

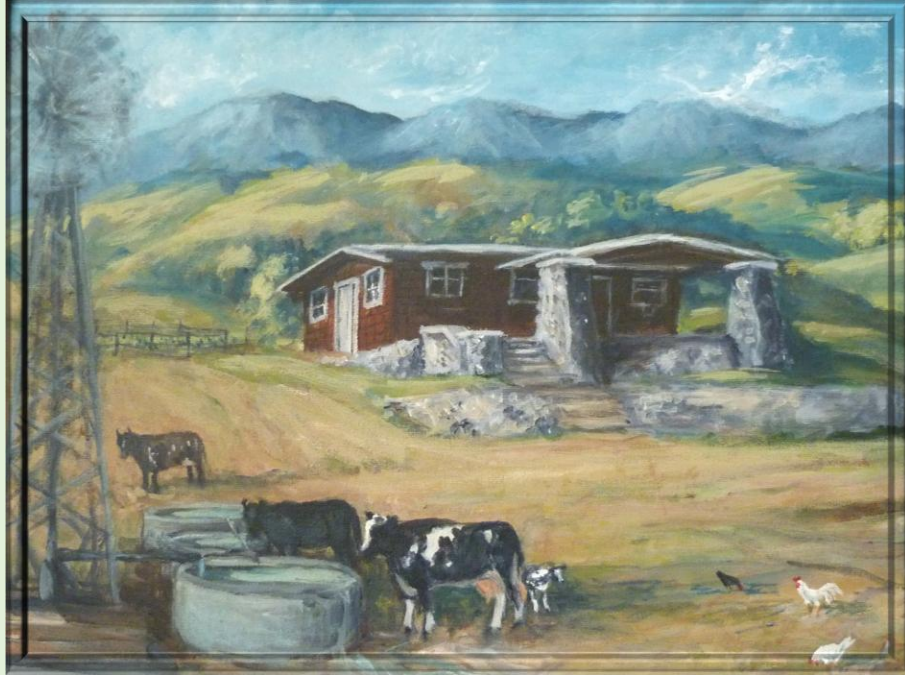
Legacy of the Walker Family's Natural Treasure



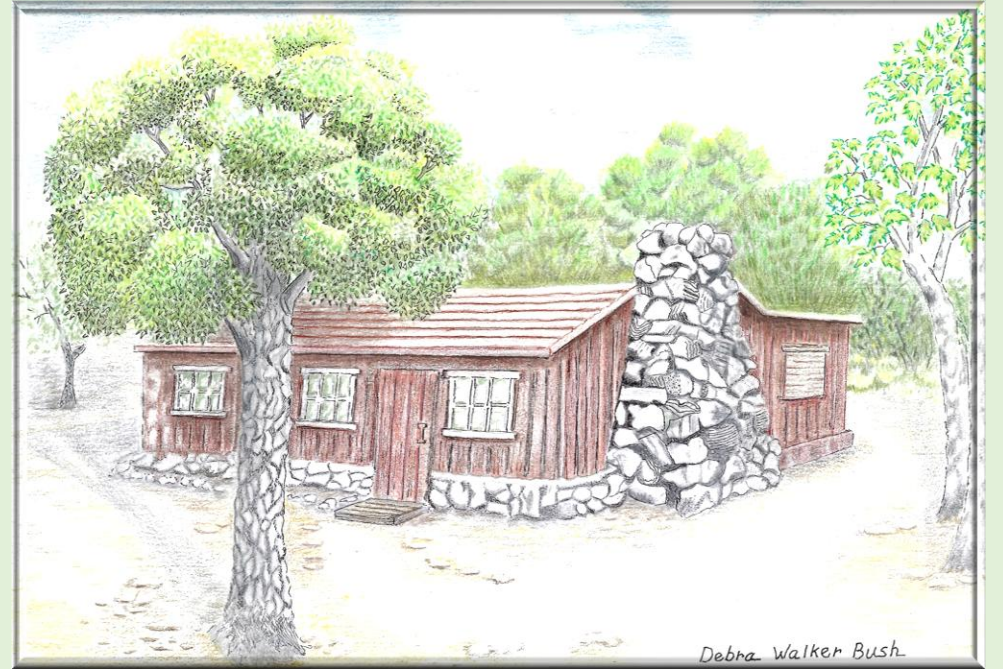
2022 & 2023 Walker Reunion at PCNC Open House



Walker Homes



Mickey Walker Shafer



Debra Walker Bush



Debra Walker Bush

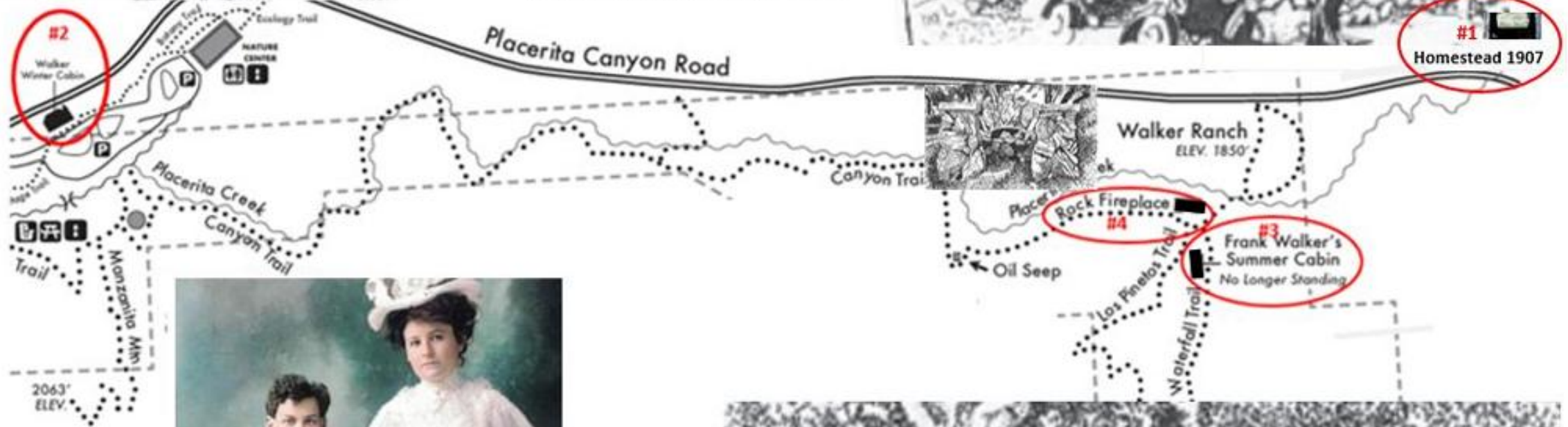
1.5 MI. TO
SIERRA HWY & SR 14

2.5 MI. TO
SAND CANYON ROAD



PLACERITA CANYON NATURAL AREA

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION



1887 Hortense Victoria Reynier moved with her parents Jean Joseph & Josephine Reynier & siblings from L.A. to Sand Canyon where they built their Homestead.



