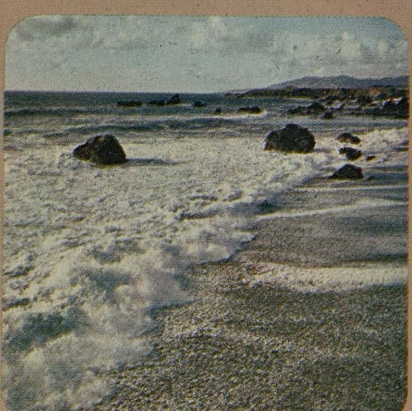
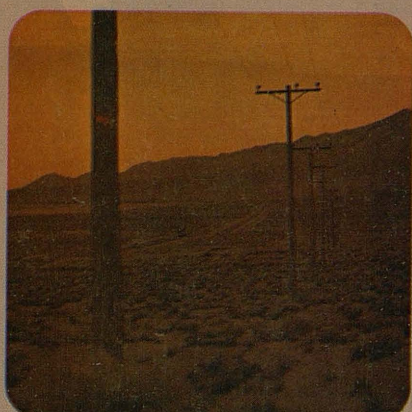


# CALIFORNIA highways and public works

May - June 1966



*Travel 1966*



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6/10/66

# CALIFORNIA highways and public works

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**FRONT COVER:** Top row: Mojave Desert wildflowers; Zanetta House, San Juan Bautista; Yosemite in winter; second row: Carpinteria State Beach; E Clampus Vitus initiation in ghost town of Volcano; US 395 south of Lone Pine; third row: fishing in Big Sur River; Sanctuary and Eye of God, Mission San Miguel; Sonoma Coast. John Robinson photographs.

**BACK COVER:** A California Beach. John Robinson photograph.

## CALIFORNIA

"Listen, how I have seen  
Flash of strange fires in gorge and black ravine;  
Heard the sharp clang of steel that came to drain  
The Mountain's golden vein—  
And laughed and sang, and sang and laughed again,  
Because that 'Now,' I said, 'I shall be known!  
I shall not sit alone,  
But reach my hands unto my sister lands!'"

By Ina Donna Coolbrith (1841-1928).  
Ina Coolbrith, California's first poet laureate, came west in 1852 in the first wagon train over Beckwourth Pass, riding into California on horseback double, in front of the famous mountain man James Beckwourth.



"An outstanding network of state highways is essential to the future growth of California's economy"

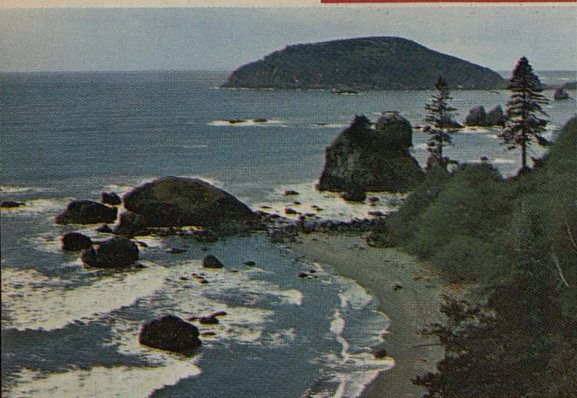
—Governor Edmund G. Brown





TOM MYERS

S. MYERS



Northern California coast and Trinidad Head, named in 1775 by Bruno de Heceta, who took possession on Trinidad Sunday, and raised a cross on the head. In the cove behind the head is a picturesque harbor used by commercial salmon fishing fleet.



JOHN MEYERPETER

Coast in the vicinity of Fort Bragg was frenetically busy when redwoods were being cut 50 years ago, and lumber schooners were working out of every "dog hole." Today it is a quiet, picturesque "land of second growth."





# The Redwood Empire



*Wine grape country near Healdsburg. This is also good apple country for certain varieties.*

PETER ASANO

Northward from the Golden Gate to Grant's Pass in Oregon is the land known as the "Redwood Empire." Its fascination for the exploring motorist has many facets.

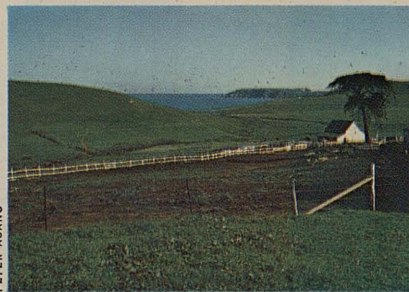
Famous for its spectacular redwoods, this area has much more to offer than just trees, for here are craggy coasts, fine fishing streams, many lakes for boating, and a good portion of California's fine wine country.

The main route from the Golden Gate Bridge into the Redwood Empire is US 101, a highway that extends from the Mexican border to the international waters of Puget Sound, but the portion of its length north from San Francisco to Crescent City is known as the Redwood Highway.

Just across the bridge it is a broad freeway, usually heavy with traffic moving to and from the residential cities which border its right-of-way: San Rafael, Sausalito, San Anselmo, Mill Valley, Novato, Petaluma, and half a dozen others.

As the road continues northward, it passes through the City of Santa Rosa—famous as the home of the fabulous Luther Burbank and his gardens.

Not as busy, the road wends northward



PETER ASANO



PETER ASANO



JOHN ROBINSON

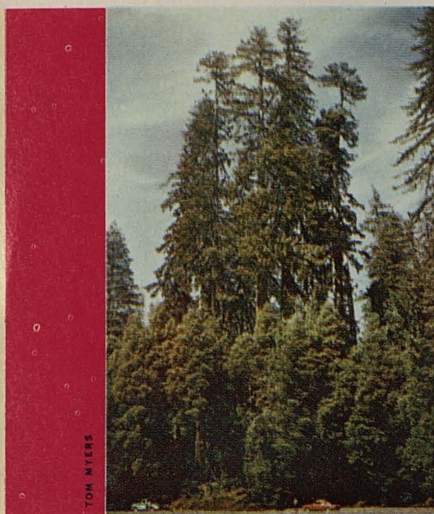


PETER ASANO

*To the traveler the look of the north coast is one of constantly changing mood—of old wave-cut ledges, of quiet seaside ranches, of rocky coasts being slowly battered to fragments by booming surf. On misty days the colors are muted, on sunny days they are a brilliant gold, blue, and green.*



Right: Coast redwoods, *Sequoia sempervirens*, and ferns, *Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park*. No matter how old, trees will not grow this large unless they have deep soil and cool, moist, climate. Below: Until 1963 this clump of redwoods containing the world's tallest tree was undiscovered. New champion is on privately owned land, but owner has promised to preserve trees until funds are available to create a park there.



"Their immense trunks might be fluted columns of some noble order of architecture..."

C. H. Kirkham on the redwoods



Logging is still one of California's important industries. Forests serve double purpose, both as important source of lumber and as prime recreational land.

through Cloverdale, Ukiah, and Willits, all three important lumbering centers, and the last sizable towns before Garberville, located far down the canyon of the South Fork of the Eel River.

North of Ukiah the terrain gradually becomes more mountainous, and beyond Laytonville the road climbs along a high canyon wall, then passes through a notch at Leggett and starts down a 30-mile stretch of old highway which closely follows the South Fork.

A few miles beyond Garberville the road becomes freeway again. Small patches and groves of redwoods will have been in sight for many miles, but here near Garberville in the Humboldt Redwoods State Park are seen the first really fine groves of river bottom trees, towering over 300 feet high and 12 to 14 feet in diameter.

These are the true *Sequoia sempervirens*, found only in California and in a few stands in Josephine County, just across the Oregon line.

There were once three and a half million acres of these trees, growing in great forests as far south as Monterey County. On the hills just south of the site of present-day San Francisco and in the valleys north of the Golden Gate, the land was densely covered with stands, but these were all cut early in the





state's history, primarily to furnish lumber to build the San Francisco Bay cities.

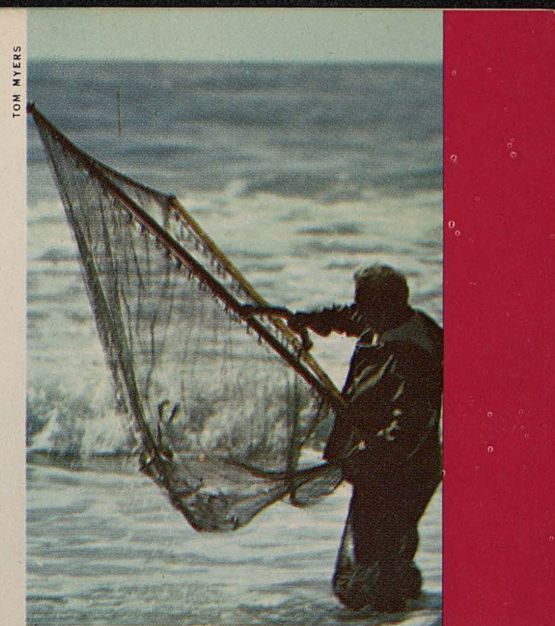
Humboldt Redwoods State Park contains about 20,000 acres, and much of its area is covered by groves of mature redwood giants. The Rockefeller Forest here is said to be the most valuable single piece of timber property in the world because of its massive trees in dense stands.

As the freeway was pushed up the Eel Canyon, the old highway was preserved and is maintained by highway crews for the use of tourists and sightseers. This is called "The Avenue of the Giants." Its World War I alignment, a narrow two lanes, winds between the great trees which crowd so close to the road in places notches were once cut to allow schoolbuses to get by.

Here are pullouts and enticing little side-roads leading to secluded picnic grounds and nature trails. At the more important points there is parking and good directional signing to help the visitor see the most interesting trees and exhibits.

Many towns border the highway between here and Eureka, the main northern coastal city—a large lumber and plywood manufacturing site, with a sizable harbor. Dairying and agriculture also are important in the surrounding area.

*Surf-smelt fisherman lifts dip-net with catch of a dozen fish on Mendocino County coast. This kind of fishing is seasonal, depending on runs.*



TON MYERS

*The north coast has many small harbors amidst craggy headlands and second growth redwoods where small fleets of fishing craft find refuge.*



JOHN MEYER PETER



PETER ASANO

*Fishing boats in Tomales Bay, Sonoma County, an important north coast commercial fishing center. Boats are deep sea trolling type.*

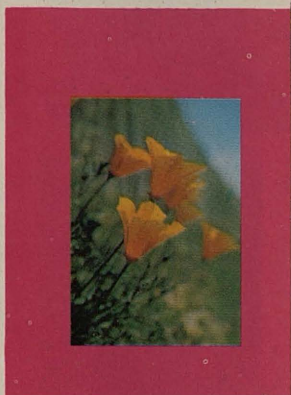


JOHN MEYER PETER

*Group of smelt fishermen working near Fort Bragg. Water is cold, and sometimes surf is dangerous.*



*Chapel at Fort Ross, once in ruins, has been restored. State historical park commemorates farthest Russian penetration into North America.*



TOM MYERS



JOHN MEYERPETER



TOM MYERS



TOM MYERS

*The picturesque location and the weathered old-fashioned structures have made Mendocino a modern haven for artists.*

Eureka's developing urban complex includes Fortuna, Arcata, Loleta, Blue Lake, and half a dozen other communities. In this location are many fine modern motels and excellent restaurants.

North of Eureka the highway closely follows the magnificent northern coast for much of the way to Crescent City, a town smaller than but similar to Eureka. On this portion of the Redwood Highway are a number of excellent state parks, some of them coastal, but including Prairie Creek Redwoods and Del Norte Redwoods, also two locations with redwood groves that rival Humboldt Redwoods.

Above Crescent City US 199 becomes the Redwood Highway, and a few miles along it passes through another prime redwood preserve, Jedediah Smith State Park, with both the stream and the park named after an early explorer and intrepid mountain man.

Although the Redwood Highway is the main artery from which to explore the Redwood Empire, there are a number of other routes which take the traveler to other sections. Just north of the Golden Gate, leaving US 101 and passing through Mill Valley en route to the coast, is State Route 1, known in this area as the Shoreline Highway.

Paralleling the Redwood Highway on the west, the Shoreline Highway twists and winds for 200 miles, almost always in sight of the sea. In places it drops down almost to the sea, and then climbs again high up the flank of a headland.

Near its southern end, at Point Reyes Station, is a road connection for those who want to explore the Point Reyes National Seashore. A few miles north is Bodega Bay, where a colorful fishing fleet is harbored.

Farther north another 20 miles or so, along some of the most inspiring sections of coast on the whole route, is restored Fort Ross, once seat of Russian power in California. Here are the watchtowers, the commander's house, and the Russian Orthodox chapel, just as they were when the fort was an outpost for the Russian sea otter fur industry.

The northern portion of the Shoreline Highway passes through many small towns and villages, the wooden frame buildings bleached by the salt air and looking more like eastern seaboard settlements than California. In the Fort Bragg area are some big lumber mills, a number of fine state parks, and the beautiful fishing boat harbor at Noyo. Above Fort Bragg the road passes along an ever wilder and more picturesque coast before it turns inland at Rockport and rejoins US 101 at Leggett.

In the southern portion of the Redwood Empire there is a network of roads over which to explore the rich agricultural counties of Lake, Sonoma, and Napa. Lake County takes its name primarily from Clear Lake—largest body of fresh water completely within the





state boundaries (Tahoe is larger, but lies partly in Nevada).

In these interior counties the summer climate is warm and dry, and Clear Lake, supplemented by its associated Blue Lakes and a number of manmade reservoirs, is an outstanding water ski center. Fishing also is good at certain seasons, and resort developments line the lake's shores.

Both Napa and Sonoma Counties are famous for their wines, and the slopes of their valleys are covered with vines. Here you may arrange for special tours of the wineries, many of which are now more than a hundred years old, with interesting architecture and ancient vats brought from Europe in some cases.

In Sonoma County the town of Sonoma is rich in California history, and is one of the state's oldest settlements. Developed in the 1830's as a northern rampart against feared Russian encroachment, it was a garrison town and home of General Vallejo, one of the state's outstanding citizens, a patriarch and wealthy landowner.

With history, magnificent coastal vistas, towering mountains, and cathedral-like redwood groves, the Redwood Empire is a kaleidoscope of impressions for the visitor.



