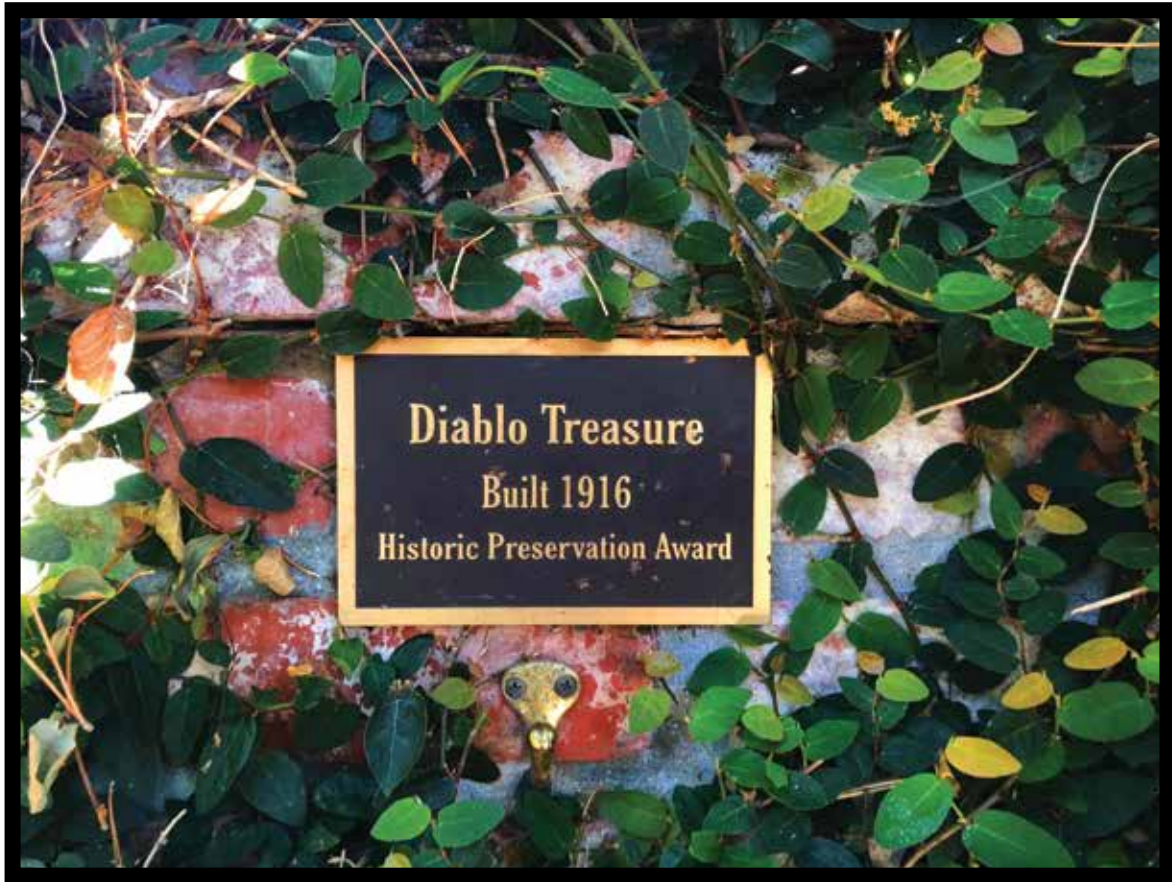




Diablo's Treasures

THE HISTORIC HOMES &
HERITAGE OAKS OF DIABLO



Diablo's Treasures The Historic Homes & Heritage Oaks of Diablo

**By the Diablo Historic Preservation Committee
of the Diablo Property Owners' Association**

Dedication

This book is lovingly and gratefully dedicated to Lara Shepherd, Co-Chair of our Publishing Committee, without whose joyous energy, contagious enthusiasm and undaunted optimism it might not have survived. Lara's tragic and untimely death in an airplane crash with her husband on August 5, 2018, left the entire community of Diablo in a state of shock, sorrow and disbelief.



**Scott and Lara Shepherd
with son Roark and daughter Ava**

An Invitation

Come stroll with us through Diablo's Treasures--our historic homes and buildings and majestic Heritage Oaks. Over eighty volunteers who love Diablo and its history have contributed their time, energy and enthusiasm to compile these stories by writing about, researching, recalling and photographing each one. When stories conflict, we have tried to double check the facts and make them as historically accurate as possible, but we make no claim to perfect consistency. Depending on the contributors to each story, they vary in content, length, style, punctuation and grammar. They form a personality-driven narrative arc, which we hope you will enjoy.

Much more is known about some houses than about others, but we have relied heavily upon and are extremely grateful for the research, writing, enthusiasm and leadership of Jim Stone, Arnold Blackmur, Roberta Seabury, Beverly Gilbert, Becky Sedrel and David Mackesey. They have been our inspiration.

The Diablo Historic Preservation Committee
Diablo Property Owners' Association
Post Office Box 215
Diablo, CA 94528

Mission Statement

- We celebrate Diablo's rich history, architecture and traditions.
- We seek to educate and inform in order to deepen the understanding and appreciation of our unique community.
- We treasure Diablo's rural, tree-studded, park-like setting and its historic sites, and we promote their preservation, restoration and enhancement.



Roberta Seabury



David Mackesey



Beverly Gilbert



Becky Sedrel



Jim Stone



Arnold Blackmur

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With Tremendous Gratitude to
Our Diablo Authors and DHPC Leaders

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Diablo's Treasures: The Historic Homes and Heritage Oaks of Diablo

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Diablo's Treasures
The Historic Homes
of Diablo



The History of Diablo's Treasures

Diablo was conceived by Robert Noble Burgess who bought the Oakwood Park Stock Farm from Louise Cook Boyd in 1912 with the dream of creating a summer recreational paradise within an easy commute distance to San Francisco, Oakland, Piedmont and Berkeley. To this end, the Mt. Diablo Park Club was established in 1914. Lots were sold, a golf course designed, a lake offered swimming and fishing, a stable housed horses, and a club offered three meals a day plus social activities for young and old. Families bought lots and built vacation homes nestled among majestic oaks, and Diablo did indeed become a summer paradise.

The historic homes and structures honored as “Diablo Treasures” in this directory date from the Railroad Ranch of the 1870s through Diablo’s early “Golden Era” that ended with the Depression of 1929. The sizes and styles of the homes range from lovely estates designed by noted architects to simple summer cottages that expanded as families grew and as they became permanent homes in the 1940s. Sleeping porches were common attributes that kept summer residents comfortable. Most houses had no heat and meals were served at the Country Club, so many homes had no kitchen. Over the years, lots have been divided, homes have been renovated or replaced, and lovely trees have fallen, but these 53 structures and the anecdotal stories of life in them live on through historic preservation.

On December 3, 2002, Diablo was designated a “Historic District” by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors in recognition of its unique and colorful history and its 61 historic homes and buildings. Each was officially recognized as a “Diablo Treasure” by the Diablo Historic Preservation Committee and given a commemorative bronze plaque.

Sadly, in the intervening 17 years, Diablo has lost 11 of these historic homes. However, the D.H.P.C. has discovered two additional historic homes and one additional historic building, leaving 48 “Diablo Treasure” homes and five other “Diablo Treasure” structures: the Diablo Country Club, the Diablo Golf Course, the Chalet, the Red Horse Apartments and the Diablo Post Office. It is our fervent hope that these treasures will be recognized and celebrated. Our goal is to encourage appreciation for and preservation of this special historic community for future generations.

Diablo's Treasures - 48 Historic Homes and 5 Historic Buildings***

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"Villa Valparaiso"
1699 Alameda Diablo
Original Owners: William Letts and Carrie Brown Oliver
Architect: Charles McCall
Spanish Colonial Mission Revival Style
Built in 1916

William Letts Oliver, a mining engineer who manufactured detonators for explosives, patterned this Mediterranean style villa at 1699 Alameda Diablo after homes he had known growing up in Valparaiso, Chile. Thus came the name "Villa Valparaiso." However, the house was simply called the "The Villa" by the large Oliver family who enjoyed their much-loved vacation home in Diablo for 26 years. Gina Hind Hodgson, great-granddaughter of William Letts and Carrie Brown Oliver, vividly remembers as a child hearing stories of the train rattling up the 17th fairway behind the villa on its way to Oakwood Station. They called it the "Toonerville Trolley." She also recalls that her great-grandmother was one of the few women listed in the Club's 1928 membership roster as both a member and a residence owner. Charles McCall, the architect of the home, was known for his Spanish Colonial Mission Revival houses on Russian Hill in San Francisco. The spacious, tile-roofed home features a bell tower, a central courtyard with covered porches, lovely gardens, and a large center fountain.



In 1942, WWII had broken out and gasoline to make the drive out to Diablo became scarce. All the young men had gone to war, so the Oliver family sold the home to Emil and Esther Hagstrom. They owned an independent grocery chain called Hagstrom's Food Stores, which was later acquired by Safeway. Mr. Hagstrom bought an additional six acres from the Club for use as a horse pasture. He also acquired an existing horse barn constructed for the original Railroad Ranch that was renamed the Oakwood Stock Farm in 1891 and made famous by its pacers, trotters and thoroughbred racing horses including *Diablo King*. Hagstrom had the barn disassembled and rebuilt on the Villa property in the 1940s. An avid horseman, Mr. Hagstrom would hitch his trotting horse to a carriage and tour Diablo on Sunday afternoons. A pergola near the barn marks the burial place of Mr. Hagstrom's favorite horse.

Masud and Maryam Mehran, founders of the Sunset Development Company, bought the property in 1957. Joined by their son Alex in 1977, they purchased a 585 acre portion of the Bishop Ranch in San Ramon and transformed an orchard into a vibrant business park. The Mehrans restored the home and barn over the years keeping the barn active with horses through the 1970s. Maryam added a magnificent rose garden just outside of the barn in the 1990s. They raised their family in the home and enjoy events for great grandchildren in the barn and rose garden celebrating four generations of the Mehran family living in Diablo.



"Friendly Oaks"
1700 Alameda Diablo
Original Owners: George C. and Anita Oliver Jensen
Architectural Style: English Cottage
Built in 1917

"Friendly Oaks," a lovely English Cottage style, grey shingle home, is part of the family compound established by William Letts and Carrie Brown Oliver, who built Villa Valparaiso across the street in 1916. The following year, the Olivers' younger daughter Anita Louise and her husband George C. Jensen, Oakland residents, nestled Friendly Oaks among four immense valley oaks.

As President of the Board of Managers and later Honorary Lifetime President, Anita Jensen was the driving force creating the modern Oakland Children's Hospital. George Jensen had significant ranching interests in northern California and was Diablo Country Club President in the 1920s. After her husband's death in 1928, Anita Jensen married George R. Lunn and sold "Friendly Oaks" to her brother Edwin Letts Oliver who managed the Oliver Filter Company. Edwin and his wife Minnie built a guest house with a roof matching that of the house and installed a swimming pool, which may have been the first residential pool in Diablo.

Upon the 1957 death of Edwin, Bill and Janet Cronin became the home's first, year-round residents. Fittingly, winterizing was a priority, and a master bedroom addition came next. Unfortunately, the dry-season watering accompanying new landscaping likely hastened the namesake oaks' demise. The Cronins with their four children became leaders of the community. Bill was the first President of the newly formed Diablo Community Service District from 1968 to 1974 and was famous for his humor as Diablo's swim meet announcer.

He also won the Diablo Country Club's Helfrich award in 1971 as "the member who has given unselfishly to make Diablo a better place to have fun." Janet was famous for her sparkling personality, artistic talents and elegant appearance well into her mid 90s. She loved living in her charming home built in 1917--the year she was born--for 56 years.

In 2013, Gary and Rochelle Rich became the proud owners of "Friendly Oaks." They extended the original home with a large front-gabled western addition in the same English Cottage architectural style while preserving the delightful street view of the original single-story cottage, which sports a steeply pitched roof and brick chimney. A distinctive front-porch roof guides visitors to the lovely original front door with a rounded top echoing the half-moon above, and multiple paned and mullioned casement windows punctuate the grey shingle facade. The Riches also remodeled the pool house and the guesthouse to better complement the home's architecture and opened up the street view with new landscaping, fencing, and a more prominent pedestrian entryway.



Inside the home, the Riches are preserving the original living room, which resembles a grand cabin in a ship. Perhaps a maritime affinity passed on by George Jensen's father, Captain J. Jensen of Encinal City, California, inspired the Jensens to choose that design. Other intriguing aspects of the home include three secret cupboards likely built to store liquor during Prohibition. The Riches knew about one of the cupboards when they moved in, but then discovered two more. Gary Rich wrote, "I guess that they wanted back-up during the Prohibition days! The hidden closets are so big that we could throw a party for all of the members in the Club and still have a lot of liquor left over!"

The Riches hope to rebuild a footbridge that was destroyed during a storm decades ago. The bridge will span the creek between the main property and its Diablo Road frontage, where steps to a vanished children's tree house still cling to an old oak, reminders of the laughing children that played there a century ago.



**The Edwin Bull Home
1717 Alameda Diablo
Original Owners: Edwin and Mabel Bull
Builder: Edwin Bull
Architectural Style: Dutch Colonial
Built in 1915**

Edwin Bull's handsome, traditional, two-story, Dutch Colonial home is believed to be the second home built in Diablo after Robert Noble Burgess bought the land and first envisioned establishing a new type of recreational community here in 1912. The first home, a small Arts and Crafts cottage built in 1914 at what is now 2116 Alameda Diablo, is gone.

Edwin Bull worked for R.N. Burgess's companies in several capacities. As manager of Villa Properties and a board member and secretary of the newly formed Mt. Diablo Park Club, he probably selected this ideal lot for himself on the 17th Fairway and built this lovely home for his family. A guest cottage originally served as a carriage house and butler's residence similar to the carriage house built for R.N. Burgess on the opposite side of the 17th fairway. Mr. Bull, an engineer, was famous for constructing the first road to the top of Mt Diablo. A Franklin car advertisement in the *Oakland Tribune* dated August 15th 1915 touts Ed Bull as part of a group of men who drove from the Inn in Diablo to the summit of Mt. Diablo in 25.5 minutes. If true, this must have been exciting!

Legend has it that during World War II, the house was used as a "rest and relaxation" spot for many Navy officers. On the second floor, adjacent to the sleeping porch, there was a huge "gang shower" with sheet metal walls. In the 1940s, the Bulls sold the home to the Stotts. Subsequent owners include Peter and Mary Knoedler (1970s), Kim and Linda Henrie, and Les and Jessica Serpa. The home was extensively renovated in 1984 and again in 1996 when the Henries added a garage in harmony with the original home. The house is shaded by four Heritage Oaks and several redwood trees.



"The Ladies 19th Hole"
Original Owners: Stuart and Harriet Hawley
1734 Alameda Diablo
Architectural Style: Arts and Crafts
Built in 1923

The Arts and Crafts style cottage at 1734 Alameda Diablo was built in 1923 for Stuart Hawley. His son Stuart Hawley, Jr., was one of California's foremost golfers in the 1930s. The summer cottage was originally built on two acres. However, because most of Diablo's summer residents ate their meals at the Club, it did not have a kitchen. The old stone fireplace in the great room was built with rocks from Yosemite.

The home was known for terrific parties. In the 1920s, it served as the "19th Hole" for the ladies. Although women were officially allowed and welcomed at the Club beginning on day one, women were not allowed in the "Men's Lounge" and often congregated at this home and at the Gingham Cottage to socialize. It is said that the original great room floor was pock marked by cleats, evidence that the cottage "was a place to relax after golf, have a drink during Prohibition--1919 to 1933--and play a card game before going for a swim," said the home's subsequent owner Brenda Markstein.

The Hawleys were succeeded by Chester and Mary Eschen for 25 years. They were followed by Ron and Jennifer Cronin Beardslee for five years. Ron Beardslee commissioned the distinctive hand-laid cobblestone driveway. In 1980, Rey and Kathy Johnson bought and extensively remodeled the home adding a two-story guesthouse with clear grain fir ceiling and walls to match the original walls of the living room. Bobby and Brenda Markstein bought the home in 1987 and also engaged in substantial remodeling. In 2017, Michael Cobler, founder of Togo's Sandwiches, acquired the home formerly known as "The Ladies 19th Hole."



**"Green Shutters"
1765 Alameda Diablo
Original Owner: Frank Leach Jr.
Architect: William Raymond Yelland
Architectural Style: French Normandy
Built in 1927**

In 1916, Frank Leach Jr. purchased 1765 Alameda Diablo and two adjacent lots and hired Architect William Raymond Yelland of Oakland to design a home. Yelland was known for whimsical, storybook design inspired by the curved rooflines and dormers that he observed while stationed in France during WWI. He also designed the Montclair Fire Station and homes in the Thornberg Village area in Berkeley. Yelland designed the house with steeply pitched curved rooflines, dormers, owl shutters, lapwood siding made of redwood and two central chimneys. One of the chimneys goes to the basement and served as an oil-burning furnace until later converted to gas. The house was also designed so that every room had a garden view.

When Frank Leach Jr. retired from Pacific Gas & Electric, he lined the driveway of his 1927 home with discarded lanterns and had them electrified. As an avid gardener, he designed the ponds and pathways on the property including the large, fish-shaped pond in the front and a smaller pond in the loggia. The many plants and bulbs he planted have multiplied over the years. Frank was also responsible for the original landscape design at the Mt. Diablo Country Club.

Frank's father, Frank Leach, Sr., was a Charter Member of the Mt. Diablo Park Club. President Theodore Roosevelt, who deemed him a hero when he played a pivotal role protecting the Mint from the fires after the 1906 earthquake, appointed him Director of the Federal Mint in 1907. Frank Sr. also was instrumental in producing the Double Eagle \$20 gold piece in 1908 and the Victor D. Brenner Lincoln Head Penny inscribed with the words "In God We Trust" in 1909. Bob and Barbara Beratta purchased the home in 1972, updated the kitchen and bathrooms and have restored various amenities and gardens throughout the property.



"Miraflores"
1833 Alameda Diablo
Original owner: Hubert & Elizabeth Hunt
Architect: Legend and Design suggest Bernard Maybeck
Architect for 1986 Additions: George Swallow
Architectural Style: Craftsman
Built in 1921

Diablo legend holds that sketches drawn on a napkin by renowned Bay Area Arts and Crafts architect Bernard Maybeck inspired Miraflores' design. Although that legend remains unproven, there is no doubt that Miraflores reflects Maybeck's distinctive twist on Arts and Crafts shingled wood construction as evidenced by his signature residential commissions in San Francisco, Oakland and his hometown of Berkeley. Among Maybeck's renowned non-residential commissions are the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco and Berkeley's First Church of Christ, Scientist called by some the most significant ecclesiastical building in the United States.

Hubert and Elizabeth Hunt of Piedmont built Miraflores as a summer residence in 1921. Elizabeth's love of flowers inspired the house's Spanish name, which means "look at the flowers." Originally, Miraflores encompassed three lots, which were later subdivided, making the shingled guest cottage to the west of the main house a separate parcel at 1815 Alameda Diablo. It is likely that Miraflores' main house and its guest cottage were originally brown shingled, but after the subdivision, Miraflores was painted creamy white. In his Craftsman shingled wood homes, Maybeck typically favored unstained, unpainted wood shingles, which weathered in time to a soft brown or gray.



Miraflores has many distinctive features inside and outside that reflect Maybeck's mature architectural style. The most noticeable and distinctive are the trellises, supported by prominent corbels (architectural brackets) that surround the home's roof, creating visually attractive eaves that cast intriguing shadow lines throughout the day. Maybeck believed that a house without eaves is like a hat without a brim. Other Maybeck features are the street-facing open porch defined by the two street-facing wings of the home, and the eastern-facing entry porch bounded by two wings of the home and given special prominence due to the two Doric columns that support its trellised roof. Casement windows, sometimes grouped three together, are another Maybeck hallmark. In the interior, an unusual inglenook fireplace with lovely tiles is another notable Maybeck feature in the spacious living room. Other original buildings include a one-bedroom guest cottage. At some point, a dovecote, a potting shed, and a beautiful grape arbor were added.

In 1931, Herbert Gray Hills of Hills Brothers Coffee purchased Miraflores. He knew the house well. Hubert Hunt's daughter married Herbert Hills's cousin, Reuben, and the combined families gathered often at Miraflores in the 1920s. Hills was very prominent in the affairs of Diablo Country Club for two decades. From 1945 until 1986, Frank and Margaret Helfrich called Miraflores home. When George and Shirley Hare purchased Miraflores in 1986, they began extensive restoration and remodeling. "Living at Miraflores was like a dream come true" says Shirley. Under the direction of architect George Swallow, the Hares added an architecturally compatible second story bedroom suite, new kitchen, pantry and laundry. The former kitchen became a family room, and the former family room became a dining room. The unusual brocaded board and batten paneling, plate rails and cathedral ceiling in the dining room were added to match the original treatment in the living room and library. The Hares also added a full kitchen to the guest cottage and a shower to its bathroom, which already contained a Clawfoot tub. The street-facing open porch created a beautiful tableau for the Hares' architect son Eric to be married, and the inviting front yard served as a guest seating area and the reception venue.

In 1992, the Hares left the Bay Area and sold Miraflores to Sam and Mary Mills. Sam and Mary treasured Miraflores, raising their son and daughter there. The Mills added an architecturally-matching artist's studio for Sam, an avid painter. Sam was active in the Diablo Historic Preservation Committee and produced and directed a video about Diablo called "Winds of Change." He also wrote extensively about Diablo's history as a center for equestrian pursuits. Caroline Cella, a young neighbor up the street, remembers the Mills kindly allowing her and one of her Diablo friends to collect dove eggs from the Mills' dovecote.

Steve and Vanessa Capelli became Miraflores newest owners in 2010. They and their two daughters continue the tradition of loving care for their Diablo Treasure.



"Sister Cottage"
1842 Alameda Diablo
Original Owners: Judge Henry A. and Susan Morse Melvin
Architectural Style: English Cottage
Built in 1917

This English Cottage style home was built in 1917 as one of two "Twin" or "Sister" Cottages as the locals describe them. Susan Louise Morse Melvin and her husband, California Supreme Court Associate Justice Henry A. Melvin from Oakland built this summer cottage. Mrs. Melvin's sister, Mrs. Jenkin Bevan John, and her husband built the "twin" cottage next door.

The original cottages were mirror images of each other, and from the street, the mirror-image sections can still be discerned. Befitting the sisters' close relationship, a red brick terrace connected a pergola to a shared teahouse midway between the homes, and the front doors faced each other so that the sisters could stand at their doors and easily communicate. The home has cedar shake siding, an intersecting gable roof and decoratively latticed windows that are wood sash painted white. There is a rock fireplace in the living room, and French doors open to decks and gardens.

One of the most memorable occupants of the home was Lou Armstrong, who was considered an unofficial Diablo Country Club hostess because she worked tirelessly to organize parties and events while the Club was having financial difficulties in the 1950s and 60s. When she died in 1966, the Club and Lou's many friends built a flagstone platform and drinking fountain with a memorial plaque at the first tee to ensure that Lucille Armstrong would be remembered by future generations of Club members.

Dar and Ellie Datwyler bought the home in 1969 and loved living there with their children for over twenty years. They added extra bedrooms and an updated kitchen in the same style as the original building, with a portion of the house built over Green Valley Creek. Subsequent owners turned the flat, detached garage into a two-story building with additional living space above the garage while retaining the original style and materials. Edward and Rowena Garon bought the home in 1990, and present owners, Tom and Kay Weatherford, have owned this lovely home since 2007.



