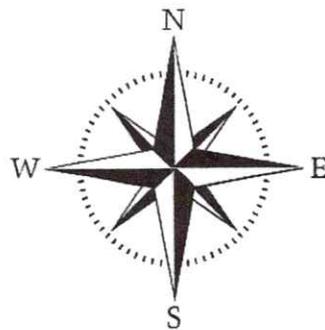
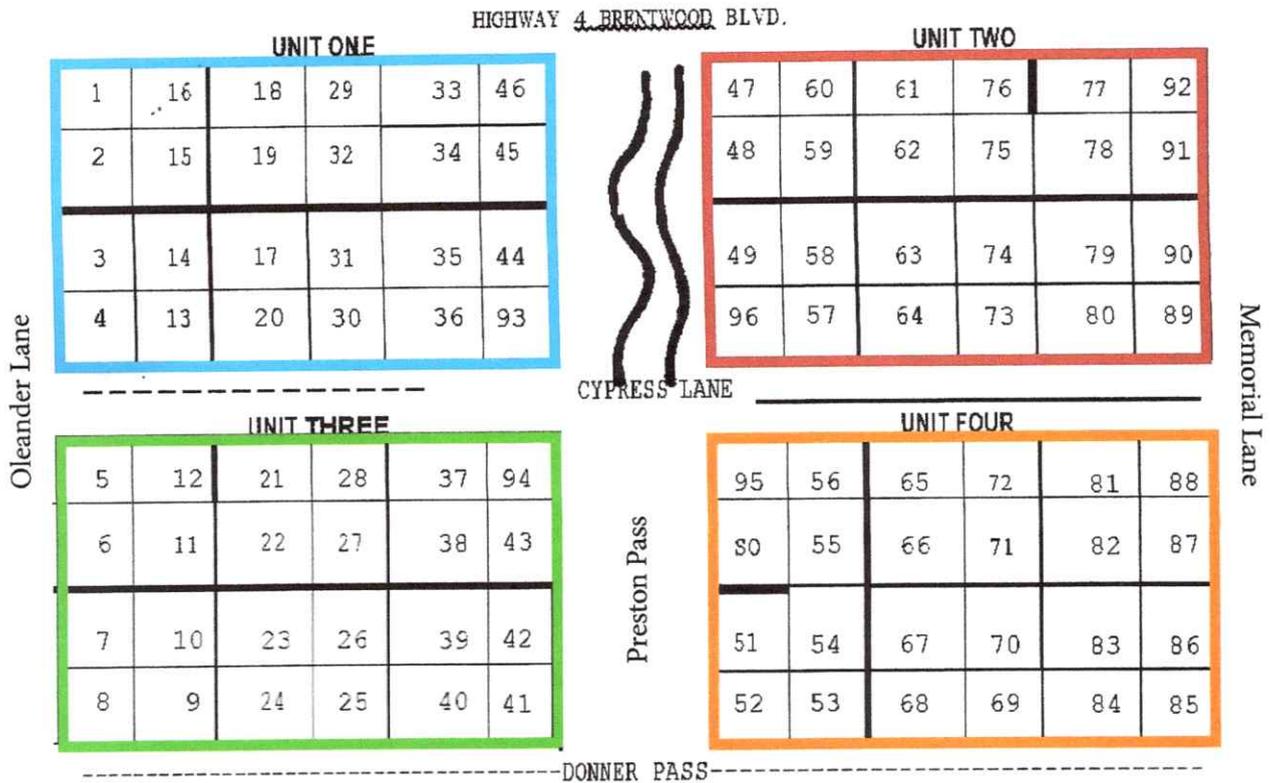


