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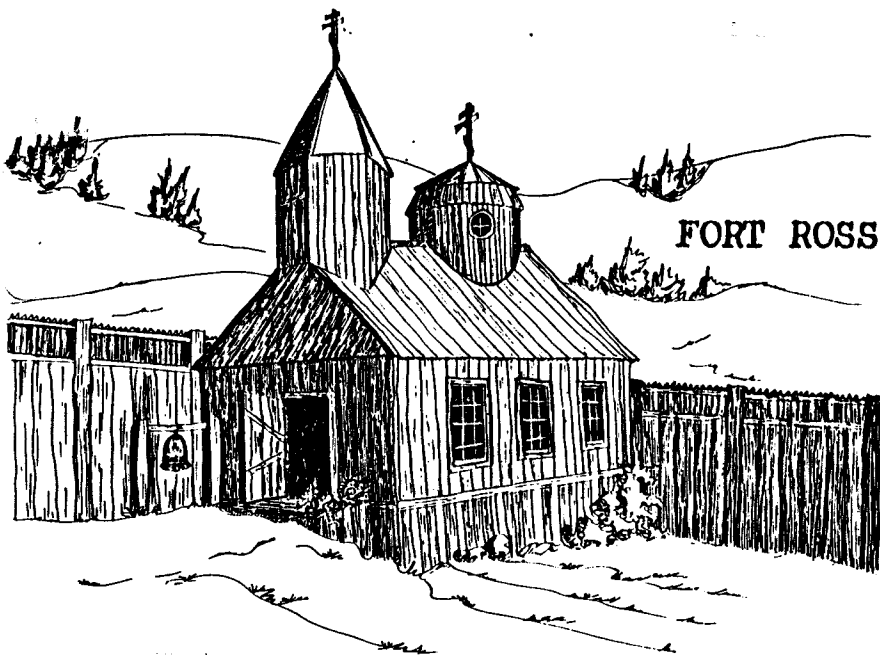
Fort Ross and Salt Point parks have benefited greatly from many dedicated volunteers and staff who have given generously to these parks. Board of directors from FRIA and FRC have fundraised, organized events, overseen volunteers, spearheaded interpretation and restoration projects, and offered substantial support to California State Parks across many decades.

These digitized newsletters capture the activities over the following historic periods:

- Fort Ross Interpretive Association (FRIA): 1976 - 2012
- Fort Ross Conservancy (FRC is the same legal entity as FRIA but the organization changed its name): 2012 - present

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Fort Ross Conservancy, a 501(c)(3) and California State Park cooperating association, connects people to the history and beauty of Fort Ross and Salt Point State Parks. © Fort Ross Conservancy, 19005 Coast Highway One, Jenner, CA 95450, [707-847-3437](tel:707-847-3437) www.fortross.org



FORT ROSS INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

JULY - AUGUST, 1988

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM BLACK BART TURN

F.R.I.A. has some new projects started and now in place. Louise Revol is offering a class for Docents in local Native Americans. Also, under the guidance of Lyn Kalani, we are scheduling some very interesting classes for this fall and next spring. We do hope some of you will attend them and also tell your friends about them.

The Historic Orchard has had the grass mowed and discing done around the trees. This is not only good for the trees, but a much needed fire prevention work for the orchard. Some of the young trees have grown a lot this last year.

At our next meeting in August we will be announcing the nominating committee and confirming the meeting that is the General Membership meeting. This will be the October meeting; thus the 90 days before for the committee and the 60 days before for the nominations are correct. Not only will the nominating committee report in October, but nominations from the floor are then taken.

While I am sure there will be a write up in here on Living History Day, I want to tell you that for Ranch Day we are having that very interesting display of old saws, motors, and wood splitters. And also back will be the Blue Grass music everyone enjoyed.

THE GRAPEVINE

Barbara Black, President

Not in the way back historic times, but awhile back, 50 years or so, there was in this area a local telephone line. The ranchers built the line, each buying and putting up their share, this would be from their house to where it tied into the neighbor who then did his portion. On longer stretches the men got together and put up the wire and poles if needed. The wire was attached to the old blue or green insulators and would follow the roads or well used horseback trails. This way it was easy to see when it had to be checked. In the winter and spring after a heavy storm or just heavy wind there would be a limb down over the line somewhere.

There were probably 25 phones on the line when it was at its tops in miles covered, and it was known as "The Grapevine" as much of it was attached to convenient trees. Everyone had their special rings made up of long rings and short. The house at Fort Ross was a long and two short; our home was two long and three short. This was done with the old wall phones that had the crank on the side, two large batteries inside, and magnate inside that generated the power to make the ring.

Needless to say anyone that wanted to listened in on what they wanted to and they were called "rubbernecks". It was sort of a source of entertainment and finding out what the neighbors were doing, if they were going to town (Santa Rosa), if someone was sick, or if they were going fishing. Once in awhile calls were made to one of the homes that had a mainline (Bell Telephone) phone if they wanted to have a special call go out to town or the doctor, or something important.

