

Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission

P.O. Box 1014

Nevada City, California 95959

info@nevadacountylandmarks.com

415-264-7230

RECEIVED

MAY 17 2019

**NEVADA COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

May 17, 2019

Nevada County Board of Supervisors
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

Honorable Chair and Board Members:


At our May 17, 2019 meeting, the Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission voted unanimously to recommend to the Board that the application of the Renner family for landmark designation of a plaque commemorating the historic mining community of Birchville and the St. Columille church which served the Birchville community for 100 years, be approved and the plaque designated as Nevada County Historical Landmark NEV 19-02.

The present owners of the property on which the church was located, are the applicants. They support the historical designation of this property and have, with the assistance of Chuck Scimeca, a Commission consultant, provided a thorough level of research and documentation to accompany their application, which has been reviewed by the Commission for historical accuracy. The application and supporting documentation are enclosed.

If you approve the application, please forward the resolution and accompanying documents to the County Recorder.

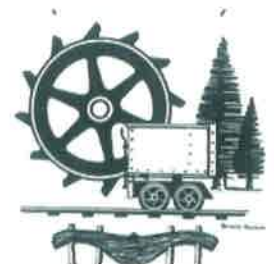
If you have any further questions do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Yours truly,



Bernard Zimmerman, Chair

cc: Lisa and Lee Renner w/o enc.
Chuck Scimeca w/o enc.



County of Nevada
State of California

Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission
Application for Registration of Historical Landmark

Name of proposed landmark Birchville

Location 1850's townsite of Birchville, Nevada County on the San Juan Ridge

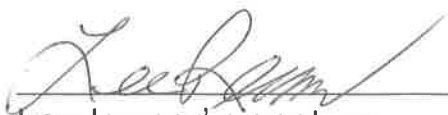
Name of applicant Lisa & Lee Renner

Address 22917 Pleasant Valley Road, North San Juan, CA 95960
elevation 1735 ft. UTM 10 S 0659997 X 4354890

Home or work phone [REDACTED] cell
phone _____

Name and address of landowner upon whose property proposed landmark
is located, if owner is not applicant _____

I authorize the placing of a plaque or marker on site.



Landowner's signature

4/9/19

Date

Brief history and description of proposed landmark

(attach additional sheets as necessary)

(SEE ATTACHED)

Unique aspects or properties of proposed landmark

Site is the original location of Saint Columcilles Catholic Church and the Bridgeport Union Guard Armory dating to 1865. The original building was moved to Malakoff State Historic Park in 1972. The building is still in very good condition at the Park and occasionally is still used for religious services and special events.

How will the landmark be protected and maintained?

The property owners live on site

Bibliography. Cite or attach available books, records, articles or other materials pertaining to the proposed landmark.

Books and articles:

(SEE ATTACHED)

Historical or civil records: (e.g., ownership, assessments etc.)

(SEE ATTACHED) County of Nevada Assessor's Parcel Report describing property location APN 030-030-015-000

Other: (e.g. photographs, prints or drawings. Please list and attach separately)

Digital photograph of the Saint Columcilles circa 1949 by Native Daughters of the Golden West, digital photograph of the church at Malakoff State Historic Park as it exists today



Applicant's signature



Date

LEE RENNER

=====

This completed form and all related documents shall be sent to the:

Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission
Attention: Chairman
P. O. Box 1014, Nevada City, Cal. 95959

An application must be considered solely on its historic or architectural merits and not for commercial gain, political benefits, or other non historical reasons.

An individual Commissioner can advise and counsel an applicant, but all applications must be considered by the full Commission, meeting in regular session.

Birchville

David Johnson, a prospector first arrived here in 1851 and the town then was known as Johnson's Diggings. That same year, the Miners and Mechanics Steam Saw Mill was built. From 1851 to 1853 the town grew rapidly and was renamed Birchville in honor of Lumon Birch Adsit a local store owner. For many years it was a major center for hydraulic mining on the San Juan Ridge.

Built in 1865 on the hill above this monument, was a building used as the San Juan and Bridgeport Union Guard Armory, under the command of Captain Francis Coffey. In 1869, the armory building was purchased by Father Dalton and became St. Columcille's Catholic Church. The church was a place of worship until 1955. In 1969, it was purchased by Bart "Babe" Pingalia, known affectionately as Mr. San Juan, who then donated the building to the State of California. It was dismantled in 1971 and moved to Malakoff State Historic Park, some 15 miles further up the ridge, where it proudly stands today as a reminder of the colorful history of the San Juan Ridge.



BIRCHVILLE

By Bernard Zimmerman

Originally called Johnson's Diggings, Birchville was established in 1851 by prospector David Johnson. That same year, the Miners' and Mechanics' Steam Sawmill was built, encouraging miners to locate in the area and a town to develop. In 1852, the first commercial building, a store and boarding house, was built. In 1853, the growing town was renamed Birchville, in honor of Lumon Birch Adsit, a local merchant.¹

Early mining relied on water from nearby creeks. In 1857, the Middle Yuba Canal reached Birchville,² though its utility was delayed because the miners went on strike until the water rates were lowered to 30 cents per miners inch of water.³ Birchville soon became a center for hydraulic mining on the San Juan Ridge. In 1865, one paper commented: "We understand that more money is being taken out at Birchville than at all other points on the Ridge."⁴ That winter, the Birchville mines reportedly yielded \$581,000 in gold.⁵ After 1870, water was also supplied by the Milton Mining and Water Company from its English Reservoir.⁶ In 1872, The Bed Rock Tunnel Company excavated a 2900 foot long bedrock tunnel shaft near Birchville, then the longest tunnel in the State, at a cost of \$36,000.⁷

Birchville reached its heyday in the 1860s. Its population reached several hundred, of whom 87 voted in 1860.⁸ It boasted hotels, saloons, several stores, a blacksmith, a shoemaker and other amenities.⁹ It was connected by stage to Marysville and North San Juan.¹⁰ The first private school was opened in 1856 by Mrs. Newell; another was opened by Miss Lyon in 1862. A public school was opened in 1863 in a repurposed miner's cabin. In 1866, the Birchville School District was created.¹¹ A one room

¹ Thompson & West, 1880 History of Nevada County (1970 ed.) p. 61.

