

UC Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz History

Title

The Martina Castro Lodge Family

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/27z9z18s>

Authors

Lodge, Carrie
Calciano, Elizabeth Spedding
Regional History Project, UCSC Library

Publication Date

1965-06-01

Supplemental Material

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/27z9z18s#supplemental>

University of California, Santa Cruz
The University Library

CARRIE LODGE

THE MARTINA CASTRO LODGE FAMILY

An Interview Conducted By
Elizabeth Spedding Calciano

Santa Cruz

1965



Carrie Electa Lodge

In her Living Room

April 19, 1965

All uses of this manuscript are covered by an agreement between the Regents of the University of California and Carrie Lodge, dated June 9, 1965. The manuscript is thereby made available for research purposes. All literary rights in the manuscript, including the right to publish, are reserved to the University Library of the University of California, Santa Cruz. No part of the manuscript may be quoted for publication without the written permission of the University Librarian of the University of California, Santa Cruz.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION
<u>THE EARLIEST CALIFORNIA CASTROS</u>	
<u>ISIDRO CASTRO</u>	1
<u>JOAQUIN CASTRO</u>	3
<u>MARTINA CASTRO</u>	
<u>LIFE ON THE RANCH</u>	7
<u>MIKE LODGE I</u>	17
<u>MARTINA AND THE INDIANS</u>	24
<u>TRAGEDY AT CALAVERAS</u>	28
<u>DIVISION OF THE RANCH</u>	31
<u>STOLEN RECORDS</u>	35
<u>MARTINA'S ILLNESS</u>	39
<u>CASTRO RELATIVES</u>	
<u>LIFE WITH AUNT PECK</u>	46
<u>AUNT MARY AVERON</u>	53
<u>MIKE LODGE II</u>	
<u>A TRIP TO LOS ANGELES</u>	67
<u>MIKE'S VIOLIN</u>	73
<u>THE DEATH OF HIS SECOND WIFE</u>	79
<u>MIKE'S THIRD WIFE -- MARGARITA CASTILLA</u>	81
<u>CARRIE LODGE</u>	
<u>SCHOOL YEARS IN SOQUEL</u>	88
<u>BUSINESS TRAINING</u>	91
<u>THE FAMILY HOMES</u>	92

INTRODUCTION

A person who dips into the history of Santa Cruz County soon comes across the colorful and intriguing story of Martina Castro Lodge. Owner of the largest rancho in the county, one of the few women grantees in the state, Martina's life (1800 or 1807 - 1890) spanned the years of California's transition. Born under Spanish rule, she and her family prospered during the Mexican period. Her father and several of her brothers and uncles received land grants, and all enjoyed the rather primitive but gracious and easygoing way of life. Unfortunately Martina, like many of her contemporaries, was totally unprepared for the problems that came with American rule. Not only the language was foreign to her, but also the concept of property taxes, mortgages, and land title regulations.

By sad coincidence the American acquisition occurred during a period of personal crisis in Martina's life. Her husband, Michael Lodge, a one-time sailor from Dublin and the mainstay in her life, was killed in 1849 while returning from the Calaveras gold fields. An unfortunate marriage followed and this, coupled with the pressures exerted by her sons-in-law to divide the ranch amongst her children, resulted in her mind breaking. The subsequent loss of the remaining share of her ranch seemed the final blow. In spite of the misfortune

in her life, Martina lived on to the reported age of ninety. Her last thirty years were not particularly sad. She never totally recovered her mind, but surrounded by her loyal daughters, she lived happily on a portion of her old ranch. The simple things in life appealed to her as they always had. She especially loved the pear trees that encircled her little house.

Much of the information we have of Martina has come to us through the family stories remembered by Carrie Lodge, Martina's granddaughter. Miss Lodge is a master in the art of narration, and one must listen to her voice to get the full flavor of her tales. All the adventure and hardship of early California life come forward in the story of her grandfather's death. She talks with affection and frankness about her grandmother's life. She also describes incidents in the life of her father, Michael Lodge II, who lived from 1838 to 1931. Miss Lodge herself is 84 years old, and the stories of her own childhood provide us with details of family life in the 1880s and 90s.

Miss Lodge is a short and exceedingly lively woman. Her Spanish ancestry is evident in her marvelously sparkling brown eyes. During the interviews we sat in the living room of her small red house. As we talked she would point to the

pictures of her many relatives which hung on the walls. She was not in the least wary of the microphone and talked freely. A portion of the tape is preserved in the Regional History Project Office for those who might wish to listen to the conversation. The interviews were held on June 3, July 1, and October 5, 1964. After some editing by the interviewer, the manuscript was returned to Miss Lodge for her corrections and approval. The family genealogy was compiled by the interviewer; the map was drawn by Wendell Simons.

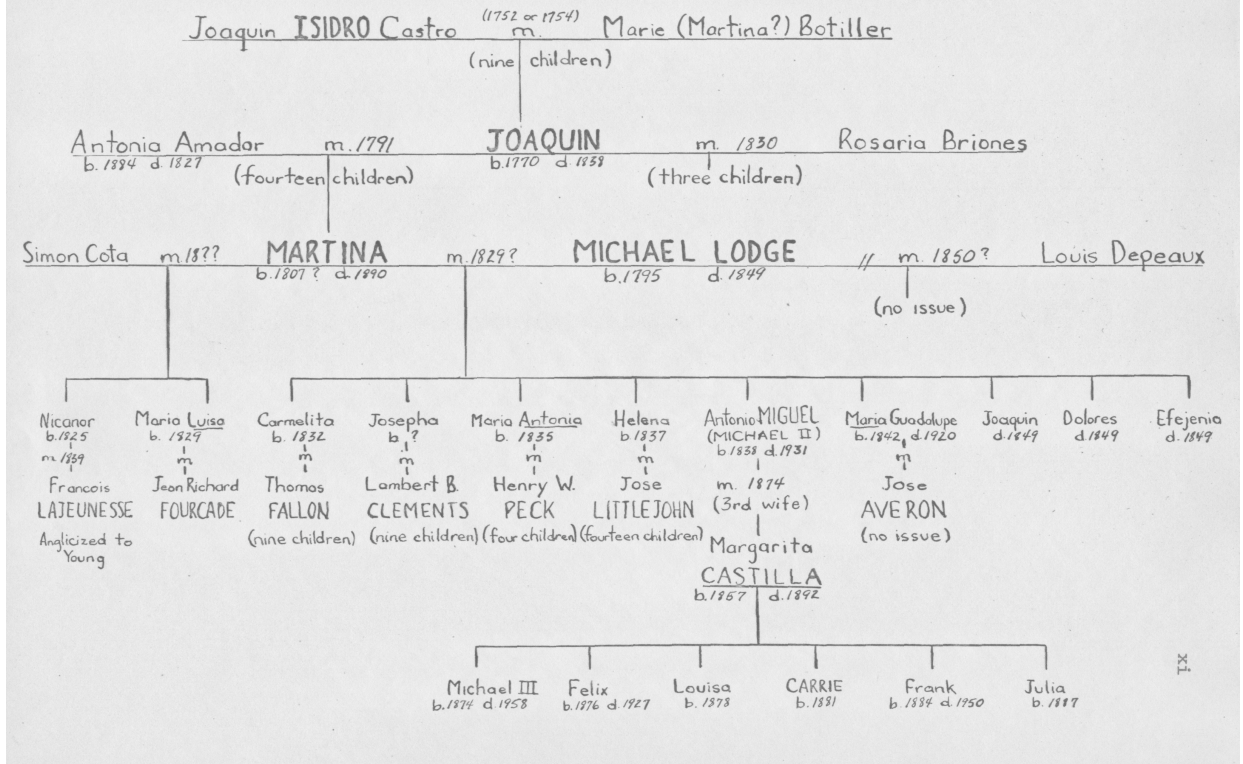
This manuscript is part of a collection of interviews on the history of Santa Cruz County which have been conducted by the Regional History Project. The Project is under the administrative supervision of Donald T. Clark, University Librarian.

Elizabeth Spedding Calciano

August 25, 1965
Regional History Project
University. Library
University of California, Santa Cruz

Mr. Norman Angell, a resident of Soquel and a long-time friend of Carrie Lodge, was responsible for the editor's introduction to Miss Lodge. He was present at the first interview and appears from time to time in the manuscript.

CASTRO-LODGE FAMILY TREE



THE EARLIEST CALIFORNIA CASTROS

Calciano: I understand that you are a descendant of both the Lodge and Castro families.

Lodge: Yes, my grandmother was Martina Castro. Her second husband was Mike Lodge who was my grandfather.

Calciano: Your grandfather was the Mike Lodge who came here from Dublin?

Lodge: Yes. And then his son, Mike Lodge II, was my father, and my brother was Mike Lodge III.

Calciano: Wasn't Mike Lodge I one of the earliest non-Spanish foreigners to settle in this county?

Lodge: Yes, but the Spanish, the Castros, had come years and years before that.

Isidro Castro

Calciano: Who was the first Castro to arrive?

Lodge: Isidro Castro was the first one. He came as a soldier with the de Anza Party.

Calciano: Goodness. That was in 1776! How are you related to him?

Lodge: Isidro Castro was the father of Joaquin, who was the father of my grandmother, Martina.

Calciano: I see.

Lodge: Oh, boy, that goes back, back, back. (Laughter) You know this Isidro was the one married to the French lady.

Calciano: Marie Botiller?

Lodge: Yes, Botiller. And they knew each other in Spain. Years and years before, Madame Botiller's family got in Dutch with some State work and they were banished to Spain.

Calciano: Oh?

Lodge: That was at the time of Richelieu, see, way back. And then they went, the young couple that married, to Mexico. He was a Spanish soldier at that time. And when they wanted to settle, they came way up here. And because it was quite a long distance, they tried to find a new trail that would take less time. They gathered the families together, whoever wanted to settle, and the soldiers started from Mexico. Their stopping off point was San Francisco. So the soldiers who wanted to settle -- they liked Santa Cruz County -- they went along clear to the city; but they came back. Some settled near the coast, like Grandma's father and his brother, and some settled in the

valley. Some settled further down to Los Angeles. Miles and miles. We just couldn't imagine the troubles that the early settlers encountered. They had to make their trails! And they had the scouts -- they came up with scouts and all because there were wild Indians yet. And the scouts would pick a place to stay for the others, and they'd come. And Madame Botiller was pretty delicate in her condition, and sometimes she'd ride, and sometimes she'd help her little five-year-old son -- they'd walk. It must have been quite a hardship.

Joaquin Castro

Calciano: Was the five-year-old boy your great-grandfather?

Lodge: Yes, that was Joaquin.

Calciano: How many brothers and sisters did Joaquin have?

Lodge: I don't know. I don't know how many children he had either. I saw only one uncle of Aunt Mary's; he was a big six-footer. He came to see Aunt Mary, and that's the first and the last I ever saw of the old family. And he was a big, tall man and wore a beard and, boy, you ought to see the courtly manner he had when he addressed Aunt Mary. I never heard such nice Spanish.

No, and such a nice way.

Calciano: This was when you were a little child?

Lodge: No, no, I was grown up, and I could tell such things.

(Laughter) And that's the last time. Re was pretty old, but he was straight-backed. He had a cane to help himself along, though.

MARTINA CASTRO

Calciano: Did you ever know your grandmother Martina?

Lodge: Oh, yes. I remember her well.

Calciano: She lived to an old age, didn't she?

Lodge: Lulu says she was ninety. I thought she was ninety-six when she died.

Angell: Your Grandmother's original grant here ran from Soquel Creek over to that gulch which is on the far side of Cabrillo, didn't it?

Lodge: Yes, yes.

Angell: Is that Borregas?

