



# MORRISON & COMPANY

10 Landing Circle, #5  
Chico, California 95973

PHONE: 530.893.4764 • FAX: 530.893.4978

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## GORRILL RANCH 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY



*The first family: Ralph Gorrill, with his three daughters, Sally, Anne, and Jane.*

The Morrison team was delighted to attend the 100-year anniversary of Gorrill Ranch in Durham, California (our third in recent years, following 100-year anniversary celebrations for clients Sunsweet Growers in 2017 and Butte County Rice Growers Association in 2015).

Engineer Ralph Gorrill was helping build a Northern California highway when a stretch of land caught his eye. Mr. Gorrill purchased the property, which became Gorrill Ranch in 1918. He leveraged his

engineering skills to survey and level the land as well as to develop an innovative gravity-fed water delivery system that supplies the ranch to this day.

Upon his passing in 1964, Ralph's three daughters guided the ranch before transitioning it to the third generation. It is now in the hands of the fourth generation, including Ralph's great granddaughter, Managing Partner and Chairman, Corrie Nichols Davis. President and CEO Danny Robinson manages the daily operations.

Part of the first wave of California rice farming, Gorrill pioneered cultural and irrigation methods that have benefited the entire industry. Dedicated to conservation from inception, the ranch has reserved a portion of its acreage as an "Environmental Preserve," a home to deer, turkeys, squirrels, beavers, and many native animals. The Gorrill Dam on Butte Creek has been retrofitted to protect fish from entering irrigation systems and to provide fish ladders to allow passage year-round.

Gorrill's operations have expanded to include prunes, almonds, walnuts, and pecans. While the farm is now overseen by the fourth generation, we couldn't help but notice the fifth generation at the celebration, climbing on the equipment displays and playing near the fields. We don't doubt that the ranch will one day be in their hands.



*Gorrill Ranch has come a long way these last 100 years.*

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