

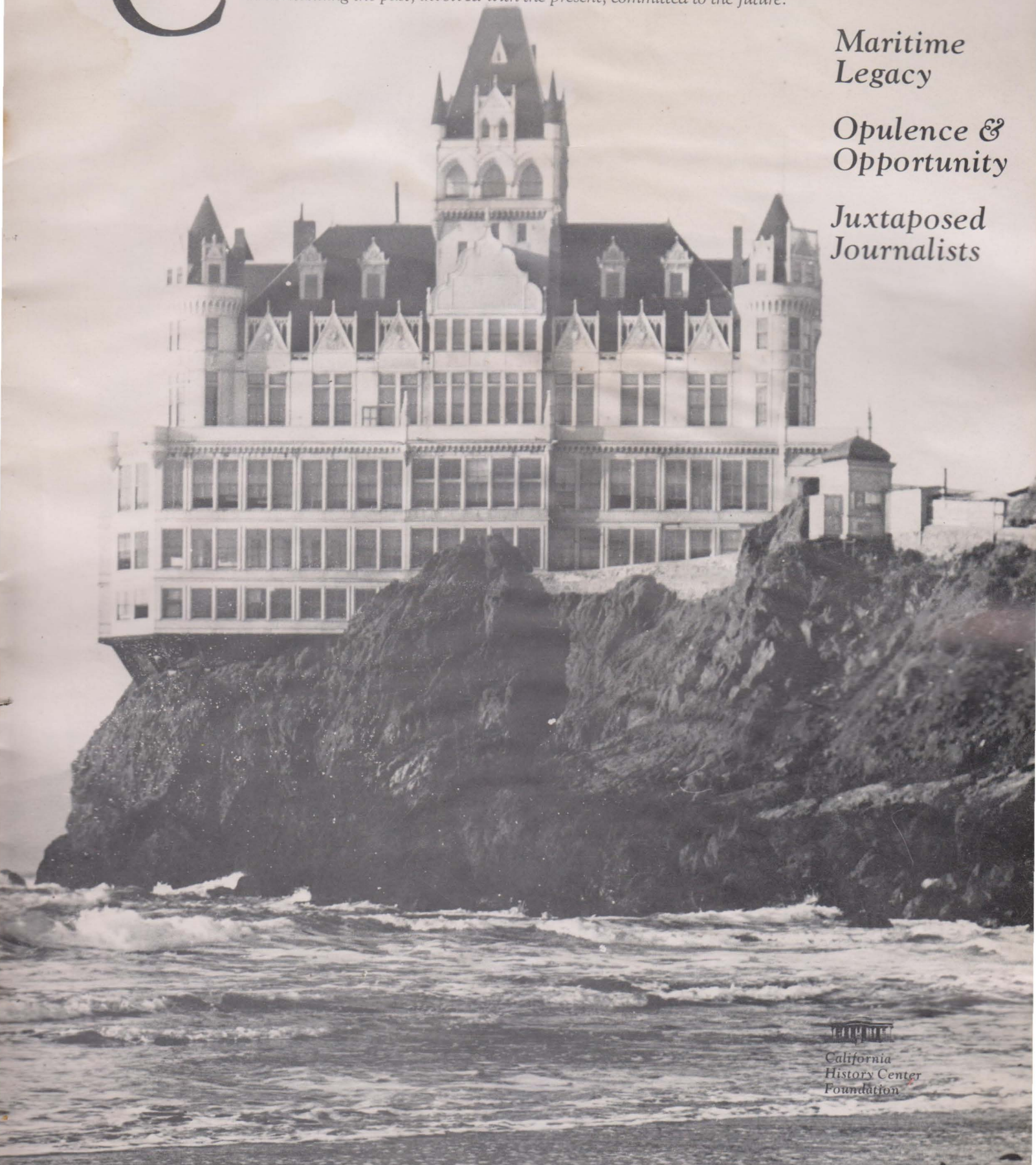
The **CALIFORNIAN**
Understanding the past, involved with the present, committed to the future.

Volume 1
Number 1
Jan. 1980

*Maritime
Legacy*

*Opulence &
Opportunity*

*Juxtaposed
Journalists*




California
History Center
Foundation

The Exhibits

San Francisco's Opulent Era

Staggering wealth through gold, silver, railroads and industrialization climaxed in an opulent, optimistic and carefree era for San Francisco at the turn of the century. Grand Hotels, such as the Palace and the Fairmont symbolized the extravagant lifestyles of these mighty tycoons. Many of this class of newly rich displayed their wealth by dining out nightly and living in hotels rather than permanent homes.

Photographs, clothing, furniture, and memorabilia of the era, capture the spirit of the hotels and their builders, the patron and the servant.

Exhibit opens: Feb. 4, 1980 and runs to May 9th
Public Viewing: Weekdays 9:00 am to Noon and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Evening hours are Thursday and Friday 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. *Please see related article, pages 7-10.*



Calif. Landscapes: Emergence of An Impressionist

George Demont Otis (1879-1962) can be justly called "the landscape painter of America", for he traveled and painted in 38 states. In the early years of this century he studied and associated with those famous artists known as "The Eight" among them John Sloan and Robert Henri, who were his personal friends and also founders of "The Ash Can School" in New York. By 1915 Otis had established himself as one of Chicago's most notable artists.

Later Otis lived for 3 years with Indian tribes in the Southwest, recording their daily lives and rituals in a series of paintings which have become collector's items today. His deep study of the cultures of various tribes provided him with material for his own writings and the numerous lectures he gave.

In 1920 Otis settled in Los Angeles, where he became the central figure in the movement known as Western Impressionism. His paintings won major awards and were included in the collections of museums and galleries throughout the U.S.A. and abroad. Otis designed sets for the stage and the cinema, supervising a corps of artists at MGM studios. His painting, "Santa Clara Valley", was exhibited at the Long Beach World's Fair in 1927. Otis soon gained a national reputation for his works and leadership in art circles as an innovator and a noted teacher. Today two of his paintings, "Muir Woods Creek" and "Grain Time" are on a 10 year loan to the White House in Washington, D.C.

From 1920 to 1961 Otis devoted himself to celebrating the California landscape in oils, watercolors, etchings, pastels, lithographs and murals. The missions, the deserts, the Sierras, ghost

towns, redwood groves, the seashore, harbors, cities and farm lands were all subjects for his work. He became a leader in the conservation movement and through his exhibitions and lectures he laid early groundwork for the establishment of The Point Reyes National Seashore and The Golden Gate National Recreation Area, of which he can be called "the artistic father."

In 1930 Otis moved to San Francisco and was married for the second time to Clara Van Tine, the owner of a beauty salon on Union Square. A talented artist in her own right, Clara excelled in ceramics, weaving and metalwork. People bought her creations to complement the Otis paintings in their collections. Much like an earlier artistic couple Arthur and Lucia Matthews, George and Clara Otis worked together to set a style of California design, informal, colorful and based on forms of nature.

With their own hands, they built the Otis studio-home on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard at Kentfield in Marin County. Here they spent the rest of their lives, creating works which express the spirit of California and hosting thousands of visitors. Their home was a work of art, with stained glass windows made by Otis, screens appointed by him and furniture which he constructed and carved.

