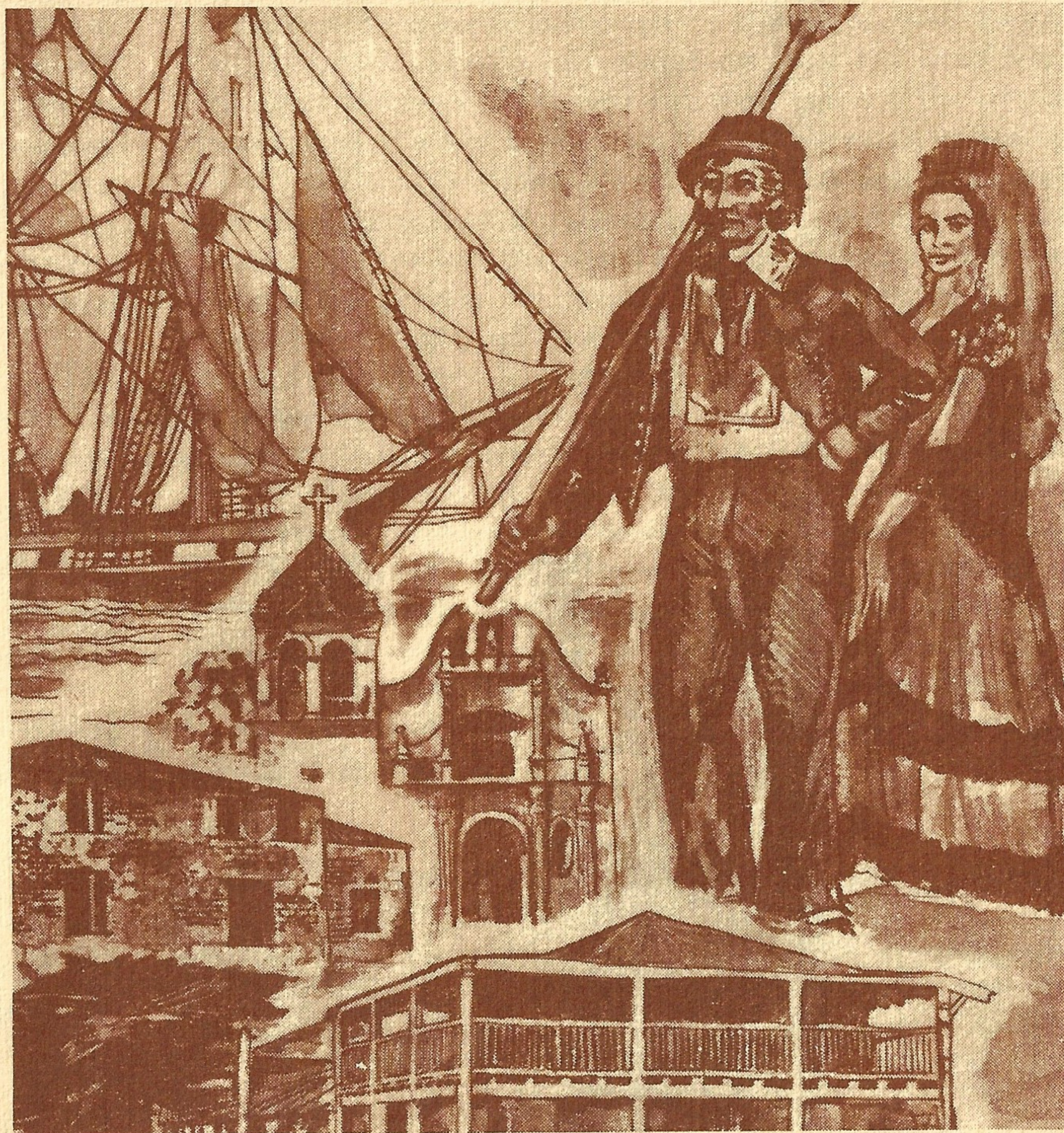


# SAILORS AND SHAWLS

**1975  
ADOBE TOUR  
APRIL 26-27**





April 26-27  
1975

Dear Friend:

Welcome to our "SAILORS AND SHAWLS" - the 1975 Adobe Tour!

