

CONTINUITY

Volume 36, No. 4

*Preservation Action Council of San Jose
Dedicated to Preserving San Jose's Architectural and Cultural Heritage*

Winter 2025

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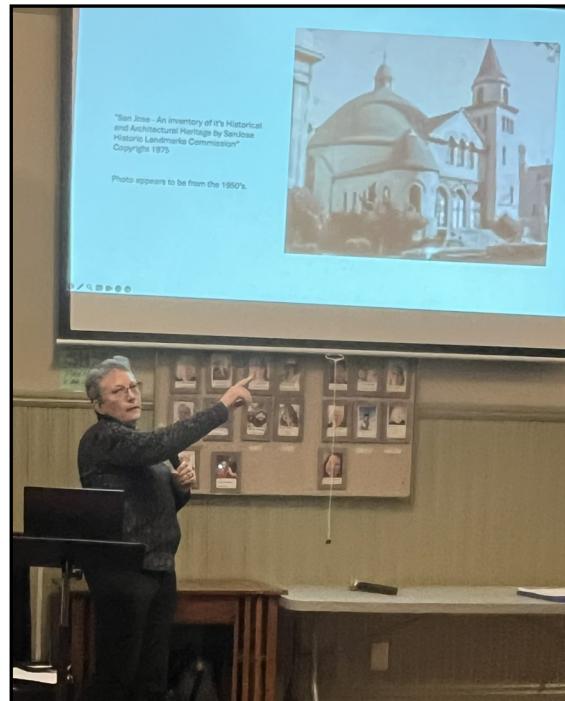
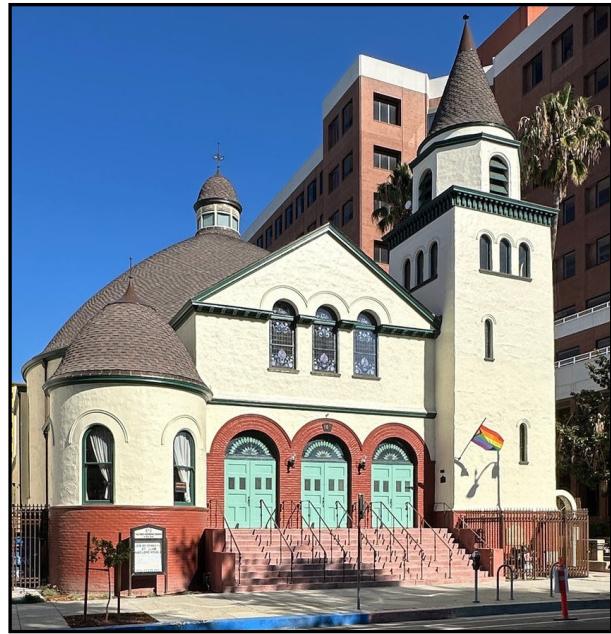
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Annual Meeting/Party Held at Landmark

The PAC*SJ 2025 Annual Meeting and Holiday Party was held at the Landmark First Unitarian Church of San Jose (right) on Nov. 20th with a crowd of around 70 members and guests. Delicious and plentiful refreshments were served in the Fireside Room with the program presented in the Hattie Porter Hall.

Sue Pelmulder (below) from the Unitarian Church began the evening's program with a short, interesting description of the church's past horrendous fire



damage and repairs, and the most recent renovations to the landmark building performed by Garden City Construction Co.

PAC*SJ Executive Director, Ben Leech, presented a 2025 overview of PAC*SJ's activities and successes.

PAC*SJ President Mike Sodergren ended the program with the Board election results and introducing our new Board members,

Kay Gutknecht (new)
Anthony Raynsford (new)
Lisa Ruder (new)

(Cont'd p. 2)

Annual Meeting/Party (Cont'd)

Patricia Curia (incumbent)
Carl Foisy (incumbent)
Gayle Frank (incumbent)
Gratia Rankin (incumbent)

Present Board Members John Frolli, Clare Gordon Betten-court and Scott Brown are retiring and we heartedly thank them for their excellent contributions to PAC*SJ operations! John has been our treasurer since 2020 and Clare has chaired the Outreach/Education Committee since 2024. Scott also served as Treasurer for a short while. All gave their time and expertise to our organization. Thank you!

One of the slides that Director Ben Leech showed along with income, assets, and expenses was the membership slide (below). The encouraging news is that our membership is growing significantly. Later, as President Mike Sodergren stated, we hope to reach 500 members by the end of next year and 1,000 members in five years! So keep those renewals flowing in and don't forget to persuade your friends and family to join! (How about a membership to PAC*SJ for a holiday gift?) The more members we have, the more influence we can wield when working with the City of San Jose or developers toward historic preservation.

