



Bill Lovejoy/Sentinel

Built in a Spanish-revival style, the 'Sunny Cove Court' is quite a good-looking parking lot.

## Walk

Continued from Page B1

candy kingpins. Or they don't profess to be. (On that note, please do not disturb residents whose homes are sites).

A conflation of history and modernity is inevitable, of course, when historic sites still function as something other than museums.

The "Sunny Cove Court" is, with its Spanish-revival style, a wonderful-looking parking lot; still, it's a parking lot, bound at times to have that most ordinary vehicle, the Volvo, drive under its pointed archway.

Poitevin said the carpets were wet at the Villa Maria del Mar Chapel (the tour's ninth destination) last time he visited because surfers had just played in the 100-year-old coastline building right after their walk up from the beach.

"I don't know if they saw a shark or if they're praying for waves, but you know, people feel comfortable being in there," he said.

To be sure, not every site smacks of the present-day. The Ocean Echo Motel, for one,

seems to have retained its primordial look and feel pretty much through and through. In contrast to the conspicuousness of modern hotels towering over commercial neighborhoods, the Ocean Echo sits quietly at the end of a dirt pathway that branches off Portola Drive, hidden behind a natural tunnel of overreaching cypress trees. Behind the motel are two high bluffs that make a perfect backdrop for the diminutive wooden structure.

Inside the hotel, low-lying ceilings befit pygmy occupants, and television is conspicuously absent from sparsely adorned rooms. On a weekday afternoon, nothing was stirring except for the house, whose spiral staircase creaked when stepped upon.

The tour's fourth stop, a "very old rose bush," need not worry about alterations. Its age is evident in swaths of discolored flowers, and a paint job from Mother Nature appears unlikely.

Still, it is ultimately witnessing history in its living form, pulsing and unpredictable, which makes the tour so interesting.

"You learn things (through the tour)," Poitevin said. "You do it, and then you have to come back

and re-edit the thing. We print 100 fold-outs at a time, and each time we do it, we add or change something."

A future revision to the tour might involve the Lincoln Windmill, which the proprietors of Amsterdam Bicycles are determined to get spinning again.

According to Doug Salesky, who calls himself the "Ambassador" for Amsterdam Bicycles, a project is in store to run a system of pulleys from the windmill to a bicycle positioned in front of the shop, so that riding the bike will cause the now-unmoving windmill to turn.

The purpose, Salesky explains, is to promote the business both by adding to the building's historical appeal and advertising its current use.

"We all have a passion for Live Oak, and the history is a thing related to the business," he said. "It's our little community — it's not Santa Cruz (city), it's not Soquel, it's not Seabright. This is Live Oak. This about the business, but it's also about paying the community back."

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