

Times



W W W . SANDIE G O HISTORY. ORG

Winter 2006 Volume XXXXIII, Number 1



Attic Sale at SDHS

The San Diego Historical Society is having an "attic sale" on Saturday, January 28 from 10am to 3pm. All proceeds from the sale will go to the Society's operating fund.

In recent months, we have been sorting through our "attic" and decided to "clean house." Many items are often specifically donated to be sold to raise money for the Society. Sometimes collection donations are unsuited to our collecting scope, but their owners do not want them returned and prefer that we dispose of them. When exhibitions are taken down, there are exhibit images that are no longer needed. More rarely, if we are processing our collections and find materials unrelated to San Diego, they are de-accessioned. We have even persuaded the ladies of the Costume Council to go through their closets and bring along their unwanted items.

Make a date for January 28 to come and browse through these no-longer-needed treasures. The Attic Sale will be held in the atrium and the Thornton Theatre of the Museum of San Diego History, Balboa Park.

GIVE THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP!

re you stuck for holiday gift ideas?
Looking for inspiration? Do you want to give something original, useful and inter-

esting? Why not treat your friends and family to a gift membership to the San Diego Historical Society? Free admission to the four museums as well as our Research Library; copies of *The Journal of San Diego History* and the *Times* newsletter; invitations to previews and special members-only events – imagine trying to gift-wrap that box of delights!

Contact: Donna Van Ert, Membership Coordinator at 619-232-6203 ext.102 (vanert@sandiegohistory.org) or come into the Museum Store at the Museum of San Diego History in Balboa Park.

Welcome Back, David!



David Krimmel

David Krimmel has recently returned to the San Diego Historical Society after nine years of absence. In that time, he owned his own successful design business, *David Krimmel Designs*, and worked as Exhibits Manager at the Birch Aquarium at Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

During his previous experience as Exhibits Designer at the Historical Society, David worked on numerous exhibitions including the popular Bustles to Bikinis.

He returns to us as Director of Exhibitions and will be at the forefront of the team preparing to design and implement the much-anticipated permanent exhibition of San Diego history. We welcome him back and wish him well with this exciting project.

LITTLE BLACK DRESSES

very woman has at least one, and if undecided, it's what she reaches for first.

Little Black Dresses, a small exhibition funded by the Society's Costume

Council and located in the atrium of the Museum of San Diego History, features six little black dresses from the Society's costume collection, ranging in date from 1927 to 1965. Each is appropriate for its own era, but they all could just as easily be worn today.

When introduced in 1926 by designer Coco Chanel, the little black dress was frequently compared to Ford's shiny black standardized motor car — both were sleek and available to the

27 for d

masses. *Vogue* predicted that the little black dress "would become the sort of uniform for all women of taste."

The silhouettes of little black dresses have changed with the times — some are long, lean, and glamorous, and some are short, sexy, and chic — but they all retain the same timeless quality and appeal.

Satin, velvet, chiffon, or crepe, a little black dress answers a variety of wardrobe demands and is stylish for any occasion. Black's absence of color allows for countless opportunities for personalization. Whether you wear it with pearls, diamonds, bangles, or beads, the little black dress always invokes a feel of elegance. It's not just for cocktails anymore, and in the 80 years since its creation, the little black dress has become a uniform that flatters a woman's body, forgives extra pounds, and makes her feel pretty, sexy, and smart.

SDHS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President	Past President	James Milch
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Meet the New SDHS Education Team



Rebecca Lawrence, Raffael Hoffmann, Mark Mesle, and Katrina Glynn

ith staffing changes and a renewed sense of direction, the Education Department has begun a transformation. Under the leadership of Rebecca Lawrence, who was recently named Director of Education, the department will play a larger role within the Historical Society and in its relationship with the public. Educational programming will be expanded beyond its current focus on teachers, and on third and fourth grade students, to reach a wider, more diverse audience, including adults, families, and school groups of all ages. Technology will be incorporated into programs in innovative ways to increase accessibility to the Historical Society's collections and resources. The Education staff has already begun working more closely with the Exhibits Department to ensure that programming concepts and logistics are interwoven throughout the design and construction of new exhibitions.

