Stanislaus County The Stanislaus County Courthouse in Modesto. Part 1 of 3: Modesto, Ceres, Keyes, Turlock, Riverbank.



Stanislaus

Stanislaus County Data

Population: 446,997 (Rank: 17)

Land Area (square miles): 1,494 (Rank: 30)

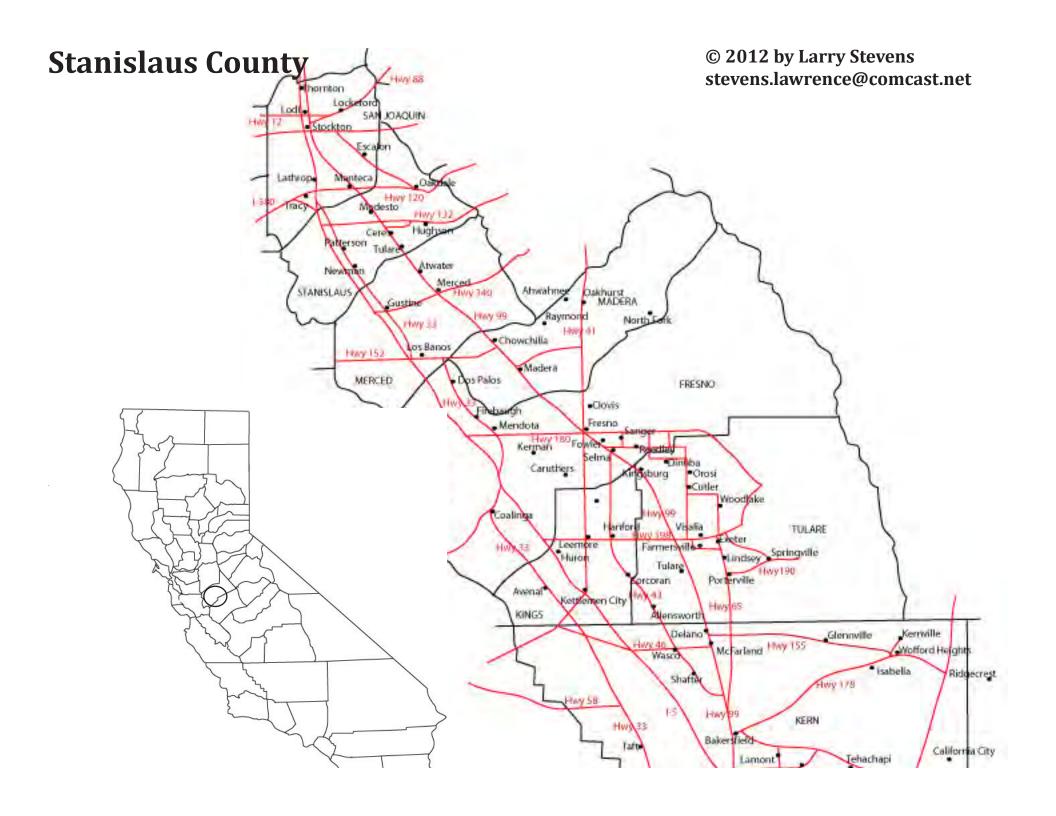
Stanislaus County takes its name from the Indian Estanislao who resisted a Spanish party that invaded the valley. The battle took place near what is now Caswell State Park, which is on the Stanislaus River.

The county stretches across the valley from the foothills of the Sierras to the barren eastern slopes of the Coastal Ranges. The Stanislaus and Tuolumne Rivers cut through the county to join the San Joaquin River.

In the Sierra foothills there are a couple of reservoirs to catch the rain for Modesto and Turlock. They are owned by the Modesto and Turlock Irrigation Districts. These irrigation districts played a vital role in the development of farming in the area.

Highways I-5 and 99 cut through the county and HWY 132 connects I-5 with 49 in the Mother Lode. Highway 120 cuts through the northern portion of the county where you will find Oakdale and the historic community of Knights Ferry.

Cities: Hughson, Ceres, Modesto, Newman, Oakdale, Patterson, Riverbank, Turlock, Waterford.