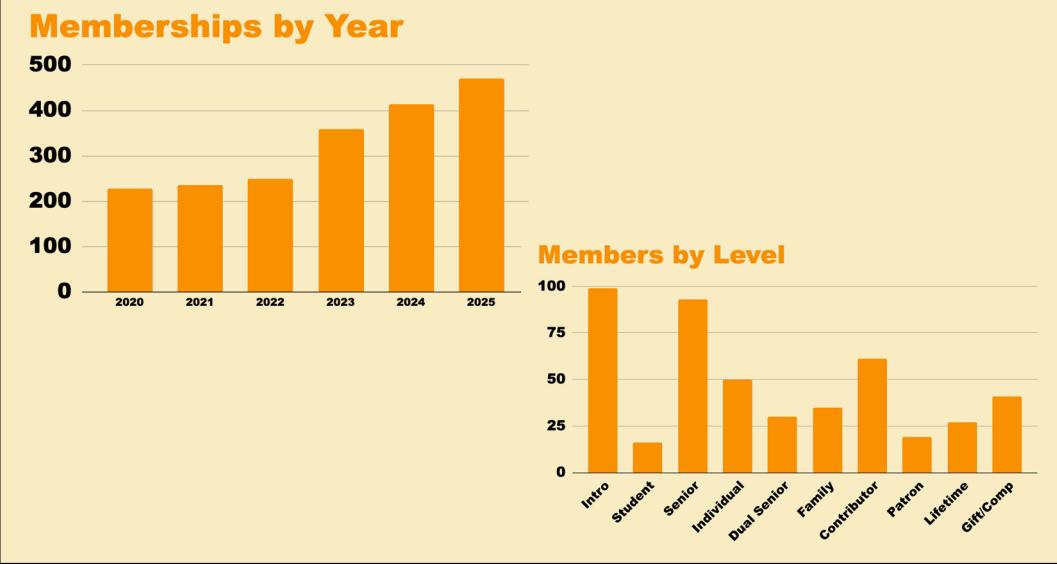
(Cont'd p. 3)



One of the many food tables with delicious dishes.

There were also dessert tables.

*All food was donated by Board members and PAC*SJ members.*



*Director Ben Leech's slide on PAC*SJ membership. On left is rise of members from 2020 to 2025 with almost 500 members today. On the right, is a count of members by level, which are: introductory, student, senior, individual, dual senior, family, contributor, patron, lifetime, and gift/comp.*



is published quarterly by the
**PRESERVATION ACTION
COUNCIL OF SAN JOSE**

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

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Annual Meeting/Party (Cont'd)

Another of Ben's slides showed income YTD for 2025 with percentages from all sources: general donation 6.7%; grants 7.7%; designated donations 7.9%; memberships 8.3%; investment income 9.1%; rummage sales 13.7%; events 32.9%; and merchandise sales 13.8%. Because of our grand annual gala, "Legacy in Lights" at the Hotel DeAnza, our event portion of income was pleasantly higher than usual. However, Ben added that the event was a herculean effort and would not happen again next year—maybe for 2027.



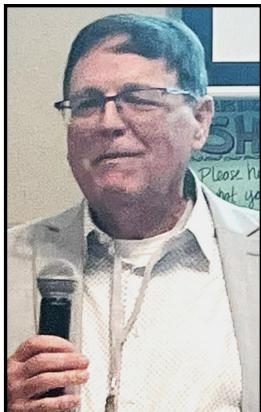
Ben Leech, Director

We also saw slides on our Endangered 8 List, walking tours, community outreach such as PAC*SJ booths at local fairs and events, our newsletter Continuity, Legacy Business Happy Hours and much more.

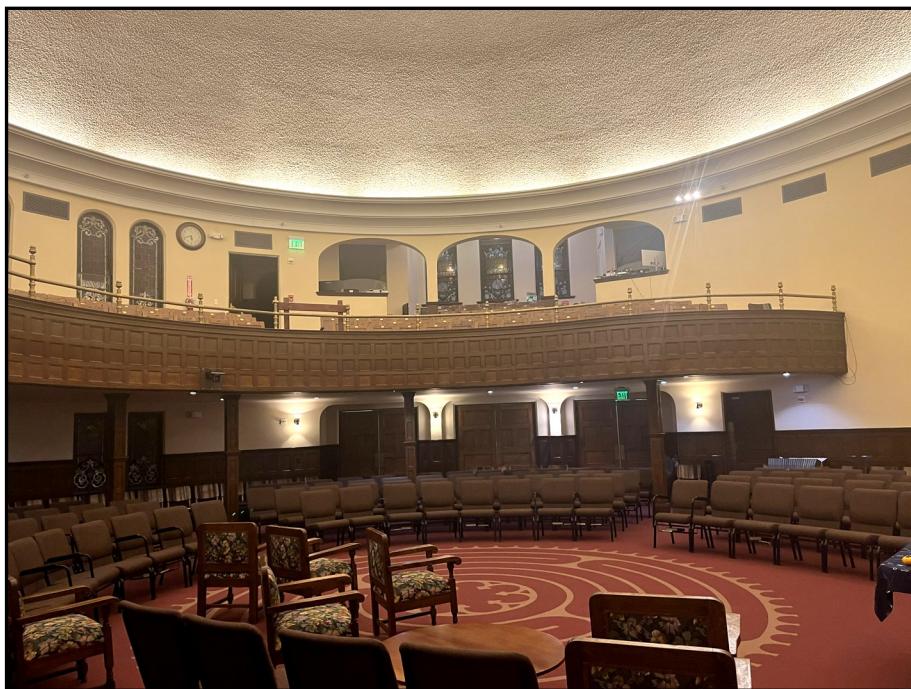
Lastly, we heard about the current concern PAC*SJ has regarding the new amendment the City of San Jose has proposed for the Historic Preservation Ordinance. We were all encouraged to write our Councilmembers, letting them know we don't want the protections for historic resources reduced. This important issue is scheduled on the

City Council Agenda on Dec. 2 close to our newsletter mailing time. See page 5 for more details. ☺

—Gayle Frank



Pres. Mike Sodergren



Above, the Sanctuary was opened for guests to admire the interior of the dome, the beautiful woodwork including old growth redwood doors, an attractive balcony, and new seating and carpeting that all made for a peaceful and beautiful space.

