



A Story in Every Photo

by
Beth Miller


Welcome to the Camarillo Ranch circa 1908! Thanks to the foresight and dedication of a teenaged Rosa Camarillo, we are able to see the Ranch through the lens of her ever present camera. It is the Camarillo Ranch not usually shared in our tours. Though there are plenty of horses, there are no Camarillo White Horses yet. The charm of endearing little dogs come across the pages. The devotion of the siblings is captured in the photos. From family stories we recognize activities and Ranch locations. The photos let us see it. Isabel's rose garden is in full bloom. Little Carmen Camarillo plays in the same place that the children on a school tour gather to learn about the Ranch.

As Rosa takes us around the Ranch, we see that everyday work is in full swing. Meliton Ortiz is not part of the Ranch community. He is not born yet! A large barn dominates the view and mules are busy pulling heavy loads. The Camarillo Dairy is in operation. Adolfo had built a new dairy in 1907. It will be another 11 years before the dairy manager takes over the dairy as his own business. Rosa took plenty of automobile photos. Those were included in previous reports.

There is activity inside the house. Lena Jones performs her office duties at a roll top desk. Is that the one Adolfo Camarillo used? We know from other photos that Adolfo had a roll top desk in his private office. Nearby the reception area, adorned with artwork, is ready to welcome guests. Upstairs Isabel sits at her dressing table lost in thought. Rosa even gives us a glimpse of a holiday family gathering in the dining room.

Each of these photos has a story of its own. Look carefully and you will see the stories that Rosa captured. There is very little additional text accompanying the photos. This is a time to sit back and ponder the past through Rosa's 112 plus year old snapshots. Thank you Rosa for your pictorial history!

Around the Camarillo Ranch with Rosa



**All out-doors
invites your Kodak.**

Every day there are pictures right at home that are worth the taking—pictures of the family that will always be cherished, pictures of stock and crops and buildings that will always be of interest and value.

And when you are away from home there are pictures that are not only of interest but of value, too, pictures that mean dollars and cents to you. Every progressive farmer to-day is a student of the methods of those who are making the biggest successes in agriculture. A Kodak makes the most effective note book.

Our Catalogue explains how simple picture taking is by the Kodak method and how inexpensive. It's free at the Kodak dealers, or by mail.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY,
371 STATE STREET, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Kodak advertisement Circa 1910

Rosa Camarillo was just like the young woman in the Kodak advertisement. She took photos of her family, home and Ranch. When her grandson, Tom Marvel was 12 or 13 years old, Rosa told him about going to college with her Brownie camera. She enjoyed taking photos and took countless pictures that filled many albums.

With a few exceptions, the following pages of photos are from Rosa's 1908 album. Excerpts from Rosa's 1910 diary are also included in this photo essay, though the excerpts do not always match the date and/or photo.

Thank you to the Marvel Family for your help with this project!

Rosa's 1908 Photo Album and 1910 Diary Courtesy of the Marvel Family

Research Team:

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Ave (left) with her sister Rosa at the Camarillo Ranch.
Rosa's 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family

Rosa followed her father's example of keeping a daily diary. Her sister Carmen did the same. And like her father, Rosa had one foot in the stirrup and the other on the gas pedal. She enjoyed long horseback rides and was very accustomed to her father's many automobiles.

