

1983 Monterey Adobe Tour

Children of the Adobes—Heritage and Promise



Welcome to the 36th Adobe Tour

Children of the Adobes—Heritage and Promise

"The fecundity of the Californians is remarkable," wrote Walter Colton shortly after he had been appointed Alcalde of Monterey in the summer of 1846, "and must be attributed in no small degree to the effects of the climate. It is no uncommon sight to find from fourteen to eighteen children at the same table, with their mother at their head. There is a lady of some note in Monterey, who is the mother of twenty-two living children. The youngest is at the breast, and must soon, it is said, relinquish his place to a newcomer, who will, in all probability, be allowed only the same brevity of bliss."

Colton continues: "There is a lady in the department below who has twenty-eight children, all living, in fine health, and who may share the 'envied kiss' with others yet

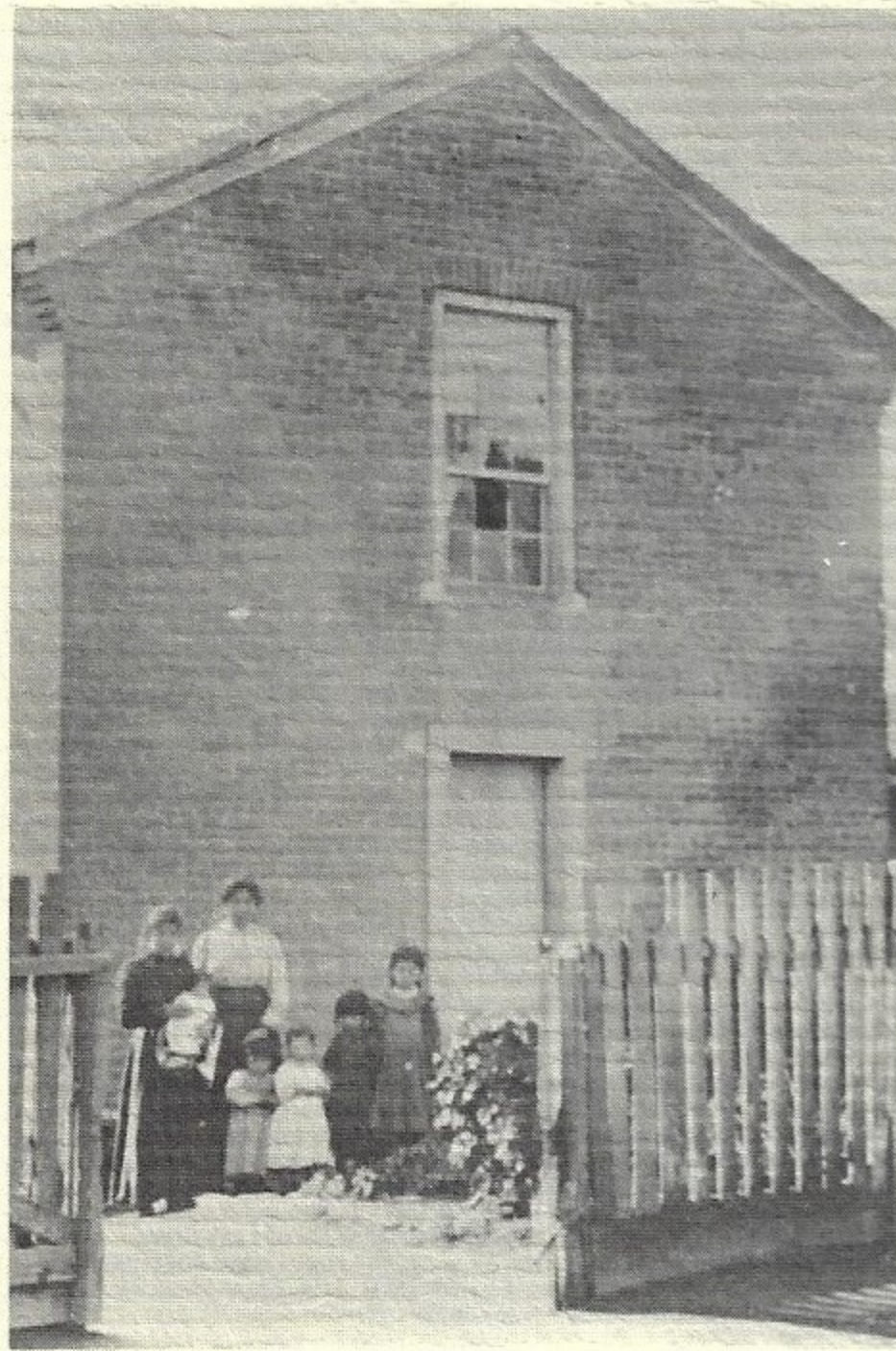
to come. What a family — what a wife — what a mother! I have more respect for the shadow of that woman than for the living presence of the mincing being who raises a whole village if she has one child, and then puts it to death with sugar-plums. A woman with one child is like a hen with one chicken; there is an eternal scratch about nothing." *

Welcome to the Monterey History and Art Association's thirty-sixth annual Adobe Tour. Our theme this year is *Children of the Adobes—Heritage and Promise*. We hope you have as much fun reading this program as we had putting it together!

*Sullivan, Joseph A., ed. The California Diary by Rev. Walter Colton, U.S.N., Late Alcalde of Monterey with Index and Illustrations (California Centennial Edition). Oakland, California: Biobooks, 1948, p. 9 (Monday, August 10, 1846).



Josie Simoneau (1877-1973) was the daughter of Jules Simoneau, a restaurateur who befriended Robert Louis Stevenson during the writer's visit to Monterey in 1879. Colton Hall Museum Collection.



First Brick House. Mayo Hayes O'Donnell Collection



Tulita Bennett Westfall y Boronda (1889-1962) was schooled at Colton Hall and later became a California artist. Colton Hall Collection.



Children's Room at the Robert Louis Stevenson House. Monterey History and Art Association Collection.



Andrew and Frances Molera, early residents of the Cooper-Molera adobe. DeVoe Collection.



The Leppert children in front of Monterey's first bakery, the Bonifacio Building. Krolfifer Collection.



Louis Sanchez was a nephew of Robert Louis Stephenson. Stephenson wrote a poem about the boy in A Child's Garden of Verses. Colton Hall Museum Collection.



The Gutiérrez children. Their home was what is now the Sancho Panza Mexican Restaurant. Colton Hall Museum Collection.



Christening of an American Indian baby. Mayo Hayes O'Donnell Library Collection.



Pacific Street school children, Monterey, 1893. Colton Hall Museum Collection.



