

B.A.H.A. ANNUAL MEETING

AT FINNISH HALL --



herbert rhodes speaker

The first Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association, Inc. was held on Friday, May 9, 1975, 8:00 p.m., at the Finnish Hall (ca. 1910), 1819 Tenth Street, Berkeley.

Nearly 100 members and guests enjoyed a delicious dinner preceding the meeting. Mr. and Mrs. John Norford catered the event. (Mr. Norford was the chef on the California Zephyr prior to his retirement.) Among the guests were Mayor and Mrs. Warren Widener and Director and Mrs. Walter Toney of the Recreation and Parks and Community Services Dept.

Herbert Rhodes of Palo Alto, Director of California Parks and Recreation, was the guest of honor and speaker for the evening. He stated that making recreation facilities available to inner-city residents was his current chief goal, and proceeded to expand on this topic before dealing with his additional responsibility as proposed chief State Preservation Officer.

"The criteria you (Californians) use (in designating buildings for preservation) bothers me," Rhodes said. "Other people have some history in the State of California that we overlook. California should have 'equal opportunity' in putting our history together. Unless we develop these kinds of concerns, we'll be writing a bad check for our youngsters to redeem at a later date."

Rhodes did urge B.A.H.A. to seek as many grants as possible at all governmental levels, but not to try to save every old building. He explained that the state must undertake a thorough inventory of its historical sites to qualify for federal funds available for preservation.

Among other things, Rhodes urged consideration of "what a building tells our children about the past". Along these lines he suggested developing booklets and a curriculum for local schools to educate children concerning their local heritage and how it can be preserved with meaningful use.

Prior to Rhodes' talk, the annual reports were given by the executive officers. Lesley Emmington, 1974-75 President, conducted the election of officers and turned the meeting over to JoAnn Price, 1975-76 President. The new committee chairpersons were announced and mementos and thanks were extended to Anthony Bruce and Dan Dean for their tireless efforts on behalf of B.A.H.A.'s 1975 calendar; and to Lesley Emmington for her outstanding and committed work for B.A.H.A.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

A number of people have joined B.A.H.A since the annual meeting, May 9th. We welcome:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Margaret Adams | Ann Livingstone |
| Louisa Crawford | Judy and Howard McEldowney |
| Dennis Gimbel | Lorraine Osmundson |
| Grace Goggio | Elizabeth Ratcliff |
| Deborah and Al Kropp | Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Lee |
| Nick Lawrence | Smith |

Membership renewals will be due this September for members who joined last fall. A reminder will be sent at that time.

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the current membership roster may call Lisa Bruce (652-0975).

ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

IN SEATTLE

The National Trust for Historic Preservation and the city of Seattle will host the first national conference on The Economic Benefits of Preserving Old Buildings.

The conference will be held from 31 July to 2 August in Seattle, "a preeminent example of municipal commitment to and the financial success of historic preservation."

"Municipal officials, bankers, realtors, developers, and contractors are already becoming increasingly aware and involved in the continuing and adaptive use of old buildings as a financially and environmentally profitable enterprise, regardless of the economic climate. This conference is being held in an effort to examine this growing development and its economic potential," say the organizers.

The scheduled speakers are not principally preservationists. They represent the real estate industry, banking and finance, and government at all levels.

For additional information on this conference write to: Michael S. Leventhal, Department of Education, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 740-748 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20006, or call (202) 638-5200, ext. 203.



The state would be authorized to conduct "urban homesteading" programs in blighted city areas under SB427 (Sen. Ralph C. Dills, D-Gardena), which was passed with little debate and sent to the Assembly recently.

The bill would not actually begin the program of allowing persons to "homestead" in delapidated government-owned houses but provides the authorization for such a program in cooperation with the Federal Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

Under the bill, the state could make us of repossessed houses owned by the federal agency by turning them over to families who were willing to make needed repairs and live in the dwellings for three years. A "nominal" fee could be charged for the house.

