

# ALEXANDER BUTLER HOMESTEAD PALM TREES

## This is how a new research project gets started.....

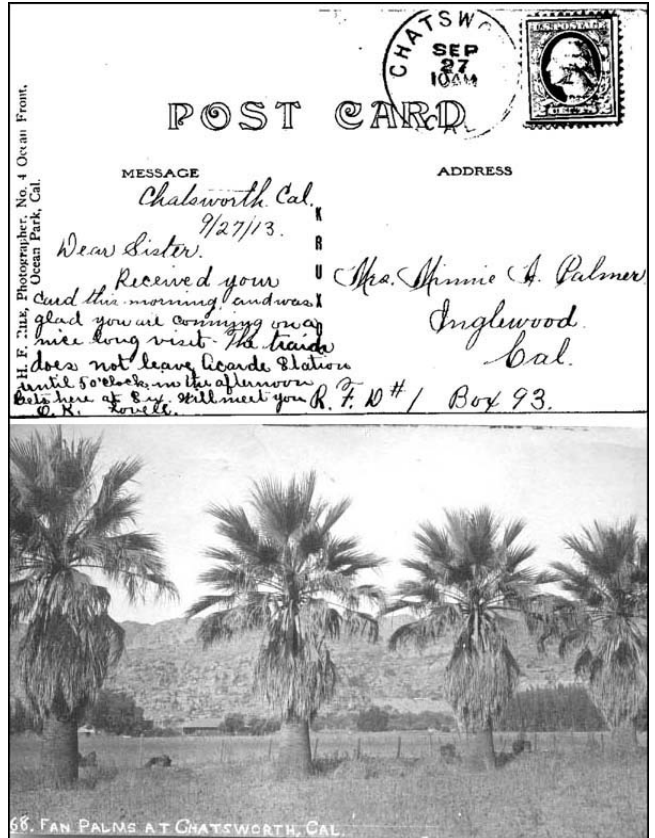
At the Highway Patrol program in March, a view of the palm trees on Andora at Farralone (see photo below -- "Fake Cop" Episode, 1957 notice palm trees upper center) brought instant reactions from both Reid Bogert and Linda van der Valk. Reid recalled he had seen those palm trees as young trees in a 1913 postcard sent to Minnie Hill Palmer by her brother Lovell, while Minnie was living in Inglewood, CA in 1913 (photo at right).



Linda van der Valk and Virginia Watson had prepared the large Minnie Hill Palmer display case in the museum, and Linda knew exactly where it was on display.

Those tall palm trees are still there today. We did a little research to find out who planted those palm trees. From an analysis of the photos below, we now realize that the palm trees lined the entrance to the 1901 Butler homestead on Andora at Farralone.

If you look real close at the post card photo, the Hill-Palmer cottage is between the left two palm trees.



In the 1959 aerial photo above, the 33 acre Butler homestead is outlined in red. The Butler home is in the upper-mid right corner, and is the only home on the parcel. The Hill homestead is circled in blue on the left. The center photo above is a close-up of the Butler home, and you can see the 12 palm trees. The photo was taken in the morning, seen by the

long shadows of the trees. Notice the Santa Susana creek runs just left of the home. By 1961 the majority of the original Butler homestead (except for the upper right corner including the home) became a golf course. By 1969 the property is part of Rockpointe Condominiums, shown in the 2015 Google Earth photo above.

