

PH0076473

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: California	
COUNTY: Santa Clara	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	OCT 9 1973



**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Port of Alviso (San Jose)

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Embarcadero de Santa Clara

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
"District"

CITY OR TOWN:  
Alviso (San Jose)

STATE California	CODE 06	COUNTY: Santa Clara	CODE 085
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	shells
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	clamming	boating
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	fishing	

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Public and private ownership

STREET AND NUMBER:  
"District"

CITY OR TOWN:  
Alviso (San Jose)

STATE: California	CODE 06
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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Santa Clara County Courthouse Maps A-45

STREET AND NUMBER:  
First and St. James Streets

CITY OR TOWN:  
San Jose

STATE: California	CODE 06
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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: a. Preliminary Survey of Historical Landmarks  
b. Santa Clara County Historical Landmarks Advisory Subcommittee

DATE OF SURVEY: a. 4/62 - b. 10-11/71  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
a. Planning Dept., S.C. Co., b. Minutes of S.C. Co. Hist. Landmarks Subcommittee

STREET AND NUMBER:  
70 W. Hedding Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
San Jose, California 95110

STATE: California	CODE 06
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STATE: California

COUNTY: Santa Clara

ENTRY NUMBER: 0614

DATE: 1973

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)						
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins		
	(Check One)			(Check One)			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

PRESENT - Alviso remains a typical old San Francisco Bay port lying in south end of San Francisco Bay. Alviso Slough and marshlands, from Catherine Street to Elizabeth Street, represents the Port of Alviso virtually unchanged from C 1880-90.

The original pre 1850 Guadalupe River access from the Bay to the Town was joined to a nearby slough by means of a channel dug in 1858. See "slough" on USGS Milpitas, Calif. 7.5 Min. Map.

*[Substitute attached 5 paragraphs]*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**4. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal          | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric         | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic            | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture         | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture        | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                   | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications      | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation        |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

18TH CENTURY - One of the earliest ports on the U. S. West Coast - preceding San Francisco itself. The Alviso District was known as early as 1792 when English explorer George Vancouver noted at Santa Clara Mission a shallow rivulet nearby at the southeast end of Port of San Francisco "with the confines of a port". A virtually unchanged, un-suburbanized old California port town. The slough is still undeveloped by modern technology. It possesses that intangible feeling that age and mood create to give a town historical integrity.

19TH CENTURY - Alviso was the major north-south passenger and freight link between San Francisco and the southern bay area. The stage roads were virtually impassible in wet weather. It was also the major commercial shipping depot for the entire Santa Clara Valley. In Richard Henry Dana's "Two Years Before the Mast", C. 1828, he mentioned on page 222 that Mission Santa Clara does a greater business in hides and tallow than any other in California from its creek on the bay. The local Indians manned the boats for the padres.

The Embarcadero was an important Bay port by 1841 when Commodore Charles Wilkes visited it.

In the Mexican War, Colonel Fremont and Captain Hinckley sailed from Yerba Buena (San Francisco) to the Embarcadero at Alviso on January 21, 1846.

By 1849, three argonauts had purchased the land of two local ranchos--"Embarcadero de Santa Clara" (Barcelia Bernal Martin" and "Rincon de los Esteros from the heirs of Ignacio Alviso, a D'Anza settler, soldier and Mission Santa Clara official after whom the town was named. See Map A-45 (Santa Clara County records) plat of Town of Alviso 1850, filed 1869.

