

# Louis Salmons of Palomar Mountain

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**Louis Shannon Salmons**, undated

**Louis Shannon Salmons** was born in Decatur, Georgia on May 31, 1872, to Lewis Shannon Salmons and Mary Ann Alexander Salmons [2,7].

Father **Lewis Shannon Salmons** [1812-1881] and a previous wife **Mary R. Freeman Salmons** [born about 1829] were married in Georgia on February 13, 1848. In the 1850 U.S. Census, L. S. Salmons has the occupation of merchant, and is married to M. R. Salmons with a daughter F.J. Salmons less than a year old.

Lewis Shannon Salmons and Mary R. Freeman Salmons then had a daughter **Ora Moneta Salmons** [born in Georgia on November 13, 1852].

Mary R. Freeman Salmons died July 29, 1862, and is buried in Griffin, Georgia.

In the same cemetery is buried Pamela Ann Tarpley Salmons, age 22, who died February 17, 1846; her gravestone says she is “consort of L.S. Salmons & daughter of Rev. J and E.S. Tarpley” and discharged

duties through life of “daughter, sister, wife, mother & friend.” Perhaps “L.S. Salmons” is Lewis Shannon Salmons, and Pamela was his wife before he married Mary R. Freeman; Pamela died two years before Lewis Salmons married Mary R. Freeman. Father **Lewis Shannon Salmons** then married **Mary Alexander Salmons** [born January 13, 1839, in Georgia] on February 10, 1864, and they had a daughter **Harriett ‘Hattie’ Randolph Salmons** [born in Georgia on February 22, 1864], and two sons: **Franklin ‘Frank’ Alexander Salmons** [born in Georgia on September 1, 1866] and **Louis Shannon Salmons** [5,7].

Father Lewis Salmons was a retail dry goods merchant in Atlanta in the 1870 U.S. Census, and a farmer in the 1880 U.S. Census. Son Louis Shannon Salmons said [2]:

When Sherman came into Atlanta, they refugeed to, I think, Macon, Georgia.

Father Lewis Shannon Salmons died in Georgia on January 9, 1881, and is buried in Decatur Cemetery. Notes on cemetery records state he resided near Decatur, Georgia and “was for several years a leading merchant in

Atlanta and afterwards associated as travelling salesman with well known firms in that and other cities. His Atlanta firm was Salmons and Simmons.”

## **SALMONS FAMILY MOVES WEST**

Louis Salmons said [2]:

They [Family] came to California in 1885. We got to Los Angeles January, 1885. We stayed in Los Angeles just a few days. We came down to San Diego county in 1885, January 1885 – San Diego county, but not in San Diego. Well, my sister taught a government school here at La Jolla Indian Reservation. The oldest one in our family was my sister, Ora Salmons. ... And afterwards she taught in Rincon and then at Pala. She taught for about ... 30 years. She (Ora) came here, my oldest half sister and my aunt and my brother came here in the fall, and we came here in January, my mother and I.

Sister Harriett ‘Hattie’ Randolph Salmons Jarvis came to San Diego County after her husband Joshua Giddings Jarvis [1839-1915] died in Los Angeles on April 4, 1915 [24]. In the 1910 U.S. Census she is living with husband Joshua G. Jarvis in the Indian Hill Precinct of Jefferson County, Kentucky, where Joshua is a farmer. Harriett Salmons married Joshua G. Jarvis in 1896, and he had previously been married to Ann Maria Murrell [1835-1892].

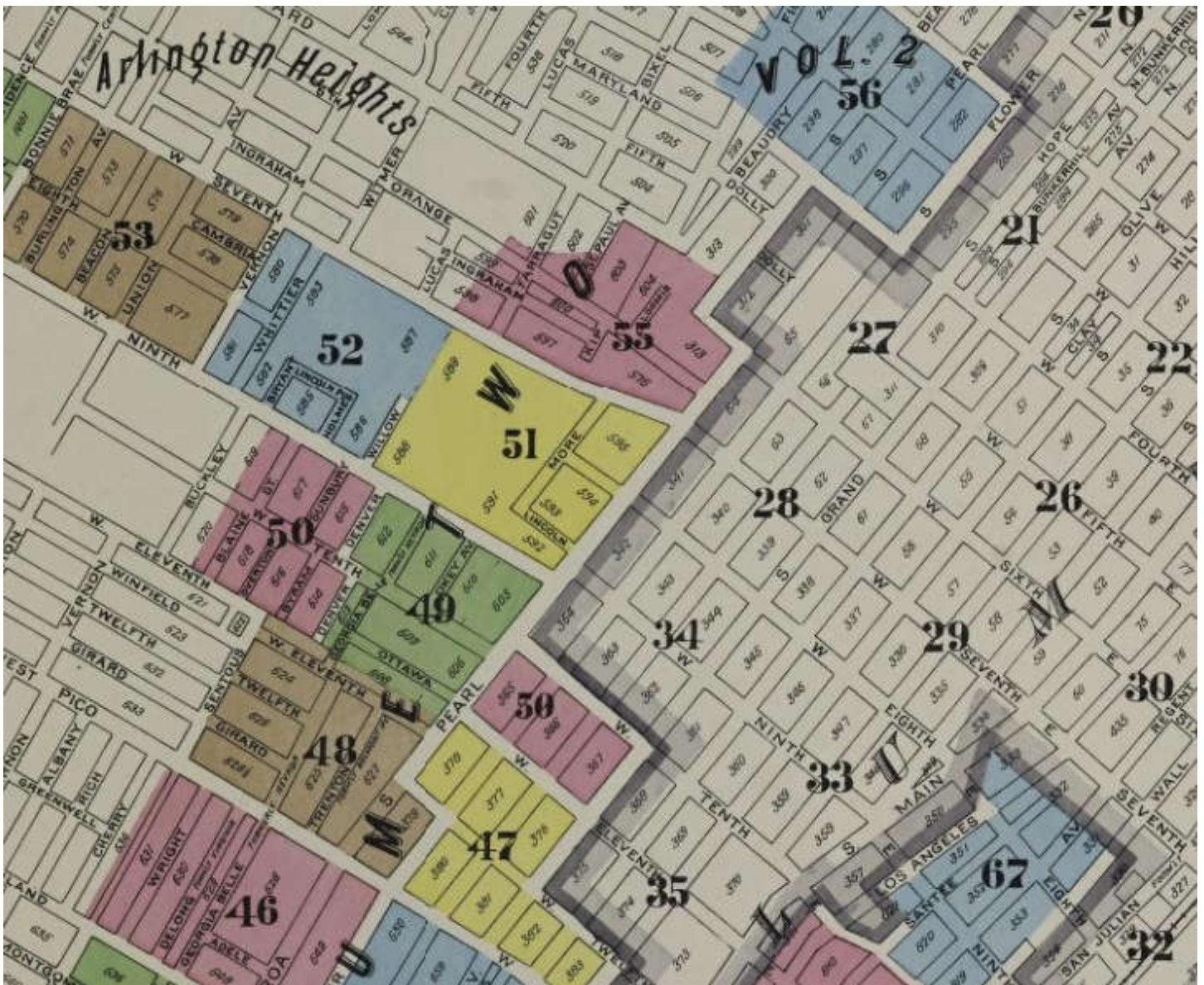
Louis Salmons said [2]:

Mother built in Los Angeles afterward. I lived on 9<sup>th</sup> and Figueroa in Los Angeles. Oh, she had that several years. I went to school on 8th and Grand Avenue, Los Angeles. We had a whole block next to 8th and Grand Avenue for a ball ground. I lived in Los Angeles until I was about 13 years old and I went to New Mexico then. I grew up in southern New Mexico. No, my family didn’t move there. I had my 14th birthday there. I run away from home and went there and had my 14th birthday. Stayed there until after I was grown in southern New Mexico.

Pearl Street was renamed Figueroa Street in 1897, so at the time Louis Salmons lived there, he lived at Ninth and Pearl streets, instead of Ninth and Figueroa streets as he said years later.

In 1885, Louis Salmons was a newsboy carrying the Los Angeles Times [86].





**Ninth and Pearl streets area where Louis Salmons lived in Los Angeles**  
 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California  
 Sanborn Map Company, 1890

Louis Salmons was born May 31, 1872, so he moved to New Mexico between June 1885 and May 1886. Louis Salmons said [2]:

I was working cattle. I worked for the Bar Cross, the Ford Cattle Company there for several years, punching cows. I went there (and) started punching cows when I was 13. I was a long ways from home and I always liked to eat, you know. I don't remember when I came back to San Diego county. That's one thing I can't remember. Oh, I was grown then.

During the 1880s boom, the Bar Cross Ranch, owned by the Detroit and Rio Grande Livestock Company, ran 20,000 cattle on the Jornada Plain, south of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and east of the Rio Grande River [1,7]. Louis Salmons seems to be confusing Ford with Detroit in his memory.

As Louis said, his mother Mary Salmons later bought a lot (Lot 38) in the Arlington Tract in downtown Los Angeles in May 1887 [2,19].

On October 1, 1888, Frank A. Salmons was registered to vote in Los Angeles; he was an express agent living on the east side of South Main Street in the city of Los Angeles.

Edward Davis writes [4]:

Louis Salmons' father was a successful banker in Atlanta, Georgia, before General Sherman devastated the city during the Civil War. This ruined the family. Some years later Frank, Louis, and two or three sisters came on the scene, and when young men and women, migrated to California and eventually were attracted to the mountains near Pala. Brother Frank opened a trading store in a wing of the old Assistencia Mission in Pala, while Louis found a place near the foot of Palomar and began ranching. This continued for some years, but Palomar appealed to him so strongly that he sold out his interests below and bought about eight hundred acres in the George Cook Valley.



**Frank A. Salmons, c1910**

In the Great Register (of voters) of San Diego County for 1890, 1892 and 1894, Frank A. Salmons is listed as a farmer in Pala. The Los Angeles Herald noted on January 28, 1894, that Frank Salmons, manager of the Aqua Tibia ranch of San Diego county, was in Los Angeles [12]. On January 16, 1895, Frank Salmons of Escondido married Hazel R. Wood of Los Angeles in Los Angeles; the Los Angeles Herald newspaper noted that Frank Salmons had "once been in the employ of the Wells Fargo express, has many friends here, but is now established in a large mercantile establishment in Escondido. The bride was one of the most useful and successful teachers in Orange county... [13]."

The reference to Escondido is regional and not specific; the surrounding area including Pala was encompassed, and Salmons' mercantile establishment was his store in Pala. Frank and Hazel Salmons had two children: Margaret Moneta (born September 24, 1895; died February 18, 1978) and Mildred Alexander (born December 14, 1897; died January 31, 1980).

Louis Salmons said [2]:

My brother, Frank, never lived here (Palomar). He was in Los Angeles. He run Wells Fargo messenger for years there, Los Angeles to Albuquerque. Wells Fargo messenger on train. He run that for years. And then afterward he came down here and he went to work for Stevenson Brothers there in Escondido. Stevenson the grocery and mercantile company. He worked there for several years. And then he got tired of that and he wasn't making enough, so he told Mr. Wohlford ... He went down (and) made arrangements with Mr. Wohlford that he wanted to buy the Veal store there at Pala. And so Wohlford said, "What do you want to change for, Frank?" He said, "I want to make something for myself." Said "I'm not making, not getting enough -- just enough for a living." So he



said, "How much you getting?" Frank said, "Eighty-five a month." "Why," he said, "that's all I'm paying my vice president."

Veal, he was the man that owned the store at Pala. He took up the place where the mission is and all -- government land at that time. He was in the early days. He was married to a woman; I don't know what she was. She said she was Spanish, so I guess she was. Frank rented the store building and stocked it himself. It was just about all run-down. He run the store at Pala. He owned that for, I guess, for 30 years, 35 years, 40 years. He went to San Diego. He was elected County Clerk and then he bought in ... he and Bill Kettner were in the insurance business together for years.



**Frank Salmons' Pala Store and Ranch House c1916** <sup>[74]</sup>

In Arizona, Louis Salmons married **Emma Barker** (February 7, 1877 – January 30, 1910) <sup>[2,31]</sup>

Louis Salmons said <sup>[2]</sup>:

When I came back to San Diego I went to ranching. Well, I rented. I rented at Pala. I was ranching at Pala there when they moved the Indians in from Warner Springs. And we had to get out, and so Mr. Weaver and I came up and rented the Pauma Ranch here... Well, we run the Pauma Ranch here, yes. We were the first ones. I broke all this Pauma Ranch country here and brush and cactus when we were using teams. Had a big railroad iron and four big horses on each end of it. We went over it both ways and then burned it. We

didn't have to get a burning permit then. Well, that was about 1900, I think. The Indians were moved to Pala ... why that was the year I went to ... I can't remember the dates. I went ... I rented in Pala and first started to ranching. Then they moved the Indians in and I wasn't Indian enough to stay there, so they moved me out. Well, we moved up here about 1901, or 1902, I think. I was married by that time. I was married in Arizona. My wife's name was Emma Barker. Well, I got married in the spring in Arizona and come here in the fall. Well, there wasn't many towns out there then. I do not remember what year it was.

Robert Asher wrote [22]:

Louis Salmons' first wife, and the mother of the four Salmons girls, was a young girl going to school at the Jessee schoolhouse in the middle eighties. The Salmons occupied the Adams' house for awhile around 1905 or 1906, and I saw quite a bit of them.

Several sources including Robert Asher say they had four daughters. Louis and Emma Salmons had five daughters: **Mahulda Neal Salmons** (1897-1946), **Mary Rebecca Salmons** (1900-1995), **Charlotte Marie Marjorie Salmons** (1901-1995), **Harriet Ora Salmons** (1902-1974), and **Emma Louise Salmons** (1908-1999).

Louis Salmons said [2]:

We have five children. ... The oldest child was Mahulda Neal Salmons; she's the one that passed away at seven. Rebecca's next; Harriet's next; and Marge after Rebecca; and then Harriet. Marge's name is Marie; then Louise. That's all of them. Five girls, that's enough, isn't it, five? Mahulda, Rebecca, Marie, Harriet, and Louise. Harriet ought to come before Louise; she's older than Louise.

While Louis Salmons' daughter Mahulda did predecease him, he said erroneously at age 87 that she died at seven years old; she died in 1946 at age 49.

In the 1898 Great (Voter) Register Supplement, San Diego County for Pala Precinct, Louis Salmons is listed as 5'9" tall with a light complexion, blue eyes, and dark hair.

Construction on the Nate Harrison Grade up the west side of Palomar Mountain began in March 1897, and finished in June 1900 <sup>23</sup>. About constructing that road, Louis Salmons said in an interview [2]:

We were starting to build this west grade on Palomar and it was all donation work. Not all donation, but every man that worked on the road there would donate so many days. ... We started that road up Palomar, we only had about \$3,500, \$4,000... They had a cookhouse and everything all moved in up there and Sylvester Mendenhall donated half of an old cow. Sylvester, Charlie Mendenhall's father ... The old man he had 11,000 acres of land up there. He invested half of an old cow. And he brought it down and it was so damn tough we couldn't eat it. I don't know what he did with the other half, but we give that half that he brought down... John Griffin was supervisor then, Judge Griffin's father. He said to give it to the Indians and let em take it home with 'em. We come — John and I came down in the buggy down to [Jean and Auguste] Nicolas camp here right back of the store, to the old ranch house there. And they killed a couple of mutton for \$2 a head and dressed them.

The San Jacinto earthquake of December 25, 1899, damaged the Pala Mission Chapel, collapsing its roof and cracked its belfry which stands apart [70,71]. Louis Salmons said in an oral history [2]:

One Christmas morning about four o'clock we had an earthquake and it -- all the roof of that chapel in Pala Mission, and everything just went down. So, in those days there was nobody to donate anything much. There was just the people that live around Pala and so I told them that I thought I could get the permission from Oliver on Palomar there, (he owned 160 acres of land up there) Ernest Oliver, to cut the timber and the people in Pala, the Indians and Mexicans there offered to go up and cut the timber and peel them. So they did. They figured out what they wanted and they went up and cut them all and peeled them and I hauled them down. I donated half of that - hauling them down. And I got ...that was the early days.

