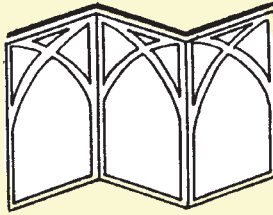
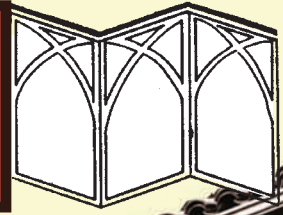


BERKELEY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION



THE BAHHA NEWSLETTER



NO. 126
SUMMER 2007
AWARDS NUMBER



Join us for an Afternoon in a Julia Morgan
Masterpiece on November 11th—see page 6



THE BAHÁ NEWSLETTER

No. 126

SUMMER 2007



Berkeley City Club

Berkeley City Club Swimming Pool

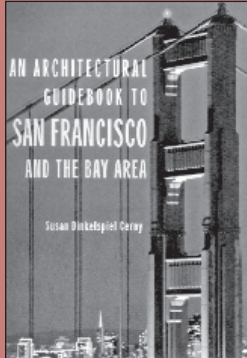
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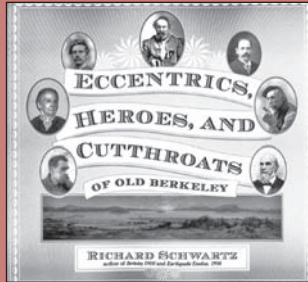
COVER: *The Seldon Williams House on Claremont Blvd., designed by Julia Morgan in 1928, will be the setting for an afternoon reception and informal talk by Mark Wilson, author of Julia Morgan, Architect of Beauty, on Sunday, November 11. Anthony Bruce photo, 2004. ABOVE: "Berkeley Women's City Club" and "Swimming Pool, Berkeley Women's City Club", vintage postcards courtesy Anthony Bruce. The Berkeley City Club will be the site of BAHÁ lectures on Oct. 25 and Nov. 1.*



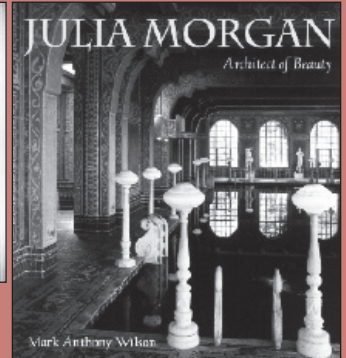
3 NEW BOOKS by BAHÁ Members



An Architectural Guidebook to San Francisco and the Bay Area by Susan Dinkelspiel Cerny, published by Gibbs Smith Publisher, is an entirely new architectural guide to the nine Bay Area counties. The new Guide is an indispensable resource for anyone—both California resident and visitor alike—interested in the built environment. Susan and her twelve contributors have compiled more than 2,000 entries in over 100 cities and towns and neighborhoods. \$30 (\$20 BAHÁ members), sales tax included.



Eccentrics, Heroes, and Cutthroats of Old Berkeley by Richard Schwartz, published by RSB Books. It seems that Berkeley has always been home to colorful characters, as Richard tells in this collection of stories about unusual Berkeleyans of the olden days. Included are John E. Boyd, the "Boss Baggage Buster of Beau-tiful Berkeley;" Bill "The Dog Man" Henderson; Mary Towns-end; Capt. Thomas; and Emperor Norton. \$25 (\$20 BAHÁ members), sales tax included.



Julia Morgan, Architect of Beauty by Mark A. Wilson, published by Gibbs Smith Publisher, with foreword by BAHÁ member Lynn Forney Mc-Murray, Julia Morgan's goddaughter, offers a fresh look at America's most prolific major architect. The book is sumptuously illustrated with splendid color photographs. \$60 (\$45 BAHÁ members), sales tax included.

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To receive the member discount, you may purchase these books at the BAHÁ Office on Thursday afternoons (closed Oct. 25 and Nov. 1), and at the upcoming Fall Lecture Series—see page 6 for more details.

The BAHÁ Newsletter is published quarterly by the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association and is sent to all members of the Association. Entire contents of this issue © 2007 by the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association, P.O. Box 1137, Berkeley, California 94701. tel: 510-841-2242; e-mail: baha@berkeleyheritage.com; website: www.berkeleyheritage.com.

Produced June-Oct. 2007. Contributing writers this issue: Anthony Bruce, Jane Edginton, Lesley Emmington, Wendy Markel, Mary Lee Noonan, Daniella Thompson



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BAHA members have had a busy summer, kicked off by our wonderful Spring House Tour “Among the Rocks” in the Thousand Oaks area of North Berkeley. Thank you to all members who came—we love to see you, and we appreciate your support.

We are already planning our next tour for late spring 2008, and have settled on one of Berkeley’s most stunning neighborhoods: the Benvenue / Hillegass corridor. This is an area rich in beautiful Arts and Crafts period homes. We can promise that they are as exciting to see on the inside as the outside. We have not settled on the date yet, but can use your help. If you live in the neighborhood, or just love it as we do and want to participate in the early planning—choosing the homes, researching, etc.—please contact the BAHA office and let Anthony or Lesley know you would like to be involved. 841-2242.

