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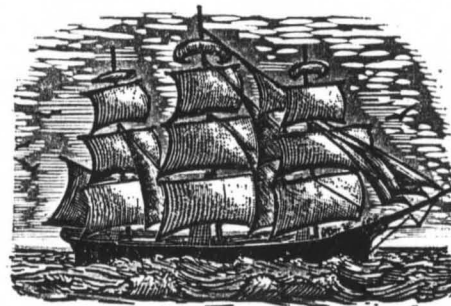
HEAD OFFICE: SAN FRANCISCO

MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

SAN
FRANCISCO
STREET
NAMES



AMERICAN TRUST COMPANY



SAN FRANCISCO STREET NAMES



SKETCHES OF THE
LIVES OF

PIONEERS

FOR WHOM
SAN FRANCISCO STREETS
ARE NAMED



By HENRY C. CARLISLE

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Mission Dolores, San Francisco

INTRODUCTION

This little booklet on the people for whom San Francisco streets are named is limited, with few exceptions, to those pioneers who were in San Francisco before 1850. Thus it does not include the presidents, the statesmen, the railroad and Comstock men, and many others who came to the city after 1849. It is also limited by necessity to factual material available about the pioneers, and by choice to that part of it which appears to be most interesting.

San Francisco is well supplied with streets named after its very early residents: the merchants, army and navy officers, town officials, and the men who took leading parts in the affairs of the city during the few years before and after the American conquest of July 9, 1846.

At the time of the conquest the future city had three parts: the Presidio or Mexican military settlement; the Mission Dolores, with a settlement of Mexican ranch owners adjoining it; and Yerba Buena, the settlement on the cove of the same name, which extended from Telegraph Hill to Rincon Hill between Powell Street and the Bay. The name Yerba Buena as applied to that part of the future city was in use for only about ten years. Early in 1847, under United States rule, it was changed to the present name—San Francisco.

The information given here was obtained from historical books, newspapers, maps, letters, obituaries, scrap books, and the biographical files of the Bancroft Library, with much help from the California Historical Society, the Society of California Pioneers, the State Library at Sacramento, the San Francisco Public Library, the Huntington Library at San Marino, and many friends.

Perhaps the most interesting part in the preparation of this pamphlet, and certainly the reason for much of the research, was the attempt to trace the obscure origin of such names as Powell, Buchanan, Franklin, Bush, Octavia, Drumm, Fell and Steiner.

Zoeth S. Eldredge, who wrote the *Beginnings of San Francisco*, did a great deal of work in bringing about the use of Spanish-Mexican pioneer names for San Francisco streets, and also in tracing the origins of street names. He was on a commission to change the names of many of the num-

bered and lettered streets in 1909, and selected the alphabetical series from Anza to Yerba for streets located north and south of Golden Gate Park. There still remain many colorful pioneers whose names have not yet been used for streets.

This booklet, as will be evident, is not written for authorities on early California. It is also realized the interest will be largely local, but to many San Franciscans and also visitors to the city there is probably some curiosity as to who Post, Powell, Bush, O'Farrell and Green were.

In addition to the main listing of pioneers is a section titled Miscellaneous Names. It includes a number of streets and other places not named for pioneers, but in use during pioneer days, and notes on several groups for whom streets were named.

H. C. C.

SAN FRANCISCO
August, 1954



Island and Cove of Yerba Buena

STREETS NAMED FOR PIONEERS

Alemaný, Archbishop Joseph S. (Boulevard)

First Archbishop of San Francisco

Dominican friar, born in Spain. As a result of ten years of missionary work in Kentucky and Ohio, Father Alemany became an American citizen and served as Bishop of Monterey from 1850-1853. In the latter year he was designated as the first Archbishop of San Francisco, a position he held with distinction and honor for thirty-one years. He returned to his native country, and died in Valencia in 1888.

Alvarado, Juan B. (Street)

Early Mexican Governor

Mexican governor of California 1836-42. He led and won a revolution against the preceding Mexican governor in 1836, and took part

in another uprising eight years later against Governor Micheltorena. Alvarado was a central figure in California history in the twenty years before the U. S. occupation. Together with Castro and Pico he led the Mexican opposition to the American occupation.

Anza, Captain Juan Bautista (Street)

"The Father of San Francisco"

Led a sizable party of soldiers and settlers from Sonora, Mexico across the Colorado River to California, and then north to establish the Presidio in San Francisco in 1776. This was his colonizing expedition, although two years before he had made an exploratory trip from Mexico and reached as far north as Monterey. The establishment of the Presidio preceded the first settlement at Yerba Buena by about sixty years. Mission Dolores was established the same year as the Presidio.

Argüello, Comandante José (Boulevard)

Presidio Comandante, Governor

Commanding officer of the Presidio of San Francisco from 1787 to 1806; later governor of California. He was the father of Concepción Argüello, the heroine of the episode involving Rezánov, the Russian who came into San Francisco Bay in search of supplies for the Russian settlements and fell in love with her. Luís, the brother of Concepción, later owned a large ranch called Las Pulgas, extending from San Mateo to Palo Alto.

Baker, Edward D. (Street)

Lawyer and Noted Orator

A major in the Black Hawk War at 21, congressman from Springfield, Illinois in 1845-6, a colonel in the Mexican War, and member

of Congress again in 1849-50. Baker was an ardent anti-slavery member of the House when California was admitted to the Union. For a time he was superintendent of construction on a sub-contract on the Panama railway. He arrived in San Francisco in 1852 and for years was one of the city's foremost lawyers, and was noted for his ability as an orator. In 1860 he moved to Oregon and shortly thereafter was elected United States Senator. During the Civil War he organized a regiment only to be killed in its first engagement.

Bartlett, Lieutenant Washington A. (Street)

Gave San Francisco Its Present Name

A United States naval officer, serving on the U. S. S. *Portsmouth*. After the town was taken by American forces in July 1846, he was sent ashore by Captain John B. Montgomery to administer the local government of Yerba Buena as the first American alcalde or chief magistrate. Bartlett spoke Spanish and did an excellent job. He ordered the first comprehensive survey of the town by Jasper O'Farrell, and named the first five streets, probably California, Howard, Clay, Montgomery, and Washington. Pacific Street was originally called Bartlett on the first alcalde's map of 1847, and Sacramento was originally Howard.

The only real trouble experienced by Bartlett as alcalde was in the fall of 1846 when, on a trip down the peninsula gathering cattle to feed the settlement at Yerba Buena, he was taken prisoner by some native California ranchers and held captive for a month.

On January 30, 1847, shortly before leaving office, he published and signed an ordinance stating that thereafter Yerba Buena should be known as San Francisco. Later Bartlett was in command of a navy ship mak-

ing numerous surveys in the Pacific. He was the first to make an accurate survey of the California coast line.

Beale, Edward F. (Street)

Brought Camels to California

Working under Jefferson Davis, then Secretary of War in Washington, D. C., Beale took charge of an army group trying to establish the use of camels for transport from a Texas Gulf port to California. The camels were brought all the way to California but the experiment was not a success, and after several other attempts to use these same camels they were turned loose in the western deserts.

In his earlier days Beale was in the Mexican War as a navy officer and was a lieutenant in the Volunteers fighting in California after the Bear Flag revolt.

