Friends Church 7600 Old Auburn Road

In 1914, Walter and Gertrude Leonard and their eight children emigrated to Citrus Heights from Oklahoma. A Quaker, Leonard conceived the idea of establishing a Quaker community center in Citrus Heights. He set out to attract other Quaker families to the community. Initially, he attracted four other families, which with Leonard's made up the original congregation. They began meeting with other area residents at the Sylvan School. In 1917, Mr. Leonard formally established the Citrus Heights Friends Church—



the first church in Citrus Heights. They purchased land on Old Auburn Road in 1919 and on June 16, 1921, the new meeting house was dedicated. In 1975, the Friends Church moved to a larger facility and the original property was sold to become the Pioneer Baptist Church.



Sylvan School/Community Clubhouse 7137 Auburn Boulevard

Originally located on the northwest corner of Auburn Boulevard and Sylvan Road, Sylvan School was built in 1862. The name Sylvan id attributed to William Thomas, and soon the area was referred to as Sylvan or Sylvan District. The first teacher, Alfred Spooner, was paid \$50 monthly to teach approximately 40 students. An imaginary line divided the entire school property, girls on one side and boys on the other. The schoolhouse also provided meeting space for community affairs, church services, social events, public library and voting. In



1926, a new school was constructed and Sylvan School was moved to its current location on land donated by Adolph Van Maren. The Community Club House, which is still in operation.



Sylvan Cemetery 7401 Auburn Boulevard

The Sylvan Cemetery has served the local community from the very earliest days of settlement. It was established in 1862 through a donation of land from Daniel Lewis whose family owned 471 acres near Greenback Lane. The cemetery was originally onetenth of an acre but has been expanded over the years. The earliest portions are located in the south end of the property. This area, landscaped with large, mature trees, exhibits a wide range of



carved grave markers, and contains the family plots of a number of early settlers of the community. A stone in the southwest corner marks the grave of James Horton, the first person to be buried in the cemetery. Following an unsuccessful attempt to seek fortune in the gold fields, he found his way to this area working as a handyman and farmhand. He contracted an eye ailment that lead to his eventual blindness. Mr. Horton died at a very young age on the Cross Ranch.



The Rusch Home 7301 Antelope Road

The Rusch Home was originally part of a 480-acre ranch established by Prussian-born Fred Volle and his wife, Julia. In 1859, they established the Volle Ranch. The couple raised eleven children and two grandchildren, Julia and her brother, Fred. Their mother, Louisa Volle Rusch, died shortly after Fred was born. By the time he was fifteen years old, Fred was managing the ranch and Julia managed the household. The original Volle home burned down in 1914 and was replaced



with the present house. It is an excellent example of the Craftsman style, popular in the early 1900s. In 1950, they donated the land, including their home, to establish Rusch Park.



The 14-Mile-House: California Point of Historical Interest 6540 Auburn Boulevard

In May 2012, the 14-Mile House was officially designated as a California Point of Historical Interest by the California Office of Historic Preservation. The site is now listed in the California State Register. The building is the last of the many early inns built to serve the freight wagons along Auburn Road.

The building dates back to 1849, and is likely one of the oldest buildings in Sacramento County, even though it has been moved



and remodeled. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gray acquired the building around 1853 and established the 14-Mile House, an inn to provide food and lodging to the many travelers along the old Auburn Road. Mr. Gray is credited with the first cultivation of grain and grapes in the area. The 14-Mile House was sold to Rudolph Lauppe in 1869 and converted into a farmhouse. Adolph Van Maren purchased the property in 1919 and presented it as a wedding gift to his son, Guy, and daughter-in-law, Iva. The building was moved from the road and remodeled in the Craftsman style. The remodel plans included wiring the house for electricity, which would not be available for seven more years.

For a full report on the 14-Mile House (adapted from Point of Historical Interest application), please visit www.citrusheights.net.



San Juan High School 7551 Greenback Lane

The San Juan Union High School District was formed in 1913 and named after the original San Juan Spanish Land Grant. The school served all students in the northern half of Sacramento County. Its first class was held in a temporary two-story elementary school building located south of Winding Way and Dewey Drive. A new high school was built in 1915 on Greenback Lane east of Sylvan Road on land



donated by Walter Trainor, an early real estate developer. The construction of San Juan High School was financed through a school bond in the amount of \$3,500. There were 50 students when the school opened.

