

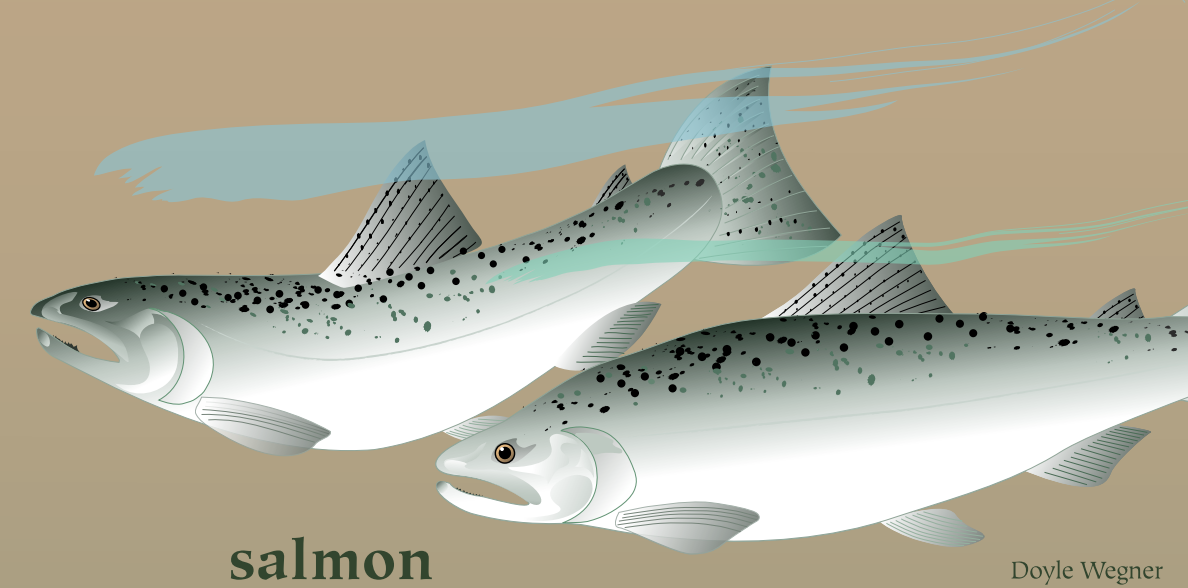
# The World Comes to Alhambra Creek

Immigrants have long been attracted to this land. How have they shaped it? Some changes are obvious; other evidence is subtle, or lost in time.

In 1776, the Spanish explorer, Juan Bautista de Anza, described the natural wealth native people enjoyed here: countless salmon, herds of deer and elk, and endless supplies of wild bulbs and seeds. Today, the elk are gone and the salmon are mostly hatchery-bred.

The Alhambra Creek Watershed, including its nearby lands and waters, has supported grazing, wheat farming, vineyards, fruit and nut orchards, tourist resorts, and a fishing industry.

Fortunately, a large amount of open space has been set aside to preserve the natural beauty of this land for all to enjoy.