The west grade was none too wide and there's several of the turns there that when I got to the turn we had to ... the front end of the big long big timbers up over the - on the footboard over the team, and the hind end was back so far that when we got to a short turn we had to get around and jack the wagon up and take the team off and slide it around, straighten it out so that we could go on, several times -- haul them down the grade, haul them down to Pala. Then they repaired the chapel.



FRONT OF PALA MISSION.



INTERIOR OF COURTYARD.

### **Pala Mission c1900** [70]

In a 1901 magazine, the efforts to repair the Pala Mission Chapel were published by the Landmarks Club, whose mission was to conserve the missions and other historic landmarks of Southern California [70]. It noted volunteer commitments to repair the chapel including [70]:



Teofilo Peters and Louis Salmons, 5 days each with team (equivalent to 10 days for a man)

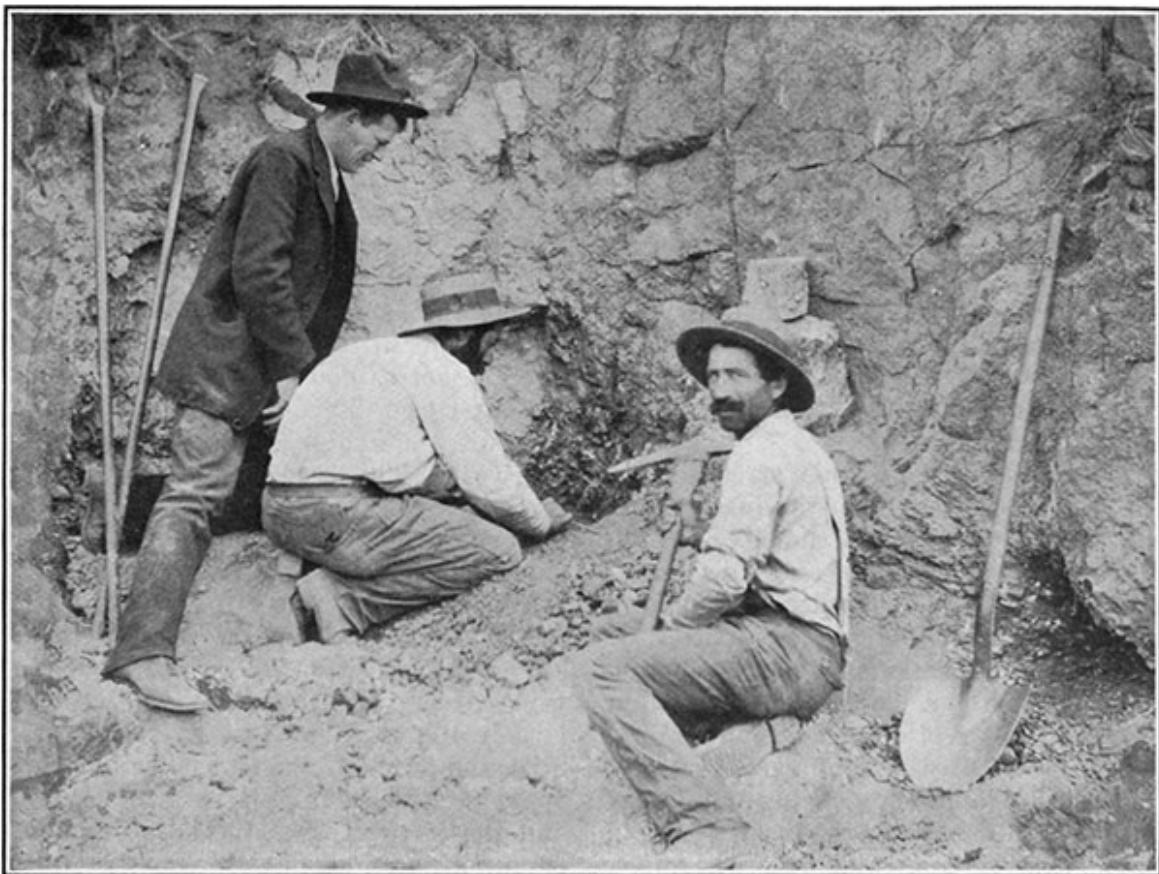
In the 1900 U.S. Census, Louis Salmons is recorded in the Pala Township as a farmer on rented land, living with his wife Emma and daughters Mahulda (age 2) and Rebecca (age 1).

In that 1900 U.S. Census, brother Frank Salmons is recorded living in Pala as a merchant with his wife Hazel and their daughters Margaret and Mildred.

In November 1901, mother Mary Salmons bought a lot in Oceanside, and moved there at some point [21].

The 1902 Index to Great Register (of voters) of San Diego County California lists Louis Salmons and his brother Frank A. Salmons in the Pala Precinct. The San Diego City and County Directory for 1899, 1901, 1903, and 1907 lists Louis Salmons at Pala.

Frank and Hazel Salmons filed several Pala district mining notices in 1898 and thereafter, engaging in gemstone mining [14,15,63,75]. The Tourmaline Queen mine in Pala was a quartz claim staked in 1903 by Frank Salmons and others; it shipped many large tourmaline crystals to the Dowager Empress of China, T'zu Hsi, for carving purposes, including different shades of tourmaline for Mandarin caps, which indicated the rank of the wearer [73,76]. The Pala Chief mine was located in 1903, with most of the tourmaline shipped to China, and most of the kunzite shipped to Tiffany's to be cut into gemstones [72].



**Excavating a pocket on the face of the pegmatite at the Pala Chief mine. From left to right: Frank A. Salmons, Bernardo Hiriart, Pedro Peilech. c1903 [72]**

The Chinese Revolution in October 1911, which ended the imperial system of the Qing Empire and established the Republic of China, ended this gemstone purchasing [76]. The Chinese market for carving-grade tourmaline

dried up, and these Pala mines closed by 1914 [72,73]. During the boom years for Southern California tourmaline, there were mines in Riverside and San Diego counties, and total gem production from 1900-1911 was \$2,039,279 [76]. In 1910, production was \$237,435; 1911 was \$51,824; 1912 was \$23,050; 1913 was \$13,740; and 1914 was \$3,970 [76].



**Pala Chief mine, left to right: M.S. McLure, Bernardo Hiriart, Frank Salmons, Pedro Peilech. c1903.**  
H. C. Gordon, photographer

Louis Salmons also filed mining claims and engaged in gemstone mining in Pala [20]. Louis Salmons said in an interview [2]:

While he (Frank) was at the store at Pala he got the gem mine up there. Oh, we took that up. (We found there were gems) accidentally. They were doing a lot of work on the lithia mine out there and there was a lithia mine up there belonged to a company and they were ...they was planning out to start a tunnel and that was the first tourmaline that was ever found there. Nobody knew anything about them before. Tunneling for the lithia we run into some tourmaline. There were a lot of lithia rock there that ... Did you ever see any of that rock that was full of tourmaline?

They own 'em (gem mines) yet. I guess there's still gems in them. They haven't been working them lately. They proved up on 'em. They worked them long enough to prove up on the mines. They got tourmaline and quartz - those big quartz crystals and kunzite. The

Pala Chief is one and I don't know what the names of the different claims. One's named Tourmaline Queen. Oh, they changed names, a lot of them after they got ready to prove up on them. I don't know who owns the claims now. My brother's family, the girls, I think, own them - Frank's daughters.

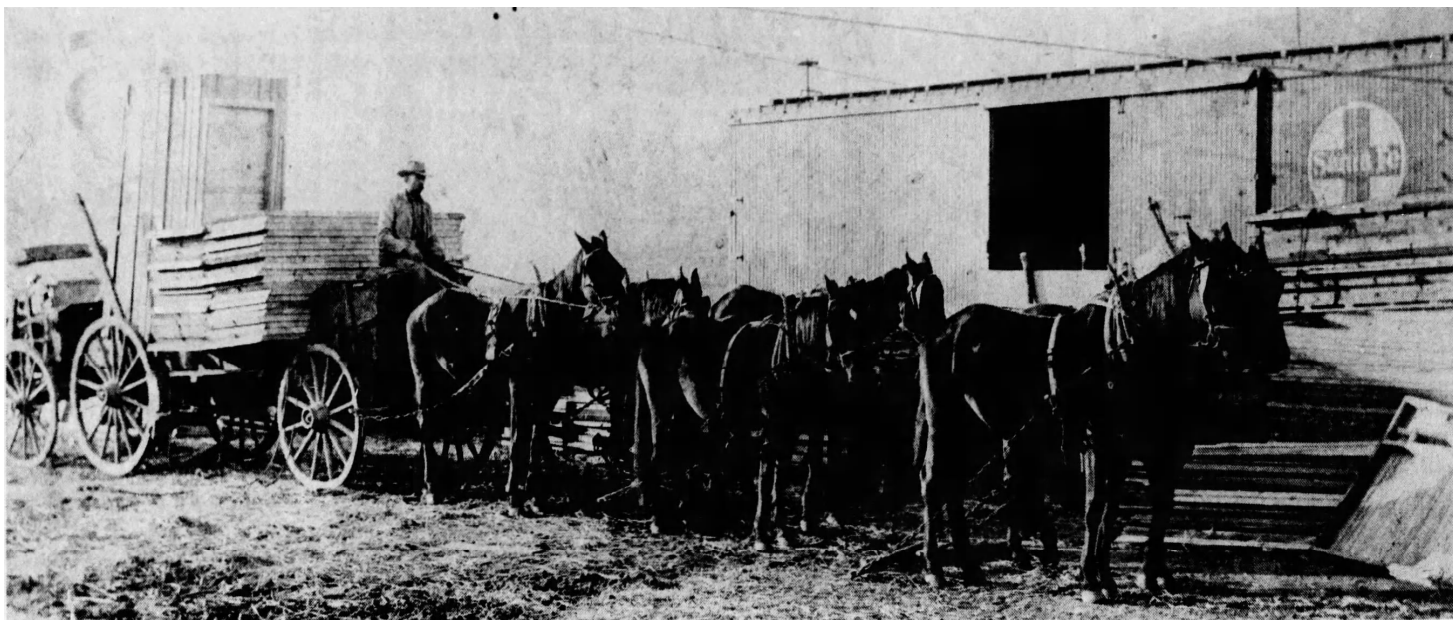
Years ago I owned claims myself. I worked there at the lithia mine, hauled lithia ore there. We hauled about 30 cars - 50 cars there at one time, of lithia ore. It was shipped to Germany first and refined in Germany, and then afterwards in New York. I never owned a lithia mine; I was just working there. I don't know who owns it now. Why, Douglas was the man that owned it then; he was a New York man. I don't remember who discovered the lithia.

In later 1902, Frank Salmons negotiated and managed the sale to the U.S. government of 4,300 acres of land owned by many people located about four miles west of the Pauma ranch and contiguous to the Pala Indian reservation in order to provide land to the Warner's Ranch Indians being forced from their tribal homeland in 1903; Salmons received \$2,500 payment for his work [17,18]. Frank Salmons then leased land near his Pala store in order to build a new and larger building in which to conduct business [18].

By the end of 1903, Frank Salmons had a house built in the Golden Hill area of San Diego and moved his family there for school for his children [16]. By 1910, Frank Salmons was a part owner of the U.S. Grant Hotel in San Diego and a member of the San Diego City Council [32].

A 1972 story in the Escondido Daily Times-Advocate about the family of Ulysses Sheridan Weaver says that Weaver and Louis Salmons hauled material for the prefabricated Ducker Patent Portable Houses that the U.S. Government was building at Pala to house the displaced Warner's Ranch Indians [89,90]:

... [By 1902, Ulysses Sheridan Weaver, wife Janetta Rice Weaver and daughter Gladys] moved to the Moreno Ranch, just west of Mission San Antonio de Pala where [daughter Lucille was born] ... During the winter of 1903-04, the family moved to the Pauma Ranch, where Weaver farmed about half of the historic Mexican Land Grant. Louis Salmons farmed the other half of the ranch. Prior to the move, Weaver and Salmons had hauled the material for the prefabricated homes the U.S. Government was putting up in Pala to house the Cupeno Indians moved there in 1903. The two men picked up the building material at the Santa Fe Railroad siding at Temecula and took it by horse and wagon to Pala, where the houses were assembled on lots not far from the Pala Mission buildings. When they were old enough to start classes, the little Weaver girls went to the Pauma School, which at that time was located just south of Pauma Creek. Among Gladys' schoolmates were Marjorie Salmons, Louis' daughter, ... At the time the Weavers were attending Pauma School, Ora Salmons, a sister of Louis, was teaching at an Indian school at Pala. Her other brother, Frank Salmons, owned the Pala store located in part of the old mission quadrangle. ...



## *Hauling prefab homes for Indians in 1903*

Ulysses Sheridan "U.S." Weaver was getting ready to drive his wagon, loaded with material for prefabricated homes, from the Santa Fe

Railroad siding at Temecula to Pala when this photograph was taken in 1903. After Weaver took the building material to Pala, the houses

were assembled and used by the Cupeno Indians, when they were moved to that community from Warner Springs.



**Prefabricated Ducker Patent Portable House at Pala**

In an interview, Louis Salmons said that he bought a ranch of a thousand acres on the east side of Palomar Mountain about 1904 or 1905 [2]. In that interview, Louis Salmons said [2]:

All my life I worked mostly cattle, and I bought a ranch on the east end of Palomar, a thousand acres there, about 1905, 1904 or 1905. And I used to have cattle on the Pauma after we quit farming there. I run cattle on the Palomar where the State Park is in the Doane Valley in the summer. I run cattle down in the Pauma in the winter and then Palomar in the summer. I had that, all of it (Doane Valley). I rented it.

I leased it from the Huntington people; that was years ago. Huntington's the people owned it then, the railroad man. I drove him all over Palomar. I had about a thousand acres over there of my own and then I had the rest on lease (on the east end) - the old Cook Ranch in the Dyche Valley. I run cattle there. Oh, I run 'em here in the winter and down in the Doane Valley in the summer. And the cattle I had on the other end, on the Dyche Valley Ranch over there, I run down on below Henshaw, below the lake there between there and the La Jolla Indian Reservation.

I had five or six hundred head at one time and I cut them down. I saw they were raising the rent on me so much, so I cut 'em down to my own ranch - what I could run on my own place, about 200 head.

Robert Asher wrote [22]:

Born in Georgia, Louis has been operating near Palomar longer than I, but his first coming to the top of the mountain as a resident occurred about the time of the Huntington boom in 1905.

Louis' brother Frank and Colonel Ed Fletcher were the agents of the Los Angeles syndicate in the purchase of lands in San Diego County. The syndicate acquired large holdings along the coast from Del Mar north, some in the San Luis Rey Valley, including the large Pauma Grant at the foot of Palomar Mountain east of Pala, and well over a thousand acres on Palomar Mountain proper. One of the tracts purchased was the George Doane property of 640 acres; however, Doane had stipulated that the purchasers of the land must also take his cattle. Since the Huntington syndicate was not interested in cattle, didn't want 'em and wouldn't have 'em, Frank Salmons bought them from Doane in his own account. But Frank was quite too busy to look after the cattle himself, so he took brother Louis into the deal.

... The cattle brought \$5,000, Frank and Louis Salmons having bought them. Salmons kept the cattle in Doane Valley for quite awhile, Walter McClurg helping Louis in looking after them. ...

Louis thereupon moved up onto the mountain with his wife and four young daughters and for awhile lived in the house on the Adams place. ...

The Salmons occupied the Adams' house for awhile around 1905 or 1906, and I saw quite a bit of them. Mrs. Salmons vividly remembered the fall of an immense meteor while she was living in Barker Valley. It had seemingly fallen to the earth in a southerly direction from the Barker home and at no great distance. Next day at school, there was great excitement over the "falling star". Also diverse opinions as to which way it had fallen, or possibly several fallen stars, north, south, east, west -- it would seem that it was a very versatile falling star if it were a single solitary one. Finally the teacher and youngsters



figured it out that it was one and the same meteor and had fallen on top of the ridge west of the schoolhouse and south of Mendenhall Valley.

