



Reflections

Volume XXI No. 10, March 1990

Save Our Heritage Organisation

Train Tour Scheduled

SOHO is sponsoring a train trip and tour on April 21 to the Center for the Study of Decorative Arts in San Juan Capistrano. The tour will include a visit to the exhibition "California Collectors and Collectors II: Arts and Crafts Movement in California 1880—1918: Traditions and Antecedents." It features furniture, ceramics, metal works, lighting and textiles — all on loan from California collectors.

In one gallery, the influence of some important artisans — William Morris, Frank Lloyd Wright, Gustave Stickley and the Greene brothers — will be explained. In another gallery, rooms will be constructed in the style of the period, fully accessorized with arts and crafts pottery, lamps, rugs, paintings and photographs. Included will be some very special pieces on loan from the Greene and Greene masterpiece, the Gamble House of Pasadena, the collection of James and Janeen Marrin, also of Pasadena, and many other private collections.

Another highlight of the trip will be a lecture by noted professor Robert Winter of Occidental College. Winter, who is the author of *The California Bungalow*, will present a talk entitled "Hand, Head, Heart: The Arts and Crafts Movement in Southern California."

The train leaves from the Santa Fe depot in downtown San Diego at 8:05 A.M. Participants have the option of

returning on a train at either 1:59 P.M. or 3:58 P.M.

Reservations for the tour are required and must be made by April 2. Cost is \$55.00 for SOHO members, \$65.00 for others. Call SOHO now at 297-9327 to reserve your space!

The cost includes train tickets, exhibition and lecture charges, and a catered picnic lunch.

ALL ABOARD!!

Spring Series

Walking Tours Set

Closer to home, SOHO's spring series of historical walking tours is set. Entitled "Our Vanishing Past", the tours will focus on three redevelopment areas of downtown San Diego.

The first tour (announced in last month's issue was set for March 24) will center around the Cortez Hill area; the second tour is set for Saturday, May 5th in the Harborview/Little Italy section of town; the third tour in the series will cover Centre City East on June 16th.

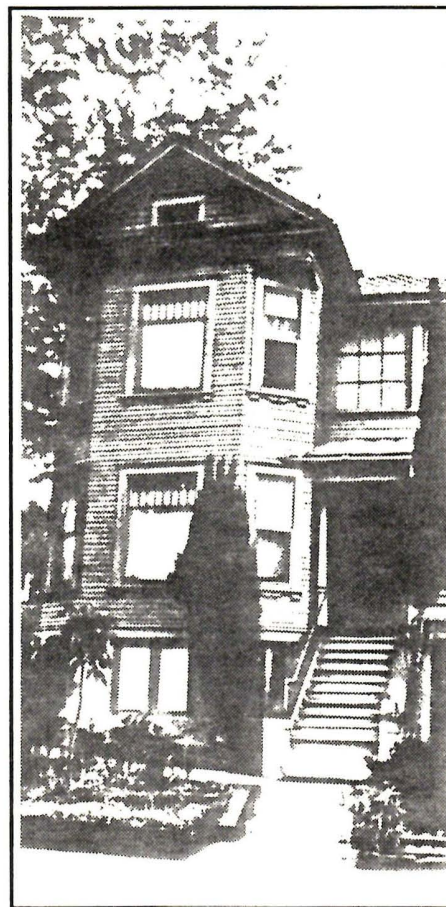
Cost is \$7.00 per tour; \$5.00 for SOHO members, or \$15.00 for the complete series, \$10.00 for members.

For reservations or more information, call the SOHO office at 297-9327.

May Be Last Chance...

The historic sites to be viewed are, for some, only "moments" away from the bulldozers. Bring your cameras and capture San Diego's architectural and historical treasures on film as this may be your last chance!

The late Victorian house pictured below is an example of the homes and buildings to be seen during the walking tour series. This large, two-story structure was built around the turn of the century.





Reflections

*Celebrating 20 years
of active preservation
in San Diego*

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Save Our Heritage Organisation

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San Diego, CA 92103

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Save Our Heritage Organisation is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of cultural resources throughout San Diego County and is a member of

- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- California Preservation Foundation
- San Diego Historical Society

Reflections

From the President...

Two years ago when we first learned of the threat to the Savage Tire/Aztec Brewery complex in Barrio Logan we did not know if we would be able to protect this National Register eligible site from its planned destruction.

However, we did know that whatever the fate of these buildings might be the city's economic development staff must learn that historic and cultural resource management could be a valuable component of its revitalization plans, and that existing incentives (and protections) should (and must) be integrated into its efforts.

So it is with great dismay we see city staff discount facade easements as unworkable because the city would be "unwilling to accept fiscal liability." Facade easements are one of the most attractive preservation tools available, generating income for preservation groups and profits for developers of historic properties while assuring protection of significant sites.

