

2007

Volume 38, Issue 3/4

Save

OUR HERITAGE

Organisation



Historic Wildfire Losses

***Balboa Park's Dream City
Lost Balboa Park
Historic Tile in San Diego***

FROM THE EDITOR

With the coming Centennial of the Panama-Pacific Exposition in 2015, the future shape of Balboa Park will be decided, of particular concern is the historic core.

In this issue several writers provide both historical background and suggestions for the future of this National Register Historic District. Our hope is that this will provoke thoughtful debate and yield from this discussion a road map for the future preservation of one of San Diego's most treasured historic assets. Could another world's fair be in its future?

It is important to note that SOHO's Modernism committee feels very differently about some of the modern structures on the Prado and opposes some of the ideas put forth by the writers in this issue. Others feel that allowing these very buildings to be built caused a significant loss of historic and architectural integrity. One thing that most everyone agrees on is that cars should be removed from the interior of the park and that no more land should be given to non-museum commercial activities. This will be a very interesting and important discussion dealing with issues and decisions at the very core of Historic Preservation theory and practice.

Regrettably this issue also contains our coverage of the recent fires, which, as you can see, brings new meaning locally to the word devastating. We hope that some good will come out of this tragedy and that it will inspire renewed efforts to identify, restore, preserve and protect what is left.

It has been a very busy year for SOHO and we are moving into 2008 with three legal actions pending and multiple events in the works. We are very happy to announce that SOHO has established our own publishing company, *Our Heritage Press*, with our first book due in Spring, a photographic ode to the beautiful Victorian homes of San Diego County. (Continued on page 37)

On the cover California Tower, Balboa Park, 2007, photo by Bruce Coons; **above** New Year's edition of San Diego Union Sunday insert titled *The opening of the great southwest San Diego 1915*, promoting the opening of the Panama Canal. Note the cornucopia filled with all the riches and industries of our region that San Diego had to offer to the world. Illustration by M.C. Baker. Courtesy Coons collection; **facing page** the Sikes Adobe after the wildfires, 2007. Photo Bruce Coons



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Reconstructing Balboa Park's "Dream City"

BY MICHAEL KELLY

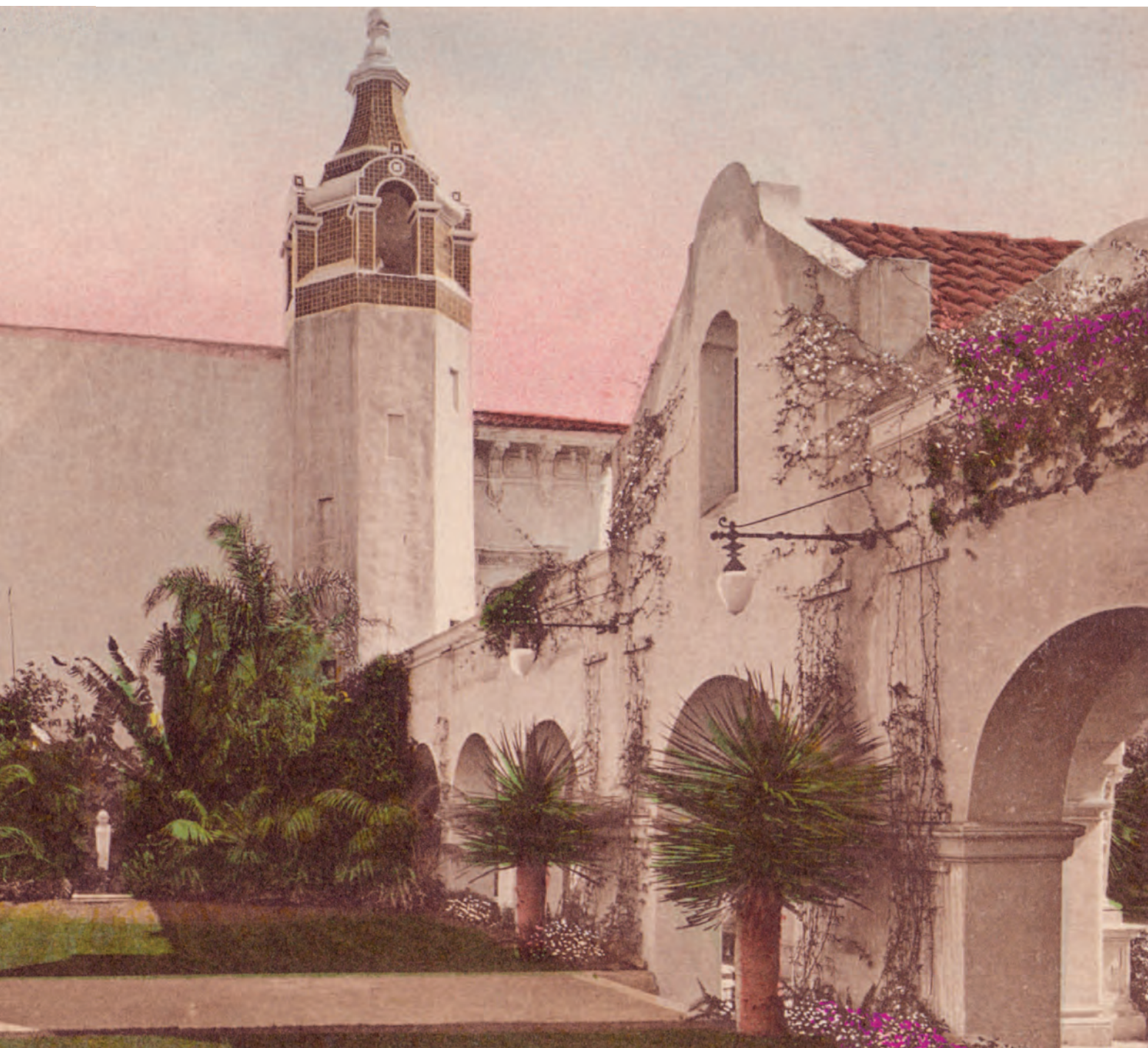
For more than ninety years Balboa Park's Spanish Colonial Revival city has attracted visitors and locals alike. The California Building and its tower are widely recognized San Diego icons and, along with the other buildings from 1915's Panama-California Exposition, they comprise a National Historic Landmark District.

It began in 1909. G. Aubrey Davidson, President of the San Diego Chamber of Commerce, proposed holding an exposition to boost San Diego's economy and to celebrate the opening of the Panama Canal. "Colonel" David Charles Collier was appointed Director General of the Panama-California Exposition. Collier supported San Diego's "City Park" as the site, incorporating the California Mission style of architecture. City Park was renamed Balboa Park in 1910, in anticipation of the event. The public overwhelmingly approved of the Exposition, voting 7 to 1 in support of \$1,000,000 in park improvement bonds. But experts disagreed about where to locate the Exposition's major buildings within the park.

The Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, Massachusetts, were selected by the Building and Grounds Committee to lay out the grounds for the Exposition. John Charles Olmsted and Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., were respected landscape architects who had prepared plans for the 1905 Lewis and Clark Exposition in Portland, Oregon, and the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in Seattle, Washington. They were the adopted nephew and son of Frederick Law Olmsted, renowned landscape designer of many great American parks, and were the successors to their father's landscaping firm. The Olmsteds believed that the ideal site for the main Exposition buildings was just north of San Diego High School, where the original Naval Hospital was later located. Frank P. Allen, Jr., who had been manager of Seattle's 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, became Director of Works for the Panama-California Exposition and advocated for an alternative site on the Central Mesa. About that time Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue of New York was selected as the Exposition's Chief Architect. Goodhue supported Allen's suggestion of the Central Mesa and chose the Spanish Colonial Revival style of Mexico because of California's history, because of San Diego's climate, and because it "has the gaiety and color so necessary for a fair," according to Exposition draftsman Clarence Stein. The Central Mesa was selected as the site. The Olmsted Brothers resigned in protest. Famed local architect Irving Gill, who had been hired to assist Goodhue, resigned not long after due to stylistic disagreements. The Dream City would rise on the Central Mesa.

The Central Mesa site required a bridge over Cabrillo Canyon for the grand west entrance to the Exposition. The Cabrillo Bridge, or Puente Cabrillo, designed by Frank P. Allen, Jr., would usher the visitor past a low-profile Administration Building on the left, through the entry arch into the California Quadrangle, with its California Building and tower on the left and the Fine Arts Building on the right, then along El Prado, where most of the "temporary" buildings for





Courtyard of the Science and Education Building, 1915

the 1915 Panama-California Exposition would be built. Goodhue envisioned a grand design for his Spanish Dream City, laid out along the tree-lined Prado, enhanced by gardens, with its buildings connected by arcades. But Goodhue planned for only a handful of the buildings to be permanent, including his own designs.

Goodhue himself designed the California Quadrangle (the California Building, its iconic California Tower, the low Fine Arts Building and Saint Francis Chapel, across the Prado. These buildings benefited from the work of a family of famed sculptors and stonemasons, the Piccirilli brothers of New York, who a few years later would carve a seated Abraham Lincoln from blocks of marble for the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., after a Daniel Chester French sculpture. For Goodhue's California Building Attilio and Furio modeled the historical figures and busts on the frontispiece while Orazio (Horatio) and Masaniello (Thomas) modeled the building's ornamentation. Furio was responsible for the figures symbolizing the Atlantic and Pacific above the arch of the west entry to the Quadrangle, a reference to the joining of the two great oceans by the Panama Canal.

The Botanical Building, set back from the Prado, was designed by Architect Carleton Monroe Winslow, with help from Frank P. Allen, Jr., and engineer Thomas B. Hunter, who also worked on the Cabrillo Bridge. Another permanent 1915 structure off the Prado was the Spreckels Organ Pavilion, designed by Los Angeles architect Harrison Albright.

Winslow designed most of the Exposition's "temporary" buildings along the Prado. Three of those now-reconstructed buildings are known today as the House of Charm, the House of Hospitality, and the Casa del Prado. Three more of Winslow's temporary buildings are no longer standing, the Science and Education Building (where the sculpture garden and part of the west wing of the San Diego Museum of Art now stand), the Home Economy Building (where the Timken now stands), and the Southern California Counties Building, destroyed by fire just hours before that building was to host the Firemen's Annual Ball in 1925. The Natural History Museum, designed by William Templeton Johnson, was built on that site in 1933.

In addition to the Cabrillo Bridge, Frank P. Allen, Jr., designed the Sacramento Valley Building (replaced by the Fine Arts Museum in 1926), the now-rebuilt Casa de Balboa, which burned in 1978, and the freestanding arcade between that building and the House of Hospitality.

The temporary buildings were meant to last for one year, but the Exposition was extended for a second year in 1916. Later, many of these buildings were used as barracks and meeting places for the Naval Training Station during WWI. By the early 1920s all were deteriorating and some were condemned. The first of many efforts to save these buildings began. Time after time, whenever these temporary buildings were closed by City officials or condemned as a fire hazard, citizens rallied to save them. The Dream City they had come to love had become a symbol of something greater.



The Home Economy Building

Winslow designed the Home Economy Building under the supervision of Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue, the Exposition's chief architect. According to Winslow, the building's west entrance from the Plaza de Panama recalled the house of the Counts of Heras in Mexico City. The corner tower was closely modeled after the Palace of Monterey in Salamanca, Spain, and provided visual balance to a similar tower on the corner of the House of Hospitality, directly across the Prado.

This building was renamed the Pan-Pacific Building for 1916, the American Legion Building in 1924, and the Cafe of the World for the 1935 California Pacific Exposition. The U.S. Navy used the building as a YMCA during World War I and during World War II as a commissary. It was known again as the American Legion Building at the time it was demolished in 1963 and replaced by the modern structure that houses the Timken Museum in 1965.



The Science and Education Building

Architect Carleton Monroe Winslow wrote that this building's east entrance from the Plaza de Panama was designed after the Church of San Francisco in Puebla, Mexico. It had two courtyards with subtropical plantings and a Moorish tower topped with black and yellow tiles, "Puebla being famous for its glazed and colored ceramics."

Under the supervision of Dr. Edgar L. Hewett, president of the School of American Archaeology and director of exhibits, Dr. Ales Hrdlicka, head of the Department of Physical Anthropology at the U.S. National Museum, assembled exhibits for 1915 illustrating the science of evolution in the Science and Education Building, also known as the Science of Man Building.

