On September 10th the architectural significance of San Francisco’s Swedenborgian Church complex received well-deserved recognition when the National Historic Landmark Commission recommended its listing as a National Historic Landmark, the highest level of federal designation. Architectural Resources Group prepared the nomination at the request of the congregation. The late nineteenth century composition of church, residence and parish house was the inspiration of visionary Swedenborgian minister Joseph Worcester, who brought together leading architects and an impressive ensemble of talented California artists and artisans to build the church.

Under the minister’s direction, designers and craftsmen created one of the earliest, finest and most influential surviving examples of the First Bay Tradition. Like the closely-allied Arts and Crafts Movement, the First Bay Tradition developed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and stressed a comprehensive design approach: from architecture to interior furnishings, from fixtures to artwork.

In the early 1890s, after ten years of holding services in the Druid’s Hall on Sutter Street in downtown San Francisco, Worcester began to plan for a new Swedenborgian Church to be located at the intersection of Washington and Lyon Streets, near the peak of Pacific Heights. The design for the church fused Worcester’s artistic and architectural ideas with the naturalist beliefs of his religion. According to the Swedenborgian faith, the natural world was the representation of God, and man’s construction should harmonize with God’s manifestations in nature.

Worcester retained the office of A. Page Brown to design the church. Brown was the architect of record, and some evidence indicates he was primarily responsible for the design. Other accounts point to A.C.
Advocacy for the preservation of San Francisco’s historic resources takes many forms, not the least of which is speaking out to educate and influence local and state government. Here are several interesting initiatives which highlight our recent efforts and offer you a direct way in which you can help preserve our city’s architectural heritage.

San Francisco’s Capital Improvement Advisory Committee is considering whether to recommend a general obligation bond measure for the March 2004 ballot. This Cultural & Historic Resource Bond Measure will assist twelve preservation projects located throughout San Francisco by funding seismic upgrades and repairs to some of our most beloved—as well as some lesser-known but important—historic and cultural resources. In each case, they add quality to our everyday lives and set San Francisco apart. The measure contemplates funding for much needed repairs/improvements to:

- Coit Tower
- Geneva Car Barn
- McLaren Lodge at Golden Gate Park
- Mission Cultural Center
- Palace of Fine Arts
- Trocadero Building at Stern Grove
- Waterfront Organ Pavilion
- South of Market Cultural Center
- Bayview Opera House
- Pier 70 Union Iron Works
- Old U.S. Mint
- Western Addition Cultural Center

All of these resources are publicly owned and have not been adequately funded in the past. Without these bond funds, we will find them sinking deeper into physical and financial distress. If San Francisco does not accomplish these projects now they will only cost the City more in the future or be lost forever. While Heritage will continue to make our voice heard, your individual effort will reinforce the public’s interest in preservation. Write to Mayor Willie Brown and your district supervisor urging them to support the Cultural and Historic Resources Bond Measure to assure these historic resources will remain a part of our lives and the lives of future generations.

In this issue, you will find an article concerning San Franciscans for Preservation Planning (SFPP), a political action committee (PAC) formed this summer by a group of concerned preservation-minded citizens. Heritage welcomes SFPP as a partner of the historic preservation movement in the city and values the increased exposure and effort to bring historic preservation to the forefront of sound planning for San Francisco.

In September, the Heritage board voted to join the California Heritage Coalition, a statewide lobbying organization that includes California Preservation Foundation, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Los Angeles Conservancy, Napa County Landmarks, Inc., Pasadena Heritage, and Save Our Heritage (San Diego). The Coalition, which is seeking improvements in historic preservation legislation and increased funding for historic preservation throughout the state, reactivates Californians for Preservation Action, a 501(c) 4, non-partisan lobbying organization founded by the California Preservation Foundation.

The power of persuasion is directly proportional to the intensity of our voice. Your support of Heritage gives us the opportunity to speak for ourselves and to join, when necessary, with like-minded organizations to increase our ability to persuade.

Charles Edwin Chase, AIA
Executive Director
Conservatory of Flowers

Heritage staff enjoyed the privilege of a preview of the Conservatory of Flowers a short time before its grand public reopening, September 20. The restoration and rehabilitation work were virtually complete, and most of the energy that filled the space that day went into installation of the new exhibits that have transformed the venerable Victorian into an exciting new educational experience.

