

Lost Secrets of Molate and the San Pablo Peninsula



Highlights



- Point Molate (Winehaven) is the physical embodiment of both the zenith and the finale of the California Wine Industry prior to Prohibition
- Winehaven was a part of a highly industrialized development of the San Pablo Peninsula in the early 20th Century that included connections to intercontinental rail service, worldwide shipping, fishing, whaling, petroleum processing, quarries and manufacturing.
- Winehaven is a historic district listed on the National Register of Historic Places

Moleta to Molate



The name *Moleta* was applied in Mexican times to the island known as Red Rock, probably because its conical shape resembles the conical stone (called *moleta* in Spanish) used by painters to grind colors. Beechy in 1826 misspelled it “molate,” and this version was adopted in 1851 by the Coast Survey when it used the island as a secondary triangulation station. Point Molate was named by the survey in 1854.

Gudde, California Place Names, 1969

Moleta



Red Rock Island



Moleta



Ohlone - Huchiun Period 4,000 BCE – ca 1776



Mission Period 1776 - 1833



Mission San Rafael Arcángel - 1817



Mission Dolores Ranch

Priests from Mission Dolores established a ranch at Wildcat Creek 1817. Here they employed Native American converts known as neophytes in agricultural labor in order to ensure food supplies for the mission in San Francisco. In a similar manner, women's skills were turned to wool production, spinning, and the production of cloth, rather than basketry

Mexican Period 1821-1846

Berreyesa and De Haro Twins Execution - 1846

1846 – Boat sets out from Castro Point for San Rafael with Jose de Los Reyes Berreyesa, father of the imprisoned Sonoma *Alcalde*, and the 19-year-old de Haro twins, Francisco and Ramon, on their way to Sonoma to visit Berreyesa's son. The de Haro twins were the sons of Francisco de Haro, former *Alcalde* of the settlement that would become San Francisco. All were later executed by Kit Carson as ordered by Fremont.



Francisco de Haro

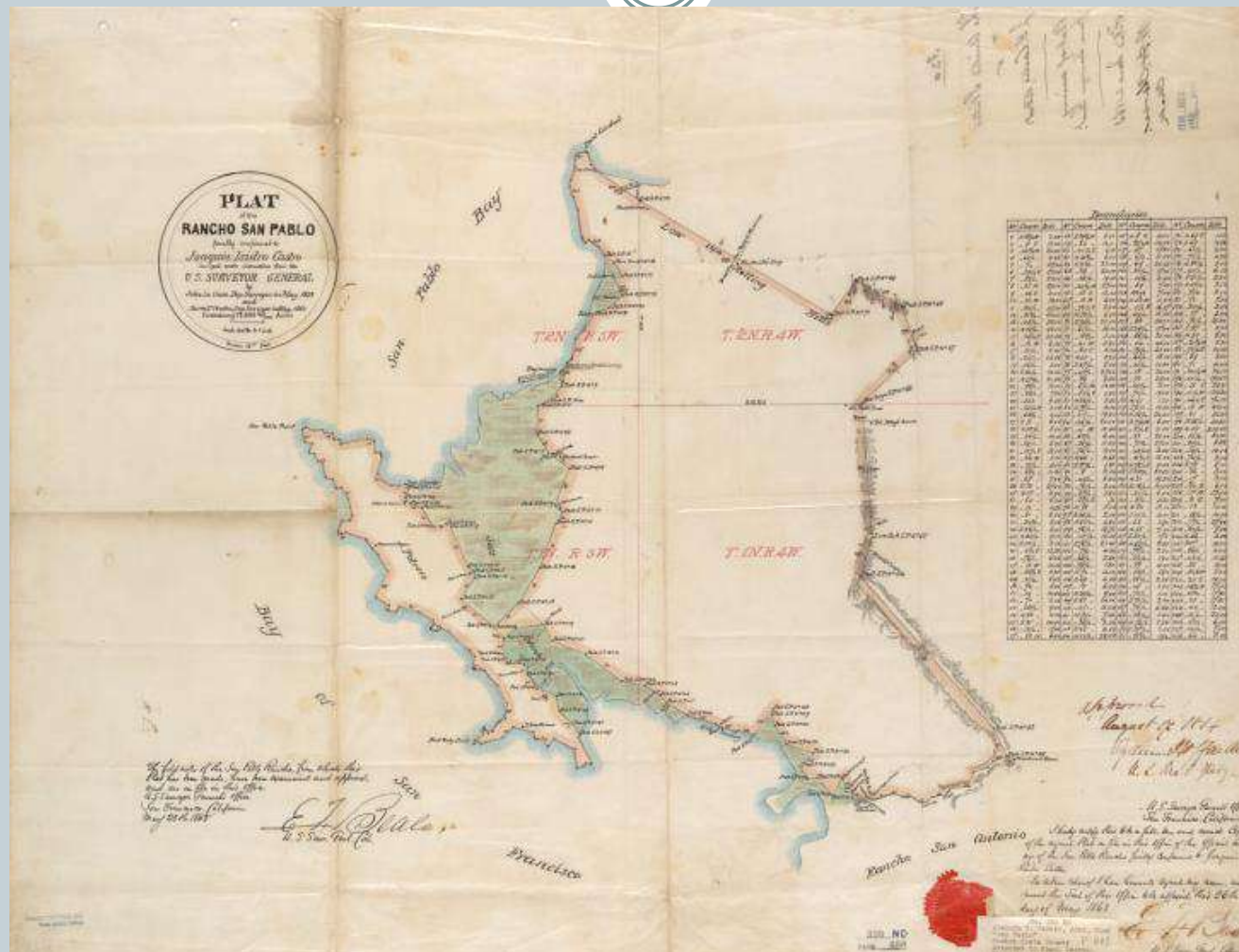
1894 – San Pablo Peninsula Was a High Tide Island – 10 Years Later....



On New Year's Day of 1903, the *Richmond Record Herald* touted the impending construction of a belt line railway along Richmond's western waterfront and around Point San Pablo, tying together "...the dozens of factories and great system of docks which are projected to entirely encircle the vast waterfront."



