



December 2001  
Volume 32, Issue 4

# Reflections

SOHO IS THE OLDEST  
CONTINUALLY OPERATING HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION ORGANIZATION IN CALIFORNIA.

S E R V I N G   S A N   D I E G O   C O U N T Y   S I N C E   1 9 6 9

## Agreement Reached with the Hotel Del Coronado

BRUCE D. COONS

An agreement has been reached between SOHO and the Hotel Del Coronado to preserve the original 1888 power plant with its attached office, marble switch board, artifacts, the entire original service tunnel between the hotel basement and the power plant, the front portion of the Ice House and the smoke stack. The second laundry, carpenter shop, ice storage building and remains of the garage will be removed. The buildings that are to be retained will be restored and incorporated into the new Master Plan. Missing roof balustrades and skylight structures of the Powerplant are being explored for possible recreation.

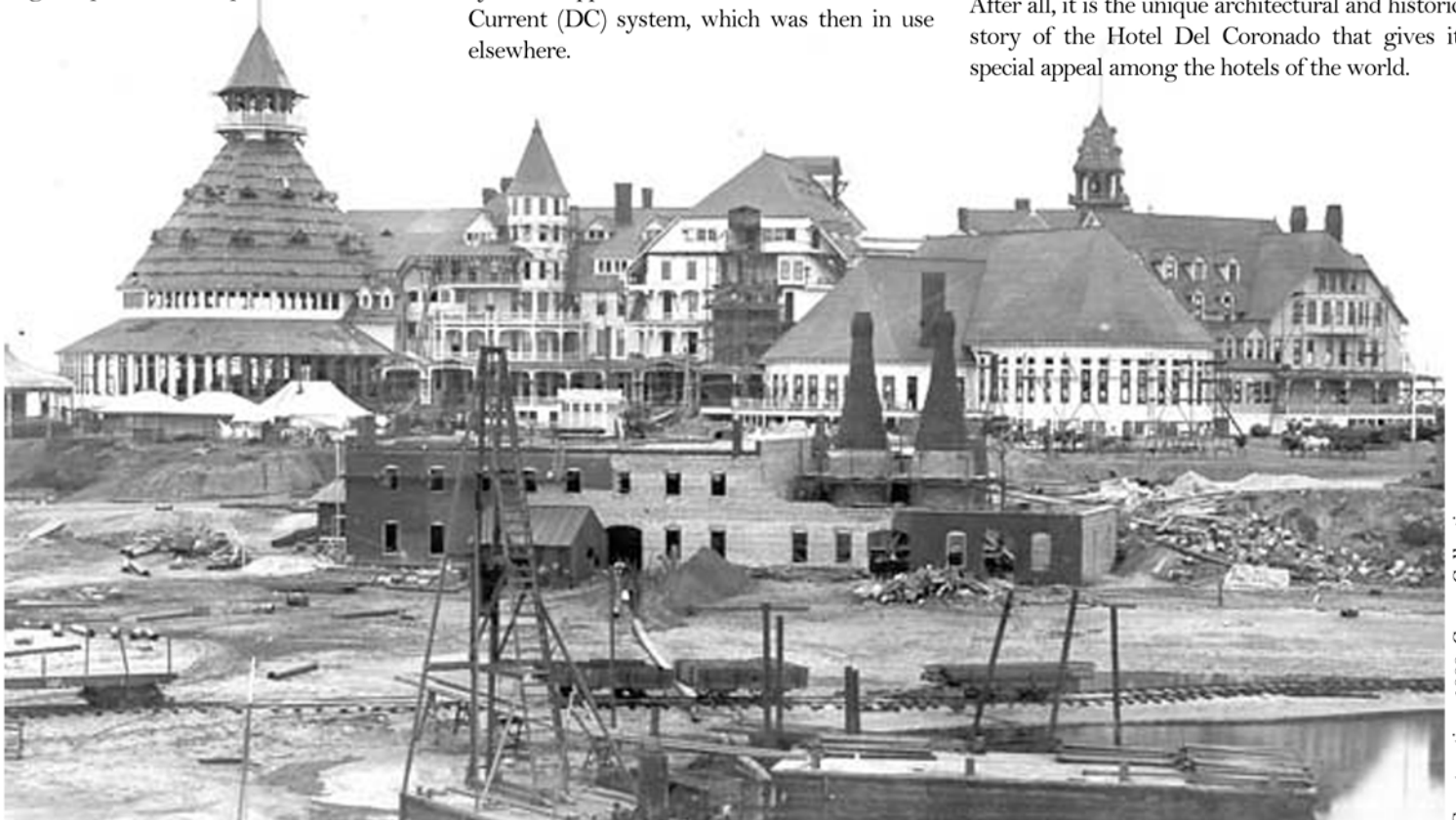
A museum display illustrating the relationship and history of the service buildings to the functioning of the Hotel will be created utilizing historic materials from this relatively unknown aspect of the Del's exciting past.

This agreement will insure the restoration, retention and long term preservation of the most important historical resources associated with the original support complex of the Hotel. The power plant was heralded as the "Largest installation of its type in the World" by the San Diego Union when it opened in 1888. It was installed by Mather/Westinghouse who pioneered the Alternating Current (AC) electrical system we still use today. The AC system supplanted Edison's inferior Direct Current (DC) system, which was then in use elsewhere.

Design elements from the power plant will be used in the new construction being built adjacent to the Power plant. These new buildings will not over span any portion of the power plant. This allows it to remain essentially as it has always stood. SOHO and the Del will continue to meet to resolve any issues encountered during the renovation process. SOHO will also advise on the reuse of salvaged materials.

The agreement allows for the achievement of the goals of the Del's new master plan that is aimed at enhancing the appearance of the Hotel and ensuring its long term financial viability, while maintaining much of its historic integrity and layering of historic interest.

After all, it is the unique architectural and historic story of the Hotel Del Coronado that gives it special appeal among the hotels of the world.



Construction, 1888, Coons Collection

# The Who's Who to Know in Historic Preservation

*Information compiled from the Office of Historic Preservation, California Department of Parks & Recreation.*

In conjunction with SOHO, San Diegans are offered a variety of historic preservation services on the state and national levels.

## California Office of Historic Preservation

The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) appointed by the Governor administer both the state and federal historic preservation programs

Likewise, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) may require that significant historical resources be identified and considered during the local or state planning process. OHP assists this important preservation effort through the regional Information Centers and the comprehensive inventory program.

OHP administers the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), in California. The National Register of Historic Places has formed the basis for the federal program since 1966.

OHP provides forms and guidelines; consults with local governments, community organizations, and property owners; advises people preparing nominations; and reviews certification applications. Contact: State Office of Preservation, Department of Parks and Recreation, PO Box 942896, Sacramento, CA 94296-0001; (916) 653-6624.

## State Historical Resources Commission

The State Historical Resources Commission is a state review board with professional and public members appointed by the Governor. The Commission reviews applications for listing historic properties on The National Register of Historic Places, California Register of Historical Resources, and for designation as State Historical Landmarks and State Points of Historical Interest. Commission recommendations for National Register nominations are forwarded with the SHPO's concurrence to the Keeper of the National Register in Washington D.C., and for state designation to the Director of the California Department of Parks and Recreation in Sacramento. Contact: OHP.

## State Historical Building Safety Board

Located within the Office of the State Architect, the State Historical Building Safety Board is composed of representatives of the building design professions and state and local officials. It is authorized to advise and consult with local building officials regarding use of the alternative State Historic Building Code when reviewing the rehabilitation of historic properties. Contact: State Historical Building Safety Board, Office of the State Architect, 1130 K Street, Suite 101, Sacramento, CA 95814; (916) 445-7627.

## National Trust for Historic Preservation

The National Trust for Historic Preservation (National Trust) is a private, nonprofit membership organization chartered in 1949 by Congress to preserve historically significant properties and to

encourage public participation in the preservation of buildings, sites, objects, and maritime property important in American history and culture. The National Trust's services include providing advisory and technical assistance to private preservation organizations, collecting and exchanging information on successful preservation projects, providing guidance to new preservation programs and groups, and carrying out special projects to further preservation of target areas. National Trust for Historic Preservation, Western Regional Office, One Sutter Street, Suite 707, San Francisco, CA 94104; (415) 556-7741

## National Park Service

The National Park Service (NPS) administers grants awarded to the state offices of historic preservation for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended. In addition, the National Register of Historic Places, Interagency Archeological Service, the Historic American Buildings Survey, the Historic American Engineering Record, and the Historic Preservation Fund grants to Indian Tribes and Alaska Natives are programs managed by NPS. Contact: National Park Service, Western Region, Division of National Register Programs, 600 Harrison Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94107-1372; (415) 744-3988.

## National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers

A State Historic Preservation Officer is appointed by the Governor in each state, territory, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and is in charge of historic preservation activities at the state level. The NCSHPO is a nonprofit organization consisting of all State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPO's). It was formed to help SHPO's exchange information and promote their common interests. It meets periodically to examine issues of concern and foster a unified approach to historic preservation among the states and territories. Contact: National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, Hall of the States, Suite 342, 444 North Capitol Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001-1512; (202) 624-5464.

## Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

An independent agency of the Federal Government, this council was established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. It advises the President and Congress on matters pertaining to the preservation of historic, archeological, architectural, and cultural properties. The council has 19 members appointed by the President. Contact: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Western Office of Project Review, 12136 West Bayaud Avenue, suite 330 Lakewood, CO 80228 (303) 969-5110

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## President's Message

### ERIK HANSON

We are doing a lot to get one special house involved in the community again. The Whaley house has had more going on in the last few months than in the last four decades.

It feels like completing a circle to be involved in the Whaley House theatre project. I came to Historic Preservation through a degree in theatre and 20 years in the technical theatre trade. We were constantly dealing with aesthetic judgements about old things. You would be amazed at how much effort we spent at places like the Globe or the La Jolla Playhouse getting just the correct historic period salt shaker or shoe horn. But it was just theatre. Your best work, if it even made it to opening night, might have a 6-week run and be specifically noticed by three people. Historic Preservation is the opposite. We are sometimes allowed to work with the historic details of things that are be viewed by thousands of people daily, those that can afford tickets and those that can't. Unlike a theatre prop meant for one script and used for a month or two, a building or site can be in everybody's script for generations. It's not just "George Washington slept here" but "My uncle John passed this everyday on his way to work at Convair."

