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REGIONAL HISTORY PROJECT
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The Regional History Project was started in July of 1963 at a time when the Santa Cruz campus of the University of California was still in the planning stages. Its major purpose was to interview longtime residents of the Central California Coast area whose comments would add significantly to the sketchy and inadequate written history of the region. A number of the interviews have concentrated on the economic history of the area (e.g. redwood lumbering, coastal dairying, apple packing and shipping) although such interviews also cover the social and cultural history of the region. In 1967 the Project expanded its scope to include series of interviews on University history and the Lick Observatory. The Project has also been involved in acquiring material for the Library's Regional History Collection, answering reference questions pertaining to the area, supervising the cataloging of the Library's vast collection of local historical photographs, and organizing and instructing volunteer workers who are indexing books and newspapers in the Regional History Collection. The Project is staffed by one half-time interviewer-editor and one half-time typist.

Transcripts of the Project's interviews are organized and edited for continuity; the typed manuscripts include an introduction, table of contents, photograph of the interviewee, other illustrations, and a detailed index. The completed manuscripts are available for research work unless the interviewee has requested that they remain sealed for a specified number of years. The manuscripts are available in the Special Collections Department of the University Library at Santa Cruz and in the Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley. Both the tapes and a master index of all volumes are kept in the Regional History Project office. In most cases the manuscripts are available for other institutions and research organizations for the cost of reproduction. No part of any manuscript may be quoted for publication without the written permission of the University Librarian, University of California, Santa Cruz.

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Elizabeth Spedding Calciano
Head, Regional History Project
October, 1973

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