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Rediscover Del Monte, Tour guide for visitors of Hotel Del Monte

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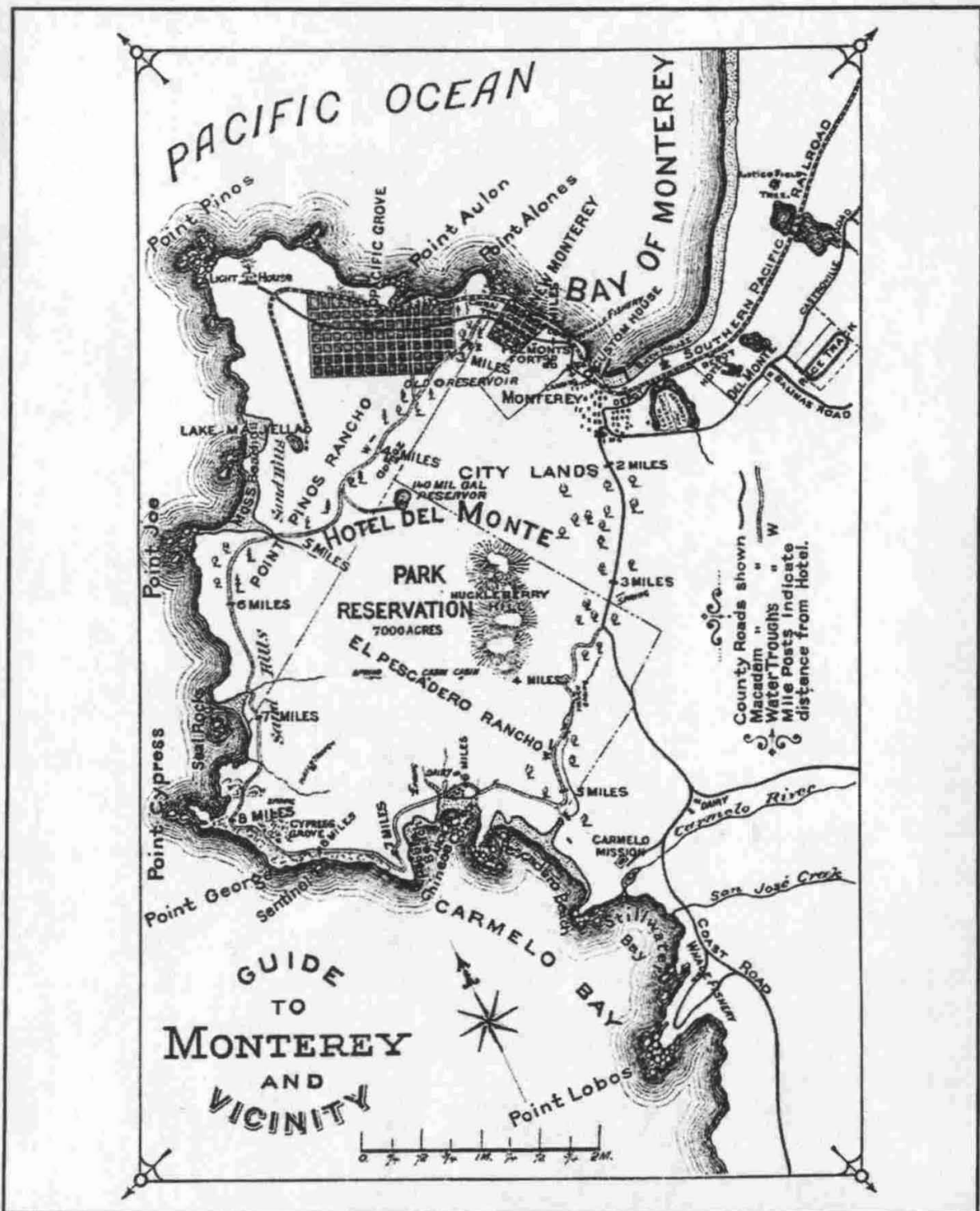
Rediscover

DEL MONTE

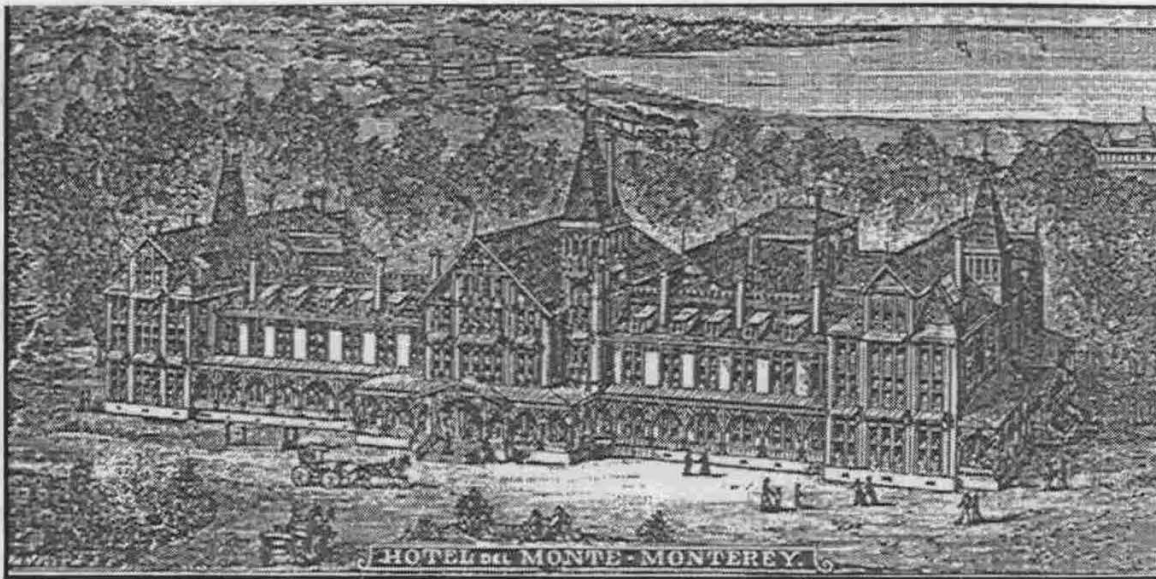


Tour guide for visitors of
Hotel Del Monte

This booklet contains a brief history of the Hotel Del Monte, and a self-guided walking tour of the building. Please take a few minutes to read the historical sketch before you begin the tour. It will help you to appreciate the importance and significance of the world-renowned Del Monte. The walking tour begins on page 8.



COVER PHOTO: The original Hotel Del Monte, built in 1880. **ABOVE:** The Hotel Del Monte was the centerpiece of a resort complex which included all of Pebble Beach, which is identified in this 1897 map as the Hotel Del Monte Park Reservation.

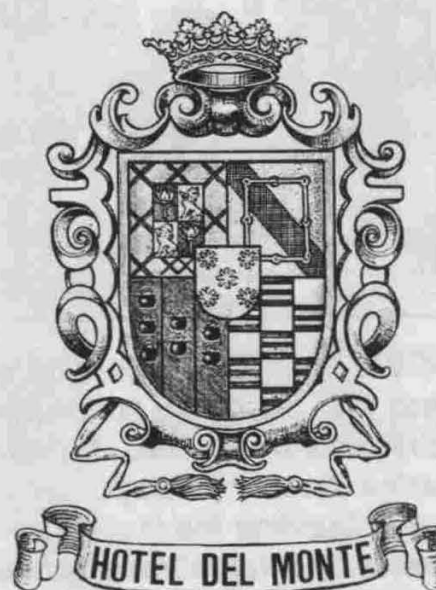


The Hotel Del Monte -- The world's most elegant seaside resort.

"Crocker's Folly"

The Hotel Del Monte, created by railroad pioneer **Charles Crocker** (1822-1888), opened in June 1880. It was billed as "The Most Charming Winter and Summer Resort in the World." Skeptics called the project "Crocker's Folly," and predicted that the hotel would quickly fail. In fact, the hotel made a net profit of \$4,000 during its first two weeks alone, and \$11,300 in the first month. The hotel was booked solid, and 3,000 requests for accommodations were turned down in the first six weeks of operation.

