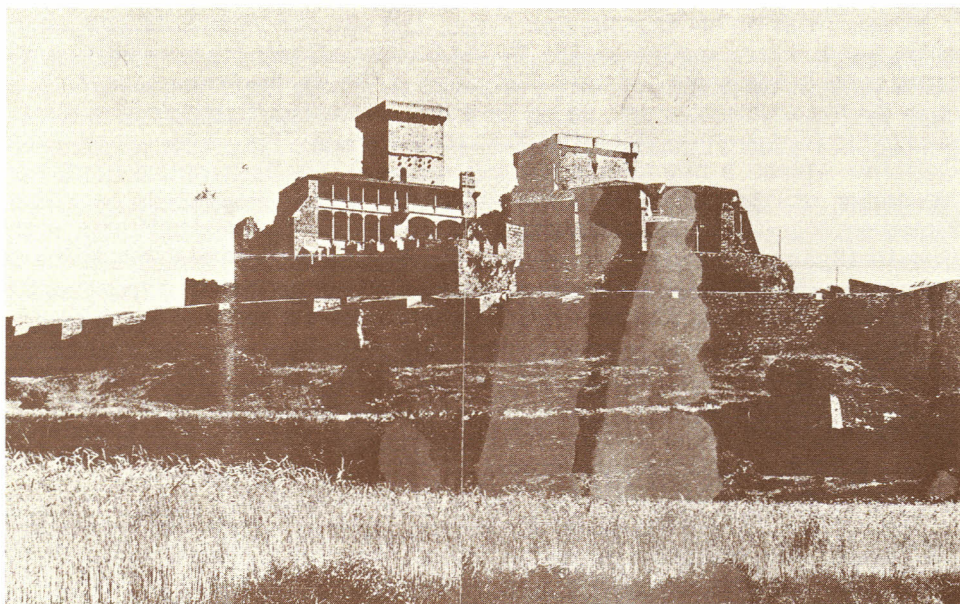


NOTICIAS del PUERTO de MONTEREY

A Quarterly Bulletin of Historic Monterey Issued by
The Monterey History and Art Association

Vol. 21, Number 2

June 1977



Castillo de Monterey (at Orense). Built by the Counts of Monterey in latter part of 15th Century.

THE COUNT OF MONTEREY AND THE VIZCAINO EXPEDITION TO MONTEREY BAY IN 1602

By Eric Beerman

This year is the 375th anniversary of the exploration of Monterey Bay on December 16, 1602 by the intrepid Spanish navigator — Sebastián Vizcaíno. He named the bay in honor of the viceroy of New Spain, V count of Monterey (Gaspar de

Zuñiga y Acevedo. The expedition departed Acapulco, Mexico and explored the Pacific Coast until Cape Mendocino in Northern California. Catalina Island, San Diego and Monterey all received particular attention from Vizcaíno, especially the latter. Accounts were written of this expedition; two of the most reliable were: *Viaje del nuevos descubrimientos . . . desde el puerto de Acapulco hasta el Cabo Mendocino . . . siendo Virrey el Conde de Monterey en el año de 1602*, by the Carmelite friar, Antonio de la Ascensión; and *Derrotero de la navegación desde el Puerto de Acapulco al Cabo Mendocino y Boca de las Californias*, by the expedition's cosmographer, Captain Gerónimo Martín Palacios. Included in the latter account were 34 beautiful maps of points on the Pacific Coast, which were done after the return of the expedition, by the King's cosmographer in New Spain, Enrico Martínez.

Sebastián Vizcaíno was born around the middle of the 16th century, probably at the tiny Spanish hamlet of Corcho in Extremadura. Like many of his contemporaries of this region, Vizcaíno went to Mexico to seek his fortune and became a famous navigator. His California expedition departed Acapulco on May 5, 1602.