There were some amusing things as I recall. There was one household whose occupant made with a still hard licquor. Now he became very popular whenever there was a dance in the country. Usually these dances were held in the Hall at Plantation. This gentleman's phone rang off the wall on the Saturday of the dance. Knowing what was going on if you took down the receiver you would hear something like this: Caller, "Will you be at the dance tonight?" Answer, "Oh yes." Caller, "Oh good." Some folks liked the occupant so much they called "Uncle", and sure enough, "Uncle" always came to the dance. I don't remember him dancing, he just stood and smiled.

One time before my folks put in Bell Telephone my Dad called Fort Ross where at that time they could switch you on to Bell. He got connected to Santa Rosa and was going to put in an order. By now a few people had their receiver down, so the store in Santa Rosa could not hear what my Dad was saying. Being a man under certain circumstances that could get a bit angry, he proceeded with this: "To all you listening, I am going to be ordering some wire for fencing and that's all, now will you get the Hell off the line so I can hear."

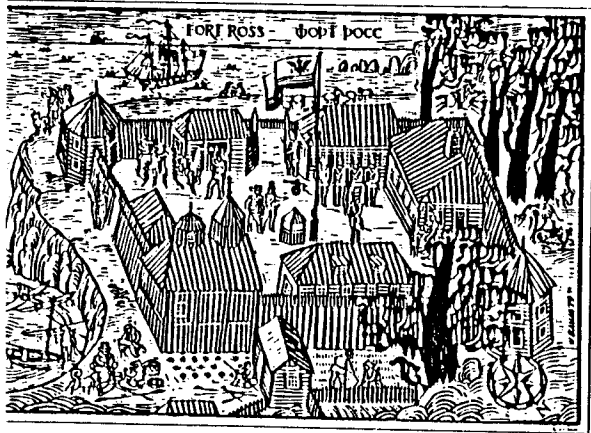
Tops in my mind was a bit later on in time. There was on the Grapevine a man who was hard of hearing and a friend of his that often called him that had a few speech problems. This man had a thick foreign accent, would talk quite loud, stuttered and was the owner of a set of dentures. You can see this is going to complicate things. When one of those phones rang in the evening this was fair game. No radio show of the time could beat it; their conversations never got into what you might call a smooth pattern. The hard of hearing man always managed to say the wrong thing, the denture wearer began to talk louder and began to stutter. By now you could hear muffled chokes and gasps as people tried to be quiet, not so much because they were polite, but because they did not want to miss anything. The denture wearer was now talking quite loud, or at least trying to, as getting excited he would start to stutter and the dentures would be clicking. Finally both would give up and the conversation was over.

So you see life in the earlier days had a lot of interesting things going on. I sort of miss the times you could pick up the phone and call a neighbor without having a computer time you.

Barbara Black

FORT ROSS

STATE HISTORIC PARK



PRESENTS
LIVING HISTORY DAY
SATURDAY JULY 30, 1988 10AM-5PM

JOIN US FOR A DAY REENACTING
LIFE AT FORT ROSS IN 1836



RUSSIAN BLACK BREAD

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 7 cups rye flour | 4 pkg. active dry yeast |
| 7 cups all-purpose flour | 5 cups water |
| 4 tbs. brown sugar | 8 tbs. cider vinegar |
| 4 tsp. salt | 12 tbs. dark molasses |
| 4 cups all-bran cereal | 2(2 square) unsweetened
chocolate |
| 4 tbs. caraway seed, crushed | 12 tbs. butter |
| 2 tsp. fennel seed, crushed | |
| 6 tsp. instant coffee powder | |

Place 2 cups rye flour, 3 cups all-purpose flour, brown sugar, salt, cereal, caraway seed, fennel seed, coffee powder, and yeast in a large mixing bowl. Stir to blend. Heat water, vinegar, molasses, chocolate, and butter together until liquids are very warm (about 125 degrees). Gradually add to dry ingredients. Beat well 2 minutes. Gradually add enough of the remaining rye and all-purpose flours to make a soft dough. Turn out onto a lightly floured board. Knead until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl. Butter top of dough lightly. Cover with a clean kitchen towel. Let rise in a warm place until double in size, about 1 1/2 hours. Turn out onto a lightly floured board and knead a few times to remove air bubbles. Cut into four and shape into round loaves. Place on a baking sheet covered with corn meal. Cover and let raise until double, about 30 to 40 minutes. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 to 50 minutes, or until loaves sound hollow when thumped.

This is the current recipe that I use to bake bread on Fort Ross Living History Day. There are many tricks to the "russian oven" in the Officials Barracks and each year I learn a few more. If you are interested in learning this process please contact me and I would love to show you how!

Dan Winkelmann

FORT ROSS LIVING HISTORY DAY CLOTHING
(SOME EXCERPTS FROM THE FORT ROSS COSTUME MANUAL)

MATERIALS: All Natural fabrics

100% wool, linen, 100% cotton

*Especially appropriate:

"fuzzy woolers"
coarse weave muslins such as "weaver's cloth"
unbleached muslins
"mattress ticking" type striped duck
large simple prints
coarse weave stripes

Avoid modern and modern-looking fabrics. Use only natural fibers; linen, cotton or wool. Modern "calico" is not like the original, which had only one or two colors printed in widely spaced patterns.

