An aerial photograph of a park area. In the upper left, a large building with a series of arches is visible. Below it, a road with several cars leads towards a large, open field. The foreground is dominated by dense, lush vegetation, including numerous palm trees and other tropical-looking plants. The overall scene is a mix of urban architecture and natural parkland.

**PRESIDIO PARK**  
AND THE  
**SERRA MUSEUM**







HISTORICAL COLLECTION, TITLE INSURANCE CO.,  
UNION TITLE OFFICE

## A BARREN HILLTOP BECOMES A PARK

*By George A. La Pointe*  
Editor, *California Garden*

Presidio Park, where California began, is one of San Diego's choice possessions today because of the foresight and generosity of the late George W. Marston. There he built the Junipero Serra Museum, and planted the barren hill around it with trees and shrubs. The picture at the top of the page shows the museum shortly before its completion in 1929. Today, many years later, the Museum seems even more at home on its hilltop, and the park of 38-odd acres is a wonderland of grassy slopes, brush-covered hillsides, and trees and shrubs of uncommon interest.

The idea that ownership of this historic site should rest in public hands originated with three men, Mr. Marston, G. Aubrey Davidson, and Col. David C. Collier. It was Mr. Marston's persistent effort over a period of years, however, which finally resolved the tangles of ownership and made possible the conversion of a pasture for Old Town goats into the present historical and horticultural monument.

After Mr. Marston, the credit for Presidio Park goes to landscape architect John Nolen, architect Templeton Johnson, decorator Ross H. Thiele, who journeyed to Spain to collect furnishings for the Museum, to the San Diego Historical Society, which developed and maintains the Museum, to landscape architect Roland S. Hoyt, who



carried out the planting of the grounds from 1928 to 1933, and to the City Parks and Recreation Department.

Inevitably, the location of the Museum was dictated by the terrain. In 1927, Hale J. Walker, John Nolen's assistant, and Kenneth Gardner, San Diego City Planner, sat on a stone near the present location of the University of San Diego, and, looking southward across Mission Valley, sketched a simple, domed building on the commanding promontory. This was to become the Serra Museum.

Roads and paths were laid out with the same respect for terrain, and with a strong sense of history. Fort Stockton remains in a nearly natural state; the re-built wall at Mission Valley rim defines the original limits of the old Spanish settlement. A polygonal bastion, which history showed as a feature of the fortifications, was built near the Serra Cross, which stands on the site of the original Presidio.

The President of the American Society of Landscape Architects once called Roland Hoyt to congratulate him on the Park, exclaiming that the planting was so natural, so free, that one had the feeling that it hadn't been planned. Mr. Hoyt explained that the impression was correct: the actual planting had been designed on the ground. The only landscape plan in existence is a record of planting, drawn after the fact.

Mr. Hoyt's extensive knowledge of plant materials and profound sense of appropriate planting for this region led him to use a combination of native and exotic plants. The natives are less prominent today, since the Park is now dominated by large trees. But go back thirty years . . .

*Near the upper entrance, the area known as The Bowl, originally a reservoir, was designated for development as an outdoor theater, and the belt planting of pines was laid out with that idea in mind. The open bowl, today a beautiful sweep of lawn and one of the most popular picnic spots in town, was filled with California poppies studded with masses of blue lupine. The steep hillside to the east of the Eucalyptus Grove was covered with some forty Fremontias, which thrived on the arid slope. A count of blooms on those forty bushes was abandoned when it reached 2000. Mr. Marston was particularly proud of them, and the gardeners had strict instructions not to water them without specific instructions. As anyone who has worked with natives will understand, the gardeners, unfamiliar with the desiccated look of such plants during their dormant season, thought they were dying from lack of water. They took turns going back at night to give the Fremontias an extra ration, and delivered their death blow.*

As the site of both the first mission and the first white settlement in California, Presidio Park has religious and historical significance. Perhaps too little recognized, beyond its obvious beauty, is the Park's horticultural importance. In the following article by Chauncy Jera-bek, *California Garden*—and the *San Diego Historical Society Quarterly*—have attempted to fill that gap.





"Even more at home on its hilltop . . . a wonderland of grassy slopes . . . trees . . . shrubs . . ." the museum now contrasts sharply with its bleak exterior as shown on the preceding page.

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## A PLANT TOUR OF PRESIDIO PARK

By *Chauncy I. Jerabek*  
*The San Diego Tree Man*

Editor's note: The frequency with which members of the Junípero Serra Museum staff are asked by visitors to identify the various trees and shrubs in Presidio Park is a clear indication of the intelligent interest of the public in this beauty spot.

In the summer of 1961 *California Garden*, the San Diego Floral Association's popular magazine, featured an article on Presidio Park, with full identification of its plantings. So popular was the article that the printing was soon exhausted. Now, through the generosity of the Floral Association and the staff of *California Garden*, we have been enabled to reprint, as a special issue of the *Quarterly*, this valuable guide to the park in which our museum is located. We extend our heartfelt thanks to those who have made this possible.

Numbers in parentheses refer to the map which is printed as the center spread of this article.

The plant life of Presidio Park is as interesting in its way, and as rich in history, as the Serra Museum and its contents. I hope that this article will attract the attention not only of adults but of the many boys and girls who visit the Museum. As they cavort and picnic on the grassy slopes and relive history on the walls and ramparts of these acres where California began, may they learn to recognize the scope and beauty of the plant collection in the Park. If those who read this article will pass the information on to friends and neighbors, and to visitors to San Diego, then, like a pebble cast into a pool of water, the circles will grow larger and larger until this beautiful



Park is known from coast to coast and throughout the world. That is my hope as I write.

Park your car below the Museum, and with this article as your guide, follow a route roughly clockwise, beginning at the center walk. The low shrubs on each side of the steps are (1) *Raphiolepis umbellata* var. *ovata*, known as Yeddo Hawthorn. These members of the Rose family are native to Japan. Rounded in form with thick, leathery olive-green foliage, they are covered in spring with pinkish-white flowers, followed by small purple berries.

Now, go up the walk toward the Museum. To the left at the foot of the stairs is a (2) *Chamaerops humilis*, the Hair Palm, a Mediterranean native, and the only palm native to Europe. Although this particular specimen has been trained to a single trunk, this palm is most often seen with numerous offshoots, as you will notice later in the tour.

On the right of the stairs is (3) *Heteromeles arbutifolia*, the Toyon or Christmas Berry, native to California and Baja California. Another member of the Rose family, Toyon has dark leathery leaves with sawtooth edges. Flowers are white, borne in dense terminal panicles, and are followed by bright red berries.

The small tree beyond is (4) *Olea europaea*, the wild or common olive from the warm, temperate regions of the Old World. This member of the family Olaceae is a bushy shrub or small tree with distinctive, dull green foliage, inconspicuous flowers and small fruit.

At the top of the stairs, turn left to the northern parapet. Here is a fine view that commands a sweep to the north and west and reminds one of the military significance of the terrain. Directly below, you will see (5) *Rhus integrifolia*, a Southern and Baja California native which belongs to the Cashew family. The gray-green conifers nearby are (6) *Pinus torreyana*, the famous Torrey Pine of Santa Rosa Island, Torrey Pines Park and the southern portion of Del Mar.

At the northeast corner of the parapet is (7) *Pinus canariensis* or Canary Island Pine. These pines are narrow and symmetrical, with foliage growing in dense tufts at the ends of the branchlets. You will notice many more of them throughout the Park.

On the east side of the Museum, the small, spreading tree with slender, graceful branches is (8) *Parkinsonia aculeata*. Known as Jerusalem Thorn, this member of the Leguminosae or Pea family is native from Texas and Arizona south to Argentina. In early summer it produces clouds of bright yellow blossoms followed by pea-like pods. The narrow, pyramidal trees nearby, with bluish foliage and flaking bark revealing smooth, red-brown patches, are (9) *Cupressus arizonica*, the Arizona cypress. They are natives of the mountains of central and southern Arizona.

Looking east across the canyon, you will see more olive trees (4). On the hillside and along the canyon bottom are numerous (10) *Phoenix canariensis*, Canary Island Palms, with massive trunks and gracefully arching pinnate leaves. These palms produce large bunches of creamy-white flowers followed by small orange fruit with large pits. Interspersed among them are (11) *Washingtonia robusta* palms (also called *W. gracilis* and *W. sonorae*) from Baja California.





This group (81) of *Acacia Pendula*, across Presidio Drive from the Serra Museum, is one of the most picturesque plantings in the park. The narrow leaves are light gray.

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Beside the terrace at the south end of the Museum, you will recognize the sprawling shrubs as (12) *Pyracantha*, another member of the Rose family. Down the slope from the terrace, a single (13) *Phoenix reclinata* is planted in the lawn; others near the foot of the stairs. This is the Senegal Date Palm, native of tropical Africa south to Natal. The dark green arching fronds of this palm make it a popular subject for landscape use. In its native habitat it grows with multiple trunks, but is often seen under cultivation as a single trunk tree. The small edible fruits, date-like in flavor, are orange-brown when ripe.

On each side of the walk are two (14) *Cordyline australis*, known as Cabbage Tree or Lily Palm. These natives of New Zealand, Australia, and the islands of the Pacific are among the largest plants of the Liliaceae, or Lily family. Narrow trunked trees with single stems — or at times, many-branched above the eight foot level — these plants have rough, furrowed bark and narrow green leaves. To the left of the two cordylines is (15) *Arbutus unedo*, the Strawberry Tree, from Southern Europe and the Levant. This member of the Ericaceae, or Heath family, has thick, dark green, leathery leaves and tiny, white, bell-shaped flowers. The strawberry-like fruit is edible and highly decorative.

As you climb the stairs at the end of the terrace, notice the two (16) *Eucalyptus citriodora* near the end of the building. Called the lemon-scented gum, it comes from the northern and central coasts of Queensland.

Take the path to the left. The low shrubs bordering the path,



with numerous long, thin branches are (17) *Plumbago capensis*, of the family Plumbaginaceae from South Africa. Of very dense growth, they are covered through most of the year with phlox-like, baby blue flowers, having short calyxes with sticky hairs. To the right on the knoll are twenty or more Canary Island Pines (7).

Below the walk are a number of young Torrey Pines (16). From the lookout you will see several (18) *Hakea suaveolens*. Known as Pin cushion or Needle Bush, *Hakea* belongs to the Proteaceae and is native to Australia. It is a dense shrub with prickly, needle-like, compound leaves, and fluffy white flowers.

