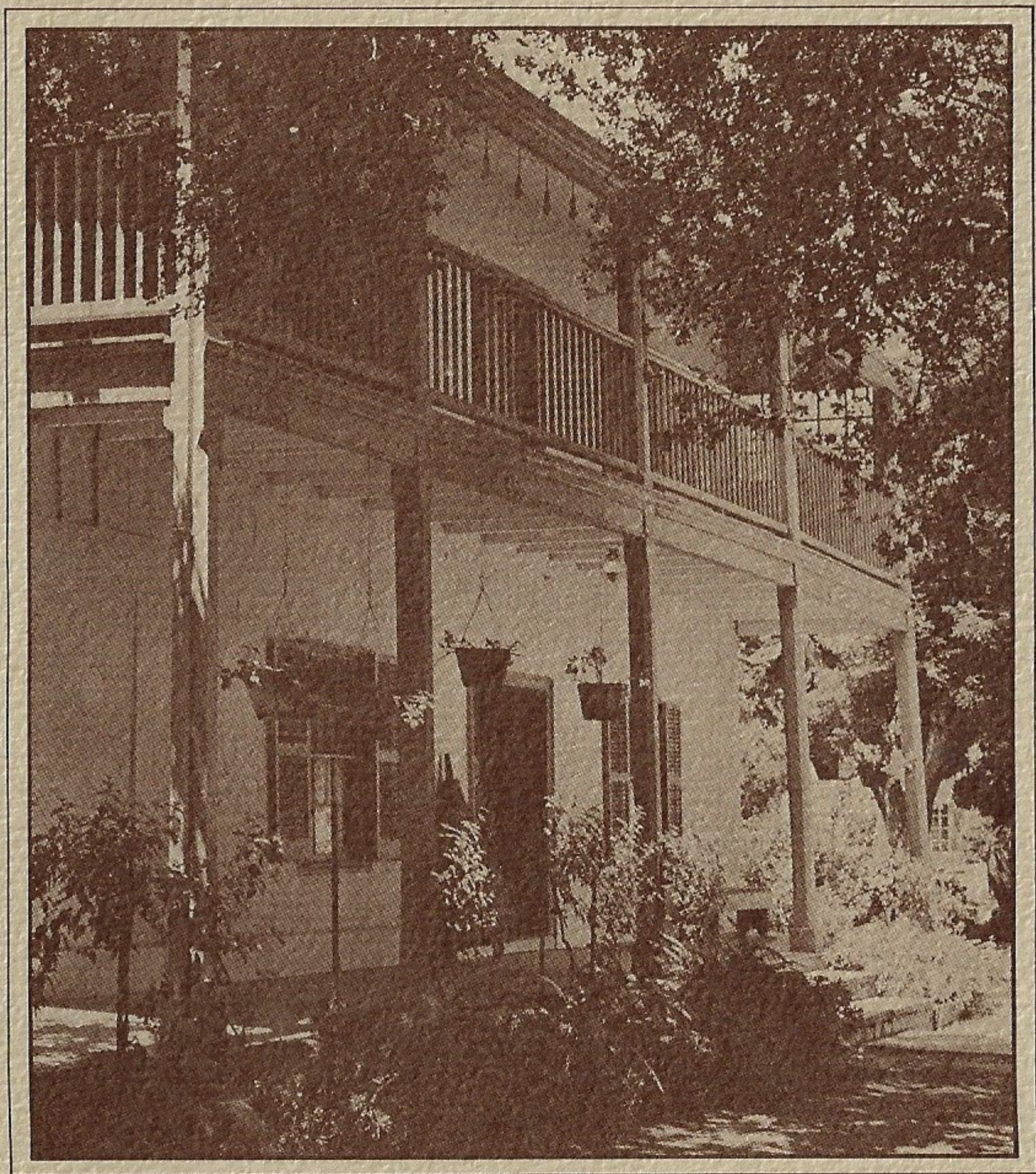


*An Adobe Holiday  
In Old Monterey*



ADOBE TOUR 1980



## MONTEREY HISTORY & ART ASSOCIATION, LTD.

The MONTEREY HISTORY AND ART ASSOCIATION was founded in 1931 when it was incorporated under the laws of the State of California. Since the first meeting of a group of prominent citizens of the Monterey Peninsula at the Old Custom House the latter part of 1930, the Association's primary objective has been the preservation of those reminders of historic Monterey: the old adobe homes and significant buildings of the early Spanish, Mexican and American California. The Association has also obtained through gifts, purchase and loan, numerous articles for exhibition in various historic buildings. It has taken an active part in impressing on the people of Monterey the inestimable value of the City's place in history, the uniqueness of their heritage, and the importance of retaining for succeeding generations of Californians, adopted or native-born, those irreplaceable relics of a bygone age which embody the State's romantic history.

