

Motorlog to Central Oregon Coast Discovers Unique Adobe Building

Family Molds Building Blocks

The following is a condensation of a motorlog appearing in The Sunday Oregonian. It is one of an annual series of travel stories sponsored jointly by the Oregon State Motor Association and The Oregonian.

BY JOHN A. ARMSTRONG
Sunday Editor, The Oregonian

On a wave lashed point just north of Yachats, on the Oregon coast, stands a building that is a monument to a modern family that was not afraid to pioneer.

It's an adobe motel, a unique structure for this part of the nation.

We discovered it and the story behind it during a recent motorlog along the Oregon coast in the white Oregon State Motor association motorlog car. The story is one of a family that likes to work together—and to its ingenuity and perseverance.



Larry Smith and his enthusiastic family, shown here behind a stack of adobe blocks made of local clay, are planning more adobe construction. From left: Cousin Hazel Reynolds, Laurens, Zandra, Larry and Eleanor Smith and Aunt Bird Hanchett.

The winter storms were fierce along the Oregon coast during the winter of 1951, and on the rocky promontory just north of Yachats the winds and rains slashed at stacks of adobe building blocks.

Inside their modest workshop, with its adjoining living quarters, Larry Smith and his 16-year-old son, Laurens, were hard at work, cutting and notching beams and joists.

They were a busy pair, in the shop up to 14 hours a day, and on sunny days laboring outdoors, molding more adobe blocks to build higher the huge piles started the summer before.

Excuses soon

As the winter days passed, Larry Smith came in for more and more good natured ribbing from the townies as he made his daily treks to the post office. Local residents were unaware of the stacks of sawed and fitted lumber inside the workshop, and couldn't see signs of much progress outdoors.

Besides, most of them were sure those stacks of mud blocks were bound to melt and run away.

But Larry Smith and his family had planned well. He had investigated thoroughly before he purchased the scenic 19-acre tract in southern Lincoln county.

hours old; after that, the rain has no effect.

With the arrival of spring, things started popping. The entire family moved into high gear; Larry's wife, Eleanor; his 90-year-old mother, Grandma Katherine Smith; Aunt Bird Hanchett, Larry's aunt, and her daughter Hazel Reynolds.

Larry and Laurens dug the clay and ran the concrete mixer in which the clay, sand and asphalt compound were combined. Sprightly Grandma Katherine kept house, and sometimes laid out long strips of building paper on which the 4x8x16-inch adobe blocks were cured. The other women handled the wooden forms in which the blocks were molded and helped pour foundations for the motel.

One sunny day the wooden framework of the motel rose as if by magic—which indeed it was, the magic of pre-fabrication.

All through the spring and summer the work went on. The walls of adobe blocks were set



For those planning to travel from the Willamette valley to central coastal area, a number of loop trips are possible.

in a cement mortar containing some asphalt stabilizer. They were painted outside with an asphalt emulsion to reduce hail damage. Inside, conventional household paints were used.

In August, 1952, the Adobe Motel opened . . . 12 units . . . 22 bedrooms . . . 17,020 adobe blocks, all molded by the Smith family.

The Smiths are always willing to take time out to show visitors how they make the adobe bricks.

According to Glen L. Ritter, representative of American Bitumuls and Asphalt, who worked with the Smiths in planning and building their motel, this type of construction can be adapted anywhere in the Northwest. "If it can be done there, it can be done anywhere."

The basic requirement is a suitable clay, and suitable clay is not uncommon in this area, he advises.

Area's Fishing Good

Yachats, at the southern end of Lincoln County, lies in a beach recreation area that many Oregonians have yet to discover, and enjoy. From Newport south to Winchester Bay, there is a wide variety of vacation activity.

Surf fishing and rock fishing are particularly productive on this stretch of coastline. Deep sea fishing is available out of Newport, Waldport, Florence and Winchester Bay.

The warm water lakes in the sand dunes south of Florence—Siltcoos, Washink and Takhenitch—are full of pan fish. The streams flowing from the coast range offer salmon, steelhead and trout in season.

The Sea Lion caves are a nationally known tourist attraction and the Heceta Head lighthouse is open for inspection.

A string of finely-kept state parks (some with electric stoves and showers) provide facilities for picnicking, overnight camping and trailer parking.

Scout Honorary Plans Conference

The Order of the Arrow, a national Boy Scout honor camper's society, will hold its annual area conference at Suttle Lake at Santiam pass Sept. 6 to 8.

"He who serves his fellows . . . is of all his fellows greatest," will be the theme as approximately 100 Scouts follow a three day program of Indiancraft, discussions, and strenuous outdoor sports.

Dick Clark, Mazama lodge chief, will be master of ceremonies for this event. Supporting him will be about 20 Scouts and Explorers from the Crater Lake council.

"The conference, which will draw delegates from most of Oregon and northern California, is expected to be one of the largest held in the state," according to James Boyd, Area 11A chief.