Bruce Judd, FAIA, founding partner of Architectural Resources Group, led the eight-year project that began with the winter storm-of-the-century, in December 1995, which caused significant damage to the structure and ultimately brought to light the extreme state of decay that threatened its survival. One cause of the building’s problems was an inadequate system of temperature, ventilation and humidity control.

It was touch-and-go for a while, when it appeared that opinion favoring reconstruction in aluminum and plexiglass would prevail. But no, in the end, sound preservation principles won the day. Not to say there was much literal preservation to be done; once the project began, it was clear that little of the original wood fabric could be retained and restored.

The $25 million rehabilitation involved disassembly and rebuilding of the entire wood and glass structure in new but like materials, combined with a seismic solution that entailed new foundations and (mostly unobtrusive) steel reinforcement. According to Nancy Tennebaum, of Tennebaum-Manheim Engineers, the project’s structural engineer, “Where possible, we concealed the steel plates within the wood structure and then added slender exposed trusses and bracing rods to complement the structure’s light and delicate quality.”

New computer-controlled systems, processing data that includes information from a small weather station on the roof, now carefully govern temperature, humidity and air circulation within the greenhouse. This both provides the environment the plants require and ensures that the conditions that had caused the wood decay in the historic conservatory will not return.

Commenting on the unique character of this undertaking, Debbie Cooper, project manager for ARG, said, “The building is so enchanting that it inspired everyone who worked on it, and that is what made it such a special experience.”

The San Francisco Department of Public Works oversaw the entire project. Funding was accomplished through a cooperative partnership between the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department and the nonprofit Friends of Recreation and Parks.

Hotel Rehab

When the Chronicle (December 27, 1924) announced the pending construction of a hotel at the southeast corner of Eddy and Jones, the newspaper proclaimed it would be “one of the most imposing edifices in the new hotel district.” It opened in May the following year as the Roosevelt.

Today, as the Marlton Manor, it remains an imposing presence in the Tenderloin, and, with its recently completed rehabilitation, it offers attractive and secure housing for seniors and persons with disabilities in 151 units. More than five years ago, hoping to prevent the loss of affordable housing in a possible sale of the building on the open market, the tenants formed an association and sought partners to buy and rehabilitate the building.

With the help of the Agape Outreach Center and the Redevelopment Agency, the tenants did find partners for this venture: Mercy Housing California and A.F. Evans Company. Together they assembled financing from Citibank, Fannie Mae, Alliant Capital and the Redevelopment Agency, and after taking ownership of the Marlton last year, began a $10 million rehabilitation.

Residents remained in the building, relocated as necessary, while the building underwent a seismic retrofit, systems upgrade and improvement to tenants quarters. The project also resulted

---continued on page 5, column 3
New Plans for City College Mission Campus

An addendum to the previously certified EIR for development of City College’s Mission Campus appeared on September 4. The new study was limited largely to the impact on cultural resources, notably the former Samuel Gompers Trade School, centerpiece of the current proposal.

The plan is to adapt the existing structure at 106 Bartlett Street, in combination with new construction on adjacent vacant sites, to accommodate a program comparable to that first planned for the New Mission Theater location less than a block away. City College has shared the building with the school district’s Downtown High, and that arrangement would continue.

The EIR incorporates the findings of a historical assessment by Page & Turnbull. Architects Masten & Hurd designed 106 Bartlett for the City’s trade school. A PWA project, its construction in reinforced concrete occurred between 1937 and 1939, in the Streamline Moderne style (sometimes called PWA Moderne or Stripped Classicism) common late in the Depression.

The four-story building’s principal façade fronts on Bartlett, but of greater interest is the west elevation, best viewed from Valencia Street. Its signature features, glass-block enclosed stair towers, recall something out of the film Metropolis or a Buck Rogers serial. According to the Page & Turnbull assessment, there have been few alterations to the building: anodized aluminum door units replaced two entries, and stucco was added to the concrete walls, which nevertheless retain the volumes, lines, curved corners, and moldings of the original. Interior alterations have been more substantial.

The historic significance of the Gompers School lies in its role of educating the working class residents of the Mission District and as one of the first National Defense Training Centers in the city. Beginning in May of 1941, men and women learned there the skills required by local defense industries. After the war, the building reverted to an “industrial high school.”