By 1851 there were several warehouses along the slough. One of these very early warehouses still stands at Hope and Elizabeth Streets. The whole town still looks very much as it did in 1880-90 when the port activity slowed due to the railroad competition.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Richard H. Dana "Two Years Before the Mast", p. 22, p. 450;  
 "Charles Wilkes Explorations", p. 90;  
 "History of Santa Clara County", Alley Bowen Pub. (1881), p. 106;  
 "Three Years in California", by Colton (1850)  
 "Vancouver in California", p. 48.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	.	"	0	.	"	37°	25'	30"	121°	58'	0"
NE	0	.	"	0	.	"						
SE	0	.	"	0	.	"						
SW	0	.	"	0	.	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 9 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
None			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Mrs. Phyllis Butler, Member, Subcommittee

ORGANIZATION: Santa Clara Co. Historical Landmarks Advisory      DATE: 4/7/72

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 70 West Hedding Street, Room 524

CITY OR TOWN: San Jose      STATE: California 95110      CODE: 06

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION      NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National       State       Local

Name: [Signature]

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]  
 Chief, Office of Technology and Historic Preservation  
 Associate Director  
 Professional Services

Date: OCT 9 1973

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 10-4-73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

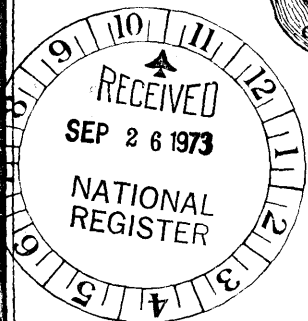
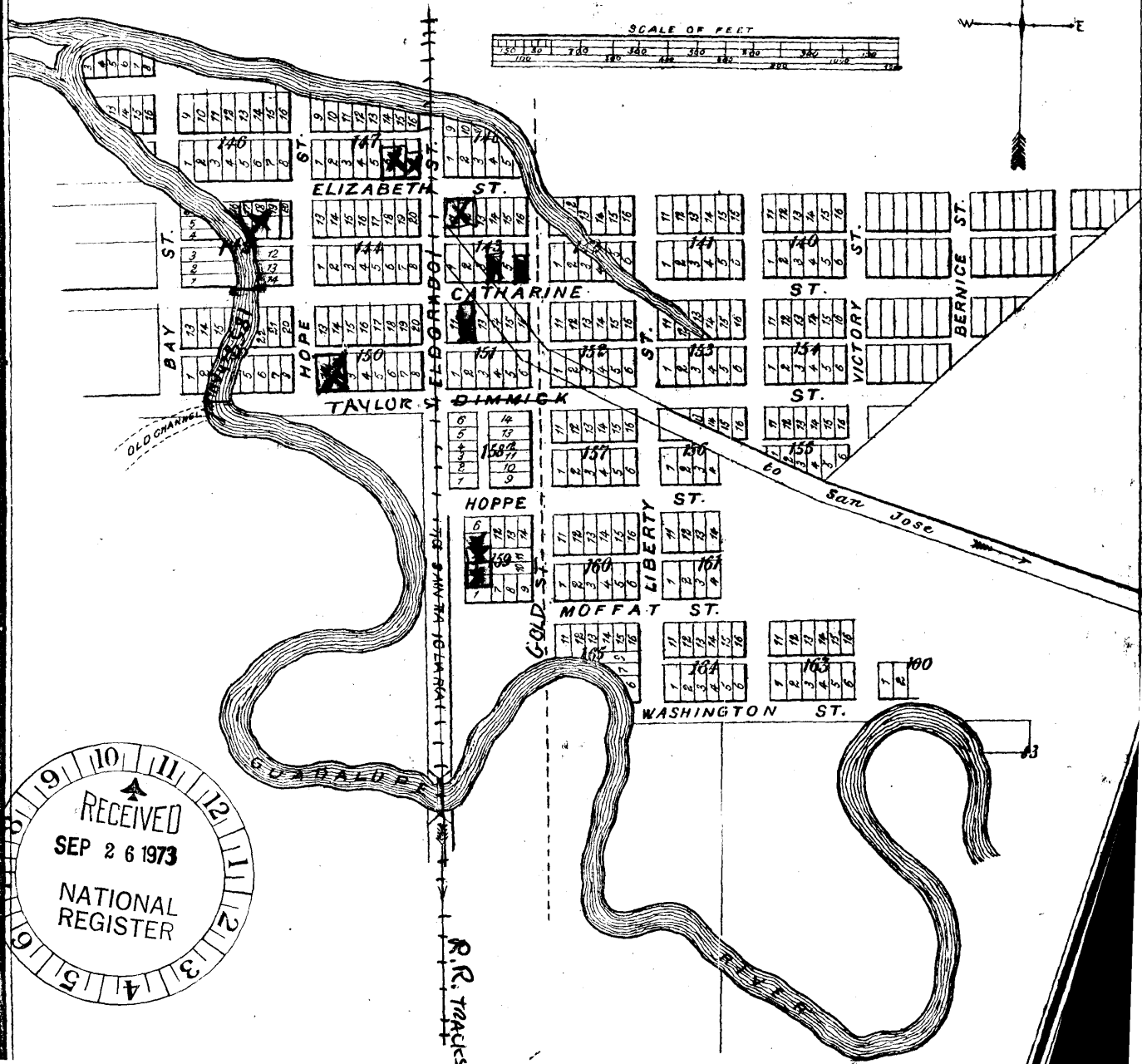
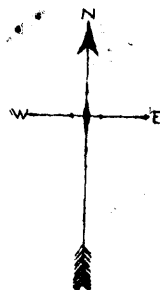
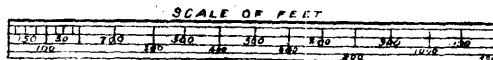
FROM 1876 ATLAS  
TROMPSON & WEST