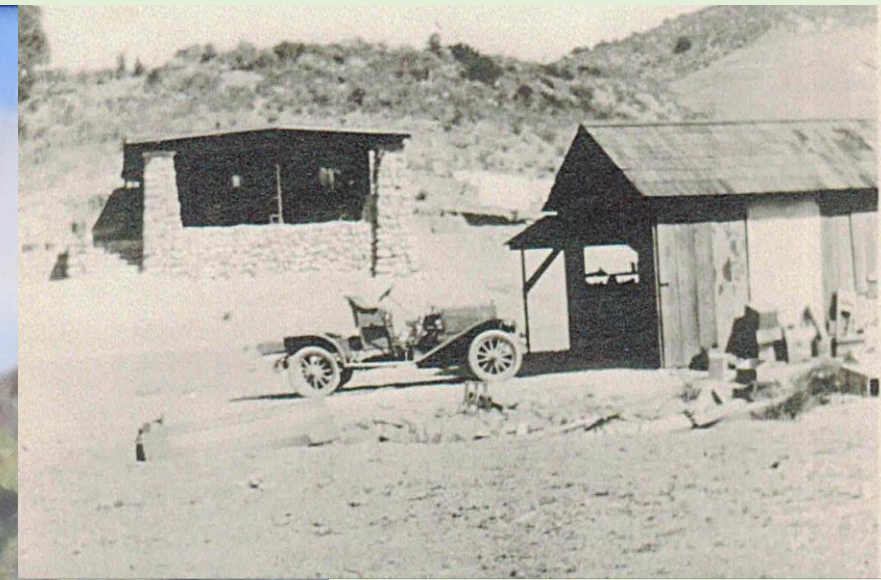
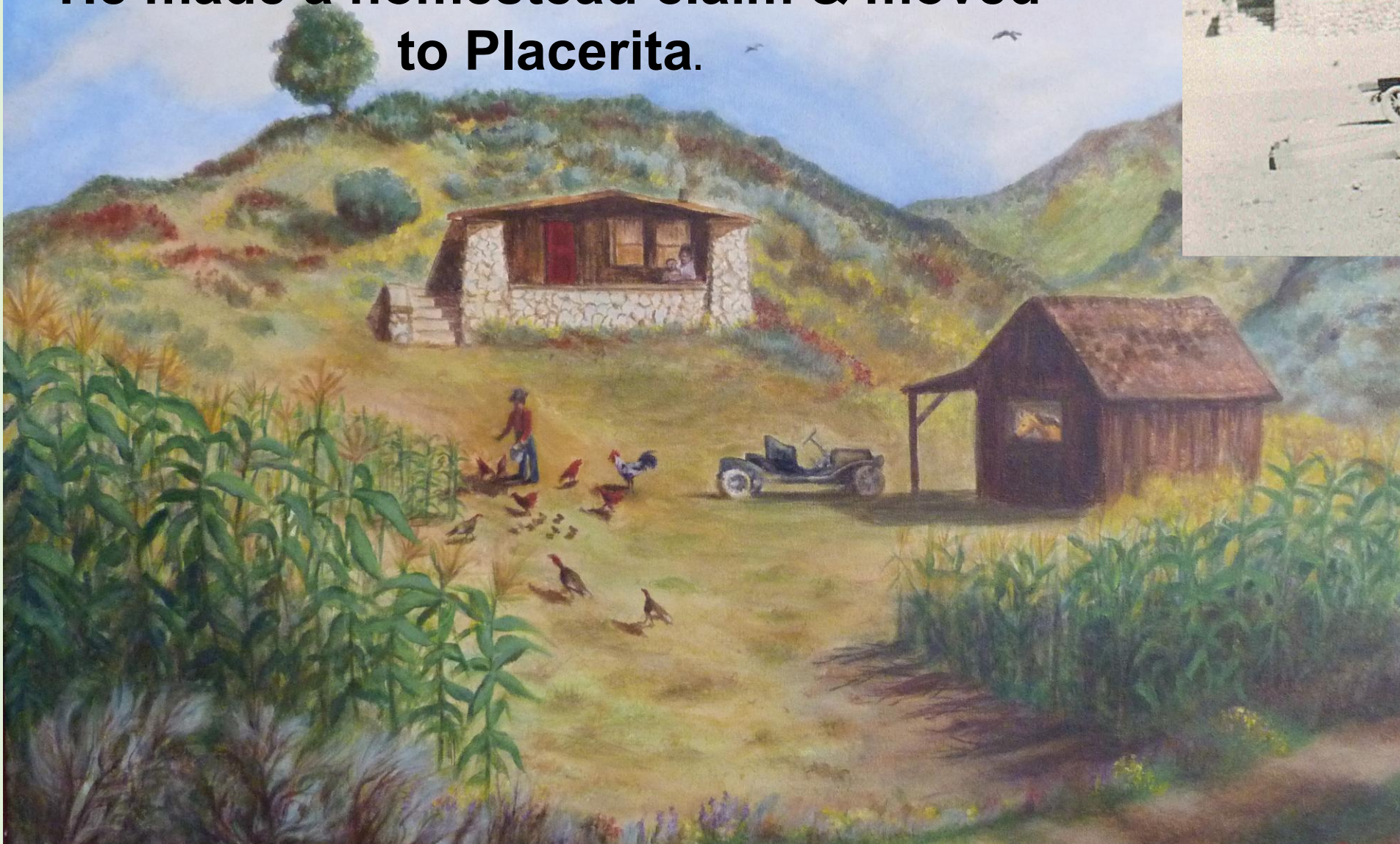
*Hortense
grew to be a
delightful,
kind
young
woman.*



Frank E. Walker born in L. A. to parents William R. & Rosa Bell (Evans) Walker. His Grandfather James G. Evans owned Mining rights in Placerita Canyon. In 1894 at 8 years of age, he started visiting his Grandfather for weeks during school breaks.



**1905 Frank was 19 years of age.
He made a homestead claim & moved
to Placerita.**



**Painting by
Teri Walker Caldwell
created from
early 1900s photo.**

Frank met Hortense Reynier, his neighbor from Sand Canyon

Hortense was a kind, joyful young woman. She spoke French, Italian, Spanish, English.

She was a talented musician, and accomplished horsewoman.

Frank said: “I remember seeing her ride her little two wheeled cart pulled by a horse, to school in Sulphur Springs, followed by her pet sheep, who used to go everywhere with her.”

“The two of us used to ride horseback all over the canyon.”