The Order was founded in 1915 at the Philadelphia Scout camp, Treasure Island. In 1948 it was nationally integrated into the Boy Scouts of America. There are approximately 400 lodges based upon principles of brotherhood and cheerful service now active in the United States. Today the order also acts as a service organization in every Oregon city.

To be eligible for the Order a Scout must have camped 15 days and nights and must prove by his example that he puts the Scout oath and law into practice in his daily life. Upon completing these two stiff requirements he must be nominated and elected by his fellow troop members.

After his election he is invited to participate in an ordeal by which his attention is called to the principles on which the order is based. Satisfactory completion of this ordeal gains him membership in the lodge.

But the ordeal is not truly over with the ordeal ceremonies. For a year the Scout must prove himself a worker, leader, and cheerful server. At the end of this time he is notified that he may become a Brotherhood member.

The third and highest rank is that of Vigil. This requires three years of outstanding service to the community, the scouting program, and to the Order. In the Crater Lake council there are two Vigil members, Martin Johnson and Judson W. Compton.

Milk Sanitarians To Meet in Portland

Salem — Milk sanitarians from Oregon, Washington and Idaho will take up new dairy problems at a three-day regional meet in Portland Sept. 11-13. Agriculture Director Robert J. Steward announced Wednesday.

More than 100 sanitarians are expected at the seminar, the first in four years in which the U. S. Public Health service has participated.

Kenneth E. Carl, assistant dairy chief for the Oregon Agricultural department, said problems arising in the use of new dairy equipment and supplies would be discussed along with pipeline milk standards and warm water supplies.

The meeting will take the place of the annual refresher course held in December to meet the milk inspection training requirements of the Fluid Milk act.

Geneva, N.Y. — It's perfectly all right to take a wooden nickel here. Even bankers and merchants are accepting the wooden five-cent, 10-cent and 25-cent coins being issued to help promote the city's 150th anniversary.

Filmtown Comes Close To Having 'Tong War'

By VERNON SCOTT
United Press Hollywood

Hollywood — Filmtown came close to having a tong war on its hands this week when an exotic Chinese import dropped her own bamboo curtain on a kissing scene with Victor Mature.

The reluctant lotus blossom is LiLi Hua (pronounced Wah), a veteran of some 60 Chinese movies all kissless.

During a death scene in which lovely LiLi is breathing her last, the script called for Mature to kiss her gently on the lips.

But just as Vic leaned in for a closeup of the kiss LiLi turned her head and muttered the Chinese equivalent of "You've been eating onions," or something of that nature.

Big Surprise

Mature, hurt and astonished, stomped off the set while the crew tittered. Never before had big Vic's leading lady given him the cold shoulder.

LiLi took off in the direction of her dressing room, closely followed by producer-director Frank Borzage. After an hour's debate in mixed English and Chinese, Borzage emerged, a shaken man.

"She refuses to kiss Mature in front of the camera," he explained. "She claims it isn't in her contract."

Borzage then called attorneys who produced LiLi's pact. It was studied carefully, but nowhere in the fine print did it say that LiLi had to kiss Mature or anyone else.

"It's a regular run-of-the-picture contract," the harassed director said. "It includes her salary and other things like living quarters and transportation. We took it for granted she would follow the script. The script calls for an 'embrace,' which LiLi says is very different from a kiss. Somebody goofed!"

Borzage reported LiLi's oriental obstinacy to Mature, who put on a dandy fist-waving display of rage. When peacemaker Borzage failed to calm him down, Vic strode off the set and headed for home, vowing he was through with the picture—which happens to be Batjac's "Time is a Memory."

A Necking Superstition

"I've been slighted," cried Mature. "If this gets out it will hurt my career. Nothing like this has ever happened before."

Borzage convinced Vic the following day that LiLi's objection to kissing was impersonal. She has a superstition about necking.

Placated, Vic returned to work. But LiLi's bamboo curtain was still in evidence, and the company has been shooting around the scene.

"What bothers me," says Vic, "is that she refuses to kiss and make up."

Five Men Recover From Hangovers

Newark, N.J. — Five men recovered from hangovers today, brought on in the interest of science.

The five volunteers "had a ball" Wednesday in a dignified courtroom. They drank their favorite brands of scotch, rye and bourbon to prove the accuracy of a drunkometer used to test the sobriety of motorists.

All were escorted home. Richard Silver, Essex County traffic safety coordinator, labeled the experiment "a success."

The party began at 10 a.m. (e.d.t.) with three-ounce shots of liquor. Drinking continued at intervals until 6:20 p.m., with periodic interruptions for drunkometer and blood tests.

The drunkometer proved accurate when compared with the blood test, Silver said.

One volunteer drank scotch with an orange soda chaser. He didn't like the taste of scotch, he explained. He dropped out after 12 shots. The last man lasted 19 drinks.

The object of the binge was to demonstrate the effectiveness of the drunkometer in an effort to make use of the device compulsory in New Jersey.

