



O u r H i s t o r y

1894: The first beach cottages were constructed along a formerly barren hillside above the La Jolla Cove. Outstanding among them was this house, built as a weekend retreat by Dr. Joseph Rodes, a San Diego physician, who purchased the prime oceanfront site for \$165. The architecture is typical of early California bungalows, with single wall construction and vertical tongue-and-groove siding of pure heart redwood with cedar shingles. A hip roof and a wraparound veranda take advantage of sea breezes.

1900: After Dr. Rodes' death in 1896, the house was taken over by two sisters, Olivia Mudgett and Nellie Mills, La Jolla's first real estate agents. At the turn of the century, it was a four hour trip from San Diego to La Jolla, so weekend cottages were very appealing. Mrs. Mills rented out several beach cottages, including this one, which she named The Brockton Villa, in honor of her New England heritage in Brockton, Massachusetts. The diaries of her husband, Anson Mills, contain many references to the cottage such as... "Today I painted at the Brockton."

1920: The unusual shell-inlaid fireplace was probably built in the 1920's, judging by the fire bricks and Portland cement used. These rare, oversized abalone shells are impossible to find today due to over-fishing.

1940: For many years, the house was occupied by Moreland MacPike, known to many as the "Turtle Lady." She is described as a very shy woman who had a performing turtle. Rumor has it that she and her piano-playing pet once entertained President Truman at the White House.

1968: Pannikin Copper, Coffee and Cookery opened at 1296 Prospect, specializing in freshly roasted coffee beans and copper cookware. Soon after opening, Copper and Cookery gave way to tea and spice. Pannikin's first coffee-roasting plant was located in a garage near the Cave Store just up the street from Brockton Villa. Today, Pannikin Coffee and Tea is acknowledged as being ahead of its time.

1990's: Pannikin obtained the lease to this historic but somewhat dilapidated property in order to renovate it and adapt it for use as a restaurant. Pannikin founder Bob Sinclair had a strong commitment to preserving the community's architectural heritage. And has renovated and adapted other buildings for several of its locations. In 1993, Pannikin won the prestigious Orchid Award for preservation for its distinctive renovation of the Brockton Villa cottage. Megan (Lee) Heine, daughter of the "Pannikin family," took ownership of the Brockton Villa Restaurant in 1994, and the remaining Pannikin coffee business was sold to outside interests.

THESE DAYS: With 30 years of service, we remain committed to providing a wonderful dining experience while the sun rises and sets. We look forward to you being a part of our continued history.

We must acknowledge our wonderful staff members who have been so flexible and hard working during all of these transitions.