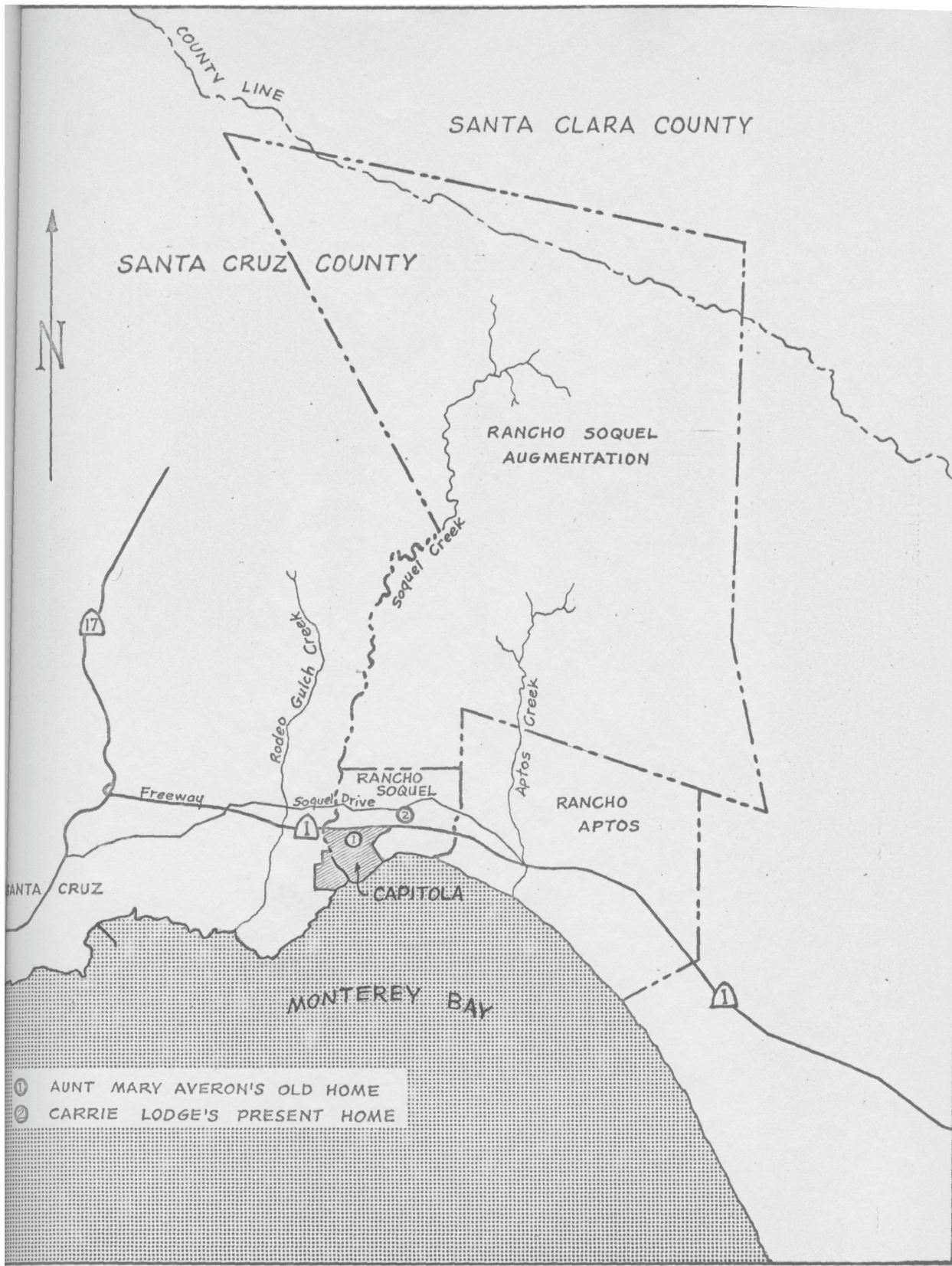
Lodge: Borregas, yes, Borregas Gulch.

Angell: And it ran clear back up to the mountains, didn't it?

Lodge: Yes.

Angell: That includes the Augmentation that came along later?

Lodge: Yes. I think they say it was within three miles of the



Los Gatos line.

Angell: I wouldn't be surprised.

Calciano: I believe it was thirty-five thousand acres. It was fantastically large.

Lodge: Well, those were the days of big ranches.

Calciano: She had just about the biggest of any of them. Was she a pretty good businesswoman in her day?

Lodge: No, it was through a brother. That's the way she started. Her brother went down to Mexico.

Calciano: Rafael?

Lodge: Well, no, not Rafael. Rafael had a ranch and this other brother had got a ranch, and Grandma Martina said, "If my brother can get a ranch, I'm going to see if I can," and she did. She got it. But look what it cost her. It cost her her mind.

Angell: She certainly went through a period of transition here in California. Whole things changed; the whole life changed.

Lodge: Yes. From almost a wilderness you know, with people trying to make a place livable. I remember being told that three different times Indians stole bands of horses off the ranch. Isn't that a curious phenomenon? But the Indians never would steal cattle; it was

always horses. And boy, did I tell you that one of the older people told me that when they came into California, they always went out with their guns? They always carried their guns. You see there was a lot of danger. Some of the Indians were half-way civilized and some weren't. They got all they wanted to live, but that's human nature, yes. They couldn't be trusted.

Life on the Ranch

Calciano: I was wondering if by any chance you knew very much about your grandmother's life on the ranch. What was it like to be a woman living on a ranch in those years?

Lodge: Oh, it was pretty hard. Those ranches were large, and some of them would have as many Indians as they could clothe and teach and feed.

Calciano: Oh really?

Lodge: Yes, those early families did. But Grandma, she always taught her girls to work. Two girls would go on the outside work, whatever it was, and two girls to the kitchen and inside work.

Calciano: Her daughters?

Lodge: Yes. And she said to them, "Someday maybe you will need to know how to do your own work," because in those days the families made their own bread. But you know, that must have been a hardship. There generally was one person to take care of the bread, and that was the tortillas. And they'd make little buns, oh what did we call them -- *panicitos* I think they called them. Well now, in some of the families it was an Indian woman that would take care of that when they had quite a few to feed. So then some of the daughters, now Mrs. Littlejohn, she could hunt and shoot like a man, but Aunt Mary never. And they were all good horsewomen. They'd ride. Of course that was the only way of transportation. Except I had one aunt, Antonia Lodge Peck -- Aunt Mary says she was the most awkward rider she ever saw. She'd be stiffened out. Daddy'd run over pigs, chickens, geese, anything that would be in his way; he took right after his father. But you know, Grandma was a very courageous woman. Sometimes there were hardships in the family, and she'd fill her boat with merchandise from the farm -- chickens, geese, ducks, eggs, and fruits, and whatever they had, and take it to Monterey. Her cousin was married to the Governor there.

Calciano: Oh my.

Lodge: And everything would be sold, and she'd come home. But you couldn't tell me that Grandma rode that alone, because I know that the bay gets pretty rough, so she must have had somebody with her. That would be half of the battle, getting there and tending to removing your supplies. So Grandma had help that way. I bet a nickel that it was the Indians, yes. They'd take it for a natural thing. Why didn't we think to ask Pa of that. I tell you, after Pa died and Aunt Mary died, I thought what a chump I was. I couldn't ask for a whole lot of things once they were gone.

Angell: I think of a lot of questions I would have liked to have asked too.

Lodge: Yes, after a person goes away, you know, your chance goes. We don't think at the time.

Calciano: What other things do you happen to know about your Grandmother?

Lodge: Well, she'd always help herself. Oh, and she made the shoes for her family. Lou said she had a shoe cobbler outfit, so I guess she must of. I know Aunt Mary said that sometimes the people would come overland in their Conestogas, the covered wagons, and there'd be big girls, eighteen years old, without shoes or stockings,

and all tired to death. They had to rest somewhere, so all the people that were settled here always helped everybody like that, you know. And maybe they'd give them a cow, or something like that, or whatever they had surplus, to help until they got on their feet. That was the hardship of settling. And then when Fremont came (it was right down here over in the direction of the ocean that they camped) he came up to Grandpa, and Grandpa told him to take what he needed. So he talked to Fremont, and Fremont told him to send his bill to Uncle Sam, and Grandpa never would do that. You see he never would do that. And wherever the soldiers were camped, you can be mighty sure that that was a protected area, yes. So Grandpa got his benefit that way.

Calciano: What were the main crops they grew?

Lodge: Now you've got me; I don't know. But they planted things, I guess, that they could sell. They'd have to have. They'd have milk, and would raise other meat animals, but there was lots of game and they'd have cattle. It was grazing land at that time -- cattle country. Most that I know about is that they must have done for their own private use. But when Grandpa and Grandma went out to the gold fields, they left a place

planted to potatoes, and whoever harvested them I don't know, but it brought twenty thousand dollars.

Calciano: Oh my.

Lodge: See? So that's the most that I heard. But, I also heard, now I don't know who among them, but I heard that most of the ships that passed from San Francisco down to the capital city of Monterey would stop and get farm products from the farmers, and then the farmers also bought goods from them.

Calciano: How interesting.

Lodge: But they traded in tallow and they traded in meats. They ordered a half a sheep or a whole sheep or a quarter of beef or whatever they wanted. And then again, is that hearsay or what?

Calciano: Did you ever hear anything about the bull and bear fights?

Lodge: No, no, we never heard. That was beyond our day.

Calciano: I just wondered if you'd heard stories of it.

Lodge: No.

Calciano: Also, one account I read said that the old ranchos used to have dozens of dogs on them all kinds of dogs.

Lodge: Well, I'll tell you, I did hear that at Grandma's they

had two nice sheep dogs. They must have had a flock of sheep.

Calciano: Oh?

Lodge: Pa had two dogs, Sotello and Yapa, and they were wonderful sheep dogs. And then they had little dogs because, I suppose, they'd yap, yap, yap immediately if a stranger was around, see. They'd make a pile of noise. Or an animal, they'd yap when they'd see an animal. And one of our aunts, Mrs. Clements, used to say that they didn't have any glass windows in the very early days, but they'd put hides on the windows, and they could hear bears snuffing on the other side.

Calciano: Oh!

Lodge: But they wouldn't break them, see, leather, strong leather, yes.

Calciano: Do you have any of the old furnishings from your grandmother?

Lodge: Oh my no.

Calciano: None of that carried down?

Lodge: No.

Calciano: Oh, that's a shame.

Lodge: Well, I don't believe they had very much furnishings.

Calciano: That's true.

Lodge: Yes, I just don't believe. They'd have benches, mostly, and the tables would be, well I guess Grandpa, he must have made them. If he was a cooper, he must have. He could make wagons, and he could make barrels, so he ought to be able to know the principles of carpentry, see.

Calciano: Yes.

Lodge: So they must have made redwood tables and things like that. I know they had chairs and benches. Even Pa in his day, he had two benches, but we had chairs.

Calciano: The other day you mentioned that they used to have big ovens for cooking a quarter of a cow?

Lodge: Aunt Mary said that when they'd go to church in the morning, they'd stick a half a sheep and maybe a hind quarter of a beef in those ovens, and everything would be ready when they'd come back.

Calciano: Oh my.

Lodge: Yes.

Calciano: Were their ovens outside the house in a separate building?

Lodge: Now that I don't know. But it stands within reason it should be inside, because what would they do when it rained? If they had the whole dinner outside, it sure

would get wet.

Calciano: Well, I was thinking of a separate building, a cooking house.

Lodge: I don't know.

Calciano: Did the Spanish people make wine, or drink wine much at all?

Lodge: I don't think they had vineyards here.

Calciano: They didn't?

Lodge: No, because the grapes grow unsuccessfully here. It's too near the coast. When you're five miles back into the mountains, you're beginning to see the little vineyards. Uncle Averon had a vineyard back into the hills, and he built his winery.

Calciano: Oh.

Lodge: Yes. And Aunt Mary said she never saw Uncle Averon once intoxicated.

Calciano: My. I wanted to ask you a few things about the ranch when your grandmother lived on it. Was there much social life for the women in the old rancho days?

Lodge: No, it was too far between ranches. I never heard my Aunt talk about parties or anything. The second generation, Aunt Mary's group, had parties. Other people kept coming in here, see.

Calciano: Oh.

Lodge: They'd spend the Holy Week celebrating -- I guess I got a smattering of it, not much, I wish I would have paid more attention and asked more questions. It seemed to me, if I remember correctly, that they'd spend a week in town, but it couldn't be because that would leave Grandma out, and it's only a short distance from Santa Cruz out this way. But it seemed to me that I heard Aunt Mary say that they'd spend a week in town because they had a religious service, too. Then I guess all the families would get together and they'd have little plays. They must have had them some other place. I don't think they'd have it in their church. The Catholic is very careful; they don't believe in having a thing like that in the church. They have their hall, or do without it.

Calciano: Yes, that's true.

Lodge: And so she says, "Then the kids would let loose. Every sporty boy wanted to be the devil. He wanted to use those masks they had with horns on them, and he wanted that tail."

Calciano: Oh my.

Lodge: It was funny they'd let loose.

Calciano: Than that would be their main entertainment?

Lodge: Yes.

Calciano: I was wondering if you ever heard about your Grandmother taking possession of her rancho by taking handfuls of grass and throwing them into the wind?

Lodge: No, I never heard anything like that.

Calciano: I've read that that was the rite she performed when she got the grant.

Lodge: I never heard of that, but I heard, which I don't believe, because you hear all kinds of stories, but they took measurements of land along the ranch itself by marking off the distance a horse could trot in so many hours.

