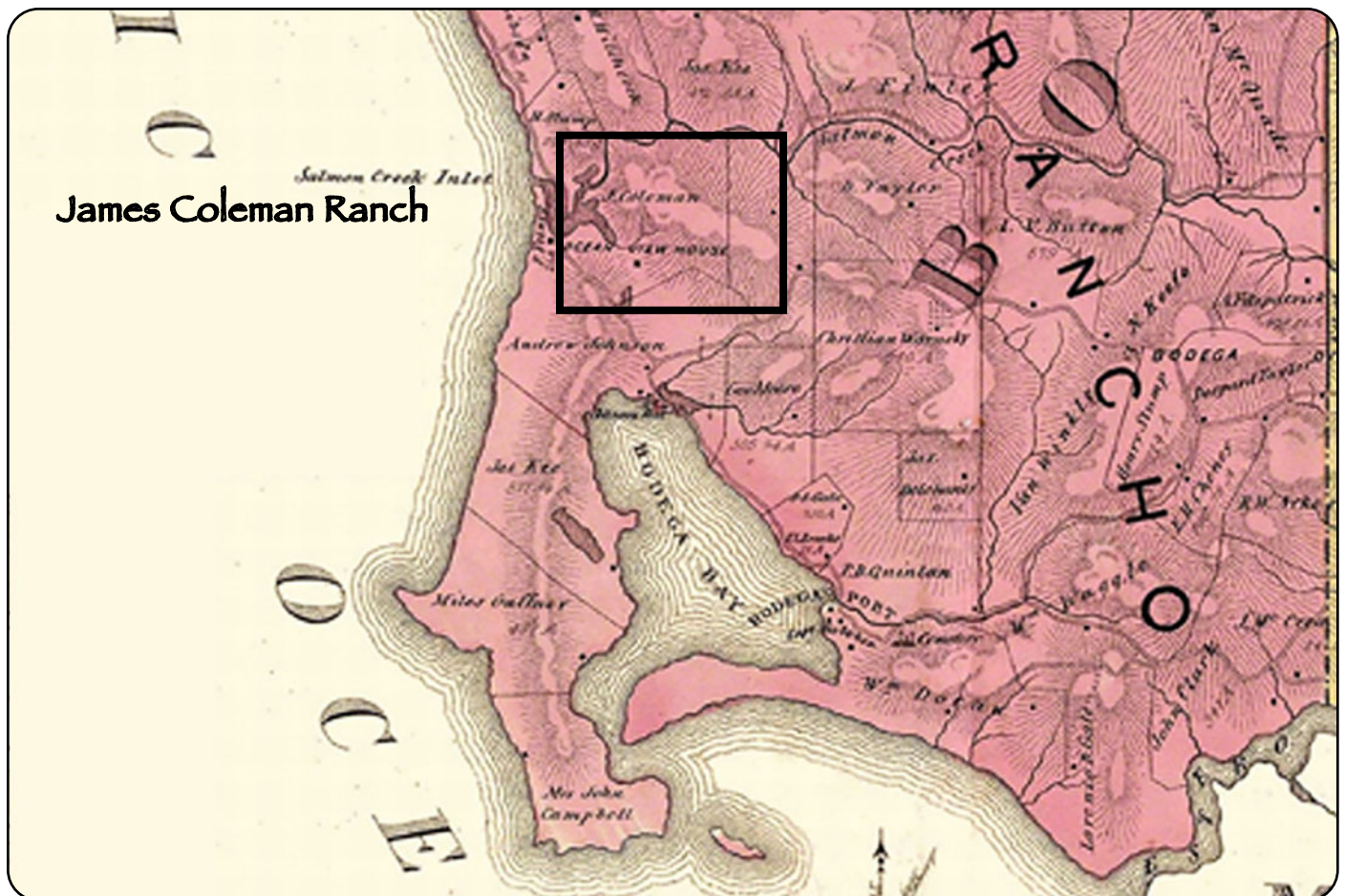
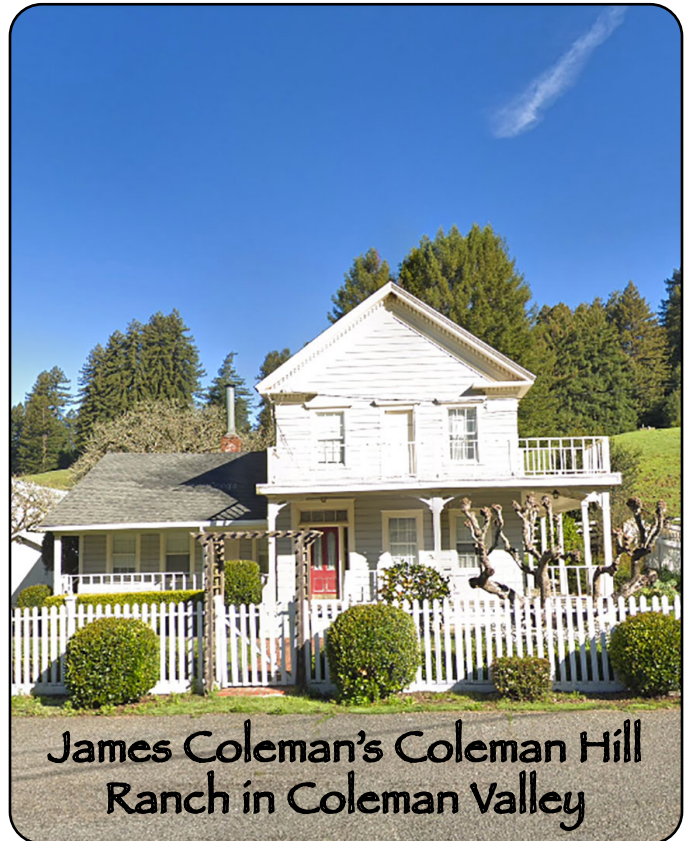