This building became the Palace of Science and Photography for the 1935 season of the California Pacific Exposition, the Medical Arts Building for the 1936 season, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Building in 1939. It was demolished in 1964 to make way in 1966 for the modern west wing of the Fine Arts Gallery, now the San Diego Museum of Art's sculpture court.



above Tower of the Home Economy Building at left and the House of Hospitality at right, 1915.

Names & Milestones in the History of Prado Buildings

Casa del Prado

1971 Casa del Prado (reconstructed)
 1969 Demolished
 1960s North Exhibit Hall
 1952-1954 San Diego Public Library
 1941-1943? US Navy use for USO during WWII
 1935 Palace of Food and Beverage
 1917-1919 US Naval Training Station barracks during WWI
 1916 Foreign and Domestic Products Building
 1914 Varied Industries and Food Products Building
 1913 Agriculture Building (during construction)

Casa de Balboa

1982 Casa de Balboa (reconstructed)
 1978 Destroyed by fire
 1950s Electric Building
 1944-1946 US Naval Hospital use during WWII
 1941-1944 US Army use during WWII
 1935 Palace of Better Housing
 1917-1919 US Naval Training Station barracks during WWI
 1916 Canadian Building
 1913 Commerce and Industries Building
 1913 Domestic Liberal Arts Building (pre-exposition)

House of Charm

1996 House of Charm (reconstructed)
 1994 Demolished
 1951 House of Charm
 1950 Alcazar Building (proposed name)
 1937 House of Charm
 1936 Palace of International Arts / House of Charm
 1935 Palace of Parent and Child / House of Charm
 1917-1919 US Naval Training Station use during WWI
 1916 Russia and Brazil Building
 1915 Indian Arts Building
 1913 Mining Building (pre-exposition)

House of Hospitality

1997 House of Hospitality (reconstructed)
 1995 Dismantled
 1941-1946 housed Navy nurses during WWII
 1935 House of Hospitality (remodeled by Requa)
 1917-1919 US Naval Training Station use during WWI
 1915 Foreign Arts Building
 1913 Foreign Arts Building
 1913 Foreign and Domestic Arts Building
 1913 Foreign Liberal Arts Building (pre-exposition)

The Committee of One Hundred

The Committee of One Hundred was formed in 1967 to preserve Balboa Park's Spanish Colonial Revival architectural heritage from the 1915 Exposition. The newly built modern structures on the Plaza de Panama stood as stark reminders of failed preservation efforts. At the time, the Food and Beverage Building (now the Casa del Prado) was imminently threatened; there was talk of replacing it, too, with a modern structure. The Committee of One Hundred championed that building's reconstruction and funded the creation of molds of its ornamentation. San Diego citizens passed Proposition M in 1968, providing \$3.5 million for the new building, which was completed in 1971 and renamed Casa del Prado. It was the first Exposition building to be reconstructed. The Electric Building was destroyed by fire in 1978, rebuilt in 1981 for \$8 million, funded in part by a \$5 million from a federal grant, and renamed Casa de Balboa. The House of Charm was rebuilt in 1996 for \$11.5 million and the House of Hospitality in 1997 for \$15.5 million, each financed with 1996 lease-revenue bonds backed by the Transient Occupancy Tax on hotel and motel rooms.

Now that these four remaining temporary buildings have been reconstructed to be permanent, The Committee of One Hundred hopes to see the replacement of part of the Museum of Art's modern west wing with a reproduction of the Science and Education Building and the Timken building with a replica of the Home Economy Building. National Historic Landmark status means that new construction on the Prado must follow strict Spanish Colonial Revival design guidelines. Reconstruction of these two original Exposition

buildings would restore the four corners of the Plaza de Panama to their 1915 configuration.

Reconstruction of the Science and Education Building and the Home Economy Building will only be possible with the full support of the San Diego Museum of Art and the Timken Museum of Art, respectively. The Committee of One Hundred is only concerned with the exteriors of these wonderful buildings and the reproduction of their façades. The 1915 buildings enclosed open, barn-like spaces; the interiors of the new structures would be built to meet the needs of the institutions they will house.

Imagine strolling along the full length of the Prado, from the Cabrillo Bridge to the Bea Evenson Fountain, completely liberated from traffic and parked cars; picture a restored Plaza de Panama, anchored by reconstructed Exposition buildings on all four corners, open entirely to pedestrians and bustling with activity as we celebrate the 2015 Centennial of the Panama-California Exposition.

This is our Dream City.

Michael Kelly is a retired Family Practice physician living in Mission Hills and a former SOHO board member. He is currently president of The Committee of One Hundred, which is dedicated to the preservation of Spanish Colonial architecture in Balboa Park. Photo postcards courtesy Mike Kelly.

Home Economy Building

1963 Demolished (replaced by Timken 1965)
1947 American Legion Building
1941-1946 US Navy commissary during WWII
1937 American Legion Building
1935 Cafe of the World
1924 American Legion Building
1917-1919 US Navy YMCA during WWI
1916 Pan-Pacific Building
1915 Home Economy Building
1913 Home Science Building (pre-exposition)
1913 Electricity Building (pre-exposition)

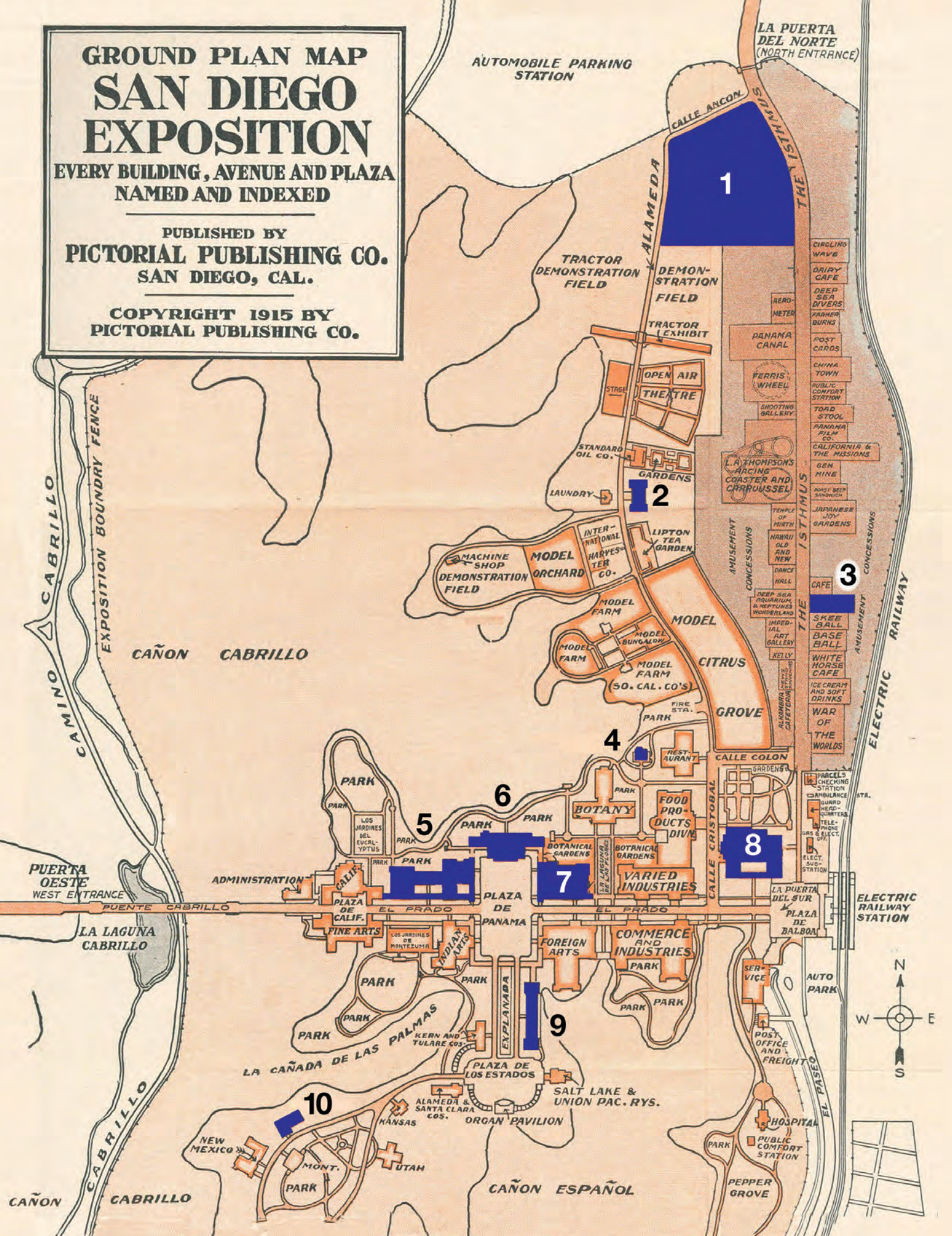
Science and Education Building

1964 Demolished (replaced by west wing, Fine Arts Gallery 1966)
1947 Veterans of Foreign Wars Building
1941-1946 US Navy use
1939 Veterans of Foreign Wars Building
1936 Medical Arts Building
1935 Palace of Photography
1917-1919 US Navy lectures, classes, entertainment during WWI
1913 Science and Education Building or Science of Man Building
1913 Arts and Crafts (pre-exposition)
1913 Machinery Building (pre-exposition)

**EVERY BUILDING, AVENUE AND PLAZA
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10 Vanished Balboa Park Landmarks

THEY ARE GONE NOW - CAN YOU FIGURE OUT WHERE THEY ONCE STOOD?

BY DAVID MARSHALL, AIA

I remember my first reaction when I saw a historic photograph of the Sacramento Valley Building, “*That was in Balboa Park?*” Indeed it was. It was in our famed park for nine years in a very prominent location. Even those very familiar with Balboa Park may not be aware of how much the architecture in the park has changed since the first buildings were constructed. Most of the 1915-16 Panama-California Exposition buildings were intended to be temporary and many succumbed to deterioration. Other buildings were lost to tragic fires and thoughtless demolition.

This article features historic postcard images of ten vanished buildings from the 1915-16 exposition and a map showing the numbered sites in blue where they were once located. Test your knowledge of the park and see if you can figure out where they once stood. (Answers are listed at the end of this article.)

Japanese Tea House This temple-like pavilion was surrounded by gardens and a flowing stream to create a traditional Japanese setting. All the parts were made in Japan and shipped to San Diego where Japanese carpenters assembled them using traditional building techniques. In 1955, at the urging of the Zoological Society, the Tea House and Garden were demolished to make way for the growing zoo.

Sacramento Valley Building This classically proportioned building, like most of the 1915 exposition structures, was never intended to last. And it didn't. The building, renamed the United States Building in 1916, was demolished in 1924 and replaced two years later by another structure.

Science and Education Building This building was renamed the Palace of Science and Photography for the 1935 exposition. The building was demolished in 1964. The original 1913 architectural plans are on file in the central library, so there are hopes that it can one day be reconstructed.



4423. Japanese Tea House, Panama-California Exposition, San Diego, 1915.



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OFFICIAL VIEWS

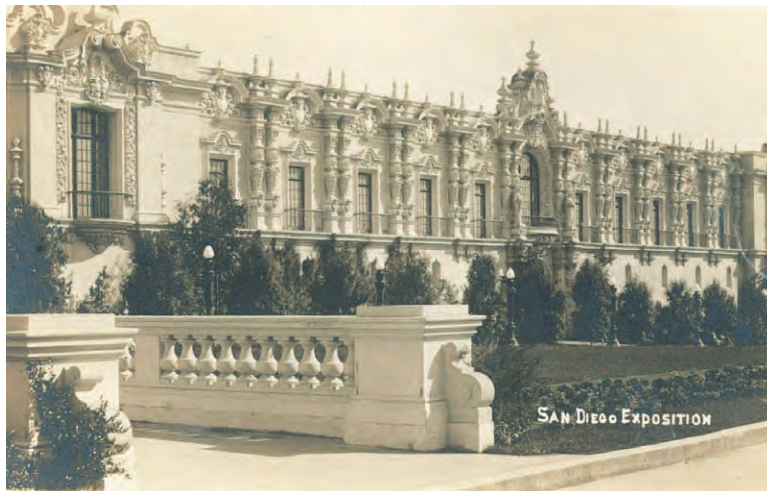
SACRAMENTO VALLEY BUILDING, ON THE PLAZA DE PANAMA



PANAMA-CALIFORNIA EXPOSITION, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 1915

71649 EAST WING, SCIENCE AND EDUCATION BUILDING

Top to bottom Japanese Tea House; Sacramento Valley Building; Science and Education Building



This page, top Cawston Ostrich Farm; *left* San Joaquin Valley Building; *right* Home Economy Building; *bottom* Nevada State Building

Facing page, top to bottom Southern California Counties Building; Washington State Building; Painted Desert



Cawston Ostrich Farm One of the places that 1915 exposition visitors could see exotic animals was at the Cawston Ostrich Farm. The building was modeled after an Egyptian pyramid, probably because ostrich feathers were a prominent symbol in ancient Egyptian artwork.

