

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS

**SHASTA STATE
HISTORIC PARK**

TEACHER'S GUIDE



2004

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Comments and suggestions about
this guide are welcome.

Please contact park staff at
(530) 243-8194

or

P.O. Box 2430
Shasta, CA 96087

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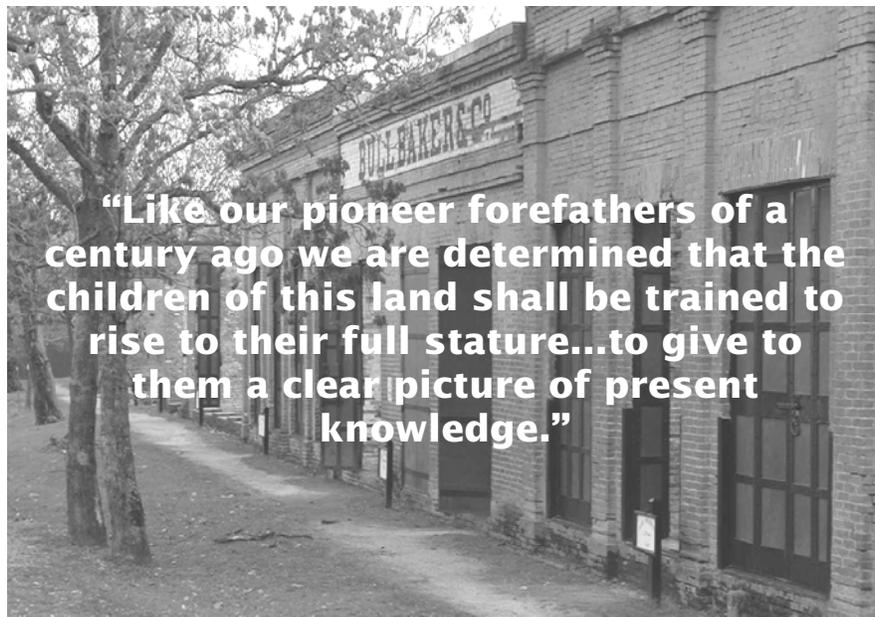
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ABOUT YOUR VISIT

As a general policy of California State Parks, admission fees are waived for school groups. In order to waive the fee at Shasta State Historic Park we require you to complete a School Group Reservation Request (DPR 124). We will need a copy of this form, signed by your school principal, before your field trip date is considered "reserved."

Shasta State Historic Park is available Thursdays and Fridays, year round for educational field trips. A typical field trip will take approximately 3 hours. Many teachers add ½ hour for lunchtime in the park.

Field trips are essentially self guided. Park staff is available to answer questions and highlight special resources of the park.

Since park staff is usually minimal, participation of well-informed teachers and adult supervisors is essential.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please direct questions about school tours
and all related correspondence to:

Shasta State Historic Park
School Group Tours
P.O. Box 2430
Shasta, CA 96087

Wednesday through Sunday: (530) 243-8194
Fax Number: (530) 243-4493



We are currently working to make the entire park accessible for visitors with disabilities.

To request a sign language interpreter, auxiliary aids, or services for people with disabilities please contact the museum at 243-8194 prior to coming to the park.

PREPARING FOR YOUR TRIP

This guide has been produced to enhance your visit. Outlining the resources of the park, we have developed activities for you to use while you are visiting. We encourage you to use the activities in this guide in whatever way works best for your class.

Please review the Park Rules with your class before your visit:

PARK RULES

Visitor Safety is our highest priority at the park.

While touring the park:

Stay with your group.

Watch your footing – outside trails may be uneven.

Cross Highway 299 at crosswalks only and always as a group.

Leave historic objects where you find them.

Clean up your trash.

Report emergencies and unsafe situations to park staff.

Stay behind barriers and do not climb on equipment, building ruins or museum displays

Be respectful of other visitors.

