



COUNTY COURIER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ORANGE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

www.orangecountyhistory.org



California Missions

A defining image of California and its past are the 21 missions founded and built spanning the lower half of Alta California during the 1700s and 1800s. Through postcard images our speakers will visually visit each mission and explore the history and people who experienced life within their adobe walls. The fate of the mission structures and their re-birth as architectural testaments and landmarks of the past will be discussed. Bring your own memories of experiencing missions to the meeting to add to our visual journey back into time.

California has long been identified by its mission heritage and this popularized image is found on packing crate labels, souvenirs, advertisements, and as discovered at last month's meeting, the famed El Camino Real bells celebrating the famed road that led from mission to mission. The California Mission Studies Association is a group of scholars, docents, researchers, park personnel, and historians seeking more information about the complex Mission society. Two of our own OCHS members, Jane Norgren and Tracy Smith Falk are also members of this group and this organization's wealth of information will be

highlighted. (*see page 2 for organization web site and additional information*).

Jane Norgren's fascination with the missions came about because of her grandmother. Once a year, family celebrations in Laguna Beach included a trip to Mission San Juan Capistrano. Her grandmother's love of the mission influenced Jane greatly as a small child. While attending college, Jane began researching the missions and continues today with her membership in the California Mission Studies Association.

Tracy Smith Falk has been interested in California history for as long as she can recall. Growing up in Westminster, California, the mission at San Juan Capistrano was her first experience of the long-ago days of Spanish padres, Indians, and the beginnings of wonderings about the missions and their history. A trip to San Francisco when she was 10 and a chance visit to Mission Dolores furthered intrigued her. During one summer (following 4th grade) her family embarked upon a "Mission vacation" traveling to many of the state's missions. That cemented her desire to learn more about this thread of California's rich historical

fabric

The Mission postcards that will be used in the presentation are from member, Jorice Maag, who lent her vast collection of postcards for copying digitally. Among her cards were a complete set of the 21 missions. The powerpoint presentation will include additional views of the missions from cards collected by Tom Pulley, Don Dobmeier and Richard Vining.

We will gather Thursday, March 9, 2006 at 7:00 at the Kidseum, northwest corner of Main and 18th Streets in Santa Ana. **Our program on the California Missions will begin at 7:30 p.m.** This program will include everything about the missions you were not ready to learn in fourth grade. Bring a guest, the public is welcome. Parking is free at the back of the building and across 18th Street. Entrance to the building is in the back.



Mission San Miguel

California Mission Studies Association

from www.ca-missions.org

for the Study and Preservation of the California Missions, Presidios, Pueblos, and Ranchos and Their Native American, Hispanic, and Early American Past.

Founded in 1984, CMSA is a nonprofit public benefit corporation formed with the following educational purposes:

To preserve, advance and promote the Hispanic period historic resources in the State of California;

To advance and promote development of archaeological, historical, museum and archival resources;

To promote, conduct and coordinate research projects resulting in the preservation and restoration of period landmarks; and

To encourage and support educational opportunities for

interested students of the Hispanic period and for persons of the public community regardless of color, race, creed, sex or age.

The 535 CMSA members embrace such fields as archaeology, anthropology, architecture, art, music, history, religious studies, Native American studies and historic preservation. Some members' interest in these areas is avocational while for others it is vocational. Some members, for instance, are docents at missions (retired teachers for instance) or independent scholars in geneology, while others are active architects, archaeologists, historical consultants, history professors, musicologists, attorneys, landscape historians, archivists, winemakers, video producers, museum curators, and many others. The membership also includes Native Californians, and Catholic priests have been members from the beginning, but CMSA is non-denominational and not associated with the Catholic Church in any way.

This site has a superabundance of informational material for everyone from fourth grade students and their teachers to serious research scholars. The site includes: Annotated links to websites related to California Missions, articles and books reviews, journals and newsletter archive to name just a few.

AS EDITOR OF THE NEWSLETTER I AM ALWAYS LOOKING FOR MATERIAL TO INCLUDE THAT WILL COMPLIMENT THE PROGRAM WITHOUT DUPLICATING WHAT THE SPEAKER OR PROGRAM WILL COVER. THE FOLLOWING NOTES GIVE A CONDENSED VERSION OF THE IMPACT THE SPANISH HAD ON CALIFORNIA. THEY ARE EXCERPTS FROM A ARTICLE FOUND ON CMSA WEB SITE TITLED *THE PAST IN CALIFORNIA'S LANDSCAPE* BY DAVID HORNBECK, PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY AT CSU NORTHRIDGE.

Most people know that the Spanish were the initial European settlers in California, but few have any specific knowledge about Spanish exploration and settlement or their contributions to the present-day cultural landscape. Spanish names are seldom out of sight in California, yet their historical validity has become lost, distorted, or confused in the multitude of Taco Bells, red-tiled roofs, and sprawling housing tracts replete with Spanish motif.

