

CARMEL MISSION FOUNDATION Cornerstone

WINTER 2017–2018

Fighting for Survival The Missions' Maritime Lifeline



This story begins in 1772, with Junípero Serra's journey from Alta California to Mexico City, to meet with the new Viceroy, Antonio María Bucareli. Although popular accounts of Serra's appeals to the Viceroy focus on his conflict with the Monterey Presidio military Commander, Pedro Fages, the Franciscans' most pressing issues concerned the Spanish Naval Department of San Blas, Mexico (about 100 miles north of Puerto Vallarta).

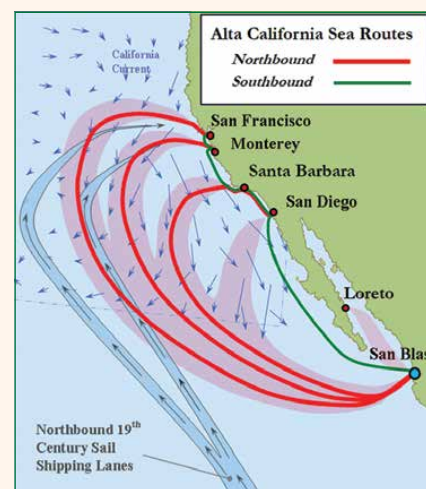
Spanish Naval Department

Until the missions achieved agricultural self-sufficiency in the 1780s, the Spanish Naval Department was, literally, Alta California's lifeline. Provisions to the missions and presidios in Alta California had to be shipped by sea, either directly to San Diego and Monterey, or to Loreto, in Baja California, to be carried north by trains of pack mules. During Serra's tenure as Padre Presidente, the Naval Department maintained only three vessels capable of sailing to the northern port supplying Alta California in the early 1770s. They were the *San Carlos*, the *San Antonio*, and the *San José*. These vessels had a very modest cargo capacity, with a combined net cargo volume of 10,000–12,000 cubic feet; approximately three modern semi-tractor trailers.

Until the missions achieved agricultural self-sufficiency in the 1780s, the Spanish Naval Department was, literally, Alta California's lifeline.

The limitations on shipping capacity were further compounded by lengthy voyages and seasonal storms, which limited the supply vessels to a single voyage each year. Northbound vessels faced prevailing headwinds,

head seas, and a southerly current along the Pacific coast requiring them to follow a track stretching hundreds of miles offshore to the west. While it was possible for a southbound vessel to cover the 1,400 "steamship" miles between Monterey and San Blas in two weeks, a northbound vessel would be fortunate to cover an offshore track of 2,500–3,000 miles in two months.



Drawing by Alan Kemp

These constraints, coupled with the remoteness and tropical conditions at San Blas, required careful planning and attentive management. The infrequent arrival of ships, shortage of critical supplies, the spoilage of provisions, and unresolved paths of authority and accountability contributed to a state of perpetual crisis. In October of 1772, Serra boarded the *San Carlos* and sailed from San Diego for San Blas, determined to carry the Franciscans' grievances to Viceroy Bucareli in Mexico City.

Upon Serra's arrival in San Blas, he learned that Viceroy Bucareli's ministers had voted unanimously to terminate the Naval Department's support of Alta California and rely solely on the mule train supply route through Loreto.

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CARMEL MISSION FOUNDATION

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200 Clock Tower Place, Ste. E-206
Carmel, CA 93923
(831) 624-3261

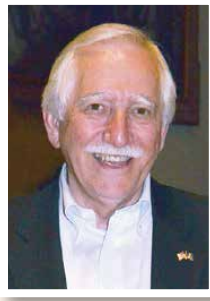
PO Box 221351
Carmel, CA 93922

Website:
www.CarmelMissionFoundation.org

Email:
info@CarmelMissionFoundation.org



The Carmel Mission Foundation was formed to fund the restoration and preservation of the historical properties and artifacts of the Carmel Mission. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public benefit corporation, independent from any religious organization. Its tax ID number is 26-2981780. All contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.



Vic Grabrian

From the President

Over the past nine years, the Foundation has grown from a small volunteer board into a successful, independent nonprofit organization funding the preservation of the Carmel Mission. To date, we have funded the renovation of the Quadrangle Courtyard and the seismic retrofit and restoration of the Basilica, while winning two prestigious preservation awards.