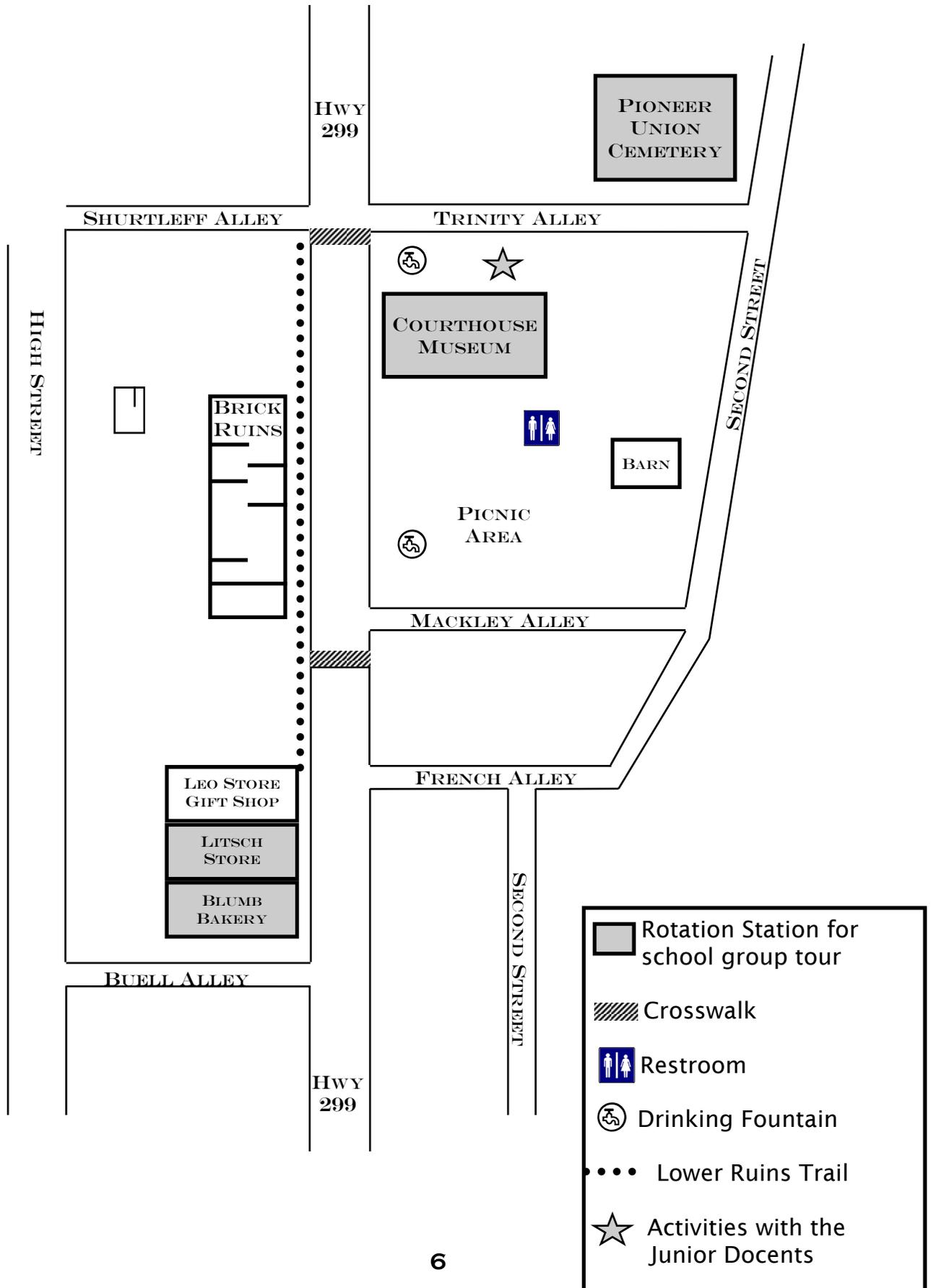
Leave food and drinks outside of museums.

Only use pencil inside the museums.

WHAT TO BRING

- ✓ Bring this **Teacher's Guide** and a copy for all group leaders
- ✓ **Pencils** are the only writing implements allowed in the museums.
- ✓ Bring **clipboards** or something to write on. Some clipboards are available upon request at the Courthouse Museum.
- ✓ **Dress accordingly**, we will not cancel a trip due to inclement weather.

SHASTA STATE HISTORIC PARK



STATION DESCRIPTIONS

THE COURTHOUSE MUSEUM



Originally built in 1853 to house a block of three businesses, this building became the second courthouse after the first was destroyed by fire. This courthouse was the county seat of Shasta for thirty years, but in 1888, the county offices were moved to Redding. The building gradually fell into disrepair. In 1922, the Native Sons of the Golden West purchased the courthouse as a piece of pioneer history to preserve. However, in 1937, they gave the courthouse and jail to the State Parks Commission to be the initial unit of the Shasta State Historical Monument. In 1950, Shasta State Historic Park opened with the courthouse restored and renovated to house a museum.

