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INTERVIEW WITH HERBERT ROWLAND, SR.
by Carla Ehat & Anne Kent
February 21, 1975

INTERVIEWEE: Herbert Rowland Sr. (HR)
INTERVIEWERS: Carla Ehat (CE) and Anne Kent (AK)
DATE OF INTERVIEW: February 21, 1975
TRANSCRIBER: Marjorie Hoffman

CE: Today is Friday, February the 21st, 1975. Continuing the Oral History program of the Marin County Library, this is Carla Ehat with Mrs. Thomas Kent, and we will be interviewing shortly Mr. Herbert Rowland, who is a great-grandson of Ignacio Pacheco. We are recoding today from the beautiful, stately residence built in 1880 by Mr. Rowland's grandfather, Gumesindo Pacheco. The house is located at 5495 Redwood Highway and is situated on a seventy-plus acre parcel of the original 6,659-acre Pacheco grant, titled "Rancho de San Jose." This grant was given to Ignacio Pacheco by a grateful Mexican governor, Juan Alvarado, in 1840 as a reward for his military and civilian services to the Mexican government. The present community of Ignacio bears the name of this greatly beloved ranch owner. We welcome this opportunity today to talk with one of his many descendants and to learn more about this remarkable family. Now, to his great grandson, Mr. Herbert Rowland. Good morning, Mr. Rowland.

HR: Good morning.

CE: Well, you have a wealth of information here in your study this morning, we notice. You have a map that was here a moment ago of the original grant. Could we put this before us?

HR: All right. I have a wealth of information all right; I have information I don't even know I have.

CE: Well, before we begin about your most famous great-grandfather, we'd like to know something about you, sir, and your background. Now, your mother, I

understand, was Gumesindo's daughter. Is that correct? Was she born here on the Rancho?

HR: She was born in San Rafael.

HR: In San Rafael in what year? 1889, I think you told me.

HR: Yes, 1889.

CE: And January the 5th. Now, were you born in this area?

HR: No, I was born in Canada, in Vancouver.

CE: This clock is so beautiful.

HR: It's fast.

CE: This will identify the time frame with which we are doing this interview today. It is close to twelve o'clock high. How did you come to be born in Canada?

HR: Well, my father was a contractor and he was on a job up there at the time, but my stay in Canada was very brief. I came back to Marin County about six months after I was born.

CE: What year was that, sir? When were you born?

HR: That was 1910.

CE: You're not so old, young man. All right. And what became your profession? Had you spent any time as a young boy on this property?

HR: Well, now that you have my birthday, you might have an idea of what I was up against when I was through school, almost through school. That was in 1929. The depression forced me to go to work so I joined the Dollar Line at that point and was with them for some forty-odd years, either at sea or several years in Hong Kong.

CE: Did you become an agent with the company, sir?

HR: Yes. Dollar had his offices throughout the Orient. My first position ashore was in Hong Kong and that was just at the wrong time. I went out there in 1939 and when the war started I stayed on as a guest of the Japanese.

CE: Where were you interned?

HR: In Stanley Prison. So I'm a jailbird of sorts.

CE: That's interesting because I worked for the Navy and many of our former associates in the Navy have spent time in that place and other horrible places. They were caught out there and were interned. How long were you in prison?

HR: Six months. Just long enough to lose forty pounds.

CE: Your family have any awareness where you were?

HR: They knew where I was but they didn't know whether I was still among the living. There was no way I could get word to them until we were exchanged in '42. I managed to cable them from Lorenzo Marcos. That was the first word they had.

CE: That you were alive?

HR: Still around, yes.

CE: Well, you were married, of course, by that time?

HR: No, I wasn't.

CE: You were not married. Where did you meet your present wife, sir?

HR: I met my present wife in Shanghai in 1937.

CE: She was an old China hand?

HR: No, she was on a 'round-the-world cruise with her family and I was a purser for Dollar.

CE: Sounds like a romantic story.

