

CONTINUITY

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INSIDE

COVER STORY- What Are
Context Statements?

PRESERVATION ISSUES

- 3 Interim ED Message
- 4 SJ City Council Studies
Historic Preservation
- 5 Winter Field Threatened
- 6 Distinctive Neighborhood
Program

PAC*SJ NEWS

- 7 On the Radar
- 8 Meet New Board Member
- 8 Watch for New "SignPosts"
- 9 Congratulations
Homeowners
- 9 PAC*SJ Joins the Parade
- 10 Another Great Movie Night
- 12 Movie Night Sponsors
- 13 Movie Night Donors
- 14 PAC*SJ Calendar
- 14 PAC*SJ Board Openings
- 15 PAC*SJ Holds Retreat
- 15 Fight Teardowns

PRESERVATION ARTICLES

- 16 The Valley's Photographer
- 18 Visiting the Hanna House
- 20 Exploring Our Landmarks
- 23 Membership Form
- 24 Board and Staff Roster

WHAT ARE CONTEXT STATEMENTS?

By Seth A. Bergstein, Principal, PAST Consultants, LLC

In 1960, Charles M. Schulz, California author and creator of the *Peanuts* comic strip, developed a story line that ran over a series of successive days. As if echoing preservationists' concerns over urban renewal, Charlie Brown announces plans for a new freeway that will run right through Snoopy's doghouse¹. Several comic strips later, Snoopy projects into the future: "I can see it all now! 'Make way for the new freeway!' Engineers running around; trucks rumbling back and forth; bulldozers plowing up everything... and suddenly **it's gone!** The old homestead!" Having read this during my childhood many years before I knew what "urban renewal" or "historic preservation" meant, little did I know that I would spend my career working to save historic buildings. I re-read this comic strip recently and thought how interesting it was that a popular author would develop a storyline about the value of place - "the old homestead" - six years before the National Historic Preservation Act was passed by Congress.

"Place" means many different things to our diversified immigrant culture that defines the United States of America. However, I think we can all agree that place most often involves our sense of history, a consistent thread that defines where we were, in order to understand where we need to go. Whether it's our childhood home or a mid-century Orchard Supply Hardware store (see image to right), historic buildings represent primary reminders of where we've been; their preservation provides us with tangible

(Continued on page 2)



Mid-century entrance to Orchard Supply Hardware store at 721 West San Carlos Street, San Jose

(Photo: PAST Consultants, LLC)

WHAT ARE CONTEXT STATEMENTS? (Cont'd)

evidence of our roots. Context statements are the first step in raising awareness of our built environment to our friends, neighbors, and outwardly to those deciding upon how our places will continue to expand, grow and function. Thanks to the persevering work of PAC* SJ and the commitment of funds by San José's Redevelopment Agency, my firm, PAST Consultants, LLC (PAST), has been contracted to provide the first context statement for San José's mid-century modern architecture.

The 1966 National Historic Preservation Act and its subsequent amendments provide the framework for preservation through a series of broad-sweeping standards written by the National Park Service, Office of the Secretary of the Interior. These standards are the foundation for accepted preservation planning practice. The *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation Planning* defines three primary standards for historic preservation:

Standard I. Preservation Planning Establishes Historic Contexts;

Standard II. Preservation Planning Uses Historic Contexts To Develop Goals and Priorities for the Identification, Evaluation, Registration and Treatment of Historic Properties;

Standard III. The Results of Preservation Planning Are Made Available for Integration Into Broader Planning Processes.

Context statements are the finished product of Standard I. They establish the historic patterns or themes that allow the next two standards to be implemented. As defined by the *Standards*, the historic context organizes information based on a cultural theme and its geographical and chronological limits. Contexts describe the significant broad patterns of development in an area that may be represented by historic properties. The development of historic contexts is the foundation for decisions about identification, evaluation, registration and treatment of historic properties².

Perhaps one of San José's broadest "patterns of development" is its rapid growth and expansion during the automobile and technology boom periods of the 20th century. Evidence of these periods of rapid expansion remain in the numerous and varied mid-century historic resources (constructed 1935-1975) that remain throughout the city. This project will explore the entire city, with focused examination of the neighborhoods within the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative, to determine the development of mid-century architecture as expressed in the various building function types: commercial, industrial and residential. Within this exploration, discoveries will inevitably be made regarding expressions of mid-century architecture specific to San José, as well as their builders, architects and patrons.

The result of this project will be a comprehensive report, known as a context statement, which will establish the historic context of mid-century architecture in San José. When this context statement is complete, the San José community, with the help of PAC* SJ and the City of San José, will be able to move to Standard II: the identification, evaluation, and registration of historic buildings. The context statement will provide the basis for implementing the standard identification tools of the preservation planning trade, such as coordinated surveys of neighborhoods rich in mid-century resources. With this completed document, a major step in the protection of valuable mid-century historic and cultural resources will have been taken. I am both honored and excited to be part of this exciting process.

We intend our work with PAC* SJ and the City of San José to be a collaborative process that involves City officials, public citizens, and the numerous historians, architects, engineers, builders and preservation consultants in the area. We would appreciate any knowledge you have about San José's mid-century resources and encourage you to share any research and documentation you may have. All previous work will be dutifully cited and credited. (Continued on page 5)



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Interim Executive Director Message

The year is winding down on a fairly positive note. Although we have to remain ever vigilant, I am happy to report that, at least for the moment, we have some good news about preservation.

First, the Mid-Century survey is under way! Thanks to funding from the Redevelopment Agency, our consultants are in Phase I of the survey and in the midst of the researching and developing the historical framework of San Jose leading up to the time period of 1935 – 1970. This phase involves researching secondary source work and beginning the mapping of the various pockets of mid-century buildings throughout the city.

The survey is an exciting and important project that will yield benefits for preservation city-wide. Watch for more details as the project progresses and read additional information from our consultant elsewhere in this newsletter.