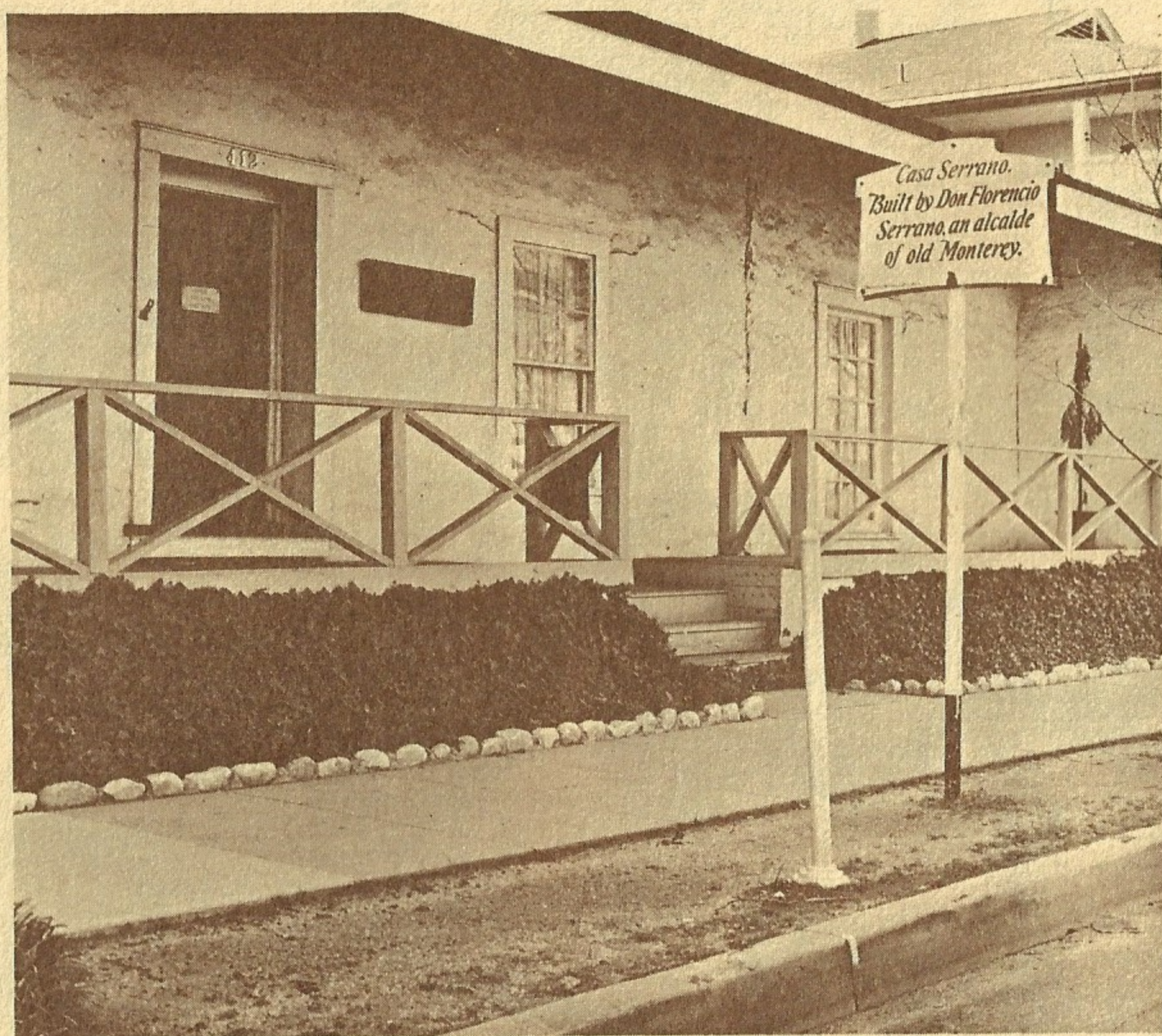
The Association sponsored the Historic Route through Monterey indicated on the street by a red line which, when followed, guides the visitor to all the adobes and historic places in Old Monterey. These sites are also indicated with Historic markers. A bulletin of historic Monterey, "Noticias del Puerto de Monterey", is issued quarterly. An annual Adobe Tour for the public is held on a date chosen by the Board of Directors, usually the last weekend in April.

Each year in June the members of the Association gather in Memory Garden for a Merienda commemorating Monterey's birthday, June 3, 1770, when Don Gaspar de Portola and Father Junipero Serra landed at Monterey and claimed California for Spain.

Monterey History and Art Association, Ltd.  
550 Calle Principal  
Post Office Box 805  
Monterey, California 93940  
408-375-2553