Calciano: Oh?

Lodge: Now isn't that peculiar?

Calciano: I guess they had no better way of measuring.

Lodge: My goodness, I don't know.

Calciano: Do you have any pictures of your Grandmother as a young woman, or any pictures of her at all?

Lodge: No, I haven't. Lou has, she has Grandma's picture.

Calciano: Was she a pretty woman?

Lodge: Oh yes, she was, yes.

Calciano: Was she tall or short?

Lodge: Well, I don't know, I think Grandma was medium. Her brothers were six-footers.

Calciano: Oh my.

Lodge: Yes, six-footers. But Grandpa was a medium man, and Papa was a medium man. And I think Lou is five feet five and a half or six and a half.

Mike Lodge I

Angell: Carrie, you said yesterday that your grandfather, that was the first Michael Lodge, was on a ship. I think you said he had his own ship and that he was a vary capable, competent man who could do all sorts of things, build wagons and such.

Lodge: Yes, he did.

Angell: I guess everybody had to in those days.

Lodge: Yes, he could fix his ship too. They had to do something if something happened in the ocean that had to be fixed you know; they couldn't run into a port the way they do now.

Angell: Carrie, one time you told me that your grandfather was such a walker, or was it your father?

Lodge: Grandfather.

Angell: The one that used to walk to Monterey?

Lodge: My Grandpa. But Papa did go down south to visit; he thought he'd like to go see what Los Angeles looked like. He walked down there, but he didn't like it. He says it's all flat land; he says if the ocean would come in there, it would smooth over there and draw it all out.

Angell: Was it your Grandfather who walked whenever he decided he wanted to go to Monterey?

Lodge: Yes sir, he walked.

Calciano: How long did it take him?

Lodge: Oh, I don't know. He surely took his time, I guess. And that would happen generally when a band of horses would have been stolen. There wouldn't be a horse left on the place. Then when Grandpa got to Monterey, he would get busy and make some wagons. He'd sell them to the rich families there, get the money for it, and stock the ranch again. Three times.

Angell: Three times the horses were stolen?

Lodge: Yes.

Calciano: Was your grandfather a wheelwright?

Lodge: He must have been; he was a jack-of-all-trades. Yes. And then Aunt Mary said he'd go out hunting, and in

half an hour he'd come back with game from the end of the shotgun to the handle of it, all kinds, just so much game. Oh, boy, it's very scarce now.

Calciano: Yes.

Lodge: When I was a little girl we could see in the spring and then the fall, big V's of geese. We could hear them. And Pa always used to call them the Canadian Honkers. He said they'd go right into Canada. Isn't it a marvel how they know their way?

Angell: It certainly is.

Lodge: Yes. And I told you before, Pa said Grandpa had his own ship, but he lost it in the storm in Monterey Bay. It sank. Pa said that's a very deep harbor; things just slide down some way. And of course that's all that Grandpa had.

Calciano: I would guess so.

Lodge: Yes. And so when he lost that, there was no means of salvaging the ship, see. I guess it must been broken in some way. They do; look at the ships they're losing now, having all kinds of difficulties. Well so then he went inland. Naturally he'd have to go where he could earn his living. So he met his first wife in San Jose.

Calciano: Oh, in San Jose?

Lodge: Yes. He married into a family called Berreyesa.

Calciano: He had a son by his first wife, didn't he? He had a little baby boy that died?

Lodge: No, he never did.

Calciano: I was wondering because one book I read, it could be wrong, said that Michael Lodge's first wife was Josefa Garcia, and that she died in 1828. He married and had a son, and the wife and son both died in 1828. Is that wrong or right?

Lodge: No, no, that's not Grandpa. He married into the Berreyesa family.

Calciano: That's good to know.

Lodge: Grandpa never had any issue from the first marriage. And that's why he come back to the coast, see. That was the natural thing for him to do. Having his ship, which he lost you know, he had to go inland to make his living.

Calciano: When did he lose his ship?

Lodge: I don't know, but the wreck was in the ocean here, in the storm. Pa says that Monterey Bay is deeper than what people think. Some parts of it are very deep.

Calciano: What was the name of the ship?

Lodge: Oh I don't know. It was a whaler. They had whaling

ships in those days. And there used to be quite a bunch of whalers. I can remember when I was a girl, sometimes during the year, I don't remember what time of the year, we'd see whales. But they say that it's generally a sick whale that comes into the bay, and he stays awhile, feels better, and he goes back.

Calciano: How did your grandfather ever meet your grandmother?

Lodge: When he became a widower, he came back to the coast. The coast always draws a man of the ocean. So then he met Grandma, and she had become a widow. She lost her first husband, Lieutenant Cota. He was a soldier that was stationed right at the capital. She had two children when she met Grandpa. And so they married. Of course I can see their point of view; there was such a scarcity of women in settling the West that the girls, they didn't have a chance of being an old maid.

(Laughter) No, they married off the young. But the girls at that time were taught from A to Z. No washing machines -- they took the clothes down to the river. Oh we just don't know what wonderful things we have as facilities now. Then came in the washboards and oh, they thought they had everything by the horns then. Yes. And in this day and age come the machines, and they thought that was wonderful. But now you can wash

and dry. But I'm going to tell you, they raised large families, and it took time. And they were taught from A to Z. Just think about the bread. That takes an awful lot of time making those tortillas. I never could get onto the knack of that.

Calciano: Oh really?

Lodge: Yes, you have to just get right onto the knack; it's just like flapping your hands back and forth, like that. And they would grind the meal, whatever they would have; it was corn, but they had wheat too, flour. The ones who had their mill, their stone, ground it.

Calciano: Could you tell me a bit about the work the men did on the ranch?

Lodge: Well, Grandpa had men that'd help him in the forest with whatever his work was, because Aunt Mary said that every right they'd have a fire in the fireplace, and the potatoes were so big they'd roast them, all night and they'd be just fine in the morning. And she said he'd take those roasted potatoes and a little barrel of buttermilk and go to the mountains with his workmen.

Calciano: What would they do?

Lodge: Well, I guess they must have worked into clearing land

or lumber and whatever they had to do. Now I don't really know. I didn't have sense enough to ask what was the work that they were doing and where and why, see.

Calciano: Yes, that's too bad.

Lodge: Yes, I should say so.

Calciano: Do you think that your Grandmother was happy on the ranch when she was with her second husband?

Lodge: Oh yes, yes.

Calciano: She liked that life?

Lodge: Yes. And I think she liked her first husband too.

Calciano: Do you know anything about him at all?

Lodge: No. Cota was his name.

Calciano: I just wondered since two of your aunts were his daughters, whether you might know anything about Cota?

Lodge: Well, think they lived down south more. But Mrs. Fourcade lived right in here.

Calciano: Oh she did?

Lodge: So she was more used to being among the family. There was quite a few French people around from San Jose down this way. And Mrs. Lajeunesse was Nicanor Cota, and she lived further down south.

Calciano: Oh.

Lodge: So she didn't get to be among the family. I never saw her, just a picture of her. And so the family, it was a big family, and it didn't get together much you know. Transportation was always a problem, and of course there were no bridges and you had to ford the streams.

Calciano: Do you happen to know about the annual round-ups?

Lodge: I don't know anything about that.

Calciano: I was told that Rodeo Gulch got its name because the Rodriguez and Castro families would collect their cattle there and separate them.

Lodge: Well, it might be.

Martina and the Indians

Calciano: You mentioned earlier that your grandmother and grandfather went to Calaveras for a while. Could you tell us something about this?

Lodge: Well, they went up there during the Gold Rush and ran a store. It was a regular little country store.

Angell: I think Mrs. Calciano would be interested in the incident that you told me about, Carrie, where the Indians came to your Grandmother's.

Lodge: yes, that was in Calaveras. That was when they had the

store. Two ornery whites, oh boy, they were tough ones, came a rushing to the store. Grandpa was there, and one of them says, "You're the only one that understands English here, and we are Americans, and we're being chased by the tribe of Indians. We killed an Indian and they're after us." He says, "You've got to hide us." Suppose they were armed. They must have been if they killed an Indian. Well, so Grandma was brought up among the Indians, and she knew their ways. And so sure enough towards the evening the band of Indians, all in war paraphernalia and. painted faces, they made a big bonfire on the other side of the river. They danced around on their haunches, and boy, it was a big powwow. Then it was quiet for about a few minutes, and then two squaws came over. Maybe they were thinking it over, wondering if the people in the store were to blame. Maybe they'd been thinking. Anyway, they came over, and Grandma went to the door to welcome them. Of course they understood Spanish, and she spoke to them in Spanish. She took them inside and combed their hair and made two big braids and put some ribbons on them you know. She'd get things like that from the big ships that'd come into the port in San Francisco from the Orient. They'd get those

wonderful silk shawls, boy, \$800 and 900, my oh my. So the Indians, they were all taking it in. They liked that. Then Grandma took those great big, like the girls have now, the silk head kerchiefs you know. In Spanish we call them *mascadas*. They used to be very pretty and all silk. And Grandma put *penuche* in their hands. We'd have *penuche* candy, but it was *hara penuche* see; it would last a long time. That's what the Indians would like.

Calciano: She was pretty smart. (Laughter)

Lodge: And so she had nuts and raisins and cookies, and things like that which she thought they would like, so that they wouldn't get in a hurry. Well, then she gave both of them the same treatment, each one the same, and then ushered them to the door. And they went across back and there was silence. Then two bucks came, and they got the same treatment. Yes they got the same treatment. Then they went back. Well, they knew that Grandma and Grandpa weren't to blame, that these were different people, so Grandma wasn't worried any more. So in the morning Grandma and Grandpa got up early, and sure enough, they went to feel the ashes you know, and they were warm yet. But that's warm country anyway up there. But if it wasn't for Grandma

knowing about the Indians and their ways, those Indians could have assassinated the whole brood and bunch. Oh, it was terribly dangerous. And one time Aunt Mary told us ... You know, we don't know how well off we are. Oh, we have everything at the point of our fingers. They used to take their washing and go to the creek.

Calciano: Oh goodness.

Lodge: Just imagine. And we holler when we have the facilities. Well, Papa and Aunt Mary were having a lot of fun going in the creek, you know, jumping on the bank and coming down. So the older girls scolded them, "Don't be doing that. You're dirtying the water that we're washing with." And they had a pile of washing, you know, and there was a red petticoat among the washing. And all of a sudden Aunt Mary saw a snake in there. It must have been a moccasin snake. There is the kind, you know, that lives in hot weather up there, but Aunt Mary says that it came with a speed as though it were in a fury. She says they got out of there in a hurry. (Laughter) And she says they turned around and that snake was biting that red petticoat.

Calciano: Isn't that something.

Lodge: Yes it was. But I didn't know we had moccasins like

that.

Tragedy at Calaveras

Lodge: When Grandma and Grandpa went up to the mining country, Calaveras, they left Henry Hill here. Henry Hill took care of the two boys, Papa and his brother Joaquin, until Grandma and Grandpa would call for them. And when they got settled up there, then Henry Hill was to take the boys up. And when they were ready to go up, they did. And you know, Papa almost lost his life there. It just seemed as though some bad luck was on the heels of the family over there. It's too bad. They should never have gone up there.

Angell: When was that, Carrie, that they went up there?

Lodge: Forty-nine. Grandpa got the gold fever. And they left a crop of potatoes down here that brought \$20,000 to whoever harvested them. I don't know who did it, whether it was Grandma or she sold the crop to someone, but they got \$20,000. See what a good landslide that was for that time. And instead of getting that, they lost everything, and Grandpa lost his life.

Calciano: The accounts I've read about it say that people think he was attacked by robbers. Is that what your family thought?

Lodge: Oh, that's the only thing, but it could also have been the treachery of his partner, because Grandma never got five cents from a freighting outfit he was a half partner in. He owned half the freighting outfit and half of the store that carried pretty near everything, the way they do in the little country stores. Those stores have to carry what they get calls for, in clothes and country tools, and grains, and things like that. But there were some awful rough people there.

Calciano: If the whole family went to Calaveras, how was it that your Grandfather was coming home alone when he was killed?

Lodge: There was sickness. They lost three children; they had typhoid fever from conditions. Sometimes they'd find an Indian half in the water and half out of the water and conditions brought on that typhoid and with the heat and all.

Calciano: Was it the three youngest children who died?

Lodge: Yes, that was Joaquinito, Dolores, and Efejenia. So Grandpa got scared, and he said, "Martina, take all the children and go home, and I'll follow right away, as quick as I settle the business here." And that's the last.

