



JULY - AUGUST 2011

2011 walking tours Victorian Days

a publication for members of the San Mateo County Historical Association

Victorian Days

Local walking tours highlighting the history of San Mateo County will be held in July and August.

The tours are coordinated by the San Mateo County Historical Association and offered free of charge to members and their friends.

Tours start at the locations indicated.



PESCADERO: Pie Ranch – Saturday, July 2 from 2 – 4 pm

Located on two pie slice-shaped parcels of land on the San Mateo County coast, non-profit Pie Ranch brings people together to learn about the full cycle of food production, from planting to harvest, processing to distribution, and cooking to composting. Pie Ranch operations include a 13-acre property that was formerly part of the Isaac Steele Ranch, one of the earliest and largest dairy farms in the county. It contains historic buildings dating back to the 1860s, including a farmhouse that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Pie Ranch is located at 2080 Cabrillo Hwy.

PACIFICA – Sunday, July 17 at 7 pm

The Pacifica Historical Society will lead an evening tour that begins at the corner of Montecito and Beach Boulevard. During a tour of historic buildings of the central Sharp Park area, view the historic “castle,” walk past the Little Brown Church and stroll along the promenade. The tour will conclude at sunset with a view from the Pacifica Pier. Call 650.738.2332 for more information.

EL GRANADA – Sunday, July 24 at 1:30 pm

“Reaches the Beaches” was the advertising slogan of the old Ocean Shore Railroad. The tour starts at the old Ocean Shore Railroad Station (10151 Cabrillo Highway), and includes some of the arc shaped streets of El Granada. A short introduction to Daniel Burnham, the landscape architect, and his Burnham Plan Map will start the tour. The walk will pass a few older craftsman style homes, the former Granada Hotel, tree-lined boulevards and sweeping views of the ocean. Call 650.726.4416 or send an email to gaalerickson@gmail.com for directions and parking information.

SAN CARLOS – Saturday, July 30 at 1 pm

Tour historic locations in downtown San Carlos. Meet at City Hall Park, corner of San Carlos Avenue and Elm Street at 1 pm. Tour will end at the San Carlos Museum of History, where the museum will host a ceremony to bury the city’s time capsule, followed by a traditional bean supper (small fee) reminiscent of old-time fundraising for the original volunteer fire department.

COLMA: Cypress Lawn – Saturday, August 6 at 1:30 pm

Spend a fun Saturday afternoon at Cypress Lawn on a leisurely stroll visiting the permanent addresses of some of the important personalities that shaped San Mateo County as well as the entire state of California. Listen to their fascinating stories of success and wealth acquisition. Wear comfortable shoes for Cypress Lawn’s hilly terrain and dress for the unpredictable Colma weather. Tour starts at the Cypress Lawn’s Noble Chapel, 1370 El Camino Real (East Side – left past the archway).

REDWOOD CITY – Sunday, August 7 at 10:30 am

Redwood City’s Historic Resources Advisory Committee will conduct a tour of historic sites including the place where Wyatt Earp used to drink and where President Hoover once slept. The tour will begin at the Lathrop House, 627 Hamilton Street, and will last approximately 90 minutes.

COLMA – Saturday, August 13 from 11 am - 1 pm

Visit 4 Colma Museum buildings at 1500 Hillside Boulevard. Tour guides will conduct tours of 1863 train depot, blacksmith shop, freight shed (showing what was shipped in and out of Colma in the early years and the history of flower growers and monument companies). Also, the Colma History Museum will have a slide presentation at 11 am about the *Strange and Wondrous Town of Colma*. This program shows pictures and tells stories of some of our famous underground residents. Refreshments at 12:30 pm.

SAN MATEO – Saturday, August 13 at 2 pm

Dr. Al Acena will conduct a tour of the San Mateo’s historic downtown. Meet at 2nd Avenue and El Camino Real at the parking facility.

Victorian Days at the History Museum

REDWOOD CITY –
Sunday, August 21 from 11 am - 4 pm
Victorian Days at the History Museum

CRAFTS •

Come inside the rotunda where kids can enjoy Victorian-era crafts. Children can create their own Victorian hat, build a steamship, design their own stained “glass” and play with an optical toy called a *thaumatrope*.

HISTORICAL GROUPS •

include San Carlos Heritage Association, Colma Historical Association, Pacifica Historical Society, San Carlos Villagers, San Andreas Lake Chapter DAR, South San Francisco Historical Society Museum and historic Union Cemetery.

LIVE THEATRE PERFORMANCE •

Love & Marriage: Victorian Style is a play about the marriages of Victorian millionaires based on research conducted in the San Mateo County Historical Association’s archives. While the characters in the play are fictional, the couples they discuss lived on the Peninsula in the late 1800s. All reenactors in the play volunteer their time to bring historical characters to life.

All activities are free to the public.

LIVE

THEATRE PERFORMANCES AT 12:30 PM & 3:00 PM

Love & Marriage:

VICTORIAN STYLE

Love and Marriage: Victorian Style

explores courtship rituals, wedding traditions and the marriages of millionaires.

Set at a Peninsula Great Estate, the play starts with a prominent couple announcing their daughter’s engagement. Throughout the rest of the party, the guests gossip about other famous couples of the Peninsula. Of course, the point of view changes depending on who is talking.

While the ladies complain about how difficult it is to find a good man, the gentlemen bemoan another poor fellow being trapped into marriage.



San Mateo County
Historical Association

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Our Vision

To discover the past and imagine the future.

Our Mission

To enrich, excite and educate through understanding, preserving and interpreting the history of San Mateo County.

Accredited by the

American Association of Museums