# The Ranches of Bodega Bay

James Coleman - Coleman Valley Ranch

**James Coleman**, born: 1825 Dublin, Ireland, died: 1896 San Francisco California, US Arrival: 1851 New York, US Naturalization: 1 Jul 1867 Santa Rosa, Sonoma County California, married: Mary Nolan 1852 (she was born: Nov 1827 Ireland, died: San Francisco California) 1860 Census: Bodega Township, Sonoma County California, 1870 US Census: Bodega Township, Sonoma County California, 1880 US Census: Arcata, Humboldt County, California, 1900 US Census (Mary as widow): San Francisco California, children: James Henry 1857, Elizabeth 1859, John Edward 1860, Mary J. 1861, Fanny 1863, Anna 1865, Thomas 1866, James Jr. 1868, Joseph 1869



## James Coleman

United States Census, 1860

Name:	James Coleman
Event Type:	Census
Event Date:	1860
Event Place:	Bodega Township, Sonoma, California,
Age:	32
Birth Year (Estimated):	1828
Birthplace:	Ireland

Household	Role	Sex	Age	Birthplace
James Coleman		Male	32	Ireland
<a href="#">Mary Coleman</a>		Female	27	Ireland
<a href="#">James H Coleman</a>		Male	3	California
<a href="#">Elizabeth Coleman</a>		Female	1	California
<a href="#">M Robinson</a>		Male	29	Ireland

## Mary Coleman

United States Census, 1860

Name:	Mary Coleman
Event Type:	Census
Event Date:	1860
Event Place:	Bodega Township, Sonoma, California,
Age:	27
Birth Year (Estimated):	1833
Birthplace:	Ireland

Family name <b>COLMAN</b>	Given name or names <b>James</b>
Address <b>---, Cal.</b>	
Certificate no. (or vol. and page) <b>Minutes-Vol. E, p. 202</b>	Title and location of court <b>Co. Ct., Santa Rosa, Cal.</b>
Country of birth or allegiance <b>Birth: Ireland.</b>	When born (or age) <b>---</b>
Alleg.: <b>Great Britain</b>	
Date and port of arrival in U. S. <b>---</b>	Date of naturalization <b>July 1, 1867</b>
Names and addresses of witnesses <b>S. Potter, ---</b>	
<b>H. A. Rowe, ---</b>	