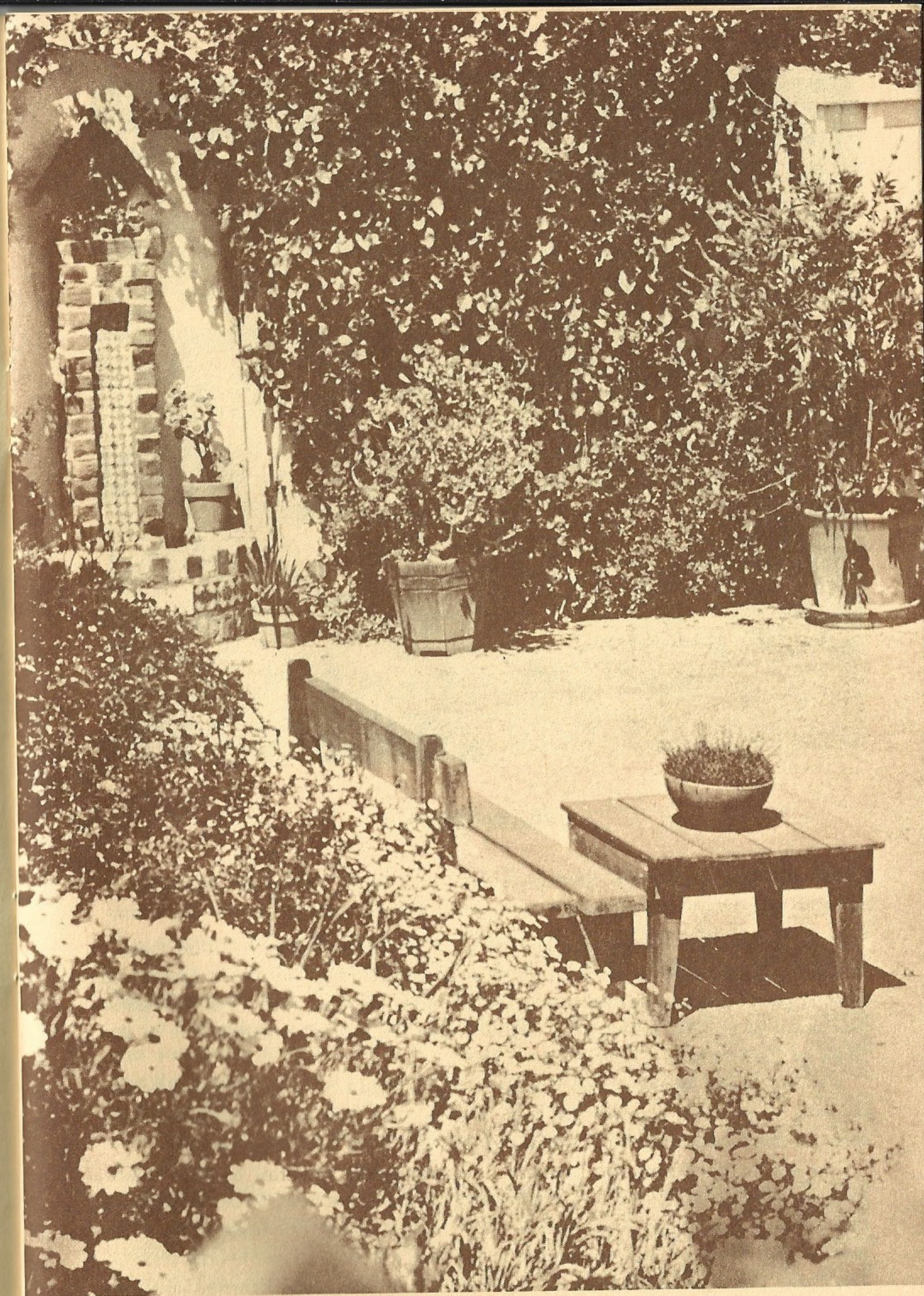


**CASA SERRANO**

The Monterey History and Art Association purchased the Casa Serrano in 1959 and completely restored it as a home for the organization and to house the antique furniture and other historic items it has acquired. In addition to being a part of Monterey's heritage which is shared with visitors, the adobe serves as the organization's headquarters for social functions.

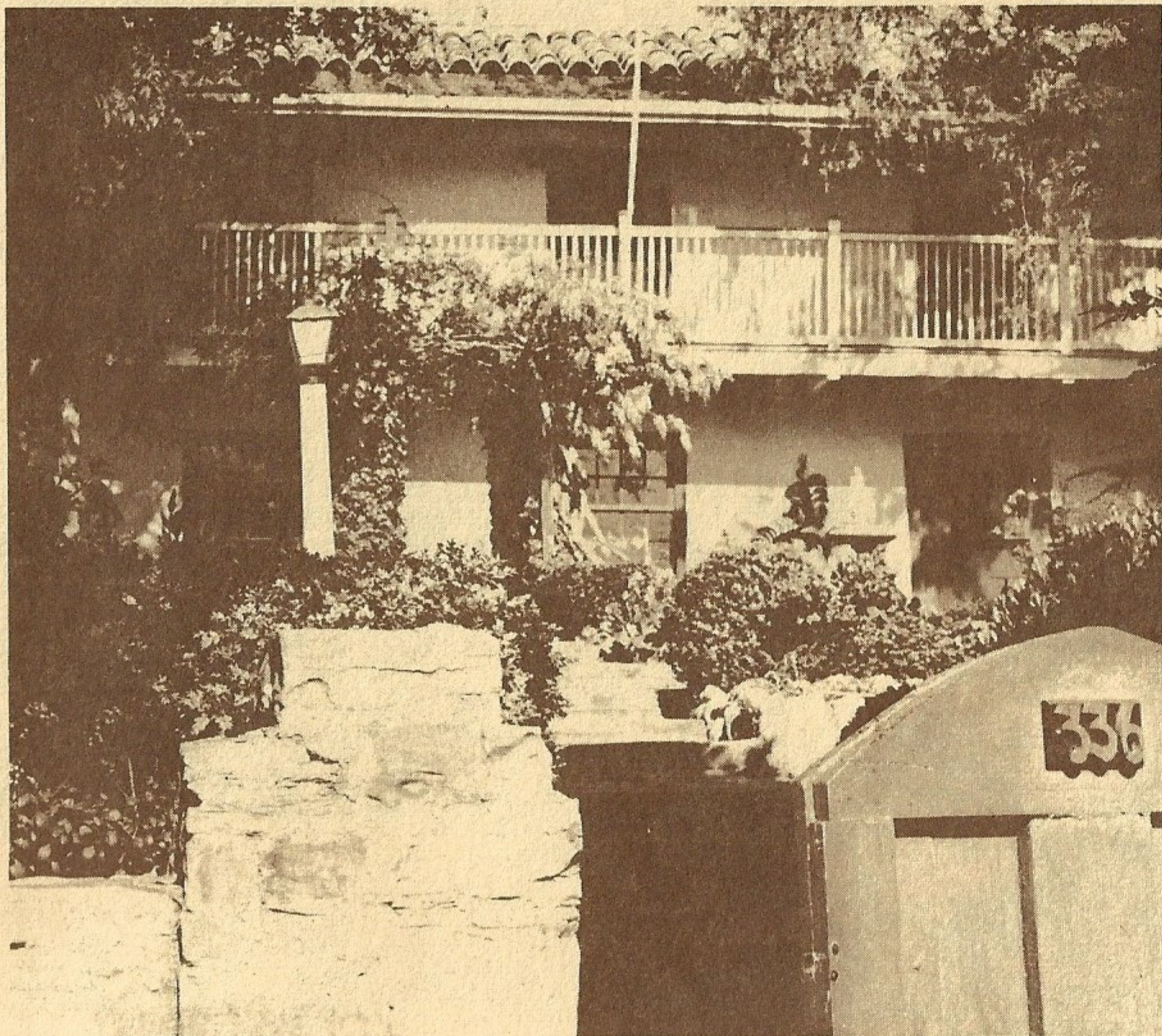
Florencio Serrano bought a piece of property on Calle Estrada (now Pacific Street), on which an adobe had been started, after he had courted and won the daughter of Don Joaquin de la Torre. Following their marriage in July, 1845, they lived in the adobe which they completed. Several generations of the Serrano family have called it home.

