



**TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY
HISTORICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
September 12, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.**

The Apple Valley Historical Advisory Committee will hold its regular meeting in the Development Services Building, Conference Room 1, located at 14975 Dale Evans Parkway, Apple Valley, California 92307 on September 12, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

The Town of Apple Valley recognizes its obligation to provide equal access to those individuals with disabilities. Please contact the Town Clerk's Office at (760) 240-7000, ext. 7800, two working days prior to the scheduled meeting for any requests for reasonable accommodation.

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's Office at 14955 Dale Evans Parkway, Apple Valley, CA during normal business hours.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL:

____ Tom Hoegerman - Chair ____ Marcy Taylor - Vice Chair
____ Barbara Davisson ____ Pat Orr ____ Vacant
____ Mayor Pro Tem Cusack

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Please Limit Comment Time to 3 Minutes

4. HISTORICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSENT AGENDA:

4.1 Approval of Minutes

That the Historical Advisory Committee approve the subject minutes as part of the consent agenda.

5. BUSINESS OF THE COMMITTEE:

5.1 Municipal Code 2.24

Review Municipal Code 2.24.

5.2 Museum Hop Tour November 18

5.3 Strategic Plan

Review committee member lists for historical video interviews of local citizens.

5.4 Apple Valley Driving Tour

Review final tour transcript.

6. COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

6.1 Suggested items for next Agenda

6.2 Time, Date & Place for Next Historical Advisory Committee Regular or Special Meeting

A. Regular Meeting – October 10, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. Development Services Building, Room 1

7. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS:

Please Limit Comment Time to 5 Minutes

8. STAFF MEMBER COMMENTS:

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Recommended Motion:

To adjourn the meeting of the Historical Advisory Committee at TIME.



Town of Apple Valley

Apple Valley Historical Advisory Committee

MINUTES

August 8, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

Development Services Building, Room 1

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tom Hoegerman called to order the regular meeting on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 9:01 a.m.

PRESENT

Members Present: Chair Tom Hoegerman, Vice Chair Marcy Taylor, Committee Member Pat Orr and Committee Member Barbara Davisson

Staff: Julie Ryan, Special Projects Manager and Charlene Robinson, Executive Assistant

Council Member: Mayor Pro Tem Larry Cusack

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Committee Member Pat Orr

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

4. HISTORICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 **Approval of Minutes**

That the Historical Advisory Committee approve the subject minutes as part of the consent agenda.

Motion was made to approve the June 13, 2023, minutes.

First by: Vice Chair Taylor

Seconded by: Committee Member Orr

Motion Passed Unanimously.

5. BUSINESS OF THE COMMITTEE

5.1 **Apple Valley Driving Tour**

Julie Ryan will send the latest edited version of the driving tour script, map and coordinates to the Committee for review and edits.

5.2 **Continue discussion of Strategic Plan**

Each member to bring list of Apple Valley residents to video.

5.3 **Review Municipal Code 2.24**

Work with attorney to change/update MC to include information on historical buildings.

5.4 **Museum Hopping Tour**

Vice Chair Taylor discussed her event held in July for approximately 30 people.

Museum hop is scheduled for November 18, 2023. Julie will check with Victor Valley Museum to see if they want to participate. Reserve the Town's Conference Center for the end of the tour.

6. COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

6.1 Suggested items for next Agenda

6.2 Time, Date & Place for Next Historical Advisory Committee Regular or Special Meeting

A. Regular Meeting – September 12, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.–Development Services Building, Room 1.

7. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Chair Hoegerman – Happy Trails Parade and potential HAC booth

Vice Chair Taylor – Book 2 printing and poster board display

Committee Member Davisson – No comment

Committee Member Orr – No Comment

8. STAFF MEMBER COMMENTS

No comment.

9. ADJOURNMENT

To adjourn the meeting of the Apple Valley Historical Advisory Committee at 10:07 a.m.



Julie Ryan, Special Projects Manager

**Town of Apple Valley Municipal Code
Chapter 2.24**

HISTORICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sections:

2.24.010	Created
2.24.020	Meetings
2.24.025	Compensation of Members
2.24.030	Functions, Powers, and Duties
2.24.035	Records and Meetings
2.24.040	Declaration
2.24.045	Definition
2.24.050	Authority to declare
2.24.055	Notice of Public Hearing
2.24.060	Standards applicable at Public Hearing
2.24.065	List of declared landmarks
2.24.070	Markers for declared landmarks
2.24.075	Alteration or demolition of landmarks
2.24.080	Ordinary maintenance and repair
2.24.085	Permission of property owner
2.24.090	Full disclosure

2.24.010 Created. A Historical Advisory Committee for the Town may be created from time to time by appointment of its members to perform such task or tasks as the Town Council assigns the committee. The Historical Advisory Committee's tasks shall conform to the function and duties specified in Section 2.24.030 of the Municipal Code. The committee shall be disbanded by the Town Council whenever the Town Council determines that the Historical Advisory Committee has completed its assigned tasks or tasks; provided, however, any member or members may be removed by the Town Council at any time whether with or without cause. The Town Council shall appoint all Committee members to the Historical Advisory Committee. The Town Council shall determine the number, method of appointment, and qualifications of the committee members. The appointment of each committee member shall be approved by a majority of the Town Council.

2.24.020 Meetings. The Committee shall meet at whatever interval of time that the committee and/or the Town Council finds expedient for the completion of the committee's assigned task or tasks. Special meetings may be called by the chair or a majority of the committee, provided notice has been given to all members at least 24 hours prior to the meeting, and as otherwise required by law. A majority of committee members shall constitute a quorum, and a majority vote of a quorum shall be required to pass a motion or other enactment.

2.24.025 Compensation of Members. No direct compensation shall be paid to committee members; however, members shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses, including travel expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties as members of the Committee, as may be authorized by the Town Council.

2.24.030 Functions, Powers, and Duties. The functions, powers, and duties of the Historical Advisory Committee shall include:

- (A) Considering Council recommendations for the possible designation of points of historical interest for the Town of Apple Valley including, but not limited to:
 - (1) Evaluation. Evaluating sites designated by the Town Council to determine whether they warrant action.
 - (2) Public Hearings. The Historical Advisory Committee shall conduct a public hearing on matters relating to the designation of landmarks or points of interest. At the public hearing, the committee shall receive all evidence and hear all interested persons.
 - (3) Recommendation after a Public Hearing. After a public hearing, if the committee shall find that the purposes of this chapter are furthered by designation of a site, structure or object as a landmark or point of interest, such findings shall be stated in a resolution to the Town Council recommending designation of the site, structure or object as a landmark or point of interest.
 - (4) Sites designated as landmarks or points of interest are intended for the purpose of providing a list of interesting locations within the Town of Apple Valley. Such a designation is not intended to interfere with future development and/or current or future land use designations. *(This section amended per Ord. 193 adopted 2-10-98.)*

- (B) The promotion of the history and culture of Apple Valley.
 - (1) Sponsorship and participation in educational programs and activities.
 - (2) Coordination of programs with the Apple Valley Unified School District, the Mojave Historical Society and the Victor Valley Museum.
 - (3) Dissemination of historical and cultural information to the public through a variety of mediums including, but not limited to, the media, Town-sponsored programs and activities, speaking engagements, and participation in regional, national, and international historical and cultural preservation organizations.

The functions and duties of the Historical Advisory Committee shall not be construed as preempting or otherwise interfering with the function of other commissions, boards, committees or officers which are empowered or mandated by law or ordinance or other regulation to act upon certain matters or make recommendations to the Town Council concerning the repeal of or amendment to Town ordinances or regulations or adoption of new ordinances or regulations, or otherwise taking such actions as are mandated, prescribed or permitted by law.

- (C) Acting upon proposed and existing non-conforming historical signs as provided in Section 9.08.1245 of the Town of Apple Valley's Development Code or in any applicable successor or other ordinance or enactment of the Town Council.

The functions and duties of the Historical Advisory Committee shall not be construed as preempting or otherwise interfering with the function of other commissions, boards, committees or officers which are empowered or mandated by law or ordinance or other regulation to act upon certain matters or make recommendations to the Town Council concerning the repeal of or amendment to Town ordinances or regulations or adoption of new ordinances or regulations, or otherwise taking such actions as are mandated, prescribed or permitted by law. *(This section amended per Ord. 193 adopted 2-10-98.)*

2.24.035 Records and Meetings. The Historical Advisory Committee shall keep a public record of its transactions, findings, and determinations. Minutes of the Historical Advisory Committee shall be filed with the Town Clerk.

2.24.040 Declaration, maintenance and preservation of landmarks and points of interest.

- (a) Definition of a Landmark. A historic, cultural or natural landmark is any real property such as a building, structure, site archaeological excavation or object that is unique or significant because of its location, design, setting, arterials, workmanship or aesthetic feeling, and/or:
- (1) That is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the nation, state or community, and/or;
 - (2) That is associated with lives of persons who made a significant contribution to the national, state or local history, and/or;
 - (3) That reflects or exemplifies a particular period of the national, state or local history, and/or;
 - (4) That embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction, and/or;
 - (5) That presents the work of a master builder, designer, artist or architect whose individual genius influenced his age; or that possesses high artistic value, and/or;
 - (6) That has yielded or may be likely to yield information important to national, state or local history or prehistory. *(This section amended per Ord. 193 adopted 2-10-98.)*

2.24.045 Definition of a point of interest. A historic, cultural or natural point of interest is any real property or object:

- (1) That is the site of a building, structure or object that no longer exists but was associated with historic events, important persons, or embodied a distinctive character or architectural style, and/or;
- (2) That is historic significance, but has been altered to the extent that the integrity of the original workmanship, materials or style has been substantially compromised.