**"Twin Creeks"
1850 Alameda Diablo
Original Owners: Jenkin and Ruth Morse Bevan John
Architectural Style: English Cottage
Built in 1917**

Twin Creeks is one of two neighboring creek-side homes that locals call “The Twins” or the “Sister Houses.” As their monikers suggest, the homes look alike: both are in the English Cottage style with brown shingle exterior cladding punctuated with the same pleasing arrangement of paned windows. Prior to additions to both homes, their geometric massing formed a symmetrical unit with each home the mirror image of the other. From the street, the mirror image sections can still be discerned. The names also hint at the relationship of the Oakland residents who built the homes: Mrs. Jenkin Bevan John, formerly Miss Ruth C. Morse, and her husband built Twin Creeks in 1917. Her sister, Susan Louise Morse Melvin and her husband, California Supreme Court Associate Justice Henry A. Melvin, built the other Sister House.

Completing their mirror images in landscaping, each of the Sister Houses had a red brick terrace. Befitting the sisters’ close relationship, each terrace was connected by a pergola to a shared teahouse midway between the homes. A small portion of Twin Creeks’ brick terrace remains, hinting at the home’s fascinating past.

A substantial 1970 addition to Twin Creeks was a study in sensitive renovation. Importantly, the picturesque streetscape was kept very close to the original by continuing existing roof lines and pitches. New cedar shingles were hand-cut and painted to match the old. The front door, unique paned windows, rock chimney, and interior oak floors were preserved as testaments to the craftsmanship of former times. Since 1996, Ted and Barbara Barstad have lovingly preserved Twin Creeks’ unique architecture, a jewel for all to behold.



"Los Olivos"
1872 Alameda Diablo
Original Owner: Cecil and Marilyn Putnam
Architectural Style: Spanish Revival
Built in 1926

Cecil Putnam built "Los Olivos" in 1926. Legend has it that Putnam won the lot at 1872 Alameda Diablo in a golf match with his next-door neighbor H. C. Macaulay who lived at 1884 Alameda Diablo. Putnam was a retired Army Colonel and obviously a very good golfer! He owned the Warner Corset Company in San Francisco. The company was wiped out in the 1906 Earthquake, and he relocated the business to Oakland. His golfing buddy neighbor also owned a business, the Macaulay Foundry, which was also wiped out by the 1906 Earthquake and prompted a move across the bay to Berkeley.

The two-story, white stucco, Spanish-style home with red tile roof and two small balconies is set back among lovely trees along Green Valley Creek and accessed by an inviting footbridge and a wooden auto bridge. Unlike most of the summer cottages at the time, the house was constructed as a year-round residence. It included a basement, which was also quite unusual for Diablo. The fireplace is original to the house, and some of the windows probably are as well. The name "Los Olivos" originated from the many olive trees that Putnam planted on the front of the property (which have since been removed).

In 1963, Bob and Jackie Schab became the second owners after purchasing the home from Cecil Putnam's son. They did extensive renovating during their 15 years of ownership. Yoush Vadia, in the U.S. on a research grant from Arco, bought the home in 1979, retrofitted the basement and renovated the house extensively again in the 1980s. Earl Purcell became the subsequent owner, and then sold the home to current owners John and Anne Smith in 1996.



“Fern Banks”
1884 Alameda Diablo
Original Owner: H. C. Macaulay
Architectural Style: Arts and Crafts
Built in 1917

"Fern Banks" is another wonderful example of Diablo's Arts and Crafts architecture. Sighting this charming, barn-red cottage with its bright white trim nestled into a half acre of wooded property is always a delightful moment when driving into Diablo. The house was built as a summer home for H. C. Macaulay, who owned the Macaulay Foundry in Berkeley. Like most of the original cottages, it did not have a kitchen as most vacationers and residents intended to take their meals at the Club. The wood-framed, single-story cottage sits on a brick foundation, and the front elevation has changed little since it was constructed in 1917.

Dr. John Sander of the U.S. Navy leased the home when he was based at Camp Shoemaker near Pleasanton during WWII. His wife and two children remained in Diablo during his deployment in the Pacific, so the Sander family became an integral part of Diablo even though they knew they would be on their way back to Michigan as soon as Dad returned after the war. The wartime residents took all their meals at Diablo Country Club as Diablo's vacationers had done in peacetime.

After WWII, William Knowland, U.S. Senator from California from 1945 to 1959, Senate Majority Leader during the Eisenhower years and owner of the *Oakland Tribune*, summered here. There were probably many lively and important discussions in the Fern Banks living room at that time.

Eva Pearson owned the home from 1945 to 1962. The home's third owners, Bill and Mary Lynn Peck added a kitchen and garage while retaining the home's historic features. The graceful bridge was designed by Mary Lynn, who has now resided in Diablo for 57 years, and it was built by her contractor husband, Bill. The arched railings of the welcoming bridge complete the idyllic scene.



"Green Gables"
1896 Alameda Diablo
Original Owners: Helen and Edwin Lee Cooper
Architectural Style: Shingle
Built in 1917

Edwin Lee Cooper, first manager of the Club and Postmaster from 1918 to 1940, and his wife, Helen, Postmistress from 1940 until 1955, built this home in 1917. Robert Burgess's selling brochure for Mt. Diablo Park Villas features a photo of the home, which was one of the first six homes and one of the few built for year-round use.

The home is a Shingle style with the characteristic wood shingle siding and features a large hipped roof. The house retains its original 1917 symmetrical facade with a shed dormer flanked by two matching green gables emerging from the front hip. The gables inspired the Coopers' name for their home: "Green Gables." Punctuating the façade are twin sets of large casement pane windows on the first floor, one set of smaller casement pane windows in the dormer, and small pane casement windows in each gable. A unique front porch is defined by twin Doric columns that support a round flat roof extending forward from the house.

Bill and Phyllis Koch were the home's second owners until selling in 1975. Their daughter, Sylvia Koch Kennett, had her wedding in the front yard. About 1980, new owners Roger and Michael Bouilly greatly expanded the house's size but were meticulous in keeping the Shingle style and preserving the original front façade. Roger was a land developer and Michael an interior designer. They installed antique wrought iron fencing and gates matching those in Oakland's Rose Garden and extended the walkways with used bricks from San Francisco. A pool, decking and a vintage playhouse rounded out their vision for the property.



Brian and Maryann Cella bought "Green Gables" in 1991. In harmony with the existing architecture, they have undertaken extensive work: adding a car bridge with a hand-forged wrought-iron gate matching the existing footbridge gate; constructing a long paved driveway linking the new bridge to their two-car garage addition behind the house; rebuilding the footbridge; performing major structural work to support their lovingly restored one-car garage in front on Alameda Diablo, and partially building out the attic into a fifth bedroom and fourth bathroom. Most recently, the Cellas renovated the interior of the original 1917 back garage as a home office.

The Cellas and their three children and many dogs have loved living at "Green Gables." While Brian was busy with his international law practice, Maryann used her law degree as a dedicated community volunteer. She served as Chairperson of the Diablo Municipal Advisory Council for six years and was named Citizen of the Year by the DPOA in 2005. The Cellas and the prior owners have enjoyed hosting many community events at "Green Gables" such as Diablo community Christmas caroling, Halloween trick-or-treating and a Diablo Women's Garden Club Tour.

No discussion of this home would be complete without mentioning the beautiful grounds. Fifteen large valley and coast live oaks, mature olives, elms, ashes, toyon, palms, buckeyes and a spectacular western redbud enhance and shade the property. These trees have held many swings and welcomed countless climbing children. The East Branch of Green Valley Creek flows soothingly under the twin bridges throughout the year; ducklings swim in the late spring; deer and raccoons come to drink; even egrets occasionally land. In the tradition of Huck Finn, the Cella children used to float on the creek atop a small, handmade pontoon boat using an old broomstick as an oar.





**"Hacienda de las Palmas"
1924 Alameda Diablo
Original Owners: Robert and Marie Bell
Architectural Style: Mexican Hacienda
Built in 1949**

**Location of "Oakwood Station"
Established in 1916**

The land at 1924 Alameda Diablo has been at the center of the community of Diablo since its beginning as the Railroad Ranch in 1874. This location, situated on a rise between Dan Cook Creek and Green Valley Creek, was the home to a large number of native valley oaks. The grandest of these stately oak trees was affectionately called "El Padre." The tree was a spectacular sight with sprawling limbs that provided cool shade for over two centuries.

In the spring of 1917, Mt. Diablo Park Estates founder Robert Noble Burgess planted twenty Canary Island date palms on the property. Eleven were used to form a green belt between the Club Inn and the new Oakland, Antioch and Eastern Electric Railway stop appropriately named "Oakwood Station" where passengers detrained beneath the palms and two giant oak trees upon their arrival in Diablo from 1916 until 1924. The other nine palms were planted on the same line forming a rectangle creating natural walls of the club's outdoor dance pavilion, which by viewing the existing palms, can still be vividly imagined on the site.



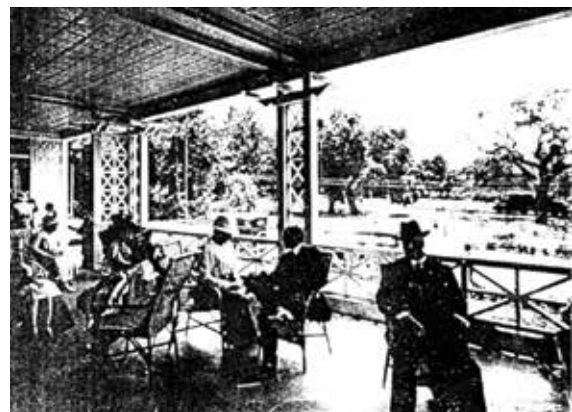
In 1949, Diablo Country Club owner Larry Curtola gifted this land to his in-laws, Robert and Marie Bell, who built a home in the Mexican Hacienda style. They named it “Hacienda de las Palmas,” which means “Estate of the Palms.” The twenty palms planted by Burgess, some standing over 75 feet tall, were preserved by the Curtolas to enhance the newly built home.

The Spanish-style hacienda weaves its way between the palms, which provide both shade and a unique visual canopy for the home. The roof features a complete field of over 15,000 one-hundred-year-old, handmade, Mexican clay tiles. The home was updated and expanded in 2011 by owners David and Lynda Mackesey.

The adjacent pasture features a stable that during the 25 years the home was owned by Bill and Jeanne Porter was the home of two of Diablo's favorite horses, Pecos and Orbit. Diablo children and grandchildren delighted in bringing apples and carrots for the friendly pair. A ceremonial photo taken of them with the community in 2006 hangs inside the Diablo Country Club.



Train passengers arriving in Diablo in 1916



View of train from veranda of Diablo Inn



"Oakwood"
1925 Alameda Diablo
Original Owner: General David and Ellen Colton
Architectural Style: Italianate
Built in 1876

"Oakwood" was constructed in 1876 by The Western Development Company, an entity wholly owned by a group of five of the most influential businessmen in America: Leland Stanford, Collis Huntington, Charles Crocker, Mark Hopkins and General David Douty Colton.

In 1877, General Colton purchased the four-thousand-acre property from his partners to use as a summer home for his family. Upon Colton's untimely death in 1878, the home passed to his daughter, Carrie Colton Cook, and her husband Dan Cook. When Dan passed in 1883, it was sold to Dan's brother Seth Cook. The ranch was known for fine racing and trotting horses and prize-winning livestock.

In 1889, the ranch passed to a niece, Louise Cook Boyd, who improved upon the property and named it "Oakwood Park." She sold the ranch to Robert Noble Burgess in 1912. In 1914, Burgess created the Mt. Diablo Park Club and renovated the Oakwood home to become the Club Inn. The Inn included a restaurant named The Tap Room, an enclosed veranda and a covered walkway from the second floor over the creek to the colonnade at the back of The Chalet. The Club Inn welcomed visitors to Diablo for 34 years, and many old timers fondly remember dining there and dancing on the veranda on warm summer evenings. In 1948, the Curtola family purchased Diablo Country Club and converted the Club Inn back to a private residence for themselves. Current owners Chris and Christina Harney have faithfully preserved this landmark home and graciously share it with the community in the true spirit of Diablo.

"Oakwood" is a three-story Italianate house with a brick exterior on the first floor and wood shiplap along the second floor and attic. Its ornate fretwork under the eaves is repeated under the porch. The decorative brackets under the eaves of the attic and front porches are offset by the austere square utilitarian shape of the structure softened with porches. The first story porch originally wrapped around three sides of the home but now includes only two. Most of the double hung windows are original although some may have been later additions.



**"Nido de Angeles"
2060 Alameda Diablo
Original Owner: Walter P. Frick
Architectural Style: English Cottage
Built in 1926**

"Nido de Angeles," a beautiful English Cottage style home built in 1926, has had five owners. The original owner, Walter P. Frick, used the home as a summer residence until 1932 when he took up full time residency in Diablo. The original home was a white, single-story, shingled structure with a small apartment above a carport.

Walter Frick was a businessman dealing in land and lumber. He owned the 10,000 acre West Face and the top of Mt. Diablo which he later sold to the State of California helping to create Mt. Diablo State Park. In 1932, while running for re-election, President Herbert Hoover was reportedly entertained for dinner at the home.

George Chambers, the home's second owner, sold the home to Ralph and Bee Phillips in 1942 for \$14,000. In the 1960s, the Rubey family added second floor bedrooms and gables using matching materials and scaling them to be compatible with the original home. French doors lead to the gardens and pool, and the grounds feature a gazebo that reflects the design of the original windowed alcove in the living room. Nancy and Al Rubey were known for their wonderful garden parties and often invited guests to arrive in costume.

The home's current owners, Tim and Cathy Gonzalez, moved to Diablo in 1993 and named the home "Nido de Angeles" or "Nest of the Angels." Their son Tim is a co-holder of the Diablo Country Club course record of 62 strokes for eighteen holes. The Gonzalezes have preserved the charm and style of the property while enhancing the landscaping and modernizing the home's interior. Their family history in California dates back to 1814.



"Green Gates"
2067 Alameda Diablo
Original Owners: George C. and Morgenia Browne
Architectural Style: English Tudor
Built in 1925

"Green Gates" is an English Tudor style home that sits on the banks of Dan Cook Creek. It has a steeply pitched, gabled, wood-shingle roof. The initial owners, George C. and Morgenia Browne were early members of the Mt. Diablo Country Club. They purchased several adjacent lots and built several homes in Diablo in 1925. Their children inherited the property, subdivided one of the lots and sold "Green Gates" to Jack L. and Jessie Sichel in 1943.

Lieutenant Colonel Charles A. Butler and his wife Nell later lived in this home for 23 years. Butler was an avid horseman and served in both WWI and WWII. When he died, his wife gave the devil stamp he used on all of his correspondence to Diablo's Postmaster Bettye Johanson. Diablo's beloved postal clerk Sandy Patterson had the inspiration to incorporate the devil design into the commemorative postmark for the 75th anniversary of the Diablo Post Office in 1991.

Samuel E. and Jane E. Statler owned the home from 1968-1974; then Thomas R. and Evelyn Jackson owned it from 1974-1982. Evelyn served as an editor for the Diablo Country Club's newsletter, the "Inferno." Subsequent owners include Terry C. and Diane L. Whitney (1982 to 1987), Ravi and Rocki Lai (1987 to 2008) and Carl and Jan Cox (2008 to 2014). Scott Lawrence and Kent Johnson purchased the home in 2014. They lovingly restored the home and made additions to it honoring the Tudor design and streetscape, and registered the structure with the County as a historic home. The decorative half timbering and leaded glass windows are original. A prominent, living-room gable is further accented by a dovecote window within the gable and a large multi-paned window. Scott and Kent especially loved the unique barrel ceiling in the living room, the century-old fireplace and a little attic room that feels like a secret hideaway.

Brett and Lori Scallan bought the home in 2019. They love the unique historic aspects of Diablo and the closeness the residents have with one another. They are excited to be living in "Green Gates" and are committed to retaining its historic charm.



"Deer Haven"
2072 Alameda Diablo
Original Owner: Unknown
Architectural Style: English Cottage
Built in 1925

This small, white, shingled, one-story home is a charming example of Diablo's original summer cottages. It has had very few alterations since it was constructed in the mid 1920s. Like several of the neighboring homes, it has a steeply gabled, shingled roof and a tall brick chimney that extends above it. Tall, slender, mullioned windows; floor-to-ceiling French doors that open onto gardens, and a small, bricked porch with steps leading to the front door complete the idyllic scene.

Little is known about the original owners, but the design elements of the home are very similar to the cottage next door at 2060 Alameda Diablo, which was originally owned by Walter P. Frick, an influential Diablo ranch landowner. The two houses to the east, 2084 and 2100 Alameda Diablo, also have similar characteristics. All four cottage-style homes may have been designed and built by the same person.

The home was most likely winterized in the late 1940s when many people began converting their summer cottages to year-round homes. The kitchen and garage were carefully remodeled and updated with compatible materials and scale. Nannette Rand moved into the home in 1972 and has lived there for forty-seven years. Her husband, Stan Gerry, who passed away in 2014 at age 96, was a Bomber Pilot in World War II and maintained his alertness and keen sense of humor to the end. The house is surrounded by a low, white, picket fence, which encloses large trees, lawns and informal gardens but has not prevented the house from being aptly named "Deer Haven."



"Home Again"
Original Name: "Larklea"
2084 Alameda Diablo
Original Owners: Mr. & Mrs. Abe P. Leach
Architectural Style: English Cottage
Built in the 1920s

This soft-blue shingled cottage with the striking red door was built in the 1920s as a summer home for Abe P. Leach of Oakland. It was originally called "Larklea" for a "lark" songbird and "lea" meaning an open area of grassy land. Abe Leach was the son of Frank Leach, Sr., Director of the U.S. Mint in San Francisco and a Charter Member of the Mt. Diablo Park Club. Frank and his sons Frank, Jr., and Abe were one of the first multi-generational families to become members of the Club, and both sons built homes in Diablo. Abe was an attorney for the city of Oakland and Chairman of the Boy Scouts of Oakland. The Oakland Tribune's society pages featured the wedding of his son Abe P. Leach, Jr., to Helen Marie McGowan in a garden ceremony at the Diablo home in April 1931.

The cottage is one of four adjoining "sister" homes--2060, 2072, 2084, 2100 Alameda Diablo--all originally done in the English Cottage style. It has a steeply pitched gabled roof and circular steps leading to a bricked front porch with white posts and lintels. Three tall, slender, multi-paned windows with tall shutters accent the front of the home. More mullioned windows, a large bay window in the kitchen and in the dining room frame views of the expansive back yard and very old wisteria vines. There have been no major alterations to the delightful home beyond adding a kitchen and screened-in porch.

Doris and Alexander Stripeika bought the brown-shingled cottage in 1969, and Doris lived there until 2001 when Patricia Polizzi purchased the home. Blake and Lisa (Del Arroz) Field--both raised in Diablo--bought the home in 2017, refreshed the garden, painted the cottage a lovely soft blue and happily named it "Home Again."



**"Storybook Cottage"
2100 Alameda Diablo
Original Owner: Gump Family Daughter
Architectural Style: English Cottage
Built in the early 1920s**

A hand-hewn stick fence with scalloped design and an original grape arbor greet visitors to this beautiful, storybook cottage. The turret-bay entry, floor-to-ceiling French doors and windows, and the inglenook fireplace are highlights of the home. The front dining room (formerly the kitchen) and the living room retain the original windows and solid oak floors. Having been converted into a three-car garage, the carriage barn still stands in the rear of the property, and the original grape arbor still produces fruit.

This beautifully maintained and landscaped cottage radiates the original spirit and charm of old Diablo. It was built in the early 1920s along with three, one-story English cottages on adjacent properties at 2084, 2072 and 2060 Alameda Diablo. Little is known about the architect or builder, but a daughter of the Gump's department store family of San Francisco owned the house at one time, and her twin sister owned another Diablo cottage--now gone--that was located at 2116 Alameda Diablo.

Additions made over the years by a series of subsequent owners adhere beautifully to the traditional architectural style of the original cottage. The Taylor family owned the property for nearly 40 years. Clay and Susan Allen renovated the house in the 1990s, adding 2,200 square feet to the rear of the ground floor and a second story with an attic. Current owners Tom and Roxanne Aitchison bought the home in 2012 and added a trophy room and office to the east side of the ground floor.

When Diablo's Historic Preservation Committee hosted a visiting representative of the California State Historic Preservation Office, she commented that this home was one of Diablo's most interesting historic cottages, and the home was featured in *Diablo Magazine* in 2011.



"Summer House"
2121 Alameda Diablo
Original Owners: Dr. Charles L. and Wilhelmina Morey
Architectural Style: Colonial Revival
Built in 1920

This large, lovely, welcoming home was built in 1920 as a vacation home. It sits nestled back from Alameda Diablo in a heavily wooded, creek-side location and is approached by a long, ivy-covered bridge, which invites visitors to cross over Dan Cook Creek and climb the steps to a large, old-fashioned, covered porch. The spacious, two-story, brick and redwood shiplap-sided house has fifteen rooms, six bedrooms, four bathrooms, a wonderful upstairs playroom, many multi-paned, true-divided, double-hung windows and a lovely pool in the adjoining garden.

The lot was originally owned by Oakland dentist Dr. Charles L. Morey. He purchased it together with the three adjoining lots along the creek before building his own Craftsman style home next door at 2133 Alameda Diablo in 1916. His granddaughter Kate Alexander remembers being told that he built houses on all four of his lots, but the original owner and resident of this home is not known. Kate does remember that Paul and Alice Wendt and their children Susan and Pete owned the home in the 40s and 50s when she summured there. Then came the Grandquists followed by Stan and Carole Thomas and their children, Becky, Judy, Eric and Missy, who loved the home and Diablo from 1966 to 1979. Dr. David Fisher and his wife Ellen owned the home from 1979 until 1999, and current owners Carl and Jan Cox, who bought "Summer House" in 1999, have also loved living there for twenty years.

The rear cottage on this property pre-dates the larger main house. The building, adorned by an exquisitely carved antique wooden horse head, is now used as a lovely garage with a charming guest apartment above that is dedicated to the history of the structure. Built in 1917, or perhaps even earlier, it's among the oldest existing buildings in Diablo.

The original exterior of the home has been little altered since its construction in 1920. Current owner Carl Cox wrote this remarkable story about how he and his wife Jan saved their historic home. It should be an inspiration to all historic preservationists.

“We saved the home. We could not tear it down.”

By Carl Cox concerning his Diablo Treasure Home “Summer House”

Located at 2121 Alameda Diablo in Diablo, California

When my wife Jan and I purchased the home in 1999, it was described in the listing as a tear down. The old plaster walls were cracking badly; the electrical was knob and tube, the plumbing galvanized. Carpet had been glued to the fir floor upstairs. The master bath was in an interior room with no windows and with a small, step-down tub. The laundry was in the kitchen. The foundation had a one-inch slope in the master bedroom. The roof was shot. There was no air conditioning. The walking bridge was unstable. The pool was cracked and leaking. I could go on and on!

Nonetheless, we saved the home. We could not tear it down. We restored the plaster walls in their original manner, saved all of the original hardwood floors and saved all of the windows by leaving the foundation uneven. We repaired and resurfaced the 50-year-old pool, and restored the walking bridge in its original style. We only added 150 square feet to the house for a master bath.

Being a summer home built in 1920, the home had very large wrap-around porches on both floors. The porches extended across the entire 40 feet of the front side of the house and 21 feet on the east side of the home: 549 square feet on each floor—a total of 1098 square feet. We enclosed all these spaces except the existing 170 square-foot porch—creating an entry room and dining room downstairs. Upstairs, the enclosure enlarged the gathering room and added a “shingle” bedroom. The exterior walls of the bedroom were left and are now the interior shingle walls. The upstairs floor was never leveled and still has a 1” slope from the porch conversion.