JOHN ROBINSON



*Richardson Grove State Park has an excellent stand of old redwoods, as well as the Eel River for water play. Air mattresses are the vogue in summer in this placid stream, which in times of heavy winter rain can suddenly become one of the most destructive in the U.S.*





# Shasta-Cascade Wonderland

Travelers looking for contrast from the bustle of metropolitan life will find a visit to the seven-county area comprising northeastern California puts them back in step with the harmony of nature. This part of the state, locally called the Shasta-Cascade Wonderland, offers countless havens for outdoor leisure, and is easily reached by state highways converging from several directions.

The main access route either from the north or south would be over US 99, now becoming Interstate 5 over much of its length. South of Red Bluff, 99 splits into 99E and 99W, the letters indicating "east" and "west." 99W of course is the best access route from the San Francisco Bay area, while 99E is better from Sacramento and other central valley points. Eventually, however, I-5 will swing east from 99W at Dunnigan to continue through Woodland, Sacramento, and Stockton, and southward along the eastern side of the coast range as the Westside Freeway.

About four hours away from San Francisco, somewhat less from Sacramento, lie the "gateway" cities of Red Bluff and Redding. Their locations at the base of the Trinity-Shasta-Lassen areas provide convenient departure points for treks into the wilderness—for pack trips and camping, boating, fishing, hunting, and even fossil and gem seeking.

Eastward from US 99, Route 36 leads to the southern entryway to Lassen Volcanic National Park (closed in winter). Dangerously





*"As lone as God, and white  
as winter moon  
Mount Shasta's peak looks down ..."*

from *Mount Shasta* by William F. Burbank

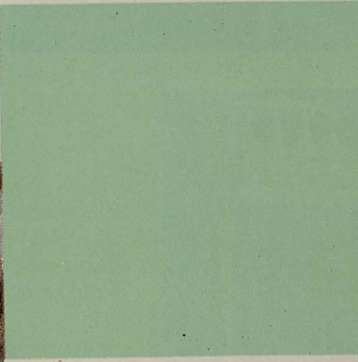


JOHN MEYERPETER

*The quaking aspen, Populus tremuloides, native to widespread areas of the West, is one of the world's most showy fall-color trees.*



JOHN MEYERPETER



*This is another California, with the Sierra Nevada left behind, and the Cascades penetrating all the way south from Washington. They have been a vigorously volcanic range and their mark can be seen in many places, but a generous rainfall has masked most of the scars with dense pine forests.*



*Large photo: Double coned Mt. Shasta dominates the area, rising over 14,000 feet. Left: Mt. Lassen, seen across Reflection Lake in winter, is the only live volcano in the United States.*

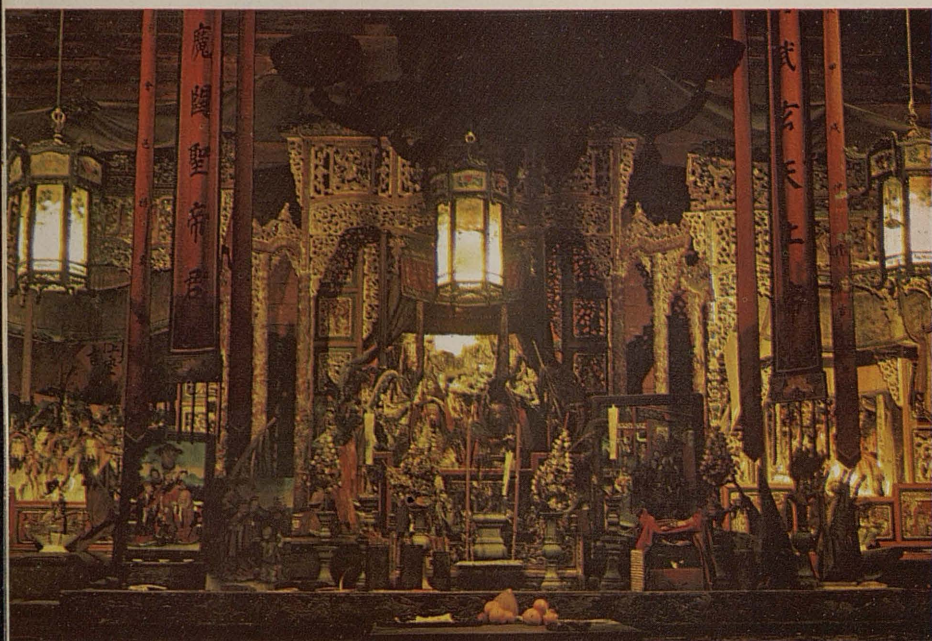
*Above: Chaos Crags are children of Lassen, only 200 years old.*



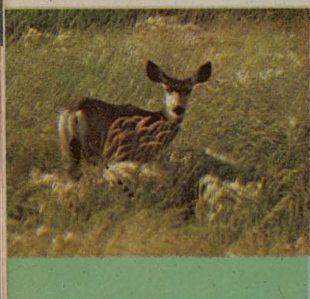


JOHN MEYERPETER

*Above and below: Joss House in Weaverville is a state historical monument, but also a bonafide Taoist temple with regular worshipers. Although building is only somewhat less than a hundred years old, its altar, imported from China during the Gold Rush, is very ancient. Bottom: Weaverville, once center for great hydraulic mines in vicinity, has unique outside spiral staircases on main street buildings.*



TOM MYERS



PETER ASANO

hot steam and boiling mud still rise to the surface within the park at Bumpass Hell, Boiling Springs Lake and Devils Kitchen, and other inactive volcanoes flanking Lassen Peak are Chaos Crags, Eagle Peak and Bumpass Mountain.

Crossing through Redding is Route 299, the major east-west highway in northern California, giving access into the Trinity Alps Wilderness Area—one of the most rugged parts of California north of the Sierra Nevada. High jagged peaks and deep-cut valleys carved by glaciers are special delights to backpackers.

Trails are good and distinctly marked and the experienced wilderness lover can blaze his own trails to several of the remotest lakes for fishing. Arrangements for trips with licensed packers can be made.

There are several dams with large reservoirs in the vicinity. Trinity Dam and the smaller Lewiston Dam harness the Trinity River. Beyond is Clair Engle Lake, recently renamed to honor the late United States senator from California. It, like almost all lakes in northern California, is a recreational paradise with 145 miles of shoreline backed by pine-clad slopes.

A third dam (dedicated by the late President John F. Kennedy in 1963) is located eight miles west of Redding on Route 299. This dam creates Whiskeytown Lake, with its surrounding area operated by the National Park Service.

Back on Interstate 5/US 99 beyond Redding, this major highway to Portland passes over massive Shasta Lake via the Pit River Bridge, the tallest double deck span in the world. With 365 miles of shoreline, Shasta Lake has many coves, bays and arms, and its shape is sometimes compared to a maple leaf. The topography of this body of water and its surrounding shores facilitates finding relatively private campgrounds and picnic areas. The lake abounds with fish: Seventeen varieties, from sturgeon to blue gills, lurk in the lake waters, so every fisherman, from novice to expert, has a chance to enjoy his version of the sport.

Shasta Dam makes the Sacramento River a stable stream all the way from the San Francisco Bay area to Redding, and increasing numbers of wilderness seekers use their boats as primary transportation to the north counties area. The steady release of cold, clear water has made the river an angler's treat. Throughout the year, there are three distinct salmon migrations.

Northern "gateway" cities to the Shasta-Cascade Wonderland are Yreka, Weed, and Dunsmuir, all located on Interstate 5/US 99. Yreka is the closest California city to Iron Gate Reservoir and Dam on the Klamath River, only a few miles from the Oregon border, and well-known for steelhead and salmon fishing.

The river flows through the Marble Mountain Wilderness Area, where many trails branch





JOHN ROBINSON

Two photos on left are on Bumpass Hell nature trail, near summit, Mount Lassen Volcanic National Park. A container at beginning of trail furnishes leaflet as key to numbered markers like one near boy in center photo. Right photo is of Burney Falls, one of scenic high points in Shasta area, and located in a sizable state park.

## A PLACE FOR HIKING, FOR FISHING, FOR TOURING, FOR CAMPING

toward lakes loaded with trout but seldom fished because of their remoteness. No machinery or vehicles are allowed in the wilderness area, and horsemen and back packers are rewarded with unmarred beauty. Klamath National Forest, covering many acres, is one of the greatest timber reserves in the United States. Most of the timber land is available for exploration and recreational use.

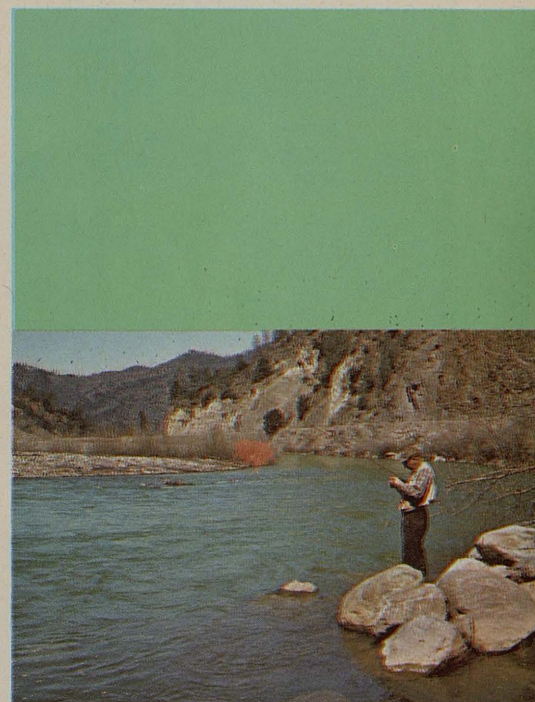
East of Weed, there is abundant evidence of volcanic action. Three areas of lava flow in addition to the Lava Beds National Monument are located within Siskiyou and Modoc Counties. Lore on the Modoc War, where about 80 Modocs confounded sizable units of the U.S. Army, is carefully preserved at the Lava Beds National Monument.

Between Weed and Dunsmuir lies the town of Mount Shasta and Siskiyou County's most widely known landmark, 14,162-foot-tall Mt. Shasta. This extinct glacier-carved volcano can be seen for more than 100 miles in each direction. Rising Alp-like from the valley floor, it harbors a popular ski resort with terrain to accommodate both beginner and expert.

South of the lava beds, and near the junction of Routes 89 and 299, McArthur-Burney Falls State Park has extensive picnic facilities and large public camping grounds. Center of interest in the park is Burney Falls—a spectacular split waterfall fed by an underground river which surfaces less than a quarter-mile upstream.

This is all part of the Shasta-Cascade Wonderland—a land superbly suited to the outdoorsman.

*Fisherman is working Trinity River near Junction City. Highway 299 passes across background in picture.*



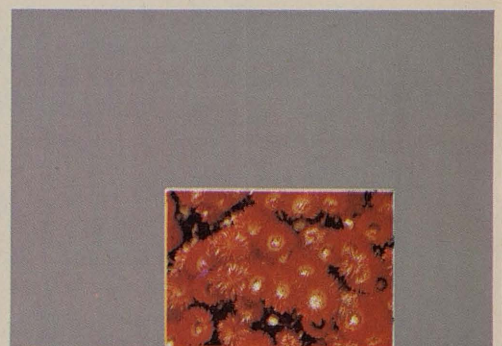
PETER ASANO

*Limit catch of trout taken from upper Sacramento River.*



TOM MYERS





Los Angeles International Airport is one of world's busiest.



“... la ereccion de un pueblo  
con el titulo de Reina de Los Angeles  
sobre el rio de la Porciuncula ...”  
from a provincial state paper dated December 27, 1779.

# Oranges, Mountains & Surf

*Panoramic view of Hollywood Bowl during evening concert, city in background.*



OTTO ROTHSCILD

In the days of Richard Henry Dana, when he was collecting hides and experience for his classic *Two Years Before the Mast*, Los Angeles was a small village of adobe houses with reed roofs caulked with tar from the local pits. In the 125 years since, it has grown to a spreading urban complex covering hundreds of square miles of the Los Angeles lowland. The city itself is only a relatively small portion of this great sprawling metropolis which takes in dozens of sizable cities, but to the average visitor it is all “Los Angeles.”

Today this complex of cities is by far the state's most important urban area, and a great world center. Because motion pictures and TV touch the lives of so many people, it has gained great renown in these fields, but it also has beaches, mountains, historical landmarks, art museums, and galleries.

It has the corner of Hollywood and Vine, and the best in restaurants and night spots. The Mount Wilson Observatory and the Griffith Park Observatory attract hundreds of thou-

*Los Angeles has a sizable Chinatown, with many good restaurants.*



JOHN MEYERPIETER

*At Portuguese Bend, the expanding city comes to an abrupt stop when it meets the sea.*







*Six photos above show portions of Los Angeles freeway system. Left to right they are: Vincent Thomas Suspension Bridge and below it the Harbor Freeway which connects to it. Next is view of San Diego Freeway over Sepulveda Pass, and below it a view of the same freeway a few miles south with interchange with Santa Monica Freeway under construction. Next right is high-altitude photo of downtown Los Angeles with four freeways converging on the four-level interchange, and below it a closer view of the interchange.*

sands of visitors a year. There is a bustling harbor a few miles away at Wilmington and San Pedro. The world's finest network of freeways crisscrosses the area, putting everything within easy driving distance.

