Taking a scenic route

Lara Dennis

In 1989, a team of archaeologists discovered a lost Spanish mission in the Santa Barbara area of California. The site, known as Mission San Miguel, was the last of the missions founded by Father Junipero Serra, who established 21 missions in California. The discovery sparked a wave of interest in the history and culture of the region, and the site has since become a popular tourist attraction.

The mission's ruins consist of a small church, a bell tower, and a few other buildings. The church is a simple structure with a single door and a small window. The bell tower is taller and more ornate, with a decorative spire at the top.

The site is open to the public and offers guided tours. Visitors can explore the ruins and learn about the history of the mission. The site is also home to a number of wildlife species, including birds and insects.

In addition to the guided tours, the site also offers a gift shop where visitors can purchase souvenirs and information about the mission. The site is open year-round, but visitors are encouraged to check the website for specific hours and information.

For more information, visit the website of the mission or contact the park service.

“True Grit”: a tale of loss and redemption

DAVID L. ELST

Sometimes you need a break from the usual fare. That was the case for writer Charles Portis when he was tasked with adapting the classic novel of the same name for the big screen. Portis, known for his sharp wit and deadpan humor, was not afraid to take creative liberties with the story.

The novel, written by Charles Portis, was published in 1968 and followed the character of Mattie Ross, a 14-year-old girl who sets out to avenge her father's death. The story is set in the American West during the 1870s and follows Ross as she travels from Arkansas to Arizona, tracking down the man who killed her father.

Portis's screenplay was a departure from the original novel, but it was also a nod to the storytelling tradition of the American West. The film, directed by Henry Hathaway, starred John Wayne as the title character and was released in 1969.

While the film was not a commercial success, it has since become a cult classic and is regarded as one of the best Westerns ever made. The film's themes of revenge, justice, and honor continue to resonate with audiences today.

For more information on the film or Charles Portis, visit the website of the National Film Registry or contact the Library of Congress.

FISHERMEN'S WHARF: The wharf is a lively place, shown in this photo of the ancient wharf during the foggy sunrise of its return to Los Angeles.

“Sunrise at Fisherman's Wharf” by Charles M. Russell, 1905, is a photograph of the ancient wharf during the foggy sunrise of its return to Los Angeles.

The wharf is a lively place, shown in this photo of the ancient wharf during the foggy sunrise of its return to Los Angeles.

For more information on the wharf or Charles M. Russell, visit the website of the Library of Congress or contact the museum.

BALDWIN: Phil Dixon's 945 blog, "Baldwin on the Pacific," is a column of the California Watercolor movement.


For more information on the movie or Lloyd Bentsen, visit the website of the Library of Congress or contact the museum.

Westways

JACKET COPY

A novel of the American West

A tale of loss and redemption

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