So at the noon recess, a number of the children hiked up hill until they came to a great, freshly-excavated hole, maybe thirty feet across -- dirt and rocks scattered all about. I once endeavored to locate the big hole, but got into such a tangle of high brush that I had to forego further search. I had seen the same falling meteor from the Asher home in El Cajon Valley. It had settled to earth in the direction of the east middle Palomar Mountain (which was in plain sight daytime from our front porch) but seemed to have come down not farther than just over the hills north of the Cowles' Santee Ranch. ...

I do not know how long he had the Doane Valley under lease, but he finally bought the Cook property in the south part of Dyche Valley and for a number of years he and his family lived in the old Cook residence. He farmed, raised hogs, then went into the dairy business on a fairly large scale erecting a silo, etc.



**Cattle in Doane Valley, undated** Robert Asher photo

Edward Davis writes [4]:

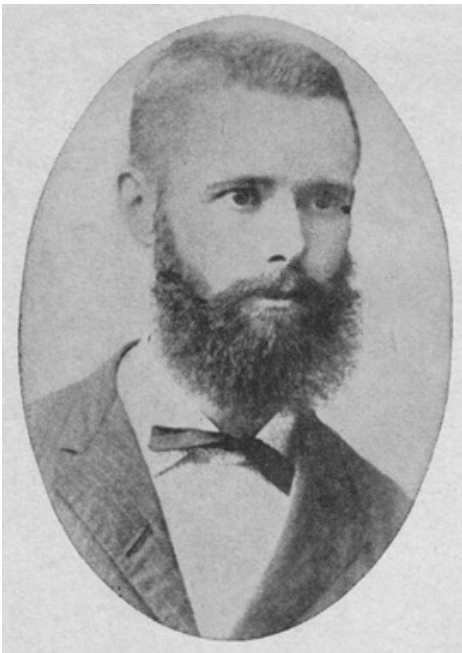
Palomar became one big cattle range and every settler had his bunch of cattle grazing in some green valley. A cowman naturally hates any kind of farming he can't do on horseback, so very few crops were raised. But Louis was more thrifty and raised corn,

grain and hay. With the corn he fattened his hogs, and hay and grain filled his barn for winter feed for horses and cattle. Louis was a hard worker in whatever he undertook.



**Louis Salmons' barn and silo, August 1938.** Ed Davis photo

The 1906 Index to Great Register (of voters) of San Diego County California lists Louis Salmons in the Pala Precinct.



**Philip Stedman Sparkman, undated**

In May 1907, Philip Stedman Sparkman was murdered at his store in Rincon down the hill from Palomar Mountain.

Louis Salmons said in an interview [2]:

... Nate (Harrison) sold his place (homestead at Rincon Springs) to Andre Scott, a Mexican. And Sparkman rented it from Klauber-Wangenheim San Diego. They owned the store. They took it on a mortgage or something.

Then Sparkman (he was an Englishman), he come out here. He was just an Englishman - when you've said that, you've said a lot. He was a very peculiar man. He run the store there, and you'd walk in the store, not only Indian, but a stranger, or anybody, and he'd stand there with his hand on the counter (always had his hand on the counter). Walk up and he just had his hand on the counter. He'd never ask you what you'd have, or anything of the kind - just put his hand on the counter and wait for you to pick out something. He finally came to a bad end. They murdered him.

He was a fine man. I think I knew him better than anybody around here because I used to go up there and I'd go down to Sparkman's and we'd sit and talk there till ten, eleven o'clock at night. And he'd always have a bowl of little cakes, and bring out a bottle of wine. He always had ... He had a little wine room there. I guess they tore that out afterwards. Why he was killed by somebody that ...

I went on Palomar one year. My mother lived there with my sister, and I went on Palomar. I used to cultivate those orchards up there in the State Park. They had a bunch of Indians up there plowing and cultivating and a man came by, John Mack, that lived up there then. And he came by about, oh, nine or ten o'clock one morning and he told me, he said, "Sparkman was killed last night." And my mother and sister lived less than a quarter of a mile from there.

So I immediately got on the horse and went right down to Rincon and, oh, what's his name, that used to be sheriff there? Jennings, Fred Jennings. Did you ever know him? Well, he was sheriff, and he was standing around with his hands in his vest, smoking a cigar, you know, and bigger than anything. There was something happened that he thought he'd get a lot of notoriety out of ... and Frank Jennings, his brother, was a fine man. I know 'em both.

Well, Fred was standing there so we were talking and he had an Indian there that had worked for me. Oh, I'd known him; he lived there in Rincon. He'd worked for me there often. His name was Calac. And so Fred Jennings said he had him and was going to arrest him and take him down for killin' Sparkman. "Why," I said, "Calac didn't kill Sparkman, Fred." I said, "You ..." there's a little Mexican, Jose Garcia, that had been around here and he was living on an Indian woman in Rincon at the time. He'd go and come. And so I said, "Sparkman had often said that's a bad, bad outfit there, that little Mexican." He said, "I wish the government would run him out of there."

Well they didn't. So he came in a day or two before that. I saw him in Valley Center. He came in Valley Center there and there was a Jim Sterling that was living (he was married to an Indian and he was living) there, right there beside the Cole Valley [Cole Grade] road there where that Considine Ranch is there. He was living there and this Jose Garcia went over and was staying with him. And Sparkman was killed.

This Jim Sterling had been a ... Well, he'd been everything. I tell you he'd been Indian scout and worked for the government, I think, for years out in Arizona and all through that country. So when I got down there, why Sterling was telling about this Indian being over to his place wanting to change a \$20 gold piece. Well, this Sterling never had \$20 change in his life, I don't think.

So I tried to get Jennings to take this little Mexican and Sterling down and keep them apart - not let them get together. And I said, "Sterling will tell you all about it if you keep them ... Don't let him get with the Mexican." He said, "I've got evidence enough on Calac there to hang him." I said, "There's been lots of innocent men hung." And he took him down and he sentenced him for life, I think - Calac. And he was up at San Quentin (prison) and he went crazy after awhile and they sent him down to Highland (mental hospital?) and he used to run off and come home. They'd come down and get him two or three times, and I think they got tired of that and said, "Let him alone."

In December 1908, the San Diego Union reported on the Cook brothers (U.T., G.W., and M.F. Cook) leasing land in San Luis Rey Valley, noting their Palomar Mountain land "was bought not long since by Louis Salmons [30]." The Cook 'brothers' are George Washington Cook and his sons Thomas Ulric Cook and Merton Fredrick Cook.



Louis Salmons' wife Emma died in San Diego County on January 30, 1910, and is buried at Mount Hope Cemetery in San Diego. A death notice in the San Diego Union gives her name as Emma Barker Salmons and notes that the Louis Salmons family has five daughters [32]. Two of her daughters' marriage licenses have her name as Emma Littlefield and not Barker.



Louis Salmons said [2]:

I lost my wife when Louise was a baby. ... The youngest was about two years old. ... They were raised everywhere -- San Diego. My youngest daughter, Louise, was partly raised in Kentucky and partly in San Diego. And when their mother passed away, why my children, the older ones, went to school in Oceanside.

The children of Louis and Emma Salmons then started living with relatives, spending some summers with their father on Palomar. The San Diego Sun newspaper reported that Frank Salmons took in the youngest children and that Louis Salmons' mother took in the oldest children [92]. Their youngest daughter Louise Salmons lived for several years with Louis' sister Harriett 'Hattie' and her husband Joshua Giddings Jarvis in Kentucky.

In a report on the snowfall on Palomar Mountain in January 1910, Louis Salmons' business on Palomar Mountain was mentioned [91]:

Louis Salmons, a brother of Councilman Frank Salmons of San Diego, who operates the Doane and Cook ranches at the foot of Palomar mountain and who has stock on the mountain, with other interests which take him there frequently ...

The 1910 U.S. Census registers Louis S. Salmons living in the Pala Township as a stock farmer and head of household with no wife or children listed under him; his status is listed as married for fifteen years. In that 1910 U.S. Census, Louis' eight-year-old daughter Harriet Ora is living with her aunt Ora Moneta Salmons in the Pala Township. In the 1910 U.S. Census, Louis' nine-year-old daughter Marie Marjorie [listed as Marjory in the census] and one-and-a-half-year-old daughter Emma Louise [listed as Louise in the census] are living with their uncle Frank Salmons in the city of San Diego on 24<sup>th</sup> Street. The 1910 Index to Great Register of San Diego County California voters lists Frank A. Salmons as a merchant living on 24<sup>th</sup> Street in San Diego, between C and D Streets. In the 1910 U.S. Census, Louis' mother Mary Salmons is living with her sister Harriett Alexander in Oceanside.

The San Diego City and County Directory for 1910, 1912, and 1913 lists Louis Salmons at Pala.

The Oceanside Blade Tribune noted in September 1911 that [35]:

Louis Salmons and children came down from Palomar mountain Tuesday. The young folks will attend school in Oceanside during the coming year.

The San Diego Union noted in November 1911 that 330 boxes of apples from Louis Salmons' orchards were brought down from Palomar to Escondido by teamsters driving three wagons with fourteen houses [34].

For the U.S. government, Louis Salmons made water height and flow observations at the ford on the San Luis Rey River on the road to Sickler's mill about four miles southeast of Pala for various days in January to June 1911 [36].

The Oceanside Blade Tribune noted in June 1912 that [39]:

Louis Salmons, who will spend the summer at the old Palomar Hotel, will have it full of friends and relatives from Oceanside, San Diego and Pala.

The San Diego Union noted in July 1912 that [38]:

Mrs. Mary Salmons and three grand-daughters are with Louis Salmons at the old Palomar hotel.

An August 7, 1912 San Diego Union newspaper report on the numerous summer vacationers at Bailey's on Palomar Mountain noted [37]:

For the last two weeks Bailey's hotel, with accommodations for 50 guests, has been besieged by a daily crowd running from 50 to 100 people. Rush orders for tents and bedding had to be hurriedly sent abroad and for a few days every available autotruck within 50 miles was working night and day to relieve an amusing, though trying, situation. Up to the present more than 150 automobiles have negotiated the grade [Nate Harrison Grade], as against 100 for the whole of last season. **Louis Salmons** has put the roadbed in splendid condition and any car in condition can reach Nellie without difficulty. The week has been marked by three very enjoyable affairs, -- a dance Saturday



given by **Louis Salmons** and Harry Smith; an outdoor luncheon, given by the Misses Niven, Chase, Hutton, Woodworth and other young women at the Iron Springs on Tuesday, and a masquerade ball at Bailey's hotel on Wednesday. At the latter the most striking costumes were those worn by Miss Belle Robinson of Fallbrook and Edward Wells of San Diego. ... Other costumes worthy of mention were those worn by the Misses Grace Woodworth, Adeline Shaul, Alice Woods and Elizabeth and **Hodge Bailey**.

...

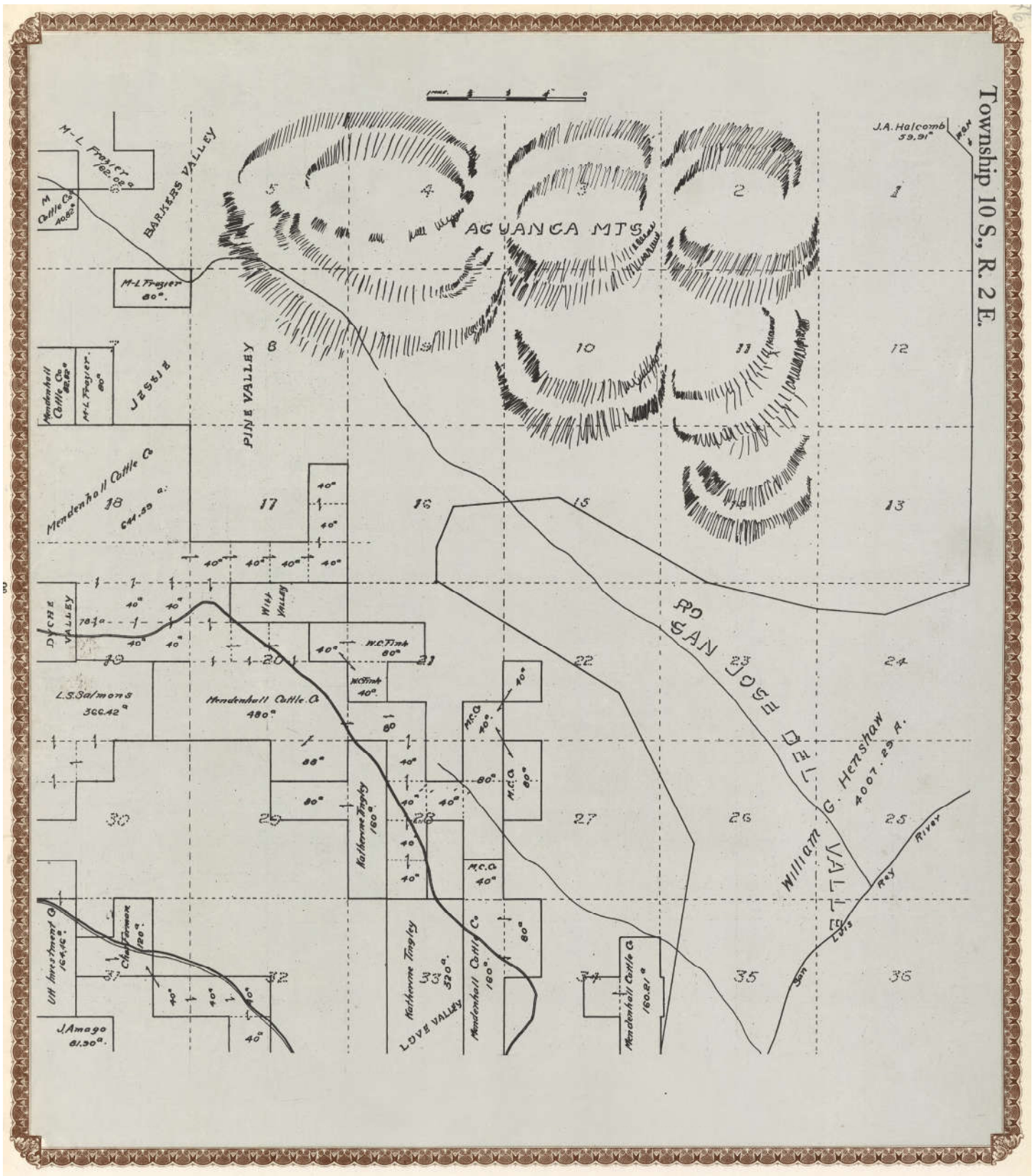


**Outdoor luncheon, undated.** Robert Asher photo

[illegible]

**At middle right, Louis Salmons' c1912 Palomar land holdings in Township 10S, R1E on the east side of Palomar Mountain. [43]**