## James Coleman

### California Naturalization Records

Name: James Coleman

Record Type: Naturalization

Naturalization Date: 1 Jul 1867

Naturalization Place: Sonoma, California

## James Coleman

### California, Voter Registers

Name: James Coleman

Age: 40

Birth Year: abt 1827

Birth Place: Ireland

Residence Year: 1867

Residence Place: Sonoma, California, USA

## James P Coleman

### Non-Population Schedules

Name: James P Coleman

Enumeration Date: 21 Jun 1870

Place: Bodega, Sonoma, California,

Schedule Type: Agriculture

## James P Coleman

### 1870 United States Federal Census

Name: James P Coleman

Birth Year: abt 1829

Birthplace: Ireland

Home in 1870: Bodega, Sonoma, California

Post Office: Freestone

Occupation: Farmer

Personal Estate Value: 5100

Real Estate Value: 30000

Household Members:	Name	Age
	<a href="#">Mathew Coleman</a>	
	<a href="#">James Kelby</a>	30
	<a href="#">James P Coleman</a>	41
	<a href="#">Mary N Coleman</a>	41
	<a href="#">John E Coleman</a>	13
	<a href="#">Mary J Coleman</a>	12
	<a href="#">Fanny Coleman</a>	10
	<a href="#">Annie Coleman</a>	8
	<a href="#">Thomas F Coleman</a>	6
	<a href="#">James Mc Coleman</a>	4
	<a href="#">Joseph Coleman</a>	3

## James P. Coleman in the 1880 United States Federal Census

Name: James P. Coleman

Birth Date: Abt 1829

Birthplace: Ireland

Home in 1880: Arcata, Humboldt, California,

House Number: 32 I-Street

Spouse's name: Mary Coleman

Father's Birthplace: Ireland

Mother's Birthplace: Ireland

Occupation: Farmer

Household Members:	Name	Age
	James P. Coleman	51
	Mary Coleman	51
	John E. Coleman	23
	Mary J. Coleman	19
	Fanny Coleman	17
	Anna M. Coleman	15
	Thomas F. Coleman	14
	James Coleman	12
	Joseph Coleman	11

## James Coleman California, Voter Registers

Name: James Coleman

Age: 47

Birth Year: abt 1826

Birth Place: Ireland

Residence Year: 1873

Residence Address: Bucksport

Residence Place: Humboldt, California, USA

## James Coleman California, Voter Registers

Name: James Coleman

Age: 67

Birth Year: abt 1829

Birth Place: Ireland

Residence Year: 1896

Residence Address: 1008 Florida

Residence Place: San Francisco, California

Naturalization Date: 28 Jul 1875

## Fanny Coleman in the 1880 United States Federal Census

Name: Fanny Coleman

Age: 17

Birth Date: Abt 1863

Birthplace: California

Relation to Head of House: Daughter

Father's name: James P. Coleman

## Anna M. Coleman in the 1880 United States Federal Census

Name: Anna M. Coleman

Age: 15

Birth Date: Abt 1865

Birthplace: California

Relation to Head of House: Daughter

Father's name: James P. Coleman

## Thomas F. Coleman in the 1880 United States Federal Census

Name: Thomas F. Coleman

Age: 14

Birth Date: Abt 1866

Birthplace: California

Home in 1880: Arcata, Humboldt, California,

Street: I-Street

House Number: 32

Relation to Head of House: Son

Father's name: James P. Coleman

Father's Birthplace: Ireland

Mother's name: Mary Coleman

Mother's Birthplace: Ireland

Occupation: Going To School

## Joseph Augustine Coleman

California, Voter Registers

Name: Joseph Augustine Coleman  
Age: 26  
Birth Year: abt 1872  
Birth Place: California  
Residence Year: 1898  
Residence Address: Occidental  
Residence Place: Sonoma, California, USA

Mary Coleman tells us in the 1900 Census that she has had 10 children, but only 6 were living, suggesting that Elizabeth, Thomas, Anna & James Jr. did not survive.

