

Camarillo Ranch

Preservation
Legacy
Education



**Revised
2019**

Name: _____

Date: _____

Keeping History Alive.

Adolfo Camarillo

Welcome to the historic Camarillo Ranch!

Originally, this ranch was called Rancho Calleguas. Rancho Calleguas was a 10,000-acre Mexican land grant (granted to José Pedro Ruiz). Adolfo's father, Juan Camarillo, purchased it from the Ruiz family. When Juan Camarillo died, his 16-year-old son, Adolfo, was given the responsibility of running the entire ranch for his mother, Martina. When Martina died, Adolfo and his brother, Juan, inherited Rancho Calleguas.

Adolfo and his wife, Isabel, began building the Camarillo Ranch House on September 22, 1892, and finished it in July 1893. It is a 3-story, 15-room home built in the Queen Anne Victorian style using the plans of architects Herman Anlauf and Franklin Ward.

Adolfo and Isabel had seven children, five of whom survived to adulthood: Rosa, Ave Maria, Isabella, Frank ("Pancho"), and Carmen.

On Rancho Calleguas, Adolfo grew sugar beets, lima beans, walnuts, citrus, avocados, oats and hay, and managed a very successful dairy. The ranch was self-sustaining; all the feed for the animals was raised on the ranch, as well as the food for the Camarillo family and the ranch workers. In addition to the crops grown on the ranch, there were fresh eggs from the chickens, milk from the cows, and meat from the steers and hogs.

Adolfo Camarillo – who is considered the Father of Camarillo – was a visionary businessman, and helped his community in many ways:

- In 1899, Adolfo and his brother, Juan, gave the right-of-way to Southern Pacific Railroad to lay railroad tracks on Rancho Calleguas. They also donated 5 acres of their land for a train depot (which was completed in December 1910).
- Adolfo gave the right-of-way beginning at almost the top of Conejo Grade for Highway 101 to be built. This new roadway was opened on May 1, 1937.
- In June 1940, Adolfo offered to donate Oak Grove Park to the Ventura County Parks System (this gift was accepted by the county in March 1941). This park was later named Camarillo Grove Park.
- In May 1950, Adolfo donated 50 acres of Rancho Calleguas for a new Camarillo high school (which later was named Adolfo Camarillo High School).
- For over 50 years, Adolfo was part of the group of people who made decisions for Pleasant Valley School District.



Photograph (taken in 1945): Standing from left to right are Adolfo Camarillo, Isabella Camarillo Burket, Ave Camarillo FitzGerald, and Rosa Camarillo Petit. On the Camarillo White Horses are Frank Camarillo and Carmen Camarillo [later, Mrs. Jones]. They are photographed on the southwest corner of the front porch of the Camarillo Ranch House.

Sultan



Around 1920 or 1921, Adolfo Camarillo purchased a white horse for \$500 at the California State Fair, and named this horse "Sultan." Sultan was the original bloodline for what became known as the "Camarillo White Horses" which were famous throughout the state of California.

Sultan is the foundation stallion for the registered color breed of horse called the "Camarillo White Horse." A Camarillo White Horse is born with white hair that never changes color, and is born with pink skin (both due to a genetic mutation), and can trace its lineage back to Sultan (who died in 1935).

In August 1924, the very first Santa Barbara Old Spanish Days fiesta was held, and Adolfo Camarillo rode Sultan in this first parade. The Santa Barbara parade was very special to the Camarillo family, and they participated in it every year except for the year when Adolfo's wife, Isabel, died in 1936.

In addition to the Santa Barbara parades and the Ventura County Fair parades, Sultan and/or his descendants participated in many parades throughout California including the Pasadena Tournament of Roses parades, and the 1936 dedication of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge.

In 1931, when Los Angeles celebrated its 150th birthday with "La Fiesta de Los Angeles," Adolfo Camarillo (who rode a Camarillo White Horse) and California Governor James Rolph, Jr. (who rode on Sultan) led the Grand Historical Parade in the Olympic Stadium. Another California Governor to ride a Camarillo White Horse was Ronald Reagan (who later became President of the United States).

Today, there is a group of people who have continued to keep alive the bloodline of the famous Camarillo White Horses.



Photograph: 1937 - Adolfo Camarillo on a Camarillo White Horse (on the grounds of Rancho Calleguas, and very near the Camarillo Ranch House). Note the hitching post in the rear right.

