



The Alameda Museum

A report to the City Council

Presented by Dennis Evanosky, President, Alameda Museum Board of Directors



A museum at home in Alameda



The museum began life in the basement of the Carnegie Library, pictured on the left, in 1951. It remained there for 30 years. In 1981 the museum moved into the former auto shop at Alameda High School.

On Alameda Avenue



The museum moved to its current location on Alameda Avenue in 1991. The facility offers permanent displays of Alameda history, the only rotating gallery showcasing local Alameda artists and student artwork, as well as souvenirs, books and videos about the rich history of the Island City.

In the beginning



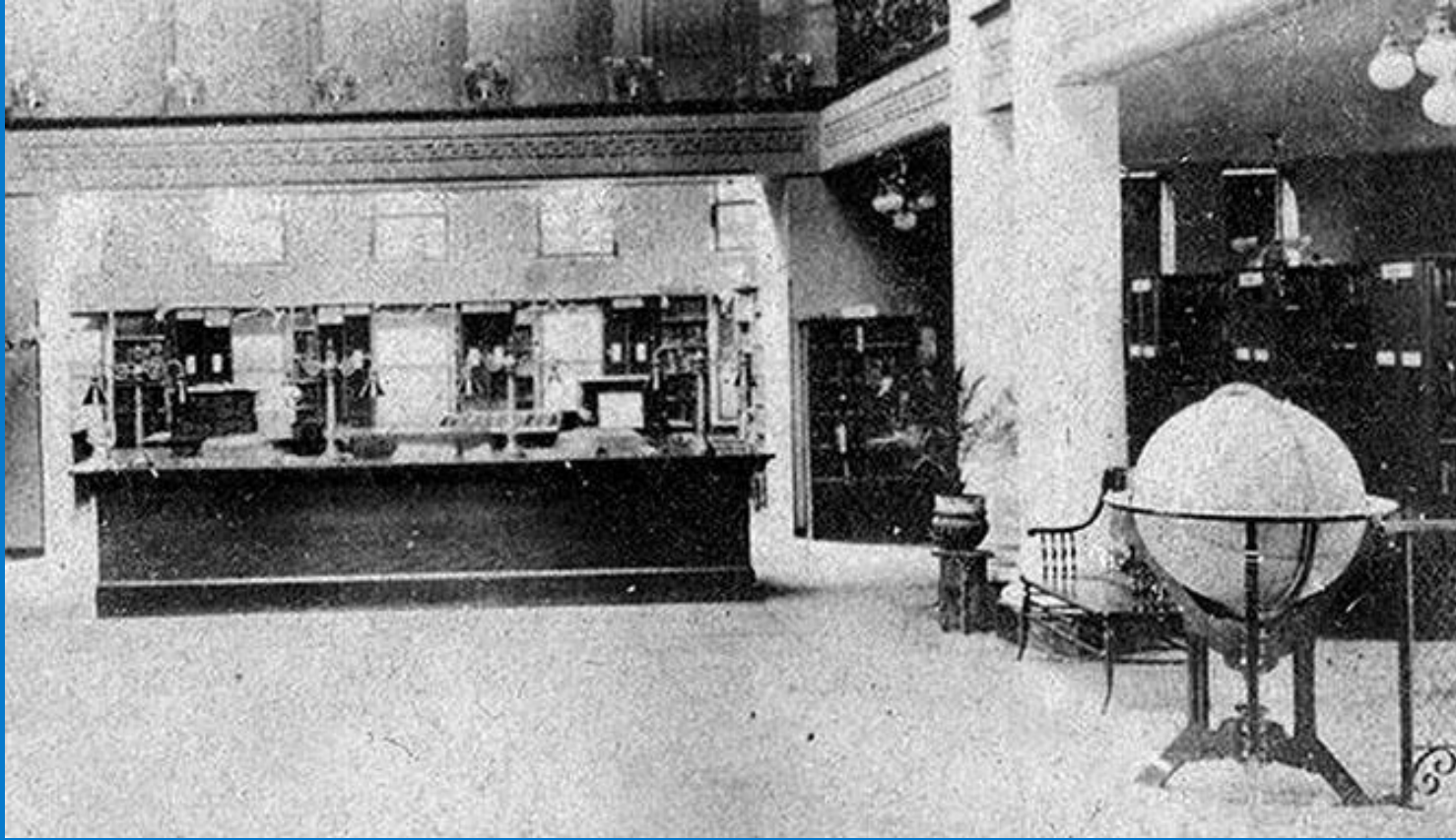
The museum's collection includes artifacts from the shell mound that once stood on the East End. The Ohlone tribe inhabited what became Alameda until the Spanish arrived here in the late 18th century.

