



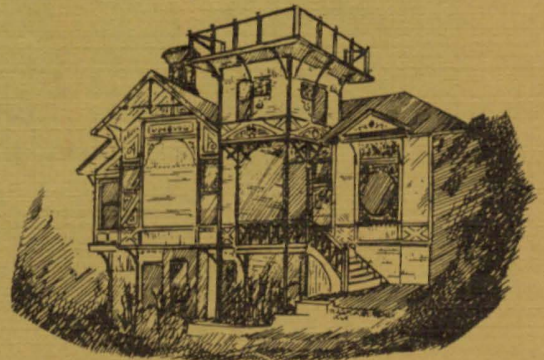
Save Our Heritage Organisation was organized in the early months of 1969 by a group of young San Diegans who discovered that they were not alone with their concern that picturesque Victorian homes were being razed at an alarming rate. Few of the early founders were active in any other historical organization. From the beginning, SOHO had the support of the prestigious San Diego Historical Society; many of the Society's members contributed financially to SOHO by membership, donation and support of the various fund-raising functions. In addition, a whole new group of local people has become involved. SOHO promises San Diegans a chance to preserve some of the remarkable, gingerbread houses that have dotted this city since its boom days of the 1880's. For some individuals, it is a chance to offer an organized protest to the rapid building of drab, new structures throughout our City.

SOHO has had a varied role in the City of San Diego during its short existence. Our primary goal was to move the historic Sherman-Gilbert House. To achieve this meant campaigning actively for a site of land which would become a government sponsored preserve in a park-like setting. Such a dream had been shared by many citizens and at least a few elected city and county officials. SOHO probably was the catalyst which brought all of these people to create a firm plan and eventually to the acquisition of the six-acre Heritage Park. The County of San Diego, through the efforts of two members of the Board of Supervisors, acquired the land and set up a Commission to administer it. In less than eight months of existence, this Commission has established a Master Plan for the park, created its own criteria for accepting buildings and has convinced the Board of Supervisors that the Sherman-Gilbert House was worthy of being moved to the park even though the grounds were not yet prepared.

