just east of the location where the Wolf Store was later

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. . . When Was the Wolf Store Built?

built. The trail was roughly in a southeast to northwest direction. On the other hand, the Butterfield Overland Stage service ended in 1861 before the Wolf Store was built. The Butterfield Overland Mail stop was in the village located on the hill south the Temecula Creek and west of Redhawk Parkway.

Other buildings noted in early surveyors' field notes were built before the Wolf Store building was built. There was a building near where the shoe store is today (just east of today's Vail Ranch Headquarters) which is obviously east of the later Wolf Store location. That earlier building was also documented during the Civil War (1861- 1865) when John Magee was reported to be at that location. While the military records mentioned Magee's location north of the pond, there was no mention of other buildings in that area. Many years later, M.G. Wheeler's 1872 field notes clearly mentioned the presence of the Wolf Store. Therefore, the Wolf Store must have been built between 1859 and 1872.

Additional research indicates that Louis Wolf was in the Warner Springs area between 1861-1868. Wolf was the postmaster at Warner's between 1861 and 1862 when the post office was discontinued due to the Civil War. He was re-appointed as postmaster there when the post office was reestablished in 1867. He was the postmaster there and also had a store with Thomas Brady in that Warner Springs area during 1867-1868.

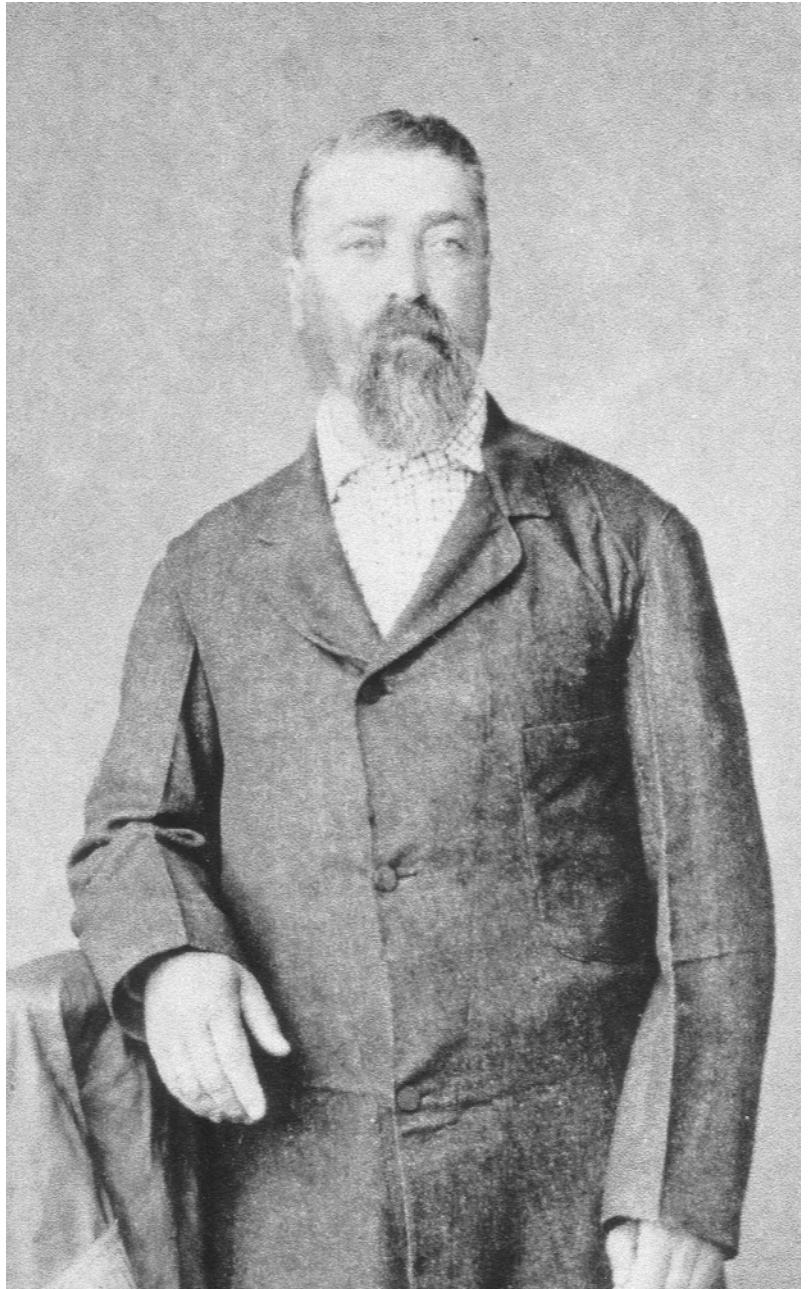
Extensive research of ownership of the location where the Wolf Store was eventually built, including a number of deeds, tax assessment records, etc., indicate that in 1867 Magee sold all his interest in the Little Temecula area to a Solomon Lazard. That sale included that existing building north of the pond that was used as a store, but there was no mention in that deed of a building where the Wolf Store is today. Years later, documents describe that building east of the future Wolf Store location as being 626 feet east of the Wolf Store.