2.24.050 Authority to declare a landmark or point of interest. The sole authority to declare landmarks and points of interest shall be vested in the Town Council, after a public hearing held by either the Town Council or the Committee and recommendation made to the Town Council. *(This section amended per Ord. 193 adopted 2-10-98.)*

2.24.055 Notice of public hearing. Notice of the date, time, place, and purpose of any public hearing before the Committee or the Town Council shall be given by at least one publication of a notice in a newspaper having general circulation in the Town, not less than ten days prior to the date of the hearing, or as otherwise required by state law, and a notice addressed to the owner of the property being considered. If the property being considered is not real property, notice shall be given to both the owner and the person in possession of the real property where the object is situated, if known. The last known name and address of each owner as shown on the records of the County Assessor may be used for this notice. Failure to send any notice by mail to any property owner where the address of such owner is not a matter of public record or the failure to receive any mailed notice shall not invalidate any proceedings in connection with the proposed designation.

2.24.060 Standards applicable at public hearing. The recommendation of the Historical Advisory Committee that the Town Council declare a landmark or point of interest shall be subject to the following standards determined by the Town Council:

- (1) The landmark or point of interest shall fit a definition set forth in Section 2.24.040 or Section 2.24.045.
- (2) The landmark or point of interest shall have substantial significance to the people of the Town.

2.24.065 List of declared landmarks and points of interest. The Historical Advisory Committee shall maintain and make available to the general public a list of all such declared landmarks and/or points of interest. The form and content of the list shall be approved by the Town Council.

2.24.070 Markers for declared landmarks and points of interest. Upon declaration of a landmark or point of interest by the Town Council, the Historical Advisory Committee will determine which landmarks or points of interest shall be marked with uniform and distinctive markers. Such markers shall be of a design approved by the Town Council. Markers will be installed only when written permission is granted by the property owner. *(This section amended per Ord. 193 adopted 2-10-98.)*

2.24.075 Significant alteration of landmarks or points of interest. Prior to demolishing, altering, adding to or in any way changing a landmark or point of interest, the Committee shall be advised of such work so that a determination can be made as to the continuance of the site's historical value. However, emergency repairs and/or removal of unsafe conditions to the landmark or point of interest, may be done without prior notice as long as the Committee is advised directly after the emergency situation is addressed. *(This section amended per Ord. 193 adopted 2-10-98.)*

2.24.080 Ordinary maintenance and repair of landmarks or points of interest. Ordinance maintenance and/or repair of any exterior architectural feature in or on any property covered by this chapter is allowed. However, if the ordinary maintenance and/or repair alters the exterior architectural feature in regards to design, material, or external appearance thereof, then the Committee must be advised prior to such work so that a determination can be made as to the continuance of the site's historical value. However, emergency repairs and/or removal of unsafe conditions to the landmark or point of interest, may be done without prior notice as long as the Committee is advised directly after the emergency situation is addressed. *(This section amended per Ord. 193 adopted 2-10-98.) (Amended per Ord 224 6-13-00)*

2.24.085 Permission of property owner required for designation. No site, structure or object shall be designated as a landmark or point of interest without the express written permission of the owner of the site, structure or object. If permission is withdrawn in writing from the property owner and delivered to the Town Clerk, then such designation will also be withdrawn by the Committee and the Town Council. *(This section amended per Ord. 193 adopted 2-10-98.)*

2.24.090 Full disclosure of impact of designation as landmark or point of interest. Every property owner of record of a property proposed for designation as a landmark or point of interest shall be provided a copy of this chapter with any accompanying letter bringing attention to the provisions of Sections 2.24.075 and 2.24.080 as impacts on future use of the property. *(Ord. #44, 1990)*
(Entire Chapter 2.24 amended per Ord. 120, adopted 08-10-93)



Apple Valley

MUSEUM HOP EVENT

November 18, 2023

10:00am - 12:00pm



Victor Valley Museum

The Victor Valley Museum maintains and develops a unique cultural and natural science collection related to the High Desert that includes geological and paleontological specimens, Native American artifacts, and historical objects.



Apple Valley Legacy Museum

The Apple Valley Legacy Museum preserves the history of Apple Valley and provides a place for locals and out-of-town visitors to enjoy it. This free museum, showcasing the history of Apple Valley, is filled with displays, scrapbooks, news articles, artifacts, and collections.



Town of Apple Valley Heritage Room

Our collection includes the original bar glass from the Apple Valley Inn, a Newt T. Bass radio, the Sister City Key, and numerous photo albums of the Village, Golf Course, and other Historical Landmarks in Apple Valley. A short video will also be shown.



Pre-registration is required. Register by emailing jryan@applevalley.org. This event is limited to 40 participants. First come first served. Details will be provided upon registration

Audio file

[AV Voice over Master #1 mp3.mp3](#)

Transcript

00:00:00 Speaker 1

Hi, I'm Roger Osgood.

00:00:03 Speaker 1

And, [I](#) will be your guide on this podcast driving tour of the [T](#)own of Apple Valley.

00:00:08 Speaker 1

If this is your first visit to the Victor Valley, other than just passing through on your way to Las Vegas or destinations to the North or South, let me be the first to welcome you.

00:00:18 Speaker 1

If you live here, I hope to give you information and insights that you may not know about this part of California's.

00:00:26 Speaker 1

I recommend that you also download the points of interest and map from the website.

00:00:32 Speaker 1

This will give you all the physical addresses for the points of interest, so you can put them in your GPS.

00:00:38 Speaker 1

The question that many people ask while passing through the Victor Valley on, say, a hot August day is why would anybody live here?

00:00:47 Speaker 1

You may have asked that question yourself, and it's a good question.

00:00:51 Speaker 1

So let's start the tour.

00:00:56 Speaker 1

We will begin by exiting Interstate 15 at D Street in Victorville and that's exit 153 A and will turn [East](#) on [Dee-D](#) St. Highway [eighteen18](#). You will also be on the iconic Route 66 for about a half a mile.

00:01:13 Speaker 1

Look for the stop light at 7th St. and if you turn right, you would continue on to Route 66. But don't or you'll miss what we Apple Valley folks know as a better way of [Life](#).

00:01:26 Speaker 1

Life-Look to your left, past the railroad tracks and behind Eva Dull-Dell school.

00:01:33 Speaker 1

And these houses is the Mojave River.

00:01:36 Speaker 1

The Mojave may not look like much on the surface, but it's because most of it flows underground.

00:01:43 Speaker 1

#2 on your map is the Victor Valley cemetery. As you pass 7th St. You will start gaining elevation and I will be talking about the facilities on your left a little later.

00:01:54 Speaker 1

I would suggest you turn right on 11th St.

00:01:57 Speaker 1

you'll pass the Kemper Campbell Ranch Rd. Turn left on C Street.

00:02:01 Speaker 1

and turn right into the entrance ~~to~~ of the Victor Valley Memorial Park.

00:02:02 Speaker 1

Holy cemetery. (I'm missing the changes from here to 00.02:51)

00:02:04 Speaker 1

I tell you this because it is the final resting place of America's first triple ace, Captain Joseph McConnell, who you will be hearing a lot about later.

00:02:16 Speaker 1

Captain McConnell's grave site is located about 2/3 of the way up at the two flagpoles. His wife is buried.

00:02:24 Speaker 1

Just passed him as you continue up 11th St. you will see a ~~gate and~~ green sign on your left for the cemetery. You can turn in here and follow the road to McConnell's grave site.

00:02:38 Speaker 1

At the base of the flag poles you will see a large black granite grave marker rotunda for Captain Joseph McConnell, and behind his grave on the other side of the low wall is that of his wife.

00:02:51 Speaker 1

We will be telling more of the McConnell story later in the tour, but feel free to Park.

00:02:58 Speaker 1

And take a little walk around.

00:03:00 Speaker 1

Hope you enjoyed that.

00:03:02 Speaker 1

Go ahead and drive up the paved road and then continue on the dirt road to the top and you will see a large dirt lot that is also part of the cemetery.

00:03:13 Speaker 1

You can turn left East and drive back away on the lot and park carefully walk east to the edge of the lot and you will be standing above the Kemper Campbell Ranch and getting a great view of the entire 70 square miles of the town of Apple Valley, plus hundreds of miles of Mojave Desert.

00:03:34 Speaker 1

And mountains.

00:03:37 Speaker 1

The Verdi Kemper Campbell ranch.

00:03:40 Speaker 1

Written by Scott Campbell, who with his parents, grandparents, aunt and uncle and brothers, grew up on the ranch, wrote the following interesting bit of history.

00:03:52 Speaker 1

The Bemus and Hancock families established a ~~4000~~4000-acre ranch called Rancho Verde in 1860 and 1867.

00:04:01 Speaker 1

John Brown purchased Rancho Verde where Brown built a number of buildings, notably 2 bunk houses, both still standing one we call the Play Barn.

00:04:11 Speaker 1

Is still open for entertainment.

00:04:14 Speaker 1

The other now serves as our store barn.

00:04:17 Speaker 1

Between the play barn and the store barn is a stone structure originally constructed as a Creamery for John Brown's dairy Business Today. The Stone House is a duplex for two of our tenants.

00:04:32 Speaker 1

Nearby, the crumbling remains of John Brown's Smokehouse used then for curing meat, still stands.

00:04:42 Speaker 1

John Brown was followed by coal, sterling, and Frost. Frost's name still marks the railroad crossing.

00:04:50 Speaker 1

Frost sold to Grier, Grier tried to subdivide the ranch, naming his creation Riverdale.

00:04:59 Speaker 1

Nothing came of it, although occasionally an old wooden street sign can still be found lying among the other debris and the desert hills of the ranch.

00:05:09 Speaker 1

Greer and his Riverdale development.