DETAILED PIONEER UNIT AREA

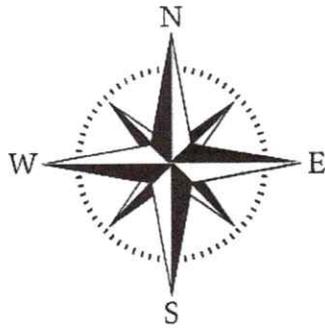
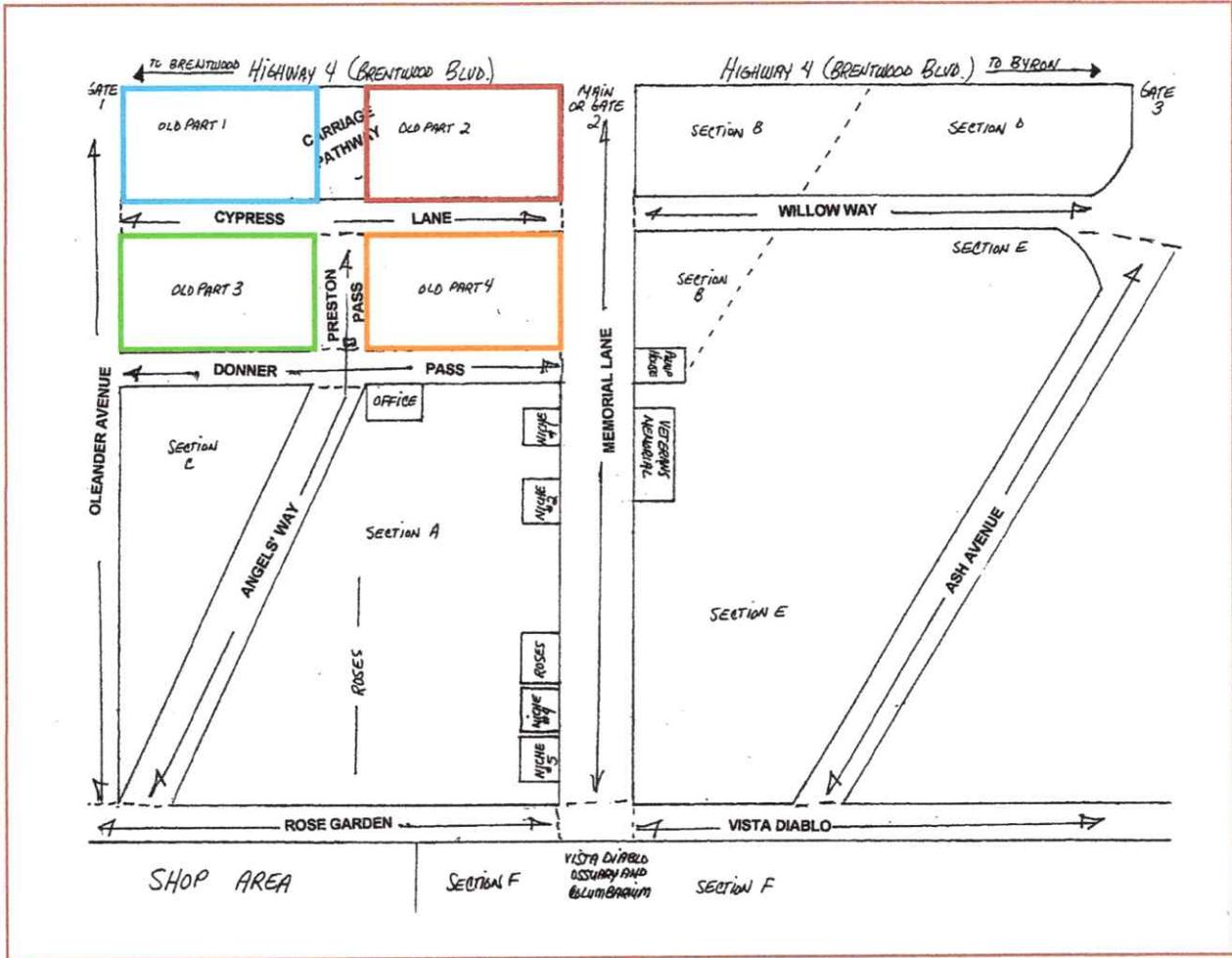
Old Units 1, 2, 3 & 4



UNION CEMETERY

Pioneer Units located at top left

Units 1 (Blue), 2 (Red), 3 (Green), & 4 (Orange)