COLORS: Subdued, since only natural dyes were in use blues, darker reds, apple green, browns



MEN-

1. Hat of felt or straw, or a cap.
2. Shirt.
3. Belt of rope or cloth.
4. Trousers.
5. Stockings, cotton or wool.
6. Shoes or native-style boots.

WOMEN-

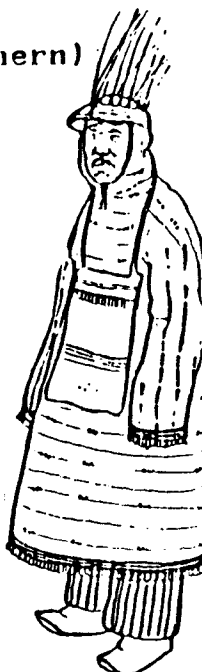
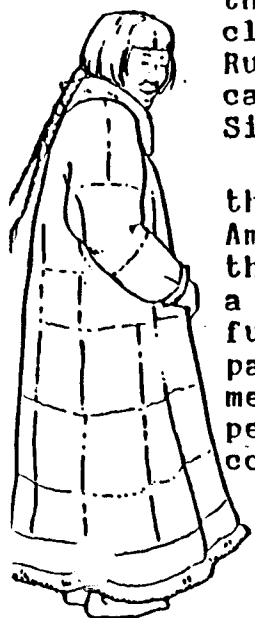
1. Cap or turban.
2. Scarf.
3. Shirt.
4. Sarafan.
5. Belt of rope, cloth or yarn.
6. Stockings, cotton or wool.
7. Shoes.



RUSSIAN-AMERICAN COMPANY CLOTHING: BACKGROUND.

Since most of what we know about the clothing worn in Russian America comes from descriptions, as well as inventories of garments and materials, we must look to what was worn in Russia and Siberia during this same era for a clearer idea of what the average promyshlennik and his family looked like. The clothing of settlers in early Siberia resembled Great, (northern) Russian costume, because that was where many of these people came from. The Company employees in America came mostly from Siberia and Northern Russia.

There were other influences on Russian American clothing than just the Russian. The native costumes of Siberia and America found its way in whole or part into the wardrobe of the promyshlennik and his family. Aleut women usually wore a smock made of cotton, but cut just like their original fur or birdskin parkas. Siberian and Aleut style headgear, parkas, raincoats, trousers and footwear were worn by both men and women at Company outposts. There was also the european influence seen in the popularity of hats, vests, frock-coats, women's shawls and most of the fabrics used.



MAN'S SHIRT:

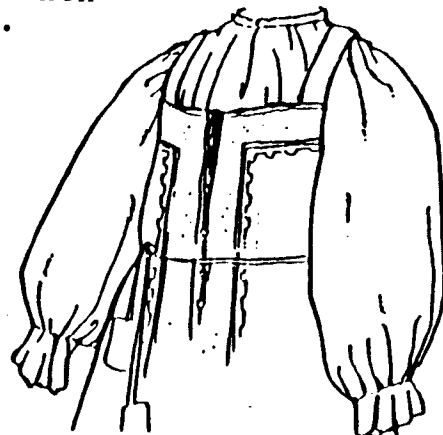
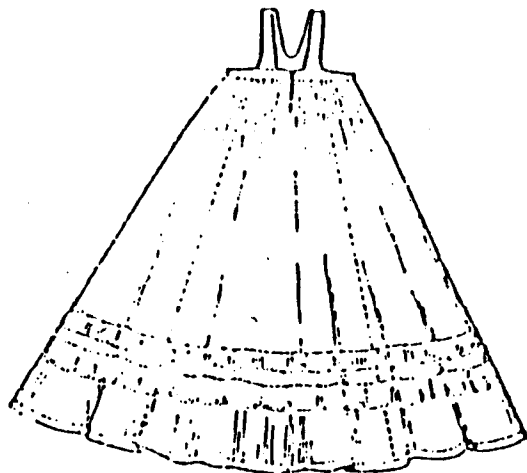
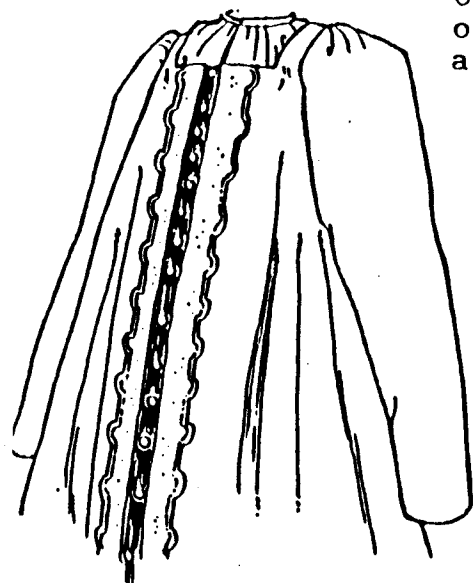
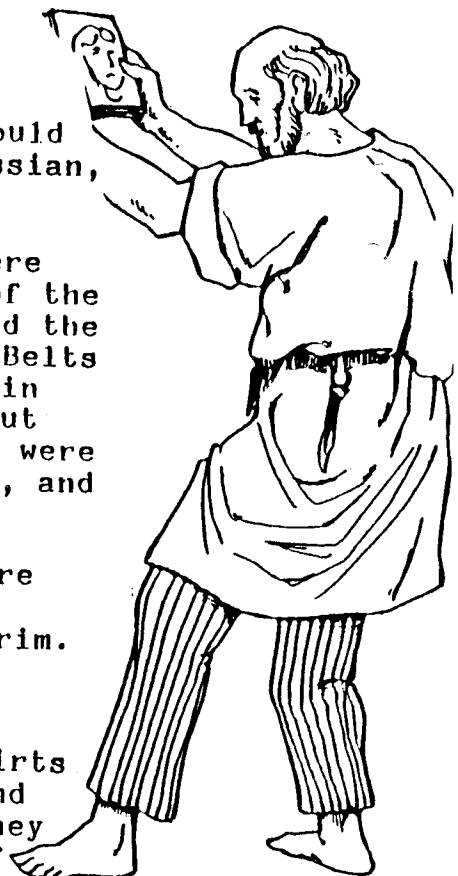
This is the style of shirt that would have been worn in America by the Russian, Aleut, and Creole employees of the Company.

