



# THE BOARD AND BATTEN

Newsletter of the Pacific Grove Heritage Society

February/March 1990

## The Inside Stories

### ☞ Bridge In Greenwood Park

A family tradition

### ☞ Edward Berwick

Popular speaker at the Farmers' Institutes meetings

### ☞ Down The Piney Path

Vaccinations, baths and a Jesse James victim

### ☞ 21st Victorian Home Tour

Mark your calendars

### ☞ New Officers

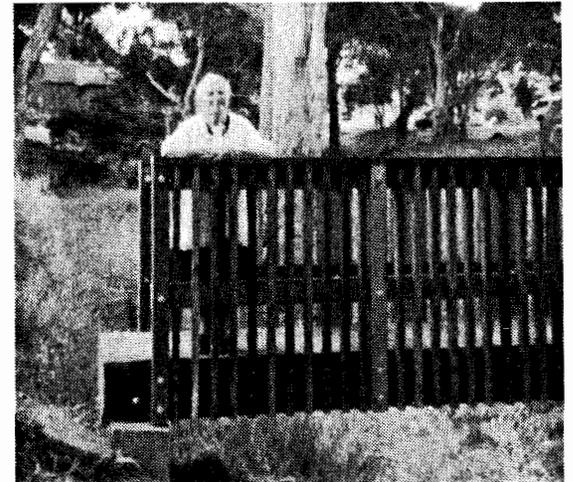
### ☞ Quilt Show Preview

### ☞ Heritage Awards

### ☞ Why Is Preservation Important?

### ☞ Scholarship Offered

### ☞ ...And Much More



## Bridge In Greenwood Park

Muriel Pyburn, longtime Heritage Society Board Member and community volunteer, stands on the bridge in Greenwood Park as her mother did over 80 years ago (see next page). Originally built in 1904 by the Museum Association, it has been rebuilt many times over the years, the most recent time by Mike Heilbron in 1989.

*21st Annual Victorian Home Tour*

*April 22, 1990*

*(More details inside)*

## The Heritage Society of Pacific Grove

P.O. Box 1007  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

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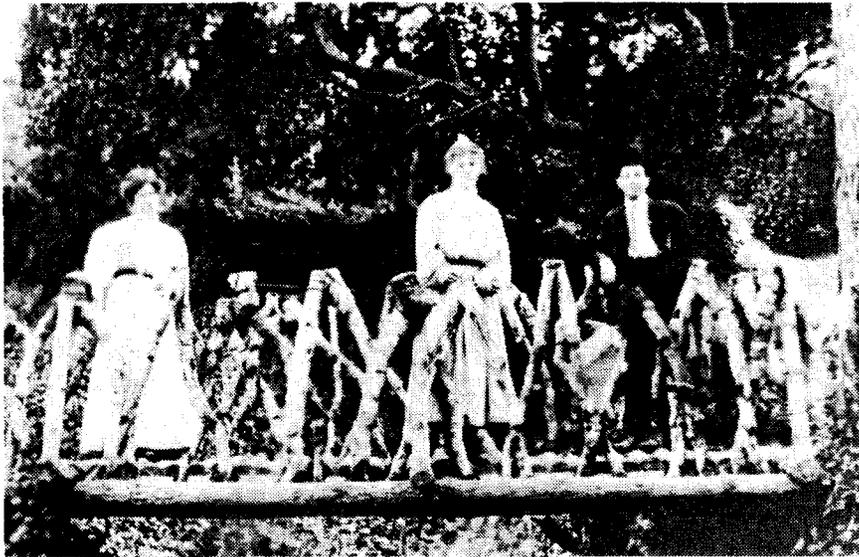


Photo circa 1907, courtesy of Muriel Pyburn

Picture of original bridge in Greenwood Park. Shown in the photo, starting on the left, are Muriel's mother, Mollie Smith (later Gould), Aunt Burdette Smith (later Foster) and Rudy (last name unknown).

