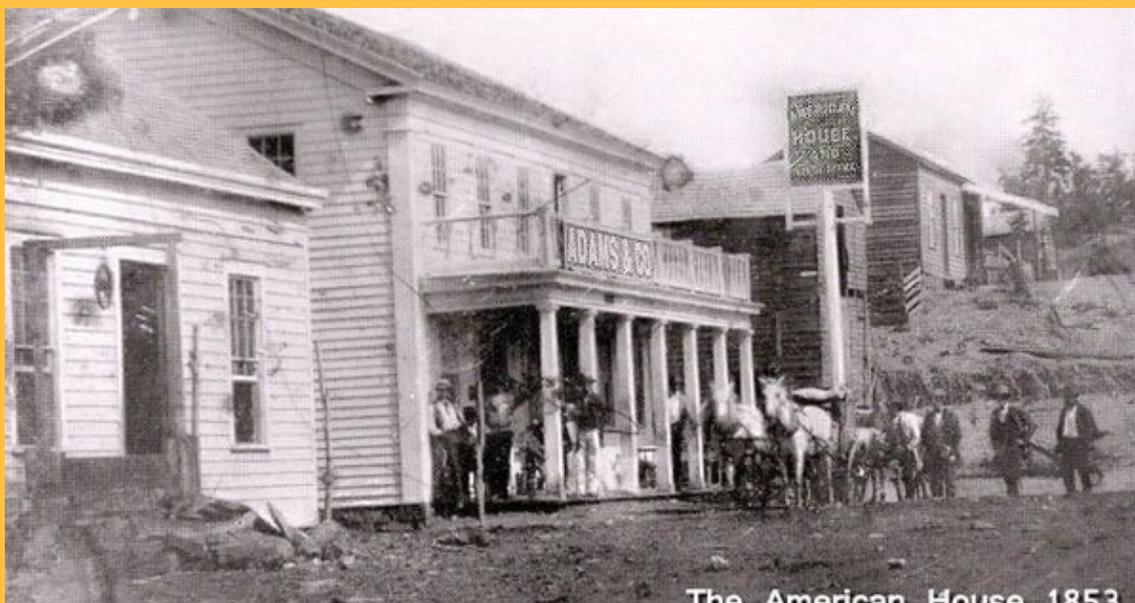


Sutter Creek Community Benefit Foundation

October Newsletter, 2022

A Reflection Back

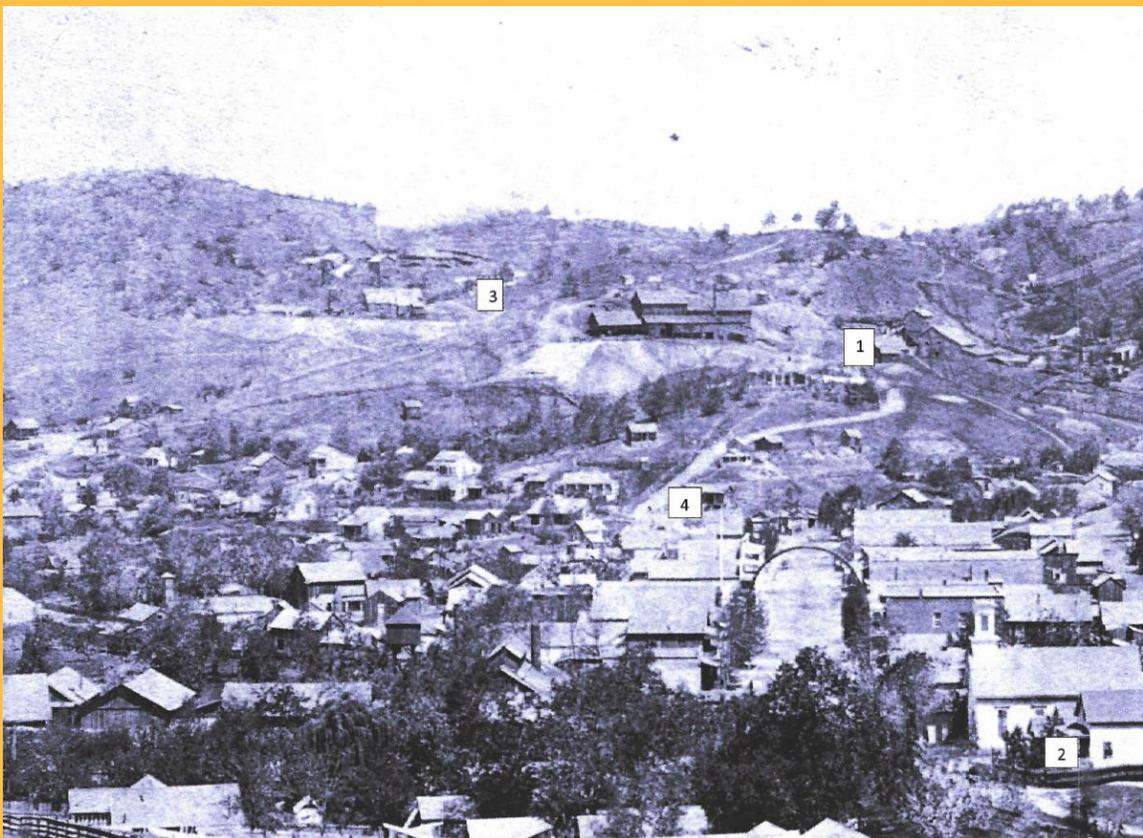
In order to fully appreciate how lucky we are to live in the Sutter Creek community, it helps to be able to reflect back onto how the area looked in its early days. Here are some historic photos with descriptions you can use to superimpose them in your imagination as you enjoy the current cityscape.



