

CONTINUITY

Wolfe & Wolfe Homes
Tour & Gala
pages 7 - 9

Volume 23, No. 2

Preservation Action Council of San Jose
Dedicated to Preserving San José's Architectural Heritage

Summer, 2012

COVER STORY

- 1 At Last—A City Landmark

PRESERVATION ISSUES/NEWS

- 3 Executive Director's Message
- 4 Landmarks Commission Photo Contest
- 6 On the Radar
 - Century Theaters
 - KNTV Building

PAC*SJ NEWS

- 7 Wolfe & Wolfe Prairie Homes Tour
- 8 Become a Homes Tour Sponsor or Docent
- 10 PAC*SJ Calendar
- 11 PAC*SJ Walking Tours
- 13 PAC*SJ Garage & Salvage Sale
- 14 Good Things from Garage Sale
- 15 Remembering Jack Douglas

PRESERVATION ARTICLES

- 16 Ode To Logue
- 18 Lowe's Exhibits Sculpture
- 19 Exploring SJ Landmarks
 - James Clayton Building
 - Hotel Metropole
- 23 Membership Form
- 24 Board and Staff Roster

At Last—A City Landmark!



Former Fire Station No. 1 at North Market and West St. James Streets

On March 20th, 2012, the San Jose City Council approved City Landmark status for the former Fire Station No. 1, finally! Why did it take so long? Back in May of 2008, the Historic Landmarks Commission nominated the structure for city landmark designation. Earlier in 2004, the State Department of Parks and Recreation's historic evaluation of former Fire Station No. 1 stated that it was "eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and the California Register of Historical Resources since its design and history is an important piece of our local development." Therefore, one might conclude these characteristics of former Fire Station No. 1 also meet the requirements for a San Jose City Landmark. In addition, whether or not it became a landmark, the building would be subject to environmental and development review as a historical resource under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

What was the hold up since 2008? The Redevelopment Agency considered the proposition for landmark status as a negative impact for its plan to sell the site for future residential and commercial development. In a letter dated April 29th, 2008, the

(Cont'd on page 2)

At Last—A City Landmark! (Cont'd)

Redevelopment Agency states, "As its owner we do not support its designation as a city landmark since such a designation will adversely affect the value of the property and therefore the funds available to the [Watson] Park." Consequently, the nomination for designating former Fire Station No.1 as a landmark was placed on the back burner for four years.

Thanks to Councilmembers Sam Liccardo, Pierluigi Oliverio, and Don Rocha for submitting a memorandum that was sent to the City Council Rules Committee on February 15th, 2012, requesting that city landmark status for Fire Station No. 1 be placed, for the second time, on a future City Council agenda. The issue was placed on the March 20th agenda and voted upon.

At that March 20th Council meeting, Warren Heid, the project architect for the former Fire Station No. 1, was in attendance and spoke briefly about the building he designed. In 1950, the prolific and prestigious San Jose firm of Binder and Curtis hired Mr. Heid who had recently graduated from the architectural school at University of California - Berkeley. While at Binder and Curtis, one of Heid's earliest endeavors was the design of Firehouse No. 1. The City wanted a modern, harmonious, poured-in-place concrete building for the headquarters of the San Jose Fire Department. Mr. Heid believed the former Fire Station No. 1 might be the oldest poured reinforced-concrete building in San Jose. He also praised structural engineer William D. Lots who worked on the project. Heid emphasized that the building represents a specific time in the growth of the City's urban core.

In 1959, Warren Heid opened his own firm and designed many local schools, homes and buildings, including the Mercury News building on Ridder Park Drive. He was in business for 52 years.

PAC*SJ Executive Director Brian Grayson also spoke at the City Council meeting, voicing our organization's strong support for city landmark status and future plans for a Fire Museum. He also stressed that in the meantime, "the City of San



*View of Firehouse No. 1 looking toward St. James St.
Note San Jose's historic fire bell in foreground*

Jose must ensure protection of the building from fire and vandalism."

Historic Landmarks Commissioner Ramiro Torres praised the plans for a future Fire Museum at this site as "the perfect tenant for the perfect location."

Councilpersons Ash Kalra and Sam Liccardo thanked John McMillan for his tireless dedication and continued advocacy for this project and commented that we are all indebted to him.

Mayor Chuck Reed stated that the Redevelopment Agency previously owned the property of the former Fire Station No. 1, but it has now been turned over to a successor agency with an oversight committee who will manage the property sale and payment of liens. Mayor Reed assured us "it will be a public process for future actions."

Plans for a Fire Museum to inhabit this building would celebrate the history of the San Jose Fire Department, which was formally organized in 1854 and evolved into a professional fire department in 1876. This former operational headquarters for the San Jose Fire Department sits on the northwest corner of N. Market and West St. James Streets. Next door, at 225 N. Market Street, the present Fire Station No. 1 has been in operation since 2000. The vacant two-story rectangular structure, completed in 1951, was part of the new modernism drawn from the Art Moderne (Art Deco) and International Style of design. Architecturally, "simplicity and use of unarticulated volumes and voids" represented the International Style while the "horizontal banding of windows and focused use of Art Deco shapes"¹ exemplified Art Moderne. Experts concluded, "it remains one of the most well executed examples of post-World War II era early-modern designs in San Jose's urban core."¹ At that time, San Jose was exploding with rapid urban expansion and soaring population growth.

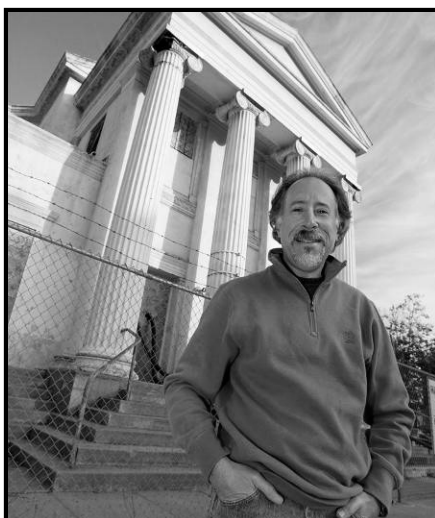
The structure has columns bordering three drive-thru bays, which were unique in San Jose at that time. The building is

(Cont'd on page 5)

Executive Director's Message

Although summer is just around the corner, there are no signs of things slowing down. There never seems to be a slow season when it comes to historic preservation.

We helped celebrate Historic Preservation Month in May by co-sponsoring the San Jose Historic Landmarks Commission's Historical Photo Contest. Our thanks to the Commission for taking the lead and to the photographers for submitting their best images of San Jose's historic structures.



*Brian Grayson in front of
First Church on St. James St.*

Photo: Silicon Valley Community Newspapers

As you will read elsewhere in this issue, we have many activities coming up. June features three walking tours of historic areas around the city. These tours offer a great opportunity to learn more about San Jose's hidden treasures.

The walking tours will feature Alviso, the Hensley District, and Japantown. Don't miss this opportunity to tour these fascinating and historic locations.

Planning has been underway for many months for this year's annual Gala Event -- the Wolfe & Wolfe Prairie Homes Tour. The Wolfe Tour will be our major fundraiser for 2012. The event will begin on Friday, August 17 with a gala preview party at one of the featured homes. The event continues the next day, Saturday, August 18, with the tour featuring 8 homes designed by Wolfe & Wolfe. More details are available elsewhere in this issue.

Volunteers are always needed to help out with our events. Let us know if you'd like to assist with one or more of our upcoming programs.

Although it was 8 years in the making, the City Council finally bestowed Landmark status on former Fire Station No. 1. There is no good excuse for this designation taking so long but at least the building has finally received its well-deserved status. The next step is for the building to become the San Jose Fire Museum (SJFM) so the public will be able to

view the world-class collection of fire apparatus and memorabilia. SJFM is working hard to achieve this goal and we are hopeful that San Jose will eventually have a new museum.