With these accomplishments behind us, we are now looking at a vastly more complex and expensive project—the Northeast Quadrant. Grouping together the work on several museums, the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, the Basilica Forecourt, and Mission entrance enables huge gains in efficiency and savings, while minimizing disruption to the Mission's activities. However, this results in a \$20 million project!

Construction will run \$13 million for:

- ❖ seismic strengthening and restoration of the structurally overstressed and deteriorating adobe buildings;
- ❖ new electrical, lighting, fire suppression, and climate control systems;
- ❖ a new restroom building, plus upgrades to current restrooms;
- ❖ improved accessibility and safety by reducing slopes in the Basilica Forecourt and front parking area, and creating a new arrivals patio;
- ❖ a new visitor's entrance and replacement of the entry arch;
- ❖ design and construction of museum-quality display cases; and
- ❖ emergency restoration of art and artifacts.

Pre-construction planning and indirect costs such as architects, engineers, museum consultants, project management, permits, site logistics, and temporary storage of affected artifacts, will add \$2 million. Finally, construction contingencies, plus inflation over the next 3–4 years, will potentially add another \$5 million.

Meanwhile, time is a special challenge as each day increases the cost of construction due to inflation. There is also the ever present risk of a major earthquake which could destroy these fragile buildings and their contents.

My personal involvement these past years with a wonderful board, advisory board, staff, preservation team, general contractor, and especially our donors, has indeed been an incredible journey. With your generosity, we will continue towards our goal of preserving the Carmel Mission for generations to come.

Thank you for your support!

With gratitude,

Victor M. Grabrian
President and CEO



from the Archives

California: The Land of the Sun Mary Hunter Austin, 1914

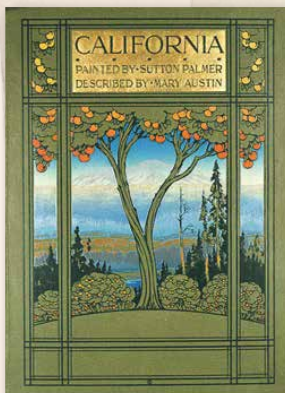
Where the valley widens behind the low barrier that shuts out the sea, sits the Mission of San Carlos Borromeo, once the spiritual capital of Alta California. Here Junípero Serra, and after him the other Padre Presidents, held the administration of Mission affairs, and from here he wandered forth on foot, up and down this whole coast from San Diego to Solano, with pacification and the seeds of civilization. Here on the walls, faintly to be traced beneath the scorn of time, he blazoned with his own hands the Burning Heart, the symbol of his own inward flame. Here, in his seventy-first year, he died and was buried on the gospel side of the altar. It is reported that his last act was to walk to the doorway to look once, a long look, on the hills turning amber under the August sun, on the heaven-blue water and the white hands of the surf beating against the cliffs of Lobos; looked on the fields and the orchard planted by his own hand, on the wattled huts of the neophytes redeemed, as he believed them, to all eternity, after which he lay down and slept. It is further reported in the annals of the Mission that it was necessary to place a guard about the wasted body in its shabby brown gown, to defend it from the crowding mourners craving each a relic of the blessed remains. Had I lived at that time I should have been among them, for he was a great soul, and have I not felt even at this distance of the years the touch of his high fervours!



Mission San Carlos Borroméo del
Rio Carmelo, circa early 1900s
(Carmel Mission)



Mary Hunter Austin, 1900



This is an excerpt from Mary Hunter Austin's (1868–1934) book *California: The Land of the Sun*, a graphic and memorable report of her travels in California from San Diego to Carmel Valley. Austin was one of the early nature writers of the American Southwest. She was a novelist, poet, critic, and playwright. She moved to the art colony at Carmel-by-the-Sea, California in 1907, where she was part of the cultural circle that included Jack London (among others), and was one of the founders of the local Forest Theater. ❖

Tragedy Strikes

From the Spanish Crown's perspective, shipping supplies and passengers directly to Alta California ports had proven to be an expensive disaster. Two entire crews, those of the *San Antonio* and *San Carlos*, had been lost to disease during the Sacred Expedition¹ to Monterey. A third supply vessel, the *San José*, bound for Alta California in 1770, was lost at sea. The loss of this vessel with its desperately needed supplies, her officers and crew, and a replacement crew intended for the stranded *San Carlos*, was a staggering blow. By 1773, the death of the *San Carlos*' first captain, and the retirement of his successor, had reduced the Naval Department to just two blue-water officers, the Manila Galleon veteran, Juan Pérez, and a very young José de Cañizares.