(MAPS A-45 SURV.  
1869 COPY OF  
LYMAN MAP 1850)

20

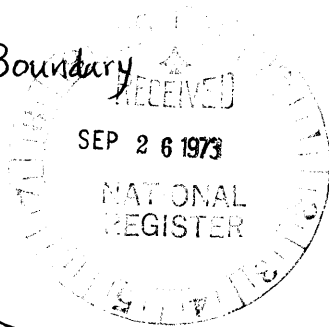
# PLAT OF ALVISO

(PART OF SHERMAN DAY'S COPY OF ORIGINAL MAP)

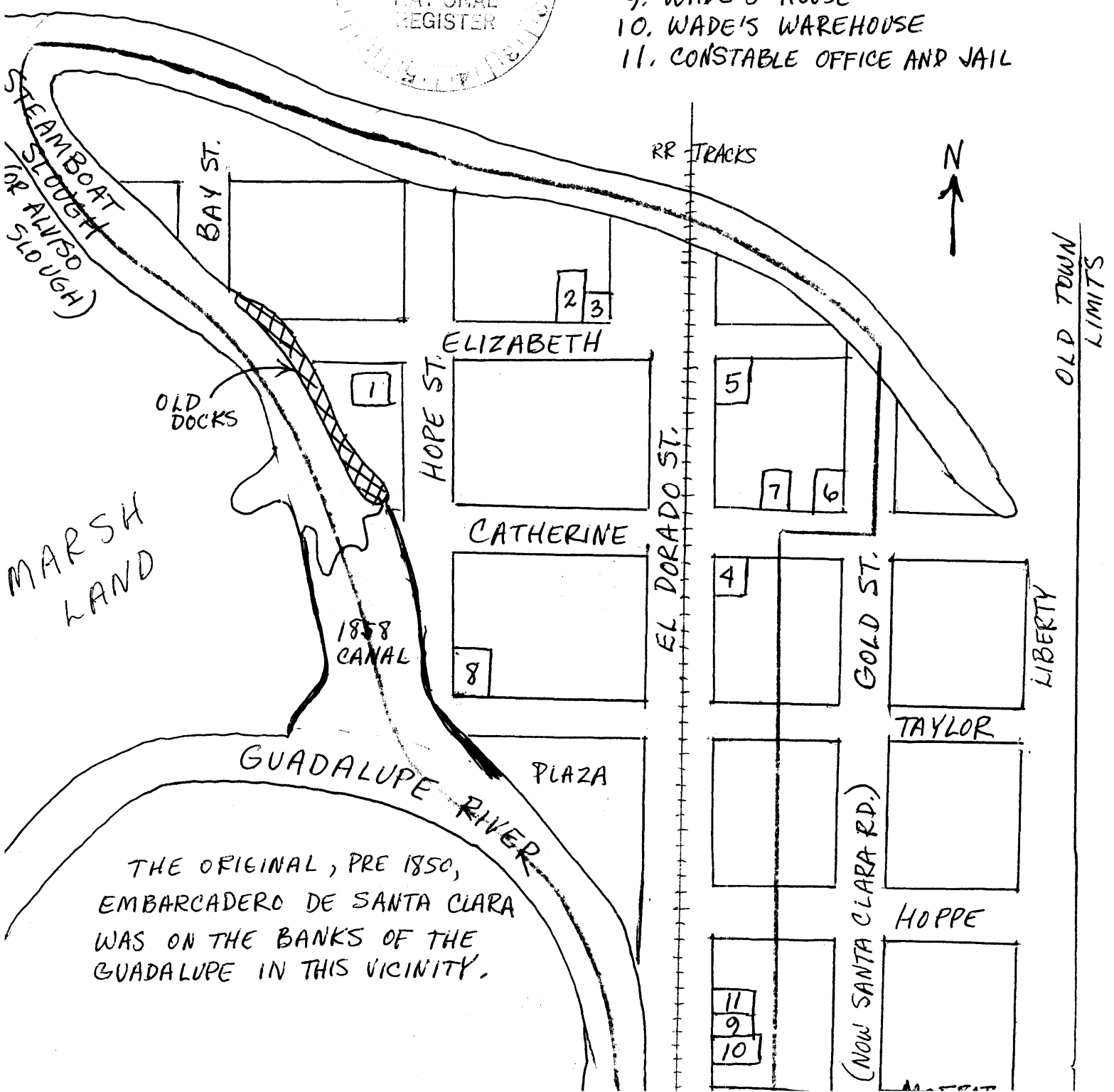


# PORT OF ALVISO

— District Boundary



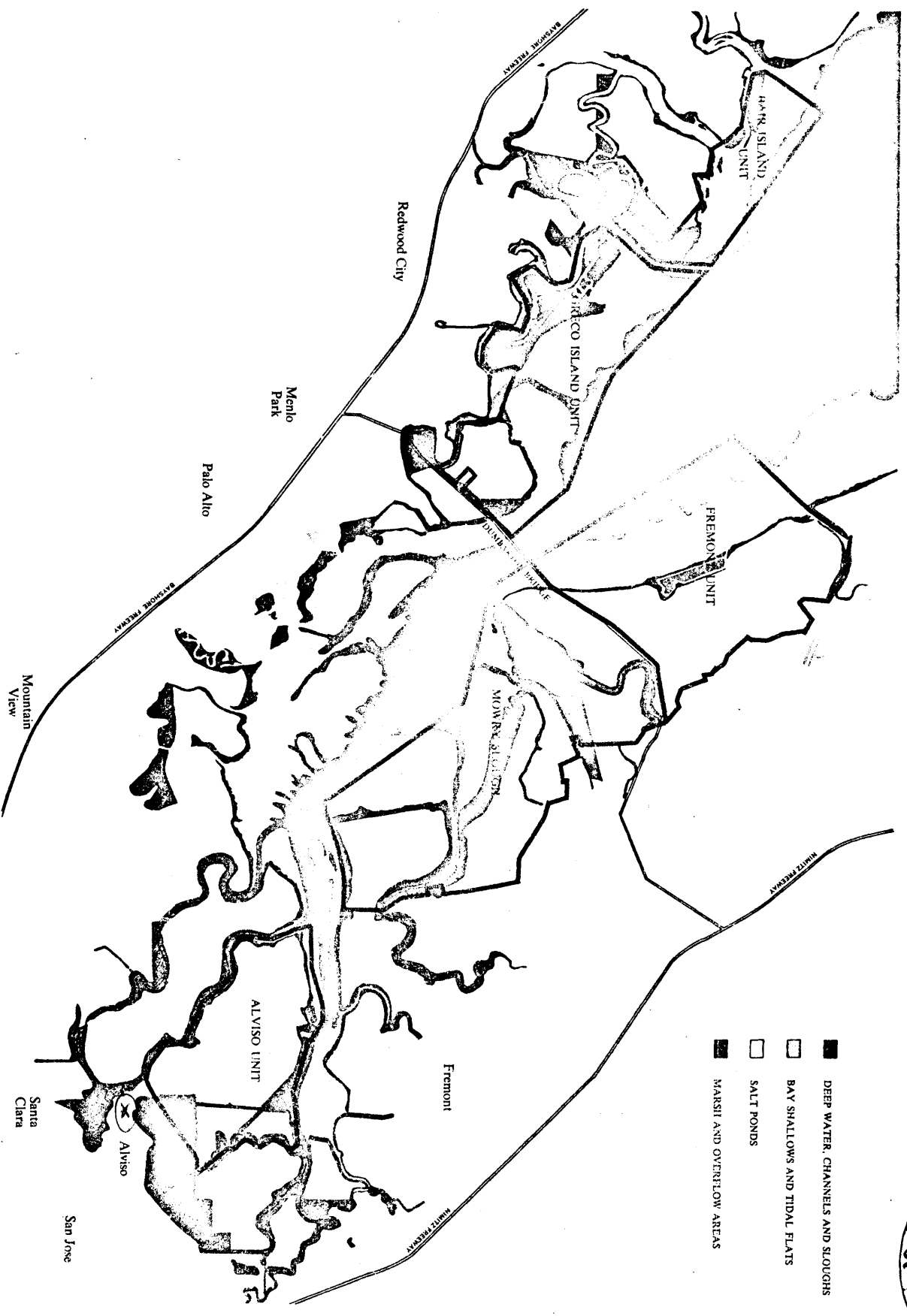
1. OLD UNION WAREHOUSE
2. LAINE RESIDENCE
3. LAINE STORE
4. TREVEY RESIDENCE
5. RAILROAD DEPOT
6. CAPT. JOHN MARTIN'S HOUSE
7. LA MONTAGNE BOARDING HOUSE
8. SOUTH BAY YACHT CLUB
9. WADE'S HOUSE
10. WADE'S WAREHOUSE
11. CONSTABLE OFFICE AND JAIL



THE ORIGINAL, PRE 1850, EMBARCADERO DE SANTA CLARA WAS ON THE BANKS OF THE GUADALUPE IN THIS VICINITY.

a partial answer... san francisco bay

# national wildlife refuge







MOUNTAIN VIEW 5 MI.  
MOFFETT FIELD 3.2 MI.

(MOUNTAIN VIEW)

REGAS

CITY

COFFIN

SOUTHERN

SANTA CLARA

RINCON

AGNEWS STATE

25'

30'

S

SALT EVAPORATORS

SALT EVAPORATORS

ALVISO

ALVISO

RINCON

DE LOS (BERREYES)