These roomy, comfortable shirts were usually worn with the tail outside of the pants, and with a belt wrapped around the waist and knotted over the stomach. Belts were made from a twisted piece of thin cloth, or a length of hemp cord, about 1/4-inch in diameter. Fringed sashes were sometimes worn for festive occasions, and buckled leather belts were used to support hunting or traveling gear.

Shirts of this era and location were seldom ornamented in any way. This includes embroidery or woven braid trim.

WOMEN'S SHIRTS:

These are two common styles of shirts appropriate for the Russian, Aleut and Creole wives of Company employees. They might be worn alone in the privacy of one's own home, especially when working or sleeping, but never in public. Then a sarafan was worn over the shirt.

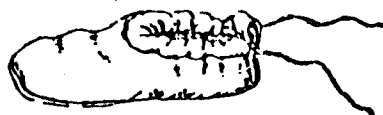
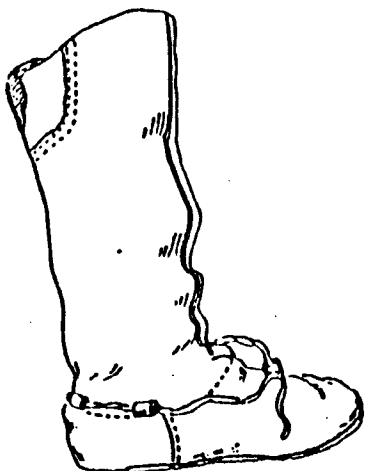
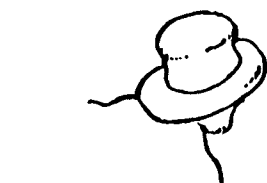


WOMAN'S SARAFAN:

Over the shirt, women wore a jumper, known as a sarafan. The sarafan described here was the most common style of this era in Northern Russia and Siberia, and probably in America as well. Though very elaborate sarafans were worn for festive occasions in Russia and Siberia, this plainer version represents what was worn for everyday, and is much more appropriate for the usually poor, mainly non-Russian women of Alaska and California. Aside from the trim down the front, these dresses were not ornamented in any way, including embroidery and metallic or patterned woven braid.

As with all these garments, the sarafan was very loose, and exact fit is not important. Three areas can be adjusted: the hem, the shoulder straps, and the long, narrow side panels, (marked G. on the pattern). These side panels can be made wider or narrower as needed.

An important addition to the sarafan is a belt, which all Orthodox Christian women were expected to wear. This could be a narrow woven sash, a twisted piece of cloth, or even a hemp cord about 1/4 inch in diameter. The belt was wrapped once around the torso, just under the bust, and was usually knotted in front.



In the old days, a Russian Orthodox married woman never appeared in public with her head uncovered.

ARCHAEOLOGY AT FORT ROSS

Berkeley Archaeologist, Kent Lightfoot and Berkeley students have spent the past two weeks at Fort Ross doing various archaeology work, such as excavation in depth, excavation of surface, and surveying. These were done in three areas of concern, Indian, Russian, and Aleut. Findings were based on pre-historic and historic information.

There was a find of a type of structure in one of the excavation sites. Kent thought the site could have been used for a sweat lodge, oven, or a bath house. Until an analysis can be done of the material gathered from this particular area he will not know what it could have been used for. I will also be working on the ethnographic data of what it might be. I am the Archaeology Specialist for the Department of Parks and Recreation. I assist Breck Parkman, Archaeologist for the Department of Parks and Recreation, with ethnographic data in the area as needed.