We continue to monitor what is happening to our existing historic buildings. One area of concern is the condition of the landmarks in Alviso. We have brought this to the attention of the City and hope to ensure these buildings are properly protected.

It continues to be difficult for historic preservation in San Jose as the City's priorities leave little to no funding for preservation. This will not change until the Mayor and City Council are convinced that historic preservation should be a priority for the 10th largest city in the country.

Our work is cut out for us. We continue to meet and educate. We have regular discussions with the Planning Department about preservation-related issues and meet with Councilmembers and other City staff. We will continue to advocate for historic preservation to become a priority in San Jose.

Lastly, we extend our sympathies to the family of Jack Douglas. His recent passing saddened us. Jack was an author, teacher, historian, former Board member and friend of PAC* SJ and we will miss him.

**-Brian Grayson
Executive Director
PAC* SJ**



is published quarterly by the
PRESERVATION ACTION COUNCIL OF SAN JOSE

The opinions expressed by contributors are not
necessarily those of PAC* SJ itself.

Editors: Gayle Frank & Julia Howlett

Please submit your letters, comments and suggestions to
info@preservation.org OR

1650 Senter Rd, San José CA 95112-2599

© 2012 Preservation Action Council of San Jose

PAC SJ is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization*

Landmarks Commission Photo Contest

The San Jose Historic Landmarks Commission announced the winners of their 2012 Historic Photo Competition on May 12th at Southern Lumber Company. The finalist photos were on display from April 26th through May 12th. The event also featured an amazing three-story Doll House, an exact Victorian replica inside and out. This Doll House is the lifetime work of the late Ed Kunza and was a highlight of the exhibit.

The exhibit included 33 finalist photographs of local, historic subjects such as the Hart's Warehouse sign, San Jose Art Museum, Bank of America Building, Garden Theatre, Hayes Mansion, Lick Observatory Building, California Theatre, Trinity Cathedral, St. Joseph's Cathedral, Church of Five Wounds, Remillard home, Western Appliance sign, Agnew Water Tower, St. Claire Hotel, Kelley House (after fire) at Happy Hollow, Holt House, National Guard Unit Building,




Above, an amazing Victorian model of an actual home on the East Coast. Built by the late Ed Kunza from original plans he had reduced, it was his prized show piece and was donated to Southern Lumber Co. by Ed's family.

San Jose Post Office on First Street, First Unitarian Church, and a Henry Hanson constructed house.

The winning entries were awarded in three categories in addition to "Best in Show" given to Gwen Howard for her photo of St. Joseph Cathedral. In the adult category, first prize was given to James Murray, second prize to Michael Ojeda and third prize to Jing Yu. In the artifacts/re-use category first prize was awarded to Gwen Howard, second prize to Luis Castillo and third prize to Manami Yamamoto. In the student category, first prize went to Ming Chow, second prize to Ariel Chang, and third prize to Lovedeep Rani. All the photographs represent a vast array of historic structures and artifacts in our city. To view the finalist photos go to www.sjhistoricalphoto.com/finalist.html.

At the May 12th event, Landmarks Commission Vice Chair Steve Cohen thanked Southern Lumber for the exhibit space and Royce Dove who spent many hours organizing the contest. Commission Chair Pat Colombe spoke to the guests and urged the public to attend Landmarks Commission meetings and become involved in supporting historic preservation.

Continuing the annual tradition, the Historic Landmarks Commission will be accepting submissions for the 2013 San Jose Historic Photo competition starting January 1, 2013. So get your cameras ready. After January, email your submissions to Contest@SJHistoricalPhoto.com. Include your name, category (student or adult), a short paragraph about the entry in word document format, and the photograph in jpg document format. 

(More photos on page 5)

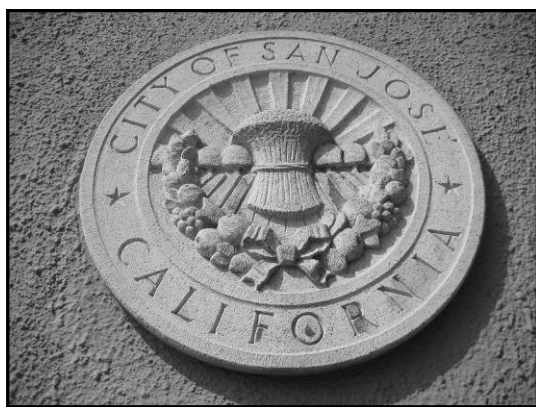
Landmarks Commission Photo Contest (Cont'd)



Front door and interior piano room are two features of the Kunza Victorian Model displayed at Southern Lumber Co.


(Text & photos: G. Frank)

At Last—A City Landmark! (Cont'd)



large enough to hold six fire-fighting vehicles. The ground floor is a concrete slab. On the second floor the 40-bed dormitory and community spaces served as living areas for the fire-fighters. Flanking the bays, ground level columns support the upper overhang of the building, allowing recessed windows at ground

level. Front and rear doors access the offices and lunchroom to the side of the bays. The back of the building holds a large yard encased with a masonry fence that was utilized as a service space for the vehicles. The facility has remained similar to the original construction and design with only minor alterations.

Designation as a city landmark for former Fire Station No. 1 now enables property tax relief for the future owner to maintain the property under the Mills Act and also establishes historic preservation permit requirements for proposed exterior changes to the structure. 



View of Art Deco style columns

(Text & Photos: G. Frank)

¹ Historic Evaluation, Department of Parks and Recreation DPR 523L, Archives and Architecture, F. Maggi, B. Montgomery, 1/23/2004.



ON THE RADAR

Century Theaters: Rumor has it that the Century Theater 21, 22, and 23 domes on Winchester Blvd. may soon meet their demise. The three cinemas, across from Santana Row, sit on land owned

by those who also own the Winchester Mystery House. Ray Syufy signed a 50 year lease on the land in 1962 and went on to build and open Century 21 in 1963. That original lease expires in 2012. We've heard that the families who own and operate the Winchester Mystery House have already signed lease agreements with development firms to develop another boutique retail establishment to take the place of the theaters. Can we save at least one of these unique historical cinemas?



Century 21 on Winchester Blvd., built by the Syufy Theater chain, was the first Century dome theater on the West Coast



KNTV Building exterior above and interior on right.
(Photos top and above: G. Frank)

KNTV Building: After reports of a fire at the former KNTV studios building, we contacted the City to find out what happened. It turns out the building was being used for training exercises by the San Jose Fire Department. As a response to our inquiry, the City initially suspended that use of the building pending further review.

The building interior is basically gutted. According to the City's Office of Economic Development, this was done by KNTV to mitigate asbestos contamination prior to the City/RDA acquiring the building. SJFD (San Jose Fire Department) had been using the building on a regular basis for training. This involves non-destructive smoke machines that dispense theatrical smoke. Trainees then attempt to navigate various obstacles in the building under dark, smoke-filled conditions.

Although the fire department has secured the former KNTV structure as much as possible, transients have entered the building.

The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that covers this area for potential development requires Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) photo documentation of the interior and the exterior. We have asked for a timeline explaining the chronology of what was done before and after the City acquired the building. No photo documentation of the former KNTV building appears to have been completed yet. *CS*



Photo: Brian Grayson

PAC*SJ Celebrates 100 Years of Wolfe & Wolfe Architecture

Homes Tour on August 18, 2012

10:00-4:00 PM

Buy your tickets at
www.preservation.org
or call 408-998-8105

When architect Frank Wolfe hired his son Carl as an associate in 1912, it was the start of one of the most inspired periods in San Jose architecture. Although together fewer than five years, the Wolfe & Wolfe team designed a large body of creative, interesting and lasting work. They quickly became the go-to firm for innovative and unique architecture, making use of influences ranging from Moroccan to neo-classical to arts and crafts, often mixing them together.

