



MONTEREY, 1847, FROM THE OLD FORT

Reproduced from *California, 1847-1852, Drawings by William Rich Hutton*
Courtesy of The Huntington Library

The Raising of the Flag at Monterey, California, July 7, 1846

By AUBREY NEASHAM

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

THE Monterey Custom House over which Commodore John Drake Sloat raised the American flag on July 7, 1846, has been in charge of the California State Park Commission since 1927 when the lease from the Federal government was transferred to the state. In 1935, through an Act of Congress, provision was made for the sale of all public buildings of historical importance not utilized by the government, preference to be given to state or municipal bodies to purchase for public use at half the appraised value. The price fixed for the Custom House was \$40,000, the state furnishing half of the reduced amount of \$20,000 and local citizens the balance.

From time to time the question has arisen as to the location of the original flagstaff. For a period of seventy-five years it had been generally accepted that the flag was raised at the northwest corner of the Custom House, and on the fortieth and fiftieth anniversaries it was unfurled at that corner. With the approach of this year's centennial the State Park Commission felt that the best expert advice should be obtained to locate definitely, if possible, the original flagstaff. Through the good offices of Vernon Aubrey Neasham, Regional Historian, National Park Service, the University of California was called upon to aid in the investigation, and those selected to represent the institution were Theodore D. McCown, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Ralph W. Chaney, Professor of Paleontology, and Herbert E. Bolton, Sather Professor of History, Emeritus. Cooperating with this group was Richard K. Beardsley, who was placed in charge of the excavations. As a result of documentary evidence recently found, a study of old photographs and prints, and the excavations made, the special investigating group reported that the flag was raised at a spot five and a half feet from the northeast corner of the Custom House. Remnants of the staff and the original rock cairn were unearthed.

The State Park Commission accepted this report and erected a flagstaff of Monterey pine at the new location. The Commission's special thanks are given to Dr. Neasham and to those representing the University of California.

JOSEPH R. KNOWLAND

The archaeological work carried out by the Department of Anthropology of the University of California at the Custom House, Monterey, in cooperation with the California State Park Commission, the City of Mon-

tery, and the National Park Service, has brought to light the remains of the flag pole upon which the flag of the United States was raised on July 7, 1846. That this work was undertaken is due to the interest and foresight of the Hon. Joseph R. Knowland, Chairman of the California State Park Commission, who correctly understands the aid which archaeology can give to history in a matter such as the one hereon reported. Mr. Knowland's encouragement and support of our work and his critical appraisal of the evidence are gratefully acknowledged.

The credit for carrying out the excavation and interpreting the facts belongs to Richard K. Beardsley and to his co-workers, William J. Wallace and Morton D. Gleason. Mr. Beardsley's report has somewhat understated the practical difficulties encountered in the work of excavation, which makes his application of the empirical scientific techniques of the archaeologist all the more deserving of the highest commendation. The continuous occupation of the Custom House and the present-day use both of the surface of the ground and the subsoil adjacent to the building presented a series of problems with which the archaeologist normally does not have to contend. In this connection, the active interest of Mrs. M. L. Greene, Curator of the Custom House, and of Superintendent H. L. Blaisdell is warmly remembered.

The reader of this report will readily see that the archaeological evidence supplements and confirms the historical facts and deductions presented by Dr. Aubrey Neasham. The result is that there is no major piece of discordant evidence in the combined findings of the historian and the archaeologist. All who look upon the new flag pole can know with assurance that it stands on the spot where the formal action of Commodore Sloat made California a part of the United States of America.

THEODORE D. McCOWN

AUTHOR'S FOREWORD

The writer expresses his appreciation to the Hon. Joseph R. Knowland, Chairman, California State Park Commission, who was instrumental in making possible this research and the archaeological excavations conducted by the University of California in cooperation with the California State Park Commission, the City of Monterey, and the National Park Service. Directed by Dr. Theodore D. McCown, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of California, field excavation work at the Custom House in Monterey, headed by Richard K. Beardsley with the assistance of William J. Wallace and Morton D. Gleason, proved fruitful. Documentary evidence plus archaeological excavations resulted in finding the base of the original flagstaff. This was identified as Monterey pine (*Pinus radiata*) by Dr. Ralph W. Chaney, Professor of Paleontology, University of California.