## Mary Coleman

in the 1900 United States Federal Census

Name: Mary Coleman  
Birth Date: Nov 1827  
Birthplace: Ireland  
Home in 1900: Ocean, Sonoma, California  
Immigration Year: 1850

Marital status: Widowed

Marriage Year: 1852

Father's Birthplace: Ireland

Mother's Birthplace: Ireland

Mother: Number of Living Children: 6

Mother: How Many Children: 10

Years in US: 50

Occupation: Farmer

House Owned or Rented: O

Home Free or Mortgaged: F

Farm or House: F

Neighbors: [View others on page](#)

Household Members:	Name	Age
	<a href="#">Mary Coleman</a>	72
	<a href="#">John E Coleman</a>	42
	<a href="#">Joseph A Coleman</a>	31
	<a href="#">Harry Spendler</a>	18

## Joseph A Coleman

in the 1920 United States Federal Census

Name: Joseph A Coleman  
Birth Year: abt 1871  
Birthplace: California  
Home in 1920: Bodega, Sonoma, California  
Street: Coleman Ranch Road  
Marital status: Single  
Spouse's name: Amanda E Thorp  
Father's Birthplace: Ireland  
Mother's Birthplace: Ireland  
Occupation: Farmer  
Industry: General Farm  
Employment Field: Employer  
Home Owned or Rented: Owned  
Home Free or Mortgaged: Free

Household Members:	Name	Age
	<a href="#">Joseph A Coleman</a>	49
	<a href="#">James Thorp</a>	67
	<a href="#">Jennie A Thorp</a>	60
	<a href="#">Charlie J Thorp</a>	36
	<a href="#">William J Thorp</a>	27
	<a href="#">Amanda E Thorp</a>	22
	<a href="#">James D Thorp</a>	3

## James Coleman

1880 United States Federal Census

Name: James Coleman  
Age: 12  
Birth Date: Abt 1868  
Birthplace: California  
Home in 1880: Arcata, Humboldt, California,

Relation to Head of House: Son

Father's name: James P. Coleman

## John Coleman

in the 1940 United States Federal Census

Name: John Coleman

Estimated birth year: abt 1858

Birthplace: California

Marital status: Single

Relation to Head of House: Uncle

Home in 1940: Analy, Sonoma, California

Residence in 1935: Same House

Highest Grade Completed: Elementary school, 8th grade

Income: 460

Income Other Sources: Yes

Household Members:	Name	Age
	<a href="#">Charles Thorpe</a>	47
	<a href="#">John Coleman</a>	82
	<a href="#">Claude Teague</a>	92

## Coast Pioneer Claimed By Death

John Coleman, 84, Sonoma county pioneer, died Tuesday at his home in Coleman valley which was named after his family. He had been ill for the past month. Born in San Francisco, Coleman located in the valley, in the Occidental section, with his family when a small child.

Coleman had never married and is survived by three nephews, Charles and William Thorpe, of Occidental, and Elmer Coleman, of San Francisco. The body has been removed to the Lafferty and Smith chapel in Santa Rosa.

## Coleman Funeral Planned Friday

John Coleman, 84-year-old pioneer rancher in the coast section, died yesterday at his home in Coleman valley, named after his family.

Born in San Francisco, Coleman came to the valley, in the Occidental section, with his family when a small child. He had never married, and he is survived by three nephews, Charles and William Thorpe of Occidental, and Elmer Coleman of San Francisco.

He had been ill a month.

Funeral services have been planned for Friday morning from the Memorial chapel of Lafferty and Smith thence to St. Rose's church where mass will be said for the repose of his soul. Interment will follow in the Holy Cross cemetery, San Mateo County.

## John Coleman Newspapers.com Obituary Index

Name: John Coleman

Death Age: 84

Birth Date: abt 1857

Birth Place: San Francisco

Residence Place: Occidental

Death Date: Abt 1941

Death Place: Coleman valley

Burial Place: San Mateo County

Obituary Date: 4 Jun 1941

# The Ranches of Bodega Bay

James Coleman - Chanslor Ranch

A 437 acre dairy ranch, known as the "Sutherland Ranch", **was purchased by James Coleman** (born in Dublin, Ireland in 1825), **probably in the 1860's** following the subdivision of Rancho Bodega. The 1877 atlas shows a house on the ranch, in the same location where the current ranch house is located, called the "Ocean View House" Sutherland was Coleman's second ranch. His first, purchased in 1857, was the 1000 acre "Coleman Hill Ranch," located between Occidental and the coast, near where Fitzgerald Lane meets Joy Road. In 1871, Coleman leased a portion of the Sutherland Ranch to John Genazzi, and the rest of the ranch to N. Keefe. In approximately 1877, Hollis Hitchcock, the then owner of many large tracts of land in Rancho Bodega, acquired Sutherland Ranch.

