

County (with Board of Supervisors) PRE
County General Plan (1972) inventory

MONTEREY COUNTY HISTORICAL INVENTORY

ADOPTED BY THE MONTEREY COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION ON JANUARY 13, 1971

ADOPTED BY THE MONTEREY COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON FEBRUARY 23, 1971

PROGRESS REPORT #1

MONTEREY COUNTY HISTORICAL INVENTORY

The purpose of the Monterey County Historical Inventory is to list places and objects of state, national, regional and local significance, including man made developments and natural objects as they relate to man and the historical significance of the county. It should not, however, be considered as complete as certain sections of the inventory have not been concluded and there will be additions which have not been fully reviewed at this time.

The inventory itself consists of two parts.

PART ONE

Description of Historical Sites and Map

Part One includes an outline of places of historical importance in Monterey County with a brief description of each and a map (Map A) which locates them by reference numbers and names. It is intended that this text and map will ultimately be the official Monterey County Historical Inventory of places and objects of historical interest. Part One should be reviewed by a committee made up of people interested in and knowledgeable about the history of Monterey County. It will be the responsibility of this committee to recommend deletions or additions to the preliminary inventory toward making it the official inventory.

PART TWO

References

Part Two consists at this time of "Map B" which lists historic sites known to the Monterey County Planning staff but not evaluated by them. It should be used as a reference by the committee with sites continually added as they become known. After review by the committee as to their significance, additional sites from Map B may be added to Map A and the text as official recommendations.

PROGRESS REPORT #1

MONTEREY COUNTY HISTORICAL INVENTORY

PART ONE

DESCRIPTION OF HISTORICAL SITES

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PART TWO

REFERENCES

Map B. Monterey County Historical Sites

* x existing
n nonexisting

Revised: 12/29/70

A. ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES AND LOCATIONS

It is intended that archeological sites, particularly Indian camp sites, will be added to this inventory.

B. CITIES, INCORPORATED

Note: The sites and areas listed under each of the cities are within the city limits of the respective jurisdictions. Map A shows the locations of the cities.

1. MONTEREY

The historic city of Monterey was once the capitol of California. Today most of its historic buildings remain concentrated within a ten block radius of the port of Monterey. (See *Path of History Map*)

- x Cannery Row. A seven block coastal strip in the city of Monterey. At one time it had 16 sardine canneries and 14 reduction plants in operation. With the disappearance of the sardines in 1947 the canneries closed. John Steinbeck made it famous by his book CANNERY ROW. At present it contains restaurants, theatres, shops and empty canneries. Favorite of the tourists.
- x Fishermans Wharf. Located on the waterfront in the city of Monterey, the old wharf is a prominent tourist attraction. For many years during the height of the fishing industry in Monterey it was a "working wharf". Today it has a few fish markets and a number of restaurants and gift shops.
- x Presidio of Monterey. The Presidio was founded in Monterey in 1770. Late in the eighteenth century, Spain erected a fort on the hill overlooking Monterey Bay where the present presidio grounds are located. Prior to World War II it was a cavalry and artillery post. It is presently an Army Department Defense Language Institute.
- x U. S. Naval Postgraduate School. Former Del Monte Hotel, a famous resort hotel in the 1880's. In 1890 it was described as a "Palace of Delight, the Queen of American Watering Places". It remained a glamorous hotel until World War II when it was acquired by the Navy.

2. SALINAS

- x Sanjon del Alisal (Zanjon del Alizal). "The Big Ditch of the Alders". The city of Salinas, which was founded in 1865, was located on 80 acres adjacent to this slough. Today the slough is in the center of a city of over 8,500 acres.
- x American Exchange Hotel. The hotel was built about 1867-68 and was moved when the Abbott House (now known as the Cominos Hotel) was constructed. The American Exchange Hotel is now located on the roof of the Cominos Hotel Garage which is behind the Cominos Hotel.