00:05:11 Speaker 1

Got into financial trouble and sold the entire 4000-acre Rancho Verde to Andrew Sorensen and his law partner.

00:05:20 Speaker 1

Kemper Campbell in 1924 for \$12,000.

00:05:25 Speaker 1

Rancho Verde reached from the Mojave, Narrows the rocks to your left.

00:05:32 Speaker 1

And its north side to Bear Valley Rd.

00:05:34 Speaker 1

Now the boundary between Victorville and his.

00:05:36 Speaker 1

Area at its South end, its western side reached.

00:05:42 Speaker 1

In parts to present day, Hesperia Road and its eastern border reached to what is now Apple Valley Rd.

00:05:50 Speaker 1

A large swath of Apple Valley.

00:05:53 Speaker 1

All of Spring Valley Lake, the state fish hatchery, Victor Valley Community College, Green tree east and Victor Valley Community Hospital.

00:06:03 Speaker 1

Are on land once part of Rancho Verde.

00:06:09 Speaker 1

As you look East, you will see not only the ranch but the lakes and fields a little left.

00:06:16 Speaker 1

~~You'll see the Academy for Academic Excellence and the Mojave River part of the ranch was sold many years ago to the state of California, who then leased the land to the County of San Bernardino.~~

00:06:30 Speaker 1

For the Mojave Narrows Regional Park.

00:06:34 Speaker 1

The thing that you may not know is that these lakes, these trees, and these fields make up an important part of the North American flyway for migratory birds.

00:06:45 Speaker 1

Protecting this area is critical to so many animals and birds and humans.

00:06:51 Speaker 1

It is protecting water.

00:06:52 Speaker 1

Quality and it is a place to quiet your soul and commune with nature.

00:06:59 Speaker 1

Visiting the park gives you the opportunity to see first handfirsthand how all of creation can find ways to live in harmony.

00:07:09 Speaker 1

What Scott didn't say is the ranch today is still an operating cattle ranch and is also a place you can come and stay.

00:07:18 Speaker 1

Yes, you and your family are friends.

00:07:20 Speaker 1

Can think of the Kemper Campbell Ranch as a very nice relaxing retreat.

00:07:26 Speaker 1

Lots of information on their website, including the fact that you may have seen it on the big.

00:07:32 Speaker 1

Screen to quote their website recently, Netflix Mank, directed by David Fincher and starring Gary Oldman, was ~~shot~~filmed on location at the Kemper Campbell Ranch.

00:07:44 Speaker 1

Mank is the true story of the writing of Citizen Kane.

00:07:49 Speaker 1

The ranch was more than just a set for this movie. It was the ~~real-life~~real-life location where these historic events actually took place. In 1940. Herman ~~mankowitz~~Mankowitz.

00:08:02 Speaker 1

Spent three months as a guest at the ranch, pinning the screenplay for what would become Citizen Kane. At the time, it was still the North Verdi Ranch as the Campbell family did not rename it. The Kemper Campbell Ranch until 1945. The Kemper Campbell ranch.

00:08:22 Speaker 1

Congratulates Mank and its incredible crew on ~~the winning of~~winning two Academy Awards.

00:08:28 Speaker 1

Cinematography Eric Messerschmidt and production design Donald Graham Burt and Jan Pasco.

00:08:37 Speaker 1

Go online to the ranch website.

00:08:39 Speaker 1

There is so much more to discover.

00:08:43 Speaker 1

Turn to your right and look S imagine if you will that the large office building is not right there, blocking the view of a portion of the mountains.

00:08:53 Speaker 1

The ~~Cahone~~Cajon Pass is roughly the dividing line between the San Gabriel Mountains to the right and the San Bernardino Mountains to the.

00:09:01 Speaker 1

Left starting with the San Gabriels, you are looking at the communities of Pinion Hills, Oak Hills, Phelan, Wrightwood, Mount Baldy, Victorville and Little Northwest is Adelanto and the former George Air Force Base, turning a little further and you are looking.

00:09:22 Speaker 1

At Oro Grande.

00:09:25 Speaker 1

And ~~helendale~~ Helendale and then Barstow?

00:09:27 Speaker 1

Let's turn back to the ~~Cahone~~ Cajon pass, this time turning left. You will see Hesperia. Then imagine you can see Silverwood Lake, Crestline, Lake Arrowhead, and Big Bear, and closer to you, the Marianas, which are the low hills rising up toward the San Bernardino's.

00:09:45 Speaker 1

As you continue to turn left, you leave the mountains and looking East as Lucerne Valley just before you turn onto 11th St.

00:09:54 Speaker 1

to your left may have seen the processing plant, a large complex covered in whitish dust.

00:10:02 Speaker 1

This plant was opened in 1940 as Victorville Lime Rock.

00:10:08 Speaker 1

The plant received limestone from the quarries around the valley.

00:10:13 Speaker 1

And you may see the tailings of white and Gray rock on some of the hills.

00:10:17 Speaker 1

Our valley is rich with the minerals used in many construction products like cement and limestone.

00:10:23 Speaker 1

But why here?

00:10:25 Speaker 1

Well, this valley wasn't always desert.

00:10:29 Speaker 1

A long time ago, where you are standing.

00:10:32 Speaker 1

Was the ocean floor?

00:10:34 Speaker 1

These mountains were the shores of a great inland sea.

00:10:37 Speaker 1

And these lower hills.

00:10:39 Speaker 1

Well, some would have been islands knowing how limestone is made gives us confirmed.

00:10:45 Speaker 1

According to limestone.com, limestone is any rock that is made mostly from calcium carbonate, but there are several types. It forms with carbonate rocks.

00:10:58 Speaker 1

Were deposited in seawater and continue to form as coral reefs in shallow seas.

00:11:06 Speaker 1

Marine limestone comes together when sea water with high concentrations of chemicals as they dissolve and the surface layer of the material is usually coral, clams and other sea creatures that use the same chemicals in their shells.

00:11:22 Speaker 1

The composite of these things merges together and creates the limestone.

00:11:27 Speaker 1

Over a long period of time.

00:11:31 Speaker 1

While you might think limestone is limestone, there are many different types of carbonate rock.

00:11:37 Speaker 1

Chalk is a fine grain porous limestone, while travertine is a fresh water, more sedentary limestone that is thin layers.

00:11:47 Speaker 1

Marble is also a carbonate rock that has been squeezed down and formed into a different material with heat and pressure.

00:11:55 Speaker 1

Mining limestone limestone deposits can be huge and cover hundreds of square miles.

00:12:01 Speaker 1

It is usually uniform in quality and thickness, but limestone quarries can be long lived because of the abundance, mining can take place under hundreds of miles and many.

00:12:15 Speaker 1

Areas of the quarry.

00:12:17 Speaker 1

Many different quarries will.

00:12:19 Speaker 1

Put together several different products and some crushed rocks that are impure can be used for Rd.

00:12:27 Speaker 1

The composite of these things merges together and creates the limestone over a long period of time, so you might be able to imagine.

00:12:35 Speaker 1

That way, back in time, the peaks of the various mountains from the tops of the San Bernardino S and the San Gabriels and Islands.

00:12:43 Speaker 1

And ocean.

00:12:45 Speaker 1

Which is inulin teeming with life.

00:12:48 Speaker 1

The smaller mountains submerged hundreds, if not thousands, of feet below the surface, so maybe at this moment, we should.

00:12:56 Speaker 1

Look up and imagine yourself hundreds of feet from the surface. Or if you travel on I-15 N, you'll see the remnants of volcanoes and the mountains. You will find mine shafts that once produced silver and gold.

00:13:12 Speaker 1

Would you like to see more than head for your cars before we start the drive?

00:13:17 Speaker 1

I'm going to tell you about the bridge across the Mojave River next to the Victorville Lime Rock plant mentioned earlier.

00:13:24 Speaker 1

You may have noticed the arched bridge that crosses the Mohave River next to the plant.

00:13:30 Speaker 1

It is known as the Rainbow Bridge because of its distinctive structural shape. However, it wasn't the 1st. In 1890, the San Bernardino County supervisors ordered the first bridge to be built at this location. We refer to it as the Upper Narrows.

00:13:49 Speaker 1

A respected San Bernardino civil engineer AH Koberg didn't believe the first bridge was structurally sound, so a test was conducted, and indeed with three fully loaded wagons, each pulled by 6 mules started across the bridge.

00:14:07 Speaker 1

Well H Koenig.

00:14:09 Speaker 1

Was correct.

00:14:10 Speaker 1

The bridge did fail, hurling 5 people and 18 mules 50 feet to the river below.

00:14:17 Speaker 1

Miraculously, none were killed.

00:14:20 Speaker 1

Learning their lesson, the erection of the replacement bridge was completed in 1891 and was in use until the Rainbow Bridge you see today was constructed in 19~~28~~, ~~f~~94 years ago.

00:14:35 Speaker 1

So let's get going.

00:14:36 Speaker 1

Turn right from Kemper Camp Old ranch.

00:14:40 Speaker 1

On to 11th St.

00:14:42 Speaker 1

and then right on Hwy.

00:14:44 Speaker 1

The larger bridge you were on was completed in the late 1960s, and after hearing the previous story, I'm thinking you feel pretty good about being on the newer bridge as you pass over.

00:14:58 Speaker 1

You'll see the river, and if various astute and I know you are, you will notice that it is flowing from South to north.

00:15:06 Speaker 1

The World Atlas states that in the United States, at least 48 rivers and 16 states flow N, including nine in Alaska and eight in Washington. Rivers don't follow a compass, they follow terrain and gravity.

00:15:22 Speaker 1

The Mojave head water start as rain or snow in the San Bernardino and San Gabriel Mountains, as well as water from the Feather River project released from Silverwood Lake State Recreation Area, according to missus Kate O'Rourke in her book the History of Apple Valley.

