

Trip # 4: Knights Ferry

A photograph of Woodward Reservoir. The foreground is a dark, rocky shore. Two trees are visible: one on the left with dark, thick branches and some green leaves, and one on the right with thinner branches and sparse, light-colored leaves. The reservoir is in the middle ground, with a small boat visible on the water. In the distance, there are hills and a cloudy sky.

This is not Knights Ferry. This is Woodward Reservoir which we stumbled across on our way to Knights Ferry. We got lost. We know where we are going but we don't necessarily know how to get there figuring we might find something interesting along the way. This is our fourth new road trip. Nov. 6, 2014.



Shows how low the water is getting.



This is Littlejohn Creek. It runs 40 miles to the west and through Stockton. You see in the creek water hyacinth which is a tropical plant. Global warming!





The red stuff is water fern that is cold sensitive. The colder it gets the redder it gets. The white bird is an egret. NS.



This is cattle country. California is the fourth largest cattle producing state. Five million head plus. NS





Every old Gold Rush town has a Masonic lodge. This one is still operating. It is amazing how many of them still are.



This is the old Sonora Road as it sweeps into town. This road came from Stockton. Miners got off the boat at Stockton and came by "mud wagon" to the southern mines at Sonora. Here is where they crossed the Stanislaus River.



Nita lining up a shot on one of the two streets in town.



Every Gold Rush town had an IOOF Hall. It was a benevolent society. Took care of the widows and orphans. Mining was a tough occupation.



Rafting on the Stanislaus River is a major activity.





California's oldest operating general store. It was built in 1852.



The town was founded by Dr. William Knight who was shot on this street in 1849. He owned the ferry. Then John Dent took over. Dent was President Grant's brother in law. Grant before the Civil War was stationed in California.





SPEED
LIMIT
5

KNIGHTS FERRY
HOOK & LADDER CO
NO 1



KNIGHT'S FERRY GARDEN CLUB

IN MEMORY

DOTTIE LAJUNESSE

ORPHA BRIGHT

ELSIE GENTRY

MARGE GRIESNER

FELICIA MUNGAN

BERNICE OHE

EDA MAE SAGAR

MARY CHIARADIA

MARGE PAIZ

MARION SHEAWER

LUCILE ULRICH

LEE MCGREW

LORRAINE MARTINELLI

BESSY ROGERS

DORIS MILAM







This is the longest covered bridge west of the Mississippi. 330 feet long. It was built in 1862. The original bridge was built in 1852 and wiped out in the flood of 1862. It was used for cars until 1985.





The park headquarters. This is not a state park but is run by the Army Corps of Engineers.





This is an old millstone. The roof over it is to protect it from the acid in the oak leaves which was corroding the stone.

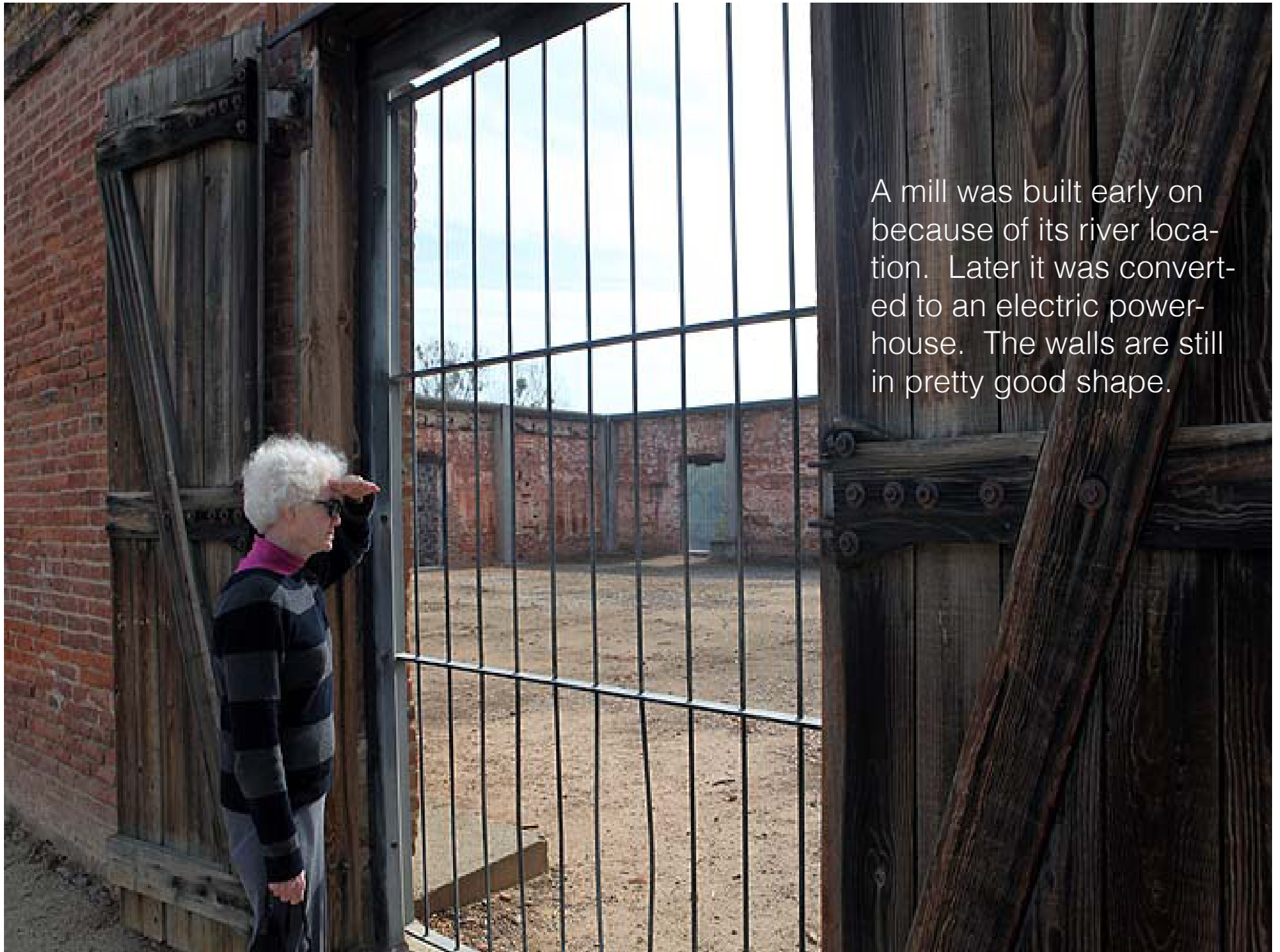
We not only read all the plaques but take pictures of them so we can remember.



