

Siskiyou County Historical Society Tours Hearst Family Estate

By DORIS ROBINSON
Mail Tribune Correspondent
YREKA—A rare glimpse inside the Siskiyou County estate of William Randolph Hearst family was offered earlier this month by a group of about 200 members and guests of the Siskiyou County Historical Society.

The estate, located east of the city of Medford and on the McCloud River, is generally closed to the public. Tours, however, are occasionally arranged, as was the case with the historical society outing.

The full 20,000 acre property is known as the Hearst Wynnton Tree Farm, but the section visited by the historical society tour was composed of "The Village," a group of Bavarian type buildings, the Hearst family's summer home, and "The Bend," another building about a mile away.



ANGEL HOUSE—One of three Bavarian-type buildings at The Village on the McCloud River in Northern California is called the Angel House. The Village, part of the summer estate of the late William Randolph Hearst, is closed to the public and only occasionally visited by the family. This building was never completed inside. The exteriors of two other houses, Cinderella and Brown Bear, are painted with murals depicting the fairy stories, the latter Snow White and Rose Red.

Hidden From Public
"The Village" is well hidden from the public. It is reached by a roundabout pattern of unmarked gravel roads. The roads are so well "unmarked" that one of the bus drivers on the tour became temporarily lost.

The day's outing actually began with a stop at the U.S. Forest Service nursery near McCloud. That was followed by a picnic lunch at the Fowler Campground.

"The Village" was the first part of the Hearst estate visited. There is a large circular driveway around a lawn, centered by a large statue and water fountain. The cars stopped bumper to bumper in the driveway and Gerald Wetzel lectured on each house.

The village was designed by Julia Morgan and the artist who painted the pictures on the buildings was William Andrew Pogany.

The first house called to the spectators' attention was the Brown Bear House, Hearst's residence. The pictures on it depict the story of Snow White and Rose Red. The structure is three stories and the roof is

gabled with heavy hand-hewn beams and rafters, from old wooden bridges of Shasta and Siskiyou Counties, the smaller beams from abandoned barns in the valley.

The house is a silver tone color of the natural aged wood. Wetzel said the workmen were sent out to find wood that natural silver color anywhere they could get it, old barns, houses fence posts, lumber yards, just anywhere.

He also said that inside the house the trim was ornate with beautifully carved ponderosa

pine. All the rooms had been furnished with art objects from European countries. The wood stoves were porcelain and came from Bavaria in two of the houses. A Bear statue stood beside the Bear statue.

The second house was the Cinderella House. It has murals telling the fairy story of Cinderella. There is Cinderella flying down the stairs, losing her slipper, a large clock denoting the time, the coach waiting, and pictures of the step-mother and her daughters. This is also a three-story house and the

roof had turrets and gables and windows with ornate frames.

The third house was the "Angel" House. It was never finished inside, although the exterior was and a beautiful lawn with fountains and statuary of marble from Italy is on the grounds. All the furniture intended for this house is still in crates in the storerooms, just as it came from Europe. Although the shingles on the roof look like wood, they are tile. This is deteriorating badly now and all the houses seem to be in need of repair.

The river makes a horseshoe bend around the building and can be seen from the great windows on either side of the dining room. The home takes its name "The Bend" because of the bend in the river.

The windows are one quarter inch plate glass. The carved window frames are McCloud sugar pine, and the garden contains more statuary and fountains.

The tour's morning stop was at the U.S. Forest Service nursery near McCloud, one of the largest nurseries growing Ponderosa pine.

The manager of the nursery gave a lecture for members of the historical society group. He explained that it was established in 1947 on the McCloud flats and then supplied 3,000,000 trees for Washington and California.

The McCloud River flows at the back of all of the cottages and bends around to flow under the porch of the River Cottage, which is all white with a wide porch and white railing.

A bridge crosses the river close to the house and connects with a movie theater which was never quite finished.

Small Pet Cemetery
There is a small pet cemetery where the pet dogs of the family were buried just opposite the row of houses. Many pine trees are on the grounds and the large lawn used to be used for a croquet court.

The next stop was at the place called "The Bend." It is down river from the village about a mile. The original structure was built in 1899 by Charles S. Wheeler, San Francisco. Mrs. Phoebe Hearst's lawyer. The present building was only one wing retained from the original building.

