

CONTINUITY

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Preservation Action Council of San Jose
Dedicated to Preserving San Jose's Architectural and Cultural Heritage

Summer 2024

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PAC*SJ Winners—2024 Awards Night

PAC*SJ was proud to nominate two exceptional projects for preservation awards at the May 17th Awards Night produced by the Santa Clara County Preservation Alliance. The first well-deserved winner was the **San Jose Fire Museum Team** for a "Distinguished Outstanding Building Restoration Award," by preserving, adapting and transforming former San Jose Station One into the **San Jose Fire Museum**.



John McMillan and Jim Carter, head of the San Jose Fire Museum Team.

The other PAC*SJ outstanding winner was **Sue Cucuzza** (right) for a "Distinguished Outstanding Building Restoration Award" by preserving, managing, and advancing awareness of the **Ashworth/Remillard House** and its history.

There were 11 additional and exciting preservation awards given that night; all awards are listed on page 4.

The evening, at History Park, began with a greet and meet at 7 pm. Tables were set up in front of the light tower for county history/preservation organizations and museums to display their information and latest news. It was great to see so many groups dedicated to history and preservation. Everyone's pursuits and projects were inspiring.

Historic films were shown by the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County. Mosaic America played music and danced.

MC Morgan Hill Mayor Mark Turner welcomed the guests followed by History San Jose President and CEO host, Bill Schroh. San Jose Mayor staff member Matthew

(Cont'd p. 2)



Sue Cucuzza, Ashworth Remillard House

PAC*SJ Preservation Awards Winners (Cont'd)

Quevedo presented a commendation to the Preservation Alliance. Dignitaries who spoke briefly were Councilmember Bien Doan, Supervisor Cindy Chavez, State Senator Dave Cortese and Mercury staff writer Sal Pizarro.

From 8 pm to around 9 pm, the awards were announced and accepted with one intermission. Each winner received a beautiful plaque while photos were shown on a large outdoor screen of the winners' project(s). The enjoyable evening was a great success.

About the San Jose Fire Museum

The Former San Jose Fire Station One at 201 N. Market Street first opened in 1951, remaining active until 2000. The excellent example of International architectural style with Art Moderne accents has become the San Jose Fire Museum, evolved from the San Jose Firefighters Muster Team, who gathered over time one of the largest collections of historic fire-fighting vehicles, apparatus, and artifacts in the United States.



The 1890 Amoskeag Steam Pumper that served the Franklin Engine Co. #13 is one of the SJ Fire Museum's oldest pieces. It was used here in the 1906 earthquake.



San Jose Fire Museum Today at 201 N. Market Street.

The ground floor holds an abundance of antique equipment, exhibits, a kitchen, dining room, office, and lobby, all in excellent condition. The second floor is not restored and unfunded, but will eventually include a library, conference room, kid's safety room, dormitory/bath/locker room display, an elevator and outside patio.

The San Jose Fire Museum mission is "Preserving Firefighter Traditions to Inspire a Sense of Community."

The building, which was almost lost to city development, was designated a San Jose City Landmark in 2012 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2014. In 2016, it was purchased through a generous donation from the Brandenburg Family Foundation. The museum team says the building "looks better now than it did when we worked here 30 years ago!" Congratulations for an excellent restoration and adaptive reuse of a significant historical resource in San Jose. *(Remillard House Cont'd p. 3)*



Former San Jose Fire Station One, c. 1962.

PAC*SJ Preservation Awards Winners (Cont'd)

About the Ashworth/Remillard House

In 2010, Sue Cucuzza became Trustee of the historic, San Jose Landmark known as the Ashworth/Remillard House at 755 Story Road, saving it from likely demolition. Over the past 14 years, she has ensured its protection, managed repairs, and directed restoration projects, bringing it back to life for us to appreciate its significance.

Today after years of labor and organization, the house appears remarkably improved from Sue's hard work along with the many volunteer hours and donations/grants—most recently a grant from Farrington Historic Foundation for major roof repairs.

Sue, a tremendous advocate, encourages tours through the house and property to publicize its history and view its artifacts. The house would not have survived, nor its history revealed, without her dedication and compassion.

The house was built in 1864 by Gold Rush pioneer and farmer, James Ashworth. A sun porch and expanded kitchen were added to the house by Pierre Remillard, after purchasing the 160-acre site in 1891. Excellent clay soil at the Coyote Creek banks resulted in the perfect site for an additional brick manufacturing business. (He and his family already operated the original brick company, founded in 1861, in Oakland, followed by Pleasanton, San Rafael and Greenbrae sites). Remillard Brick Company was said to be the largest brick manufacturing company in the Bay Area during its tenure.



The 1864 Ashworth/Remillard House in 2007.



Ashworth/Remillard House today.

Mrs. Pierre Remillard operated the brick business after her husband and son each unexpectedly died. Lillian Remillard, the daughter, returned from her music studies in New York to help run the business, ultimately owning and managing the company.

The Victorian House was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in the 1970s and became a San Jose City Landmark in 1975. Most of the moldings and woodwork are original and still in good condition. The siding is redwood and the foundation is brick. Most ceilings are 12 feet high and many windows contain the original glass.

