

Home of Don Juan Bandini
Old Town, San Diego
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

HOME OF DON JUAN BANDINI
 "Oldtown," San Diego, San Diego, County, California

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Owner: Cave J. Coutts of La Guajome Rancho, Oceanside.

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Date of erection: About 1827

2:

Architect:

Builder:

Present Condition: Very well preserved, though much altered since first built. The house originally was a one story adobe structure. A second story of wood frame construction was added in the 70's and since has been altered from time to time to suit tenants.

Number of stories: Two

Materials of construction: Foundation probably of field stone laid in adobe or lime mortar as was the general custom of the time of building. Walls of the 1st story are of sun dried adobe brick laid in adobe mortar and plastered, probably with adobe mortar and white wash. The exterior has been replastered with lime and cement mortar. Corridors floors are of cement (modern) Interior floors are of wood, part cement, and part magnasite.

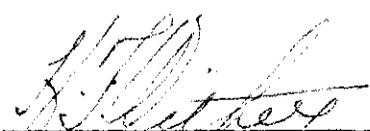
Second story is of wood frame construction plastered with cement stucco on exterior, lime plastered within. Wood framed roof construction with composition felt covering.

Porches of wood construction with baluster in 1st story of cast stone. Exterior plaster is colored yellow, sash painted white, trim green and brown, interior walls tinted, wood work painted.

Other existing records: Wm. E. Smythe, "History of San Diego" 1908, pages 133 & 164. "An Historical Sketch of Los Angeles County, California", prepared by Col. J. J. Warner, Judge Benjamin Hayes, Dr. J. P. Widney, published by Louis Lewin & Co., Los Angeles 1876 - Page 60.

Additional Data: This house was built by Juan Bandini for his own home. For a short period during the Mexican War General Stockton made it his headquarters. In about 1870 the property was purchased by A. L. Seeley who added a second story and used it as an hotel (The Cosmopolitan) in connection with his stage line between San Diego and Los Angeles.

The present owner Cave J. Coutts, the son of Ysidora Bandini Coutts recently repaired and reconditioned the structure. It is now used as a residence and boarding house.


 June 21, 1937