Taking the upper path, you enter the eucalyptus grove where you see first (19) *Eucalyptus robusta*, the swamp gum. These trees have large foliage, dark green and glossy, and rough, dark brown, persistent bark. To the left is a group of another eucalyptus which may possibly be *E. angustifolia*. The slender tree with weeping branches and gray, furrowed bark is (20) *E. creba*, or Narrowleaf Ironbark. Here also are a number of (21) *E. cladocalyx*, the Sugar Gum. It usually has a straight trunk, leaves dark green above and dull beneath, and flaking bark on the older trees. The tall tree with brownish-red bark, blue-green leaves and a profusion of light pink flowers is (22) *E. sideroxylon*, Ironbark. One of the largest trees in this group is (23) *E. punctata*, Leather-jacket. It has narrow, sickle-shaped leaves and smooth, dark bark which comes off in flakes. Another large tree is (24) *E. rostrata*, River Red Gum, with handsome narrow leaves and generally smooth, gray, deciduous bark. The spreading, generally lower-growing trees are (25) *E. lehmanni*, the Bushy Yate. It can be recognized either by the handsome bunches of yellow-green flowers or the clusters of hard-wooded seed cases.

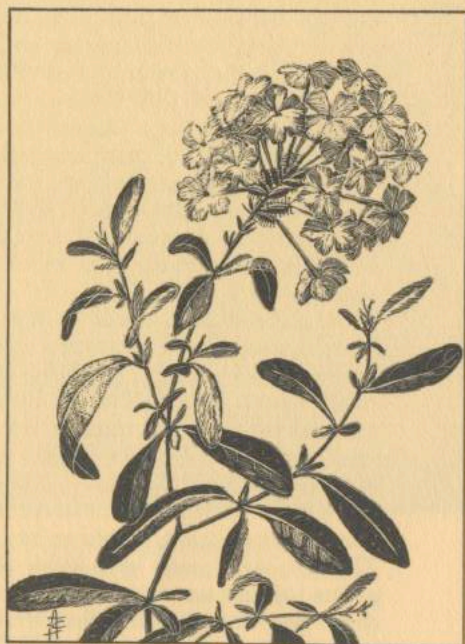
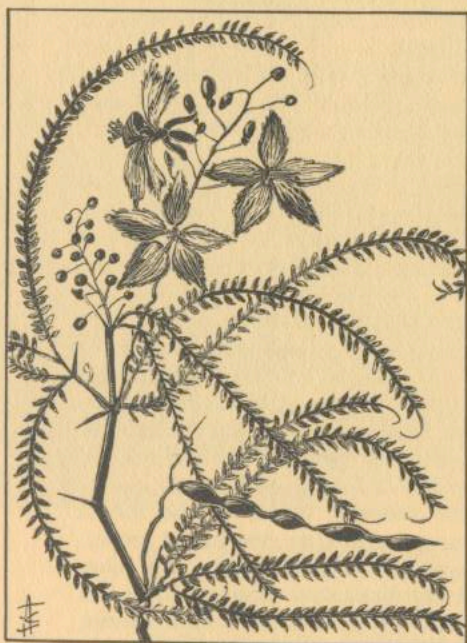
At the southwest edge of the eucalyptus grove are several (26) *Ceratonia siliqua*, Carob or St. Johnsbread trees. Belonging to the Pea family and native to the Eastern Mediterranean, they have compound, dark green foliage, inconspicuous flowers, and fruit pods 4-10" or more long.

As you return to the main road under the tunnel of *E. lehmanni* and turn slightly left, (27) *Pittosporum crassifolium*, or Karo, will be on your left. These large shrubs or small trees, members of the Pittosporaceae, have gray foliage and chocolate-colored flowers. In this same section are several (28) *Acacia podalyriaefolia*, the Pearl Acacia, from Queensland. The rich, pearl-gray foliage is set off with fluffy balls of yellow flowers from late fall into mid-winter. Grayish, flat seed pods persist through the summer months.

On your right, between the path and the road, is a planting of another pittosporum, (29) *Pittosporum tobira*. This bushy shrub, with dark green, leathery leaves, and dense, terminal clusters of creamy-white flowers, is a native of Japan.

As you turn left and move eastward across the lawn, you will notice several (30) *Libocedrus decurrens*, the California Incense Cedar. These trees of the cypress family are native to the mountains of southern Oregon, California, and the northern portion of Baja California. They grow symmetrically, with flattened fans of deep green, aromatic foliage, and cinnamon-brown bark.





These detail drawings, both by the late Alfred C. Hottes, show, left, yellow, star-like flowers (8) *Parkinsonia aculeata*, Jerusalem thorn tree; right, blue, phlox-like flowers of (17) *Plumbago capensis*.

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Along the wide, road-like path (to your left as you follow the marked route) is (31) *Acacia melanoxyton*, the Black Acacia. This is a large, vigorous tree which is sometimes called the tree without leaves; what seem to be leaves are actually phyllodes, or leaf-like extensions of the stems. True leaves are seen only in a young state. These Australian natives are valuable for timber. Incidentally, Mr. Hoyt recalls that this path was originally a road to provide access to the only property owner who was unwilling to sell his land.

Across the wide path from the Black Acacia is (32) *Quercus agrifolia*, Hollyleaf or Coast Live Oak. This native of San Diego County and northern Baja California belongs to the family Fagaceae. A spreading, round-topped tree, it has gray bark, and rich, deep green foliage. There are two small Cork Oaks to the right of the group of Live Oaks.

In the lawn, a group of four (33) *Pinus sabiniana*, Digger Pine, lies roughly at right angles to the route. This pine comes from the dry foothill country of Northern and Central California. Unlike other pines, it tends to develop multiple trunks. Sparse, gray needles, and numerous cones with edible seeds are other recognizable characteristics.



To the left, beyond another clump of *E. lehmanni* (25) is the rare (34) *Acacia aneura*, or Mulga. It has glaucous-gray, narrow foliage, yellow flowers, and numerous flat seeds pods. To my knowledge, this is the only tree of its kind in San Diego.

Along the rim of the canyon, near the picnic tables under oaks, are a number of (35) *Spiraea vanhouttei*, Bridal Wreath, a member of the Rose family. This spiraea is a hybrid which bears graceful, arching branches of pure white flowers in spring.

On your left as you continue clockwise is a group of (36) *Schinus terebinthifolia*, Brazilian Pepper, of the Anacardiaceae or Cashew family. These popular evergreen trees, which generally grow fuller in the home garden, have aromatic foliage and clusters of small red berries.

At the edge of the lawn is a large (37) *Taxodium distichum* var. *mucronatum*, the Montezuma Bald Cypress of Mexico. Pyramidal in shape, with drooping branches and airy foliage, this tree bears small cones which resemble those of the Coast Redwood. Other members of the Taxodiaceae family, the two famous California Redwoods, rarely seen in the San Diego area, are on the hillside behind the Montezuma Bald Cypress. (38) *Sequoiadendron gigantea*, the Sierra Redwood or Big Tree, native to the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada mountains, is said to be the largest growing tree in the world. The two specimens here show the typical straight trunks, and blue-green foliage arranged in spirals on the branches. Scattered beyond these two are several Coast Redwoods, (39) *Sequoia sempervirens*, indigenous to a stretch of coast from southwestern Oregon to Monterey County in California. It is a symmetrical tree with dark green, fern-like foliage on graceful, pendulous branches and reddish, thick bark.

Side by side, and in line with the Montezuma Bald Cypress, are two noteworthy Cedars. The first is (40) *Cedrus deodara* var. *robusta*, of the Pine family, native to northern India and Afghanistan. It is a graceful tree with a pyramidal shape and a nodding leading-shoot. Bluish-green needles cover the branches. The cones, which resemble fir cones, always disintegrate on the trees and fall in sections.

The other cedar is (41) *Cedrus libani* (*libanotica*), the famous Cedar of Lebanon, from Asia Minor and the Lebanon mountains of Syria and Palestine. This is a picturesque tree with horizontal branches, an erect leading-shoot, and dark green needles about an inch long. The barrel-shaped cones, erect on the branches, take two years to reach maturity.

To the right, as you follow the route westward, are two (42) *Bauhinia variegata* var. *candida*, White Orchid or Butterfly Tree. Members of the Pea family, they are natives of India. These medium-sized trees can be recognized by their deeply-notched leaves, and, in early spring, by the glistening white, orchid-like flowers, and the long, narrow seed pods which follow.

Crowding the bauhinias are two (43) *Pinus coulteri*, the Big Cone Pine, found in the mountains of Southern California. This pine bears the largest and heaviest cone of all the pines; each scale is tipped with a claw-like spur. It is a tree of medium size, with long, stiff-needles of a pale glaucous green.





In the center of the left photo is (37) *Taxodium distichum*, or Montezuma Bald Cypress; behind are two varieties of Redwoods, with a Deodar Cedar (40) to the left. The other photo shows a young specimen of (28) *Acacia podalyriifolia* or Pearl Acacia, silhouetted against dark green *Eucalyptus lehmanni* (25).

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Near the end of this path are several (44) *Ceanothus arboreus*, the Island or Tree Lilac. This native of the coastal islands of Southern California belongs to the Rhamnaceae, or Buckthorn family. It is a small tree with broad, dull green ovate leaves. Trusses of light blue flowers cover it in spring. To the left, among the shrubbery on the slope, is (45) *C. cyaneus*, Lakeside Lilac, a native of San Diego County. A shrub of space growth, with glossy green foliage and immense spikes of deep blue flowers, it is one of the loveliest of blue-flowering plants.

Bordering the lawn are (46) *Hebe imperialis*, Veronica, of the Figwort family from New Zealand. Thick, rounded leaves, and spikes of deep, wine-red flowers make a fine low hedge. Directly behind, is a taller Veronica, (47) *H. carnea*, with narrower leaves and rosy-pink blooms.

Among the mixed shrubbery in the rear are several (48) *Echium fastuosum*, Pride-of-Madeira, a member of the Borage family, native of Europe and the Canary Islands. They are low-growing shrubs with hairy, gray foliage, which bear spectacular blue or purple flower spikes in late spring.

Here also is (49) *Calliandra inaequilatera*, Pink Powder Puff, another member of the Pea family, from Trinidad. It is a graceful, spreading shrub, with bipinnate leaves and balls of watermelon-pink flowers composed of numerous long, protruding stamens. Higher up is (50) *Leptospermum laevigatum*, the Tea Tree, of the Myrtle family



from Australia. It is a large shrub with fine, gray-green foliage and, in spring, masses of small white flowers. Also on this bank are four (51) *Hymenosporum flavum*, the Sweetshade, from Queensland and New South Wales. A slender, medium-sized tree of the Pittosporum family, it has dark green foliage and sweet-scented, yellow flowers.