After Lillian married the Italian Count Alesandro Dandini (20 years her junior) in 1932, he added a "Mexican Suite,"

(Cont'd p. 5)



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Editor: Gayle Frank

Please submit your letters/comments

to info@preservation.org.

408-998-8105 or to

42A S. First Street,

San Jose, CA 95113

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organization**

2024 Preservation Award Winners

This year the Santa Clara County Preservation Alliance recognized 13 groups or individuals listed below for their historic or cultural preservation achievements at History Park/History San Jose on May 17th at 7 pm.

1. **San Jose Fire Museum Team** for transforming former San Jose Fire Station One into the San Jose Fire Museum. *(Nominated by Preservation Action Council of San Jose.)*
2. **Sue Cucuzza** for preserving and advancing awareness of the historic Ashworth-Remillard House. *(Nominated by Preservation Action Council of San Jose.)*
3. **Sally Zarnowitz** and **Peter Hurd** for leading the effort to add the Eichler Tract homes of Fairglen Additions to the National Register of Historic Places. *(Nominated by San Jose Historic Landmarks Commission.)*
4. **Bill Mabry** and **John Tabuena-Frolli** for restoration of the historic Smith House to be used for commercial purposes. *(Nominated by San Jose Historic Landmarks Commission.)*
5. **Moffett Field Historical Society** for the preservation and educational programs of Moffett Field's aviation and military history. *(Nominated by Campbell Museums.)*
6. **Ocie Tinsley** for outstanding support and volunteerism to the African American Heritage House at History Park San Jose. *(Nominated by the African American Heritage House.)*
7. **Eddie Bowers** for inspiring the design and installation of Morgan Hill's Veterans Monument, and for leading Morgan Hill's annual Memorial Day and Veteran's Day celebrations since 1991. *(Nominated by Morgan Hill Historical Society.)*

8. **Lucy Solorzano** for establishing the Traveling Trunks Program for elementary students at the Gilroy Museum to instill awareness and education of Native American history. *(Nominated by Gilroy Historical Society.)*
9. **Dr. Gregorio Mora-Torres** for tirelessly sharing the history of Chicano Movement in Santa Clara County through documentation and educational programs. *(Nominated by La Raza Historical Society of Santa Clara County.)*
10. **Dr. Yvonne Kwan** for her extraordinary work collecting and protecting Asian American and Pacific Islander oral history and stories. *(Nominated by the Japanese American Museum of San Jose.)*
11. **Michael and Dorene Boulland** for several decades of dedication to south Santa Clara County historic preservation and education. *(Nominated by the New Almaden Quicksilver County Park Association.)*
12. **Nick Perry** for his dedication to preserve Mountain View history through his leadership of the Mountain View Historical Association. *(Nominated by the Mountain View Historical Association.)*
13. **Jim Zetterquist** received a Historic Preservation Lifetime Achievement Award for over three decades of San Jose historic preservation service and advancement in a multitude of roles. *(Nominated by the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County.)* 🍷

2024 AWARD NIGHT SPONSORS

GOLD

California Pioneers of Santa Clara County
History San José
Preservation Action Council of San Jose
La Raza Historical Society of Santa Clara County

SILVER

Bill Hare Productions
Campbell Museum Foundation
Milpitas Historical Society
New Almaden Quicksilver County Park Association
Santa Clara County Horsemen's Association

BRONZE

African American Heritage House, Inc.
Friends of the Winemakers
kcdigitalstoryteller LLC
Morgan Hill Historical Society
Mountain View Historical Association
RH

REFRESHMENT DONORS

Alamitos Winery
Campbell Historical Museum
Gordon Biersch Brewing Co.

PAC*SJ Members Visit Remillard House

PAC*SJ members attended a Members Only Event on May 25th for a tour of the 1864 Ashworth/Remillard House and grounds. Sue Cucuzza, trustee for the site, hosted the event a week after she received a preservation award at Awards Night for her dedication and work with the Ashworth/Remillard House.

After donuts and coffee, Sue gave us the background of the house and explained how she got involved because of her interest in collecting old bricks. She became friends and helped out the last owner, Mr. James Covey. When he died in 2010, she was awarded the trusteeship of the site.

Sue introduced her volunteers, including the author of the recent book, *San Francisco and the Remillard Brick Company*, by Maria E. Lynch, who was present to sign her books for sale.

We began in the front parlor where many brick artifacts are exhibited and a 1906 ledger is on display in a protective case. Ledgers from the brick business go back to the 1800s and tell the story of the multitude of buildings where Remillard bricks were used, especially after the 1906 devastating earthquake.



Sue explained that the front parlor with large bay windows served as the men's after-dinner smoking and drinks room. Behind the collapsable doors the women would gather to visit. Then Sue brought us through another lovely front room (above) also with large bay windows. Next we, moved to the elaborate bedrooms of Lillian and her husband, Count Dandini.

Guests were able to walk upstairs to view the bathroom and multiple bedrooms. Most of the furnishings and a multitude of artifacts are original to the house.