THE LOWER RUINS TRAIL



Shasta was a “metropolis” from 1850-1880 until the railroad forged its way to Redding six miles to the east. The brick ruins are a remnant of the gold rush shopping district. Fires destroyed wooden structures in Shasta throughout the early years forcing business owners to rebuild in brick and to install fire resistant iron doors. The structures fell into disrepair when many of the residents of Shasta moved to Redding in the 1880’s. Some owners abandoned their businesses completely to move to the new railhead, while others thriftily dismantled the buildings they owned in Shasta and used the bricks to build new structures in Redding. Time took its toll on the deserted buildings. Much of the land that contained the structures and the historic park were purchased by Mae Helene Bacon Boggs and deeded to the state to become Shasta State Historic Park.

The Shasta Historical Monument at the beginning of the trail identifies the historic town as a National Historical Landmark –

one of the highest designations for historical places. The Italian Cypress tree was planted next to the monument during the 1950 dedication of the park.

PIONEER UNION CEMETERY



Dozens of Shasta County pioneers who died in the 1800s and early 1900s are buried here in the historic Protestant cemetery, the first established cemetery in the county. The cemetery is surrounded by, but not part of Shasta State Historic Park. Buried in the cemetery are Shasta notables such as baker Charles Boell, Phoebe Coleburn - an astute African American business woman, and Samuel Dosh, the founder of the local Shasta newspaper. While the last burial took place in the 1950s, the cemetery still serves an important role in teaching the guests who visit its silent graves the story of Shasta’s pioneers.

THE LITSCH GENERAL STORE AND BLUMB BAKERY



Shasta served as the hub for commercial business in the 1800s. The Litsch General store was in operation for over 100 years. During this time, the store served as a general store, Wells Fargo transfer point, post office, gas station, and pioneer museum. Today the store has been restored to its 1880s appearance and serves as a reminder of where the term *one-stop-shopping* originates.

The Blumb Bakery was one of the last viable businesses from Shasta’s pioneer period. Henry Blumb operated his bakery up until 1918 when he suffered a stroke and was unable to continue the business. Although the original building was dismantled in 1934, what you see today is a faithful restoration, complete with a working brick oven representative of the 1870s.

ROTATION SCHEDULE

TIME	GROUP 1	GROUP 2	GROUP 3
9:15-9:30	<i>Orientation and walk to first station</i>		
9:30-10:10	Courthouse Museum	Litsch Store and Bakery	Cemetery Lower Ruins Trail
10:10-10:20	<i>Walk to next Station</i>		
10:20-11:00	Cemetery Lower Ruins Trail	Courthouse Museum	Litsch Store and Bakery
11:00-11:10	<i>Walk to Next Station</i>		
11:10-11:50	Litsch Store and Bakery	Cemetery Lower Ruins Trail	Courthouse Museum
11:50-	<i>Lunch</i>		

ROTATION REMINDERS:

Please keep track of your time; group leaders are responsible for getting their students to the next station on time.

Each station is 40 minutes; you have 10 minutes of walking time between stations.

At the Cemetery and Lower Ruins Trail Station, spend approximately 30 minutes in the cemetery then spend the remaining time walking the Lower Ruins Trail, arriving at the next station in time for the rotation.

If you arrive early at your next station, please wait outside until the first group exits.

JUNIOR DOCENT ACTIVITY DAY ROTATION SCHEDULE

TIME	GROUP 1	GROUP 2	GROUP 3	GROUP 4
9:15-9:30	<i>Orientation and walk to first station</i>			
9:30-10:00	Courthouse Museum	Cemetery and Lower Ruins Trail	Litsch Store and Bakery	Activities with Junior Docents
10:00-10:05	<i>Walk to next Station</i>			
10:05-10:35	Activities with Junior Docents	Litsch Store and Bakery	Courthouse Museum	Cemetery and Lower Ruins Trail
10:35-10:40	<i>Walk to Next Station</i>			
10:40-11:10	Cemetery and Lower Ruins Trail	Courthouse Museum	Activities with Junior Docents	Litsch Store and Bakery
11:10-11:15	<i>Walk to Next Station</i>			
11:15-11:45	Litsch Store and Bakery	Activities with Junior Docents	Cemetery and Lower Ruins Trail	Courthouse Museum
11:45-	<i>Lunch</i>			

ROTATION REMINDERS:

Please keep track of your time; group leaders are responsible for getting their students to the next station on time.