It is through the generous giving of time and talent by many people that it is possible to guide you through the romance of early living in Monterey. A schedule of events will be found in the back of this brochure.

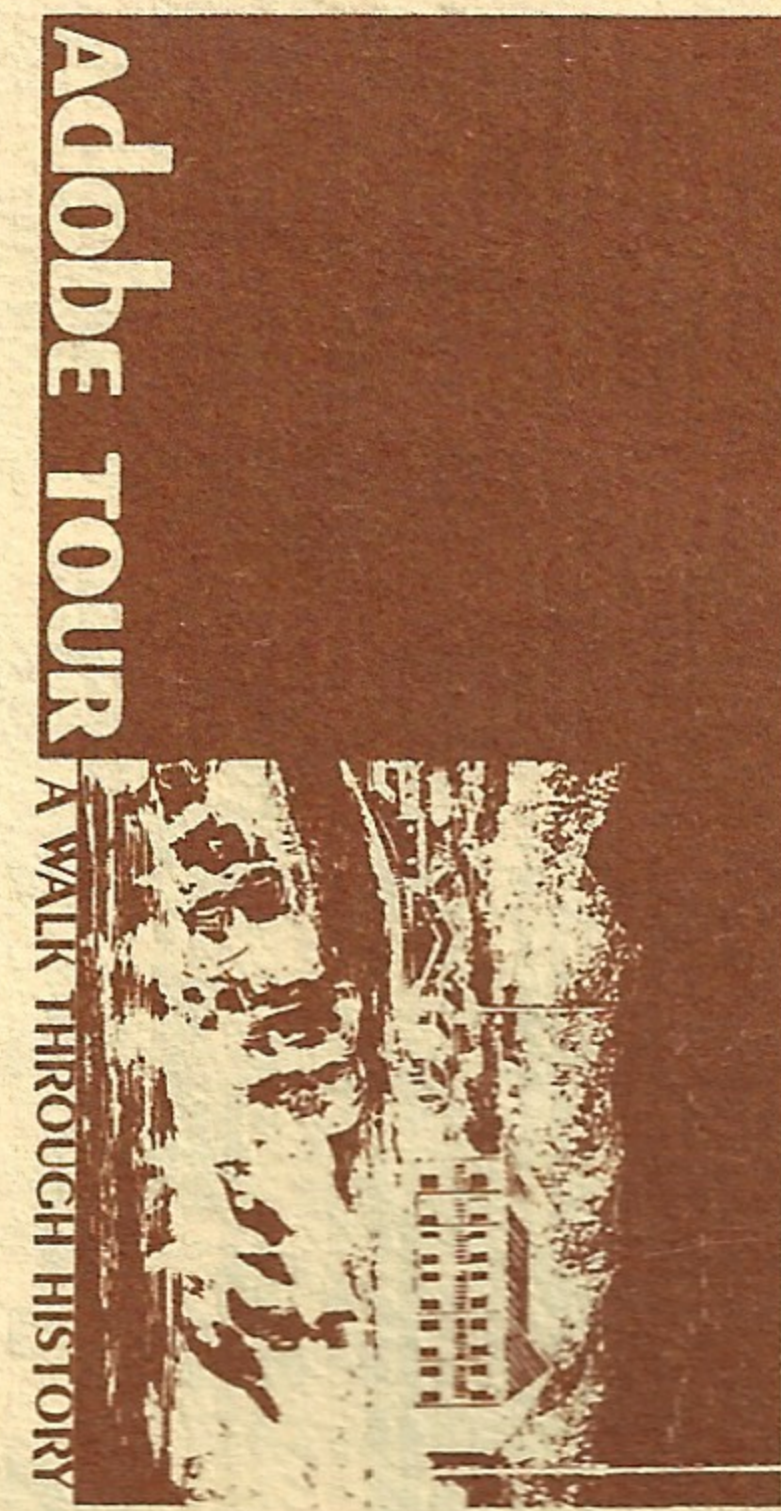
As you know, the founding of Monterey played a unique role in the history of California, and the Monterey History and Art Association is actively engaged in the acquiring, preserving and restoring of every facet of this heritage. The funds raised from our annual tours are used for this purpose. The Allen Knight Maritime Museum will be the principal recipient this year. If you are interested in helping us continue our work, we invite you to inquire about membership by writing to us in care of P. O. Box 805, Monterey, California 93940.