Beale was with Kearny when he was in trouble at the Battle of San Pascual, and in 1848 he carried dispatches east with reports of the discovery of gold in California.

All during these early years in California Beale was purchasing large acreages of undeveloped land in Kern County. Then for many years he lived in Washington, D. C., becoming wealthy by his speculation both in California and District of Columbia lands.

Bernal, Juan Francisco (Avenue)

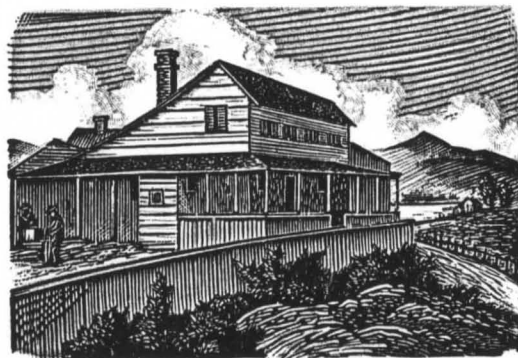
Soldier in Anza's Party

Came north with Anza in 1776 and was the forebearer of the California Bernal family. One of the Bernal holdings was a ranch consisting of 4,400 acres which included Hunters Point and land to the south extending into what is today San Mateo County.

Bluxome, Isaac, Jr. (Street)

Active Member of Vigilance Committees

A prominent business man, Bluxome in 1849 was in command of a company of citizens formed to combat the lawless element in the town. He served as secretary of both the 1851 and 1856 Vigilance Committees.



Residence of Samuel Brannan, 1847

Brannan, Samuel (Street)

Leader of Mormon Immigration of 1846

Came to Yerba Buena from New York in July 1846 on the ship *Brooklyn* as the leader of a group of 240 Mormons. He arrived about three weeks after Sloat had occupied Monterey. Brannan brought to the city its first printing press and started the *California Star*, the first newspaper in San Francisco.

In 1847 he opened a store at Sutter's Fort and was the first to publicize in San Francisco the discovery of gold. He became head of the 1851 vigilantes and was probably the town's most influential citizen during the gold rush, being active in organizing banks,

telegraph and express companies, and also in advancing the knowledge of agriculture in the Bay Region. He acquired and later lost a large fortune. One unusual venture was a large private loan to the Mexican Government in 1865.

Brenham, Charles J. (Place)

Pioneer Steamboat Captain, Mayor

For about ten years he was the captain of a Mississippi River steamboat running between New Orleans and Vicksburg. In 1849 Brenham arrived in San Francisco and took command of the *S. S. McKim* on the run between San Francisco and Sacramento. While so employed in 1851 he was, much to his surprise, elected mayor of San Francisco. He served as mayor for two terms and later became a member of the early San Francisco banking firm of Sanders & Brenham.

Broderick, David C. (Street)

Politician, U. S. Senator

A prominent Tammany Hall ward politician in New York City prior to coming to San Francisco in 1849. With financial help from Colonel J. D. Stevenson and in partnership with an assayer, Broderick started a business of buying placer gold and manufactured private gold coins. He used the resulting profits to buy city lots. He was elected a state senator in 1850 and until his death in 1859 was a leading personality in the political life of California, waging intense political fights during elections. He became U. S. Senator from California, and his stormy political activities continued in Washington against the pro-slavery Buchanan administration. He lost his life in a duel at Lake Merced with Justice David S. Terry in 1859.

Bryant, Edwin (Street)

*Officer in Frémont's Battalion,
Early Alcalde, Author*

Arrived by overland route in 1846, served as a lieutenant in Frémont's Battalion, and in February 1847 succeeded Bartlett and Hyde as alcalde of San Francisco. Bryant acquired considerable property and returned to the East, where he wrote his historical book, "*What I Saw in California*." In 1849 he again came west across the plains and was for years a prominent property holder in San Francisco, taking an active interest in politics. He eventually returned to Kentucky.

Buchanan, John C. (Street)

Auctioneer, Active in Early San Francisco

Arrived in 1846 by overland route from Kentucky. Buchanan was a member of Frémont's Battalion, and was also owner of many town lots. In 1847 he was alcalde's clerk under Bryant and Hyde, in 1848 a partner in the firm of McDonald & Buchanan, auctioneers and commission merchants.

For many years it was accepted that Buchanan Street was named for President James Buchanan, but the evidence points to John C. Buchanan, the pioneer. A map in Colville's San Francisco Directory published in 1856 has all the Western Addition streets, including Buchanan. This map first appeared on April 19, 1856 in a report by the commission which named the Western Addition streets. At this time James Buchanan was secretary of state and was not elected president until November 1857. It is probable that the custom of selecting names of men prominent in local politics was followed in the case of Buchanan Street.

Burnett, Peter H. (Avenue)

First Governor of the State of California

A lawyer who lived five years in Oregon before coming to California just after the discovery of gold. He was the first governor of California, elected in 1849. He later returned to the practice of law and became a justice of the Supreme Court of California. The last years of his life were spent in Sonora, Mexico, where he endeavored to further a large colonization scheme.

Bush, J. P. (Street)

Helped O'Farrell Survey San Francisco

This is perhaps the most difficult to trace of all the early San Francisco street names. The name of Dr. Jonathan P. Bush has been suggested, but he did not arrive until 1849, and Bush Street appears on the two earliest maps with street names—both published in 1847.

An unverified story published in the San Francisco *Chronicle* August 17, 1893, tells of a man coming to San Francisco from Oregon, claiming he was J. P. Bush. He said he had first arrived in San Francisco in 1845 as a cabin boy on the New England Whaler *Margaret*, then deserted and became one of O'Farrell's assistants in mapping the city's streets in 1847, and that O'Farrell had named Bush Street for him. This *Chronicle* story is the most likely explanation of the name.

Castro, José (Street)

Leader in Resistance to U. S. Forces

A descendant of a soldier in Anza's company. He was comandante of the Mexican forces aiding Governor Alvarado in his revolution against two Mexican governors. Later he was

the most active leader in resistance to U. S. rule after Monterey and San Francisco were taken by American forces. Other members of this family held many political offices and owned large land grants.

Clark, William S. (Street)

Built City's First Wharf

Arrived in 1846 and settled on the northern point of Yerba Buena Cove, which became known as Clark's Point. There he built the settlement's first wharf. Shore land having later been filled in, the wharf site is now at about the intersection of Broadway and Battery streets. In the early days when the alcalde would grant only one lot to a settler, Clark acquired many lots by transfer from others. He died a wealthy property holder.

Coleman, William T. (Street)

Early Banker, Vigilance Committee Leader

Born in Kentucky, Coleman arrived in California in 1849. He first had a store in Placerville, later one in Sacramento and finally a large commercial and banking house in San Francisco. Coleman was the head of the Second Vigilance Committee in 1856 and for many years was active in all law and order movements in the city.

Davidson, Professor George (Street)

Scientist, Geographer

Came to California in 1850 as a government surveyor, and soon had charge of important boundary line surveys. Davidson also was an expert in land cases. For a number of years he had charge of establishing the exact geographic locations of key points on the

western coastline. He worked on the boundary between the United States and Canada, between California and Nevada and on surveys for the government in Alaska. Davidson became a professor at the University of California and a member of many scientific societies in Europe and the United States. Mount Davidson in San Francisco is also named for him.