"This is an exciting time for me and my staff," said Rebecca. "We have been busy brainstorming ideas and making plans to meet these new expectations." Her staff includes Katrina Glynn, Raffael Hoffmann, and Mark Mesle.

Rebecca Lawrence, Director of Education

A native of San Diego, Rebecca received her master's degree in public administration with a specialization in public and nonprofit management from New York University. She also holds a B.A. in sociology and Spanish from UC Riverside and spent one year studying abroad in Madrid, Spain. After finishing her graduate studies, she moved back to San Diego and began working with the San Diego Historical Society in 2002 as a volunteer in the Education Department. She was hired in 2003 as Historic Site Educator, promoted to Education Coordinator in 2004, and then to Director of Education in 2005.

Katrina Glynn, Education Coordinator

Katrina has just recently moved to San Diego from New York to begin her new job at the Historical Society. She joined the education team as the lead instructor for the School in the Park Program and is also in charge of scheduling education programs. After completing a semester abroad in Wellington, New Zealand, Katrina graduated with a bachelor's degree in sociology with a concentration in anthropology from Mary Washington College. She has a master's degree in elementary education with a literacy specialization.

Raffael Hoffmann, Site Educator

Raffael oversees the docent-led fourth grade education program at the Serra Museum called "San Diego Before Statehood." His involvement with the Education Department began when he became a docent for the Serra program in September 2004. He was hired as Site Educator and Site Interpreter in February 2005. A native of Germany, he graduated with a master's degree in education from Georg-August-University in Goettingen, Germany. Before moving to the United States in July of 2004, he was a public relations assistant for a local natural gas and water supplier. Raffael is also currently a German teacher at a San Diego school.

Mark Mesle, Museum Instructor

Mark is the assistant instructor for the School in the Park program and also teaches various other education programs. Originally from Iowa, he attended Graceland University for two years before transferring to the University of Iowa where he graduated with a double major in history and English. Since arriving in San Diego two years ago, he has worked for the YMCA School Outreach Services program and the Literacy AmeriCorps program, where he helped eliminate illiteracy in San Diego by providing one-on-one tutoring to adult learners.

Marston House Centennial Party



Vonn Marie May, leading a tour of the grounds



"Doonie" Marston Pettit



State Senator Christine Kehoe with Hal Sadler, architect and SDHS Board President

he sun was shining, the geraniums were blooming, and well over two hundred guests gathered on the front lawn of the Marston House for the October 9th centennial event. Acting Mayor Toni Atkins and State Senator Christine Kehoe began the program by presenting proclamations from the city and state. The County Board of Supervisors sent a proclamation declaring October 9th to be Marston House Day throughout San Diego County. It was clear that our public officials have great respect for the importance of the Marston legacy and the symbolic role the House plays in the community.

Hal Sadler, speaking on behalf of the Historical Society, gave an inspiring talk, as did Paul Johnson, noted preservation architect, who has dedicated much time and effort to the restoration plans for this historic Arts and Crafts home. San Diego Union-Tribune writer Roger Showley's remarks highlighted George Marston's political legacy, explained the origins of the "Geranium George" sobriquet, and ended with a witty advertising jingle penned by George Marston himself.

Two of Marston's granddaughters spoke, offering reminiscences about time spent at the House during their youth. Many Marston family members attended the event, representing third, fourth, and fifth generations of the family. It was a pleasure to honor the Marstons for their ongoing support of the Historical Society. Kathi Diamant, a KPBS producer, chaired the program. She announced her new monthly television spot, *San Diego Treasures*, which will highlight the Marston House throughout March 2006. Her bright and cheery presentation reflected the spirit of the entire afternoon.

The House looked wonderful, decorated with floral arrangements and vintage costumes from the Historical Society's collection. The curatorial staff stationed throughout the House did a great job answering questions as guests streamed through for tours following the program. A brand new archeological exhibition, installed in one of the bedrooms on the second floor, was popular as was the reception on the terrace where guests mingled and enjoyed refreshments and music provided by the Occasional Players, a wind ensemble. It was a lovely afternoon, a fine tribute to a great San Diego landmark. Thanks to everyone who helped make it a success.