Moving out to the rear of the house through the large old fashioned kitchen, we explored parts of the two-plus acres where walnut trees once grew on a larger plot of land followed by brick manufacturing from the 1890s to the 1960s. Chickens, rabbits, and a handsome white rooster were seen scurrying through the yard. Here, some of the guests made miniature bricks imprinted with their names (see below). We all enjoyed the fascinating trip through the past. Thank you Sue for a delightful day! 🍷



Awards Night (Cont'd)

a bedroom, library, chapel and bath with stunning, black ceramic tiles, poly-chromed doors, and ebonized, carved wood. However, the marriage only lasted three years.

By the 1950s Lillian purchased, renovated and then moved into the Carolands Chateau in Hillsborough so the San Jose Remillard House suffered vacancy for 18 years.

In 1968, Lillian bequeathed the Remillard House to James Covey, a neighbor, trusted friend, and confidant of Lillian. He and his partner, architect Richard Gilbert, were preservationists and renovated the house as best they could until hindered by poor health.

Thank you, Sue Cucuzza and your team of volunteers and supporters, for caring and spending time and treasure on this important San Jose historic resource. Congratulations to Sue and her team of dedicated volunteers! 🍷

(See more photos on page 19.)

Touring through the Pallesen Apartment Building

On May 21st, Habitat for Humanity EBSV* and PAC*SJ hosted two tours of the Pallesen Apartment Building on 4th and Reed Streets to celebrate its ongoing renovation. Attendees included PAC*SJ members, Habitat for Humanity EBSV financial supporters, and Habitat managers.

The public view of the front of the building includes most of the original doors, windows, facings, roof, etc. For better sound and energy performance, the rest of the building has modern double-hung windows with the same dimensions and location as the originals. Habitat currently plans to maintain the same exterior paint colors. There will be ground level sidewalks installed on the west and east sides of the building leading back to a common backyard with planter boxes, trees, etc.

The shared, entry staircase is slightly narrowed to the upstairs units with the pre-move skylight retained. Habitat is utilizing heavy duty insulation and drywall.

With the help of PAC*SJ's very own Board Treasurer and Historic Architect John Frolli, the interior of the Pallesen has been converted from four side-by-side ~1,000 sq. ft. 1-bedroom, 1-bath apartments (2 on each floor) with hallways on the perimeter, to four side-by-side 2-bedroom, 1-bath for sale condos with dedicated hallways and private rooms. In addition to the bedrooms, there is a smartly designed kitchen with a refrigerator, stove, oven, sink, and dishwasher and a living room at the front (north-side). A full bathroom is to the building rear (south-side) for each unit, with space just outside the bathroom for laundry appliances

John made sure that the beautiful wood & mirrored hatches from the original building are going to be integrated into the renovated building. The building will be powered during the day via 40-50 400W Solar Panels, but as yet, there are no plans for battery back-up.

The current estimate for project completion is approximately January/February 2025 with occupancy in the Spring of 2025. Habitat has already identified three of the four families that they believe are eligible to be home owners. There will be no immediate parking on site but a housing development is planned for the adjacent parcel and the City has negotiated a condition of providing four parking spaces once built.

PAC*SJ would like to see the Pallesen Building designated

as a city landmark and listed on the National Register of Historic Places since the building has been deemed eligible for its architectural significance and association with Master Architects Frank Delos Wolfe and Charles McKenzie. We also advocate for an arranged temporary parking solution until permanent spaces are available.

For those who may not remember the Pallesen history, the 4-unit apartment building was constructed in 1910 and designed by acclaimed San Jose architects Wolfe & McKenzie for its original owner, Christian Pallesen, a Danish immigrant and foreman at a local redwood lumber mill. Christian and his wife lived in one of the apartments and rented the other three to working-class tenants.

PAC*SJ became involved in this project when a local developer and an international developer (Scape) envisioned building a 27-story housing project at the corner of Market and Reed—the original site of the Pallesen Apartment Building.

While PAC*SJ seeks to convince developers of the value of integrating historic structures within the new projects, in this case, there was no way to achieve the housing density envisioned without demolishing the building.

Coming to the rescue, superman Jim Salata of Garden City Construction, said he, in conjunction with Kelly Brothers House Movers, could relocate the building if a receiver site could be identified. The City then donated the present site. Through the incredible help of City staff and Council Member Raul Peralez, the City envisioned a way to save the historic building.

The only problem remaining was to raise the \$25 per inch it would take to move the Pallesen approximately 1,000 feet from Market to 4th Street. That's \$300K, and there was only about six weeks to make it happen.

Thanks to the help of our dear friends at the S.J. Mercury News and other publications, and the extreme generosity of the public, some of whom attended this May 19th walk-through, the Pallesen was successfully relocated to this site on March 28, 2021. To see what the Pallesen looked like before the move, visit preservation.org/pallesen for the history, documents, and a 3D view. 🏠

— Mike Sodergren,
President, PAC*SJ

*East Bay Silicon Valley

Goodbye to the Last Burger Pit

South Bay residents were dejected when the last South Bay Burger Pit's closing day arrived on April 23, 2024 after losing its lease. The popular affordable restaurant with great steerburgers, steaks, beef chili, and garlic bread was no more. Its iconic neon sign with the capital B resembling a steer's head is one of the items that brings about those nostalgic feelings, along with the taste of the food. At PAC* SJ's last big warehouse sale in April, visitors were already asking if we would be creating an enamel pin of the popular sign.

