

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

HABS _____	HAER _____	NR _____	SHL _____	Loc _____
UTM: A _____	B _____	C _____	D _____	

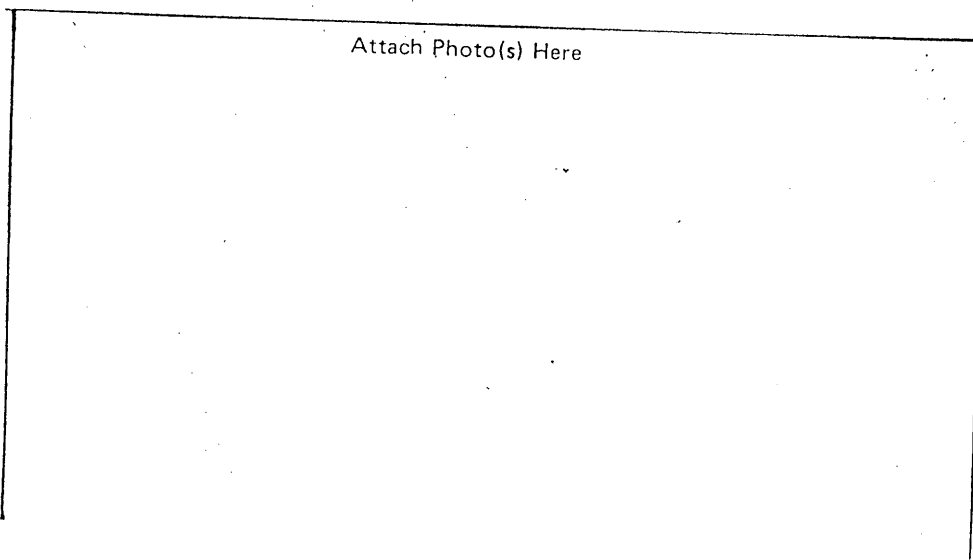
IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Alphonse's Mercantile
2. Historic name: Bank of Commerce
3. Street or rural address: 45140 Main St.
 City Mendocino Zip 95460 County Mendocino
4. Parcel number: 119-237-05 MHR #11
5. Present Owner: Alphons J. Riede Address: P. O. Box 891
 City Mendocino Zip 95460 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X'
6. Present Use: Mercantile downstairs
shop upstairs currently Original use: Bank
vacant

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style:
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This is a large two story building, exterior stairway on east side. Somewhat deteriorated.



8. Construction date:
 Estimated _____ Factual _____
9. Architect _____
10. Builder _____
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
 Frontage 40 Depth 160
 or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
July, 1987

13. Condition: Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair _____ Deteriorated _____ No longer in existence _____
14. Alterations: unknown
15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land _____ Scattered buildings _____ Densely built-up Residential _____ Industrial _____ Commercial _____ Other Mendocino Headlands across Main St.
16. Threats to site: None known _____ Private development _____ Zoning _____ Vandalism _____ Public Works project _____ Other: _____
17. Is the structure: On its original site? Moved? _____ Unknown? _____
18. Related features: _____

SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

Mendocino, 1870's-80' had two banks: The Mendocino Discount Bank and the Bank of Mendocino. During the same year the railroad from Fort Bragg to Willits was scheduled for completion (?), and during prohibition, the Bank of Commerce of Mendocino issued a fold-out informational booklet on Mendocino, with photos by P. Maxwell showing their location in the present Bank of America building (Sverko) which was built in 1908. Directors on the fold out were Joshua Grindle and John S. Ross.

In 1905 Joshua Grindle and Fred W. Stickney organized the Mendocino Bank of Commerce as a successor to Grindle & Stickney, brokers. Mr. Grindle was chosen as president and remained in that office the rest of his active life.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)
- Architecture Arts & Leisure _____
- Economic/Industrial _____ Exploration/Settlement _____
- Government _____ Military _____
- Religion _____ Social/Education _____

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).

