

Conference Goes Over the Top

Although two months have now passed since the 1982 California Historic Preservation Conference took place in Oakland, memories are still fresh--crowds pouring into the main doors of the Oakland Auditorium and Museum, antique yellow and green Key System buses shuttling about the city, warm greetings in hallways and lecture halls, and most of all, exclamation about the excitement that IS Oakland! The typewriter balks at "there is a THERE there," but it was heard so often both during and after the Conference that one more telling is apt.

Oakland's Conference, the 7th annual, was by all accounts the most successful to date; attendance at well over 500 broke all previous records. High marks were awarded by conferees for the depth and breadth of program offerings: from discussions of the State Historic Building Code to the Interior Secretary's Standards for Rehabilitation, from a workshop on the roles and responsibilities of local landmarks commissioners to case studies of earthquake bracing and decorative plaster restoration, from the how-tos of complex "deal structuring" for financing commercial rehabilitation to the status of key preservation legislation at both state and national levels.

But with all the information that was exchanged, perhaps the greatest success of the meeting was its ability to move more than 500 people about the city, allowing them to experience firsthand Oakland's offerings of preserved, or greatly deserving, structures. The privately syndicated project at 1100 Broadway showed how an early skyscraper can be reborn, while two busloads of visitors were inspired by the example of grassroots community pre-

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Paramount marquee welcomed conference

Visit the Storefront Museum

Each day more and more people are discovering a small, unique museum exhibition space, tucked away in lower Oakland. The Storefront Museum is a project of The Oakland Museum, designed as an urban showcase in the heart of the historic downtown redevelopment project known as Victorian Row.

The Arlington Building (so named by developers Storek & Storek after the former hotel in the building) is located at the northeast corner of Washington and 9th Street and is the second of the Storeks'

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Oakland Heritage Alliance was formed to bring together community groups and individuals sharing an interest in the history of Oakland, and in the preservation and conservation of the city's archaeological, architectural, cultural, environmental, and historical resources.

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OHA was incorporated in 1980 as a California non-profit corporation. Membership dues and contributions are tax deductible. (Fed. pending.)

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OHA CALENDAR

The OHA Calendar lists events related to history and preservation that may be of interest to OHA members. To submit items for listing, contact Dean M. Yabuki, 842 Grosvenor Place, Oakland 94610, (415) 893-1278. The deadline for the September-October calendar is Monday, August 9, 1982.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Mon-Sat through Fri 23 July 10am-5pm

Dreams, Drawings & Designs: San Francisco Architecture, 1882-1982. San Francisco Chapter/American Institute of Architects 100th anniversary exhibition of architectural drawings by San Francisco architects (Polk, Maybeck, Pflueger, Coxhead, etc.). Three Embarcadero Center, podium level, San Francisco. Free. Contact SF/AIA (415) 362-7397.

Tues-Sun through Thurs 29 July 10am-6pm

The Presence of the Past. The International Architecture Exhibition from the Venice Biennale. Pier 2, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco. \$5/general public, \$3/student or senior. Contact (415) 673-4772.

Fri 9 July 10:00am-5:00pm

Historic Preservation and Adaptive Use Seminar. California Council/American Institute of Architects. Claremont Resort Hotel, Oakland. \$100/AIA member, \$125/non-member. Contact CC/AIA (916) 448-9082.

Mon 12 July 7:30-9:30 pm

Rehab Right: How to Rehabilitate Your Oakland House Without Sacrificing Architectural Assets. Helaine Kaplan Prentice and Blair Prentice, co-authors of Rehab Right. OHA monthly program. Includes screening of the award-winning film, "Houses Have History." Refreshments. St. Paul's Recreation Center Auditorium, 2nd fl., 116 Montecito Ave., Oakland. \$1/OHA member, \$2/general public. Contact Gary Knecht, Program Chair, (415) 865-6382.

Tues 13 July 7:30 pm

The Restoration of the Audiffred Building. Heritage monthly program. Haas-Lilienthal House Ballroom, 2007 Franklin St., San Francisco. Free/Heritage member, \$2/general public. Contact Heritage (415) 441-3000.

Wed 14, 19, 21 July 7-9pm, Sat 24 July

Tour of Historic Sonoma: The World of Mariano Vallejo and Jack London. Sister Ethel Mary Tinne-mann, historian, Holy Names College continuing education class. Preregistration required. \$55. Contact Holy Names College Continuing Education Office, 3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland CA 94619.



Thurs 15 July - Sun 1 Aug

Fantasy Heritage: California's Mission Revival Style (1890-1915). Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association exhibit. Hink's arcade windows, Shattuck Ave. and Kittredge, Berkeley. Free. Contact BAHA (415) 845-6591 weekday afternoons.

Thurs 15 July 7:30 pm

Fantasy Heritage: California's Mission Revival Style (1890-1915). Robert Breuer. Lecture and opening reception. Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association. Veterans' Memorial Lodge Hall, 2nd fl., 1931 Center St., Berkeley. Reservations required. \$4. Contact BAHA (415) 845-6591 weekday afternoons.

Sat-Sun 31 July-28 Aug 1:30-3:30pm

OHA Oakland Neighborhood Walking Tours. See separate article in this issue for details.