Angell: So she came home ahead of him.

Lodge: Yes. He sent Grandma because he was scared that this sickness would get the other children.

Angell: That's how he happened to be coming back alone?

Lodge: Yes. But as I told you, Grandpa used to walk a lot. Aunt Mary says there was plenty of horses, but he never would take a horse. He'd walk. Sailor, a born sailor. But you know, Aunt Mary told us something. She said that Grandma and Grandpa had an understanding that the first one that would die away from each other, they'd let the other know. Well so Aunt Mary was sleeping with her mother, and she said she woke up suddenly. Her mother was calling her and shaking her, shook her awake. You know a child sleeps very strong. So her mother says, "Maria, get up right away and get your sisters and let them come right here and we'll all kneel down and pray for your father. He's dead. He was here just now." How do we know lots of things? See, in an emergency like that, I guess a soul going out will go right direct to where he is vitally concerned. I should think so. Well, so they prayed. Two weeks after that the Indian runner came with the news, and that's all they knew about Grandpa. I guess the girls hadn't been married yet, because what's the matter with the son-in-laws. Why didn't they find out

what happened to Grandpa. I guess they weren't married yet; they were pretty young.

Division of the Ranch

Calciano: I know that after she was widowed, your grandmother divided the ranch and gave a section to each of her eight children. How did the division come about?

Lodge: Well, when Grandma was a widow and lost Grandpa, she married again. And in those days, Aunt Mary said, they thought the ladies had to be married. I suppose it was still wild and they thought they would be more protected. Well anyway, Papa wasn't stuck on his step-father. The step-father was one reason why Aunt Mary married at thirteen. That's pretty young, yes, but she had a nice husband, very nice. And then Papa was a fifteen-year-old boy at that time. The sisters had all married and had separated before Grandma married this third man. See they were under the American rule at that time, and Grandma labored under very great stresses. She couldn't understand the language; she couldn't read it. She knew Spanish and the other fellow didn't, see, and that's the way it was. Well I suppose the son-in-laws wanted their wives to have what was coming to them, and to have it then, so they

cut up the ranch, and each one got their share. You see I may be right and I may be wrong, but when Grandma had her third husband, they married and went to the Islands, and Dad was a minor, fifteen years old. Aunt Mary had married Uncle. Her half-sister, Luisa Cota Fourcade, married a Frenchman who was a friend of Uncle's. The French like to get together, like the Irish get together, like the Spaniards get together, and that's the way she became acquainted with Uncle. I presume that's the way. That was the time when the division of the property came. Grandma had to because her daughters were married at that time (I think they were all married at that time), and the husbands wanted what belonged to them. Some were going here and some were going there, and the division of the property had to be met.

Calciano: I understand there were some lawsuits over the land.

Some priests wanted the land, didn't they?

Lodge: The way I understood, but I don't know, you have to be very careful of that. You have to have records of that and look them up. But now the priests and the son-in-laws, they were fighting Grandma to force her to divide the land. Grandma couldn't understand the language. It was turned over to another race and

nation; she couldn't do anything, see. Well, so it was taken out of her hands, and each child was given what they could, to the best of their ability. That's the way I understand, and Grandma had her part too. And Papa's share, he was a minor, and the brother-in-law who was his guardian went for that. Anyway, that's what happened; but you have to be careful.

Calciano: So there was a lawsuit?

Lodge: That was a lawsuit for the division of the property. And Grandma, when that finished, see, then I think that they went to the Sandwich Islands. It must have been after that. But you see, she didn't know what was going on; she couldn't understand, or she couldn't tell in the language that they were speaking what she wanted, you know.

Calciano: Was a lot of the Castro land forfeited for taxes?

Lodge: Oh, I don't know. I never heard of Grandma paying taxes.

Calciano: I was looking through some old newspapers and saw several sheriff's sales where taxes hadn't been met so Castro lands were being sold.

Lodge: I don't know that; that would be very decisive too, about how they lost their land.

Calciano: Yes, it would.

Lodge: So Grandma had to distribute her property, and Grandma's mind was changing; she was already showing the effect of her change, and so much trouble was her land, see. Settlers coming in thinking they were squatters see. Oh, we don't know what Grandma suffered; we don't know what turned her mind. The fighting -- the priests never should have done anything like that, see. And that's why my father was deadly set against the priesthood; he blamed the Church. Well, the Church was at fault for they should have taken more care of who was doing wrong, see. Pa left the Church. He didn't die a Catholic.

Calciano: What happened to your father's share of the ranch?

Lodge: Well, he was a fifteen-year-old boy, and his guardian was Henry Peck, his brother-in-law. He got Papa's share when the ranch was separated, see.

Calciano: Did your father ever get his share of the property?

Lodge: No, no.

Calciano: Did Peck keep it?

Lodge: Well, yes he did. I don't know; that's tangled up. Some say this and some say that. But it's known that Aunt Peck sent for Pa in the middle of the night when Mr. Peck was sick; Pa told me that. Pa told ma that

Henry Peck was very ill and wanted to see him. Then Henry Peck asked Daddy's forgiveness. He wouldn't have asked Daddy's forgiveness if he hadn't taken his land.

Stolen Records

Calciano: What happened to your grandmother after she married again?

Lodge: Well, her husband, Depeaux, took her to the Islands. Of course Pa was only a fifteen-year-old boy, and his guardian wouldn't keep him, so he went along.

Calciano: Oh. Which islands did they go to?

Lodge: To the Sandwich Islands, which was the Hawaiian islands you know. And Papa didn't like his stepfather, and she was in her change, too, and wasn't well, so Pa had it out with him. He didn't like how Grandma was getting along, and he didn't like the treatment that she was getting. He was put out with his step-father, and he went surging right up and gave him a battle that left him flat. Papa was an awful strong man so he was strong even as a young boy, and he left him there and went and got the Captain of a ship they knew and took his mother back to the States. Just a fifteen-year-old boy, and he got passage on the boat for them.

And halfway across she jumped in the ocean.

Calciano: Oh no!

Lodge: Yes, she jumped in, and Papa right after her. And then the cry, "overboard," and the Captain came to their rescue. Oh, she had a tragic life. For all the whole world I wouldn't go through what Grandma did.

Calciano: Whatever happened to Depeaux?

Lodge: We don't know; we don't know. He never bothered us and we never bothered him. (Laughter) Enough was enough. Yes. Yes, and then this is the other, well it's tragic, it's tragic. Grandma, when she left here to go to the Islands, left two trunks. She left them in the sacristy of the church in San Francisco. She thought it was the safest place that she could leave them. But in her not being right in her mind, I don't know if she got any records of it. And there was an awful bad priest, and that's why Papa never had anything to do with the Church. He was deathly against it. But you see, that's just one, and you can't judge all for the actions of one. That priest was so bad that he was unfrocked and excommunicated.

Calciano: Oh my.

Lodge: And he went, the Devil takes care of his own, to

Mexico and married a rich widow. (Laughter) If you don't think that's funny, I do. My goodness.

Calciano: What happened to the trunks?

Lodge: Well, when she came back from the Islands she was still sick, I guess. You don't get over those things in a hurry. She went directly to the Church and Pa, like an unthinking boy fifteen years old, he thought that his mother was going to visit her sister there. She was a Mrs. Bolcoff. So he came right on down to the family, see. But Grandma went to the church and claimed that she had left two trunks, and Lord knows what she had of value in those trunks -- her valuable papers and all. A lot of the property around here has a cloud on it, but nothing can ever be done for that because there are too many people that have bought property in good faith, and they have to be taken care of.

Calciano: You mean she didn't get her trunks?

Lodge: Yes. The priest there then was new and didn't know anything about the treachery of the other unfrocked, excommunicated priest, see. And Grandma went there to the church to where she had left them. It had been the most protective place that she could find. She didn't know where to go for safety. Poor Grandma, no wonder.

And not being educated in the language, not knowing what to do, she went through God's ruins. A purgatory; that's purgatory. Anyway, it unhinged her mind. So Papa had already come from San Francisco down here. Grandma had told Pa that she was going to visit her sister, Mrs. Bolcoff. Well, an unthinking boy fifteen years old don't know very much, so he thought he would come on down home and his mother, after she finished her visit, would come on home. Well, it wasn't the same; Grandma's place was sold.

Calciano: Oh.

Lodge: See, people by the name of Noble bought it.

Calciano: How did it get sold?

Lodge: I don't know. Much of the titled land here people bought, but they haven't got Grandma's signature. There's a cloud upon the title. But that's been done away with by the court. It had to be, because those people bought in good faith.

Calciano: Well, whom did they buy from?

Lodge: From the people who got possession. Maybe from the family; maybe from somebody that bought from the family; maybe from a priest, or from whoever bought on Grandma's old Soquel Rancho, or the upper Soquel Augmentation.

Calciano: When the ranch was divided into nine parts, she kept one part for herself. So apparently somebody sold her part even though she didn't OK the sale. Is that right?

Lodge: Yes. She never did sign her name. And that's what happened while she was away.

Martina's Illness

Lodge: When she went to that church, the priest didn't know her from Adam when she was laying claim to her trunks. So they thought she was, well, she must have acted like a demented person. And at that time, I think, the only state hospital was up in Stockton and run by the Sisters. That would have to be looked up. See, this was all in its early days, and the transportation took so long at times that it was months before they could get Grandma. And the way they knew where Grandma was, was through Fallon. And it was just the good Lord made it so that Fallon found out. I think he was mayor of San Jose at that at time. So he was going out on the street and a man saw him, and he says, "Say, Fallon, do you know where your mother-in-law is?" And he says, "Well, I suppose she's down home folks." "Well," he says, "she isn't. I went up to see my son, who's in

the same place that she's in, in the state hospital in Stockton, and saw your mother-in-law there." So Fallon got in touch with the family here and they sent Mrs. Littlejohn, and she was high already, she was going to have young. But they had a spring wagon, and it took them three months to go and come. She said she stopped there, and Grandma knew her daughter right away. She said, "Helena, take me home." It was all in Spanish, you know. And the Sisters, they didn't want to let her go, and Grandma says, "Look. They took all my clothes away." She just had little shoes on and a long chemise.

Calciano: Oh no.

Lodge: Yes. They didn't want her to run away, and that's the way they do sometimes. Well, so they told my aunt, Mrs. Littlejohn, that they wouldn't let her Mrs. Littlejohn says, "I'm going to sit right here until I take my mother home," and she did. And she didn't have to wait long. They gave Grandma clothes and she came home. But just think of the misery that Grandma went through. Enough to make anybody lose their mind.

Calciano: Did she regain her mind later or not?

Lodge: Well, to a certain extent. But there was something in Grandma that you didn't try to find out anything at

all. You respected her and let her have her peace and quiet. If she talked to you, you talked. But Grandma never really recovered good, see. And one lady who lived on the place where Grandma's old house was told me about the time that Grandma came to visit her. Papa's first wife (she was known as Mrs. Lodge) took Grandma to see the lady. Mrs. Lodge had her first little baby with her and she took Grandma to see her old home, and (Grandma thought that she was coming to her own house. You see her mind wasn't thinking clearly, so they had to be very careful then, with Grandma. They had Grandma in a little four-room cabin. It used to be on Aunt Mary's place, near the line between the Hihn and Averon properties. Grandma liked pears, and there were five or six pear trees there, she liked it there. Aunt Mary's Aunt Mary's house had been moved years before to its present place up on the hill. They moved most of the big house up, the one that has the mansard, and the rest of it that's up there now was on after it was brought up. Well, they left part of Aunt Mary's house down below for Grandma to live in. They left a good-sized kitchen, a front room, a porch in front of that, and a bedroom. There was a hill coming down from where Mrs. Clements lived

to where Grandma's house was. Aunt Clements took care of Grandma's personal care and saw that she was comfortable and helped her in the little house she had. She had girls, too, that would help. Aunt Clements did the work and Aunt Mary paid for the groceries and what she had to for sickness and everything. That's the way they did it. Norman, do you remember the Holsey girls?

Angell: Yes.

Lodge: Well, Belle Holsey used to be awfully good among sick. Grandma got erysipelas. That seems to be very bad sometimes. "Well," Aunt Mary says, "I'm going to bring my mother up here," so she brought her up. And then she says, "You go for Belle. See if Belle can come." The Holsey girls were awfully nice, and so Belle came until Grandma died. Grandma didn't get up again. She lingered, but she never recovered full, so it was a blessing that Grandma died. She had too much trouble, more in her life than happens to two or three people.

Calciano: How old were you when your Grandma died?

Lodge: Me? I was a little girl.

Calciano: Just a girl of four or five?