² Bean, Edwin F., History and Directory of Nevada County (1867) pp. 341, 343.

³ Nevada Journal, Dec. 12, 1856; Nevada Democrat, Feb. 4, 1857.

⁴ Grass Valley Union, September 21, 1865.

⁵ Bean, *ibid*, p. 343.

⁶ Thompson & West, *ibid*, p. 172.

⁷ Bedrock tunnels provided drainage for the debris left by hydraulic mining. Greenland, Powell, Hydraulic Mining in California (2001) p. 69; Raymond, Rossiter W., Statistics of Mines and Mining in the States and Territories West of the Rocky Mountains (1872) p. 74.

⁸ Bean, *ibid*, p. 343.

⁹ Thompson & West, *ibid*, pp. 61-2.

¹⁰ Thompson & West, *ibid*, p. 124.

¹¹ Nevada Transcript, June 17, 1866.

schoolhouse was built in 1874, complete with a 150 volume library.¹² At one point, the school had 75 students.¹³ Birchville was connected to the world's first long distance telephone line, established in 1878, to link the mining communities around the San Juan Ridge.¹⁴

In 1865, the San Juan and Bridgeport Union Guard, under the command of Captain Francis Coffey, built its armory in Birchville, which is midway between North San Juan and Bridgeport.¹⁵ The armory fell into disuse after the Civil War. In 1869, the armory building was purchased by Father Dalton.¹⁶ It became St. Columcille's Catholic Church and continued as a place of worship until 1955. In 1969, it was purchased by Bart "Babe" Pinaglia, known affectionately as Mr. San Juan, who donated the building to the State of California. It was dismantled, and in 1971, moved to Malakoff State Historic Park, some 15 miles further up the ridge, where it proudly stands today as a reminder of the colorful history of the San Juan Ridge.¹⁷

By the late 1870's many of the local mines were played out, and miners began to move to richer mining areas. An 1880 history notes that "the leading claims have since worked out, and the village now contains a population of only half a hundred souls." ¹⁸ By 1895, Birchville was "very quiet and only a vestige of what it formerly was."¹⁹ Gradually, agriculture became the lifeblood of Birchville. Today, little remains of the historic mining town, except for some scarred land, and the area is pleasantly agricultural and residential.

¹² Thompson & West, *ibid*, p. 62.

¹³ Lardner, W.B. and Brock, M.J., *History of Placer and Nevada Counties California* (1924) p. 1150.

¹⁴ Clark, William B., *Gold Districts of California* (1970) p. 50; Kyle, D. E., Hoover, M. B., Rensch, H.E., Rensch, E.G., and Abeloe, W.N., *Historic Spots in California* (5th ed., 2002) p. 260.

¹⁵ Grass Valley Union, May 27, 1865.

¹⁶ Nevada Transcript, Aug. 17, 1869.

¹⁷ San Bernardino Sun, July 18, 1976; Nevada City Independent, April 9, 1970; California State Park publication, Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park, Living History Program (revised 3/11/17) p. 35. N.B.: Some of the relevant dates in these publications are incorrect. The dates in this article are from contemporaneous sources.

¹⁸ Thompson & West, *ibid*, p. 61.

¹⁹ Poingdestre, John E., *Nevada County Mining and Business Directory* (1895) p. 101.

1875, dau. of Lumon Birch Adsit, b. in Dutchess co., N. Y., Nov. 7, 1818, d. in Oakland, Cal., June 27, 1869, was a Cal. Pioneer); son of Charles of Cincinnati, O., b. in Canton, Mass., Dec. 9, 1799, d. in Yellow Springs, O., Mar. 28, 1869 (m. Nov. 1, 1833, Julia Roxallna Brigham, b. in Boston Feb. 14, 1814, living there 1891); son of Jabin of Stoughton, Mass., b. there Mar. 15, 1764, d. in Washington, N. H., June 13, 1848 (m. Feb. 10, 1791, Mary Tucker, b. in Stoughton Apr. 15, 1770, d. in Washington, N. H., Mar. 21, 1853); son of Nathaniel of Stoughton, Mass., b. there Sep. 29, 1740, d. there Dec. 6, 1796 (m. Apr. 22, 1763, Hannah Baker, b. in Sharon Dec. 25, 1745, d. in Stoughton Feb. 5, 1803).