HR: They joined my ship. At the time it was the *President Adams* and they went from Shanghai to Genoa and we had a shipboard romance. When I got back from prison camp in '42 we were married.

CE: Then you continued on with the steamship business?

HR: Yes.

CE: And when did you convert over to American President Lines?

HR: When Dollar converted.

CE: You went with them?

HR: Yeah, just a change of name. And I was on the payroll for 42 years.

CE: And then finally did you get a billet ashore back in the States?

HR: Yes, after the Hong Kong experience, I got home and the war was still on. I went back to sea, and the end of the war I was sent out to Yokohama. This was in 1946. Yokohama was still smoking at the time; families were not permitted out there. It was nearly a year before I could get Frances out. And then we spent the following seven years in Japan, mostly in Kobe.

CE: Were you ever permitted leave, to come home for six months and enjoy some of this ranch life around here?

HR: It was four months.

CE: When, every other year?

HR: Every third year.

CE: Well, that's similar to the service, wasn't it? Did you come home and enjoy some of the time here on the ranch?

HR: I came home and worked. There is always something to do on a place like this.

CE: Well, that is something. And then I presume your children -- How many children do you and Frances have?

HR: We have a son, Herbert Junior. He's in his second year of law school at the moment. Our daughter, Ann, is in Salt Lake in pathology, a hospital there.

CE: Are your children interested in the heritage of their family?

HR: Oh very much so, particularly the boy. He is as determined as I am to keep this place as it is for as long as we can.

CE: Well, may I ask, when did you move into this lovely home?

HR: We moved in in 1967.

CE: Had your mother, Abigail, lived here until her death?

HR: She had lived here most of her life, except for Canada.

CE: What are your memories of your mother and her years here? Was she active in the ranch? Did she love it?

HR: She loved the place, too.

CE: Did she lay out some of these lovely gardens around?

HR: Yes. In fact, the whole family were, how would you put it, land-conscious?

CE: Yes.

AK: It shows.

CE: They treasured it.

HR: They did a wonderful job of hanging on to it through a lot of difficult times. That, unfortunately, didn't hold true in other branches of the family. One of the things

we're sort of proud of is that I think this is one of the few grants where an original or a descendent of the original grantee is still in residence.

CE: That, I think, is an extraordinary thing. I don't know of any other in Marin. Do you, Mrs. Kent?

AK: Don't know of any. Have you a copy of that grant by any chance?

HR: I'm translating it now.

AK: That's wonderful.

CE: Well, we have this map here on the footstool. Can you just tell us a little bit about this parcel? I see there are many Pacheco names on it. What happened as these grandchildren, children of the original grantee as they reached their maturity, were they given certain parcels of this land?

HR: They were. This sort of points out, I was telling you a little while ago.

CE: Can you describe it for us?

HR: Well, we are on this parcel here, the 70 acres at the moment. The tract to the south was given to Augusto, Gumesindo's brother, and that is now Pacheco Valley, a new development.

CE: I see. Is this cousin of yours, Irene Pacheco, a descendent of this gentleman?

HR: That is correct. And she is still interested in a portion of this. Fortunately, a good part of the development, or the acreage, was given to the City of Novato for open space, so we are in pretty good shape.

CE: Surrounded. And what is this just to the north of your 70 acres, Mr. Rowland?

HR: That was Catalina's portion.

CE: Catalina. Was the sister of your grandfather?

HR: Yes.

CE: Gumesindo's sister. She married Francisco Vallencia?

HR: Right. Now this is all gone. Frank Galli is still on a piece of it. Then Juan's portion up here, 1,500 odd acres, is the golf club at the moment, Marin County Golf Club.

CE: Well, these are mountains then along this line, sir? I don't quite follow the topography. There's some mountains here, I presume?

HR: Yes, there is a ridge going back through here. Over here is the Golf Club. And this is the back ranch of Gumesindo's. It was a thousand acre parcel and North Marin, or Indian Valley Colleges have 347 acres of it now. The balance is still in the family.

