The past two years have been particularly challenging ones for Heritage on many fronts, not least being financial. As the recession economy continued into 2003, we began to formulate plans to place the organization on a sound financial footing for the long term. We engaged a team of fundraising consultants to guide the board and the staff in exploring new ways to increase revenue.

One approach that we will adopt during 2004 is an improved membership program. Heritage will add membership levels with additional benefits to attract more individual and corporate members.

The costs of running the organization, including maintaining the Haas-Lilienthal House and providing competitive salaries and benefits to staff, have not abated in these recent financially difficult times. Meeting these costs requires that we also increase the price of individual and senior/student membership levels.

The price of Haas-Lilienthal House tours and Pacific Heights walking tours, both scheduled and special tours, will increase as well. This will ensure the support needed to keep up the high quality of our tour offerings while allowing them to remain one of the bargains on the Bay Area tourist scene. Also on the education front, we will increase the number of ballroom lectures in 2004 and suspend our fall symposium. Production costs have continued to rise, and attendance at recent symposiums has been lower than in previous years.

Last summer, a new Haas-Lilienthal House rental agent, Evy Smith, came on board to handle party and event rentals at the Haas-Lilienthal House. Through her efforts—and with help from the stirrings of economic recovery—we were able to exceed budgeted income from the House by a modest amount, in 2003. Looking to 2004, Ms. Smith will develop a marketing strategy aimed at increasing the visibility of the Haas-Lilienthal House as an event site and promoting it for a greater variety of paying uses.

The House, a major source of income, is also a major expense. Costs involved in maintaining the 117-year-old Victorian increase with each passing year. To ensure that we uphold our stewardship of this important piece of San Francisco’s history, we have instituted a cyclical maintenance program that will allow us to manage the ongoing expenses more efficiently.

This fall, Heritage learned we would be able to add a full-time staff position, thanks to a generous grant from the Bland Family Foundation. The one-year grant, renewable for an additional two years, will support a preservation advocate, who will assume the responsibility of tracking current preservation issues and representing Heritage at public hearings before the Landmarks Board, Planning Commission, Redevelopment Agency and other public forums. This will free the executive director to devote more time to fundraising activities.

In sum, we expect to increase our organizational strength in the coming year and make Heritage a more effective advocate for preservation. With a new administration in City Hall due to take office in January, we will be positioned to work with the political and civic leaders of San Francisco to instill an ethic of preservation at

—continued on page 11
Comments From The President

Before and After (the Run-Off Election)

As I write this, I have no idea who the mayor of San Francisco will be. So, because of deadlines, you have the best of me—you most likely know the results of our run-off election (unless the vote count is a lot closer than even the mid-November polls are telling us. Wouldn’t that be a kick?).

Nevertheless, I’d like to discuss what’s ahead of us in the San Francisco preservation world and, as usual, I’m not letting a lack of information stop me. No matter who is to be our “Fearless Leader” (apologies to the *Rocky and Bullwinkle Show*), we can predict some of our future.

With a new mayor, I anticipate some adjustment in development policy in SF (one can hope). I expect the “Pay to Play,” anything goes approach we’ve seen during the last eight years will be muted to one degree or another. A higher level of certainty and an allegiance to the code and Master Plan will be refreshing.

Our post-Prop D Planning Commission can’t be given the boot, as have past commissions. With term appointments from the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors, it’ll act as a force of consistency in planning policy (whether you like their current approach or not).

In interviews with the new San Franciscans for Preservation Planning (SFPP) political action committee, both mayoral candidates indicated a desire to improve on our current preservation practices at the Planning Department and get behind the concept of surveying the City to identify our cultural and historical resources.

If newspaper pundits are credible, the phoenix-like SF economy seems to be stirring. So I expect to see an increase in proposals for changing our urban fabric—some good, some not. Heritage will be keeping busy monitoring the shenanigans, trying to modify those “not-so-good” proposals for the better. Our Executive Director has been doing some excellent groundwork recently to assure that the rules for future development projects (on port lands, in redevelopment areas, in “Better Neighborhood” study areas such as Balboa Park and Hayes Valley) are written with preservation in mind.