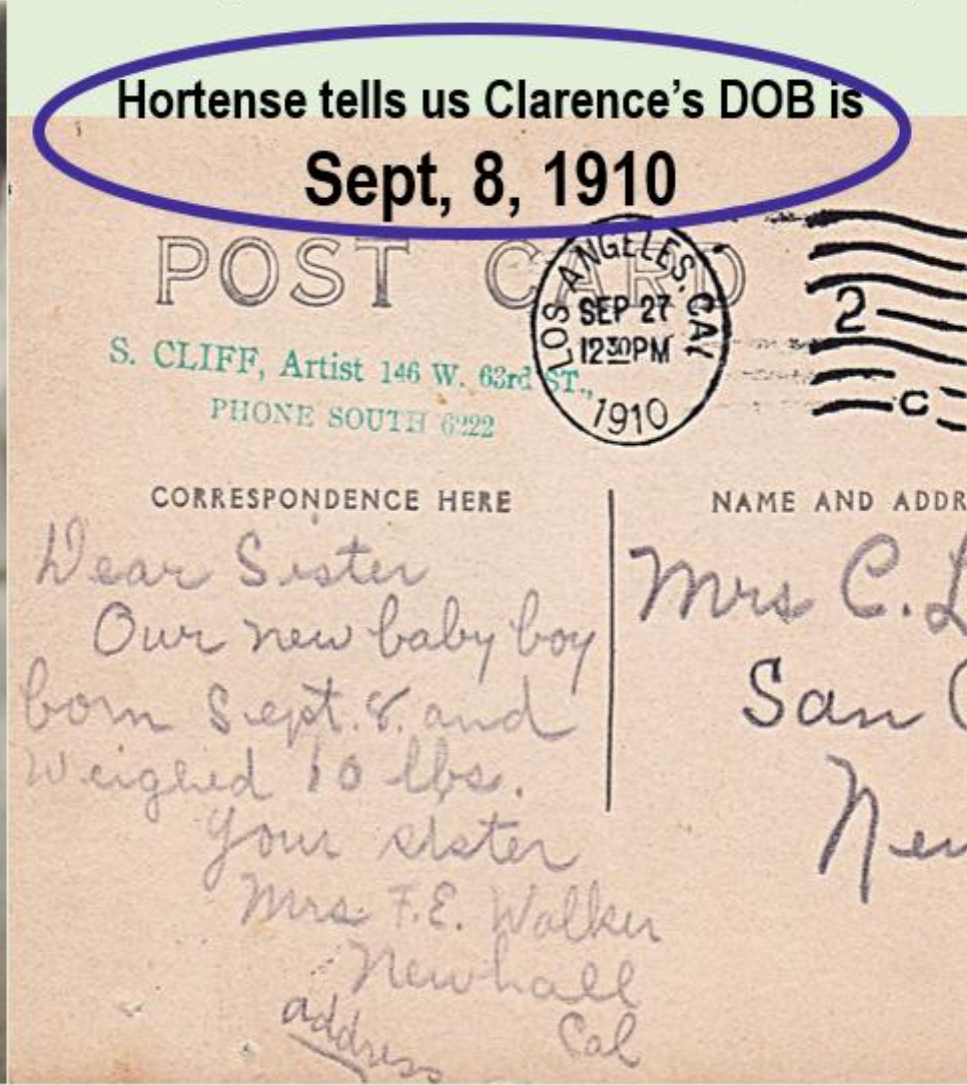


1907 Frank Walker & Hortense Reynier Married and soon their family grew



1910 Clarence & Hortense Walker. Correct date of birth.

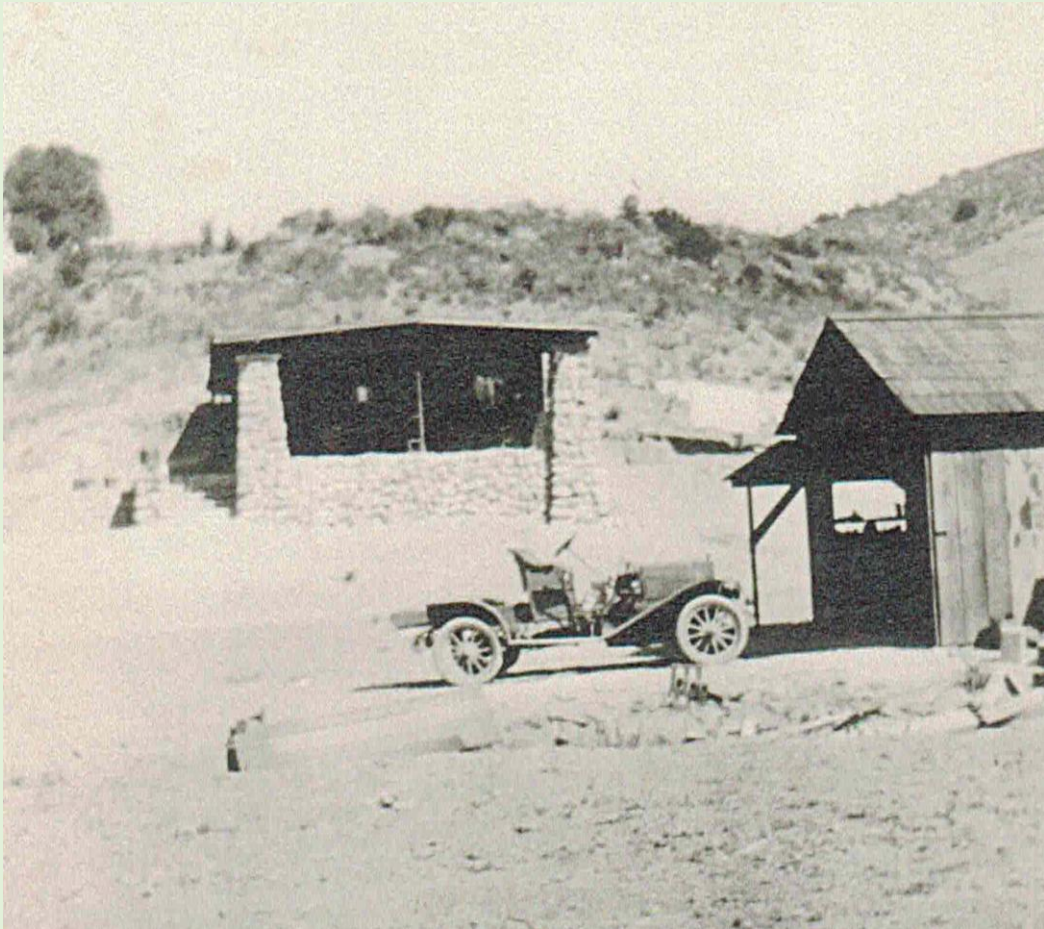
Our sources gave Clarence's DOB as Sept. 11, 1911



1914 Hortense , Edward, Irene, Helen, Clarence at Homestead



c.1906 Original Homestead – 1916 Homestead Addition



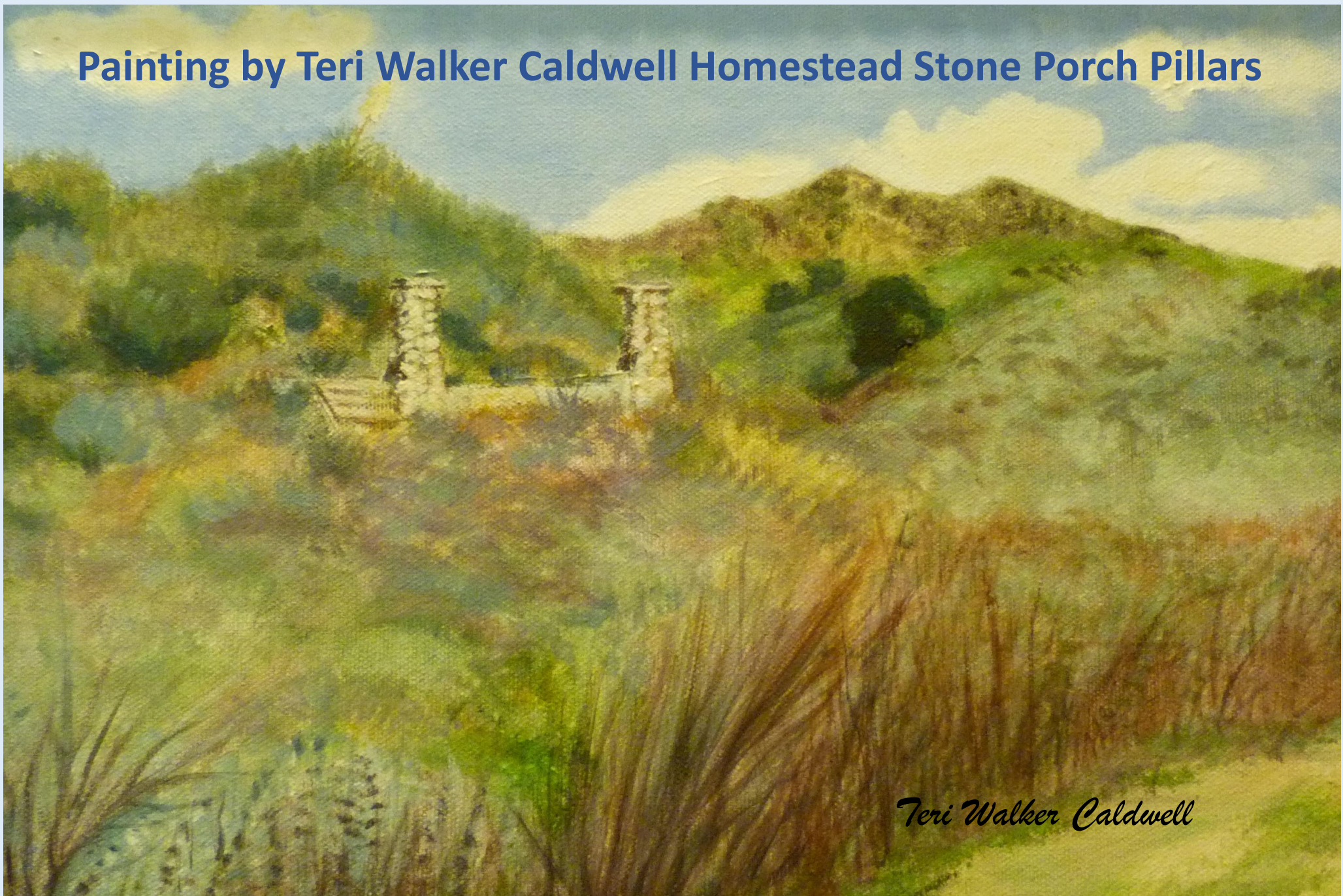
Painting by Mickey Walker Shafer (Daughter)