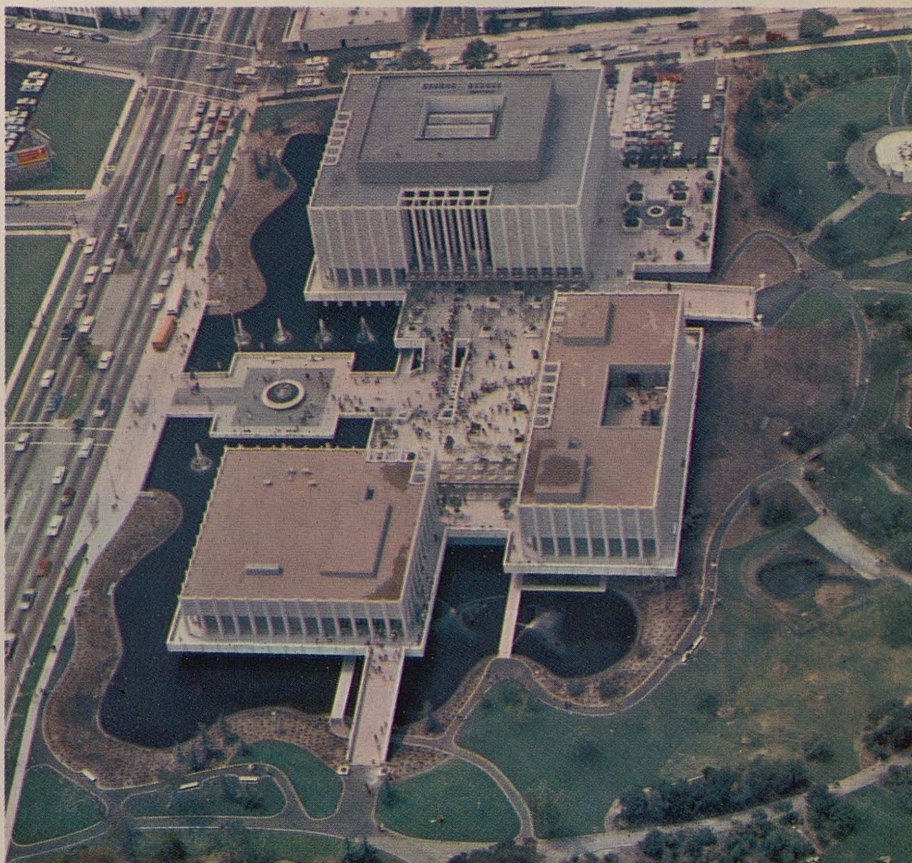
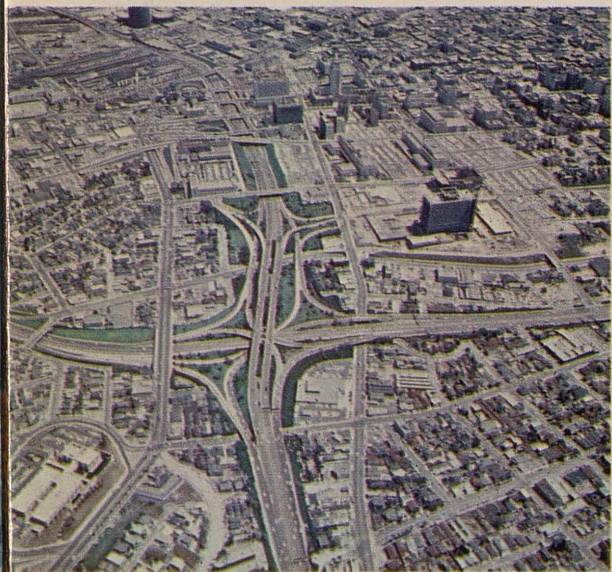
Evidence of the city's heritage are the Chinese, Japanese and Mexican "little towns" that dot the city center. In each is caught the flavor of another culture that has richly endowed the area. Fine restaurants and curio shops draw residents and visitors alike.

The Coliseum, built for the 1932 Olympic games, is just off the Harbor Freeway. Visited by nearly 2,000,000 persons a year, it seats 100,000 spectators and is the scene of innumerable sporting events, carnivals and religious gatherings.

Nearby is the Sports Arena, where ice hockey and basketball games are played on regular schedules. It also is used for occasional stage shows, exhibits and other special events.

Paleontologists are fascinated by the La Brea Tar Pits, where mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians trapped in the sticky material many millions of years ago create today an almost inexhaustible source of fossils for scientific research. In scenic Hancock Park on Wilshire Boulevard, adjacent to the tar pits, stands





the magnificent new County Art Museum, which houses art objects worth more than 32 million dollars.

The latest addition to the city's cultural facilities is the imposing downtown Music Center at one end of a landscaped mall on which faces the city hall and other governmental buildings. Nestled in the foothills off Hollywood Freeway is the Hollywood Bowl, where about 300,000 persons a year listen to music programs such as "Symphony Under the Stars."

Most travelers don't consider a visit to Los Angeles complete without having taken at least a look at portions of two major streets—the Wilshire Miracle Mile and the Sunset Strip. And nobody leaves town without having matched his footprints with those of the stars in the sidewalk at the entrance to Grauman's Chinese Theater.

South of the city on Interstate 5 is Mission San Juan Capistrano, famous for its swallows, and north from here another highway, State Route 1, continues along the littoral through Laguna Beach. Artists put it on the map; today honeymooners enjoy its romantic atmosphere.

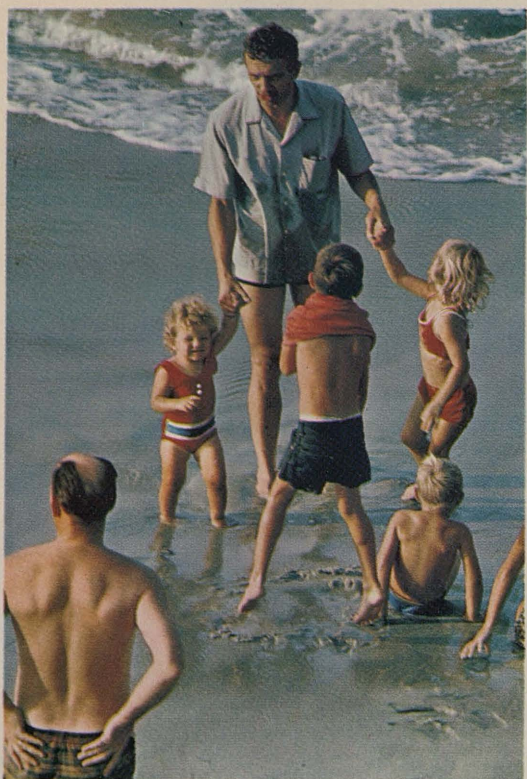
Just a few minutes farther up the coast, the road passes through Newport Beach and Balboa, famed the world over for their sailing and

*Top of page is aerial view of Exposition Park with Los Angeles Colosseum and Sports Arena. Above: The new Los Angeles Music Center.*



JOHN MEYERPETER





*Southern California has many miles of coastline suitable for beach play.*

TOM MYERS

*Kite skiing, in which skier actually lifts off water, is sport for experts.*



TOM MYERS



*The development of the fiberglass board has greatly advanced surfing in California.*

yachting facilities. Nearby are beaches popular with the sun and swim set.

Long Beach, 100 miles up the coast from San Diego, and 20 miles south of Los Angeles, became a city almost overnight when the great Signal Hill oil field was discovered. With a population today of nearly 400,000, it is the largest city in the Los Angeles lowland after Los Angeles itself. Oil has remained an important industry, and in recent years it has become a tourist city also, with seven miles of public beaches, good restaurants, and plenty of accommodations.

Long Beach, in partnership with San Pedro, is the traditional base for the U.S. Pacific Fleet, although the carriers and the majority of the smaller units are based in San Diego. San Pedro is the largest commercial fishing port in the world, and from both there and Long Beach sport fishing boats make regular trips outside the harbor. In this area also, surface and air transportation to Catalina Island is available.

Via Santa Monica, Malibu and other beach-front communities, Highway 1 hooks up with US 101 north of Oxnard. A few miles farther north is Mission San Buenaventura, founded in 1782 by Fray Junípero Serra, the ninth mission to be established along El Camino Real.

The City of Ventura, center of a booming county that combines agriculture with modern business, has a Pioneer Museum with a collection of Spanish and pioneer-day relics, and a California Oil Museum housing ancient equipment and rare maps used during the early days of the oil boom. Fine fishing, sheltered coves and mysterious grottos are among the attractions of Ventura's 60-mile shoreline.

Thirty miles up the coast, after rounding Point Rincon—a favorite surfing spot—motorists come to the City of Santa Barbara, filled with southern California nostalgia, but also a modern city with fine accommodations and restaurants.

This is a city with much history, and it has preserved a great deal of its heritage. Of special interest are the old mission, the Historical Museum, built of native adobe, the Pueblo Viejo, Santa Barbara's old town section, and the world-famous courthouse built in Spanish-Moorish architecture.

Stearns Wharf boasts restaurants, novelty shops and sport fishing charter boats. The yacht harbor is haven for some 600 pleasure craft of all sizes and shapes.

Having turned its back on industry that makes noise and smoke, Santa Barbara today is home of a number of research and development firms that produce nothing but ideas. Ten miles west, by the airport, is the University of California at Santa Barbara, the most beautiful of the university's campuses.

Leaving Santa Barbara on his northward journey, the traveler has the choice of continuing along US 101 or taking Highway 154



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JOHN ROBINSON

over San Marcos Pass and into fertile Santa Ynez Valley with its Lake Cachuma. On Route 154 he will be sure to visit Solvang, the quaint Danish community where thatched roofs and Scandinavian souvenirs meet the eye. Not far beyond, the road rejoins US 101. Northbound autoists leave Santa Barbara County through Santa Maria, a thriving city that serves as the marketplace for the rich agricultural area that surrounds it.

Before leaving the county, visitors may wish to swing west toward Lompoc to visit the superbly reconstructed Mission La Purísima Concepción, with buildings and grounds rebuilt to match as closely as possible the originals which existed when the establishment of the padres was the center of civilization for the entire district.

This is glamorous southern California, the land of the Spanish dons and the Mexican influence—and Hollywood. The many reminders of its history are seen today against a background of bustling cities, towering mountains, and long sandy beaches with foaming surf.

TOM MYERS



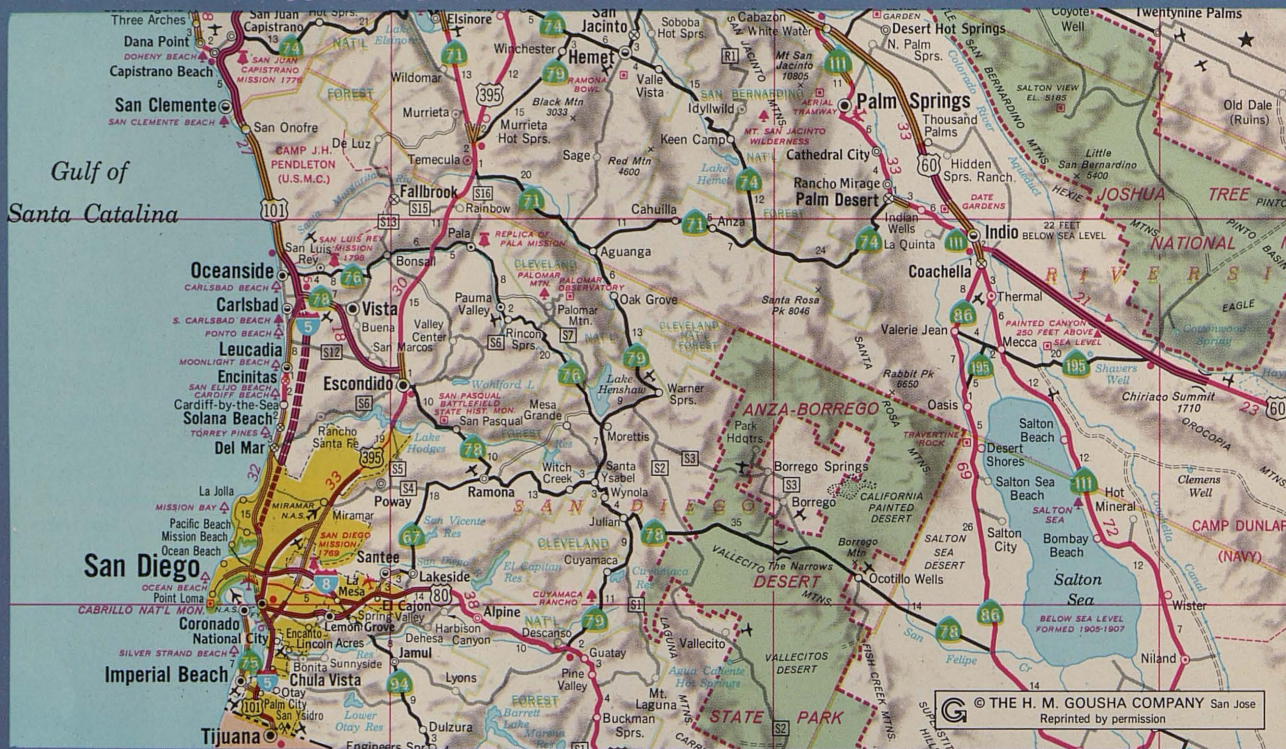
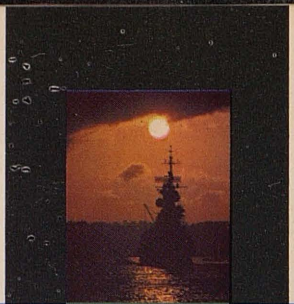
*Although generally similar, each of the 21 missions has its own architecture. Bell tower above is at La Purísima. Left: The mission at Santa Barbara has continued as an active church since it was first dedicated. Men in dress suits on steps are ushers waiting for their wedding party.*

TOM MYERS



*Visitor guides at Santa Barbara Mission are Franciscan padres.*





Above and left: Mission San Luis Rey de Francia, near Oceanside, is one of the most beautiful in the chain. Founded by Father Lasuen in 1798, it is a composite of Spanish, Moorish, and Mexican architecture.



# San Diego Playland

*"Discovered a port enclosed  
and very good"*

Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, 1542.



TOM MYERS

South from Los Angeles the traveler moves into true subtropical country. The high mountains are back from the sea, and the main north-south recreational route, US 101, travels much of the way within sight of the blue Pacific.

The state's travel map shows an almost continuous series of little stylized pine trees along this coast, each indicating a state park. These are primarily parks for the casual visitor—day use areas mainly—where picnicking, surfing, swimming, and sunbathing are main attractions. But the road's appeal is primarily visual, passing through a series of sparkling coastal towns and cities, with frequent vistas of blue water, white surf, and an occasional craggy headland.

Although the new Interstate 5 will pass a few miles inland, the older 101 route stays near the sea until it climbs the grade at Torrey Pines State Park—one of the most important of the southern California parks because of its scenic reserve. Here is preserved the last native stand of the picturesque pine for which the park is named—about 2,500 trees in all.

