

Calendar of Events

Sunday, April 22, 1-4 p.m.— Eclectic Houses of Lower San Juan Neighborhood Sanford Historical Society House and Garden Tour.

Saturday, May 5, 11 a.m.— Homer Avenue Stroll Meet at The Woman's Club, 475 Homer Avenue at Cowper Street.

Sunday, May 6, 2 p.m.— Palo Alto Remembered Palo Alto Historical Association, Lucie Stern Center, 1305 Middlefield Road.

Saturday, May 12, 10:30 a.m.— Historic Professorville Meet at the corner of Addison Avenue and Bryant Street.

Saturday, May 19, 10:30 a.m.— Downtown Palo Alto Meet at City Hall Plaza, 250 Hamilton Avenue.

Sunday, May 20, 1 - 3 p.m.— Awards Presentation Join with us to honor 100 year old homes, this year's preservation awardees and hear the surprising story of architect Harold Stoner.

PAST News

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In This Issue

Preservation Month Events	1
President's Message	2
PAST's Past	3
Holiday House Tour Photos	4
Membership List	6
Website News	7
Financial Report	7
Calendar of Events	8



PAST News

Palo Alto Stanford Heritage
P.O. Box 308
Palo Alto, CA 94302

PAST Heritage is a nonprofit organization advocating the preservation of the historic architecture, neighborhoods, and character of the greater Palo Alto Stanford area through informed citizen involvement and education.



PAST News

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Spring 2012

Discover Palo Alto's Hidden Gems

May is National Preservation Month!

It is our pleasure to invite our membership to this event honoring individuals who strive to preserve the historic character, neighborhoods and architecture of the Palo Alto-Stanford area by presenting:

- ☞ **Brass plaques** to the owners of 100 year old houses
- ☞ **Preservation Awards** to those owners, contractors and architects who have restored historic buildings in Palo Alto
- ☞ **Achievement Awards** to those individuals whose efforts have enhanced the character of Palo Alto through historic preservation

Author **Jacqueline Proctor** will share the surprising story of Harold Stoner, one of the Bay Area's most prolific and influential, yet little known architects.

Events and Tours:

Monday April 23 — Mayor Yiahweh Yeh will proclaim May as Historic Preservation Month in Palo Alto. at the 7 p.m. City Council meeting.

This year, in addition to our awards ceremony and guest speaker, we are reinstating our much loved **walking tours** on the three Saturdays preceding May 20th. Please join us and bring your friends to **Discover Palo Alto's Hidden Gems!**

Saturday, May 5 — **Homer Avenue Stroll** 11 a.m. meet at the Palo Alto Woman's Club, 475 Homer Avenue at Cowper Street. Led by Margaret Feuer.

Saturday, May 12 — **Historic Professorville** 10:30 a.m. meet at the corner of Addison Avenue and Bryant Street. Led by Gail Woolley.

Saturday, May 19 — **Downtown Palo Alto** 10:30 a.m. meet at City Hall Plaza, Hamilton Avenue between Bryant and Ramona Streets. Led by Suzanne Mantell.

Sunday May 20— **Celebration and distribution** of awards and plaques and talk by Jacqueline Proctor, author of *Bay Area Beauty — The Artistry of Harold G. Stoner, Architect*. The Woman's Club of Palo Alto, 475 Homer Avenue, 1 to 3 p.m.

President's Letter



The PAST board wrapped up our annual **Holiday House Tour** in December and it was wildly successful. The tour, held in College Terrace, had three cottages, three homes and a cabin for a total of 7 residences in addition to the College Terrace Library. The homes were representative of the types and variety that the College Terrace neighborhood is known for and it was a treat to have the Library open so that all could see the newly renovated historic structure.

As the new year begins, we are busy planning for our **Preservation Month** event coming up in May. We are excited to announce that we have a local author from San Francisco, **Jacqueline Proctor**, coming to speak to us. Proctor recently self-published a book on a local architect called *Bay Area Beauty – The Artistry of Harold G. Stoner, Architect*. Stoner designed hundreds of homes throughout the Bay Area, Monterey, Los Angeles and Lake Tahoe. He also designed many structures in Palo Alto, but none have survived.