Kathi Diamant (KPBS), Acting Mayor Toni Atkins, SDHS Executive Director David Watson



Roger Showley (San Diego Union-Tribune) with Acting Mayor Toni Atkins



Paul Johnson, architect

HOLIDAY SEASON COMES TO THE VILLA MONTEZUMA AND THE MARSTON HOUSE

t's that time of year again! The Villa Montezuma and the Marston House are decorated in full splendor for the holiday season. The Villa Montezuma is decorated true to the

Victorian Era and the Marston House decorations follow the ideals of the Arts and Crafts movement. This really is a special treat, especially if you have company in town. Start at the Villa Montezuma and then go to the Marston House — see how the architecture, interiors, and decorations

change with the times. The best way to see the houses is to buy a Combo Ticket (available at each house), which allows you to see both for \$7.50, a savings of \$2.50 off the regular adult admission price! Of course, San Diego Historical Society members always get in free. The Villa Montezuma and the Marston House are open for guided tours Friday through Sunday.

Tours begin every hour starting at 10am; the last tour begins at 4pm. The decorations will be up through January 8, 2006.





Tours of San Diego have closed the Ghosts and Gravestones
Tour indefinitely since the beginning of November. After years
of successful partnering with the Villa Montezuma, and tens of
thousands of people visiting the house, the popular tour has come
to an end. The company cites increases in operating expenses as
well as decreasing sales as reasons for closing the tour. The Ghosts
and Gravestones Tour was profitable for the Society, and we are
hoping to work with the Friends of the Villa Montezuma to find a
fun, new, and creative program to fill the void.

Día de los Muertos

by Sarah Post, Assistant Curator

his year the neighborhood of Sherman Heights celebrated its 11th annual Día de los Muertos event. It was a beautiful weekend to enjoy a walk around the community where members of the neighborhood created traditional altars to honor their deceased loved ones. The Sherman Heights Community Center was host to altars and how-to workshops for sugar skulls and papier-mâché skeletons. Also available was a complete authentic Mexican meal,



including mole, tamales, pan de muerto, and Mexican hot chocolate. The Historical Society participated in this growing tradition by honoring Jesse Shepard with an altar in the music room of the Villa Montezuma. The altar paid tribute to the musician, spiritualist, and author who enriched the Sherman Heights community with the wonderful Villa Montezuma. Open from 11am–5pm, many people took the opportunity to take a tour of this beautiful historic house.

If you missed this wonderful tradition this year, be sure to mark your calendar for the weekend of Día de los Muertos 2006.



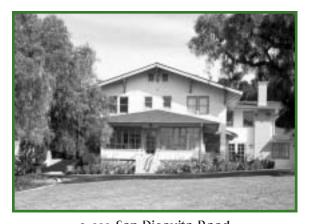
SAN DIEGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Showcase 2006



Empty House Party

January 14, 5-8pm Admission: \$15 (RSVP by January 11)



14333 San Dieguito Road San Dieguito Valley (East of Del Mar)

Empty House Viewing
January 15, 21, & 22, 10am - 4pm
Admission: \$5

Opening Night Gala April 22

*Showcase 2006*April 29 - May 29

Advance Tickets
General Admission: \$20
SDHS Members: \$15

Tickets and Information

Donna Van Ert: 619-232-6203 ext.102

vanert@sandiegohistory.org



Los Californianos Quarterly Meeting



os Californianos will hold their quarterly meeting January 20-22, 2006 at the Best Western Seven Seas in Mission ■ Valley. The group, which includes descendants of the Hispanic settlers in Alta, California, before 1848, provides a Traveling Genealogy Library for research at its meetings. The library collection is centered on those settlers and their descendants and is open to the public for genealogical/historical research for a weekend fee of \$5 plus the meeting registration fee of \$3. The library will be open from 3 to 8pm on Friday and 7:30am to 4:30pm on Saturday.

Saturday's meeting program includes guided tours of Mission San Diego de Alcalá in the morning and afternoon and the San Diego Archaeological Center in the afternoon.

The Saturday evening dinner will feature Dr. Jack Williams, a native San Diegan, historian, and member of Los Californianos, who will present a lecture titled "Some New Insights about Early San Diego: The Presidio, the Mission, and the Battle of San Pasqual." Dr. Williams is an active archeologist who has worked sites at the San Diego Presidio, Mission Santa Barbara, and Mission San Luis Rey in recent years. He is a noted author who has, among other literary endeavors, completed a four volume set on the Presidios under a grant from California Mission Studies Association. In cooperation with Father Thomas Davis, he has also written a set of six books on early California aimed at a fourth grade audience.