A special carpet labyrinth is placed in the center of seating in the round.

*Below, PAC*SJ members and guests listen to the short presentations.*



About the Unitarian Church Building

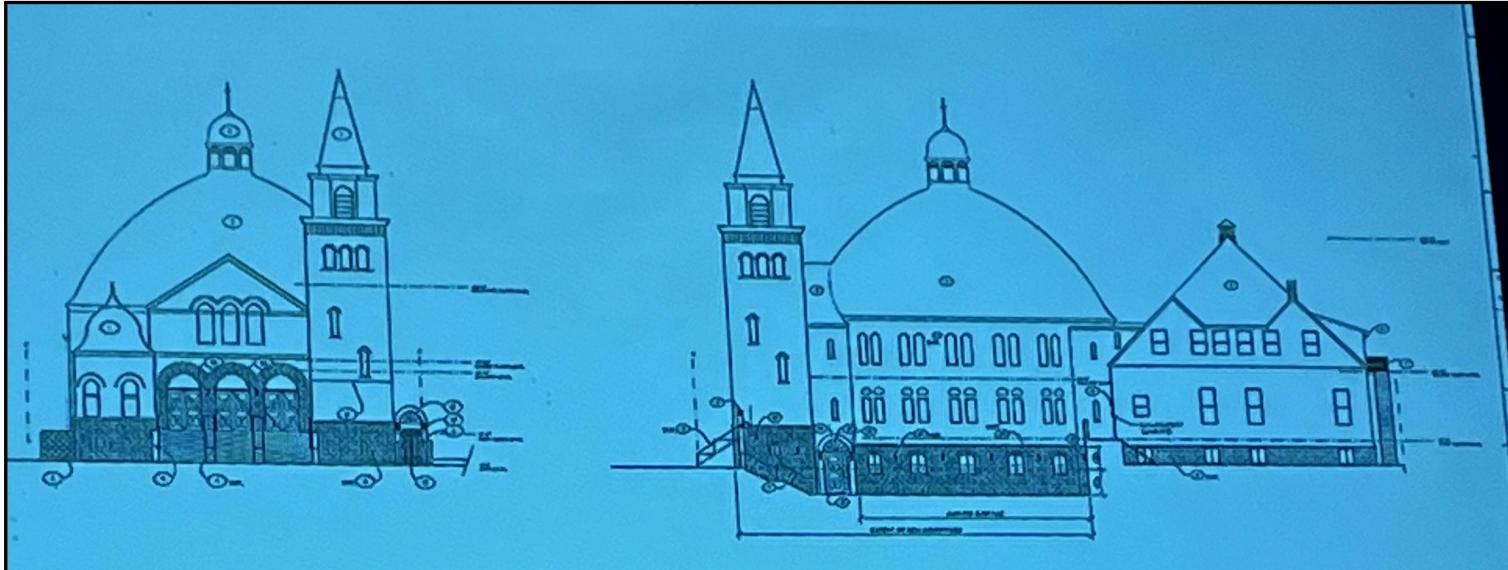
The First Unitarian Church was first organized in San Jose in 1867, meeting at San Jose's City Hall, at that time on Market Street. A minister from Santa Cruz rode by horse to San Jose once a month to give a talk.

The church building today at 160 N. Third Street (across from St. James Park) was built in 1891-92 and designed by well respected local architect George W. Page (who also built the Hayes Mansion). The Romanesque Revival style, not a common church design in San Jose, was patterned after the traditional Unitarian churches of Transylvania (Romania). Interesting features include multiple domes, cupolas, round and square towers, and a triple-arched stained-glass window on the façade. The central 60-foot-high dome was advanced for the time for its rafters—each composed of “nine continuous lengths of vertically grained Oregon pine, bent to shape and securely nailed,” according to the National Trust nomination documents.

The main interior section of the church was transformed into-the-round in 1957. In 1988, historically-sensitive ADA access and other upgrades were completed. In 1995, a serious fire heavily damaged the building which required major renovation. Classrooms and offices were added in the basement at that time, turning the space into the non-sectarian, non-profit Third Street Community Center.

Recently a \$2 million dollar renovation was completed. The exterior project, executed by Jim Salata, Garden City Construction Co., re-roofed, repaired front doors, replaced deteriorated wood and drainage system, and painted the building a light cream with dark green trim. Inside, new carpeting, chairs and a new A/V system were installed.

The Unitarian Church Building is a State Historical landmark, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is a San Jose City Landmark. ☃



A slide that Sue Pelmulder showed at the Meeting/Holiday Party. Left west elevation (front), right, south elevation of the church building.

