Fields Landing--Town With A Payroll

Old-Time Seaport Entering New Era

BY CHET SCHWABECKOFF

Located about six miles south of Eureka on Highway 101, the town of Fields Landing at times is regarded as a "shanty" of its larger neighbor. But Fields Landing, with a population of some three hundred, makes a quaint and picturesque place to live.

"In fact," says Charles Peterson, one of its prominent citizens, "only a month's housing shortage in Fields Landing keeps the population down. A great many of our people work and earn their daily bread here, but are forced to live elsewhere, which testifies to the town's economy.

"Of course, the town is in a payroll town, and always has been.

"Fields Landing got its start back in the 1870's, when Watters' Mill purchased wood from the region. The town became a logging center, and a dock was built. The place became a popular depot for lumber, and a few ten-year-old timers say the town's main street was once the center of commerce and industry.

"But today, Fields Landing remains a small community.

Payroll grows

As the railroad grew and expanded itself with the 1870's, so did Fields Landing, together with the Pacific Lumber Company. The lumber company, as the town went from a small depot to a major shipping point. Consequently, the town grew as a result.

Today, the town is still a major shipping point for lumber, offering a variety of sawmills, and some of the largest in the area. The town is a picturesque place to live, with many old-time residents still residing in the area.

The town is also known for its many attractions, including the Fields Landing Hotel, which has been in operation for over a century.

The South Bay Lumber Company of Fields Landing doesn't believe in the conventional "town" plan for their ... they pine 'em to towering heights.

Looking toward the Norcal fish processing plant from the Paladino docks, at Fields Landing. --deep, deep, deep. the valuable carpenter.

The drydock at the Fields Landing Marine Ways, where most of the Humboldt Bay fishing boats put in for maintenance work.

Waterfront view of Paladino's and Norcal docks showing activity at Fields Landing when fishing vessels are in port.

A typical Fields Landing home, complete with a background of sea and hills that four palms on each coast enjoy.

MANY LUMBER MILLS

Turning to the lumber business, you will see that Fields Landing is a lumber town today. The town has many mills and sawmills.

Newly built lumber mills, in addition to the old mill in town, include the Sonoma Lumber Company, owned by Arthur W. Matheny; and the Mill Creek Lumber Company, owned by Frank Altmann and William W. Henry, which employs 40 hands, operates eleven men.

The city's lumber mill is a sawmill at the north end of town. The town's sawmill is located on the south end of town, and the city's lumber mill is located on the north end of town.

The town's lumber mill is a sawmill that has been in operation since 1935. The mill is owned and operated by the Sonoma Lumber Company, which employs 30 hands, and produces 500,000 feet of lumber per year.

The town's sawmill is a sawmill that has been in operation since 1940. The mill is owned and operated by the Mill Creek Lumber Company, which employs 40 hands, and produces 500,000 feet of lumber per year.

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