

Calendar of Events

Opening October 8 through January 30, 2005, at the Museum of American Heritage: **Number, Please: The Evolution of the Telephone.** For more information, call (650) 321-1004 or check the MOAH Web site at www.moah.org. Located at 351 Homer Avenue. Open Friday-Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; free admission.

November 7—**Celebrate Greenmeadow's 50th anniversary.** Plus, display of church rock by the Palo Alto History Museum Project. Palo Alto Historical Association, 2 p.m., Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Road.

Through November 21—**Votes for Women: Unfinished Business.** Los Altos History Museum. Open Thursday—Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., 51 South San Antonio Road, Los Altos, (650) 948-0427. Free.

November 21—**A Gallery of Exceptional Women.** Melissa Stevenson performs biographical sketches of four instrumental women who shaped our political world. Los Altos Main Library, Program Room, 2 to 3 p.m. 13 South San Antonio Road, Los Altos, (650) 948-0427. Free.

December 5—**Memories of Palo Alto** as told by members and Palo Alto History Museum Project **Church Rock Auction.** Palo Alto Historical Association, 2 p.m., Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Road.

December 12—**Holiday House Tour** featuring Stanford campus homes.

Ongoing—**Walking Tours of Downtown, Professorville, College Terrace, or Homer Avenue.** \$20 per docent group of up to 10 people. To arrange a tour, call (650) 328-5670. or visit www.pastheritage.org for contact information.

PAST Web site: www.pastheritage.org

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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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PAST News

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Autumn 2004



This year's 17th annual Holiday House Tour doesn't just pry open the doors of five fabulous historic homes for the first time. This year's tour is actually history-making!

Co-sponsored by the Stanford Historical Society, it is the first-ever all-Stanford campus Holiday House Tour. Why did PAST and the Stanford Historical Society decide to create this dream tour? "We are collaborating with PAST to support and promote the Stanford presence in PAST," says Marian Adams, board member of the Stanford Historical Society and co-chair of the society's Historic Houses Committee. "The society has an active group of volunteers who research and write reports on historic campus houses, and we would like to open some of these homes to the community to further the cause of historic research and preservation, not only on the campus but in the communities surrounding Stanford."

Just don't forget to get your tickets and reserve Sunday, December 12, from 2 to 5 p.m., to stroll through these lovely homes on the beautiful and historic San Juan Hill.

17th Annual
Holiday House Tour
Sunday, December 12,
2 to 5 p.m.
Stanford's San Juan Hill

The Caroline Chronicles

“Good times!” as my daughter would say. After a long haul the **Allied Arts Guild** in Menlo Park in open once again. Our little neighboring jewel is reborn as a result of the work of many loving caretakers who refused to take the easy route. Our special thanks go to **Grace Hinton**, project architect and PAST Board member, for guiding this project with one eye on the past and one on the future. The **Kellogg House** in Professorville is being reconstructed and looking forward to a long and glorious future. And the tiny **garage** where **Hewlett Packard** got its start is being studied for restoration. (See article on page 6.)

One of the grand ladies in town was the hit of the Palo Alto Black and White Ball. If you were one of the lucky ones to party at the **Lucie Stern Community Center** the night of October 2nd, you know what a gorgeous and gracious hostess she was. The brick courtyard was bedecked in lights and filled with violin music. The Boy Scout Fire Circle embraced a crowd of movie goers who lounged on cushions padding the amphitheater seats. The Children’s Secret Garden was magically illuminated with strands of fairy lights. The Ballroom was grandly festooned with window swags and urns reminiscent of a past era. It was hardly recognizable as the gymnasium and meeting room we all know. Compliments flowed all around, but our lovely Lucie was the most acclaimed by all.

Environmental Volunteers is considering renovating the **Sea Scout Building** in the baylands for their headquarters. I think they would be a compatible and sympathetic use group and I urge you all to help in any way you can to promote the preservation of this lovely building. The **Roth Building** is struggling towards rebirth as the Palo Alto History Museum. Please help this effort in any way possible by encouraging City Council to protect it from further deterioration and by contributing or asking others to contribute funds for its construction.

I had a reaffirming moment in Safeway this week as I checked out my groceries. Scanning my Vernors ginger ale prompted the clerk to tell me it was the nation’s oldest soda and that the recipe was 130 years old. Preserving our structures and our historic recipes offers us the opportunity to face our past every day and learn a little something in the process.