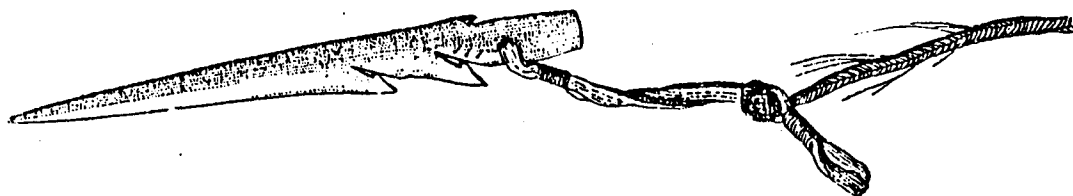
There were various visitors, visiting the Archy camp to keep the students interested and updated on the world outside their little camp area. The students were also treated to a gourmet cook for two weeks--that is more that I had as an undergraduate doing archaeology work.

The group of students working on the particular site that I mentioned before has found projectile points, broken harpoon points, and a chert arrowhead. The projectile and harpoon point is believed to be of the Aleut, the chert arrowhead identified as Pomo. We have to generalize because an analysis needs to be done of the few flakes and artifacts found. There were mammal bones and a seal tooth that was found in this area also.

The Kashia Pomo have had a chance to see the actual archaeology in action and they were there when Kent discovered the structure. They are very excited about what they have seen.

Kent is very excited about the finding and he is looking forward to his return to continue his work.

Vana Lawson



ARCHAEOLOGY NOTES

U. C. Berkeley archaeology students under the direction of Dr. Kent Lightfoot excavated a portion of what was thought to be a Kashaya Pomo kitchen midden site. To their surprise the site revealed the cultural blend of at least three cultures. Dr. Lightfoot was most excited about the discovery of two well preserved Aleut sea otter harpoon points. The discovery of these artifacts have made the physical connection that Aleut hunters were employed to capture sea otters at Ross. Also discovered in the site is what appears to be an otter's molar, a tooth broad and rounded used for grinding and crushing the meats of marine shellfish.

Russian presence was confirmed by the discovery of two musket flints, probably cast aside or inadvertently dropped by a promyshlenniki. A pair of bent and corroded nails arose speculation about the location and extent of the Russian ship building. Chinese export porcelain called angular ware common to the 1830 period also surfaced during the dig.

Kashaya Pomo artifacts including chert and obsidian projectile points as well as hundreds of bone and shell fragments including a yet unidentified "tusk" were also found.

Finally, there was the emergence of a fire pit certainly used by Kashaya or Aleut/Russians as a sweat lodge or as a currently known "hot tub".

We certainly want to thank Dr. Lightfoot and his hard working and dusty "archy" crew for disclosing another page in the unfolding story of Fort Ross.

Bill Walton



BARBED HARPOON DART FOR THROWING STICK, UNALASKA.



FAREWELL TO SPRING--*Clarkia amoena*



QUAKING GRASS

QUAKING GRASS (*Briza minor*)

The chances are very good indeed of finding quaking grass and silver hairgrass growing with the small annual festucas of open slopes and pathways. You may even find along the pathways and roadsides another species of *Briza* (*B. maxima*) also a native of Europe, called rattlesnake grass. This species with large spikelets (see detail), is invading the area. The spikelets on quaking grass are erect and the branches of the inflorescence spread. The spikelets of rattlesnake grass are drooping and the spikelets are much larger as the drawing shows. Anyone can see that they are close relatives, in other words, related species of one genus.



SILVER HAIRGRASS

SILVER HAIRGRASS (*Aira caryophyllea*)

This is one of the daintiest grasses I know. It too, like the quaking grass, is a European, but it is by now a thoroughly naturalized part of the landscape. The tiny spikelets (less than an eighth of an inch long) each borne on hairlike stalks, shine in the sun. As the leaf blades are scarcely noticeable the upper third or more of this annual plant is devoted to flowering and with the many shining spikelets is sometimes used as a part of a "dry bouquet." But remember! You are on national property and the plant should not be picked.



COYOTE MINT--*Mornardella villosa*

RABBITFOOT GRASS (*Polypogon monspeltensis*)

No roadside ditch in the western states is complete without rabbitfoot grass. It is a European annual and like others, such as wild oats, quaking grass, and velvet grass, has made itself at home and become a useful addition for grazing. The drawing shows you the shape of the flowering head but it cannot show you its yellow-green color and shining furry appearance, silky soft to the touch.