San Joaquin Valley Building The design of this building was unique for the exposition because it had no exterior arcade. The beautiful interior featured unique decorations in fine grains and grasses, which covered panels on the walls and ceilings. The building fell into disrepair and was demolished in 1933.

Home Economy Building This building was renamed the Pan-Pacific Building in 1916 and was later renamed the Cafe of the World in 1935. The design of the corner tower was closely modeled after the Palace of Monterey in Salamanca, Spain. The Home Economy Building was demolished in 1963 to make way for a new, permanent building.

Nevada State Building When this building was threatened with demolition in 1923, it was moved by the San Diego Zoological Society and turned into the zoo's Children's Center. The date of its eventual demise is unknown.

Southern California Counties Building This imposing structure was marked by two towers that framed a large forecourt. The two-level arcade was inspired by the Convent of San Augustin in Querétaro, Mexico. On November 25, 1925 the building, then a civic auditorium, was destroyed by a spectacular fire only hours before it was to host the annual Firemen's Ball.

Washington State Building This building had a rear balcony that overlooked a steep canyon. The series of slender vertical arches below the curved parapets created oddly interesting facades. The building was demolished prior to the 1935-1936 California Pacific International Exposition.

Painted Desert One of the most unconventional exhibits of the 1915 exposition was the Painted Desert. It was promoted as "the most extraordinary exhibit of Indian life ever attempted." Visitors could see "Pueblo Indians working and playing as they do in their real homes in Arizona and New Mexico." The attraction was revived for the 1935 exposition and renamed the Indian Village. Later the village was used as a Boy Scout camp before the fire marshal declared it a fire hazard and ordered it to be destroyed.

Author David Marshall is a San Diego architect whose firm specializes in historic preservation and adaptive reuse. His new book, San Diego's Balboa Park (Arcadia Publishing), features many of the historic postcards pictured above. David is a member of the Historical Resources Board and is a former president of SOHO. All images were provided by the author.



Answers Japanese Tea House - 4; Sacramento Valley Building - 6; Science and Education Building - 5; Cawston Ostrich Farm - 3; San Joaquin Valley Building - 9; Home Economy Building - 7; Nevada State Building - 2; Southern California Counties Building - 8; Washington State Building - 10; Painted Desert - 1

HISTORIC LOSSES

Fires Devastate San Diego County's Historic sites

BY BRUCE COONS



Above right Adobe Schoolhouse earlier in 2007; *above* Built in 1882 and restored by Henry Fenton in the 1940's. The schoolhouse received national fame when Life Magazine covered it in 1944. Owned by the City of San Diego the schoolhouse was already on SOHO's Most Endangered List when burned by the fire. This building is still restorable and the City needs to begin the process immediately. This is the only one room adobe schoolhouse in the County and must not be lost.



The recent fires brought the greatest damage and loss to historic resources in the recent history of San Diego County. More historic resources were destroyed or damaged in the Witch Creek, Harris Ranch, Guejito, Poomacha, Horno and Rice Canyon fires than in anyone's memory in the last 50 years or more. There were more than twenty major historic buildings lost or severely damaged,



Pamo Valley



with at least as many more undocumented buildings lost and literally thousands of archeological sites left bare or damaged by fire, fire fighting activities or recovery efforts.

We began to compile damage and loss reports the morning after the Witch Creek fire swept through that part of the county when SOHO member Catherine Laguna called in the first casualty, the Sikes Adobe. Her fast response allowed us to react quickly in turn, to create a central website for the region where public and private agencies and the public were able to send information about historic structures which had been lost or saved; this information, along with photos where possible, was then posted immediately.

SOHO's physical site assessments began the instant roads were opened. With so much terrain damaged and many sites off the beaten path we used any means of getting into areas, which included by 4-wheel drive, hiking and by air. This work continues today.

What has unfolded is a tale of devastating loss, and the urgency of what must happen in the future to protect what little has survived becomes even more important. The challenges in San Diego County now require an extraordinary cooperative effort in preservation, restoration, reconstruction and identification. SOHO and our Partners at the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Western Region, along with the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), County Parks and City of San Diego Historical Resources Board staff will be advocating for a countywide survey with Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping, and protection measures for cultural resources. Important historic sites should have pressurized outside automatic sprinkler systems installed in fire prone areas.

"The need for a greater inventory of historic and cultural resources cannot be overstated," says California State Historic Preservation Officer Milford Wayne Donaldson. "The Office of Historic Preservation will now be focusing on assessing the damage and providing guidance for the future." The OHP provided experts to assist in the post-fire assessment including archeological sites for counties, cities, and tribes. Efforts to mitigate potential harm to archeological sites continue as the rainy season begins.

Most of these sites should have been listed on federal, state, or local registers. Without designation they will not have access to FEMA and other funds for restoration. Had they had this minimal level of recognition they would have then been listed on the fire maps as important cultural resources. This information could then be taken into account when fire fighters are assessing where to make a stand.

This process seemed to work well in the Cedar Fire as losses to historic resources were minimal and our assessment of that fire revealed many hard fought successful defenses of historic buildings. In the latest fires, only Las Flores and the Montecito Ranch received this attention, perhaps because SOHO staff was on the scene providing the information to the fire fighting teams.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, Western Regional Office will be helping SOHO with some of the damage-assessment cost. Additional funds will need to be raised as well; assessments will be used in part to support and assist efforts to restore properties. If you would like to help by making a donation please contact us.

Top Dairy barn & silo - 1910's. Lost, only the foundation and silos remain. Owned by the City of San Diego , these unique and picturesque ruins need to be preserved; left Adobe Ranch House - 1940's. Heavily damaged only the walls remain; right Native American Adobe. Heavily damaged. Another City owned site, this rare adobe building needs to be restored. This valley was one of the Native American's last refuges from the encroachment of the Europeans.

Jamul & Tecate (US side)

Winnetka Ranch/Harvey Homestead

Below 1880's adobe and frame main ranch house is safe; *right* the adobe bunkhouse was heavily damaged but can be restored. Many other out buildings were destroyed.





above Honey Springs Ranch - c. 1930's
Main buildings were all lost; only one cottage survived. The property was recently purchased by a land preservation trust.

below Thing Brothers Store - c. 1880's
Lost. Listed as a Historic Site by the County of San Diego, this building was one of the last remaining 19th century false front general stores in the County. It contained original store shelves and other historic fabric at the time of fire.



Ramona & Ballena





Photos 1 & 2 Montecito Ranch/Cagney Adobe - c. 1880's
Built by the Barnett family the adobe was later purchased by actor James Cagney. It is now slated to become a museum in conjunction with a new development and grasslands conservation plan.

During the height of the fire Channel 8 was reporting directly in front of the adobe. SOHO staff repeatedly attempted to contact the reporter on the ground, Spencer Washburn, to let him know about the importance of the structure being threatened. Once contact was finally made, Spencer began talking directly to firefighters and the public about the historic significance of the house and the irreplaceable heritage being threatened. The fire first passed behind the house to the East, then as night fell, the strong Santa Ana winds returned and blew the fire in front of the house in some of the most dramatic TV footage shot during the fires. The area looked like the inside of a blast furnace, intense orange with a mass of embers red-hot and blowing straight horizontally at great speed; everyone thought surely the house was lost. After two fire retardant drops were made on the adobe and

direct intervention was taken by firefighters on the ground, the house was saved from certain destruction even though the grounds burned on all sides right up to its verandahs.

3 William Flack House - c. 1895. Lost. Photo by Heather Thompson

4 & 5 Ballena Schoolhouse - c. 1880's. Lost. Built as a schoolhouse, it was later turned into a comfortable home.

6 & 7 Littlepage House - 1870's. Lost. Built as the Rosemary Schoolhouse, it was added onto and made into a home by the Littlepage family, early pioneers who first came to the area in the 1860's. It was later owned by author Judy van der Leer, whose sister Mary still lived there at the time of the fire.

Photo 6 Taken after the 2003 Cedar fire. Firefighters made a valiant stand and saved the house. This fire burned up to the house on all sides, its fate secured for only another four years.



San Pasqual





This group of homes and farms nestled into the San Pasqual valley was one of the most picturesque and the largest intact examples of San Diego's late nineteenth century rural heritage. You may recall the photos of this beautiful landscape from the Winter 2007 issue of *Our Heritage* magazine where it was highlighted as one of San Diego's greatest surviving cultural landscapes. This was a place where you could truly experience a lost era.

The 19th century farmsteads and complimentary buildings were in public ownership by the City of San Diego, but already in peril before the fire. Ignoring their own ordinance of demolition by neglect, the city not only allowed these structures to deteriorate but they also allowed the TV show *Renegade* to graffiti

Photo 1 Sikes Adobe - 1869. Severely damaged. The Farmhouse is located on property owned by the City of San Diego Water Department and operated as a museum by the San Dieguito River Park. Restored in January 2004, photo by Susan Carter. **Photo 9** Sikes Adobe engulfed in flames early in the morning on October 26. The 1870's wood section is completely gone and only its adobe walls are left standing. Plans for stabilization are currently underway, restoration of the adobe section and reconstruction plans will follow. Photo ©Scott Ressler Photography; **2 & 3** John Clevenger House - c. 1872. Lost. This was the oldest house in San Pasqual valley; **4** Highland Valley Winery - 1919. Lost; **5** San Pasqual Store - 1930's-40's. Lost. This country store was owned by the Peets, Haleys and others through the years, and also served as the community gathering place for over 60 years; **6, 7 & 8** Henry Fenton/Bandy Canyon Ranch - c. 1930's. Heavily damaged. With some cottages and outbuildings lost, the main house is under renovation now and the hope is to reopen it soon.





the historic adobe school house, though listed on SOHO's most endangered list. The city didn't even bother to have the film company return it to its pre-graffiti condition. *(See photos on pages 12 and 13)*

The City also neglected to designate these historic sites, although they had commissioned a survey that gave overwhelming evidence as to their outstanding historic merits.

Could this irreplaceable resource, an area arrested in time have been saved? Absolutely, if they had been valued to

begin with. Restored, protected and in use, they would have been well known and flagged as important cultural resources. But the reality is that the city viewed them as a problem. Your children will never know firsthand what San Diego's 19th century back country looked like. Any city with even a modicum of vision would have promoted this area as a historic park where the substantial economic benefits of cultural heritage tourism could have provided the funds for many things, including the extra fire equipment needed to protect the valley.

Though at least half of the historic buildings that made this place so special have been lost, this makes the remaining structures even more precious. The proper steps must be taken now to preserve what is left. Restoration of the adobe schoolhouse, the only one of its type in San Diego County, must begin immediately.



Photos 1 & 2 Rockwood Ranch Barn - 1883. Lost. One of the last great ranch barns from the Victorian period in the county. The Ranch house escaped the fire's path, but is now being gutted after 100 plus years by its new owners, the Rodney Company. **3 & 4 Peet-Haley House – 1908. Lost.** Mary Rockwood Peet was a historian and writer, and was married to dairy rancher Everett Peet in 1899. In the 1940's the home was owned by Jack Haley, the actor best known for his role as the Tin Man in the Wizard of Oz;



5 Andrew Judson House - c. 1896-97. Lost. The Judson family has lived in and around this valley for well over 100 years; 6 & 7 John B. Judson House - c. 1880's. Lost. This elegant home served as a focal point for the community and acted as an informal post office for a time

Camp Pendleton



Above Las Flores Adobe - 1868. Recently restored exterior, soon to be open to the public. Photo 2005.

Right Fire approaches the National Historic Landmark, 10/25/07, 2pm. The Horno fire had already burned past the Las Flores Adobe and was being fought in the hills further east when SOHO staff arrived on the scene. A new fire sparked from old embers started while we were there and began to threaten the house and Las Flores Mission site. SOHO called in the fire to Base Fire Command and they were swift and successful in putting it out.