The county is named after Chief Estanislau who resisted the Spanish in the 1700's. The population of the city is now 200,000. (July 2003)







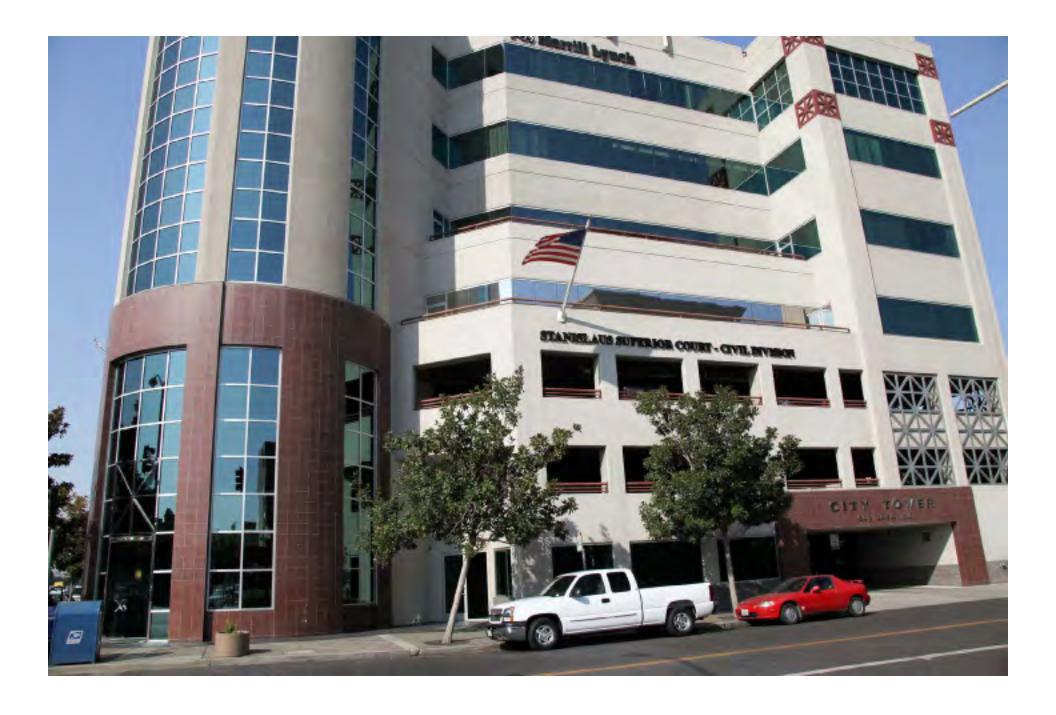








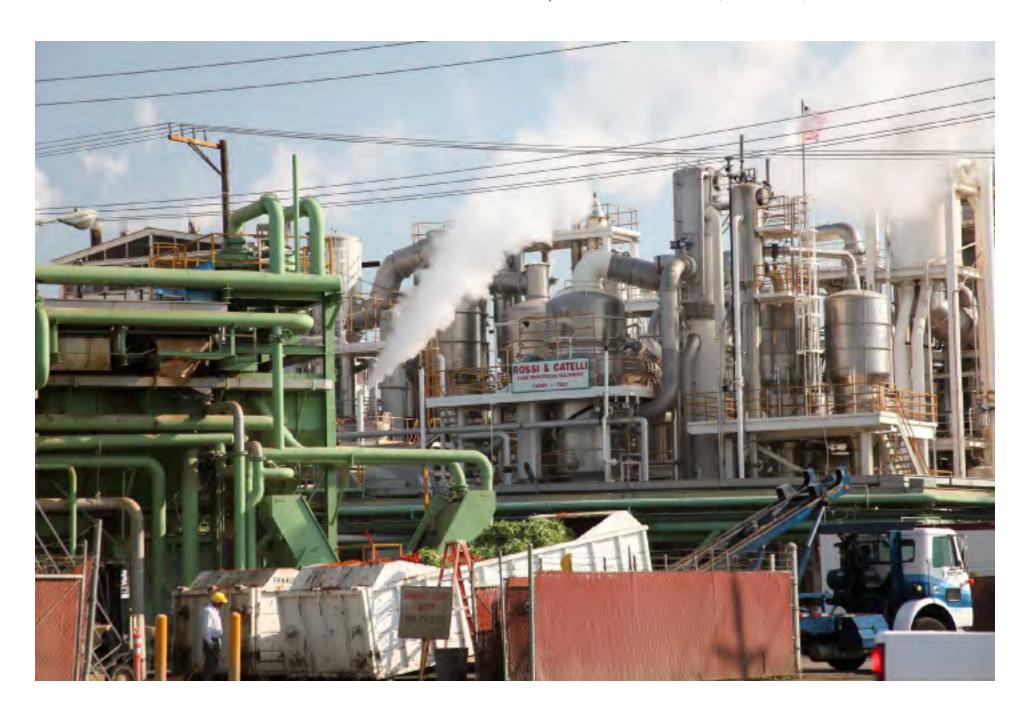




The Performing Arts Center is a major Valley attraction. The E. & J. Gallo Winery, headquartered in Modesto, is the largest vintner in the world. (July 2003)