BBKUCD Points of Interests,

UNIT 1

1. Barkley, Simon was born and raised in Iowa. He came to California to visit his brother Lazarus in 1876. Simon married Sarah Sullinger who he met at a dinner dance at the Point of Timber Grange Hall in 1880. Judge Wallace performed their marriage ceremony, the second recorded marriage in the Brentwood Township. They settled in the Vasco region until 1908. Their original Vasco property is now under the Los Vaqueros Reservoir. Each of their seven boys and five girls graduated from Liberty Union High School. Simon is United states congressmen Richard Pombo's great grandfather.
2. Hill, Sam was originally from Downieville California located between Sierraville and Nevada City where he dropped out of School at the age of 10 to work for his hometown newspaper, the Mountain Messenger. He purchased the Brentwood News from Edward Kanok in 1920 and is credited with installing electronically driven printing equipment and increasing the paper circulation to 650. The news building was originally located where the Daylight Market and now Brentwood Emporium is located. He is buried with his first wife.
3. Sanford, Charles was the primary investor in the Brentwood Coal Mine also known as the Los Meganos Coal Mine Operation.
4. Glass, John - we know very little about him except that he was an early grain farmer in the Point of Timber area. Glass' gravestone is unique in the Union Cemetery. It incorporates the organizational symbol of the Ancient Order of United Workmen (AOUW). This was a "fraternal organization similar in its rights to the Masonic Lodge. It was the first of the fraternal benefit societies" which were the first organization to offer insurance as well as sickness, accident, death and burial policies.
5. Heidorn, Christian came to California with brother Heinrich in 1868 from Germany where they had been forest rangers for the government. He purchased 240 acres in the Knightsen area in 1871 and return to Germany to claim his bride Dorothea Steverson. He was the first president of the Knightsen Irrigation Company. In 1904 Henry Heidorn the son of Christian established and ran the Heidorn General Store with his sister Emma White on Knightsen's Main Street. Henry also serve the community as Justice of the Peace. He was instrumental in forming the Knightsen Irrigation Company and was Knightsen's postmaster for many years.
6. Hill - Edna Heidorn was the youngest Christian and Dora's three children. She attended San Jose Normal College now called San Jose State University, for two years and returned in 1912 to teach at Eden Plains School. family lore has it that as many as three teachers preceding her head been runoff by some older students, teenagers and grown men, who had been in the eighth grade for several years. Edna put the bullies in their place making way for the serious students. She became the superintendent of Brentwood School District in 1930 an office she held for seven years before returning to the classroom. On May 15, 1964 Edna retired. In 1955, they named a school in her honor.
7. Veale, Richard Rains real born in Sonoma County arriving in the Eden Plains region with his family at the age of four in 1867. He received his education at local schools (Iron House School) in stock raising and farming on Veale Track. He became the Contra Costa County Sheriff in 1894 when the county was still untamed and serve continuously until 1935. At that time, this was a record for the longest continuous service of any sheriff in the United States. Following that Richard was elected Treasurer of Contra Costa County a post he held until his death in 1937.
8. Dean, Robert Garwood came to California from New York in 1850 on the schooner Francisco, which turned out to be a seven-month trip. He built a log cabin in Bear Valley intending to prospect for gold, but Indians stole his mule and supplies. He was the first president of the Bank of Brentwood as financially backed by Balfour Guthrie & Co. He was also instrumental in establishing a High School in Brentwood.
9. Gallagher, Henry was an early settler and farmer in the Point of Timber district. In addition, Gallagher was the Contra Costa County Tax Collector from 1877 to 1878. Lost to history is the importance of his wife,

Amanda Gallagher. Amanda holds the unique distinction of managing Mead's Hot Springs, later to be known as the world-famous Byron Hot Springs.