More good news is that a series of celebrations have occurred recently highlighting the successful rehabilitations of several historic buildings. The long vacant Sainte Claire Building, located above Original Joe's, is now home to 36 luxury apartments. Owner Jim Fox and Contractor Jim Salata have restored the wonderful details of this building while incorporating all the modern conveniences. Kudos also to the Redevelopment Agency (RDA) for providing funding to help make this project a reality.

Another project that was assisted by the RDA are the historic structures that comprise the Wilcox Buildings. The beautifully restored buildings have already seen the opening of new restaurants, Billy Berk's and Mezcal, with more retail and office use on the way.

Fountain Alley is now a mixed-use project with retail and office space. Many spaces are already leased. Not only has the building been rehabilitated but the Fountain Alley Walkway has been redone with a new brick design and lighting to make it an attractive open space in the middle of downtown.

Take time to visit these businesses not only to view the beautiful restoration of these historic buildings, but also to have lunch or dinner there. Patronizing these establishments will help them be successful businesses and will send a strong message that preservation is good for business.

There has been much activity here at PAC-SJ as well. We welcomed our newest member of the Board, Heather David, and you can read more about her on page 8 of this issue. Longtime Boardmember, Norman Finnance, has left the

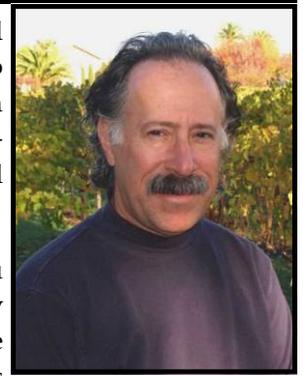
Board after many years of dedicated service to our organization. I want to take this opportunity to thank him for the countless hours he volunteered for PAC-SJ and wish him well as he embarks on other activities.

We also said good-bye and thank you to Jaime Angulo, who recently stepped down as a member of the Board. I want to thank Jaime for his service to PAC*SJ and wish him all the best.

The Board has been busy planning for the future of the organization. With an eye on 2009 and beyond, this dedicated group spent a Saturday in late November at a daylong retreat discussing plans and strategies.

Although there is much good news, 2008 has been a bit of a bumpy ride in the preservation world. We continued to fight the good fight when necessary, and worked collaboratively as much as possible. Of course, our biggest loss was IBM Building 25. Although it can never be recreated, our agreement with Lowe's will provide an opportunity for current and future generations to learn about the building and its history. I am hopeful that we will continue to build partnerships with the City and the RDA, as well as the many neighborhood and community groups. As always, we can use assistance – both monetarily and volunteers. If you think preserving our history is as important as we do, then please help.

Thanks to everyone who has helped this year, from the Board to our volunteers. My best wishes to all for a Happy, Healthy, and Peaceful New Year.



Brian Grayson

Brian Grayson, PAC*SJ
Interim Executive Director



*Left, newly restored
Fountain Alley
Office Building at
30 West Santa Clara
Street.*

(Photo G. Frank)

SJ City Council Studies Historic Preservation

The San Jose City Council held a three-hour study session in late October to discuss historic preservation in San Jose. The council session was designed to explore many facets of preservation and how it relates to our community.

The agenda for the day was threefold:

1. Discussion of best practices regarding Historic Preservation as a tool to achieve multiple community objectives, including but not limited to economic development, environmental sustainability, and community identity;
2. Understanding existing City strategies, policies and procedures for Historic Preservation;
3. Articulation of the City Council's preservation priorities.

The Council discussed their desire for a more efficient system dealing with preservation that benefits all parties involved. PAC*SJ agreed that consistency in the process would be helpful and we are willing to provide input to help improve the system.

PAC*SJ was pleased to be able to participate in the discussion and continues to look forward to working with the City on these important issues. We particularly appreciated the efforts of the Planning Department in organizing the session.

A follow-up letter was sent to the Mayor and Council and commented on a number of the issues raised during the study session. Excerpts from the letter follow:

We strongly support the rehabilitation and reuse of historic buildings. We agree that an unused building serves no one's purpose but a building that houses a business provides income to the owner, revenue to the city, and adds much to the fabric and character of the city.

While buildings are awaiting renovation though, it is critical that the city move quickly to strengthen the Vacant Building Ordinance so that vacant buildings are properly protected from vandalism and fire. As you are well aware, we have already lost too many buildings due to their not being

properly protected.

We are pleased to have the Mid-Century Survey underway. There seemed to be complete agreement at the study session about the importance of surveys, and we are pleased to partner with the Redevelopment Agency on this one. Many more surveys are needed, but at least this one has begun.

We urge you to take the issue of historic preservation very seriously. Every historic building that we lose is one more piece of San Jose history that will be lost forever. Without recognition of our past we lose our sense of place.

We stand ready to work with you and to assist in making San Jose's historic preservation process the best and most efficient while still protecting our architectural heritage.

The session also featured Preservation Consultant Nore Winter who gave an overview about the economics of preservation and the key role it plays in building a sustainable city. City staff also made presentations, including representatives from Planning and the Office of Economic Development. There were also comments from members of the public.

We were glad the Council felt that preservation was important enough to spend an entire morning discussing it, and we hope their interest in this issue continues.

Brian Grayson



Winter Field Threatened

Winter Field, the historical multi-use track facility at Alma and South 10th St., was recently threatened. A project, proposed by San Jose State University (SJSU) and the San Jose Parks and Recreation Department, planned to build a sports complex for soccer but a track field would not have been included. Winter Field is presently used by many citizens of the community and students from SJSU for recreation and sports and is the only public track facility in San Jose's District 3. As of press time it appears the project has been scrapped over difficulties in scheduling, sharing the facilities and adequate parking.

The Field was named after the legendary track coach, Lloyd "Bud" Winter, for all his contributions to SJSU and the sport. This field commemorates the history of this



Winter Field in a state of disrepair

extraordinary track coach and his career accomplishments in San Jose. He developed modern speed training techniques for the sport of track and wrote several coaching books. Winter was an assistant Olympic coach in 1960, and throughout his career coached 37 world record holders, 102 NCAA All-Americans, 49 NCAA record holders, and 27 Olympians.