By: George Roberts
CHC Instructor

Exhibit opens: May 23 and runs through August 1

"Behind the Otis Studio-Corte Madera Creek" [30"x40", oil/canvas by George Demont Otis 1936]

"East Winds" [20"x30" oil/canvas] by George Demont Otis
Courtesy of Grace Hartley

California History Center & Foundation

DeAnza College
21250 Stevens Creek Blvd.
Cupertino, CA 95014
(408) 996-4712

CHC Staff:

Director
Seonaid McArthur
Development & P.R.
Sharen Metz
Media, Field Trip Coord.
Kathi McDavid
Exhibition Design
David Rickman
Community Services
Daphne O'Lenick
Librarian
Helen Hackley

The Californian:

Editor
Kathi McDavid
Graphic Design
Tim Mitchell

"A Lyrical Interlude"

Members reception, February 1, 1980, Eight o'clock to Midnight. Dance the night away in the grand ballroom to the beautiful music of Don Neely and his orchestra. Between dances wander into the Grand Hotels exhibit where you can relive the era of elegance. Featured in the exhibit will be old newsreels of historical events.

Film Festival Features Classic Films

SAN FRANCISCO (MGM 1936). Cast: Clark Gable, Jeanette MacDonald, Spencer Tracy
"...one of the strangest conglomerations ever wielded into film. It has a lusty story of Barbary Coast days, a love triangle, cabaret dancing, opera, comedy, religion, politics, and the 1906 earthquake. Despite these seeming incongruities, the picture holds together well and the earthquake scenes are amazing."
—*Newsweek*

Date: Friday, February 15, 7:30 pm. South Gallery
Cost: \$1.50 (No charge for students enrolled in independent study course)

Original Film Clips - 1898-1934. From the private film collection of second generation San Franciscan Robert Durden.

Selection will include: Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway 1898-1906; Lindberg Arriving at San Francisco 1927; Driving Down Market 1905; Fatty Arbuckle and Mabel Norman at the 1915 World's Fair; City at the Golden Gate 1934. Date: Friday, February 22, 7:30 pm, South Gallery

Independent Study Permits Personalized Look at The Opulent Era

- Film Festival documents the setting of opulence.
- Class will participate in a behind the scenes VIP tour and reception at the grandest of hotels.
- A catalog guidebook of the City and of the CHC exhibition will guide you through history.

These aspects of independent study will be yours to explore on your own time with your family and friends. Enjoy this special opportunity developed for the CHC by San Francisco State professor, Frank Clauss.

Orientation: February 11, Monday. Attend at either 4:00 pm or 6:00 pm in the History Center Laboratory.

Special Lecture

An in depth look at San Francisco, 1870-1920. Lecture by historian Frank Clauss, PhD.

Date: February 25, 7:30 pm, North Gallery

Vip Tour

Grand Hotels tour guided by Dr. Walter G. Warren. Enjoy a behind the scene look at the elegant hotels on Nob Hill and the people that shaped their destiny. The day will include a no host lunch and evening reception.

Date: Saturday, March 1, 8:00 am to 7:00 pm.
Cost: \$15.00 - Reservations by February 15

George Otis Reception

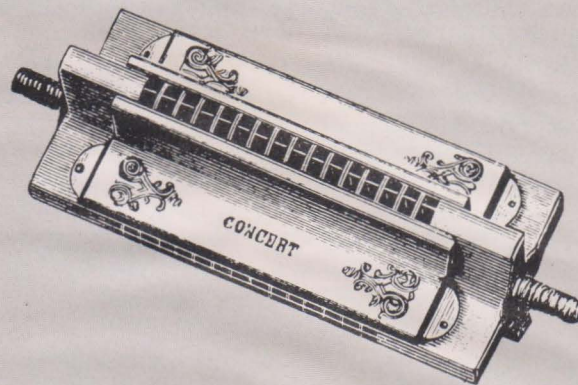
May 23, 6:00 - 9:00 pm, public opening and reception for George Demont Otis exhibit. Refreshments served. See Otis article on page 2.

California Artists

A preview and reception, May 30, 1980, 7:00 pm for Contemporary California Artists. Works displayed will be for sale during the DeAnza Days Celebration all day June 1.

DeAnza Days Auction/Sale

Beginning at 9:00 am and going all day, June 1, will be the showing and sale of paintings by California artists. Also planned is a CHC first, a merchandise auction. Come and spend the day at DeAnza.

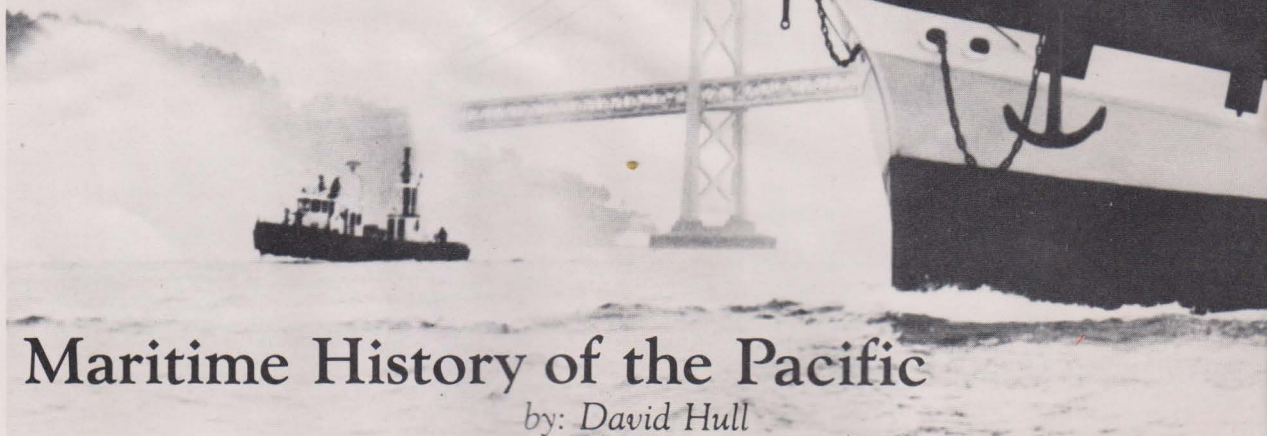


Before the bridges across the Bay, if you wanted to get across the Bay, you went aboard a ferry. It was a ferry like the *Eureka*, perhaps it even was the *Eureka*, now berthed at Hyde Street Pier in San Francisco as a Federal museum vessel. Spacious, wooden, propelled by large paddle-wheels on either side, powered by a steam "walking beam" engine. On some of these ferries, the drive shaft crossed unprotected through the cabin but it turned slowly and on weekends small boys would leap up to grasp the shaft and be wound slowly over the top of it as the giant paddlewheel just beside them, outside the hull, thrashed the ferry rhythmically along through the rain, through the fog, through the sunshine. During the week, folks commuted then as now across the bay to work, but unlike today, theirs was a leisurely commute. Gentlemen, for instance, might study the financial news while getting a shave and still have time for a game of checkers.