The Stone Porch Pillars Remain Standing Today



Painting by Teri Walker Caldwell Homestead Stone Porch Pillars

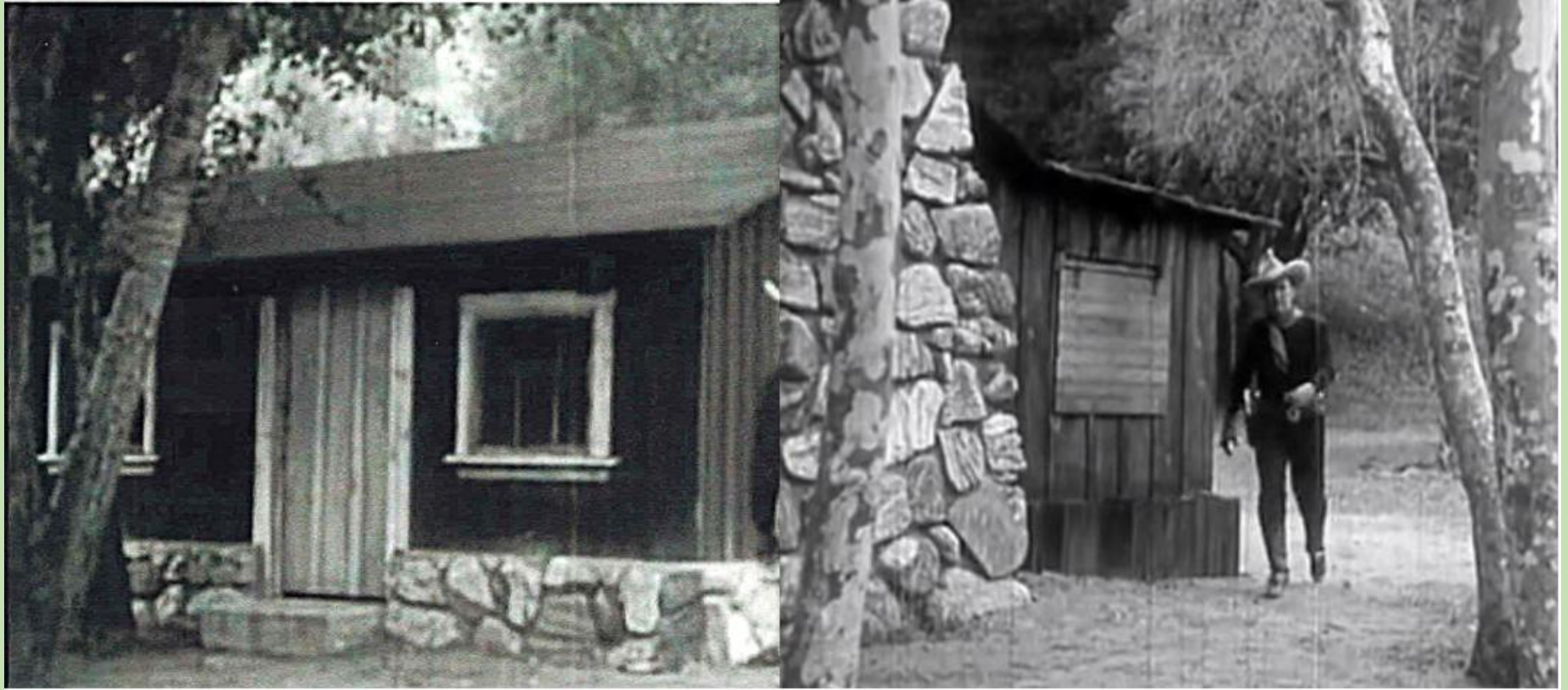


Teri Walker Caldwell

1919 Frank, Hortense & Seven Children moved to Cabin #2



**Front of Cabin as Frank Built It.
No Porch. Kitchen on Northeast Corner.**



Drawing of Cabin #2 by Debra Walker Bush



1920 West End of Cabin. Children's Bedroom on left. No Porch.



**Back of Cabin #2
Bedrooms on Right Side. Kitchen on Left .**



1920 Family was growing. Life was busy at the new cabin.



- Many Daily Chores
- Carry buckets of water from creek to cabin for drinking, cooking & washing.
- Care for livestock.
- Cutting & hauling firewood to the cabin.
- Gardening
- Meals & laundry

1926 Seven Walker Children attend Newhall School. Irene Graduates Eighth Grade in May. Four children at home ages 6 months-6 years



1927 Frank Walker Plans Camp Ground at Walker Ranch

Signal News Article: June 7, 1927



WALKER'S PLACERITA CAMP

SITE OF THE FIRST GOLD DISCOVERY
IN CALIFORNIA BY FRANCISCO
LOPEZ IN 1842

Six Miles East of NEWHALL in Placerita Canyon
Elevation 2000 feet

**One of California's Finest Picnic
Grounds, within easy distance
of Los Angeles**

Furnished Housekeeping CABINS
By Day or Week

PRIVATE PICNIC TABLES
AND OUTDOOR STOVES

Mineral Springs—Old Padre Trails
INDIAN OIL SPRING

Barbecue Pits - - - Dance Floor
**SPECIAL BARBECUE
DINNERS**
Games and Playground