UNIT 2

1. Bonnickson, Hans came to Brentwood in 1874, for years before the Southern Pacific Railroad arrived in east Contra Costa County. The Bonnickson and family came from Denmark and settled on a parcel of land on the corner of Sellars Avenue and Chestnut Street. Hans was a wheat farmer and key player in the early development of this region. He was instrumental in establishing Liberty Union High School and was the first school board president.
2. Carey, Joseph a native of Amsterdam, New York cross the plains at the age of 20 with brother Levi seeking gold. In February 1866 he married Laura Welch of Illinois with whom he had five children. One of Brentwood's first residence, Carey established the very first business in Brentwood. He and partner Solomon P. Davis established a blacksmith and repair shop in 1874 with the firm name "Carey and Davis Blacksmith."
3. Netherton, Edward established the Brentwood Enterprise having bought the Brentwood News physical plant as established by Fred Eachus in 1897. Edward was the son a John Smith Netherton, a direct descendent of captain John Smith of Pocahontas fame, born in April 30, 1835 in Clay County Missouri.
4. Wallace, Judge Robert, Justice of the peace. Robert Wallace was born in San Francisco. His parents moved to east Contra Costa when he was 12. Robert was elected Justice of the Peace for the Brentwood Township in 1903 and held the position for many years. His office was located in a small building that is now the current La Costa Taqueria today. At one time Wallace was one of the largest property owners in Brentwood with seven properties located between his home and the Brentwood Park. He was instrumental in establishing the Bank of Brentwood and the first to sell Home & Connecticut Hartford Insurance to residents and business owners.
5. Benn, Marshall moved to Brentwood in 1893 at the age of 15. His grandfather Austin Howard had settled earlier in the Marsh Creek region. Benn was Brentwood first superintendent of city waterworks and sewage treatment plant from 1944 until his retirement in 1954. He died in 1984 at the age of 106 and is believe to be the oldest person buried at the Union Cemetery.
6. Allen, Edgar came to Brentwood from the Midwest in 1931. He and his wife Gertrude purchased the Brentwood News from Sam Hill and published the weekly for more than 25 years. When he bought the paper, it was operated in a small frame building on First and Chestnut Streets.
7. Geyser, Dr. Harry and his wife, Violet came to Brentwood in 1940 and took over the practice of Dr. E. Leavenworth. In 1942, he volunteered for service in the US Army. Upon his return he was appointed as high school athletic physician. Dr. Geiser served Liberty Union High School very loyally for 29 years until his retirement in 1970.
8. Krumland, Henry was born on the family farm in Byron in 1880 and lived his entire life in east Contra Costa County. After high school Henry enrolled in a business course and returned to Byron in 1907. In 1909 he was elected Justice of the Peace for Byron Township an office he held for more than 30 years. The Judge's office was located in the back of Plumley's store. Henry is credited with much of Byron's early development.

UNIT 3

1. Kelso, William was born in Ireland and arrived in California via New York in 1870. That same year he married Margaret Armstrong the couple had seven children two daughters and five sons. All of their children played a role in east County history and agriculture civic involvement and peacekeeping. John "Jack" Kelso was a prominent member of the community, Constable of Byron, and coincidentally a friend of author Jack London who docked at the Point of Timber landing.