Plat of Rancho San Pablo, Granted 1823, Platted 1863



Chinese Shrimp Camp ca. 1870 - 1912



Chinese Shrimp Camp ca. 1870 - 1912



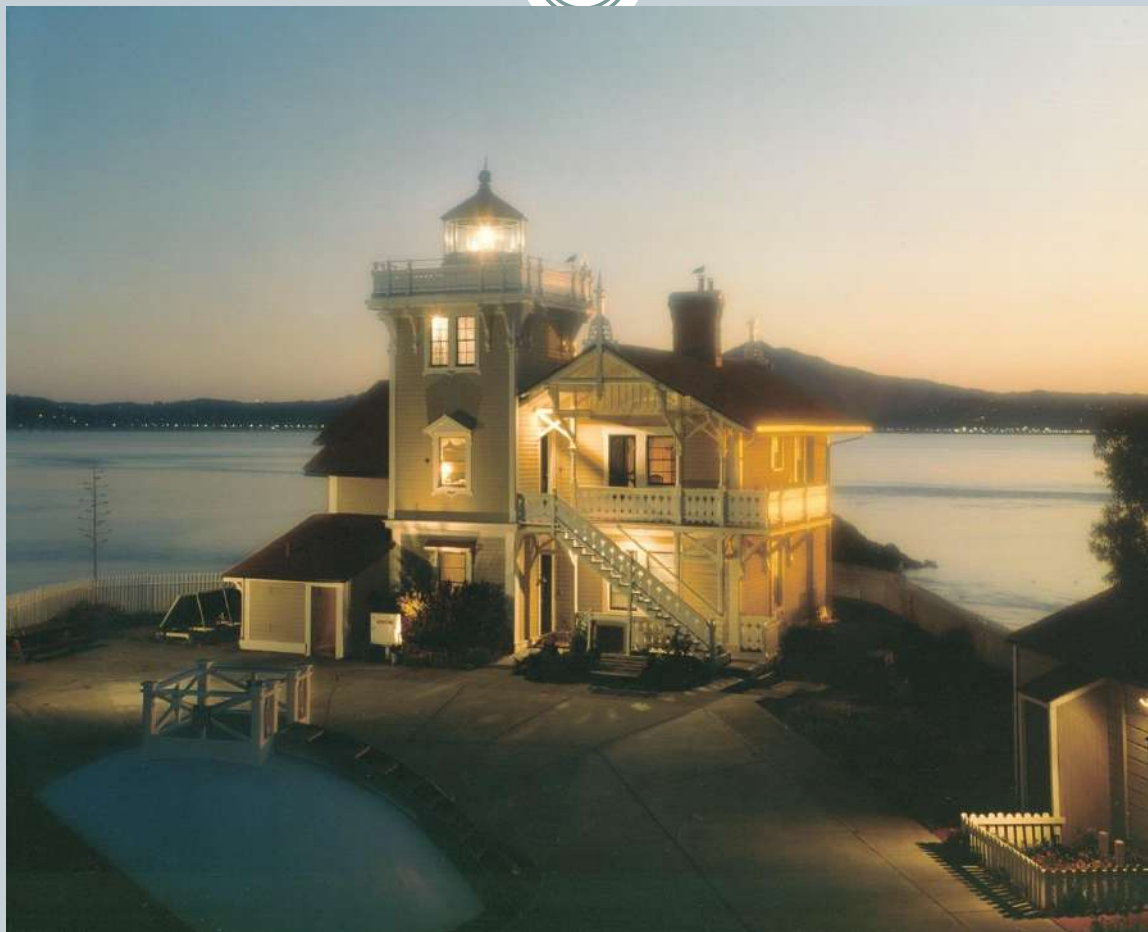
East Brother Light Station - 1874



East Brother Island 1978



East Brother Island Today



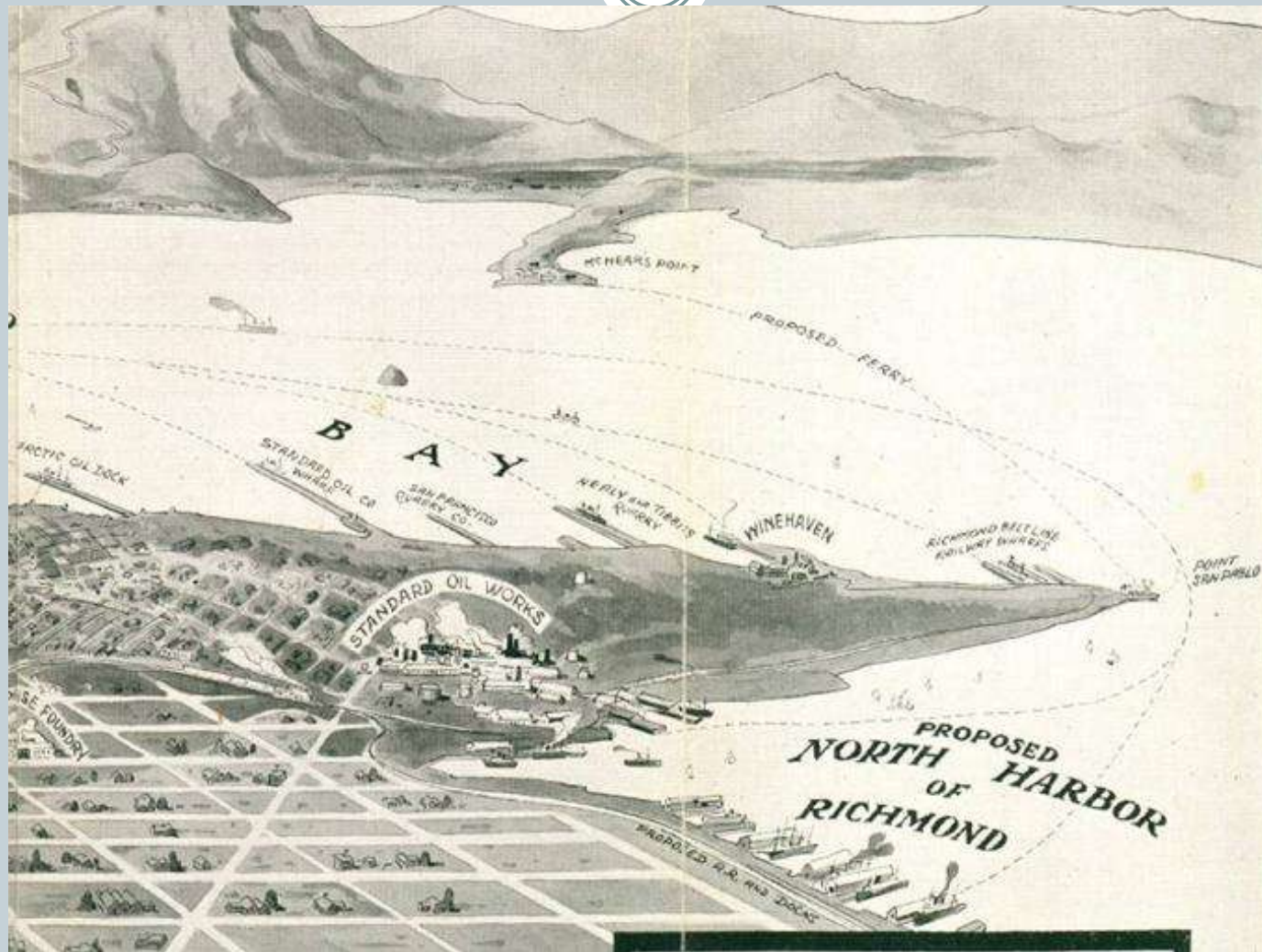
www.ebls.org

Industrialization of the San Pablo Peninsula

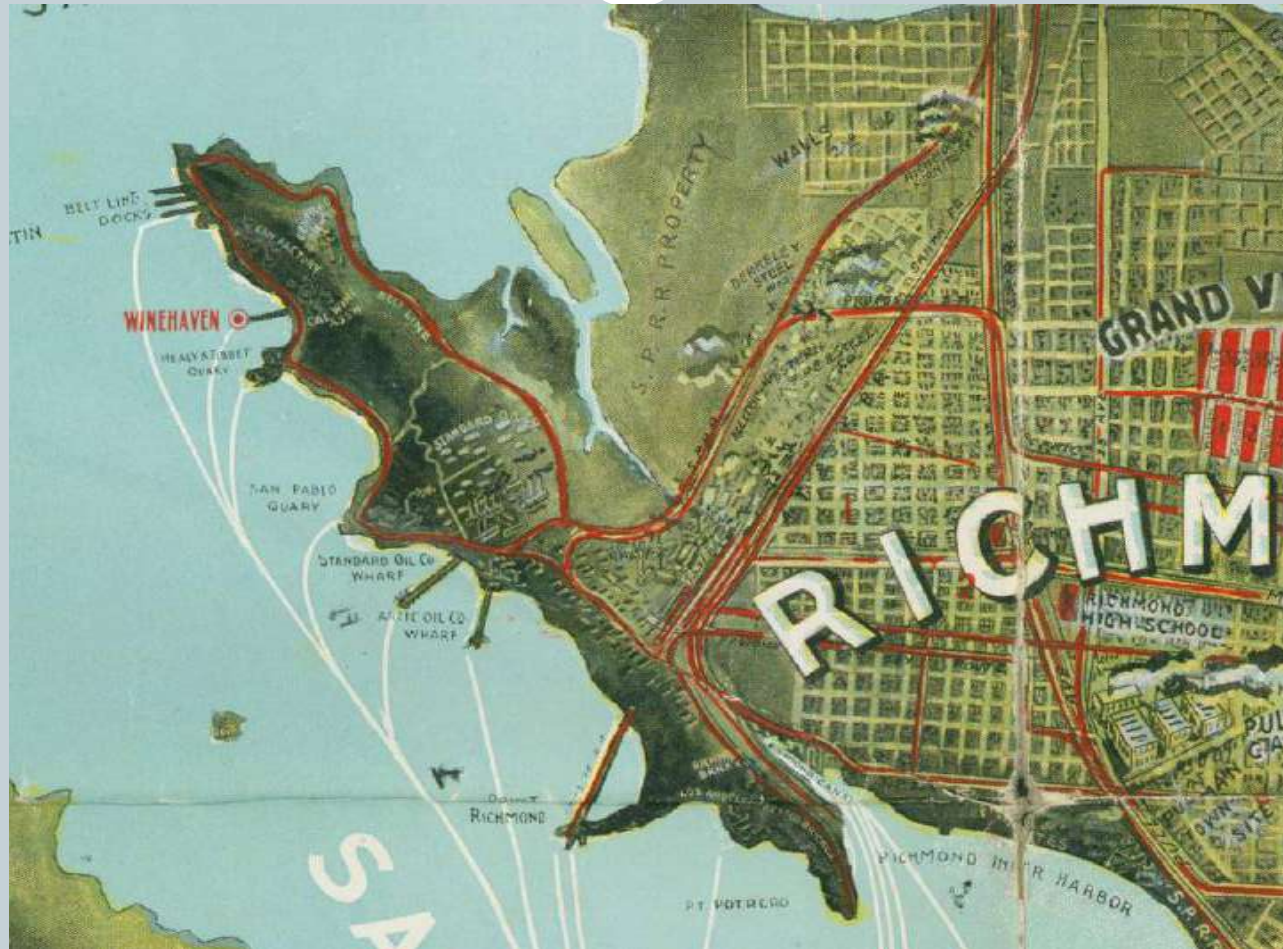


San Pablo Peninsula 1910

