

1851-01 Lockeford

Summary: In 1851 brothers Dean and Elmer Locke bought 320 acres of the Andres Pico Mexican Grant from David J. Staples and founded “a great town free of alcohol and a home for God fearing people.” Vice arrived quickly but prosperity was delayed until the completion of the San Joaquin Sierra Nevada narrow-gauge railroad brought booming commerce to the Lockeford station.

Wikipedia:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lockeford,_California

Delia Locke Diaries, 1855-1917:

<https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/dld-all/>

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps:

<https://www.loc.gov/maps/?q=sanborn+fire+insurance+map+from+lockeford,+san+joaquin+county,+california>

In the news 1851-1900 (besides the many stage-coach and train schedules, births, deaths, weddings, drownings, poisonings, horse-and-buggy mishaps, crop reports, political meetings, elections, social club meetings, dog races, religious meetings, real-estate transactions, arson, not-infrequent murders, suicides, and Wild-West vices):

{First appearance of Lockeford in available newspapers)

The Sacramento Bee Mon, Jan 07, 1861 ·Page 3

In Lockeford, the birth of a son to wife of Dr. D.J. Locke

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/624045099/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Martinez News-Gazette Sat, Mar 28, 1863 ·Page 2

White Boy Shooting an Indian Chief

At Lockeford a boy around 17 years old deliberately shot and wounded an Indian. The boy was taken before a "Justice" next morning, who summoned a jury, who set the boy free.

Weekly Humboldt Times Sat, Jun 13, 1863 ·Page 1

Would-be robbers demanded nighttime admission to Dr. Locke's store. Dr. Locke's father opened the door and was struck on the head with a pistol, then stabbed multiple times. The attackers then fled.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1174726487/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Sacramento Bee Fri, Jun 03, 1864 ·Page 3

Death – near Lockeford, Hannah Shaw, wife of Francis Holden, aged 13 years.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/624064066/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Sacramento Bee Tue, May 23, 1865 ·Page 3

Lockeford shoots at and burns an effigy Jefferson Davis wearing hooped skirt and petticoats. [Lee surrendered at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9 1865]

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/623346878/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Sacramento Bee Thu, Oct 17, 1867 ·Page 2

The Lockeford Dragoons cavalry company is disbanding

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/623369018/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Sacramento Bee Fri, Dec 27, 1867 ·Page 1

A large tract of land near Lockeford is flooded

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/623369273/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The San Francisco Examiner Mon, Jan 20, 1868 ·Page 2

Good land ruined -- A considerable area near Lockeford has been covered with fine white sand, varying in depth from 2 to 15 feet. The levees built to protect the land have washed away.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/460962659/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Daily Evening Herald Mon, Jun 15, 1868 ·Page 3

Horse thieves try to sell Dr. Locke's horse in Stockton

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/488419255/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Daily Evening Herald Wed, Sep 02, 1868 ·Page 3

Near Lockeford G.C. Holman's son-in-law dies under suspicious circumstances. Mr. Deering's wife doesn't alert coroner; buries body on the ranch instead of taking it to the burial ground.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/488421835/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Los Angeles Daily Star

Tue, Jun 06, 1871 ·Page 2

Possible canal will divert Mokelumne water from ten miles above Lockeford for irrigation purposes

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/689804278/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Daily Evening Herald Thu, Oct 19, 1871 ·Page 3

Two weeks of revivalist meetings at Lockeford Congregational Church

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/488539274/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Solano-Napa News Chronicle Fri, May 17, 1872 ·Page 3

The temperance people of San Joaquin Valley held an immense picnic at Lockeford yesterday

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1034576562/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Daily Evening Herald Tue, Feb 02, 1875 ·Page 3

Wood [timber] can be driven down the Mokelumne to Lockeford during high water

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/489870191/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Daily Evening Herald Wed, May 26, 1875 ·Page 3

Lockeford teacher Ella Royce on trial for using undue violence against a student (beat with a gun rod)

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/489877479/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Daily Miner-Transcript Tue, Sep 19, 1876 ·Page 2

Five San Francisco boys who had been hired to pick hops by G.C. Holman ran away and got into the Lockeford church bell tower, vigorously ringing the bell to wake everyone up

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1099749000/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Mendocino Coast Beacon Sat, Apr 26, 1879 ·Page 4