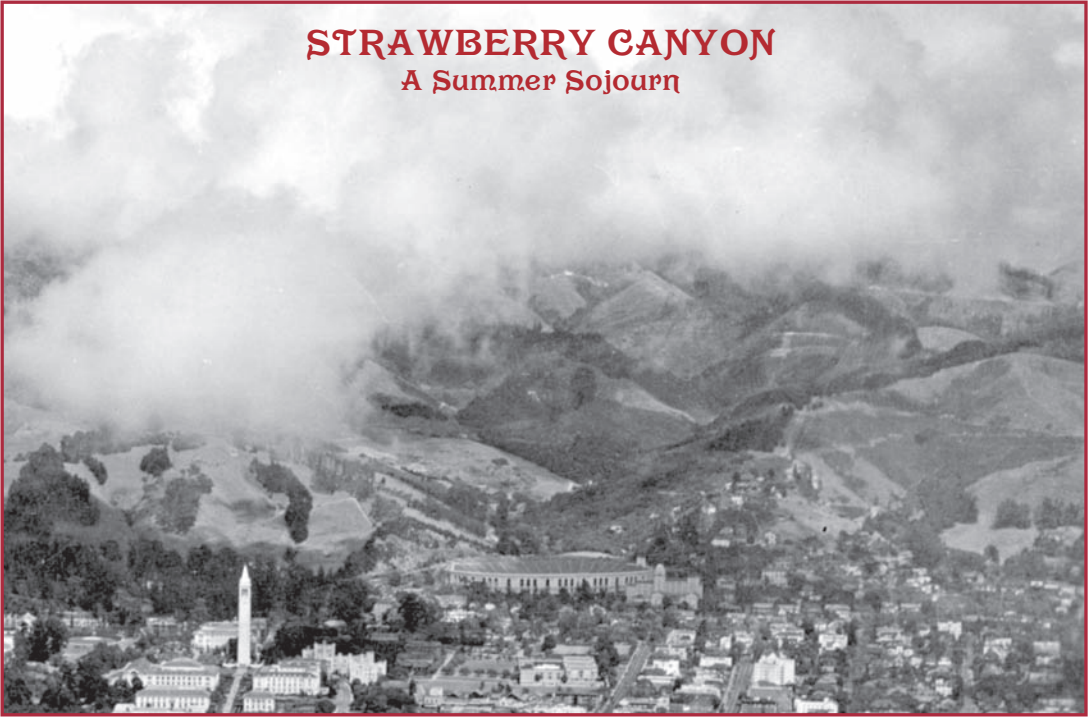
Great news from the City Planning Department: there is a new City of Berkeley Landmarks Preservation Commission secretary in town. Terry Blount comes to our city from West Hollywood, and BAHA extends a hearty welcome. Terry stopped by the office recently to see the Archives first hand with outgoing secretary Janet Homrighausen, who is retiring from the department. Best to you, Janet.

The DAPAC (Downtown Area Plan Area Committee) has been meeting since 2006 to present a draft plan to the city’s Planning Commission to replace the existing Downtown Advisory Committee. Amazing that the current plan was readopted less than 5 years ago by the City Council as part of the new General Plan. But now in their wisdom, some of the powers that be think that a denser downtown with multiple buildings as tall as 20 stories is what residents of Berkeley want—or will want. You may want to keep an eye on this, as well as the BRT plans to run a rapid bus with dedicated lanes in each direction coming from Oakland on Telegraph into the downtown on Shattuck, ending at University Avenue. It could be a very different looking city—both from the downtown looking out (no more views of the hills or the Bay), and from the rest of the city looking downtown. The new downtown area spans Hearst to Dwight Way, and Martin Luther King to Oxford. This now includes residential areas with single family homes. There is a long way to go yet because despite whatever plan the DAPAC approves, it will still go through a Planning Commission process before heading to Council. It will be a hot topic throughout next year’s election season.

Other hot topics: The Stadium, which still has no plan for retrofit, the Memorial Oak Grove adjoining the Stadium, Strawberry Canyon and the continuing march of the Berkeley Lab into the cultural open space of the Canyon, the nomination sent to the State Historical Resources Commission to list the Berkeley High School Campus on the National Register of Historic Places, the LPO referendum, and neighborhoods trying to retain their charm and character in the face of development nearby.

Carrie Olson, President

STRAWBERRY CANYON A Summer Sojourn



Summer fog creeps in over the Berkeley Hills in this aerial view of Strawberry Canyon, Berkeley's enticing and treasured slice of the California landscape, directly behind Memorial Stadium. Photo-postcard, courtesy of Sarah Wikander.



Charles Birnbaum

IF YOU MISSED the August Strawberry Canyon visit of Charles Birnbaum, President of The Cultural Landscape Foundation, sponsored by BAHA and the American Society of Landscape Architects, Northern California Chapter, then you missed a delightful opportunity to learn of the Historic Landscape Initiative. You also missed the enjoyable rambles in the Canyon, led by Michael Kelly (*Monument Hill Vista*), Linda Govan (*University Botanical Garden*), Robin Freeman (*Strawberry Creek – Its Sources*), and Gray Brechin (*Panoramic Hill*), as well as a delicious barbecue at Haas Club House (Wurster, Bernardi & Emmons, 1959). These events, together with the ramble last summer starting from the Memorial Oak Grove, co-sponsored by the California Native Plant Society, East Bay Chapter, are BAHA endeavors to contribute to an understanding of Strawberry Canyon as a significant landscape that not only defines Berkeley's sense of place, but also that of the greater Bay Area.

The stark reality that Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), in association with a British Petroleum (BP) contract, is planning to construct a new building, the Helios Building (in excess of 160,000 gross sq. ft.), on undeveloped land in the lower reaches of the interior of the Canyon, with an additional new road and parking lots, is cause for alarm. According to the LBNL Long Range Development Plan this is only the beginning. We know from such visionaries as Frederick Law Olmsted, John Muir, Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Stephen Mather, Duncan McDuffie, Robert Sibley, and Sylvia McLaughlin, that conservation of the natural world provides all communities with vital links to social and environmental health. Certainly, the task of persuading LBNL and BP (*i.e.* the University Regents) to respect Strawberry Canyon's historic relationship to our community, and the Canyon's fragile ecological limits and its many cultural amenities (so that they might seek an alternative site for research and development ventures) is a daunting challenge for our local preservation community. A first step is to ap-

preciate the Canyon's history.

The Canyon—directly opposite the Golden Gate—has been a distinctive feature of the Coast Range since before those historic days in the 1850s when the University took ownership of its valley and the grassy plain below. Streamlets flowing down from its high ridges, through a multitude of hillside outlets, all create the Strawberry Creek headwaters, releasing over 100,000 gallons of water a day. The discovery of this water source led the nascent College of California, then in Oakland, to select the site for what was to become the University and city of Berkeley.

In 1865, when Frederick Law Olmsted conceived the University's first campus plan and laid out Piedmont Way as a gracious centerpiece for his first American residential neighborhood, the Berkeley Property, he aligned Piedmont Way to intersect at the highest northern point with the mouth of Strawberry Creek, or the "ravine." In his words, this was where the water "stands near the surface of the ground during the entire summer" and where the ground "is abundantly covered with native foliage of a very beautiful character." Olmsted applauded the view up "through the gorge and out upon the bay" and described a road within the gorge that "follows a stream of water from the open landscape of the bay region into the midst of the mountains it [the road] offers a great change of scenery within a short distance, and will constitute a unique and most valuable appendage to the general local attractions of the neighborhood."