Winter Field is a prestigious landmark for the City of San Jose. It is the birthplace of "Speed City", a nickname coined by the world to describe the city of San Jose in the 1950's through the 1980's.

A coalition wants to rebuild "Speed City" and they need support from the community. If you can volunteer or give support, email sjsutrackfield@gmail.com or call William Brown at (510) 406-2652.

Source: sjsutrackfield.com
G. Frank

WHAT ARE CONTEXT STATEMENTS? (Cont'd)

Please contact PAST principals Seth A. Bergstein (415.515.6224; seth@pastconsultants.com) or Paige J. Swartley (415.515.6227; paige@pastconsultants.com) with any questions, ideas or information. We look forward to a collaboration that benefits the community and the wonderful historic resources themselves.

¹ See *It's a Dog's Life, Charlie Brown*, published by Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., 1960.

² National Park Service, Department of the Interior: *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation Planning*. Available for viewing on-line at: http://www.nps.gov/history/local-law/arch_stnds_1.htm.

Distinctive Neighborhood Program

In the 2008-2009 fiscal year budget the City Council Rules and Open Government Committee approved funding for the development of a "Distinctive Neighborhood Program" that would add further protection and enhancement to San Jose's unique residential neighborhoods. The Department of Planning Building and Code Enforcement has been directed to develop this program, conduct outreach and have a recommendation for City Council by June 2009.

The program goals are to:

- Define characteristics of Distinctive Neighborhoods based on input from stakeholders and the general public
- Review existing protections and propose revised appropriate protection options
- Identify Municipal Code/policy changes
- Evaluate other steps required for implementation
- Provide outreach at key milestones
- Deliver a proposal to City Council

The initiation of this program came from the concerns of residents of various neighborhoods. The issues were: demolition of quality homes; building homes that are out of character and out of scale within existing neighborhoods; and insensitive additions such as second stories, attached garages, etc.

Presently, a single-family house permit is required if: new construction that meets or exceeds 30 feet or 2 stories in height or more; the floor area ratio (F.A.R.) of the house meets or exceeds 0.45; or the house or site is a historic resource, listed on the inventory and is not a landmark or within a landmark district. If none of these conditions apply, a building permit is all that is required.

The potential policy options for consideration are: a Citywide Policy; and/or Neighborhood Specific Policies.

The Citywide Policy Option would involve code revisions that would require discretionary review for the following: demolitions; second story additions; additions creating attached garages in streets with detached garages; additions over a certain size; and other (to be determined).

The Neighborhood Specific Policy Option proposes to first, identify neighborhood boundaries, and then designate the neighborhood's distinctive characteristics. Under this

proposal, three additional options are under consideration:

Option A – Research Neighborhood Character

This option would involve researching an existing neighborhood and working with the neighbors to identify neighborhood characteristics. After this was accomplished, a discussion would occur regarding how new development could fit in, as well as addressing modern needs and enhancing a neighborhood. An outcome of this process might be to create neighborhood specific guidelines.

Option B – Single Family House Permit Overlay

This option would not require significant research of a neighborhood, but rather would create a Single Family House (SFH) permit overlay. This option would require a certain percentage (to be determined) of the neighbors to approve of the overlay concept. Under this option, a SFH permit would be required for development or demolition. New thresholds would be developed for a SFH permit and new development would have to conform to these guidelines

Option C – Conservation Study Area

Under this option, a context statement outlining the defining characteristics of a neighborhood would be written and submitted to the Historic Landmarks Commission and the Planning Commission for recommendations, and then would go to the City Council for designation. Individual historic reports on each house would not be required. The design review for modifications to a house in a conservation area would be as follows: Category I, meets Single Family House permit guidelines and receives approval at the City's administrative level; Category II, does not meet the SFH permit guidelines and must secure an individual historic evaluation of the house, and must go through a public process. Approval of a request for demolition of a house in a conservation area would be at the discretion of the Director of Planning. One of the incentives to a homeowner of being in a Conservation Area would be the application of the State Historic Building Code to any rehabilitation project.

Stay tuned for updates as this potential program makes it way through the process. If you have questions, please call Hadasa Lev at the City Planning Department at 408-535-7838 or send email to hadasa.lev@sanjoseca.gov.

Judi Henderson

ON THE RADAR



Corner of West San Carlos and 3rd Streets

A 26-story building is being proposed on the site of McDonald's. Pinwheel-shaped, the project will combine ground-floor retail, including restaurants, a hotel, 346 residential units and 700 parking spaces. PAC*SJ's concern is how

the project will relate to the historic structures on the eastside of S. 3rd St. across from the project. This item was heard at the September Historic Landmarks' Design Review Committee whose concerns were similar to PAC*SJ's. The developers seemed to be receptive to the Committee's comments.

Graves House

The Graves House, a San Jose Italianate built in 1868, is not presently listed on the City's Inventory of Historic Resources. PAC*SJ is concerned that the property may not be protected if it were to sell. The Historic Landmarks Commission has agreed to hear our concerns at their December meeting.

San Pedro Square

The owners of the property at 12 N. San Pedro Street are proposing to demolish the existing building, except for the façade, and construct a four-story building in its place. They are also proposing exterior modifications to the building located at 4 West Santa Clara Street. The project was heard at the Historic Landmarks Commission's Design Review Committee meeting in September. The Commissioners had many comments. Stay tuned.

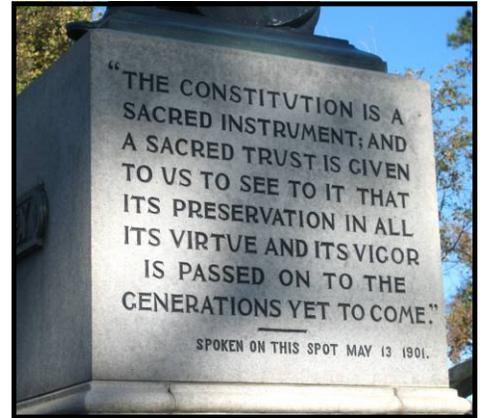
McKinley Monument

The McKinley monument in St. James Park was recently vandalized. In removing the graffiti, some of the granite was damaged. The Historic Landmarks Commission has asked City staff to investigate, and if no protocols for removing graffiti from historic structure/monuments are in place, they have asked that guidelines be developed. The monument (pictured right) was dedicated on Feb. 21, 1903 in memory of President William McKinley



who spoke on this site on May 13, 1901. McKinley was assassinated in Buffalo, New York on September 6th, 1901 during a speech at the Pan-American

Exposition. The life-size bronze statue sits on a granite pedestal and was designed by Rupert Schmid.