Welcome to Frank's



The furnishings from Frank's Barbershop, which was on Lincoln Avenue during the 1930s, includes, a barber chair, magazines from the era and a wall card announcing a hike in the price of a haircut to \$1.75. Frank's nephew, Chuck Corica, cut hair in this shop.

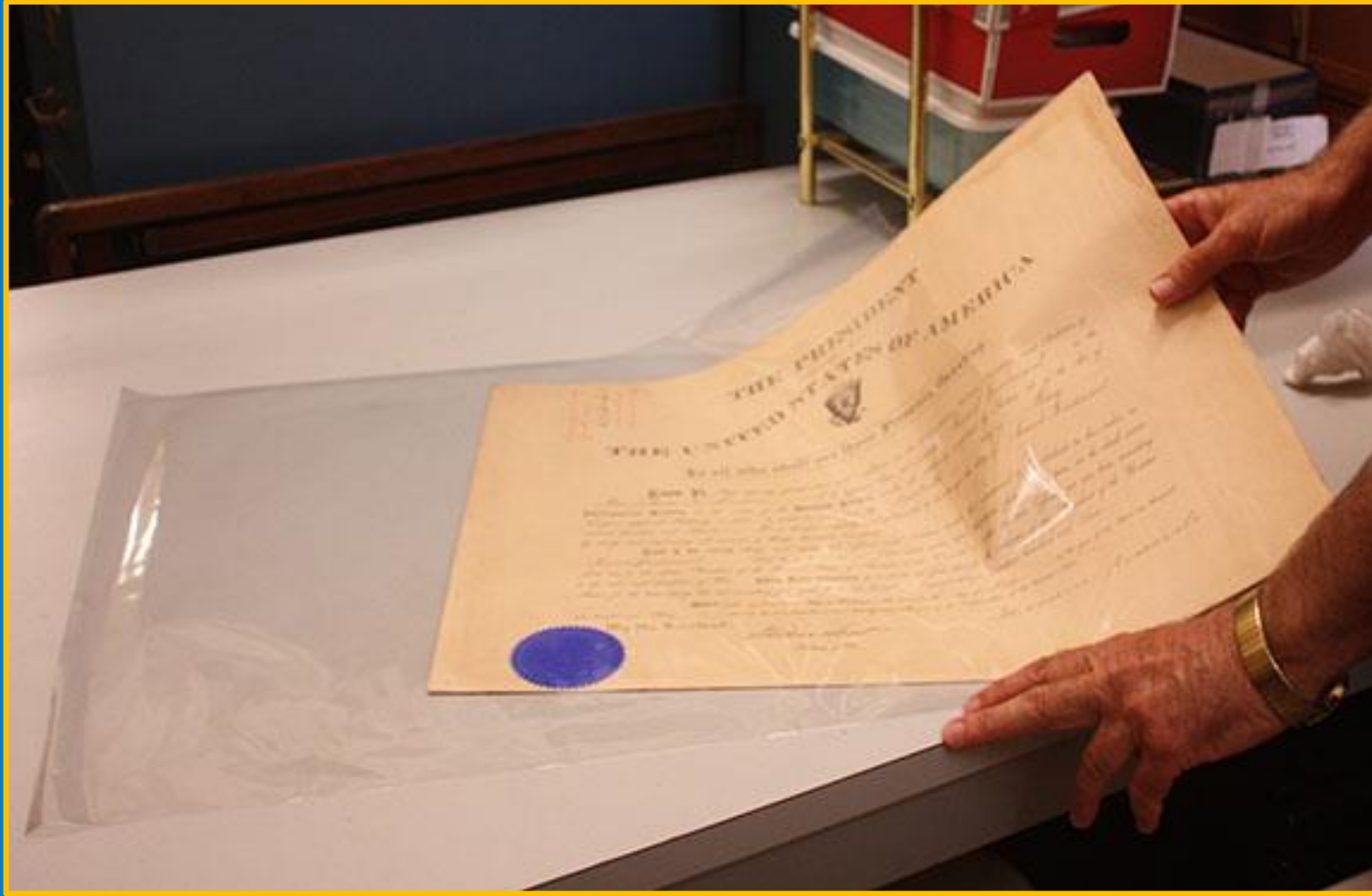
A floor globe with a story



The museum preserves the floor globe that once graced the Alameda Free Library when patrons visited the stacks both at City Hall and the Carnegie Building, pictured above



