

Arthur Page Brown

A. Page Brown, one of California's most noted architectural offices during the late 19th century designed a row of Mission Revival style houses in Santa Barbara 2000- 2050 Garden Street, known as Crocker Row. Brown, who was in practice in California between 1889 and his death in 1898, headed a firm whose members included Willis Polk, Ernest Coxhead, Albert Schweinfurth and Bernard Maybeck, all of whom became significant architects. The firm is most notable for establishing a new standard for architecture in California that was on par with that of the East Coast.

Moreover, the firm's body of work includes some of the most important

buildings built in California during the last decade of the 19th century. These included institutional and commercial commissions such as the Old Peoples Home (San Francisco, 1889), the Crocker Building (San Francisco, 1890-1892), Trinity Church (San Francisco, 1891-1894), the Atkinson Building (San Francisco, 1892) and the Ferry Building (1892). The firm is also important for its numerous residential commissions including Alban Town House (San Francisco, 1891), William Crocker House, (1890-1891), Crocker Row (Santa Barbara, 1896), and the George Roe House (San Francisco, 1894). Moreover, the firm, primarily through the work of Albert Schweinfurth, played an important role in developing a regional architectural style for California inspired by the state's colonial period missions and Spanish and Mediterranean antecedents.



(Historic Photograph April,1897 courtesy Santa Barbara Historical Society, Gledhill Library)