The Adolfo Camarillo Family Home



Complete the Camarillo Ranch House Architecture

Complete this drawing of the

Camarillo Ranch House

by adding:

1. Dentil Molding
2. Finials
3. Balcony
4. Decorative rocks and glass
5. Tower bay



Then and Now

complete the sentences below

How things were over 100 years ago	How things are today
They fastened their clothes with	We fasten our clothes with
They fastened their shoes with	We fasten our shoes with
They traveled to market and to see friends by	I travel to the store and to see friends in or on
For fun, the children	For fun, I
They earned a living by	My family earns a living by
They lit their houses at night by	I light my house at night by
In their garden, they grew	In my yard, I grow
In the evening, they	In the evening, my family and I
Some of the children's chores might have been	My chores are
I think the best thing about being a kid on the Camarillo Ranch was probably	The best thing for me about being a kid in my community is

Life for Children on the Ranch

Children in 1892 dressed differently than boys and girls of today. Girls always wore dresses with long woolen stockings when they went to school. Under their dresses, they wore camisoles and long pantaloons. At times, they wore hats or large bows in their hair. Boys wore shirts called blouses and pants called knickers, and long woolen socks and buttoned shoes. Children also played some games still played today like "tag" and "hide and seek." Girls had rag or porcelain dolls, and learned to sew. Boys liked metal trains, soldiers, and wooden toys.



The Camarillo Dairy and the Mule Barn and the White Horse Stables

The **Camarillo Dairy** was one of the finest dairies in all California, and produced about 2,300 pounds of butter each month. The quality of this butter was unsurpassed because of the dairy's cleanliness as well as for the modern apparatus that it used in handling the milk.

Every year, the Camarillo Dairy had a round-up when all the young calves were branded. After the branding, the afternoon was spent in bull riding (after which there was a barbeque to be enjoyed by all).

Completed in September 1905, the **Mule Barn** was originally located east of the Camarillo Ranch House near Calleguas Creek. The Mule Barn was used to house and feed the mules that worked on the 10,000-acre ranch.

The tall, central space in the barn was designed to store baled and loose hay.

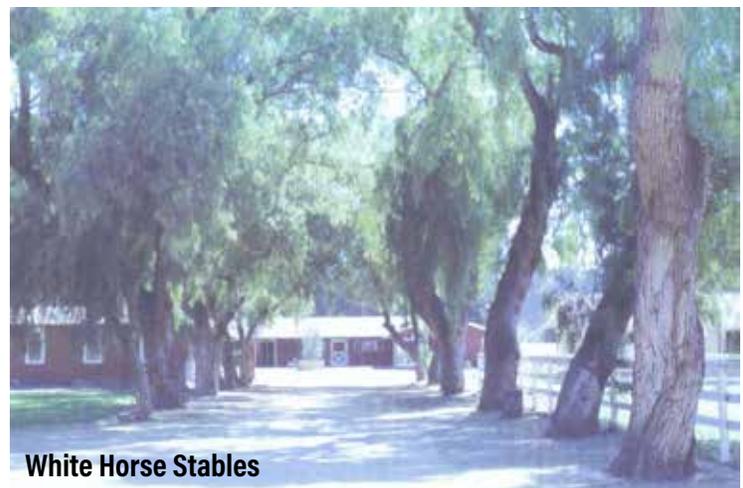
Often, wagon loads of lima beans would be stored in the Mule Barn before being hauled to the train when they were then taken to other parts of the world. The Camarillo Train Line was completed by July 1899 (with railroad tracks laid on Rancho Calleguas), making it easy for Adolfo to deliver crops to market.

Initiated by Carmen Camarillo Jones and completed in August 1967, the **White Horse Stables** (and Tack Room) structure was built next to the Mule Barn. Photograph shows it in its original location and as seen through "Pepper Tree Lane" (Mule Barn is to the right).

In 1999, the Mule Barn and the White Horse Stables were moved to their present location. It took two weeks to move the Mule Barn because the entire structure was placed on rollers and slowly moved by large trucks.

In July 2009, the Mule Barn was opened to the public after a year of renovations. The Mule Barn is a popular location for weddings and other community celebrations.

Photograph: The Camarillo Dairy (now the site of modern-day Leisure Village).



Cistern and Pump

How did the Camarillo family get water to the ranch? There were underground springs, and water was pumped from the springs and from Calleguas Creek. The water was stored in the **cistern** (which is seen in the photograph to the right).

