

Park

Art and Architecture Storyline

County

[\(see also online e-Museum exhibits & collections\)](#)

[Asilomar State Beach](#)

Largest collection of Julia Morgan's arts and crafts architecture in one location. With her degree in engineering from UC Berkeley, in 1894 Morgan received the first certificate in architecture ever awarded to a woman by L'Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. See also Hearst San Simeon SHM below. See online: **Self-Guided Tours** and **Architect Julia Morgan: A Blueprint for Success**.

Monterey

[California State Capitol Museum](#)

Designed by architects M.F. Butler and Reuben Clark, the State Capitol exemplifies public architecture of its period and remains the working seat of government. It was built with Sierra granite transported by the Central Pacific RR and hauled to the site by a very early steam-powered tractor. Houses several California-themed art collections of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Sacramento

[Emerald Bay SP](#)

Vikingsholm is one of the finest examples of Scandinavian architecture in the Western Hemisphere; Lora Josephine Knight and Swedish architect Lennart Palme traveled to Scandinavia to gather design ideas. Their skilled craftsmen used tools and methods of the middle ages to build with native granite and timber from the Tahoe Basin. The sod roof, carved dragon beams, hand forged hardware, and carefully chosen art and furnishings completed her Norse 'castle' at the head of fjord-like Emerald Bay.

EI Dorado

[Hearst San Simeon SHM](#)

Over a 28-year period, architect Julia Morgan collaborated with William R. Hearst to create the world-famous Hearst Castle -- the 115-room main house as well as guesthouses, pools, and 8 acres of cultivated gardens. The main house is a grand showcase for Hearst's fabled collection of European antiques and art pieces. See online collection: **Architect Julia Morgan: A Blueprint for Success**.

San Luis Obispo

[La Purisima Mission SHP](#)

La Purisima Mission is considered the most completely restored mission in California, with ten Spanish-period adobes fully furnished, including the church, shops, living quarters, and blacksmith shop. Restoration of ruined structures accomplished during the Depression by skilled CCC crews supervised by National Parks craftsmen.

Santa Barbara

[Malibu Lagoon SB](#)

The Adamson House, overlooking the famed Malibu Pier and Surfrider Beach, is a blufftop showplace of Malibu history and style. Designed by Stiles O. Clements in 1929, the Spanish Colonial Revival home displays the best collection of decorative tile and other ceramics ever produced by Malibu Potteries. The company included talented artists and craftsmen and their catalogue a great variety of colorful pieces shipped all over the world. The home was built for Merritt Huntley Adamson and Rhoda Rindge Adamson, daughter of the last owners of the vast Rancho Malibu Spanish grant.

Los Angeles

[Monterey SHP](#)

Birthplace of the Monterey Colonial style at Larkin House, Monterey preserves a collection of structures that date from the Spanish and Mexican periods. Monterey Colonial is a style developed in *Alta California*, involving two stories, porches, a hip roof, and adobe walls. Thought to have originated with Thomas O. Larkin, some consider it "a New England saltbox built with California materials."

Monterey

[PORTS Program -- Hearst San Simeon SHM](#)

PORTS: Ancient Civilizations Unit, including live videoconference, explores the art and architecture of the ancient Greeks and Romans through the lens of museum collections and historic structures of Hearst Castle.

Statewide

[San Juan Bautista SHP](#)

The buildings of the San Juan Bautista Plaza provide an intact example of traditional Spanish-Mexican colonial architecture that date from between 1813 and 1870. The Mission building itself continues as an active Catholic church since 1812; much of the decorated altar and pulpit date from that time. See also the nearby San Andreas Fault which has damaged the complex several times in its history.

Monterey

[Sonoma SHP](#)

Restored Mexican-period adobes around a traditional plaza which was the scene of the Bear Flag revolt. Sampling of later architectural styles & materials, including Vallejo's Home, a lovely Carpenter Gothic which began as a pre-fab "catalog house." Sonoma Mission building houses Jørgensen Collection; see also online: **Chris Jørgensen - California Pioneer Artist** (water colors of California Missions as they appeared in 1903-04)

Sonoma

[Weaverville Joss House SHP](#)

The Taoist-style *Temple of the Forest Beneath the Clouds* is the oldest continuously used Chinese temple in California. The wooden structure was built by the Chinese community in 1874 as a replacement for an earlier temple on the site that had burned. On display are ornate and original art objects, pictures, and figurines that illustrate the Chinese tradition in California.

Trinity