Each stop is 30 minutes; you have 5 minutes of walking time between stations.

Junior Docents will guide your group through the Cemetery for approximately 20 minutes. After the Cemetery tour, start the walk down the Lower Ruins Trail to the Litsch Store.

COURTHOUSE MUSEUM



CHANGE IN THE SPIRIT OF THE LAND

STOP 1: Native Americans were California's first people. Those who lived in the area of Shasta were called Wintu. They believed they were a part of the land and lived in balance with nature. The Wintu collected seeds and acorns and hunted deer and rabbits and caught salmon and grasshoppers for food. They skillfully used what nature offered.

Examples of how they lived and their artistry are on display in this exhibit:

Look at these beautifully designed baskets. What were they used for?

Food gathering, storage, gift giving

Notice the rocks called mortars and pestles. What were they used for?

Grinding acorns and seeds for food preparation

Do you see a picture of a bark building? What was it for?

Shelter, living inside



WHY THE WORLD RUSHED TO SHASTA

STOP 2: The man's picture you see on the wall is Pierson B. Reading. He was the first white settler in this area. He came here looking for land and found GOLD! Many miners followed him into this area. They found large amounts of the precious yellow metal. Though the gold was plentiful, there wasn't much to spend it on.



In 1850 an ounce of gold was worth about 12 dollars.

What do you think a miner could buy with an ounce of gold in 1850? Open the top drawer of the display to see the answer!

Two pounds of flour and a handful of nails

In the year 2000 an ounce of gold was worth 300 dollars. Open the lower drawer to see what 300 dollars could purchase in the year 2000.

Miners in the 1850's might have decided to spend their gold to stay in one of the seven hotels located in Shasta. Look at the display showing the Empire Hotel.

What do the objects like the chamber pot and the handgun say about staying in a hotel in 1850?

No running water or bathrooms inside the hotel. The gun can be interpreted in many different ways—protection, criminal activity.

BIG TIMES IN THE QUEEN CITY

STOP 3: Shasta was known as the “Queen City of the North” because of its large population and long row of brick buildings housing many different stores. People came from all over the county to do their shopping in Shasta. There are many differences between Shasta City then and large cities now.

Looking in these displays, what are some differences you see?
Cash box instead of cash register, small clothing, medicine bottles (almost everything is different!)



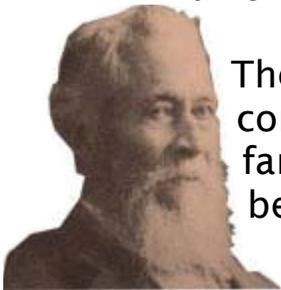
People also came to Shasta for their entertainment.

Read the plaque about “Good Times in Shasta”. What types of entertainment did 1850’s Shasta residents enjoy that we still have today?

Baseball, dancing, seeing a play, reading a book, bowling, billiards (pool), horse racing

HALLWAY—FACES IN THE CROWD

STOP 4: The pictures on the walls in this area show the many different people who called Shasta home. The pioneers who came here were a diverse group of people.



There are some unusual objects on display in this area. People coming to Shasta from different places brought objects familiar to them, but some look different from what you might be used to using.

Who can find a Chinese pillow?

Small bamboo table-like object in the case with the Chinese objects (number 11)

Where is the early calculator?

An abacus is on display next to the case of Chinese objects

Does anyone see the reward Wells Fargo gave for catching a stage coach robber?

The rifle

FIRST ART GALLERY ROOM—ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

STOP 5: Looking around, you can see common kinds of arts and entertainment for settlers in Shasta. In this room there are two very early types of stereo systems, a slot machine, examples of toys, paintings and books. If you suddenly found yourself in the 1850's, which object would you most likely go to for entertainment?

Do any of the historical objects in this room use electricity?

No

Look around the room and stand by the object you'd pick for your entertainment.



SECOND ART GALLERY ROOM

STOP 6: Looking around the walls of this room you see many different types of paintings.

Go and stand by a painting with a mountain, or a tree, or lots of sky showing. There are many different paintings to choose from!

The style of painting you are standing by is called a landscape. A painting with an outdoor theme, usually without people, can be classified as a landscape.



Now find a painting that has just one person in it. *This type of painting is called a portrait. It is a detailed painting which captures how one person looks.*

Finally, find a painting with a vase of flowers or some other non-living subject.

Paintings where the artist has arranged a group of "still" objects as the subject is called a still-life.