HOUSE OF THE FOUR WINDS

540 Calle Principal #15

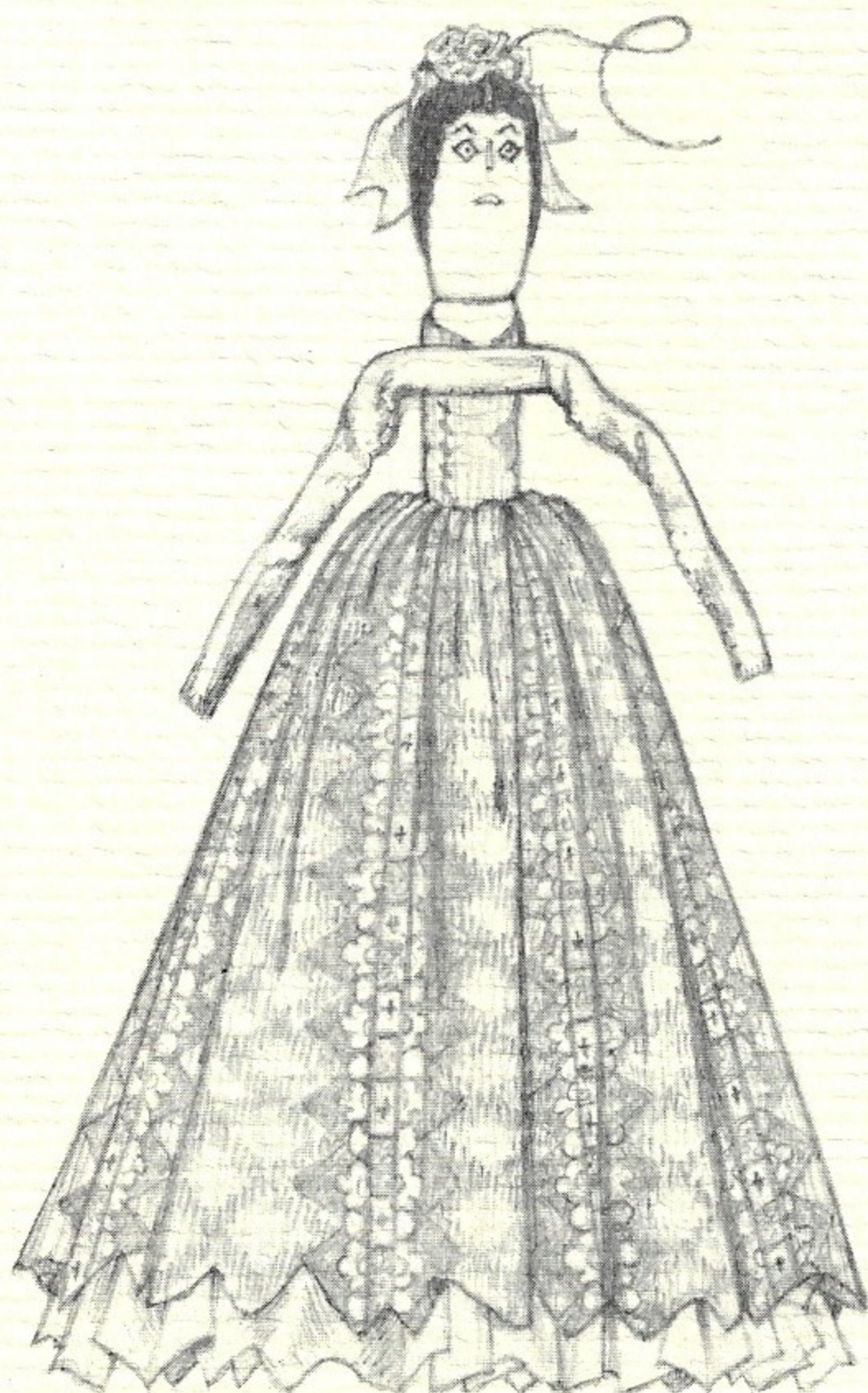
Textile Fair—"Patterns for Posterity"

A textile fair entitled "Patterns for Posterity" is being held today in the House of the Four Winds, 540 Calle Principal, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Featured exhibitions will include demonstrations of embroidering, dyeing, lacemaking, spinning, quilting and weaving in styles that early Monterey mothers taught their children. These will be conducted by the Monterey Chapter of the Embroiderers Guild of America, Spinners and Weavers of the Carmel Craft Guild, Old Lacers, and the Monterey Peninsula Quilters Guild in conjunction with the Costume Committee of the History and Art Association. A collection of period children's clothing will also be on exhibit, featuring baby dresses from the Cooper family dating from 1844 and "coating" (button-up dresses worn by boys under six years of age). Children's furniture, doll furniture, rare antique dolls and a child's sampler dated 1823 will also be featured exhibits.

Dolls that Escaped Bouchard's Pirates?

On November 20, 1818, Hippolyte de Bouchard with two privateers bearing some sixty guns and three hundred men leisurely sacked and burned the Royal Presidio of Monterey in a dramatic attempt to foment revolution against Spanish oppression in Alta California. Doña Maria Antonia Pico de Castro tells the story of that fateful day in 1818 when Bouchard's pirates attacked:

When I was a young girl, a vessel brought the report to Monterey that a whole fleet of pirates were coming. Everyone was in great fright and commenced to move from the Presidio and hide the most valuable things, such as sacred vessels and church ornaments and stores of provisions and the like. "Carretas" (carts) were used to carry them to the ranch houses in the interior...



Loretta

As we made camp, my mother told me that she had forgotten a family book with writings of her father's in it. It was on the shelf in the house, and she wanted to ride back and get it. I told her that I was not afraid to go; so after we had our meal, I mounted her horse and galloped off for Monterey.

After a little time I heard a cannon shot, then another, and then a great many. I thought that now the pirates had come and would perhaps land and burn the town and our house, so I rode faster. At last I reached the "lomita" (small hill) near the "Playa de Dona Brigida", and I could see boats and men on the beach. Some of the houses were already on fire, and this seemed a dreadful thing. I turned a little and rode across the ridge and down a canyon to our house, which was about a mile from the beach. I ran in and found the old book where mother said it was and wrapped it in a piece of calfskin to tie behind the saddle. But when I went out of the door, I saw my horse running off, frightened at the noise of the firing.

It was very hard to know what to do. I ran over a little hill to the next ranch house, but all the people had gone. Then the firing stopped, and pretty soon I heard a band of music, and the next minute a man dashed by on horseback and shouted to me that Don Ignacio Vallejo (father of General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo) had been taken prisoner, and that all the people had fled. I determined to catch a horse somehow, but just as I was planning how it might be done, two men came out of the bushes and spoke to me. They were armed strangers and looked very wild, so I fell on my knees and prayed them to do me no harm. One of them asked me my name and why I was there; so I told them and showed the book, but I did not reveal the course to our other rancho.

He laughed and said that I was a good girl and sent his man to catch my horse. Then he dismounted while I knelt there by the doorway of the deserted adobe, hardly believing my own eyes, and he came up to me and kissed me on the forehead and called me "Senorita", which frightened me very much. Then the man came up with my horse, and I looked at the leader of the two and asked what he was going to do with me.

He looked at me and swore a great oath. "My girl," he said, "you are more brave than some of your people were on the beach when we landed. You shall go back." He put me on my horse and kissed my hand and said, "Ride fast! There are others of Bouchard's men who would not treat you so well."

*I thanked him briefly, and he added as he let go the bridle that his name was Pedro Conde (one of Bouchard's lieutenants) and that he already had two wives on board his ship, or he would have taken me there. This last saying made me ride in great terror and with frightful speed down the gulches and up the hills. When I reached mother's camp, I was crying and so terribly excited that I could not say anything but "Hurry! Hurry!" We left all things hidden in the bushes and went on to the "Salinas". We met many families of fugitives. For nearly two weeks we lived in huts near the river, but early the next month the frightened people began to move back to Monterey...**

The rare early Monterey dolls depicted in this program (on exhibit at the House of the Four Winds) are attributed to have been made by the mother of the girl in the story above,

Dona Maria Isabel Cota de Pico, sometime before the Bouchard attack of 1818, although there is a great deal of controversy surrounding their actual origin. The materials used in making the 5" to 7½" dolls appear to date to around 1750. But because Bouchard destroyed everything at the Presidio that the "Montereños" could not take to the hills, a noted historian on the Peninsula suggests that Maria Antonia, herself, possibly made the dolls for her own daughters sometime between 1820 and 1830. Did Maria Antonia take her dollies to the hills? Or did she make them later for her own children? The mystery continues...

*Edited from "A Lion and a Piate" by Thomas Workman Temple II, in California Academy Scrapbook, vol. II, no. 2, October 1932. Story provided by Amelie Elkin-ton.



