

that these waters had been recently trapped. So hurrying north they eventually caught up with Michel La Framboise and John Work's Hudson Bay Company brigade around the present city of Sacramento.

A twenty day rain storm and continuous slogging through wetlands and marshes helped convince the party that a new plan was needed. The decision was to try the coast north of Fort Ross and trap for beaver along these northern streams. They spent the early months of 1833 along the Umpqua, Klamath, and Pit Rivers ending up back in the Sacramento area. Several months Summer and fall were spent retracing and trapping their Fresno area trails and by December the group passed through Cajon Pass into the San Bernardino Valley.

The Party's 1834 spring hunt was conducted on the lower Colorado and Gila Rivers which they reached by again following their trail through Valle de San José past the hot springs. The company returned to Los Angeles with a fair number of pelts in early summer. At this point Warner fell ill and probably decided to give up the mountain man life. He began clerking in Abel Stearn's store around the end of 1834.

So why does this Southern California mountain man interest me in particular? Since beginning the research for this article I've uncovered several connections between Warner and myself.

First of all I discovered that Juan Jose (his Mexican name) used to own the rancho that I am part owner of today! Warner received a land grant from Mexican Governor Pio Pico on August 1st, 1846 which included portions of Palomar Mount-

ain. Using the map Warner drew of the grant boundries I was able to determine that our land was indeed part of that grant! Unfortunately, because of actions by U.S. Forces several weeks earlier in Monterey, this grant was contested and Warner sold it in 1856.

Secondly the booshway of our Palomar Party is a direct descendant of the same Pio Pico who, besides being the last Mexican Governor of California, was good friends with J. T. Warner. Back in 1837 Warner courted and married Anita Gale who was the ward of Pico's mother. This was the beginning of a life long friendship between the two ^{MEN.} Pico lived with Warner in his later years in Los Angeles.

And finally, for the last two years I've been working weekly at Warner Springs Ranch as a musician and entertainer. During this time I've discovered other connections between the resort and notable mountain man Kit Carson who camped at the ranch in December of 1846 with General Kearny's army just prior to the famous battle at San Pasqual.

I can now say for sure that this part of Southern California is truly "mountain man country" and that real mountain men like Dave Jackson, Ewing Young, Kit Carson and Jonathan Trumbull Warner saw the same sights that the Palomar Party sees today as we roam the forested hillsides of Palomar Mountain.

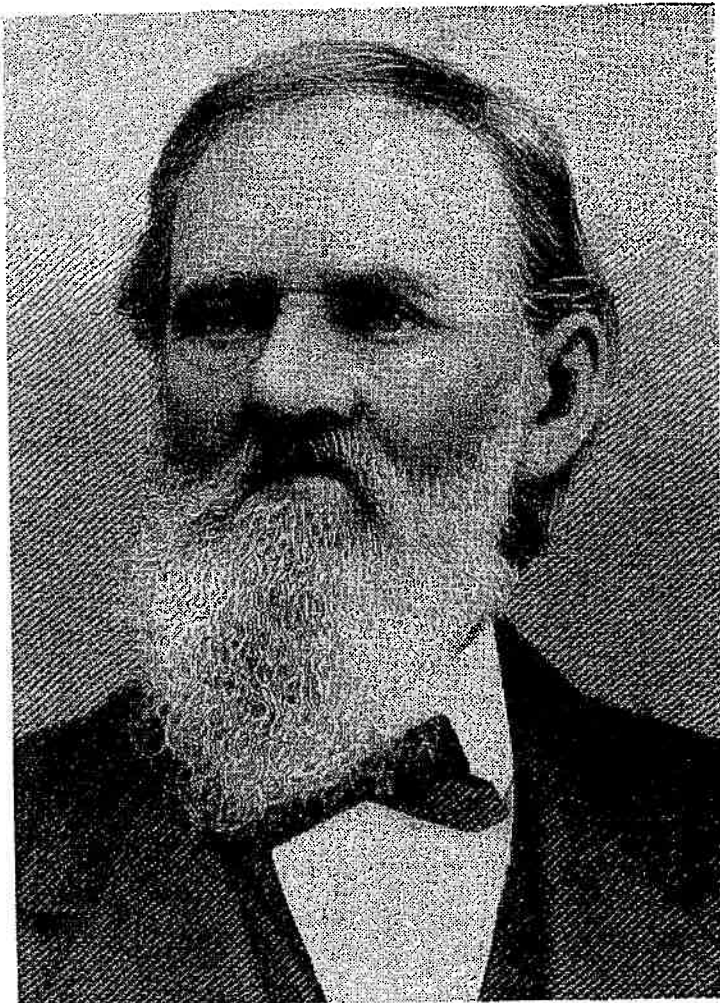
THE END

SOURCES

Hill, Joseph J. The History Of Warner's Ranch And Its Environs.
Los Angeles, 1927.

Morrison, Lorrin L. Warner, The Man And The Ranch. Los Angeles,
1962.

Hafen, Leroy R., ed. Trappers of the Far West. Lincoln, 1983.



JUAN JOSE WARNER

*Juan, for John, and José, to substitute for
Trumbull, were the given names taken
by Warner when he became a
California ranchero*

MAP OF THE WESTERN STATES
SHOWING ROUTES WARNER
TRAVERSED ON HIS WAY TO
CALIFORNIA AND ON HUNTING
AND TRAPPING EXPEDITIONS
IN CALIFORNIA AND OREGON

