

AUBURN'S HOLSCRAW FEED & FUEL SAFE POSSIBLY FROM LATE 1800s GREET ARCHIVES VISITORS

These are some photos of an unusual safe that I took Feb. 19 in response to a call the night before a call from one Bobby Johns, who was in the process of moving to Alaska. He wanted to donate a one ton historic safe to a good home such as the Placer County Historical Society.

Johns acquired the safe from a neighbor, he and his late wife had cared for before he died. The neighbor was Ronald Brown, a former vice principal of Placer High and a long time noted auto shop teacher who would take some of his students to an auto manufacturer in Detroit to see how cars are made.

There was a receipt in the safe indicating Brown had acquired the safe March 3, 1975, from E.E. Holsclaw. The safe, as the story goes, was originally in the Holsclaw Feed & Fuel, that was located on Highway 49 where Elm Street currently enters and where a used car dealer is now located. The safe was later in the DeAlberts Feed Store in what is now a county owned lot across the street from Dr. Ken Fox's old office and the giant concrete statues.

The safe was in Mr. John's garage sitting on 2,000 lbs. and is on a forklift. He said if you can bring a truck to carry it, he can load it on the truck. There is an ornate picture of a train crossing a river (may be at Sacramento) on the exterior that can be barely made out in one of the photos. Bobby Johns works in West Sacramento.

Thanks to some heroic museum and county efforts the safe currently greets County Museum Archives visitors. It is similar to a museum safe I observed Feb. 28 in Lompoc said to be from late 1800s. Could be part of new museum exhibit. –Michael Otten, president, Placer County Historical Society.





MAY 3, 1975

To whom it May Concerns-

I hereby sell to Mr Brown
one locked safe - used -
now stored at Heberts
Feed Store

C. C. Holsclaw



