

Agnes Black

on

BLACK RANCH  
(Tuolumne County)

by

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Agnes Black on the  
BLACK RANCH

TAPE #1,  
Side A (Aug. 15, 1973)

TOPICS INTRODUCED

Owners of the Black Ranch

Stogsdill, James W.--about 1873  
Arrived in Tuolumne County, 1872  
Farmer  
Riparian water rights  
Kincaid Ditch  
Orchard  
Dairy  
Buildings on the property  
Marriage to Hannah Lambert in  
1870 (corrected)

Side B

. Roads  
Additional income  
Personal characteristics  
Wigley, Augustus W.--1904  
Harvey, Charles--1906  
Jupiter Homestead  
Marriage to Henrietta E. Williams  
Children (7)  
Initial impressions of father

TAPE #2  
Side A (Sept. 5, 1973)

Life of a country girl

First reminiscences  
Curtis Creek Schools  
Teachers  
Facilities/supplies  
Special courses  
Physical design of school rooms

Side B

Entertainment and sports  
Girls' dress  
Sonora High School, 1921-23  
Chores at home  
Household duties  
Gardening  
Entertainment  
Dancing  
Drinking

TAPE #3  
Side A (Sept. 5, 1973)

Phoenix Lake Pavilion  
Teachers' Institute Chautauqua  
Sonora Theatre  
Old Standard Community center  
Family outings

(Continued)

Agnes Black on the  
BLACK RANCH

TAPE #3  
Side A (Cont'd)

TOPICS INTRODUCED

Entertainment (Cont'd)  
Special holidays  
Christmas  
New Years  
4th of July  
Thanksgiving

Side B

Memorial Day  
Others  
Seasonal activities  
Summer  
Fall  
Winter  
Spring

TAPE #4  
Side A (July 8, 1974)

Ethnic Groups residing in the area

Indians  
Indian Jenny  
Groups along Curtis Creek  
Grinding rocks  
Chief Fuller  
Mexicans  
Negroes  
"Coontown"  
Burning of crosses by "KKK" 1920's  
Worked at the mill  
Filipinos  
Chinese

Side B

Changes in life-style

Crops grown  
Grains for lumber company  
Chambers and Russell Ranch  
Cost of hay and grains  
Other ranches in the area  
Hess family  
Orchards  
Insect problems  
Animals raised  
Sanguinetti Ranch  
Hoof and Mouth disease  
Dairies  
Sheep  
Goats

(Continued)

TAPE #5  
Side A (July 10, 1974)

