



"The Hub"

2 ACRE 100 YR. OLD PROPERTY



OLD EDNA'S Self Guided, Walking History Exterior Tour Map

Comfortable shoes are highly recommended for this tour. Please stay on the trail. BEWARE of roaming hens. All dogs must be on leash.



Deputy Kienun making dust enroute to the vineyard

Madam Mayor's Sippin Cellar in back underground

Start Here!

Parking

Tour ends here

Stop. Take a spell. Have a nibble and a sip.

1. Old Edna Visitors Center- Edna Valley Wine Maps and Stewardship Traveler Discovery Route Maps.

2. 1897 DeSolina- Built in 1897, the beautiful DeSolina House was named after Guidos first love. Today, it serves as the Edna Valley Bridal Suite and home to the DeSolina House overnight guests, perfect for two.

3. Almas Reading Room- A perfect place to relax. Read and watch all the townsite birds fluttering about.

4. Pigeon City- Duke's favorite bird as a boy growing up.

5. 1887 Bluebelly Barn- Built in 1887, the former Tognazzini Dairy Barn was bustling in the early 1900s. Sometimes home to "Stinky Larry" our townsite goat daddy and his female companions.

6. MacGregor Vineyards- The Historic MacGregor Vineyards was originally planted in the 1970s. Rumor has it, they were the first to get their feet wet in the entire Edna Valley. Now, it is owned and operated by Craig and Nancy Stoller of Sextant Wines Windemere Winery.

7. Blacksmith Shop - (Gathering Event Room) Late 1800s former Blacksmith Shop turned from Kluvers famous cabinet shop. It's perfect for small bridal showers, family reunions and relaxing business meetings.

8. Creamery - During the late 1800s the former Creamery stored lots of milk and butter on the way to the General Mercantile (Original "Old Edna" building at the front of the property.

9. 1908 Suite Edna Farmhouse Vacation Rental- Built in 1908, this was the original Tognazzini ranch house of Guido, Griselda, Elsie, Lucca and Alma. The heart of the valley, Suite Edna is now home to overnight guests, a delightful place for family and friends to meet and enjoy the true essence of "Old Edna", the Valleys namesake.

10. Kienun's Treehouse- Built in 2002, Kienun's Treehouse was built by Pattea's father, "The Duke", for his grandson. Years ago, when there was a dancehall upstairs in the tin building, people too tipsy to leave, were tied to the infamous once enormous thriving Pepper Tree.

11. Sextant Wine Tasting- The most Historic structure on site, the original Edna Hall was first built in 1900. It burned to the ground two weeks after its opening. The fire erupted due to a modern convenience, some sort of lighting fed the rapidly growing blaze. An exact replica was completely rebuilt in 1908. Home then to a Hotel, General Mercantile, upstairs Dance Hall, and lower level Post Office, this iconic landmark served as the Edna Valleys "Hub". For years, this locale offered patrons opportunity to share a sense of community while they attended important civic meetings in the upstairs speakeasy and picked up their groceries. To end their visit, they had a sip in one of the three saloons (no longer standing). Now, you will find Sextant Wines Tasting room and Deli. We promise you won't be disappointed.

12. Crib - Ladies in waiting (during Depot days)- Last but not least, the townsite Crib (most all historic town sites with a depot nearby had one or two of these "little houses" on site). Let's just say it was a place where ladies would be waiting during the Depot day! And yes both railways, The Pacific Coast Railway and the Southern Pacific Railway stopped at the Edna depot and brought supplies to our famous little town.

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## A Little *History* of the Townsite

Historical records of Edna Valley can be traced back to the 1840s when the Corral de Piedra land grant was awarded to Jose Maria Villavicencia by the Mexican government. In the 1860s, the Steele brothers purchased part of the valley from Villavicencia. George, Isaac and Edgar Steele were the first to establish the dairy industry in Edna Valley. In 1887, a widower with 3 small children by the name of Lynford Maxwell became the postmaster here on the property. He set up the post office building that doubled as Tipton's Butcher Shop. Maxwell eventually purchased more acreage from the Steele Brothers and made plans to develop a town named "Maxwellton". Allegedly, the United States postal authorities rejected the name because it was too lengthy. Some historians presume Maxwell then chose Edna in honor of one of his daughters or granddaughters. At the time, Edna was a popular name, so the origin of the namesake still remains a mystery today.