But, like many other civic advocacy non-profit groups, during these current economic doldrums Heritage is facing 2004 with somewhat diminished budget projections, while looking at how to reverse that trend throughout the year. This could impact our preservation advocacy work.

The Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board (LPAB) and the City Code that governs it (Planning Code Article 10) are probably in for some changes with a new mayor. In conversations with SFPP, both candidates indicated that there’s room for updating the code and changing the role of this crucial body in determining the fate of our historic structures. The LPAB has endorsed a proposal for restructuring itself, enhancing its role in determining the importance of historic structures in the City. I expect we’ll see some movement at City Hall to sharpen their silhouette in the decision-making process.

All in all, the horizon ahead of us looks very colorful; I choose to see it as a glorious sunrise, rather than a receding sunset or the flames of battle. I’m inviting everyone to buckle your seat belts, come along for the ride and see where the future of San Francisco preservation really takes us.

Bruce Bonacker, AIA
President
A chance encounter with a posted environmental notice alerted Heritage staff to the planned demolition of a church at 1725 Washington Street, in the neighborhood of our offices. Recalling a reference some years ago to Bernard Maybeck as the possible architect of the Craftsman style structure, staff set about trying to verify that bit of information.

While there were some differences in the details, at least three secondary sources agreed on that attribution. One indicated that Maybeck designed it for the Unitarian Church, while another claimed it was to house St. Brigid temporarily during repairs of 1906 earthquake damage to the church at Broad- way and Van Ness.

Old First Presbyterian Church had the most substantial claim. Its history stated that Maybeck designed the temporary wood frame structure to house the congregation, whose church fell victim to the 1906 disaster, until a new church was built. Originally constructed on the north side of Washington Street, between Polk and Van Ness (1906-07), it was moved across the street in 1908.

The earliest evidence in the building permit record, provided by the developer who was planning to demolish the church, was for the relocation, not the original construction. That record listed Frederick D. Boese as the architect. We felt there was sufficient uncertainty to warrant a closer investigation, and Heritage appealed the negative declaration that exempted the project from environmental review to gain time for that inquiry to take place.

Requested by the Planning Department to provide a historical evaluation of the property, the developer engaged William Kostura. On a lead provided by Gary Goss, Kostura determined that the architect for the church was not Maybeck, but Boese.

The evidence lay in Edward’s Abstracts from Records, October 10, 1906, a daily publication of legal notices, filings and property transactions, which listed the building contact identifying Frederick Boese as the architect. The claim for Maybeck seems to rest on a source at Old First Presbyterian that dates from no earlier than 1929, after the architect for the Palace of Fine Arts had achieved some renown.

On this evidence, Heritage withdrew its appeal of the negative declaration. Considering the church on its own merits as a fine piece of Craftsman design, its loss of integrity through exterior additions and repeated interior alterations makes it a weak candidate for preservation.

Frederick Boese, a relatively little known San Francisco architect, grew up in the city and graduated from Lowell High School (1896). He worked for a short time in partnership with Sylvain Schnaittacher after obtaining his architect’s certificate (1901) and opened his own practice the following year. In a career that continued until 1918, Boese, according to Kostura, who describes the architect’s work as “consistently good...often excellent,” designed about 100 buildings, mostly residential, in styles that included Shingle, Classical Revival and Craftsman/Tudor.
Preservation issues in the west side of San Francisco have been getting greater attention, thanks to the efforts of citizen activists. The Shriners Hospital and Kirkham Street earthquake shocks are two recent examples of historically significant buildings saved from the wrecker’s ball, because neighborhood residents took up the cause. Now neighbors are standing up to the San Francisco Unified School District, which plans to demolish the Parkside School, at 25th Avenue and Vicente Street.

Built at the urging of the Parkside District Improvement Club, the new building opened in 1922. It replaced an earlier school (1909) at 30th and Taraval that was no longer adequate to the needs of a growing neighborhood.