Presidio of San Francisco

Davis, William Heath (Street)

Trader, Merchant, Author

An early trader and merchant, born in Honolulu, who made two trips to California in the 1830's and remained permanently in 1838. For years as supercargo or ship owner, and merchant, Davis traded up and down the California coast and with the Sandwich Islands. In 1846 he bought a Yerba Buena store from his uncle, Nathan Spear, and became a prominent merchant of the town, continuing in Pacific Coast trade. He also was active in city affairs. In later life he wrote a book *Sixty Years in California*, recognized as one of the best works on San Francisco in its pioneer days.

De Haro, Francisco (Street)

First Alcalde of Yerba Buena

The first alcalde or chief magistrate of Mexican Yerba Buena. He ordered the first survey of Yerba Buena by Vioget in 1839. He bought the large Galindo ranch, which included Lake Merced and extended south into San Mateo County.

Drumm, Lieutenant Richard Coulton

(Street)

U. S. Army Officer

Drumm Street appears on the city map of 1851 and is one of the more difficult names to trace. Supposedly the name came from Lieutenant Drum (spelled with one *m*) who was well known up to April 1848 for his military record in the Mexican War, and again starting in 1850 when he was stationed in Louisiana. During the Civil War he was adjutant general of the Department of the Pacific, stationed in San Francisco. There is a blank period in his record and whereabouts for the two years after the Mexican War, but it is believed that he came to San Francisco and was prominent enough to have had his name used on the 1851 Eddy map.

Du Pont, Captain Samuel F.

(Du Pont Street now Grant Avenue)

*U. S. Naval Officer During
Conquest of California*

In command of the U. S. S. *Congress*, which brought Commodore Robert F. Stockton to California in July 1846. Transferred to the U. S. S. *Cyane*, Du Pont during the next several months took an active part in the conquest of California, transporting troops from port to port. The name of the southern end

of the street was changed to Grant Avenue in the late '70's or early '80's. The name Du Pont for the north end of the street persisted until a much later date.

Eddy, William M. (Street)

City Surveyor

As city surveyor in 1849, Eddy made a new enlarged map extending the streets laid out by Jasper O'Farrell in 1847. The new streets were carried west as far as Larkin and out to 9th street. He also made the city map of 1851, and later became state surveyor general.

Ellis, Alfred J. (Street)

Member of State Constitutional Convention

Came to California from New York via the Sandwich Islands in 1847. He first operated a hotel and was later a member of the town council. He was a member of the State Constitutional Convention at Monterey in 1849.

Fallon, Thomas (Place)

Bear Flag Revolt Participant

A Canadian who arrived in 1844 and took an active part in the Bear Flag revolt. He was the first to raise the U. S. Flag in San Jose and served in the California Battalion. During the gold rush he was a successful placer miner and later became a prominent member of the San Francisco business community.

Fell, William (Street)

Danish-Born Merchant

Born in Denmark in 1815, he arrived in San Francisco in 1849 and became a merchant. He was a member of the Society of California Pioneers. Fell Street was probably named for

him although it has been often stated that the street was named for Edward L. Fell, a contractor who made a specialty of raising sunken ships and moving houses. Edward Fell's obituary in the *Alta California* in 1864 seems to eliminate him, however, because he was only 19 years old in 1854, and Fell Street appears on a map published in that year. Therefore this recent research eliminates an interesting pioneer and substitutes another about whom very little is known.

Folsom, Captain Joseph L. (Street)

U. S. Army Officer, Wealthy Real Estate Owner

A graduate of West Point. Folsom came to San Francisco as a captain in Stevenson's Regiment in 1847. In 1848 he bought the valuable Leidesdorff estate for \$75,000, including a large ranch on which the town of Folsom was later built. Among the assets in this estate were 309 San Francisco lots which were sold in January 1856 for \$607,695. He also bought many "sand lots," built houses, and continued to be successful in amassing a fortune from real estate and building.

Frémont, General John C. (Street)

U. S. Army Officer, Leader of Exploration Parties

U. S. Army leader of three early western exploring expeditions, two of them extending all the way to California. In 1846, at the time of the Bear Flag revolt, he was in the Sacramento Valley on his third expedition, leading a surveying party consisting of about fifty soldiers. He took an active part in military affairs during the revolt and the conquest of California, finally organizing the California Battalion of Volunteers. For a short time he

was civil and military governor of the state, appointed by Commodore Robert F. Stockton and preceding General Stephen W. Kearny. He later became U. S. senator from California and was an unsuccessful candidate for president in 1850.

Frémont did not prove to be an effective diplomat in his dealings connected with his California activities, but he was outstanding among pioneer leaders for his energy and ability to accomplish difficult tasks.

Galindo, José (Avenue)

Owner of Ranch Within the City

Nicolás Galindo accompanied the Anza expedition as a settler in 1776. His grandson José owned 2,220 acres, largely within the present limits of San Francisco. Called Rancho Laguna de la Merced, the Galindo property extended south into San Mateo County. In 1837 the holdings were sold to the de Haro family for 100 cows and \$25.

Geary, John W. (Street)

First Postmaster of San Francisco, Mayor

San Francisco's first postmaster, sent from the East in 1849 with the first U. S. mail to come by steamer. He was a member of the State Constitutional Convention at Monterey, the last of San Francisco's American alcaldes, and the first mayor elected under the new city charter in 1850. Geary stayed in San Francisco a total of only three years and as a parting gift he gave to the city the land that was later named Union Square.

Geary's public service did not end in San Francisco. He became a general in the Union Army during the Civil War, was elected for one term as governor of Kansas, and was twice elected governor of Pennsylvania.

Gilbert, Lieutenant Edward (*Street*)

U. S. Army Officer, Editor of Alta California

Came with Stevenson's regiment in 1847. He was a printer by trade and became a partner in and editor of the daily newspaper, *Alta California*, and later a member of Congress from San Francisco. In 1852, when the Legislature sent a relief expedition to help incoming immigrants, its management provoked angry criticism and led to bitter controversy in the newspapers. An editorial on the subject in the *Alta California* precipitated a duel in which Gilbert was killed. He was only 30 years of age at the time of his death.

Gough, Charles H. (*Street*)

Helped Name Streets in Western Addition

In 1850 sold milk in San Francisco, riding horseback through the streets carrying two milk cans, one on either side of his saddle pommel. By 1855 Gough had become an important member of the community, and was on a committee of three aldermen appointed to lay out and name the streets of the Western Addition, west of Larkin Street. Gough used his own name and that of his sister, Octavia, for streets, and most probably named another for his good friend Steiner, who was delivering water when Gough was delivering milk in earlier days.

Green, Talbot H. (*Street*)

Merchant, Active in Civic Affairs

From 1841 until 1851 Green was one of the most influential citizens of Monterey and San Francisco, was popular, and always stood high in civic and social life. Closely associated with both Larkin and Howard, he became a leading merchant and amassed considerable

wealth and property. In 1851, while a candidate for mayor of the city, he was recognized by someone who had known him in the East as Paul Geddes, an embezzler, who had left his wife and four children, and disappeared. He left for the East almost immediately, claiming he could disprove the charge. Many of the leading men of the town escorted him to the steamer and assured him of their confidence in him. He was actually Paul Geddes, and in the East he was taken back by his wife and family, and repaid the money he owed.