The Brown administration earlier announced it was considering an urban homesteading program in conjunction with a pending \$950 million state housing program.

ST. MARK'S REDISCOVERS

WILLIS POLK TREASURES

At the time of Dr. Joseph Baird's lecture last winter at St. Mark's Church, Fillmore Eisenmayer became interested in the possible search for and restoration of certain decorative items original to St. Mark's. He and Betty Thompson toured the entire building shortly thereafter and made note of missing items, as well as began to inventory what was found in storerooms.

The rector and various church committee chairmen have been made aware of the good things they have put away or forgotten. Presently, pride in the building and its contents is mounting and there is movement toward repairing and/or replacing some of the treasures.

Among the discoveries are:

1. a water color of the church by the architect William Curlett, ca. 1902;
2. a carved bulletin board in the parish hall which is probably by Willis Polk because it is so similar to the rood screen, and is dedicated to one of the Pallache family who were great patrons of his;
3. a credence table from the old church which was found in the attic, ca. 1880.

The most difficult job has already been done—the replacement of the rood screen (Willis Polk); although it needs repairs. A competent wood carver is being sought to duplicate the missing parts.

Working committees have been, or are in the process of being formed:

1. to study and make a monograph of the three Tiffany windows;
2. to restore the amber glass which was replaced or covered in the 50's;
3. to scrape off the paint of the apse mouldings;
4. to remove to another place the new della Robia plaque, so that the old one shows;
5. to remove the Axminsters and ask parishioners to donate Oriental rugs for the nave and apse;
6. to find more appropriate stands for the very nice brass vases at the altar.

For more details call Fillmore Eisenmayer (841-4713).

June 1, 1975; 7:30 p.m.
Ed Phillips' home

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of B.A.H.A. was called to order by President Jo Ann Price. There were 10 Board members, 1 member and 2 guests present.

REPORTS:

Treasurer - none.

Corresponding Sec. - organizational memberships in other groups; correspondence.

Administrative V.P. - helpful suggestions for chairmen to instill enthusiasm in committee members.

Communications V.P. - helpful suggestions concerning public relations for officers, chairmen and members.

Finance Com. - Expenses incurred by committees in excess of \$10. must receive O.K. of concerned V.P. or Pres. Expenses in excess of \$50. must receive Bd. approval.

Publicity Com. - getting underway.

Public Affairs Com. - helpful suggestions on how to lobby. Action items reported and discussed were 1) San Pablo street lights, 2) the Barker House, 3) the 14 houses slated by BRA for demolition.

Research Com. - working on research for national and state forms for several local buildings. Oral History Subcom. gathering list of interviewees; will purchase tape recorder.

Membership Com. - new rosters available; new membership form being developed.

Calendar Com. - photos being taken; design being developed; distributors needed.

MOTIONS:

1. 1974-75 Budget approved.
2. B.A.H.A. letter be sent to City approving removal and storage of San Pablo street lights, and their creative use in the near future.
3. B.A.H.A. recommend to the Landmarks Preservation Commission that it take a creative approach to the Barker House as an important element of the neighborhood's history and architecture.
4. B.A.H.A. letter to BRA objecting to the demolition of the 14 houses before proper evaluation has been made.
5. THE B.A.H.A. SEES A NEED FOR A BERKELEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND PUBLIC HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND RECOGNIZES THAT SUCH A MUSEUM COULD APPROPRIATELY BE HOUSED IN THE GOLDEN SHEAF BAKERY AT 2071 ADDISON STREET.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

The next B.A.H.A. Board of Directors meeting: Sun., 29 June, 7:30 p.m., 1056 Overlook Rd. - 94708

All B.A.H.A. members are welcome. Please call 548-5206 if planning to attend.



