

## Hay Fork Schools:

The Hayfork Valley was originally called Nor'el pom (Sometimes spelled Noilpum) by the Wintu who live there. The name means "south land."<sup>1</sup> The first white community in the valley was reported to be called "Kingsberry" in 1851 because a man by that name opened a store or trading post there, and a mill was built in 1852. The name "Hayfork" first applied to the Hayfork River, regarded as a "fork" of the Trinity River, with reference to local hay fields.<sup>2</sup> Note that the town of Hayfork was first known as "South Fork," then "Hay Town," then "Hay Fork," before becoming known as the current name and spelling of "Hayfork."<sup>3</sup>

Mrs. Michael Ruch arrived in the area with her three children in 1854, becoming the first white family with children to live in the vicinity.<sup>4</sup> Those children had no school for their first eight years in Hayfork; however, a school with one teacher was in operation during the 1862 – 63 school year.



*Hayfork School in Hoyt's Garden, last day of school in 1894. First row L to R: George Duncan, Dennis Rourke, Winifred Baker, Ortho Albiez, Edwin Albiez, George Drinkwater, Ora Duncan, Maud Vaughn (Campbell), Ed Vaughn. Kneeling: Looking up at teacher L to R: Birdie Vaughn (Ellison), Nora Large (Vaughn). Second row L to R: Freida Albiez (Meyers), Carrie Vaughn (Adams), Will Duncan (kneeling), Mary Ellen "Nellie" Rourke (Toulouse), Jessie Drinkwater (Woodruth), Irvin Baker, Merissa Hailstone (Platz), Nellie Lowden, teacher, Maud Kellogg (Dobbin, Clifton), Emma Albiez (Prater), Emma Hailstone (Parks), Lottie Vaughn (Patton), Walter Baker. Back row: Archie Knowles, Nanny Hailstone (Farmer), Sadie Hoyt (Shock), John Olsen, Bertha Drinkwater (Friend), Anna Spiers (Kidd), May Drinkwater (Ross), Mike Hailstone, Clem Carter, Charlie Sanborn, Dora Drinkwater (Carter), Jim Shock, Lula Spiers, Maggie Duncan, Fred Albiez.*

<sup>1</sup> Chase-Dunn, Christopher, *The Wintu & Their Neighbors: a very small world-system in northern California*, Appendix 3, 1998, <https://irows.ucr.edu/cd/appendices/b6/b6app3.htm>. Accessed August 28, 2022; and "Hayfork Valley of Abundance", *Trinity County Historical Society Yearbook*, 1955, 25. And Supahan, Sarah, email communication with Tracy Foster-Olstad, Nor Rel Muk Tribe, January 26, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Bright, William, *1500 California Place Names, Their Origin and Meaning*, University of California Press, Berkeley, 1998, 65.

<sup>3</sup> "A Brief History of Trinity County" leaflet from the Trinity County Historical Society, 1.

<sup>4</sup> "Hayfork Valley of Abundance", *Trinity County Historical Society Yearbook*, 1955, 26.

It's not clear if the early school began as a private school paid for by the parents of the students who attended or if it was a public school from the beginning, as early records have not been located. In 1864, there was a discussion in the meeting of the Board of Supervisors about levying a property tax in the Hay Fork District due to the lack of school funds from the State and County.<sup>5</sup> In April of 1866, the school opened for the spring term with Miss Louise Sergeant.<sup>6</sup> Just a few months later, in July of that same year, the school did indeed receive public school apportionments (state funding), and 35 students were enrolled. The school received \$111.20 or \$2.78 per "each census child."<sup>7</sup> This was the amount for one of two apportionments for the year.

A public notice in 1867 called attention to the need for a teacher at "Hay Fork." The salary was to be \$50 a month, along with room and board. A male teacher was said to be preferred, and the term would start on April 1<sup>st</sup> of that year.<sup>8</sup> They found their choice in Mr. George Burgess at least by the spring of 1868.<sup>9</sup> But again, a new teacher was sought in 1869. Finding teachers to teach in Trinity County was always been difficult, and it's no different today.

This report on the "Hay Fork" School District was published in the local newspaper in 1872:

While on the subject of schools, Let me say here that I dropped in on the Hay Fork school, at present under charge of our poet friend Luke Wells. Some forty scholars, of all sizes and ages, are on the register, and the school is well-conducted and making, I should judge, good progress. If 'Young America' continues to increase in the same ratio as since my last trip to the valley there will have to be a 'condition' put to that school-house."<sup>10</sup>



*Hayfork Elementary School c. 1897-1902, teacher Mary Teresa Hocker (later Meckel)*

The early Hayfork schoolhouse consisted of a 20 by 30-foot room. The walls and the 12-foot high ceiling were of three-inch wide tongue and groove boards painted white. The floors were six-inch pine boards. The roof was shingled. There was a partitioned-off front room for storing coats and lunches. There was a water bucket with a dipper for drinking and a library with books across one end. A ladder in the anteroom gave access to the bell tower. The bell rope could be pulled from below to summon the children to school in the morning and again after recess. There was also a barn where hay was stored to feed the horses that were ridden to school by the children. A woodshed behind the school was stacked with wood provided by

the parents to keep their children warm during cold school days. Student janitors cut the wood and stoked the fire.<sup>11</sup> The light was supplied by the many tall windows. Kerosene lamps hung from the ceiling but were seldom

<sup>5</sup> *The Trinity Journal*, August 13, 1864.

