

CALEDONIA ENTERPRISE

PO Box 326, San Miguel, CA 93451 | 805-467-3357 | <http://www.rios-caledoniaadobe.org>

Who are Friends of the Adobes?

Friends of the Adobes, Inc. is a nonprofit organization incorporated in 1968 for the purpose of bringing together persons interested in history, especially the history of northern San Luis Obispo county and southern Monterey county. The organization's major function is to promote the restoration and maintenance of adobes and other landmarks of historical significance in these areas.

Rios-Caledonia Adobe

California Historical Landmark No. 936

This former residence, inn, and stage stop was constructed in 1835 and is located on the old mission trail between San Francisco and Los Angeles, adjacent to the San Miguel Mission. Preserved adobe buildings currently house a Museum and Gift Shop, with a research library in the works. Picnic spots and restrooms are available. If you haven't yet visited, please come by! The Adobe is open Friday through Sunday from 11 AM to 4 PM. Take the San Miguel exit on Highway 101 (eight miles north of Paso Robles) to 700 S. Mission Street, San Miguel.



Estrella Adobe Church

California Historical Landmark No. 542

The Estrella Adobe Church, the first Protestant church in northern San Luis Obispo County, was built in 1878 by early pioneers. The church prospered for a few years but then fell into disuse and began crumbling into ruins. The church was restored through the efforts of the Paso Robles Women's Club and was rededicated in 1952. It is opened for a memorial service annually (on Memorial Day weekend), but you are welcome to visit the grounds any time. The church is located on Airport Road in Paso Robles, two miles north of Highway 46 East.



Mark your 2015 Calendars now!

May 24, Sunday

Estrella Adobe Church Annual Service. If you have never been inside the beautiful, historic Estrella Adobe Church, this is your chance! The church is opened just ONCE a year for services on Sunday afternoon of Memorial Day weekend.

June 6, Saturday

Model A and Model T Car Show. This Rios-Caledonia Adobe event showcases these very special cars from the early 1900s. The day will also include food, live music, and more! Admission: FREE.

September 26, Saturday

Caledonia Days and Dutch Oven Cook-off. This annual celebration of "bygone ways and bygone days" at the Rios-Caledonia Adobe is not to be missed. Admission: FREE.

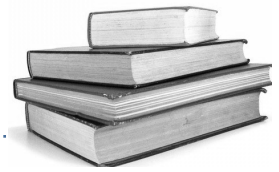
October 24, Saturday

Rios-Caledonia Adobe Candlelight Tour. This evening event allows you to visit the "spooky" darkened adobe by candlelight. Ghost stories and refreshments add to the fun. Admission: FREE.

OTHER EVENTS, DATES TBD...

Rios-Caledonia Research Library Grand Opening

Highway 101 Centennial Celebration



Five EASY ways to help or be involved...

1) Join

Membership is an easy way to provide support and ensure you keep updated on our activities. Memberships start at \$10 and can be given as gifts. Visit our website for more information: www.rios-caledoniaadobe.org

We also welcome new Board Members with fresh ideas!

2) Shop

The Rios-Caledonia Museum's Gift Shop offers truly unique antiques and collectibles as well as fascinating books. You just might find the perfect gift for someone special, or perhaps a keepsake for yourself!

3) Donate items

Donations of antique/vintage items to sell in the Museum's Gift Shop are very much appreciated! In addition to bringing in money, new Gift Shop items help bring in repeat visitors and shoppers!

4) Donate funds

We are always very grateful for monetary donations of any amount! And, please keep in mind that that we are a 501(c)(3) non-profit!

5) Volunteer

Volunteers are always appreciated! In addition to helping as docents, in the gift shop, and at special events, we also need helpers for clerical tasks, exhibits, fundraising, research, landscaping, website updates, publicity, and special projects. If you have a special talent or are willing to help in any way, please contact Joyce at (805) 467-3357, or email her at hermanjah@tcsn.net.

Rios-Caledonia Adobe Research Library Update

By Barbara Bilyeu

We are delighted to welcome Karen Wood-Mitchell as a new helper at the Research Library! Karen grew up in San Miguel and has very deep roots in this area on both her mother's and father's sides of the family. She currently works at the Paso Robles Library and has a good background in many aspects of librarianship. She has started to put the Research Library's catalog online so it will be available for access via the Internet, greatly increasing the collection's exposure to those who are interested in doing research.

We also want to welcome the addition of book donations from the estate of Henrietta and Wilmar Tognazzini. (Wilmar was an educator and local historian.) There are some unique materials in this collection which I plan to write about in the future.

We are presently aiming for having the Research Library's "grand opening" sometime later in the summer or early fall so you can all come in and see what is available. Watch for further developments!

California Historical Landmarks: Did you know...

You probably already know that both the Rios-Caledonia Adobe and the Estrella Adobe Church are California Historical Landmarks. But, have you ever wondered how Landmarks are selected? The selection process has changed over the years, but the following is the current criteria, from the California Office of Historic Preservation website:



California Historical Landmarks (CHLs) are buildings, sites, features, or events that are of statewide significance and have anthropological, cultural, military, political, architectural, economic, scientific or technical, religious, experimental, or other historical value. They must meet at least one of these criteria:

- ✂• *The first, last, only, or most significant of its type in the state or within a large geographic region (Northern, Central, or Southern California).*
- ✂• *Associated with an individual or group having a profound influence on the history of California.*
- ✂• *A prototype of, or an outstanding example of, a period, style, architectural movement or construction or is one of the more notable works or the best surviving work in a region of a pioneer architect, designer or master builder.*

The resource also must have written consent of the property owner; be recommended by the State Historical Resources Commission; and be officially designated by the Director of California State Parks.