City Architect John Reid, Jr., designed the new wood frame Parkside School to suit its developing suburban district. It is unlike larger elementary schools that he provided older neighborhoods, including the Sherman School at Union and Franklin and the Pacific Heights at Jackson and Webster. The Parkside recalls the intimate scale and massing of the Twin Peaks School (1920), high on the east slope of Twin Peaks. The school district demolished that building in 1995.

The Parkside School served as a spur to the residential development of the district. A 1923 city engineer’s aerial map shows the new campus in the middle of a neighborhood still in the earliest stages of development. The school helped draw families to the area, which then built up rapidly in the late 1920s and 1930s. As the first large civic building in the Parkside, the school served many community purposes that included providing space for cultural events and for meetings of the Parkside District Improvement Club.

There have been changes to the Parkside School, including the removal of clay roof tiles and external woodwork in 1970. It was scheduled for a seismic retrofit, when the Board of Education closed the school in 1975. Within two years, it became offices for the school district. Since then, it has suffered from poor maintenance. In spite of that, it is likely not beyond rehabilitation for renewed use as a school.

Neighbors began to organize earlier this year, when they learned the school district planned to replace the Parkside School with a new school building. They have collected signatures on petitions asking the Board of Education to reconsider its decision and have brought the matter to the attention of the Landmarks Board, where Heritage indicated its support for retention and rehabilitation of the existing building. For more information on this, call the Parkside School Preservation Society, 415-665-6444, or 661-6754.
Synagogue Rehab Completed

The former Ohabai Shalome Synagogue (also known as the Bush Street Synagogue) re-opened on October 1, as part of Kokoro Assisted Living, a new residence for seniors from the Japanese-American community. Vacant for many years, the historic building was badly deteriorated by the time the Japanese American Religious Federation (JARF), a consortium of Buddhist, Christian and Shinto congregations, began the project to rehabilitate and adapt it to its new use three years ago.

The synagogue, designed by Moses J. Lyon and built in 1895, shows Romanesque and Italian stylistic influences. The Romanesque is notably evidenced by the arched entrance, the Italian by the arcade above the entrance, whose probable source is the Doge’s Palace in Venice. Twin minarets, which added a Moorish touch to the amalgam of styles, were lost to storm damage sometime between 1910 and 1916.

Congregation Ohabai Shalome sold the synagogue in 1934, and thereafter it housed a Zen community that incorporated in 1939 as the Sokoji Buddhist Church. Because of the Japanese internment, the Zen congregation was forced to leave the building, and a Christian church used it for the duration of World War II. The Soto Mission returned to the old synagogue at war’s end and remained until 1969, sharing the space in the last years with the San Francisco Zen Center. The Redevelopment Agency acquired the property, in 2001, and work on the project began. By then, the agency had found it to be “rapidly deteriorating” because of water penetration and deferred maintenance. The difficulty of securing so large and old a building invited vandalism, and the possibility of a devastating fire seemed ever present for the wood structure.

Nearly all the development proposals to emerge involved using the synagogue as a place for performance art and, or, for a museum and research library. The most recent of these plans faltered at a very advanced stage of negotiations. A new request for proposals by the Redevelopment Agency, in 1996, led to selection of JARF whose proposal was to rehabilitate the historic building and incorporate it with new construction on the adjoining lot to the west for senior assisted living housing.

The City of San Francisco designated the building a landmark (#81) in 1976, and although it continued in use for some years as home to the Go Club and other community activities, it did not receive the kind of care required to ensure its long-term preservation. In the time since the Agency’s acquisition, in a flux that seemed to follow the rise and fall of the economy, there have been waves of interest in developing the historic building for a variety of uses. Each, in turn, failed to materialize.

Meanwhile, the years passed and the physical state of the structure gave more and more cause for concern. An analysis of existing conditions, in 1991, found it to be “rapidly deteriorating” because of water penetration and deferred maintenance. The difficulty of securing so large and old a building invited vandalism, and the possibility of a devastating fire seemed ever present for the wood structure.

