

The Heritage Society of Pacific Grove NEWSLETTER

Dedicated to Maintaining the Beauty and Individuality of Pacific Grove

Volume 4, Issue 6

August 2004



Getty Institute Presents Final Lecture

by Ken Hinsbaw



Arg-e Bam, Before



Arg-e Bam, After

Get ready for adventure. The Summer Lecture Series will finish with a finale that should rival any 4th of July fireworks. Our speaker will be from the Getty Conservation Institute. The Institute sets the standards in archaeology, art, and architectural preservation at sites throughout the globe.

Mary Hardy, Senior Project Specialist with the Getty Conservation Institute, was asked by the Iranian authorities to help plan the rebuilding of their World Cultural Site after the devastating 6.3 earthquake last December. The ancient Fortress Arg-e-bam is a thousand miles south of Teheran; the area has been called the emerald of the desert. This 2000-year-old walled fortress and city is the greatest mud brick structure in the world. Much of it was destroyed in less than a minute, killing thousands in the area.

Come and explore with us

the provocative questions and dilemmas that needed to be addressed when the ancient heart of this vital city was critically damaged.

This will be a members only event. Non-members may join at the door (\$7 for seniors/\$10 for families), and the first 140 members will be seated.

What: Final Lecture of Summer Lecture Series: Mary Hardy of the Getty Conservation Institute
Where: Pacific Grove Natural History Museum
When: Friday, August 20,

Additions to Historic Homes

by Gary Sprader

Most Heritage Society members are probably familiar with preservation as when a historic home in

less-than-perfect condition is repaired and brought back to its original condition. I always feel good when I see this happening. However, in Pacific Grove it is probably more common for preservation of our historic homes to also include an addition. I'm not sure there is a general understanding of what preservation means under those circumstances.

I have previously been a member of PG's Historic Resource Committee (HRC) for 4 years and the Architectural Review Board (ARB) for 2 years so I have seen a lot of these projects. Here is what I think makes a good addition to a historic house:

1. Good preservation practices
 - a. Reuse as much original materials as possible.
 - b. Do not change any character-defining features of the house.
2. Good design
 - a. Insure that any additions

Calendar

AUGUST

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND EARTHQUAKES

Friday, August 20, 7:30 p.m.

Museum of Natural History

FREE

SEPTEMBER

VICTORIAN DINNER

Thursday, September 30

Old Bath House

OCTOBER

HISTORIC HOME TOUR

October 3, 2004, 10:a.m. to 4 p.m.

do not change the character of the historic house.

b. Insure any additions are not so large that the character of the original house is lost.

c. The addition should be attractive.

When I started thinking about writing this article, I thought the list would be a lot longer, but everything I believe is important is included above. This list is consistent with PG's *Architectural Review Guidelines* (Appendix I: Working with Buildings on the Historic Resource Inventory).

I plan to look at future ARB projects where additions are proposed to historic homes. When I find good projects, I will write an article about it and explain why I think it's good in terms of the criteria given above. To start this off, here is a project from a couple (OVER)

of years ago when I was on the ARB. This house is at 181 Ocean View Blvd. across from Hopkins Marine Station. The dormers were added to make the top floor into useful living space. Architect Ted Larsen did great job of retaining the historic integrity of the house while creating more interior space.

I would like to hear from Heritage Society members who have opinions about this subject. Whether you agree or disagree, I would like to know what you think.

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375-1336

Victorian Dinner

Thursday, September 30, 2004

The Olde Bath House

6:30 p.m. Cocktails

7:00 p.m. Dinner

Members: \$75.00

Non-Members: \$85.00

Contact Carrol Patterson,
Heritage Society of Pacific
Grove Secretary for reserva-
tions and tickets: 375-6123

Mail checks to: Heritage Society of Pacific Grove, PO Box 1007, Pacific Grove, CA 93950

People Places



Darlene Billstrom

The Heritage Society is fortunate to have Darlene Billstrom as our current VP. This energetic woman is a past member of the ARB and is the current representative for the Heritage Society on the city's Historic Resource Board. Darlene is not shy about volunteering her services when she can use her well-honed high tech or graphic arts skills. The very successful state preservation conference held in Monterey a few years back owes much of its program planning to her. She can be depended on to stand up and fight for maintaining a strong preservation program in Pacific Grove. She and husband John live in the Chivers Brothers home that they have extensively remodeled.

Ken Hinsbaw

Youthful Energy Meets Historic Preservation

Ken Hinsbaw

One of the most interesting and ambitious projects the Heritage Society is engaged in is underwriting the cost of updating our Historic Inventory. This list of old homes and businesses has been gathering dust for over twenty years. Homes and neighborhoods have changed over that time; and, at last, the list will be updated and current photos added. The data is used as a basis to make decisions that affect individual homes as well as neighborhoods. As you may have read in past newsletters, Board member Bob Davis is coordinating this effort. Bob recruited intern Nat Rojanasathira to do the actual work. Nat is the kind of young man who would make any parent proud. He is smart, focused, and hardworking. We



Bob Davis & Nat Rojanasathira have a good chance of getting most of the work accomplished in the two months that Nat will be working for us. Nat and Bob will be cruising around the neighborhoods taking digital pictures in the electric car loaned to us for this project by the Chamber of Commerce.

Nat is beginning his senior year at CSUMB this fall. He grew up in Fremont and confesses that he spent much of his time in the local history reading room of the Fremont Public Library when he was younger. He has been working as an intern for City Manager Ross Hubbard this last year doing web development, grant writing, archiving, and as much other work as Hubbard can heap on his shoulders. Nat reports that he is inspired to pursue a career in local government.

Send your submissions to:
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