

## Walking Tour of the Earthquake History of Santa Barbara



On 28 June 1925, at 6:44 AM, Santa Barbara experienced a magnitude 6.3 earthquake. Most residential homes survived intact and lost their chimneys. The downtown commercial district experienced significant damage with the loss of several hotels. The Sheffield Dam failed and sent a wall of water through the city. Thirteen people were killed.

The distinctive look of the city of Santa Barbara is a direct result of the 1925 earthquake. The city introduced a strict building code after the event and required all new buildings to conform to the Hispano-Moresque style of white stucco and red tile roofs.

Professor Emeritus Art Sylvester, of the UCSB Department of Earth Science, will be leading a guided tour of downtown Santa Barbara. He will point out buildings that were damaged during the 1925 event and show where remnants of the damage are still visible. He will also explain how damaged buildings were reconstructed and point out contemporary retrofit construction.

Everyone on the tour will receive a guidebook. The guidebook will have:

- A street map of the walk
- Information on the main earthquakes in the Santa Barbara area
- A map of the main faults of Santa Barbara
- An overview of the 1925 earthquake
- Photographs of the damage to the city
- Photographs of the specific buildings on the tour

We look forward to having you join us on this interesting exploration of local history!