

Flags Over Monterey

ADOBE TOUR

Saturday, April 30, 1988



Sponsored by
MONTEREY HISTORY & ART ASSOCIATION

WELCOME

On behalf of all of us at the Monterey History and Art Association, it is a pleasure to welcome you to this 41st annual Adobe Tour. The adobes and other historic buildings included in the tour represent an important part of Monterey's remarkable and dynamic past. Please feel free to ask questions of our volunteers along the way. They are there to serve you. We want you to have an interesting and enjoyable time and to carry away with you the pleasant nostalgia of those fascinating years of long ago.

Gordon Paul Smith
President
Monterey History and
Art Association

Cover design: FLAGS OVER MONTEREY — an original watercolor by Bowen, Keller & Greco graphics firm shows Colton Hall and a representation of historic flags flown over Monterey. Poster reproductions are available for a donation of \$5 at Casa Serrano, Cooper-Molera, The Boston Store and Allen Knight Maritime Museum.

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The MONTEREY HISTORY & ART ASSOCIATION is a non-profit public benefit corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of California. All proceeds benefit the Association's projects and are tax deductible.

PRESERVING A HERITAGE

The Monterey History and Art Association was established 57 years ago by local citizens for the purpose of preserving for public interest irreplaceable reminders of Monterey's historic past. This voluntarily-adopted civic duty emerged from a deep appreciation of the colorful evolution of early Indian, Spanish, Mexican and American cultures in the area.

In helping to guard Monterey's distinctive assets, the Association's task surely is worthwhile, for remarkable indeed is this area's heritage — its vital role in sailing, whaling and fishing eras; its naval history of considerable note; its old and charming adobes and early government buildings; its historic books, manuscripts, pictures, paintings, furniture and costumes; and its many other artifacts, treasures, drama and lore of the past. All this and much more represent not only the unique cultural emergence of such interesting people of diverse backgrounds, but also reflect quite precisely where and how the history of California as a State began — right here in Monterey.

Monterey History and Art Association, through the dedication of an ever-increasing number of volunteers over the years and with the gratifying generosity of its large host of members and contributors, continues to perform its mission exceptionally well.

The Association is proud indeed of its role and takes seriously its responsibilities for keeping alive those wonderful memories of years gone by. They will not be forgotten.

GPS

Monterey History & Art Association

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FLAGS OVER MONTEREY

Although discovery of Monterey Bay has been credited to Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, sailing for Spain, in 1542, some historians claim that he did not land here, only recognized it and sailed by. However, it was Sebastain Vizcaino, also sailing for Spain, who in 1602 gave it the name "El Puerto de Monterey." Following Vizcaino's visit, Spain's interest in further expeditions seems to have waned over the next century and a half.

Spain's interest in expeditions was to be renewed under King Charles III due largely to concern over the presence of English and Dutch privateers off the coast of Baja California as well as Russian colonies to the North.

While the union of Spain's land and sea expeditions in July 1769 marks the birthdate of Alto California, the expeditions to Monterey were significant since it was to serve as the Capitol of the new area.

Looking for the port which Vizcaino had described — Monterey — Don Gaspar de Portola failed on his first expedition, but was successful on his second attempt. On June 3, 1770, together with Father Junipero Serra, a mission and presidio were established. The flag of Spain — the first known flag to fly over Monterey — was raised. In 1785, a new Spanish national ensign had been designed and was ordered flown over Monterey. (The two lower flags in the picture on the cover are the flags of Spain).

Argentina's occupation of Monterey was very brief during late 1818. Two ships flying the revolutionary flag of Argentina and under the command of Hippolyte de Bouchard came to anchor in the Bay. Although the Californios were defiant, they were unable to defend the town. After a little more than a week of ransacking, the invaders burned the town and then set sail South. (Third flag from bottom).

The Spanish colonists in California took no part in the Mexican struggle for independence from Spain. But when it was learned, early in 1822, that an independent Mexican government had been set up the previous year, Governor Pablo Vincente de Sola, at a meeting in Monterey, declared California's allegiance to the new nation and replaced the flag of Spain with that of the new Mexican Empire. (Flag shown second from top).

