

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Through September 22* at the Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Avenue, **Palo Alto. A Scene of Wonder: The 1915 San Francisco World's Fair.** Exhibit open Friday—Sunday between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Free. Call 650-321-1004 for more information.

*Friday, November 1 and Saturday, November 2—Eichler Celebration.* This two-day event will be held at the Cubberley Community Center. The Eichler Network will celebrate a “hot off the press” book on Eichlers and also the National Historic Landmark status of four Eichler sites, which includes two Palo Alto neighborhoods. Co-sponsored by the Palo Alto Historical Association.

*Sunday, December 8, 2002— PAST Holiday House Tour.* **Volunteers welcome!** Let us know what you would like to do to help on this special tour. Call Emily Renzel at 321-4156 or Gail Woolley at 327-4977 to see how you fit into the picture.

## HERITAGE WEEK AT GAMBLE GARDEN CENTER

October 13-20, 2002

The Centennial Celebration Continues 1902-2202  
The entire week will be filled with special events.

*Sunday, October 13, 1902 Day,* a day of music and history.



*Wednesday, October 16, Formal Tea* in the Gamble House.

*Friday, October 18, Lecture* by Chip Calloway, a noted East Coast historic landscape designer.

*Sunday, October 20, Butterfield's Appraisal Day* and art display and sale by the Pacific Art League.

Check the Gamble Garden web site [gamblegarden.org](http://gamblegarden.org) after August 15 for complete information.



# PAST News

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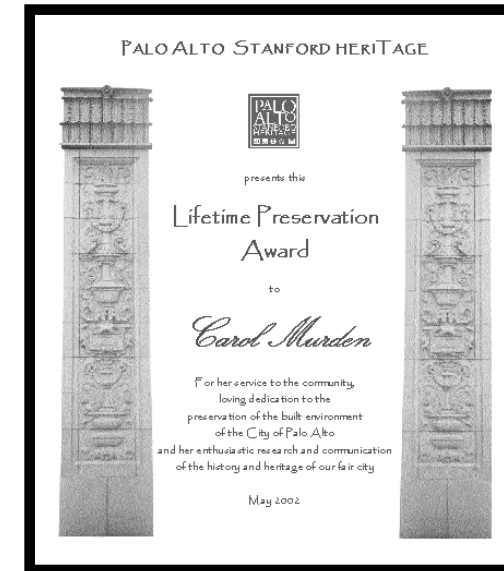
Summer 2002

## Seventh Annual PRESERVATION AWARDS

(There's more on page 3)

### Lifetime Preservation Award

**Carol Murden** for her service to the community, loving dedication to the preservation of the built environment of the City of Palo Alto and her enthusiastic research and communication of the history and heritage of our fair city.



## 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.

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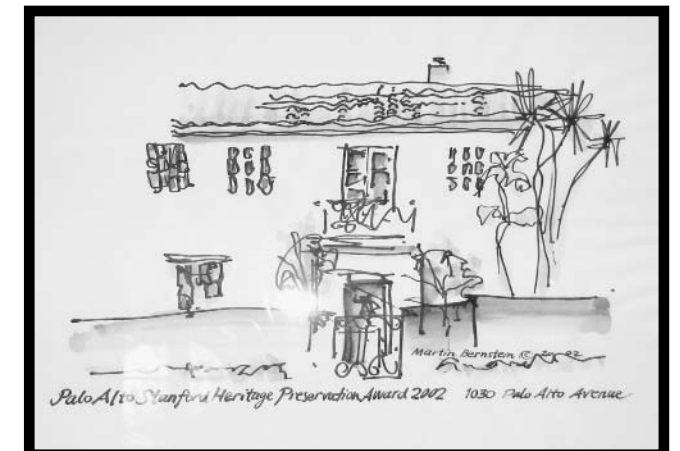
### Residential Preservation Awards