Although rare, there is some remaining evidence of filtering the collected water. Some cisterns are divided into two or more chambers which encourage debris to settle and for finer particles to be filtered out as the water passed through porous brick or stone partitions. Some partitions were made with an interior cavity, and animal charcoal (also called "bone black") filled the space, further purifying the collected water. In the latter part of the 19th century, canister filters began to appear on some cistern outlets.

To the right is the pump (located near the cistern).



Above is the first dug well on the Camarillo Ranch (taken around 1898). Adolfo Camarillo is in the center (the 3rd man from the left) and his daughter, Ave, is on the horse.



Items Used on the Camarillo Ranch in the late 1800's

See how much you remember from your tour of the Camarillo Ranch House. Below are photos of items used on the Camarillo Ranch over 100 years ago. Write the correct number of the item next to the item's name. The answers are on the last page of this booklet.

_____ Ice tongs

_____ Meat grinder

_____ Curling iron

_____ Wash board

_____ Butter churn

_____ Horse shoe

_____ Lamp/candle lighter

_____ Rug beater

_____ Boot jack

_____ Branding iron



Word Search

N T B P D Y L I M A B E A N S
 K A V O C A D O S N T F D U G
 R P W C A M A R I L L O R X Q
 H Q S G D H O F O U N T A I N
 O H C N A R H F T V I D X O A
 A W E L T T A C L C U V U S T
 M O O R K C A T D O E Z A S L
 L X D W A L N U T S D F M A U
 J K Y B I W L D V M I A I L S
 R F H P M U L E B A R N L H F
 S P O R C V I C T O R I A N O
 W S E S R O H E T I H W F R C

- | | |
|--------------|----------|
| CAMARILLO | RANCHO |
| WHITE HORSES | CITRUS |
| WALNUTS | CROPS |
| MULE BARN | AVOCADOS |
| VICTORIAN | CATTLE |
| LIMA BEANS | SULTAN |
| ADOLFO | FOUNTAIN |
| TACK ROOM | LASSO |

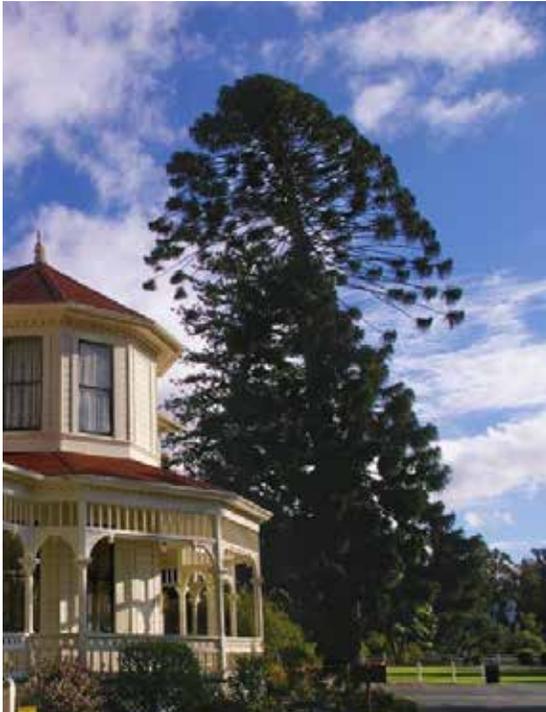


Adolfo Camarillo

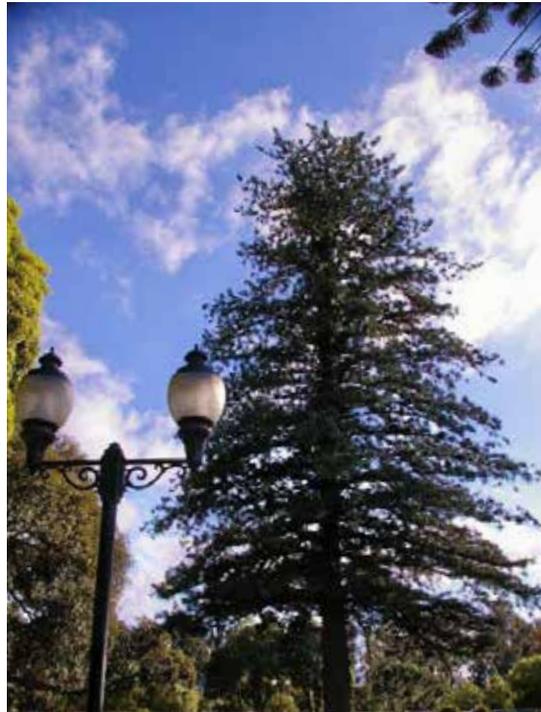
The Three Trees

Identify the three trees in front of the house.

