



Old Town San Diego State Historic Park Scavenger Hunt

Discover the history of "The Birthplace of California" through this interactive scavenger hunt. Explore this State Historic Park to uncover the answers to the following questions. In doing so, you will be transported back in time to witness the lives of the First People, the Kumeyaay, and early Spanish, Mexican, and American settlers.

Some museums may not be open to the public during your visit. If the building is closed, only answer the questions in *italics*.*

1. Start at the Robinson-Rose House, the Visitor Center for Old Town San Diego State Historic Park.

If open, ask the staff member behind the desk about which museums to visit and which living history activities may be taking place that day. The free maps available there may help you in your search.

Maps may also be found online at

<https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/663/files/OldTownSanDiegoSHPFinalWebFile2016.pdf>

**Why is this building called "The Robinson-Rose"?*

Answer: _____ (a)

**Is this a historic building or a modern reconstruction?*

Answer: _____ (b)

2. While you are exploring the park, take a picture with a staff member or volunteer wearing 1800s clothing and ask the following questions:

Which museum is your favorite and why?

Answer: _____

Do you have a favorite story from Old Town's history? What is it?

Answer: _____

What do you like most about working or volunteering here in Old Town San Diego?

Answer: _____

3. McCoy House Museum

What is the name of the First People (Native Americans) who lived here?

Answer: _____ (a)

What name did they have for this area?

Answer: _____ (b)

What kind of structure did they live in and what material was it made from?

Answer: _____ (c)

**What was James McCoy's wife's name?*

Answer: _____ (d)

**Is this a historic building or a modern reconstruction?*

Answer: _____ (e)

3. San Diego House

This building was once owned by Richard Freeman and business partner Allen Light.

Who was Richard Freeman?

Answer: _____ (a)

Who was Allen Light?

Answer: _____ (b)

4. La Casa Machado y Silvas/Commercial Restaurant

This adobe building has served many purposes since its construction in 1843.

What objects were famously discovered hidden in the wall?

Answer: _____ (a)

**Who was this adobe home built for and in what year?*

Answer: _____ (b)

5. San Diego Courthouse

The original courthouse was the first brick building in San Diego.

Who was the first lawyer and district judge under American rule to use this courthouse?

Answer: _____ (a)

**Who constructed the original building?*

Answer: _____ (b)

**How was the original building destroyed?*

Answer: _____ (c)

6. La Casa De Machado y Stewart

This is an original home built by Jose Manuel Machado after Mexico won its independence from Spain in 1821.

What was Jose Manuel Machado's career before this area became Mexico?

Answer: _____ (a)

What material is the home made from?

Answer: _____ (b)

In what year was it built?

Answer: _____ (c)

7. Mason Street School

If the schoolhouse is open, ask the school teacher the following questions:

What would happen to women school teachers if they got married?

Answer: _____ (a)

Who was Miss Mary Chase Walker?

Answer: _____ (b)

** What year was the very first public school in San Diego opened?*

Answer: _____ (c)

**Is this a historic building or a modern reconstruction?*

Answer: _____ (d)

8. San Diego Union Newspaper Museum

This structure was the first home of the San Diego Union newspaper.

Who were the two partners who began publishing the San Diego Union, and what was the name of the press they used?

Answer: _____ (a)

**When was the first issue of the San Diego Union printed?*

Answer: _____ (b)

9. Seeley Stable Museum

This barn served the Cosmopolitan Hotel during the days when Albert Seeley ran the stage line to Los Angeles and operated the hotel.

How long did it take to get to Los Angeles from San Diego by stagecoach?

Answer: _____ (a)

What was the Cosmopolitan before it became a hotel?

Answer: _____ (b)

**What was the stable used for?*

Answer: _____ (c)

**Is this a historic building or a modern reconstruction?*

Answer: _____ (d)

10. Black Hawk Livery & Blacksmith

Find the blacksmith working in the forge and ask the following questions:

What material does a blacksmith work with? Why are they called "blacksmiths"?

Answer: _____ (a)

What items can a blacksmith make?

Answer: _____ (b)

Were there women blacksmiths in the 1800s?

Answer: _____ (c)

**What was the original shop used for in 1871?*

Answer: _____ (d)

11. La Casa de Estudillo

Explore this historic hacienda and answer the following questions. The answers may be found inside the museum, or outside if closed.

