

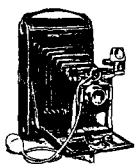
California History

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California Snapshots



ABOVE: A fine day in June, California-style. . . . But what is the occasion for this pleasant gathering in 1910 at Monticello Grove (now under Lake Berryessa in Napa County)? Ribbons pinned on some of the ladies suggest prizes . . . for the best pies or the finest hats? Perhaps this is an annual company picnic. Are the men employed by the brewery whose beer they drink and display for the photographer? Whatever the event, a more mellow gathering would be hard to find. California Historical Society, San Francisco

FRONT: In turn-of-the-century Southern California, solar water heaters were more than curious playthings for the wealthy. When this no-nonsense Pomona Valley family gathered in front of its clapboard bungalow in 1911 for a portrait, perhaps to send to doubting midwestern relatives, the blank face of the roof-mounted solar collector seemed almost as important a presence as grandpa and grandma. Butti/Perlin & Assoc., Venice

BACK: Indians of All Tribes reclaim Alcatraz Island in 1969. San Francisco Room, San Francisco Public Library

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Gerardus Mercator's map of the North Polar region, published in Amsterdam by Abraham Ortelius in 1595, shows the kingdom of Anian with the Strait of Anian separating America from Asia. California appears as a peninsula extending above the Arctic Circle. Author's collection.