Casa Serrano has the distinction of being one of the early schools in Monterey. Florencio Serrano, a well educated man, established and taught a private school in Spanish. After losing his eyesight, by relying on his phenomenal memory and on his daughter he was able to continue as a teacher.



**GARDEN OF THE CASA SERRANO**





**CASA SOBERANES**

Casa Soberanes, sometimes known as "The House with the Blue Gate," is a unique example of intermingling of architecture of Southern Spain and New England during a period of prosperity under Mexican rule. Its preservation was assured in 1957 when Mrs. Mayo Hayes O'Donnell presented it to the State of California as a historic monument.

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 the balcony from additional weight.

The adobe illustrates the practice of constructing the roof to slant 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.



**LARA ADOBE**

Although the name "Jesus Soto" has long been associated with the adobe sheltered under the magnificent cypress on Pierce Street, legal records show the property was first granted as a town lot in 1849 to one Feliciano Lara. It was in her possession until 1905, when the town marshal, administrator for her estate, sold it for delinquent taxes.

The history of the adobe is unclear from the 1860's, when the property was somehow dropped from the tax rolls, until its sale in 1905. It is known that the house was occupied by one Manuel Soto and his Indian wife, Felicidad, in the 1890's. The purchaser was careful to obtain a second deed from Antonio Dutra and his Indian wife, Ramona, who were squatters on the property at the time.

Josephine Blanch, artist and curator of the first local Art Gallery at old Hotel Del Monte, purchased and restored the Lara Adobe in 1919 for her residence. Author John Steinbeck and his family occupied it in the 1940's. Later, when remodeled for professional offices, additions were made with loving care as to architectural style of old Monterey.



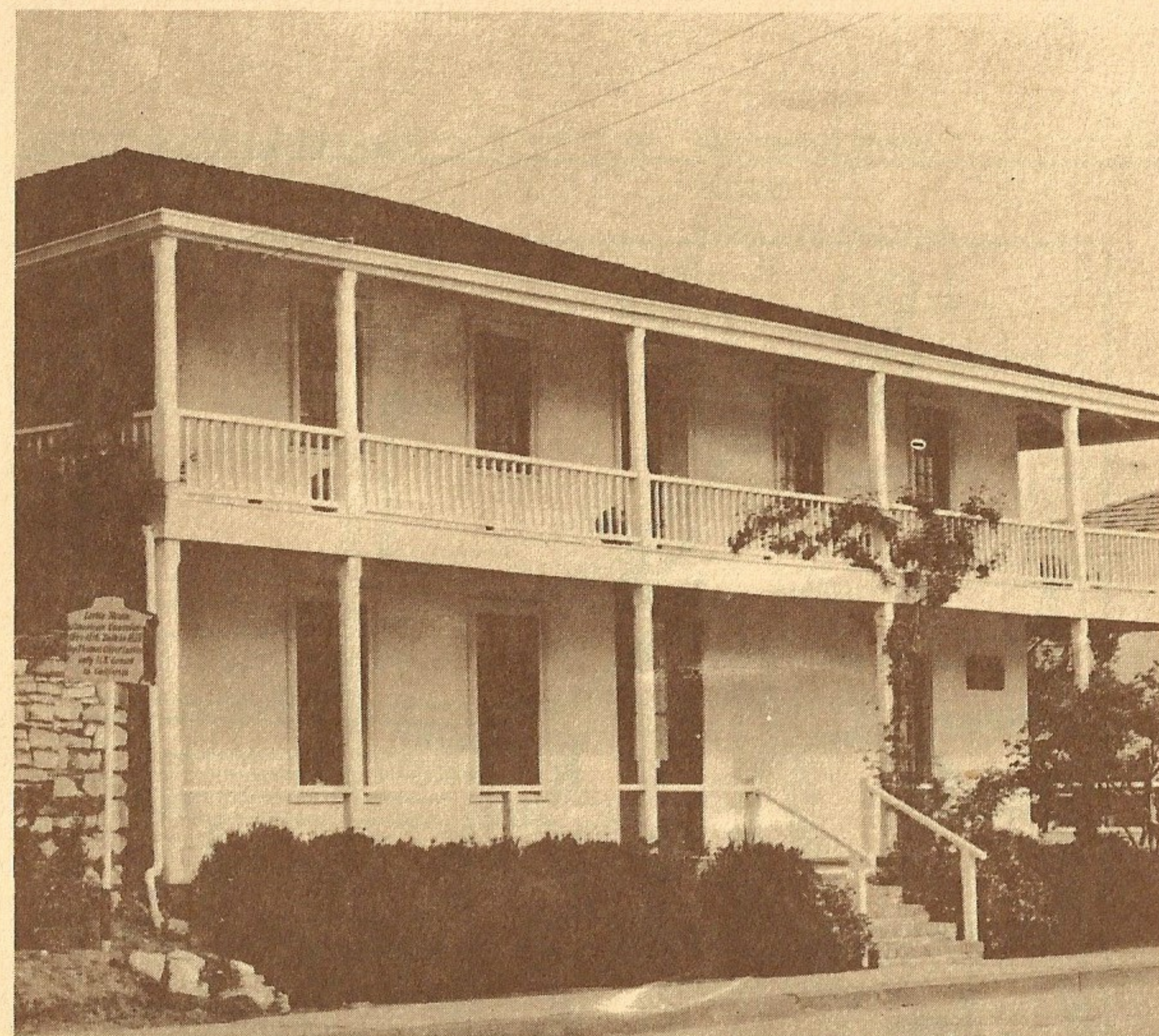


**STOKES ADOBE**

The fine two story adobe on the corner of Hartnell, Madison and Polk was built by James Stokes, Englishman, who came in the 1830's as a pharmacist's assistant on a sailing ship. He became consulting physician to Governor Figueroa, a trader, and owner of several large ranchos. Stokes married a young widow with a family and fathered a large family of his own, so the home was a prominent center of Monterey hospitality.

