

History of Street Names in Los Altos Hills

Name of Street	History of Name	Resource/Background
Adobe Creek Lodge Road	Takes its name from the recreational property that formerly surrounded it. It was forced out of business by the Town's prohibition on commercial enterprises. The name Adobe Creek came from the north flowing stream that originated on Black Mountain and flowed through Los Altos Hills, Los Altos, and Palo Alto.	Les Earnest
Alexander Place	Named after Alexander Berger	
Altamont Road	Changed by Council 1962, formerly Elizabeth Avenue	
Alto Verde Lane	means "Green Hill" named by Council Oct 6, 1958	
Arastradero Road	Originally a cattle trail. In Spanish Arastradero means both a road used for logging and pulling a dead bull with a rope.	
Aric Lane	Named by the subdivision builder, Maurice Johnson, for his son, Aric.	
Avila Ct	Named for the property owner who had a cattle ranch and also many horses on the property.	Ginger Summit
Baker Lane	Named by the owner, Mr. Baker. He gave part to his daughter, Mrs. Anderson, who lived at the top of Baker Lane.	
Baleri Ranch Rd	Named for early Town residents	Minutes of LAH Historical Society 1974
Beatrice Lane	Named for Beatrice Fretz, wife of Paul Fretz, realtor who with Mr. Cicerone, subdivided the seven acres around the Laura Bergner house.	Elizabeth Peers
Beaver Lane	Named for Dr. Beaver, a GP in the area. The property was originally an orchard and grazing field. The property was divided and the stable was remodeled into two houses. Foreman's house was torn down. Dr. Beaver was on the freeway committee for the town.	Ed and Cathie Boldrey
Bentley Ct.	Named for Prof. Rufus Clarence Bentley and his wife Ellen Hart Bentley. They bought a 9-10 acre apricot ranch at the SE corner of Burke Ave and Fremont Rd in the early 1930s after his retirement from Stanford University. The ranch was sold around 1945 and Bentley Ct. subdivided later.	William Seely
Black Mountain Road	Formerly Yuba Ave. and a portion of Elena Ave changed by council 1962	
Bledsoe Ct.	Named for original council member after formation of town. 1956	
Briones Ct and Way	Named after Juana Briones. She purchased the Rancho, La Purisima Concepcion, in 1844. It later became a major portion of Los Altos Hills, roughly from Adobe Creek to Arastradero Creek.	F. Fava book
Burke Road and Lane	Named for Jeret T. Burke who owned 60 acres in 1930	p. 81 Fava Book
Camino Hermoso	Name changed by council 1962 from Camino Hermosa	
Camino Medio	named by Council Oct. 6, 1958	
Canario Way	Originally Arroyo Way, Council changed the name Oct 6, 1958	
Carrington Circle	Alma Carrington Taylor requested the name in honor of her parents who bought 6.5 acres in 1920. Tract was subdivided by Bob Owen	

