

Section:Fresno, California13

Context: Homes from the early 20th century line this boulevard in the heart of the historic Alta Vista Tract. The section of Huntington Boulevard between First Street on the west to Cedar Avenue on the east is the home to many large, stately homes. The original development of this area began circa 1910, on 190 acres of what had been an alfalfa field. The Alta Vista Tract, as the land would become known, was mapped by William Stranahan for the Pacific Improvement Corporation, and was officially platted in 1911. The tract's boundaries were Balch Avenue on the south, Cedar Avenue on the east, the rear property line of Platt Avenue (east of Sixth Street) and Platt Avenue (west of Sixth Street) on the north, and First Street on the west. The subdivision was annexed to the City in January 1912, in an election that was the first in which women voted in the community. At the time of its admission to the City, the Alta Vista Tract was uninhabited but landscaped, although the trees had to be watered by tank wagon. In 1914 developers Billings Meyering acquired the tract, completed street development, provided the last of the necessary municipal improvements including water service, and began marketing the property with fervor. A mere half decade later the tract had 267 homes. This rapid development was no doubt hastened by the Fresno Traction Company right-of-way along Huntington Boulevard, which provided streetcar connections between downtown and the County Hospital. CANNOTANSWER

STUDENT: **Which boulevard can you find many majestic homes in the area?**

TEACHER: ➞ "" (Huntington Boulevard)

STUDENT: **Who mapped the Alta Vista Tract?**

TEACHER: ➞ "" (William Stranahan)

STUDENT: **In what year did developers Billings Meyering acquire the Alta Vista Tract?**

TEACHER: ➞ "" (1914)

STUDENT: **How many homes did the Alta Vista Tract have five years after Billings Meyering acquired it?**

TEACHER: ➞ "" (267)

STUDENT: **Which company provided streetcar connections between downtown and the hospital?**

TEACHER: ➞ "" (Fresno Traction Company)

STUDENT: **Who planted the alfalfa fields?**

TEACHER: ➞ "" (CANNOTANSWER)

STUDENT: **Who did the City grant the property to in 1912?**

TEACHER: ➞ "" (CANNOTANSWER)

STUDENT: **How many homes did the Pacific Improvement Corporation build?**

TEACHER: ➞ "" (CANNOTANSWER)

STUDENT: **What stalled the development of houses?**

TEACHER: ➞ "" (CANNOTANSWER)

STUDENT: **When did the Fresno Traction Company begin to provide street-car connections?**

TEACHER: ➞ "" (CANNOTANSWER)