CE: Very good. S. Pacheco. Would that be Salvadore?

HR: Salvador.

CE: And he is the eldest son of Ignacio, I presume?

HR: Yes, he is the son by Ignacio's first wife.

CE: Josephine.

HR: Higuera.

CE: And I see Gumesindo's across the road there.

HR: He had this portion; that was directly east of the old Ignacio Railroad Station.

CE: This land run to the water?

HR: Not quite. That was a dairy for quite awhile leased out to different operators. Then there is another portion here. Hamilton Field took a good part of that, and the rest was sold.

CE: The part that Hamilton Field took was the property of your grandfather; this part then, I presume?

HR: Yes.

AK: When federal land is taken, like Hamilton Field, and may be given up now, doesn't it revert to your family again? Shouldn't it?

CE: That's a good question.

HR: I don't -- It wasn't actually taken; it was paid for, purchased. We had a thing like that come up here. Fifteen years ago the highway department proposed that they put an overpass in at Hamilton Gate, so they took, oh, about four acres right in front and ripped out the orchard and then it just sat for years. Then they decided the overpass should be south, where it is now, and this was surplus so we were forced to buy it back.

CE: At current prices?

HR: Well, we had a little hassle. They paid, I think, \$5,000 to \$6,000 an acre. When it was declared surplus we were given first opportunity to buy it. At that point they figured it was worth \$20,000 an acre.

CE: When you had to buy it back --

HR: But we had to buy it back. We couldn't afford to let anything else between us and the road.

CE: Well, can you tell us, Mr. Rowland -- I realize you were a young boy, five years old, when your grandfather died, Gumesindo. Do you remember your mother's, Grandmother Abigail talking about this ranch or the descriptions of it that were vivid to you? What was raised here other than the vineyards and the cattle? You had your own brand that's recorded, I understand, in the -- Several brands?

HR: Well, there were several actually. Those are the ones that were recorded.

CE: Brands registered by Ignacio Pacheco at the San Rafael in May of 1846. Now, we are digressing here and we want to get some of the information on this tape of the history of your remarkable family. Now, can you go back and tell us a little bit how Ignacio came to this part of the world? We understand that his father had come north on this De Anza Expedition in 1776. Is this correct, sir? Can you tell us a little about that?

HR: His -- We start with Juan who came with De Anza.

CE: Who was Bartola Pacheco?

HR: It was Bartola Ignacio. He was Ignacio's father.

CE: I see. And he came with this expedition, did he not, sir?

HR: Let me check. There are two Ignacio's there and it's always confusing. Yes, he came with Juan.

CE: He came with Juan. And they had come north, I understand, from Sonora, Mexico area, with 80 other colonists and their families to make this journey and they had stopped in San Jose and a pueblo was established there. Is that how you recall the story?

HR: That is my understanding.

CE: And it was a rich agricultural area and it was there that Ignacio was born in 1808. Now, how did he get to the Presidio at San Francisco? He became an officer there, I understand.

HR: Yes, he was with the army there and at some point in his career at the Presidio he became enamored with the country to the north. And one thing I don't think has been written about yet, I just came across it the other day, was that he had applied for a grant named Agua Caliente and he was given that grant in 1838.

CE: Where was that grant?

HR: Agua Caliente.

CE: Down in Southern California?

HR: No, up by Sonoma.

CE: Oh, I didn't know that. That's not in any of the books.

HR: No, it isn't. And then he, how did they put it? Then he passed his cattle through Carquinez Strait. How he did that, I don't know. Barge. And then after looking over Agua Caliente, he decided it wasn't suitable for his purposes, so he asked that it be changed to San Jose in Marin and that, of course, was eventually given to him in 1840 by Alvarado, but prior to that he had been given the Agua Caliente piece. He had to cancel that one out.

CE: Well, I understand that he had been appointed the first alcalde in this area?

HR: Yes.

CE: Could you explain what an alcalde is to the lay person, as you understand it?

HR: I wish I could. I think it was sort of a judge.