History of Street Names in Los Altos Hills

Name of Street	History of Name	Resource/Background
Central Drive	Formerly Moody Court name changed by council 1962	
Christopher Lane	Named for Phyllis White's son Christopher. Mrs White lived on Jabil Lane in Los Altos Hills.	Jean Trotter
Cicerone Lane	Named for the family that initially developed that subdivision.	Elizabeth Peers
Concepcion Road	Named after Rancho La Purissima Concepcion, granted 6/30/1840.	Los Altos News 9/11/53
Corte Madera	Named by Council Oct. 6, 1958	
Cortez Lane	Named in 1966 by subdivider who was searching for a Spanish name for the street since there was much Spanish architecture in the area.	
Darling Lane	Named for Barbara Darling Meredith's father who bought land here in the 50s and sold it in the 80s.	Oral History of Barbara Darling Meredith
Dawson Drive	C. Earl Dawson purchased 130 acres above Magdalena from Univ of CA in 1936 and moved into his newly constructed mansion in 1940. Dr. Morris Herzstein had originally left the land to the university. He bought 30 acres from the heirs of J. P Hale whose ownership dated to 1869. He continued purchasing land until he had 130 acres. Dr. Herzstein spent an estimated \$250,000 in trees, shrubs and vines, perfecting a water supply from 3 wells that resembled beautiful lakes (2 reservoirs of 65,000 gallons). He built miles of graveled roads, drainage systems, and terraced orchards. His plan was for the university to use it as a home for retired doctors. He did not provide the funds for an endowment of such a home so it never came to pass. The U. held the land for 10 years and then sold it to the Dawsons. Mr. and Mrs. Dawson donated \$15,000 to the newly formed town of Los Altos Hills to underwrite the cost of the new Town Hall.	donation information in minutes 4/17/56
Dezahara Way	Misnamed for Marquesa Betty Byrne de Zahara. Betty was the daughter of Col. and Mrs. Bernard Byrne whose primary residence had been in the SF Presidio. They created a country residence in what is now Byrne Preserve. After inheriting the land, Betty and brother Albert donated it to the Nature Conservancy to be made available to the Town. Betty was an actress who appeared in films and stage plays. While living in Washington she met and married a Spanish diplomat, the Marques de Zahara. She passed away in 2006 at age 99 in Newport, RI.	Les Earnest
Donelson Place	after D. Berger	
Duval Way	Arthur Frederick Duval and his wife, Irene, left San Francisco circa 1920 to raise their family in Los Altos Hills on the apricot-prune ranch founded by Irene's parents. The Duval Barn on the corner of Purissima Road and Robleda Avenue is still there. The Duval children attended Purissima School. The street was named after them.	MaryAnn Malcolm
Edgecliff Place	Originally Prospect Ct. Council changed the name Oct 6, 1958	

History of Street Names in Los Altos Hills

Name of Street	History of Name	Resource/Background
Edgerton Road	Off of Black Mountain Road was named for Edgerton C. Cooley who owned the property when it was subdivided. He was a resident of Los Altos Hills in 1934.	Rosemary Meyerott, town historian
Edith Road	Named for Edith Cranston, the Cranston family was involved in real estate in the area in the late 19th and early 20th century. Street name was adopted by Santa Clara County in 1897.	Leon Scharman
Elena Road	Formerly Marian changed by council 1962	
Eucalyptus Lane	Named for the many Eucalyptus trees in the area.	Rosemary Meyerott, Town Historian 8/6/1991
Finn Lane	Named for Steve Finn, owner and developer. He later became a Council member and Mayor.	
Foothill Expressway	A large portion of the Expressway follows the foothills of the San Francisco peninsula. Its route was once the right-of-way of the Peninsular Railway, a suburban spur-line serving the foothill	The Tall Tree - Streets of Palo Alto
Francemont	Named for Frances Bloch, daughter of developer	Betty Kayton
Gigli Court and Street	Named for Mr. Gigli who came as a small child from Italy. He originally picked apricots, then he went into the plumbing business. He bought the land around Gigli St and continued in the plumbing business which kept him out of WWII as he worked on plumbing for the military at Treasure Island. His father was an architect for some of the buildings on Lombard Street. Mr. Gigli never married. He ultimately sold four parcels but kept one and a second one where his house stood. He had two safes, a large one in the house and a small one he buried under the palm trees by the pool. The house was sold by his nephews after his death to a couple from a neighboring town who, rather than tearing down the old house, remodeled it and kept it in its original form. The small safe is still under the	Mary Lou Salazar, neighbor on Gigli Court
Horseshoe Ct. & Lane	The names in this area represented the many horse owners and corrals and included Saddle Ct., Stirrup Way, Horseshoe Ct and Lane.	
Horseshore Court and Lane	Formerly Old Vineyard, Edna Aubriano's family had a vineyard here from 1922.	
Julietta Lane	Named after daughter, Julietta Eshner	
Junipero Serra Freeway	Also known as Interstate 280, named for the Franciscan priest who initiated the development of the California missions.	Les Earnest
Kate Drive	John Vidovich, local developer, developed the quarry area of Los Altos Hills and named the street after one of his two daughters.	Ginger Summit
La Barranca	Spanish name for the nearby gully/ravine.	
La Lanne Court		Les Earnest
La Paloma Road	Formerly Paloma Ave. changed by council 1962	

