

Museum of Sonoma County Presents

# SONOMA COUNTY STORIES

DISCOVERING OUR  
SHARED PAST

One Story at a Time



MUSEUM  
of SONOMA COUNTY  
ART • HISTORY

# The Museum of Sonoma County

Located in Downtown Santa Rosa, the Museum of Sonoma County has welcomed visitors to experience history and art since 1985. The Seventh Street campus includes two buildings, multiple galleries, and a sculpture garden. With several changing exhibitions per year, there is always something new to experience at the Museum.





## Sonoma County Stories ... Well Told

The Museum of Sonoma County is thrilled to announce the creation of a new permanent history exhibition that will engage visitors in a brand-new way: through the power of storytelling.

Building on Gaye LeBaron's gift for storytelling, the new exhibition will feature Gaye's video oral history collection, combining for the first time the power of first-person accounts, artifacts and images.





# FROM THE FIRE

A Community Reflects and Rebuilds

October 6, 2018 - January 22, 2019

*From the Fire: A Community Reflects and Rebuilds* honors our individual attempts to process - as community members, artists, friends, or visitors. We honor what was lost, while cherishing what was gained - new perspectives, stronger bonds, and a profound appreciation for the human spirit in our home. It is cathartic for all that we've been through. It is a love letter for the support we've given each other. It is hope for the world around us in a time of need. It is an urging to continue to grow together.

Space in Process  
Brought to You by

# Sonoma County Stories in Words & Artifacts



“ I’ve had the best readers in the whole world because they’ve fed me information for all these years. They’ve told me the people stories that really make a community column. I was always interested in everything around me. Curiosity is a prime requirement for a journalist. ”

– Gaye LeBaron

# Sonoma County Stories in Words & Images



“ Well, the secret in making money in the hop crop is to sell it when they're in the bale, my grandfather said. Don't keep 'em, because the next year...they're not worth as much. They lose their flavor. He put high poles twenty feet high and 18-foot trellises. And that means that the string had to go that high and that's lot of work. And they still picked an awful lot of hops by hand up until 1945. ”

– Babe Wood

# Sonoma County Stories in Words & Artifacts



“My dad is from Canton, Tom Wing Wong. He came up here to Santa Rosa. We have this temple that my dad took care of and...we have what we call kitchen god and outdoor gods and all that and so it's my chore that every morning before I went to school to put, well, incense on each one of these gods before I go to school and at night when I come home.”

– Song Wong Bourbeau



# Sonoma County Stories in Words & Artifacts



“I was working up in Healdsburg nights as an English as a Second Language teacher and doing my social work in the day...We started United Latinos back in, I guess, '65. The Latinos Unidas del Condado de Sonoma...our big program was scholarships.”