Spared

All of the buildings on these two pages were threatened by the recent wildfires. The fire burned literally within inches of several sites.

These are some of the very few remaining historic sites that survive; we lost a tremendous number of historic resources in this disaster and we must do whatever we can to protect the last vestiges of San Diego's backcountry heritage.

Without proper steps being taken to survey, document and provide adequate protection these sites could well become victims of the next fire.



All photos by Bruce Coons unless otherwise noted.



Top Rancho Guejito - Aerial view showing the Rancho and historic buildings intact; **left top to bottom** Adobe Chapel - c.1880's, Pauma Indian reservation; Silvas/Osuna Adobe - Built c. 1831, Rancho San Dieguito, (Rancho Santa Fe); Rockwood Ranch House - 1881, read about this historic ranch online in our inaugural issue of *Our Heritage* magazine; **right top to bottom** Trussell House - 1890's, San Pasqual, protected by surrounding orange groves; Pala Mission - 1820's; Sawday barn - c. 1900 at Witch Creek. Fires burned very close to this historic complex; **bottom middle** with fire damage all around the c.1890's Johnson/Marchus house, it was the sole 19th century survivor on the South side of the San Pasqual Valley

Facing page left top to bottom Bellinger House - Built c. 1880's, Bonita; De Luz Hot Springs Hotel - Built 1881; Old Schoolhouse - c. 1890's, Lyons Valley **Facing page large top** Sawday House - c. 1882; **bottom** Warnock Adobe - Built 1856 on Rancho Santa Teresa. Witch Creek fire burned up to the house





California China



Our Claim to

Tile Fame

BY ALANA COONS

Tiles shaped much of Southern California's architecture and design through the early part of the 20th century into the 1940's. During this time tiles were used effectively and in abundance in both public and private spaces with an astonishing array of color, texture and designs. The importance of this form of art is just now being widely embraced with the kind of fervor that a long overdue discovery often inspires.

In 1987, I wrote a weekly column for the National City Star News on South Bay history. It was then that I first discovered and wrote about California China Products Company (CCPCo). What first caught my eye were the principles involved; the firm was established by Walter Nordoff and his son Charles. I wondered could this be the same Walter Nordoff who co-wrote *Mutiny on the Bounty*, and other classics. I soon came to find out that it was indeed one and the same. But far more interesting, as I was to learn, was the story of this early California china factory and their pivotal role in the use of decorative tile in California architecture.

It began in 1911 when Walter and Charles B. Nordhoff, along with partner and mineralogist John H. McKnight formed the company after a study of geological conditions of San Diego County convinced the partners that all was favorable for the manufacturing of fine porcelain and china wares. Although their original idea was to manufacture fine porcelain products, it was

KAOSPAR TILING



Wainscot Panel, Moorish repeating design (6-inch units), California State Building, Panama-California Exposition.

Kaospar Tile
INSTALLED IN:
RESTAURANTS
HOTELS
BANKS
CLUBS
CHURCHES
RESIDENCES

ALL COLORED GLAZED TILE USED
AT THE
**Panama-California
Exposition**
SAN DIEGO

Kaospar Tile
INSTALLED IN:
BATHROOMS
GARAGES
PUBLIC
BUILDINGS
TILES DOMES
RAILWAY
DEPOTS

MANUFACTURED BY
California China Products Co.
National City
SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, U. S. A.

To those interested in fine tile work we will gladly furnish full information in regard to KAOSPAR Tile.



Above Part of a wall at the Santa Fe Depot showing extensive use of CCPco tile, photo Bruce Coons; *facing page left* CCPco advertisement from *The Architect*, June, 1915, courtesy Christopher Pro collection

their brilliant, polychromatic Hispano-Moresque style faience tile that would earn CCPCo its fame.

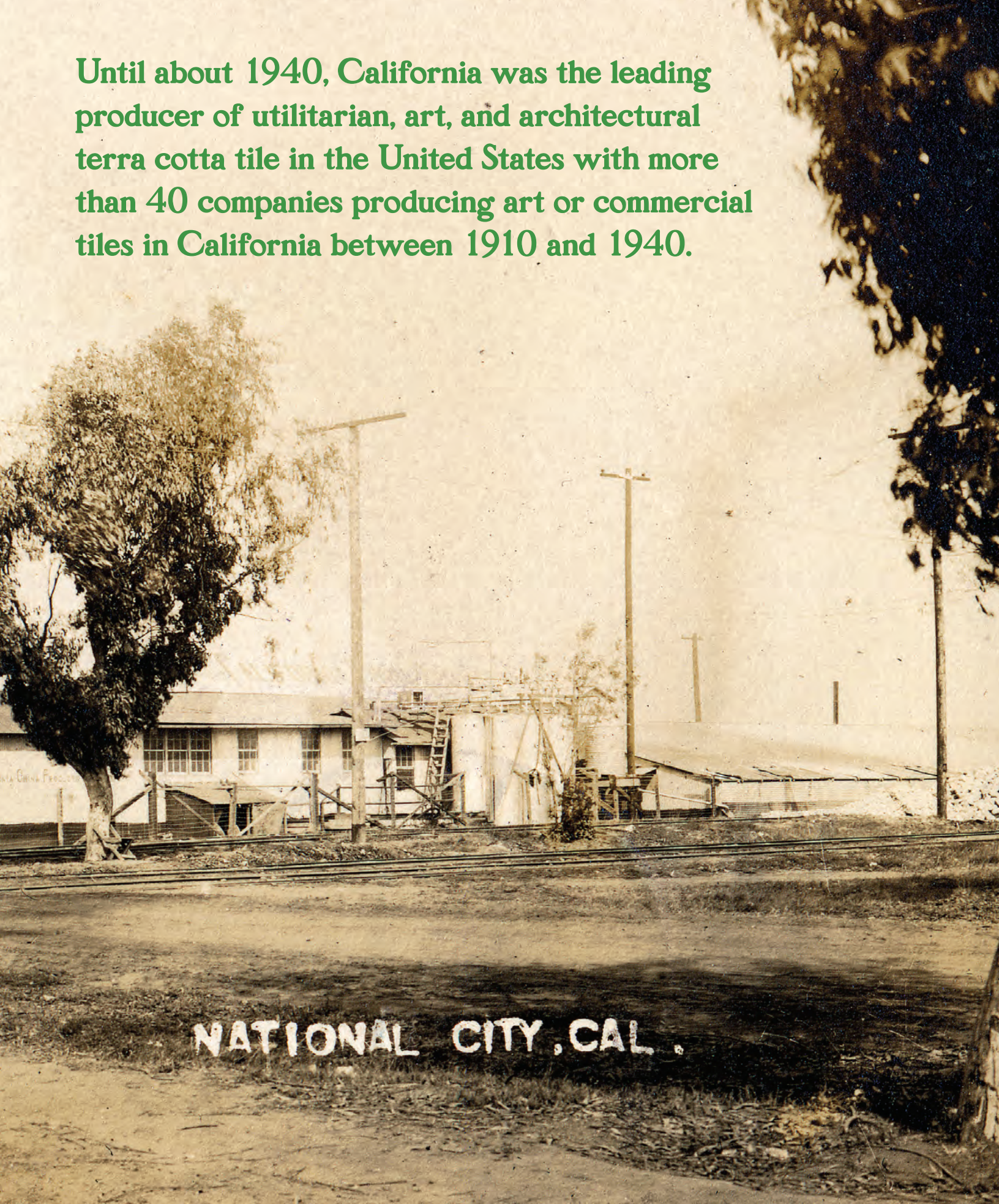
It has been said that CCPCo *faience* tile practically revolutionized Southern California's architectural landscape. With its introduction coinciding with the emergence of the Spanish Colonial Revival movement, CCPCo made its mark on tile heritage. Despite its brief six-year life span, they were one of

the most innovative tile manufacturers in California. The matte glazed tiles with their rich deep colors, matched only by their durability and usefulness as an outdoor material, were well received; they set the standard for succeeding generations of tile makers.

Their work can best be seen at two of our landmark buildings, the Bertrum Goodhue designed California Building at Balboa Park and the Santa Fe Railway



Until about 1940, California was the leading producer of utilitarian, art, and architectural terra cotta tile in the United States with more than 40 companies producing art or commercial tiles in California between 1910 and 1940.





Other decorative features include green leaf and yellow squash flower-patterned tiles, interwoven light blue Moorish strap pattern panels, and an interwoven hexagonal chain of yellow-tinged tile. Framing the composition are twin horizontal friezes of alternating golden-yellow and medium blue stylized ziggurats along the wainscot's top and bottom. All of these effects combine to give the feeling of viewing a fine Persian rug. Between the wainscots, although worn by eighty-two years of foot traffic, the original matte glaze floor or quarry tiles still perform yeoman duty.

It is hard to believe it, but this iconic building is one that SOHO has had to save from demolition no less than twice.

Depot downtown. With an estimated 10,000 tiles used for the buildings of the 1915 Panama-California Exposition, and produced by several companies, it is on the California building that CCPCo tiles are seen best in the massive sixty-foot high dome, with its glorious compass rose designs and 180-foot tower, it has become one of the most beloved and photographed buildings in the park.

The spectacular display of the company's work at the 1914-15 Santa Fe Railway Depot, designed by the San Francisco-based architectural firm of Bakewell and Brown, is its most prominent feature, the pair of domed towers on either side of the entry arch. Here you can really see up close and personal the extensive use of CCPCo *Hispano-Moresque* tile.

The interior of the impressive waiting room is almost entirely tiled. Historian Alex Bevil describes this room beautifully in his 1999 award-winning article *The History of the California China Products Company*, in the "Journal of San Diego History,"

Wainscots covered in rich geometric patterns of green, blue, yellow, white, and black. In each of their pilasters, set in green and black tile on a blue background, is the famous cross and logo emblem of the Santa Fe Railway.

While California China may be our hometown favorite, most tiles used in historic homes in San Diego came from other such significant companies as Pacific Clay Products; Gladding, McBean; Batchelder Tile; Taylor Tilery; D & M Tile; Hispano-Moresque Tiles; Malibu Potteries; and Catalina Pottery among others. Local architects such as Richard Requa, Lillian Rice and Cliff May made great use of them.

Until about 1940, California was the leading producer of utilitarian, art, and architectural terra cotta tile in the United States with more than 40 companies producing art or commercial tiles in California between 1910 and 1940. The California tile industry ended with the Great Depression, the World War II conversion of the many tile manufacturers to utilitarian porcelain manufacturers, and the rise of modernist design.

Previous page California China Products factory at 7th and 6th Avenues and 12th and 10th streets. On June 10, 1911 the *National City News* proclaimed it as "an ideal location for a factory. It is within one block of the waterfront on streets open to the bay and is practically on the line of the Santa Fe Railroad, the San Diego and Arizona Railroad, the San Diego Southern Railway and the electric line." **Above** Left side of arch, California State Building, Panama-California Exposition. The tile was manufactured by CCPCo; **right** View looking southwest of California Building, Panama-California Exposition, Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson, Architects. From *The Architect*, June 1915, courtesy Christopher Pro collection



The Use of Tile in the Home

BY ALANA COONS

While using tiles as decorative elements in the interior of the home was already considered an expression of artistic taste as a popular treatment in late Victorian and Craftsman era homes; it was during the Spanish Revival period of architecture that its use truly exploded in Southern California. This was when architects began to see how tile allowed them to introduce color, pattern and design for ornamentation that would also survive the elements.

The 1915 San Diego Expo started the Spanish Revival movement, but it took a few years for the use of tile to really take hold in a big way. By the 1920's and 30's, when many of San Diego's historic neighborhoods, such as Loma Portal, Kensington and Talmadge were developed, it was in common use. Take a walk down their streets and you can see wonderful California art tile on the exterior of many homes.

