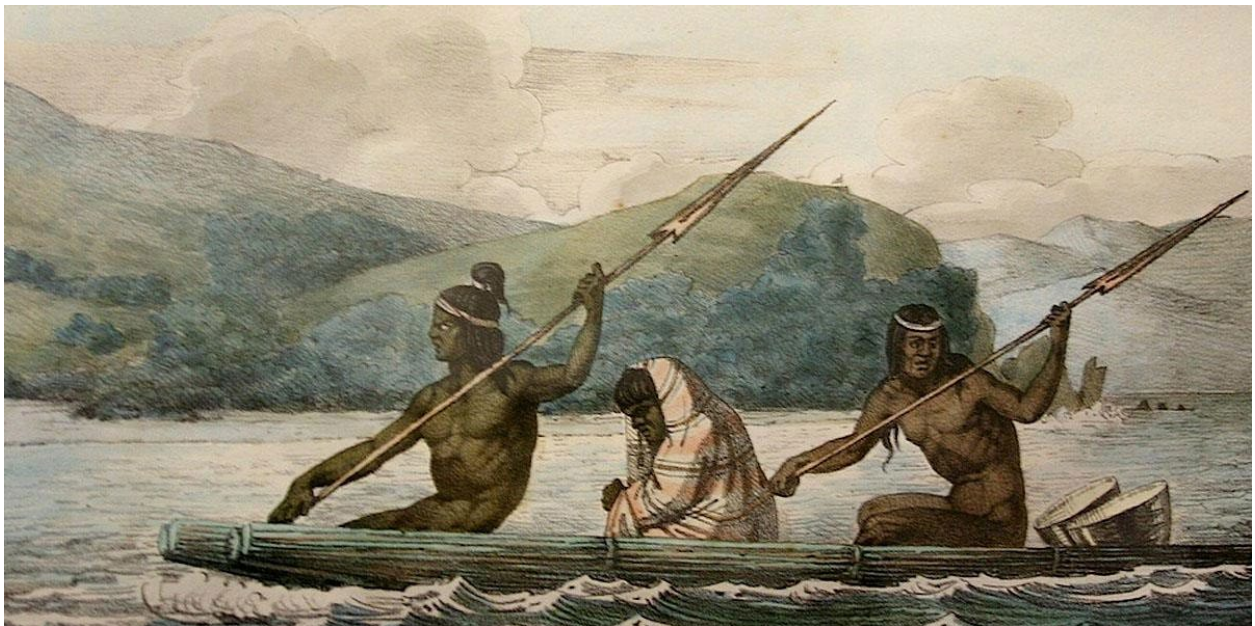


Before 1769

Ancestors of the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe, a previously federally recognized tribe, have resided on this land **for over 6000 years**. Indigenous people have persisted by changing and adapting throughout the Spanish mission, Mexican, and American occupation periods.

“Our people, the Muwekmas, the East Bay families, have never left their lands... They have always been here for generation after generation.”

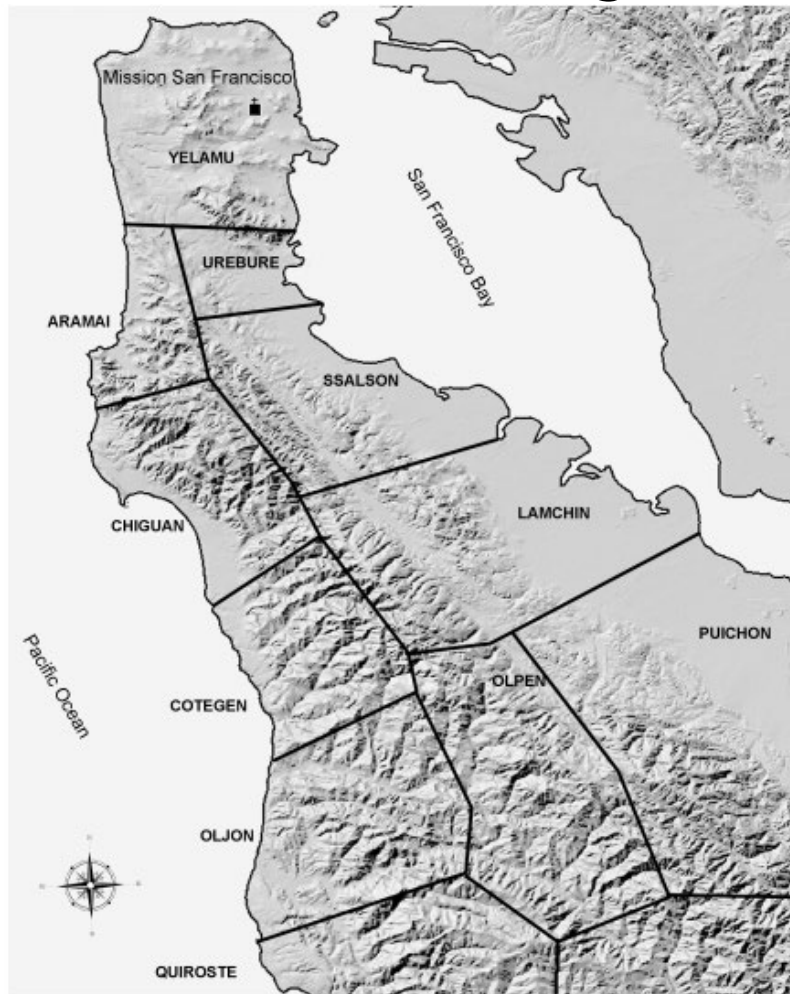
-Former tribal chairwoman Rosemary Cambra, stressing the tribe’s historic and modern existence



Ohlone people in a tule boat on the San Francisco Bay, painted by Louis Choris, 1816

1769

The Spanish arrive in early November 1769 when military officer Gaspar de Portolà and his men catch sight of San Francisco Bay. It marks the start of European expansion and colonization in the area, and the **Native peoples are decimated by disease, conflict and ecological disruption.**



Map of Ramaytush Ohlone Tribes throughout the Peninsula;
sourced from ramaytush.org

1770s

The founding of missions begins an era of forced labor, colonization, religious imposition, and genocide. While the Ohlone and other indigenous people continue to live on their ancestral lands, **Spanish and Mexican colonials permanently alter their way of life** by forcing many to enter the missions, adopt Catholicism, and labor without pay.



Mission Dolores in modern San Francisco, built in 1776 to evangelize the Ohlone people

1821

Mexico wins independence from Spain, making California a part of the new Mexican Empire.

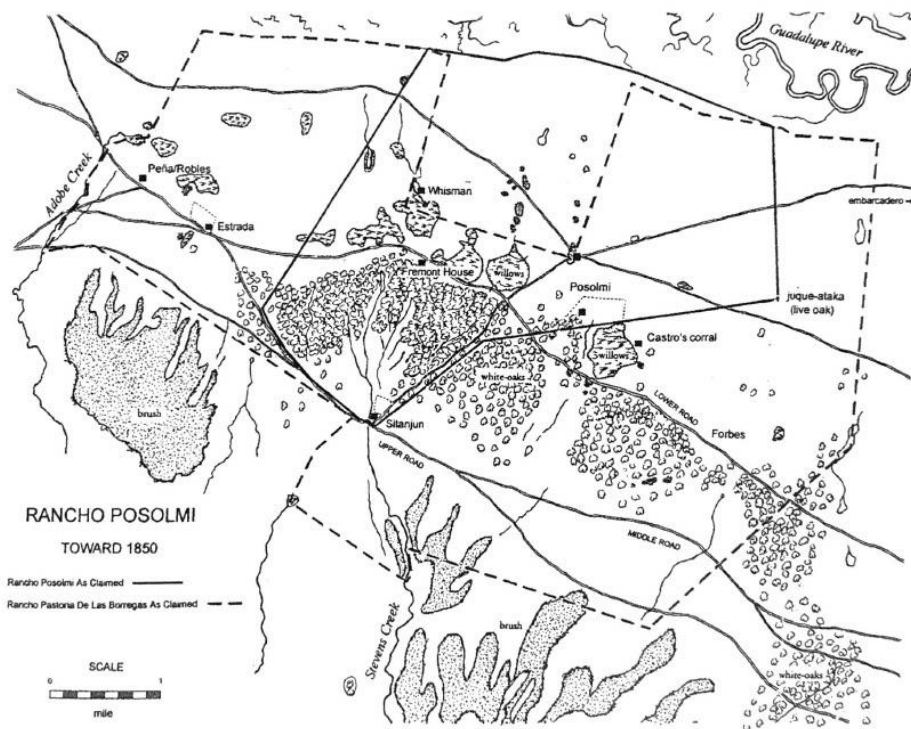
Mexico begins to close all missions and nationalizes church property, sending previous settlers and workers, including Indigenous peoples, to find other means of subsistence.



Decaying Mission Santa Clara, published in *An Arboreal Song of the Alameda* circa 1876

1842

An area called Rancho Pastoría de las Borregas is given in 1842 by Mexican Governor Juan Alvarado to Francisco Estrada, and later transferred to the Castro family. This land, along with Las Positas de las Animas, became part of current Mountain View.



*Map of Rancho Posolmi and
Rancho Pastoria de las Borregas, circa 1850*

1848

Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo cedes California to the United States after the Mexican-American War. The same year, gold is discovered in California, leading to an **influx of American migrants**. Many stake claim to lands owned by Californios (Mexican Californian settlers).

One Californio, Mariano Castro, goes to court in 1852 to defend his extensive landholdings from Anglo squatters. The case drags on for years. Ultimately, his claim is confirmed, but he **has to sell much of his land, including the current-day Castro Street, to pay his attorney's fees.**



Members of the Castro family sit on the porch of their home at what is now Central Expressway and Rengstorff Avenue.

1850

The town of Mountain View begins to form, centered around a stagecoach stop on El Camino Real, as well as a hotel, shops, saloons and other businesses. This **makes Mountain View attractive to many migrants and immigrants**, and stand out from the farmland that otherwise covers the surrounding area.



The Outside Inn (originally known as the Taylor Hotel) on El Camino Real served as Mountain View's stagecoach stop and was a landmark of the original town of Mountain View from 1860 until 1911. Its large social hall was used for fraternal meetings and religious services.

1860s-70s

A rail line between San Francisco and San Jose begins construction in 1861. It is built through the labor of low-paid Chinese workers.

The **formation of the railroad makes the land that now constitutes Mountain View increase in value**, and many enterprises and communities coalesce in the area.



Map showing the new Southern Pacific Railroad line and property owners, 1876

1870

Five years after Castro Street was laid out, and the downtown was moved from El Camino Real. That same year, **German-Jewish immigrants** Samuel and Seligman Weilheimer built their general store, **starting the commercialization** of Castro Street that continues to this day.