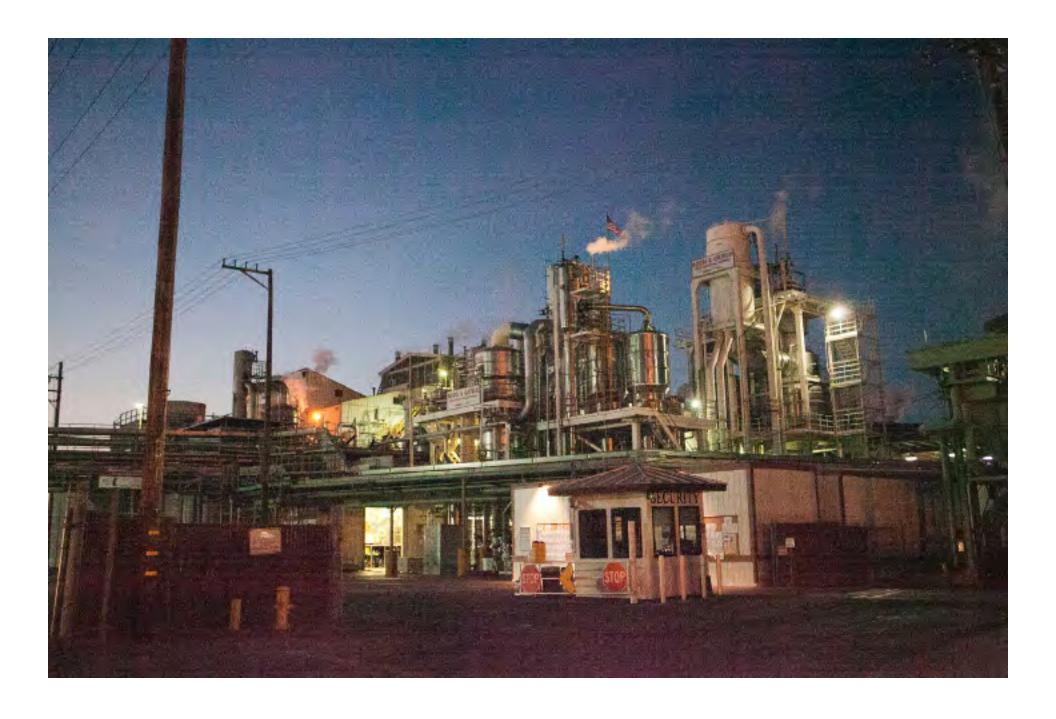
At the end of summer canneries become 24/7 operations processing tomatoes. (July 2003)