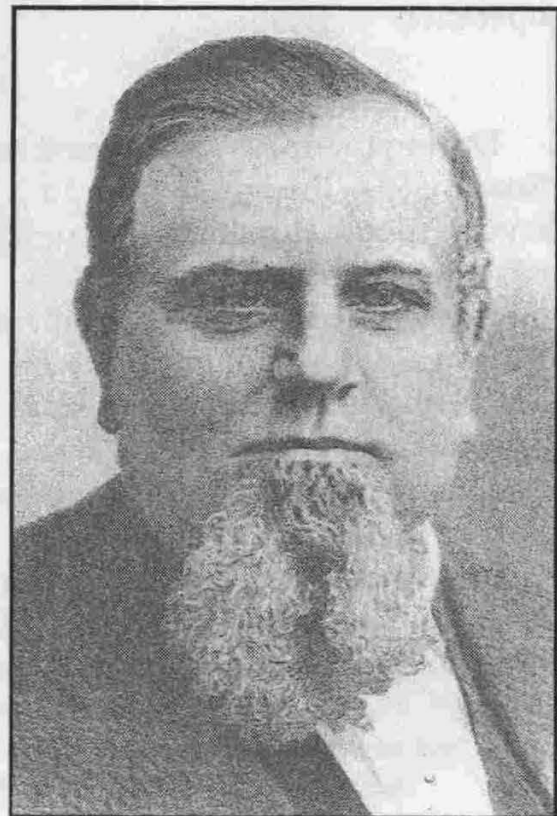
During the 1880s (nicknamed the Roaring 80s), the hotel became a favorite destination for the leisure and recreation of American leaders in business, industry and government. It also gained international prominence, and received frequent visits by royalty, heads of state, and the leadership of the world. Before the close of the decade, the Hotel Del Monte would be called the "Queen of American Watering Places" and "The Most Elegant Seaside Resort in the World."





The top portion of a 19th century Hotel Del Monte bill.

The Hotel Del Monte was the centerpiece of a resort complex which initially encompassed about 7,000 acres. This innovative resort included 125 acres of botanical gardens surrounding the hotel, and a large tract of land west of Monterey called the **Hotel Del Monte Park Reservation**. Today this area is called **Pebble Beach**.



ABOVE: Charles Crocker (top center) poses with his family on the veranda of the Hotel Del Monte. RIGHT: Charles Crocker in his pioneering days of building the first transcontinental railroad. (photo courtesy of Wells Fargo Bank)

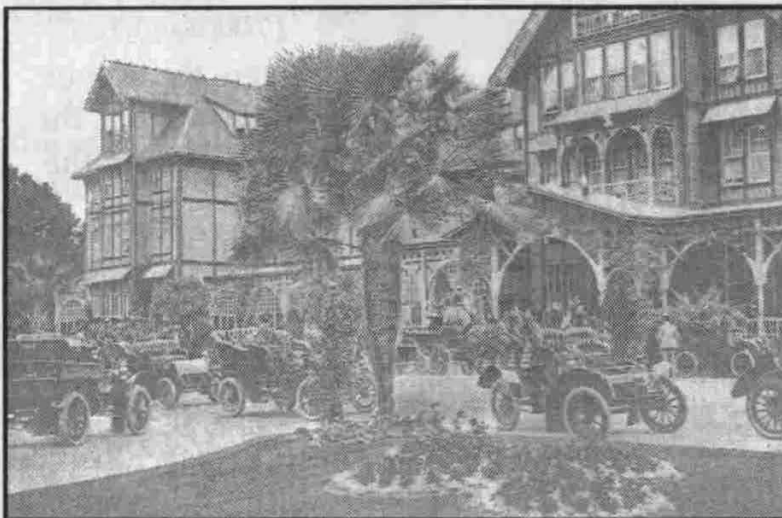


The first of two major fires destroys the Hotel Del Monte on April 1, 1887.

Devastating fires

There have been three Del Monte Hotel buildings. The first two hotels were wooden Gothic structures designed by an architect of the Southern Pacific Railroad, and built by its workmen. The first hotel opened in June 1880, and was destroyed completely by fire April 1, 1887. The second hotel was built with the same basic plan of the original, but was enlarged through the addition of two long, linear wings extending toward the beach. The hotel was reopened partially in December 1887, and began full operation of the new resort in June 1888.

A second devastating fire occurred in 1924, and firefighters dynamited the main section of the hotel to prevent the blaze from spreading to the wings. A new Spanish style architectural design was drawn up by Lewis P. Hobart and Clarence A. Tantau, noted San Francisco architects. Built of reinforced concrete, it was constructed between 1924 and 1926. The wings were renovated to make them architecturally compatible with the new Mediterranean design.

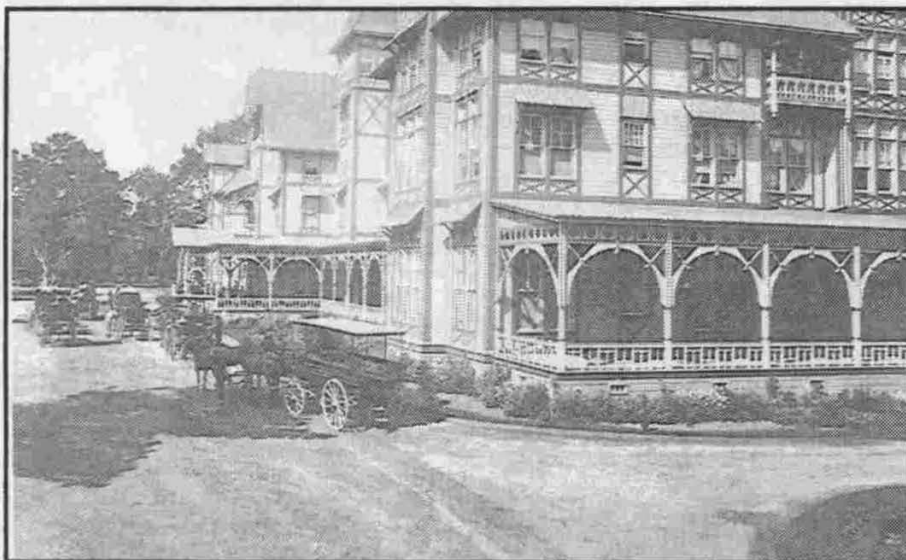


At the turn of the century, the horses hated the loud, obnoxious autos.

The front steps & 17-Mile Drive

The front of the hotel was both the starting and finishing point for the original 17-Mile Drive, which wound its way past local historical sites and the dramatic forest and coastal points of interest in the **Hotel Del Monte Park Reservation**, today called **Pebble Beach**. Victorian era visitors spent the entire day traveling the 17-Mile Drive in four-horse tallyhos and majestic six-horse carriages.

President Theodore Roosevelt visited the Hotel Del Monte in May 1903. To his daughter Ethel, age 12, he wrote: "This is a beautiful hotel...with gardens and a long seventeen-mile drive beside the beach and the rocks and among the pines and cypresses. I went on horseback. My horse was a little beauty, spirited, swift, sure-footed and enduring. As is usually the case here they had a great deal of silver on the bridle and headstall, and much carving on the saddle. We had some splendid gallops."



Carriages prepare to take guests on the 17-Mile Drive, which was part of the Hotel Del Monte resort.



President Roosevelt readies for a ride along the Hotel Del Monte's 17-Mile Drive.

Roosevelt's companions for the ride along the 17-Mile Drive were the mayor of Monterey, the president of the University of California, and the commander of the 15th Infantry Regiment, Monterey Presidio.



Three railroad cars of cacti and other succulents were brought from Mexico to create the "Arizona Garden" in the early 1880s.

Compare this to the May 1891 visit by **President Benjamin Harrison**. He saw the dramatic forest and ocean views of the Hotel Del Monte Park Reservation from an "elegant observation coach drawn by six beautiful bay horses. The coach was...decorated with the national colors, and the harness on the horses was lined with bunting and roses as far as possible." The Monterey Cypress newspaper quoted Harrison as saying, "This is a lovely spot. I only wish I could stay here a week."

From the front steps you can also see remnants of the hotel gardens, including the **Arizona Garden** designed by noted 19th Century botanist **Rudolf Ulrich**. Charles Crocker, a member of the Big Four who built the western half of the nation's first transcontinental railroad -- a feat which is considered to have been the technological achievement of the era -- sent Ulrich and three empty railroad boxcars to Sonora, Mexico to obtain succulents for this one-of-a-kind garden. The Arizona Garden was rededicated in 1995 following an extensive restoration by volunteers. Before leaving the grounds, please visit this unique garden.