This is the earliest photo we have of what is now Main Street, before Sutter Creek was incorporated as a city. The background of the 1853 photo shows what we now refer to as Humbug Hill, the slight rise in the middle of Main Street. The American House hotel was located just north of the current Hotel Sutter and was destroyed by fire in the early 1860's.



For reference, a current picture (above) shows what remains of a once much larger humbug hill.



This next photo (above), taken in 1875, overlooks the City from the Central Eureka mine site. Four major features are tagged for identification.

- Tag #1 is the Mahoney Mining operation, located near the end of current Mill St.
- Tag #2 is the Creekside United Methodist Church, located at Church and Main Sts.
- Tag #3 is the Union/Lincoln mining operation, Sutter Creek's first quartz mine. The mine was the site of one of the largest mining disasters of the Mother Lode when, in 1875, nine miners were killed in a tragic accident. The following account of the accident was printed in a local paper:

Sutter Creek Independent

The accident was evidently owing to a faulty survey, which failed to indicate the proximity of the old works. It is said that some of the victims had presentiments of the danger, and bid their families good-bye on leaving home the morning of the accident. The feelings of the parties inclosed in the drift must have been terrible.

It was expected that all were dead, but the drift being ascending, the chamber of air prevented the water from filling it. Those who attempted to swim out through the submerged end of the level were lost. Can imagination conceive a more terrible situation?

The three mines were first claimed in 1851-52 and operated until 1912, having produced over \$5,000,000 in gold.

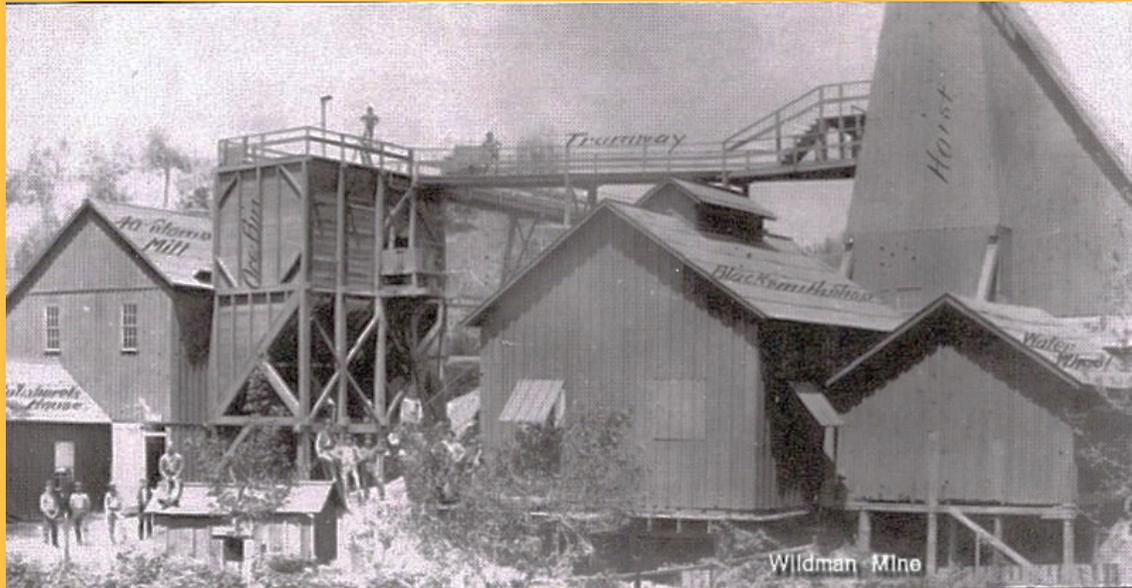
Included for perspective:

- Tag #4 shows the location of Tucker Hill Rd.

Although now we may complain about traffic noises, and such, the sounds and distractions of our current active community shrink in comparison to the almost 24/7 hr/day noise and dust created by the three mines' 100 stamp mills used to crush the hard-rock ore.

The two pictures below show the Wildman Mine in operation and as the site appears today. The mine was located in the general area of the current post office. Both pictures show the Wildman Mine powder house located at the foot of Tucker Hill, in the current post office parking

lot.



The Summit Hotel, pictured below, was located in the general area of Summit Center and the intersection of Highway 49 and Ridge Road, at “Sutter Hill”. The hotel was the site of important negotiations in 1854-57 regarding the split of Amador County from Calaveras and El Dorado County and the subsequent controversy over selecting a county seat for the new Amador County.



The purpose of looking back at our local history is not to compare the historic lifestyle and circumstances with those of today, but rather to celebrate the hard work and industry of the original people which lived the history we all enjoy revisiting and work to preserve. Thank you for your support and interest, follow our progress and events on our website SCCBF.org.

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distribution list.**

The Historic Sutter Creek Grammar School is rich in Gold Rush history. This beautiful building is California's second oldest two-story brick schoolhouse. The Sutter Creek Community Benefit Foundation has restored the first and second floor making it a wonderful rental for any occasion. There are four rooms within the Historic Grammar School that can be rented.



Contact the City of Sutter Creek for information on rates and availability - (209) 267-5647 ext. 230 or email info@cityofsuttercreek.org

Whether it's a love of our heritage, a special connection to our town's diverse, deeply rooted cultures, or a desire to improve your community, every donor's passion for Sutter Creek is unique. A donation to Sutter Creek Community Benefit Foundation is the perfect way to fund your passion and watch it prosper. By connecting people who care with causes that matter, we help ensure a stronger, healthier tomorrow. We provide a

simple, powerful and highly personal approach to giving.

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