

<b>1. DATE - TIME - GROUP</b> 3 September 53 4/0320Z	<b>2. LOCATION</b> Modesto, California
<b>3. SOURCE</b> Civilian	<b>10. CONCLUSION</b> AIRCRAFT
<b>4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS</b> One	
<b>5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION</b> Not Reported	<b>11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS</b> A photograph of an elliptical shaped object was taken with a speed graphic camera (1/1000 exposure) by a newspaper photographer. The camera was left unattended on top of a building between the hours of 1000 and 0015 ZTC for purpose of photographing an object similar to one seen earlier.
<b>6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION</b> Visual-Visual	
<b>7. COURSE</b> Not Reported	<b>COMMENTS:</b> A civilian ground observer crew noted an a/c with a landing light in a traffic pattern at Modesto Airport several times during the interval that exposure was made. It was the opinion of reporting officer that elliptical object on the photos was the result of the flash of an a/c landing light.
<b>8. PHOTOS</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (PRINT ONLY) <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
3 Sep 53	Modesto, Cal. (photo neg)

b-7

MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

3 SEPTEMBER 1953

A newspaper photographer and a news reporter, for the same paper, saw a yellowish white light at 7:45 p.m., PDT, 3 September 1953. The light seemed to be about ten degrees above the horizon in the direction of the Modesto Airport. The witnesses said it appeared to remain stationary as they drove a distance of about one mile East where it vanished from view. They believed it to be an aircraft with landing light on flying the upwind leg at Modesto Airport.

The news photographer took his camera to the newspaper building and set it up on the roof in the direction he believed he had seen the light. He left his camera unattended with the shutter open for about four hours. He developed the film on 8 September 1953. When he noticed the elliptical light and could not explain it, he called Castle Air Force Base.

The exposure was made with a speed graphic camera, set on f22 and unattended except for opening and closing the shutter. The exposure was made sometime between 8:20 p.m. 3 September and 00:15 am, 4 September. The camera was located about 40 feet above the street and oriented East. The geographic location is 37.38<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>N - 121.00W. The elliptical light is approximately at ten degree elevation and on a bearing of ninety degrees.

It is the opinion of the preparing officer that the elliptical light in the photograph is the flash of a landing light of an aircraft

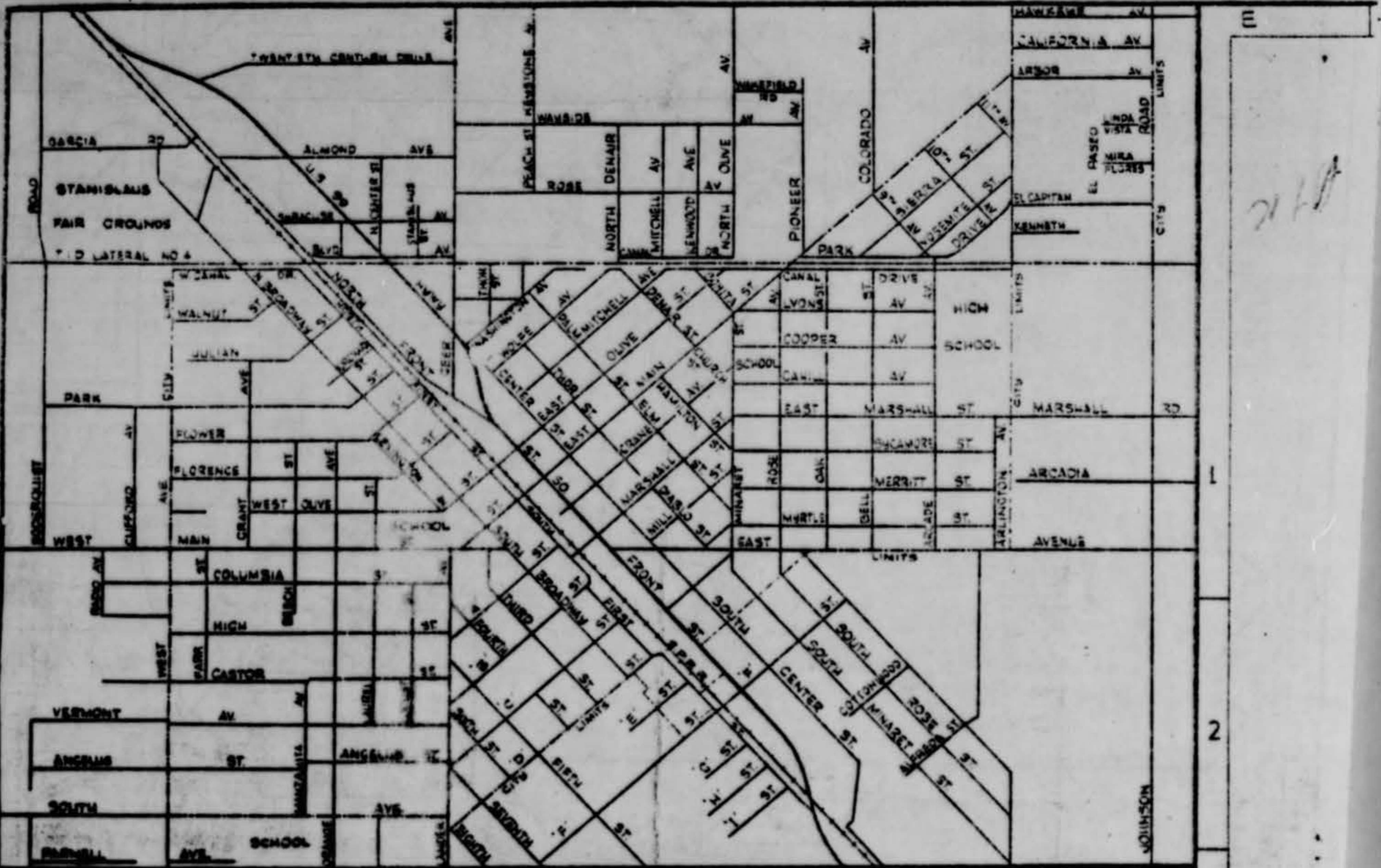
flying in the vicinity of Modesto Airport. Civil Defense ground observers on duty during the time exposure noted what they believed was a small aircraft with landing light on, flying the traffic pattern at Modesto Airport between 10:15 pm - 10:30 pm, PDT, 3 September 1953.

The conclusion is based on the statements of the observers and the coincidence of the northeast orientation of the runway and its location. The runway was  $4\frac{1}{2}$  NM from the observers and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  NM from the camera.

NEWMAN TOWNSHIP

Linwood Ave.	7-4	River Road	1-1
Locust Ave.	10-4	River Road	1-1
Lone Oak Road	10-4	River Road	1-1
Formal Ave.	10-4	River Road	1-1

Handwritten signature or initials



**TURLOCK**  
Population 6221

A B C D

3-INDEX



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5  
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- Agnew Ave. D-4
- Almond Road D-7
- Almond Road D-7
- Almond Road C-4
- Baker Ave. D-4
- Banks Ave. D-4
- Barnett Road D-7
- Barnett Road D-7
- Barkwith Road D-7
- Bell Road D-7
- Bentley Road D-7
- Berkley Ave. D-4
- Blossom Ave. D-4
- Blue Gum Ave. D-4
- Bradbury Road D-7
- Brier Road D-7
- Broyles Ave. D-4
- California Ave. D-4
- Carpenter Road D-4
- Carver Road D-4
- Central Ave. D-4
- Church Street D-4
- Claribel Road E-3
- Clark Road D-4
- Clartina Ave. D-7
- Clary Blvd. C-3
- Claus Road D-4
- Clayton Ave. D-4
- Coffee Road D-4
- Colorado Ave. D-4
- Coulterville Road D-4
- Crane Road D-4
- Crawford Road D-4
- Crow Road D-7
- Crow Road Ice D-7
- Crows Landing Road D-7
- Curtis Road D-4
- Dakota Ave. D-4
- Dale Road D-4
- Davis Road D-4
- Davis Road D-4
- Davis Road D-4
- Donkin Road D-4
- Don Pedro Road D-4
- Draper Road D-4
- Dunn Road D-4
- Duffy Lane D-4
- East Ave. D-4
- 287 Road D-4
- Fig Ave. D-4
- Fine Ave. D-4
- Fink Road D-4
- Finnay Road D-4
- Floyd Ave. D-4
- Foote Road D-4
- Fox Road D-4
- Frankenheimer Rd. C-3
- Fruit Road D-4
- Frymire Road D-4
- Fulkerth Road D-4
- Graftery D-4
- Garner Road D-4
- Garst Road D-4
- Gates Road D-4
- Geer Ave. D-4
- Georgia Lane D-4
- Gill Road D-4
- Golden State Highway D-4
- Golf Road D-4
- Graton Road D-4
- Griffin Ave. D-4
- Grimes Ave. D-4
- Hall Road D-4
- Hanning Ave. D-4
- Hart Road D-4
- Hart Road D-4
- Hawkeye Ave. D-4
- Hazel Dean Ave. G-4
- Hickman Road G-3
- Hickman-LaGrange Road D-4
- Hopper Road D-4
- Howard Road D-4
- Keyes Road D-4
- Kierman Ave. D-4
- Kilburn Ave. D-4
- Knights Ferry D-4
- Grange Rd. D-4
- Ladd Road D-4
- Lander Ave. D-4
- Langworth Ave. D-4
- Las Palmas Ave. D-4
- Lincoln Ave. D-4