Under City College’s plan, 106 Bartlett would continue in use, after its rehabilitation. Additional components to the Mission Campus will be a new four-story, 105,000 square-foot building constructed to the west, on the site of a parking lot and basketball courts, and a smaller four-story addition on a vacant site at the north wall of 106 Bartlett, on the corner of 22nd Street.

Construction of three pedestrian bridges to connect the historic building with the new building to the west will require only minimal loss of historic fabric, according to the proposal. The stair towers would remain intact. Although the new building will block the view of the historic structure’s west elevation, circulation within the new building and a courtyard separating the two structures will offer views, and setbacks on the north side of the addition will allow sightlines from Valencia Street.

The addition to the north of 106 Bartlett will partially obscure the north elevation and require new openings to connect the two structures. The interface of the two, however, will be designed to allow character-defining features on the north wall of the historic building—including the porthole window, entrance and canopy—to remain visible. The design of the new buildings will be compatible with the Moderne features of the former trade school.

New Survey Grant

The Office of Historic Preservation, California Department of Parks and Recreation, has awarded a 2003-2004 Certified Local Government matching grant to the Planning Department. The $10,000 grant is to support continuing historic resource survey work in the city’s Inner Mission North area begun two years ago. The survey will examine 160 resources at the reconnaissance level, which produces descriptive information about each resource through the completion of a DPR 523A form.

This project is the latest in the Planning Department’s on-going Citywide Cultural Resource Survey Program, a multi-year effort to document resources throughout San Francisco. This new phase extends the Inner Mission North survey boundaries east of Mission Street to South Van Ness and to 18th Street on the south. Approximately 82 percent of resources in this area are 45-years old or older.

This is the fourth year the Office of Historic Preservation has supported local survey efforts. The money comes through the federal Historic Preservation Fund Grant Program of the National Historic Preservation Act, which requires the state to share at least 10 percent of its yearly allocation of preservation dollars with certified local governments.

For more information about the survey program, contact Survey Planner N. Moses Corrette, at (415) 558-6295.
Mint Transfer Opens Way to Restoration and History Museum

A ceremonial conveyance of the deed to the Old U.S. Mint took place on August 4, in the former counting room of the 1874 National Historic Landmark at 5th and Mission. With Senator Barbara Boxer and other distinguished guests looking on, Mayor Willie Brown handed over a single dollar to Stephen Perry, administrator of the U.S. General Services Administration, and Peter Stamison of the local GSA office. In return, they conveyed the keys that both literally and figuratively open the doors to the long-awaited restoration and reuse of the venerable building.

Earlier this year, the City of San Francisco entered into an exclusive negotiating agreement with the San Francisco Museum and Historical Society to develop the site. Plans are for a museum of San Francisco history to be the principal tenant, with other uses including a numismatic museum, the City’s visitor center and various shops related to the museum and other tenant activities.

The Old Mint embraces an approximately 7,000 square-foot interior courtyard that originally rose the full height of the building to the open sky. During the 1970s, it was reduced by one story with the enclosure and incorporation of the basement level into the building. Plans call for removing that construction, restoring the courtyard to the original full height and covering the area with a new skylight at the roof line.

The restored courtyard will contain a new free-standing, self-contained circulation structure, largely transparent and of contemporary design, that will include a ramp, stairs and elevator, and a display that orients visitors to the museum collection. Connected by foot bridges with the historic building, it will provide needed access upgrades without a possibly damaging intervention in historic spaces. Existing historic stairways in the building provide required second means of egress.

The proposed seismic solution—core drilling and the insertion of reinforcing steel—also entails minimal impact on historic finishes. It now appears that saving and retrofitting the two historic brick chimneys is in the plans, as well, whereas some months ago the concern was that it would prove too costly. There is even talk of rebuilding the upper 20-foot high portion of the chimneys and their decorative features, removed sometime after 1906.

A San Francisco Museum and Historical Society Advisory Committee is now working to define the focus of a city history museum and to identify the themes of an exhibition program. All San Franciscans look forward with great anticipation to the reopening of the building and the museum’s inauguration. The target date is the 100th anniversary of the 1906 earthquake: April 18, 2006.

In a new computer learning center, laundry and on-site management offices, as well as the expansion of common areas for tenants. One such feature is an inviting library on the mezzanine level overlooking the lobby.

Removal of partition walls that had closed off the mezzanine and back portion of the lobby has restored the scale and proportions of the grand space that welcomes residents to their home. Original details in the lobby, including a formal fireplace and expansive arched windows, remained largely intact, and the rehabilitation has shown respect for these historic features.