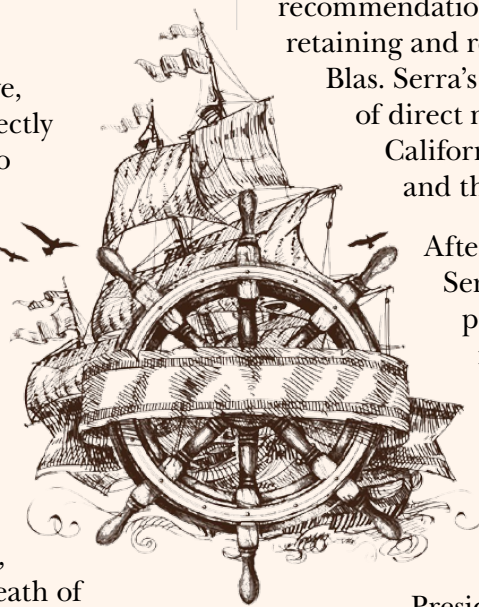
Serra understood the necessity of direct maritime supply to the Alta California ports.

Recognizing the serious ramifications from the *San José*'s loss, Visitador General José de Gálvez, the architect of the Alta California enterprise, had initiated the construction of a replacement vessel before his departure for Europe at the end of 1771. The new vessel would provide more than twice the carrying capacity of the *San Antonio* or *San Carlos*. When Serra arrived at San Blas, he found that the partially constructed vessel (that would become the *Santiago*) had languished since Gálvez's departure. San Blas workers informed Serra that the ship was to be burned to recover its iron.

Serra Intervenes

Serra understood the necessity of direct maritime supply to the Alta California ports. It would be impossible for mule trains from Loreto to support the supply volume required by the combined

¹ Between 1769 and 1782, the Sacred Expedition of Spanish soldiers and padres led by Captain Gaspar Portolá and Padre Presidente Father Junípero Serra had established nine coastal missions between present day San Diego and San Francisco.

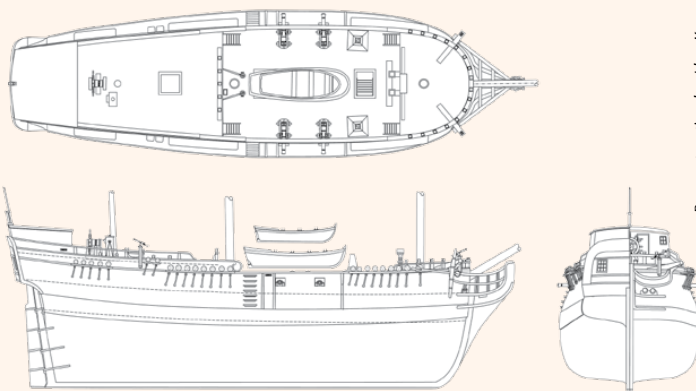


missions of Baja and Alta California. Serra petitioned the Viceroy in the spring of 1773 with 33 recommendations, 12 of which pertained to retaining and reforming the naval operations at San Blas. Serra's top priorities were the continuation of direct maritime supply operations to Alta California, the recruitment of ship's officers, and the completion of the new ship.

After granting personal audiences with Serra, the Viceroy took the Franciscan's petitions into a closed session with his ministers in May, 1773. By the first week of June, Serra knew that he had secured the continued services of the Naval Department. In all, 26 of his 33 recommendations were accepted by the Crown, including replacement of the Monterey Presidio's Commander, Pedro Fages.

The Frigate *Santiago*

Reforms were to be implemented at San Blas, new officers were to be recruited, and the *San José*'s larger replacement, the frigate *Santiago*, was to be completed. Serra's and Viceroy Bucareli's reforms were formalized in what became known as the *Echeveste Reglamento* of 1773.



