CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Now thru August 10—Los Altos Landscapes: Then & Now, Los Altos History Museum, 51 So. San Antonio Road, Los Altos (behind the library). Open Thursday-Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.

Now thru September 21—Cycles of History: The Classic Bicycles, Museum of American Heritage (MOAH), 351 Homer Avenue, Palo Alto. For more information, call (650) 321-1004 or check the MOAH Web site at http://www.moah.org. Open Friday-Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., free admission.

Related 7:30 p.m. lectures in the Frank Livermore Learning Center at MOAH (behind the Williams House):

July 30—Yikes, What Bikes!: From Leonardo to Lance
August 13—“Feet-First” Bikes: The Past, Present, and Future of “Recumbents”

September—Watch for your annual dues renewal letter.

On-going—Walking Tours. See page 7 or our Web site for contact information.

2003 PAST Preservation Awards

Preservation Week 2003 was climaxed by the presentation of the following awards on Saturday, May 10. It was a beautiful morning in the garden at 365 Lincoln Avenue. As an added treat, each recipient shared some experiences with us. It was a delightful event topped off with refreshments courtesy of A.G. Ferrari.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION AWARD
Boy Scout Troop 57, Stanford District of the Pacific Skyline Council of The Boy Scouts of America for repair and restoration of the Fire Circle at the Lucie Stern Community Center.

EDUCATION AWARD

LIVING PRESERVATION AWARD
Bjarne Dahl and the Cardinal Staff for stellar stewardship of the Cardinal Hotel and with appreciation for their ever-willingness to share this historic resource with the community.

COMMERCIAL PRESERVATION AWARD
Thoits Brothers, Inc., for preservation of 611 Emerson Street, Palo Alto, one of the earliest surviving commercial structures by architect Birge Clark.

RESIDENTIAL AWARDS
Glenn Rosendale, owner, and Robert Van Dale, architect, for restoration of 680 Forest Avenue, Palo Alto, a 1916 Craftsman-style bungalow.

Loren and Dee Brown owners, and Martin Bernstein, architect, for rehabilitation of the Slonaker House, 334 Kingsley Avenue, respecting its significance in the Professorville Historic District listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

RESOURCE PRESERVATION AWARDS
PlaceMakers, Inc., for enabling the preservation and reuse of traditional and historic building materials.

Reusable Lumber Company for enabling the preservation and reuse of traditional and historic building materials.

Whole House Building Supply for enabling the preservation and reuse of traditional and historic building materials.

Centennial Homes

181 Addison 321 Cowper 381 Hawthorne 315 Melville
203 Addison 233 Addison 327 Cowper 334 Kingsley 1115 Ramona
209 Addison 325 Alma 330 Cowper 249 Kipling 1139 Ramona
219 Addison 737 Bryant 1101 Emerson 251 Lincoln 755 University
225 Addison 1140 Bryant 1111 Emerson 365 Lincoln 851 University

PAST Heritage Board of Directors
Dave Bubnik, President
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Carolyn George, Gail Woolley

PAST Web site: www.pastheritage.org
PAST Hotline: (650) 299-8878
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Contributors: Marilyn Bauriedel, David Bubenik, Carolyn George, Karen Holman, Steve Staiger, Gail Woolley
Line Drawing: Richard Elmore
Photos: Carolyn George, Sheri Moody, Palo Alto Historical Association
To arrange a tour, call (650) 328-5670.

Steve Staiger, Natalie Wells, Gail Woolley, David Bubenik, Carolyn George, Grace Hinton, Caroline Willis, Judy Ann Edwards, Dianne MacDaniels at the Awards Presentation on May 10, 2003.

Donation: $20 per docent group of up to 10 persons

Marilyn Bauriedel

Monday-Saturday, morning or afternoon.

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CCollege TTerrace

Professorville
downtown

DDowntown

onto the historic playing field, resulting in an invitation to join the PAST Board last January. Marilyn's energy, dedication, and experience are most welcome, again.

Frankie Campos is a new recruit. She and her husband, Carlos, own and operate a famous local metalworking business, now located in Sunnyvale under the name Artists Workshop. For many years prior they had a spot at Allied Arts. Maybe you have already met Frankie and Carlos. Those who attended the 2002 Holiday House Tour saw at least one example of Carlos’ artistry. (Trivia question: where?) Welcome, Frankie.