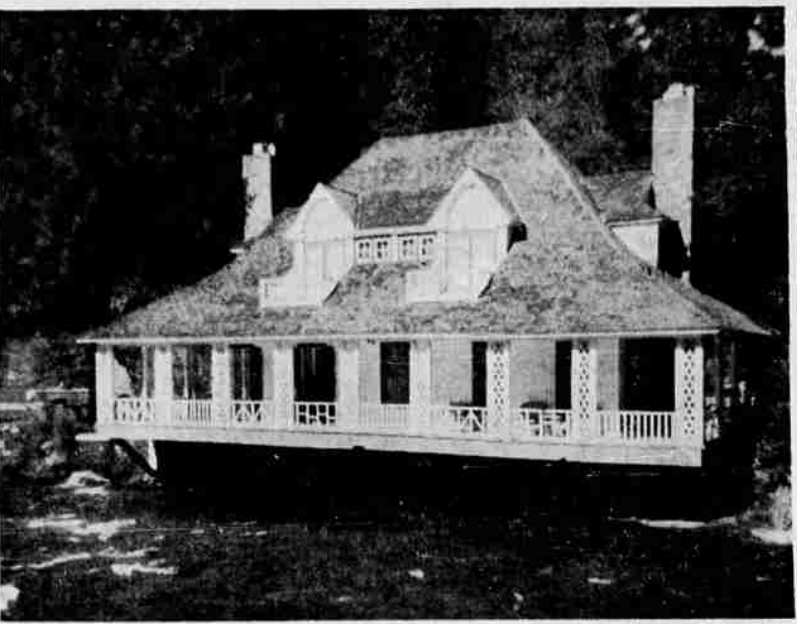
The new building was constructed in 1945-47 by William Randolph Hearst, and he used the native black lava rock same as in the old building. The main living and dining rooms have high, Gothic ceilings and great fireplaces.

Makes Horseshoe Bend
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RIVER COTTAGE—The oldest building at The Village, part of the Northern California summer estate of the late William Randolph Hearst, is this house which overhangs the McCloud River. Painted white with green roof

and shutters, the building is one of six at The Village. Three are three-story stucco and beam of Bavarian-type architecture. The others are white frame with green trim.

In the past 10 years the 52 acres have upped production to 10,000,000 trees annually.

The sandy loam found in this project. An overhead water system is used and the water for the sprinklers comes from a creek by natural gravity flow, and no pump is needed.

Seed Is Collected
All seed is collected from the forest and tab is kept on the area where it is taken so trees can be shipped back, especially the Douglas fir, at an elevation within 500 feet of origin.

Cones are collected, the seed is cleaned and planted 25 to 40 to a square foot in four-foot rows by 400 feet long. The trees must be weeded, fertilized and watered. The weeds are treated with chemicals, but if this does not get all of them, they are

under the trees and the tap root cut so the roots will spread and give a good root system.

A tour of the laboratory was taken following the lecture, showing how and where the seeds are tested, and the cold storage plant where they are stored.

Portland Bus Drivers

Sign New Contract
PORTLAND (UPI) — Bus drivers have signed a two-year contract with Rose City Transit Co. calling for higher wages and fringe benefits.

The new contract calls for a 13-cent hourly pay hike effective Nov. 1, an additional 5 cents next Nov. 1 and 5 cents more on May 1, 1965. The raise eventually will boost driver wages to \$2.70 an hour.

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CIA Operates on Edge of Public Awareness

By DONALD J. MAY
United Press International
WASHINGTON (UPI) — The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency operates from a massive building out in the quiet countryside across the Potomac River a few miles from Washington.

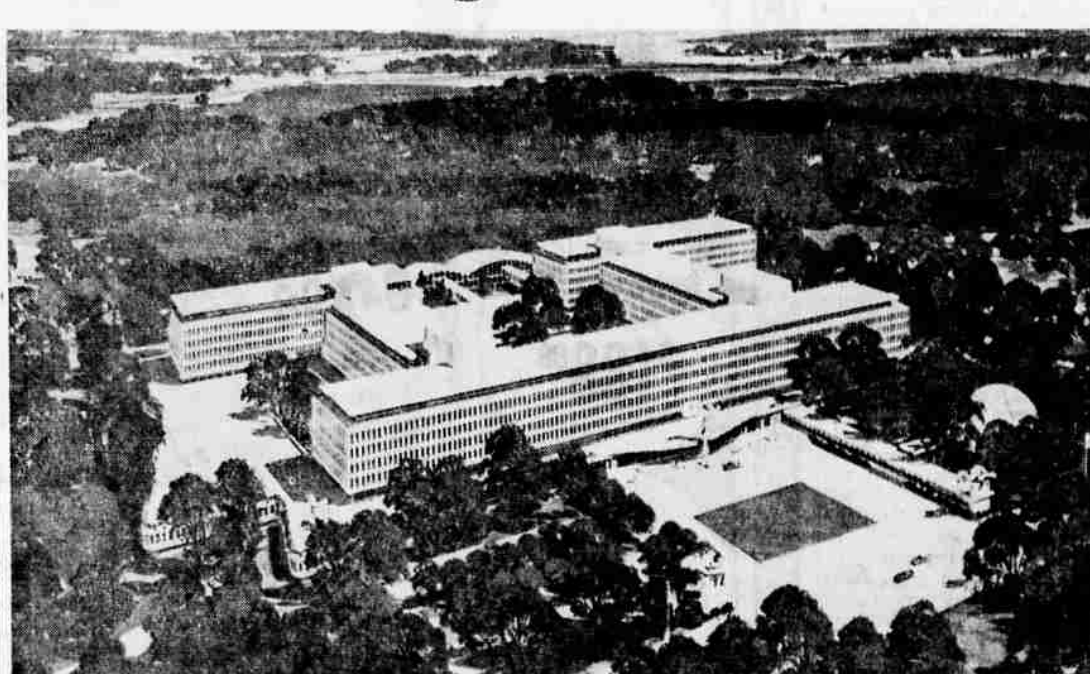
Except for occasions when U.S. foreign policy troubles come crashing down around it, CIA conducts its business in privacy just on the edge of public awareness.