On January 30, *The Daily Transcript* ran a front page article on the benefits of historic easements to urban developers. *This stuff isn't hidden away!*

The economic feasibility report also dismisses property tax abatement, citing the need for state-level legislation. Such legislation (The Mills Act) already exists! And SOHO referred to it in its responses to the draft EIR (Environmental Impact Report) but the city missed it. We, of course, have (patiently) continued to keep city staff informed.

By the time you have received this issue of Reflections, the San Diego City Council will have had another opportunity to consider the issuance of a coastal development (i.e. demolition) permit for this site. While it would be a shame to lose these wonderful buildings under any circumstances, to lose them because a complete analysis had not been done with city staff unaware, unwilling, or unable, would be intolerable.

Welcome New Members and Member Renewals

Recent new members and membership renewals include:

Jean Nagle, new member
Roger Nulton, new member

Renewals

Bobett Bersbach
Jacqueline & James Caffee
Lori Chandler
Daniel Dixon

M/M Larry Ford
Vivian Henderson
Jacqueline Hoefert
M/M Peter Norton
Margaret Queen
David Swarens & Vykki Gray
Michele & Jay Wegter
M/M Rolla Williams

Soho Appreciates Your Support!

Preservation News Bits...

Mission Brewery Dedicated

On February 14, in a brief ceremony before a gathering of city officials and community and preservation leaders, Congressman Bill Lowery placed a bronze plaque on the Mission Brewery, designating it a national historic site. In his remarks, Lowery congratulated Foote Development for the company's sensitivity in balancing the restoration of the Mission Brewery with the development of the adjacent Mission Brewery Plaza office complex. Phase

One of the Plaza is scheduled to open for occupancy in April. Among the attendees at the dedication were SOHO board members Corey Braun, Kathleen Kelly-Markham, Suzanne Lawrence, David Swarens and Robin Webster and executive director Al Alferos.

**Earthquake Seminar Held**

On March 1, some 45 concerned attendees participated in a daylong seminar that touched on earthquake preparedness, building codes and regional issues. The seminar was presented by California Preservation Foundation. Staffer Liz Morton welcomed the group on behalf of the Foundation and SOHO president David Swarens made brief seminar-opening remarks on behalf of SOHO, a local co-sponsor. Presenters included Ron Buckley of the City's Planning Department and Thomas Tobin, executive director of the California Seismic Safety Commission in Sacramento. Tobin, who still has relatives in the San Diego area, grew up in El Cajon and attended Grossmont High School. A UC Berkeley graduate, he now resides in Mill Valley. In his talk he cautioned that in 30 years from now most of the fine brick-built buildings probably will be destroyed or lost due to earthquakes.

**SOHO
Membership****Application/Renewal**

Membership privileges include the monthly newsletter *Reflections* to keep you informed about preservation issues and activities in San Diego County, as well as special prices for SOHO workshops, tours and related activities. Membership categories are:

- Life* • \$1,000
- Benefactor* • \$500
- Corporate* • \$250
- Executive* • \$100
- Professional* • \$50
- Individual/Family* \$25
- Student* • \$10

Please call the SOHO office for more information at 297-9327. To join SOHO, please complete the following form and send it and your check to:

SOHO
P.O. Box 3571
San Diego, CA 92103

New Member Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

I would like to help with:

- Newsletter
- Tours
- Workshops
- Office
- Other

Calendar

Mar. 28	San Diego Historical Site Board Meeting 1 p.m.	12th Floor, City Hall
Apr. 2 6 p.m.	SOHO Board Meeting	Sherman-Gilbert House Heritage Park
Apr. 4	Coronado Historical Assn. Annual Membership Meeting 7 p.m.	Coronado Public Library
Apr. 11	County Historic Site Board Meeting 1:15 p.m.	5201 Ruffin Rd. San Diego
Apr. 21	SOHO Train Tour 8:05 a.m. departure	San Diego to San Juan Capistrano
Apr. 21 and 22	Installation Artwalk	Downtown Call 232-9915 for info.

Advertising Rates

Reflections is a monthly publication mailed to some 400 SOHO members, public and elected officials, pertinent professionals and local and out-of-area preservation groups. Copies also are available in the office for visitors and tourists.

For only \$35.00* this could be
your business card-size ad.

*Based on camera-ready copy.

For other ad rates, sizes and schedule call SOHO at 297-9327.



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HELP us save on overhead costs by renewing your membership before it is due. Your renewal date? It's shown in the top right corner of the mailing label. The first digit(s) is the month you are due for renewal. The other number is the year of your SOHO membership. A good practice is to send in your renewal check one month before the renewal date.

A SOHO Thank You

A big **THANK YOU** to Congressman Jim Bates for his continued support and interest in the Savage Tire/Aztec Brewery issue.

Good News

Dr. Roger Revelle, Honorary Chair at SOHO's 20th Anniversary Celebration last year, was recently released from the hospital after undergoing a triple-bypass and valve replacement operation. All of SOHO wishes him a speedy and full recovery.

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