– George Ortiz

# Sonoma County Stories in Words & Images

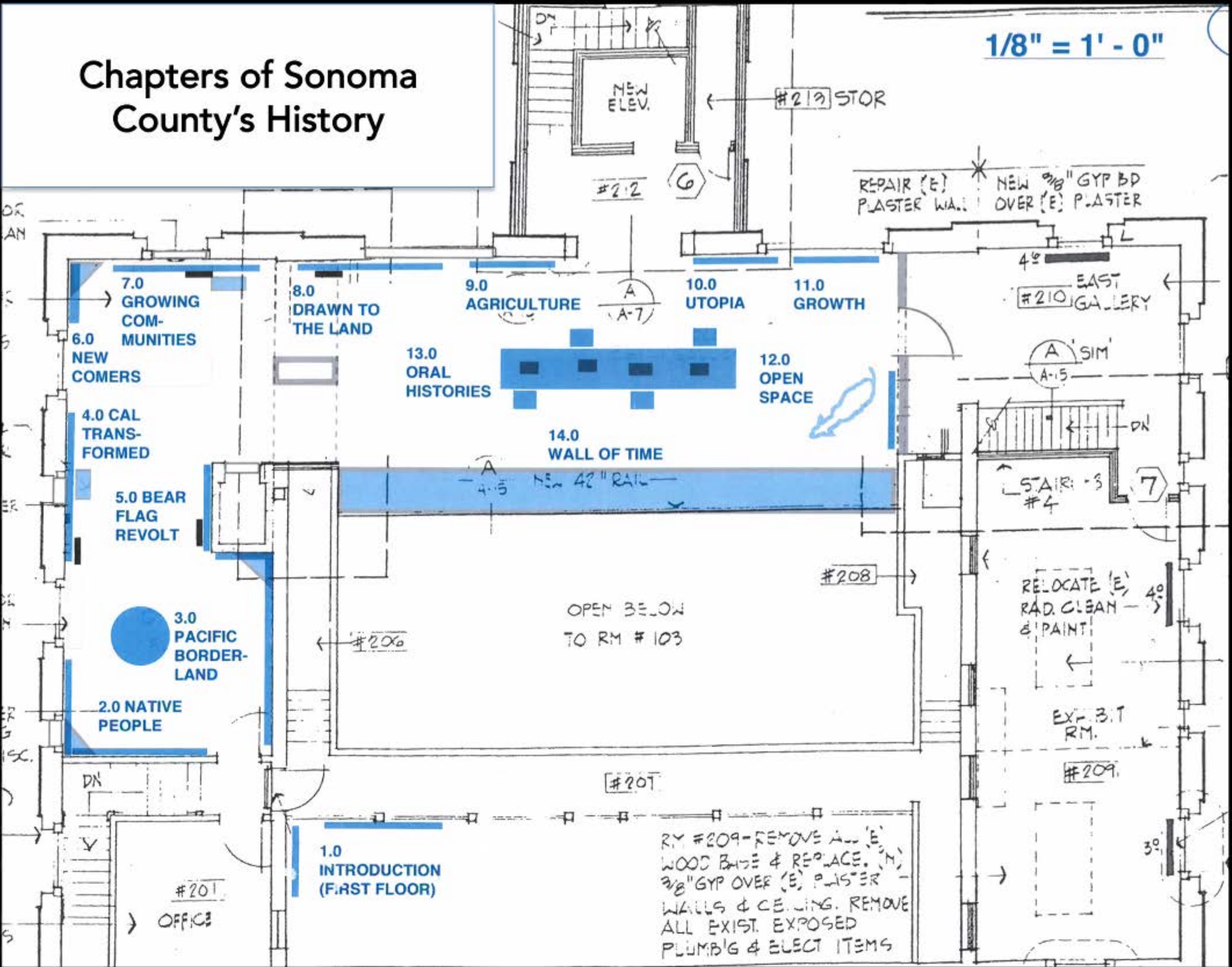


“ I working in the vegetables you know, lettuce and onions andpeppers and corn ... I start walking on the streets of Stockton and I find a truck with a group ofworkers you know. ... [they] said, “We are going to go to Santa Rosa, we gonna pick prunes. The boss, he might take you.” And I told him, well, I had two more friends in the hotel. He give me a chance to go get ‘em. I went to get the other guys ...and [later] we came into... Grace Brothers Ranch. ”

– Rafael Morales

# Chapters of Sonoma County's History

1/8" = 1' - 0"





## TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

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## CALIFORNIA TRANSFORMED



QUI  
REHENDIT



## GROWING COMMUNITIES



## MISSIONS RANCHOS LAND GRANTS

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GROWING  
COMMUNITIES



# Exhibition Overview: Sonoma County Stories

## WALL OF TIME

Featuring a glass vitrine stretching over 40 feet, the Wall of Time presents dozens of artifacts from the Museum's collection in dramatic fashion, forming a window onto history. Follow the path of history – in tangible objects – as you hear and see the stories of Sonoma County.



# Exhibition Overview: Sonoma County Stories

## "KITCHEN TABLE"

We've saved you a spot at the table!

The Kitchen Table is where most of us first encountered Gaye LeBaron and the stories she had to tell ... in the pages of the Press Democrat, over a cup of coffee.

This is the spot to explore the oral histories collected over thirty years by Gaye LeBaron and the Museum of Sonoma County ... and add your own.



- Video stations featuring the interviews, images, and music that bring to life the stories of a broad range of people from Sonoma County.
- Learn what it means to look at the history around you and how YOUR story connects to the history of Sonoma County.
- Interactive links between the stories and physical artifacts in the gallery provide unique engagement.

# Preserving Sonoma County Stories

The Museum of Sonoma County's new permanent exhibition will showcase and preserve our historic collection, upholding our mission and high standards as a Smithsonian Affiliate Museum.