A _____



B _____



C _____

What year were they planted? _____

What country are they from? _____

What did you learn?

1. What is the name of the ranch you visited? _____

2. Who is it named after? _____

3. When was the ranch house built? _____

4. What were the main crops grown on the ranch? _____

5. What animals raised on the ranch are seen in parades? _____

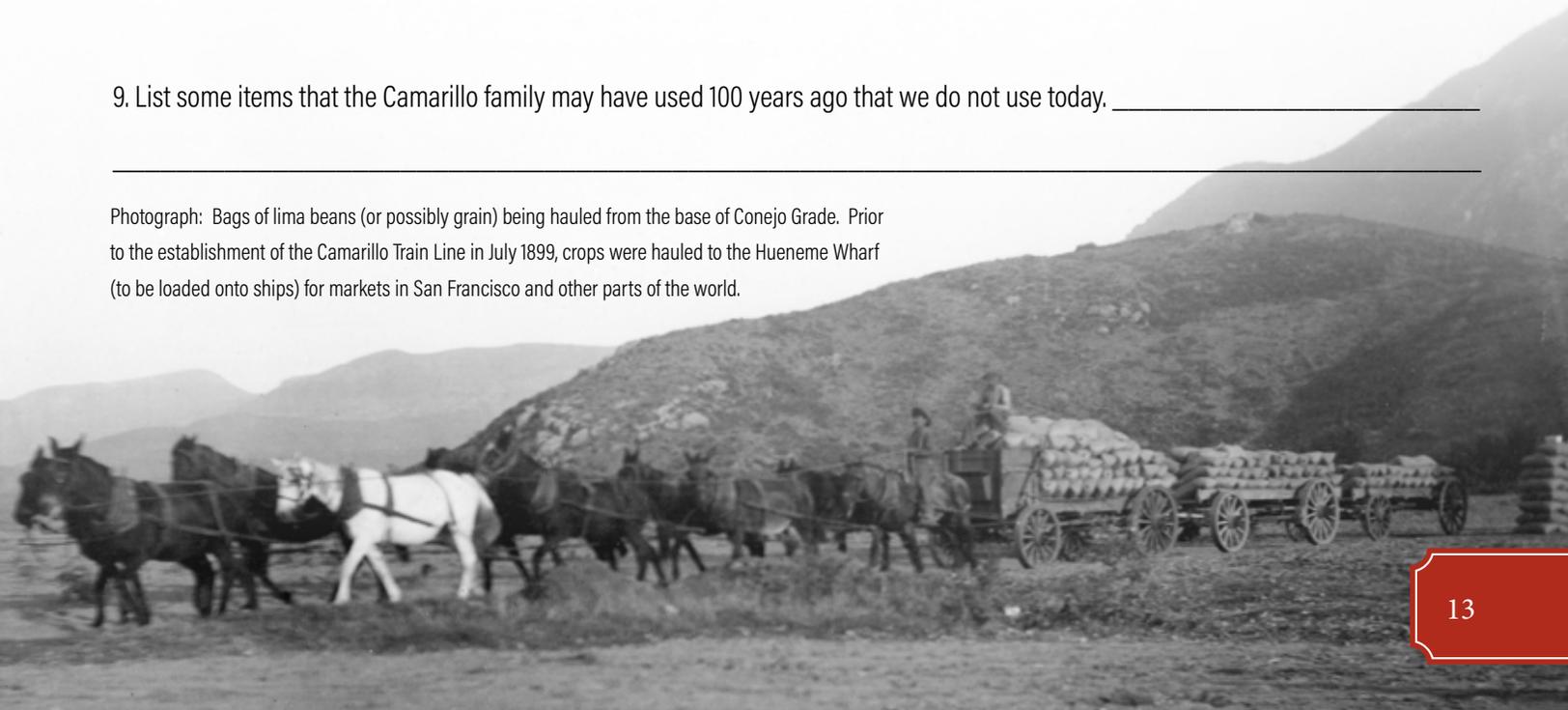
6. What three things do you like best about the Camarillo house and ranch? _____

7. Name three kinds of animals that lived on the Camarillo Ranch. _____

8. List some items that the Camarillo family may have used 100 years ago that we still use today. _____

9. List some items that the Camarillo family may have used 100 years ago that we do not use today. _____

Photograph: Bags of lima beans (or possibly grain) being hauled from the base of Conejo Grade. Prior to the establishment of the Camarillo Train Line in July 1899, crops were hauled to the Hueneme Wharf (to be loaded onto ships) for markets in San Francisco and other parts of the world.