Ferry EUREKA—
Courtesy of National
Maritime Museum

Before the bridges across the Bay, if you wanted to ship freight across the Bay, you sent it aboard one of the little scow schooners—yesterday's counterparts to today's trucks. It was a scow schooner like the *Alma*—perhaps it too was the *Alma*—berthed today at the Hyde Street Pier also as a Federal museum vessel. Built like a box of massive wooden timbers, square on both ends, but sporting a bowsprit, jibboom and headsail, the scow schooners carried the fuel for the City's transportation—hay, that is, for the horses, often stacked so high that a "pulpit" had to be built for the helmsman so he could see over the load. After the earthquake, the scow schooners carried bricks from Gallinas Creek in Marin and other brickyards to rebuild the City, and all through the years from the Gold Rush on, they carried supplies to the farmers around the bay and up the rivers, and produce back to market in San Francisco.

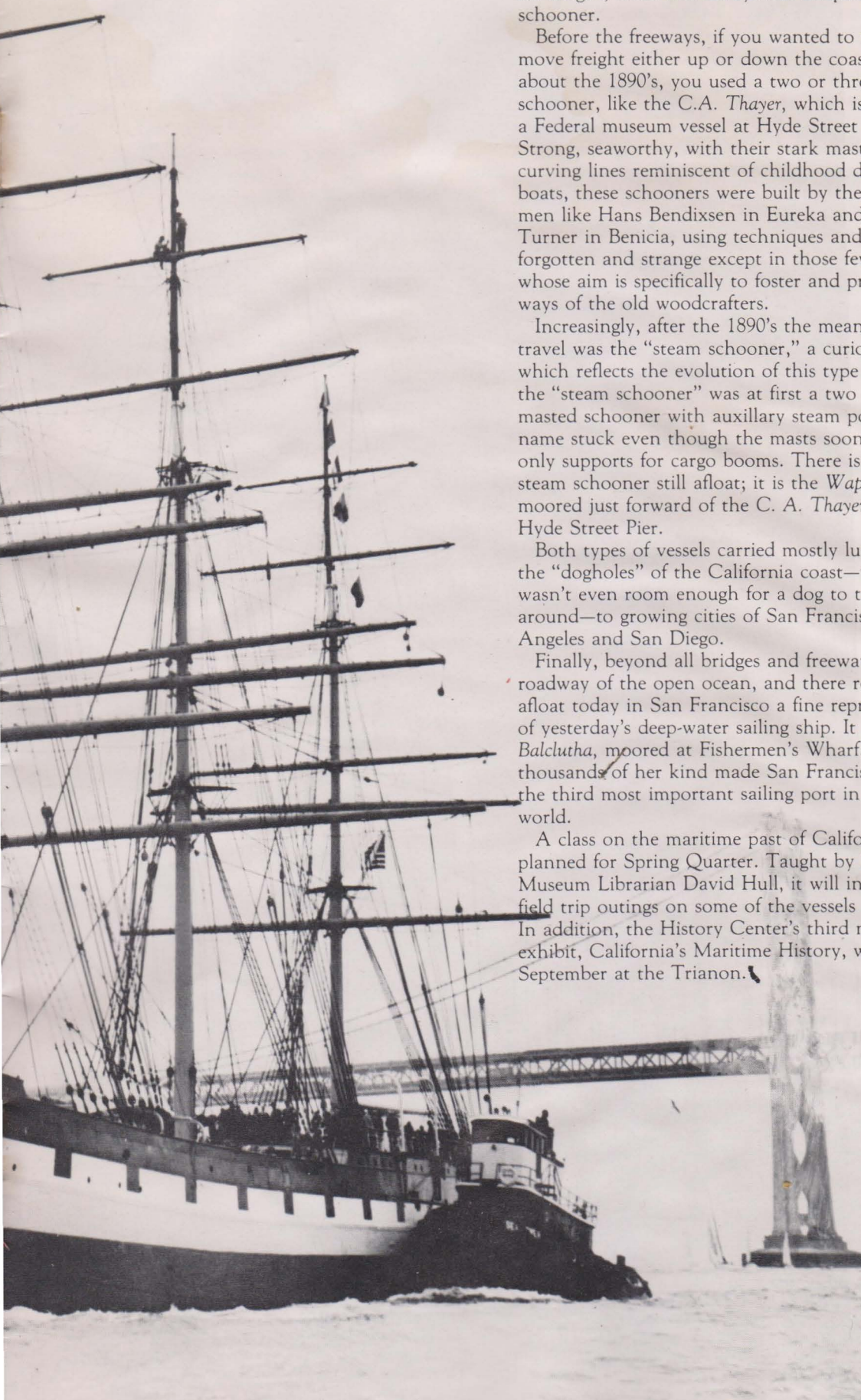
Before the bridges and freeways, if you wanted to travel or move freight either up or down the rivers that fed the Bay, you used one of the little sternwheelers like the *Isleton*, the *Fort Bragg*, or the *T.C. Walker*, of which none now remain. Or you used one of the big sternwheelers, of which there remains one—the *Delta Queen*—still in commission, though far from here, on the Mississippi River. Or,



BALCLUTHA crossing the
Bay after restoration, 1955
— Courtesy of National
Maritime Museum

Maritime History of the Pacific

by: David Hull



for freight, there was always the ubiquitous scow schooner.

Before the freeways, if you wanted to travel or move freight either up or down the coast, until about the 1890's, you used a two or three-masted schooner, like the *C.A. Thayer*, which is—yes—now a Federal museum vessel at Hyde Street Pier. Strong, seaworthy, with their stark masts and gently curving lines reminiscent of childhood dreams of boats, these schooners were built by the scores by men like Hans Bendixsen in Eureka and Matthew Turner in Benicia, using techniques and tools now forgotten and strange except in those few places whose aim is specifically to foster and preserve the ways of the old woodcrafters.

Increasingly, after the 1890's the means of coastal travel was the "steam schooner," a curious term which reflects the evolution of this type of vessel; the "steam schooner" was at first a two or three-masted schooner with auxillary steam power. The name stuck even though the masts soon became only supports for cargo booms. There is a wooden steam schooner still afloat; it is the *Wapama*, moored just forward of the *C. A. Thayer* at the Hyde Street Pier.

Both types of vessels carried mostly lumber from the "dogholes" of the California coast—where there wasn't even room enough for a dog to turn around—to growing cities of San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego.

Finally, beyond all bridges and freeways is the roadway of the open ocean, and there remains afloat today in San Francisco a fine representative of yesterday's deep-water sailing ship. It is the *Balclutha*, moored at Fishermen's Wharf. She and thousands of her kind made San Francisco, by 1890, the third most important sailing port in all the world.

A class on the maritime past of California is planned for Spring Quarter. Taught by Maritime Museum Librarian David Hull, it will include special field trip outings on some of the vessels shown here. In addition, the History Center's third major exhibit, California's Maritime History, will open in September at the Trianon.

Foundation Notes

Matching Grant Awarded

The California Council for the Humanities, the Calif. branch of the National Endowment for the Humanities located in San Francisco has awarded a \$5,000 matching grant to the Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Commission and the California History Center at DeAnza College.