A grocery store and a credit union will occupy remodeled street level retail spaces that were part of the original development of the Roosevelt Hotel.

Contractor for the rehabilitation was LCI Construction. The architect was Gelfand RNP.
Fernando Nelson, San Francisco’s colorful residential builder, used to boast that if all the homes he built were placed side-by-side they would stretch from the Ferry Building to the gates of the Presidio. By the end of his career, if the homes he built were lined up, they would stretch six times that distance.

Nelson was a key figure in San Francisco’s rich and distinctive architectural history. Known for his efficiency, he built over 4,000 homes, nearly 75 percent of which still stand today in the Richmond, Haight, Noe Valley, Eureka Valley, West Portal, Sunset, Presidio Terrace, and Lakeside districts of the city.

His career as carpenter and builder spanned 60 years, from the late 1880s to the early 1940s. He began as a practitioner in San Francisco’s signature Victorian styles of the 1890s, went on to build some of San Francisco’s first elite “restricted” neighborhoods following the 1906 earthquake, and by the late 1930s was building some of the first modern suburbs within the city. Although a prolific builder, Nelson was best known at one time for setting early automobile touring-time records.

Fernando Nelson was born in New York City, February 4, 1860, to a Danish father and German mother. The unusual pairing of Hispanic and Scandinavian names came from his parents’ fondness for the name of the Mayor of New York City at the time he was born, Fernando Wood. Drawn west at the age of 15, Nelson began work in San Francisco as a carpenter. At the age of 22, he built his first home at 30th and Church Streets (no longer standing).

Between 1882 and 1888, Nelson worked primarily as a carpenter for other builders and occasionally took on projects of his own between jobs. In 1889, he partnered with his brother-in-law, William Hamerton, specializing in the construction of two and three unit buildings in the booming Haight neighborhood (Nelson & Hamerton built the flats at 1301 Waller St. where Hamerton lived for many years. They also built other adjoining buildings.). In 1891, the partnership dissolved over a fundamental business disagreement; Hamerton preferred to build two- to four-unit structures—primarily to keep and rent—while Nelson wanted to build private homes to sell.

Once on his own, Nelson the carpenter became Nelson the developer, going from building one home at a time to developing entire blocks. He began the decade running his business out of his home on 25th Street, near Noe Street, building individual homes around that neighborhood.

In 1897, Nelson took a concept he was already employing and turned it into a signature business model that he would use the rest of his career. In that year he purchased groups of adjoining lots in the area of Castro and 20th Streets. He then built a house just off the southeast corner of that intersection to serve as a home for his family and a business headquarters, as well as a model of the quality of homes he would be building in the neighborhood. His shop and lumberyard occupied the adjoining corner lot.

Over the next four years, he built a number of Queen Anne and Stick Style residences in that area. There are 31 documented Nelson flats and single-family houses on Castro, 20th, Eureka, Noe, 18th and Hartford Streets. A later owner moved Nelson’s wonderful tur- reted family home to the corner lot at 701 Castro, where the lumberyard had been, and set it on a brick base that encloses a row of garages.

These first tract developments demonstrated the cost-cutting advantage of volume and duplication. Nelson began to offer customers two floor plans that he kept on a card. The customer could select Plan A on one side of the card or Plan B on the other side.

As for exterior trim, the buyer could choose from pattern books supplied by mills or leave the selection to Nelson. He used a variety of Victorian ornamentation, and it was at this point that...
he incorporated his signature detail, which became known as the "doughnuts." Nelson’s doughnuts were a series of joined circles, cut out of redwood and attached over the front porches of the houses he built. This feature, which surely began as a way to cut costs by repeating the same pattern, provides a definite way of identifying a Nelson home built before 1912.

In another cost-saving practice that illustrated Nelson’s thriftiness, he would bargain for mixed nails from broken kegs and bring them home for his children to sort. Despite his frugality and cookie cutter duplication, Nelson provided a quality building that showed great attention to detail.

The next project Fernando Nelson undertook would add another dimension to his career as a developer. Following his success building tracts in Noe Valley, Eureka Valley and the Duboce Triangle—where you will find 30 documented Nelson buildings on 14th Street, Carmelita Street and Waller Street—Nelson turned his attention to the blocks of vacant land in the Inner Richmond. In 1902, he bought lots on the site of the old Bay District Race Track (Anza to Fulton Streets, Arguello Blvd. to 5th Avenue). He followed his pattern by first building his family home at 684 2nd Avenue, with the shop and storage around the corner on Cabrillo Street.