Guerrero, Francisco (*Street*)

Early Ranch Owner in San Francisco

A highly respected Mexican citizen holding local offices before and after the American occupation in 1846. Became a large land owner from grants within the present city limits.

Haight, Henry (*Street*)

Banker, Philanthropist

This street name has been difficult to prove because there were four Haight's in San Francisco in the early 50's—all related. Three of them were brothers: Samuel, a pioneer with Stevenson's regiment in 1847; Fletcher, a lawyer and later a judge; and Henry, a pioneer who became manager of Page, Bacon & Co., the early banking firm. Lastly there was Henry H., a son of Fletcher, who was elected Governor of the State of California after the Civil War.

The street was named for Henry Haight who was the manager of Page, Bacon & Co., according to an old letter written by a granddaughter of Fletcher. It is this Henry Haight who gave the land for the Protestant Orphanage and was instrumental in its founding.

Halleck, General Henry W. (Street)

*U. S. Army Officer, Lawyer, Builder of
Montgomery Block*

A lawyer, army officer and expert on fortifications, who came to California with a detachment of artillery troops early in 1847. Halleck was appointed by Military Governor Richard B. Mason as secretary of state and had a great deal to do with the successful military government under Mason and General Bennett Riley after the conquest. Later he became a prominent lawyer, specializing in land titles and land cases. In 1853 Halleck was principally responsible for the erection of the Montgomery Block, a building which, in 1954 still stands on the southeast corner of Montgomery and Washington streets.

He played an active part in the Civil War, both in Washington and in the field, serving from 1862 to 1864 as "General of the Army," the highest rank in the Union Army during that period.

Harlan, George (Place)

Overland Party Leader

Led an overland party to California in 1846, including his wife and four children. He lived in San Francisco and Contra Costa County, and died in Santa Clara in 1850.

Harrison, Edward H. (Street)

Merchant and City Official

The quartermaster's clerk of Stevenson's regiment of First New York Volunteers, arriving in 1847. He became collector of the port of San Francisco and a member of the town council. He was also a prominent merchant and a partner in the early firm of DeWitt & Harrison.

Hawes, Horace (Street)

Lawyer and Politician

At the time of the gold rush, after two years as U. S. Consul at Tahiti, Hawes came to San Francisco. He became a prominent lawyer, and was chief executive officer of the city under John W. Geary, the first mayor. Later he served in the State Assembly and Senate. He introduced the bill which consolidated San Francisco City and County.

In 1855 Hawes was appointed to a commission with Charles Gough and Michael Hayes to lay out the streets west of Larkin, called the Western Addition.

Hayes, Colonel Thomas (Street)

Land Owner in the Western Addition

County clerk from 1853 to 1856. He had a large tract of land in what was known as Hayes Valley in the Western Addition, which the Van Ness Ordinance confirmed to him. Hayes' house was between Van Ness and Franklin at Hayes Street. His brother Michael, who was one of three members of the committee which named the streets of the Western Addition in 1856, probably was instrumental in naming this street.

Howard, William D. M. (Street)

Leading Merchant of Yerba Buena

A native of Boston, who came to California in 1839 as a cabin boy on the sailing ship *California*. For several years he was supercargo on Boston ships trading up and down the Pacific coast, and as such agent in charge of the collection of hides and tallow. In 1845 he and Henry Mellus formed the firm of Mellus & Howard. This firm had the most active commercial business in San Francisco

in the years when the settlement was known as Yerba Buena, and in 1846 bought the property of the Hudson's Bay Company. Howard was one of the town's most public spirited and prosperous men and was known as the first citizen of San Francisco in the years just before the gold rush.

Hyde, George (Street)

*Alcalde of San Francisco
in the First Year of American Regime*

Admitted to the bar in Philadelphia and practiced law there. During the war with Mexico he had a feeling that California would be taken over by the United States, so, wanting to go West, he applied for a position in the Navy. He became captain's clerk for Commodore Stockton on the USS *Congress* which arrived at Monterey in July 1846. About a year later he was appointed alcalde of San Francisco, following Bartlett and Bryant. This was at the exact time surveyor O'Farrell used Philadelphia names on two important streets—Market and Sansom(e).

Hyde owned a large lot which was then considered out of the town to the south, but is part of the land on which the Mechanics Institute now stands.

Jones, Elbert P. (Street)

Lawyer, Editor, Politician

A lawyer from Kentucky who came West overland in 1846. Early the following year he became the first editor of San Brannan's *California Star*, which was the first newspaper established in San Francisco. He was elected a member of the first town council under American jurisdiction and took an active part in political affairs. "Jones was a man of much talent and versatility," wrote Hubert Howe

Bancroft. He owned many city lots and also became the owner of the second hotel built in San Francisco—the Portsmouth.

Kearny, General Stephen Watts (Street)

Military and Civil Governor in 1847

Came west in command of an expedition to conquer and occupy New Mexico and California in 1846 and met defeat at San Pascual in Southern California. He was appointed military and civil governor of California in March 1847. He granted the water lots to the town of San Francisco, and soon after this they were surveyed and sold at auction. These lots were several hundred in number and most were located east of Sansome Street, in the part of old Yerba Buena Cove which was a mud flat at low tide.

In May 1847 Kearny turned over his command to Colonel Mason and went East to testify against Frémont, who after having been appointed governor by Stockton had resisted Kearny's military control of California. The Kearny-Frémont controversy became a feud and was fought out in the United States Senate, in court, and later in books.

Larkin, Thomas O. (Street)

*U. S. Secret Agent and Only
U. S. Consul in California*

Arrived in California in 1831 and for many years had a store at Monterey. He was the first and only American consul to the Mexican government and was a confidential agent of the U. S., trying to bring about American occupation of California without war. He was in the forefront of much that transpired during the six or eight years before the gold discovery, during the uncertain period of Commodore Jones, the Bear Flag revolt,



An early map of San Francisco—showing filled areas and the original shoreline of the harbor—from The Annals of San Francisco published in 1854

Frémont, and the period of suspicion that several foreign governments were watching for a chance to take over California.

Larkin was a local correspondent for New York newspapers, and served as a personal advisor to Kearny, Frémont and Stockton. He was a central figure in the first State Constitutional Convention.



Alcalde's Office, Portsmouth Square

Leavenworth, Rev. Thaddeus M. (Street)

Chaplain and Alcalde

An Episcopal clergyman, also a physician and druggist. He arrived in San Francisco as chaplain of the First New York Volunteer regiment in March 1847. He was alcalde in 1848-49, but had difficulties with the military government and was removed from office.

Leese, Jacob Primer (Street)

Built First Permanent House in Yerba Buena

A Santa Fe trader who went to Los Angeles in 1833, and for a time transported mules between New Mexico and Southern California. Two years later he formed a partnership with

two established Monterey merchants, Nathan Spear and William S. Hinckley for the purpose of starting a store in Yerba Buena; in 1836 he built for his residence the first solid structure in Yerba Buena. It was preceded only by a tent house put up by Richardson in 1835 the year before Leese arrived.