Now at the Whaley house we are dipping into both important worlds at the same time. A flash of Art and Emotion that will never be done just that way again and a 150 year old presence that will be there after some things we haven't dreamed of yet are gone. It seems like a good balance.

I'm so happy to have Mr. Welton Jones as a new member of SOHO's Board of Directors. Welton, the recently retired "Dean of San Diego Theatre Critics", in his later role as the Union-Tribune's Critic-at-Large wrote many inspiring pieces about historic preservation issues. I can't think of a more fitting person to direct SOHO's first production in our new upstairs theatre space.

The *Gift of the Magi* opened December 7 for a fleeting run.

### Calendar of Meetings

All members are welcome and encouraged to attend!

#### SOHO BOARD MEETINGS • 5:30pm

1st Monday of each month, in the Courtroom at the Whaley House

#### EVENTS & EDUCATION MEETINGS • 6pm

3rd Monday of each month in the kitchen of the Derby Pendleton House  
on the Whaley House Museum grounds

#### PRESERVATION ACTION MEETINGS • 5:30pm

4th Monday of each month in the Courtroom at the Whaley House

#### PRESERVATION REVOLVING FUND MEETINGS • 5:30pm

4th Thursday of each month in the kitchen at the Derby Pendleton House  
on the Whaley House Museum grounds

# Message from the Executive Director

## Landmarks Big & Small Sense of Place, Sense of Ourselves

BRUCE D. COONS

The built environment shapes our lives on a daily basis. You may or may not be fully conscious of the influence that the little bungalow on your street or the historic site on the way to work, store or your favorite restaurant exerts over you. Or how it adds immeasurably to your enjoyment of the place you live, helps bring a feeling of well being and maybe a little smile each time you see them.

However, the acute sense of loss when one of these sites is missing is something few are immune to. This has come home to us much too clearly with the recent events in New York and Washington. In addition to the horrific unprecedented loss of life, the loss of the World Trade Center towers meant a great deal to people in ways that they had not thought much about before. Many of their lives were lived out in the shadow of these buildings, their plans were made in reference to them "Meet me at One WTC and we can go from there," "It's a block from the WTC," I have a view of the WTC from my new apartment." Many said that they felt comfort from their presence, a feeling of permanence, of something lasting.

When they were gone the sense of loss was overwhelming. Some said they did not know how to relate to the city anymore, lives had been mapped out in relation to the towers. Some said I met my wife at or near the towers. One man interviewed said "I see them still, it will be a scar in the sky forever."

Even though some of our lost landmarks may not have dominated our city the way that the World Trade Center did for New York, nonetheless they loom large in the consciousness of those that knew them. I can not pass the site of the Klauber House on Sixth Avenue without feeling an acute sense of loss and seeing the "scar in the sky." Threats to our landmarks come from many different sources and that makes it all the more important to preserve what is left. I know I speak for many that the loss of places like The Old Police Headquarters, among others, would produce another terrible "scar in the sky." I believe we have too many already.

## Obituary: Bertha B. Mitchell House

BETH MONTES

Another tragedy has unfolded in the City of San Diego. It was completely preventable, desperately opposed, and absolutely unnecessary. The 1904 Bertha B. Mitchell House was, until the last fortnight, located at 2720 4th Avenue, at Nutmeg. One of three surviving triangular parapet structures, the home was a Hebbard & Gill masterpiece; designed in the English Country Manor variant of the Craftsman style the firm utilized with great skill from about 1896-1907. The Bertha Mitchell House and the Marston House were designed at the same time; the similarities are self-evident, though the Mitchell House was one of the few all brick (clinker brick, no less) structures from the period.

Mrs. Mitchell and her son, Lt. Dewitt Mitchell, were progressive philanthropists, and are remembered most for their large donations used to originate and fund the Legal Aid Society Trust, which became our current Public Defender's Office. Lt. Mitchell died young, at the age of 27 years, but Mrs. Mitchell occupied the property until the mid-1920's.

In 1928, the Terpezone Clinic opened in the house. The clinic was billed as a place which treated many ails, among them tuberculosis, bronchitis, laryngitis, asthma, hay fever, and whooping cough. Subsequent to the clinic's occupation, the

building served as two restaurants, then a boarding house and apartment before becoming the Elk's Lodge in the 1950's. Unfortunately, after more than 70 years of creative reuse, the noteworthy home met its destruction at the hands of a developer with limited imagination and desire.

In 1991, SOHO recognized the building's tenuous position. The Elk's Lodge members had deferred maintenance on the structure for most of the nearly half century they had occupied the site, and were looking to sell and move on. SOHO submitted the house to the Historic Site Board for designation, but the Board voted to note and file, rather than designate after a misguided letter writing campaign undertaken by the Lodge members.

In the late 1990's, the Lodge entered into a long escrow with Mayfair, a developer which proposed tearing down the structure in order to build a 34 unit condominium building on a 30,000 square foot lot spanning Nutmeg Street from 3rd to 4th Avenues. Again, SOHO attempted to stave off disaster by bringing the house forward for historic designation. This time in May 2000, against staff recommendation, the board voted to designate the site a local historic landmark. Mayfair went ahead and closed escrow on the site in June 2000, knowing *(continued on next page)*



(continued from previous page) full well the building had been designated historic.

Soon, Mayfair submitted documentation stating overriding public considerations and asking for a demolition permit even though the property was an historic landmark. These considerations being that the company claimed it couldn't make any money with the Mitchell House still on the site, and that the lot was zoned for fewer units than the current high-density climate would call for on that site. The Historic Resources Board, the Planning Commission, and the City Council all bought the arguments.

Once again there are no guarantees that the project will be built in a timely fashion or even built at all. How many of San Diego's grand old homes have been destroyed to make way for projects which never manifested themselves? Two come immediately to mind, the Irving Gill house formerly at First & Robinson and the Julia Dent Grant House, designed by William Sterling Hebbard, formerly at 6th and Quince.

The council's concerns could have been addressed by the St. Paul's Center's proposal. St. Paul's Center offered to buy the Mitchell House from Mayfair. They would reimburse Mayfair for the original purchase price of the lot and any expenses they had incurred in the pursuit of their condominium project. And, St. Paul's Center would have saved the house, and reused it; most likely for the very senior housing council is seeking.

San Diegan's must ask themselves how much longer they will allow travesties such as this to continue? Think about it the next time you drive by the corner of 4th and Nutmeg.

#### References:

- 1) Oral interview with Erik Hanson, November 17, 2001;
- 2) Historic report prepared by Alex Bevil, May 2000



SOHO Files

## Casting Call For Your Old House!

### Restore America Scouts San Diego for its 2002 Season

Home and Garden Television network is looking for restored homes here in San Diego. The new season of Restore America is focusing on neighborhoods and how restoration and preservation efforts benefit a community. The producers have requested homes where the exteriors are somewhat complete, no scaffolding still up, etc. and at least a few rooms restored. However, the whole house does not need to be completed. This is an opportunity to show the nation what San Diego old house owners have preserved and restored. If you are interested please call SOHO and leave a message for Alana Coons, as soon as possible, as filming will begin in February 2002.

## Neon Majorette Receives Women's Business Award

JAN PERCIVAL, Scribe Communications

SAN DIEGO (Oct. 16, 2001) -- The Neon Majorette, a beloved San Diego landmark at College Grove Center, recently received a Special Award during the San Diego Business Journal's annual Women Who Mean Business awards ceremony. The Majorette was among nearly 40 women recognized Oct. 11 for their contributions to the local business community.

The Neon Majorette is more than just some flashing lights, the Business Journal wrote in its Oct. 15 Women Who Mean Business special section, the Majorette is a symbol of a long-awaited economic revival for an entire community. For the residents surrounding the old College Grove Shopping Center the reinstallation of the Majorette symbolized an entire new era of business development and community pride.

Accepting the award from San Diego Business Journal Publisher Ted Owen was Kathy Kirk of Vestar Development Co. Vestar owns College Grove Center and recently donated the historic landmark to the San Diego preservation group, Save Our Heritage Organisation.

The neon majorette is a popular folk icon in San Diego that has survived the demolition of two homes and years of storage. First installed by California Neon in 1948, the majorette was part of an immense neon beacon for the Campus Drive-In Theater at 61st Street and El Cajon Boulevard. At the time, the majorette was one of the tallest neon installations in the country.

# Preservation Action in Baja

## Bodegas de Santo Tomás

### Cultural Patrimony of Baja California

MARÍA D. CASTILLO-CURRY

On August 21, 2001, Alejandro Gonzales Alcocer, governor of Baja California, signed a Decree of Declaration, to list the architectural district "Bodegas de Santo Tomás" in Ensenada, Baja California; as a state cultural patrimony.

This is the first time that a conservation area, has been officially recognized under a 1995 state law (*Ley de Preservación del Patrimonio Cultural*) making this a historic date to note for the preservation movement of northern Mexico. 14 buildings located within two blocks of downtown Ensenada City form the district. They represent a significant period in the industrial and urban history of Baja California. The oldest building (1913) is also the largest adobe constructed in the state, and retains its wood barrels and machinery that were also saved from destruction.

The declaration of the old winery district started as a unique grassroots effort a year and a half ago by a group of Ensenadenses who were organized in order to stop the slated demolition, in order to build a superstore for the Baja California Calimax chain.

As preservation is still a very centralized function run by the federal government in Mexico, the whole process of community involvement and the use of this law for the first time in Baja, caught the attention of many, including preservationists from Mexico City and central Mexico. One of these supporters is Martha Edna Castillo-Sarabia, an Ensenada native, who also serves as an advisor in the SS Catalina preservation Association and is the president of the Committee for the Preservation of Bodegas de Santo Tomás, with this background of saving the bodegas district she was able to travel to Cuernavaca, Morelos in central Mexico; to advise preservationist there who are battling against the destruction of an old hotel complex known as Casino de la Selva located in Cuernavaca Morelos, from developers who want to build a Costco store.

In April, I had the opportunity to meet with the group of Ensenadenses who were looking for support on technical, legal and academic advice for the organizing against the destruction of the Bodegas de Santo Tomás winery district. The group known by then as Amigos de Bodegas formally adopted the name Comité pro Conservación Bodegas de Santo Tomás. Along with myself, The Mexican Chapter of the International Council of Monuments and Sites through Ernesto Beceril Miró in Mexico City, The office of Ensenada deputy Sergio Loperena Nuñez, The association of architects, Colegio de Arquitectos Profesionales de Ensenada provided the architectural studies through architect Bruno Geffroy. Vice president of the National Trust, Peter Brink also helped with advice on similar superstore versus cultural resources battles in the US. In this way the process to preserve the history of Ensenada became an international grassroots effort.