1022 Waverley Street      Sallie Strong  
1030 Palo Alto Avenue      Craig and Anne Rockhold



### 2002 Spirit of Place Awards

1009 Forest Court	Kingsley and Lansing Wood
1001 Forest Avenue	Rebecca Patton and R.T. Goodrich
1002 Forest Avenue	Todd and Kathleen Reece
1012 Forest Avenue	Gregory Lee
1023 Forest Avenue	Vivian Blomenkamp
1032 Forest Avenue	Karen Kolling
1055 Forest Avenue	Judy and Phillip Lavery
1056 Forest Avenue	Emily Renzel
1078 Forest Avenue	Deborah and Peter Wexler
1081 Forest Avenue	Mary Morris
1095 Forest Avenue	George Patterson



**PRESIDENT'S CORNER—A New Year**

**P**AST celebrates its New Year in June. That puts us six months ahead of the rest of the world, and the weather's better, too!

June is when we change, when we thank retiring Board members and officers, and when new members refresh us with novel perspectives.

This year, two of our departees were also active officers, and another was a recent President. We extend heartfelt appreciation **Marilyn Bauriedel** for her tireless service as both Secretary and co-chair of the 2001 Holiday House Tour, plus a myriad other details. As our hard working Treasurer, **Elizabeth Moder-Stern** painstakingly revamped our recordkeeping, leaving our accounting in excellent condition. **Martin Bernstein**, President during our 1998-1999 season, guided PAST through the recent Preservation Ordinance update attempt (Measure G happened after his term). He is now chair of the city's Historical Resources Board, where we wish him well, indeed. And we will miss the quiet, solid, competent service of **Kent Stormer**, who organized the 2000 Holiday House Tour and attended critical to administrative details.

We welcome five new active people to the PAST Board: **Bonnie Blythe, Irene Deitsch, Dianne MacDaniels, Emily Renzel, and Cheryl Vicenti**. You'll hear from them as the year progresses.

Mostly good news happened last year: two owners volunteered their properties for upgrades and enhanced protection on the current Palo Alto historical inventory, and a third application is pending as I write. The new owner of one of this year's centenarians plans a complete restoration. The slowly emerging SoFA II (South of Forest Avenue, Phase II) plan includes real encouragement for preserving the 19 historical resources in that nine-block area where Palo Alto was born. The demo fever abated. And PAST has established a liaison with our new Director of Planning, Steve Emslie, to cooperate with the city in assisting owners of historic buildings.

But concerns are emerging. The 1930s-era Family

PAST Website: [www.pastheritage.org](http://www.pastheritage.org)  
PAST Hotline: 650-299-8878  
Editor: Carolyn George  
Photos: Carolyn George, Dianne MacDaniels  
Palo Alto Historical Association.

Service Laundry at 140 Homer Avenue, long a part of the now-former Peninsula Creamery, faces casual demolition by a large new condominium project. Do we value it sufficiently to advocate for it? The AME Zion Church and French Laundry buildings at the Homer/Ramona intersection are to be incorporated into a new office development, but must be monitored and conserved in the interim. The original Palo Alto Clinic, the Roth Building, could host Palo Alto's first museum of local history if the Palo Alto Historical Association's project succeeds - see the appeal in this newsletter. In the meantime it also must be conserved, and preservation-minded citizens ought to observe the city's partial restoration as it demolishes the non-historic back wings of the building next year and builds a new southeast wall. And let's mind our neighborhoods' character.

This could be a busy, but rewarding, year. Welcome aboard.



Top: Bonnie Blythe, Irene Deitsch, Dianne MacDaniels  
Bottom: Emily Renzel, Cheryl Vicenti

**PAST Heritage Board of Directors**

- |                               |                          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Dave Bubenik</i>           | <i>Dianne MacDaniels</i> |
| <i>Bonnie Blythe</i>          | <i>Jennifer Pollock</i>  |
| <i>Irene Deitsch</i>          | <i>Steve Staiger</i>     |
| <i>Aino Vieira de la Rosa</i> | <i>Emily Renzel</i>      |
| <i>JudyAnn Edwards</i>        | <i>Cheryl Vicenti</i>    |
| <i>Laura Ferrell</i>          | <i>Natalie Wells</i>     |
| <i>Carolyn George</i>         | <i>Caroline Willis</i>   |
| <i>Pria Graves</i>            | <i>Gail Woolley</i>      |
| <i>Grace Hinton</i>           |                          |