The frigate Santiago: three-masted, 82 feet from bow to stern, 26 foot beam, and 225 ton cargo capacity

As events unfolded in his audiences with Bucareli, Serra was asked for his opinion on an expedition to explore the coast of "Russia," modern day Alaska. With his successes in Mexico City and the sudden prospect of extending his planned "ladder" of missions well to the north of San Francisco, Serra's optimism and enthusiasm could not have been greater.

On Monday, March 14, 1774, a year and a day after sending his first petition to the Viceroy, Serra was

enjoying a triumphant return to San Diego on the deck of the *Santiago*. The ship's maiden voyage from San Blas to San Diego under Captain Juan Pérez had taken 48 days, according to Serra, a new record.

Serra's optimism and enthusiasm could not have been greater.

The ship entered the Port of San Diego loaded with desperately needed provisions processed and shipped under the new *Reglamento*. By the time of the *Santiago's* arrival, the Alta California missions were close to collapse due to a shortage of food and supplies, but now, seemingly miraculously, the storehouses would soon overflow.

The *Santiago* also carried at least 25 civilian colonists, including five families. Among the passengers were the administrators and artisans requested by Serra—including two storekeepers, a surgeon, three blacksmiths, three carpenters, and a farmer. While the *Santiago* sailed for Monterey on April 6, Serra chose to travel overland from San Diego to Monterey, providing an opportunity to visit all of the missions he had established to date.

Serra returned to Monterey on May 11, 1774, after an absence of nearly 21 months. The *Santiago* had anchored off the Presidio in Monterey Bay four days earlier, after a 31-day passage from San Diego. On June 8, José de Cañizares, enjoying his first command, brought the *San Antonio* into Monterey Bay, after a 76-day passage from San Blas.

Captain Pérez requested that Father Serra conduct a High Mass before the *Santiago's* departure for the Northwest Coast and Russia (today's Alaska), reminiscent of their first Mass in June 1770 under the Vizcaino Serra Oak Tree. In Serra's words:

"And on June 10, at the same spot, the little chapel was prepared with banners and lanterns from the boat. We brought out the mission's richest vestments and everything else of the best. All the religious, my companions, the officers of both land and sea, the soldiers, sailors, Indians, Christians and Gentiles—they were all on hand."

At noon of the following day, the *Santiago* exchanged cannon salutes with the *San Antonio* and the Presidio. Father Serra watched as the ship proceeded under full sail with a favorable wind

towards her first landfall on the Northwest Coast on July 20, 1774, carrying Fathers Juan Crespí and Tomás de la Peña to Haida Gwaii (also known as the Queen Charlotte Islands, an archipelago off British Columbia's west coast, in Canada).



The *Santiago's* Orders

Pérez was ordered to explore the Pacific coast with the objective to discover possible Russian America² and British settlements, and to re-assert the long-standing Spanish claim to the Pacific Northwest. The Spaniards had learned from previous colonization attempts in the Americas that maintaining a friendly relationship with the indigenous peoples was the key to long-term success. They were given explicit instructions to treat all indigenous peoples with respect, and to establish friendly relations with all who they encountered.

On August 7, 1774, Perez reached Nootka Sound, part of today's Vancouver Island, and had extended interactions with the Nuuchah-nulth Nations, including the first trade of goods. The captain and his crew became the first people of European descent to reach this land by sea, map the Alaska coastline, and describe the customs of the Haida and the Nuuchah-nulth Nations. This accomplishment remains as one of the most important naval accomplishments in the Pacific Northwest maritime history.

In 1999, The Canadian government minted a commemorative silver dollar which memorialized the first recorded encounter between Spanish explorers and the First Peoples of the Northwest Coast of Canada. Queen Elizabeth II graces the front side of the coin, while on the reverse side is an image of three Haida dugout canoes greeting a Spanish naval vessel, the frigate *Santiago* of the Naval Department of San Blas. ❖