The grant has a two-fold purpose. First to plan a film on the history of Santa Clara Valley and to plan a photo-exhibit on the remaining Valley orchards.

The conditions of the grant stipulate that an interdisciplinary approach be brought to the study of local history.

Heading a distinguished committee of scholars as project director is Yvonne Jacobson, lecturer in the Humanities Department and the California History Center at DeAnza College. Jacobson is writing a book and doing a series of photos on the farming era of the Valley.

The committee includes:

Wallace Stegner, Pulitzer Prize novelist and long-time resident of the Valley.

Dr. Jeffery Smith, professor emeritus of Stanford University in Philosophy and Humanities.

Dr. Albert Camarillo, assistant professor of History at Stanford.

Seonaid McArthur, director of the California History Center, DeAnza College.

Lawrence Robbin, head of documentary films at Channel 11, San Jose.

The committee has three months in which to plan its project and to locate additional funds from community groups. Funds raised will be matched 85% by the California Council for the Humanities.

Wanted: Treasures for Auction

Every time you trip over Aunt Martha's umbrella stand, you realize others should be able to enjoy its uniqueness. Why not donate it to the CHCF "Antique" auction.

The CHCF's fundraising extravaganza, scheduled for June 1, 1980 will be held in the Trianon building on the DeAnza College Campus. Please call 996-4986 for more information.

"The charitable man has found the path of salvation. He is like the man who plants a sapling, securing thereby the shade, the flowers, and the fruit in future years."

Buddha

Large Gifts Received

Donations of \$1000 were received from Mr. and Mrs. Will W. Lester and Mrs. Dorothy Varian.

In addition, Dr. Albert Shumate donated \$2958 to finance a *Local History Studies* publication.

Robert Kongsli and Vern Halcomb of Saratoga have donated a \$10,000 19th century French salon set consisting of a sofa, two arm chairs and four side chairs for use in the Grand Salon of the Trianon.

Become a Member

Your tax deductible membership dues support the California History Center Foundation's preservation and cultural programs.

Benefits of Membership:

- Exhibition previews
- Local History Studies Publication Series
- CHCF Magazine
- Selected Invitations to special events
- Louis E. Stocklmeir Library
- Community Services Guild

Membership Categories

Individuals

- Friends of the Center \$1000
- Donor 500
- Sponsor 100
- Contributor 75
- Supporter 50
- Family 30
- Regular 20
- Seniors & Students 10

Business Firms

- Sustaining \$1000
- Regular 100

Non-Profit Organizations

- Sustaining 100
- Contributing 50
- Associate 30
- Library 20

(As a courtesy to persons over 60 and under 21)

The California History Center Foundation welcomes the following new members.

- Mrs. Fred T. Adams and Family
- Margaret E. Bolick
- Mr. Jorge Bruguera
- Mr. and Mrs. James V. Crow
- William J.E. Davis
- Arletta Jurasinski
- Evelyn Lackey
- M. Catherine Little
- Mary C. Lusk
- Martin Joseph Morgado
- Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rifredi
- Mary G. Riordan
- Ruby Mae Schreck
- Rosalyn Bernstein Schwartz
- Martin and Rita Seldon
- Helene Mannes Smilo
- Mrs. Dee Souder
- Sara Turner
- West Valley Federated Women's Club

“Living Out” in San Francisco’s Era of Opulence

Francis J. Clauss, Ph.D.

San Franciscans have always been noted for their unique life style. From its beginnings in 1835 as a Mexican pueblo along the shores of Yerba Buena Cove, the city of San Francisco (as distinct from the mission and presidio, which had been founded earlier in 1776) has been a city of “living out”. The large floating population of early San Francisco was predominantly male — sailors and sea captains from whaleships and trading vessels, an occasional fur trapper, soldiers and marines during the American Conquest, and the Argonauts of the Gold Rush. Their transitory nature was hardly conducive to a normal, settled home life. On the contrary, it encouraged the establishment of numerous hotels and boarding-houses to provide a place “to hang one’s hat” and often to provide a place “to hang one’s hat”, and often little else. So great was the demand for housing that as the bay was filled-in about Yerba Buena Cove, many ships riding at anchor became landlocked by the landfill and were converted to hotels and boarding-

houses. Other of life’s necessities were provided by a great variety of restaurants, bars, saloons, theatres, playhouses, and amusement halls of various types, usually the lowest. Facilities for such basic services as laundry were almost non-existent, or so high-priced that it was actually cheaper to buy new clothes or to have one’s dirty shirts shipped as far as China or the Hawaiian Islands, where laundries were less expensive than in early San Francisco.

The Early Years

These rude beginnings were followed by a period of great wealth and display, derived from the gold and silver bonanzas of the Sierras and the Comstock. The effects of the gold rush on San Francisco can be surmised from the town’s population statistics. San Francisco’s population had risen to just under 1000 by the early part of 1848. By the end of 1849, as the miners retreated from the winter storms back to San Francisco, the population had swollen to 35,000! It was a boom time for hotels, lodginghouses, and restaurants, for the customers were legion, and they paid with gold.

Although many living quarters continued to be of a makeshift character, it was during the early Gold Rush period that the construction of buildings intended to be hotels began in San Francisco. As the wealth and opulence of the population grew the adobes, tents, and converted ships gave way to homes and hotels of increasing grandeur, culminating in the appropriately named **Palace Hotel**, which opened in 1875.

In 1862, thirteen years before the Palace opened



Dining at the Palace,
1960's— Courtesy of
Sheraton-Palace Hotel

its doors, the pioneer James Lick, built San Francisco's first luxury hotel, the **Lick House**.

The Lick House contained 204 rooms, and because of its relatively low structure, it occupied a tremendous amount of land; it extended for 200 feet along Montgomery Street 160 feet along Sutter. It was the last large hotel to be built in this low, ground-consuming fashion, for land values in San Francisco were skyrocketing. By the time the Palace Hotel was built in 1875, hydraulic elevators made hotels with twice the height of the Lick House practical, and the later development of electric elevators (first introduced in the United States 1889) made even taller skyscrapers practical.

Champagne Years (1875-1906)

San Francisco, born of gold rebuilt by silver, enjoyed the last quarter of the nineteenth century and the first few years of the twentieth as one who has struggled for success and was now willing to settle back and savor its rewards.

Hotels took on a new lavishness. The famous Palace Hotel opened its doors at the beginning of this period, on October 5, 1875. It was, in fact, the largest and most elaborate hotel in any American city at the time. It was seven stories tall! Its upper floor had 755 private rooms, nearly all 20 feet square with 15-foot ceilings, and could

accommodate 1200 guests in the utmost comfort. Its lobby, dining rooms, ballroom, reception halls, parlors, and other public rooms were immense in size and richly decorated. So great were the demands for furnishings that the firm of W. J. Sloane, of New York City, established a local store and went permanently into business in the San Francisco area.

The Palace Hotel cost \$5 million, and its size completely dominated the rest of the city's downtown area.

