



# The Mission Inn Hotel Architecture Series

## Mission Wing: “Court of the Birds”

### HISTORY

The current Mission Inn Hotel building was built in four different sections over the course of almost 30 years. The first section, called the “Mission Wing” was built from 1902-1903 by architect Arthur Benton and houses the “Court of the Birds”.

The “Court of the Birds” contains some of visitor’s favorite historical artifacts.

*Campanario:* The Mission Inn Hotel was never a Mission, however, Frank Miller sought to lead visitors to believe it was. Therefore, the *Campanario* was added along with the “Mission Wing”. It was designed to embody typical features from early California Missions and was specifically replicated from the San Gabriel Mission Belfry. (Sits just before the “Court of the Birds”)

*Napoleon and Joseph:* Isabella and Frank Miller owned two Brazilian macaws, named *Napoleon* and *Joseph*. Their names originated from their colors; Joseph with his “coat of many colors” and Napoleon with royal blue and gold feathers. The two macaws greeted many guests entering the



inn. To maintain tradition the Mission Inn Hotel currently houses two macaws named *Napoleon* and *Josephine*.

*Nanking Bell*: Is a “19<sup>th</sup>-century cast bronze Chinese Temple bell”, it resided in a temple that was destroyed in the 1912 Xinhai Revolution. It weights over one-ton.

## ACTIVITY

Today we are going to create a Mission Inn greeting cards with the historic *Campanario*.

### Materials:

- 2-sheets of Cardstock paper (regular printing paper can be used)
- Pencil
- Glue
- Scissors
- Crayons/ Makers
- Decorative materials (optional)

### Directions: (See Video)

1. Print template on cardstock paper.
2. Cut out and decorate the *Campanario*. (Be sure to save inner arch) – Place to the side.
3. Fold second sheet of cardstock paper in half (horizontally). 1-side will be the top of the greeting card, the other-side will be the bottom half of the card.



4. Decorate the top-half of the card. (For example, clouds, trees, etc.) – Place to the side.
5. Cut out the 3 dashed strips on template. -----
6. Fold the two smaller strips in half. – Place to the side.
7. Grab the second sheet and the *Campanario* cut out. Place the top of the *Campanario* towards the top (portrait facing) of the page and draw a faint line with the pencil at the bottom of two columns of the *Campanario*. – Place *Campanario* cut out to the side.
8. Grab the two folded strips and place the folded edge on the pencil line. Fold the strips at the same place of the second sheet half-fold. Leave a small portion to use as anchors and cut off excess card from the strips.
9. Put a small amount of glue on one of the anchors and place it on the card at the line. Place the tab facing towards the center of the page.
10. Fold the strip on top of itself and place a small amount of glue on the other tab. Close the card on top of the other tab. Press down to ensure the tab glues to the card. Repeat on other side.
11. Grab the (third) longer strip and fold the two edges of the strip to create gluing tabs. Fold one end of the strip about a quarter of the way over itself. Place the edge of longer end of the strip at the half-fold on the sheet, lightly mark with a pencil the other end of the long end of the tab. (Be sure not to include the tab in the drawing



- measurement) **NOTE:** The strip should be placed in the middle of the sheet between the other two strips.
12. Place a small amount of glue on tab of the shorter side of the strip. Glue the tab portion at the drawn line, with the tab facing inwards.
  13. Fold the strip on itself and place a small amount of glue on the other tab. Close the card on top of the other tab. Press down to ensure the tab glues to the sheet.
  14. Once all the tabs are glued to the sheet, grab the *Campanario* cut out. Place a small amount of glue on the front of the two smaller strips place the *Campanario* columns on the front of the two strips and close the card. Press down to ensure the *Campanario* glues to the strips.
  15. Grab the Inner arch cut out and decorate it with greetings. (For example, “Missing you from Riverside, California)
  16. Once the Inner arch is decorated, place a small amount of glue on the front of the middle strip and place the Inner arch on the front of it. Close the card and press down to ensure the Inner arch glues to the strip.
  17. Add card greetings at the bottom/front. (For example, “With Love” from The Mission Inn Museum)
  18. Decorate the front/outside of the card as desired.
  19. Mail/ Give to a family member or friend.



## Content Resources

If you are interested in learning more history about The Mission Inn Hotel Court of the Birds. Check out the resources below.

Friends of the Mission Inn. *Historic: Mission Inn*. California: Friends of the Mission Inn, 1998.

Johnson, Jarrell and Lech, Steve. *Images of America: Riverside's Mission Inn*. South Carolina: Arcadia Publishing, 2006.