They were best known for the Prairie-style buildings influenced by very early Frank Lloyd Wright designs. These buildings with their broad horizontal lines, art glass windows, and solid geometric designs were very distinctive back then (and still are today). In fact, the most famous of the Wolfe & Wolfe Prairies, the Col House in Hanchett Park, was so admired when it appeared nationally in a 1914 issue of *Western Architect Magazine*, that Benjamin and Cora Franklin of Minneapolis had a copy built for themselves. Today that house is a landmark.



The beautiful Col House, designed by Wolfe in 1912 for Peter and Blanche Col, is his best-known work.

Many Wolfe & Wolfe Prairie buildings still stand in San Jose today, where they are usually cherished by their owners. The Wolfe & Wolfe Historic Homes Tour presented by PAC*SJ gives us all a chance to see some of the body of work by the Wolfe & Wolfe team and appreciate what makes these buildings so fascinating. Whether your interest is in architecture, old houses, or just seeing how others live, you're sure to enjoy this first-ever historic home tour that showcases a part of San Jose's architectural heritage.

Start your weekend by attending the PAC*SJ Annual Gala Event the night before at one of the homes on the Tour. See the next two pages for details.



The Rampe house with its extensive inventory of original fixtures and art glass is just one of the homes on tour.



Frank Wolfe built this Prairie house for himself and lived in it from about 1913 to 1919. Its owner went through years of renovation to bring it back to its original glory.

PAC*SJ Annual Gala

Annual Gala Celebration

Friday, August 17, 2012,
7-10 PM

In addition to the Saturday Wolfe & Wolfe Homes Tour, on Friday night we are celebrating the 100 years of Wolfe & Wolfe architecture with our PAC*SJ Annual Gala Event at one of the homes on the Saturday Tour.

Join us for an evening of catered hors d'oeuvres, drinks and a chance to mingle with other people interested in historic preservation at the historic Wolfe & Wolfe Caputo House at 494 S. Cypress Ave. in San Jose. The party will be held inside the home and on the lovely landscaped front yard.

A continuing slide show will enhance guests' enthusiasm for the exciting homes on the Saturday tour. To reserve tickets see page 9.

Wolfe & Wolfe Tour



On the Tour, the Wolfe & Wolfe Hageman House was designed c. 1912-1913 and was built for San Jose real-estate maven Joe Hageman and his wife Jane. A picture of the house from 1914 hangs in the owners' kitchen, showing how little it has changed since then.

(Text & Photos: Krista Van Laan)

Become a Wolfe & Wolfe Homes Tour Sponsor

Would you like to be a sponsor of the Wolfe & Wolfe Homes Tour? Your donation will help PAC*SJ offer 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. At the \$250 level you will receive two Tour tickets, PAC*SJ membership and your name will be published in the Homes Tour Booklet and in the next *Continuity* newsletter. Additional benefits available at higher levels.

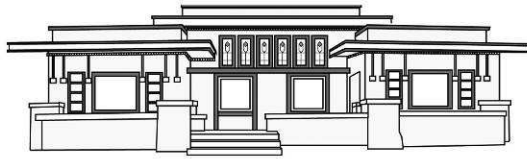
Contact us at PrairieTour@preservation.org for sponsorship information.



Docent Opportunity for our Homes Tour



An event as big as our Wolfe & Wolfe Homes Tour needs many volunteers. If you are interested in helping with the Annual Gala Celebration on Friday, August 17th or working a shift as a docent at one of the houses for the Saturday Homes Tour, please contact Sharon McCauley by email at sharon@preservation.org or by phone at 408-926-2312. Docent experience is not required, since new volunteers will be paired with experienced ones. Volunteers are eligible for free entrance to the tour.



WOLFE & WOLFE PRAIRIE HOMES TOUR

August 18, 2012

Do you know San Jose is one of the primary locations for Prairie-style architecture? The Prairie School is an American indigenous architectural style developed in the Midwest in the late 1800s, featuring horizontal lines and flat or hipped roofs with broad overhanging eaves. Frank Lloyd Wright was the best known of the Prairie School architects.

San Jose's own Frank Delos Wolfe and his son Carl

made Prairie the signature style of their architectural firm while they were in business together between 1912 to 1916. Dozens of beautiful Wolfe & Wolfe Prairie buildings still stand in San Jose today, with many original interior and exterior details.

On August 18, PAC*SJ presents an open homes tour that will let you see how special the Prairies are. Go to www.preservation.org to buy your tickets now.

Reserve Your Tour Tickets

Wolfe & Wolfe Prairie Homes Tour
Saturday, August 18, 2012
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

The driving tour starts at the Caputo House, on South Cypress Avenue, San Jose, and covers approximately 10 miles to four historical districts. Map and booklet are included. Tours include the interior of 8 homes plus locations of other Wolfe Prairie buildings and homes to drive by later. Cost before Aug. 15: members—\$25; non-members—\$30. After Aug. 15 all tickets are \$35.

Reserve Your Gala Tickets

Friday, August 17, 2012, 7-10 PM

Celebrating 100 years of Wolfe & Wolfe architecture

The theme of this year's Annual Gala event celebrates San Jose's Prairie School architectural heritage in one of the few remaining large Wolfe & Wolfe residences. Includes drinks, hors d'oeuvres and entertainment at the historic Wolfe & Wolfe Caputo House at 494 S. Cypress Ave. in San Jose. Includes a ticket to the next day's tour.

Space is limited. Please reserve your spot by August 15 at www.preservation.org or mail a check with the form below. Proceeds benefit PAC*SJ.

PAC*SJ Members \$99; Non-members \$110

Buy tickets at www.preservation.org or use the form below:

Send with your check to: Preservation Action Council of San Jose, 1650 Senter Rd., San Jose, CA 95112-2599

Homes Tour (before Aug. 15) _____ x \$25 (member) _____ x \$30 (non-member) All tickets \$35 after Aug. 15

Annual Gala Celebration (includes tour) _____ x \$99 (member) _____ x \$110 (non-member)

PAC*SJ membership _____ x \$40 (single) _____ x \$55 (family) Additional donation _____ \$ Total: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

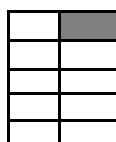
PAC*SJ Calendar 2012

- June 10** Sunday, PAC*SJ **Walking Tours**: Alviso, Tour #1, 10:00 am. Meet at the Marina. See page 13 for details.
- June 16** Saturday, PAC*SJ **Walking Tours**: Hensley District, Tour #2, 10:00 am. Meet at 5th St. and Empire. See page 13 for details.
- June 18** Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6 - 8 pm. History San Jose, Pasetta House
- June 23** Saturday, PAC*SJ **Walking Tours**: Japantown, Tour #3, 10 am-12 noon. Meet at the Museum, 535 No. 5th St. See page 13 for details.
- July 2** Monday, **Meet Ron Tanner**, author of "From Animal House to Our House: A Love Story" about his adventures to save and restore a grand old Baltimore Victorian that was wrecked by a notorious fraternity. **Free** at San Jose Woman's Club, 7 PM, 75 S. 11th.
- July 16** Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6 - 8 pm. History San Jose, Pasetta House
- Aug 2-4** **PAC*SJ Garage & Salvage Sale**, 260 S. 13th St., Thurs. & Fri. 7-7, Sat 7-3. Contact Patt Curia at donations@preservation.org to donate or volunteer.
- Aug 17** **PAC*SJ Annual Gala Celebration** at the Wolfe & Wolfe Caputo House, 7:00 pm. See pages 8-9 for details.
- Aug 18** **PAC*SJ Wolfe & Wolfe Prairie Homes Tour**; 10 AM-4 PM. See pages 7-9 for details.
- Aug 20** Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6 - 8 pm. History San Jose, Pasetta House
- Sept 17** Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6 - 8 pm. History San Jose, Pasetta House
- Oct 15** Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6 - 8 pm. History San Jose, Pasetta House
- Nov 19** Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting & **Annual Meeting & Election**, 6 - 8 pm. History San Jose, Pasetta House. Members welcome.

