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The Third Annual Escondido Adobe Home Tour
benefiting the Escondido History Center
featuring the personal family home of
Jack Weir, Weir Bros. Construction

Sunday, October 13, 2013, Noon to 4 PM
Tickets: \$25 in advance at the History Center or online at EscondidoHistory.org
\$30 on October 13 - for address call 760 743-8207

More information: 760 743-8207

The Escondido Adobe Home Tour returns for a third year with doors opened to four beautifully maintained models of the region's signature mid-century adobe design and construction, plus a stop at the historic Sikes Homestead. Two of the featured houses were constructed by the renowned Escondido-based Weir Brothers - including the personal home of Jack Weir - between 1955 and 1965. Just as the Greene & Greene Craftsman homes are quintessential to Pasadena, Larry and Jack Weir's design/builds of the 1940s, '50s and '60s define the exemplary San Diego mid-century adobe, and many of their finest were built in Escondido.

Although some area adobe homes were built of bricks crafted and sun baked right on the home site itself, many were built with the clay, sand, topsoil, asphalt and water bricks made by the Adobe Block Company, owned by developer L. R. Green and located originally on what is today Kit Carson Park.

Weir Brothers homes are identified by signature details - often imitated by later builders - that include circular walls (mostly attributed to Larry Weir), wagon wheel elements, heavy reclaimed timbers from train trestles and piers (original nails often visible), round windows with wrought iron filigree, and terrazzo and fiberglass materials in innovative applications. Earthy and rustic, the brothers also incorporated modern touches such as intercom systems and swimming pools. A third brother, Robert "Uncle Bob" Weir, was a hands-on partner in the business who continued to work on adobe home remodels and repairs well into the 1990s. Because many of the company's early blueprints no longer exist, much of the Weir Bros. history and inventory of homes must be compiled forensically, a passion project of several Escondido History Center volunteers.

More information about Jack and Larry Weir can be found at Modern San Diego:
<http://www.modernsandiego.com/WeirBrothers.html>.

Featured Escondido Adobe Homes for 2013

The Goldman House, with its whitewashed brick exterior, walled fountain and courtyard entry, is located in the Las Palmas neighborhood of adobe homes originally designated Longview Acres



Estate by developer Lawrence R. Green, who owned and subdivided the hilly acres. The house was built in 1955 for the Goldman family, who in 1965 employed the Weir Brothers to greatly expand the house. (The original structure may have been built by Charles H. Paxton for the original land developer, L.R. Green.) The current owners

have lovingly embraced the historic significance of their home, sensitively remodeling the kitchen and adding features such as beautifully landscaped outdoor living areas, an artful stone-and-brick outdoor fireplace and *horno* oven.

The Barend House, named for the original owner, George Barend, is also located in the Las Palmas neighborhood. Built in the Weir Brothers style in 1967 (site plans do not identify the builder), the home maintains a Spanish hacienda style in keeping with the original requirements of the neighborhood CC&Rs. However, the Barend House is actually a wood-framed construction with an adobe exterior veneer, with the theme and character carried indoors on an adobe fireplace wall. Through a bright turquoise gate and adobe-brick archway, visitors enter a colorfully landscaped entry courtyard. The back yard is an inspiring example of a conversion from lawn to a drought-tolerant landscape that, like many area homes, opens to a small organic citrus grove. The home features Weir Brothers' signature circular wrought iron details, and the heavy recycled timbers also common to their construction.



For those who enjoy walking, the Las Palmas neighborhood is a rich collection of one adobe home after another.



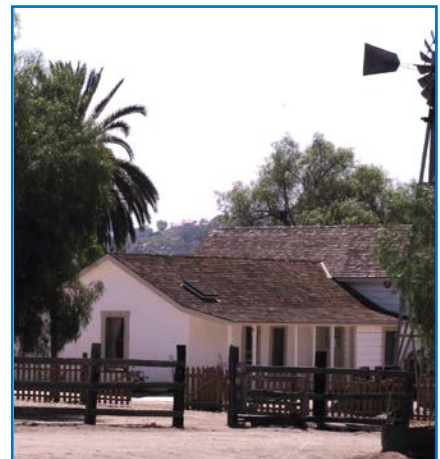
The Chambre House was constructed for Roy Chambre in 1980 by George Patterson, who also built and still lives in a similar adobe nearby. A beautiful Mexican hacienda-style style with many details in the Weir fashion, the home features heavy reclaimed timber beams, whimsical chimneys, wall niches, an outdoor kitchen and beautifully landscaped pool area in a courtyard with flagstone pavers. The new owners have extensively remodeled the kitchen in

keeping with the house's original flavor, yet many original details remain, including rustic hardware, an old iron wood stove tucked in a niche and multiple fireplaces. An inner courtyard features a pool, archways and exposed adobe brick.



The Jack Weir House was built in 1958 with an eye to raising his own six children; it is located near the first “mud” house he constructed and sold in the 1940s. Visitors will see signature details such as the circular-wall, multi-windowed dining room with the original heavy wood table, complete with its large lazy Susan. Visitors enter through an arched wall and wrought iron gate to an entry courtyard leading into the house with many original features, including the terrazzo-floored living room, hand-wrought iron and glass lighting fixtures, huge reclaimed trestle beams and even a wine cellar – a nod to the property’s vineyard origins. The current owners, well aware of the historical significance of their home are restoring it with mindful care.

Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead, located across from the Westfield Mall, is open for free every Sunday from 10 AM to 4 PM. Built in 1870, the Sikes family was one of the first American settlers to farm the subdivided Rancho San Bernardo. The Sikes Farmstead is listed in the program as a “might wish to see” part of the tour.



For 57 years, the mission of the **Escondido History Center** has been to collect, preserve, exhibit and interpret the history of the community. The Center is located in, and the steward of, Grape Day Park, in the heart of Escondido.

www.escondidohistory.org

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