<sup>6</sup> "Schools", *The Trinity Journal*, April 21, 1866.

<sup>7</sup> "School Fund", *The Trinity Journal*, January 6, 1866.

<sup>8</sup> "Teacher Wanted", *The Trinity Journal*, March 3, 1867.

<sup>9</sup> "Schools", *The Trinity Journal*, April 18, 1868.

<sup>10</sup> "Correspondence", *The Trinity Journal*, June 15, 1872.

<sup>11</sup> Mountjoy, Jan, "Hayfork's Old Schoolhouse", *Trinity County Historical Society Yearbook*, 1999 Weaverville, CA, 60.

used. In fact, there was no electricity during the almost fifty years that the school was held in one of the first school buildings, which was completed in 1893.<sup>12</sup>

The school was located next to “the Olsen property,” which was separated from it by a straight line of locust trees along its eastern boundary. Small pines shaded the western side of the school, and oaks grew in front. A seasonal creek ran along the south end of the playground.<sup>13</sup> The school was built on the south side of what is now (in 2024) called Highway 3, west of the Community Church.

Student numbers and attendance at school were often inconsistent in early Trinity County due to many factors, often due to a reliance on the unpredictability of the mining and farming industries. In July of 1871, 35 students attended the Hayfork school.<sup>14</sup> The number of students jumped to 67 by September 1872<sup>15</sup>, but by 1878, the number of students enrolled had reduced to 53. This was the year that Miss M. N. Wadleigh, County Superintendent, “an estimable lady and excellent teacher,” taught at Hay Fork at least temporarily, likely due to the lack of an available teacher.<sup>16</sup>

In 1885, the Hay Fork School District lost some of its territory as it was divided into two school districts. “...By the first section line East of Big Creek running North and South and that the part of said District so divided, on the East side of said section line will be established and known as Ruch’s School District”.<sup>17</sup>

Miss Nellie Lowden began teaching there at least by the spring of 1889.<sup>18</sup> She was paid \$70 per month, which was the going rate for teachers at the time.<sup>19</sup> Miss Cora Woodbury followed Miss Lowden as the teacher in August of 1893.<sup>20</sup> Right as school was to close in November that year for the long winter break, a surprise party was held for Miss Maud, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Kellogg, and their “most esteemed school-teacher, Miss Cora Woodbury.”<sup>21</sup>



“Left group: 1) Mary Teresa Hocker (later Meckel), teacher 2) George Albiez, 3) Cora Glass, 4) unknown, 5) Selma Albiez, 6-9) unknown, 10) Maud Vaughn (front), 11) Unknown, 12) Ella Vanderhoff. Right Group Back Row: 1-3) unknown, 4) Kenneth Montgomery. Middle row: 1 & 2) unknown. Front: 1) unknown, 2) Marvel Farmer, 3) Earl Montgomery” c. 1897-1902

<sup>12</sup> Ibid., 60-61.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid., 61.

<sup>14</sup> “Correspondence”, *The Trinity Journal*, June 15, 1872.

<sup>15</sup> “Apportionment of School Money For Trinity County”, *The Trinity Journal*, July 3, 1869 and September 7, 1872.

<sup>16</sup> “Fortunate”, *The Trinity Journal*, March 9, 1878.

<sup>17</sup> “Board of Supervisors”, *The Trinity Journal*, August 8, 1885.

<sup>18</sup> “Schools”, *The Trinity Journal*, March 9, 1889.

<sup>19</sup> *Warrant Records*, Historic Records Collection, Trinity County Office of Education.

<sup>20</sup> “Town and Country News”, *The Trinity Journal*, March 25, 1893.

<sup>21</sup> “Party at Hay Fork”, *The Trinity Journal*, November 25, 1893.

...but as surprise parties have taken the lead lately, the young people surmised as much and were awaiting our arrival. About half past eight the musical chimes fell upon our ears and we were escorted to the ballroom where 'all went merry as a marriage bell'. At twelve o'clock [am] we were ushered into the dining room where we partook of a bounteous repast, which was served by the young ladies. Dancing was kept up until late the next morning, when we all adjourned to our homes thoroughly satisfied with our intended surprise.

Since the party, several of our young gallants declare the words "After the Ball," very expressive of their feelings.\*

\*"After the Ball" was a very popular song written in 1891 by Charles K. Harris. The song was a melodramatic evocation of lost love.