Vizcaíno was on his flagship, *San Diego*, and was accompanied by two small ships, *Santo Tomás* and *Tres Reyes*. On the California Coast, the expedition visited many of the points which had been discovered in 1542 by the Portuguese mariner, Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo, who sailed for the Spanish king. Cabrillo's journal was credited to his Levantine chief pilot, Bartolomé Ferrelo. This earlier expedition to California sighted a bay (Monterey) and named it "La Baya de los Pinos" on November 16, 1542. Because of the inclement weather, the Cabrillo expedition turned south and wintered on the island of La Posesión (San Miguel) in the Santa Barbara Channel. As a result of a fall, Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo died on this island on January 3, 1543. Ferrelo assumed command of the expedition and renamed the island Juan Rodríguez (Cabrillo), which today carries the name of San Miguel.

Sebastián Vizcaíno was so taken by the beauty of Monterey Bay, describing it with such enthusiasm, that subsequent mariners failed to recognize the bay by Vizcaíno's account. At the northern-most point of the expedition, Cape Mendocino, the crew was in dreadful condition, so Vizcaíno gave orders to return to the home port of Acapulco. Until the Serra/Portolá expedition to Monterey Bay in 1769, the Vizcaíno account of the California Coast was the basic work.

The V count of Monterey, for whom Monterey Bay was named, was born Gaspar de Zuñiga y Acevedo at the ancestral castle at Monterey in Spanish Galicia in the year 1548. Monterey was reconquered by King Alfonso VIII, the Noble, of Castille, who named it — Monte-Rey — because of its mountainous terrain. It was under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of Orense, and its parochial church was Santa María de Gracia. The V count of Monterey founded a *hostal* there for those making the pilgrimage to the religious center of Santiago de Compostela from the southeast of Spain. Today, this *hostal*, situated above the Tamaga River, serves not only contemporary pilgrims, but also some of the millions of Spanish and foreign tourists, as it is now one of Spain's most famous *paradores* (state hotels).

Gaspar de Zuñiga y Acevedo inherited the aristocratic title of the V count of Monterey on the death of his father, Jerónimo de Acevedo y Zuñiga. Gaspar entered the royal service, becoming viceroy of New Spain and of Peru. He entered Mexico City on November 5, 1595, and assumed duties as the viceroy of New Spain. In this prestigious post, the V count of Monterey succeeded Luis de Velasco y Castillo,

named as the new viceroy of Peru. Velasco was the son of a previous viceroy of New Spain, Luis de Velasco y Alarcón, both knights in the Order of Santiago.

In addition to being famous in history for the Vizcaíno expedition to California, the V count of Monterey was responsible for the Spanish settlement in 1601 of New Mexico by the Juan de Oñate expedition which departed Zacatecas, Mexico in 1598. Besides colonization in New Mexico, Oñate explored large areas of the Southwest. A grateful Spanish monarch, Felipe III, made Juan de Oñate the I *Adelantado* of New Mexico.

In Mexico, Monterey devoted much time to Indian affairs and apparently was much loved by the Indians. In 1603, he completed his assignment in Mexico and was named viceroy of Peru, succeeding his predecessor in Mexico, Luis de Velasco y Castillo. Later in 1607, Velasco was again named viceroy of Mexico and awarded the aristocratic title of the marquis of Salinas. In Mexico, the count of Monterey was replaced by Juan de Mendoza y Luna, marquis of Montesclaros, who assumed the trappings of power in Mexico City on October 27, 1603, and served at this post until 1606. Juan de Mendoza was a knight in the Order of Santiago and *gentilhombre de cámara del Rey*.

In the count of Monterey's end-of-tour report (*Advertimientos que el Conde de Monte Rey dió al Virrey Mi Señor Marqués de Montesclaros su sucesor en el Gobierno de Nueva España*), it told of the Vizcaíno expedition to Monterey Bay. Interestingly, in Luis de Velasco's *Advertimientos* to Monterey in 1595, it related the preparations of this coming expedition to California.

The count of Monterey departed Acapulco in 1603 to assume his new position as viceroy of Peru. In this new assignment, he sent another audacious navigator, Pedro Fernández Quirós, in an exploration expedition to Patagonia, at the southern tip of South America. This navigator was already famous in history for his voyages to the South Seas.

King Felipe III signed an order at El Escorial on October 5, 1606, which told of the death in February 1606 of his viceroy of Peru — the V count of Monterey. He was buried at the Lima Cathedral with full honors and was survived by a son, Manuel, who became the VI count of Monterey.

