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POST SCRIPTS by CHARLES F. DAVIS.

OLDEST?

Monrovia's oldest house stands today on the crest of a hill that commands one of the finest views of the San Gabriel Valley. Its split redwood shake roof is still weather-tight, its redwood walls stand straight and true though it was built, Dr. Francis M. Pottenger, Jr. believes shortly after the Civil War.

When Dr. Pottenger's father, Dr. F.M. Pottenger, came to Monrovia in 1895 the city had a population of 600. It was not until 1903 that Dr. Pottenger realized his dream of a sanatorium in the foothills above Monrovia, bought the land and built the first unit of an institution that has since become world famous.

When Dr. F.M. bought the forty acres above Monrovia he bought the two-room house perched on top of one of the hills overlooking the valley. The little redwood house was old even then, the white-wash all but gone from its walls. A pine tree planted close to the east side, today shows a stump nearly three feet across. Perhaps a count of growth rings may tell when it was planted. Pine logs had been used in the foundation. Dr. Francis thinks these trees had been cut from the pine forest near the top of Monrovia Peak and skidded down the mountain-side.

Grandpa and Grandma Pottenger picked the site chosen by the unknown builder of the little redwood house for their home and built close by. Their home was destroyed by fire. A second home was built and years later it too succumbed to flames. But the little redwood house came through untouched. Today a third house stands guard.

Yesterday Dr. Francis took Lynn Rogers of the Times and me up to see the little redwood house. We agreed that we will have to get Lindley Bynum of the University of California up to give his opinion as to when it was built and who built it. Lindley will know.