Nelson developed three and a half blocks around 2nd Avenue prior to the 1906 earthquake. Some of the lots were ideally suited for commercial use, but he chose not to pursue construction of stores and shops. This decision moved Nelson into real estate brokering, selling lots on commercial corridors and corner lots to other entrepreneurs to develop into retail or apartment buildings.

In 1900 Nelson became one of the earliest automobile enthusiasts in San Francisco. He was credited with being the first person to drive an automobile into Yosemite, in 1903. He set numerous records in the early years of automobile touring for time between San Francisco and various destinations on the Pacific Coast. In 1908, with a team of relief drivers, Nelson’s steam-powered car set the speed record from San Francisco to Los Angeles at 17 hours and 17 minutes. He seldom did any advertising, but the attention his automobile exploits drew served as promotion for his business.

The earthquake of 1906 interrupted Nelson’s building business. The Army confiscated all his lumber supplies to build temporary refugee shacks, and during the early recovery period, the Relief Committee commandeered his auto. His son George had the distinction of chauffeuring Assistant Fire Chief Shaughnessy around town. Wishing to maintain his reputation as an honorable builder, Nelson spent the early weeks after the catastrophe having his crew repair earthquake damage, jacking up buildings and realigning them on their foundations.

As lumber and materials became more available, Nelson resumed construction in the Inner Richmond, first building a corner home for his son William at 10th and Fulton. Nelson made one other—albeit temporary—business change during the post-earthquake stage. In 1907, he built mostly two unit flats on the 600 blocks of 4th and 5th Avenues to accommodate the increased demand for housing caused by the earthquake and fire. The following year, Nelson returned to building single-family homes.

—Thanks to Heritage member John T. Freeman for providing this first of a two-part series on Fernando Nelson
National Landmark
continued from page 1

Schweinfurth, an employee of the firm, as the principal designer. Bernard Maybeck, who was a draftsman in Brown’s San Francisco office in the early 1890s, may have contributed to the plan, as well.

The minister, in any case, was himself deeply involved in the process. He inspired the use of unfinished madrone trunks for posts and trusses to support the nave and personally selected the trees from the Santa Cruz Mountains for that purpose. Worcester is also thought to have decided the asymmetrical placement of the fireplace, altar and wrought-iron chandelier that created a more organic rather than classical composition.

In addition to influencing its architecture, Worcester adopted a comprehensive approach to the building’s furnishing and ornamentation. His ideas about philosophy, nature, art, and architecture drew a circle of artists and skilled craftspeople to realize the interior. Although the attribution is not certain, some accounts credit A. Page Brown with the design of the rush-seated chairs for the sanctuary, which the craftsman A.J. Forbes then produced. William Keith, the well-known California landscape painter and close friend of Worcester, created and donated the four paintings that hang on the north wall of the sanctuary.

The two stained-glass windows in the sanctuary are the work of Bruce Porter, who, by sharing his sketch of an Italian church in Verona, also receives credit for inspiring the design of the bell tower. A copper and mica shade on a pendant light fixture, attributed to Dirk van Erp, the well-known Arts and Crafts metalsmith, hangs in the vestry. The portrait painter Mary Curtis Richardson designed the pulpit and communion table. Keith, Porter, and Richardson were active members of the congregation, as well.

Construction on the church began in 1894. Completed at a total cost of $4,500, the building was dedicated the following year.

In terms of style, materials and the collaborative approach to its design and furnishings, the church strongly represents Craftsman ideals. Like the First Bay Tradition and the American Arts and Crafts Movement, it is a blend of architectural influences. It combines the clay tiles, rustic brick, corbelled bell tower, and Corinthian column and capital of the Mediterranean style with the rough stucco walls, arcades, exterior circulation paths and Spanish tiled roofs of California’s missions. It also shows the influence of local vernacular construction such as barns and miners’ shanties, and the methods of industrial framing.

In addition to the church, the complex includes two houses. A. Page Brown’s office designed the residence at 2121 Lyon Street in 1894. It was constructed shortly before the church to serve as a parsonage, a function it never performed. G.W. Percy and Willis Polk designed the parish house (3204 Washington Street), completed on the lot just southwest of the church in 1900. It now contains the church offices, meeting rooms, and other public spaces.