When he mortgaged the property in 1848 the papers described it as being built of stone and adobe, consisting of four rooms on the lower floor and three on the second story, with an adobe kitchen and small storeroom forming a wing of the main building, and all surrounded by a stone wall within which were some wooden structures. Today a small portion of the old wall remains in the rear as well as one of the old structures, used in the 1870's by a later owner for a kiln in which flower pots from local clay were fired for the San Francisco market.

Still owned by one of the old families, the house is now leased by a prominent local restaurant.



**LARKIN HOUSE**

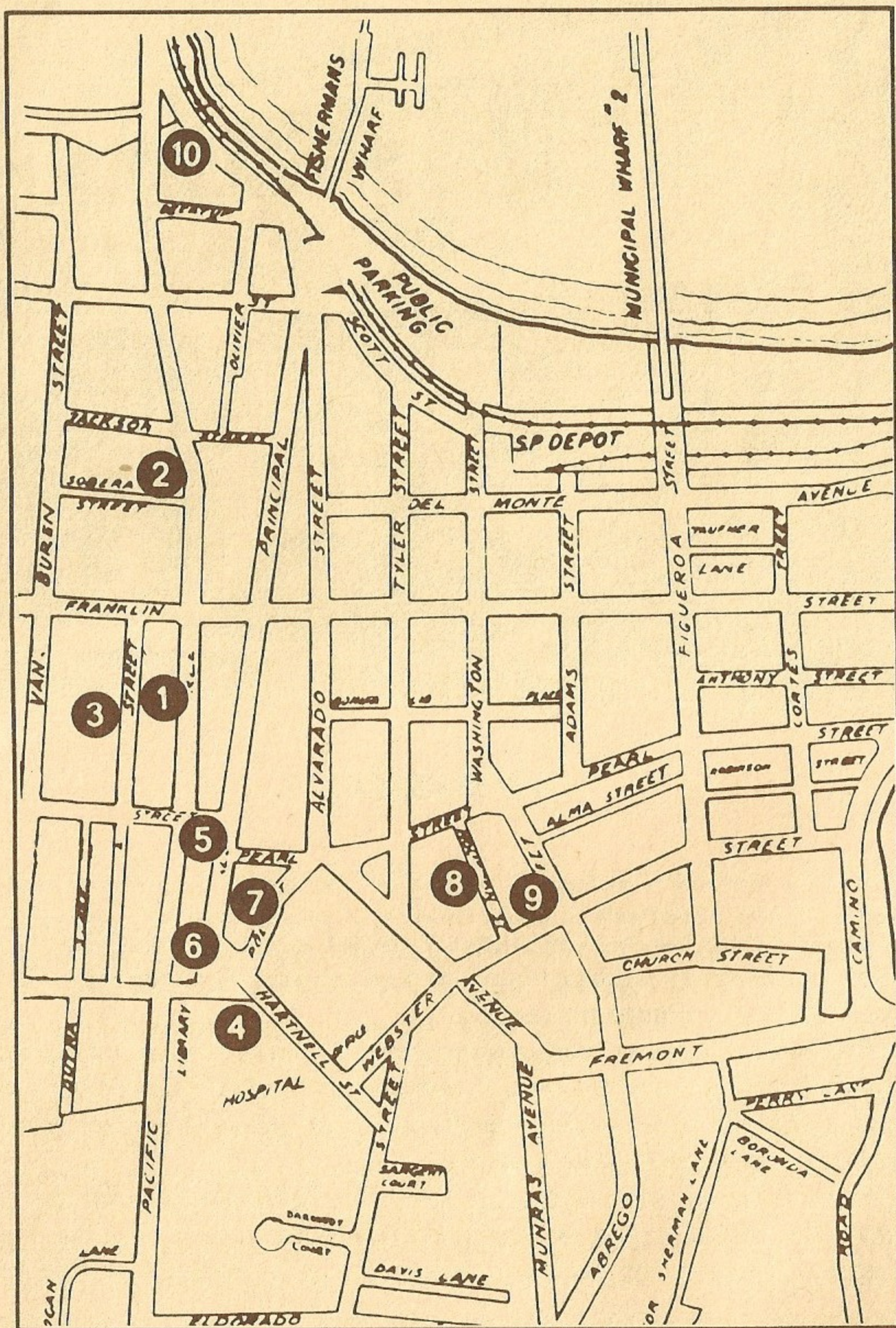
The Larkin House is a living reminder of the influence Thomas Oliver Larkin exerted on California's political history and on her secular architecture during the first half of the nineteenth century.

The first two story house built in Monterey and one of the earliest examples of Monterey Colonial architecture, it was started in 1834 shortly after Larkin came to California as a Yankee merchant. Larkin adapted eastern form to available materials: adobe and redwood.

In 1844 Larkin 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 capital. 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 1957 by Mrs. Alice Toulmin, Larkin's granddaughter, as a tribute to California's first and only American Consul.





- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Casa Serrano<br>412 Pacific                             | 6. House of Four Winds<br>540 Calle Principal |
| 2. Casa Soberanes<br>336 Pacific                           | 7. Casa Amesti<br>516 Polk                    |
| 3. Lara Adobe<br>460 Pierce                                | 8. Stevenson House<br>530 Houston             |
| 4. Stokes Adobe<br>corner of Hartnell,<br>Madison and Polk | 9. Casa Abrego<br>592 Abrego                  |
| 5. Larkin House<br>510 Calle Principal                     | 10. Whaling Station<br>Heritage Harbor        |

1980

MEMORABILIA — An interesting display of costumes and other historical mementos may be seen in the Friendship Room of the House of the Four Winds.





**HOUSE OF FOUR WINDS**

La Casa de Los Cuatro Vientos (House of Four Winds) has been so called since the mid-1800's as 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, prominent businessman, and was rented out to house businesses and families. It also enjoys the distinction of having been the first Hall of Records for the newly formed County of Monterey. It was here William S. Johnson, County Recorder, had his office and home in the 1850's.

One of the first groups to urge the preservation of Monterey's adobes was the Women's Civic Club, which was founded in 1906. The Club purchased the adobe in 1914 and during the years has developed it into a fine club house by additions in the rear. The original front section and second story have been restored and furnished in the spirit of the 1850's. The facade still faces Calle Principal as serenely as it did in 1842.



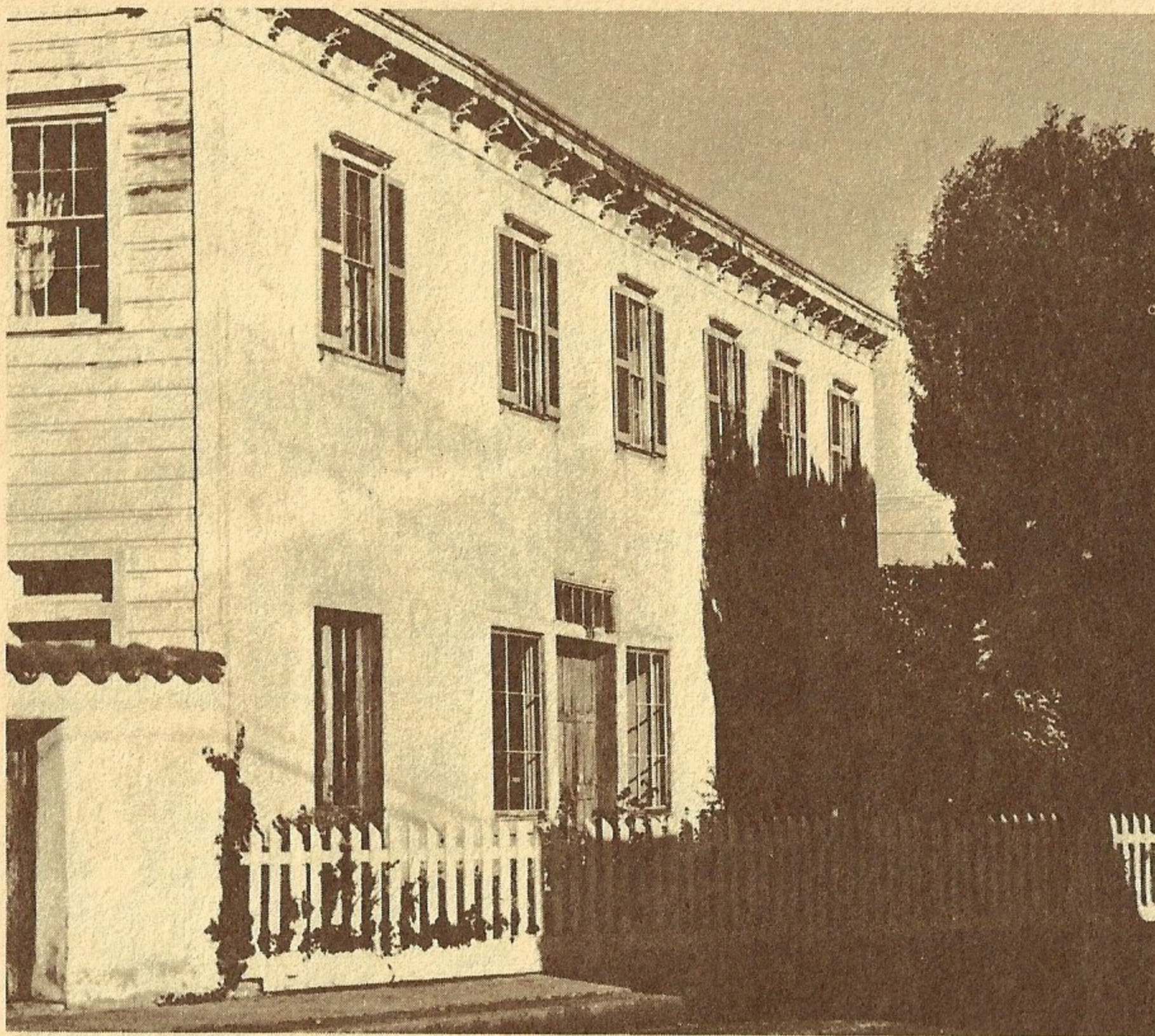
**CASA AMESTI**

Casa Amesti is probably one of the best examples of Monterey Colonial architecture in California. 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 Prudenciana Vallejo, Daughter of Don Jose Vallejo.

Records indicate that 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 Jose increased additions emphasizing the amenities of living were made to the structure, and the adobe became the setting for elegant social functions. The necessary household activities were carried out in small separate buildings in the walled garden.

Casa Amesti was restored by a noted interior decorator 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 Trust to the Old Capitol Club for use as a men's club and is open to the public one afternoon a week for a small fee.