Tues 10 Aug 7:30pm

Van Ness Revisited. Gray Brechin, architectural historian. Heritage monthly program. Haas-Lilienthal House ballroom, 2007 Franklin St., San Francisco. Free/Heritage member, \$2/general public. Contact Heritage (415) 441-3000.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED TOURS & ACTIVITIES

Oakland Tours Program. Free regularly scheduled walking tours. Tours include Chinatown; Old Oakland; City Hall/City Center; Uptown to the Lake; and Preservation Park. Contact Oakland Tours Program (415) 273-3234.

Camron-Stanford House. Free tours are offered Wednesdays 11 am - 4 pm and Sundays 1 - 4 pm. 1418 Lakeside Drive at 14th St., Oakland. (415) 839-1976.

Paramount Theater Tours. Tours are offered the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, 10 am. 2025 Broadway at 21st St., Oakland. \$1. Meet promptly at the box office entrance on 21st St. (415) 465-6400.

Dunsmuir House. Tours are offered Sundays at 1, 2, and 3 pm. 2960 Peralta Court, Oakland. (415) 562-7588.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Oakland Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board. Meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month, 3:30 pm, City Hall, Room 221, Washington & 14th Sts., (415) 273-3941.

Oakland City Planning Commission. Meets the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month, 1:30 pm, City Hall, Room 115, (415) 273-3941.

Oakland City Council. Meets every Tuesday evening, 7:30 pm, City Hall Council Chambers (415) 273-3266.

Oakland Heritage Alliance Board. Meets the 1st Monday of the month, 7:30 pm. For location and agenda contact Marlene Wilson, (415) 655-3210.

Oakland Design Advocates. Meets the 2nd Wednesday morning of the month, 7:30 am, Tom Lovely's Restaurant, 336 Grand Ave., Oakland (415) 893-6834.

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servation in the Oak Center neighborhood west of City Hall. Several of the city's older public mansions, the De Fremery House and the Camron-Stanford House, opened their doors for special receptions. Even staid City Hall, Beaux Arts treasure and seat of government, literally rang out as visitors assembled in its ornate three-tiered lobby for an opening party Thursday night. Chamber music and pate' contributed to one of the building's most elegant affairs in sixty years. City Manager Henry Gardner spoke eloquently of Oakland's growing commitment to preservation.

Oakland's two mounted policemen joined a Saturday night overflow crowd numbering nearly one thousand at Victorian Row (9th and Washington Streets) where developers Storek & Storek have reconstructed the Nicholl Block. The reception officially opened the new Storefront Museum (described elsewhere in this issue) as guests feasted on dim sum and danced to live jazz. Old Oakland hasn't seen such a happy crowd in decades!

Back uptown, the Paramount Theater welcomed delegates to a sumptuous catered brunch Sunday morning. Champagne, hot crepes, and French-roasted coffee on the theater's great stage preceded a program surveying the National Landmarks (of which the Paramount is one). As the Mighty Wur-litzer organ rose in splendor from below the stage, alive with tunes of the past, the conferees bid farewells and headed home across the state. Oakland had made a distinct impression on them, as letters proclaimed over the next weeks.

A West Marin resident became so (in her words) "hooked on Oakland," especially by a tour of the Brooklyn neighborhoods' restored homes, that she has driven back on subsequent weekend to revisit the Camron-Stanford House and now is a regular at OHA's monthly programs. Another friend, now living in the South Bay, expressed new feelings about having been born and brought up in Oakland. "I am proud to claim it as my home town," she wrote.

Other correspondents singled out the warmth and spirit of Friday night's Italian

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rehabilitated Victorian commercial structures to near completion in the project that will eventually encompass two full city blocks. The Storefront Museum faces 9th Street and is found just to the right of the elegant wrought iron gate that sets off the Arlington Building's entrance.

Opening during the 1982 California Historic Preservation Conference in Oakland the weekend of May 1st, the Museum has just completed its first exhibition, a traveling show from the Smithsonian's Exhibition Service appropriately on the subject of urban restoration and adaptive reuse. Entitled "Buildings Reborn," it chronicled examples of many such buildings nationwide and put the Victorian Row project in apt perspective.

The latest exhibition, "Urban Weeds," has opened, and exhibition coordinator Irina Barnes says that the schedule for the coming year includes the subjects of Oakland "blues" music, a study of ethnic breads, and an examination of the objects

and traditions brought to Oakland over the past 100 years by immigrants from around the world.

The Storefront Museum is a unique concept bringing together private and public sectors to interpret an historic district. The Storeks have donated the exhibition space, and the Museum's first year is funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts through its Livable Cities program. Laney College will eventually showcase a videotape documenting the restoration process of Victorian Row at the Museum. The Oakland Tours Program will also make the Storefront Museum a headquarters.

Tom Frye, Chief Curator of History at the sponsoring Oakland Museum, said, "The Storefront Museum can help Oakland's residents become involved in understanding the process of urban change."

The Storefront Museum is open Monday through Friday from 11am to 4pm. ■

--Melinda Young Frye

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dinner at the historic Fratellanza Club where barbecued chicken and pasta so satisfied the 200 diners that they brought the 86-year-old lady chef out of the kitchen for a bow.