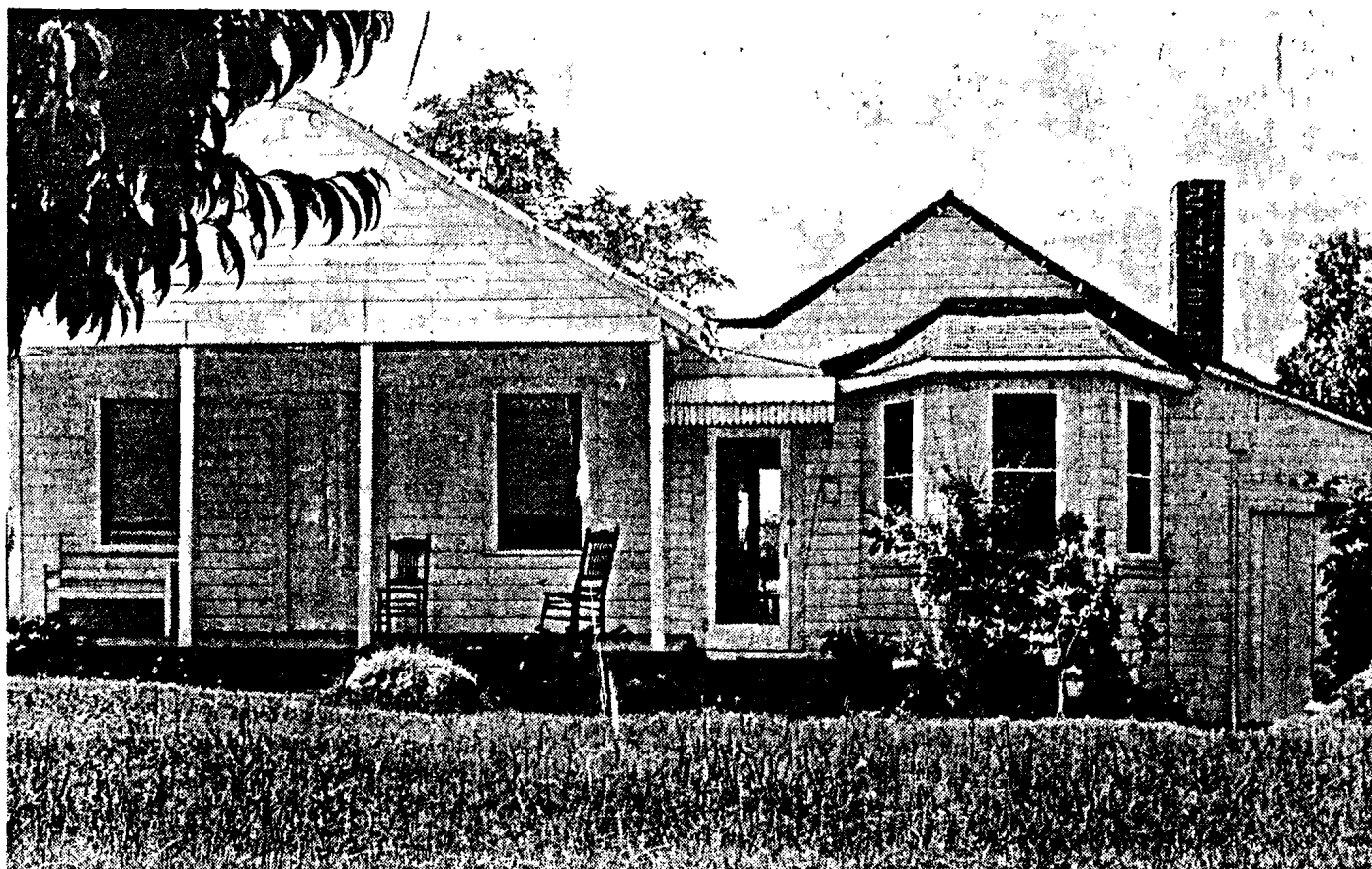
TOPICS INTRODUCED

"Black Ranch" owners (a review)  
Stogsdill, 1870's  
Wigley, 1904-06  
Harvey, 1906-34  
Black, 1934-present  
Neighbors  
McAuley family  
Lambert family  
Division of the ranch after 1964  
Financial difficulties  
Dairy  
Public works projects  
Roads  
Original roads  
First paved roads  
Old covered bridge on Tuolumne Rd.  
Water  
Kincaid Ditch  
Black Ranch's 12" of water  
Neighbors' water rights  
Wells  
Electricity, 1940  
Telephones, 1920  
Party lines  
Central (operator)  
Assistance for the farmers  
Farm advisor H.H. Sherrard  
Help for students  
The Grange  
100th anniversary celebration (June 17, 1973)  
Future restoration plans

Side B

Permission to use tapes

Daily Union Democrat, Sonora, Wed., June 13, 1973



THE 100 YEAR-OLD BLACK HOME

# Party to Pay Tribute To Historic Home

Mr. and Mrs. Warden Black will give a 100th birthday party Sunday—for their house.

The rambling white frame house on Wards Ferry Rd. has a history dating back to 1872, when James W. Stodgsdill homesteaded the land and built a small cabin.

Since then, the house has seen three generations come and go, has been added on to a room at a time, modernized with electricity and new paint and served as a home to the Charles W. Harvey family since 1906.

Mrs. Black, whose father purchased the house from A. W. Wigley in 1906, was born in the house, as were three of her four brothers and sister. She and her husband purchased the house in 1934 and have raised their three children in it.

The house, which is now owned by the Blacks'son, Wilbur, is full of memories of its long history.

In a gilt frame on the wall in the living room hangs the original homestead certificate signed by President Rutherford B. Hayes and Secretary of State James Booth.

The Blacks also have an entire notebook of land deeds, water right grants, bills of sale and certificates dating back to the original deed in 1862.

Pictures of the Harvey ancestors hang on bedroom walls, their handsome, stern pioneer faces depicting the courage it took to turn the dry foothills into productive farmland.

Although the original 100 acres is now only a few, the Blacks' are proud of their house and its history.

They have sent out more than 100 invitations to the Sunday celebration, which will include an afternoon of old-time music, singing and reminiscing by those who have lived in the house and who are good friends and acquaintances of its past.