

Oroville (Ophir City)

This community had its beginnings in October, 1849, when the Long brothers opened a store at Long Bar, two miles above the present city. A month later, J.M. Burt opened a second store in the vicinity and the settlement became known as Ophir City for the biblical lost city of gold. It was so called until 1855 when the name was changed to Oroville because of the existence of another Ophir in Placer County. History does not record who applied the original or the present names.