Seligman's son, Julius, took over the family's business, and served as **two terms as the city's mayor**. He lived in the house where Chez TJ is today.



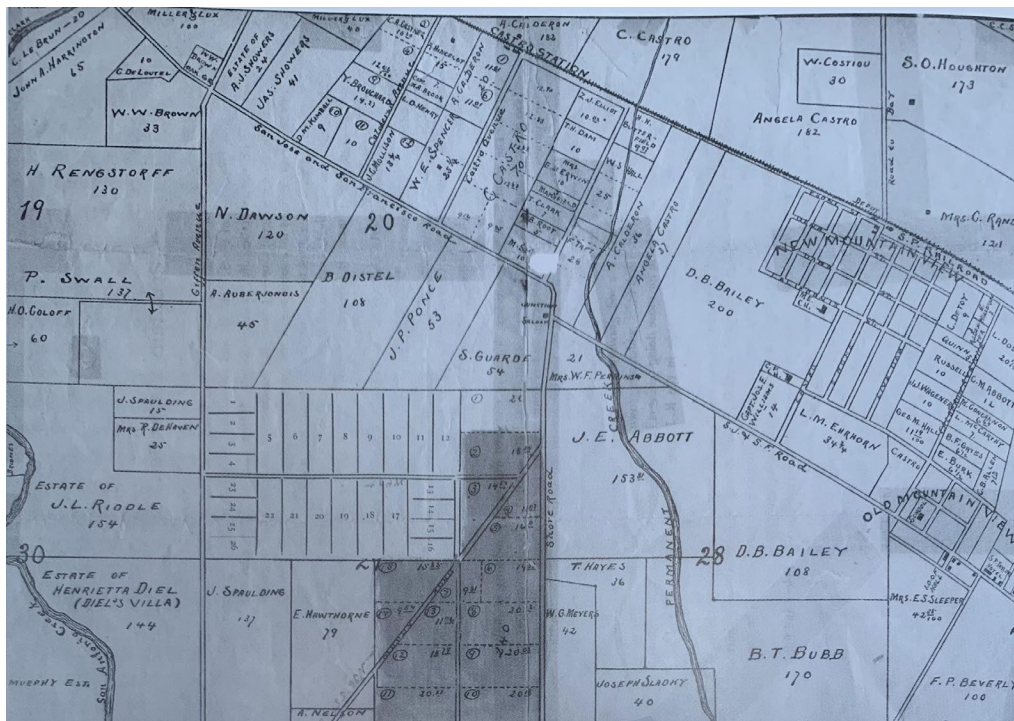
Picture of the Weilheimer & Sons General Store in 1896. Today, this building houses Oren's Hummus.

1880s-90s

Real estate developments in Mountain View pick up pace as the town is “booming.”

Developers also capitalize on the opening of Stanford University in 1891, advertising the area’s proximity to the new institution.

As the settlement grows, buildings are constructed in a more uniform pattern and the town layout becomes more regular.



Map used in real estate promotional material, 1891

1882

Chinese immigrants begin settling in Mountain View in **1880**, after the San Francisco-San Jose railroad is finished.

Despite the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1882 - which eventually is extended until 1943, and only allows small quotas of teachers, students, and merchants - many immigrants still find a way to arrive in the San Francisco Bay Area.



Yuen Lung, owner of Yuen Lung & Co. store. He is one of the first recorded and most prominent Chinese citizens of Mountain View until his death in 1932.

1884

Chinese immigrant Yuen Lung opens his store, **Yuen Lung & Co.**, on the corner of Villa and View Streets.

This is the start of **Mountain View's Chinatown**. By the early 1920s, the blocks clustered around the store include **Chinese-owned businesses** such as a granary warehouse, restaurants, and general stores; and **Japanese** ones as well, such as grocery stores, a confectionery shop, and a boarding house.



Yuen Lung & Co. Store; note the tree street signs (View & Villa)

1899

The country's first **zoning law** is established to regulate building heights in Washington, D.C.

Zoning - local government rules that regulate how a piece of property can be used - is later used throughout the country to **segregate neighborhoods**. While explicitly racial zoning is struck down in 1917, zoning remains a legal tool to divide neighborhoods by wealth, as described in Richard Rothstein's *The Color of Law*.



Mountain View zoning map, 1960

1900s-1920s

Many **Japanese immigrants** come to Mountain View.

Most **pick crops for a living** - tomatoes, prunes, strawberries, and raspberries being some of those frequently grown in the area. Others are fortunate enough to **lease or own** land for farming and other agriculture.

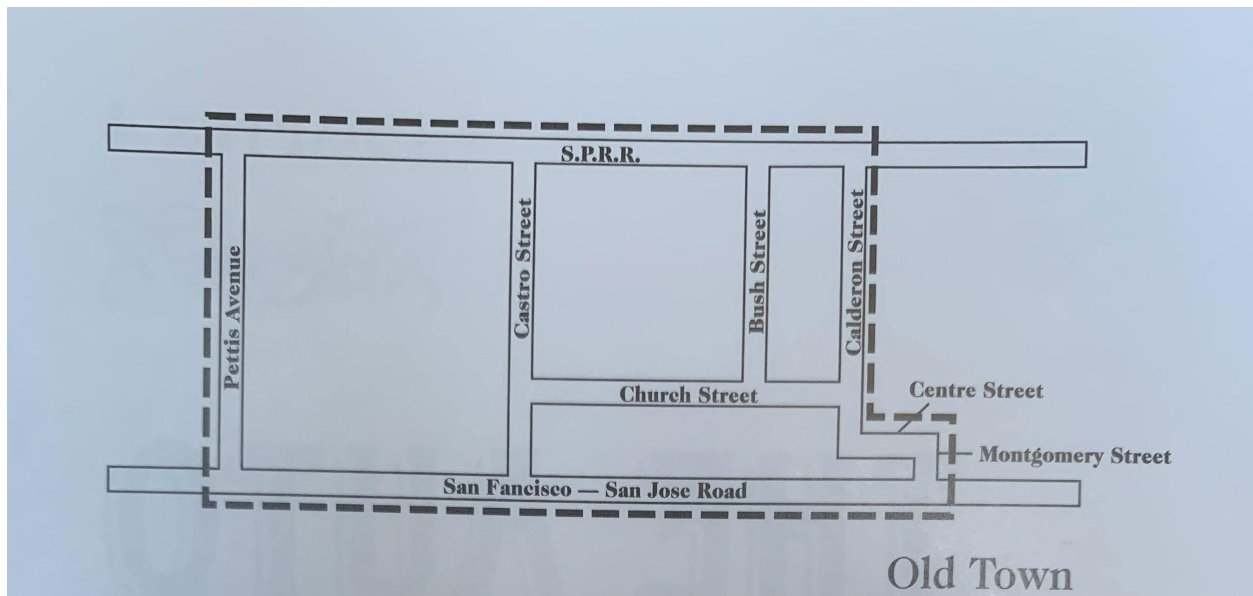


T. Nakamura raspberry ranch, 1919
Sherland & Whisman Road. T. Ozawa Collection.

1902

After an 1883 California act allowing communities to incorporate into cities or towns, Mountain View residents push for official recognition. In 1902, Mountain View is incorporated via community vote, and residents set town boundaries.

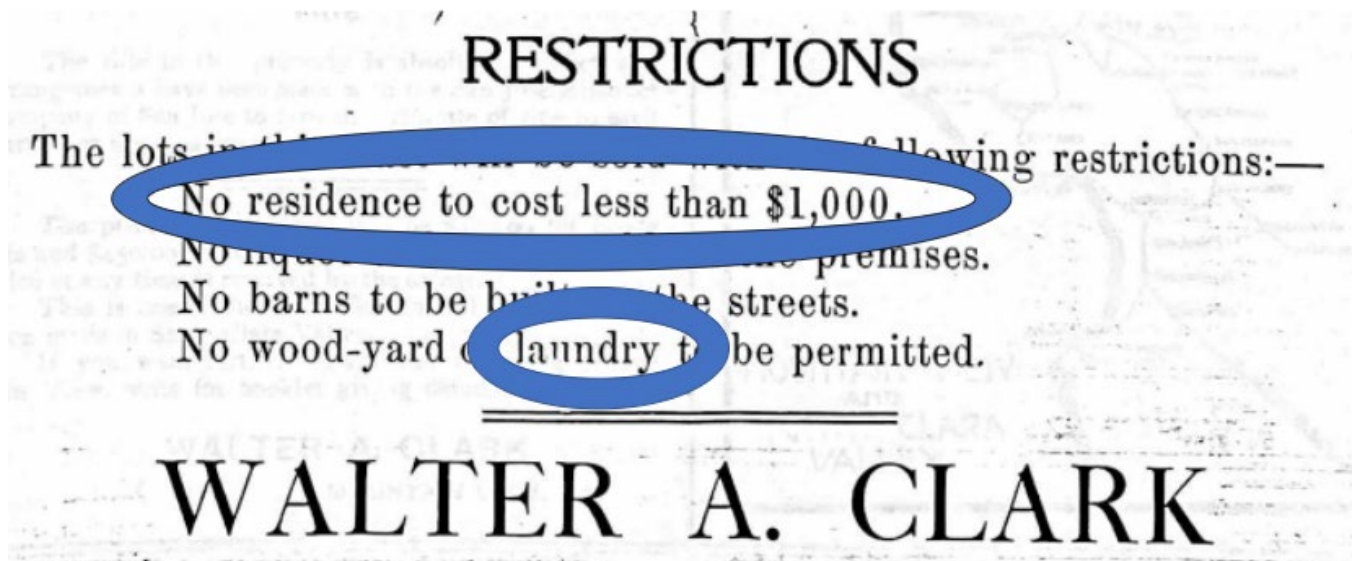
Incorporation allows for Mountain View to later set regulations on zoning and other land use policies.