Rosa's Diary

Courtesy of the Marvel Family

Thursday December 29, 1910

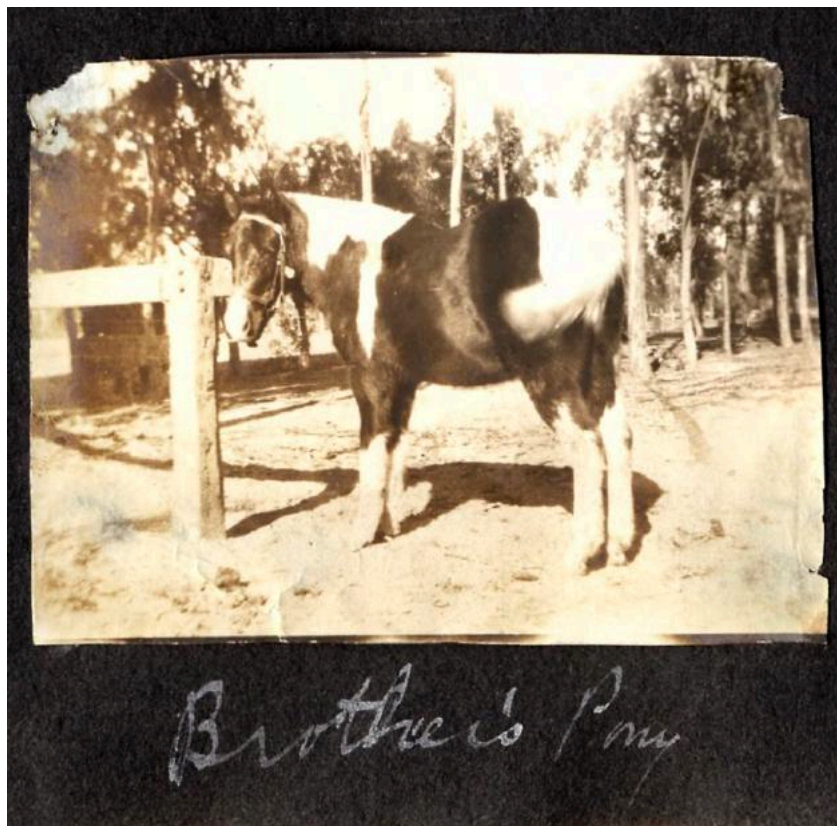
"Pa took us in the Pope to see the cement wells around the ranch."

Pope refers to the Pope-Hartford a very fast car that could cruise comfortably at 50 mph.



Ave and dogs. Pets were an important part of the Camarillo Family.

Rosa's 1908 Photo Album
Courtesy of the Marvel Family



"Brother's Pony" (Pancho's pony)



"Pancho on parade as Grand Marshal Ventura Jubilee '09"
He was 12 years old.

Photos: Rosa's 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family



Ave and Isabel (younger sister Nunie)

