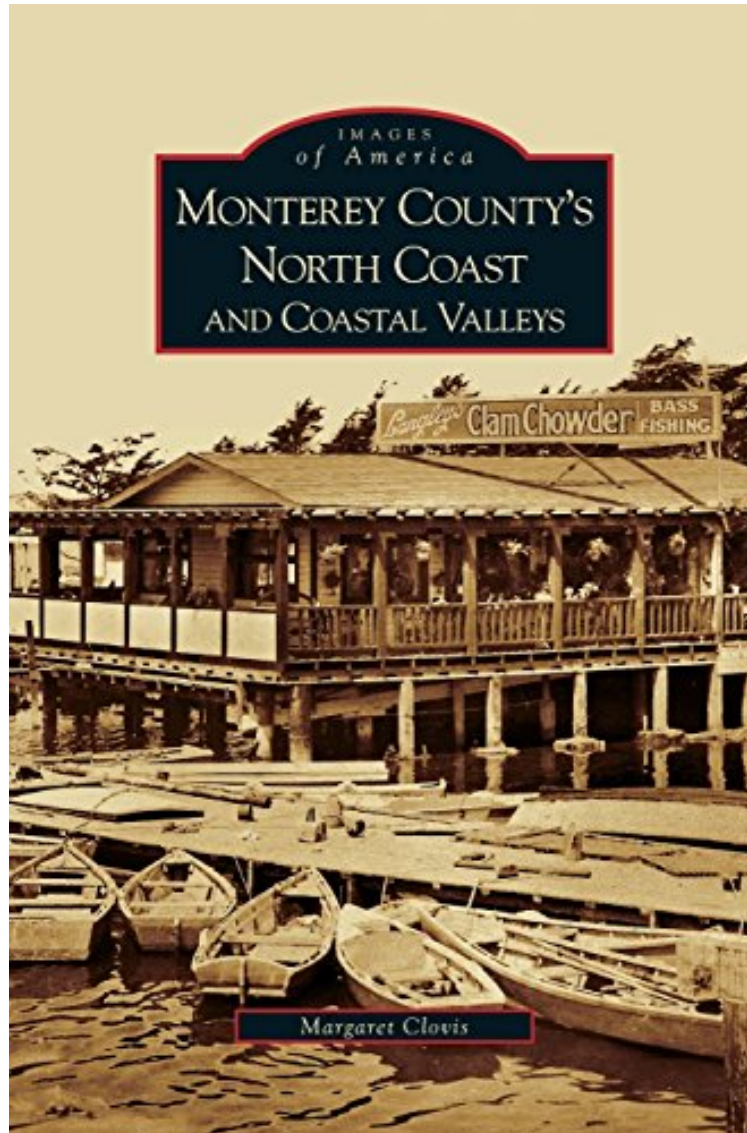


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## Monterey County's North Coast and Coastal Valleys

*Margaret Clovis*

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**Margaret Clovis : Monterey County's North Coast and Coastal Valleys** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Monterey County's North Coast and Coastal Valleys:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful pictures and historyBy Kindle CustomerI was so happy to get this book. I live in the North Monterey County and work in Salinas. It was wonderful to read the history and see the old pictures. I cross Hudson Landing bridge every day. Now I know it's place in local history. Excellent!It is not an in depth history but it reviews some of the more obscure name-places in my area.0 of 0 people found the following

review helpful. This Book Has Some Interesting Information And Interesting Pictures. By William This book has some interesting pictures and some interesting information. Here are some the facts that his book mentions. In 1863, Juan B. Castro laid out the town of Castroville. Mr. Castro donated land for public use and established a lottery to give 100 lots away. In 1866, retired seafarer Captain Charles Moss moved his family from Texas and built a homestead near what was to become Moss Landing. Noted architect William Weeks had his architectural career launched in Watsonville in the early part of the 1890's decade. In his first 18 years of practice, he designed and supervised the construction of over 1,000 buildings. He was awarded contracts to build churches, homes, commercial buildings, and schools in the Monterey Bay Region. The town name Aromas was derived from the Las Armomitas y Agua Caliente rancho. There is a picture in the book of Marilyn Monroe signing autographs for fans while she was in Castroville. In appreciation, they crowned her honorary artichoke queen for 1948.

Fog billows gently across Monterey County's north coast, a white blanket tucked up against the hills of Aromas. Beneath its protective shroud, fishing boats gently rock, artichokes thrive, and shorebirds build nests along Elkhorn Slough. In this muffled landscape of fertile loam crisscrossed by sloughs, settlers built four distinct communities. Juan B. Castro subdivided his family's rancho to found Castroville, now known as the artichoke capital of the world. Captain Moss and Cato Vierra opened a port, a sea gate to a premier agricultural area. Moss Landing later hosted whalers, a salt works, canneries, and a power generation plant. John Porter's ranch was a safe haven for Chinese immigrants. Their apple-drying businesses spearheaded Pajaro's development as a central rail-shipping point with several produce-packing companies. Aromas pioneers judged their valley well suited for growing apricots. Drifts of white blossoms buried Aromas in spring, while summer's vistas were golden with trays of drying apricots.

About the Author Author, historian, and museum curator Margaret Clovis, who also authored the Images of America volume Salinas Valley, has gathered images from many public and private archives. Her insightful commentary penetrates the north coast's misty veil to reveal the fascinating history underlying these coastal communities.