

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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### Historical Documents

The Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. is at present engaged in formulating a National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections and has written to the Monterey History and Art Assn, for a list of its collection and those in the historical buildings in Monterey which are on loan from the association.

The dream of scholars, librarians, archivists, and curators of manuscripts for more than half a century is being realized. The Council on Library Resources, Inc. in Nov. 1958 made a grant of \$200,000 to the Library of Congress for the purpose of creating a National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections. The money was made available for 1) gathering the essential dates from the many diverse types of repositories in the United States; 2) editing data; 3) preparing catalog entries according to rules; 4) printing cards for entries and furnishing each participating institution with the printed cards for its reported collections; 5) establishing in the Library of Congress a national union catalog in dictionary form of all such collections.

In the library in Washington there will be a great deal of Information concerning the history of Monterey, its architecture and the materials used in construction of the adobe buildings. There will also be much valuable matter in the listing of manuscripts belonging to the Monterey History and Art Assn, and to the State of California, the latter on file at the Stevenson House, where there are 36 manuscripts and original letters in the Stevenson collection. These range from several pages of original manuscript in Stevenson's hand, and his masterpiece, "Weir of Hermiston," to letters to and from Stevenson, etc., according to Mrs. Anne R. Essler, the curator at the Stevenson House.

The Library of Congress already has on file many photographs and much data on many of the important adobe buildings in Old Monterey. The Casa Amesti and the Larkin house as well as Colton Hall and, the Custom House were fully covered a few years ago and a few weeks ago a National Parks photographer and Charles St. George Pope, A.I.A. of San Francisco, visited Monterey to take more pictures and gather more material for the Congressional files.

Thirty years ago on Nov. 9, 1930 there appeared this headline in the Monterey Peninsula Herald: Formation of an historical and art association will be discussed at a dinner in Monterey Nov. 16. On Nov. 17, 1930 there was this follow-up: Nearly 60 people met last night to form a Monterey History and Art Assn, on March 15, 1930, Carmel Martin Sr. chairman of the newly appointed County Planning Commission, said the organization will attempt to guide developments along lines wanted by the people.

Fifty years ago the old Monterey Cypress had this announcement:

"The Roderick fountain in Primero Park was given a coat of green paint by Steward Sanborn of the fire department, which greatly improved its appearance." The park in the small triangle at the south end of Calle Principal and Alvarado streets which was given to the City of Monterey by Mr. Roderick, the grandfather of Mrs. F. L. Knudsen. The fountain was removed a few years ago when the little park was redesigned, and benches installed. We suppose the fountain and bronze plaque which many of us remember, is now reposing in the city corporation yard in New Monterey. Mrs. Knudsen and others we have talked with do not know where the name Primero Park came from.

Landmarks - Here and there.

Ours is the problem not to wreck today  
What tomorrow's retrospect may want preserved-  
The Alamo-North Church a classic bay.  
Of small - paned windows; cobblestones that served  
For pavement when the clop-clop of a hoof  
Echoed through midnight stillness; masts arid spars  
That etched themselves against the sky in proof  
That men had conquered ocean . . . reached for stars!

Maude Rubin