In addition to those mentioned above, Mrs. Mary L. Greene, Curator of the Custom House in Monterey, Mr. H. L. Blaisdell, Superintendent, and

A. E. Henning, Chief, California Division of Beaches and Parks, Col. Roger S. Fitch, President, Monterey History and Art Association, and the Native Sons and Daughters of the Golden West are to be complimented for their efforts in preserving historical values connected with the Custom House.

The Bancroft Library of the University of California, the California Historical Society, the State Library in Sacramento, and the Huntington Library supplied most of the information used in this paper. Miss Edith Coulter, Professor in the School of Librarianship, University of California, was especially cooperative in securing copies of the Larkin lithographs and keys, the Hutton drawings, Taylor's drawing, the Coulter lithograph, and photographs of the raising of the flag during the semi-centennial celebration of July 7, 1896. Dr. Herbert E. Bolton, Sather Professor of History, Emeritus, University of California, checked the results of this research and offered his constructive criticisms, as did Mr. Knowland.

The finding of the 1846 flagstaff base has demonstrated the technique which should be followed in ascertaining the history of California's landmarks. The running of a bulldozer, the building of a road, the digging of a ditch, or other construction work where important historical values may be, should no longer be countenanced, unless competent historical and archaeological advice is first obtained. As it was, the recent archaeological excavations revealed an 18-inch water pipe and two smaller ones that narrowly missed destroying what remained of the 1846 flagstaff. The larger water pipe was less than two feet from the flagstaff base. Part of the rock cairn within which the flagstaff was set was destroyed when the water main was constructed many years ago.

The question concerning the exact spot in Monterey, California, where the United States flag was raised on July 7, 1846, by the occupation forces of Commodore John D. Sloat, U. S. Naval commander, has been a perplexing one. There have been two schools of thought on the subject: one insisted that the flag was raised on a flagstaff on the northwest corner of the Custom House; the other claimed that it was raised on a staff in the plaza of the Custom House, several feet from the northeast corner of the building towards the waterfront.

Popular tradition favored the raising of the flag on the building itself. This viewpoint was backed by photographs taken at the semi-centennial of July 7, 1896, during which the flag was raised by William P. Toler, midshipman and signal officer, who had helped to raise the flag in 1846. These photographs show the United States flag flying from the flagstaff on the northwest corner of the Custom House.¹

The flag was also raised on the Custom House earlier, during ceremonies held in Monterey on July 5, 1886. At that time, Major C. F. Williams, U. S.

Marine Corps, had the honor of re-enacting the ceremony. As accounts of the day tell, the flag was raised on the northwest corner of the building at exactly the spot where it was raised ten years later in 1896.²

Major E. A. Sherman, a veteran of the Mexican War who had much to do with the ceremonies of raising the flag in 1886 and 1896, was of the opinion that the flag was raised on the northwest corner of the Custom House in 1846. He indicated that Toler told him so prior to the 1896 ceremonies.³ That Toler had assisted Passed Midshipman Edward Higgins in raising the flag in 1846 was not known to Major Sherman in 1886, however. This is shown by Major Sherman on July 5, 1886, when he as one of the principal speakers said, "The flag of the United States was then [July 7, 1846] hoisted by Lieutenant Edward Higgins, immediately after which a salute of twenty-one guns was fired by the Savannah and Cyane."⁴

Major Sherman had a lithograph made of the landings in 1846. This is W. A. Coulter's "Raising of the American Flag at Monterey, July 7, 1846," which shows the United States flag flying on a flagstaff on the northwest corner of the Custom House. In addition to the original reproduced in Sherman's biography of Sloat in 1902, a copy may be found in Coy's *Pictorial History of California*, and elsewhere.⁵

However convincing the above proof may seem that the United States flag was raised on the northwest corner of the Custom House on July 7, 1846, it appears that such was not the case. An accumulation of evidence to the contrary indicates that the flag was raised on a flagstaff several feet from the building, opposite the northeast corner and towards the water's edge.

