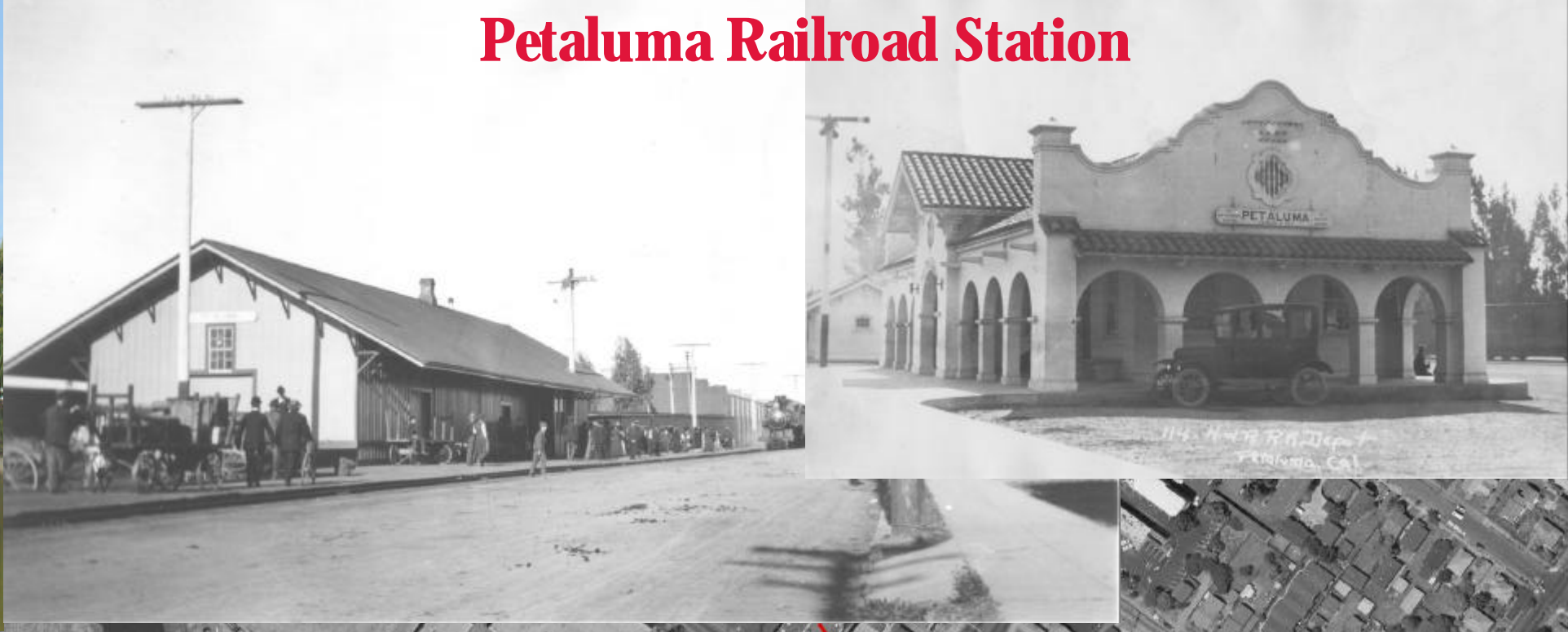


Historic Downtown Petaluma

The Great Petaluma Mill



Petaluma Railroad Station



Petaluma Silk Mill

Iron Front Row



Petaluma Historical Library and Museum



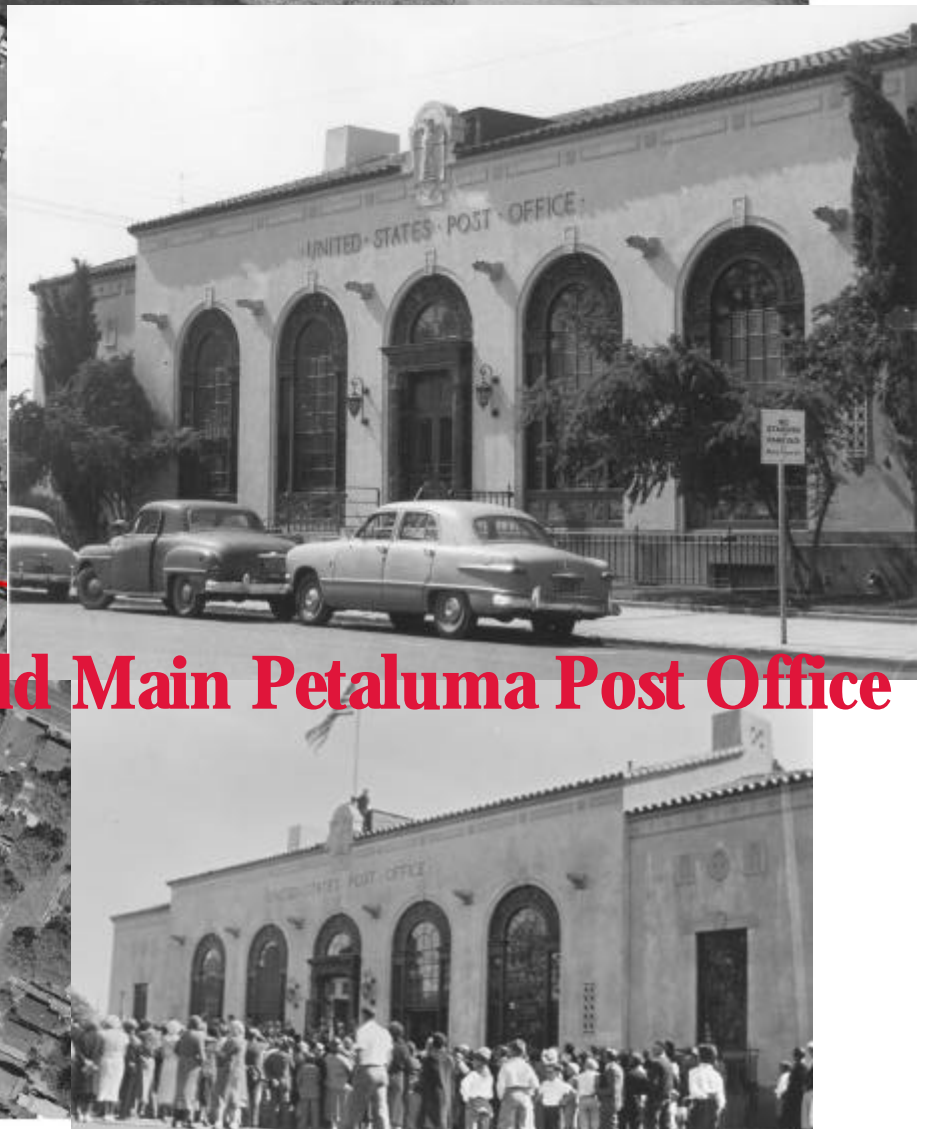
McNear Buildings



Odd Fellow's Hall



Old Main Petaluma Post Office



You Are Here



Petaluma Historical Library & Museum

(4th & B Streets)

Designed by local architect Brainerd Jones, this Carnegie Library opened its doors in 1906. This beautiful historic structure continues to serve its visitors, now as a history museum. Exhibits showcase Petaluma's rich and diverse past. The Museum also houses the Hoppy Hopkins Historical Research Library. Docent led walking tours are given most Saturdays and the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 10:30 a.m., May through October.

The Great Petaluma Mill

(1st & B Streets)

This complex is actually several buildings, with the southeast corner built as a warehouse in the early 1850's. The McNear family built the feed mill in 1902. The building was restored in 1975.

The McNear Buildings

(15-23 Petaluma Boulevard North)

The northern portion of this building was constructed in 1886 for John A. McNear, one of Petaluma's most prominent founders, and once housed a national guard armory on its upper floors. Like its neighbors on Western Avenue, this building also possesses an iron front. Look for the O'Connell and