Salmon Creek was a lot bigger then, and boats could go up and down the creek to the ranches behind Chanslor Ranch. Catherine Poncia lived on the ranch as a girl. She told Abby Killey, a Rancho Bodega Historical Society member, stories about a ship that wrecked at the mouth of Salmon Creek, providing her family with firewood and about how she worked the fields planted with potatoes and THEN walked into Bodega Bay to go to school.

Fast forward to 1948 and enter John A. Chanslor. The ranch was now 705 acres, and under Chanslor's stewardship was operated as a guest ranch, offering horseback riding on the beach and on the trails above the ranch. Chanslor died in 1969 at the age of 58, leaving no wife or children, just a \$1.1 million estate that included Chanslor Ranch.

Chanslor Ranch was purchased by the Bodega-Salmon Creek Corporation, Tom Taylor, President, Verne Paule, Secretary, plus George Rich and Dave Heiman. Carrying on in the spirit of John Chanslor, the new owners operated the ranch as a dude ranch, an early version of a bed and breakfast. Bob and Bonnie Hardenbrook were the ranch managers. They moved to the ranch in 1973, their own three horses in tow, and set up the day-to-day operations. Bonnie tended the 10 or so horses and maintained the guest quarters, while Bob, an award winning chef, cooked for the guests and maintained the ranch lands. Guests paid \$16 a day. A special guest who frequented the ranch during those days was Liberace--apparently the stories of his stays are quite salacious. The Hardenbrooks left the ranch in 1984 after 10 years of making friends from around the world.

My records are sparse for the next 10 years, other than noting that the owners made a couple of efforts to break apart the acreage, or expand the operations, of Chanslor Ranch. In December 1976 they applied for a 4 way lot split, and in 1985

they applied for a 30 room expansion. Both were apparently defeated. Finally in 1994 George Gross leased Chanslor Ranch. Gross, who had spent his summers at a family dairy farm in Wisconsin, brought his enthusiasm for ranching to Bodega Bay via Los Angeles in 1991.

Bodega Bay is along the Pacific Flyway, a migratory route consisting of a string of coastal stopovers stretching from Alaska to South America. Chanslor Ranch, bounded on the north and west by Salmon Creek, has a large wetland that serves as a stop-over for ducks and other birds. The Chanslor Ranch wetlands are an important habitat for this area due to the natural diversity of the estuary, which includes a tidal lagoon, a freshwater marsh and pond, riparian habitat, a wet meadow, and seasonal pools, all favored by waterfowl and seabirds for good eating and resting.

George Gross promoted the protection of the wetlands as a wildlife habitat and an environmental educational preserve. For some period of time, 250 acres of rare estuary habitat at Chanslor Ranch was dedicated as a Wetlands Wildlife Preserve. In 1996, 5 high rise osprey nesting platforms were installed. PG&E donated the drilling for Eucalyptus poles to hold up the platforms. Also, a turtle island was built in the pond to improve the habitat for the western pond turtle.

Gross offered guided horseback rides and hiking trails around the wetlands, and he embarked on numerous fundraising projects to promote the wetlands. In 1995 the Bodega Bay Seafood Art and Wine Festival was started to benefit the wetlands project. The festival drew 8,000 people in 1995, and by 1997 the attendance was up to 9,000. Traffic on Highway One was tied up all afternoon. (Let's keep that in mind the next time someone proposes an event center on the Coast!). The last festival in Bodega Bay was in 2003, after that the festival was held in Bodega.

Guests at Chanslor Ranch have long enjoyed exploring Indian culture. Indian trails and artifact sites indicate human habitation at Chanslor Ranch as long as 8,000 years ago. Chanslor Ranch was the site of a chert quarry, where Coast Miwok gathered the flint-like material for making arrowheads.

The ranch had been listed for sale as early as 1997, but in late 1999 or early 2000, the Bodega-Salmon Creek Company applied for the County to purchase a conservation easement at Chanslor Ranch. This would have limited development at the ranch and preserved it as open space. The County approved the acquisition, but had not agreed on a price. At the same time, the State Parks Department was considering purchasing the ranch as an addition to the state parks system. Unfortunately, neither of those options came to fruition, and in May 2000 the ranch was split into two large parcels and sold to private owners.