Park and Delmas Avenues

Rumors of development proposals for this site continue. The building which is of most concern to PAC*SJ is the "white church." PAC*SJ has been assured that any proposal for this site will have to address this concern, and that saving the church will be given a high priority. (Pictured below)



Signposts

Those of you who remember Pat Loomis' wonderful *Mercury News* "Signpost" articles and subsequent books titled *Signposts I* and *Signposts II* will be excited to learn that *Signposts I & II* are in the process of being reprinted. (The books have been out of print for some time.) In partnership with the Pioneers, Argonauts and History San Jose, PAC*SJ is working on reprinting both books under one cover. As an added bonus, the new edition will contain five new "Signposts" which will be a precursor to a *Signposts III* book.

PAC*SJ New Board Member



Heather David

A Bay Area native, with over 25 years in the South Bay, Heather David joins the PAC*SJ's Board with a particular passion and concern for the region's mid-century modern architecture.

Heather is a graduate of San Jose State University, with BA and MA degrees in Social Science. Her professional background includes over 15 years in high tech recruiting and sales. She is the author/creator of SV Modern, a web site devoted to the celebration of mid-century architecture and design in the Silicon Valley, and she is a regular contributor to the PAC*SJ newsletter, *Continuity*.

Heather strongly feels that the Silicon Valley's unique architectural heritage is one of its most valuable assets. She looks forward to working with PAC*SJ to educate, advocate, and perhaps, most importantly, to celebrate San Jose and its environs.

Welcome to the Board, Heather! We are delighted to have the pleasure of working with you.

Watch for New "San Jose's Signposts"

For the last few months, a project has been underway that is near and dear to the hearts of many. California Pioneer member, Virginia Hammerness, contacted the Pioneers to see if we were interested in helping the Argonauts get two local history books, *Signposts* and *Signposts II*, written by Patricia Loomis, reprinted. These wonderful, local history books were a compilation of Pat's articles published decades ago in the *Mercury News*, featuring the origin and history of Santa Clara County street names. The Pioneers are partnering with the Argonauts, History San Jose, and PAC*SJ to make this invaluable resource available for local history buffs of the future.

Pat Loomis is a local historian, dear friend and mentor to many. All four organizations are excited about expressing their respect and gratitude for all the important contributions Pat has made to document local history. Both *Signposts* and *Signposts II* will be part of a larger book that will include *Signposts III*, a previously unpublished compilation of Pat's articles. The book will be published as the second of PAC*SJ's "Pride through Preservation: A Neighborhood Project" book series. This partnership of non-profit organizations exemplifies our shared mission -- educating the public and preserving our local history. When united, our organizations can accomplish great things. We hope to have the book available soon. Watch for announcements about when the book will be available.

Once the book becomes available, PAC*SJ will be offering the book as a premium to members who join at the \$100 level and above in 2009.

Jim Zetterquist
President, California Pioneers of Santa Clara County

Congratulations to Historic Home Owners!

Congratulations to the owners of the following historic buildings:

LD Bohnett House
Joan Bohnett
940 Palm Haven Avenue

Hobson House
Rene and Claudia Correa
333 N 15th Street

Ames House
Hullene and Marcus Salomon
186 N. 15th Street

Sleptedahl House
Andre and Lani Luthard
202 S. 14th Street

Renzel House
Donald Lieberman and Patricia Long
120 Arroyo Way

These homes are in the process of being landmarked, after which the owners will enter into a Mills Act contract with the City of San Jose. The Mills Act, a State of California program, reduces the property taxes on a historic landmark structure if the owner agrees to use the tax savings to protect the historic resource, and to remain in the contract for 10 years.

What a wonderful way to protect our landmarks, and to help the owners of these significant properties.

Keep them coming!

PAC*SJ Joins the Parade



PAC*SJ joined the Founder's Day parade in Willow Glen on September 27th. Our friend and PAC*SJ member, Bernie Drechsler, drove her '66 Corvette with André Luthard, Maddy Luthard and Markus Luthard dressed in 1960s garb - Maddy as a quasi hippie, Andre in tie-dye, and Markus in camouflage (his favorite)! The PAC*SJ entry was number three, just behind the 100-year-old Grand Marshall. There were lots of approving claps and smiles.

(Photo by Julie Jacobson)

Another Great "Movie Night"



Above, Jim Zetterquist, Bill Foley, and Joe Melehan, organizers for the event.

Below, vintage ladies apparel winner Lorraine Blackburn with John Blackburn



PAC*SJ's Movie Night, on Sept. 18th, was a great success! Many attendees wore vintage outfits and after viewing the silent auction, and sampling the tremendous variety of 1950's dishes and deserts, they were ushered into the theater for movie pictures from the past. Our entertaining Masters of Ceremonies, from the infamous *Fruit Cocktail Club*, were Jim Zetterquist, Joe Melehan, and Bill Foley.

The first of three movies enlightened us about Campbell history with many pictures of the old streets, orchards, and canneries. Before the second movie, out of the past a blustering James Lick (played by Robb Moore) stormed down the aisle, walked on stage, and berated the San Jose newspaper for writing an uncomplimentary article about him. In fact, he was so outraged, he stated that the Kew Garden Conservatory reproduction he ordered from England would stay in the boxes and San Jose would not benefit from such a beautiful arboretum/conservatory. (After Lick's death, the conservatory was sold to San Francisco for Golden Gate Park). The second movie then described Lick's career in the Bay Area and his memorial, the Lick Observatory on Mount Hamilton. The third movie pictured early days in Los Gatos with blossoming orchards, main streets, and explained the founding of Forbes Mill.

