

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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A New Brochure

We are in receipt of a brochure recently published by the American Institute of Architects, the Monterey and Northern California chapter of the Society of Agricultural Historians, and California Heritage Council featuring historic California in the San Juan Bautista and Monterey area.

San Juan is represented by pictures and historical data of the mission and convent, Plaza Hotel, Castro house and the Zanetta house, the latter three state-owned and the mission by the Monterey-Fresno Diocese.

Views of Monterey considered architecturally important are the San Carlos parish church, Old Custom House, Pacific Building, Old Whaling Station, First Theater, Casa Soberanes, Casa Alvarado, Casa Vasquez, Colton Hall, Larkin House, Stokes Adobe, Casa Amesti, Cooper House and the Stevenson House. The Carmel Mission is also listed.

The authors write in the Introduction that California history is presented in the booklet in the form of inventories of buildings existing today. These inventories are simple one-page records, deposited in the Library of Congress by the American Institute of Architects.

Mrs. Tobin Clark of San Mateo and members of her family were recent visitors to the Stevenson House in Monterey. Mrs. Clark and the late Mrs. Edith van Antwerp gave the house to the State of California in 1941 and it is now known as California Historical Landmark No. 352. Mrs. Clark was particularly pleased to hear from Mrs. Anne Issler, the Stevenson House curator, of the recent visit of a distant cousin of Robert Louis Stevenson, Michael Graham Balfour of London.

Mr. Balfour, accompanied by Mrs. Balfour, came to Monterey to browse through all the historic treasures in the Stevenson collection with which the historic adobe on Houston street abounds. The Clark family toured the House from top to bottom and, were delighted with all the collections, arrangements and furnishings they observed as taking place since their last visit there.

Mrs. Issler of the Stevenson House has given us a letter to use concerning the recent visit of Mr. and Mrs. Balfour there and we are pleased to present parts of it to our readers. Mrs. Issler sent a clipping from The

Herald to her friend, J. C. Furnes author of "Voyage to Windward," which she considers to be the best Stevenson biography to date. In his acknowledgement Mr. Furnes says "I'm delighted that you and the Balfours made out so well together. And give my compliments to The Herald's photographer; a good picture, good likeness and all it should be."

Maj. Gen. Earl C. Long, USMC (Ret.) and Mrs. Long of Menlo Park came to Monterey to attend the annual adobe house tour on July 9, sponsored by the Monterey History and Art Assn., and upon their return home were prompted to write their appreciation to the association.

The letter reads: "The adobe house tour in Monterey last Saturday was one of the most interesting and delightful experiences I have ever had and I heartily congratulate all who were connected with it. The homes were exquisitely furnished with period pieces and the charming and attractive hostesses in costume were all most helpful.

"Monterey is fortunate in having exceptional citizens who realize the great interest and beauty of early California, and I hope you will have continued success in all your future efforts to retain a glimpse of the past."

Mrs. Long continues: "My great-grandparents, Capt. and Mrs. Cornelius Hoyer, lived in Monterey in 'the splendid idle forties'."