Now go back into the Arts and Entertainment room.

Can you find examples of landscapes, portraits and still-lives?

HALLWAY—TRANSPORTATION MURAL

STOP 7: As you are beginning to see, life in the 1850's was quite different from today. Another big difference was how people traveled. Today you can travel by car, plane, skateboard or rollerblades. People didn't have those choices in the 19th century.

Using the Transportation Mural as your guide, point out different

ways people traveled in the 1800's.

Horses, boats, stagecoaches, wagons, steam trains, walking

Today the trip between Weaverville and Redding takes about an hour by car. Use the 1882 stagecoach schedule to figure out how long the same trip took in 1882.

Seven hours by stagecoach in 1882



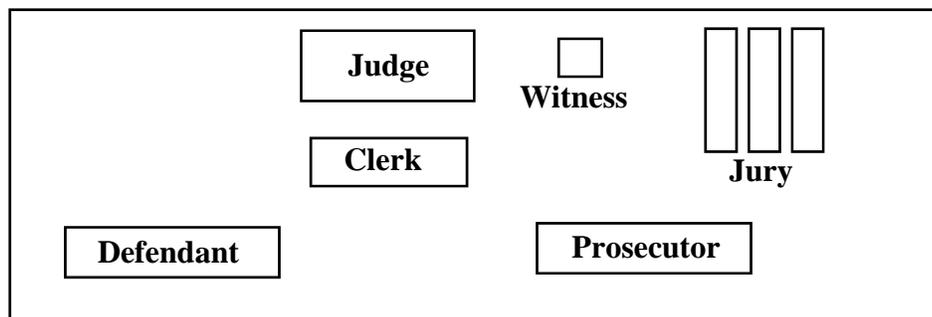
COURTROOM

STOP 8: This courtroom has been restored to look as it did 150 years ago, when it was busy with trials, weddings and hearings. Many of the things used in this display are originals—meaning they were actually used in this room back when this was the Shasta County courthouse.

Can you point out which of the objects you think are originals?

Roll top desk, pitchers and drinking glasses, flag, spittoons, judge's desk lamps, clerk's desk, prosecution and defense tables, wood stove, large tax ledger books on tables, and the law books on the bookshelves.

A courtroom has "assigned seating" during a trial. Where would each of these people sit: Judge, Jury, Defendant, Witness, County Clerk, Prosecutor?



JAIL

STOP 9: After carefully walking down the 13 unlucky steps, explore the jail! Use the back door to access the stairs in the rear of the building which take you to the next stop.

GALLOWS

STOP 10: This gallows was the last stop for Shasta's worst criminals. The worst punishment issued by the court was to be "hanged by the neck until dead". Three men were sentenced to hang at this courthouse. All were convicted

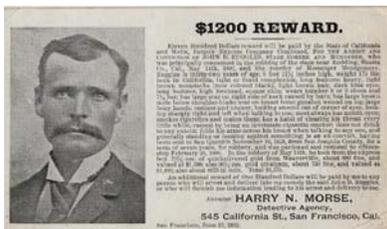


murderers, and they received the ultimate punishment for their crimes. The gallows were rebuilt on this site for each hanging and then dismantled, as residents felt the gallows were gruesome looking when not needed.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

STOP 11: This was the sheriff's office. One of the most famous stories concerning Shasta area criminals is on display in this room. Everyone can have a seat on the floor in front of the safe and I'll tell you this story:

The Ruggles Brothers Stage Robbery



Over one-hundred and ten years ago, a famous stagecoach robbery took place approximately two miles from this location. This story involves two brothers (*point out the picture of the brothers hanging from the*

***ropes*), John and Charles Ruggles, who robbed stagecoaches. Stagecoaches carried strongboxes full of gold and money. When the Ruggles brothers robbed a stagecoach, they used the ax in this display case to break into the strongbox to steal the loot.**

During their last robbery, the Ruggles used the handgun in the display case to murder Buck Montgomery, the Wells Fargo messenger, who was aboard the stagecoach protecting the strongbox. Charles Ruggles was wounded in the gun fight, and was captured the morning after the robbery. His brother managed to escape with the loot and travel down to Woodland. But six weeks later, John Ruggles was captured and put in jail with his brother.