We hope you enjoy this walk into the past of early Monterey!

Cordially,

*Mary J. Applin*

Mary J. Applin,  
Chairman,  
Adobe Tour 1975.



Monterey History & Art Association  
POST OFFICE BOX 805 · MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA 93940

During the 1800's, the sailors who were privileged to land in Monterey while serving on supply ships and migrant vessels were overwhelmed by the topographical beauty of the region, sparsely settled, and unblemished by any street or building that didn't conform to nature's design. For the young sailor disembarking, there was nothing but the most distracting beauty, not only of the landscape, but also that of the lovely, dark haired señoritas of Monterey, wearing their dainty lace mantillas and shawls.

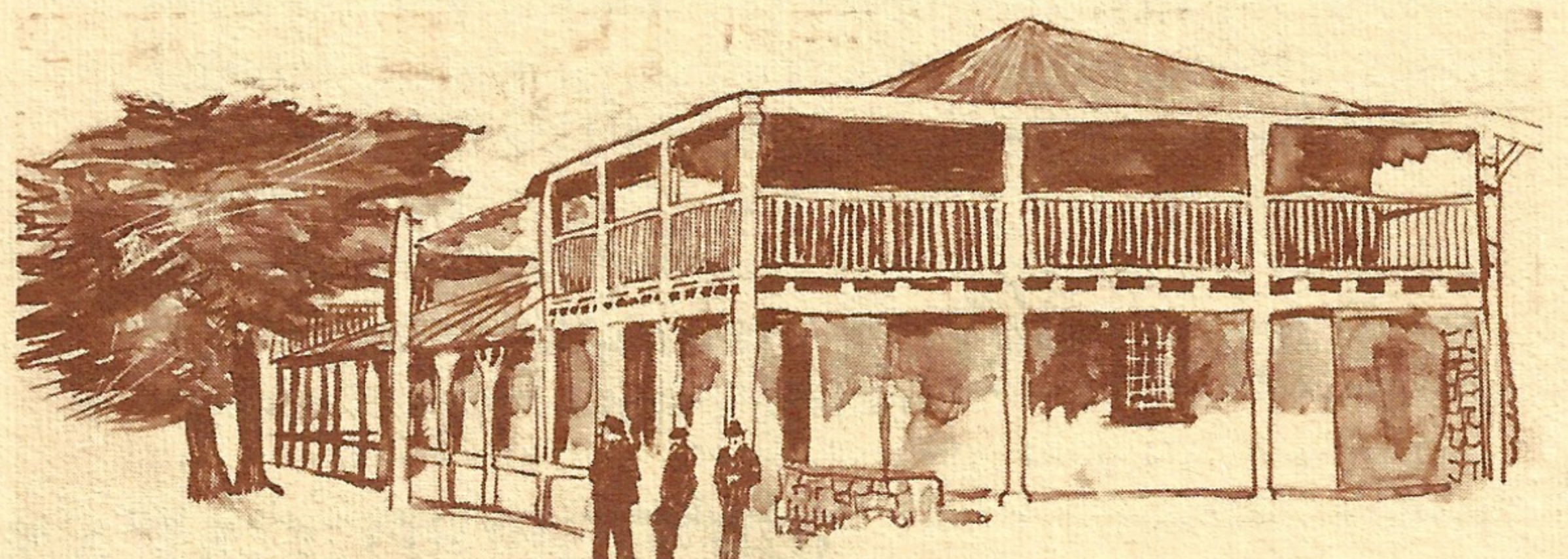
Sailors and shawls are united in Monterey's history. The one a frequenter to the area, usually unmarried with an eye for the ultimate in both land and women. Many sailors stayed on in Monterey, having finally found something to supplant their lives as travelers. Shawls were associated with the Spanish and Mexican women of the peninsula, both young and old, but always elegant. A man's interest might be kindled by the sight of the shawl alone, the wrap that covered a very subtle and enduring beauty.