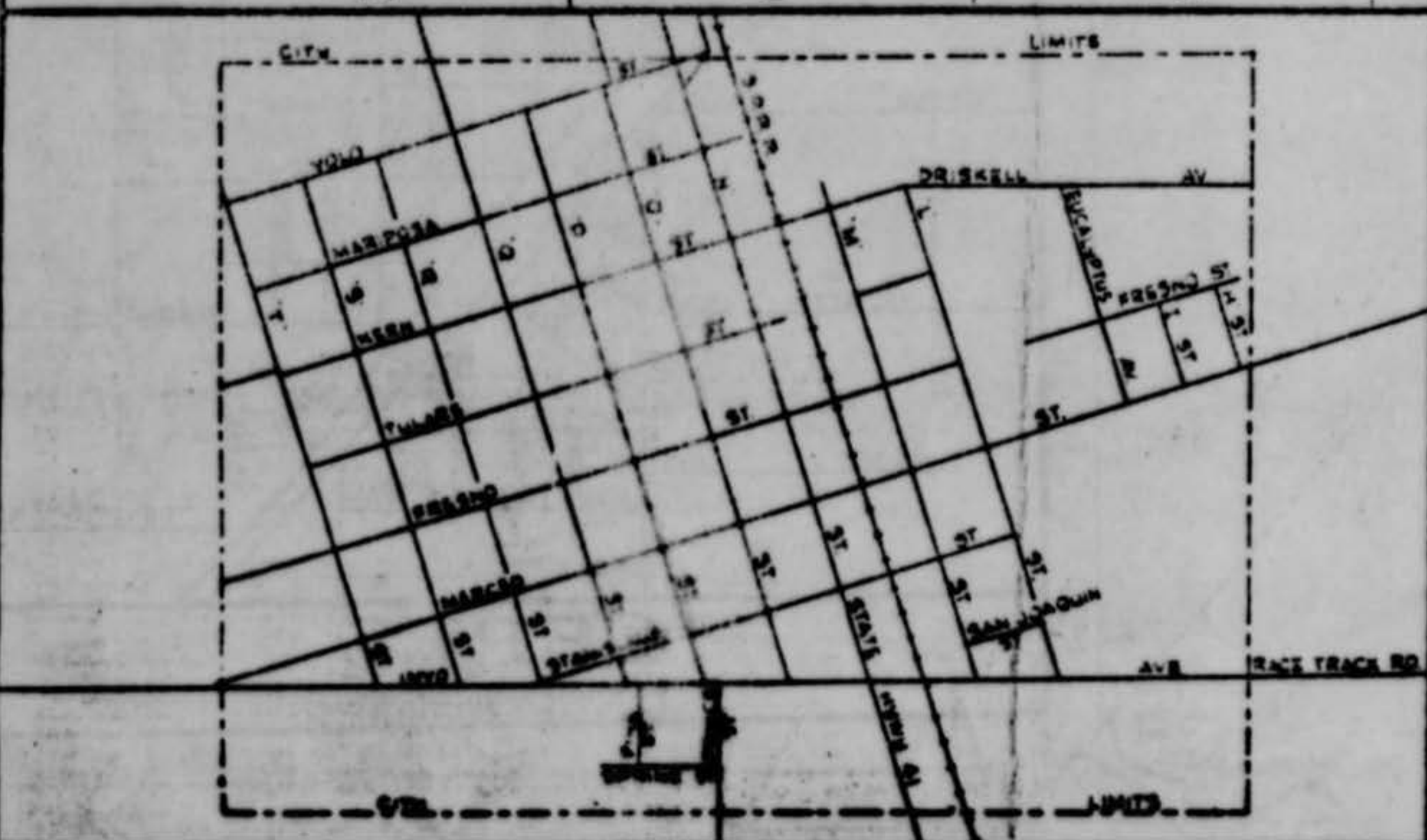
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- Kilburn Ave. D-4
- Knights Ferry D-4
- Grange Rd. D-4
- Ladd Road D-4
- Lander Ave. D-4
- Langworth Ave. D-4
- Las Palmas Ave. D-4
- Lincoln Ave. D-4



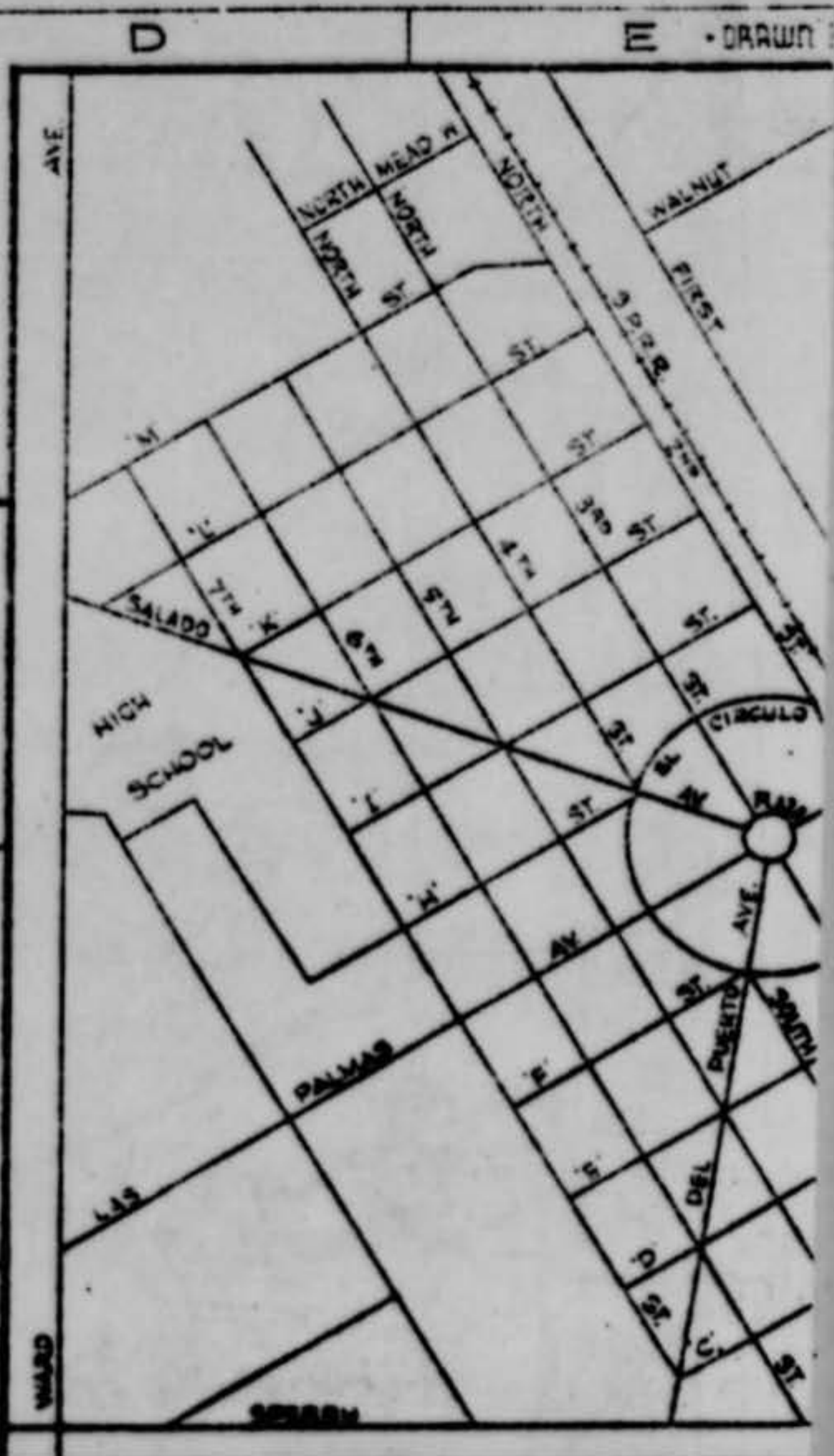
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- Ortega St
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- Pear Ave.
- Pioneer Ave
- Pomeroy St
- Prater St