The next owner of the property where the Wolf Store was later built was Julius Szubinski. He purchased the entire ranch in December 1866. Almost a year later, in October 1867, there was a newspaper report of the store being raided by a band of outlaws. Soon after that, Mr. Szubinski died and his son took over.

Although Louis Wolf was running the store in April 1868, he did not own the property or the store building. The tax assessment records indicate that Wolf was taxed for \$1,300 for merchandise, with no mention of land or improvements, making it quite clear that Wolf did not own the store or the property at that time. Later that same year, in August 1868, Szubinski's son sold the property (including the store) to Wolf.

Regarding the other historic events reported in 1950 to have taken place at the Wolf Store, The Treaty of Temecula, was signed in 1852 at the Apis Adobe on the south side of the creek, many years before there was any structure where the Wolf Store was later built.

While the Butterfield Overland Mail service operated between 1858 and 1861, that was a number of years before the Wolf Store was built. There are many descriptions of travelers on the Butterfield Overland Mail and they mentioned stopping in the village that was located on the hill south of the Temecula Creek and west of today's Redhawk Parkway.



Louis Wolf

**Notable Men &
Women of Temecula
Activities &
Presentations**



On Sunday, September 1st, Bill Veale will portray José Estudillo at the Little Temecula History Center at 2:30 p.m. Estudillo was a horse trainer, rancher, and local politician.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Thursday, August 1st** — 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Inland Empire California Cornhole Association weekly tournament Every Thursday during the month.
- Friday, August 2nd** — 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Live music at Vail Headquarter, Scheduled for every Friday evening during the month.
- Saturday, August 3rd** — 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Ramble On Car Show at Vail HQ.
- Sunday, August 4th** — 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday Friday vendor fair at Vail HQ.
- Tuesday, August 6th** — 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Farmers Market at Vail HQ. Every Tuesday.
- Wednesday, August 7th** — 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Reliance Church Worship.
- Saturday, August 10th** — 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Clear Charity Kid's carnival and craft fair family event.
- Wednesday, August 14th** — 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Homeschool group tour. (Volunteers Needed.)
- Sunday, August 18th** — 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday Friday Vendor fair at Vail HQ.
- Saturday, August 24th** — 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thistle and Sage Vegan Marketplace.
- Monday, August 26th** — 6 p.m. at History Center, Temecula Valley Historical Society presentation by Camp Pendleton Historical Society, "Sgt. Reckless: More Than Just A Horse."
- Friday, August 30th** — 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Starlight Bazaar at Vail Headquarters. Last Friday each month thru Summer time.

— Save the date —
Annual Dinner Meeting of TVHS
Sat, Nov. 16
At the Assistance League
Doors open at 5:30 p.m.
Raffles, silent auction items

Thank You Communiques From Our 2019

Scholarship Recipients

Ben Garner and Monica Wong



Monica Wong dressed in a traditional hanboks in front of the Gyeongbokgung Palace in Seoul, South Korea.

Temecula Valley Historical Society Temecula, CA

Dear Temecula Valley Historical Society,

I would like to sincerely thank you for the scholarship. The money donated will go a long way to helping me achieve my educational goals. At a time such as this, where everything is in question and I have a lot of difficult, albeit exciting, decisions to make and I would like to stress the impact this award has had on me. It has confirmed my feeling that history is the right path for my education, inspired me to put everything into my goals, and encouraged me to pursue my passion with everything I have.