Lewis Architectural Iron Work stamp. The adjoining building was designed by Brainerd Jones and constructed in 1911 to include the Mystic Theatre, originally featuring vaudeville and silent films. Today the Mystic Theatre serves as a popular live music venue.

Petaluma's Iron Front Row

(Western Ave.)

This "largest block of iron fronts west of the Mississippi" was built in the 1880's. Iron fronts were believed to be fireproof (not so) and an economical way to produce an ornate structure.

The Odd Fellows Hall

(107-113 Petaluma Boulevard North)

One of Petaluma's oldest commercial structures, this building was designed by J.B. Brooche in the Second Empire style and constructed between 1871 and 1878. Several additions have occurred over the years including one in 1926, which was designed by Brainerd Jones.

Credits

Photos courtesy of: Marshall West, Cassandra Chattan of Archaeological Resource Service and the Petaluma Visitors Center. This poster was produced by William Roop of Archaeological Resource Service for Basin Street Properties. Background air photo courtesy of the City of Petaluma

- Photo Point
- Historic tour sites
- Downtown History Walk



Stroll Our Streets!

Complete Historic Downtown Walking Tour maps are available in "Visit Petaluma", the Official Petaluma Visitors Guide, available at the Petaluma Visitors Center (800 Baywood Dr.) and the Petaluma Historical Library and Museum (20 Fourth St.).