We were told the guesthouse was built first in 1917, perhaps even earlier. It has its own address, 2127, and its own APN for taxes. We also restored it, keeping the old fir floors and old wavy windows. Many years ago, it too had a large north porch, which was at some point converted to a kitchen. It too had a significant slope. We restored it all, changing nothing. Not even the linoleum countertop.

The house has three lots—one with the main house, one with the pool, and one with the guesthouse—and an old horse stall. The horses were fenced at the back of the property, which borders Casa Nuestra. Not wanting horses, we converted the horse building/stall to a potting shed. It still has the exact same dimensions, floors and wall. A very old horseshoe was found, and now is above the door.



"Iris Banks"
2133 Alameda Diablo
Original Owners: Dr. Charles & Wilhelmina Koenig Morey
Architectural Style: Craftsman
Built in 1916

Dr. Charles L. Morey and his wife Wilhelmina Koenig Morey purchased four adjoining creek-side lots early in the development of Mt. Diablo Park Estates. In 1916, they built a sturdy bridge across Dan Cook Creek to access them and then built this delightful Craftsman style home at 2133 Alameda Diablo. Dr. Morey was a Dentist in Oakland, and in the beginning, the family came out to Diablo for weekends and summers "in the country." At that time, all property owners were members of the Club and none of the cottages had kitchens because everyone ate at the Club. In 1918, the Moreys moved permanently to Diablo from Oakland, and the first thing they did was add a kitchen! However, they still had no central heat or air conditioning.

The Moreys loved living in Diablo. The houses had names, and everyone knew everyone. Mail came to the post office located in the large horse barn on Avenida Nueva and was addressed only to the person's name, Diablo, California. During WWII, the Moreys were one of only 13 families living in Diablo year-round, and when Mrs. Morey moved to Orinda in 1971 at age 95, she had been a permanent resident of Diablo for fifty-three years, which was a record. Wilhelmina was a founding member of Diablo's Garden Club, and it was her beautiful garden and the hundreds of iris along the creek that inspired the house name "Iris Banks." The Moreys' son planted their now giant redwood trees after bringing the saplings from Fort Bragg.

Many of the home's original Craftsman features have been carefully preserved: the lovely Craftsman style porch, porch ceiling, railings and window framing, brick fireplace, hallway with built-in cabinets, even the phone booth! In the back yard Wilhelmina planted wisteria on a grape arbor pergola, which still blooms today.

(The information above is from current owner Kathy Kennedy's interview with Kathleen Morey Alexander, granddaughter of Charles and Wilhelmina Morey with whom she lived as a child. Kathleen wrote, "In Diablo, I learned to swim, play tennis, play golf and ride a horse. My childhood in Diablo was idyllic.")



**"Cottage Mac"
2139 Alameda Diablo
Original Owners: Dr. Charles and Wilhelmina Koenig Morey
Architect: Maybeck School
Architectural Style: Arts & Crafts Cottage
Built in 1920**

This Arts and Crafts style cottage was built by Oakland dentist Dr. Charles L. Morey in 1920. He and his wife Wilhelmina purchased four adjoining lots along Dan Cook Creek during the early development of Diablo, added a car bridge across the creek and built a home for themselves in 1916. Dr. Morey then built homes on this and his adjoining lots creating a treasure trove of Arts and Crafts cottages in a sylvan setting. All four of these delightful homes have been lovingly preserved.

Dr. Roderic O'Connor, Mt. Diablo Country Club member and residence owner in 1928, is thought to be the original resident owner, and legend has it that George "Gabby" Hayes, a famous western-movie sidekick, was a frequent guest at the cottage between 1928-1935. Subsequent owners include the Cairnes, Starr Hornby and Peter Donley (1967-1995) families; Christian and Lianne Nall (1996-2003), Chris and Madeline Liddicoat (2003-2016), and current owners Paul and Sia McDonald.

Georgan Donley Behrhorst fondly remembers living there with her family for over twenty years in the 70s and 80s. They pastured their three horses in their large backyard and rode frequently in and around Diablo as did their neighbors. Georgan also loved going on the annual "Double D" (Danville/Diablo Junior Horsemen) ride up Mt. Diablo with her sons, Peter, Clark and Patrick, and other Diablo families.

The front of this charming cottage--despite extensive interior remodeling and major additions to the rear--remains much the same as it appeared in the twenties. Beneath a gently sloping bungalow roof with one central gable, there are tapered wood pillars and trios of elongated casement windows on each side of the wood-shingled home. Matching windows frame the front door with muntins separating the panes to create decorative rectangular designs typical of Maybeck.



**“Donna Linda”
2145 Alameda Diablo
Original Owners: Dr. Charles & Wilhelmina K. Morey
Architect: Maybeck School
Architectural Style: Arts and Crafts Bungalow
Built in 1918**

"Donna Linda" with its storybook bridge is one of Diablo's historic and architectural gems. It was built 101 years ago for Oakland dentist Charles E. Morey who also built the three adjoining summer cottages. Owners Lynn and Cindy Jansen believe the home was designed as a class project by students of Berkeley architect Bernard Maybeck, and many features of the home support this theory. The charming two-story bungalow has a gently sloping low-pitched triple-gabled asymmetrical roof; a shingled exterior, now painted ivory with white trim; stone steps leading to a pillared porch, and elongated mullioned windows and doors with a classic Arts and Crafts design. Muntins form rectangles in the corners of the panes of glass that let in maximum light and create a lovely indoor/outdoor effect inside the home and reveal views of Dan Cook Creek and a lovely wooded yard. A large stone fireplace is the central focus of the living room, and there are no hallways between adjoining rooms. Downstairs, an inglenook fireplace nook has facing windows on each side with benches below them. These features and the home's lovely placement among trees on a knoll all reflect the ideals of the Arts and Crafts movement.

When a large redwood tree fell and damaged part of the home this year, the Jansens turned the tragedy into a triumph. They transformed the damaged areas by modernizing the kitchen, opening a large window from the kitchen to an expanded deck and adding outdoor seating. Instead of replacing their damaged fencing and gate, they gently landscaped the front yard, added a beloved antique bronze dog named "Perfect" and greatly enhanced and opened up the view of their lovely home.

Former owners include Dr. Joseph Baldwin DeGolyer and his wife Annie Elizabeth Chambers of Berkeley (1930s), the Arrowsmiths (1940s) and Tom and Nancy Suiter (1987-1996) who renovated the home in 1990.



**The “Donna Linda” Bridge
2145 Alameda Diablo
Architect: Will G. Corlett
Architectural Style: Arts and Crafts
Built in 1928**

A lovely covered footbridge spanning Dan Cook Creek provides access to the Jansen home from Alameda Diablo. The “Donna Linda” bridge, a second smaller bridge and the home's quaint garage were designed in 1928 by Berkeley architect Will G. Corlett, who also designed and built a home for himself directly across the street at 2154 Alameda Diablo. Carved above the bridge are the words “Donna Linda” perhaps meaning “Beautiful Woman” or “Lovely Donna.” But neighbors say the bridge is named for the two daughters of the original owners.

This old wooden bridge looks like a picture in a storybook. It is a beautiful example of the individually designed and handcrafted works of art that were integral components of many Arts and Crafts homes. It features a shingled roof, hand-carved curved wooden beams, brackets and supports, and picketed sides and gate.

In the thirties, Mrs. Annie Elizabeth De Golyer and her husband Joseph, owned “Donna Linda.” Her brother, George R. Chambers, and his wife owned a home across the street at 2060 Alameda Diablo. Their niece, Elizabeth Wright Freeman, whose parents also owned a summer home in Diablo at 2081 Casa Nuestra, loved vacationing in Diablo and visiting the summer homes of her aunts. She fondly remembered walking over the lovely “Donna Linda” bridge on warm summer evenings in the thirties to attend wonderful parties at the home of her Aunt Annie.

The walls of the small garage and the entrance to the “Donna Linda” bridge are made of stucco applied in a splashy curving style typical of the era. The garage was originally a considerably larger carriage house, but was modified and made smaller after a large tree fell on it. Yet, despite the changes that have been made to the home over the years, “Donna Linda” still epitomizes the ideals emphasized by the Arts and Crafts movement of the 1920s.



"Diablo Lair"
2154 Alameda Diablo
Original Owner: William G. Corlett
Architect: William G. Corlett
Architectural Style: Craftsman
Built in 1928

This craftsman-style summer cottage was designed by and built for Berkeley Architect William G. Corlett in 1928. Corlett studied with Julia Morgan under Bernard Maybeck at UC Berkeley. He was one of four esteemed architects who designed the California Memorial Stadium at Berkeley.

Corlett was known for his meticulously designed craftsmanship. He utilized random-length slats of teak from the Philippines for the wood floors inside and out, and the exterior wood shutters, custom-made in Philadelphia, are each uniquely carved with symbols representing scenes which can be seen on or from the property such as quail, acorns, oak leaves, crescent moon, etc. For his neighbor across the street at 2145 Alameda Diablo, Corlett designed the storybook-like, covered, "Donna Linda" footbridge and the charming, detached garage joined to that house by a smaller footbridge.

Uniquely, the subsequent owners of the Corlett home all studied at UC Berkeley, home of the Cal Bear mascot, which inspired the home's name "Diablo Lair." In 1952, John and Earlene Roberts purchased the home from Corlett, and John opened Green Valley Elementary School on Diablo Road as its first principal. The Roberts added the two-stall barn and paddock in the spacious backyard. In 1988, Rob & Deborah Scharnell purchased and extensively remodeled the home, taking care to preserve the historic architectural elements.



**“Gablewood”
2166 Alameda Diablo
Original Owner: William Dolges
Architectural Style: Rustic Colonial
Built in 1924**

The rustic Colonial Revival-Craftsman "Gablewood" was built for the Dolges family in 1924. The home is situated in a lushly wooded acre-and-one-half parcel at 2166 Alameda Diablo. The spectacular chalet-style living room, lovingly preserved, has redwood board-and-batten walls, an interior wood stairway with railed balcony and a rustic brick fireplace.

The late Beth Hearn, who lived in the nearby home her family built at 2043 Calle Los Callados, recalled hearing Herbert Hoover speak from the small interior balcony at the top of the stairs to the Contra Costa Women's Club when he was running for President of the United States in 1928.

In 1987, Elizabeth and David Birka-White bought the home from Peggy and Semmes Gordon, the owner and editor of the *Valley Pioneer* newspaper. The Gordons were delightful stalwarts of the community. Following in that tradition, Elizabeth became the editor of the *Devil's Advocate*, Diablo's quarterly newsletter published by the DPOA, and she has volunteered her talents to that role for thirty years.

In 1999, the Birka-Whites conducted an extensive renovation. Extraordinary effort was taken in order to maintain the historic living room and the historic ambiance of the home. The entire house was lifted and placed on blocks for many months, and a steel structure was placed around the redwood-vaulted living room to preserve the original structure. The fireplace was disassembled and rebuilt using the original bricks. Redwood was used for all the doors, windows, and trim. The floors are pine and fir, and lathe and plaster were used for all walls to retain the historic character of the house. The home was featured in a story about Diablo's historic preservation designation in the *San Francisco Chronicle* in 2003. It has been the site of tours benefiting the Diablo Women's Garden Club, the Junior League of the East Bay, and the Athenian School, among others. "Gablewood" is truly a Diablo Treasure.



**“Secret Garden”
2185 Alameda Diablo
Original Owner Unknown
Architectural Style: Arts and Crafts
Built in 1921**

The Arts and Crafts style home at 2185 Alameda Diablo was built in 1921 as a summer home on a two and one-half acre property. The original estate resembled a mini resort with a tennis court, swimming pool, guesthouses, horse stables and trails leading to Mt. Diablo. Unfortunately, little is known about the original history of the home, but from the 1950s through the 1990s, it was commonly referred to as the Ragusa Property, named after Joseph Ragusa and his family who lived there for many years.

"Joe" Ragusa was one of the leaders of the Diablo community. He served as a director on the board of the Diablo Public Utility District formed in 1949 to repair Diablo's roads and install sewer lines. And in April of 1969, he was again elected to serve as a director on the Board of the newly formed Diablo Community Services District, which was established to replace the DPUD and add the provision of security services to Diablo after a rash of Halloween pranks caused concern to residents.

The open airy home is tucked into a sylvan setting of stunning heritage oaks and redwoods and is approached by a garden path of brick-edged steps leading to a pergola-covered entry. The house was beautifully remodeled, and a detached two-story garage with living quarters was added in the 1980s. However, the home has retained the essence of the original single-story Arts and Crafts cottage with board and batten siding, double-hung windows, distressed walnut floors, vaulted ceilings and exposed beams. A stone auto bridge with two decorative cast-iron lantern posts spans Dan Cook Creek providing access to the property from Alameda Diablo.

In the 1990s, the estate was subdivided into four lots, but the original home, now named “Secret Garden,” remains on this .61-acre parcel. Richard and Melanie Scherer purchased the home in 1989, and current owners Paul Jon McEwan and Adrienne Lane bought the home from the Scherers in 2016.



**"The Richardson Home"
2323 Caballo Ranchero Drive
Original Owners: The Richardson Family
Architectural Style: Originally a Barn
Built in the 1920s**

Incredibly, 2323 Caballo Ranchero Drive was born in the 1920s as a barn for the Richardson Family, who lived a short distance away at the corner of El Nido and Casa Nuestra. In the 1930s, the Nielsen Family added a pool, and in 1946 converted the barn into a one-story, wood-frame residence with an enclosed lanai. Changing rooms and garages rounded out the Niensens' vision for adapting the barn for use as a residence.

The Holland Family transformed the home in the late 1950s. They attached a rock façade to the first story; created a contrasting second story with board and batten siding, a gable roof with dormer windows, and a chimney rising at one end; and surrounded the new second story with a wrap-around, 2000-square-foot deck. New fireplaces and fountains enhanced visual interest both inside and out. A full-size bar expanded entertainment possibilities.

When the Nageotte nine-child family moved in during the 1960s, more bedrooms were created. Subsequently, the Corcoran Family converted the large second-floor party room into additional bedrooms and bathrooms, bringing the total count to six bedrooms and four and one-half bathrooms. In 2012, the Girzadas Family purchased the property. Since then, they have updated the property including making structural improvements to the house, adding a second staircase, expanding the kitchen and modernizing the exterior deck and unique oval pool, which is a year-round favorite of the family. The Girzadas family has warmly embraced the home's original character as part of Diablo's storied history and looks forward to enjoying their home for years to come.



"Gardener's Cottage"
1607 Calle Arroyo
Original Owner: Mt. Diablo Park Club
Architects: John White and William Knowles
Architectural Style: English Cottage
Built: 1914-1916

The English "Gardener's Cottage" was designed by architects William Knowles and John White some time between 1914 and 1916. White was the brother-in-law of famed Berkeley architect Bernard Maybeck, who married White's sister Annie. The cottage was built for the head gardener of the Mt. Diablo Park Club and located in the center of the Oakwood Park Stock Farm racetrack (near what is now St. Timothy's Episcopal Church). The gardener grew all the fruits and vegetables for the summer meals as well as flowers for festivities at the Club.

Henry Carlyle purchased and moved the cottage in 1917 to its current location at 1607 Calle Arroyo and added a living room (the dining room in the house today). A January 15, 1917, issue of *The Mt. Diablon* mentions that the cottage is "constructed of redwood, lath and plaster walls, solid oak floors and a wood shingled roof."

In 1937 the Mills family bought the home and added electricity and running water. The Farrells then lived in the home from 1956 to 1975. After they passed, their children subdivided the property and moved into the pool house on the adjacent lot, now 1609 Calle Arroyo.

Rex and Suzanne Guinivere purchased the home in 1975 and focused on restoring the grounds and the magnificent unstructured "wild" gardens. Interestingly, Messrs. Mills, Farrell, and Guinivere were all mining engineers, and yet they resided in a house that had significant structural damage in the basement. When Roger and Nicky Greenwald bought the home around 1998, they undertook major repairs including shoring up the basement and carefully restoring many historic elements. They made significant additions to the house but retained the delightful, multi-paned, arched French door and window units that still flank the main entry. The original roofline of the one-room cottage can still be identified running parallel to Calle Arroyo. The Greenwalds also preserved the small, steeply pitched, storybook roof over the original cottage door and placed it on a new cottage facing the pool in the backyard. In 2003, Keith and Hallie Grossman purchased the showcase home.



**"The Carriage House"
1789 "A" Calle Arroyo
Original Owners: Robert Noble and Anne Fish Burgess
Architect: George A. Applegarth
Architectural Style: Traditional
Built in 1916**

The historic building on this property is the large, white, two-story garage in the front, which was built in 1916. It was the original carriage house for the home of Diablo's founder, Robert Noble Burgess, which was located on the then adjoining property. That land now encompasses six lots facing the 18th fairway. Noted San Francisco architect George Applegarth designed the Burgess home and this adjoining carriage house for it in Diablo. He also designed the Palace of the Legion of Honor in San Francisco and many other distinguished buildings.

In the 1960s, the carriage house was converted into a garage, and the loft was remodeled into an apartment. Fortunately, the shiplap exterior and redwood interior were carefully preserved during the renovation. Diablo's Postmistress, Bettye Johanson, an avid Appaloosa-loving horsewoman, lived in the loft apartment from 1969 to 1982.

In 1991, local architect John Wright, who was the chairman of the Danville City Planning Commission for 12 years, and his wife Kimberly bought the property, removed a small ranch home at the back and replaced it with a lovely, two-story home reminiscent of the architecture found in Yosemite. It complements the historic carriage house and the original Burgess home nearby.

Bob and Jill Corkern bought the property from Mrs. Wright in 2010. They were very sad but also greatly relieved when a beautiful Heritage Oak in front of the carriage house fell--just barely missing the historic building--in 2016.



"Fairway Oaks"

1817 Calle Arroyo

Original Owners: Robert Noble and Anne Fish Burgess

Architect: George A. Applegarth

Landscape Architect: Thomas Church

Architectural Style: Modified Prairie Style

Built in 1916

"Fairway Oaks" was built in 1916 as a principal residence for Robert Noble Burgess, the founder and developer of the Diablo community and the Mt. Diablo Park Club. The modified Prairie-style home was designed by noted architect George A. Applegarth, the designer of the California Palace of the Legion of Honor in San Francisco and the Bank of Walnut Creek, which was owned by Burgess. Thomas Church, a renowned landscape architect, designed the grounds and gardens surrounding the home. The Contra Costa Gazette of May 6, 1916, describes the home as a year-round, "handsome one and two-story frame and plaster residence" to be built for a cost "in the neighborhood of \$20,000."

Burgess had to sell the home when confronted with bankruptcy in 1919. The home and the entire newly named Mt. Diablo Country Club were bought by George W. McNear, "The Wheat King," who founded Port Costa but made Diablo his home and served as Club President in 1923. The house came back into the Burgess family's possession in 1951 when Burgess's son Robert II and his wife Elizabeth rebought the home and raised their three children, Robert III, Elizabeth Ann and Ed, who was known as Huie, in the original family home. In 1961, the home was sold to the Simas family who owned the Simas Gas Station chain.

Bobby and Marcia Field bought the home from the Simas Estate in 1992. They added a long, low, four-car garage remarkably in keeping with the harmony of the home. During Bobby's research on the home, he discovered that R. N. Burgess transferred the original property from Mt. Diablo Estates for a single \$20.00 gold piece. The twentieth century brought continuing remodeling and restoration by homeowners including Dr. Sandra Bennett, the Fields, Ken and Deborah Stevens, and current owners Michael and Janet Scarpelli. Their remarkable restoration and preservation efforts demonstrate the continuing commitment to and respect for maintaining the original structure. The home is a true Diablo Treasure, honored and revered for its historic place in the community.



"Pixie Hollow"
1843 Calle Arroyo
Original Owners: Dr. Edward and Edith Love
Architectural Style: Cottage Style
Built in 1926

Dr. Edward and Edith Love purchased 1843 Calle Arroyo for \$4,000 in gold in 1926. It sits on a secluded knoll with views of the 18th fairway from the front and the Diablo Country Club tennis courts in the rear. A wooden pedestrian bridge connects the front yard of the property with the house, and a larger wooden bridge provides access for cars from Calle Arroyo.

Nine families have owned and loved this home including Robert & Isabel Shearer 1977-1990, Michael & Camille Cortese 1990-1995, and Peter & Sharon Jensen 1995-2006, who added a three-car tandem garage in 1999.

Josh and Chelsea Freeman purchased the home in 2006. They preserved the ambiance of the original two-story house including the cedar-shingled exterior, French windows, gently sloping roof lines and wooden bannister balconies with turned spindles. During renovation, they found the family room ceiling and walls covered in 1926 redwood, stained gray. The builder painstakingly removed each plank, stripped the stain and oiled them back to the original redwood. Discovering that the windows in the main house were also original to 1926, they commissioned new windows made of restoration glass to replicate them.

The Freemans replaced an olive orchard that had originally covered all the land around (including the area now covered by Diablo Country Club's tennis courts), and in 2016, they added a swimming pool, a pool house and a lovely cottage for Josh's father, Leigh, on an adjoining lot.

In 2006, the Freeman's young daughters, Peyton and Ginger, named the house "Pixie Hollow" shortly after the family moved in. At ages seven and five, they chose the name due to the high population of fairies and leprechauns that lived in the bases of the trees. Recently, Chelsea commented, "With all the rain this year, the landscaping really does feel like a magical forest. Even the newer planting is starting to look like it has been here since 1926."



"Casa Blanca"
1897 Calle Arroyo
Original Lot Owner: G. D. Greenwood
Architect: Unknown but Home Contains Features of Julia Morgan
Architectural Style: English Tudor Cottage
Built in 1924

This beautifully restored, two-story, English Tudor cottage is tucked against a hillside below the Diablo Country Club bordering the 18th fairway. You approach the 1924 home by crossing the teak pedestrian and automobile bridges over the Dan Cook Creek. "Casa Blanca" features a recessed entry porch with arched detailing at the rear of the home, which is often an unusual feature of the famous architect Julia Morgan's homes. The great room constructed of old-growth redwood, original hardwood floors, handsome stone fireplace, mullioned windows, French doors and beamed ceiling is stunning. An open-air sleeping porch on the second floor harkens back to the home's early days as a summer cottage.

G. D. Greenwood of 340 Hampton Road in Piedmont is shown as the original owner of this property on a 1922 Diablo map, but G. D. Greenwood's name is not starred as a lot or residence owner in the 1928 Roster of Members of Mt. Diablo Country Club, so it is unclear if this house was built for him. Another Greenwood, G. Monroe Greenwood, bought the adjoining lot and built a home next door in 1927. Don White, of Truitt and White, bought the home in 1952 and lived there happily for sixty-four years.

In 2016, Bob Tiernan lovingly restored and named the home, removed a covered wooden deck added in the 50s and built an adjoining guesthouse which matches the original home's French doors, mullioned windows, swirled stucco exterior and shake roof. Bob, his wife Carissa, and his parents Robert and Lyn Tiernan, Diablo residents for 56 years, can often be seen relaxing under the oaks on the home's inviting stone patio enjoying a glass of wine, classical music and views of the 18th fairway.



**"Grande Roble"
21 Calle Del Casarillo
Original Owner: Unknown
Architectural Style: California Ranch
Built in 1917**

The home at 21 Calle Del Casarillo was built in 1917 as a summer home. It was one of the earliest homes in Diablo. The single-story, wood-frame house had board and batten siding, a low profile, and a gabled roof sheathed with shingles. Although changes and additions have been made, the property still has the feel and ambiance of a ranch, which at one time it was.