Near the end of this crescent-shaped planting is a group of (52) *Thevetia nereifolia*, widely known as Yellow Oleander, but also bearing the names Lucky Nut and Exile Tree. It belongs to the Dogbane family, and comes from South America and the West Indies. A clambering shrub with thick, fleshy, narrow leaves, and showy yellow flowers, it bears large seeds which are often carried as talismans.

The large pines across the drive are (53) *Pinus radiata*, the Monterey Pine from northern California. These spreading trees with rich green needles, usually in bunches of threes, bear long-lasting cones.

Farther west along Cosoy Way, the many broad-headed trees with airy foliage are (54) *Schinus molle*, known as the California Pepper Tree, although it is a native of South America. The female trees produce an abundance of coral-red berries.

On the pergola at the intersection of Cosoy Way and Presidio Drive, the vigorous vine with the sturdy foilage is (55) *Phaedranthus buccinatorius*, Blood Trumpet Vine, one of the bignonias from Mexico. It produces large scarlet trumpet-shaped flowers with yellow tubes.

As you walk the length of the pergola, notice overhead the (56) *Wisteria*, two old-fashioned roses, (57) *Belle of Portugal* and (58) *Cecile Brunner*, and the handsome foliage of (59) *Cissus capensis*, an ornamental grape from South Africa. Planted at the left-hand corner of the small building at the end of the pergola is (60) *Bougainvillea* 'Barbara Karst,' of the Four-O'Clock family, noted for its showy bracts of bright crimson. To the left of the building is (61) *Duranta repens*, Golden Dewdrop or Skyflower. This large, arching shrub belongs to the Verbena family, and comes from the West Indies and Mexico. It bears attractive racemes of deep blue flowers and golden berries, often present at the same time.

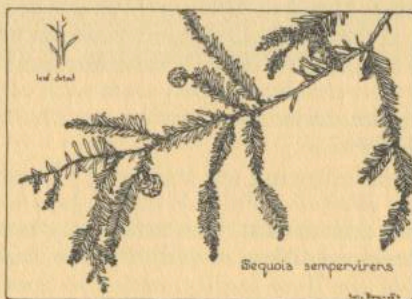
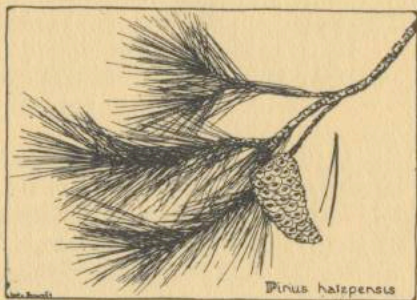
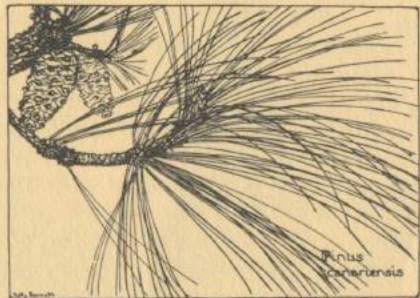
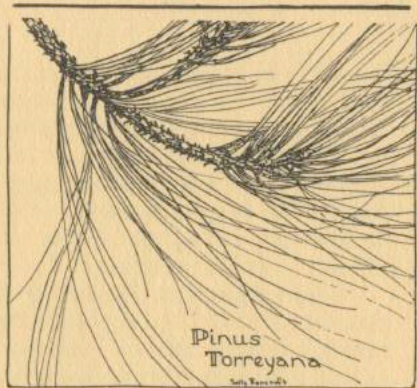
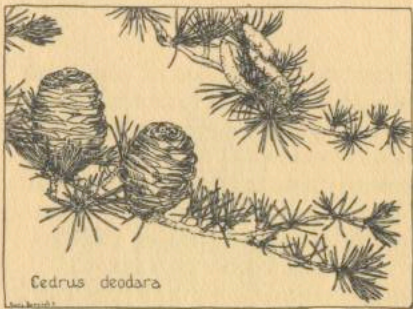
As you turn to the right along the lawn, you will notice a magnificent large pine near the right-hand edge of Presidio Drive. This is (62) *Pinus halepensis*, the Aleppo Pine. Its range is the Mediterranean from Portugal to Palestine. No temple of ancient Greece was considered complete without an Aleppo Pine beside it. The gray-green needles appear in tufts at the ends of the branches.

Across the drive, the large mound is covered with dark, low, round-headed (63) *Pinus pinea*, commonly called Stone, Parasol, Umbrella, or Mop-head Pine. It is native to southern Europe and Asia Minor. Turn half-left under these trees and follow the route southwest to the edge of the bank. Here is a massive tree with pale green, pendulous foliage, and bark hanging from its trunk. It is (64) *Eucalyptus viminalis*, the White, Manna, or Ribbon Gum.

Turning right and following the bank, you will come to a somewhat stunted-looking tree with attractive, fern-like leaves and reddish bark. This rare and tender tree is (65) *Lyonothamnus floribundus*

(Continued on Page 12)





Foliage details from Presidio Park, drawn by Sally Bancroft.

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*bundus* var. *aplenifolius*, Catalina Ironwood, a member of the Rose family, and a native of the Southern California coastal islands. Large flat-topped clusters of tiny white blossoms appear in summer.

Farther along the path is (66) *Eucalyptus rudis*, Flooded Gum, a medium-sized tree of drooping habit with thin, rounded, gray-green leaves. The huge tree nearby is (67) *E. globulus*, Blue or Fever Gum. It has large blue-green leaves and smooth bark, peeling in ribbons. White flowers are followed by large, flat-topped seed capsules.

Turn right and clamber up the steep bank to the flagpole as best you can. Along the original trenches of old Fort Stockton, you will notice a number of (68) *Aloe arborescens*, a handsome shrubby succulent with many branches. It belongs to the Lily family, and comes from South Africa.

At the front of the old cannon, with its commanding view of the approaches to San Diego Bay, is (69) an *Aloe ciliaris*, Lily family from the Cape of Good Hope, a scrambling, succulent vine with orange-red, fire-cracker-like flowers. (If planted in good soil near the sea, the stems will grow to 20' long.)

Beyond the granite monument, follow a path between the large eucalyptus and the olive onto the lawn. Near the pathway leading to the stone steps are several (70) *Rosmarinus officinalis*, Rosemary, of the Mint family from the Mediterranean region. These are small shrubs about three feet in height, with aromatic foliage and pale blue flowers.

About ten feet to the rear toward Presidio Drive are two (71) *Osteomeles anthyllidifolia*, sometimes called Uhi-Uhi, of the Rose family from the South Pacific and Hawaii. Delicate evergreen shrubs, with many pairs of dainty gray-green leaves, they bear tiny five-petal, white flowers, followed by small, globose, bluish-black fruit looking like miniature rose hips.

At the right hand side of the large concrete settee are a number of myrtus, and a group of conifers. The low, spreading conifers are (72) *Juniperus chinensis* var. *pfitzeriana*, of the cypress family, from eastern Asia. The large, globular one is (73) *Thuja orientalis* var. *Rosedalis*, a sport of the oriental arborvitae having a juvenile-type foliage.

Down the grassy slope to the north is a beautiful *Eucalyptus citriodora* (16), and two (74) *Lagunaria patersoni*, the Primrose or Cow Itch Tree, of the Mallow family from the South Pacific Islands and Australia. They are slender, shapely trees with olive-green foliage and small, hibiscus-like, lavender-pink flowers. The leaves cause itching on contact with the skin.

Turning left and following the trail, you will notice four shrubs of (75) *Osmanthus ilicifolia*, False Holly, a Japanese native of the Olive family. *Osmanthus* differs from true holly in having opposite instead of alternate leaves. Next is (76) *Prunus ilicifolia*, Hollyleaf Cherry, a member of the Rose family, native to Southern California. It has rich, deep green, holly-like foliage, sprays of white flowers, and edible fruit in abundance.

Continuing down the slope along the edge of the lawn, you will see a large planting of (77) *Melaleuca armillaris*, Bracelet Bottle





Along Cosoy Way, at the easterly edge of The Bowl. Framed by the trees can be seen, across Mission Valley, the sundrenched buildings of San Diego University.

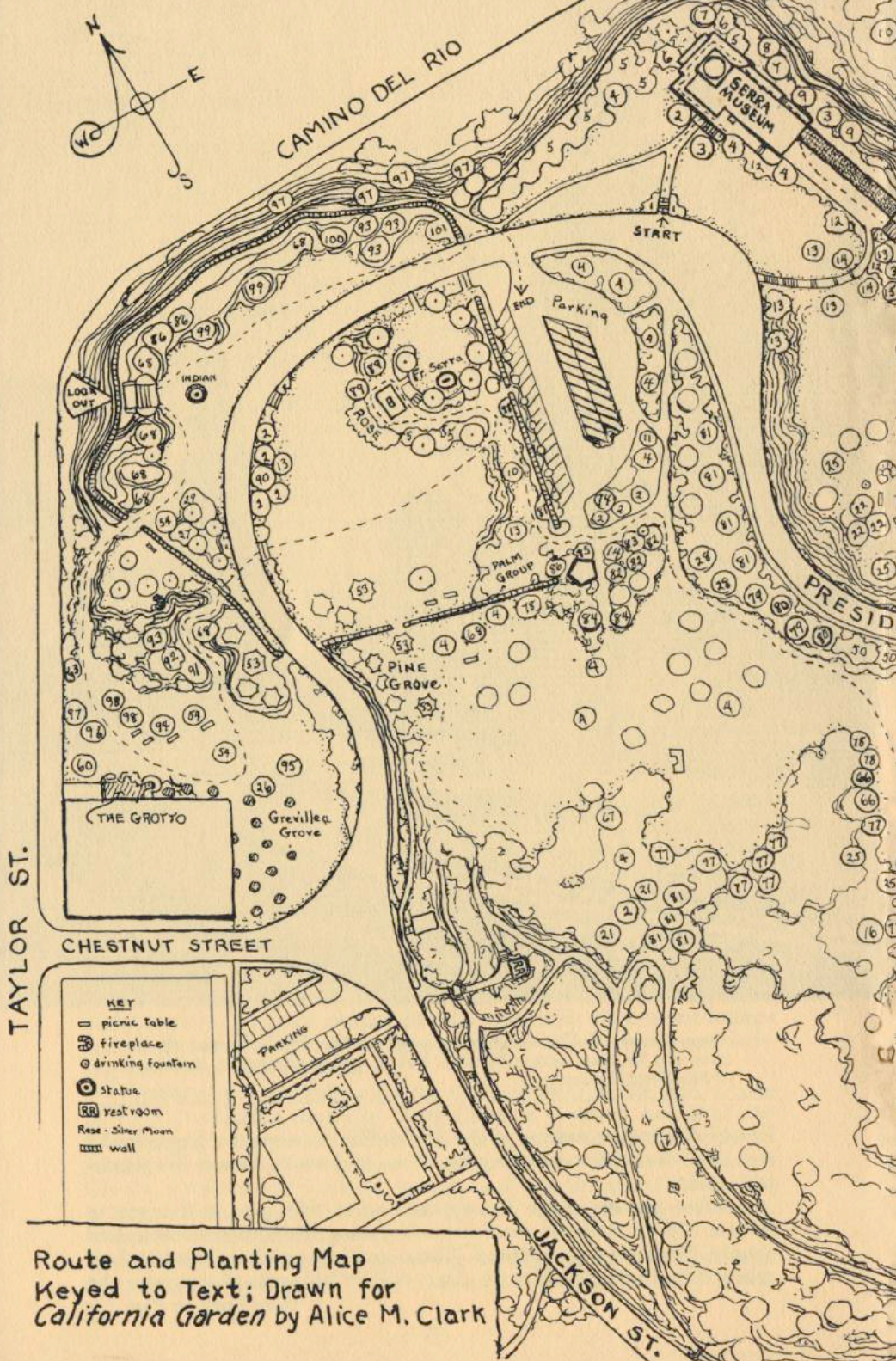
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Brush. Australian natives of the Myrtle family, they are large, bushy shrubs with slender, drooping branches, and white flowers in cylindrical spikes.