The declaration of the Bodegas district is important for the preservation movement in the California's and the border on many levels, as it opens the possibility of declaring the Tecate depot as a conservation area too and inspires grassroots in Tecate, Mexico and

in San Diego to continue their efforts to save remains of regional history. SOHO and the San Diego Railroad Museum, share similar interests as the Committee of Citizen Participation and Defense (Comité de Participación y Defensa Ciudadana in Tecate), the Foundation of the Baja California Railroads (Fundación de los Ferrocarriles de Baja California) for the preservation of the depots along the San Diego and Arizona and the Tijuana and Tecate Railroads. The work of these groups has reached the Council of Monuments in Baja California, which is the advisory group of the Institute of Culture in Baja California. They have started a process for nominating the Tecate station as a district.

The declaration had four important ingredients to its success. A new state preservation law that can help protect 20th century monuments, very good organization of the Ensenada community, an important political moment in Mexico where decentralization and grassroots efforts are being more readily accepted; and the high quality of advice from preservationists in Mexico and the US who look at the past of both nations as a common history and to preservation as a common goal.

## Acción de Preservación en Baja

### Bodegas de Santo Tomás

#### Patrimonio Cultural de Baja California

MARÍA D. CASTILLO-CURRY

En Agosto 21 de 2001; Alejandro Gonzáles Alcocer, gobernador de Baja California, firmó un Decreto de Declaratoria, para enlistar el distrito arquitectónico "Bodegas de Santo Tomás" en Ensenada, Baja California; como patrimonio cultural estatal. Esta es la primera vez que un área de conservación ha sido reconocida oficialmente bajo una ley estatal creada en 1995 (*Ley de Preservación del Patrimonio Cultural*) para su protección en Baja California, convirtiéndose así en un evento histórico para el movimiento de preservación del norte de México. El distrito está formado por 14 edificios localizados en dos cuadras del centro de la ciudad de Ensenada y representa un período significativo en la historia urbana e industrial de Baja California. El edificio más antiguo (1913) es también el más grande de adobe construido en el estado. El distrito tiene algunos toneles de madera y maquinaria que fueron salvados de su destrucción.

La declaratoria del antiguo distrito empezó como un esfuerzo ciudadano único hace un año y medio por un grupo de Ensenadenses que se organizaron para detener la demolición de algunas de las estructuras para construir una supertienda de la cadena Calimax de Baja California. Ya que la preservación es aún una función centralizada por el gobierno federal en

(*continuado de la página anterior*) preservación que están luchando en contra de la destrucción de un antiguo hotel conocido como Casino de la Selva por los desarrolladores que quieren construir una tienda de la cadena Costco.

En Abril 11th de 2000, tuve la oportunidad de conocer a un grupo de Ensenadenses quienes estaban buscando asesoría técnica, legal y académica para organizarse en contra de la destrucción del distrito de vino Bodegas de Santo Tomás. El grupo, conocido como Amigos de Bodegas, formó una organización de preservación en Abril 14th en su reunión del Lunes por la noche y adoptaron el nombre Comité pro Conservación Bodegas de Santo Tomás. Como investigadora en El Colegio de la Frontera Norte y como miembro de SOHO pude participar en el proceso de la declaratoria del distrito como asesora. El Comité Mexicano del Consejo Internacional de Sitios y Monumentos proporcionó la asesoría legal a través de Ernesto Beceril Miró desde la ciudad de México. La oficina del diputado Ensenadense, Sergio Loperena Nuñez, también proporcionó asesoría legal y siguió el caso todo el tiempo, logrando involucrar al Congreso Estatal. El Colegio de Arquitectos Profesionales de Ensenada proporcionó los estudios arquitectónicos a través del arquitecto Bruno Geffroy. Peter Brink de la National Trust for Historic Preservation ayudó en este esfuerzo asesorando sobre casos similares de supertiendas que son detenidas de ser construidas en zonas de valor cultural en los Estados Unidos por organismos ciudadanos. De esta forma, el proceso para preservar la historia de Ensenada se convirtió en un esfuerzo internacional.

La declaratoria del distrito urbano Bodegas es importante para el movimiento de preservación en las Californias y de la frontera porque abre la posibilidad para declarar la estación Tecate como un área de conservación también, e inspira a los grupos no gubernamentales de Tecate en México y de San Diego; a continuar sus esfuerzos por rescatar restos de la historia regional. Save Our Heritage Organisation y el San Diego Railroad Museum, comparten intereses similares a los del Comité de Participación y Defensa Ciudadana en Tecate y de la Fundación de los Ferrocarriles de Baja California por la preservación de las estaciones del ferrocarril San Diego y Arizona y del Tijuana-Tecate. El trabajo de estas organizaciones es conocido por el Consejo de Monumentos de Baja California, el grupo asesor del Instituto de Cultura de Baja California el cual ha empezado un proceso para nominar la estación Tecate como distrito.

La declaratoria de Bodegas tuvo cuatro ingredientes importantes para su éxito. Una nueva ley estatal que puede ayudar a proteger monumentos del siglo 20, un alto nivel de organización de la comunidad de Ensenada, un momento político importante en México donde la descentralización y los esfuerzos de los grupos no gubernamentales están siendo aceptados cada día más; y una gran calidad de asesoría de preservadores de México y de los Estados Unidos quienes han

# ASLA Nominates Balboa Park For Cultural Landscape Designation

VONN MARIE MAY

As it stands today only a small portion of Balboa Park is historically designated. The American Society of Landscape Architects, San Diego Chapter wants to change that. In September they officially submitted a nomination for a full boundary Cultural Landscape designation to the City. It remains pending and your support would be most appreciated.

San Diego's decision to set aside an inordinately large tract of land for purposes of a public park only 18 years after California statehood and the city's municipal incorporation, and with a very small population, was a significant act in itself. The City fathers at the time were far sighted and had a visionary civic understanding for the potential of growth. Contemporaneous with this set aside was the birth of the nation's first comprehensively planned 'Greensward' later to be known as New York's Central Park; the first prodigious example of a public park designed in the 'Picturesque' style.

The creation of the City Park reservation was one of the most heroic land gestures in San Diego history, but the subsequent diligence required to protect the boundary is yet another layer of significance. The battle to deconstruct the set aside was constant, from the State Legislature's ratification in 1870 for thirty years thereafter, until the first comprehensive professional master plan could address its totality. Relentless efforts to whittle the acreage of the reservation away persisted but were turned back by citizen initiatives and principled leaders every step of the way.

With the urging of horticulturist Kate O. Sessions, San Diego's Merchant Prince George W. Marston and others, a Park Commission was formed and a top national Landscape Architect Samuel Parsons, Jr. was



commissioned to produce the park's first master plan addressing the full 1400 acres. The compelling commitment of these three people in particular, Sessions, Marston, and Parsons, created the beginning of a first class setting, comparable to any in America at the time, for a large central city park. Their lives and work make them outstanding personalities each on their own, but in this setting they were quite a powerful force in effecting a project of this magnitude.

From the ethics of the landscape 'Picturesque' design movement, Parsons was considered a distinguished interpreter of the style. Known as the standard bearer and continuum of the Olmsted legacy, no other American Landscape Architect of the day was better suited to the task of taking the blank canvas of San Diego's city park land and transforming it to a world



*(continued from previous page)*

class park environment. Parsons was also the co-founder of the century old American Society of Landscape Architects, originating in his New York City offices in 1899, on the threshold of a new century.

Parsons' design approach was the application of principles from the styles he ascribed to onto the open land, respecting every natural feature and contour. The plant palette was one of heroic evergreen tree canopy—mostly exotic—a complimentary and sometimes flowering understory and drought tolerant ground cover. In consultation with Kate Sessions, he developed a horticultural vision of great reflection and solace speaking for the late Victorian sensibilities. Park planning in America was at its emergent genius and serendipitously San Diego benefited greatly, it would be a different park, indeed, without the thoughtful design plan asserted by Samuel Parsons.

Also included with the Parsons influence are the sites of pre-1910 parts of the park; Kate Session's Park Nursery, Golden Hill Park, and any and all memorial groves planted that contributed to the character of the park prior to the Expositions.

The following is the ASLA's excerpted position statement:

The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) is presenting a gift to the citizens of San Diego, the designation of Balboa Park as a Historic Landmark. The mission of ASLA is to lead, to educate and to participate in the careful stewardship, wise planning and artful design of our cultural and natural environments.

The Historic Landmark designation is primarily an honor. It is intended to raise public awareness of the historical significance of Balboa Park and to serve as a guide for future planning.

Balboa Park is a treasured public resource and ASLA believes the entire park and its contributions to San Diego should be understood and integrated into the park management to benefit future generations.

Currently, buildings and features in the park have Historic Landmark designations, yet the park as an open space and landscape setting for those buildings and features is not designated.

The park exemplifies the picturesque ideals of designing within the natural topography, accentuating view opportunities and planting groups of majestic trees in natural, rather than formal patterns. In developing the plan, Landscape Architect Samuel Parsons recognized the site's varied topography and unique setting between expansive mountains and the wide ocean. He saw the park as a distinct collection of "harbors, bays, islands, promontories, mountains and miles of open lands." Although the "miles of open lands" are now a city, much of the park has matured in to the original vision as designed by Parsons. The park entrances and circulation roads we use in Balboa Park today were laid out by Parsons. Many of the trees planted nearly 100 years ago remain towering above and framing distant views of the mountains and the bay.

The designation would require that proposed alterations in the park would be reviewed by the City's Historical Resources Board. Once the historic designation is established, a detailed study must be made to determine how to interpret and apply the historic significance. That study would be incorporated into the Balboa Park Master Plan. The National Park Service, Historic Landscape Initiative is a program provides guidelines and tools for the treatment of historic landscapes that can be used to conduct the study.

It was my honor to work with the ASLA in authoring their nomination of Balboa Park to the City's list of landmarks. It is important to know that before the expositions there was the best of park planning and early implementation, all before 1915. By 1910 more than 14,000 trees had been planted. All of the circulation; Park Blvd., Florida Canyon, Balboa Drive, Golden Hill loop road, the precursor to the Cabrillo Freeway and all of the carefully selected entrances had been chosen and constructed. Balboa Park is one of the nation's most significant large urban parks and deserves to be recognized as such.