### Edward Berwick and the Farmers' Institutes

❖ By E. C. Davis

As part of the plan for land-grant colleges in the late 19th century, on-going education for farmers was felt to be important. Many of the states had programs of one sort or another, California among them. In order to gain grass-roots support for the University, seen as an expensive frill outside the realm of the farmer, Institutes were beginning to be popular and were held under the university auspices for many years. At one time about eighty such affairs were held annually, and among them, one in Pacific Grove. They were three day affairs held at the end of August and the beginning of September. In 1897 the *Pacific Grove Review*, a weekly paper, announced that the popular educator, Edward Berwick, would be on hand to give his experiences. The Southern Pacific Railway would give a 30% discount on fares for those attending. On that occasion, Edward Berwick spoke on apple growing and the need for a canal through the Central American isthmus, so barley, wheat and other crops could be sent to Europe where they would get the highest prices.



Photo circa 1930

**Edward Berwick (1843 - 1934)**

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In 1898, through the pages of the *Review*, he publicized the event well in advance. In early December he was off to Fresno to attend a State Fruit Growers' Convention. His farm in Carmel Valley produced fruit for the old Del Monte Hotel and was shipped all over the state. In 1899 he was once again an active participant and chairman at the Institute. In 1901 he arranged the program and reported cheerfully to the *Review* that attendance was up. The theme was to "make the most of your small corner". Under discussion was water, weeds, dairy and co-ops.

So the program continued. Edward Berwick preached self-efficiency, the dignity of work, and the betterment of life for the small farmer. The programs didn't dwell on large scale farming, although the pattern from California was distinctively just that from the beginning.

In 1903 Berwick discussed the programs of the previous year and one of the speakers distributed vials of codling moths (pupae) and asked farmers to notify him of the exact date of emergence. Edward Berwick spoke on free U.S. postal service for farmers, with emphasis on how this could reduce isolation. There were lectures on aphids, nutrition of farm stock, etc. A poem was declaimed by William Adam, water color artist-in-residence in Pacific Grove. A solo was sung. Also in 1903, Berwick was in San Francisco lecturing on horticulture. In 1904 he lectured in Willits and Centerville (now a part of Fremont) at other Farmers' Institutes. In Pacific Grove he continued as chairman. On the panel of speakers was a woman (Mrs. M. E. Sherman) lecturing on dairying. There was a discussion of taxes, spraying machinery, raising grapes, food preservation and five minute speeches. Professor Fairweather sang "My Own United States".

In 1931, a few years before his death at 91, Edward Berwick was at the Monterey High School, telling teenagers what it was like to send wagon-loads of pears to the Monterey railroad depot by eight horse teams over Carmel Hill. He would have told them, too, of managing sheep and cattle lands in southern Monterey County in the late 1860s when he made his California beginnings. When droughts ended large scale stock raising, he had taken to growing fruit in the Carmel Valley for thirty years before turning the ranch over to his son and retiring to Pacific Grove.

Farmers' Institutes are a thing of the past, but the Extension Services that grew out of them still flourish.

(Editor's note: The Berwick home was at 343 Ocean View Blvd until 1963, when it was demolished to make room for the apartments now there.)

