

Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation  
Presidio Research Center

**GUIDE TO THE PEARL CHASE PAPERS  
1833-1982 (bulk 1925-1976)**

**DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY**

**Title:** Pearl Chase Papers

**Collection Number:** MS-01

**Creator:** Chase, Pearl

**Size of Collection:** ca. 10 linear feet (26 boxes)

**Abstract:** Correspondence, documents, and photographs of preservationist and community activist Pearl Chase.

**Location:** Mezzanine. For information regarding the use of these materials, please consult the librarian.

**ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Acquisition Information:** Given to the Trust as part of the estate of Pearl Chase.

**Access Restrictions:** Lantern slides are not available for use at this time.

**Use Restrictions:** All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Director of Historic Resources. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation Research Center as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the reader.

**Preferred Citation:** Pearl Chase Papers, MS-01, Presidio Research Center, Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation.

**Processing Information:** Arrangement and description by Research Center and Trust staff. Finding aid written by M. Kester, 2004, revised by L. Hannah 2008.

**HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Pearl Chase (1888-1979) was a prominent Santa Barbara citizen and a tireless community activist. Emphasizing the preservation of Santa Barbara's natural beauty and the promotion of public health and general welfare, Miss Chase devoted her energy to shaping Santa Barbara's architectural style to reflect its Spanish colonial past. Ms. Chase spearheaded the work of historic preservation that restored the Santa Barbara Presidio and many of Santa Barbara's original adobes, and helped create the distinctive look of El Pueblo Viejo, Santa Barbara's core historic district. She was lauded at the state and local level on many occasions and won the National Award for Historic Preservation in 1973.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTES

The Pearl Chase Collection includes documents, correspondence, and photographs relating primarily to her activities with El Cuartel, El Presidio, the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation, historic preservation in Santa Barbara County, and includes a collection of her personal notes and papers relating to her broader philanthropic work.

The collection is divided into the following series:

- 1. El Cuartel-** Press releases, purchasing information, staffing, exhibit and curatorial information, physical condition and restoration, and El Cuartel Committee meeting minutes.
- 2. Santa Barbara Trust and Presidio Park-** SBTHP documents regarding legal issues, finances, dealings with state and local government entities, historic preservation state and national legislation, and related Trust correspondence from 1950-1982.
- 3. Santa Barbara Historic Survey-** Site questionnaires, legislation, and Landmarks Committee documents.
- 4. Architectural Advisory Committee-** Correspondence from the years 1925 to 1927.
- 5. Historic Preservation-** Press clippings, historical essays, legislative documents, various committee meeting minutes and correspondence, materials relating to broader move supporting historic preservation in California and the U.S.
- 6. Santa Barbara Presidio-** documents and correspondence relating to the restoration and rebuilding of El Presidio, including planning and execution stages.
- 7. Pearl Chase-Correspondence and Personal-** Personal correspondence, records, receipts, and reprints of articles.
- 8. Adobes-** Background information, maps, correspondence, and related information on historic adobes in Santa Barbara County.
- 9. Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP)-** President's reports, meetings from monthly and annual meetings, articles of incorporation and by laws, correspondence, logos, maps, deeds, ephemera, membership lists, and financial and treasurer's reports.
- 10. Miscellaneous**
- 11. Scrapbooks and Binders**
- 12. Lantern Slides**—26 boxes (660 items) of black and white and colored lantern slides, 3 x 4 inches, of various trips taken by Pearl Chase from around 1914 to the mid 1920s. Subjects include: Boston, New York state, Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Washington DC, Oregon, and California. Many views of Santa Barbara include the 1925 earthquake, the harbor area, downtown, and individual houses. A large number of images are of Yosemite National Park.

## RELATED COLLECTIONS

UCSB, Davidson Library, Special Collections. Community Development Collection.

## SEPARATED MATERIALS

Photographs from Pearl Chase's papers were removed and incorporated into the Trust's Photograph Collection.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Barker, Roseanne Maries. *Smalltown Progressivism: Pearl Chase and Female Activism Santa Barbara, 1909-1929*. UCSB Dissertation, 1994.

Farley, Marco. *The Legacy of Pearl Chase*. Santa Barbara, CA: Santa Barbara Historical Society, 1988.

Hata, Nadine Ishitani. *The Historic Preservation Movement in California, 1940-1976*. Sacramento, CA: Office of Historic Preservation, 1992.

Tompkins, Walker A. *Santa Barbara History Makers*. Santa Barbara, CA: McNally and Loftin, 1983.