Cabrillo Bridge, 1914, Coons Collection





# SOHO Museum Shop Grand Opening

Wow, what a Grand Opening! SOHO members, you really came through and made our opening day a grand success, taking in over \$2,000 in just a few short hours. Compliments abounded, much to the gratification of the volunteers and staff who worked so hard to create a shop that was up to the level of quality that SOHO members have come to expect. It was a challenge that was rewarded by your generous participation. Please continue to think of SOHO's Museum Shop first when you are looking for that special gift or the reference guides, books, and decor for the old house lover. We intend to expand the stock as quickly and as extensively as



(left to right) Lori Anne Peoples, Autumn Acker, Mary Jones, Debbie Stuve, Sandé Lollis, Alana Coons, Janet O'Dea

possible to make this shop your preservation and restoration choice. Finally, San Diego has its own source. No more long treks to Los Angeles or elsewhere, if we don't have it yet, we will get it for you. We have fabulous stocking stuffers and with your membership discount, it's that much easier to save the past when you buy a present.

## SOHO Statement of Financial Position as of June 30, 2001

### ASSETS

#### Current Assets

Checking/Savings	
1000 - WAMU Checking	5,125.93
1020 - Whaley Cash	200.00
1030 - WM Money Market	79,963.92
1040 - WWMM - Facade	74,941.91
Total Checking/Savings	160,231.76

#### Other Current Assets

1250 - Inventory	2,297.52
Total Other Current Assets	2,297.52

#### Total Current Assets

162,529.28

#### Fixed Assets

1500 - Equipment	1,150.77
Acc. Depreciation	(384.00)
Total Fixed Assets	766.77

#### Other Assets

1900 - SSCPA	220.97
Total Other Assets	220.97

### TOTAL ASSETS

163,517.02

### NET ASSETS

	Facade	Revolving	Unrestricted	
Fund Balance	73174.58	10,000.00	43,960.84	127,135.42
Change in net assets	1,767.33	497.00	34,117.27	36,381.60
	74,941.91	10,497.00	78,078.11	163,517.02

Submitted without audit by Jessica McGee, SOHO Treasurer

## M E M B E R S H I P A P P L I C A T I O N

I want to help preserve the historical resources of San Diego by joining SOHO at the following Membership level.

- ☐ \$25 Individual or Family   
 ☐ \$100 Executive   
 ☐ \$500 Benefactor  
☐ \$50 Professional   
 ☐ \$250 Corporate   
 ☐ \$1000 Lifetime

Please complete this form and send it with your payment to  
SOHO, 2476 San Diego Avenue, San Diego CA 92110

Please charge my Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please extend my membership for another year. ☐

In addition, I am making a tax-deductible contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Preservation Revolving Fund, to be used to purchase and preserve endangered, historic properties.

Save Our Heritage Organisation is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.

## Make your Tax Deductible Contribution before years end!

### Remember Someone Special with a SOHO Membership

Please send a one-year gift membership to the person named below. A gift card will be sent to your recipient.

Recipient \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Includes

- ◆ Free admission to Whaley House Museum
- ◆ Subscription to the quarterly Reflections Newsletter
- ◆ 10% discount on Museum Shop items
- ◆ Advanced notice and discounts to lectures, special events, and tours
- ◆ Invitations to special receptions and events
- ◆ Participation in volunteer programs

# Contributors To Success

SOHO would like to acknowledge the following for their contributions.

September through December 2001

## Lifetime

Al Alferos  
Charley Bast  
Bob Broms  
Bruce & Alana Coons  
Alice & Doug Diamond  
Mr. & Mrs. D. Dickinson  
M. Wayne Donaldson  
Nicholas Fintzelberg  
First Church of Christ, Scientist  
Nada & Cathy Grigsby  
Ingid Helton & Erik Hanson  
Fred & Rhonda Harder  
Mary Joralmon  
Kathleen & Jim Kelley-Markham  
Suzanne & Bill Lawrence  
Carol Lindermulder  
Vonn Marie May  
Miles Parker  
Thomas J. Pollock  
Pat Schaelchlin  
Sue K. Skala, AIA  
John & Debbie Stall  
Michael Sullivan  
David Swarens  
Marc Tarasuck, AIA  
Robin Webster  
Barry Worthington  
*Please note: if we have failed to list you as a Lifetime Member, please call us so that we may acknowledge you properly in our next issue.*

## Executive

Barry Hager  
Hillary Hager  
Mary Johnson  
Mark Parisi

## Professional

Pamela Filley  
Marie Pleasant  
Robin Tanner  
Phyllis Paul  
Robin & Stuart Rivers  
Mark & Connie Saverino  
Michael Scott, AIA

## Renewing Members

### Individual or Family

Joan Campbell  
Susan Clark  
Don Covington  
Karon Covington  
Clare Crane  
Loch Crane  
Marilynn Crehore  
Robbins Crehore  
Robert Green  
Traci Hagan  
David Marshall  
Laurel Mauk  
Donald McKie  
Beth Montes  
Zeke Montes  
Homer Moore  
Lorraine Moore  
David Larson

Nancy Loevinger  
Mary Pampuch  
Lori Anne Peoples  
Bonnie Poppe  
Alex Sachs  
Karen Smith  
Aino Sten

## New Members

### Individual or Family

Autumn Acker  
Christopher Ayres  
Joel Barry  
Laura Brandhorst  
Gustavo Brunetti  
Donna Burcher  
Luke Burcher  
Mick Burcher  
Tanner Burcher  
Rose Burton  
Doris A. Carlock  
Kitty Cervantes  
Manuel Cervantes  
Gary Copson  
Monica Curiel  
Chelsea DeMott  
Omar Espinosa  
Mike Gehl  
Sharon Gehl  
Ingrid Greenberg  
Anne Harvey  
Lee Hendrickson  
Carol Hertzberg  
Richard Hertzberg  
Athena Jaharis

Lynda Jaharis  
Sydney Jones  
Harmony Jones  
Mary Jones  
Robert Jones  
JP Karsted  
Kim Karsted  
Rita Karsted  
Tom Karsted  
Dr. Kepic  
Mary Klement  
P. Klement  
Lawrence Lichter  
Sarai Marlow  
Bill McColl  
Sandra McColl  
Jeff Mogilner  
David Moody  
Frank Niprikas  
Heather O'Brien  
Sue Scholke  
Dr. Lynne Christenson  
Linda Sheridan  
Tom Shess  
Darian Silverman  
Diane Silverman  
Kimberly Singer  
Lynne Singer  
Bruce Slothower  
Tami Slothower  
Therese Sweet  
Jhym Haynie-Valdivia  
Michael Valdivia  
Maggie Valentine

# Annual Meeting & Elections

SOHO's annual meeting and elections were held September 22, 2001 at Barry and Hilary Hager's beautiful Mission Hills Arts & Crafts home. The gorgeous day had our members in pleasant moods, happy with the opportunity to visit and enjoy everyone's delicious contributions to the potluck buffet in the Hager's garden.

Many new SOHO Members came out and got acquainted with some of the old guard, which created quite an exchange of new and old ideas. Senator James Mills graced the event and told old stories of the Mission Hills neighborhood that were fun and fascinating to hear. The SOHO Lady was passed from Stan and Laurel Schwartz to Linda Aurora Espino for all her hard work at the California Preservation Foundation Conference hosted by SOHO.

The election results are as follows:

Erik Hanson - President	Jessica McGee - Treasurer
Barry Hager - Vice President	Welton Jones - Director
Lori Anne Peoples - Secretary	Robert Broms - Director

At the November Board meeting Janet O'Dea was appointed to the Board, after Kathleen Flanigan resigned to devote more time to SOHO committee work, Kathy will be chairing the Mills Act Workshop in February.

## Adieu To Beth

Beth Montes has left her position with the Board of SOHO to further pursue her career in historic site designation. Beth continues to volunteer for SOHO as time allows. Her calm presence and sweet disposition will be missed.

# Welcome To New Board Members

**JANET O'DEA** is from Chicago and has had a life-long interest in architecture and design. She improved two properties in Illinois (1914 and 1946) before her transfer to San Diego in 1995. In 2000, Janet joined SOHO and has been active on SOHO committees ever since.

Janet brings additional business skills to the board and currently works at The Anthony Robbins Companies as product development manager. Her professional background includes work with corporate brand and identity programs for some American icons that have been part of our culture for 100 years or more. She worked as a paralegal on construction litigation, medical malpractice, immigration, environmental, real estate, and corporate duties including work with various boards of directors. She is a graduate of DePaul University with a degree in Liberal Arts.

She is married to Allen Hazard who also serves on SOHO's Events and Education committee. Allen and Janet purchased their 1920 craftsman bungalow early this year and attained historical designation through their own research and assistance from their friends within SOHO. In her spare time, Janet enjoys gardening, jogging and biking, is in a local book club and enjoys learning more about San Diego's fascinating history.

**WELTON JONES** wrote about arts and entertainment for The San Diego Union-Tribune for 35 years before his retirement in 2001. Presently, he is working on two books and a play. Although he was present at the birth of SOHO 32 years ago, when Robert Miles Parker posted a notice on the Sherman-Gilbert house, he only recently became active as a SOHO member, joining the board of directors in October. Jones also is a board member of the Committee of 100, guardians of the Spanish-Colonial architecture in Balboa Park. For the San Diego Historical Society, he is year chronicling the history of film-making in San Diego. A captain in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve, his preservation helping photo curator Greg Williams assemble an exhibition next

**ROBERT BROMS** received his Bachelor of Arts cum Laude in Anthropology, specializing in Mesoamerican studies, from UCLA. He also holds Professional Certificates in Construction &

Architecture/Engineering Practices, and Legal Assistant Training with further studies in Architecture at Mesa College.

In 1991, Bob joined SOHO's board and served as President from 1992 to 1994. He has been the recipient of two SOHO People In Preservation Awards. His work in preservation is often multi cultural, he co-chaired a Regional Workshop, "La Frontera: Our Common Heritage," which initiated cross-border discussion of cultural conservation issues in the San Diego-Tijuana border region.

Bob also serves on the boards of the Balboa Theatre Foundation, the S.S. Catalina Preservation Association; the steering committee for Friends of San Diego Architecture; and the Consejo Consultivo for the Museo de Las Californias of the Centro Cultural Tijuana.