In the 1930s, it became a recreational facility for the Mount Diablo Country Club with stalls for horses and a swimming pool. Connie Wadsworth, a Calle Del Casarillo resident for almost fifty years, thinks it may be the first or second oldest swimming pool in Diablo, perhaps dating back to the time of the original structure.

In the 1950s, Tom and Maude Sutton of Piedmont bought the property from Diablo Country Club and converted the facility back into a private residence for their use during the summers. As an avid horseman, Tom added another barn, a huge riding ring and cabanas for the swimming pool.

Maureen and Phil Burns bought the property in 1968 and sub-divided it into six parcels for development. Soon the lots were sold, and Mr. Burns, who loved to hunt in the fields near his home, named the street, which had formerly been his driveway, "Calle Del Casarillo" meaning in Argentinian Spanish "The Street of the Hunter." For many years, locals misinterpreted the name to mean "Street of the Little Houses" but could not find a translation for "Casarillo" and wondered why there was no final "s." Nona Senasac, a Calle Del Casarillo resident since 1969, recently explained the mystery.

Orlin and Margy Donhowe bought this parcel from Burns around 1970 and kept two horses on their property. It contained the main house and a bunkhouse, which the next owners, Garry and Kathy Lee, combined into one structure. Kathy Lee finished the home by adding a bedroom and a bath, and converted the barn into a two-car garage and a workspace. Jeff and Melody Moeller purchased the home from the Lees in 2007, and have enjoyed living year-round in the remaining historic structure of Mt. Diablo Park Club's original horseback riding facility.



"Tilepile"
2043 Calle Los Callados
Original Owners: Fred and Alice Thomas
Architect: John Hudson Thomas
Architectural Style: French Provencal
Built in 1927

This French Provencal cottage built in 1927 for Fred and Alice Thomas is one of Diablo's most unusual and delightful historic homes. It was designed for them by Fred's brother, famed Berkeley architect John Hudson Thomas, as a summer home. It is the only Diablo home owned by the same family since it was built in the 20s and the only one continuously used for all those years as a summer and vacation home.

The Thomases left the home to their children, and daughter Beth Thomas Hearn vacationed there for many decades. She was often honored as "Diablo's longest-term homeowner." Beth bequeathed the home to her children, and her daughter Penny Hearn Adams (Mrs. Jim Adams) continues the tradition.

Designed to be cool during the hot summers, brick-red, hollow-tile masonry was used for the walls. A breezeway joins the two halves of the house, and cross ventilation is provided by doors on opposite sides of each room. Beth recalled sleeping on the cool, tile floor one hot, summer night during WWII. A guesthouse was added in 1935, a swimming pool and cabana in 1975.

The house sits amidst 2.78 acres of wooded land and features many hand-carved, decorative elements on its wooden beams. There are many French doors and casement windows hinged at the side within frames constructed of wood. The steeply sloping roof appears to be made of English slate but is actually the original asbestos tile. Penny Adams's father gave the house a name just for fun. He named it "Tilepile." It is pronounced "Ti-lep-a-lee" but actually means "Tile Pile," which he believed the house would become after a bad earthquake.



"Whispering Oaks"
2093 Calle Los Callados
Original owner: Hamilton Davis
Architect: Albert L. Farr
Architectural style: English Tudor
Built in 1925

This original English Tudor home located at 2093 Calle Los Callados is one of Diablo's most charming historic homes that has changed very little since it was constructed in 1925. Designed by San Francisco architect Albert L. Farr, this home is considered to be the first Mt. Diablo Country Club residence built for year-round use. It was built for the Hamilton Davis family who owned the Walnut Creek Cannery. The architect was known for his stately English Tudor homes in Piedmont in the 1920s. The two-story English Tudor home sits on a one and one-eighth acre lot with several stately oaks. It has a steeply pitched wood shingle roof with many dormers and a stucco exterior finish. The home features a grand living room with large windows and a wonderful carved entry door. The original home featured cast iron steam radiators and carved redwood gutters.

The Hulet family owned the home from 1964 until 2011. Kenneth Hulet was a well-known nuclear chemist at Livermore Labs and had the distinction of discovering Element 106. In 2011, Tré and Tracy Musco purchased the home with the intent of enlarging and modernizing it while meticulously keeping the original structure, character and design of the home. Their ingenious and unusual means of achieving this was by building a mirror-image addition to the eastern side of the house. Thus, although the home has been enlarged and modernized, one hundred percent of the original historic home remains, and the addition replicates the original design to the smallest detail. Examples of the Muscos' dedication to preserving the historic detail can be seen in the cast iron radiators (still in the home), the custom metal replicas of the original redwood gutters, and the original Rumford style fireplace, which still warms the living room.



"Camelot Cottage"
36 Campo Pelota
Original Owner: G. Monroe Greenwood
Architectural Style: California Ranch and Mission Revival
Built in 1927

The Greenwood family of Piedmont built this hand-swirled stucco cottage as a summer vacation home in 1927. It is a blend of California Ranch and California Spanish with a wood shake roof, numerous French doors and windows and a tall indoor-outdoor fireplace between the beamed living room and the exterior brick courtyard. Craftsman lanterns flank an arched entry into the courtyard. As a summer cottage, the house originally had no heat, pale red cement floors and screened sleeping porches. The Keanes installed a furnace in the 50s; the Freemans added air conditioning and a pool in the 70s, and the one remaining screened sleeping porch is now used as a small office. There is a wooden footbridge across Dan Cook Creek providing access to Calle Arroyo and the 18th fairway from the backyard. From the house, the Club and tennis courts are just steps away.

When visiting in 1998, Rob Greenwood, then in his 80s, fondly remembered his boyhood summers in Diablo, "The day school was out in Piedmont, we would head out to Diablo and just have the most wonderful time. We all met down by the big oak tree in front of the old Clubhouse on Alameda Diablo to play Kick-the-Can and Run-Sheep-Run and dozens of other games. Then we headed up to the lake to swim. Those were wonderful, magical summers." The Greenwoods owned the home until 1940 when they sold it to the Ristenpart family. Fran Ristenpart married Gay Keane, who had previously been married to Polly Burgess, R.N. Burgess's daughter.

On April 11, 1966, Marsh and Margaret ("Mugs") Freeman bought the property from the Keanes and have loved living there and sharing it with their three children, Steve, Kim and Patty, and their children's families for 53 years. Tennis, swimming, hiking, biking, horseback riding, Christmases, birthdays, dinner parties and a wedding in the backyard were all highlights of these years, but the most memorable may have been when Marsh had to have his home-built airplane fuselage lifted from the back yard by a helicopter and deposited on the golf course's 18th fairway because he had not thought about how to get it out of the yard after it was completed. He later founded and directed an airplane-building program at The Athenian School at which students have built two airplanes.





**"Dias Dorados"
2070 Casa Nuestra
Original Owner: Unknown
Architectural Style: Spanish
Built between 1923 & 1928**

"Dias Dorados" is a classic, two-story, Spanish-style home located on a wooded, half-acre lot with pool. It has white stucco siding and a classic red tile roof, and there are a number of decorative chimney caps projecting from the roof. A major remodel in the 1970s made many changes to the home, but the redwood beams, white stucco siding and red tile roof remain. Diablo residents love this Spanish-style home and enjoy its rustic "Dias Dorados" sign. "Golden Days" captures the spirit of the home and the community.

Little is known about the history of the house though it has had only four owners. The current owners, Hugh and Alice White, have lived in Diablo since 1990 and have been enthusiastic members of the community. Mrs. White is an active member and past president of the Diablo Women's Garden Club, which was started informally in 1917 by vacationing summer residents from Oakland and was officially established by ten founding members in 1925. Their initial mission was to focus on flowers and trees adaptable to Diablo's widely fluctuating seasonal temperatures that would thrive in the hay fields surrounding Diablo's early homes.

As Diablo became a year-round community in the 1940s, the popularity and philanthropic activities of the garden club grew. Its exclusive membership now includes members from nearby communities, but the group still meets monthly at the Diablo Country Club for an educational program and sponsors garden-related workshops and tours. As noted on their website: "Educating DWGC members in gardening, horticulture, landscape and floral design is the most important mission of the club." To see how successful they are, you need only to walk Diablo's shade-covered streets today, which are lush with flowers and plantings of every kind.



**"The Club"
Diablo Country Club Clubhouse
1700 Clubhouse Road
Original Owners: Carrie Colton and Dan Cook
Architectural Style: Colonial
Built in 1881**

The Diablo Country Club Clubhouse has been a community mainstay since 1881. The hilltop upon which the Club was built was selected by Carrie Colton Cook, daughter of Colton Ranch founder, General David Douty Colton. Carrie and her husband Dan Cook had inherited the ranch and were looking to create a proper place to entertain their many friends. The hilltop location was deemed ideal with construction beginning in 1880 and completed in 1881.

Described in the press in 1882 as "A Model of Elegance," it included an expansive kitchen, six bedroom suites, a large billiard hall and two ten-pin bowling alleys. A wide portico extended around three sides of the building from which guests could admire a magnificent view of the San Ramon foothills and Mt. Diablo. This 1881 structure remains the heart of Diablo Country Club's Clubhouse today with its Carriage Lounge featuring an elegant bar and fireplace. Through the years, this building was sometimes referred to as "The Casino," and the Inn at the bottom of the hill where Diablo residents and vacationers took their meals was often mistakenly called "The Club." This misnaming no longer remained a problem when Larry Curtola, the club's new owner, made the Inn his private residence in 1948. He then added a grand ballroom and ladies' locker room to the original clubhouse at the top of the hill using harvested lumber from the Colton-era Grand Barn.

In the mid-1980s, the Club reconstructed much of the 1881 clubhouse keeping the original elements of the foundation, the footprint, the elegant Carriage Lounge, and the more recent facade of the 1948 building.

More information about the Club is contained in the book *From Country Estate to Country Club: The History of Diablo Country Club* written by David Alan Mackesey, DCC President and Historian, in 2014.



Diablo Country Club Golf Course
1700 Clubhouse Road
Original Owner: Mt. Diablo Park Club
Course Designers: Jack Neville and William Watson
Style: Originally Nine Links
Built in 1916

For over 100 years, the golf course at Diablo Country Club has been a true test of golf and is recognized as one of the most desirable courses to play in the San Francisco Bay area. The designers, Jack Neville and William Watson, went from Diablo to world-renowned projects such as Pebble Beach Golf Links and the courses at the Olympic Club in San Francisco.

Jack Neville, then a greatly admired amateur player, designed the original course, his first, which opened for play in 1916. It had nine links. Four years later, William Watson, an experienced "Golf Course Architect," was chosen to design the second nine holes, and the *Diablo Links* became the *Watson and Neville Eighteen*. The design, like most pre-WW1 courses, showcases extensive bunkers, small greens and fairways lined with majestic oak trees that are hundreds of years old. Playing at a par 71, the course offers the Macdonald Smith Championship tee measuring 6,766 yards, a 73.8 rating and slope of 139. Diablo has served as host to Professional Exhibitions, the Northern California Open Championship, USGA Amateur Championship qualifiers and US Senior Open qualifiers.

The course at Diablo Country Club is one of the best in Northern California with small demanding greens, tough par 3s and challenging bunkers. Included within the layout are five holes recognized as the best string of holes in the Bay Area. The course is well suited for both walkers and electric carts and features views of the surrounding Las Trampas Range and spectacular vistas of Mt. Diablo.

More information about the history of the Diablo Golf Course is contained in the book *From Country Estate to Country Club: The History of Diablo Country Club* written by David Alan Mackesey, DCC President and Historian, in 2014.



"Casa del Sol"
1778 Club House Road
Original Owners: Herb and Susan Hall
Architectural Style: Spanish Style Cottage
Built in 1924

In the spring of 1924, Herb and Susan Hall made the two-hour trip from Piedmont in their LaSalle touring car in search of a summer and weekend retreat. They fell in love with four acres on the second fairway of the Mt. Diablo Golf Club and bought the land owned by the Club at 1778 La Salida, now named Club House Road. Although they added rooms to a small, existing garage and soon built two other cottages, their eight-year-old daughter Myra Mae enjoyed the balmy Diablo nights from her "tent room" on the property. In 1936, Herb was one of Diablo's "Five Angels" who formed Diablo Properties and bought and saved the Club. He served as Club President from 1937 to 1941 and again in 1949.

Leigh and Ginny Freeman bought the property from the Halls in 1968, but sadly, Ginny was never able to move in to her beloved Diablo home. She died after a sudden illness, and Leigh moved in alone with their young children. In 1976, Leigh and his second wife Susan bought Hal and Carol Sconyers' larger, two-story home at 28 Campo Pelota and moved to the opposite side of the Club's tennis courts.

Later that year, Michele and Joseph Alioto saw the vacant property with its small cottages, tennis court, swimming pool, cabana and sylvan setting, and they fell in love with its charm and character and purchased it for a family vacation retreat. In keeping with the Spanish motif, they added palms, cactus, succulents and other plants indigenous to both the San Ramon Valley and Mexico. They also imported colorful tiles, artifacts and other original artwork from Mexico such as the giant sun gate, which playfully welcomes friends and family to "Casa Del Sol."



"Ghirardelli Gatehouse"
1812 Club House Road
Original Owners: Mr. and Mrs. Ernest A. Kahl
Architectural Style: French Country Summer Cottage
Built in the very early 1920s

This charming, secluded, French Country cottage is tucked among the trees adjacent to the second green and the third tee of the Diablo Country Club golf course. It was built around 1920 for the Ernest A. Kahl family and is identified on a 1922 map as Lot #7 on La Salida. The street was later renamed Club House Road.

Joe and Benjie Ghirardelli Hendricks purchased the cottage from the Kahls in 1923. They added bedrooms, winterized the home and greatly enjoyed it for 47 years. The original Ghirardelli emblem with shield and ribbons can still be found in the garden. Bob and Jinny Cuenin bought the home in 1970. Bob loved playing tennis with his buddies on the club courts a "stone's throw away" from his home. After matches, they headed over to Bob's to enjoy a cold beer around the pool. It was a bit closer than the Club. Subsequent owners included Jim and Phoebe Ann O'Brien (1981-83) and Bob and Denise Tinney (1983-91).

In 1991, Jeff and Karen Miller purchased and remodeled the home, taking care to match the original style and integrity. Originally it had only two small bedrooms. Their young sons slept in one; Jeff and Karen in the other. Every few nights they heard steps in the tiny hallway and the flush of a toilet, but their boys were sound asleep. There was no explanation for the sounds. Years later, members of the Hendricks family visited and asked, "Have you met Ernest the Ghost?" They had heard the same mysterious sounds. They believed former owner Ernest Kahl had died in the house and still inhabited it. By then the Millers had walled up a closet, and they no longer heard Ernest.



**“Derby Creek”
1965 Diablo Road
Original Owners: R. D and Mary Fish
Architectural Style: California Ranch
Built in 1925**

This traditional California Ranch style home was built in 1925 between the Green Valley Creek and Diablo Road. The wood-framed home has double-hung windows and French doors. The architects appear to have taken elements of a Monterey Adobe style home and combined them with a lap board exterior, broad shingle roof and porches and patios for indoor-outdoor living.

Among the earliest residents of the home were R. D. and Mary Fish. The Fishes were active participants in the community, and R. D. served as President of the Diablo Country Club in 1950. There is some speculation that R. D. Fish could have been related to Anne Fish, the wife of Diablo's founder R. N. Burgess.

In 1985, Lloyd Daniels, Pharmacist at Bill's Drug, and his wife Mary Jeanne, who had loved their Diablo home and property for 24 years, sold it to G. C. (Chuck) & Mary Bewall, hoping to prevent the home from being razed and the lot subdivided. The Bewalls appreciated the historic charm of the home and the acreage. They brought their horses from Kentucky and continued to breed and raise racehorses. One of their foals, Smoky Cinder, won the Canadian Derby in 1997. This inspired them to choose the house's name “Derby Creek.”

The Bewalls added a brick terrace, a foaling barn, stallion barn, exercise ring and chicken-breeding house for their Japanese Silkies. They converted the workshop into a guesthouse. During the remodel, they found 1939 gasoline receipts from Texaco Fire Chief for 23 cents per gallon and an envelope with a two-cent stamp.





**"The Red Horse Tavern"
111 El Centro
Original Owner: Seth Cook
Architect: Arthur Benton 1917
Architectural Style: Swiss Chalet
Built as Barn in 1885; Moved and Remodeled in 1917**

The Red Horse Apartments at 111 El Centro originated as the Carriage Barn on the Cook Ranch. Built in 1885, it housed the prized pacers and trotters of Seth Cook. The barn was originally constructed at the northwest corner of Alameda Diablo and El Nido, which is now the location of the home at 1963 Alameda Diablo.

In 1917, Mt. Diablo Park Club founder Robert Noble Burgess decided to repurpose the Carriage Barn. It was moved in one piece by rolling it on logs to its present location at the corner of Avenida Nueva and El Centro. Burgess hired acclaimed architect, Arthur Benton, to design a new facade and interior for the building. He named it "The Red Horse Tavern." It was comprised of a tavern, a few studio apartments for single employees of the country club, and hotel rooms for travelers. Its location was chosen to be a convenient stopover for those who motor toured on the newly paved road to the summit of Mt. Diablo. Plays were sometimes presented there, and Diablo resident Deborah Pike (later Mrs. Bill Milliken) starred in several of the productions. The tavern was the lively entertainment center of Diablo for a number of years.

In 1948, Diablo Country Club owner Larry Curtola sold the building to a Diablo family, the Johansons. They converted it into private rental apartments. The Hill family subsequently purchased the Red Horse Apartments and owned it for many years until EB HOUSES LLC purchased it in January of 2018. Taso Tsakos, representing the new owners, says the interior has been significantly renovated. Their goal is to faithfully restore and preserve the historic exterior of the building, which was named and featured as one of the five "Historic Icons of the Valley" by the Museum of the San Ramon Valley in January 2016.



"Gingham Cottage"

119 El Centro

Original Owner: Mt. Diablo Country Club

Architectural Style: Cape Cod Colonial

Built in 1925

The charming one-story cottage located at 119 El Centro is near the beginning of a peaceful, narrow lane running beside the white picket fence of the Red Horse Apartments. The street itself is a delightful throwback to early Diablo history when large acreage wasn't desired or needed for the houses. The casual visitor enters El Centro with the feeling that this is indeed a special neighborhood that is more like one to be found in storybooks rather than in real life. Owning a home on this unique street would be a treat like no other.

Gingham Cottage has a very unusual history. It was originally constructed as the ladies' locker room for Mt. Diablo Country Club. Built in 1925, it was then located between the 18th green of the golf course and the Club Inn. It was aptly named after the gingham fabric décor inside, a popular checkered-pattern fabric style of the day.

In 1948, the new Diablo Country Club owner, Larry Curtola, remodeled the main clubhouse nearby and added a ladies' locker room to that building. No longer required for its intended purpose, Gingham Cottage was moved in one piece to the garden lot behind the Red Horse Tavern. Curtola refurbished the cottage and sold it as a single-family home. Its new and current address is 119 El Centro. Nannette Rand is the current owner.

During Diablo's celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the formation of the Mt. Diablo Park Club in 1914, the cottage was officially recognized as a historic home and was awarded a "Diablo Treasure" plaque by Diablo's Historic Preservation Committee in 2014.



"Cottage Number One"
120 El Centro
Original Owner: Mt. Diablo Park Club
Architect: Arthur Benton
Architectural Style: Cape Cod Colonial
Built in 1917

The Cape Cod Colonial style home at 120 El Centro is one of six cottages built in 1917 by Mt. Diablo Park Club for key golf course personnel. The famous architect Arthur Benton gave his architectural designs for the cottages, as well as for the Chalet and the Red Horse Tavern, as a gift to his dear friend Robert Noble Burgess. Benton is most noted for his iconic design work at the fabled Mission Inn in Riverside, California.

In 1914, John "Pop" Smith, age 62, and his wife Joann came to Diablo from Carnoustie, Scotland, and lived in the cottage, which was built for them, from 1917 until 1939. With his four sons--Alex, Willie, George, Jim and Macdonald--successfully ensconced as golf professionals, Pop Smith was ready to find a permanent home. He had fathered one of the most successful families of golf professionals in U.S. history. He accepted Robert Burgess's offer to come to Diablo and head up the management of both the golf course and the professionals. Thus, the Smiths of Carnoustie, Scotland, found a permanent home in America, and the foundation was laid for Carnoustie Golf Club to become Diablo Country Club's sister club.

Ted and Dorothy Petersen bought the cottage in 1948 from Diablo Country Club. As an architect, engineer and builder, Ted designed and added a second story and a detached garage in the 1950s. Ted and Dorothy raised their three children--Steve, Karlen and Kristell--in Diablo, and Dorothy resided in Diablo over 66 years. She walked daily to the post office and was cherished and celebrated as Diablo's longest permanent resident. Her granddaughter Heidi commented, "Grandma loved her home more than anyone I've ever known. She left behind infinitely expanding circles of good." When Dorothy passed in 2013 at age 97, Bill and Ellen Sardella purchased the home. The Sardellas have retained the home's historic character while beautifully refreshing the interior décor and landscaping.



"Cottage Number Five"
125 El Centro
Original Owner: Mt. Diablo Park Club
Architect: Arthur Benton
Architectural Style: Cape Cod Colonial Revival Bungalow
Built in 1917

This lovely home is situated on a peaceful, narrow lane behind the Red Horse Apartments in a special one-block-long neighborhood that is more like one found in a storybook than in real life. The cottage is one of six that were built in 1917 to house Mt. Diablo Park Club employees. The architect, Arthur Benton, gave the architectural designs for the cottages, as well as for the Chalet and the Red Horse Tavern, as a gift to his dear friend Robert Noble Burgess. Benton is most noted for his work on the Mission Inn in Riverside, California.

Burgess knew that the clientele he wished to attract required topnotch service and the best employees and managers he could find. Knowing that the salary was not enough to retain them, he built individual cottages for key personnel with families. The first residents to move into 125 El Centro Cottage Number Five were Lawrence Testa, a truck driver and gardener from Italy, and his wife Margaret. Larry Curtola acquired the cottages in 1948 as part of his Diablo Country Club purchase, which he then sold to various private individuals.

As of 2019, 125 El Centro is one of the most intact of the original cottages that remain. The home sits on .17 of an acre and is flanked by heritage oak and redwood trees. It is a one-story, Cape Cod Colonial Revival bungalow bearing several original features including a small pane, true divided light wood lunette window above the porch. The inviting façade also has a recessed front porch with a projecting gable supported by four original Colonial style columns sheltering the original leaded paned glass front door. In recent years, a detached garage with a lunette window and rear guest cottage have been added in the same style to enhance the home's exterior and functionality without compromising the historical integrity of the original structure.

The present owners, Jessica Ræfield and Rahul Chandra, extensively renovated the interior of the home in 2012, with much of the original charm lovingly restored to historical accuracy. Renovations included elegant, craftsman-style woodwork and original knotty pine hardwood floors throughout the home. The owners are committed to maintaining the character of this 102-year-old storybook cottage.



"Cottage Number Six"

131 El Centro

Original owner – Mt. Diablo Park Club

Architect: Arthur Benton

Architectural Style: Cape Cod Colonial

Built in 1917

This delightful Cape Cod-Colonial style cottage was one of six cottages built in 1917 by architect Arthur Benton. He gave his architectural design work for the cottages, as well as for the Chalet and the Red Horse Tavern, as a gift to his good friend Robert Noble Burgess. Arthur Benton is most noted for his design of the spectacular and historic Mission Inn in Riverside, California.