Preserving the collection



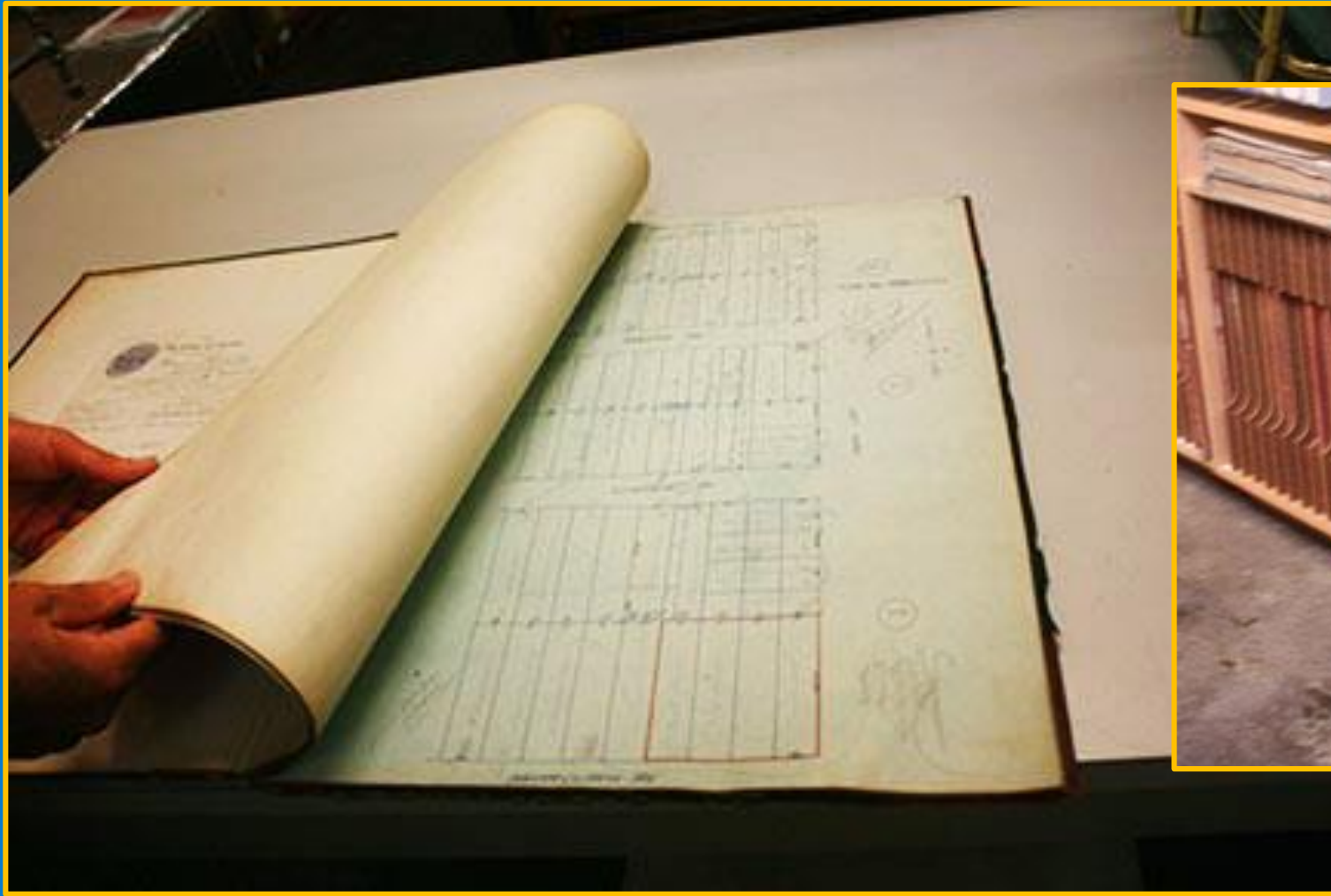
The real work of the museum comes in preserving its treasures. Here an expensive acetate sleeve protects a document signed by President Theodore Roosevelt. The museum has at least 20 large boxes of city documents that still need cataloging and protecting.

Preserving the collection



Drawers like these that protect the museum's map collection cost hundreds of dollars. The museum plans to purchase more of these drawers to protect more of the maps and the larger documents in its collection.