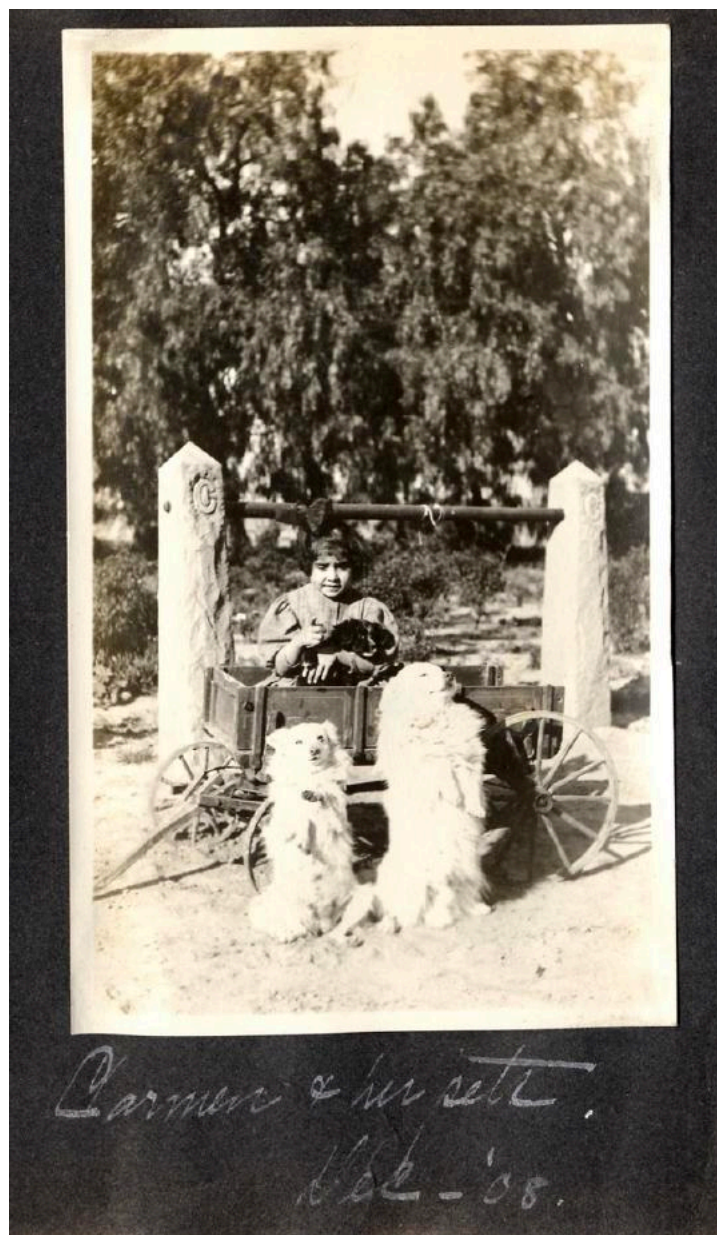
Rosa's Diary

Courtesy of the Marvel Family

Friday, July 1, 1910

"Papa, Nunie, Ave and I went to Ventura about 3:30 P.M. in the Pope H. (Pope Hartford) Took in my paintings to have them framed. Aunt Lena came on noon train. Mama and she went to Los (Los Angeles) on 9:30 P.M. train."

Aunt Lena was Isabel's half sister, Tranquilina Jones. Her daughter, Lena, was half-niece to Isabel and half-cousin to the Camarillo children. Lena was Adolfo's secretary for many years.



"Carmen and her pets. Dec-'08"

One dog is "Sure Mike." The other is "Tiny."

Note the hitching post behind Carmen

Rosa's 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family



"Ñeñe" "Baby"

Carmen with her dog (Sure Mike?) and her dolls

Over 100 years later, children visiting the Camarillo Ranch during a School Tour would gather in the same area where Carmen played.

Rosa's 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family



Carmen and "La France roses"

Isabel Camarillo enjoyed having roses near the home. Her daughters, granddaughters and great granddaughters would all share her love of roses.

Rosa's 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family



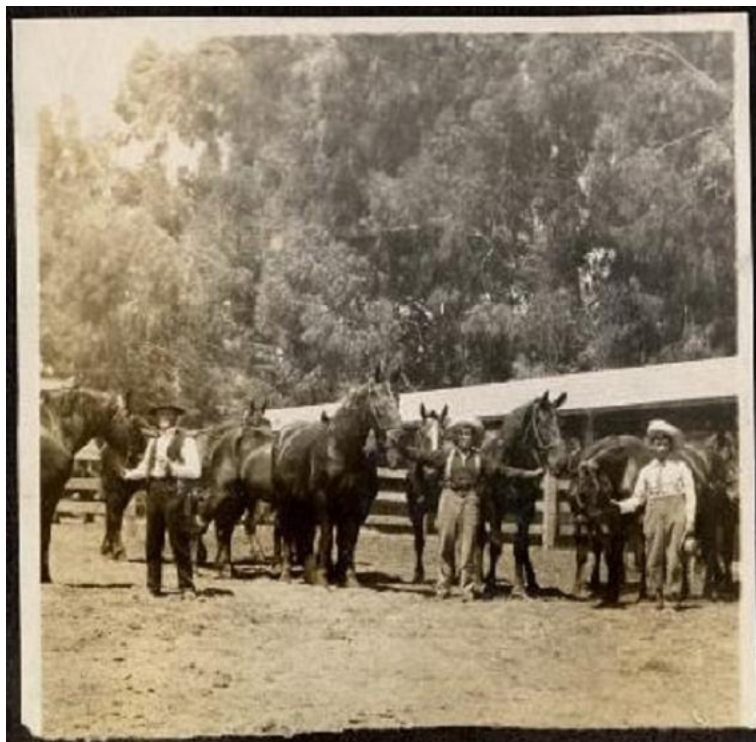
"My horse" (Rosa's horse)



Dogs: "Schocha(?) and Sure Mike"