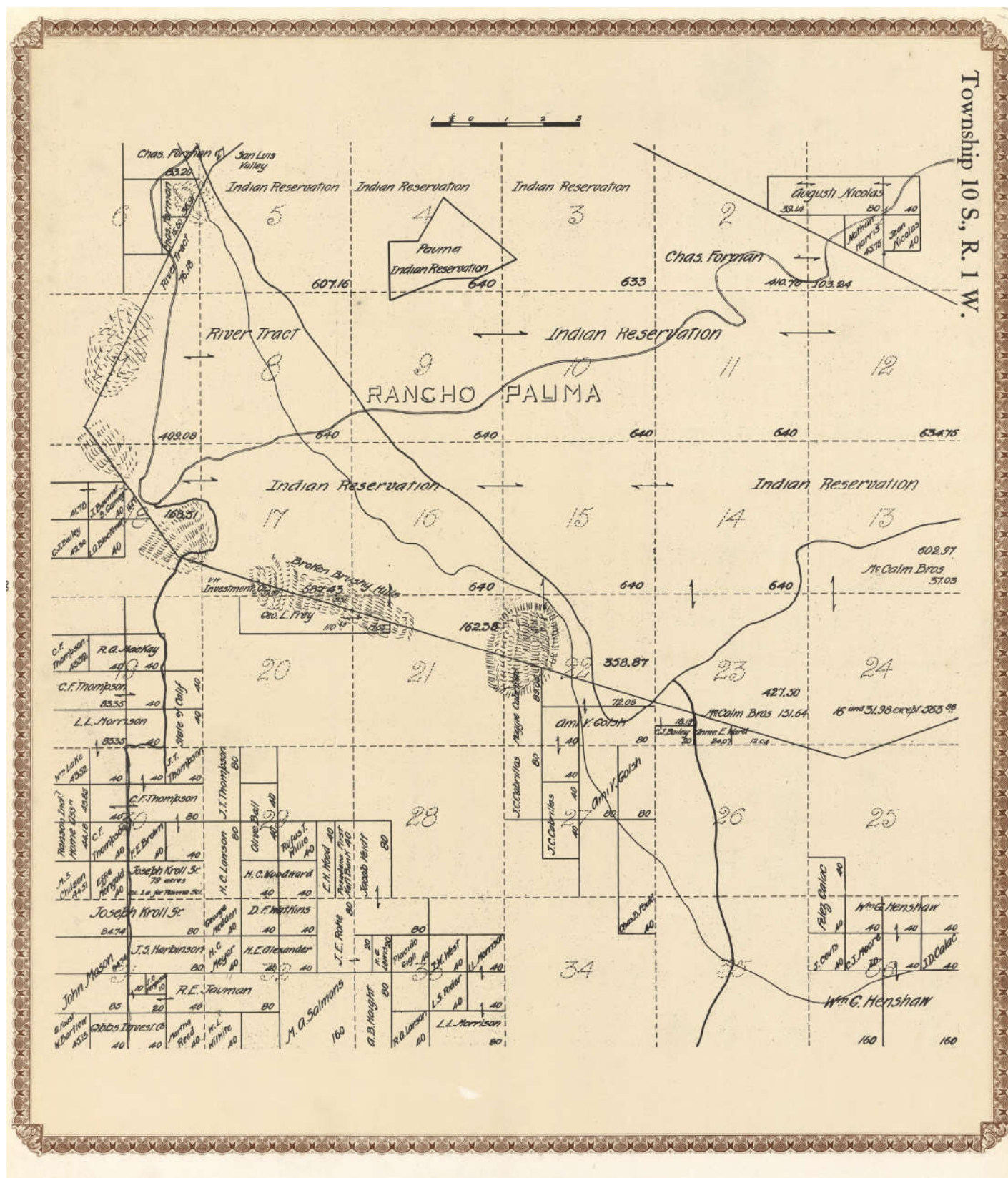


At middle left, Louis Salmons' c1912 Palomar land holdings in Township 10S, R2E on the east side of Palomar Mountain. [43]

In February 1913, the Stevenson Brothers grocery and mercantile company in Escondido won a judgment to levy Louis Salmons' property for \$119.67 owed plus \$55.70 additional fees [42]. While this seems historically unremarkable, the judgment details Louis Salmons' property at that time; those properties listed in this judgment are in Township 10S, Range 1 East and Range 2 East as shown above.

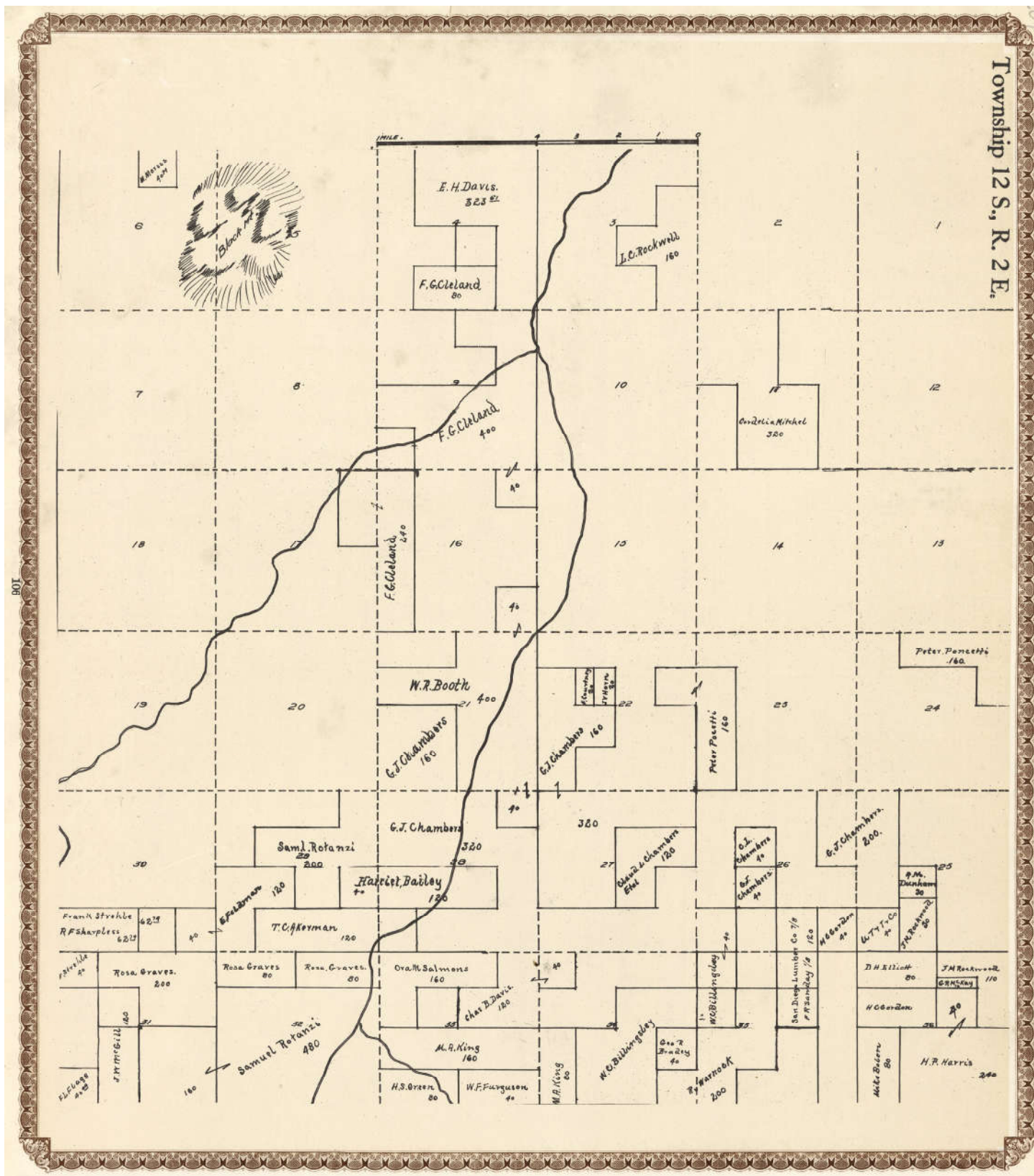


# OTHER SALMONS FAMILY PROPERTY c1912



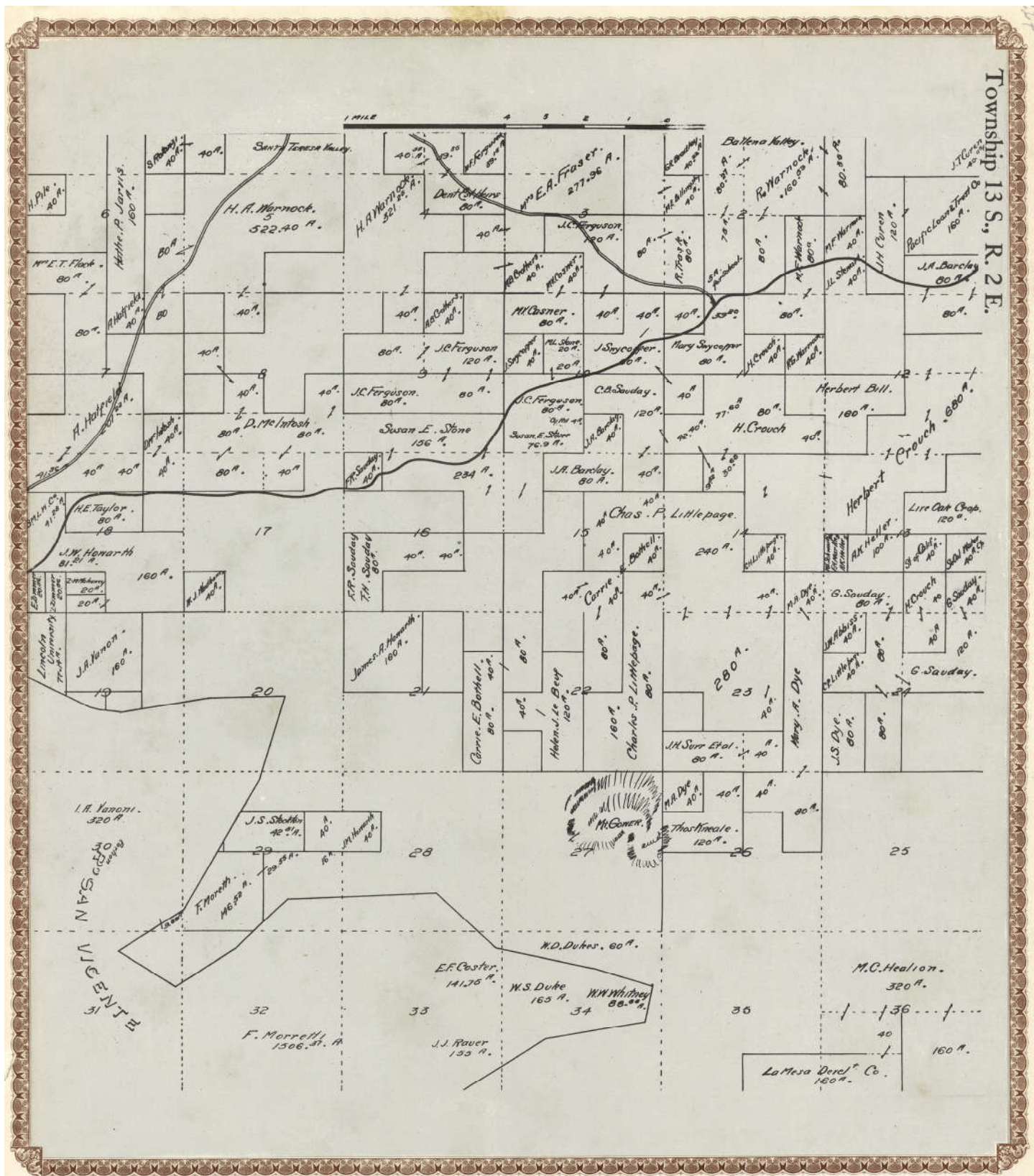
At bottom middle, mother Mary A. Salmons' c1912 Pauma land holdings in Township 10S, R1W. This 160 acres was cash entry from U.S. Government on October 30, 1890. [43,44]





**Near bottom middle, half-sister Ora M. Salmons' c1912 land holdings in Township 12S, R2E, below Black Mountain & above Ramona.** This 160 acres was cash entry from U.S. Government on June 1, 1891.





Upper left, sister Hattie Salmons Jarvis' c1912 land holdings in Township 13S, S2E, between Ramona and Ballena. This 160 acres was cash entry from U.S. Government on April 23, 1891. [43,44]

Brother Frank Salmons had purchased 160 acres in Pala (located in Township 9S, Range 2W, section 25) from the U.S. Government on November 3, 1892, and it was no longer his by the time of the 1912 Plat Book of San Diego County [43,44].

The Oceanside Blade Tribune reported in August 1913 <sup>[46]</sup>:

Mrs. M.A. Salmons, Miss Alexander, Mrs. J.G. Jarvis, and the Misses Mahulda, Rebecca and Louise Salmons have returned from an extended stay on Palomar Mountain and at Pala.

Mrs. M.A. Salmons is Louis Salmons' mother. Miss Alexander is brother Frank Salmons' daughter. Mrs. J.G. Jarvis is Louis Salmons' sister, Harriett 'Hattie' Salmons Jarvis. The Misses are three of Louis Salmons' five daughters.

The Oceanside Blade Tribune reported in August 1913 <sup>[46]</sup>:

Mrs. J.G. Jarvis and Louise Salmons have gone to Los Angeles and from there will return to their home in Kentucky.

The Oceanside Blade Tribune reported in November 1913 <sup>[45]</sup>:

Miss Alexander and Marjorie Salmons are still with Louis Salmons on Palomar Mountain, at the old Cook place, where they have been since September.

Louis Salmons' daughter Marjorie had been living with her uncle Frank Salmons.



### **Hodgie Trabue Bailey Salmons, undated**

Louis Salmons married Hodgie Bailey on January 22, 1914, at her parents' home at 1416 Mississippi Street in San Diego [33,41]. The Oceanside Blade Tribune noted that they spent a wedding trip in Los Angeles, and "will live at the Salmons ranch of 800 or more acres at the east end of Palomar Mountain [41]."

Hodgie Trabue Bailey was born January 26, 1874, and her parents were Theodore O. Bailey and Mary Olympia Bailey.

The 1914 Index to Great Register of San Diego County California registers Louis Salmons as a farmer at Nellie (Palomar Mountain) along with Mrs. Hodgie R. Salmons, housekeeper. The San Diego City and County Directory for 1914 and 1915 list him at Pala as did preceding years, but the directory information was perhaps assembled from preceding publication.

Robert Asher wrote [22]:

Hodgie was much in evidence around the Bailey diggings for a number of years, but she finally got herself a job as gem cutter with the San Diego jewelry firm of Joseph Jessop & Sons. She remained as a valued employee with the Jessops for a number of years, then married Louis Salmons and came back to the mountain and has remained here ever since.

Edward Davis writes [4]:

He had not been on Palomar long when he won and married Theo Bailey's youngest daughter, Hodgie, and for many years they lived in .... an embowered, vine-covered cottage on the west rim of Palomar, facing one of the loveliest views of which the mountain can boast.

Catharine Wood writes [3]:

Louis S. Salmons, born in Georgia but closely associated with the Palomar region for many years, now owns the Cook place and the Sawday ranch, on which the home is located. The whole area is generally spoken of as the Salmons Ranch. Mrs. Hodgie Bailey Salmons laughs frequently over the fact that she named their ranch "Woodwardia" because of the lovely Woodwardia fern growing on the slope below, and has since



learned that the Indian name for the location is "Shakishla", meaning stinging nettles, referring to the tall plants of that type that grow abundantly at the head of the canyon.



**Woodwardia, home of Mr.  
& Mrs. Louis Salmons**

Robert Asher wrote [22]:

His first wife having died, he married Miss Hodgie Bailey, daughter of T. O. Bailey, and they took a homestead on government land south of the Cook place. Here they built a house and barn, etc., which is still home for Louis and Hodgie. The four girls have grown up, -- one married George Mendenhall.



Emma Louise Salmons married George Frederick Mendenhall (1891-1953) in Arizona in 1935.

## Palomar Couple Weds In Arizona

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Salmons of Palomar mountain announce the marriage of their daughter, Louise, to George F. Mendenhall of Palomar, Oct. 11, in Yuma, Ariz. The marriage united two pioneer county families whose ranches cover a large and picturesque acreage on and around beautiful Palomar.

Mr. and Mrs. Mendenhall will be "at home" to friends after Saturday at their ranch home Cuca Mesa, on a ledge on the south slope of Palomar overlooking the San Luis Rey river. The bride is a native of Pala and Mr. Mendenhall was born in the historic Mendenhall ranch house.

The couple motored to Yuma to take nuptial vows and were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Knox of Escondido, brother-in-law and sister of Mr. Mendenhall, Miss Marjorie Mendenhall, and Louis Salmons, who gave his daughter in marriage.

Mr. Mendenhall is manager of the Mendenhall Cattle Co., which has cattle in the northern part of the county.

\* \* \*



—Sykes photo.