Until the 1920s, the Canyon remained largely a natural resource, its highest grassy areas grazed by the milk cows of the Such Family, and its oak and bay laurel woodlands inspiring such California painters as William Keith, Edwin Deakin, and A. H. Broad. Early members of the Sierra Club, many of whom lived either on the Canyon's south side on Panoramic Hill (listed on the National Register), or nearby in the Berkeley Property tract, often hiked up the old Canyon Road and extolled the surrounding scenic beauty.

The first and most significant alteration to the Canyon occurred when the California Memorial Stadium (John Galen Howard, 1923) was built. Set upon land-



Stephen T. Mather, namesake of Mather Grove in Strawberry Canyon.

fill at the end of Piedmont Way and Prospect Street, it replaced the "gorge," where the water once pooled, and where the Hayward Fault runs north-south along the Coast Range. The Stadium (listed on the National Register) was, and is, a *Beaux Arts* masterpiece and an amazing engineering feat. Yet, at that time, its placement in the path of Strawberry Creek and in the midst of an established area of distinguished homes and gardens stirred many to protest bitterly. (Today, Berkeley awaits the fateful decision of Alameda County Superior Court Judge Miller re: proposed Stadium expansion.)

The highlands of the Canyon, where the dairy ranch was located, also evolved with time. Early, conifers and eucalyptus trees were planted along the top of the ridges. Most importantly, in 1928, the University Botanical Garden, which had been established on the main campus in 1890, moved into the Canyon where it now occupies a fenced area of 25 acres, exhibiting over 12,000 different kinds of plants representative of the world's major floristic zones. The largest area of the Garden is devoted to the native plants of California. In 1930, the Mather Redwood Grove was planted with approximately 150 redwoods in tribute to Stephen Mather's work as founding Director of the National Park Service, his early associations with the Sierra Club, and to honor him as a Cal graduate of the class of 1887. Then, in 1933, the California Conservation Corps created the Redwood Grove Amphitheater, as well as several bridges in the Canyon.

Of course, Ernest Orlando Lawrence's discovery in 1931 of the ability to split an atom was the catalyst for the initial wave of research and development facilities on Berkeley's hillsides. The first generation of buildings was known as the Radiation Laboratory, or the "Rad Lab," and were mainly out-of-sight. In the beginning, the Canyon, itself, was sparsely sprinkled with a complex of research buildings located on its north slope. More recently, with the ownership of the facilities turned over to the U.S. Department of Energy and renamed LBNL, but still under the operation of the University Regents, the land has been considered an industrial development opportunity site.

(continued on page 7)

— **THREE AUTHORS TO SPEAK** —
Fall Lecture Series in Julia Morgan Settings

You will not want to miss the three upcoming BAHA events, planned to introduce you to three newly-published books written by BAHA members, and to give you the opportunity to hear the authors speak about their work. In addition, the events will be held in two of Julia Morgan's most beautiful Berkeley buildings.

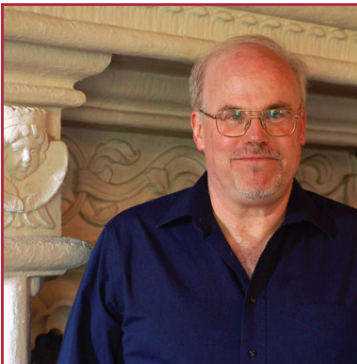


On **October 25**, a Thursday evening, local historian **Richard Schwartz** will talk on **“The Eccentrics of 19th Century Downtown Berkeley”** at the Berkeley City Club, one of Julia Morgan's great club buildings, designed in 1929. Richard is the author of *Berkeley 1900* and *Earthquake Exodus*. His latest book, to be featured at this event, is *Eccentrics, Heroes, and Cutthroats of Old Berkeley*, published by RSB Books. It seems that Berkeley has always been home to colorful characters, as Richard tells us in this collection of stories about unusual Berkeleyans of the turn of the century. Included are John E. Boyd, the “Boss Baggage Buster of Beautiful Berkeley” who was already concerned about the destruction of Berkeley's historic buildings in 1900; Bill “The Dog Man” Henderson, who operated a popular hot dog stand in downtown Berkeley; Mary Townsend, who refused to move her house, which stood in the way of a proposed railroad right-of-way; and Captain Thomas, who fired a cannon every 4th of July from his “fort” high above Buena Vista Way. Learn more at Richard's lecture and ask Richard to sign your copy of his book at the reception immediately following, across the street at the McCreary-Greer House (1901), BAHA's headquarters.

The following Thursday, **November 1**, we will meet again in the Berkeley City Club's Drawing Room to hear **Susan Dinkelspiel Cerny**, long-time BAHA Board Member and author of *Berkeley Landmarks*, speak on **“Observations: The San Francisco Bay Area and its Built Environment.”** Susan's new book is *An Architectural Guide to San Francisco and the Bay Area*, published by Gibbs Smith Publisher. Susan will share with us the perspective she gained on the Bay Area's built environment through several years of intensive focus: researching, writing, and editing this comprehensive architectural guide that she compiled with her 12 contributors. Susan will be pleased to sign your copy of her book at the reception at the McCreary-Greer House, immediately following her talk.



Daniella Thompson photograph.



Andrea Ferreira photograph

On Sunday afternoon, **November 11**, we move to Claremont Court and Julia Morgan's Seldon Williams House of 1928 to hear BAHA member and architectural historian, **Mark A. Wilson** speak on **“Julia Morgan: her Unique Place in American Architecture.”** Mark's exhaustive new book, *Julia Morgan, Architect of Beauty*, published by Gibbs Smith Publisher, and with foreword by BAHA member Lynn Forney McMurray, Julia Morgan's goddaughter, offers a fresh look at America's most prolific major architect. The book is sumptuously illustrated in color. Mark will speak with participants and sign copies of his book during the reception. This is one of Miss Morgan's great houses and the main rooms will be open for viewing. If the weather permits, we will be able to wander in the tranquil rear garden. But why not let Mark Wilson tell us about the house in this excerpt from his forthcoming book . . .

