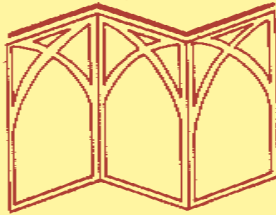
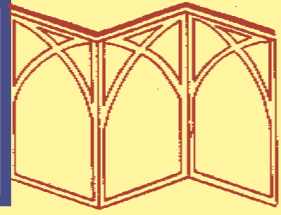


BERKELEY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION



# THE BAH NEWSLETTER

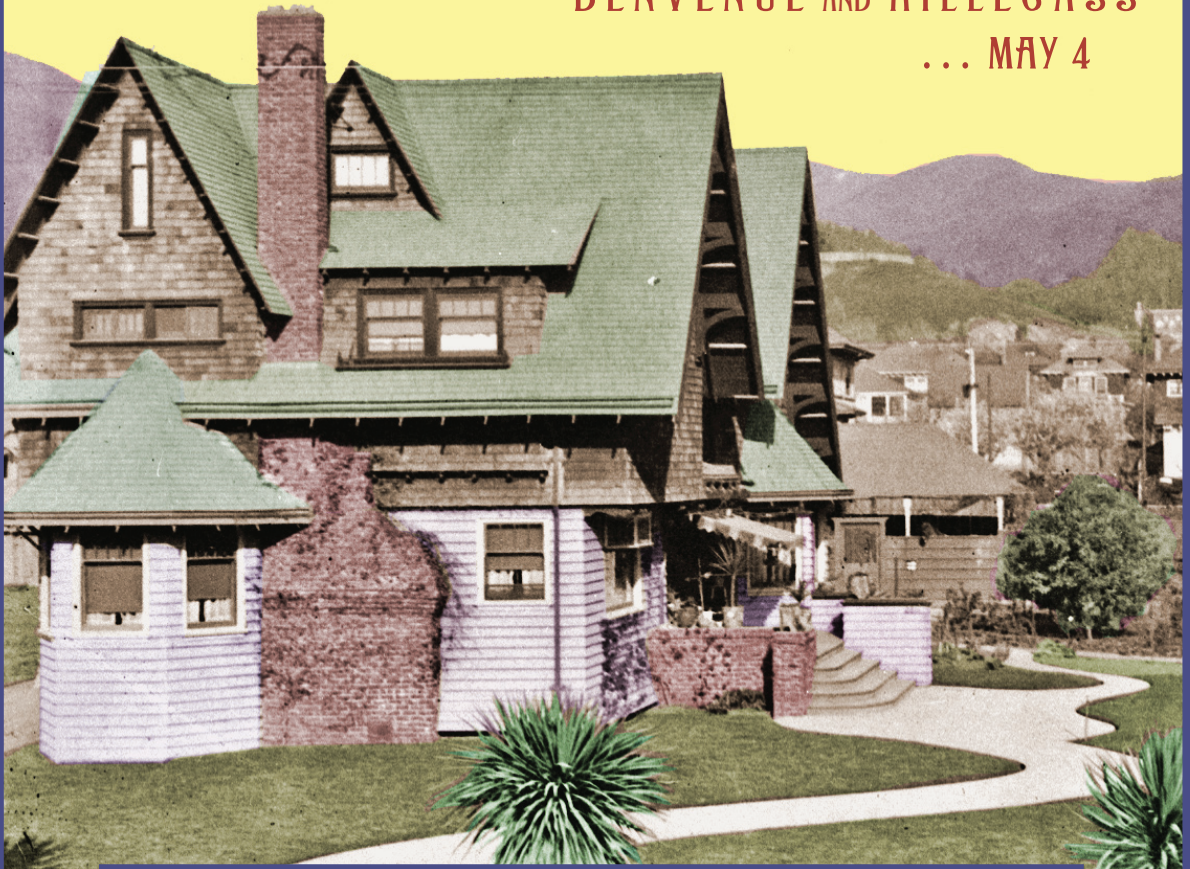


NO. 128

HOUSE TOUR NUMBER

SPRING 2008

BENVENUE AND HILLEGASS  
... MAY 4





WESTENBERG HOUSE

# THE BAHA NEWSLETTER

No. 128

SPRING 2008



FIFE HOUSE "SHELTER"