One of Monterey's romantic legends revolves around just such an experience. Every year the Portuguese community presents a special mass to honor St. Isabella, the patron saint of those who go to the sea. A young girl of good family is chosen to be queen of the traditional celebration, and is honored by the community as she leads the prayer procession through Monterey to the present San Carlos Cathedral. She wears a silver crown originally brought to the peninsula in the 1850's by Portuguese whalers.

One year near the turn of the century, the sixteen year old daughter of a whaler named Silveria was selected. As she

walked in the procession through the streets, dressed in ivory white with a delicate lace shawl covering her shoulders, Seniorita Silveria was watched with great rapture. The viewer was a man who had sailed from Portugal to settle in nearby Watsonville, a Mr. Butler. He watched her modest and graceful ways throughout the parade and mass, and the delicacy with which she held the shawl covering her beauty. Truly in love at first glimpse, he immediately asked her father for her hand in marriage, and his request was accepted, thus beginning a new chapter in Monterey's romantic history books.

Many times, a sailor would make a gift of a shawl to his lady, a token of his love brought from far across the seven seas. The shawl symbolized his respect and adoration for the classic attributes of womanhood; modesty, delicacy, and forbearance. And to the Spanish woman reared in the strictest of European tradition, these traits were synonymous with virtue, the highest mortal quality possible. The man who acknowledged these traits was a candidate for marriage. Many did marry, and still wed, as the sailors and shawls of Monterey perpetuate their own ideals.





## BUILDINGS TO BE SHOWN 1975 ADOBE TOUR



Fremont Headquarters, a small two story adobe, has long been a topic of discussion among Monterey's most knowledgeable historians. Though originally thought to be the command post of General John Charles Fremont during his stay in 1846 and 1847, there is no evidence to support this claim. But, whatever the circumstances, this little building is a beautiful example of 1800 Monterey architecture. Since its restoration by the Monterey History and Art Association, the adobe has been leased for business offices. An interesting addition to the 1975 tour.



Casa Amesti is one of the finest examples of Monterey Colonial architecture. This two story adobe was built by Jose Amesti, a Spanish Basque who used his wealth to create one of Monterey's most elegant structures, and an equally beautiful adjoining walled garden. Presently leased to the Old Capitol Club, the "Casa" is richly furnished in the decor of the 1800's.

belief. In fact, Fremont in his memoirs reported that, while in Monterey, he camped on a hill at the end of town. Actual

### 1 The Royal Presidio Chapel (San Carlos Cathedral), 550 Church Street

The Royal Chapel, located in the old Presidio, is the only remaining part of the Church of San Carlos de Borromeo de Monterey, which had its birth on June 3, 1770, when Father Junipero Serra and Don Gaspar de Portola met at Monterey to establish a mission and claim California for Spain. A year later Father Serra decided to establish the mission on its present site near the Carmel River. The temporary headquarters for the church had been set up in a storeroom in the Presidio, a location that continued to be used for church services until 1775, when the Royal Chapel was built. A disastrous fire destroyed the structure in 1789, and its replacement, the present chapel, was built in 1795 by dedicated Mexican and Indian craftsmen. The Diocese of Monterey established the chapel as its Cathedral in 1968.

### 2 Fremont Headquarters, 539 Hartnell Street

Some years ago, when the government bought the property for post office expansion, Fremont Headquarters was to be destroyed. But the Monterey History and Art Association bought and restored the building to its present excellent condition. Now leased for offices, this small, two story adobe has long been a topic of controversy among local historians. It was originally thought to be the command headquarters of General John Charles Fremont during the late 1840's, but there is no factual evidence to support this

ownership has been traced to several early California families, but only since 1861, so the controversy goes on. Regardless of the circumstances, though, the little adobe is a great asset to the city's history, gracing Hartnell Street with all the rugged beauty of old Monterey.

