

NOTICIAS del PUERTO de MONTEREY

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

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Vol. XXII, No. 2

June 1978

Monterey's Path of History

by Richard McFarland

It's not just a painted line. It's actually a path. Yes, that's right, a path painted on the pavements of Monterey and named "The Path of History."

Originally conceived by the first president of the Monterey History and Art Association. Colonel Roger S. Fitch, U.S. Army, retired, this path was designed to tie together all of the historic sites and structures in old Monterey. Colonel Fitch, together with Mrs. Laura Bride Powers, a charter member of the Association, and representatives of the Monterey Chamber of Commerce, laid out the route of the path in 1931.

One of the earliest projects of the Association, which was founded on January 19, 1931, was to mark the historic sites and buildings with metal permanent markers. These markers would be erected at the site or in front of the particular buildings and indicate the historic name associated with the spot and a short historical explanation of the site.

Purchased by the Association, the markers were erected in place, with the cooperation of the city officials of Monterey. The first signs, eleven in number, appeared in 1931 and were paid for by the Association with money especially contributed for the purpose by three Directors, Mrs. R. Douglas Morrison, Mrs. Sidney Fish, and Miss Maria Antonia Field. Two years later, in 1934, four more signs were put in place. Today there are thirty-four historic markers on our well-known Path of History.

On March 7, 1938, the Chamber of Commerce of Monterey voted to authorize payment for the first painting of a distinctive line on pavements within the city, linking all of the historic sites and buildings together. The starting point was at the Chamber of Commerce office, which was then at 585 Munras Avenue, Monterey.

The earliest map showing the "Path" was published by the Chamber of Commerce and is undated. However, the total population of the Monterey Peninsula is given as 45,000. This figure would mean that the map was probably published in 1938.

Since that initial painting in 1938, the route of the path has been slightly changed only twice over the years. The latest change occurred in 1970 when the new tunnel was constructed and the Custom House Plaza was opened. The path is 2.8 miles in length and winds throughout downtown Monterey.

Today the many visitors to Monterey can follow the painted line, either walking or in their automobiles. On any day of the week one can see large tourist busses traversing the route, as well as walking tourists, map in hand, taking a leisurely stroll along monterey's historic Path of History.

One of the most interesting things about the early maps of the Path of History was the inclusion of facts about many of Monterey's "lost" adobes. So we thought you might enjoy having your own copy, reproduced in this issue. Probably the easiest way to read all the information on the reverse of the map is simply to pry out the staples so you have a separate double page. The actual dotted line itself was printed in such a pale blue you really can't see it in our reproduction. But you can clearly see the little dotted-line "boxes" that indicate the many old buildings which had succumbed to the bulldozer of progress. Sad to say, additional historic buildings still standing when the map was published were also destroyed.

As of today, not quite all of the information under "Descriptive Data" is one hundred per cent precise. But considering this pioneer research was done close to a half a century ago, we can only admire the original historians for being as close as they were, even by the standards of 1978.



