

Davisville 1868

Twelve
Months in
Davis'
Gestation

Celebrating Davis' 140th Anniversary: 1868-2008

PART FOUR OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER

The at-the-time news story is the central feature of this exhibit. The effort is to provide an almost week-to-week portrayal of how Davis "gestated."

The news stories making up the chronology are photocopied from three newspapers:

- The Solano Press (SP, below) published in Suisun City.
- The Woodland Mail (Mail, below) published in Woodland.
- The Yolo County Democrat (Y.C.D., below) also published in Woodland.

John Colford

Solano Press, October 11:
With only 1000 now past Davis, the 4000' has still not acquired a name. This is truly "on the fly" planning.

Y.C.D. - Thursday:—The Division of the Company, Pacific Railroad, are taking for the first time an interest, by the Trustees of Sacramento, granting to the Company the privilege of constructing a bridge across the river at the foot of Davis, and for the purpose of that street from Front to 5th street, to lay down two tracks for the accommodation of the traffic of the road.

Solano Press, October 11:

Davisville:—The Union meeting addressed by Allen P. Dudley and Chas. Westmireland was a great success.... A Lodge of Good Templars was organized on the 10th ult., with J.K. Pligge as W. C. T.... The permanent railroad bridge over the Putah is nearly finished.... A drug store is being erected. Jas Sanders has established a lumber yard and there is some talk of building a warehouse and a boarding hall.

Solano Press, October 14:

Letter from Davisville

Davisville, Oct. 11 1868.
Extra Part:—The town of Davisville is fast taking shape and assuming the appearance of a village. At present, it boasts of three stores, 5 saloons, 3 hotels, 1 restaurant, 1 blacksmith shop, 1 barber shop, 1 shoemaker shop, 1 candle shop, 1 news depot, 1 jeweler shop, and two dwellings. During the week, Hiram J. Wright, of Yuba Co., will open a hardware store in a building 2340 Dr. Lane, and a building is under way for a plumb gallery in variety store. A heavy water will be commenced this week. Low and through are sending their lumber by wagon. Immense piles of grain are awaiting shipment. Wm. Orinback has begun his workhouse. The cars run 3 miles beyond the town. The Good Templars are doing well, and expectation is here a few balls. There begins a boom for carpenters.

Yolo County Democrat, October 17:

Telegrams:—We are informed by Fishman & Kaufman, through whose enterprise a telegraph office has been established in this place, that the line from Davisville here will be completed in 10 days, and ready for the transmission of messages in all parts of the country. The event is a subject worthy of congratulation. The wondrous growth and prosperity of the community has created a demand for telegraphic communication, and it will rejoice that the want has been supplied. The office is located at Fishman & Kaufman's store, Main street.

Solano Press, October 26: (The "rough's note" mentioned in this report is the committee and organized American State franchise, by which there was a speaker's stand.)

The Convention:—On Monday night there was an American Union meeting at Davisville, the largest ever witnessed in that portion of the State. Delegations were present from Colusa, Yuba, Woodland and other portions of neighboring counties. The program, with three hours of music furnished from the national depot, the speakers' stand, general knowledge was demonstrated. Knightly talent especially making a fine display. Southern friends, numbers filled the sky, and the most of articles was complete in the session. The meeting was presided over by J. M. Dudley, and vigorous speeches were made by W. N. Wells, Carter Edgerman, A. T. Van Dusen, and C. R. Davis. The musical entertainment was provided.

Congressional Session and Judge Wells at Woodland last week, and report that the Union men of those neighborhoods are fully prepared to the inauguration of November 10th.

J. M. Coughlin and J. McKenna addressed a very large and enthusiastic Union meeting at Knappa, in Lake county, on Monday night.

Woodland Mail, November 2:



Woodland Mail, November 2:

A New School House:—The Trustees of Yolo District describe for purposes to build a school house at Davisville. The work is to be begun as soon as possible, and when finished according to specifications the building will be a credit to the community for whose benefit it is intended.

Solano Press, November 14:

Gen. James Rankin of the 1st and 2d Divisions, now and they have completed their road through the hills, will save the steamer Six weeks of delay. The day route by the 10th ult. will be the best of passenger as well as of freight on the line, leaving Yuba Co. for Sacramento morning and evening. The steamer will connect with the down train, leaving the city in San Francisco at nightfall. The business of this road is rapidly increasing, and it can be acknowledged that the enterprise will meet with the success its most sanguine projectors have claimed for it.