Industries of the Point San Pablo Peninsula



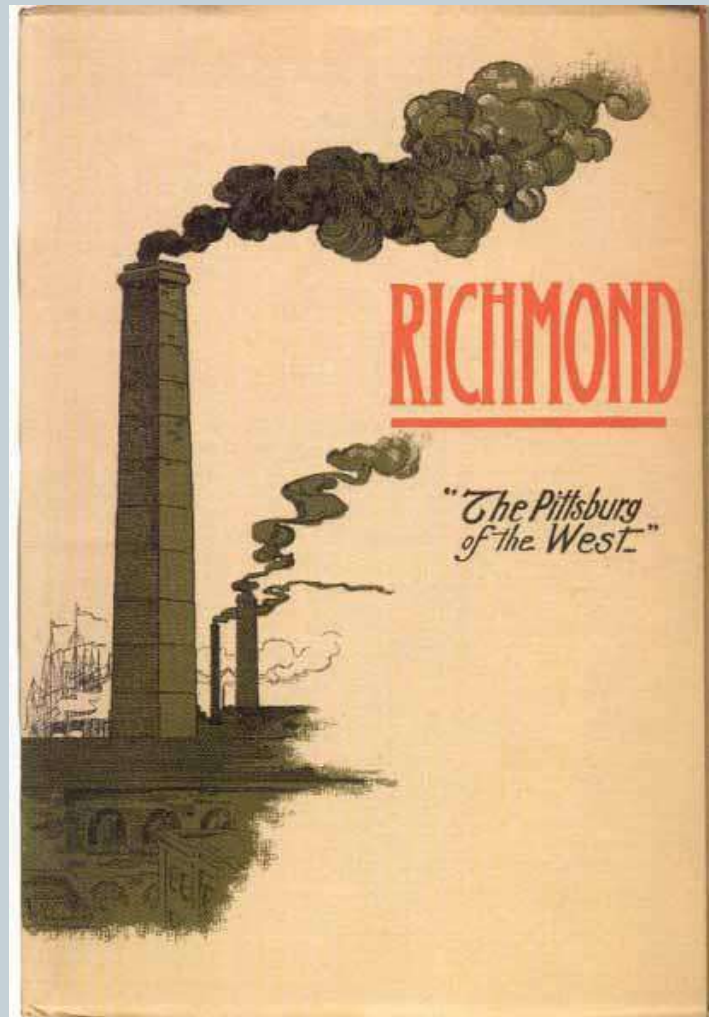
San Pablo Peninsula Industries



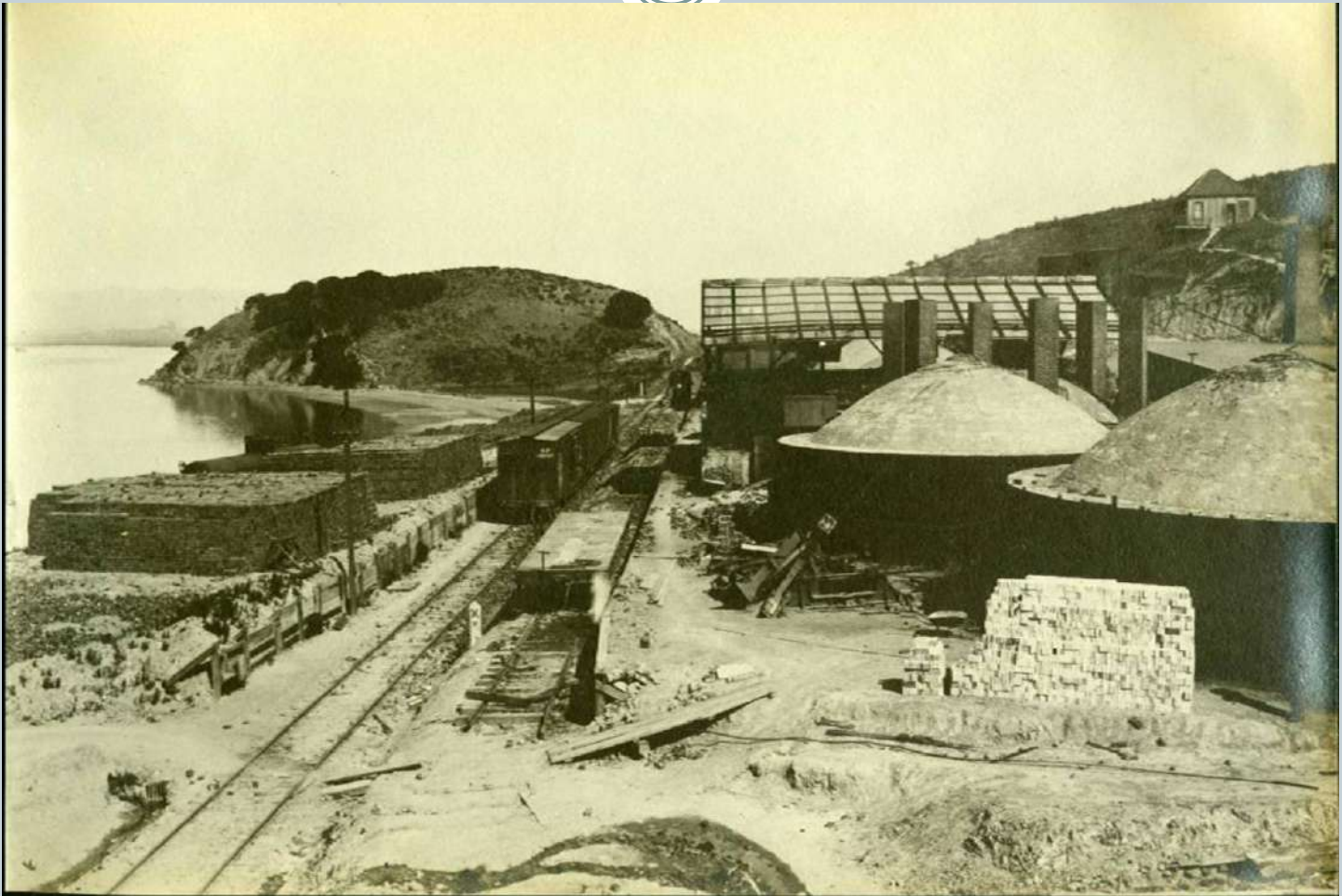
Richmond – “The Pittsburg of the West”



MAP SHOWING LOCATION OF
CALIFORNIA WINE ASSOCIATION'S MAMMOTH ESTABLISHMENT
AT WINEHAVEN, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.



Central Brick Company



North of Point Orient

Whale Oil Plant



At location of present Chevron “Long Wharf”