OHA would like once again to thank all those who helped make the Conference such a success: government agencies and corporations who contributed funds and services, and especially the volunteers who gave countless hours, beginning six months earlier during the planning stages and right on through the early mornings and late nights of the Conference itself. Without their help, it couldn't have happened. As a letter to the Oakland Tribune's editor phrased it, stealing San Francisco's slogan, "We're the city that knows how!"

Perhaps the Conference experience was best summed up by an anonymous visitor who remarked, "I enjoyed Oakland more than San Francisco; perhaps it is a bit closer to the earth, somehow." ■

--Melinda Young Frye

Briefing...

POSSIBLE LANDMARK DESIGNATIONS IN BROOKLYN

At its May 19th meeting, the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board recommended that the CENTRAL BLOCK (now HINSON BUILDING) at 1102-18 E. 12th St. and the WILLIAMS BLOCK (now CHINA BUILDING) at 1148-56 E. 12th St. be designated city landmarks, and that the two buildings and three smaller structures in the middle of the block face be included in the S-7 Preservation Zone.

The five Victorian and early 1900's two-

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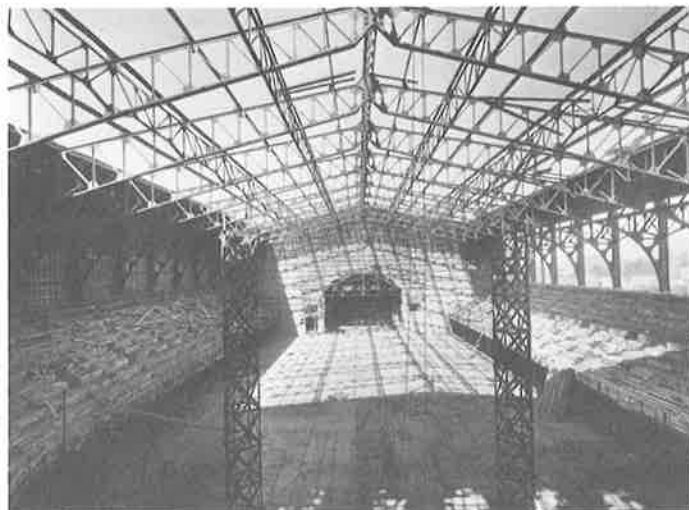
Hinson Building (left) and China Building

The Oakland Auditorium: A History

Conventions of Rotarians, concerts by Heifitz, musicals with Al Jolson, dancing by Ruth St. Denis, wrestling matches, plays, circuses, symphonies, vaudeville shows, and the resoundingly bogus Wild West Show of Buffalo Bill--the Oakland Auditorium has seen and heard them all for the past sixty-seven years. Opening in 1915 with a "Dance of a Thousand Colors," attended by 10,000 people, the great edifice has played host to a bewildering array of events through its long and colorful history.

Designed by architect John J. Donovan, with W. J. Mathews and Henry Hornbostel as consulting architects, the structure was originally intended as the nucleus of a cultural and civic center at the south end of Lake Merritt. Completed soon after the Hotel Oakland and the present City Hall, the Auditorium arose in the midst of the buoyant optimism of the Progressive Era and City Beautiful movement, and it stood as a pinnacle of achievement in the prodigiously active administration of Mayor Mott. It provided a center for activities formerly dispersed throughout the city and became a highly visible sign that Oakland's cultural life had, like the rest of the city, come of age.

The building was designed so that five to seven functions could be held simultaneously. Planning of the structure was meticulous and foresight was much evidenced in the construction. As one publicity brochure stated, "It has an orchestra pit capable of accommodating 100 musicians; has dressing rooms for choruses holding from 50 to 75 people each; ten other regular dressing rooms holding from four to ten people each; property rooms well equipped; four complete sets of scenery; steel and asbestos curtains; full stage equipment for the handling of all road productions; and a regular stage crew, employed by the year, consisting of stage carpenter, electrician, and property man." Among other features remarkable for a 1915 structure were a large parking area and provisions for showing films.



Construction of the Auditorium, 1915

Through the years, Oaklanders would see and hear the very best at their center: Sergei Rachmaninoff, Feodor Chaliapin, Pablo Casals, Lily Pons, Marian Anderson, Alfred Cortot--and the portly Madame Schumann-Heink on her many farewell tours. Vaudevillians Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Shean amused many with their Rabelaisian antics, and the world first heard the pellucid tones of Yehudi Menuhin when, as a cherubic little boy, the violinist stood on the stage of the Auditorium with the San Francisco Symphony. Lovers of dance enjoyed the grace of Pavlova and La Loie Fuller. Aficionados of the theater were treated to the acting of Otis Skinner and Katharine Cornell. Novice jazz lovers had their ears titillated ever so gently by Paul Whiteman and his orchestra. And connoisseurs of art viewed the paintings in the city's first art museum, housed in an upper room of the building.

As a convention center, the Auditorium attracted many national conventions to the West Coast. Realtors, Bible study groups, Civil War veterans, advertisers--all used the facilities of the building.