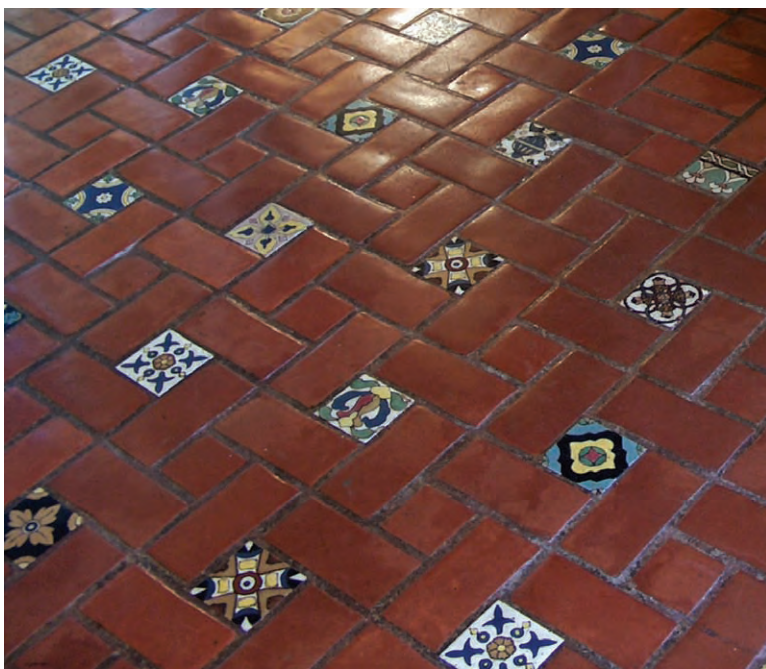
Along with the Expo's design influence, home decorating magazines, real estate developers, and furniture manufacturers made Spanish, Mexican, and Moorish themes the most popular style for California homeowners at that time. Considered functional as well as aesthetically pleasing, tiles were used extensively to clad benches, form fountain spouts and basins, and as stair risers both indoors and out. Often tiles were set right into the house around windows and doorways; interiors used tile extensively on their floors, stairs, entries, kitchens and bathrooms.

In the Craftsman style home, the fireplace hearth and mantel was the area most often expressed in tile. Matte glazes and nature or historical motifs provided a perfect backdrop for the heart and hearth philosophy of the Arts & Crafts movement.

In homes of the 1920's and 30's bathrooms and kitchens often exhibited a bold palate of colorful tiles on walls, baseboards, sinks, and in the bathroom around tubs. It was most often the bathroom that would become a real showplace with elaborate use of tile, motifs and color.



Facing page In this Point Loma home even the few steps leading from living room to hall are decorated in tile; ***this page left & right*** The entire entry and hallway in this Mission Hills home is covered in terracotta tile accented





by a variety of colorful tiles, rather than a single design; similar treatment is also seen in this stairway in another Mission Hills home. Photos Sandé Lollis. *Above* Small section of the base of a parabolic arched window in front of a Mission Hills home shows the use of vibrant color and elaborate pattern indicative of the Hispano-Moresque. Photo Bruce Coons.



In recent years, much California tile has met its demise in kitchen and bathroom remodels; these two rooms are the most likely rooms in a historic house to be ruined. There is a common misconception that to live in a historic home means to give up modern amenities. Beware of architects, designers or contractors who deliver this message, as they most likely don't have the skill or knowledge to do the right thing for your historic home. Bathrooms and kitchens have not changed much functionally since the 20s; modern amenities do not require you to replace the aesthetics of your period home.

The original tile in your home is something to be treasured and bragged about, not something to destroy. Keep in mind that a fireplace covered in original California tile can add thousands of dollars in value to a house. Allow the home's style to guide you through the renovation or restoration. Classic styles, designs and period colors look beautiful and never become dated. Look through books to research what was available when your home was built and then match that with your own taste. With the reproduction of historic tile today at an all time high, tile has never been more available since its heyday.

Resources

Designs in Tile

(530) 926-2629 • www.designsintile.com

Custom-made reproduction art tile

Ephraim Faience

(888) 704-7687 • www.ephraimpottery.com

Malibu Tile Works

(310) 456-0777 • www.malibutileworks.com

Mission Tile West

(626) 799-4595 • www.missiontilewest.com

Moravian Pottery and Tile Works

215-345-6722

Reproduction tiles based on Henry Chapman Mercer's original designs

Motawi Tileworks

(734) 213-0017 • www.motawi.com

Reproduction tiles in Arts & Crafts, Art Nouveau and other styles

Native Tile and Ceramics

(310) 533-8684 • www.nativetile.com

Pewabic Pottery, Inc.

(313) 822-0954 • www.pewabic.org

Reopened factory reproduces original tile designs and glazes

Laird Plumleigh

Alchemie Studio

(760) 942-6051 • www.alchemiestudio.com

Charles Rupert

(250) 592-4916 • www.charles-rupert.com

Stephanie Stevenson

(760) 730-9141 • www.revivaltileworks.com

Terra Designs Tileworks

(973) 328-1135

Mosaic tessarae experts & reproduction of historic ceramic tiles

Tile Guild

(323) 261-3770 • www.tileguildinc.com

Reproduction of traditional Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, Italian & English tiles

Tile Restoration Center, Inc.

(206) 633-4866 • www.tilerestorationcenter.com

Reproduction of Arts & Crafts-period tiles

American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC)

(202) 452-9545 • aic.stanford.edu

American Museum of Ceramic Art

(909) 865-3146 • www.ceramicmuseum.org

Ceramic Tile Institute of America, Inc.

(310) 574-7800 • www.ctioa.org

Tile Heritage Foundation

(707) 431-8453 • www.tileheritage.org

Tiles On The Web

www.tiles.org

Web site for handmade and historic tiles

www.tilenut.com

All about Ernest Allan Batchelder, including all 44 pages of a "Catalogue of Mantle Designs" from the Batchelder-Wilson Co. 1924

Books

There are many excellent books available now to learn more about California and other historic tile. The SOHO Museum Shop carries most titles including the Tile Heritage Foundations digitally-enhanced reproductions of historic tile catalogs. Nicely bound, with card stock covers, these are in most cases reproductions of original catalogs in the Tile Heritage archives and hard to come by outside ordering directly from the foundation. Just a few of the books we carry are:

Batchelder Tilemaker

By Robert Winter with Foreword by Joseph A. Taylor

Balcony Press, 1999

112 pages (hard cover), almost all in full color. - \$29.95

California Tile-The Golden Era 1910-1940: Acme to Handcraft

By Joseph A. Taylor/The California Heritage Museum

248 page (hardcover) - \$59.95

California Tile: The Golden Era 1910-1940. Volume I

Edited by Joseph A. Taylor

Schiffer Publishing, Ltd., 2004

248 pages (hardcover) with over 850 images in full color. - \$59.95

California Tile: The Golden Era 1910-1940. Volume II

Edited by Joseph A. Taylor

Schiffer Publishing, Ltd., 2004

248 pages (hardcover) with over 850 images in full color. - \$59.95

Catalina Island Pottery and Tile, 1927-1937: Island Treasures

By Carole Coates

176 pages (hardcover) - \$39.95

The Encyclopedia of American Art Tiles

By Norman Karlson

304 pages (hardcover) Over 1300 brilliant images of Southern California art tiles. - \$69.95

Photo Bruce Coons

I would like to take this time to introduce myself as the President of SOHO. While honored by the opportunity to assist in the leadership of this great organization, my path here was a sad one. On October 29 we all lost a good friend, preservation advocate and leader, Beth Montes. Amidst the grieving for Beth, San Diego County was dealt a severe blow with the onslaught of the wildfires. As these fires ripped through our county many of our historic sites were severely damaged, and others were completely lost.

There is an old saying that through tragedy grows strength. All of SOHO, the staff, the board, and our many dedicated members demonstrated that very strength during this time through unity and volunteerism. Bruce and Alana Coons, SOHO's Executive Director and Events and Education Director respectively (Alana is also the Senior Editor of this publication), spent many days on foot, by car and by plane documenting the loss of our historic sites from the wildfire. In addition, many of our members assisted with their reports and photographs of destroyed sites, that we then added to our website which was developed to act as a central information gathering location. I too knew what needed to be done, and accepted

the nomination to take on the position of President. During my term and beyond, I will do everything I can to make sure this organization's mission is carried forth.

Although October was tough for everyone, it does not cast a shadow on the countless accomplishments of our previous years or the exciting things that we have in store.

I equate getting things accomplished and preserving the heritage of our beautiful county to an old Amish barn-raising. You would be amazed how much can be accomplished, and how much faster when we all roll up our sleeves to help. Right now SOHO needs your help.

Your help can come in many forms, be it through your membership, your donations, volunteering at our functions or as a docent at the Whaley House or the Old Adobe Chapel. Even weeding the gardens behind the Whaley House is a help! We have committees that can always use your input such as Preservation Action or Events and Education, as well as any of our subcommittees, such as SOHO Modernism. Do you know that just by reading *Our Heritage* and passing it along to a friend who might not be familiar with SOHO and with what we do, you have accomplished an incredible service to this organization?

Feel free to contact our office at (619) 297-9327 to see how to get more involved, or contact me directly at (619) 977-7672. I would love the opportunity to chat with you. Email works great too at michael.kravcar@sohosandiego.com



(Continued from inside front cover) We are also honored to be hosting a conference with the National Trust for Historic Preservation for the advisors and partners of the Trust, Western region in April. SOHO has been banging the drum for cultural heritage tourism for years and the meeting theme will be just that. Where better to explore the subject than in a city and county as rich as San Diego is for the heritage tourist.

And finally we must with great regret report the loss of Beth Montes, one of SOHO's most beloved members, our President and a historic resource in her own right.

The fires began, as we were getting ready to go to press. In an effort to provide up to date information covering the fires and also the loss of Beth, we are combining issues 3 & 4. We hope as always you find the magazine useful and informative, and that it will encourage all who see it to preserve "Our Heritage."

Above Michael Kravcar, photo Sandé Lollis Right San Diego the first port of call, the SD Union January 1, 1914 New year's annual edition. Courtesy Coons collection.



REFLECTIONS

SOHO receives special recognition

At the annual Governor's Historic Preservation awards in Sacramento on November 17, SOHO was honored with a resolution of commendation for our work during and after the recent wildfires. We greatly appreciate the acknowledgment and were honored to be included with so many worthy preservation projects from across the state. It was also nice to be able to be there to acknowledge past SOHO president David Marshall of Heritage Architecture and the San Diego Padres as they were awarded the Governor's award for the rehabilitation of the Western Metal Supply building.



The Recent Wildfires

It is most important to acknowledge and thank the people who were involved with getting the word out and helping us to survey and list historic resources throughout the county and who acted quickly to take whatever steps were necessary.

Sandé Lollis, our Webmaster, was on an around the clock schedule with staff, posting breaking information and photos online as quickly as possible. Sandé's

work was an invaluable part of this effort; she recognized the importance of first responder status in which we found ourselves and never faltered in the emotional and exhausting first few days and nights of the fires.

California State Historic Preservation Officer Milford Wayne Donaldson and the Office of Historic Preservation responded immediately as well, and covered all fires in the state, including San Diego. Wayne corresponded with Bruce daily and visited the fire-damaged sites several times to assess damage and provide technical and funding assistance with recovery efforts.

Lynne Newel Christenson, County Historian and Archeologist, provided site status information and led the county's archeology teams in the after fire assessments of county owned sites. We always count on Lynne as a strong partner in preservation. As County Historian, she is always ready to assist and help wherever she can, and we don't often get a chance to publicly thank her.

City of San Diego Historical Resources Board Senior Planner Cathy Winterrowd and her staff handled assessments for city owned sites with City of San Diego Water Department Associate Planner, Nicole McGinnis, assisting with review of San Pasqual and Pamo Valley sites.

Christopher Pro, past BOD member drove SOHO assessment teams in his 4 wheel drive for several days. Another past BOD member, Tim Rudolf provided his plane and pilot and took Bruce Coons and a local journalist up to survey the areas that we were unable to get to in any other way. We would be remiss if we didn't mention reporter Spencer Washburn of Channel 8 News who was able to report from the Montecito Adobe that this boarded up old building really was in his words "an irreplaceable treasure," and the fire suppression teams of the USMC on Camp Pendleton who successfully responded to the threat at the Las Flores adobe.

Other projects were put on hold while we focused all efforts on alerting the necessary agencies to resources in danger, providing information to our membership, the public and to private and public agencies. I am proud of our efforts and of our organization's ability to take on whatever comes our way.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, Western Region is helping to defray our cost with a \$2,500 donation and we are working with the San Diego Foundation in hopes that they can find funding assistance to proceed with the necessary stabilization/restoration survey of County historic resources and disaster protection for the resources that were spared.

Historic Preservation Ordinance for the City of El Cajon

There are a lot of positive actions taking place around the city and county. One such piece of good news is that after nearly three years of collaboration between ECHS and the city of El Cajon, the Planning Commission recommended adoption of, and the City Council approved, a Historic Preservation Ordinance for the City of El Cajon.