ADVERTISE IN CONTINUITY!

Continuity is distributed to over 500 San José preservationists, homeowners and decision-makers. 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.

Buy ads in 6 issues and SAVE! Plus, all multiple-issue ads come with a free membership!



Business Card
Single issue \$50
3 issues \$120



1/4 Page
Single issue \$100
3 issues \$250



1/2 Page
Single issue \$200
3 issues \$450



Full Page
Single issue \$375
3 issues \$700

Walk Through Historic San Jose

Preservation Action Council of San Jose is pleased to conduct three walking tours through historical districts in San Jose during the month of June. All tours begin at 10:00 am, last for approximately two hours and take place on city streets. There are no stairs on the tours.

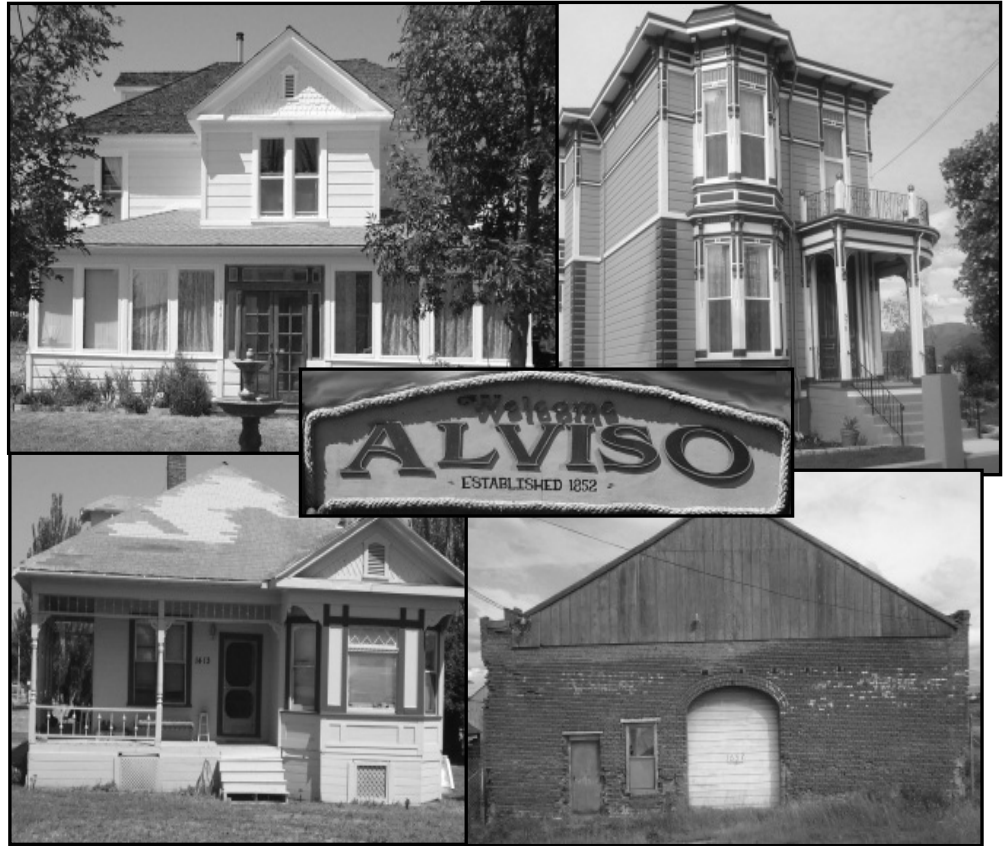
Sunday, June 10th

10:00 am

The history of Alviso is rich with stories of speculators and dreamers. The tour will cover the history of Alviso from when it was El Embarcadero de Santa Clara, continuing through to Rancho Rincon de Los Esteros and on to the independent city of Alviso, home of Bay-side Cannery.

We will cover the effect of subsidence from farming on the area and the story of how the city became part of San Jose.

The tour will begin at the Marina and will stop at the endangered city landmarks in the historic district.



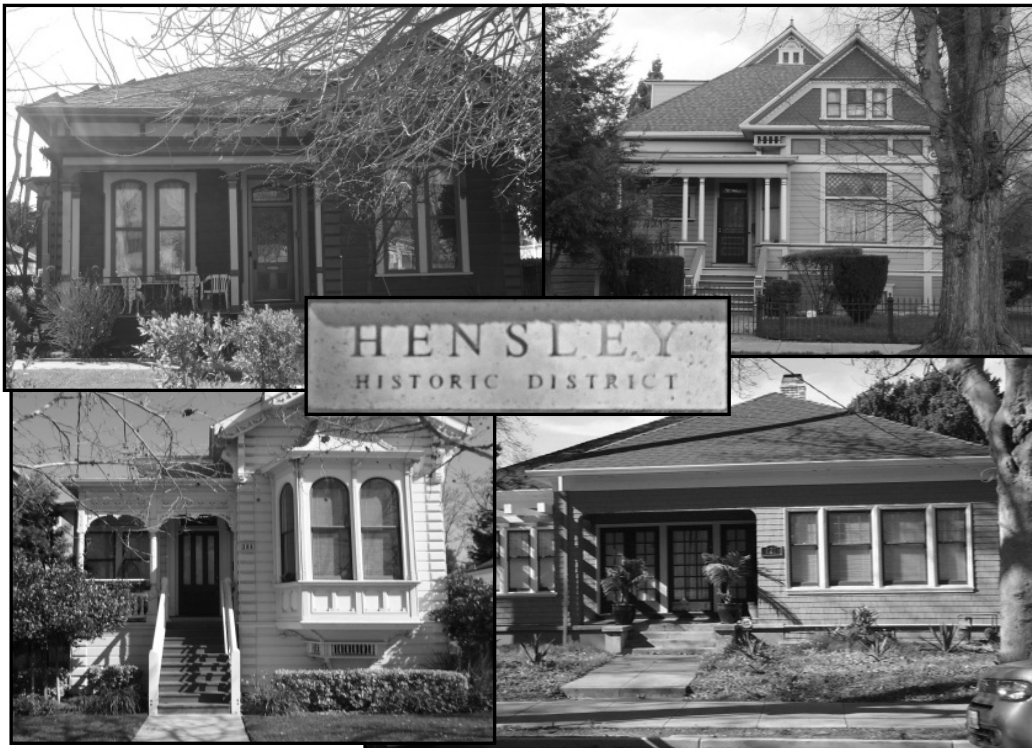
Saturday, June 16th

10:00 am

On this tour we will visit over twenty city landmarks and contributing structures representing the work of seven San Jose architects. The district dates back to when San Jose was the state capital and Samuel Hensley built his estate.

In addition to architectural attractions, we'll be discussing some of the prominent people who lived in the district such as John D. Crummey, Horace Foote and Doc Herrold.

The tour begins and ends at the corner of N. Fifth Street and Empire Streets.



Walk Through Historic San Jose

**Saturday,
June 23rd
10:00 am**

This tour will be hosted by the Japanese American Museum of San Jose, 535 North Fifth Street. In addition to visiting the historic sites of Nihonmachi, participants will enjoy a guided visit to the museum including the agricultural exhibit on the grounds.

This tour does require advance reservations, either from the website or at one of the earlier tours.

Reserve Your Tickets Now!

Individual tours are priced at \$10 for members of PAC*SJ and \$15 for non-members. If you order all three tours, the price is \$25 for members and \$40 for non-members. You can order tickets from the PAC*SJ website, www.preservation.org, through June 7th. Walk-up registration will be possible for the first two tours. For questions, call Sharon McCauley at 408-926-2312 or send email to sharon@preservation.org. ☪



JAPANTOWN *San Jose*



How to Report San Jose Building Code Violations

Prevent loss of historical structures from fire and vandalism and help the City enforce its Vacant Building Ordinance.

