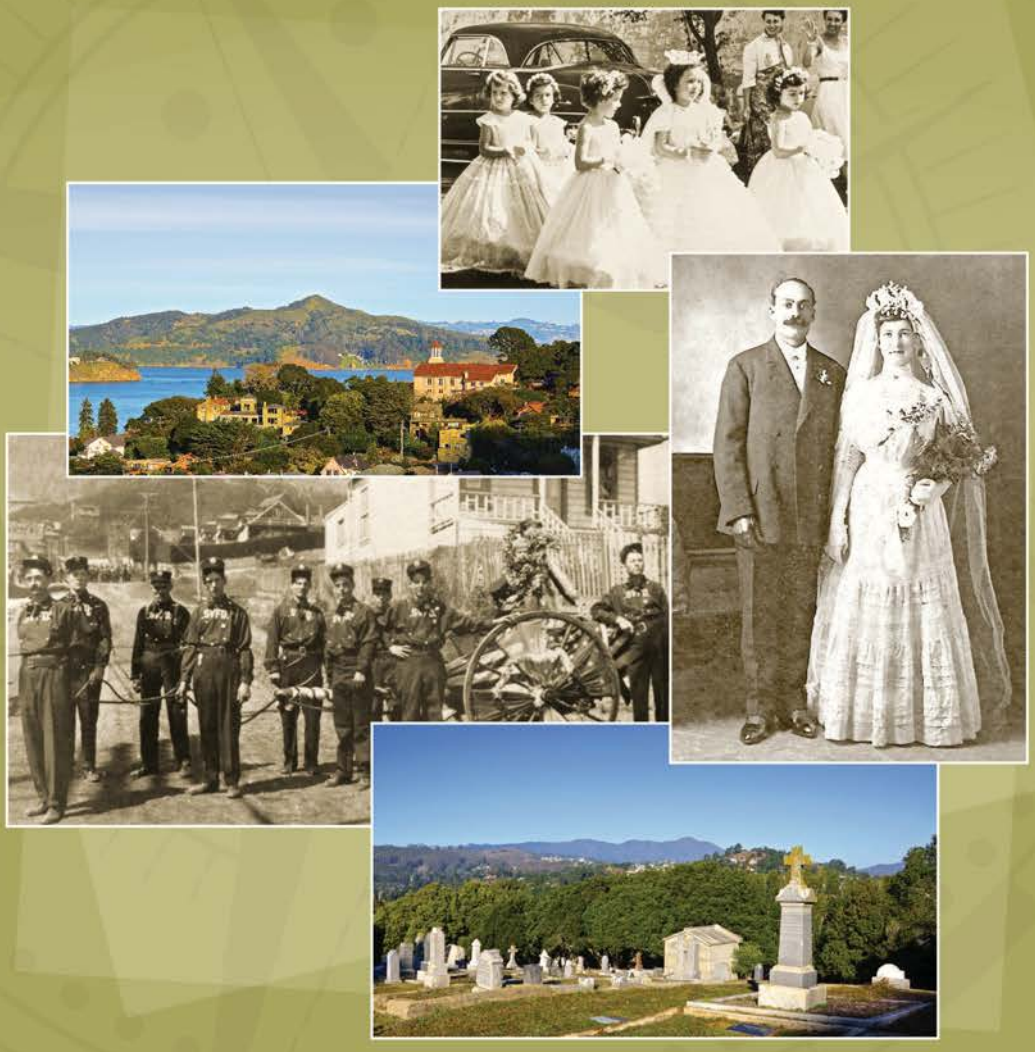
I.D.E.S.S.T.
SAUSALITO

Celebrating Portuguese Heritage
Culture & Pride for over 125 Years

Sausalito Portuguese Heritage Walking Tour Guidebook



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Sausalito's Portuguese Heritage

Bem-vindo e muito obrigado (welcome and thank you) for your interest in our Sausalito Portuguese Heritage Walking Tour. There may be no ethnic group that has had a longer or closer connection with Sausalito than the Portuguese-American community. Immigrants from Portugal, in particular the Azores and, to a lesser extent, Madeira, began arriving in Sausalito in the 1800's, initially on New England whaling ships. Fishermen, boat builders and dairymen soon followed and became active in several of Marin's early business ventures, in particular the many dairy ranches that were spread across the southern end of the county, and a number of Sausalito's commercial establishments. At one point it was estimated that one quarter of Sausalito's entire population was of Portuguese descent.

By 1888, five years before Sausalito's own incorporation as a city, the Portuguese-American community in and around Sausalito had grown to a size sufficient to form a fraternal organization modeled after similar community organizations in the Azores. That organization, named "*Irmandade do Divino Espírito Santo e Santíssima Trindade*" ("Brotherhood of the Divine Holy Spirit and Blessed Trinity"), and commonly referred to by its acronym, "IDESST," or as the Sausalito Portuguese Hall, was initially located at 131 Filbert Street. In 1953 it moved to a new facility at 511 Caledonia Street, just north of City Hall.

Among the traditions that Portuguese immigrants brought with them was an annual celebration of thanksgiving – the "*Festa do Espírito Santo*" ("Holy Spirit Festival") - honoring the memory of Portugal's Queen Isabel, who was known for her generosity and for championing of the interests of the poor. The crown that is incorporated in the Hall's logo is Queen Isabel's crown, and the dove that sits atop it represents the Holy Spirit.

The first known Festa was held in Sausalito in 1886 (you will see the location on the tour), and has been celebrated on Pentecost Sunday every year since – 2013 marked the 125th anniversary of that unbroken string, longer than any other Portuguese hall in California. In the beginning, the Festa was celebrated over several days with families traveling from all over the Bay Area to pitch their tents on the Sausalito hillside. Today it has been reduced to a single Sunday. However, its central elements remain unchanged, including the crowning of young girls as queens in honor of Queen Isabel, a parade through the streets of Sausalito from the Hall to St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church for a special Mass, and a community banquet of "*sopas e carne*" (a hearty beef, bread, and vegetable dish) in the Hall's dining room, followed by other festivities.

We hope that this tour will illustrate the integral part that Portuguese-Americans have played in Sausalito and bring a part of their history to life.

Azores

Madeira

Overview of the Tour and Use of this Guidebook

For this project we have identified a set of locations in and around Sausalito that follow a logical geographical progression, and that highlight key elements of the history of both the town and its Portuguese-American community.

This Guidebook is, and will always be, a work in progress. We appreciate that the information we present here can and should be supplemented (and probably in some cases corrected!). Given the number of Portuguese-Americans who have, over the years, lived here and contributed to the life of the community, there are many more stories to be unearthed and probably no part of town that does not have some connection to that community. We welcome your input and any suggestions. Historic photographs, in particular those which show Portuguese-Americans in identifiable locations in Sausalito, are particularly helpful. We also very much want to include stories about individuals and families which reflect their times and interrelationships.

Although this is intended as a walking tour, almost all of the locations are easily accessible by car. While the majority of the stops are at or near sea level, a few (for example, the Star of the Sea Church or the original location of the IDESST Hall) require climbing Sausalito's hills – an effort which will be well-rewarded with some great vistas! We have tried in the pages that cover the individual tour stops to identify those that may be more challenging for any with limited mobility so that appropriate transportation can be arranged.

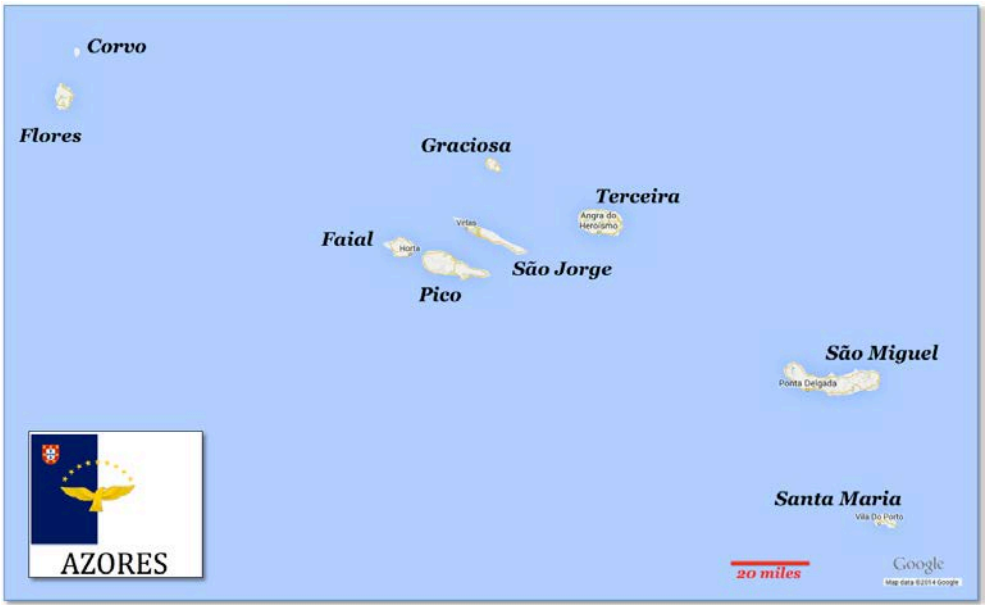
While it would certainly be possible to undertake the entire tour on foot, given the stops in Tennessee Valley and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, such a full circuit would take the better part of a day. On the other hand, the majority of the stops (for example, from #1 at Whalers Cove to #21 at the Bolinar sculpture at Napa and Bridgeway) are within a two-mile walk and can easily be visited on foot within a couple of hours – the distance is about the same as that walked by the participants in the annual Holy Spirit Festa parade. We appreciate that those taking the tour will most likely prefer to do so in increments of a few adjacent stops at a time, and that should in no way detract from the enjoyment of the experience, especially since the stops are somewhat arbitrarily determined by location rather than any historical progression. While we believe that there is a benefit in the overall historical view that the complete tour provides, each of the stops is intended to stand alone.

While we have tried, where appropriate, to provide information about Sausalito history for each stop, this Guide is by no means intended to be a comprehensive historic document. We have included some references to resources that we believe provide useful additional information (in particular those provided by the Sausalito Historical Society with whom we have worked closely on this project) and welcome any suggestions in that regard.

Please note that there are no physical markers at any of the tour stops that relate to this Guide. We trust that the directions provided for each stop together with the photographs will be sufficient to allow you to find them with no difficulty.

The Azores and Madeira

Since so many Portuguese came to Sausalito from the Azores and Madeira, we thought these maps would be helpful. However, note that the maps of the Azores and Madeira are at different scales. São Miguel, the largest island in the Azores, and Madeira are approximately the same size (293 v. 309 square miles).



History Time Line

1769 - Spanish explorer Gaspar de Portolá leads party of first Europeans to glimpse San Francisco Bay from heights near Pacifica

1775 – Spanish explorer Juan de Ayala captains the San Carlos, the first ship bearing Europeans to enter San Francisco Bay

1821 - With Mexican independence from Spain, California becomes part of Mexico

1822 – William Richardson arrives in San Francisco Bay upon the British whaler *Orion*

1838 – Richardson given title to El Rancho del Sausalito; builds hacienda in area of today's Pine Street (between Caledonia and Bonita)

1840's – American whaling ships, likely including Portuguese among the crews, begin regular visits Sausalito for provisions

1848 - California annexed to the U.S.

1848 – Gold discovered in California

1850 – California statehood

1856 –William Richardson dies; his lawyer, Samuel Throckmorton, acquires most of his property in Sausalito

1868 – Sale of significant portion of the Sausalito area to Sausalito Land & Ferry Company consortium; ferryboat Princess begins twice a day service to San Francisco

1869 - First Transcontinental Railroad connected to its western terminus at Alameda.

1875 – North Pacific Coast Railroad commences Sausalito to Tomales service and expands Sausalito/San Francisco ferry service

1886 – First Espírito Santo (Holy Spirit) Festa in Sausalito

1888 - Sausalito Portuguese Hall ("*Irmandade do Divino Espírito Santo e Santissima Trindade*" [IDESST]; the "Brotherhood of the Holy Ghost and the Blessed Trinity") established

1893 – Sausalito incorporated as a city

1906 – San Francisco earthquake

1937 – Golden Gate Bridge opens

1941-45 – World War II

1942 - Construction of Marinship shipbuilding yard and Marin City

1953 – Current Sausalito Portuguese Hall opened on Caledonia Street

1957 - Capelinhos volcano erupts on the Azorean island of Faial leading to the passage the following year of the Azorean Refugee Act

1963 – American Distillery in northern Sausalito destroyed by fire

1974 – "Carnation Revolution" in Portugal with a return to democracy and independence of Portugal's former colonies

Changes to Family Names

Tracking family histories is always complicated by alternative name spelling and changes made to names for various reasons. Here is an interesting piece from the Library of Congress regarding such transformations in the context of Portuguese immigration to the United States, a few of which we will encounter on the tour:

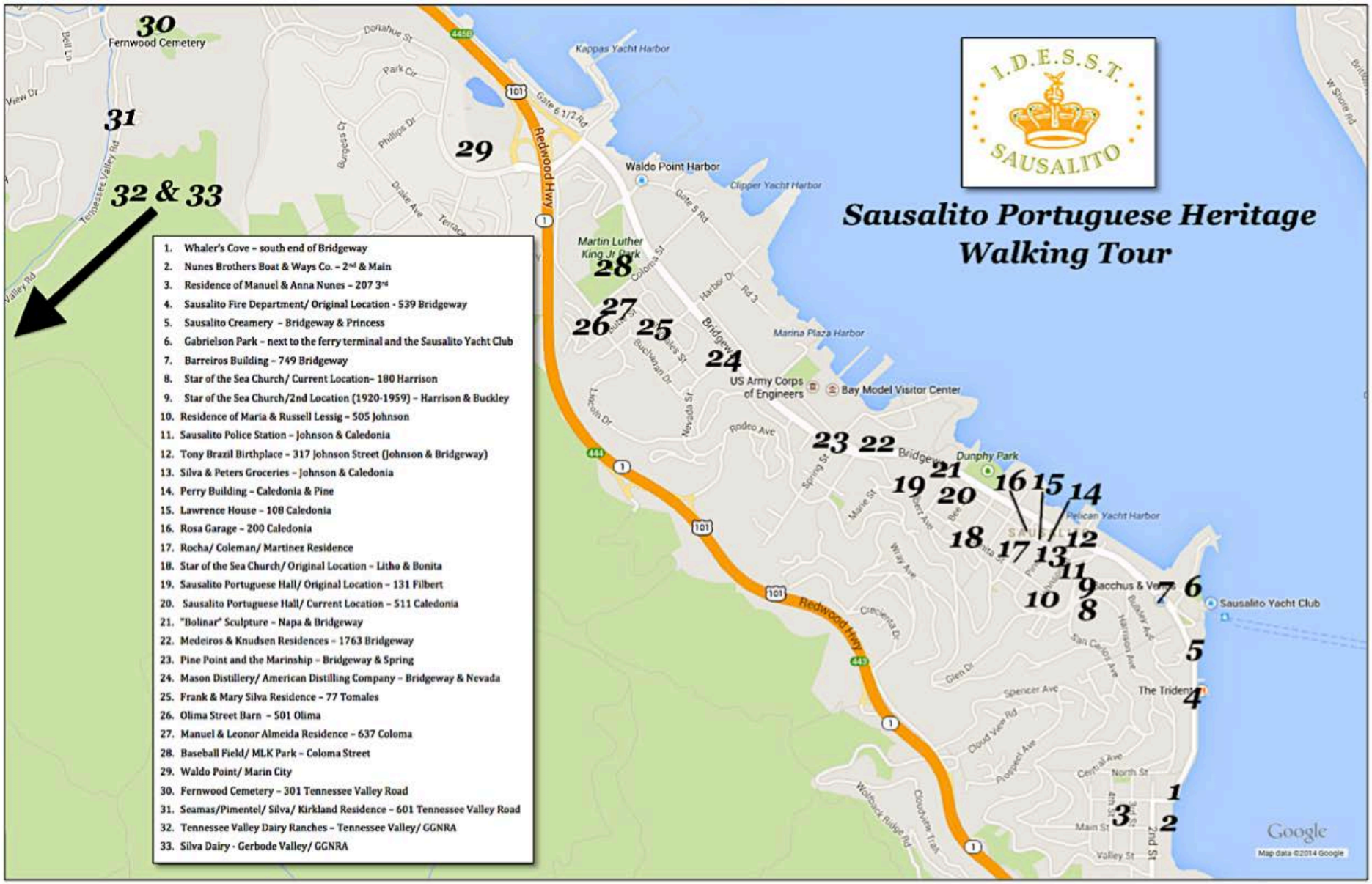
> "Like other ethnic groups in the United States, the Portuguese have modified their names to make them easier for English speakers to pronounce or recognize, as well as to avoid the discrimination often felt by immigrants and their progeny. Some have even Anglicized their names upon naturalization to show their pride in their new citizenship.
>
> First names are generally Anglicized in predictable ways: António becomes Tony; Maria becomes Mary; José becomes Joseph; Ana becomes Ann. Manuel is often rendered Manny. Last names, however, are a more complicated matter. Some new names were taken because they sounded like the original Portuguese ones -- for example, Leitão/Leighton; Coelho/Quail; Rosa/Rose. Many of these new names, but certainly not all, not only sounded like the original Portuguese name but were also literal translations.
>
> Other Portuguese surnames were translated with the results sounding nothing like the original. Thus, White was taken in place of Alves, Oakes for Carvalho, King instead of Reis. Yet other Portuguese immigrants have adopted variations of family nicknames for surnames."

Portuguese ➔ English

Portuguese	English
Alexandre	Alexander
Alves	White
Andrade	Andrews
Barros	Clay
Câmara	Chambers
Carvalho	Oakes
Coelho	Quail
Cruz	Cross
Ferreira	Ferry
Frates	Francis
Freitas	Francis, Frazer
Gomes	Holmes
Henriques	Hendrick(s)
Leitão	Leighton
Luiz	Lewis
Machado	Marshall
Madeira	Woods
Marcelino	Marshall
Martins	Martin
Melo	Miller
Mello	Miller
Moraes	Morris
Neves	Snow
Oliveira	Oliver, Olivier
Pereira	Perry
Pinheiro	Pine
Pires	Peters
Reis	King
Ribeiro	Brooks, Roberts
Rodrigues	Rogers
Rosa	Rose
Silva	Silver, Sylvia
Silveira	Silver, Sylvia