A member of the delegation of the Bi-national Association of Schools of Communication (BINACOM) to the International Festival of the New Latin American Cinema in Havana, Cuba, Bob's documentary on literacy, "Balboa," was shown, from this visit, a day to day account documentary "BINACOM en Cuba" has been submitted to the 23rd International Festival. Other documentary work includes "Las Piedras de México" which is on the preservation of bi-national cultural resources in the U.S.-Mexico borderlands, and "Old Havana/New Cuba," on historic preservation in Cuba which is currently in pre-production.

**SUSAN HECTOR** has been a practicing archaeologist for over 25 years. She received a Ph.D. in anthropology from UCLA in 1984. While a graduate student at UCLA, she was the curator of archaeological collections at the Museum of Cultural History (now the Fowler Museum). She moved with her family to San Diego in 1980, and worked for a local environmental consulting firm for 9 years. In 1989, she began a career at the County of San Diego, Department of Parks and Recreation, as a project manager. Her projects included restorations of Rancho Guajome Adobe, Los Peñasquitos Ranch House, and Vallecito Stage Station. She was involved in open space land acquisition and park planning. Most recently, she was the Director of the Department from 1999-2001. She is currently pursuing research interests in San Diego archaeology.

## Dr. Lynne Christenson New County Historian

Dr. Lynne Christenson has accepted the position of San Diego County Historian, we congratulate her and welcome her.

"This is an historic preservation position," comments Dr. Christenson. "My duties include management of archeology sites and historic structures, educational outreach, development of interpretive programs, and training volunteers and docents."

San Diego County Parks and Recreation Department owns and operates important cultural resources like the Los Peñasquitos Ranch House, Guajome Adobe, Campo Stone Store, Bancroft Ranch House and Heritage Park.

"This is a challenge and we will be looking for volunteers to help with surveys and mapping," Christenson says. "Docents are an important part of the County Park system. We are looking for people to help us with Heritage Park, Whaley House, Los Peñasquitos Ranch House and Guajome."

SOHO has great respect and fondness for Dr. Christenson and we are very pleased to be working together.

*Parts of this article were taken from SD Archeological Center, where Dr. Christenson serves as first vice president.*



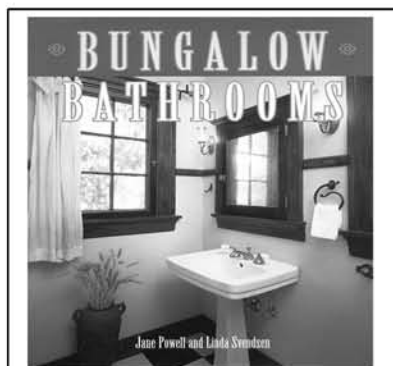
Give the gift of history while helping to preserve the past. Why not consider a gift from the SOHO Museum Shop! Our unique line of merchandise is perfect for the holidays or anytime, we have books, vintage posters and prints, and replica perfumes. We will ship too!

# SOHO Museum Shop

On the grounds of the Whaley House Museum

## Winter 2001 Catalog

### Books on Preservation & Restoration



**Bungalow Bathrooms**, Jane Powell and Linda Svensen, 176 pages

This long awaited book was worth the wait. As reflected in these pages, the bathroom can, and should, be a beautiful extension of the home style, and what better examples than those from the Arts & Crafts era.

\$39.95 hb Item #12GS566

**California Conquered**, Neal Harlow, 499 pages

Organizes, reveals and illustrates the beginnings of this state, summarizes the literature of the field, treats the story in great detail, keeps the narrative straight, and deftly weaves a large number of quotations into a text to allow the characters to speak for themselves. It is a mine of information about the end of the Mexican and the beginning of the American era.

\$22.50 sb Item #12SB779

**Contested Eden**, Edited by Ramón A. Gutiérrez and Richard J. Orsi, 396 pages

Reexamines the founding of modern California, from the early days through the Gold Rush and up to 1870, from a contemporary perspective.

\$27.50 sb Item #12SB621

**A Place To Remember**, Robert R. Archibold, 224 pages

Well-known historian's personal exploration of the intersections of history, memory and community reveals how we participate in the making and sustaining of community as well as how we remember the community that shaped us.

\$22.95 sb Item #12NBN575

**Living In the Arts & Crafts Style**, Charlotte Kelley, 130 pages

This innovative, interactive workbook is a good resource for anyone looking to infuse their home with the Arts & Crafts spirit. It's easy to use, full of practical advice, inspiring photographs, and helpful decorating tips.

\$24.95 hb Item #12BK203

**Batchelder Tilemaker**, Robert Winter, 112 pages

Robert Winter's masterful and much needed book establishes Batchelder as a giant of the great age of American decorative tile making and a key figure in the history of design.

\$29.95 hb Item #12SB604

**The Art of Publishers' Bookbinders: 1815-1915**, Ellen K. Morris, Edward S. Levin, 127 pages

This is a book about beautiful books, more specifically about the beautiful and innovative bindings of books. 254 publishers' bookbindings, each described in detail and all illustrated in color.

\$37.50 sb Item #12OS626

**Houses and Homes**, Barbara Howe, Dolores Fleming, Emory Kemp, and Ruth Ann Overbeck, 168 pages

Provides historians and homeowners with research techniques and a historical framework to help them compose a house history. Throughout your investigation, you will see how social, cultural and technological history is woven into the history of a particular house or neighborhood.

\$17.95 sb Item #12VBN576

### Regional & California History

**General Vallejo**, Alan Rosenus, 292 pages

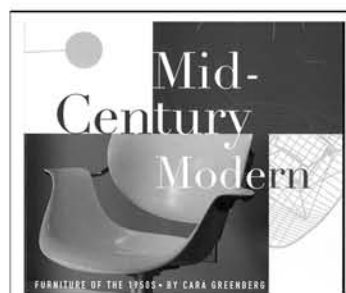
General Mariano Vallejo was one of California's most distinguished citizens in the mid-nineteenth century. This richly textured and thoughtful biography explores the contradictions and passions of this most complex of men, shedding light not only on Vallejo, but on the formation of California as a modern state.

\$16.95 sb Item #12SB757

**No Rooms of Their Own**, Edited by Ida Rae Egli, 344 pages

Gathers together the work of fifteen women from 1849 to 1869, during the time of isolation of California from the East Coast. In this anthology, the words of well-known writers like Ina Coolbrith and Dame Shirley mingle with less familiar voices.

\$14.95 sb Item #12SB647



**Mid-Century Modern**, Cara Greenberg, 176 pages

A loving tribute to the innovative furniture of the fifties and its enduring popularity. Fully illustrated with more than 200 full-color and black-and-white photographs, this visual tour reveals the best of post-war furniture, from high-concept designs to their kitschy counterparts.

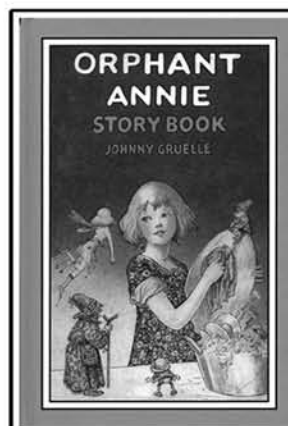
\$25.00 sb Item #12RH666

### Children's Classics Replicas & Revised

**Sailing Home**, told by Gloria Rand, illustrated by Ted Rand, 17 pages

Based on the journal of Captain Madsen and his daughter Ena, the story of this seafaring family from the 1800's is brought to life for modern children. Culminating in a dramatic Christmas Eve storm at sea, this is at once a rousing adventure and an intriguing look at a unique lifestyle that will fascinate young and old alike.

\$15.95 hb Item #15CB225



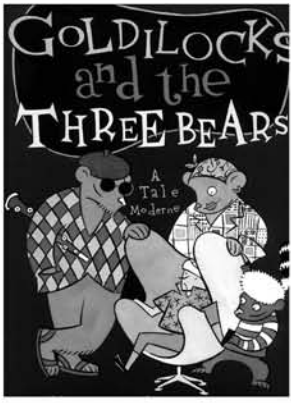
**Orphant Annie**, written and beautifully illustrated by Johnny Gruelle, 86 pages

Replica of the 1921 original.

\$22.95 hb Item #15GP480

Save The Past • Buy A Present

## Children's Classics continued



**Goldilocks & The Three Bears, A Tale Moderne**, Steven Guarnaccia, 14 pages

When she discovers the three bears' house in the woods, Goldilocks ventures in and makes herself at home. According to tradition, she sits in the chairs, samples the meal laid out on the table, and takes a nap. Yet something is different in this retelling of the classic story of the girl with the golden locks.

\$15.95 hb Item #1505637



**Mother Holly**, retold by John Warren Stewig, 16 pages

John Warren's retelling of this little-known tale by the Brothers Grimm offers children a satisfying new ending that demonstrates how, with help, redemption is possible. Johanna Westerman's lovely, intricately detailed illustrations, as spell binding as Mother Holly's magic door, are pure enchantment.

\$15.95 hb Item #15CB213

**Wallace Neff 1895-1982, The Romance of Regional Architecture**, Hennessey & Ingalls, 143 pages,

The work of Wallace Neff bridges the revivalist concerns of the nineteenth century and the International Style of the twentieth, he was a practioner of the California style. Full of black-and-white photos and plans, along with a list of homes he designed.

\$29.95 sb Item #12SB691

*The Romance  
of Regional  
Architecture*



Please complete this form and send it with your payment to  
SOHO, 2476 San Diego Avenue, San Diego CA 92110  
Or use this form to assist you in  
placing your order by phone at (619) 297-9327

Please charge my Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

## Architectural: Regional &amp; National

**Sunset Western Ranch Houses**, Editorial staff of Sunset magazine, 160 pages  
A republishing of the first edition of Sunset Western Ranch Houses. When this book was first published in 1946, Sunset magazine and Cliff May lay the groundwork for the acceptance of one of the most significant post-war domestic building styles, the ranch house. This exact reprint has plans, drawings, and photographs of ranch houses that trace the development of the style from settler's adobes to working ranches to Cliff May's modernist interpretations.

\$29.95 sb

Item #12SB769



**Sourcebook of American Architecture**, G.E. Kidder Smith, 678 pages

This comprehensive and insightful illustrated survey of 500 of America's most distinguished buildings provides a unique overview of the thousand-year architectural development of the United States.