The Oakland Auditorium offered much to Oaklanders in former years, and today, through restoration, the building will continue to be a center of cultural and civic activity--a link to the city's past and a viable part of the future.■

--William Sturm



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story commercial buildings are a remnant of the once-thriving Clinton-Brooklyn business district, centered around the intersection of East 12th Street and 13th Avenue.

Landmark designation and S-7 zoning would allow postponement of any demolition proposal for up to 240 days and would require that any exterior changes be approved by the Director of City Planning. The designation was initiated by members of the Brooklyn Neighborhood Preservation Association (BNPA), including OHA boardmember Carolyn Douthat, in response to a proposal by the city's Housing Conservation Division to demolish the Central Block for code violations and the Division's initiation of code violation abatement procedures against the Williams Block. The BNPA views the proposal as the first step in rezoning the entire Brooklyn business district to S-7.

The Central Block and Williams Block are owned by Hinson Wu, who also controls at least two of the middle three buildings and who so far has been unable to perform the needed rehabilitation work. However, Wu supports the proposed designations. The designations were approved by the City Planning Commission on June 9, but still require City Council approval. A vote is expected some time in July.

● SAUSAL CREEK TEMPORARILY SAVED

For probably the first time in Oakland since the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District was established

in 1962, a District proposal to culvert a creek has been dropped, at least temporarily, because of public opposition. The District was planning to culvert three sections of SAUSAL CREEK along Peroly Court, Barry Place, and Adell Court as an emergency action to save buildings along the creek that are threatened by bank erosion due to last winter's heavy storms. The project's acceleration as an emergency action exempted it from normal public review procedures, including the preparation of an environmental impact report. The proposal stimulated strong opposition from residents living along the Peroly Court and Barry Place segments, who formed Citizens to Save Sausal Creek. The opposition was unusual in that previous creek culverting proposals have usually been supported by creekside residents. (See Temescal Creek article in May-June 1982 *OHA News*.) The opposition was sufficient to persuade the County Board of Supervisors to reject the emergency procedure, an action that may have been influenced by the county counsel's opinion that an emergency no longer existed because the winter rains had passed.

The portions of the creek banks damaged during the winter are eligible for assistance under the U.S. Soil Conservation Service's Emergency Watershed Program.

The Flood Control District is now proposing to defer a permanent solution for the creek until all alternatives are thoroughly examined and to have the Soil Conservation Service install gabions, rock-filled wire mesh screens, as a temporary bank stabilization measure until the permanent work is completed. The gabions would be limited to only parts of the Barry Place and Adell Court sections. Citizens to Save Sausal Creek is opposed to the gabions, arguing that they will require excavations of up to six feet. Instead, they propose using permeable jacks, open tetrahedran structures strung together by wires designed to collect floating debris and thereby protect the base of the bank. CSSC argues that permeable jacks would be a permanent solution, do no environmental damage, and would cost far less than any of the other alternatives. The District believes that permeable jacks would not be effective



Sausal Creek



along the creek sections with very high banks, some of which are thirty feet, but states that it will seek more information on this alternative.

A well-attended public meeting was held June 1 to present the possible alternatives, which range in severity from the permeable jacks to the originally proposed box culvert. The District has since mailed out questionnaires requesting opinions on the various alternatives. Persons wanting a copy of the questionnaire or wanting to be notified of future meetings should call Richard Hendrix at the District office, 881-6470. Persons interested in saving the creek should call Iskander Guy, 534-2724, Charles Perry, 536-8176, or OHA contact Vera Dahle, 834-4182, evenings.

● **ARROYO VIEJO CREEK CHANNELING APPROVED**

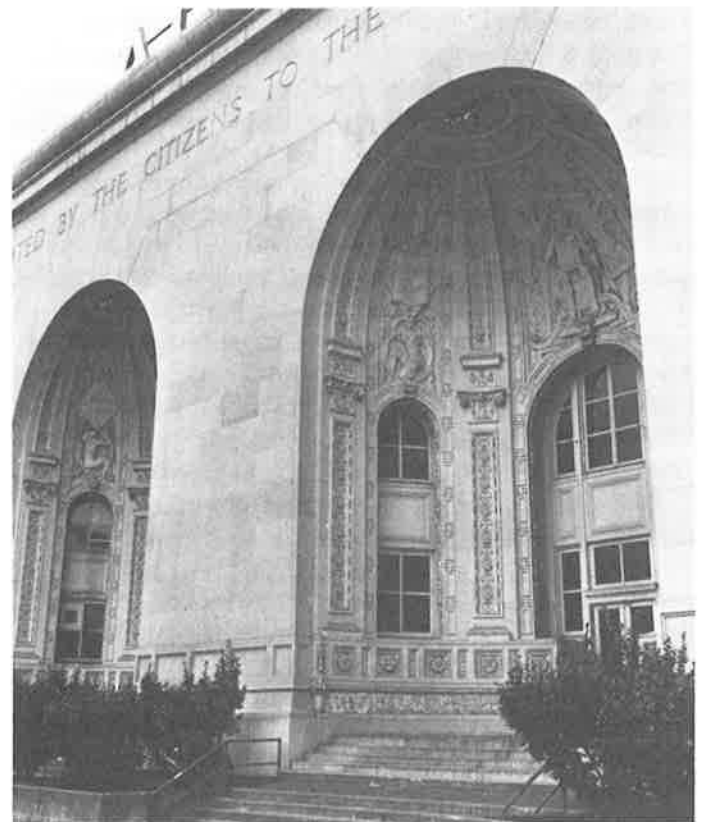
In May, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors approved the Flood Control District's proposal to install a concrete channel along Arroyo Viejo Creek between Arroyo Viejo Recreation Center (near 78th Avenue) and MacArthur Boulevard to correct bank erosion problems. (See Mar.-Apr. 1982 *OHA News*). OHA and the City of Oakland had urged the district to give further consideration to installing erosion protection walls only along those sections of the creek where erosion problems had actually occurred, but the District rejected this alternative on the basis of increased maintenance requirements and the possibility that erosion could still occur along the creek sections not receiving the walls. OHA is still monitoring the project in order to ensure that as many trees are retained as possible and that the walls are given a naturalistic appearance.