List of Tour Stops

1. Whaler's Cove – south end of Bridgeway
2. Nunes Brothers Boat & Ways Co. – 2nd & Main
3. Residence of Manuel & Anna Nunes – 207 3rd
4. Sausalito Fire Department/ Original Location - 539 Bridgeway
5. Sausalito Creamery – Bridgeway & Princess
6. Gabrielson Park – next to the ferry terminal and the Sausalito Yacht Club
7. Barreiros Building – 749 Bridgeway
8. Star of the Sea Church/ Current Location– 180 Harrison
9. Star of the Sea Church/Second Location (1920-1959) – Harrison & Buckley
10. Residence of Maria & Russell Lessig – 505 Johnson
11. Sausalito Police Station – Johnson & Caledonia
12. Tony Brazil Birthplace – 317 Johnson Street (Johnson & Bridgeway)
13. Silva & Peters Groceries – Johnson & Caledonia
14. Perry Building – Caledonia & Pine
15. Lawrence House – 108 Caledonia
16. Rosa Garage – 200 Caledonia
17. Rocha/ Coleman/ Martinez Residence
18. Star of the Sea Church/ Original Location – Litho & Bonita
19. Sausalito Portuguese Hall/ Original Location – 131 Filbert
20. Sausalito Portuguese Hall/ Current Location – 511 Caledonia
21. "Bolinar" Sculpture – Napa & Bridgeway
22. Medeiros & Knudsen Residences – 1763 Bridgeway
23. Pine Point and the Marinship – Bridgeway & Spring
24. Mason Distillery/ American Distilling Company – Bridgeway & Nevada
25. Frank & Mary Silva Residence – 77 Tomales
26. Olima Street Barn – 501 Olima
27. Manuel & Leonor Almeida Residence – 637 Coloma
28. Baseball Field/ MLK Park – Coloma Street
29. Waldo Point/ Marin City
30. Fernwood Cemetery – 301 Tennessee Valley Road
31. Seamas/Pimentel/ Silva/ Kirkland Residence – 601 Tennessee Valley Road
32. Tennessee Valley Dairy Ranches – Tennessee Valley/ Golden Gate National Recreation Area
33. Silva Dairy - Gerbode Valley/ Golden Gate National Recreation Area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29. Waldo Point/ Marin City
30. Fernwood Cemetery – 301 Tennessee Valley Road
31. Seamas/Pimentel/ Silva/ Kirkland Residence – 601 Tennessee Valley Road
32. Tennessee Valley Dairy Ranches – Tennessee Valley/ GGNRA
33. Silva Dairy - Gerbode Valley/ GGNRA
Fernwood Cemetery
Kappas Yacht Harbor
Waldo Point Harbor
Clipper Yacht Harbor
Martin Luther King Jr Park
Marina Plaza Harbor
US Army Corps of Engineers
Bay Model Visitor Center
Dunphy Park
Pelican Yacht Harbor
Sausalito Yacht Club
The Trident
Redwood Hwy
Bridgeway
Google
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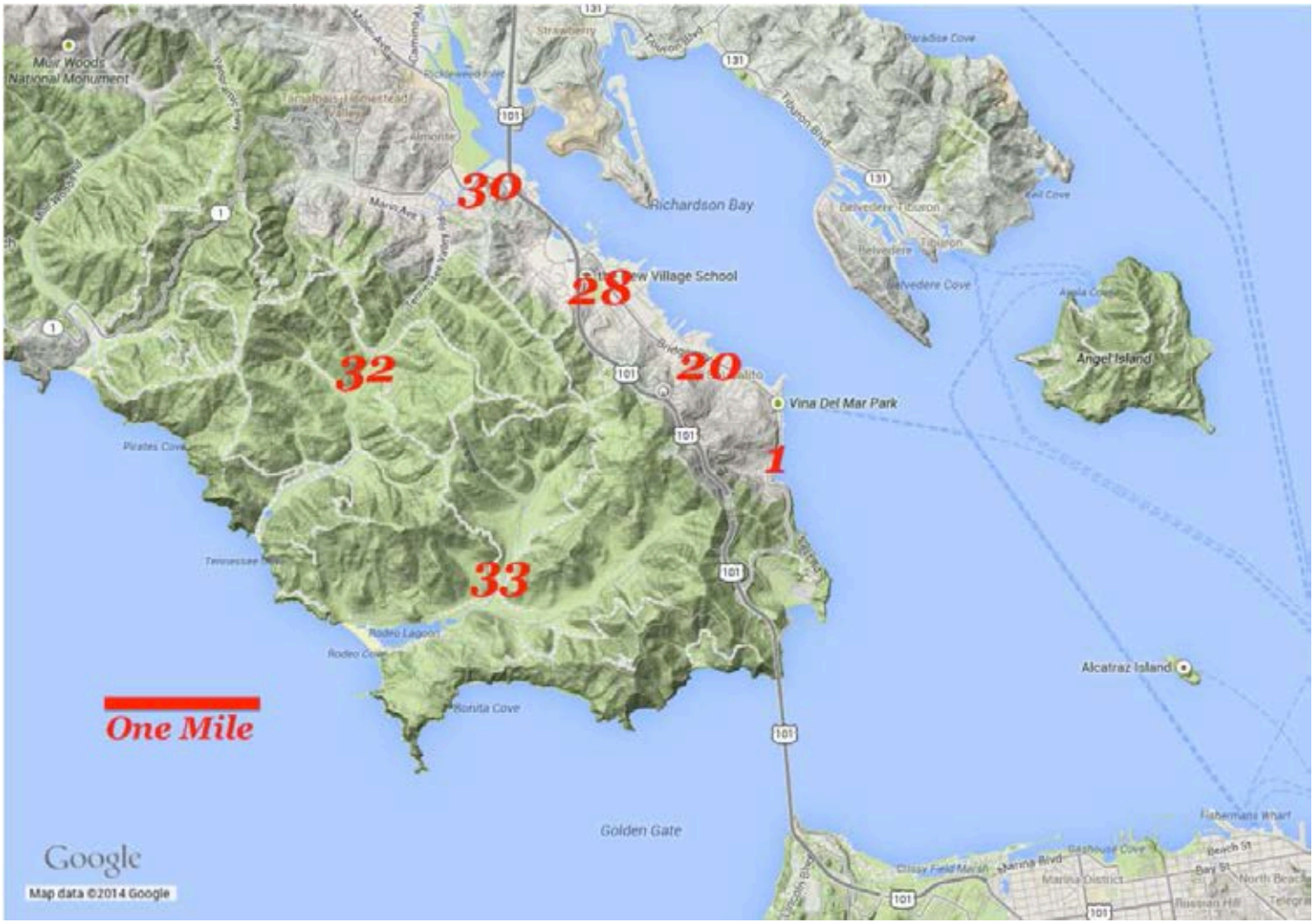


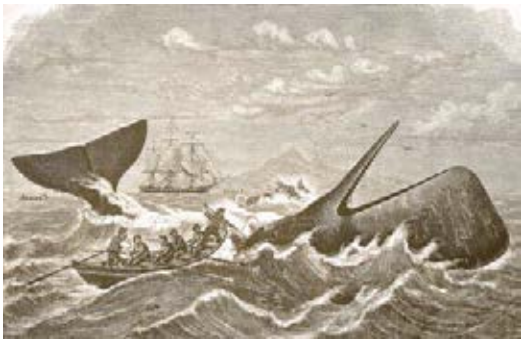
This larger-scale terrain map is intended to illustrate both the range of the tour and the overall distance covered:

1 - Whaler's Cove/ Shelter Cove – south end of Bridgeway
20 - Sausalito Portuguese Hall (IDESST) – 511 Caledonia
28 - Baseball field – MLK Park – Coloma Street
30 - Fernwood Cemetery – 301 Tennessee Valley Road
32 - Tennessee Valley Dairy Ranches – Tennessee Valley/ Golden Gate National Recreation Area
33 - Silva Dairy - Gerbode Valley/ Golden Gate National Recreation Area

1

Whaler's Cove

Location: South end of Bridgeway at intersection with Richardson



Courtesy Wikipedia Commons

Whaling ships at anchor in San Francisco Bay –late 1800's - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

Earliest known photo of Sausalito c. 1852 showing the shore along Whaler's Cove - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

View south over Whaler's Cove with San Francisco in the background – Courtesy Mike Moyle

View of Whaler's Cove looking east from Sausalito Boulevard, with Angel Island in the background – Courtesy Mike Moyle

The Connection:

It is very appropriate to have, as our tour's first stop, Whaler's Cove (also known as Shelter Cove) at the south end of Sausalito, since is very likely that the first Portuguese to set foot in Sausalito would have come ashore here. We are not sure who the first Portuguese to arrive in Sausalito may have been or when they arrived. There may very well have been Portuguese sailors on board Juan de Ayala's ship, the San Carlos, when he entered San Francisco Bay in 1769. However, there were certainly numerous Portuguese, in particular Azoreans, who would have been on American whaling ships that began to visit Sausalito in the first half of the 1800's to take advantage of the area's excellent spring water and wild game, as well as timber for repairs. For an excellent history of the Azores' contribution to the American whaling industry, see Don Warrin's book referred to below. David Bertao's book focuses on how the industry developed into a shore station-based enterprise.

Although the hacienda of Sausalito's founder, William Richardson, was built in the area that is today Pine Street between Bonita and Caledonia, the early center of Sausalito was above Whaler's Cove – the area today called "Old Town" – and many of Sausalito's oldest houses can be found there.

To provide a flavor for what Sausalito would have been like in the early days, here is an 1847 account, courtesy of the Marin County Free Library, by Charles Laugh describing his first Christmas in California, spent with the family of Sausalito's founder, William Richardson. At the time, Lauff was working on a cargo ship and had just sailed over to Sausalito to procure hides and wood to be shipped back to San Francisco:

"We met Captain William Richardson who acted as a sort of Port Warden. Christmas was only a few days off and Mr. Richardson invited the captain and myself and the crew to enjoy a hunt and have Christmas dinner with him.

Our host was a splendid character and strange to say, for an Englishman, was dry and witty. He could appreciate a good joke and could tell one with a good deal of feeling. He had a charming wife, who was down at the wharf when we landed, and she greeted us most cordially….

The second morning after our arrival at Sausalito the Indian servants of Mr. Richardson had the horses saddled and Captain Healy and myself, Mr. Richardson and six Indians started out over the trail to hunt grizzlies in Steep Ravine, back of Mill Valley. Mr. Richardson wanted some antelope, elk and bear to roast for Christmas dinner.

As we rode past where Manzanita Station is today [the area near the Buckeye Restaurant at the south end of the Richardson Bay Bridge] and turned along a trail to the big lagoon we encountered a number of deer, elk and antelope. Captain Richardson being a dead shot, spurred his horse and shot a beautiful specimen of the antelope family.... I killed an elk and Captain Healy a large doe deer. The Indians hauled the dead animals to a tree and after dressing them hung them up until we returned from the bear hunt.

Mr. Richardson and myself singled out a big brown grizzly.... The Indians skinned the bear, and after taking about fifty pounds of the choicest cuts for our Christmas dinner, we returned to Sausalito. It was the most exciting bear hunt I ever experienced….

Mr. Richardson had a very comfortable adobe home at Sausalito. It was located on the summit of the bluff where the old El Monte Hotel was located in later years. Stephen Richardson, his son, who resides today in San Rafael, was then a small boy in swaddling clothes.

We gathered around the festive board while the squaws brought in the steaming roasts of venison, elk, antelope and bear. It was a feast fit for the gods, and at each plate was a large pitcher of good old Mission wine which was brought from Don Timothy Murphy's supply at San Rafael. Mr. Murphy was the guest of honor at the head of the table...he had some appetite and ate his meal with relish."

<u>See Also</u>:

- "So Ends the Day: The Portuguese in American Whaling 1765-1927" by Donald Warrin
- "The Portuguese Shore Whalers of California 1854-1904" by David E. Bertao

<u>Directions to the Next Stop</u>:

Walk south along the boardwalk that parallels the Bay to the point where the boardwalk turns right (west).

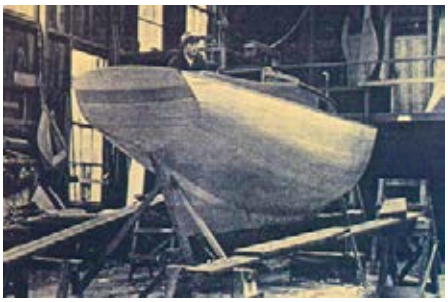
2

Nunes Brothers Boat & Ways Co.

Location: Southeast corner of the intersection of Second and Main Streets – today the Portofino Apartments.

The Portofino Apartments with the bay beyond – Courtesy Mike Moyle

The boat yard in operation viewed from the beach - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society



Antonio Nunes at work on a Bear boat - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

The famous Zaca under construction in the middle of Second Street - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

A photo from August 1942 showing Manuel Nunes (far left) and his brother, Antonio (far right). Also in the photo are Ernie Nunes, Manuel's son, and Ernie's daughter, Carol Ann. The article reported that Carol Ann was celebrating her 10th birthday by christening a Navy tug built by the shipyard. Courtesy Sausalito Times.

The Nunes Brothers installation – part of the Sausalito Historical Society's 2103 "Sausalito Sets Sail" exhibit – Courtesy Mike Moyle

The Connection:

In the late 1800's two brothers, Manuel and Antonio Nunes, immigrated to California from the town of Santo Amaro on the northeast coast of the island of Pico in the Azores. Santo Amaro was a center of boat building in the Azores and the brothers had some experience with that trade. Upon their arrival in California they soon got into that business, initially on the Sacramento river, and later, starting in1925, in Sausalito where they took over the Reliance Boat and Ways Co. at Second and Main streets in Sausalito's "Old Town" and named the business Nunes Brothers Boat and Ways Co.

Over the next 35 years the two brothers, together with Manuel's son, Ernie, designed and built a wide variety of vessels for private individuals and the government, including power cruisers, sailing yachts, fishing boats and other commercial and naval vessels. They were perhaps best known for the design of the "Bear" and "Mercury" classes of sailboats which continue to be popular today, as well as the famous 127-foot yacht named "Zaca," which was built for banker Templeton Crocker and later owned by movie star Errol Flynn.

When the Zaca was constructed it was too big to fit in the company's boat yard. As a result it was build in the middle of Second Street (although remember, that was prior to the construction of the Golden Gate Bridge such that there was less traffic). Those were certainly the days of less stringent regulation!

In 1959 the boatbuilding yard was closed, the family sold the land, and the Portofino Apartment complex was built on the site. Ernie Nunes continued a limited production of Mercury boats at a shop on Main Street between Second and Third Streets, until that shop too was closed in 1962.

The Nunes Brothers yard was a featured stop on the Sausalito Historical Society's "Sausalito Sets Sail" exhibit during 2013-14.

See Also:

- Annie Sutter wrote an excellent overview of the Nunes Brothers history for the Summer 1981 issue of the Sausalito Historical Society's publication. A copy of that article can be found in the online MarinScope at http://bit.ly/16F2sxm.

- A group of descendants of Manuel and Antonio Nunes have created a group page on Facebook where they have collecting a great deal of information about the family and the Nunes Brothers business. That page may be found here: https://www.facebook.com/groups/552148124827994/.

Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed west along Main Street. Cross 2nd Street (careful of the traffic) and walk a block to the intersection with 3rd Street. Turn right (north) on 3rd Street and proceed to 207 3rd Street, the grey house on the left (west) side.

3

Residence of Manuel & Anna Nunes

Location: 207 Third Street (between Main and Richardson)

The Nunes home (the grey house) – Courtesy Mike Moyle

On their wedding day - Courtesy Patti Humphreys Tipton

Anna Nunes - Courtesy Anatilde Da Silva

The town of Santo Amaro on the northeast coast of the Azorean island of Pico – the hometown of both Manuel and Anna Nunes – Courtesy Eichner-Ramm

At the top a photo taken during a trip taken in 1946 by Manuel and Anna back to Santo Amaro. In recognition of significant support to the town by the Nunes family, today there is both a street ("rua") and square ("largo") named after Manuel. Courtesy Patti Humphreys Tipton and Marianna Matos

The Connection:

Manuel Nunes, one of the co-founders of Nunes Brothers Boat and Ways, married Anna. Both had been born in the town of Santo Amaro on the island of Pico in the Azores.

Manuel and Anna Nunes lived just over a block away from the Nunes Brothers boat yard. Here is a story provided by their great-granddaughter about how they came to own the house in which they lived. It reflects many things, including both frugality and decisive action!

> "Manuel and Anna Nunes were renting the house. Anna would always ask Manuel if they could buy the house from their landlord, and Manuel would always reply, "Why do we need to buy this house? We have the boat yard." So, one day Anna, all by herself and with a wad of cash in her purse, marched over to the landlord's house and said she wanted to buy the house. They made the deal right then and there. So, when Manuel got home that night from work, she asked him, "Guess what I did today?"

Another relative added to that story:

> My niece forgot one thing. On the day she bought the house, Anna was sitting in her chair when Manuel got home, and as he walked in the door she said: 'Mr. Nunes, guess what I did today?' She always called Manuel 'Mr Nunes'! I find that so funny, although maybe that was typical back in those days for a wife to call her husband by 'Mr.' She also wanted another bathroom in the house, to which Manuel would reply 'Anna! Why do we need another bathroom when we have one at the boat shop?" I find that so funny as well. You can tell that the boat shop came first, not the house."

Over the years, as the Nunes Boatyard prospered, the Nunes family always remembered their roots on Pico and helped to support the community there in various ways, including with the development of Santo Amaro's own boatbuilding industry. In recognition of this generosity, the town named both a street and a square after Manuel Nunes.

<u>See Also</u>:

- A group of descendants of Manuel and Antonio Nunes have created a group page on Facebook where they have collecting a great deal of information about the family and the Nunes Brothers business. That page may be found here: https://www.facebook.com/groups/552148124827994/.

<u>Directions to the Next Stop:</u>

Proceed north on 3rd Street to the intersection with Richardson. At Richardson turn right (east) towards the bay. When you reach 2nd Street you will have two alternative routes.

<u>Alternative 1</u>: For those who do not mind climbing a hill, we recommend that at the intersection with 2nd Street you turn left (north) and proceed uphill. At the point where the street ends you will find a short set of stairs that will take you up to North Street.

However, before you start climbing the stairs, take a look at the home on your left at 315 2nd Street. That home was built around 1928 for Joseph I. Nunes, a brother of Manuel and Antonio (there were five in all), based on plans drawn by his son, Edward J. Nunes. However, tragically, during construction, Joseph died from a fall from a ladder and the family never occupied the house.

The house today – Courtesy Mike Moyle

The house in 1930 – Courtesy Rich Phelps

At the top of the stairs turn right onto North Street and proceed to the end. You will find a stairway there that will take you down to Tiffany Park on Bridgeway and will provide you with a beautiful view of San Francisco through the trees. At Bridgeway turn left and proceed until you reach the Trident Restaurant on the east side of the street (558 Bridgeway).

Alternative 2: If you choose not to go up 2nd Street, simply proceed down Richardson where it intersects with Bridgeway at the bay and then take Bridgeway to the Trident Restaurant (558 Bridgeway).

Also, at the point you reach the Richardson/2nd Street intersection, you may wish to note this photo taken facing west at that spot in 1909. The photo will be described further at the next stop.

Sausalito Volunteer Fire Department 1909 - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

4

Sausalito Fire Department/ Original Location

Location: 539 Bridgeway

Original Sausalito firehouse c. 1902 - the small building with the tank on top, next to the large building that then housed the Yacht Club - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

1909 photo of the Sausalito Volunteer Fire Department taken at the corner of Richardson and Second Streets, including Joe Quadros (4th from left) and Tony Veira [may have been "Vieira"] (5th from left) – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

Sausalito Volunteer Fire Department at 539 Bridgeway (across from The Trident/Ondine) – Courtesy Mike Moyle

The Connection:

The location of the Sausalito Fire Department (today part of the Southern Marin Fire Protection District) has moved from time to time over the years, but happily its first two locations are right across Bridgeway

from each other. The first fire station (pictured above) was nothing more than a small shed with a water tank on top that was built on a pier next to the building that today houses the Trident and Ondine. The original building was replaced with a new building in 1914, and that building was then moved across the street to the 539 Bridgeway location in 1931.

Over the years many Portuguese-Americans have served in the Fire Department and helped to protect the community, in the early years, all in volunteer roles. In addition to Joe Quadros and Tony Viera show in the above 1909 photo, we include below additional photos including Portuguese-Americans, among them Ed Souza, whose son Bob, himself a fireman now retired and living in Petaluma, has been very helpful with this project. The photos also include Matz Perry, John Rocha, Jr. and Mike Martinez, all of whom we will meet again when we reach Caledonia Street a few stops from now.

Members of the Sausalito Volunteer Fire Department in late 1940's in front of firehouse at Johnson and Caledonia Streets (today's location). Portuguese-Americans in the photo included Tony Simas, Ed Souza and John Rocha, Jr. – Courtesy Bob Souza

M.J. ("Matz") Perry - Sausalito Fire Chief 1944-65 Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

Frank Mancebo 1940 - Courtesy Bob Souza

Captain Mike Martinez - Southern Marin Fire District – Courtesy Mike Moyle

<u>Directions to the Next Stop</u>:

Continue north on Bridgeway to the intersection with Princess Street.

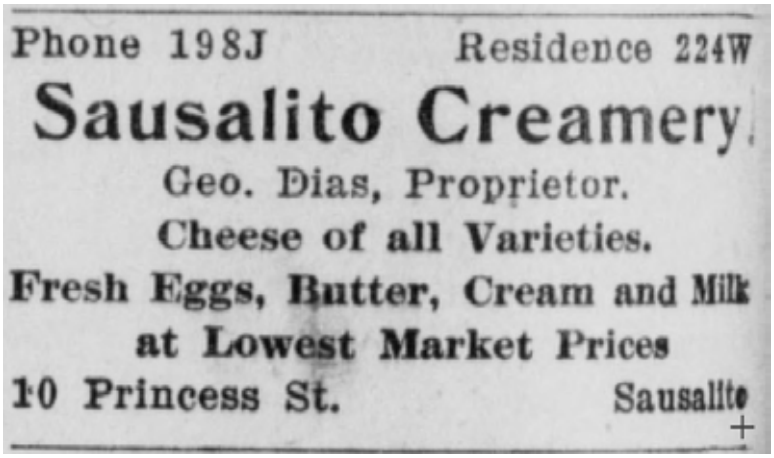
5

Sausalito Creamery

Location: Bridgeway and Princess

Mooo – the earliest dairy cattle in Marin probably did not look much like her – more likely they were long-horned descendants of the cattle brought by the Spanish – Courtesy Mike Moyle

A 1910 photo of the intersection of Princess and Water (today Bridgeway) Streets - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society



Phone 198J Residence 224W

Sausalito Creamery.

Geo. Dias, Proprietor.

Cheese of all Varieties.