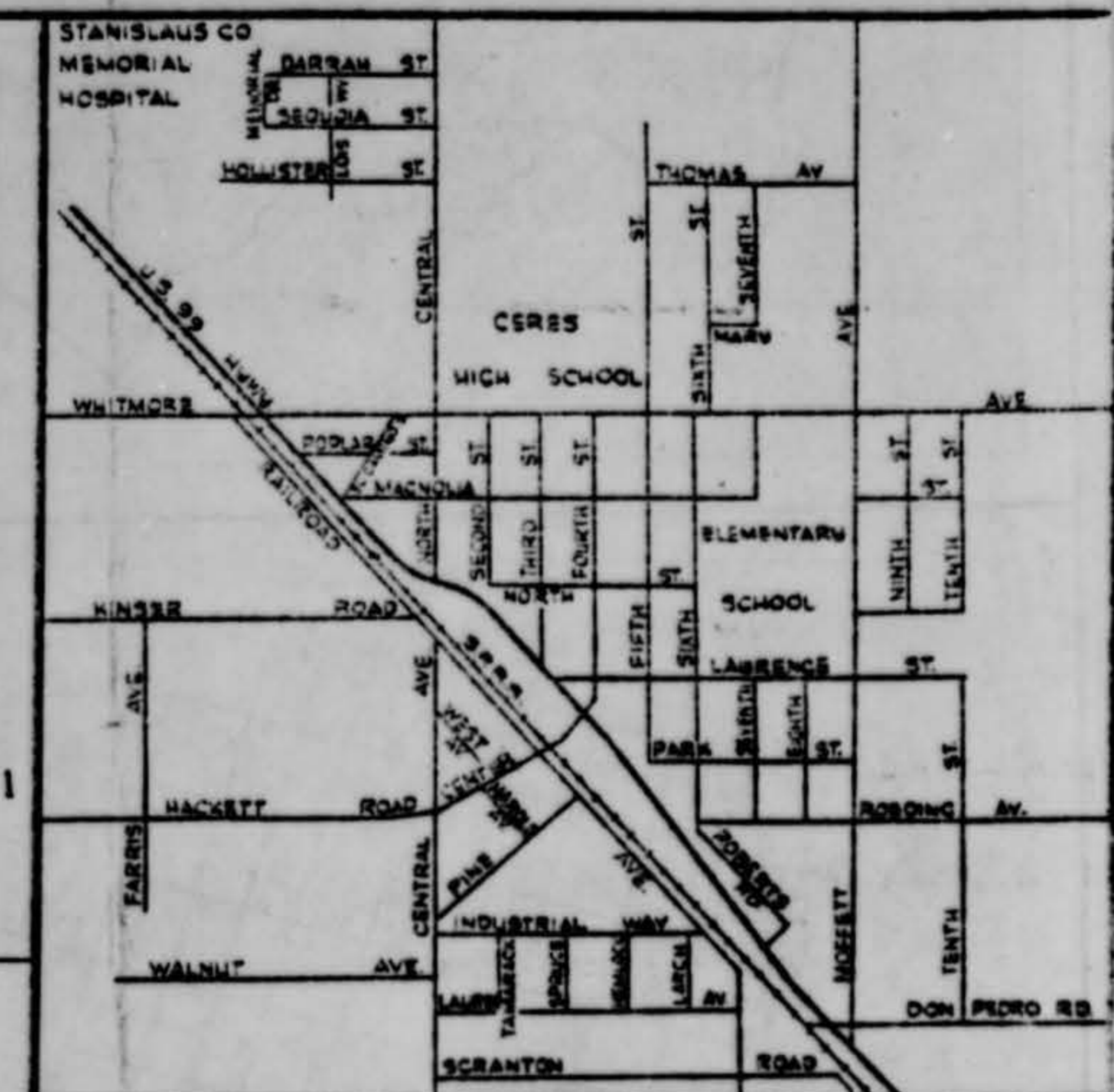
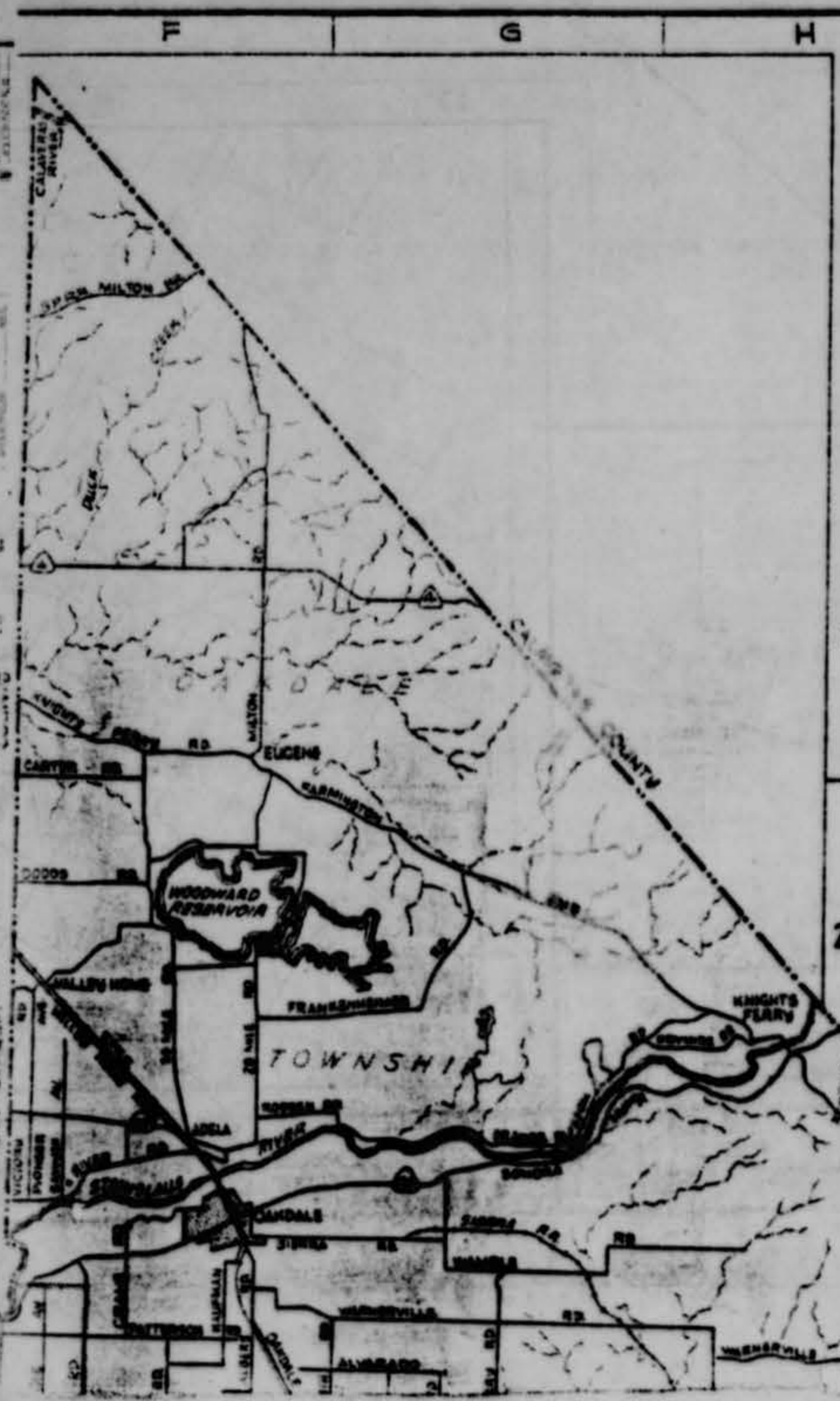
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|-----------------|---------|----------------|--|
| Linwood Ave.    | F-4     | River Road     |  |
| Locust Ave.     | D-4     | River Road     |  |
| Long Oak Road   | G-4     | River Road     |  |
| Loquat Ave.     | D-4     | River Road     |  |
| Lundy Road      | E-4     | Roberts Road   |  |
| Mabel Ave.      | E-4     | Roberts Road   |  |
| Magnolia Ave.   | D-4     | Roberts Road   |  |
| Marshall Road   | D-7     | Roberts Road   |  |
| Mare Road       | C-4     | Rogers Road    |  |
| McDonald Ave.   | D-4     | Romain Road    |  |
| McGee Ave.      | F-2     | Roselle Ave.   |  |
| McHenry Ave.    | E-2     | Rosemore Ave.  |  |
| Merle Ave.      | E-4     | Rudie Road     |  |
| Milnes Road     | F-4     | Santa Fe Ave.  |  |
| Missouri Ave.   | F-4     | Sawyer Ave.    |  |
| Mitchell Ave.   | E-4     | Scenic Drive   |  |
| Milton Road     | E-3     | Service Road   |  |
| Monte Vata      | F-1     | Shelia Road    |  |
| Road            | E-6 G-4 | Shoemaker Ave. |  |
| Montpelier Hwy. | G-4     | Sierra Road    |  |
| Moran Road      | G-4     | Smith Road     |  |