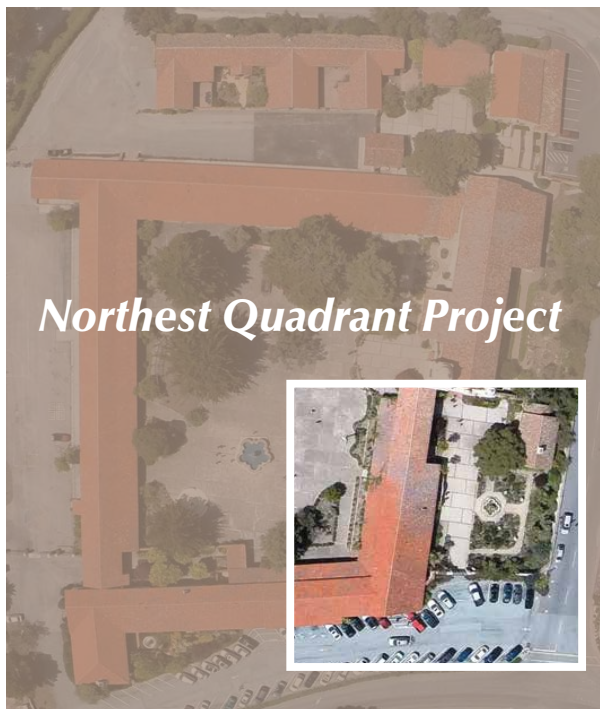


² Russian America was the name of the Russian colonial possessions in North America from 1733 to 1867.

The Northeast Quadrant Capital Campaign

The Foundation faces the most critical challenge and ambitious restoration to date, the Northeast Quadrant project. This \$20 million project is a staggering undertaking, but necessary to maintain the historical integrity and preserve these buildings for the next 75–100 years. It includes: the Downie Museum and Orientation Center, Convento Museum, Mora Chapel Museum, Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Basilica Forecourt, and Mission entrance. Artifacts will be restored, and the museum experience will be enhanced without changing that back-in-time feel that makes the Mission so special and unique.

Time and weather have taken their toll. The historic buildings are structurally overstressed and deteriorating, and life safety issues drive the urgency to strengthen and preserve them. It is critical that we safeguard these structures and the artifacts they contain so that they may be enjoyed by future generations. The electrical and mechanical systems are in dire need of upgrading, and fire suppression and climate control systems are needed to protect the structures and their artifacts.



Carmel Mission around the turn of the 20th century showing remnants of the adobe walls weathered by time

We are seeking those willing to donate cash or securities, obtain permanent custom-engraved tiles in the Serra Memorial, or sponsor portions of this project. If you would like to help preserve this historic treasure while adding to your own legacy, please contact the Carmel Mission Foundation office at (831) 624-3261 or visit our website at www.CarmelMissionFoundation.org for more information.



Convento Museum

Mission's most important museum, dedicated to St. Junípero Serra. It houses California's first library and Saint Junípero Serra's Cell.



Downie Museum & Orientation Center

Originally built as the Priest's quarters. Will become the visitor's Orientation Center.



Mora Chapel Museum

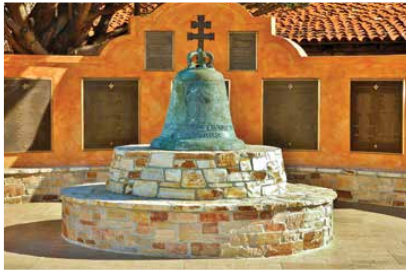
Houses the Serra cenotaph created by artist Joe Mora as well as religious and art exhibits. ✦

Photos by Kerry Belser

Help Save the Carmel Mission

Honor a Loved One this Season with a Serra Memorial Tile

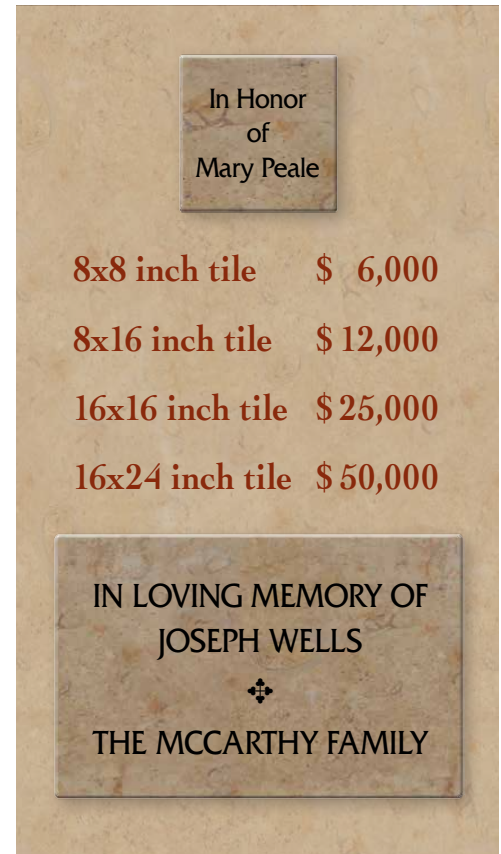
Photo by Kerry Belser



The Serra Memorial is a permanent reminder of the life of Saint Junípero Serra, the historic significance of the Carmel Mission, and a caring public's commitment to preserve it and California's rich history in perpetuity.