CE: Administrative official representing the Mexican government?

HR: Yes, and I think a good part of his duties were as a judge.

CE: I understand his court was held in the old mission building in San Rafael.

HR: That is right.

CE: Well, it's known that he came here around 1834, at least to this Marin area, and then was appointed the first alcalde and then as a reward for his military and civilian service to the Mexican government he was granted this rancho. Would you agree with that?

HR: That is correct.

CE: And at that time, according to your map, too, and the one we have, it was bounded on the south and west by Las Gallinas and the Nicasio Ranchos. Is that true? Or would you describe the boundaries.

HR: Bounded by the pass of Las Gallinas.

CE: Bounded by the pass of Las Gallinas, yes.

HR: San Jose Creek, the Sierras. And if you'll give me one minute I can get you the exact boundary as it was laid out and granted by Alvarado.

CE: Do you have that somewhere else?

HR: I have it somewhere else.

CE: All right, when we break for the turning of the tape we'll come back to that.

HR: All right, fine.

CE: All right, then, I understand that Alvarado granted him this rancho and that was 1840, and he immediately started building his adobe home here.

HR: That was one of the conditions of the grant.

CE: You had proof.

HR: You had to build a residence within a year.

CE: Isn't that sort of comparable to the old Homestead Laws that came upon the west? You had to show sincere intent of residing and developing the land.

HR: That is right. You had to build a house and inhabit it and do a reasonable amount of cultivation I would imagine, and then it was yours to hold and enjoy.

CE: Yours to hold and enjoy. Isn't that a beautiful expression: "yours to hold and enjoy"? Now you are in the process of translating that original grant from the Spanish, is that correct, sir?

HT: I wasn't doing the actual translation. I have a translation of the grant; it's in longhand, of course, and I'm trying to sort it out.

CE: Of course. Is the original still in existence of the grant, or is that classified?

HR: I don't have it, or if I do have it I haven't found it. I have such a mass of records around here.

CE: Well, since your retirement, though, some years ago, I imagine you are doing what you can to extrapolate all this original data and put it in some order for your heirs. Is that true?

HR: I am. I'm fortunate in one respect. My aunt, Mercy Boeken --

CE: How do you spell that last name?

HR: B-o-e-k-e-n, was very much involved in the family history and she saved most of the records that are available; the original grant I haven't been able to locate. That could be anywhere.

CE: All right, now, continuing the story of this remarkable man. In everything we have read he is spoken of with such warmth and affection and being such a kind judge and alcalde. His first wife, as you said earlier, died and they had one son, Salvatore. Where were his lands given to him, it's not on here is it?

HR: Yes, it is. Here it is.

CE: Where? Salvatore, the north of -- I see. Then Ignacio's first wife, Josephine, died in 1837, then he married Guadalupe Duarte. Is that right, sir?

HR: That is correct.

CE: And out of that marriage two children, Ramon and Maria. She didn't live too long, either.

HR: No. Then he married Guadalupe's sister, younger sister. Now the Duarte family --

CE: Where did they come from? They were from San Francisco, maybe?

HR: No, she was the granddaughter of Louise Peralta, east bay.

CE: Oh, yes, yes, yes. And I understand that the great-grandfather Ignacio married this woman at Mission San Rafael in September of 1851 and she was only 24.

HR: Right.

CE: And out of this marriage they had six children.

HR: Correct.

CE: Would you give us their names?

HR: Gumesindo, Maria Theodora, Catalina, Gusto, Juan and Benjamin.

CE: I see. Now, when your great-grandfather Ignacio Pacheco died in 1864, his wife, Maria Loreto Duarte, was still a young woman; did she remarry?

HR: She married Black.

CE: James Black?

HR: James Black

CE: Now the boys, your grandfather Gumesindo included, I understand all were educated at Santa Clara

HR: That is correct.

CE: And when they reached their maturity, what happened? Did they each receive a parcel of the land?

HR: They did and they are on the map. They were all well taken care of land-wise.