**NEWMAN**  
Population 1866

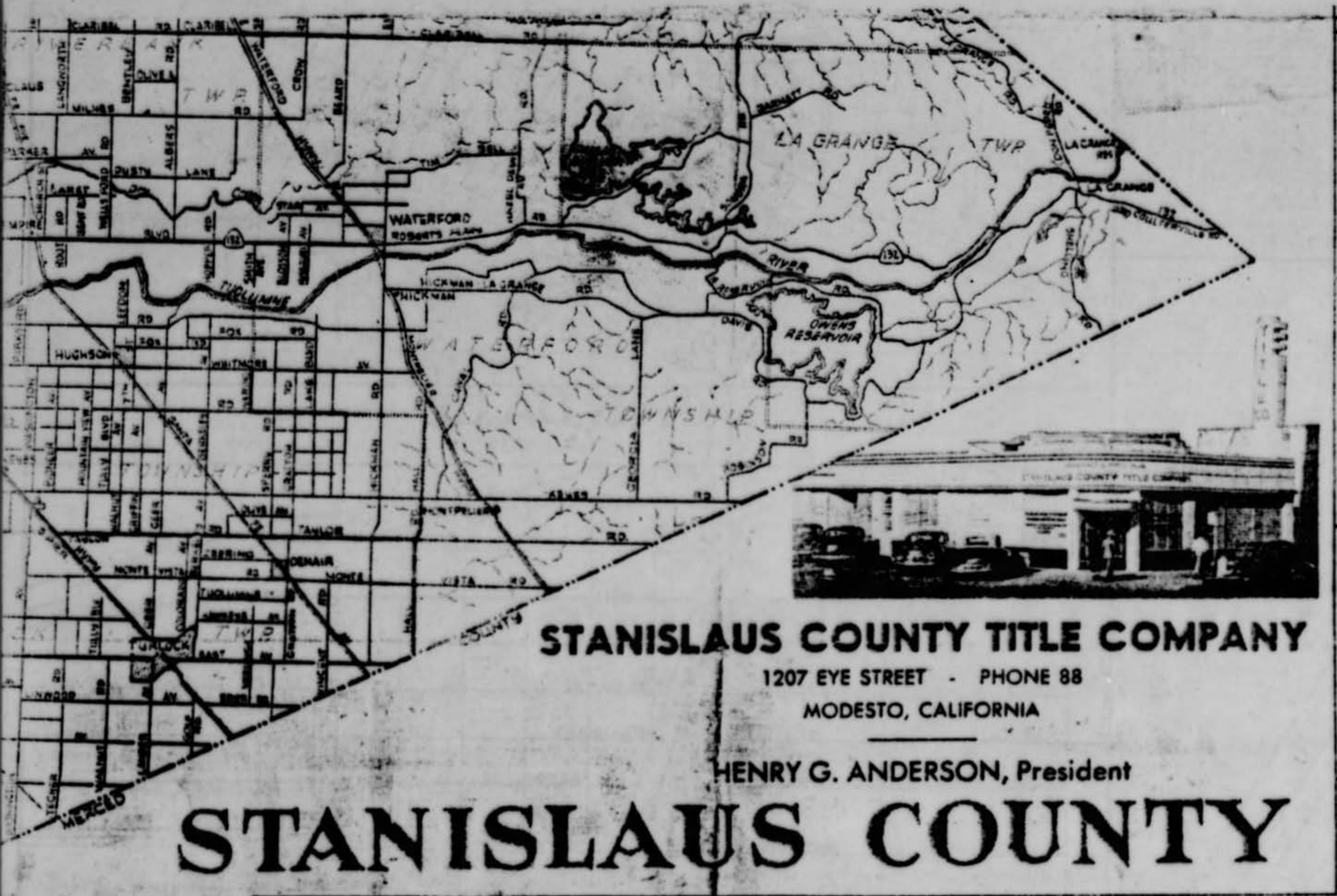


**PATTERS**  
Population 1315



**CERES**  
Population 2353





**STANISLAUS COUNTY TITLE COMPANY**

1207 EYE STREET - PHONE 88  
 MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

HENRY G. ANDERSON, President

**STANISLAUS COUNTY**





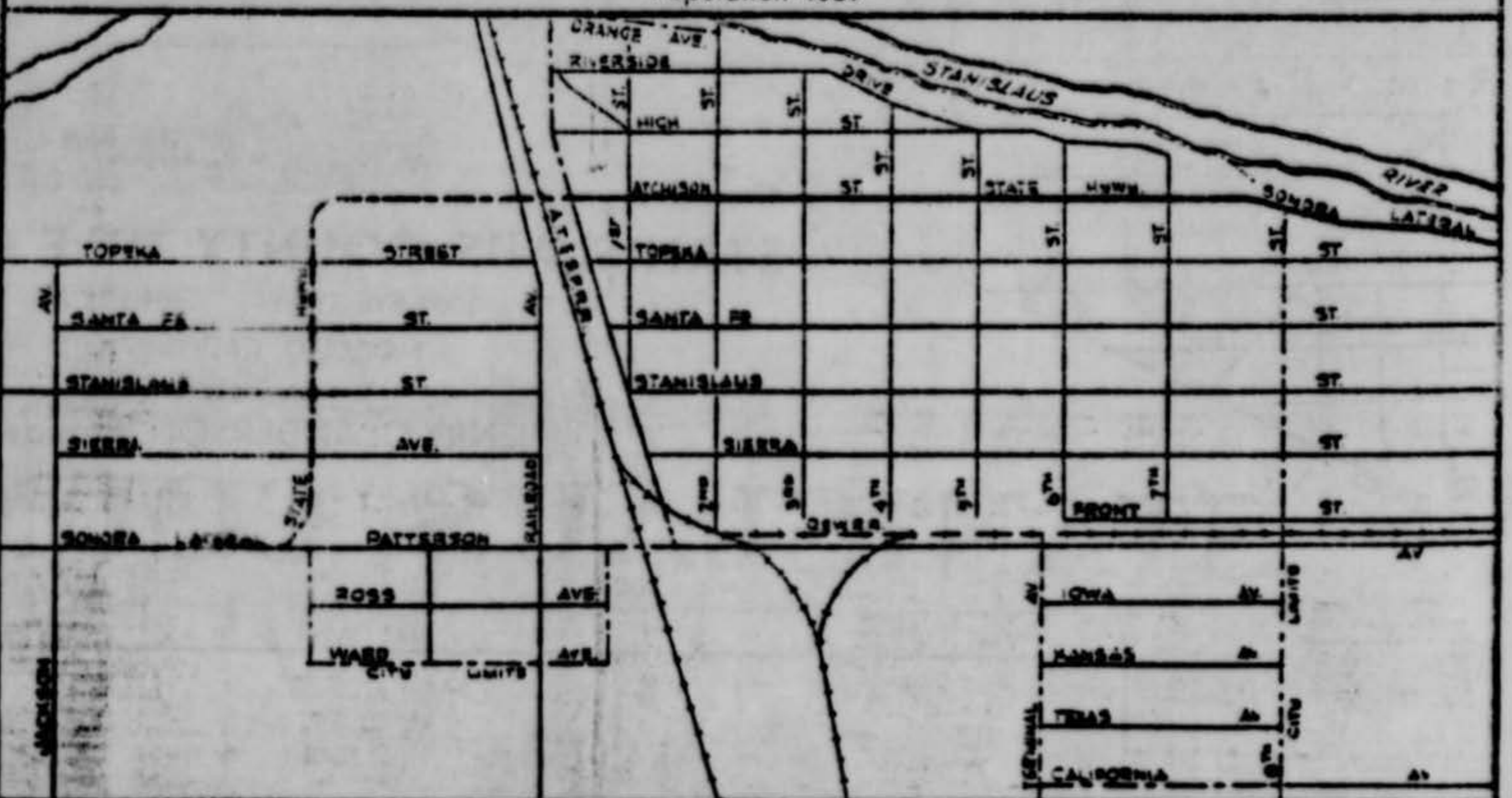
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- Vineyard Ave. 1-2
- Vivian Road 1-3
- Walnut Ave. 1-4
- Walnut Road 1-5
- Wanda Road 1-6
- Ward Ave. 1-7
- Warnerville Road 1-8
- Washington Ave. 1-9
- Washington Ave. 2-0
- Wellford Road 2-1
- Wetly Road 2-2
- West Main 2-3
- West Side Hwy. 2-4
- West Stanislaus Rd. 2-5
- Whitmore Ave. 2-6
- Woodland Ave. 2-7
- Yosemite Blvd. 2-8
- Young Ave. 2-9
- Zacharias Road 3-0