In the photo below, the sign faces west, is shadowed from trees, but is intact. The other side, a duplicate sign, has a broken capital B, but owner Paul Berger told us he saved all the parts. The neon is protected by plastic coverings. History San Jose would like to include the sign in its collection of historic local signs. The Burger Pit owner and the City of San Jose are agreeable, but the property owner wants the pole and cabinet to remain with the building.



Trees cast shadows on the last Burger Pit sign in San Jose (and Bay Area) on closing day.

Burger Pit at this location opened in 1964. Burger Pit began as a drive-in with Al Berger, Paul Berger's father, and three partners in 1953, eventually evolving into three burger bars around downtown San Jose. The first restaurant with the Burger Pit name opened in Cupertino in 1956. At one time, 10 burgers for \$1 were advertised! At its peak, the family business owned 5 Burger Bars along with 25 Burger Pit locations reaching from Santa Cruz, Capitola, Saratoga and Los Gatos to Milpitas, Fremont and Salinas. By 1986, many of the locations were sold to the Burger King Corporation.

Customers lined up before the opening hour on closing day to get their last steerburger or steak at the 1349 Blossom Hill Road site. Most of the food soon ran out by mid-day. Customers anxiously bought anything available associated with the restaurant such as coffee mugs, t-shirts, framed pictures, and more. But owner Paul Berger says the coveted recipes for his chili and blue cheese dressing will remain an eternal secret. 🍷



Join a PAC* SJ Committee

Feel free to attend without a commitment to see how PAC* SJ works. The PAC* SJ Development Committee meets the second Monday at 5 pm at our office, 42A S. First Street. Advocacy meets on Zoom at 6:30 pm on the last Thursday of most months before the following Wednesday's Landmarks Commission meeting. For more information call us at 408-998-8105.

See p. 19 for a list of available Committees to join.

Supervisors Proclaim May Historic Preservation Month

On May 6th, the Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Commissioners, Tere Johnson, Bill Hare and Pria Graves, accepted the County Board of Supervisors' Proclamation proclaiming May as Historic Preservation Month. It was passed unanimously on May 6, 2024.

In the Proclamation, the Supervisors declared the importance of recognizing and celebrating historic preservation, described the many ways preservation enhances our quality of life and our sustainability, and lists the tools used to advance its commitment to our heritage.

The proclamation concludes, "Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara does hereby proclaim May 2024 Historic Preservation Month." 🏡



PAC*SJ's 2023-24 Endangered 8

First Church of Christ, Scientist 1905
43 E. St. James Street; Neglect

Burbank Theater 1949
560 S. Bascom Avenue; Neglect, Redevelopment

IBM Building 11 1958
5677 Lexington Avenue; Neglect

Milligan Lot & Forman's Arena c.1860,1926
405-447 W. St. John Street; Redevelopment

Levi Strauss Factory 1949
115 Terraine Street; Redevelopment

Sam's Downtown Feed c. 1925
759 W. San Carlos Street; Redevelopment

Alum Rock Park Log Cabin 1916
15571 Alum Rock Avenue; Neglect

Ban Family Farmstead c.1890
1065 S. Winchester Blvd; Redevelopment

For more details and photos of these endangered eight properties please visit the PAC*SJ website at: <https://www.preservation.org/e8-2023>

Do you have ideas, suggestions, memories, or historic photos/artifacts related to these places? Are you concerned about other threatened resources that we

should consider for future lists? We want to hear from you! Please contact us at the link below, or via email at advocacy@preservation.org, or call us at (408) 998-8105. Watch for our new 2024-25 Endangered 8 list coming soon!

<https://www.preservation.org/endangered-8-contact>

San Jose Loses Two More Victorians

On March 26th, two Victorian houses, a two-story Queen Anne (built in 1900) at 146 N. 4th Street and a one-story Italianate (built in 1898) next door at 152 N. 4th Street were completely engulfed in flames and collapsed. They had been vacant for quite a while. Reports indicated that the area has a history of fires caused by homeless individuals inhabiting vacant houses. The fire appeared to start in the one-story house. A third occupied house was in danger, but firefighters were able to save it though it suffered damage.

Several years ago, plans for a 23-story residential high-rise were submitted for the lots where these burned homes stood and the adjacent empty lot on the corner. Proposed plans consist of 298 residential units with ground-floor retail. Part of the rezoning and Site Development Permit included the developer's agreement to relocate in the future the two Victorian houses to an adjacent parcel on N. 5th Street.

The loss of these two historic houses at N. 4th near St. John Street spurred PAC* SJ to again request the Historic Landmarks Commission and the San Jose Historic Preservation Officer to advocate for the enactment of the Demolition by Neglect draft ordinance which was drawn up in 2023. We have sent them an updated local "List of Historic Buildings/Places Lost" and a letter stressing the importance of a fast turn-around amendment (the Demolition by Neglect ordinance draft) added to Chapter 13.48 of the Municipal Code to reduce losing our historic resources from neglect.

PAC* SJ would like the following provisions also placed in



Photo: Mike Sodergren

the draft ordinance. 1) Update housing policies/ordinance to incentivize property owners to ensure occupancy of buildings on development sites. 2) Require developers to hold money in escrow or secure insurance sufficient to cover the cost of a full rebuild if lost to fire. 3) Require developers to register with the San Jose Police Department's S.T.O.P. program.* 4) Develop standards for securing/stabilizing under-occupied or vacant sites such as fencing, locks, protection from water intrusion, lights, cameras, etc.