In John King's review for the San Francisco Chronicle, King states, "...Harold Stoner, one of the most prolific and influential architects working in the San Francisco neighborhoods west of Twin Peaks... There's an entire new book on Stoner, who could leap from storybook cottages to Spanish castles and give each a romantic air."

Jacqueline Proctor grew up in the suburbs of Southern California and fell in love with San Francisco when visiting as a child. She moved to the city in 1980 and lives in Miraloma Park with her family. With a Master's Degree

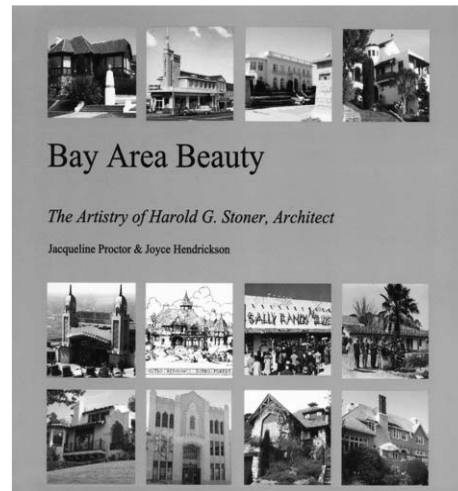
in Public Administration and a 30-year career in public service, Jacqueline has written numerous articles for professional and historical journals, as well as local newspapers.

In addition to Jacqueline's talk, we will be giving out **centennial plaques** to owners of structures turning 100 years old in 2012 and giving out this year's **preservation awards**. We invite you to send us any suggestions you have for any outstanding projects that have recently been completed.

As always, we are looking for volunteers—to serve on our board, to help out at our events, to lead walking tours, and to research properties among many other things. We encourage you to contact us should you want to volunteer for PAST Heritage.

Scott Smithwick, AIA is a California Licensed architect and also serves on the HRB for the City of Palo Alto. He can be reached by email at president@pastheritage.org.

Sincerely,
Scott Smithwick, AIA
president@pastheritage.org



327 Waverley Street 100 years old in 2012

PAST Heritage Finances Summary

Where do PAST's funds come from, and how do they get spent? Great question!!

While general donations make up a small part of our income, PAST brings in most of its funds in two ways: membership dues and Holiday House Tour ticket sales. Viewed over the last three years, membership has accounted for roughly 75% of funding, while the ticket sales have brought in another 25%.

Expenses, averaged over the last three years, have been:

20% advocacy (this year we purchased a wall from the late lamented Juana Briones House, for example)

30% events (the Holiday House Tour in December and our annual Preservation Event held during National Preservation month in May),

20% liability insurance for everyday operations plus event coverage

15% membership (newsletter and membership mailings)

15% administration (rent for our office at the Museum of American Heritage, dues and subscriptions to fellow organizations like the National Trust, and office supplies).

Note that PAST pays no salaries; all board members serve gratis!

As you know from previous newsletters, we have begun a covenant program that allows owners to protect their home from demolition when the home is sold. We charge a fee for this program, and earmark these funds as separate from general operating expenses.⌘

Have You Visited pastheritage.org Lately?

You helped!—Last issue I requested information about the 1995 Holiday House Tour and someone had it! Thanks for your help.

You can help enrich our website by sharing historic photos of your house. Contact me by email or phone:

Carolyn George
webmaster@pastheritage.org 650-494-0561



559 Kingsley Avenue 100 years old in 2012



750 Palo Alto Avenue 100 years old in 2012

See more centennial houses on the web at www.pastheritage.org/plaques

Our Members

Individual

Brigid Barton
Marilyn & Bill Bauriedel
Liz Bernal
Martin Bernstein
Kathleen Elkins
Bambi Fernandez
Mel Froli
Betty Gerard
Kate Godfrey
Alice Wilder Hall
G. Robert Hamrda
Margaret Heath
Mary Kaye
Carole Kraiss
Barbara Lawson
Nicole Lee
Janet Leyte-Vidal
Natalie Loukianoff
Nancy Lund
Dick & Ellie Mansfield
Robert Moss
Deborah Nichols
Lolly Osborne
Janet Peacock
Merry Phillips
William Reller
Emily Renzel
Terry Rice
Jean S. Robertson
Dick Rosenbaum
Shulamith Rubinien
Margo Schmidt
Rosalie Shepherd
Lynette Skelton
Lydia Sloan
Scott & Jana Smithwick
Aino Vieira da Rosa
Martha Wallace
Connie West
Lanie Wheeler
Susan Bright Winn
Gail Woolley
Kris Zavoli