You can also see private **cottages** adjacent to the hotel which were built in the mid-to late-1920s, and used for extended stays by celebrities such as **Paulette Goddard, Charlie Chaplin, Carole Lombard, Greer Garson, Charles Laughton and W.C. Fields**. Also visible is the **Roman Plunge**, the swimming pool and adjacent bathhouse noted as a favorite swimming hole for **Johnny Weismuller**. According to Herb Cerwin, who became Sam Morse's publicist in 1933, **Jean Harlow** skinny-dipped in the Roman Plunge at 2 a.m. one morning, but the incident was "quietly hushed" by the hotel management.

The walking tour

Following is a self-guided tour which will take you to public areas inside the former Hotel Del Monte. Sites can be identified on the map on page 23.

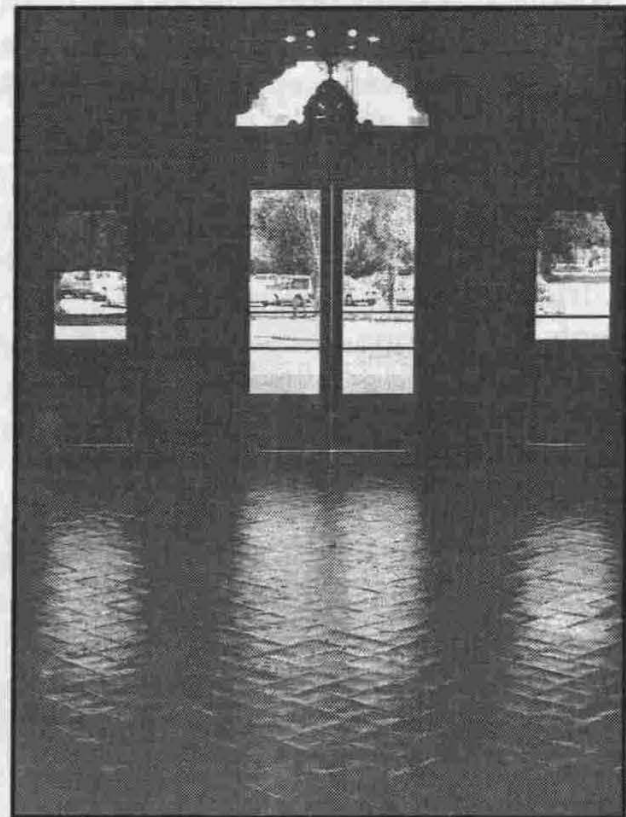
books by local authors, said to Cerwin, "Too much to carry." She tore out the autographed pages and asked Cerwin to dispose of the books. One was by **John Steinbeck**, then known simply as a "Pacific Grove author."

As you look toward the old hotel lobby, you see many signs of Navy life. But tune out the bustle of daily activities, and you will observe the Spanish influence in the hotel's architecture is beautifully reinforced by the interior design -- from the large, red tile Spanish flooring to the elegant iron work of the heat registers, light sconces and chandeliers. You will see many examples of artistic expression and skilled craftsmanship as you proceed on the tour.

On your right, a directory ② lists the principal executive and administrative offices of the Naval Postgraduate School and Naval Support Activity-Monterey Bay. Adjacent to this directory is a wooden door which bears the small sign, "Billeting Office." This was the station for the **hotel porters and starters** (elevator operators), and hotel switchboard operator.

Just past the directory is the check-in desk for the Bachelor Officers Quarters ③. Many of the former hotel guest rooms are now used for officers attending NPS. This registry area was the site of the hotel's **cashier**, and the magnificent **steel vault** for the Hotel Del Monte is still clearly visible. **Mark Thomas**, who once worked here as a clerk, was fixed up for a date with **Ginger Rogers** during one of her stays. Thomas later went on to build his own hotel, which is today the Hyatt Regency in Monterey. The city street which runs in front of the Hyatt has been named **Mark Thomas Drive**. The Navy quarter-deck ④, just past the BOQ check-in desk, was the hotel's **registry desk**.

We begin the tour in the entrance vestibule ①. All guests arrived and departed from this site. This was where Herb Cerwin stood one day with **Gertrude Stein** and **Alice B. Toklas** while waiting to depart for San Francisco. Stein, who had a dozen autographed



The walking tour begins in the entrance of the hotel.

On your immediate left is an office for the NPS Foundation, once the location of the hotel's real estate office ⑤. Sam Morse, who became president of newly-formed Del Monte Properties Company in 1919, once said, "When I first knew Monterey it had about 4,000 people, Pacific Grove about 2,500, and...Carmel about 100 --that was in 1908. There was no one in the Forest --it was virginal territory."

Main floor/lobby

As you walk past the stairway on your left ⑥, you will see an oil painting taken from the German auxiliary cruiser Kron Prinz Wilhelm when she surrendered during World War I. The German phrase at the bottom roughly translates to: "Our future (destiny) lies in the oceans." This war prize was shipped from Annapolis to Monterey when the Naval Postgraduate School moved west.

Actress Jean Harlow was among the many Hollywood celebrities who frequented the Hotel Del Monte. Harlow reportedly swam sans swimsuit in the Roman Plunge.



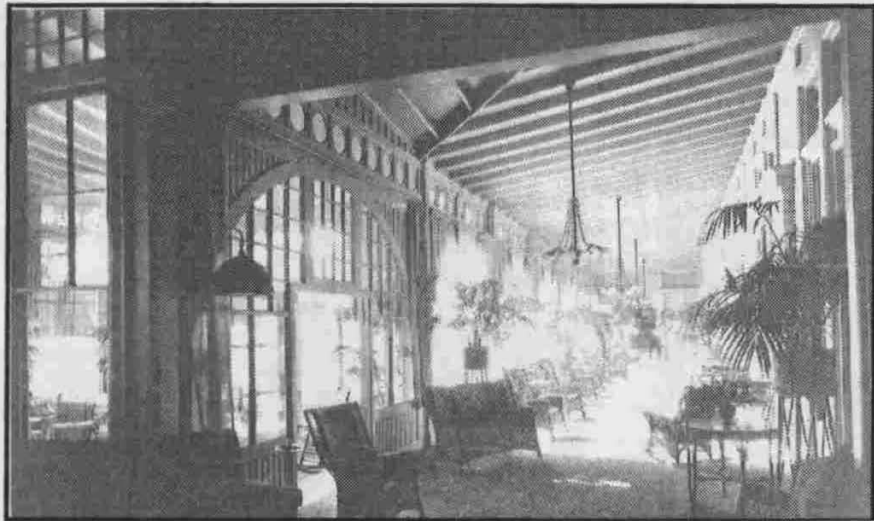
Also on your left, just past the stairway, is a photo gallery ⑦ of NPS senior leaders. In the hotel days, this was the **information desk**, and it was laid out somewhat like the quarterdeck looks today. You can still see the countertops sandwiched between the lower and upper wood paneling. After the Navy purchased the Del Monte, this area was enclosed to create additional office space.

On a nearby stone pillar is an 1890 **photograph of the Hotel Del Monte** ⑧ showing the Gothic architecture which characterized the first two hotel buildings. These structures were built along the same architectural plan, with striking turrets and large, comfortable verandas. The first two hotels were built by the Pacific Improvement Company, a holding company for the stock of the Central Pacific and Southern Pacific Railroads, their coal mines, lumber forests, more than 70 town sites, and many other assets. These assets had been acquired when the Central Pacific Railroad built the western half of the first transcontinental railroad, making the owners of the railroad --Leland Stanford, Charles Crocker, Collis Huntington, and Mark Hopkins --among the wealthiest men in the world.

