

La Casa del Rancho Agua Hedionda
Carlsbad, San Diego County,
California.

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA #3

Historic American Buildings Survey
Henry F. Withey, District Officer
407 So. Western Avenue
Los Angeles, California.

LA CASA DEL RANCHO AGUA HEDIONDA
Carlsbad, San Diego County, California

Owner: Mr. and Mrs. John D. Hall.

Date of erection: Built in 1850 by Don Juan Maria Marron.

Architect:

Builder:

Present Condition: Original part of house fairly well preserved, additions much ruined.

Number of stories: One

Materials of construction: Foundations of field stone laid in adobe mortar, walls of sun dried brick laid in adobe mortar, plastered both sides with adobe and white washed. Present roof wood framed and shingled, wood floors upon 2x4 sleepers laid flat upon the soil.

The house as originally constructed had but four rooms and was provided with a flat roof a foot thick, built with logs, rafters, brush, sea weed and adobe. The natural soil served as a floor. In 1870 the flat roof was removed, walls increased in height, two rooms added and a framed and shingle roof placed over the entire building. In 1877 matched pine flooring was installed in all rooms, and a porch constructed on the east side, probably about the same time. The South end of the house, was, possibly in the 90's, sheathed with ship lap wood siding to protect the wall from rains and winds from the south.

Other existing records: "History of San Diego" by Wm. E. Smythe, pp. 112 & 171. "An Illustrated History of Southern California" published by the Times Publishing Co., Chicago 1890, p. 64. Photographs by L. J. Geddes at the Junipero Serra Museum, North San Diego, California.

Additional Data: The Agua Hedionda Rancho was a Mexican Grant of 13,311.01 acres made to Juan Maria Marron, in 1842. The house of the ranch is located four miles from the coast and 6 1/2 miles east of Carlsbad.

About 1860 Francis H. Hinton became the proprietor, and with his partner Robert Kelly raised cattle and horses on the rancho.

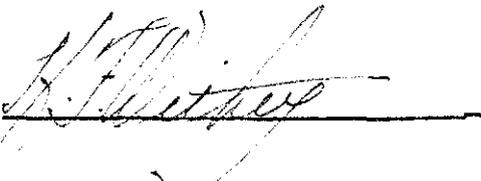
Upon Hinton's death in about 1870 Kelly became sole owner. Robert Kelly died late in 1890 and left the property to 9 children of his brother, the house and land known as lot B going to Matthew. Mrs. Hall, the present owner, is a daughter of Matthew Kelly.

Charles Kelly, a brother to Matthew Kelly, has given

the writer the following data: "I saw the old house first in December, 1868. It had adobe walls two feet thick and dirt floors, with a dirt roof about a foot thick. The round poles for rafters rested on the top of the adobe walls, the other ends laid on a heavy squared pine timber about a foot square and reaching the length of the house, about fifty feet; across these were smaller poles for sheeting, then across these were small sticks and reeds, again covered by fine brush and sea-weed to hold up about a foot of dirt, patted down as evenly as possibly to shed the rains and keep out the heat. About 1870 Mr. Hinton had the walls raised three or four feet and a new shingle roof put on and added two rooms. All the adobe work was plastered with mud and then white washed inside and out. The juice of the cactus was put in the white wash to make it stick and not rub off. Matched pine flooring was put in all the house about 1877.

"The original house had four rooms with a large fire place in one, on which I suppose the cooking was done. It would take a four foot stick and had an iron bar in the throat from which pots could be hung over the fire."

This house has not been used as a residence for many years, a more modern wood frame structure being erected thirty feet to the west of it, now occupied by the present owners.



June 1, 1937.