After passing more *Eucalyptus rudis* (66), you will come to several (78) *E. ficifolia*, the Scarlet-flowering Gum, more often called simply Flowering Eucalyptus. These medium-sized trees with dark green foliage are ablaze with fuzzy scarlet blossoms throughout the

(Continued on Page 17)

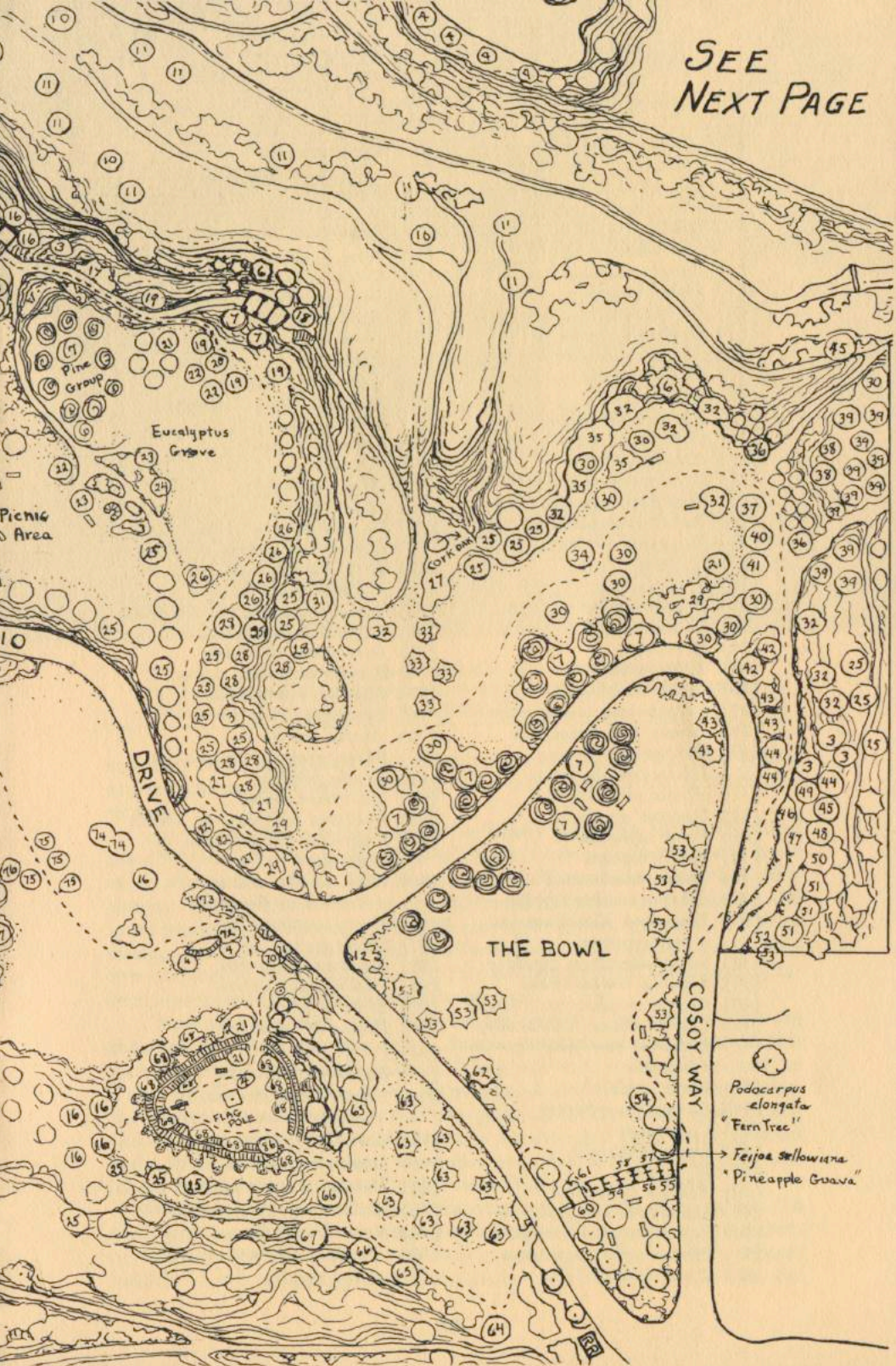




Route and Planting Map  
 Keyed to Text; Drawn for  
*California Garden* by Alice M. Clark



SEE  
NEXT PAGE





# Key to Route and Planting Map

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| <p>(1) <i>Raphiolepis umbellata</i> var.<br/><i>ovata</i></p> <p>(2) <i>Chamaerops humilis</i></p> <p>(3) <i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i></p> <p>(4) <i>Olea europaea</i></p> <p>(5) <i>Rhus integrifolia</i></p> <p>(6) <i>Pinus torreyana</i></p> <p>(7) <i>Pinus canariensis</i></p> <p>(8) <i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i></p> <p>(9) <i>Cupressus arizonica</i></p> <p>(10) <i>Phoenix canariensis</i></p> <p>(11) <i>Washingtonia robusta</i></p> <p>(12) <i>Pyracantha</i></p> <p>(13) <i>Phoenix reclinata</i></p> <p>(14) <i>Cordyline australis</i></p> <p>(15) <i>Arbutus unedo</i></p> <p>(16) <i>Eucalyptus citriodora</i></p> <p>(17) <i>Plumbago capensis</i></p> <p>(18) <i>Hakea suaveolens</i></p> <p>(19) <i>Eucalyptus robusta</i></p> <p>(20) <i>E. creba</i></p> <p>(21) <i>E. cladocalyx</i></p> <p>(22) <i>E. sideroxylon</i></p> <p>(23) <i>E. punctata</i></p> <p>(24) <i>E. rostrata</i></p> <p>(25) <i>E. lehmanni</i></p> <p>(26) <i>Ceratonia siliqua</i></p> <p>(27) <i>Pittosporum crassifolium</i></p> <p>(28) <i>Acacia podalyriaefolia</i></p> <p>(29) <i>Pittosporum tobira</i></p> <p>(30) <i>Libocedrus decurrens</i></p> <p>(31) <i>Acacia melanoxylon</i></p> <p>(32) <i>Quercus agrifolia</i></p> <p>(33) <i>Pinus sabiniana</i></p> <p>(34) <i>Acacia aneura</i></p> <p>(35) <i>Spiraea vanhouttei</i></p> <p>(36) <i>Schinus terebinthifolia</i></p> <p>(37) <i>Taxodium distichum</i> var.<br/><i>mucronatum</i></p> <p>(38) <i>Sequoiadendron gigantea</i></p> <p>(39) <i>Sequoia sempervirens</i></p> <p>(40) <i>Cedrus deodara</i> var. <i>robusta</i></p> <p>(41) <i>Cedrus libani</i> (<i>libanotica</i>)</p> <p>(42) <i>Bauhinia variegata</i> var.<br/><i>candida</i></p> <p>(43) <i>Pinus coulteri</i></p> <p>(44) <i>Ceanothus arboreus</i></p> <p>(45) <i>C. cyaneus</i></p> <p>(46) <i>Hebe imperialis</i></p> <p>(47) <i>H. carnea</i></p> <p>(48) <i>Echium fastuosum</i></p> <p>(49) <i>Calliandra inaequilatera</i></p> <p>(50) <i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i></p> <p>(51) <i>Hymenoporum flavum</i></p> <p>(52) <i>Thevetia nereifolia</i></p> | <p>(53) <i>Pinus radiata</i></p> <p>(54) <i>Schinus molle</i></p> <p>(55) <i>Phaedranthus buccinatorius</i></p> <p>(56) <i>Wisteria</i></p> <p>(57) Rose, Belle of Portugal</p> <p>(58) Rose, Cecile Brunner</p> <p>(59) <i>Cissus capensis</i></p> <p>(60) <i>Bougainvillea</i> 'Barbara Karst'</p> <p>(61) <i>Duranta repens</i></p> <p>(62) <i>Pinus halepensis</i></p> <p>(63) <i>Pinus pinea</i></p> <p>(64) <i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i></p> <p>(65) <i>Lyonothamnus floribundus</i><br/>var. <i>asplenifolius</i></p> <p>(66) <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i></p> <p>(67) <i>E. globulus</i></p> <p>(68) <i>Aloe arborescens</i></p> <p>(69) <i>Aloe ciliaris</i></p> <p>(70) <i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i></p> <p>(71) <i>Osteomeles anthyllidifolia</i></p> <p>(72) <i>Juniperus chinensis</i> var.<br/><i>pfitzeriana</i></p> <p>(73) <i>Thuja orientalis</i> var. <i>Rosedalis</i></p> <p>(74) <i>Lagunaria patersoni</i></p> <p>(75) <i>Osmanthus ilicifolia</i></p> <p>(76) <i>Prunus ilicifolia</i></p> <p>(77) <i>Melaleuca armillaris</i></p> <p>(78) <i>Eucalyptus ficifolia</i></p> <p>(79) <i>Acacia armata</i></p> <p>(80) <i>Pittosporum phillyraeoides</i></p> <p>(81) <i>Acacia pendula</i></p> <p>(82) <i>Callistris robusta</i></p> <p>(83) <i>Phillyrea latifolia</i> var. <i>media</i></p> <p>(84) <i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> var.<br/><i>stricta</i></p> <p>(85) <i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i><br/>'Crown of Bohemia'</p> <p>(86) <i>Yucca elephantipes</i></p> <p>(87) <i>Salvia greggi</i></p> <p>(88) <i>Solanum rantonetti</i></p> <p>(89) <i>Phoenix dactylifera</i></p> <p>(90) <i>Erythea edulis</i></p> <p>(91) <i>Bromelia balansae</i></p> <p>(92) <i>Persea indica</i></p> <p>(93) <i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i></p> <p>(94) <i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> var.<br/><i>sempervirens</i></p> <p>(95) <i>Grevillea robusta</i></p> <p>(96) <i>Dombeya wallichii</i></p> <p>(97) <i>Melaleuca leucadendron</i></p> <p>(98) <i>Arecastrum romanzoffianum</i></p> <p>(99) <i>Yucca brevifolia</i></p> <p>(100) <i>Eugenia uniflora</i></p> <p>(101) <i>Ficus pumila</i></p> |
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A mantle of lawn covers the tumbled adobe walls which once were the Spanish Presidio, first permanent white settlement on the coast of what now is California. (See map, Page 21).