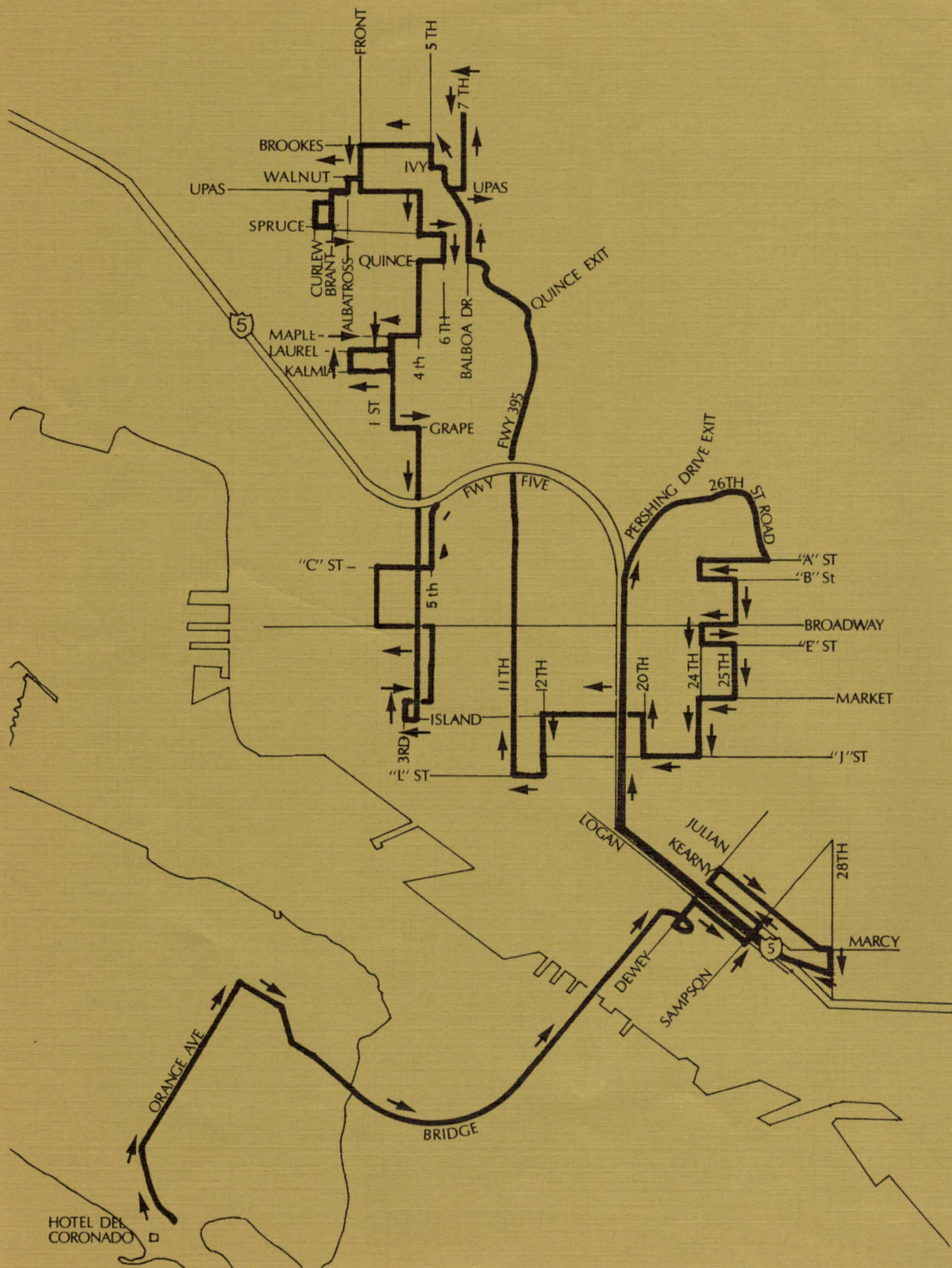
The Sherman-Gilbert House was scheduled to be razed for a parking lot of the new Centre City Hospital. As buildings around it were falling under the wreckers ball, SOHO and the Heritage Park Commission were negotiating with the County to move the house. In less than an hour after the Sherman-Gilbert House was finally moved off the site, bulldozers were leveling the ground where it had stood for 85 years.

Now SOHO is faced with the responsibility of generating the funds to restore the house. Total expenditure of moving and restoration will probably amount to \$30,000 (much of this will come in the form of services donated). As SOHO succeeds, other organizations are petitioning the Heritage Park Commission with buildings to be moved to the Park.

There are many small groups of individuals concerned about particular sites or areas in San Diego. SOHO might have settled into this status, except for the great cooperation of the local media. Newspapers, radio and television coverage of our events have been gratifying. A few of our active members are colorful and perhaps somewhat controversial individuals. Occasionally we have done some outlandish and maverick things. If these have offended other San Diegans, we feel that the offense was temporary and most people saw in our activities a deep and sincere desire to accomplish our goal -- to save a Victorian house. If what we have done can encourage others to do the same, then SOHO will have contributed greatly to California's First City.









2620 "A" Street ("Anne Hathaway Cottage") English cottage style designed by E. Brooks who worked in the office of Irving Gill.

24th & Broadway (Quartermass-Wilde Home) Built in 1896 by Rueben Quartermass. Later owned by Louis J. Wilde, mayor of San Diego from 1917-1921. The house is Queen Anne style with a cupola under a gold-painted dome.

2410 "E" Street First house built in the block. One of the first houses designed and built by Irving J. Gill. Built in 1895.

2441 "E" Street Built in 1897 by Samuel Rynearson. Note the interesting frieze and scroll work.

2470 "E" Street Built in 1908 for Alfred Haines. Today it is the residence of Charles C. Haines, retired Superior Court Judge.

1925 "K" Street (Shepard House) Built during the boom days of the 1880's for Jesse Shepard, self-taught composer, pianist, singer and spiritualist. The house, reputedly designed by Shepard himself and named "Villa Montezuma" by him, contained furniture, paneling, wallpaper and stained glass imported from Europe. In 1888, Shepard left San Diego leaving behind him the fantastic Villa Montezuma with its Victorian gingerbread decoration and Moorish tower.