Even before joining the Board, Anne Houghteling helped involve PAST in two local issues. Almost one year ago she approached us volunteering to help promote the Edward Durrell Stone architecture of the then-threatened Main Library building. An Eichler homeowner herself, she was already advocating for Eichler’s Edgewood Shopping Center at Embarcadero Road and 101. Anne formally came on the Board in midyear and has been a steady, active presence since then. Welcome, Anne.

Marilyn Bauriedel returns to the Board after a year off, stepping immediately into the vice presidency. She also has a long involvement with preservation and PAST Heritage, including start to finish participation in the preservation ordinance and Measure G efforts, plus co-organizing the 2001 Holiday House Tour and PAST’s Celebration of Homer Avenue in October 2000. Marilyn’s energy, dedication, and experience are most welcome, again.

PAST’S PAST
From our June 1994 Newsletter: “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.” Look for it!

1903 TIDBITS
• The Pacific Telegraph Cable from San Francisco to the Philippines opened July 4.
• A typhoid outbreak in Palo Alto due to contaminated milk sickened over 100 people.
• Crayola Crayons were introduced. They cost 5 cents for a box of eight colors.

Walking Tours of Historic Palo Alto

Downtown

Professorville

College Terrace

Homer Avenue

Monday-Saturday, morning or afternoon. Donation: $20 per docent group of up to 10 persons

To arrange a tour, call (650) 328-5670.

Bonnie Blythe

PAST Holiday House Tour last December and expects over 100 people.

She is a life member of PAST, and sports a very long list of preservation accomplishments. Pria was a major force in initiating and promoting Palo Alto’s recent attempt to create real legal protection for our historic resources, and then resolutely defended it during the ensuing Measure G campaign. She then ran for a seat on the Palo Alto City Council in 2001, where she would have been a most welcome advocate for our community character. Please hang in there, and come back when you’re eligible again.

Pria Graves leaves the Board impelled by term limits after six years of service, two as president. She is a life member of PAST, and sports a very long list of preservation accomplishments. Pria was a major force in initiating and promoting Palo Alto’s recent attempt to create real legal protection for our historic resources, and then resolutely defended it during the ensuing Measure G campaign. She then ran for a seat on the Palo Alto City Council in 2001, where she would have been a most welcome advocate for our community character. Please hang in there, and come back when you’re eligible again.

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Karen Holman

Gail Woolley

for children, adults, and the broader community. Palo Alto is the only Santa Clara County city that does not have a local history museum.

Historical exhibits will be an educational experience. Our existing historical documents and artifacts need to be preserved and collected in one place to illustrate this heritage.

Palo Alto is exceptionally rich in history and innovation. The Maybeck Foundation personnel introduced newcomers to the property. The owners feel reasonably certain, however, that these photographs are sufficient to visualize Maybeck’s original intent for the façade portions they intend to restore. “It will take us a year or two to do the work,” say the new owners, but they add that they plan to enjoy the process.

A SUMMER FIELD TRIP TO JUANA BRIONES’ PRESIDIO HOME

This summer an archaeological dig is being conducted in the Presidio of San Francisco at the site of the residences of the Briones and Miramontes families, which date from about 1815. Marcos Briones was the father of Juana Briones de Miranda and was one of the soldiers who came with Portola and was stationed at the Presidio. Miramontes was the name of Juana’s sister’s family, who later founded Half Moon Bay. According to an 1820 map of the Presidio, the two houses were side-by-side at Polin Springs.

Visitors to the dig are welcome to drop by between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. any weekday between July 9 and August 15. Two more detailed tours, including a visit to the laboratory, are scheduled for Tuesday, July 22, at 10:30 a.m. and Friday, August 15, at 2 p.m. No reservation necessary. Polin Spring is at the south end of MacArthur Avenue. Stop by the Visitor Center for a map, or check the Web site, http://www.stanford.edu/group/presidio/.

Isn’t it ironic that Juana’s childhood home in San Francisco is thought important enough to be the subject of an archeological dig and in Palo Alto her rancho house of about 1846 is still standing, but threatened by demolition? For more details, see the Web site of the Juana Briones Heritage Foundation, http://www.brioneshouse.org.

Gail Woolley

OUR GOAL, YOUR LEGACY

History Museum Project—Help Keep Palo Alto’s History Alive with This Once-in-a-Lifetime Opportunity

The Palo Alto History Museum Project is moving forward, gaining enthusiastic backing from community groups and individuals. The donor-advised charitable fund of a well-known Palo Alto resident has pledged $1 million to the Palo Alto History Museum Project.