South of Torrey Pines is La Jolla, with its

*Above: San Diego County has 10 state beach parks, and also several more locally operated beaches. Below: "Old Spanish Lighthouse," a national monument, is a misnomer, as structure was built in 1850's after California became a state. From lighthouse on Point Loma can be seen nearby Ballast Point, where Cabrillo is said to have landed in 1542. Wildflowers are native coreopsis.*

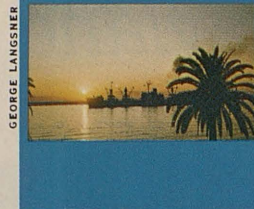


JOHN ROBINSON





GEORGE LANGSNER



*San Diego skyline  
and Coronado  
Ferry.*

JOHN ROBINSON



*Navy's North  
Island from  
Coronado Ferry  
landing.*

JOHN ROBINSON



*Victorian era  
Hotel del Coronado  
offers opulence  
of an earlier day.*

beautiful homes, its Scripps Institution of Oceanography, its beaches and The Cove. The Scripps Institution is open daily to visitors who wish to see the marine museum and the aquarium.

But although originally US 101 passed through La Jolla, today it drops down Rose Canyon, and comes into San Diego proper across the bed of the San Diego River, close to the part of the city which was first settled, locally known as "Old Town." Here the presidio was established in 1769, and still existing are many old adobe homes.

San Diego is California's oldest city. Its site was claimed for Spain in 1542 by Admiral Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo, a Portuguese navigator who first came to the new world as a crossbowman with Cortés.

Occupied with the Manila trade, the Spaniards neglected California until 1602, when Don Sebastián Vizcaíno, one of the most famous of the west coast explorers, sailed from Acapulco in his flagship *San Diego*, accompanied by the ship *Santo Tomás* and the frigate *Tres Reyes*. November 10 found them anchored off Los Guijarros (Ballast Point) in the shadow of Point Loma.

Vizcaíno and his party, like Cabrillo, were delighted with the harbor, pronouncing it probably "the best to be found in all the South Sea." Vizcaíno named the port and its future city after the canon San Diego de Alcalá, whose feast day came two days after they arrived.

By 1850, the town had grown to a metropolis of more than 500 foreigners, 10 stores and 88 houses, and some 2,000 Indians. It did a smattering of trade, but it was primarily a hide-collecting center and base for whalers.

Today San Diego is a great seaport, a vital naval base, an important training center for sailors and marines, and an aircraft manufacturing center. It also is developing a diversity of small industries.

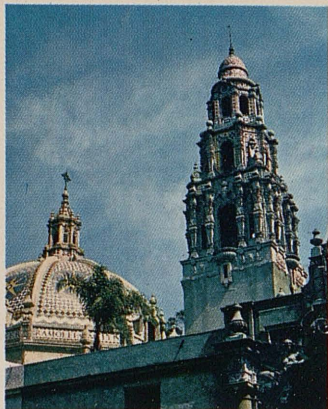
But perhaps in the long run San Diego's greatest industry is tourism. It is a beautiful city, and it has made the most of its natural features.

When it was necessary to dredge the harbor channel so large aircraft carriers could be accommodated, San Diegans had the mud piled up on a shoal along the edge of the channel, and today Shelter Island is one of the city's showplaces. It is a yacht harbor, boating center, and a long parkway lined with fine restaurants and exotic motels from which guests can watch the harbor entrance traffic through palm trees rustling in the sea wind.

North of the headland which makes Point Loma, the delta of the San Diego River was once a huge mud flat, with shallow lagoons and channels. This, too, has been dredged to make channels and lagoons for boats, with islands and peninsulas thrusting into the water. Here too are exotic restaurants and motels, and thousands of transplanted palm trees, fine



JOHN ROBINSON



lawns, and paved parkways.

The Old Spanish Lighthouse on Point Loma, preserved as a national historical monument, is one of the most heavily visited such sites in the United States.

One of the state's finest ocean beaches is preserved at Silver Strand State Park, on the long sandy strand which closes off the inner harbor from the sea. Ocean Beach, Mission Beach, and La Jolla have fine beaches, also.

Perhaps the finest feature of the city is Balboa Park, once set aside as a recreational area "on the outskirts of town" but now completely surrounded by the city. Many of its buildings and its beautiful bridge date back to the Panama-California Exposition of 1915-16. More buildings were added during the 1935-36 California Pacific International Exposition. The city has added still others, and there are fascinating museums, theaters, and art galleries. The matured plantings of trees and shrubs give the park an unbelievable lushness close to the towering skyscrapers of downtown San Diego.

In Balboa Park is San Diego's world-renowned zoo, one of the first to embrace the modern concept of natural-looking animal enclosures rather than iron cages. This year the zoo is celebrating its 50th anniversary, but it refuses to accept old age and is still growing, with sizable additions under construction.

Another asset is the harbor. There are docks, wharves and great oceangoing vessels enough to satisfy the desires of even the most frustrated would-be deep-water sailor, and there is also a host of Navy ships. Excursion boats leave on regular schedules to take visitors on tours of the harbor.

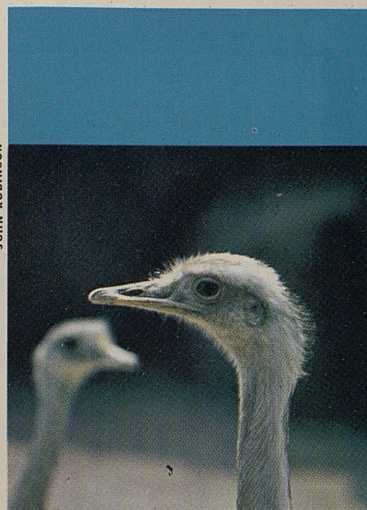
South of town a score or so of miles away is the Mexican border and the International Gate at Tijuana. Americans are allowed to come and go freely here on short-term visits, and much of Tijuana's prosperity can be traced to the free-spending Yankee. Here the visitor can tread foreign soil, buy souvenirs and gifts, or sample the cabarets.

Primarily considered a winter resort, San Diego would like to be thought of as a place to visit all year round.

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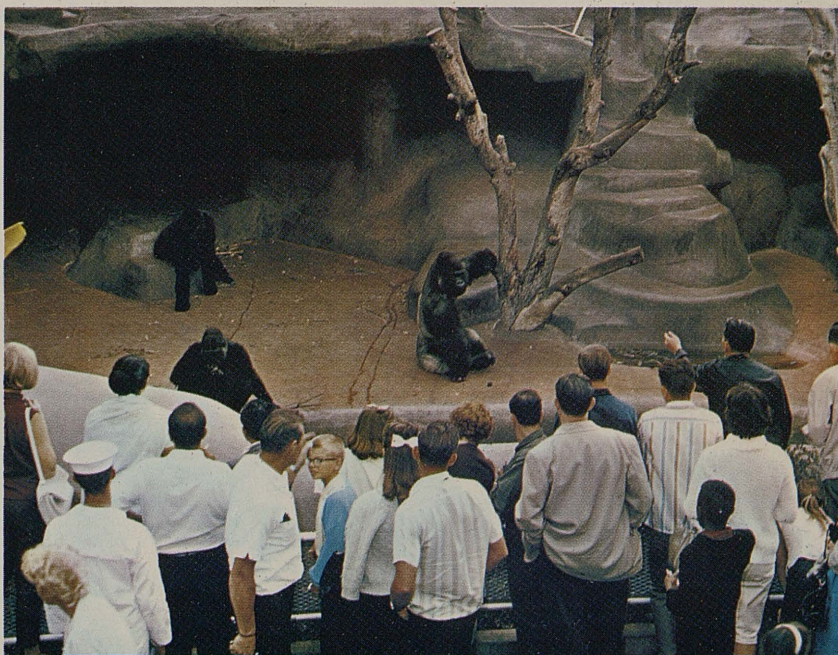


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*Upper left: Towers of 1915 Exposition furnish architectural richness to San Diego's Balboa Park. Above: Famous San Diego Zoo celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Below: Crowd watches antics of inmates of one of primate exhibits at zoo.*

TOM MYERS



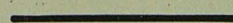
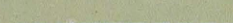




*Recreational Map of California*



## Legend

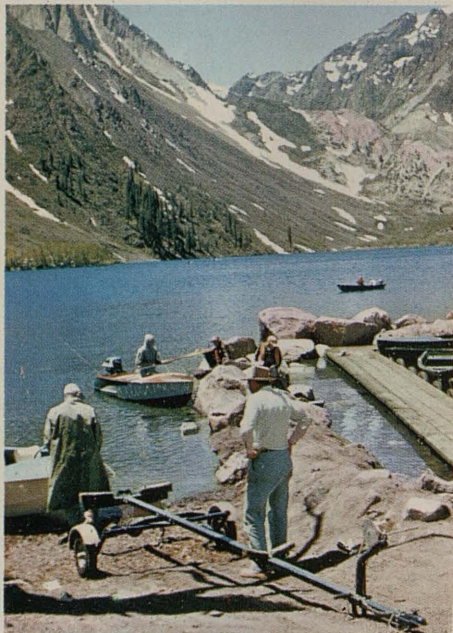
-  State Scenic Highway System—Master Plan
-  Connecting Highways Under Federal Jurisdiction
-  State Highways—Existing
-  State Highways—Unconstructed
-  State Beaches, Parks, and Recreation Areas
-  National Parks and Monuments







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Above right: Snow plant (*Sarcodes sanguinea*) is protected by California law. Above left: Convict Lake, a typical mountain lake of the subalpine zone in the southern Sierra. Below: Long Lake, altitude about 6,000 feet, one of hundreds of such lakes in northern Sierra.



JOHN ROBINSON







Left: Skiers at Badger Pass winter sports area, Yosemite National Park.

TOM MYERS



JOHN ROBINSON

*"and far beyond, like clouds upon the border of the sky,  
towered minarets of white, where the Sierra's eternal snows  
flashed austere the blazes of the sun."*

Jack London in *All Gold Canyon*

## California's Alps

The Sierra Nevada, California's most dominant mountain range, is more than 400 miles of granite wall which shuts most of the state off from its neighbors on the east. It provides much of the state's water from its snowpack, and its towering bulk acts as a climate control to keep the cold continental air out of the great Central Valley.

Within its length are three national parks—Sequoia, Kings Canyon, and Yosemite—and nearly a dozen fine state parks as well. Its highest peak is Mount Whitney which rises 14,496 feet above sea level—highest in the continental United States—but it has dozens of peaks over 12,000 feet.

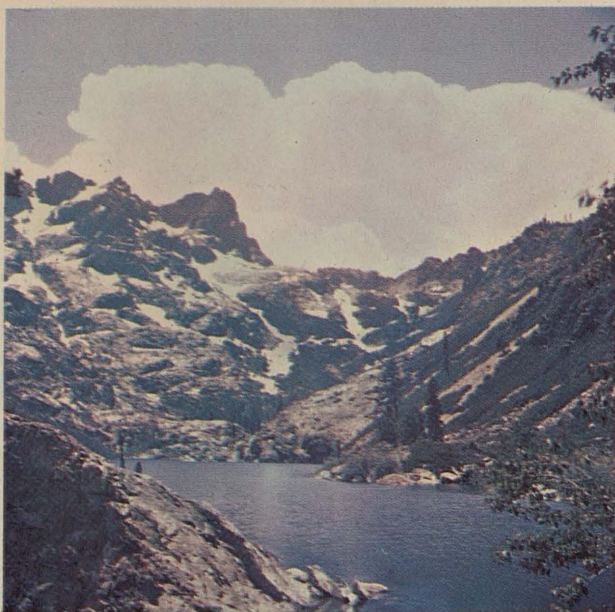
The Sierra is a solid block of granite, its western edge buried beneath the alluvial deposits of the Central Valley, its eastern edge upraised along a great series of faults which

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Blue water, green trees, and a speeding boat create adequate sport for many Californians.





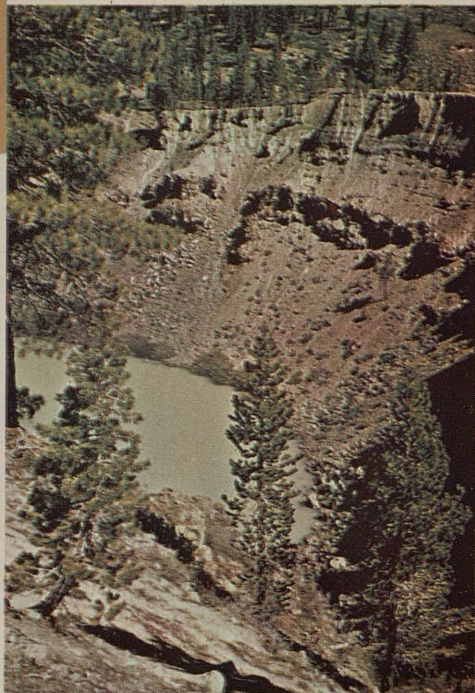
JOHN ROBINSON



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Top: Upper Sardine Lake, in Lakes Basin country, northern Sierra. Top right: Emerald Bay and Lake Tahoe. Right: One of the Inyo Craters in vicinity of Mammoth Lakes. Bottom: Sierra scene reminiscent of Maxfield Parrish, famous American landscape painter who died this year.



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run roughly on a northwest-southeast axis. Because of this overall tilt, drainage is toward the west, and a score of rivers have cut deep, roughly parallel canyons. The drainage collects in the Central Valley, flowing northward in the San Joaquin River, and southward in the Sacramento, to finally reach the sea through San Francisco Bay and the Golden Gate.

Although a few streams drain down the eastern scarp, and have cut respectable canyons, most of the scenic beauty on that side has been created by glaciers, particularly in the more elevated southern portion.

Of course, many of the westward-flowing streams run partially in glacially carved canyons, also. The most spectacular of these is the Merced through Yosemite Valley.

A relatively "young" range, and not yet greatly worn down by erosion, the Sierra Nevada provides outstanding scenery. It has, in fact, been called the American Alps because of its many peaks and sharply serrated ridges. Portions of the Rocky Mountains are as high as the Sierra Nevada, but the Sierra's long slope rises steeply virtually from sea level, whereas some of the spectacular quality of the Rockies is lost because they are approached over a gently rising plateau.