Today, the complex is remarkably intact and still communicates the original design intent. Walking onto the grounds, a visitor to the church would find the quiet verdant garden, natural materials, simple structures, handcrafted wood furnishings, and artwork strikingly similar to the complex envisioned by Joseph Worcester and created by a group of talented architects, artists and craftsmen over a hundred years ago.

Following the action of the National Historic Landmark Commission, the listing of the Swedenborgian Church requires approval by the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior. These pro forma steps should be completed by the end of the year.

—Thanks to Jody Stock of Architectural Resources Group for preparing this article.

—Clarification

Last issue’s item on the house at 39 Chattanooga left the impression that discovering the historic significance of the building occurred almost by chance. Planning staff have informed us that the house, as a pre-1906 structure, underwent a review that is now routine as part of the department’s new CEQA procedures, in use though awaiting formal adoption. Lacking any rating or historical information for 39 Chattanooga, staff carried out the research that determined it does qualify as a historic resource under the California Environmental Quality Act.
Santa Confirms Holiday Booking

The late arrival of Thanksgiving on this year’s calendar puts real pressure on Santa Claus’s schedule. Nevertheless, he has assured Heritage of his appearance, as planned, at our annual Holiday Open House, December 7. The Haas-Lilienthal House will be open from noon until 3:00 p.m. Santa will show up around 2. So if you have young children, be sure to schedule naps and such so that they’ll be ready to receive the jolly old elf.

As she does every year, volunteer Charlotte Schmiedel will deck the halls—stairs, parlors and other rooms, as well—in holiday finery. A real, 13-foot fir tree, fully and beautifully decorated, will stand in the bay of the front parlor. Live holiday music will greet visitors, and there will be light refreshments, wine and hot cider to warm the heart and bring good cheer.

There will be no guided tours of the Haas-Lilienthal House that day, but docents will be present to answer any questions about the house and its history. The train room will, of course, also be open. Its working display of antique electric trains is sure to conjure holiday memories for many of the older “children” and stimulate hopes in the younger for holiday gift dreams to be answered—perhaps—this year.

Two authors will be on hand to sign their publications with a personalized inscription for a special someone who may be on your gift list. Morton Beebe will be autographing his recent book, San Francisco, and Christopher Pollock will inscribe copies of San Francisco’s Golden Gate Park in Vintage Postcards.

And be sure to bring that gift list! The Haas-Lilienthal House bookstore, in addition to these two new publications, will offer a diverse selection of special holiday treats and bargains on books, cards, giftwrap, stocking stuffers and ornaments. Heritage members can take advantage of their 20 percent discount privilege on all purchases.

All members will receive Holiday Open House invitations in the mail, but you should put the date on your calendar now: Sunday, December 7, from noon until 3:00 p.m. As usual, the event is free to members and their guests. The charge for non-members is $10 and $5 for non-member seniors and children 12 years of age and under.

Preservation PAC Formed, Endorses Mayoral Candidate

San Franciscans for Preservation Planning (SFPP), a Political Action Committee (PAC) under California State law, was organized this summer. Calling for stronger planning measures to conserve San Francisco’s historic resources and neighborhood character, the PAC intends to increase the visibility of these concerns and to be active in the race for Mayor this fall.

“San Francisco suffers from a lack of adequate municipal policies which systematically encourage the protection, conservation and re-use of its historic architecture,” Mark Ryser, Chair of the PAC, stated. “We are troubled by the tendency of most of our public elected and appointed officials to place a low priority on these issues and to take for granted this exceptionally rich civic legacy,” he continued. “In addition, we have witnessed during the past 8 years a willingness to ignore or undercut the few laws which do exist to protect limited numbers of historic resources;” he concluded.

The PAC submitted questionnaires and interviewed six mayoral candidates: Alioto, Ammiano, Gonzalez, Leal, Newsom and Ribera. SFPP also researched voting records, where available.

After lengthy deliberations the PAC has endorsed Tom Ammiano.