2. SALINAS (Continued)

- x Salinas City Bank. It was constructed as the Salinas City Bank, after which it became the Bank of Italy and later the Bank of America. It is located next to the Cominos Hotel.
- x California Rodeo. The rodeo grounds were originally constructed in 1875 as a fairgrounds and racetrack. The rodeo was organized in 1911, and today the California Rodeo is one of the big four rodeos in the United States.
- x Steinbeck House. Salinas home of the author John Steinbeck. Recently remodeled and deeded by the Catholic Church to the Newman Club. Corner of Central Avenue and Stone Street.

3. CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA

Carmel-By-The-Sea was promoted in the 1880's as a resort, and in its early years was appealing to artists and writers who created a unique village. There are no street numbers in Carmel, few street lights and no sidewalks except in the downtown area. The business section attracts many sightseers and the economy of Carmel is dependent on tourism.

- x Pine Inn. A popular Inn for fifty years, it was originally built as a single family home. Ocean Avenue.
- x Carmel Beach. The beach is owned by the City of Carmel-By-The-Sea and is one of the most beautiful white sand beaches in California. The beach is free of concessions which might mar its natural beauty.
- x Wright House. A waterfront home at the south end of Carmel Beach which was designed by the architect Frank Lloyd Wright.
- x Jeffers House. "Tor House", the home of the poet Robinson Jeffers. Although it is located on unincorporated lands, it is adjacent to the City of Carmel-By-The-Sea.

4. PACIFIC GROVE

- x St Mary's-by-the-Sea. The first church built in Pacific Grove in 1887. It was modeled after a church in Bath, England.
- x Green Gables House. Pacific Grove has a number of Victorian Bayside Gothic residences. Green Gables is a Victorian house overlooking Monterey Bay. Ocean View Boulevard.
- x Pacific Grove Waterfront. The picturesque waterfront is owned by the City of Pacific Grove and the offshore waters are in a marine reserve.
- x Hopkins Marine Station. It was originally named Hopkins Seaside Laboratory and was founded in 1892 as a branch of Stanford University's Department of Biological Sciences. At one time a Chinatown was located on the rocky area on the Hopkins Marine Station property.

4. PACIFIC GROVE (Continued)

- x Chautauqua Hall. Old hall in Pacific Grove where religious meetings or "chautauquas" were held. Presently a Boy Scout Hall and civic building. Central Avenue and 16th Street.

C. COMMUNITIES AND DISTRICTS

5. x Moss Landing. Established in 1866 by Captain Charles Moss. It is located about fifteen miles northeast of Monterey on Monterey Bay. It was an important shipping port and whaling station.
6. x Jolon. The original community of Jolon was located a short distance north of the area presently referred to as Jolon. The remains of the Jolon stage stop exist today. (See section on Stage Stops)
7. n Natividad. The original site of Natividad (1855-1865) was located near the site of the Battle of Natividad, which is north of the area now called Natividad.
- The Battle of Natividad took place in 1846 during the revolt of the Californians against the military occupation of the Americans. A marker now stands at the site. California registered historical landmark #651.
8. n Hilltown. A small community formerly located by the Salinas-Monterey highway crossing at the Salinas River. At one time a ferry crossed the Salinas River at this point, and a historical marker denotes the site. It was the site of the first post office in Salinas, and was named after James Bryant Hill, the first postmaster.
9. n Mansfield. A mining town in the 1870's, it was located in the Santa Lucia Mountains in southern Monterey County. It was in the Los Burros mining district, and was also known as Manchester until a post office was established there and it officially became Mansfield.
10. x Spreckels. Spreckels sugar factory and community. 1899. In use today.
11. x Asilomar. It was constructed as a YWCA meeting grounds. Following World War II it was purchased as a State Park. It is located adjacent to the City of Pacific Grove.
12. x Castroville. The pioneer town of the Salinas Valley, it was founded on the Castro grant known as Bolsa Nueva y Moro Cojo Rancho in 1864.
13. x Santa Rita. Originally intended as the chief town of the Salinas Valley, it was laid out and dedicated to public use by Don Soto, owner of Rancho Santa Rita in 1867. It was also known as Sotoville.
14. x San Lucas. The Southern Pacific Railroad built a railroad to this point in 1886 and named the station San Lucas after a nearby land grant. A post office was listed here in 1892.