The hotel's chief architectural feature was its grand court — an oval measuring 84 feet by 144 feet and rising the full seven stories in the interior of the hotel to a great domed roof of opaque glass at the top. This court faced the main entrance in the center of the Montgomery Street side, and it had a circular driveway so that arriving guests could be driven from the street inside the building. Vertical banks of bay windows completely covered the exterior facade. These were a typically San Franciscan feature of the times, designed to catch a maximum of sunshine in the city's foggy climate and make every room equally desirable.

Another grand hotel built near the beginning of this period was the **Baldwin Hotel**, which was completed in 1877 and stood facing Market Street on the triangular block bounded by Market, Powell, and Ellis Streets. Built at a cost of over \$3 million, the Baldwin Hotel had six stories and offered 595 rooms for the comfort of its guests. It was less than half the size of its rival down the street, the Palace Hotel, yet in architectural style it was much more grandiose.

The major thing that the Baldwin Hotel could offer that the Palace could not match was a magnificent 1700-seat theatre. The Baldwin Theatre originally called the Baldwin Academy of Music — was built as part of the hotel. Its proprietor, Tom Maguire, was the same man who years before had built the Jenny Lind Theatres, and who was for many years the leading impresario on the west coast. Its stage manager was David Belasco, who would himself become a famous playwright and stage director.

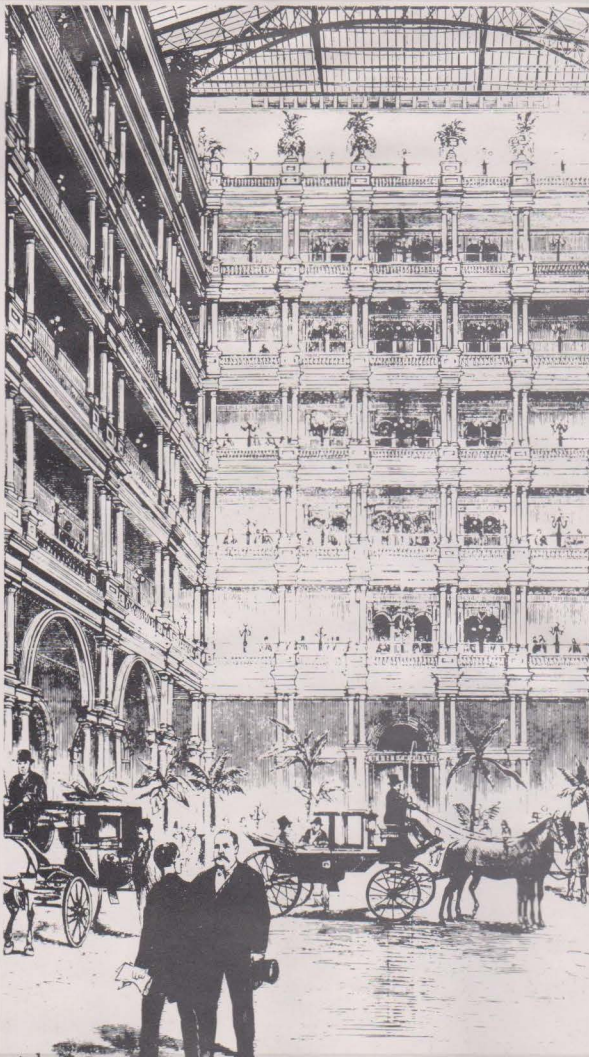
The Baldwin Hotel burned to the ground on November 23, 1898.

Two more grand hotels were added to the city in the opening years of the twentieth century — the **St. Francis** on Union Square, and the **Fairmont** on Nob Hill.

By this time, the Palace Hotel was outmoded, despite its renovations, and San Francisco needed a more up-to-date hotel to satisfy its luxury-loving visitors. A group of distinguished citizens formed the San Francisco Hotel Company to assess the need for additional hotels. Prominent on the board of directors were representatives of the family and estate of Charles Crocker, one of the "Big Four" (along with Mark Hopkins, Leland Stanford, and Colliss Huntington) who had built the Central Pacific Railroad.

The St. Francis Hotel filled the need for a simpler, less ornamented architectural style. It was

The Palace Hotel's seven story grand court

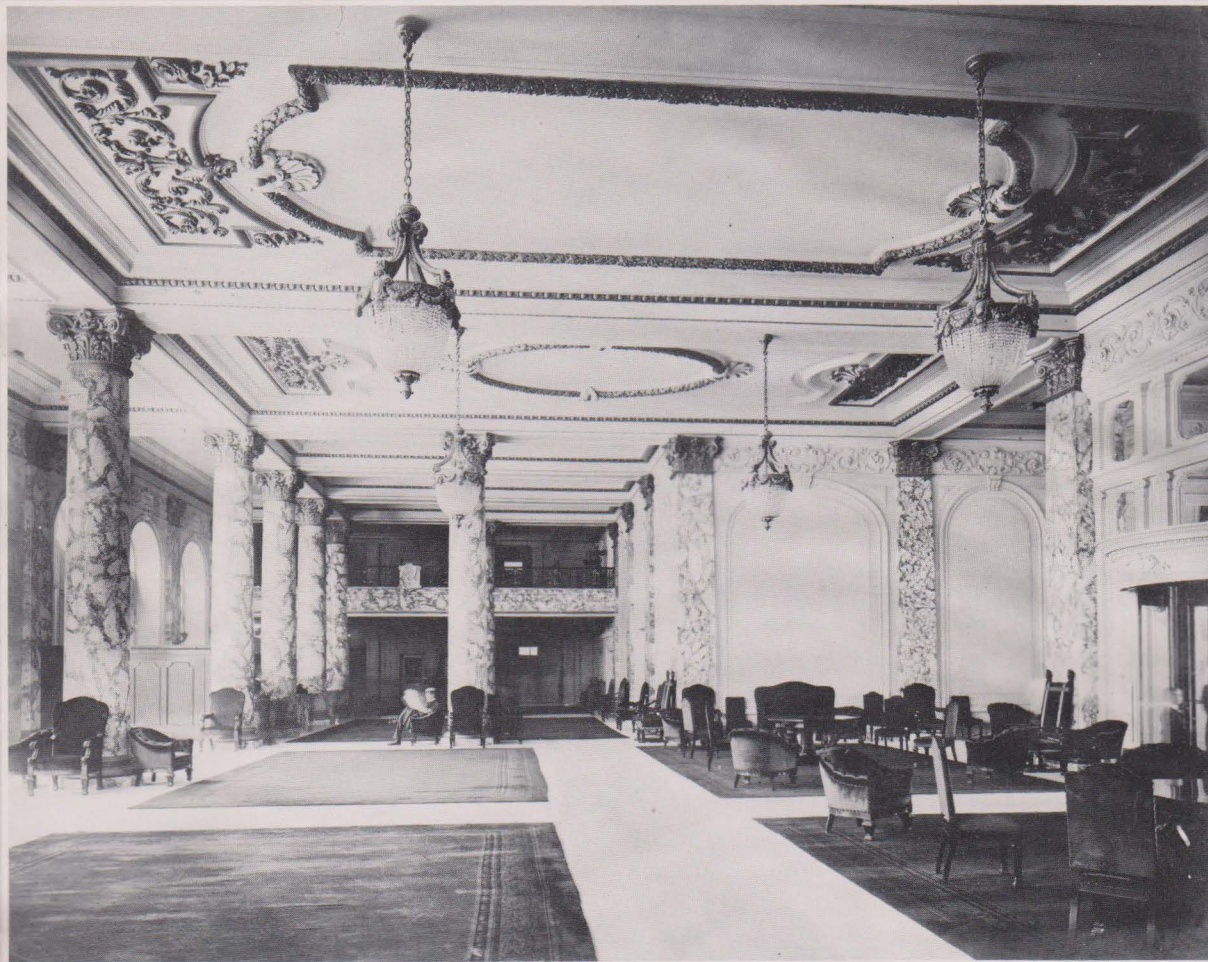


twelve stories tall, and its rooms were arranged in two wings so that each one had outside windows. However, the St. Francis fell to destruction in the aftermath of the 1906 earthquake.