00:15:40 Speaker 1

It's hard to imagine, but some 10,000 to 20,000 years ago, as the oceans receded, the land in and around Apple Valley was lush with lakes and wide rivers teeming with life.

00:15:53 Speaker 1

Evidence of early man was captured in the mud at ~~Orogrande~~Oro Grande, a few miles the other direction on Route 66.

00:16:01 Speaker 1

When a small group of adults and children walked across the river and left their footprints in time, they date back 5120 years. Yep, there were people living here long before the early explorer pilgrims.

00:16:18 Speaker 1

Landed at Plymouth Rock after you cross the bridge, the road cuts between the hill as you Crest the hill and start down to your right.

00:16:28 Speaker 1

You will see the Lewis Center for Educational Research ~~this. This 150-acre~~150-acre campus is the home of the Academy for Academic Excellence.

00:16:39 Speaker 1

A transitional kindergarten through 12 public charter school.

00:16:44 Speaker 1

It is also a guardian and partnership with the San Manuel tribe of this historically and geological ~~revelant~~relevant piece of land on the Mojave River.

00:16:54 Speaker 1

You'll learn at the end of the tour, including its unique partnership with NASA.

00:17:02 Speaker 1

Go ahead and put the address 19900 highway 18 into your GPS. Now Roy Rogers and Dale Evans first home in Apple Valley.

00:17:16 Speaker 1

As you enter the town of Apple, Valley continues straight crossing Apple Valley Rd.

00:17:21 Speaker 1

on Hwy.

00:17:23 Speaker 1

That's the first stop lights.

00:17:25 Speaker 1

Your tour of the town will bring you back here by way of Apple Valley Rd.

00:17:30 Speaker 1

This area of Apple Valley is known as Desert Knolls, and it includes a number of medical offices.

00:17:36 Speaker 1

The San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools Educational building.

00:17:41 Speaker 1

The Providence Saint Mary Hospital and the original site of the Saint Mary's Catholic School and Our Lady of the Desert Catholic Church, the town of Apple Valley, has a population of approximately 73,000 people.

00:17:58 Speaker 1

But with many homes built on larger than half acre lots, it has a lot more open space.

00:18:05 Speaker 1

Continue heading east on Hwy.

00:18:07 Speaker 1

18 about 3 miles.

00:18:09 Speaker 1

This portion through Apple Valley is also known as Happy Trails Highway.

00:18:15 Speaker 1

After the song, written and sung by perhaps our most famous residents, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans.

00:18:22 Speaker 1

As we continue to Roy and Dale's first house, we are going to pass Saint Timothy Church on your left, which is also the campus of Apple Valley Christian Academy.

00:18:35 Speaker 1

As our Happy trail begins to curve to the right, you may notice a very unique house which sits on a rocky hillside to your left and has a lot of windows.

00:18:47 Speaker 1

And a roof that is very different. The historic and whimsical flying Nun House, constructed in 1966 by the late businesswoman and Civic Leader, Miss Bernice Lynn.

00:19:00 Speaker 1

The house on Rimrock Rd. features a panoramic view of the Victor Valley as well as a unique design that reminds onlookers of the classic TV show The Flying Nun, which starred Sally Field and aired from 1967 to 1970.

00:19:19 Speaker 1

Like many of the women who came to Apple Valley in those early days, Miss Lynn was smart, tough and nobody's fool.

00:19:28 Speaker 1

She was well respected and was very much a factor in the successful growth of Apple Valley.

00:19:35 Speaker 1

Your GPS now will probably have you turn left onto Rimrock Rd.

00:19:42 Speaker 1

As you turn left on the ~~Rum-Rim~~ rock.

00:19:44 Speaker 1

You can take a short detour and drive east past the Flying Nun House and then come back to Roy Rogers and ~~the Elevens-Dale Evans~~ home.

00:19:53 Speaker 1

Or if you prefer as soon as you turn on ~~the rum-rock~~Rimrock, make a quick right hand turn onto ~~O~~uter Hwy 18 frontage road.

00:20:01 Speaker 1

~~18 front~~ Ish Rd.

00:20:05 Speaker 1

Roy Rogers and Dale Evans lived in Apple Valley for many years, beginning in 1965 until their deaths.

00:20:13 Speaker 1

Their first home is at 19900 Highway 18 and ~~Cimarron Symeron Road~~. The home is located on 1.572.20 acres, the 3396-4700 square foot.

00:20:27 Speaker 1

House features 2-5 bedrooms, 2-1/23 baths and a host of upgrades.

00:20:32 Speaker 1

Please remember that Roy and Dale no longer live ~~therethere~~, and we don't want to bother the current occupants, but feel free to take a picture if you wish.

00:20:41 Speaker 1

Remember, you can pause the podcast and then start again anytime.

00:20:48 Speaker 1

Add 19838 Tomahawk Road to your GPS now.

00:20:54 Speaker 1

When you are ready, make a left turn on ~~summer on road~~ Symeron Road east of the Rogers home, then turn right ~~on Rancho Rios Rd on Serrano, and right on Rancherias.~~

00:21:02 Speaker 1

We are going to cross Hwy. 18 to see the area around the golf course, and Roy and Dale's second home.

00:21:09 Speaker 1

As you cross the Happy Trails Highway, you will see a shop on your left back in the day.

00:21:15 Speaker 1

This was the Buffalo trading post.

00:21:17 Speaker 1

A wonderful store for a young boy to visit.

00:21:21 Speaker 1

Amazing with Western wear and Native American art and everything a young boy or girl could want to play Cowboys and Indians or learn about the rich history of Apple Valley, where for thousands of years Native Americans lived and prospered. ~~on~~ On your right.

00:21:36 Speaker 1

Is the Apple Valley Country Club A around ~~the-of golf~~ Gulf was a great way to sell a home in the early days.

00:21:42 Speaker 1

Or maybe even today.

00:21:46 Speaker 1

At the next street Tomahawk Road. you will turn right to 19838 Tomahawk, which is.

00:21:53 Speaker 1

On your right.

00:21:54 Speaker 1

The wrought iron gates.

00:21:57 Speaker 1

Should give you a clue as to whose house we are in front of.

00:22:02 Speaker 1

Yes, this is Roy and Dale's second home here in Apple Valley.

00:22:08 Speaker 1

Add 14695 ~~fire tail~~ Tiger Tail Road. into your GPS now.

00:22:15 Speaker 1

This is the Fairhope house.

00:22:19 Speaker 1

Turn left here on Tiger Tail, right across the street from the Rogers House.

00:22:24 Speaker 1

This one has a name, Fairhope house.

00:22:28 Speaker 1

Let's go stay to your right until you come to the 4th house on your left.

00:22:33 Speaker 1

And you'll see an historical sign next to the wall, and at the far end of the wall there's a plaque.

00:22:38 Speaker 1

Go ahead and pull over out of traffic, and then I'll tell you the story.

00:22:44 Speaker 1

Many people are unaware of the US presidential history of the Victor Valley, and none is more prevalent than President Richard Nixon's stay in Apple Valley in 1961.

00:22:57 Speaker 1

After suffering defeat to John F Kennedy in one of the closest presidential elections in American history.

00:23:05 Speaker 1

President Nixon retreated to California.

00:23:08 Speaker 1

Accepting an invitation from Apple Valley's founder Newton T Bass, Nixon came to Fairhope.

00:23:15 Speaker 1

Fairhope served as VIP lodging for the then booming Apple Valley Inn.

00:23:23 Speaker 1

The current owners didn't know that Nixon had stayed there when they bought it years ago.

00:23:28 Speaker 1

They knew that it was special because it had a name and they knew that any house with a name has a name for a reason and a history.

00:23:36 Speaker 1

They could become part of.

00:23:39 Speaker 1

The Fairhope House, built in 1955 as a one story, four bedroom house by Mervyn Hope, president of Hollywood Savings and loan, was later acquired by Newton Bass.

00:23:53 Speaker 1

Notable guests include Bob Hope, Billy Graham, as well as the former president.

00:23:59 Speaker 1

While Nixon was here, he completed his first book, ~~6-erises~~[Six Crises](#).

00:24:05 Speaker 1

Chronicling in detail his involvement in six events that marked important turning points in his life, Nixon expressed his appreciation to ~~B~~bass through a handwritten note dated October 25th, 1961 that partially appears on the plaque in front of the house it says quote.

00:24:26 Speaker 1

You were thoughtful indeed to have placed Fairhope house at my disposal.

00:24:30 Speaker 1

And I assure you that its seclusion and comfort help greatly to make my efforts productive.

00:24:39 Speaker 1

Now add 20702 Thunderbird Road to your GPS.

00:24:46 Speaker 1

We're going to take you to the Apple Valley Center for innovation.

00:24:50 Speaker 1

And the ~~leese-Luz~~ Observatory.

00:24:53 Speaker 1

As you turn right onto Thunderbird Road, look to your right, unless you're the driver.

00:24:59 Speaker 1

And you will see Bass Hill.

00:25:03 Speaker 1

Currently, Bass Hills is being repurposed with trails and educational information as well as an observation deck at the top. It formerly housed the Hilltop House, which was built in the 1950s and was used by the town founders, Newton T Bass and Bud Westland.

00:25:23 Speaker 1

Newton's brother-in-law as an entertainment and marketing tool for their Apple Valley ranchos land company.

00:25:30 Speaker 1

It provided panoramic views of the desert landscape. We often say that from the top of Bass Hill you can look back in time about 20,000 years.

00:25:44 Speaker 1

The Hilltop house was intentionally set on fire January the 9th 1967, early in the morning by two brothers, Michael and Keith Smith, who had burglarized the home and started the fire to cover their tracks. It didn't work. They were caught.