United States policy in 1845, under President James Polk's administration, was fixed on annexation of California. Thomas O. Larkin, U.S. Consul in Monterey, was actively seeking public support. Then, believing war between the United States and Mexico to be imminent, Commodore John Drake Sloat, Commander of the Pacific Fleet, sailed into Monterey Bay in July, 1846 and took possession for the United States. After conferring with Larkin, the Fleet's 250 Marines marched to the Custom House on July 7, where Commodore Sloat's proclamation was read, the standard of the United States was hoisted and a 21 gun salute was fired. Thus, the beginning of California as part of the United States. (Flag at top of picture).

RCS

ADOBE TOUR PROGRAM

9:00 A.M. **BAKER'S BREAKFAST**
Memory Garden, Pacific House
Hosted by:
DOUBLETREE HOTEL

10:00 A.M. **U.S. MARINE CORPS DRILL TEAM**
Memory Garden, Pacific House

ADOBES & HISTORIC BUILDINGS OPEN

10:30 A.M. **OLD MONTEREY HOTEL (406 Alvarado Street)**
Ribbon cutting ceremony & refreshments

11:30 A.M. **WHALING STATION and GARDEN LUNCHEON**
(Donation \$3.50)
Hosted by:
JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MONTEREY COUNTY

1:00 P.M. **CASA SERRANO**
5:00 P.M. **TRADITIONAL TEA and REFRESHMENTS**
Hosted by:
MONTEREY HISTORY & ART ASSOCIATION

ENTERTAINMENT:

1:30-2:30 Gwen Clark, Piano

2:30-3:30 Richard Lee, Piano

3:30-4:30 Walter Colton String Quartet

Directed by Debi Cirimela

1:00 P.M. **COOPER-MOLERA**

4:00 P.M. WINE and CHEESE (donation \$2)

Hosted by:

VENTANA VINEYARDS

ENTERTAINMENT:

1:00-2:00 Ger-Agrey Thatcher, Guitar

2:00-3:00 Cypressaires

Directed by Frank Rabb

3:00-4:00 Jake Stock & Company

ALL DAY FEATURES

TROLLEY SERVICE

Complimentary rides (see map - page 8)