Family

Ron & Elaine Andrews
Kaaren & John Antoun
Laurie Baldwin
Susan & William Beall
Bill & Sue Beaver
Jack & Nancy Bellin
Ann & John Bender
Bonnie Blythe
Mary Burkhard
William & Joan Chace

Robert & Susan Christiansen
Christine Clark
Marc & Margaret Cohen
Jerrie Devore
Sue & Ken Dinwiddie
Julie Dubbs & Sherrie Jester
Sally Dudley & Charles Sieloff
Shirley & James Eaton, Jr.
Sharon & Leif Erickson
Lynne & Tim Farrell
Herbert & Alice Fischgrund
Pat & Chet Frankenfield
Bob & Betty French
Linda & George Garbarino
Carolyn & Brian George
Dennis & Ruth Gilroy
Marlene Grove
Lauri Harper
Gwen & Michael Havern
Joyce McClure & Andrew Hertzfeld
Edward Hickey
Carol Hoshizaki
Linda & Perry Irvine
Robert & Joan Jack
Barbara & Robert Jackson
Barry Lee Johnson
Tanya & Robert Johnson
Ellin Klor & Hal Jerman
Fred Kohler & Kuo-Jung Chang
Claire & Ed Lauing
Marc & Judy Leahy
Peter Levin & Lisa Voge-Levin
Mary Jo & Leonard Levy
Janet and Lester Loops
Barbara & Bill Lucas
Judith Mattingly
Jeanne McDonnell
Paula McFarland & Bart Anderson
Brenda Miller
Dena Mossar & Paul Goldstein
Betty Oen
Vic & Mary Ojakian
Franklin & Jean Olmsted
Barbara Peters
Sandy & Jerry Peters
Bonnie & David Pollard
Tim & Lorinda Reichert
Diane & Joe Rolfe
Steven & Karen Ross
Suzanne Roy
Charles G. Schulz & Claire E. Taylor
Andrea B. Smith
Dennis & Ellen Smith
Luana & Steve Staiger
James & Christina Stauffer
Chris & Jana Stevens
Vicki & Larry Sullivan
Marilyn Sutorius
Louise Thursby

Ron & Catherine van Zuylen
Jim & Eileen Wall
Scott & Barbara Wallace
Cindy & John Wallbrink
Toni Wisman & David Schwartz
Marie & Robert Wolbach
Carolyn Zlotnick

Sponsor

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Tom Johnston
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Molly Meschke
Miriam Palm
Doria Summa

Patron

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Bern Beecham & Cheryl Lathrop
Olive & John Borgsteadt
Beth Bunnenberg
Alice Erber & Robert Steinberg
Nancy Ferguson
Betsy Gifford
Eric & Elaine Hahn
Jinny Henke
Randolph and Kelly Hicks
Nancy & Joseph Huber
Dorothy & Joel Kaplan
Dennis LeVett
Karen & Bruce McCaul
Robin Sutton
Susan & Jim Sweeney
Caroline Willis & James Cook
Janet Wright
Tom & Ellen Wyman

Lifetime

James Baer
Sarah & Tom Clark
Kay Culpepper
Joseph & Meri Ehrlich
Margaret Feuer
Catherine & Dan Garber
Pria Graves & George Koerner
Ellie & Bruce Heister
Hewlett-Packard Corp.
Grace Hinton
Millie & Ernest Mario
Roger L. McCarthy
Leslie McLaren
Antoinette Pitman
Anthony Tam

Status Report: Palo Alto Avenue Pumping Station

By Grace Hinton

“What? No beautiful door and windows yet?” I can hear you thinking it already—and with good reason! PAST planned to restore the windows and elegant door of the Pumping Station controls building on Palo Alto Avenue over two years ago. Unfortunately, the engineering work at the pumping station has interfered with our beautification plans—how dare they!! In all seriousness, the city is upgrading the well that the pump serves. This well, along with a few others, provides water to the city in severe emergencies like earthquakes when our main water sources might be cut off or limited. The city’s improvement project will continue for several more months, according to Dean Batchelor, Assistant Director of Operations, City of Palo Alto Utilities.

