A COOPERATIVE PROJECT OF THE SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS AND THE EDUCATORS' ROUNDTABLE, PUBLISHED MONTHLY TO PROMOTE LEARNING AMONG YOUNG READERS IN NATURAL SCIENCE, HISTORY, TECHNOLOGY, AND ART

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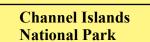
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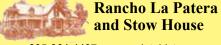
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This Month's Theme: Historic Homes In Santa Barbara County

Santa Barbara County is rich in its architectural (building) history. It has adobe structures from the Spanish and Mexican period of California's history, wooden Victorian buildings from the late 1800s, and more recent buildings that reflect building traditions from around the world. Here you can learn more about homes that reflect these different styles of building in Santa Barbara County.



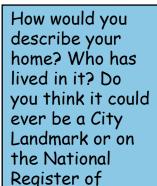
The Santa Barbara Mission

By Kristina Foss

Santa Barbara Mission

The Old Mission is the oldest stone home in Santa Barbara. Over 200 years ago, Franciscan priests lived there as church pastors. The Chumash of a neighboring village constructed the buildings you see today. The newer rooms of 1805 are made of stone, while the oldest walls of the 1790s are adobe or sun-dried mud bricks.

About 20 Franciscans and employees now live at the Mission. If you visit the Mission church and Museum you will come in the same entrance door as many important visitors of the past including President Teddy Roosevelt, Babe Ruth, and Queen Elizabeth. You will pass through thick stone walls and step onto the *ladrillos*. old clay tiles made by the Chumash for the sala or living room. Overhead are original roof beams. You may live or go to school in a building that copies the old styles of the Mission. Old buildings show how the work of people long ago can be used and enjoyed today.



Historic Places?

By Jim McNay

Rancho La Patera & Stow House

The Fernald Mansion

By Rebekah P. Beveridge Santa Barbara Historical Museum

The Stow House & Rancho La Patera

The Fernald Mansion, known as *The Palms*, was constructed by Charles Fernald, a lawyer, judge, and mayor of the city of Santa Barbara, as a gift to his bride in the early 1860s. It is a 14-room Queen Anne-style Victorian mansion. This style was very popular in the late 1800's. Do you think that this house was made with adobe like the Casa de la Guerra? If you say no, you are correct. It is made out of wood. At that time, there were very few trees in the area, so the wood had to be brought in from other places. Until Stearns Wharf was built in 1872, logs were thrown overboard into the ocean and, with luck, they floated to shore and were collected by the person who had ordered them. After the wharf was built, ships pulled up and lumber was unloaded for the rapidly growing city of Santa Barbara.

Today the Fernald Mansion is owned by the Santa Barbara Historical Museum. The house is currently closed, but this treasure of Santa Barbara's past will open soon again for tours.

The Casa de la Guerra Historic House Museum

By Karen Schultz Anderson

Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

The Casa de la Guerra was constructed by Jose de la Guerra; the fifth comandante of the Santa Barbara Presidio. This U-shaped building was home to his large family, and it was considered the most important social, political, and cultural center for the pueblo of Santa Barbara. Completed in 1828, the Casa de la Guerra was built from adobe, just like the Santa Barbara Presidio, the first permanent building in Santa Barbara. Adobe was used for this house and for all other construction at its time, because lumber was a hard item to obtain. The building has stone for the foundation, wood for doors, windows and interior ceilings, Spanish cane or giant reed (Arundo) on the porch ceilings, and clay tiles on the roof. This style has been copied all over Santa Barbara and can be seen in many historic and contemporary buildings.

This restored building, owned by the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation, is a City Landmark, a California Landmark, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is open to the public on the weekends.



Elverhøj Museum of History and Art

By Esther Jacobsen Bates

Elverhoj Museum of History & Art

805-686-5167

www.theoutdoorschool.org

The former home of one of Solvang's most artistic families is now the Elverhøj Museum of History and Art. This historic building was built by hand using local materials and Old World skills. Artist/builder Viggo Brandt-Erichsen designed his home to look like a Danish farmhouse of the late 1800's. Instead of drawing blueprints, he built a

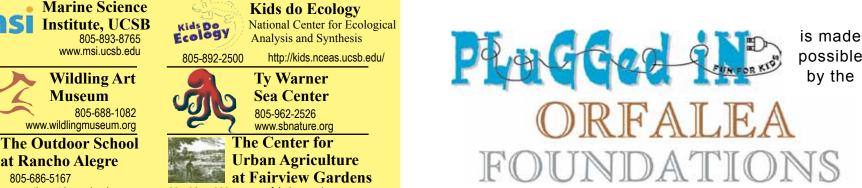
scale model to be used as a guide during the construction that took nearly three years (1949 to 1952). Long redwood beams were rough-cut and Viggo hand carved each with a knife before they were hoisted into place using ropes and the family car. Very few nails were used; instead Viggo used wooden pegs. Even the children helped, painting the beams with pine tar and cleaning the salvaged bricks used for the fireplace. The family was fascinated with the famous Danish folk play, Elverhøj, and named their home after the story of a king's dream. You can see the work of the talented family in the ornamental ironwork, carved main entry door, sculptures, and hand painted wall panels. The brick and timber design on the exterior of the Elverhøj Museum is bind*ingsvaerk*, a half-timber style of construction commonly found in Denmark. Solvang designated this building a City Architectural Treasure in 1987.



The Stow House, completed in 1873, offers a glimpse of life 100 years ago in the Goleta Valley. This building serves as a fine example of a Gothic Revivalstyle Victorian home. Like the Fernald Mansion, it is built mostly of wood. The Stow House is on the National Register of Historic Places.

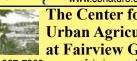
As visitors walk through this family home, occupied by the Stows and their descendents for four decades (40 years), they can imagine what it was like to live here. The Stow Family owned the surrounding Rancho La Patera. Edgar Stow, who lived here from 1915 to 1949, developed an international reputation for his research on lemon trees and helped begin the lemon industry for which Goleta is famous. During the Pioneer Days school program organized by the Goleta Valley Historical Society, third graders see the ranch yard and get hands-on experience with ranch work traditions of the past.







Kids do Ecology



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