

Alameda Historic Tour – Alameda Loop Shuttle

Alameda General – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Routes



Ohlone (also known as Costanoan or Muwekma) Native Americans: Located in Alameda and Oakland south to Big Sur, and totaled 10,000 in 1770s and 500 today. Alameda was a densely forested peninsula covered in oak trees. The Ohlones had sustainable practices to guarantee the renewal of plants and animals in the future.



Gold Rush Settlers: In the mid-1800s, people flocked to California during the Gold Rush and to Alameda to farm and to work at the waterfront, especially after the estuary was dredged in 1902 to create an island community. Streetcars traveled to/from Oakland and to the west end where San Francisco commuters took the ferry, especially after the 1906 earthquake. (Photo: Park Street)



U.S. Post Office (now Kaiser Alameda): This Spanish Colonial Revival on Central Avenue at Park Avenue was built in 1914 by William A Newman, and was enlarged in 1932. The Spanish Colonial Revival is one of several historic styles adapted from the Mediterranean. The round arched windows resemble a mission-style arcade and the red clay-tile roofs were common during this era.

Sources: Dutcher, Greta and Rowland, Stephen, "Postcard History Series – Alameda" and "Images of America – Alameda", Arcadia Publishing, 2005 and 2009.

Wilson, Mark A, "East Bay Heritage: A Potpourri of Living History," A California Living Book, 1979.



Alameda Theatre: Located on Central Avenue between Park Street and Oak Street, it represents the Art Deco or Zigzag Moderne style with the bas-relief stylized floral panels, projecting vertical slabs, steel-framed doors and the circular Islamic decorative motif. Pfleuger and Miller designed this building in 1923, which opened in 1932 with a seating capacity of over 2,000. The City of Alameda led the effort to renovate and reopen it in 2008.



City Hall: Located on Santa Clara Avenue at Oak Street, City Hall was designed by Percy and Hamilton in the Romanesque Revival style and was constructed in 1896 with this original 120-foot-tall clock tower, which was damaged in the 1906 earthquake so was removed. City Hall originally was used as the police and fire departments as well as the jail. It is one of the oldest City Hall buildings still in use in California.



Carnegie Library: Opened in 1903 on Santa Clara Avenue at Oak Street across the street from City Hall after the philanthropist Andrew Carnegie gave a \$35,000 grant for its construction. This building is a Roman Renaissance design with Corinthian columns, and is the second oldest municipal building in Alameda.



Alameda Hospital (formerly the Alameda Sanitarium): The first medical facility in Alameda opened in 1894 by a registered nurse Kate Creedon and her sisters Mae and Margaret. The expanded bay side facility shown in this photo also included a nursing school. The current hospital on this site was designed by architect Edward T. Foulkes, and opened in 1925 as a 110 room facility.

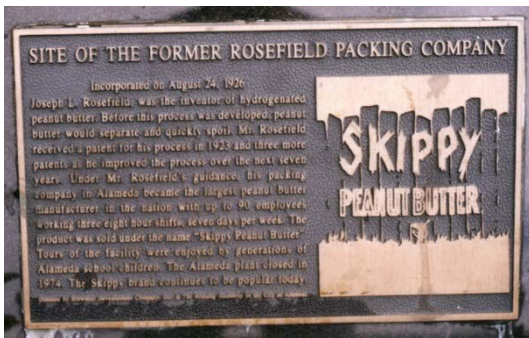
West End Route – Tuesday Alameda Loop Shuttle Schedule



Webster Street – Croll's Building: In the late 1800s, German American beer gardens existed on Webster Street and Central Avenue, which then gave way to the resort boom in 1915 with the Palm Beach Resort and in 1917 with the Neptune Beach Resort.



Railroad History: Alameda was the site of the First Transcontinental Railroad as stated on the plaque located on Lincoln Avenue at Webster Street: "On September 6, 1869, First Transcontinental Railroad train linking two great oceans and consisting of twelve cars and three locomotives passed here on way to a wharf terminal west of here, a location now covered by lagoon for take-off trans-pacific planes and within confines present U.S. Naval Air Station original celebration held near this spot."



Skippy Peanut Butter: A plaque that resides on Webster Street at Eagle Avenue states that Joseph L. Rosefield invented a process in the 1920s that increased the shelf life of peanut butter and created a smooth texture. The packing company in Alameda became the largest peanut butter manufacturer in the nation with up to 90 employees until it closed in 1974. The Skippy brand continues to be popular today.



Washington Park: At Eighth Street and Central Avenue, Washington Park is almost 15 acres, and opened in 1909 originally as an oak grove with an adjacent white sand beach. The ball field annex on Central Avenue was a bay shore mansion in the late 1800s until it burned down in 1909. The site then became Palm Beach resort from 1915 until 1918 when the City purchased it for \$47,000.

Source: Minor, Woodruff, "Alameda at Play: A Century of Public Parks and Recreation in a Bay Area City"

East End Route – Wednesday Alameda Loop Shuttle Schedule



Lincoln Park: Is located on High Street at Santa Clara Avenue, and totals almost 8 acres. In 1908, the City acquired the land for \$40,000 from the Thompsons of the former estate, which was one of the City's greatest mansions in 1881 designed by architect William Patton. In 1884, it was destroyed by a fire. The park was named for the former president Abraham Lincoln to commemorate the centennial of his birthday in 1909. When the City renovated the property, Ohlone burial grounds

were discovered as stated in the park's plaque: "The remains of 450 Indians, with stone implements and shell ornaments were found when the mound was removed in 1908."



Farming History: Native Americans called Bay Farm Island "Wind Whistle Island." In the 1850s, squatters began to settle here. The reclamation of the Bay Farm marshlands began in 1872 with the purchase by 6-8 families. Farmers are recorded as having grown lettuce, asparagus, berries and hops. By the late 1800s, the oyster beds began to disappear due to pollution and the ducks and wild game were seldom seen due to extensive hunting.



Bay Farm Island Community: In 1854, Aughinbaugh and Chipman constructed a bridge between Bay Farm Island and the main island of Alameda. In 1872, Alameda was incorporated, and included Bay Farm Island and the main island of Alameda. In 1879, the farming community financed the construction of this school house shown in the photo. In 1941, the federal government investigated the construction of a bridge between Bay Farm Island and Hunter's Point in San Francisco, which was not constructed.

Sources: <http://theonlywrittenhistoryofbayfarmisland.blogspot.com/2010/05/secondary-sources.html>

CA State Dept. of Education, Federal Works Agency, Work Projects Administration, "Alameda: The Island City" Minor, Woodruff, "Alameda at Play: A Century of Public Parks and Recreation in a Bay Area City"