"Left row: 1) Dolly Vanderhoff. Right row: 1) Iris Vanderhoff, 2) Ollie Vanderhoff, 3) Ophelia Hailstone." Others are unknown. Undated.

Miss Woodbury's "Hay Fork" school, which "proved to be a very successful term," closed on Friday, November 17th, when she returned to her home in Weaverville.<sup>22</sup> There were 36 students that year in 1894.<sup>23</sup>

During the fall of 1895, Miss Woodbury was still employed as the teacher at the "Hay Fork" school, and she closed the school on November 28<sup>th</sup> for the winter break. She taught there the whole school year of 1895-96. She survived an outbreak of measles at the school in the winter of 1897<sup>24</sup> and continued teaching there until June 1897. She left to teach in Weaverville in the fall of 1898.<sup>25</sup> Her time at Hayfork amounted to five school years, which in those days was a

remarkable occurrence as many teachers in the county moved from school to school, sometimes teaching for only one term - or even less – at a specific school.

Mary Teresa Hocker, another long-time teacher at Hayfork, taught at the school from the fall of 1897 to the fall of 1902.<sup>26</sup> At that time, she was to marry Mr. Meckel and had to quit teaching. Female teachers in the early days of education were highly discouraged from teaching after they married, at least in Trinity County.<sup>27</sup>

In the spring of 1903, Richard Woelffel, who came all the way from Mendocino, opened the school after the winter break on March 2.<sup>28</sup> Interestingly, in the fall of 1903, a married woman, Mrs. Imogene S. Jones, was the teacher with 38 students enrolled. The report of an official visit to the school noted that only 23 students were

<sup>22</sup> Submitted by One of the Party, "Party at Hayfork", *The Trinity Journal*, November 25, 1893.

<sup>23</sup> "School Report", *The Trinity Journal*, June 30m 1894.

<sup>24</sup> *The Trinity Journal*, November 30, 1895; October 24, 1896; and April 4, 1896.

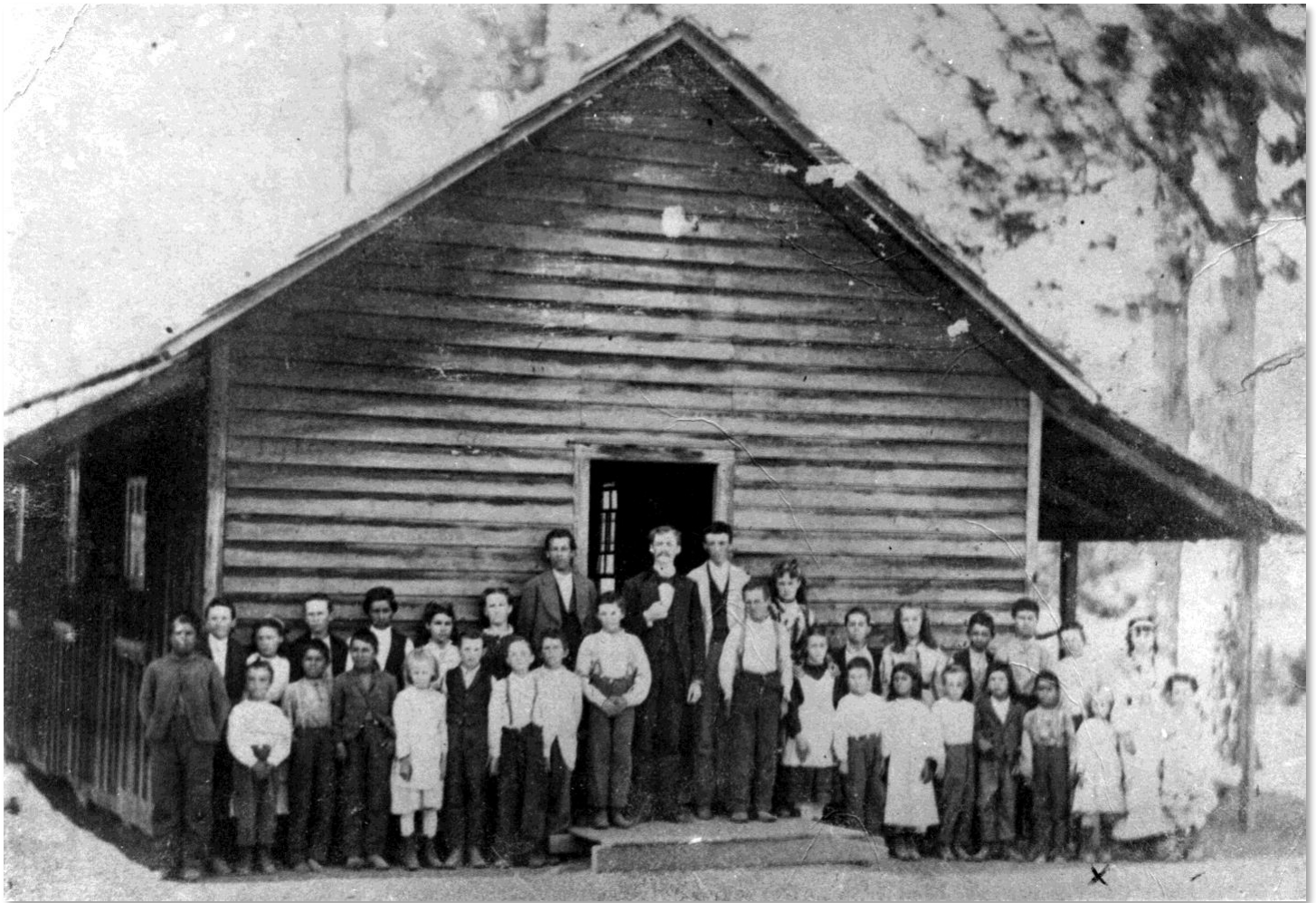
<sup>25</sup> "Local Brevities", *The Trinity Journal*, September 3, 1898.