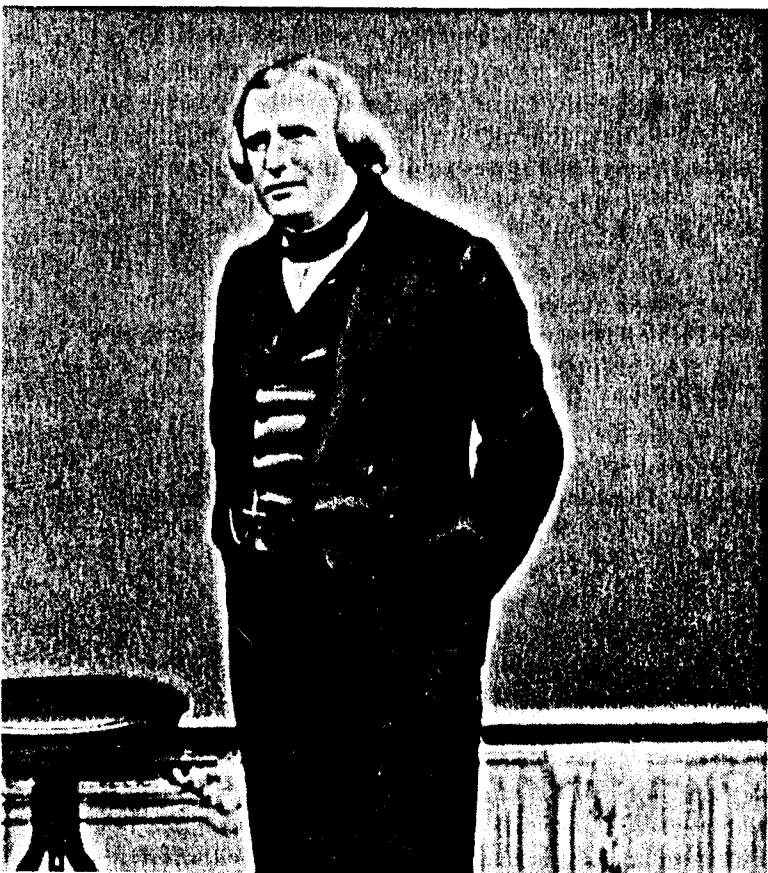


RABBITFOOT GRASS

NEW IN THE BOOKSTORE

THE ODYSSEY OF A RUSSIAN SCIENTIST:
I.G. VOZNESENSKII IN ALASKA,
CALIFORNIA AND SIDEBIA
1839 - 1849

by A. I. Alekseev



On July 7, 1840, Voznesenskii set out on the three-masted vessel *Elena*, commanded by N.K. Kadnikov, for northern California. For 13 days the ship sailed along the coast which Voznesenskii had already seen once. They passed close by Vancouver Island (Quadra and Vancouver), in 1774 discovered by the Spaniard, Juan Francisco de la Bodega y Quadra, and in 1792 plotted on a map by the Englishman, George Vancouver. In Bodega Bay, named for the Spanish navigator, the Russians had founded Port Rumiantsev. There, on July 20th, Voznesenskii went ashore. Eighteen miles northward was located the settlement and fort of Ross.

"My sojourn in California," he wrote in another letter, "continues until the first spring ship from Sitkha. They say that next year ships will be coming to California several times in connection with the abandonment of the Ross settlement, so I think it is not really necessary to hasten from under the clear skies of California to the cold north, where my work can scarcely be as successful as here."⁴ During his travels through northern California, Voznesenskii visited many coastal places from Fort Ross and from San Francisco Bay, calling on Spanish settlements and ranchos.

Not long before his departure for San Francisco Voznesenskii made an interesting excursion northward towards Cape Mendocino. The explorer spent several days in the mountains in the midst of dense forests where grew giant conifers — sugar pines [chagi] and majestic redwoods [kedry, cedars].

Voznesenskii's sojourn in northern California coincided with a sad event in the life of the Russian-American Company. The explorer witnessed the last days of Fort Ross. The Russian government, as has already been said, had decided on April 15, 1839 to liquidate that legendary Russian settlement.

In the course of two years everything that could be was removed from Fort Ross to Sitkha. The remaining real estate and cattle were sold in installments for 30 thousand piastres to a native of Switzerland and a Mexican subject, Johan Sutter.

A.G. Rotchev advised Voznesenskii to visit Sutter's estate, New Helvetia, located in the valley of the Sacramento River. On February 20th Voznesenskii set out for there by boat. Sutter received the explorer cordially and "the entire time [up to the 2nd of April - A.A.] I lived with him under the humble roof of his cabin. Accompanying Mr. Sutter through the land which had been allotted to him then by the Mexican government, I rode with him to the Three Peaks Mountains, several times we forded across and spent nights in the gold bearing (at the present time) rivers... In these places I found many diverse objects of natural history, and with the assistance of Captain Sutter acquired fairly rare objects of an ethnographic nature. At the same time, I think it is not too much to say that the Sacramento River simply teems with species of fish: sturgeon, salmon and others, specimens of which I sent to the Zoological Museum of the Academy. Densely growing on the banks were several species of oaks, the laurel tree and others."¹⁴ His collection of snakes and turtles was extended considerably.

During May and June Voznesenskii traveled through the valley of the Slavianka. He traveled along the entire length of the river and hunted for deer in the plain, and on June 16th even climbed "one of the highest mountains [St. Helena], on whose summit no one had then yet been."²⁰ On June 19th Voznesenskii observed his 25th birthday by working as usual in the valley of the Slavianka River.

In July 1841 the Russian fort of Ross ceased to exist. Its population moved to Port Rumiantsev [Bodega Bay] to await the arrival of a ship from Sitkha. Voznesenskii at that time was located in Khlebnikov Valley completing numerous excursions. On September 5th, he and the residents of Ross set out for Sitkha on the brig *Elena*.