California is alive with an authentic and unique heritage—a heritage that is part of the contemporary landscape, a heritage that began before Plymouth Rock.

SPANISH *continued on page 4*

Santa Ana Hospital By John Sorenson

From the pages of the
Santa Ana Blade Supplement
published, November 1905,
comes the following:

Only five years ago the Santa Ana Hospital Association was formed. One hundred shares at \$100 each were sold to raise funds for a hospital. With \$10,000 capital, six lots were purchased, three on east Wellington and three on East Washington in the French Park neighborhood. All six lots are contiguous and offer a 150' frontage on each street. There upon a twelve room two story building was constructed. Land, building, and furnishings ran a total of \$6,000. Our new hospital was completed four years ago on March 5, 1902.

The original stockholders, all medical doctors, some of whom were **C. D. Ball**, [OCHS president 1919-1934] J. P. Boyd, E. M. Freeman, John L. Dryer, J. M. Lacy and John Wehrly. The first directorate included J. M. Lacy, President; W. B. Wood, Vice President; C. D. Ball, Secretary; and J. P. Boyd, Treasurer.

The original quarters were soon found inadequate. Early in 1904 another \$10,000 was raised in four hours. With additional buildings and equipment our current capacity is 25 patients. Along with private rooms, we offer a four bed maternity suite, and two five bed wards. Our facilities include a kitchen, dining room and a dormitory for nurses in training. Modern conveniences include an elevator and a dumb waiter.

Some of the present members of the Board of Directors elected October 24, 1905 include: doctors: C. D. Ball, John L. Dryer, John Wehrly and **W.H** [Willella Howe] **Waffle**. Other board members include A. J. Visel, W. F. Lutz and attorney Haratio Forgy. Current stockholder represent and large section of our medical and business community. Business men stockholders number amongst: J. G. Quick, Chris McNeil, Geo L. Wright, A. C. Bowers, C. E. French, Noah Palmer, John Cubbon, F. P. Nickey, John



Several nurses pose in front of the Santa Ana Hospital and nurse's training school in 1910. An ad placed in the 1907 Orange City Directory states that the hospital is strictly private and that all conditions are modern and first class.

photograph and caption from *Santa Ana, An Illustrated History* by Diann Marsh

McFadden, Mrs J.J. Zelian, and G. J. Mosbaugh.

Our annual case load has grown from 68 in 1902 to 181 in 1905. An enumeration of last year's case load shows: 77 surgical, 87 medical, and 17 maternity. Last November 1st, a 5% dividend was issued on the 160 shares outstanding.

In April 1904, a training school for nurses was established. This incorporated entity is appropriately named the Santa Ana Hospital Training School for Nurses. We offer a three year course of instruction which includes at least 40 lectures per year given by local physicians with an examination in June. The school is under the charge of Mrs. D. G. Harlan, Superintendent of Nurses. To date we have had four graduates. Mrs. Minnie Northrop Wyatt now has appointments with the Children's Floating Hospital in Boston and the Foundling Hospital in New York City. The other three graduates work in Santa Ana.

Finally nearing completion near our hospital at 501 Wellington is the two story home of the Honorable John N. Anderson who serves us so well in the State Senate. This home costing \$10,000 consists of 16 rooms. The structure is 60' by 60' with a porte cochere on a 72 foot wide lot. The home features maple floors with the west parlor having windows of art glass and the front parlor features a large plate glass window with leaded lights above.

SPANISH *continued from page 2*

Long before settlement of Jamestown in 1607, Spanish explorers had sailed the California coast and recorded its grace and elegance. Francisco Ulloa charted the Gulf of California in 1539. He was quickly followed by Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo who, in 1542, discovered San Diego Bay and sailed on to explore California's north coast. In 1595, Sebastian Cermeho, Captain of the Manila Galleon, sailed along the California coast, adding to Cabrillo's lucid account. Juan Vizcaino also charted the California coast in 1602, giving Spanish names to prominent features and was the first to describe the beauty of Monterey Bay.

The tempo of Spanish exploration of California intensified after settlement of San Diego in 1769. In the same year, Gaspar Portolá and his small party stumbled across California's rough coastal mountains in search of Monterey Bay, guided only by Vizcaino's elegant, but 167 year old description. Shortly afterwards, Pedro Fages struggled through and described parts of the Lower San Joaquin Valley. Both the Portolá and Fages expeditions took place before the Boston Tea Party of 1773. Juan Bautista de Anza established an overland route to California, beginning at Tubac, Sonora, and ending at Mission San Gabriel in 1775, a distance of some 1000 miles, through some of the most hostile and desolate country in North America. In 138 days, de Anza guided 240 colonists and 1000 head of livestock to California. Daniel Boone, in the same year, established the Wilderness Road through the Cumberland Gap, a distance of 200 miles, taking only 23 days. Before the Declaration of Independence was written, Manuel de Ayala charted San Francisco Bay and measured its depth; and Father Garces, in hopes of converting the heathen Indian, searched through parts of the Central Valley describing its barren flatness. Further north, Gabriel Moraga explored the Sacramento Valley while Lewis and Clark trudged across the Great Plains.