FDRINGTON, EDMUND GORDON

"Evolution, True or False?" "Rational Studies in the Old Testament" (m. Sep. 10, 1890, Mary E. White of Mantua, O., a niece of E. E. White, LL. D., educator, author of mathematical text-books and compiler of an unpublished genealogy of the White family, and has one child: Lewis W. Abbott); son of George E. of Mt. Olive, O., b. Jan. 9, 1840, d. in Mt. Olive, O., Mar. 11, 1870, farmer and small fruit culturist (m. Jan. 1, 1861, Louisa J., dau. of John L. Shinkle of Hamersville, O., gr.-son of John P. Shinkle, who emigrated from Pa. to Brown co., O., near Higginsport, O., 1796); son of David of Maple, O., b. in N. J. Feb. 7, 1807, d. in Maple, O., Apr. 21, 1854, farmer and teacher, emigrated from N. J. to Ohio 1830 (m. Elizabeth Brown); son of John of Whig

From Dave Comstock

From: Bernie Zimmerman (berniezimmerman@me.com)

To: magnarc2000@yahoo.com

Cc: comstockbonanza@gmail.com

Date: Saturday, March 9, 2019, 4:35 PM PST

NEW CATHOLIC CHURCH. —The armory at Birchville, formerly occupied by the Bridgeport Union Guard, was purchased recently by Father Dalton, and will be overhauled and fixed up for a Catholic Church. The building is of good size and will make an excellent church building. The people in the vicinity have contributed \$450, and it is proposed to hard finish the house and supply it with seats. The Trustees are John Connors, Jas. O'Neil and Patrick Dooan [sic].(Aug 17, 1869 Transcript)

Bernie Zimmerman

April 8, 2019

To: Bernie Zimmerman,
Chairman of the Nevada County Landmarks Commission

Subject: Birchville, proposed historic plaque Application

I wanted to get back to you on your questions about my Birchville historic plaque research. The draft of the plaque is accurate as to what my research found. Please review my comments below.

- The original plaque was dedicated by the Native Daughters of the Golden West, November 20, 1949, as stated in my draft. The plaque disappeared most likely sometime during the dismantling and movement of the building to Malakoff State Historic Park in 1971.
- The above information is from the Native Daughters Historic Landmark Book, Book 2 page 127. Further, I have asked CA State Parks to investigate what might have happened to the plaque. In addition, in discussion with Vicki Contente of the Native Daughters, she feels there is a strong possibility that the original plaque may be located at the Ca State Archives (State Warehouse) in Sacramento along with other plaques from the Native Daughters that have been removed from the original buildings due to destruction or the building being moved to another location.
- Per my research, the San Juan (Bridgeport Union Guard) existed between the years 1863 to 1866. This information came directly from the records of the 1940 Works Progress Administration, titled History of the San Juan (Bridgeport Union Guard) California Militia. Note, The Guard was first “mustered” on June 16, 1863 under the command of First Lt. Francis Caffey and later Captain. Per further records of the California Militia, the Union Guard was discontinued on July 30, 1866. The name change from the San Juan Guard to the Bridgeport Union Guard was due to 2/3’s of the militia volunteers lived in the Bridgeport/ French Corral/ Birchville/ Sweetland area.

- Reference to **the year of construction** of the Bridgeport Union Guard Armory (St. Columcilles Catholic Church) comes from the Morning Union Volume II, Number 25, **May 27, 1865**; “The Bridgeport Union Guard are erecting a fine Armory at Birchville. It is 27 feet by 50, and will make an excellent hall when completed, The Union Guard is a fine Company and is in a prosperous condition.”
- As stated in the draft and per the reference provided by historian David Comstock, Saint Columcilles Catholic Church was moved to Malakoff State Historic Park sometime in 1971. The source is from a California Department of Parks & Recreation publication, *“Historical Buildings of North Bloomfield.”*(article attached)
- Thank you for locating the recent newspaper article dated **Aug. 17, 1869** from the Transcript identifying the year the Catholic Church purchased the Bridgeport Union Guard Armory was in August 1869 (article attached). This is more in line with the last operation of the Union Guard in Birchville.

In summary, I believe that a photograph of the church/armory should be considered and included to enhance the plaque. The addition of the photograph on the plaque, is all important, due to the fact that the building is no longer at the site location. Photographs integrated on plaques has been done on State Park and US Forest service plaques with good outcomes. This could be done here as well. The technology for the transfer to metal has improved greatly over the years, but still remains expensive. If desired, we could request the help of the State Park graphics design section in Sacramento.

Chuck Scimeca
retired Ranger South Yuba River State Park
Consultant to the Nevada County Landmarks Commission

To Vicki Contente

My name is Chuck Scimeca, I am a consultant for the Nevada County Landmarks Commission, I have been assigned to research a plaque placed by the Native Daughters on November 20, 1949, dedicating St. Columncille's Catholic Church at the historic town of Birchville near French Corral, Nevada County. The church was moved in 1973 to Malakoff Diggings State Historic Park. President Bernie Zimmerman in behalf of the Commission is considering rededicating the original location with a new plaque at the Birchfield location near French Corral.

Can you direct me to the proper person that can locate the original text that was on the plaque? The original plaque appears to have been stolen or has been miss-placed years ago?

Lee

Here is the information we discussed. In behalf of myself and Bernie Zimmerman, President of the Nevada Landmark Commission thank you for your support, as property owner, on the hopeful future placement of the historic plaque re-dedicating the St. Columncilles Catholic Church in Birchville.

The wording on this marker is:

" St. Columncilles Catholic Church

Was formerly the Bridgeport Union Guard Hall, which was used in 1860 to train men for the Civil War under Captain Frank Coffey of French Corral. In 1869 was purchased as a House of Worship for the Catholics of these ridge towns."