Preserving the collection



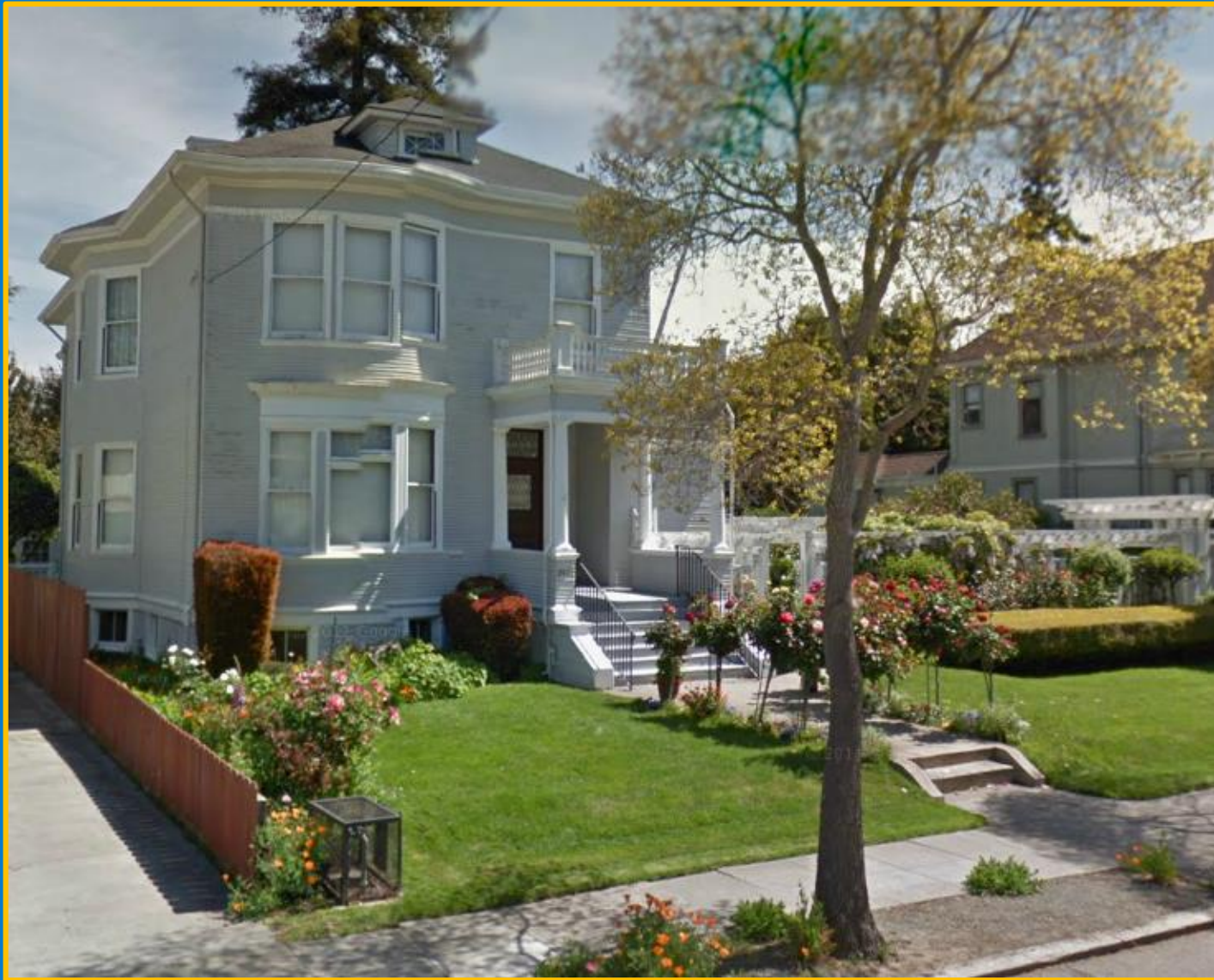
The museum receives, and sometimes rescues, city documents like this precious block book that shows the how the nascent city of Alameda was developing. The museum had special shelves built for these books, right.

Preserving the collection



The museum uses hundreds of these expensive acid-free storage boxes to preserve items that pertain not just to the city but, as seen here, to the school district.

The Meyers House and Gardens



Noted architect Henry Haight Meyers built this home for his family in 1897. Jeanette Meyers donated the house and its gardens to the city in 1996. In 2013, the city turned ownership of the house and gardens over to the Alameda Museum. The museum backed a fundraising campaign, which raised \$40,000 to paint Meyers' Colonial Revival creation.

The Meyers family carriage house



In addition to raising \$40,000 to paint the family home, the museum raised more than \$20,000 to preserve the building that the Meyers family used as a carriage house. The structure originally sat on a mud sill, and 110 years of weathering, dry rot and termites had brought the building to the point of collapse. Today, rebuilt walls rest more permanently on a concrete slab. The museum plans to use the renovated space to display items from its collection.