### 3 Stevenson House, 530 Houston Street

The Stevenson House is located on Houston Street, known as Merchant's Row in early days, between Pearl and Webster Streets. This fine old two-story adobe, at one time known as the French Hotel, was renamed in honor of Robert Louis Stevenson, who lived at the hotel for several months while visiting Monterey in 1879. While in Monterey, Stevenson wrote "The Old Pacific Capitol." The building is now a State of California historical monument, a repository of Stevensonian, furniture, books, keepsakes and personal belongings of the beloved writer.

### 4 Gabriel de la Torre Adobe (First Federal Court) Hartnell and Polk Streets

This beautiful adobe was the home of Gabriel de la Torre. Well-educated for his time, Gabriel served in public offices under both the Mexican and American flags. A justice of the peace in the 1850's, his handwritten records in both Spanish and English are on file in the Monterey County offices. It has been said that Gabriel rented his larger room to the U.S. District Judge and commissioners, who periodically visited Monterey to hear cases, thereby establishing the adobe as the First Federal Court. Originally a three



room structure, additions were made after 1900 to accommodate a popular tea house and, later, a book shop. Today the building houses professional law offices and its excellent condition and lovely garden reflect the owner's concern for preserving Monterey's heritage.

**5 Allen Knight Maritime Museum  
550 Calle Principal**

The Maritime Museum was opened in 1971 under the sponsorship of the Monterey History and Art Association, Ltd. It houses a large private maritime collection cumulated by the late Allen Knight of Carmel. Under the guidance of Admiral Earl Stone, the museum's collection has grown to include Chinese Junks, and a library of maritime books, pictures and rare shipping records. Notable among the exhibits is a scale model by Colonel Charles Richmond of the frigate "Savannah", the flagship of Commodore John Drake Sloat in 1846 when he took possession of Monterey and declared California a part of the United States.

**6 Casa Amesti, 516 Polk Street**

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 in the 1820's. Originally a one story building, as Jose's wealth and influence increased additions were made to the structure, and the adobe became the setting for numerous elegant social occasions. Now the property is owned by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, who lease it to the Old Capitol Club for use as a men's luncheon club.

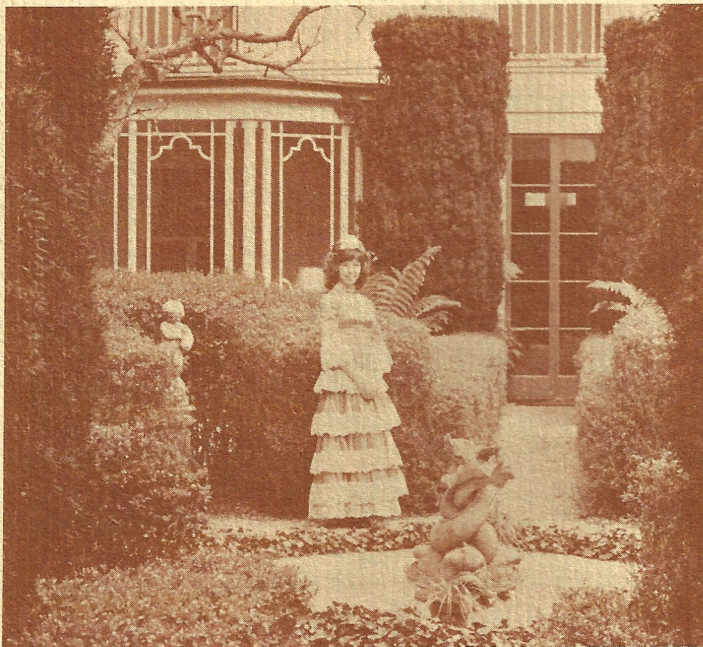
**7 House of Four Winds, 540 Calle Principal**

La Casa de Los Cuatro Vientos — House of Four Winds — was so called in the mid-1800's because it was the first house in Monterey with a weathervane on its roof. It was originally built about 1830 by Thomas O. Larkin, a prominent businessman. It enjoys the distinction of having been the first Hall of Records for the County of Monterey. The Women's Civic Club purchased the adobe in 1914, and have continued to furnish and restore it in the spirit of the 1850's.