History of Street Names in Los Altos Hills

Name of Street	History of Name	Resource/Background
Leander Drive	Although lined with oleanders the street was actually named after the developer's father. The developer, Oscar Holm's father was named Leander Holm. Oscar, who lived at the top of the street, was in the septic tank business and did a lot of work in our early town. However, Leander has always been on sewer.	Charlene Geers
Liddicoat Drive and Circle	In the 1930's John Walter Liddicoat, an immigrant from Cornwall, England bought 83 acres in what now comprises Liddicoat Drive and the surrounding area. He paid \$37,000, a large sum at the time. He built a feedhouse and a slaughter house. He transported cattle by truck from 1000 acres he rented in La Honda. The meat went to five markets he owned in the area. During WWII the government acquired and paid for 85% of his herd. This left little for his markets and he began closing them. Later 19 acres were acquired through eminent domain for the cloverleaf at 280 and Page Mill Rd. He then sold the rest of his land to a developer. Liddicoat Drive and Circle were named	John Liddicoat, son, July 2013
Magdalena Avenue and Road	Named by Joseph Hale, property owner, named for Magdalena Is. off the coast of Baja CA, an island which Hale owned.	Ellen McKenzie, 1961
Manuela Avenue & Manuella Rd	Named after Manuela, the daughter of Donna Juana Briones de Miranda, who grew up in her home that still exists near where Manuela Rd meets Arastradero	Los Altos News 9/04/53
Maria	named by Council Feb. 21, 1989	
Menalto Drive	Mr. Gilbert bought 22 acres and built his house on the top of the hill there. He named the street to his house after a street in Menlo Park where he had a hardware store.	
Middle Fork Lane	Formerly a part of Three Forks Lane, changed by council 1962	
Mir Mirou	Larry Dawson was an ex-Navy man and a filmmaker, used a play on Russian words to come up with Mir Mirou which in Russian means Peace on Earth.	Jitze Couperus
Miranda Ct., Rd., and Way	Named after Donna Juana Briones de Miranda	Los Altos New 9/4/53
Moody Road	Named for George Washington Moody he had Moody Road paved to deliver wood from the lumber industry in the redwoods from Woodside south to Saratoga Gap. The road was used to haul logs from the hills along Skyline Ridge to the Bay landings. Moody married Emily Lynn and with her father bought one of CA's first country inns, the Fremont House near Mt. View. He sold it in 1860. He owned a saloon with Simeon Haines called Bay View House Saloon at the Mt. View railroad station. The men developed a stage line that ran from the Saloon to what is today Page Mille Road. In 1868 the county converted the six-mile stage line into a 40' wide public highway. Business at his Saloon	
Moon Lane	Named after Joseph W. Moon who had a house there - originally a carriage maker, he founded Moon Motor which manufactured both cars and trucks but eventually went out of business during the great depression when it was bought out by Ruxton Automobile. He developed the property.	Jitze Couperus