2. Bunn, William Bill was first and foremost a farmer for the greater part of his life. His greatest love and one of its finest achievements with serving on the Board of Education for Byron Union School District for 20 years from 1957 to 1977. Bill was intensely interested in young people and was always supportive of methods to enhance their education. He often served as president of the Board of Education. In 1977 the Byron Union School District administration building was named the William Bunn Administration Building in his honor. His wife Alice June Bunn taught at Knightsen School beginning in 1945 and taught classes for 37 years until retiring from the grammar school classroom in 1984.
3. Dainty, James in 1853 James and Elizabeth travelled by ship from England to Australia where they lived for several years before continuing to California. In 1875 they applied for and received a 160-acre land grant near the Briones Valley, but did not begin farming until the children were old enough to help with the chores. Dainty's great great grandson is the prior owner of the Brentwood Funeral Home, Patrick McHenry.
4. Wills, Sylvester was a wheat farmer at the Point of Timber during the 1860s. His wife Loretta taught at the Iron House School, east of Oakley. He is credited with the early development of the Union Cemetery, shareholder in the Point of Timber Landing, creation of the Byron Bethany Irrigation System and establishment of schools. Will ranch was the informal burial place for many until the Union Cemetery was established in 1878.
5. Easton, Margaret has the earliest headstones in the Union Cemetery. She passed away at the age of 10 in 1865. Margaret was moved from the Point of Timber and placed in the Union Cemetery when the cemetery opened. Five other graves date prior to the establishment of the cemetery as they were moved from private land or from the informal Wills ranch graveyard.
6. Armstrong, John Samuel, and his wife Mary Ann Connor Armstrong were both born in Ireland. They came to the Byron area in 1876, settling where the Byron Airport is today. They had seven boys and three girls. John was a "custom bailor" and hired himself out to bail hay throughout the region. In 1886 John and several of his neighbors founded the Byron Hot Springs School District on the Armstrong farm and John served as the first School board president.
7. Cople, George traveled to New York from Switzerland when he was 17. Three years later he signed on with the military and eventually travel to Benicia where he worked for local farmers. In 1867 George purchased acreage near the Point of Timber and became a successful wheat farmer. A scarcity of rain led him to become the first to experiment with pumping water to irrigate land for farming. EUREKA! Thanks to his successful proof of concept, Cople convinced his farming neighbors of the value of irrigation and helped establish the Byron-Bethany Irrigation Company. He served on the first board of directors.
8. McEntyre, Robert N. was born to Jostrua McEntyre and Loretta Renfro on April 25, 1828 in Randolph County, Tennessee. He headed west stopping in Missouri. He married Sarah Louise Childers on October 25, 1849. Their daughter Parilee Northcut née McEntyre is Brentwood resident Randy Northcut's great grandmother.
9. Wilder, Frances was one of five daughters of Captain George Donner, the leader of the ill-fated Donner party. Frances was nearly 7 in 1846 when the 25 men, 15 women, 43 children and 23 ox-drawn wagons became stranded in heavy snow in the Sierras near what is now known as Donner Lake on their trek to California. Infamous for having to resort to cannibalism many froze or starved to death. But young Frances was rescued and taken to Sacramento. She married William Wilder in 1858 and they settled on a farm at the Point of Timber. The Native Daughters of the Golden West, Donner Party #193, Byron is aptly named in her honor. Two of William and Frances's grandsons Delmar and Donner Wilder lived their entire lives in Byron.

UNIT 4

1. Plumley, Alonzo was born in New York on August 12, 1830 and found his way to California via Canada and then to Illinois. Plumley was active in laying out and grading roads in the Byron section, and did

much toward beautifying the town. He also served on the Union Cemetery Association and had a hand in the irrigation project that eventually led to the Byron-Bethany Irrigation Company.

2. Plumley, Lorenzo Grant Plumley was born January 7, 1866. His father is Allonzo Plumley. Lorenzo was educated in the public School of the Point of Timber district. In 1899 he engaged in the mercantile business in Byron, which he continued. Plumley served as the Byron Postmaster for many years and his mercantile served as the Byron U. S. Post Office. Judge Henry Krumland, Justice of the Peace of Byron, held trials in the back offices of Plumley's store.
3. Richardson, Alpheus in 1865 he traveled over land to California from Ohio, originally in search of gold but settled in east Contra Costa to engage in dry farming. He married Avyette Taylor a schoolteacher and daughter of Alexander Taylor. Alpheus was a charter member of the Grange and a founding board member of the Union Cemetery in 1878.
4. Taylor, Alexander was born in Canada on September 15, 1821 he was the son of a farmer. When he was 19 his father gave him two suits of clothes and one dollar with which to leave home and seek his fortune. He attended School and farmed in Canada until fire claimed his farm in 1866. In 1845 Alexander met and married Miss Louisa Bruce of Vermont in Canada. He was one of the founding seven directors of the Union Cemetery in 1878. Taylor was involved in building the Point of Timber Landing, ushered in the railroad to the region and became one of the most prominent and well-known man in east Contra Costa County. Taylor's daughter Beatrice Taylor Cross was a home economics and sewing teacher at Liberty Union High School for many years.
5. Taylor, Volney was one of Alexander and Louisa's two sons and followed his father's lead in the community. He came to California with his parents when he was 15 having received a basic education in Canada, Vallejo, and the San Francisco Business School in 1872. He was also the first president of the Byron Bethany Irrigation Company.
6. McCabe, Thomas McCabe was born in Gurnee Ohio on May 28, 1810 and came to California in 1850, a five-month trip by wagon train to prospect for Gold. In 1867 he purchased 160 acres of railroad land in Point of Timber and planted wheat.
7. McCabe, Joseph McCabe is the eldest son of Thomas and Maria McCabe, was born in Illinois on June 15, 1839. When he was 28 or 29 the family moved to Contra Costa County Township Number Five (Point of Timber district) in 1868 and begin farming. After attending Collegiate School in Napa City, Joseph also began farming in the Point of Timber district. He served as postmaster for seven years beginning in about 1872.
8. Moody, Percy Jones (Jack) was born in Maine, with the second blacksmith to establish his business in Brentwood in 1883. Blacksmithing was crucial in 19th Century America and Moody's operations expanded to include purchase of Carey's Blacksmith shop. Moody ran both the livery stable and the blacksmithing forge from 1884 to 1894.
9. Preston, Colburn arrived in California in 1868 via the Isthmus of Panama by far the fastest route from the east. Few made it to California in the promised six weeks and some not at all. Malaria and yellow fever or cholera often struck the travelers either on the jungle trip, across the Isthmus or during the long wait in Panama City. Colburn Preston became a successful farmer in this area and donated 4 acres to establish the Point of Timber Union Cemetery in 1878.
10. Nunn, Stanley an east Contra Costa County agriculture leader, was known for his fruit and nut orchards. President of the California Almond Growers Exchange, he was involved in agriculture organization both regionally and at the state level. He served on the Liberty Union High School board for many years and was a Director for the Contra Costa Flood Control District and Water Conservation District. Stanley's father George came to the Brentwood area about 1880 and worked as a grain harvester. Stanley's children: Ron and Shirley still live in the community. Grace Nunn was the first woman to serve on the Brentwood Park Board of Directors.