1908 or later – Mule Barn on Rancho Calleguas (looking north) [from Rosa Camarillo Petit's album beginning in year 1908 – courtesy of the Marvel family] –
Caption in album: "Around the barnyards"



1908 or later – View is looking east (beyond the eucalyptus trees is Calleguas Creek) – The one-story structure is behind the Mule Barn on Rancho Calleguas [from Rosa Camarillo Petit's album beginning in year 1908 – caption in album: "Around the barnyards" – courtesy of the Marvel family]



"Uncle J.C. Home"
Juan E. Camarillo's home

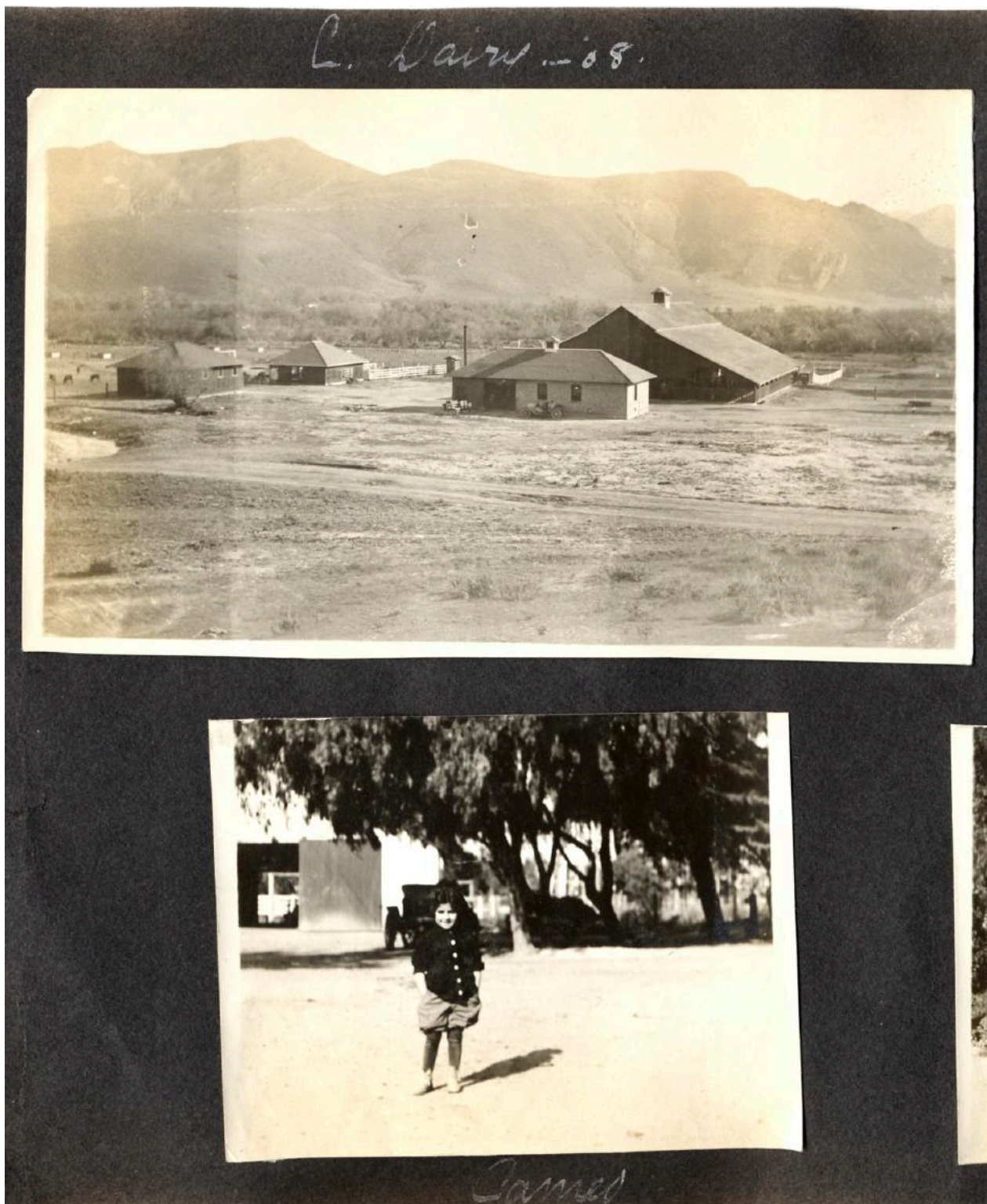
From Rosa's 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family