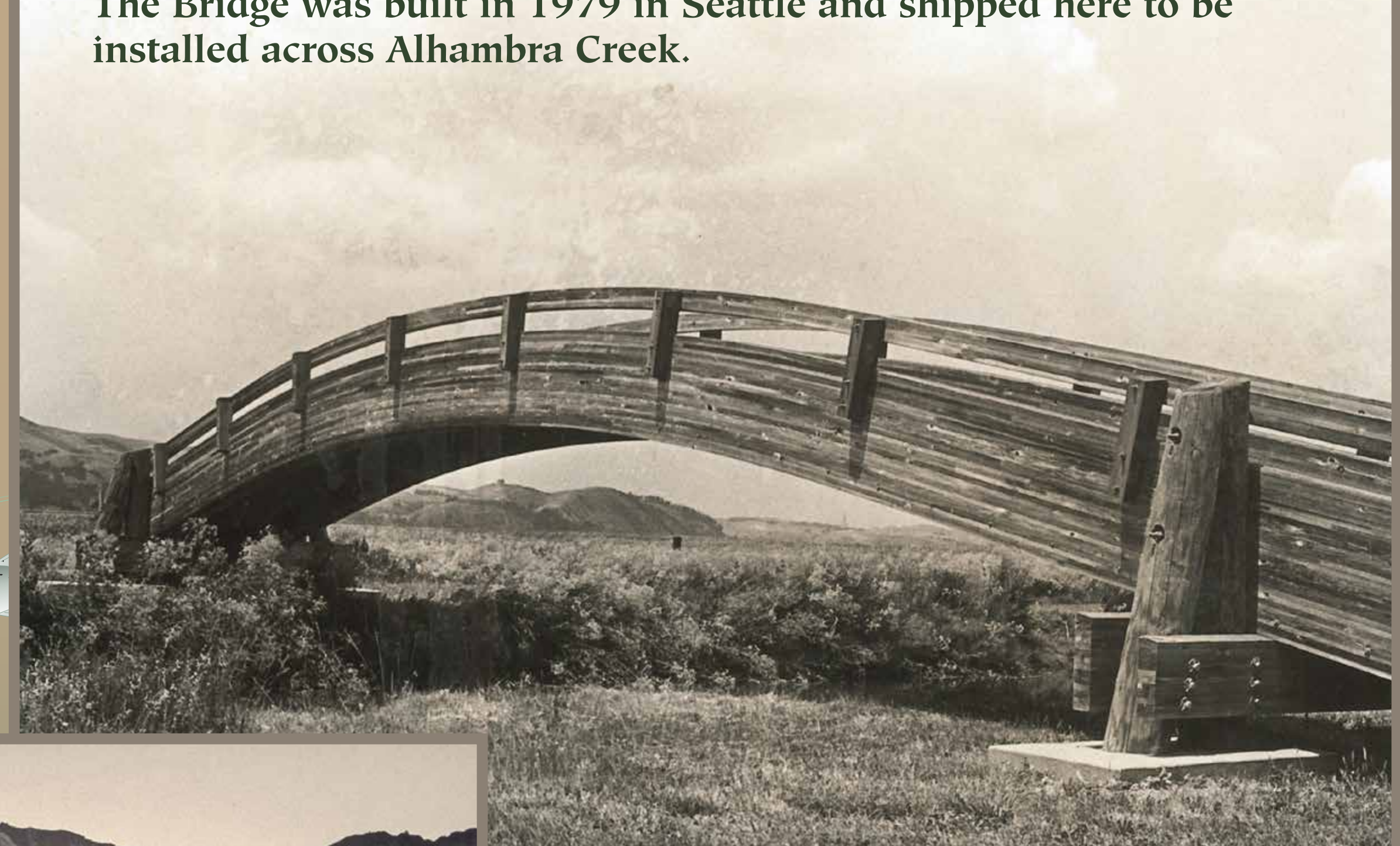


salmon

Doyle Wegner

The pleasing arc of the nearby bridge is an echo of the once flourishing local fishing industry. The design allowed the last active family fishing vessel to travel to and from the Bay.

The Bridge was built in 1979 in Seattle and shipped here to be installed across Alhambra Creek.



Doyle Wegner

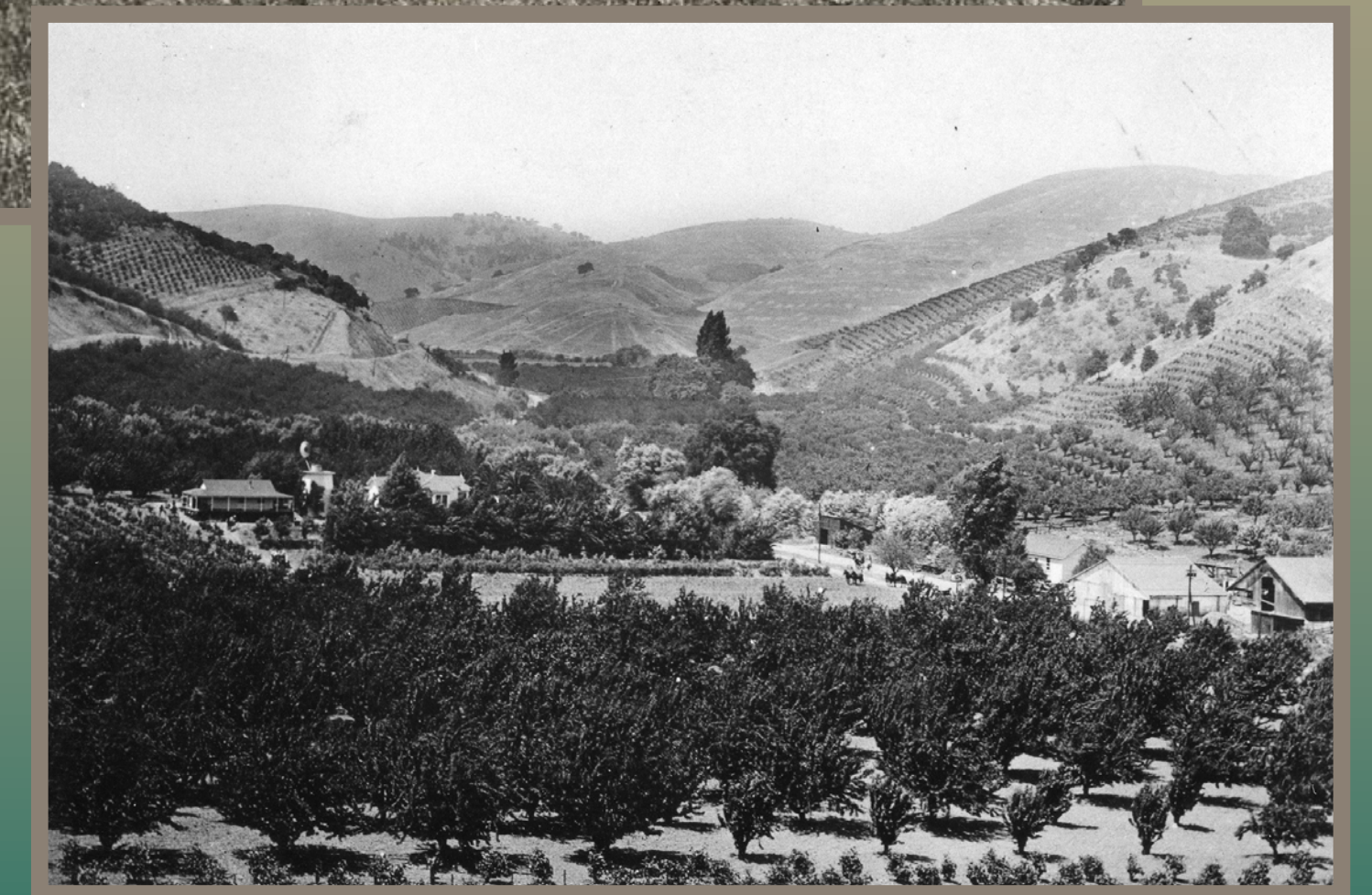
pickleweed

Courtesy of EBRPD



Courtesy of The Bancroft Library University of California, Berkeley

The tidal marsh before you has extended farther into the Bay since its original mapping, due in part to the massive quantities of silt produced by hydraulic gold mining in the Sierra from 1850-1884.



Courtesy of the Contra Costa County Historical Society

Alhambra Valley orchards, 1900