BALLOONS - Courtesy of CREATIVE BALLOONS

Distributed by Girl Scouts of America

Troops #2017, #2030, #2038

CASA DE LA TORRE

Refreshments courtesy of FREMONT BANK

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SURVEY PARTY C.1849/1850

Custom House Plaza

A Living History Program

FLAGS OVER MONTEREY POSTERS

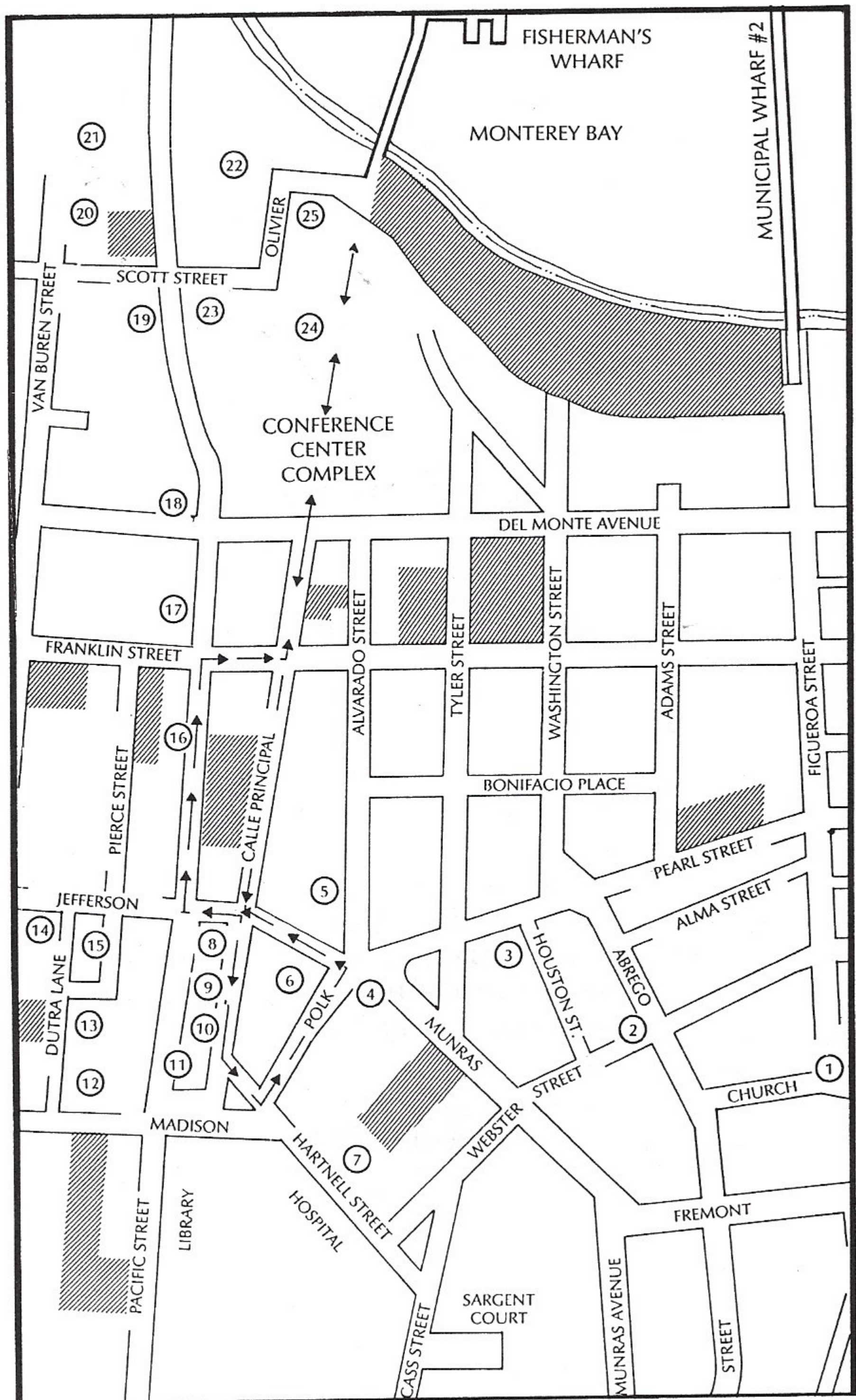
Available at the BOSTON STORE, ALLEN KNIGHT MUSEUM,
CASA SERRANO and COOPER-MOLERA. (donation \$5).

JOSEPH BOSTON STORE & HERB GARDEN

Unusual gift items

PERIOD COSTUMES on display at

PACIFIC HOUSE and DOUD HOUSE



FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL ADOBE TOUR

1. Royal Presidio Chapel
2. Casa Abrego and Garden ***
3. Stevenson House and Garden
4. Cooper-Molera and Grounds ***(w) ## (E) (R)
5. Eureka Federal Savings — Cypress Museum
6. Casa Amesti Garden
7. Fremont Headquarters
8. Larkin House and Garden ***
9. House of Four Winds
10. Allen Knight Maritime Museum ***
11. Monterey Peninsula Museum of Art ## (w) #
12. Underwood-Brown and Garden #
13. Colton Hall-Friendly Plaza #
14. Casa Alvarado Garden
15. Casa de la Torre (R)
16. Casa Serrano and Garden *** (w) (E) (R)
17. Merritt House and Garden
18. Casa Soberanes and Garden
19. First Theatre and Garden
20. Doud House and Garden
21. Mayo Hayes O'Donnell Library
22. Old Whaling Station and Garden # (R)
23. Casa del Oro—Boston Store and Herb Garden
24. Pacific House—Memory Garden ***#
25. Custom House (E)

Restrooms
 *** Ticket Sales
 ## Handicapped Restrooms
 (w) Wheelchair Access

(E) Entertainment
 (R) Refreshments
 → Shuttle Route
 ▨ Parking

The Adobe Tour is designed to be a self-guided walking tour. However, you may choose to ride on the complimentary trolley (route is shown on the map.)