\$24.95 sb

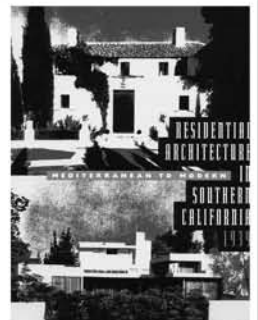
Item #12BK231

**Mediterranean To Modern, Residential Architecture in Southern California, 1939**,

Hennessey & Ingalls, 110 pages,  
Presented by the Southern California Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in response to an insistent public and professional demand. The material is arranged chronologically with brief introductory historical notes and occasional plans.

\$32.50 sb

Item #12SB794



Quantity	Item #	Description	Price	Total
	12RH666	Mid-Century Modern	\$25.00	
	12VBN576	Houses & Homes, Exploring Their History	\$17.95	
	12BK231	Sourcebook of American Architecture	\$24.95	
	12NBN575	Place To Remember, Using History To Build Community	\$22.95	
	12GS566	Bungalow Bathrooms	\$29.95	
	12SB604	Batchelder Tile	\$24.95	
	12BK203	Living In The Arts & Crafts Style	\$14.95	
	12SB647	No Rooms of Their Own	\$16.95	
	12SB757	General Vallejo	\$27.50	
	12SB621	Contested Eden	\$22.50	
	12SB779	California Conquered	\$39.95	
	12SB794	Mediterranean To Modern, Residential Architecture in Southern California	\$32.50	
	12SB773	Myron Hunt 1868-1952, The Search For A Regional Architecture	\$24.50	
	12SB691	Wallace Neff 1895-1982, The Romance of Regional Architecture	\$29.95	
	12SB769	Sunset Western Ranch Houses (Cliff May)	\$29.95	
	1505637	Goldilocks & The Three Bears-A Tale Moderne	\$15.95	
	15GP481	My Very Own Fairy Stories	\$22.95	
	15GP480	Orphant Annie Story Book	\$22.95	
	15CB225	Sailing Home, A Story of a Childhood at Sea	\$15.95	
	15CB213	Mother Holly	\$15.95	
Sub-total				\$
California Sales Tax 7.75%				\$
15% Shipping & Handling				\$
Total				\$

Save The Past • Buy A Present

# The SOHO Arts & Crafts Weekend March 8-10, 2002

INGRID HELTON

Mark your calendars and get ready to spend the weekend of March 8, 9, 10 at our 5th Annual Arts & Crafts Weekend. We have a very full weekend starting with the preview reception on Friday evening. The weekend will be filled with lectures, workshops and exhibitors from all parts of the country showing antiques and reproduction work with linens, furniture, lighting, glass, pottery, paper and much more, all of the era. We will once again hold the event in the wonderful Egyptian Revival Silvergate Masonic Temple in North Park.

We will have a few favorites back to lecture but will also entice you with some new faces and names, who are most knowledgeable on the history and decorative arts of the period, and are ready to share it all.

Our famous Home Tour will be on Sunday the 10th, from 9-5 and will mostly be located in the Golden Hill/Southpark area but will include some beauties from the Northpark area as well. You will be delighted to see these beautiful homes, which have not been opened to the public before.

If you would like to be involved as a volunteer or be part of the committee please contact Ingrid Helton directly at (619) 239-6150 or [ingrid@happyalaugh.com](mailto:ingrid@happyalaugh.com)

We are all very excited about this year's events and know that you will not want to miss them.

## Great Gift Ideas For Anytime of Year!

Museum store gift certificates make the ideal gift! It's as easy as a phone call to our offices, we send it for you along with your best wishes! Or the gift that reminds them of you all year long, a SOHO membership, benefits include 10% discount in the museum store, events discounts, special members only parties, the quarterly *Reflections* newsletter, free admission to the Whaley House Museum and much more. Your gift membership comes with a beautiful card with your message on it.

## Events

### The Gift of the Magi

Thursday, December 20th • 8pm

Friday, December 21st • 8pm

Saturday, December 22nd • 5:30pm & 8pm

Sunday, December 23rd • 5:30pm & 8pm

### Mills Act Workshop

Rescheduled for February,  
date to be announced

### Arts & Crafts Weekend

March 8-10, 2002

### 20th Annual

### People In Preservation Awards

May, 2002 • National Preservation week

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## Courtyard Cafe To Open Soon

The charming Courtyard Cafe, on the grounds of the Whaley House, in the rare 1870's storefront building that was saved from demolition and moved to the property in the 1960's will be a unique alternative to the traditional Old Town menu.

The Courtyard Cafe will serve early morning espresso drinks, breakfast sandwiches and homemade pastries. Lunch fare will offer freshly prepared gourmet sandwiches, specialty pastas and homemade pizzas. Eventually, plans will include intimate twilight dining to include such French specialties as salmon champagne and veal crema.

Former Bay area restaurateur Ron Vigney and his wife Emily are convinced they can duplicate their former excellent Zagat and San Francisco Chronicle rating reviews, elegance and delicious food.

A preview of their fare was well received when they hosted the opening night reception for the "Gift of the Magi", serving poached salmon, gourmet cheeses, pasta salad and wonderful sauces and bread dips were the perfect ending to an already perfect evening.

Look for the Grand Opening date to be announced soon.



# Got Some Spare Time?

AUTUMN ACKER

If you answered yes to the question above then you qualify to become a Whaley House volunteer! Congratulations! It should feel like you have won a prize - volunteering is a highly rewarding experience. Currently volunteer docents are needed in the Whaley House, especially on Friday's and Saturday's. If you have only a few hours once a week to spare that is fine! Help is always appreciated. Through volunteering for Save Our Heritage Organization at the Whaley House Museum, one will not only gain knowledge about the history of the Whaley family and their home, but will also learn more about San Diego history and the philosophies behind Historic Preservation.

Volunteers are an indispensable part of running the Whaley House Museum; they serve many functions. In an average day, volunteers help monitor activity throughout the Museum, inform visitors about the history of the home and the objects inside of it, and take tickets at the front entrance. These are but the basic positions; SOHO relies heavily on its dedicated volunteers to run the Museum.

Due to the unique history of the Whaley House, volunteers get to interact with a variety of visitors: San Diego residents, tourists from around the world, and ghost-hunters in search of spiritual evidence. Such a mix of different people always keeps things interesting in the Museum. So if you enjoy being around people, learning about history, and are willing to spread your knowledge to others, then becoming a volunteer may be just the thing for you!

As an added bonus, if you are a cat-lover, (like me), volunteering can be all the more rewarding. SOHO lovingly takes care of its three beautiful kitties: Grooby, Moochie, and Rosy.

So, congratulations on qualifying.....now go out there and get your highly rewarding prize! Simply call the SOHO Museum Shop at the Whaley House at (619) 297-9327, or come by in person. The Shop is located next to the Whaley House Museum at 2476 San Diego Avenue. Once again, a few hours makes a huge difference. So if you are feeling indecisive, sign up for a couple of hours and decide from there if volunteering is for you. Remember, you have nothing to lose, and so much to gain.

*Editors note: Autumn started with SOHO as a volunteer docent, she is now part of the staff working in the museum store as a sales associate and head docent in the Whaley House. She is a delight to be around and is pursuing a career in historic site interpretation. She is also a member of Preservation Action, where she plans on learning the ropes. She has most recently taken on the position of Volunteer Coordinator Assistant.*

*SOHO thanks all those  
who volunteered throughout 2001,  
we could not have done it without each of you.  
We have a lot to look forward to in 2002,  
and through our shared vision and dedication,  
we will work side by side  
to continue to make the difference  
in our future by preserving our past.*

## Volunteer Profile

GEORGE PLUM, a native of Chicago with a B.A. in Psychology and an M.A. in Rehabilitation Counseling, moved to San Diego from Michigan in 1999. He began volunteering at the Old Town Boosters Book Store, then at the State Park, and then finally settling in at the Whaley House.

George has become a charming fixture at the Whaley House Museum and has faithfully volunteered as a docent every Monday and Wednesday since beginning in February, 2001. He is extremely knowledgeable about San Diego history and when dressed in his period attire he is quite convincing as a character from that bygone era. George is a loyal member of SOHO, volunteering for all SOHO events related to the house and preservation. We especially loved his portrait of Thomas Wrightington for all three nights of the Haunted Halloween Tours. George's son John lives in Santa Barbara and visits whenever possible, they enjoy historic sites and museums together. George can always be counted on, he loves giving tours and visitors often remark on his friendliness and knowledge of history. George is a valued member of the SOHO team and we are blessed to have him.



# A Very Whaley Halloween

DAVID MARSHALL

When you are the caretakers of a house that some consider the most haunted in America, you don't want to leave the spirits all by themselves on Halloween night.

The Save Our Heritage Organisation decided to open the doors of the famed Whaley House in Old Town for special tours on three nights in late October, from 10pm to midnight, culminating on Halloween night. Thirty tickets were available for each night and the fund-raising event sold out several weeks in advance.

On the first night, guests gathered on the front porch of the Whaley House and were each given handmade scarves as keepsakes and to identify ticket holders for the event. The scarves were sewn by volunteers Sarai Marlow & Becci Fajardo, who dyed them with onion skins or marigolds to give them tan and pale yellow tints. Bob and Lunella Harrill were in charge of the dying process.

Speaking of dying, the tour began with a one-block walk to the nearby El Campo Santo cemetery (literally "sanctified ground"). The group was lead to the graveyard by candlelit lanterns and quietly circled around graves marked with candles. Out from the shadows appeared a gray-bearded man who identified himself as Mr. Wrightington, who was the occupant of the grave at which they stood. Wrightington said he met a very unfortunate end in the late 1800's when he passed out drunk in rural San Diego and was eaten by coyotes. I hate when that happens.

Wrightington proceeded to tell the tour group many stories about others he knew who occupied spots in the cemetery. There is Thomas Marshall, who was wrongly convicted of a crime and became known as "The Wickedest Man in California." Then there was "Yankee" Jim, the petty criminal who met his demise on the grounds of the Whaley House, several years before its construction. Marshall and "Yankee" Jim were among the many graveyard occupants who were tried, convicted and hung in a single day. Such was justice in the old west.

"Yankee" Jim's death was especially unpleasant because the hanging gallows was not constructed for men of his tall stature. When the trap doors opened, Jim's toes touched the ground, so instead of a quick death from a broken neck, witnesses had to watch as Jim was slowly strangled by the noose for almost an hour. Wrightington noted that many of the residents of the El Campo Santo cemetery do not rest in peace, "Yankee" Jim being among them.

