

# Preservation Action Council of San Jose

# PAC\* SJ

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Photo: Gayle Frank



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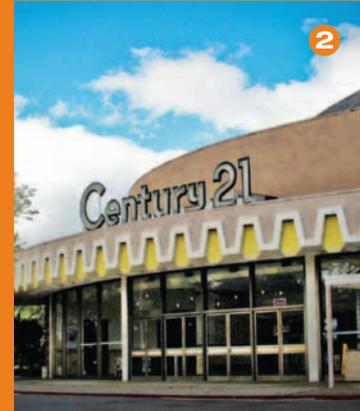


Photo: Lisa Unruh

## The Preservation Action Council of San Jose

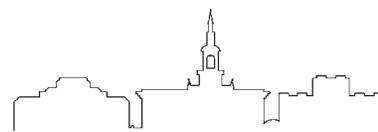
(PAC\* SJ), founded in 1990, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, dedicated to preserving and promoting the continued use of historically significant resources in San Jose, and to encouraging quality new design. We believe that preserving San Jose's past encourages community pride, enhances local quality of life, benefits the environment by supporting reuse and recycling, helps increase property values, and promotes tourism and trade.

We strive to build consensus among residents, city government, and developers to support historic preservation land use and development decisions in the City of San Jose. We work with these constituencies when planning development projects to advocate historic sensitivity that also makes economic sense.

- 1 The First Church of Christ Scientist, slated to be restored and repurposed as an upscale office building
- 2 Century 21, San Jose's first dome theater
- 3 IBM Building 25, lost to fire in 2008
- 4 Mark's Hot Dogs on Alum Rock, a 1930's hot dog stand, one of San Jose's most unusual landmarks
- 5 The beautiful Scheller House, relocated and restored, now the SJSU Associated Students' House, on the SJSU campus
- 6 River Street Historic District, an old Italian working-class neighborhood relocated and restored, now filled with thriving businesses
- 7 The historic 1904 José Theatre, saved from demolition and now home of the Improv Comedy Club
- 8 The Montgomery Hotel, saved from demolition in 1998, now a boutique hotel
- 9 Example of "demolition by neglect," the Delmas Church, before and after the March 2010 fire

## Preservation Action Council of San Jose

Dedicated to preserving San Jose's architectural heritage through education, advocacy, and events.

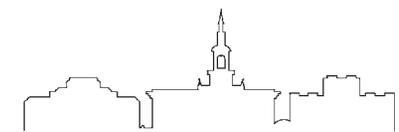


PRESERVATION ACTION COUNCIL OF SAN JOSE

*Dedicated to Preserving San Jose's Architectural Heritage*

History Park, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112

Phone: 408-998-8105 | [www.preservation.org](http://www.preservation.org)



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Photo: Franklin Maggi

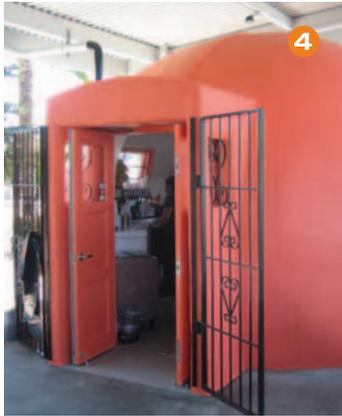


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## PAC\*SJ Achievements

- **Secured** the preservation and reuse of the historic Montgomery Hotel, the José Theatre, Mark's Hot Dogs, and the Scheller House.
- **Facilitated and managed** the Mid-Century Survey of San Jose with partner, San Jose Redevelopment Agency.
- **Published**, with partners, *Touring Historic Willow Glen* and *Signposts Revisited*.
- **Hosted** educational workshops on the Historic Building Codes, and presented a lecture on Smart Growth by nationally respected preservationist, Donovan Rypkema.
- **Ongoing monitoring** of the restoration plan for Pellier Park.
- **Negotiated** to save IBM Building 25 only to lose it to fire in 2008. Reached agreement with Lowe's to include architectural elements of Building 25 in the final project.
- **Saved** the historic Donner-Houghton Mansion in 2001 only to lose it to fire in 2007.
- **Created**, with partners, the River Street Historic Business District.
- **Saved** the First Church of Christ Scientist from demolition. An essential building in the St. James Historic District, plans are underway for it to be restored and reused.
- **Century 21**, completed in 1964, is the first dome theater designed by Vincent Raney for Syufy Theatres. The community was successful in establishing city, state and national eligibility landmark status in 2014.
- **Worked** with community groups to save the historic 1921 Willow Glen Trestle from demolition.

## What is Historic Preservation?

Historic preservation is a development strategy that secures a community's unique architectural and cultural heritage. It means reusing buildings of significant architectural quality or historic importance. Not every old building is historic, but if an old building is architecturally, culturally or historically important, new development should preserve the fabric of that building. It is a way of ensuring that our cities grow more beautiful, and that the past achievements of architects and developers are respected. The greenest buildings are ones that are reused!

We support the City's policy that buildings built more than fifty years ago are potentially historic, and must be evaluated before demolition can be approved. PAC\*SJ especially supports preserving and reusing city landmarks, candidate city landmarks, California Register-eligible and National Register-eligible properties.

## What We Do

PAC\*SJ works closely with city staff and elected officials to draft guidelines and publications relating to San Jose's historic structures.

We act as citizen advocates for San Jose's neighborhoods, working with developers and tracking new development proposals and their effects on historic resources. We also promote historic surveys and the development of conservation districts.

In addition, PAC\*SJ offers educational outreach such as lectures, walking tours, workshops and film programs on smart growth and the architectural heritage of San Jose, to show both what we have lost and how to save what is left.

We partner with other organizations, such as the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the California Preservation Foundation, California Pioneers, Argonauts, History San Jose, Victorian Preservation Association of Santa Clara Valley, and neighborhood associations, to present social and educational events as well as publishing books on San Jose's history.

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## Become a Member!

- \$40** Individual Membership
- \$55** Family Membership
- \$25** Senior/Student Membership
- \$100+** Higher Level Memberships

To join, call (408) 998-8105 or go to [www.preservation.org](http://www.preservation.org)

For questions or to volunteer, email us at [info@preservation.org](mailto:info@preservation.org)

## Benefits of Membership

- **Satisfaction** knowing you are helping to preserve San Jose's architectural and cultural heritage.
- **Invitations and discounts** to PAC\*SJ social, educational and historic preservation events.
- **Subscription** to *Continuity*, our quarterly newsletter, that offers features and updates on preservation and development issues in Santa Clara Valley.
- **E-mail alerts** on local preservation issues.
- **Advice and assistance** on resources for obtaining history, codes, ordinances and reports for your historic home or building.
- **Opportunities** to purchase salvage and donation items.