In what year did the Estudillo family begin construction on this home? Is this a historic building or a modern reconstruction?

Answer: _____ (a)

What was the profession of Jose Maria Estudillo and where was he born?

Answer: _____ (b)

The history of this building is connected to a famous novel written in 1885 about a Native American heroine. What is the name of the book and whom was it written by?

Answer: _____ (c)

Who was the architect that restored this building after the turn of the century?

Answer: _____ (d)

12. La Plaza De Armas

The park plaza was at one time the center of San Diego. Go towards the flagpole and find the plaque to answer the following questions.

In what year was the American flag raised and by who?

Answer: _____ (a)

Answers:**Robinson-Rose House**

- (a) In 1853, this building was home to James Robinson and later sold to Louis Rose, a German-Jewish entrepreneur.
- (b) Reconstruction. This is not the original building built in 1853 but a reconstructed copy of the original in the same location.

McCoy House

- (a) The Kumeyaay - The local Native American people lived here for thousands of years before European contact. Their small, independent bands lived semi-nomadic lifestyles, moving from place to place according to the seasons.
- (b) Kosa'aay (or Cosoy) - During the summer months, the Kumeyayy people would live in this area, called Kosa'aay. In the winter, they would retreat inland, gathering in larger villages. The lives of the First People, the Kumeyaay, were drastically changed once the Spanish began settling in the area.
- (c) 'E-waas - The Kumeyayy lived in temporary dome shaped structures called 'e-waas, constructed from local plant life.
- (d) Winifred Kearny.
- (e) Reconstructed in 2000.

San Diego House

- (a) An African American who opened this saloon in 1847. Richard Freeman was a deputy city marshal and entrepreneur during the Mexican period of San Diego's history.
- (b) A freeborn African American ship steward. Allen Light was a mariner who hunted sea otters, gained Mexican citizenship and guarded the California coastline against poachers.

La Casa de Machado y Silvas/Commercial Restaurant

- (a) Allen Light's freedom papers - The "free papers" of Allen Light, and a letter from Governor Juan Bautista Alvarado authorizing Light to pursue a ship known to be poaching sea otters were found within the walls of this adobe home. Before the abolition of slavery, legally free African Americans were required to register with county courts and secure Certificates of Freedom, also known as "freedom papers".
- (b) Built in the early 1840s by Jose Manuel Machado as a wedding present to his daughter Maria Antonia.

San Diego Courthouse

- (a) Joshua H. Bean, brother of the infamous Judge Roy Bean.
- (b) Reconstructed in 1992.
- (c) The original was destroyed in the 1872 fire.

La Casa De Machado y Stewart

- (a) Corporal at the Spanish Presidio.
- (b) Adobe.
- (c) 1835.

Mason Street School

- (a) She would have to resign. Many women school teachers were forced to resign after marriage until it was outlawed by the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- (b) Mary Chase Walker was San Diego's very first public school teacher.
- (c) 1865.
- (d) Original, but not in its original location.

San Diego Union Newspaper Museum

- (a) Col. William Jeff Gatewood and Edward W. Bushyhead used a Washington Hand Press to publish the *San Diego Union*.
- (b) October 10, 1868.

Seeley Stable

- (a) Depending on what source you use, either 22 hours or 35 hours over two days, staying overnight in San Juan Capistrano.
- (b) La Casa de Bandini, an adobe hacienda.
- (c) Horses were stored here for Albert Seeley's stagecoach line between Los Angeles and San Diego.

(d) Reconstructed in 1974.

Black Hawk Livery & Blacksmith

- (a) Black iron and steel. They are called “blacksmiths” because of the color of the metal.
- (b) Anything! If you can make it out of clay or playdough, you can make it out of iron.
- (c) Yes, there have been women blacksmiths throughout history.
- (d) In 1871, it was used as a livery and blacksmith shop for Albert Seeley’s stagecoach business.

La Casa de Estudillo

- (a) 1829.
- (b) Commandant of the Spanish Presidio/ Born in Andalusia, Spain.
- (c) *Ramona* by Helen Hunt Jackson.
- (d) Hazel Wood Waterman.

La Plaza De Armas

- (a) 1846 by Lt. Stephen C. Rowan and squadron of U.S. Marines.

*More information available at the state park website: www.parks.ca.gov (search: Old Town)
Download a park brochure with map: www.parks.ca.gov/pages/663/files/OldSanDiego.pdf.*