



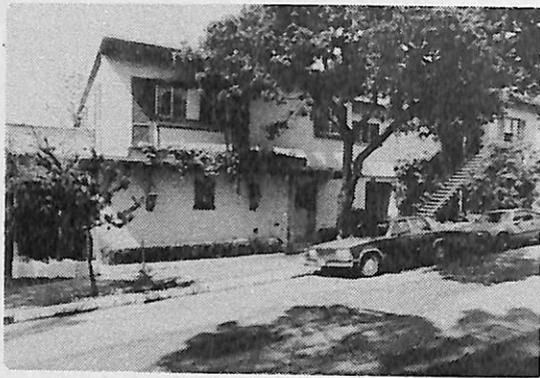
# HISTORIC INNS

## CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA



Architectural and Historic Survey  
of  
Carmel-by-the-Sea  
California  
April 1992

## TALLY HO



## West side Monte Verde at 6th

New York cartoonist Jimmy Hatlo ("They'll Do It Every Time," "Little Iodine") moved out to Los Angeles in 1944 at the suggestion of his friend George McManus ("Jiggs and Maggie," "Katzenjammer Kids"). During a 1945 trip to Carmel, Hatlo purchased the weekend cottage and tennis court which was then part of the Lobos Lodge complex.

Mr. and Mrs. Hatlo hired Hugh Comstock to remodel the cottage. Comstock was the Carmel builder known for his "fairy-tale" architecture inspired by the doll-

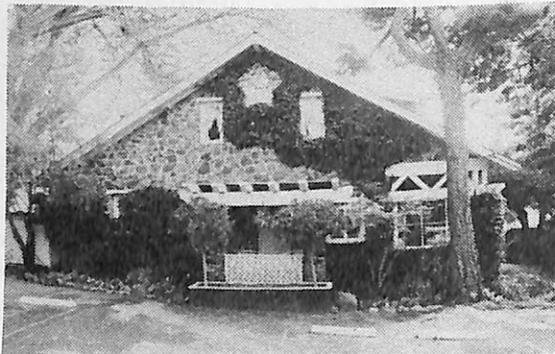
he built for the "Otsy-Totsy Dolls" created by his wife Mayotta.

Comstock added several rooms, a patio and deck, and personally carved the newel post at the foot of the stairway. The interior "bleached" walls and adobe-faced exterior were Comstock's trademarks. All the work was done in 1945 during World War II, and the Hatlos and Comstock were at their wit's end trying to find the necessary building supplies. Ergo, the name "Wit's End" was given to the completed Hatlo home. The home was sold in the 1950's, and converted to an inn. Mrs. Eleanor Lusignan, the former Mrs. Jimmy Hatlo, will be present on the day of the tour.

## STONEHOUSE South side 8th between Monte Verde & Casanova

Reminiscent of early New England tradition, this gable-roof 1906 home was built of indigenous rock by local Costanoan Indians for its original owner, Josephine Foster. This significant building has distinctive later Craftsman additions, including the heavy wooden porch trellis and corner window detail.

Josephine, called Nana, came from San Francisco, where her grandfather had built the original Cliff House.



Her artistic patronage caused her to be known as "Carmel's Resident Bohemian"; her prominent circle of friends and houseguests included Mary Austin, Jack London, Sinclair Lewis, George Sterling and Lotta Crabtree.

In 1923, cartoonist Gene Byrnes owned and resided here with his mother. His "Reg'lar Fellers" column was popular for nearly three decades. A.T. Hyde, grandson of the creator of Mentholatum, lived here from 1929 to 1946, selling the home for \$8000 to Miriam Brown, who ran it as a boarding house. Mrs. Hyde, with psychic Zara Cook, looked everywhere for the secret hiding place built into the fireplace by Nana Foster, but never found it.

## HAPPY LANDING East Side Monte Verde between 5th and 6th



The Leeb and Blaner families of San Jose built this stucco complex in 1926 at a cost of \$11,000, as a summer retreat for their personal use. Architect Hugh Comstock (see Tally Ho) was involved in the initial design, although the work was completed by other builders. The twin turrets of the Norman-style facade contrast with the simplicity of the two protected rear cottages, which have hand-painted floral interior details.

These rear cottages were for the private use of the families; the front cottage was the communal living/dining/kitchen area. In the 1930's Velma Craig acquired the complex as her personal residence. She turned it into an inn around 1944; the date is a bit unclear, as she rented out rooms according to her daily whim. She hired no maids or gardeners, and did most of the work herself. During her 70's, she built most of the rock walls and walkways.

