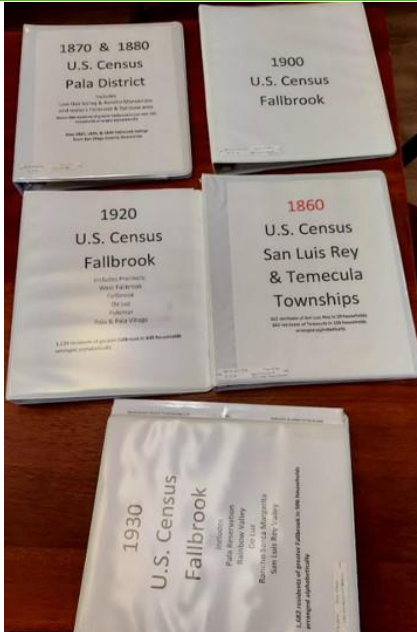


The Historian

A Quarterly Publication of the Fallbrook Historical Society

Fall 2023



STATE *California* COUNTY *San Diego* TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY *West Fallbrook Precinct* DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE—BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
FOURTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1920—POPULATION
NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE
ENUMERATED BY ME ON THE *thirteenth* DAY OF *June*

PLACE OF BIRTH	NAME	RELATION	SEX	PERSON DESCRIPTION	CITIZENSHIP	EDUCATION	NATIVITY AND MOTHER TONGUE			
							Place of birth	Mother tongue	Place of birth	Mother tongue
176/178	Reed, Myrtle	Head	F	37	37	21	21	21	21	
177/179	Shipley, Thomas	Head	M	45	45	21	21	21	21	
178/180	Myers, Edward	Head	M	36	36	21	21	21	21	
179/181	Molina, Clement	Head	M	45	45	21	21	21	21	
180/182	Pratt, Herbert	Head	M	37	37	21	21	21	21	
181/183	Clemmens, Albert	Head	M	45	45	21	21	21	21	
182/184	Mahr, Charles	Head	M	40	40	21	21	21	21	
183/185	Stankovic, Gilbert	Head	M	45	45	21	21	21	21	

Census books at Historical Society Library.

Reed, Shipley, Pratt, Clemmens, and Mahr families in the 1920 West Fallbrook Census.

Census Records of Fallbrook Families

The Fallbrook Historical Society maintains legible alphabetical listings of the U.S. Census for the Greater Fallbrook area from 1860, before Fallbrook existed, thru 1930, when it is a thriving town.

Along with telephone directories going back to the 1950s, updated cemetery records, and our digitized newspaper archives going back to 1885, the Historical Society is able to assist with genealogy research on Fallbrook's historical families.

1860 Census: California became a U.S. State in 1850. The U.S. Public Land Survey System arranged the recently acquired un-surveyed areas of San Diego County into 36 square mile 'townships' for the purpose of cataloguing and surveying the new lands, in accordance with a 1785 Congressional law. (1) The area encompassing the future Fallbrook were designated as the San Luis Rey and Pala townships.

These townships roughly covered the settlements around Mission San Luis Rey, Rancho Guajome, plus large sections of Rancho Santa Margarita and Rancho Monserrate.

In 1860, the future Fallbrook was still mostly cattle range. Prior to the U.S. surveys being completed, Rancho Santa Margarita was claiming all the land that is present day Fallbrook. (2)

There were only 315 residents (including children) listed in the 1860 San Luis Rey Township Census. The residents were predominantly Native American (55%) or Californio (39%). A Californio was a resident Californian of Mexican or Spanish descent. Californios were American citizens. The average age of everyone in this census was just 25 years old.

Many of the Native American and Californio men reported their occupations as vaquero (cowboy) on one of the large ranchos, or as a rancher of their own piece of land. Just 6% of the population, or only 19 people, were from other U.S. States or Europe. These newer settlers typically listed their occupation as farmer.

In 1860, the Alvarado family of Rancho Monserrate, the Coutts family of Rancho Guajome, plus the Pico and O'Neill families associated with Rancho Santa Margarita, are listed as San Luis Rey township residents.

Vital Reche and his family first show up in the 1870 census of the Pala township, homesteading next to the Alvarado family of Rancho Monserate.

Mrs. Maria	46	F	W	Knapp House			Jamaica
Louis	28	M	W	Farm Salinas			Californian
Rosinda	15	F	W	at Home			Cal
Felippa	4	M	W				Cal
Richie Antonio	37	M	W	Millwright	1000	1200	Canada
Prisca	27	F	W	Knapp House			Jamaica
Vital C	9	M	W				Californian
Augusta D	6	F	W				Cal
Ellen A	4	F	W				Cal
Louis M	49	M	W	Trader			Canada
Richie Vital C	45	M	W	Farm Salinas	1200	1400	Canada
Aurelia D	43	F	W	Knapp	Personal Estate Value		New York
Charles	15	M	W	at Home			Californian
Aurelia	12	F	W	at Home			Cal
Allice	7	F	W				Cal
Alvarado Tomas	30	M	W	Farm	1000	750	Californian
Mary J	32	F	W	Knapp House			Cal
Paul	22	M	W				

1870 Census of Pala Township shows the Canadian born Reche brothers residing near the Californio Alvarado family of Rancho Monserrate. The Historical Society library has legible alphabetical listings.

The Alvarado family had been listed in 1860 as residing in the neighboring San Luis Rey township. However, the parents Ysidro & Manuela Alvarado died soon after in the 1862 smallpox epidemic. Their son Tomas later rebuilt the Alvarado hacienda in a different location on the south side of the San Luis Rey River just west of today's I-15, (3) putting it within the Pala township.