After the movies, awards for the most nostalgic and authentic 1950's recipes were presented to Jane Guinther for her Tuna Casserole and to Edith Walter for her Apricot Bars. The apricots came from Edith's sister-in-law's trees in Milpitas.

Awards for most authentic vintage attire went to Lorraine Blackburn, Joe Walter, Alicia Oania, Emma Vossbik and Jack Pfeiffer.

The judges stressed that the decision for the recipes was especially difficult with so many tasty and nostalgic dishes such as lime jello salad, hot dog casserole, peach cobbler, spam pâté, hot crab dip, macaroni salad, spam and fruit cocktail mold, many wonderful desserts and cookies, and much, much more. A lot of comments were heard such as: "Oh, this takes me back to my Grandma," "My mom used to make this all the time", and "I made this often

for company". The lucky winners of the recipe and vintage apparel judging each received a Certificate and a can of fruit cocktail!

(Pictures continued on page 11)



Vintage Apparel Honorable Mentions:
Alicia Oania and Emma Vossbik



Another Great "Movie Night" (Cont'd)



Left, Edith and Joe Walter. Edith made the winning Apricot Bars. Joe won the male vintage apparel with his original suit and accessories from the 1940's. (He can still fit into it!)

*Right, PAC*SJ President Judi Henderson with Board Members Ellen Garboske and Patt Curia*



Left, Food, Glorious Food! Guests line up for a taste of nostalgic recipes in the courtyard of Le Petit Trianon. Movies were shown inside the large theater.

Right: Usherettes for Movie Night, Nancy Martin, Ethel Reinegger, Gayle Frank and JoAnn Renk. Volunteers and apparel from "Portraits of the Past, History San Jose".

(Photos by Jane Guinther)



MOVIE NIGHT SPONSORS

Peach

Keith Watt, Le Petit Trianon

The Melehan Family

Helen Stevens



Pear

Anne Stahr - In Memory of Tona Duncanson

JoanneM. Cirocco - Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.

Patricia Curia

John & Ellen Garboske

Jeffrey Perlis - Olson's Marble & Stone Care

Jim Zetterquist - The Wooden Crown



Prune

Andre & Lani Luthard

Acton Construction

Frank Penrose

German Club of the Villages

Jane Luthard

San Jose Blue



Thank You for your Support!

Thank You!



Silent Auction Donors for Movie Night



Susan Anderson

Jim Bunce

Casa Nuestra Winery

Patricia Curia

Heather David

Arnold Del Carlo

Katherine Young Douglas

Ellen Garboske

Brian Grayson

April Halberstadt

Hayes Mansion

Judi Henderson

History San Jose

HP Pavillion

Luthard Family

Vernie Mast

Nancy Newlin

Salas-O'Brien Engineers, Inc.

San Jose Arena Authority

Marcela Sherman

Stephanie Sims

Judy Stabile

Anne Stahr

St. Clement Winery

St. Supéry Winery

Susan Valletta

Sophia Wood

Movie Night Supporters

Campbell Historical Museum (Campbell Movie)

Los Gatos Historical Museum (Los Gatos Movie)

Jeff Cowan (James Lick Movie)

Keith Watt, Le Petit Trianon

PAC*SJ thanks our actor and judges from Portraits of the Past - History San Jose:

Robb Moore, Nancy Martin, Ethel Reinegger, and JoAnn Renk.

Our thanks also to the attendees who brought their recipes from the past for us all to enjoy.

PAC*SJ Calendar 2008-2009

- Dec.** 15 Monday, Special PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6-8 pm at the home of André Luthard
- January** 12 Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6 - 8 pm , Le Petit Trianon, 72 N. 5th Street, San Jose
- February** 23 Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6 - 8 pm , Le Petit Trianon, 72 N. 5th Street, San Jose
- March** 16 Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6 - 8 pm , Le Petit Trianon, 72 N. 5th Street, San Jose
- April** 20 Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6 - 8 pm , Le Petit Trianon, 72 N. 5th Street, San Jose
- May** 18 Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6 - 8 pm , Le Petit Trianon, 72 N. 5th Street, San Jose

Save the Date – Details to Follow

March 6, 2009 from 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM -- County-wide Historic Preservation Open House at The Santa Clara County Archives, 1875 Senter Road (Senter at Needles,) San Jose

PAC*SJ is looking for qualified applicants to be considered for openings on our Board. Help us pursue our mission of preserving the architectural heritage of San Jose and help educate homeowners, developers, and decision-makers about the importance of historic preservation.

If you think you would be interested, please review the Board member requirements and application on our website, www.preservation.org.

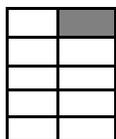
If you have questions, call us at 408-998-8105.

We hope to hear from you.

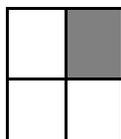
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Continuity is distributed to over 800 San José preservationists, homeowners and opinion-formers. It's a great way to get your message out to your best potential customers! For ads larger than the business card, you must supply camera-ready artwork, or PAC*SJ can provide it at an additional charge.

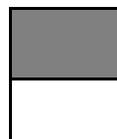
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PAC*SJ Holds Retreat

The PAC*SJ Board met at the “We and Our Neighbors Clubhouse” on Nov. 22nd to discuss our future plans and objectives. The Clubhouse, built in 1910, is a National Historic Landmark. Our thanks to Judi Henderson, Judy Stabile, Anne Stahr, and Jim Zetterquist for organizing the event. A second retreat is planned for the near future.



Above left to right, Joe Melehan, Judi Henderson, Anne Stahr and our facilitator, Judy Stabile.

Left, Jim Zetterquist, Ellen Garboske, Andre Luthard (standing), Frank Penrose, and Brian Grayson.