The V count of Monterey was descended from an old and distinguished family in Spain. But before establishing in Spain at the ancestral castle of Monterey, the line had its origins in France and Portugal. The first of this line was Arnaldo de Bayan, from the Gascony region in France, who came to Spain in 983 A.D. to fight against the Moors. He served King Alfonso V of León with distinction in the wars against the Moors. Both were killed at the siege of Viseo, near Coimbra, Portugal, in 1027.

Arnaldo de Bayan was survived by a son, Gosindo Arnalde, an expert in arms. Gosindo was a knight of Fernando I, el Grande, king of Castille and Leon (1037-1065). Arnaldo's son, Egas Gosindo Bayan, also served Fernando I. Egas married Ebescua Biegas. Their heir, Rodrigo, followed the wars against the Moors into Portugal. There, he settled at Acevedo and following the custom of the day, he took it as his own — Rodrigo de Acevedo. At the castle of Acevedo, Rodrigo married Sancha Pérez, producing two sons, Melendo Pérez de Acevedo and Fernán-Pérez de Acevedo.

This latter son left Acevedo and went to Spain and served Alfonso VI, king of Castille (1072-1109). Both participated in the famous *reconquista* of Toledo in 1085. Fernán-Pérez de Acevedo was then awarded the *mayorazgo* (primogeniture) of the

Acevedo line of Castille, from which the V count of Monterey was descended. Fernán's brother, Melendo Pérez de Acevedo remained in Portugal and established the famous Portuguese *mayorazgo* of the Acevedos.

After the *reconquista* of Toledo, the Acevedo line of Castille settled near Monterey, near the famous city of Salamanca. At the San Francisco Church in the latter city was placed the family coat-of-arms of the Acevedos.

The shield was divided in four equal parts. In the upper left hand corner and lower right hand corner was a green tree on a golden field; the remaining two had a resting wolf on a silver field, with eight golden dots. With the Acevedo line definitely established in Spain, the following illustrates the genealogy of the count of Monterey (Gaspar de Zuñiga y Acevedo) for whom Monterey Bay was named:

- I. *Diego González de Acevedo II* was the brother of the great-great-grandfather of the V count of Monterey. He was the accountant of the kingdom of Castille, under Enrique IV, brother of Isabel la Católica. Diego married Catalina Fonseca and had the following children: Juan González Fonseca, Alonso de Acevedo y Fonseca, Luis de Acevedo, Aldonza de Acevedo and María de Acevedo. The primogenitor, Juan, died without heir and the *mayorazgo* was inherited by the next brother, Alonso (See II).
- II. *Alonso de Acevedo y Fonseca* was the archbishop of Santiago de Compostela and patriarch of Alexandria. He was married to María de Ulloa, señora de Cambados, and had two sons: Diego de Acevedo Fonseca y Ulloa (see III) and Alonso de Acevedo Fonseca y Ulloa, archbishop of Toledo.
- III. *Diego de Acevedo Fonseca y Ulloa* was the paternal great-grandfather of the V count of Monterey. He married Francisca de Zuñiga Ulloa y Biedma, II countess of Monterey, which title then came into the Acevedo line. The following son inherited the *mayorazgo* of Acevedo and the title of the count of Monterey.
- IV. *Alonso de Acevedo y Zuñiga* (grandfather) was the III count of Monterey. He was the sire of *Biedma y Ulloa de la casa de Ribera*, inheriting as well the *mayorazgos* of the Acevedos and Fonseca lines. Alonso was the *pertiguero* mayor of the Order of Santiago and *gran servidor* of King Carlos V, with whom he served in combat. Alonso married María de Pimentel, daughter of Alonso Pimental, V count of Benavente. Their sons were Jerónimo (see V) and Diego, knight in the Order of Santiago. Out of wedlock, Alonso de Acevedo had three other sons: Alonso de Acevedo, knight in the Order of San Juan; Diego Zuñiga, *capitán de lanzas*; and Juan de Fonseca, member of the *Consejo de Indias*. On the death of Alonso de Acevedo y Zuñiga, the title passed to his son, Jerónimo.
- V. *Jerónimo de Acevedo y Zuñiga* was the father of the V count of Monterey. He married Inés de Velasco, daughter of the marquis of Berlanga.
- VI. **GASPAR DE ZUÑIGA Y ACEVEDO, V COUNT OF MONTEREY.**
- VII. *Manuel de Acevedo y Zuñiga* became the VI count of Monterey on the death of his father. Manuel had an illustrious career of his own and was viceroy of Naples in 1646 and grandee of Spain. He died around the middle of the 17th century without heir, and the title of the count of Monterey passed out of the Acevedo line.