Ramona



Toña



Lolita



Tula

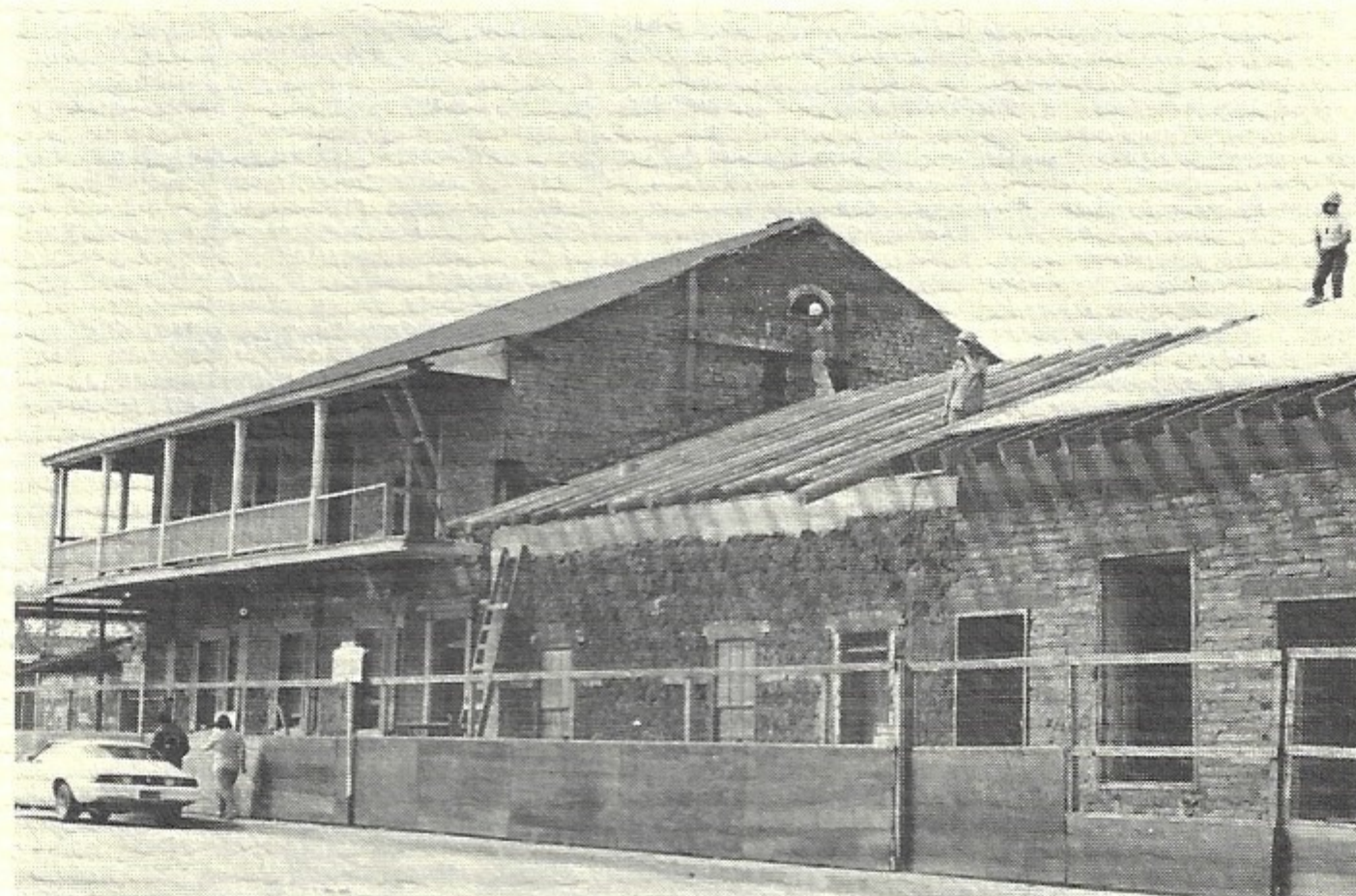
Sketches
by Orcel '83

Adobes and Historic Homes



CASA SERRANO

Don Florencio Serrano completed this adobe following his marriage to the daughter of Don Joaquin de la Torre in 1845. This Pacific Street adobe has been the home of several generations of the Serrano family and at one time housed one of the first schools in Monterey, taught in Spanish by the well-educated Florencio Serrano. Casa Serrano was purchased by the Monterey History and Art Association in 1959 and has since been completely restored as a home for the Association's antique furniture and other historical items and as the Association's headquarters for social functions. #10 on map, 412 Pacific Street between Franklin and Jefferson Streets.



COOPER-MOLERA ADOBE

John Rogers Cooper came to Monterey from New England in 1823 as captain of the trading schooner, "Rover". He became a Mexican citizen, took the name of Juan Bautista Rogerio Cooper, joined the Catholic church, and married Encarnacion Vallejo, a sister of the famous Mariano Vallejo. As Cooper became increasingly wealthy from his trading operations along the California coast, he expanded the home from a one-story to a two-story structure, erected large barns, added several small buildings, planted an orchard, and enclosed the two-and-a-half-acre complex within a high shingle-capped adobe wall. Today, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the State Parks System are renovating Cooper-Molera into a fine museum. #18 on map, corner of Polk and Munras.



CUSTOM HOUSE

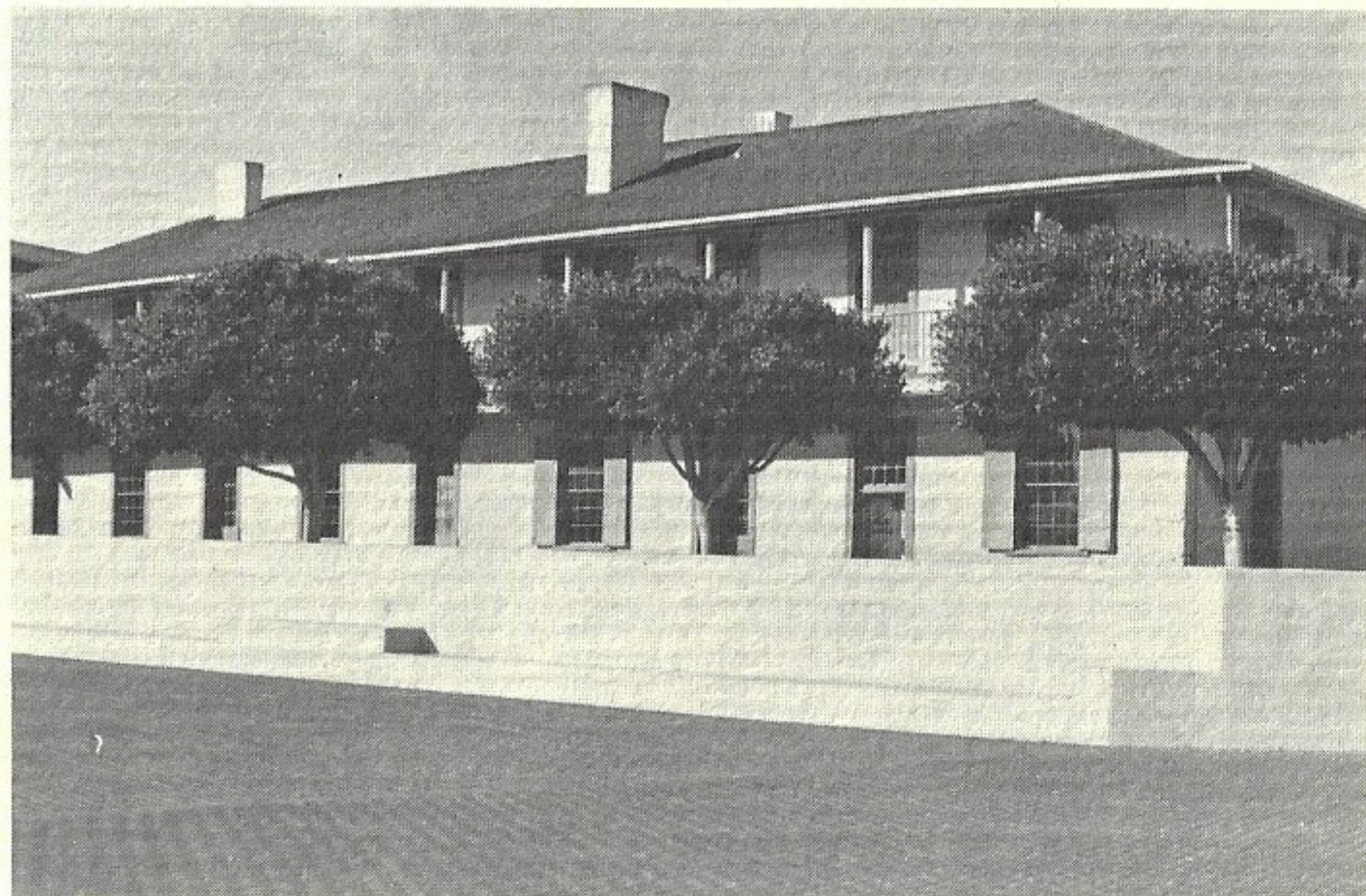
Customs officials headquartered in this building collected most of the revenue needed to support the provincial government of California during the Mexican period of California history. Then, on the morning of July 7, 1846, a company of U.S. marines and sailors under the command of Commodore John Drake Sloat landed in the little cove beside the Custom House, raised the American flag and issued a proclamation announcing the friendly and peaceful takeover of California. That morning, as the stars and stripes rose above the Custom House, the great American dream of Manifest Destiny became a political reality. Suddenly, the nation stretched across the whole of North America from sea to shining sea. #1 on map, on the Custom House Plaza.