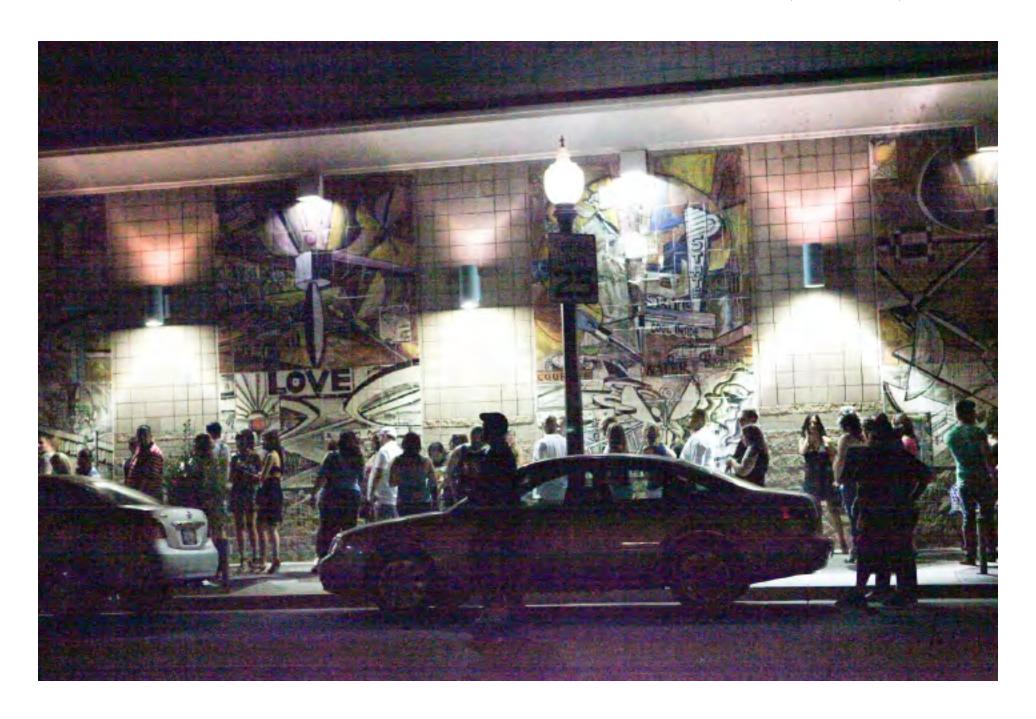




Modesto (August 2010)



In August Modesto holds the X-Fest which draws 20,000 people downtown to listen to 40 to 50 bands. (August 2010)



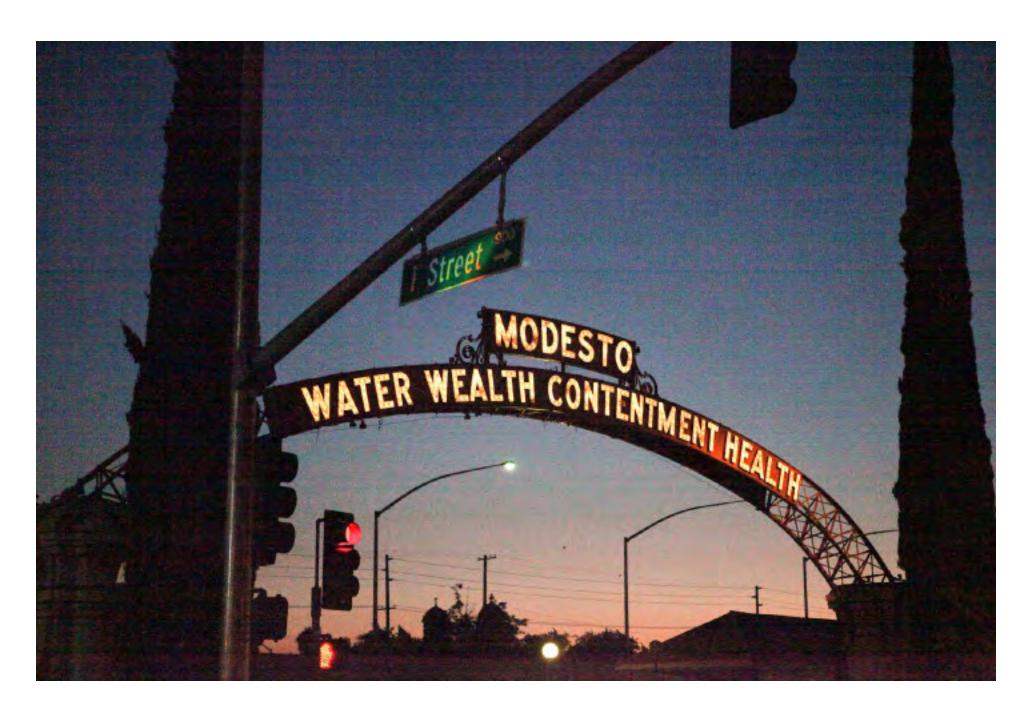
George Lucas' classic movie American Grafitti was based upon teenagers growing up in Modesto. Lucas' father owned a business in the town. The movie was shot in Santa Rosa. (August 2010)



Modesto (August 2010)