(The cost of this book is \$20.00)

Il'ia Gavrilovich Voznesenskii

Some excerpts from the book

"Il'ia Voznesenskii is to leave for five years in the Russian-American colonies. During his journey, he is to:

1. collect and acquire by purchase for the museum of the Academy of Sciences objects of natural history from both the animal and plant kingdoms, which are to be properly prepared and preserved, and
2. instruct capable people in the colony in the collection, preparation and preservation of animals and plants in order that such can be performed in various locations in the colony, since Voznesenskii himself cannot manage to be in all of them."¹²

During the expedition Voznesenskii would be directly subordinate to the chief manager [governor] of Russian America. The latter, as far as he could, would assure his stay in Russian America, and his passage from place to place: Brandt outlined the preliminary routes of the expedition.

"The following route is proposed: he will set out on a ship of the American Company around the world to Sitkha. On this voyage he will collect not only on the ocean but wherever the ship stops, namely at Brazil, Chile, the Sandwich Islands and the coast of California. During several weeks in Sitkha, he will train people in collecting and then set out for the colony of Ross, from whence he will return not earlier than the spring of 1841. Shortly thereafter, he will go to Kadiak, and from there via Nuchikh and Kinei [Kad'iak, Nuchek and Kenai] to Kadmei [Katmai] for the winter. From Kadmei, in the spring, Voznesenskii will go by foot to Nuchaiakh [Nushagak], and from there he will cross over via St. Paul Island to Unalashka to spend the winter. From Unalashka he will go to Atkha, and from there for the winter to Bering Island, where he is to direct his attention mainly to the sea lions. From that island, he will direct his course via Kamchatka to the Kurile Islands where he will spend the winter, and, in the following summer, will return via Okhotsk to St. Petersburg. Any changes in this main plan are left to the discretion of the governor [the chief manager], but it is hoped that Il'ia Voznesenskii will not bypass the colony of Ross and the islands of Kad'iak, Unalashka, St. Paul, Bering and the Kuriles."¹³

For many years, I have been wanting to learn more about the cast of characters at Fort Ross during the so-called Fairfax/Dixon Ranch Period--it has always struck me that there must be more information available, and I have wondered why no one every did much to gather it and write it out. Well, I finally got a start recently, and I intend to continue digging for some time to come. I thought that it might be interesting to some to learn some of what I've run into so far, so I shall start by providing a brief sketch of what I've found out about Ada Benham Fairfax, wife of Charles Snowden Fairfax (who was reportedly born the Tenth Lord of Fairfax, Baron of Cameron, but did not take action to acquire the title). What follows is what I've gotten out of old newspaper articles and other writings; it should not be construed as being either totally accurate or complete--it will take quite awhile to make sure of the validity of the various source materials.



1. Ada Benham Fairfax and Her Family

Ada has been described as the beautiful daughter of Calhoun Benham, and is referred to as having the manners of a princess and being a woman of extraordinary charm and beauty. Her father was reportedly a Supreme Court Justice, her mother a DuPont, and her uncle was John Caldwell Calhoun, the seventh Vice-President of the United States (under John Quincy Adams and Andrew Jackson, 1825-32); her step-brother, also named Calhoun Benham, was a noted San Francisco attorney in the 1850-70s. After her marriage to Charles, most people referred to Ada as "Lady" Fairfax; although she didn't have a right to the title, many people used this honorary title, and she reportedly enjoyed it.

2. Some Vital Statistics

I haven't yet found out when and where she was born. However, it is known that she married Charles in California (probably San Francisco) on 10 January 1855. She was childless when widowed on 4 April 1869 (Charles died in Baltimore, Maryland while back east as the State of California's lead delegate to the National Democratic Convention). She then sold their estate in Marin County, "Bird's Nest Glen" (now California Historical Landmark No. 679), on 21 May 1870. She died of tuberculosis at Narragansett, Rhode Island on 28 September 1888.

3. Ada Fairfax and Fort Ross

Charles and Ada, in partnership with James Dixon, purchased the Fort Ross property (the Muniz Rancho) from William Otto Benitz in 1867 (a deed on 1 March 1867 to James Dixon and on 3 April 1867 to Charles Fairfax). While Dixon built a house on the property, the "White House" that was located about one-fourth mile east of the Fort, the Fairfaxes continued to live at their Marin County estate. When Charles died, he left Ada in debt, and she had to sell Bird's Nest Glen. She then moved to Fort Ross with her mother and niece. There is some indication that there was litigation regarding the Fairfaxes' ownership at Fort Ross, and that they had been "unable to possess" the property when Charles was alive; I have found no indication as to what this was all about nor how it was resolved.

At Fort Ross, Ada and her family moved into the quarters where the Benitz family had lived--the Rotchev House with the two-story addition that was later the first residence of the Call family at Fort Ross. While she lived at the Fort, Ada was reported to have continued to entertain friends in the splendid fashion that she had become accustomed to when she was at Bird's Nest Glen. It stretches my imagination to picture her in those times--entertaining her guests in the commandant's house or travelling with her entourage to the "Walalla River", to "Austin Creek", or to the beach for a picnic, sometimes in as many as eight horse-drawn wagons. In a 1950s newspaper article, it was stated that Lady Fairfax's gowns and jewels, and especially her conveyance, were favorite topics of local conversation in the 1870s:

"She made regular trips into Cazadero for her mail, bowing to the local yokels who stood around bug-eyed. And no wonder! Four pure white horses drew her exquisitely dainty coach adorned with her own crest."