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Joyce Yokomizo designed the renewed interior and based the new replacement round stained glass windows on the one that had not been damaged. The new arched stained glass windows mimic the originals. Medallions in the ribbed ceiling are copies of the originals.

On the mezzanine level of the sanctuary, new construction has encased the original stepped floor to create a floor with a single level throughout while allowing the historic tiers to remain in place. The balcony railing remains, and a new rail was added above it, for added safety. On the main floor, the project took care to refurbish the altar’s original woodwork.

On the exterior, the Venetian arcade, the synagogue’s original main steps and the Romanesque arched main entrance have been restored, although, due to access and other code requirements, only one round stained glass window remained intact.

The project incorporated some housing units in the historic building. However, the spatial experience of the former sanctuary, now a living and dining room for the new residential community, is preserved. Wherever possible, remaining features were models for the replication of lost or damaged elements, such as the ceiling plaster work, newel posts and wainscoting.

Photos provided by Steven Kodama
By 1909, Fernando Nelson had established his reputation as an excellent builder and had made good money selling lots and building homes. That year he bought a piece of property in the first “restricted” neighborhood in San Francisco, Presidio Terrace, to build his own family dream home.

The “restricted” neighborhood, an outgrowth of reconstruction after the 1906 earthquake and fire, was devised to lure wealthy homebuyers back to San Francisco, away from the temptation of East Bay or Peninsula developments. These “restricted” enclaves promised spacious lots and well-designed homes and prohibited little urban nuisances like laundries, stables, saloons, flats and apartments, as well as the keeping of barnyard animals like goats or chickens.

Owners also signed covenants that they would sell to Caucasians only. Over time, zoning laws and race discrimination litigation nullified such covenants.

Nelson joined the “club.” In keeping with the requirements of the neighborhood, for the first time, he had an architectural firm, MacDonald and Applegarth, design a building for him. Patrick McGrew (The Historic Houses of Presidio Terrace) has described the resulting house at 30 Presidio Terrace as an “Elizabethan cottage on a monumental scale.” Building this house and living for six years in Presidio Terrace had a profound effect on Nelson and his future developments.

Those years marked a transition from Victorian-style structures to stuccoed Mediterranean styles. He also deviated somewhat from his business pattern when he developed the site of the former Chutes Amusement in the Richmond. He continued to live in the Presidio Terrace house with the rest of his family; while his son William occupied the house at 10th and Fulton, with it’s adjacent shop and staging area.

With its half-timbered exterior and rolled roof, 798 10th Avenue appears remarkably similar to #30 Presidio Terrace, while the other houses on both sides of that block of 10th Avenue, developed randomly between 1910 and 1914, show a mix of styles. These homes and those on 11th Avenue, built in 1911, were the last buildings on which Nelson used the signature “doughnuts,” shingles and other Victorian ornamentation.

While still working on the Chutes property, Nelson started what would be his last Richmond District project. Anticipating the long-awaited full municipal streetcar service on Geary Street, Nelson bought nearly three blocks north of Geary between 15th and 17th Avenues. There he built spacious homes designed by his 22-year-old second son, Frank, who had taken some correspondence courses in drafting and design. Frank and his 20-year-old brother, George, supervised the construction from homes they occupied in this development.

By 1915, the improvements in utilities, roads and transportation in the area south of Golden Gate Park attracted Nelson. In that year, he purchased two tracts in the Sunset District. The first, called Parkwood Heights, was in the area of Arguello Boulevard and Parnassus Avenue. William oversaw the
construction of 40 homes there, from his house at #1 Hill Way Avenue. Parkwood Heights is the only development by F.Nelson & Sons to disappear without a trace, replaced by a UCSF parking structure.