Buck Montgomery, the man killed during the robbery, was very well liked in the town of Shasta. The townspeople were very upset with his murder. Many people felt the trial was taking too long. An angry mob formed and a group of men stormed into the jail. The mob blew up the jail's safe (*now located in front of the display*), then pried open the back to get the key to the Ruggles brothers' cell. The brothers were

SHASTA
PIONEER UNION
CEMETERY



1. At the entrance to the Cemetery, brainstorm with the students:

What general information is found on a tombstone?

Dates—birth and death

Cause of death

Nationality

Occupation

Relationship to the living

Last Words

Art work

2. Divide the group, sending them to explore different parts of the cemetery. Have the students examine several different gravesites gathering specific information about the Shasta pioneers buried here.

3. Meet back at the entrance. Share information by answering these questions:

What is the date of the oldest grave you found?

(The oldest grave in the whole cemetery is Singleton Keeling's, 1852. Student answers will vary.)

What is the date of the most recent grave you found?

(The most recent grave in the whole cemetery is Bessie Prehn's, 1957. Student answers will vary.)

What different causes of death did you discover?

(Attacked by Indians, illness, childbirth, old age)

Where were the people who are buried here originally from, what nationalities did you find here?

(Germany, Ireland, Britain, Italy, France, Bavaria)

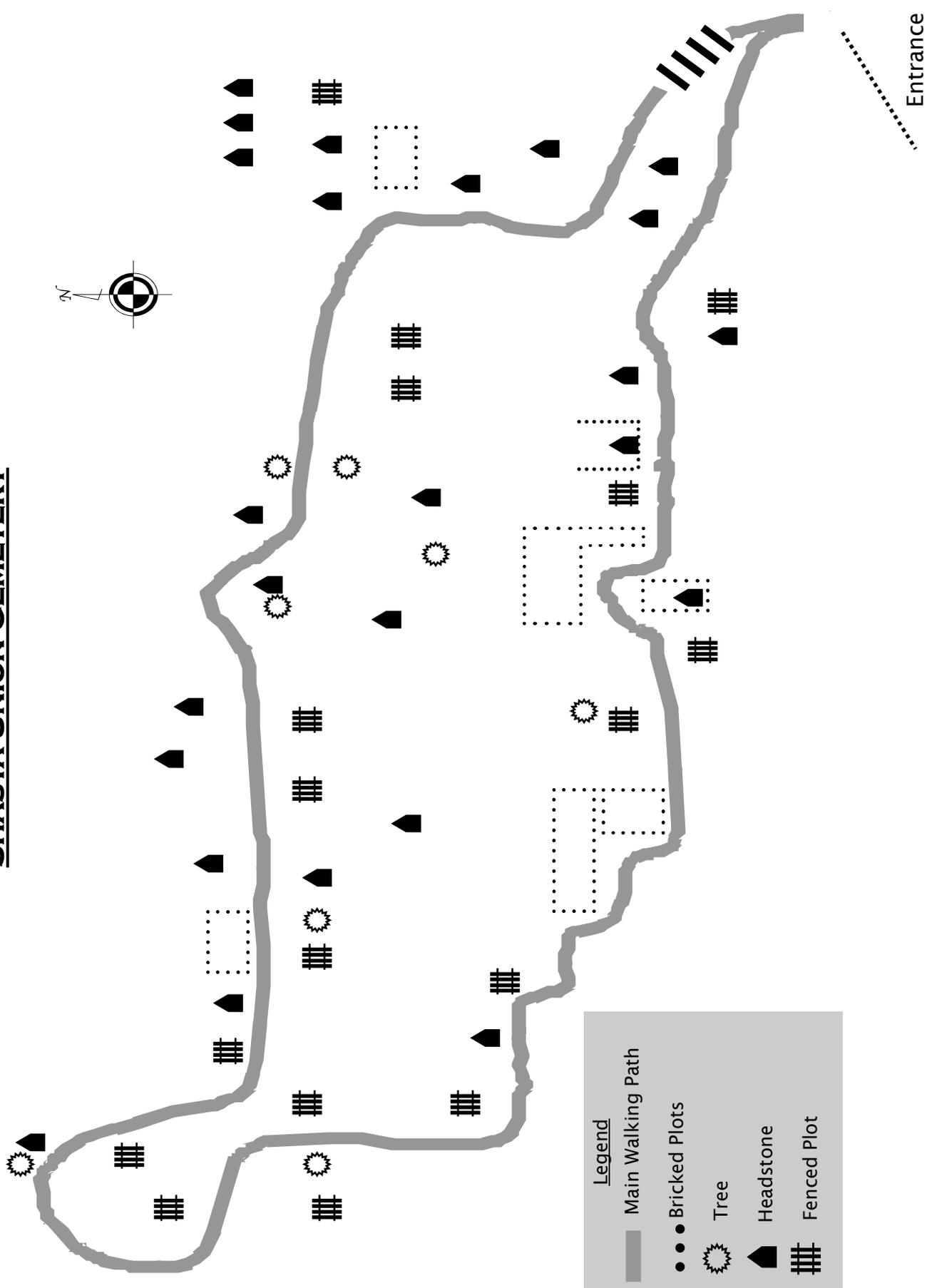
What relationships are shown on the headstones?