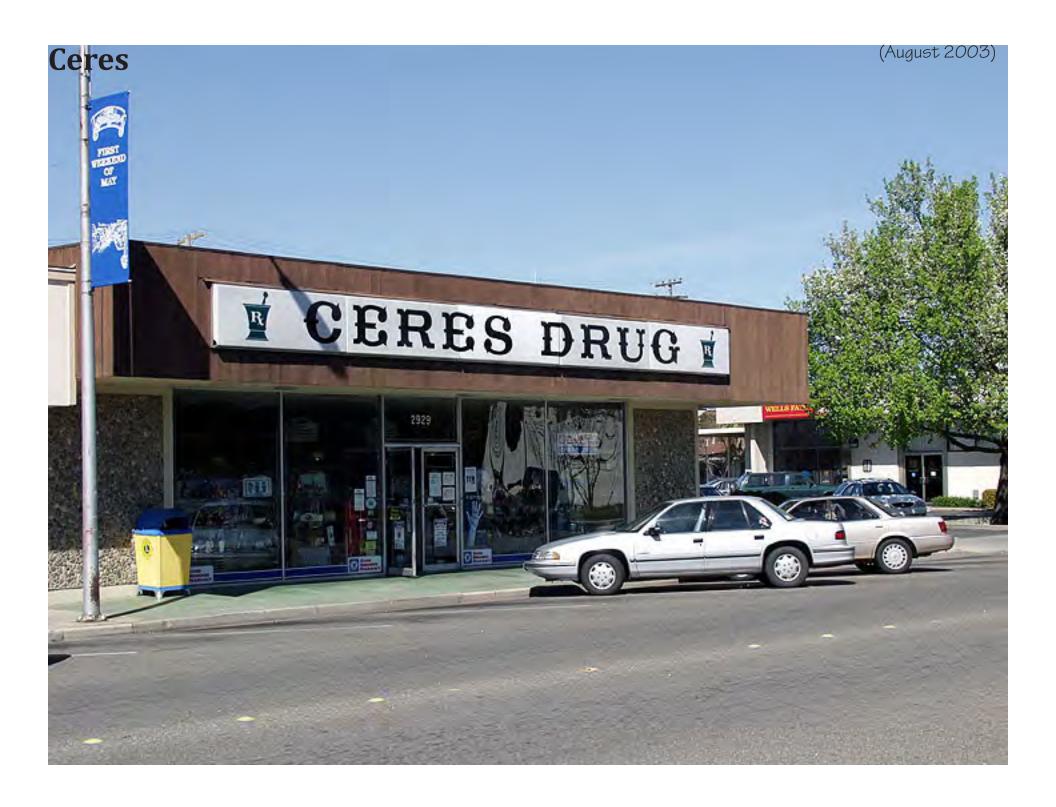


Modesto had a contest for a town slogan in the 1800's. The original winning slogan was "Nobody's Got Modesto's Goat." Modesto was founded in 1870 and became a city in 1884.



























Keyes

Keyes is a farm town on Highway 99 south of Modesto. The population is 5,600. (January 2006)



Keyes (January 2006)



Keyes (January 2006)



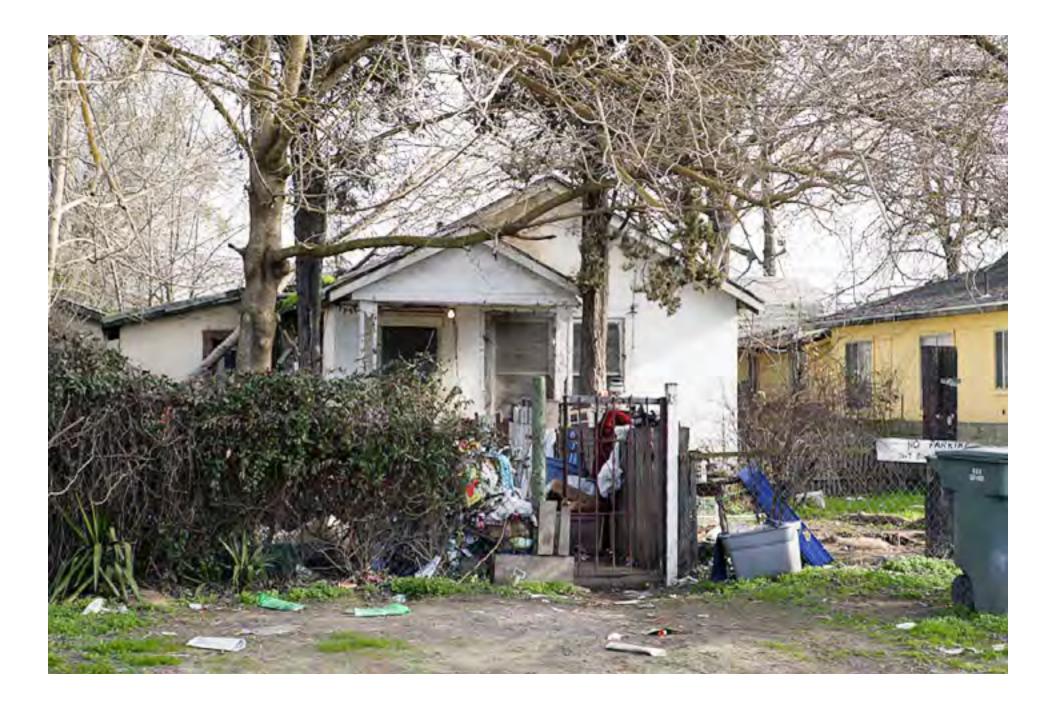
Keyes (January 2006)