Boundaries of incorporated Mountain View, 1902

1904

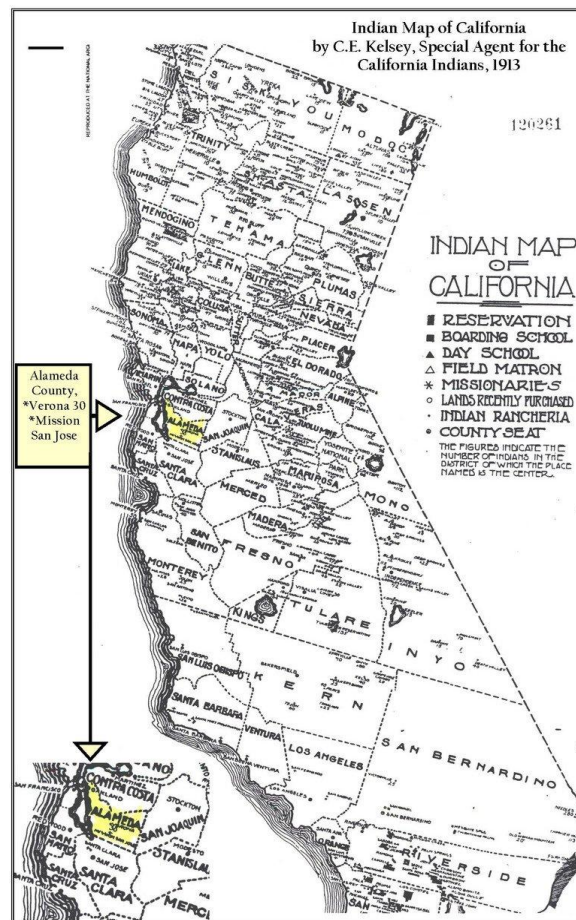
Developers create neighborhoods that restrict property uses. The **restrictions intend to exclude based on class and race**, especially as the Chinese community runs many laundromats.



1904 pamphlet for Buena Vista Subdivision

1905

The U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs conducts a Special Indian Census in California, to identify landless and homeless tribes. The census identifies the Verona Band, **ancestors of today's Muwekma Ohlone**, residing in Alameda County near Pleasanton, Sunol, and Niles. No Native American settlements remain in Santa Clara County.



1913 map, which indicates that there were 30 Ohlone people living near Pleasanton, and that they were federally recognized at the time.

1907-1920s

Between 1907 and 1913, **thousands of Spanish families migrate from Spain** to U.S.-occupied Hawaii. In conjunction with the sugar plantation owners of Hawaii, the U.S. government guarantees employment, housing, and schools for the immigrants.

Many Spanish immigrants from Hawaii move to Mountain View in the **1910s and 1920s**, coming for its agricultural way of life.



The Bautista Family (circa 1926), strawberry sharecroppers in what is now Palo Alto, who then settled in Mountain View's Spanish neighborhood, La Charca de La Rana ("The Frog Pond").

1913

In California, the **Alien Land Law** prohibits "aliens ineligible for citizenship" from owning land or possessing long-term leases.

It is a legislative **attempt to discourage Japanese and other non-white immigrants** from permanently settling in the U.S., and affects many Japanese and Chinese farmowners.

“Under the Alien Land Law, Dad couldn’t buy land, so he gave the power of attorney to Judge Peckham in San Jose, and the property was purchased in 1917 under Frank’s and my name because we were both citizens.”

Helen Furuichi Miyake (*Bittersweet: Memories of Old Mountain View, an Oral History*, Vol. 1, p. 79)

1917

The Supreme Court rules that **housing segregation by overtly racial zoning laws is unconstitutional.**

RACE SEGREGATION LAW IS ATTACKED

Louisville Case Argued in
Supreme Court; Other
Cities Affected.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Constitutionality of race segregation ordinances was argued Monday before the supreme court in a case investigating the validity of the Louisville, Ky. regulation, mak-

ing it unlawful for any negro to occupy a residence in any block in which a greater number of houses are occupied by white folk and unlawful for a white person to occupy a residence in a negro block. The decision is expected to affect all cities having similar ordinances.

Pointing out that segregation ordinances now are in force in Baltimore, Richmond, St. Louis and many other cities and towns, counsel emphasized that a decision would have a sweeping effect, especially throughout the south. Pendleton Beckley, Louisville city attorney, and Stuart Chesaller of Louisville, defending the validity of the ordinance argued that its object was reciprocal and would tend to preserve race integrity and to avoid race conflict.

Clayton B. Blakey of Louisville and Steoriefeld Storey of Boston contended that it violated the rights of negroes, having as a predominant intent them from approach of social equality. Buy Photo

Courier Journal, 1917

1920s-40s

With overtly racial zoning laws now barred, realtors and homeowners throughout the U.S. and **in Mountain View** enforce segregation with **neighborhood covenants**, which **include “white-only” provisions** (with exceptions for servants).

number was as feet to the side street line.

3. No residential lot shall be re-subdivided into building plots having less than 3000 square feet of area.

4. No noxious or offensive trade or activity shall be carried on upon any lot, nor shall anything be done thereon which may be, or become, an annoyance or nuisance to the neighborhood.

5. No part of said real property shall ever be used or occupied by any person who is not of the white or Caucasian race except in the capacity of a servant.

6. No trailer, basement, tent, shack, garage, barn, or other outbuilding erected or maintained in the subdivision shall at any time be used as a residence.

7. No dwelling costing less than \$1000.00 shall be permitted to be carried in the

“5. No part of said real property shall ever be used or occupied by any person who is not of the white or Caucasian race except in the capacity of a servant.”

*Restrictive Covenant
Vincent Drive, Mountain View, 1946*

1920s-30s

Many **Filipino immigrants** immigrate to the Bay Area and Central Valley, because of poverty in the Philippines and the promise of work. Most are employed as **farm workers**, and many of those who arrive in Mountain View live in **Chinatown, at Hotel Tabalaya, a boarding house.**

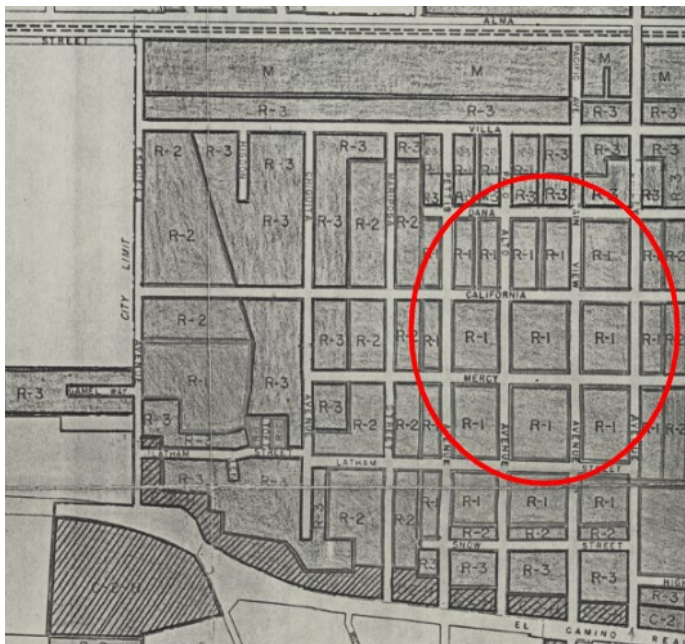


Filipino Farm Workers in Mountain View, California, circa 1930s

1921-1926

In 1921, Los Angeles is one of the first cities to pass **single-family zoning laws**, designating certain neighborhoods for only one-family homes - no apartments, farms, or businesses. These laws are upheld by the Supreme Court in 1926.

The majority opinion describes apartments as encroaching like ***“parasites ... until, finally, the residential character of the neighborhood and its desirability as a place of detached residences are utterly destroyed.”***



R-A	RESIDENTIAL AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT
R-1	SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT
R-2	DUPLEX RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT
R-3	RESTRICTED MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT
R-4	MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT
C-1	NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT
C-2	CENTRAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

Mountain View zoning map with marked single-family housing (1952)

1924

The first modern apartment houses in Mountain View are built by the Minton Lumber Company. In 1924, the group also develops an **exclusionary subdivision** in the town.

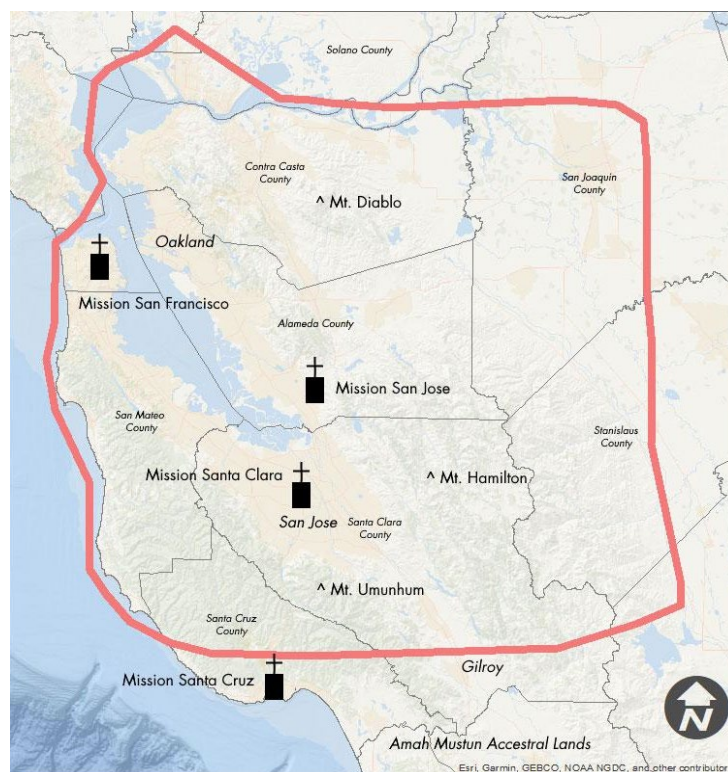
¶ Your new home in PALMITA PARK positively *will not* be marred by unsightly adjoining buildings. Care will be taken to secure a most desirable community.

¶ Only *very desirable* people will be allowed to purchase homes in this restricted district.

1927

Anthropologists declare the Ohlone extinct and the federal government removes their status from the Federal Register in 1927 after deciding that the population of Ohlone is too small to matter.

Non-federally recognized tribes lack the legal authority to protect their land and cultural sites from development or resource exploitation, and the **Ohlone are still working today towards federal recognition.**



Ancestral Lands and Territory of the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area; sourced from muwekma.org

1934

The National Housing Act creates the **Federal Housing Administration (FHA)**, which operates various loan insurance programs, spurring a dramatic uptick in home-ownership.

But only for some.

Neighborhoods are classified in part based on the ***"threat of infiltration of foreign-born, negro, or lower grade population."***

The FHA uses "redlining" maps to deny mortgages to families seeking homes in ***"non-racially harmonious"*** communities.

In early 1957 when we planned to build a house in Lawrence Tract, an interracial housing tract, we had some difficulty in securing a loan for building, much of this difficulty having to do with the integrated nature of the tract. We first applied to the Equitable Life Insurance Company and the agent who took our application papers was enthusiastic and hopeful about the loan. However, he reported back to us that we had been refused. When we asked, he said it was because the tract was interracial. We telephoned the supervisor in the San Francisco office but the supervisor said they did not make loans of this kind. When we said that we knew of instances where they had made loans to minority group members, he said that this was different but they did not encourage integrated housing.

...