The Fairmont Hotel is located on a site atop Nob Hill that had been selected for the mansion of James G. Fair, one of the enormously wealthy developers of the Comstock Lode. But he and his wife divorced, and the mansion was never built. His daughter Mrs. Herman Oelrichs, constructed the hotel in her father's memory. The hotel was designed in grand neoclassical style. On the eve of its opening, it was gutted by the fire that followed the great earthquake of 1906.



St. Francis Hotel in ruins following 1906 earthquake.

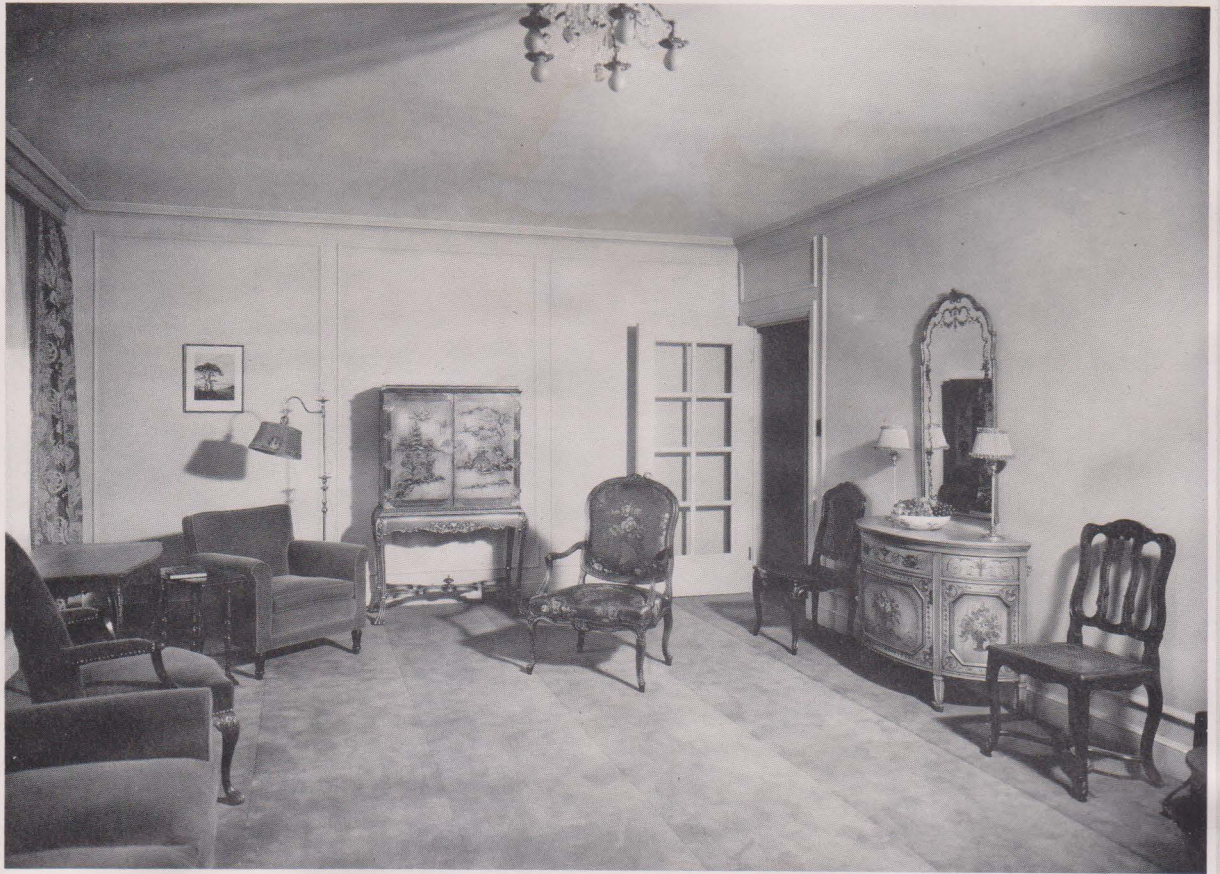


Lobby of Fairmont Hotel [Ca. 1910]— Courtesy of Fairmont Hotel



Military Party California Grays at the Fairmont Hotel Jan 27, 1912— Courtesy of Calif. Historical Society

Suite at the Mark Hopkins [Ca. 1920s]—
Courtesy of Hotel Mark Hopkins



However, within a few years of their destruction, the St. Francis and the Fairmont hotels were reconstructed from the gutted ruins. The old Palace Hotel was razed (at a cost of \$90,000, so strongly did the structure resist demolition), and a new one erected in its place. The grand hotels were back in business.

A Contemporary Perspective

Hotels have furnished a focus for the social life of San Francisco to a much greater extent than they have for any other American city. They continue the heritage of hospitality begun during the Spanish-Mexican period of California's history, when visitors to the remote outposts were welcomed warmly by the mission padres and by the ranchers. San Francisco's traditions for "living out" in style persists today in the city's many hotels and restaurants, its places of amusement, and its continuing reputation as a tourist attraction in itself and as a convention center

The exhibit *The Grand Hotels of San Francisco* that the California History Center will present during the months from February to May, covers the most colorful times of San Francisco's history and such hotels as, the Mark Hopkins and the Huntington, as well as the Palace, Fairmont and St. Francis. This period, spanning a little over a half century, was a time of the accumulation of vast fortunes and their gaudy display in the homes and hotels of the wealthy. Yet the grand homes and hotels were much more than a display of an opulent style of living, at a time when it was not considered a sin to live well. They were even more an expression of the

rugged individualism and strong characters of the city's pioneers, along with their civic pride and optimism for the future. They evinced both the financial resources of the city and the vitality of its citizens. So great were these economic and human resources that San Francisco was able to recover in short order from its near destruction by the earthquake and fire of 1906, as well as from the economic stagnation that was to follow the Stock Market Crash of 1929 and the Great Depression of the 1930's. These qualities, too, can be seen reflected in *The Grand Hotels of San Francisco*, for their history is the history of San Francisco itself.

Rearview of Fairmont in 1910, prior to swimming pool [Flood penthouse on top]— Courtesy of Fairmont Hotel



Industrial History: History 37 **Ethnic Heritage: History 42**

Before Bridges and Freeways - *David Hull*
 Exploration of the Gold Rush, the grain trade, whaling, the lumber trade and other aspects of maritime history on the Pacific Coast. Tours on 4/12, 4/27 and sailing on 5/22. Thursday evening lectures.