Fresh Eggs, Butter, Cream and Milk

at Lowest Market Prices

10 Princess St. Sausalito

An ad from the 21 July 1917 Sausalito News

Close-up of a bottle from the Sausalito Creamery. The bottle reads "Geo. Dias, Prop. - 10 Princess St." - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

The Connection:

If the whale was the animal that first brought Portuguese to Sausalito, the cow was certainly the one that became most important to them once they arrived here. For many years following the California Gold Rush, Marin County was the heart of California's dairy production, and Portuguese-Americans, many of whom had experience with raising dairy cattle in the Azores, filled many of the jobs that supported that industry from production to distribution.

Sausalito Creamery was a retail dairy store owned by George Dias, who was also the Treasurer of the Sausalito Chamber of Commerce in 1915. The exact dates of operation of the establishment are not known, but the business was in operation at the 10 Princess Street location in July 1917, and had been in operation at a different nearby location [928 Water Street – corresponding to today's 682-686 stretch of Bridgeway] as early as October 1916. A Sausalito News article of that date stated:

> "Mr. Dias has spared no expense in putting in the best pasteurizing plant to be had and everything in the creamery is sanitary."

That article suggests some of the sanitation issues that were becoming more significant at that time, and that would continue to impact dairy production in the area.

While at the Bridgeway/Princess intersection, it may also be of interest to note that Sausalito's original ferry dock, from which the ferryboat "Princess" (which gave its name to the street) began running to San Francisco in 1868, was located in the open area between Yee Tock Chee Park and Scoma's. It seems almost certain that several Portuguese-Americans would have worked on the Princess and the several ferries that followed her on the Sausalito-San Francisco lines.

Photo taken in 1875 showing the Princess moored at the Sausalito pier at the foot of Princess Street – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

Photo taken in 1925 showing the Princess Street pier at the lower left - the ferries connecting with the North Pacific Coast Railroad line are to the right – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

Directions to the Next Stop:

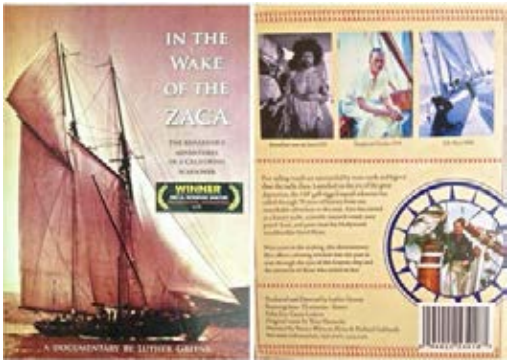
Continue north on Bridgeway to the intersection with El Portal Street(just before Plaza Viña del Mar). Turn right and proceed down El Portal to the end. Go past the Inn Above Tide Hotel, the ferry terminal and the Sausalito Yacht Club to Gabrielson Park.

6

Gabrielson Park

Location: Immediately north of Sausalito Ferry Pier and Sausalito Yacht Club

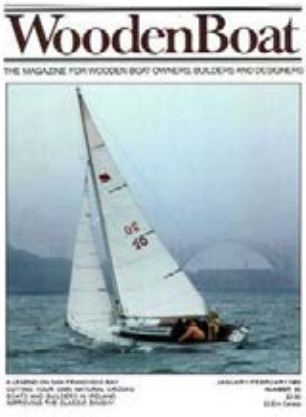
View from Gabrielson Park – Courtesy Mike Moyle



Cover for the DVD of the2005 Luther Greene documentary "In the Wake of the Zaca"

The Sausalito Yacht Club's "Little Zaca" at anchor off of Gabrielson Park – Courtesy Mike Moyle

Portugal's Consul General Nuno Mathias on a 2013 visit to the Sausalito Yacht Club. The hull model on the upper right is the Nunes Brothers "Bear" boat; the one on the lower right their "Mercury" - Courtesy Mike Moyle



A Bear boat featured on the cover of a 1963 issue of Wooden Boat magazine

Plaque for the Merry Bear – the very first Bear boat built by the Nunes Brothers in 1931 - located at the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park – Courtesy Mike Moyle

The Connection:

Apart from the chance to enjoy one of the most beautiful spots in Sausalito, a stop at Gabrielson Park provides a further opportunity to reflect on the many boats built and designed by the Nunes Brothers, as

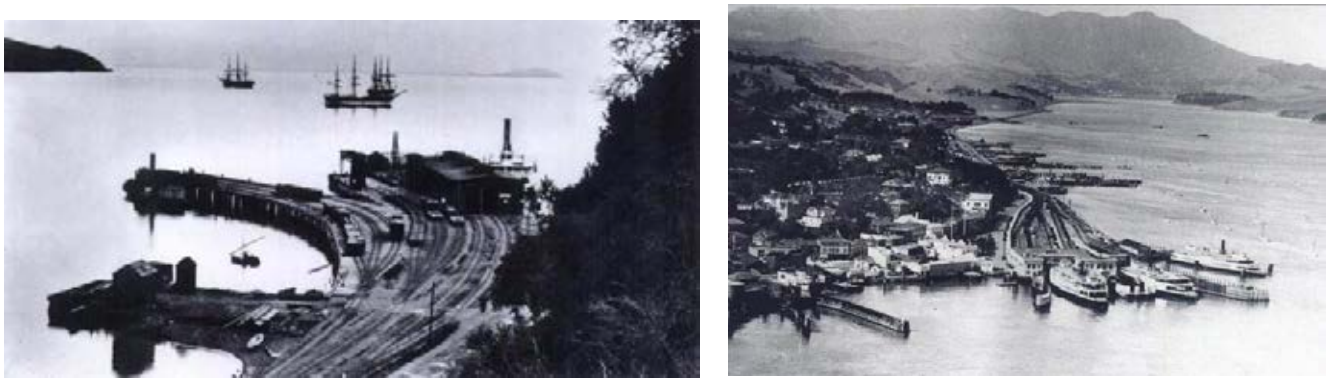
well as their stature and legacy in the Bay Area maritime community. On most days you will find at anchor just off the shore a Cal 20 acquired by the Sausalito Yacht Club in 2011 for use in their sailing classes. The boat was named "Little Zaca" in honor of the Nunes Brothers' Zaca, described in the Yacht Club's newsletter as "one of the coolest boats ever build."

Although the Yacht Club is not open to the general public, should you have the opportunity to visit, you will find on the wall of their main dining room hull models of both the Bear and Mercury classes of sailboats that were designed by the Nunes Brothers and became very popular. Several of those boats are still being sailed today. The Merry Bear, the very first Bear boat built by the Nunes Brothers in 1931, is part of the fleet of the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park in San Francisco, and can be visited at the Hyde Street Pier where it was refurbished at the Park's boat shop.

Sausalito became the sister city of Cascais, a Portuguese city near Lisbon, in 2013. The Sausalito/Cascais Sister City Committee is pursuing a project to install a compass rose made from Portuguese paving stones ("calçadas") somewhere at Gabrielson Park. We hope this element of Portuguese culture will become part of the Sausalito landscape in the near future.

Example of a compass rose created from calçadas – Courtesy Vitor Ferreira

Although Gabrielson Park is a pleasant spot today, in the past it was part of the North Pacific Coast Railroad's station that brought passengers and freight from further north in Marin to board the NPCR's ferries to Sausalito. It was a far less idyllic setting. The train stops running north from the ferry terminal would have been Pine Point, Waldo Point and Manzanita, all of which we will pass on the tour.



Two views of the NPR's Sausalito terminal – on the left from 1890, and on the right from 1925.
The area that would become Gabrielson Park was at that time part of the Bay.
Courtesy Northwestern Pacific Railroad Historical Society and Sausalito Historical Society

Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed west along Anchor Street between the ferry parking lot and the Bank of American building. Cross Bridgeway and proceed north on Bridgeway to 749 Bridgeway just past the curve.

7

Barreiros Building

Location: 749 Bridgeway

The location of the former Barreiros Building at 749 Bridgeway (on the far right in the photo). The Sausalito Historical Society Plaque affixed to the building reads "1899 Restored Victorian – Best remaining example of wooden Victorians of downtown Sausalito." Headquarters of the Sausalito News from 1909 to 1925. In the 1950's, it housed the Tides bookstore, favorite meeting place of avant garde literary circles of that era." – Courtesy Mike Moyle

A photograph taken along Bridgeway (Water Street) in 1882 showing the Barreiros Building (on the far left) with the Lisbon House and Tamalpais Hotel further down the street. Several of these buildings were destroyed just a year later in the 4th of July fire, started by fireworks, that swept the area. Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

The Connection:

Sausalito's history is full of examples of conflict between free-spirited and conservative elements. One of the early examples of this was the friction at the very beginning of the 1900's between pro and anti-

gambling interests. "Poolrooms" – establishments where betting, most often on horse races, was allowed and liquor was served – had been outlawed in San Francisco around 1894, but was legal in Sausalito.

Manuel T. Barreiros, who was born on São Jorge and came to the United States in 1871, was the owner of the building at 749 Bridgeway (then Water Street), and it was at the center of the controversy. According to Jack Tracy's "Moments in Time" history of Sausalito:

> "[In the late 1800's a] prosperous and well-liked gambler from Sacramento, Frank Deroux, opened Sausalito's first poolroom in the Barreiros Building on Water Street. A politician by nature, Deroux soon became active in local affairs, assisting in the election of Adolph Sylva, a wealthy member of Sausalito's English colony, to the Board of Trustees. Around 1900, Deroux and Company moved their poolroom operations to the Buffalo Hotel built on pilings over the water near the foot of Princess Street. The Barreiros building soon housed a second licensed poolroom, run by Joe Harvey and Company. Opposition to poolroom gambling quickly organized through the Municipal Improvements Club, dedicated to ridding Sausalito of the menace. Members' worst fears were realized as ferryboats began arriving filled with "undesirables" from San Francisco. The local saloons that had been friendly, rather quiet places, became scenes of countless brawls, drunken arguments and raucous celebrations. Water Street on race days was a crowded, hostile place lined with saloons out of which drunks stumbled leering and shouting obscenities at passers-by."

The political struggle between the "poolies" and "anti-poolies" went on for some time amidst claims of vote-buying and election fraud, as well as litigation in which Mr. Barreiros was a defendant.

Ultimately the California legislature outlawed off-track betting in 1909. Mr. Barreiros had passed away in 1904 with his reputation apparently unaffected by the poolroom controversy – his obituary in the Sausalito News read in part:

> "Manuel T. Barreiros, an old pioneer of the State, died at his home here last Sunday. Mr. Barreiros was well known throughout the county, and universally liked and respected."

<u>Directions to the Next Stop</u>:

The next stop will be St. Mary Star of the Sea Church on Buckley Street, which an uphill climb. If climbing is an issue, we recommend that you proceed north on Bridgeway to stop #12, the Tony Brazil birthplace at the intersection of Bridgeway and Johnson (perhaps with a stop along the way at the Sausalito Historical Society's Ice House Historical Exhibit and Visitors Center at 780 Bridgeway, across from Poggio Restaurant).

Otherwise, proceed south on Bridgeway to the Excelsior Lane steps just past Wells Fargo Bank. Climb the steps and proceed up Excelsior Lane to Buckley Avenue. At Buckley, turn right and proceed north. At the first intersection, with Santa Rosa, make a hard left and proceed up Santa Rosa. At the first intersection, with Harrison Avenue, turn right and proceed north on Harrison to St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church at 180 Harrison.

8

Star of the Sea Church/ Current Location

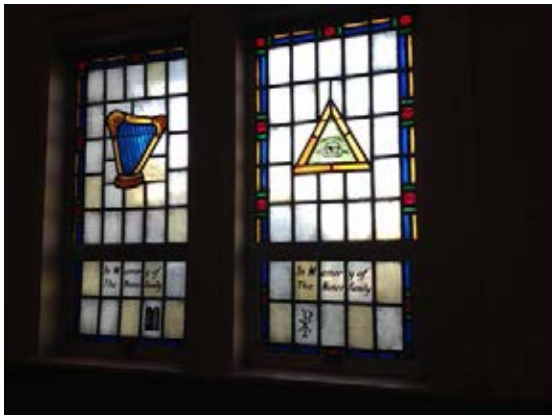
Location: 180 Harrison Avenue

View of the church from Glen Drive with Angel Island beyond – Courtesy Mike Moyle

The church from Harrison Avenue – Courtesy Mike Moyle

Mass at the 2009 Espírito Santo Festa – Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

Queens descending the steps of the church during the 2013 Espírito Santo Festa – Courtesy Mike Moyle



Stained glass windows – "In memory of the Nunes Family" – Courtesy Mike Moyle

Statue of Queen/Saint Isabel at the church, a gift from the Sausalito Portuguese Hall – Courtesy Mike Moyle

Queen Isabel in the 2014 Espírito Santo Festa – Courtesy Mike Moyle

Statue of Our Lady of Fátima flanked by stained glass windows in memory of M.N. and Belle Silva – Courtesy Mike Moyle

The Connection:

St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church has tended to the spiritual needs of Sausalito's Catholic community since 1881, although the current building is the church's third location. The other two locations are also part of the tour.

The ground-breaking ceremony for the present church on Harrison Avenue took place in 1954, and the church was completed and consecrated in 1959. As with its earlier locations, each Pentecost Sunday it hosts the annual mass celebrated as part of the Sausalito Portuguese Hall's annual Festa do Espírito Santo. During that mass the festival's "Big" and "Small" queens are crowned.

The stained glass windows in the church include the names of several Portuguese families that have supported the church over the years. Those family names include Nunes, Perry, Quadros, Rosa, Silva and Simas. In addition, two of the statues found in the church – one of St. Isabel (which was donated to the church by the Sausalito Portuguese Hall) and the other of Our Lady of Fátima - further reflect the church's strong Portuguese heritage.

Queen (later Saint) Isabel, and the values she represents, are central themes in the Festa do Espírito Santo. Isabel was a queen of Portugal in the 13th century married to King Dinis I. She was focused on the needs of the poor, a concern her husband did not share. There are several stories that reflect her generosity. According to one of them, during one particularly severe winter the queen left the palace carrying jewels wrapped in her robe that she intended to give to the poor. The king confronted her outside the door and asked what she was carrying. The queen replied "roses." The king demanded to see them, and when the queen opened her robe, the jewels had been transformed into flowers. This story is referred to as the "Milagre das Rosas" (the miracle of the roses) and is the reason that Queen Isabel is always seen with roses.

The statue of Our Lady of Fátima relates to the central Portuguese village of Fátima near which, in 1917, three children were reported to have seen an appearance of the Virgin Mary. The area is now a major Catholic sanctuary that draws hundreds of thousands of pilgrims every year.

See Also:

- History of Catholic Churches in Sausalito on the St. Mary Star of the Sea website - http://www.staroftheseа.us/Buildings.html.

Directions to the Next Stop:

The next stop at 190 Harrison is almost directly across the street from the church.

9

Star of the Sea Church – 2nd Location (1920-59)

Location: Private residence located at 190 Harrison Avenue

St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church from 1920 to 1959.
Courtesy Star of the Sea Church

Private residence at 190 Harrison Avenue
on the site of the former church – Courtesy Mike Moyle

On the left the celebrants at an Espírito Santo Festa in the late 1950's descending the steps from the church to Buckley Avenue; on the right, the same Buckley Avenue steps today. Note that the 1950's group included a group from San Francisco's St. Mary's Girls Drum and Bell Corps who were participants in the Festa that year. Their colorful Chinese dresses and hairpieces were not apparent in the black and while photograph so the insert of a modern photo of the same group was included.
Photo on left courtesy Kathy Kirkland; photo on right courtesy Mike Moyle

The Connection:

The second St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church was opened in 1920 and replaced the original church at Litho and Bonita Streets. It operated until 1959 when the current church was consecrated. The property was then sold.

As with the residence currently on the property, the church was on both Harrison Avenue that ran above it, and Buckley Street that ran below it. To see the stairway pictured above, proceed down Harrison to the Buckley intersection, then turn right and proceed about 100 feet.

See Also:

- History of Catholic Churches in Sausalito on the St. Mary Star of the Sea website - http://www.staroftheseа.us/Buildings.html.

Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed north on Harrison (or Buckley) to the Harrison/Buckley intersection, which is also the intersection with both San Carlos Avenue (which comes up from Bridgeway and goes uphill) and Glen Drive. Cross San Carlos and proceed north on Glen Drive, being particularly careful since there are no stop signs on San Carlos. At the intersection of Glen and Johnson, turn right (east) on Johnson and proceed downhill to 505 Johnson Street.

At this point you are entering the "New Town" section of Sausalito to contrast with the "Old Town" that we visited at the beginning of the tour. Here are two photos taken just a few years apart that should provide some historical perspective. The photo at the top was taken in 1905 facing north – the broad street was Caledonia. The photo at the bottom was taken in 1909 facing southeast with Angel Island in the background. For purposes of orientation, on each photo we have included a red dot showing the original St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church, the location of which will be an upcoming tour stop.

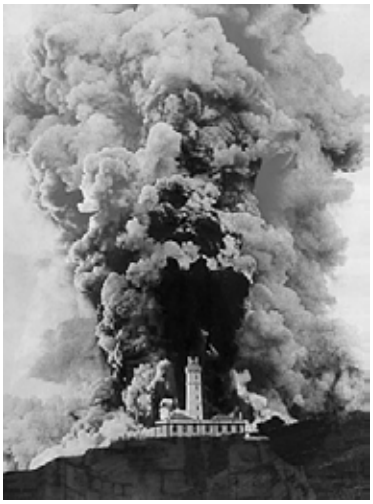
Both photos courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

10

Residence of Maria & Russell Lessig

Location: 505 Johnson Street

505 Johnson Street and its view of Richardson Bay – Courtesy Mike Moyle



The Capelinhos Volcano on Faial
Courtesy Wikipedia Commons

Senator John Kennedy
Courtesy Wikipedia Commons

S.P.R.S.I logo – Courtesy
Luso-American Life Insurance

SPRSI Marchers – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

Maria Lessig

Maria Lessig was born in Angustias, Faial, Azores, to Jose and Maria Goulart. In 1964 Maria joined Council "Rainha da Gloria", No. 29, Sausalito and has occupied many of its positions. Forming a deep love for the Society, Maria has over the years served as a Grand Board of Director, Liaison Officer, Agent, "Chair of the Grand Board of Directors" and other positions wherever she was or is needed. Her term as Grand President was 1978 – 1979.

From the SPRSI Centennial Celebration Album (1998) –
Courtesy Luso-American Life Insurance

The Connection:

From September 1957 until October 1958, a series of violent eruptions and earthquakes – generally referred to as the Capelinhos Volcano - struck the Azorean Island of Faial, destroying much of the islands' economy and infrastructure and impacting all of the Azores.

In response the destruction on Faial, the United States passed the Azorean Refugee Act, spearheaded by a group of legislators including then Senator John Kennedy of Massachusetts. The law initially made 1,500 visas available to the victims of the volcano, and was extended to allow the entry of an even greater number of refugees. Although Faial only had approximately 25,000 inhabitants at the time of the Capelinhos Volcano, ultimately more than 175,000 Azoreans immigrated to the United States between 1960 and 1980, many of them to California, constituting the second great wave of Azorean immigration to the U.S.

One of the residents of Faial affected by the volcano was a young woman named Maria Goulart – then in her early 20's - who was born in the parish of Angústias on the Azorean island of Faial, and grew up in Espalhafatos. Maria had an aunt and uncle, Manuel and Olivia Silva, who lived at 103 Filbert Street in Sausalito (which we will pass by on the tour just before the original IDESST Hall), and they were able to assist her to obtain a visa to come to the U.S. She arrived in August 1959, but her passage from Faial to Sausalito was anything but uneventful.

Although Maria had her visa, given the number of people trying to leave the Azores, it was far from clear exactly how and when she would be able to travel to the United States. At that time, the only airport in the Azores with international commercial flights was on Santa Maria, almost 300 miles from Faial. However, one day her father took her to the port at Horta, Faial's principal city, where she boarded a small boat that would take her and a group of other emigrants to Santa Maria. It was a very rough passage, and when they arrived off of Santa Maria they had to transfer to smaller vessels to come ashore. Maria remembers that she had to be physically thrown into the smaller boat that was pitching alongside of the vessel on which she had arrived.

When she finally arrived on shore, Maria then made her way to the airport, where she and the other members of her group expected to be able to board a flight to Boston. However, there was some sort of complication, and they were told the flight was not available. Further, the airline personnel were unable to say when they would be able to leave. However, luckily, with some help from her father back on Faial, Maria was able to get on a plane that evening that took her to Boston, although the rest of those in the group with whom she had come from Faial had to be left behind.