Lodge: Oh no, no. I was eleven when Mama died, so let me see, I must have been about nine years old. I think Mama

must have died about two years after Grandma. Grandma always was kind of quiet, but she loved my big sister Lulu. Oh how she liked Louisa. It was because she looked like Pa. Lou took after the old family. She was very stout, you know; Lou took after Pa's side, and Grandma liked her. Lou stayed with Grandma in, the little lower house until Grandma got sick again. But she loved Lou because she was like Pa. Lou says that Aunt Mary said that Grandma thought the sun would rise and set on Dad, you know. Well Papa would go to work for somebody and get paid, and he'd tell his mother, "Put out your apron," and put all the money that he earned in her apron, see, and she liked that.

CASTRO RELATIVES

Calciano: Could you tell me a little bit about your aunts and uncles?

Lodge: Well, Grandma's first husband was Lieutenant Cota, and he died young.

Calciano: Do you know what he died from?

Lodge: That we don't know. A soldier can die in action, or through sickness, or whatever way. Many things crop up. And Grandma had Nicanor, a half-aunt of mine, and she married a man by the name of Lajeunesse, a French-

Canadian.

Calciano: A French-Canadian! What was he doing down here, I wonder?

Lodge: Lost! (Laughter) And then there was Fourcade, another Frenchman, but I don't know if he was Canadian or from France.

Calciano: Was it your other half-aunt who married Fourcade?

Lodge: Yes. That was Luisa.

Calciano: You mentioned your Aunt Mary married at age thirteen. How old were the other girls they got married?

Lodge: Oh, they were all young. I think Aunt Littlejohn was fifteen and her husband seventeen. That's just like the teenagers now.

Angell: Is that the couple that used to live up by the concrete bridge?

Lodge: Littlejohn bridge?

Angell: Yes. Littlejohn bridge. Used to live just the other side as you turned up the Olive Springs Road. There was an orchard and home there. Littlejohn place.

Lodge: Yes. Uncle Littlejohn knew quite a lot about outside work. He knew horses like his hands. He knew how to drive, knew outside work, but that's about all. And the burden fell upon Aunt Helena. And I heard how they

lost their ranch. Now how true it is, I don't know. Uncle Littlejohn wanted a wagon, and he got it from one of the Porters. And he mortgaged the ranch to buy it. Well, I guess he didn't know about mortgages, how quickly the interest mounts up, see, and they had a tremendous big family -- that takes an awful lot to raise. So they lost their ranch.

Angell: It was a pretty big ranch there, wasn't it Carrie?

Lodge: Oh, way back in the hills, way back in the hills.

Calciano: Up Porter Gulch?

Lodge : No, right here, by the Eaglewood golf course. Monterey Bay Heights Golf course. And the house is there yet, renovated. It was a big house when it was first built.

Angell: Oh, Eaglewood was the original home of Littlejohn!

Calciano: How many children did they have?

Lodge: Let's see. Fourteen, but they didn't all live.

Calciano: Oh.

Lodge: Mrs. Clements had nine, but one died.

Calciano: And what about your Aunt Avera?

Lodge: None.

Calciano: No children? And Peck. How many did they have?

Lodge: Four. Peck was a New Englander, and this Fallon, he was an actor. His company that he was working with

disbanded in Louisiana, they got bankrupt, and he picked up the trade of saddle maker and came here.

Calciano: Oh.

Lodge: And that was a very good trade in the early days.

Calciano: I can imagine. How many children did the Fallons have?

Lodge: I think she had nine. They lost three. They went to visit Louisiana and they lost three children. They came back a flying, before they lost any more. The climate may be different, you know.

Calciano: Yes, but how terrible!

Lodge: Yes.

Calciano: Then Luisa Fourcade

Lodge: I don't know much about the Fourcades. I don't know very much about them.

Calciano: And Nicanor Lajeunesse?

Lodge: I don't know very much about them either. I know *my* cousin Felix Fourcade was a little bit of a fellow. He went back to the French side, and he was on Uncle Averon's ranch for a while.

Life with Aunt Peck

Calciano: After your mother died, you lived for a while with both your Aunt Peck and your Aunt Averon, didn't you?

Lodge: Yes. I came at 13 to Aunt Mary. I was with Mrs. Peck for two years and a half before that. Boy, she taught me a valuable lesson. I've had lots of opportunities, and she taught me a thing that would cost most people a mint of money. She taught me economy, yes, and how you can make things stretch out of nothing. And that's a valuable lesson.

Angell: It certainly is.

Lodge: But still it takes a mine to open a mine, see. You have to spend money if you want to get money, so there you are.

Caloiano: What did Mrs. Peck do to make things stretch?

Lodge: You'd be surprised how she'd make things meet. She didn't have anything much. A woman manages much better in a home than a man. Aunt Peck had a neighbor, Dr. Anderson. He was one of the first of the library directors and he assisted in the library in Santa Cruz. And on the other side of Aunt's house were Miss Finkeldey's people. Miss, Finkeldey taught in the public schools for years.

Calciano: Oh, yes.

Lodge: Well, Auntie asked them if they would leave their scraps on one side where I could get them. They both did and told me where to get them. Well, all I'd do is

to jump the fence (kids jump the fence, you know), and get the scraps there. And the same on Miss Finkeldey's side. And with our scraps, and with a few weeds Aunt Peck pointed out to me which put them would-be odd, we put them together She had a pot made cut out of cast iron, and she'd cook those put some cracked corn in there.

Calciano: Oh.

Lodge: Yes. And put a handful or two of wheat in with the scraps. And every day that was cooked, no, every third day because they wouldn't eat all that; that quit was quite a big pot. And she'd give them just a little grain, dry grain, see, mostly the cracked corn and wheat.

Calciano: Who'd she give this to?

Lodge: This was for the chickens.

Calciano: Oh, the chickens! I was wondering.

Lodge: That was for the chickens, sea. And she used to have eggs.

Calciano: Oh, yes.

Lodge: She used to have eggs. There was no mash; they made their own mash. And they'd pick up little things

because they ran loose. Everybody had their fences, see. Aunt Peck had a big deep lot that went toward the river. They ought to have made something on that when it was sold. Well anyway, then I'd take the eggs and go and trade them for more food (the store was across the street) for any groceries that we lacked.

Calciano: Yes.

Lodge: And Auntie was very economical. She had to be because she had to save up. At that time the officials were opening up Front Street clear down, way so it'd connect, and the people were assessed extra besides their city taxes. Each one living on Front Street was assessed, and my aunt had to pay eighty to eighty-four dollars more, and they didn't have the cash. So the girls went out; they all went to the City. And one was a dress-maker; she got a job. The other, she had a little girl, she took a housekeeping job for the support of her little girl and herself. I think it was some place across the bay. And they got along all right. You know, it was Lizzie Peck who instituted a suit against Hihn saying that that land was sold by him and he didn't have the signature of Grandma. Well Grandma was incapable; her signature wouldn't be worth five cent. She was out of her mind, see.

Calciano: Lizzie Peck was Antonia Peck's daughter?

Lodge: Yes, daughter. But Antonia Peck was just a fine She woman. She was Daddy's sister. But Lizzie Peck, she was a bright woman without the shadow of a doubt, but she learned that there are other things brightness. Lizzie Peck started that suit, and she embroiled a lot of people and excited a lot of people. She never thought of the ones that would lose their homes. Well, in the meantime thousands of people had made their little homes. And she got a lawyer to fight on a contingency basis.

Calciano: I see.

Lodge: Well, those lawyers, it went to court. Aunt Mary never had anything to do with it. They wanted Aunt Mary to, but she says, "No. I won't have my mothers name dragged in the courts." Anyway, they fought against people that had money, and it was right that it shouldn't be because it would have thrown those people out. A lot of the houses around here still have cloudy titles. Well, so it didn't pass. The judge said that it couldn't be. And then they made a provision that for fifty years nobody could start a suit against the owners of land that had been part of this old ranch,

when that would expire then rake another, or another fifty years, and then outlaw it. So the people who own the land around here are safe.

Calciano: Oh.

Lodge: Well anyway, when Lizzie was on the way to what she thought was a success, boy, you couldn't touch her with a six-soot pole. Well, you see, that's faculty reasoning. Pride cometh before a fall -- that's a true saying. And when she knew that she was going to lose without the shadow of a doubt, it caused quite a commotion.

Calciano: I can imagine.

Lodge: But the threat it was to those poor people. Well, when you work all your life for your little home and see the danger of having it taken away from you. One man lost his mind, you know.

Calciano: What year was this, anyway?

Lodge: Oh, I couldn't recall when they instituted proceedings. But it was some time before the 1906 earthquake. How long before, I just don't know. Well anyway, the court judged that they couldn't allow a thing like chat, you know. And the family knows why Grandma lost out, see. She lost her mind, and her

signature wouldn't be good.

Calciano: Yes, I see. Returning to Aunt Peck for a moment, your aunt living on Front Street when the big fire started in Finkeldey's store?

Lodge: Yes, oh boy yes. Alice and I worked like true men to empty the house. Yes, we had it all piled out in the back yard. Mamie was a little tyke, and she was left down there to guard our belongings, and she saw a man come in from the back gate, you know. So when we came down she said, "I'm not going to stay here. I saw a man, and when he saw somebody here he backed out." He was in to get what he could.

Calciano: Oh my goodness.

Lodge: Oh yes, people take advantage of the people. You know Chinatown burned, and oh, the Chinese were excited.

Calciano: The Chinese lived, on Front Street too, didn't they?

Lodge: Oh the upper part, Cooper Street was the division line. There was no Chinese on this side where the residences were.

Calciano: Oh, I see.

Lodge: It was all up there. It was a good thing that it got burned out because it was nothing; it was by Binkenseer at that time. And then the Chinese went

down to a not very desirable neighborhood down there toward the river where there was one or two houses. I wasn't populated much, see.

Calciano: Well, did the fire get your area?

Lodge: Oh no. No, it was stopped right at, I think right at Cooper Street. I don't think it took Fosters blacksmith shop. And the next one to Foster's was Leonard's he had a saloon on Cooper Street. And the next one to them was Finkeldey's, and the next one to Finkeldey's was Aunt Peck. The next one to them was Dr. Anderson and then down the street houses.

Calciano: Well now, the fire started in Finkeldey's store, didn't it?

Lodge: That's what they say, yes. Well, you can't tell, he used to sell coal oil. Down that block they were scare because the Bank was down on Pacific, and you see that was right there. And that building where Finkeldey had his store was an old building. The Palomar, I think, was burned down. See that's why Palomar isn't so very old -- not like the other buildings. But yes, a big fire like that is a very ugly thing.

Aunt Mary Averno

Calciano: After you stayed with Aunt Pack, you lived with your

Aunt Mary Averon, didn't you?

Lodge: Yes. Aunt Mary married Uncle Averon when she was just thirteen, you know. And Uncle Averon was a chef. That was odd too, Norman. This Uncle Averon came over here when he was an eighteen-year-old boy. He didn't want to be a soldier. His father was a soldier, but he didn't want to be one. And his father would get after mother. He'd say, "Where is Joe?" "Oh," she says, "I don't know. He's around someplace. Go in the kitchen and you'll find him." Well, they were hotel people.

Angell: France?

Lodge: Yes. So Uncle learned to be a chef through that, but he didn't want to be a soldier. So when he was a young man he came to the United States, and he got in the Mexican and American War in 1846, I think. The war that they had He said he went from the frying pan into the fire. (Laughter) There was another eighteen-year-old boy too, who was from Alsace-Lorraine. He came over with Uncle. So these two young boys, I don't know, they didn't come right out here to California after Uncle served the time as a soldier. But then they must have made their own way out here not too much later. There was quite a few French people in San

Jose.

Calciano: Oh?

Lodge: Yes, quite a few French people. Uncle had two strokes, you know. But he was a very stout man. I don't think Uncle would have died if he'd have gotten medical attention. But it's hard to get a man to go to the doctor. I don't know, they fight the doctor.

Calciano: He had these strokes when he was an old man?

Lodge: Yes. Uncle Averon should have been put on a diet right away. You see he died of a cerebral hemorrhage, and you know that's too bad.

Angell: Too much good French cooking.

Lodge: Oh yes, I tell you, yes, I should say.

Angell: And Carrie, did he build that big house where your sisters live, the mansard one?

Lodge: He had that built.

Angell: Yes. And he had a big orchard there, didn't he?

Lodge: Yes. And up in the hills, about five miles behind Soquel, Uncle had grapes. Aunt Mary had a ranch up there, and Uncle planted some grapes. That's when he built the winery.

Angell: I didn't know they had a winery.