The flagstaffs of Mexican custom houses in California were usually located away from the buildings. So far as Monterey is concerned, the Vallejo documents mention that in 1827 a flag pole with its halyard and flag was set up near the new peaked-roof building used as a storage room and for the convenience of the Custom House guard.⁶ Furthermore, Commodore Montgomery in his communication to Sloat of July 9, 1846, indicated in the following words how the flag was raised in Yerba Buena (San Francisco): "I landed this morning . . . and at 8 a.m. hoisted our flag in front of the custom house in the public square."⁷

Substantiating the statement of 1827 in the Vallejo documents, two lithographs with identifying keys, made under the direction of Thomas O. Larkin in 1851, show the Mexican flag flying from several sources in Monterey in 1842. So far as the Custom House is concerned, only one of these lithographs, that viewing Monterey from the bay, shows a flag at this site. The flag portrayed is on a flagstaff several feet from the building.⁸ The other lithograph, viewing Monterey from inland, shows no flag at the Custom House. This may not have been inaccurate, however. Perhaps there was no flagstaff at the Custom House at that time in 1842. Commodore Jones made no mention of one there in 1842, when he prematurely raised the United

States flag at El Castillo (the old Mexican fort) and at the Casa de Gobierno (government building). Perhaps it was an oversight on Larkin's part not to have included the flagstaff in the second lithograph. The lithograph, based on an artist's sketch of 1842, was made by Gildemeister and printed by D'Avignon in New York, approximately nine years after the scene it was intended to represent.

Despite the fact that the Larkin lithographs portray Monterey in 1842, they are important pieces of evidence on the location of the raising of the flag in 1846. One definitely shows the location of the flagstaff away from the Custom House. The other shows no flagstaff on the northwest corner of the building.

No one knew better than Larkin where the flagstaff was located. He not only supplied most of the building materials for the north end of the Custom House, but, also, he had charge of much of its construction, including the erection of a new flagstaff in 1843. A perusal of the Larkin *Accounts* gives the following information on the Custom House flagstaff:

March 14, 1843, Flagstaff for Custom House.....	\$3.	[Vol. X]
May 4, 1843, Kinlock's work at flagstaff.....	\$2.4	[" "]
Knakas [<i>sic</i>] (14 days work).....	\$2.	[" "]
June 1, 1843, Paid Indians for putting up flagstaff.....	\$4.4	[" XII]
4 bolts.....	\$3.	[" "]
May 1844, work on C. H. flagstaff, G. Kinlock.....	\$2.4	[" "]
May 15, 1844, G. Kinlock, work on truck of C. H. flag- staff	\$2.4	[" XI]

These items prove conclusively that Larkin knew the location of the flagstaff. Furthermore, his communication to Abel Stearns of July 8, 1846, one day after the raising of the flag, indicates no new location of the flagstaff which he had erected in 1843. His letter reads as follows:

"Commodore John D. Sloat yesterday at seven o'clock in the morning sent to the house of Don Mariano Silva (the highest Military Commandant at this time in town) Captain Mervine of the Cyane with two or three officers, demanding the surrender of the country; by eight Señor Silva contested the letter saying he had no orders nor anything to give up—property soldiers or Flag (the comandancia of this port has had no Flag this two months). At ten o'clock the forces were landed and they hoisted the American Flag."⁹

Commodore Sloat in his official documents of 1846 makes no mention of erecting a new flagstaff on the Custom House, nor do his subordinates. The fact that he was undecided whether or not to raise the United States flag, for several days prior to July 7, would indicate that he did not go to the trouble of having a flagstaff put on the Custom House prior to July 7. He did not have time to do so on July 7. Furthermore, had Larkin's flagstaff not been in place, Sloat would have raised the flag elsewhere in Monterey, as Jones had done earlier in 1842.¹⁰