Big Guys/Little Guys, Coastal Railroads - *Bruce MacGregor*
 The grass roots movement of railroad's "little guys" to buck the monopolies and attempt the construction of a new, independent coastal railroad, Trips 4/26, 5/24, lectures Monday evening.

Central Coast Wine - *Charles Sullivan*
 From the Peninsula to the Livermore Valley, south to San Luis Obispo Co., an intense study of the myths and actuality of the California wine industry. Tuesday evening lectures with 2-3 tours planned.

California Gold: History 38

The Southern Mines - *Bill Palmer / Jerry Mann*
 History of Sonora and its surrounding region from the discovery of gold to its present-day development as a popular recreation area. May 16,17 weekend tour of Sonora area, Tuesday evening lectures.

Colorful Characters of the Gold Rush - *Brian Smith*
 An exploration of the lives of "colorful characters" of the gold rush, through folklore, musical ballads, old records and interviews. Mon./Wed. lectures with tours planned to Mariposa, Sonora and surrounding area and Grass Valley/Nevada City.

Russian Settlement in California - *Vladimir Schenk*
 Historical review of the Russian movement toward the Pacific Coast with the eventual establishment of settlements in Northern California. Trips to San Francisco, Ft. Ross 2/2, 3/1 Thurs. lectures.

Nob Hill Irish - *Walt Warren*
 A study of the "Lace Curtain" Irish and their contributions to San Francisco history. Wed. lectures with Sat. tours to San Francisco areas and Filoli.

Scandinavian Heritage - *Ruth Sahlberg / Julie Laursen*
 Immigration patterns of Swedes, Fins, Danes, Norwegians and Icelantics to America and California with a look at the integration of their cultural customs with those of their new country. Trip to Angel Island planned. Tues. lectures.

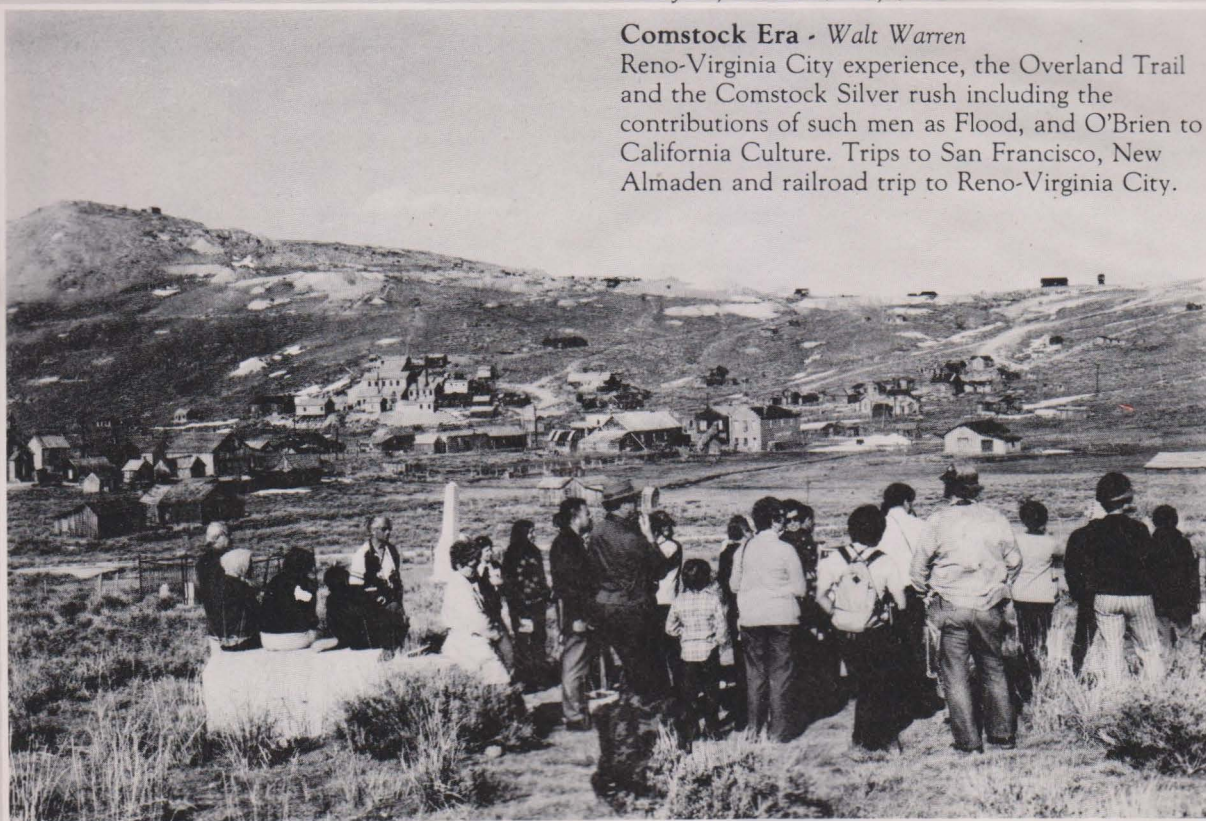
Field Studies: History 45

Saratoga's First Hundred Years - *Frances Fox*
 Fascinating past of Saratoga from its beginnings as a lumber town, to agricultural center to affluent residential community. One lecture/orientation 4/7, one field trip 4/19.

San Jose and Its Seaport - *Francis Fox*
 A look at San Jose and its significance as the first civil settlement in California and first state capitol with Alviso serving the pueblo as a seaport and center of activity. Two lectures 4/9, 4/23. Trips to San Jose, Alviso. 4/16, 4/30.

Comstock Era - *Walt Warren*
 Reno-Virginia City experience, the Overland Trail and the Comstock Silver rush including the contributions of such men as Flood, and O'Brien to California Culture. Trips to San Francisco, New Almaden and railroad trip to Reno-Virginia City.

CHC Field Trip to Bodie



Education

History of San Francisco: History 46

S.F.'S First Hundred Years - *Frank Clauss*
In depth view of San Francisco from discovery by the Spanish to the boom of the gold/silver bonanzas to the development of its distinctive neighborhoods. Mon. evening lectures with 3 San Francisco tours to numerous points of interest.

Cultural Heritage: History 47

San Francisco Opera - *Mary Jean Clauss*
A look at the diversity of local opera companies, amateur, academic and professional, which made significant contributions to the Bay Area's cultural development. Tues. evening lecture with field trip and 4 performances included.

Alternative Lifestyles - *Pat Bresnan*
Historical survey of the background and recent development in the Bay Area of lifestyles based on such Eastern religious philosophies as the Hindu culture, Tibetan Buddhism and Zen Buddhism. Mon./Wed. lectures with possible visits to these groups.

Old Houses: Their Stories - *Ilse Gluckstadt*
Fascinating history of many old area homes from the architecture and design to those people who built them and lived in them. Thurs. lectures with Tuesday trips to Petaluma, Vallejo, Glen Ellen, Steinbeck home, Stevenson home, Filoli and others.