BURK 1935 - F



# OAKDALE

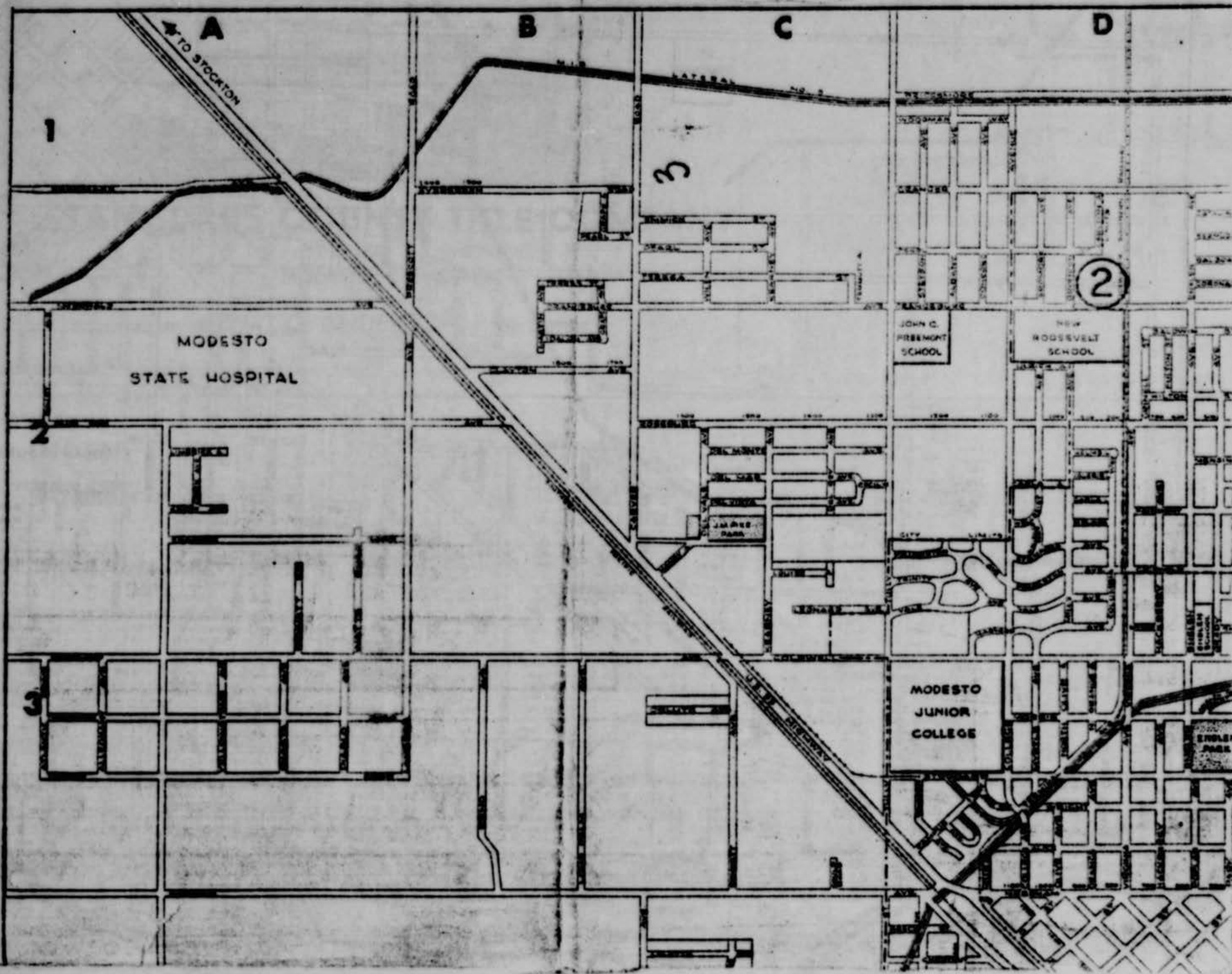
Population 4059



# RIVERBANK

Population 2660

ON



MODESTO  
STATE HOSPITAL

JOHN C.  
FREMONT  
SCHOOL

NEW  
ROOSEVELT  
SCHOOL

MODESTO  
JUNIOR  
COLLEGE

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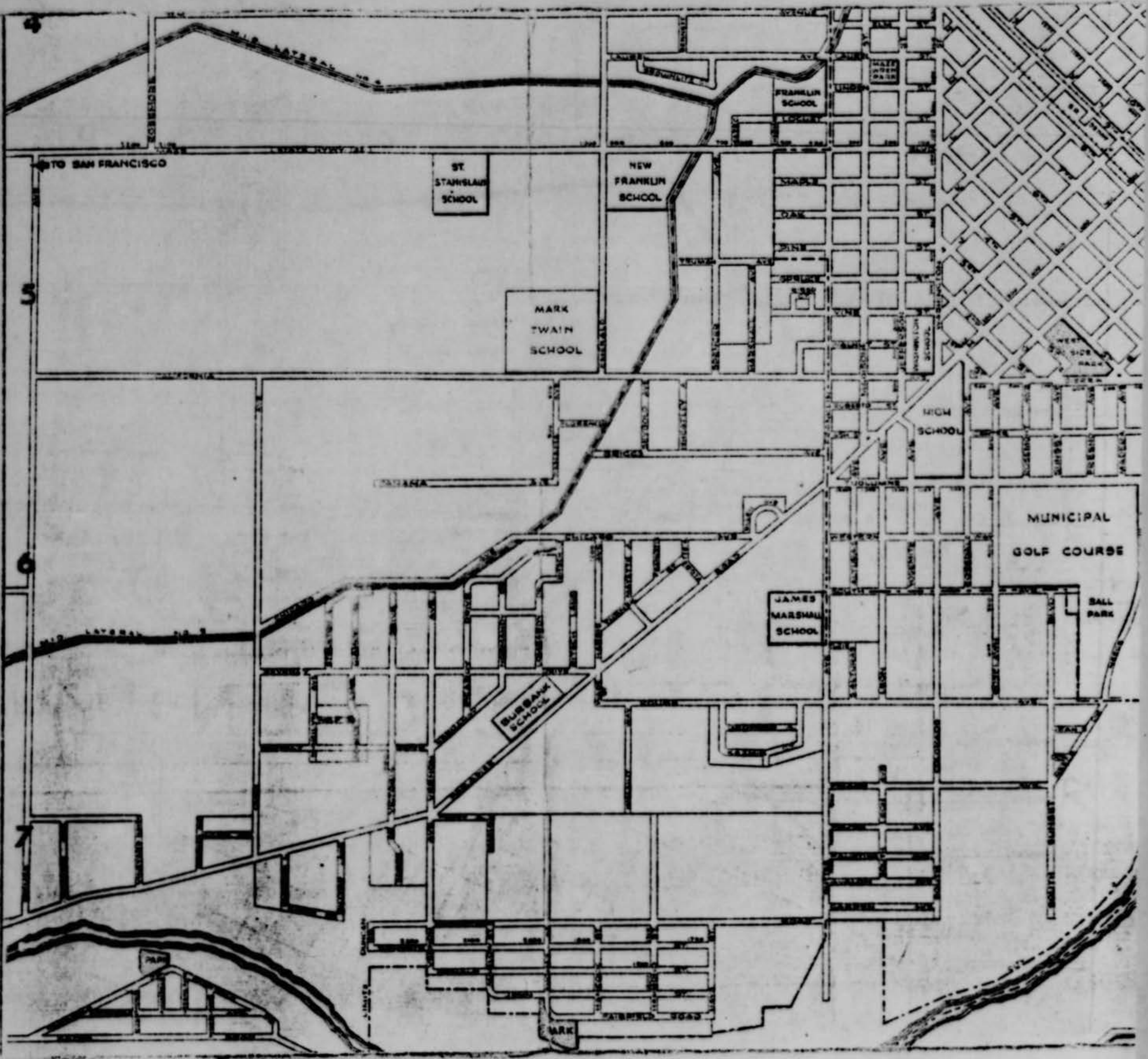
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TO SAN FRANCISCO

ST.  
STANISLAUS  
SCHOOL

NEW  
FRANKLIN  
SCHOOL

MARK  
TWIN  
SCHOOL

FRANKLIN  
SCHOOL

JAMES  
MARSHALL  
SCHOOL

SUBBANK  
SCHOOL

HIGH  
SCHOOL

MUNICIPAL  
GOLF COURSE

BALL  
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MARK

SECRET - SECURITY INFORMATION - U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

1953 SEP 14

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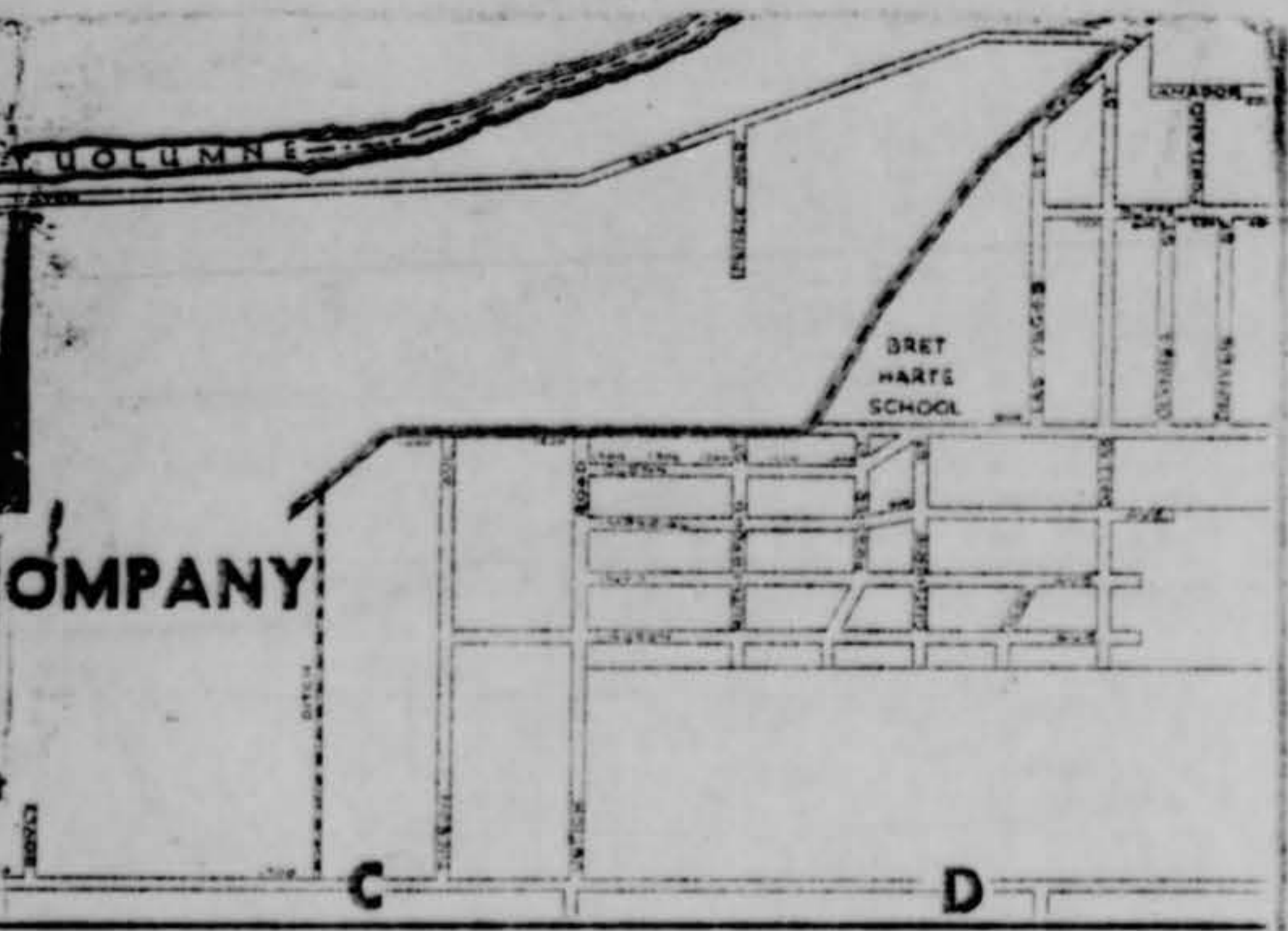
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# STANISLAUS COUNTY TITLE COMPANY