Peaks at the southern end of the Sierra average four to five thousand feet higher than those at the northern end. Consequently, the southern end is not only more rugged, but the passes are much higher. For more than 150 miles of this part of the range—between Tioga and Walker passes—there are no roads across the summit at all. Furthermore, the four highest passes—from Tioga's 10,000 feet to Carson's 8,600 feet—may be closed by snow sometimes as early as September and stay closed until May or June. Hence, much of the year, more than 200 miles of the Sierra cannot be crossed, except on skis or snowshoes!

To the summer traveler in California this is not important, but it is important to know





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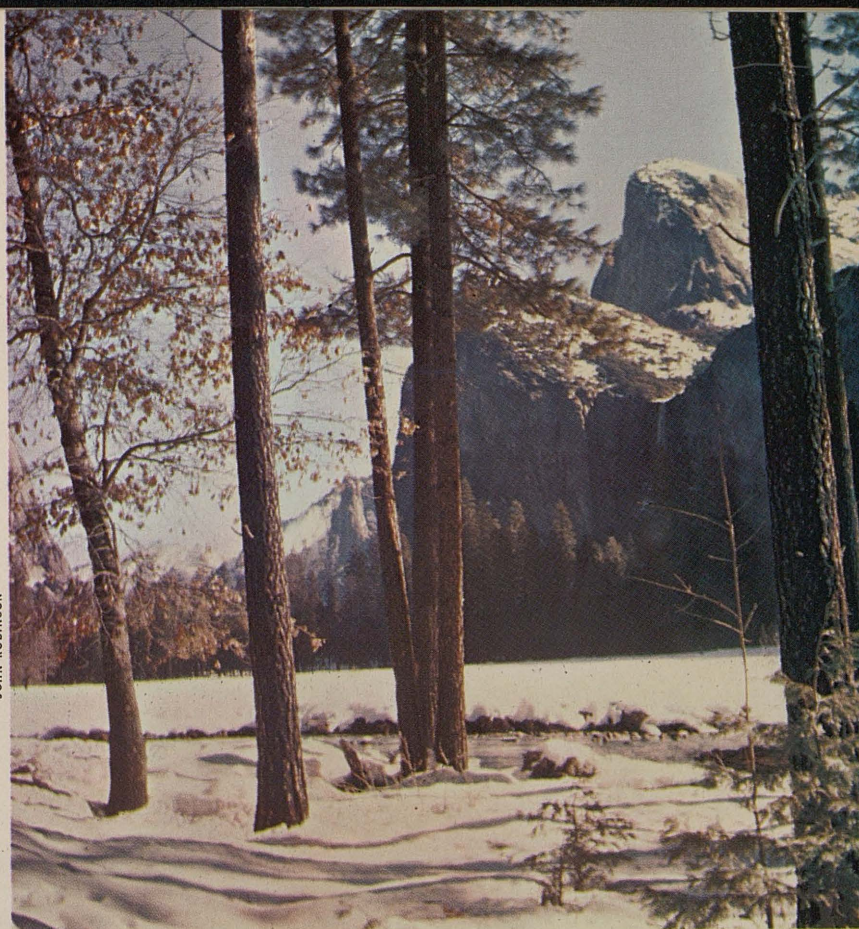
there is no single road which traverses the length of the Sierra. To reach various parts of this range you must use one or the other of two main north-south arteries—either US 99 in the Central Valley or US 395 along the east side (see story on deserts). From either of these routes you can turn off on any of a dozen highways which penetrate the high Sierra.

Highway 49, the Mother Lode route (see Gold Country story), generally parallels US 99 in the foothills of the central and southern Sierra. It offers a chance to combine two sightseeing trips in one, although it is a slower route than 99.

Most of the state routes cross from 99 to 395, and all are scenic. One of these, State Route 88, was awarded best in the United States for 1965 in the *Parade Magazine* scenic highway contest, but most of the others have as much to offer in the way of canyons, streams, lakes, and high country.

Two federal-aid routes, Interstate 80 and US 50, cross the northern Sierra in the vicinity of Lake Tahoe. One of the world's most beautiful bodies of water, it is also one of the highest sizable lakes in the world, and larger than any others in California. US 50 passes around the southern end of the lake, while two routes from Truckee reach the northern end. One of these, State Route 89, passes the entrance to Squaw Valley, site of the 1960 winter Olympics, and operated as an all-year park. For skiers, it currently offers 20 lifts of various types, with more planned. It has many summer attractions, also, including the tramway, which operates year round to carry visitors to Squaw Peak for an exciting view of the scenic valley.

Of the national parks in the Sierra, Yosemite is the most famous, with its sublime valley known throughout the world. This is no doubt the most exciting glacially carved landscape in the world. Not to be overlooked are the fine groves of Sierra Big Trees and the high



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*Above left: State Route 120 enters Yosemite National Park from east via Tioga Pass. Above: Cathedral Rocks, Yosemite National Park, in winter.*



JOHN ROBINSON

*Winters in the California mountain communities can be hard, and because of this a different kind of architecture has evolved—a sort of marriage between eastern and Gold Rush styles.*







*The east side of the Sierra Nevada in winter is a sight unknown even to many Californians.*

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*Above: Aspens in autumn at Crowley Lake south of Lee Vining. Right above: Winter scene near Crowley Lake. Right: Sierra in the vicinity of Bishop.*



country to the east of the main valley.

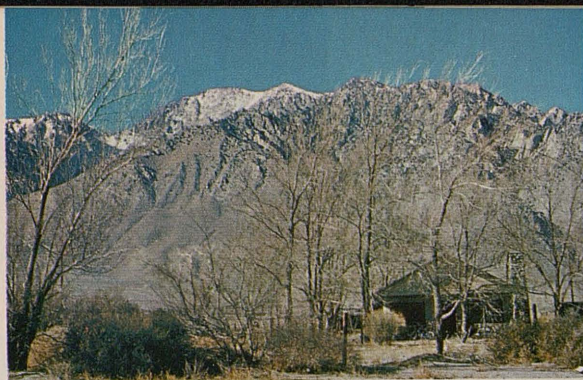
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks are near the southern end of the Sierra. They have fine high mountain scenery and sequoias, but are also good gateways to high country pack trips.

In the northern end of the Sierra, which stops abruptly just south of Mount Lassen Volcanic National Park, the major route is State 70. This superbly engineered route up the famous Feather River Canyon gives access to the lower northern summits. Although not as spectacular as the southern end of the range, the mountains here are well wooded and watered, with hundreds of lakes and streams, and this is good family vacation country. There are several other highways besides 70 which penetrate it.

No exploration of California is complete without a trip down the east side of the Sierra on US 395, particularly from about Lake To-paz on the Nevada-California state line to south of Lone Pine. This is the uplifted eastern edge of the range, and the towering peaks make the highway and its cars look insignificant and puny. In early autumn the aspens blaze in golden patches in contrast to the deep blue skies, and the lakes sparkle in the sunshine.

At Bishop you may find a motel room with the Sierra visible out your front window, the White Mountains at the back. At Lone Pine is Mount Whitney and Whitney Portal, and the strangely beautiful Alabama Hills, scene of thousands of movie and TV westerns.

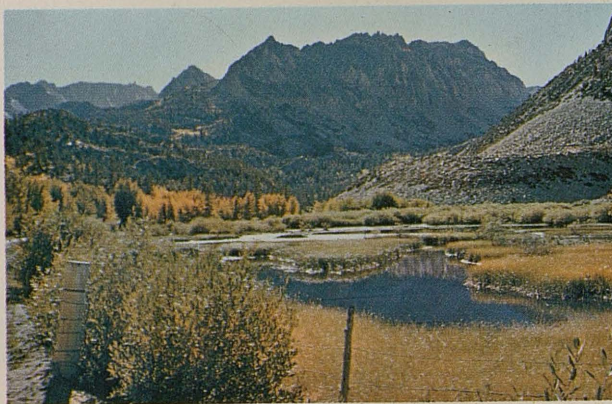
There are several ways to enjoy the Sierra. You can explore it with your car, drinking in constantly changing visual impressions. You can make a more leisurely visit, taking some of the enticing side trips, and camping or lodging as you wish. Then there is the way of the real Sierra aficionado, who hies forth with pack, on foot or on horseback, into the high country, to leave civilization behind for a few days, a week, or a month.



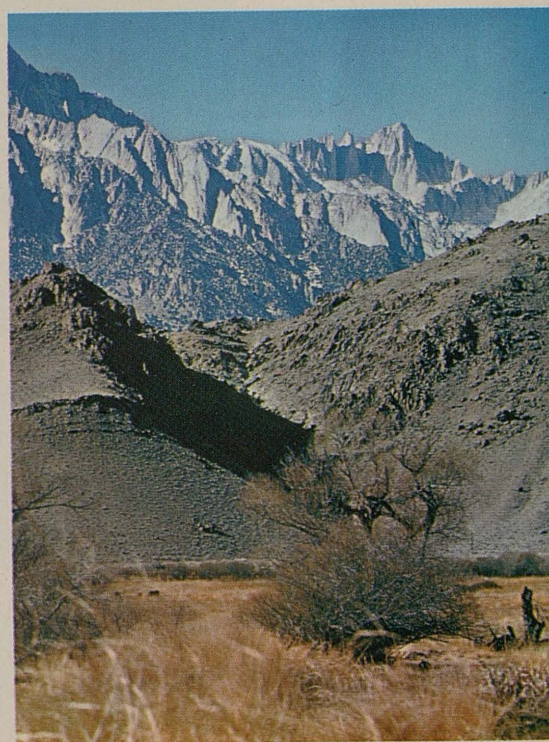
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TOM MYERS



JOHN MEYERPETER



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Top: Sierra south of Lone Pine. Small photo: Ghost town of Bodie. Next two photos: Typical Sierra scenes. Right: Mount Whitney, highest U.S. peak outside Alaska.

*"Then it seemed to me that  
the Sierra should be called, not the Nevada  
or Snowy Range,  
but the Range of Light."*

John Muir



WILLIAM CHANEY



JOHN MEYERPETER



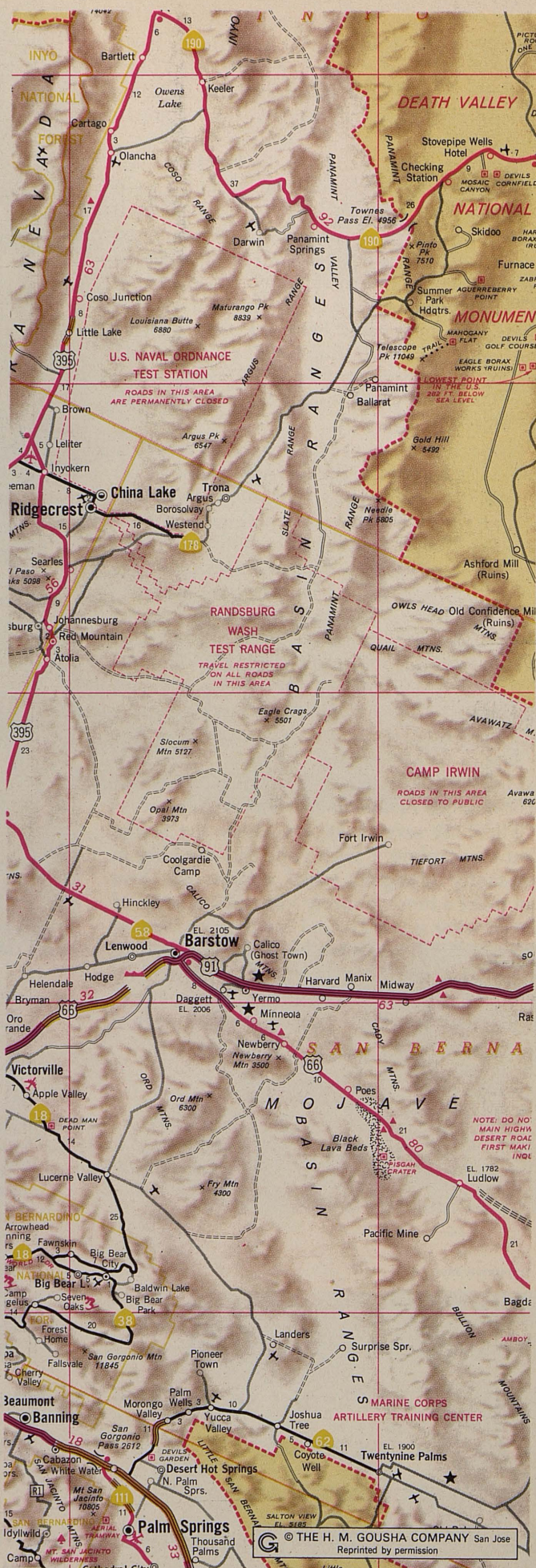
WILLIAM CHANEY



JOHN MEYERPETER



Once dreaded when transportation was difficult, the desert today is enjoyed by Californians as a great empty land with infinite variety and exotic beauty.





*"For all the toll the desert takes of a man  
it gives compensations, deep breath, deep sleep, and  
the communion of the stars."*

Mary Austin in *Land of Little Rain*

## *And Deserts, too*



JOHN MEYERPETER



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California's deserts, a part of the great band of middle-latitude arid lands which virtually encircle the earth, are a portion of the larger western desert complex which extends through several states. In California they are known as the Colorado Desert and the Mojave Desert. They fit the established definition of a desert as an area of extremely low rainfall which is seasonally irregular, with very hot summers and steady, drying winds.

The Colorado Desert lies west of the lower Colorado River and continues across the great Salton depression to the mountains on the far side, the Gulf of California more or less bounding it on the south. It is separated on the north from the larger Mojave Desert by a series of mountain ranges. With water from the Colorado River, great tracts of this land have been reclaimed from the mesquite and creosote bush which covered it, and they now are intensively farmed as the "Imperial Valley greenhouse."