1908 or later – View from the front of the Camarillo Ranch home. Camera position is at southwest corner of the house (the view is looking southeast). Seen above the palm tree in foreground is the Norfolk Island Pine. Eucalyptus trees at center right are those along Highway 101 (the “tunnel” and “Camarillo Lane”) [from Rosa Camarillo Petit’s album beginning in year 1908 – courtesy of the Marvel family]

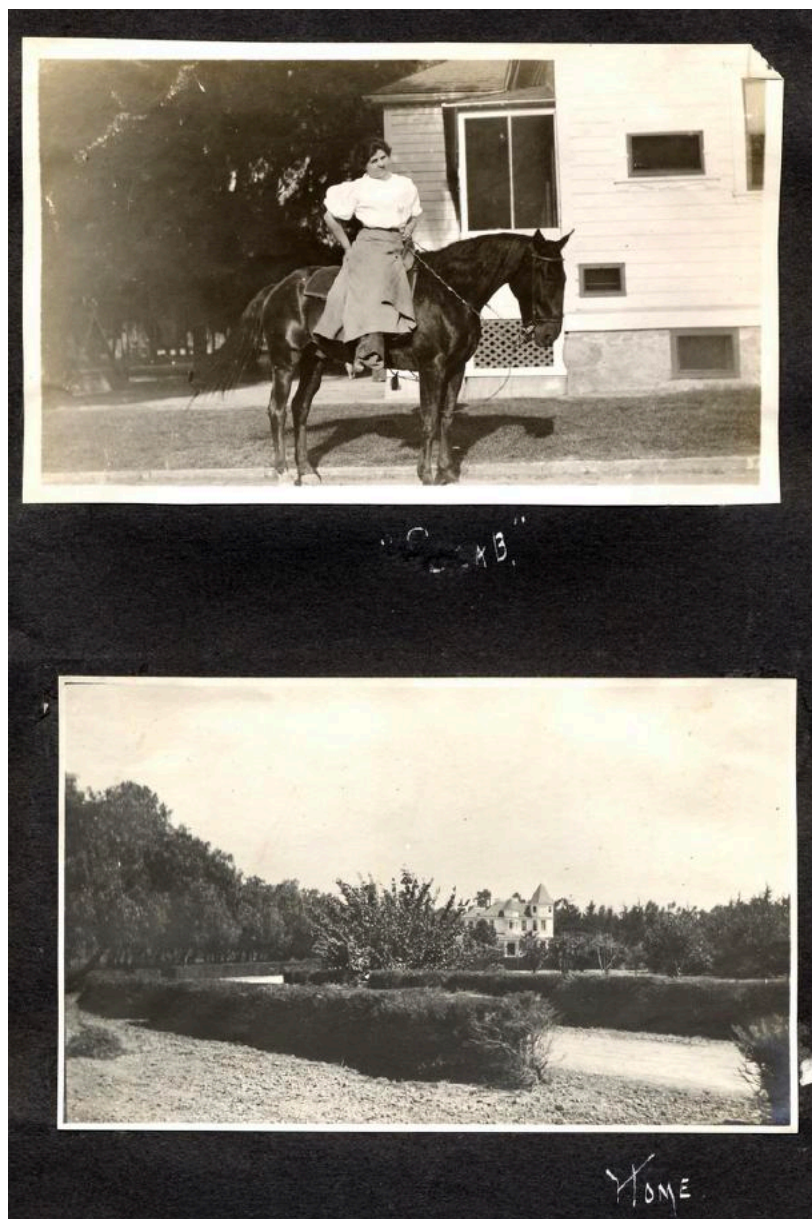


“True Friends” Nunie and Pancho
From Rosa’s 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family



Top: "C. Dairy-'08" Camarillo Dairy

Below: Carmen



Top: Ave

Below: "Home" Note hedges lining race track

Rosa's 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family

Rosa's Diary

Courtesy of the Marvel Family

Friday, November 25, 1910

"Ave and I took a swell horseback ride in the morning. It poured rain in the after (noon) so (we) stayed home & had a good time."