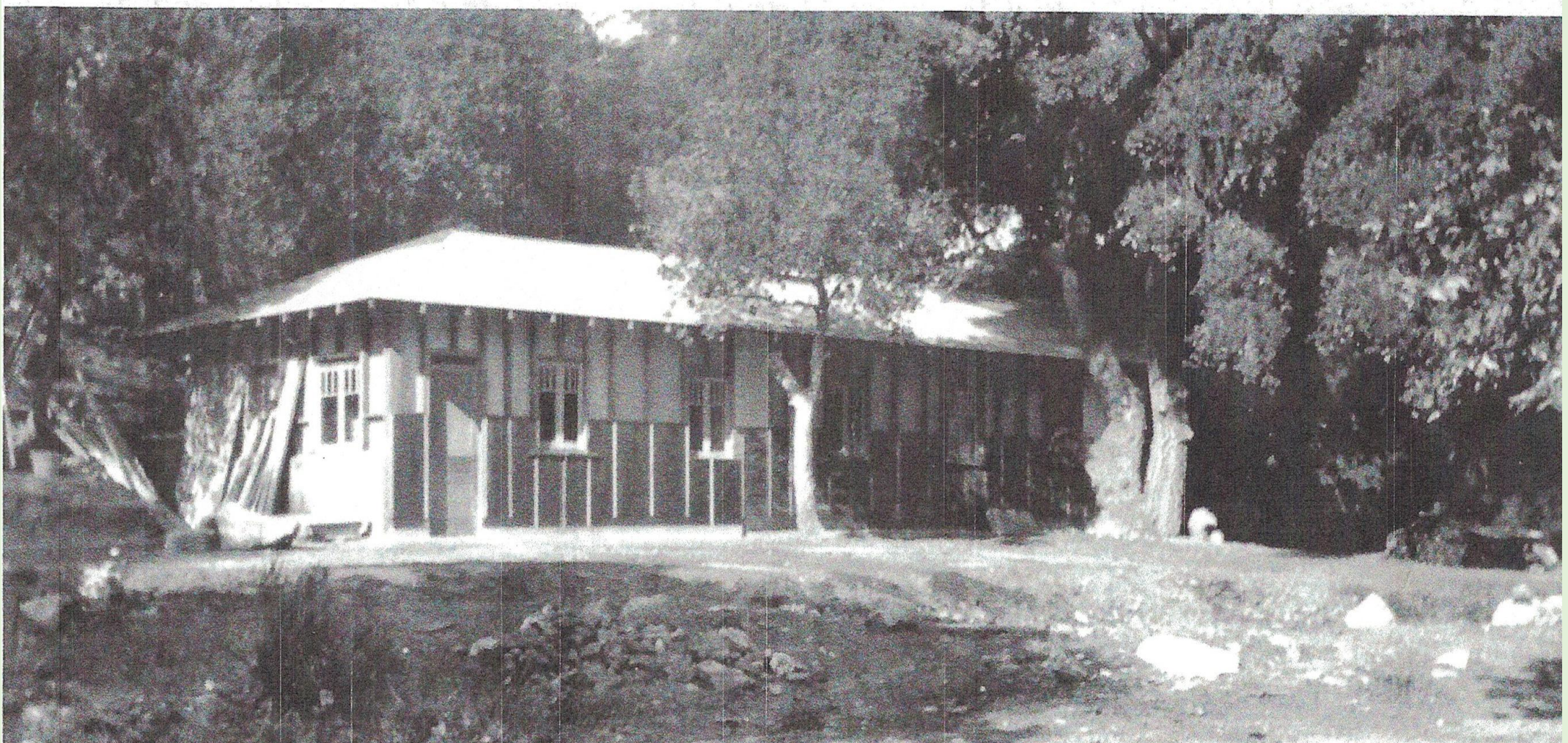
GOLD PANNING

Walker's Placerita Camp



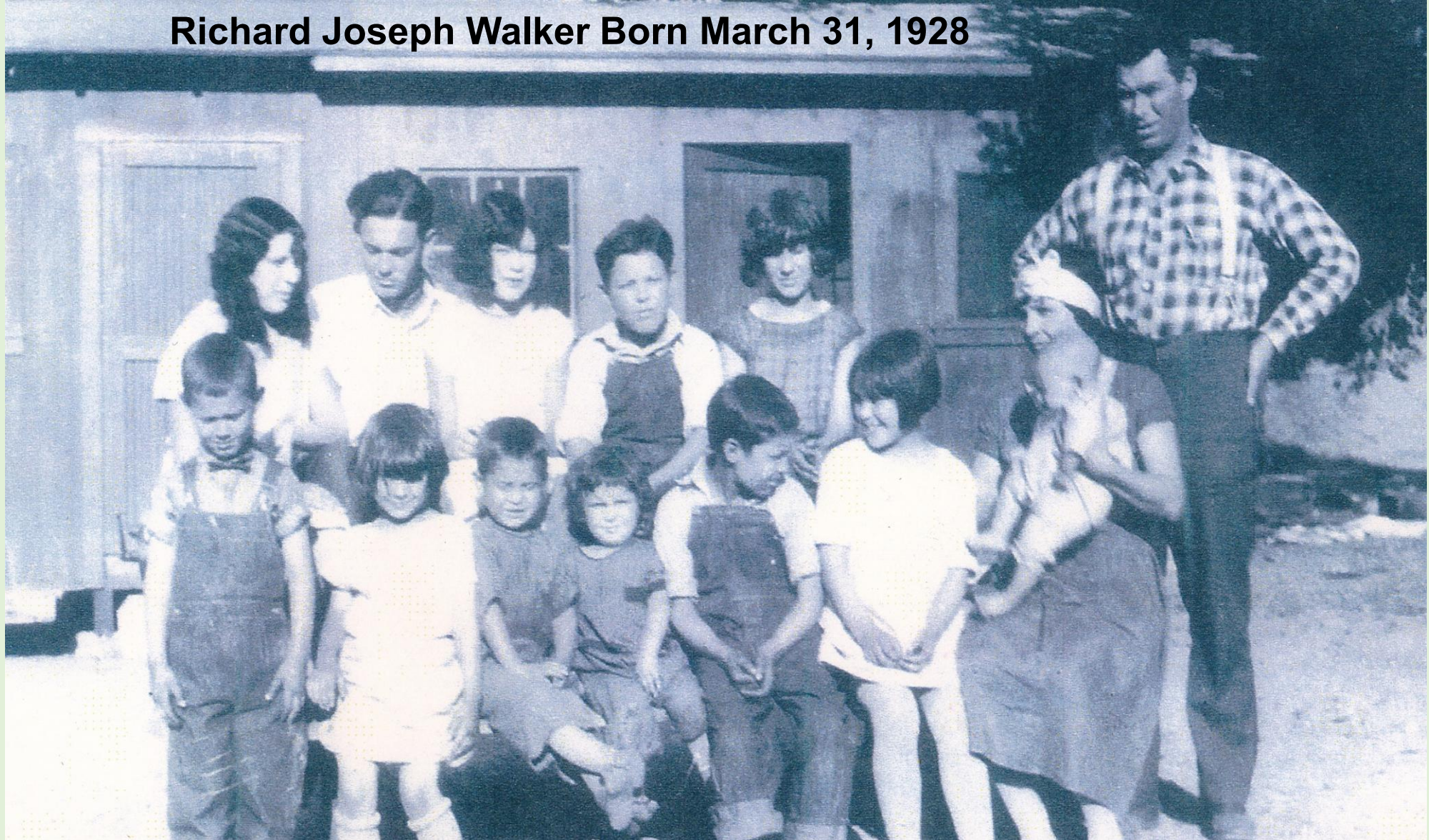
- 25¢ Admission per person age 14 & above
 - includes Parking,
 - Picnic Table and Stove,
 - Gold Panning privileges,
 - Camp Recreation.
- 25¢ Rental of Gold Pans and Picks
- BBQ Dinner scheduled in advance for groups of 10 or more \$1.25 per person.
- Cabin Rental – Beds & linens provided (towels not included) \$1.25 per person per day
- Weekly Cabin Rental \$8, \$10, \$15, \$20 per week for 2-6 people per cabin
- Dances were a great place to sell the Brandy Frank distilled from the “bitter wine” his Father-in-law discarded. Helping him provide for his growing family in these hard times.