Over the centuries many Christmas traditions have developed including the exchange of Christmas gifts, and decorating the Christmas tree. This year, why not commemorate the Season by giving a gift that will span generations? Honor your family or someone special with a custom-engraved tile in the Serra Memorial.

A variety of tile sizes are available, as well as a limited number of large perimeter entrance tiles. The number of lines and text spaces vary per tile, depending on size.



8x8 inch tile \$ 6,000

8x16 inch tile \$ 12,000

16x16 inch tile \$ 25,000

16x24 inch tile \$ 50,000

Sponsor a Restoration Project

Sponsoring the restoration of one of the historic structures or courtyards is a critical way of helping the Foundation successfully preserve the Carmel Mission. Those special people who do so will be recognized on a discrete, custom-engraved plaque with their approved wording, located near the project they sponsor. Additionally, their names will be engraved on a special major donor wall plaque permanently displayed in the Downie Museum and Orientation Center.



Sample sponsorship plaque

Art & Artifact Emergency Restoration	\$ 500,000
Basilica Forecourt and Gardens	\$ 1,500,000
Blessed Sacrament Chapel	\$ 1,500,000*
Convento Museum:	
Loggia Boardwalk	\$ 1,000,000
Sala or Salon	\$ 1,000,000
Kitchen	\$ 1,000,000
Main Gallery	\$ 1,500,000
California's First Library	\$ 1,500,000
Saint Junípero Serra's Cell	\$ 2,000,000
Downie Museum & Orientation Center	\$ 1,500,000
Mission Entrance	\$ 1,500,000
(Entry Arch, Arrival Patio, Parking)	
Mora Chapel Museum	\$ 1,500,000
Museum Display Cases & Armatures	\$ 1,500,000
* Already sponsored	

Earthquake

The Foundation often speaks of its concern for the Carmel Mission should we ever experience a major earthquake on the Central Coast. Most would argue that there is not much of a threat; however, there are literally hundreds of major and minor fault lines running through and along the Santa Lucia Range, and extending offshore the Central Coast. The United States Geological Survey (USGS) states Carmel-by-the-Sea is situated in a moderate seismic risk zone, with the primary threats being the San Andreas—"the most famous fault in the world"—and the Palo Colorado Fault which runs through Garrapata Beach in Big Sur and traces offshore. They say a large earthquake is a very real possibility and likely to happen much sooner than one would like to think.

Although the written history of California is not long, records of earthquakes exist that affected those Spanish missions constructed in the late 18th century. The earliest known earthquake was documented in 1769 by the Gaspar de Portolá expedition, along with Catholic missionaries—Father Junípero Serra being Padre Presidente at the time—as they traveled northward from San Diego.

There were two reported earthquakes in 1812 that significantly affected the missions. Both events took place within two weeks of each other. The Wrightwood quake, often referred to as the San Juan Capistrano quake, killed 40 people when the Church walls of Mission San Juan Capistrano failed and collapsed during Mass on December 8, 1812. It was estimated to be a 7.5 magnitude and one of the

largest earthquakes in California history. On December 21, 1812, a second quake occurred with a magnitude of 7.1. The epicenter was offshore, likely the Santa Barbara Channel, and was potentially triggered by the Wrightwood quake. As a result of these quakes, extensive destruction occurred in many of the lightly constructed California missions. Reports of a tsunami were persistent despite the rarity of such in the history of Californian earthquakes.

Liquefaction, a process of loose soil acting like a liquid when stress (such as an earthquake) is applied to the area, was widespread along the coast.



Mission San Juan Capistrano, December 8, 1812

Photo by Edward Visser, CA



La Purísima Mission Ruins December 21, 1812. The unprotected adobe bricks melted into the mud. The Mission would not be rebuilt on the old site.

