

## FRIENDS OF THE ADOBES, INC.

A non-profit organization, incorporated October 17, 1968, for the purpose of bringing together those persons interested in history, and especially in the history of northern San Luis Obispo County and southern Monterey County. The organization's major function is to promote the restoration and maintenance of adobes and other landmarks of historical significance in these areas.

### THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the FRIENDS OF THE ADOBES, INC.

cordially invites you to become a member  
of the organization and participate in its  
objectives.

Please go to the membership page on our web site, [www.Rios-CaledoniaAdobe.org](http://www.Rios-CaledoniaAdobe.org), to learn more about our membership program and print a copy of our membership application. Just complete the application and mail it with your check to the address below.

Contributions and bequests can be made, as well, by sending them to the....

Friends of the Adobes, Inc.  
P. O. Box 326  
San Miguel, CA 93451

--All contributions and memberships are tax deductible--

We are often in need of volunteers to help with the workload of various activities and events. If you would like to help in some way, please call us at (805) 467-3357.



The Rios-Caledonia Adobe is located  
just off U.S. Highway 101 at the  
south end of the town of San Miguel.  
Take the "San Miguel" exit.

**\*\* FREE ADMISSION \*\***

Rios-Caledonia Adobe  
700 S. Mission Street  
San Miguel, CA 93451

[www.Rios-CaledoniaAdobe.org](http://www.Rios-CaledoniaAdobe.org)

## THE HISTORIC RIOS-CALEDONIA ADOBE SAN MIGUEL, CALIFORNIA



## MUSEUM, GARDENS AND GIFT SHOP

OPEN FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY  
11 AM TO 4 PM



CALIFORNIA STATE HISTORICAL  
LANDMARK No. 936

PHONE (805) 467-3357

# RIOS-CALEDONIA ADOBE MUSEUM AND GIFT SHOP

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND



The Rios-Caledonia Adobe is located on original San Miguel Mission property. It was constructed by Petronillo Rios in 1835, using Indian labor, as a domicile for the local Major Domo. The roof was of handmade tiles, the rafters of pine poles tied in place with strips of rawhide. Rios, along with William Reed and Miguel Garcia, bought the property from Governor Pio Pico in 1846.



The rooms relate the landmark's varied history

From 1868 to 1886, the adobe building was an inn and stage stop on the road from San Francisco to San Diego. Later on, it was used successively by various business establishments, as private homes, and even housed an elementary school. In 1868, owner George Butchard used a poetic name for Scotland in naming it the Caledonia Inn.

Mr. Butchard operated it as a stagecoach stop, tavern, and inn; and according to local legend, outlaws Frank and Jesse James, the Dalton Brothers, and Californio bandito Joaquin Murrieta were among the inn's many visitors.

Gradually, the structures fell into a state of deterioration. In 1964, the County of San Luis Obispo purchased the property. Still, the buildings slowly crumbled due to a lack of available County funds. For this reason, in January 1968, the Friends of the Adobes, Inc. was formed in order to restore and preserve this historic landmark.



The saloon room is often used for wine tastings

The restoration of the Rios-Caledonia Adobe has been a continuing cooperative effort for the Friends of the Adobes and the County of San Luis Obispo, working through San Luis Obispo County Parks.

The building was formally dedicated in December 1972, when major construction was completed. In June 1978, the Adobe, Museum and Gift Shop were opened. Maintenance work is on-going, following as faithfully as possible the design and appearance of the original structure.

## ESTRELLA ADOBE CHURCH

CALIFORNIA STATE HISTORICAL  
LANDMARK No. 542



The Estrella Adobe Church was the first Protestant church in northern San Luis Obispo County. It was built in 1878 by early pioneers of the area. The church prospered for a few years, then fell into disuse, finally crumbling into ruins.

The church was restored by the History and Landmarks Committee of the Paso Robles Women's Club. It was rededicated in 1952, in memory of those pioneers on the Estrella Plains who originally built the church and worshipped there. This historic adobe is used for private weddings and is available by request. Memorial services are held there in May of each year by the Friends of the Adobes, who have the responsibility for its care and preservation. The church is on Airport Road, 2 miles north of Hwy. 46E.