The heart of Ishi Country is the Mill and Deer Creek drainages, but since it is believed that the Yahi traveled well beyond these drainages for trade, and sometimes for raids, Ishi Country is defined much more broadly. It is considered here to include all of the foothill country between Highway 36E on the north and the Tehama County line on the south. The eastern boundary should be considered the Childs Meadows-Deer Creek Meadows area, although the accompanying map does not extend that far. It is believed that the Yahi did travel south into Butte County on occasion to a limited extent. Ishi’s lonely final trek as far south as Oroville was definitely unusual.

This book consists of a collection of articles about Ishi Country, partly new material and partly reprints of articles from the Memories of the Tehama County Genealogical and Historical Society, published since 1983. It is divided into four parts: “Indian Tales”; “Trail Tales”; “Lumbering, Flume, and Related Tales”; and “More Tales.”

“Trail Tales” includes articles related to the Lassen Trail, the Old Emigrant Road over Morgan Summit, sheep and cattle trails, and the trail along Mill Creek. “Lumbering and Flume Tales” is the longest part since the lumbering history of Ishi Country is extensive and is still going on. “More Tales” is a catch-all section that includes articles that didn’t seem to fit elsewhere. The subjects there vary from the Belle Mill Cemetery to the several past hydropower proposals for the area, none of which materialized.
**What's In The Woods**

by Bill Dennison and Clifford “Blackie” Gilbert

*Chico Enterprise Record* on August 20, 2013 reported that *What’s In The Woods?* “Gives a sense of feeling about what actually happened.” Feather River Publishing (Quincy, Chester, Susanville and Portola) said “The book describes logging from kids’ views.” Those were two of the goals the authors were seeking in the development of the book. In addition, it was a passion of Dennison and Gilbert that *What’s In The Woods?* preserve the significant role that The Diamond Match Company played in the early development of logging and sawmilling. It does that very well

“The Kids,” six individuals (including the authors) were raised in the rustic logging camps. Interviews by Dennison and over 140 documented old photos provide interesting and educational reading for all ages. By pretending to look through the eyes of The Kids (current ages 79 to 93), readers sill see actual camp life and logging activities—work, recreation, communication, injury and death.

The book can be purchased by sending a $40 check payable to BMJCA, 20 Lakewood Way, Chico, CA 95926 or call 530-258-1489.

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**The Miner Poet: Poems of Pres Longley**

Edited by John Rudderow and Nancy Leek

The Chico News & Review article by Robert Speer, September 12, 2013, quoted below, states that this new book fulfills Pres Longley’s lifelong dream to publish his poems. “For a man who lived in a pauper’s shack near the Gold Rush settlement of Helltown, 10 miles up Butte Creek... Alexander Preston Longley—who went by Pres—was remarkably engaged with the wider world.

“He read voraciously, traveled among the many mining camps of the era, ... and corresponded with editors and numerous publications, from the local *Butte Record* and *Chico Enterprise*, to the *Sacramento Bee, San Francisco Examiner*, and *The Golder Era*, a literary periodical.

“Most of all, Longley wrote poems—more than 300 of them over the years—and sent them off to appear in those same publications, earning the sobriquet “The Bard of Butte.”

“Now, more than a century after his death in 1912 at the age of 88, Longley’s dream has come true, thanks to John Rudderow and Nancy Leek, two local people who have collected more than 100 of his poems into a handsome book.” The book may be ordered on-line at Stansbury Publishing, for $19.95.
ANCHR Publications 2013

Our Featured Publications


Other Publications


A Small Corner of the West – A History of Butte Meadows, Chico Meadows, and Jonesville. This 15-year effort by the Butte Meadows-Jonesville Community Association has fifteen authors and many contributors of information and photographs. First published in 1998, ANCHR joined in the second printing in 1999, 248 pp. over 100 photos. ISBN 0-9659168-1-2. ANCHR has sold out of this publication, but it is still available from the Butte Meadows-Jonesville Community Association, and at Lyon Books, Chico.

An Historical Geography, Analysis of the Modoc Indian War. Gregory A. Reed, 1994, 121 pp. $8.50.

Baccala Cattle Drive (DVD). Association for Northern California Historical Research (ANCHR), 2007. A documentary, originally filmed in 1977, is interspersed with actual footage of life on the trail, as Calvin Baccala and his wife recount the cattle drives before modern-day conveniences. 30 minutes. ISBN 1-931994-19-6, $15.00.


From the Prairie to the Pacific: A narrative of a trip across the plains of a family from Illinois with covered wagon and oxen team in 1853. Henrietta Catherine “Kate” Furnell, 1928, 104 pp. This narrative also includes the history of the McDaniel family’s pioneer settlement of the Afton area, Glenn County, California. Reprinted 2005 with additional historical commentary by Charles Martin and Dave Brown, editors. ISBN 1-931994-12-9, $8.00.


John Bidwell and the Western Movement and The Significance of the Bidwells (DVD). Two conversations, the first with Professor Emeritus W. H. Hutchinson, the second with Ted Meriam, John Nopel, and Clarence McIntosh. Produced by Dennis Berkla and Bill Ball, 1980, 1981. ISBN 1-931994-21-8, $15.00.


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Our region, in the pioneering days, saw the development of several routes for transportation within the area and with the outside world. Some of these corridors we recognize today as our main highways of travel while others have nearly vanished—observable as abandoned trails and roads only by those with a trained eye.

Today, one of these routes we know alternatively as the “Oroville-Quincy Highway,” “Bucks Lake Road,” “The Ridge Route” and “the back way” between Quincy and Oroville. Beginning with the Beckwourth Trail of 1851, this route approximately follows the summit of the ridge between the North and Middle Forks of the Feather River. After years of neglect, it has now metamorphosed into an attractive byway. While subject to winter closures due to snow, it provides an interesting alternative for travelers who might otherwise use State Highway 70, the “canyon route,” between Quincy and Oroville.

Dave Brown is a fifth generation northern Californian who has worked as a counselor and care manager, primarily with senior citizens, since 1973. Taught by his father, Arch Brown, an automotive industry historian and freelance writer, to follow the links between past and present, he finds history research to be one of the best means to understand the present. The author joined a car trip led by Florence Allen Norby, a great-aunt by marriage, in the La Porte area when he was nine years old, thereby kindling a lifelong interest in the region. Norby’s deep knowledge of that section’s history made it come alive with stories about each place they visited. Through the years since, the author has visited and learned to understand the experiences of earlier generations in the northern Sierra Nevada Mountains.

A longtime resident of Butte County and past president of Butte County Historical Society and ANCHR, Dave has also been a property owner at Meadow Valley since 1978. The author wishes to share his knowledge of Oroville-Quincy Ridge Route with others, including those with a bond to this beautiful and historically rich country.

Dave Brown has done scholarly and exhaustive work, resulting in a book that describes how a pioneering transportation route has evolved over more than a century and a half, changing as needs of the users change and adjusting to competition from other routes. Written as a research project with citations, it is also designed to interest all readers wishing to know more about travel in the Feather River region of California.

The book is rich with maps, charts, and, most especially, historical photos.
ANCHR
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