Photo: La Purísima Mission State Historic Park

The effect of so much damage persuaded several missions to move their sites to other locations while others had to deal with significant damage and reconstruction. Besides Mission San Juan Capistrano, severe damage occurred at the Missions of San Gabriel, San Bonaventura, Santa Inés, Santa Barbara, San Fernando, and La Purísima.

Fortunately, the Carmel Mission reported no damage by these 1812 quakes, but there was a long-range impact to the architecture of the Mission. Since Carmel Mission was a stone building, the local padres felt that the stone vault roof needed to be removed for safety reasons, and replaced with a timber and a red tile roof. The excess stones were used to build the Mortuary Chapel (now Our Lady of Bethlehem Chapel), enclose the two bell towers (which were also lowered at the same time), build the stairway to the towers, and provide buttresses to reinforce the Mission walls.



Photo courtesy of USGS

The San Andreas Fault system is more than 800 miles long and extends to depths of at least 10 miles within the Earth. The communities of Desert Hot Springs, San Bernardino, Wrightwood, Palmdale, Gorman, Frazier Park, San Juan Bautista, Daly City, Point Reyes Station and Bodega Bay lie squarely on the fault. This section of the San Andreas Fault is located in Carrizo Plains, CA.

According to the USGS, California experiences 10,000 earthquakes each year. While most are so small they are not felt, 15–20 are recorded at having a magnitude of 4.0 or greater. Officials at the Southern California Earthquake Center state that the San Andreas has been quiet for a long time, too quiet, and is now “locked, loaded and ready to roll.” Scientists warn that if we follow some of the general rules of plate tectonic movement, with the Pacific Plate moving northwest of the North American Plate, earthquakes in the region should be relieving about 16 feet of accumulated plate movement every 100 years. However, the San Andreas Fault has yet to

relieve the stress now accumulated for more than a century. For many Californians this is not new, it’s the same old song, and many are beginning to get tired of hearing it year after year for decades. However, the San Andreas Fault has caused some relatively recent earthquakes, such as the 1906 San Francisco quake that struck with an estimated magnitude of 7.8, the 1989 Loma Prieta quake with a magnitude of 6.9, and the 1994 Northridge quake with a magnitude of 6.7.

The restoration and seismic strengthening of the Carmel Mission’s Basilica was celebrated in 2015 with the removal of its earthquake warning sign; unfortunately, it was not the only earthquake warning signage on the Mission campus. The other precious historic structures such as the museums, and the art and artifacts therein, remain defenseless in the face of a sudden, catastrophic earthquake. Thus, our work is not done.

Several of California’s founding historic structures are located within the Carmel Mission’s 22-acre campus. The Northeast Quadrant project is the Foundation’s next critical step of a phased program to perform extensive seismic strengthening and restoration of all the Mission’s historic structures. For more information on the Northeast Quadrant project, please see pages 6 and 7. ❖



Visit Our Website

www.CarmelMissionFoundation.org

- History of the Carmel Mission
- Foundation activities
- Media coverage and newsletters
- Restoration projects
- Giving Program & more
- Interactive virtual tour of the Mission!



Historic Structures of the Northeast Quadrant

The Blessed Sacrament Chapel

In our previous *Cornerstone* newsletter, we introduced you to the Convento Museum which contains California's first library and Saint Junípero Serra's cell. In this issue we would like to introduce you to the little Chapel where daily Masses and smaller liturgical services are held at the Carmel Mission—The Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

The building that houses the Chapel incorporates significant remnants of the east wing adobe walls of the original 1774 Mission hostel (guest-quarters) and the blacksmith and carpentry shop.

The first reconstruction of this historic building was completed and decorated by Harry Downie between the years of 1945–1947. The painted ceiling of chevron embellished beams and the “diaper-patterned” plank boards are borrowed from the original décor of Mission Dolores in San Francisco, California. The beautiful altarpiece is meant to invoke the late-baroque period of Mexican artistic heritage when this Mission was founded. That period relied heavily on intricate carvings and gilded embellishments to adorn the surfaces of the altars and church furnishings.

Housed in the center of the baroque-style reredos is a 13th century diptych (an altarpiece or painting on two hinged wooden panels that may be closed like a book) from Northern Europe of the Twelve Apostles. It had been donated to the Mission at the time the Chapel was built and Downie incorporated it into the altarpiece.