22. Date form prepared Sept. 21, 1987

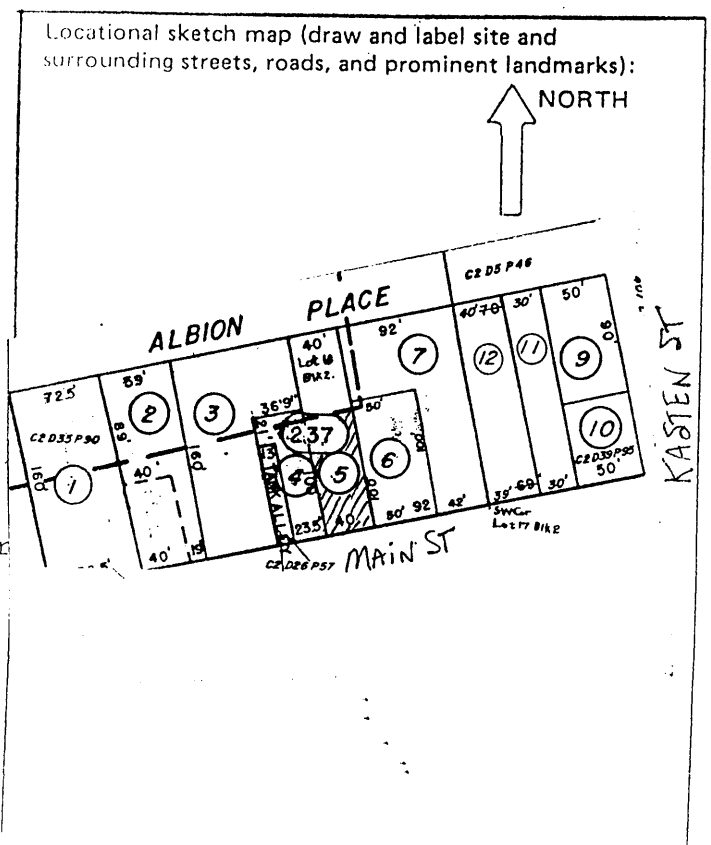
By (name) Eleanor Sverko, co-ordinator

Organization County of Mendocino

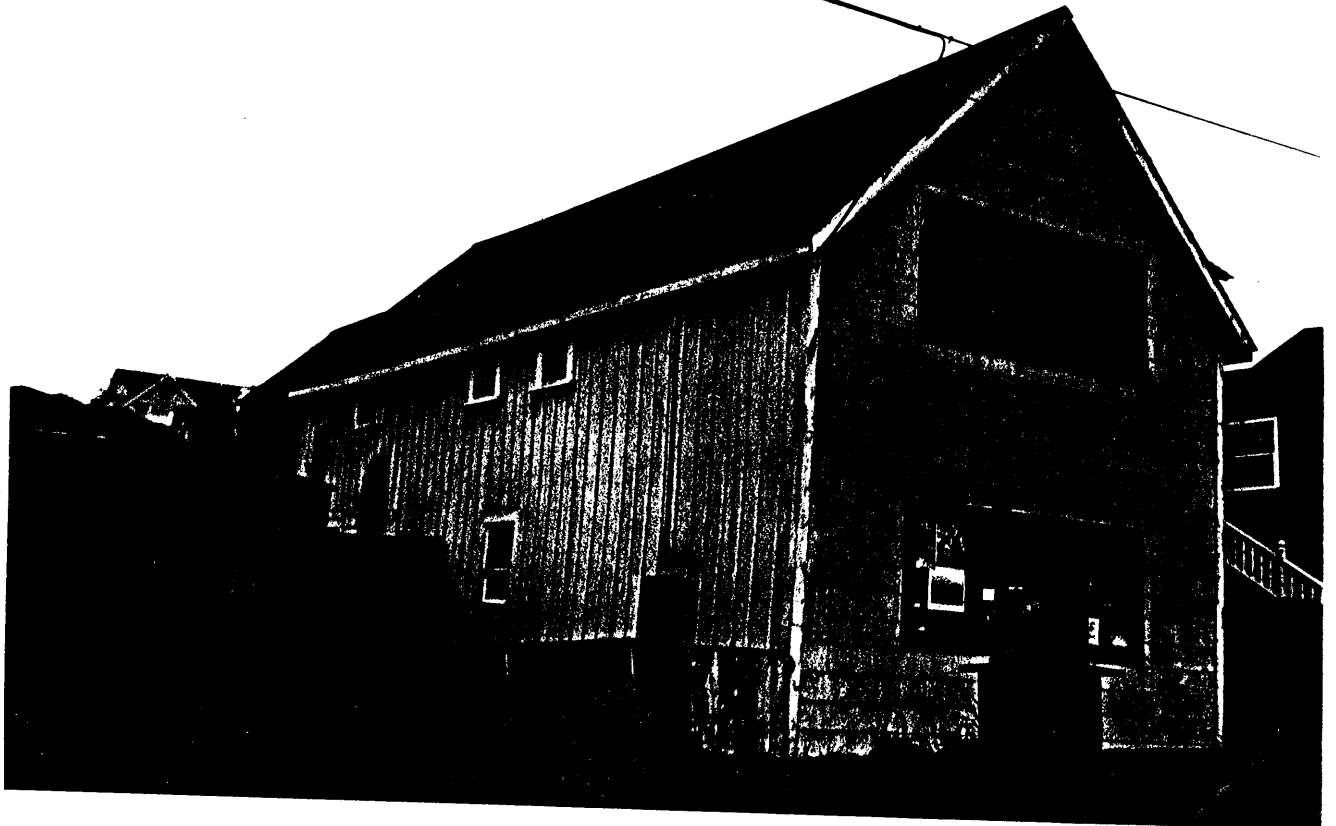
Address: 10511 Wheeler St.

