

**DEVEREAUX CONSTRUCTION, INC.
GENERAL CONTRACTOR**

STATE LICENSE #683774

Biography of Peter Devereaux, General Contractor

As a boy, growing up in Long Beach – say between the ages of twelve and sixteen – I was expected to be available to help Mr. Hayden most every Saturday. He came over to our house, the one I still live in, and worked on whatever needed attention, showing my brother and me how to do it right. He was a master of many skills.

That created a good foundation for what was needed as I later became an owner-builder. At that time it was Carpenter Shields who showed me the ins and outs of rough and finish. He was a master.

Later I was a principal of a number of historic restoration projects in and around Long Beach. It was in the late 70s that I became a licensed general contractor.

As a student in Vienna I had lived in a designated landmark house. Back in Long Beach, I noticed certain groups thought almost anything new was good, anything old was bad. Some friends and I knew Long Beach would be better off respecting its past, so we organized neighborhood associations to promote historic preservation. I was co-founder of Long Beach Heritage and before long we had the Historic Preservation Office in the City. I was named to the Mayor's Task Force to establish the master plan for restoring Rancho Los Cerritos.

In those years Devereaux Construction was chosen to restore a number of buildings in historic districts, including two locally designated landmarks, both close to Rancho Los Cerritos – the Prey-Dawson House on Country Club Drive and the George Bixby House on La Linda Drive.

More recently we were chosen to do two restoration projects at the Rancho. One involved rebuilding parts of the veranda and the other, replacing most of the wisteria arbor, taking care to find historically appropriate approaches to construction details.