Let's add these requirements into law as soon as possible.



* The San Jose Police Department's Stop Trespassing on Private Property (S.T.O.P.) Program was instituted several years ago to assist private and commercial property owners in dealing with chronic or nuisance trespassing problems.



Houses from left, occupied house saved, middle house at 152 N. 4th, and house on right at 146 N. 4th Street, both destroyed by fire.

A Westside Soirée

The billiards balls were clicking on March 13th during PAC*SJ's *Westside Soirée* benefit for the sign restoration project fund. The lower and larger section of the Westside Billiards sign has been restored by Tom Colla (painting) and Kevin Chong (neon). But the star and 8-ball still need repair so funds from the event will go toward that goal.

Over 75 guests filled the recently renovated billiard hall for great eats provided by Cal Foods, drinks, and billiards, along with a few presentations about the dodgy history of gaming in San Jose from Ted Ramos, and an overview of our local historic signs from Heather David. A silent auction, sales, and raffle added to the fun. The DJ, Brandon Roos, spun old-school vinyl: R & B, rock, soul, funk, and country. A few of us inexperienced in billiards were even able to try our hand at hitting the balls. The place was *hoppin'*.

Sales of unique items such as reproductions of vintage signs and other nostalgia, along with PAC*SJ's vintage enamel sign pins and t-shirts added to the sign project fund. Silent auction winners of interesting items were announced later in the evening.

A Charity 8-Ball Tournament completed the night, lasting until late. The winning team was Denise Olenak and Alex Fitzpatrick who received the Grand Prize—a 15-pin “Westside Special” pin set and a “Legacy Business Passport” with \$250 in gift certificates to Henry’s Hi-Life, Mark’s Hot Dogs, Falafel Drive-In, Original Joe’s, and Vahl’s—a tribute to our favorite eatery signs!

And by the way, it's never too late to contribute to our ongoing Sign Restoration Fund at <https://donorbox.org/sign-restoration-fund>. 🐾



Charity 8-Ball tournament winners with Westside Billiards owners. From left, George Tsaboukos, Alex Fitzpatrick (winner), Yvette Tsaboukos, and Denise Olenak (winner).



Left, Alan Tracey takes a shot while John Frolli and Tim Hyland look on.



Right, Heather David gave an overview of the vintage signs in San Jose with great photos.





ON THE RADAR

Diridon Station Update

On May 15, the Diridon Station Joint Policy Advisory Board held a meeting and presentation on the Diridon Station Alternatives, presented by Marian Lee and Melissa Reggiardo from Caltrain.

There are three architectural design options in the very early stages. The good news is: the Station would be saved in all three options.

- Option 1: The Elevated Alternative has elevated tracks with a ground level concourse. This alternative is most like the original Concept Layout since it requires elevating the existing rail infrastructure.
- Option 2: The At-Grade Alternative has at-grade tracks and a lower-level concourse, meaning the concourse is slightly below-grade and uses gradual sloping to integrate into the surrounding street network. The At-Grade Alternative attempts to replicate the passenger experience of the Elevated Alternative without elevating the tracks.
- Option 3: The Stacked Alternative has a lower-level concourse like the At-Grade Alternative but splits rail infrastructure into two levels – high-speed rail on the upper level and all the other tracks on the street level.

Overall, all alternatives offer a similar passenger experience at the station. The passenger enters the concourse and goes up the vertical circulation to access the heavy rail tracks and Airport Connector and down for Light Rail. The team will return at the August meeting with a proposal that reduces the choices to two options.

Schiele Subdivision/Alameda Park Neighborhoods

A community meeting on the initiation of City Landmark District Designation process for Schiele Subdivision and Alameda Park was held on May 30th at the Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1948 The Alameda. The meeting outlined the procedure and timeline for the historic district or conservation area designation process which was discussed by the San Jose Planning staff, with historical consultants. Afterward, the public asked questions and made comments.

The proceedings will help inform the Historic Landmarks Commission and the Planning Commission for preparing its recommendations in August to the San Jose City Council. Public comments can also be submitted by email. The City Council decision is expected in the Fall of 2024. For questions, contact Dana Peak Edwards, Historic Preservation Officer at dana.peak@sanjoseca.gov.

Grace Baptist Church

On May 7, the San Jose City Council voted unanimously for the Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement to initiate the required process and proceedings to designate Grace Baptist Church at 484 E. San Fernando Street as a City Landmark. The historic church stands at the SE corner of S. 10th and E. San Fernando Streets. The nomination will be forwarded to the Historic Landmarks Commission for further action.

The Norman Mineta House (*below*)

The Mineta House at 434 N. 5th Street was listed for sale. This historic residence needs to be protected for posterity. We understand the Wesley United Methodist Church is buying and retaining it. PAC*SJ is relieved. 🍷



PAC*SJ is Still Keeping An Eye On—



- Bank of Italy (Bank of America)
- State Meat Market
 - Valley Title/Hale's
 - Almaden Winery
 - Realty Building

And, of course our Endangered 8 structures on page 8.