● **ST. JOSEPH'S HOME TO BECOME OFFICES**

After several years of vacancy, the former ST. JOSEPH'S HOME at 2647 E. 14th St. was recently sold to Ray Castor, who told OHA that he intends to convert it to house medical offices and social services. He does not expect to make any significant exterior changes.

● **REHABILITATION PLANS FOR AUDITORIUM**

At its meeting of May 19, the Landmarks Board recommended approval of exterior alterations of the OAKLAND AUDITORIUM. The proposed alterations were designed by the Ratcliff Architects under contract to



Auditorium, 1982

the city for the Auditorium rehabilitation program. (See Jan.-Feb. 1982 *OHA News*.) The changes include removal of the 1950 rooftop signs; provision of a loading dock on 10th Street; and provision of handicapped ramps at the northeast and northwest corners of the building. The ramps would occupy the end bases of the north elevation with its elaborate niches, and the northwest corner ramp would extend across much of the west entrance. The proposal was approved by the Director of City Planning but with the condition that the pipe railing originally proposed for the ramps be replaced with a solid railing matching the existing exterior materials.

● **FOX OAKLAND THEATER TO BE RESTORED**

After years of neglect, the FOX OAKLAND THEATER at 1819 Telegraph Ave. appears about to be restored as a performing arts center. Developer Dick Neault has signed a 20-year lease for the structure and obtained city approval of a \$700,000 federal Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) to assist the \$3,000,000 restoration. Neault, who was project manager of the Hotel Oak-



land restoration, believes that income from the stores and offices in the building, an early example of a multi-use complex, would be enough to make the project profitable.

The theater interior is architecturally intact and needs little work, but requires new seats, carpeting, sound system, and other furnishings and equipment. The fanciful Indian-Islamic theater complex opened in 1928 and was designed by Weeks and Day with Maury I. Diggs. It is a city landmark and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

TWO OHA MEMBERS APPOINTED TO STATE POSTS

Two OHA members have been appointed by Governor Brown to significant preservation posts.

L. Thomas Frye, Chief Curator of History at the Oakland Museum, has been appointed as the local government representative to the 16-member STATE HISTORIC TASK FORCE, created by Senate Concurrent Resolution 4 sponsored by Milton Marks. The task force will exist for one year and will prepare a report to the state legislature identifying critical issues related to historic preservation in California and proposing statewide preservation policies, programs, and legislation.

Bruce D. Judd, a preservation architect and OHA boardmember, has been appointed as the architecture representative to serve a four-year term on the STATE HISTORICAL RESOURCES COMMISSION. The 7-member commission reviews recommendations by the State Historic Preservation Office for National Register nominations and historic districts, as well as state historic landmarks and historical points of interest.

METCALF HOUSE TO BE MOVED

By the time readers have received this issue of the *OHA News*, the VICTOR H. METCALF HOUSE will probably have been moved from its original location at 245 Perkins Street in the Adams Point neighborhood to the northwest corner of 14th and Brush Streets in Oak Center. At press time, the porch had already been relocated. The move may constitute the conclusion of the long struggle between the Adams Point Preservation Association and developer John Russell, who wants to construct a new condominium complex on the Metcalf House site.



Metcalf House about to be moved

The City Planning Commission and City Council had approved the condominiums last year with the condition that the Metcalf House be moved rather than demolished, but the approval was suspended by Superior Court Judge Robert Kroninger after a lawsuit was filed by Adams Point Preservation arguing that an environmental impact report should have been prepared. An EIR was subsequently completed and the project was again approved by the Planning Commission on April 14, despite protests by Adams Point Preservation that the EIR was inadequate for not fully exploring the possibility of retaining the Metcalf House on site and building a smaller condominium project on the lot next door. Developer Russell argued that implementation of this alternative would increase the cost of the new condominium units so much that they would not sell.

Adams Point Preservation then appealed to the City Council, which again approved the project on May 18, with councilmembers Mary Moore and Dick Spees opposed. Adams Point Preservation next filed another lawsuit, repeating the argument made before the City Council that the EIR was inadequate. Although the court agreed to set a hearing date, it declined to issue a restraining order that would halt the move and the construction of the condominiums.

LANDMARKS BOARD SUMMARY

In addition to its actions on the Auditorium and the old Brooklyn business district (see BRIEFING), the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board took the following actions at its April, May, and June meetings.