Celebrated Californians - *Betty Hirsch*
A look at those remarkable individuals from the arts, industry and government who rose, met adversity and rose again to become stronger than ever. Trips to Sanchez Adobe, Sacramento, Filoli, Stockton, Oakland. 4/19, 4/26, 5/10, 5/24, 6/7, Wed. evening lectures.

Roaring Twenties - *Dan O'Keefe*
The Jazz Age, business fever, sports stars and prohibition, a backwards glance at all of the fads and ballyhoo that gripped this nation and Santa Clara Co. in the 20's. Sat. afternoon lectures.

Great Depression/New Deal - *Dan O'Keefe*
The impact of the depression, New Deal, enlarged government and ethnic groups on life in America and California. Thurs. afternoon lectures.

Cities at The End of The Bay - *Ruth Sahlberg*
Five concise 1 unit classes dealing with the history and importance of selected South Bay Communities. Each class will have two evening lectures and 1 Sat. trip. Palo Alto, 4/9,16,19, Los Altos, 4/24, 5/1,3, Mt. View, 5/8,15,17, Sunnyvale, 5/22,29,31, Milpitas, 6/5,12,14.

East Bay At Your Feet - *Pat Lynch*
In depth study of the settlement, economic development, multi-ethnic growth and cultural advancement of this forgotten area of the Bay Area. Wed. evening lectures with tours to Oakland, Berkeley, San Leandro, San Jose, 4/12,25, 5/3,17,21, 6/7.

Ghost Towns - Santa Cruz Mountains - *Carolyn de Vries*
Vanished towns, colorful characters and existing settlements will be explored through true stories as well as the tall tales of one of the most exciting areas of local history. Wed. lectures with field trip 5/10 to Santa Cruz Mts.

Cultural Currents - *George Roberts*
A tracing of the major trends in California art from 1850 to 1950, from the artist, to the environment, to technological advances, to the social climate of the day which affected that art. Eight Monday evening lectures with tours to Oakland, San Francisco, Stockton, Peninsula, Sacramento, Monterey, 4/5,19, 5/3,17,31, 6/7,14

Early Colleges: Agents of Change - *Chatham Forbes*
Factual and subjective details of the conception and foundation of California's colleges, from their struggles and accomplishments to their development to meet changing cultural needs. Trips to Berkeley, Stanford, Santa Clara/San Jose, 4/19, 5/3,17, Tues. evening lectures.

Museology: History 55

The Community Museum - *Ted Cohen*
In face of rapid county growth and change, efforts to preserve and share community history are essential. Director of Exhibitions, Oakland Museum will explore and find solutions to specific small museum needs. Orientation Wednesday April 9, and 4 Saturdays, 4/12,26, 5/19,24.

Independent Study

The First Californian - *Seonaid McArthur*
Independent study of the cultural characteristics of the native Californian through tapes, slides, assigned readings, field trips and use of a study manual. Orientation April 8, 4:00 pm or 5:30 pm. No formal class meetings. ↘



Cultural Preservation

Photos by Yvonne Jacobson



Local history buffs, journalists and former owners of *Suburban Newspapers*, a chain of 16 Valley weeklies, Mort and Elaine Levine had often talked of becoming involved in a significant restoration project in the Santa Clara Valley. According to Mort, they were interested in "giving something back to this valley" which had been so kind to them since their arrival from Wisconsin in 1953. This dream came to fruition in May 1979 when the interior restoration of the Fremont Older Estate in the Cupertino Foothills was completed.

Owned by the Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District and falling victim to old age, vandalism and lack of upkeep, the Older home was scheduled for demolition when the Levine's, as members of the El Camino Trust for Historic Preservation, became involved in the effort to save the home in early 1977. The results of this effort were, the lease of the estate to the Levine's for \$1.00 per year for 25 years, and 18 months to make the house suitable for living once again.

With no first-hand knowledge of the complexity of custom building and restoration, the Levines were able to put together a unique team of retired contractor, architect, carpenters and interior decorator who all "settled in for the long haul". Other valley residents served as invaluable resources on the history of both the house and its first residents, Fremont and Cora Older.

Fremont Older had been a towering figure in California journalism. It is fitting that two other journalists should have a hand in preserving the Older history. At a personal cost of over \$300,000, the Levines have certainly given something of permanence and significance to this valley. Through tying their own interests of history, restoration and journalism together, Mort and Elaine have given a piece of history back to the residents of the Santa Clara Valley.



Postscripts

You Are Needed

Special functions and events of the CHCF could not be accomplished without assistance from volunteers of the Community Services Guild. For example, Betty Aide and other volunteers were responsible for holiday festivities at the Fremont Older home. Docents have spent many hours giving tours. Volunteers were instrumental in assembling the first exhibit.

As the Centers activities increase, so does the need for volunteers. If your interest is museology, you are needed to assist with exhibits. If you like parties, we need your talents for planning and taking care of details. To become a Guild volunteer, call 996-4712.

Booklist

The following publications are available from the California History Center — some in limited quantities, and some at discount to members.

1. *Celebrating a Collection*—Dorothea Lange
2. *Chinese Argonauts*
3. *Cupertino Chronicles*
4. *Diary of Cora Baggerly Older*
5. *Era of Elegance*
6. *Farm, Home and Forge*
7. *Golden Poppies — An Annotated Bibliography of California Historical Fiction and Non-Fiction for Young Readers.*
8. *The Grizzly Bear in the Land of the Ohlone*
9. *Hidden Villa Tales*
10. *Historias* (Hardback only)
11. *Into the Limelight*
12. *Los Altos Reminiscences*
13. *Marina Memories*
14. *Palo Alto, 1906*
15. *Soquel Landing to Capitola-by the Sea*
16. *Local History Studies — A Style Guide*
17. *The Trianon Waits*
18. *Where California Began*

Docent Mary Jane Givens explains Indian objects in the "touch basket" to schoolboys touring the First Californians exhibit. Eight docents conducted over 40 tours to 1,000 school-age children from surrounding communities. Docent training for the next exhibit begins February 1. Anyone interested in becoming a CHCF docent can call 996-4712 for more information.

Photo by Yvonne Jacobson



fourteen

Building Hours:

Monday-Friday: 8:00am-12:00, 1:00-5:00pm

Exhibit Hours:

Monday-Friday: 9:00am-12:00, 1:00-4:00pm
Thursday and Friday Evening: 6:00-9:00pm
Docent Tours may be scheduled by calling 996-4712 during building hours.

Library Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 8:30am-4:30pm

*Banquet to Washington
Delegation, Panama Pacific
International Exposition
St. Francis Hotel, Feb.
27, 1911* Courtesy of
California Historical
Society





Two hundred children and their parents shared a Scandanavian Christmas and Santa Lucia pagent [shown in photo] in the Trianon this past holiday. The CHC Scandanavians in California class invited the community to participate in tradi tional folk dancing and to view displays of folk art and crafts. A highlight for the children was the puppet show with captivating trolls.

Photo by Yvonne Jacobson



- Banquet -
 to Washington Delegation
 Panama Pacific International
 Exposition
 St. Francis Hotel Feb. 27, 1911.
 R.J. Waters & Co. 717 Market St.

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