**8 Larkin House, 510 Calle Principal**

Larkin House is a living reminder of the influence Thomas Oliver Larkin exerted on California's political history and on her secular architecture during the first half of the nineteenth century. It is the first two story house built in Monterey, its construction started in 1834 shortly after Larkin came to California as a Yankee merchant. In 1844 Larkin was appointed U.S. Consul to California, and the next five years the adobe served as headquarters and the center of social life of the capital. Here historic decisions regarding California's future were made. This important structure was presented to the State of California as a historic monument in 1957 by Mrs. Alice Toulmin, Larkin's granddaughter, as a tribute to California's first and only American Consul. Also included in this year's tour is the Sherman-Halleck Adobe, which lies inside the walled area of the Larkin House property. This small one room stone and adobe structure served as office space for Lieutenant

William Tecumseh Sherman, one of the principals of our tour theme, and Captain Henry W. Halleck during the first months of U.S. military occupancy in Monterey in 1847.



Casa Serrano was built in the early 1840's and was both home and classroom for teacher Florencio Serrano. In fact, this beautiful adobe was one of the first schools in Monterey and California. Now owned by the Monterey History and Art Association, sponsors of the annual tour, it has been restored to reflect the feeling of Central California's romantic past.

**9 Colton Hall, Civic Center between  
Madison and Jefferson Streets**

In 1846, when Commodore John Drake Sloat sailed his fleet into Monterey Bay and took possession of California for the United States, the chaplain on one of the conquering vessels was Walter D. Colton. The reverend stayed on the peninsula to become Monterey's first American alcalde, and to erect California's first public building of importance. In this structure, from September 1 to October 15, 1849, California's first Constitution was conceived. At that time it was said that Colton Hall was the finest and most pretentious building in the entire state. Since then, the structure has been in continuous use, as Monterey's City Hall and Police Department, a public school and the county court house. Expertly restored by the city and the museum board, Colton Hall is now maintained as a museum, the second floor assembly appearing as it looked when the Constitutional Convention met there more than 100 years ago.

**10 Casa Serrano, 412 Pacific Street**

Following their marriage in July, 1845, Florencio Serrano and the daughter of Don Joaquin de la Torre lived in this adobe, and since then several generations of the Serrano family have called it home. Casa Serrano has the distinction of being one of the early schools in Monterey. Florencio, a well educated man, established and taught a private school in Spanish. The Monterey History and Art Associa-



tion purchased the home in 1909 and completely restored it as its headquarters, to house antique furniture and other historic items it has acquired.

### **11 Casa Soberanes, 336 Pacific Street**

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. It was built about 1830 by Don Jose Estrada, ranking officer of the Presidio of Monterey under Mexican rule. Estrada sold the property to Don Feliciano Soberanes, who in turn sold it to Reuban L. Serrano in 1902. The final change of ownership took place in 1941 when Mr. and Mrs. William O'Donnell purchased the home. Its preservation was assured in 1957 when Mrs. O'Donnell presented it to the State of California as a historic monument, retaining for herself a life interest in the property. The "sala," or drawing room of the home has been called one of the finest examples of early California adobe architecture, and has been used as an example of same in the Chicago Art Museum's Thorne collection of Early American homes.

### **12 First Theatre, Pacific and Scott Streets**

This old adobe is unique on two counts: its architectural design and its history as a theatre setting. It was constructed in the 1840's 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 or lowered. The func-

tional character of the building was expanded further when Colonel John D. Stevenson's regiment disbanded in Monterey after the Mexican War and persuaded Swan to permit them to convert it into the Union Theatre for the production of melodramas. Ninety years later, on Monterey's birthday, June 3, 1937, the Troupers of the Gold Coast revived the old time plays and have continued to perform them on weekends throughout the year. The building is now a State monument.

### **13 Mayo Hayes O'Donnell Library 115 Van Buren Street**

Built in 1876, the former St. James Episcopal Church was the first Protestant church built in Monterey. Princess Louise of England worshipped in the little church, and it was there that crews from several English vessels in the harbor attended memorial services for Queen Victoria. Over a decade ago when the little building was threatened by Urban Renewal, it was acquired by the Monterey History and Art Association and moved from its original location on Pacific Street to its present site. It now houses a library of Californiana and is named in honor of Mayo Hayes O'Donnell whose unswerving devotion to the goals of the Association has saved and restored many an endangered adobe for posterity.