On the walls of the Chapel are the Stations of the Cross. In the rear of the Chapel is a 32-pipe organ purchased in 2007 from a private party.

An outstanding feature of the Chapel is the exposed remnant of the weathered-adobe wall on the east side of the Chapel. This wall is



Photo by Kerry Belser

(Above) 1931 aerial photo showing original 1774 wall where the Chapel is currently situated

(Below) Blessed Sacrament Chapel east wall, present day

believed to be a fragment of the original blacksmith and carpenter shop constructed in 1774; thus, it is plausible that the adobe of this wall is the oldest in California. Downie intentionally left this portion of the Chapel wall uncovered so it could be viewed by all. It typifies the type of construction of earlier years.



Photo by Kerry Belser

Altar of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel showing diptych of the 12 Apostles



Photo by Kerry Belser

Interior of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Restoration and Preservation

This will be the second restoration of the Chapel. As with all of the historic structures of the Carmel Mission, the Blessed Sacrament Chapel needs to be seismically strengthened with upgraded electrical and heating. The Chapel's unfinished east wall will remain uncovered so visitors can view what is believed to be the original adobe bricks of the three-foot-thick walls. These "windows" to the old world can also be found on the restored Basilica wall next to its main doors, and again in Serra's Prayer Garden. The Chapel will receive improved handicap accessibility from the east and west entries.

The Foundation is deeply grateful to one of its major supporters for stepping forward to sponsor the \$1.5 million restoration of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. ❖

Give a Little Every Day through AmazonSmile!

Do you shop on Amazon.com? Did you know that Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to charitable organizations of your choice—which includes the Carmel Mission Foundation! Simply start your shopping through the www.smile.amazon.com portal and type in the Carmel Mission Foundation as the charitable organization you wish to support. Same products, same prices, same service, with 0.5% donated by Amazon to the Carmel Mission Foundation.



Artifact Grants

In September, the Carmel Mission Foundation made grants to the Mission totaling over \$40,000 for artifact conservation and museum expenses.



A \$30,000 grant was made for the conservation of Our Lady of Bethlehem statue in the Bethlehem Chapel. This grant was made possible through the generosity of the Carmel Mission Docents Association which had

donated \$30,000 to the Foundation in August.

The Our Lady of Bethlehem statue had been entrusted to Father Serra by the Visitador General of New Spain, José de Gálvez, to accompany the first expedition to Alta California in 1769. It is believed to be one of the oldest statues of Mary in California.



Photos by Kerry Belser

The Foundation also provided grants to the Mission to help with the costs for construction of the new Convento display cases housing significant Serra artifacts, the repair and staining of the Basilica's front doors, the fumigation of the tree limb from the Vizcaino Serra Oak Tree under which Serra celebrated his first Mass in Monterey in June of 1770, and for other Museum supplies and expenses. ❖

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Cornerstone

Newsletter of the Carmel Mission Foundation

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Did You Know

Fray Francisco Palóu was not only Fr. Serra's student and lifelong companion, but he was also an expert gardener! The lettuce he raised in the Carmel Mission garden was the precursor of that which is produced on the farms of the Salinas Valley today, and from Palóu's artichokes have come the plants still producing in the Carmel Valley and throughout the region, giving the village of Castroville, north of Monterey, the title of "Artichoke Center of the World."



Photo of Oil Painting in Mallorca
Courtesy of MissionTour.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Save the Date! Carmel Mission Foundation's *Annual Christmas Party*

Friday, December 15, 2017
5:30 PM–8:00 PM
Carmel Mission's Crespí Hall
Carmel-by-the-Sea

- ◆ Valet Parking
- ◆ Wine and Buffet Dinner
- ◆ Christmas Carols
- ◆ Monterey String Quartet

The Foundation's Annual Christmas Party provides the opportunity for those of you who are committed to the restoration of the Carmel Mission to come together with fellow donors. It also allows the Foundation a forum in which to express our heartfelt appreciation for all your past support.

Invitations will be mailed to Foundation Members. If you are not already a Member and want to be sure to get an invitation, now is the time to join. Contact our office (831) 624-3261 or visit our website www.CarmelMissionFoundation.org for more information.