Healy-Tibbets Quarry – Point Molate

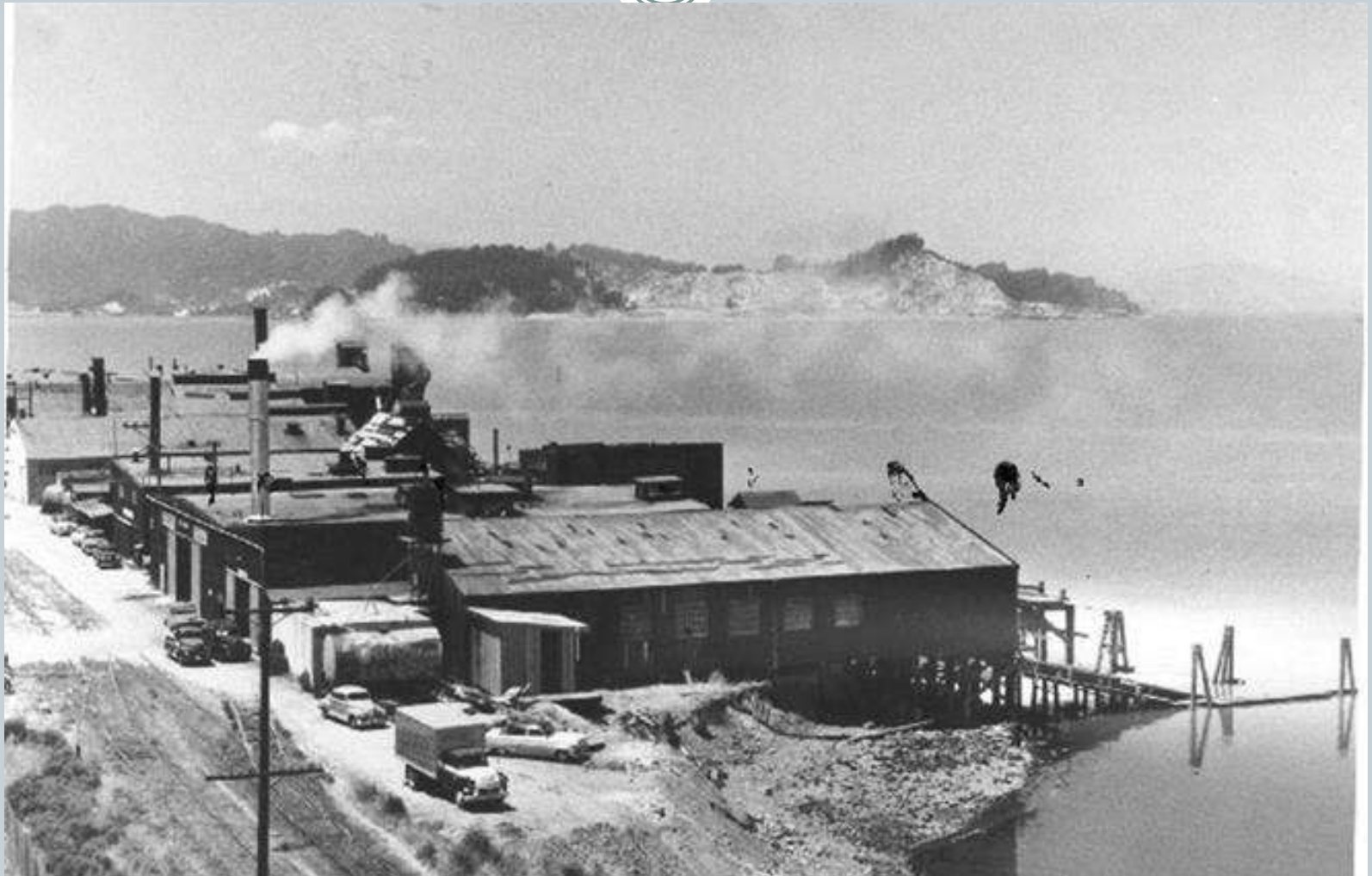


The Healy-Tibbets Quarry (now Point Molate) around 1910. Bob and Sadie Pickett, Bob Forrest, Rex and Vivian Gordon all lived at the Quarry. They took the Belt Line train, (which brought the Can Factory workers out) back to the Refinery and the street cars from the Asphalt Plant to the school.

Can Plant at Point Orient



Fish Processing at Point San Pablo



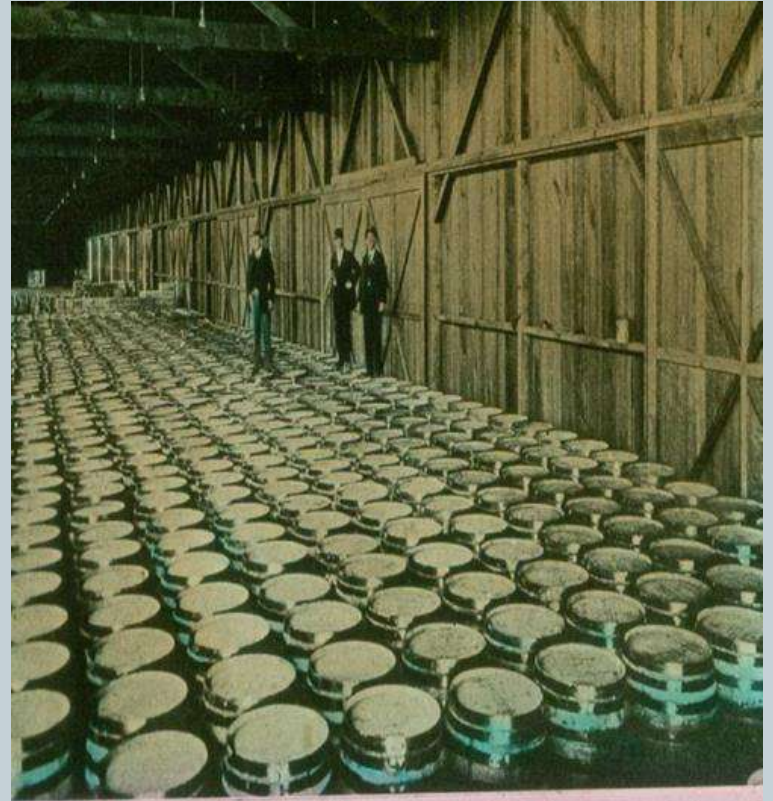
Point San Pablo and Point San Pablo Yacht Harbor



The last whaling station in the US
closed in 1968



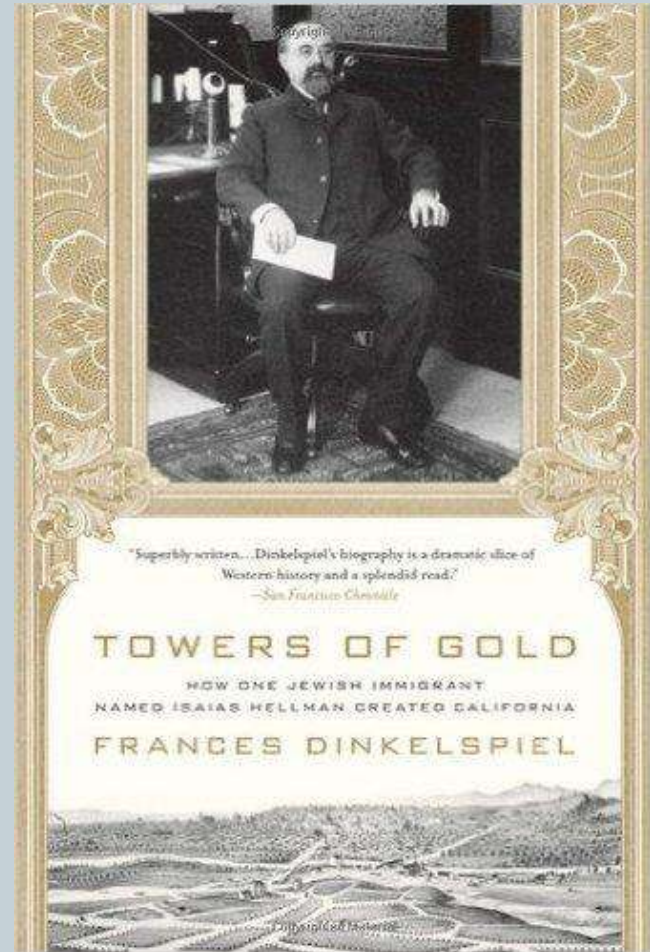
Belt Railroad Wharf



Cargo waiting shipment for Europe at
Belt Road wharf, Richmond.

Isias Hellman

Isias Hellman, a Jewish immigrant, arrived in California in 1859 with very little money in his pocket and his brother Herman by his side. By the time he died, he had effectively transformed Los Angeles into the modern metropolis we see today.



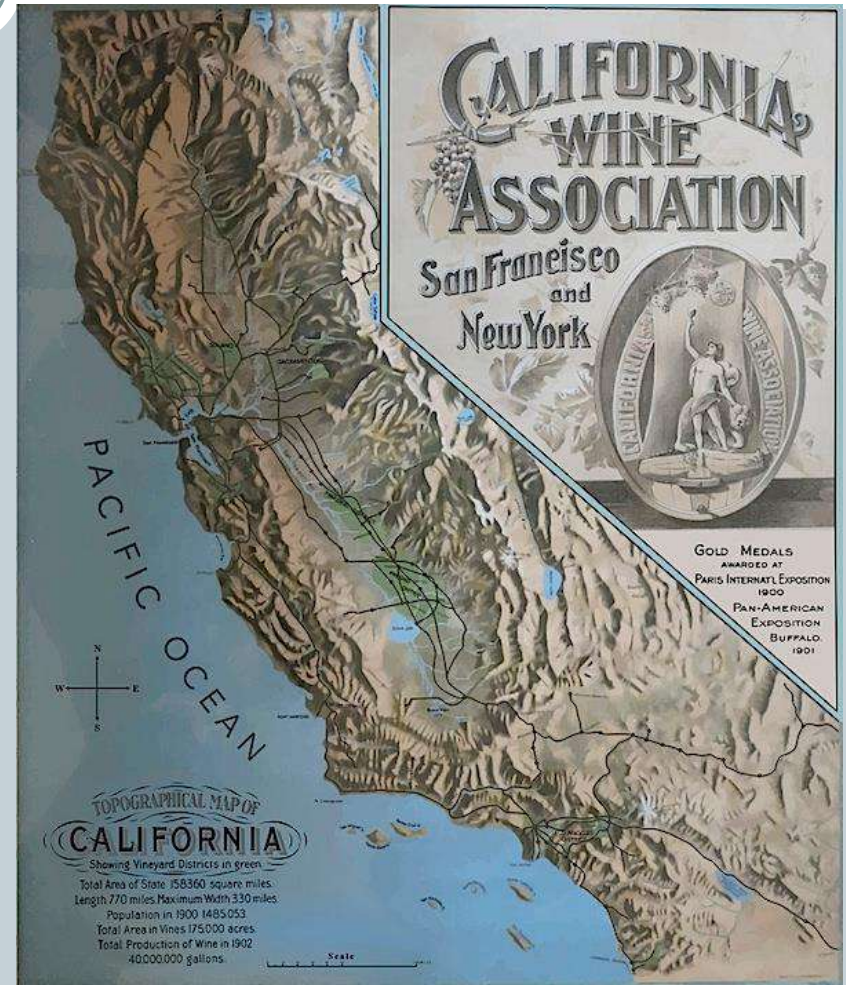
Isias Hellman and the California Wine Industry

- His influence, however, was not limited to Los Angeles. He controlled the California wine industry for almost twenty years and, after San Francisco's devastating 1906 earthquake and fire, calmed the financial markets there in order to help that great city rise from the ashes. With all of these accomplishments, Isaias Hellman almost single-handedly brought California into modernity.