## SUNDIAL

## East side Monte Verde between Ocean and 7th

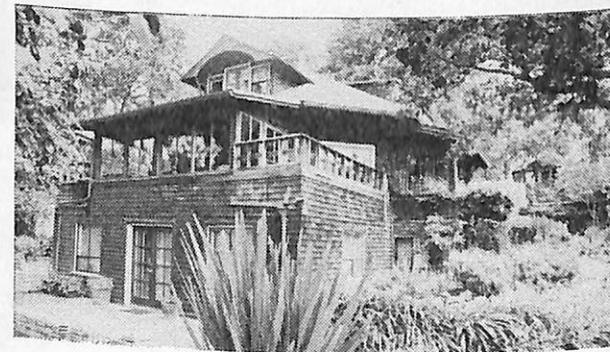


This handsome building was conceived by Allen Knight, shortly after a trip to Europe. He had been greatly influenced by the architecture of Prague, and asked Albert Farr to design a hotel accordingly. A 1929 Pine Cone article states that "the architecture is European, probably more Bohemian than of any other national type, and fits in well with Carmel's general scheme." M.J. Murphy, Carmel's first master builder, was in charge of construction. One European inn feature Knight particularly liked was large dressing rooms; in the Sundial, these could also be used as extra sleeping rooms.

The two street-level spaces were built for shops or offices. During World War II, the north space was used by local women knitting and sewing items for war relief. Local artist Henrietta Shore used this space as her painting studio in the 1940's, once giving the Knights a painting as her rent payment. In the early 1950's, Ernest Gann wrote *Soldier of Fortune* in one of the rooms, with his typist using the extra sleeping room.

Note: When the Sundial was to be built, the Knight home was on the lot. Allen Knight purchased three lots on Guadalupe, and made arrangements to have the house moved, which was not uncommon in early Carmel. The day before the move, the movers readied the house on the truck so they could get an early start up the hill to Guadalupe. That evening, Knight went out drinking with friends, came back late and went into a sound sleep. When the house began to move, he figured he was being shanghai'd, jumped out of bed, and ran to the door. Residents, standing on Ocean Avenue watching the house pass by, were treated to the sight of a terrified man jumping out of the front door!

## HOLIDAY HOUSE West side Camino Real between Ocean and 7th



A significant sector of Carmel's early visitors were professors from Stanford and the University of California, who had local builder M.J. Murphy construct summer homes along Carmelo and Camino Real, in the two blocks on both sides of Ocean Avenue. The eminent historian David Starr Jordan, president of Stanford, built his summer home on the northeast corner of 7th and Camino Real, since demolished.

Dr. Guido Marx, Professor of Mathematics and Engineering, built his home in 1905 on a double lot purchased at the going rate of \$200. "Carmel was in its unsophisticated days. There were no pavements and no 'shoppes.' Most of the early Carmelites were connected with Stanford or the University of California, or were artists or writers. There was complete simplicity and no affectation." (From the unpublished memoirs of Dr. Guido Marx, Stanford University Archives.)

A fine example of Carmel's early craftsman style, the home was remodeled by M.J. Murphy in 1937. (One significant change, the moving of the entry from the east to the south facade, was necessitated by the growth of a redwood tree -- probably planted by Dr. Marx -- which made the original doorway unusable.) Murphy's work caused him to be hired to build numerous year-round Palo Alto homes for professors.

Dr. Marx's daughter, Mrs. Barbara Marx Givens, recalls living in Carmel until 1919, when it was sold to the Leslie Doultons. In 1926, it became the Holiday Inn guest house, owned by Basilio Jesena. Berkeley sisters Isabel and Mary Smith took over in 1929, renaming it the Holiday House. Miss Edith K. Jameson, instructor of Salesmanship and Personnel Management at the University of Pittsburgh, purchased the inn in 1938. She designed the canvas carry-all bags which became a Holiday House trademark.

## COLONIAL TERRACE

San Antonio between 12th and 13th

The Colonial Revival style dominates this delightful complex. Most of the buildings were constructed between 1930 and 1940 by Ernest Bixler, respected early builder, for Ida Meyers Theurer. Several surrounding buildings were acquired over the years, and remade to blend visually with the predominant style. Legend says that Mrs. Theurer played an active role in the Roaring 20's/ Prohibition "high life" in San Francisco, and came to Carmel for a change of pace.

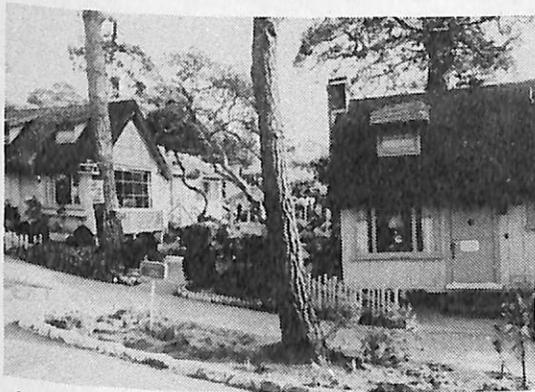


Rumor has it that one of the buildings was lost by Mrs. Theurer in a card game, and is now a private home. Mrs. Theurer ran the inn lovingly but with an iron hand, often refusing to take in guests she did not like. All the rooms had twin beds, as she did not approve of people "sleeping together."