## 21st Annual Victorian Home Tour

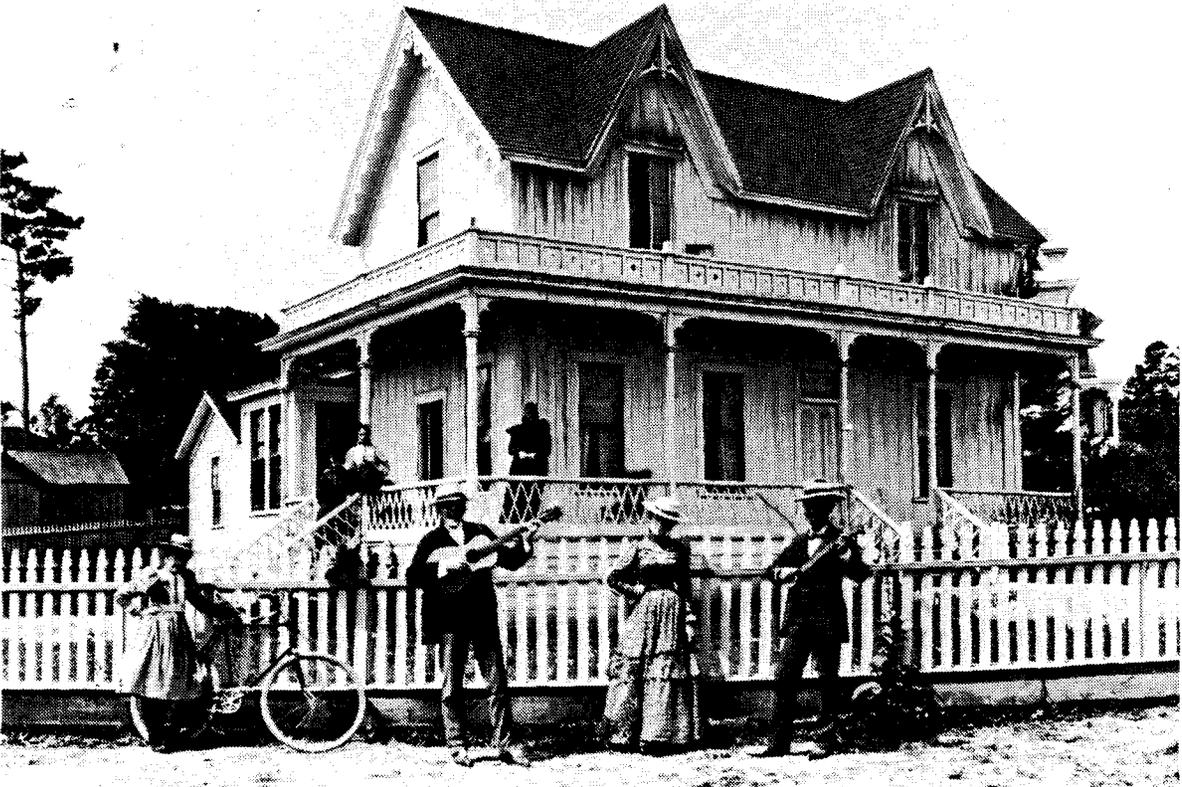
This year's home tour will be held on Sunday, April 22, NOT the 29th as stated in the last issue. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. Five of the homes have never been on the tour before, and two others were last on in 1976. Tickets are still only ten dollars and can be purchased NOW at the Chamber of Commerce office at the corner of Forest and Central six days a week during normal business hours. You can also buy them there on the day of the tour. Call 373-3304 for further information. The tour buildings are as follows:

Address	Built	First Owner	
306 3rd Street	1893	Mrs. J. D. Rodgers	Last on in 1987
370 Pine Avenue	1910	D. L. Knowles	1st time on tour
312 Central	1885	Margaret Tennant	Last on in 1976
129 Pacific	1883	James J. Stevinson	Last on in 1976
229 Congress	1890	William Haskell	1st time on tour
502 Lobos	1905	E. E. Trine	1st time on tour
602 Lobos	1909	Albert Simmerman	1st time on tour
721 Gibson	1909	Pacific Improvement Co.	1st time on tour
321 Central	1910	Littlehale House	Old St. Angela Inn
104 5th Street	1888	William Lacy	Green Gables Inn
581 Pine Avenue	1905	Frank L. Buck	Pacific Grove Inn
Central & 12th	1887	St. Mary's-By-The-Sea Episcopal Church	

## Membership Dues

Membership dues are still only \$10.00 a year for a family membership, which includes your subscription to the Board and Batten. Dues are only \$7.00 a year for senior households (you decide if you are a senior). If you haven't paid your invoice yet, please do so in the near future. Thanks! For all of you that have paid, including those that sent in an extra donation, thank you very much.

