

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL

PEOPLE IN PRESERVATION AWARDS

2019

Our old places—if they continue to exist—serve as reference points for measuring, refreshing, and recalibrating our identity over time. They are literally the landmarks of our identity. - ThompsonM.Mayes

Saving San Diego's Historic Places Together

FROM BRUCE COONS SOHO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Congratulations to the 2019 People In Preservation award winners! Since 1983, Save Our Heritage Organisation has honored more than 400 accomplished preservationists for excellence in restoring and protecting San Diego County's rich architectural, cultural, and landscape heritage. This year, SOHO's 50th anniversary, we are saluting 23 people or groups with 11 awards for exceptional projects of lasting value. Studies have proven that preserving our physical history, authentic character, and sense of place enhances our well-being and feeling of belonging. Our PIP honorees present us with these priceless benefits.

In celebrating SOHO's 50th anniversary, we're applauding the hundreds of members who worked hard to save the Santa Fe Depot, Horton Plaza, Hotel del Coronado, Santa Ysabel Store, and many more irreplaceable historic places. We're also cheering the recent demise of the ill-conceived Plaza de Panama project that would have irreversibly damaged Balboa Park.

SOHO began the PIP awards 37 years ago to recognize not only significant buildings, but also the people who "toiled long and hard to preserve, restore, and rehabilitate historic structures." This action emphasizes the ongoing need for dedication, respect, openness, cooperation, and collaboration in order for people to be proactive and effective preservationists. Please join SOHO in helping make our next 50 years another resounding success for our region.

WE HONOR, RECOGNIZE, AND CELEBRATE

these people whose dedication and accomplishments have helped provide a powerful sense of place for all San Diegans.

4PM - RECEPTION

5PM - WELCOME

David Goldberg SOHO President

5:05PM - AWARDS CEREMONY

Presenter
Amie Hayes
SOHO Historic Research Specialist

2019 PEOPLE IN PRESERVATION AWARD WINNERS

Klonie Kunzel • La Playa Trail Association

Keeper of the Flame La Playa Trail & Plaques Program

Girl Scout Troop 6786 • Lemon Grove Historical Society

Stewardship Lemon Grove Pillars Project

University of California San Diego

Cultural Landscape Documentation
Campus-Wide Historic Context Statement and
Historic Resource Survey

Jessica Johnson

Town Crier Hidden San Diego

Dr. Craig Salt & Haruko Salt

Residential Restoration Jesse & Dora Fleming House

SRM Urban

Commercial Rehabilitation Wilkinson Block

Tammy Manse & AE Miller

Residential Restoration Alan Le May House

Jonathan Segal, FAIA

Commercial Rehabilitation Gordon M. Wells/Allen H. Hilton Bungalow Court Apartments

Rebecca & Michael Murphy

Residential Restoration Murphy House

Barbara & Joe Harper

Residential Restoration *J.M. Cornue House*

John D. Henderson, FAIA
Lifetime Achievement



Klonie Kunzel La Playa Trail Association

KEEPER OF THE FLAME

The La Playa Trail commemorates the oldest European trail along the Pacific Coast. First traversed by Kumeyaay Indians and later by 18th-century Spanish explorers, the La Playa Trail stretches from the harbor entrance to Mission San Diego de Alcalá and beyond.

There are at least 70 historically designated sites along the path, such as a 19th-century Chinese fishermen's spot, the Presidio, and the site of the 1869 Roseville Hotel. The La Playa Trail Association raises funds to erect and repair historic monuments and markers, many of which are about 100 years old. The trail still connects the mission, Old San Diego, and La Playa, which served as San Diego's port until 1869.





Girl Scout Troop 6786 Lemon Grove Historical Society

STEWARDSHIP

Two turn-of-the-20th-century historic pillars on Buena Vista and Cuyamaca Avenues mark the entrance to Lemon Grove's first subdivision and the former Fisher Farm. Repair and restoration required research and study, learning historic plaster techniques, removing decades of grime and paint, and countering erosion from the elements. Re-stuccoed and repaired with their globes again atop each one, the pillars now boast historic plaques.

The stucco monuments serve as an important link to the community's history and to Alice Day Fisher, the woman who brought the Girl Scouts of America to San Diego in 1918.





UC San Diego

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE DOCUMENTATION

Since the 1960s, the University of California, San Diego has grown swiftly from a small biological field station to a campus rich in architectural, cultural, and landscape assets. This is the first known, large-scale effort to document the historic and cultural resources of a post-World War II American university.

The study, completed by Architectural Resources Group, Neu Campus Planning, and Paul V. Turner, reveals a strong sense of place defined by intact, high-style buildings and landscapes designed by many of Southern California's most esteemed Modernist architects. The campus embraces one of the finest collections of Modernist institutional architecture, with 32 individual buildings and four historic districts deemed eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and/or the California Register.





Jessica Johnson TOWN CRIER

With a website, social media platform, and a book, Hidden San Diego promotes historic preservation and appreciation for our social and cultural heritage. Rich and engaging content appeals to all ages, especially anyone wanting to explore the region's lesser-known historic wonders.