The PAC’s conclusion that Tom Ammiano is the best mayoral candidate for historic resources planning issues was based upon several conclusions. First, his voting record in office demonstrated his basic dedication to preservation planning principles. His support of retention and re-use of the New Mission

Other Events

The holiday season brings the usual round of celebrations to the many historic house museums in the Bay Area. Octagon House, at Gough and Union Streets in San Francisco, will be open to the public on December 7, 11 and 14. The 1861 house, now a museum of Early American decorative arts and historic documents, will be decorated for the season, and visitors may enjoy some cookies and cider. Admission is free (contributions welcome, however), and reservations are not necessary. You are invited to bring a new, unwrapped gift to place under the tree for a needy child. Call 415-441-7512.

For holiday activities at other house museums, send $1.00 and a self-addressed stamped envelope to BAHHM, 1650 Vining Drive, San Leandro, CA 94579, or call 510-351-7784.

A special members-only sale of merchandise in the Haas-Lilienthal House bookstore will occur Monday, December 8, 1-8 p.m.
Bay Area Tours

Allied Arts Guild
Menlo Park, 650-322-2405

Camron-Stanford House
Oakland, 510-856-1976

City Guides Walks
San Francisco, 415-557-4266

Cohen-Bray House
Oakland, 510-532-0704

Cypress Lawn Cemetery
Colma, 650-550-8810 or 8811

Dunsmuir Historic Estate
Oakland (April–September) 510-615-5555

Falkirk Cultural Center
San Rafael, 415-485-3328

Lathrop House
Redwood City, 650-365-5564

Luther Burbank Home & Gardens
Santa Rosa, 707-524-5445

McConaghy House
Hayward, 510-276-3010

Meyers House & Garden
Alameda, 510-522-8897

Oakland Tours Program
510-238-3234

Octagon House
San Francisco, 415-441-7512

Palo Alto-Stanford Heritage
650-299-8878 or 324-3121

Pardee Home
Oakland, 510-444-2187

San Francisco City Hall
415-554-5780

Strybing Arboretum
Golden Gate Park, San Francisco 415-661-1316, ext. 312

Continuing Heritage Events

Haas-Lilienthal House Tours
Wednesdays 12 noon to 3:00 pm
Saturdays 12 noon to 3:00 pm
Sundays 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. $5

Pacific Heights Walking Tour
Sundays 12:30 pm. $5

All regular Heritage tours are free to Heritage members and their guests.

Group Tours by Arrangement
Call Natasha Glushkoff, 415-441-3000

For Information About Current Heritage Events
Call 415-441-3004 or go to: www.sfheritage.org/events+tours.html

Heritage programs supported in part by City of San Francisco Grants for the Arts.

November

Ongoing Exhibition: Architecture and Design Permanent Collection. SFMOMA 415-357-4000; www.sfmoma.org

Ongoing Exhibition: Diane Arbus Revelations. SFMOMA. 415-357-4000 www.sfmoma.org

Through December 20

Through December
Exhibition: Hidden Treasures of San Francisco Bay. Mechanic’s Institute Library (See page 11)

Through March 7, 2004

November 1
Alamo Square House Tour
S.F. Museum & Historical Society 415-775-1111; www.sfhistory.org

November 8, 10:00 AM
Walking Tour: Scalawag and Sin Sites
S.F. Museum & Historical Society 415-775-1111; www.sfhistory.org

November 11, 8:00 PM
Lecture: Perfection of Form and Condition: Masterpiece Clocks in the Marketplace. ADAF. Legion of Honor. 415-249-9234

November 12 & 19, 7:00 PM
CED Architecture Lectures
11/12, Fred Dust, Environments Lead IDEO; 11/19, Dan Solomon, Cloth From Threads. www.ced.berkeley.edu

November 20, 7:30 PM
Lecture: Movies Filmed in San Francisco.
SFHA. 415-750-9986

November 21
20th Anniversary Celebration
Humanities West (See page 11)

November 25, 7:30 PM

December

December 3, 7:00 PM
CED Architecture Lectures
Eric Owen Moss, Too Much is Not Enough. www.ced.berkeley.edu

December 4 & 5

December 7, Noon -- 3:00 PM
Heritage Holiday Open House
(See page 9)

December 9, 8:00 PM
Lecture: Collecting 20th Century Silver: Treasures from the Newark Museum. ADAF. Legion of Honor 415-249-9234

December 9, 7:30 PM

December 18, Noon - 1:30
Brown Bag Lunch Talks: Emergency Response Plans of DBI. 415-558-6205
**Preservation Planner Moves On**

Jeffrey Tully, planner and survey manager for the Planning Department’s Citywide Cultural Resource Survey program resigned from the department effective September 26.