Report problems to: www.sanjoseca.gov/codeEnforcement/

Go to "Online Services", click "Submit an Online Blight Complaint" and fill out the appropriate information.



"Beyond Boundaries" National Preservation Conference

**Spokane, Washington
October 30 – November 3, 2012**

PAC*SJ Garage Sale— Best Ever

PAC*SJ held a great sale on the last week-end in March, perhaps the best ever in terms of revenue, donations and volunteers. Many thanks to all who contributed to Preservation Action Council's efforts to make San Jose safer, respect its history, encourage interesting and varied architecture, while building community spirit.



A shopper tries on an Easter bonnet

Great helpers included Gayle Frank, Sylvia Carroll, Judy Stabile, Ellen Garboske, Chloe Leinwand, Bonnie Lee, Lucille Boone, Karen Claras, Leslie Masunaga, Heinz Bodeker, Alice Gosak, Jim Bunce, Lynda Sereno, Ron Hagen, Gilda and John Messmer, John Mitchell, Tom Aldridge, Sheik Ali, Shannah Miller, Christopher, Kenneth and Ray Trent, Joan Bohnett, Mim Bloom, Team Notre Dame, Sally Beste, Sharon and Jay McCauley, Beth Wyman, Caroline Jumper, Judy Hill, Ron Hagen, Renee Coca, Joe Melehan. Bev Blockie, Jim

Many thanks to the Salas, Mendoza-Mason, Curia, and Liesenfelt-Wangness families for access to their front yards for the week, as well as the dog sitting services of Jane Guinther.


Lunches were provided by the Luthards, the Guinthers, and the Phillips, tables and moral support from the Halberstadts, canopies and tables from the Jennings and the Nemmer-Buis families, and general goodwill from the neighbors on the 200 block of South 13th Street, who witnessed lots of bad parking, no parking, happy shoppers, angry shoppers, and observed an



*The donor of this bridal dress was surprised to see it on the PAC*SJ mannequin. Both she and her mother wore the dress at their weddings.*

amazing amount of merchandise being recycled.

Unsold items were donated to local theatres and schools, Goodwill, Salvation Army, 13th Street Cats, Victorian Preservation Association, Joyce Ellington with East Carnegie Libraries, and teachers in need.

Save the date for our Summer Garage and Salvage Sale on August 2nd through 4th, 2012. As always, contact Patt Curia at donations@preservation.org to donate or volunteer. 

-Patt Curia

"the Moving Man" Norvell, Rick Bernard, Caroline Jumper Brian Fowler Brian Habekoss, Mary Lou Mason, Lisa Wangness, Brian Grayson, Connie Foley, Barbara "the Cupcake" Kempczinski, Joe Golda, Nat Robinson, and Jeana, Dayana and Brandon of Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity from SJSU.

On right, rained out on Saturday: Renee Coca, Lynda Sereno, John Mitchell and Tom Aldridge.

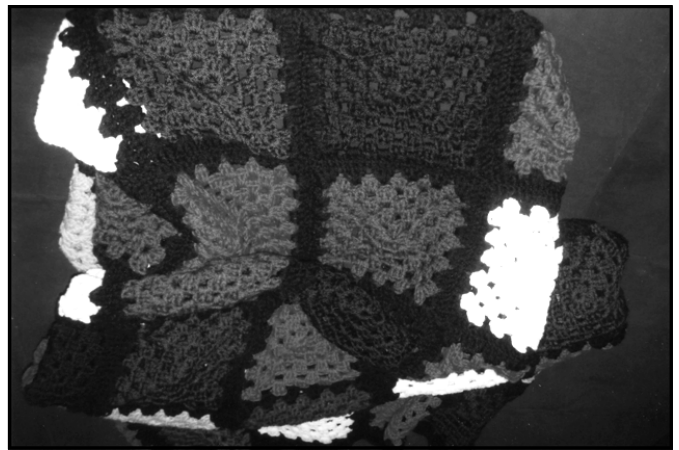
(Photos: Patt Curia)



Good Things Come from our Garage Sales



Rose Arnaudo is appreciative of the PAC*SJ gift of yarn she received from a PAC*SJ Garage Sale. She certainly has put it to good use, by making lap robes for veterans, blankets and hats for the Good Sam Access Program, and afghans for Italian Catholic Federation and the Lion's Club for needy children. Pictured to the right is one of her afghans.



Eric Thacker, a PAC*SJ Board Member, was pleased for a chance to buy bargain redwood gutters at last year's PAC*SJ Garage and Salvage sale. He removed his unsightly aluminum gutters on his landmark house on Jackson Street and added the redwood gutters that added authenticity to his historic house.



History San Jose

1650 Senter Road

Annual Valley of Hearts Delight Fundraiser

Saturday, June 30th 5 pm – 9 pm

Honoring the Cilker & Lester Families, early local agriculturists. Enjoy food and wine tasting, Trolley rides, Samba dancing, and entertainment by "Fiddle Road."

www.historysanjose.org

Catered by Parsley Sage Rosemary and Thyme.

In the Works-

Another

Fabulous Hats!

Party



PAC*SJ Hat Party Committee is hard at work planning the next event. We are always looking for donations of wonderful hats, vintage clothing and accessories. Cleaning out your closets? Did Aunt Mable leave you gloves that are too small? Call Patt Curia at 408-294-3599 or email donations@preservation.org to donate or chat about the event. We are collecting items now and hope to announce the location and date soon.

The Rengstorff House

Mountain View's oldest historic house; one of the finest examples of Victorian Italianate architecture on the west coast.

FROM HORSE & BUGGY TO THE MODEL T:

Turn of 20TH Century Transportation, Then and Now

Through July 25, 2012; Sun., Tues., Wed., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunnyvale Historical Society and Museum Association

570 E. Remington Dr., Sunnyvale,

www.heritageparkmuseum.org

Sunnyvale Centennial Celebration, August 25th & 26th

Remembering Jack Douglas

There is almost nothing that a historian likes better than a well-written and complete obituary. After months of archival research, finding these small biographies can be a eureka moment. As a tribute to my friend, fellow historian and Naglee Park neighbor Jack Douglas, I will attempt to provide some details of his life that may someday gladden a historian's heart.

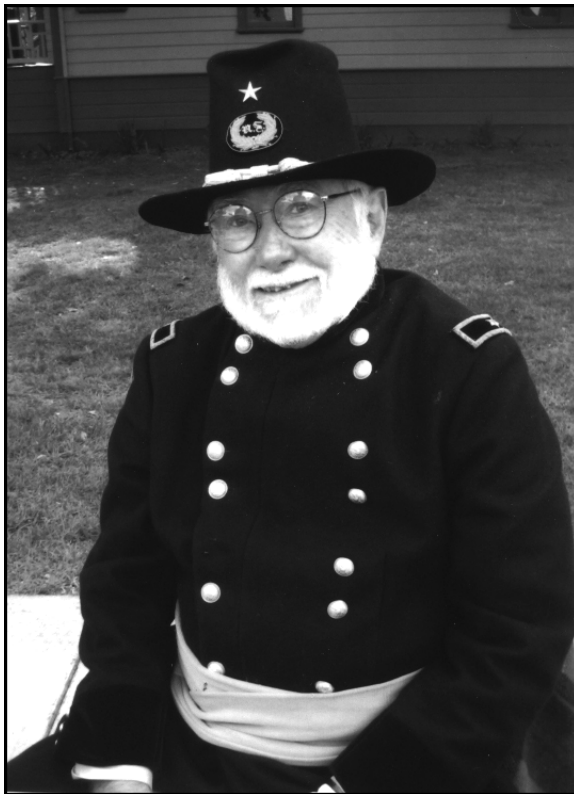
Jack was born in Waukegan, Illinois, to a branch of the Douglas clan that arrived in Illinois in 1834. Jack appeared on January 1, 1932, winning local prizes simply for his appearance. He denied a close relationship with the botanist David Douglas who named California's Douglas fir, but proudly acknowledged him as a clansman and one who wore the Douglas tartan. Jack sometimes mentioned comedian Jack Benny, another native of Waukegan, but denied a relationship with Benny also. Proud of his heritage, Jack attended the 50th year reunion of his graduating class, a personal milestone. Jack's family traveled to California in 1938 and Jack attended a few of his early grade school years in the Los Angeles area. The family returned to Waukegan, but Jack had tasted the West.