Harold C. and Hazel Leler
993 Lawrence Lane
Palo Alto, California
DAvenport 6-2311

Harold C. Leler
Hazel Leler

1940-44

Black Americans migrate from the South to the Bay Area, especially San Francisco, Oakland and Richmond, to contribute to the wartime naval and munitions boom.



Eastine Cowner working in the Kaiser Shipyards in Richmond, CA.
Photo: Library of Congress

1940-44

The demand for wartime labor brings many **Mexican immigrants and Latino migrants** to Mountain View, some directly from Mexico as part of the *Bracero* (men who work with their arms) program, others from within the U.S.

Many settle in the **two major Latino neighborhoods**, or *barrios*, of Mountain View: Castro City, west of today's Rengstorff Park; and the Washington Street neighborhood, north of the train tracks, named *La Charca de la Rana* or the Frog Pond for its muddy, unpaved streets by earlier immigrants from Spain.



Club Estrella, originally established in 1948 as a Mexican-American women's religious, social, and mutual aid club, assembles on Washington Street for a parade.

1942

Two months after Japan's bombing of Pearl Harbor, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt orders **people of Japanese descent**, including many U.S. citizens, to be **forcibly removed** from their homes and relocated to distant incarceration camps.

The disruption and trauma that result affect the Japanese American community of Mountain View. Some are able to return to their property after the war; others, especially those without property, are permanently displaced.



Evacuation from Mountain View Southern Pacific Station,
May 26, 1942 to Santa Anita Assembly Center.
Courtesy Alice Koyano

1944

The **GI Bill** provides low-interest home mortgages to soldiers returning from WWII.



Black veterans do not benefit; buyers in integrated neighborhoods **are widely disqualified** for federal home loans.

1946

Mountain View's Chinatown (including the Japanese businesses) has been declining for several years, partly due to the forced incarceration of Japanese citizens some years earlier. **More than 60 people are evacuated** after a fire erupts and burns down several businesses in the area.

However, many Chinese businesses in downtown Mountain View stay, and help keep downtown alive during hard times in the **1970s and 80s.**



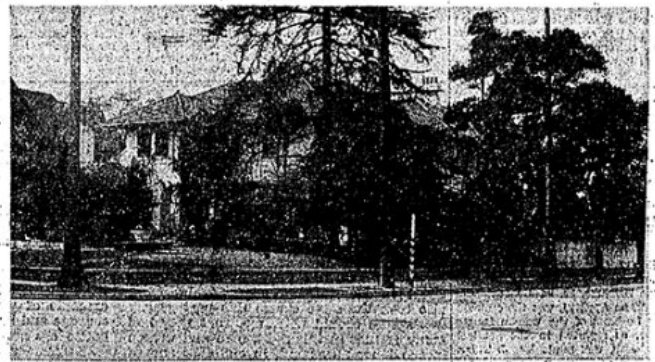
Firefighters combat the Chinatown fire, 1946

1948

The Supreme Court strikes down racially **restrictive housing covenants** holding that the Fourteenth Amendment's Equal Protection Clause prohibits their enforcement.

CAL. NEGROES CAN NOW LIVE ANYWHERE, SAYS HIGH COURT

Homes Like These No Longer 'Out of Bounds'



FREED FROM RESTRICTIONS—Pictured above are two of the many homes in Los Angeles which have figured prominently in race restrictive covenant cases and which, by virtue of Monday's U.S. Supreme Court decision, are no longer "out of bounds" to Negroes. Both of these houses are in the city's wealthy "Sugar Hill" area, suits in-

volving which have been awaiting action by the California Supreme Court for nearly two years. The cases will now undoubtedly be dismissed. At the left is the home of the late Ben Carter, well-known comedian and motion picture agent, who was teamed with Mantan Moreland for television shows at the time of his death. At the right is

shown Hattie McDaniel's home. Her right to live there was challenged on racial grounds despite the fact that she has attained top rank in motion pictures and is currently giving a 15-minute, nightly program, the "Bouleh Show," over radio station KF.

Front page of the May 6, 1948 publication in the Los Angeles Sentinel. | Los Angeles Sentinel

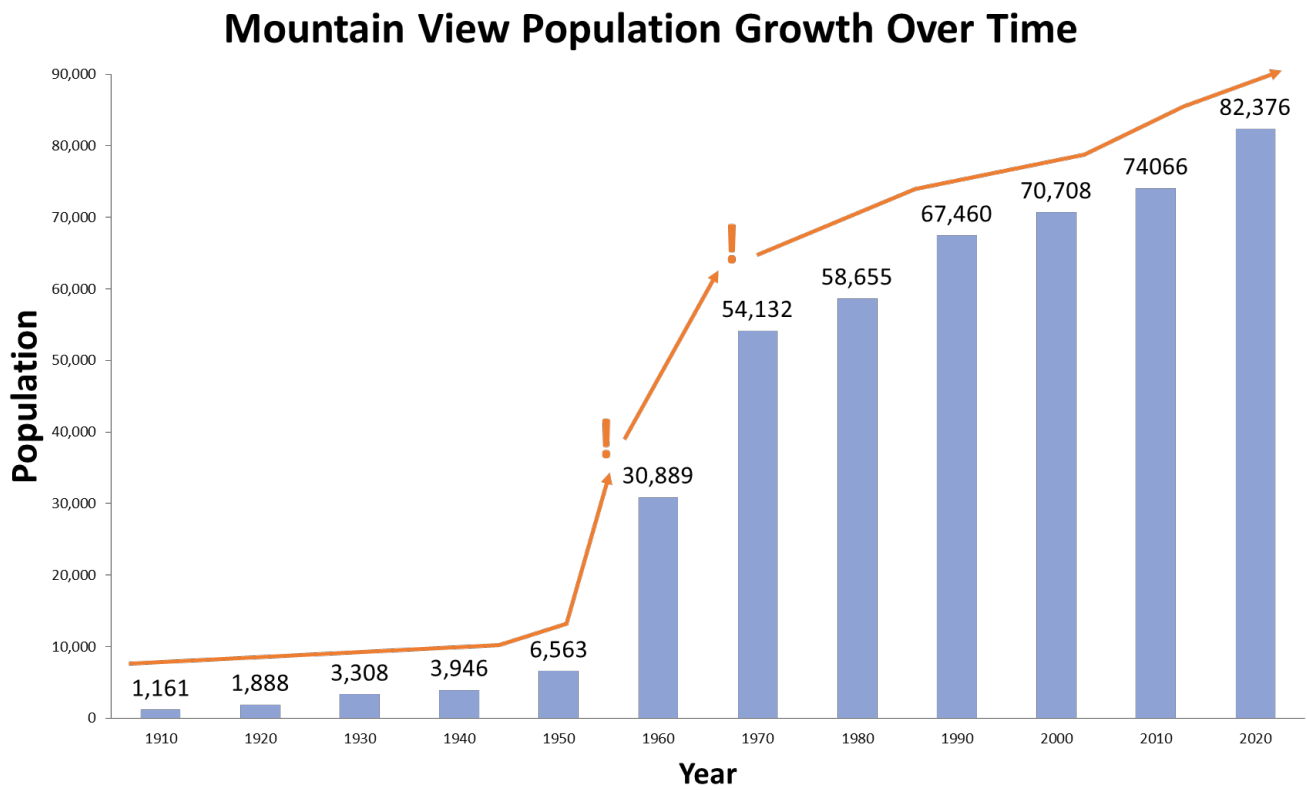
However, **FHA Loans are limited** to "racially harmonious" communities, so non-White homebuyers **do not benefit** from these low-interest, federally insured loans.

1950s

Like the rest of the Santa Clara Valley, the **post-WWII boom sweeps over Mountain View.**

Technology firms establish themselves around U.S. Naval Air Station Moffett Field to serve the Navy, driving the growth of Silicon Valley.

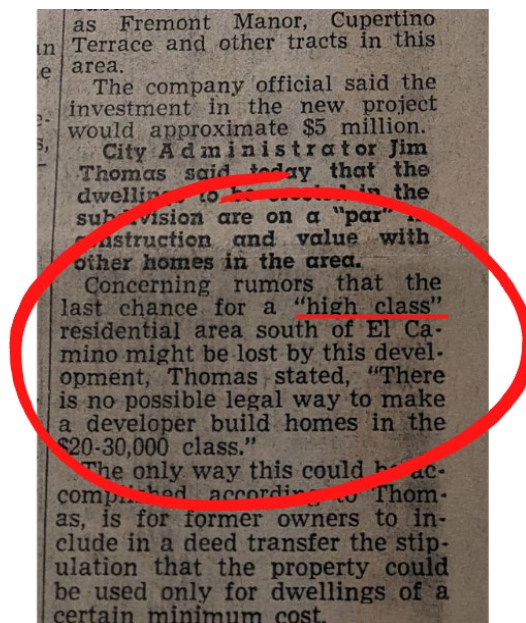
Its population swells from 6,500 in 1950 to 30,000 in 1960, and then up to 54,000 by 1970.



1951

In 1951, the plans for a large housing tract, **Varsity Park**, are highly controversial because of relatively **small lots** (~5,000 square feet, the city minimum elsewhere) and **low price** (\$12-14k, less than 50% of the value some city officials wanted).

According to this article from the Daily Register in March 1951, the 48 acre development represents “the last chance” for a “**high class**” neighborhood south of El Camino.” The dispute illustrates tensions over what “class” of people should be able to afford housing in Mountain View.



Article from the Mountain View *Daily Register* in March 1951

1952

Mountain View adopts a city charter, and begins to **annex nearby unincorporated land** (land that is not part of any city) for further development.

Residents in nearby Los Altos, fearing they would be annexed and subject to **denser Mountain View zoning ordinances**, promote a vision for **Los Altos of affluent single-family homes** on large lots by **incorporating as a separate municipality**.


INCORPORATE
and preserve
THIS LOS ALTOS



with
SPACIOUS, OUTDOOR LIVING

OR

Defeat Incorporation,
RUIN LOS ALTOS
by inviting City Development
LIKE THIS



with
CROWDED LIVING ON SMALL LOTS

WAR!

Make Los Altos a borough of Mountain View,
—urges Mountain View Shopping News

Mountain View and certain outside interests have united to prevent the people of Los Altos from solving their own problems. They have misrepresented, misled, confused. They will stop at nothing to defeat incorporation.

Mountain View "Carpet Bagger" Fighting Incorporation!

Mountain View and certain selfish interests could not continue to "leech" upon the unincorporated part of Los Altos, because incorporation means protection.

These Mountain View "Carpet bagger" are holding meetings in Los Altos school houses pretending to represent Los Altos. They do not even LIVE within the boundaries of the proposed incorporated area.

They hope people of Los Altos have been too busy to investigate their background and motives.