City Mendocino Zip 95460

Phone: 707-937-5974



#11 Bank of Commerce
1905 (Alphonse's)
45140 (522) Main St.



EVERSON/BANK OF COMMERCE
45140 Main Street

Sverko, April 1, 1999
APN: 119-237-05
MHR: #11, No. I

7/23/1867, Deeds, Bk 3, pg 59,
W. H. Kelly sold the northerly
35' x 80' of this parcel to James
Flanagan.

However, Heeser's map of 1868,
indicated the entire parcel, 40' on
Main St by 162.75' deep was owned
by Abram Everson, Lot #18, Blk 2.

This building was surveyed for the
State Office of Historic Preservation
by the writer in 1987, with info
available at that time.

The building had to have been built
by Everson following the big fire
of 1870, which wiped out west
Main Street.

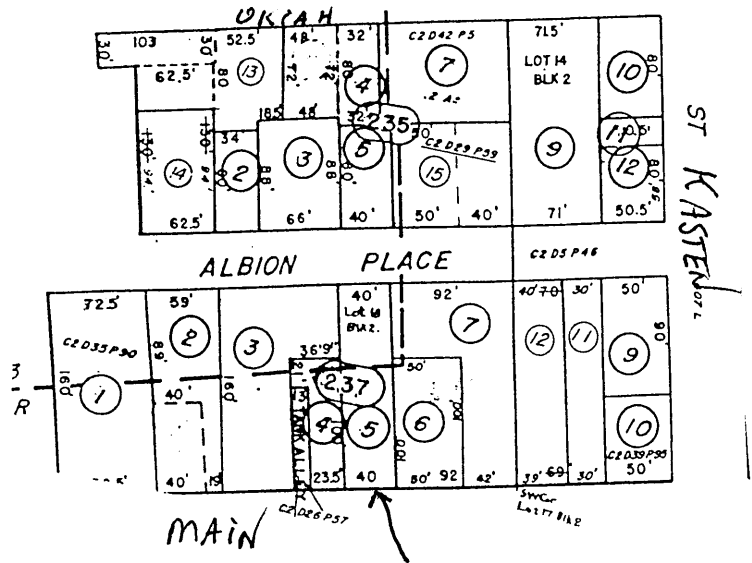
August 12, 1893, A. Brilliant opened
a general merchandise store in the
old Everson building on Main Street,
erected soon after the 1870 fire.

Prior to 1905, the two Mendocino
Banks, Mendocino Discount Bank
and Mendocino Bank of Commerce were housed in the Heeser's Beacon building.

In 1905, Fred Stickney and Joshua Grindle organized the Mendocino
Bank of Commerce as a successor to Grindle & Stickney, brokers, and the bank
occupied this building. The Bank of America building on the corner of Kasten
& Main Sts (119-237-10) was built in 1908.

10/7/1911, O. W. Everson leaves today for Palo Alto to join his wife and daughter. They
will reside there hereafter. Miss Susie entered Stanford University.

2/24/1912, Mrs. John E. Triguerio recently of Boston has opened a millinery parlor at
her home in the Everson cottage on Albion St.



Con;’t

4/15/1921, Estate of Susie M. Everson to O. W. And Annie J. Everson.
The property was then evidently acquired by Ephraim B. Russell and was also referred to as the Russell building.

1/15/1921, Bk 166, Pg 6, Ephraim B. Russell to Orlo A. Hamblin.

7/1/1921, Bk 166, Pg 32, Orlo A. Hamblin to Mrs. Emily V., Brown, described this lot, 40' on Main St. x 160.75' deep, Lot #18, Blk 2. Mrs. Brown had the east and north ends of the building torn down to lessen the fire risk to her store building.