PAC*SJ 2024 Calendar

- Jun 16** Sunday, PAC*SJ booth at Levitt Summer Concert Series, 3:30-7 PM. St James Park.
- Jun 17** Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6:30—8:30 PM. 42A S. 1st St.*
- Jul 15** Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6:30—8:30 PM. 42A S. 1st St.*
- Jul 19-20** Fri. 9 AM-6 PM, Sat. 9 AM-1 PM. PAC*SJ **Summer Rummage Sale**, 260 S. 13th St.
- Aug 3** Saturday, PAC*SJ. 10 AM-12 PM. Members Only **Tour the San Jose Fire Museum** with the Museum Team at 201 N. Market Street. Reserve at www.preservation.org.
- Aug 19** Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6:30—8:30 PM. 42A S. 1st St.*
- Sep 7** Saturday, PAC*SJ **Historic Walking Tour of Palm Haven Neighborhood**, 10 AM. Reserve.
- Sep 8** Visit PAC*SJ booth at Viva Calle; 10 AM –3 PM
- Sep 16** Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6:30—8:30 PM. 42A S. 1st St.*
- Oct 19** Saturday, PAC*SJ **Historic Walking Tour of the Schiele Neighborhood**, 10 AM. Reserve.
- Oct 21** Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6:30—8:30 PM. 42A S. 1st St.*
- Nov 18** Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6:30—8:30 PM. 42A S. 1st St.*
- Dec 16** Monday, PAC*SJ Board Meeting, 6:30—8:30 PM. 42A S. 1st St.*

*Call to confirm Board meeting locations at 408-998-8105. Rarely locations may change or held online.

PAC*SJ Block Sale!
Summer Rummage and Salvage

JULY 19 & 20, 2024 260 S. 13th Street
Fri. 9AM to 6PM Sat. 9AM to 1PM

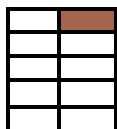
Ephemera, art prints, small furniture, San Jose history books
 and memorabilia, housewares, garden art, china, linens,
 knick-knacks, books, DVDs, and More!

**Reserve your spot for a
 walking tour at**
www.preservation.org/eventpage
Space is limited.

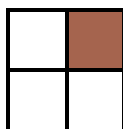
ADVERTISE IN CONTINUITY!

Continuity is distributed to over 400 San Jose preservationists, homeowners and decision-makers. It's a great way to get your message out to your best potential customers! For ads larger than the business card, you must supply camera-ready artwork, or PAC*SJ can provide it at an additional charge.

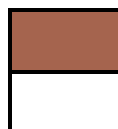
Buy ads in 6 issues and SAVE! Plus, all multiple-issue ads come with a free membership!



Business Card
 Single issue \$50
 3 issues \$120



1/4 Page
 Single issue
 \$100



1/2 Page
 Single issue
 \$200



Full Page
 Single issue
 \$375

Fun on New Almaden Walking Tour

The PAC* SJ historic walking tour of the New Almaden National Historic District on April 20th began at the beautiful, restored Casa Grande, built in 1850-1854. Although it was first to be a hotel, Captain Henry Hallack, General Director of the mine, changed course and designated it for the Superintendent's residence and offices for the Almaden Mining Co. The building is an excellent example of California architectural design in the mid-1850s.

Along Almaden Road moving south, a row of seven houses extending from Casa Grande illustrates board and batten cladding with old growth redwood, built during the beginning days of the mining operations. Further down, we saw a series of adobe homes, some quite small that had served as miners' cottages, now expanded and renovated.

The house next door to Casa Grande was a two-story wood house built in 1847. It served as the mining office and at times, members of the James Randol (Mining superintendent 1870-1892) family lived here. Later, Doctor F. V. Hopkins resided here.



Next door to Casa Grande, this two-story wooden Mining Office was built in 1847.

A narrow pathway (seen above) running along the row of houses was constructed by bricks from the ballast of ships. Some of the bricks are stamped with letters—we saw "GASCO" and "STOCKTON." To ensure the proper weight on the sailing ships, brick ballast was exchanged for the heavy iron flasks of liquid mercury on ships in San Francisco, transporting mercury to far-away customers.



Young House/Superintendent's House. The door is original. An excellent example of old growth redwood board-and-batten.

In the 19th century there was a \$5 penalty if caught spitting on the brick pathways (and perhaps other places) in order to reduce the citizen's exposure to tuberculosis bacteria.

The sixth home down from Casa Grande has the first cement foundation and was the home of the local livery stable owner, Frank Bohlman. The earlier homes often used river rock as foundations.

We were able to visit inside our guide's (Mike Boulland) home, a beautifully restored adobe

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The Carson-Perham Adobe from the 1850s and was home to George Carson, the mining company bookkeeper, postmaster, telegraph operator, and Wells Fargo agent.

New Almaden Walking Tour (Cont'd)

with lovely, compatible additions to the rear. The adobe was built in the 1850s with the traditional thick walls. What a treat. Thank you Mike!

Across the street was the “Cactus House,” a typical miner’s cottage with a cactus growing on the roof over the front porch.