Courtesy Monterey Public Library

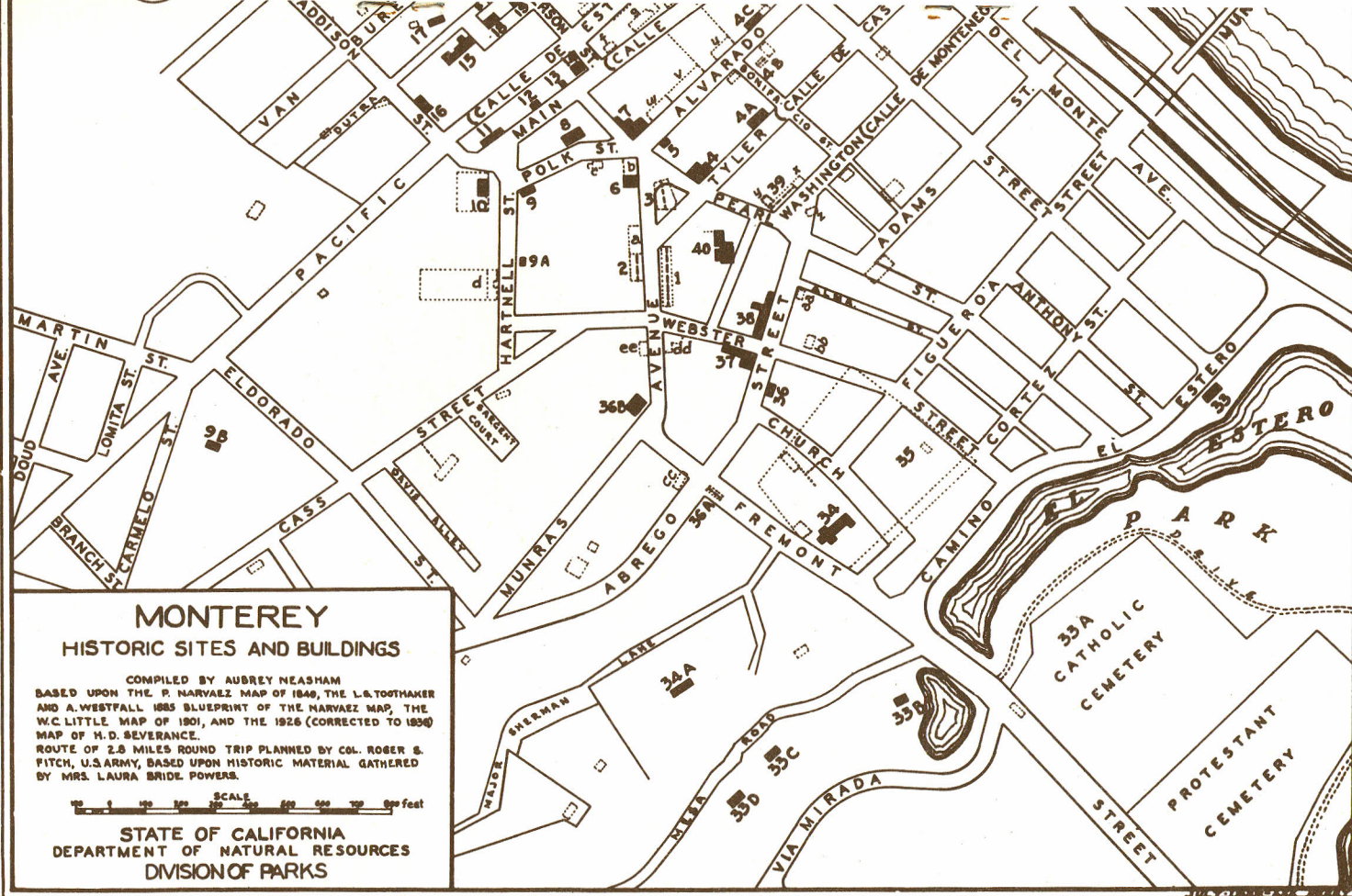
One of the most famous of Monterey's "lost" adobes. El Cuartel was the big Mexican barracks built in the 1840's. It was American headquarters after the 1846 occupation of Monterey. Here, too, the first issues of the first newspaper were printed. El Cuartel was also among the first adobes to be destroyed.

Descriptive Data

(Compiled from various sources)

*—Denotes buildings open to the public.