The SELDON WILLIAMS HOUSE a Julia Morgan Masterpiece



A view from the secluded garden of the Seldon Williams House, showing the Gothic tracery window and loggia with fresco by Maxine Albro. Betty Marvin photo, 1984.

ONE of the most magnificent Italian Renaissance Revival homes ever built in the East Bay is the one Julia Morgan designed for Seldon and Elizabeth Glide Williams, (a daughter of Elizabeth A. Glide) . . . Morgan designed this two-story, palazzo style residence in 1928. . . Upon entering the Seldon Williams House, visitors are often overwhelmed by the beauty, warmth,

and richness this residence radiates. The soaring two-story entry hall is overlooked by the second floor landing above, while straight ahead the tall picture-glass window has a wonderful pattern of Moorish tracery across the upper half. A lovely della Robbia of Madonna and child, chosen by Julia Morgan, graces the top of the wall above this picture window. . . The most surprising room in the house, and the favorite of most visitors, is the sunroom at the south end. This open, light-filled space is lit by floor-to-ceiling banded plateglass windows that are framed by ornate Venetian Gothic tracery. These were some of the first sliding glass windows in California, engineered by Morgan so they could slide easily into wall pockets to the left or right. The polished marble floor in the sunroom has an unusual pattern of alternating dark and light tiles, and the furniture here is original to the house. . . Adjacent to the sunroom, on the east end of the house, is a handsome library with Gothic arched niches of Australian gumwood in the middle of each wall, between the rows of built-in bookshelves. The windows overlook the serenely landscaped backyard and have tracery that repeats the Gothic arched motif. . . ”

—excerpted from Mark Wilson, *Julia Morgan, Architect of Beauty*, Gubbs Smith Publisher, 2007.

Strawberry Canyon Sojourn

continued from page 5

There is a true need to document and compile the many facets of Strawberry Canyon’s cultural landscape. Since the August visit of Charles Birnbaum there have been a couple of actions taken to support this direction. This September the Northern Alameda County Group of the Sierra Club voted unanimously to endorse protection of the Canyon. Because of its historical connection with the Sierra Club and because of its status as a prime and central open space in Berkeley, the No. Alameda Co. Group of the Sierra Club supports, in concept, protection of Strawberry Canyon and its designation as a cultural landscape.



In addition, Prof. Robin Freeman of Merritt College has offered a course this fall with the purpose to focus on values of Strawberry Canyon “to explore Strawberry Canyon ecosystem and watershed function, historic, and cultural and modern land uses, architecture and current land issues” (ENVT #40). This class has been meeting at BAHA’s headquarters in the McCreary-Greer House and will reconvene for another session next semester. All are welcome.

A 1922 Sojourn into Strawberry Canyon. Courtesy of Richard Wesell.

2007 BAHA PRESERVATION AWARD WINNERS

ON Thursday, May 25, BAHA members and award recipients gathered for BAHA's 33rd Annual Membership Meeting at the Fidelity Building (Walter H. Ratcliff, Jr., 1925) in downtown Berkeley, which is vacant and awaiting restoration and a new use. After the election of officers, the treasurer's report, and applause for Wendy Markel, who leaves the Board after three terms as president, we heard a tribute to longtime Board member Patrick Devaney (see article page ?) and enjoyed a slide presentation of historic downtown buildings by new BAHA Preseident Carrie Olson (who also arranged that the dessert be a series of four sheet cakes decorated with images of downtown).

The presentation of the 2007 Preservation Awards was made by the Awards Committee (Richard Ehrenberger, Wendy Markel, Mary Lee Noonan, Sally Sachs, Daniella Thompson, and Jane Edginton, chair). Here are the award-winning projects, which includes one Commendation. As you travel around town, look for these inspiring preservation successes, and think of nominations for next year!

— COMMENDATION —

1. Kate M. Buckley House, 2022 Dwight Way

(architect unknown, 1894)

owners: Ury and Arela Beary

This Berkeley Victorian is situated directly opposite Herrick Hospital. It stands on the south side of Dwight Way, but sadly, its twin at 2024 Dwight Way, which had been to the west, has been demolished and there is now a parking lot in its place.

The recent work in the form of complete exterior painting has greatly enhanced the Buckley House. The subtle beige of the walls is punctuated with white trim, including a sunburst design on either side of the window under the peaked roof.

There are five apartments in the main house, with an additional cottage in the back. Most of the lot is used for parking, but the lawn and shrubs at the front soften the appearance of the block.

BAHA recognizes and commends the preservation and excellent condition that the current owners have bestowed on the property.



Wendy Markel

The tasteful and suitable exterior painting of this charming early Berkeley house offsets greatly the pressure of the very busy street, and contributes considerably to the historic elegance of

— AWARDS —

1. Alpha Delta Chi Chapter House, 2401 Ridge Road

(Stafford Lelean Jory, 1924)

owner: Church Divinity School of the Pacific

architect: Turnbull Griffin & Haesloop

contractor: Oliver & Company

structural engineer: Degenkolb Engineers

landscape architect: Gary Strang, GLS Landscape | Architecture

historical: Naomi Miroglio, Architectural Resources Group

Occupying a prominent point at the top of Holy Hill, the former Alpha Delta Phi chapter house was designed by Stafford Jory, a collaborator of John Galen Howard's on Wheeler Hall, Hilgard Hall, and Doe Library; the designer of the decorative elements of Edwards Stadium; and a longtime professor who taught design

and lectured on the Classical Period in the architecture.

The chapter house was a stately English manor clad in brick veneer and cast stone caps, with numerous multi-pane windows and two levels of parapets. Flashing, however, was minimal.

Over the years, rain water seeped in between the wood frame and the brick cladding. The two layers separated, the cast-stone trim cracked, and in December 2003, a long section of the second-floor brick veneer on the west façade collapsed. (As a seismic precaution, the roof parapets had been removed years ago along with the upper part of the chimney.)

Repair work entailed removal of the unsafe brick cladding; seismic strengthening of the wood framing; modernizing all systems while preserving historic appearance; and providing accessible entry. When it was discovered that the original bricks could not



Daniella Thompson, 2007

be reused, a matching brick was found. Custom double-glazed wood windows were locally built to replicate the originals. The long-missing stone caps and parapets were rebuilt, albeit with a somewhat different ornamental element.