Ladies and Gents desire correspondents, address, with stamp, PACIFIC C CLUB, Lockeford, Cal.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/624946728/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The San Francisco Call Bulletin Thu, Nov 13, 1879 ·Page 6

The annual meeting of the San Joaquin Coursing Club (greyhound racing) will take place in Lockeford

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1232724829/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Sat, Jun 19, 1880 ·Page 3

Lockeford asks for a bridge across the Mokelumne. They have raised \$5000 of the needed \$7500.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609459935/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Tue, Jul 06, 1880 ·Page 3

Board of Supervisors approves Lockeford bridge if citizens raise all except the \$1500 they supply

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609460325/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Tulare County Times Sat, Jul 24, 1880 ·Page 8

J.S. Kerr of Lockeford has invented a new thrasher and separator, and built a mammoth machine run by a 30-horse power engine

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/695896459/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Thu, Jul 29, 1880 ·Page 3

Supervisors give contract for Lockeford bridge to California Building Committee

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609460944/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Mon, Feb 21, 1881 ·Page 3

California Bridge Company is suing J.C. Jerr, D.J. Locke, and others for \$2022 of material furnished and labor performed in the construction of the Lockeford bridge [unclear how much of the bridge if any was constructed]

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609465695/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Fri, Apr 08, 1881 ·Page 3

Twenty Chinese men arrested for opium smoking in Lockeford

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609467249/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Tue, Jan 04, 1881 ·Page 3

Supervisors will not authorize more money for Lockeford bridge

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609465027/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Lodi News-Sentinel Sat, Jul 23, 1881 ·Page 2

Summary of early Lockeford

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1036195629/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Lodi News-Sentinel Sat, Sep 10, 1881 ·Page 2

Captain Munson saw a woman's hair floating and fished out an unconscious woman, daughter of John McMartin of Lockeford, clad only in undergarments. She had been latterly frequenting houses of bad repute

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1036196049/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Sacramento Bee Wed, Mar 15, 1882 ·Page 3

Lockeford dog was found to be eating human parts; doctor had ordered them from San Francisco for dissection and didn't bury them deeply enough after

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/623388889/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Sacramento Bee Wed, Mar 29, 1882 ·Page 1

Narrow-gauge railroad connecting Brock's Landing and Valley Springs is under construction

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/623389077/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Sat, Apr 29, 1882 ·Page 3

Mr. Harris poisoned an egg with strychnine, intending to put it in the henhouse to detect an egg-sucking dog. Instead Mr. Harris mistakenly ate the egg. Dr. Foote arrived in time to save his life.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609648465/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Lodi News-Sentinel Sat, Jun 17, 1882 ·Page 2

Dr. Holden and Engineer Holden are securing the narrow-gauge right of way between Waterloo and Lockeford

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1036197934/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Mon, Jun 26, 1882 ·Page 3

The San Joaquin and Sierra Nevada narrow-gauge has its road-bed graded seven miles beyond Lockeford (three miles beyond the Poland House). The Lockeford depot is on the grounds of Dr. Foote. A new hotel is anticipated in addition to a 300x60 feet storehouse. Lockeford is recovering from the arson when a drunk set fire to Staacy's saloon, burning the stable, paint shop, and blacksmith.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609432072/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Mon, Jun 05, 1882 ·Page 3

The levees of John Kerr and Geo. Locke have broken, destroying many thousands of dollars of grain

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609431025/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Sacramento Bee Thu, Jul 06, 1882 ·Page 3

The San Joaquin and Sierra Nevada narrow-gauge track has reached Lockeford

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/623694967/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Sacramento Bee Wed, Jul 26, 1882 ·Page 2

The narrow-gauge is now running regularly between Brack's Landing and Lockeford. The steamer Centennial has been chartered to run between the terminus of the road and San Francisco.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/623695171/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Weekly Galt Gazette Sat, Aug 19, 1882 ·Page 3

Lockeford carpenters are building a depot and freight house; no start has been made on the Lodi depot as a suitable site has not been secured

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/931183970/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Valley Review Wed, Aug 23, 1882 ·Page 5

Extensive preparations for the grand ball to be given in Mr. Stacy's new hall

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1140752876/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Evening Mail Wed, Nov 01, 1882 ·Page 3