April

Recommended approval of Storek & Storek's exterior rehabilitation of second and third floors of HENRY HOUSE at 478 9th St. in Victorian Row project; Storeks hope to restore building to its original use as a small hotel.

Recommended approval with minor changes of new sign for J. Nelson Piano and Organ, which is moving into landmark former GLENVIEW LIBRARY at 4231 Park Blvd.

Endorsed National Register nomination of former SECURITY BANK AND TRUST CO. BUILDING (now 1100 BROADWAY) being rehabilitated by Grubb and Ellis for offices.

Discussed publication of second volume of LANDMARKS BOOKLET.

Started comparative review of properties on Preservation Study List with those included in 1980-81 phase of CULTURAL HERITAGE SURVEY.

May

Postponed action for one month after hearing protests on proposal by Storek & Storek to demolish buildings at 469 AND 485 10th STREET in Victorian Row project for temporary parking lot, which would eventually be converted to a plaza. The building at 469 10th dates from 1880's; 485 10th is from c. 1900, remodeled 1920's.

Granted Merit Award to HARRINGTON HOUSE at 2112 10th Ave. and added property to Preservation Study List.

Heard concerns by attorney Jeanne M. Schumann (member, Adams Point Preservation) over WEAKNESSES IN OAKLAND'S LANDMARKS LAW. Schumann offered to research laws in other communities and present findings to board.

June

Recommended approval of Storek & Storek demolition proposal for 485 10th STREET but denial of demolition of 469 10th STREET. Deferred action on site's use as parking lot until use permit is filed.

Completed comparative review of properties on Preservation Study List with those included in 1980-81 phase of CULTURAL HERITAGE SURVEY.

Initiated LANDMARK DESIGNATION for: 101 Broadway (Overland House); 901 Broadway (Delger Block); 1615 Broadway (Cathedral Building, originally Federal Realty Building); 1419 Broadway (Broadway Building, originally First National Bank Building); 1900 Telegraph Ave. (Floral Depot); 716 Washington St. (Oakland Peniel Mission, originally Oriental Block); 721-25 Washington St. (Dunn Block); 727 Washington St. (Farmacia, originally Brown Block); 464 7th St. (Mi Rancho, originally Central Pacific Railroad depot); 476 9th St. (Portland Hotel, originally Henry House); and 479 9th St. (Lloyd Hotel, originally second Snyder Block).

Removed 333 8th St. (Chinese Community Methodist Church) from PRESERVATION STUDY LIST; retained 428 13th St. (Unity Building, originally Union Trust Company Building), on STUDY LIST but without initiating landmark designation.

Heard report from Chairperson Tinnemann that PICARDY DRIVE residents oppose landmark designation for that street.

Heard progress report from Laura Pan, Survey Coordinator, on CULTURAL HERITAGE SURVEY.

Reelected existing OFFICERS for 1982-83 with Sister Ethel Mary Tinnemann as chair.

Directed City Planning staff to investigate IMPROVEMENTS TO LANDMARKS ORDINANCE. ■

COHEN HOUSE GROUNDS CLEAN-UP

On Sunday, August 29, OHA members are invited to a work party at the landmark 1884 Alfred H. Cohen House in Fruitvale. This all day effort to clean up the house gardens will include a potluck barbecue. RSVP after Aug. 4 to Leslie Flint (415) 658-4915, evenings.

OHA Update

● The OAKLAND CULTURAL HERITAGE SURVEY has received a \$19,000 grant from the California State Office of Historic Preservation for its forthcoming 1982-83 project year. This third year survey of Oakland's architectural and historic resources will cover Lower Broadway, the Produce District, the Waterfront, Madison Square, Civic Center, Lakeside, and other areas. With the completion of the third year survey, the entire Central Business District will have been documented.

The Survey is a project of the City Planning Department, the Oakland Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board, and OHA. (See Aug.-Sept. 1981 and May-June 1982 OHA News for details.)

The results of the first two years of the Survey (21 scattered areas the first year; the downtown area the second year) are available for public examination at the Oakland History Room of the Oakland Public Library; at the Oakland City Planning Department on the sixth floor of City Hall; and at the Survey office in the Camron-Stanford House, 1418 Lakeside Drive.

The Survey has a large pool of dedicated research volunteers, but there is a need for more. If you are interested, please volunteer to help. OHA is proud that so many Survey volunteers have come from our membership. For further information on the Survey, call Laura Pan, Survey Coordinator, at the Survey Office, (415) 835-4620.

● On April 12, the OHA MONTHLY PROGRAMS continued with "Hotel Oakland: The Art of Finding Profit in a Preservation Project," presented by Dick Neault, a local development consultant. Neault gave a slide presentation on the rehabilitation of the grand Hotel Oakland (Bliss and Faville, 1912) for subsidized senior citizen housing. The design and financial problems encountered in this innovative project were discussed. Neault also illustrated some of his previous preservation projects in Boston and announced his most recent project, the rehabilitation of the Fox Oakland Theater (see BRIEFING), scheduled for opening in the fall. He noted that opportunities in Oakland were great enough to induce him to move here (he worked on the Hotel Oakland while still based in Boston). An attentive group of 35 people attended this evening session, which included a question and answer period and refreshments. The Hotel Oakland was later spotlighted as a site visit at the 1982 California Historic Preservation Conference (See p. 1.). Many thanks go to Dick Neault for his informative presentation and his commitment to Oakland, to Vera Dahle for handling ticket sales, and to Doug Brookes for manning the State Conference information table.