The Great Hall was restored to its original, three-bay layout. The library gained modern electronic systems and cabinetry that blends seamlessly with the historic space. The Church Divinity School of the Pacific community held a brick-cleaning party and was able to salvage some of the original bricks, which were used to pave the rear patio.

Christened Easton Hall, the building once again takes its place as an important Northside marker.



Daniella Thompson

2. King Building, 2501 Telegraph Avenue

(A. Dodge Coplin, 1901)

City of Berkeley Landmark No. 267 (designated in 2004)

owners: John Gordon and Janis Mitchell

architect: Jim Novosel, The Bay Architects

structural engineer: Peter Van Maren, Van Maren Associates

designer: Jane A. Wise, Wise Design

contractors: Mike and Mark Butler, Berkeley Craftsmen Builders

nominated by: Burl Willes

No historic building seems to be too old, tired, or even too dilapidated

for this preservationist couple to invest in and elevate to full award-winning potential, and this is no exception. This corner-store building is one of only a handful of commercial buildings by turn-of-the-century architect A. Dodge Coplin, and is an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style.

A Berkeley Landmark, this building had been on the market for some time before it was purchased by the current owners, very likely because of the disclosure of \$600,000 worth of termite damage. It also had water running through it in winter, so extensive renovation followed: adding structural steel, as nothing was holding it up; new slab floors; new electrical wiring; repair to interior water damage; and even some pigeon removal was necessary.

With characteristic care and attention to detail, the four upstairs apartments were fully restored utilizing all of the original details and fixtures that remained. At the same time the owners restored the landmarked Soda Works Building next door (not included in this nomination).

BAHA commends the owners along with their architect, builders, engineer, and designer. Dedication and perseverance has preserved an historic building and has brought vibrant new life to this busy Berkeley corner and neighborhood.



Daniella Thompson

3. Fred Koerber Building, 2659 College Avenue

(architect unknown, 1907)

owners: Janis Mitchell and John Gordon, Owners

architects: Jim Novosel / Bay Architects

contractors: Holland and Harley

color consultant: Bob Buckter

nominated by: Burl Willes

Purportedly the first commercial building in the Elmwood, opening for business in 1907 at the junction of the newly-completed Ashby and College Key Route streetcar lines, the Koerber Building was listed in the 1909 City Directory as containing a general

store, a Post Office, and its owner's residence upstairs. By century's end, having remained in the Koerber family, it was quite in need of major repair and was lacking in seismic stability. The current owners immediately took on the structural challenge and carefully, thoroughly, and faithfully restored this most dominant Elmwood landmark, for its 100th anniversary. As you pass by to admire, do not fail to note the gleaming restored 1950s rooftop air raid siren.



4. Kueffer House, 2430 Fulton Street

(architect unknown, 1891)

City of Berkeley Landmark No. 256 (designated in 2003)

owner: Nathan George

Framed by miscellaneous apartment buildings, across the street from a parking lot, a colorful Queen Anne cottage joins four other homes at the intersection of Fulton and Haste streets to transport us momentarily back to the turn of the the last century and the development of the College Homestead Tract. BAHA honors the Kueffer House for the respectful, thorough restoration that adds so much to this streetscape.

The house was built for John L. Kueffer, a Swiss cabinet maker, his wife Emily, and their three sons. Later divided into apartments, the house has returned to a single-family home, while the raised basement contains a separate apartment. As a craftsman, Mr. Kueffer would appreciate the fine condition of the carefully turned spindles framing the staircase and porch, as well as other architectural fancies such as fans, pediments, brackets, and dentils that are once again at their Victorian best. The old roses blooming behind the wrought iron fence would also make the Kueffers smile.

5. Rankin House, 2909–11 Wheeler Street

(architect unknown, 1906)

owners: Romney and Daniel O'Connell

architect: Anne-Catrin Schultz

contractor: Mark & Mike Butler, Berkeley Craftsmen Build-



Romney O'Connell

ers

Restoration of the Rankin House, a 1906 South Berkeley brown-shingle, was a heroic rescue effort, and no one can describe it better than the owner, Romney O'Connell, who wrote:

"My husband and I bought the house in 2002. Frankly, a fixer was all we could afford. We lived with our three small children in our one-bedroom apartment while working on the house. The foundation needed replacing, the shingles were shot, there was ivy growing on the inside of the house. The kitchen and bath had been very badly and cheaply remodeled. The dining room board-and-batten had been covered in paneling, and the wall above the plate rail was *styrofoam* over lathe. Both sets of exterior stairs were dangerously rotten. The built-ins were more or less destroyed. The yard was wild and flooded badly, inundating the basement.

"We lifted the house to replace the foundation and were granted a permit to leave it raised three feet. We then took the interior down to the studs, preserving built-in amenities like window seats, closets, and dressers. We replaced all plumbing, heating and electrical systems, and repaired all moldings.

"I spent many hours researching solutions for the staircases, which were now hanging three feet off the ground. I was loathe to rebuild them as an awkwardly long run of stairs. I settled on replacing the original run, adding a large graceful landing and turning the path ninety degrees for the final three stairs to the ground. I then set about designing a railing that would comply with building codes while retaining and enhancing the solid beauty of the rest of the house.

"Since there was no access to the large back yard, I designed a 12 x 35 foot redwood deck for the back of the house, continuing the same balustrade around it. I replaced a bedroom window

with French doors for access. We then designed a separate three-bedroom, two-bath home for the ground level in order to, some day, pay for all this! From the outside, most people can't tell there was an addition at all." BAHA applauds the O'Connells for their creative solutions, good taste, and thoughtful restoration on a limited budget.



Carrie Olson, 2007



Muffy Kibbey

6. 1720 Delaware Street

(architect unknown, 1890s)

owners: John C. Link and Phyllis Goldsmith

restorers: John Link and Phyllis Goldsmith

architect: John C. Link

For more than a century, this tall Queen Anne house has graced the streets of Berkeley. It is thought to have been built on Shattuck Avenue about 1890. Sometime between 1911 and 1929, according to Sanborn maps, it was moved to this site.

The present owners bought this the house in 1980 in a poor and neglected state, moved in, and began a lengthy restoration project. Previous owners had painted it an unfortunate shade of military green and tacked on it an inappropriate, non-Victorian front porch.