Mrs. Jane Starkey accused of midwife malpractice in death of Mrs. Emma Pope

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609435885/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Mon, Nov 13, 1882 ·Page 3

Supervisor is angry that instead of laying narrow-gauge tracks "along the highway" east of Lockeford, the tracks are laid on the highway itself

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609436035/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Weekly Galt Gazette Sat, May 26, 1883 ·Page 3

Train rider notes improvements made to Lockeford including the large new brick store belonging to Dr. Locke

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/931187675/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

San Francisco Chronicle Sat, Jun 23, 1883 ·Page 4

Two Chinese attempted to criminally assault some little girls in Lockeford; it is reported that unless the pagans are given up the citizens will mob all the Chinese in the town

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/27574573/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Wed, Sep 05, 1883 ·Page 3

Settlers Collecting Rent -- Thirty Mokelumne Grant settlers entered on M. Bruml's ranch near Lockeford and carried off all the wheat piled there

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609453315/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Thu, Sep 13, 1883 ·Page 3

Mangled remains of Lyman Russell (of Russell's Saloon in Lockeford) found on Lodi's railroad track, depot, and in the running gear of the locomotive. Russell had been seen intoxicated that night. [Pieces of Russell were collected into a bag for the coroner]

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609453447/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

San Francisco Chronicle Fri, Nov 23, 1883 ·Page 2

A clever swindle: Lockeford blacksmith wrote ads for newspapers in other cities, posing as 19 year old girl seeking a good home. When someone responded, he wrote to ask for travel money, then after receiving it stopped responding. The Lockeford Postmaster got suspicious after handling so many letters addressed to "Miss Stella James." [After serving six months in prison, the blacksmith moved to Clements and was re-arrested in 1885 for the same crime, this time using the name "Lizzie Jones," as he accepted the marriage proposal of a young man who hunter "her" down when "she" didn't show up in San Francisco.]

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/27400480/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Mon, Mar 10, 1884 ·Page 3

Numerous washouts have been made by high water near the narrow-gauge railroad so that cars cannot pass east of Lockeford. Many farms are flooded from the breached levees that had been weakened by gopher holes.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609458230/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Sat, Mar 22, 1884 ·Page 3

Lockeford man pounds on the door of a Waterloo stable at 4am, falsely claiming to be a deputy tax collector and saying that he suspected that alcohol was being sold illegally on the premises. After being allow to inspect, he asked to borrow a team to head home. He was given a drink to brace himself, then left Waterloo. The team was later found along the roadside.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609458630/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Wed, Mar 26, 1884 ·Page 3

Legal dispute in Lockeford between H.C. Kheuel and Dr. Charles Sargent, Kheuel claiming that Sargent had built his new barn half on Kheuel land. Sargent disputes this claim, but went inside the barn one day to find a barb-wire fence running midway down the barn interior.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609458730/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Valley Review Wed, Apr 23, 1884 ·Page 4

[Observed by rail passenger] Lockeford is a thriving town on this road, which has added more than double to its wealth and importance since the advent of this road to its limits; Several imposing and substantial brick blocks are conspicuous from the train while we note a large grain warehouse nearby.

Lodi News-Sentinel Sat, Sep 06, 1884 ·Page 3

Explanation of continuing trouble from unclear ownership of the 1852 Andreas Pico Moquelemos Grant

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1036200686/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The San Francisco Call Bulletin Thu, Jan 01, 1885 ·Page 3

Overflow of the Mokelumne River has damaged the narrow-gauge tracks between Lodi and Lockeford and destroyed the potato fields

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1233297631/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Weekly Galt Gazette Sat, May 23, 1885 ·Page 3

Chief Maximo, now more than 100 years old, describes his life growing up in the area now known as Lockeford, his relations with Sutter, and being cheated out of his land

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/931191003/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Mon, Feb 08, 1886 ·Page 3

Lockeford organizes against presence of Troublesome Mongolians

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609436549/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The San Francisco Call Bulletin Sat, Mar 27, 1886 ·Page 1

Lockeford cornet band plays at anti-Chinese rally in Larson's wigwam [a mammoth tent in Lodi]; speakers are Laura DeForce Gordon and Rev. N.F. Ravlin

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1233297565/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Daily Territorial Enterprise Fri, May 21, 1886 ·Page 2