ROAD PROBLEMS, SUR, 1916

Five years after the storm damage of 1911 on the Sur ranch, (as noted in our last issue), the road that wound down through the ranch to Pfeiffer's resort was still being washed out. The following letter was written by Florence Pfeiffer to Andrew Molera.

April 26, 1916

Mr. A.J. Molera,

Dear Mr. Molera:

I am so troubled over those river crossings at your place; because an Auto can't cross them — nothing but a Ford.

And I have been told the men at the ranch refuse to let people go through the yard (and I can't blame you for that either).

But what am I to do? Here I have a nice business started that I am interested in. About 25 people have engaged room and board for the first of May alone. And I am afraid they can't get here. I am so anxious to make good this season. One reason is I had to borrow money the last time I run the saw mill, and we would like to get things paid up again.

We have cut out all "camping" and am having the fact published in five different cities. And we will post our land as soon as the notices come.

The campers have always been a torment. This last winter we bought the Vantana place (borrowed money to do it to) so we could put a stop to camping around here.

I write you this requesting that you allow the fence set in again and until such a time as may be needful; or the county can get a better road where you most desire it to be builded.

Trusting you will give all the aid in this matter possible and thanking you in advance for your kindness I am,

Yours most sincerely,
Florence Pfeiffer

COSAS DE INTERES PARA LOS SOCIOS

ANNOUNCEMENT: Martha Bentley, Chairman of the Mayo Hayes O'Donnell Library, has obtained more wonderful volunteers to keep the library open an additional day each week. Members and visitors may enjoy reading in the library from one to four P.M. on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. The library is on Van Buren street, one block up the hill from the First Theatre, and just north of the Doud House.

GIFTS RECEIVED: A photo of the Custom House circa 1890s from Col. and Mrs. Charles Richmond; a Royal Doulton pitcher from Mrs. Eugene K. O'Mear; an old barley fork from Harry Dick Ross; a shawl from Mrs. Cooksey; Mexican pottery, tablecloths, assorted costume materials, cut glass creamer and sugar and a silver gravy boat from Mrs. Fulton Freeman; assorted costume items and books from Mrs. Willard Wheeler; a fine pair of matched dueling pistols from Mrs. Manuel Pope to be placed in the Maritime Museum; and a mirror formerly in the First Brick House from Mrs. Leonie.

A pair of circular covered bowls, Ming Dynasty, from Mrs. W.E.R. Covell in memory of her husband, Major General W.E.R. Covell. The Casa Serrano Ladies have purchased a painting PALOMINO by Jo Mora to add to the Mora collection of the Association. When you visit the Casa Serrano on weekends, remember each time you purchase a glass of home made jelly, a jar of the fabulous furniture polish, or a charming card printed from a Victorian Ladies Scrapbook you are helping the Casa Serrano Ladies to add to our Mora Collection.

BOARD: Mr. Gordon Greene has been elected by the Board of Directors as a new member to replace Mr. Hal Hallett who had to resign due to business pressure.

IN MEMORIAM: Mrs. Cora H. Callender, Leighton C. Phillips, Mrs. Margaret L. Trenner, Mrs. Newton Drury, Mrs. Willard Wheeler.

EVENTS TO COME

Sloat Landing Ceremony

July 2, 1977

- 10 A.M. Beside the Sloat Monument on the Presidio grounds Program honoring Commodore John Drake Sloat.
- 11 A.M. North end of Custom House, by Fishermens' Wharf Reenactment of the Raising of the U.S. flag in 1846, and reaffirmation of Commodore Sloat's proclamation. With music and salutes, ship to shore.

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Sponsored by
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September 16-17-18

Monterey Conference Center

Fri. & Sat. 12-9

\$2.50 Adults

Sunday 12-5

\$2.00 with card

Buffet & Pub open at all times

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