Museum teams up with AAPS to make photo collection available



Members of the Alameda Architectural Preservation Society join City Council members to celebrate the placing of a history plaque at City Hall. The Alameda Museum is working with the Society to house the digitized photographs that captured Alameda's Victorian-era homes and buildings.



Heritage Council Honors Meyers House and Garden

In 2014 Alameda Museum Curator George Gunn (second from right) received an award for the Meyers House and Garden from California Heritage Council. Jeannie Graham, who suggested this honor for the Meyers House, is standing next to Gunn. Honorary board chairman John J. Hodges (left) and President Christopher Layton (right) flank Gunn and Graham.

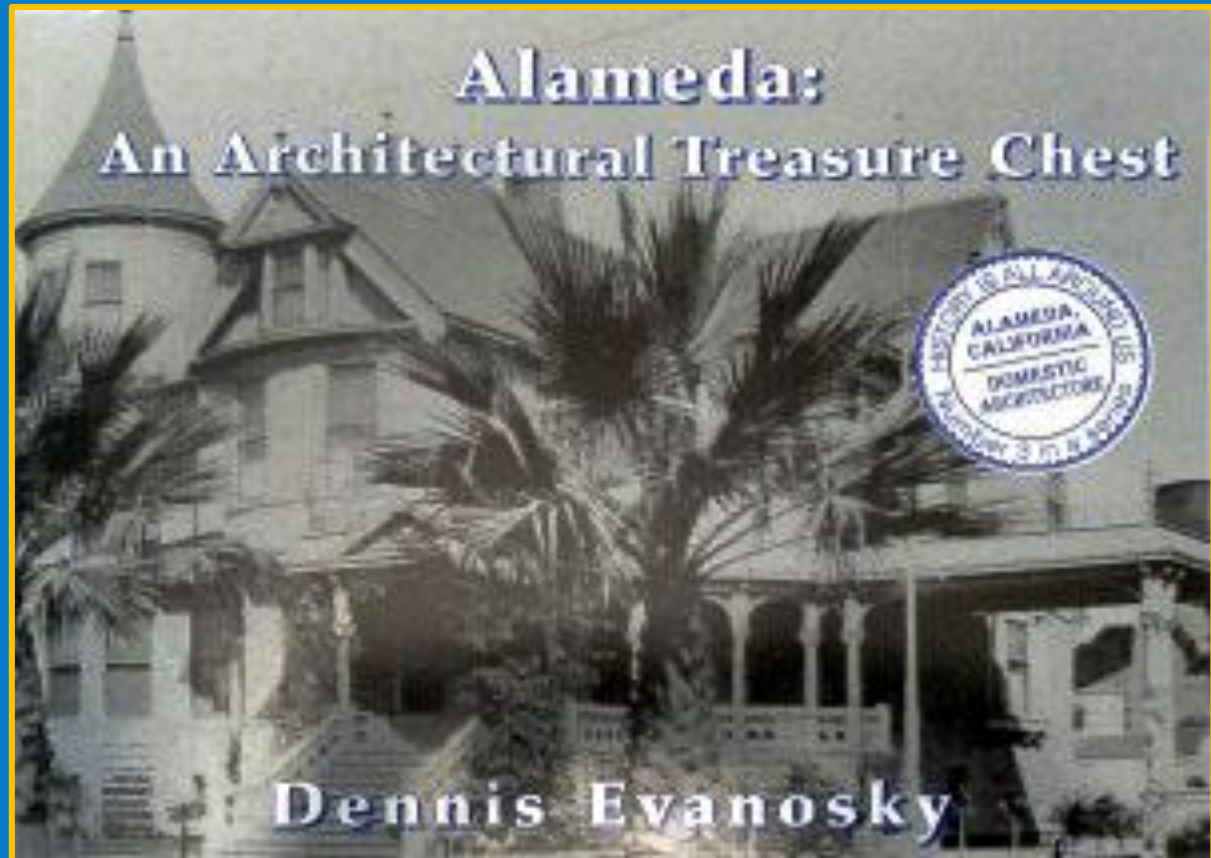


*Documentation of
Victorian and Post Victorian
Residential and Commercial Buildings
City of Alameda
1854 to 1904*



*Researched and Compiled by
George C. Gunn, Curator, Alameda Historical Museum*

**Alameda:
An Architectural Treasure Chest**



Neither of these books could have been written without the Alameda Museum. Curator George Gunn made extensive use of the block books and assessors records, while Dennis Evanosky availed himself of several of the museum's resources. .