The exterior painting turned into a multi-year job when they found layer after layer of old, bad paint, applied with no preparation work. The paint had to be stripped down nearly to the bare wood. The porch was rebuilt after a great deal of research for just the right design and involved considerable effort and special milling of the elegant newel posts. Over the years, the owners worked on the interior as well, removing "strange small walls and rooms" and adding dry wall, doors, and more.

The architect owner and wife were up to the challenge. They did the work themselves, most recently replacing the old galvanized gutters with copper. Good taste and dedicated effort have turned this Victorian into a gift to its neighborhood.

7. 1185 Keith Avenue

owners: Laurie Case and Andrew Baker

architect: Gary Earl Parsons

contractor: Jamie Carlen

engineer: Juri Komendant

design consultant: Michelle Nelson, The Craftsman Home

In today's world, a remodeled kitchen is often a trophy, appreciated as a conspicuous outpouring of resources rather than as an integral part of a house. The new kitchen and adjoining spaces here are a happy exception to this trend. Dare we say that, if John Hudson Thomas were designing this house in 2007, this is the kitchen he would have built?

Thomas found fresh inspiration from several sources: the local Craftsman vocabulary, Vienna's Secession Movement, and the midwestern Prairie Style. But, as typical of the period, his kitchens were spare. His sensitive choice of materials, the linear *leitmotifs* in his woodwork and windows, the light-filled, open spaces that welcome the garden and the bay: these stopped at the kitchen door of 1185 Keith. Now they are part of the kitchen's design.

It is difficult to imagine that, until as recently as a decade ago, this sylvan, hillside home was broken up into three apartments. We are delighted that it has been restored as a single-family home and salute the kitchen that quietly exemplifies the best of John Hudson Thomas.

consulting architect: Bennett Christopherson

contractor: McCutcheon Construction

project craftsmen: Alex Hodgkinson/Steve Gibbs

landscape consultants: Barbra Blake/Bernard Hickie

gardeners: Maudad Safadirazieli/Linda Sobolewski

stonemasons: Leonardo Medina/David Liu

ironsmith: Gary Salzman

8. Mark Daniels House, 1864 Yosemite Road

(A.W. Smith, 1910)

owner: L. John Harris

architect: Rachel Hamilton

One of the earliest homes in Thousand Oaks, the Mark Daniels House was built for the landscape engineer who laid out the tract. A shingled structure with wide roof overhangs, the house is sited midway down a rock-strewn, sloping lot. Gigantic boulders hem it in on three sides, creating a unique setting but a challenge for renovation. Over the past seven years, the current owner has sensitively preserved and expanded the house while also improving the front and rear gardens to reflect the character of the building.

A recent two-story addition replacing a previously altered kitchen is at the center of the award-winning project. Sited one story below the rest of the house and hidden behind a large boulder, the new addition preserves the building's historic façade. In materials and proportions, the addition beautifully echoes the historic fabric of the original building.

Careful attention was paid to the minutest detail. Rooflines, windows, matched shingles, and countless features not obvious to the casual observer converge into a harmonious whole.

In the rear, the addition presents a façade with varying setbacks, whose appearance suggests a rustic village built over time. The rear garden was transformed into a magical place where ancient oaks and crags overlook dry-stone walls, terraces, and winding paths, all utilizing local stone. A grand "Arts & Crafts" stone staircase leads from the new addition to the lower level of the garden, and new trees and shrubs complement the native hillside.

BAHA congratulates all involved in this stellar project for an exceptional level of design and craftsmanship.

9. Henry and Ruth Colby House, 210 Stonewall Road

(William Wilson Wurster, 1931, 1941; Thomas Church, Landscape Architect, 1934)

owners: Jessica Seaton & Keith Wilson

architects: Seaton/Wilson Architects, Inc.

contractor: Artistry Construction

garden restoration design: Jessica Seaton

painting contractor (exterior): Mark Westburg Painting

elevator restorer: Metropolitan Elevator Co.

cabinet contractor: Wood Connection, Inc.

granite countertop supplier: Pietra Fina

floor refinisher: Metropolitan Floors



Daniella Thompson

Henry Colby, the son of Sierra Club pioneer William Colby, grew up in a shingled Julia Morgan house at 2901 Channing Way. According to legend, he hired Wurster to design his residence since he had lived long enough in a "dark" house. Wurster gave the Colbys a spacious, light-filled home arranged on a gentle canyon slope, with the tower of the Claremont Hotel in its mid-view and the grand Bay Area beyond. The house was purchased from the Colby family in 2002 by long-time admirers of Wurster, both of whom are architects trained at the University. Over the next four years, they focused their talents and efforts on extensive interior and exterior restoration, with constant reference to the resources of the Wurster Document Collection at the University. They were able to create a contemporary kitchen completely within the original spirit (and envelope) of the house. A family room, hinted at in the original plans, was developed in open space on the upper level and is totally concomitant with the Wurster work.

With the same attention and devotion to the original, Jessica Seaton has rescued the inherited Thomas Church garden. The original wood walls and steps have been rebuilt, and substantial new plantings arranged with utmost respect to the Church geometry.

The house was included in the 1945 exhibit "Modern Houses" at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.



Daniella Thompson

BAHA is Built upon the Generosity of Its Members and Friends

SINCE the last Newsletter, BAHA is delighted to report that members and friends have continued to contribute material for the BAHA Archives:

John and Barbara Taylor: Milton T. Pflueger, *Time and Tim Remembered; A Tradition of Bay Area Architecture, Pflueger Architects Timothy, Milton and John, The First Seventy-Five Years 1908 to 1983*, inscribed by the author to John Taylor (served as Berkeley City Manager 1973-76); **Paul Templeton:** photographs of Temple of the Wings, framed; **Dan and Shirley Dean:** unsigned ink drawings of Rose Walk (designed by Bernard Maybeck, 1913); Rita Strom: **Rita Frances Strom,** *A House Remembered*, an album of photos and family history pertaining to the (Phoebe Apperson) Hearst-Reed House, 2368 Le Conte Avenue (Ernest Coxhead, 1902); **Trish Hawthorne:** an *Olla Podrida* (Berkeley High School yearbook) and *Oakland Landmarks*; **Berkeley Historical Society:** North Congregational Church pamphlets and histories of it; **Jerry Sulliger:** photos of

the newly-completed Berkeley Post Office and of the cornerstone laying, and an album of photos, including many of the Panoramic Hill neighborhood; **Doris Nas-siry:** a monetary contribution.