Balboa Theater opens!

Downtown's Balboa Theatre will be reopening in January 2008. The historic 1924-movie palace will once again be a vital part of the city.

CCDC states that their "commitment to the restoration of the Balboa Theatre and to the creation of a true theater district downtown will be a key component in downtown San Diego's continued revitalization."

Some of you probably remember when SOHO held our People In Preservation Awards in the closed and derelict theater. SOHO was heavily involved in raising awareness to its plight and this was one way to show that people wanted to experience this fabulous building even if it meant sitting in the debris in their evening wear. That was almost 10 years ago and we announced at that time the theater was soon to be restored! It took a while longer than expected, but it's finally happened and we are thrilled. We hope to have a SOHO event there once again soon. We commend CCDC highly and look forward to recognizing them publicly.

The SOHO Board of Directors

One of the keys to SOHO's great success is that we have such an active and diverse board of directors. Our board truly enjoys building this organization together and commits their time at the very least to the monthly duties of governance of the organization. Each board member sits on at least one committee and volunteers at events throughout the year. It goes well beyond that. We have

at the table some of the region's most knowledgeable historians and some of the most experienced advocates. We go to each member for help, guidance and their time whenever necessary and without hesitation because we know we can count on them. It is a talented board on so many levels, and what is especially telling is that it doesn't end with their term. What you will continually see in this publication and in other SOHO publications is that both present and past board members contribute with writing or loaning their collections for visual content. One of the big reasons staff is able to accomplish so much is because of the strength of its board. I think we are somewhat unique in this area and I thought as a member you would like to know this and share in our pride.

Events & Education News & Volunteer Openings

The SOHO Annual Historic Home Tour Weekend - March 14-16

Mark your calendar now. The SOHO Annual Historic Home Tour Weekend will be the third weekend in March. We are designing this event based on all of the feedback we received from attendees of last year's event. The overwhelming consensus was that there was just too much to do, after all we had three home tours in three days, along with several additional architectural tours, two parties, seven lectures, the Show & Sale and the trailer exhibition. Wow, I would have to agree that there was too much. You also told us what you liked most and what you were not as interested in, so we have designed the 2008 weekend with this in mind.

By demand, we are offering even more small exclusive tours, and we are expanding last year's sold out Bungalow Court and Ft. Rosecrans tours. New tours will include a Tiki tour, which will combine the tour with a lecture and cocktail hour, and a Historic Tile tour and lecture. We will add to the lecture series a most requested topic, which is an Ask the Experts panel for homeowners;

Left Commendation from the State Office of Historic Preservation; **Above** SHPO Milford Wayne Donaldson and County Historian Lynne Newel Christenson assessing the 1880's Montecito adobe in Ramona. Photo Bruce Coons

this will be all Q&A with San Diego's foremost historic house experts. Sunday will culminate the weekend with the showcasing of five spectacular homes in two beautiful neighborhoods.

The Show & Sale will not be held, but your favorite vendors will still be able to be found in the advertising section of the program. The SOHO Museum Shop and book sale will be present as San Diego's number one historic architectural book resource, as will the popular silent auction. We are accepting donations for the auction now; please call the office if you have an item or service you wish to contribute.

Event headquarters will be centered at SOHO's office and museum complex in Old Town, where there is plenty of free parking and easy access to all freeways and transit centers.

This will be a terrific weekend and as always we depend on volunteers to make it possible. We simply cannot do the tours without your help. **Please contact the office as soon as possible to let us know your availability.**

NOTE! Every year the limited attendance tours sell out. One of the benefits you receive as a member of SOHO is the opportunity to sign up early for tours, before notice goes out to the public. So, if you want to go on a tour, register with the first email or notice by mail that you receive announcing the schedule and avoid disappointment. Last year the Ft. Rosecrans tour sold out within one hour of the San Diego Union Tribune's story on it, and the Bungalow Court tour within two days although it was year three for this popular tour, and some members were unhappy, which makes us unhappy! However, members have pre-notice, so this year even though both of these tours have been expanded they are still extremely limited, so sign up at first notice.

Modernism Meetings, looking for a few good modernists!

SOHO has been the advocacy leader for the preservation of modern architecture in the San Diego region. Currently we have a great group of modernists who have been holding down the fort for the last four years and they are looking for some new faces and fresh energy to come on board and help them to continue the work and goals that SOHO has set forth. SOHO board member John Eisenhart is the 2008 chairman and you can contact him through the office via email at john.eisenhart@sohosandiego.org. A lot of fun events are being planned along with essential advocacy work, so please join SOHO's MODCOM today!

2008 Winter holiday Las Posadas and Pastorela committee forming now

Last year SOHO was asked to take over a longtime Old Town San Diego tradition, Las Posadas. One day a gentleman came in to our office and explained that after having pursued all other avenues he needed help and that "I understand you folks save things." Well, what could we say to that, except, you came to the right place, that's exactly what we do! We began to research this pageant and learned that it had been a part of the cultural makeup of Old Town for over 150 years, off and on. We were shocked at the possibility of such an important piece of San Diego's cultural heritage being abandoned. We decided to not only help but to adopt it and with the help of Larry Bevers, the man who first came to us and who

has been organizing the event for over 17 years, and with expertise from board member Welton Jones, who knows a thing or two about productions, we began an exciting chapter of preserving cultural historic traditions along with the buildings and landscapes that are so intimately tied together. Teaching a sense of place brings people closer and more involved to the importance of preserving historic places. Las Posadas is a part of the authentic history of our city and we want to develop it back into its rightful place as an integral part of San Diego's holiday season tradition.



It was a success that first year but is the kind of event that truly takes the whole community to make happen. That is why this 2007 holiday season we gathered the Old Town community together in an inter-organizational partnership to bring a new tradition to San Diego that encompassed all of the historic traditions of both 19th and 20th century into a weekend event called Fiesta Navidad. Planning for a two-day Las Posadas and Fiesta Navidad in 2008 will begin in February, with the emphasis on simplicity and bringing a historic holiday tradition back in a non-commercial community oriented event with music, historic tours and holiday ambiance. We are looking for people who are interested in developing this event with our partners, the State and County parks, Historic Old Town Community Foundation (HOTCF) and the Old Town Chamber of Commerce. If you love the winter holiday season, be it Christmas, Chanukah or otherwise and are interested in creating

a multi-cultural event celebrating San Diego's history please contact us at sohosandiego@aol.com and get involved now. Meetings will begin in February.

People In Preservation nominations being sought for 2008 Awards

Early reminder that PIP will be upon us soon enough and it's never too early to nominate a worthy individual or project. Forms can be found online at sohosandiego.org or if you do not use the internet we would be happy to mail you a hard copy.

Correction

SOHO Founder Robert Miles Parker wrote about the drawing of the Broadway fountain on page 32 of our Spring 2007 issue, which we incorrectly attributed to him. "...I don't think I did the Plaza drawing. I think the drawing is [former SOHO President Bruce Kamerling's]—I never drew flying birds." Sorry, Miles! Thanks for the correction.



above Zidlochovice Children Choir Skrivanek (Skylark) from the Czech Republic performed in the Adobe Chapel to a standing room only crowd on their first American tour. Photo Rob Fanella; *Facing page* Emily N. Merchant, part of a trio that performed a Pastorela concert in the Adobe Chapel during Fiesta Navidad, photo Sandé Lollis

A Holistic Approach to Protecting the Cultural & Natural Resources New Report Available

"Expanding the Cultural Conservation Toolbox: New Partnerships and Strategies" was funded by a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) and San Diego's Save Our Heritage Organisation to de-mystify cultural resources preservation and give land trusts strategies to provide long-term natural and cultural resource protection for their projects. The report describes the issues and actions that can be brought into play to protect cultural resources concurrently while also protecting natural resources. The report shows how protecting cultural resources can strengthen land conservation projects including bringing new financial and legal resources to a transaction.

Prepared by an archaeologist and a land conservation broker, the document outlines



El Camino Real bell, courtesy NTHP

general and legal actions that can be used to protect cultural resources and defines the terms and concepts familiar to historians but unfamiliar to many whose conservation focus is natural resources. The authors highlight issues that can occur when land trusts transition their lands to public agencies and suggest the use of deed restrictions, easements and other tools to permanently protect cultural and natural resources.

The report presents case studies where protecting cultural resources helped expand and strengthen a natural resources preservation project. The 45-page report is available at <http://www.landconserve.com/news.htm> as a PDF.

Beth Montes, President of Save Our Heritage Organisation passed away on October 29, 2007 after a 7-month battle with pancreatic cancer.

Since 1989 Beth and her husband Zeke lived in the historic neighborhood of South Park in a 1910 William Sterling Hebbard designed home, Beth ran her own historic research company, helping to designate homes and other structures in San Diego and was working with neighbors on a South Park Historic district nomination package.

Beth got involved with SOHO after purchasing her home and has ever since been actively involved in the preservation movement, first as a SOHO volunteer, an employee, a member of the Board of Directors and just recently reelected for her fourth term as SOHO president.

Beth's passion was in her work with SOHO. It was with her strong support and active role as President that SOHO has made the great strides it has in the last few years. Beth was a significant and much loved part of the team and she will be missed every day.

Beth's memorial was held on November 9. Over 400 friends, family and preservationists gathered to say goodbye to this beloved, beautiful and kindhearted woman.

The family along with SOHO has established a memorial fund in Beth's name and it is through this fund that we have one way to show our love and respect for this remarkable young life and through the fund nurture and train students who will in turn be inspired to continue Beth's work.

In Loving Memory of



Elizabeth Lucille Montes
April 7, 1965 - October 29, 2007



Left to right Zeke and Beth with David Swarens at PIP 2005 at Petco Park; Beth accepting the 2007 PIP Leadership Award at the NTC North Chapel; during the Annual Membership meeting and elections 2007; ribbon cutting for the reopening of the renovated Verna House, 2004. Photos Sandé Lollis

The Beth Montes Memorial Internship and Outreach Fund

Dedicated to the memory of Elizabeth Montes, historic preservationist, historic designation research professional and four-term President of SOHO.

The Fund has been established to encourage others to follow in Beth's footsteps in the full time pursuit of historic preservation advocacy work. Funds will ensure that SOHO can provide the opportunity for individuals to learn and be mentored in the atmosphere of an advocacy organization.

To honor and continue her important work, the Fund will offer a paid internship for high school and graduate students with a special interest in historic preservation issues.

As President, Beth was all too aware of the financial challenges that often accompany nonprofit professions; the Fund will help support students seeking to enter public service through historic preservation advocacy by providing a paying internship, thereby advancing SOHO's mission.

The Beth Montes Internship and Outreach Fund for SOHO provides an opportunity for a deserving young person to have a summer internship at SOHO in the areas of advocacy, historic research, designation, public awareness, grant writing and development of educational programs.

This fund will help launch the careers of future community leaders, like Beth herself was, while at the same time providing SOHO with additional resources to support its mission. These are the things that Beth cared about and had long been interested in, bringing the next generation of preservationists into the fold and helping SOHO grow by providing additional staff support.

The family and SOHO thank all who have started the fund off to such an admirable beginning, donations are coming in every day and we will add to this published list on line and in subsequent issues of the magazine. With this we will seek interns with an application process in January and will have the first recipient of the fund begin in the summer of 2008. Please help us to grow this fund into a lasting endowment in Beth's honor.