11. Wilkening, Henry a native of Hanover Germany lived in New York before coming to California in search of gold. He purchased a property in Byron during 1877 found in the town in 1878 and became its first official resident and postmaster. He built a home that also served as a boarding house, a livery stable, Byron first saloon and a Hotel which burned down in 1884. It burned down again in 1917 but was never replaced. Henry married Annie Percy in 1876 and name their only son after his town. He died of pneumonia not much later.
12. LaGrande, Alexander (Toby) was elected as Byron's constable in 1896 a position he held for more than 30 years. On December 20, 1902 one of the most disastrous train wrecks in California history occurred in Byron. The Owl Limited bound for Los Angeles from Oakland developed a leaking tube in the locomotive boiler causing escaping steam that threaten to extinguish the boiler fire. The train labored to standstill in Byron. Meanwhile the Stockton Flyer, a behind schedule commuter train, was speeding down the tracks and ran into the owl's rear coach. The impact killed 27 passengers. Before the wrecking train could reach Byron, townsmen were cutting the way into the wreckage to carry out the injured. Our hero Toby was seen clamoring over the tangled mound of iron and steel to carry a child to safety.

Section B

1. Knight, George was born in Maine and sailed to California in 1874 via the Isthmus of Panama. He purchased 110 acres in the Eden Plains District which was located where the town of Knightsen is today. When the Santa Fe Railroad Company wanted to route a line from Oakland to Stockton through his field, he offered them enough land for a passing track and a station if they would move further west and cut off just a corner of his ranch. In gratitude the Superintendent of the Santa Fe Railroad name of the town Knightsen by adding the "sen" from his wife Christina's maiden name Christiansen.

Section D

1. Bristow, William Bill was born in Arkansas arrived in eastern Contra Costa County during the depression has a one-year-old child. He, seven siblings and his parents first lived in Geyserville where his parents worked in the vineyards. The family moved to Brentwood when Bill was in grammar school and worked on Tony Ghiozzi's farm on Marsh Creek Road. The indigent farm labor life found the family in and out of east Contra Costa County as his parents followed seasonal crop work. Eventually Brentwood became home, and Bill graduated from Liberty Union High School excelling in sports. His early desire to become an educator led Bill to San Francisco State University where he graduated in Education with a minor in history. Knightsen Elementary School provided Bill with his first teaching job in an eighth-grade classroom at age 21 and his first administration position five years later. Administrative advancement came rapidly after that as Bill wrote a curriculum and educational modulars for Byron, Knightsen, Brentwood and Liberty school districts. Appointment as principal of Edna Hill School followed and subsequent employment as school district superintendent. Bill held the position of Brentwood's Superintendent of Schools for over 25 years. The William B. Bristow Middle School in Brentwood is named after him.