BAHA has recently set a new policy for Research Days, Thursday afternoons 2-6 p.m., when the Archives are open to the “public” for research. In addition to a fee charged to professional consultants of \$75 per hour, a \$35 per visit fee is charged for research by non-members. Of course, the privilege of using the Archives will continue for those who are BAHA members. BAHA does reserve the right to turn away those who might use the Archives for purposes in conflict with our mission, which remains:

To educate the community to encourage and secure the preservation of those structures, sites, and areas which have special architectural, historic, or aesthetic value contributing to the enrichment of the Berkeley environment and to the understanding of its heritage.

PAT DEVANEY (1919-2007) – A TRIBUTE

PATRICK DEVANEY was born in Minneapolis in 1919. He was the son of John P. Devaney, Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court. Pat attended Blake School in Minneapolis, Phillips Exeter Academy, Stanford University, University of Minnesota, and Hastings Law School.

In 1969 Pat moved with his wife, Kathleen, and sons, Jack and Tim, to Berkeley and Panoramic Hill, and gravitated naturally to city planning issues. He was involved with the passage of the Neighborhood Preservation Ordinance (NPO) in the early 1970s, and, by the early 1980s, had been appointed to the Planning Commission. From 1989 to 2007, Pat was editor of the Council of Neighborhoods Association Newsletter.

Pat became an active board member of BAHA in 1976, and that year, he, along with other BAHA members, played a key role in saving the Naval Architecture Building (John Galen Howard, 1914) on campus. He also played a key role in defeating the Berkeley Redevelopment Agency plan for a West Berkeley Industrial Park and establishing the Delaware Historic District.

When the Downtown Plan was crafted in the 1980s,



Patrick Devaney (center), with other BAHA members, including Howard Bloch, Carroll Brentano, Lynne Crocker, and Lesley Emmington, at a rally to save the Naval Architec-

Pat knew Berkeley’s political dynamics and he inspired residents, planning staff, and neighborhood associations to appreciate and preserve Berkeley’s historic downtown buildings. He had a key role in setting a 5-story height limit for the Downtown.

Pat fought for Berkeley and for all of us, and he is sorely missed.

Out-Going President's Message



IT HAS BEEN both hard work and the greatest of pleasure being BAHAs President these past three years. I remember vividly accepting the position in 2004 at Westminster House, just after the dorms opened and before the now well-known restaurant Adagio opened. In the last three years, BAHAs has hosted many events, beginning with the reception at the Harris House. The following year saw the lecture series, captioned *Hidden Lodges of Berkeley and Beyond*, and tours given for Stanford's Cantor Museum members. Hillside School saw its first class



reunion with a tour of the neighborhood, BAHAs organized an event at the South Berkeley Community Church, and the community was invited to the First Church of Christ, Scientist to hear Leslie Freudenheim speak on her book *Building with Nature*. There was an illustrated talk, *Exploring the Adirondacks*, at the Hillside Club with a subsequent visit to the Adirondacks, there was a ramble and picnic in Strawberry Canyon, a 100th birthday party was held for a north Berkeley treasure, and the list would not be complete without mention of the *Evening on the Edge of the Western World*, which brought preservationists from far and near under one magnificent roof.

Those are the events BAHAs has hosted, but at the same time BAHAs has offered, without interruption, the series of First Friday tours; quarterly newsletters; house tours of the Panoramic Hill historic district, of Walter Ratcliff's work, and of the homes and gardens in Thousand Oaks; support to those writing landmark nominations; and research assistance to the public, to the city, to contractors, to real estate agents, and to historic consultants; and has participated in the Solano Stroll and the Spice of Life. BAHAs has awarded preservation work, worked with the neighboring Berkeley City Club, has questioned University development, and has given uncounted hours of service to members and the general public who seek architectural heritage information through the office. And, that

is not all! Board members have attended symposiums, planning meetings, City Council meetings, and California Preservation Foundation lectures. They have written books, written articles which appeared in the press, worked with the DAPAC, attended landscape heritage lectures, worked with architects, and served on city commissions and on neighborhood association boards.

And, why? For the love of it. For no money. For you. For the appreciation, preservation, and perpetuation of the history and architectural heritage of Berkeley. And, now what? Now it is your turn. BAHAs cannot do it all on its own. Consider this, "Now we must take the next step. At a time of increasing concern about such



issues as climate change and the depletion of natural resources, we must work hard to strengthen and publicize the connections between preservation and sustainable development." Who said that? Mr. Richard Moe, President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. He could have been talking to the residents of Berkeley who are currently facing the threat of several 19-story buildings downtown. (If you have heard of only one 19-story building, that is because the others are under wraps.) If you remember nothing else about what I have just said, remember "preservation is the ultimate recycling. Reusing an existing building, instead of demolishing it is one good way to conserve energy." Consider the concept of "embodied energy" in existing structures, and the environmental impact of adding more demolition and construction debris to already crowded landfills.

My time is up, my presidency of BAHAs over; but the work goes on, and I would like to welcome and introduce Carrie Olson who is known to many of you, who has been a BAHAs board member for many years and to whom I hand the keys of the office and the symbolic paddle of Presidential power.

Welcome New Members ...

BAHA welcomes the following people who have joined BAHA since the last Newsletter went out. Tell your friends about BAHA and encourage them to join, too!