Right, Heather David, Jim Zetterquist, Ellen Garboske, Frank Penrose, Brian Grayson



FIGHT TEARDOWNS BY SHARING EXPERIENCES

Across the nation a teardown epidemic is wiping out historic neighborhoods one house at a time. As older homes are demolished and replaced with dramatically larger, out-of-scale new structures, the historic character of the existing neighborhood is changed forever. The National Trust for Historic Preservation has compiled its [Teardown Tools on the Web \(pdf\)](#) to help you fight the epidemic. It highlights approximately 30 tools that are being used by communities around the country in response to teardowns with direct links to more than 300 examples in 32 states. [Teardowns on the Web](#) is intended as an easy-to-share, user-friendly, one-stop-shop for people looking for tools to better manage teardowns.

From The National Trust: October 2008 E-News

The Valley's Photographer

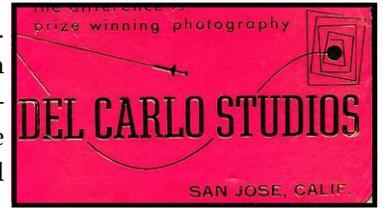
Text by Heather David / Photographs by Arnold Del Carlo



Arnold Del Carlo

Arnold Del Carlo was born in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1921. A family tragedy brought Del Carlo and his parents to San Jose where the family opted to start life anew. In 1941, Arnold, who goes by the nickname "Del," signed up for the U.S. Army. Del would spend three years serving in World War II, the majority of his time spent with the Army's Combat Engineers. It was an experience that would take him all over Europe and introduce him to a lifelong love – photography.

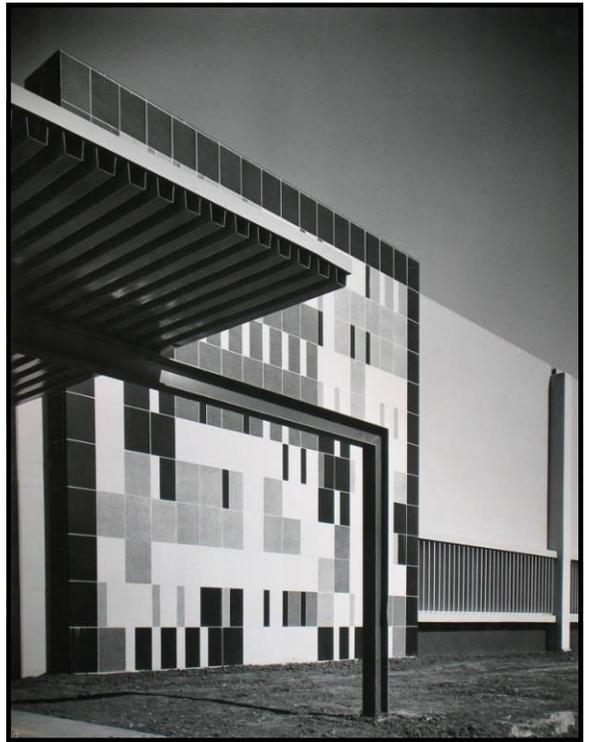
As a soldier, Del photographed the construction of bridges in Europe. He also photographed the people and buildings of England, France, Germany, and Holland. On film, he captured the destruction and despair of war and the hope and desire for peace. At the end of his stint in the military, Del found that he had countless recorded memories as well as a new skill set for reentry into the civilian world.



Del Carlo got his professional start taking pictures for Hales Department Store in Downtown San Jose. Del's task was to photograph the store's merchandise so that artists could create advertisements, using pen and ink, from the photos. He also worked for San Jose State College taking fraternity and sorority group shots and sports publicity photos. It was not long before Arnold Del Carlo was a man in demand and an ever-expanding business required him to set up his own shop.

The first Del Carlo Studios was at 1295 The Alameda in San Jose, currently home to AA Lock and Alarm. Del contributed to the original design of the building, ensuring the incorporation of large picture windows for his photo displays. At the time, the Del Carlo offering included "CANDID, WEDDING, COMMERCIAL, and FASHION" photography and Del had a thriving business on The Alameda for roughly ten years.

(Cont'd on page 17)

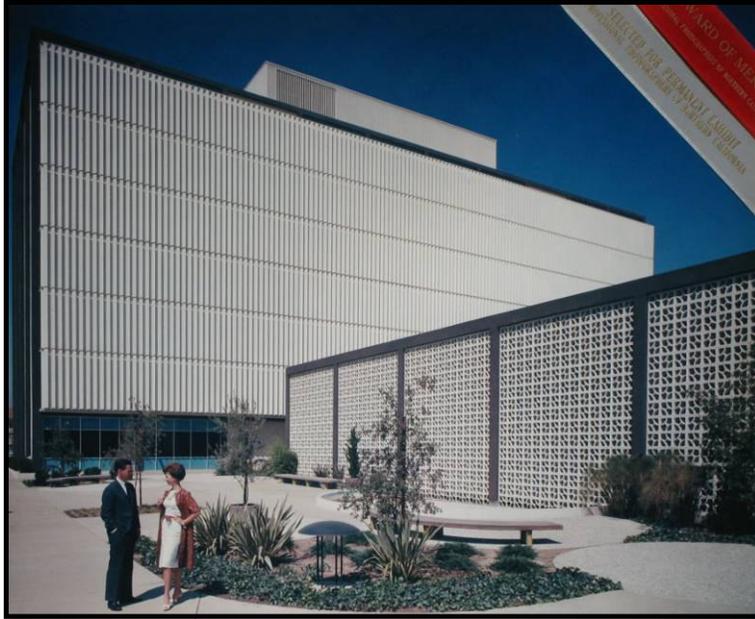


Samples of Arnold Del Carlo's beautiful photographs

Above, San Jose IBM facility designed by John Bolles (Destroyed by fire on 3/8/08)

Left, the San Jose IBM sculpture, "Research" Designed by Gurdon Woods

The Valley's Photographer (Cont'd)



In the early 1960s, in order to accommodate yet more business, Del had a larger studio constructed in Santa Clara. The new home to Del Carlo Studios was at 313 Brokaw Road. The building featured state-of-the-art facilities including an “infinity room” (a room with no visible seams). A Cessna plane was added to the offering and customized for aerial photography.