The Sun Room

You will note a long **hallway to the left** of this photograph ⑨ which leads to the executive and administrative offices for the Naval Support Activity-Monterey Bay. The wall and offices along the left side of the hallway were created by the

Navy. In the hotel era, this was another large open space called the Sun Room, with the finest of overstuffed chairs and lounge seats and large potted plants. Across from the **Sun Room** were exclusive specialty shops for hotel



The Sun Room before the 1924 fire.

guests, including I. Magnin (women's apparel), Gump's (gifts and mementos), and City of Paris (sport shop for men). **Clark Gable, Gloria Vanderbilt, William Powell, Salvador Dali, Walt Disney, Zane Grey, Fannie Hurst, Rube Goldberg, Jimmy Gleason, Mrs. Franklin Roosevelt, the Duke of Kent, concert violinists Jascha Heifetz and Yehudi Menuhin, Robert Ripley,**

Marlene Dietrich, and Ernest Hemingway were among those who lounged in the Sun Room.

As you enter the lobby, you will see a memorial niche to Adm. Chester Nimitz ⑩. This includes a replica of the bronze plaque placed on the deck of the battleship USS MISSOURI to commemorate the Japanese surrender in World War II. Nimitz was the last --and perhaps the most famous --naval officer to be given the 5-star rank of Fleet Admiral. The niche was dedicated during the 1950s, when Nimitz became an occasional visitor and informal advisor to the school.

On the wall near the elevator ⑪ is a painting given to the Navy by the noted, contemporary maritime artist **Hans Skaalegard**, who maintains a gallery in Carmel.

Main lobby

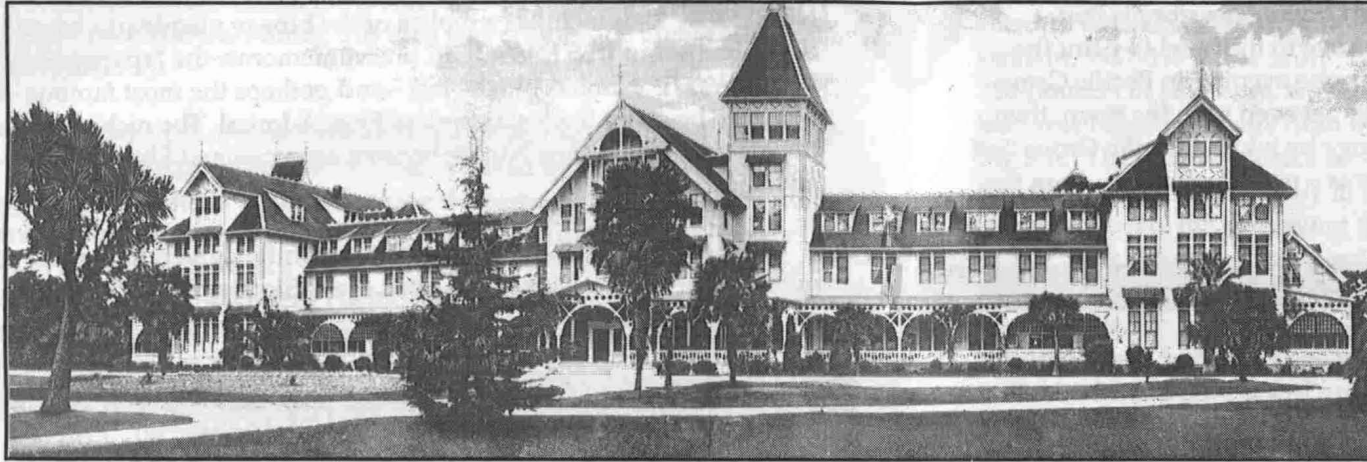
Venturing into the main lobby ⑫ of the Hotel Del Monte, now referred to as the Quarterdeck Lounge, you will see two striking murals by the Tasmanian artist **Francis McComas** (1875-1938). One depicts the simplicity, beauty and strength of a cypress tree growing among the rocky coast of Pebble Beach. Sam Morse had adopted the image of the lone cypress, the midway point in the 17-Mile Drive, as a trademark logo for the Del Monte Hotel and Del Monte Properties Company in 1919. After selling the Del Monte to the Navy in 1947, he transferred the logo to Pebble Beach. McComas, born in 1875, worked his way to San Francisco as a merchant seaman in 1898. After studying art at the Mark Hopkins Institute in San Francisco and Academie Juilian in Paris, he toured Europe and the American southwest, finally settling into a home in Carmel in 1912. McComas was nationally known for his landscapes of California oaks and cypresses, and southwestern Indian subjects. McComas was also an avid golfer, and helped design the Pebble Beach Golf Course.



Renowned artist Francis McComas prepares a mural for the lobby of the new Hotel Del Monte.

(Continued on page 14)

A glimpse into the past



LEFT: The first of three Del Monte hotels. Fire destroyed the original building in 1887. Today's building is a composite of the hotel which was rebuilt following the 1887 fire and a later, equally disastrous blaze in 1924. **BELOW:** Spectators watch a swim meet in the Hotel Del Monte's "Roman Plunge," which still serves as a swimming pool today.



The hotel booklet, "Famous Recipes by Famous People," captured the wit and wisdom of many notables and celebrities who visited the Del Monte during the lean years of the Great Depression.

A FAMOUS RECIPE That Thousands Have Enjoyed



- ☆ *First* take two days, a week or perhaps a month. ☆ Spend it at Del Monte.
- ☆ *Season* to your taste with golf on four championship courses; sprinkle with an occasional swim in the Roman Plunge; add a morning horseback ride over miles of bridle paths; put in a good portion of tennis; include watching a fast polo match; or if you prefer just bask and loaf in a matchless setting of forest, mountain and seashore.
- ☆ *This Recipe* has been prepared for more than fifty years by Del Monte. ☆ The thousands who have sampled it have returned year after year to enjoy extra portions.
- ☆ *Del Monte* knows the true art of fine living.



HOTEL DEL MONTE
DEL MONTE • CALIFORNIA

S. F. B. MORSE, President

CARL S. STANLEY, Manager



The cartographic representation on the opposite wall was created to further convey the Spanish influence of the hotel's architecture, and show the link between the city of Monterey and Spain's Count of Monte Rey. The map shows Del Monte holdings and some local historical landmarks. It also shows "Moss Beach" in the location of Pacific Grove. The story is that McComas -- who lived at Pebble Beach and drove to the hotel to paint the murals -- was arrested for public drunkenness one evening in Pacific Grove. He reportedly swore to a friend that he would get even with the town, then later told his friend he had achieved his revenge by wiping Pacific Grove "off the face of the Earth." The real Moss Beach was a popular side trip from the original 17-Mile Drive.

The chapel

The chapel 13 (please don't interrupt services) -- just past the elevators -- was simply called "the lounge" in the hotel era. It was well furnished with handsome overstuffed chairs, "creating a most admirable anteroom to the splendid dining room" according to accounts in a 1926 Hotel Del Monte souvenir edition of Keeler's Hotel Weekly. In the chapel are two murals by the self-taught artist Daniel Sayre Groesbeck (1878-1950).

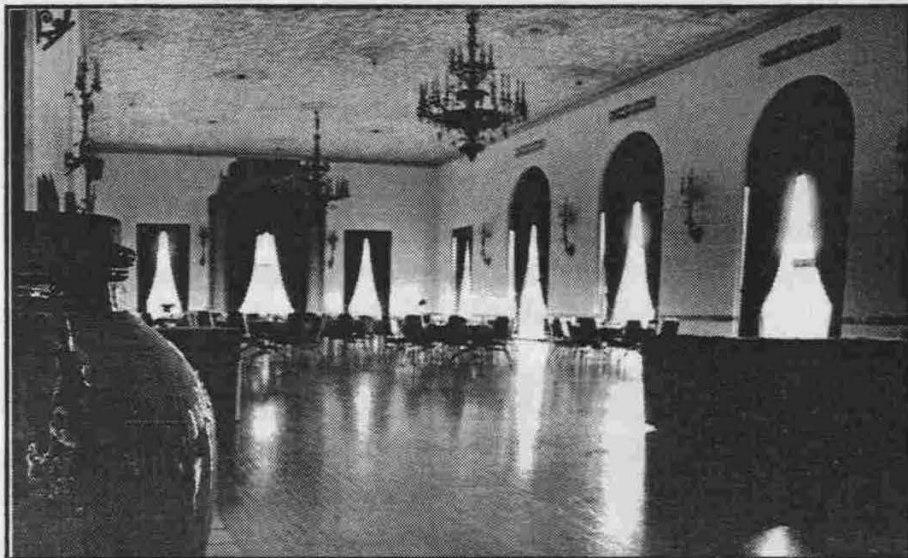
The mural above the fireplace, titled "Landing of the Cross," depicts the 1770 Monterey landing of Father Junipero Serra and, possibly, his meeting with the Spanish governor of Lower (Baja) California, Gaspar de Portola (Portola may be the swashbuckling dominant figure in the mural). Portola had searched for Monterey Bay in 1769, but failed to find it. He and Serra headed expeditionary parties in 1770 -- Serra going by sea, Portola by land -- to find the bay described by Spanish explorer Sebastian Vizcaino in 1602. Perhaps the relatively recent productions of Douglas Fairbanks' silent films, "the Mark of Zorro" (1920) and "Robin Hood" (1922), along with Groesbeck's personal meetings with Fairbanks and Mary Pickford during their stays at the Del Monte (Pickford was here in 1920 and 1922 for the filming of the silent movies "The Love Light" and "Tess of the Storm Country"), influenced Groesbeck's representation of Father Serra's landing.

