History of a Pioneer Family: The Whaleys Quiz

- 1. Thomas Whaley was born October 5, 1823 in what city?
 - a. Washington D.C.
 - b. Park Ridge, New Jersey
 - c. Brooklyn, New York
 - d. Baltimore, Maryland

2. When a young man, Thomas Whaley attended which school?

- a. Columbia University
- b. Washington Institute
- c. New York University
- d. Fordham University
- 3. Thomas Whaley's family firm, called Pye & Whaley, manufactured what type of product?
 - a. Wagon Wheels
 - b. Navigation Instruments
 - c. Locks
 - d. Barrels

4. When the cry of "Gold!" was heard throughout the country, the adventurous Thomas Whaley boarded a ship bound for San Francisco on January 1, 1849. What was the name of the ship?

- a. Euterpe
- b. Cyrus
- c. Sutton
- d. Pharos
- 5. How did Thomas Whaley meet his future bride Anna Eloise Lannay?
 - a. They were next door neighbors
 - b. At the opera
 - c. He rented a room from her mother
 - d. At a debutante ball
- 6. What was Thomas Whaley's profession when he came to California?
 - a. County Clerk
 - b. Railroad Agent
 - c. Justice of the Peace
 - d. Merchant
- 7. Why did Thomas Whaley decide to leave San Francisco to come to San Diego?
 - a. The hills were too steep
 - b. Earthquakes
 - c. A fire destroyed his business
 - d. Gold was discovered in Julian
- 8. What was the name of Thomas Whaley's first store in San Diego?
 - a. Whaley & Crosthwaite
 - b. Tienda California
 - c. Whaley & Whaley
 - d. Tienda General

- 9. What language did Thomas Whaley speak?
 - a. French
 - b. Spanish
 - c. English
 - d. All of the above

10. Where was the first place Thomas Whaley lived in San Diego?

- a. Exchange Hotel
- b. Burkhart House
- c. Whaley House
- d. Gila House

11. Public executions were common during the 19th century. Who did Thomas Whaley witness die by execution on the gallows in San Diego?

- a. William Marshall
- b. Yankee Jim Robinson
- c. Juan Verdugo
- d. All of the above

12. Where was the location of the gallows used for execution in San Diego?

- a. Near the Catholic cemetery
- b. The plaza
- c. Behind the Courthouse
- d. The corner of Mason & Juan Streets
- 13. Where did Thomas Whaley bring his wife Anna to live when she arrived in San Diego in 1853?
 - a. Derby House
 - b. Burkhart House
 - c. Whaley House
 - d. Gila House

14. Anna Whaley did not speak English until she was eight years old. She wrote her first letter in English to Thomas Whaley when she was in her teens. What was Anna Whaley's primary language?

- a. German
- b. Swedish
- c. French
- d. Italian

15. Anna Whaley was a very musical person, she sang and played which instrument?

- a. Piano
- b. Guitar
- c. Melodeon
- d. All of the above
- 16. Which business partner did Thomas and Anna Whaley name their first son after?
 - a. Henry Hurst Whaley
 - b. Francis Hinton
 - c. George Hay Ringgold
 - d. Lewis Franklin

17. When Thomas Whaley had saved enough money to build a home for his family, what property did he decide to purchase?

- a. Site adjacent to the Derby House
- b. Next to the graveyard
- c. Site of the gallows
- d. North side of the plaza

18. Most of the buildings in Old Town were made of adobe. Some were wood-frame, and some were pre-manufactured kit houses brought aboard ships from New England. What type of house did Whaley decide to build?

- a. Adobe brick
- b. Wood-frame
- c. Kiln-fired brick
- d. Kit house

19. Thomas Whaley hired Native American laborers to build his house. How did he pay them?

- a. Anna taught them to read and gave them music lessons
- b. Thomas paid them in gold dust
- c. Thomas paid them in groceries from his store
- d. Thomas gave them free room and board
- 20. The Whaley House was designed by Thomas Whaley in what architectural style?
 - a. Colonial Revival
 - b. Italianate
 - c. Greek Revival
 - d. Queen Anne
- 21. The Whaley House was completed in:
 - a. 1856
 - b. 1852
 - c. 1857
 - d. 1849

22. Which of the Whaley children were born in the Whaley House?

- a. All of them
- b. Lillian
- c. George & Violet
- d. Annie
- 23. The Whaley House is the site of:
 - a. San Diego's first commercial theater
 - b. Old Town polling place
 - c. San Diego's second courthouse
 - d. All of the above
- 24. The Whaley House is the oldest two-story brick structure:
 - a. On the west coast
 - b. In California
 - c. North of Mexico
 - d. South of Monterey

25. Over the last 160 years, the Whaley House has been used for many purposes. What was it not used for?

- a. School
- b. Toy Store
- c. Post Office
- d. Saloon
- 26. What is the Whaley House most famous for?
 - a. Being San Diego's first mansion
 - b. Being haunted
 - c. Being a historically significant building in San Diego
 - d. All of the above

27. Who is believed to be the first ghost to haunt the Whaley House?

- a. Yankee Jim Robinson
- b. Thomas Whaley
- c. Dolly Varden
- d. Thomas Tanner

28. Which of the Whaley family members hoped the Whaley House would one day become a museum?

- a. Thomas & Anna Whaley
- b. Violet Whaley
- c. Frank & Lillian Whaley
- d. None of them
- 29. Who planted the California pepper trees in the yard of the Whaley House?
 - a. The Native Americans who helped build the Whaley House
 - b. Thomas Whaley
 - c. Ah Yow, a Whaley servant
 - d. The Whaley children

30. The Whaley House was first operated as a museum in:

- a. 1960
- b. 1909
- c. 2000
- d. 1953