Donors to the Fund to Date

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 Mark West

Annual Report of Financial Standing

Fiscal Year
July 2006 - June 2007

Save Our Heritage Organisation

Statement of Activities

June 2007

	Whaley House		Total unclassified		TOTAL	
	Jun '07	Jul '06 - Jun '07	Jun '07	Jul '06 - Jun '07	Jun '07	Jul '06 - Jun '07
Ordinary Income/Expense						
Income						
4065 - Food	0.00	0.00	221.32	1,682.36	221.32	1,682.36
4005 - Adobe Chapel Income	0.00	0.00	262.74	2,341.89	262.74	2,341.89
4020 - SOHO Donations	452.95	2,737.34	618.25	11,437.85	1,071.20	14,175.19
4030 - SOHO Memberships	0.00	0.00	1,923.93	29,991.52	1,923.93	29,991.52
4035 - SOHO Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	41,950.50	0.00	41,950.50
4040 - Whaley House Admissions	45,826.17	436,085.83	0.00	0.00	45,826.17	436,085.83
4050 - Whaley House Merchandise	0.00	0.00	12,254.52	128,953.78	12,254.52	128,953.78
4055 - Wholesale	0.00	0.00	0.00	101.62	0.00	101.62
4060 - Shipping Income	0.00	0.00	18.22	67.42	18.22	67.42
4080 - Whaley House rental Income	3,400.00	28,150.00	0.00	0.00	3,400.00	28,150.00
5200 - Advertising Income	0.00	0.00	100.00	600.00	100.00	600.00
5200 - P.A.R.F.	0.00	0.00	135.00	890.00	135.00	890.00
5650 - Income - Functions	140.00	160.00	855.58	65,340.36	995.58	65,500.36
7010 - Interest Income	0.00	0.00	1,338.21	17,219.07	1,338.21	17,219.07
Total Income	49,819.12	467,133.17	17,727.77	300,576.37	67,546.89	767,709.54
Expense						
6015 - Adobe chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	356.80	0.00	356.80
6020 - Advertising	0.00	8,653.00	117.72	963.72	117.72	9,616.72
6040 - Annual Meeting	0.00	19.43	0.00	558.76	0.00	578.19
6110 - Automobile Expenses	0.00	23.07	0.00	153.31	0.00	176.28
6120 - Bank Service Charges	1,319.63	9,578.16	0.00	0.00	1,319.63	9,578.16
6125 - Business Meals	0.00	0.00	107.75	78.22	107.75	78.22
6130 - Cash Over/Short	51.44	237.18	0.00	0.00	51.44	237.18
6140 - County Funds Expense	2,030.96	36,713.52	0.00	0.00	2,030.96	36,713.52
6145 - Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	488.90	0.00	488.90
6150 - Garden Expense	450.00	3,127.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	3,127.00
6160 - Dues & Subscriptions	0.00	610.00	0.00	872.00	0.00	1,482.00
6165 - Gift Certificates	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	100.00
6175 - Functions	310.92	3,497.31	6,075.30	47,518.25	6,386.22	51,015.56
6180 - Insurance	0.00	2,432.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,432.75
6185 - Interpretive Program	1,555.13	3,070.82	0.00	0.00	1,555.13	3,070.82
6190 - Insurance-Workers Comp	780.00	8,175.00	0.00	0.00	780.00	8,175.00
6195 - Insurance-Medical	1,395.15	14,553.27	0.00	0.00	1,395.15	14,553.27
6215 - Marketing	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.44	0.00	26.44
6230 - Merchandise	0.00	0.00	-22,566.18	45,427.41	-22,566.18	45,427.41
6235 - Licenses & Permits	0.00	150.00	0.00	20.00	0.00	170.00
6245 - Newsletter	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,729.85	0.00	14,729.85
6250 - Postage & Delivery	725.03	3,982.47	18.22	23.02	743.25	4,005.49
6260 - Printing	0.00	6,073.56	0.00	360.00	0.00	6,433.56
6270 - Prof fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.89	0.00	1,000.89
6300 - Repairs-Whaley House	0.00	3,817.41	0.00	50.62	0.00	3,868.03
6310 - Seminars	0.00	842.61	0.00	1,206.31	0.00	2,048.92
6320 - Taxes	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	10.00
6340 - Telephone-Internet	1,123.66	8,139.88	0.00	0.00	1,123.66	8,139.88
6450 - Contract Labor	8,148.00	93,266.37	0.00	127.50	8,148.00	93,393.87
6550 - Office Supplies	800.81	4,918.58	25.00	250.00	825.81	5,168.58
6560 - Payroll	21,999.48	253,057.22	0.00	0.00	21,999.48	253,057.22
6565 - Payroll Processing Fees	185.40	2,386.16	0.00	0.00	185.40	2,386.16
6295 - Rent	0.00	1,292.00	119.00	119.00	119.00	1,411.00
6770 - Supplies	808.77	5,668.53	0.00	1,282.20	808.77	6,950.73
7040 - Prev. Expenses	0.00	0.00	30.00	9,414.07	30.00	9,414.07
Total Expense	41,684.38	474,335.30	-16,073.19	125,087.27	25,611.19	599,422.47
Net Ordinary Income	8,134.74	-7,202.13	33,800.96	175,489.10	41,935.70	168,286.97
Net Income	8,134.74	-7,202.13	33,800.96	175,489.10	41,935.70	168,286.97

Save Our Heritage Organisation
Statement of Financial Position
 As of June 30, 2007

	Jun 30, '07
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1035 - PL Community Bank...	\$312,089.38
1000 - WAMU Checking	\$56,738.62
1020 - SOHO Shop Cash	\$300.00
1030 - WM Money Market	\$187,765.83
1040 - WWMM Façade	\$80,282.80
1045 - WAMU PRF	\$38,116.45
Total Checking/Savings	\$675,293.08
Other Current Assets	
1250 - Inventory	\$67,459.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$67,459.00
Total Current Assets	\$742,752.08
Fixed Assets	
1500 - Equipment	\$12,070.43
1700 - Acquisitions	\$925,000.00
1550 - Acc. Depreciation	-\$7,076.00
Total Fixed Assets	\$929,994.43
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,672,746.51
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
2150 - Sales Tax Payable	\$2,711.77
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$2,711.77
Total Current Liabilities	\$2,711.77
Total Liabilities	\$2,711.77
Equity	
3000 - Opening Bal Equity	-\$0.54
3900 - Fund Balances	\$1,501,748.31
Net Income	\$168,286.97
Total Equity	\$1,670,034.74
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$1,672,746.51

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 14 - 16

SOHO Annual Historic Home Tour Weekend

April 9 • 6pm

Interrobang Lecture series - Speaker TBA

April 10 - 13

NTHP Western Region Advisors/Statewides/
Partners Meeting

May TBA

People In Preservation Awards

July 16

Celebration of San Diego's Birthday

September 20

Annual Membership Meeting & Elections

October

Whaley House Halloween Events

December 7

Annual Holiday Party

December 12 - 14

Fiesta Navidad

Third Thursday Author Series • 6pm

February - November at the Adobe Chapel

Interrobang Lecture Series • 6pm

March 11 • April 8 • May 13,
September 9 • October 14

Monthly Meetings

SOHO Offices at Whaley House Museum Complex
2476 San Diego Avenue

SOHO Board of Directors • 5:30pm • 2nd Monday
Conference Room in the Derby Pendleton House

Events & Education • 11:30am • 2nd Tuesday
Conference Room in the Derby Pendleton House

Modernism • 6:30pm • 3rd Thursday
In the Derby Pendleton House

Preservation Action • 5:30pm • 4th Monday
In the study of the Derby Pendleton House

Book Reviews

Two New Books for Fans of Balboa Park

BY ERIK HANSON

Recently released is this addition to Arcadia's growing series of local histories.

San Diego architect David Marshall created a book, which is both an overview of Balboa Park history and a glimpse at details, especially of the attractions and charm of the 1915 and 1935 Expositions.

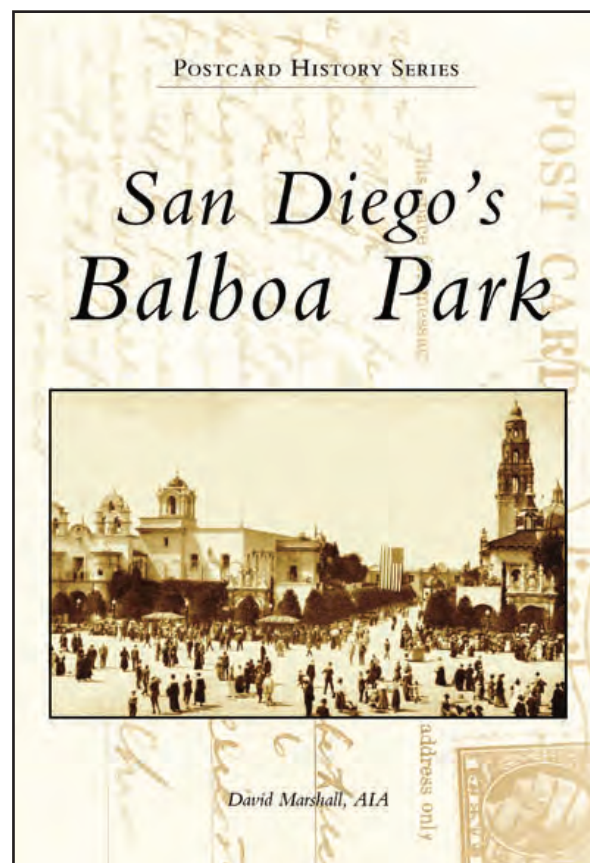
The narrative is driven by the uncropped images of 200 plus picture postcards, along with a couple of vintage maps which are used to explain the relationships of the features.

Almost every building or area of the park was featured on at least one postcard, from the expected Cabrillo Bridge and California Quadrangle to the obscure locations that just survived a year or two.

Those of us who think of the park as a refined place of culture, with fine old architecture (as it often is) might be struck by some of the kitsch and exploitative features that Marshall documents; a nudist colony, a midget village, a human blowtorch, and a waxworks opium den (actually designed by Pasadena's renowned Heineman Brothers firm).

Arcadia Publishing has established the template, which allows for introductory text, the bulk of the book being close to life size copies of the postcards, usually two per page (in black and white), with long captions, often 50-100 words. Somewhat over half the cards in this book were published in color, either the divided back or the linen types. Others were the real photo sort originally printed in monotone on photographic paper in lower production runs. For aesthetic reasons one would like to see the color ones in their garish originality, however there is no loss of historic documentation, as the colors used on cards mainly did not represent true life.

Even long-time collectors of local postcards will see many images they never knew before. Marshall is probably as familiar with Park history as anyone and he shows a broad range of topics, including chapters on the Navy's training depot days, the Zoo, fun zones, and, of course, the Expos.



San Diego's Balboa Park: Postcard History Series

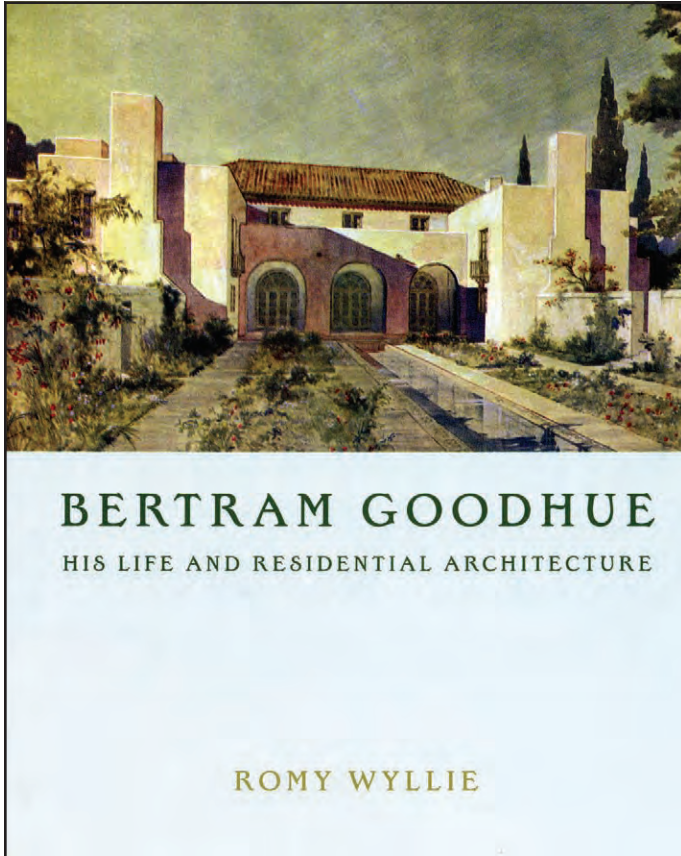
By David Marshall, AIA

Charleston, SC. Arcadia Publishing. 2007

127 pages. \$19.99

Those of us with ties to the south and east sides of the Park might nitpick at the lack of material on the Golden Hill Park area. This corner of the Park, far away from the Prado was the first developed area of the City Park, and five or six known cards featured its fountain, bandstand, trails and trees.

This book does belong in the collection of any fan of old San Diego. Marshall's architect eye and preservation background make him an ideal writer to explain the renaming and modifications to the Park locations, the analysis of the lost features, the persons involved, and the hidden details in these cards.