On Sunday Dr. Iris Engstrand will speak about the early history of San Diego at the breakfast buffet. Dr. Engstrand is a professor of history at the University of San Diego, where she was awarded a distinguished University Professorship and the Davies Award for Faculty Achievement. Dr. Engstrand has received fellowships from the Fulbright Commission, American Philosophical Society, and Huntington Library. She is the author of 21 books, including over half a dozen on the history of San Diego and its institutions and leaders. She will be happy to autograph her latest book, San Diego: California's Cornerstone, which will be available for purchase at the meeting.

Information about the meeting is available from the hosts, Dee Humphrey - 858/271-6717 (ghumphrey333@yahoo.com) or Benita and George Gray — 858/538-3027 (gray850@aol.com). Reservations for tours and/or meals can be made with the Grays. If you are interested in the history of California before it became part of the United States, especially if you believe you are descended from its early Hispanic settlers, we are sure you would find something of interest at this meeting, and Los Californianos would welcome your attendance.

ORAL HISTORY WORKSHOP

AT THE SAN DIEGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Kerry Temple interviews Paul Hatfield, 1965.

The San Diego Historical Society will offer an Oral History Workshop on Saturday, January 21, from 9:30am to 4:30pm, in the Casa de Balboa, 1649 El Prado, Balboa Park. The cost is \$20.00.

SDHS oral historian Dennis Sharp will teach all aspects of oral history, including choosing interview candidates, interview techniques, legal issues, use of equipment, types of media, transcribing, and preservation.

Reservations are recommended. For information contact Dennis Sharp at 619-232-6203 ext. 123/sharp@sandiegohistory.org Jane Kenealy at 619-232-6203 ext. 117/kenealy@sandiegohistory.org



Exhibitions

ROMP! Children Discover Balboa Park

his fun children's exhibition is a walk through time exploring the fascinating history of Balboa Park from its beginning. The exhibition tracks the spectacular development of Balboa Park for the 1915-16 Panama-California Exposition, through to the technological "wonders" of the 1935-36 California-Pacific International Exposition. Children are encouraged to explore the interactive exhibition components, while learning about the people, the cultures, and the city that created Balboa Park.

Designed for the young and young at heart, the exhibition guides the visitor on a journey filled with fascinating examples of lifestyles, architecture, and technology. Its activities allow you to see how the Park has changed and to visit the two Expositions. You are also invited to create your own design for the 'Park of the Future.'

Children take home several projects which they will create within the exhibition: an origami swan, a rubbing from a 1915 souvenir medallion, and a personalized computer-generated certification as a Junior Historian. In addition, a printed Discovery Guide will enable parents, teachers and visitors to extend their learning into the Park as architectural features and buildings are identified.

Exhibition Sponsors: The J. W. Sefton Foundation; The Hans and Margaret Doe Charitable Trust; The Thursday Club.





From Blueprints to Buildings: SAN DIEGO ARCHITECTURE

his exhibition of San Diego architecture traces the region's rich architectural history from early Indian bark houses to Modern and Post-modern buildings. The exhibition draws on the

Historical Society's extensive archives to showcase the most significant examples of various architectural styles and types of structures.

The exhibition chronicles San Diego's architectural history and includes residential, religious, educational, scientific, commercial, and recreational buildings as well as bridges. It features examples of Mission, Victorian, Spanish Colonial, Italian Revival, Arts and Crafts, Art Deco, International, Modern and Post-modern architecture.

In addition to illustrating the progression of San Diego's architectural styles, the exhibition highlights architects who helped create signature styles, including Irving Gill, William Templeton Johnson and Bertram Goodhue. It also features images of notable buildings that no longer exist and examples of adaptive re-use of some historic structures.

Exhibition Sponsors: County of San Diego Supervisors Ron Roberts and Greg Cox; William Turnbull Jr. Environmental Education Grant; California Architectural Foundation; San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture.