LARKIN HOUSE

Thomas O. Larkin, a New Englander, arrived at Monterey aboard the "Newcastle" in 1832, drawn to California by a letter from his half-brother, Juan B.R. Cooper. Although a latecomer, even among foreigners, Larkin quickly became a pivotal figure in the early history of California, by the 1840's acting as President Polk's confidential agent in California. Larkin House was the first two-story house built in Monterey. It was fashioned in the New England manner and adapted to available construction materials: adobe and redwood. This important adobe was presented to the State in 1957 by Mrs. Alice Toulmin, Larkin's grand-daughter, as a historic monument to California's first and only American consul. #14 on map, 510 Calle Principal at Jefferson Street.

and Buildings of Monterey



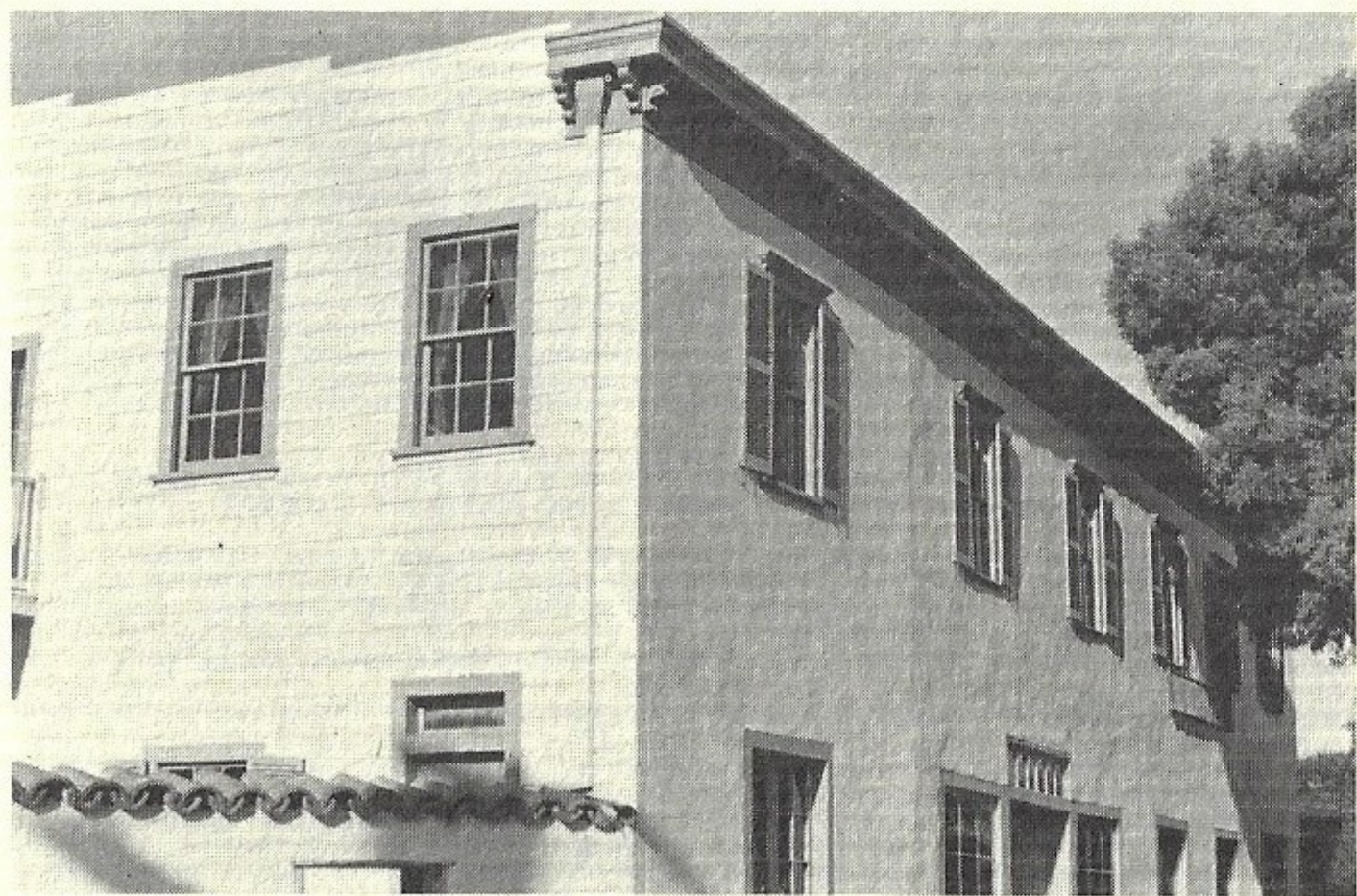
PACIFIC BUILDING AND MEMORY GARDEN

Thomas O. Larkin commissioned David Wight to build this long two-story adobe in 1847. The adobe has served in a number of capacities, initially as a supply depot for U.S. naval vessels. The lower floor now houses a museum representing periods of California's past. The second floor features an extensive collection of Indian artifacts donated to the State by Mr. & Mrs. W.R. Holman. Memory Garden, the beautiful walled garden developed by David Jacks' daughters, was once the site of Monterey's raucous bull and bear fights. Today it is the setting for the Monterey History and Art Association's annual celebration of Monterey's birthday, the Merienda. #2 on map, on the Custom House Plaza.