The mural behind the altar is titled "Building of the Missions." Father Serra established the historic chain of missions throughout California. Included among these is the Carmel Mission (Mission San Carlos Borromeo Del Rio Carmel) where Father Serra is buried. Father Serra's sarcophagus in the Carmel Mission was created by Jo Mora, another artist with strong ties to the Hotel Del Monte. Mora's work is on display in the La Novia Room. The wall enclosing this space was added by the Navy, perhaps in early 1952 after NPS moved from Annapolis. See the plaque 14 adjacent to the door nearest the McNitt Ballroom.

The ballroom

In the alcove just before the ballroom is a memorial sculpture **15** dedicated to **Barbara McNitt**, wife of Rear Admiral Robert McNitt, NPS superintendent, 1967-1971. The sculpture, a bronze Monterey Cypress set in a 150-pound cut jade base, was created by Carmel artist Malcolm Moran. The jade was taken by divers from the Pacific Ocean offshore from Jade Beach at Big Sur. The bronze cypress and jade sit on a timber base, part of a schooner which sank in Monterey Bay in the early 1900s. Mrs. McNitt, who had been a strong advocate for preserving the history and heritage of the Hotel Del Monte, was killed in a tragic auto accident shortly after her husband relinquished command in a ceremony on 23 April 1971. The memorial sculpture was unveiled in March 1972, at which time the dining room was dedicated as the Barbara McNitt Ballroom.

What readily passes as a formal ballroom was actually the Hotel Del Monte's main dining room **16**. The 1926 commemorative edition of Keeler's *Hotel Weekly* called the dining room "palatial," and the "epitome of all the public rooms of the entire hostelry. One feels as though he had entered a fairyland of light and color." The dining room's dimensions are 210 feet in



The hotel dining room was considered the epitome of public rooms in the Del Monte.

length, 49 feet in width, and 27 feet in height from floor to ceiling. The ornate fountain combines unique and skillful artisanship with the utmost in inlaid mosaic patterned tiling, Keeler's said. Five magnificent chandeliers grace the ornate Spanish colonial ceiling, casting a candlelight glow throughout the room. Keeler's described the twilight lighting in the room as iridescent, and the room's color scheme as kaleidoscopic: "The (immense) windows...are handsomely draped with orange-gold-blue brocaded silk, in gorgeous flowery patterns. The drapes are held back by long tasseled cords of the same color as the drapes themselves." To top off the dining experience, an orchestra played from the balcony each evening.

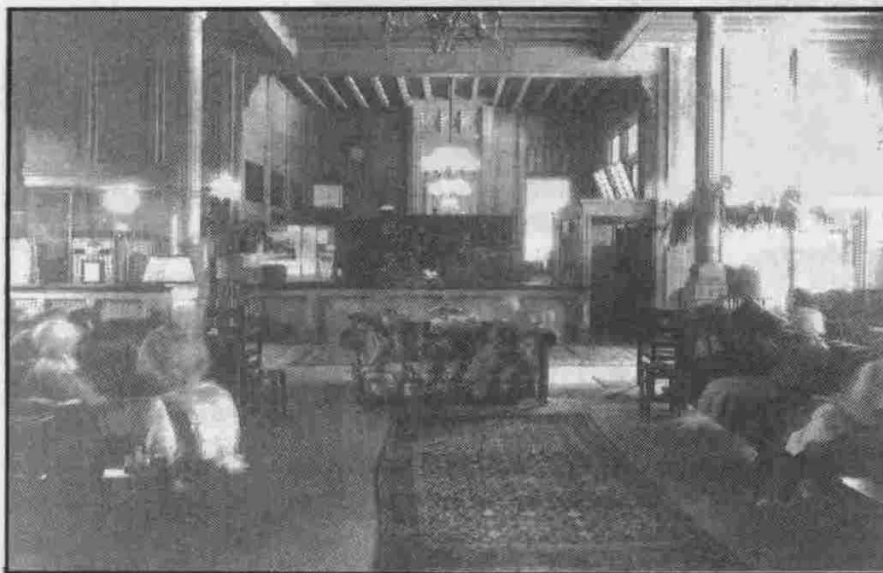
Keeler's also wrote about the Del Monte dining experience: "The service of the Del Monte dining room is excellence itself. The maitre d'hotel thoroughly understands his offices, and the captain likewise. White-aproned

waitresses quietly and efficiently take your orders and return in a moment with your food appetizingly prepared 'to a king's taste.' All the help is friendly disposed, yet unobtrusive, a feature to be praised in any establishment."

In a January 1940 Fortune magazine feature on the Hotel Del Monte, the writer also comments on the qualities of the waitresses: "Probably the very best job of making you feel at home is done by the elderly waitresses in the dining room. The twenty-five regular waitresses are an institution. Take, for instance, Minnie Healy. She is sixty-five, and has been at Del Monte for twenty years. Minnie remembers to ask about your son, tells you what she considers worth eating today, warns you severely that the French-fried abalone will give you indigestion."

In 1936, Del Monte publicist Herb Cerwin captured another element of the magic of Del Monte dining in the small book, "**Famous Recipes by Famous People.**" Contributors and titles of their recipes were: illustrator **Otto Soglow**, "The Little King Turns Cook;" cartoonist **Rube Goldberg**, "Veal Cutlets a la Baseball;" **Prince George of England**, "By Appointment to the House of Windsor;" **Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt**, "The President's Sunday Dinner;" author **Edgar Rice Burroughs**, "Tarzan to the Rescue;" animator **Walt Disney**, "Silly Symphony Souffle;" and author **Gertrude Stein**, "Is a Rose is a Rose is a Rose." A copy of the book is on display in the museum on the ground floor 22.

The kitchen and back part of this building, the La Novia and Bali rooms downstairs, and the two wings on either side, were saved from the 1924 disaster when firefighters dynamited the main hotel in order to contain the blaze. These sections of the hotel were built between 1887 and 1888, following a fire which had destroyed the original 1880 Hotel Del Monte.

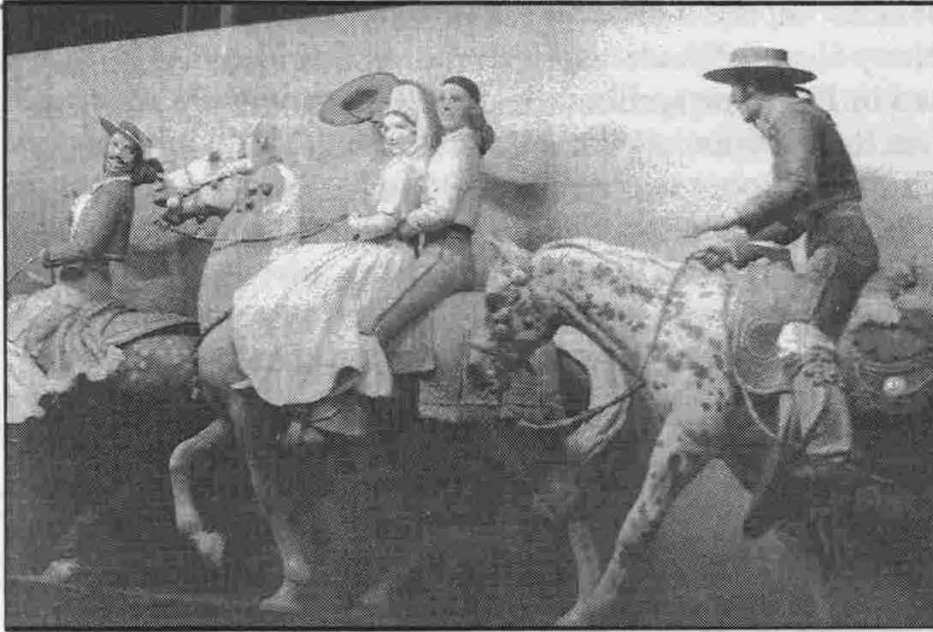


Guests appear ghostlike in this photo taken in the main lobby of the Hotel Del Monte. There have been numerous "sightings" of ghosts in the building through the years, right on up to the present; the most famous being the "man in the gray suit."