<sup>26</sup> "Local Brevities", *The Trinity Journal*, November 29, 1902.

<sup>27</sup> Mountjoy, Jan, "Hayfork's Old Schoolhouse", *Trinity County Historical Society Yearbook*, 1999 Weaverville, CA, 63.

<sup>28</sup> "School Notes", *The Trinity Journal*, March 7, 1903.

present that day, and “owing to illness and other causes for non-attendance,” the student’s progress was behind. However, their written work and singing “merit special mention.”<sup>29</sup>



*Hayfork School, 1876, 5-year-old Emily Jane Bragdon, 3rd on the right front, from the David Purdue Collection*

In the spring of 1904, Miss Daisy Garoutte taught at Hayfork and was paid \$70 per month. In the school year 1904-05, Miss Gertrude McNamar taught at the school also for \$70 per month. There were 56 students, with an average daily attendance of “over 40.”<sup>30</sup> She taught at least until the spring of 1907.<sup>31</sup>

On February 13, 1909, a group of parents petitioned the Board of Supervisors (who acted as the board of education at that time in history) and asked for the formation of their own school district out of a portion of the Hayfork district. Their reasoning was that they had a number of school-aged children (19), with many more children to come in the future (there were 10 children under four years of age), who lived a greater distance than two miles from the existing Hayfork schoolhouse. The board agreed to the request, and a new district was formed to be known as Tule Creek School District.<sup>32</sup> Hayfork had lost more of its territory in this decision, but strangely, the action was requested to be reversed in another petition in 1916, asking that a portion of the Tule Creek School District be made part of the Hayfork School District.<sup>33</sup> Whether a decision was made on this issue is unclear, but there’s more to come about Tule Creek School below.

<sup>29</sup> “School Notes”, *The Trinity Journal*, November 7, 1903.

<sup>30</sup> “School Notes”, *The Trinity Journal*, December 10, 1904; and March 18, 1905.

<sup>31</sup> *The Trinity Journal*, March 9, 1907.

<sup>32</sup> “Supervisors Meet”, *The Trinity Journal*, February 13, 1909.

<sup>33</sup> “County Supervisors in Regular Session”, November 18, 1916.

The teachers who worked at Hayfork School from 1907 to 1919 are listed below. While each may have been at the school more than the terms/years listed, these are the only dates supported by found evidence:

1907	(fall term) Miss Cora Nunn <sup>34</sup>
1909-10	Miss Carrie M. Peterson of Oroville <sup>35</sup>
1910-11	Edward Lanto of Berkeley <sup>36</sup>
1912	(spring term) Earl N. Leach of Hayfork <sup>37</sup>
1912-13	Earl N. Leach of Hayfork <sup>38</sup>
1914	(spring term) Miss Ethel Said <sup>39</sup>
1915	(spring term) Miss Emma Perrin <sup>40</sup> ; (fall term) Mertie Trimble of Hyampom <sup>41</sup>
1915-16	Mrs. B. A. Trimble, aka Mertie Trimble <sup>42</sup> , with 37 students <sup>43</sup>
1916-17	Mrs. B. A. Trimble, aka Mertie Trimble <sup>44</sup>
1917-18	Mrs. B. A. Trimble, aka Mertie Trimble <sup>45</sup>
1919	(spring term and fall term) Miss Margaret Rodgers <sup>46</sup>

The Hayfork School, along with “the other valley schools,” provided “an entertainment” at the Hayfork schoolhouse to raise funds to purchase a phonograph for the joint use of the four schools (at least Tule Creek, Salt Creek, and likely Ruch School Districts). The program consisted of songs, recitations, etc., by the students of each school, and it was “very well rendered.” The second portion of the program was a geographical contest by the students. Outlines of the states were “thrown upon a screen by a radioptican,” and each child wrote down the names of the states as they appeared. Two students, Wilma Shock and Genevieve Albiez of Hayfork school, were successful contestants, having guessed each state correctly. At the end of the program, refreshments were sold “and some time [was spent] in social chat.” The event was “voted a success socially and financially.” It raised \$18.25.<sup>47</sup>