DON'T LET THESE TACTICS SCARE YOU
INTO VOTING AGAINST INCORPORATING!

Here's Their Propaganda

These same "carpet-bagger" are now may lose in this area yelling that if Los Altos is incorporated it will cost each home from \$200 to \$400 in city taxes.

WAKE UP! These Mountain View interests don't dare tell the truth.

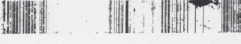
HERE IS THE TRUTH

Due to the money given to incorporated cities, Los Altos will receive \$12,000 next year from State Creative Arts Fund, in lieu tax, building inspection and liquor license.

INCORPORATION WILL COST THE AVERAGE HOME OWNER \$10 A YEAR

Hundreds of Los Altos have worked for incorporation for months. Don't let a handful of outsiders, claiming to represent Los Altos, defeat incorporation at the last minute.

LOS ALTOS COMMITTEE FOR INCORPORATION



Sunday Nov 16, 1952

Flyers promoting the incorporation of Los Altos to keep it independent of Mountain View

1954

Suburban housing developments are booming, but **exclude Black Americans** because builders who try to develop integrated communities cannot obtain federally insured financing.

The **Sunny Hills housing project**, an initiative for **a desegregated neighborhood**, starts development near Mountain View. By the end of the year, **construction halts due to opposition from Mountain View officials**, according to Richard Rothstein's *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America*.

SI - 10 MILPITAS PROJECT: Martin White and Phil Buskirk reported on the progress made toward setting up the Milpitas project. A meeting is planned early in March, to bring together top level people directly responsible for present and future development in the area, to think about individual and collective responsibility as the Ford Motor Company gets underway and people begin moving into the area. Clark Kerr has agreed to chair the meeting, which will be held at 1830 Sutter St. A search is in progress for the right person to undertake staff responsibility for the job. Phil reported on the trip to Milpitas which he and Martin took together with John Reardon, president of the Reardon Construction Company. The object of the trip was to look over sites owned by Reardon to determine which might offer the best possibilities for establishing open-occupancy housing. The area tentatively agreed upon was on the El Camino Real, south of the city limits of Mountainview. It is a place which should attract white as well as Negro residents.

Minutes from a 1954 American Friends Service Committee meeting

1955-60s

Elsewhere, as Black families move into Bay Area communities, realtors convince white neighbors to **panic sell**, then resell the homes at higher prices to Black families.

This is called "**blockbusting.**"

Letter to Editor:

'Belle Havenites Resent Pressure Methods Used by Real Estate Operators in Home Selling Spree,' Says Homeowner

Mrs. Ethel Anderson, who owns a home at 1219 Windermere in Belle Haven area, has just recently come down from her residence in Sacramento, where she teaches, to find a "deplorable" situation among home-owners in that area. Because she has felt that her former neighbors have been put through undue pressure by real estate operators, she began to investigate just how her neighbors really felt. Following is a letter which she has written to the people of Belle Haven through the Ravenswood Post. We are proud to publish it:

"We like it here," say Belle Haven home owners.

Residents in the Belle Haven area are organizing to resist high-pressure salesmanship that would change the character of this attractive modest-home neighborhood. One of the older residents stated:

of the subdivision. They, as well as the new neighbors who have moved in, have maintained and improved their homes and gardens so that the whole area reflects a uniform pride in home ownership. To sell out and move because we don't like their color would be ridiculous."

It is not true that only "colored people" are interested in buying here. A number of white families have built homes near Belle Haven school within the last year, and according to a spokesman for one of these groups, "We are not selling. Why should we? We knew that some of our neighbors were Negro when we bought here last winter. They are good neighbors, and their children are among the best behaved in the community. Since our children will attend schools, and later will work at jobs with people of all races, we prefer to bring them in a mixed

never has been. Nevertheless, within the last few months eight real estate salesmen, going from door to door, have called on us urging that we list our home for sale now 'while you can still get a good price for it, since the area is going colored and prices will go down.' We are definitely not frightened by such talk, for we like it here!"

"Our homes are worth as much now as they were a year or two ago; and they will be worth even more next year when the new Willow Road overpass is completed, for this will be one of the most accessible communities between San Carlos and San Jose."

Other comments were:

"The high-pressure realtors have not been fair to our community. They have directed their advertising of homes in this area specifically toward minority people. By distributing leaflets

Ravenswood Post, 1955

1959

The Mountain View planning commission extends multi-family zoning. **Rental apartments make parts of the city more affordable** for lower-income residents than large homes. By 1963, Mountain View is a majority-renter city.

In older areas such as the Latino neighborhood of Castro City, however, **high-density zoning raises land values** and **threatens to displace** low-income communities of color.

Mt. View approves multi-family zoning

Thurs., Aug. 2, 1962 San Jose Mercury

Apartment
Mt. View
may permit
15 stories

Mt. View Fast
Becoming An
Apartment City

1960s

Many cities engage in **“Urban Renewal”** projects. These draw on federal funding to take large areas of land - often entire neighborhoods - using the government’s power of eminent domain. These areas are then sold to private developers. Often, the neighborhoods targeted for “renewal” are home to low-income communities of color. Nationally, hundreds of thousands are displaced.

In Mountain View, the **predominantly Latino Castro City neighborhood is subjected to “renewal.”** Residents organize to resist the city’s plan, and the **city backs down** from mass displacement. Nonetheless, dozens of individual properties are condemned, and **many Latino families forced out.**

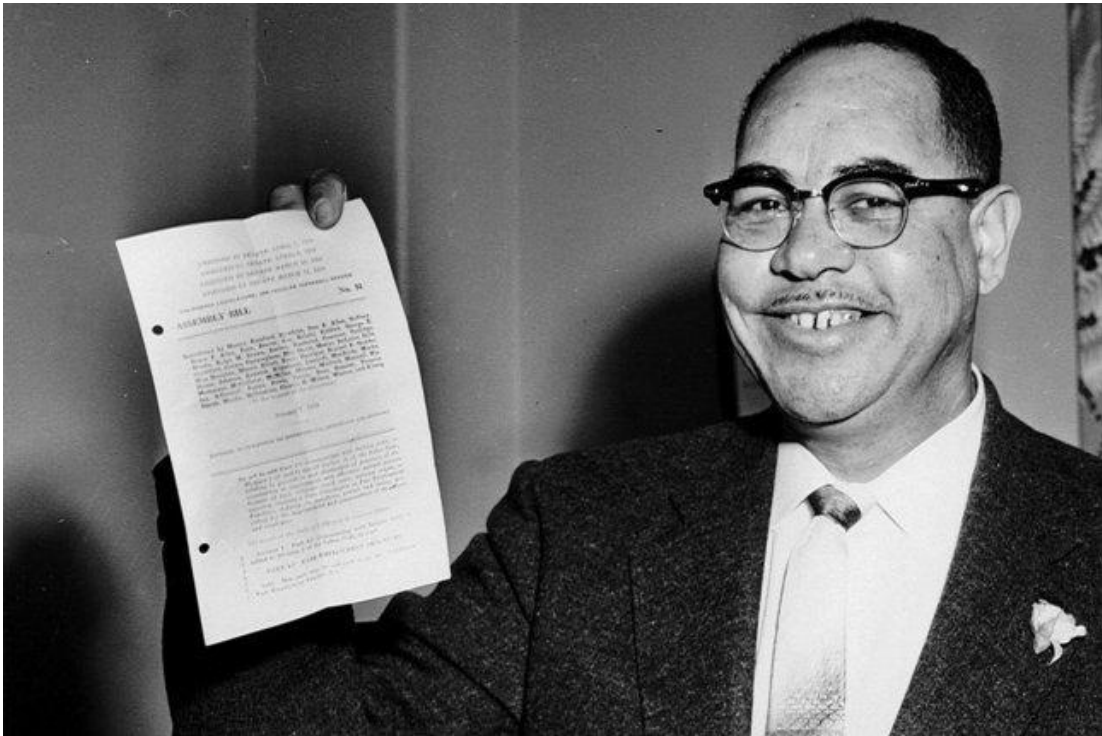


Intersection of Rengstorff and Leland Avenues in Castro City c. 1966

1963

The **Rumford Fair Housing Act** is passed by the California Legislature. It **bans racial discrimination** by property owners and landlords **in selling or renting property.**

Civil Rights activists had called for the law to address weaknesses in earlier fair housing legislation in California.



*Byron Rumford, a Black state assembly member
“at the forefront of the struggle to desegregate the promise and
opportunity of the West Coast”*

1964

The Rumford Fair Housing Act is opposed by the **real estate industry** and other California residents. They aim to repeal the law through a ballot measure called Proposition 14. While some **Mountain View** residents protest against Prop 14, the **majority of voters** in the city **vote for the “freedom to discriminate.”**

Prop 14 passes statewide, but the state Supreme Court **restores the Fair Housing Act** in 1966.



Protesters opposing Prop 14

4,667 no.
Mountain View (84.6 per cent turnout): Johnson, 9,923; Goldwater, 5,353. Salinger, 7,759; Murphy, 7,551. Proposition 14, 8,300 yes; 6,946 no.
Sunnyvale (86.8 per cent turn-

54.4% of Mountain View voters vote to repeal fair housing law in 1964

1968

Days after the killing of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the federal government enacts a nationwide Fair Housing Act. It forbids individual acts of **explicit racial discrimination** in the sale, rental, and financing of housing, but puts the burden of proof on the victims, requiring them to file a complaint or sue in federal court.



Lyndon B. Johnson signs the act into law

1968



Mountain View Planning Director Bob Lawrence presenting 1968 General Plan Land Use Map

Throughout the growth boom of the 1950s and 1960s, **Mountain View pursues an aggressive housing development plan**, with large areas of the city zoned for multi-family residential development. The 1968 General Plan projects an eventual population of 130,000 people living in the city.

1969

To facilitate further growth, Mountain View pursues a **roadway widening project to transform Bailey Avenue**, a two lane residential street, into a six-lane arterial now known as Shoreline Boulevard.

The predominantly Mexican community on this road is harmed as the City and County purchase homes via eminent domain. **115 families are displaced by the Bailey Avenue widening project**, 82% with Spanish surnames.



“I accuse the council of institutionalized racism in its systematic demolition of Mexican-American housing...I and my friends and sons of my friends fought for this country in a place called Vietnam. I come back to find the old people displaced and nothing done about them.”