In May 1873, George Washington Call made his initial purchase of land at Fort Ross (a newspaper article of 31 May 1873 only mentioned Dixon as the seller), thus being among the first to initiate the process of "subdividing" the Muniz Rancho that ever continues. By that time then, Lady Fairfax had to have left Fort Ross, never to return.

4. Ada Fairfax's Later Life

On leaving Fort Ross, Ada moved to San Francisco and registered at the Lick House, where her step-brother was also registered. Soon thereafter, still being "in greatly reduced circumstances", she is reported to have accepted a position with the US Government in Washington, D.C. (a sinecure at the Treasury Department). There she lived out her life in grand style, becoming known as the "Belle of Washington". She became known for her entertaining, her guests including presidents (Grover Cleveland), future presidents (William McKinley and Teddy Roosevelt), and visiting royalty.





**FIELD SEMINARS IN AND ABOUT FORT ROSS
SPONSORED BY THE FORT ROSS INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION**

Starting this fall we will be offering field seminars here at Fort Ross. Classes will include history and crafts of the Russian and Ranch Eras, Native American arts and crafts, and the natural history of this area. FRIA members will be offered a 10% discount on class fees.



PORTRAITS OF PROMINANT RUSSIANS IN EARLY CALIFORNIA
SATURDAYS, OCT. 22, OCT. 29, NOV. 5 (10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

A portrait gallery of Fort managers, Company officials, navigators, scientists, and a princess--their lives, their activities, and their memoirs of California.
Stephen Watrous, History Professor, Sonoma State University \$60.00

HISTORY OF THE RANCH ERA AT FORT ROSS
SATURDAY, NOV. 12 (10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Why did the first American settlers come here? What did they do? The class will include detailed coverage of the four Ranch Era periods: Sutter and his managers, Benitz, Fairfax and Dixon, and Call. Time periods, vital statistics, stories, historical records, photographs, and the significance of their presence will all be discussed. There will be time out to walk around and see where the sites were.
Kaye Tomlin and Barbara Black (both descendants of Ranch Era families) \$25.00

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY
SUNDAYS, OCT. 2 and 9

Learn how to capture nature on film. This class will include all phases of outdoor photography. It will be taught in an easy to understand set of classes that will make you a better photographer. Classroom and field sessions, plus individual critiques will be included. The class is geared toward 35 mm color photography (slides) and is designed for the person who has a basic understanding of photography.
Don Jackson, photographer \$45.00

TIDEPOL LIFE
SUNDAY, OCT. 23 (12 noon to 5 p.m.)

This is a field oriented seminar exploring the intertidal life along the Fort Ross coastline.
Dr. Daniel E. Wickham, Bodega Marine Laboratory \$25.00

MUSHROOM IDENTIFICATION AND USES
SUNDAY, NOV. 13 (12 p.m. to 6 p.m.)

The class will start with a three hour hike up into the hills behind Fort Ross. In addition to teaching mushroom identification and uses, Jesse will share his knowledge about the wild edible and medicinal plants that you see along the way. In the later part of the afternoon you will return to the Visitor Center for classroom activities and a slide show.
Jesse Longacre, naturalist \$25.00

RUSSIAN AND ALEUT COOKING AT FORT ROSS
SUNDAY, OCT. 30 (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

A full meal will be prepared. While you work there will be discussion on Aleut and Russian styles of cooking, foods available and grown at Fort Ross, preparation techniques, seasonings, and native plants. Students must bring paring knife, cutting knife, cutting board, bowl, plate, cup, eating utensils, hot pads, dish towel, apron and paper and a pencil. There is a \$5.00 fee to purchase food for this class in addition to the class fee. Please pay this fee to the instructor on the day of the class.
Lonna M. Alexander, Living History Day Cook, 1986 and 1987 \$25.00

RUSSIA TODAY, A SLIDE SHOW
SUNDAY, NOV. 6 (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

Slides on the history, geography and people of the U.S.S.R. will be presented, including slides of the Vosnesensky Collection in the Ethnographic Museum in Leningrad. Class dialogue will follow the slide presentation.
Judy Thomas, seven time traveler to the Soviet Union \$5.00

CLASSES IN NATIVE AMERICAN ARTS AND SKILLS TO BE ANNOUNCED IN AUGUST



REGISTRATION FORM

Fort Ross Interpretive Association
19005 Coast Highway 1
Jenner, California 95450

Please enroll me in the following classes:

NAME _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____

I enclose \$ _____ for class fees.

I am a member of the Fort Ross Interpretive Association _____.

I would like to join Fort Ross Interpretive Association (\$5.00 regular, \$7.50 family) and I enclose \$ _____ for membership.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LIVING HISTORY DAY--July 30

FRIA BOARD MEETING--August 13

NEXT NEWSLETTER--Mid September--due date for submissions is September 3

TRAINING FOR INTERPRETERS ON THE NATIVE PEOPLES AND THEIR CULTURE led by Louise Revol
Saturdays, September 10, 17, 24, October 1 (10 a.m. to 3 p.m.)

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