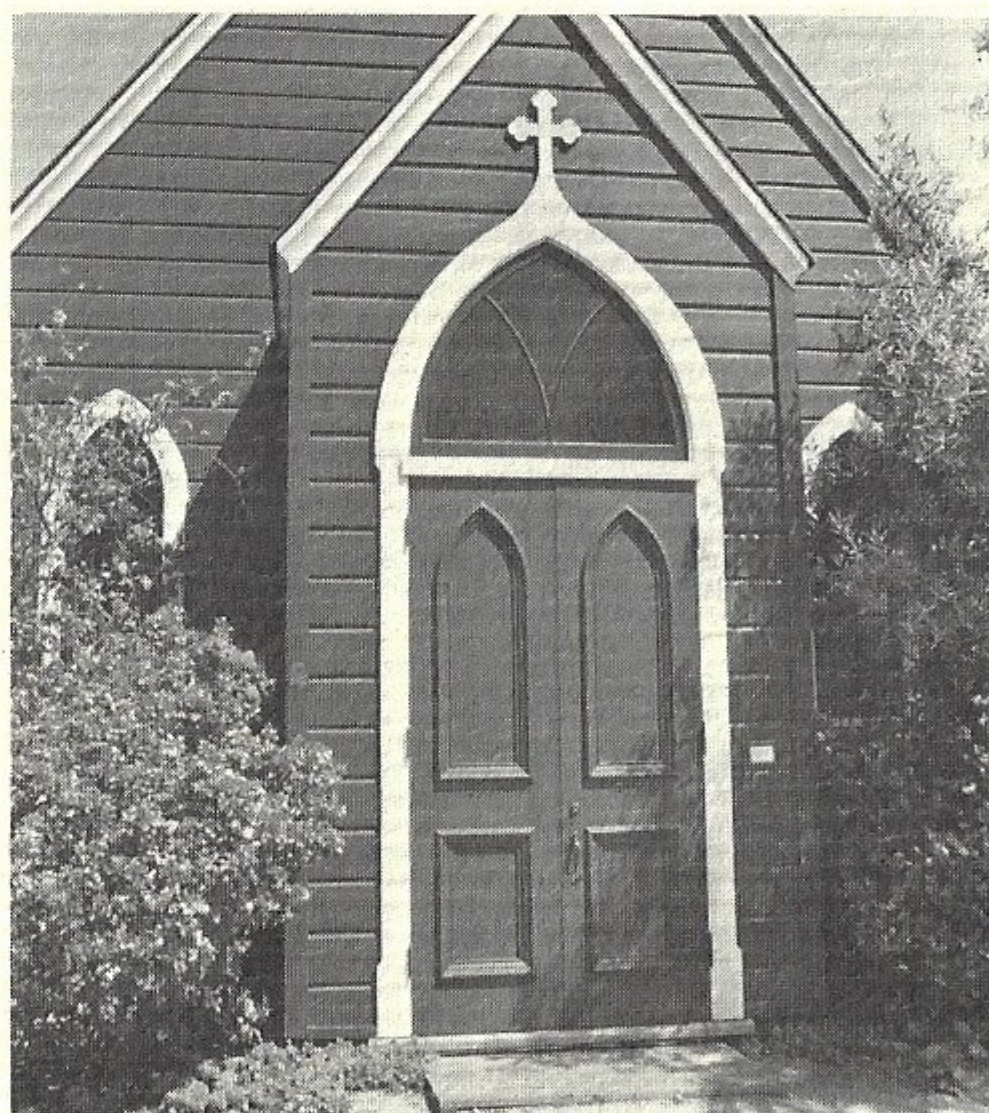
CASA SOBERANES

Casa Soberanes is one of the most intriguing examples of the Monterey Colonial style of architecture. The distinctive feature of the home is its half-tiled roof, the other half being covered with shake shingles to relieve the cantilevered balcony from the additional weight of the tile. The balcony is a rarity in that it has no posts to support the roof. Like the Old Whaling Station, this adobe illustrates the practice of constructing the roof to slant from two-story height in the front to single-story height in the rear. As a result, the upper floor rooms face the front only. #9 on map, 336 Pacific Street at Del Monte Avenue.



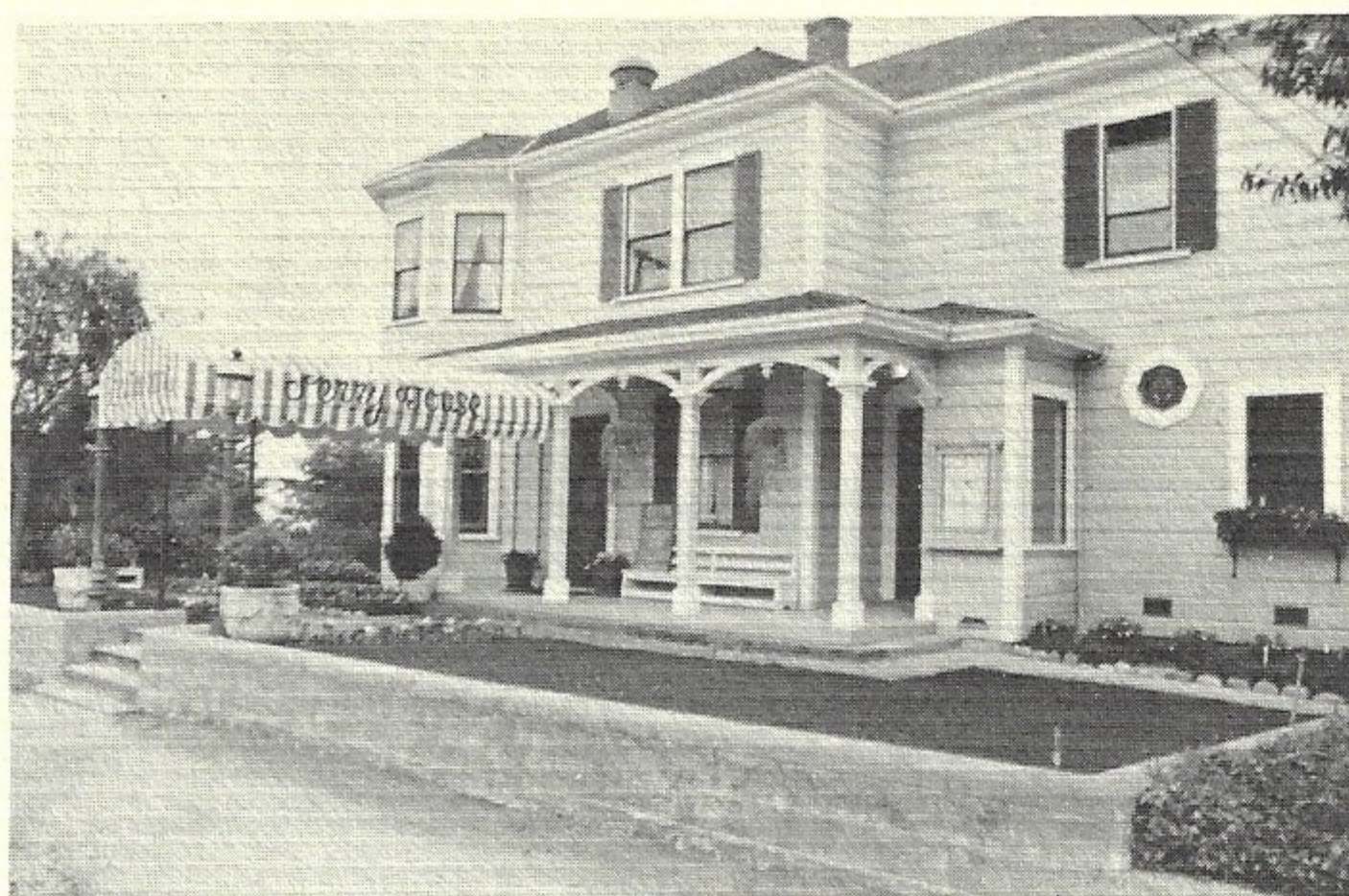
STEVENSON HOUSE

This is the house, then operated as a sailors' lodging house called the French Hotel, to which Robert Louis Stevenson, then virtually unknown and in wretched health, came in the fall of 1879, drawn by the presence of his ladylove, Fanny Van de Grift Osbourne, whom he had met the previous year at an artists' colony outside Paris, and whom he married in 1880. It was in Monterey that Stevenson wrote *The Vendetta of the West*, *The Old Pacific Capital*, and *The Amateur Emigrant*, a high-spirited account of his trip across the continent with a trainload of impoverished settlers, mostly new arrivals from various countries of Europe. This beautifully preserved adobe is now a repository of many interesting articles of Stevenson memorabilia. #21 on map, 530 Houston Street between Pearl and Webster.



MAYO HAYES O'DONNELL LIBRARY

This tiny structure was the original St. James Episcopal Church and was built in 1876 as Monterey's first Protestant church. Protestant services until then had been held in Colton Hall and led by ministers of various faiths. Threatened by Urban Renewal, this little historic building was acquired by the Monterey History and Art Association and moved to its present location overlooking Monterey Bay. It now houses a library of Californiana and is named in the honor of an Association member whose dedication to historic preservation in Monterey was exceptional. #6 on map, 155 Van Buren Street between Scott and Seeno. The Francis Doud House is next door.