Additional documentary information subsequent to the events of July 7,

1846, tends to prove that the flag was raised on the flagstaff away from the Custom House. Six drawings of Monterey in the possession of the Huntington Library confirm the matter. Accurately drawn by William R. Hutton, Army paymaster and draftsman, they show an interesting evolution in the moving of the flagstaff. One drawn in 1847 includes the Custom House, but not the grounds towards the shore, and no flagstaff is shown on the building. A second drawn on June 5, 1847, shows the flagstaff located on the Custom House grounds a few feet away from the northeast corner of the Custom House.¹¹ Two others drawn in 1848 show the flagstaff on the northeast corner of the building. A fifth drawn in 1849 and a sixth in 1851 also show the flagstaff on the northeast corner.

The flagstaff may have been moved again from the northeast corner, where it was in 1848 and 1849, to opposite the northwest corner, where Bayard Taylor in his *El Dorado* shows it about 1850.¹² Later it was moved to the northwest corner of the building itself where it was for three quarters of a century. When it was moved, this writer has been unable to ascertain. Perhaps in musty records in Washington, D. C., that answer will be found. It is not surprising that it was moved several times in the course of the years. Flagstaffs have a way of disintegrating. Such may have been the case in Monterey, where the comparatively soft Monterey pine was used. We have evidence that there was a flagstaff at the Custom House in 1827. Again, Larkin put up a new one in 1843. Whether the flagstaff erected on the northeast corner of the Custom House after June 5, 1847, was the Larkin flagstaff is difficult to ascertain. Whether the flagstaff opposite the northwest corner in 1850 and on the northwest corner in 1886, and thereafter, was the same as that portrayed in Hutton's drawings of 1848, 1849, and 1851 is also difficult to determine.

Based upon the above evidence, particularly Hutton's drawing of June 5, 1847, recent archaeological excavations conducted by the Department of Anthropology, University of California, in cooperation with the California State Park Commission, the City of Monterey, and the National Park Service, have resulted in finding the original flagstaff base. This base, now rotted, was set within a rock cairn. Several feet underground, it had been covered by earth fill. Identified as Monterey pine by Dr. Ralph W. Chaney, Professor of Paleontology, University of California, the flagstaff base is now in the process of being preserved by University of California scientists. After impregnation with modern chemicals, what is left of the original flagstaff, a piece some 3 feet in length and 9 inches in diameter, will be placed on display at the Custom House. A smaller portion, about a foot long and 4 inches in diameter, is on temporary display in the museum there. The cairn, part of which is preserved, will be left *in situ* beneath the surface of the ground.

A new flagstaff, constructed of Monterey pine, has been erected at the Custom House on the spot indicated by Hutton in 1847. Actually set within what is left of the rock cairn, this flagstaff was dedicated by the Native Sons

and Daughters of the Golden West and the California State Park Commission during ceremonies in which Governor Earl Warren participated on July 6, 1946. A memorial plaque has been placed there by these organizations. On July 7, 1946, in simple ceremonies the United States Flag was raised on this newly erected flagstaff by United States Marines. These twentieth century successors of Commodore Sloat's forces had put the flag back where it was raised on July 7, 1846.¹³

NOTES

1. National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War, *History of the Celebrations of the Semi-Centennial Anniversaries of the Raising of the American Flag and Occupation of California* (Oakland, 1896).

2. The Monterey *Argus*, July 10, 1886.

3. E. A. Sherman, *The Life of the Late Rear-Admiral John Drake Sloat* (Oakland, 1902), 78-79. Toler's statement is an interesting one. This writer wonders whether he might not have been confused in his directions. Because of the location of the Custom House on Monterey Bay, directions do seem to be turned around. Ordinarily, west is seaward on the California coast. At the Custom House, east is towards the water's edge. However it may have been, there is nothing in Sherman's printed words of Toler that indicates that the flag was raised on the building. Actually Toler said that the officers were standing at the corner prior to the raising of the flag.