He built a store in 1837 on Montgomery Street near Sacramento which did business mainly with the large ranches in San Francisco Bay area and the ships which came to California seeking hides and tallow. He had extensive land holdings which ran south from Visitación Valley. Later the store was sold to the Hudson's Bay Company and Leese moved to a large ranch near Sonoma. He married Vallejo's sister and probably because of this he was taken prisoner with Vallejo during the Bear Flag Revolt and held captive at Sutter's Fort.

After California was made a state he spent years in litigation over his large land holdings.

Leidesdorff, William A. (Street)

Trader, Merchant, Land Owner

Born in the Danish West Indies, brought up by a wealthy plantation owner, and sent to New Orleans where he was popular in business and society. A broken engagement caused him to buy a sailing ship and become a trader in the Pacific for several years. In 1841 he arrived at San Francisco, then known as Yerba Buena, and became one of its most enterprising and public spirited citizens. He was a merchant and owner of much land, and he served as captain of the port. He was appointed by Larkin in 1845 vice consul at Yerba Buena. In 1847 he had the first steamer on the Bay, a side-wheeler called the *Sitka*. He built the first hotel, the City Hotel, and a large warehouse on the corner of California and Leidesdorff streets at the exact location

where the head office of American Trust Company now stands.

Leidesdorff, whose activities were many and varied, also had a contract to furnish supplies to the Russian Fur Company. He owned perhaps the best house in Yerba Buena, at the southwest corner of California and Montgomery streets, and when he died owned over 300 lots in San Francisco as well as a large ranch in the Sacramento Valley.

Lick, James (Place)

Land Owner and Philanthropist

In his youth worked as an expert organ and piano maker, following this trade some twenty years in Argentina, Chile and Peru. He arrived in San Francisco just before the gold rush with about \$30,000 and made investments in what was then outlying real estate. He built the famous hotel known as the Lick House and continued to purchase real estate which kept being absorbed by the city as it grew. He also built a large flour mill in San Jose. As a result of investments he was very wealthy at the time of his death and left several million dollars for scientific, charitable and educational purposes.

Lyon, Captain Nathaniel (Street)

U. S. Army Officer and Indian Fighter

Graduated from West Point and fought in the Florida War and the Mexican War. He was ordered to California as captain in the First Dragoons and for several years was actively engaged in campaigns against the Indians. He led a force against the Indians at Clear Lake to avenge the murder of Captain William H. Warner of the U. S. Topographical Survey in the year 1849. Lyon was killed in the Civil War.

Mason, Colonel Richard B. (Street)

Military Governor at the Time of Gold Discovery

A colonel in the U. S. Army, and military governor of California from May 1847 to February 1849. He made an inspection of the gold districts in the summer of 1848 and sent the famous report to Washington which, together with letters from Larkin, started the big rush to California the following year. He successfully organized a workable government in California during the two critical years when very little help was coming from Washington and the start of the gold rush was complicating matters. Historian Hubert Howe Bancroft wrote: "He was the right man in the right place." Mason had able help from Henry W. Halleck whom he appointed his secretary of state and his adviser in many difficult problems. Fort Mason was also named for Colonel Mason.

McAllister, Hall (Street)

Lawyer and Jurist

A lawyer, prominent in his native Georgia as an attorney and a successful politician, who just missed being elected Governor of Georgia. He arrived in San Francisco in 1849 and was soon active as a lieutenant in the California Guards, and as a lawyer against the lawless element known as the Hounds. A distinguished jurist, he remained in San Francisco for the rest of his life.

Montgomery, Captain John B. (Street)

Took Yerba Buena for the United States

As commander of the U. S. S. *Portsmouth* when at Yerba Buena, he received orders from Commodore Sloat to occupy the town

for the United States. Montgomery landed seventy men and raised the American flag at the Plaza on July 9, 1846, just two days after Sloat had taken Monterey. Portsmouth Square was named for Montgomery's ship. Through Lieutenant Washington Bartlett, a junior officer on the *Portsmouth*, he organized the local government in San Francisco.

Montgomery remained in San Francisco Bay for five months in command of the district. He ordered the U. S. flag raised at Sonoma, Sacramento, and San Jose. A severe blow to Captain Montgomery was the loss of two sons, young naval officers, who started for Sacramento in a navy cutter and were never heard from again. A thorough search failed to reveal any trace of the boat or crew of twelve. The reason for the disappearance remained a mystery.

Moraga, Lieutenant José (Street)

Took Over Command of Anza Expedition

Second in command of the Anza expedition which founded San Francisco. Anza returned to Mexico soon after his arrival here, leaving Moraga in command at the Presidio when building started there in 1776. Later Moraga had a leading part in the building of the Dolores and Santa Clara missions and in establishing the pueblo of San José.

Noé, José (Street)

Last Mexican Alcalde, Ranch Owner

The last alcalde under Mexican rule, and a city official after the American occupation. He owned the San Miguel rancho, which was a large tract of approximately 4000 acres in the center of present-day San Francisco. The rancho covered an area that included Twin Peaks and Sutro Heights.

Octavia, (Miss Octavia Gough) (Street)

Sister of Charles Gough

"Named for Octavia, a sister of Charles Gough, who was on the commission to lay out the streets west of Larkin Street known as the Western Addition."

The above is quoted from an obituary of Gough, published in the *San Francisco Call*, dated July 27, 1895. It eliminated the former supposition that Octavia meant the eighth street back from Divisadero. It documents the relationship of Charles Gough to Octavia Street and, almost surely, to Steiner Street, named for Gough's good friend. Steiner was delivering water in the pioneer days when Gough was delivering milk.

O'Farrell, Jasper (Street)

Made First Comprehensive Survey of San Francisco

Employed early in 1847 to make a survey of San Francisco and extend the mapped limits of the city. His map covered the area bounded by Post, Leavenworth and Francisco streets, and the Bay.

It was probably O'Farrell who had the most to say about naming the streets within that area and who chose so many pioneers. This 1847 map also included the water lots granted to the city by General Stephen W. Kearny, which were subsequently sold at auction.

The location and present width of Market Street, parallel to the Mission road, were established by O'Farrell.

He was a graduate civil engineer, acquired wealth in land holdings, served as a state senator and was a popular resident of early San Francisco.

Ortega, José Francisco de (Street)

First European to See San Francisco Bay

Scout, pathfinder and explorer for the Portolá expedition; discoverer of the Golden Gate, Carquinez Straits, and other local landmarks. He was comandante of the Presidios of San Diego, Santa Barbara and Monterey, and of the soldiers attached to Missions San Juan Capistrano and San Buenaventura.

Palóu, Fray Francisco (Avenue)

Companion of Junípero Serra

A Franciscan padre with Anza's party, he took a leading part in establishing both the Presidio and Mission Dolores in 1776. He had previously accompanied an exploring expedition in 1774, which planted a cross on Point Lobos above Seal Rocks. Companion and biographer of Junípero Serra, his *Life of Serra* is recognized as one of the great early California historical documents.

Parrott, John (Alley)

Merchant and Banker

A commercial agent and U. S. consul at Mazatlán in 1844 and 1845. While there he sent a ship to Monterey with a mixed cargo, valued at \$120,000, which was wrecked on the rocks near Carmel. He came to San Francisco in 1848 and became a shipping merchant and a leading banker. He built one of the city's first large buildings on the northwest corner of California and Montgomery streets.