History of Street Names in Los Altos Hills

Name of Street	History of Name	Resource/Background
Mora Drive	Named for Joseph Mora a well-known sculptor and painter from Uruguay. Best known for the diorama of the Portola Expedition for the S. F. 1939 Exhibition on Treasure Island and the bronze statue of Christ for the Santa Clara Catholic Cemetery. His home and studio were in Los Altos Hills on the street that now bears his name.	Early Los Altos and LA Hills by Don McDonald and the Los Altos History Museum Arcadic Publishing, 2010, page 76
Morrison Court	Named for the family who lived there many years until is was subdivided in 2008	Les Earnest
Natoma Road	Formerly S Elena and Elena Ave. changed by council 1962	
North Fork Lane	Formerly a part of Three Forks Lane, changed by council 1962	
Ohlone Lane	Thought to be named after the Ohlone indigenous people who populated the region prior to the Spanish. Ohlone is a misspelling of the Indian tribe's name, Ohone.	
Old Crow Lane	This street was named in jest. It had a street sign but when it came to the attention of then mayor, Mary Van Tamelen, she had the sign removed. It was named as a joke for the former town manager Bob Crow.	
Old Snakey Road	Named by Gerry Ferrari who moved to LAH in 1927 as a summer resident. He and his three brothers named it Old Snakey Road because it snaked up the hill and there were rattlesnakes.	Mrs. Gerry Ferrari
Old Trace Ct and Old Trace Rd	were named in 1954 as a private lane leading from Arastradero Rd to the Rancho Purisima Concepcion house site. Santa Clara County required a designation in order to provide adequate fire and police protection, and the names were proposed by Mrs. Edith Cox Eaton, the owner of the property and her companion, Mrs. Lucretia Van Horn. Trace is an archaic word for road or path.	The Tall Tree - Streets of Palo Alto"
Oneonta Drive	Named for an American Indian Tribe, the name means "stony place" or "many rocks."	
Orchard Hill Lane	Named by George Pfeiffer and his wife. Suggested Apricot Lane to honor our apricot orchards, then Lizard Lane but the developer didn't like either name. Ended up with Orchard Hill Lane. When they had to start using the name on forms they were sorry they had chosen such a long name.	
Page Mill Road	Can be traced to the early lumbering days when the road was constructed to link Mayfield with Page's and Peers' lumbering investments in the area, now identified as Portola State Park. William Page was interested in the Pescadero area where he purchased government land and good stands of timber. Alexander Peers, was his partner in a lumber business in Mayfield by 1866. Early residents recalled watching as late as 1918 the big lumber wagons bumping over Page Mill Road and listening for the bells attached to horses' harnesses to warn travelers of their approach along the steep and	The Tall Tree - Streets of Palo Alto
Paseo del Roble	Spanish for street of Oaks, named by the developer of that area.	

History of Street Names in Los Altos Hills

Name of Street	History of Name	Resource/Background
Pink Horse Ranch Subdivision	Originally a resort with riding, fishing, cocktail lounge, dining room for the Stanford set. It came and went in the 1950s. Purchased in 1957 by Dr. James Mayfield Harris and wife, Joann, Pink Horse Ranch developer added a covered bridge, living room, dining room and master bedroom to the existing resort when he sold it. The Harris' lived there for 45 years. The original Seeburg jukebox, soda fountain, and glassware for sundaes remained till 2012.. Whitecliff 8-4476 remained on the rotary dial phone. Filet mignon was \$4.25 on the menu. The Demeters, a mother/daughter club at Los Altos High School held a fashion show to benefit Children's Health Council there using the bridge over the	
Purissima Rd	Named after the Rancho La Purissima Concepcion, granted 6/30/1840	Los Altos New 9/11/53
Roble Ladera Drive	Originally Ortega Drive. Council changed the name Oct. 6, 1958	
Roble Veneno Lane	Spanish translation is Poison Oak Lane. Originally part of Viscaino Drive. Council vote for name change Oct. 6, 1958. Town Clerk Paul Salfen suggested the name in jest several months before	
Robleda Road	Named in 1960 for the many Oak trees in the area. In Spanish, Robleda means small grove of oak	
Saddle Court	The names in this area represented the many horse owners and corrals and included Saddle Ct., Stirrup Way, Horseshoe Ct and Lane.	
Saddle Mountain Drive	The names in this area represented the many horse owners and corrals and included Saddle Ct., Stirrup Way, Horseshoe Ct and Lane.	Dot Shriner
San Antonio Road	The road passes through three communities: Palo Alto, Mt. View, and Los Altos. The name is derived from Rancho San Antonio. A portion of the present-day road passes through the lands of Rancho San Antonio which was confirmed to Juan Prado Mesa, October 1843	The Tall Tree - Streets of Palo Alto
Scarff Way	Named by the owner and developer of the subdivision who was a former President of Transamerica. He was still living there as of 2010.	
Seven Acres	The original name was Acacia Acres. The neighbors got together to choose a new name. The contractor, Anderson, who built the houses wanted to name it Anderson Acres but the rest of the group decided on Seven Acres. There are seven one acre lots.	Robertta Clarke, homeowner on Seven Acres, 7/2013
Sherlock Road & Sherlock Court	Named for Tom Sherlock, town councilman 1960s and original member of the town planning commission. Lived off Moody Rd with his wife and children. At a Town Council meeting the council moved to name the Streets Sherlock Rd, and Sherlock Ct.	Town Crier
Sholes	after Berger's mother's maiden name	
Snell Ct and Lane	Named after the Snell Family when they subdivided this property. Mr. Snell moved here in the 1930s and purchased 37 acres of land.	Evelyn Snell Troedsen
South Fork Lane	Formerly a part of Three Forks Lane, changed by council 1962	

