



Peralta Adobe The Dominguez Period

In the last issue of our newsletter, an article was written about the plaque dedication ceremony at the Peralta Adobe and the Adobe's history. An addendum to this history follows.

Following the death of Ramon Peralta in 1873, his family left the adobe and it was subsequently occupied by members of the Dominguez family. Donaciano Dominguez, Bernardo Marzo, and Pablo Dominguez each lived in the adobe for a short time. In 1881 or 1882, Pablo Dominguez returned to the adobe, accompanied by his wife, Felipa Yorba and continued to inhabit it for the next thirty years.

During this period several important architectural modifications were made to the building. The roof, originally gabled, was changed to a hip roof. The birth of five children in the family created the need for more room, resulting in the conversion of the attic space into a bedroom and the construction of a staircase leading to it. Dormer windows were added for the new second floor and other windows were built into the west wall and on either side of the front door downstairs.

In 1895, Pablo died and his wife became very ill. For a short while, the family was scattered, living with relatives or at school. They returned to the adobe in 1896 and remained there until they moved to the north side of the river following Walter E. Pyne's purchase of the property in 1908.

by Jeannine Walters



Old Courthouse Update

Original courtroom furnishings are being secured in their historic places, returning the Department One courtroom to its turn-of-the-century appearance. Restoration of this courtroom is being encouraged and assisted by Phoenix Television Productions, a film production company desiring a timely comeback of the historic courtroom for film set purposes. February 9-12, they shot scenes in and around the Old Courthouse for the CBS mini-series, Roses are for the Rich. Bookshelves, desks, chairs and other related antique furnishings have been moved back in, and the film company is adding their own temporary touches such as decorative lighting fixtures, rugs, drapes, flags. Although this particular film company will have the distinction of being the first permitted use following the recent restoration, it is not the first to have shown an interest in the Old Courthouse as a filming location. Permit fees collected for commercial photography use are placed in a trust fund and could perhaps someday be used to finance some of the special details of the overall restoration. by Marlene Brajdi

Sunset Beach Water Tower

The Sunset Beach Water Tower has long been a recognizable landmark in Seal Beach. When threatened by demolition in 1979, the tower was purchased by George Armstrong and Robert Odell who created a spectacular private residence in a unique rehabilitation. The Seal Beach Historical Society will be sponsoring a rare tour of this home as a fund-raiser on Sunday, May 17, from 1-4 p.m. Reservations are necessary. Call (213) 431-7435. Proceeds from this event will go toward the Historical Society's high priority project, the relocation and renovation of a turn-of-the-century Seal Beach cottage for use as a children's museum. Barbara Rountree

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Historic Wedding Sites

In keeping with the spirit of Valentine's Day, we have compiled a list of some of the historic houses that are available for weddings. Any of these historic homes would make a beautiful backdrop for weddings, but one thing to remember when planning yours is that, being on parkland, most of the houses do not allow alcoholic beverages. Among the houses available are:

Ainsworth House: 414 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange. Ceremonies allowed in the house and grounds from 12-5. Limit: 50 people. Bring your own chairs and tables. Fees include \$50.00 and the salary of the attendant employee. Reservations should be made 2 months in advance. Phone 532-0338.

Bradford House: 136 W. Palm Circ., Placentia. Call ahead for reservations, fee \$30.00 an hour, with a minimum of 4 hours for an event. Phone: 993-2470.

Diego Sepulveda Adobe: Estancia Park, 1900 Adams Avenue, Costa Mesa. Grounds available, can accommodate any size party. Bring own chairs and tables. Fees include: \$25.00 to open a building, \$5.00 for park use permit, \$100.00 for refundable security deposit. Reservations should be made 90 days in advance. Phone: 754-5303.

Heritage House: The Arboretum, California State University, Fullerton. Porch, arbor, and grounds available for ceremonies, daily until 4:45. Chairs, tables and carpet available for rent. Electricity available. Fees include: \$50.00 to reserve the day, \$250.00 refundable security deposit, \$150.00 for wedding, \$150.00 for reception. Reserve well in advance. Phone: Marylin Bagnold 992-0957.

Muckenthaler House: 1201 W. Malvern Ave., Fullerton. Grounds available for ceremonies. Chairs for rent. No receptions, but can have a champagne toast and cake cutting. Can have up to 200 people. 6-4 Saturday and Sunday. Fees include: \$225.00 to use chairs and gardens, and \$100.00 refundable security deposit. Phone: 738-6595.

Serrano Adobe: Heritage Hill Park, 25151 Serrano Rd., El Toro. Grounds and porches of structures, available for ceremonies. No electricity available. Some seating available, or bring your own chairs, on the day of the event only. Must clean up the same day. Reserve by permit, at least two weeks in advance. Fees from \$25.00 to \$75.00 depending on number of people. Restricted when tours are in progress, at 11, 1 and 3 on weekends. Phone: Park clerk at 855-2028.

Talbert Real Estate Office: Los Alamos St., Fountain Valley. Gazebo and lawn available, with P.A. system, kitchen available after June '87. Champagne toast only. Lectern and knealers available. Fees include: Gazebo rent \$150.00, lectern and knealers \$25.00, 100 folding chairs at \$1.00 each, with a deposit of \$100.00, one month in advance. Phone: 962-5157.

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Jeanette Hoskinson