- A. HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND SITES.** (Note: Numbers 1 to 40 on map run clock-wise from the Chamber of Commerce and refer to historic spots **directly** on the "Path of History"). Numbers followed by capital letters (e. g., 4-A, 4-B, 29-A, etc., indicate "historic buildings," and sites that are not directly on the "Path of History," but that can readily be visited from the correspondingly numbered points (e. g., 4, 29 etc., etc.).
1. **SITE OF "EL CUARTEL,"** one of Monterey's most famous structures. Erected in 1840-41 to house government offices and barracks of the Mexican government. Similarly used by the United States in 1846. Torn down in the late '80's.
2. **SITE OF "LA COMISARIA,"** Mexican commissary building.
3. **SITE OF THE OLD MEXICAN "CARCEL"** (jail), built in 1832. The restaurant of Jules Simoneau, friend of Robert Louis Stevenson, was later built here.
4. **CASA CASTRO.** Headquarters of General Jose Castro. In rear is the old "Bull and Bear Pit" of early days.
- * 4-A. **CASA ESTRADA** (now the Mission Inn). Built about 1840 by Don Jose Ramon Estrada. Long used as a hotel. Additions have been made from time to time.
- 4-B. **SITE OF CASA BONIFACIO.** Famous for its story of the Sherman Rose. Building removed in 1922 to its present site ((33-D)).
- * 4-C. **CASA SANCHEZ.** Built in 1843 by Gil Sanchez. Only old building on Alvarado Street to retain its balcony.
- * 5. **FIRST U. S. POST OFFICE IN MONTEREY.** Formerly marked the north boundary of the Old Plaza, lining up with the older Casa de Castro. Note connecting old stone wall.
6. **COOPER HOUSE.** Built in 1829 by Don Juan Bautista R. Cooper for his bride, Dona Encarnacion Vallejo.
7. **CASA ALVARADO.** Built by Juan Bautista Alvarado in 1834 and occupied by him while Governor of California.
8. **CASA AMESTI.** One of the finest examples of Old Monterey domestic architecture. Built in 1835 by Don Jose Amesti as a wedding gift for his daughter.
- * 9. **CASA DE LA TORRE.** (Poor Scholar Book Shop). Built in 1841-42 by Gabriel de la Torre, a Mexican captain. Home and court of Alcalde Jose Joaquin de la Torre.
- 9-A. **FREMONT'S QUARTERS.** Said to have been occupied by Fremont in 1846.
- 9-B. **CASA SOTO.** Erected before 1830 by Joaquin Soto.
10. **STOKES HOUSE.** Built in 1835 by Dr. James Stokes. Famous for its social functions during the Mexican period.
11. **CASA GUTIERREZ.** Owned at one time by Thomas O. Larkin. Presumably built in 1843-45. Now being restored and owned by Monterey.
12. **HOUSE OF THE FOUR WINDS.** Built in the late 1830's by Thomas O. Larkin. Restored by the Women's Civic Club.
13. **SHERMAN'S QUARTERS.** Built in the late 1830's. Occupied in 1847 by Lieut. Wm. Tecumseh Sherman (later General).
14. **LARKIN HOUSE.** Built in 1835 by Thomas Oliver Larkin for his residence and merchandise store. From 1842 to 1844 the picturesque adobe was the American Consulate. Now occupied by his granddaughter.
- * 15. **COLTON HALL.** Built in 1847-49 by the Reverend Walter Colton, First American alcalde of Monterey. (The jail was built about 1854). This building was used as the meeting place of the Constitutional Convention of 1849.
- * 16. **BROWN-UNDERWOOD ADOBE.** Built in 1843 by James Stokes. Now the executive offices of the City of Monterey.
17. **CASA VASQUEZ.** Originally a one-story adobe. Home of a sister of Tiburcio Vasquez, bandit of Old Monterey.