At that point of her life, Maria spoke no English. When she arrived in Boston, it was a challenge to navigate the airport and to find the flight that would take her to San Francisco. Maria tells about going into the ladies' rest room and not being able to get into the stalls. Being desperate she ended up crawling under the door into the stall. It was only when she emerged that she realized that the stalls were pay stalls.

Maria was finally able to get on her flight to San Francisco. However, she had not been able to contact her aunt and uncle from Boston, so when she arrived at the airport in San Francisco, there was no one to meet her. She had no money – only a piece of paper with the name, telephone number and Sausalito address of her aunt and uncle. Happily a Good Samaritan helped her and tried to call her aunt and uncle for her, but there was no answer.

Maria realized that she would have to make her own way to Sausalito and so headed for the street, only to encounter for the very first time an escalator. She watched others for a while and finally decided to try it, ending up on her backside at the top while her suitcase descended without her.

Another Good Samaritan helped her by buying her a bus ticket to Sausalito, and she finally made it to the downtown Sausalito bus station. The bus driver paid for a taxi to take her up to the home of her aunt and uncle on Filbert Street, and she arrives around 11AM, only to find that no one was home. So she sat down on the steps, hungry, thirsty and exhausted, and waited for them to return, which they finally did around 4PM, having been up in Sebastopol all day picking apples.

Maria initially lived with her aunt and uncle while she worked at Elliott's Laundry on Caledonia, at the location where Sushi Ran is today. She met and married Russell Lessig, a Sausalito Public Works employee, and they were ultimately able to purchase the house at 505 Johnson Street. Russell passed away in 2007, and in 2014 Maria sold their home and moved away.

Maria was very active with the Portuguese-American community over the years, including the Sausalito Portuguese Hall, as well as the *Sociedade Portuguesa Rainha Santa Isabel* (the "SPRSI" or Portuguese Society of Queen St. Isabel, whose statue we encountered earlier at the Star of the Sea Church).

The SPRSI was a woman's organization formed in Oakland in 1898 to perform charitable works, preserve Portuguese traditions, and also to offer life insurance to its members. Although women could participate in some of the activities of the other Portuguese-American fraternal organizations, such as the Sausalito Portuguese Hall, until very recently they were not themselves permitted to be members of those organizations (full membership by women in the Sausalito Portuguese Hall was only permitted relatively recently). Hence, the SPRSI provided a more viable avenue for women interested in a meaningful philanthropic experience focused on the Portuguese-American community, and at its peak the SPRSI had over 10,000 members and significant assets. The SPRSI operated through local councils and in 1901 a council was formed in Sausalito – Council #29, named the Rainha da Gloria ("Queen of Glory"). At its height the Sausalito Council had approximately 100 members.

Maria became involved with the SPRSI following her arrival in Sausalito, initially with the Sausalito Council and later with the statewide organization. In 1998 she was elected as Supreme President of the SPRSI and served in that post for the traditional one-year term. After that she remained active as a liaison to the individual Councils throughout the state and estimates that she drove approximately 2,500 miles per month to various meetings.

At the beginning of 2008, the SPRSI merged into the Luso-American Life Insurance Society and today operates as a fraternal division of that organization.

See Also:

- "Capelinhos: A Volcano of Synergies — Azorean Immigration to America" by Tony Goulart

Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed down (east) Johnson Street to Sausalito Police Department at the intersection with Caledonia.

11

Sausalito Police Station

Location: Johnson and Caledonia

A 1949 photo of the Mill Valley Police Department – Tony Quadros is on the far right – Courtesy Mill Valley Historical Society

The Connection:

The fire department was not the only public safety job in Sausalito in which Portuguese-Americans served.

Antone A. ("Tony") Quadros was born in Sausalito to parents who immigrated from the Azores in the 1880's. Tony joined the Sausalito Police Department in the early 1930s and was named Chief in 1937. At that time the Chief's job paid $200 per month and also included the responsibility of serving as the City Tax Collector.

Tony served as chief for about four years before resigning and going to work as a guard at the Marinship shipyards during World War II. After the war, he worked briefly as a guard at San Quentin Prison before joining the Mill Valley police force were he worked for 15 years, retiring in 1962.

Apart from his law enforcement work, Tony was also a well-know coronet player. He played at various functions in the Bay Area over the years and at one point had his own orchestra.

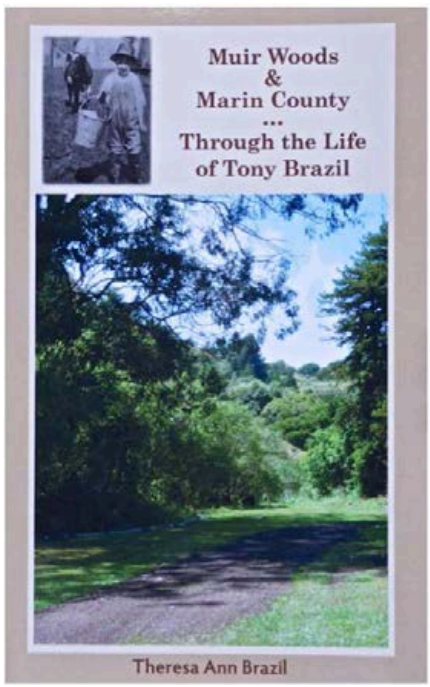
Directions to the Next Stop:

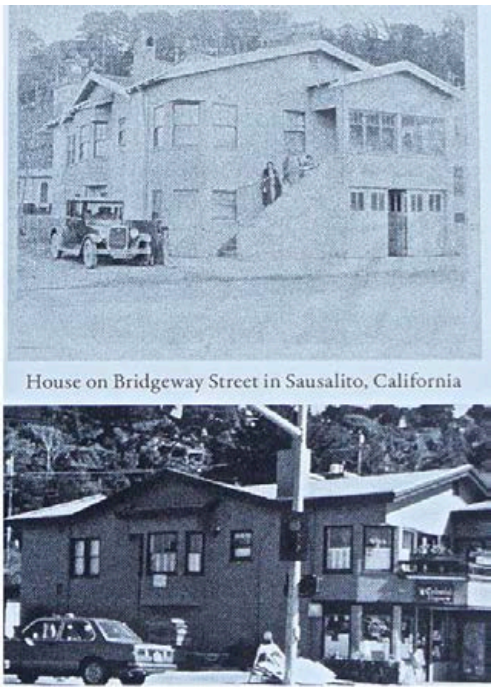
Cross Caledonia and continue east on Johnson past the fire station to Philz Coffee at the intersection with Broadway.

12

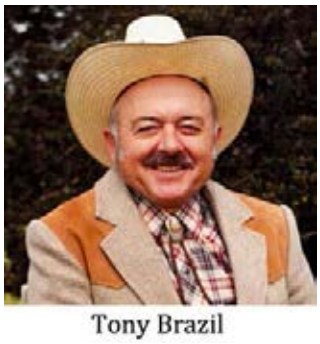
Tony Brazil Birthplace

Location: 317 Johnson Street (intersection with Bridgeway)





Cover and photos from Theresa Brazil's book showing the house in Sausalito in which Tony Brazil was born in 1926, and with the later incarnation of its ground floor as the Colonial Liquor Store - Courtesy Theresa Brazil


Tony Brazil

Courtesy Theresa Brazil and Mike Moyle

The Connection:

Tony and Theresa Brazil are long time members of the Hall. Tony also served as the Hall's President for a number of years, including for the Hall's Centennial celebration in 1988. Today they live in Petaluma.

Theresa's book entitled "*Muir Woods & Marin County: Through the Life of Tony Brazil*" was published in 2013. It is a most interesting work covering Tony's childhood growing up on a dairy near Muir Beach and his long career in the dairy and cattle business. He is also one of the premier auctioneers in California

and has led countless auctions at the Sausalito Portuguese Hall and at other Halls throughout the state.

In her book Theresa writes:

> *"Tony was born on August 23, 1926, in Sausalito, California. His parents were Maria and Elias Brazil. Due to previous health issues during a prior pregnancy, Maria Brazil was advised by her midwife to spend the last month of her pregnancy on bed rest away from the family ranch near Muir Woods. Maria spent that last month of her pregnancy at the home of dear friends, Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Peters (Tony's godparents), who lived on Bridgeway Street in Sausalito. It was at this house that Tony was born. The Peters family owned the Sausalito Fuel and Ice Company."*

Theresa's book includes a couple of photos of the Peters' house which was the building that stands today between the fire station and Bridgeway. The upper story is still a residential unit, but the lower floor has been devoted to commercial purposes for many years, including the Colonial Liquor Store shown in Theresa's photo. Today that space is occupied by Philz Coffee, a very friendly group who are supporters of the Hall. If you stop in there and mention you are a Hall member they may even give you a discount!

See Also:

- "Muir Woods & Marin County: Through the Life of Tony Brazil" by Theresa Brazil
- "Tony Brazil: An Oral History" – transcript of an interview of Tony Brazil conducted in 2012 by Don Warrin of the UC Berkeley Regional Oral History Office for the Portuguese in California collection: http://digitalassets.lib.berkeley.edu/roho/ucb/text/brazil_tony.pdf
- "Auctioneer, 85, returns to Marin for fair's first livestock auction" - Marin Independent Journal, July 3, 2012 - article and related video: http://www.marinij.com/ci_21002019/auctioneer-85-returns-marin-fairs-first-livestock-auction

Directions to the Next Stop:

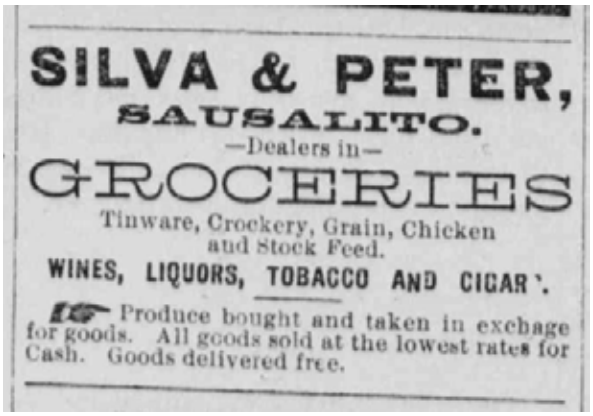
Proceed back west on Johnson to the intersection with Caledonia

13

Silva & Peters Groceries

Location: Near intersection of Johnson and Caledonia Streets

An early view of the northwest corner of the Johnson/ Caledonia intersection, little changed from today – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society



An advertisement for the Silva & Peters grocery store (we believe the name shown was a misprint in that "Peter" should have been "Peters") - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

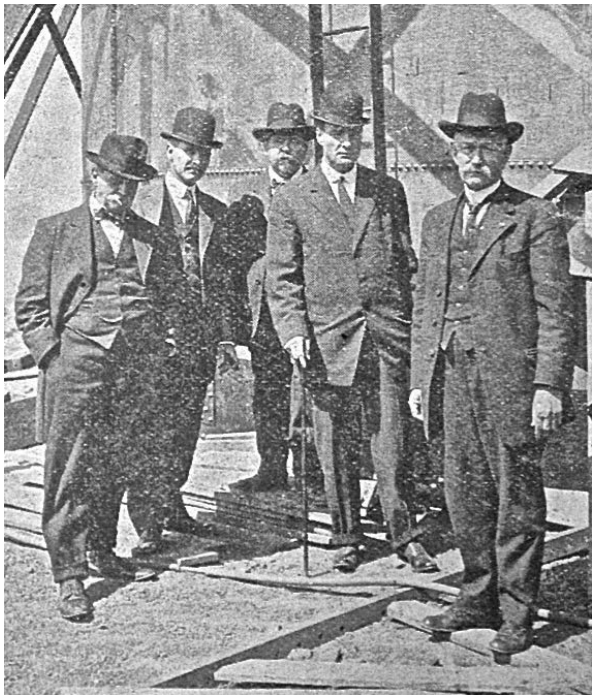


Photo from a 1909 pamphlet showing Sausalito's city trustees. J.V. Silva is on the far right. Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

The Connection:

Portuguese-Americans also played a significant role in Sausalito's city leadership. José (Joseph)Me V. Silva, a prominent Sausalito businessman, was one of those community leader. He was a co-owner of the

Silva & Peters grocery business that was located on Caledonia near the intersection with Johnson. He also served as a Trustee and the Treasurer of Sausalito.

Following his death, the Sausalito News reported on January 3, 1914, on his funeral as follows:

> "The funeral of Joseph V. Silva, ex-town trustee and ex-town treasurer of Sausalito, held on last Saturday morning, was the largest ever held in Southern Marin and would have been much larger only for the threatening weather. Representative citizens from all sections of California came to pay their last respects to their true friend….. The deceased was formerly for years a grand director and took an active part in the councils of [the U.P.E.C., the leading Portuguese fraternal organization in California]. Hundreds of people viewed his remains at his late home on Caledonia Street…. The remains were carried from his late home through a long line of members and friends and beneath an arch formed by an immense U.S. flag at the head of one line and an immense Portuguese flag at the head of the opposite line…. The remains were laid to rest in Fernwood cemetery, the site being within view of his ranch of 37 years ago…. The Bank of Sausalito was closed during the services out of respect for their late director and the flag was flying at half-mast."

Silva's business partner, Joseph A. Peters, was also from the Azores, and may have been the brother of Antonio Peters mentioned at the immediately prior stop. He passed away five years after Silva. His May 10, 1919 obituary in the Sausalito News included the following:

> "He came to this country in 1873 and went to work on dairy ranches. Being thrifty and progressive, he saved his money and operated dairy ranches. About 1890 he acquired an interest in a general merchandise store belonging to the late Town Trustee J.V. Silva and now known as Silva and Peters…. The deceased was a man of high character and very highly esteemed by his many acquaintances for this sterling qualities and unostentatious kindness. Funeral services will be held at St. Mary Star of the Sea church…and the remains laid away in Fernwood cemetery."

Peters may be the first family name we have encountered that may not sound very Portuguese. Note that it is one of the names included in the "Changes to Family Names" section of the introduction (with the indication that "Pires" was sometimes Anglicized as "Peters), although we do not know if Joseph Peters' name may have originally had another spelling.

The above obituaries contain the first mentions of Fernwood cemetery, which will be one of the tour's later stops. Here are the headstones of Messrs. Silva and Peters at Fernwood. In the photo of J.V. Silva's headstone, the back of J.A. Peters' headstone may be seen. They are as close together for eternity at Fernwood as they must have been on many occasions in their grocery store. – Courtesy Mike Moyle

Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed one block north on Caledonia Street to the intersection with Pine.

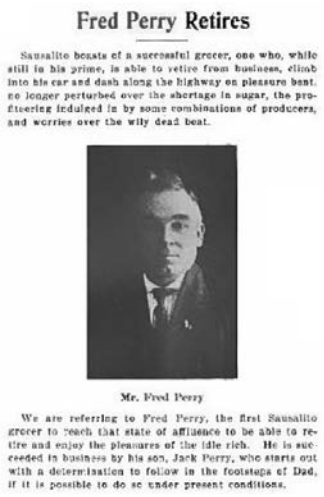
14

Perry Building

Location: Southeast corner of Caledonia and Pine Streets

The Perry Building with the Sausalito Market on the ground floor and Perry's Apartments on the top floor - Courtesy Mike Moyle

Headstone of John Perry Gerivazlo (d. 1911), a "native of Azores island," at Fernwood cemetery - Courtesy Mike Moyle



Fred Perry Retires

Sausalito boasts of a successful grocer, one who, while still in his prime, is able to retire from business, climb into his car and dash along the highway on pleasure bent, no longer perturbed over the shortage in sugar, the profiteering indulged in by some combinations of producers, and worries over the wily dead beat.

Mr. Fred Perry

We are referring to Fred Perry, the first Sausalito grocer to reach that state of affluence to be able to retire and enjoy the pleasures of the idle rich. He is succeeded in business by his son, Jack Perry, who starts out with a determination to follow in the footsteps of Dad, if it is possible to do so under present conditions.

Article from the October 3, 1919, Retail Grocers Advocate reporting, in a humorous tone, on the retirement of Fred Perry, "…no longer perturbed over…worries over the wily dead beat."

The Connection:

The Perry family has been a prominent Portuguese-American family in Sausalito for well over a century. As with Joseph Peters who we encountered at the last stop, the Perry name is probably an Anglicization – in their case likely changed from "Pereira." Fred's father, John Perry Gerivazio, who came from the Azores, passed away in 1911 and was buried at Fernwood.

The Perry Building was completed in 1913. From the outset it had a grocery store on the ground floor – today the Sausalito Market. Today, apartments are on the second floor of the building, although for many years it was one of Sausalito's primary meeting places and was used by many local organizations.

Fred Perry ran a successful grocery store. The store extended credit to many customers and as a result the Perry family came to own several properties in Sausalito.

Fritz Perry and Matz Perry were two sons of Fred Perry. Fritz continued the family's grocery business following Fred's retirement. Matz Perry, who we met earlier, was Sausalito's Fire Chief for over 20 years from 1944-65. He and his wife Toots (née Carreiro) lived on Turney Street. The home of Buzz Perry, the son of Fritz, is on Filbert Street next to the original site of the Sausalito Portuguese Hall. We will pass by it later on the tour.

Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed north on Caledonia to 108 Caledonia, across from the movie theater and Sushi Ran restaurant

15

Lawrence House

Location: 108 Caledonia

The Lawrence House - Courtesy Mike Moyle

The Connection:

The building at 108 Caledonia Street was built in or about 1892 by Antone Lawrence (whose name was apparently Anglicized from António Lourenço). The house, with its distinctive turret, is in the Queen Anne style.

Antone had two brothers - John (João) and Joseph (José) – all of whom immigrated from the Azores. John Lawrence was the great-grandfather of the Sausalito Portuguese Hall current board member Bobby Meneses.

All three brothers were businessmen in Sausalito. John had a saloon on the northeast corner of Pine and Caledonia. Antone had a grocery store believed to be at or near the 108 Caledonia location, and apparently was also the owner of a business named Tamalpais Stables. Joseph had a dry goods store, but its location is not certain. Both Joseph and Antone served as Sausalito city Treasurers, and were involved in the incorporation of Sausalito in 1893.

The Lawrence brothers were also involved in the initiation of one the most important annual events in Sausalito's Portuguese-American history, as reported in this Sausalito News article from June 17, 1886:

> "The past week has been one of special devotion and celebration by our Portuguese residents. Whitsunday [Pentecost Sunday] is to the Portuguese a day of both religious and national observance, somewhat as St. Patrick's Day is to the Irish people. The descent of the Holy Ghost with his sevenfold gifts is celebrated on each of the seven Sundays beginning with Whitsunday. They are observed by processions, fireworks and such public demonstrations, besides the special

religious services to the Holy Ghost at the churches and general feasting and giving to the poor. This devotion was instituted by Queen Isabella since which time its observance has always been faithfully maintained.

On last Saturday evening the *chamarita* [a traditional Azorean folk dance] was opened at Mr. Lawrence's store and has been repeated each evening since; music, dancing and general jollification being indulged in, interspersed with bounteous feasting; while outdoors the bonfire and fireworks are kept up nearly all night.

An altar has been placed in Mr. Lawrence's hall which was profusely decorated with bunting, flowers and lights. On this was placed the crown of the Holy Ghost. On Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, a procession of little girls in white dresses, led by flag bearers, having large Portuguese and American flags, marched from the hall bearing the crown to the Catholic Church, where Father Valentine placed it on the altar. The sermon for the occasion was delivered in Portuguese. The church had never before been so crowed, and although well ventilated, several persons fainted. After the services most of the congregation returned to the hall and partook of a plateful repast, the Rev. Father Valentine and members of the choir being invited special guests at the residence of Mr. Lawrence. Altogether the services are very well managed and reflect credit to the few gentlemen who have taken charge of them."

Antone Lawrence is buried at Fernwood Cemetery.

Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed north on Caledonia to the next intersection (Turney Street).

16

Rosa Garage

Location: 200 Caledonia Street

The Rosa Garage during its World War II incarnation as a hiring hall for the Marinship project – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

Today Driver's Market occupies the building - Courtesy Mike Moyle

The Connection:

The building which today houses Driver's Market was originally built in 1922 as a garage called the Sausalito Garage and Machine Works. Two years later in 1924, Joseph T. Rosa, and his wife, Mary (who we will meet again when the tour reaches Waldo Point), bought the building with a partner, "Pinky" Rosa. The Rosas owned the Rosa Garage (as it became known) for 39 years, from 1924 to 1963, when they sold it to Charlie and Virginia Merrill.

Swede Peterson, in his article about the garage cited below, includes the following about its exciting early years:

> "Old-timers vividly recall events that took place in "The Garage" at Caledonia and Turney during the bootlegging days of the 1920s and early '30s, and in the era of Sausalito's famous "floating crap games." The garage was known as not a healthy place to nose around in, especially during the period when mobster "Baby Face" Nelson, who ran a smuggling operation through Sausalito in the early 1930s, brought his custom-built Duesenberg with its secret storage compartment under the seat to Rosa's garage to be serviced."