We had planned to carry out our small but interesting project once the city had fixed the slope of the drive in such a way that heavy rains wouldn’t cause water to drain toward the building, potentially damaging the door yet again. However, the drive is completely gone at the moment as the city’s engineers study ways to mitigate some of the old well’s deterioration, uncovered as the city got into the construction phase of the project. It will be some time until the drive is back and we can complete our small part. We will be getting bids for the work in the meantime, however, and will update you on our progress. Thanks for your continuing patience.☺



Palo Alto Stanford Heritage’s Past

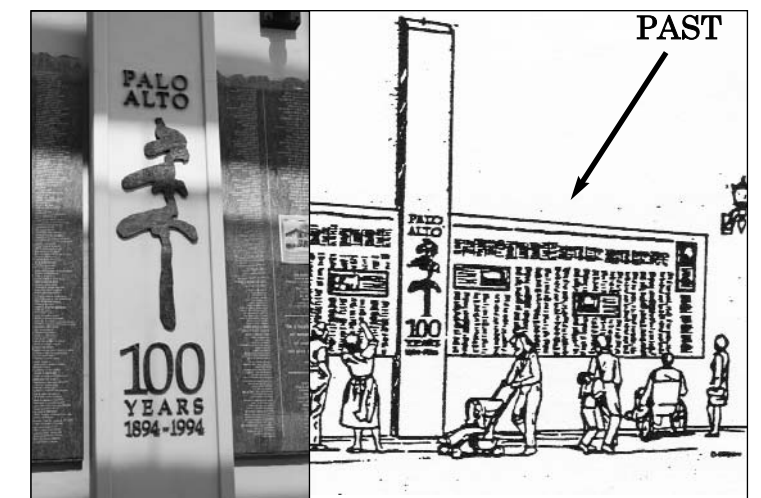
Did you know that PAST is now 25 years old? Here is a very brief re-cap of our beginnings taken from the November 1992 Newsletter.

In 1987 a small group of residents from Palo Alto and Stanford began working to bring the 1988 State Preservation Conference to Palo Alto. They formed a non-profit corporation which they named Palo Alto Stanford Heritage [PAST].

The two-day Conference brought hundreds of preservationists to the area for workshops and tours. One day’s events were focused on Palo Alto and the other on Stanford.

The success of the conference encouraged PAST’s organizers to form a strong architectural preservationist organization. Its activities, including the docent-led walking tours, are designed to encourage citizens to appreciate and preserve the best of the area’s historic structures and neighborhoods.☺

Reprinted from the June, 1994 PAST Newsletter



A schematic drawing of the proposed Centennial Wall in the alley across from Palo Alto City Hall.

PAST Heritage, along with many organizations and individuals, contributed to the Centennial Endowment Fund. As a result, our name will appear on Centennial Wall in the alley across from city hall. That alley is now named Centennial Walk. The wall is expected to be completed for the closing ceremony of the Centennial on October 16.☺

College Terrace: Palo Alto's Oldest Neighborhood

Our 24th Annual Holiday House Tour, held on December 11th, featured seven houses. Ranging in age from the 1893 Queen Anne Victorian on Amherst Street to the 1930's cottages on Bowdoin Street, the houses were as eclectic as is the College Terrace neighborhood. Clear skies greeted the 250 enthusiastic visitors who toured the houses. Our ticket sales raised nearly \$4,000.

We are grateful to the owners of the seven houses on this year's tour, not only for allowing us access to their wonderful homes but also for the care they've taken in preserving and updating them. Warm thanks also go to the College Terrace Library staff who allowed us to serve refreshments in their beautifully restored and cozy building.

Last but not least, praise goes to the fifty docents who helped us to showcase the houses of College Terrace and to raise awareness of the value of preservation. We hope you will join us again this year for our Silver Anniversary Holiday House Tour.☼