HP Ordinance Change Threatens City Preservation

The City of San Jose has proposed a draft amendment to the San Jose's Historic Preservation Ordinance (Municipal Code 13.48) which was discussed at the Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) meetings in October and November.

PAC*SJ shares HLC's serious concerns that this amendment is too broad, too general, and would give too much power to the City Council to allow development projects priority over protecting historic preservation and the environment. The amendment would be inconsistent and unclear in applying standards and regulations while allowing overriding ill-defined exemptions for development.

After the October HLC meeting, the Commissioners, PAC*SJ, and other stakeholders offered suggestions for revisions to clarify and specify terms for the City Council's ability to override projects that would be detrimental to a landmark or property in a historic district. The matter was deferred until November for more time to formulate modifications, resulting in a less onerous amendment.

At the Nov. 5th HLC meeting, several added options were submitted as suggested additions to the amendment: additional definitions and clarifying other definitions, and most importantly, "limit the broad application of the override provision by providing clear boundaries, decoupling the finding

from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and providing separate findings for demolition."

As stated in the PAC*SJ letter by Executive Director Ben Leech to the HLC on Nov. 4, "Considering both options, we believe that Option 2 includes the defined findings and separate criteria for public and private projects requested by the Commission, with more workable ordinance language."

"Absent these specific and reasonable findings requirements, PAC*SJ remains deeply concerned that the addition of an overly-broad override exemption would profoundly weaken the Historic Preservation Ordinance, marginalize the expertise of the Historic Landmarks Commission, and overturn the intent of past and present City Councils when it designated the 200+ City Landmarks and City Landmark Districts currently protected from unnecessary demolition by our Historic Preservation Ordinance."

"PAC*SJ urges the Historic Landmarks Commission to recommend that City Council approve the proposed amendments to Municipal Code 13.48 as provided in Option 2."

HLC meeting minutes with documents are available on the San Jose City website at:

[www.sanjoseca.gov/home/
showpublisheddocument/
126420/638985316187200000](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/126420/638985316187200000)

The minutes will include public testimony and Commissioners discussions.

On Nov. 19, the San Jose Planning Commission met to consider their recommendation to the City Council and discussed the proposed amendment to the Historic Preservation Ordinance. After hearing many pros and cons, regrettably, the final vote was 9-0 in favor of recommending the original amendment to the Council without adding the thoughtful changes brought forth by the HLC.

PAC*SJ is not against the Levitt Pavilion installation at St. James Park, but we are very concerned about proposed changes to the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance that may very well result in negative consequences for our historic resources.

Why an Amendment?

The City of San Jose lost a court appeal versus the St. Claire Historic Foundation over the Levitt Pavilion project's potential damage to St. James Historic District and Park. The judge suggested the City could amend its ordinance to allow overriding negative impacts to the historic district by changing the law. ↗

**WATCH FOR OUR PAC*SJ
ANNUAL APPEAL—
COMING SOON!**

PAC*SJ 2025 Endangered 8

Sakauye Farmhouse

2620 Seely Avenue

Built c.1935

Threat: Redevelopment

MACSA Youth Center

660 Sinclair Drive

Built 1995

Threat: Neglect, Redevelopment

SJSU Campus Modernism

SJSU Campus

Built 1952-1960s

Threat: Replacement

[Includes Science Building, Faculty Offices, Instructional Resource Center, Music Building]

Beach & Bassler-Haynes Buildings

35-49 E. Santa Clara Street

Built 1876-87; Altered 1913-1936

Threat: Neglect

Historic San Jose Movie Theaters

Citywide

Built 1920s-1960s

Threat: Neglect, redevelopment

[Includes Burbank, Town, Century 21 Dome]

San Jose's IBM Heritage

Citywide

1940s-1970s

Threat: Neglect, Redevelopment

Includes Bldg. 4, 99 Notre Dame,

Bldg. 11, Hydro-Gyro

First Church of Christ, Scientist

43 E. St. James Street

Built 1905

Threat: Neglect, Redevelopment

Greyhound Bus Depot

70 S. Almaden Avenue

Built 1957

Threat: Neglect, Redevelopment

2025 Updates & News

Sakauye Farmhouse: History San Jose CEO Bill Schloh Jr., announced that in partnership with San Jose City Councilmember Rosemary Kamei, the Japanese American Museum of San Jose, and Preservation Action Council San Jose, the first fundraising milestone to fund the move of the



Sakauye Farmhouse to History Park has been reached. Yet, there still is much work to be done once the Farmhouse arrives at History Park. A second phase of fundraising begins to restore the Farmhouse.

(Updates Cont'd p. 7)

Above, a fruit packing fruit box with E. Sakauye name is on display at History Park (in the hotel).

Right, the Sakauye farm display in the hotel lobby at History Park.



2022-2024 Endangered Updates

Saved

Diridon Station (2022)

Former City Hall (2022)

Levi Strauss Factory (2023)

Lost

Graves House (2022-Fire)

Milligan Lot & Forman's Arena (2023, 2025 Fire/Demo)

Sakauye Farmstead except house (2024 Demo)

Still At Risk

San Jose Flea Market (2022)

Alviso Historic District (2022)

Downtown Commercial Historic District (2022)

Sam's Downtown Feed (2023)

Ban Family Farmstead (2023)

Alum Rock Park Log Cabin (2023)

Bayside Cannery (2024)

Almaden Winery Cellar (2024)

Lawrence Hotel (2024)

2025 Updates & News (Cont'd)

MACSA Youth Center: After the 1995 MACSA Youth Center suffered a fire on August 29th, the Alum Rock School District Board of Directors voted to demolish MACSA. The remains of the structure were quickly demolished and cleared off the land. PAC*SJ was hoping that the unique arches (below) could have been saved, but not so. Latinos for Historic Conservation still lists the site on its endangered list and hopes to support a rebuilding campaign.