As we reached the end of our walk down Almaden Road, we saw a monument with flowers at its base dedicated to soldier Patrick Tillman (1976-2004), who grew up in New Almaden. Care-takers, Jon Graham and Scott McClung, were maintaining the site for the coming week-end and spoke to our group about Patrick. Many of us didn’t know of the monument in New Almaden.

Mike ushered us across the street to view the Los Alamitos Creek and its recent restoration to reduce mercury contamination at a cost of \$10 million. The rushing water flowed along its banks with newly planed young trees and plants, each loosely covered with burlap on stakes, protecting them from the hot sun.



The Bulmore House was the first cottage built with locally produced bricks in 1854. Robert Bulmore and family lived here. He was last mining manager and last official resident of Casa Grande. His son, Laurence Bulmore, authored the book, Cinnebar Hills.

Bertram Road where we saw the former 1874 Hacienda Hotel, now the La Forêt Restaurant. The original 1848 hotel burned down. Moving along the road northeast, newer structures dotted both sides of the walk, many of them summer cottages from the 1920s and 1930s, now enlarged permanent residences.

The next major stop was the Hacienda Cemetery, owned by the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County. Bertram Road was suddenly constructed through the middle of the cemetery in the 1920s without notification or permitting, so unknown graves still lie under the road. Families were shocked and distressed when they discovered what had happened soon after the construction. No records were kept of the free burials during the 75 years of operation, the last in 1920. Sixty-nine burials are known today; many are now marked. Research is ongoing to discover new grave information.

Circling around to return to Casa Grande, we passed the site of the former Hacienda School and the post office. Mike told us about the Chinese Ting (pagoda) that was once installed here in the 1850s.

(Cont'd p. 15)

Left, the Patrick Tillman Monument stating, “New Almaden and the nation lost Patrick Tillman in Afghanistan on April 22, 2004 in service to his country.”



PAC*SJ Warehouse Sale Success

PAC*SJ volunteers showed up in force during National Volunteer Week at the Creekside Rummage Sale and Salvage Fair on April 26-27, 2024.

Thirty five volunteers and the entire Board of Preservation Action Council of San Jose went into high energy mode during the Warehouse Sale on Barack Obama Blvd. Revenue exceeded \$11,500 close to our record of \$12,000. Creekside Socials's 2000 square foot warehouse was the perfect location for treasures destined to be yours!

Volunteer kudos to our truck drivers who roamed the hills and valleys picking up beds, dressers, sinks, and knick-knacks: Paul Wedel, Shawn McC Carson, Tim McAuliff, Robert Carter, Stephen Walker, Lynne Stevenson, Denise Olenak, Gabby Solleder and Ben Leech.

New cashiers were thrown into the breach and learned on the job: Jennifer Roman, Marni Kamzen, Lynda Sereno, Eileen Shydowski, and Trish Hill. Head merchandisers were: Rebecca Evans, Lisa Chock, Rosie Gallipeau, Deborah Mills, Ron Hagen, Rebecca Smith, and Efrat Shahar. Sales teams were: Suzanne Morrone, Tom Aldridge, Joyce Weissman, Phyllis Dieter, Sheila McGann Tiedt, Lisa Wangsness, Sara Bruce, Kim Aldridge, Merna Tufono, and Jason Paul Kazarian.

We had great press from Sal Pizarro of the *Mercury News*, as

well as the *METRO*. KKUP Radio station also announced our event. We received several invitations from shoppers to pick up family heirlooms for our next sale. Thanks to special guests: Dave Helmuth from Vintage Roof Tiles specializing in Spanish style tiles, Rod Diridon for propagating and donating several plants, and Kay Gutknecht for her donation of a pear tree grafted with two varieties created in San Jose 100 years ago (soon to be planted at the Roberto Adobe).

Several crafter workshops offered guests opportunities to artistically recycle found objects. Walking tours were led by PAC SJ Board members. Rod Diridon Sr. toured the Diridon Station with interested shoppers. Many thanks for the generous donation of this warehouse for the whole week by Creekside Socials and to our liaisons: Sarah, Rebecca and Rachel.

On behalf of the Board of Preservation Action Council and Executive Director Ben Leech, thanks for supporting our efforts to preserve and celebrate local history.

P.S. stay tuned for the next sale July 19-20, on South 13th Street ☞

— Patt Curia, Vice President Fundraising



New Almaden Tour (Cont'd)

It was a grateful present from the Chinese for receiving the highly desirable New Almaden mercury. For that fascinating story and photos go to <https://newalmadenting.wixsite.com/main>.

Back at the parking lot a huge redwood tree displays letters stating "Club Almaden," the popular resort during the 20th century based at the Casa Grande. The tour was very informative and inspiring and all seemed to enjoy it. Thank you Mike Boulland for a great visit to the past! And congratulations to you and Dorene for receiving your preservation award on Awards Night. (See page 4, #11) ☞

— Gayle Frank

Left, a crib and grave marker at Hacienda Cemetery. Burials were free to the miners and their families, but no records were kept. Bertram Road was surreptitiously paved through the cemetery in 1928 without family notifications. (Photos: Greg Annable)

Coyote Depot Lands at History Park!

