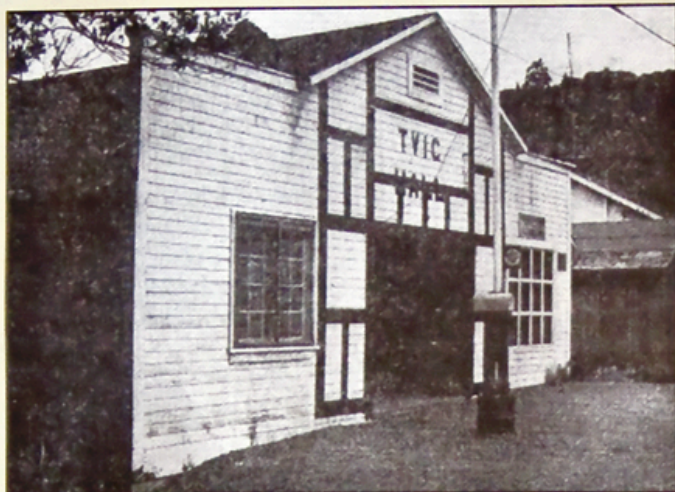


A FINE OLD HALL WITH A CREEK RUNNING UNDER IT



ORIGINAL TVIC HALL ON MAPLE STREET

The photograph to the left is the old TVIC Hall in July, 1960. It is at the midway point of a temporary renovation job to make it look like an Elizabethan theater for the Tam Players production of Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew".

To the right of the entrance, there is a large window with a sign above it that reads "Library." This is the same location that was used by the Tam Valley Volunteer Fire Dept. for their truck and equipment. Upon completion of the new fire house on Poplar Street in 1949, this space became available and was remodeled for a library. Previously, the Valley had been provided with the County's Bookmobile that parked in front of the old hall once a week. When the old hall was demolished, the Library moved to a new location on Shoreline Highway and Poplar Street. It has not been in this location for years, and once again the Valley is provided with the Bookmobile.*

The window to the left of the entry is the kitchen. In the center is the large outdoor entry. The members of the

TVIC had a phone booth installed in this location, to be used by residents who did not have a phone. Phone lines were limited in the Valley in the 1930's and 40's and there was a waiting list to get a phone. When you did, chances are you would be on a party line. That means you shared a line with other residents. If you were a two ringer and the phone rang once it was for the other person on your line. Unh, Unh, it's not nice to listen in.

The first church services were held in the old hall. In the early 30's the congregation had raised enough money to build the church on Ash Street and Marin Ave. on property donated by Samuel and Lucy Kenny, one of the Valley's earliest year-round residents.

In the early days of the Club, whist card games and dances were held on a regular basis. They were fund raisers for both the TVIC and the Volunteer Firemen.

The old hall was built over a creek. The front half sat on Maple Street and the length of the hall ran over the creek on piers. Considering the activities of the TVIC and the firemen over the years it had to have been well supported.

GETTING OUT THE WORD

Publicity, "Getting Out The Word," was one of the early difficulties of the TVIC. Notifying residents of events and news of interest to the community was a priority for the Club. Previously, they had mailed out what they referred to as a "Bulletin," but it was done sporadically.

At the November 8, 1940 meeting, it was decided to send out a monthly newsletter, a single sheet stating the activities of the club. One hundred and fifty copies were distributed in the Valley for the month of November. The following year at the April 9, 1941 meeting it was suggested to the "Publicity Committee" to put the name of "Progress" on the outside of the newsletter so people would know who it was from. From this time on "The Progress" was the newsletter of the Tamalpais Valley Improvement Club.

* The Bookmobile visits Tam Valley on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month.
2:45 - 3:30pm at Linda & Jean St.
3:15-4:00pm at the Tam Valley Community Center
For more information, call (415) 499-7544