Mrs. George F. Mendenhall who was Miss Louise Salmons before marriage Oct. 11 in Yuma, Ariz. Mr. and Mrs. Mendenhall will reside in the picturesque Mendenhall ranch home overlooking the San Luis Rey river.

Unattributed newspaper clipping



**Louis Salmons' barn and silos, 1938** Edward Davis photo

Robert Asher wrote [22]:

After Louis moved into the homestead, he took Olie Bailey into partnership in the dairy proposition and Olie and his wife moved into the Cook house. The dairy proposition, not panning out very well, Olie withdrew and I think Louis let the cream-producing part of the farm slide. He was always a great worker and at times had considerable acreage under cultivation, but he never seemed to take any interest in fruit raising and so the beautiful apple and pear trees which had been George Cook's pride were suffered to go back and finally die. The orchard was in a bad way even in the fall of 1913 when Louis and I were dickering over possible sale to me of the apple crop. Louis wanted \$200.00 for the crop "as was" on the trees, but I couldn't see it that way.

The Oceanside Blade Tribune reported in June 1914 [46]:

The Misses Mahulda and Rebecca Salmons left [Oceanside] on Monday for Pala on their way to spend the summer with Mr. and Mrs. Louis Salmons on Palomar.

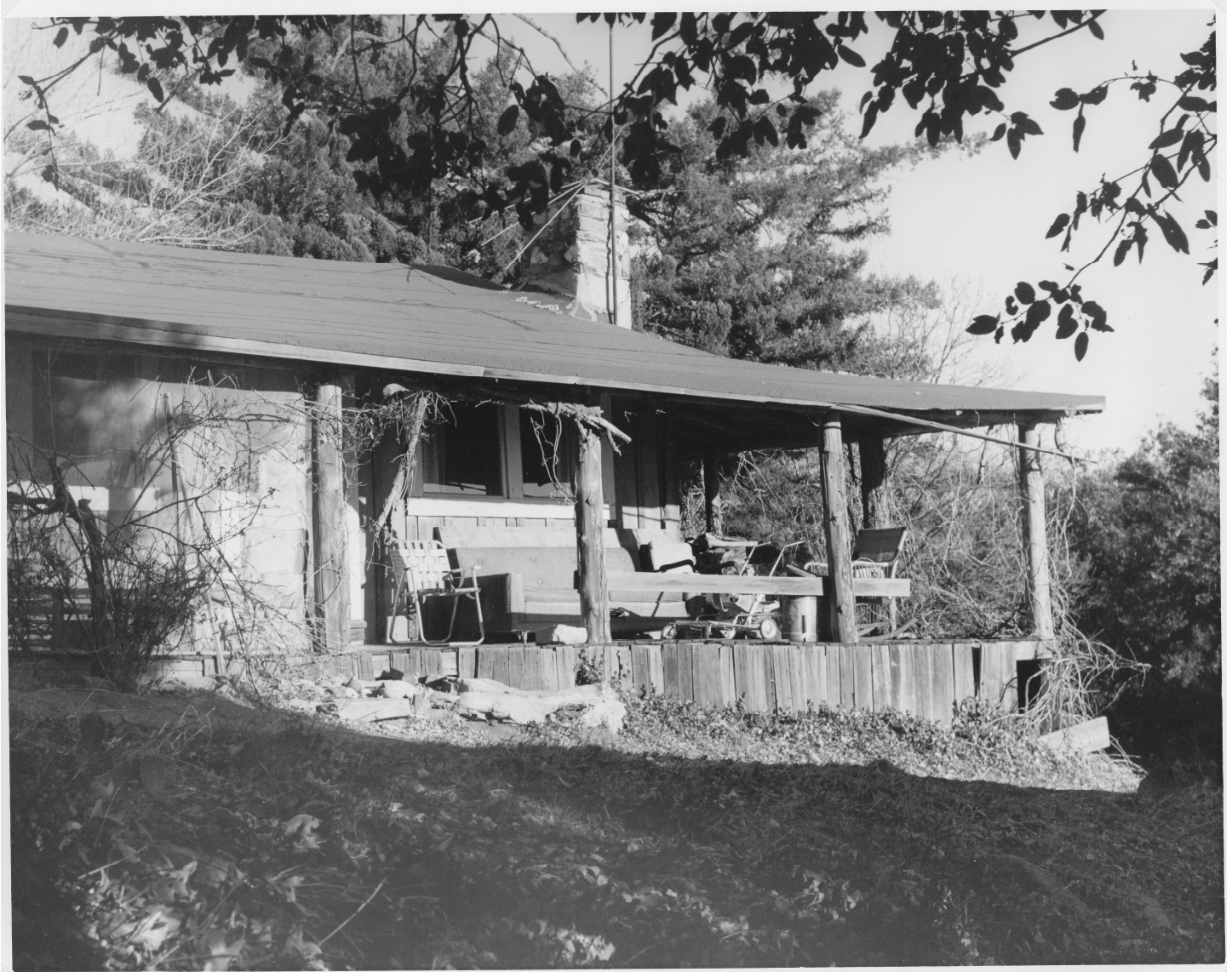
Catharine Wood writes [3]:

The old apple orchard on the Salmons Ranch, through which the road passes, bore abundantly in former years. From it and other orchards on the mountain, Louis Salmons in days gone by, hauled twelve to fifteen thousand boxes of apples a season down Nate Harrison Grade. Apple raising was then a profitable industry, but crops are uncertain on account of late cold spells, so no new orchards have been planted in recent years. Cattle raising is surer and more profitable.



Edward Davis writes [4]:

At present a good part of the Valley is under cultivation and raises fine crops of grain and corn. Louis Salmons who lives in a home out of sight from the road, is the present owner of the south side of the valley.



**Woodwardia** undated Eloise Perkins photo, Escondido Public Library

The Oceanside Blade Tribune reported in October 1913, that [13]:

Whitney, Goss & Higgins, are busy harvesting an unusually large apple group on Palomar Mountain, and so is Louis Salmons. ... Motor trucks and wagons are daily bringing down large loads.

The Oceanside Blade Tribune reported in June 1914 [48]:

Miss Harriet Salmons has gone up to Palomar Mountain to spend the summer at the Cook ranch with Mr. and Mrs. Louis Salmons.

The Oceanside Blade Tribune reported in September 1914 [9]:

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Salmons came down from Palomar mountain on Sunday with the Misses Mahulda, Rebecca, Marjorie and Harriet Salmons who are returning to school in Oceanside. The girls report a delightful summer. ...

This news item lists four of Louis' five daughters; Louise, the youngest, was probably back in Kentucky with her aunt.



**Woodwardia barn** undated Eloise Perkins photo, Escondido Public Library

The Oceanside Blade Tribune reported in November 1914 [47]:

The Misses Rebecca and Mahulda Salmons left on Wednesday for Pala, on their way to Palomar Mountain, where they will remain with Mr. and Mrs. Louis Salmons until the schools open again.

The Oceanside Blade Tribune reported in May 1915 on the commencement exercises of Oceanside Union High School whose graduating class of five included Mahulda Salmons [50].



The Oceanside Blade Tribune reported in June 1915 [49]:

Mrs. H.S. Jarvis and niece Louise Salmons of Louisville, Kentucky, are visiting Mrs. Jarvis' mother, Mrs. Mary Salmons.

In February 1916, Louis Salmons' sister Mrs. J.G. Jarvis and his daughter Mahulda went to Los Angeles for an extended stay while Mahulda took classes at the State Normal School in Los Angeles, which later became UCLA [51].

The San Diego Union reported in April 1916 [52]:

Who says San Diego county isn't adapted to hog raising? Louis Salmons, residing on Palomar mountain, drove down the [Nate Harrison] grade the other day with a 4-horse team and two tons of live pork. He was preceded by B.H. Elmore and W.F. Hewlett, who, with picks and shovels, worked until dark getting him through. The hogs, 12 in number, weighed between 300 and 400 pounds each.

The San Diego Evening Tribune reported in September 1917 [53]:

#### BIG FOREST FIRE CONQUERED BY HARD WORK

Palomar Mountain Country Believed to be Out of Further Danger; Ranches Lose Much Property

The forest fire which has been sweeping Palomar mountain and adjacent territory for the last three days is practically extinguished ... The smoldering area is being closely guarded to prevent a repetition of the conflagration caused last night by a treacherous east winds which fanned the dying flames into new life, causing runners of fire to eat up the canons and devastate a still greater stretch of timber and brush. Before the already exhausted fire crews could organize an effective counter attack on the newly wind-whipped blaze, a valuable portion of the ranch of **Louis Salmons**, near Palomar, was ruined. About two acres of his apple orchard and most of his hay fields were left in embers, causing a loss of about \$5000. ...

The 1917 San Diego City and County Directory lists Mahulda Salmons living with her uncle Frank A. Salmons' family at 2440 C Street in San Diego. The 1918 San Diego City and County Directory lists Mahulda J. Salmons as a post office clerk, living at 646 Broadway in San Diego.

The San Diego Union reported in April 1918 [55]:

#### The Return of Umps

Gene Batchelder, Warner Springs cowman (soft pedal on the sheep) has been trying for a month to give away a dog. If you've ever been to the springs, you know Umps, the bob-tailed Airedale hound. Umps crabbed Batch's act one night, persisting in standing on all fours while his owner stubbornly commanded him to lie down eight times. "See how well he minds," said Batch, sheepishly, at last, making up his mind to get rid of the rebel. The next day Umps was back on the job. Then Batch gave him to Ralph Jasper in Montezuma valley. Umps stuck it out two days and came home. Last week Batch gave Umps to **Louis Salmons**, who lives on Smith mountain [Palomar mountain]. Umps trotted into the Springs yesterday.

Louis Salmons worked for the San Diego County Road Department from 1908 to 1944; he said in an oral history [2]:

I was with the County Road Department 36 years. Under John Griffin when I started. That's Judge Lloyd Griffin's father. Lloyd Griffin was a high school kid in Oceanside then. I guess Westfall was the next supervisor, yah. He was elected. They elected John Griffin supervisor when he was practically dead. He didn't - he went ... He lasted about two weeks after. Then Westfall was appointed. The next one was a man from Escondido (I can't remember names). That one was before Hurley.

I worked for Tom Hurley and I worked until I got too old to work - 72 years old was the limit. And they retired me on \$70 a month, after 36 years' work. They finally got it up to \$105. They was kind of ashamed of themselves. A \$105 and I paid out that much and more myself. I run the ranch and cattle at the same time. You see, years ago we only worked part-time when it was necessary. Towards the last I was working pretty steady

The Oceanside Blade Tribune reported in March 1918 [56]:

It is understood that Louis Salmons has been appointed as road overseer for this year in the place of B.H. Elmore.

The Oceanside Blade Tribune reported in June 1918 [57]:

Repair work on the [Nate Harrison] grade is in progress under the supervision of Louis Salmons who has a force of men at work.

Louis and Hodgie Salmons were friends with the Frazier sisters of Palomar Mountain. Ed Davis writes [4]:

One time Mrs. Louis Salmons called on the sisters at ... [Frazier Point] and found the door and windows closed tight and the shades pulled down, as if there was nobody at home. She knocked and received no response; then she called, giving her name, and Lizzie hitched her chair to the door and opened it. Asked why she was locked in the house in utter darkness, she said: "When Maria goes off, she closes the house and locks everything up, including me, fearing some man will come and kill me." If any man came near the house, Maria always came to the door with a rifle in her hands. She was never known to shoot anybody or even to threaten, but she was always ready.

Louis and Hodgie Salmons assisted after the death of Maria Frazier in August 1918. Louis Salmons said [2]:

I remember the Frazier sisters. I can't tell you anything about them - nothing that hasn't been told. They were very peculiar. They were ... I'll tell you they were nice, well-raised people from Illinois. And their brother [James] had written 'em to come out. He had a place on the mountain and they was going to come out and keep house for him. And then he married some woman just after that, and so when they came out they took up some land and started in to working. And one of them was a tall, regular - like a man. But the other one couldn't stand the work, so she finally had sciatica rheumatism and sat in a chair for years.

The oldest one's name was Maria; the small one was Lizzie. Lizzie and Maria. Lizzie was the small one. And they run up to about, I don't know, they had 75 or a hundred head

of cattle there. They had cattle, and oh, they had some hogs and their brother sold their bacon. And then somebody milked ten or fifteen cows.

His brother didn't live here with them, but he was around them. He'd come around once in a while. He lived all around. He was there with them part of the time, and part of the time he was over on another place they had. His wife left him years before that. Well she - her hogs used to come over to my place in the valley and she had some hogs over there. And she'd sit all day, generally at our place. My wife'd cook dinner for her and had ... We all liked her. That'd be Maria.

She wanted to take these hogs home. So I says why I'd saddle up and help her. So I saddled up a horse and helped her take these hogs way over beyond the Dyche Valley within a half mile of her house. And they were going along good, so I turned around and went back. But as she left the house, she told my wife, she said, "If you see the buzzards flying low, come over." She had a hunch that something was going to happen to her, I know.

So Mendenhall, the wife, went up to see her there one afternoon. She'd died a couple of days before that. She went in and laid down on the bed. Said - told her sister she didn't feel good. She was gone. And that was a couple or three days after that that we found it out. Well, one of the Mendenhalls (Carl Mendenhall's wife) went up to see her. Hadn't seen her for a day or two, and we kinda kept track of 'em, so we went up there, and there she was. Her sister had moved out of the house and got up on a little hill there by the house with her wheelchair and we buried her. Oh, we buried her and just with ... And her mattress ... Just folded the mattress right over and took her out and buried her. They had a place there that was dug about three or four feet deep. She used to make butter and kept butter down in there. It was cool and we buried her right in that, mattress and all. ... We took Maria out and buried her in this hole under a tree right by the house there.

Why we took Lizzie over to the house and my wife made her some clothes and she was intending to go down to the county hospital and pay her way. And about that time her brother came out from Illinois. Somebody had written him that Maria had died and they had some cattle and a lot of land there and he wasn't going to overlook anything. So he came out and Lizzie was there at our place. So he was going to just make that headquarters. He went in and turned his horse in the pasture and come in and I told him right where to head in. So he went out and caught his horse and went off somewhere else.

The Mendenhalls bought the cattle and the land. The brother took Lizzie back east. She ... The county (what is it, coroner?) came up and sent an appraiser up to appraise the cattle and the land and everything. He got in as far as my place. He never got within six miles of the cattle or the land, but he appraised them. The coroner then was a little fellow that couldn't straighten up. ... Eddie Reed. He was the administrator, not the coroner.

The Escondido Times-Advocate reported in October 1918 [54]:

Louis Salmons has been compelled to suspend apple-hauling, pending repairs on his wagon, but will resume his daily trips to Little Tin Can Flat [on Nate Harrison Grade] this week. He has already hauled out twenty tons of apples for A.G. Hayes and has apparently made merely a beginning on the total crop.

Edward Davis writes [4]:

Nate [Harrison] never asked any recompense, but it was customary to give this faithful old man twenty-five or fifty cents, and often the mountain men would bring him flour, sugar, coffee tobacco and groceries, for which he was always grateful. On Christmas, Louis Salmons would add a bottle of good Scotch whiskey, which made Nate supremely happy. He would laugh outright, showing many gaps in his ivories when Louis unwrapped the precious bottle and passed it over to Nate's outstretched hands, saying, "Here, Nate is something to make you feel good over Christmas." With a face beaming with happiness, and rubbing the bottle up and down with his hands, Nate would reply, "Ise jus' goin' ta sit on that thar bench agin the house an sip that liquor little at a time, to make it las' all day long, till there aint nary a drop lef'. My, but that sho' will taste good. Lord bless you Massa Louis for remembering Uncle Nate." True to his word, the bottle would be dry by nightfall when, squeeze as he could, he could not coax another drop.

The Escondido Times-Advocate reported in February 1919 [58]:

Louis Salmons took a truck load of hogs to San Diego last week.



**Louis Salmons at right, at Salmons' house, July 1920.**

Ed Davis photo

The 1920 U.S. Census lists Louis and Hodgie Salmons living on Palomar with Louis' daughters Rebekah (age 21) and Harriet (age 18).