California Wine Association

- The economic panic of 1893 created a glut of grapes, severely depressing the price of fruit and wine alike.
- The timing was right for someone to dominate the market in order to stabilize it.
- Founded in San Francisco in 1894, the C.W.A. was owned by the biggest and most successful wine merchants in the city, who had their hands in everything from the ownership of vineyards across the state to wineries and distributorships.



1902 map touts C.W.A awards and geographic reach

California Wine Association

INCORPORATED AUGUST 19 1894

California Wine Association

OWNER AND HANDLER OF THE
OLD ESTABLISHED BRANDS OF

KÖHLER & FRÖHLING. S. LACHMAN CO.
B. DREYFUS & CO. C. CARPY & CO.
NAPA VALLEY WINE CO. KÖHLER & VAN BERGEN
AND ITS OWN BRANDS.

San Francisco Dec. 3, 1900

SAN FRANCISCO
OFFICES, 661 TO 671 THIRD ST.

PERCY T. MORGAN, Pres. & Gen. Mgr. HENRY VAN BERGEN, Secy & Treas.
ALBERT LACHMAN, Vice-President HENRY LACHMAN, Genl. Supt.
J. FROWENFELD, Vice-President HENRY KÖHLER, Supt. Wineries.
CHARLES CARPY.
FERD. FROWMAN, Asst. Mgr.

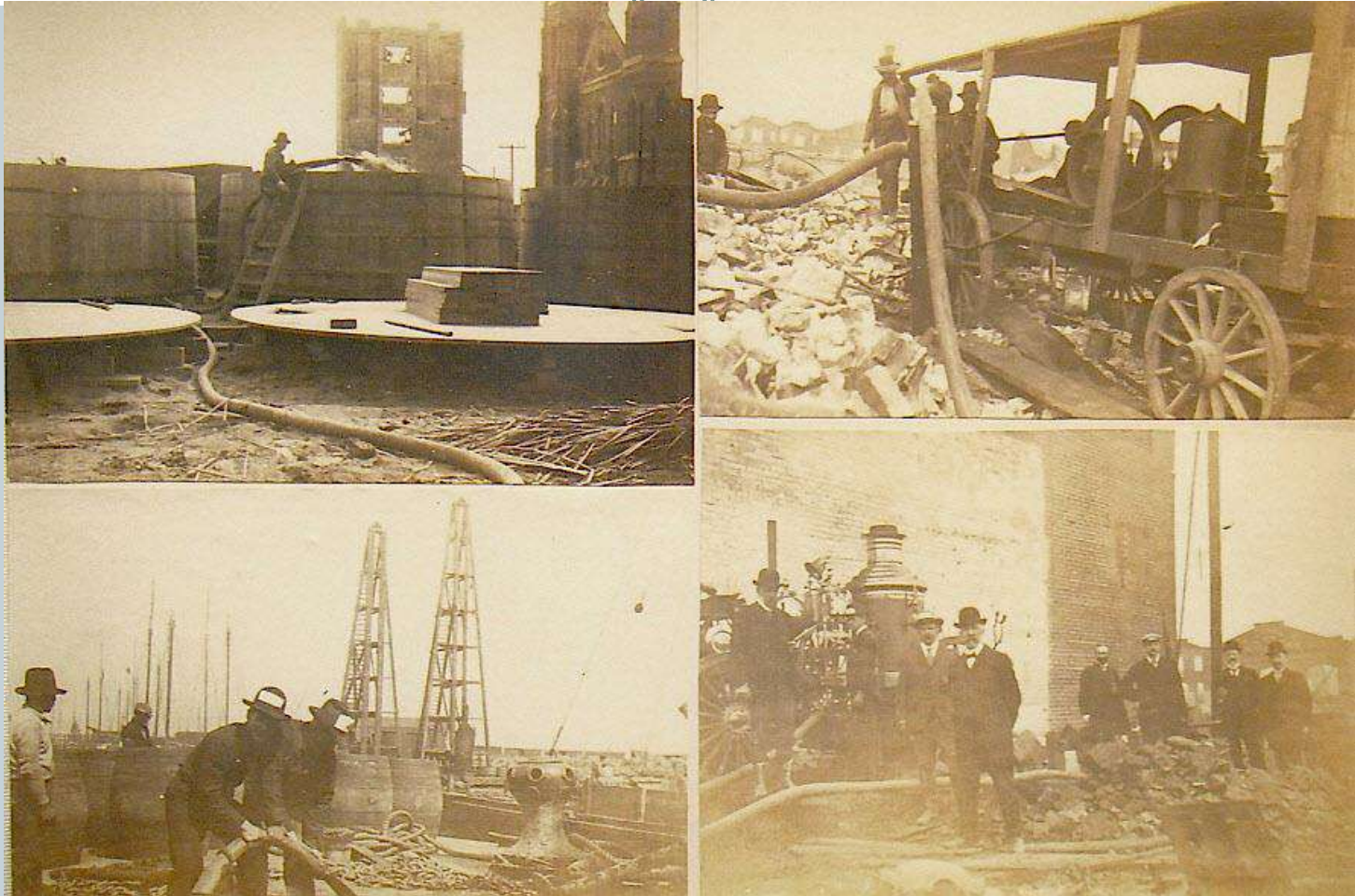
NEW YORK
OFFICES, NO. 45 BROADWAY
EDWARD FROWENFELD, Chairman N.Y. Bd. of
CARL VAN BERGEN, Asst. Treasurer.
A.B.C. AND LIEBER'S STANDARD CODES USED.
CABLE ADDRESS: CALWA.

WINERIES AT
B+ HELENA, NAPA CO.
NAPA, NAPA CO.
WINDSOR, SONOMA CO.
GLEN ELLER, SONOMA CO.
LIVERMORE, ALAMEDA CO.

WINERIES AT
SAN JOSE, SANTA CLARA CO.
SACRAMENTO, SACRAMENTO CO.
FRESNO, FRESNO CO.
CALWA, FRESNO CO.
ESPARTO, YOLO CO.

C.W.A Wineries and Warehouses in 1900

1906 San Francisco Earthquake



25 of 28 Commercial Wine Warehouses Destroyed by Fire,
including five owned by C.W.A

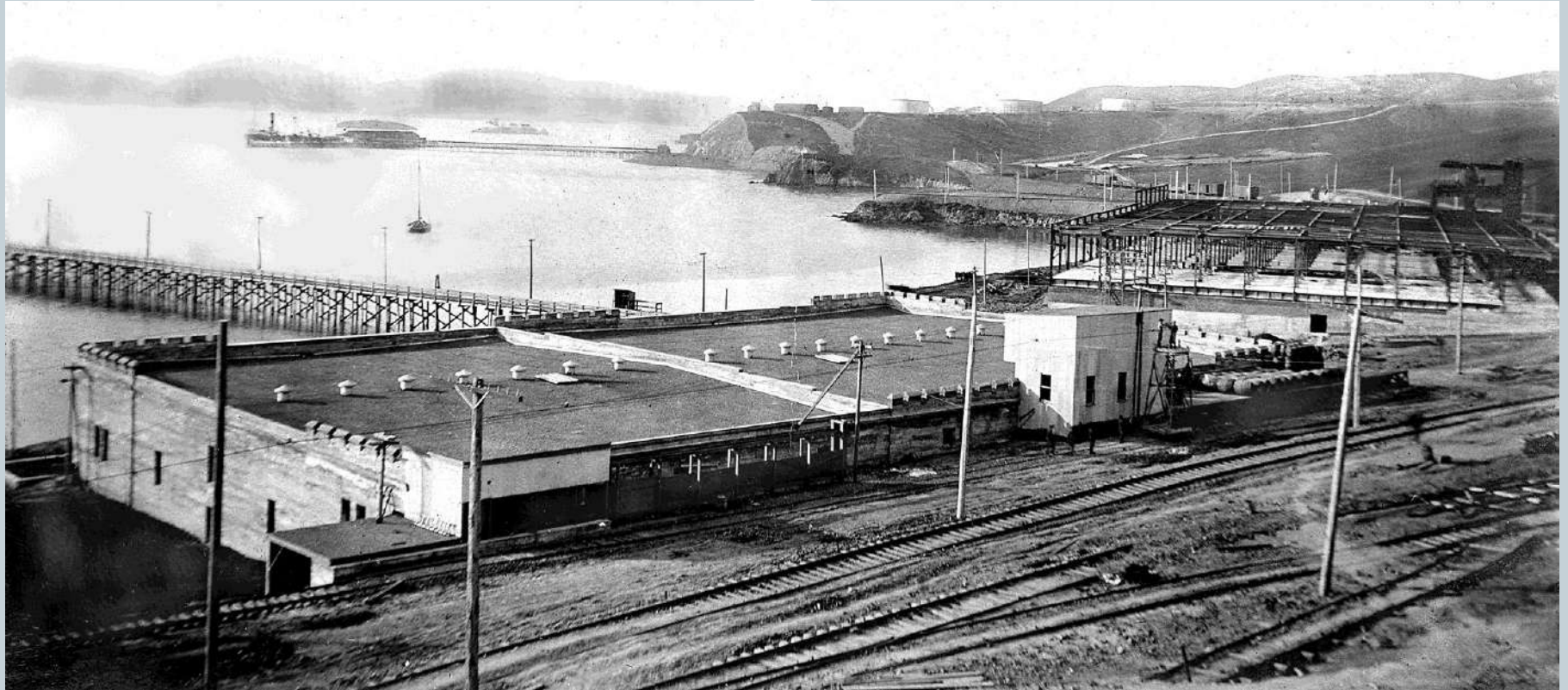
Winehaven

- 1906 – Earthquake destroys five wine depots owned by California Wine Association in San Francisco
- 1906 – California Wine Association rebuilds at Winehaven in Richmond
- C.W.A battled insurance companies to the Supreme Court, which ruled in its favor in 1910