Marker placed
By
Columbia Parlor No. 70
Native Daughters of the Golden West
French Corral, California
Dedicated
November 20, 1949

A second listing in our Index to Original Historical Landmarks, Book 2 page 127 notes the location as "Bldg in Malakoff State Park near Birchville". To get a picture of this listing we'd have to look at Books 1, 2 and 3 at the home.

Historical Buildings in North Bloomfield

Saint Columciles Catholic Church

St. Columciles Catholic Church is not native to the town of North Bloomfield. But it was constructed in 1860 and is considered a valuable addition to the Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park. The church was originally situated 15 miles east of North Bloomfield in the town of Birchville and served as a Union Guard Hall where Civil War recruits were trained. Soon thereafter the hall was converted into the Catholic Church, as we know it today.

St. Columciles was a disciple of St. Patrick who founded a monastery on an island off the coast of Scotland. He was sent to Scotland from Ireland to Christianize the Druids. St. Columcile died and was buried on the Isle of Iona.

The church last held services in the 1950s and was abandoned shortly thereafter. The church was destined to be destroyed until Mr. Bart "Babe" Pinaglia, bought the chapel and donated it to the State of California in 1969. Mr. Pinaglia was a North San Juan businessman who died at the age of 57 and was known affectionately as "Mayor," "Santa," and "Mr. San Juan." He annually held Christmas parties for children in North San Juan. Upon purchase, the structure was beginning to show signs of aging; however the original altar, communion rail, confessional and pews were still in place and in satisfactory condition.

The church was moved to its present site in 1971. It took about two years for state employees to dismantle the old wood frame building and its steeple and rebuild it at the park. The original Catholic Church was almost identical. The original building had one more window on each side of the building and a small window located behind the altar.



Vicki Contente
Pioneer Roster and NDGW Archives Committee

Man who donated church to state dead at 57

NORTH SAN JUAN (AP) — BART "BABE" PINAGLIA, a prominent citizen of this High Sierra foothill town who gave an old church to the state, is dead at 57.

Pinaglia died Wednesday at a Reno hospital following a series of strokes that began a year ago.

In 1969 Pinaglia purchased St. Columcille's Catholic Church in the Nevada County town of Birchville and donated it to the state historic park at Malakoff Diggings about 15 miles away.

The old wood-frame building was reassembled at the park site and now serves as a museum.

**History of the San Juan Guard
(Bridgeport Union Guard), California
Militia
1863-1866**

This history was completed in 1940 by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in conjunction with the California National Guard and the California State Library.

Digitized by the History Office, Camp San Luis Obispo, 10 January 2015

✓ 486
(90)

SAN JUAN GUARD

(BRIDGEPORT UNION GUARD)

San Juan Guard, Unattached (Bridgeport Union Guard, Company F*)
Fourth Brigade.

Reference: Dead Office File, Row 4, File 1.

Location: North San Juan, Nevada County

Mustered in June 16, 1863

Mustered out July 30, 1866

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
R. A. Laughead, Captain (Resigned Nov. 24, 1863)	June 16, 1863	July 9, 1863
Francis Coffey, First Lieut.	June 16, 1863	July 9, 1863
Francis Coffey, Captain	Nov. 28, 1863	Dec. 26, 1863
T. G. Whitby, First Lieut.	Dec. 27, 1863	Jan. 19, 1864
Francis Coffey, Captain (Re-elected Nov. 1864)	_____	_____
T. G. Whitby, First Lieut. (Re-elected Nov. 1864)	_____	_____
Francis Coffey, Captain (Re-elected Nov. 28, 1865)	_____	_____
T. G. Whitby, First Lieut. (Re-elected Nov. 28, 1865)	_____	_____

Activities:

The San Juan Guard, unattached, was organized at North San Juan, Nevada County, pursuant to a petition signed by forty-one citizens residing within said County, and the petition was duly presented to the County Judge in accordance with the law. The organization meeting attended by fifty-four volunteers was held on June 16, 1863. The company was designated as the San Juan Guard, and mustered into the service of the State on the same date. Owing to clerical errors and a misunderstanding of the regulations by the company concerning the procedure in posting the required Bond, it was not until April 15, 1864, that uniforms and equipment were received. This delay and the consequent inactivity, combined with the fact that only about one-third of the members of the company were residents of North San Juan, the other two-thirds residing at French Corral and Sweetland, two nearby villages, caused considerable unpleasant-

.60c.

*Name of company changed to Bridgeport Union Guard, Company F, attached to the Fourth Infantry Battalion, Fourth Brigade, August 24, 1864.

Activities: (Continued)

ness. This state of affairs brought about a desire to change the name of the company and a petition was duly forwarded to the proper military authorities requesting that the name be changed from San Juan Guard to Bridgeport Union Guard. The petition met with the approval of Brigadier-General Howell commanding the Fourth Brigade and Colonel Hubbard, commanding the Fourth Infantry Battalion. An order was subsequently issued by the Adjutant-General under date of August 24, 1864, changing the name of the company as requested, and ordering that it be designated henceforth as Bridgeport Union Guard, Company F, Fourth Infantry Battalion, Fourth Brigade.* From this date the membership increased and on June 1, 1866, the company numbered seventy-one men.

At no time was this company especially active. Interest in the organization gradually diminished until on July 30, 1866, it was discontinued and the company mustered out of service.**

•oOo.

