

HISTORY CENTER

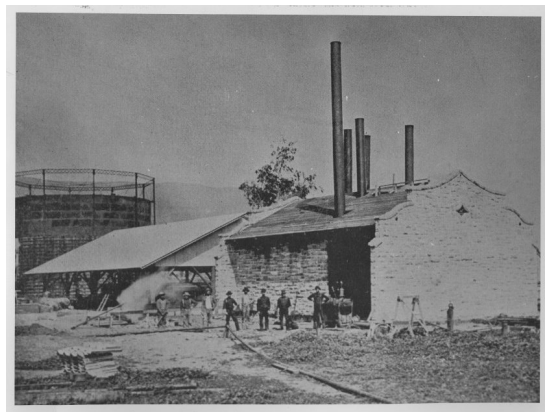
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

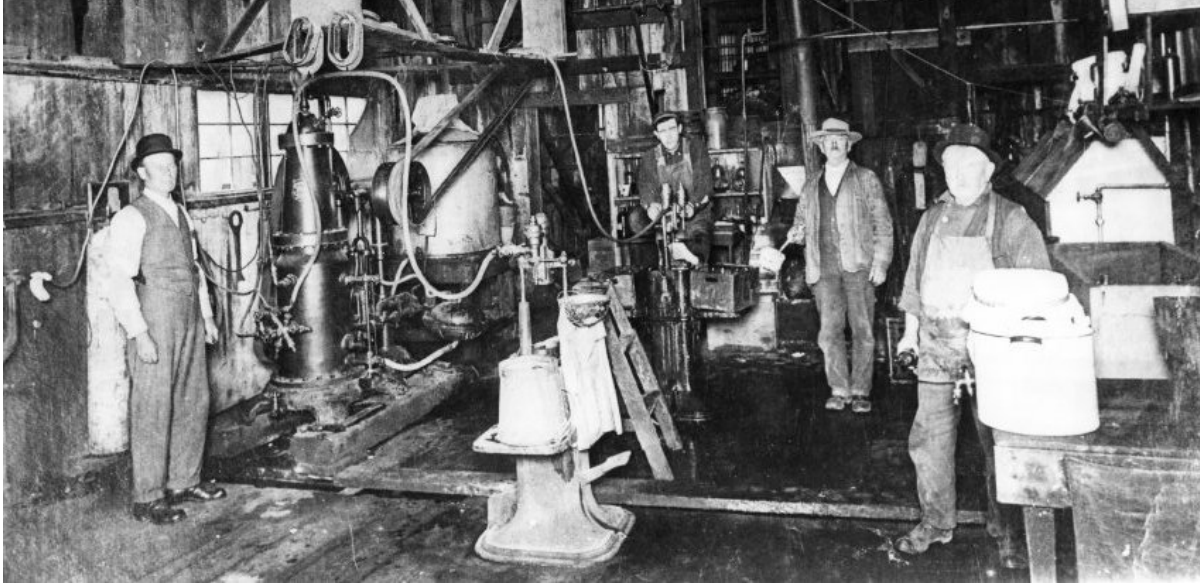
A Curious Industrial Remnant



One of the more frequent questions that we receive at the History Center has to do with a small stone building in a large empty lot on Pismo Street, just a couple of blocks up from Higuera.

Built in 1904, this structure housed the San Luis Obispo Gas and Electric Company, which used it for the industrial process of converting raw fossil fuels like coal and oil into gas suitable for lighting homes.





As one can imagine, this was not a clean process - nor one free of risks. Fire broke out in 1907, seriously burning an engineer and destroying the nearby buildings on the same lot that generated San Luis Obispo's electricity - the city was without power for days.

The yellow Caen stone was quarried from Arroyo Grande. The same stone was used - along with brick and dacite porphyry from Cerro San Luis - to construct the Carnegie Library that houses the History Center Museum.



Current image courtesy of Google Maps

After changing hands numerous times over the decades, PG&E purchased the land in 2009 in order to conduct remediation work. In 2017, 900 truckloads of contaminated soil was removed from the site, and PG&E continues to monitor groundwater from a testing well on the property.

July 4 Pancake Breakfast

Monday July 4th, enjoy a pancake breakfast at Camp San Luis Obispo, followed by a unique opportunity to take a self-guided walking and/or driving tour to view the outstanding and seldom-seen historic attractions of this significant military base that played such a critical role in training nine divisions of infantry during World War II.

[Click here for more information or to get your ticket.](#)



[So much to do! Click here to learn more.](#)

Seasons of Fun at the Dallidet!

We've got a busy summer at the Dallidet ahead of us! [Visit our website](#) for more information about:

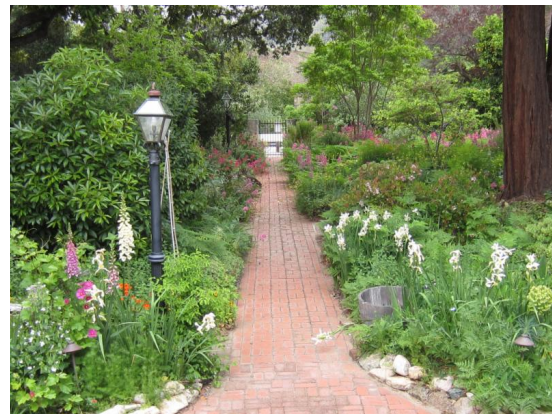
- The return of the Watercolor Workshop on July 30th
- The Dallidet Parisian Luncheon on August 13th
- La Fiesta de las Dallidet, celebrating the lives of the Dallidet daughters on October 22nd

The Return of Mindfulness

We are very excited for Mindfulness to return for the fourth year in a row! This is a chance to engage your senses in the beauty of the Dallidet gardens.

We will be offering monthly sessions in June, July, August, and Sept.

[Visit our website for more information](#)



Walking Tours

All summer long, we will be offering free walking tours of Mission Plaza on Saturday mornings. Meet at 10:00 am at the History Center, 696 Monterey Street.



You can also take one of our self-guided walking tours, or watch our playlist on YouTube - [just visit our website to learn more!](#)

Ways You Can Help History

There's no limit to the ways you can help your History Center.

- Do you shop on Amazon? Use [Amazon Smile](#) to generate donations for the History Center without costing you anything extra.
- Do you have time and want to get involved? You can join a committee - from education to fundraising, you can make a difference. [Email us](#) to find out more.



Thomas Kessler
Executive Director



History Center of San Luis Obispo County | 696 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

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