ADOBES and HISTORIC BUILDINGS OF MONTEREY

1. ROYAL PRESIDIO CHAPEL (La Capilla Real - 1794)—The oldest structure in Monterey. Established as San Carlos Borromeo de Monterey on June 3, 1770, when Father Junipero Serra and Don Gaspar de Portola met and claimed California for Spain.

The original Chapel was built of stone and adobe in 1775 and was destroyed by fire in 1789. Its replacement, built in 1794. Among the workmen was a stonecarver, Manuel Ruiz, who probably carved the chalkrock figure atop the facade, "The Virgin of Guadalupe," Patron Saint of Mexico. 550 Church Street.

2. CASA ABREGO (1830's)—Built of adobe bricks and wood by Don Jose Abrego, a Mexican merchant who came to Monterey in 1834 on the vessel "La Natalie." Casa Abrego has the distinction of being the first home in California to have a piano.

The Abrego adobe was purchased in 1956 by the Monterey Foundation to save it from destruction, then leased to the Casa Abrego Club for Women. In 1959 the Casa Abrego Club bought the adobe from the Foundation. 592 Abrego Street.

3. STEVENSON HOUSE (1830's)—This fine old adobe sheltered Robert Louis Stevenson during his visit to Monterey in 1879, to be near his lady love, Fanny Van de Grift Osbourne, whom he eventually married. While in Monterey, he wrote "The Old Capitol."

First owned by Don Rafael Gonzalez, the two-story adobe originally comprised the sala and one large room upstairs. A Swiss businessman, Girardin, purchased it and added on the Houston Street section. Over the years it served many business purposes, and for a time was known as "The French Hotel."

In 1937 the historic adobe was purchased by the late Edith C. van Antwerp and Mrs. C. Tobin Clark to save it from destruction. They in turn presented it to the State of California as a memorial, and it is now a unit of Monterey State Historic Park. A repository of Robert Louis Stevenson memorabilia, including many articles of furniture, books of first edition, manuscripts, keepsakes and personal belongings of the beloved writer, given by members of his family. 530 Houston Street.

4. COOPER-MOLERA (1829)—A prime example of Monterey colonial architectural style, it was the home of John B.R. Cooper, a trader and sea captain. Cooper came to Monterey on his ship "The Rover" in the early 1820's. In 1823 he became a Mexican citizen, joined the Catholic Church and married Encarnacion Vallejo. In 1829 he obtained a town lot, planning a home for his bride. Originally a long one-story structure, by the 1850's he had converted the southern section to the two-story building you see today. Over the years an orchard was planted, large barns erected, several small buildings added in back and all enclosed with a fine high adobe wall.

Miss Frances Molera, a granddaughter, bequeathed the old home property to the National Trust for Historic Preservation. It is leased to the California State Department of Parks and Recreation and is the largest complex of Monterey's historic adobes. Polk and Munras Streets.

5. CYPRESS MUSEUM—Eureka Savings and Loan established the Cypress Museum to recall and preserve California's colonial history through rare photographs and artifacts. This "window of the past" hopefully will make it easier for all descendants of early California families to better understand their heritage. 474 Alvarado Street.

6. CASA AMESTI (1834)—A stunning achievement in interior decoration, Casa Amesti is one of the best examples of Monterey Colonial architecture. This two-story adobe was built by Jose Amesti, a Spanish Basque who came to Monterey on the "Panther" at the age of thirty. In 1822 he married Purdenciana Vallejo, daughter of Don Jose Vallejo.

Records indicate the lot was granted Amesti in 1833 and construction continued into the 1850's. Originally a one-story adobe. As the wealth and influence of Amesti increased, additions emphasizing the amenities of living were made, and the adobe became the setting for elegant social functions. The necessary household activities were carried out in the small separate buildings in the walled garden.

Casa Amesti was restored by the noted interior decorator, Frances Elkins, and served as her home for 35 years. Upon her death in 1953 it was willed to the National Trust for Historic Preservation. It is presently being leased by the Old Capitol Club for use as a private men's club. *516 Polk Street.*

7. FREMONT HEADQUARTERS—Although this two-story adobe is generally recognized as the headquarters of John C. Fremont, the memoirs of Fremont and Lt. William T. Sherman confirm that the title is a misnomer. Their notes show that when he came to Monterey, he encamped on a hill at the end of town.