Our **Holiday House Tour** this year (our 17th) is taking place December 12th on **San Juan Hill** on the Stanford campus in conjunction with the **Stanford Historical Society**. These early homes belonged to professors who chose to build on university land. Don’t miss the opportunity to see this counterpoint to our Professorville.

Caroline Willis
President, PAST Heritage

Happy History Month!

Karen Holman, Palo Alto History Museum Project

Artifacts have been arriving regularly and include a Victorian children’s chair, vintage clothing, a quilt done by the Women’s Temperance Union of Palo Alto in 1933, and ... a **church rock** (a piece of 1906 rubble from the mosaic of the Stanford Memorial Church). This rock will be on view at the Palo Alto Historical Association’s November general meeting and will be auctioned off to the highest bidder at the December general meeting. The rock came to the Museum Project for purchase, and so it was bought rather than received as a donation. It is the largest piece I have personally seen. Steve Staiger says he has seen larger, but I say, “Prove it, Steve!”

Absentee bids are welcome. **This is your chance to own a truly historic treasure.**

PAST Heritage Board of Directors

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View from the San Juan Hill garden of one of the homes on the 17th Annual Holiday House Tour.

Now Is the Time to Join PAST or Renew Your Membership

Since our membership year is September to August, your dues are due. Membership in PAST includes complimentary tickets to the Holiday House tour on December 12. Individual members receive one ticket and the other levels two. Extra tickets are \$20 before December 1 and \$25 thereafter.

To the many of you who have already sent in your dues, thank you very much. Tickets will be mailed at the end of November.

Please indicate interests here:

- Advocating for preservation
- Researching 1905 houses
- Mailing parties
- Host/Hostessing at the Holiday House Tour
- Helping with refreshments

Membership categories:

- \$25 Individual
- \$40 Family
- \$75 Sponsor
- \$100 Patron
- \$500 Lifetime

New Renewal

Number of extra tickets to the **Holiday House Tour**. _____ \$ _____

Total amount enclosed. _____ \$ _____

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (day) _____ (evening) _____ email _____

Please make check payable to PAST Heritage and mail to us at P.O. Box 308, Palo Alto, California 94302
Because PAST Heritage is a tax-exempt charitable organization, contributions are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations.

HP Garage to Be Restored

Soon to be restored is the legendary garage on Addison Avenue where Dave Packard and Bill Hewlett invented their first product and formed Hewlett-Packard Company. The Garage is a California State Landmark, officially recognized as the “birthplace of the Silicon Valley.” The other two buildings on the site, a two-story residence and a small shed, are part of the renovation plans as well. The garage, shed and house are listed as Palo Alto Category 1 historic structures. The Historic Resources Board enthusiastically endorsed the rehabilitation plans at



Photo courtesy Hewlett-Packard Archive

its October meeting. The house at 367 Addison Avenue was built for Dr. John Spencer, the first mayor of Palo Alto, around 1905. It was divided into two flats in about 1920. Dave and Lucille Packard lived in the ground floor apartment for a short time starting in 1938, and Bill Hewlett bunked in the shed. They developed their first product, the audio oscillator, in the garage that same year. After they moved on, the property spent many years as a deteriorating rental. Hewlett-Packard bought the property in 2000 with the intention of preserving their most important company icon.

The garage, currently suffering from termite damage, will be structurally stabilized. Its redwood board-and-batten siding will be carefully stripped of its 80's paint

to reveal its original natural finish. Original material will be reused wherever possible; replacement material will be from salvaged material purchased locally. Work on the house will include rebuilding the attic dormer with some of the original materials found in the attic, including the original window casings. The front porch, which was enclosed during the 70's, will be reopened and supplied with glazed windscreens at each end, a graceful detail apparent in early photos and found in many houses in this neighborhood. An awkward second-story addition to the house will be removed, returning the residence to its original modest foursquare configuration

All rehabilitation work will be carried out according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties (the “Standards”). The Standards call for restoration to the “Period of Significance,” the span of time during which significant events and activities occurred. In this case the period of significance is 1938-39, the time during which the site is associated with Hewlett and Packard, and the contribution that their garage start-up made to the broad patterns of American history. Renovation efforts are being guided by the Palo Alto firm of Cody Anderson Wasney Architects, who are fresh off the renovation of another local landmark, the Allied Arts Guild in Menlo Park.