- 17-A. **CASA ALVARADO.** Erected in 1839 by Juan Bautista Alvarado, Governor of California in 1836-42.
18. **GORDON HOUSE.** Built, supposedly in 1849-50 by Philip Roach, of milled lumber brought from Australia.
19. **CASA DE LA TORRE.** Built in 1842 by Francisco Pinto for Don Jose Joaquin de la Torre, alcalde of the Old Capital.
- 19-A. **CASA SOTO.** Built in the Mexican era. Owned by Jesus Soto in 1851-55.
- 19-B. **SIMONEAU'S HOUSE.** (No. 456 Van Buren St.). Home of Jules Simoneau, friend and benefactor of Robert Louis Stevenson. Much changed in appearance since Simoneau's time.
- * 20. **CASA SERRANO (Now De La Torres).** Built in 1845 by Don Florencio Serrano, alcalde under the Mexican regime.
- 20-A. **SITE OF ST. CATHERINE ACADEMY.** Built in the 1840's by Manuel Jimeno Casarin.
- 20-B. **CASA RODRIGUEZ-OSIO.** Built in 1838 by Antonio Osio, historian. Later owned by Jacinto Rodriguez.
21. **MERRIT HOUSE.** Built by Judge Merrit in the '60's.
22. **CASA SOBERANES.** "House of the Blue Gate." Built about 1842. Long the property of the Soberanes family.
23. **HENRY HOUSE.** Girlhood home of Mrs. Herbert Hoover.
- 23-A. **DOUD HOUSE.** Built by a member of the Doud family, prominent in the early American days of Monterey.
- * 24. **FIRST THEATRE.** Built in 1847 by Jack Swan. Used at various times as a boarding house, saloon, warehouse, drugstore and private residence. First building in California where an admittance charge was made for a theatrical performance. Now a State Historic Monument. Open 10 a. m. to 5 p. m. Admission free.
25. **CASA DE ORO.** (House of Gold). Built in 1845. This well-preserved building has served as a store, saloon, gold depository and residence. Now a State Historical Monument.
26. **CASA VERDE.** Here Charles Warren Stoddard wrote many of the California stories and poems. His grave is in the old Monterey cemetery (33-A) near El Estero.
- * 27. **FIRST BRICK HOUSE.** Built by Gallant Dickinson in 1847 of bricks kilned in Monterey.
28. **OLD WHALING STATION.** Built in the 1840's as headquarters for Portuguese whalers. Restored in 1902.
29. **VIZCAINO-SERRA LANDING PLACE.** A State Historic Monument. The stone monument near the Presidio Gate marks the spot where Vizcaino landed in 1602 and Father Junipero Serra in 1770.
- 29-A. **SERRA MONUMENT.** Erected by Mrs. Jane Stanford, wife of the founder of Stanford University.
- 29-B. **EL CASTILLO.** Earthwork used in 1818 by the Spanish Governor Sola in unsuccessfully resisting an attack on Monterey by vessels flying the flag of Argentina.
- 29-C. **FORT MERVINE.** Built by U. S. troops soon after the capture of Monterey, on July 7, 1846, by Commodore Sloat.
- 29-D. **SLOAT MONUMENT.** Erected by the combined efforts of various societies, patriotic organizations and women's clubs.
30. **FISHERMEN'S WHARF.** A picturesque and busy place. A favorite spot for tourists and artists.
- * 31. **OLD CUSTOM HOUSE.** Mexico and the United States. It is the oldest government building in California. Mexico built the lower north end about 1827. The rest of the building was constructed by Larkin in 1841-45. Now a State Historical Monument and Museum. Open 10 a. m. to 5 p. m. Admission free. Here Commodore John Drake Sloat raised the U. S. Flag over California, July 7, 1846.
- 31-A. **SITE OF LARKIN'S WHARF.** The wharf was built in 1845, of granite in pine cribs.