8/20/1921, A. Brown has fitted up the store part of the former Russell building for E. D. Woodworth who will open up an auto paint shop there.

9/7/1922, Emily V. Brown to Albert Brown, Lot 18, Blk 2, town of Mendocino.

7/7/1976, Raymond Towbis, et al to Alphonse J. Reide, property Mendocino.

Beacon, October 25, 1979, Last week Alphonse Reide had the old shingle roof replaced with a new one on his building on Main Street. The workmen managed to beat the rain by just a few hours on that job, which was a relief to Carl Moore whose book shop is on the second floor.

Alphonse Reide still occupies this building.



JACK'S CORNER



By JACQUES HELFER

JACKS

Mendocino's new HEADLANDS INN is now open to the public. Located at the corner of Howard and Ukiah Streets, this was the old Strauss house. Now there are seven guest rooms, a parlor and a country kitchen for the convenience of visitors to our town. Congratulations and best wishes for success to Dick Foreman and George Webb who worked long and hard to transform that tired old home into a good looking and well appointed inn.

*** 119-250-06

Sometimes you get lucky. Last week Alphonse Riede had the old shingle roof replaced with a new one on his building on Main Street. The workmen managed to beat the rain by just a few hours on that job, which was a relief to Carl Moore whose book shop is on the second floor.

*** 119-237-05?

I was interested to see the concrete foundation poured last week for the tower portion of the residence Cliff Sanders is building on the old "jail lot." Mendocino's jail was a small, sturdy building where an occasional boisterous drunk might be locked up overnight. The location is across Covelo street from the building that used to house the Piersol Hospital, in the old days. The house currently occupied by Margot Farrar is also across the street.

Cliff Sanders told me that during the time he has been delayed by the sewer board on this project, the loan interest rate has gone from 11 percent to 11½ percent. The 30 year bank loan is for \$80,000. I checked at a local bank and was told that the ¼ percent increase will add \$16,441.20 to the ultimate cost of that residence! I hope you will keep this kind of reality in mind when you vote for sewer board members next month.

119-160.22

here this week to the success of Rainbow Oil Company had been successful in bringing in a well on its Texas property. This well is to be drilled to a depth of 100 feet.

Beacon
7-23-1921

MISS BERTHA SEMAN MARRIED

Miss Bertha Seman, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Seman of this place, was married in San Francisco Saturday last to Howard J. Moore of Lompoc. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Daniels were present at the wedding. Mrs. Daniels accompanied her sister to the city two weeks ago to prepare for the wedding.

The bride is a graduate of the local high school and has taught most successfully for several years. Of late she has been teaching at Lompoc where she became acquainted with her present husband. She has a large number of friends in this place who join The Beacon in extending congratulations. The couple will make their home in Lompoc, where the groom is engaged in business with his father. Following the wedding, Mr. and Mrs. Moore drove north to Ukiah in the groom's car, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Daniels accompanying them to that point. From there the newlyweds proceeded to Lake county on a honeymoon trip.

BABY GIRL ARRIVES

Word was received this week by Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Brown of this place of the arrival of a baby girl at Anchorage, Alaska, to Mr. and Mrs. Leslie A. Brown, on July 17th.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Williams departed for San Francisco last week after a several days' visit at the C. B. Mallory home here. Mrs. Williams is Mr. Mallory's niece.

table. Work on the furnaces is practically at a standstill awaiting the arrival of a steamer with fire brick for the new Dutch ovens that are to be constructed. After the brick is at hand there will be several week's work before the mill can be put in operation.

In the woods there is much timber cut and there are many logs ahead at the Boom so no definite date has yet been fixed for the commencement of logging.

OLD LOG SLIP BLOWN OUT.

One of the quite necessary repairs that has just been completed at the mill was the installation of a new log slip at the east end of the mill in the river. Ed Boyle with a crew had charge of getting out the old slip and placing the new one. The last slips put in were placed on top of a former construction of this character and of late at low water it was difficult to sufficiently submerge the car on which the logs are drawn into the mill. This and the fact that the slip in use was going to pieces under long wear and the action of the salt water on the iron work made a new slip an absolute necessity. It proved possible to pull out the uppermost construction with the Maru and wire ropes, but when it came to the mass of iron work submerged in the river for some fifty years past steam was passed up for dynamite. A box of powder was sunk into the "innards" of the pioneer construction and when it was discharged a column of water and mud shot up as high as the mill smokestacks. Everything was thoroughly loosened or blown out by the powder and the putting in of the new slip made comparatively easy. The new slip has been well constructed to meet river conditions and is expected to last for many years.