La Novia Room

Make your way to the ground floor by using the stairs between the ballroom and the chapel. Once downstairs, you will note the El Prado Room nearest the base of the stairs and the La Novia Room to your left.

The La Novia Room 17 is one of the more unique and puzzling rooms in the Hotel Del Monte. It was a part of the second Hotel Del Monte building, and most likely was built around 1887. The precise use of this room in the period prior to the 1924 fire is unknown. Some believe the room was used as



The La Novia diorama by noted sculptor and artist Jo Mora was unveiled at the Hotel Del Monte in 1940.

a dining room for children and their attendants, but this cannot be confirmed.

In the Morse era, the La Novia Room was a private banquet room, and was called the **Copper Cup Room**. Keeler's 1926 feature story notes that "a unique niche in one of the walls

contains the copper cup from which the room gains its name."

The room was renamed La Novia some time after 1940, when the diorama by Jo Mora (1876-1947) was unveiled. Mora was a sculptor, artist and illustrator who was renowned for both his creative talent and attention to historic detail. In 1920, at the request of Carmel priest Ramon Mestres, Mora began work on what he called "the supreme professional effort of my life" -- the creation of the Junipero Serra sarcophagus at the Carmel mission.

For two years, Mora rode on horseback to a studio built for this project on the mission grounds. The life-size sculpture of bronze and California travertine shows a reposed Serra flanked by three kneeling padres. The link to Father Serra is significant, because Mora has carved his image into the black walnut case for the La Novia diorama, which is a half-life sculpture of a Californio groom departing with his bride from their wedding ceremony ("La Novia" means "The Bride"). The figures were first molded in clay, then cast in artificial stone and painted. Much of the work was done in the Copper Cup Room, and the completed diorama was cantilevered into a hole cut

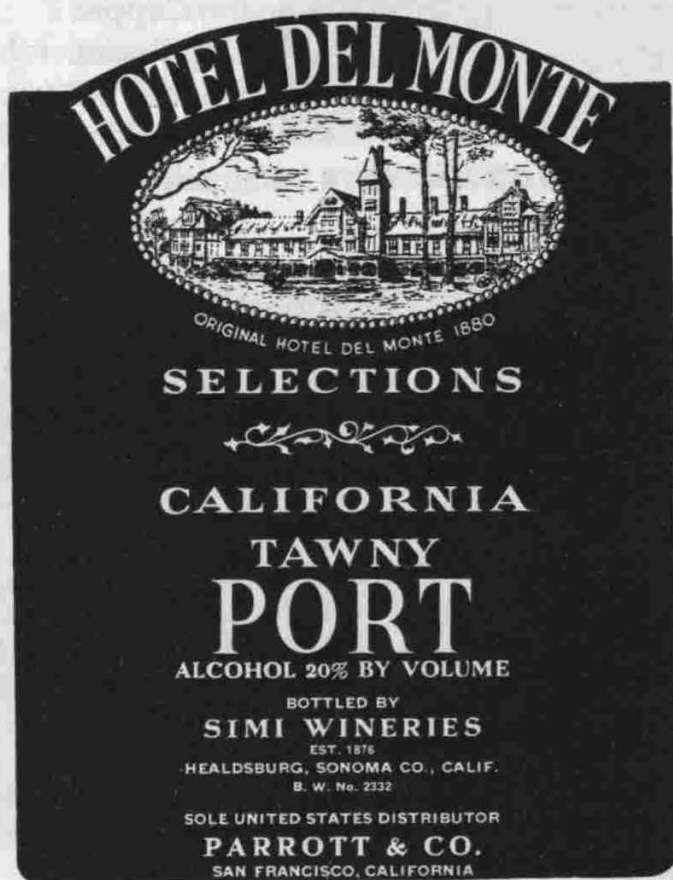
through the wall. Mora wrote that, "The trappings and costumes are of the Spanish period of California history. They are correct in every minute detail. Most of the guests arrived at a wedding ceremony on horseback, and the bride and groom invariably left for their new home mounted as shown in this group." The other two figures are the best man and the groom's father, riding away from the wedding feast with them to see them on their way. The walnut case also includes the escutcheon of the Count of Monterey, for whom the Spanish explorer Vizcaino claimed this area and named the bay in 1602.

El Prado Room

Like the La Novia Room, this section of the hotel was built following the fire of 1887. The Navy has made extensive changes in this area. When the hotel first re-opened in 1926, one section of the El Prado Room 18 (the side nearest the La Novia Room) was called the **Grill Room**; the other section was the **Auditorium**. The Grill Room was remodeled in 1931, and renamed the **Bali Room**. The highlight of the remodeling -- murals of Balinese dancers painted on the wall by artist Moira Wallace. Following are two descriptions of this area -- the former given by Keeler's Hotel Weekly in 1926, and the latter by Herb Cerwin, Morse's publicist from 1933 to 1942, following his brief visit to NPS in the mid-1960s.

Keeler's: "The auditorium is perhaps one of the most popular spots in all Hotel Del Monte, for here it is that moving pictures are shown two or three evening a week. This room has a capacity of 500 persons. Dark red and gold spotted drapes combine with the beamed ceiling and comfortable Spanish cord-checked upholstered chairs to give a feeling of indolent and comforting relaxation. The grill is directly adjoining the auditorium, and is the scene of many delightful dances, with a la carte service obtainable at all hours from the fine kitchen in

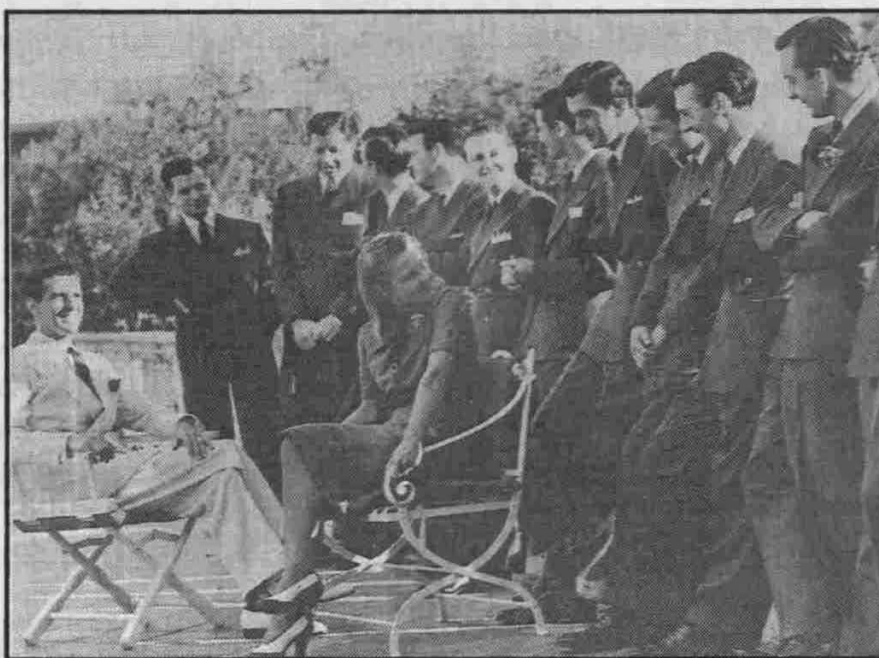
Guests could order wines bottled under the Hotel Del Monte label.



connection with the grill. When additional room is needed for large affairs in the grill, doors may be thrown open to the auditorium, giving a total capacity of 800 persons. A splendid orchestra is maintained especially for the nightly dancing in the grill."