Robert Burgess realized that the well-to-do clientele he wished to attract to the Mt. Diablo Park Club required a very high level of service and the best employees and managers he could find. The salaries he offered were not enough, so he provided pleasant single room apartments for his employees without families and individual cottages for key personnel with families.

The first resident employees to move into 131 El Centro were Wallace and Mea English, farmers from Missouri. In 1948, the cottage was sold to Larry Curtola as part of his purchase of the Diablo Country Club and all of its property. He later sold all of the original employee cottages on El Centro to private individuals.

The original portion of "Cottage Number Six" still has most of its original wood and wavy glass windows. The cement piers have been replaced with a new foundation, and a garage and curved brick driveway have been added. The house has a small second-story addition designed by architect Steven Harriman, son-in-law of Dorothy and Ted Peterson, who were longtime residents at 120 El Centro. Steven Harriman's design received a Spirit of Diablo Award for Renovation and Additions in 1998. The current homeowners, Jay and Karen St. John, have enjoyed living here since 1981.



**"Cottage Number Four"
140 El Centro
Original Owner: Mt. Diablo Park Club
Architect: Arthur Benton
Architectural Style: Cape Cod Colonial
Built in 1917**

This beautifully maintained Cape Cod-Colonial style cottage was one of six cottages that were built in 1917 by Mt. Diablo Park Club for key golf course personnel. The architect, Arthur Benton, gave his architectural designs for the cottages, the Chalet and the Red Horse Tavern as a gift to his dear friend Robert Noble Burgess. Burgess realized that the well-to-do clientele he wished to attract to the Mt. Diablo Park Club required a very high level of service and the best employees and managers he could find. He knew the salaries he offered were not enough, so he provided pleasant single-room apartments for his employees without families and individual cottages for key personnel with families.

The first resident of 140 El Centro was Paul Conroy, second generation Irishman, who became Mt. Diablo Park Club's first golf professional. Paul and his brother Russ had made their way to California from the Midwest several years earlier. Paul was a strong tournament player and an experienced professional.

The original side-gabled cottage has two dormers with lunette windows which are present on the front elevation. Enhancements include a trellis, front porch and detached garage which were added to the home's exterior.

In 1948, the cottage was acquired by Larry Curtola as part of his purchase of the entire Diablo Country Club and all of its property. He later sold all of the original employee cottages on El Centro to private individuals. John and Laura Fulton purchased the home in 1997 and have enjoyed their twenty-two years living in this unique and historic neighborhood.



"The Milk Barn"
1671 El Nido
Original Owner: David Colton
Style: Victorian Farm House
Built in 1881

Nestled among the trees above Dan Cook Creek, this charming white home sits on the site of one of Diablo's most interesting historic structures--the Old Milk Barn. The original structure was built circa 1881 as the dairy for the Colton Ranch, owned by Dan and Carrie Colton Cook (1879-1883) for the newly renamed Cook Ranch (1883-1889), owned by Seth Cook.

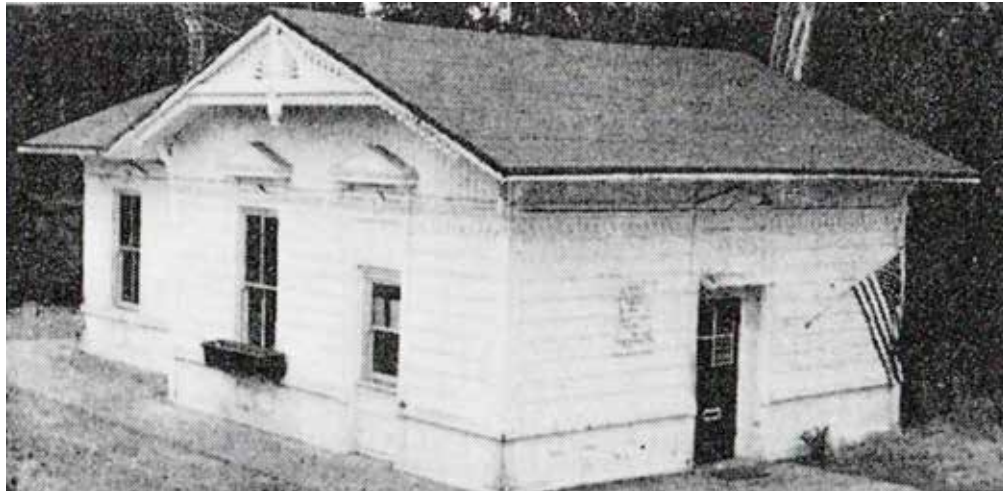
During World War I, the dairy was closed and the building was annexed to Mt. Diablo Park Club. The club used it as a storage facility until 1953 when the building became the quaint Diablo Post Office. For twenty-one years, Diablo residents walked to the former milk barn to pick up their mail and chat with neighbors. Others rode by on horseback and picked up their mail after tying their horses to the hitching rail near the entrance.

When the post office was relocated in 1974 to its current location in the former Golf Pro Shop east of the first fairway, George Fortado purchased the Milk Barn/Post Office. He kept the original structure, made a major addition to it and transformed it all into a beautiful family home. In the late 1980s, Ken and Janis Blaise bought the home, tore most of it down but meticulously rebuilt and replicated the original structure and design details. Beneath the front-facing gable, carved bargeboard with circular, fan-pattern aprons as well as two-over-two, double-hung sash windows surmounted by carved pediments match the original design. Reminders of the 14-inch insulating walls and the stone pit used to keep the metal milk cans cool remain under the living room where a lovely staircase and bedrooms have been created. Beautifully replicated and transformed into a delightful residence, this historic piece of Diablo's past lives on.

Subsequent owners were Chris and Kim Pedersen (1990-2000), Dawn Serpa, and current owners Justin and Leslie Keane who purchased the home in 2011. Leslie has organized historic walks led by David Mackesey in May 2014, May 2018, and May and September 2019. By spearheading these lovely events for the Diablo Historic Preservation Committee and the Diablo Property Owners' Association, Leslie has helped to promote keen interest in and appreciation for the history and the historic homes of Diablo.



Ann Stone 1956



Milk Barn 1881-1917 - Diablo Post Office 1953-1974

Fond Memories of the Diablo Post Office

By Jim Stone's Daughter Ann Stone Woods

**Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Diablo Post Office
And the 100th Anniversary of the Year of Her Father's Birth in 1916**

When my family, Jim and Dorothy Stone, my sister Ashley, brother Brett, and I along with several dogs and horses moved to Diablo in 1956, it was a very unique community. It was a sleepy hamlet transitioning from a summer spot to homes for year-round residents. Families had horses in their backyards, dogs tagged along with us kids without a leash, most of the streets had no signs to identify them, the few homes on my street, Caballo Ranchero Dr, did not have numbers, and life centered around the Diablo Country Club and the Post Office.

Since that time and over the 100 years of the life of the Post Office, some things have changed in Diablo, but the Post Office remains a mainstay of the community. It is a place where neighbors gather to pick up their daily mail and just as importantly, to visit with one another and catch up on the latest “news” on current events in Diablo. You could always count on running into someone you knew when you went to the Post Office, and that was true whether you were young or old-- then and now!

The Post Office was located in the far southeast corner of the Diablo Country Club parking lot in my youth. There was a hitching rail adjacent to the Post Office where you could tie up your horse when you got sent to pick up the mail by your mother, which we kids frequently did. One of my most cherished memories is walking home from the bus stop when I was in Jr High, passing the Post Office, and being surprised to run into my Mom and a friend who had been riding our horses on the knoll behind our house, and rode over to pick up the mail. My Mom was decked out in her riding jodhpurs and boots, and was tying up my horse to the hitching rail. She was so happy to see me, and I remember thinking how cute she looked in her riding outfit, and how wonderful a Mom she was; and how lucky was I to live in a place where you could run into both your Mom and your horse at the Post Office on your walk home. Plus she gave me a ride home, and we rode double the back way past the first hole along the golf course to the gate to our pasture—you could ride your horse on the service trails around the golf course in those days!

The Post Office served as a main connection to the outside world in the days before cell phones and computers. When I was in college, it was where you went to get letters of news from your boy friend and college buddies. Postcards from your college professors with your grades on your final and grades for the class also arrived and got picked up at the post office. That could be a happy trip to the post office, or not. I looked forward to picking up the letters at the post office that came from my husband, Hobie, when he was on Navy patrol in his submarine during the Vietnam War, and I was visiting my parents with our two little girls. It reminded me of the many families who were stationed in Diablo during World War II and cherished the letters they got at the Post Office from their husbands in the service.

When my Dad retired from UC Berkeley, he took on the job of getting the mail at the Post Office. He loved to come home and announce the latest piece of news to my Mom that he had picked up from visiting with neighbors at the Post Office. After my Mom died, going to the Post Office became one of his main links to his friends in Diablo. It always brightened up his day to go get the mail and see friends and neighbors who never failed to stop to visit with him and say, "Hi Jim, how are you!" Jim became such a fixture in Diablo and to the Post Office, that when a children's television show did a feature on the cat that lived in the Diablo Post Office, he was featured in the film. He was the spokesperson who explained how the "Post Office" patrons in Diablo had adopted the cat and supported it living in the Post Office, lounging on the counter, and sleeping and eating in the mail room.

One of my last duties in closing up my Dad's home once he passed away, was to take his post office key to Box 374 that he had cherished for over 50 years, and all the love and joy he had, my whole family had experienced, living in Diablo, and turn his key into the post office. I did know though, that the key, and all it represented to living in Diablo, would go to a new family to enjoy the Post Office experience just as much as my Dad and our family had loved living here!

Happy Birthday to the Diablo Post Office on your 100th anniversary, and may there be many more!

Ann Stone Woods



Ann's Brother Brett Stone



Ann's Mother Dorothy Stone



**"The Chalet"
1675 El Nido
Original Owner: Mt. Diablo Park Club
Architect: Arthur Benton
Architectural Style: Swiss Chalet
Built in 1917**

When creating his vision for Diablo, founder Robert Noble Burgess knew there would be members who would want a “club lifestyle” without having to own a home in Mt. Diablo Park Estates. To accommodate these members, he commissioned renowned architect, Arthur Benton, to design the Chalet, the Red Horse Tavern and the Club cottages on El Centro.

The Chalet became a reality in 1917, just two months after the United States declaration of war on Germany on April 6. While it was the most uncertain of times, it was the collective belief that life must go on. A grand opening celebration was held in the colonnade and included a dinner at the Club Inn, open-air dancing at the outdoor pavilion, and an auctioning of four of the Chalet suites. The one-to-three-bedroom suites featured a dressing room, bath and concrete firewalls. The bidding was lively and the results were as follows:

- Suite 116-118, J. B. Keating \$4,394**
- Suite 214-216, W. T. Summers \$5,224**
- Suite 117-119, Mrs. Donan \$3,400**
- Suite 212, L. W. Brubeck \$2,830**

During the Second World War, the Chalet was converted to 40+ individual apartment rooms to house construction crews building Camp Parks in Dublin, and then the telephone operators supporting the military at Camp Parks. At the end of the war, The Chalet reverted back to use by the Club members as suites. In 1948, club owner Larry Curtola converted a portion of the building, closest to the clubhouse, into a pro shop and post office.

In 1980, the Club sold The Chalet to member Paul Cortese, who converted the interior into eight individual units to be operated as a co-op. The Club leases the land to the building owners. The exterior retains its timeless original style designed by Benton and is a living testament to his talent and genius.



**"The Post Office"
1701 El Nido Road
Original Owner: Diablo Country Club
Architectural Style: Swiss Chalet
Opened January 20, 1917.
Authorized in 1916.**

Danville Gazette, January, 1917

"The new post office "Diablo" was formally opened to business Saturday by Postmaster J. N. Curtis. Immediately there was a rush to be the one to buy the first stamp. Lots were cast to settle the rivalry, the lucky number was drawn by R. N. Burgess. After the close of business for the day, the postmaster announced that stamps to the amount of \$35 had been purchased."

Robert Noble Burgess petitioned the Postmaster General of the United States Post Office for a post office to be located in Diablo, and it was approved in 1916. The official opening took place on January 20, 1917. John Curtis, the superintendent in charge of paving the road to the summit of Mt. Diablo, and a cottage resident in Diablo, was designated as the first Postmaster in 1916. Mr. Curtis's cottage, near the Red Horse Tavern, was originally accessed by a road named La Paloma in the 20s, but that site is now approached from the other side at the end (#139-#147) of El Centro. Edwin Lee Cooper, first manager of the Club, served as Postmaster from 1918 to 1940, and his wife Helen was Postmistress from 1940 until 1955. Together they served Diablo for 37 years.

The first Post Office was temporarily housed within the former Cook mansion but quickly moved to the Grand Barn (long ago torn down, located at what is now 1545 Avenida Nueva). In 1948, the new owner of Diablo Country Club, Larry Curtola, relocated the Post Office to the colonnade area of the Chalet. In 1953, the former Colton era Milk Barn became the Post Office until 1974. Then on August 17, 1974, the former Golf Pro Shop was formally dedicated as Diablo's Post Office.



Diablo's first Post Office was located in the Grand Barn from 1916 until 1948

The first DPOA Ice Cream Social was held to celebrate the opening of the new Post Office and was presided over by the DPOA's first woman president, Carol Sconyers. The theme was "old fashion" with some arriving at the Club in "turn-of-the century (20th) dress." Entertainment was a key part of the festivities with a home-grown amateur Diablo banjo and washboard quartet plus a slide show and a classic car exhibit. Other unusual postal events occurred when postal clerk Sandy Patterson adopted a cat named Cher who made the post office her home. Postal patrons were often surprised and delighted to turn the keys to their P.O. Boxes and find a curious kitten peering out at them instead of their mail.

The western exterior of the building was remodeled in 2014 to more closely resemble The Chalet. Despite the many moves over the last 100 years, the Post Office has remained a mainstay of connection for the community. Anne Stone Woods recalled when one could ride along the service trails of the golf course and hitch your horse up outside the Post Office to pick up the mail and chat with neighbors. The chatting tradition remains, but the horses are only a memory.

To honor the history of the Post Office, the Diablo Property Owners' Association and USPS developed custom cancellation stamps to commemorate the 75th and Centennial anniversaries in 1991 and 2016.



The Old Milk Barn Became the Home of the Post Office from 1953 to 1974



**The A. E. Fern Home
1733 El Nido
Original Owner: A. E. Fern
Architectural Style: California Ranch
Built in the 1920s**

This home at 1733 El Nido originated as a one-bedroom/bathroom summer cottage built in the early 1920s. Over the years, additional rooms were added on to the home in the California Ranch style, forming a U-shape around a brick courtyard with a wooden deck in the back. There is also a lovely semi-circular brick patio in the front of the home. The stucco walls and wide eaves over front and back help to keep the home cool on hot summer afternoons, and there are many French doors and windows. The roof is typical ranch style with side-gabled wood shingle. The home is set along the first fairway of Diablo Country Club with views of the golf course and majestic sunsets over the hills of Las Trampas.

The first homeowner - A.E. Fern - may have left a very ornate letter 'F' on the large stone fireplace on the front of the house. Fern is designated on a 1922 property map of Diablo. The cottage can also be seen in aerial images from 1929 and 1931 that hang inside Diablo Country Club.

Al Layton, the second homeowner, provided the backing for a \$500,000 loan to enable the members of Diablo Country Club to purchase the club from Larry Curtola in 1961. Al is known as the "Godfather of Tennis" for helping to bring a contemporary tennis facility to the club – financed through the transaction he backed.

In 1972, Kay and Carol Jones purchased the home. Knowing that Kay was moving into the house before his family arrived from Seattle, Al Layton left him a bed that was made up and wood stacked in the fireplace ready to enjoy his new home. It was a memorable beginning to forty-six years of enjoying life in Diablo with their children and grandchildren. Joyous Carol died in 2017, at age 83, and the home was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Amein and Jeneffer Punjani in 2018.



"The Burns Home"
1942 La Cadena
Original Owner: S. H. or John Burns
Architectural Style: Colonial Revival Cottage
Built in the 1920s

This two-story, brick-fronted, Colonial-style home at 1942 La Cadena was built in the 1920s very near the Oakwood Station where visitors arriving in Diablo by train disembarked beneath spectacular oaks and palms. The footprint, entrance, front room and dining room combination at the front of the house retain the same layout as designed in the 1920s. Three dormers project from the main pitched roof; an ivy-covered trellis enhances the front porch, and despite extensive interior renovations and additions through the years, the home retains its original cottage look and historic charm.

S. H. Burns is noted as the owner of this Lot #149 on one of Diablo's earliest maps, but it is not known if he built the home. Mt. Diablo Country Club's 1928 Roster of Members shows a John Burns, and a John Burns was VP of the First National Bank of Contra Costa County in 1907. The earliest known resident is Susan Shoemaker Lindquist, who lived in the home as a girl. Her mother remodeled the front porch, which was featured in Sunset magazine in 1954.

The home was owned by the Ansbro family in the 1960s and 70s; then by Diablo's 1979 Tennis Pro Jill Toney and her former husband James Kooler. Gary and Jennifer Vujovich (1994-96); Martin and Carrie Birkel (1996-98), and Brent and Lisa Jensen (1998) were subsequent owners. David and Linda Greiner bought the home in 1998, renovated it extensively and, with their children Doug and Kathleen, were enthusiastic members of the Diablo community for seventeen years. Linda was a skilled photographer and took many beautiful photos of Diablo for the Historic Preservation Committee. Ross and Rebecca Biestman purchased the home from the Greiners in July 2017 to raise their young family here. Ross's father and mother, Mark and Karen Biestman, have lived in Diablo since 2002.



"Creekside"
1956 La Cadena
Original Owner: I. M. Prost or Hubert G. Prost
Architectural Style: Colonial Revival with French Country Influences
Built in 1917

This delightful, single-story, lapboard home with a Dutch door entry bay was built as a summer cottage in 1917. It sits on an acre of land tucked tight against the banks of Green Valley Creek. It's hidden from view until you approach the home via its curved driveway. Its open, spacious plan allows the inside and outside gardens to meld through many large French windows and doors. The front bay window retains its original wavy glass. The shingled roof is steeply pitched, and there is a tall chimney at the far end of the house.

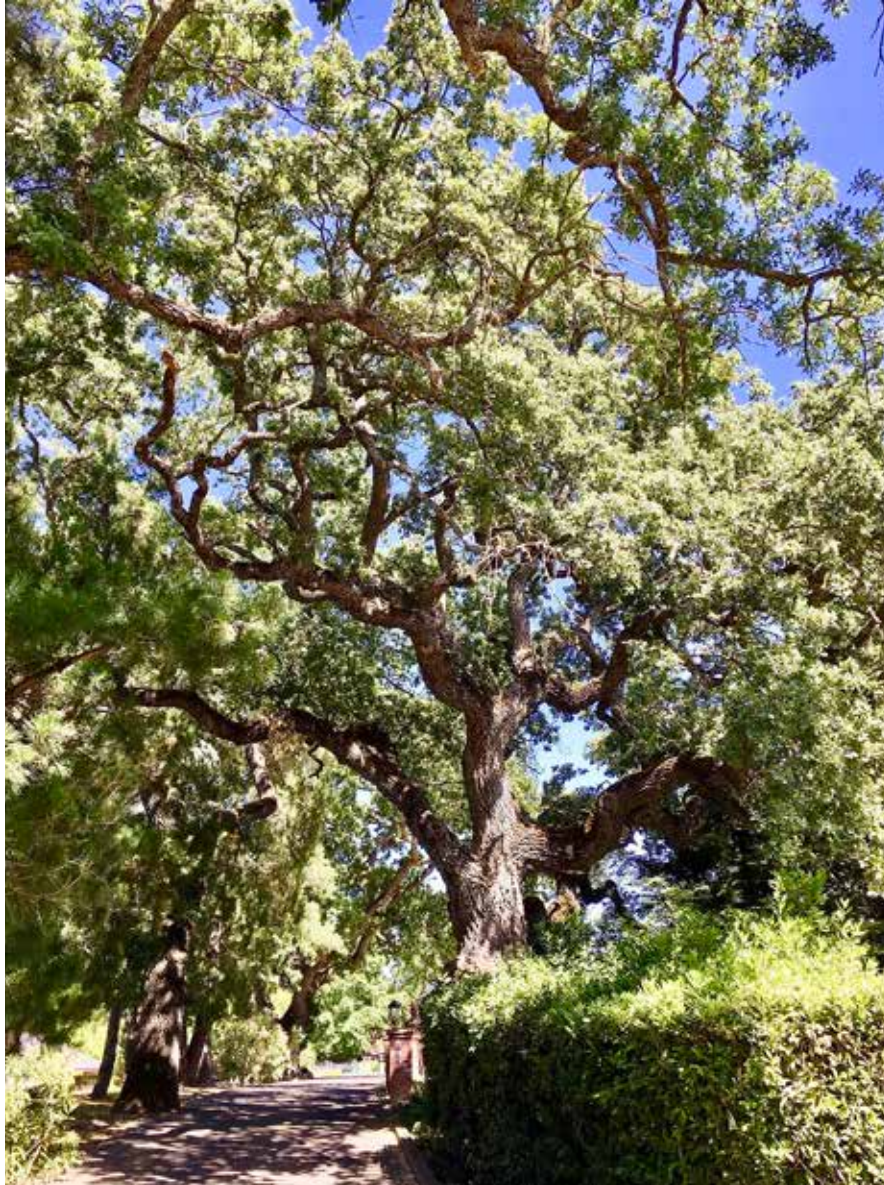
I. M. Prost, a U.C. Berkeley graduate and lawyer, is listed as the owner of this Lot #150 on the earliest known property map of the Burgess development of Diablo around 1916, and Hubert G. Prost of Berkeley is listed as a residence-owning member of the Mt. Diablo Country Club in 1928, so one of these Prosts probably had the cottage built and was the first owner.

The Toney, an avid, tennis-loving family, owned the home for almost thirty years from 1960 to 1988. Jack and Mel Toney were regulars at Thursday night couples' tennis; Mel was a champion on the ladies' ladder, and their six children Jack II, Marcia, Melissa, Mark, Jon and Jill were all Diablo tennis "Aces." Jill, the star of the Monte Vista High School BOYS' tennis team in 1976, became Diablo Country Club's Tennis Pro in 1979. She was followed by her brother Jon from 1980 to 1987.

Hank and Joan Coles bought the house in 1996 and lived there for fifteen years until 2011 when Lionel and Natasha Liniger purchased it. The Linigers expanded the footprint of the home in 2015. They added an additional bedroom and a luminous modern kitchen where the screened porch used to be, but they retained the original charm and style of the home.