The 1920 U.S. Census lists mother Mary A. Salmons living in Oceanside with her sister Helen Alexander, Mary's widowed daughter Harriett Jarvis, and her son Louis Salmons' daughter Louise Salmons.

The 1920 Census lists Louis Salmons' daughter Mahulda N. Salmons (age 22) as a roomer at the Young Women's Christian Association house on Broadway in the city of San Diego. The 1920 San Diego City and County Directory lists Mahulda N. Salmons as a postal office clerk, living at the YWCA.

In January 1921, Mahulda Salmons married Clyde A. Howard of San Francisco at the home of her mother Mrs. Mary E. Salmons, after which the newlyweds left for San Francisco where they would live [59]. The news item on Mahulda's wedding said Mary E. Salmons lived at 1320 Grove Street, and the 1922 newspaper item on the death of Mary's sister Harriet Emma Alexander [1837-1922] says Harriet lived at 1520 Grove Street [59,60].



Catharine Wood writes [3]:

The area around Silver Crest was, about 1920, included in a subdivision under the pleasing title of Azalea Park, but though it was platted, with roads and lots surveyed, and a few lots sold, no cabins were ever built. When the time came for the Attorney-General to sign the papers for the purchase of the Park lands, he refused to affix his signature because the never-used streets in the subdivision of Azalea Park had not been legally abandoned.

Louis Salmons said in an oral history [2]:

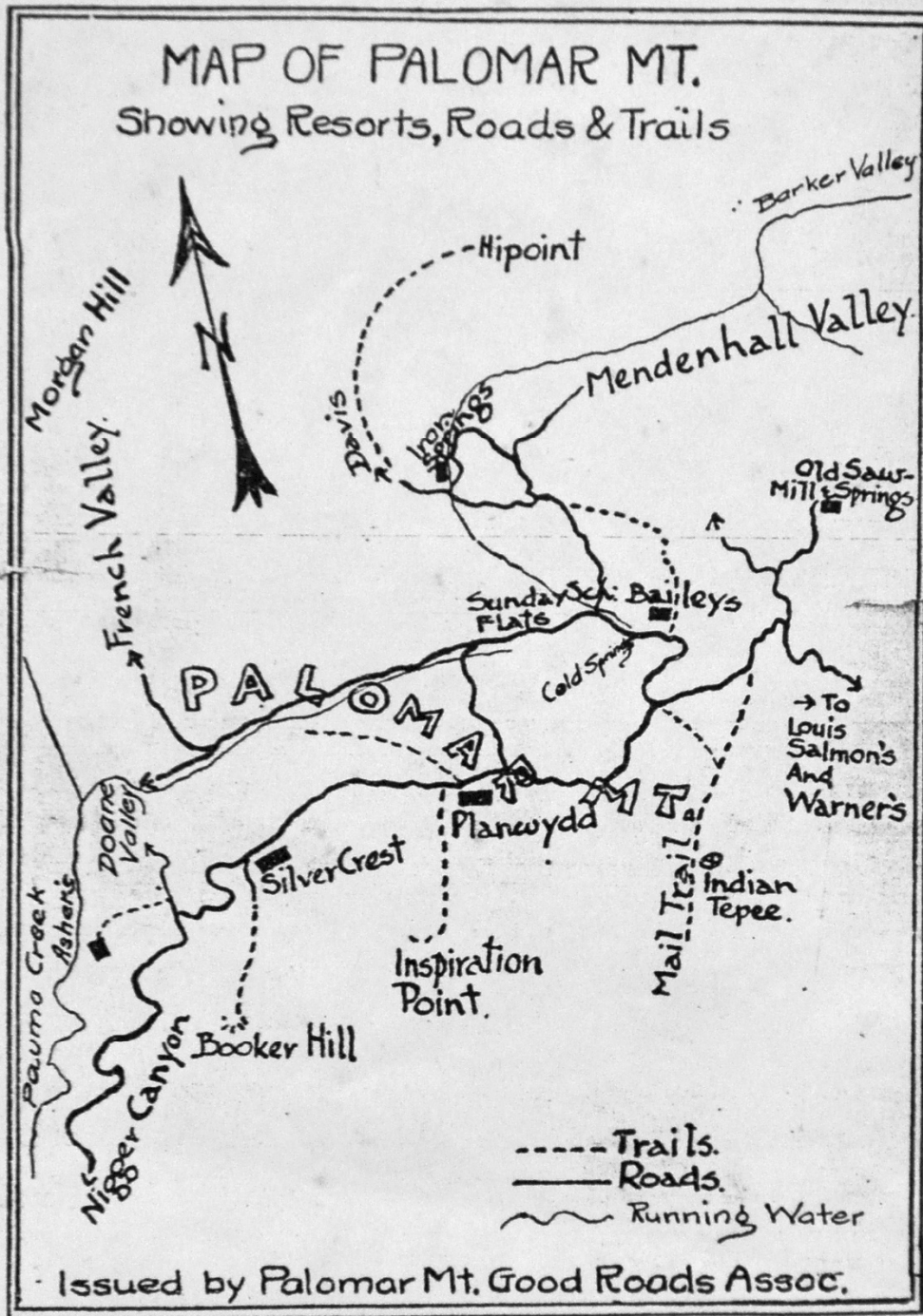
Ed Fletcher was going to subdivide all that 160 acres on the State Park there on top of Palomar where the old hotel used to be. And there was one of the lots had been sold to a doctor in San Diego. He was an osteopath, I think, or something like. And they came up that they couldn't put the State Park deal through. They wouldn't accept it without they got a release of this – some streets had been laid out. They never had used anything, but they were laid out.

So Ernest Settle and I come up the east grade, big snow on Palomar, and they came into my place and told me what – left some papers to be posted the next day on the State Park here at Palomar. And so said if they're not posted the park won't go through. They won't accept it with those roads. So the next morning I started out horseback and rode over as far as the intersection. And I couldn't get no further. There was about three and a half or four feet of snow.

Well the roads were very narrow then and the snow had mashed the lilacs down on that old road, so I had to walk. I had on hip boots. I walked from Tome Moreland's place, from the intersection at Palomar there (to) the top of the hill to the State Park and back. And I never made a harder trip in my life. I didn't know whether I was going to get back or now. I'd go about three or four steps on top and then I'd break through to my waist.

And I finally got back. I put in a whole day and I posted the notices and got back. That was the hardest trip I ever made in my life. My legs were cramping before I got back. With hip boots on, you know, and they were full of snow and I was wet all over.

# Nothing to Mar Palomar.



For additional information about places of interest on Palomar ask the manager of any of the resorts on the mountain.

PALOMAR MOUNTAIN GOOD ROADS ASSN.  
June 25, 26, 1921

In 1921, Louis Salmons was elected president of the Palomar Good Roads Association, which was newly formed along with Jack Roberts of Palomar's Planwydd resort as vice president and J.H. Heath as secretary, who was also secretary of the Escondido Chamber of Commerce [6,61]. The Association's board of directors was Salmons, Roberts, Heath, George Mendenhall, Milton Bailey, William and E.R. McClard [61].

The Association primarily sought better roads for Palomar and also improving mail service, and gaining publicity for Palomar Mountain, and holding events on Palomar, including barbecues, sports programs, sightseeing trips on Palomar, bonfires, and dances [6,61].

The first Palomar Good Roads Association event in June 1921 had 350 attendees at its barbecue at Silvercrest [62].

Louis Salmons said in an oral history [2]:

Mrs. Douglass runs the hotel there right where the Silvercrest Camp is now. The Silvercrest Camp, it's a State Park now.... Fourth of July we would set out on a rock point there. ... where that rock point is there at Silvercrest at the camp. They'd sit out there and shoot Roman candles and skyrockets and firecrackers for hours on Fourth of July. Was up there on the side of the mountain,... We used to have big campfires once a week – And all the neighbors... have music and everybody'd come in. Oh, there was a lot of people on Palomar then. Sometimes there'd be 50 or a 100 camped down in the Doane Valley....

Edward Davis writes [4]:

I was always a welcome visitor at Louis' place, and realizing Hodgie's inclinations, always encouraged her to try her talents, so eventually she took up painting, improving from year to year until now her beautiful oils are in great demand. During the last two or three years she has sold many of her paintings to people who have driven up the mountain to view them. These paintings can now be seen on the walls of many prominent homes in San Diego, Long Beach, Pasadena and Los Angeles. Hodgie and Louis are people of rare tact and refinement, and it is a privilege to be invited to their home, surrounded by paintings, books and the latest magazines. Louis has sold his ranch lately, reserving twenty-five acres further along the rim, where he will build a modern cottage with all the modern improvements. While Louis has a fine automobile and a new cottage with a fancy bathroom, he cannot entirely shed the cow smell from his Levis, so he often has to mount his highly bred buckskin pony, throw on his silver-mounted saddle, and ride the ranges to look at the stock belonging to neighbors. He has not forgotten how to throw and brand a calf and carve fancy designs on its ears and vaccinate for black-leg, but now that is all past history and his one regret is that he can't range a bunch of cattle on his twenty-five acres of brush and trees.

In a 1955 story on a Palomar Regional Art Exhibit held at the Lazy H Sky Ranch, the Escondido Times-Advocate wrote about several artists including Hodgie Bailey, saying she began painting in 1945 [78].

In June 1928, the Escondido Daily Times-Advocate ran a story on the formation of the Palomar Development association [65]:

WORK TOGETHER AT PALOMAR MT.

DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION IS FORMED AND PROGRESS IS MADE  
TOWARDS SECURING TELEPHONE LINE

PALOMAR MOUNTAIN, June 4, (Special). – On Sunday there was a well attended meeting of the property owners on Palomar mountain at Camp site, a subdivision of this beautiful mountain. The object of the meeting was to form the Palomar Development association and to advance the building of a telephone line to Lake Henshaw, and so secure rapid connection with Ramona.

A.A. Bishop was elected president of the Palomar Development association and Dr. Milton Bailey, secretary-treasurer. The other directors are W.R. Wallace of San Diego, K.E. Petersen of Escondido, R.W. Tillinghast, Carl Mendenhall and **Louis Salmons** of Palomar mountain.



The telephone situation was given thorough consideration. A gang of surveyors are now surveying the line, and as a beginning, \$500 was subscribed to push the matters.

The following committees were appointed by President Bishop:

Telephone finance – C.R. Rauch, National City; Mrs. M.C. Balmer, La Jolla, Mrs. H.S. Darlington, Mrs. Marian DeC. Norcross, La Jolla; Miss Catharine Wood, San Diego; Frank Reynolds, Escondido; A. McKeehan, Oceanside.

Telephone right of way –W.R. Wallace, Ed. Fletcher and Dr. Milton Bailey, San Diego; Carl Mendenhall and **Louis Salmons**, Palomar mountain.

Following an important water meeting on Saturday evening, a general dance of all citizens of Palomar mountain and their valley friends will be held in the club house at Camp Site.



**Louis S. Salmons at his ranch, with Valparaiso oak tree. 7 July 1893.** Ed Davis photo

The 1930 U.S. Census lists Louis' twenty-one-year-old daughter Emma Louise [Louise in the census] living with her widowed aunt Hattie S. Jarvis in the city of San Diego.

The 1930 U.S. Census lists Mahulda Howard [age 32] living with her husband Clyde A. Howard in San Mateo, California [whom she married when she was 22 and he was 28] and children Margaret A. and Clyde A.; it's the same with the 1940 U.S. Census.

In June 1934, the San Diego Evening Tribune printed the minutes of the recent San Diego County Board of Supervisors meeting containing this item [66]:

Road to new telescope site on Palomar Mt.: E.W. Settles & Louis Salmons auth. to scout out road to proposed site: Expense acct. & amt. necessary for feeding & shoeing horses, not to exceed \$50.00. allowed.

The San Diego Evening Tribune ran a story on discussions at a San Diego County Board of Supervisors meeting following a July 1934 fire on Palomar Mountain [67]:

... Now that Palomar mountain has been laid waste by forest fire to the extent of some 2500 acres ... About one-fifth of the Palomar mountain fire area represents more or less permanent timber damage.... Many of the citizens in the delegation told of the burning of cabins and fine areas of timber. ... Louis Salmons, pioneer rancher who was credited by women speakers with having “saved the top of the mountain” by backfiring at the proper times and places, rose to say there was “no use criticizing the crews of fire fighters, because the winds changed every hour” during the fire. ...

In September 1934, the San Diego Union ran a story on Palomar Mountain, written by Edward H. Davis, who writes [69]:

The mountain has many lovely valleys surrounded by densely forested hills of conifers and oaks. Several varieties of pines and fir, cedar and oak trees cover most of the mountain in a mantle of evergreen. One wide spreading giant silver leaf or Valparaiso oak, growing on the Louis Salmons ranch, measures 13 feet in diameter with branches as large as a good-sized oak tree.

In September 1942, the San Diego Union runs a story on several developments of the Palomar Mountain state park utilizing work by first offenders from the California Institute of Men state prison in Chino [77]:

... There are 60 men on the job but there are accommodations for 100 and a full complement is expected soon. ... Preliminary surveys have been made for a 100,000-gallon reservoir at the head of upper Doane valley. ... Louis Salmons, an old-timer of the Palomar country, will be an assistant park custodian and will be in charge of the crew which will go to work on the proposed reservoir-dam. ....

Newspapers reported in November 1923 that Louis Salmons sold his Palomar ranch for \$65,000, retaining 25 acres on the crest of the hill overlooking the San Luis Rey Valley on which to build a house [4,6,64]. Louis Salmons continued with the ranch as a caretaker [6,64]. At the time of the sale, Salmons was negotiating a loan for \$5,000 to cover the \$3,500 principal of the debt on the ranch plus \$1,500 for improvements. Land development and values on Palomar Mountain were rising. A November 1923 story on Salmons’ sale of his ranch in the San Diego Union said that the “land that was selling at \$50 an acre [in 1921] ... advanced to \$100, then to \$200, and finally to \$300 a lot, several lots to the acre. [64].”

According to a 1956 lawsuit, it appears that Salmons’ 1923 sale didn’t come to fruition, and Salmons sold his land in 1946 to Dr. Moroni Jameson and his wife Adeline L. Jameson [80]:

... On May 20, 1946, plaintiffs [Salmons] were the owners of a 930-acre ranch of mountain property in the vicinity of Palomar Mountain in San Diego County. They had acquired this property in 1905 or 1906 and had lived on it continuously from 1907 or 1908 and used it for farming and cattle raising. On May 20, 1946, plaintiffs were visited by the defendants, Dr. Jameson and his wife, and Dr. Jameson's brother, Joseph. The Jamesons were interested in buying the ranch. Salmons said that it was for sale at the total price of \$65,000. A memorandum of agreement was then signed by Dr. Jameson and Louis Salmons purporting to be an option to purchase 900 acres at a total purchase price of \$65,000 and it was agreed that an escrow should be opened. Salmons testified that he told Jameson he wished to retain 30 acres of the ranch and build a house on it; that he ‘showed them’ the 30 acres.

On June 30, 1946, the parties entered into a written contract whereby defendants agreed to purchase the ranch, containing 930 acres, for the sum of \$65,000. This agreement further provided as follows: 'It is further understood that 30 acres are to be deeded back to Louis S. Salmons and Hodgie B. Salmons starting approximately 400' west of the cattle guard on south side of county road on east grade of Palomar Mt.' Louis Salmons testified that when Mrs. Jameson was writing this agreement 'We told her to hold the 30 acres there and we would build our house there'; that 'I showed Mr. Jameson right where the 30 acres lay and explained everything to him before the contract was drawn up'; that 'We stood and pointed a hundred feet across the road. I said, 'Now there is the 30 acres in there. I am going to build on that point' and 'I showed him where the spring was'; that he had an understanding with Dr. Jameson that the 30 acres was to start at a point approximately 400 feet west of the cattle guard on the south side of the county road and run west.

