This you a City. and of 38 Tulità des old field all bounderful Oneignand we about dear old Moule on coming into its own, delight we and in De Roughard guestal for the city advancement during the games of my residence and properties. me Hat no one on sail know or rather, somewhat the perdensities af the Pistonice Etables - to the Mistrumental Thanks placed on the street was to be with the street the Ruball Hotel on love Alvanada Street. I shall not bother with date tomapet for I find I cont depend on ving memory off the debut & an scribbling Alistoya while 3 de instrument de chapter of the historical novel that of an engaged in writing. I would be the significant of the watter t the hablet for the Wordsney Historical Escation are huse at he felice time. In the weather this fines account in for you to hold and, if Fate prevents my more detailed account you could quiething the Historical Construction that I want to the original to the state of the

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DAIN HERMANNES AND AND STREET MANNES man all former alle your sole of the sole A although the first at the state of the sta placed their Marker Marker provided the warring and planting the property of the party of th and the Heavy (Mary my Contract the of the eld adoles to the state of the state How was to carting. today in M. Guerran Rought shorted of the town to the I saw I'M Kindall House marked and I was disappointed station at the sent the in the in the instance of the sent the sen the Care Ryoney. The same of the little the and the second of the second o The peop this sense with a safe place and Hell was and was Russland on the Miller in the the property of the fitter AND MERCINANT and my good might plat friends for I must get back to there I amburies within a const

Letter to Mrs. Tulita Boronda from H. Bennett Abdy - concerning the Gomez Adobe in Monterey.

New York City July 25, 1938

Tulita, dear old friend,

All the wonderful news you send me about dear old Monterey coming into its own, delights me and reminds me how hard I worked for the citys (!) advancement during the years of my residence among you there. And it has reminded me that no one on earth knows or rather remembers the interesting circumstances surrounding the placing of the historical tablet that I chiefly was instrumental in having placed on the street wall of what is now the Kimball Hotel on lower Alvarado Street.

I shall not bother with dates tonight, for I find I can't depend on my memory off hand but I am scribbling this to you while I am resting in between the 7th and 8th chapters of the historical novel that I am engaged in writing.

I intend to write an official account of the matter of the tablet for the Monterey Historical Society's archives at some future time. In the meantime, this hurried account is for you to hold, and, if Fate prevents my more detailed account, you could give this to the Historical Society for the their transcription into their files.

So--- 0:-

When I learned, in 1912 or 14, that the sturdy two-storey old adobe was to be torn down and a hotel built on its site by the bank of which that very worthy citizen, Arthur Metz was then president, I sought out Mr. Metz to beg "for the life" of the old adobe. Of course I lost. One day while it was being dismantled, I stopped to view the interior with dismay. Soon I was joined by a quiet, sad mannered old gentleman in a long coat, and, I think, a longish beard. I voiced to him my regret at the destruction. He echoed my sentiments in a slightly Spanish accent. "Do you know anything of its history"? I asked. He smiled sadly as he replied: "More than anyone in this town does....for one thing it was the first building used by the United States officials as their headquarters to govern Monterey when the U.S. took California."

"Oh", I said, "I thought Colton Hall was their first headquarters".
"How could it be", he replied, quietly looking up at the partly torn out ceiling, "The American chaplain, Colton, had to have it built Before it could be Colton Hall—they had to have offices in the meantime - and here's were (!) they were - in this the house that my own father built himself for his young bride."

"Tell me all about it, please," I pleaded. "My name is Gomez (I think) and of course that was my father's name. The new home was just ready to move into when the Americans took possession of Monterey. The officials asked who owned the building for they needed offices. So they were very nice about it and asked father to let them rent it for a month or two until they could get a more suitable place. But time went on and a at the end of 3 months or so my father who was a very shy man (I think he said) did not have much English having but recently arrived as a colonist from Mexico) went to see the American officials one day as they were in council around the table. My father asked if he could soon have his house. They said they were sorry but had not yet gotten a better place. But father seemed so distressed that the Rev. Mr. Colton, who was sitting with them very kindly asked him why he was disturbed. Father blurted out that if the clergyman would come out to the door he would tell him privately. The Rev. Colton did so. Father then explained that his wife was expecting her first baby and she cried all day because she feared she could not have her baby born in the home my father had build for them. When Colton told the other American gentlemen they all jumped up and came to father and slapped him on the shoulder and said: "We will get out and let the señora in even if we have to move into a barn": So father and mother moved in - and - I was born".

Mr Gomez did not know where the American officials went. He also said that his own son was a well known baseball player. (Ask your mother or Tony about that) I determined at once to have a momorial tablet placed there. Mr Arthur Metz provided the money, I provided the data. My wife, Rowena Meeks Abdy the artist sketched out the design (Miss Gomez lent us a photo of the old adobe, so thats (!) what is on the tablet) and Mr. Lester Boronda, another Monterey artist, worked it out in wax for casting.

Today, in Mr. Emerson Knight's sketch of the tout-to-be I saw the Kimball House marked and I was disappointed not to see some of his dotted lines at the site to indicate the Cara Gomez. Please get Mr. Knight's attention about this point when next he is in Monterey.

There, keep this scrawl in a safe place and tell your mother and your husband or the Historical Society that you hold this bit of history for future use, if necessary.

And now, good night, old friend, for I must get bact to my novel writing.

As ever
H.Bennett Abdy, F. Am. G. S.
(Author: "On the Ohio")

"Forest Haven" at Monterey.

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