Laura Allen
Becky Bart &
Kater Murch
Candice Basham
Alan Bern
Gerhard Blendstrup
Terry Blount
Vivian Bobha
Carol Anne & The Very
Rev. Donald G. Brown
Steven Carr
Carlene Chang
Paul V. Curtis
Colin Dodsworth
J. & P. Dolhinov
Tim Ernst
Carolyn L. Erskine
Saroko Garcia
Sandra Gaunt
Nancy Genn
David Greenbaum &
Heidi Rosenfelder
Jane W. Headley
Jonathan Heller
Gail Hollander
Kurt Housh

Judith M. Jacobsen
Roy Jarl
Carol & Bob
Kelly-Thomas
Faye Keogh
Robin Kibby
Sandi Hobbs Konrath
Kate Kretzmer
L.Z. Lerman
Lyle Lopus
Gail W. Lowry
Josephine MacMillan
Pamela Marostica
Donna McCracken
Ellen McKaskle
Jane McKinne-Mayer
Ann & Dean Metzger
Tod Morton
Bart O'Brien
David Osborn
Thomas Pedemonte
Ruth & Barry Phillips
Dr. Ellen Fitzsimmons
Porzig
Nancy Raff &
John Torcassi

Patricia St. John
Louise A. Sampson
Richard Silberman
Gordon Silvera
Susan Stein
Romer Stevenson
Anthony Thompson
Sara B. Van Orsdel
Bob Viener
Marilyn Willats
Sherry Zalabak

Contributing

Cris Cohn
Ellen L. Hahn
Mark Headley &
Christina Pehl
Justine Hume
Ronna Kabatznick
& Peter Dale Scott
Catherine & Hayne
Leland
Kitty & John Lindow
John N. Roberts

patron

Bruce Aidells

... and Members renewed!

Jane Allen & Marc Grant, Rhoda Alvarez, Fan & Jim Albritton, Betty Ames, Sheila Andres, Pat & Gene Angell, John G. Aronovici; Elly Bade, J.K. Ballantine, Helen Barber, Joan V. Barnett, Cris Barrere, Jane Barrett, Arlene Baxter & David Mostardi, Mary Baxter, Susan & Robert Becker, Joel ben Izzy, Burdton Benedict, Emily Benner, Dorothea Benney, Caroline & Michael Bettendorf, Beverly Bense, Ralph Benson, Robert Wallace Blake, Ellen Bloch, Monique Bonjour, Linda Carruth Bradford, Mary Breunig, Siegfried E. Brockmann, Stafford Buckley, Carl Bunch, Frances Burnette, Grace Buzaljko;

Barbara H. Cadwalader, Shirley & Dennis Caputo, Dorelee Castello, Senta Pugh Chamberlain, Carolyn Chapin, Haideh Chew, Linnea & Richard Christiani, Karen Cilman, George Clark, Courtney Clarkson, Marilyn & Jack Clifton, Thomas Cline & Barbara Meyer, Sydney Clemens, Janet & Joseph Clyne, Terri Compost, Marguerite Conrad, Katherine Cooley, Rosemary M. Corbin, Patricia Cross, Mary Curran;

Annie-May de Bresson, Mary Hope Dean, Diana Demeter, Peter Di Maria, Francine Di Palma, Helen Gross Dierkes, Beverly Doane, Barbara & David Domfeld, Riley Doty, Wendy Draper.

Contributing

Barbara Adair & Jeremy Knight, Pam & Gil Atkinson, Jacqueline Beth & Keith Miller, Alice London Bishop, Kevin Bruce, Builders Booksources, Fredrica Drotos, Burton Peek Edwards, Mary Fishman, Barbara Floyd, Sally Freedman, Blake Gilmore, Marilyn Goldhaber & Amos Goldhaber, Hilary & Daniel Goldstine, Bill Grove, Martin Guerrero & Robert Ward, B. Guy, Jill Korte & Peter Burgess, Joan & Donald Mastronarde, Michael McCutcheon, Mara Melandry, Annette Min, Madeline & Joe Mixer, Jean & Roger Moss, Carrie Olson, Jack Phillips, John M. Pond, Walter Ratcliff, Elsie Revenaugh, Sally & Bernard Sklar, Carolyn & Marvin Smoller, Jerry Sulliger, Judith & Richard Wesell, Steven R. Winkel, Cynthia & James Wood.

sustaining

Abrams/Millikan, David Bigham & Howard Arendtson, G. Pete Encinas, John Gordon & Janis Mitchell, Carol & Joe Neil, Bob Norton, Judy & Fred Porta, Scott Wachenheim.

patron

Juliet Lamont & Phil Price, Laurie & Ken Sarachan.

honorary

Sallie Arens & Edward Waterman, Ann & Loring Dales, Charlotte Fishman & Alan Sparer, John Harris, Ruth & David Kampmann, Joan L. Seear

IN MEMORIAM

Gene Angell	Wilson Combs	Philip M. Spielman
Sheila Ballantyne	John H. Denton	John Stansfield
George Barlow	Patrick Devaney	Suzanne S. Wilson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCT 25—BAHA LECTURE

“The Eccentrics of 19th Century Downtown Berkeley” by Richard Schwartz. 7:30 at Berkeley City Club. \$15. Reception and book-signing will follow at the McCreary-Greer house. More info: 510-841-2242.

OCT 28—OHA HOUSE TOUR

The historic San Antonio neighborhood is the focus of the self-guided tour sponsored by Oakland Heritage Alliance with the San Antonio Hills Neighborhood Association. See fine examples of 19th and early 20th century house styles. 1 to 5:30pm. \$30 in advance, \$35 day of tour, \$25 for OHA members. Includes reception with refreshments. To volunteer: 510-763-9218. Visit: info@oaklandheritage.org.

NOV 1—BAHA LECTURE

“Observations: The San Francisco Bay Area and its Built Environment” by Susan Dinkelspiel Cerny. 7:30 at Berkeley City Club. \$15. Reception and book-signing will follow at the McCreary-Greer house.

NOV 3 — BHS WALKING TOUR

“Lower Codornices Creek” led by Susan Schwartz with Drew Goetting (Restoration Design Group) and Richard Register (Ecocity Builders). 10 am. Berkeley Historical Society members \$8, general \$10. One in a series of tours, running through Dec.1. Call 510-848-0181.

NOV 11—BAHA LECTURE & HOUSE RECEPTION

“Julia Morgan: her Unique Place in American Architecture” by Mark A. Wilson. Sunday Afternoon, 2:00, at Julia Morgan’s Seldon Williams House. \$25. A rare opportunity to visit one of Julia Morgan’s most beautiful private homes.

OCT-MAR—BHS EXHIBIT

“Berkeley in the 1930s” at Berkeley History Center, 1931 Center Street. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 1-4.



BAHA board members Sally Sachs, President Carrie Olson, Anne Wagley, and Tim Hansen at BAHA's booth at the September 8 Solano Stroll. Photo by Daniella Thompson.