



Restoring the Hollister Adobe

The oldest building on the San Luis Obispo Campus is looking for a little help from its friends.

In October 1866, Ellen Hollister purchased a property on present-day Cuesta College where the Hollister Adobe currently stands. This year marks 150 years since the purchase, and a small group of community advocates are helping to ensure that the adobe's legacy, and the building itself, remain standing.

Originally built in the 1830s, the adobe property was claimed by a retired mission soldier in 1840 and for over a hundred years passed hands through generations of families as a private home. The U.S. military took it over in preparation for World War II, as part of the expansion of Camp San Luis Obispo. In 1963, it became property of Cuesta College and the efforts of students, faculty, staff, and community members helped to restore it.

Today, the Hollister Adobe remains the oldest building on the Cuesta College San Luis Obispo Campus. In need of renovation, a restoration plan is in place to bring the structure up to par with current standards. Fundraising efforts by community members, including Friends of the Adobe and

members of the Hollister family, are underway to guarantee that the decades of California history are well preserved. "This building, better than anything else, represents the surrounding community and all the people who have passed by this place," said Dennis Judd, a retired Cuesta College history professor and advocate for the Hollister Adobe. "Their memories are here, and I think this is a single best example of what we call a community college. This is the community, the Hollister Adobe is the taproot."

To learn more about donating toward the Hollister Adobe restoration, please contact the Cuesta College Foundation at 805.546.3279.

Continuing efforts to restore the Hollister Adobe are being made possible through the support of a small group of community members, including Friends of the Adobe and members of the Hollister family. Pictured above from left to right: Ty Smith, Dennis Judd, Katchy Andrews, Lee Hollister, Lynn Hollister, Shannon Hill, Bob Vessely.