Keyes (January 2006)



Keyes (January 2006)



Turlock

Water and power are owned by the citizens of Turlock through the Turlock Irrigation District. (August 2003)



Founded in 1871, Turlock's population is now about 69,000. It is the location of a state university. (August 2003)





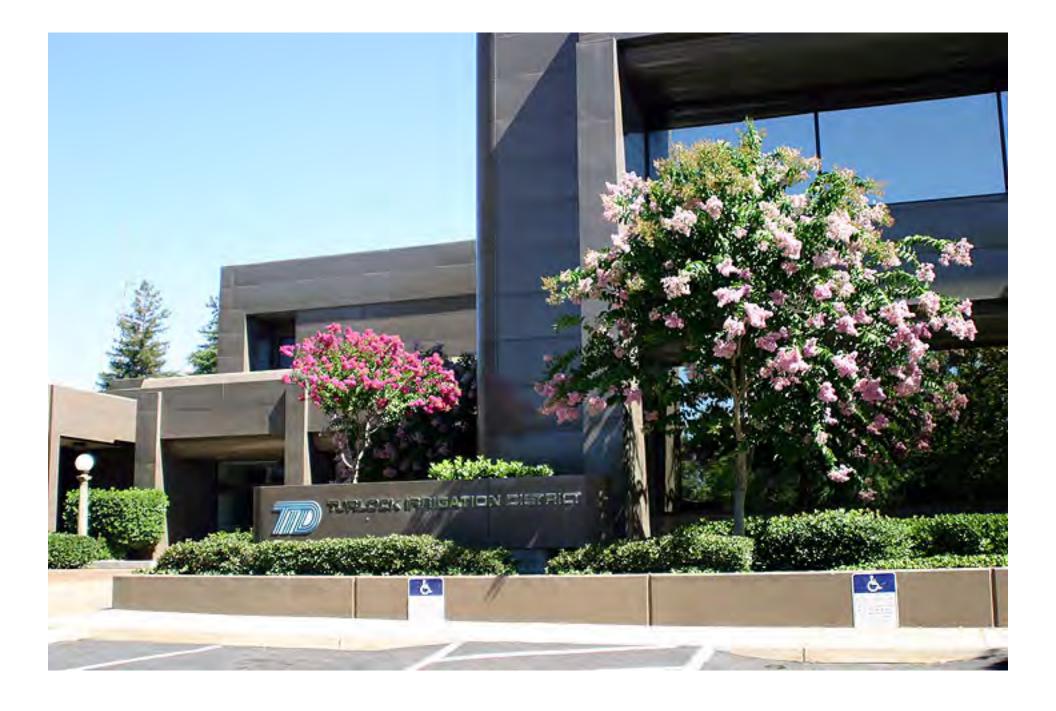


Turlock