Lodge: Well, it was better when the Italians bought it. They took it down, you know. There was a lot of money put

in that winery.

Angell: Where was it located?

Lodge: You know there's a slope from the hill on the south side of Aunt Mary's house. That big red-roofed house was the winery. Oh, it had four two-thousand gallon tanks.

Angell: And where was his vineyard?

Lodge: About five miles up into the hills. I don't know how many acres of vineyard he had, but he had grazing land and timber. He sold quite a stand of trees to Frank O'Neill, lumber, you know, and that just made the ranch smaller. But in Uncle's day we had a lot of wine. Then when we were in war, we had to keep a man to tend to that wine. He was an Italian; he had immigrated, and oh, he was a grateful man. He talked French, so he fit in with Uncle. My goodness, what a nice man he was to tend to the interests of a person. But then it got to be too much so we had Mr. Pensovitch who had rented Aunt Mary's ranch sell the wine for us. He knew a man in San Francisco, and he got in touch with him and sold some of the wine. The rest would have cost so much to keep that he said, "Pull the cork out." Those big barrels were opened and it ran on the ground. Well, the cost would have

been too much, like our taxes now. They couldn't stand it. And load by load he sold the barrels. Once we had cleaned and fixed, and I think we made a water tank out of that. It was big enough to hold a good capacity of water. Then Aunt Mary sold her upper ranch, the one with the vineyard, to people by the name of Jones, so she didn't have that trouble of renting it out.

Angell: When was that, Carrie?

Lodge: Oh, I must have been about 14 at that time, and that's long ago. Aunt Mary took all three of us girls, you know.

Angell: Yes.

Lodge: Well, my aunt had charity. Mama died when we were young and my little sister Julia was only five years old. Her godmother took her, and my Aunt Peck took me. Finally we all landed with Aunt Mary because she had more. She took in three girls, and two of us were hard to raise. When you take a girl with her mind already formed and trained, it's hard. She took the little one, Julia, and how glad we were when Julia joined us. And my sister Lou, she cried her eyes out until I came to live with them. But Aunt Mary was very fortunate. She had a nice husband. Uncle petted and humored Aunt

Mary and was nice to Aunt Mary, and she thought the world of her husband. Talk about nice, how they used to agree with each other. It was a fine life. Well, it's too bad that her sisters didn't have some of that good luck, because they had hardships with their husbands.

Calciano: Oh they did?

Lodge: Yes. Uncle Peck didn't know how to make a cup of tea for his sick wife. He'd come clear down to Soquel to get a sister to go and wait on his wife. Isn't that ridiculous? He could do it if he wanted to, but he got that idea fixed in his head. Boy, how they need training. (Laughter) But Uncle had a cerebral hemorrhage, and it affected his mind. We were all there. But he recovered. Oh, Aunt Mary took care of him like he took care of her, and we helped. Aunt Mary said, "Carrie, now let's all help your Uncle." She couldn't do all that work alone, and so I helped too, very much. You know she was very diplomatic. Of course Uncle lost control, but he could walk around. And he was on a diet, because he had to get thinner. He was under the care of an English Army doctor that had been retired, Dr. Vaux.

Calciano: Oh.

Lodge: And so she says, "You have to help me girls." Well, Lou could drive, and she took Auntie to tend to business. I helped all I could, but Lou helped Auntie in all her business. Aunt Mary couldn't understand English, and Lou had to explain things to her. So all of us girls worked, and we had one workman that took care of the place around the house. Aunt Mary wanted to die in possession of her inheritance. She didn't want to sell any of her land while she lived. When she died, she still had the whole big orchard from the corner where the Catholic church is at Capitola and Bay Avenues, clear around to this side of the river.

Calciano: Oh, she did.

Lodge: Her land went nearly to the county road near Bowman's Bridge. So she had a big place, and I thank the Lord that we weren't left with anything on our hands that would have made such a tremendous tax. Why that place all together I bet it, I don't know how much they'd charge in tax today. The lady that has a corner lot, I think she has to pay into the thousands.

Calciano: Oh my.

Lodge: Yes.

Calciano: When did your Aunt Mary start selling off her

property?

Lodge: She didn't. She kept the property and orchard, but sold her upper ranch that had the vineyard. But she died with her property. She left her will just so and so, and it was probated exactly. She had a little mausoleum in the Catholic cemetery. And when Aunt Mary was buried there, she had her mother exhumed, and also Uncle, and put them in that same tomb. She left all the provisions for that in her will. Mr. Rittenhouse drew up the will. And Pa had his lot, a big lot, in the Soquel cemetery, and he's buried there. Aunt Mary's tomb is in the Catholic cemetery. Aunt Mary died Catholic; Pa didn't.

Calciano: I see.

Lodge: Aunt Mary wanted to have a bigger lot taken than those in the cemetery. She had to have a bigger lot for her little mausoleum because they're built for maybe three or four of a family.

Calciano: Yes.

Lodge: Well, it's there, and it still looks good. It cost over three thousand dollars.

Calciano: Oh my goodness. Is this in the Catholic cemetery down here in Aptos?

Lodge: No, Holy Cross cemetery. There was none at that time down here.

Calciano: Oh there wasn't?

Lodge: No, there was no cemetery right here. We had to use Holy Cross.

Calciano: When did your Aunt Mary die?

Lodge: Oh, many years ago. Aunt Mary died in 1920.

Calciano: Oh.

Lodge: And she was seventy-seven when she died.

Calciano: The Lodges live a long time, don't they.

Lodge: Oh boy. Mrs. Fallon was the oldest of Grandma and Grandpa's family, and she lived to be ninety-six.

Calciano: Oh, goodness sake!

Lodge: I thought that Grandma lived to be ninety-six, but Lou says no, she was ninety.

Calciano: What year did your Grandma die?

Lodge: Lou says that she died in 1890, so I guess she must have seen the funeral cards. But I thought she was ninety-six years old, and I remember thinking when Aunt Fallon died that she was just the same as her mother.

Calciano: You seem to remember your Grandmother quite well.

Lodge: Yes, yes. For all the ranches in the world I wouldn't have gone through what she did. You have to be born to it. Yes, you have to be born to it. It was a hardship. You just can't imagine the change that came with the American rule. You were taxed. Grandma never knew anything about taxation. She didn't know English; it was all Spanish, and I don't know if she even knew any French. Her father was Joaquin and his mother was the French lady. I never heard Aunt Mary say, but Aunt Mary spoke French like a native.

Calciano: Oh she did?

Lodge: She and Uncle talked in French mostly all the time. She'd get a French paper, and she'd read it; she'd read it every week for she liked that French paper. And Mama, of course we went to school and it was all English, but Mama'd speak to us in Spanish. Of course the English was used as much as the Spanish by Mama, but she wanted us to learn Spanish too. But we'd answer in English. And Pa, I don't remember Pa speaking to us once in Spanish.

Calciano: Oh my.

Lodge: To us always in English.

Calciano: Well, did you learn Spanish?

Lodge: We did when we went over to Aunt Mary. "Now," she

says, "look it here. I don't know English very much, and when I speak to you in Spanish, I want you to answer me in Spanish, or else I won't pay any attention." We knew what it was, but we didn't speak it till we went to Aunt Mary's. She could read and write Spanish and read and talk French, but she had a brogue with English. We'd correct her sometimes and Auntie would say, "I don't care. It isn't my language." She'd get so provoked. Well, it's too bad, but then that was the language that was spoken at that time.

MIKE LODGE II

Lodge: Now look at the goodness of heart of my aunt. She didn't have to take in three girls and take care of us. But Pa was unadapted entirely to take care of girls; he couldn't. He could manage with the boys, but it was hard on Pa to adapt himself to a sudden change. And after Mama died, Pa bached for thirty years. My three brothers lived with him. My oldest brothers were Mike and Felix, and Frankie was the youngest one. They'd all pile in Papa's kitchen, all around his big table, and they'd all play cards, you know, and things like that. Pa said, "No gambling for money. For fun

you can play. And no drinking in the house." They drank outside, or out some other place, but not at home. You know my father was a periodical drinker. And Norman's father and his uncle kept the grocery store down in Soquel. They bought it from a man by the name of Harmon, didn't they?

Angell: Yes.

Lodge: Well, Pa got worried about the new people that were coming in, and he went down. He said he wanted to find out if he could get credit. Pa had six children; he thought he had all the world to feed. (Laughter) So he went down and he asked Mr. Fenner Angell, and Mr. Angell said he could have credit. At that time Pa was working for Grover's in the planning mill. And Norman's uncle says, "Mike, you can have credit for anything you want in my store. I know I'll get paid." And that was the nicest note; Pa never forgot that. You know, before he went to Grover's, Papa worked in the tannery for the Porter brothers. He worked twenty-seven years for them, taking care of the boiler. He was engineer to the boiler.

Calciano: Oh?

Lodge: Yes, and he did love that old boiler. But he said when it finally wore out, he told Ben Porter, "Benjamin,

you have to get me another engine." And Pa said the new engine couldn't come up to what the other one must have been when it was new. How curious, yes. They already were beginning to use other metals along with the original ones, testing it out probably, and that could make it better or worse, whatever the condition was. And when Pa worked for Grover's Mill, he kept records. I took notice of Pa's book when he was working in the mill and also when he kept tab on his groceries, and it was all in Spanish.

Calciano: My. Had your Pa had schooling?

Lodge: Very little, very little. Grandma put him in a school that her brother used to keep in Watsonville.

Calciano: Oh?

Lodge: And Papa couldn't get along with him somehow or other. Pa was hard to get along with; he was very headstrong. Anyway, Grandma put Pa in the school in Watsonville, and I don't know how long he stayed there. But before they realized it at the home here, Pa came around home by the ocean way, the shore. So that was how Pa reached home, and he never went back. And Pa wanted to be on the ocean. He loved the ocean like I've never seen another.

Calciano: That's interesting.

Lodge: If he'd of had the education, Pa would have made a good man for the engine work in a ship. He loved the ocean; it would never be a hardship to him, and he liked machinery. And the nearest he could get to it was at Ben Porter's tannery.

Calciano: Did your father work with boilers most of his life?

Lodge: No, just there; that's all. They didn't have the industry here.

Calciano: What did he do when the tannery shut down?

Lodge: He went to other work such as, well he went up into the forest. There were lots of lumber mills here. The forests were pretty virgin forests, see.

Calciano: Yes.

Lodge: I think there were five lumber mills around. Grover had a big lumber mill right over in Glen Haven Way, I think.

Calciano: Yes, Glen Haven Way.

Lodge: Yes. And Hihn had one in Loma Prieta. And I believe there was another halfway between.

Calciano: Did your father work for several of them?

Lodge: Yes, he worked. Mostly I've heard him say for Grover's Mill.

Calciano: What did he do there?

Lodge: I don't know what he did, what his line was, but he worked there. You know, Pa was raised on a farmland. You'd think anybody raised on a farm would know farm work. Now Pa had two acres here, and that should have kept his family wonderfully in vegetables and lessen his cost in the store. But it never did, never did. I never saw Pa grow anything at home but onions and garlicks and a few plants of tomatoes.

Calciano: That's all?

Lodge: Yes. Mama would scramble around and get a few chickens and leave them loose and let them pick up the scraps, but that was all.

A Trip to Los Angeles

Calciano: You mentioned that your father was raised on the ranch. Do you know much about him as a young man?

Lodge: I told you about Pa's trip down south, down to Los Angeles.

Angell: Not very much.

Lodge: Well Pa was like his father; he walked too. One time he walked all the way to Los Angeles, and when he was coming back, walking, he said he got a certain distance, and all of a sudden there was a man right in

front of him. Pa didn't know how he got there. And the man says, "Who are you?" Pa says, "I'm Mike Lodge." So the man says, "Where are you going?" and Pa answered, "I'm going home." So the man says, "Where's your home?" and Pa told him. Pa says those questions, they seemed that they must be important to the man, so he answered them short and right to the point. And the man says, "All right, Mike Lodge, you go ahead. But don't you look back. Don't you look back. I warn you." So Pa went ahead, and in about a mile he met another man, just exactly the same type. He asked Pa the same questions, and he warned him too, the same as the other man did. "Don't look back." Now Pa thought that he could dimly hear pans rattling inside of where he was passing. And he thought there must have been a camp of robbers in there, and those were scouts watching. He says a million dollars wouldn't have made him look back. (Laughter) And he didn't go down there again. (Laughter) Oh, in the early days they had lots of hair-raising scares.

Calciano: It's a wonder anybody lived.