Actual ownership of the little adobe has been traced through several Monterey families. In 1861 it was sold by Antonio Maria Vasquez and his wife, Asuncion Boronda Vasquez, for \$200. By the late 1800's it was the family home of Cristimo Castro, who came to Monterey during the gold rush period.

When the government purchased the property for Post Office expansion, the Monterey History and Art Association bought the building and a minimum of land in 1960. Now, carefully restored, it is leased for appropriate uses. *539 Hartnell Street.*

8. LARKIN HOUSE (1834)—The Larkin House is a reminder of the influence Thomas Oliver Larkin exerted on California's political history and on secular architecture during the first half of the 19th century.

One of the first two-story houses built in Monterey and one of the earliest examples of Monterey colonial architecture, it was started in 1834 shortly after Larkin (a half brother of John Rogers Cooper) came to California as a Yankee merchant. Larkin adapted eastern form to available materials: adobe and redwood.

Larkin became one of the most successful men in Monterey. In 1844 he was appointed U.S. Consul to California, and for the next five years the adobe served as headquarters and the center of social life of the Capitol. Here historic decisions regarding California's future role were made.

This important adobe was presented to the State of California as a historic monument in 1857 by Mrs. Alice Toulmin, Larkin's granddaughter. It is a unit of the Monterey State Historic Park. *510 Calle Principal.*

9. HOUSE OF FOUR WINDS (1835)—La Casa de Los Cuatro Vientos has been so called since the mid-1800's, because it was the first house with a weathervane on its hipped roof. It was originally part of the large piece of property developed by Thomas O. Larkin. It also enjoys the distinction of having been the first Hall of Records for the newly formed County of Monterey.

One of the first groups to urge the preservation of Monterey's adobes was the Women's Civic Club, founded in 1906. The Club purchased the adobe in 1914 and developed it into a fine club house (believed to be the oldest club house in the U.S.) with additions to the rear. The original front section and second story have been restored and furnished in the spirit of the 1850's, its facade still serenely facing the street. *540 Calle Principal.*

10. ALLEN KNIGHT MARITIME MUSEUM—The Maritime Museum was established in 1970 under the sponsorship of Monterey History and Art Association. It houses a large private maritime collection accumulated by the late Allen Knight of Carmel. His collection reflects a life-long devotion to the sea, an interest which began as a youthful deckhand on the sailing ship "Falls of Clyde."

Under the guidance of Rear Admiral (Ret.) Earl E. Stone, the work of many volunteers has gone into its organization, maintenance, and continuing expansion. Since its opening, many

items have been added to the collection. Notable among the exhibits is a scale model of the frigate "Savannah," the flagship of Commodore Sloat when he took possession for Monterey in 1846 and declared California a part of the United States. A most unique exhibit is the large magnificent 1880 Fresnel lens once located at Point Sur. Another is a collection of Chinese Junks. A museum feature is the growing maritime library of books, pictures, and rare shipping records, primarily established for the use of researchers, writers and artists.

On the Association's horizon is a beautiful new Maritime museum to be located near Fisherman's Wharf. 550 *Calle Principal*.

11. MONTEREY PENINSULA MUSEUM OF ART—Originally built as a mortuary in early 1900's, this building later served as the County Court House, and then the property of City of Monterey. In 1969, it was leased to Monterey Peninsula Museum of Art and, in 1979 in recognition of the Museum's performance as a cultural asset, it was deeded in trust to them for 40 years. It was enlarged in 1983 to display the permanent collection of early regional and California art. 559 *Pacific Street*.

12. UNDERWOOD-BROWN ADOBE (1843)—This small adobe was once located on part of a 27,000 acre grant from the Mexican government to the Pueblo de Monterey. After changing hands several times, it was purchased by Charles Underwood in 1866. The house was termed Underwood-Brown due to the long occupancy of the families of Underwood and his daughter, Mrs. Margaret Brown.

When the City of Monterey built the Charles R. Few Memorial Hall and City offices, the architect carefully incorporated the little adobe into the complex, and it now houses the administrative offices of the City. Recently the Pacific Street entrance, which had been walled in for many years, was restored and fitted with a beautifully carved door made in Mexico. *Pacific at Madison*.