4. Monterey *Argus*, July 10, 1886.

5. O. C. Coy, *A Pictorial History of California* (Berkeley, 1925), picture No. 114.

6. M. G. Vallejo, "Documentos para la Historia de California" (manuscript in Bancroft Library), XIX, 102-103.

7. *Message from the President . . .*, 29th Cong., 2d sess., H. Ex. Doc. No. 4 (Washington, 1846), p. 649.

8. The Larkin lithographs are confusing items. The lithograph showing the flagstaff would indicate that it was several feet from the northwest corner of the Custom House. The key to the lithograph, however, shows the flagstaff opposite the northeast corner.

9. Letter from T. O. Larkin to Abel Stearns, Monterey, July 8, 1846, in Larkin *Papers*, IV, part 2, 394-96 (unpublished). It is interesting to know that Larkin sold a Mexican flag to Governor Micheltorena on August 20, 1844, for \$3.6, and one to John A. Sutter on November 1, 1844, for \$15.6. See Larkin *Accounts*, XIII.

10. In addition to the flagstaff at the Custom House, El Castillo, and the Casa de Gobierno, Larkin *Papers*, II, 568, shows that Larkin had erected a flagstaff at the Larkin House in 1844. This was especially for the United States Consulate. Ninety-six yards of bunting, costing \$72, were used for the American flag which flew from this flagstaff.

11. The drawing of June 5, 1847, was checked for accuracy by this writer. An observer will notice one very significant detail about this drawing, other than the location of the flagstaff a few feet opposite the northeast corner. The Royal Presidio Chapel is shown directly in line with the position where the artist was sitting and the top of the north end of the Custom House. A line projected on a modern map from the tower of the church through the peak at the north end of the Custom House, if extended to the area of the old fort, comes out exactly where the artist must have been sitting. This simplified the problem as to where to dig to find the base of the flagstaff in archaeological excavations done by the Department of Anthropology, University of California, during May and June 1946.

12. B. Taylor, *El Dorado, or, Adventure in the Path of Empire* (New York, 1850), 121.

13. This paper is based mainly on the writer's report transmitted to the Hon. Joseph R. Knowland on May 9, 1946.

APPENDIX
Correspondence

601 Sheldon Building*
San Francisco, 5

May 9, 1946.

The Hon. Joseph R. Knowland,
Chairman, California State Park Commission,
Tribune Tower,
Oakland, California.

My dear Mr. Knowland:

There is transmitted herewith Regional Historian Neasham's report, *The Raising of the Flag at Monterey, California, July 7, 1846*, which was prepared as a result of your telephone request to him of May 1.

It is hoped that this information will be helpful to you in determining just where the United States flag was raised on July 7, 1846. Certainly, the raising of the flag at that time had great significance, not only for California, but for the entire nation, as well.

Sincerely yours,

O. A. TOMLINSON,
Regional Director.

601 Sheldon Building
San Francisco, 5

May 15, 1946.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

There is transmitted herewith a copy of Regional Historian Neasham's report, *The Raising of the Flag at Monterey, California, July 7, 1846*, which was prepared at the request of the Hon. Joseph R. Knowland, Chairman, California State Park Commission, on May 1.

Having the documentary evidence, Mr. Knowland may now desire an archaeological investigation made to determine whether the base of the 1846 flagstaff can be located. Consequently, Dr. Neasham and Dr. Theodore D. McCown, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of California, are going to Monterey on May 18 to prepare for such a survey. The survey, if done, will be paid for by the California State Park Commission, with the exception of Neasham's time and travel.

The question as to the location of this flagstaff is timely, as ceremonies will be held in Monterey on July 7, 1946, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the raising of the United States flag over California. Even though the flagstaff may not be found, it is believed that some interesting artifacts reaching back to the Spanish period may be unearthed.