Other theories of the town's namesake may have come from Edgar Steele's prized brown mare named Edna, or a German Nun, Sister Edna, who courageously broke up brawls among the cattlemen in the town's saloons. The name may have been attributed to a woman who provided her services in the "Crib".

Maxwell never lived to see his plans come to fruition. He declared bankruptcy and deeded the land to his son, Eugene. Lynford Maxwell passed away one year after Italian-Swiss immigrant John Tognazzini arrived to the township.

John Tognazzini, was born in Someo, Switzerland in 1854. After many years of hard work and saving his earnings, he eventually purchased 126 acres of land near Edna Valley. In 1871, he began his journey in Northern California working for various ranchers in the area. He worked in Sonoma county in the dairy industry. He eventually worked his way down to Cayucos then to Guadalupe until 1892. He moved back to Switzerland for a short 2 year stint and married Ricilla Ferrari on April 25, 1892. He then brought his new bride back to Santa Barbara county to continue his work in the dairy industry. He leased land, bought stock and for six years remained there. He sold out and moved to San Luis Obispo county in 1899 where he settled and built their homes and the two story Edna Building. In 1900, he first opened up a general merchandise store which soon burned down with a loss of over \$5,000 dollars. Despite the disaster, he opened up the now standing Two story Tin Building. It served as a general merchandise store, dance hall and post office.

Around 1948, a colorful character, Dan Dugan opened up an antique store in the tin building with a passion for bottles. The children thought he was scary. People around here still speak of him to this day. The Wendt and Ahearn families purchased the property as an investment from the Tognazzini family. They along with other investors built several homes on Maxwellton St.

Many talented artisans occupied the buildings throughout the property's history, too many to mention. There are a few artists worth noting, however. Sometime in the late 70s (the hippie days), a colorful, dashing and vivacious painter by the name of Frederick

Holley made his way to Edna all the way from Amsterdam due to a chance meeting with Pattea's brother Del. All the townspeople adored him as he often entertained, painted and performed on the stage upstairs in the tin building. He played the Samba by the light of the full moon. His legendary car, "the Blue Rose" a beautiful blue Packard could be seen sitting beneath the infamous pepper tree, a signal to friends he was home. Pattea and her family visited Edna often. The adults gathered upstairs in the tin building while the children played out on the property running amuck.

Then in the 80s a talented watercolorist, Tracy Taylor, settled in Edna. She made her painting studio in the Tin Building while living in the home behind Suite Edna. She was very popular in the community as well. She taught art classes for adults and children as she raised 5 children of her own. After another unfortunate fire on the property, Tracy and her children moved on in the 90s.

Then came along a dreamy eyed girl filled with magical ideas in 1998! Her name? Why... Pattea, of course! Ever since her childhood, she dreamed of occupying the building with a passion to restore and recreate not only the building, but also to restore and create beautiful antique pieces lovingly worn through time. Then the dream grew to create a little townsite on the property. First, she started with the "Old Edna Antiques" shop the same year her son "Deputy" Kienun was born. Business grew rapidly and birthed a community of buyers, sellers and creative ideas that fueled their passions. By this time, the "Shabby Chic" trend was all the rage. People from many miles away came to visit the shop. Judy Watkins of "Well...La de da" and Susan (Davis) Levine came alongside selling their creative wares. The store was featured in many publications from magazines to coffee table books. It was such an exciting time for the ladies involved. Pattea remembers fondly one Christmas season, thousands of pretty lights were strung around the property. It was pure Christmas bliss. Noland and his carriage paraded people around the grounds. The lights went out but no one cared because it was quite evident the Spirit was here.

Pattea's beautiful dream continued on when she and her husband purchased the property in 2000. Since then, they have worked tirelessly restoring the buildings and grooming the grounds creating it to what Old Edna is now today. It seemed that fate was on their side as it was very difficult to purchase the property from the Wendt and Ahearn families. Old Mr. Ahearn had a rough exterior. He wore his hole torn gloves while driving his old rusty truck around the property. He was truly a force to be reckoned with. The truth is he was a kind man. Dear Ms. Sybil Wendt had a soft spot in her heart for Pattea and talked all the partners into selling the property to her.

In 2009, The site's first winery and tasting room for Sextant Wines was established by owners, Craig and Nancy Stoller. Their vineyard MacGregor Vineyard is located adjacent to the Old Edna Townsite.

History now repeats itself as Pattea and her family drive an old rusty truck her father Walter "Duke" gave them along with it's own set of hole torn gloves! We hope you feel how Pattea feels at Old Edna—dare to be free and just be.