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summer. From seed, they do not come true to color, but may be white, apple-blossom pink, or vermilion. The urn-shaped fruit is thick and woody.

Across the lawn to the right, the bushy plants in the foreground are (79) *Acacia armata*, Kangaroo Thorn, from an island off the coast of southern Australia. The leaves are small, and the branches very thorny. Deep yellow flowers are followed by curly seed pods. In the same planting, the small trees with the light green, graceful, willowy foliage are (80) *Pittosporum phillyraeoides*, sometimes called Willow or Narrow-leaf Pittosporum. The yellow flowers, small and gregarious, are followed by quaint yellow berries.

Among the trees most frequently noticed by people driving through the Park are the (81) *Acacia pendula* at the edge of this planting next to Presidio Drive. They are also called Weeping or True Myall, and come from Queensland and New South Wales. Reaching almost to the ground are pendulous branches, resembling those of a weeping willow. Leaves are narrow and light gray; flowers come in small clusters along the branches, followed by flat seed pods. These specimens are exceedingly beautiful the year round.

Turn left at the path along the south side of the parking lot. To the right are several flowering peach trees and some good specimens of *Chamaerops humilis* (2) growing naturally. To the left, almost hidden in the planting, are three small (82) *Callistris robusta*, the



Cypress Pine from West Australia. Upright trees of compact habit, they have light green, scalelike foliage, and bear clusters of cones. Nearby are several (83) *Phillyrea latifolia* var. *media*, members of the Olive family from southeastern Europe and Asia Minor. They are evergreen shrubs with ovate, dark green leaves and small, blue-black fruit.

To the left, near the southeast corner of the small, polygonal building, are two (84) *Cupressus sempervirens* var. *stricta*, Italian Cypress, from southern Europe and western Asia. These tall, columnar trees are used for formal planting effects. The ancient Greeks carved statues of their gods from the wood of this cypress.

The planting along the west side of the parking lot is (85) *Hibiscus rosasinensis* 'Crown of Bohemia'. The many varieties of hibiscus, widely cultivated throughout the tropics and sub-tropics, belong to the Mallow family, and come from Asia. 'Crown of Bohemia' has beautiful, deep green foliage and double flowers of a rich gold.

On the downhill side of the small building is (86) *Yucca elephantipes*, from southeast Mexico and Guatemala, one of the largest plants of the Lily family. A bold, stiff-leaved plant, it bears flowers in large, dense panicles and clusters of date-like fruit. Beyond the yucca you will notice additional plantings of *Phoenix reclinata* (13) and *P. canariensis* (10).

To your right, as you follow the path along the length of the parking lot, are a number of (87) *Salvia greggi*, of the Mint family, from Texas and Mexico. These low bushy plants with dark green foliage bear deep red flowers. Near the wall are several (88) *Solanum rantonetti*, purple-flowering vines of the Nightshade family (the potato and the eggplant belong to the same group) from Paraguay and Argentina.

Turn left and walk over to the Serra Cross. The two palms nearby are (89) *Phoenix dactylifera*, the common date palm of North Africa. Upright specimens with blue-green, stiff pinnate leaves, they produce many suckers and grow in clumps if left to themselves. Because of insufficient heat, they do not produce good fruit here, but in the Coachella Valley of Southern California, they yield some of the finest dates in the world. There are many references to this palm in the Bible.

Continue westward down the slope to the group of palms along the drive. Here are several *Chamaerops humilis* (2) and one (90) *Erythea edulis*, the Guadalupe Palm from Guadalupe Island off the coast of Baja California. One of the handsomest of the palmate palms, its large leaves, a rich, light green in color, are borne on long stalks. It produces heavy bunches of shiny, black-skinned seeds. The attractive ground cover plant between the palms and the road is prostrate *Carissa grandiflora*, Natal plum.

Cross the drive at the pedestrian cross walk, and go down the dirt path beyond the opening in the wall. On your right as you approach the bottom is a planting of (91) *Bromelia balansae*, Heart of Flame, members of the Pineapple family from Argentina and south-central Brazil. These stemless, suckering plants have recurved leaves,





A few feet southwesterly from the Indian statue may be seen the tile floor, and traces of the adobe walls of a room in the only Presidio building not covered by a lawn. (See map, Page 21).

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2-3' long, which are prickly at the edges. The inner leaf, turning a fiery violet-red at the time of flowering, is more spectacular than the bloom.

Nearby are several agaves and a (92) *Persea indica*, miniature avocado. This member of the Laurel family, from the Canary, Azores and Madeira Islands, has large, leathery leaves, which are smooth, and small flowers followed by tiny, avocado-like fruit. Next to the *Persea* is an interesting plant, (93) *Euphorbia tirucalli*, Milk Bush, from tropical Africa. This small shrub is a mass of cylindrical, pencil-like, succulent branches.

In the middle of the lower lawn is (94) *Ulmus parvifolia* var. *sempervirens*, the Evergreen Elm, from China and Japan. An open-headed tree with small, firm leaves, it blooms in late summer or early fall.

To your left as you face the Grotto is another Carob tree (26), and beyond it, a group of (95) *Grevillea robusta*, the Silk Oak, belonging to the Proteaceae, from Queensland and Australia. Upright trees with spreading heads of fern-like foliage, Silk Oaks produce large trusses of orange-yellow flowers profusely in early spring.

Cross the lawn northwestward toward Taylor St. (you will recognize it by the heavy traffic). The large shrubby plant with nearly round leaves is (96) *Dombeya wallichii*. It is a member of the Chocolate family from Madagascar, and makes an attractive shrub or small



tree, especially in spring when the showy balls of pink flowers are fresh.

To the right of the *Dombeya* is a tree with light-colored papery bark. It is (97) *Melaleuca leucadendron*, Broad-leaf Paperbark or Cajeput Tree, which belongs to the Myrtle family and comes from Queensland and New South Wales. The tree is covered with small, pointed, rigid leaves. Its cream-colored flowers, shaped like bottle brushes, give way to woody seed capsules.

Nearby are two (98) *Arecastrum romanzoffianum*, the familiar *Cocos plumosa* or Queen palm which is so plentiful in San Diego.

Return up the hill by way of the left path at the edge of the bank, and continue back to the drive across the lawn toward the Indian statue. In the extensive cactus planting behind the statue is a large specimen of *Yucca elephantipes* (86), and to the right are two (99) *Y. brevifolia*. This is the famous Joshua tree, belonging to the Lily family, a native of the deserts of southern Utah, Nevada and California. The small, grotesque trunk sends off a few angular, clumsy branches with olive-green, dagger-like leaves. White flowers appear at the ends of the branches.

Farther up the hill is a single (100) *Eugenia uniflora*, Surinam Cherry. A member of the Myrtle family, it is indigenous to Brazil. The small leaves are deep green in summer and bronzy during the cooler months. The edible fruit is scarlet, like a small tomato, but with eight, deep longitudinal grooves. Clambering over the wall at the left is (101) *Ficus pumila*, Creeping Fig, of the Mulberry family, native to China, Japan and Australia. The leaves are creeping stems which cling to whatever they touch.

The last trees on your left as you return to the parking lot are *Melaleuca leucadendron* (97). If you are interested in the names of other plants in the Park, see one of the courteous Park employees. He will be glad to answer your questions.

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## THE PRESIDIO OF SAN DIEGO

(See Opposite Page)

San Diego's Presidio was built on the camp-site picked out by Captain Fernando Rivera y Moncada, leader of the advance party of the expedition which brought Don Gaspar de Portola' and Fr. Junipero Serra here from the tip of Baja California in the summer of 1769.

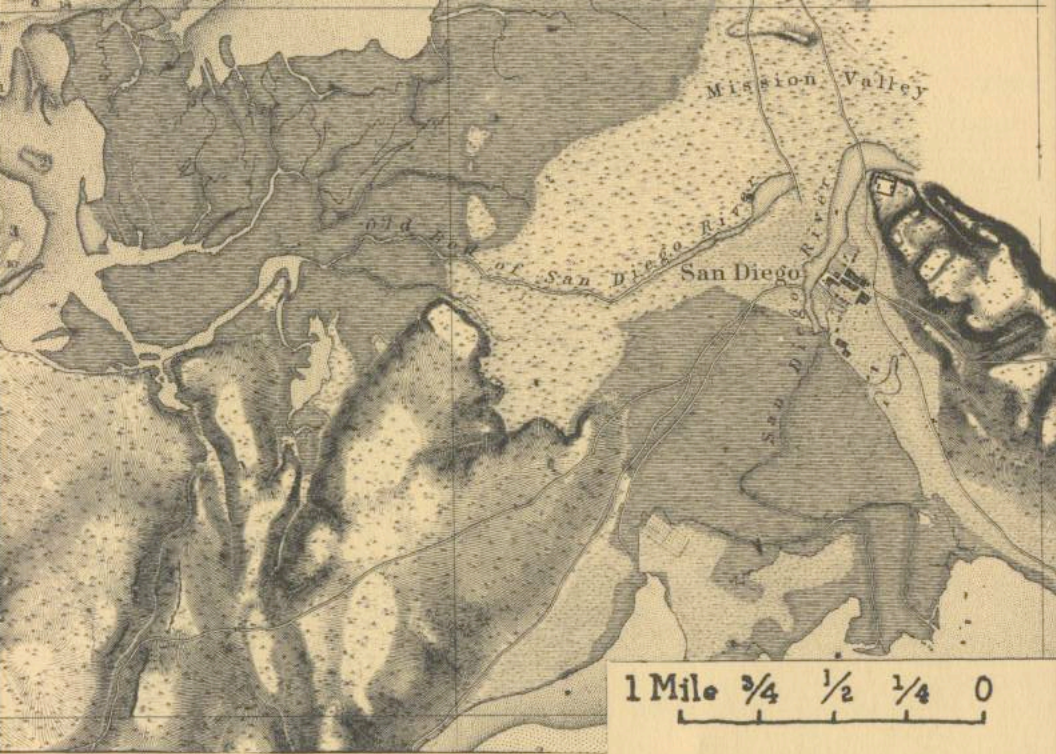
So far as is known, no map or plan of the Presidio exists, and various historians of bygone years have produced varying sketches of what the plan might have been. There is, however, a tiny indication of the Presidio on the 1859 chart of San Diego Bay, prepared by the U. S. Topographical Engineers. Despite its minute scale — it shows on the opposite page in its full size, near the upper right corner and just under the word "Valley" — it is possible to measure it in a general way. It is also possible to determine, roughly, the direction followed by the walls of its longer axis.