“Winehaven was the largest and most up to date winery plant in existence” (Ernest P. Peninou and Gail G. Unzelman, *The California Wine Association and Its Member Wineries 1894-1920* (Santa Rosa: Nomis Press, 2000))

Winehaven Under Construction 1907



Building 1 Completed 1908

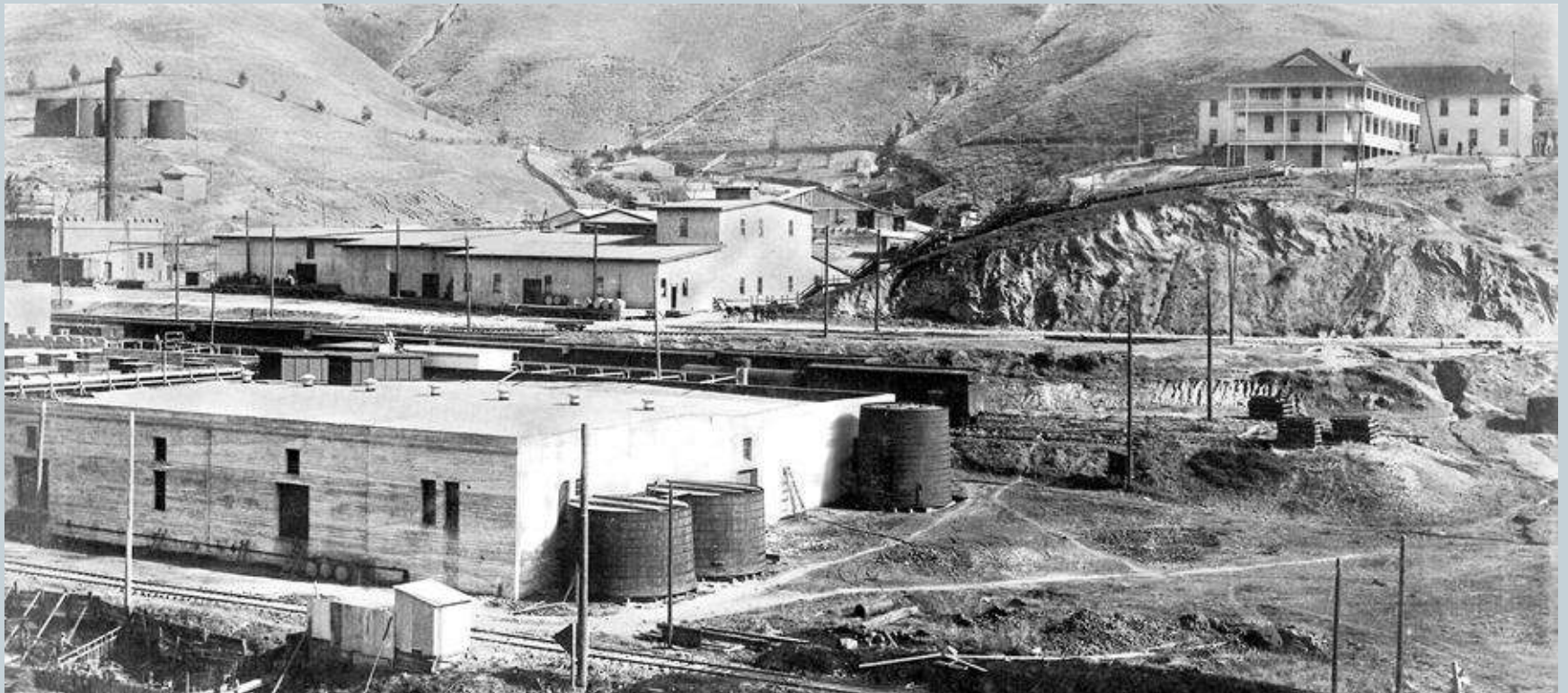


Note sign "Home of Calwa" on ridge beyond

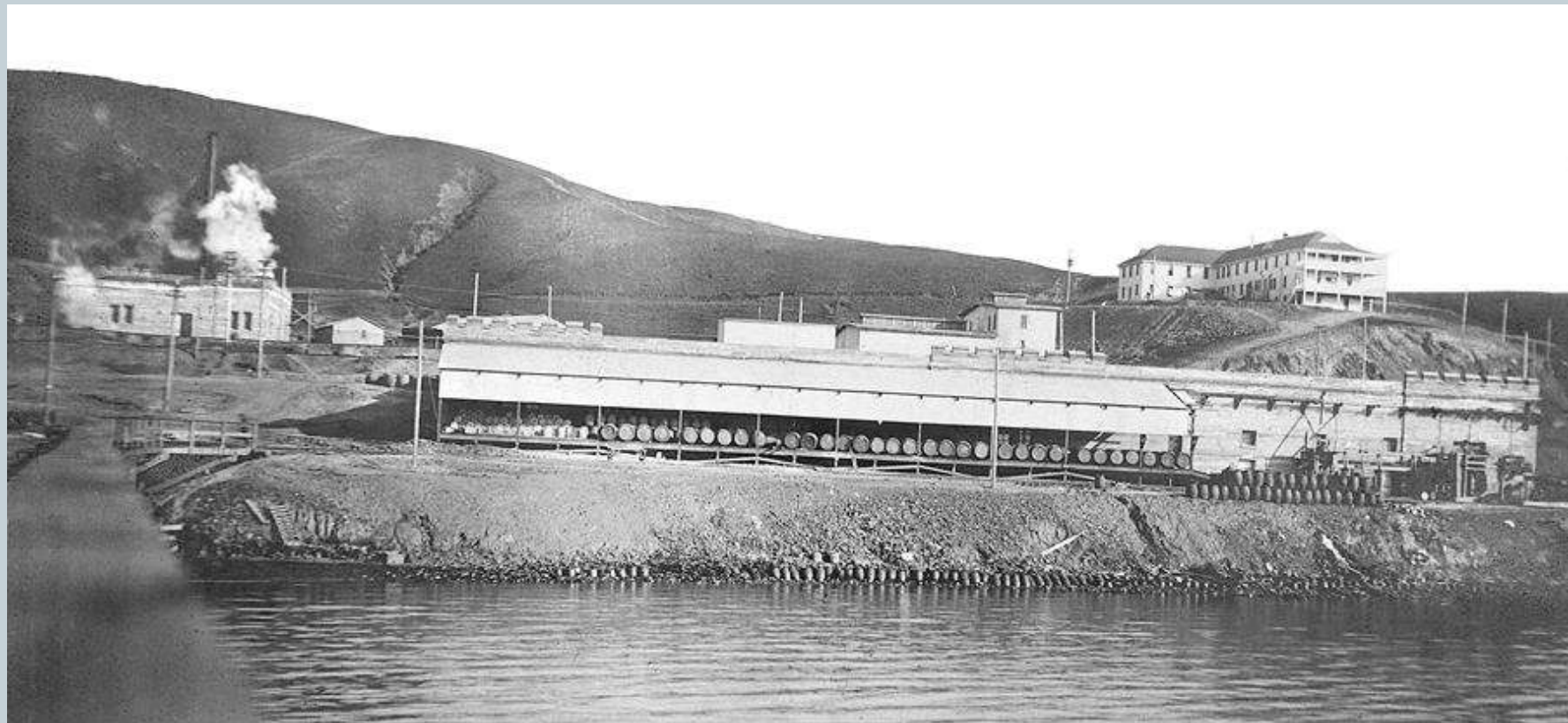
Building 1



Hotel on the Hill



Building 6

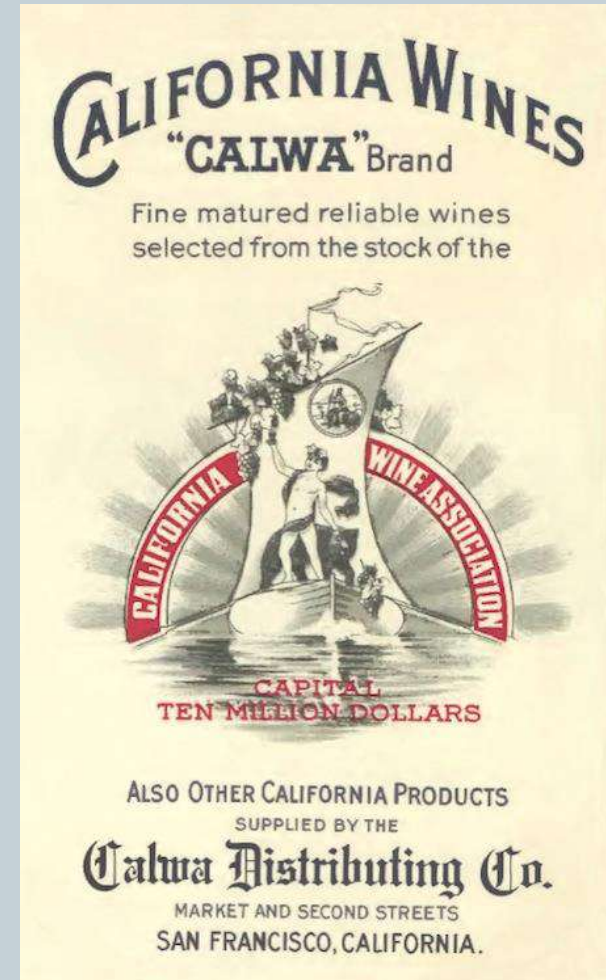


Building 1 Shed and Loading Dock



Winehaven Production and Shipping

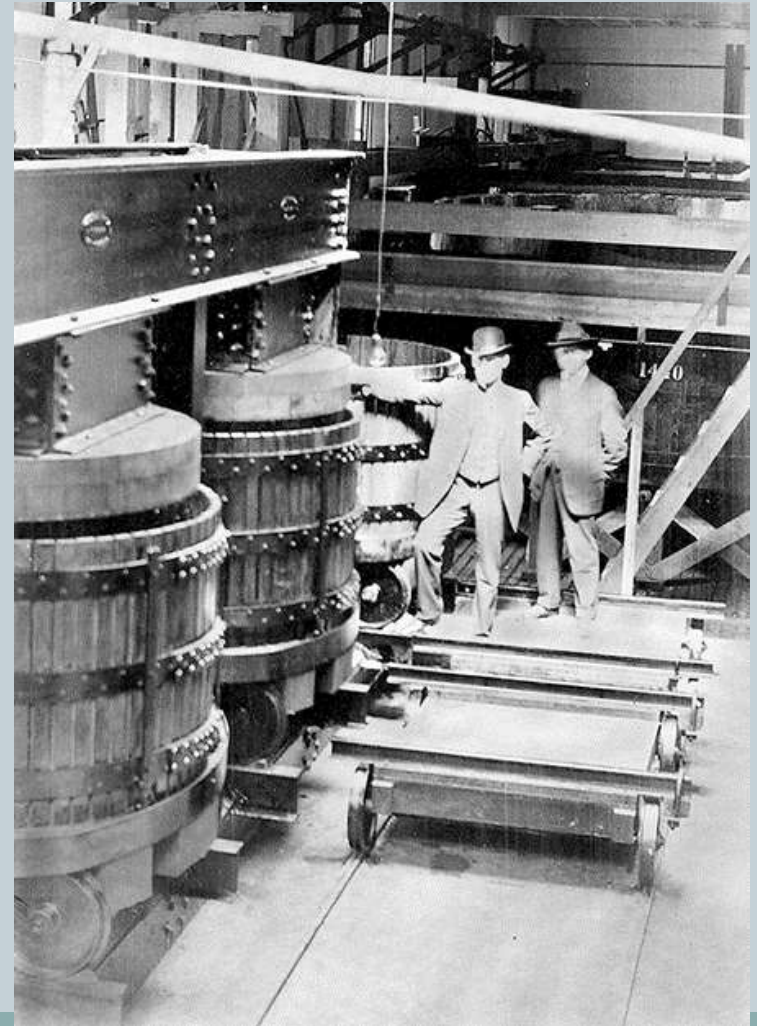
- 10 million gallon capacity
- 400 workers
