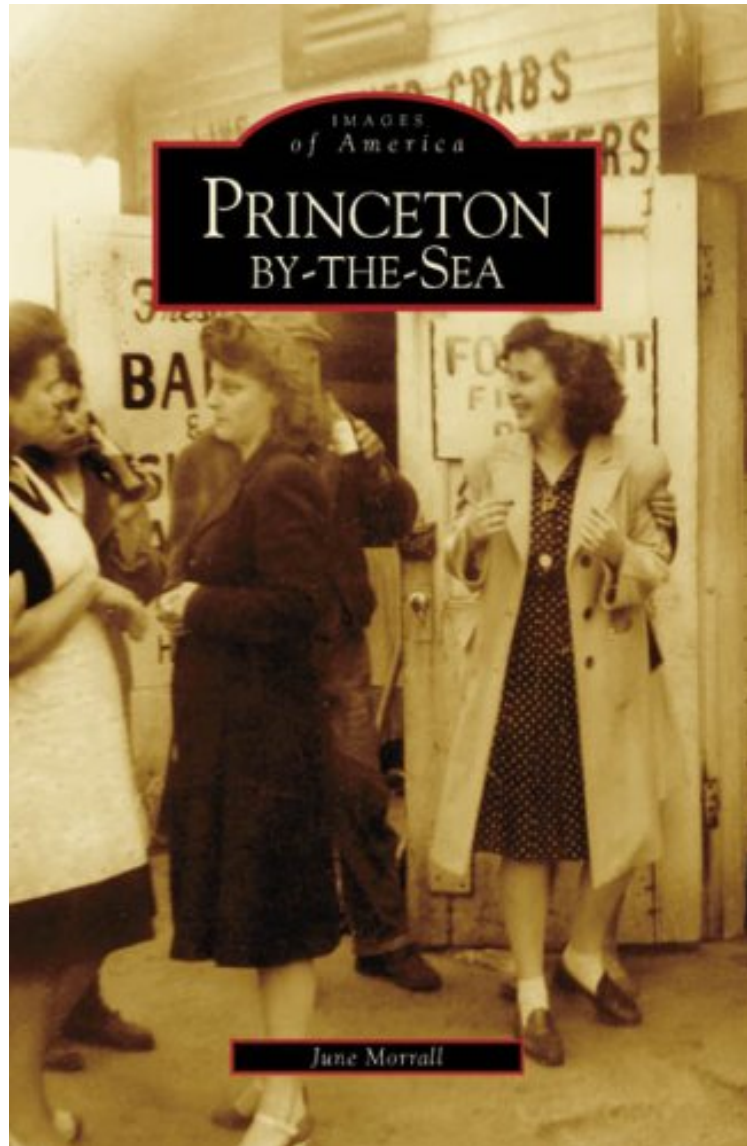


(Download pdf) Princeton-by-the-Sea (Images of America: California)

Princeton-by-the-Sea (Images of America: California)

June Morrall

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June Morrall : Princeton-by-the-Sea (Images of America: California) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Princeton-by-the-Sea (Images of America: California):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Local girl makes good (copy)!By Kai TiuraThis, another in a l-o-n-g list of Arcadia Publishing's books detailing the histories of various places and events in America, is well done considering the relatively small size of the town of Princeton, California because of two things: first, Princeton has had a very full past with some very colorful characters involved in a odd array of activities and, second, because it was

written by a local who has made it her life's work to document and journal the area's history. June Morrall knows the area of Half Moon Bay known as "The Coast" to locals (which really stretches from as far south as Pescadero to as far north as Pacifica, but certainly to Montara and Devil's Slide) like few others. Her commentary and insight in this little book give the reader a good understanding of this tiny burg and its sometimes sordid and always colorful past. These books, on the whole, give us an invaluable look at the details that formed communities and events of historic note, from which we, if we wish, can pull some civic pride, or gather some understanding of an area and keep some of that history alive. There are a number of really good books available regarding the history of this area ("Granada, a Synonym for Paradise" by Barbara VanderWerf, "The Last Whistle" - a history of the Ocean Shore Railroad, "Half Moon Bay Memories", also by June Morrall, and of course the Arcadia Publishing book on Half Moon Bay). I have most of them and highly suggest further reading on the subject to anyone interested in California's past, especially the coastside, railroads, rumrunners, fifties glitterati and the coastal mindset that was, and in some cases still is, so "wild wild west" in its devotion to a different lifestyle than its warmer-climate neighbors' way of living. Entertaining reading!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Princeton-by-the-Sea - A wonderful trip back in time for the tiny harbor area

By Cid Young

The Princeton Harbor area has long been a magnet for bohemians and free spirits. The tourists are drawn to the place for the good food etc. Crusty fishermen mingle amongst artists and surfers at the old Princeton Landing. You'll discover amazing stories long forgotten (or never known to newbies) which can be found within these pages, including a section about the Half Moon Bay Drag Strip Races in the 1960's and the 1946 Tsunami on April Fool's Day. Reading this book, I could almost smell the crabs boiling in the pots down by the harbor and I wanted to run down to Barbara's Fishtrap for a Neptune Sampler! Pete Douglas and the Bach Dynamite and Dancing Society are also featured, down the road in Miramar...all still alive and kickin'.

The isolation imposed by the sometimes raging Pacific Ocean and breathtaking coastal barrier mountains helped mold the historic personalities of Princeton-by-the-Sea and neighboring Miramar. In the early 1900s, these towns were placed along the Ocean Shore Railroad to attract visitors and settlers from San Francisco to these peaceful shores. Rumrunners, bootleggers, operators of shady roadhouses, and a brazen red-haired madam were characters here in the 1920s. In the 1940s, wind-gnarled fishermen, funky eateries, and a miniature cannery row stood watch over the northern end of the bay, under the stunning rock landmark of Pillar Point. In these pages are the boats, fishermen, buildings, beaches, and personalities that make Princeton-by-the-Sea and Miramar anything but typical Bay Area suburbs.

About the Author

Local writer and historian June Morrall tells the unique story of Princeton and Miramar through vintage images culled from private collections, the Spanishtown Historical Society, and the San Mateo County History Museum. Morrall, author of *Half Moon Bay Memories: The Coastsides Colorful Past*, has written extensively on history for the *San Mateo County Times* and maintains a colorful Web site devoted to coastal memories. Morrall shows here that these communities unique ways still persist and contribute to the enduring charm of these secluded coastside towns.