*Entrance arches of the MACSA Youth Center
after the August fire.*

Temple Laundry/IBM Buildings: The 1928 Temple Laundry/IBM building is going to be demolished. The 1921 building will remain but plans are still in place to take all the beam structures out, which the City signed off on as being an "alteration" and not a "demolition." However, Garden City Construction Co. evaluated the site and judged the interior beams as salvageable.

Our main developer contact is on leave and has not responded to PAC*SJ's questions. Why must the original beam structure be torn out? Why are the east and southeast facing walls of the 1928 addition to the 1921 Temple Laundry building not being integrated into the project? Eden Housing and The Core Companies have not yet provided an update or completed the conditions for the Historic Permit. ☀

Happy Hour in January!

4th Street Bowl

Be sure not to miss our next
Legacy Business Happy Hour on
Thursday — January 22 — 5:00-7:30 pm

4th Street Bowl 1441 North 4th Street, San Jose

The 4th Street Bowl opened in 1958 and is now the last remaining bowling center in the San Jose Downtown. For the last 20 years the Nakatsu family has owned and operated the bowling alley which caters to both serious and casual bowlers. Besides the large 32-lane bowling alley, the site holds a restaurant, coffee shop, Karaoke Bar, billiard hall, and the "Red Fox Den cocktail lounge, all with good lighting and a nostalgic atmosphere. The back wall of the lounge features a wonderful hunting mural by the California artist, Andre Boratko.

Because bowling leagues may be bowling that evening, lanes may not be available for PAC*SJ guests. ☀



ON THE RADAR



Eichler Neighborhood Objective Design Standards

The Eichler Neighborhood Objective Design Standards deal with exterior changes to Eichler houses listed on the San José Historic Resources Inventory, when a Single Family House Permit or other Planning permit requires a historic review.

On Oct. 1, the Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) voted to recommend to the City Council its approval of the proposed Design Standards for renovations or changes to the Eichler homes in a historic district, such as Fairglen Additions, in order to protect and retain the unique architecture.

On Nov. 19, the Planning Commission approved a recommendation to the City Council to accept the Eichler Design Standards. The City Council is scheduled to vote on this issue in December.

Lawrence Hotel

The owner of the Lawrence Hotel has begun cleaning up the site from the 2021 fire.

California Law, SB79

The new California state law SB79 recently signed by the Governor, overrides local zoning by upzoning (changing) areas within one-half mile of mass transit such as Caltrain, BART, and VTA Light Rail.

Coyote Trestle

The Coyote Trestle (below) is in jeopardy and Trestle preservationists urge the City of San Jose to preserve and stabilize the historic trestle over the Coyote Creek near Senter Road and Happy Hollow Park and Zoo, and to provide connectivity for the future Five Woudls Trail by means of a new bridge some distance upstream from the trestle.

The trestle is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), the California Register (CRHR), and as a San Jose City Landmark because of its association with the industrial development of San Jose and is the last pile bent trestle in San Jose. Completed in 1922, tons of agricultural goods travelled over these rails until the 1960s. The Trestle is a rare and good example of early 20th century pile bent timber trestles.

This section of the Coyote Trail has been closed since summer of 2023 while analysis reports are being reviewed. ☺



Coyote Creek Trestle

PAC*SJ Committee Meeting Schedule

The **Advocacy** Committee meets on Zoom at 6:30 PM on the Thursday before the first Wednesday of the following month.

The **Development** Committee meets at 4 PM on the second Monday of the month at the PAC*SJ Office, 42A S. 2nd St. or on Zoom.

The **Education & Outreach** Committee meets on Zoom at 6:30 pm on the first Thursday of the month.

Committee meetings are subject to change so if you are interested in participating, please call the office at 408-998-8105 to confirm the date and to receive the Zoom invite. ☺

PAC*SJ 2025 Calendar

Dec 4, 5, 6 Thurs (members' preview), Fri, Sat., **PAC*SJ Holiday Sale** at 57 Barack Obama Blvd. See page 10 for details. **

Jan 22 Thursday, 5:00-7:30 pm, **Legacy Business Happy Hour**, 4th Street Bowl. See page 7.

Jan 26 Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6:30—8:30 PM. 1211 Park Ave., Suite 203*

Feb 23 Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6:30—8:30 PM. 1211 Park Ave., Suite 203*

Mar 16 Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6:30—8:30 PM. 1211 Park Ave., Suite 203*

Apr 20 Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6:30—8:30 PM. 1211 Park Ave., Suite 203*

May 18 Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6:30—8:30 PM. 1211 Park Ave., Suite 203*

Jun 15 Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6:30—8:30 PM. 1211 Park Ave., Suite 203*

*Call to confirm Board meeting locations at 408-998-8105. Locations or dates may change.