Stockton's merchants have raised \$40,000 to build a narrow-gauge railroad from Stockton to Lockeford. It is expected that Stockton will become the new water terminus instead of Brack's Landing.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1219820146/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Lodi News-Sentinel Sat, Sep 04, 1886 ·Page 3

Lawsuit C.R. Montgomery v D.J. Locke and G.C. Holman = California Supreme Court sides with Montgomery that levees and embankments built by the defendants improperly impeded the natural flow of water to Montgomery's land

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1036203401/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Weekly Galt Gazette Sat, Oct 16, 1886 ·Page 3

Malaria and summer complaint in Lockeford

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/931203803/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Sat, Mar 05, 1887 ·Page 3

A large area including Lockeford is ripe for irrigation from the Mokelumne Ditch and Irrigation project

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609450657/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Lodi News-Sentinel Sat, Mar 19, 1887 ·Page 3

Dr. Locke is opening one of the streets in the eastern part of town. Increased ridership on the San Joaquin and Sierra Nevada railroad with miners headed up for the mining season.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1036204879/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Lodi News-Sentinel Sat, Apr 16, 1887 ·Page 3

Board of Trade urges Lockeford residents to form an Irrigation District and irrigate under the Wright Irrigation Bill. The last three years of wheat harvests have been poor. A few years ago the people of Los Angeles said 'if we get water we will get a fortune.' They got the water and they got the fortune.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1036205063/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Tue, Mar 06, 1888 ·Page 3

Windstorm blew down the Grangers' warehouse with the grain, potatoes and hops damaged. The railroad company's windmill was blown over and a portion of the roof of Locke's warehouse blown off.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609887822/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Wed, May 22, 1889 ·Page 1

Unbearable stench of rotting fish – Mokelumne is poisoned from the leachings of the copper mines at Camp Seco.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609796505/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Valley Review Thu, May 23, 1889 ·Page 3

At the Lockeford Lyceum Mrs. R. Young spoke on the question, "Resolved that the dish-rag and the broom have done more to benefit the human race than the pen."

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1141004575/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Tue, Nov 12, 1889 ·Page 1

Murder-suicide of his family by preacher described in especially grisly detail.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609811485/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Valley Review Thu, Jan 16, 1890 ·Page 2

Poem called "Lockeford's Wants":

First we want a jail of our own built without delay

It must be built of solid stone to store the drunks away

We want an asylum built just back to keep the blowhards still...

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1141005211/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Mon, Nov 23, 1891 ·Page 3

Mrs. G.L. Locke said the village is furnishing a reading room for the use of men. This will be good as a place outside of saloons that men can spend an idle hour in healthful amusement.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609579387/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Tue, Dec 13, 1892 ·Page 1

Saloonkeeper's clothes caught fire when lamp exploded; man appeared to try to help him but actually robbed him [Saloonkeeper died of injuries]

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609457154/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Tue, Apr 04, 1893 ·Page 1

Lockeford's Constable Dial is also a saloonkeeper and the local ladies complain that his saloon is disorderly, riotous, unlawful and indecent.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609462251/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Mon, Dec 14, 1896 ·Page 1

J.G. Locke murdered in San Francisco

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/609441602/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

The Evening Mail Mon, Oct 09, 1899 ·Page 1

Much of downtown Lockeford burned yesterday. The fire started in Dial's livery stable.

<http://newspapers.com/image/609372549/?match=1&terms=lockeford>

Tinkham:

- The Mo-kel-kos were the land grabbers of that day. They were a large tribe, numbering some twelve rancherias of about 3,000 Indians, and they held undisputed possession of all of the land between Lockeford and New Hope Dry creek and the Calaveras River.
- [John Fremont] On the 26th we halted at the Arroyo de los Calaveras (skull creek), a tributary of the San Joaquin. The place is beautiful, with open groves of

oaks, and a grassy sward beneath, with many plants in bloom, some varieties of which seem to love the shade of trees." After crossing the Calaveras at a point where now stands the Lockeford post road concrete bridge, he continues, "March 27, today we traveled steadily and rapidly up the valley making about four miles an hour."