At some point during or after the 1917-18 school year, the Hayfork Valley Union School District was formed, merging the Hayfork, Ruch, and Tule Creek school districts, all housed in the Hayfork Schoolhouse. However, the number of students had grown so much that a room over the “Vanderhoff Store” was rented for the 5th and 6th-grade classes. This was the very first unified district in Trinity County. According to historical school records for the school year 1918-19, it was reported that the Hayfork Valley Union School District was “showing marked advancement, although the change has caused much dissension and wrangling. Those in opposition are gradually

<sup>34</sup> “Local Brevities”, *The Trinity Journal*, December 7, 1907.

<sup>35</sup> “Local Brevities”, *The Trinity Journal*, July 2, 1910.

<sup>36</sup> “Local Brevities”, *The Trinity Journal*, September 3, 1910.

<sup>37</sup> “Local Brevities”, *The Trinity Journal*, March 2, 1912.

<sup>38</sup> “Local Brevities”, *The Trinity Journal*, March 15, 1913.

<sup>39</sup> “Hayfork Items”, *The Trinity Journal*, April 4, 1914.

<sup>40</sup> “In the Local Field”, *The Trinity Journal*, June 26, 1915.

<sup>41</sup> “In the Local Field”, *The Trinity Journal*, September 4, 1915.

<sup>42</sup> “Hayfork Items”, *The Trinity Journal*, March 11, 1916.

<sup>43</sup> “Hayfork Items”, *The Trinity Journal*, September 9, 1916.

<sup>44</sup> “In the Local Field”, *The Trinity Journal*, April 21, 1917.

<sup>45</sup> “News from Hayfork Neighbors”, *The Trinity Journal*, July 6, 1918.

<sup>46</sup> “Just a Few Personalities”, *The Trinity Journal*, January 4, 1919; and “People Who Travel”, *The Trinity Journal*, September 6, 1919.

<sup>47</sup> “Hayfork Items”, *The Trinity Journal*, November 20, 1915.

becoming reconciled, and though they may not admit it, cannot but see the vast improvement in the... school.”<sup>48</sup> Three teachers were hired to teach all of the students.

The main school building still lacked electricity and running water at this time, but it did boast a six- to eight-stall barn to house the children’s horses, which they used for transportation since so many of them lived far away from the school. A man named John “Reggie” Morris, Jr. drove many children to school from the Ruch District, seven miles away. He then made a second trip to bring the Tule Creek school children - four miles out - to the Hayfork school. He made the repeat trips every afternoon.<sup>49</sup> The report from an official visit to the school in October of 1919 indicated that the condition of the school buildings and grounds was poor, although notably, the teachers were “especially good,” and the students were wide awake and alert.<sup>50</sup> The poor building conditions were noted throughout the school visiting records into the 1930s.

Also, in 1919, in addition to the elementary students, the school also housed nineteen 9th-grade students. That



*Painting the school, Hayfork Elementary 1898-1902. Left to right: Unidentified, Ella Vanderhoff (on ladder), Pindar Hailstone and John Kelley, others are unknown. Photo collection of Henry Meckel.*

same year, the Trinity County High School Board of Trustees in Weaverville met several times to discuss establishing a branch of Trinity County High School in Hayfork, in part due to a petition from the citizens of Hayfork who wanted a high school for their youth.<sup>51</sup> The Trinity County High School Board took action on August 30, 1919, to establish that high school branch with one teacher in Hayfork. The high school center began operations right away in the 1919-20 school year. But by July 1927, the board decided to discontinue that high school branch. Many years later, the community of Hayfork had a high school again after a long lapse.<sup>52</sup> See the history of the Hayfork High School for more information.

The Ruch School District’s history with Hayfork is rather confusing. As reported above, Ruch was created out of the Hayfork District territory in 1885 and then joined with the Hayfork Valley Union School District in 1918, along with other small schools in the area. This could have been precipitated due to the fact that a new Ruch Schoolhouse was destroyed by fire in 1916.<sup>53</sup> However, in January 1925, ten or more “heads of families” residing in the Hayfork School District and the Ruch School area petitioned the Superintendent of Schools for another boundary change, which was approved.<sup>54</sup> It is unclear what change occurred since all through the 1920s, 1930s, and beyond, Ruch is listed as a school under the umbrella of the Hayfork Valley Union School District in the annual educational reports. The local paper noted that the Ruch School was temporarily suspended, having less than five students for the year ending that same school year on

<sup>48</sup> “Statistics of Elementary Schools”, *Annual Reports*, Historic Documents Collection, Trinity County Office of Education, 1918-19, 49.