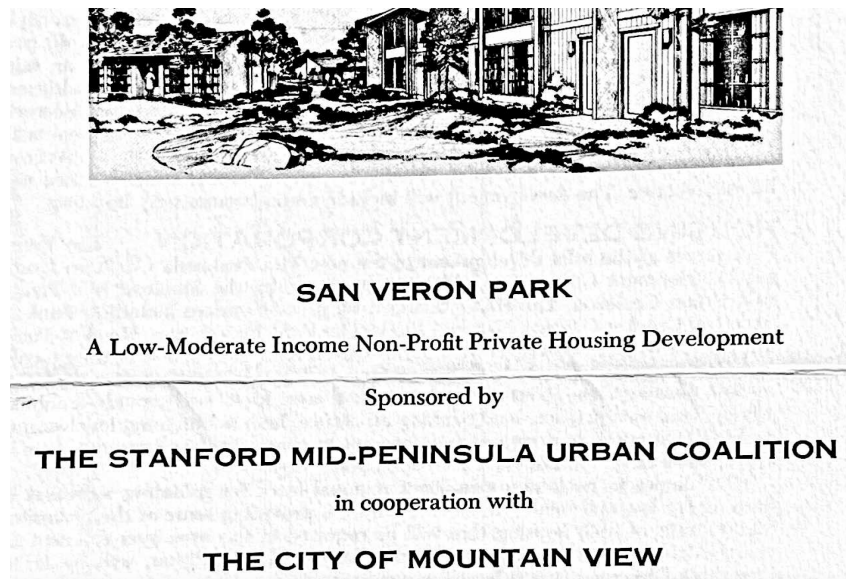
-Manuel Avila

August 12, 1969 as quoted in
the *Sunnyvale Standard*
Aerial View of Bailey Avenue Widening (1969)

1970s

Mountain View develops **San Veron Park, an early below-market-rate housing complex.** It is cited as a model of collaboration between the city, the federal government, and the non-profit sector.

The development is also supported by Sierra Vista, a non-profit founded by Latino city residents. They hope it will house those displaced by the Bailey Avenue project, but its completion comes too late.



The task force is very enthusiastic about sponsoring a housing project. They have selected a specific site in Mountain View and the City of Mountain View is wholeheartedly supporting the utilization of the site for housing for persons with low to moderate incomes. In addition, the City is developing a park on the immediately adjacent lands.

1970s

Despite the Fair Housing Act, several housing audits and other investigations show a **significant number of Mountain View landlords and realtors engaging in racist practices**, even after these practices were outlawed by both state and federal law.

COUPLE CHARGES RACISM IN M.V.

Blacks Looking for Home 'Harassed'

SJM 2-3-73

By CHARLES BRICKER
Staff Writer

MOUNTAIN VIEW — A

Avenue area have been describing her and her husband to neighbors as "dirty little

which is located at the end of a short cul-de-sac and which is still on the market for a firm that the Skipworths were giving up. They withdrew their application for a

SJM - 2/15/73, p. 3 NC Ethnic Peoples

M.V. Said To Be High In Housing Bias Cases

MOUNTAIN VIEW — six in Menlo Park

PAT 5-4-74, p. 5

Audit cites 'Spanish rent bias'

Ethnic peoples finish

By JAY THORWALDSON
More than 18% of the managers of larger apartment developments in

staff for further study and evaluation.

The audit was conducted by whites and minority per-

other Midpeninsula communities for discrimination against blacks, and found Mountain View's 41% to be

"We felt it was time for a scientifically designed audit," she said.

Charles D. Bonini, a pro-

Mountain View apartment complexes with less than units."

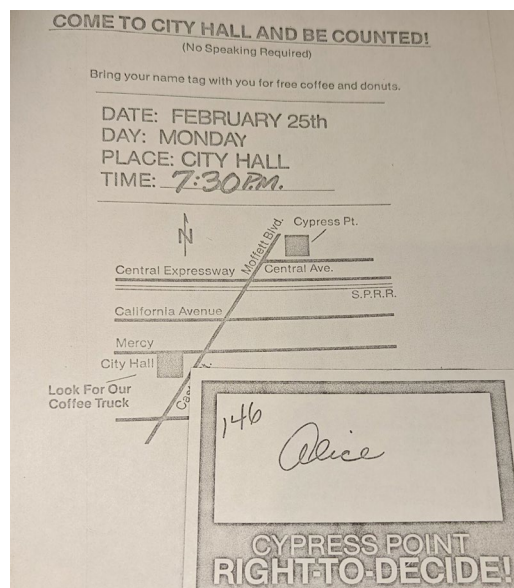
The audit showed

Article clippings from the *San Jose Mercury* and *Palo Alto Times*, circa 1973.

Late 1970s

The late 1970s brought a surge of landlords converting rental apartments to condominiums for purchase. **Mountain View had the highest rate of condo conversions** of any Bay Area city, and experienced a **net 11% reduction** in rental units. Many of the units housed large numbers of **children** and **seniors**. Over **60%** of the condo stock by 1979 were conversions, with Council approving virtually all proposals that came before it. In 1979, Mountain View voters passed a ballot measure, putting significant restrictions on conversions.

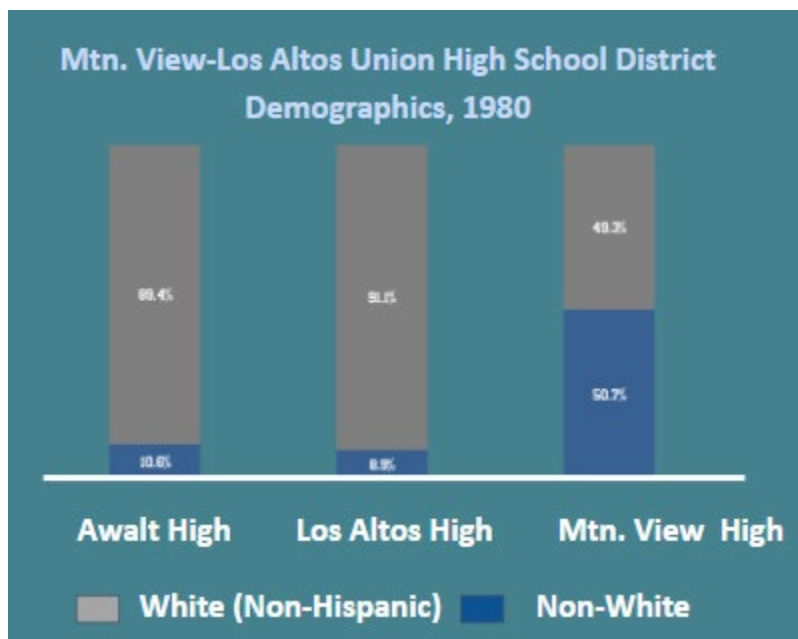
(Source: 1979 UC Berkeley report by Steven A. Ishino, written for the Association of Bay Area Governments)



Activists organized residents of Cypress Point Drive apartments to speak out against the conversion project at the City Council hearing. They lost.

1980

Mountain View High, which serves the increasingly dense and diverse residential areas north of El Camino Real, **has a majority-minority student population by 1980**. The other two high schools in the district, which serve Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, and the affluent southern portions of Mountain View, are nearly 90% white.



1980 Demographics of the high schools in Mountain View

1981

Declining district-wide enrollment forces the district to close one of its three high schools.

Mountain View High is chosen, partly so its student population can split to integrate the other two campuses. It **closes in 1981** and is demolished in 1987.

While it is an effort to desegregate the district, students and **families of color have to bear the burden** of the decision as they are forced to attend new high schools located farther away.



Demolition of Mountain View High School, 1987

1981

With rents for some apartments skyrocketing by **20%+** each year, and **evictions increasing**, housing advocates put two measures on the January 1981 ballot. Measure A, for **rent control**, and Measure B, for **just-cause eviction protections**.

Both measures fail, but the efforts, along with Measure C restricting condo conversions in 1979, become the **genesis of a 40+ year housing advocacy movement** in the city.



Opponents of Measure A spent \$104,335 to defeat it, a record at the time.

1982

The California Supreme Court finds that **discriminating against families with children** in rental housing **violates the state's civil rights laws.**

Advocacy groups such as **Midpeninsula Citizens for Fair Housing** and **Project Sentinel** investigate complaints brought by families, and sue for compensation when discrimination is confirmed.

FAMILY WINS DISCRIMINATION SETTLEMENT

A Mountain View family received \$43,000 in a settlement of a complaint of discrimination filed with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. They had phoned Midpeninsula Citizens for Fair Housing because their landlord told them to move due to the presence of their six-month old daughter. This is illegal under Fair Housing law.



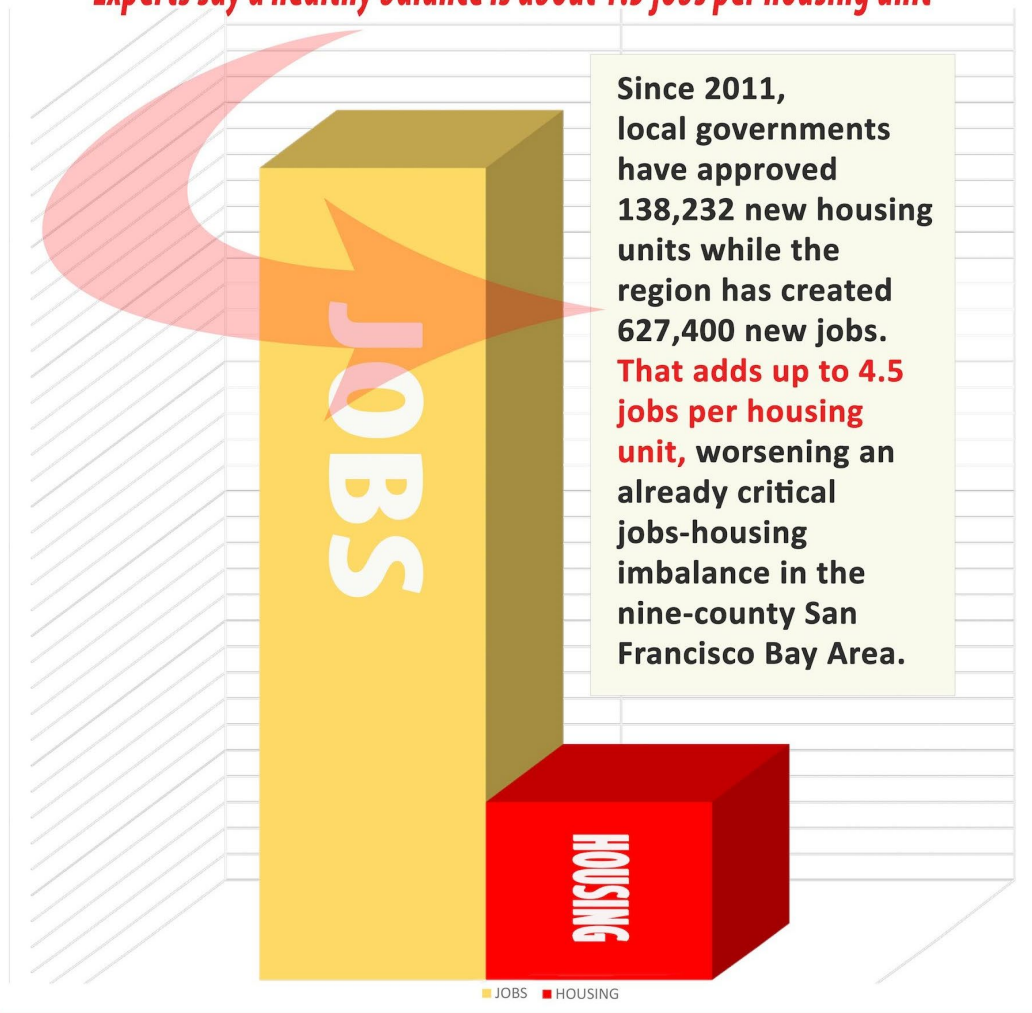
Source: *San Francisco Sunday Examiner and Chronicle*,
September 9, 1990

1990s-2000s

The **jobs-housing imbalance** begins to explode with the growth of the tech sector.