Mr. Knowland has requested that no publicity arise in this matter, if possible. A copy of Regional Director Tomlinson's letter of May 9 to Mr. Knowland is attached.

HERBERT MAIER,
Acting Regional Director.

601 Sheldon Building
San Francisco, 5

May 22, 1946.

MEMORANDUM for the Files.

At the request of the Hon. Joseph R. Knowland, Chairman, California State Park

*The letter-head for correspondence from this address is: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Region Four.

Commission, I went to Monterey, California, on May 18 with Dr. T. D. McCown, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of California, and Mr. R. Beardsley, graduate student in Anthropology.

Meeting in Colonel Allan Griffin's office with Colonel Roger S. Fitch (Monterey History and Art Association), Mrs. Mary Greene (Curator of the Custom House), and Mr. W. O'Donnel (*Monterey Peninsula Herald*), we discussed the possibility of an archaeological exploration at the north end of the Custom House to determine the location of the flagstaff upon which the American flag was raised on July 7, 1846. All agreed that such an exploration would be valuable. Even if the base of the flagstaff cannot be found, some interesting artifacts may be unearthed.

Later, on going over the ground at the Custom House, it was apparent that the Custom House may be situated on an old Indian mound. How extensive this may be can only be determined by archaeological excavation. Whether the site of the 1846 flagstaff can be found is uncertain. Modern accretions may have covered or destroyed the site.

In a telephone conversation with the undersigned on May 21, Mr. Knowland approved the plan to search for the base of the 1846 flagstaff. He said that he would send an authorization to Dr. McCown allowing him to begin the archaeological work at the Custom House. The cost of the survey is to be paid by the California State Park Commission.

Mr. Beardsley plans shortly to begin the survey. In addition to a basic crew of himself and two laborers, he plans to use college and high school students, if necessary.

VERNON A. NEASHAM,
Regional Historian.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

May 28, 1946.

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Four.

We have read with more than ordinary interest your memorandum of May 15 and Regional Historian Neasham's report of May 8, "The Raising of the Flag at Monterey, California, July 7, 1846."

The conclusions of the report illustrate the dangers involved in accepting preconceived opinions about historic sites or even the testimony of actual witnesses when such testimony is given many years after an event. While to many people it is impious to question long established tradition, the truth, which is often in surprising contrast to popular conceptions, can be had only through the exhaustive type of research that is exemplified in Dr. Neasham's study.

We shall be interested in the results of the proposed archaeological excavation.

NEWTON B. DRURY,
Director.

601 Sheldon Building
San Francisco, 5

June 12, 1946.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

The attached statement, concerning the raising of the United States flag at Monterey, California, on June 7, 1846, signed by Messrs. Neasham, McCown, Chaney, and Bolton, was presented today to the Hon. Joseph R. Knowland, Chairman, California State Park Commission.

HERBERT MAIER,
Acting Regional Director.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

The Raising of the United States Flag at Monterey, July 7, 1846

Cumulative evidence indicates that the United States flag was raised in Monterey by the forces of Commodore John D. Sloat, U. S. Navy, on July 7, 1846, at a spot five and a half feet from the northeast corner of the Custom House. This is based on documentary evidence from the accounts of Thomas O. Larkin, which show that he erected a flagstaff at the Custom House in 1843. W. R. Hutton's drawing of June 5, 1847, definitely locates the flagstaff at this spot. This is confirmed by archaeological excavation done by the Department of Anthropology, University of California, within the last few weeks, during which the base of the flagstaff was located. The rotted base set within a rock cairn has been identified as pine, probably Monterey pine. This will be preserved as a museum exhibit within the Custom House. The rock cairn will be preserved in situ underneath the surface of the ground. A new flagstaff will be placed on the site of the original flagstaff of 1846.