For over four decades, Arnold Del Carlo successfully captured the spirit of the Santa Clara Valley on film. From weddings and fashion shows to commercial buildings and aerial views, Del was a jack of all photographic trades and a master of all. A visit to the Del Carlo home reveals a wall of awards, hundreds of photographs, and thousands of negatives. Indeed, the Del Carlo photographic archive is as dazzling as the Arnold Del Carlo personality. An incredibly humble man with a wicked sense of humor, it is truly a treat to meet Del in person.



While Del Carlo officially retired from the business in 1990, he never stopped taking pictures. Del is the principal photographer for the Saratoga Rotary and earlier this year, he produced a book of his photography from World War II. Del has embraced the world of digital photography and his retirement has afforded him the opportunity to experiment with art. Favorite pieces include aerial prints of the Alviso waterways, digitally enhanced with bright color.

Our sincere thanks to Arnold Del Carlo for his remarkable body of work and for his contribution to preserving the history of the Santa Clara Valley.

Top, a Del Carlo early photo (c. 1963) of the former Santa Clara County Administration Building.

Mid left photo, Former San Jose City Hall (1958) interior view. Architect, Donald F. Haines.

Right, “American Dream Family” by Arnold Del Carlo

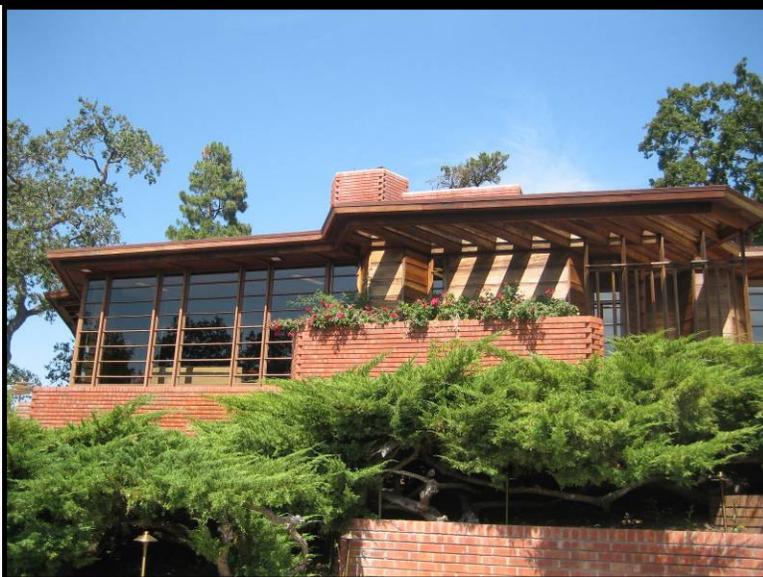


A Visit to Hanna House

A few months ago some friends and I took a tour of the Hanna House designed and built by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1936-37. What a treat! The Hanna House, at Stanford, is referred to as a “honeycomb house” because it is designed using hexagon shapes. There are primarily 120 and 60 degree angles everywhere in the house. I did not find any right-angled corner walls.

The house sits high as you walk up the driveway and appears to be part of the hill it is perched on. It is wide and low, with an abundance of brick, glass and wood. The floor plan is irregular and the outer walls resemble Japanese screens as the glass panes zigzag along the large hexagon floor tiles. A breezeway connects the house to the carport with a huge tree reaching through its roof. The beautiful gardens include flowing water down a series of cement steps toward a tile patio surrounding the house. The grounds also contain a summer-house and guest house (formerly Paul Hanna’s workshop) which were designed later by Wright during expansions.

Exterior walls feature horizontal native redwood board and batten with a preponderance of glass and bricks from San Jose. Wright emphasized the horizontal elements of the house by indenting the brick mortar horizontally and keeping the vertical mortar flush with the brick. Therefore shadows are cast horizontally, not vertically. Even the slits in the wood screws all run horizontally. Wright’s goal was to break away from the tall Victorian box style of home and emphasize the horizontal lines of the house. The walls of the house are thin, composed of only two wood panels thick, which makes it necessary to run all wiring/plumbing/heating systems under the house.



Top, Hanna House from driveway. Middle picture, the back of the house. Lower left, living room with furniture designed by Wright.

The main entrance to the house is rather hidden and insignificant. Wright’s philosophy was that a home should be private and secluded. The hexagon shaped entry hall is small but with a high ceiling. We walked to the right and entered the spacious living room, which is stunning with the screen-like glass paneled walls. Much of the furniture is built-in (Wright’s design) and a large fireplace is the focal point of the room. There are odd-looking chairs designed by Wright that were reported to be uncomfortable and easily tipped. The large dining room (which originally was the children’s playroom before the house was updated) holds a long table. *(Continued on page 19)*

A Visit to Hanna House (Cont'd)

Our guide told us the Hannas had to obtain permission from Wright to replace his dining room chairs (designed especially for the house) with the new, more comfortable and safer chairs.

The long narrow kitchen was a surprise. It is in the center of the house and felt dark and claustrophobic. Large louvered panels open onto the living room and dining room which allowed Jean Hanna to keep her eye on her three children. The ceiling is high allowing daylight to shine through a skylight. The counters and sink are all stainless steel. The bathrooms also seem small and a bit confining with little outside light.

Jean and Paul Hanna came to Stanford University in 1935 when Paul Hanna accepted a professorship. They soon commissioned Frank Lloyd Wright to design an affordable family home on a 1.5 acre hillside plot. During construction, the cost of the home soared from \$15,000 to \$37,000, which was the norm for Wright's designs; but the product was unique and eventually worthy of National Historic Landmark status (1989, #78000780). Acquaintances of the Hannas were always anxious to visit the house. Even strangers were reported to trespass and peek through the windows at this unusual design. Jean and Paul Hanna recorded their experiences in a book titled "Clients Report". Apparently working with Wright and living in the house was quite the adventure.



Above, the dining room converted from the playroom after the children were grown. Table and chairs are not Wright's. Left, window/walls follow hexagon floor pattern in living room.