ROSA

ALVISO

ALVISO

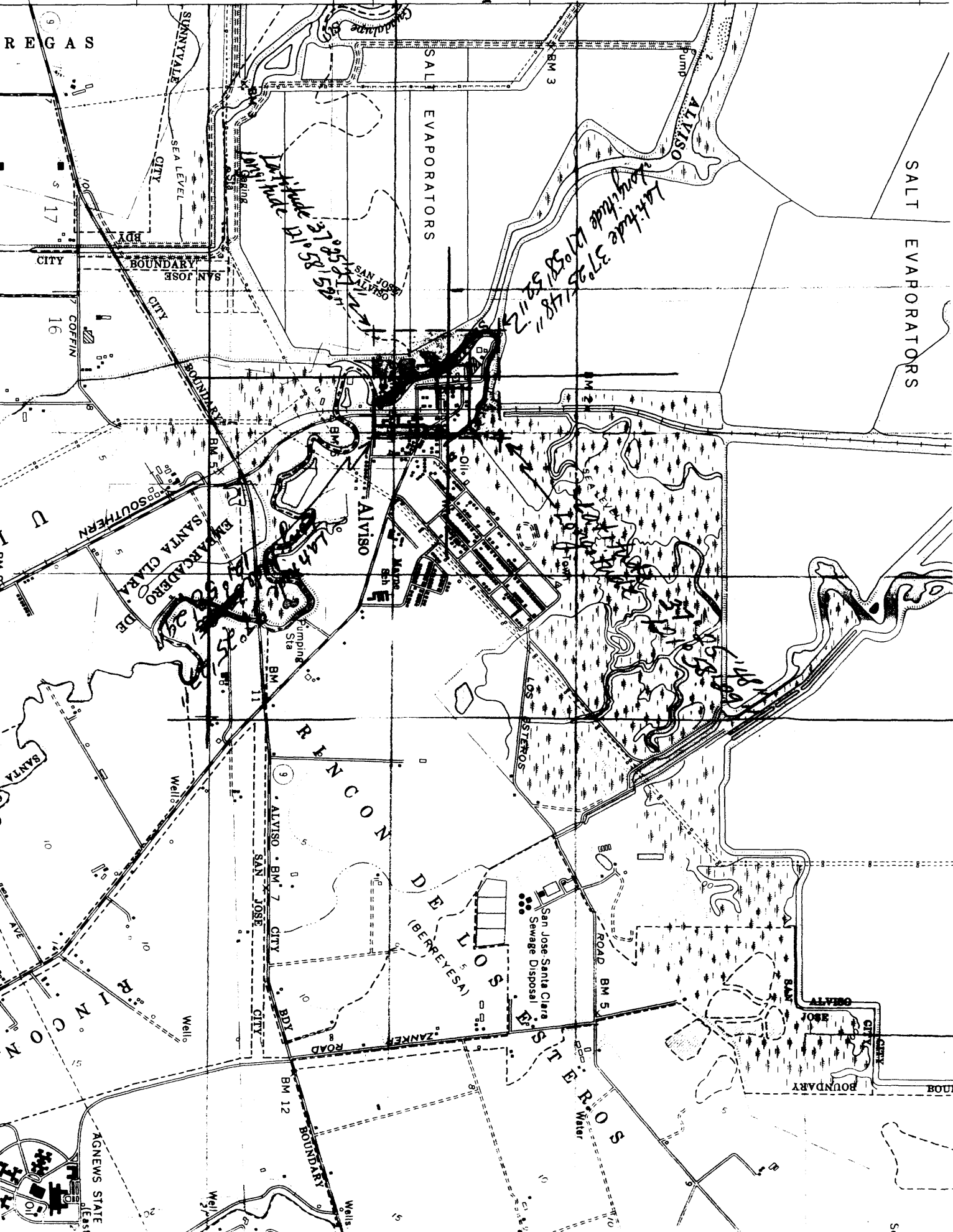
ALVISO

*Latitude 37° 25' 48" N  
Longitude 121° 58' 52" W*

*Latitude 37° 25' 48" N  
Longitude 121° 58' 52" W*

*Latitude 37° 25' 48" N  
Longitude 121° 58' 52" W*

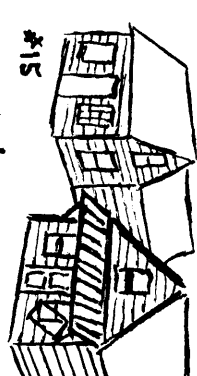
*Latitude 37° 25' 48" N  
Longitude 121° 58' 52" W*