Additional evidence indicates that the flagstaff was moved on several occasions after 1846. Hutton's drawings show it on the northeast corner of the Custom House in 1848. Bayard Taylor's drawing of approximately 1850 shows it several feet from the northwest corner. For the last three quarters of a century it has been attached to the northwest corner of the Custom House. Further research in the archives of the War and Navy Departments may reveal the exact times of moving and the reasons.

It is anticipated that a full report of the historical, archaeological, and paleontological evidence, and modern techniques of preserving the original base, will be published at an early date in the *California Historical Society Quarterly*, if desired.

VERNON AUBREY NEASHAM,
Regional Historian,
National Park Service;

THEODORE D. McCOWN,
Assistant Professor of Anthropology;

RALPH W. CHANEY,
Professor of Paleontology;

HERBERT E. BOLTON,
Sather Professor of History, Emeritus.

June 12, 1946.

601 Sheldon Building
San Francisco, 5

June 15, 1946.

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Four.

I journeyed to Monterey, California, on Saturday, June 8, accompanied by Dr. R. W. Chaney, Professor of Paleontology, and Dr. T. D. McCown, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of California, for the purpose of inspecting the archaeological excavation being done at the Custom House. During the afternoon, we were joined by the Hon. J. R. Knowland, Chairman, California State Park Commission. In Mr. Knowland's presence, we completed uncovering the base of the flagstaff upon which the United States flag was raised by the forces of Commodore John D. Sloat, on July 7, 1846. The rotted base of the flagstaff was set in a cairn of granite rocks, approximately 5 feet from the northeast corner of the Custom House.

Again on Tuesday, June 11, I went to Monterey to inspect the site of the archaeological investigation. Mr. R. Beardsley, in charge of the field party of archaeologists, had already left Monterey, taking with him the rotted base and other materials unearthed for preservation at the University of California. The rock cairn will be left in situ, and recovered

with earth, after a new flagstaff has been erected at this site. After preservation, the original base of the flagstaff will be placed on display at the Custom House.

Mr. H. L. Blaisdell, Superintendent, North Central Section, Division of Beaches and Parks, and I discussed on June 11 in Monterey ways and means of erecting a new flagstaff on the original site. It was decided that he, Landscape Engineer Dan Hull of the Division of Beaches and Parks, Regional Architect DeLong, Regional Engineer Crowley, and I would meet in the Region Four Office on June 17 to prepare plans and specifications for the new flagstaff.

On Wednesday, June 12, Messrs. Chaney, McCown, Bolton, and I signed a short statement on our findings, with the suggestion that a full report on historical, archaeological, and paleontological evidence, and methods used to preserve the original flagstaff base be submitted to the California Historical Society for publication, if desired. This signed statement was submitted to Mr. Knowland on June 12 for presentation to and action by the California State Park Commission in its meeting in Sonoma on June 13.

VERNON A. NEASHAM,
Regional Historian.

601 Sheldon Building
San Francisco, 5

June 24, 1946.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

Regional Historian Neasham has been asked by the California Historical Society to contribute an article for publication in the near future on his findings relative to the raising of the United States flag at Monterey on July 7, 1846. In addition, there will be a short introduction by the Hon. Joseph R. Knowland, Chairman, California State Park Commission, and a portion to be submitted by the Department of Anthropology, University of California, summarizing archaeological work done.

Permission is requested to use Neasham's report, submitted to Mr. Knowland on May 9, copy of which was transmitted to you, as a basis for his article, together with such official correspondence as may be applicable. As this correspondence is not of a confidential nature, and does clarify the steps taken and the technique involved, we believe there would be no reason not to include it in the appendix to the article.

O. A. TOMLINSON,
Regional Director.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO 54, ILL.

Air Mail

June 27, 1946

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director Region Four

As requested in your memorandum of June 24, permission is given for the publication of Regional Historian Vernon A. Neasham's report entitled "The Raising of the Flag at Monterey, California, July 7, 1846." We congratulate Dr. Neasham upon the forthcoming publication of his scholarly article.

HILLORY A. TOLSON
Acting Director