# Two of the Homes on This Year's Tour



129 Pacific—Built in 1883 for James J. Stevinson



From the Pat Hathaway Collection

312 Central Avenue (house on left) Circa 1897 built in 1885 for Margaret Tennant

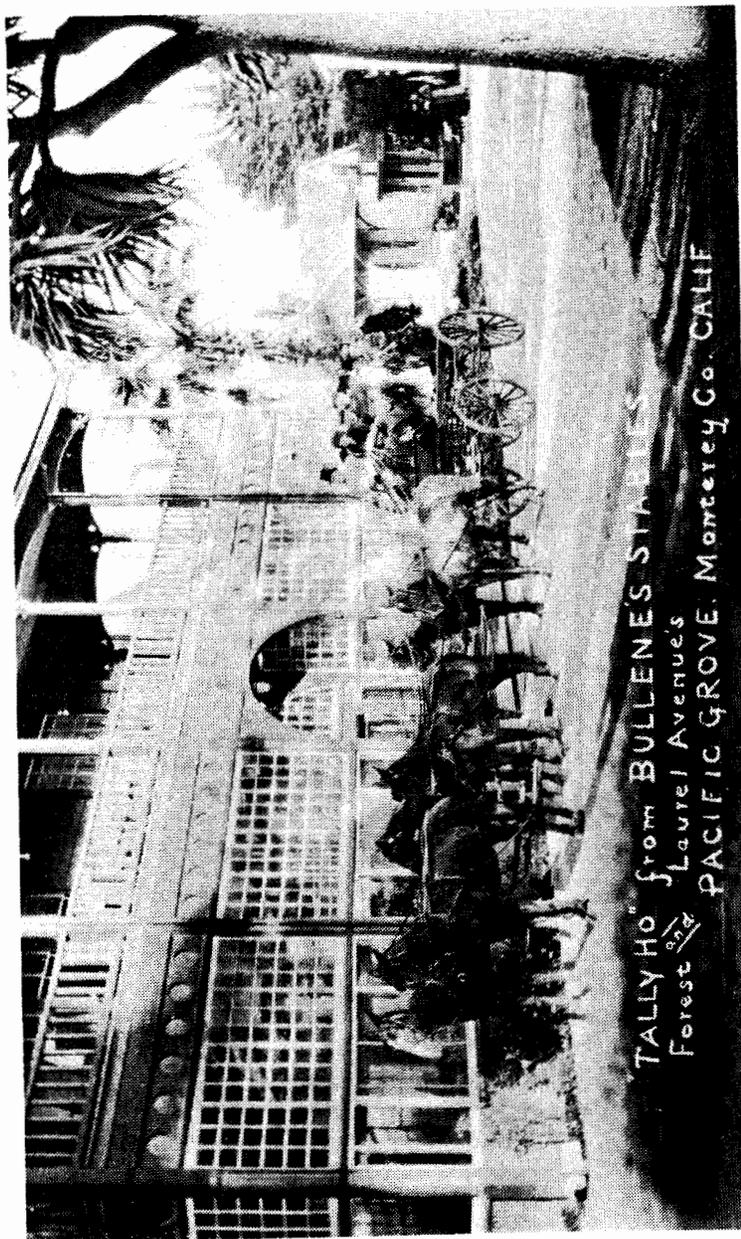
## Down The Piney Fath

News from the Pacific Grove Review—April 1904.