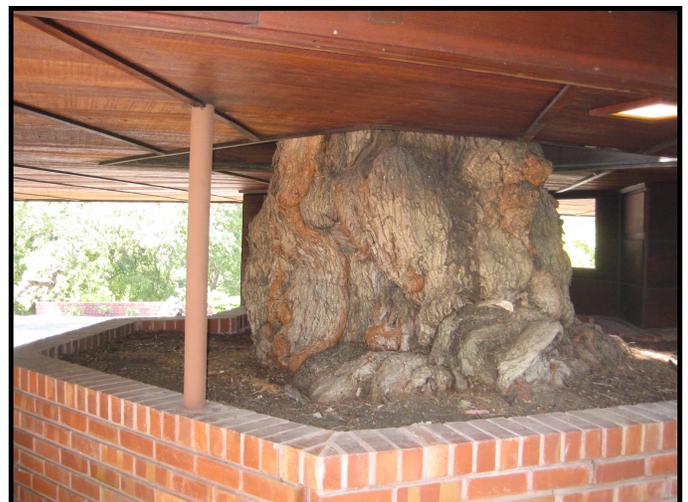


Tours of the Hanna House are available on the first and third Sundays and the second and fourth Thursdays. Cost is \$10 per person and \$5 for a parking permit. To schedule a tour call 650-725-8352 or email hanna-house@stanford.edu. For more details on the distinguished lives of the Hannas go to <http://histsoc.stanford.edu/pdfmem/HannaP.pdf> and <http://education.stateuniversity.com/pages/2028/Hanna-Paul-R-1902-1988.html>.

(Pictures continued on page 21)

(Text and photos by G. Frank)

Right, a large tree incorporated into the breezeway of the Hanna House



Exploring our San Jose Landmarks

Here are the next three San Jose Landmarks from our list of 150. Check previous *Continuity* issues for descriptions of earlier landmarks.

HL 80-12: Oddfellows (IOOF) Building, 82-96 East Santa Clara St., San Jose (pictured below)



This building was built in 1883 and represents one of the few remaining examples of Commercial Architecture in the later 19th century. The building is located on the corner of East Santa Clara Street and Third Street and was designed by Jacob Lenzen, a prominent San Jose architect. The building was built by the Oddfellows (IOOF) and used as a meeting hall with members' residences on the third floor. The brick blocks from this building are some of the best preserved of any in San Jose prior to 1900. This three-story structure in the Italianate style of architecture is a prominent piece of the San Jose Downtown Historical District that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. After the 1906 earthquake, the Downtown building styles gradually changed from the Italianate Victorian or Romanesque Revival to Edwardian or Neoclassical architectural styles.

HL80-13 Japanese Kuwabara Hospital 565 N 5th St., San Jose

This two-story building was built in 1910 as a hospital to serve the fast growing local Japanese community. Dr. Taisuke Kuwabara was brought from Japan to manage the medical facility. By 1933, the structure changed hands and after a few years the top floor was leased to Mrs. Teranishi, a practicing midwife, while the ground floor was leased by Tokio Ishikawa, a Nisei doctor. In World War II, Dr. Ishikawa was called to the U.S. Army and occupants in Japan-



town were interned or sent inland, so the building was leased as apartments. After the war the building was transferred to a non-profit agency, The Nisei Service Center, Inc. and later to the Japanese American Citizen League to ensure the building would always be used in the best interest of the Japanese Americans and the surrounding community. The former Hospital is now the *Issei Memorial Building* (pictured above).



HL80-14: Auzerais Residence, 155 Empire St. San Jose (Above)

This two-story Queen Anne-style home (pictured above) was built in 1890 by John E. Auzerais who was Director of the Safe Deposit Bank and the son of John Auzerais (1822-1887), one of two brothers who were successful mercantile businessmen and who contributed to the improved construction of buildings in downtown San Jose. Their famous first-class hotel in downtown San Jose was called the *Auzerais House*.

(Photos & text by G. Frank)

To view the entire San Jose Landmark list, map and pictures go to:
<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/planning/Historic/landmarks.asp>

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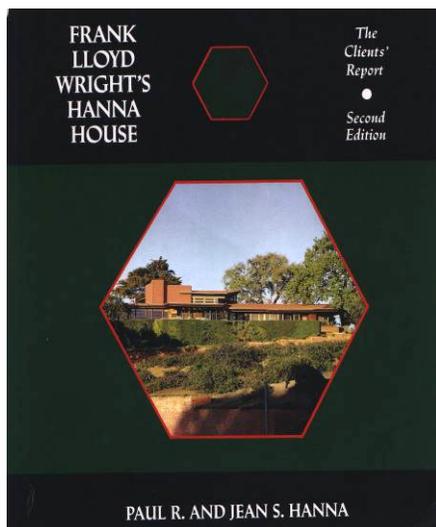
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A Visit to Hanna House (Cont'd)



The Hannas, in their book "Client's Report" (pictured left), describe their experiences working with Wright. Right, from the book, the playroom before it was converted to a dining room.



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- Writing articles for the newsletter
- Helping with the Preservation Celebration
- Helping with the Salvage Sale / I have a truck
- Pro bono legal assistance
- Evaluating properties for architectural significance

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- Advocacy Committee
- Fundraising Committee
- Education Committee
- Membership Committee
- Audit Committee
- Public Relations



The Preservation Action Council of San José (PAC*SJ) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation dedicated to preserving San José's architectural heritage through education, advocacy and events.

We believe that historic preservation is **good for our quality of life, good for business, and good for the environment.** We aim to integrate a strong commitment to historic preservation into the land use and development decisions of the City of San José that affect historic resources, as well as into the private decisions of property owners and developers. We try to bring owners and developers together to create historically sensitive projects that make economic sense.

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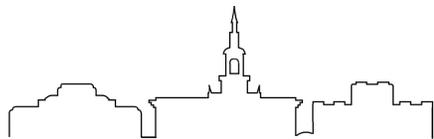
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