With projects now on the south side of Golden Gate Park, Nelson decided it was time to move closer to his developments. In 1916, he sold his Presidio Terrace home and built a new residence at 2701 Lincoln Way, in a development he named Parkway Terrace. His son Frank joined him, living at the other end of that block on the northeast corner of 29th and Irving Street. The staging area was on adjoining lots, and the Nelsons conducted sales and supervision out their back door.

Parkway Terrace, which stretched for six blocks from 27th Avenue to 33rd Avenue, was another “restricted” community, modeled after Presidio Terrace. Plaques marked the entrances off Lincoln Way. This development liberated F. Nelson & Sons from the 25-foot frontage of previous projects and let the firm experiment with detached homes on large lots.

In 1916, another opportunity shifted the builder’s focus away from the Parkway development. Nelson was given the option to buy a 49-acre parcel just north of the west entrance to the newly completed Twin Peaks Tunnel for $300,000. He would not pass up this chance to profit from the prospect of residential expansion that the tunnel offered. He scaled down the Parkway Terrace project to two blocks, and sold the remaining four blocks to other contractors in order to devote attention to developing West Portal Park, an irregularly shaped tract centered on West Portal Avenue and Wawona, west of the Twin Peak Tunnel to St. Francis Circle.

The West Portal Park development was F. Nelson & Sons’s largest, and it occupied them for well over ten years. It was a typical Nelson family project: the business was incorporated, stock was issued and family members served as officers. The company erected a sales office at #2 West Portal Avenue and sold the remaining lots along the avenue for commercial development. Son William occupied the showcase home on the lot that adjoined the sales office, at 935 Ulloa Street. While the patriarch and his son Frank remained in residence on Lincoln Way, each of the other four adult children moved their families into West Portal Park.

The last project by F. Nelson & Sons, Merced Manor (19th to 26th Avenue, Sloat Boulevard to Eucalyptus Avenue), built during the Depression years of the 1930s, was more like contemporary suburban tracts than their previous developments. The firm built a model home and set up a sales office at 19th Avenue and Sloat Boulevard, but family members never moved into the neighborhood. Nelson was in his 70s and, though involved, it was his eldest son William who played the major role in this project.

The tract consisted of Spanish-style homes with characteristic red tile roofs on wide lots. Unique features included underground utilities and garages facing an alley in the rear of all but the corner buildings.

When Fernando Nelson died in 1953, at the age of 93, newspaper articles devoted as much coverage to his early automobile exploits as to his prolific building career. But history should surely emphasize the significant contribution he made to San Francisco’s architectural heritage. The sheer number of houses he built, the variety of architectural styles he employed, and the quality of the craftsmanship he demonstrated left a lasting impression and set a standard for other builders to follow. In this way, Nelson influenced the development of large sections of the city even beyond the more than 4000 homes that are his immediate legacy.

—This is the conclusion of a two-part article by Heritage member John T. Freeman, who also took the photos, except were indicated.
MEETING WILL FEATURE GARDENS OF ALCATRAZ

The January Heritage members’ meeting will feature a lecture, *The Gardens of Alcatraz*, by Russell A. Beatty, ASLA. He will be joined by Betsy Flack, ASLA, who will describe plans to restore and interpret the horticultural heritage of the island.

The popular image of Alcatraz as the most feared federal penitentiary, housing some of America’s most notorious criminals of the 20th century, belies a softer side—the story of its gardens and the gardeners, whether prisoners, prison staff or their families, who created and tended them as an antidote to the Rock’s hard life. Prof. Beatty tells this unlikely story that dates from the early days of the island as a military fort through the period as a military and later a federal prison. He relates through slides the first hand accounts of several men who gardened on Alcatraz, including personal interviews with a former inmate gardener.

The Garden Conservancy, in partnership with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (National Park Service), and Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, has embarked on an ambitious project to interpret and make available to the public Alcatraz’s garden stories and to restore key gardens on the island.