The opportunity for a History Museum opened up in 2000, when the City of Palo Alto purchased the historically significant Roth Building, the original Palo Alto Clinic facility at 300 Homer Avenue. The City is proposing to lease the property to a nonprofit group that will restore, maintain, and operate the property for community benefit and for public access.

The Palo Alto History Museum Project Committee is eager to fulfill this purpose. Our proposal is to exhibit Palo Alto’s past, which stretches from the Ohlone Indians, early Mexican land grants, and establishment of Stanford University to the leading edge of both semiconductor technology and biotechnology.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

Restoring and upgrading the 17,000 square foot building will cost approximately $5.2 million. The City’s Request for Proposal is due November 5, 2003. The donor-advised charitable fund of a well-known Palo Alto resident has pledged $1 million as a challenge to encourage others to contribute to a long-overdue local History Museum. Along with this we also have excellent prospects of another million, possibly before the proposal must be submitted to the City.

WHY A MUSEUM IN THE ROTH BUILDING?

Palo Alto is exceptionally rich in history and innovation. Our existing historical documents and artifacts need to be preserved and collected in one place to illustrate this heritage. Historical exhibits will be an educational experience for children, adults, and the broader community. Palo Alto is the only Santa Clara County city that does not have a local history museum.

What better physical legacy to our community than a Palo Alto History Museum in a restored Roth building as a living legacy:

• to the Stanford professors whose lives and homes are intertwined here;
• to the Clinic’s founders and Palo Alto’s continuing bond with the medical world;
• to the architecture that embodies Palo Alto’s style;
• to the nourishing role of art in the community;
• to the visionaries, scholars, and philanthropists who created Palo Alto and helped shape its global influence.

Join Palo Alto Stanford Heritage, the Museum of American Heritage, the University South Neighborhoods Group, the Palo Alto Women’s Club, the Palo Alto Historical Association, and community leaders from all walks of life in supporting this long-overdue Palo Alto facility.

Donations and pledges may be sent to: The Palo Alto History Museum Project, P.O. Box 193, Palo Alto, CA 93401. All contributions are tax-deductible. Please contact Karen Holman at (650) 321-6170 or kholmam@earthlink.net for more information.

Karen Holman
Preservation Week 2003
Cities, Suburbs and Countryside

“A celebration of America’s diverse history and how historic preservation helps save that heritage.”

Preservation Week 2003 got off to a rousing beginning on Monday, May 5, with a proclamation by Palo Alto Mayor Dena Mossar followed by the tour Birge Clark and Pedro de Lemos on Ramona Street. Montgomery Anderson, restoration architect on several de Lemos and Clark structures, showed examples of stylistic details unique to each architect.

The Tuesday tour, Recent Preservation Projects in the Stanford Academic Core, hosted by the Campus Architect’s Office and the library staff, highlighted two historic structures in the heart of campus: the 1919 Bakewell and Brown Green Library and Building 30, restored in 1997 to its original condition.

On Wednesday evening the tour of Faculty Housing on the Stanford Campus highlighted the early development of faculty/staff housing. It was fun to see the variety of styles on campus. As a very special treat, we were able to go into two homes and their gardens. Thank you to Marian Adams and Bob Hamrdla of the Stanford Historical Society!

Thursday, as a follow-up to her article in the last PAST newsletter, Beth Bunnenburg, told and showed us how It Will All Come Out in the Wash. After exploring the Homer Avenue area that was home to many laundries in the 1930s, we ended our walk at the Museum of American History to see an exhibit that included a typical home laundry of the day. Two tour members were children in families operating a couple of those laundries and remember living above the family businesses. It was so nice of them to share their experiences.

Donaldina Cameron was the subject of our Friday program. The life of this former missionary and her work in San Francisco’s Chinatown at the turn of the 20th century are an inspiration to all. PAST Board member Laura Ferrell opened her home, once Donaldina’s beloved Heatherbloom, so we could see her careful renovation. Many took advantage of the beautiful day for a self-guided College Terrace tour.

The culminating event was Saturday, May 10, Celebration in Professorville, in the garden at 365 Lincoln Avenue. The grandchildren of a former owner shared fond recollections of life in Professorville and around the house in their grandparents’ day. The festivities included presentation of plaques to houses built in 1903 and the 2003 Preservation Awards. Refreshments were provided by our new corporate sponsor, A.G. Ferrari. For those wanting more, a tour of the beautiful gardens and a self-guided tour of Professorville were offered.

Carolyn George