❖ by E. C. Davis

- A horse indulged in a wild run along Light House, spilling a large can of buttermilk along the way.
- Good people, if you wish rye bread, let us know. Grove Bakery.
- The County Superintendent of Education is insisting on vaccinations for school children.
- Steiner's oratorio, the Crucifixion, is presented by the Pacific Grove Choral Society.
- Alonzo Bunker, who was shot through the arm by the Jesse James gang in Minnesota, arrived in the Grove this week for a visit.
- Flour is high. Get your bread at the Grove Bakery.
- The Pacific Improvement Company is ready to sell five acres of land for a high school and a playground for the grade school for \$2,500.
- The grading of the new bath house is being pushed forward as rapidly as possible.
- A hailstorm turns streets white.
- A singing evangelist comes to raise funds for a San Jose home for wayward girls.
- Barrel of sweet pickles, very nice, at A. M. Aggeler's.
- You can get a pane at Wright's Hardware store.
- Mrs. Sylvia Hamilton is converting her barn on 8th Street into a cozy six room cottage. (Editor's note: 505 8th, now gone).
- Why be dirty when you can get a tub for 35 cents at A. M. Aggeler's.
- The 15th Infantry Band is engaged to play in town three times a week during the summer.

## Others Saw Us Through Postcards



The "Tally Ho" in front of the old Pacific Grove Hotel, where Ford's now stands. Postcard circa 1912.

## Election Of Officers

Adam Weiland was elected as President of the Heritage Society at the February 21st Board of Directors meeting held at the Barn. Other officers elected were Lynne Harter as Vice-President and Don Beals as Treasurer, with Carrol Patterson and Irene Tope sharing duties as Secretary. Other Directors on the Board are Marilyn Arioto, Bob Dease, Bob Doerr, Sirrah Harris, Dave Korhonen, Jeanne McCombs, Shirley Palmer, Lee Purcell, Muriel Pyburn and Kathie Taylor.

Prior to the regular Board meeting, outgoing President Jeanne McCombs gave the yearly status and progress report to those present at the annual general membership meeting. Among those in attendance were Bobbie Hall, Don and Barbara Moseley, David and Jeanne Mills, Steve Gorman, Marcia DeVoe, Bruna Weiland and Gladys Howard. Rick Wilkerson represented the California Conference of Historical Societies.

## Quilt Show Preview Party

The annual Quilt Show Preview Party, which marks the opening of the Quilt Show, will be held from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm on Friday evening, April 20, at Chautauqua Hall. The ticket admission of \$7.50 includes wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres. Call Marilyn Arioto at 649-8270 for tickets and/or if you want to bring some hors d'oeuvres.

## Heritage Awards Presentation

Mark your calendar for Thursday evening, May 17 at 7:00 pm. In celebration of National Historic Preservation Week, your Heritage Society will present the Annual Heritage Awards Ceremony. Kent Seavey, noted historic preservation consultant, will also give a slide/lecture presentation. People still talk about Kent's show from the 1988 meeting. Members will receive a special invitation in the mail prior to the event.

## Thanks

Thanks to George Hansen of Washington D.C. for giving us a microfilm copy of the 1900 Pacific Grove Census. George is our research arm in Washington. Thanks to Judge Eldred for giving us a box of handwritten court records from the Pacific Grove Courthouse from the 1920s, 30s and 40s.

## Scholarship Offered

For the second year, the Heritage Society is offering the Centennial Commemorative Scholarship, which was established in 1989 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Pacific Grove's incorporation. The \$250 cash scholarship will be awarded to a graduating Pacific Grove High School senior who meets the qualifications and submits a written description of his or her interest in local history, historical preservation, or a related career goal. The deadline for applying for the scholarship is May 15, 1990. More information may be obtained by contacting the counseling office at the High School.

## New Members

Kelly & Rita Steele • Marianne Carmona • Byron D. Thomas  
 Andrew Sandel • Sprague & Alicia Thresher • Sid & Lottie Fraley  
 Judith Sutliff • Bonney Barca • Joe Cain • Ted Harbarth • Denby  
 & Laurie Jones • Mr. & Mrs. Sam Ono • Paula DiCarlo • Mr. &  
 Mrs. Leslie Sellars • Bill Wetle • Don & Barbara Moseley

## Share The Heritage With A Friend Annual Family Membership \$10.00

Members receive *The Board and Batten* newsletter of the Heritage Society of Pacific Grove.

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