1

2

3

4

5

A

B

C

D

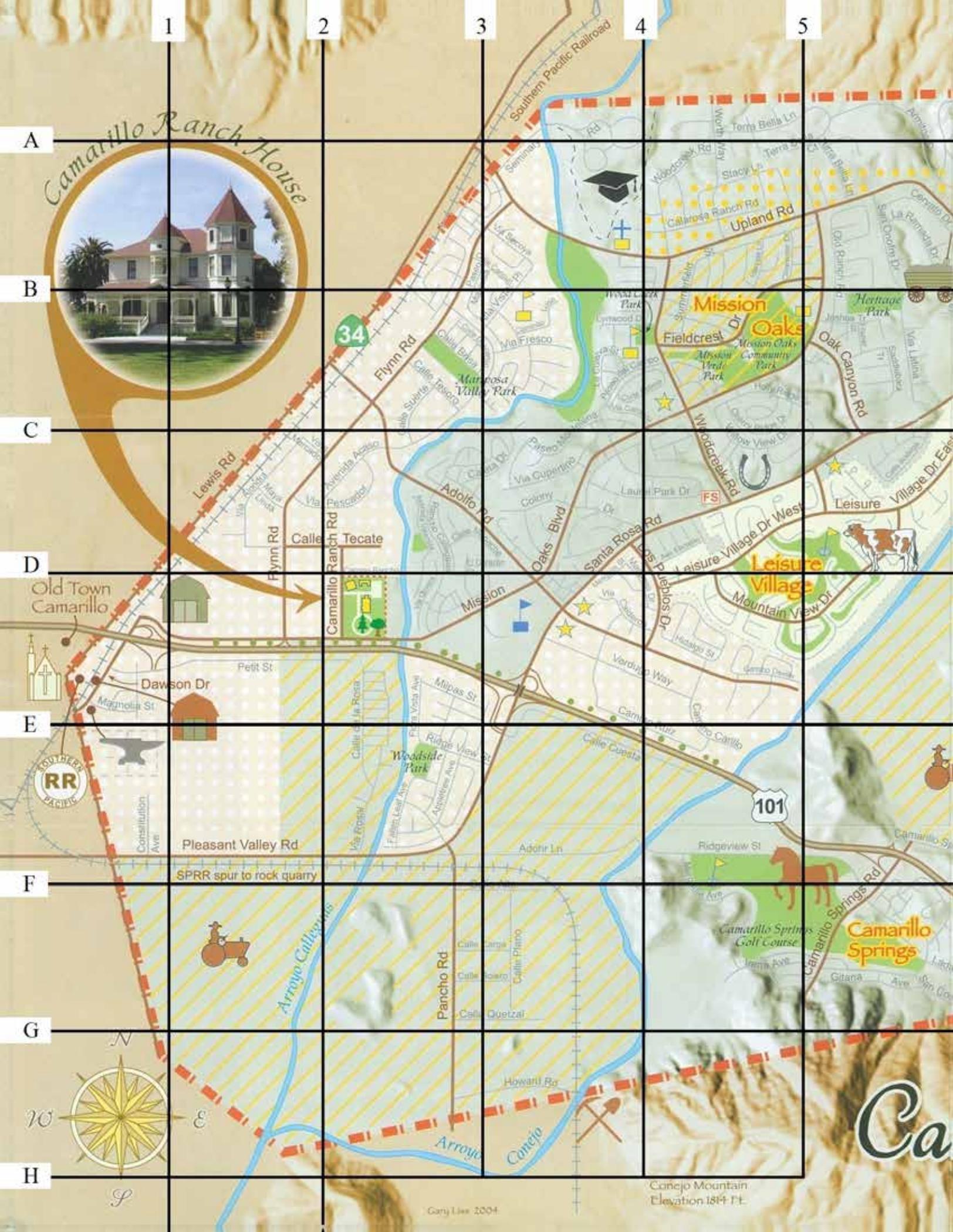
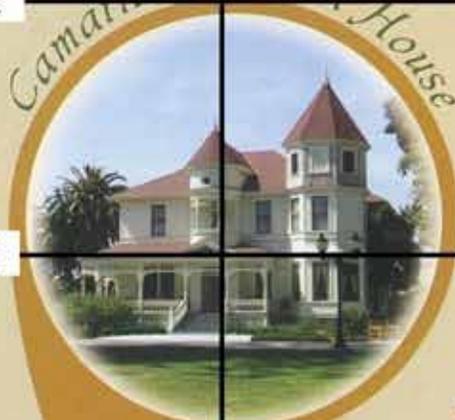
E