Cabin #3 –Summer Cabin Under Construction

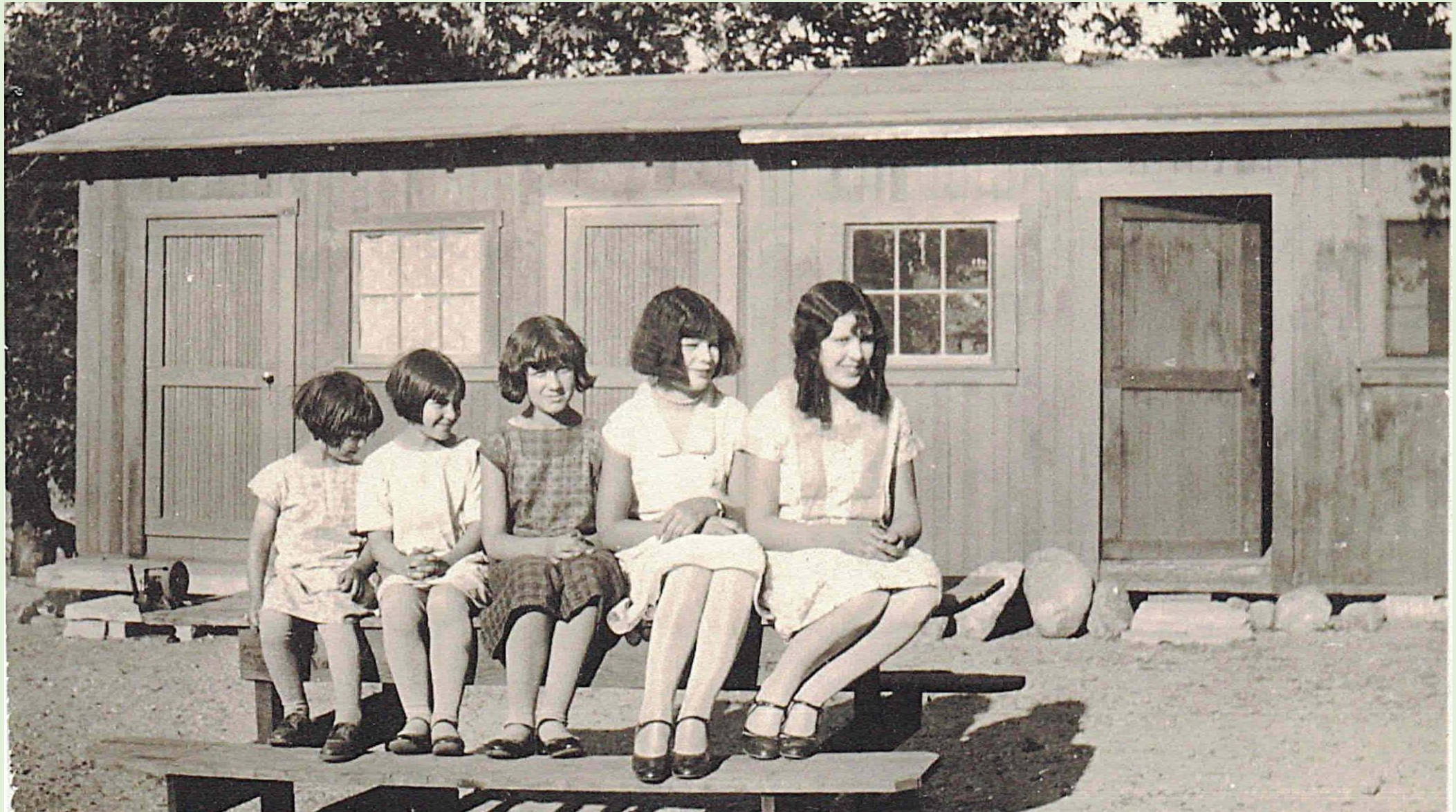


1928 The Walkers, Party of Fourteen

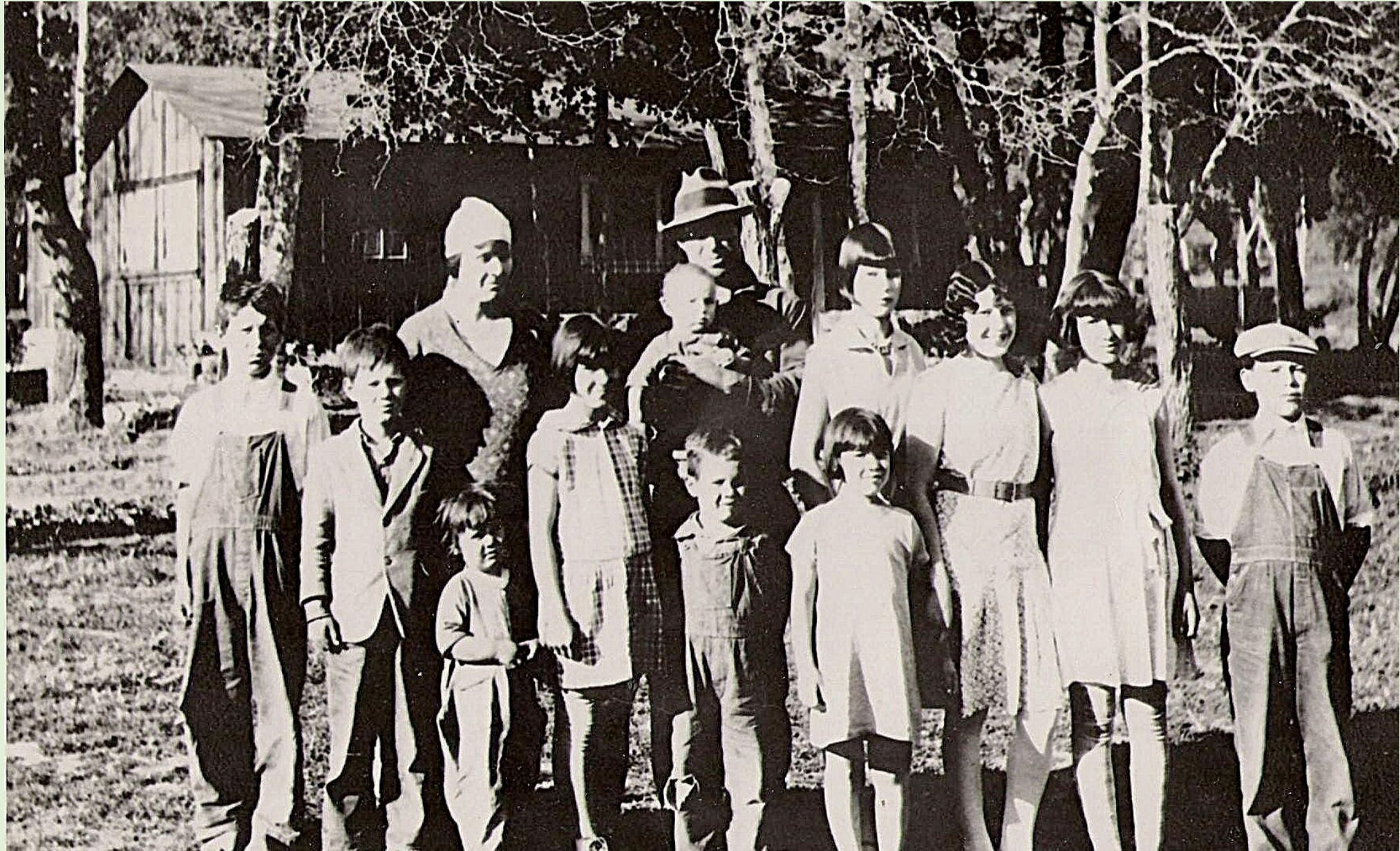
Richard Joseph Walker Born March 31, 1928



1928 Walker Girls - Children's 3 Bedroom Bunkhouse



1929 Walker Family



Clarence
not
shown

Cabin #3 –Summer Cabin Completed



Golden Oak -March 9th, 1930 Dedication



N. S. G. W. together with La Mesa
placed a temporary tablet over
here Gold was first discovered in
1842, in Placeritos Canyon on the

Frank & Hortense hosted Hundreds of people. It's likely the Walker family spent weeks working with the Historical Society preparing for seating, parking, refreshments, "port-a-potties" etc.

May 15, 1930 County Road Crew Picnic

May 15, 1930 (The Signal News)

“County road crew and their families, to the number of about 150, picnicked at the Frank Walker ranch in Placerita Canyon last Sunday.”