BAY AREA JOBS-HOUSING 'BALANCE'?

Experts say a healthy balance is about 1.5 jobs per housing unit



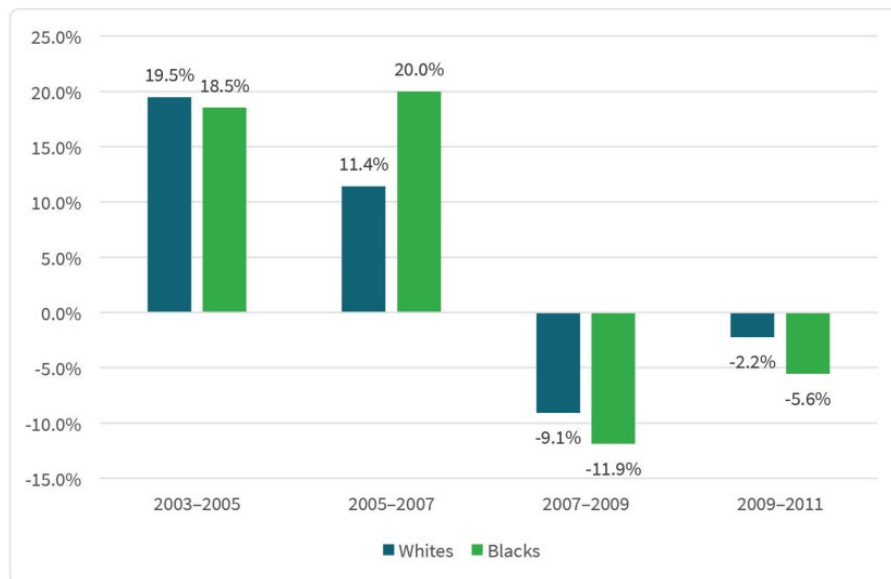
Source: Building Industry Association, December 2017
(the imbalance is higher now, according to the Association of Bay Area Governments, 2020)

2008

The Great Recession begins as thousands of homeowners nationwide **lose their homes** to foreclosure after refinancing their mortgages with **subprime loans** during the 1990s-2000s housing boom; nationwide, many predatory lenders go door-to-door in **racially segregated minority neighborhoods** to promote these risky loans.

This has had a lasting effect on Black people's (and other people of color) economic well-being, to this day, and their futures as well.

FIGURE 5. PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN HOME EQUITY DURING AND AFTER THE HOUSING BOOM



Graphs from the ACLU's 2015 study "Impact of the US Housing Crisis on the Racial Wealth Gap Across Generations"

2016

Mountain View institutes rent control, a protection renters have advocated for decades, after voters pass the ballot initiative known as Measure V.

In 2017, the City of Mountain View Community Stabilization and Fair Rent Act (CSFRA) goes into effect, limiting the amount a tenant's rent can be increased annually **and prohibiting evictions without just cause.**

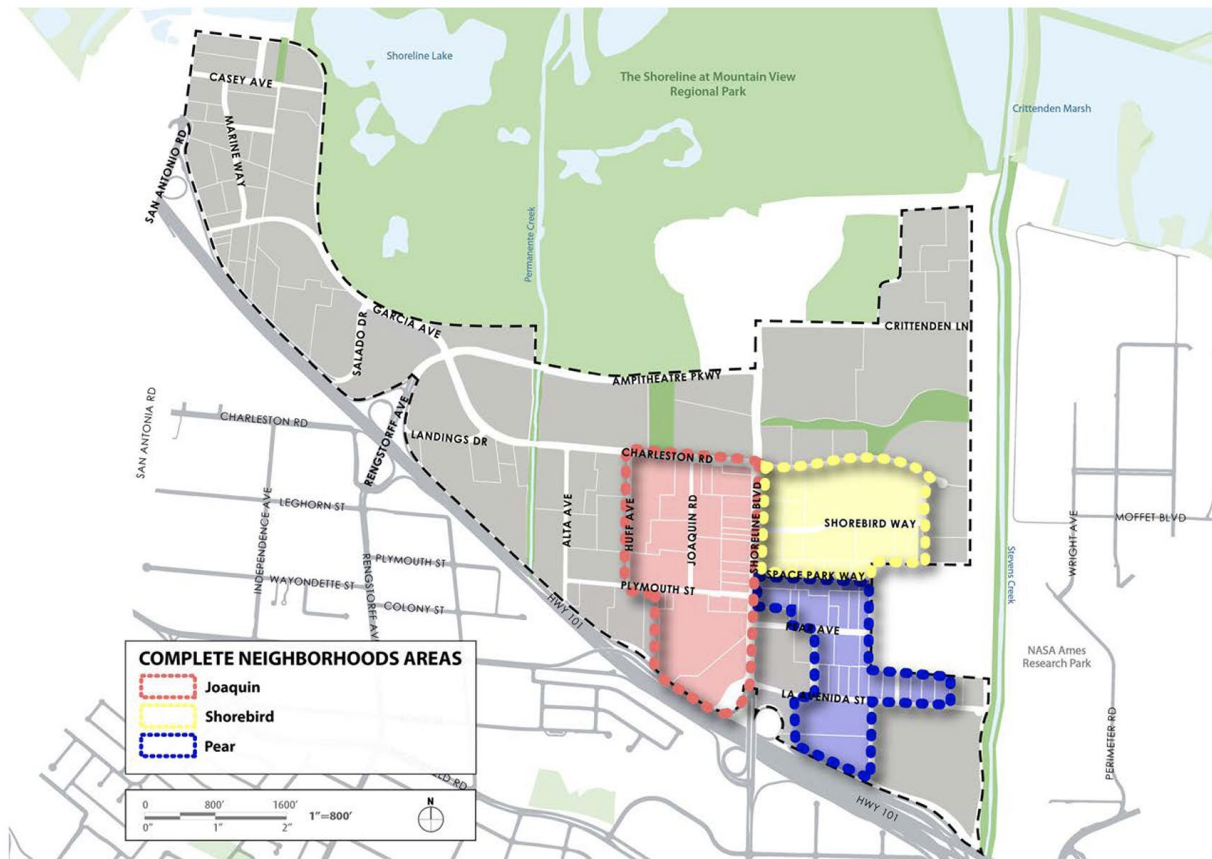


2017

The **North Bayshore Precise Plan** in Mountain View wins unanimous approval from the City Council.

The North Bayshore Precise Plan sets a target of adding 9,850 units of housing to the city's housing stock, with a goal of 20% of the units designated as affordable housing.

Figure 4: Complete Neighborhood Areas

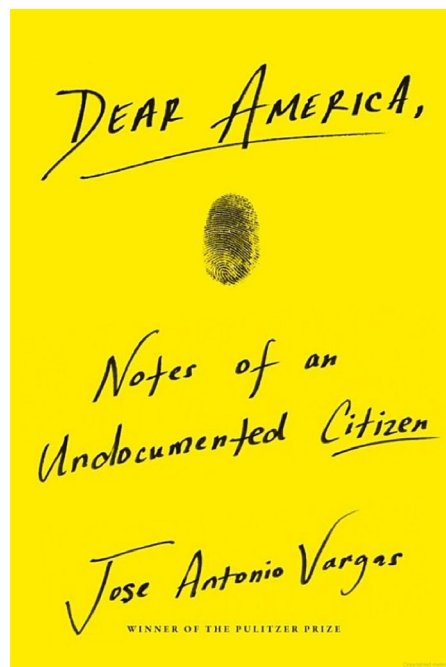


Map of Projected Neighborhood Areas in North Bayshore Precise Plan

2019

Jose Antonio Vargas graduates from **Mountain View High School** in 2000, after graduating from Crittenden Middle School. He arrived in Mountain View **from the Philippines at the age of 12**, and later discovered he was **undocumented**, which is still the case today. He is a **Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, Emmy-nominated filmmaker, and Tony-nominated producer.**

In August 2019, the Jose Antonio Vargas Elementary School was named after him.



Dear America, Notes of an Undocumented Citizen, is Vargas' memoir about struggling to understand his identity when growing up.

2020

Mountain View is named the most integrated city in the Bay Area by a Berkeley think tank.

The city ranks highest for "inter-municipal integration," meaning that Mountain View, as a whole, most closely resembles the Bay Area as a whole. The ranking does **not** measure integration of neighborhoods **within** the city.