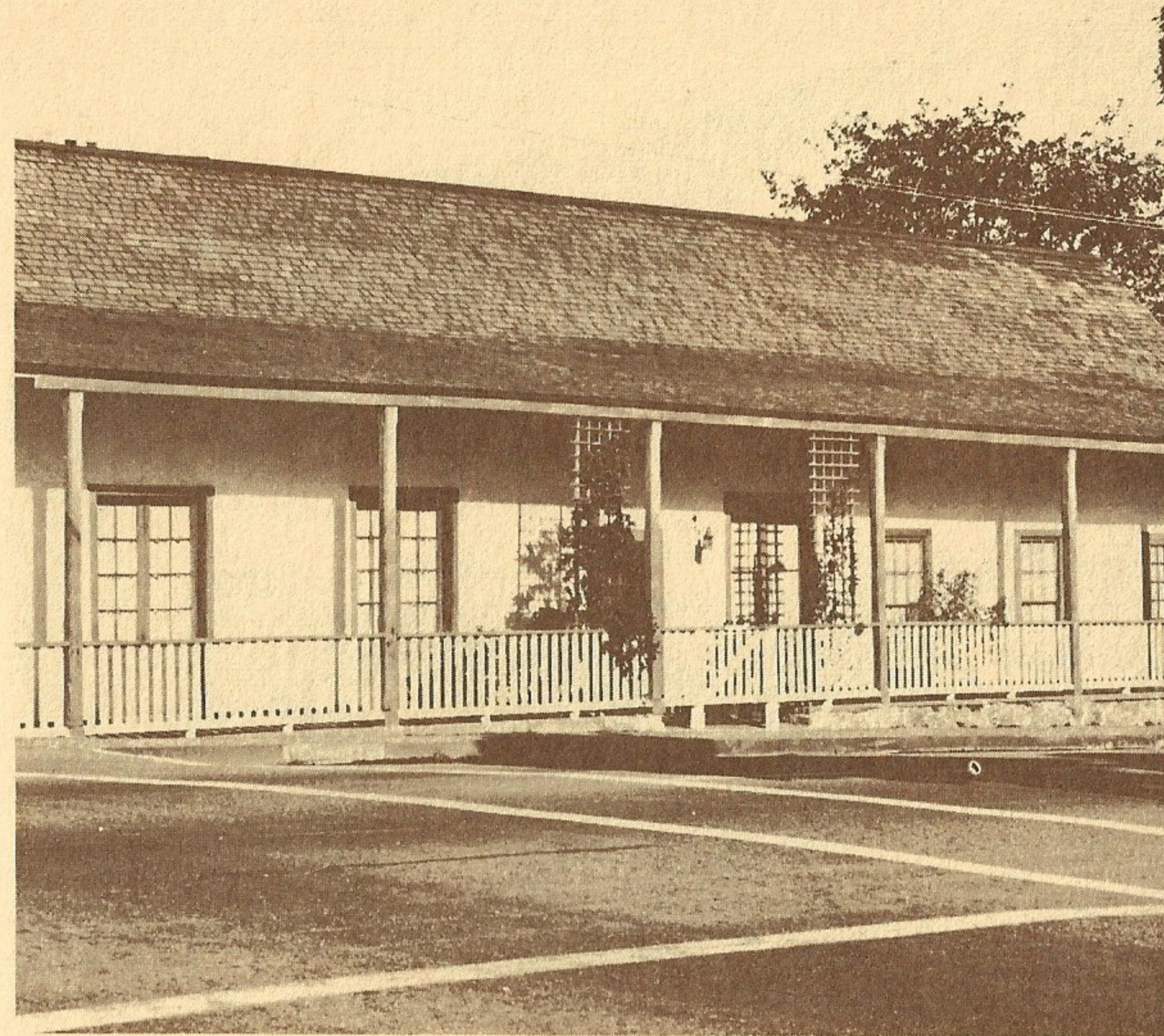


**STEVENSON HOUSE**

The Stevenson House on Houston Street (known as Merchant's Row in early days), between Pearl and Webster Streets, sheltered Robert Louis Stevenson for a time during his visit to Monterey in 1879. While in Monterey, Stevenson wrote "The Old Pacific Capitol."

First owned by Don Rafael Gonzales this fine old two story adobe originally comprised the sala and one large upstairs room. A Swiss businessman, Girardin, purchased it and added on the Houston Street side 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 State of California historical monument. A repository of Stevensoniana, it includes many articles of furniture, books of first edition, manuscripts, keepsakes and personal belongings of the beloved writer, Robert Louis Stevenson, given by members of his family.