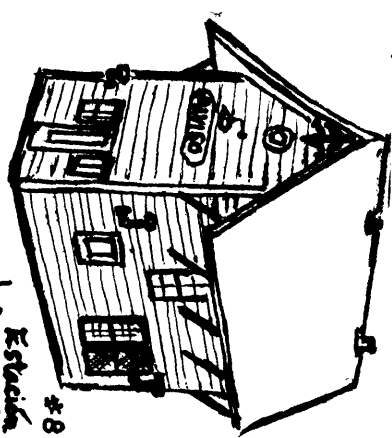
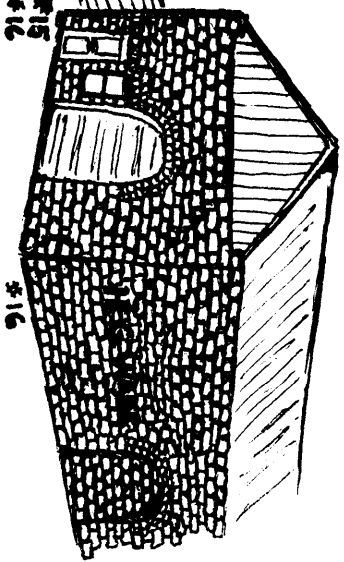
S



**ALVISO**  
MEMBER  
NATIONAL  
REGISTER  
OF  
HISTORIC  
PLACES



Wade Residence #15  
Wade Warehouse #16

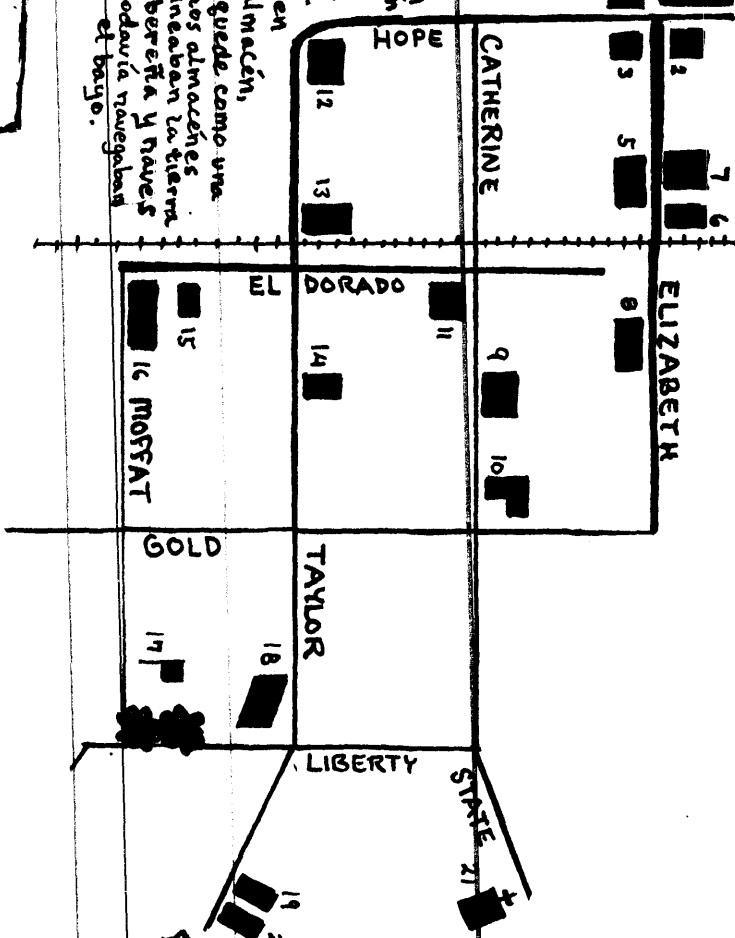


Estación de Southern Pacific

El Embarcadero de Santa Clara, ahora sabido como Alviso, ha servido las funciones del puerto desde el fundando de la Misión Santa Clara en 1777. Entre los años 1848 y 1851, el puerto privatizado con San Francisco como un centro de transacción para el baje, la residencia de Wade fue enviado de New Emeryland y reconstruido en Alviso en 1851. El almacén, edificado circa 1860, guarda como una señal de cuando muchos almacenes alineaban la tierra ribereña y naveros todavía navegaban el baje.