Vandalism. There was a fellow on the other side of this turbine cleaning off the graffiti.





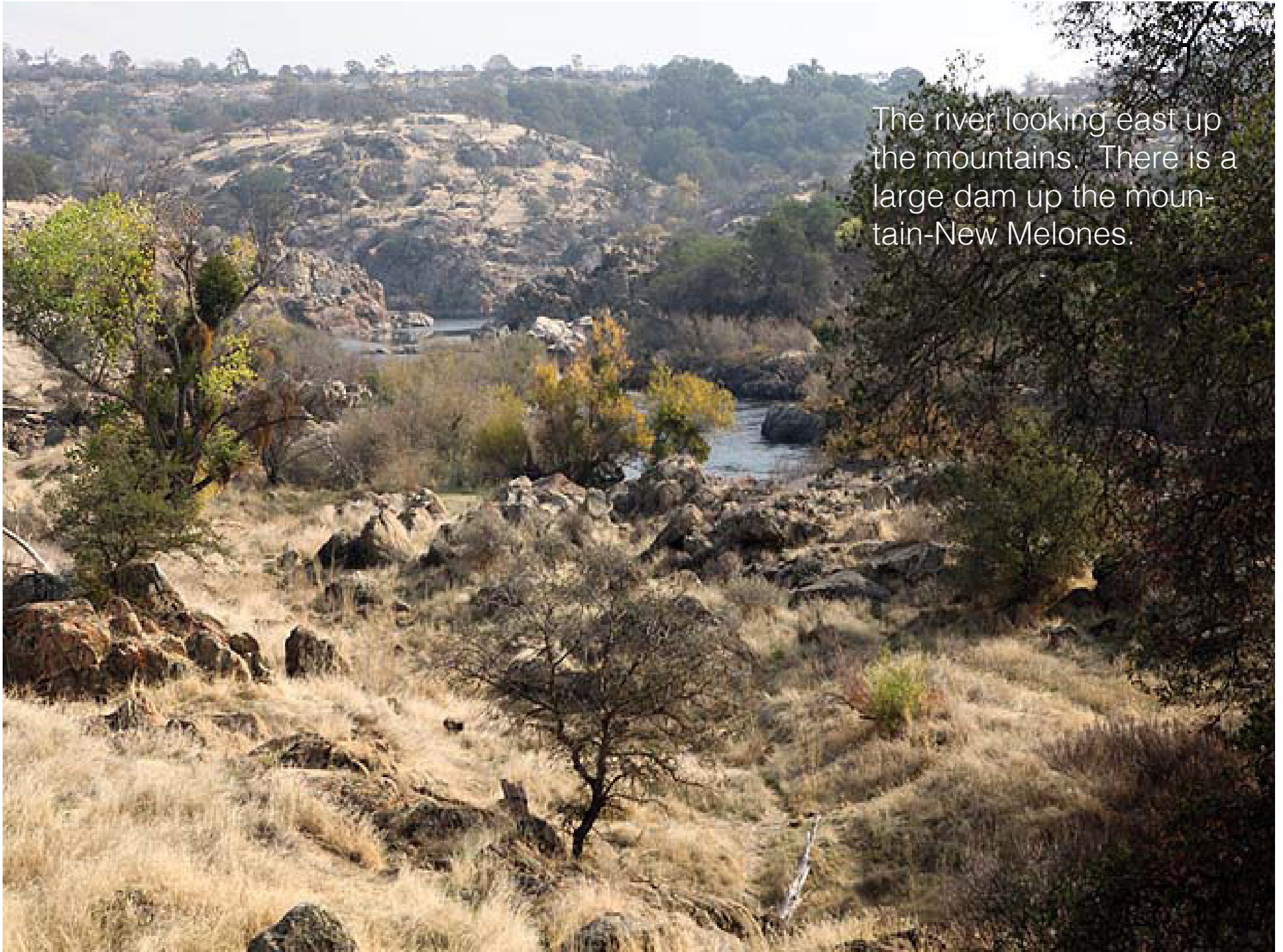


A mill was built early on because of its river location. Later it was converted to an electric powerhouse. The walls are still in pretty good shape.



The office of the mill.






The river looking east up the mountains. There is a large dam up the mountain-New Melones.

CHRIS ♥ LINDSAY 2014





A photograph of an elderly man sitting on a wooden bench in a park. He is wearing a light-colored jacket, white pants, and a cap. He is holding a camera with a large lens. The background shows trees with yellow and green leaves, suggesting autumn. The sky is overcast. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Pooped. There are never enough benches in parks. We went back early. Stopped in Oakdale for lunch. *Firenze*, Italian. Primo. Nita picked up on this instantly. The same high quality silverware as *Taste* in Plymouth. This is a first class restaurant. *Taste* is nationally recognized.