LEGEND **STATE HISTORIC MONUMENTS**

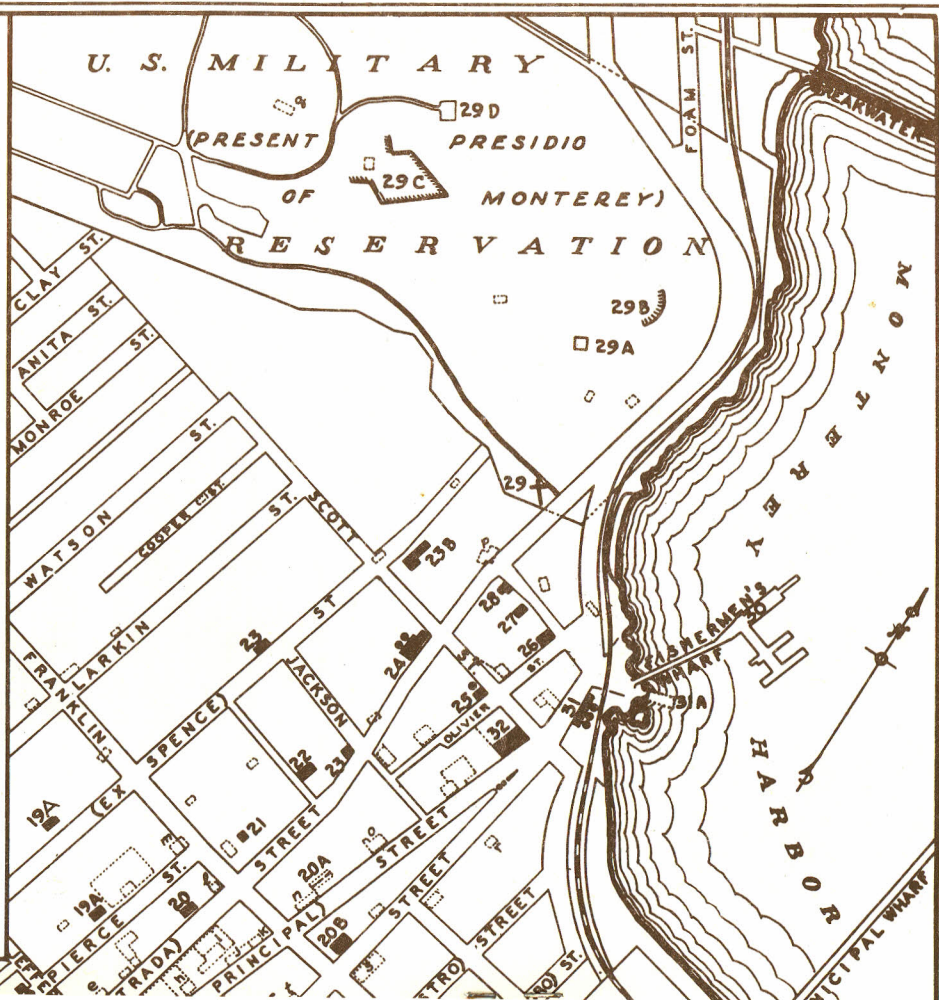
- Old Custom House 31
- First Theatre 24
- House of Gold 25
- Vizcaino-Serra Landing Place 27
- Historic Buildings [Solid Black Rectangle]
- Historic Sites [Dotted Black Rectangle]
- Sites of Former Adobes [Dashed Black Rectangle]

The Old Custom House and the First Theatre are open to the public from 10:00 to 5:00 P.M. daily.

The Royal Presidio Chapel, Colton Hall, the various historic fortifications and monuments in the Presidio of Monterey and the "Memory Garden" of the Pacific Building also are open to the public.

The dotted blue line on the map corresponds to the "PATH OF HISTORY", a route 2.8 miles long, marked by a red and orange dotted line on the street pavements. This line passes in front of or close to practically all of the most historic places of Old Monterey. Most of these places have been marked with appropriate metal markers, by the Monterey History and Art Association with the co-operation of the City of Monterey.

Publication made possible by the Monterey Chamber of Commerce.