C. COMMUNITIES AND DISTRICTS (Continued)

15. x Fort Romie. A community founded by the Salvation Army in 1890. They were among the first people to irrigate in the Salinas Valley.

D. LIGHTHOUSES

16. x Point Pinos Lighthouse. Erected by Hon. Thomas Corwin, Secretary of Treasury, it was authorized in 1852 and was completed in 1854. It is located on Light-house Reservation adjacent to the City of Pacific Grove.
17. x Point Sur Lighthouse. Located 18 miles south of Carmel on a large headland of rock.

E. MISSIONS

18. x Mission Soledad (Mision Nuestra Senora Dolorosisima de la Soledad). Located near the City of Soledad, it was in the chain of missions and was the link between San Carlos Mission and San Antonio Mission. Founded in 1791, it was completely abandoned after 1835. It is being restored.
19. x Mission Carmelo (Mision San Carlos Borromeo del Rio Carmelo). Established in 1770, the original location was changed to its present site at the mouth of the Carmel River in 1771. The church was begun in 1793 and the Mission became the ecclesiastical capital of California.
20. x Mission San Antonio (Mision San Antonio de Padua). Founded in 1771, the first site was abandoned for a more suitable site. By 1805 it had an Indian population of 1296. Restoration has been recent and accurate. It is located in southern Monterey County.

F. NATURAL LAND FORM SITES

21. x Fremont Peak. Fremont Peak, also known as Gabilan Peak, is located in north-eastern Monterey County near where General Fremont and his men reportedly camped. It is a State Park and a large area of the park is located in San Benito County.
22. x Point Lobos. A State Park with spectacular beauty and historic importance.
23. x Pinnacles. The area contains unusual land formations and was a legendary outlaw hangout. A National Monument.
24. x Los Padres National Forest. Located in the Santa Lucia Mountains, it contains 300,711 acres in Monterey County which is abundant with vegetation, wildlife and places of historic value. The Santa Lucia Mountains were first viewed by Cabrillo in 1542.
25. x Monterey Bay. Monterey Bay was discovered in the early 1600's by Sebastian Vizcaino. It was named for the Viceroy of Spain, the Conde de Monterrey. Rich in history from the Spanish, Mexican and American periods.

F. NATURAL LAND FORM SITES (Continued)

26. x Mulligan (Milligan) Hills. Located near present mouth of the Salinas River, they are the hills from which Portola viewed Monterey Bay in 1770. The hills were named for John Milligan who lived there around 1814.
27. x Corral de Tierra. The hills, which contain fossil bearing strata, were described and sketched by the Vancouver expedition in 1794. The hills today may be recognized from the old drawing.
28. x Del Monte Forest. Owned by Del Monte Properties Company, it is an example of development which has considered the natural beauty and culture and history of the area. It has some of the most beautiful waterfront in the world and fine stands of cypress and pine.
29. x The Indians. Unusual rock formations resembling huge boulders the size of a city block. The area was a small part of the Rancho Milpitas which was turned over to the Indians where they built homes.
30. x Junipero Serra Peak. Named for Father Serra, it is the highest peak in Monterey County with an elevation of 5,862 feet. It is located in Los Padres National Forest.

G. RIVERS AND BAY

31. x Salinas River. The largest underground river in the United States, its original mouth was at Moss Landing. Historically important to the Salinas Valley, the Portola expedition in 1770 referred to it as the "chocolate" river, and it was followed by early explorers.
32. x Carmel River. Flows through the Carmel Valley and empties into Carmel Bay near the Carmel Mission.
33. x San Antonio River. Located in southern Monterey County, it flows near Mission San Antonio. The San Antonio Reservoir now fills much of the historic valley of the river and the early settlement of Pleyto.
 - x Monterey Bay. For location see Monterey Bay, #25 in section F, and on Map A.

H. ROADS, TRAILS, RAILROAD AND STAGE STOPS

- X Jolon Stagecoach Stop or Dutton Hotel. For location see Jolon, #6 in section C, and on Map A. A stagecoach station located at Jolon, 19 miles south of King City in Hunter Liggett Military Reservation. It is an old two story adobe that served as a stagecoach station and hotel in 1865. There have been efforts to save the building.
34. x Old Stage Road. The section of the stagecoach route from the San Benito County line to north of Gonzales is officially referred to as Old Stage Road. The stagecoach route continued down the Salinas Valley, crossing the Salinas River by Soledad and then into the Jolon and San Antonio area. The recently constructed San Antonio Reservoir now occupies the valley through which the route passed in 1865.