I intend on double majoring in 'History' and 'Politics' at University of California Santa Cruz, upon the completion of my bachelors degrees, I will apply for a 5 quarter graduate program with the hopes to achieve a Master's Degree in Education and a single subject teaching credential, to teach High School History. Your scholarship is the first step in getting me there. I hope to some day make this world a better place by sharing my love and passion for history.

Sincerely yours,
Benjamin H. Garner
Editor-in-Chief (*The Platinum Press*)
Future Teacher

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THANK YOU TO HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

Temecula Historical Society,

Hi this is Monica Wong, the recipient of the Temecula Historical Society Dollars for Scholars scholarship!

I wanted to email you all to thank you once again for the immense generosity as well as the lovely Monday night I had the pleasure of taking part in! (My father was so enthralled by the lecture, he STILL talks about the rock paintings we saw photos of).

My apologies for such a late email, I was lucky enough to be able to travel to Asia right before graduation to visit my sister who is studying abroad! It was so amazing, we walked through the Gyeongbokgung Palace in Korea in traditional hanboks which was quite the thrilling experience for a history lover. But finally summer has arrived to give me a breather.

I am so grateful for the communal support I feel through this recognition, and I'll be sure to update everyone with my future adventures at UCLA! I can't know where I'm going unless I look at where I've been, and I'm happy to see my own past has such giving hearts like yours to propel me forward.

Thank you so much,
Monica Wong



On July 10th, 30 TVHS members toured Historic Old Town Murrieta and Murrieta's new Museum, with Jeffery Harmon as tour guide.

Afterwards, the participants had a terrific lunch at The Mill. Many thanks to Phil Washum for handling all of the details in advance. Photo courtesy of Jeffery Harmon.

NWOT Featured in Special Filmed Interview Program Now Available to View

Recently Johanna Lack of JDS Creative Academy in Temecula contacted Lynn Cudé regarding JDS's plan to put a program together about notable women in Temecula's history. Johanna scheduled an interview with "Ramona Wolf", "Mary Jane Welty", and "Bessie Barnett", followed by Joan Sparkman and Maryann Edwards.

The program was filmed on Friday, June 14th, and is now available to view at <https://spectrumofinnovation.org/videos/episode-9-impact-temeculas-notable-women-of-history/>. This link will allow anyone who missed the initial broadcast to view the program.

Volunteer Opportunity with TVHS Events & Education Committee

The Events and Education Committee Chair, Bonnie Reed, is wanting to build a committee of persons interested in promoting the goals of our Historical Society through community based activities and events.

No prior knowledge of local history is needed. This is a good opportunity to learn about the history of this valley as well as the exciting history of the Vail Ranch. If you are interested or have friends who would be willing to put aside a few hours now and then for such an important cause please contact Bonnie Reed at 760-484-6019 or at grannyofive@gmail.com

— Membership News —

Welcome New Members:

Arnie & Nancy Frick

Jeffrey & Martha Minkler

Pat Ommert

Jim Sappington

Whitney Vail Wilkinson

Thank you for renewing your membership:

Walter & Mary Campbell

Lynn Hornecker

Donations sought for Annual Meeting

TVHS is seeking donations of event tickets, new goods, services, or destinations, to be auctioned or raffled at our Annual Dinner on 11/16/19. Funds raised go to restore and preserve Temecula's historic past and fund college scholarships. Items sought are: balloon ride tickets, golf, hotel vouchers, gift certificates or items from local merchants. Items will be stand alone or combined with others to create baskets worth a minimum of \$50.

Auction and raffle items have been a staple of TVHS' ability to fund projects preserving Temecula's wonderful history. To donate, please contact Julie Gilbert at juliediane1210@gmail.com. All donations must be picked up or dropped off by 10/28/19.

"Gently Used"

Childrens Books Needed

For the Free Library at Vail Headquarters. Please get to either Rebecca Farnbach, or get to Antique Store on Tues. or Sun.