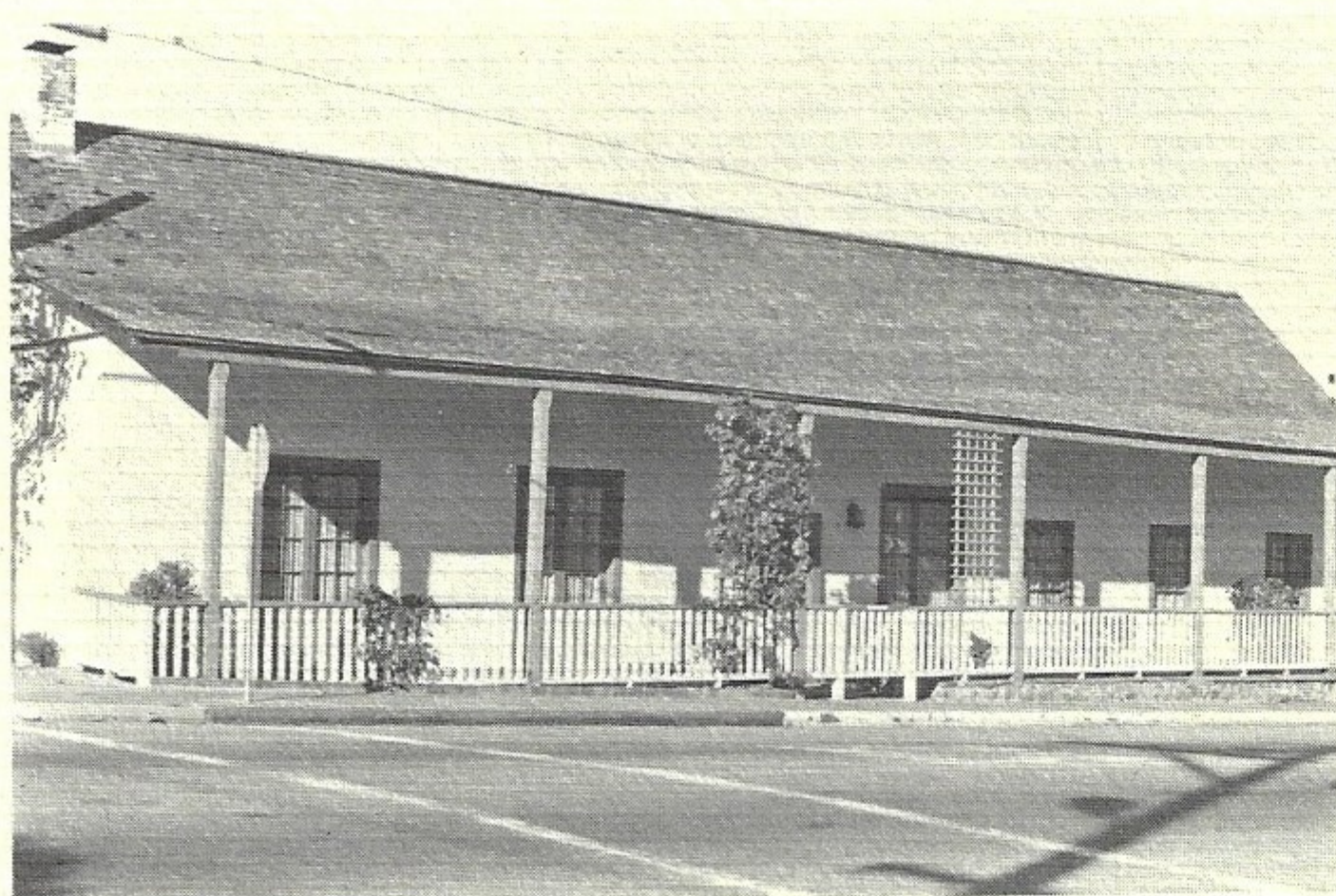
PERRY HOUSE

This beautiful yellow Victorian home was originally built as a single-story Cape Cod-style residence in 1860 by a whaling captain, Manuel Perry, and his wife, Mary de Mello Silva, of Boston. Perry's son, a cabinet maker and carpenter, later expanded the house by raising it up and constructing a new floor beneath the old one. Corners were cut off the building to make bay windows, and other changes were made to modernize it to a more contemporary Victorian design. Mrs. Margaret Downer of Carmel saved and restored the house in 1967, converting it first into a fine art gallery and then into a wonderful restaurant. #7 on map, 201 Van Buren Street at Scott.



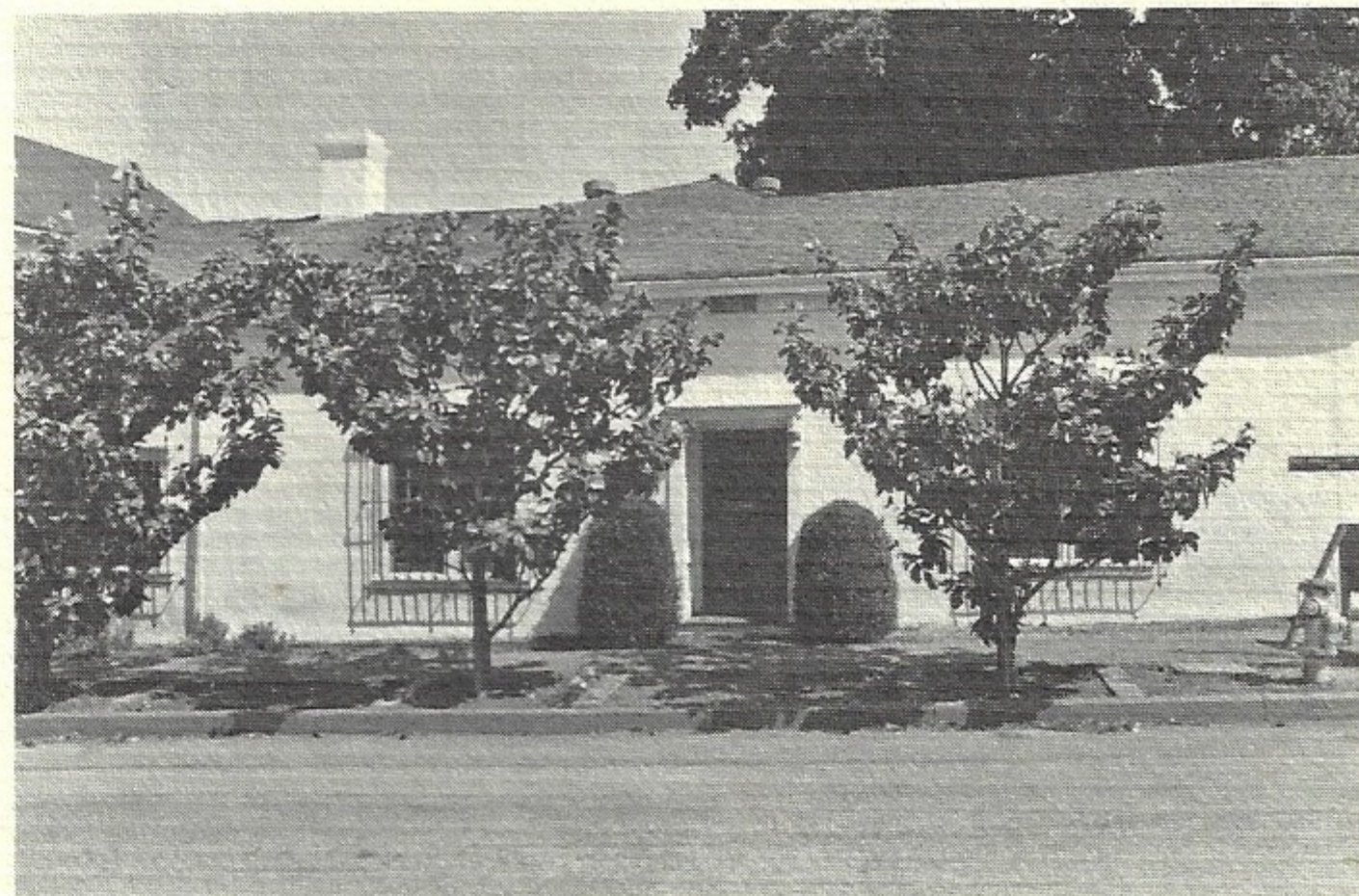
CASA AMESTI

Casa Amesti is a stunning achievement in interior decoration and is one of the best examples of Monterey Colonial architecture in California. This two-story adobe was built by José Amesti, a Spanish Basque who came to Monterey on the "Panther" at the age of thirty. In 1822 he married Prudenciana Vallejo, one of Don José Vallejo's celebrated daughters. Casa Amesti was restored by a noted interior decorator and served as her home for 35 years. Casa Amesti is presently being leased by the National Trust to the Old Capital Club for use as a men's club. #17 on map, 516 Polk Street.