The Mojave Desert, to the north, is larger than the Colorado and, with few sources of water, still has not come under the control of man to any great extent. It does have several



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*In the land of little rain,  
a rainbow is a rare and  
ethereal thing.*

*When a little rain does  
fall, wildflowers appear  
as though by magic in  
unexpected places.*

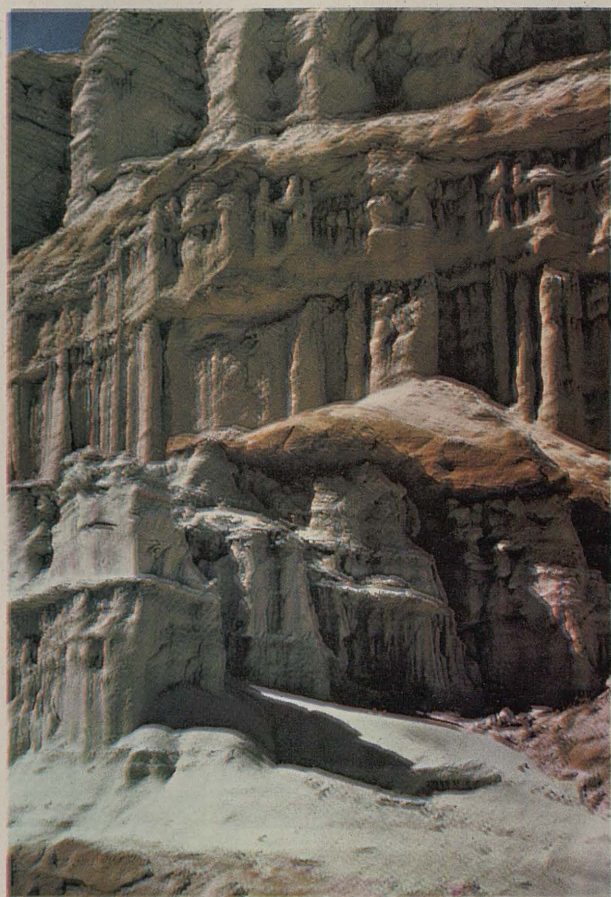


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*In contrast to more typical photos on previous pages, views here are of some of the desert's most desolate beauty. Upper left and lower right: Split Mountain area, Anza-Borrego State Park. Upper right: Eureka Sand Dunes, near Death Valley National Monument. Lower left: Red Rock Canyon, northwest edge of Mojave Desert.*



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fine highways across it, however, including Interstate 15, which connects the Los Angeles area to Las Vegas and points east, as well as Interstate 40, which branches off I-15 at the growing desert city of Barstow, and continues to Needles at the state line.

Two other transcontinental routes cross the Colorado Desert. Interstate 10 connects Blythe at the state line with the Los Angeles metropolitan area. Interstate 8 runs from Yuma on the Colorado River, closely paralleling the international border and eventually terminating at San Diego.

The best north-south highway from which to see all the California desert country is US 395, the "Three Flags Highway," which extends from Canada to Mexico, and in California passes for hundreds of miles beneath the magnificent eastern scarp of the Sierra Nevada. Many side roads branch off 395, and at San Bernardino half a dozen routes fan out over the desert to offer the traveler a choice of several directions.

Long before reaching the Mojave Desert, travelers encounter true desert country. To the geologist this is "range and basin" country—a land of many geologic faults which create a widespread pattern of mountains and subsided areas between.

Although this country may occasionally get violent thunderstorms which turn dry washes



into raging rivers, greatly inconveniencing luckless campers established in them, it is generally a land of little rain. The towering Sierra Nevada peaks have wrung virtually all the moisture from the clouds before they get there.

Somewhat south of Bishop, on US 395, is the transition from mere arid country to true desert, although the change will not be apparent to the casual visitor. About 60 miles south of Bishop, at Lone Pine, is a road turning west which leads to Whitney Portal—gateway to trails climbing Mount Whitney, highest point in the United States. From its summit, 14,495 feet above sea level, if the Panamint Range were not in the way, the hardy alpinist could look down into Death Valley and the lowest point in the United States, 282 feet below sea level.

Death Valley National Monument, of course, is world famous. One of the great rift valleys, with picturesque high mountains on either side, it is full of strange natural phenomena and weird but colorful scenery.

Much farther south is the state's superb Anza-Borrego State Park, accessible by Route 78 either from the Colorado Desert or San Diego. About half a million acres of untouched primeval desert has been set aside for preservation. At camp headquarters at Borrego Springs there is a sizable campground, but dry camping is permitted in much of the area. Anza has mountains to 5,000 feet, secluded canyons, and a wide range of desert flora and fauna.

Salton Sea has become a very popular resort area, and even gets heavy use during the summer months, despite the heat. The water is warm and brackish, but waterskiers use the sea in droves. In recent years a number of vacation communities have developed along the lake's shores.

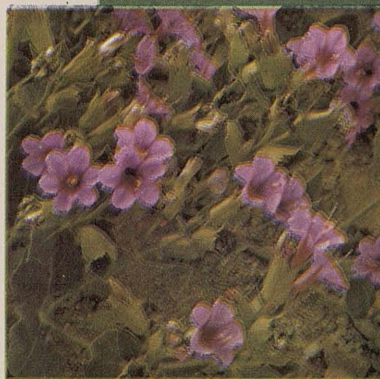
Palm Springs, at the foot of Mount San Jacinto, is now a fabled winter resort. Here the recently built tramway takes you from the desert floor to cool, pine-clad mountains in 20 minutes.

Due north of the Salton Sea is another great expanse of desert set aside for public use—Joshua Tree National Monument. This is also a good camping, picnicking, and hiking area, with excellent scenery and fine desert vegetation.

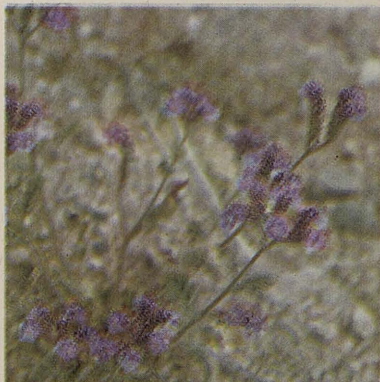
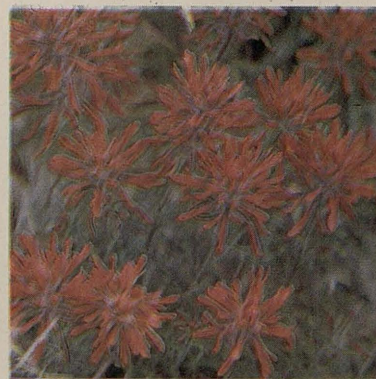
The Colorado River forms many miles of California's eastern boundary, and hence passes through both the Mojave and Colorado Deserts. With the warm, dry climate, the river is intensively used for boating and fishing. In the spectacular badlands through which the stream flows, camping and hunting are popular with desert-wise people.

With today's good roads, the desert is no longer a place to be feared, but a spacious winter playland for all to enjoy.

JOHN MEYERPETER



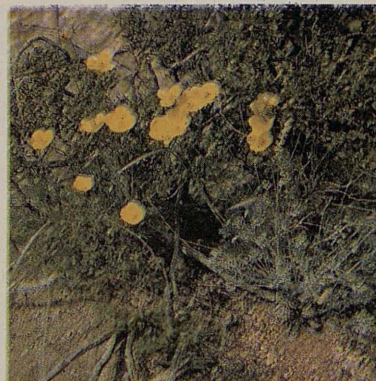
JOHN ROBINSON



JOHN ROBINSON



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*These photos were all made in one small area of the eastern Mojave Desert plateau, at about 2,000–3,000 feet altitude. Their wide variation in color and form gives hint of the infinite variety to be found in desert wildflowers. Several are desert forms of familiar wildflowers such as Indian paintbrush at upper right; and yellow poppy at lower right, which is closely related to California State Flower.*





Below: The vicinity of Fisherman's Wharf and the Hyde Street cable car is developing as a center of special interest to visitors. In addition to the cable cars and the wharf restaurants and shops, there is Ghirardelli Square, and at the edge of the bay the San Francisco Maritime State Historic Park.



TOM MYERS

## From Metropolis to Nostalgia

*"San Francisco is not  
the back door of the continent.  
San Francisco*

*is the front door."*

Marshall Saunders, July 1909

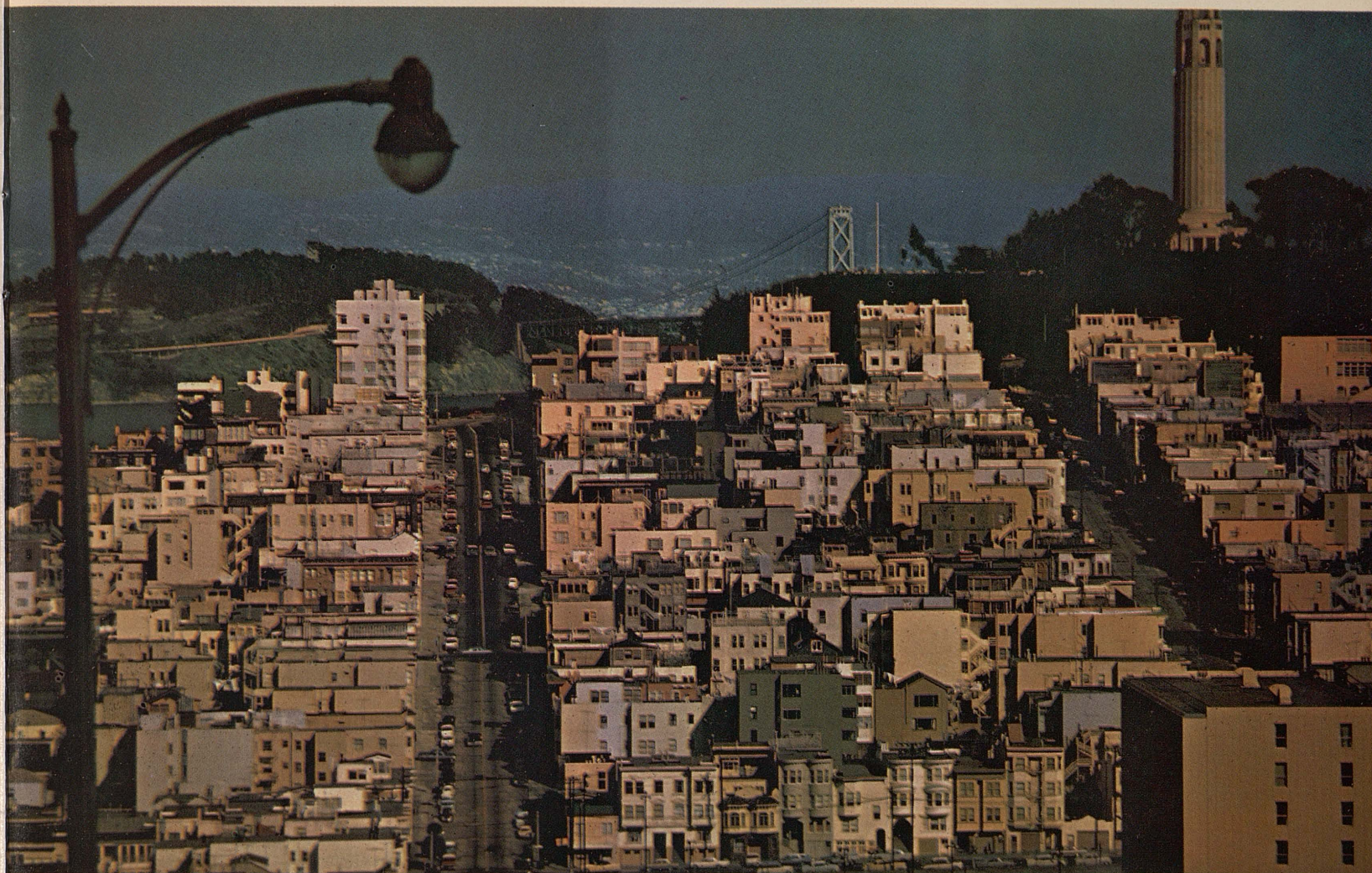


PETER ASANO



PETER ASANO





TOM MYERS

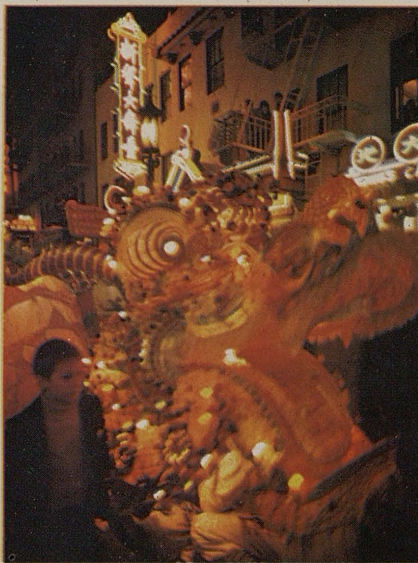
*Above: One of San Francisco's seven hills, with Coit Tower on the right, Bay Bridge, Yerba Buena Island, and East Bay cities in distance.*

Sitting proudly, like a queen amid her outlying areas, is shining San Francisco—to old Californians—"The City." Linked to the north by the Golden Gate Bridge, one of the wonders of the world, and to the communities of the East Bay by the seven-mile-long Bay Bridge, it is the traditional cultural and financial capital of the West, as well as the gateway to the exotic lands of the Orient.

The San Francisco Bay area's equable climate and many natural and manmade wonders make it a mecca for tourists at any time of the year.

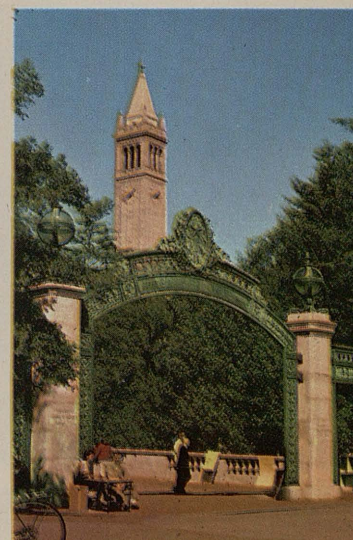
The lake-dotted rectangle of Golden Gate Park, a thousand-acre oasis of greenery, bisects the western half of the city. Flower lovers may wander through the 15,000-square-foot glass castle modeled after the main conservatory at Kew Gardens in London. Not far away is the Japanese Tea Garden, the Aquarium, and several museums.