During the years the property was owned by the Rosas, the only time the building wasn't used as a garage was during World War II. In June 1942, in connection with the opening of the huge Marinship project that we will encounter later in the tour, the garage was chosen as the project hiring hall. The interior was remodeled and a staff of over 30 employees worked there processing at least 100,000 applicants during the next three years.

In approximately 1945, Joe “Buff” Avilla, a brother of Mary Rosa, took over the garage and returned it to its original function.

See Also:

- "Researching an Old Garage" by Swede Peterson of the Sausalito Historical Society - edited version of an article that first appeared in the MarinScope on June 28, 1977 - http://www.marinscope.com/sausalito_marin_scope/opinion/article_7d175c6a-d6ef-5b39-b4cd-efef60897d25.html.

Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed west on Turney Street to 417 Turney

17

Rocha/ Coleman/ Martinez Residence

Location: 417 Turney

The Rocha family in front of the family home at 417 Turney Street, circa 1920. From right to left: John dos Santos Rocha, Sr.; Mamie Rocha; Madeline Rocha; Maria Rocha; and an unnamed relative – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

The house today – the home of Larry & Denise Martinez, parents of Mike and Tiffany Martinez. Denise's mother was Madeline Rocha (Coleman) shown in the photo to the left - Courtesy Mike Moyle

Maria Rocha enjoying a linguica sandwich at an event at the Olima Street barn that will be visited later in the tour – Courtesy Kathy Kirkland

Tiffany Martinez, Queen at the 1980 Festa – Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

The Connection:

In years past significant numbers of Portuguese-American families lived in the homes on the residential streets in Sausalito's Turney Valley, in particular on Turney Street and Locust Street to the north. Today, Denise and Larry Martinez live in the beautiful blue and white home at 417 Turney Street, which has

been in Denise's side of the family for three generations, extending back to her grandparents, John and Maria Rocha, Sr.

We also encountered the family early in the tour in the context of Sausalito's fire department. Denise's uncle John Rocha, Jr., pictured in the first photo above as a young boy, was a fire fighter, as was Larry Martinez and Denise and Larry's son, Mike, a current Captain of the Southern Marin Fire District. We saw both John and Mike earlier in photos at the Sausalito Fire Department tour stop.

Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed west on Turney. At Bonita turn right and proceed two blocks to the intersection with Litho at the top of the hill.

Note that getting to the next stop requires a short climb to the Bonita/Litho intersection at the top of the hill. If climbing is an issue, we recommend proceeding to the current Sausalito Portuguese Hall at 511 Caledonia Street. Proceed east on Turney then turn left at the intersection with Caledonia and proceed 2.5 blocks to 511 Caledonia.

18

Star of the Sea Church – Original Location (1881-1920)

Location: Southeast corner of Litho and Bonita Streets

The original Star of the Sea church – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

The property today – a private residence - Courtesy Mike Moyle

A view of the church and Turney Valley with Angel Island in the background, circa 1910 - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

An Espírito Santo Festa emerging from the church circa 1920 – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

The Connection:

We have already passed the second and third (current) sites of St. Mary Star of the Sea Church. We have now reached the original location.

From St. Mary's Star of the Sea "History of Catholic Churches in Sausalito":

> "By 1870 there was a thriving British and Portuguese community in Sausalito and a Methodist Church was built in 1872 to serve the community. In 1877 there was an attempt to organize a Roman Catholic Parish, but the attempt failed. Four years passed before Archbishop Alemany created Sausalito's first Roman Catholic Parish and Mass was celebrated in a school house rented

for the occasion. Fr. Patrick Cummins was appointed Pastor in 1881 and he named the Parish St. Mary's Star of the Sea.

The first Catholic Church was built out of timber in 1881 and stood at Litho & Bonita Streets. In 1888 the first Holy Ghost Festival was held and signaled the faithful association of the Portuguese immigrants and their descendants with the Parish. Some of the most active men and women in the Catholic community came from this group of people."

Note that although that excerpt refers to the first Holy Ghost Festival being held in 1888 (which was the year the Sausalito Portuguese Hall was established), as we have seen it appears the first Festival was in fact held two years earlier in 1886 at the Lawrence's establishment.

See Also:

- History of Catholic Churches in Sausalito on the St. Mary Star of the Sea website - http://www.staroftheseа.us/Buildings.html.

Directions to the Next Stop:

Girard Avenue also starts at the same hilltop. Proceed along Girard to the intersection with Filbert Avenue (which will come down the hill from the left). At that point Girard becomes Filbert Avenue. Continue north along Filbert past the Napa Street intersection to 131 Filbert.

19

Sausalito Portuguese Hall – Original Location

Location: 131 Filbert – site of the Sausalito Christian Fellowship hall

The Espírito Santo Festa at the old Hall – Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

Today, the Sausalito Christian Fellowship hall - Courtesy Mike Moyle

Banquet at the Hall celebrating the 1907 visit by Bishop Henriques de Silva, a member of Portugal's royal family – Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

In front of the Hall's chapel – Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

The view of Richardson Bay from the Hall's steps - Courtesy Mike Moyle

The Connection:

Sausalito's first IDESST Hall was built in or around 1888, and served as the Hall's primary meeting place until the organization moved to its existing building at 511 Caledonia Street in 1953. Happily, the exterior of the old structure remains largely unchanged.

The Hall included a large room on the upper floor, and a smaller room downstairs that included, as was the tradition of such structures in the Azores, a small chapel where some of the objects used in the Festa do Espírito Santo were kept.

At the time the Hall was established, and for many years thereafter, transportation in Marin, especially from some of the outlying dairies and farms, was a challenge, and getting to Sausalito often meant riding or using a horse and wagon. Given those factors, instead of today's one-day event, the Festa was celebrated over several days culminating in the formal Sunday celebration that we have today. Families who came from outside of Sausalito would often pitch tents on the open hillside around the Hall.

The Festa marked the high point of the year's social calendar for the area's Portuguese-American community, and many future wives and husbands met there for the first time. Here is one such story courtesy of the Mill Valley Historical Society:

> "In May 1929, Tony [Brabo] met Homestead Valley resident Mary Bettencourt at the IDESST Hall, a Portuguese lodge in Sausalito. The occasion was the annual Holy Ghost Festival. They danced the Chamarita, a Portuguese folk dance. They were served the traditional Azorean meal, Sopas (Sopa do Espirito Santo), a beef, tomato and cabbage stew. Mary was the first girl Tony had ever met. She was 18 and he was 17. Two months later they eloped and were married in Alameda at the home of Mary's half-brother. It was July 3, 1929, the second day of the great fire on Mt. Tamalpais and Mill Valley. They could see the conflagration from Alameda. It was with some trepidation that they returned to Mary's home in Homestead Valley. They were greatly relieved when her father, Manual Bettencourt, welcomed his newly acquired son-in-law into the Bettencourt family."

Apart from the understanding welcome by Mary's father-in-law, that story has a long-term happy ending in that Mary and Tony's marriage lasted 82 years until Tony's death at 99 in 2011.

A picture from around 1900 showing Joe Roberts leading a parade of decorated cows up Filbert Street towards the old Hall. We will encounter these cows again when the tour reaches the Olima Street barn. Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

<u>See Also</u>:

- "Live of Tony Brabo in the 1920's" - MVHS Oral History: http://www.mvhistory.org/history-of/history-of-homestead-valley/brabo-oral-history-life-of-tony-brabo-in-the-1920s/

<u>Directions to the Next Stop:</u>

Proceed south (the way we came) on Filbert. At the Napa Street intersection turn left and descend Napa to Caledonia. At Caledonia turn right and proceed a few steps to 511 Caledonia.

20

Sausalito Portuguese Hall – Current Location

Location: 511 Caledonia Street

2013 Festa do Espirito Santo – the release of the white dove symbolizing the Holy Spirit is always one of the Festa's highlights- Courtesy Mike Moyle

The "sopas e carne" lunch served free of charge to the community each year in the Hall's Dining Room as part of the Festa - Courtesy Mike Moyle

The ceremony dedicating the new Hall in 1953 – Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

The Hall's main Ballroom - Courtesy Mike Moyle

One of the Hall's monthly "Sip & Savor" gatherings for members and guests - Courtesy Mike Moyle

The Connection:

The IDESST moved to the current Hall following its completion in 1953. Since then it has been used for the IDESST's activities, including the annual Festa do Espirito Santo, a Christmas party and several less formal cultural and social events throughout the year. It is also available for public rental.

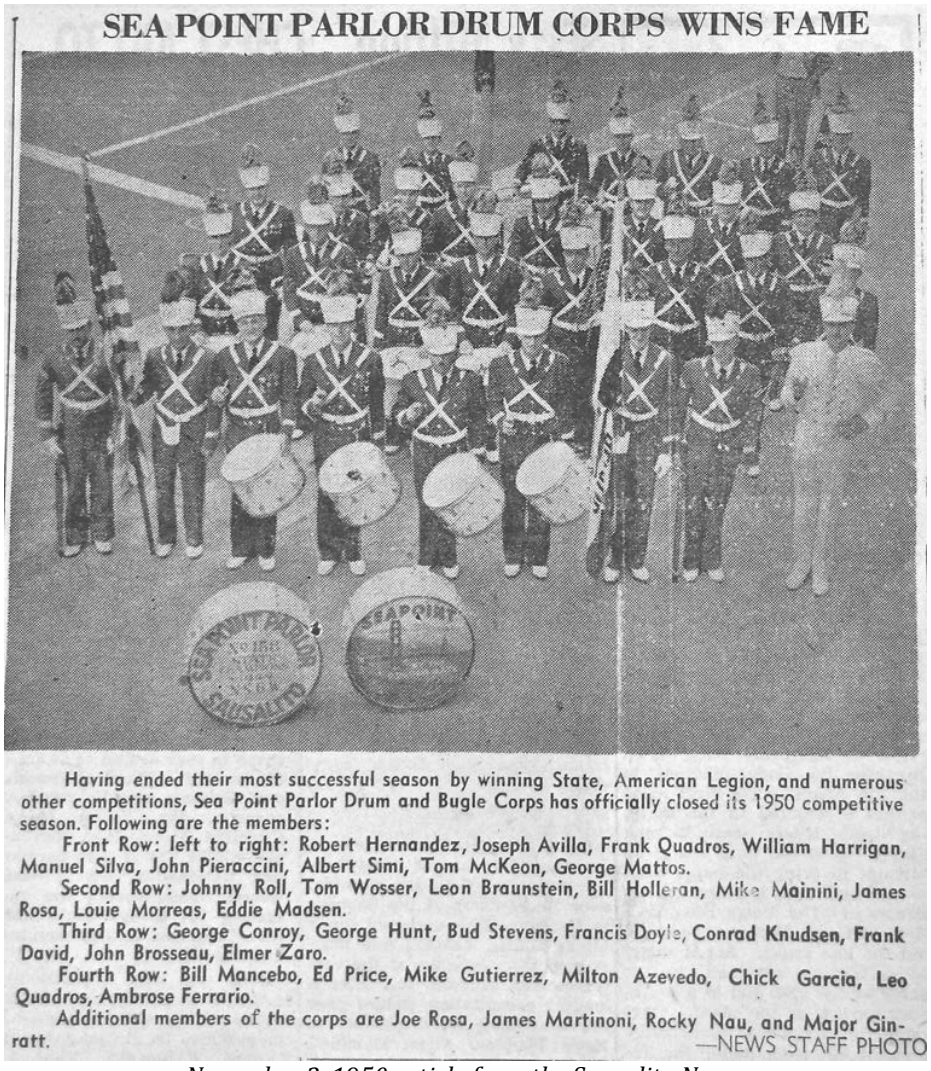
See Also:

- IDESST website (www.idesst.org) and Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/idesst?ref=hl)
- "The Holy Ghost Festas: A Historic Perspective of the Portuguese in California" – The Portuguese Chamber of Commerce of California – see in particular the entry regarding the history of Sausalito's Festa by Maria da Ascensão da Cunha Curry - pp. 122-130.
- "IDESST Society of California – 1988-1988" – a booklet prepared for the Centennial celebration.
- Collection of photographs of the Hall's Queens extending back to the 1800's (the same photos are included in the Centennial booklet).

Directions to the Next Stop:

Before proceeding to the next stop, a short detour around the corner may be in order. The Native Sons of the Golden West was an organization founded in 1875 to celebrate and preserve California history. The organization, open to native born Californians, was organized around local "parlors." Sausalito has long had such a Parlor which was named Sea Point Parlor after the Sausalito home of William Randolph Hearst, one of the Parlor's early benefactors.

While by no means exclusively a Portuguese-American organization, many of Sausalito's Portuguese-American residents were members of the Sea Point Parlor, and of its Drum and Bugle Corps that was active from 1932-1969 and won numerous competitions. For many years the Corps had its practice hall in a city-owned property just around the corner from the IDESST Hall on Bee Street, today the site of the Rotary Place senior housing complex. The Corps also practiced marching in the open area across Bee Street next to City Hall, and was a fixture in local parades and other functions.



SEA POINT PARLOR DRUM CORPS WINS FAME

Having ended their most successful season by winning State, American Legion, and numerous other competitions, Sea Point Parlor Drum and Bugle Corps has officially closed its 1950 competitive season. Following are the members:

Front Row: left to right: Robert Hernandez, Joseph Avilla, Frank Quadros, William Harrigan, Manuel Silva, John Pieraccini, Albert Simi, Tom McKeon, George Mattos.

Second Row: Johnny Roll, Tom Wosser, Leon Braunstein, Bill Holleran, Mike Mainini, James Rosa, Louie Morreas, Eddie Madsen.

Third Row: George Conroy, George Hunt, Bud Stevens, Francis Doyle, Conrad Knudsen, Frank David, John Brosseau, Elmer Zaro.

Fourth Row: Bill Mancebo, Ed Price, Mike Gutierrez, Milton Azevedo, Chick Garcia, Leo Quadros, Ambrose Ferrario.

Additional members of the corps are Joe Rosa, James Martinoni, Rocky Nau, and Major Ginratt.

—NEWS STAFF PHOTO

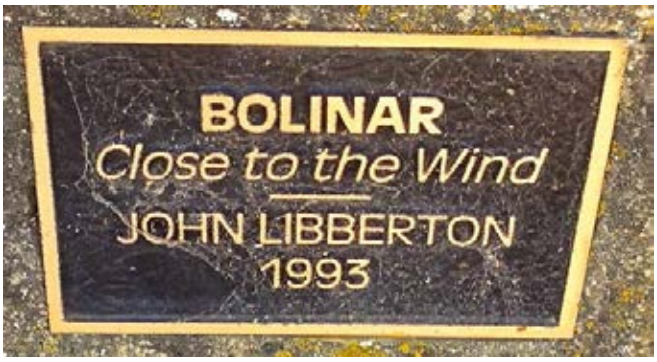
November 2, 1950 article from the Sausalito News.
Note the many Portuguese names among the Corps' members

Proceed north on Caledonia to the intersection with Napa and Bridgeway.

21

"Bolinar" Sculpture

Location: Napa & Bridgeway



John Libberton's "Bolinar: Close to the Wind" sculpture - Courtesy Mike Moyle

Prince Henry the Navigator, a replica of one of his caravels passing in front of the Tower of Belém, and Lisbon's Monument to the Discoveries -a stylized caravel bearing Prince Henry on the bow. – Courtesy Wikipedia Commons

The Connection:

Sausalito has relatively little public art, so we are lucky that one of our major pieces of public art honors the Portuguese explorers. "Bolinar," the name of the work, is a Portuguese term that means to sail "close to the wind" – in other words, almost directly at the direction from which the wind is blowing.

Portugal's development of sailing and navigation technologies under the guidance of Price Henry the Navigator was the key factor that allowed Portuguese mariners during the "Age of Discoveries" starting in the 15th century to literally go where no European had gone before – first along the west coast of Africa, then across the Atlantic to South America, and finally around the Cape of Good Hope to India and Asia.

The vessel that facilitated the initial phase of the Discoveries was the Portuguese caravel. The ship carried "lanteen" sails that allowed the ship to sail almost directly into the wind. The resulting better

maneuverability was a key factor at the time when ships stayed much closer to the coastline, in particular in the area around West Africa's Cape Bojador where the navigation was particularly treacherous.

Fernando Pessoa, one of Portugal's greatest literary figures, captured the spirit of that age in "Mar Português" (Portuguese Sea), part of his work "Mensagem,"

Ó mar salgado, quanto do teu sal	Oh salty sea, so much of your salt
São lágrimas de Portugal!	Is tears of Portugal!
Por te cruzarmos, quantas mães choraram,	Because we crossed you, so many mothers wept,
Quantos filhos em vão rezaram!	So many sons prayed in vain!
Quantas noivas ficaram por casar	So many brides remained unmarried
Para que fosses nosso, ó mar!	That you might be ours, oh sea!
Valeu a pena? Tudo vale a pena	Was it worthwhile? All is worthwhile
Se a alma não é pequena.	When the spirit is not small.
Quem quere passar além do Bojador	He who wants to go beyond Bojador
Tem que passar além da dor.	Has to go beyond pain.
Deus ao mar o perigo e o abysmo deu,	God to the sea peril and abyss has given
Mas nelle é que espelhou o céu.	But it was in it that He mirrored heaven.

The majority of the early Portuguese immigrants to California came by ship. The transcontinental railroad did not open until 1869, and even after the east and west coasts were connected by rail many who came here from Portugal – especially the Azores and Madeira - would have made the trip by sea. Until the opening of the Panama Canal in 1914, that would have required passage around Cape Horn at the tip of South America. The long voyage to California would have required a good deal of courage and determination.

Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed north on Bridgeway to 1763 Bridgeway

22

Medeiros & Knudsen Residences

Location: – Near 1763 Bridgeway (area between Bridgeway and Filbert south of Easterby)

Homes between Bridgeway and Filbert, just south of Easterby - Courtesy Mike Moyle

Tony Medeiros, former Treasurer of the Hall (1988) – Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

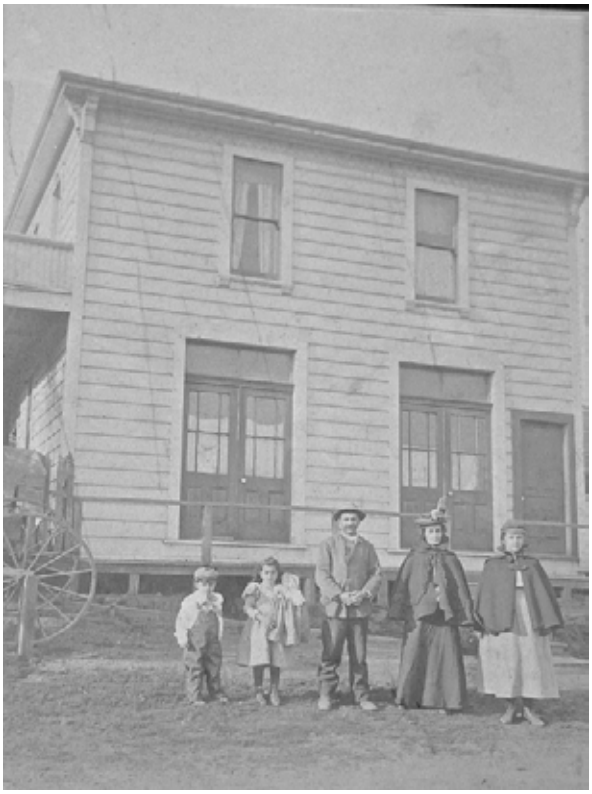


Photo taken at the above location around 1900 showing, from left to right: Manuel Bettencourt, May Bettencourt, Antonio S. Bettencourt, Laura Bettencourt and Rose Simas. Courtesy Konnie Knudsen.

Regan Medeiros (center), Queen in 1990, with her attendants – Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

The Connection:

One feature of life in Sausalito over the years has been the number of structures that have been moved from place to place. While such physical moves are obviously less common today, in the past it seems that people thought nothing about moving structures around town. As we will see when we reach the Marinship and Pine Point, some of those moves were more voluntary than others

Tony Medeiros was the only son of parents who immigrated from the Azores. He went to work for the Sausalito post office in the early 1930s. After service in the Army during World War II, he returned to Sausalito and resumed work at the post office, where he worked for 37 years, serving as Postmaster from 1965 until his retirement in 1972. He was also active in the Hall and served for many years at the Hall's Treasurer. He and his wife, Dolly, had three children: Joyce, Larry and Paul. Paul's daughter, Regan, served as the Festa Queen in 1990.

