

## **History of Prewett Park**

### The Prewett Family

The park land is a 100 acre portion of the 700 acre Section 5 which was deeded to the Western Pacific Railroad by Ulysses S. Grant in 1870. The land was granted as an incentive to develop the railroad. The railroad company eventually deeded Section 5 to an engineer named McLaughlin as compensation for his work. Joseph G. Prewett and Ellen O'Brien Prewett farmed the land for the McLaughlin family for many years and ultimately were able to purchase the land in 1909.

Joseph Prewett immigrated west from Missouri in 1884. Joe married Ellen O'Brien, a native Californian, born here in 1865. Joe and Ellen were good farmers and impressed upon the family the need to put back a part of what is taken from the land to produce good crops and a good community.

Little will be remembered in later years of the activities that took place on the land but Prewett Family Park will remain as a permanent reminder of the family that helped to make this community facility possible.