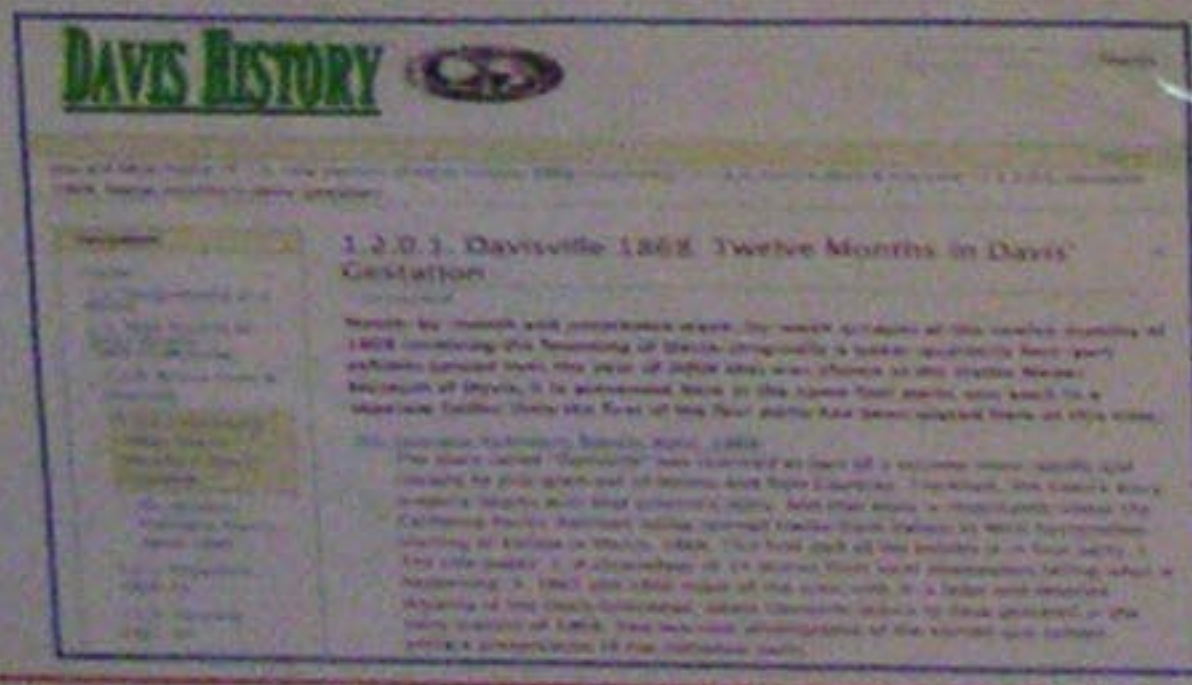
Woodland Mail, November 28:

Davisville:—A number of business houses and residences are by course of erection at Davisville. The town has assumed quite a lively appearance.

Previous parts of "Davisville 1868: Twelve Months in Davis' Gestation: January-April" can be viewed and downloaded at:

www.davishistoricalsociety.org

Here it is in overview:



10.01.2008

Woodland Mail, December 31

DAVISVILLE—A correspondent of the Capital Republic, who has recently visited this county, speaks of one of its features as follows: "Davisville is a new town, situated at the point where the railroad from Sacramento is to long be finished with one track. Davisville, built on the banks of the Yuba, is a town of some 1000 and has a fine view of the mountains. A large amount of wheat is raised, and the soil of the farm is the richest. We predict for Davisville a very prosperous future."

Solano Press, December 9

The editor of this paper rode the train from Solano to Sacramento on Thursday December 3 and reported on several new and thriving towns along the way. These included Duke's Crossing, Dicksonville and Davisville. He gave more space to the other two towns than to Davis, of which he writes:

The best stopping place is the junction town of Davis, with its hotel and Yuba Creek. The hotel being in the Railroad Company, it has been built out, and a resident agent is here disposing of more lots. The lots are mostly in city blocks—all new—and we counted five or six in process of erection. Davisville has a more thrifty appearance than any other town on the line of the road. We delivered several car loads of lumber, and in their stead, lumber on its way can be loaded with wheat, destined to Sacramento.

Solano Press, December 9

December 17, 1886. The first map of the Yuba River, from the mouth of the Yuba River to the mouth of the Yuba River, was published in 1886. It is a map of 1886.

Woodland Mail, December 11

DAVISVILLE—Improvements in Davisville are going rapidly forward and a number of substantial buildings are being erected. Some difficulty has been experienced in obtaining a sufficient number of mechanics. Davisville is the nearest station on the route of the California Pacific Railroad.

LARGE STOCK OF WHEAT—In the two large stone houses of Wm. Dinsbach, at Davisville, there are now stored 200 hundred tons of wheat, a superior quality, waiting shipment.

Woodland Mail, December 26

The burglary of December 9 (above) and this request for a Justice of the Peace suggests that this railroad-created "paper town" was rapidly evolving into a real, settled place—crime problems and all.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS—Board in session Saturday last; the following business transacted: Petition of citizens of Davisville for the appointment of a Justice of the Peace rejected, there being no vacancy in the township.



THE FIRST MAP OF DAVISVILLE
RECORDED NOVEMBER 24, 1886

This image titled "Map of Davisville" is an enlarged photograph of page 242 (the page number is in the lower left) in the Yuba County Record, which is in the Yuba County Archives in Woodland.

The original page is "Folger 242," measuring 11 by 17 inches and is handwritten.

The handwriting on the right hand side of the page reads: "Recorded at the request of J. W. Smith November 24th, 1886 at 10 o'clock AM. J. E. Brown Recorder (1886)"

George Washington Smith was the recorder in 1886 and the recorder in 1886. The record is in the Yuba County Archives in Woodland.

On 8 Jan. 1887, the page was re-recorded in the Yuba County Archives in Woodland.

More records in 1887 were in the Yuba County Archives in Woodland.



10.01.2008