### **14 Francis Doud House, 117 Van Buren Street**

One of the first houses built after the American occupation of Monterey in 1846, the structure was built by Francis Doud, a pioneer of 1849, and a veteran of the Seminole and

Mexican Wars. After being wounded in the latter war, Doud brought his family to Monterey. He found a position as a civilian under his former Army commander, General Bennett Riley, then the Governor of California. Mr. Doud further distinguished himself as Sergeant-at-Arms for the

Constitutional Convention at Colton Hall in 1849. The Monterey History and Art Association has since purchased the home and has restored it, leasing it to several small quality shops.

### **15 Old Whaling Station, 391 Decatur Street**

This fine old adobe is located between the Custom House Plaza and the entrance to the present Presidio of Monterey. David Wight, a Scotsman, built it as a private residence in the 1840's, modeling the interior after his ancestral home with a stairway centering the house. The structure acquired its unusual name when it became a boardinghouse for Portuguese whalers in the 1850's. The whalebone walk in front of the building is a reminder of Monterey's heritage.

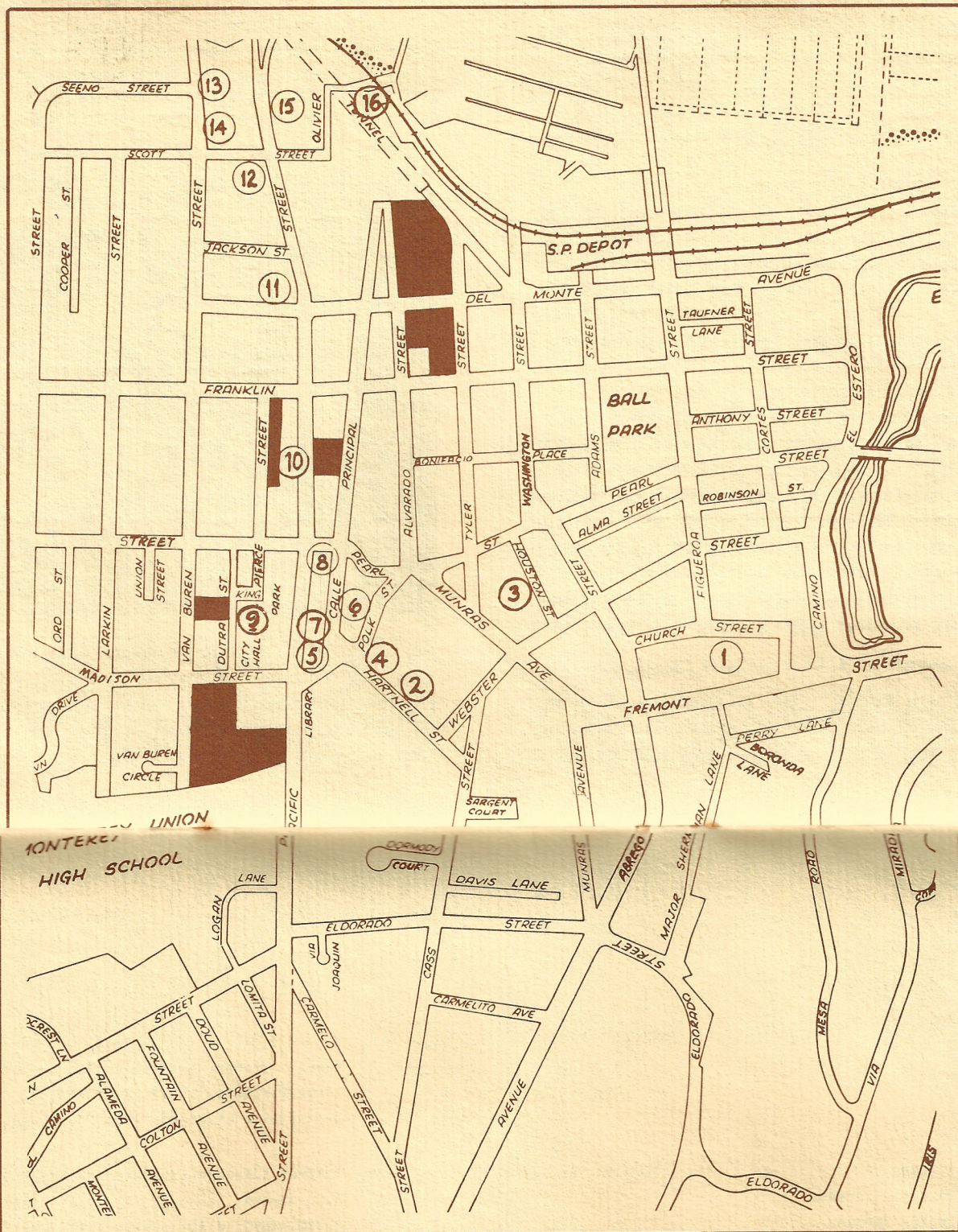
### **16 Custom House, Custom House Plaza near Fisherman's Wharf**