The Medeiros family owned a number of houses in the area between Bridgeway and Filbert (just below the original Hall), including some that were moved there from Pine Point, which we will cover at the next stop on the tour.

Konrad ("Konnie") and Arlene Knudsen lived for several years next to the Medeiros family. Their home had to be moved and raised at time when Bridgeway was widened. We will meet Konnie again later in the tour both in the context of baseball and the Waldo area.

Konnie's father (also named Konrad) was from Norway. Konnie's mother, May Bettencourt, pictured above as a little girl, was born here in Sausalito. Arlene's maiden name was also Bettencourt, although she came from an unrelated line of the family. Yet another example of how difficult it can be to trace family connections!

Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed north on Bridgeway to the intersection with Spring Street.

23

Pine Point and the Marinship

Location: Bridgeway & Spring

Photo taken circa 1901 showing the Richardson Bay coastline. Pine Point is the tree-covered point; Waldo Point is the point beyond that. Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

The Pine Point community in the 1930's. Bridgeway can be seen running through the cut between the trees. The Northwestern Pacific Railroad yard is to the right just above the red roof – Courtesy Marinship Archives

A view from the north side of Pine Point looking north across the marsh to Waldo Point with Mt. Tam beyond. The railroad tracks and Bay are on the right. Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

The reverse view – looking south from Waldo Point with Pine Point beyond the marsh in the background. Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

Driving piles in the marsh to prepare the foundation for the Marinship structures – Courtesy Marinship Archives

Marinship in full operation circa 1943. The tip of Pine Point is gone – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

The Connection:

Northern Sausalito was a quiet, lightly-populated area prior to World War II. The Northwestern Pacific Railroad tracks ran north from the ferry terminal stopping first at Pine Point (today around the area of the Bay Model), then at Waldo Point (today the last stoplight heading north on Bridgeway before getting on Highway 101), and then at Manzanita (today the parking area under the Richardson Bay Bridge next to the Buckeye Restaurant). The railroad had a maintenance and storage area just south of Pine Point. There was a significant community at Pine Point with about 100 residents, almost certainly some of them Portuguese-Americans.

In March of 1942 the US Maritime Commission asked Bechtel Company to undertake a crash program to develop a West Coast shipyard to build cargo vessels for the war effort. Within a day Bechtel had selected Sausalito's northern waterfront with a plan that contemplated the demolition of the Pine Point community and the use of much of the earth in Pine Point itself to fill the marshland between Pine Point and Waldo Point. This was to become Marinship.

The private property that was the Pine Point community was acquired by an accelerated eminent domain procedure and the people who lived there were given thirty days to move out and move any structures, or have them demolished. By the end of April demolition and excavation, including dynamiting of the tip of the point, began. The marsh was filled in, a forest of piles driven into the mud, and the construction of the 202-acre shipyard began. Just a few months later on September 26, the first cargo ship, appropriately named the William A. Richardson after Sausalito's founder, was launched. In all, 93 cargo ships and tankers would be launched during the course of the war. Following the end of the war, the Army Corps of Engineers took over the shipyard, and the Corps continues to have a facility at the Bay Model.

As you walk north on Bridgeway and past the Olive Street intersection you will be passing through the area that was once Pine Point. Although it is not a tour stop, if you wish to take a brief detour and stop off at the Bay Model, there is an excellent Marinship exhibit open to the public.

The Bay Model from above. The park to the left of the Bay Model would have been the tip of Pine Point before it was excavated - Courtesy Mike Moyle

See Also:

- "Pine Point—Sausalito's Lost Community" from Moments in Time, Sausalito Historical Society Newsletter, Spring 2011 - http://www.sausalitohistoricalsociety.com/moments-in-time/

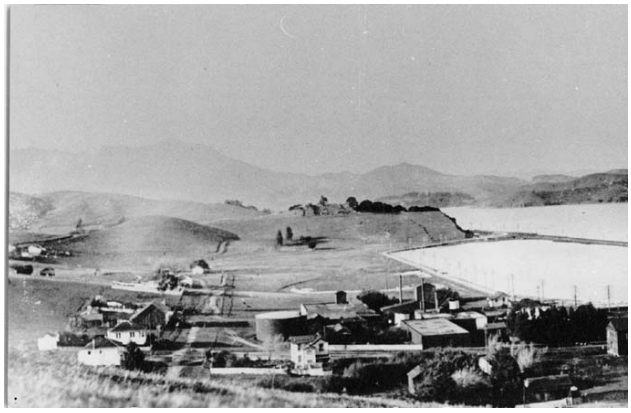
Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed north on Bridgeway to the intersection with Nevada Street.

24

Mason Distillery / American Distilling Company

Location: The area between Bridgeway and Tomales Streets, just west of the West Harbor Drive/Bridgeway intersection, today the Whisky Springs condominium complex.



American Distilling with Waldo Point in the background – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

Entrance to the American Distilling Company – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

Entrance to Whiskey Springs (West Harbor & Bridgeway) - Courtesy Mike Moyle

Part of American Distilling's product line - Courtesy Mike Moyle

The Connection:

The first distillery on the site was built around 1892 by John Mason, who had been operating a successful brewery in San Francisco but was looking for a better supply of fresh water. As it had been since the time of the whalers, Sausalito's pure water was an attraction. The distillery operated profitably until 1920 when the 18th Amendment put an end to the whisky business. The company was sold to a buyer who wanted to make industrial alcohol. That was not a successful business and the company was about to shut down when American Distilling, which had its headquarters in Illinois, purchased the property at the very end of Prohibition in December 1933.

American Distilling then modernized the facility and before long it became the largest independent producer of whiskey, gin and vodka in the United States. With a work force of 200 people, it was also a major source of jobs for Sausalito in the midst of the Depression.

Portuguese-Americans had made up a large part of the workforce at the distillery throughout its operation, including members of the Mancebo family. An August 1913 Sausalito Times article reporting on the marriage of Antone Mancebo and Mary Alfonso, identified the groom as the "head bottler" for Mason & Co. Several years later, Fred and Geraldine Mancebo who lived on Butte Street, just a few steps from the distillery, were interviewed about the 1963 event that proved to be the demise of the business.

> "The Mancebos remember vividly the big distillery fire of 1963. Caused by faulty wiring, it wiped out several major buildings at the plant, as well as 1,500 barrels of bourbon, scotch, gin, vodka and tequila. Geraldine Mancebo heard the barrels blowing off like rockets from her home on Butte Street, and soon after she and all her neighbors were evacuated from the area. 'They were worried about one big tank that had 50,000 gallons of 192-proof alcohol in it,' she recalls. 'If that had gone, none of the houses around the distillery would be here today.'"

After the fire, American Distillery decided not to rebuild the facility, instead consolidating its operations at a plant in the East Bay. That resulted in the loss of many jobs in Sausalito. The property was sold to developers who built the current Whiskey Springs condominium complex.

See Also:

- Reprint of a two-part 1972 article by the Sausalito Historical Society on the history of the distillery:

  Part I - http://www.marinscope.com/sausalito_marin_scope/opinion/article_c0921a2b-86de-5158-9da0-10a34f12626e.html

  Part II - http://www.marinscope.com/sausalito_marin_scope/opinion/article_005c0842-13df-579b-9b09-587015bd1b22.html?mode=story

Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed west on Nevada Street to the intersection with Tomales. Turn right (north) on Tomales and proceed to 77 Tomales.

25

Frank & Mary Silva Residence

Location: 77 Tomales Street

The house at 77 Tomales built by Frank Silva circa 1907 – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

The house today - Courtesy Mike Moyle

Frank Silva and his bride, Mary Cardoza Silva, following their 1910 wedding – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

The newlyweds – Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

The Connection:

Frank Silva was a skilled carpenter who went on to be a general contractor in Sausalito. In 1907, in preparation for his marriage to Mary Cardoza, he built a large and elaborately decorated home on Tomales Street, just across Tomales Street and uphill from the American Distillery. Today the house stands with few external changes, although it is now surrounded by many more structures and foliage.

Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed north on Tomales to Butte. Turn left (west) on Butte and proceed to the intersection with Olima. Turn right (north) on Olima and proceed to 501 Olima Street

26

Olima Street Barn and Corral

Location: 501 Olima Street

The barn and corral as seen from the hillside – Courtesy Kathy Kirkland

A large crowd at the annual cattle auction – Courtesy Kathy Kirkland

Beef destined for the Festa's "sopas" – Courtesy Kathy Kirkland

A lot of work involved with the preparation of the meat - Courtesy Kathy Kirkland

Father O'Flynn blessing the beef – Courtesy Kathy Kirkland

Celebrating a job well done – Courtesy Kathy Kirkland

The Chamarita Room at Rotary Village - Courtesy Mike Moyle

December 2013 dedication of a work donated by the Sausalito/Cascais Sister City Committee commemorating the history of the Chamarita Room - Courtesy Mike Moyle

The Connection:

The Festa do Espírito Santo has always included the sharing of food with the community, including serving the "sopas" lunch at the Hall for several hundred participants. That requires a significant quantity of beef.

When the Festa started in the 1800's, those members of the Hall who were in a position to do so donated live cattle to the Hall for the Festa. Those cattle were brought to Sausalito from the surrounding dairies, decorated and driven through the streets as part of the Festa (refer back to the stop at the original IDESST Hall stop with a photo showing the cattle being herded up Filbert Street). They were then taken to the barn on Olima Street that was also owned by the Hall. There, some of the cattle were auctioned to raise funds for the Hall, and others were slaughtered to be used for the sopas lunch and to provide gifts of beef to members of the Hall and community.

As customs changed over the years the beef for the Festa began to be purchased from commercial suppliers and the Hall no longer had any need for the Olima Street property. In 2002, when the Rotary Club of Sausalito was looking for an piece of property in Sausalito that it could develop for low cost senior housing (in addition to Rotary Place on Bee Street), it approached the Hall, which agreed to sell the property to the Club. That is how Rotary Village on Olima Street came to be.

As part of the Rotary Village project, the old barn was renovated with its corrugated steel walls retained. Today the former barn is the beautiful Rotary Village community room. To recognize and celebrate the

heritage of the property and Sausalito's Portuguese-American community, it was decided to name the room the "Chamarita Room" after the Azorean folk dance that was often danced at the Hall at the time of the Festa, a name by which the Festa itself came to be commonly know to the broader Sausalito community.

In 2013 the Sausalito/Cascais Sister City Committee donated a plaque to commemorate the site's Portuguese-American heritage. That plaque now hangs on the wall inside the Chamarita Room.

Directions to the Next Stop:

Continue north on Olima to the intersection with Colima Street. Turn right (east) on Colima and proceed to 637 Colima Street

27

Manuel & Leonor Almeida Residence

Location: 637 Coloma Street – corner of Coloma and Olima Streets

637 Coloma Street – note the Rotary Village's Chamarita Room in the background just across Olima Street - Courtesy Mike Moyle

Manuel Almeida's - past President of the Sausalito Portuguese Hall – Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

Leonor and Manuel Almeida at the Hall's 1988 Centennial celebration – Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

700 Olima Street, the birthplace of Leonor Almeida - Courtesy Mike Moyle

Leonor Amaral, Queen of the 1923 Festa, on the steps of the original IDESST Hall on Filbert Street - Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

The 1923 Festa parade coming down Princess Street to Bridgeway - Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

The Connection:

Manuel and Leonor Almeida were both actively involved with the Hall for most of their lives. Manuel served as Hall President, and Leonor, then Leonor Amaral, was the Festa's Queen in 1923. They lived for many years in their home on Coloma Street. Leonor was born in the house at 700 Olima Street, just a short distance north, an example of a Sausalito native who lived almost her entire life in the city.

Directions to the Next Stop:

Proceed east on Coloma Street to the playground.

28

Baseball Field/ MLK Park

Location: Martin Luther King park on the north side of Coloma Street

The Sausalito Pony League baseball team sponsored by the IDESST Hall – Courtesy Thom Ross

The IDESST team marching south on Caledonia in a Festa parade – Courtesy Bob Souza

The IDESST team along Bridgeway near Viña del Mar Plaza – Courtesy Kathy Kirkland

Konnie Knudsen Field next to Willow Creek Academy – Courtesy Mike Moyle

The view from center field at MLK Park – the grove of trees marking the site of Sunny Hill Cemetery is on the hillside in the background – more about that when the tour reaches Fernwood – Courtesy Mike Moyle

A group from the Native Sons of the Golden West, including Konnie Knudsen (fourth from the right in the top row – with the hat) and Ed Souza who we met at the Sausalito Fire Station – Courtesy Kathy Kirkland

The Connection:

Baseball has been a very popular sport in Sausalito over the years, and many of Sausalito's Portuguese-Americans played on and coached the town's teams over the years. The Hall itself sponsored a Sausalito youth baseball team for several years, one of the first Sausalito teams that allowed children from Marin City to participate.

Konnie Knudsen (whom we encountered briefly at an earlier stop along Bridgeway and will encounter again when the tour reaches Waldo) was one of the most active players and coaches over the years. In recognition of his many contributions to the sport in Sausalito, the little league field next to Willow Creek Academy is named after him.

See Also:

- The Sausalito Historical Society has a binder of clippings and other information devoted to Sausalito's youth baseball teams that was compiled by Jerry Taylor.

- Matt Knudsen, Konnie's son, has created an open Facebook group named "Sausalito Little League Alumni" - https://www.facebook.com/groups/825084384185467/

Directions to the Next Stop:

The remaining stops on the tour, located in Marin City, Tennessee Valley and the Marin Headlands, are significantly more spread out and require a bit more hiking than those to this point. However, they will take you through some beautiful areas and are well worth the effort. Driving is certainly an alternative, although a short walk would still be required to visit the dairy sites.

If you decide to continue, proceed east on Coloma to the Bridgeway intersection. Turn left (north) on Bridgeway and continue along Bridgeway to the intersection with Donahue (the last stop light going north, just prior to the entrance to Highway 101). At this point you will have to decide between two alternatives routes that will both take you either through, or next to, Marin City (the next stop), and on to Fernwood Cemetery.

The first route, is a bit more direct but requires more climbing (rewarded by some beautiful views of the Bay!). Turn left (west) on Donahue, proceed under the freeway and then stay on Donahue as it first circles the Marin City shopping center, then curves uphill along the ridge. Near the top of the ridge the street ends and an unpaved hiking trail begins. Continue on the trail. After only a couple of hundred yards you will come to a fork. Take the uphill trail to the right which climbs to a water tank at the top of the hill. Go around the left side of the water tank and continue along the trail beyond (which narrows slightly) towards Mount Tam. You will now be descending. The trail will come out at the upper end of Fernwood Cemetery.

The second route would be to cross to the east side of Bridgeway, then cross Gate 6 Road and get onto the Sausalito-Mill Valley path (next to Mike's Bikes) that parallels Highway 101. The path will take you along the Bay (some nice views of the water and the Sausalito houseboats) and under the freeway at the Richardson Bay Bridge. Then, just before Coyote Creek, take a left and proceed along the boardwalk that parallels Coyote Creek. The path will take you to Highway 1 where there is a stoplight and crosswalk. Cross Highway 1 and continue on the path towards Tennessee Valley that parallels the creek. In less than a hundred yards you will find a parking area on the left side for the Tamalpais Community Services

District (TCSD) Cabin. On the far side of the parking lot (and across Tennessee Valley Road) you will see the entrance to Fernwood Cemetery.

Also, note that the Alta Trail along the ridgeline through the Golden Gate National Recreation Area is a wonderful alternative for returning to downtown Sausalito from the Marin City area at least on a nice day when you can enjoy the views of the Bay. The Alta Trail (which connects to the trail leading from Donahue Street) will take you to the Morning Sun Trail that can be descended to the Spencer/Monte Mar freeway exit. There you can walk under the freeway and then proceed downhill on city streets to downtown Sausalito. We recommend that for any hiking in the GGNRA that you obtain a copy of the excellent Marin Headlands Trail Map available at http://www.parksconservancy.org/assets/park-improvements/pdfs/marin-headlands-map.pdf.

29

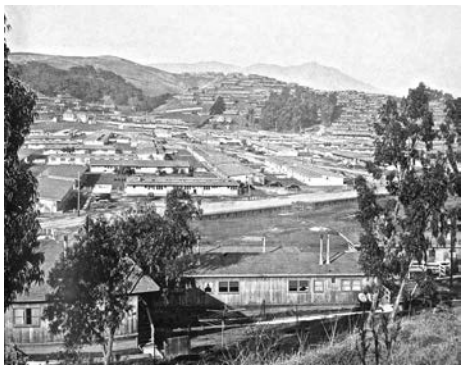
Waldo Point/ Marin City

Location:

A view of Richardson Bay looking west from the Alta Trail above Marin City. The parking lot at the Marin City shopping center can be seen at the bottom. Waldo Point is the grove of trees in the center of the picture – Courtesy Mike Moyle

The entrance to Waldo Point Harbor, close to the former Waldo Point train station – Courtesy Mike Moyle

Ariel view showing the Marin City shopping center next to Highway 101 – Courtesy Wikipedia Commons

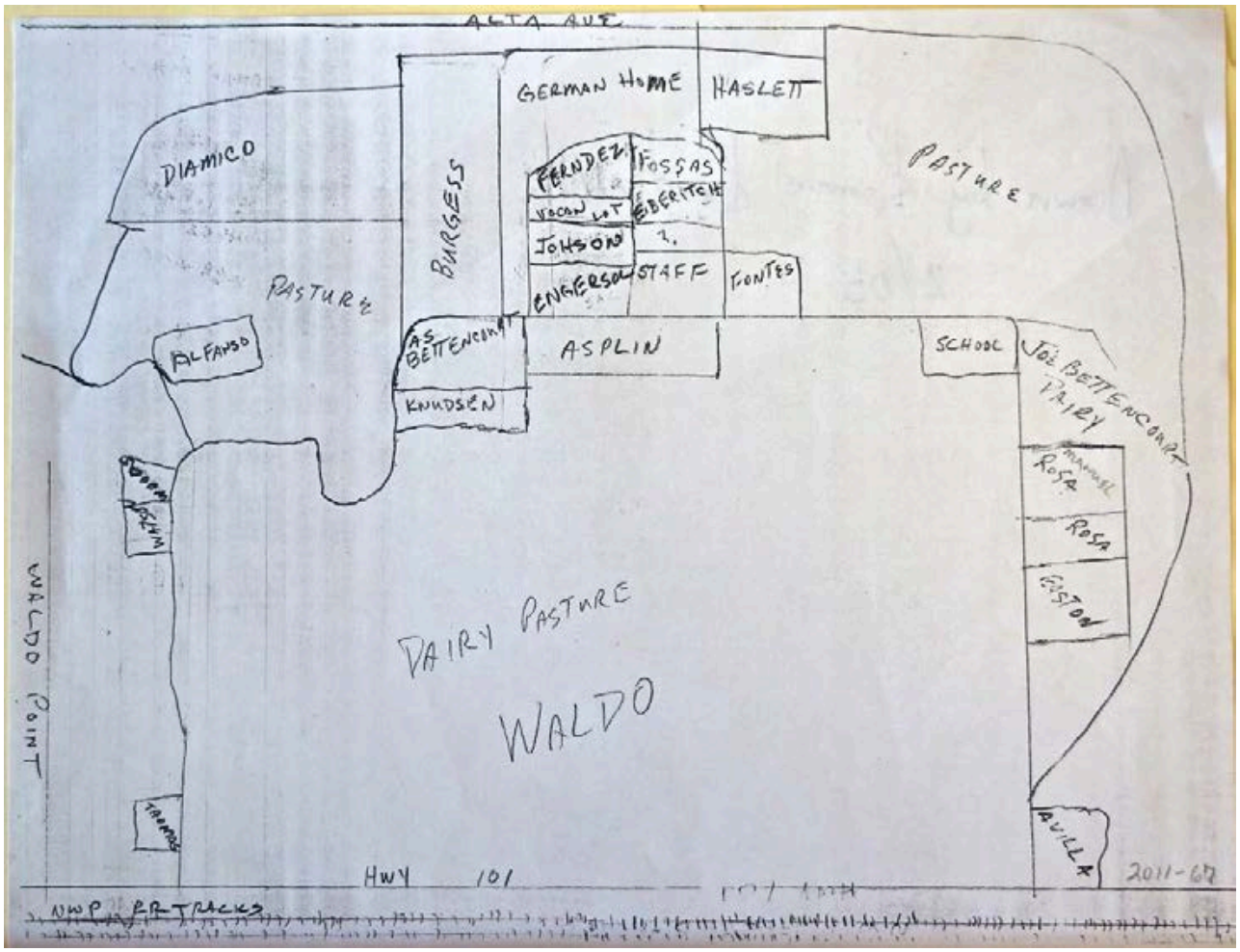


The housing developed at the time of the Marinship project- a view from Waldo Point circa 1943 - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

Mary Avilla, Queen of the 1908 Festa who grew up at Waldo - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

Mary Avilla Rosa later in life - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society

The Waldo home of Joseph and Mary Rosa, today the Harriet Tubman Building at 740 Drake Avenue in Marin City – Courtesy Mike Moyle



A map drawn by Konnie Knudsen showing the layout of the Waldo community prior to World War II. Waldo Point is at the left and Highway 101 at the bottom. Alta Avenue (today the Alta Trail in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area) ran up the hill and then along the ridge line above the community - Courtesy Sausalito Historical Society.