Tully, whose decade of experience in the field of historic preservation includes a stint with the National Trust, has accepted a current planner position with the City of Lawrence/Douglas County Metro Planning Department in Lawrence, Kansas. Neil Hart, Chief of Neighborhood Planning and Preservation Coordinator, reluctantly accepted Tully’s resignation.

“Jeff has contributed greatly to the success of the City’s historic preservation program, such as the completion of a series of Preservation Bulletins on a variety of preservation topics. His enthusiasm and experience will be sorely missed,” said Hart.

Heritage staff also regret Jeff’s departure. He always responded to our requests for information or assistance promptly and thoroughly. We wish him success.

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**PAC continued from page 8**

Theatre is an example.

Second, as the only Supervisor to vote against Forest City Development’s scheme for the Emporium site, he proved his commitment to upholding the Downtown Plan and “Proposition M.”

Third, his assistance in developing a preservation-friendly approach to the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Center in the old Fallon Building (1800 Market Street) made clear his willingness to find a solution that not only respected the diversity in this city, but took into account our need for historic preservation.

Finally, the PAC was impressed by Ammiano’s interest in strengthening the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board.

The election is November 4, with a probable run-off on December 2.

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**Architectural Fragments**

The National Trust’s 2003 list of America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places includes Urban Houses of Worship, Nationwide. That broad category certainly applies to San Francisco, where the future of a number of historic churches remains uncertain. These threatened resources include St. Brigid’s Church, Sacred Heart, and the First Church of Christ, Scientist. There may be some hope in the fact that the federal government recently lifted its ban on the use of federal funds for preservation projects involving buildings owned or used by religious institutions. For more information visit www.nationaltrust.org/legal_advocacy.

Hidden Treasures of San Francisco Bay is the subject of an exhibition at the Mechanic’s Institute Library, now through December 31, featuring the work of photographer Dennis Anderson in his book of the same title, published by Heyday Books, with author Jerry George. It explores the diversity of life in and around San Francisco Bay, from bird-eye views of wetlands and coastal mountains, to underwater encounters with leopard sharks and orange sponges. For more information call 415-393-0100 or visit www.milibrary.org.

The fall architecture lecture series at the College of Environmental Design, UC Berkeley, is in progress. Lectures are in 112 Wurster Hall, at 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays, through December 3 (except November 26). For details, go to www.ced.berkeley.edu/alumni/alum_relations/lectures.htm. California College of the Arts, San Francisco campus, offers an Architecture Program Lecture Series on Monday nights. Check www.ccarts.edu/arch for details.

The Maybeck Foundation announces receipt of the first major gift toward its campaign for the restoration of the Palace of Fine Arts. The generous donation of $3 million is from Tad and Dianne Taube and the Taube Family Foundation, and Eugene and Elinor Friend and the Friend Family Foundation.

Tickets are available now for the Santa Clara Historic Home Tour, held on December 5 and 6. The tour includes four private homes representing the Colonial Revival, Prairie and Spanish Revival styles, in addition to the Italianate Harris-Lass House Museum. Sponsored by the Historic Preservation Society of Santa Clara, the tour’s proceeds benefit preservation projects and other nonprofit groups in Santa Clara. For more information call 408-249-7905, or visit http://oldquad.org/hometour.

An exhibition titled Fantasy and Function: The Furniture of John Dickinson is on view now through March 7, 2004, at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. It features a dozen furniture pieces and more than 30 framed drawings from the museum’s collection of 250 works by the San Francisco-based designer. Dickinson (1920-1982) created detailed and idiosyncratic furniture—tinskirted tables, animal-leg chairs and African-inspired stools and tables—that exemplifies his flair for mixing unusual materials with a figurative playfulness. For more information call 415-357-4000, or visit www.sfmoma.org.

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Since 1983, the nonprofit organization has presented unique and varied lecture/performance programs “exploring history to celebrate the mind and the arts.” The anniversary observance will feature popular speakers and performers from past programs and concludes with a reception and raffle in the Green Room. For more information visit www.humanitieswest.org.

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**Heritage News Vol. XXXI, No. 11**
Ballroom Lecture
Thursday, November 20
Heritage presents Neal Bascomb, author of HIGHER? A Historic Race to the Sky and the Making of a City, the story behind New York City’s great skyscraper race of the 1920s. Members will receive details in the mail.