CE: Now this home that you are living in today was the house that was built in 1880 by your grandfather?

HR: Gumesindo selected the place and I think it was a very wise move.

CE: In what way, sir?

HR: Well, let us put it this way, I don't know where I'd rather live.

CE: It's a beautiful home and it's so well maintained. Somebody must have --was it your mother, Abigail, who took such good care of it?

HR: She always took care of it.

CE: During the years when you were at sea?

HR: Yes.

End, Side A

CE: Well, Mr. Rowland is back now with the translation of the original grant that Governor Alvarado gave to Ignacio Pacheco and he is going to read a little of the introduction and the boundaries.

HR: Yes, this is dated at Monterey, October 3, 1840, and it begins: "In view of the petition with which this expediente (file) begins with the report from the Senior Commandant of the frontier of the north and whatever else that seems to be proper in conformity with the law and regulations on the matter, I declare Don Ignacio Pacheco owner in fee of the place named San Jose. Bounded by the Puerto Suello, gap of the Las Gallinas by the Arroyo of San Jose by that of the name of Los Trasinis in the Sierra. Let the proper grant be made out, let it be entered in the proper book and let this expediente be transmitted to the departmental assembly, vested Juan B. Alvarado, Constitutional Governor of the Department of the Californias decree and assign." And it is signed by Alvarado. A part of this is interesting in that outlining of the restrictions and conditions, there aren't very many. The first one is: "He may enclose it without prejudice to the crossing roads and servitudes. He shall enjoy it fully and exclusively by putting it to such use in cultivation as may best suit him but within one year he shall build a house and it shall be inhabited." The second is: "He shall solicit to the proper judge to give him judicial possession by virtue of this dispatch, by whom the boundaries shall be marked out at the limits of which he should put besides landmarks, fruit trees as forest trees of some use. The land of which mention is made is of one square league, a little more or less as is represented by the map which is the expediente."

CE: Well, I understand, Mr. Rowland, that shortly thereafter he started work on his adobe residence. What do you know of that original adobe?

HR: I don't really know too much. I remember it only vaguely

CE: Is it true that Indians were brought in from Mendocino to help in its construction?

HR: That is the story and I'm sure that it is true, from Mendocino.

CE: Well, in talking to a descendant of Chief Marin, who we had the pleasure of interviewing some months ago, many Indians left here from the Alonkoleague line and went up to Mendocino but they had been taught how to make adobe

bricks by the Spaniards and evidently were very adept at it. Did you ever hear that?

HR: No, I didn't. I'm sure they were instructed. I don't know how interested they were in construction. Actually, I'm going to make a few adobe bricks myself for use around here.

CE: Is this land conducive for adobe bricks?

HR: Oh yes, we have the clay.

CE: Well, tell me, the adobe had been lived in for some years and I understand it was destroyed by fire.

HR: Yeah, that was in 1923.

CE: Something along that line. Now, are there some remains left of the adobe or is there any site that you can point to today that would be on the place where the adobe had been constructed?

HR: All I can think of that is still around that would be some sort of a mark is a palm tree such as the one out in front. This, of course, is quite close to Frank Galli's place down the line.

CE: Frank Galli is the restaurant man and he has been at one time interested and President of the Marin County Historical Society, I believe.

HR: He has been very interested in Ignacio, mainly, as a place

CE: I wonder if you would be good enough to tell us about this famous story of your great-grandfather and his encounter with Captain John Fremont. Is it more than legend, sir?

HR: I think it's factual. I have Ignacio's sword up in my study upstairs and I have no reason to believe he couldn't use it.

CE: Well, a duel almost ensued, would you tell us as you remember it or as you've researched what happened in 1846. Give us a little background.

HR: The story goes that Fremont was, oh I guess you would call it requisitioning stock and provisions and whatever else on his forays through northern California.

CE: Was he sent as an army map surveyor?