- Shipped 500,000 gallons a month
- 40 ships annually to New York alone
- 25,000 tons of grapes crushed in 1907-1908



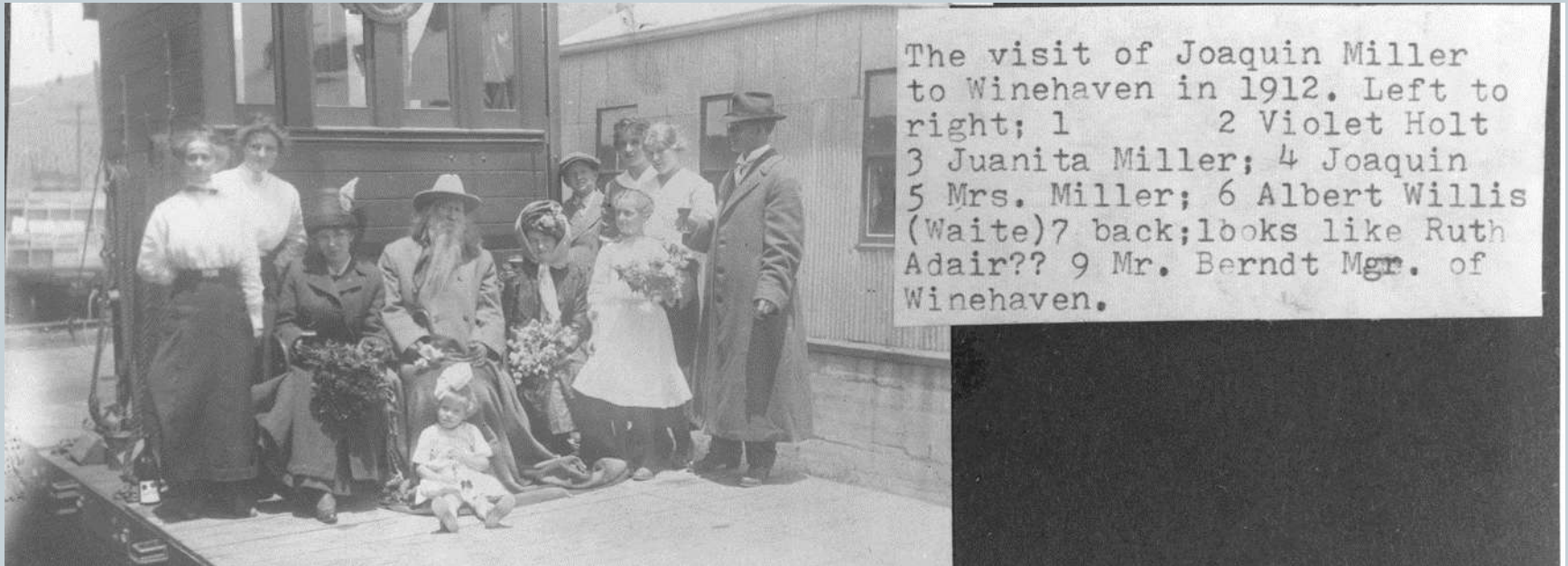
Excursions and Baseball



Crushing Equipment



Joaquin Miller Visits Winehaven in 1912



The visit of Joaquin Miller to Winehaven in 1912. Left to right; 1 2 Violet Holt 3 Juanita Miller; 4 Joaquin 5 Mrs. Miller; 6 Albert Willis (Waite) 7 back; looks like Ruth Adair?? 9 Mr. Berndt Mgr. of Winehaven.

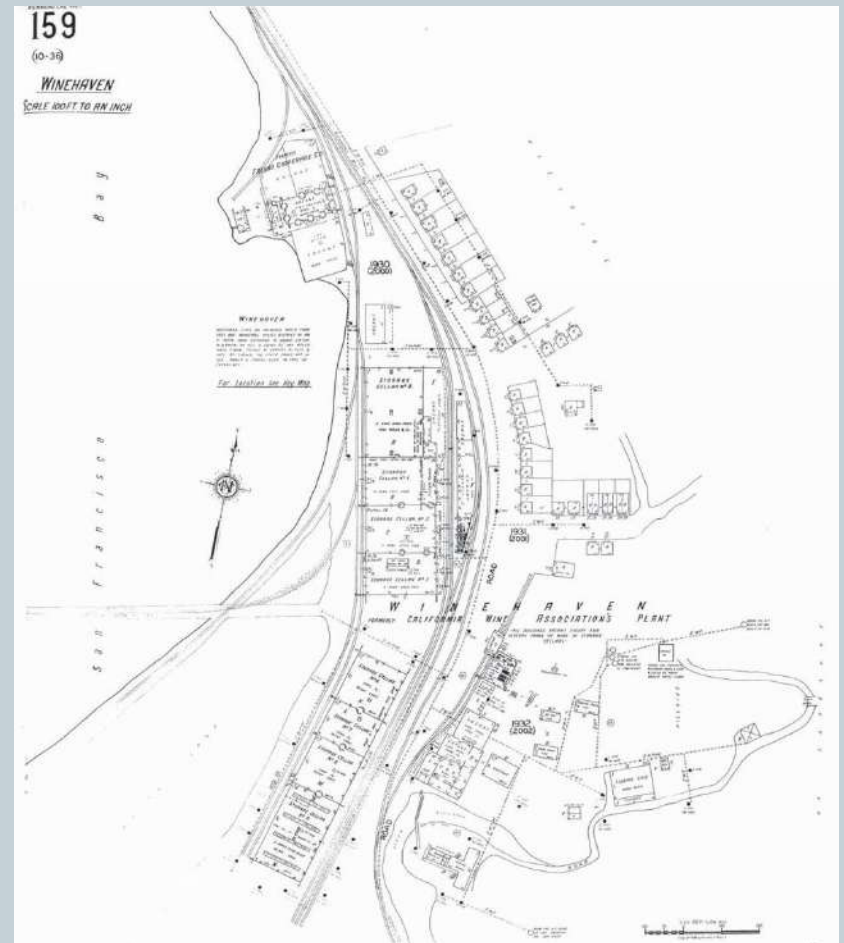
[American](#) poet and frontiersman. The "Poet of the Sierras" after the [Sierra Nevada](#), about which he wrote in his *Songs of the Sierras* (1871).