The Connection:

Just as with Pine Point, the small Waldo community (today's Marin City) was a quiet, rural enclave prior to World War II and the arrival of the Marinship project, although the opening of the Golden Gate Bridge in 1937 and the building of the Waldo Grade to connect Highway 101 to the north end of the Bridge had certainly increased the amount of traffic passing nearby. Just as land was needed on which to construct the Marinship project, thousands of workers were needed to staff it, and housing them was a critical issue. As with Pine Point, much of the Waldo properties were expropriated and turned into housing which stretched across the valley and up the slopes, displacing many of the former residents.

As can be seen by the map drawn by Konnie Knudsen, several of the families that lived in Waldo in the pre-Marin City era were Portuguese-Americans, including the Avillas, Bettencourts, Fossa, Fontes and Rosas. Konnie, who we met earlier at the Knudsen residence on Bridgeway and at the baseball field, was born on the Fourth of July in 1927 at Waldo to Konrad Knudsen, who was from Norway and worked as a piano tuner at Steinway in San Francisco, and a Portuguese-American mother, May Bettencourt, whom we saw with her family as a girl at the house on Bridgeway. May's father, Antonio S. Bettencourt, owned the Waldo property shown on Konnie's map as "A.S. Bettencourt," adjacent to the property that Konnie and his wife, Arlene, lived on until the Marin City development. Arlene's father, Joe Bettencourt (no relation to Antonio) owned the "Joe Bettencourt Dairy" shown on Konnie's map – are we confused yet?

A wonderful oral history of Konnie's life was recorded in 2005 by representatives of the Anne T. Kent California Room at the Marin County Free Library. A CD and transcript of the interview is available at the Sausalito Historical Society. Here is an extract from that interview with Konnie's recollection of a typical summer day growing up in the Waldo community:

> MG [Marilyn Geary, the interviewer]: So as a child growing up in Waldo, what was your life like?
>
> KK: It was great. Well, I went to Central School in Sausalito. And the bus would pick us up and take us to Sausalito. And during the summer we would go to Arlene's grandfather's dairy. We used to sleep out in tents and stuff, and we'd get up at three o'clock in the morning and the day. And sometimes we'd wake the milkers up. And we'd bring the cows in for them once in a while, and they had the neatest coffee. We'd drink their coffee with real cream and all that stuff. Oh, it was, it was super.
>
> MG: So how many kids did you, were in your neighborhood?
>
> KK: About eight, eight or nine.
>
> MG: And so you guys used to go over and, and milk the cows in the morning?
>
> KK: No, we, we didn't milk them, but they – We would play in the barns, you know, and stuff today that you'd go, you'd go to jail for. You know. I mean they, they'd, whoever owned the dairy now would run you, run you off. But, it was really fun. You know, in the mornings we'd do that, and then go home to breakfast, and then we'd go play baseball until noon, and then at, after lunch we would go down to Waldo Point. There was a beach, beach down there, and we'd swim. When the – When we finally got paper routes, we'd swim until the papers came, and then we'd go deliver our papers, and go home and have dinner, and then go out and play "kick the can," or whatever, you know, until about nine o'clock, and then go home and start over again.

Another long-time resident of Waldo was Mary Avilla, pictured above, who was born in 1904 in the Waldo home of her parents, Joseph and Maria Avilla (the "Avilla" property on Konnie Knudsen's map). Mary served as the Queen for the Hall's Festa in 1908 when she was five years old and was also Konnie Knudsen's godmother. In 1930 she married Joseph Texeira Rosa, Jr., who was himself born at Waldo. We encountered Joe and Mary back on Caledonia Street at the Rosa Garage.

Mary wrote a beautiful life story for her family entitled "Auntie's Story." A copy was kindly provided to the Sausalito Historical Society and the information about Mary has been taken from that story.

Mary and Joe built a home at Waldo in 1937. The home was spared expropriation in 1942 during the building of Marin City. However, in 1959 as part of the Marin City Urban Renewal Plan, it was purchased by the redevelopment agency. It continues to stand today (named the Harriet Tubman Building) at 740 Drake Avenue, near the Martin Luther King-Bayside School. It is one of the few surviving buildings from the pre-Marinship Waldo community.

Here is an extract from "Auntie's Story" (pp. 4-5) regarding Mary's childhood in Waldo:

> "We all had chores to do, chop wood, pump water from the well, feed the chickens and so on. I remember going way up in the hills in back of our house to bring the cows in for milking. I loved

to do this. When I was on top of the hill I would wait until all of the cows were down by the gate and then I would roll all the way down the hill and open the gate. It was fun.

In those days we did not have a freeway, it was just a dirt road, and they were county roads. We had a horse and wagon and would go to Novato to get our fruit to can for the winter. We had to go to Mill Valley and then over the Corte Madeira Grade into San Rafael and then to Novato. We would leave at five o'clock in the morning, pick our fruit, filling the wagon, and then start back home. The load was so heavy that my mother had to walk leading the horse. I was small so I got to sit in the wagon. It would be very late in the evening when we got back home.

Train service to Sausalito began in 1890 and the railroad tracks were across the road from our home. On the other side of the tracks was the bay (Richardson Bay). Waldo was all marsh land surrounded by hills with beautiful trees on them. When they opened up the flood gates by the railroad tracks the fresh water from Richardson Bay would come in and fill the marshland. It was like a big lake. My brothers would go duck hunting there. We would also go across the railroad tracks and catch bass. We could see them from our house jumping in the water, then we would go and catch fish for dinner….We could also go and get a bucket of clams whenever we wanted to."

See Also:

- Konnie Knudsen Oral History recorded June 30, 2005, by the Marin County Free Library – CD and full transcript available at the Sausalito Historical Society

- "Auntie's Story" - Mary Angela Avilla Rosa (October 18, 1904 – October 20, 1998) – spiral bound document available at the Sausalito Historical Society.

- "History of a Highway" by Jim Wood – a short history of Highway 101 - http://www.marinmagazine.com/May-2009/History-of-a-Highway/

Directions to the Next Stop:

Refer to the directions at the previous stop that include directions to the next stop, Fernwood Cemetery, depending upon which route was selected.

30

Fernwood Cemetery

Location: 301 Tennessee Valley Road

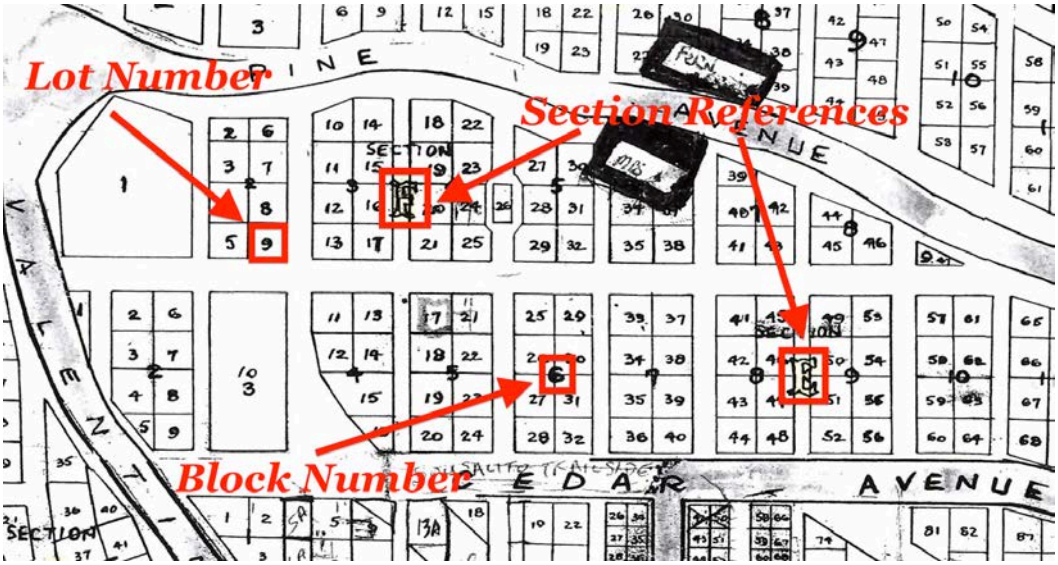
Courtesy Mike Moyle

The Connection:

Fernwood has been operating since 1892. As we have seen on the tour, it has been for many years the preferred burial site for many of Sausalito's Portuguese-American families. Prior to the opening of Fernwood, Sausalito's primary cemetery was at Sunny Hill located on the hillside above the southbound Rodeo Avenue exit going up the Waldo Grade. However, all, or at least most, of those buried at Sunny Hill were exhumed and moved to Fernwood.

The site of the Sunny Hill cemetery (the trees to the upper right) – Courtesy Mike Moyle

As can be seen on the following map provided by Fernwood, the cemetery is comprised of several "sections" identified with capital letters, with each section subdivided into numbered "blocks" and each block further subdivided into numbered "lots."



We were also provided by Fernwood with a copy of a very helpful 23-page list of gravesites compiled in 1978 by Ruth Dauernhelm who is identified in the document as the Cemetery Records Project Chairman. Here is an representative extract:

Name	Age	Section	Block/Lot	Date of Death/Burial	Other
NUNES, George		D	4-22-SE¼ M		
NUNES, John S.		E	6-28-NW¼		
NUNES, Manuel		D	5-26-East		
NUNES, Mary M.	50	D	4-22-SE¼	1935	Born 1885
NUNES, Rose S.		D	5-26		
NUNEZ, Marie Luzea		E	6-28-NW¼		
NUNEZ, Mary Silva		F	3-16-SE¼		
NYE, Katherine Louise	67	D	8-79-NW¼ N 1/3	1942	Born 1875

As suggested by that extract, the older sections of Fernwood contains the grave sites of many of the individuals featured at earlier stops in the tour, including members of the Lawrence, Nunes, Peters, Perry, and Rosa families, as well as many others. It is a fertile resource for further research.

The oldest section of Fernwood (designed by an "SG" listing on the gravesite list) is on the hillside furthest to the northwest. Unfortunately many of the physical markers on the gravesites there were lost or damaged over the years. A portion of that section is referred to as the "Portuguese Trail." Those markers that do exist in that section are of more recent vintage and less permanent.

Along Fernwood's "Portuguese Trail" – Courtesy Mike Moyle

See Also:

- "Forever Fernwood" by Joan Murray – Mill Valley Historical Society Review, Spring 2009 (featuring Tam Valley), pp. 10-13: http://www.millvalleylibrary.net/historyroom/collections/archive/files/mvhs2009spring-reduce_6da5c230bc.pdf

- Fernwood Cemetery on Find a Grave website: http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=cr&CRid=7969&CScn=fernwood&

Directions to the Next Stop:

Exit Fernwood via the main gate. Cross Tennessee Valley Road and the TCSD Cabin parking lot and turn left along the path that parallels Tennessee Valley Road and Coyote Creek. Continue along Tennessee Valley Road to 601 Tennessee Valley Road (see the satellite view at the next stop).

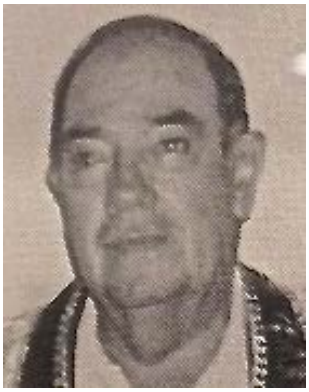
31

Seamas/Pimentel/Silva/Kirkland Residence

Location: 601 Tennessee Valley Road

Courtesy Mike Moyle

Borges Barn – Today Tam Valley Elementary – This would have been the view from Tennessee Valley Road near the Kirkland house. Today, thick willow trees obscure a view of the school from the road. Courtesy Tam Valley Elementary School.



Kathy Kirkland's father, Manuel Silva – a former President of the Sausalito Portuguese Hall. He originally came to work on Martins Ranch in Tennessee Valley where he met his wife-to-be, Dorothy Pimentel – Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

Manuel Silva and wife, Dorothy

Three Generations of Past I.D.E.S.S.T. Queens
Dorothy Silva, Kathy Silva Kirkland, Karen Kirkland, Kristie Kirkland

Excerpts from the Sausalito Portuguese Hall's book commemorating the Hall's 100th anniversary in 1988
Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

The Connection:

The blue house at Tennessee Valley Road is the residence of Kathy Kirkland. Behind the house is the Woolly Egg Ranch run by Kathy's son, Kenny.

That blue house. and the property on which it and the Ranch stand, have been in Kathy Kirkland's family for four generations, dating back to 1878 when her great-grandfather, William Simas (note that there are three different spellings of his name, one on his 1922 obituary in the Sausalito Times ("Simas"), a second on the sign outside the home ("Seamas"), and a third on the list of gravesites at Fernwood where he is buried ("Seames")) acquired the property directly from the Sausalito Land & Ferry Company, perhaps the first Portuguese-American to make such a purchase. Kathy's father, Manuel Silva, (who married Dorothy Pimentel (whose father then owned the property), served as the Hall's President. Dorothy was the Festa Queen three different times, and Kathy, and Kathy's two daughters, Karen and Kristie, all served as Festa Queens as well. This spot, and this family, probably has the longest, and one of the deepest, continuous connections of any with Sausalito's Portuguese-American history.

Dorothy Pimentel 1923

Dorothy Pimentel 1925

Dorothy Pimentel 1934

Kathy Kirkland 1950

Karen Kirkland 1972

Kristie Kirkland 1975

Karen Kirkland 1983

An oral history of Dorothy Pimentel Silva was recorded in 1988 by a representative of the National Park Service. Apart from a good deal of information about Dorothy's family, her life in Tennessee Valley and the dairy operations in the valley, she also provided some interesting observations on the former physical layout of the surrounding property (the following quotes were taken from a summary of the interview – no transcript exists):

> "Formerly orchard out front…. Father rented dairy across the street owned by [Borges] for approximately 40 years. Tide formerly came up to edge of property, lagoon (where school is now) hay came in on barges pushed by tugboats, tied to big eucalyptus tree; land all fill now and built over. "

She also spoke about visitors from San Francisco on the weekends:

> "Boats from San Francisco, train to [Manzanita Station – next to Buckeye Restaurant], people would then walk from there to Tennessee Beach, Saturdays and Sundays lots of people. "Weekends was something else!" Pimentel children used to sell lemonade and Lilacs, during 20's and 30's. … Tennessee Beach used more then than now. Folks used to pick poison oak when it was red in the Fall, not knowing what it was – huge bouquets back to City."

She also provided a story about the Prohibition period:

> Used to have bootleggers. House next door as well as another up the hill. Used to go over and watch the distilling process as kids; federal agents raided them and shot up boilers; kids took agates for purifying, took them to school;…. Bootleggers remarkably open, everyone knew about it. During raid, men crawled down through Pimentel hay field, picked up at Silva's house and disappeared."

See Also:

- "Tamalpais Valley History" by Elizabeth ("Lissa") McKee – Mill Valley Historical Society Review, Spring 2009, pp. 4-9: http://www.millvalleylibrary.net/historyroom/collections/archive/files/mvhs2009spring-reduce_6da5c230bc.pdf

- Written summary of an interview of Dorothy Pimentel Silva by Karana Hattersley-Drayton for the National Park Service taped on December 8, 1988, part of the Tennessee Valley Oral History project.

- Woolly Egg Ranch: http://woollyeggranch.com

Directions to the Next Stop:

Continue along Tennessee Valley Road to the Miwok Livery Stables at 701 Tennessee Valley Road.

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Tennessee Valley Dairy Ranches
(1) Cunha/Rapozo/Lopes Ranch; (2) Bettencourt Ranch; (3) Martins Ranch

Location: Tennessee Valley – from the Miwok Stables at the end of Tennessee Valley Road to Tennessee Beach

Courtesy Mike Moyle

Cunha/Rapozo/Lopes Ranch with Tennessee Valley Road in the background– today the Miwok Livery Sables – Courtesy GGNRA

Portuguese dairy farms display at Marin Headlands Visitor Center - Courtesy Mike Moyle

View from the Tennessee Valley Trail of the Miwok Stables (former Cunha/Rapozo/ Lopes Ranch) - Courtesy Mike Moyle

National Park Service facility (former Bettencourt Ranch) seen from the Tennessee Valley Trail - Courtesy Mike Moyle

View from the Coastal Trail on the south slope of Tennessee Valley of the site of the former Martins Ranch - Courtesy Mike Moyle

Photograph of a painting showing the Martins Ranch with Tennessee Beach in the background – Courtesy Kathy Kirkland

The Connection:

As we have seen at various stops earlier in the tour, Tennessee Valley was the location of at least three dairy farms owned by Portuguese-Americans, with the ownership (of the dairy operation if not of the property itself) changing over the years. Today, all of them are within the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

A considerable amount of research has been done by the National Park Service on the first ranch in the valley where the Miwok Livery Stables is today. It was originally purchased in 1903 by Manuel Ferreira Da Cunha who was from the island of São Jorge in the Azores and is buried at Fernwood. He owned the property until 1945 when he sold the ranch to John Rapozo, also of Portuguese descent. From 1947 onward, Rapozo leased the property to his in-laws, Manuel and Laura Lopes.

Manuel and Laura Lopes had six children, among them Diana Lopes Antonucci. Diana, who today lives in San Jose, grew up on the Lopes dairy farm. Her parents were active members of the Sausalito Portuguese Hall – her father would donate a calf each year for the Festa and her mother frequently helped with the cooking there. Diana remembers napping under the alter at the Hall while her mother worked in the kitchen and listening to some interesting conversations. The family has shared some of their photos and other mementos with the National Park Service, some of which can be seen at the Portuguese dairy exhibit at the Marin Headlands Visitors Center. In fact, Diana posed for the picture included above of the "typical" Portuguese dairy family.

Laura Pedro Lopes and Manuel Vieira Lopes in front of their dairy – Courtesy of Diana Lopes Antonucci

Laura Lopes in her kitchen at the dairy – Courtesy of Diana Lopes Antonucci

Manuel Lopes' trademark hat hanging at the Visitor Center

Diana Lopes Antonucci – as part of the Visitor Center display, and in person in 2014

According to a National Park Service Cultural Resources Report (NPSCRR) regarding the Tennessee Valley ranches:

> "The Azorean Portuguese came from an agrarian society with poor economic conditions and were particularly adept at subsistence agriculture in rugged terrain as a result of their history in the Azores. Their heritage required frugality, hard work and communal cooperation to survive. The land in southern Marin County was unsuitable for market gardening, which occupied many Azorean Portuguese in the eastern and southern San Francisco Bay counties, although it offered opportunities for successful dairying, particularly attracting Azoreans from islands such as São Jorge with dairying traditions."

The Tennessee Valley Trail that starts at the parking area next to the entrance to the Miwok Livery Stables passes the sites of the two other dairies – the Bettencourt Dairy and the Martins Dairy. There are still structures at the site of the Bettencourt Dairy that are used today by the National Park Service. The short Chaparral Trail (a dead end) runs next to those structures and to a pleasant shady picnic area.

There are no remaining structures at the site of the Martins Dairy. However, the above photograph of a painting of the dairy provides an idea of its size and location at the east end of the open space in the valley.

Dairy farming was a difficult job. Cows had to be milked twice a day – very early in the morning and again in the afternoon -- with the milk collected and transported to the delivery point. Changes in the supply, processing and distribution networks and the overall market for milk, as well as increasing sanitary and other government regulation, also provided challenges, particularly for smaller scale dairies.