B.A.H.A. STATEMENT ON THE BARKER HOUSE

BEFORE THE L.P.C. 5 JUNE 1975

Members of B.A.H.A. were on hand at the Landmarks Preservation Commission meeting of 5 June 1975 when the matter of the Barker House was considered. A two-page statement was read by Public Affairs Chairperson, Ed Phillips. It contained the resolution passed at the 1 June 1975 Board of Directors meeting of B.A.H.A. which recommended "that the L.P.C. seek a creative solution which will assure the preservation and use of the Barker House". Following are excerpts from the statement. The entire statement is available from Communications V.P., Lesley Emmington (653-8543).

..."By this we are suggesting that you consider something other than landmark designation. There are two reasons for thinking of an alternative approach:

1. We do not find full agreement that the house is of high landmark quality - at least as compared to some of Berkeley's acknowledged architectural treasures.
2. We need to find more positive and aggressive means of preservation which will go beyond basic designation.

"I am sure you are aware of Section 12 of the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance which provides for recognition of structures of merit other than those designated as landmarks. Also, in Section 2,b,6 we find these words: '...consider methods other than those provided for in this ordinance for encouraging and achieving historical or architectural preservation.

..."We would like to see your commission emphasize creativity, and responsibly take advantage of the broad mandate the city ordinance has given the commission.

"The Barker House offers an immediate test case. In our opinion its significance lies not in the purity of its architecture, but in its association with an important local personage of the past; its association with its present site (including the nearby Barker Building); and most particularly its significance to a neighborhood where little consideration has been given to maintaining a sense of continuity with the past.

..."Here we should reassure you that the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association does not intend to carry the banner of every old structure in Berkeley. We do see the Barker House as a special case, however.

..."We are searching for a creative solution, and we are also looking for a reasonable one that recognizes the need for new hospital facilities and recognizes the facts of cost constraints.

..."In sum, our organization makes the following proposal:

THAT THE LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION TAKE OFFICIAL NOTE OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BARKER HOUSE, AND RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COUNCIL THAT HERRICK HOSPITAL SHOULD STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF MOVING THE BARKER HOUSE FORWARD AND INCORPORATING IT INTO THE DESIGN OF THE HOSPITAL'S EXPANDED FACILITIES."

What was the result? The L.P.C. voted two motions:

1. that the Barker House was not significant enough to be a Berkeley landmark;
2. that Herrick Hospital offer the Barker House for removal or salvage.

BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL 10 JUNE 1975

Members of B.A.H.A. attended the public hearing on the proposed expansion of Herrick Memorial Hospital before the City Council on 10 June 1975. Public Affairs Chairperson, Ed Phillips, spoke on behalf of B.A.H.A. and circulated a MEMO to the Mayor and the City Council re the use permits and variances requested by Herrick Hospital as they related to the Barker House.

Basically, five points were made. (The actual MEMO is available from Communications V.P., Lesley Emmington (653-8543).

1. That Herrick be granted a use permit conditional upon preserving the Barker House and moving it forward to Dwight Way between the hospital's East Wing and the Barker Building.
2. That the additions to the Barker House made in the 1940's be carefully removed to allow the restoration of the original south and west exteriors.
3. That appropriate landscaping of the front yard be provided, subject to review by the Design Review Committee of the Civic Art Commission.
4. That the use permit for a medical practice facility be granted conditionally upon the incorporation of the Barker House in whole, or in major part, in the new facility, under the conditions listed above in 1, 2, and 3.
5. That as a final recommendation if the above were not agreed to, the Barker House be made available for removal, in consultation with B.A.H.A., so that it might be preserved and used on another site.

What was the result? B.A.H.A.'s MEMO was not even considered as the Council voted on all of the use permits and variances as one package without discussion of any of the parts.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS HOTLINE

Chairperson Ed Philipps of Public Affairs welcomes all interested members to the monthly committee meetings. Look for the date, time and place on the B.A.H.A. July calendar on p. 4.

In addition, the Public Affairs Committee meets whenever a Berkeley preservation crisis is brewing in order to determine what action, if any, to recommend that B.A.H.A. undertake to be most effective.