<sup>49</sup> “Hayfork Children Now Ride to School”, *The Trinity Journal*, October 5, 1918.

<sup>50</sup> *School Superintendents Record of Official Visits, 1918-1933*, Historic Records Collection, Trinity County Office of Education, 35.

<sup>51</sup> Holland, James. *A History of Education in Trinity County; A Thesis presented to the School of Education*. 1971. Chico State College, 36.

<sup>52</sup> *Ibid.*, 36, 37.

<sup>53</sup> “In the Local Field”, *The Trinity Journal*, September 23, 1916.

<sup>54</sup> “County Supervisors in Regular Session”, *The Trinity Journal*, January 17, 1925.

June 30, 1925. By August, a petition from the superintendent of schools and the Hayfork Valley Union School District asked that Ruch “District” be re-established, which it was by order of the Board of Supervisors. The only guess that can be made here is that Ruch School was never actually reestablished as a separate district from Hayfork Valley Union, but since 1925, it was a separate *school*, likely because parents didn’t want their children traveling those seven miles from their homes to the Hayfork school. The newspaper’s terminology likely was in error, not distinguishing correctly between a “school” and a “district,” which was fairly common.

In 1935, construction began on a new Hayfork elementary school on a new site down the road from the old school on Highway 3. The building was said to cost \$18,000, with partial funding from the Federal Works Project Administration (WPA) of \$12,834. The local school district provided the balance. The new school, which included three classrooms and an auditorium, was dedicated on July 30, 1936.<sup>55</sup>

In 1948, Trinity County saw an increase in student population with a county-wide enrollment of 668, up about 100 students from the year before (not including Lewiston’s enrollment, which hadn’t yet been reported due to a later school start date). Just five years earlier, the total county enrollment was 242.<sup>56</sup> The largest percentage of gain in 1948 was at Hayfork, with 201 students enrolled, or about 36% of the county-wide enrollment. Hayfork’s first grade began the year with 43 students, 12 more than the year before in 1947.



Some of the school activities held at Hayfork in January 1948 included rehearsals for the play “Deacon Dubbs,” sponsored by the Hayfork Valley School Parent Teacher Association (PTA). It’s assumed that the play was performed later that winter. “Deacon Dubbs” was “a rural comedy drama in three acts” published in 1916 when the play was 25 cents to purchase. (Today, the playbook can still be purchased online for

around \$20.)<sup>57</sup> The PTA also put on a “food fest, better known as a Jitney dinner” at the fairgrounds. A Jitney Dinner is described as a fund-raising dinner where food was sold by the scoop for a nickel – a jitney - each.<sup>58</sup> Another activity that at least the seventh and eighth-grade girls were engaged in was cooking the school lunches “under the supervision of Mrs. Hallie Cope.”<sup>59</sup> Principal John Pichotto was in charge of the school at that time.<sup>60</sup>

<sup>55</sup> Mountjoy, Jan, “Hayfork’s Old Schoolhouse”, *Trinity County Historical Society Yearbook*, 1999, 65.

<sup>56</sup> “County Grade Schools Enrollment is Record”, *The Trinity Journal*, September 16, 1948.

<sup>57</sup> “Internet Archive”, <https://archive.org/details/deacondubbsrural00hare>, and Amazon.com, accessed April 27, 2024.

<sup>58</sup> “A Jitney Lunch”, *Grammarphobia*, *Grammar, etymology, usage and more*, [www.grammarphobia.com/blog/2013/10/jitney.html](http://www.grammarphobia.com/blog/2013/10/jitney.html), accessed April 27, 2024.

<sup>59</sup> “Hayfork Events”, *The Trinity Journal*, January 22, 1948.

<sup>60</sup> *Ibid.* February 5, 1948.



In 1951, the Salt Creek School was also added to the Hayfork district to make four schools under the auspices of the district. However, the Salt Creek site was closed when the children there were more easily transported to Hayfork, especially as roads and transportation had improved.<sup>61</sup>

By 1955, the Hayfork Valley Union School District operated Hayfork Elementary School, Wildwood Elementary School (constructed in 1951), and Forest Glenn Elementary School, although Forest Glenn closed only two months after becoming part of the Hayfork District due to a lack of students.<sup>62</sup>

In 1956, the district had an enrollment of 330 students, eleven teachers, and one Superintendent/Principal, Mr. Porter L. Critser. The facility at that time consisted of three separate buildings: the original structure was completed in 1936, the second was an addition of two rooms built in 1949-50, and the third addition of five classrooms was constructed in 1953-54.

The renamed Mountain Valley Unified School District was officially established on July 1, 1987.<sup>63</sup> In 1988, the district received the California Distinguished School Award. The district currently includes Hayfork Elementary School, Hayfork High School, Valley High, and Mountain Valley Adult School. The new high school is said to be built on land originally owned by the “Youngs,” who were related to the Bayless family who ran the Hay Fork Flour and Sawmills. The Meckels were also related to the Youngs, and Fred and Henry Meckel sold the district the land it was built upon.<sup>64</sup>

Until 2017, the district also included the Hyampom Elementary School in the town of Hyampom, but that school was closed due to a lack of students and the need for extensive repairs to the building. Many structural changes and more improvements occurred in the district between 2017 and 2022. The district is still thriving to this day.