The beautifully designed and easily navigable website features out-of-the-way historic places, abandoned and haunted sites, old stage routes, and other "lost" history. Hidden San Diego has 22,000 Facebook followers and more than 1,600 enticing posts on Instagram, utilizing the internet and social media as powerful preservation tools. The just published book, *Abandoned San Diego*, features stunning photography capturing the essence of the places in art and prose.





Dr. Craig Salt & Haruko Salt

RESIDENTIAL RESTORATION

Built in 1920, the unusual, two-story Prairie Style residence in North Park had been altered drastically over time; misguided exterior alterations detracted from the original geometric design. By 2014 it remained the only house on its block of 28th Street that had not been restored. An early photograph of the house helped guide a meticulous, two-year exterior restoration, returning both its authentic appearance and visual harmony to one of San Diego's best preserved historic residential streets.





SRM Urban

COMMERCIAL REHABILITATION

This mixed-use, two-story Mission Revival Style building is one of several prominent, early 20th-century commercial structures in Normal Heights. Designated #415 on the city's historic register, the brick Wilkinson Block was built between 1926 and 1929. The project entailed a complete seismic upgrade and repointing of the entire brick façade, and the return of its original wood windows.

This is one of several anchor buildings that have survived nearly 100 years of economic ups and downs. They define the community's historic character, create pedestrian scale, provide housing with apartments above street-level businesses, and have played a key role in the recent revitalization of Adams Avenue.





Tammy Manse & AE Miller

RESIDENTIAL RESTORATION

When fire damaged this 1927 Spanish Colonial Revival house in Mission Hills, its owners were already planning extensive work to remove unfortunate 1980s features inside and out.

In the fire-damaged living room, the unique scalloped wood ceiling beams were salvaged, reworked, and reintegrated into the new ceiling design and wood-framed windows were restored, including an original stained-glass window. Despite the many challenges, the historic Alan Le May House has been returned to it its original appearance, and its character defining features are once again intact.





Jonathan Segal, FAIA

COMMERCIAL REHABILITATION

Originally built for the working class in 1926, the one-story Spanish Revival style Gordon M. Wells/Allen H. Hilton Bungalow Court is made up of 286-square-foot studio apartments. Individual cottages have been returned to their original appearance and Murphy beds added to maximize the interior space. Generous original windows continue to welcome sunlight and bay breezes, while new French doors lead to private patios. Now in sparkling condition, a once-threatened bungalow court provides appealing historic housing in a dense, walkable neighborhood.





Rebecca & Michael Murphy RESIDENTIAL RESTORATION

This distinctive 1928 home crowns a steep rise overlooking the street, and has been home to the same family for three generations! With its decorative exterior arches, the house is a delightful embodiment of 1920s Mission Revival architecture.

Original mahogany-framed windows had deteriorated, a porch roof was failing, the concrete foundation wall had spalled, and the exterior needed repair and repainting. As stewards of their family's legacy, the Murphys felt it was of utmost importance to preserve the historic fabric while faithfully restoring and stabilizing the structure.





Barbara & Joe Harper RESIDENTIAL RESTORATION

The large Mission Revival style J.M. Cornue House was built in 1927, during Del Mar's heyday, and represents the romantic elegance of the 1920s. Long neglected, with many ill-advised and unattractive alterations, it has lovingly and painstakingly been returned to its original glory. A clear vision and the will to preserve an endangered, classic masterpiece of domestic architecture has brought the landmark house and gardens back to life.





John D. Henderson, FAIA

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Preservation architect John D. Henderson, FAIA, has spent nearly four decades restoring, rehabilitating, researching and writing about San Diego's historic buildings.

John restored, rehabilitated, or adapted many of our most significant buildings, master planned parts of Balboa Park and Old Town San Diego, and wrote the in-depth reports that placed irreplaceable sites on the national, state or local historic register. The list includes the Santa Fe Depot, Mission San Diego de Alcalá, the Villa Montezuma, the Marston House, the Spreckels Theatre, Keating Building, La Jolla Woman's Club, and more.





With his firm, Delawie, Macy & Henderson, John restored and refreshed Balboa Park's Prado, from the Plaza de Panama to its eastern terminus near Park Boulevard, where the architects added the Bea Evenson Fountain, which John designed, and is one of his favorite projects.

John participated in SOHO's first preservation project: saving, moving, and restoring the Sherman-Gilbert House, helped write the groundbreaking California Historical Building Code, and was responsible for two San Diego architecture guides, published by the American Institute of Architects chapter in 1970 and 1977.

This is his second award from SOHO. Thirty-eight years ago, in 1981, SOHO saluted John with the President's Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Preservation of San Diego's Historic and Cultural Heritage.



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Through education, advocacy, and stewardship, SOHO's mission is to preserve, promote, and support preservation of the architectural, cultural, and historical links and landmarks that contribute to the community identity, depth, and character of our region.

All photos by Sandé Lollis, except where noted otherwise.