1207 EYE STREET - PHONE 88  
 MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

HENRY G. ANDERSON, President

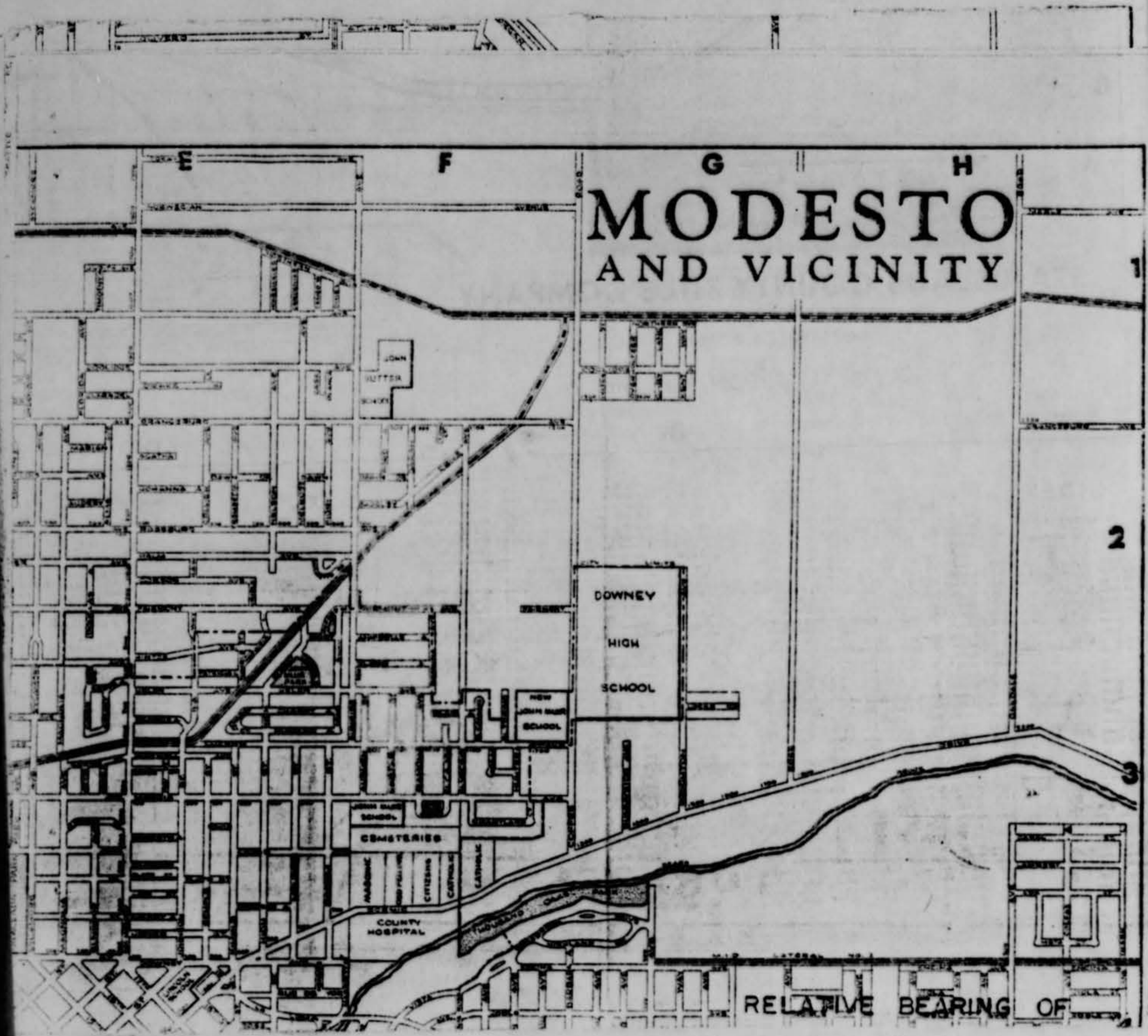


## INDEX

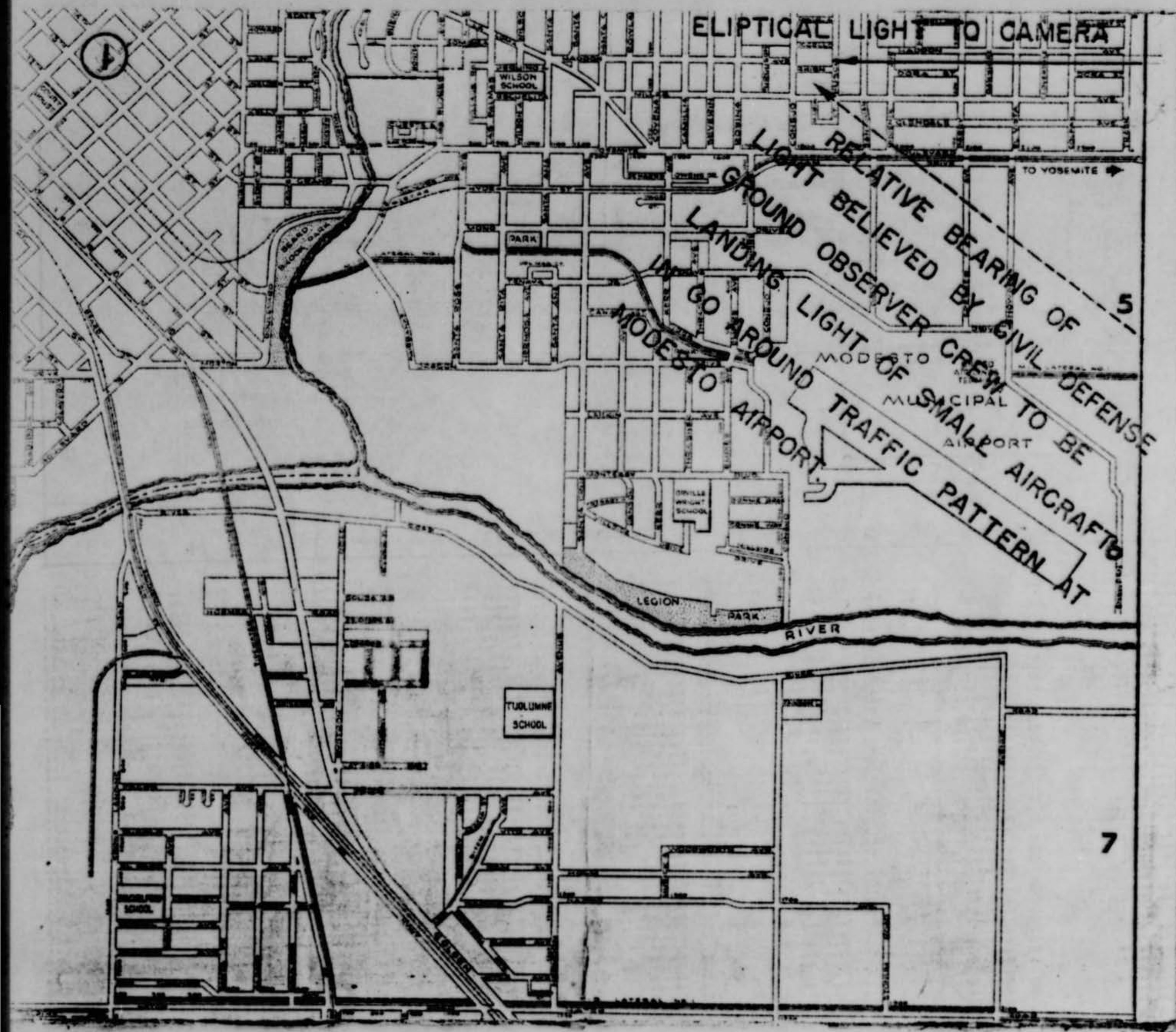
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# MODESTO AND VICINITY