**THE ROTH BUILDING: FUTURE HOME OF THE PALO ALTO HISTORY MUSEUM?**

**D**esigned by the legendary Palo Alto architect Birge Clark in his signature Spanish Colonial Revival style, and built by Wells P. Goodenough in 1932, the Roth Building formed the nucleus of the Palo Alto Medical Clinic complex to follow. Its Monterey style balcony, hand-adzed beams, tile roof and vents, copper downspout collectors with their brackets, and wrought iron rails all evoke the quintessential Palo Alto style. The famous fresco murals at its entrance are by Victor Arnautoff, a disciple of Diego Rivera and an acclaimed WPA-era artist who also contributed to the Coit Tower murals. In the ensuing years the Roth Building has become recognized as a major landmark in Palo Alto history, not only for its design and its famous architect, but as a monument to the vision of the physicians who founded the Palo Alto Medical Clinic.



Sixty-eight years later the Palo Alto Medical Foundation vacated the Roth Building, and the city of Palo Alto purchased the historic structure. On May 20, 2002, the Palo Alto City Council issued a solicitation to non-profit organizations offering to lease the building for 30 years at an annual rent of \$1.00, provided the intended use would be "of benefit to the City and community as a whole." A museum celebrating Palo Alto's rich history clearly offers such a benefit

But there's a catch. The museum would have to pay for the costs of upgrading the structure to current seismic and fire safety code standards, and for the abatement of asbestos, lead paint, and other hazards. The estimates for this work range from 4 million to 6 million dollars. These costs are in addition to the normal expenses of setting up and operating a museum, such as exhibit preparation, exhibit space, and necessary storage and office space

Clearly there is work to do if the Palo Alto History Museum is to become a reality in the historic Roth Building. The response to the city's solicitation is due in November, 2003. At that time the community must demonstrate a strong financial commitment

to support this unique opportunity

Please help. Call or write the Palo Alto Historical Association and join the Palo Alto History Museum Project. If enough of us care enough, we can make it happen.

Contact: The Palo Alto Historical Association  
P. O. Box 193, Palo Alto, California 94302  
650-326-3355

*David Bubenik*

**INTERESTING WEB SITES**

[www.learncalifornia.org](http://www.learncalifornia.org) is a valuable resource for everyone interested in California history. There are three main groups of links--for students, teachers and research. For instance, from the Research California you can access libraries throughout the state. There is also a link to many different maps showing the great diversity of our beautiful state. This is a site for everyone. Check it out.

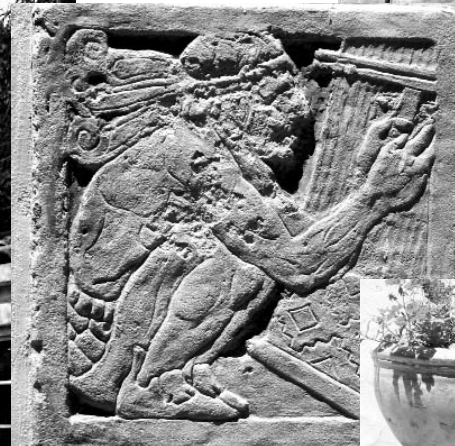
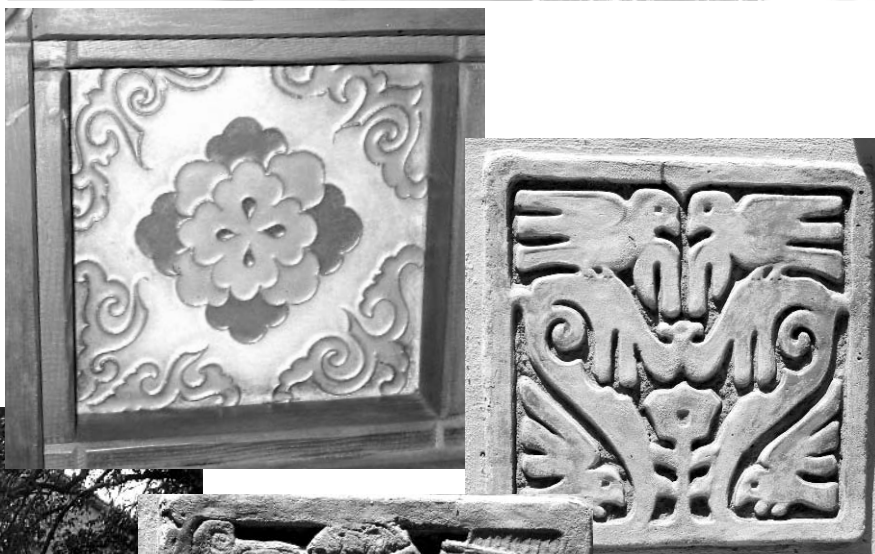
And, of course, there is [www.pastheritage.org](http://www.pastheritage.org). Our PAST website is full of information and links to other sites that cover local, regional and more general topics relating to both structures and gardens.