On May 17, the series continued with "Preventing Arson and Fire: More Difficult than Stopping the Bulldozer!" presented by Kim Davis, former Public Information Officer for the Massachusetts Office of Historic Preservation and now an Oakland resident and OHA member. Davis gave a slide presentation on the preservation problems encountered with fire and arson-for-hire in Massachusetts. The dramatic slides illustrated the damage inflicted by fire, while the reasons behind arson were discussed. Many thanks go to Kim Davis for her instructive presentation, to Gary Knecht for the display of fire-related publications, and to Vera Dahle for managing ticket sales.

On June 14, the program was "Maneuvering through City and State Regulations: A Challenge to Both Homeowners and Professionals" presented by nationally known preservation architect and OHA boardmember Bruce D. Judd, AIA,

of the Architectural Resources Group. Judd gave an excellent overview of regulatory practice and summarized the highlights of such regulations as the building and zoning codes. Additionally insightful were the examples of preservation projects from his own practice, illustrating how he handled these codes in design solutions. Judd's answers to audience questions on this very complicated subject were very direct and helpful. Many thanks go to Bruce Judd for handling a difficult and dry subject with wit and clarity.

Completing this series on Monday July 12 at 7:30pm will be "Rehab Right: How to Rehabilitate Your Oakland House Without Sacrificing Architectural Assets" presented by Helaine Kaplan Prentice and Blair Prentice, co-authors of the award-winning Oakland City Planning Department publication Rehab Right. Also included in the program will be a screening of the award-winning "Houses Have History," a locally shot 15-minute film directed toward grade school audiences.

The "Rehab Right" program will take place at St. Paul's Recreation Center Auditorium (our regular location), second floor, 116 Montecito Ave., adjacent to St. Paul's Church, one block east of Harrison St. off of Grand Ave., Oakland. \$1/OHA member, \$2/general public, refreshments served. For further information, contact Gary Knecht, Program Chair, (415) 865-6382.

Special thanks go to St. Paul's for the use of their auditorium for all these evening programs.

The well-illustrated 140-page Rehab Right is still available free to Oakland residents and property owners (ID required) or for \$4.75 to non-Oakland residents at the Oakland City Planning Department, sixth floor, City Hall, 14th and Washington, Oakland 94612 (415) 273-3941.

● The OHA board of directors extends its sincere thanks to DANA CORDEIRO for her superb job as Conference Coordinator for the 1982 CALIFORNIA HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONFERENCE (see p.1). Much of its success was due to Dana's hard work and well organized management.

Additional thanks go to the over 70 volunteers who handled logistics for the conference. Special thanks to Cathy Lenfestey and Doug Brookes for their energy and time in helping Dana, and to Jean Baggerman for the great Storefront Museum reception she organized. (See article on the Storefront Museum elsewhere in this issue.)

● The OHA board would also like to thank the following Oaklanders for giving the OHA-SPONSORED TOURS at the conference: Carolyn Douthat, Darby Rust Brandli, Alan Dreyfuss, and Kirk Peterson for the tour of Clinton: 19th Century Townsite, East of Oakland's Lake Merritt; Tom Wolf and Tom Knapp for the tour of Victorian Row: Commercial Building Rehabilitation; and Marlene Wilson and Leslie Flint for the tour of the Rose Garden: 1890-1920's Oakland Residential Neighborhood. These interesting and popular tours helped introduce the conference attendees to the diversity and activity in Oakland. (See notice elsewhere in this issue of forthcoming OHA neighborhood tours.)

● The OHA directors also thank the LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE for their energy and time (including 6:30am meetings) devoted to organizing the "best ever" conference: co-chairs Melinda Young Frye and Gary Knecht, Marlene Wilson (bookstore), Amy Berg, Leslie Flint (special events and receptions), Laura Pan, Brad Niebling, Richard Lloyd, Dean Yabuki (tours), and Carol Van Steenberg. Without their hard work, there would have been no conference.

The 1983 State Conference will be held in Orange, California (Orange County). ■



OHA Offers Neighborhood Walking Tours

OHA is pleased to announce its second annual series of OAKLAND NEIGHBORHOOD WALKING TOURS. These tours explore the historical and architectural heritage of Oakland's development. Most of the popular tours of last summer are repeated, with new tours added. The tours are primarily based on the research of the Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey (see OHA Update).

This year the tours are being held on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. The charge for each tour is \$1/OHA member and \$3/general public. No reservations are required, but each tour is limited to 25 people so please meet promptly at the given times and locations. Watch for an additional tour flyer in the mail.

There are considerable savings for OHA members; if you are not already a member, please consider joining. For your convenience, a membership coupon is on p. 11.

For further information on these tours, please contact Dean M. Yabuki, 842 Grosvenor Place, Oakland CA 94610, (415) 893-1278. If you can volunteer help with the logistics, please contact Dean.