## CONTAINER LIST

### SERIES 1: EL CUARTEL.

Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	El Cuartel Committee: SBTHP
	2-3	Repair and Restoration
	4	Adobe
	5	Inventory
	6	Exhibits
	7	Exhibits-Alma S. Whittlin Correspondence
	8	Open House, 12/04/1966
	9	Press Releases
	10	Staffing
	11	Documents Relating to Purchase
	12	Re: Gift to State

### SERIES 2: SANTA BARBARA TRUST AND PRESIDIO PARK

Box	Folder	Contents
1	13	Royal Presidio: Joint Powers Committee Documents
	14	Finances
	15	Legal
	16	State Dept. of Parks and Recreation
	17	Presidio Press Releases

18		Legislation (City, County, State)
2	1	Lots
	2	Presidio Correspondence (1950-1959)
	3	SBTHP Correspondence (1960-1967)
	4	SBTHP Correspondence (1968)
	5	SBTHP Correspondence (1969)
	6	SBTHP Correspondence (1970)
	7	SBTHP Correspondence (1971)
	8	SBTHP Correspondence (1972-1982)
	9	Minutes (SBTHP, Joint Powers Committee, Plans and Planting Committee, CA State Park and Recreation Commission)
	10	Walker, John W. "Phase Three Summary: SB Royal Presidio Chapel Excavation"

### **SERIES 3: SANTA BARBARA HISTORIC SURVEY**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Contents</b>
2	11	SB Historic Survey: Site Questionnaires (Photocopies)
	12	SB Historic Survey: Site Questionnaires (Photocopies)
	13	SB Historic Survey: Site Questionnaires (Originals)
	14	SB Historic Survey: Site Questionnaires (Originals)
3	1	SB Historic Survey: Site Questionnaires (Originals)
	2	SB Historic Survey: Site Questionnaires (Originals)
	3	SB Historic Survey: Building Questionnaires (Originals)
	4	City Advisory Landmarks Committee

### **SERIES 4: ARCHITECTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AAC)**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Contents</b>
3	5	AAC Correspondence, 1925 (Bernhard Hoffmann)
	6	AAC Correspondence, 1926 (Bernhard Hoffmann)
	7	AAC Correspondence, 1927 (Bernhard Hoffmann)

### **SERIES 5: HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Contents</b>
3	8	Press Clippings [not in box—see Box 10]
	9	Essays-Historic Background
	10	Federal, State, and County Legislative Materials
	11	Advisory Landmark Committee, Minutes (1970-1975)
	12	Advisory Landmark Committee, Minutes (1966-1969)
	13	Archaeological, 1972
	14	Historic Preservation
4	1	SBTHP: Meetings and Associated Correspondence (1957-1963)
	2	SBTHP: Meetings and Associated Correspondence (1964-1967)

3	Portola Trek: Historic Background
4	SBTHP: Correspondence (1968)
5	SBTHP: Articles of Incorporation and Seal
6	Plans and Planting Committee: Preliminary Outlines for Historic Preservation in Santa Barbara (1956)
7	Plans and Planting Committee Correspondence (1957-1966)
8	SBTHP Correspondence (1971-1972)
9	SBTHP Correspondence (1958-1968)
10	Historic Preservation in California-Misc.
11	Historic Preservation Month, 1964, "The Golden Trail of History"
12	National Trust for Historic Preservation
13	National Trust for Historic Preservation

**SERIES 6: SANTA BARBARA PRESIDIO**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Contents</b>
5	1	General Files: Preservation and Presidio Material
	2	Fr. Maynard Geiger: Reprints
	3	Introductory Report
	4	Presidio and Adobes
	5	Historic Background
	6	State Park Commission Dinner (1969)
	7	Documents Relating to Funds from State Bond Acts (1959-1968)
	8	Parking, 131 E. Canon Perdido Street
	9	SB Presidio Restoration Project-Menzies articles and reprints
	10	Bibliographies-SB History
	11	Presidio Restoration-Press Clippings
	12	Acquisition and Progress Reports
	13	SB Adobes, Presidio, and Pueblo Viejo-Mapping and Surveys
	14	Fr. Junipero Serra Letter-Reprint
	15	"This Week in Santa Barbara" articles
	16	Glenn W. Price Correspondence
	17	Cooperators Committee
	18	Correspondence
	19	Historic Survey-Introductory Statement
	20	Meetings
6	1	Progress Reports
	2	Historic Landmarks-Historic Places Marked
	3	San Simeon and El Pueblo de Los Angeles Trips
	4	Historic American Buildings Survey
	5	Lompoc-Santa Ynez
	6	Foxen Canyon-Gaviota
	7	Carpinteria
	8	Trussel-Winchester Adobe
	9	El Presidio-El Paseo
	10	Covarrubias Adobe