History of Street Names in Los Altos Hills

Name of Street	History of Name	Resource/Background
Stirrup Way	The names in this area represented the many horse owners and corrals and included Saddle Ct., Stirrup Way, Horseshoe Ct and Lane.	
Summit Wood Road	Formerly S. El Monte changed by council 1962	
Taafe Lane and Road	Martin and William Taafe received as a wedding present the Rose Hill home on La Purisima Concepcion land grant. Taafe Lane and Road were named for them. Martin died in 1901 at age 33 leaving his wife with a large home, ranch and six children. Rose became a real estate agent. They originally had 2800 acres.	F. Fava book
Three Forks Lane	This street splits into three forks.	
Toyon Way & Toyonita Rd.	refers to a small native tree that produces abundant red berries around Christmas time. The leaves resemble holly and an alternative name for this tree is "Hollywood."	Les Earnest
Tripoli Ct.	suggested by John Riley, subdivision engineer, who knew the subdivider was a retired Brigadier General in the Marine Corps.	
Via Corita	originally Mueller Court, name change requested by Mr. and Mrs. James Mueller, long time residents on a private road subdivided their property into seven parcels. Council approved change Aug 6, 1980	
Viscaino Ct., Place, and Road	Named for the Spanish explorer Sebastian Viscaino who explored the CA coast in 1602 and renamed many of its features 60 years after Cabrillo named them.	Mary Jane Ferrari, wife
Voorhees Drive	Named for Dr. V. Voorhees and family who first developed the area.	^
Weston Drive	Maurice Johnson built a subdivision here and named two of the streets after his sons.	
Westwind Way	Named by Norman and Geraldine Philbrick. They purchased the property which borders northwest side of Westwind Way. At that time there was only a dirt road while we built our house in 1955. Finally we paved the street and continued to call our private road Westwind Way. In 1963 the street was dedicated to the county and retained the name Westwind Way. We wanted the name to be easy to understand and spell. It has not been the perfect choice. Our mail comes addressed to W. Wind Way, Winding Way, Windy Way, and Whirling Way. We chose Westwind because it has a lovely sound and Lennox has a china pattern called Westwind.	Geraldine Philbrick
Wright Way	Named for early Town residents	Minutes of LAH Historical Society 1974

History of Street Names in Los Altos Hills

Name of Street	History of Name	Resource/Background
Zappettini Court	<p>William Zappettini was a well-know Bay Area floriculturist for more than 60 years, an innovator in the floral business, growing and shipping flowers. At 18 he came to SF from Genoa, Italy and began his career in the flower business becoming one of the largest flower wholesalers in the country. During WWII he cared for many of the nurseries of the Japanese Americans who had their farms confiscated. He returned the farms to the original owners when they returned from the camps. He purchased his Hills property in 1944 and in '59 built his home. He received the Star of Solidarity Medal in 1960 from the Italian Government in recognition of his outstanding representation of the Italian image abroad. He received honors from FTD, CA State Florists Assoc and many others. In '69 he was elected to the Floricultural Hall of Fame. In '75 he was given the key to SF by Mayor J. Alioto and commended by Pres. Ford for his contributions to the floral industry. For five decades Mr. Zappattini brought flowers into American homes as well as to coronations and White House weddings.</p>	<p>Rosemary Meyerott, Town Historian 8/6/1991</p>