"Nunie and Sport"



Nunie, Helen & Dines(?) in July 4-'10 parade"

Rosa's 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family

Rosa's Diary

Courtesy of the Marvel Family

Monday, July 4, 1910

"All went to Oxnard for the biggest doings ever held in Oxnard. Nunie drove the ponies and got 1st prize. Went to the dance at 10:15 P.M. and had a keen time."



Rosa's 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family
"Off for a spin"

Rosa's Diary
Courtesy of the Marvel Family
Sunday, July 10, 1910

"All the kids and Ma and Pa went in the Pierce Arrow to Mass at 8:00 at Oxnard. Lena, Ave myself and Fred went in the Pope to 10:00 Mass in Ventura then we had a barbecue at Casitas and then beat it to the Springs and had a good swim In the plunge."



at Matilija - Aug - 1909.

“At Matilija August, 1909”



Ave, Isabella, unknown woman, unknown child with hat, Carmen

Photos: Rosa's 1908 Photo Album
Courtesy of the Marvel Family



Isabel, Ave(?) unknown woman, unknown child with hat, Carmen, Lena Jones

Rosa's 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family



a pasture scene -



During Easter vacation - '10

Top: "A pasture scene"

Below: "During Easter vacation - '10"

Rosa's 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family



"Reception Room"

Former Front Parlor became the Reception Room
 Rosa's 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family

There are no small handrails on the newel posts at the base of the staircase nor is there a handrailing attached to the wall.

Several photos in Rosa's 1908 photo album may have been taken after that year and added to the album, which may account for the discrepancies in the dating of the 1908 photo album and the 1914 remodel of the entry and staircase.



From Camarillo Ranch collection

At some point in the house history, the woodwork had been painted white. Camarillo grandchildren remember the woodwork was white. It was removed and the woodwork was restored by the CRF during the house restoration in 1999-2000.

The additional small handrails on the newel posts at the base of the staircase and the handrail attached to the wall were added by the CRF circa 2010.



"Lena Jones busy at work."

She was Adolfo's long-time secretary.

Lena Jones was the half-niece of Isabel Camarillo and half-cousin to the Camarillo children. Lena died on June 6, 1982 at age 101.

Rosa's 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family



"Carmen and her nurse."

Who was the Nurse?

Rosa's 1908 Photo Album Courtesy of the Marvel Family

Who was the Nurse?

Possibly she was Maria Monlong who was Minerva's nurse. It's likely that Maria Monlong was part of this household full of children. It was a home of grief and joy.

Adolfo and Isabel's daughter Martina ("Tulita") died in 1896 at age 1 year, 2 months. The births of Nunie and Pancho followed in January and December 1897. Minerva died in 1898 at age 9-10 years old. Carmen was born in 1903.



Minerva Magdalena Camarillo with her nurse Maria Monlong



Isabel Camarillo in the master bedroom at her dressing table

Note that the woodwork is painted white. The photo may have been taken after 1908 and added to that photo album. *Rosa's 1908 Photo Album and 1910 Diary* Courtesy of the Marvel Family

**Rosa's Diary:
Thursday June 30, 1910**

"Mama canned apricots and we all helped."
Apricot jam would become the absolute favorite of Rosa and Alfred Petit's family.



April 1910 – “Mama. April 1910” – Isabel Camarillo in the Master Bedroom of the Camarillo Ranch home – [from Rosa Camarillo Petit’s album – courtesy of the Marvel family]

The area (today) where Isabel is sitting is behind the miniature house, and to the left of the chair.



Miniature house has since been moved to the nursery.