32. **OLD PACIFIC BUILDING.** Built in 1847 upon the site of an older building. Used as a hotel in the early days. Restored by the Jack's family in 1925. The patio in rear, known as the "Memory Garden," is open to the public.
33. **FIRST FRENCH CONSULATE.** Moved from its original location on Fremont St. (36-A). Occupied in the early 1840's by the first French Consul to California.
- 33-A. **CATHOLIC CEMETERY.** Established during the early Spanish period. The last resting place of many of California's outstanding historic residents. Still in use.
- 33-B. **CASA CASTRO.** Adobe of General Jose Castro. Built in 1845 by Manuel Diaz.
- 33-C. **CASA BUELNA.** Erected during the late Spanish period by Antonio Buelna; early school-teacher. Later restored.
- 33-D. **CASA BONIFACIO.** Better known as the "Sherman Rose Adobe," where Sherman is said to have courted the Senorita Bonifacio. Built on Alvarado St. (4-B) in 1835 by Jose Rafael Gonzales. Moved in 1922 to its present location.
- *34. **ROYAL PRESIDIO CHAPEL OF SAN CARLOS DE BORROMEO DE MONTEREY.** Founded by Father Junipero Serra in 1770. Completed in 1793, it has been in continuous use since that date and is the only Presidio Church in California to survive.
- 34-A. **CASA BORONDA.** Erected in 1817 by Manuel Boronda, early California teacher. Is probably the oldest private residence in California.
35. **SITE OF THE OLD SPANISH PRESIDIO.** Approximate location of the old adobe wall is shown on map by dotted lines. This Presidio, founded by Spain in 1770, constituted, largely, Spanish Monterey. Before 1822 there were few buildings outside its walls.
36. **CASA MADARIAGA.** Originally a simple Mexican adobe.
- 36-A. **SITE OF FIRST FRENCH CONSULATE.** (see 33).
- 36-B. **CASA MUNRAS.** Built in 1822-24 by Don Esteban Munras. Modernized by his descendants and occupied by them until 1941, and then converted to an hotel. One of first houses built outside the walls of old Spanish Presidio.
37. **CASA PACHECO.** Built in 1842 by Don Francisco Pacheco, soldier and public official. Remodeled in 1929.
38. **CASA ABREGO.** Erected in 1835 by Don Jose Abrego.
39. **SITE OF WASHINGTON HOTEL.** This hotel housed many delegates to the California Constitutional Convention in 1849. Torn down in 1914.
40. **STEVENSON HOUSE.** Built in 1840 by Rafael Gonzales. The old "French Hotel" where Robert Louis Stevenson spent the fall months of 1879. Among other writings, he wrote "Vendetta of the West." Only remaining house in the West that was occupied by Robert Louis Stevenson.
- B. **SITE OF OLD RESIDENCES NO LONGER STANDING:** (From data of Aubrey Neasham).
 - a. Site of house owned by Rafael Estrada in the Mexican era.
 - b. Site of house built in 1834 by Nathan Spear.
 - c. Site of warehouse built in 1840 by Nathan Spear.
 - d. Site of house built in 1825 by W. E. Hartnell.
 - e. Site of house built in 1835 by James McKinley.
 - f. Site of house built in late 1830's by Thos. O. Larkin.
 - g. Site of house built in 1835 by James Watson.
 - h. Site of house built in 1842 by Job F. Dye.
 - i. Site of house built in 1835. Property of Salvador Munras in 1844.
 - j. Site of house owned in 1849 by Dr. C. A. Canfield.
 - k. Site of house built in 1842 by Antonio Mendez.
 - l. Site of Capitular Hall built in 1834 by Guy Fleming Fling.
 - m. Site of Soberanes Hotel Adobe, "Alta Vista," built in 1840's.
 - n. Site of house built in 1842-43 by Jimeno Casarin.

- o. Site of house built in 1835-36 by George Kinlock.
- p. Site of house built in 1847 by William Garner.
- q. Site of house built in the 1840's by Elias K. Kane.
- r. Site of building built in 1851 by Milton Little.
- s. Site of house built in 1834 by Charles Wolter.
- t. Site of house built in 1828 by Simon Castro.
- u. Site of house built in 1827 by Juan Malarin.
- v. Site of house built in 1833 by David Spence.
- w. Site of house built in 1844 by Pedro Narvaez.
- x. Site of house built in 1839 by Eugenio Montenegro.
- y. Site of house owned in 1842 by Alberto Tresconi.
- z. Site of house owned by Louis Pombert in the Mexican era.
- aa. Site of house owned by one of the Ord brothers in 1849.
- bb. Site of house built in the 1830's by Marcelion Escobar.
- bb. Site of house built in 1831 by Teodoro Gonzales.
- bb. Site of house built in the 1830's by Marcelion Escobar.
- ee. Site of house built in 1842 by Benito Diaz.