The Gamble Garden Center (see Calendar of Events on page 8) can be found at [www.gamblegarden.org](http://www.gamblegarden.org)

**PEDRO DE LEMOS**

Although Birge Clark is responsible for most of the Spanish Colonial Revival style buildings in the 500 block of Ramona Street., there is also the successfully compatible new addition at the corner of University. The first and last of the original buildings were the work of Pedro de Lemos, an artist and curator of the Stanford Museum. He sparked a deluge of letters-to-the-editor in 1925 when he designed **520 Ramona** around a native live oak tree. His detractors said how foolish, a tree and building can't coexist. But they did until the 1980s. Across the street at **533 Ramona** (1939), the delight he took in handcrafted details is evident in the tiles on the risers of the stairs and the paving of pebbles embedded in concrete. He lavished even more of his craftsmanship on his own home at **110 Waverley Oaks** (1931) which has both the Category One and National Register designations.

Gail Woolley



**2002 PRESERVATION AWARDS**

In honor of the theme of Preservation Week 2002, this year we awarded a **Spirit of Place Award**. The recipients were the cluster of historic houses in the one thousand block of Forest Avenue, located at what was, at the turn of the century when most of them were built, the edge of town. The honorees included Vivian Bloomenkamp's Victorian at 1023 Forest, Rosedale Manor and its neighbor across the street at 1005, both designated as landmark structures under the interim Historic Regulations and beautifully rebuilt, Emily Renzel's rustic home adjacent to Rosedale with its lovely gardens, and the carriage house at 1009 Forest Court. Others honored included 1001, 1002, 1012, 1032, 1081 and 1095 Forest Avenue.

**Residential Preservation Awards** were given to two homes: 1130 Palo Alto Avenue and 1022 Waverley Street.

This year we honored **Carol Murden** with a **Lifetime Preservation Award**. Carol first stepped into preservation in Palo Alto doing research on homes for house tours. She had the distinction of being the first member of the PAST docent group not to give tours, but instead choose to research the material for them.

Many of us know her as a member of the Historic Resources Board where she has served the City of Palo Alto for the last six years, including a year chairing the board in 2000. Prior to joining the HRB she was an observer from PAST, reporting back on HRB activities. She served on the PAST Board for six years, chairing Preservation Week for several of those. Serving on the History committee of the Woman's Club, she is assisting with efforts to put the Homer Avenue club house on the National Register.



History files in the Main Library (PAST and PAHA agreed to pay for them, splitting the cost).

Ever inquisitive, ever helpful, Carol has done much to make preservation in Palo Alto something of which we can all be proud. Congratulations Carol on your Lifetime Preservationist Award and *thank you for your service to our community, loving dedication to the preservation of the built environment of Palo Alto and your enthusiastic research and communication of the history and heritage of our town.*

Caroline Willis

**CENTENNIAL HOUSES**

327 Addison  
471 Addison  
730 Bryant\*  
1010 Bryant  
1028 Bryant\*

1044 Bryant  
1100 Bryant\*  
737 Channing  
240 Emerson  
324 Emerson\*

221 Kingsley\*  
430 Kingsley  
411 Kipling  
437 Kipling\*  
308 Lincoln\*

321 Melville\*  
1116 Ramona\*  
1005 University\*  
640 Waverley  
650 Waverley\*

1022 Waverley\*  
1245 Waverley\*  
1431 Waverley\*  
1545 Waverley

\*Recipient of plaque



PRESERVATION WEEK 2002 AND OUR SPIRIT OF PLACE.