H. ROADS, TRAILS, RAILROAD AND STAGE STOPS (Continued)

35. x River Road. Stagecoach route from the present junction of Highway 68 and River Road south to King City. It follows the west bank of the Salinas River and is generally the route followed by Anza. Road is in use today.
36. x Coast Road. The beginning of the coast road south from Carmel came into existence about 1830. Dr. John Roberts mapped a course from Monterey to San Luis Obispo County in 1897, however, it was not completed as a road for through automobile traffic until the mid 1930's. It was designated the first Official State Scenic Highway in California in 1965.
37. x Southern Pacific Railroad. The historic "Del Monte Express" is still in operation between San Francisco and Monterey. In 1890 it was described as "the fastest train on the Pacific Coast, and one of the most elegant in equipment in the world".
38. x Los Coches. The adobe building near Soledad was built in 1843, and was later used as a stage station and post office. It is a State Historical Monument.
39. x Beautiful Toro Pass. So called at one time because of its proximity to Mount Toro. It was the stagecoach route between Salinas and Monterey, and today is Highway 68, the Salinas-Monterey Highway which was designated as an Official State Scenic Highway in 1968.

I. SPAS AND RESORTS

- x Del Monte Hotel. For location see U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, under Monterey in section B, and on Map A.
40. x Paraiso Hot Springs. Paraiso Springs was part of 20 acres of land that was granted to the Spanish Padres by the King of Spain in 1791. The Padres located a health resort here and started a vineyard. It was a popular spa for families from San Francisco in the 1880's, and is in use today.
41. x Tassajara Hot Springs. Tassajara is located in the heart of Los Padres Forest, 45 miles south of Salinas. The Indians made annual pilgrimages there to receive the benefits of the waters. In the 1880's it was discovered by California settlers and a fashionable spa developed which is still popular today.
42. x Slates Hot Springs. Located on the Coast Highway #1, the Hot Springs were known to the Indians and early settlers. However, it wasn't until the development of Highway #1 as a through road to San Luis Obispo County that they gained in popularity.

Portola's Trail

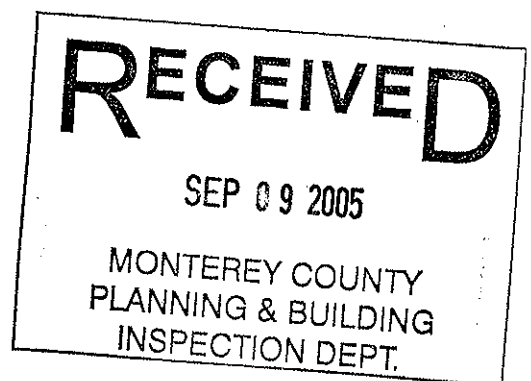
This trail was named after Gaspar de Portola, Governor of Baja California who directed an expedition into Alta California from 1769 to 1770 so that Father Junipero Serra might carry out his orders from King Charles III of Spain. Serra's orders were to establish a series of missions. The trail ends at Mission San Carlos Borromeo del Rio Carmelo (Carmel Mission).

Southern Pacific Railroad

As rail traffic replaced coach traffic, the Southern Pacific gained prominence in Monterey County. It established a station at Salinas in 1873, thereby signaling the beginning of that community's economic importance. The establishment of a terminus in King City in the 1880s also assisted that community's growth, and the historic "Del Monte Express" was described as "the fastest train on the Pacific Coast, and one of the most elegant in the world." 5/

Stone Canyon Railroad

This 19th Century line carried coal from the Stone Canyon Mines in southeast Monterey County to a railhead south of Bradley, along El Camino Real. When the mines' prosperity terminated, so too did the Stone Canyon Railroad.



5/ Richard Rinehardt, *Yesterday the Legend of Del Monte*, c. 1979.