## Old Homes of Fair Oaks

## Jim Pearce

It's amazing how some old homes slip under the radar. Just when we think we've found them all, up pops another one.

About a month ago, Mike Kashuba dropped by the History Center and asked if we knew



anything about his home of over thirty years at 8257 Winding Way. The house is located just west of the Chicago Bridge on the north side of Winding Way, down a long driveway. It's generally down in the trees and can best be seen from the air.

Mike has been remodeling and adding on during the 30 years he's lived there so the current ranch style house doesn't bear much resemblance to the original. But, while doing over the attic, he noticed some

really old wiring and thought the house was probably built in the 1920's. The only name associated with the home was Stewart. It shows up on the 1910 topo map, but Steve Abbott and his gang couldn't associate it with any family.

That's where the History Center resources help out. We looked on our property maps, and the owner of the property was:

1910 – Al Heim, 1920 – Al Heim 1930 – Guy Stewart

Alvin Heim lived over near Minnesota Ave., so he probably owned the property as an investment. It's another story with Guy Stewart. We found information on Guy in the public records. He was born in Placerville in 1889 and died in Fair Oaks in 1960. His wife was Grace N. Williamson (1889 – 1979). They were married in 1914 and had no children. They are buried in the Fair Oaks Cemetery.





Guy Stewart was a lifelong employee of Southern Pacific Railroad, working in many capacities including conductor in Tracy and finally as a clerk in the Roseville offices. The house is perfect for a railroad man, shaded by the Chicago Creek and not a lot of acreage to maintain. It's shown below just to the upper right of the black dot. Winding way is at the bottom with the Chicago Creek Bridge just off the photo on the right. He is remembered by a number of old timers as a member of the Rotary Club of Fair Oaks. He was a good friend of Bob Brugger's father, and Lois Frazier remembers visiting the house when she was a teenager. They remember him as living in the house in question in the 40's and 50's. The 1940 census lists him as saying he lived in the same house in 1935. The 1930 census has him living in the same area, probably in the same house, so he probably bought the property in the 1920's.

A curiosity is the existence of another Stewart family buried right next to Guy and Grace. Dexter Stewart, b. 1837 in New Hampshire, his wife Lucy and three daughters are buried right next to Guy. The daughters; Winifred married Oscar Cavanaugh, Alice married Mr. Crane, and Sarah Bessie married Clarence Meader. We suspect a relationship but haven't found it yet. If anyone has any more information, please let us know.