13. COLTON HALL (1840's)—California's first Constitution was hammered out in ardent debate in Colton Hall in 1849. The beautiful second floor assembly hall has been restored to appear as when the 48 delegates of the first Constitution Convention met here.

The Hall was built by and named for the Reverend Walter Colton who came to Monterey as chaplain on one of Commodore Sloat's vessels and remained to become Monterey's first alcalde. In collaboration with Robert Semple, he published the first newspaper in California on August 15, 1846.

The most important public office building in Monterey County to be in continuous use, Colton Hall, over the years has been City Hall of Monterey, a public school, a county court house, sheriff's office, the Monterey city police department and has housed other city offices.

Expertly restored by the City of Monterey and the Colton Hall Museum Board in 1949, it is owned by the City of Monterey and maintained as a museum. *Pacific Street between Jefferson and Madison*.

14. CASA ALVARADO (1830's)—The adobe was built by Don Juan Bautista Alvarado, first Monterey-born Governor of California. A direct descendent of Captain Cortez, he was the son of Don Jose Francisco Alvarado and Josefa Vallejo.

Originally a three-room structure with a tule roof, the adobe illustrates several characteristics of design customary of that period. Dwellings faced the east so occupants could take full advantage of the morning sun on the front of the house. Each room opened directly to the out-of-doors. Walls were 24 inches thick, of adobe bricks laid up with adobe mud mortar and supported on a heavy chalkrock foundation. Manuel Dutra purchased the adobe in 1842. It remained in the family until sold in 1946. Casa Alvarado is now a unit of Monterey State Historic Park. 510 *Dutra Street*.

15. JOSE DE LA TORRE ADOBE (1852)—This attractive adobe was probably built by the original grantee, Francisco Pinto, on land that was assessed at \$7.50 in 1850.

After passing through several owners, in 1862 it became the home of Jose de la Torre, youngest son of the old Spanish-born soldier, Jose Joaquin de la Torre. Several generations

of the family dwelt here over a span of more than a half century.

Originally the adobe consisted of three rooms and an entrance hall. Several wooden lean-tos, which were added through the years, remain intact today. A large window was cut in the north wall by an artist owner for added light.

Today, the little adobe and its sheltered garden convey a sense of the flavor of old Monterey and houses the Fremont Bank. 502 *Pierce Street*.

16. CASA SERRANO (1845)—Construction of this graceful adobe was begun in 1845 by Thomas O. Larkin. It was sold unfinished to Florencio Serrano, who completed the house following his marriage to the daughter of Don Joaquin de la Torre. They raised a very large family there and several generations of the Serrano family called the adobe home.

Casa Serrano has a special significance in California's early history because it served as one of the first schools after the U.S. Flag was flown over the Custom House in 1846. Florencio Serrano succeeded Walter Colton as the second alcalde of Monterey. He established a private school and taught in Spanish. After losing his eyesight, by relying on his phenomenal memory and help from his daughter, he was able to continue teaching. The Serrano family lived in the adobe at the same time it served as a school.

The Monterey History and Art Association purchased Casa Serrano in 1959, completely restored it and filled it with beautiful antique furnishings and historic items to share with visitors. The Association holds its Board meetings here as well as special community events. It is open to the public Saturdays and Sundays (2 to 4 p.m.). 412 *Pacific Street*.

17. MERRITT HOUSE (1830's)—This two-story adobe has an imposing appearance due to the balcony across the front with its low railing and the three colonial-type pillars. The outside stairway, permitting access to the second floor, is typical of that early period.

The Merritt family was influential in the political affairs of Monterey County in the second half of the 19th century. The adobe became their property in 1852 when the owner defaulted on a mortgage and Juana Castro Merritt, wife of Josiah Merritt and daughter of the prominent Simeon Castro family, was its successful bidder. Josiah, a lawyer, came to Monterey in 1829 and, with statehood, became the first Monterey County Judge.