Jack attended Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana, a school founded by Quakers in 1859. Earlham prides itself on turning out enlightened students. Jack then moved to Denver to attend the University of Denver for his graduate work, developing a strong interest in urban sociology. His thesis was *The Architectural Evolution of the City of Denver, 1840-1920*, and the formation of cities became a lifelong interest. He trained as a librarian and met his future wife Kathryn Young, also a librarian.

Jack headed West; San Francisco was his destination. There was a job open in the library at San Jose State so that is where he landed. The 1960's were a tumultuous decade, and Jack was a social activist at heart. He was always interested in teaching, so with a cadre of creative faculty members, Jack founded New College at San Jose State. New College was an inter-disciplinary program that merged business classes with social science. A few of the classes Jack taught included fencing, wine-making and urban history. New College remains a legend on the San Jose State campus, breaking down social and ethnic barriers among students and faculty.

Jack joined the San Jose Historic Landmarks Commission and after he served the maximum number of terms, he was allowed to continue on as their *ex officio* expert. He was also a founding member of the Preservation Action Council and is remembered for his outstanding work to save the Jose Theatre. He dressed as Monterey David Jacks and picketed in front of this landmark theater asking passersby to save the building.

He began writing articles for History San Jose on various topics in local history, articles that were avidly collected and finally made into a book in 1993, *Historical Footnotes of Santa Clara County*. He continued writing and in 2005 another 75 articles were collected into *Historical Highlights of Santa Clara County*. These two books provide the context for most of Santa Clara County's 20th century development history.



Jack Douglas (1932-2012)

Jack also wrote articles for the Beethoven Journal and the Journal of the Wagner Society, two related interests. He had a large personal collection of San Jose ephemera including hundreds of postcards. Fine books and bindings were another passion and he was a member of the California Book Club and the prestigious Roxburghe Club, while always looking for important items to add to the collection of the San Jose State Library's Special Collections. Jack managed to acquire many important items for the library. Perhaps his most significant acquisition was the Gordon Collection, over 8,000 photographs of the Valley before 1850.

Jack was known to his many neighbors as the personification of Civil War Brigadier General Henry Morris Naglee, a local pioneer. Jack felt Naglee's legend should be promoted, so he acquired a uniform and personified Naglee at every opportunity. The Naglee costume will be donated to Portraits of the Past at History San Jose. Perhaps the presence of both Naglee and Jack Douglas will live once again in local reenactments.

Jack received several honors for his work in historic preservation. These include a Commendation from the City of San Jose in 2003; a plaque from the City of San Jose Historic Landmarks Commission for service from 1980-1987; the Preservation Action Council Award (PAC*SJ) as an Outstanding Preservationist; and a commendation from the California Council for the Promotion of History (CCPH) in 2006.

Jack and his wife Kathryn were also quietly generous to the Sourisseau Academy of San Jose State, an archive within the History Department. Jack helped acquire the collection of San Jose photographer Arnold Del Carlo, covering 1848 to 1990. Jack managed to find and acquire collections that would photo document San Jose's development across the 20th century.

Jack leaves two children from a former marriage; Sandra Douglas and Bruce Douglas are residents of Fresno. ☞

April Halberstadt

May 2012

Ode To Logue *By Heather M. David*

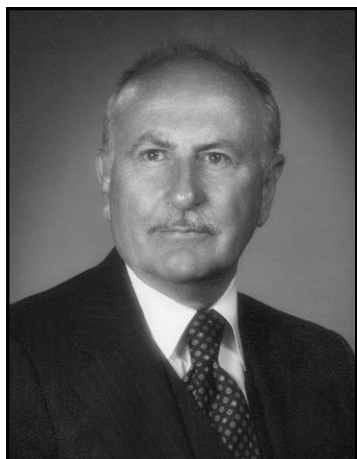


Photo courtesy Barbara Logue Reaghtto

Hollis Logue Jr.

Hollis Logue Jr. was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana in 1920. After winning a high school art contest, the teen pondered a career in industrial design. His father, however, encouraged him to study architecture. Following high school, Logue enrolled in the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, and obtained a Bachelor's degree in Architecture (1942).

He was an admirer of the work of Frank Lloyd Wright and a strong proponent of the modern principle of "form follows function."

After serving in the United States Navy during World War II, Logue settled in the San Francisco Bay Area. In 1947, he received his license to practice architecture. One of his first projects was to build a home for his young family in Campbell. The house, with its long horizontal line, open floor plan, and hand-crafted furniture, was a direct nod to Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie School of Architecture.

The Santa Clara Valley experienced an economic boom in the decades following World War II. Logue's project portfolio expanded rapidly as he received commissions for car dealerships, commercial office space, and civic buildings. He joined the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the AIA (American Institute of Architects—established in 1950) as one of its founding members and was one of the first commissioners of the San Jose Redevelopment Agency (created in 1956).

Although his assignments took him as far as Hawaii, Hollis Logue Jr. is best known as the architect of San Jose's 1960s "jet age" airport, **Terminal C** (pictured right.) Described as a "palace of glass, concrete, and steel" by the San Jose Mercury News, Terminal C (1965) stood for 45 years as a bold symbol of the transition from "The Valley of Heart's Delight" to "Silicon Valley." Despite having been one of the area's best examples of mid-century modern architecture, the building was demolished in 2010.

Another striking Logue design was a car dealership located at 4201 Stevens Creek Boulevard in Santa Clara, formerly home to **Stevens Creek Buick-Pontiac** (1966). Sadly, the building, once characterized by sharp, clean, lines and floor-to-ceiling glass, was modified into a "big, black, box" (the corporate standard for Mini Cooper dealerships) in 2010. About the only positive thing that can be said about this is that there is a similarly designed Logue car dealership that remains intact in Honolulu, Hawaii (Cutter Chevrolet, originally built in 1964 as a Ford Sales Center).

(Cont'd on page 17)

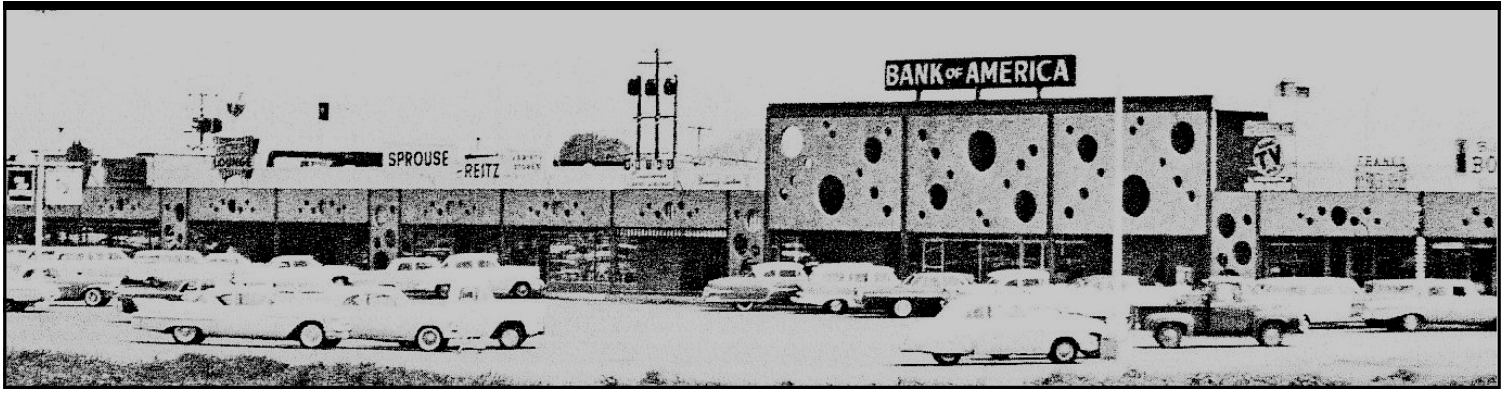


Stevens Creek Buick-Pontiac Dealership in 2008

Insert shows roof detail (Photo: Heather David)