Lodge: Yes. Well, many lost their money. And I'll always remember the little German lady that was telling us about her people that came out here. They were in San Jose, but their people went up into Oregon. They wanted a homestead up in Oregon. And on the way to town, not so very far from their house, was a stand of trees, a good big stand like a young forest, and it had an awful bad name. Oh it had an awful bad name. And one of their boys had gone to town and was late coming home. He was pretty near breaking his neck to get home before it got dark, but he couldn't make it in time. Since he had to pass through the trees, he thought he'd go as quiet as he could and as near as he could, to see whether he could make a break. So he must have padded his horse's feet. But when he got to the edge he heard a man just begging for his life. He was saying, "Take everything I've got, but leave me my life." And that's all that boy needed to hear; he turned around and went through another way as fast as he could. Then the next day he got curious to see whether those men were kind enough to let the man have his life. He went back, and there was a dead man. Oh, some of them were rotten mean, yes. That's the way a

lot of people became unknown. You'd never hear of them again. You know, Aunt Mary told us that in the early days in Monterey, it was so bad with the bad people coming in, roughnecks and robbers and criminals, that they sent down to Mexico to send up soldiers for the protection of the people here. And Mexico opened their prison doors, dressed them as soldiers, and sent them up.

Calciano: Oh no!

Lodge: They were worse than the criminals.

Calciano: Heavens!

Lodge: Yes. So, the owners did then what they should have done at first. They didn't need no uniform; they used the law and order method. And who didn't walk the straight line, he knew what he'd get, you see. It got so bad that no woman could cross the street without an escort.

Calciano: Oh my.

Lodge: Yes, as bad as that. That helped to facilitate the entering in of the American rule here.

Calciano: I see.

Lodge: The early Spaniards here, they should have brought teachers along with the settlers, see, and they didn't do it. Are you Catholic?

Calciano: No, I'm not.

Lodge: Well, I'm an intellectual Catholic. But you know, I think that's a big sin at the door of Catholicism. It doesn't educate its people enough. And I haven't taken my Communion for about thirty-three years.

Calciano: Oh my.

Lodge: And you know why? Because I don't believe in the infallibility of the Pope. I didn't think that that was so important, that it would make any difference, so I never confessed it. And then I thought, "Well, I wonder if I'm doing the right thing?" So the next time that I went to Confession, I told the priest. That was when I came down here to take care of Papa. And so the Father said that it did make a difference. I said, "Father, I don't believe in the infallibility of the Pope." Oh boy, a bomb couldn't make any more impression. He said, "I can't give you absolution." I said, "Well, Father, I don't expect you to go against your rules and regulations, but," I said, "I don't think anybody was infallible that ever came to this world except Christ, Christ Jesus." He said, "But it's

only in matters of faith and morals that the Pope is infallible." Well, if you're infallible, you're infallible. But how I liked Holy Week as a child. I remember how many of those little codfish cakes we used to make on Holy Week. Oh boy. When you couldn't get the fresh fish, you know, we'd have little packs of salted cod.

Calciano: You used salted cod?

Lodge: Yes, and you'd soak the pieces the night before, take all that salt off, and then shred it. Then you'd take your potato masher and mash it. You'd cook some nice potatoes and mash them in and put a little chopped parsley with a little bit of garlic in it. And if you wanted to you could dip a little egg in there. But we just used the potato, fish, and a little bit of parsley and green onion and garlic. You know that garlic is one of the best medicines, yes. Aunt Mary used to say that if Grandpa heard about a contagious disease around, he'd make a necklace of garlic and string it around the kids necks.

Calciano: Oh my goodness.

Lodge: But Pa never had an herb garden. He never thought of gardening.

Mike's Violin

Lodge: Did you ever hear Pa play?

Angell: No, not that I remember.

Lodge: Is that so. He liked Irish tunes. He loved to play those Irish jigs. You remember Mr. West, Harvey's father?

Angell: Yes. Ed West.

Lodge: Well, he used to work at the Loma Prieta sawmill. Those boys were young men, and Saturday nights they'd take their girls to the dance, you know. Pa would be home already, and after supper Pa always would go upstairs, those narrow stairs, boy oh boy, and we'd follow. I was the oldest, and Frankie come next, and Julia. We'd get our little box and sit right on that and listen to Papa play. Papa would open that door, and it wasn't long before you'd see those carriages, maybe four or five, and they'd stop. They wouldn't do nothing until Papa got through, and then they'd give him a good clapping. They liked those jigs too.

Angell: He played violin?

Lodge: The violin, yes. All by ear, not anything by music. Pa sometimes would play for the dances, and he said he never saw anything to beat how the Soquel girls liked to dance. (Laughter) It was natural that he was a

musician. He took after his uncle. There were three boys in Grandpa's family. One was a musician, one was a priest, and one was an adventurer. Grandpa was the adventurer. So Pa took after the musician. But Pa was a Civil War man, too.

Calciano: Your father was?

Lodge: Yes.

Calciano: Oh my.

Lodge: He took by it honestly; his great-grandfather, Isidro, the man that came up with the de Anza Party, he was a soldier. And so that was the cause of Pa's trouble with his first wife; she didn't want him to go to war.

Calciano: Oh?

Lodge: And he did; he just felt that urge to go. Well, I don't know, what's to be is to be. And Pa never had been out of California; he never saw such a big river as when Company A of California was camped on the Columbia River, ready to go at a moment's notice. And while he was there he saw two or three wrecks there on the river. He says he never felt so sorry for people as for those that got wrecked. One ship got aground someway and he said, "I don't know why they couldn't rescue those people. They had to wait for the tide I

guess." His company disbanded up there. I think they disbanded the infantry in San Francisco. They were ready to move out when the word came that it was settled in the East, and so they had to come home. A lot of them didn't like it; they didn't know what they'd be. Well, Pa took after the uncle who was the musician. Pa would play the violin by ear. You've heard about people in the old days that could get up and play by ear? They were natural musicians.

Calciano: Yes.

Lodge: Well when Pa saw that wreck he went off and forgot reveille and all. He got up and went down to that wreck, and he was salvaging brooms. Oh, he said he had a big pile of brooms. Yes. He'd gone without breakfast, and all of a sudden it came to him, and he said, "I didn't answer roll call this morning." And he thought he'd better go back there and find out how things were. And when he come around there he ran into his officer. "Well, Mike Lodge. Where've you been?" "Oh," he says, "I was down saving brooms. I was down at the wreck and I got a great big pile of brooms." His officer says, "Well, now you've got to go to the guardhouse." Oh, Pa thought that was terrible. "Well,"

he says, "can I take my violin?" "I don't care. You can take your violin." So Pa went for his violin, and he was playing on it. That's the way he consoled himself. Then an hour after that the man who had told him he had to go to the guardhouse came up. He said, "Mike Lodge, you can go now." When Pa asked why, his officer told him that the head officer had come and said, "Who's in the guardhouse?" Pa's officer says, "Mike Lodge. He forgot to report this morning. He was salvaging brooms from the wreck." The head man said, "You tell Mike Lodge to get out of there. We'll have everybody in the guardhouse listening to that music." Pa said that the violin took him out of that tight place.

Calciano: It certainly did!

Lodge: Did I tell you that my father went on a ship to the Hawaiian Islands once?

Calciano: Was this with his mother and step-father?

Lodge: No. This was before. You know Papa thought the world of his father. His father had been a sailor and Papa took after him like a duck to water. You know when Papa was a boy he would perch on a cliff, and he'd know the name of every ship that passed. He pestered

his mother to let him go as cabin boy. Oh he wanted to be a cabin boy, and she wouldn't do it; she was scared she'd lose him. And then he finally annoyed his mother so much that she asked a certain friend to take him on. They were old friends because they traded with the family you know, in tallow and hides. They'd buy quarters of beef and sheep and a lot of that when they'd strike land you know. I guess that was in the days when they didn't have so many things for the sailors. Anyway, she finally got that friend, and she told him to give Pa a hard time so it would cure him. (Laughter) And he did. And Papa to his dying day says that that was the meanest man he ever did know.

(Laughter) He was the meanest man he ever came across; he didn't like it at all. And Papa says he saved that man's ship once. When the evening had come and they were pretty near the Hawaiian Islands, Papa said he saw glitter like a fire. He was around about where the Captain was, and his job every evening was clearing rats out. (Laughter) Pa said to the Captain, "I wonder what that fire is up there?" "Where is it, Mike?" Pa says, "Just right over there." The Captain right away gave the order to reverse the engines, because they were pretty near on the rocks. Take a boy to keep his

eyes open. My goodness, my goodness.

Calciano: How old was he when he was on this boat?

Lodge: It must have been when Grandma was a widow. Before she married Depeaux. And when she did marry, Pa didn't like his step-father at all. And he never forgot what the Church did to Grandma. He never forgave the Church. You know Pa left the Church. He didn't die a Catholic.

Calciano: When did your father die?

Lodge: He died in 1931.

Calciano: How old was he then?

Lodge: Ninety-two and ten months.

Calciano: Oh my goodness. You do have long-lived stock, don't you?

Lodge: And he had his mind clear up to five minutes before he went.

Calciano: That's marvelous.

Lodge: Yes, I think so. And he never was bedridden but he had heart trouble. His lips would be blue.

Calciano: Was he stout too?

Lodge: Well, he had been a stout man, but he wasn't overly stout when he passed on.

The Death of His Second Wife

Calciano: Did you say your father married more than once?

Lodge: Well, Pa married three times too.

Calciano: Oh he did?

Lodge: Yes, and he says the last one was plenty; he would never marry again. Mama left him; she died suddenly, quickly, and Pa from there on he says, "No, I'm marrying no other wife." It's a hardship for some people.

Calciano: Was your mother his third wife?

Lodge: Yes.

Calciano: What were the names of his wives?

Lodge: Well, we didn't know the first wife; neither did we know the second one. No, I didn't know from what families they were. And Mama was a seventeen year-old girl when she married Pa.

Calciano: Are all you children of the third wife?

Lodge: Yes.

Calciano: Did his first two wives die?

Lodge: Well, the first one didn't. They were separated, and I think he had some children by that one, but we never knew.

Calciano: Oh.

Lodge: But the second wife, she died at birth with a child.

Calciano: Did the child die too?

Lodge: Yes, it went with its mother. That was quite a shock to Pa; he never got over that because he felt kind of guilty. She begged him to let her mother tend to her; they had mid-wives at that time. The doctors were scarce. But there was a doctor, Dr. Fisher. Pa said he was a good doctor. And he didn't want to let his mother-in-law tend to his wife, but she begged him so hard, so he says, "All right, but I don't like it." And so it went on time and Pa says that he didn't like things the way they were going. The mother was there, but he didn't have any confidence in her. And so he went for Dr. Fisher, and he brought him. The doctor examined her and he says, "Mike, it's too late; it's too late. When the tide goes out, she'll go out, and the child too." And so when Pa went in to see his wife before she passed on, he said she didn't want him to get out of her eyes. She wanted to see him. And then when he came near the bed she took a little ribbon and tied it on a button that she had on, and then tied it on to Pa. Wasn't that odd? I remember that, remember that. But Pa says he don't know why he relented; he

knew better, but she begged so hard to let her mother tend to her. And he said that the doctor lit into that lady hard and told her, "Look at the result you did." I don't know what she must have done. You know when Julia was born, Papa came downstairs playing his violin, and somebody says, "Well, that little one is going to be a musician." (Laughter) He was so happy that the danger was all over. And you know, Julia is musical.

Calciano: Was she the youngest?

Lodge: Yes, yes.

Mike's Third Wife -- Margarita Castilla

Calciano: What did your mother die from?

Lodge: We don't know, but I think she had gallstones. You know she was very stout, and I had gallstones. And Lou had to stay out of school quite often for Mama. Mama, she'd say she had liver complaints, but I bet a nickel it was gallstones, because she'd get over them, and then she'd get another attack.

Calciano: How old was she when she died?

Lodge: Thirty-five.

Calciano: Oh. That's young, isn't it.

Lodge: She already had six children.

Calciano: And she was seventeen when she married?

Lodge: Yes, seventeen.

Calciano: But you don't know what year they were married?

Lodge: No I don't. Pa was thirty-four; there was quite a discrepancy in age.

Calciano: Well let's see, what year did she die?

Lodge: I don't know.

Calciano: Your grandmother died in 1890, didn't she?

Lodge: I think she did; I'm not sure.

Calciano: So then your mother might have died about 1892 or so, you think?