In recent years, the Merritt House has been used for various businesses and professional offices. It is now part of a hotel complex. 386 *Pacific St.*

18. CASA SOBERANES (1830's)—Sometimes known as "The House with the Blue Gate," Casa Soberanes is a unique example of intermingling of architecture of Southern Spain and New England. Its preservation was assured in 1957 when Mrs. Mayo Hayes O'Donnell presented it to the State of California as a unit of Monterey State Historic Park.

It is one of the few two-story homes of that period with a cantilevered balcony with no posts to support the roof. Shakes were substituted for handmade tiles on the balcony roof to relieve additional weight.

The adobe illustrates the practice of constructing the roof from two-story height in the front to single-story height in the rear. To accommodate this design, the upper floor rooms were placed along the front only. Main walls in the structure were extended to achieve a sheltered and livable feeling. The "sala" has been used as an example of early adobe in the Thorne collection of Early American Homes in the Chicago Art Museum. 336 *Pacific Street*.

19. FIRST THEATER (1840's)—This old adobe is unique on two counts: its architectural design and its history as a theater setting. It was constructed by Jack Swan as a saloon and apartment house. Four two-room units, each with outside east and west doors and a back room fireplace, were separated by partitions which could be raised and lowered.

The functional character of the building was expanded further when Colonel John D. Stevenson's regiment disbanded in Monterey at the close of the Mexican War and persuaded Jack Swan to permit them to convert it into the Union Theater for the production of melodramas.

Ninety years later the old building again became the setting for theatrical productions when, on Monterey's birthday, June 3, 1937, the Troupers of the Gold Coast revived the old time melodramas and continued to perform them on weekends through the year. The First Theatre

is now a unit of Monterey State Historic Park. *Pacific at Scott Street.*

20. DOUD HOUSE (1860's)—The New England style wooden structure was the home of Francis Doud, an Irish born immigrant, who served with honor in the Seminole War and the Mexican War. After being wounded, and his discharge in 1848, he landed at San Francisco in July 1849 with his wife and son. Coming to Monterey he found a position as a civilian with his former Army commander, General Bennett Riley, then Governor of California. He participated in the physical arrangements for the Constitutional Convention and even supplied his own hand-made kitchen table to be used for the speaker and the signing of the Constitution.

The Monterey History and Art Association acquired the house for preservation as an example of early American Period homes, and it now houses the Association's exhibits of period costumes and textiles. *177 Van Buren Street.*

21. MAYO HAYES O'DONNELL LIBRARY (1876)—Threatened by urban renewal, the little historic building, originally a church, was acquired by Monterey History and Art Association and moved to its present location in 1970.

Built in 1876, the former St. James Episcopal Church was the first Protestant church built in Monterey. Through the dedicated leadership of the Reverend James S. McGowan, financial support from both protestants and catholics made a protestant church a reality. Princess Louise of England worshipped in the little church, and crews from several English vessels attended memorial services for Queen Victoria in it.

It now houses a library of Californiana and is named in honor of Mayo Hayes O'Donnell, in recognition of her dedicated support of the Monterey History and Art Association's mission to preserve history. *155 Van Buren Street.*

22. WHALING STATION (1840's)—Long known as the Old Whaling Station, this old adobe was built by David Wright, a Scotsman, as a private residence and modeled on the plan of his ancestral home. The exterior followed the plan of two-story construction in Monterey of that day with the roof slanting to one-story at the rear. The cantilevered balcony was added after 1900.

The structure acquired its unusual name when it became a boardinghouse and headquarters for Portuguese whalers in the 1850's. On the nearby beach, alas, the whales were cut and oil rendered. A whalebone walk in front is a reminder of this past era in California's economy.

The building was renovated by the Monterey County Junior League and State Parks Department. It is now a unit of Monterey State Historic Park and is leased to the Junior League for their headquarters. *Heritage Harbor.*

23. CASA DEL ORO - THE BOSTON STORE (1840's)—A two-story adobe and chalkrock was built by Thomas Larkin for business. It was sold to Jose Abrego, who leased it to Joseph Boston and Company in the 1850's for a general merchandise store. One of Boston's partners was the deputy tax collector, and the store became the depository for county taxes. The first iron safe in Monterey was owned by the partners, and in recent years has been returned to its original location. The adobe came to be known as Casa del Oro (the House of Gold), due to reports that miners stored their gold there.