The efforts of Spanish explorations were quickly inscribed on the California landscape. Settlements at San Diego, San Francisco, and Monterey were integral parts of the cultural landscape before Washington encamped at Valley Forge in the winter of 1777-1778. In all, nineteen missions, four presidios, and three pueblos embellished the California landscape before

the purchase of the Louisiana Territory.

Beginning in 1786, the first of over 500 ranchos were issued to private owners. Tightly controlled under Spanish rule, the number of ranchos increased under Mexican rule, beginning in 1821, and became Mexico's contribution to the California landscape. So important was the rancho that, by the time Commodore Sloat raised the American flag over Monterey Bay in 1846, the amount of land contained in these baronial estates was greater than the area of Massachusetts, Delaware, and Rhode Island combined. Before the first Americans reached pastoral California by land in 1827, the ranchos with their vast herds of cattle were supplying hides to Boston shoe manufacturers in exchange for manufactured goods. Boston, however, was not the only link between California and the United States. As early as 1832, Los Angeles was in regular, if tenuous, contact with St. Louis through the Spanish and Santa Fe trails.

The legacy of the early Spanish settlers is still with us in so much of today's landscape. Most obvious are the myriad Spanish place names that are inscribed on the face of California and the Spanish-style architecture used to romanticize and ornament the landscape. Many cities established by Spanish-Mexican pioneers have continued into the twentieth century as prominent centers in California's urban network.



Two women important to OCHS will be missed.

Eillen "Sally" Vining
Born November 1, 1940
Died December 30, 2005

Ellen K. Lee
Born August 6, 1918
Died January 25, 2006

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OCHS Calendar

- Board Meeting
- Thursday March 2, 2006 at 7:00 PM
at Kidseum

March Meeting

- Thursday, March 9, 2006
- Opening at 7:00 p.m.
- **Kidseum**
- Corner of 18th and Main Streets, Santa Ana
- 7:30 Program**
- **March Program**
- **California Missions**
- **Powerpoint Presentation**
- **by Tracy Falk and Jane Norgren**

- April Program
- History of Fullerton
- By Author and writer Bob Ziebel

COUNTY COURIER

Copy deadline is the second Friday of the month
Mailing deadline is the last Thursday of the month

Books listed below in **BOLD** are pictured and described on our
website: www.orangecountyhistory.org

Don't see the book you are looking for? **ASK US**. If we don't have
it we will help you find it.

	COST	AMT.		
Bawdy Balboa by Judge Robert Gardner	\$25.00		3 NEW Images of America Series	
Cañada de la Brea by Virginia Carpenter	\$10.00		cities of	\$21.50
Centennial Bibliography of Orange County	\$70.00		Fullerton, Buena Park and Huntington Beach	each
House of Bernardo Yorba by Don Meadow	\$4.00		Fruit Box Labels An Illustrated Guide to Citrus	\$35.00
José Antonio Yorba by Arnold Dominguez	\$4.00		Labels by Gordon McClelland & Jay Last	
The Portolá Expedition 1769	\$3.00		<i>New</i> Postcard History Series	\$21.50
Orange Countiana II	\$12.00		Orange County	
Orange Countiana III	\$12.00			
Orange Countiana IV Architecture: soft	\$32.00		<i>All prices include sales tax</i>	
A Window on the Past hard cover	\$40.00		MERCHANDISE TOTAL _____	
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In Orange County hard cover SOLD OUT	\$00.00		<i>Bibliography of OC</i> is \$5 per book, \$1 each additional	
Orange County Through Four Centuries	\$15.95		<i>Orange Blossoms</i> is \$5 per book, \$1 each additional	
By Dr. Leo J. Friis			<i>Orange County The Golden Promise</i> is \$5 per book, \$1 each additional	
The Orange Blossom 50 Years of Growth in Orange County	\$40.00		TOTAL DUE _____	
ORANGE COUNTY The Golden Promise by Pamela Hallan-Gibson 2002 edition	\$37.00		PHONE _____	
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			CITY, STATE, ZIP _____	Make
			checks payable to OCHS	
			➤ MAIL TO: John Sorenson, 14932 Gainford Circle, Irvine CA 92604	
			Call him (949) 559-5668 and he will bring your book/s to the next meeting.	

ORANGE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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