- Elliott township was established in 1855, the supervisors cutting off the entire eastern half of Elkhorn township to form the new territory. Its bounds were the same as those of Elkhorn, except on the west. The division was made at the request of the settlers in Lockeford, for that town and Woodbridge were rivals for business and township honors. Within the present township are Lockeford and Clements.
- Bridges were also built at Staples" ferry and at Lockeford before 1860. We have no definite knowledge regarding these bridges; David J. Locke probably built the bridge at Lockeford, for he was a shrewd, enterprising man, and not only endeavored to build up the town but also bid for all of the travel to the Northern mines.
- Mass meetings and conventions of all of the state parties were held early in the year, something very unusual, and the Republicans holding no county convention, by appointment, sent I. S. Locke, a photographer and portrait painter, C. C. Rynerson, George R. Choate, Dr. David Locke, of Lockeford, and D. J. Staples to represent them in the convention at Sacramento. Bancroft in writing of D. J. Staples says, "He was a man who had much to do with forming loyal sentiment in San Joaquin County. He used his influence to soften the hostility of his southern neighbors as well as his courageous will to repel the tyranny of their leaders. The first Republican speech in the county was delivered on his premises."
- On the day of election there was considerable excitement and much angry talk, and in some places, in the county and the city, notably the third ward, there was a strong and determined fight to defeat the bonds. They were defeated, the total vote in the county being 967 for, and 1048 against. Woodbridge voted yes, 36, no 105. They opposed it because the road would not benefit their part of the country, (the Governor at that time had signed a bill for a railroad from Woodbridge to Mokelumne City), and Lockeford for the same reason gave one vote for the road and 50 against it
- In the history of the world nations have arisen, grown to great strength and influence in the affairs of the world and then passed away. So is it with the towns of a state. They were founded, grew to more or less importance in the community in which they were located and having filled their place in the county's history,

they passed from memory or they became sleeping landmarks of the past. San Joaquin County . has had several of the villages, some are forgotten, some are but skeletons of their former self, and some linger along hoping for a revival of the days of "49". Clements, Lockeford, Waterloo, Liberty, Elliott, Mokelumne City, New Hope, Collegeville, French Camp, Linden, Woodbridge, Banta, Atlanta are all towns of the past, post road towns built up and maintained by the staging and teaming of the early days and the farming community. Now staging and teaming is dead and the farmers no longer require community centers, for they ride to town on the steam or traction cars, or sail over the roads in their automobiles.

- [Clements] Religious services were held in here by the Rev. AV. H. Pascoe, a Congregational minister from Lockeford. In 1891 the Methodist Episcopal denomination erected a house of worship, and the pulpit was supplied by pastors from Lockeford.
- Lockeford was one of the liveliest towns in the county, and a strong Union town during the Civil War. they hung Jeff Davis in effigy, and organized a military company called the Mokelumne Dragoons, with George C. Holman as captain. Settlers began locating on the river bottom and on the bluffs as early as 1849. D. J. Staples, Dr. D. J. and Elmer H. Locke coming at that time. Charles R. Montgomery} located there in 1852, and trees are still standing on his place as landmarks. Joseph Putnam, Edward Whipple, and Daniel Howard took up land near Lockeford in 1851 and gave it the name of the New England ranch, they coming from the New England States. Putnam probably Avas a relative of Israel Putnam, one of the heroes of the Revolutionary War. Reuben Metcalf, crossing the plains with two oxen, located on the Mokelumne River in '57, and Charles Pope located across from the Athearn ranch in '53, and Mrs. Belle Sheridan, then a girl of four years of age, came with her parents in '52, their home, the Ryan ranch, being west of the Harmony Grove church.
- The first domicile in Lockeford was the log cabin of the Lockes on what is called Yankee Hill. It was erected early in 1851 beneath three large oak trees, still standing. when Dr. Locke returned to the town with his bride the log cabin was replaced by a neat wooden structure now standing in the Locke orchard. The present two-story brick home was built in 1865.
- The so-called Lockeford Hotel was moved to its present site in 1859 by a man named Clapp, its owner. The building was erected in 1857 on Bear Creek ranch by Mr. Moore and sold to Clapp. Luther Locke deeded a lot to Clapp on condition that it be opened as the Lockeford House.
- he first school was taught in a canvas tent on the river bottom, supported by willow poles. Mrs. Belle Sheridan, who attended this school, called it "The Rag

School House." A few years later, 1856, a wooden building was constructed about half way between Staples Ferry and the town. In 1864 the building was removed to Lockeford. The population of the place increased quite rapidly, and so did the children, and in 1874 a much larger and more convenient school was erected.