“Mama. April 1910”



December 25, 1909 – “At Xmas dinner” – Right to Left: unknown baby in a high chair – Tranquilina “Lena” Jones – Adolfo Camarillo – Francisco (“Frank”) – Isabella (“Nunie”) – unknown man (in rear) – Ave María – Isabel Menchaca Camarillo [from Rosa Camarillo Petit’s album – courtesy of the Marvel family]

“At Xmas dinner- ‘09”

Rosa’s Diary

Courtesy of the Marvel Family

Saturday, December 24, 1910

“Xmas eve and of course busy all day, fixing presents and the tree. Papa went to confession and was back by 8:30 p.m. so (we) enjoyed our tree then. Received our presents.”



December 25, 1909 – “Christmas dinner” in the dining room of the Camarillo Ranch home [from Rosa Camarillo Petit’s album – courtesy of the Marvel family]

Rosa's Diary

Courtesy of the Marvel Family

Saturday, December 31, 1910

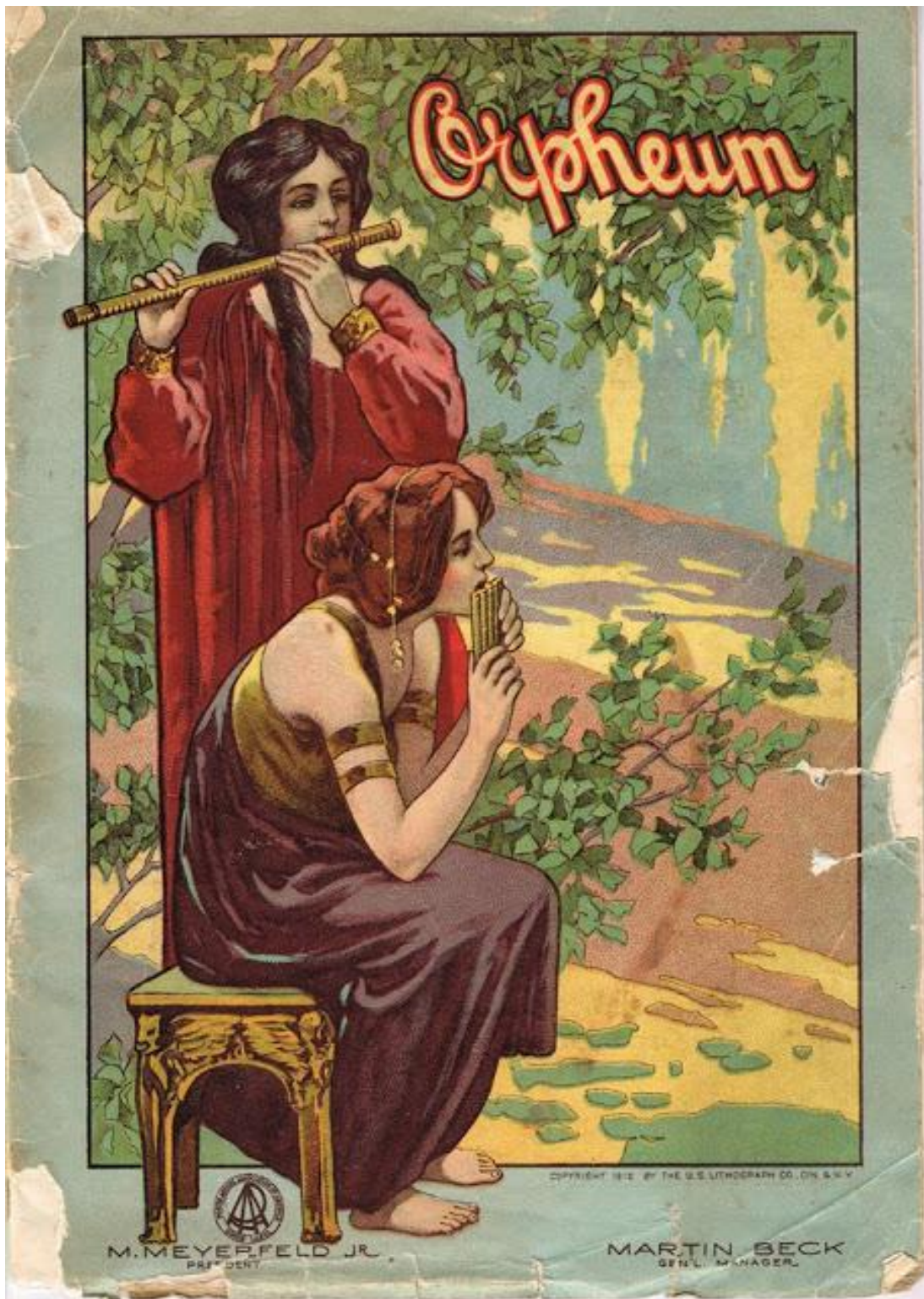
"Spent today and night in Los (family name for Los Angeles) went to the Orpheum and auto show. Great doings in Los. Everybody up to see the old year out and the new year in—"