Peralta, Gabriel (Avenue)

Owner of Large East Bay Ranch

A corporal in Anza's company arriving at San Francisco with his four sons in 1776. He was the founder of the Peralta family in Cali-

fornia. When the United States took over California in 1846 the Peraltas were the owners of most of what is now Oakland, Alameda and Berkeley. Their ranch contained about 49,000 acres and was called San Antonio. Just as Sutter lost his "empire" in the Sacramento Valley during the gold rush, the Peraltas also lost, or sold for small sums, their huge holdings in the East Bay.

Perry, Doctor Alexander (Street)

Surgeon in Stevenson's Regiment

A major and surgeon in Colonel Jonathan Stevenson's First New York Volunteer regiment, arriving in 1847. On the way to California Dr. Perry assisted in rescuing Captain Henry W. Halleck from a Mexican prison in Lower California.



The Plaza or Portsmouth Square

Pico, Pío (Avenue)

Last Mexican Governor of California

The forebearer of the family was Santiago, one of Anza's soldiers, but the best known member was Pío Pico, who in 1845-6 served

as the last Mexican governor of California. Working with Alvarado and Castro, he was active in opposing occupation by the United States.

Portola, Gaspar de (Drive)

First Spanish Governor, Explorer

First Spanish governor of California. In 1769 marched north from San Diego in command of the first party of Europeans to see San Francisco Bay. This expedition also discovered the Golden Gate and Carquinez Straits. He founded the presidio at Monterey and aided in establishing Mission San Carlos.

Post, Gabriel B. (Street)

Merchant and City Official

Came to San Francisco in 1847, was a member of the town council in 1849, and afterwards was elected state senator. He was a merchant and one of the leaders in public movements in the city's early days.

Powell, Doctor William J. (Street)

Surgeon of U. S. S. Warren

Surgeon of the U. S. sloop of war *Warren*, which was active during the conquest of California and was in San Francisco harbor for long periods. After the occupation of Yerba Buena Powell lived ashore because he had established a "sanitorium" for sick sailors. He was living ashore in July 1847 when O'Farrell was surveying the town for his map, which was published in the fall of that year. Chester Lyman worked as a surveyor for Jasper O'Farrell and lived in the same house as Powell near Portsmouth Square. Later Lyman wrote the book *Around the Horn*, in

which he states that Powell was popular and a good entertainer, and even a "good ventriloquist." Therefore the popular surgeon of the *Warren* was honored with a street name, as Montgomery and Bartlett of the *Portsmouth* had been a few months before.

Richardson, William A. (Avenue)

First Settler in Yerba Buena

An Englishman and the mate of an English whaler, who left his ship when it put in at San Francisco Bay in 1822. The Mexican authorities in the area allowed him to stay ashore on condition that he teach navigation and carpentry to the young Californians.

He soon established a base near San Gabriel in Southern California and traded up and down the coast as far south as Peru. From this experience he became well known as a navigator and pilot. In 1835 he returned to San Francisco Bay and was the first inhabitant of Yerba Buena, where he built a tent house. The next year he built quite a large adobe house near the present intersection of Grant Avenue and Clay Street. He was Captain of the Port and also dealt privately in hides and tallow collected from the ranches around the Bay. He later bought a large ranch covering the present site of Sausalito, and he lived there for many years. Richardson Bay was also named for him.

Ringgold, Lieutenant Cadwalader (Street)

U. S. Naval Officer and Surveyor

Arrived with Lieutenant Charles Wilkes on the first U. S. exploring expedition in the Pacific in 1841. Ringgold commanded the U. S. S. *Porpoise* and led a survey party mapping the Sacramento River as far as Colusa, and also parts of San Francisco Bay.

Russ, J. C. Christian (Street)

Jeweler, Owner of Montgomery Street Land

After losing by theft the entire stock of his jewelry store in New York City, Russ and his three sons enlisted as privates in Stevenson's regiment. The family of twelve arrived with him in San Francisco on the U. S. Transport *Loo Choo*, in March 1847. On arrival they purchased several lots on Montgomery Street and built a house between Pine and Bush, then well south of San Francisco proper. They opened a jewelry store and during the gold rush ran an assay office. They built over thirty shacks on their land which they rented. The family also built a hotel near the land now occupied by the Russ Building.

Sánchez, José (Street)

Member of Family Owning Large Ranchos

A comandante of the Presidio, with a reputation as an Indian fighter Sánchez was the son of one of Anza's soldiers. The family acquired a ranch of some 15,000 acres extending from present day South San Francisco to Burlingame. José's brother Francisco Sánchez, owned the adjacent 9000-acre ranch to the southeast.

Serra, Fray Junípero (Boulevard)

Leader in Establishment of California Missions

In 1769 this Franciscan padre established the first mission in Alta California at San Diego, and for many years served as the very capable and energetic father-president of all the missions. He dedicated the years from 1769 until his death in 1784 to the successful administration of the *Alta California* missions.

Sloat, Commodore John D. (Boulevard)

*Commander of Pacific Squadron
In Conquest of California*

Fought under Decatur in the War of 1812, was a naval constructor, and in 1846 took command of the U. S. Navy squadron in Pacific waters. He had orders to take Yerba Buena and other main ports if he had definite word that war with Mexico had been declared. The slowness of communications, persistent rumors of war and the presence of a British squadron in coastal waters, created a period of great uncertainty. Sloat did, however, take Monterey on July 7, 1846 and on his orders Montgomery landed and took Yerba Buena two days later. Sloat quickly turned his command over to Commodore Robert F. Stockton and returned to the East via Cape Horn.

Spear, Nathan (Street)

A Leading Yerba Buena Merchant

Arrived in the Sandwich Islands in 1819 from Boston. In 1832 he came to California and opened a store at Monterey with William Hinckley as a partner. In 1836 both joined with Jacob Leese and operated a store and trading post at Yerba Buena. At first they were in competition with the town's only other commercial establishment, that of William Richardson. Three years later Spear built the first flour mill in California on Clay Street, near Montgomery, which was run by mule power. He had two schooners on the bay collecting wheat and made a charge to customers of one-half of the flour milled. With other partners Spear continued as one of the leading merchants of the town until 1846 when he sold his holdings to his nephew, William Heath Davis.

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Steuart, William M. (Street)

Town Official

Came to California as secretary to Commodore Thomas A. Catesby Jones on the U.S.S. *Ohio* in 1848. He was a member of the town council in 1849 and a delegate to and acting chairman of the California State Constitutional Convention at Monterey in 1849. At the election held later that year he was an unsuccessful candidate for governor.

Steiner, L. (Street)

Sold Water From House to House During Pioneer Days

The published obituary of L. Steiner, who died in November 1911, states that this street was named for him and his two brothers, Leopold and Samuel, and that he delivered water from house to house in the early days. Later the city directory also gives Leopold's occupation as *waterman*. No doubt there was a friendship between the Steiners and Charles Gough, who was delivering milk in the pioneer period. When the Steiners became active in business affairs, and Gough was on the 1855 committee that laid out the streets of the Western Addition, he probably remembered his friend who had delivered the water.