Our Rummage and Salvage Sale is being held at the warehouse at 57 Barack Obama Boulevard where we are planning to open the new PAC*SJ Store—Found*SJ**.

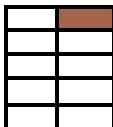
For now, the December sale is another of our warehouse weekend sales. Plans are moving forward for a January store opening of **Found*SJ!** Stay tuned.

WATCH FOR OUR PAC*SJ ANNUAL APPEAL COMING SOON!

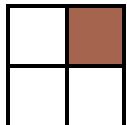
ADVERTISE IN CONTINUITY!

Continuity is distributed to over 400 San Jose 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.

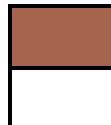
Buy ads in 6 issues and SAVE! Plus, all multiple-issue ads come with a free membership!



Business Card
Single issue \$50
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1/4 Page
Single issue
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1/2 Page
Single issue
\$200



Full Page
Single issue
\$375

PAC*SJ PRESERVATION ACTION
COUNCIL OF SAN JOSE

Holiday **TREASURES SALE**

CHRISTMAS DÉCOR, COLLECTIBLES & MORE

DECEMBER 5 & 6, 2025

Friday 9am – 3pm • Saturday 9am – 1pm

PREVIEW SALE

December 4, Thursday 11am – 3pm

PAC*SJ Members: FREE • Non-Members: \$5.00

FOUND*SJ—PAC*SJ RUMMAGE & REUSE HUB

57 Barack Obama Blvd / Autumn St



donations@preservation.org

COME SHOP AND SUPPORT PAC*SJ!

PAC*SJ SJSU Modernism Walking Tour

On Saturday Sept. 20th a San Jose State University Modernism Walking Tour was guided by PAC*SJ member Heather David. She is the author of *Mid-Century by the Bay and Motel California* and is passionate about mid-century architecture. We toured through the campus noting the buildings constructed in the 1950s and 1960s—many on the Master Plan list to be razed during the next 10-20 years. The tour was so popular a second walking tour was also sold out in October.

Below is a photo of the September tour group in front of the interesting Music Building from the 1950s and one of those planned for demolition. Ben Leech, Executive Director (holding photos) is center and Heather David stands to his left.

The 1952 Music Building is one of the structures PAC*SJ is concerned about. It and the Science Building (1957), Administration Building (1957), Dudley Morehead Hall (1957), and the Instructional Resource Center (1957) are included in the over one dozen proposed demolitions as described in the 2025 SJSU Master Plan within the next decades.

The Music Building houses multiple music programs, dance, and the Spartan Marching Band. It holds a concert hall and dozens of practice rooms containing musical instruments.

The SJSU School of Music became the first School of Music in the California State University system in 1992. From its earliest Normal School days, singing and music was taught to potential teachers. ☺



San Jose State—A Modern Campus

By Heather David

Founded in San Francisco in 1857 as a school for teachers, San Jose State University is the oldest state institution for higher education in California. In a move to escape the temptations of San Francisco's Barbary Coast, the school relocated to San Jose in 1871. San Jose State became an official teacher's college in 1921, a liberal arts college in 1935, a member of the state college system in 1960, and a university in 1972. In addition to San Jose State having a story dating back 168 years, the campus features a wealth of architectural history.

Following World War II, there was a surge in college enrollment as returning veterans used the GI bill to obtain a higher education. At San Jose State, campus administrators launched an aggressive expansion plan, as demand quickly surpassed capacity. In the 1950s and 1960s, the college added over THIRTY new buildings and embraced Modernism as the school's "new look."

What is MODERNISM?

Modernism, as both a style and concept, can be traced to Europe in the 1920s and 1930s. In particular, the Bauhaus School in Weimar, Germany evangelized Modernism in art and architecture as a vehicle to improve quality of life. The core principle of the Bauhaus was that **form should follow function**. It was a design philosophy that frowned upon unnecessary embellishments. The Bauhaus came to the United States when key figures in the school such as Walter Gropius and Ludwig Mies van de Rohe accepted teaching roles at prominent U.S. colleges.



Bauhaus School of Art, Design & Architecture in Dessau.

MODERNISM: Key Design Elements

The Bauhaus aimed to create simple, clean designs that could be mass produced. Buildings consisted of geometric shapes and often featured asymmetrical arrangements of rectangles and squares. Industrial materials such as concrete, steel, and glass were embraced, as well as industrial building methods. Color schemes were limited. In 1932, following an exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the modern design movement in Europe was referred to as the "International Style." In architecture, the "mid-century modern" period is from roughly 1940 to 1970.



McQuarrie Hall at SJSU, Side View, built 1965.

INTERNATIONAL STYLE – a Nod to the Bauhaus

The majority of the mid-century modern classroom buildings on the San Jose State campus are considered International Style. They exhibit the clean lines of Modernism and in the simplest of terms, they are multi-story glass boxes. These buildings are devoid of decoration, with the exception of screens for shielding direct sunlight, metal gates that line exterior walkways, and the occasional breeze block wall to hide equipment and/or frame the outdoor landscape. There is an emphasis on natural light, and the boundaries between inside and outside are often

(Cont'd p. 13)

A Modern Campus (Cont'd)

blurred with the incorporation of ground floor court-yards. The majority of the International Style buildings on the San Jose State campus were designed by a team of architects working at the State School of Architecture in Sacramento. Sometimes, the lead designer is credited. Sometimes not. Examples include Sweeney Hall (1963), MacQuarrie Hall (1965), and Duncan Hall (1967+).