Although the house was built as a single-family residence, it will remain a duplex to reflect its form when Hewlett and Packard lived and worked on-site. The renovation will emphasize the simple beginnings of the company, and the particularly American version of the entrepreneurial spirit that leads risk-takers to dream big dreams from little garages.

Grace Hinton

Allied Arts Is Back

Have you ever stepped back in time? Now you have an opportunity to do so by visiting the Allied Arts Guild in Menlo Park. Allied Arts reopened its doors on October 4 after having been closed more than two-and-a-half years for a major renovation.

In case you are not familiar with this special place, the Allied Arts Guild covers three-and-a-half wooded acres in a triangle from the intersection of Cambridge and Arbor to San Francisquito Creek. It is a complex of unique shops, gardens, artists' studios, and a charming restaurant nestled in a quiet corner of a residential area. The center was founded by Garfield and Delight Merner in the late 1920s and early 1930s, and the restoration has managed to preserve the dream of the founders of establishing a unique craft guild.

You will find many things here: an inspiring and tranquil environment growing out of an extraordinary combination of Spanish-style buildings (designed by well-known architect Gardner Dailey and Pedro de Lemos), themed courtyards, amaz-

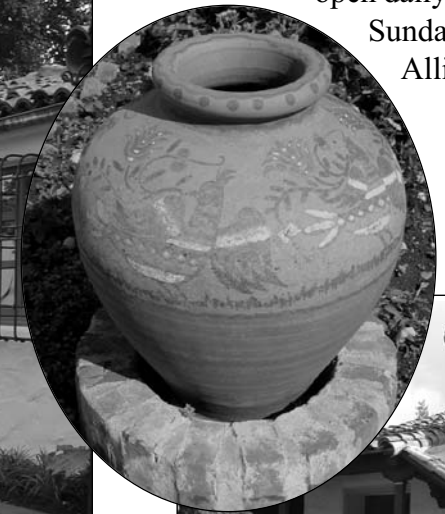
ing murals and frescoes (by Maxine Albro), outstanding tile work, fountains, and beautiful gardens based on the Alhambra Gardens in Spain.

The artwork and landscaping invite you to stroll along paths paved with stones while enjoying the sound of the water, the architecture, the arches and ironwork, and a gorgeous Tree Rose Alley with all the colors you could imagine.

All this creates an atmosphere so special and musical that you will want to go back again and again. If you visit soon, don't miss the photographs by Ansel Adams, and you will enjoy how past and present are joined at this magical place.

The list of shops and artisans includes The Carlisle Enterprise Studio, Between Waters Gallery, Alla Viksne Gallery and Studio, The Traditional Shop, Bride's Room for Weddings at Allied Arts Guild, Schwanke Architecture, Stephanie Newsom Music Composition, Special Handling Pottery - Joy Imai, Flora Floral Artisans Studio, and the Barn Woodshop Antique Restoration (almost hidden at the back of the property). The complex is open daily year round except for Sunday. Admission to the Allied Arts Guild is free.

Carmen Saura



1904 Tidbits

Did you know ...

- That the first automobile roadmaps were published in 1904? This was a great help to travelers because highways were not numbered and not all towns had signs at their borders.
- That Auguste Rodin created The Thinker in 1904?
- That Giacomo Puccini composed Madame Butterfly in 1904?
- That popular songs in 1904 included George M. Cohan's *Give My Regards to Broadway* and *The Yankee Doodle Boy*?

And who could have suspected what the development of silicone by F.S. Kipping would lead to?

Source, *American Decades, 1900-1909* by Vincent Tompkins





Tour Highlights

- A stucco-and-shingle Craftsman-style house designed by A.B. Clark in 1909.
- The McDowell family home, which shares the broad sweeping lawn of Hoover House, the home of Stanford's president.
- Fireplace bricks from the Steiger Terra Cotta and Pottery works in San Francisco for one house's four functional fireplaces.
- A glazed second floor passageway that is thought to have been designed to display house plants because of the exterior and interior windows and a floor designed to shed water.
- A house described as a "white elephant" in University records.
- Parts of pre-1906 earthquake Memorial Church (See related article, Happy History Month!)
- An imposing 3,700-square-foot house with wood paneling, wainscoting, and beamed ceilings of old-growth redwood with an entry hall still lit by two original copper chandeliers.
- An immense fireplace with massive blocks of sandstone, perhaps from campus buildings that collapsed during the 1906 earthquake.
- An almost original house that the current owners are restoring.

(Ticket order form on page 7)