The building, later sold to David Jacks by Abrego, was a storehouse and a private home. It was given to the State of California by the Jacks sisters. Today, The Boston Store houses a shop featuring antiques, ribbons, linens, crockery, preserves, soaps, potpourri, tea and herbs representative of items in use in early California. There is a lovely herb garden. It is a unit of Monterey State Historic Park and is staffed by docents of Monterey History and Art Association. *Scott and Olivera.*

24. PACIFIC HOUSE & MEMORY GARDEN (1847)—David Wright (Scottish-born architect and builder) built this long two-stored adobe for Thomas Larkin. A unique feature was a well enclosed inside the south end of the building to provide water free from contamination.

The adobe served in many capacities. By 1850 it had become a hotel for seafaring men, the Pacific House. The newly organized county rented space for a courtroom, a jury room

and county clerk's office. Later it housed law offices, a newspaper, a ballroom, a board of education, and a church. The lower floor now houses a museum representing the periods of California's past. The second floor features an extensive collection of Indian artifacts which were donated to the State by Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Holman.

Purchased by David Jacks in 1880, the property remained in the family until deeded to the State in 1954. The beautiful walled garden developed by his daughters, known as Memory Garden, is the setting for the annual Merienda celebrating Monterey's birthday (first Saturday each June). Pacific House is a unit of Monterey State Historic Park. *Custom House Plaza at Scott Street.*

25. CUSTOM HOUSE (1827)—The Custom House, preserved as a museum, interprets significant events which shaped California's history. The Mexican government in the early 1820's opened the port of Monterey to foreign trade, and needed goods were exchanged for hides and tallow. Custom duties collected formed the principal government revenue for the territory. Here on July 7, 1846, the American flag was officially raised when Commodore Sloat captured Monterey and issued a proclamation "henceforth California will be a portion of the United States."

Construction of Custom House started in 1827 and was completed in 1846. The one-story middle section frequently was the setting for gala social occasions when Yankee ships visited port. Oldest governmental building on the Pacific Coast, it was in continuous use as a customhouse until 1867.

Purchased by the State in 1938, it is maintained as a museum. A unit of Monterey State Historic Park. *Custom House Plaza at Fisherman's Wharf.*

RCS

ADOBE TOUR COMMITTEE

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MAIN ANNUAL EVENTS

Sponsored by
The Monterey History and Art Association

Adobe Tour—the biggest event of the year for the public to be involved in historic preservation on the Monterey Peninsula and the only day of the year when certain privately-owned homes and gardens are opened to the public. Held on the last Saturday in April. (Saturday, April 30, 1988).

Merienda—celebrating the founding of Monterey in 1770 by Father Junipero Serra and Captain Don Gaspar de Portola. A festive outdoor barbecue for Association members and dignitaries, with music, dancing, a huge birthday cake and ceremonies, and a reigning señorita ("La Favorita") and her court; held in Memory Garden behind the Pacific Building on Saturday nearest June 3rd. (Saturday, June 4, 1988).

Sloat Landing Ceremonies—commemorating the raising of the American Flag over the Custom House on July 7, 1846, by a company of U.S. marines and sailors under the command of Commodore John Drake Sloat and the subsequent annexation of California to the United States from Mexico. (Saturday, July 9, 1988).

Christmas in the Adobes—is part of the greater holiday celebration of Christmas in Monterey sponsored by the City of Monterey and various civic organizations. The beautiful historic adobes of downtown are lit by luminaria, candlelight and lanterns all enhanced by Christmas decorations. Costumed volunteers, musical entertainment, roving carolers in period dress, and refreshments all help to assure a delightful evening. (Thursday, December 15 and Friday, December 16, 1988).

APPRECIATION

We have made every effort to be accurate in reporting dates, names and other historic information in this program. I wish to express my gratitude to those individuals whose assistance was invaluable to this task. Amelie Elkinton, Bob Reese and Martha Swain for reviewing the text. Megan Schultz who helped with the format, Kate Champion and Jean Warriner for proof reading and my dear husband, Gordon, for his patient assistance in editing. It's been fun.

Ramona Smith
Editor

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