*Order on file Adjutant General's Office

**Adjutant General Report, 1865-1866, page 93.

Index to Original Historical Landmarks, Books I, II and III
 Dedications with Native Sons of the Golden West are indicated by "+"
 Dedications with Other Groups are indicated by "++"

<u>County</u>	<u>Plaque</u>	<u>Dedicated</u>	<u>Parlor</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Bk/Pge</u>
Nevada	Oregon Creek Covered Bridge	May 16, 1965	Columbia No. 70	Old County Rd to Alleghany off Hwy 49, Middl Fork of Yuba River	Built in 1860	2/127
Nevada	Pioneer Cemetery	Oct 18, 1967	Laurel No. 6	W Broad St., Nevada City	Established 1851. Many noted citizens buried there, including General Sutter's son	2/109
Nevada	Pioneer Rose Garden		Manzanita No. 29. +	Memorial Park, Grass Valley		2/119
Nevada	Red Maple	Oct 25, 1964	Manzanita No. 29	Gold Hill, Grass Valley	Honors Harold J. George, Director, Grass Valley Carol Choir, began 1915	2/121
Nevada	Scarlet Maple Tree	Mar 7, 1936	Manzanita No. 29	Grass Valley	Memory of Alyne McGugin, P.P. and Sec. Of Manzanita Parlor	2/121
Nevada	St. Canice Catholic Church	Oct 6, 1965	Laurel No. 6. +	317 Washington St., Nevada City	Built and first services 1864 under guidance of Father John Griffen	2/111
Nevada	St. Columella's Catholic Church	Nov 20, 1949	Columbia No. 70	Bldg in Malakoff State Park near Birchville	Church filled need for Ridge towns worship	2/127
Nevada	The Empire Mine	Mar 17, 1963	Manzanita No. 29	Colfax Hwy, 1 mi S of Grass Valley	Continuous operation 1850-1957. Originally located by Geo. D. Roberts, 1850	2/121 2/122 2/124
Nevada	The Red Castle	May 23, 1971	Laurel No. 6. +	109 Prospect St., Nevada City	Earliest surviving brick house, built 1860 by Judge J. Williams	2/113
Nevada	Wells-Fargo Building	July 5, 1926	Laurel No. 6. +	Near 130 Main St., Nevada City	Dedicated to Pioneers of California. Erected 1853	2/113
Nevada	William Watt Memorial Drinking Fountain			Memorial Park, Grass Valley		2/119
Orange	* Parlor Listing				Title Page	2/131
Orange	Clinton School Marker	1956	Santa Ana No. 235	1820 N Clinton St., Santa Ana	Named for Henry Clinton, early Pioneer	2/133
Orange	Don Gaspar Portola - Camping Place	June 2, 1932	Grace No. 242	Entrance to Brea Canyon	North bound journey - first expedition from San Diego to Monterey	2/134
Orange	Greenville Country Church	1953	Santa Ana No. 235	3501 Greenville St., Santa Ana	Oldest Protestant Church in use. (1953) Built 1878	2/135

Historical Buildings in North Bloomfield

Saint Columcilles Catholic Church

St. Columcilles Catholic Church is not native to the town of North Bloomfield. But it was constructed in 1860 and is considered a valuable addition to the Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park. The church was originally situated 1.5 miles east of North Bloomfield in the town of Birchville and served as a Union Guard Hall where Civil War recruits were trained. Soon thereafter the hall was converted into the Catholic Church, as we know it today.

St. Columcilles was a disciple of St. Patrick who founded a monastery on an island off the coast of Scotland. He was sent to Scotland from Ireland to Christianize the Druids. St. Columcille died and was buried on the Isle of Iona.

The church last held services in the 1950s and was abandoned shortly thereafter. The church was destined to be destroyed until Mr. Bart "Babe" Pinaglia, bought the chapel and donated it to the State of California in 1969. Mr. Pinaglia was a North San Juan businessman who died at the age of 57 and was known affectionately as "Mayor," "Santa," and "Mr. San Juan." He annually held Christmas parties for children in North San Juan. Upon purchase, the structure was beginning to show signs of aging; however the original altar, communion rail, confessional and pews were still in place and in satisfactory condition.

The church was moved to its present site in 1971. It took about two years for state employees to dismantle the old wood frame building and its steeple and rebuild it at the park. The original Catholic Church was almost identical. The original building had one more window on each side of the building and a small window located behind the altar.



Saint Columcilles/Bridgeport Union Guard (plaque in photo Native Daughters of the Golden West, circa 1949)



By Barry Swackhamer, June 3, 2011

**Present location Malakoff State
Historic Park 2. St. Columncille's Church**

The marker is located to the left of the entrance door

General Information

[Open Map](#)

APN:

030-030-015-000

Value Change Notice

Situs Address:

22917 PLEASANT VALLEY RD
NORTH SAN JUAN CA 95960-9500

Mailing Address:

22917 PLEASANT VALLEY RD
NORTH SAN JUAN CA 95960

Legal Description:

LOT 7 BIRCHVILLE

Use Type:

RESID. SINGLE FAMILY

Tax Rate Area:

079-006

Assessment

Year Assd:

2018

Land:

\$54,100

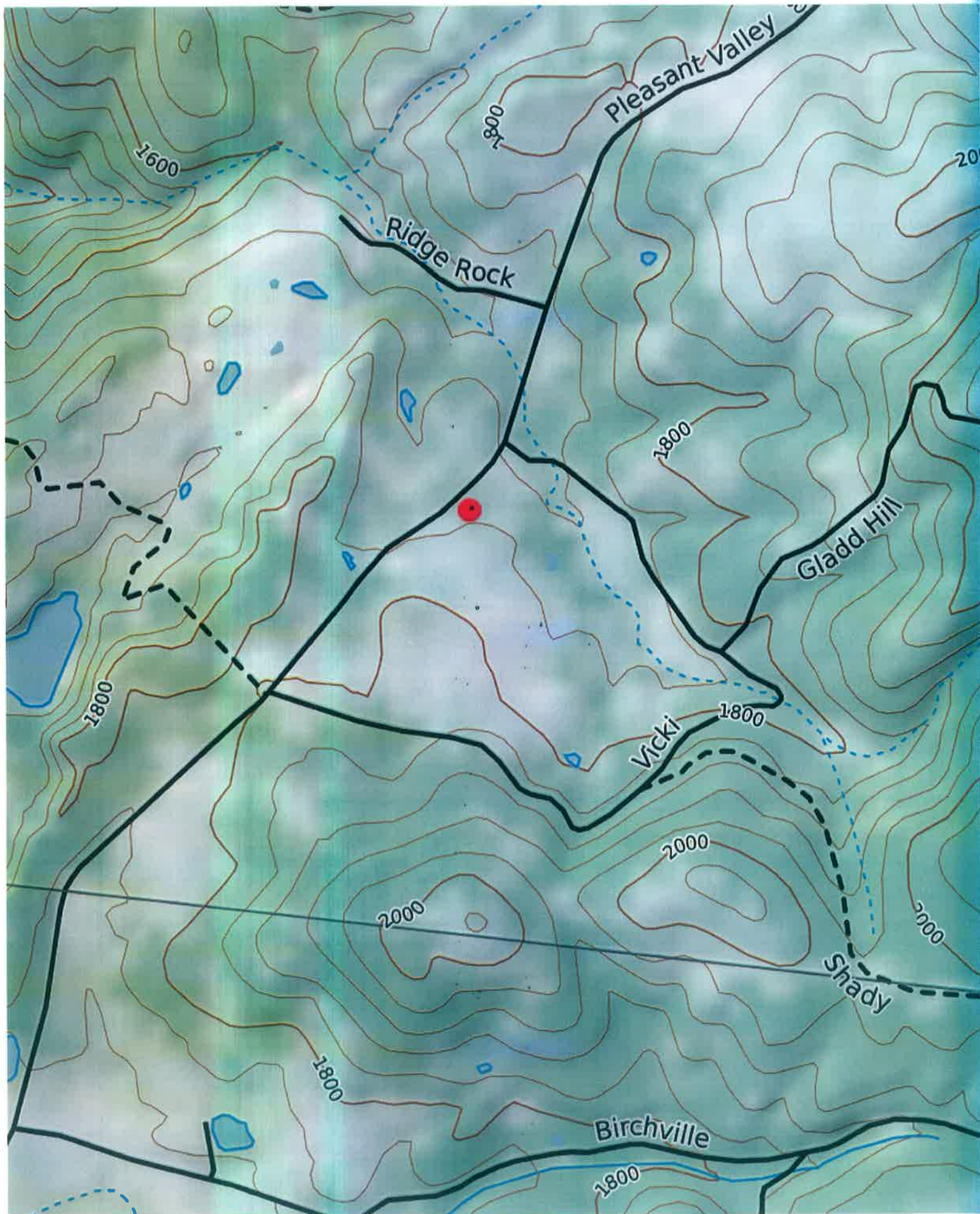
Structure(s):

\$270,504

Other:

\$324,604





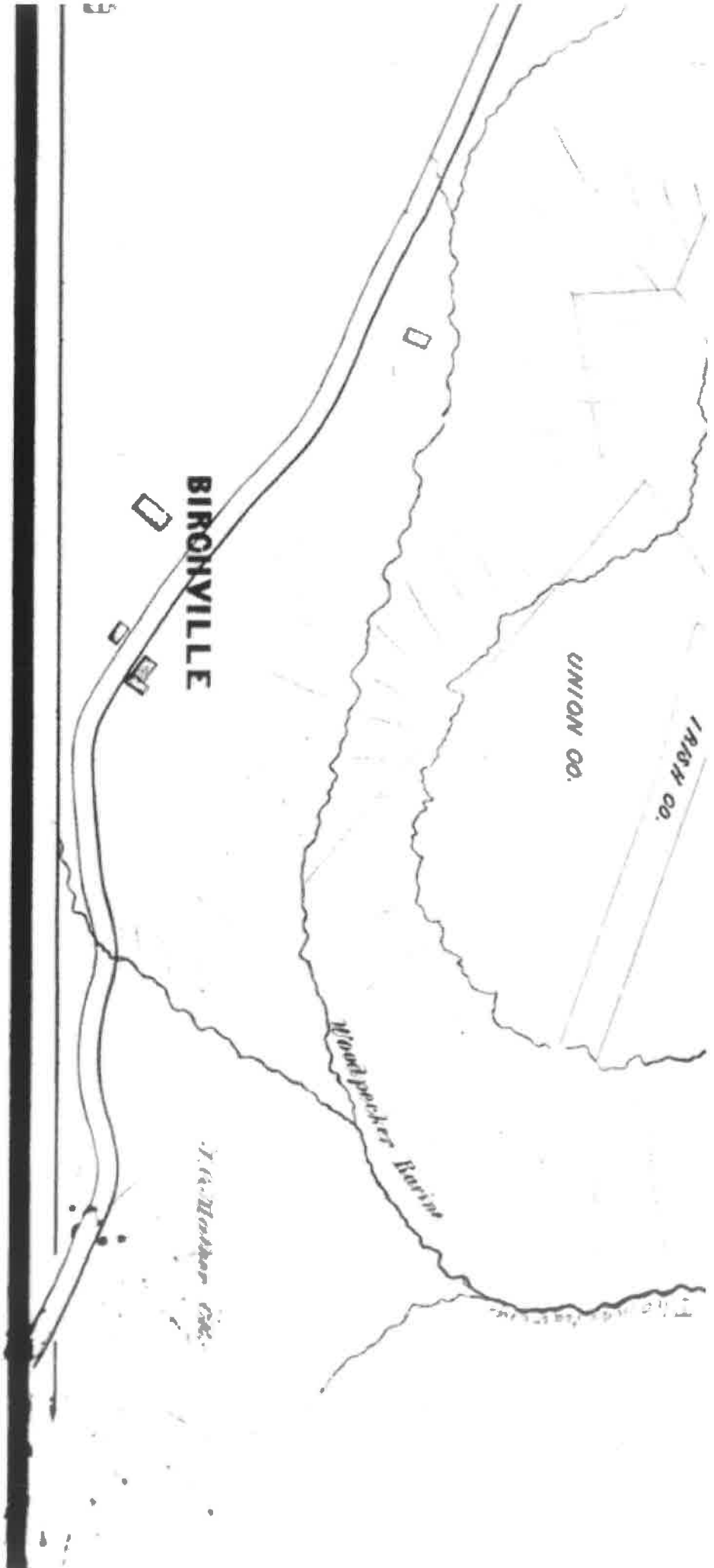


Birchville (Townsite)

Ridge Rock Drive

Vicki Drive



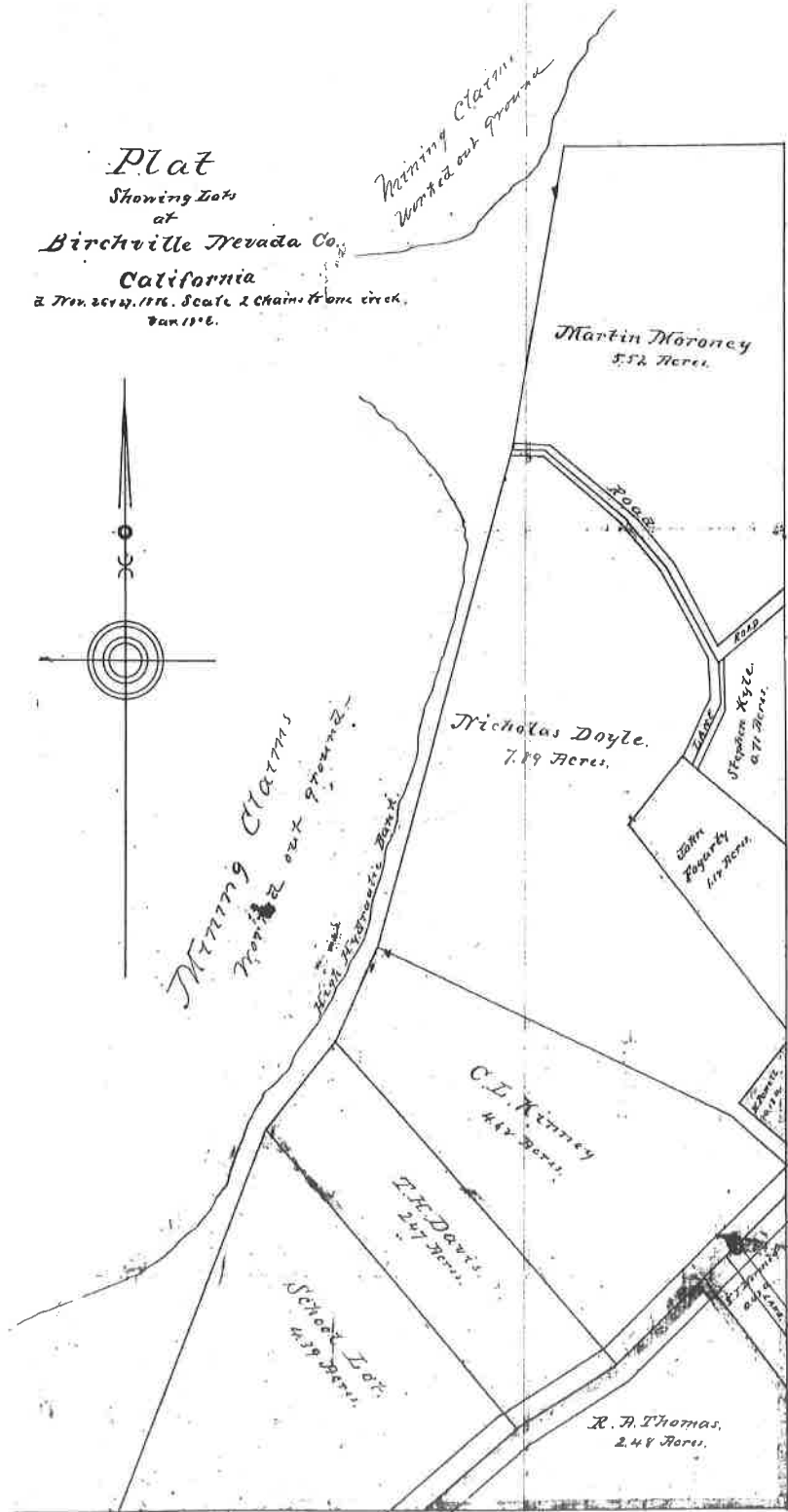
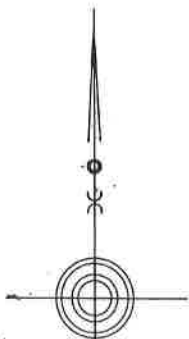


8

BIRCHVILLE T-48
1898

T-48

Plat
Showing Lots
at
Birchville Nevada Co.
California
a Trm. 2614, 176. Scale 2 Chains from circ.
Jan 1876.