227 Eleventh Street (Devo-Davis House) Prefabricated house from Maine, brought around the Horn in 1850. Erected in 1850 at Market and State Streets when William Heath Davis attempted to start a town by the bay. Purchased in 1867 by Alonzo E. Horton, founder of present day San Diego. Moved in 1873 to its present site. In 1873 it served as the County Hospital. It is now the oldest and most historic building in New San Diego.

3525 Seventh (G.W. Marston Home) Built and designed by Irving Gill in 1904. Owner, George Marston, was a successful merchant and was an active and dedicated leader in the civic and religious life of the community.

3565 Seventh (Burnham Home) Designed and built by Irving Gill for Lilla G. Burnham in 1906. By 1906 Gill had begun to design in a more compact style with cleaner lines and lower, wide-eaved roofs.

3575 Seventh Designed and built by Irving Gill in 1909. Residence of Arthur H. Marston.

3544 Front Street Dark olive green Victorian built in 1890.

3551 Front Street Built in 1895 by John Moore.

3407 Albatross Street Built in 1922 by Irving Gill for Miss Katherine Teats.

3415 Albatross Street Built by Irving Gill for Miss Katherine Teats. General Plan dated 1912.

3367 Albatross Street Built by Irving Gill for Alice Lee. General Plan dated 1912.

3353 Albatross Street Built by Irving Gill for Alice Lee in 1905. The present owners have been told that Mrs. Lee considered it "way, way out in the country" when it was built as a summer cottage in 1905.

3060 Sixth (Klauber Home) Built in 1907 by Irving Gill. Construction techniques were near the peak in Gill's career; examples, brick veneer covered with stucco, oak floors, simple interior paneling, early use of Mission Arch.

2720 Fourth Avenue Built in 1907 as the Mitchell Residence. Now occupied by the Elk's Club. The building is threatened with destruction.





406 Maple Street (Britt-Scripps Home) Built between 1887 and 1888 by Judge Eugene Britt who sold the home to E.W. Scripps, the newspaper publisher. Scripps lived in the house for several years before moving to his Miramar Ranch. He kept the house for the use of his family when they came to town.

First & Laurel Streets (Timken Home) This house represents a period of great activity and growth in our city which brought outstanding men. The House is of late Victorian style and exhibits Queen Anne, Georgian and classical Greek qualities.

2408 First Avenue (Long-Waterman Home) Completed in 1889 for John and Kate Long. Purchased in 1890 by Robert W. Waterman, Governor of California from 1887 to 1890. The present owner of the home is Mrs. A.H. Gilbert. This house is an outstanding example of the ornate "gingerbread" Victorian architecture fashionable throughout the country in the 1870's and 80's. The house sits on a large lot which still contains the gracious carriage house.

Horton Plaza and Fountain Alonzo E. Horton set aside this block for the Town Plaza. In 1909 Louis J. Wilde donated \$10,000 to pay for a new fountain in the Plaza. Irving J. Gill designed and built the fountain which was the first successful attempt to combine colored lighting with water.

Balboa Theatre Built in 1924 at a cost of \$1,000,000. The interior design is spectacular, with flowing waterfalls on the sides. This is a good example of the lavish movie theatres built in the 1920's.

Horton Hotel Built in 1887 as the Grand Hotel. When the Horton Hotel (built by Alonzo E. Horton) was demolished, this hotel acquired the name, Horton Hotel.

Keating Building (northwest corner of Fifth & "F") Five-story building erected in 1890 by the widow of millionaire George J. Keating. It was the first building in San Diego to use a "modern" style of architecture.

Hubbell Building erected in 1887.

Nesmith-Greeley Building This building was completed in 1889 by Nesmith who was President of the Bank of San Diego. The structure was built for his daughter who was married to A.W. Greeley.

Ratner Building Built in 1889 by Isador Louis and the Bank of Commerce. The style is Second Empire Victorian.

Spreckels Building Constructed in 1912 by John D. Spreckels as a lavish theatre and modern office building. This was one of only two such theatres constructed in the United States in 1912.