CASA ABREGO

Casa Abrego was built by Don José Abrego, a Mexican merchant who came to Monterey in 1834 with colonists under Don José Maria Hjar on the vessel "La Natalie". Some of the timbers used to build Abrego's home were salvaged from "La Natalie" after the ship drifted ashore and was wrecked. The Abrego adobe was purchased by the Monterey Foundation in 1956 to save it from destruction, and later by the Casa Abrego Club for Women. #22 on map, directly across Webster Street from the Pacheco Club on the corner of Abrego Street.



GABRIEL DE LA TORRE ADOBE

Gabriel de la Torre was the son of Spanish-born soldier, José Joaquin de la Torre. Gabriel was well-educated for his time and served in public offices under both the Mexican and the American flags. The adobe was originally a three-room structure, the largest one of which may have been used by U.S. court officials who periodically visited Monterey to hear cases. Additions were made after the turn of the century to accommodate a popular tea house and later a book shop. Today it houses professional law offices. #19 on map, at the corner of Polk and Hartnell Street.

Other Historic Sites

Open for your enjoyment.
(Numbers indicate position on map)

Casa del Oro

Scotland Oliver #3

Francis Doud House

177 Van Buren #5

Monterey Peninsula Museum of Art

559 Pacific #13

Allen Knight Maritime Museum

550 Calle Principal #16

General Fremont Headquarters

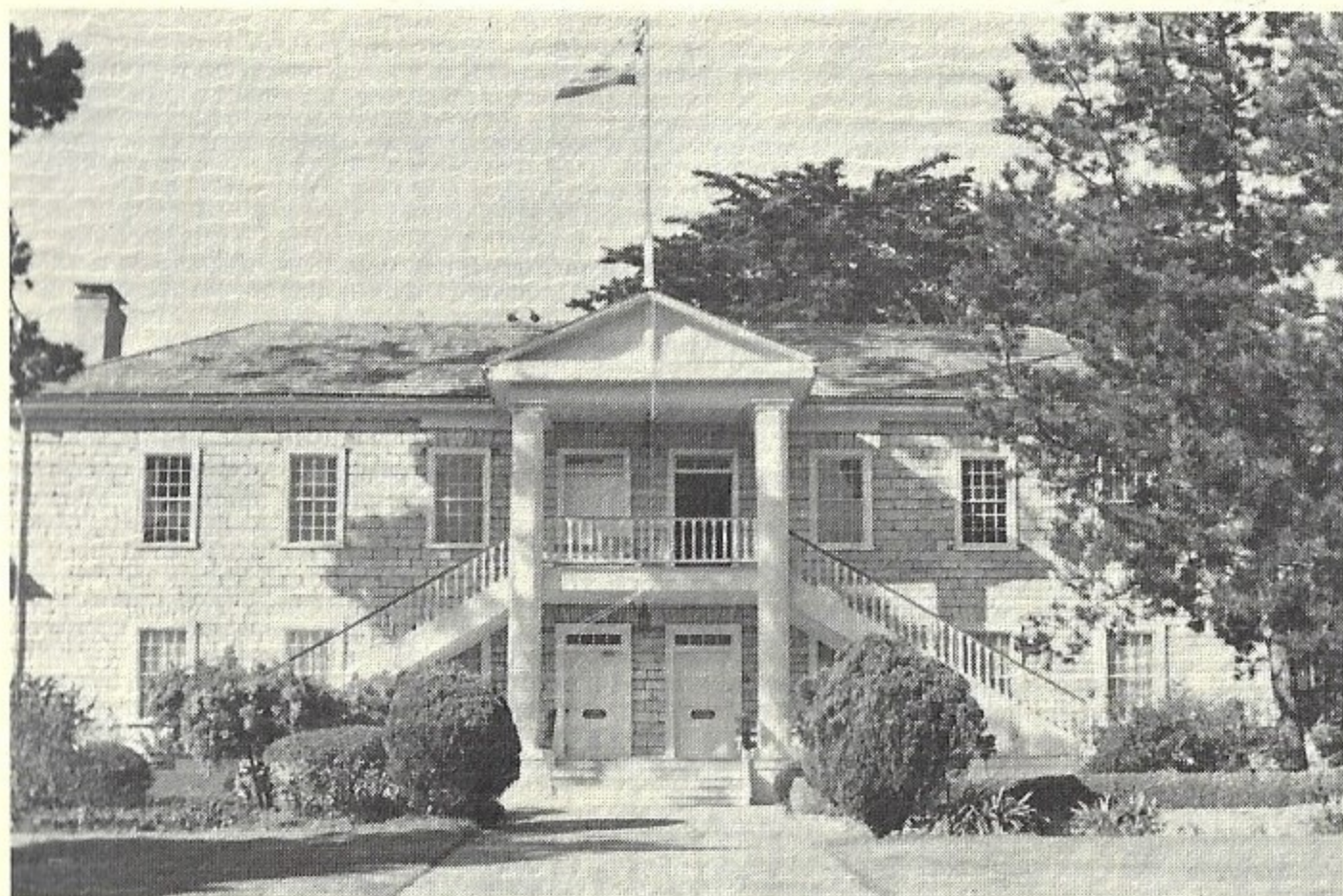
539 Hartnell #20

First Theatre

Pacific and Scott #8

Underwood-Brown

Pacific and Madison #12



COLTON HALL

"I had dreamed in the course of my life, as most people have, of the thousand things I might become, but it never entered my visions that I should succeed to the dignity of a Spanish alcalde," wrote Walter Colton, chaplain of the U.S.S. "Congress", in his diary the day he was appointed Alcalde (Mayor) of Monterey by Commodore Robert F. Stockton. Colton Hall is said to have been designed as a town hall and school by Colton, himself, and built by inmates of the local calabozo. Between September 1st and October 13th, 1849, Colton Hall was the site of California's first Constitutional Convention, where delegates from all over the province drafted a constitution and forwarded it to Washington with a plea for California's admission to the union as a full-fledged state — a hope that became a reality on September 9th of the following year. #11 on map, on Pacific Street between Jefferson and Madison.



OLD WHALING STATION

This old adobe acquired its unusual name when it became a boarding house and headquarters for Portuguese whalers in the 1850's. A whalebone walk in front of the building is a reminder of this past era in California's early economy. The adobe was originally built as a private residence by David Wight, a Scot who also built the nearby Pacific Building. Like Casa Soberanes, this building has a roof that slants from two-story height in the front to one-story height in the rear, with all rooms facing the front. The cantilevered balcony, with posts, was added after 1900. The New England architectural influence is evident throughout this historic structure, which has been beautifully renovated by the State Parks Department and the Junior League of Monterey County, Inc. #4 on map, in Heritage Harbor.

Special Events

CHILDREN'S PARADE (9-10 a.m.) — down Pacific Street from First Theatre to Colton Hall. Prizes for best writing, music and art will be awarded to school children by Commodore Sloat Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Maypole dance follows at Colton Hall.