Diablo's Treasures
The Heritage Oaks
of Diablo

**“Our Heritage Trees”
by our friend Roger Trefethen
who also likes stately oaks (2018)**



***Standing tall,
witnesses to the past,
kneel to no one as they tower over all.***

***Their brawny arms suspended,
hover on watch as if
to hold the landscape fast.***



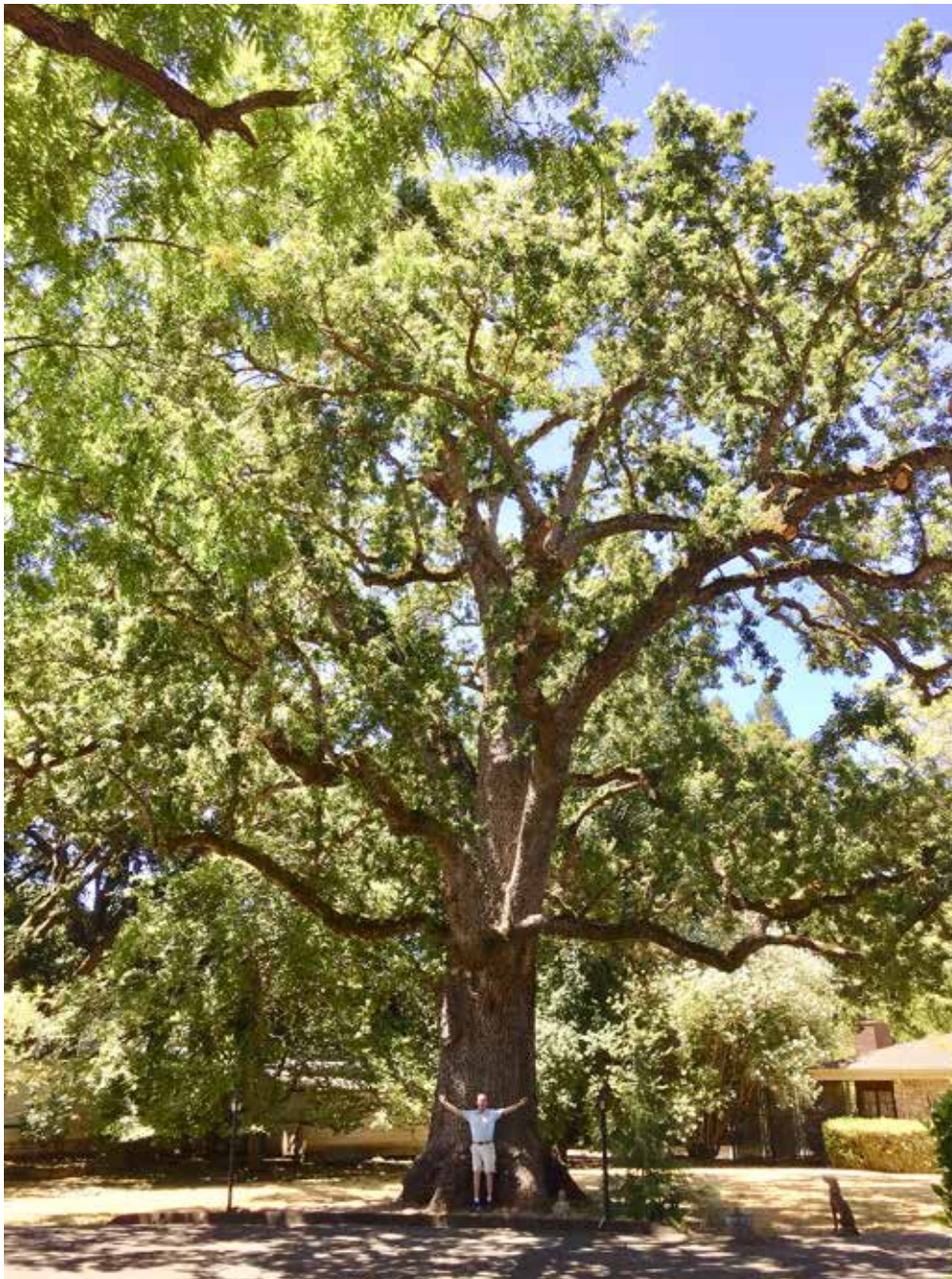
*Each a living symbol of endurance,
great strength,
majestically persistent life.*

*And yet,
like an esteemed and treasured spouse,
they, too, are mortal.
They've no life insurance.*



*In spite of venerability and innate toughness,
relying as they do on Nature's whims,*

*Each one with its awe-inspiring limbs,
has need to be free
from our insouciance and roughness,*



***Our tendency
forever to neglect
the wonders
we should all strive to protect.***

Update on Diablo Heritage Oak Trees

OUR HERITAGE OAK TREES

“An Appreciation of Mt. Diablo Country Club” on a wall in the basement of the Diablo Country Club was written by a member in August, 1931. It begins with these words:

“A winding road through a parched countryside leads to a rare oasis called Diablo. The old oaks greet you on your arrival like hosts of some forgotten time.”

Our oaks stand proudly amongst Diablo’s beautiful and unique homes, some of them with architecture harking back to the Twenties. Though we have lost many large oaks over time, the ones left standing continue to help create the ambiance that makes our community stand out from other communities.

The registration of sixty-three Heritage Oak Trees took place in 1998 as a project commissioned by the Diablo Property Owners Association. Students from Athenian School identified many oak trees in Diablo that qualified for the County’s designation of each tree as a “Heritage Oak Tree.” The committee drew a plot map of the homeowner’s property including the species, the circumference and canopy of the tree and the distance from the house measurements. An application with a photograph of each tree was submitted to the County. As a consequence, homeowners would have to pay \$1500 and submit a form to remove a Heritage Oak. The purpose of this program was to save the Heritage Oak Trees.

Homeowners of Heritage Oak Trees were honored at the Annual Dinner in January, 1999, and invited to a celebration party at the Fleury home. The party featured a May Pole, entertainment by a guitarist from Diablo and the distribution of plaques for each tree.

Over the years, most owners of Heritage Oaks have expressed strong feelings of pride while standing under these magnificent oaks and discussing their valued trees which they try hard to preserve. Despite best intentions, sixteen of the sixty-three trees are gone leaving forty-seven remaining.

There are many reasons why we have lost some of our trees. In some cases, the trees were overwatered due to flowers planted beneath them or by construction work being done on and around their roots. Usually, the homeowners have taken extreme efforts to keep the trees healthy, but, still, they died. Living in harmony with these huge giants is never easy. The best environment for them is plenty of room and little watering except the rains they get in the winter. The size of our properties and the need for building on them make it difficult to preserve our mighty oaks.

As the future of Heritage Oaks hangs in balance, the Diablo Historic Preservation Committee hopes that Diablo residents will take responsibility for both the historic homes and the vulnerable oaks which help to make Diablo such a unique community.

**Dee Geisler, Chair
Diablo Heritage Oak Committee**

Locations of Diablo's Heritage Oaks

1717 Alameda Diablo - four trees	1897 Calle Arroyo - three trees
1734 Alameda Diablo - one tree	2000 Calle Los Callados - one tree
1749 Alameda Diablo - one tree	2048 Casa Nuestra - one tree
1750 Alameda Diablo - one tree	2075 Casa Nuestra - one tree
1765 Alameda Diablo - one tree	1740 Club House - one tree
1873 Alameda Diablo - one tree	1661 El Nido - one tree
1884 Alameda Diablo - one tree	1671 El Nido - two trees
2001 Alameda Diablo - one tree	1733 El Nido - one tree
2145 Alameda Diablo - one tree	1857 El Nido - two trees
2166 Alameda Diablo - one tree	1874 El Nido - one tree
2255 Alameda Diablo - one tree	1875 El Nido - one tree
2366 Alameda Diablo - three trees	1879 El Nido - one tree
1625 Calle Arroyo - one tree	125 El Nido Court - two trees
1717 Calle Arroyo - one tree	1904 La Cadena - one grove of trees
1817 Calle Arroyo - two trees	1970 La Cadena - two trees
1843 Calle Arroyo - three trees	1973 La Cadena - two trees
	2323 Mt. Diablo Scenic Boulevard - one tree

Sizes of Trees

Largest trees: (and, likely, the oldest)

1625 Calle Arroyo -
21 feet in circumference

1857 El Nido -
18 feet, 10 inches

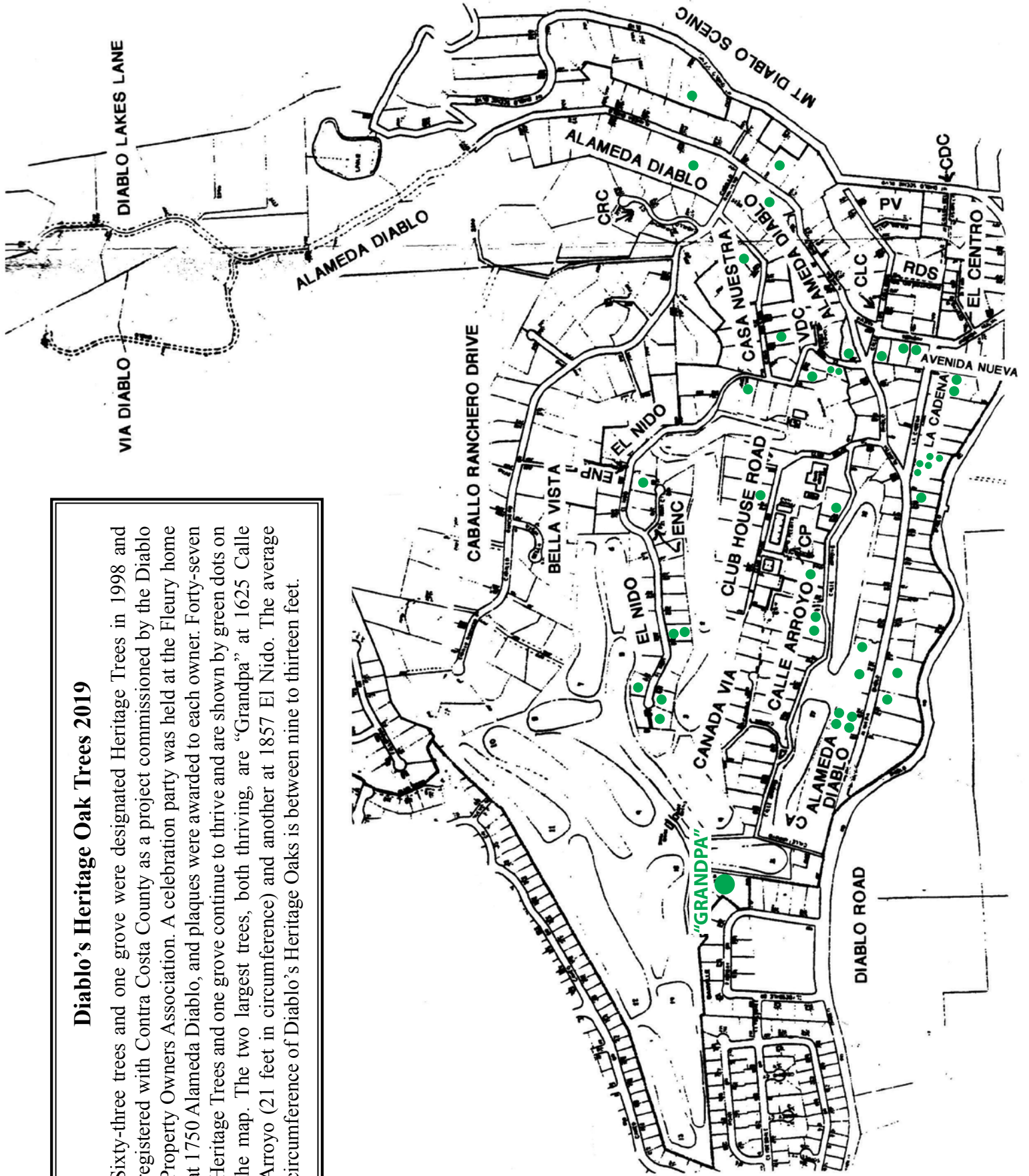
Second tree at this address -
15 feet, 7 inches



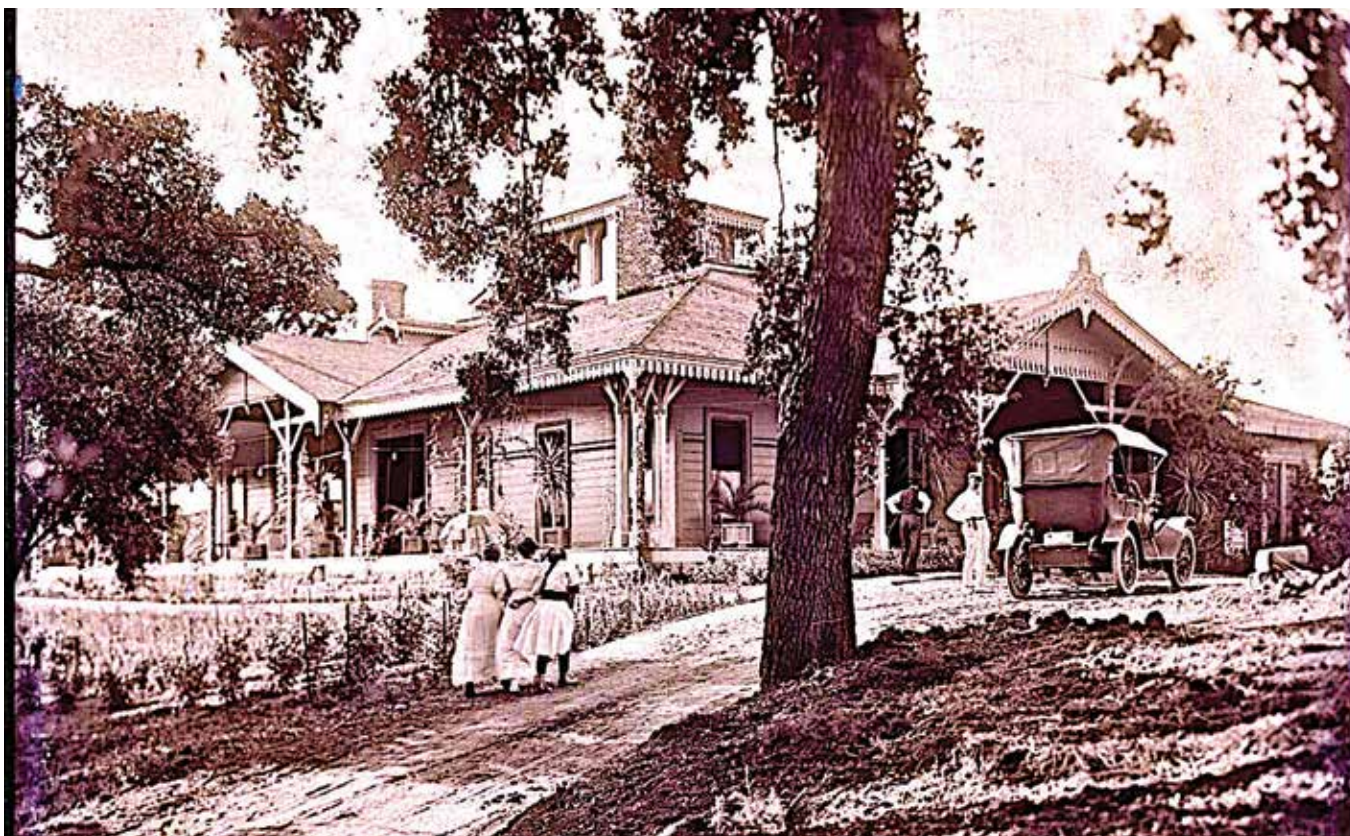
The average
circumference of
Diablo's Heritage
Oaks
is between 9
and 13 feet.

Diablo's Heritage Oak Trees 2019

Sixty-three trees and one grove were designated Heritage Trees in 1998 and registered with Contra Costa County as a project commissioned by the Diablo Property Owners Association. A celebration party was held at the Fleury home at 1750 Alameda Diablo, and plaques were awarded to each owner. Forty-seven Heritage Trees and one grove continue to thrive and are shown by green dots on the map. The two largest trees, both thriving, are "Grandpa" at 1625 Calle Arroyo (21 feet in circumference) and another at 1857 El Nido. The average circumference of Diablo's Heritage Oaks is between nine to thirteen feet.



Diablo's Treasures
Appendix



Original Club House Built in 1881

From Glass Negative Dated 1915

Diablo Time Line

By David Mackesey

- 1873:** The land purchased by the Associates, Collis Huntington, Leland Stanford, Charles Crocker and Mark Hopkins, The Big Four. They give it the name Railroad Ranch.
- 1874:** The Associates new partner, General David Douty Colton takes over the management of the Railroad Ranch.
- 1876:** Original ranch home, Oakwood, relocated to the site it occupies today.
- 1877:** David Colton purchases the Railroad Ranch from his partners.
- 1878:** David Colton loses his life from the resulting injuries after a fall from legendary stallion Don Juan at the Railroad Ranch.
- 1879:** Oldest daughter Carrie Colton marries Dan Cook, inherits Railroad Ranch and names it Colton Ranch, in loving memory of her father.
- 1881:** Dan and Carrie Colton Cook contract the original clubhouse.
- 1883:** Dan Cook passes, and the ranch is purchased by his brother Seth Cook, who gives it the name Cook Ranch.

- 1885: Seth Cook constructs the Grand Barn and Carriage Barn.**
- 1889: Seth Cook passes, and bequeaths Cook Ranch to his beloved niece, Louise Arner Cook Boyd. She names the ranch, Oakwood Park.**
- 1912: Robert Noble Burgess purchases Oakwood Park from Louise Boyd.**
- 1914: Burgess announces his vision, "A Community with an Ideal," and the Mt. Diablo Park Club is established.**
- 1915: Jack Neville designs a nine-hole golf course, built by John Smith of Carnoustie, Scotland.**
- 1916: First Golf Season at Mt. Diablo Park Club.**
- 1916: Diablo Post Office approved by Post Master General of United States.**
- 1917: Post Office opens in January and is soon located in the Grand Barn.**
- 1917: Arthur Benton designs and oversees the construction of the Chalet, the Club Cottages on El Centro and the relocation and reconstruction of the Carriage Barn that is newly named the Red Horse Tavern.**
- 1919: Robert Noble Burgess loses ownership and control of Diablo after The Great War, and his associates George McNear and Walter Frick acquire the assets. The club is renamed Mt. Diablo Country Club.**
- 1925: George McNear strikes the inaugural golf shot off the first tee at the grand opening of the second nine holes of the golf course.**
- 1929: Diablo Property Owners Association formed.**
- 1930: George McNear loses ownership of Mt. Diablo Country Club with the onset of the Great Depression. Gray Hills and Herb Hall take over leadership of the club.**
- 1937: The club is renamed Diablo Country Club.**
- 1942: The Construction Battalion (SEABEES) of the US Navy utilize the club facilities and community cottages in support of the war effort.**
- 1946: The club reopens to the membership.**
- 1948: Hills and Hall sell the Diablo Country Club to businessman Larry Curtola. He transforms the Club Inn to his private residence, rebuilds the clubhouse and sells the Red Horse Tavern.**
- 1948: Post office relocated to the Chalet from the Grand Barn.**

- 1949: Diablo Public Utility District formed to repair Diablo's roads and install sewer lines.**
- 1953: Post Office relocated to the Milk Barn from the Chalet.**
- 1961: Larry Curtola negotiates with Club President Bill Houston to sell Diablo Country Club to the membership.**
- 1961: Diablo Country Club constructs a tennis complex.**
- 1968: Diablo Community Services District formed to replace Diablo Public Utility District and add the provision of security services.**
- 1974: Diablo Post Office relocates from the Milk Barn to the former Golf Shop located on the east side of the first fairway.**
- 1975: The membership celebrates with a Mortgage Burning Party, paying off the original loan to purchase the club.**
- 1975: Diablo club and community petition to become an incorporated city is denied by LAFCO (Local Agency Formation Commission) because it is "too small to be a city," but its independence from emerging cities is established.**
- 1986: The Clubhouse is reconstructed keeping the original elements of the foundation, the footprint, the elegant Carriage Lounge, and the more recent facade of the 1948 building.**
- 2002: Diablo Historic District is approved by Contra Costa Supervisors.**
- 2014: Diablo Country Club celebrates its Centennial, in appreciation of the generations that came before us, each leaving Diablo a little better place.**



Diablo Treasures: By Date Built, Address, Original Owners and House Name

<u>Date Built</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Original Owners</u>	<u>House Name</u>
1876	1925 Alameda Diablo	General David & Ellen Colton	Oakwood
1881	1700 Clubhouse Road	Carrie Colton & Dan Cook	The Club
1881	1671 El Nido	David Colton	The Milk Barn
1885	111 El Centro	Seth Cook 1885/ R. N. Burgess 1917	Barn / Red Horse Tavern
1915	1717 Alameda Diablo	Edwin and Mabel Bull	The Edwin Bull Home
1915	1607 Calle Arroyo	Mt. Diablo Park Club	Gardener's Cottage
1916	1699 Alameda Diablo	William Letts & Carrie Oliver	Villa Valparaiso
1916	1924 Alameda Diablo	OA&E RR/'49 Robert & Marie Bell	Hacienda de las Palmas
1916	2133 Alameda Diablo	Dt. Charles L. & Wilhelmina Morey	Iris Banks
1916	1789-A Calle Arroyo	Robert Noble & Anne Fish Burgess	The Carriage House
1916	1817 Calle Arroyo	Robert Noble & Anne Fish Burgess	Fairway Oaks
1916	1700 Clubhouse Road	Mt. Diablo Park Club	The Golf Course
1916	1701 El Nido	Diablo Country Club	The Post Office
1917	1700 Alameda Diablo	George C. & Anita Oliver Jensen	Friendly Oaks
1917	1842 Alameda Diablo	Judge H. A. & Susan Morse Melvin	Sister Cottage
1917	1850 Alameda Diablo	Jenkin Bevin & Ruth Morse John	Twin Creeks
1917	1884 Alameda Diablo	H. C. Macaulay	Fern Banks
1917	1896 Alameda Diablo	Edwin Lee & Helen Cooper	Green Gables
1917	21 Calle Del Casarillo	Unknown	Grande Roble
1917	120 El Centro	Mt. Diablo Park Club	Cottage Number One
1917	125 El Centro	Mt. Diablo Park Club	Cottage Number Five
1917	131 El Centro	Mt. Diablo Park Club	Cottage Number Six
1917	140 El Centro	Mt. Diablo Park Club	Cottage Number Four
1917	1675 El Nido: Chalet	Mt. Diablo Park Club	The Chalet
1917	1956 La Cadena	I. M. or Herbert G. Prost	Creekside
1918	2145 Alameda Diablo	Dr. Charles L. & Wilhelmina Morey	Donna Linda
1920	2121 Alameda Diablo	De. Charles L. & Wilhelmina Morey	Summer House
1920	2139 Alameda Diablo	Dr. Charles L. & Wilhelmina Morey	Cottage Mac
1920	1812 Club House Road	Mr. & Mrs. Ernest A. Kahl Mr.	Ghirardelli Gatehouse
1920s	2084 Alameda Diablo	& Mrs. Abe P. Leach Gump	Home Again
1920s	2100 Alameda Diablo	Family Daughter	Storybook Cottage
1920s	2323 Caballo Ranchero	The Richardson Family	The Richardson Home
1920s	2070 Casa Nuestra	Unknown	Dias Dorados
1920s	1733 El Nido	A.E. Fern	The Fern Home
1920s	1942 La Cadena	S. H. Burns	The Burns Home
1921	1833 Alameda Diablo	Hubert & Elizabeth Hunt	Miraflores
1921	2185 Alameda Diablo	Unknown	Secret Garden
1923	1734 Alameda Diablo	Stuart & Harriet Hawley	The Ladies 19th Hole
1924	2166 Alameda Diablo	William Dolges	Gablewood
1924	1897 Calle Arroyo	G. D. Greenwood	Casa Blanca
1924	1778 Club House Road	Herb & Susan Hall	Casa del Sol
1925	2067 Alameda Diablo	George C. & Morgenia Browne	Green Gates
1925	2072 Alameda Diablo	Unknown	Deer Haven
1925	2093 Calle Los Callados	Hamilton Davis	Whispering Oaks
1925	1965 Diablo Road	R. D. & Mary Fish	Derby Creek
1925	119 El Centro	Mt. Diablo Country Club Cecil	Gingham Cottage
1926	1872 Alameda Diablo	& Marilyn Putnam Walter P.	Los Olivos
1926	2060 Alameda Diablo	Frick	Nido de Angeles
1926	1843 Calle Arroyo	Dr. Edward and Edith Love	Pixie Hollow
1927	1765 Alameda Diablo	Frank Leach Jr.	Green Shutters
1927	2043 Calle Los Callados	Fred & Alice Thomas	Tilepile
1927	36 Campo Pelota	G. Monroe Greenwood William	Camelot Cottage
1928	2154 Alameda Diablo	G. Corlett	Diablo Lair