Cerwin: "Here in the Bali Room three months before Pearl Harbor, Salvador Dali, his wife, Gala, my wife Dagmar, and I had put on 'A Night in a Surrealist Forest,' which had brought everyone who was anybody to Del Monte, including Bob Hope. Bing was there, too. Into that room had gone trees from the Del Monte Forest, wild animals from the San Francisco Zoo, the largest bed in Hollywood, and an overturned automobile with a sleeping nude. Dali had turned the room into a third dimensional surrealist painting. Standing there in the Bali Room I thought of the last time I was in the room. It was after Pearl Harbor, but we went on with our dinner dances and our New Year's Eve party as if nothing had happened. At two o'clock in the morning Freddy Nagel's Orchestra, instead of their closing theme song, played our national anthem. Everyone sang loudly and proudly; a shiver went down my spine. Our country had been badly hurt, but there was no one in the room who doubted the outcome. We were united as a nation and as a people as never before." Cerwin joined the diplomatic corps. After the war, he bought a vineyard in Sonoma County, was a public relations advisor to several major corporations, and advisor to Nelson Rockefeller on Latin American affairs.

Also on
the
ground
floor...



Performances by Freddy Nagel's Orchestra were broadcast nationwide by Mutual Radio Network.

Across the hallway from the El Prado Room is the Del Monte Room 19. This had two functions -- as a check room for guests going to parties in the Bali Room, and served as the post office.

As you walk toward the front of the building, you pass by the Trident Room 20. This room was used as a children's playroom when the hotel reopened in 1926. Later, it was converted into the Del Monte Tap Room, and the playroom was moved to a smaller space, now the Public Affairs Office.

Reaching the intersection of two ground floor hallways, you will see a **Barber Shop 21** on your left. This was the Western Union office in the hotel.

Across from the barber shop is the **NPS Museum 22**, formerly a combination news stand, cigar store and soda fountain. Museum displays highlight the history of both the Hotel Del Monte and the Naval Postgraduate School. Here you will find artifacts, sketches and photographs from the Victorian period to the present, and you will learn how Del Monte Properties was transformed into the modern-day Pebble Beach Company.

Standing in the intersection of the two hallways, you will see a **Student Mail Center 23** on your right. In the hotel era, this housed the Southern Pacific Railroad ticket office and a drug store.

Just beyond this present-day post office is the **Morale, Welfare and Recreation ticket office 24**. This room was the ground floor of Gump's Store and was later converted into an expanded game room, and included an indoor putting green and shuffle board court.

Other administrative offices line the hallway as it leads to a stairway. But in the hotel days, the area just past the MWR ticket office was a large, open **game room 25** with pool and game tables, large upholstered chairs, a large library table, and a **great open fireplace**. The Navy partitioned the game room into offices, and the fireplace is now inside the Safety Office. Rumor has it that **Clark Gable** enjoyed competitive games of pool into the wee hours of the morning, and spent the night on a pool table on more than one occasion.

Guest rooms

Keeler's Hotel Weekly said that guest rooms were "attractively furnished with walnut straight dressing chair and dressing table with hanging mirror, together with a handsome chiffonier. Between each twin bed is placed a bed-stand, provided with phone, ash tray, candle and a place for the book one reads before switching off the lights. The rugs are soft two-tone golden brown Axminsters. The rooms are also furnished with writing tables."

Today these guest rooms are used as administrative offices and to house students.

**Free
public
concerts**

Monterey Bay Symphony Orchestra performs on the front lawn of Herrmann Hall

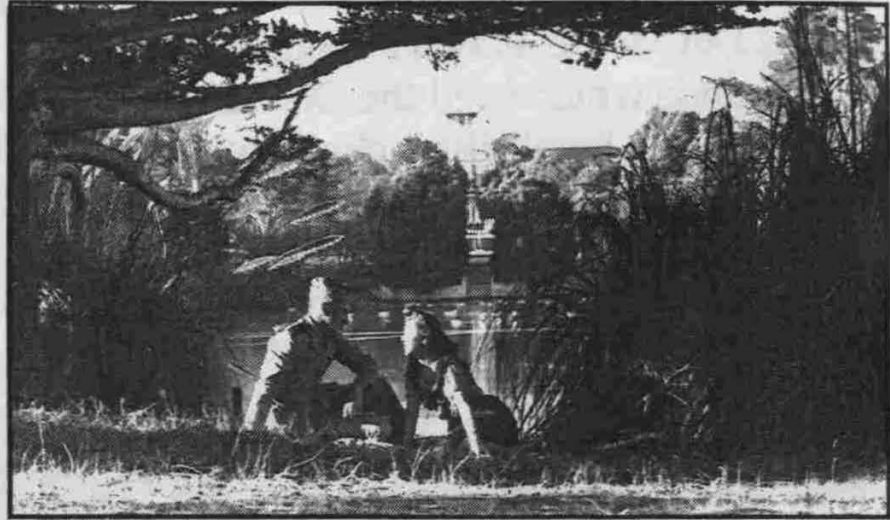
**Memorial Day
July 6
Labor Day**

Call 656-2023 for details

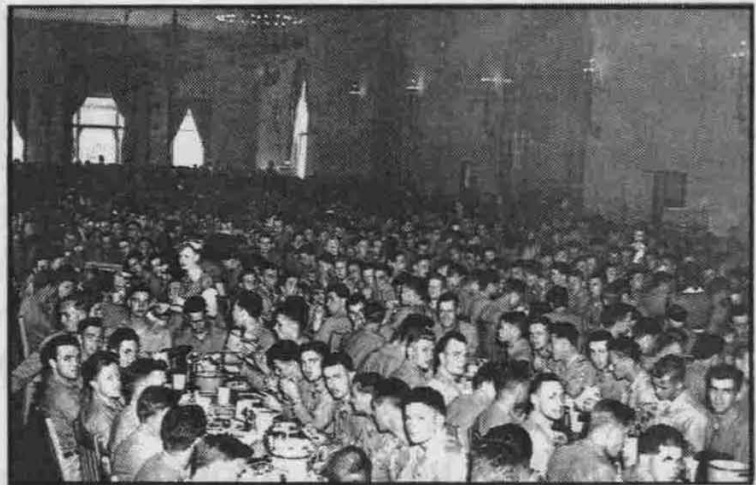
The Navy moves in

Under the exigency of war, the Navy requisitioned the hotel in 1942 and established the **Del Monte Pre-Flight Training School**. The Del Monte never resumed operation as a commercial hotel. In 1947, the **80th Congress** authorized and appropriated \$2.13

million to purchase the Hotel Del Monte and 627 acres of land surrounding the hotel to provide an independent campus for the **Naval Postgraduate School**, which was then co-located with the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. NPS then endured four years of turbulent political in-fighting before moving to Monterey in late 1951. The cross country move included nearly 100 professors and support staff, 500 students, and over 3 million pounds of desks, chairs, books, and laboratory equipment. NPS began its first classes in Monterey in February 1952.



A pre-flight school student and his guest enjoy the Del Monte Lake in the 1940s.



LEFT: Del Monte Properties President Sam Morse speaks at the Jan. 8, 1944 Pre-Flight School graduation. ABOVE: Naval aviation cadets eat a quick meal in the ballroom, which was used as a mess hall in 1943.