00:26:02 Speaker 1

Tried and convicted, and since they had a fondness for houses, it got them sent to the big house.

00:26:10 Speaker 1

The structure was rebuilt a year later and used as a Conference ~~Center, but~~ Center, but has been vacant for several years.

00:26:17 Speaker 1

It was purchased in 2000 by the 360 Apple W Limited Law Corporation and suffered another fire in 2009.

00:26:28 Speaker 1

In May 2016, the town closed escrow on the \$310,000 purchase of the property with the assistance of a \$160,000 grant awarded through the National Park Service and the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

00:26:47 Speaker 1

The town council allocated the remaining balance ~~be~~to be paid out of the general fund.

00:26:53 Speaker 1

The ~~B~~ass home was a beautiful home overlooking the valley, with a vast collection of antiques and valuable furniture, as well as an ~~indoor-outdoor~~indoor-outdoor swimming pool.

00:27:05 Speaker 1

And that pool is how the brothers.

00:27:06 Speaker 1

Got into the house.

00:27:09 Speaker 1

The following year, Town council adopted Resolution #2017-13A resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Apple Valley, CA, placing the recently purchased Hilltop House property into the town of Apple Valley Park system.

00:27:28 Speaker 1

And amended the master plan of Parks and Recreation to include the property as an asset to the park system.

00:27:36 Speaker 1

We are blessed with a number of Parks and Recreation facilities, including a ~~Community~~community pool, soccer field.

00:27:43 Speaker 1

Baseball and softball facilities, and miles of beautiful spaces to run or jog.

00:27:51 Speaker 1

Soon you will come to the K through 8 Phoenix Academy on your left and you also might be surprised to see an observatory. ~~turn~~Turn left on Wichita Road and immediately turn left into the parking lot for Thunderbird Park.

00:28:07 Speaker 1

The money, materials and labor to build this very unique observatory facility were donated by the people of Apple Valley businesses and students, as well as foundations who raise the money to build the college level observatory and classrooms, known as the Apple Valley Center for Innovation.

00:28:27 Speaker 1

It is run in partnership with Apple Valley Unified School District and the Lewis Center for Educational Research.

00:28:36 Speaker 1

The High Desert Astronomical Society.

00:28:40 Speaker 1

Assist with public viewing nights.

00:28:43 Speaker 1

The Lewis Center has a partnership with NASA, which also means that there are some pretty interesting exhibits as well as the US Air Force jet on display in the courtyard.

00:28:56 Speaker 1

You can find a calendar of events and much more information on the Apple Valley.

00:29:00 Speaker 1

Unified School District or the?

00:29:04 Speaker 1

Lewis, Center for Educational Research websites.

00:29:08 Speaker 1

Feel free to walk around the park and get a closer look at the observatory from the outside.

00:29:15 Speaker 1

Now pause the podcast until you return to your car.

00:29:21 Speaker 1

OK, let's continue the journey as you leave the park, turn right on Wichita, then left onto Thunderbird Road.

00:29:29 Speaker 1

You will come to Dale Evans Parkway and then turn right.

00:29:35 Speaker 1

At the first stop light turn left and you'll see the former location of the Terry Lee doll factory.

00:29:42 Speaker 1

It has a rich history.

00:29:44 Speaker 1

Some 70 years ~~ago that~~ago, the Terry Lee Doll factory was located on this property.

00:29:49 Speaker 1

Beginning in 1952 until 1960.

00:29:53 Speaker 1

Producing unique dolls popular with little girls all over the country, many local women were employed here.

00:30:01 Speaker 1

Where they put the finishing touches on the dolls, painting the features, adding the hair and sewing the clothes. The molds were made in a factory located on Central Rd. just South of Hwy. 18, developed by Violet Lee Gradwell of Lincoln NE in 1946. The dolls were made in the likeness.

00:30:21 Speaker 1

Of her two daughters, Terry Lee and Connie ~~Lee~~Lynn.

00:30:25 Speaker 1

Not only did the dolls have washable hair, but they had an extensive wardrobe and their own furniture.

00:30:32 Speaker 1

The dolls came with a lifetime guarantee, broken or damaged dolls were admitted to the doll hospital, also located here to be made well again.

00:30:42 Speaker 1

Additional playmates included Jerry Lee ~~z~~.

00:30:45 Speaker 1

Linda, ~~B~~baby and ethnic dolls such as Guadalupe, a Hispanic doll, Patty Joe, an African American doll, Nanook, an ~~d~~ Eskimo doll and one celebrity doll, ~~Gene~~Gene Autry.

00:30:58 Speaker 1

When the doll factory closed in 1960, the building became the new home of ~~DG~~Dee Gee of California plush animal toys.

00:31:07 Speaker 1

And then in 1990, it became the third branch of the Apple Valley Library. The current library is next to the town hall. Shall we continue?

00:31:19 Speaker 1

Turn left on Dale Evans Parkway and at the next light you will reach Apple Valley Town Hall.

00:31:26 Speaker 1

Turn left into the parking lot and park.

00:31:30 Speaker 1

This part of the story is longer than the drive, so I'll tell you about what you're going.

00:31:35 Speaker 1

~~To see, let's~~ Let's start by looking around right here today, this area of the town houses our town hall.

00:31:43 Speaker 1

Civic Center Park Library and the police station to the West Big box stores, restaurants, Walmart, Target, Starbucks.

00:31:52 Speaker 1

Well, you name it, and you'll probably find it.

00:31:55 Speaker 1

Look across Hwy- 18 and you can see the Apple Valley Inn and the location of the Apple Valley Legacy Museum. Once Upon a time, this area was our Town's Center.

00:32:05 Speaker 1

Apple Valley's Airport started as a small landing strip near where today's town hall is located. Some 200 private planes landed there each week, bringing old friends of the valley back or new visitors in for the first time on a busy weekend. As many as 150 planes lined the apron.

00:32:25 Speaker 1

Including four ~~engine~~-DC Fours, 1 engine conveyors, ~~learjets~~Learjets and aPiper Cubpp.

00:32:32 Speaker 1

Bonanza Airlines scheduled two flights daily to and from the Apple Valley Airport in the 1950s and early 60s.

00:32:40 Speaker 1

But as the sales activity in Apple Valley slowed down, Bonanza canceled its daily flights. It stopped all flights in November of 1963.

00:32:52 Speaker 1

I know it's a lot of information to take in, but trust me, there will not be a test at the end of your drive.

00:33:00 Speaker 1

As we continue the tour drive out of the parking lot and turn left at the light.

00:33:07 Speaker 1

Turn left on Outer Hwy.

00:33:08 Speaker 1

18 Don't cross Highway ~~eighteen~~18.

00:33:11 Speaker 1

You will pass Wakita Rd.

00:33:13 Speaker 1

which leads to the Church of the Valley.

00:33:15 Speaker 1

Then you'll see the Apple Valley Fire station as we cross Wwakita, you'll see a blue house on the left as you continue down the outer highway, there is a vacant lot.

00:33:27 Speaker 1

At the next lot 20660 Outer Hwy. 18highway eighteen, you will come to a Brown house with wood.

00:33:35 Speaker 1

This is a very special house with an amazing story. It was used as the Appreciation House in the 1955 movie The McConnell Story starring Alan Ladd and June Allison.

00:33:50 Speaker 1

The real Appreciation House is 12 houses to the east. Further down this road at 20812 Outer Highway.

00:33:59 Speaker 1

18 I can't tell this story any better than Kate O'Rourke does in her book the history of Apple Valley.

00:34:08 Speaker 1

On page 113, she writes quote "First LieutenantCaptain.

00:34:12 Speaker 1

Joseph Mack-McConnell Jr.unior, a Korean War hero, lived in Apple Valley during the Korean War."McConnell shot down 16 Communist Migs in just 125 days to become the number one air ace of the war. To show their appreciation for his great effort during the war.

00:34:33 Speaker 1

The community and builders, Bennington and Smith, built the McConnell family a new home. The community set a record for home construction by building the 1208 square foot home in less than 48 hours.

00:34:50 Speaker 1

The Appreciation Home was built for Captain McConnell and his family in 1953. As I said in 1955, McConnell's life story was made into a movie, the McConnell story.

00:35:04 Speaker 1

Unfortunately, Captain McConnell died on August 25th, 1954, when his F86-H jet crashed at Edwards Air Force Base.

00:35:15 Speaker 1

As you know, Captain McConnell, ~~Jr.~~ and his wife are buried at the Victor Valley Memorial Park, which you saw earlier.

00:35:23 Speaker 1

So why is this House important at this point in our tour? It so happens that all this modern growth you see around you was not always here. Place 21600 Corwin Rd. into your GPS.

00:35:39 Speaker 1

We're now heading for the Apple Valley Airport.

00:35:42 Speaker 1

~~At least you think we no longer have an airport.~~

00:35:45 Speaker 1

We will now go back to Dale Evans Parkway and turn right heading north.

00:35:51 Speaker 1

There were many ranches in Apple Valley, including the Murrays Dude Ranch.

00:35:56 Speaker 1

The late 1800s and 1900s were not a great time for everyone in the United States.

00:36:03 Speaker 1

The Great Depression of the late 1920s into the 1960s were times that pointed out an ugly side of our society building codes, ~~CCRs and ours~~ often excluded certain racial and ethnic groups from owning homes or property.

00:36:23 Speaker 1

However, Apple Valley ranchos did not own all the land, and even before they came along, African Americans, Hispanics and other minority groups had purchased land.

00:36:35 Speaker 1

Including the area near the airport known as Bell Mountain at this area north of Corwin Rd. It was outside of the C&R's and was the home of some very important people to our history. We're proud to call our own.