On Saturday, May 18th, the 1869 Coyote Train Depot was delivered to History Park and sits above the ground ready to be placed on a new foundation. The 90-minute move down Monterey Highway of the rustic, 760 square-foot building was funded by a Santa Clara County grant to the California Trolley and Railroad Corporation, a History San Jose affiliate. The last building relocated to History Park was the Andrew P. Hill House in 1998.

History San Jose (HSJ) will restore the depot and transform it into a transportation museum. History San Jose's President and CEO Bill Schroh Jr. says there will also be a side addition exhibiting a model railroad.

The depot now stands between the Dashaway Stables and the Sothern Pacific locomotive in the farthest southwest corner of History Park. The bright green Orchard Supply Hardware boxcar and OSH sign, with a caboose to the rear, follow the locomotive.

After several years of negotiations, depot owner Union Pacific agreed to sell the structure to History



Photo: Ken Middlebrook

San Jose for \$1. This was a seven-year project piloted by Ken Middlebrook, History San Jose Curator of Collections, ever since he first learned that the Coyote Depot was scheduled for demolition.

In the future, plans will include installing a telegraph system in the depot that will send and receive messages to the Coyote Post Office on the other side of the 14-acre History Park. What a wonderful addition to History Park. Congratulations to History San Jose! 🐉

Radio Station Broadcasting from History Park Lobby

On April 16th, History San Jose's Ken Middlebrook and CEO Bill Schroh announced that "the History San Jose museum has entered into a unique relationship with news radio station KCBS, who will be broadcasting live on a daily basis from the lobby of the Pacific Hotel."

"While currently based in San Francisco, the station began in San Jose in 1909—the first regularly broadcasted radio station in the country! In a sense, the station has returned to its roots."

Its roots refers to 'Doc' Charles Herrold (1875-1948) who was a pioneer radio broadcaster beginning in 1909 in San Jose, the first to make entertainment broadcasts on a regular schedule. His 1920 lab and engineering school building still stands on S. First Street. Herrold's FN station became KQW in 1921, moved to San Francisco in the 1930s, and was officially purchased by CBS in 1949, renaming it KCBS. 🐉



Victor Zaragoza broadcasts on May 7, 2024 from the Pacific Hotel lobby at San Jose's History Park.

(Photo: Gayle Frank)



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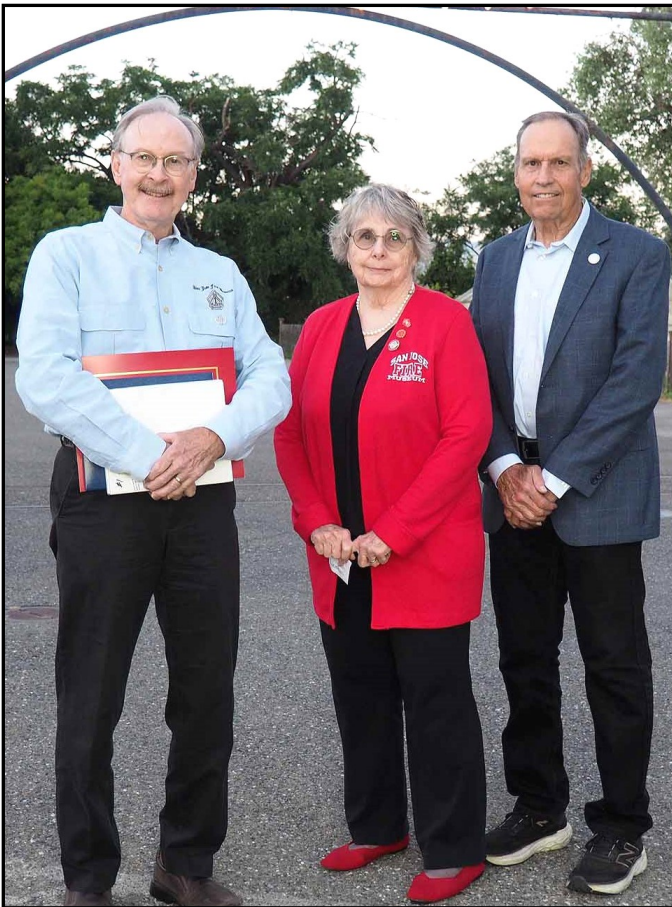
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PAC*SJ Award Winners for 2024



Awards Night photos were received just before press time.

◀ **PAC*SJ's nomination for a preservation award, the San Jose Fire Museum Team. Receiving the award are from left, John McMillan, April Halberstadt, and Jim Carter.**

▶ **PAC*SJ's nomination for a preservation award, Sue Cucuzza for her dedication to the Ashworth/Remillard House. PAC*SJ President Mike Sodergren who presented both awards is on her left.**

(Photos: Ron Horii)



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The Preservation Action Council of San Jose is a dynamic nonprofit membership organization dedicated to **preserving our unique and diverse architectural and cultural heritage**. Through advocacy, education, and civic engagement, we promote historic preservation as an essential tool for fostering equitable, distinctive, sustainable, and prosperous communities.

We believe that **historic preservation is good for our quality of life, good for business, and good for the environment**. We aspire to integrate a strong commitment to historic preservation into the land use and development decisions of the City of San Jose that affect historic resources, as well as into the private decisions of property owners and developers. We try to bring owners and developers together to create historically sensitive projects that make economic sense.

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