(Mother, wife, husband, father, sister, brother, child, friend)

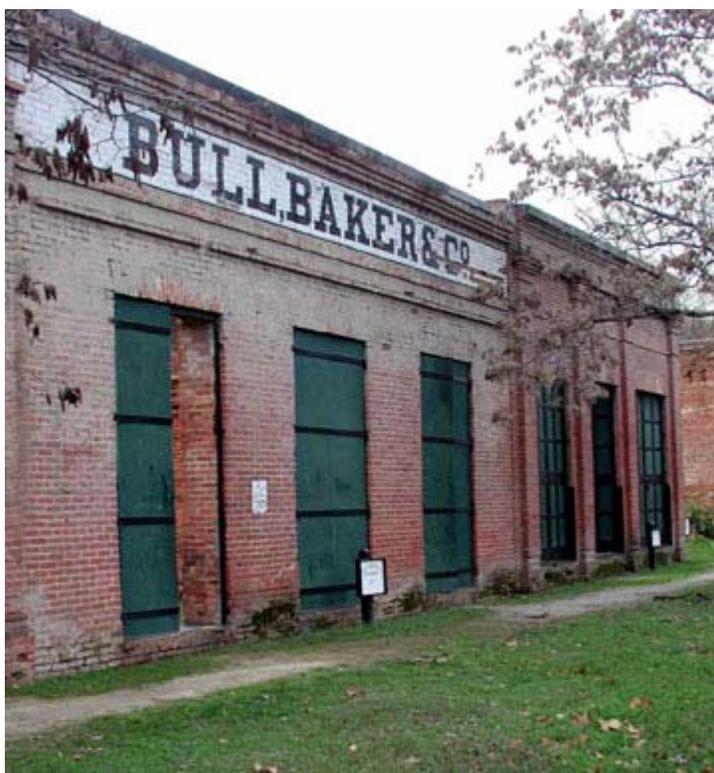
What sort of artwork is carved on the headstones?

(flowers, vines, angels, urns, trees, hands)

SHASTA UNION CEMETERY



LOWER RUINS TRAIL



LET'S SHOP!

THE LOWER RUINS  **TRAIL PROVIDES A GLIMPSE OF SHASTA'S COMMERCE AND SHOPPING IN THE 1850'S AND 1860'S.**

Begin across the street from the museum at the corner of Shurtleff Alley moving east with:



CHARTER OAK HOTEL

It stood three stories tall. The bricks were painted yellow---why?

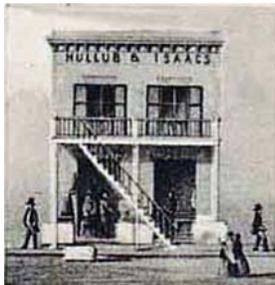
(In a town with seven hotels, the unusual yellow bricks attracted attention and customers.)



CALLAGHAN BLOCK

At one time, this block housed a drugstore, bookstore, express company and a saloon, later a toy and candy shop was added. What do we call a number of different shops under one roof today?

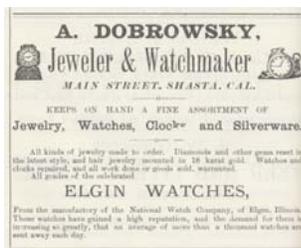
(A mall)



HOLLUB AND ISAACS

This was a dry goods store. What do you think dry goods are?

(Dry goods stores of Shasta advertised they sold millinery [hats], crockery, carpets, curtains, wallpaper, cigars and playing cards.)



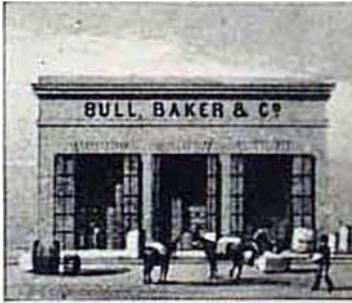
A. DOBROWSKY

At this store, gold nuggets became jewelry. Watches were made and repaired. Ammunition was sold and gunsmithing done. What does a gunsmith do?
(Makes and repairs guns.)