Curious about this, the staff of the Serra Museum went down and, with a reconnaissance compass, took the bearing of the east-west axis of the row of low mounds which were the north part of the old Presidio; it came out to approximately 270° magnetic. Then they took off the bearing of corresponding walls on the chart — and got the same thing. The overall width of the Presidio, as shown on the chart, also agreed in general with the same measurements taken on the site. It hinted strongly that here was, albeit microscopically, a plan of the old Presidio.

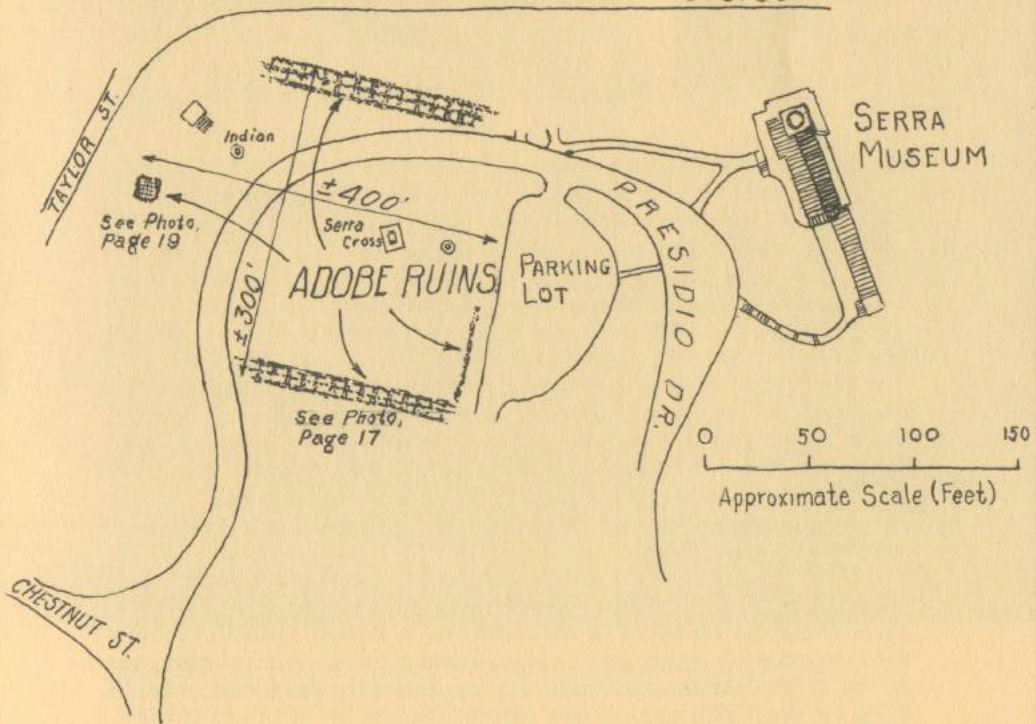
The rough sketch below the reproduction of the chart indicates the location of the buried ruins with respect to prominent landmarks in the park.

—Editor.





U. S. 80







On this spot, California began. The Serra Cross, erected in 1913 and faced with fragments of Presidio tile, marks the approximate spot where Fr. Junípero Serra established the original mission, on July 16, 1769.

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## THE JUNÍPERO SERRA MUSEUM

*By Bill Virden*

In the middle 1920's, Presidio Hill was a barren waste of wild oats, cactus and scrub vegetation, surrounding the crumbled walls of the original Spanish presidio and the equally delapidated earthworks of the later American strong-point, Fort Stockton.

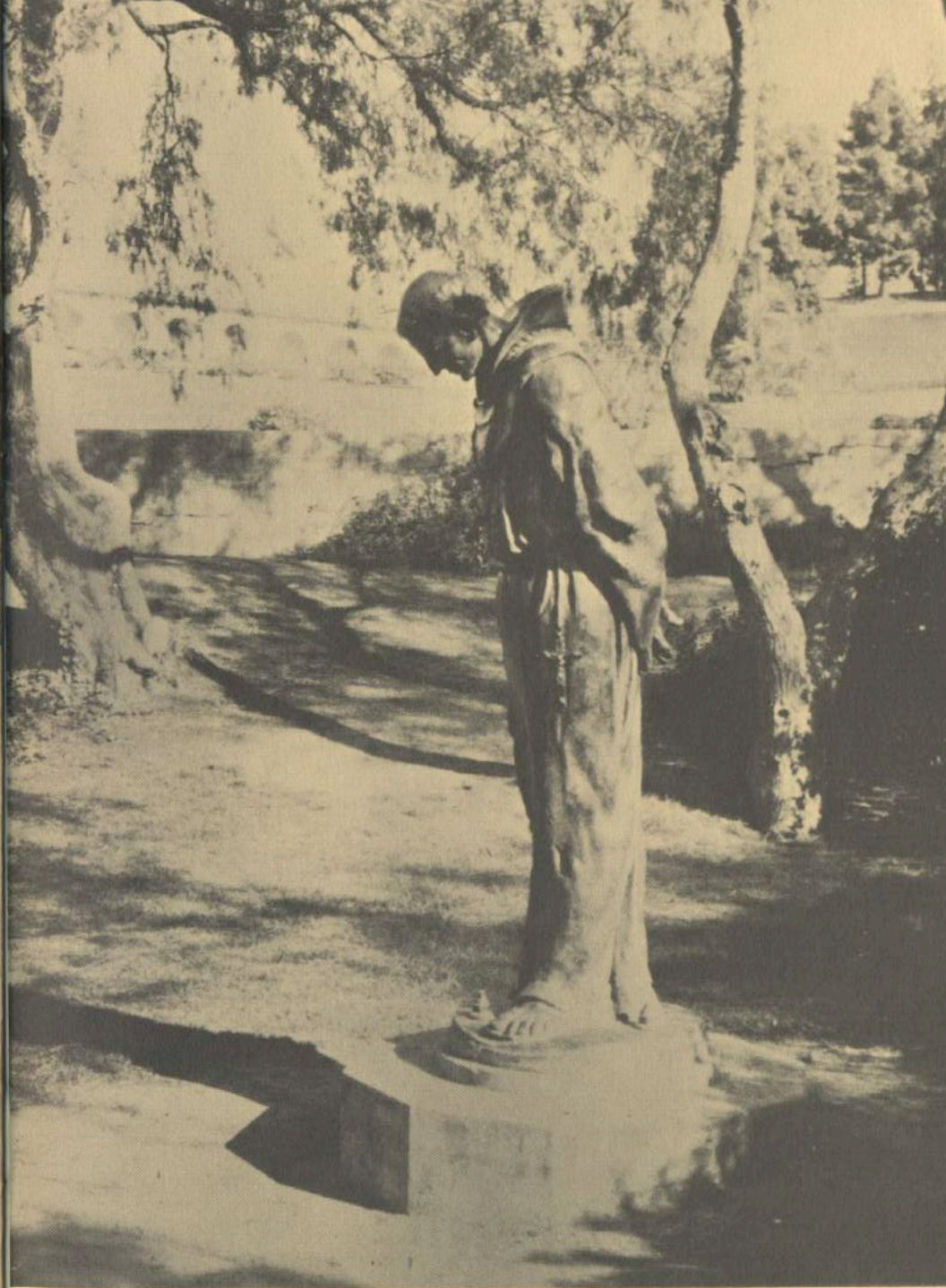
It might be that way today, or covered with who knows what, had it not been for the foresight of the late George W. Marston. This was California's birthplace, and through his efforts it has been preserved as such, for all time.

Mr. Marston aroused the interest of other civic-minded San Diegans, and began the laborious task of searching out the titles to the many parcels of land, all privately owned, which adjoined some 15 acres of city land purchased from the old San Diego Water Company in 1901; San Diego used to get its water from wells and a pumping-plant in the bottom of Palm Canyon, just east of where the Junípero Serra Museum now stands.

By 1927 Mr. Marston had acquired 20 acres and succeeded in having this land, and the city's adjoining 15 acres, dedicated as a park. Then came the building of the museum, a superb Spanish mission-style structure, designed by the late William Templeton Johnson, one of the city's leading architects. It was formally dedicated July 16, 1929, on the 160th anniversary of San Diego.