- The first religious service in Lockeford was held November 24, 1861, by the Congregationalists in what was then known as the "Sons of Temperance Hall." This hall, an adobe building on the Locke property, now used as a granary or warehouse, was the public assembly place of all the people. The Congregational Church was there organized in February, 1862, and seven years later at a cost of \$2,800, this amount including the bell, they erected a house of worship. It was dedicated September 19, of the same year. The first officers were: David J. Locke, Thomas B. Day, George Hommand, Thomas B. Jeffreys and Isaac Brown. It is still in use for religious services.
- During the latter part of the Civil War the town boasted of what was known as the Lockeford Dragoons. They were in existence only a time and disbanding in October, 1867, their equipment consisting of saddles, bridles, swords and uniforms, were returned to Sacramento.
- The Lockeford brass band was organized June 11, 1882.
- [1862] Dr. D. J. Locke conceived the idea of chartering a steamer in San Francisco, loading it with provisions, sailing the vessel to Lockeford, and make the town a depot of supplies for the mining camp. Then Lockeford would rapidly grow as the head of navigation on the Mokelumne. Going to San Francisco he chartered a small steamer called the Fanny Ann, Captain Haggerty. The steamer Avas loaded with supplies and left San Francisco February 12, 1862, bound for Lockeford. Mr. Locke instructed the captain to spend two weeks time if necessary to reaching that point, as he considered it a very important business proposition, which it was, if successful. In the meantime J. H. Woods, the founder of Woodbridge, did not propose to have the rival town of Lockeford be declared the head of navigation, and he bribed the captain of the Fanny Ann to loaf on the job and cast anchor at Woodbridge. The steamer was eight days making that point and arriving February 20,' the captain told Dr. Locke that he would take no chances of a shipwreck by snags in steaming to Lockeford. The goods were unloaded at Woodbridge and hauled to the mining camps by team. Woods had certainly put one over Dr. Locke, as the saying goes, and in the town there was great rejoicing. The citizens assembled in Masonic hall, speeches of congratulation were made and \$200 was subscribed and Captain Haggerty

offered 260 cords of wood if he would make a continuous trips to Woodbridge. He declined the offer.

- Again visiting San Francisco [Locke] purchased a small steamer called the Pert, on condition that she make the port of Lockeford. We do not know the time taken to make the trip, but the telegraph item went out over the state, "The steamer Pert, Captain Allen, successfully navigated the Mokelumne to Lockeford on April 2, 1862. The event was celebrated with great rejoicing as the deed is done." The little steamer had on board about thirty tons of freight and sixty passengers.
- The travel over the Upper Sacramento road crossed the Mokelumne River at Staples Ferry near Lockeford. This also was the stage road to the capital, but Woods, by making his place a stage station and giving the stage free ferriage, succeeded in getting the stage owners to route their travel by Woods Ferry.
- The San Joaquin and Sierra Nevada Railroad, a narrow-gauge line which was projected between tidewater at Brack's Landing on the Mokelumne to the mines and timber belt in the Sierras over the mountains if found practical. In August, 1882, the line was ready for business from Brack's Landing through Woodbridge and Lodi to Lockeford. It was completed as far as Valley Springs in April, 1885. This road, which cost over \$400,000 to build, was subsequently absorbed by the Southern Pacific.
- DEAN JEWETT LOCKE.— The name of Dean J. Locke is synonymous with many of the influences and movements that have had to do with the upbuilding of San Joaquin County, and his name has been perpetuated in the town which he founded and in which he made his home for nearly forty years, or until his death. He passed away in Lockeford May 4, 1887, at the comparatively early age of sixty-four years, mourned alike by old and young, all honoring and respecting him for his large accomplishments and loving him for his genial, kindly nature.