Stevenson, Colonel Jonathan Drake (Street)

Commander of New York Regiment

Colonel of the First New York Volunteers; arrived with about seven hundred and fifty men in March 1847. He raised this regiment with the understanding that the men would be mustered out in California after the Mexican War. They were discharged just in time to benefit by the discovery of gold in 1848.

Stevenson soon resigned from the army and turned to mining. After the gold rush he turned his attention to San Francisco and Santa Cruz real estate. He was responsible for the first land subdivision in San Francisco.

Stockton, Commodore Robert F. (Street)

Military Governor

Arrived at Monterey in command of the U. S. S. *Congress* eight days after Sloat had taken California for the United States. Almost immediately Stockton was appointed military governor by Sloat, who because of poor health was forced to go East. Stockton remained military governor during the first six months of American jurisdiction, working closely with Frémont until early in 1847 when he turned over the command of the land forces to General Stephen W. Kearny, and the command of the naval forces to Commodore William B. Shubrick.

Stockton was in command during most of the period of armed opposition to the taking of California by the United States. William Heath Davis, in California at the time, wrote: "He was most energetic and effective in winning California for the U. S." The county seat of San Joaquin County also is named for this naval officer. It was Captain Charles M. Weber, the river town's founder, who changed the name—then Weberville—to Stockton.

Sutter, John A. (Street)

The Most Enterprising Citizen in California Before the Gold Rush

A Swiss adventurer who came to California via Oregon, Alaska, and the Sandwich Islands, finally arriving in Yerba Buena in 1839. He succeeded in getting the confidence of



Sutter's Fort

the Mexican government, which granted him large holdings of land in the Sacramento Valley. He soon bought all the equipment from the Russians who were abandoning Fort Ross and moved most of it to what is now Sacramento. There he succeeded in raising large crops, and at one time had a thousand Indians working for him. At his fort he had many craftsmen at work. He was especially remembered for the kindness and hospitality he bestowed on the weary travelers from the east who had crossed the plains and first saw civilization again at Sutter's Fort.

In January of 1848 a carpenter named James Wilson Marshall, while building a sawmill in the south fork of the American River for Sutter, found a few flakes of gold in the millrace. He hurried back to reveal his discovery to Sutter, who determined to keep it a secret until the sawmill could be completed and he could get definite ownership of the land. In both of these efforts Sutter was unsuccessful. Soon the news leaked out, first to San Francisco and then later in the year to the eastern United States, and started the gold rush. Within the next few years his land was overrun with squatters, and Sutter eventually lost his entire empire.

Townsend, Doctor John (Street)

Pioneer Physician

Came overland to California in 1844. He took part in the last Mexican revolution—the Micheltorena campaign. In 1847 he built his residence and physician's office on the south side of California Street between Montgomery and Sansome, where the Merchants' Exchange Building now stands. He was president of the town council for some months under Governor Richard B. Mason, and one of the leading citizens of the community between 1845 and 1850.

Turk, Frank (Street)

Lawyer and City Official

A lawyer, came to San Francisco in 1849 and first worked for John W. Geary in the post office. He was elected second alcalde in 1849 at the first election of local officers in San Francisco and held several other minor offices and was a well known lawyer. At one time Turk owned nearly all of what is now known as Nob Hill. He fought a duel with O. C. Hall, another lawyer, in June 1862. The last ten years of his life were spent in Washington, D. C., continuing in the practice of law.

Valencia, Candelario (Street)

Soldier, Ranch Owner

The son of José Manuel Valencia, one of Anza's soldiers. Candelario also saw military service at the Presidio, and later owned the Acalanes rancho near Lafayette in Contra Costa County. He also had property adjoining Mission Dolores where he lived. William

Heath Davis in *Sixty Years in California* says the street was named for Candelario, but it could have been named for the family.

Vallejo, General Mariano G. (Street)

Land Owner, Friend of Early American Settlers

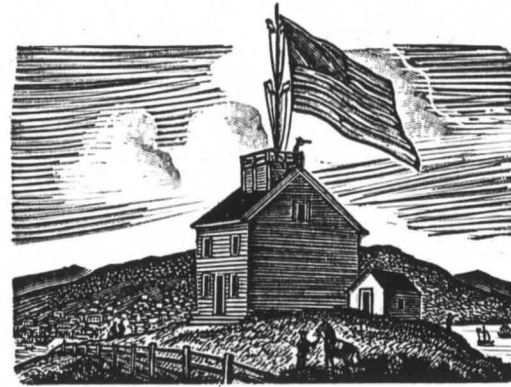
The most important and respected Mexican citizen during the American settlement and seizure of California. In 1835 he was comandante of the Presidio of San Francisco, and was later ordered to establish the garrison and colony at Sonoma as a check against the Fort Ross Russian settlement and Indian raids. He was the owner of extensive lands, and a friend and benefactor of early American settlers. Even so, he was arrested and held a prisoner briefly at Sutter's Fort during the historic Bear Flag revolt.

Later General Vallejo continued to be active in the state's affairs and served as a member of California's 1849 Constitutional Convention.

Van Ness, James (Avenue)

Mayor of San Francisco

Mayor of the city in 1856, author of the ordinance which confirmed the Western Addition land titles to those who actually possessed the property on January 1, 1855. The Western Addition was the land between Larkin Street and Divisadero Street, which marked the city's western line in 1856. Van Ness owned a house on the block bounded by Van Ness, Franklin, Hayes and Fell.



Inner Station, Telegraph Hill

MISCELLANEOUS NAMES

Anna Lane

Daughter of Pioneer

There is a popular, but unverified story, that two brothers named Lane divided a lot by the flip of a coin. The winner was to get the choice of either half, and the loser the balance plus the privilege of naming the street along its western boundary. Thus the name of the loser's daughter, Miss Anna Lane, was given to the narrow thoroughfare just west of Powell between Ellis and Eddy streets.

Anza's Soldiers

About thirty soldiers came with Anza when he established San Francisco in 1776. The names of twenty of these soldiers or their descendants have been used for streets. Among these names are *Moraga* (Captain), *Alviso*, *Peralta*, *Solá*, *Sánchez*, *Castro*, *Bernal*, *Pico*

and *Galindo*. These soldiers and their descendants had certain rights in acquiring large acreages of land. For this reason much of the land within and tributary to San Francisco was originally owned by the descendants of Anza's soldiers.

Battery Street

Early City Fortification

Under orders from Capt. John B. Montgomery, a party of sailors from the U. S. S. *Portsmouth* erected a battery of five guns on Clark's Point in 1846. This was the northern point of Yerba Buena Cove, close to Telegraph Hill about where Battery Street and Broadway intersect. The battery was originally called Fort Montgomery.

Divisadero Street

Presidio and City Boundary

This name comes from the Spanish word "divisadero" meaning a point from which one can look far on the top of a hill. It was applied to Lone Mountain in Mexican times and first used for Divisadero Street on the 1856 map of the Western Addition. In the early 1850's the Presidio was larger and extended to the present location of Divisadero Street. This line was then also the western boundary of the city.

Early City Officials

The names of most of the city officials elected in August 1849 were given to streets. These were Alcalde *Geary*, Second Alcalde *Turk*, Prefect *Hawes* Subprefect *Guerrero*, and eight of the twelve town council members: *Green*, *Harrison*, *Ellis*, *Townsend*, *Davis*, *Brannan*, *Steuart* and *Post*.