The 1937 unusually-shingled structure housing the current office was built by a German carpenter following Mrs. Theurer's trip to Oberammergau, where she became entranced with German architecture and woodworking. The curved room was originally a restaurant, and is the one exception to the Colonial Revival style.

## LAMPLIGHTER

Southeast corner Ocean and Camino Real



These unusual cottages are said to have been built in 1916, although building permit records from that year have not survived. The "fairy-tale" designs, probably created by the owner, combined the mediaeval style with board-and-batten walls and simulated thatched roofs, and are full of architectural eccentricities.

Owner Maud Arndt believed she was the re-incarnation of Peter Pan; imitating him, she periodically tried to climb in through a window. She would usually get stuck

halfway, so her neighbor Anna Sheets would call the Fire Department to come and "unstick" her. Mrs. Arndt also believed that elves lived in the garden... and some say they live there still.

The inn is kept unchanged so that returning guests may preserve their memories from year to year. It boasts the longest continuous ownership of any Carmel inn.

## SANDPIPER

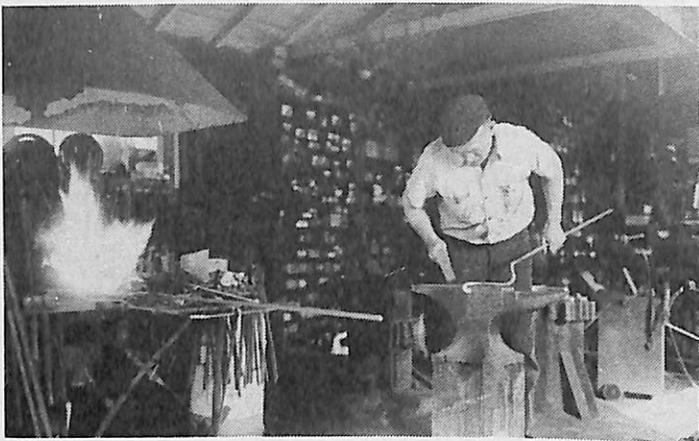
Bayview and Martin, Carmel Point



Built in 1929 by the thrifty housekeeper of the Pine Inn, as the "Holiday Inn," this inn changed its name in 1952 when the national chain bought the rights to the old name. The late 1920's modified Prairie Style building has bands of horizontal casement windows, a stucco finish, and a long, almost flat roofline.

Its many famous guests include Frank Lloyd Wright, heart surgeon Norman Shumway, Dr. Benjamin Spock, and Gerald Ford, for whom a king-size bed was specially installed.

## Francis Whitaker, The Forge In The Forest



photograph courtesy of Pat Hathaway

### THE FORGE IN THE FOREST AND THE GENERAL STORE Southwest corner of Junipero and Fifth

John Catlin, the blacksmith mayor of Carmel, was a famous San Francisco trial lawyer who decided to change careers (and towns) in his 50's. He built the original forge on Junipero and 6th, moving it to the current location in 1923. The Forge In The Forest was operated by Francis Whitaker from 1940 to 1963. A nationally-known craftsman, Whitaker created the ironwork on many older Carmel buildings, using the forge which remains an integral part of the interior today. Hugh Comstock (see Tally Ho) designed a simple update to the Forge in 1940 using rough-sawn beams in a classic rustic style. Following a period as an electrical company office, a custom woodworkers', and an artists' studio, the Forge was converted to a "dining saloon" in 1975.

The neighboring 1958 Bavarian-influenced building was originally a shop below and an apartment above. The shop was first a Culligan Water business, then a health food "General Store;" a restaurant and Western Union office were added in 1974.

In 1970, both buildings were endangered by City approval of a use permit for a Mobil gas station on this site, but fortunately the use permit was never implemented.

### The Survey

The research for this brochure was done by volunteers, as part of the comprehensive survey which is required by the Preservation Element of the Carmel-by-the-Sea General Plan. The survey is being accomplished by citizen volunteers who look at buildings, photograph them, and document them on the State Inventory of Historic Resources forms. Other volunteers research the City Hall property folders for original owners and builders; still others investigate historic events and significant people associated with each property. All interested and willing volunteers are welcome to join in our work.

This Survey will form the basis of an inventory of significant buildings which we hope to preserve as part of Carmel's historic, cultural, and architectural resources.