The tour then returned to the Whaley House where top hat-clad Martin Wolfe, who is affectionately referred to as the "nighttime ghost docent," gave a talk in the old courtroom. Wolfe spent the first 30 minutes describing the history of the Whaleys and their house, making special note of the many deaths associated with the property. Then, as the clock approached midnight, the ghost stories began.

Wolfe pointed out that a young woman on the tour was seated in a ghost's favorite courtroom spot, and her initial laugh soon



Autumn Acker & Mary Jones with Grooby



Rae Symonds & George Plum



Mary Wendorf



David Swarens



Michelle & Lynn Hamilton

turned into a nervous smile. Wolfe shared his firsthand accounts of seeing, hearing and feeling odd things in the year since beginning work at the Whaley House. Martin has witnessed and photographed blurry, human-formed apparitions in the upstairs bedrooms as well as floating orbs of light that vaporize into balls of energy when they hit an object.

Martin then spoke about the mystery of the Whaley House staircase, particularly the ninth through thirteenth steps, that are rumored to exhibit supernatural traits. Many say they've felt an unexplained chill and even a tightness around their necks as they stand on those steps. At the conclusion of the courthouse portion, Wolfe spread out a collection of his enlarged ghost and orb photographs for the guests to examine.

The last event of the night was a short history talk by Bruce Coons up on the second floor in the restored theater space. At the close of this presentation, the evening concluded with self-guided tours of the house, with docents throughout to provide information and answer questions. As the clocks chimed midnight the guides bid a good night to the guests, encouraging them to return to the Whaley House and store during regular museum hours.

The event was very well received by the participants and was a successful fundraiser for SOHO. Many new memberships were sold and SOHO furthered its mission by bringing history to the people and bringing people to the museum. The ghosts could not be reached for comment.

# Whaley House Christmas

JANET O'DEA

SOHO's mission to return the Whaley house back to its historical heritage includes décor to celebrate the upcoming Christmas time traditions. Since this is SOHO's first Christmas celebration at the Whaley house this will also be representative of the beginning of the new Whaley house Christmas collection.

Do you wonder what Christmas decorations were really like when the Whaley's lived here? Come to the Whaley house this December to see for yourself. Traditional decorations such as a tabletop Christmas tree decorated with popcorn and berries; home made ornaments made of items found in the house such as dried fruit and paper are part of the traditions. There were also tin ornaments, wax angels, paper cornucopias, glass beads and balls, all popular to hang on the tree. Even though glass ornaments were readily available, by the 1880's, the end of our interpretive period (1856-1885), the average tree was still decorated with ornaments made of paper, metal, wax, and wood decorations. Just as in the rest of the year, admission to the Whaley house is free with your SOHO membership card. You may be surprised by the understated elegance and the way that

native plant arrangements add to the beauty and festive feeling, all period traditions and with San Diego style. Once you see the beauty of the décor you may find yourselves making cornucopias next year for your own tree.

Volunteer efforts to create and decorate the Whaley included, research, making decorations, gathering greenery, making garlands, and finally adorning the house with the hand-made creations. Come and visit to acknowledge our SOHO members and the volunteers who donated their time and talents. We had fun getting ready with Girl Scout troop # 1307 and leadership from Helena Weeks and Darylene Jacobs.

Special thanks to Lori Peoples and Linda Aurora Espino

Autumn Acker	Ingrid Helton	Everett Mehner
Christine Babcock	Peter Herman	Bruce Parker
Jane & Mark Carlson	Pamela Homfelt	George Plum
Jaime Gomez	Mary Jones	David Swarens
Lynn Hamilton	Ruth Martinson	& Los Californios
Michelle Hamilton	Jessica McGee	Jokie Torentino
Allen Hazard	Maureen McLellan	Mary Wendorf

## Preservation Revolving Fund Kick Off

The first official fundraiser for the Preservation Revolving Fund was a great success! Thanks to all of you who came out in support of this essential and important fund. And thanks to the many that sent in donations to the fund that were unable to attend. The evening was gorgeous, and our hosts for the party, Jim and Barbara Roper, were incredibly gracious and generous in opening their home. The Cliff May jewel, and what a jewel it is, was decorated for the season with its "Los Muertos" Day of the Dead, a collection the couple have been building for years, which suited the interior of the house well. The hacienda is laid out for entertaining, Cliff May's inspiration coming from the early Californio's homes which were famous for their hospitable surroundings and ease of entertaining, of which they did much.

Decorated with the perfect mix of antiques, family pieces and contemporary, the Ropers have done a superb job with the house.

The food and wine, which was donated by Kelley-Markham Architecture and Planning firm was enjoyed on the back verandah, which the house opens out to, beautifully decorated and laid out by our host. Jim Kelly-Markham, a knowledgeable fan of Cliff May's work gave a talk and tour of the house that was informative and delightful.

Committee chairman Barry Hager also spoke to the gathering with eloquence and wisdom of the use that the Preservation Revolving Fund will have and how important the support of it means to the preservation of San Diego's communities.

All of SOHO's parties are wonderful, SOHO has a knack for holding some of the most interesting events in town, but this party goes to the head of the list in the wonderful category, for just pure wonderful. Wish you all could have been there.

The Preservation Revolving Fund committee is planning a gala event for the next fundraiser. This will take work to make it the major event that is hoped for, so please if you are interested in volunteering your time to help the committee with this event, call and leave a message for chairman Barry Hager, at the SOHO office.

Once again, thanks to our hosts, thanks to the committee, and thanks to all of you who supported this worthy fund.



Photo: Sandé Lollis



# The Gift of the Magi

## Cast & Crew

**WELTON JONES, Director** - During his 35 years writing about arts and entertainment for THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE, Welton Jones has on occasion crossed the line and committed theater himself. In the 1960s, he was a founder of the New Heritage Theatre (which later became the Gaslamp Quarter Theatre) directing two world premiere musicals: "The New Black Crook" and "Chinchilla!" while producing several others. For the San Diego Gilbert and Sullivan Company (now the San Diego Comic Opera) he directed six major productions: "Patience," "Iolanthe," "Orpheus in the Underworld," "Yeomen of the Guard," "Floradora" and "Utopia, Ltd." and wrote two others, "The Savoy Theatre Cat" and the school touring show "Songs for a Queen." Now retired from the newspaper, Jones is working on two novels and a play while joyfully helping SOHO reactivate San Diego's first professional stage.

**STEPHANIE SAUNDERS** is from Manchester, New Hampshire and is a Theater Arts Performance Major at San Diego State University. Within the past year she has performed in "Pump Boys and Dinettes" at Coronado Playhouse directed by Leigh Scarritt, "Me an My Girl" directed by Dan Regis and "A Chorus Line" as Bebe directed by Jack Tygett, both at Starlight Theater. Most recently she was seen in the SDSU production of "110 in the Shade" directed by Rick Simas. Other favorite rolls from back home include Reno in Anything Goes, Val in A Chorus Line, and Erzulie in Once on this Island. She would like to thank Welton and the members of SOHO who made the production possible.



**SPENCER MOSES** currently studies theater at San Diego State University. He enjoys performing in musicals and plays and singing with the chamber singers. Previous roles include Speed in "The Two Gentlemen of Verona" and the title role in the "Ugly Duckling" at Hope Summer Repertory theater in Holland, Michigan. (He found wooden shoes to be very uncomfortable). Otherwise, Spencer is delighted to work with all of the wonderful people involved in this historic project.

**RON RAY, Narrator, script adaptor**, is glad to be back in San Diego. He comes and he goes, directing for ABC in Australia, Old Globe Atles Best Actor Award for "Tartuff", Los Angeles for film and TV stints, and a singer and parader of girls at the old Hollywood Burlesque Theatre. He insists his best "production" is his beautiful and talented daughter Reegan. Yes, it's good to be back home. Producer's note: Have script, will travel!



**CHRISTOPHER REDDING** is proud to join the cast of "The Gift of The Maji." Not only is he excited to be working in San Diego's most haunted house, but to know that he is also working in San Diego's first ever theatre. Recently you might have seen Chris on the stage of the Casa Del Prado with the San Diego Comic Opera as Bobby Van Husen in "The Boyfriend". He has also performed around San Diego at The Lawrence Welk Theatre and Moonlight Amphitheatre. This fall he had the pleasure of working at the prestigious Civic Light Opera of South Bay Cities in Redondo Beach doing "Crazy For You." Originally from Ohio, he has been all around the world on cruise lines and in various productions on the east coast. He hopes you enjoy this timeless classic and enjoy a piece of history.

**HOLLACE JONES, Musical Director**, was founding General Director of San Diego Gilbert & Sullivan Company, now San Diego Comic Opera. With that company and others she conducted all of the 12 Gilbert & Sullivan operettas, plus a wide variety of other operettas, musicals and concerts. She has worked as musical director for the Old Globe, Starlight and the Welk Village Theater, also for UCSD, USD, Grossmont College and San Diego Junior Theater, as well as playing nearly two decades of educational outreach for San Diego Opera and Comic Opera. She belongs to the American Guild of Organists and the San Diego Harpsichord Society, is organist and harpsichordist with the San Diego Symphony, and Director of Music at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Coronado.



**SUSAN STUBER** is thrilled to have this opportunity to perform in such an historic building. She has been seen locally as Patricia Fodor in "Crazy For You"; Florinda in "Into The Woods"; Zelda in "Singing in the Rain"; Agatha in "Guys and Dolls"; and "Brigadoon". Some of her other theater credits include "Hello Dolly", "Gypsy", "Damn Yankees", "The Will Roger's Follies", "Die Fledermaus", "Anything Goes", "HMS Pinafore", "The Merry Widow", "Dames at Sea", and "Candide". Susan spends her days teaching vocal music at Washington Middle School in Vista. She thanks her husband David, her family, and friends for their love and support, and to Welton and the SOHO family, from the bottom of her heart.