The Most Integrated Cities in the Bay Area

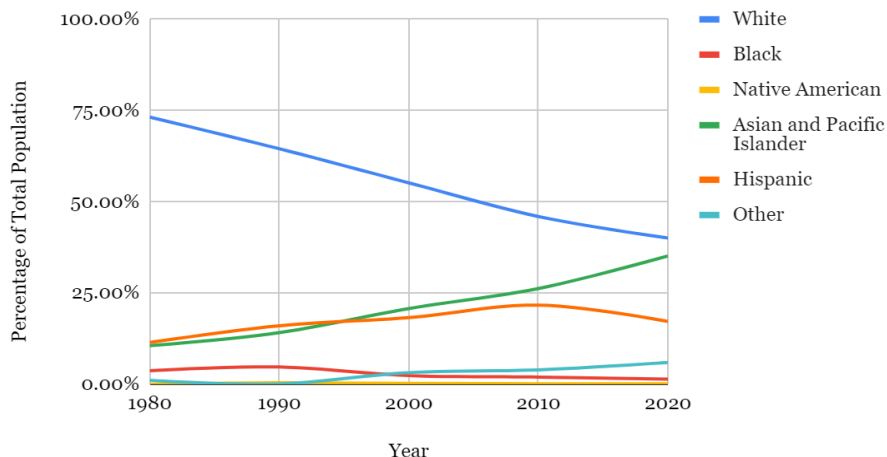
Cities/Towns	Inter-municipal Divergence	Population	Hispanics/Latinos	whites	African Americans	Asians	Others
Mountain View	0.0249	74066	21.70%	45.98%	1.98%	25.74%	4.61%
Dublin	0.0292	46036	14.47%	44.27%	9.15%	26.44%	5.67%
San Mateo	0.0306	97207	26.56%	46.54%	2.16%	18.67%	6.07%
Pinole	0.0334	18390	21.78%	37.05%	13.03%	22.60%	5.54%
American Canyon	0.0342	19454	25.75%	28.49%	7.59%	32.18%	5.98%
San Francisco	0.0367	805235	15.12%	41.91%	5.81%	33.00%	4.16%
Brisbane	0.0410	4282	16.63%	50.56%	1.87%	24.73%	6.21%
San Bruno	0.0419	41114	29.23%	35.95%	2.05%	24.88%	7.90%
Campbell	0.0467	39349	18.42%	58.11%	2.82%	15.81%	4.84%
El Cerrito	0.0512	23549	11.13%	48.26%	7.53%	27.13%	5.95%
Pacifica	0.0545	37234	16.77%	55.60%	2.42%	18.92%	6.29%
San Leandro	0.0580	84950	27.35%	27.08%	11.83%	29.34%	4.39%
Santa Clara	0.0592	116468	19.40%	36.08%	2.51%	37.38%	4.63%
Alameda	0.0596	73812	10.96%	45.34%	6.12%	30.92%	6.66%
Menlo Park	0.0644	42772	25.22%	37.54%	4.48%	26.76%	5.97%

2020

Mountain View is now majority people of color, with the white population having noticeably decreased and the **Asian and Pacific Islander population having notably grown** in recent decades.

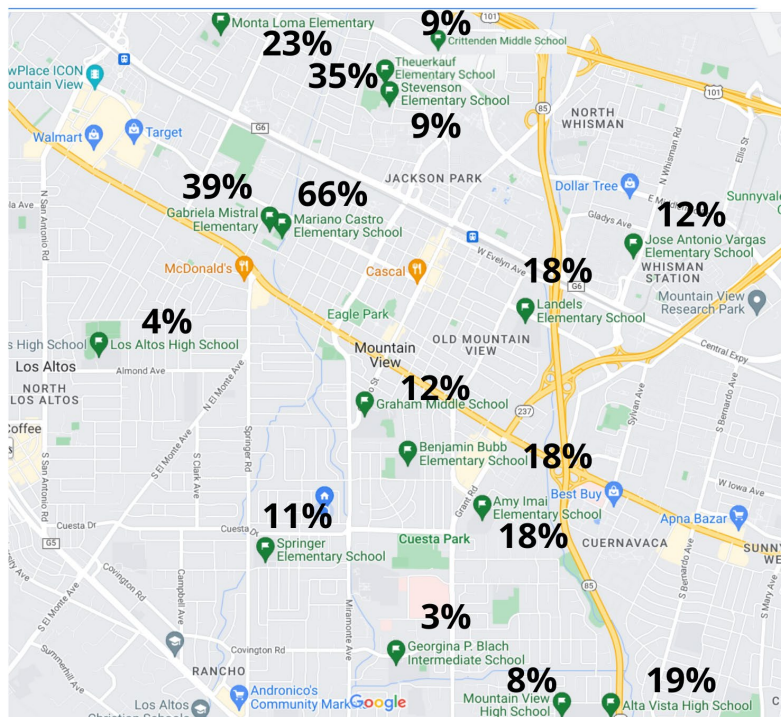
However, the **Hispanic and Black populations have been dropping.** These trends are closely linked to the high costs of housing in the city, as well as historic race-based inequities in wealth and income, according to interviews and surveys of Mountain View residents by the Human Relations Commission.

Mountain View Racial Demographics 1980-2020 by Percentage of Total Population



2020

Mountain View schools are home to diverse languages, although English Language Learners are **geographically segregated, concentrated in the northeast side**. In all but one public school in Mountain View, **Spanish is predominant** among ELL students.



Percentage of English Language Learners by School; sourced from GreatSchools.org and CA Dept. of Education

2022

Racial covenants still exist in many pre-1948 deeds, but as of July 1, 2022, California state law **requires counties to purge** their records of racist restrictive covenants. Until that process is complete, real estate agents must tell prospective buyers of these covenants.

These covenants became **unenforceable** in **1948**, and **void** in **1968**, yet remain in thousands of property records. However, most pre-1948 deeds, at least in Santa Clara County, **are not readily searchable in digital archives**, and no mechanism yet exists to fix these deeds. This will be a many, many **years long project**. Some experts believe this data should not be purged until full counts of existing deeds are made.

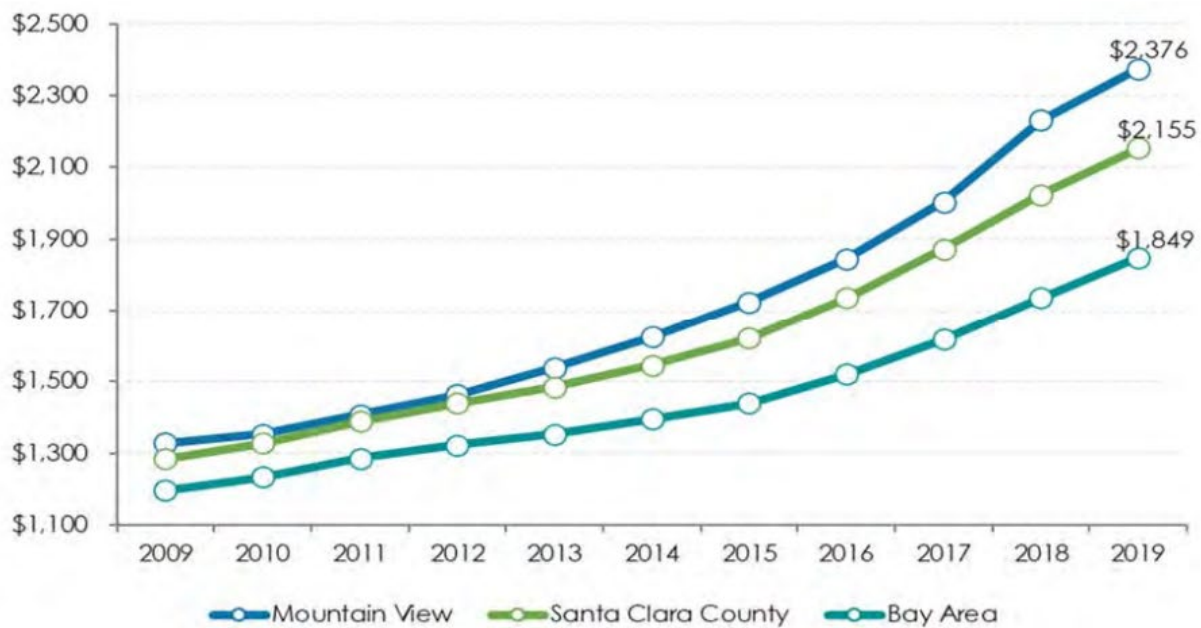
... nor on the north or south, or within ten (10) feet of the southerly line of lots facing west or east, and shall be constructed parallel with the divisional lines between lots; that no old house or structure shall be moved upon said property or any part thereof from any place outside of the Subdivision above described; that said property shall not be occupied by any one not of the Caucasian Race, except in the capacity of a servant; that said grantees shall not nor shall their heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, keep any cattle, horses, poultry, rabbits, goats, foxes or anything considered as a public nuisance upon said property or any part thereof.

In the event of a breach by the grantees or their heirs...

“that said real property shall not be occupied by any one not of the Caucasian race, except in the capacity of a servant”

2023-31

Mountain View's **Draft Housing Element calls for an increase in affordable housing measures**, as more than one-half of Mountain View households rent and **almost one-fifth of the renter households are considered extremely low income.**



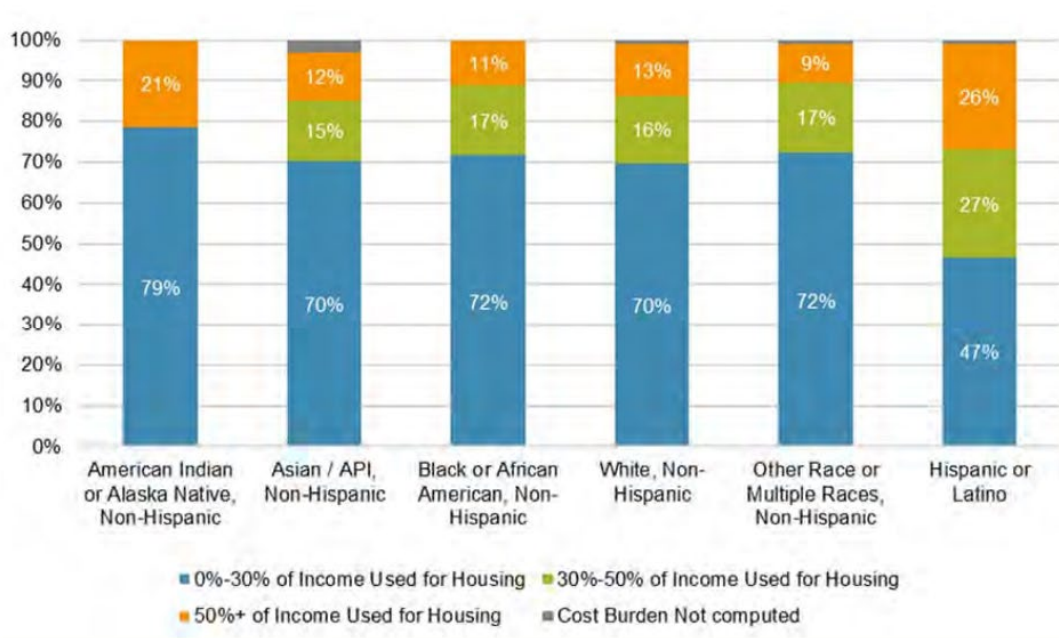
Median contract rent in Mountain View compared with the county and the Bay Area.

2022

Mountain View's **Draft Housing Element** shows housing cost burden (and thus, risk of displacement) in the Latino community.

53% of Hispanic households in Mountain View are **housing cost burdened** - that is, **they spend 30% or more of their income on housing**, compared to 29% of non-Hispanic whites. 27% of Hispanics spend 30 to 50% of income on housing, and 26% of Hispanics in MV spend **more than half their income on housing**.

Figure 86: Housing Cost Burden by Race/Ethnicity, Mountain View



Sources: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2013-2017 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data; BAE, 2022.