00:36:53 Speaker 1

It became very profitable and popular hosting among others, boxing champion ~~Henry~~ Joe Louis.

00:37:00 Speaker 1

Mary McLeod, Beth ~~Hume~~, Bill Bojangles Robinson, and Lena Horne.

00:37:06 Speaker 1

Hollywood producers shot the movies "The Bronze Buckaroo" and "Harlem Rides."

00:37:11 Speaker 1

The "Ranch" at the Murrays Ranch, the only African American dude ranch in the United States during the first half of the 20th century.

00:37:21 Speaker 1

According to Victor Valley College.

00:37:23 Speaker 1

Quoted from Page 39 of images-Images of America, Apple Valley by Michelle Lovato.

00:37:33 Speaker 1

Quote- "The earliest African American homesteaders received land patents in 1914 in the area known as the Bell Mountain District. By the 1940s, there were 37 families in the settlement and the Bell Mountain District Improvement Association was formed.

00:37:50 Speaker 1

The Improvement Association held fundraisers, took donations and eventually built a Community Center.

00:37:58 Speaker 1

Commerce in the area included a convenience store and later served double duty as the Bell Mountain Post Office in 1953.

00:38:07 Speaker 1

There was also a feed store in the area and two churches."

00:38:12 Speaker 1

I'm very glad that we have these and other resources for your tour.

00:38:16 Speaker 1

But there is so much more.

00:38:19 Speaker 1

People are resilient, creative, and resourceful.

00:38:23 Speaker 1

Contributing most to healing our past as a willingness of caring people to look beyond race, ethnicity, and the status of others, and instead look into our own hearts, we need to be welcoming, understanding and open to change.

00:38:40 Speaker 1

Now, hopefully when you downloaded the podcast, you also downloaded the county airports dos and Don'ts flyer.

00:38:48 Speaker 1

The airport is an active one, including the San Bernardino County Sheriff's and California Highway Patrol. Air units outside you will see an F86-H painted to match the jet.

00:38:59 Speaker 1

Captain McConnell flew in the Korean War.

00:39:03 Speaker 1

There are a couple of other displays inside.

00:39:06 Speaker 1

They also have an aviator restaurant.

00:39:09 Speaker 1

Open Monday through Sunday, 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM just in case the trips made you hungry.

00:39:16 Speaker 1

If it's past 2:00 PM, you can still go inside and see the displays, but don't panic.

00:39:21 Speaker 1

We have many other restaurants and you're free to stop the podcast when you see one you like.

00:39:27 Speaker 1

The great thing about a podcast is you can stop it anytime and start it again.

00:39:32 Speaker 1

So let's go in and see the displays and also spend some time outside looking at that F86-H and imagining what it must have been like to be in an air battle. When you are ready, head back to the car.

00:39:47 Speaker 1

Hope you've had a good time looking at the displays and are refreshed and ready to continue on.

00:39:53 Speaker 1

We're going back to our tour now.

00:39:55 Speaker 1

Head out of the airport on Corwin and turn left on Dale Evans Parkway.

00:40:00 Speaker 1

~~Then turn left on Wahoo Rd.~~

00:40:03 Speaker 1

Remember the Murrays dude ranch?

00:40:05 Speaker 1

Add 21849 Wallow Rd. to your GPS, the railroad tie house.

00:40:12 Speaker 1

Just after you pass Navajo Rd. you will see the sun on your right for the railroad tie house at 21849.

00:40:22 Speaker 1

This very unique building was built entirely from used railroad ties, which were purchased from the cement company in Victorville by Doctor Roscoe C. Steele, a local chiropractor.

00:40:37 Speaker 1

He designed and built the building by himself. When completed in 1951, it became his office for the next several years.

00:40:45 Speaker 1

Although the building is very small, it presently has a kitchen, a living room, a bedroom and a bath.

00:40:52 Speaker 1

Doctor Steele and his wife Lois, lived in the main house next to the railroad tie house.

00:40:58 Speaker 1

Missus Steele was nationally known as the Desert Weaver, weaving fabrics of unusual beauty for skirts, ponchos, stoles and also tableware.

00:41:10 Speaker 1

Her shop and rooms were in a small house.

00:41:13 Speaker 1

On the West portion of the property since being vacated by Doctor Steele, it has been used for many years as a rental unit.

00:41:23 Speaker 1

This and other unique houses and structures shows the innovation and creativity of those who settled here.

00:41:30 Speaker 1

But as you will see that creative innovation was not unique to the early 1900s, settlers was just a continuation of those who called the Victor Valley home thousands of years before.

00:41:46 Speaker 1

Now add 21066 Outer Hwy. 18 Apple Valley to your GPS.

~~00:41:55 Speaker 1~~

~~When safe, make a U-turn and travel back on Walau to Navajo Road and turn left. Follow your GPS. But if things get confusing we'll leave directions here as well.~~

~~00:42:09 Speaker 1~~

~~You'll travel 2.1 miles, then turn right on Flathead Road.~~

00:42:15 Speaker 1

~~Travel 1.3 miles and then Turn left on Outer Hwy. 18 a short distance will bring you on the southnorth side to 21066 Outer Hwy. 18. ~~That's the 7th house from Flathead.~~~~

00:42:30 Speaker 1

And the location of John Charles Thomas ~~Corus home~~ Romany Hall.

00:42:35 Speaker 1

John Charles Thomas, the ~~world renowned~~ world-renowned Metropolitan Opera baritone, and his wife Dorothy, moved to Apple Valley in 1954.

00:42:46 Speaker 1

And from 1955 to 1959, he managed the Apple Valley radio station KAVR. Every morning, the station signed on by playing John Charles Thomas singing. "Oh, ~~W~~what a ~~B~~beautiful ~~M~~orning."

00:43:03 Speaker 1

And every evening, when the station signed off, they played his recording of "The Lord's Prayer" ~~as a matter of safety.~~

00:43:11 Speaker 1

On our tour, it is important to remember some streets are not conducive to parking.

00:43:17 Speaker 1

This is one of them.

00:43:19 Speaker 1

So please be careful and watch out for people in traffic during the tour.

00:43:24 Speaker 1

Let's move on to what we call the village.

00:43:28 Speaker 1

Continue on outer highway, heading east to Kiowa Road and turn right, and then make a left onto Happy Trails Highway continuing east.

00:43:40 Speaker 1

To Navajo Rd. at Navajo, make a left and then a quick right back onto the Outer Hwy. 18 East to 21810.

00:43:51 Speaker 1

The El Pueblo shops in the village of Apple Valley.

00:43:55 Speaker 1

These buildings contain a variety of shops and businesses.

00:43:59 Speaker 1

Among them are ~~restaurant~~restaurants, a dress shop, yardage store, beauty parlor, Barber shop, massage parlor, dentist and insurance offices.

00:44:11 Speaker 1

Back in the 1940s, this was the heart of Apple Valley, and as you can see, new construction continues as the once sleepy village becomes a destination point in a town that has grown considerably over the last ~~80-~~plus years.

00:44:25 Speaker 1

~~Years as~~ you follow the outer highway, you will move on to Headquarters, Drive and pass the Mojave Water Agency and the town of Apple Valley Fire Protection District Office and fire station at Central Rd.

00:44:42 Speaker 1

Look to your left and you will see Granite Hills high school.

00:44:45 Speaker 1

Which was built in 1997. If you would like to take a short ~~diversion~~diversion, head left on Central and take a little drive by the high school.

00:44:55 Speaker 1

Later, we'll travel by Apple Valley High School.

00:44:59 Speaker 1

The citizens of Apple Valley are very proud of our schools and the students who attend there now, and those who have attended in the past, like Cuba Gooding Junior or 2021 American Idol winner Chase Beckham.

00:45:15 Speaker 1

And though he didn't graduate from one of our great Apple Valley Schools, Donald ~~Foresi~~Ferrarese, who pitched for the Baltimore Orioles, Cleveland Indians, Chicago White Sox, Philadelphia Phillies, Saint Louis Cardinals.

00:45:30 Speaker 1

And Anaheim Angels from 1955 to 1962.

00:45:36 Speaker 1

Don and his wife and children came to live in Apple Valley, where his parents owned and operated an Italian deli named Hugos. [The building now houses Napa Auto Parts.](#)

00:45:44 Speaker 1

Here in the village, Don jumped right in and supported his parents and youth sports.

00:45:50 Speaker 1

We're glad to call him one of our own.

00:45:53 Speaker 1

Head ~~South~~east and-

00:45:55 Speaker 1

~~A~~-Make a right turn on Central Rd.

00:45:57 Speaker 1

and Cross Hwy.

00:45:58 Speaker 1

18 and continue until you get to Bear Valley Rd.

00:46:01 Speaker 1

Here you are going to turn left.

00:46:04 Speaker 1

You will come to Apple Valley unified school Districts Operations Center on your left, travel a short distance and you see trees and a group of buildings.

00:46:14 Speaker 1

On your right, that's the ~~L~~one Wolf ~~C~~olony.

00:46:18 Speaker 1

It was established in 1922 as a sanitarium by Pacific Telephone and Western Electric Company employees as a place where they could rest and regain their health.

00:46:29 Speaker 1

The 20 acres of land were donated by Sam Caldwell, the World War One veteran who suffered from exposure to nerve gas.

00:46:39 Speaker 1

Telephone and electric company employees supported the ranch with voluntary deductions from their payroll checks.

00:46:47 Speaker 1

The facility could house 15 families at a time. In the past, it often ~~and~~ hosted Boy Scout troops nearly every weekend ~~to day~~.

00:46:55 Speaker 1

The Lone Wolf Colony ~~was at one time a~~

00:46:57 Speaker 1

~~Provides A R~~ecuperative health facility, Today it supports many deserving charities while interacting with the community in which we live.