Diablo Treasures by Address, Original Owners and House Name

<u>Address</u>	<u>Original Owners</u>	<u>House Name</u>
1. 1699 Alameda Diablo	William Letts & Carrie Oliver	Villa Valparaiso
2. 1700 Alameda Diablo	George C. & Anita Oliver Jensen	Friendly Oaks
3. 1717 Alameda Diablo	Edwin and Mabel Bull	The Edwin Bull Home
4. 1734 Alameda Diablo	Stuart & Harriet Hawley	The Ladies 19th Hole
5. 1765 Alameda Diablo	Frank Leach Jr.	Green Shutters
6. 1833 Alameda Diablo	Hubert & Elizabeth Hunt	Miraflores
7. 1842 Alameda Diablo	Judge H. A. & Susan Morse Melvin	Sister Cottage
8. 1850 Alameda Diablo	Jenkin Bevin & Ruth Morse John	Twin Creeks
9. 1872 Alameda Diablo	Cecil & Marilyn Putnam	Los Olivos
10. 1884 Alameda Diablo	H. C. Macaulay	Fern Banks
11. 1896 Alameda Diablo	Edwin Lee & Helen Cooper	Green Gables
12. 1924 Alameda Diablo	Robert & Marie Bell	Hacienda de las Palmas
13. 1925 Alameda Diablo	General David & Ellen Colton	Oakwood
14. 2060 Alameda Diablo	Walter P. Frick	Nido de Angeles
15. 2067 Alameda Diablo	George C. & Morgenia Browne	Green Gates
16. 2072 Alameda Diablo	Unknown	Deer Haven
17. 2084 Alameda Diablo	Mr. & Mrs. Abe P. Leach	Home Again
18. 2100 Alameda Diablo	Gump Family Daughter	Storybook Cottage
19. 2121 Alameda Diablo	Dr. Charles L. & Wilhelmina Morey	Summer House
20. 2133 Alameda Diablo	Dr. Charles L. & Wilhelmina Morey	Iris Banks
21. 2139 Alameda Diablo	Dr. Charles L. & Wilhelmina Morey	Cottage Mac
22. 2145 Alameda Diablo	Dr. Charles L. & Wilhelmina Morey	Donna Linda
23. 2154 Alameda Diablo	William G. Corlett	Diablo Lair
24. 2166 Alameda Diablo	William Dolges	Gablewood
25. 2185 Alameda Diablo	Unknown	Secret Garden
26. 2323 Caballo Ranchero	The Richardson Family	The Richardson Home
27. 1607 Calle Arroyo	Mt. Diablo Park Club	Gardener's Cottage
28. 1789-A Calle Arroyo	Robert Noble & Anne Fish Burgess	The Carriage House
29. 1817 Calle Arroyo	Robert Noble & Anne Fish Burgess	Fairway Oaks
30. 1843 Calle Arroyo	Dr. Edward and Edith Love	Pixie Hollow
31. 1897 Calle Arroyo	G. D. Greenwood	Casa Blanca
32. 21 Calle Del Casarillo	Unknown	Grande Roble
33. 2043 Calle Los Callados	Fred & Alice Thomas	Tilepile
34. 2093 Calle Los Callados	Hamilton Davis	Whispering Oaks
35. 36 Campo Pelota	G. Monroe Greenwood	Camelot Cottage
36. 2070 Casa Nuestra	Unknown	Dias Dorados
37. 1700 Clubhouse Road	Carrie Colton & Dan Cook	The Club
38. 1700 Clubhouse Road	Mt. Diablo Park Club	The Golf Course
39. 1778 Club House Road	Herb & Susan Hall	Casa del Sol
40. 1812 Club House Road	Mr. & Mrs. Ernest A. Kahl	Ghirardelli Gatehouse
41. 1965 Diablo Road	R. D. & Mary Fish	Derby Creek
42. 111 El Centro	Seth Cook 1885/ R. N. Burgess 1917	Barn / Red Horse Tavern
42, 119 El Centro	Mt. Diablo Country Club	Gingham Cottage
44. 120 El Centro	Mt. Diablo Park Club	Cottage Number One
45. 125 El Centro	Mt. Diablo Park Club	Cottage Number Five
46. 131 El Centro	Mt. Diablo Park Club	Cottage Number Six
47. 140 El Centro	Mt. Diablo Park Club	Cottage Number Four
48. 1671 El Nido	David Colton	The Milk Barn
49. 1675 El Nido: Chalet	Mt. Diablo Park Club	The Chalet
50. 1701 El Nido	Diablo Country Club	The Post Office
51. 1733 El Nido	A.E. Fern	The Fern Home
52. 1942 La Cadena	S. H. Burns	The Burns Home
53. 1956 La Cadena	I. M. or Herbert G. Prost	Creekside

Diablo Treasures Original Owners Alphabetized

<u>Original Owners</u>	<u>House Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Robert & Marie Bell	Hacienda de las Palmas	1924 Alameda Diablo
George C. & Morgenia Browne	Green Gates	2067 Alameda Diablo
Edwin and Mabel Bull	The Edwin Bull Home	1717 Alameda Diablo
Robert Noble & Anne Fish Burgess	The Carriage House	1789-A Calle Arroyo
Robert Noble & Anne Fish Burgess	Fairway Oaks	1817 Calle Arroyo
S. H. Burns	The Burns Home	1942 La Cadena
David & Ellen Colton	The Milk Barn	1671 El Nido
David & Ellen Colton	Oakwood	1925 Alameda Diablo
Dan Cook & Carrie Colton	The Club	1700 Clubhouse Road
Seth Cook 1885/ R. N. Burgess 1917	Barn / Red Horse Tavern	111 El Centro
Edwin Lee & Helen Cooper	Green Gables	1896 Alameda Diablo
William G. Corlett	Diablo Lair	2154 Alameda Diablo
Hamilton Davis	Whispering Oaks	2093 Calle Los Callados
Diablo Country Club	The Post Office	1701 El Nido
William Dolges	Gablewood	2166 Alameda Diablo
A.E. Fern	The Fern Home	1733 El Nido
R. D. & Mary Fish	Derby Creek	1965 Diablo Road
Walter P. Frick	Nido de Angeles	2060 Alameda Diablo
G. D. Greenwood	Casa Blanca	1897 Calle Arroyo
G. Monroe Greenwood	Camelot Cottage	36 Campo Pelota
Gump Family Daughter	Storybook Cottage	2100 Alameda Diablo
Herb & Susan Hall	Casa del Sol	1778 Club House Road
Stuart & Harriet Hawley	The Ladies 19th Hole	1734 Alameda Diablo
Hubert & Elizabeth Hunt	Miraflores	1833 Alameda Diablo
Jenkin Bevin & Ruth Morse John	Twin Creeks	1850 Alameda Diablo
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest A. Kahl	Ghirardelli Gatehouse	1812 Club House Road
Mr. & Mrs. Abe P. Leach	Larklea (Home Again)	2084 Alameda Diablo
Frank Leach Jr.	Green Shutters	1765 Alameda Diablo
Dr. Edward and Edith Love	Pixie Hollow	1843 Calle Arroyo
H. C. Macaulay	Fern Banks	1884 Alameda Diablo
Judge H. A. & Susan Morse Melvin	Sister Cottage	1842 Alameda Diablo
Dr. Charles L. & Wilhelmina Morey	Summer House	2121 Alameda Diablo
Dt. Charles L. & Wilhelmina Morey	Iris Banks	2133 Alameda Diablo
Dr. Charles L. & Wilhelmina Morey	Cottage Mac	2139 Alameda Diablo
Dr. Charles L. & Wilhelmina Morey	Donna Linda	2145 Alameda Diablo
Mt. Diablo Country Club	Gingham Cottage	119 El Centro
Mt. Diablo Park Club	Cottage Number One	120 El Centro
Mt. Diablo Park Club	Cottage Number Five	125 El Centro
Mt. Diablo Park Club	Cottage Number Six	131 El Centro
Mt. Diablo Park Club	Cottage Number Four	140 El Centro
Mt. Diablo Park Club	Gardener's Cottage	1607 Calle Arroyo
Mt. Diablo Park Club	The Chalet	1675 El Nido:
Mt. Diablo Park Club	The Golf Course	1700 Clubhouse Road
George C. & Anita Oliver (Jensen)	Friendly Oaks	1700 Alameda Diablo
William Letts & Carrie Oliver	Villa Valparaiso	1699 Alameda Diablo
I. M. or Herbert G. Prost	Creekside	1956 La Cadena
Cecil & Marilyn Putnam	Los Olivos	1872 Alameda Diablo
The Richardson Family	The Richardson Home	2323 Caballo Ranchero
Fred & Alice Thomas	Tilepile	2043 Calle Los Callados
Unknown	Deer Haven	2072 Alameda Diablo
Unknown	Secret Garden	2185 Alameda Diablo
Unknown	Grande Roble	21 Calle Del Casarillo
Unknown	Dias Dorados	2070 Casa Nuestra

Diablo Treasures Current Owners Alphabetized

<u>Current Owners</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>House Name</u>
Adams, Penny Hearn	2043 Calle Los Callados	Tilepile
Aitchison, Tom & Roxanne	2100 Alameda Diablo	Storybook Cottage
Alioto, Joseph & Michele	1778 Club House Road	Casa del Sol
Barstad, Ted & Barbara	1850 Alameda Diablo	Twin Creeks
Beratta, Bob & Barbara	1765 Alameda Diablo	Green Shutters
Bewall, Chuck & Mary	1965 Diablo Road	Derby Creek
Biestman, Ross & Rebecca	1942 La Cadena	The Burns Home
Birka-White, David & Elizabeth	2166 Alameda Diablo	Gablewood
Capelli, Steve & Vanessa	1833 Alameda Diablo	Miraflores
Cella, Brian & Maryann	1896 Alameda Diablo	Green Gables
Chalet Owners A to H	1675 El Nido: Chalet	Chalet
Chandra, R. & Raefield, Jessica	125 El Centro	Cottage #5
Cobler, Michael	1734 Alameda Diablo	The Ladies 19th Hole
Corkern, Robert & Jill	1789-A Calle Arroyo	The Carriage House
Cox, Carl & Jan	2121 Alameda Diablo	Summer House
Diablo Country Club	1700 Clubhouse Road	The Club
Diablo Country Club	1700 Clubhouse Road	The Golf Course
Diablo Post Office	1701 El Nido	The Post Office
EB Houses: Red Horse Apts	111 El Centro	Red Horse Tavern
Field, Blake & Lisa	2084 Alameda Diablo	Home Again
Freeman, Josh & Chelsea	1843 Calle Arroyo	Pixie Hollow
Freeman, Marsh & Margaret	36 Campo Pelota	Camelot Cottage
Fulton, John & Laura	140 El Centro	Cottage #4
Girzadas, Jason & Virginia	2323 Caballo Ranchero	Richardson Home
Gonzalez, Tim & Cathy	2060 Alameda Diablo	Nido de Angeles
Grossman, Keith & Hallie	1607 Calle Arroyo	Gardener's Cottage
Harney, Chris & Christina	1925 Alameda Diablo	Oakwood
Jansen, Lyn & Cindy	2145 Alameda Diablo	Donna Linda
Keane, Justin & Leslie	1671 El Nido	The Milk Barn
Kennedy, Adam & Kathy	2133 Alameda Diablo	Iris Banks
Liniger, Lionel & Tasha	1956 La Cadena	Creekside
Mackesey, David & Lynda	1924 Alameda Diablo	Hacienda de las Palmas
McDonald, Paul and Sia	2139 Alameda Diablo	Cottage Mac
McEwan, Paul & Adrienne Lane	2185 Alameda Diablo	Secret Garden
Mehran, Maryam	1699 Alameda Diablo	Villa Valparaiso
Miller, Jeff & Karen	1812 Club House Road	Ghirardelli Gatehouse
Moeller, Jeff & Melody	21 Calle Del Casarillo	Grande Roble
Musco, Tré & Tracy	2093 Calle Los Callados	Whispering Oaks
Peck, Mary Lynn	1884 Alameda Diablo	Fern Banks
Punjani, Amein & Jeneffer	1733 El Nido	The Fern Home
Rand, Nannette W.	2072 Alameda Diablo	Deer Haven
Rand, Nannette W.	119 El Centro	Gingham Cottage
Rich, Gary & Rochelle	1700 Alameda Diablo	Friendly Oaks
Sardella, Williiian & Ellen	120 El Centro	Cottage #1
Scallan, Brett & Lori	2067 Alameda Diablo	Green Gates
Scarpelli, Mike & Janet	1817 Calle Arroyo	Fairway Oaks
Scharnell, Rob & Deborah	2154 Alameda Diablo	Diablo Lair
Serpa, Les & Jessica	1717 Alameda Diablo	The Edwin Bull Home
Smith, John and Anne	1872 Alameda Diablo	Los Olivos
St. John, Jay & Karen	131 El Centro	Cottage #6
Tiernan, Robert & Carissa	1897 Calle Arroyo	Casa Blanca
Weatherford, Tom & Kay	1842 Alameda Diablo	Sister Cottage
White, Hugh & Alice	2070 Casa Nuestra	Dias Dorados

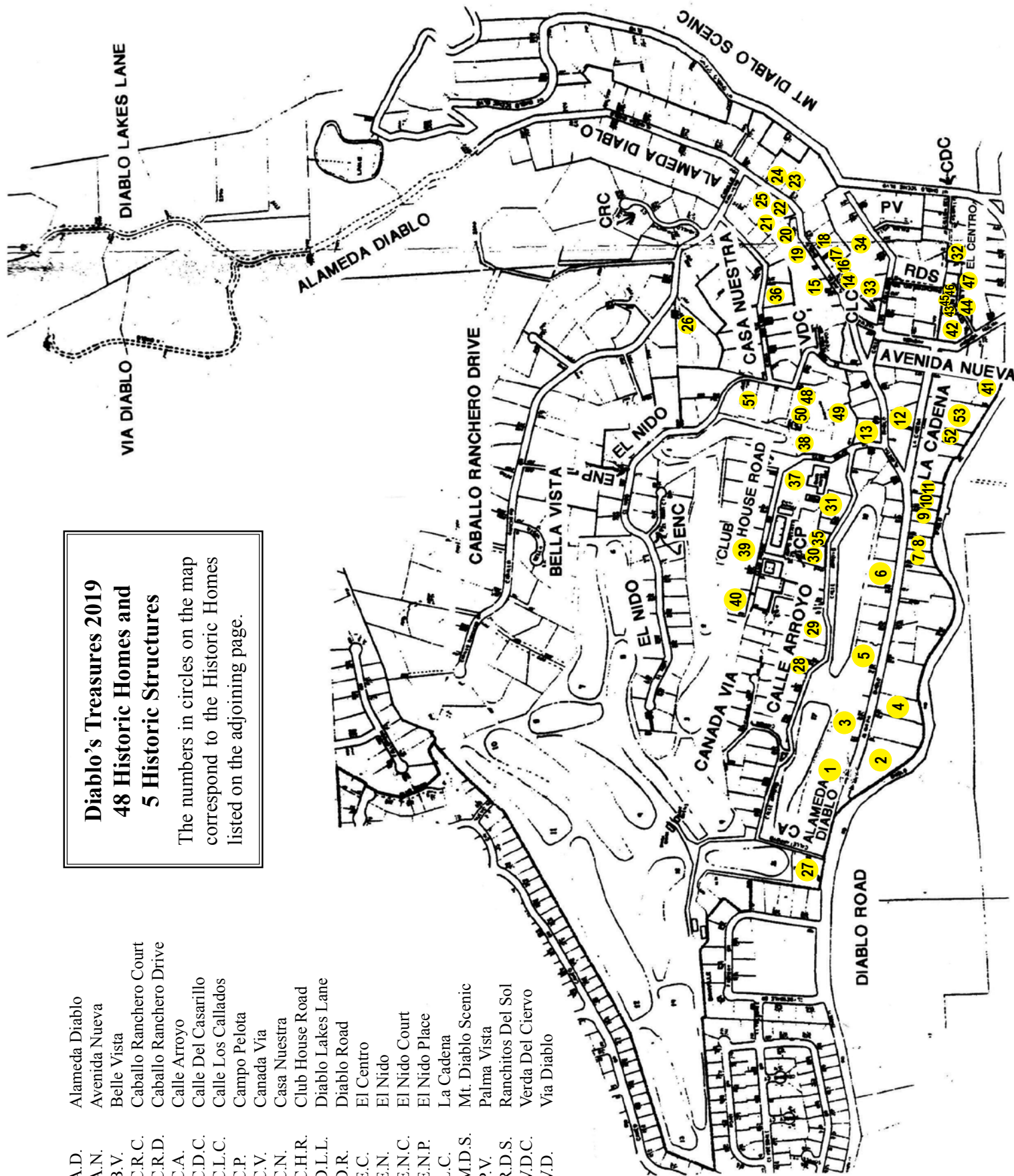
Diablo's Treasures - 48 Historic Homes and 5 Historic Buildings***

<u>Address</u>	<u>Current Owners 2019</u>	<u>House Name</u>
1. 1699 Alameda Diablo	Mehran, Maryam	Villa Valparaiso
2. 1700 Alameda Diablo	Rich, Gary & Rochelle	Friendly Oaks
3. 1717 Alameda Diablo	Serpa, Les & Jessica	The Edwin Bull Home
4. 1734 Alameda Diablo	Cobler, Michael	The Ladies 19th Hole
5. 1765 Alameda Diablo	Beratta, Bob & Barbara	Green Shutters
6. 1833 Alameda Diablo	Capelli, Steve & Vanessa	Miraflores
7. 1842 Alameda Diablo	Weatherford, Tom & Kay	Sister Cottage
8. 1850 Alameda Diablo	Barstad, Ted & Barbara	Twin Creeks
9. 1872 Alameda Diablo	Smith, John & Anne	Los Olivos
10. 1884 Alameda Diablo	Peck, Mary Lynn	Fern Banks
11. 1896 Alameda Diablo	Cella, Brian & Maryann	Green Gables
12. 1924 Alameda Diablo	Mackesey, David & Lynda	Hacienda de las Palmas
13. 1925 Alameda Diablo	Harney, Chris & Christina	Oakwood
14. 2060 Alameda Diablo	Gonzalez, Tim & Cathy	Nido de Angeles
15. 2067 Alameda Diablo	Scallan, Brett & Lori	Green Gates
16. 2072 Alameda Diablo	Rand, Nannette W.	Deer Haven
17. 2084 Alameda Diablo	Field, Blake & Lisa	Home Again
18. 2100 Alameda Diablo	Aitchison, Tom & Roxanne	Storybook Cottage
19. 2121 Alameda Diablo	Cox, Carl & Jan	Summer House
20. 2133 Alameda Diablo	Kennedy, Adam & Kathy	Iris Banks
21. 2139 Alameda Diablo	McDonald, Paul and Sia	Cottage Mac
22. 2145 Alameda Diablo	Jansen, Lyn & Cindy	Donna Linda
23. 2154 Alameda Diablo	Scharnell, Rob & Deborah	Diablo Lair
24. 2166 Alameda Diablo	Birka-White, David & Elizabeth	Gablewood
25. 2185 Alameda Diablo	McEwan, Paul & Adrienne Lane	Secret Garden
26. 2323 Caballo Ranchero	Girzadas, Jason & Virginia	The Richardson Home
27. 1607 Calle Arroyo	Grossman, Keith & Hallie	Gardener's Cottage
28. 1789-A Calle Arroyo	Corkern, Robert & Jill	The Carriage House
29. 1817 Calle Arroyo	Scarpelli, Mike & Janet	Fairway Oaks
30. 1843 Calle Arroyo	Freeman, Josh & Chelsea	Pixie Hollow
31. 1897 Calle Arroyo	Tiernan, Robert & Carissa	Casa Blanca
32. 21 Calle Del Casarillo	Moeller, Jeff & Melody	Grande Roble
33. 2043 Calle Los Callados	Adams, Penny Hearn	Tilepile
34. 2093 Calle Los Callados	Musco, Tré & Tracy	Whispering Oaks
35. 36 Campo Pelota	Freeman, Marsh & Margaret	Camelot Cottage
36. 2070 Casa Nuestra	White, Hugh & Alice	Dias Dorados
37. 1700 Clubhouse Road ***	Diablo Country Club	The Club
38. 1700 Clubhouse Road ***	Diablo CC Golf Course	The Golf Course
39. 1778 Club House Road	Alioto, Joseph & Michele	Casa del Sol
40. 1812 Club House Road	Miller, Jeff & Karen	Ghirardelli Gatehouse
41. 1965 Diablo Road	Bewall, Chuck & Mary	Derby Creek
42. 111 El Centro ***	EB Houses: Red Horse Apts	Red Horse Tavern
43. 119 El Centro	Rand, Nannette W.	Gingham Cottage
44. 120 El Centro	Sardella, Williiian & Ellen	Cottage #1
45. 125 El Centro	Chandra, R. & Raefield, Jessica	Cottage #5
46. 131 El Centro	St. John, Jay & Karen	Cottage #6
47. 140 El Centro	Fulton, John & Laura	Cottage #4
48. 1671 El Nido	Keane, Justin & Leslie	The Milk Barn
49. 1675 El Nido: Chalet ***	Units A to H (Individual Owners)	The Chalet
50. 1701 El Nido ***	Diablo Post Office	The Post Office
51. 1733 El Nido	Punjani, Amein & Jeneffer	The Fern Home
52. 1942 La Cadena	Biestman, Ross & Rebecca	The Burns Home
53. 1956 La Cadena	Liniger, Lionel & Tasha	Creekside

- A.D. Alameda Diablo
- A.N. Avenida Nueva
- B.V. Belle Vista
- C.R.C. Caballo Ranchero Court
- C.R.D. Caballo Ranchero Drive
- C.A. Calle Arroyo
- C.D.C. Calle Del Casarillo
- C.L.C. Calle Los Callados
- C.P. Campo Pelota
- C.V. Canada Via
- C.N. Casa Nuestra
- C.H.R. Club House Road
- D.L.L. Diablo Lakes Lane
- D.R. Diablo Road
- E.C. El Centro
- E.N. El Nido
- E.N.C. El Nido Court
- E.N.P. El Nido Place
- L.C. La Cadena
- M.D.S. Mt. Diablo Scenic
- P.V. Palma Vista
- R.D.S. Ranchitos Del Sol
- V.D.C. Verda Del Ciervo
- V.D. Via Diablo

Diablo's Treasures 2019
48 Historic Homes and
5 Historic Structures

The numbers in circles on the map correspond to the Historic Homes listed on the adjoining page.