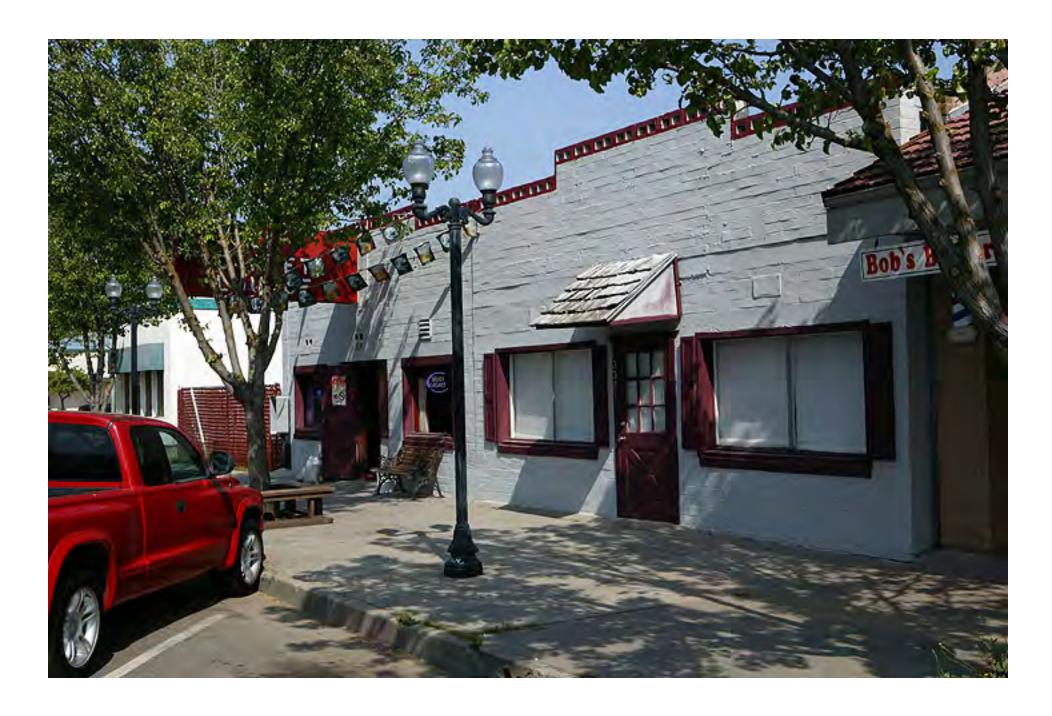




Riverbank

The town was incorporated in 1922. It has a population of 23,000. (April 2006)

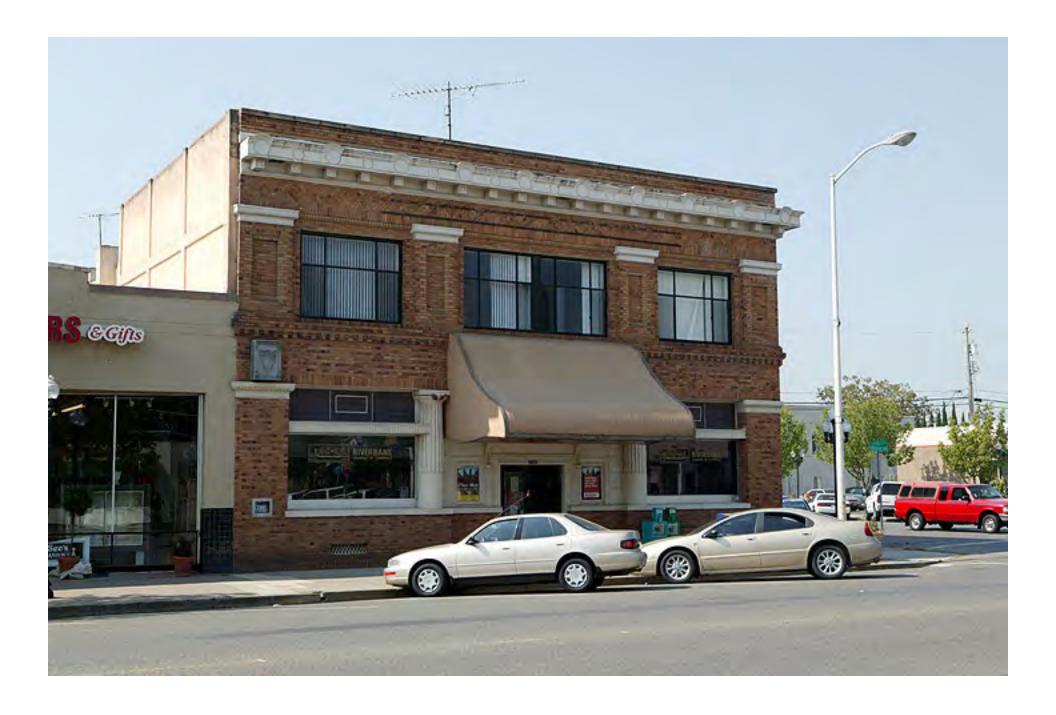






















Riverbank

The day we were here there was a flash flood just a few days before. A huge rain cloud dumped so much water on the downtown it couldn't drain off. (April 2006)