RELATIVE BEARING OF



ELIPTICAL LIGHT TO CAMERA

RELATIVE BEARING OF  
LIGHT BELIEVED BY CIVIL DEFENSE  
CREW TO BE

GROUND OBSERVER  
LIGHT OF SMALL AIRCRAFT  
TRAFFIC PATTERN AT

GO AROUND  
MODesto AIRPORT

LANDING IN  
GO AROUND  
MODesto AIRPORT

TO YOSEMITE

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RIVER

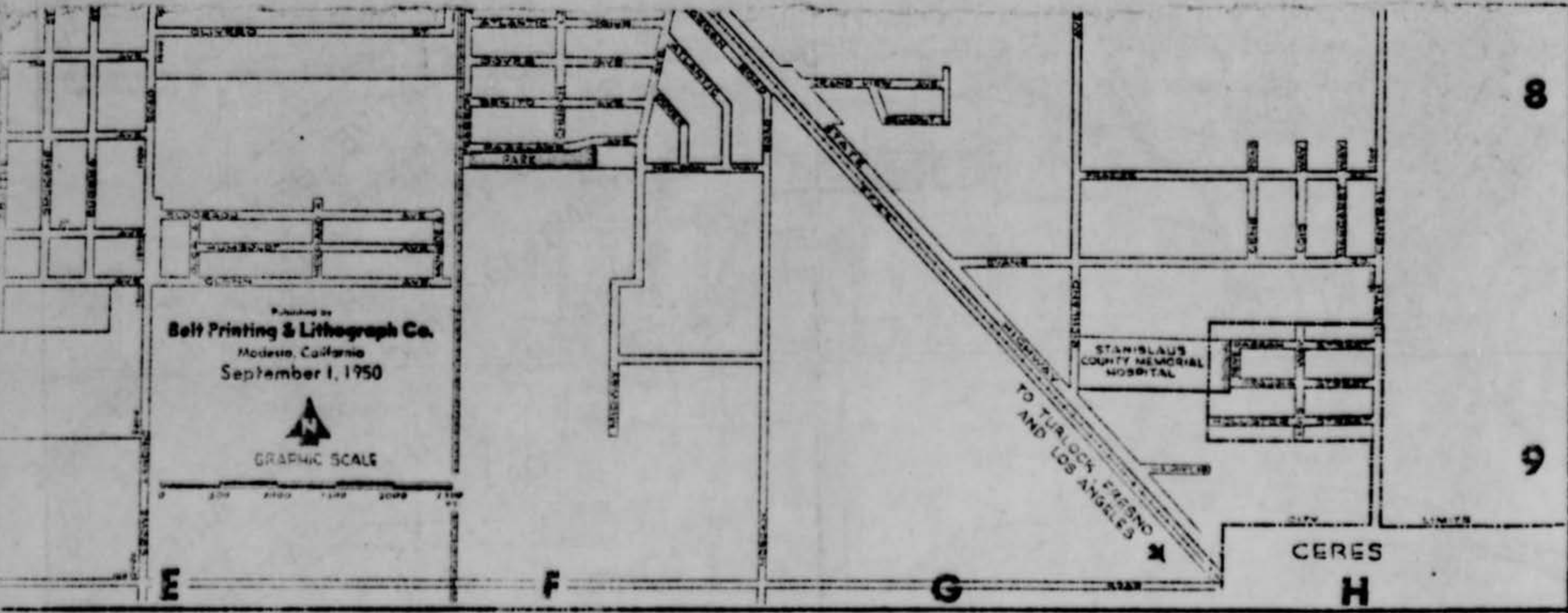
TULLUM  
SCHOOL

WILSON  
SCHOOL

LEGION  
PARK

DR. WRIGHT  
SCHOOL

BEARD  
BLOOD  
PARK



Cuttery Ave. C123	Luxmo Ave. E23	Mack Ave. A7	Parsons Ave. B34	Reed Ave. D56	South Ave. D83	Turner St. C6
Cully St. E24	M Street. G4	Mar Road. F2	Parsons Road. A7, B57, C6	Reedman Ave. D56	Swanton Ave. H56	Urcia Ave. G4
Conrad St. B-C7	Madison Ave. D56	Maple St. G7	Park Ave. D34	Reedman Ave. D56	Swanton Ave. E676	Union Ave. D7
East Way. G12	Madison St. C48	May Ave. D3	Parkman Ave. F8	Reedman Ave. A334, A8	South Ave. C06	Union Road. C9
Gay Ave. G34	Madison Ave. C3	May St. D3	Parkside Drive. A8	Reedman Ave. G4	South Road. F6	U.S. 99 Highway. A1, B2, C3, D4
Gary Ave. A2	Madison Ave. E334	N Street. G4	Perry Ave. H4	Reed St. E4	Spencer Ave. C3	U.S. Open Road. H9
Hamble St. E334	Main St. F74	N. Central. H6769	Petala Lane. E23	Reedman Ave. B-C-D-6	Spencer Ave. H3	Victoria Lane. D2
Hunter Court. C7	Manor Drive. E7	N. Central. G4	Paul Ave. G4	Reedman Ave. G4	Spencer St. E8	Victoria Drive. B67
I Street. C05	Maple St. C05	N. Central. D3	Pearl St. G1, C1, D1	Reedman Ave. C3	Spencer St. C05	Village Road. F4
J Lane. E404	Margaret Way. H8	N. Central. D3	Peaslee Ave. F8	Reedman Ave. E474	Spencer St. D3	Village Road. F4
Ka Sombra. F4	Marla. G4	N. Central. F48	Peaslee Ave. E77	Rutherford St. D9	Spencer St. F4	Village Road. F4
Las Flores Ave. F4	Marion Ave. E2	N. Santa Barbara Ave. G4	Peggy Ave. E7	Ryder Way. F8	Spencer Ave. C12	Village Road. F4
Las Flores Court. F4	Marlyn Ave. A67	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Pelton Ave. C7, D7	S. Alameda Ave. C6	Spencer Ave. E6	Village Road. F4
Las Flores Ave. F4	Marlyn St. D2	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Pequino Ave. F4	S. Colorado Ave. D67	Spencer Ave. C-D-E-F	Village Road. F4
Las Vegas St. D9	Mariposa Ave. D54	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Perkins Ave. F6	S. Conroy Ave. G3	Spencer Ave. H76	Village Road. F4
Lombard St. H3	Marion St. E7	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Phelan Ave. H4	S. Franklin St. C54	Spencer Ave. G3	Village Road. F4
Luna St. E24	Marshall Ave. C3	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Plymouth Drive. E4	S. Lee Ave. C7	Spencer Ave. F123	Village Road. F4
Langdon Ave. B23	Martha Ave. E2	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Pine St. C03	Spencer Ave. C67	Spencer Ave. D6	Village Road. F4
Latham Drive. G43	Martha Ave. C6	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Plymouth Ave. F8	S. Santa Ana Ave. F3	Spencer Ave. D67	Village Road. F4
Larkin Ave. G6	Mayette Ave. E3	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Portland Ave. D8	S. Sunset Blvd. D67	Spencer Ave. C67	Village Road. F4
Las Flores Ave. C09	Mayhall Ave. E3	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Porter Ave. A2	S. Sun Ave. F7	Spencer Ave. E67	Village Road. F4
Lincoln Ave. F7	Mass Blvd. (Way. 122). A-B-C-D	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Prentiss Road. B12	S. Sun Ave. H4	Syracuse Ave. E234	Village Road. F4
Lincoln Ave. C4, D4	Mass Court. C4	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Princeton Ave. C3, D3	S. Sun Ave. F43	Syracuse (North). E1	Village Road. F4
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Madison St. E2	McHenry Ave. E1234	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Pueblo Ave. G7	S. Santa Cruz Ave. G636	Tadpole Road. A3	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. F7	Memorial Drive. H9	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Lane. F3	S. Santa Fe Ave. E76	Tadpole Road. F-G-H	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. C67	Meranda Lane. D1	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. E3	S. Santa Rita Ave. F43	Tadpole St. E2, C3	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. C3	Meranda St. F3	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. E3	S. Santa Rita Ave. F43	Tadpole St. D3	Village Road. F4
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Madison Ave. C4, D4	Meranda St. E64	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. G7, H9	S. Santa Rita Ave. F-G-H	Thomas Ave. G34	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. E7	Meranda St. H1	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. H1, B7, E7	S. Santa Rita Ave. E7	Thomas Ave. E1	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. G3	Meranda St. H4	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. C8	S. Santa Rita Ave. E8	Thomas Ave. G3	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. C4, D4	Meranda St. A7	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. D89	S. Santa Rita Ave. E34	Thomas Ave. E41	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. E2	Meranda St. F69	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. E7	S. Santa Rita Ave. H9	Thomas Ave. H9	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. H69	Meranda St. G14	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. E6	S. Santa Rita Ave. G4	Thomas Ave. H34	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. C4	Meranda St. B14	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. E6	S. Santa Rita Ave. C54	Thomas Ave. C03	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. F4	Meranda St. E33	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. F03	S. Santa Rita Ave. A62	Thomas Ave. G6	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. F6	Meranda St. F03	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. G12	S. Santa Rita Ave. A3	Thomas Ave. E2	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. E6	Meranda St. G03	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. G12	S. Santa Rita Ave. C4	Thomas Ave. C3	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. F2	Meranda St. H03	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. G12	S. Santa Rita Ave. D12	Thomas Ave. C9	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. E34	Meranda St. F6, G69	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. F6	S. Santa Rita Ave. A1	Thomas Ave. C123	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. E3	Meranda St. B673	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. E77	S. Santa Rita Ave. E3	Thomas Ave. D9	Village Road. F4
Madison Ave. C3	Meranda St. F4, E3	P. Santa Barbara Ave. F4	Rainbow Ave. F2	S. Santa Rita Ave. D23	Thomas Ave. C-D-E	Village Road. F4