*(Continued on Page 24)*

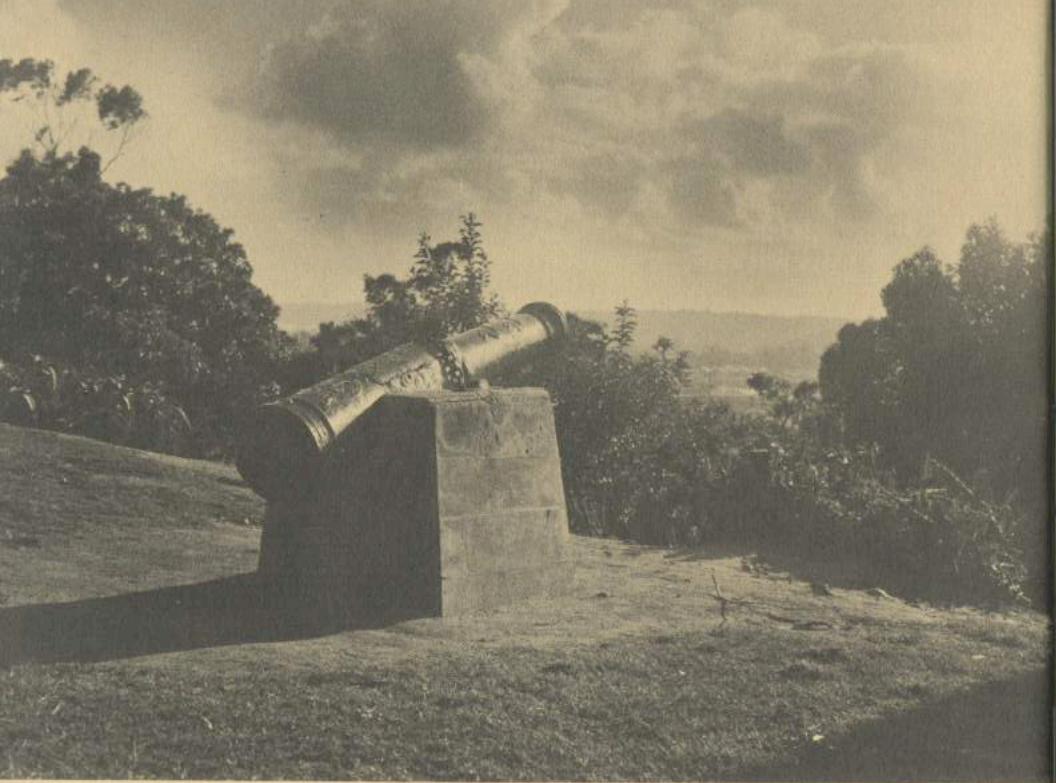




Not far to the westerly of Serra Museum stands this handsome bronze statue of Fr. Junipero Serra, founder of the California Missions. It is the work of the late Arthur Putnam.

B. L. SHANKLAND





Silent for many years, the Spanish cannon *El Jupiter* faces seaward from the earthworks at the military crest of Presidio Hill. A bronze muzzle-loader, it was cast in Manila in 1783.

JERRY MACMULLEN

So faithfully does the building capture the spirit of colonial Spain that tourists sometimes indignantly insist that it is in fact the old Spanish mission itself. Actually, of course, the original Mission San Diego de Alcalá, founded by Father Junípero Serra on July 16, 1769, was a crude out-building of the Presidio, located west of the now existing parking lot below the Museum.

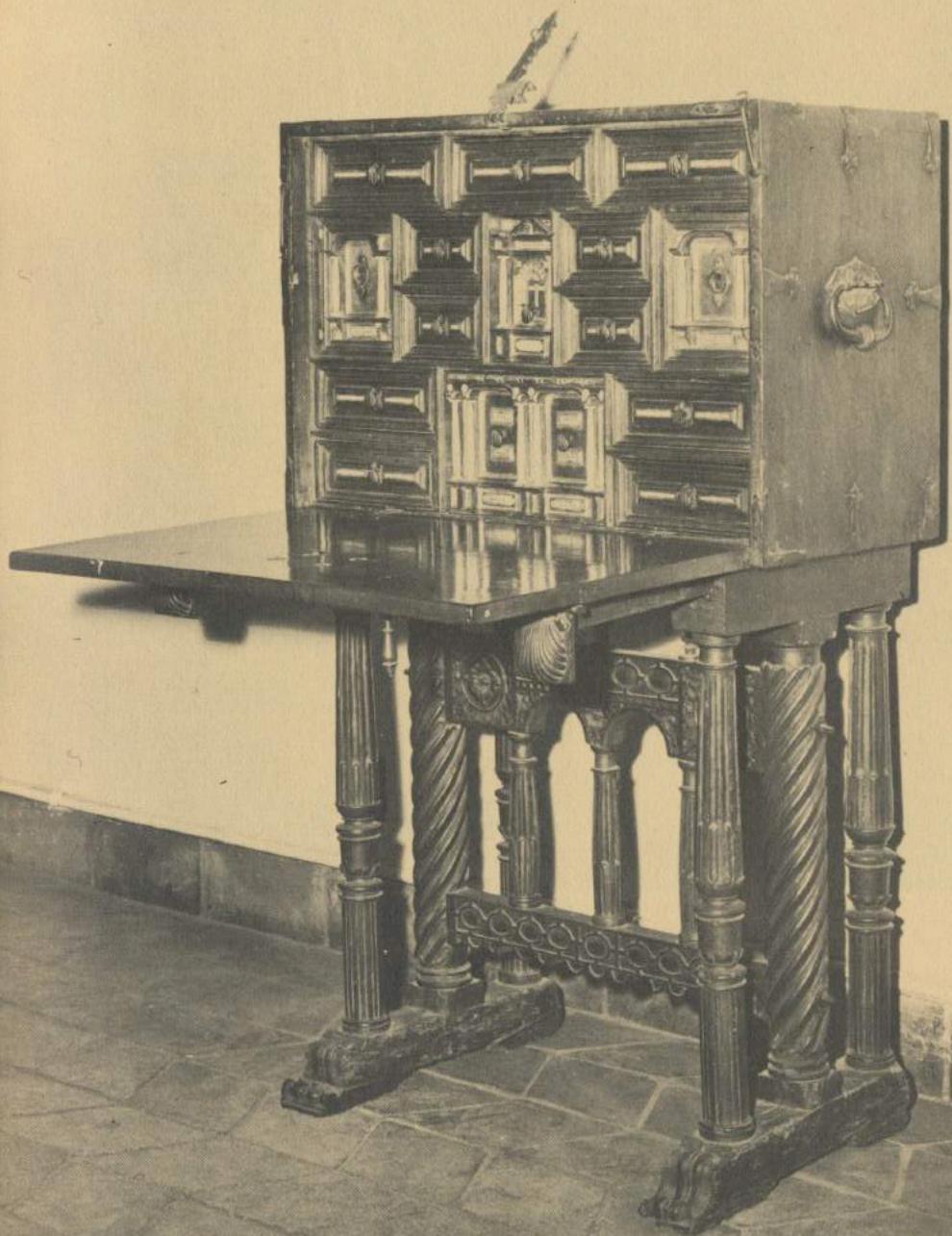
There was constant friction between the Indians and the soldiers, and so with an eye to eliminating this trouble, and because of the greater accessibility of farm land, a new, permanent mission was built in 1774. This is located about six miles up Mission Valley, to the north of U. S. Highway 80. From a vantage point on the East porch of the Museum, visitors can view the Mission up the valley.

It was Serra, a Franciscan monk from Mallorca in the Balearic Islands, who conceived the idea of a string of missions, a day's journey apart, as an integral part of the plan to colonize "New" California. In 1769 he accompanied the land expedition of Don Gaspar de Portolá, up from the tip of Baja California, and dedicated the Mission San Diego de Alcalá, first of the 21 missions which were to reach to the north of San Francisco. Serra died at Carmel in 1783, without seeing the completion of his tremendous task.

The museum is of reinforced concrete construction, and its hollow walls are a yard in thickness; the roof is of tile over massive

(Continued on Page 26)

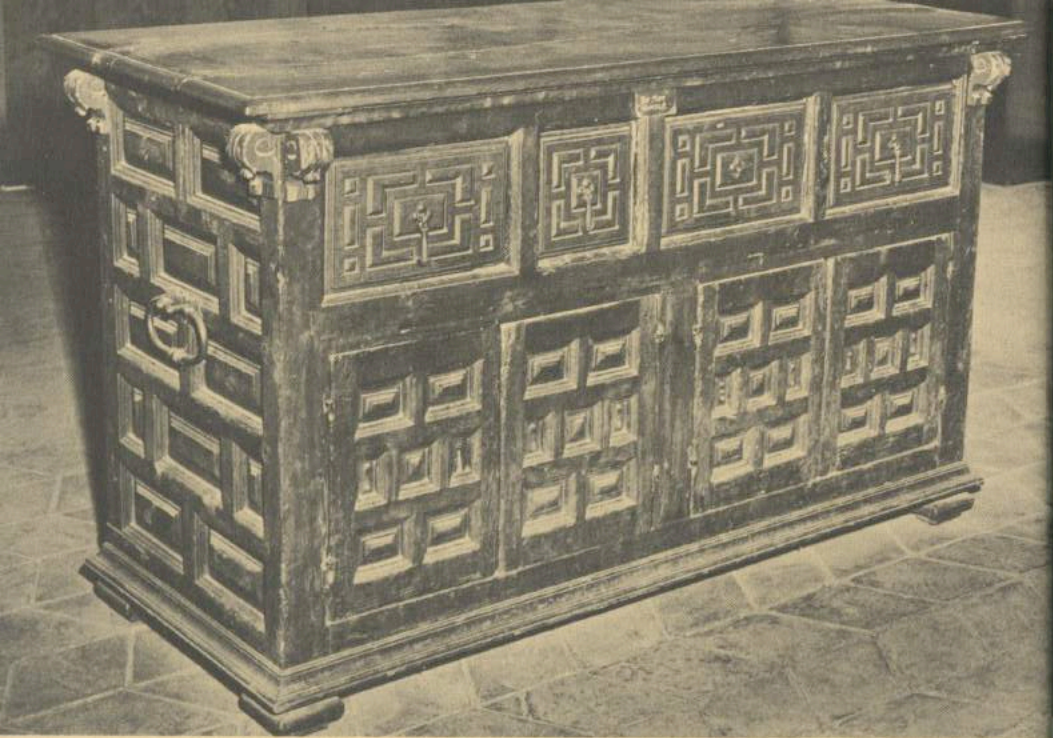




From Toledo, Spain, came this handsome 16th Century vargueno, a part of the Museum's permanent exhibit. It is ornamented in ivory, gold-leaf and ebony, and has two secret compartments.