- Guests were served a delicious dinner under the mammoth Oak trees**
- Then dancing**
- Hortense, her brother Joe Reynier & Gilbert Dominguez furnished music**
- Helen, Irene and Melba Walker performed featured dances**
- Cards and horse shoes made up part of the afternoon’s amusements**

June 19, 1930 - Signal News

“The many friends of Mrs. Frank Walker of Placerita Canyon are glad to hear that she is recovering from a recent illness.”

Fancy Rock Fireplace for the 4th House Frank Planned to Build for his Wife.



1930 Walker Family Still smiling even in the Great Depression.



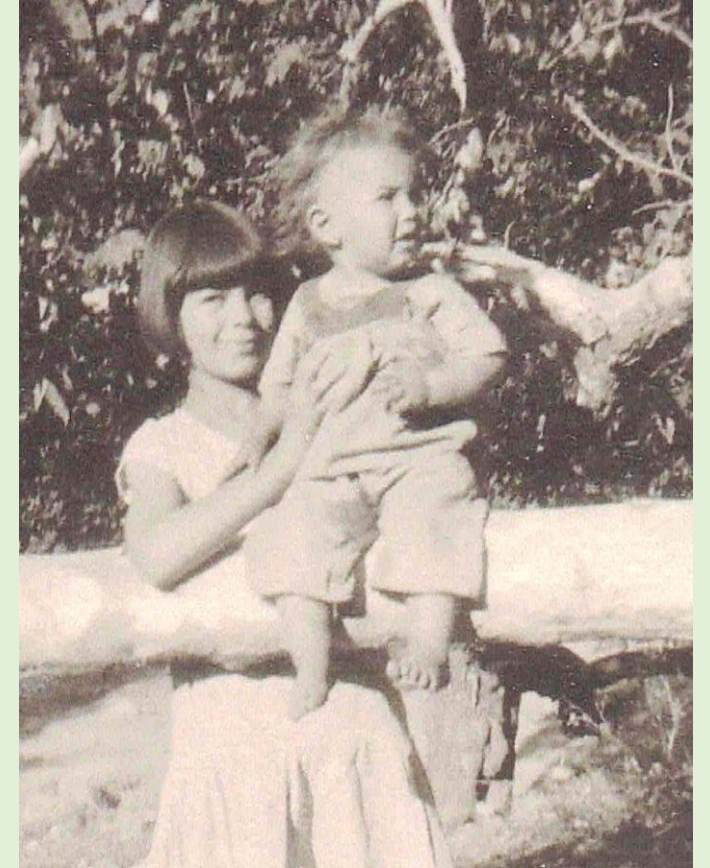
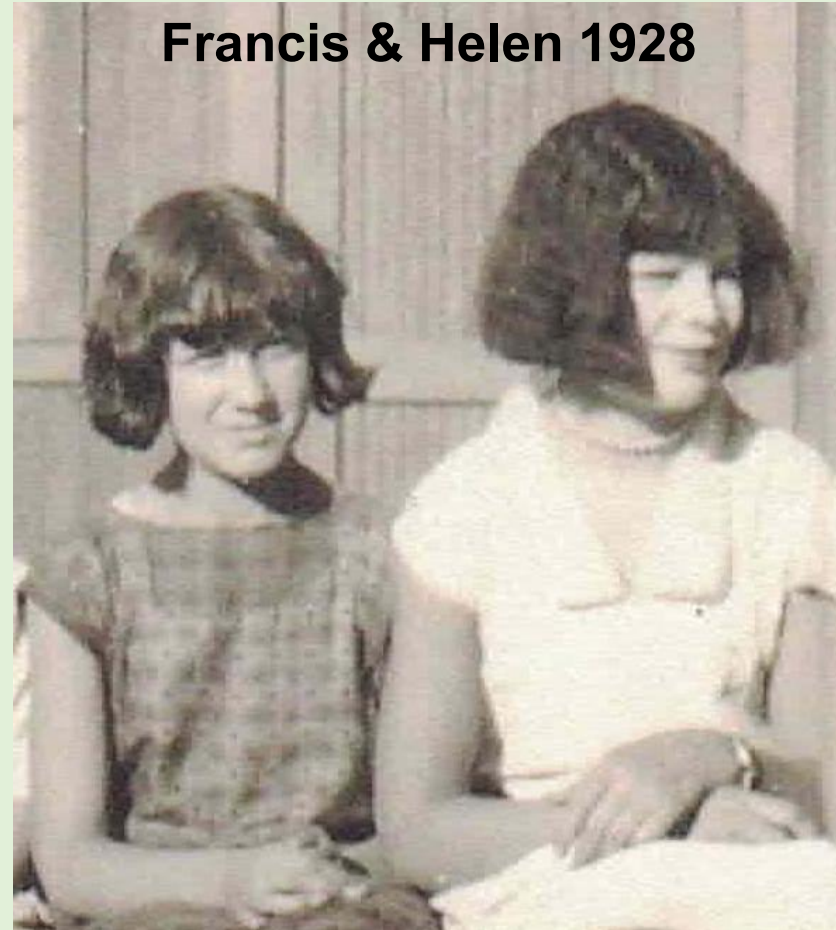
April 13th, 1931 Tragedy Strikes. Hortense Victoria Walker Dies.
Cause of death: Tuberculous Meningitis when Richard, her
youngest son was 3 years old.



May 21, 1931 Irene goes ahead with her Wedding & moves to her new home in Hollywood. Helen (18) and Francis (16) are now the oldest daughters. Trying to fill their mother's shoes.

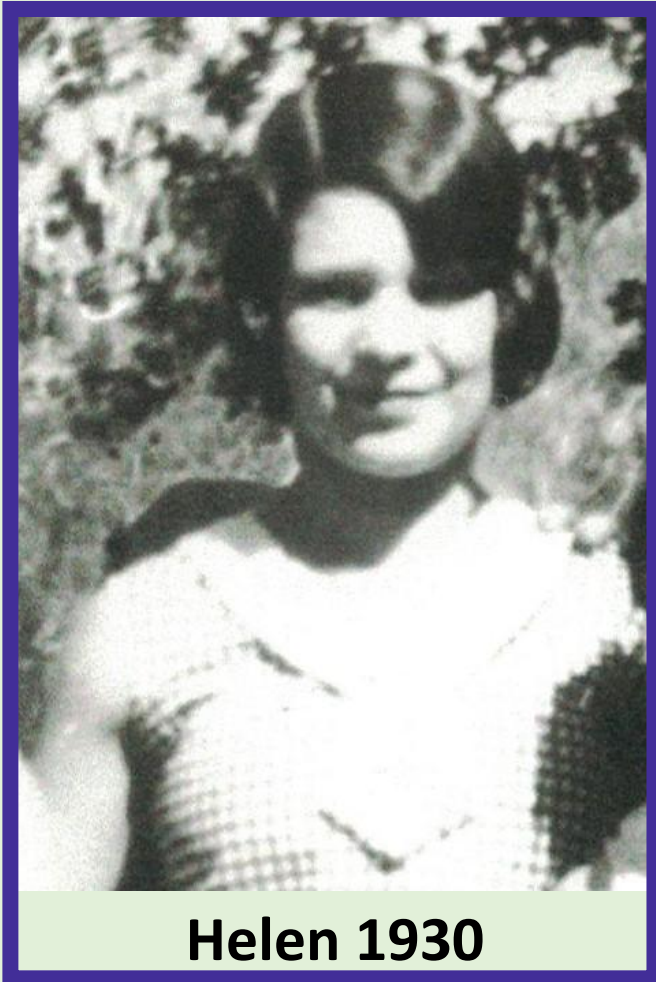


Irene



Helen & Frank R. 1925

**August 21, 1931 Helen Dies Rheumatic Heart Disease at 19 yrs. old
Leaving Francis (16) and Melba (15) to fill their mother's shoes**