The Fleischhacker Playground, Zoo, and Storyland occupies more than 30-acres just north of the sailboat-dotted waters of Lake Merced. Accessible from the south via Route



TOM MYERS

*Above: Dragon paraded through Chinatown in Chinese New Year's celebration requires more than a hundred men and boys to handle it. Right: Sather Gate entrance to University of California at Berkeley.*

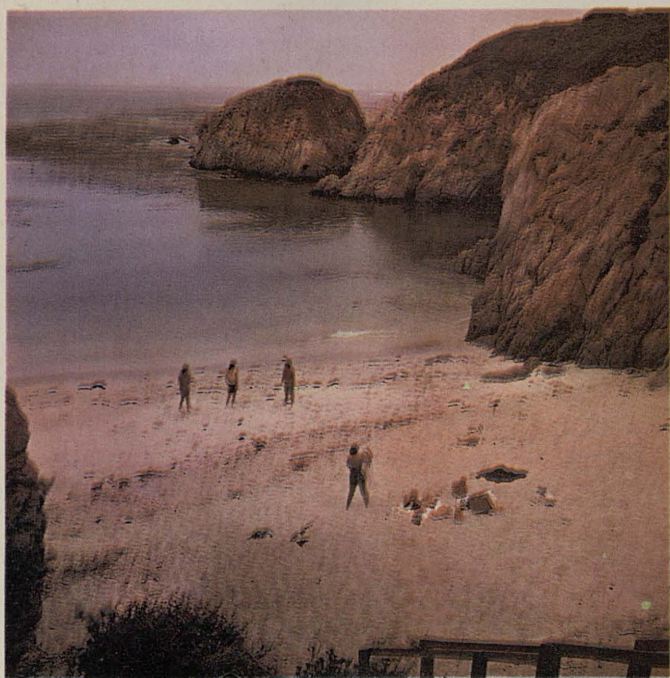


ROBERT ROSE



*"The moaning cypress trees lift somber arms up to skies of cloudless blue."*

from *Wild Roses in California* by Grace Hibbard



JOHN ROBINSON



JOHN ROBINSON

*Four thousand acres of this coast just south of Morro Bay are now Montana de Oro State Park.*



TOM MYERS

35 (Skyline Boulevard) and the east (Sloat Boulevard), the zoo complex contains exotic animals from all over the world.

San Francisco is known as the home of good food. Almost anything edible is available in fine restaurants throughout the city. Seafood abounds in great quantity and quality at Fisherman's Wharf. The Cliff House offers good food and a magnificent view of the seals and sea lions disporting on Seal Rocks. Ghirardelli Square, west of Fisherman's Wharf, offers the delights of dining, shopping, and strolling amid the last-century atmosphere of a remodeled chocolate factory.

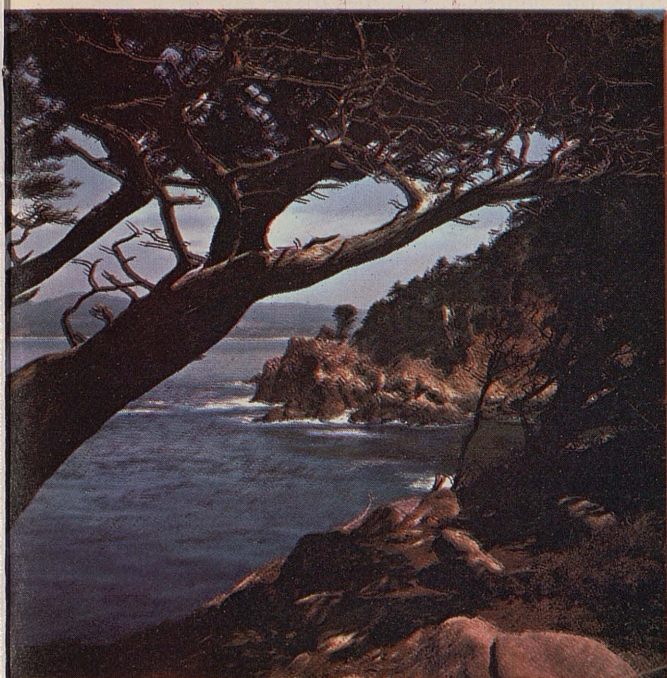
San Francisco's fabled Chinatown, the largest Chinese community outside the Orient, offers delicious food at reasonable prices and fascinating shops with a wide variety of wares.

Across the bay the City of Berkeley is the home of the 600-acre campus of the University of California, attended by more than 27,000 students and staffed by a number of Nobel Prize winners among its distinguished faculty.

Among the most interesting features of the campus are the tall spire of the Campanile, visible from throughout the bay area; the Greek Theatre; Sather Gate; International



Three photos below, left to right, are all of Point Lobos State Scenic Reserve. Far left is China Cove, left center is Cannery Point and native stand of Monterey Pines, below is seaward view of Cannery Point, Carmel coastline in distance.



JOHN ROBINSON

House, which provides a home for several hundred foreign students; the Cyclotron (Lawrence Radiation Laboratory), one of the few atom smashers in this country; and the library, which contains nearly 3,000,000 volumes and is the sixth largest among American university libraries. On display here is Drake's Plate, left on the California coast in this area by Sir Francis Drake in 1579 as proof of England's claim.

Adjoining Berkeley to the south is the City of Oakland; bustling, lusty urban center of the East Bay. County seat of Alameda County, now the largest county in northern California, with over a million residents, Oakland's rebirth has been the result of foresight and energy.

One of the "must" places to visit is Jack London Square at the foot of Broadway, where the port of Oakland got its start. Dedicated to the memory of the West's most famous author, it provides a choice among many restaurants and shops for the visitor.

South from San Francisco on US 101, busy freeways carry traffic through the "peninsula" cities where live many of the San Francisco Bay area's wealthy. Beyond is San Jose, once a quiet prune and dried apricot center, but



PETER ASANO

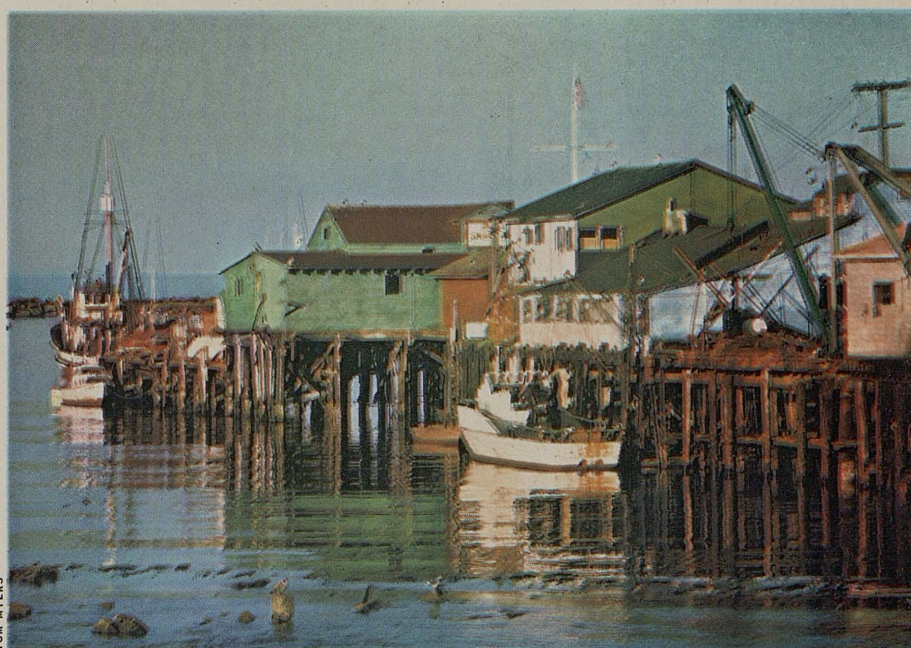
Below: Unorthodox view of Cannery Row, Monterey, at dawn. Next below: Monterey County coastline in Big Sur country.



TON MYERS



TON MYERS



TON MYERS

This view of Fisherman's Wharf in Monterey is another California scene loved by photographers.





*Ancient pepper tree dominates the garden area of one of San Juan Bautista's old buildings. Right: Silver nameplate of Angelo Zanetta on Zanetta House, San Juan Bautista. Below: Kitchen of Stevenson House, Monterey State Historical Monument.*



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now a booming industrial complex which is predicted may become northern California's largest city.

Below San Jose the country gradually changes from industrial to agricultural, and here is another of the state's major wine-growing regions.

A few miles off the modern highway, but recommended for the casual tourist who wants a quick briefing on California history, is the state historic park at San Juan Bautista, with authentic examples of architecture and furnishings from several of the state's periods. In the center is the old plaza just as it was when the town was the hub for dozens of great Spanish ranchos.

Back on US 101, here truly the route of the old El Camino Real, is the thriving city of Salinas, lettuce capital of the world, and scene of the state's largest rodeo each summer. From Salinas southward to San Luis Obispo, 101 travels up the Salinas River valley, locale for many John Steinbeck novels.

The view gradually changes from intensely cultivated agricultural to mountainous cattle country little different from the way it looked when Spanish longhorns roamed it. This gradual transition from the busy, metropolitan atmosphere of San Francisco to the California of 150 years ago makes this one of the state's most charming trips.

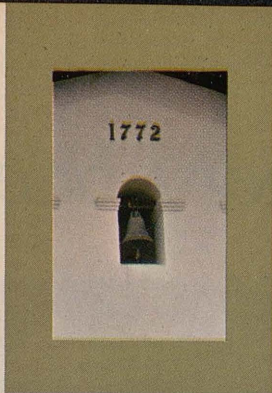
The traditional vacation spot of many families in the bay area is the beach city of Santa Cruz. On the coast about 75 miles south of San Francisco, out of the fog belt but easily accessible by Routes 1, 9, and 17, the mile-long beach is a paradise for sun bathers and surfers. Santa Cruz offers a fascinating Sea-Trees Triangle Tour on which motorists can quickly view the area's highlights from their cars.

Southward from Santa Cruz and just off State Route 1, a string of state parks with fine beaches line the coast all the way to Monterey, made famous by Steinbeck's "Cannery Row" books. This was California's capital during the Spanish and Mexican regime. Here are preserved many beautiful adobe homes from an older and more gracious period in California's history.

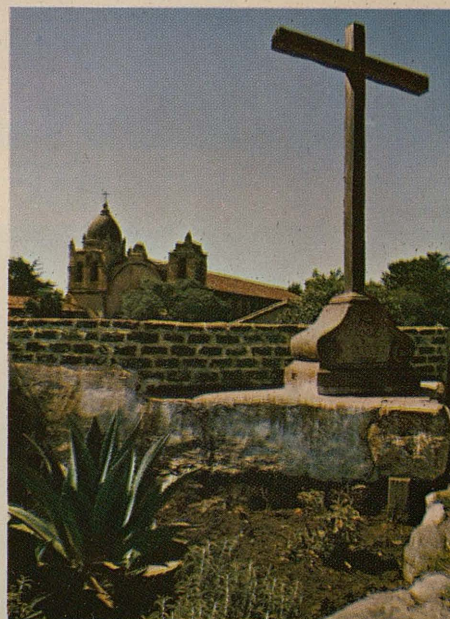
Monterey is at the northern end of the 17-mile drive, a toll route leading to Carmel through some of the world's finest coastal scenery, and past the famous Pebble Beach Golf Course. Carmel has long been an artists' colony, and also has one of the finest missions in Father Serra's chain, San Carlos de Borromeo de Carmelo, founded in 1770. This was the second mission in California, and was Father Junípero Serra's headquarters. He is buried at the foot of the church altar.

A few miles south of Carmel is the magnificent Point Lobos Scenic Reserve, called "the greatest meeting of land and water in the world." From here south, the traveler on Route 1 will be intoxicated with beauty. For a hundred miles he travels along the hulking





*Right and below right: Second one built in the chain, Carmel Mission is one of the most picturesque, and is situated in a beautiful setting.*



PETER ASANO

## THE MANILA GALLEON PASSED HERE



TOM MYERS

*San Francisco Bay area people love the outdoors. This scene is on San Mateo County coast.*

shoulders of the precipitous Santa Lucia Range, the road often suspended between sea and sky, with a constantly changing series of incredibly beautiful views. It was no idle chance this section was the first unit designated in the state's scenic highway system.

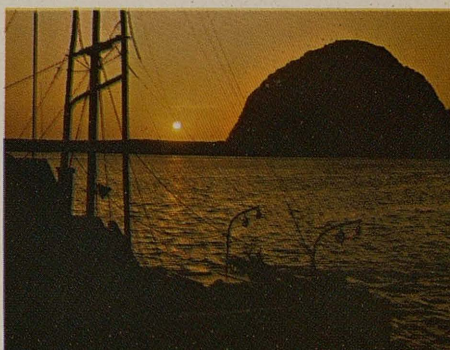
Near the south end of the stretch is Hearst Castle, baronial home of Willam Randolph Hearst, given the state as a museum and historic monument. It is popular and reservations are desirable.

Beyond Hearst Castle the road continues to Morro Bay with more fine coastal scenery, then swings inland to join US 101 at San Luis Obispo, home of California State Polytechnic College. Both Morro Bay and San Luis Obispo have good accommodations and restaurants, but there are several other sizable towns on US 101 between San Luis and Santa Barbara.

In this section of the state are some of California's greatest contrasts—booming metropolis and sleepy historical village, rich cultivated land and wild coastline—all tied together by two highways—US 101, El Camino Real, and State Route 1, the Cabrillo Highway.



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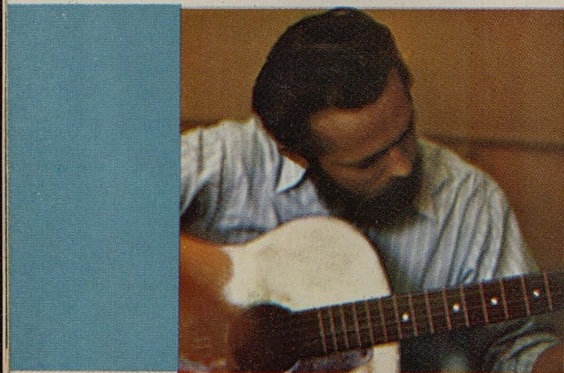
*Right: Sunset at Morro Bay. Great Morro Rock monolith in distance.*





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Above: Celebrations are fun in the Mother Lode towns, and each has its special day. "Bunting" hanging across State Route 49 in Angels Camp advertises Jumping Frog contest. This celebration is an annual event memorializing famous Mark Twain story.