Sweeney Hall, 1963



Duncan Hall (Science Building) postcard, built 1967+.

Right, Duncan Hall today behind the new Interdisciplinary Science Building on the right.

In the early 1960s, it was decided that local architects should be allowed to compete with the State School of Architecture on new building projects. The result was the addition of a number of new buildings in the mid to late 1960s that look quite a bit different from the earlier wave of modern campus development. In late 1963, for example, the student body voted in favor of financing a new student union. The project was awarded to local firm Ernest Kump & Assoc. and the first drawings were unveiled in the March 23, 1965 issue of the Spartan Daily newspaper.

BRUTALISM

The Kump-designed Student Union opened in 1967, and it was no glass box. See photos on next page. For this project, the award-winning Kump embraced a subset of Modern architecture called Brutalism. Brutalism has its origins in the post-World War II war reconstruction projects in Europe... most notably in the United Kingdom. Brutalist buildings are characterized by bare building materials, such as exposed concrete or brick, angular geometric shapes, and a nearly monochrome color palette. In 2010, the firm Perkins & Will embarked on an expansion of the 1960s Student Union, leaving the Kump building largely intact.

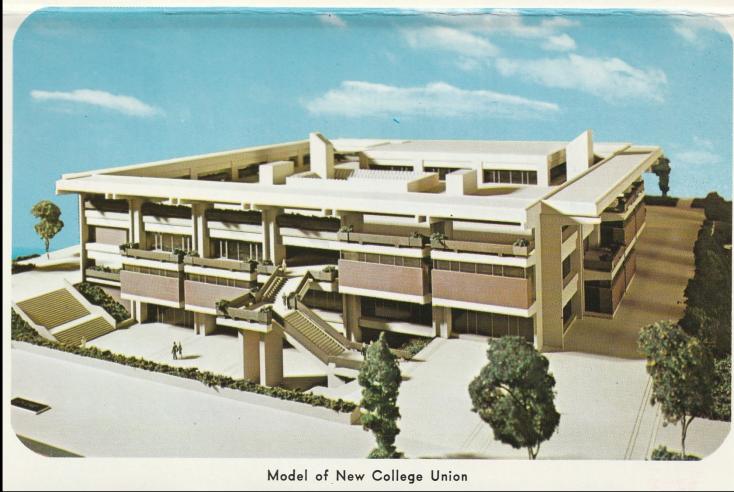
NEW FORMALISM

Across the street from the 1967 Brutalist Student Union, another subset of Modernism is represented in the college's Business Tower Complex – New Formalism. New Formalism was a response to the perceived rigidity and simplicity of International Style Modernism.

(Cont'd p. 14)

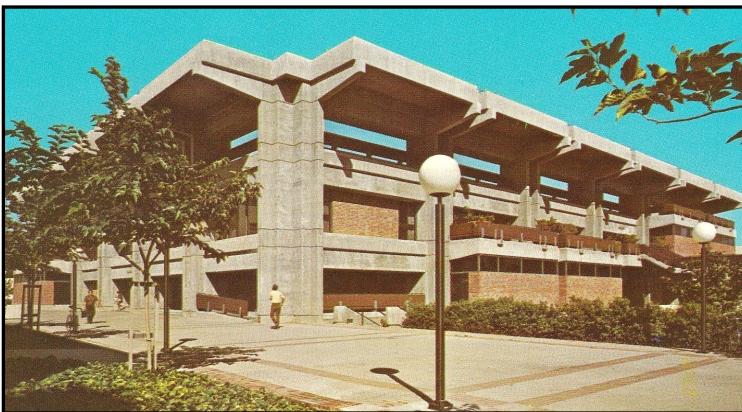


A Modern Campus (Cont'd)



Above, model of the Brutalist design of the SJSU Student Union.

Below, the completed Student Union in 1967.



Common design elements of New Formalism include buildings set on podiums or pedestals, colonnades, arches, and smooth surfaces. Although plans for San Jose State's Business Center were first revealed in 1965, the buildings did not open until 1971 because the college needed to acquire the associated land.



Plans in the New Formalism design for the SJSU Business Center were first revealed in 1965.



*Postcard of the SJSU Business Center, opening in 1971.
See recent photo on next page.*

Today the original concrete bones of the 1967 Student Union are incorporated into the new expanded Student Union.

(Cont'd p. 15)

A Modern Campus (Cont'd)

A NEW MASTER PLAN

In early 2025, San Jose State unveiled a new master plan for the college campus. In this plan, over TEN mid-century modern campus buildings are slated to be demolished.

Because of the large number of modern architectural examples on the university campus, the Preservation Action Council of San Jose decided that it was time for an exploration of these buildings before they (potentially) meet their demise. Modernism is celebrated all over the country with conferences and tours across California, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, Nevada, New York, Oklahoma, Texas, Washington, etc. Why not a celebration of SAN JOSE MODERN? Not knowing exactly what to expect, PAC*SJ soft launched the SJSU Modern Tour in Summer 2025. The first tour sold out, so another one was added. The second tour sold out too... so the thought is to create a recurring tour. ☺



Today the Lucas College and Graduate School of Business is not scheduled for any changes.