F

G

H

Camarillo Ranch House



6

7

8

9

10



Identify the following locations on the map:

1. Camarillo Ranch House
2. Camarillo Dairy
3. Riding Stables

Camarillo Ranch Foundation © 2004
 201 Camarillo Ranch Rd, Camarillo, CA 93012
 (805) 389-8182 FAX: (805) 389-8183
 website: www.camarilloranch.org

- Horse pasture
- Dairy and cattle operations
- Walnut & citrus packing houses
- Oats and hay fields
- Camarillo family picnic grounds
- Riding stables
- St. John's Seminary
- Norman's blacksmith shop founded 1910
- Fire station
- Padre Serra Church
- Public schools
- Adolfo Camarillo High School
- Shopping center
- Golf course
- Eucalyptus trees planted by Adolfo Camarillo
- Star pine tree
- Moreton Bay fig tree
- St. Mary Magdalen Church
- Site of the old Southern Pacific Railroad depot
- Southern Pacific Milling Company
- Sloss Quarry

- Walnut orchards
- Citrus and avocado orchards
- Lima bean fields
- Southern Pacific Railroad
- 1875 Camarillo Ranch boundary

Present-day street pattern used for reference purposes

Historic Camarillo Ranch

(Rancho Calleguas Land Grant)

Preservation. Legacy. Education.

About Camarillo Ranch Foundation:

Camarillo Ranch is operated by the 501(c)(3) nonprofit public benefit corporation, the Camarillo Ranch Foundation, and is dependent on the generous donations of sponsors, visitors and the local community. All proceeds raised through annual Community Events help fund ongoing preservation of this historical landmark and support educational programs for the enrichment and enjoyment of the community.

Visit Camarillo Ranch

The Camarillo Ranch and grounds are open to visitors year round. Group tours are available by appointment. Individual docent guided tours are available without reservation Saturday, Sunday and Monday from 12:00 to 3:00 PM. School tours for elementary students are available throughout the year. Transportation funding for Title I schools is available through the Foundation's Send a Child to The Ranch Program. Please contact the Ranch Office for details.

Host an Event at Camarillo Ranch

Since the acquisition of the ranch by the City of Camarillo in 1998, the restoration of the home and stables in 2001, and the barn in 2009, the ranch has become one of the preeminent event venues of Ventura County. Each year the ranch is the site of over 130 weddings and around 50 community celebrations, corporate and private events, photo and film shoots, and charity fundraisers. For information about holding an event at the ranch, please contact the Ranch Office.

Contact us:

805-389-8182

info@camarilloranch.org

camarilloranchfoundation.org

201 Camarillo Ranch Rd.

Camarillo, CA 93012



Answer Sheet

Page 10 Identify Tools

1. Ice Tongs
2. Meat Grinder
3. Boot Jack
4. Curling Iron
5. Wash Board
6. Rug Beater
7. Lamp/Gas Lighter
8. Branding Iron
9. Butter Churn
10. Horse Shoe

Page 12 Tree Identification

- A. Bunya Bunya
- B. Norfolk Island Pine
- C. Moreton Bay Fig

All three trees were planted the year the house was built which was in 1892.

All three trees came from Australia.

Page 13 What did you learn?

1. Camarillo Ranch
2. Adolfo Camarillo
3. 1892
4. Sugar Beets - Lima Beans - Walnuts - Citrus - Avocados - Oats - Hay
5. Camarillo White Horses
6. No right answer (whatever you liked best).
7. Horses - Mules - Cattle (cows, steers, bulls, heifers) - White Horses
8. Various Answers
9. Various Answers

Page 15 Map Answers

1. D2
2. D5-D6
3. C4-C5

The printing of the booklet was made possible by:

Gerry and Joan Olsen
in memory of Carole Jane Olsen-Bryan.

Meadowlark Service League
CRF Board of Directors



201 Camarillo Ranch Road • Camarillo, California 93012

(805) 389-8182 • FAX (805) 389-8183 • camarilloranchfoundation.org