

When McCoy retired in 1915, he searched for a suitable location for his dream. He purchased the L.E. Blochman property, eight blocks south of the center of the city. In 1916, construction of the Historic Santa Maria Inn began.

Frank J. McCoy proudly opened the doors of his fine hotel with 24 rooms, 24 baths, kitchen and dining room on May 16, 1917.

Over the years the Inn grew and expanded. Twelve rooms were added in 1919. Twenty-one more rooms and another dining room appeared in 1923. Another 28 rooms built in 1928 brought the Inn's room count up to 85.

Joday the Inn features 164 rooms, including 18 suites. The 2000 renovation entailed a total redecoration of all sleeping rooms in the quaint and cozy Original Inn — with all new furniture, wall coverings, floor coverings, beds, bedspreads, televisions and amenities. In 2005, a total renovation was also completed in the Tower section of the Inn.

The Olde English Tap Room has been restored to its original congenial atmosphere, providing guests with a quiet spot to sip their favorite drink before the friendly glow of an inviting fire.

Once again, the Historic Santa Maria Inn stands ready to welcome the traveler and local society with unique accommodations, excellent cuisine and oldfashioned hospitality.

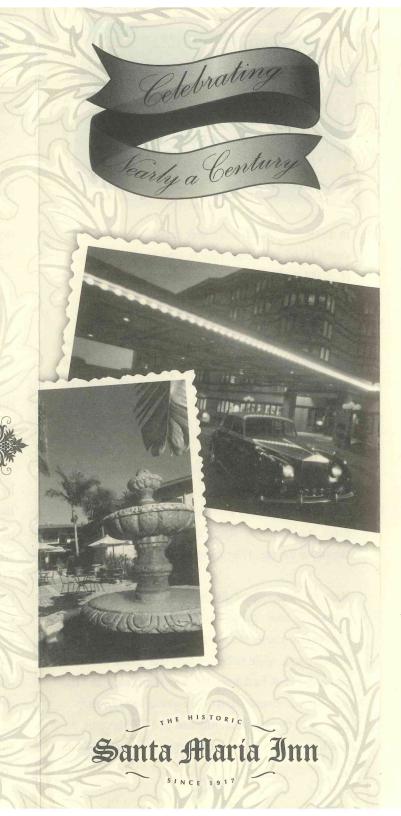


## The Historic Santa Maria Inn Unique accommodations, excellent cuisine,

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164 Gracious Rooms and Suites
Garden Room Restaurant
Olde English Pub
Wine Cellar & Martini Bar
Extensive Meeting and Banquet Facilities
Stunning on-site Wedding settings
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www.santamariainn.com





For almost a century, the Historic Santa Maria Inn has been a Central Coast landmark. Beautifully decorated in the style of an old English country inn with warm woods, lovely fabrics, and beautiful paintings, the Inn reflects the graciousness and hospitality of the Santa Maria Valley.

In 1904, Frank J. McCoy came to the Valley to work for the new Union Sugar plant in the city of Betteravia, just west of Santa Maria. Immediately he saw that the city, located almost midway between Los Angeles and San Francisco, had no comfortable hotel accommodations. He envisioned a fine hotel full of tradition and comfort for the city.

McCoy demonstrated his love of flowers by having them everywhere. At first, potted plants filled the windows of the dining room. Eventually McCoy worked out a planting schedule that provided fresh-cut flowers every day of the year. All of the Inn's flowers came from its own garden just a few blocks away. The Inn's famous floral arrangements have been reproduced in stained glass for windows in the historical section of the Inn.

In the early years, the courtyard patio hosted McCoy's first flower gardens. It evolved into a cactus garden containing many prize specimens of succulents during the '30s and '40s. The patio is still a quiet retreat of sun and shade filled with the gentle sounds of water cascading from the antique fountain which has been the backdrop to many beautiful weddings.





In 1941, McCoy added the Olde English Tap Room, designed by Edgar Cheesewright to capture the atmosphere of an old English pub with peg-plank wooden floors and rich wormwood paneling.

By this time, the Inn had become the showplace of the Valley and the center of local society, as well as a retreat for the weary traveler. The Santa Maria Inn was the stopping-off place for food and lodging in the era of motorcar travel, just as it had been in the days of horse and buggy.

A trip along California's historic El Camino Real, winding its way from Los Angeles to San Francisco, took several days. Visitors from all over the world — including presidents, ambassadors, actors and corporate magnates — stopped at the Santa Maria Inn.

Many celebrities spent the night in Santa Maria before journeying north to William Randolph Hearst's famed San Simeon castle. Movie executives made the Inn their headquarters, while using the beautiful countryside and ocean dunes as backdrops for their films, such as "The Ten Commandments" and "The Spirit of Saint Louis." The old El Camino Real, widened in 1950, became the new Highway 101. Travelers no longer rode past the Santa

Maria Inn on their way through town. The golden age of the Inn faded as motorists were attracted to newer chain motels. The palatial building with its warm and charming architecture closed. For several years, attempts to reopen the Inn failed.

The Inn was re-opened and renovated in 1981, and the six-story Tower added in 1984. The ground floor became Tower Lane Shops with several retail and service businesses. Downstairs are the Wine Cellar and Martini Bar, health and fitness facilities, and banquet rooms.

The old palm and magnolia trees, directly in front of the entrance, are reminders of the Inn's floral heritage. The lavish courtyards with fountains, and park-like gardens are also testament to the enduring quality of McCoy's green thumb. The grounds, replete with flowing plants, shrubs, and ferns, are as beautiful as ever, while the modern poolside cabanas and spa offer visitors yet another chance for socializing and relaxation.

In 1999, Hardy and Judy Hearn and Robert and Blanche Hollingsead purchased the hotel. These longstanding local businesspeople dedicated themselves to a major refurbishment of the Inn, and have completed nearly \$10 million in renovations since their acquisition of the property. The Inn is currently undergoing yet another renovation restoring the elegance of the historic rooms and public areas while maintaining the ambiance and gracious hospitality patrons are accustomed to. From our heated swimming pool, outdoor spa, specialty suites and brand new state-of-the-art kitchen and fitness facility, the owners are committed to impeccable care and attention to detail.



Robert Hollingsead, an inventor and entrepreneur, passed away on January 24, 2002. He was definitely a visionary, who put his thumbprint on the Inn's history. On May 16, 2007, the Historic Santa Maria Inn celebrated its 90th birthday. This was a special time for reflection on accomplishments, changes and traditions established through the years.

The restoration of this historic landmark turned the clock back to an era alive with traditions. The lobby, the guest rooms, the Garden Room Restaurant and dining rooms are filled with warm colors and fabrics, historical photographs and original furnishings that recall a bygone era. The Inn has been designated as a city historical landmark and is known officially as the Historic Santa Maria Inn.

Old photographs of the early Inn, its gardens and McCoy are on display in the Inn's Historic Coach Room, but everywhere else are small nooks filled with living history: courtyard patio, ivy-covered balconies, imported Italian fountains, and the buff-colored adobe. The legend still lives at the Inn, and the Historic Original Inn wing of the hotel continues to evoke its rich history.