Should you want to be placed on the Public Affairs HOTLINE to be contacted when crises arise, please let Ed know (526-4303).

B.A.H.A. BELONGS...

B.A.H.A. holds an organizational membership in the following preservation or historical organizations. Should you want to attend their meetings, or receive information about them, please call 652-0975.

As a member of B.A.H.A., you are welcome to use our organizational membership in these other groups whenever you are interested.

1. Alameda County Historical Society
2. Alameda Victorian Preservation Society
3. California Heritage Council
4. Camron-Stanford House Preservation Assoc.
5. Conference of California Historical Societies
6. Foundation for San Francisco Architectural Heritage
7. National Trust for Historic Preservation

Are there others B.A.H.A. should join?

RICHARD LONGSTRETH TO LEAVE

The departure of Richard Longstreth from Berkeley in August will be a great loss to B.A.H.A. Richard's willingness to share with us the scholarship that he has applied to his studies of the Bay Region Style has contributed in many ways to our sense of regional history and to the growth of the Association. Many members will miss being able to call him for well-considered and knowledgeable advice.

Thanks to Richard B.A.H.A. is involved in an exciting and timely venture. We will be publishing soon an article written by him entitled: JULIA MORGAN - SOME INTRODUCTORY NOTES. This publication will be one of the few available resources on Miss Morgan. It will be designed and printed by Wesley Tanner, a talented and creative printer of the Arif Press, Berkeley.



1976 CALENDAR

announcement

Yes, there will be a calendar next year! The 1976 B.A.H.A. calendar will have an historical flavor in keeping with the Bicentennial year. Distribution is an important part of the work of the Calendar Committee. If interested, please call Anthony Bruce (652-0975).

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

SPAWNS SUBCOM.

Chairperson Jacqueline Reinier of the Research Committee recently announced the formation of a subcommittee for developing oral history documentation of significant buildings, sites and neighborhoods throughout Berkeley. A B.A.H.A. tape recorder has been purchased for use by the Oral History Subcommittee, as well as by the Research and other committees.

Meanwhile, the Research Committee continues its documentation of a list of outstanding Berkeley structures for which State Landmark and/or National Register forms are being completed. This committee is fascinating and can readily use all interested members. Please call Jackie at 841-9466 if interested.

THINGS TO READ

BOOKS

1. Morrison, Jacob H.; Historic Preservation Law; (Nat'l Trust for Hist. Pres., Wash., D.C.: 1965).
2. Pettitt, George A.; BERKELEY: the Town and Gown of It; (Howell-North Books, Berkeley: 1973).

JOURNALS

1. Historic Preservation; Nat'l Trust for Hist. Pres. quarterly.
2. Preservation News; Nat'l Trust for Hist. Pres. monthly newspaper.
3. Old House Journal; dedicated to the restoration of older homes.
4. The California Historian; Conference of Cal. Hist. Societies quarterly.

LAWS

1. Landmarks Preservation Ordinance; City of Berkeley: 1974; providing for protection, enhancement, perpetuation and use of structures, sites and areas having special architectural, historical or aesthetic interest; establishing a Landmarks Preservation Commission and delineating its powers, duties and function; providing for designation procedures; providing for enforcement and penalties for violation of the ordinance.

NEWSLETTERS

B.A.H.A. receives these monthly from several other preservation and historical organizations. Please call B.A.H.A.'s Librarian to arrange loans or make inquiries (652-0975).