The parties went into escrow at the Security Trust and Savings Bank of San Diego and escrow instructions were signed on July 10, 1946. These instructions contained, among other things, the following provision: 'The purchaser herein is to deed to sellers 30 acres of the property involved in this escrow after close of escrow. Description of said 30 acres to be agreed upon by both parties. It is understood by both buyer and seller that your bank assumes no responsibility or liability as to the description of the said 30 acres or to the delivery of the deed conveying said 30 acres.'

On July 16, 1946, Salmons and his wife executed and delivered to the escrow holder a grant deed to the entire ranch, including the 30 acres here in question. Defendants executed and delivered a note and trust deed to the escrow holder as security for the unpaid balance of the purchase price. Both the deed and the trust deed were recorded in 1946 and defendants paid the entire balance by 1954.

In the spring of 1947 plaintiffs began the construction of their house and the making of improvements on the 30 acre tract referred to in the agreement of June 30, 1946, and expended approximately \$25,000 thereon. The house was adobe, with a tile roof. A mixed black top road leading from the county road to the house was laid and a water system was installed from the spring on the property. Dr. Jameson knew in the early part of 1947 that Salmons had built his house on the 30 acres involved and made no objection, stating that the reason he did not object was that he understood that the property would come back to them when the Salmons died and that the general area surrounding the house was all right with him.

On numerous occasions after the sale had been completed, Salmons asked Dr. Jameson for a deed to the 30 acres. Dr. Jameson 'stalled it off' but never said until 1954 that he was not willing to deed back the 30 acres. In the latter part of 1954 Salmons went to Dr. Jameson's office in Fallbrook and demanded a deed. The doctor then for the first time claimed that the Salmons had only a 'life lease' and he refused to give Salmons a deed to the 30 acres. It is undisputed that defendants paid the taxes on the entire 930 acres, including the house built by plaintiffs and that the property taxes on the said 30 acres and improvements between 1946 and 1955 amounted to \$1,434.86.

Garth Batt, a title engineer, employed at the Security Title Company as a title engineer, prepared from the agreement of June 30, 1946, a map of the 30 acres involved. He used a point 400 feet west of the cattle guard referred to in said agreement as a starting point on the south side of the county road. A fence ran north and south from this point and he established the east boundary as parallel to this fence. He used the United States



Geological Survey of the area made in 1950 to indicate the location of the Salmons house and to place it on the map which he prepared (plaintiffs' exhibit 7). He extended the east boundary south parallel to the fence to a section line; thence west approximately 1,200 feet; thence north to the county road; thence generally southeasterly along said road to the point of beginning. The trial court accepted the description prepared by Batt as describing the 30 acres involved and found that the defendants now hold legal title to the said 30 acres so described as trustees for plaintiffs.

Judgment was entered decreeing, inter alia, that the defendants execute and deliver to plaintiffs a grant deed conveying to them all of the 30 acres described in the decree, free and clear of all encumbrances, and decreed that defendants are disbarred, restrained and enjoined from asserting any right, title or interest therein, and further that plaintiffs pay defendants the sum of \$1,434.86 taxes theretofore paid by defendants.

Defendants appeal from the judgment and set forth numerous grounds, principally based upon the argument that the evidence is insufficient to support the findings. The first argument presented is ...

In March 1955, the Escondido Times-Advocate reported on the Salmons moving off Palomar Mountain [79]:

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Salmons have bought a home site in Pauma Valley, near the Jack Adams auto court, and plan to build a home there soon. On Mrs. Salmons' doctor's advice they are leaving their home on the mountain.

In March 1956, the Escondido Times-Advocate reported on the sale of the Salmons' Palomar Mountain home [81]:

The mountain home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Salmons sold last week to J. Manore Howard of San Diego. Because of Mrs. Salmons' health, they have been living for the past few years in Pauma Valley.

Hodgie Trabue Bailey Salmons died on January 6, 1957, and the San Diego Union reported [83]:

Hodgie Salmons, Artist, Succumbs

Mrs. Hodgie Trabue Salmons, 82, of Pauma Valley, who had lived in San Diego County since she was 8 years old, died Sunday. She was a landscape artist and for a number of years also had been a stone cutter at J. Jessop & Sons, jewelers.

Mrs. Salmons lived on Palomar Mountain from 1914 to 1954, when she moved to Pauma Valley. Her father, Theodore O. Bailey, was a pioneer resident of the Palomar area and owned Palomar Lodge.

Mrs. Salmons' landscapes were widely displayed through the years and at various county points, including Warner's Ranch and the Lazy Eight Sky Ranch.

Mrs. Salmons is survived by her husband, Louis S. of Pauma Valley, and a sister, Miss Elizabeth Bailey of San Diego. Services will be at 3 p.m. today in Johnson-Saum & Knobel Mortuary, with burial in Greenwood Memorial Park.

The Escondido Times-Advocate also reported on her death [82]:

### Hodgie Salmons, Pioneer of North County, Succumbs

PAUMA VALLEY – Funeral services for Mrs. Hodgie B. Salmons, who died at her home here Sunday evening, were held at 3 p.m. Wednesday at the Johnson-Saum and Knobel Mortuary in San Diego. Burial was in Greenwood Memorial Park in that city.

Mrs. Salmons, whose oil paintings of the San Diego County backcountry have been shown throughout the area, was born Hodgie Bailey on Jan. 26, 1874 in Illinois. She came to California in 1882 and had made her home since that time in Northern San Diego County. She was the daughter of the late Theodore and Mary Bailey, pioneer residents.

She was married 42 years ago to Louis S. Salmons, early-day resident of Palomar Mountain, and they made their home for many years on a ranch there. More recently they moved to Pauma Valley.

Surviving, besides her husband, are a sister, Miss Elizabeth Bailey of San Diego; four stepchildren and a number of nieces and nephews.

The Escondido Weekly Times-Advocate reported on the Salmons' former adobe home on Palomar Mountain being lost in a fire [84]:

### Ex-Salmon [sic] Home On Palomar Destroyed By Fire

The \$30,000 adobe home of Dr. and Mrs. Manore Howard of San Diego was completely destroyed by fire sometime during the past week.

The residence, which was located high on the East Grade overlooking the Lake Henshaw Valley, was all right when Dr. and Mrs. Howard left it last Saturday, he told officials here. When the Howard returned to their mountain home from San Diego Friday, the house was a total loss.

Ground, adobe and parts of the tile, which had formed the structure's roof, were still warm to the touch, he said.

Mysterious circumstances surrounding the burning of the house are under investigation. The United States Forestry and California Division of Forestry lookouts on the mountain are closed.

No reports of sighting smoke in the area have come in.

Two or three feet of snow cover the mountain in the area where the home stood, and some old-timers theorize that the snow broke in the house's roof and shorted wires which caused the blaze.

The three-bedroom home was constructed 15 years ago by pioneer Palomar Louis Salmons, after he sold his adjoining ranch to Dr. Morey Jameson of Fallbrook. The Salmons left the mountain several years ago because of the late Mrs. Salmons' ill health. At that time, they sold the home to the Howards.

The Escondido Daily Times-Advocate reported on a party honoring Louis Salmons which was held at the Lazy H Sky ranch in Pauma Valley on August 12, 1959 [85]:

### ‘Old Man of Palomar’ Recalls Events of ‘80s At Party Honoring Him

RINCON SPRINGS ... – It was a night to remember – and a night of memories. The memories were ones that reached as far back as the 1880s.

Seven decades were rolled back under the stars and ageless moon here Wednesday night. It was an event, the like of which never has been held before and never again will be.

Some 200 invited guests, many of whose family roots stem deep in San Diego county history, heard firsthand anecdotes of their forebears. For Wednesday night was Louis Salmons’ night in Pauma Valley.

Tom Colby’s Lazy H Sky ranch was the scene of this event after a superb barbecued chicken dinner. The guests came to honor and to hear 87-year-old Salmons, the “grand old man of Palomar,” spin his yarns of old, forgotten far-off things. He knew ... Nate [Harrison]. He knew George Doan[e]. He knew George Sawday. He knew A.W. Wohlford. He knew Sparkman, the Englishman murdered on Palomar Mountain. He knew the Jessops. He knew the “catch cold” Indian boy who lived in Tecolata canyon. He knew Felopalo (Max) Peters, the best doggoned cowboy of ‘em all who could and did ride 12 hours a day, seven days a week. Louie was there. He knew them all.

### Old Recollections

And Wednesday night, under a black velvet sky, Louis Salmons drew from his memory responses to the searching questions of his friend, Dr. Eugene H. Vinograd, to spin his tales.

George Daley? “He used to have his troubles getting his help back to work on Monday mornings. Had to go to the jail and pay their fines.

A.W. Wohlford, the pioneer banker? “Play square with him and he’d treat you right, but try to cheat him and he’d take the shortening out of your bread.”

... Nate Harrison? Was he ever married? “No, he had half a dozen Indian women and an Indian certificate. That was all.”

[PB: in dispute. See: Born a Slave, Died a Pioneer: Nathan Harrison and the Historical Archaeology of Legend. Seth Mallios. Berghahn Books, 2019]

George Doan[e]: “I’ll never forget the time an Indian came up while Doan[e] was churning butter. Doan[e]’s beard got caught in the churning. Nobody would eat the butter. Doan[e] used to advertise in the old Heart and Hand Magazine and he wrote letters to nearly every school teacher in California. He finally married a gal six feet tall with the biggest feet hereabouts.”

[PB: confuses Doane’s wife with her black companion Amy.]

### So He Got the Money



George Sawday? “Friend of his wanted to buy a place up here and went to the bank at Ramona, but the Bank of Italy had just bought ‘em out. They turned him down flat. So George just went to the bank and told ‘em to let his friend have the money. He got it.”

Sparkman, the murdered Englishman? “I was on Palomar the night he was killed. A man came and told me about it. Fred Jennings was sheriff then. An Indian and a Mexican fellow were suspected. I told Jennings not to let them get together. He didn’t. The Indian was put in jail but he got out so many times that one time they didn’t bother to put him back.”

The old man’s stories went on. They were the recollections of footnotes of history, the items that don’t get into the textbooks but nevertheless form the warp and the woof of the tapestry of the real history of this, our country. He told of the years when there were but two stores in Escondido, and Escondido even then was a better business town than Temecula, which was as far south as the railroad went in those days.

And who is Louis S. Salmons? He came to Palomar Mountain in 1885. He was 87 last May 31. At 14, Salmons was punching cattle at Hot Springs, N.M. (There were no child labor laws in those days. They bred men then.) And now Louis Salmons lives in quiet retirement on Palomar Mountain under the care of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond White.

Gets Anvil Salute

And the descendants of the men and women who were the contemporaries of the Louis Salmons of those days sat under the stars at Pauma Valley and applauded when he was given a large portrayal of himself by the Mexican artist, Joaquim Chineas.

When all was done and the spinner of tales had finished his anecdotes, Ben Dixon of the San Diego Historical Society then presented Salmons with a special sugar palm plant. Then Dixon took a leaf from the past and set off something the like of which hasn’t been heard for half a century or more in San Diego county. It was an “anvil salute.”

You don’t know what an anvil salute is? You take two anvils. Put one upright on the ground and cover its surface with black gunpowder. Put a fuse to it and place the second anvil, top down, on the powder. Then light the fuse – and move away fast.

When she blows, one anvil flies high and comes almost straight down smack into the ground. They did things in a big way in the old days.

It was a night to remember.



Another report on this event for Louis Salmons appeared in the Los Angeles Times [86]:

Dinner Honors Grand Old Man of Mt. Palomar

Those were the wild days on Mt. Palomar ...

Back when a fellow had to go out with a rifle and shoot his own hogs because the b'ars had run 'em off.

Back when the grazin' was so tough they called it "barb wire grass."

Back when one old geezer got his long beard caught in the churn and the neighbors wouldn't eat the butter.

All these and dozens more were tossed back and forth when the whole Mt. Palomar area got together to honor "the grand old man of Palomar," Louis Salmons, 87, at a whopping big dinner the other evening.

## 200 at Meeting

More than 200 old-timers and guests gathered at the Lazy H Club in Rincon at the foot of Palomar for the tribute to Salmons which had been arranged by Eugene Vinograd, MD, the physician who ministers to the entire region.

“I’m sure amazed at my popularity,” chuckled Salmons as he sat relaxed and healthy at the head of the table in a big black leather chair transported to the lawn where the barbecue dinner was served.

For 60 years, Salmons resided on Palomar, rearing five daughters and absorbing the lore of the great mountain which now is famous for the world’s largest telescope.

## Was Newsboy

As an added reminiscence, he harked back to the days in 1885 when he was a newsboy carrying the Los Angeles Times. A letter of congratulation from Norman Chandler, present publisher of The Times, was delivered to Salmons.

Under the questioning of Dr. Vinograd, Salmons contributed many anecdotes – some of them pretty sprightly, too – on the history and legends of Mt. Palomar. Out in the audience, famous cattle people and land developers of the early days laughed and clapped as the stories recalled their own youth and the memories of their long-departed parents and grandparents. Everybody ate chicken grilled outdoors by Tom Colby of the Lazy H and served by descendants of the folks Salmons knew.

As a birthday gift, Salmons was presented with a large portrait, just completed by Joaquin Chinas, celebrated young artist from Tijuana who recently was featured in a one-man show in the Pan American Union, Washington, D.C., under the sponsorship of U.S. Rep. Bob Wilson of San Diego. The picture was the gift of Mrs. Justine Fenton and Mrs. Marion Daley, ranch owners.

## Arrived in 1885

Salmons first came to Palomar in 1885 with his mother from Stone Mountain, near Atlanta, Ga. Later the family lived at 9<sup>th</sup> and Figueroa Sts. in Los Angeles, where Louis carried The Times. He went on to become a cowboy in New Mexico, then returned to Palomar, where he acquired 1,000 acres of apple orchard and rangeland and forest near the top of the mountain.

There he lived 60 years, until the recent death of his wife, whose oil paintings were used as a backdrop for the speaker’s table at the outdoor dinner.

Two of the Salmons daughters, Mrs. Jess (Rebecca) Haberkern of Bakersfield and Mrs. Roy (Marjorie) Carter of Apple Valley, were said present.

## Banker Wohlford

When Louis Salmons got to gabbing into the microphone for the benefit of guests and the tape recorder, he didn’t spare anybody in his anecdotes.

“I remember A.W. Wohlford, the banker, real well,” he said. “He was a fair man, but he liked to be treated right. And, man, if you crossed him, he would take the shortenin’ out of your bread!”

In the audience, B.C. Wohlford, son of A.W., got a bigger kick than anybody else out of the story.

Most of all, Salmons dwelt on the beloved and legendary Uncle Nate Harrison, former Negro slave who lived atop Mt. Palomar for two generations and philosophized about the poor souls who lived down in the world below.

“Somebody down at Pala gave Uncle Nate a water-glass full of brandy and pepper sauce, and when he got his breath back Uncle Nate said it was the hottest whisky he ever had,” Salmons said.

After he had told a bunch of yarns, Salmons added: “I’m not as big a liar as a lot of ‘em.”

#### Search for Wife

He went on to tell about George Doane, who lived on the mountain and advertised in “Heart and Hand” for a wife and got 29 offers, and picked the 16-year-old daughter of a mother-and-daughter team of eligibles in Louisiana.

Two guests who figured in his stories were from the tribes of Indians in the area – Max Peters, one of the most famous of California vaqueros from the old Santa Margarita spread, and Curtis Forbes, who worked on the Salmons place when he was a tiny boy.