Lodge: Well, yes. About then. She died about two years after Grandma. She married at seventeen, but you know, girls married young back then. Aunt Mary married when she was thirteen years old. I guess that was too young, but she didn't like her stepfather, so there you are. But the girls of thirteen years old were certainly housekeepers. They were taught. There was no washing machine; there were no bakeries, you know. Everything was done in the home. Even the travel was difficult. You had to learn how to ride horseback or you'd have to walk. We called that shank's pony, I think. That's

an old wisecrack, you know.

Calciano: Yes.

Lodge: "How are you going to go to so and so?" "Oh, I'm going shank's pony." That's walking. Isn't that curious?

Calciano: Yes, it is.

Lodge: You know, Mama knew how to read and write Spanish. She learned it at the convent. Her grandmother put a cousin of hers and her in the convent when they were young girls. Her grandmother was a very wealthy woman.

Calciano: What was her name?

Lodge: Villa, and she lived someplace. We never knew Mama's family, only she had two sisters that came to visit her for a while. It was all Daddy's family around here. So, this Grandma, our great-grandma, for some reason she sent for her two grandchildren, Mama and her cousin Madeline. Mama's name was Margarita. She wanted them to come back from the convent. And one of the Sisters, she thought that Mama should stay there. Great-grandma was able to pay for her, see, and we don't know why she was called home. But the Sister that was most interested in Mama said, "Well, wait a while," and her grandmother then called her again. "If you don't come, I'll disinherit you."

Calciano: Oh my goodness.

Lodge: And she didn't go and she was disinherited.

Calciano: Why wouldn't your mother go?

Lodge: I think that the Sister wanted to give Mama a better education. She could have stayed in the convent and learned more, and it would have been no hardship for her grandmother. Mama wanted to go, but she stayed because she thought the Sister knew best.

Calciano: So your Mama stayed and her cousin didn't?

Lodge: Her cousin didn't; she went home.

Calciano: So your mother was disinherited?

Lodge: Yes.

Calciano: I see. Well what had happened to her mother and father? Why was her grandmother paying?

Lodge: Well, I don't know; I don't know what happened there. I think that they were separated. Grandpa was a Spaniard from Spain.

Calciano: Oh?

Lodge: And some say that he was a veterinarian. Some say he was a very cruel man, and some say not, so we don't know. We just leave it alone.

Calciano: What was his name?

Lodge: Castilla. That was Mama's name. She had a very pretty name: Margarita Castilla.

Calciano: How did your father meet your mother?

Lodge: When Great-grandma didn't pay any more in the college, then the Sisters, you see, well they had to find a job for Mama. So Mama went to work for a cousin of Pa's, and he met her there.

Calciano: What kind of work did she do?

Lodge: Housework. There was no other kind of work for her to do. But Mama had to take care of herself after that. And it was just one of those things. What's to be is to be.

Calciano: When were they married?

Lodge: Oh, I don't know. I don't know when. But I saw my birth certificate in the Catholic Church registry, and they've got Papa's name Loche. Now it would have been spelled like that in Spanish, see, and so it's one and the same name. Lodge.

Calciano: What were the names of the children in your family?

Lodge: Mike was the oldest; Mike the Third. Then Felix and then Lou, then myself, then Frank, then Julia. Six of us. We're three old ladies and three old bachelors in our family.

Calciano: Really?

Lodge: Yes.

Calciano: Oh my.

Lodge: No, we always say that our grandparents did all the marrying. And Pa was married three times, too.

Angell: Carrie, what is Lou's full name?

Lodge: On boy, you ought to see. She was the first girl. It's Louisa Maria Josefa Rosaria Angelina Lodge.

Calciano: How did she come to be called Lulu? She's listed in the telephone book as Lulu.

Lodge: It comes from Louisa.

Calciano: I see.

Lodge: It comes from Louisa; we shortened it.

Calciano: Did the first boy have a great number of names too?

Lodge: No. It's Michael Joseph. Mike III. The Joseph was for Uncle Joseph.

CARRIE LODGE

Calciano: And the name Carrie. That's not a nickname?.

Lodge: No, that's just my godmother's name. She was Carrie. Of course there's lots of Carries that they call Caroline. It may stem from that originally and the base stemming, I think, is Carroll for men. There always is a root word if you dig for it.

Calciano: But your Christian name is Carrie?

Lodge: Yes, yes.

Calciano: What is your whole name?

Lodge: Carrie Electa. But I wasn't christened by that name. I took that name when I was confirmed.

Calciano: I see.

Lodge: It's spelled Electa. I'm in a trust fund and the bank has it Electra, so on those checks it's Electra, see. So as long as they put it that way I keep it that way, but it's really spelled Electa. And I never heard that name until my Confirmation Day. We went to a house where a cousin of mine was going to get us ready for our first Communion. And right there at the time I said, "I'm wondering what I should use for a name, because I don't know." And she says, "Why don't you use the name Electa." And I had never hear of that, and because it was new to me I said, "Why I guess that's all right."

Calciano: Oh my goodness. (Laughter)

Lodge: So that's my name. It's odd. You very seldom hear it.

Calciano: Yes, it is different.

School Years in Soquel

Calciano: When you lived in Soquel during the years prior to your mother's death, did you attend school regularly?

Lodge: Yes. The Soquel public school.

Calciano: Was it an eight-year school, or a nine-year school?

Lodge: It was a nine-year. I got as far as the fifth grade and Mama died. Then I went to Aunt Peck in Santa Cruz and she made it her business to see that I went to school.

Calciano: Well good for her.

Lodge: You betcha.

Calciano: How many teachers did your school have here in Soquel?

Lodge: Let me see. At first when I first went to school, we had three rooms. Each teacher must have had two or three grades in there. I went into the first grade when I was six. The teacher didn't want to believe I was; my sister brought me, and the teacher says, "You mean to tell me that little girl is six years old?" And I said, "Yes Ma'am." (Laughter)

Calciano: Oh goodness.

Lodge: "Well," she says, "I guess you'll have to stay, Carrie." So that was the first grade. Now when the new school was built, it's torn down now, the first-graders had to go back in the first room. See, the

school was bigger. We had more scholars, but they weren't so jumbled up. But that teacher had her room crammed full. When we changed to the big school the professor was married and his wife taught too. Mr. Linscott was his name. Not the superintendent; it was his brother.

Calciano: I see.

Lodge: So grades one and two were taught by Mrs. Linscott. And then Miss Humphrey taught the third and fourth. Mary Humphrey. And then the fifth grade and sixth was taught by Mrs. Ione Wyman.

Calciano: Oh.

Lodge: And, Mrs. Calciano, the professor taught the last grades.

Calciano: I see.

Lodge: Yes. The last grades, the last room, was the principal. We've had quite a few and they were all very bright men. Mr. Linscott was a very bright man, but delicate.

Calciano: Really.

Lodge: He used to have big boys in those last rooms, big boys, young men sometimes. Then they'd drop out;

they'd get jobs. Mrs. Wyman taught fifth and sixth, so 6-en the professor must have taught three grades -- seventh, eighth, and ninth.

Calciano: Was the school close by?

Lodge: When I was going to school, I was generally running. We had no buses, but we could walk. We could hear the school bell from our homes, and the bell would ring and we'd set our clocks by the bell. (Laughter)

Calciano: Did you continue your education when you moved to your Aunt Mary's?

Lodge: Aunt Peck made certain I went to school. I was thirteen when I came to Aunt Mary's; I was six months into the seventh grade when I was up there with my Aunt Peck, but the change came sudden and great. I didn't even have time to get my books, see. And when I went to Aunt Mary's, she said we'd all have to help her since Uncle was sick. So anyway, when Uncle died Aunt Mary said, "Now, Carrie, you can go back to school." But Mrs. Calciano, Aunt Mary should have said, "Carrie you go back to school now," see. Because I didn't like to. I said to Aunt Mary, "All the children that I would be in with would be little, and I'd be a big girl, and I don't want to do that." It was a personal pride, and I lost by it. I lost by it.

Calciano: Well, what did you do then?

Lodge: I stayed home.

Business Training

Calciano: But didn't you later go to Heald's Business College?

Lodge: I was twenty-seven years old when I went there.

Calciano: Oh my goodness.

Lodge: It's better to go to school younger, because as you get older you can't grasp so much as quickly as a child does. It's got its mind in the training and it's growing. Well now how I went to Heald's was because I got sick. I didn't have very much strength, you know. But I had a delicate cousin; and I said if that cousin got to be a stenographer, so could I. So I did. I took up stenography, and I had a fine teacher. I finished my eight-month course. But I had some sickness. I had spells for four years, but the doctor couldn't find out what it was. And you know, Norman, when I got that sickness and found out what it was, I always thought that it was exactly what took Mama, because she was stout too. But it was just when X-ray was beginning to come in. I didn't get better and the doctor didn't know what was wrong. And all the time it was

gallstones. It was a lucky thing for me that the X-ray was coming out, because that's what one of the doctors used, and he found out.

Calciano: How many years ago was this?

Lodge: Oh, a long time ago. When I was in the hospital I was thirty-one. Then when I came out all right I thought, boy oh boy, what was I going to do. So then I went back to Heald's for a three-month course.

Calciano: Did you work when you graduated?

Lodge: Well yes. I worked for about twenty years. I worked in San Jose for Partridge and Davidson for five years.

Calciano: What kind of company is that?

Lodge: Partridge and Davidson were lawyers, and I was the stenographer.

The Family Homes

Calciano: You've lived in Soquel, though, for most of your life, haven't you?

Lodge: Oh yes. I came back.

Calciano: How long have you lived in this house?

Lodge: Right here where it is, two years and a half. I had it moved from a little place that I had just right next to me here. I had to spend the money to fix this house when it was moved, see, because we're zoned here, you

have to have specifications.

Angell: Your grandmother and grandfather built this adobe that used to stand down here?

Lodge: Yes, the one the Noble boys had.

Angell: Your grandparents built that in the 1830s, as I recall.

Lodge: Yes, I think so.

Angell: It's too bad that old adobe was torn down, isn't it?

Lodge: Yes, it's a shame.

Angell: That would have been a wonderful historical monument.

Lodge: Yes, yes it would. But it began to crumble, you know.

Angell: Yes. I remember hearing that the rafters were tied on with rawhide, instead of nails. They were tied with rawhide, and when it dried it contracted and tightened. Oh, people just didn't appreciate what they had there, and they went in and knocked it down.

Lodge: But the boys, the Noble boys, said that it began to crumble; it was so hard to get materials that they couldn't rebuild. And I guess, I don't know how it was, was it built with that same kind of adobe that we have around here?

Angell: Oh, I imagine so.

Lodge: I don't know.

Angell: It's too bad it couldn't have lasted a few years longer because they have developed a mixture for the adobe that makes it waterproof. It could have been rebuilt, restored, and it would have lasted forever, because I don't think it was damaged in the earthquake, as I recall. I don't remember hearing anything about it.

Lodge: I don't think so either. The walls were pretty thick.

Angell: Yes, they must have been.

Lodge: Well, they had to build thick walls -- the Indians, and also the animals. Aunt Clements used to say they didn't have any glass windows, but they put hides there and tied them down, see. And then good days they could raise them some. My that must have been difficult -- how could they keep the mosquitoes out?

Calciano: It would be dark, too.

Lodge: Yes. Well, they had the open door; no screens though. I guess it must have been pretty difficult.

Angell: Your old home is right over there, isn't it? Just about eleven hundred feet to where those redwoods are?

Lodge: Well that was Daddy's place, but my cabin was just right here.

Angell: Yes, your cabin was there, but your old home, your Dad's house, the big white house ...

Lodge: Yes, it was right there; it was a story and a half house.

Angell: When was that put up, Carrie?

Lodge: Oh, that was pretty early. But all the old houses are being sold and torn down. It's the taxes. don't know, it must be a tremendous cost keeping California up with the people coming in by the thousands every year. Our schools -- the children get crowded out. You know there's limits to all things. The taxes on Aunt Mary's old house are terrific. Cur taxation over there was over six hundred dollars this last time, so my sisters are going to sell. We each have a third on that house; Aunt Mary left it to us. It's a cream color house with a red roof and dormer windows. It's on Capitola Avenue; it's that big house on the hill right by the freeway, just after you cross over the freeway overpass. Well, it's an old house and the upkeep would be terrific, see, so we just let it go and get along as well as we can.

Calciano: So your sisters have decided they're going to sell?

Lodge: Oh yes, yes. All their money is going in taxes, see, so they'll get a smaller place. The way it is now, you see, one house is there on a little bit over two acres, and maybe three or four houses could be put

there, and the county could get taxation from them.
And that's what they're after. The taxes are surely
taxing us all out of the old places.

Trans: Carolyn Sakamoto Phyllis Morris

Typed: Carolyn Sakamoto

Digitized: TriAxial Data Systems