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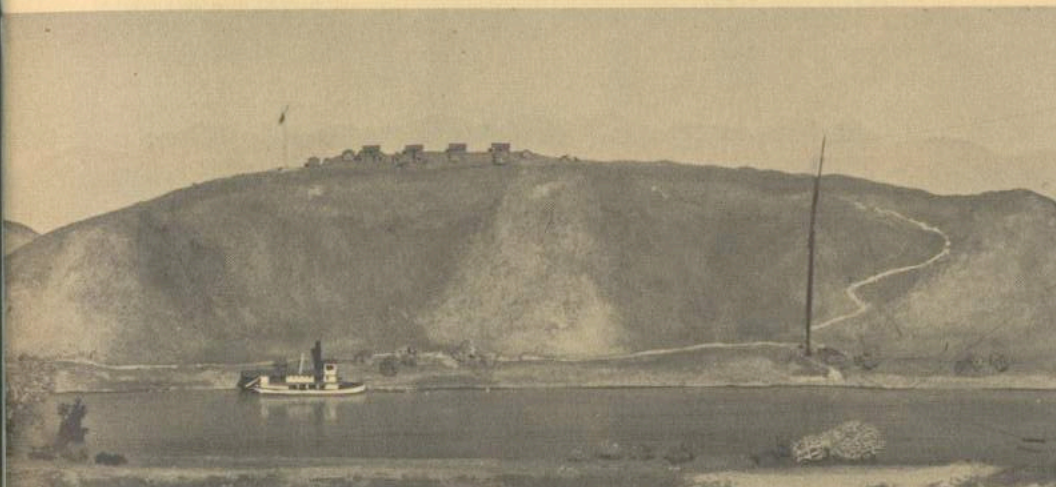
Intricate decoration sets off this 17th Century Spanish oak chest. Along with other furniture and artifacts from Spain, it was brought to the Serra Museum in 1929.

B. L. SHANKLAND

timbers, and the building is tile floored throughout. On entering the museum, note the tile on the floor in the doorway; they were taken from the original flume which ran from the Mission Dam to the Mission. In 1958 several of these were duplicated, the originals having worn down to the point of being dangerous. Above the gift shop at the south entrance of the building is the library, containing many hundreds of volumes on California history, with heavy emphasis on that of San Diego County. It is extensively used by members of the San Diego Historical Society and by historians, graduate students, and the press and radio. The main exhibit room is about 25 by 50 feet, into which were moved the beautiful items of antique furniture, which Mr. Marston had brought over from Spain when the museum was built. In 1961 it was found necessary to bring the Concord stage-coach, valued at \$10,000, into this room, because of increasing incidents of vandalism while it was housed under the loggia. The coach is now the star attraction of the Museum, having been completely restored in 1961. This coach made its last run in about 1910 from Foster to Julian, California. Also in the main, or "Spanish" room, are numerous new exhibit cases, two of them housing well done dioramas depicting San Diego's early history. Leading off the main exhibit room is the Pioneer Room with relics and antiques having to do with San Diego's early American period.

The high, domed tower at the north end of the building not only is a striking feature of its architecture, but also provides space for the





Cabrillo's discovery of San Diego Bay in 1542 is depicted (top) by a diorama. Another diorama (below) shows Fort Yuma, a river port once included in San Diego County, as it appeared late in the 19th Century.

storage of hundreds of bound volumes of early San Diego newspapers, with two additional rooms set aside for preparation of exhibits, and for artifacts not currently on display.

After its gift to the city by Mr. Marston, who originally operated it privately, the museum was operated for several years under the Park Department, with Civil Service employees. Now it is operated by the San Diego Historical Society, under a contract with the city. With a membership as of 1962 of close to 1100 members, the local group, which owns all of the exhibit material, is the second largest county historical society in California. In addition to its permanent displays the museum features several special exhibits, for one or two days each, during the year. These special events include the annual Button Show, the annual display of old-time model railroad equipment, and the annual Gun Show. At the latter, as a public service,



experts are on hand to assist local citizens in identifying and evaluating antique firearms from their own collections. The museum is open every day of the year. In 1956, the first year of the "electric eye" counter, attendance was 97,200; in 1961, it was 132,000.

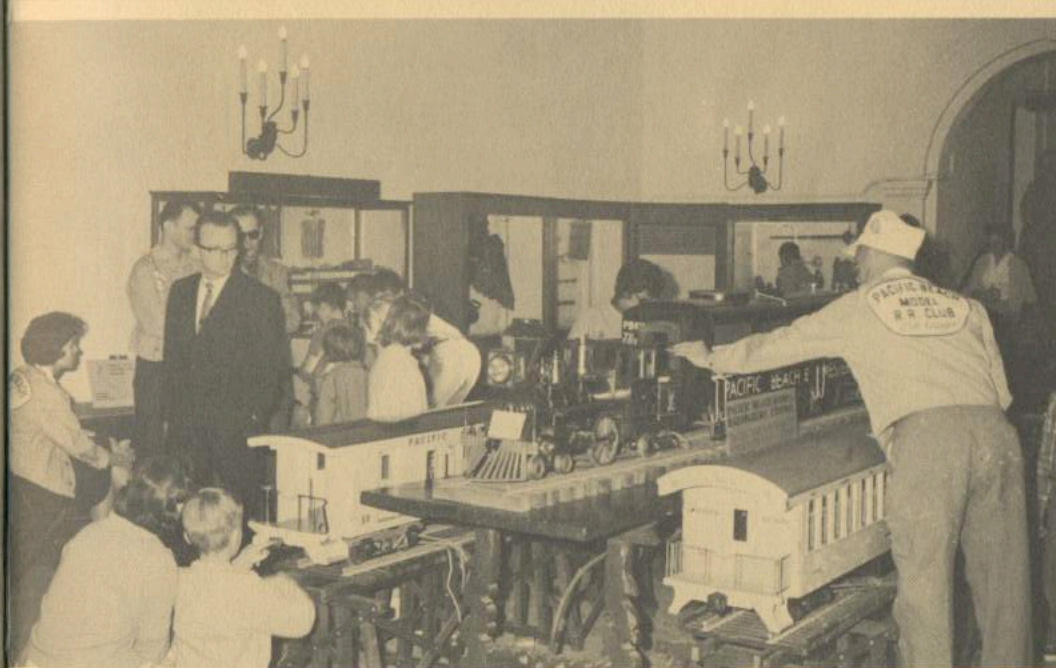
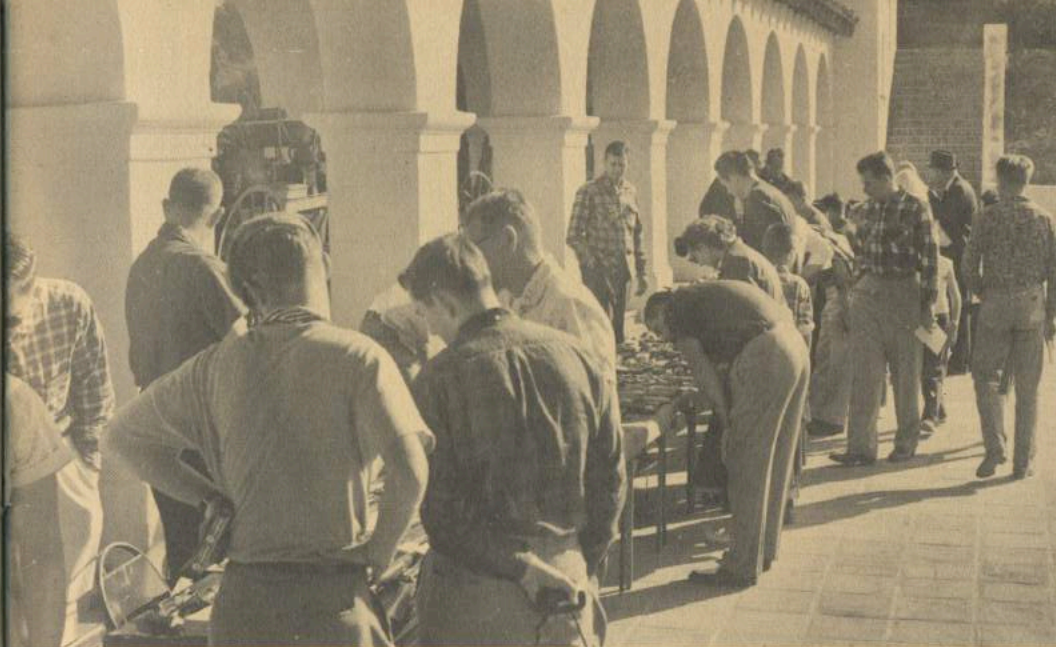
Presidio Park is situated on a high bluff at the cross-roads of San Diego. Highway 101 leads to Northern California, and intersecting this is Highway 80, San Diego's exit to the East, which runs directly below the museum. Standing on the west side of the museum porch a visitor has a sweeping panoramic view of the Pacific, with San Diego's fabulous Mission Bay aquatic park, in the process of completion. Going around the building to the north porch and looking across Mission Valley is the spectacular University of San Diego, a Catholic University. On the east side of the building, the porch offers a view of Mission Valley looking east, including Hotel Circle, the new shopping areas and finally Mission San Diego de Alcalá. Also from this point glance down into the beautiful Palm Canyon, with its winding paths and picnic facilities. The park is a beauty spot of trees, shrubs, and lawns, and contains many features of historical interest.

Walking down hill at the bend of the road to the right is the "Presidio Wall" which was recreated approximately on the location of the easterly limit of the Presidio; a series of lawn-covered mounds, in straight easterly-westerly lines, are all that is left of the crumbled adobe ruins of the original buildings. One room, at the far northwest corner on a bluff overlooking Mission Valley, was left uncovered, and here one may see the original tile floor of this Spanish building nearly two centuries old. While in this area note the large bronze Indian statue, the work of a noted sculptor, the late Arthur Putnam. Cross the road onto the lawn and observe the famous Serra Cross, built in 1913 by the Order of Panama, and faced with broken fragments of the original Spanish tiles. Climb to the cross which has behind it, in a sunken, tree-shaded vale, the equally famous bronze statue of Father Serra, also by Putnam. This statue has always been a delight to amateur photographers.

Going up the hill, to the south, at the top of which is the highest point of land in the park, surrounding the flagpole, will be found the open trenches, now landscaped, which were Fort Stockton. Nearby is a commemorative marker to the Mormon Battallion, whose overland journey from Council Bluffs, Iowa, to San Diego is still the longest infantry march in history. Near the flagpole is the old bronze cannon *El Jupiter*, cast in Manila in the Eighteenth century, and once a part of the Spanish defenses of San Diego.

Although tiny, in comparison with the great Balboa Park in the center of the city, Presidio Park affords many joyous and pleasant hours to citizens and visitors alike on weekends and holidays with its many picnic and cook out areas. During school sessions literally thousands of San Diego County School children are given guided tours of the park and the Serra Museum. The project, conceived by Mr. Marston in the 1920s, has proven to be a tremendous asset to the City of San Diego.





Two popular annual events are the Gun Show and the Model Railroad Show featuring "Trains of the Past". Top, visitors and arms collectors gather around the outdoor exhibit tables. Below is a view of the model railroad show. At the extreme lower right corner is a scale model of the private car in which Lily Langtry visited San Diego in the 1880s. Immediately above is a live steam working model of the locomotive *C. P. Huntington* of 1863, flanked by a typical Railway Mail car of the 1870s.