Headquartered in Cold Spring, New York, The Garden Conservancy was formed in 1989 to preserve exceptional American gardens for the public’s education and enjoyment. In San Francisco, The Conservancy has hired garden educator and landscape architect Betsy Flack to develop a public programming plan for the Bay Area and has established a small office in the Presidio at the Thoreau Center for Sustainability to coordinate local activities. Ms. Flack was the education director at Strybing Arboretum & Botanical Garden for the last nine years.

Russell A. Beatty, ASLA, is a Senior Lecturer Emeritus at the University of California, Berkeley, where he taught for 29 years in the Department of Landscape Architecture. Currently, he is a consulting landscape architect working out of a studio at his home in Santa Cruz, California. He is the co-author of *Gardens of Alcatraz* (Golden Gate National Park Association, 1996). His professional interests include the restoration of historic gardens and cultural landscapes, vegetation management and urban forestry.

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Synagogue continued from page 5

ments, the latter no longer provides entry. Because the rising street grade made it most adaptable for access, only the entry in the east tower is in use.

Other upgrades of the historic building include replacement of the old metal roof with a new one, reinforcement of the ceiling and the brick foundation, and the addition of sprinklers and fire exits.

Shabby and uncared for these many years, the building presents a rather startling image, today, with its new coat of paint. Sampling of the original paint taken from the exterior during the rehab revealed a creamy yellow color, which the present color approximates.

Project architect was Steven Kodama; Steve Suzuki, president of the board of Kokoro Assisted Living, oversaw the project.

—Thanks to Carol L. Weinfeld for preparing this article.
Movers and Shakers: Architecture That Moves You turned out to be an appealing subject for both the participants and the audience at Heritage’s fall symposium at Fort Mason Center, on October 25. After welcoming remarks by Heritage President Bruce Bonacker, Executive Director Charles Chase introduced and provided context for the rather quirky topic: mobile architecture in its varied forms and expressions.

Born out of the Gold Rush as a city of tents, shanties and abandoned ships, San Francisco never quite outgrew its predilection for ad hoc housing solutions, as Chase illustrated. Even its dead found only temporary “eternal” rest, as cemeteries relocated many times, just ahead of the city’s expansion.

Woody LaBounty followed with a description of the community of abandoned surplus streetcars out near Ocean Beach that San Franciscans turned into homes and places of business. While most were destroyed over time, a few have survived, incorporated into new, permanent houses.

Woody also spoke of the earthquake shacks, temporary structures that housed thousands of San Franciscans displaced by the 1906 earthquake and fire. Fewer than 20 verified shacks survive. Four of them, combined in pairs to form two cottages, may soon be relocated to Treasure Island for preservation and restoration.

Living on the water is attractive to many people, but literally living “on” the water, in a houseboat, has a perhaps narrower but devoted constituency. Jack Davis, resident on Mission Creek, shared his insights into this living style and explained the unique sense of community it can produce.

As Charles Chase indicated in his introduction, house moving in San Francisco was once a thriving business. In that tradition, as Bruce Judd explained, Heritage took part in the relocation of a dozen Victorian residences within the Western Addition Redevelopment area during the 1970s. Judd spoke from first-hand experience with the project that was a defining moment for the fledgling organization.

The final speaker to come to the podium, architectural photographer Douglas Keister, introduced his new book, which was the inspiration for our program, Ready to Roll: A Celebration of the Classic American Travel Trailer. He illustrated many trailer models that reflect the American combination of longing for the open road with love of hearth and home.

The program concluded with a panel of the speakers, joined by Arrol Gellner, author with Keister of Ready to Roll, and architectural historian Christopher VerPlanck, who shared their insights in discussion and answering questions from the audience. After the program, three vehicles were open for viewing in the parking lot.

**Thanks and Acknowledgments**

Our thanks to all the speakers and panelists for generously agreeing to participate in the symposium and to volunteers Kaleene Kenning and Liz Edlund for assisting with the program.

We are grateful to the following people, who graciously made their vehicles available: Dan & Katherine Teree of San Francisco, owners of an 18-foot 1958 “Airstream Traveler” trailer; Ann & Norman Markus of Crockett, owners of a 1937 Teardrop Trailer towed by a 1933 Ford pickup; and Jack Davis of San Francisco, owner of a 1966 RV constructed in Hemet, California, on a Chevrolet chassis.