HR: He was exceeding his authority, I think, in a lot of respects as I heard it. In any case, when he was reported to be heading this way, Ignacio thought he'd better get his better animals out of reach, which he did, and the residue, the nags and whatever, didn't interest Fremont very much. In fact he, I gather, was a little upset not to --

CE: Not to come in and find some lovely fresh horses and what-not. Your great-grandfather sounded very resourceful.

HR: Yes, he was. He was also, as the rest of the clan, very proud of his place and it's his place and that's the way it is, Fremont be damned.

CE: He didn't want any army American telling him what to do.

HR: So he got away with that one. I guess it would have been a mismatch if Fremont opened fire.

CE: Well, this was just prior to the Bear Flag incident, wasn't it?

HR: Yes.

CE: Do you wonder, as a descendant of this family, what might have happened or occurred if Fremont had never come west and this whole Bear flag thing had never transpired? Do you ever fantasize over that?

HR: Yes, quite often.

CE: You could probably be the governor and the owner of California, certainly Northern California.

HR: This transcript I'm working on now has to do with what Ignacio had to go through to hang on to the land.

CE: Well, give us a little story of that, you don't have to talk specifically about your own family, but there was a period, after the Bear Flag Revolt and when this, 1850, when many of the original Mexican Land Grants were questioned --

HR: They all were --

CE: They all were, correct. Then where did the appeals go, back to Washington? Was there a lands commission?

HR: No. They sent a commission that worked out of San Francisco and this was in 1852.

CE: What was the point of that, to put credence to the original grants or to try to take them away or negate them?

HR: No, apparently they started on the assumption that when it ceased to be Mexican, everything here came to the United States.

CE: It was up for grabs.

HR: And it was up to the holders of the grants to establish that they were there. From what I gather it was, cards were sort of stacked against them. It was expensive, and I'm sure a lot of the grants fell by the wayside just through these proceedings.

CE: Well, the lawyers had to be hired to represent the grantees, they acquired much of land, I understand and, as you said earlier in this afternoon's little dialog that you felt fortunate that you're still descendents of the original grantee that have the land.

HR: Oh, I'm very fortunate. Now in this particular proceedings, the commissioners ruled in favor of Ignacio.

CE: Do you have any awareness of how long this adjudication took?

HR: Well, it started in 1852 and was concluded in 1855 or '57.

CE: Mercy, almost five years of litigation for -- to substantiate the legality of your own property.

HR: After the first ruling the government appealed and in their appeal, I guess they were grasping at straws or whatever; their main thrust was in attacking the validity of Alvarado's signature. So witnesses were called, three or four of them, and they testified that they had seen Alvarado write and that, without a doubt, the original grant was genuine and in Alvarado's signature.

CE: Well, some stories I've read about some of the grants out in West Marin, for example, it was rather casual how these grantees set out their property boundaries, where it would appear that your great grandfather was very much more astute in the way he did it and that, probably, don't you imagine, enabled him to make his case stronger. Or what, in your judgment, saved him compared to so many of those people who lost out?

HR: Well, I guess it was just foresight and plain determination.

CE: He was alive still at the time, was he not, sir?

HR: Oh, yes. He died in '64. These proceedings were in '52 to '55 or '57.

CE: Don't you imagine also, by virtue of the fact that there was recorded in Marin County who -- The county is as old as the state, is that not so, and he was the first alcalde, and there was written evidence to show what his contribution had been, whereas in many other cases these gentlemen didn't have that.

HR: Yes, and as the grant says, one of the conditions is that he should duly record it, which he did. The description of the property is massive as it's recorded. Well, it starts from "an old oak tree" and goes around and around.

CE: We had the privilege of seeing one not long ago of the Murray property which is part of the Rancho San Quentin and it's all done in long hand and described in great detail and then the sum of money set forth in U. S. dollars, gold. Of course, this was much later than your great-grandfather's time. Did the government, as a matter of curiosity, did the government do anything by giving you a paper from the American Government substantiating this grant or was it reverted in some way just to the original land grant as signed by Governor Alvarado? Did you get a release or confirmation in your family?

