

From: [Donna M. Santistevan](#)
To: [Public Comment - HC](#)
Subject: Supporting the nomination for Los Altos Historic Preservation Award for the Los Altos DAR chapter
Date: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 11:48:32 AM
Importance: High

Members of the Los Altos Historical Commission,

I would like to support the nomination for the Los Altos Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution for the Los Altos Historic Preservation Award.

Members of this local Los Altos DAR chapter, who has a main focus is historic preservation, wanted to engage in a historical project during the COVID pandemic and to be able to do research from their homes. Spearheaded by Martha Wallace, she asked members to document the life and history of early settlers in the Los Altos area. Through our research, we learned the settlers had pioneering and entrepreneurial spirit that contributed to the commercial and civic evolution of the early San Francisco Ba Area.

Many members were inspired by the land where they currently live, others by a familiar street name, and others with a family background. With online access to various resources, we investigated these people whose names appeared on early maps, directories, census records and more. A one-sheet profile for each settler was created.

The project took over a year. Members shared their research approaches and findings through weekly Zoom meetings. Many members spoke with locals who helped with historical information, ideas and accuracy. Finally, we were thrilled that many historical societies, libraries and museums wanted a copy of our completed works. We were able to present each of them a hard copy for their collection.

Many who will read this book will learn more about the history and people of Los Altos and the surrounding area. As a resident, the impact to me has been invaluable. I understand more about my community, the history, and the culture. I have made many new friends not only within the chapter, but with the Los Altos community with this enriching experience.

The Los Altos Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution is an excellent example of outstanding achievement in historic preservation and is worthy of the Los Altos Historic Preservation Award.

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