Developing San Diego: Making History Every Day

his photographic exhibition has been described as a "now and then" style view of San Diego. It might be more accurately described as "from then until now" as it illustrates the changes to our built and natural environments over a long period of time.

Every day we can look around us and see change, sometimes large and dramatic, sometimes gradual and subtle. When a building that was standing one day is gone the next, we are suddenly aware of our rapidly changing world, and when a new building goes up to take its place, we reminisce about the old building. Photographs capture a moment in time and encourage us to say "remember when..."

In this exhibition, there are historical images of buildings, street scenes and landscapes, from the Booth Historical Photograph Archives next to contemporary images, taken in late 2000 through 2002 by Chris Travers, Director of the Booth Historical Photograph Archives. There is also informative text written by Will Chandler.

Looking at a number of the images today, such as the view of Cuyamaca Reservoir (which was taken before the devastating fires of 2003), one should be reminded that the present becomes the past with every passing moment — and not to take those moments for granted.

Exhibition Sponsors: The Heller Foundation, Pratt Memorial Fund, WD-40 Company.



NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Hector Alvarez

Ms. Mary Anderson and Mr. Ron Argo

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Blair

Ms. Chellyn Boguiren

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bowman

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bramble

Ms. Laura Bretton

Mr. and Mrs. Barry A. Bruins

Mr. and Mrs. John Carroll

Ms. Judy Casino

Mr. Michael D. Chapman and

Mrs. Cynthia A. Daly

Mrs. Dorothy Deitchman

Mr. and Mrs. David Feldman

Mr. and Mrs. Michael D. Fitzsimmons

Rev. Victoria Freiheit and Mr. G. Willie Freiheit

Ms. Julie Graf

Mr. John Hall

Mr. and Mrs. Mitch Hall

Ms Tere Harris and Ms. Stephanie Forney

Mr. Alexander F. Hempton

Ms. Mary C. C. Jennings and

Mr. Harry R. Eisner

Mr. Milan Konacevic and Ms. Natalie Walsh

Mr. and Mrs. David Krimmel

Mr. and Mrs. Hermann E Kuebitz

Mr. John R. Lamb

Mr. John T. Lewis

Mrs. and Mr. Joan Liddell

Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Malcolm

Dr. and Mrs. Stuart Marshall

Steven Martin

Mr. Steven Martini

Mr. Robert McGill

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce McIntyre

Mr. Robert A. McNeely

Ms. Terry Mendez

Miss Lisa Mendoza

Ms. Jennifer C. Nolan

Ms. Lisa Pluth

Mr. Gil Prado

Mr. and Mrs. Nigel Quinney

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Reynolds

Mr. David Ruiz

Ms. Judy Schultz and Ms. Ellen Arigo

Mr. and Mrs. Rick Smith

Mr. and Mrs. Lorin Stewart

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney A. Stutz

Mr. and Mrs. Arturo Valencia

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Villanueva

Mr. Paul W. Wormser and Ms. Jennifer Martinez

Institute of History 2005 Winners Correction

The Mark Tarasuck Award to Jeremy Holland should read Jeremy Hollins. Our apologies for the error.

SAN DIEGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TIMES Newsletter

Published since 1964 by the San Diego Historical Society

David Watson, Executive Director

Jane Kenealy, Editor

Elizabeth Abbott, Graphic Designer

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Send address changes to: the TIMES, San Diego Historical Society, 1649 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA 92101 Come Visit the Museum Store for Gift Ideas!

he Museum Store at the Museum of San Diego History is a wonderful place to shop for unique gifts. There is no fee to enter the store and we are open seven days a week from 10am to 5pm.

We carry a large array of books, vintage photos from our Historical Photograph Archives, Victorian gifts, tea-related items, flavorful jams and spreads, Arts and Crafts pottery, notecards, and a wonderful selection of jewelry.

For the holiday season, we have a large selection of ornaments to decorate your home, Santas in a variety of sizes, and attractive linens in seasonal colors.

Our beautiful line of vintage-inspired handmade jewelry is from a collection called Sweet Romance, just right for the special person in your life.

Also check out our gift and book sale tables, where items are discounted 35 percent. There will also be a special sale on Christmas items, beginning on December 2.