1777, 1874
1777, 1874

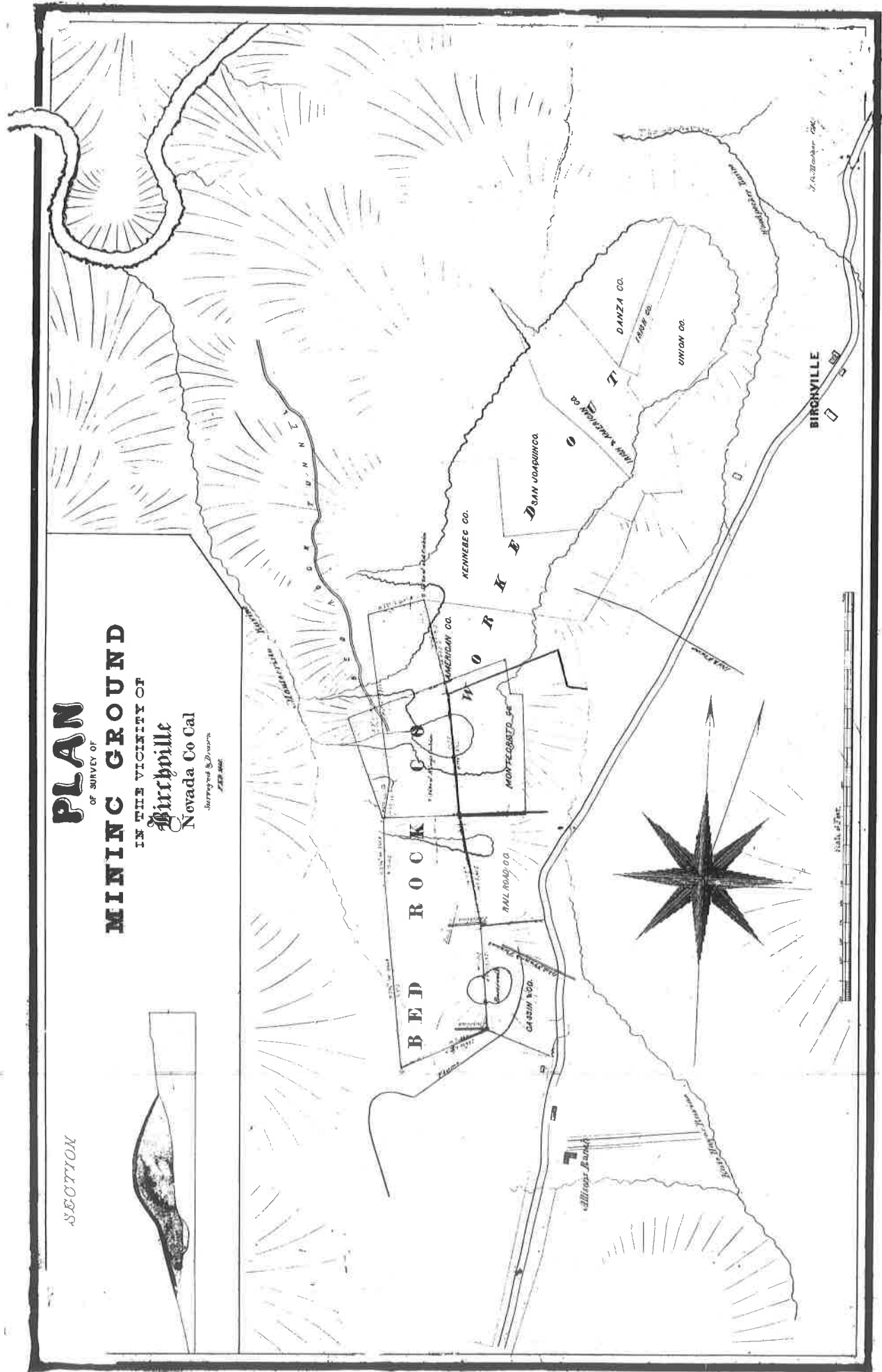
1/4 Sec. Corner Section 23.

Section 24.
Filed Apr. 5th 1878, at 11
O'clock, A. M. at request
of R. C. Stearns.
John S. King, Recorder,
City of San Francisco, Cal.

PLAN
 OF SURVEY OF
MINING GROUND
 IN THE VICINITY OF
Birchville
 Nevada Co Cal

Surveyed & Drawn
 1888

SECTION




Assessment of landmark application for Birchville.

1. Is permission of the property owner included? Yes
2. Is permission granted for the placing of a marker or plaque? Yes
3. Is reasonable protection and maintenance for the landmark addressed? Yes
4. Is the description of the landmark clear and precise? Yes
5. Is the history of landmark comprehensive and complete? Yes
6. Are there records to support the statements regarding the landmark? Yes
7. Does the landmark have unusual properties? Yes
8. Is the bibliography sufficiently complete to enable verification of the statements made in the application? Yes
9. Are supplemental materials included, such as photographs, prints, maps or drawings? Yes


Commission member (Evaluator)


Date


Commission member (Evaluator)


Date