**July 1, 1932 Clarence had been hospitalized with TB for a year.
Died of Botulism. Now Edward (18) & Charles (14) are oldest sons.**



Clarence & Hortense V. 1928

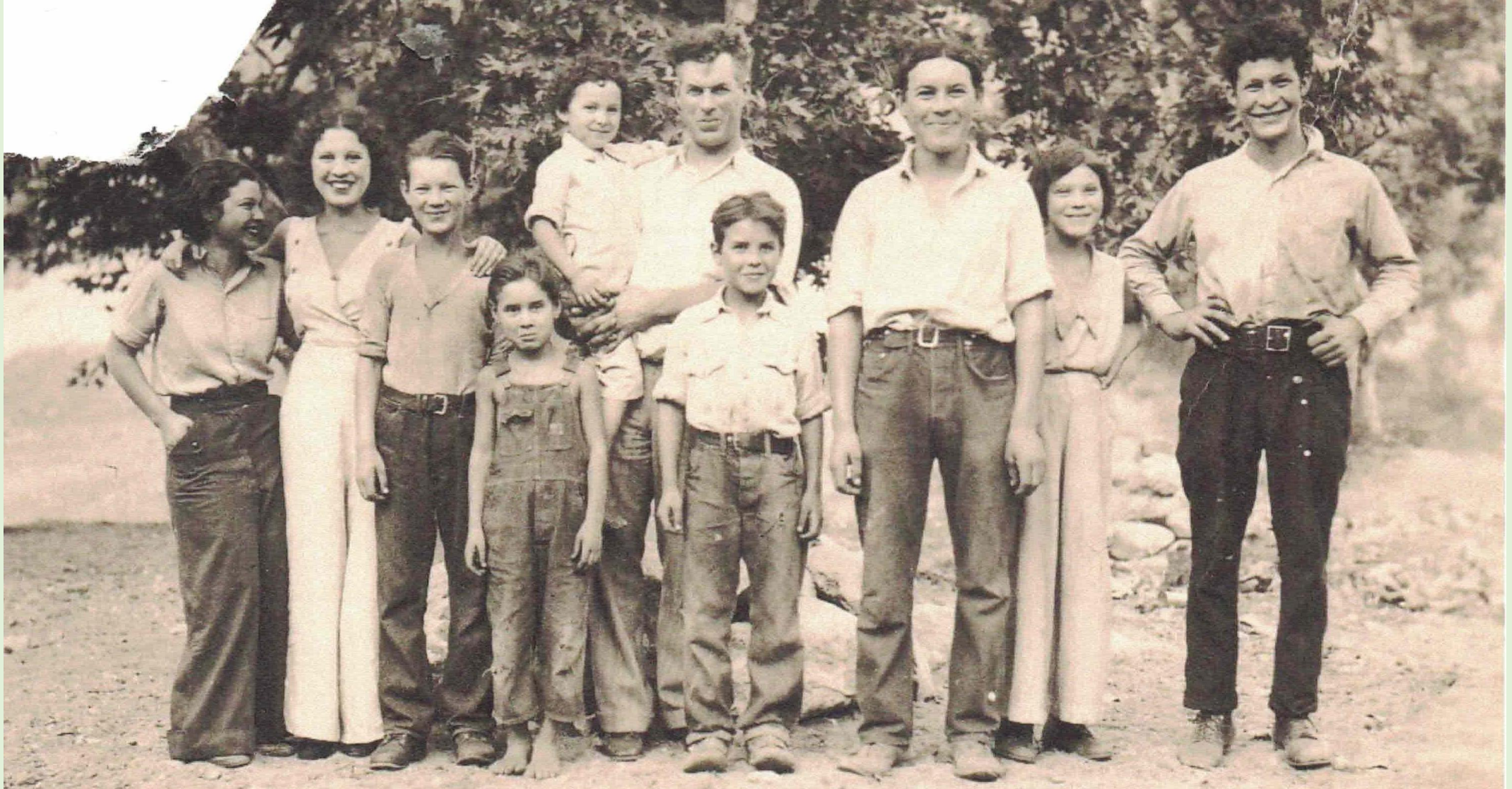


Edward 1933



Charles 1933

1933 Through heart breaking tragedy the Walkers persevered with “the older ones helping the younger ones”





1934 Frank E. Walker and Children

Richard, Edward, Francis, Melba, Charles, Raymond, Hortense G., Frank R., Thomas

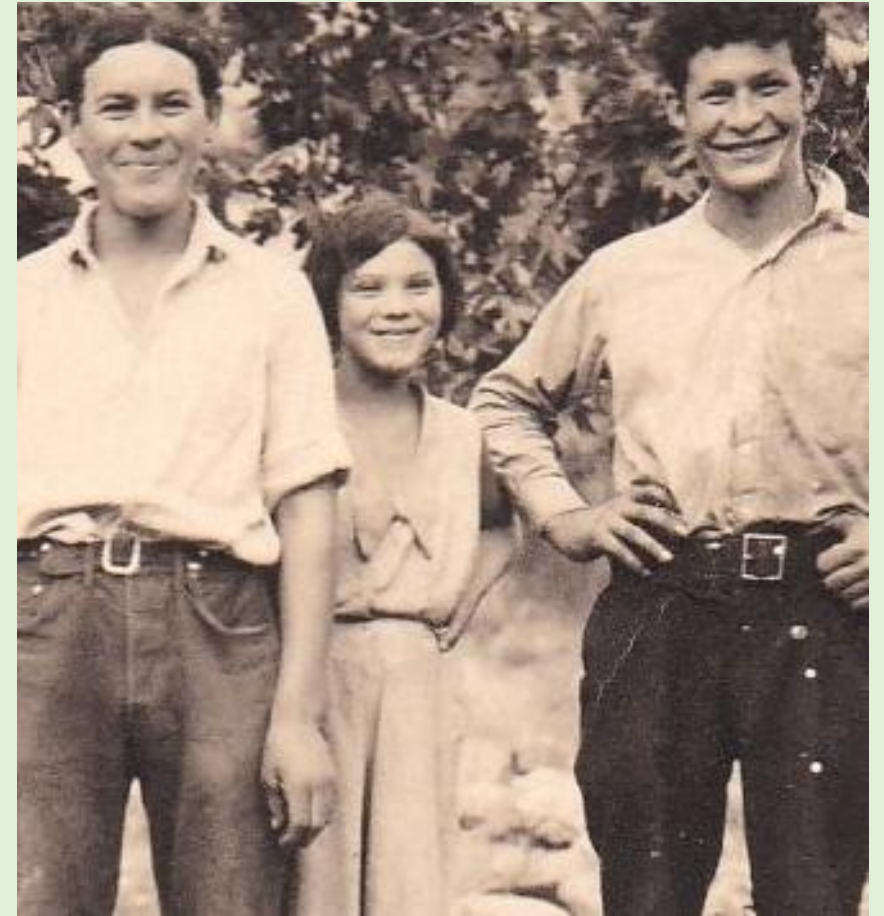
1934 Francis left home to work as a teacher, and live in nanny. Now Melba(17) & Mickey (12) are the only girls at home with their Dad & 6 brothers. April 13, 1935 Francis was tragically killed.



Francis



Melba & Irene



Edward, Mickey (Hortense G.), Charles



1934 Six Walker Brothers

c. 1939 Frank R., Raymond, Thomas, Richard



1943 Thomas, Richard, Frank E., Raymond, Frank R.
Five Walker sons enlisted in WWII. Four went overseas.



The family remained close. They visited Walker Ranch often. After Frank sold the 40 acres around Cabin #2 in 1949, he continued living in Cabin #3 until he sold the remaining acres in 1959.



2024 Walker Reunion at PCNC Open House