NOTE: Sites shown on map but not identified by either numerals or letters are sites of old adobes about which little or no data is available.

What To Do and What To See

MONTEREY PENINSULA

Monterey Peninsula, which comprises the three towns of Monterey, Pacific Grove, Carmel, and outlying communities, has a population of 45,000 persons. It is a paradise for the sportsman, visitor, historian, artist and writer, and has a greater diversity of flora, especially on Lighthouse Point, than any place in the world, and a greater variety of sea life is found in Monterey Bay than any other waters in the world.

MONTEREY CYPRESS

is native to no other place in the world; this also applies to the Monterey Pine and Santa Lucia Fir.

MONTEREY ARCHITECTURE

has its own peculiar style of architecture which is becoming widely advertised—it is not Spanish or Mexican, but strictly "Monterey type". The colonists who came here from the east coast had their designs which the Spanish and Mexican workmen interpreted according to their own ideas, thus making a style all its own.

CARMEL-SAN SIMEON HIGHWAY

The Coast Road (State Highway No. 1) (Roosevelt Highway) between Monterey and San Luis Obispo was opened on June 27, 1937. This is one of the most spectacularly beautiful ocean-front highways in the world; passing Point Lobos State Park, picturesque Carmel Highlands, and the palatial Hearst estate at San Simeon. It shortens the distance between Monterey Peninsula and southern California points 13 miles.

Distance from Monterey to Little Sur River, 21.9 miles; Big Sur, 31.4 miles; Slades Hot Springs, 45.3 miles; Lucia, 55 miles; Gorda, 63.1 miles; Piedras Blanca Lighthouse, 84 miles; San Simeon, 94.4 miles; Cambria, 103.4 miles; Harmony, 109.1 miles; Cayucos, 117.8 miles; Morro Bay, 124.6 miles.

New Light on Early Tassajara

Two issues back we published some Tassajara pictures and asked for help in identifying some of the people therein. One of our enterprising members, Mrs. Joel L. Priest, sent that issue to a friend in Gilroy, Mrs. John B. Scherrer. We're delighted to report that Mrs. Scherrer believes the young woman on horseback to be a Miss Quilty and the woman beside the stage driver Mrs. Quilty.

Mrs. Scherrer writes: "As to the lady on horseback, I'm not sure, but she could be one of the three oldest Quilty sisters — Gertrude, May, or Irene. Those three were a bit on the chesty side. My aunt Helen married Charles Quilty, a widower with eight daughters, when she was 23 years old. He owned Tassajara. He used it mostly as a fun place for family and friends. He turned it over to my aunt and for many years after his death she operated it as a very popular vacation spot — a sort of spa — wonderful mineral springs. I'm almost certain that is her picture in the old stage coach. In 1931 she married James Holohan, at that time warden of San Quentin; but she still operated Tassajara in the summers for several years and eventually sold it."

This is the way historical research grows and comes alive, so many, many thanks to both Mrs. Priest and Mrs. Scherrer for their help.

Plan Now. . .Enjoy Later—Our Own Antique Show

Earmark first weekend in September—Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Our first antique show last year was so successful it's going to be an annual event. We hope every member will turn out for this great fund-raising event. Admission is \$2.00—except on Saturday only there'll be a special Senior Citizen rate of just \$1.50 each. In addition to browsing through the big show and sale, you can also pause for either light refreshment or a full meal in the Garden Restaurant and Cocktail Lounge. The show opens at noon each day. . .runs till 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, till 5 p.m. Sunday. That's September 1, 2, and 3—easy dates to remember.

THE EDITORS
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AND ART ASSOCIATION

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Alta California Capital Seized

Commemoration of the peaceful occupation of Monterey by American naval forces will take place this year on July 8. Ceremonies begin at 10 a.m. up at the Sloat Monument at the Presidio. They continue at 11 a.m. at the Custom House. On this 132d anniversary, a Navy ship will be in the bay in honor of Commodore Sloat. An enjoyable occasion for the whole family.