The site of the Custom House is the spot where Commodore John Drake Sloat landed in 1846, raised the American Flag and took possession of California for the United States. This adobe was erected in 1814 by the Spanish and added onto by the Mexican and American regimes. The Mexican government opened the port of Monterey to foreign trade in the early 1820's, to exchange needed goods for hides and tallow. Duties collected here formed the principal governmental revenue for the territory. It was used as a customhouse until 1867, and is the oldest governmental building on the Pacific Coast.



The garden of the Old Whaling Station is one of the most beautiful and historic areas of Monterey. Many colorful varieties of plants and flowers in their spring bloom, bountiful shade trees, and relics of Monterey's exciting past, make the Station and the garden a high point of the 1975 Adobe Tour.





■ PARKING  
 ○ Corresponds with adobe numbers,  
 you may start anywhere  
 Restrooms: First Theatre  
 Brown-Underwood Adobe (corner of Pacific &  
 Madison streets)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| □ BROCHURE   | □ COLTON HALL ⑨<br>Pacific between<br>Mission & Jefferson                  |
| □ SAN CARLOS CATHEDRAL ①<br>550 Church Street              | □ CASA SERRANO ⑩<br>412 Pacific  |
| □ FREMONT HEADQUARTERS ②<br>539 Hartnell                   | □ CASA SOBERANES ⑪<br>336 Pacific  |
| □ STEVENSON HOUSE ③<br>530 Houston                         | □ FIRST THEATRE ⑫<br>Pacific & Scott                                       |
| □ FIRST FEDERAL COURT ④<br>Hartnell & Polk                 | □ MAYO HAYES<br>O'DONNELL LIBRARY ⑬<br>115 Van Buren                       |
| □ ALLEN KNIGHT ⑤<br>Maritime Museum<br>550 Calle Principal | □ DOUD HOUSE ⑭<br>117 Van Buren  |
| □ CASA AMESTI ⑥<br>516 Polk                                | □ OLD WHALING STATION ⑮<br>391 Decatur                                     |
| □ HOUSE OF FOUR WINDS ⑦<br>540 Calle Principal             | □ CUSTOM HOUSE ⑯<br>Custom House Plaza at<br>entrance to Fisherman's Wharf |
| □ LARKIN HOUSE ⑧<br>510 Calle Principal                    |  |



## SPECIAL EVENTS — 1975 ADOBE TOUR

Location	Time	Event
Royal Presidio Chapel, 550 Church Street	2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day	Performance by the Russian Chorus and Balalaika group, members of the Russian Folk Ensemble from Monterey's Defense Language Institute, followed by a short history tour of the chapel.
Custom House Garden, Old Whaling Station Garden, and adjacent public areas.	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day	Manuel Campos and his Rancheros will play Mexican music. This group is performing with the permission of the Musicians Assn. of Monterey County and the Music Performance Trust Fund.
First Theatre, corner of Scott and Pacific Streets.	Saturday: 10:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Sunday: 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Slide show and commentary on Monterey history by Mr. and Mrs. John Hicks.
Casa Serrano*, 412 Pacific Street	2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day	Tea will be served.

\*Ticket holder entitled to attend tea on one afternoon only.