**INGRID HELTON, costume designer**, has been part of the San Diego Theatre Scene for over 20 years. She most recently served as the Head Cutter/Tailor for the Old Globe Theatre for 18 years. She has designed for over 30 productions, some of which were for the Bowery Theatre, Gaslamp Quarter Theatre, San Dieguito Little Theatre, San Diego Repertory Theatre, in which she was also the Costume shop manager for 3 years. Ingrid has designed costumes in Walnut Creek at the Center Rep Theatre and she has been awarded the coveted Shelley Award twice for Best Costume Design of the Year. She has served on SOHO's Board of Directors in past years as secretary, *Reflections* editor, Events and Education Chair. Ingrid founded, developed and chaired SOHO's successful Arts & Crafts Weekend for the first three years and returns this year to chair it again. Ingrid's most recent production is the start of her own business *Happy Laugh*. Her line of Children Reproduction Vintage Clothing and accessories is breaking into the San Diego Market and can be purchased at the SOHO Museum Shop or at [www.happylaugh.com](http://www.happylaugh.com)! Ingrid is also the wife of SOHO President Erik Hanson and mother to 4 1/2 year old Delpha Cordelia Hanson.

**ANTHONY R. W WOOD, Stage Manager**, is a native San Diegan who has been involved in local theater for over 30 years. He was one of the founders of the Gaslamp Quarter Theater at 4th and Market, and was the stage manager for many productions there. Tony also spent several years stage managing with Welton Jones and Holly Koman at the San Diego Gilbert and Sullivan Company. He manages a computer facility at UC San Diego as his day gig.

**ANTHONY GUTOWSKI, Scenic Designer**, has designed for the Sledgehammer Theatre: *Richard III* and *The Devil River*. He was assistant scenic designer at the Sledgehammer Theatre for *Alice In Wonderland*, *The Ghost Sonata* and *Furious Blood*. He has also been designing sets for the theatre department at Madison High School. These include: *Grease*, *Nuts*, *While The Lights Were Out*, *What I Did Last Summer*, *Father Knows Best*, *Come Blow Your Horn*, *John Lennon and Me*, and *The Odd Couple* (the female version).

**ROGER HENDERSON** - Some may recall one of Roger Henderson's earlier efforts in San Diego theatre as the technical director/lighting designer for The Crystal Palace Theatre on the boardwalk in Mission Beach. Since then, his energies have been primarily focused as a Lighting Director and provider of equipment, crews and trucks to a variety of producers world-wide who travel to San Diego to film their projects. His lighting experiences are varied due to the wide range of venues into which these projects have taken him: local theaters, arenas, convention centers, motion picture studios, governmental facilities, etc. After some 30 years lighting for the recorded medium he is becoming increasingly interested in availing himself for more live events which began his career and his passion of light.

## A New Christmas Musical In The Theater At The Whaley House

A new musical adaptation of O. Henry's beloved classic, *The Gift of the Magi*, opened the evening of December 7.

The Whaley House, built in 1856, has served as a private residence, general store, courtroom, theater and social center for Old Town since that time. Known world wide as The Most Haunted House in America, it has been a chief attraction of Old Town.

In December 1868, a small touring company called the Tanner Troupe leased from Whaley the large upstairs room at the Whaley House, converted it into a theater and presented several performances. Tanner's Troupe was the first known commercial theater in San Diego, and this is the first production in the theater in over 130 years.

*The Gift of the Magi* has been adapted for the stage by veteran San Diego showman Ron Ray. Welton Jones directs the show with sets by Anthony Gutowski, costumes by Ingrid Helton, lighting by Roger Henderson and musical direction by Hollace Jones.

Enjoy an example of the true meaning of holiday giving by attending this charming show.

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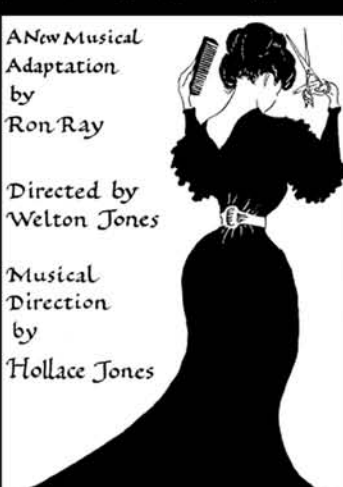
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# BACK STAGE



## The Gift of the Magi



All photos: Jason Kurnow

An exciting, albeit, hectic time at the Whaley House during the production of the musical "Gift of the Magi" was an interesting experience and enlightening glimpse into the world of theater. I was most impressed with the crew, all professionals who donated their time and talents. The double cast of young actors, Spencer Moses, Christopher Redding, Stephanie Saunders, and Susan Stuber, seemed, to this novice bystander, to metamorphose into their characters, changing their pace and style as directed by Welton Jones. Recently retired from the San Diego Union-Tribune after 35 years, Welton threw himself into the task at hand and seemed to relish every moment. With his wife Holly at the piano providing the musical direction for the show, and long-time friends Ron Ray, who adapted the story, Tony Wood as stage manager, and Roger Henderson providing the professional lighting system, Welton was in his element. Erik Hanson was responsible for building the authentic raked stage for the museum room and is also a member of the theater committee. Tony Kutowski and his assistants, Ben Zamora and Ben Nixon, provided further set design along with Mary Jones, Charley Bast and Hobie Esper as scenic artists. The show relied much on costumes and wigs, to this end, wigmaster Peter Herman, was both generous and patient with his time and talent. His wig work, an essential prop for the play, was fabulous. Ingrid Helton's costume work was, as expected, great. She is well-known throughout both the theater and the historic reenactment crowds. Ingrid also made the front curtain which was flanked by period 19th century draperies. SOHO volunteers and staff learned all about theater house management rules, protocol, traditions and superstition of this magical world. The audience chamber itself is in the process of restoration, and having it ready for opening night was due to great effort by Executive Director, Bruce Coons, Sandé Lollis, Mary Jones, Autumn Acker, Ingrid Helton and SOHO President, Erik Hanson. The period paint colors, draperies, and raked stage created an ambiance that was unmistakably frontier town theater. Veteran actor, Ron Ray, narrated the touching story with grace, wit, and style. We look forward to working with Ron again as he is very interested in bringing George Derby to live theater. Along with this lovely Christmas story of love and selflessness, the mix of museum and theater as living history was most well received, and the four song prologue of early California music was a fitting and educational piece of show biz. Do you know what song was the number one hit in America in 1868? Come find out and sing along if you like. SOHO wishes to thank the entire theater cast and crew, and the SOHO volunteers, who's long hours and devotion to this historic venture made us all proud.



# Advertiser Spotlight on Circa 1910 Antiques

Circa 1910 Antiques, a store dedicated to the original furniture and accessories of the Arts & Crafts movement, has opened an additional location to serve San Diego. You will find the same fine quality and great forms that they are known for in their Hollywood location.

Circa 1910 Antiques has been serving the Arts & Crafts community for over 20 years. This is the real thing! You will find all the major artists, makers and craftsmen of the early twentieth century: Gustav Stickley, L&JG Stickley, Stickley Brothers, Limberts, Lifetime, Roycroft, Dirk Van Erp, Elizabeth Burton, Handel, Tiffany, as well as lesser known quality makers and fine generic forms. Pottery makers include Rockwood, Van Briggie, Fulper, Wheatley, Grueby, S.E.G., California Faience, as well as tilemakers, such as Batchelder, Claycraft, Cal Art and more. Along with furniture, art pottery and hammered metals, you will find lighting, fine art, block prints, textiles, reference books and more.

Everything is ready to place in your home, waxed, drawers that slide, chairs that are sturdy, all lighting has been rewired. If you are looking for something that may be available in the other store, they will email pictures back and forth and make the inventories of both stores available to you.

Circa 1910 Antiques is a family concern. Jim does the buying; he personally and carefully selects everything. Jim and his son Jym work together in their workshop, carefully conserving and preparing everything for presentation in the stores. Jill manages the Hollywood store while their younger son, Jason, manages the San Clemente store.



Circa 1910 has been operating for 20 years. Jim began as a restorationist and has grown to be one of the top conservationists in the country. He opened a store in San Clemente in the 90's, where he and Jill lived. He brought Jill into the business to run the store for him to free him up to concentrate on buying and

preparing the pieces for clients. They developed a loyal client base in San Diego and Orange counties. It went so well that they opened a second store in Hollywood. After commuting to L.A. for a year, five days a week, the Hollywood store was doing so well they decided to move up to Los Angeles and closed the San Clemente store. There were many disappointed clients who lived in San Diego and Orange, and after bringing in

their eldest son, Jym, as part of the operation, they decided to reopen a San Clemente store. This made it easier to serve those folks interested in Arts & Crafts originals but reluctant to drive the distance and traffic required to reach the Hollywood store.

The interest and enthusiasm about the Arts & Crafts movement is strong and so many are restoring Craftsman and Spanish bungalows, they are proud to be a great source of furnishings and information, and to share their knowledge and passion about the American Arts & Crafts movement.

Client satisfaction is a #1 priority, Circa 1910 Antiques has set themselves apart by offering beautiful forms in excellent condition and at fair prices.

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# Advertiser Spotlight on Beth Montes

When Beth Montes, her husband and daughter moved into their first old house, nearly five years ago, they had never even heard the phrase "Arts and Crafts" applied to a social movement – wasn't that something children did at school? Little did they know how much that move would affect their lives.

Between scraping, stripping woodwork, and remodeling a bathroom, Beth began to learn more about architecture, restoration, and period decorating. She also became consumed with the particular history of her home. After many hours in the library and the bowels of various public buildings, she finished her title search, knew the names of all the home's past residents, the architect and builder, and had located the great granddaughters of the woman her house was built for. That was enough to write the historic designation report; her first successful designation was in the books.

In the midst of her research on her own home, she uncovered some tantalizing information about her neighbors' home, and volunteered to write their designation report for them. That was number two. Soon, one referral lead to another, and a small business was born.

Beth feels very fortunate to find a way to support her habit (restoration, that is), which is so gratifying. "For every home I help add to the local historic registry, I feel like I've contributed in some small way to preserving San Diego's heritage." When researching a site, Beth always learns some fascinating bit of information about the

home under scrutiny, and also about the social and cultural fabric of San Diego at that time. "70-90 years ago, San Diego was still a pretty small place. It is amazing how much overlap I see in my research. For example, the original owner of a small North Park home I recently worked on bought his grocery store through a real estate broker who owned another house I was researching at the same time."

This blooming business has grown with the help of many friends and neighbors, most from the historic preservation community. Beth particularly credits Kathy Flanigan for helping her to learn the intricacies of navigating through these types of research projects. "Kathy is the best, and I am lucky to have had someone so skilled to help me when I was getting started."

☐

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