A. GROTEFEND

Karl August Grotefend struck it rich above Middle Creek---a pocket of gold worth \$18,000. With his wealth, he purchased the St. Charles Hotel and established a business selling groceries, liquors and provisions. Who needed provisions?
(Miners heading out to search for gold)



BULL, BAKER AND COMPANY

This building housed the largest wholesale business in Northern California. Where do you shop wholesale, if you have a card, in Redding?
(Costco)

After the fire of 1853, this was the most expensive of Shasta's "fireproof" brick buildings. Advram Coleman bought it and became the town's leading hardware merchant.



BENJAMIN SHURTLEFF

This drugstore was owned and operated by a physician, who later became a state senator. His first title was alcalde or mayor. From what language is this title?
(Spanish)



TOMLINSON AND WOOD

This two-story brick building was constructed in only 13 days, winning the owners a \$600 bet. Wells Fargo and Company and the Shasta Courier had offices here.



Almost at the end of the trail, there is a cave-like opening in the hillside. This short bricked tunnel was filled with ice brought down from Shasta Bally and used to store meat by Shasta butcher, Peter Hoff.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS



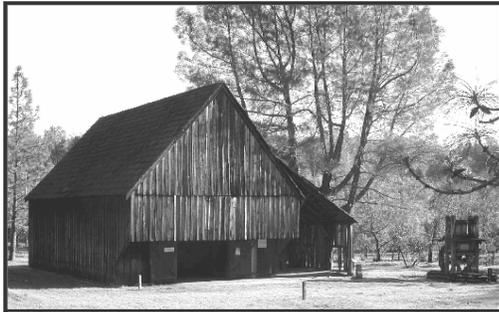
COYLE-FOSTER PIONEER BARN

Outside the barn are mining and ranching tools used by the Trinity Farm and Cattle Company.

Find a feed wagon, a rock sled, hay balers, a steam engine and a tallow pot. What is a tallow pot?

(The bones, fat, hooves and other parts of slaughtered cattle were placed in this pot. A fire was built underneath and those parts rendered down to make soap and candles.)

Look at the stones on the west side of the barn. These were used to crush rocks containing quartz to separate the gold from the quartz. They are called arrastras stones.



Thomas and Mary Coyle had this barn built in the late 1850's to store hay and to protect their livestock from Indians and inclement weather. In 1959, this barn was preserved from the rising waters of Trinity Lake and relocated to Shasta State Historic Park given by the Foster family.

The hand hewn timbers of the barn are 40 feet long. Look at how the beams are cut to fit into slots---no nails! This is called mortise and tenon. What building has taken the place of a barn for storage at your house?

(Garage.)

Dismantling the barn took 170 days and reassembling over 300. Each piece was tagged. Can you see those tags along the roof line? This barn is now a museum. Identify some things that belong in a barn and some that do not!

The stagecoach inside and the freight wagon outside were used to transport passengers and goods.

Which was used for passengers?

(Stagecoach)

Which was used for goods?

(Freight Wagon)

The back wheels on the stagecoach are much larger than those on the front---why?
(To enable the 90 degree turns necessary on mountain roads surrounding Shasta.)

Freight wagon drivers sometimes met and combined their teams to "make the grade" of a steep hill!

THE LITSCH STORE

1880s SHOPPING LIST

See if you can find the following items...

Yeast	Wax
Cheese/Cheese Cutter	Lamp Covers
Shredded Coconut	Corn Meal
Eggs	Pickles
Stomach Bitters (Medicine)	Saw Blades
Oysters	Paint
Ivory Soap	Miner's Candles
Beans	Shoes
Coffee	Toys
Buttons	Button Hook
Lard	Gloves



A picture of the Litsch General Store taken in the 1880s.

THE BLUMB BAKERY

How is the Blumb Bakery kitchen *different* from your kitchen at home?

Compare and contrast the following:

	BLUMB BAKERY	YOUR KITCHEN
The size of the oven		About 3 feet x 3 feet
How many people get food from the kitchen?		
What heats the oven?		
How long does it take to heat the oven?		
Checking the temperature inside the oven		
Tools and Utensils	Peels, Sieves, Troughs, Churns, Tongs	