

Toward a Film History of Pebble Beach

- by Neal Hotelling

In exploring the history of Del Monte Forest it is always amazing how much is undocumented. One such area is in the movies that have been filmed at Pebble Beach.

In some movies, Pebble Beach has played itself, such as *Follow the Sun* (1951) with Glenn Ford portraying golf professional Ben Hogan, *The Sandpiper* (1965) with Richard Burton playing a married director of a private school having an affair with Elizabeth Taylor, and *The Parent Trap* (1961) with Brian Keith playing the father to Haley Mills as twin sisters. In the latter, Brian Keith and Haley Mills walk off the 18th and join ex-wife Maureen O'Hara lunching on the lawn. The thought that they were at the former Club XIX was dispelled when I learned it did not open until 1973. I later had the opportunity to ask

Maureen O'Hara and learned the lunch scene was shot on a sound stage - oh the magic of movie making.



Haley Mills & Maureen O'Hara in The Parent Trap

# FEST

## **Del Monte Forest Property Owners**

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#### October - December 2014

In other well-known films it is not as obvious. Pebble Beach stood in for the coast of England in *The Ghost & Mrs. Muir* (1947) with Rex Harrison and Gene Tierney. As a local, it can be fun to listen to the movie commentary placed on DVDs. While Tierney and her young daughter (Natalie Wood) are swimming in Stillwater Cove, film

historian Greg Kimble explains as Tierney walks up the stairs to a location on the Jenkins estate (now the 5th hole of Pebble Beach Golf Links) that



Gene Tierney and George Sanders in The Ghost and Mrs. Muir

the stairs are "an actual location in Carmel; these are the same steps Joan Fontaine walked down to get to the beach when she played in *Rebecca*" (1940). Then he says the scene at the top of the stairs, with Pescadero Point in the background, was "at Monterey;" both were of course at Pebble Beach. By the way, Joan Fontaine told me they did not use those stairs; nor did they shoot at Pebble Beach.

Pebble Beach was also coastal England in *National Velvet* (1944), opening with Mickey Rooney on the road to Sewell, England. He is actually walking between the 6th and 14th fairways of Pebble Beach Golf Links, and stops on the hill above the 8th green with Carmelby-the-Sea seen in the distance as Sewell;

#### Rocks, Sand, and Pebble Beach

Nature Notes from the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History

Take a closer look at the rocks exposed along the shores of Pebble Beach. They are exactly the same rocks that form the Sierra Nevada mountain range. The San Andreas fault sheared off a massive block of granite from the southern Sierras and, earthquake by earthquake, carried it up here.

Granite is a plutonic rock, meaning that it originally formed deep under the Earth's surface from magma that slowly cooled and hardened. These particular rocks are a kind of granite known as megacrystal granodiorite. The pluton cooled so slowly that the minerals had time to form extra-large crystals. The white crystals in the close-up photo are feldspar.

Uplift and erosion at the surface of the Earth gradually exposed the granite. Around 20 million years ago, tectonic forces carried the fractured rock 250 miles north. Here where they rest along the coast, ocean waves work and pound, opening up cracks, pulverizing the minerals. The result? Our beaches of white sand. - Article & Photos by Annie Holdren





#### DEL MONTE FOREST CONSERVANCY POTENTILLA PRESERVATION



The Del Monte Forest Conservancy (DMFC) has a new interpretive sign at Indian Village.

As part of the Conservancy's mission to conserve and protect the Del Monte Forest, the Potentilla has been one of their concerns. Continued efforts have been made to protect these endangered plants at Indian Village by creating a new wood split-rail enclosure with an interpretative sign explaining this rare flowering plant and urging residents and visitors to be aware and educated regarding these sensitive plants.

Hickman's Cinquefoil (*Potentilla hickmanii*) is one of California's rarest flowers. It is only known to occur naturally in two locations; the small population you see before you and another near Half Moon Bay. Threats to its survival include deer herbivory, space competition with non-native grasses, and habitat alteration. It is the mission of the Del Monte Forest Conservancy (DMFC) to preserve and protect open space within the Del Monte Forest, and the diversity of native species that exist here. Please help us preserve this endangered species by respecting the protective fencing and supporting the DMFC.