One of these sudden plunges into headlines took place recently as part of the political crisis in South Vietnam which, with vast U.S. assistance, is fighting off Communist guerrillas from North Vietnam.

John H. Richardson, whose public title was first secretary of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, was identified in newspapers as really the CIA chief there. He later was transferred. The agency itself was accused in print of following policies independent of Washington.

President Kennedy, in a press conference Oct. 9, praised Richardson as "a very dedicated public servant" and assured newsmen "flatly that the CIA has not carried out independent activities."

Questions Remain
There the matter was supposed to end. But there remain a number of questions about U.S. activities in Viet



NEW AGENCY BUILDING—This picture shows an artist's conception of the new U.S. Central Intelligence Agency building in Washington, D.C. (UPI)

Nam, wholly or in part connected with CIA, which have never been explained.

One was the setting up in 1961 of special Vietnamese military

units called the "Special Forces" — or rather the way they were set up. These are elite forces, specially trained for counter-guerrilla warfare.

With U.S. assistance, they were patterned after "Special Forces" which the United States also has and which train at Ft. Bragg, N.C.

Though the Vietnamese Special Forces are technically part of the local army, they were set up in 1961 to take their orders, in effect, directly from the Saigon palace rather than

through the Vietnamese general staff.

Inside the palace, President Ngo Dinh Diem's brother, Ngo Dinh Nhu, took a particular interest in the Special Forces. On Aug. 21, when Nhu engineered government raids against Buddhists, he called on one unit of the Special Forces to assist. This unit stood guard outside while Vietnamese police entered and raided Buddhist pagodas.

Later it was reported from Saigon that the Special Forces were paid from CIA funds. Washington officials have never confirmed this. The state and defense departments will say only that the financing of the units is "classified."

It is known that CIA maintained a close working relationship with the units.

It also has been learned reliably that Richardson, the supposed U.S. Embassy "first secretary," was under explicit instructions from Washington to cultivate Nhu.

Works Both Sides
The United States was thus working "both sides of the street" in Viet Nam — maintaining an overt relationship with President Diem and a covert one with Nhu.

In the "gold fish bowl" of Saigon, it developed, a great number of people knew who Richardson was, and they knew at least a bit about CIA's ties with Nhu. Not only Vietnamese sources but a number of U.S. officials were outraged over this and denounced CIA and Richardson to American reporters.

It was another case — like the Cuban Bay of Pigs invasion — in which CIA apparently had operated under very shallow cover.

So far as has been made public, no U.S. official in Saigon has been disciplined for blabbing on CIA.

In fairness to the agency, it must be said that no Washington news reporter can claim to have the full story of this or any other CIA did in Viet Nam is presumably still unknown and probably always will be.

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Committee Named To Obtain Funds

GRANTS PASS — The California-Oregon Recreational Development Association Thursday at a meeting here formed a committee to obtain needed \$6,000 by private subscription.

Appointed to the committee were CORDA President Earl M. Miller, Jackson County judge; David Irving, director representing Pacific Power and Light Company; and CORDA Executive Vice President Charles Collins.

The association members agreed that state highway officials should be asked to improve the appearance of future borrow pits.

The association approved the fiscal year 1963-64 program submitted by Collins. More of the association's time should be concentrated on development of recreation areas in Modoc County, Calif., it was agreed.

This would include development of the historic cavalry post of Fort Bidwell and promotion of the Modoc hot springs. A Modoc museum and tourist center should be developed also, it was agreed.

Highlights of the meeting were inspection of Indian Mary and White Horse in Harney County park.

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