Ode To Logue (Cont'd)



Hamilton Plaza on Bascom & Hamilton Avenues in Campbell

Source: San Jose Mercury News Shopping Center Survey at the California Room

A lesser known Logue design, and one atypical in its whimsy, was the **Hamilton Plaza Shopping Center** (above) at the corner of Hamilton and Bascom Avenues in Campbell. When the shopping center first opened in 1959, it was characterized by nothing short of an eye-popping façade. The entire commercial strip was fronted by a screen made of plywood punctured by holes, much like a giant piece of Swiss cheese. The shopping center has since been remodeled and looks nothing like its original incarnation.

Enough about Logue buildings gone or remodeled beyond recognition. Here are a few local examples that (thankfully) remain.

In the 1950s, this rectangular box on stilts (pictured below) was home to the offices of Hollis Logue, Jr., AIA. How to

make the most of the available land? Put the parking below the building...and instead of an underground parking garage, simply raise the building up. While hardly a novel concept, it was truly a MODERN concept, having been embraced earlier by such notable modernists as Corbusier.

(Note: a similar office building exists in Willow Glen on Lincoln Ave. and may also be the work of Logue.)

In the early 1960s, self-made local businessman Joe Kerley decided to relocate his successful Lincoln-Mercury franchise from Downtown San Jose to Stevens Creek Auto Row. He purchased a 6-acre parcel of land and hired Logue for the design of his new car dealership. The centerpiece of the Kerley property is its sales office – a 12-sided modern tiki hut, with a spiral staircase at its center and a rooftop skylight (pictured below.)

(Cont'd on page 18)



Photos: Heather David

Commercial Office Building at 275 North 4th St., San Jose.

Formerly home to Hollis Logue Jr. offices (1950s).

Currently home to National Traffic Safety Institute (NTSI).



Joe Kerley Sales Office, early 1960s on Stevens Creek Blvd.

Lowe's Exhibits Historical Sculpture

After years in storage, Lowe's has placed the "Research" sculpture on display at its 5550 Cottle Road store. The art piece, designed by the well-known artist and art-educator Gurdon Woods, was originally mounted at the IBM campus on Cottle Road, where Lowe's now stands. The delicate sculpture sits in a protective case to ensure its security. The public is invited to view this art-work inside the store during Lowe's business hours.

Gurdon Woods died in 2007 at the age of 92 in Santa Cruz County. See our *Continuity* Fall, 2011 issue for more on Woods.

In 2010, Lowe's also constructed a history display south of the store about the IBM Cottle Road Campus. For more details on the display check out our Summer, 2010 issue of *Continuity* at www.preservation.org. ☞



Sculpture, called "Research," by Gurdon Woods is on display in a protective case at Lowe's store at 5550 Cottle Road in San Jose

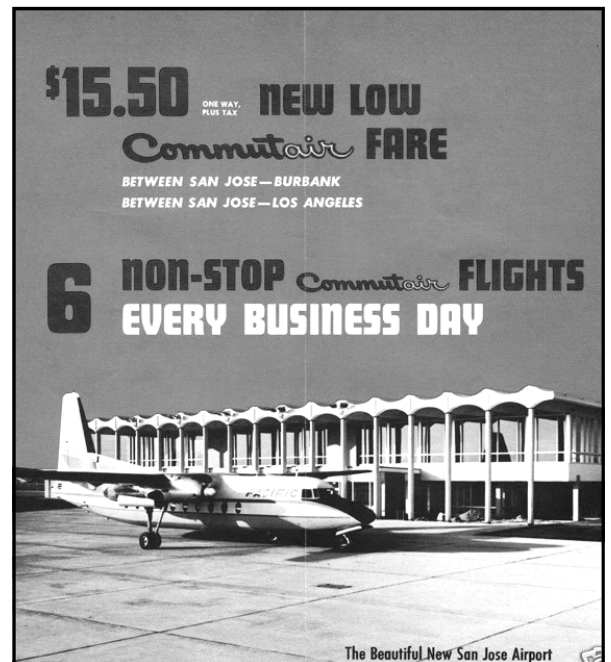
(Photo courtesy of Lowe's)

Ode To Logue (Cont'd)

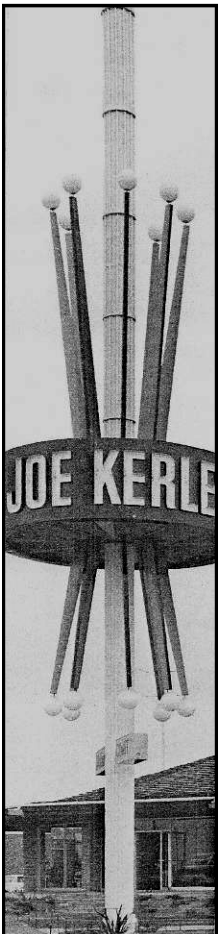
Hollis Logue Jr. passed away on September 20, 2010, just a few months after celebrating his 90th birthday. At the time of his passing, Logue was the last remaining founding member of the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the AIA and his architectural career had spanned over five decades. The full extent of Logue's architectural footprint in the Silicon Valley has yet to be determined but one can assume that it is substantial. His favorite commission was San Jose's Terminal C, and he had strongly advocated for its preservation. ☞

- Heather David

Many thanks to Barbara Logue Reghitto, Hollis Logue III, and John E. Logue for their time and generous assistance with this article.



Color image from 1965 SJ Airport Timetable



Exploring San Jose Landmarks

Here are the next San Jose Landmarks from the City list. Check previous *Continuity* issues for earlier landmark descriptions at www.preservation.org.

HL88-45; James Clayton Building, 34 W. Santa Clara St.

The James Clayton Realty Building was constructed in 1875 and is "an unusual example of an elegant commercial structure of the time."¹ James A. Clayton (1831-1896), who established the first abstract and title company in Santa Clara County in 1867, built this building for his family business where it operated from 1876 until 1976. The family business presently exists in other locations and has continued through many generations.

James Clayton became one of the original owners of the first electric lighting plant in the county, participated in the organization of the First National Bank of San Jose (1872) and served as director (later its president) for many years. He was also elected a member of the state legislature in 1864, attended frequent local and



*Above, view of
James Clayton
Building.*

*Right, old
Clayton ledgers
on display.*

*Left, Early ad
for Realty Co.
before moving
to 34 W. Santa
Clara St.*

The Santa Clara Valley.
THE GARDEN OF CALIFORNIA.

The Real Estate Agency of

JAMES A. CLAYTON

Offer the largest and best selection of property.

Orchards, Vineyards and Homes a Specialty.

Descriptive matter sent on Application.

JAMES A. CLAYTON'S REAL ESTATE AGENCY.

OFFICE AND SALESROOM:
16 West Santa Clara Street,
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA.

Refer to First National Bank, San Jose Safe Deposit Bank of Savings.

state conventions as a delegate, and served as a trustee of the University of the Pacific. He was known as an intelligent, generous, affable and community-minded citizen of San Jose.