Over time, the Orpheum had moved to four different locations in Los Angeles. Rosa may have attended a performance at the theatre's second home (1903-1911) of Orpheum Circuit vaudeville on 227 South Spring Street, Los Angeles.



The Los Angeles Theatre opened in 1888 at 227 S. Spring Street. It was renamed the Orpheum in 1903. Seating for 1,488. Building was designed in the Richardsonian Romanesque style.

From: Los Angeles Theatres <https://losangelestheatres.blogspot.com/2019/03/lyceum-theatre.html>



A 1910 Orpheum program cover widely used around the circuit

From: Los Angeles Theatres <https://losangelestheatres.blogspot.com/2019/03/lyceum-theatre.html>



"Dec. 25, '08"

Isabel, unknown woman, Ave, young Carmen by a Camarillo Ranch hitching post.

One year, after the death of her husband Roy Jones, Carmen built her own modern ranch-style home near her parents' grand Queen Anne Victorian mansion in 1974. She had an old Ranch hitching post placed in front of her new home.

From Rosa's 1908 Photo Album
Courtesy of the Marvel Family

Rosa's 1910 Diary

Courtesy of the Marvel Family



Rosa's diaries are small books measuring only 3"x 5" and are just the right size to fit in a pocket or purse. Her father's diaries measure 7"x 8 ½." Both father and daughter used red leather bound journals. Note she signed her name as Rose.

| January Cash Account 1910 | | | February Cash Account | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------|
| Date | Description | Amount | Date | Description | Amount |
| 4 | For Fair | 11.05 | 5 | tablets | 25 |
| " | Pullman | 1.25 | " | candy | 25 |
| " | For Phebe | 1.75 | 12 | shoe | 3.50 |
| 5 | Music writing paper | .80 | 14 | studio | .95 |
| " | Transfer | .90 | 21 | Ladies H. Journal | .15 |
| " | Cafeteria | .40 | 22 | Saratoga | .75 |
| " | For oranges | .10 | 19 | Medicine | \$1.00 |
| 22 | Studio | 1.90 | 23 | Bayard Ave | .25 |
| 11 | Filler | .10 | 24 | Tooth powder | .25 |
| 25 | Chapel | .10 | | | |
| 28 | Wash King's silver | .30 | | | |
| 29 | Ditties from Dr. Angela | 4.75 | | | |
| 11 | Saratoga | .30 | | | |
| 30 | Kodak developing | .75 | | | |

Memoranda

Music lessons on
Monday & Thursday
at 2:30 P.M.
Painting lessons on
Wednesday at 2 P.M. and on
Wednesday at 2:30 P.M.

Don't forget to keep
back these:

1. spooler waist
2. studio's for painting
3. pencils & brushes 11/17
4. Latin Comp. Cook.
5. Ragtime
6. Kodak book
7. Have this waist made.
8. Black & white elastic
9. Tennis racket
10. Tablets & writing paper.
11. Orange stick

Memoranda

Practice is the best
of all instructors.

To luck -
"Lucky at cards - un-
lucky in love"
In a man's eyes
old
In either case it
all depends
upon the hands you
hold.

There's but one thing
sweeter than love -
love and wine.

The woman who hesi-
tates is - won.

Like her father, Rosa used the back pages of her diary to keep notes and a list of expenditures.