The NPSCRR provides the following overview:

> "In the 1920s and 1930s the Cunha Dairy delivered milk locally, by driving a route around Sausalito by horse and wagon with milk in ten gallon cans, as well as hauled it to a milk stop "platform" where the Marin Dell trucks picked up the cans to transport them to the San Francisco creamery. The road to Tennessee Valley was just dirt in those days with the portion south from Tamalpais Junction skirting the marsh and often impassable in the winter. They regularly had to use a horse team to pull the truck carrying the milk through the mud. They worked without hired help, which they could not afford. They acquired electricity by this period and thus a refrigeration system. They also purchased milking machines. The process now involved four buckets and milking two cows at a time each. This meant that eight cows were milked at the same time. They would then dump the milk in the four buckets and carry it to the milk house where the cooling system was located. When the wind knocked the lines down, they ran the milking machines by connecting to a belt they put around the wheel of the Model T Ford. "

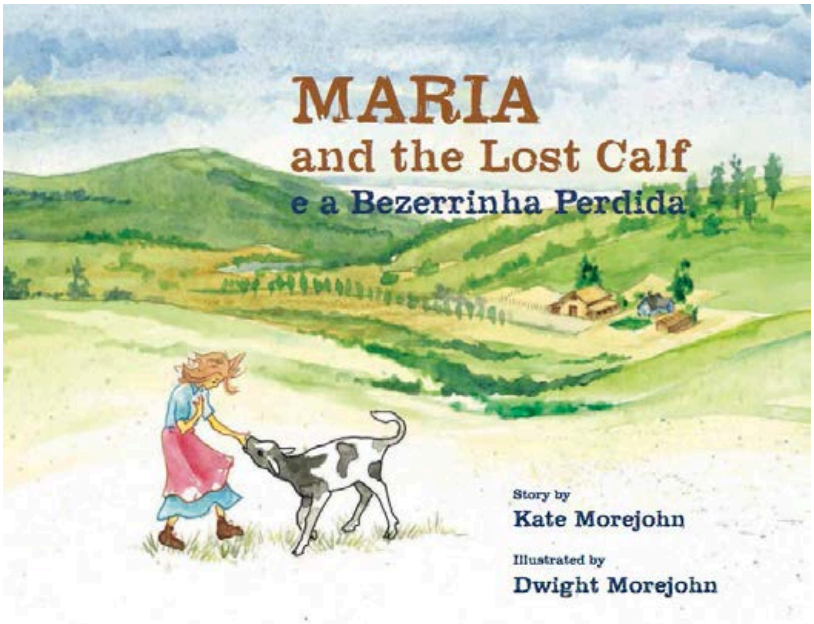
The Tennessee Valley ranches also suffered from periodic water shortages, as well as constant mold problems with growing and storing hay resulting from the foggy conditions.

In 2014 the Portuguese Heritage Publications published a bilingual (English/Portuguese) children's book written by Kate Morejohn entitled "Maria and the Lost Calf" which is set in the Marin Headlands. Here is the summary:

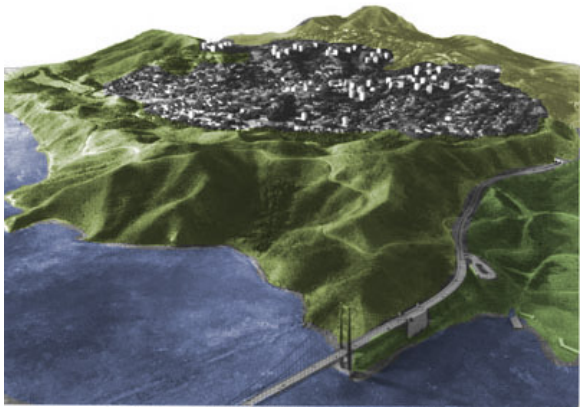
> "This very interesting and engaging children's story, profusely illustrated with original watercolors, takes place at the turn of the last century in the Marin headlands, California. It tells the story of a young farmer's daughter, Maria, who loses the calf to be donated to the Holy Ghost

Festa and becomes lost herself looking for it. During her overnight escapade, Maria reminiscences about her home country in the Azores, the family and fiends left behind, and her long and hazardous trip from the Azores to California."

The book may be purchased directly from PHP via their website:
http://portuguesebooks.org/books/maria-and-the-lost-calf-maria-e-a-bezerrinha-perdida/.



In the early-1960's, a real estate development arm of Gulf Oil launched a plan to develop a huge (the plans were for 30,000 residents) residential subdivision named Marincello in the Marin Headlands, and began to acquire property in the area, including from John Rapozo. Before their plans were ultimately defeated by environmental activists, Gulf constructed an entrance gate near the present Miwok Livery Stables entrance. With the creation of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the federal government acquired the Gulf Oil property together with the other property in Tennessee Valley.



Artist's rendition of the Marincello project – courtesy GGNRA

1968 photo of the entrance gate constructed for the Marincello subdivision – Courtesy Wikipedia Commons

See Also:

- "Portuguese Dairy Ranchers" on the IDESST Hall History page: http://www.idesst.org/portuguese-history.html

- "Tamalpais Valley History" by Elizabeth ("Lissa") McKee – Mill Valley Historical Society Review, Spring 2009, pp. 4-9: http://www.millvalleylibrary.net/historyroom/collections/archive/files/mvhs2009spring-reduce_6da5c230bc.pdf

- "Portuguese Dairy Farmers" on the Golden Gate National Recreation Area website: http://www.nps.gov/goga/historyculture/portuguese-dairy-farmers.htm

- Tennessee Valley Stables (Cunha/Rapozo Ranch, Ranch A/B) -- 2010 Cultural Resource Reports and Site Treatment by the National Park Service: http://www.nps.gov/goga/historyculture/upload/TV_Stables_Combined_CR_Report_6-10-13_public_version.pdf

- Miwok Livery Stables history page: http://www.miwokstables.com/history%20handout.pdf

- Transcript of an interview of John F. and Rose Cunha by Darcie Luce for the National Park Service taped on November 26, 1993, part of the GGNRA Oral History Program.

Directions to the Next Stop:

The walk to the next (and final) stop requires the most climbing of the entire tour, but if the weather is good and you are up to the challenge, it is well worth it. We recommend that for any hiking in the GGNRA that you obtain a copy of the excellent Marin Headlands Trail Map available at http://www.parksconservancy.org/assets/park-improvements/pdfs/marin-headlands-map.pdf.

Here is a view of Tennessee Valley from the Wolf Ridge Trail at the top of the hill that runs along the south side of the valley (the roof at the bottom of the picture is the barn at the Bettencourt Ranch site).

Courtesy Mike Moyle

If you decide to proceed, continue west on the Tennessee Valley Trail towards Tennessee Beach until you intersect the Coastal Trail that comes down the north side of the valley and goes back up the south side. Turn left (south) onto the Coastal Trail and climb to the top. At that point you will intersect the Wolf Ridge Trail that runs to the east (the Coastal Trail descends from that point to Rodeo Beach). Take the

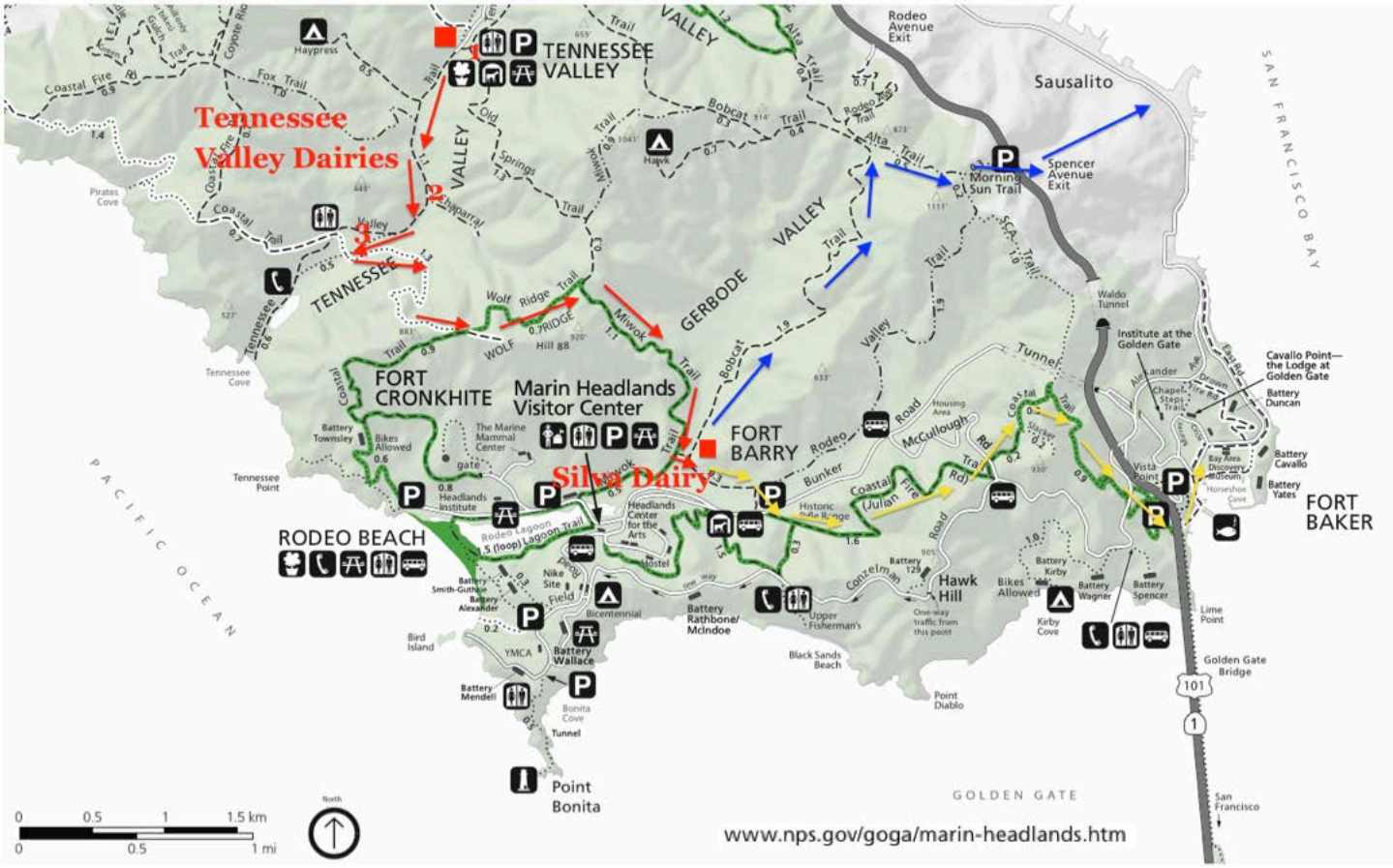
Wolf Ridge Trail east until you intersect the Miwok Trail. Turn right (south) onto the Miwok Trail at which point you will be descending into the Gerbode Valley. When you reach the valley floor you will find a short connector trail that will take you to the Bobcat Trail. At the Bobcat Trail, turn left and proceed north a short distance until you reach a grove of trees through which the Trail passes. This is the site of the Silva Dairy.

If you instead decide to drive to the next stop, you will need to drive down Bunker Road (that leads to Rodeo Beach) and park in the parking area across from the riding facility. From that parking area you can take the Coastal Trail across the stream. Then turn to the left (west) and pick up the Bobcat Trail which will take you to the next stop. It is a 10-minute walk at the most.

The map below shows the route from the dairies in Tennessee Valley to the site of the Silva Dairy at the bottom of the Gerbode Valley. It also shows two alternative routes for hiking back to Sausalito from the Silva Dairy site – the first (blue arrows) to downtown Sausalito, and the second (yellow arrows) to Cavallo Point in Fort Baker under the north end of the Golden Gate Bridge.

The blue route follows the Bobcat Trail up the Gerbode Valley to the Alta Trail, then taking the Alta Trail to the intersection with the Morning Sun Trail. The Morning Sun Trail will take you downhill to the Spencer/Monte Mar freeway exit. There you can walk under the freeway and then proceed downhill on city streets to downtown Sausalito.

The yellow route follows the Coastal Trail all the way to Fort Baker and Cavallo Point.



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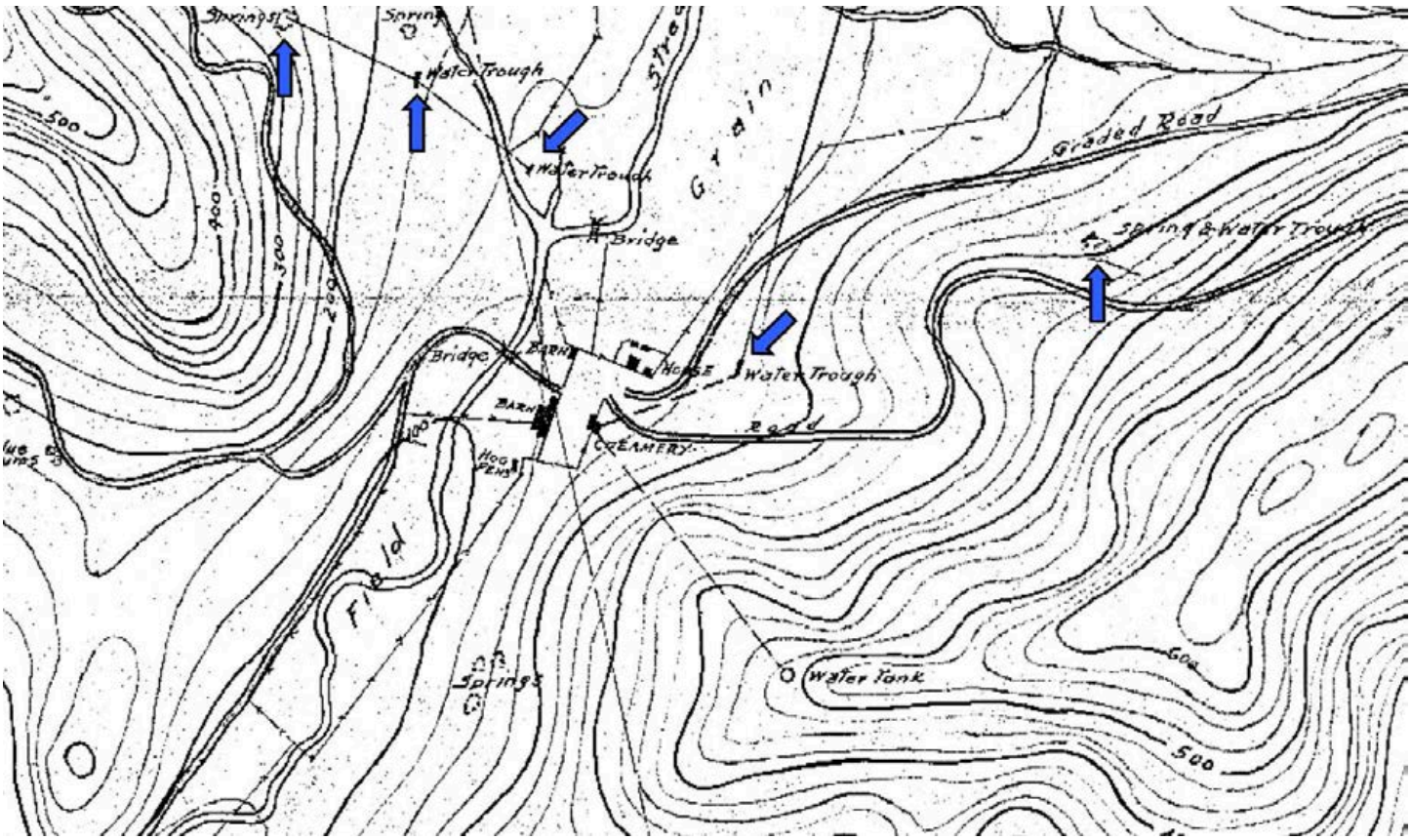
Silva Dairy

Location: Gerbode Valley/ Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Two photos from approximately the same location looking north up the Gerbode Valley – the first, courtesy of Dewey Livingston, showing the Silva Dairy buildings, and the second, a current photo courtesy of Mike Moyle, showing the same grove of trees straddling the Bobcat Trail



Map showing the layout of the Silva Dairy (note the "water tank" shown at the bottom) – Courtesy GGNRA Wetlands Report

Remains at the dairy site – Courtesy Mike Moyle

Remains of the dairy's water tank on the hilltop above the site – Courtesy Mike Moyle

The Connection:

The dairy that came to be commonly known as the Silva Dairy was purchased by Antone Nunes Bello and Manuel V. ("Sam") Silva in 1904 from a Swiss dairy farmer named Louis Gioli. Antone may have been married to Manuel's sister who was named Rita. He also served at the President of the Sausalito Portuguese Hall.

The 1910 Festa do Espírito Santo – Queen Marie Peters with President Bello carrying the Queen's crown – Sausalito Portuguese Hall Archives

Sam Silva served in the US Army in World War I. The following is the introduction to a December 1, 1918, letter sent home from Sam from Brest, France, that was printed in the Sausalito News:

"Corporal Manuel V. Silva of the 8th U.S. Infantry, owner of the Caledonia street haberdashery and a director of the Bank of Sausalito, generally known by his intimate friends as Sam Silva, is like the rest of the boys in France, anxious to return home now that the excitement is over.

It appears there may have been two facilities that comprised the Silva Dairy - the primary one shown above which was used for the dairy operations, and a second smaller satellite facility, possibly close to the north end of Rodeo Beach, that was used for "dry" cows, ones that were not currently producing milk.

We have not yet been able to determine how long the dairy was owned by the Bello/Silva family, or when it was acquired by the government. Initially 800 acres of land near Rodeo Beach was acquired by the government in 1937 to establish Fort Cronkhite and its coastal defense batteries, but we have not determined whether that included the Silva Dairy. Today, of course, it is part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

See Also:

- 2004 "Wetland Habitat Changes In The Rodeo Lagoon Watershed, Marin County, CA" prepared for the National Park Service

Directions to the Next Stop:

This is the final stop. Thank you for taking our tour. Please see the directions for the previous stop for alternative routes to hike back to Sausalito.

Please note that you may wish to visit the Marin Headlands Visitor's Center which is quite close by to the Silva Dairy site – it is in the former chapel at the east end of Rodeo Lagoon. As noted earlier, there is a small Portuguese dairy display at the Visitors Center.

The Marin Headlands Visitors Center. The site of the former Silva Ranch is under the stand of trees that can be seem in the distance in the notch in the hills just above the left end of the building – Courtesy Mike Moyle

Acknowledgments

Many individuals and organizations have contributed in different ways to this project. At the risk of overlooking some of those who have made such contributions, the Sausalito Portuguese Hall would like to thank in particular all of the following:

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Lissa McKee
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Jim Meyer
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Steve Willis

Fernwood Cemetery
National Park Service
Sausalito Historical Society
St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church

Further Information

The Sausalito Portuguese Hall is a non-profit corporation whose mission is to explore, preserve and promote Portuguese and Portuguese-American culture and history. We welcome anyone who shares an interest in that mission. Membership in the Hall is open to all and there is no requirement that members have any Portuguese heritage. More information about the Hall and membership may be found both on the Hall's website (www.idesst.org), and on its Facebook page.

The Hall's website includes a short History page, but the Hall does not maintain any historic archives that are open to the public. However, there are a number of historic photographs displayed on its walls, and it also has an active History Committee. Any interested parties are welcome to participate in the activities of that Committee. General inquiries about any matters related to the history of the Hall (including this Guide or suggestions for its improvement) may be directed by email to history@idesst.org, or by regular mail to:

Sausalito Portuguese Hall
511 Caledonia Street
Sausalito, CA 94965

For further information about the history of Sausalito, we highly recommend Jack Tracy's "Sausalito: Moments in Time – A Pictorial History of Sausalito's First One Hundred Years: 1850-1950." A less comprehensive but equally valuable work is the soft cover "Sausalito" by the Sausalito Historical Society, part of Arcadia Publishing's "Images of America" series.

Both of those books are available through the Sausalito Historical Society which has its main office and archives on the second floor of Sausalito City Hall, as well as a facility with an concise presentation of Sausalito history at the Ice House Historical Exhibit and Visitors Center at 780 Bridgeway, across from Poggio Restaurant. More information about the Society, as well as considerable information about Sausalito history, is directly available on the Society's website at www.sausalitohistoricalsociety.com (see in particular the links there to the "Marin Scope Columns" and "Moments in Time").

For more general information about the Portuguese-American heritage in California, we recommend the materials from Portuguese Heritage Publications of California: http://portuguesebooks.org. Their website also includes a "Resources and Links" page with links to many of the Portuguese-American organizations here in Northern California and the U.S. in general.

More generally, the Tagus Press, part of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture, publishes many materials related to Portuguese-American topics and the Portuguese-speaking world. In particular, a number of the works in their "Portuguese in the Americas" series relate to California history. See http://www.portstudies.umassd.edu/publications/ .

As for physical collections of those and other related books and materials, the J.A. Freitas Library in San Leandro may be the best resource in California. See http://www.mypfsa.org/library/.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge the Regional Oral History Office ("ROAR") at the Bancroft Library at the University of California at Berkeley, which maintains the "Portuguese in California" collection with a number of transcribed oral histories of Portuguese-Americans who came from a wide range of backgrounds – see: http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/ROHO/projects/portuguese/. That collection is overseen by Professor Don Warrin, who has written extensively on Portuguese migration to the West Coast and who has been a strong supporter of our Hall.