Feminine Names, Towns, Ships

When O'Farrell first surveyed lots south of Market Street he made each lot 100 varas square, or nearly 300 feet on a side; the resulting blocks were about four times the size of the blocks north of Market Street, and were later divided by many small streets and alleys. For these the first names of women were often used.

There have been several explanations given of these names, but the best one seems to be found in the *South of Market Journal* of April 1927. The author, Albert P. Wheelan, believed that the pioneers coming west without their wives, mothers, daughters, etc., were homesick for the people left in the East. Hence the selection of first names such as *Annie*, *Alice*, *Clara*, *Eliza*, *Grace*, *Jessie* and *Harriet*.

The same article by Wheelan also suggests that the birthplaces of the pioneers and the ships on which they came to California were often used for streets and alleys south of Market Street. Among these are *Berwick*, *Decatur*, *Elkhart*, *Essex*, *Juniper*, *Hawthorne*, *Lucerne* and *Norfolk*.

Franklin Street

Probably Named for Benjamin Franklin

Probably named for Benjamin, although Selim Franklin, an early realtor, has been suggested. An obituary written for the Society of California Pioneers states that Selim Franklin was an Englishman who was consulted by Queen Victoria about the Oregon boundary dispute. In 1858 he went to British Columbia for the Fraser River gold excitement and became speaker of the Provincial House of Parliament. This would indicate that it was not Selim Franklin for whom the street was named.

Laguna Street

Washerwoman's Lagoon

Named for a lake or pond which once existed one-half mile southwest of Fort Mason, at about what is now the intersection of Greenwich and Gough streets. It was known as Washerwoman's Lagoon, and in early times most of the washing for the town was done there. During the early '50's the laundry for the Pacific Mail steamships was all done in Washerwoman's Lagoon.

Large Ranch Owners

There was a group of large ranch owners located within the limits of present day San Francisco, down the peninsula, across the Bay on the Contra Costa shore, or in Marin. These ranchers were especially active during the 1830's and '40's, exchanging hides and tallow for trade goods with the Boston ships. All but about three of these ranch owning families have been remembered by street names. The ranches of *Noe*, *De Haro*, *Leese*, *Bernal* and *Galindo* were all or partly within the present city of San Francisco. Down the peninsula were the ranches of *Sanchez* and *Arguello*, extending south to Palo Alto. Across the Bay were *Peralta* and *Castro* and on the Marin side was *Richardson*.

Market Street

A Philadelphia Street

It was laid out by O'Farrell in 1846 parallel to the old Mission trail, the first road between Yerba Buena and the Mission Dolores. O'Farrell insisted on the 120 foot width and the parallel location. Market Street was the dividing line between the 50 vara lots on the north and the 100 vara lots to the south. The

vara, the standard Mexican land measurement, was about one yard. George Hyde, a Philadelphian, may have suggested it be named after Philadelphia's Market Street.

Members of Stevenson's Regiment

This regiment of volunteers was recruited in New York for service in California, with the privilege of being discharged in California when the Mexican War came to an end. The regiment arrived at San Francisco early in 1847. Among the men in this regiment for whom streets were named are Colonel *Stevenson*, Captain *Folsom*, Surgeon *Perry*, Chaplain *Leavenworth*, Lieutenant *Gilbert*, Clerk *Harrison*, and Private *Russ*.

Mission Street

Trail to Mission Dolores

This street closely followed the original trail between Yerba Buena and the Mission Dolores and was the only route from the city to El Camino Real which went down the peninsula, to San Jose, and on southward. It was first built as a toll road and for about three miles was planked in the places where it ran through swamp land or heavy sand. Later a second toll road was built on Folsom Street.

Portsmouth Square

U. S. Navy Man-of-War Portsmouth

This square was first called the Plaza but was changed in honor of the U. S. S. *Portsmouth*, which was Captain Montgomery's ship at the time of the occupation of Yerba Buena in July 1846. In 1911 the old *Portsmouth* was in Norfolk Harbor and about to be dismantled. At that time Mr. Zoeth El-

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dredge reports having written "50 letters" in an effort to save the ship and have it brought to San Francisco as an historic monument. The cost would have been only \$15,000, but the effort failed.

Sansome Street

A Philadelphia Street

Evidently named for Sansom Street in Philadelphia. Early maps show it spelled without the final "e" as is the Philadelphia street.

Alcalde Washington Bartlett first named the street Sloat for Commodore John D. Sloat who took Monterey for the United States, but the name was changed on O'Farrell's map in 1847. There is reason to suspect that George Hyde, who was the alcalde during and also shortly after Bartlett's term of office, proposed the name Sansom. He grew up in Philadelphia and practiced law there before coming to San Francisco.

Telegraph Hill

Ship Arrival Signal Point

From early in 1849 a signal announcing the arrival of ships was located on the top of Telegraph Hill. This consisted of a mast with wooden arms which could be raised at different positions to indicate what kind of ship was arriving. The information was relayed from a similar signal at Point Lobos at the Golden Gate. As Point Lobos was not always visible from Telegraph Hill, there was an intermediate mast and arm about one mile south of Fort Point in the Presidio. This shows on Humphrey's map of 1853. In September 1853 the first telegraph line in California, six miles in length, was completed connecting Point Lobos and Telegraph Hill.



Early San Francisco

HISTORY FROM STREET NAMES

A fairly complete thumbnail history of early San Francisco can be sketched by mention of the names of its streets. First came the early explorers who discovered the Bay of San Francisco, *Portolá* and *Ortega*. Then followed *Anza*, arriving at the Presidio in 1776, during the American Revolutionary period. Among his soldiers and settlers were *Moraga*, *Peralta*, *Pacheco*, *Castro* and *Bernal*. At about the same time the Mission Dolores was founded under the direction of Father *Junipero Serra* and Father *Palóu*. The names of Spanish and Mexican governors and army comandantes over the next sixty years have been used in streets named *Arguëllo*, *Castro*, *Moraga* and *Sánchez*.

Gradually, starting in 1835 with *Richardson* and then *Leese*, the little town of Yerba

Buena grew, and for about 10 years before the occupation by United States forces there were many substantial citizens such as *Howard, Brannan, Bryant, Larkin, Leidesdorff, Russ, Davis* and *Richardson*. On July 9, 1846 a new order started with the taking of Yerba Buena by *Montgomery* under *Sloat*; he also served under *Stockton*. Both *Powell* and *Bartlett* were on the Navy ships then in the Bay, with *Bartlett* changing the name of Yerba Buena to San Francisco in January 1847. The army was equally active in the conquest with *Kearny, Frémont* and *Folsom*. A little later a temporary military government took charge under *Mason*, with *Halleck* an able assistant.

Just before the gold rush the streets were surveyed and laid out by *O'Farrell*, followed by *Eddy*. The city, which had about 300 inhabitants at the time of the conquest, grew by leaps and bounds with the gold rush. During and shortly after that period, well known names included *Sutter, Brannan, Broderick, Green, Geary*, and *Leavenworth*. These names mark the close of the "pioneer" period, which, according to the Society of California Pioneers' definition, was the end of the year 1849.

H. C. C.