Lodi Historical Society newsletters:

- [San Joaquin & Sierra Nevada Railroad](#) - Fall 1994. This issue with many photos describes Lodi's dislike of the Big Four railroad monopoly and the Central Valley decision to build a narrow-gauge railroad from Brack's Landing, which connected Lodi by water to San Francisco, to Valley Springs in the east. The San Joaquin & Sierra Nevada railroad was completed in 1885. By 1904 the need to connect with the Big Four's standard-gauge tracks in central Lodi was obvious and the narrow-gauge bed was replaced with standard-gauge. The line is unused today and the railbed dismantled in segments.
- [Early Lodi Area Churches & Methodists](#) - Winter 1994. This issue with many photos describes the development of Christian churches in Greater Lodi. The Christian Church of Liberty Township was built between 1855 and 1857, with

John O. White as pastor. The Methodist Old Grove Church was built on Armstrong Road in 1860 with Henry B. Sheldon as Circuit Rider. The Harmony Grove Church was completed in 1861. The Calaveras Baptist Church was built on Cherokee Lane the same year. Lockeford built a Congregational Church in 1867 and Woodbridge completed the United Brethren Church eleven years later. A church was built on the northwest corner of School and Oak Streets, held three services and burned to the ground. It was rebuilt as the Lodi Methodist Church.

- [Grants and Railroads](#) - Spring 1998. This issue with many photos describes the grants and railroads that established Lodi as a railroad town. In 1869 the Big Four's Western Pacific Railroad (became the Central Pacific Railroad) accepted the local farmers' offer of 12 acres for a railroad reservation along with title to every odd lot in the 166 acres then called Mokelumne. On August 11, 1869, the first passenger train from Sacramento to Stockton was delayed because 2,500 people jumped off the train at Mokelumne City believing it was Stockton. The issue describes the El Campo del Los Francess grant and Los Moquelemos Rancho grant and the clashes between the railroads and local farmers over ownership of the land. On May 19, 1876, a grand jubilee was held in Lodi's Wardrobe Grove (now Hale Park) to celebrate favorable judgments. More than 10,000 people attended, the largest crowd to gather in San Joaquin County at the time.
- [Early Clements](#) - Summer 2002. This issue with many photos describes the founding and development of Clements, near Lodi. The first pioneers arrived in 1852 and soon built a stage stop, hotel, and flour mill. The town was named after early settler Thomas Clements. In 1882 the new narrow-gauge railroad from Brack's Landing to Woodbridge, Lodi, Lockeford, and Camanche added Clements as a stop. The issue describes several of the early businesses and community events.
- [Early Lockeford](#) - Winter 2003. This issue with many photos describes the founding and development of Lockeford, near Lodi. The first pioneers, brothers Dean and Elmer Locke, arrived in 1850 and purchased 320 acres of the Andres Pico Mexican Grant. When their father and Delia Hammond, Dean's wife, arrived, they helped start a farm with a ford that made crossing the Mokelumne River possible. Soon a store, the White House, appeared, followed by a hotel. Chinese workers molded and fired bricks for the new structures. The growing town had strict temperance views and was thought to be free of alcohol. In 1882 the new narrow-gauge railroad from Brack's Landing added Lockeford as a stop. Many of Lockeford's original structures are still visible today.

- [Lodi Rural Schools](#) - Summer 2008. This issue with many photos describes Greater Lodi's founding of Henderson School, Woods School, Salem School, Lockeford School, Houston School, Lafayette School, Harmony Grove School, Live Oak School, Alpine School, and Victor School.

San Joaquin County Historical Society and Museum newsletter:

- Vol. 4 No. 2 March 1968 Brick Making in San Joaquin County
<http://sanjoaquinhistory.org.c25.sitepreviewer.com/documents/HistorianOS4-2.pdf>
- Bulletin No. 4, Volume No. 3 1970 Early Days in Lockeford
<http://sanjoaquinhistory.org.c25.sitepreviewer.com/documents/HistorianOS2-4.pdf>
- Vol. 11 No. 3 July-September 1975 The San Joaquin and Sierra Nevada Railroad
<http://sanjoaquinhistory.org.c25.sitepreviewer.com/documents/HistorianOS11-3.pdf>
- Summer 2016 The Native Peoples of San Joaquin County: Indian Pioneers, Immigrants, Innovators, Freedom Fighters, and Survivors
<http://sanjoaquinhistory.org.c25.sitepreviewer.com/documents/HistorianSummer2016.pdf>

Find A Grave:

Charles Hinkle Dial <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/61224910/charles-hinkle-dial>

Gilman C Holman <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/70031366/gilman-c-holman>

Dean Locke <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18533676/dean-jewett-locke>

Delia Locke <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18533724/delia-marcella-locke>

Bill Beaver Project:

<https://thebillbeaverproject.com/2015/05/08/lockeford/>

Historical Marker Database:

<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=143490>