# The Mother Lode





*"The bones of the weaklings who started for El Dorado in 1849 lie on the plains or in the hill cemeteries of the mining camps."*

Will Irwin in *The City That Was*



JOHN ROBINSON

One hundred and eight years ago when James Marshall discovered gold at Coloma, thousands of people stampeded into the area stopping only to ask, "Which way do we go for the gold?"

Today Marshall is dead, the goldpans are at rest, and the hundreds who now travel the area more casually still stop—but only to ask: "Which way did the gold diggers go?"

The way is not hard to find.

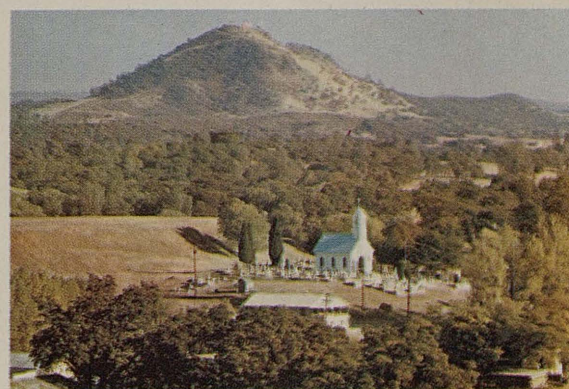
Old mines, a few still active, historical buildings and ancient sites of camps can be seen almost anywhere along the 289-mile length of State Highway 49, symbolically numbered for the "49'ers." The route sign is fashioned like a miner's shovel—the same shield that is used to designate all state highways in California.

The Gold Rush highway hugs the foothills at about the 2,000-foot elevation on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada, often following paths and trails cut by the early miners and their pack trains.

Aptly called "Highway Through History," Highway 49 is unsurpassed in the variety it offers the traveler. Anglers will find delight in the streams tumbling down the deep canyons through which the roadway dips and loops. Naturalists will find the concentration of native shrubs and wild flowers abundant and interesting.

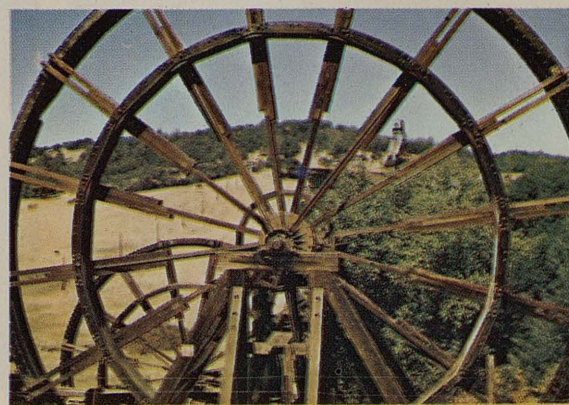
*Above: All the elements of a Mother Lode Fourth of July are present in this parade in Nevada City. National Hotel has names of presidents and potentates on its old ledgers.*

*Church and cemetery are in Mokelumne Hill.*



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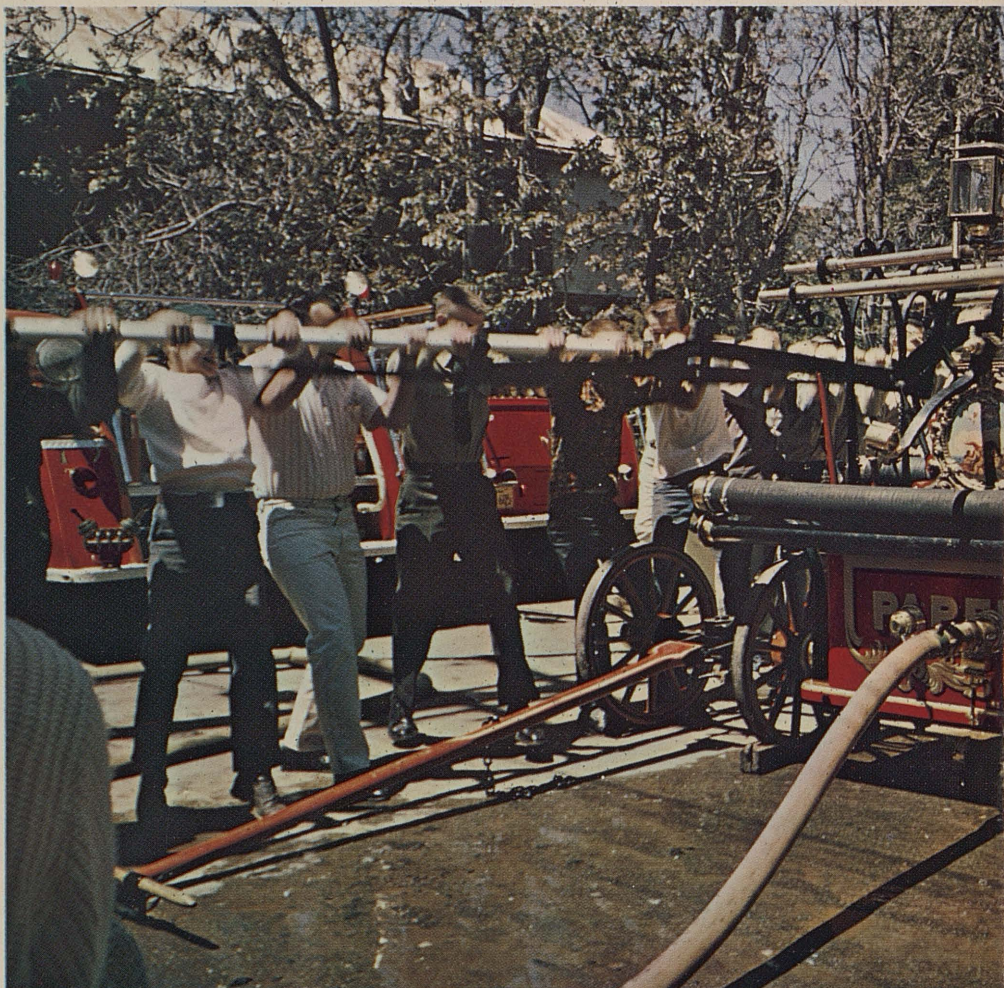
*Big wheels of Kennedy Mine in Jackson date only from early 1900's, but are beloved by photographers.*





## "SANDWICH ISLAND BEAUTY LIVES AGAIN"

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN ROBINSON



*The tiny man-powered fire engine pictured on these pages was ordered from its Boston manufacturers by the King of the Sandwich Islands in the early 1850's. Due to delays and shipping problems, it only got as far as the San Francisco wharves, from which a Columbia delegation rescued it. In the custom of its day, it already had been named "Papeete," and this name it still bears.*

The red gravel hills, typical of the gold country, and a product of millions of years of layering, abound in geological mysteries, for those who take the time to look. These are the ancient riverbeds in which the nuggets were secreted.

There are several campgrounds and picnic areas, some on mountain streams, scattered along the Mother Lode Highway—and two state parks.

One of these is "Marshall Gold Discovery Park" at Coloma (Americanized from *Cul-lu-mah*, an Indian word meaning "beautiful vale"). Here at this quiet town just north of Placerville the world-shaking find is permanently memorialized.

In January 1848, Marshall, a millwright, was finishing a mill he had contracted for John Sutter, Swiss immigrant and founder of Sutter's Fort in Sacramento. Marshall chose a site on the inside bend of the river so that mountain water could be diverted to turn the water wheel.







On the afternoon of January 24, 1848, he was inspecting a ditch below the mill and was attracted by some bright, yellow particles. By next morning the secret was out, the stampede was on—and the rest is history.

Six months later the little town of Coloma, until then host to only a handful of lumbermill workers, had about 300 frame buildings up or under construction and a population of 2,000, which skyrocketed to 10,000 before the restless miners left it for other more golden fields.

Shovels were soon scraping in river gravels from Mariposa all the way to the Sierra Buttes, with miners in good diggings getting an average of eight ounces, or \$128 worth, of gold a day. Some found single nuggets worth \$5,000 and more (California's record was a nugget worth \$73,710).

The South Fork of the American River flows through Coloma today much as it did in Marshall's time, but the population has dwindled to a few hundred. In the quiet historical



*With 20 men on the handles (center photo) Papeete's outlet hose is filled hard as a rock, and stream from her nozzle outcarries that of a modern commercial pumper despite its dials and big engine.*



*Superbly reconditioned in recent years by the local volunteer company with the help of artist Charles Surendorf, Papeete is a star in the annual Firemen's Muster Day sponsored by the Mother Lode firemen, and held at Columbia State Historic Park each spring.*







JOHN ROBINSON

*These reminders of another day are in the peaceful little town of Dutch Flat, only a few miles off the busy modern Interstate 80 transcontinental highway. The town once boasted a population of many thousands as a hydraulic mining center.*



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park the state provides picnic tables and barbecue grills, set serenely in a shaded grassy area protected by a rustic wooden fence. A huge statue of Marshall stands on the hill overlooking the town which he made famous.

About a hundred miles south of Coloma, and near Sonora where Highway 49 and Route 108 intersect, is the little town of Columbia, which is being restored in an ambitious undertaking by the State Division of Beaches and Parks. It, too, is a state historical park, so designated in 1945.

Columbia is an architectural showplace and attracts visitors the year round. Its attractive brick buildings are the original existing structures from the boisterous era of a century ago. Because the town was burned several times most of the buildings were finally reconstructed of brick and iron, and have stood the passage of the years better than those in most ghost towns. The Wells Fargo Express Office, Gold Nugget Saloon, St. Anne's Church and the Masonic Hall, all built between 1854 and 1858, are still intact and furnished in much the same manner as they were then. Columbia was one of the largest towns in the Mother Lode country with a population of 15,000 and its mines yielded over \$87 million in gold. At that time it had 30 saloons, 143 faro games, hotels, 3 theaters, 4 churches, and a Chinese playhouse.

A few ghost towns are located just off Highway 49, and one of the best is Volcano in Amador County south of Placerville, about 12 miles east of Sutter Creek. It was a reckless, rowdy, typical gold boomtown living up in every way to its contrary name—but except for the 49'er uproar there has never been a volcano in Volcano.

Similarly, Fiddletown, located six miles off Route 49 north of Plymouth in Amador County, was reported not to have had a single fiddle in it; and Dry Town had, at the peak of its prosperity, 26 saloons. On the basis of the foregoing, no inquiry was made about Angels Camp. Helltown, Loafer Flat and Bedbug, however, are all believed to have honestly lived up to their names.

Nevada City and Grass Valley, on Highways 49 and 20 north of Auburn in the area of the northern gold mines, not only rate high in local color and centenary history, but have made a graceful transition from the stage age to the space age.

Miners around Nevada City found their rewards not in placer mining (in which gold is obtained by washing) but in deposits deep in the river bed. These were mined with small shafts known as "coyote holes" which became so famous that a main thoroughfare in Nevada City is still called Coyote Street. Later a number of deep "hard rock" mines were developed, and the extensive Malakoff hydraulic diggings several miles west were also operated several years. Today these diggings also are being put aside as a historical park.



North San Juan, which has an original Wells Fargo Building, was once the center for big hydraulic operations. At nearby Camptonville is a modest memorial to the inventor of the Pelton water wheel.

Further north, traveling toward Downieville and Sierra City, Highway 49 terrain becomes increasingly more rugged and typical of the Sierra high country. Of interest in Downieville is the Pioneer Museum and a grocery, still in use, dating back to 1852.

Highway 49 from one end to the other is full of interest to the curious traveler and open to auto exploration without limit. Perhaps its greatest lure, however, is not found in the abandoned gold mines, interesting though they are, nor the buildings of another era, but in the aura of the unexpected, the sudden discovery, the memories of a people not far removed from our time who, for a few brief, tumultuous years lived the great adventure as we all secretly wish we could.

*For the visitor to the old mining towns there is infinite reward in the architectural reminders of another era. The crumbling structures which once echoed the sound of clumping boots and vigorous, youthful voices today offer a silent, nostalgic charm.*

*"New towns were  
laid out in the valleys  
to supply the camps, and  
those already established  
grew with astonishing  
rapidity."*

from *Mining Camps* by Charles Howard Shinn

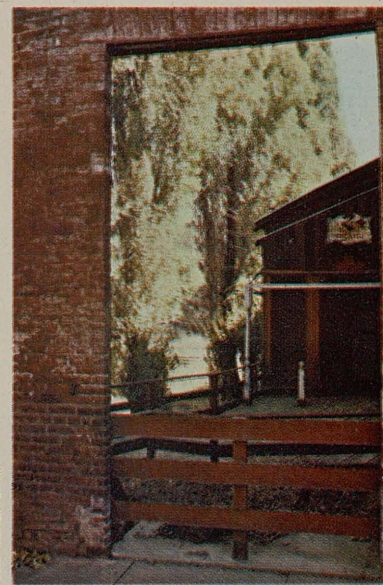


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*In contrast to the drowsy quiet of the deserted Mother Lode towns, Sacramento and Stockton, which were once Mother Lode freight centers where hundreds of pack trains fanned out each day, are now modern cities. New eight-lane Interstate 80 Pioneer Memorial Bridge is under construction in Sacramento.*



JOHN MEYERPETER



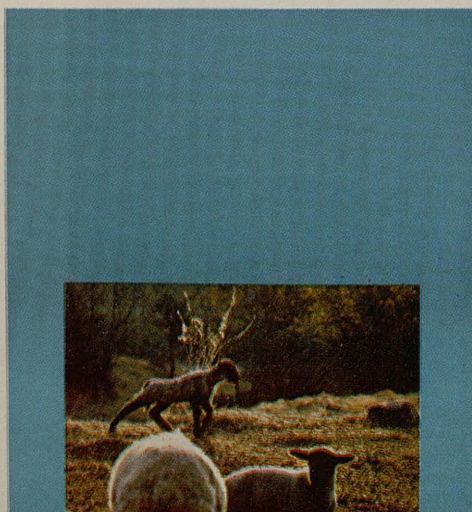
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