00:47:06 Speaker 1

~~Health state cottages, which are 10 furnished cottages for recuperation from injury or illness.~~

00:47:14 Speaker 1

The colony also offers overnight through monthly recreational vehicle and boat storage.

00:47:22 Speaker 1

Now let's turn left and travel back towards the Apple Valley School district ~~facilities~~facilities. ~~look~~Look closely at the buildings in front.

00:47:29 Speaker 1

Do they look familiar?

00:47:31 Speaker 1

I know they just look like old modular office buildings that have seen better days, but they have a past and are a part of American political history.

00:47:43 Speaker 1

Welcome to President Richard Nixon's Western White House. These buildings were located on a U.S. Coast Guard base, their President Nixon's home, Casa Pacifica in San Clemente.

00:47:57 Speaker 1

Within the confines of the 9 modular units, decisions were made that affected lives around the world.

00:48:05 Speaker 1

Leaders such as John Erlichman, chief domestic affairs advisory Bob Haldeman, chief of staff and Henry Kissinger, Secretary of State, worked in the buildings.

00:48:18 Speaker 1

When the complex was declared surplus by the government in 1979, it was purchased by the Apple Valley Unified School District for use as the district offices.

00:48:30 Speaker 1

The district was surprised when staff attempted to tape record the first school board meeting and something went wrong.

00:48:39 Speaker 1

It was soon discovered that the ceiling and walls of the former president's office were loaded with various types of electronic blocking equipment installed to keep hackers from listening in.

00:48:52 Speaker 1

Apple Valley Superintendent Philip Produ was a man who wanted to keep as much money as possible, focused on students, so a government surplus sale sounded like a very good way to get what the district needed at a price they could afford.

00:49:09 Speaker 1

As he did when he purchased a crane at such a sale at the Barstow Marine Base for \$150,000. Then again when the Western White House went up for auction.

00:49:20 Speaker 1

That crane came in ~~handyhandy. and I had a great price.~~

00:49:25 Speaker 1

The district later sold the crane for \$10,000.

00:49:29 Speaker 1

Having tenacity and looking outside the box has always been a very helpful trait.

00:49:34 Speaker 1

To have when you live in the shadow of big school districts and big cities.

00:49:40 Speaker 1

Let's continue on Bear Valley Rd.

00:49:42 Speaker 1

Heading West, you'll come to Navajo Road and Apple Valley High School.

00:49:47 Speaker 1

You can't miss it.

00:49:48 Speaker 1

It's the Newton ~~teeT.~~

00:49:49 Speaker 1

Bass Stadium ~~is~~ on the southeast corner of Navajo and Bear Valley Road.

00:49:54 Speaker 1

Turn left at the stadium on Navajo towards the Marianas.

00:49:59 Speaker 1

~~It was b~~Built in 1967 to accommodate Apple Valley students who previously had to attend Victor Valley High School, a long bus ride every day.

00:50:09 Speaker 1

~~Each way-T~~the stadium was added in the 1990s, ~~but I don't want you to think that our recent history is a model of our past.~~

00:50:20 Speaker 1

~~The have~~Ahead of you are the Marianas, a beautiful part of the valley.

00:50:23 Speaker 1

~~As we~~We are headed to the location of the Mendel Ranch or the Circle M Ranch as it was also known.

00:50:30 Speaker 1

Continue South on Navajo to run 12.2 miles, then turn right and look to your left at the 2nd house and you will see on the SW corner the original ~~DEL~~Del Oro sign.

00:50:46 Speaker 1

As Kate O'Rourke tells us in her book The Mendel or Circle M Ranch at Tussing Ranch Rd. ~~It~~ and Kiowa, once extended to the area where Marianna Sschool and Mendel Park are ~~to-day~~today Al Mendel and his mother, Florence, had more than 15,000 acres he had purchased or leased.

00:51:06 Speaker 1

From the government.

00:51:07 Speaker 1

The ranch was known as the Hull Ranch before it was called the Mendel Ranch.

00:51:12 Speaker 1

Mendel also bought the Old Mariana Ranch for back taxes and added it to his holdings.

00:51:19 Speaker 1

If after seeing the sign, you go back and continue on Navajo South, you will see ~~into the~~ Tussing Ranch Rd.

00:51:27 Speaker 1

Turn left and it'll take you to the Mariana School and Mendel Park.

00:51:32 Speaker 1

Or if you wish, you can turn right on Tussing Ranch Rd.

00:51:36 Speaker 1

and continue West.

00:51:38 Speaker 1

At the northeast corner of Tussing Ranch Rd. ~~In~~ and Kiowa, you will see a large water tank and some other buildings. This was the original location of Mendel's home and ranch offices.

00:51:53 Speaker 1

Peg Mendel, ~~Alps~~ Al's. ~~Widow~~ widow, related that all the apple and fruit trees were gone by the time her husband bought the ranch in 1939. ~~Mindell~~ Mendel turned it into a profitable cattle ranch for expensive, white faced Hereford cattle ~~and~~ with an alfalfa farm.

00:52:11 Speaker 1

~~Like we said, the~~ The Mendel ranch was over 15,000 acres from Kiowa Rd. You will not see a cattle ranch ~~today, but~~ today but try to imagine 15,000 acres.

00:52:23 Speaker 1

Think back to standing on the dirt lot above the cemetery earlier in the tour and looking at the Campbell Ranch.

00:52:30 Speaker 1

That extended beyond our ~~view~~ view, and it was 11,000 acres smaller.

00:52:37 Speaker 1

Times changed. Like many others around the valley, the Mendels added. Dude ranching to their activities from 1945 to 1954.

00:52:48 Speaker 1

Today you can imagine the acres of green alfalfa and cattle grazing while Cowboys rode on horseback, running up strays and chasing off coyotes.

00:52:59 Speaker 1

And the occasional Mountain Lion.

00:53:01 Speaker 1

Like so many others who called Apple Valley ~~home~~ backhome before there was much to see, the Mendels gave back more than they took.

00:53:10 Speaker 1

They donated the land for the Mariana School and ~~the Mariana~~Mariana Park that are still in use today.

00:53:18 Speaker 1

Now turn right on Tussing Ranch Rd.

00:53:22 Speaker 1

~~And that's~~ Which is a graded aggregate Rd.

00:53:24 Speaker 1

for a short distance might seem a little rough, but it will dead end into Deep Creek Rd.

00:53:30 Speaker 1

which is paved.

00:53:32 Speaker 1

Turn right on Deep Creek Rd.

00:53:35 Speaker 1

and drive one mile and then turn left on del Oro Rd.

00:53:39 Speaker 1

On your right you will pass one of the just ranch lakes and in a very short distance come to Apple Valley Rd.

00:53:47 Speaker 1

As a part of a ~~pre-1911~~pre-1911 California homestead ~~just~~Jess R ranch Lakes opened in 1954 and soon became one of the largest trout producers in the western United States.

00:54:01 Speaker 1

The fish hatchery had a series of 19 impound lakes used to raise 2,000,000 trout per year.

00:54:09 Speaker 1

In 1955, a series of angling ponds opened to fishermen with no license required.

00:54:17 Speaker 1

The ranch began losing money in the early 1970s, and the trout hatchery was closed in 1994, then reinstated in 2000 when the lakes were opened and stocked with trout, catfish and bass. The fishing lakes recently closed in 2021.

00:54:38 Speaker 1

Now, if you'd like to, you can turn left on Apple Valley Road and Drive 8 tenths of a mile to the Cooper home.

00:54:46 Speaker 1

Which will be on your left.

00:54:48 Speaker 1

Refer to the plaque in front of the buildings Roy Rogers and Dale Evans loved children and spent a lifetime devoted to children and children's charities, including the Happy Trails Children's Foundation.

00:55:03 Speaker 1

The foundation built the Cooper home in 1977 to provide a safe haven for children at risk who had been severely abused and or neglected ~~to-day~~today. The Cooper home serves as a ~~long-term~~long-term residential care and treatment Center for severely abused boys.

00:55:24 Speaker 1

Now if you went to the Cooper home.

00:55:27 Speaker 1

Turn North, ~~that would be a right turn~~ on Apple Valley Road and ~~proceed north and~~ you'll pass Del Oro.

00:55:34 Speaker 1

Then on your left.

00:55:36 Speaker 1

~~As you pass~~ You will see the just Jess Ranch retirement community, Doctor Harrison ~~Garson~~Garcelon and his wife homesteaded of the original 160 acres.

00:55:47 Speaker 1

Of what is now the Jess ranch area. In 1910, they advertised the ranch as being an ideal climate to cure asthma and tuberculosis. It later became a sanatorium for World War One shell shocked victims.

00:56:02 Speaker 1

The property also served as a guest ranch where early Cowboy movies starring Tom Mix and William S Hart and others were filmed.

00:56:12 Speaker 1

Although Doctor Garcelon had a vision of his ranch being developed into a master planned community.

00:56:19 Speaker 1

With golf course, swimming pool and other amenities, the Great Depression put an end to those plans.

00:56:27 Speaker 1

He sold the ranch to his nephew, Stoddard Jess, in 1932.

00:56:33 Speaker 1

Just teamed up with his neighbor Gary Lewis, a homesteader.

00:56:37 Speaker 1

To start a ~~900-acre~~900-acre Turkey farming operation from a modest start with two hundred birds, just ranch developed into one of the largest integrated Turkey ranches in the western United States at 1500 Acre.

00:56:53 Speaker 1

The ranch had its own hatchery.

00:56:56 Speaker 1

With the capacity of 80,000 eggs per setting, people could buy eggs, poultrys and meat birds. The ranch began losing money in the early 1970s, and Turkey production ceased in 1977.

