

khiatt@cityofdavis.org, mwebb@cityofdavis.org, , Friday, 7:13 AM -0700, Possible Historical Errors in Y...

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To: khiatt@cityofdavis.org, mwebb@cityofdavis.org, injoku@cityofdavis.org
From: John Lofland <jlofland@ucdavis.edu>
Subject: Possible Historical Errors in Your CC "Update" dated May 4, 2010
Cc:
Bcc: djdingemans@ucdavis.edu, stracy@cal.net, Jim Becket <jimbecket@sbcglobal.net>, Lxartist@yahoo.com, dougpauldavis@davisvanguard.com
Attachments: "AdditionalUpdate".png

Hello Ken [Hiatt](#), Michael [Webb](#), and [Ike Njoku](#),

I write with regard to the section titled "Additional Update" on page 2 of your Staff Report to the City Council dated May 4, 2010 which is partially titled "Update. . . ." (a copy of that section is attached).

Based on research I published in my book *Old North Davis* ([OND](#)), I think this "Additional Update" section contains errors of historical fact that should be corrected not simply because they are false but because public action based on them is contemplated.

1. What is now called Old North Davis was not called Bowers Addition in 1910 because the latter did not exist in 1910. ([OND](#), p. 53)
2. Bowers Addition occupies less than half the geographical area now called Old North Davis. It is therefore inaccurate to equate the two as in saying "Old North Davis, then called the Bowers Addition. . . ." ([OND](#), p. 57)
3. The southern half of what is now called Old North Davis was created in 1871. The year 1910 is therefore way off the mark as a starting date. ([OND](#), p. 54)
4. According to reports in the *Davis Enterprise* and the Minutes of the [Yolo](#) County Board of Supervisors, Bowers Addition was drawn up on a map in late 1912 and physically created in early 1913, not 1910. ([OND](#), p. 55)
5. For at least two reasons, Bowers Addition was not "the first subdivision in Davis."

First, it was not "in Davis" because Davis as an incorporated area did not exist until 1917 and therefore had no capacity to act as a corporate entity. "Davis," that is, did not add Bowers Addition to Davis. Instead, the Addition was created by the [Yolo](#) County Board of Supervisors as a free-standing entity outside the then-existing Davis grid. Representing a partnership that owned the land, [C. W. Bowers](#) went before the Board in late 1912 with a map and a request to create the area.

Second, even if we count new named areas as "subdivisions" prior to incorporation, at least two other named additions to the original addition took place west of what is now B Street in the later [1900s](#). One was called the "[Haussler](#) Addition" and another was called the "Rice Addition." There may be others. The Original Grid of 1868 ended at what is now called B Street. The area bounded by B, A, [1st](#) and [5th](#) streets is made up of "subdivisions" that predate what happened north of what is now called [5th](#) Street. (The [hodge-podge](#) of streets, alleys, and blocks in that area as compared to the Original Grid clearly signal its discontinuous and incremental character.)

Additional documentation of the corrections I offer can be found in many places, including:

<http://www.oldnorthdavishistory.org/1-2-old-north-davis-the-1999-book/Chs1-3.pdf/view>

<http://www.oldnorthdavishistory.org/b-street-500s>

<http://www.oldnorthdavishistory.org/additional-area-wide-materials/picture-map-of-old-north-davis/>

These [online](#) sources refer to numerous printed sources providing exact documentation in addition to my book *Old North Davis*, cited above.

My research as published in *Old North Davis* and elsewhere could of course be wrong and I have yet to learn about new findings that contradict what I report. If such new findings exist, even if they have not been published, I would greatly appreciate you or someone else telling me where I can examine them and perhaps then correct what I have published, if that seems necessary.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Cordially,

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