With such great gift ideas, why not come visit our Museum Store? We hope to see you soon.... And don't forget to show your SDHS membership card for a 10 percent discount!





December

December 2, 5-10pm & 3, noon-10pm

December Nights

Balboa Park

(www.balboapark.org/december_nights.html)

December 24

Research Library — **closed**

Museum of San Diego History, Villa Montezuma, Serra Museum, and Marston House — closing at 2pm

December 25

Museum of San Diego History, Villa Montezuma, Serra Museum, and Marston House — closed

December 31

Research Library, Museum of San Diego History, Villa Montezuma, Serra Museum, and Marston House closing at 2pm

January

January 1

Museum of San Diego History, Villa Montezuma, Serra Museum, and Marston House — closed

January 14, 5-8pm

Showcase 2006 Empty House Party

14333 San Dieguito Road

January 15, 21-22, 10am-4pm

Showcase 2006 Empty House Viewing

14333 San Dieguito Road

January 20-22

Los Californianos Quarterly Meeting

January 21, 9:30am-4:30pm

Oral History Workshop

SDHS Education Center

January 28, 10am-3pm

Attic Sale

Atrium and Thornton Theatre, Museum of San Diego History

New Exhibitions

A Place of Promise: Stories of San Diego

A Place of Promise will tell the story of San Diego through the stories of its people. It will be an exhibition that invites the collaboration of visitors, and will urge them to explore their own neighborhoods, to examine their life experiences and to tell their own stories. In one interactive display, they will be able to create oral histories and to leave them for visitors who follow. The exhibition will encourage visitors to become active participants, to meet history straight on by embracing the rich diversity of San Diego today.

The exhibition will publicly and interactively unfold over the next two years. The objects you see at this time are examples of the San Diego Historical Society's extensive collections, and offer rich opportunities for interpretation. The thematic, decentralized design of the exhibition will allow new "pods" to be introduced frequently, mirroring the changing nature of the City's history. Such a design will also reinforce the diversity of the area, and encourage smaller historical societies to participate, particularly those with different geographic or cultural orientations.



This publication is funded in part by the city of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture

Desert Night, the Wind by Donal Hord



A Dyson-Roberson Charitable Trust Loan

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From David Watson, Executive Director



any thanks to all of you for your generous response to my letter in September. Collectively, you have pledged nearly \$15,000 per year in annual support for the Society, an amount that is already making a difference. I would love to see this figure grow over time and become a steady, predictable revenue stream around which our programs can be confidently planned and budgeted. Your continued support is critical not just to the success of the Society, but to its very survival.

The small, "concept exhibition" for the larger, standing *Place of Promise* exhibition is now open, and you're invited to come, explore, comment, and watch the progress of the larger permanent exhibition as it develops. We are delighted to be starting this long planned project, and I especially look forward to seeing our talented staff bring it to fruition.

I hope you will all enjoy a safe and joyful holiday season. You have my best wishes for both the season and for the New Year.

David S. Watson, Executive Director

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We are thankful for their generous support.

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San Diego Historical Society

Where our history comes alive!

For over 75 years, the San Diego Historical Society, an educational and cultural institution, has been dedicated to preserving and sharing our growing historical collections and extensive archives with our members, visitors and the community. The Society operates the Museum of San Diego History and the Research Library in the Casa de Balboa building in Balboa Park, the Serra Museum in Presidio Park, the Villa Montezuma House Museum in Sherman Heights, and the Marston House Museum in Balboa Park.

Museum of San Diego History

Casa de Balboa 1649 El Prado, Balboa Park 619-232-6203 Open daily 10am - 5pm

Research Library and Booth Historical Photograph Archives

Casa de Balboa (lower level) 1649 El Prado, Balboa Park 619-232-6203 ext. 117 Thursday - Saturday, 10am - 4.30pm

Serra Museum

2727 Presidio Drive Presidio Park 619-297-3258 Open daily 10am - 4:30pm

Marston House

3525 Seventh Avenue Balboa Park 619-298-3142 Friday – Sunday 10am - 5pm Tours begin on the hour; last tour at 4pm

Villa Montezuma

1925 K Street (corner of 20th and K streets) 619-239-2211 Friday - Sunday, 10am - 5pm Tours begin on the hour; last tour at 4pm





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