	11	SB Courthouse
	12	SB Mission and Surroundings
	13	800 Block Santa Barbara Street
	14	Sailor's Sycamore
	15	Santa Barbara County Historic Survey
	16	Miscellaneous Markings
	17	SBTHP and SB City and County Collaboration on Historic Preservation: El Presidio and El Pueblo Viejo
	18	Presidio Preliminary Study (1956-1957)
	19	Presidio Preliminary Study (1958)
	20	Presidio Preliminary Study (1959)
	21	Presidio Preliminary Study (1961)
	22	Presidio Chapel Site-Demolition and Construction
	23	Feasibility Study, Report, and Master Plan
	24	Conservation Proposal, Photographic Reprints, Misc.
	25	Presidio Project, Miscellaneous Reference
	26	Photocopies of Maps and Preliminary Reports
	27-28	Miscellaneous
7	1	Miscellaneous
	2-4	Presidio Unsorted
	5	"El Presidio Real de California," Program Covers and Content Lists
	6	SB Presidio "Should be Preserved as a State Historical Monument

#### **SERIES 7: PEARL CHASE CORRESPONDENCE AND PERSONAL**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Contents</b>
7	7-8	Personal Records (Three Ring Binder) Insurance Policies
	9	Correspondence (1970-1976)
8	1	Correspondence (1968-1969)
	2	Correspondence (1963-1967)
	3	Correspondence (1958-1962)
	4	Correspondence (1939-1957)
	5	Miscellaneous Correspondence, Receipts
	6	Reprints, Sunset Magazine

#### **SERIES 8: ADOBES**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Contents</b>
8		Adobes Open House (binder)
9	1	General Information-Background, Maps, Correspondence
	2	The Redbarn and La Cuesta Adobe-Historic Landmarks
	3	Adobe Open House—See also Adobe binder
	4	Hope House

5	Casa de la Guerra
6	Hollister Adobe
7	The Stow House-Goleta
8	Rochin-Birabent Adobe
9	Trust-Harcourt-Brace Adobe
10	Adobe Books
11	Covarrubias Adobe-Dedication of Adobes-Miscellaneous
12	Ruiz Adobe

**SERIES 9: SANTA BARBARA TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
(SBTHP)**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Contents</b>
9	13	President's Reports
	14	Maps, Title Transfers, and Associated Correspondence
	15-16	Correspondence
	17	Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws
	18	Deeds and Estate Documents
10	1-2	Government (State and Local) Documents and Correspondence
	3	SB Historic Landmarks Survey Committee
	4	Logo
	5	Financial and Treasurers Reports (1959-1976)
	6	Membership Lists, Financial Reports
	7	Minutes of Monthly and Annual Meetings (1970-1976)
	8	Minutes and Reports (1959-1969)
	9	Historic Landmarks Advisory Committee Ephemera

**SERIES 10: MISCELLANEOUS**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Contents</b>
10	10	SBTHP Press Clippings
	11	SB Mission-Historic Parks, Water Works Historic Landmark April 21, 1957
	12	Pearl Chase-National Award for Historic Preservation (1973)
	13	Evans Party and Reception, 07/21/1966
11	1	Isabela Ana Larkin (Baptismal Record), 1833 (typed copy)
	2	Old Mission
	3	"Pioneer Spanish California," Draft
	4	Dwight Murphy Records
	5	John Frederick Murphy-Press Clippings
	6	Pamphlets and Articles-SB History
	7	SB Mission Archive Library
	8	Stonehenge Study Group
	9	SBTHP-"Trail of History"
	10	Samarkand Hills and Oak Park Tract Maps-Mrs. Jackson G. Kuhn, 1960

11,12	Miscellaneous
13	[Historic References]
14	Press Clippings, Research Papers, Maps
15	Maps, Reports, Drawings
16	Community Arts Association (CAA)
17	Garden Tours 1948
Oversize folder	Commendations and awards

### **SERIES 11: SCRAPBOOKS AND BINDERS**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Contents</b>
12	Santa Barbara Trust Community Dinner, Dec. 4, 1971 (Binder) Old Historical Markers/Historic Landmarks Correspondence (Binder) Printed material El Presidio (Binder)
13	Scrapbook—Trust for Historic Preservation
14	Scrapbook about Pearl Chase Receiving Neasham Award, 1977 Photo album

### **SERIES 12: LANTERN SLIDES**

**Photo Box**  
15-26