News, and MORE news...



Museum Donation: Steve Mello and Brett Weathersbee, local bottle collectors, visited the museum recently and noted that we were in need of “authentic” bar bottles to replace three “faux” bottles in our Bar Room. They returned a few weeks later with two “Black Beer” bottles found in Benicia, California!

Gift Shop Improvements: Recently we have acquired two large donations (from the Tognazzini family and from Lorraine Cagliero) that are enhancing our inventory. Changes were needed to make room to accommodate these collections. We removed one-half of a partition that contained shelving on the backside (the front was a display of artwork). Replacing it was a large glass case, which displays many items. The remaining portion had been hidden storage of our “local” history books. Those were moved to the “Spider Room” and the thirty cubicles now house many of the “new” items. So, if you haven’t been to our Gift Shop lately, do come by and check out our many interesting items!

Jelly Sales: Joyce Herman and Florence Von Dollen (THANKS!) spearheaded the making of the Cactus Jelly this year, and only a few jars remain of the two dozen made! Next up: Pomegranate Jelly!

New Parks and Recreation Director: As you may know, restoration and maintenance of the Adobe is a cooperative effort between County Parks and Friends of the Adobes. On February 2, Nick Franco became the director of San Luis Obispo County’s new and separate Parks and Recreation Department. (It was formerly a division of the County’s General Services Agency.) Mr. Franco was previously the superintendent of the San Luis Obispo Coast District (which includes Hearst Castle) of California State Parks. Welcome to your new position, Mr. Franco!

Thank you SO much... ♥ ♥ ♥

☆ *ALL members:* Thanks to ALL of you who renewed your memberships in our recent membership drive. We will be recognizing ALL Sponsor, Patron, and Benefactor members in a future newsletter. Meanwhile, we want to say a special, heartfelt “thank you” to our members who recently renewed or joined at the Lifetime level, as well as our 2014 Benefactors. Your generosity is truly inspirational!

Patrons: Barbara Bilyeu, Lorraine Cagliero, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Dauth, Patrice A. Merwin, Mr. & Mrs. Steve Onderdonk, Mr. & Mrs. Fay Ross, Thomas B. Taylor

Benefactors: Harry Wolf, Eleanor Boba

☆ *Ron Domingos, Linda Elmerick, Jean Ross, Kathy Brown, and Gary McMaster:* For reorganizing and cleaning our “Spider Room,” which is used for storage of book cartons, donations of sale-able items awaiting room in the gift shop, and heating/cooling equipment, etc.

☆ *Tim Palmer:* For helping out with ground maintenance at the Estrella Adobe Church.

☆ *Craig Rambo & Cooking Crew from “San Miguel Chapter of Native Sons”:* For providing barbecue for our special functions, e.g., “Caledonia Days” and the Dutch Oven Cook Off. (Most recently in Sept. 2014 as well as in the past.)

☆ *Lorraine Cagliero and the Wilmar & Henrietta Tognazzini family:* For donating vintage items to sell in the Rios-Caledonia Museum Gift Shop.

We LOVE visitors!

Many 4th grade classes visit the Rios-Caledonia Adobe during the school year; some from as far away as



Fresno and Bakersfield. Fourth graders are mandated to study the missions as part of their California History education, so they visit our Adobe when visiting Mission San Miguel.

We enjoy talking with our visitors and often learn that they come from foreign countries: France, Japan, China, Australia, Italy, Great Britain, etc. Of course the question, “Where are you from?” opens a friendly conversation with almost everyone! Recently we had a couple visit from near North Pole, Alaska! (They visit the warmer sections of the U.S. during the winter.)

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California Historical Landmarks in San Luis Obispo County

Now that you know more about California Historical Landmarks (CHLs) from reading page 2, perhaps you are wondering how many there are in our county and how many you may have already visited. So, here they are, in numerical order. How many have you visited?



- NO. 325: Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, San Luis Obispo
- NO. 326: Mission San Miguel Arcángel, San Miguel
- NO. 364: Santa Margarita Asistencia (site of), Santa Margarita
- NO. 542: Estrella Adobe Church, Paso Robles**
- NO. 640: Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument, San Simeon
- NO. 720: Dallidet Adobe, San Luis Obispo
- NO. 726: The Sebastian Store, San Simeon
- NO. 802: Ah Louis Store, San Luis Obispo
- NO. 821: Morro Rock, Morro Bay
- NO. 936: Rios-Caledonia Adobe, San Miguel**
- NO. 939: Nitt Witt Ridge, Cambria
- NO. 958: Administration and Veteran's Memorial Building, Atascadero
- NO. 1033: Rancho Nipomo, Nipomo

DID YOU KNOW?... There is also a list of California Points of Historical Interest, a California Register of Historic Resources (all CHL's above 770 are automatically listed there), and a National Register of Historic Places? Isn't it great that people care about preserving history for future generations? That includes YOU! Thank you again for your interest in and support of Friends of the Adobes!