The Winemaster's House



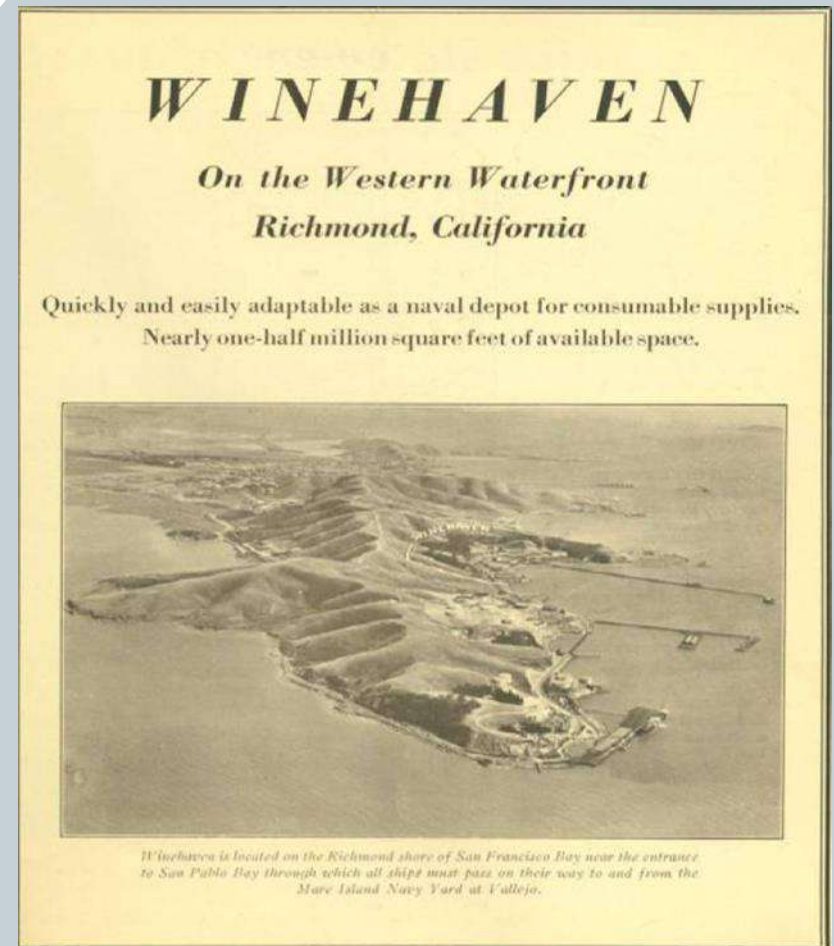
After Prohibition - 1919

- The winery was shut down by Prohibition in 1919; and the company sold off its assets to avoid bankruptcy. Winehaven went mostly unused from about 1920 until the late 1930s.
- The Navy bought the site in 1941 and converted it into a Naval Fuel Depot. Thousands of drums of fuel were stored in huge buildings. The old Winehaven Hotel was pressed into service as barracks and mess hall. The workers' houses were renovated for the use of naval personnel. The Commanding Officer was assigned the largest house on the bluff overlooking the others, which previously had been the home of the winery superintendent.



1941 Sold to Navy for a Fueling Depot

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Winehaven Hotel Burned 1967



Winehaven Historic District - 1978

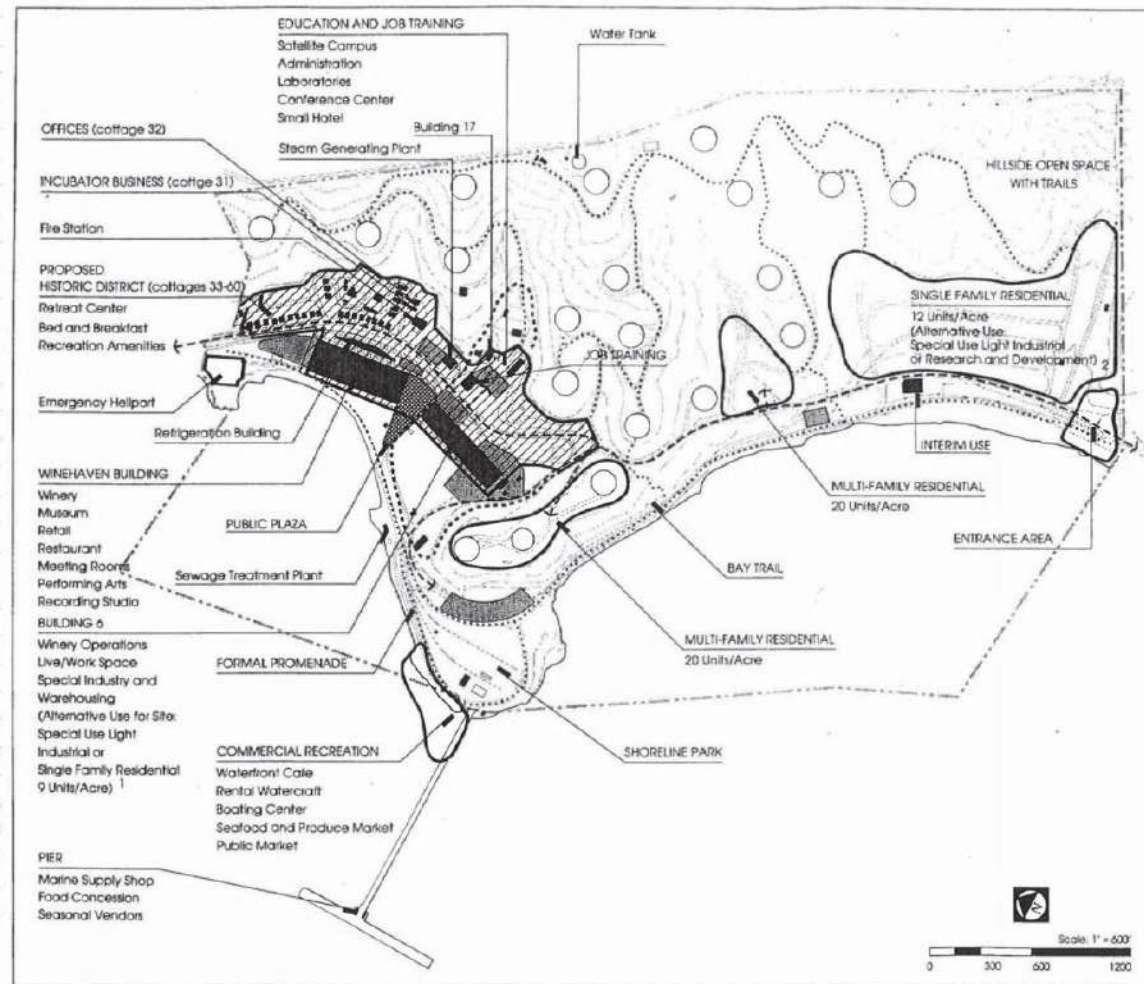


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Figure 3.5-1: Winehaven Historic District

- 35 buildings, constructed between 1907 and 1919, contribute to the historic district. Among these are:
 - the Winehaven Building with crenellated parapet and corner turrets
 - the Winemaster's House (Building 60), which became the Commanding Officer's residence
 - a row of turn-of-the-century cottages used to house Winehaven and military families

1997 Reuse Plan



POINT MOLATE REUSE PLAN City of Richmond

Figure 7:
Conceptual Land Use Plan

- Buildings to be Reused
- Proposed Parking
- Recommended Land Use
- Use of Area is Contingent on Building 6 Demolition
- Revised Historic District
- Roads to be Reused
- Proposed Trail
- Existing Underground Fuel Tank

1. Alternative use assumes demolition of building 6.
2. Special use light industry is recommended over single family residential if building 6 is demolished and light industry is not accommodated around the building.

Questions? Comments?