Diablo's Treasures
Architecture

Architectural Styles of Diablo Treasures Listed by Address

<u>Address</u>	<u>Architectural Style</u>	<u>House Name</u>
1. 1699 Alameda Diablo	Spanish Colonial Mission Revival	Villa Valparaiso
2. 1700 Alameda Diablo	English Cottage	Friendly Oaks
3. 1717 Alameda Diablo	Dutch Colonial	The Edwin Bull Home
4. 1734 Alameda Diablo	Arts and Crafts	The Ladies 19th Hole
5. 1765 Alameda Diablo	French Normandy	Green Shutters
6. 1833 Alameda Diablo	Craftsman	Miraflores
7. 1842 Alameda Diablo	English Cottage	Sister Cottage
8. 1850 Alameda Diablo	English Cottage	Twin Creeks
9. 1872 Alameda Diablo	Spanish Revival	Los Olivos
10. 1884 Alameda Diablo	Arts and Crafts	Fern Banks
11. 1896 Alameda Diablo	Shingle	Green Gables
12. 1924 Alameda Diablo	Mexican Hacienda	Hacienda de las Palmas
13. 1925 Alameda Diablo	Italianate	Oakwood
14. 2060 Alameda Diablo	English Cottage	Nido de Angeles
15. 2067 Alameda Diablo	English Tudor	Green Gates
16. 2072 Alameda Diablo	English Cottage	Deer Haven
17. 2084 Alameda Diablo	English Cottage	Home Again
18. 2100 Alameda Diablo	English Cottage	Storybook Cottage
19. 2121 Alameda Diablo	Colonial Revival	Summer House
20. 2133 Alameda Diablo	Craftsman	Iris Banks
21. 2139 Alameda Diablo	Arts and Crafts Cottage	Cottage Mac
22. 2145 Alameda Diablo	Arts and Crafts Bungalow	Donna Linda
23. 2154 Alameda Diablo	Craftsman	Diablo Lair
24. 2166 Alameda Diablo	Rustic Colonial	Gablewood
25. 2185 Alameda Diablo	Arts and Crafts	Secret Garden
26. 2323 Caballo Ranchero	Traditional	The Richardson Home
27. 1607 Calle Arroyo	English Cottage	Gardener's Cottage
28. 1789-A Calle Arroyo	Traditional	The Carriage House
29. 1817 Calle Arroyo	Modified Prairie	Fairway Oaks
30. 1843 Calle Arroyo	Cottage	Pixie Hollow
31. 1897 Calle Arroyo	English Tudor Cottage	Casa Blanca
32. 21 Calle Del Casarillo	California Ranch	Grande Roble
33. 2043 Calle Los Callados	French Provincial	Tilepile
34. 2093 Calle Los Callados	English Tudor	Whispering Oaks
35. 36 Campo Pelota	California Ranch/Mission Revival	Camelot Cottage
36. 2070 Casa Nuestra	Spanish	Dias Dorados
37. 1700 Clubhouse Road	Colonial	The Club
38. 1700 Clubhouse Road	Originally Nine Links	The Golf Course
39. 1778 Club House Road	Spanish Style Cottage	Casa del Sol
40. 1812 Club House Road	French Country Cottage	Ghirardelli Gatehouse
41. 1965 Diablo Road	California Ranch	Derby Creek
42. 111 El Centro	Swiss Chalet	Red Horse Tavern
43. 119 El Centro	Cape Cod Colonial	Gingham Cottage
44. 120 El Centro	Cape Cod Colonial	Cottage #1
45. 125 El Centro	Cape Cod Colonial	Cottage #5
46. 131 El Centro	Cape Cod Colonial	Cottage #6
47. 140 El Centro	Cape Cod Colonial	Cottage #4
48. 1671 El Nido	Victorian Farm House	The Milk Barn
49. 1675 El Nido:	Swiss Chalet	The Chalet
50. 1701 El Nido	Swiss Chalet	The Post Office
51. 1733 El Nido	California Ranch	The Fern Home
52. 1942 La Cadena	Colonial Revival Cottage	The Burns Home
53. 1956 La Cadena	Colonial Revival/French Country	Creekside

Architectural Styles of Diablo Treasures Listed by Category

<u>Address</u>	<u>Architectural Style</u>	<u>House Name</u>
<u>Arts and Crafts</u>		
1734 Alameda Diablo	Arts and Crafts	The Ladies 19th Hole
1884 Alameda Diablo	Arts and Crafts	Fern Banks
2139 Alameda Diablo	Arts and Crafts Cottage	Cottage Mac
2145 Alameda Diablo	Arts and Crafts Bungalow	Donna Linda
2185 Alameda Diablo	Arts and Crafts	Secret Garden
<u>California Ranch:</u>		
21 Calle Del Casarillo	California Ranch	Grande Roble
36 Campo Pelota	California Ranch/Mission Revival	Camelot Cottage
1965 Diablo Road	California Ranch	Derby Creek
1733 El Nido	California Ranch	The Fern Home
<u>Cape Cod Colonial:</u>		
119 El Centro	Cape Cod Colonial	Gingham Cottage
120 El Centro	Cape Cod Colonial	Cottage #1
125 El Centro	Cape Cod Colonial	Cottage #5
131 El Centro	Cape Cod Colonial	Cottage #6
140 El Centro	Cape Cod Colonial	Cottage #4
<u>Cottage:</u>		
1843 Calle Arroyo	Cottage	Pixie Hollow
<u>Craftsman</u>		
1833 Alameda Diablo	Craftsman	Miraflores
2133 Alameda Diablo	Craftsman	Iris Banks
2154 Alameda Diablo	Craftsman	Diablo Lair
<u>Colonial:</u>		
1700 Clubhouse Road	Colonial	The Club
2121 Alameda Diablo	Colonial Revival	Summer House
1942 La Cadena	Colonial Revival Cottage	The Burns Home
1956 La Cadena	Colonial Revival/French Country	Creekside
1717 Alameda Diablo	Dutch Colonial	The Edwin Bull Home
2166 Alameda Diablo	Rustic Colonial	Gablewood
<u>English Cottage</u>		
1700 Alameda Diablo	English Cottage	Friendly Oaks
1842 Alameda Diablo	English Cottage	Sister Cottage
1850 Alameda Diablo	English Cottage	Twin Creeks
2060 Alameda Diablo	English Cottage	Nido de Angeles
2072 Alameda Diablo	English Cottage	Deer Haven
2084 Alameda Diablo	English Cottage	Home Again
2100 Alameda Diablo	English Cottage	Storybook Cottage
1607 Calle Arroyo	English Cottage	Gardener's Cottage

<u>Address</u>	<u>Architectural Style</u>	<u>House Name</u>
<u>English Tudor:</u>		
2067 Alameda Diablo	English Tudor	Green Gates
1897 Calle Arroyo	English Tudor Cottage	Casa Blanca
2093 Calle Los Callados	English Tudor	Whispering Oaks
<u>French:</u>		
1812 Club House Road	French Country Cottage	Ghirardelli Gatehouse
1765 Alameda Diablo	French Normandy	Green Shutters
2043 Calle Los Callados	French Provincial	Tilepile
<u>Italianate:</u>		
1925 Alameda Diablo	Italianate	Oakwood
<u>Links:</u>		
1700 Clubhouse Road	Nine Links 1916, 18 in 1925.	The Golf Course
<u>Mexican Hacienda:</u>		
1924 Alameda Diablo	Mexican Hacienda	Hacienda de las Palma
<u>Prairie:</u>		
1817 Calle Arroyo	Modified Prairie	Fairway Oaks
<u>Shingle:</u> 1896 Alameda Diablo		
	Shingle	Green Gables
<u>Spanish:</u>		
2070 Casa Nuestra	Spanish	Dias Dorados
1699 Alameda Diablo	Spanish Colonial Mission Revival	Villa Valparaiso
1872 Alameda Diablo	Spanish Revival	Los Olivos
1778 Club House Road	Spanish Style Cottages	Casa del Sol
<u>Swiss Chalet:</u>		
111 El Centro	Swiss Chalet	Red Horse Tavern
1675 El Nido:	Swiss Chalet	The Chalet
1701 El Nido	Swiss Chalet	The Post Office
<u>Traditional:</u>		
2323 Caballo Ranchero	Traditional	The Richardson Home
1789-A Calle Arroyo	Traditional	The Carriage House
<u>Victorian:</u>		
1671 El Nido	Victorian Farm House	The Milk Barn

Architects Who Designed “Diablo Treasures”

Applegarth, George (1876-1972): Designed “Fairway Oaks” 1817 Calle Arroyo and its “Carriage House” at 1789-A Calle Arroyo for Diablo’s founder R. N. Burgess.

Applegarth was a “society architect” who studied with Bernard Maybeck and designed houses for the wealthy San Francisco elite. Notable projects were the California Palace of the Legion of Honor, the Clift Hotel, residential and commercial projects for the Spreckels family (Spreckels Mansion) and the town of Clyde, California.

Benton, Arthur Burnett (1858-1927): Designed the Chalet, Red Horse Tavern and El Centro Cottages for R. N. Burgess. Benton promoted Mission Revival architecture and used this style for the First Church of Christ, Scientist, and the spectacular Mission Inn in Riverside, California.

Church, Thomas: Landscaped “Fairway Oaks” 1817 Calle Arroyo for R.N. Burgess.

Corlett, William G.: Designed “Diablo Lair” 2154 Alameda Diablo for his own home and the “Donna Linda” Bridges & Garage 2145 Alameda Diablo for his neighbor. His son, William G. Corlett III, designed the 1960 Olympic Winter Games Main Arena, Squaw Valley, California, and the Center Street School in Castro Valley, California.

Farr, Albert L. (Late 19th century - 1947): Designed “Whispering Oaks” 2093 Calle Los Callados for Hamilton Davis. Farr designed many buildings throughout the Bay Area, especially in San Francisco: Russian Hill, Pacific Heights, Sea Cliff and St. Francis Wood.

Knowles, William (1874-1916): Working with John White, he designed the “Gardener’s Cottage” at 1607 Calle Arroyo for the Gardener of the Mt. Diablo Park Club in 1914. Knowles was a prominent San Francisco architect who helped create the Crown Zellerbach building, the Standard Oil buildings and the headquarters of Pacific Gas and Electric Co. in San Francisco.

Maybeck, Bernard (1862-1957): Designed “Miraflores” 1833 Alameda Diablo for Mr. & Mrs. Hubert Hunt. Legend says he sketched the home design on a cocktail napkin. Maybeck built homes in the Mission, Gothic Revival and Arts and Crafts styles. He was awarded the Gold Medal of the American Institute of Architects, and the 1910 First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Berkeley is considered one of his finest works. He also designed the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco for the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exposition. Maybeck believed that the landscape was not to be subdued but should rather be enhanced by architecture; a home should be in harmony with its environment. He mentored renowned architect Julia Morgan.

Maybeck Students: Designed “Donna Linda” 2145 Alameda Diablo for Dr. Charles Morey and “Cottage Mac” next door at 2139 Alameda Diablo.

McCall, Charles (1878-1948): Designed "Villa Valparaiso" 1699 Alameda Diablo for William Oliver. Oakland native, Charles McCall was known for creating distinctive residential designs. He built lavish period revival homes like this Spanish Colonial Mission Revival home in Diablo and on Russian Hill in San Francisco.

Morgan, Julia (1872-1957): Although no Diablo homes are specifically listed among the homes she designed in the Bay Area, "Casa Blanca" at 1897 Calle Arroyo, the home built for G. D. Greenwood in 1924, reflects many of Morgan's most notable design elements and may be her work. In addition, Morgan's goddaughter, Lynn Forney McMurray, whose mother Lillian Forney was Morgan's longtime Secretary, believes that financial records indicate the former Hockenbeamer/Seabury home at 1904 La Cadena may have been remodeled by Morgan. As a student of Bernard Maybeck at U.C. Berkeley, Morgan embraced the Arts and Crafts Movement and in 1904 became the first woman architect licensed in the state of California. Although she led the restoration of the Fairmont Hotel after San Francisco's devastating 1906 Earthquake, designed over 700 homes and public buildings in the Bay Area including Asilomar in Pacific Grove, she is best known for her design of Hearst Castle in San Simeon for William Randolph Hearst.

Neville, Jack: Designed the first nine holes of the Mt. Diablo Park Club Golf Course, 1700 Clubhouse Road, for Burgess in 1915 and Pebble Beach Golf Links, Pebble Beach, California, in 1919.

Swallow, George: Designed addition of Second Floor and Renovations to "Miraflores" 1833 Alameda Diablo in 1986 for George and Shirley Hare.

Thomas, John Hudson (1878-1945): Designed "Tilepile" 2043 Calle Los Callados for his brother Fred Thomas and Fred's wife Alice. Hudson designed hundreds of homes in the Bay Area often by blending styles such as Craftsman, Prairie School, Mission, English Cottage and others. His homes in Berkeley's Claremont Park were featured in a Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association tour in 2017.

Watson, William: Designed second nine holes of Mt. Diablo Country Club in 1925, the Lake Course at the Olympic Club in San Francisco in 1924 and many others.

White, John (1870-1941): Designed "Gardener's Cottage" 1607 Calle Arroyo for Mt. Diablo Park Club with William Knowles in 1914. White was the brother of Annie White, wife of the architect Bernard Maybeck. In 1907-1908, he worked at Howard and White, Architects on reconstruction projects following the 1906 Great San Francisco Earthquake.

Yelland, William Raymond (1890-1966): designed "Green Shutters" 1765 Alameda Diablo for Frank Leach Jr. Yelland designed homes throughout the Bay Area and is noted for his Thornburg Village (storybook-style apartment cluster called "Normandy Village" designated a City of Berkeley Landmark in 1983) and Tupper & Reed Music Store—now a classic cocktail bar, also located in Berkeley.

Architectural Styles of Diablo Treasures Described

Arts and Crafts (1880-1920s) - The movement was more of a philosophy of design than a set of characteristics. Described as “simplicity, honesty and inherent beauty in a design,” this style is one of the most popular and enduring styles to this day. It originated as a backlash to the mass production of goods, which resulted in unattractive furniture and buildings and the demise of artisan traditions dating back centuries. Proponents valued the craftsman over the machine, nature and harmony over technology and automation. Drawing inspiration and instruction from nature, architects designed homes to fit into the landscape and be in harmony with the natural setting.

California Ranch (began in 1930s) - usually is a single "L" or "U"-shaped, one-story home, often rambling, with a hipped or gabled roof. They usually have attached garages, sliding glass doors and open rooms with large picture windows.

Cape Cod Colonial Revival (1900-1950) - one of America’s favorite house styles characterized by simple elegant lines and traditional forms. It is usually rectangular with two stories and a hipped or gabled roof. Double-hung, multi-paned windows are arranged symmetrically, often in pairs. The front door is centered, and the siding is usually clapboard. White for the exterior is preferred with trim in green, black or other dark hues. A variation of this style is the Rustic Colonial that features shingle or clapboard exterior siding and little ornamentation.

Craftsman (1900-1930) - shares the Arts and Crafts philosophy striving for “honesty of design,” individual craftsmanship and harmony with nature. The Gamble House in Pasadena by the Greene brothers is one of the first true Craftsman homes. The design, which includes an open floor plan and earth-hugging horizontal lines, uses a variety of natural materials.

English Cottage - Small, streamlined residences that resemble the medieval English style. This cottage often has a steeply pitched roof and cross-gables, large stone or brick chimneys often at the front of the house and small-paned bands of casement windows. Doorways are commonly arched or half-round.

Dutch Colonial is very similar to the Cape Cod Colonial Revival style described above but usually has a "gambrel" or "Dutch" roof. A gambrel roof is usually a symmetrical, two-sided roof with two slopes on each side. The upper slope is positioned at a shallow angle, while the lower slope is steep.

English Tudor (popular in the United States from 1915-1940) - outgrowth of the Queen Anne style favored for its storybook charm and design versatility. Its size varies from small to palatial. Decorative half timbering is common in the gable and second story. The multi-pane windows are separated by either wood or lead muntins.

French Normandy or French Country (popular during the First World War) - a building style that is characterized by steep, conical roofs or hipped roofs and round stair-towers. They usually have stone walls and are considered a more affordable model of the French chateau. French Provincial, which is similar, embodies French rural life that remains unchanged with its rustic textures, rich colors and somewhat primitive furnishings inspired by the countryside.

Italianate (1840-1885) - a unique revival style of architecture of the Victorian period distinguished by a low profile or flat roof which is seemingly supported by a row of decorative brackets or corbels. Brick, stone or stucco is used to construct the exterior. This style often features wide bracketed eaves, tall, rounded windows and a large porch.

Mexican Hacienda - This ranch-style is spread out and marked by vivid colors, wood-made beams in the ceiling, brick fireplaces and tiled interior. It usually has a cobbled garden courtyard, which works as a cooler system as it allows the cool air to flow freely over the floors.

Prairie (early 20th century) - was influenced by the Arts and Crafts Movement and featured built-in furniture, simple materials and open floor plans. It also appeared to grow out of the ground and featured a low pitched, overhanging hipped or gable roof, rows of windows, horizontal lines and wide use of natural materials, especially stone and wood.

Shingle - an American style made popular by the rise of the New England school of architecture, which avoided the highly ornamental patterns of other styles. This style was prominently used in the building of “seaside cottages” of wealthy families in such places as Newport, Rhode Island, and the village of East Hampton on Long Island. Houses were shingled to denote “passage of time” and often had hip roofs which emphasized the horizontal line.

Spanish Colonial Mission Revival (1915-1931) - movement that began in the early 20th century. The Mission Inn in Riverside, California, which integrates porticoes, pediments and colonnades into this style is a prominent example. Several cities that adopted this style in many of its buildings are Rancho Santa Fe, Santa Barbara and San Clemente, California.

Swiss Chalet - a style that was inspired by the rural chalets in Switzerland and other Alpine areas that was characterized by gabled roofs with wide eaves, exposed construction beams, decorative carving and moldings, balconies and weather-boarding.

Traditional - is styled to a previous era, predominately made of brick, stone, timber or a combination of these, and is usually modest and unpretentious.

Victorian Farm House - a dynamic medley of several architectural styles blended into something American. It included Gothic Revival with peaked gables, towers and a profusion of carvings and ideas from Italy, Japan and even the 18th century.

Architectural Glossary

Board and batten - method of building with vertical, structural boards; the seams are sometimes connected with battens (wood strips).

Clapboard - also called bevel siding, lap siding and weatherboard; wooden siding of a building in the form of horizontal overlapping boards built from the bottom up; designed to keep moisture from entering the walls.

Corbel - a structural piece of wood, stone or metal jutting from a wall to carry a superincumbent weight; an architectural bracket.

Divided light window - one with multiple planes of glass separated by muntins.

Dormer - window that projects vertically from a sloping roof.

Eaves - edges of the roof overhanging the face of a wall and projecting beyond the side of a building; sometimes decorative, but are formed mainly to throw water clear of the walls.

Gable - triangular portion of a wall between the edges of intersecting roof pitches.

Gambrel - "Dutch roof" usually a symmetrical two-sided roof with two slopes on each side. Similar to a mansard roof, but a mansard has four sides.

Grilles - Ventilation panels, often highly decorative; A group of fake muntins;

Hipped or Hip roof - a type of roof where all sides slope downwards to the walls, usually with a fairly gentle slope. A hipped roof has no gables.

Inglenook - a chimney corner; a recess adjoining a fireplace used in Arts and Crafts and American Shingle styles.

Lap siding, lapboard, lapwood siding and weatherboard all mean wooden siding of a building in the form of horizontal overlapping boards built from the bottom up; designed to keep moisture from entering the walls.

Mullion - a vertical bar or element between the panes of glass in a window or one which separates two window panes. Although commonly called a mullion, a horizontal bar serving the same purpose is more correctly called a "transom."

Muntin - a bar or rigid supporting strip between adjacent panes of glass. Muntins divide, reinforce and join glass within a single window or sash frame.

Shiplap - style of wooden wall siding made of long planks with grooves in the top and bottom that are joined and mounted horizontally with a slight overlap in a manner that evokes exterior ship walls. Early shipbuilding methods overlapped boards to keep out the wind and water making the vessel seaworthy.

Weatherboard - wooden siding of a building in the form of horizontal overlapping boards built from the bottom up; designed to keep moisture from entering the walls.

Diablo's Treasures

The Historic Homes &
Heritage Oaks of Diablo

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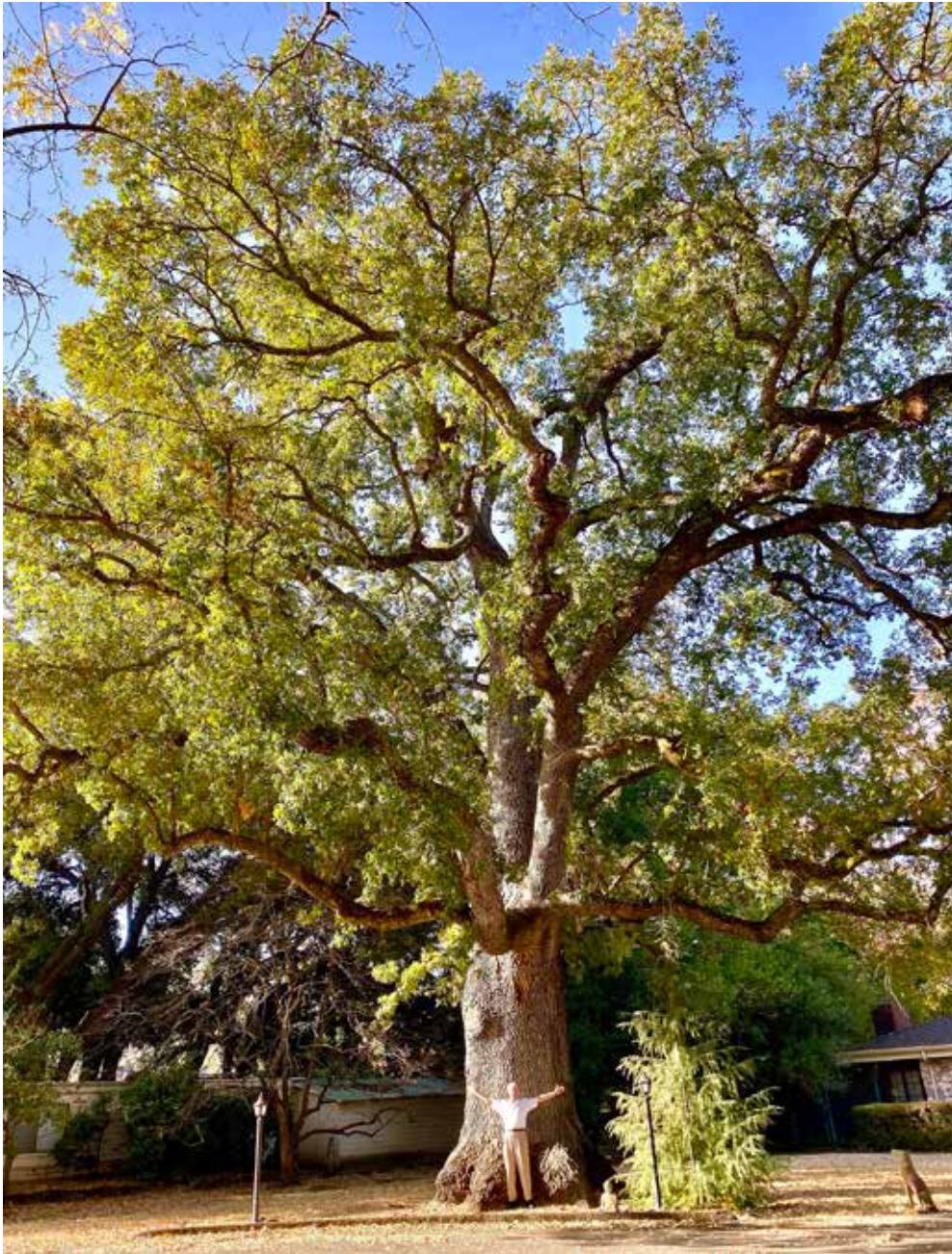
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***Our tendency
forever to neglect
the wonders
we should all strive to protect.***