HR: Yes, it is in here that the government recognized the claim and the land as being Ignacio's, finally. After they lost, they were going to take the case to the Supreme Court of the United States.

CE: I wondered about that because some of them had reached that point.

HR: Then they dropped that. After losing two rounds, I guess they gave up. Ignacio wasn't about to.

CE: To your knowledge, did your great-grandfather have to have much legal assistance in this?

HR: Yes, he did. Of course he did. I think appearing before this commission and the rest of it as a Spanish landholder he would be a little bit at sea --

CE: Well, this xerox copy of a document before you on the footstool, is part of that legal proceeding, sir?

HR: This is all of it.

CE: "Transcript proceedings in the case number 198, Ignacio Pacheco claimant versus the United States defendant for the place named San Jose." It is an imposing document.

HR: It sure is.

CE: And here on the first page is a map of the description.

HR: That is a very rough map.

CE: But it substantiates this --

HR: That was the basis that Ignacio presented when he went to the Mexican Government for the land, the rough map.

CE: And, of course, upon this was predicated the grant, his being given the grant by the government.

HR: That is correct. And then, of course, the description had to be refined.

CE: Where, may I ask, did you acquire -- Where is the original of such document, in the County Courthouse or in the National Archives?

HR: That would be in the federal Archives. Have to thank Frank Galli for that and where he got it, I don't know.

CE: Well, that is an extraordinary thing.

HR: I'm very happy to have it, because it does have things in there that I was unaware of, that Agua Caliente business for one, I'd never heard of it. It hadn't been mentioned around here.

CE: Well, I tell you, Mr. Rowland, this has been a fascinating discussion. We do have some little more time on the tape. Is there anything else you would like to tell us in your own words about your family? I would imagine you are very proud indeed of what has been accomplished, the tenacity of your great-grandfather in protecting his lawful land. Are there any feeling you'd like to tell us about?

HR: Well, I feel as they did, we're determined to keep it as it is for as long as we can and fortunately my boy is very much interested in family history and in preserving this place.

CE: Is it your plan to have him inherit this after you?

HR: That has all been arranged.

CE: And he wants to perpetuate the ranch?

HR: That's his aim in life, to keep it the way it is.

CE: Isn't that wonderful? Isn't that extraordinary?

HR: He is something like I am, he needs a little room.

CE: Well, we certainly want to thank you, Mr. Rowland, for your reminiscences today and we do so appreciate your generosity in providing this material for the archives of the California History Room and there is no doubt in our mind that future students of history of Marin County will find this a rich source. Your narrative has been very interesting today, the story of your remarkable family. Your family certainly has contributed much to the heritage of this county and you can indeed be very proud. We want to thank you, and may we come back sometime again as your research continues and you have something you would like to leave to the archives?

HR: You certainly may, and it's been a pleasure to talk to you and I'm available any time.

CE: Before we leave then, maybe you would show us around your lovely home of which we will take some photographs to include in your file in the archives of the California Room and you are to be complimented, as your mother and family before you, in maintaining it in such an extraordinary condition. This house is almost 100 years old and it is a beautiful replica of the Victorian architecture.

HR: Well, Frances has a lot to do with that. She's --

CE: I'm sorry your wife is not here today to join us.

HR: I am too, she is very interested in the Victorian period, this house, and the family, too, and she has jumped right in to do it properly.

CE: We didn't talk about her and I meant to in this one degree, too. I believe Mrs. Kent mentioned that she has been active in the Marin Art and Garden Center.

HR: She is very much in the Laurel House and antique part of it.

CE: Well, your home reflects it, a love of treasures, that's for certain. We're sorry to have missed her, perhaps when we come back again she can tell us of her interest in this remarkable home.

HR: Well, I hope you will come back; she would like to meet you.

CE: This is Carla Ehat concluding our interview today. We have been speaking with Herbert Rowland, great, great, great-grandson of Ignacio Pacheco and this is Friday the 21st of February, 1975.