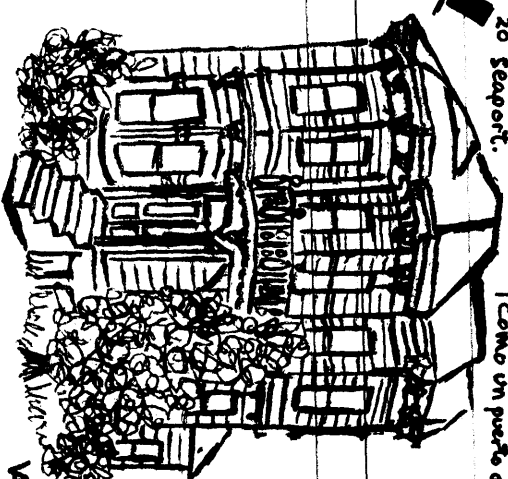
Para casi todos pueblos el Ferrocarril trajo prosperidad. Pero para Alviso era la amenaza mayor a su industria marítima. En 1864, San José y San Francisco unificados por carril, sin un conexión para Alviso hasta 1876. Por aquel tiempo la competencia de transacción por Ferro carril causó la declinación de Alviso como un puerto del mar.

Embarcadero de Santa Clara, the port did not go by the name of Alviso until 1849. The block home, brought from New England and rebuilt in Alviso in 1851, dates to the period in which Alviso rivaled S.F. as a shipping center for the bay. The warehouse, built circa 1860, serves as one of the few good structures that remain in Alviso. See page 5 for numbers.



TILDEN-LAINE STORE #6

ALVISO  
INCORPORATED  
1852



TILDEN RESIDENCE #7

# ALVISO

MEMBER  
NATIONAL  
REGISTER

## HISTORIC PLACES

1. Alviso Boat Works - formerly in use by Thomas Chow Foon's Bayside Cannery during the first three decades of this century.
2. Oberon Marina Supply - one time Chinese cook house for Bayside Cannery. Note roof-top cupolas.
3. Gresham Realty - served as office for Bayside Cannery from 1900 through the 1930's.
4. John Jacob Ortley's Union Warehouse - Ships once pulled up to this structure, built circa 1860. Today it remains as one of two such buildings that years ago lined the water front.
5. Marina Sea Food - Originally housed J.J. Pipes Alviso Hotel, built circa 1905. The building as it stands today has undergone extensive remodeling and survives as the last of as many as six hotels that have disappeared through the years.
6. Laine's Groceries - Formerly Tilden's store built during the 1870's. Also served as a saloon and dance hall.
7. Tilden Residence, ornate Italianate architecture, home of prominent Alviso merchant family built 1887.
8. Southern Pacific Railroad Depot - built near the turn of the century, now a private residence.
9. La Montgne, Residence, first constructed in the 1890's, remodelled in 1904 to serve as Boarding House for PG & E employees.
10. Alleged John O. Martin Residence possibly dating back to 1843. Martin, arriving from Scotland was the first foreigner (Non-Mexican), to settle in Alviso.
11. Trevey Residence, built in 1900, home of Robert Trevey, Alviso merchant from 1897 to 1940; store stood across the street.
12. South Bay Yacht Club meeting hall built circa 1905, still serving original purpose.
13. Chinese Casino, dating to the Depression '30's, when Alviso was considered anything but a law and order town.
14. San Jose Branch Library - once did service as Town-Hall, constructed in the 1920's.
15. Wade Residence - brought from New England by sailing ship and reconstructed in Alviso in 1851.
16. Wade Warehouse - constructed in the late 1860's or early 1870's. Bricked in archways indicate where stagecoaches were drawn inside for repairs, in the days when Wells Fargo & Co. occupied the building.
17. Two palm trees mark the site where the Alviso Grammar School stood from 1900 to 1968.
18. Arc Welding Shop - originally W. Roubidoux's Blacksmith shop built circa 1900.
19. Unidentified early settler's residence, similar in architecture to the John O. Martin home.
20. Unidentified early settler's residence.
21. Alviso Community Church, Presbyterian now, one time Methodist, built in the 1890's.