



This Cowell Ranch panorama was probably snapped about 1910. The Ranch had recently switched from wood to oil fuel (note new black oil tank on hill at left) for its lime burning operation. The changeover was made in 1908. Still standing are the cooperage (left fore-

ground) and the blacksmith shop (behind cooperage). Buildings at right are in use and include remodeled Carriage House and a large storage barn.

Photo From UCSC Collection

## 'Friendly' UCSC

By MARGARET KOCH  
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History is people . . . people doing things.  
Today's chores are tomorrow's history.

This turns into a bit of a paradox up at University of California at Santa Cruz where a group of "friends" is busy preserving every scrap. In so doing, they themselves will become a part of local history.

Friends of the Library were organized in 1965. It is a unique group, devoted to aiding and abetting the UCSC Library in many ways. One of the ways they help, one of particular interest to Santa Cruzans, is in the collection and preservation of County history. This project is officially known as the Regional History Project.

It was one of the earliest programs established at the University — on July 1, 1963, before the UCSC staff numbered two dozen persons.

Currently it entails the gigantic task of sorting, classifying and indexing the vast Preston Sawyer collection. There are "cartons and cartons and cartons" of it, according to one bedazzled Friends volunteer worker. More volunteers are needed for this job and for indexing old books and newspapers — all valuable historic aids. Volunte



Rarest, perhaps most valuable single object in UCSC collection is this 1855 document and map which includes the Cowell Ranch property. Inspecting it here is Carl Wensrich, head of UCSC Reader services. The rare old documents were discovered in a black metal cylinder in the Cowell office in San Francisco. They depict Rancho de la Canada del Rincon.

Another facet of the Regional History Project is the oral history section, conducted by Mrs. Calciano. This is a fairly new technique, born of the desperation of one man: the widely-known historian Allan Nevins of Columbia University. Nevins noted the death of one important man after another. He also reflected that in the turmoil of the 20th Century, few men keep diaries or write long informative letters. Their wealth of information was dying with them. And he established the first oral history research at Columbia.

From UCSC Mrs. Calciano goes out armed with a tape recorder and foreknowledge of the general subject to be covered. The results of her interviews are to be found in 10 completed manuscripts of valuable materials. They cover dairying, blacksmithing, lime production, apple growing, paper production and the redwood lumbering industry in Santa Cruz County.

The Regional History Project at UCSC also reaches out to encompass the four surrounding Counties: San Mateo, Santa Clara, San Benito and Monterey.

History is truly being made up at UCSC. And the Friends of the Library are helping make it. They invite you up to the Library to see what they are doing, today from 2 to 4 p.m.

"Friendly" UCSC wasn't always so friendly. Elizabeth Calciano displays an unfriendly sign used after the turn of the century to warn trespassers on Cowell property that they would be "prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law."



## Open House Today

Friends of the Library will hold open house today from 2 to 4 p.m. at the UCSC Library.

Conducted tours will be followed by refreshments.

A special display of local history will be on exhibit and visitors will be able to scan old newspapers, look at rare photos, hear samples of taped interviews with oldtimers and inspect books being compiled on Santa Cruz history.

In charge of open house arrangements are Craig Conway and Mr. and Mrs. Harry S. Matthews.

Photos By Vester Dick



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Wendell Simons, assistant UCSC Librarian, looks over an "Elliott" — considered the most valuable and rarest book on Santa Cruz County.

Scramble of Preston Sawyer photos is just a fraction of that avid historian's complete collection. Hard at work in sorting is Miss Thelma Hoffman who has made a specialty of working on the Sawyer material. She also serves as a member of the Friends Board and as chairman of the Paul E. Walters Memorial fund committee.