

From: [Elizabeth Lilly](#)
To: [Public Comment - HC](#)
Subject: Support for Los Altos DAR Early Settlers Project
Date: Monday, April 17, 2023 3:30:22 PM

Members of the Los Altos Historical Commission,

I am writing to support the nomination of the Los Altos Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution for their unique and creative effort in researching and producing the *Early Settlers of Old Los Altos/Mountain View* in print and digital formats. Documenting the people who settled here in the late 19th century gives a window into the early growth of this area. This was a time before the apricot orchards. Up to now this was a period of local history that was not well known.

Now the stories of families that developed this area, whose names we are familiar with as streets and schools and even a creek and subdivision, will be known. Copies of the book are available at our local libraries, at the Los Altos History Museum, and at the Family Research Center at Portland and Grant Road. This project produced an educational resource for the community.

This project demonstrated a way to engage with the community for the good of the community even when under “stay at home” directions because of the pandemic. The researchers, all local residents, created a research community with regular on-line meetings to report on our projects while giving and receiving helpful hints. The skill of the leader, Martha Wallace and her team, produced a user friendly document with single page biographies, photos and references. It is complete as it is while also being an excellent resource for further research.

I support this nomination. It meets your criteria as a pioneering and most innovative effort in historic preservation with a lasting public educational benefit for Los Altos.

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