Instructional Resource Center, 1957.



*1955 Science Building on 4th Street,
architect Edwin Shomate.*

Notable Quotable

"The [historic] ordinance change is not just about one project, but it will affect the regulation and protection of all city landmarks and city landmark districts."

*—Ben Leech, PAC*SJ Director*

*Nov. 5 SJ Historic Landmarks Commission
on the subject of the proposed Historic Ordinance amendment*

News Around and About



Loyal PAC*SJ members/supporters Marianne and Carl Salas were honored as History San Jose's "Valley Legends" at History Park's Valley of Heart's Delight" event on Oct. 9. Pictured from left, "History Maker" Brendan Rawson, HSJ CEO Bill Schroh Jr., and Marianne and Carl. Congratulations!



Left, two iconic San Jose signs from the past were on display at the History San Jose "Valley of Heart's Delight" event.



The Downtown Greyhound Bus Station sign and the Wings sign that stood in Japantown.



PAC*SJ Board member John Frolli staffs our booth at Hellyer Park. District 1 Councilmember Rosemary Kamei, holds the Endangered 8 List.

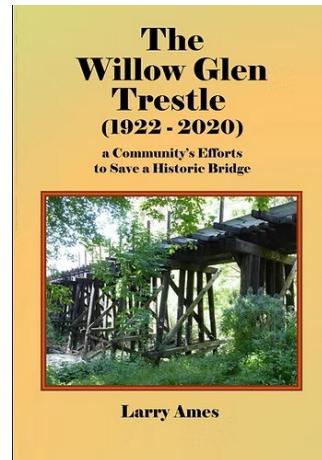


The Salas and the Pizarro families hosted a party at the Bank of Italy (Bank of America) on First Street in Nov. The interior is still in renovation mode as you can see. A few guests and the hosts sported moustaches and green bank visors. The party was one of the auction items at the PAC*SJ 35th Gala event.

Willow Glen Trestle Book Released

You may remember the numerous articles in earlier Continuity newsletters (Fall 2013, Summer 2016, and Fall 2020) about our attempts to save the Willow Glen Trestle. Now you can read the whole story in Larry Ames' book.

Here's what the book cover says:



"The Willow Glen Trestle was a modest old Western Pacific Railroad bridge, hidden in plain sight just blocks from downtown Willow Glen, a historic neighborhood of San Jose, California. No longer needed for carrying freight from the local canneries, it was ready for a second life carrying bicyclists and joggers."

"Community members and City officials worked together to acquire the trestle to become a key link in our regional trail network – but then the City abruptly decided to replace it instead with a new prefab bridge. As community members challenged this capricious decision, they

uncovered the trestle's fascinating past: not only had it shaped the town of Willow Glen, but it also had broken Southern Pacific Railroad's monopoly and transformed the shipping of fruit from the "Valley of Heart's Delight." This book documents our findings and relates the many steps (and missteps) in the yearslong saga of the community's efforts to save this crown jewel of the trails"

"Author Larry Ames is a retired "mad scientist" (day job: designing satellites to measure the stars) and a "professional citizen" (over 40 years of service on numerous committees, commissions, taskforces, and boards for creeks, trails, parks, historic preservation, and the local community). He drew in friends from all these groups to form the Friends of the Willow Glen Trestle."

"Dr. Ames [*who is a PAC*SJ member*] now tells the Tale of the Trestle, as seen from the heart of the group that strove to save not only an interesting trail connection but also the historic connection to our agricultural past."

The 230-page book has full-color illustrations and is available for sale at preservation.org/shop. ☀

Latest PAC*SJ Pin Arrivals

Visit our PAC*SJ website to view the latest enamel San Jose sign pins at www.preservation.org/shop. We now have 70 pins in our sign pin collection! Pictured are the very latest eight pins that have arrived. What great symbols of San Jose.

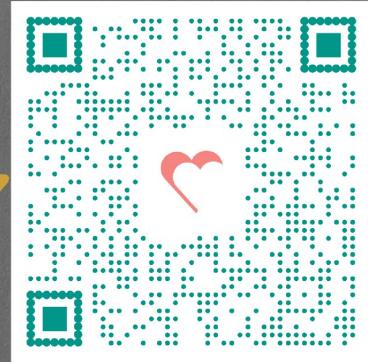
As always, you can also find books (including Larry Ames book discussed above), t-shirts, magnets, stickers, and posters—all make great gifts for the holidays. ☀





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Non-profit or School	\$25
Contributor	\$100
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No Premium—my membership will fully support PAC*SJ programs.



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The Preservation Action Council of San Jose is a dynamic nonprofit membership organization dedicated to **preserving our unique and diverse architectural and cultural heritage**. Through advocacy, education, and civic engagement, we promote historic preservation as an essential tool for fostering equitable, distinctive, sustainable, and prosperous communities.

We believe that **historic preservation is good for our quality of life, good for business, and good for the environment**. We aspire to integrate a strong commitment to historic preservation into the land use and development decisions of the City of San Jose 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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