The architectural features of this two-story building include dentil moldings under a pronounced cornice with end brackets, triple form windows (resembling "Chicago Windows")

(Cont'd on page 20)



Exploring San Jose Landmarks (Cont'd)

with molding trim, and the most striking - a rare marble nameplate panel across the width of the building with "James A. Clayton Co." and an engraved gold number "34" at each end. The carved wooden door invites feelings of the past. The elegant structure symbolizes a successful and respected business of the time.

The Clayton Building has been restored and occupied since 1988 by Mark Ritchie of Ritchie Commercial Real Estate. Mr. Ritchie discovered the original Clayton ledgers, documenting real estate transactions from 1888 to 1942, in the basement and now displays them in his reception area. Although the narrow building appears small, once inside it is quite deep. Far to the rear a three-story addition from 1910 serves as rental space. Mr. Ritchie has tastefully decorated the interior with historical furnishings, artifacts, photos and wall hangings. Original wood posts remain along with additional steel beams for seismic bracing. ❧

- G. Frank



Above, close-up view of marble panel and window treatment.

Right, one of the many interior original wood support posts.

Below, lobby in James Clayton Building



Sources: ¹ San Jose Historical Museum Downtown Walking Tour, Parks & Rec. Dept, 1985.

Discussion with Mark Ritchie

www.usgennet.org/usa/ca/state
1/ biographies



Exploring San Jose Landmarks

HL88-46; Hotel Metropole, 33-35 S. Market St.

The Hotel Metropole sits on the former site of Pueblo de San Jose de Guadalupe's first Juzgado (Town Hall/court), built in 1798. This first governmental building, made of adobe bricks, served as a jail, a court and offices for the Pueblo *Comissionado* and the *Alcalde* (mayor.) In 1846, Captain Thomas Fallon and his band of men raised the U.S. flag above the Juzgado as a symbol of victory over Mexican rule. Early the next year the adobe structure served as the first American school in San Jose while prisoners in the jail section observed through barred windows.

By 1850 the Juzgado was demolished. In 1890 the present two- story brick building was constructed, originally called the Alcantara Building, but becoming the Hotel Metropole around 1902-1903. The red bricks most likely were produced locally. The structure presumably was built by San Jose pioneer Pedro de Saisset who acquired the land from the city in 1873. De Saisset's daughter, Isabel, willed the Hotel to the Jesuit Order; later the building was traded by



the Jesuits for land near University of Santa Clara. In 1927 the name was reversed to Metropole Hotel.

The exterior design of the Metropole includes three vaulted arched windows with rounded cornices above. Squares and arches repeat the patterns throughout the building resulting in a symmetrical theme. Small circles are placed above rectangular windows, two intricate circles at each end in the front and plain ones on the side of the building. The brick ornamentation at the top of the building is appealing. The

(Cont'd on page 22)



Top right, view of Hotel Metropole from corner of Post and Market Streets. Right, street level windows and entrances facing Market. Above, closer view of brick design and windows facing Market Street.




Exploring San Jose Landmarks (Cont'd)

architectural style has been described as Romanesque by some.

The original name "Hotel Metropole" was still visible above the front south windows at the second story until renovations and seismic bracing were completed 10 to 11 years ago. The building is a fine example of the commercial style of the period demonstrating popular ornamentation and craftsmanship of that time.

Today the top bricks are a slightly different color and reveal where damaged bricks were replaced. The present owner said some of the interior bricks remain visible but most of it had to be covered with concrete. The ground floor facing Market Street has large bay windows trimmed in dark green, ornate colorful tile exterior entries and recessed entrance doors.



At the top front of the building, letters spelling out the original name of the building, Alcantara, are prominent. After years of tug-of-wars and changing goals between private developers and the Redevelopment Agency, the historic building was finally brought back to life by Knight-Ridder. The Metropole now joins the Sunol Building to the rear, which was built in 1895 and faces San Pedro. This one large structure is presently offered for lease by Cornish and Carey Commercial (www.ccareynfk.com) after it was vacated last November. 

-G. Frank

Source: City of San Jose Memorandum to the Historic Landmarks Commission, John Lusardi, HPO, May 23, 1988.



Top right, view from Post and San Pedro Streets of the Sunol Building and the Hotel Metropole as one structure. Above, close up of the Alcantara letters facing Market St.

(Photos: G. Frank)

Below, a newspaper ad from 1903

"Hotel Metropole - European plan, 33 South Market Street, opposite Wells Fargo & Co.'s. San Jose's newest, most modern and most central hotel now open; 50 light, well ventilated rooms, single or en suite; electric lights; return call bells; hot and cold running water in every room. Rates from 50 cents per night; \$10 per month up. Headquarters for commercial people."

-The Evening News, SJ CA, May 13, 1903

Don't Miss Ron Tanner

Mr. Tanner is an award-winning writer with a long record of publications in fiction and nonfiction. He is Professor of Writing at Loyola University-Maryland. Ron will discuss his most recent book, "From Animal House to Our House: A Love Story" that tells about his adventures to save and restore a grand old Baltimore Victorian house that was wrecked by a notorious fraternity. In this compelling story you will fall in love with his house.

FREE on July 2nd, 7 PM

San Jose Woman's Club, 75 S. 11th Street, San Jose

PAC*SJ Membership Application

Preservation Action Council of San Jose Membership Application

Name(s) _____

Telephone(s) _____

Address _____

Email _____

*Members who do not provide email addresses can not receive
timely notices of news, announcements and events.*

New Member _____ Renewing Member _____

Please circle the level at which you wish to join:

Individual	\$40
Family	\$55
Student or Senior (over 65)	\$25
Non-profit or School	\$25
Contributor	\$100
Patron	\$250
Benefactor	\$1,000

Join at the \$100 level or above and receive a special premium, *Signposts Revisited*, by Pat Loomis or the PAC*SJ's 20th Anniversary DVD produced by Bill Foley. Join at the \$250 level and receive both.

Please check if you would like to receive a book or
DVD at the \$100 level:
Signposts Revisited _____ or DVD _____
or both items at the \$250 level.

I am enclosing \$ _____ as an extra donation to
PAC*SJ for a total amount of \$ _____

I am interested in working with the following
Committee(s) (please circle):

Advocacy

Fundraising

Membership

Programs/Education

Events

Board Member

Complete and return with your check to:

Preservation Action Council of San Jose
1650 Senter Rd., San Jose, CA 95112-2599
Phone: (408)-998-8105

Become a PAC*SJ Board Member

PAC*SJ is looking for qualified applicants to be
considered for openings on our Board.

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.



LE PETIT
TRIANON

Classical Elegance in the heart of Silicon Valley

www.TrianonTheatre.com

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, RECITAL HALL,
EXECUTIVE OFFICE SUITES, CONFERENCE CENTER,
VERSAILLES COURTYARD



Preservation Action Council of San Jose
1650 Senter Rd., San Jose, CA 95112-2599



Visit Us On Facebook!

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 384
SAN JOSE, CA

Or Current Resident

Join or Renew PAC*SJ and Save Our Architectural Heritage!



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.

PAC*SJ 2012 Board

Joe Melehan, *President*

Eric Thacker, *Vice President*

Judith Henderson, *Treasurer*

Julia Howlett, *Secretary & Webmaster*

Helen Stevens, *Executive Board*

Gayle Frank, *Executive Board*

Sylvia Carroll

Patricia Curia

Ellen Garboske

Cici Green

Sharon McCauley

Jim Zetterquist

Staff: Brian Grayson, Executive Director

Advisory Board

Bonnie Bamburg

Marvin Bamburg, AIA

Paul Bernal, Esquire

Ken Fowler

April Halberstadt

Alan Hess

Karita Hummer

Rusty Lutz

Franklin Maggi

Craig Mineweaser, AIA

Gil Sanchez, FAIA

Keith Watt