TO PUBLISH FOLDER.

The Mendocino County Chamber of Commerce is preparing to publish 10,000 copies of an illustrated folder showing the resources of Mendocino county. All portions of the county are to be treated in such a way as to fully set forth the advantages each particular locality possesses. The folder will probably be ready for distribution in two weeks.

At a meeting of the Anderson farm center at Boonville the first of the week Mr. Murphy, a representative of the packing company, met the Anderson growers and preliminary arrangements were made for handling this year's apples through the Earl Company. Murphy promised to put up two packing houses where the green fruit could be prepared and packed for market.

Except in a very small way, no green fruit has ever been shipped from the valley, the entire apple crop going to the dryers. The very low price at present commanded by the dried pro-

119-237-05

Beacon
7-23-1921

FORMER EVERSON PROPERTY SOLD

Mrs. Emily Brown has purchased the E. B. Russell place, better known as the Everson property, from O. A. Hamblin. Mrs. Brown is having the east and north ends of the building torn down to lessen the fire risk to her store building.

The structure is quite a historic one being one of the oldest business places in town, having been erected by Abraham Everson soon after the early-day fire that swept that portion of the town. He conducted a store in it for many years and was succeeded in the business by his son, O. W. Everson, who continued the business for a long period. Later Grindle and Stickney utilized it for a banking office.

Laurie Haapala came in from his place on the Ukiah Road Friday bringing in a veal for Quail Bros.

Mrs. Frank Gonsalves and daughter, Miss Mamie, former residents of Mendocino are here from their home in Oakland after an absence of several years for a visit.

bridge was some 300 feet high and about 90 feet high and take some weeks before placed. The company has a surplus of logs near local railroad from Irwin Changes Plea and Is F

Nick Mattson, who rested on a charge of anti-booze ordinance a plea of not guilty, plea to guilty and was day by Recorder Ch formerly conducted the loon, and since the dry fact, has been operating in the same building he promised that of any kind would be business.

Fort Bragg Defeats Point Arena last Saturday. The game was an excellent one and the local team was somewhat surprised to find so strong a team from the south coast.

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Ed Gallagher took a trip to San Francisco the first of the week. E. U. White made a trip to San Francisco the first of the week.

Miss Lena Lind who has been visiting and sister at this metropolitan the fore H. McKenzie of itor here the fore Henry Zill, the was here the first iness.

A son was born on Monday last Bishop of Green. Continues

Thanksgiving Coffee for their equipment and coffee; and to chocolate Mousse, PayLess, Harvest Market and Mendosa's Market for miscellaneous supplies. Thanks also and tip o'the hat to all those who baked cookies and cakes, and those who contributed their time. We made \$400 on the two nights.

The Children's Fund is a Local organization which helps both low income and homeless children with expenses not covered by existing programs such as dental and medical expenses, special educational training, school supplies, clothing and other needs. All money goes to orphans, absolutely none goes to administration. To send tax deductible donations, please make checks to Mendocino Coast Children's Fund and send to Box 1, Mendocino.

George Bell
for the MCCF Board

Shocking Statistics

EDITOR — I want to call your attention to an important publication recently released by The Heritage Foundation, the Index of Leading Cultural Indicators. Written by William Bennett, the index is a comprehensive statistical portrait of behavioral trends over the last 30 years. The index shows, for example, that while the population has increased 41 percent since 1960, violent crime has increased 560 percent; illegitimate births have increased more than 400 percent; divorce rates have doubled; the percentage of children living in single-parent homes has tripled, and the teenage suicide rate has increased more than 100 percent.

As a member of The Heritage Foundation, I am eager to see the results in this document given wide publicity. Only if we admit we are in a crisis of values can we begin to reverse our cultural decline.

If you haven't yet seen it, you can obtain a copy by calling The Heritage Foundation's Publications Office at 202-546-4400.

James Andreani
Fort Bragg

Economy Needs Jump-Start

EDITOR — In re: The Mendocino Campground/Resort, I have read in the local papers some statements supporting, and some concerning

If you support this project, please sign the petition that I am circulating. You do not have to live here to sign it. Tourists and locals both keep this community alive. Look for me on the streets with the petition, or you can call me at 964-1735 if you would like to sign.