Movers and Shakers was made possible thanks to major funding from the Patricia A. Farquar Memorial Fund and contributions from the following sponsors: $1,000 and above Thelma P. Lilienthal. $250 and above Friends of 1800 Market Street • Craig W. Hartman & Jan O’Brien • Lerner + Associates Architects • Page & Turnbull • Rebecca Schnier Architecture • Elizabeth & James Westover • Howard Wong, AIA

The San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund provided additional support.

Heritage wishes to acknowledge our Heritage Partners – individuals who support us generously throughout the year: Bruce Bonacker • Alice & Rob Coneybeer • Craig B. Etlin & Leslie A. Gordon • Mr. & Mrs. Morley S. Farquar • Linda Jo Fitz

Craig W. Hartman & Jan O’Brien • Peggy Haas • Alexandra & Michael Marston • Mrs. Albert Moorman • Mrs. G. Bland Platt

Frances Lilienthal Stein • J. Gordon & Anne Turnbull • Roger & Anne Walther • Sue Honig Weinstein • Howard J. Wong

Symposium Committee: Donald Andreini • Charles Edwin Chase, AIA • Natasha Glushkoff • Barbara Roldan
Bay Area Tours

Allied Arts Guild
Menlo Park, 650-322-2405

Camron-Stanford House
Oakland, 510-836-1976

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.

January 21, 6:00 pm
Heritage Members’ Meeting (See p. 8)

January 22, 7:30 pm
Lecture: History of the Sunset District
SFHA. 415-750-9986

January 31, 11:00 am
Art Deco Walking Tour: Downtown
Oakland. Art Deco Society
415-982-DECO; www.art-deco.org

February

February 1, 11:00 am
Art Deco Walking Tour: Downtown
Berkeley. Art Deco Society
415-982-DECO; www.art-deco.org

February 20-21
Humanities West
From Liberation to the New Wave:
France in the Postwar Era, 1945-1962
www.humaniteswest.org

February 26, 7:30 pm
Lecture: Landmarking the Swedenborgian Church.
SFHA. 415-750-9986

February 28
21st Annual Preservation Design Awards
San Diego Aerospace Museum
www.californiapreservation.org
415-495-0349

March

March 6 - July 4
Exhibition: Art Deco 1910 - 1939
Legion of Honor.
415-865-3330, www.thinker.org

Seeking Volunteers
Heritage will be offering training for docents and tour guides in 2004. Training of docents to conduct Heritage Hikes, a program for school children, will take place in January. In the spring classes will begin to prepare a new class of Haas-Lilienthal House docents, as well as walks guides for three new tours: Cow Hollow, Van Ness Corridor and Broadway. To sign up, contact Natasha at 441-3000, or natasha@sfheritage.org.
ARCHITECTURAL FRAGMENTS

The Port Commission and the Board of Supervisors have authorized an exclusive negotiating agreement with the International Museum of Women (IMOW) to locate at Pier 26. The IMOW has developed an exhibit concept for the waterfront site that reflects its mission to educate the public about women’s history and contemporary issues. A conceptual plan provides for permanent and temporary exhibit spaces, a children's education center and an auditorium. The architecture firms of Leddy Maytum Stacy and AI will design the museum. The IMOW is currently raising money to match a $500,000 challenge grant from the Tides Foundation.

In the fall, President Bush appointed three new members to the Presidio Trust board of directors. They are: Joseph T. Jew, Jr., treasurer manager for the City of Oakland, William Wilson, III, managing partner of Wilson Meany Sullivan, Inc., developer of the Ferry Building, and Lydia Beebe, corporate secretary for Chevron Texaco Corporation. The new members replace Amy Meyer, William Reilly and Jennifer Hernandez.