Bertram Goodhue: His Life and Residential Architecture
By Romy Wyllie
W.W. Norton & Company. April 2007
224 pages. \$60

Goodhue's work in the book arts, including his design for the still popular Cheltenham type font is touched on here, but could be the source for a separate book. Still, any lover of well-made houses of the first 2 1/2 decades of the last century will be happy with this book as it documents residences in the Spanish, Greek, Renaissance and Tudor revival styles as well as the minimalist worker's cottages of Tyrone, New Mexico.

Balboa Park historians (and aren't we all) will come away with a good sense of what talent it took to take away the Expo designs from local hands.

Erik Hanson is a long time SOHO board member, South Park resident, and by trade a used bookseller.

The City of San Diego is graced with just one Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue-designed building. This one building, and related colonnades, happens to be our most well known and one that is favored by snobby historian and the layman alike. Of course this would be the California building and Quadrangle, built for the 1915 Expo.

The range of Bertram Goodhue's art is amazing, even for those who have some prior knowledge. His national reputation is grounded in his ecclesiastical work; perhaps half his designs were for churches and cathedrals.

Romy Wyllie has attempted to pull some focus to his residential jobs, as well as providing some solid biography, with the idea that his religious work has been well covered by Richard Oliver in his 1983 book *Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue*. As the Oliver book is out of print and is fetching about \$200 for a used copy, she may have overestimated how many of her readers would have access to that volume.

Happily, Wyllie is largely not able to stick to the implication of her title, and non-residential projects such as the Nebraska State Capital, Los Angeles Public Library, Balboa Park, and Pasadena's Cal Tech are covered at some length.

This is both a work of deep scholarship and a visually pleasant book. Goodhue (1869-1924) was about the best American architectural illustrator of the 20th century, and it's reason enough to buy the book just for a good selection of these. This architect comes from a time when the best designers were more Renaissance men than we often find today. Goodhue, along with his contemporaries such as Bernard Maybeck and Claude Bragdon showed equal skill in book writing, typography, book design, and theatre arts, and were better with pen and ink than most artists.

Letters to the Editor



Letters may be submitted by email: SOHO@SOHOSanDiego.org, subject: Letters to the Editor; or by mail: SOHO, Letters to the Editor, 2476 San Diego Avenue, San Diego CA 92110

IN RESPONSE TO YOUR REQUEST for the Balboa Park Committee (BPC) perspective on the state of Balboa Park and its future and what role we are actively playing I thought I would start by letting your members know who we are.

The Balboa Park Committee is the Planning Group for Balboa Park. We advise the Mayor and the City Council, the Park and Recreation Board, and City Staff on land use and policy issues relating to the acquisition, development, maintenance and operations of Balboa Park.

While leadership in the park has been fractured by the various goals and visions of the many organizations, institutions, city departments and politicians all with an interest in the park, the needs of the general public are often lost in the cacophony. But there are signs of positive changes.

The Park has been transitioning into an increasingly transparent and inclusive process. Boards of institutions cannot just take 24 more acres or tear down a building without a public protest. The public will no longer support plans that might be a threat to the park, as in the past when a former City Councilman wanted to put a tent city for the homeless in Balboa Park.

There are many more examples of these positive changes occurring, I give you just a few but important examples; this past July the Old Globe presented their plans for rebuilding the Cassius Carter Theatre to the BPC. They had stayed in their existing leasehold and proposed a building that meets the intent of the Secretary of Interiors Standards.

The Balboa Park Cultural Partnership - the recently formed umbrella organization for the cultural institutions in the park - have worked with the BPC on a number of proposals and have been willing to listen to perspectives based on a community centric vision and work towards common goals.

The San Diego Foundation, the Legler Benbough Foundation and the Parker Foundation have pooled resources to commission a report on the baseline facts of Balboa Park. This would begin to tell us what the condition and needs of the Park really are and will help us make recommendations based on facts. The

BPC has been trying to get this information for years. Representatives from the BPC have been assisting the Foundations in this very important task. These Foundations have been up front about wanting to have a discussion of governance for the Park. They are also on record about potentially offering funds to support a blue-ribbon commission to explore the idea. I am grateful they had the insight and ability to get the public interested in the topic.

Both of these efforts have been publicized and any discussion of a conservancy or any other type of governance for the Park will occur in a transparent open public process, which has yet to be discussed or agreed upon. I will continue to do my part and push for a balanced membership that also includes community activists.

I am aware there is a fear for some, that lobbyists, special interests, or the rich and powerful will make decisions in back rooms and the public will be shut out. As a member of the general public I find myself fearful of this from time to time. However I feel it's too late for that to occur here, as community people are already included. Discussions and decision-making are increasingly transparent, and institutions have started thinking about how proposals will impact the general public not just their institution.

We all need to move away from an "us vs. them" attitude. If we are to protect and enhance Balboa Park for future generations we will need individuals with many different perspectives, backgrounds, skills and resources working together.

Thank you SOHO for your continued interest and support for this national register historic district.

- Vicki Granowitz, Chair of the Balboa Park Committee, San Diego

ENCLOSED FIND A HISTORY of the Schiefer & Sons Showcase & Fixture Company that occupied the three story brick building on the southeast corner of 8th and J streets for thirty-odd years. While the building is identified as an “airplane factory” that was an interesting but small portion of the products manufactured there. A great majority of the retail business – department stores, cocktail lounges, bars and restaurants, grocery stores and most businesses that used showcases and fixtures, even including offices and business locations, were served by Schiefer & Sons. Piggly Wiggly and Safeway stores as far north as Fresno were installed by Schiefer & Sons. Meat display cases and refrigerated “reach-in” cold cases were a specialty that had few competitors in those days.

It is my understanding that the building that was originally scheduled for removal has now been restored and saved and will be available for rental units. While I didn’t find much interest in the history I enclose, I do think that the Schiefer family business contributed a lot to the history of the area. I thank you for any use you might find for the information that I submit to you. Saving Our Heritage is most surely a very worthy endeavor.

- William E. Schiefer D.D.S. (retired), Yuma, AZ

The lengthy history mentioned in this letter is included in the online version of this issue of Our Heritage magazine.

WE WOULD LIKE TO PERSONALLY THANK SOHO Executive Director Bruce Coons and the SOHO staff and board for supporting and advising the residents of Mission Hills for the past five years on our two historic districts, which have just been approved unanimously on the 238th anniversary of the founding of San Diego on July 16th.

The Mission Hills Historic District (75 homes) and the Fort Stockton Line Historic District (107 homes, 2 commercial buildings) were researched by residents in Mission Hills, led by us and other SOHO members Barry Hager, Scott Sandel, and many other Mission Hills residents. Furthermore, long-time SOHO members Ron and Dale May provided invaluable research to us, in large part because of our SOHO connection and out of respect to the late Kathy Flannigan. SOHO created a historic

district link on their website for our districts as well as other proposed and established historic districts, SOHO provided a place on their website for residents to learn more about our districts, read about the many benefits of districts and read our design guidelines during the past five years. This represented an invaluable resource for our residents to learn more about districts and the Mills Act.

As we gathered support for our districts, SOHO supported us by not only advising us, but also advocating on our behalf with the Historic Resources Board to save several important homes. SOHO encouraged its members to write letters of support as we went through the process. We had many letters of support by SOHO members as well as letters from Mission Hills Heritage, University Heights Historic Society, the National Trust and even national bungalow experts such as Jane Powell and Style 1900 senior editor Anne Stewart O'Donnell.

And finally, we would like to thank SOHO for assisting us and including us in the recent Summer issue of Style 1900, which featured an in-depth article on the Arts and Crafts Movement in San Diego. We participated in the recent “Regionalism and Modernity: The Arts and Crafts Movement in San Diego and Environs” conference by leading a walking tour of Mission Hills, thanks to SOHO.

The benefits of being a SOHO member are countless, including its strong advocacy of historic preservation throughout the county, its conferences, lectures and workshops - we have learned so much during our time with SOHO as well as having access to the leading preservation experts in town, in particular, David Marshall, Erik Hanson, David Swarens, Alana and Bruce Coons, Bonnie Poppe and many others.

- Allen Hazard and Janet O'Dea, Mission Hills

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OUR HERITAGE

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**COMING SOON! SOHO'S OWN PUBLISHING
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San Diego County Victorians is the first book published covering the entire county. A photographic overview of great variety, the author has included all style types from architect designed to beach houses, summer cottages, and farmhouses, from the affluent to the working class home. Pahlke has created a photographic tribute to the grace and beauty of the county's Victorian houses, including just enough history to place them in the context of their times.

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January 19, 2008 • 12 - 5pm

Francis Parker Lower School • 4201 Randolph Street

12 - 1:30pm Round Table Discussion *Historic Districts*

With MHH President Barry Hager; SOHO Executive Director Bruce Coons; Preservation Architect David Marshall; Senior Planner, San Diego Historical Resources Board Cathy Winterrowd; local real estate agents Lucy Abernathy & Celeste Dunn
Free

1:45 - 2:45pm Lecture *The Historic Homes of Mission Hills*

By Architectural Historian Ron May

3 - 4pm Lecture & Slideshow *The California Bungalow - Humble & Enduring*

By renowned author Jane Powell

\$20 members/\$30 non-members for both lectures

4 - 5pm *100th Anniversary Cake & Refreshments*

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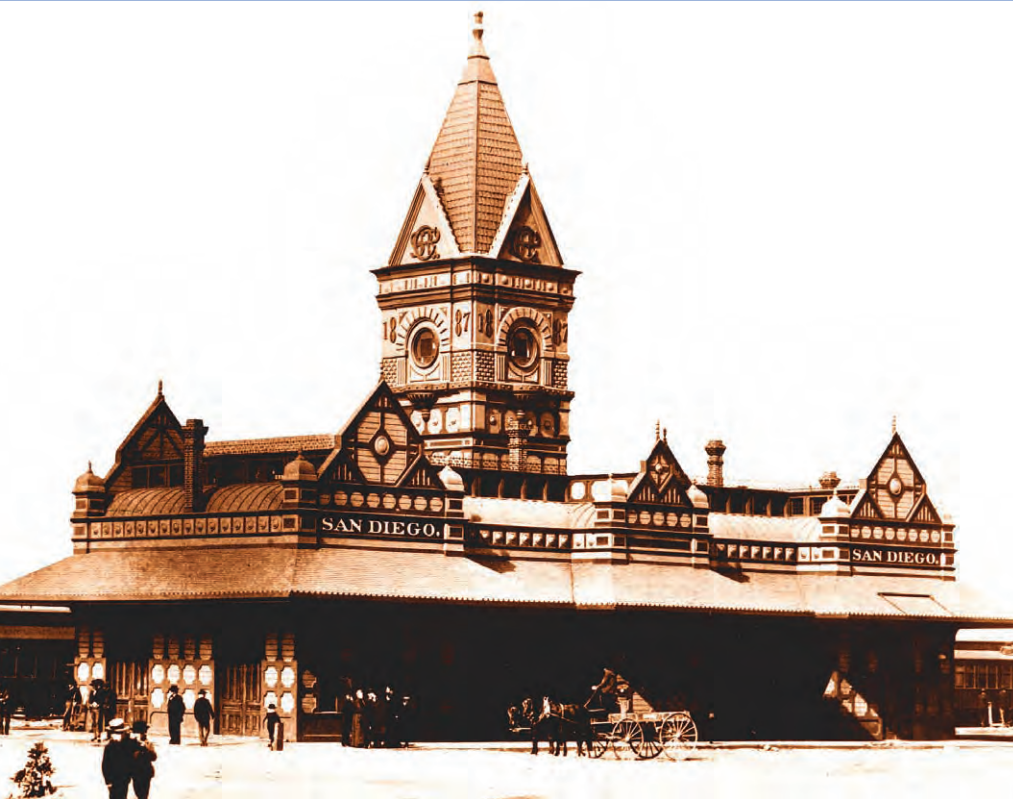
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LOST SAN DIEGO



The California Southern (Santa Fe Depot) built in 1887 at D and Atlantic Streets, now Broadway and Pacific Highway. This magnificent Victorian Railroad Depot, San Diego's first real connection to the world, was demolished after the New Spanish Revival Depot was constructed across the tracks to the East. The new depot was built to compliment the buildings for the Panama Pacific Exposition in Balboa Park. The site is still vacant, but will soon be occupied by a new office tower being built by the Irving Company. This important archeological site may yield significant information about the period when the completion of the transcontinental railroad finally realized a long fought for dream and allowed San Diego in the words of the time to "Greet The World."