Saturday 31 July 1:30-3:30pm

PICARDY DRIVE, a planned community of Norman-style cottages, dating from the late 1920's and early 1930's. Sherrie Billig McLeod. Meet at Picardy Drive and 55th Avenue.

Sunday 1 August 1:30-3:30pm

FERNWOOD DRIVE, a 1920's wooded creekside neighborhood with Provincial homes of unusual elaborateness. Ed Phillips. Meet at the southern end of Fernwood Drive at Mountain Boulevard.

Saturday 7 August 1:30-3:30pm

RICHMOND BOULEVARD, a distinctive Craftsman and Period Revival neighborhood along Glen Echo Creek, developed 1895-1920's. Marlene Wilson. Meet in front of 3252 Kempton near Fairmount.

Sunday 8 August 1:30-3:30pm

OAK CENTER and DE FREMERY PARK, a residential neighborhood of architectural styles dating from the 1870's to 1910, including many fine Victorian homes. Ed Novak. Meet in front of the De Fremery House, 18th St. and Adeline.

Saturday 14 August 1:30-3:30pm

ROSE GARDEN, a residential neighborhood of architectural styles dating from 1890-1920's. Marlene Wilson. Meet at Monte Vista Avenue and Vernon Street.

Sunday 15 August 1:30-3:30pm

LAKESHORE AVENUE AND TRESTLE GLEN, a 1920's shopping district and neighboring Lakeshore Highlands "residential park." Dean Yabuki. Meet in front of the Grand Lake Theater, Grand Avenue at Lake Park Avenue.

Saturday 21 August 1:30-3:30pm

LAKESIDE. Explore the historical and architectural development of Lake Merritt's west shore neighborhood. Leslie Flint. Meet in front of the Camron-Stanford House, 1418 Lakeside Drive at 14th Street.

Sunday 22 August 1:30-3:30pm

MOUNTAIN VIEW CEMETERY. Explore the historic cemetery planned by Frederick Law Olmsted and the history of some of its "residents." Barbara Smith. Meet in front of the Chapel of the Chimes, 4499 Piedmont Avenue. (Because of the scattered sites in the large cemetery, cars will be used on this tour; some car-pooling available.)

Saturday 28 August 1:30-3:30pm

MILLS COLLEGE. The oldest women's college in the West, established in Oakland in 1871, it has many major buildings from 1910-1920's and 1960's. Aaron Gallup and Dean Yabuki. Meet at the campus entrance, Richards Gate, MacArthur Boulevard and Richards Road. ■

Continued from page 12

in America" in relation to five themes: preservation basics; neighborhoods; downtowns; building materials; and interpretation of historic sites. This Conference showed that we can be proud not only of ourselves as an organization, but also of Oakland as a city.

As we begin our third year, we are looking forward, making long range plans for the expansion and effectiveness of OHA. We urge you, our membership, to become more involved in preservation in Oakland and to tell about OHA to others who might share your interest in preservation and the architectural character or history of Oakland. ■

*--Leslie Flint
President, OHA*

Oakland Heritage Alliance, 5569 Lawton Avenue, Oakland, California 94618

JOIN OHA TODAY! Your annual tax-deductible membership dues include the **OHA News** and announcements of all OHA activities. Additional contributions and your active participation will make OHA a more effective organization.

Name _____ \$ 5 Senior/student/limited income (1 vote)

Address _____ \$10 Individual (1 vote)

City, Zip _____ \$15 Family (2 votes)

Phone Numbers (H) _____ (W) _____ \$25 Organization (1 vote)

I am willing to participate in the following ways: \$ _____ Additional contribution



The President's Message

Before writing this article, I sat down to make a list of all that *OHA* has accomplished this year--our second year in existence. I must say that I am truly proud to be part of an organization that has accomplished so much in so little time. Thanks to all of you, our membership has grown from the original eight to over 250.

We have become involved in the inner workings of the city by being sure that *OHA* members served on committees that affected preservation in Oakland-- the Mayor's Housing Task Force, and the Preservation Park design review committee. We commented in public meetings on the direction of Victorian Row and the Intermodal Transportation Center. We worked to save some of the few remaining natural creeks in Oakland--Glen Echo on Richmond Boulevard and Temescal Creek in North Oakland.

We are working with the City Planning Department to administer the Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey, now in its third year (see *OHA Update*). We have received our first preservation easement--the historic 1884 Cohen House on 29th Avenue, which brings the owners tax benefits by granting a non-profit organization (*OHA*) control over the exterior appearance of the house to preserve it authentically. (*Ed. Note:* We will give more details on this program in the next issue.)

We launched our first series of neighborhood walking tours last summer and began offering a monthly lecture program this spring. Our newsletter was insured of publication through 1982 by a \$5,000 grant from the Tamarack Foundation.

Our biggest event was the State Historic Preservation Conference (see article p. 1). Over 500 California preservationists attended the Conference to discuss "Reinvesting
Continued on page 11

Oakland History Notes

The Ebell Club House stood at 1440 Harrison St. Home to the civic and cultural activities of Oakland's oldest women's club, the Ebell Society (1876), the Tudor style structure was built in 1907. Fire destroyed the building in 1959.

Postcard courtesy Oakland Public Library



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