Museum

The Naval Postgraduate School Museum 22 located on the ground floor of the former hotel, offers a perspective of the Hotel Del Monte, Naval Postgraduate School, and the Navy commands which used the Del Monte from 1943 to 1951. Artifacts include hotel silver, china, wines, guest books, playing cards, post cards, and special publications. NPS artifacts include turn-of-the-century scientific instruments and early computing machines. The museum is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tower Room

4th floor

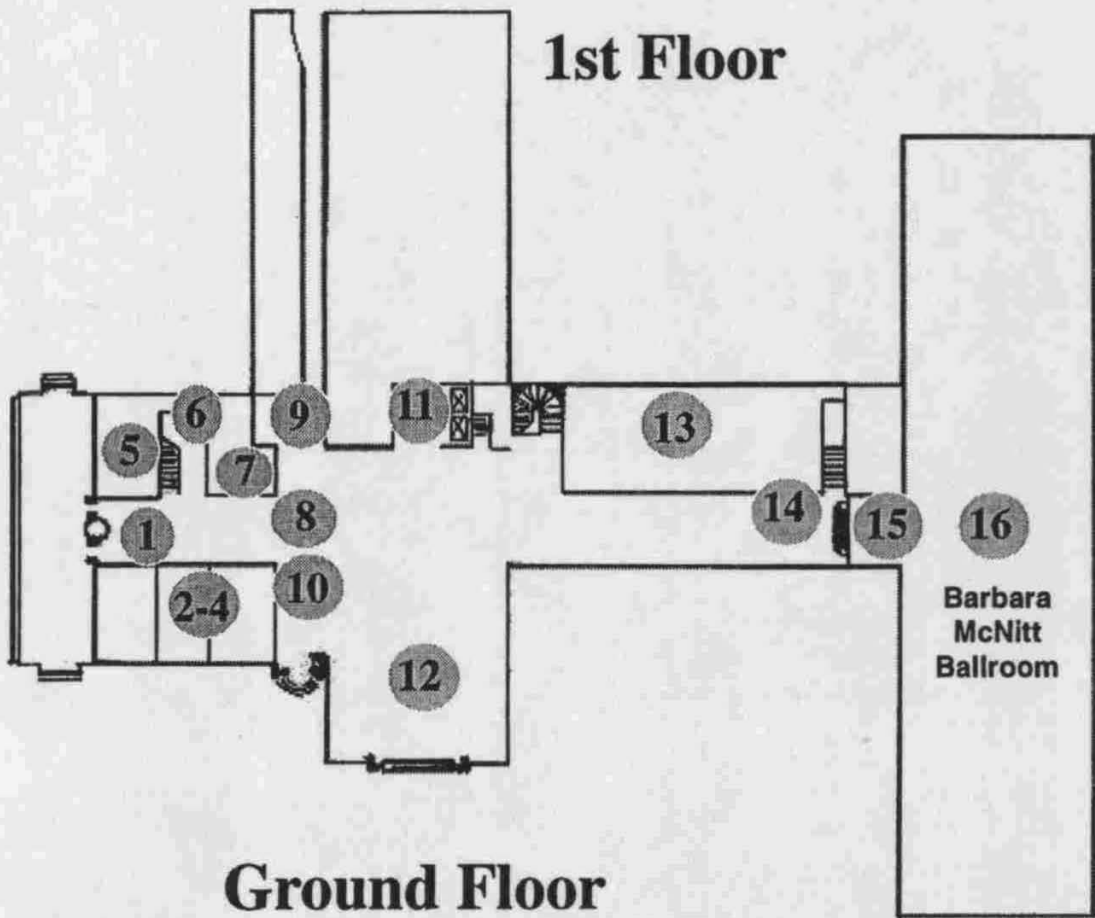
This was a banquet room, described by Keeler's as a meeting place for organizations that "never fails to impress." It was furnished with straight-backed chairs with blue upholstery and several overstuffed arm chairs. A service room to the left of the main entrance was used to provide buffet meals or to keep meals sent from the kitchen "warm to the last minute."

The Tower

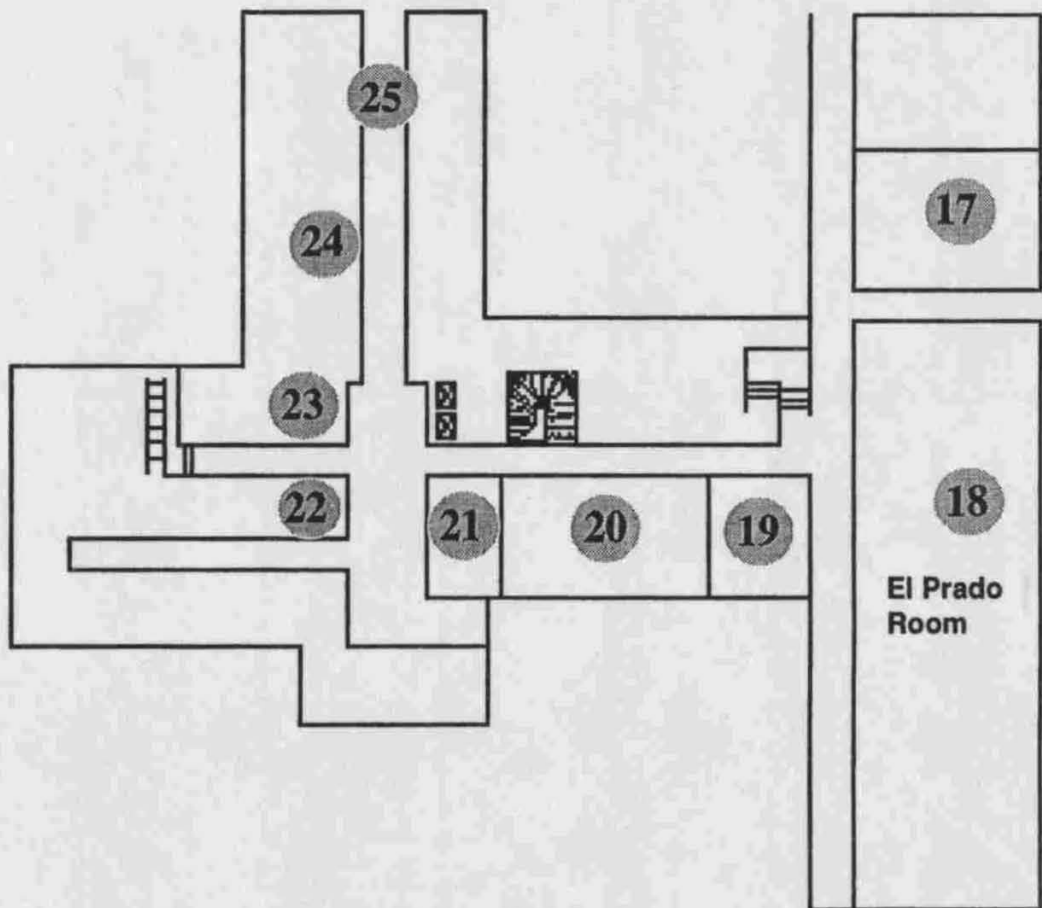
The landmark loggia of the Hotel Del Monte can be seen from all points of the Monterey Peninsula. The tower offers an unparalleled view of the community, and it can be visited throughout the day. Simply go to the Quarterdeck on the first floor and request the key for the Tower. You will be asked to sign a log, then you can enjoy this remarkable, inspiring vista.

Research by John Sanders
Designed by JO1 Diane Jacobs
Naval Postgraduate School Public Affairs Office
1997

1st Floor



Ground Floor

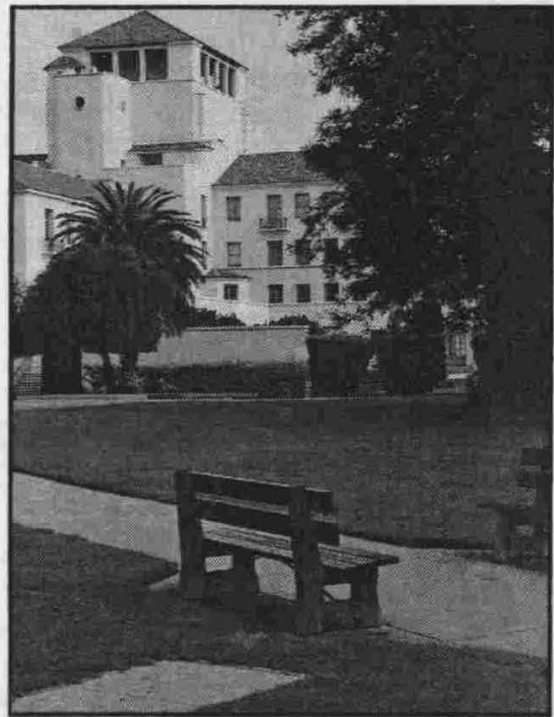


(Numbers correspond to sites identified in the walking tour.)



The Naval Postgraduate School offers more than 40 programs of study -- ranging from all facets of engineering to computer systems management, financial management, and space systems. Its defense-oriented education and research give the university an edge over other institutions -- academic courses and student research have direct application to the military.

Students -- representing all U.S. armed services, in addition to the armed forces of 37 countries -- use virtual reality, robotics, lasers, and other leading technologies to build tomorrow's defense.



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