00:57:13 Speaker 1

~~Just Jess Ranch~~ ~~Gg~~ated 55 ~~Pp~~plus ~~Aa~~active ~~Aa~~adult ~~Ae~~community was developed in 1985 on the northern portion of the old Turkey Ranch and it was completed in 2002.

00:57:26 Speaker 1

~~With 2120-~~

00:57:30 Speaker 1

In 2003, the remainder of the original ~~1500-acre~~1500-acre Turkey Ranch was sold and ~~Solara~~, Sun City, Apple Valley, a 55 plus active adult community, started construction.

00:57:46 Speaker 1

Solera at Apple Valley completed the transformation of Justice Turkey Ranch in 2023. And Doctor ~~Carlson's~~Garcelon's vision became a reality.

00:57:58 Speaker 1

The community includes Ashwood Golf course, a ~~27-hole~~27-hole course, 4 swimming pools, spas, 2 clubhouses, the Aspen Clubhouse and the Mirror Posa Lodge, which contains state-of-the-art gym equipment, many clubs an array of meeting rooms, the library, ballrooms, billiard rooms.

00:58:18 Speaker 1

And many other amenities and activities.

00:58:23 Speaker 1

Continue North on Apple Valley Road to the first stop sign, that's Jess Ranch Parkway.

00:58:30 Speaker 1

You will see the Jess Ranch Community Church on your left, a ~~non-denominational~~non-denominational Bible centered church serving the entire community.

00:58:40 Speaker 1

The property for the church was given by Mr.

00:58:42 Speaker 1

Jess and many in the community raised money for the construction of the church buildings.

00:58:50 Speaker 1

Continue North on Apple Valley Road to the next stop sign. ~~That's at~~ Town Center Drive. Go 500 feet and after crossing Town Center drive on your right. ~~Y~~ you'll see ~~a set back building~~.

00:59:03 Speaker 1

~~That's~~ the Victor Valley Museum at 11873 Apple Valley Rd.

00:59:09 Speaker 1

The museum features a cultural and Natural History of the high desert, plus a gift shop and many displays that you and your kids will enjoy.

00:59:19 Speaker 1

The museum maintains and develops a unique cultural and natural science collection related to the high desert that includes geological and paleontological specimens, Native American artifacts and historical objects.

00:59:36 Speaker 1

The museum was founded in 1976 to honor the US Bicentennial.

00:59:41 Speaker 1

And was located in the halls of the Victorville courthouse until moving to its current site in Apple Valley in 1992. Since 2010, the Victor Valley Museum has been a branch of the San Bernardino County Museum system.

00:59:58 Speaker 1

Continuing north on Apple Valley Rd.

01:00:01 Speaker 1

across Bear Valley Rd.

01:00:03 Speaker 1

And that's the first stop light.

01:00:05 Speaker 1

Continue North on Apple Valley Rd.

01:00:07 Speaker 1

for three more stop lights to Yucca Loma Road and turn left.

01:00:13 Speaker 1

Continue West on Yucca Loma.

01:00:16 Speaker 1

Turn right on Havasu Road and then left on ~~Sahalee~~ Sahale Lane.

01:00:20 Speaker 1

Continue straight ahead on Sally-Sahale Lane which will become Riverside Drive.

01:00:25 Speaker 1

Don't turn right on ~~sahali~~ Sahale Ceourt or ~~sahala~~ Sahale Way.

01:00:29 Speaker 1

You will see some very nice homes on Riverside Drive, which will become Bbranding Iron in 2.7 miles.

01:00:39 Speaker 1

Continue East on Bbranding iron.

01:00:41 Speaker 1

Turn left on Lookout Road and then left on Mana.

01:00:46 Speaker 1

You are now right in front of the Lewis Center for Educational Research.

01:00:50 Speaker 1

And one of its two charter school campuses, the Academy for Academic Excellence.

01:00:57 Speaker 1

If you are here on a school day, the person at the entrance booth may have some time to talk to you about this remarkable place.

01:01:06 Speaker 1

The other charter schools in San Bernardino, the Norton Science and Language Academy, both schools are pretty remarkable. The AE, as we call the Apple Valley campus, also houses a NASA Mission Control center. The Lewis Center's partnership goes back a long way.

01:01:27 Speaker 1

And has proven to be a very strong partnership.

01:01:30 Speaker 1

Students at the two charter schools as well as schools around our country.

01:01:36 Speaker 1

And on military bases around the world are trained to operate the massive radio telescope through the Mission Control Center, located in the technology building, which is across the parking lot from you.

01:01:52 Speaker 1

This school also has an award-winning junior ROTC program under the direction of Colonel George Armstrong.

01:02:00 Speaker 1

IN2021AE's ROTC unit was the only charter school unit in the nation, and the only unit in California chosen to become a part of the Space Force ROTC program. We're all very proud of the young women and men who have continuously demonstrated their devotion to excellence.

01:02:23 Speaker 1

You can learn more by going to www.lewiscenter.org.

01:02:30 Speaker 1

You're welcome to ask the staff person in the entrance booth questions, but just make sure that your own car is not blocking the entrance or exit.

01:02:39 Speaker 1

If school is getting out for the day, the staff might suggest that you wait until things slow down.

01:02:47 Speaker 1

As you leave the Lewis center, continue E on Mona Rd.

01:02:51 Speaker 1

at the stop sign, turn left on Castella Rd.

01:02:55 Speaker 1

Continue to the stop light that will be Apple Valley Road and then turn left.

01:03:00 Speaker 1

~~Alpa~~ Apple Valley Rd.

01:03:01 Speaker 1

Will take you to the stoplight at Hwy 18.

01:03:05 Speaker 1

Turn left and you will be heading back to ~~the Interstate~~ Interstate 15 if you'd like to.

01:03:10 Speaker 1

We have some great places to spend the night.

01:03:13 Speaker 1

On behalf of all of us who call.

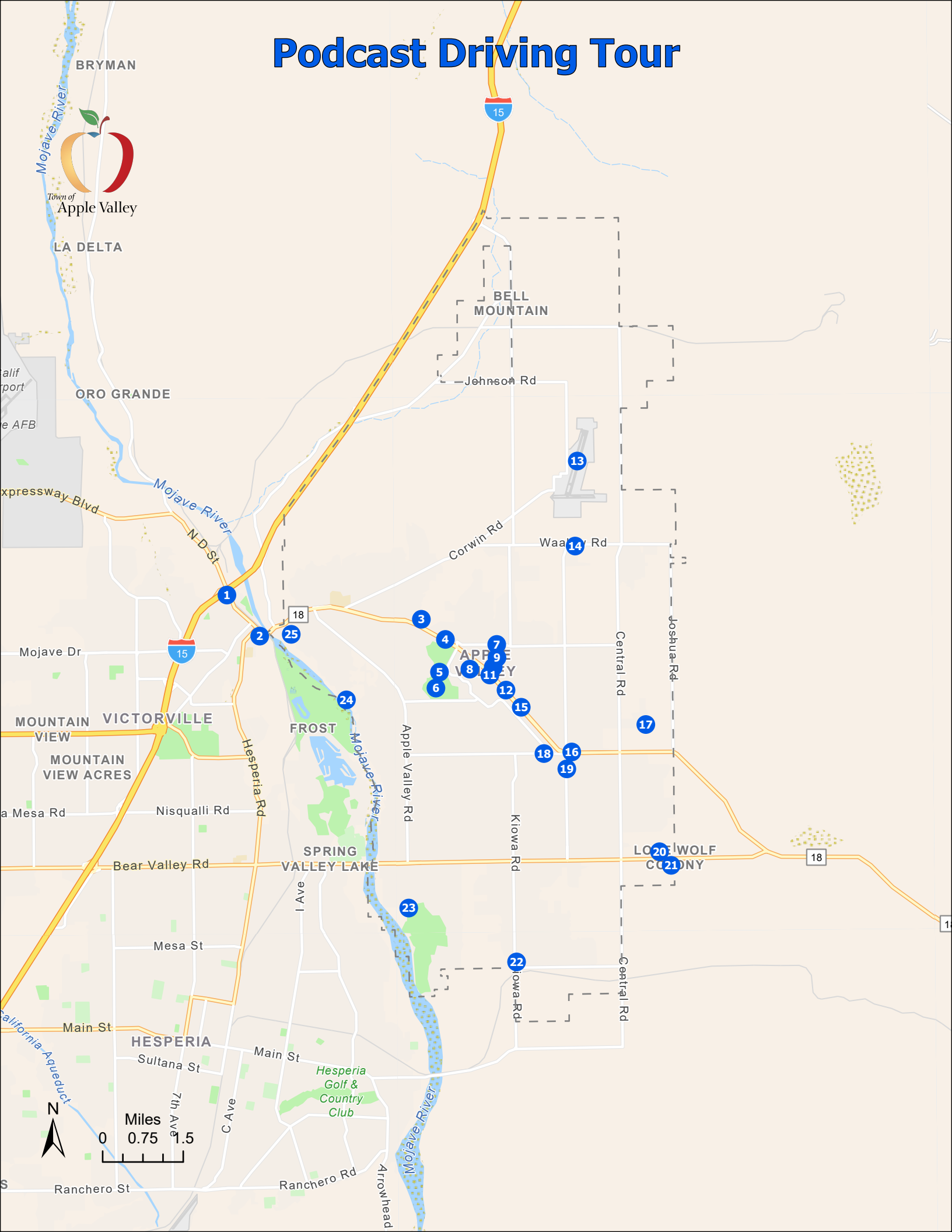
01:03:14 Speaker 1

Apple Valley, our home.

01:03:16 Speaker 1

Thank you for spending the day with us and know that you're always welcome here.

Podcast Driving Tour



Miles
0 0.75 1.5