*May Day Dance. On the drum: “Mountain Valley Concert Band”*

See also **Forest Glenn**, **Hayfork High**, **Ruch**, **Salt Creek**, **Tule Creek**, **Hyampom**, and **Wildwood** school districts.

<sup>61</sup> “A Short History of the Schools in Trinity County”, *The Trinity Journal*, 1956, 4.

<sup>62</sup> “Trinity County Schools Growing With California”, *The Trinity Journal*, January 28, 1956, Centennial Edition.

<sup>63</sup> “Mountain Valley School District” <https://opengovus.com/sam-entity/NGKRD9J5RE5> and [https://www.allbiz.com/business/mountain-valley-unified-school-district\\_16r-530-628-5261](https://www.allbiz.com/business/mountain-valley-unified-school-district_16r-530-628-5261). Accessed July 19, 2022.

<sup>64</sup> Hayfork Historical Writing Class, “This is Hayfork”, Shasta College, 1972, 33.



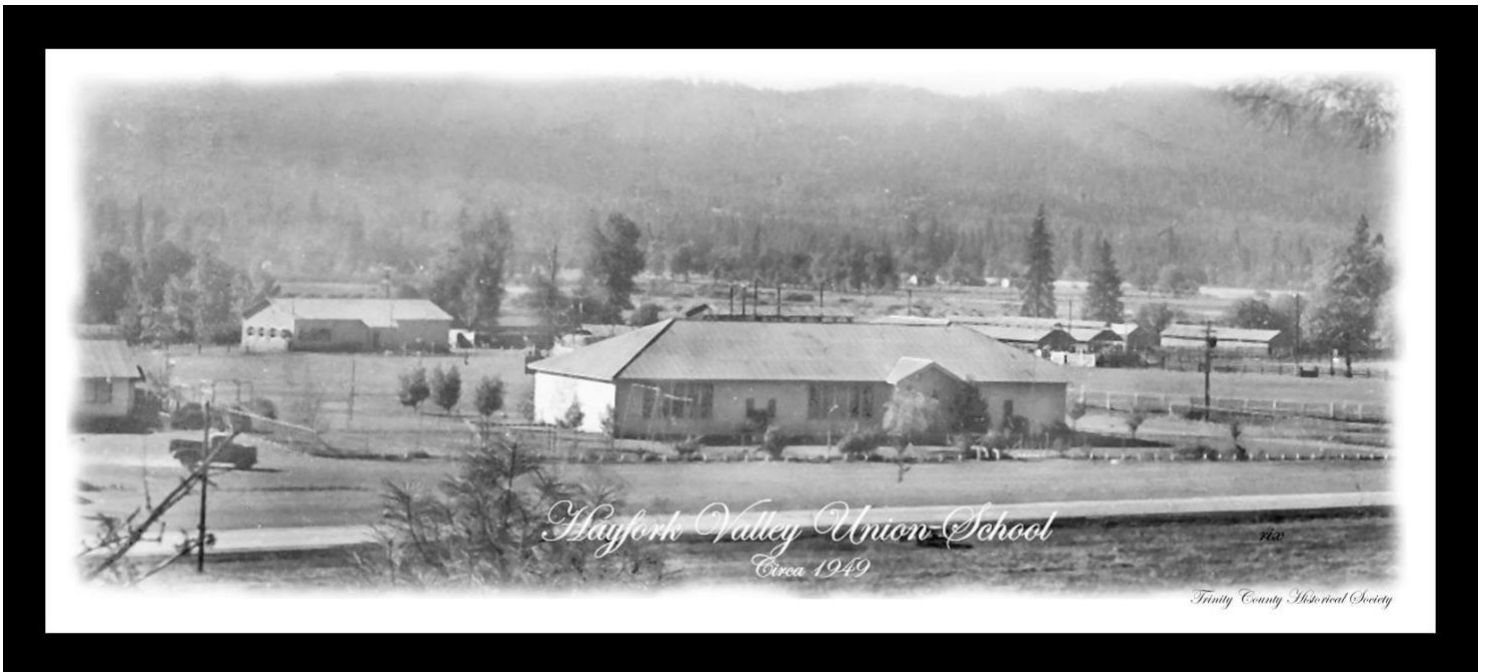
Hayfork Elementary School 1936

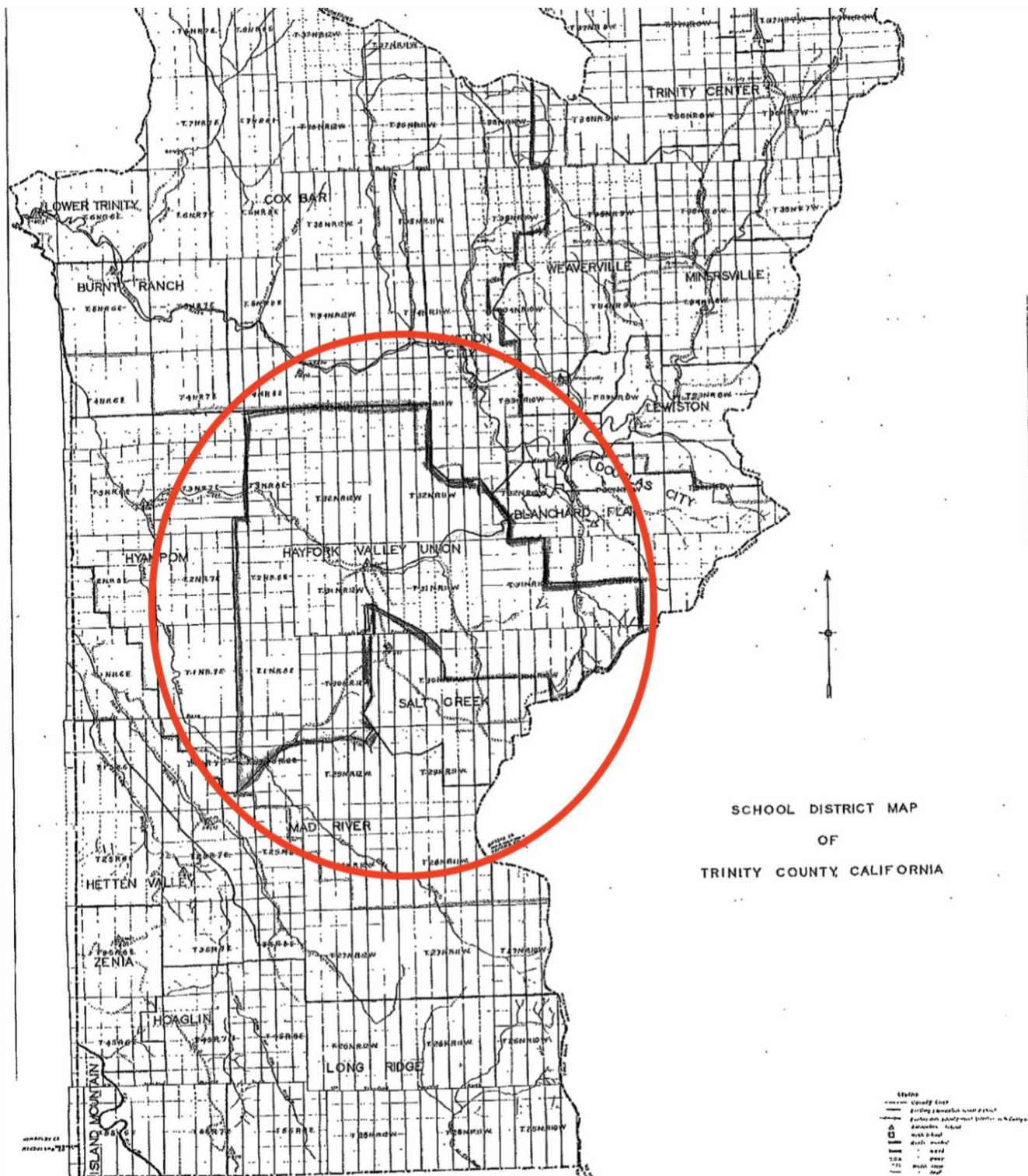
City Hayfork Valley Union  
Address Hayfork

DISBURSEMENTS

	WARRANT NO.	COUNTY	STATE	LIBRARY	SPECIAL
Soldner	8992		20000	Fed Indian Aid	
Martin Swayze	7065	2500			
ber & Co.	9133	600			
rown	9169	720			
lans	9359	720			
r & Co.	9383	587			

Hayfork Valley Union received Federal Indian Aid from 1921 to 1928 and from 1932 to 1938 due to the significant number of Native students who attended





Map from 1947, Trinity County Office of Education records



*Fairfax County Historical Society*

*Hayfork Elementary School - Circa 1931*

**Front row:** Clarence B Coumbes, Clarence Alan Campbell, Charles Vaughn, Ellis Knapp, Vernon Rourke, Jay Taylor, Charley Vaughn, Alfred Loomis, Margaret Albiez, Jane Henderson, Bertha Moser, Mary Glass, Alice Reed, Idelle Adams, Stewart Jackson **Back row:** Earl Williams, Arthur Knapp, Malcolm "Pal" Ross, Ernest W. Glass, Myrtle M. Everest (teacher), Donald Coumbes, Earl Britton, Robert Kirkpatrick, Charles "Buster" Brown