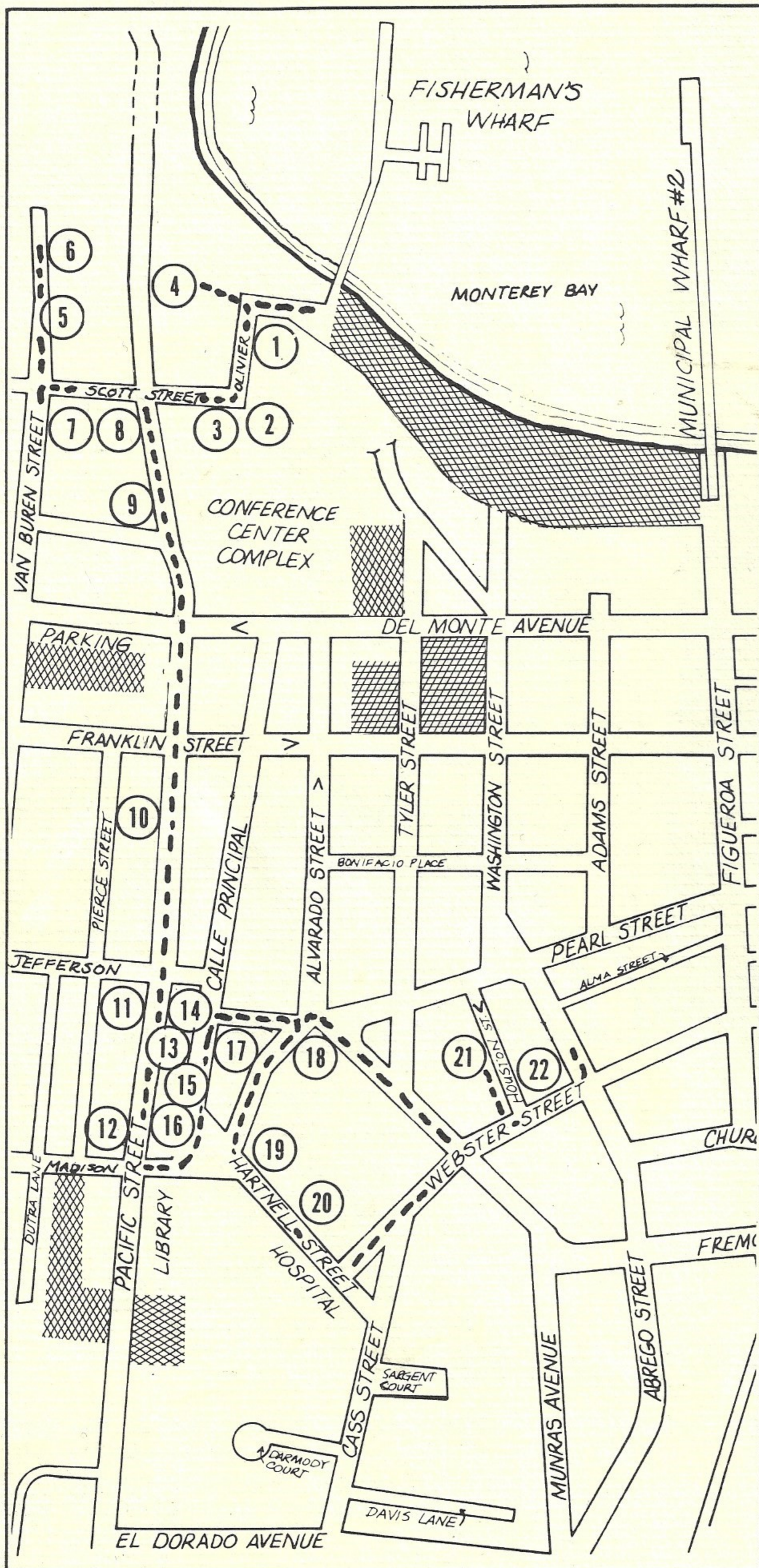
TEXTILE ARTS FAIR, "Patterns for Posterity" (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.) — House of the Four Winds, 540 Calle Principal.

TEA (10 a.m.-12 noon and 2- 5 p.m.)
Casa Serrano, 412 Pacific Street.

HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS (10 a.m.-5 p.m.) — Colton Hall. An exhibition of Pat Hathaway's historical photographs focusing on children and adobes of the Monterey Peninsula.

GUY HORN AND HIS TRIO BEIJAFLOR will perform a program which will include historical music of the period at the Old Whaling Station (12-1 p.m.) and Casa Serrano (2-3 p.m.). Soprano Laura Kafka featured vocal soloist.

WHALER'S DELIGHT AL FRESCO LUNCHEON (11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.) — Old Whaling Station, in Heritage Harbor. Prepared and served by the Junior League of Monterey County, Inc. Price: \$4.00.



1. Custom House, at entrance to Fisherman's Wharf
2. Pacific Building and Memory Garden, Scott & Oliver □
3. Casa del Oro, Scott and Oliver □
4. Old Whaling Station, Heritage Harbor □ ●
5. Francis Doud House, 177 Van Buren
6. Mayo Hayes O'Donnell Library, 155 Van Buren
7. Perry House, 201 Van Buren
8. First Theatre, Pacific and Scott
9. Casa Soberanes, 336 Pacific
10. Casa Serrano, 412 Pacific ○
11. Colton Hall and Old Jail, Pacific between Jefferson & Madison □
12. Underwood-Brown, Pacific & Madison
13. Monterey Peninsula Museum of Art, 559 Pacific □
14. Larkin House & Sherman-Haller Adobe, 510 Calle Principal
15. House of the Four Winds, 540 Calle Principal
16. Allen Knight Maritime Museum, 550 Calle Principal
17. Casa Amesti, 516 Polk
18. Cooper Molera Adobe, Polk & Munras □
19. Gabriel de la Torre Adobe, Hartnell & Polk
20. General Fremont Headquarters, 539 Hartnell
21. Stevenson House, 530 Houston
22. Casa Abrego, 592 Abrego

- Rest Rooms
- Luncheon
- Tea incl.
- ▨ Parking

Great American Federal's downtown Monterey office at the corner of Alvarado and Del Monte Avenue will be open all day Saturday, April 30, during the Adobe tour. Complimentary coffee will be served and rest rooms will be open to the public. Of special interest here is to see how history and art have been combined in a sandcasting of Monterey scenes hanging from the walls of the customer lobby.

The Monterey History and Art Association was founded in 1931 with the primary purpose of preserving those reminders of historic Monterey — the old adobe homes and significant buildings of early Spanish, Mexican and American California.

Each year in April the Association sponsors a tour of selected historic buildings to promote a better understanding and appreciation of the inestimable value of Monterey's place in history and its unique heritage.

This can only be accomplished through the efforts of a great many unusual volunteers as well as the very generous support of the sponsors listed in this program.

I thank you one and all — Mrs. Charles M. Bentley
President

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Acknowledgments

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California Department of Parks & Recreation
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Nancy Modrall-General Advisor



Isabel Smith Robinson (left) Viola Smith Frisbee (right). Marcia Frisbee DeVoe collection.



CHILDREN'S PARADE — Pacific Street from First Theatre
to Colton Hall, followed by a Maypole Pageant. 9:00 a.m. — 10:00 a.m.

TEXTILE ARTS FAIR — "Patterns for Posterity", 10:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

House of the Four Winds — 540 Calle Principal

TEA — Casa Serrano. 10:00 a.m. — noon & 2:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.
412 Pacific Street

EXHIBITION OF HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS

— by Pat Hathaway, Colton Hall
Pacific Street 10:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

GUY HORN AND HIS TRIO BEIJAFLO

WHALER'S DELIGHT — Al Fresco Luncheon
Old Whaling Station, Heritage Harbor 11:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m. — \$4.00

Cover photo gift of Ed Bispo

Monterey History & Art Association, Ltd.
550 Calle Principal, P.O. Box 805, Monterey, CA 93940 (408) 372-2608