Officers On Alert For Armed Robbers

State police and sheriff's officers here are on the lookout today for a man and woman who are believed to have committed armed robbery in Tule Lake, Calif.

State police received notice from sheriff's deputies in California last night that a man had been injured about 3:50 p.m. yesterday and was not expected to live. A man and a woman, presumed to be from Los Angeles, reportedly took about \$100 from the victim.

No sign of the fugitive couple had been reported by noon today. Tule Lake is a small community in Siskiyou county, about seven miles south of the Oregon-California border.

Father, Son Set Up Ham Radio Operators

Nunda, N.Y. — Mrs. Clarence Martin of Nunda has two hams cluttering up her dining room—radio hams, that is.

Mrs. Martin's husband has operated a ham radio for the past seven years, and until recently he had no competition from any member of his family. Then, almost overnight, 12-year-old Donald became interested in transmitting and receiving.

Donald now is the proud owner of a novice license to operate in code. His call letters are KN2VDN.

A classmate of Donald's, 11-year-old Barry Watkins, also caught the radio bug and transmits over station KN2VQA.

AMAZING NEW DOG MEAL



Penny for Penny

Twice the Nourishment of Prime Beef Hamburger!

WALTER KENDALL'S FIVES BURGERBITS Dog Meal

Penny for penny . . . twice the amount of balanced, high-quality Protein . . . twice the Vitamins—A, B, B₂, D, and Niacin . . . twice the Minerals—Calcium, Phosphorus and Iron . . . twice the Value—New Fives Burgerbits Dog Meal costs less than half as much as hamburger . . . less than a third as much as canned dog food!

Special Introductory Offer! For free sample, send name and address to BURGERBITS, Box 7, San Francisco 1, California.

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, a newspaper editor and two writers. Each article is a summary of an actual report. The Family Council does not give advice; it merely reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors.

Joel R. — My parents say she just wants to use me.

Linda H. — They want him to marry a rich girl.

Joel R. — I am 27 and have been going out for the past year with a girl I want to marry. She is only 19 and says her parents think she is still too young to marry. She says she loves me, but doesn't want to commit herself for another year.

I feel that I would wait another five years if I had to for Linda. What worries me is that my parents say she doesn't really care for me, but just wants to use me. For example, she always calls me when she needs me to take her somewhere in the car. She gives me all kinds of little errands to do for her. But when I was sick recently, she didn't even come over to the house to see me. That really made me feel bad.

I don't mind doing things for Linda. I want to. But neither do I want her to make a fool out of me, as my parents say she is doing. How can I tell if she loves me?

Linda H. — Joel's parents are just trying to make trouble between us because they want him to marry a rich girl. They sneer at me because my father is an auto mechanic and everyone in their family is in some sort of profession.

I could get plenty of guys to take me places in their cars, if I wanted. If I didn't love Joel, I wouldn't count on him for different things. If he really loved me, he'd be glad to do them.

I would be glad to do things for Joel, too, but his parents make me feel unwanted. My mother said I shouldn't go over to his house when he was sick because his parents would think I'm running after him. Mother says I ought to play harder-to-get and then Joel wouldn't take me so much for granted. He'd wake up and realize that his

parents can't run his life. If we get married, I wouldn't want anything to do with them.

The Council: There is a little too much of "my parents say" and "mother says" in this picture.

Joel and Linda should listen to what their parents have to say, by all means, but they show their uncertainty about one another when they repeat word for word what their parents say without having digested it and come to their own conclusions.

Nobody can tell Joel whether or not Linda loves him. It is quite possible that Linda's way of showing love to Joel is to "count on him for different things." It is up to Joel to decide whether he likes this form of love.

On the other hand, we are inclined to suspect that Joel wants a warmer, stronger sort of love than Linda is now capable of giving. If her love were really the strong, outgoing emotion Joel has a right to expect, she wouldn't have let any parent's opinion keep her from him when he was sick. She wouldn't be afraid to appear to be "running after" Joel because her concern about him would be more important than her own status.

Linda probably reflects her own parents' attitudes when she feels she is being sneered at because her father's position. She has no right to assume that Joel's parents don't like her because she isn't rich. They may be quite sincere when they feel that she "uses" Joel too much. In any case, Linda shows she is unprepared for marriage when she believes that she should or could dispose of her in-laws.

(Copyright 1957, General Features Corp.)

Quartz Claims Filed For Applegate Area

Four quartz location notices were filed in the county clerk's office Tuesday, according to records there.

Loren L. Schmid, Gold Hill, filed for a claim in the Gold Hill mining district. Three claims, to be known as "Lucky Strike two, three and four," were filed by Ben Thurston and Thomas and Gladys Schultz, Applegate. The claims are in the Applegate mining district.

Quartz Claims Filed For Applegate Area

Geneva, N.Y. — It's perfectly all right to take a wooden nickel here. Even bankers and merchants are accepting the wooden five-cent, 10-cent and 25-cent coins being issued to help promote the city's 150th anniversary.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation Laboratory was established in 1932.