



Photos courtesy of the Parker Family

Isabel and Adolfo Camarillo honeymoon portraits January 25, 1888 San Francisco, CA

Displayed on the dining room mantle are portraits of newlyweds Adolfo and Isabel Menchaca Camarillo. The individual portraits were the first of several taken throughout their lifetimes. The honeymoon photos were taken in San Francisco. The backs of the respective photos were signed and dated (January 25, 1888) by the bride and groom.

They were married on January 10, 1888 in Mission San Buenaventura. Adolfo's brother, Juan, and Isabel's sister Susana were the attendants. As was the custom of the day, the reception was held in the home of the bride's parents. Congratulations to the couple were published in the local newspaper: "The best wishes of their many friends go with them on their journey through life." The bridal couple left the Menchaca home to board a train from Santa Paula for San Francisco where they spent their honeymoon at the Palace Hotel. It became the Camarillo family's favorite place to stay whenever they visited San Francisco.

Shortly after graduating college in 1885, Adolfo began keeping a daily account of his life. The diaries would continue until his death in 1958. On January 10, 1888, he simply wrote "I got married today and we left to San Francisco." Ten days later, Adolfo noted "We arrived from S.F. today." The simplicity of the entries belied the depth of their devotion.

After their honeymoon, the couple began married life in the old Ruiz adobe on Rancho Calleguas. She learned the art of making a house a home. He set about changing the Rancho into a successful farming operation. Just four years after they married, the Camarillos built their Queen Anne Victorian home in 1892. Many formal celebrations with family and friends would mark their anniversary. They were married 48 years when Isabel died in 1936.

On Jan. 10, 1949, Adolfo wrote in his diary, "Today is the anniversary of my wedding. Married January 10, 1888. Sixty-one years today." Adolfo never stopped counting their anniversaries. Along the brick path to the gazebo in the East Garden, is a brick commemorating the wedding of Adolfo and Isabel Camarillo.

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