According to the western office of the National Trust, the chapter house from the 12th-century Cistercian monastery of Santa Maria de Ovila, which William Randolph Hearst purchased and transported, stone-by-stone, from Spain to California, in 1931, will be rebuilt. Failing to realize his plan to reconstruct the monastery on his northern California estate, Hearst gave the stones to the City of San Francisco, which never found the money to rebuild the monastery as a museum. The crated stones sat for years in outdoor storage, where they fell victim to arson fires that destroyed nearly half of them. Enough remained intact from the chapter house to allow its reconstruction, and the Cistercian community at New Clairvaux in Vina, California, after long negotiation, acquired the remnants and laid the new foundations this summer. For more of the story: www.sacredstones.org.

In an exhibition currently under way, the Society of California Pioneers is displaying about 40 historic maps from its collection that have never been shown. These include maps of the gold country, railroad maps, coastal surveys and atlases. Antique surveying equipment is also on view. Titled Territorial Ambitions: Mapping the Far West, 1772-1872, the exhibition continues through May 28, 2004, at 300 Fourth Street, San Francisco.

Post-war France is the subject of Humanities West’s winter program, February 20-21, 2004. Titled From Liberation to the New Wave: France in the Postwar Era, 1945-1962, the two-day sessions will explore French politics, economy, intellectual life, fashion and film, as France emerged from war-time occupation and Paris returned to its position as one of the world’s preeminent cultural capitals. For more information: www.humanitieswest.org.

The Fund for Labor Culture & History (FLC&H) in San Francisco is an organization dedicated to increasing the public’s understanding of “the history, theory and current activities of organized labor and all working people in America.” The group’s projects include preservation and designation of labor landmarks. Currently, FLC&H is working with the Labor Archives at San Francisco State University to publish a guidebook to local labor landmarks and is assisting Locals 6 and 1245 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in placing a plaque in San Francisco to mark the site of America’s first commercial central power station.

In celebration of its 40th anniversary and grand reopening, the Magnes Museum has mounted an exhibition of significant and colorful objects that tell the stories behind the museum’s art, archives, library and Judaica collections. Brought to Light: The Storied Collections of the Judah L. Magnes Museum is on view now through April 25, 2004, at 2911 Russell Street in Berkeley.

CHANGES IN BAY AREA PRESERVATION

On August 27, friends and colleagues filled a banquet room overlooking Lake Merritt in Oakland to honor Michael Crowe on his retirement from the National Park Service. He served 16 years as an architectural historian with the service’s Pacific Great Basin Support Office. Among his tasks in that position, he was responsible for the National Historic Landmark Program and the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentive Program.

In other roles, Michael served as president and board member of the California Preservation Foundation, Art Deco Society of California, and San Francisco Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board. He authored Deco by the Bay. In 2001, Michael received the prestigious California Governor’s Preservation Award.

In another change on the scene, the news came as a surprise when California Preservation Foundation announced the departure of Executive Director Roberta Deering. Roberta is returning to the position of preservation officer for the City of Sacramento that she left in February 1999 to head the state-wide preservation organization. During her tenure at CPF she became a valued colleague and strong supporter of local preservation efforts.

Our best wishes go with her in her renewed position and with Michael Crowe as he embarks on the adventure of retirement.

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all levels of government and among the people of the city. Strengthening the City’s Landmarks Ordinance (Article 10), raising the Landmarks Board to the status of a commission, promoting citywide survey and increasing the effectiveness of the Planning Department in administering preservation policies are among the items on our agenda in 2004.

We look forward to a productive year.
Heritage Members’ Meeting
January 21, 2004, 6:00 p.m.
Haas-Lilienthal House Ballroom
Lecture by Russell A. Beatty, ASLA
& Betsy Flack, ASLA on
The Gardens of Alcatraz
Members will receive notice of the
meeting in the mail.

The historic Haas-Lilienthal house, a
property of San Francisco Architectural
Heritage, is a great venue for your wed-
ding or your next corporate or personal
event. The house can accommodate up to
150 guests. For more information, call
415-441-3011.

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