DMFC's Mission: To acquire, conserve and promote the use of open space and easements for benefit of current and future Pebble Beach property owners and visitors.

ironically, Sewell is not a coastal town. In a few scenes the equine star, Pirate, can also be seen running across the golf course, but keep in mind green



Mickey Rooney & Elizabeth Taylor in National Velvet

fees then were only two dollars and with the war on, there were very few golfers displaced for the filming.

One of the local favorites filmed entirely on the Monterey Peninsula was *A Summer Place* (1959) with Troy Donahue and Sandra Dee. Here the Pebble Beach coastline portrayed Pine Island off the coast of Maine. Interestingly, while boats landed at Stillwater Cove and were watched from near a gazebo at Pescadero Point, the actual gazebo and the island's "hotel" were the Victorian Mansion at 1030 Lighthouse in Pacific Grove. Troy Donahue returned to



Pebble Beach to film *Susan Slade* (1961) with Connie Stevens. It opens with the sand plant at Spanish Bay standing in for a South American mine from which Connie Steven's family moves to the Monterey Peninsula. They live in a home on 17-Mile Drive near

Cypress Point. The Pebble Beach Equestrian Center is also the scene of some of the action in this movie.

Further down 17-Mile Drive is the Crocker-Irwin mansion that was used in at least two movies: *My Favorite Brunette* (1947) with Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour, and *Escape to Witch Mountain* (1975) with Eddie Albert and Ray Milland. The Byzantine-style castle was used again for the pilot of the short-lived television series *Christine Cromwell* (1989) starring Jaclyn Smith (post Charlie's Angels); in all three it served as the home of the bad guys.

One of the lesser known movies filmed at Pebble Beach was *The Fast and the Furious* (1955) with John Ireland and Dorothy Malone. One of the scenes was shot near the 18th hole of Pebble Beach Golf Links during the 1954 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. Other scenes include actual footage of the 1954 Pebble Beach Road Races.



Recently I had to search out Vertigo (1958) after hearing that the scene where Jimmy

Stewart first kissed Kim Novack was on the Cypress Point Club course. I compared notes with one of my go-to resources, Doug Lumsden of Monterey Movie Tours; even he wasn't sure where it was shot. With a little sleuthing

I was able to identify the spot as Sunset Point, just south of the Cypress Point course 17th green - below the parking lot at Cypress Point Lookout.



I've read that both *Captain January* (1936) with Shirley Temple and *The Adventures of Robin Hood* (1938) with Errol Flynn have scenes filmed at Pebble Beach. I've studied both and can't identify locations here.

A curious find was a 1923 news story about the death of Charles Williams in a plane crash on Pebble Beach Golf Links during filming of "one of the scenes of a moving picture featuring Gloria Swanson." From the description, the movie was perhaps *Prodigal Daughters* (1923), not on any lists of movies shot in Monterey County, nor one I've been able to track down for viewing.

#### DMFPO SEMIANNUAL MEETING

# **Del Monte Forest Property Owners Semiannual Meeting**

Sunday, November 2, 2014 2:00 to 4:00pm The Inn at Spanish Bay (St. Andrews Room)

(2014 DMFPO Members Only Are Invited)

Rich Deal, PE, TE, PTOE, City Traffic Engineer, City of Monterey













To relieve congestion at the busy intersection of Holman Highway 68 and 17 Mile Drive near the entrance to Pebble Beach and the Community Hospital, a modern rounabout will replace the existing signalized intersection. This project is the result of a collaborative effort and a public-private partnership between the City of Monterey, Pebble Beach Company, Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District, County of Monterey and the Transportation Agency for Monterey County.



#### RESIDENTS THANK PBCSD FIRE DEPARTMENT



DMFPO member Averil Nero (second from left) presents a thank you card signed by residents of Pebble Beach to Fire Department Assistant Chief Mark Edria. PBCSD General Manager Mike Niccum and Directors Leo Laska and Peter McKee witnessed the presentation at a PBCSD board meeting.