Monday—Events at City Hall

On Monday, after the official proclaiming of Preservation Week by **Mayor Vic Ojakian**, and **Pat Tyler**'s startling, humorous *Tribute to the Seventies* highlighting the evolution of City Hall, we explored Ramona Street.

**Laura Ferrell**'s talk on Tuesday on maintaining a home made projects seems more manageable. The setting at the Gamble Garden Carriage House was a charming and serene environment to discuss drainage and termites.



Tuesday—Laura Ferrell's Workshop

If you have yet to take a **walking tour of Stanford**, get out there and do it now. We are so fortunate to have such a wealth of significant architecture and sculpture in our backyard. Our docent for Preservation Week mixed old and new, history and art, and delighted us with a new appreciation of our surroundings. **Rex Vaughn** is a docent for the museum and a fine tour guide.

**Emily Renzel** guided us thru her neighborhood, which was the recipient of our *Spirit of Place Awards*. We were joined by many neighbors and treated to lemonade and cucumber sandwiches on the porch of Rosedale Manor and a delightful stroll thru the spectacular gardens at 1055 Forest, in addition to savoring the splendid architecture of the neighborhood.

Our one evening tour took us thru **Greenmeadow**. **Mark Marcinik** is infectious with his love of Eichlers. We were delighted to be joined by our new planning director, Steve Emslie.

The house at the **Gamble Garden Center** is celebrating its centennial and docents led us thru the house and gardens. Karen Holman, Emily Renzel and I were enchanted by the unique hardware in the butler's pantry.

We finished up the week with a tour of **Professorville** and the awarding of the plaques in the garden of the Fowler Mansion.

Of the twenty four houses marking the century, fourteen owners accepted plaques. The Pflukes were delightful hosts and hung their 1902 plaque before we had left that day. That afternoon we awarded our Preservation Awards at a **members only event** at the former home of Birge Clark on Edgewood. It was a peaceful ending to an event filled week, a chance to reflect on the positive effects of preservation in Palo Alto.



Saturday—Professorville Tour and Awards Presentation



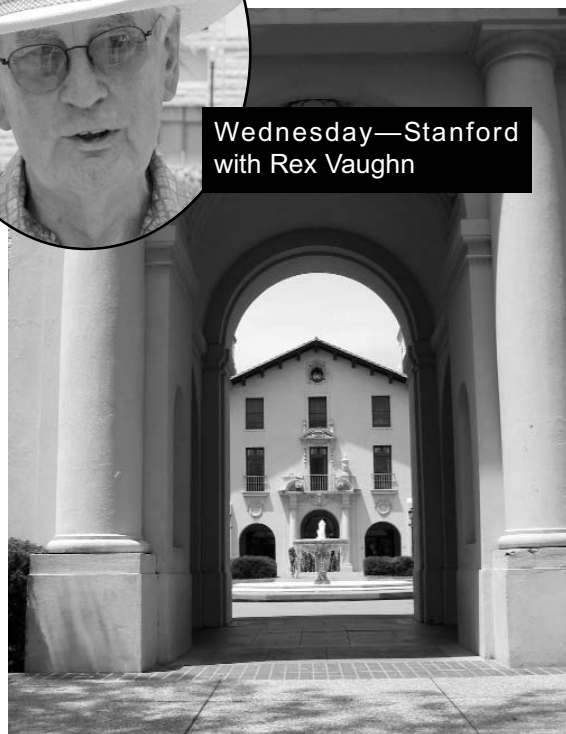
Thursday—Forest Avenue Tour



Birge Clark's Daughter-in-law and Son



Wednesday—Stanford with Rex Vaughn



Thursday—Greenmeadow with Mark Marcinik



Friday—Tour of the Gamble Garden Center



*Mark you calendars. Preservation Week 2003 will take place from May 11<sup>th</sup> thru the 17<sup>th</sup>. See you there.*

*Caroline Willis*