ROUTING

# JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

81P 17

1 Witness

03/2015 POI  
MORDESTO, Cali

152327Z  
LF

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

COMDR ATIC

DATE-TIME GROUP

141915Z SEP 53

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

PRECEDENCE FOR:

ACTION ROUTINE

INFORMATION

BOOK MESSAGE

ORIGINAL MESSAGE

MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION

YES  NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION

ODCI 5120

CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

TO: COMDR CASTLE AF BASE CALIFORNIA

JWPJM

INFO:

FROM: AFOIN-ATIAB-9-3-E FCR 93rd Bomb Wg

Returns ODCI 5120 dtd 112037Z Sep 53. Request that your organization obtain subject negative or a copy. Also, request you obtain supporting data and forward to this Center as soon as possible.

In reply cite Project Blue Book.

### COORDINATION:

ATIAB-5 *MB Hutch* DATE 14 Sep 53  
 A/IC FURCH  
 AFEAR *W. J. ...* DATE 14 Sep 53  
 AFEA *William ...* DATE 15 Sep 53  
 COL O'HARA

12:33

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ELECTRONICS BRANCH  
Office of Record

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION  
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

A/IC Max Furch

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

*Barbara P. Hanawalt*

SYMBOL ATIAB-5

TELEPHONE 05305

OFFICIAL TITLE BARBARA P HANAWALT, 1st Lt, USAF  
Adjutant

FM COMDR 93D BOMWG CASTLE AFB CALIF

TO JEPHQ HQ USAF WASHDC

JEDWP/COMDRIWRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

JEDEN/COMDR ENT AFB COLO

JEDMH/COMDRSAC OFFUTT AFB NEBR

JWPRH/COMDRAF 15 MARCH AFB CALIF

ODCI 5120. ATTN: HQ USAF, D/I. ATTN: WRIGHT PATTERSON, ATIC, ATIAA-2C.  
FLYOB RPT.

- (1) ELLIPTICAL SHAPED LIGHT APPEARING ON PHOTO NEG
- (2) TAKEN SOMETIME BETWEEN 2015 AND 2015 PDT 3 SEPI53.
- (3) TAKEN BY SPEED GRAPHIC CAMERA ON F22 UNATTENDED EXCEPT FOR OPENING SHUTTER AT 2015 AND CLOSING AT 2015 HRS PDT 3 SEPI53.
- (4) CAMERA ON TRIPOD 40 FT ABOVE TERRAIN ON TOP OF MODESTO BEE NEWSPAPER BLDG IN CTR OF MODESTO, CALIF. ELLIPTICAL LIGHT IS APRX 10 DEG ELEV ON BEARING OF E.
- (5) PICTURE TAKEN BY RELIABLE NEWSPAPER PHOTO, EX USAF 1ST LT NAV.

PAGE TWO JWPJVI054

(6) WIND APRX 12 KNOTS FR 335 DEG.

(7) SEE ITEM 10

(8) PHOTO NEG DEVELOPED 8 SEP 53

(9) NO INTERCEPTION

(10) CIVIL DEF AND GRSR CREW ON DUTY IN THEIR TOWER NOTED LANDING LIGHTS  
AN ACFT FLYING TRAFFIC PATTERN AT MODESTO AIRPORT BETWEEN 2215 AND 2230  
PRS 3 SEPI53.

11/20/53 JWP:IM

Wing Intelligence  
Castle AF Base, California

1. The preparing officer in company with an OSI agent and a Castle AF Base PIO representative drove to Modesto, California on 3 September 1953 to view a photograph showing an unidentified elliptical shaped light.

2. The reason given for taking the picture was that Mr. [REDACTED], Modesto Bee newspaper photographer, and Mrs. [REDACTED] a reporter for the same paper saw a yellowish white light at 1945PDT 3 September 1953. The light seemed to be about 10 degrees above the horizon in the direction of Modesto Airport. They said it appeared to remain stationary as they drove a distance of about one mile East where it vanished from view. They believed it was an aircraft with landing light on flying the upwind leg at Modesto Airport. Nevertheless, [REDACTED] took his camera to the newspaper building and set it up on the roof in the direction he believed he had seen the light. He left his camera unattended with the shutter open for about four hours. He developed the film on 3 September 1953. When he noticed the elliptical light and could not explain it, he called Castle AF Base.

a. The following are the details surrounding the unexplained elliptical light on the negative:

- (1) Description: One elliptical shaped light in a nearly horizontal attitude.
- (2) Time and Date: Sometime between the hours of 2020 to 0015PDT, 3 September 1953.
- (3) Manner of Observation: Exposure was made with a Speed Graphic camera set on f22 and unattended except for opening and closing the shutter.
- (4) Location of Observer: The camera was located on top of the Modesto Bee Newspaper Building, about 40 feet above the street, and oriented East. The geographic location is 37°38' N - 121°00' W. The elliptical light is approximately at 10 degrees elevation and on a bearing of 90 degrees.
- (5) Identifying Information of Observers: There is no estimate of the reliability of the sighting since the camera was unattended. Photographer [REDACTED] is an ex-First Lieutenant USAF Navigator.
- (6) Weather and Winds: The sky was clear, slight haze near the horizon, and wind 12 knots from 335 degrees.
- (7) Activity or Condition Which Might Account for the Sighting: See item (10).
- (8) Physical Evidence: Photograph made by Castle AFB Photo Lab from the negative loaned by the newspaper. Submitted as Inclosure 1.
- (9) Interception: None.
- (10) Air Traffic in Area: Civil defense ground observers on duty during the time exposure noted what they believed was a small aircraft with landing light on flying the traffic pattern at Modesto Airport between 2215 and 2230PDT, 3 September 1953.

17 SEP 53 00 23z

*hb*

*ATTN-5  
1. Atria  
2.  
3. R. Yule*

*Action*

RD088  
WPG072  
XY0155

XDB113

CKA132

JWPJM 221

RR JEDWP JWPRH 222

DE JWPJM 95

R 152240Z

FM COMDR BMBW 93 CASTLE AFB CALIF

TO JEDWP/COMDR ATIC WRIGHT PATERSON AFB OHIO

INFO JWPRH/COMDR AF15 MARCH AFB CALIF

ODCI5285 CITE PROJ BLUE BK URMSG AFOIN-ATIEA-9-3-E, AF FORM 112

FLYORPT REPT COMPL W/PHOTO AND MAP WAS DSPCH TO HQ AF 15 FOR

SUBQ FWDING TO YOUR HQ 11 SEP 53. SOURCE INSISTED UPON RETENTION OF NEG.

15/2320Z SEP JWPJM

*Should be sent  
to ATIAE.*

*Doc*

15 SEP 53 17 05 53  
03:40

FLYOBREP

Modesto, California

Hq, 93d Bomb Wing, Castle AFB, California

11 September 1953

3 September 1953

F-6

Major Roy E. Gudith

Various civilians

TT 93BW (N), ODCI 5120

Forwarded herewith is a photograph showing an elliptical shaped light. The photo was made at night from the top of a building in Modesto, California. The camera was oriented towards the East and was left unattended for four hours except for opening and closing the shutter. A civil defense ground observer crew noted an aircraft with a landing light on fly the traffic pattern at Modesto Airport several times during the interval that the exposure was made. It is the opinion of the Preparing Officer that the elliptical light on the photo negative is the result of the flash of an aircraft landing light.

ROY E. GUDITH  
Major, USAF  
Wing Intelligence Officer

2

1. Photograph (6 cys) (Rec'd 1/2)
2. Map of Modesto, Calif. showing location of observers (1 cy)

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Wing Intelligence  
Castle AF Base, California

3

3

3. Comments of Preparing Officer: It is the opinion of the preparing officer that the elliptical light in the photograph is the flash of a landing light of an aircraft flying in the vicinity of Modesto Airport. This conclusion is based on statements of observers and the coincidence of the northwest orientation of the runway and its location. The runway was  $4\frac{1}{2}$  NM from the observers and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  NM from the camera. See map, Inclosure 2.

flying in the vicinity of Modesto Airport. Civil Defense ground observers on duty during the time exposure noted what they believed was a small aircraft with landing light on, flying the traffic pattern at Modesto Airport between 10:15 pm - 10:30 pm, PDT, 3 September 1953.

The conclusion is based on the statements of the observers and the coincidence of the northeast orientation of the runway and its location. The runway was  $4\frac{1}{2}$  NM from the observers and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  NM from the camera.