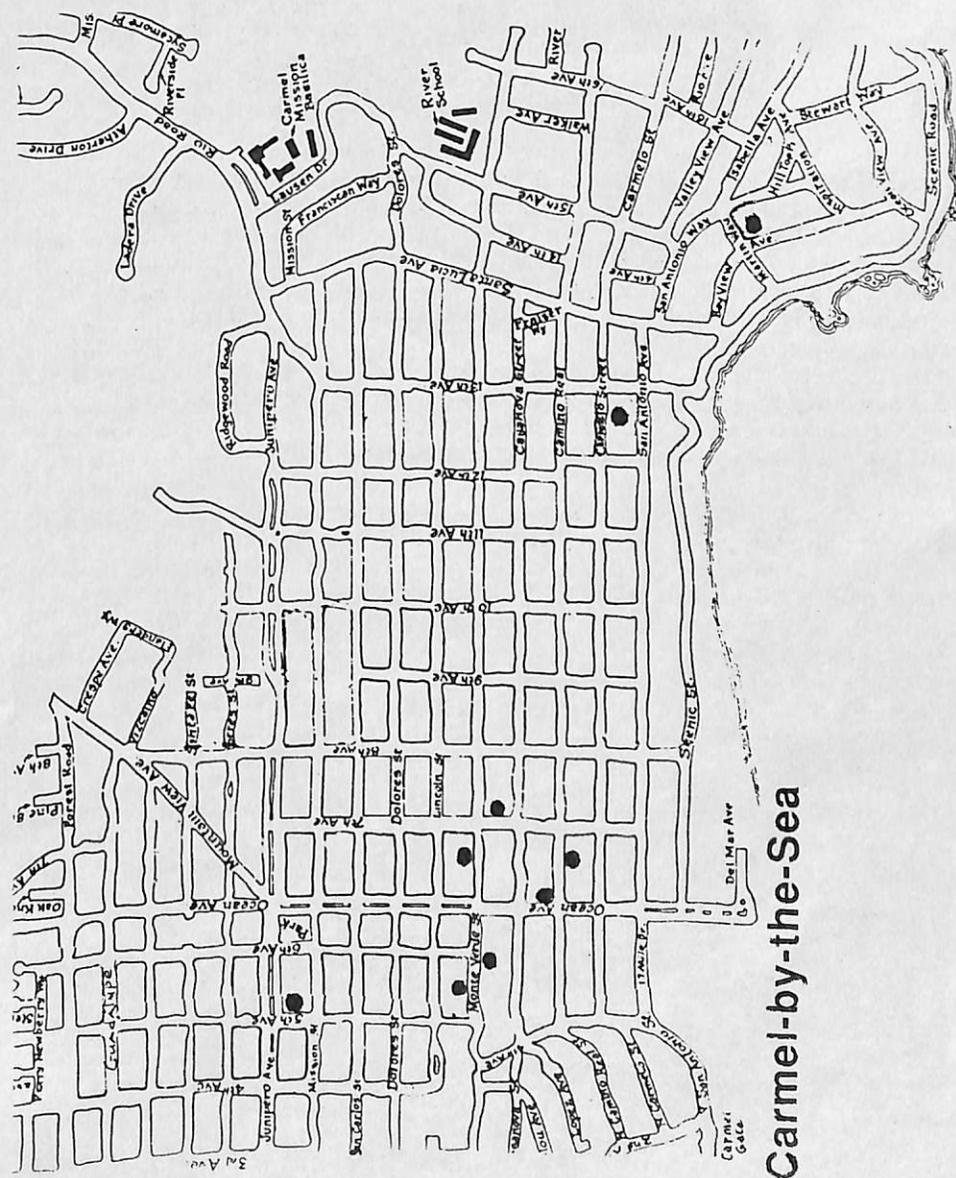
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## TOUR MAP



Courtesy of Carmel Valley Sun

Carmel-by-the-Sea

### Of Special Historic Interest...

#### Aimee Semple McPherson's Alleged "Vacation Cottage"

Aimee Semple McPherson was a radio evangelist of striking proportions and flaming red hair. Her loyal followers were shocked by her unexplained disappearance in 1926 during the height of her popularity. When she resurfaced, her tale of kidnapping and daring escape was not widely accepted by the public, and curious journalists discovered that she had apparently indulged in an illicit rendezvous with her sound engineer at a Carmel beach cottage. This revelation caused her public downfall, and also caused souvenir-hunters to take shingles from the cottage as mementoes. At the time, the cottage stood alone on that stretch of beach. As a result of the publicity, the "love-nest" was sold, and remodeled with white stucco in the 1930's.

The home is "White Sands" on the west side of Scenic south of Ocean Avenue. Now a private residence, it is not open to the public.