BERKELEY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION



JULY 1975

sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri
29 7:30 p.m. <u>B.A.H.A. BOARD</u> 1056 Overlook Rd. - 94708		1	2	3 8:00 p.m. <u>PROJECT COORD.</u> 3121 Claremont Ave. - 94705	4
6	7	8	9 7:30 p.m. <u>ORAL HIST. SUB.</u> 1120 Grizzly Peak - 94708	10 7:30 p.m. <u>CALENDAR</u> 6 Encina Place - 94705	11 7:30 p.m. <u>PUBLIC AFFAIRS</u> 1549 Posen St. - 94707
13	14	15	16 7:30 p.m. <u>RESEARCH</u> 2305 Carlton St. - 94704	17	18 8:00 p.m. <u>LONGSTRETH PARTY</u>
20	21 <u>DEADLINE</u> <u>B.A.H.A.</u> <u>NEWSLETTER</u> (for Aug.)	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31	
3 7:30 p.m. <u>B.A.H.A. BOARD</u> 1447 Kains Ave. - 94702					

FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP PLEASE CLIP AND RETURN TO:

THE BERKELEY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION
 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN
 6 ENCINA PLACE
 BERKELEY, CA - 94705

THE BERKELEY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION, INC.

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PHONE _____

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\$5.00 Membership Dues enclosed

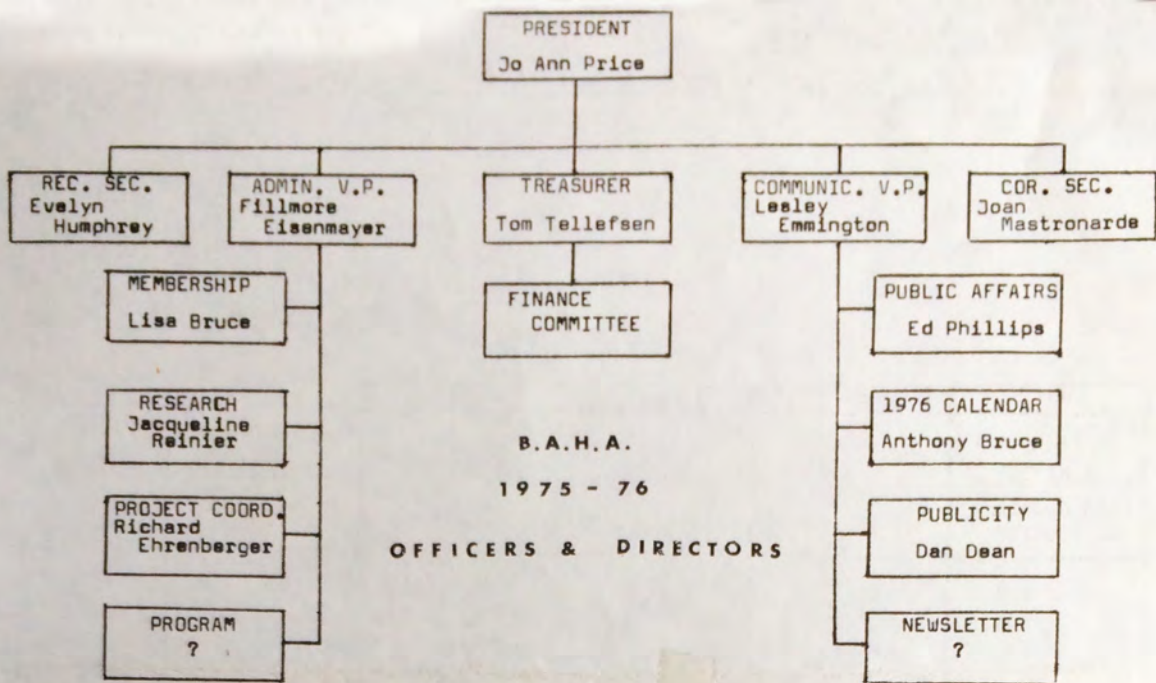
\$7.50 Family Membership Dues enclosed

\$2.00 Senior/Student Membership Dues enclosed

WANT TO BE ACTIVE

OR

WANT TO BE SUPPORTING



WANTED:

an editor

The B.A.H.A. NEWSLETTER is in need of an editor!

If you have experience in lay out, or would like to learn, please call 548-5206 immediately!

WE NEED YOU NOW!

THE BERKELEY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

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