Pebble Beach residents had the opportunity to thank the Pebble Beach Community Services District (PBCSD)

Fire Department for the great job it does protecting the Forest and the community. Firefighters, paramedics, management, and support staff were honored with a large thank you card presented by DMFPO member Averil Nero. Residents signed the large card during the PBCSD Open House and Safety Day held June 21st.

#### **DMFPO DIRECTORS**

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#### CALIFORNIA SPANISH MOSS

Spanish moss, evocative of the old south and neither Spanish or a moss but a relative of the pineapple (*Ananas comosus*), is not naturally occurring on the Pacific Coast. Old man's beard (*Usnea spp.*) a gray-green, nonparasitic lichen present from Northern California to Alaska bears a close resemblance. The more easily distinguished lace lichen (*Ramalina menzieslii*), sometimes called "California Spanish moss" or "fishnet moss," festoons trees in areas with sufficient humidity along the Pacific Coast from Alaska to the Baja peninsula. Like other "air plants" in its classification, it's a rootless epiphyte that survives on rainfall, dust and random detritus in the atmosphere.

Spanish moss is a moisture wick that can absorb ten times its weight in water along with leaf and bark nutrients from rainfall runoff. Heavy clumps strain tree branches and block sunlight. To get rid of some or all of your moss, use a long-handled rake or a hooked pole. Tree-care and landscaping companies can use a bucket truck to remove moss that's too high for you to reach. Herbicide use is not recommended.

Spanish moss is sensitive to air pollution. It doesn't tolerate smoke and won't grow above active chimneys. It is also highly flammable in dry conditions.



"California Spanish" or "fishnet" moss

Commercially grown as packing material, Spanish moss was used as a "vegetable horsehair" stuffing for furniture and mattresses in the U.S. and Europe from the mid-1800s until the 1960s. Henry Ford even used it in the first Model T seats. Modern-day Spanish moss found in craft and floral departments has been sterilized. Keep an eye out for critters when gathering your own for home crafts, garden mulch, stuffing or packing material. Exterminate microscopic occupants with heat, microwaving your moss for about 20 seconds or immersing in boiling water. Remove with tongs to avoid burns. Dry thoroughly before using. - Cyndi Perkins, http://homeguides.sfgate.com



Run, walk, or jog in the 1st annual Pebble Beach 5K/2K Zombie Run & Emergency Preparedness Fair

With a registered adult, kids run FREE in two course options: the challenging 5K Zombie Crawl or the kinder, gentler 2K Survivor Stroll

Featuring emergency preparedness vendor booths from 17 local public service agencies, a scrumptious golf course buffet, groovy tunes, a best dressed Zombie costume contest and much more, this race is fun for everyone! Begins and ends at the Pebble Beach Corporation Yard

To register: www.tinyurl.com/PebbleBeachZombieRun2014



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#### **REMEMBER:**

If you receive notification of a matter involving the transfer or payment of funds from a financial institution or individual, *always* verify using the contact information you know to be accurate, not phone numbers or email addresses provided by the contacting party. If in doubt, contact law enforcement authorities before taking any action.



http://dmfpo.org

(831) 373-1618

### DMFPO HOSTS FLU SHOT CLINICS IN OCTOBER

# Central Coast Visiting Nurses Association & Hospice Flu Shot Clinics Open to the Public

Hosted by DMFPO at the Pebble Beach Community Services District Forest Lake and Lopez Roads, Pebble Beach

Dates: Thursday, October 16, 2014

Thursday, October 23, 2014

Time: 10:00 a.m. - Noon

# Immunizations available to ages 2 and above

- \$30: Flu Shot, FluMist & High Dose (over age 65)
- Medicare Plan B
- Blue Cross & Blue Shield Insurance
  \*Must present insurance card at clinic\*
- Tdap (tetanus/whooping cough) \$70
- Pneumonia (over age 50) price varies



