

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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Historic Monterey

Monterey is becoming more and more famous for its history as time goes on.

A recent letter arrived from Little Rock, Arkansas, signed by Mrs. George Rose Smith in which she inquires of the history and description of Monterey's Historic Route. The letter reads:

"I am interested in knowing something of your Path of History markers, as our Historical Association is undertaking to mark a line about 14 blocks long that represents the boundary of lands ceded to the Indians in 1824. Is your red line painted on the streets or sidewalk?

"We plan walking tours of our Quapaw Quarter, through which this Quapaw Line, as it is called, runs, and would like copies of the maps you give to tourists. What kind of markers, indicating historical sites, have you found best? Your tourist business has been established but ours is just beginning and we need the advice of those of you who have had much experience."

We sent on the History and Art Assn. "Old Monterey" and some Chamber of Commerce folders, as well as a descriptive letter to Mrs. Smith.

Another letter from the Historic Savannah Foundation, Inc., of Savannah, Georgia, writes in regard to the new series on Historic Preservation to be published in the Savannah Morning News.

Mrs. Helen Bullock, director of Information of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, will write the introduction to the series, Building a Future for our Past. We will oblige this editor by writing the story for Monterey, its history and efforts at preservation of our history, our landmarks and our efforts in saving what we could of our old adobes. The special edition of the Savannah Morning News will be published soon after the new years.

The Santa Barbara Trust for Historical Preservation has recently been organized with its first immediate objective the acquisition of El Cuartel, a portion of the Spanish Royal Presidio's soldiers' quarters.

Trustees involved include Miss Pearl Chase, a Times Woman of the Year; Mms. Godwin J. Pelissero, John J. Hollister Jr., Francis J. Irvin, William F. Luton, Richard M.

Polsky, Robert G. McDonald, David L. Tilton and John T. Rickard.

We are happy to be able to tell our readers and reaffirm the news which has gone out from San Juan Capistrano Mission that in the rectory fire there recently none of the documents in the handwriting of Father Junipero Serra, founder of Alta California, was damaged...

The Rev. Paul Martin, speaking for the pastor, Msgr. Vincent Lloyd-Russell, reports that the birth and marriage records, and other notations by Father Serra in the period of 1776 were kept in a safe place, and were not endangered during the rectory fire ... He also assured the public that tours and services in the Mission chapel are going on "as usual" despite the damage to the one building...

Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Moore entertained a few friends recently in their Carmel home with an exhibit of the host's paintings of The Picture Bridge at The Huntington in Pasadena. It was a repair and retouching work that Mr. Moore had just finished and were to be shipped back to the hotel the next day. The murals were originally painted in 1938 and the late Don Blanding, formerly of Carmel, wrote the word pictures to accompany them.

Mr. Moore choose the Custom House, Carmel Mission, the fishing fleet, Midway Point Monterey, and San Antonio de Padua Mission in Southern Monterey County, to include in the 39 murals, all of which he retouched in his Carmel studio-home.