Jan Whaley

Consider God's Warnings

EDITOR — Many thanks to Linn Bottorf for responding to my letter regarding God's Word and the promotion of the homosexual lifestyle during the July 4th parade. I appreciate the further references to what the Bible states about love, self-righteousness and judgment; and I'd like to clarify just a bit for the sake of accuracy.

Jesus did say that the second greatest commandment was "to love your neighbor as yourself" following His declaration that the first and greatest is "to love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." (Matthew 22:37-39)

The recent tragedy in which several people drowned due to flash floods brings to mind the comparative tragedy which can occur whenever warning signs are ignored in the face of impending danger. Apparently these people felt that they knew better the risks present or the course nature would take than those who posted the signs; or possibly the signs were unseen.

Nevertheless, I believe these warning signs were posted, not to deprive people of pleasure or the exercise of free will, but, in order to avoid calamity and possible death, these signs were posted out of love — a love which has others' best interests at heart.

In loving ourselves, we don't always indulge our fleeting desires and whims, but instead employ wise discernment, self-control and self-discipline in making choices which ultimately promote our own best interests. This is the same kind of love we are commanded to express towards our neighbors; and I am thankful for that expression from others on my behalf, although it may have appeared restrictive or contrary to my desires at the time. I have since realized that such love freed me to be healthy and happy in its outcome. The warnings and proscribed limits imposed by God's

See LETTERS On Page 12

he started to take a 22 rifle from the shelf in the back of his coupe and the rifle was discharged. Deceased was born in Scotts Valley, Lake County, March 6, 1888.

PVT. DARWIN W. CHRISTIANSEN, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Christiansen of Elk, has been promoted to Private First Class, upon assignment to the Technical school, Army Air Forces Training Command, Sioux Falls, S.D. for training as a radio operator-mechanic.

WENDELL J. FORNEY, instructor of science for several years at our local high school, and vice-principal for the past two years, was elected to become principal at the opening of the fall term. He will replace W. H. Reilly who has resigned to take up a similar position at Avenal, Kings county. Mr. Forney will follow the same policies set up by preceding principals and give the school the same fine administration that it has been having in the past.

100 YEARS AGO

August 12, 1893

MCCARTHY, the merchant we made mention of last week, has returned to Fort Bragg from Caspar.

DR. JAS. G. NELLIS, formerly of Usal, is in Santa Rosa and contemplating relocating there. This move is occasioned by the closure of the lumber mills in the Usal vicinity. Over 500 men have been thrown out of work, incidental to the depression in lumber trade and the low price of tanbark.

A. BRILLIANT of San Francisco has opened a general merchandise store in the old Everson building on Main Street. (45140 Main St., erected by Abraham Everson soon after the 1870 fire on West Main Street, succeeded in business by his son O. W. Everson for a long period of time; this building later became the Mendocino Bank of Commerce, then purchased by Mrs. Emily Brown in 1921 who had north and east ends of the building torn down to lessen the fire risk to her store building.)

THE NEW Baptist Church in this place is well underway and when completed will be very neat and unique.

THE LADIES of this place will give the Mendocino Band a reception on Admission Day. A pleasant affair is promised.

WILLIAM M. GREENWELL and wife of Austin, Nevada, are guests this week at the Geo. Switzer home, parents of Mrs. Greenwell.

8-14-
1943

119-737-05

POB: Beginning on the north side of Big River Bay at a point on the south side of Albion Street at the northwest corner of a certain piece of land belonging to Richard T. Rundle (now occupied by Mrs. Brown) thence to the aforementioned point running westerly along the line of said street 35', then running at right angles southwesterly with said street 80' then easterly parallel with the aforementioned street, 35', and then northerly in a straight line to the point of beginning, the last mentioned line dividing said lot from the lot owned by R. T. Rundle.

~~Grantee~~ portion of 119-237-05 Lot 18 Bee ✓
NORTHERLY west of Eugene Brown lot

MHR #11 I ✓

DEEDS, Bk 166, pg 32 7/1/1921

ORLO A. HAMBLIN to MRS. EMILY V. BROWN

119-237-05 45140 main ✓

Point of Beginning, North line of Main Street, 92' west from the southwest corner of property owned by J. D. Murray, then Joseph Granskog.

Then west on Main St. 40' to lot formerly owned by Ramus

Then North 12 7/8 degrees West, 160 3/4' to south line of Albion

Then East on Albion 40'

Then south on west line of Grantee lot 160 3/4' to Point of Beginning.