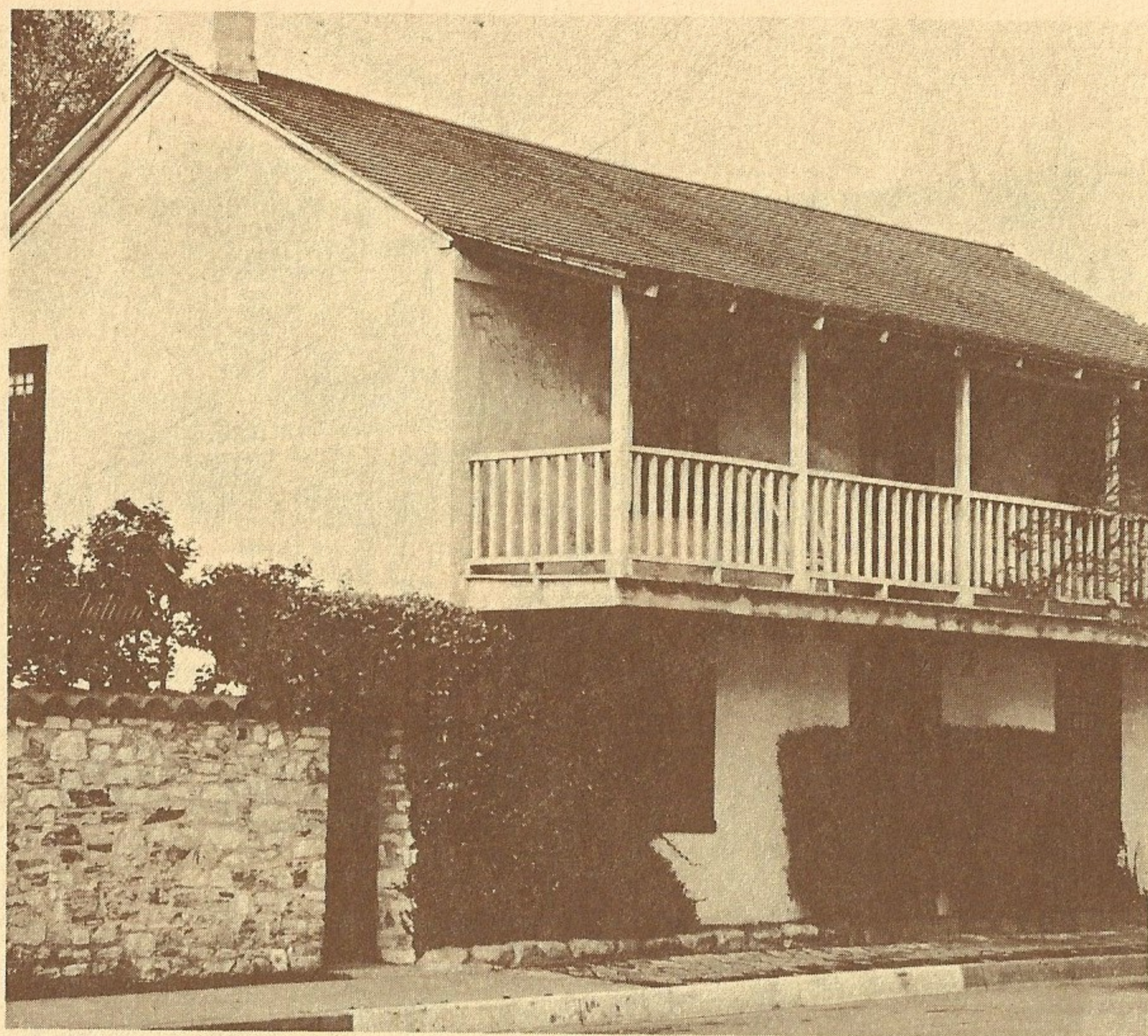
**CASA ABREGO**

Casa Abrego, located at the corner of Abrego and Webster Streets, is one of the oldest landmarks in Monterey. The home was built of adobe bricks and wood by Don Jose Abrego, a Mexican merchant who came to Monterey in 1834 with colonists under Don Jose Maria Hjar on the vessel "La Natalie". Abrego gradually acquired a large area including all of the present block. The house was much longer north and south, and two fine garden areas were along Houston street. His store was on the north corner facing Abrego and Pearl.

"La Natalie" had drifted ashore during a storm and was wrecked, and Don Jose Abrego later used some of the timbers from this vessel to build his home. The front rooms have fine wood paneling.

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 Abrego Club bought the adobe from the Foundation.





### WHALING STATION

This old adobe, long known as the Old Whaling Station, is located between Pacific Street and the Custom House Plaza. David Wight, a Scotsman, built it as a private residence in the 1840's, modeling the interior on the plan of his ancestral home with a stairway centering the house. The exterior followed the plan of two story construction in Monterey of that day with the roof slanting from two story height in the front to one story height in 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. A profitable whaling business was carried out on the nearby beach. Here the whales were cut and the oil rendered. A whalebone walk in front of the Whaling Station is a reminder of this past era in California's economy.

The building is now a state monument. The adobe's setting is enhanced by a well-kept, secluded garden surrounded by a high wall of chalkrock.

### 1980 ADOBE TOUR COMMITTEE

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### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The 1980 Adobe Tour Committee and the History and Art Association are especially grateful for the assistance and support of the following organizations:

Fort Ord Officers Wives Club  
 Naval Postgraduate School Officers and Faculty Wives Club  
 The Abrego Club  
 The Monterey Civic Club  
 The Junior League of the Monterey Peninsula  
 The Old Monterey Preservation Society  
 The Old Capitol Club  
 The Soroptimist Club of the Monterey Peninsula  
 California Parks and Recreation Department  
 Mr. Hugh W. Stevens  
 The Highlands Inn  
 The Pebble Beach Corporation  
 Monterey Savings and Loan Association  
 San Diego Federal Savings and Loan, Monterey



**OTHER BUILDINGS OPEN FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT**

ALLEN KNIGHT MARITIME MUSEUM  
550 Calle Principal

MONTEREY PENINSULA MUSEUM OF ART  
559 Pacific Street

COLTON HALL AND THE OLD JAIL  
Pacific Street between Madison and Jefferson

CALIFORNIA'S FIRST THEATRE  
Pacific at Scott Street

MAYO HAYES O'DONNELL LIBRARY  
155 Van Buren

PACIFIC HOUSE — MEMORY GARDEN  
Scott and Oliver Streets

CUSTOM HOUSE  
Custom House Plaza

CASA DEL ORO  
Scott Street

**REST ROOM FACILITIES**

**NORTH:**

California's First Theatre — Scott and Pacific  
Casa del Oro — off Scott Street one block east of First Theatre  
Doubletree Inn — Del Monte between Calle Principal and Alvarado

**CENTRAL:**

Monterey Peninsula Museum of Art — 559 Pacific  
City Hall — to the south of Colton Hall in the same complex  
Monterey City Library — Madison and Pacific  
Allen Knight Maritime Museum — 550 Calle Principal

**EAST:**

Stevenson House — 530 Houston

**EMERGENCY CALLS:**

Eskaton Hospital — 375-2621  
Monterey Area Gasoline Hotline — 649-2211