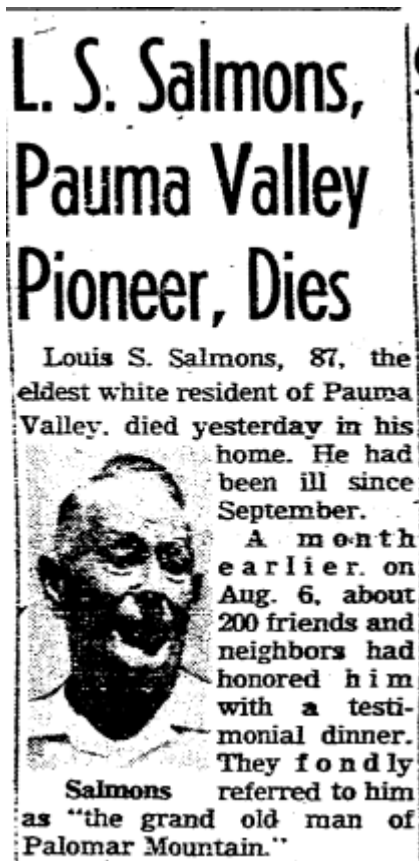
In the crowd were Mrs. George Sawday, widow of the cattleman; Mrs. Percy Evans, widow of the publisher of the Escondido Times Advocate; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sawday Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bergman from Anza; Fr. J. Carillo of Pala Mission; Mr. and Mrs. Orville Cummings and many others.

So many reminiscences were floating around, in fact, when all these got together that Dr. Vinograd asked the guests to continue the discussions with Salmons in person where he now lives with Ray and Ida White in Pauma Valley.

“To the man with a face as craggy as his beloved mountain, Louis Salmons,” said Dr. Vinograd in summary, “vaya con Dios.”



Louis Salmons died on December 4, 1959; an obituary appeared the following day in the San Diego Union [87]:



#### L.S. Salmons, Pauma Valley Pioneer, Dies

Louis S. Salmons, 87, the eldest white resident of Pauma Valley, died yesterday in his home. He had been ill since September.

A month earlier, on Aug. 6, about 200 friends and neighbors had honored him with a testimonial dinner. They fondly referred to him as “the grand old man of Palomar Mountain.”

Salmons was born May 31, 1872, in Decatur, Ga.

Louis and his mother came to California when he was 14, after his father died. Louis had been a cattle puncher in Hot Springs, N.M. They stayed in Los Angeles briefly, then came here to visit his sister, Ora, at the Rincon Indian Reservation, and returned to Los Angeles.

Louis attended school and delivered newspapers there for a short while, but he returned to New Mexico after his mother bought an adobe house in Rincon and she went there to live.

#### Returned to County

Salmons returned to San Diego County to stay when he was about 21 and he became one off the pioneer cattle ranchers on Palomar Mountain. He retired from ranching in 1946, when he was 74.

“He was an historical character in this part of the country,” Dr. Eugene H. Vinograd told a reporter yesterday. The doctor was Salmons’ close friend and personal physician for the past five years.

“He knew all of the early San Diegans, people like George Daley, Mahlon Vail, Henry Fenton and Alonzo Jessop,” Dr. Vinograd said.

Dr. Vinograd said Salmons suffered a stroke in September and had to remain in bed most of the time since then.

#### Visited by Indians

“He was loved by everybody,” Dr. Vinograd said. “Indians came to visit him every day and some of them brought their entire families with them.”

Mrs. Rebecca Haberkern, one of Salmons’ daughters, came to care for him after he suffered his last stroke.

Salmons' survivors include three other daughters, six grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren, none of whom lives in the county.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Palm Mortuary in Escondido, and internment will be in Greenwood Memorial Park in San Diego.

Another obituary appeared later in the Escondido Weekly Times-Advocate [88]:

Louis Salmons, 'Old Man of Palomar,' Succumbs

Pauma Valley – Death came in the early hours of last Friday for Louis S. Salmons, the “grand old man of Palomar Mountain.”

The 87-year-old pioneer weakening after a restless night abed in his valley home near his beloved mountain, shuddered and then all was over. At his bedside were two of his daughters – Mrs. Rebecca Haberkern of Bakersfield and Mrs. Marjorie Carter of Apple Valley. They wept. The hour was 2:30 a.m.

The one-time cowboy, who came to Palomar Mountain in 1885, had reached the end of the trail and passed the Great Divide. Now, his life and his stories, his anecdotes and his adventures have become part and parcel with the legendary figures of the past – George Sawday, George Doane. A.W. Wohlford, ... Nate Harrison and all the others.

Born May 31, 1872 in Decatur, Ga., he came to San Diego County with his parents 74 years ago. From 1907-1946 he was the owner of the Woodwardia Cattle Ranch on Palomar Mountain. In 1946 he retired to his home in Pauma Valley.

Mr. Salmons was the brother of the late Frank Salmons, pioneer operator of the Pala Store at Pala. His wife, Hodgie Bailey Salmons, preceded him in death two years ago.

It was on the evening of Aug. 12 last that some 200 friends gathered at Lazy H Ranch near Rincon Springs to pay tribute to the pioneer whose life was closely linked with the early history of this region.

Besides Mrs. Haberkern and Mrs. Carter, the two daughters who have been with their father for the past three months, there are two other daughters – Mrs. Harriet Griffin of Las Vegas, Nev., and Mrs. Louis Gothard, Globe, Ariz. Mr. Salmons is also survived by six grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Monday at Palm Mortuary Chapel with concluding rites at Greenwood Memorial Park at San Diego.



**Louis Shannon Salmons** is buried at Greenwood Memorial Park in San Diego.



**Hodgie Trabue Bailey Salmons** died January 6, 1957, and is buried at Greenwood Memorial Park in San Diego.





Louis Salmons' mother **Mary Alexander Salmons** died February 1, 1926, in San Diego County, and is buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, San Diego.



Louis Salmons' half-sister **Ora Moneta Salmons** taught at the Pala reservation Indian school for many years [5,63]. Ora Salmons died in San Diego County on February 4, 1923, and is buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, San Diego (headstone death year is wrong) [5].





Louis Salmons' brother **Franklin 'Frank' Alexander Salmons** died June 21, 1933, and is buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, San Diego.



Louis Salmons' sister **Harriett 'Hattie' Randolph Salmons** married Joshua Giddings Jarvis (1839-1915); she died in Santa Ana, California on March 5, 1953, and is buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, San Diego.





Louis Salmons' daughter **Mahulda Neal Salmons** (1897-1946) married Clyde Arthur Howard [1889-1946]; she died August 23, 1946, and is buried in the Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno, California. Louis Salmons' 1959 obituaries don't mention her since she preceded him in death [25,27]. Louis Salmons said erroneously at age 87 that "The oldest child was Mahulda Neal Salmons; she's the one that passed away at seven. [2]"



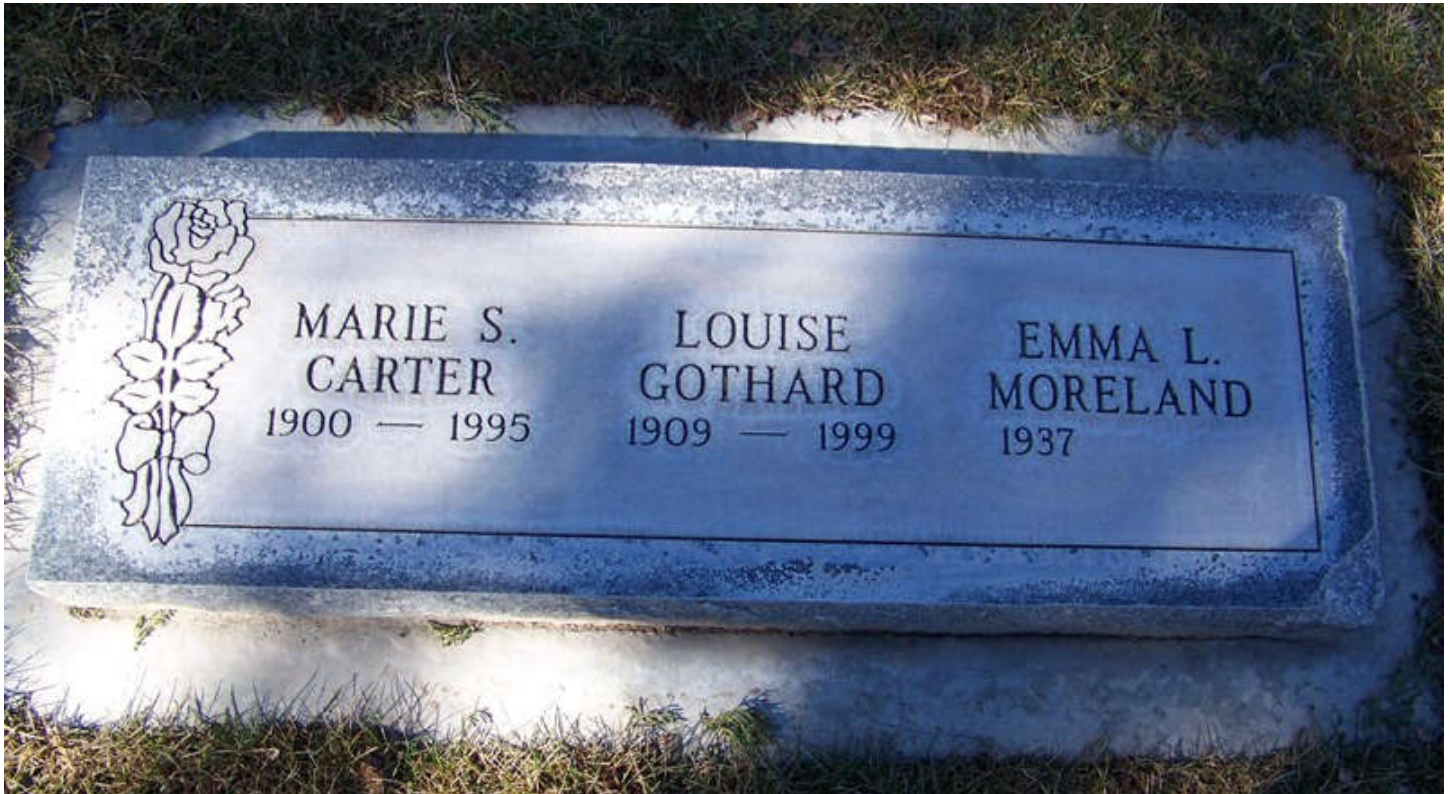
Louis Salmons' daughter **Mary Rebecca Salmons** (1900-1995) married Everett Jesse Haberkern (1895-1981); she died February 6, 1995, and is buried in the Union Cemetery in Bakersfield, California [25,27].





Louis Salmons' daughter **Charlotte Marie Marjorie Salmons** (1901-1995) was born September 6, 1901, and married Leroy Scott Carter (1898-1982) in 1922. Their marriage license says Charlotte Marjorie Salmons' mother was Emma Littlefield, not Emma Barker. Louis Salmons' 1959 obituary said one of his daughters is Mrs. Marjorie Carter of Apple Valley, and an earlier dinner in his honor has her name as Mrs. Roy (Marjorie) Carter of Apple Valley [25,27,28].

A June 12, 1995, death notice for Marie Carter, age 94, of Show Low, Arizona said she was born in California and survivors include her sister Louise Gothard (Emma Louise Salmons of Show Low, Arizona) [26]. Marie S. Carter is buried in Show Low, Arizona alongside her sister Louise; Marie Carter's birth year is wrong.



Louis Salmons' daughter **Harriet Ora Salmons** (1902-1974) died in Las Vegas, Nevada in 1974.

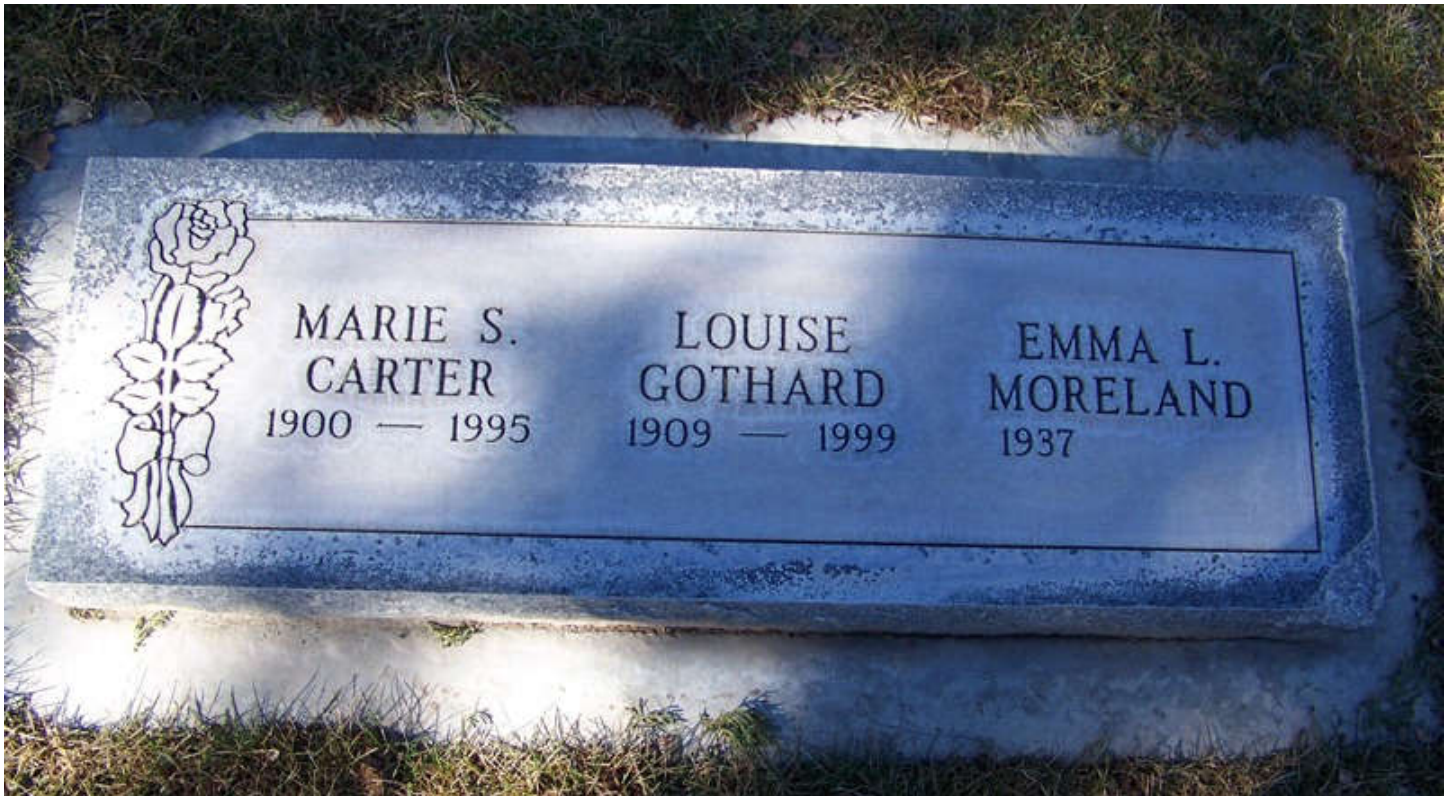
Harriet Salmons was single at the time of the 1920 U.S. Census and living with her father Louis Salmons. She was a first year education major at the University of California Los Angeles in 1921. Harriet Ora Salmons married Arend Cartwright Tomer (1898-1969) in San Francisco on October 11, 1923. Their marriage license says Harriet O. Salmons' mother was Emma Littlefield, not Emma Barker. The 1925 San Francisco city directory lists Harriet Salmons as a teacher.

Louis Salmons' 1959 obituary said one of his daughters is Mrs. Harriet Griffin of Las Vegas, Nevada [25,27]. A familysearch.org record states she married Gene Griffin (1899- ) with no sources given [93].



Louis Salmons' youngest daughter was **Emma Louise Salmons** (1908-1999). Emma Louise Salmons married George Frederick Mendenhall (1891-1953) in Yuma, Arizona on October 11, 1935 [68]. They had a son George Frederic(k) Mendenhall Junior born April 1, 1940.

Louis Salmons' 1959 obituary said one of his daughters is Mrs. Louis(e) Gothard of Globe, Arizona, and that's Emma Louise Salmons [25,27]. Louise Gothard died April 8, 1999, and is buried in Show Low Cemetery, Arizona alongside her sister Marie S. Carter (Marie Marjorie Salmons). A June 12, 1995, death notice for Marie Carter, age 94, of Show Low, Arizona said she was born in California, and survivors include her sister Louise Gothard [26].



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