The population in the 1870 Census of the Pala District lists just 390 residents (including children) in 103 separate households. Mexican residents were 67% of the population. Settlers represented 24 different U.S States. There were only 37 U.S States in 1870.

In 1870, the Native American population was mostly recorded as residing in the Indian village of the neighboring San Luis Rey township, either living near the old Spanish Mission, or working as vaqueros or laborers on Rancho Santa Margarita and Rancho Guajome.

Most, if not all, of the occupations listed in the 1870 Pala township were farming related. Stock raiser is another occupation frequently listed. Vital Reche listed himself as a stock raiser.

The average age of the 390 people in the 1870 Pala township census was just 22 years old. None of the 91 school age children were able to attend a formal school in 1870. San Diego County did not establish a school district until 1875.

By 1880, homesteaders had almost fully settled the area soon to become the town of Fallbrook. Listed as residing in this Pala District were the Reche, Ziegler and Fox families of Live Oak Canyon, the Alvarado and Gird families of Rancho Monserrate; the Rainbow and Larsen families of Rainbow, and the Hayden, Matthews, Magee, Hicks, North and Neff families of early Fallbrook, to mention a few. All family member's names ages, place of birth, and occupation are listed in the census.

Nearly all households in 1880 were engaged in farming and agricultural related occupations. Additionally, there was one lawyer, and 5 merchants. The town of Fallbrook began to be built in 1882 with the arrival of the train.

There are 5 schoolteachers listed in the 1880 census for the 91 children said to be attending school around Pala Township. The only schoolhouses known to

exist in 1880, was a small decrepit wooden structure by Reche's store and an adobe classroom on Rancho Monserate. The Reche schoolhouse wasn't built until 1886. The West Fallbrook schoolhouse was built in 1887.

As all genealogists know, there is no 1890 census. Unfortunately, except for a few fragments, the entire U.S. census of 1890 was lost in a fire in Washington D.C. (4)

In the year 1900, the Census Designated Place for Fallbrook is actually the Fallbrook Township. The population has nearly doubled to 720 people. The average age is now 30. Farmers & farm workers are 20% of the population. Other occupations are 2 blacksmiths, and 3 railroad workers. There are 3 ministers and 2 saloon workers. Also, there are 9 merchants and 7 capitalists. The 1900 Census listed 5 schoolteachers for 189 students. Fallbrook now had public schools for all ages.

The Fallbrook Historical Society recently finished transcribing the 1920 and 1930 Fallbrook census, arranged alphabetically by name.

In 1930, Greater Fallbrook's population had increased to 1,682 people in 506 households. The average age had shot up to 37. It is still a rural area, 22% of households are citrus farms or have someone employed by the Fallbrook Citrus Association.

~Tom Frew

Footnotes:

1) Michel J. Pallamary, Lay of the Land, The History of Land Surveying in San Diego Country, page 80.

2) Don Rivers, Fallbrook Historical Society, Pittenger Farm House, Fallbrook in Review Vol 4, page 13. After the 1870 survey moved the boundary of Rancho Santa Margarita, Millard Neff homesteaded the property. He later sold 20 acres to William Pittenger.

3) Rancho Monserate, by Don Rivers of the Fallbrook Historical Society, October 1998.

4) National Archives.

Exploring FALLBROOK'S HISTORY

We love to talk about our history going back to the Ice Age.

Do you have a question about Fallbrook's pioneer families, the historic buildings around town, our first schools, and where the railroad once ran?

Submit your question to our Historian [here](#).

Docents at the Historical Society Museum on the corner of Rocky Crest & Hill Ave. can show our historical displays collected by our museum curators.

Private tours for groups can be arranged by [contacting us](#).

Historical Presentations to your Club or group can be arranged by [contacting us](#).

The Fallbrook Historical Society is an all-volunteer 501 (c)(3) organization. We need your generous tax-deductible donation to keep the lights on and to pay for maintenance of our historic buildings. Donations can be made [online here](#) or mailed to Fallbrook Historical Society, P.O. Box 1375, Fallbrook, CA, 92088.

We appreciate your membership!

Tours at the Museum begin with the geologic exhibit of rocks and minerals found around Fallbrook and San Diego County



You're invited to:
The Fallbrook Historical Society
Annual Awards Ceremony and
Open House
at the Historic Reche School House

September 16, 2023
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

(Awards ceremony at 1:30)

1319 South Live Oak Park Road
Fallbrook, Ca 92028



Refreshments!

Awards presented to **Pioneer of the Year: Jerry Sayre,**
Business of the Year: Pine Tree Lumber, and Member
of the year: Jeff Duhachek

Tour Fallbrook's first School and grounds.
Come join us and see a part of Fallbrook's
History!

Fallbrook Historical Society

760-723-4125



Membership Invitation

New Member Renewal

Date: _____ Name _____

Phone () _____ E-Mail: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS:

(Please note that Memberships are from January 1 to December 31)

Each membership has one vote. Patron receives a lifetime membership and has name placed on Patron Plaque. Business/corporate sponsors will have space for signage inside the Heritage Center fence. Business/Corporate patrons will have business signage as stated above plus their name listed on an Honor Plaque and ads in the Historical Society newsletters.

____ Family Membership \$30.00 ____ Lifetime Membership \$250.00 ____ Patron \$500.00
____ Business/Corporate Sponsor \$1000.00+

____ Business/Corporate Patron \$5,000+

**Mail to: Fallbrook Historical Society
P.O. Box 1375 Fallbrook, CA. 92088**

Or join/renew online at: FallbrookHistoricalSociety.org

The Historical Society is a 501c/3 non-profit. Membership dues and donations are tax deductible.

Thank you for your support.

The Fallbrook Historical Society's mission is to bring history to life by educating the community and others about Fallbrook's rich heritage



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