## C O N T E N T S

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**COVER:** *Scenes along Benvenue and Hillegass avenues. The Charles & Jessie Westenberg House on Benvenue, c. 1910, courtesy of the late Bethany Westenberg. Small pictures: Marshall-Lindblom House, courtesy Mrs. John A. Marshall; Bethany Westenberg and pony, courtesy of the late Bethany Westenberg; Arthur Cole House, Donogh File, BAHA Archives. ABOVE: Sketches by Architect Albert Dodge Coplin of two houses he designed in the neighborhood of this year's house tour (May 4).*

**Volunteers Wanted**—to staff the houses the day of the tour in exchange for gratis admission. Call 841-2242 or write to anthony@berkeleyheritage.com

## Sustainability in Preservation is a Worldwide Movement

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**I**F YOU were not interested in preservation you probably would not be a BAHA member, so I do not want to waste your time in selling that point of view to you. The reason for my writing is to bring to your attention that architectural and cultural preservation is of worldwide aesthetic, commercial, and cultural interest to all. Feed on the following:

**1. In England:** The *Financial Times* (May 26, 2007, p. 19: "Life & Arts") reports that in the fight to preserve Regent's Park, England has "laws against monopoly but not against monoculture, which is an even greater threat to freedom and diversity—both biodiversity and cultural diversity." The Royal Parks run some of the world's most majestic urban green spaces, and even they seem to be supporting the destruction of a glorious inner-city park to build *ten* football fields. And again, in England, the *Financial Times* (October 25, 2007, p. 5. "Brighter Outlook after Hard Day's Night") writes that in Liverpool "away from the narrowly corporate world, some of Liverpool's historic assets have been carefully curated... wealthy merchants have left a rich architectural legacy."

**2. In Greece:** One reads "Dilemma arises over proposed demolition of the listed buildings that block view of Acropolis from its new museum" (*Kathimerini*, July 26, 2007, p. 3). Again, the *Financial Times*—about Greece's Mani peninsula—(Aug. 18, 2007, p. 5), "Irresistible appeal of ancient ruins"...conservation areas are fragmented and scattered...working on a plan that will define protected areas for the whole region".

**3. In America:** Of Springfield, Ohio, in the *Wall Street Journal* (August 16, 2007, p. D7), one reads that "Wright's Westcott House is Made New Again" with a \$5 mil-

*continued on page 10*

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*Produced March 2008. Watch for the Preservation Award Winners to be announced in the Summer Newsletter!*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members of BAHA,

On March 27th, Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association, along with an unprecedented coalition of Bay Area preservation organizations, the Friends of First Church Berkeley, and the American Institute of Architects, proudly sponsored a lecture by **Richard Moe**, the president of the **National Trust for Historic Preservation** and recipient of the 2007 Vincent Scully Prize, who spoke about historic preservation's essential role in fighting climate change. We are deeply grateful to Mr. Moe for taking the time out his busy schedule to come to the Bay Area and teach us about this fascinating subject.

Moe has noted that construction and operation of buildings contributes 48% of America's greenhouse gases—nearly double that of cars, trucks, trains and airplanes—and even construction of the greenest new building contributes to global warming.

We are an environmentally aware community. We have replaced our lightbulbs with compact fluorescents. We have insulated our attics. Many have installed solar on the rooftops—even the rooftops of historic buildings. We have 40,000 structures in Berkeley. Most of them are not going anywhere. In fact, the most vulnerable to calls for demolition and rebuild of “green” buildings are not the 19th and early 20th century structures, but the mid-20th century structures, which were often poorly constructed apartment buildings. We must acknowledge that older buildings have their place in an energy efficient future, and that the waste and cost of tearing them down, and then replacing them, has an impact that is most often a negative one when you are considering energy efficiencies, let alone other effects on our neighborhoods.

Yet from looking at most material about “green” building, including the draft **Climate Action Plan** that the City of Berkeley has just released, if we didn't know any better, we would think the only way to be green is to tear down and build again. That is a serious misconception, and actually is not only wrong, but is a disservice to this lively and bright community. And while building green is what we want from new construction, it is rarely what we get, so we should consider how to make it actually happen, not only on private dwellings, but on city buildings, university buildings, school district buildings, and new multi-story apartment buildings. Our community needs to figure this one out, because folks are not going to do it unless they are pushed—when the bottom line is whether the project pencils out.

As Richard Moe said in his December 2007 speech to the National Building Museum:

“Nearly half of the greenhouse gases we Americans send into the atmosphere comes from our buildings. In fact, more than 10% of the entire world's greenhouse gas emissions is produced by America's buildings—but the current debate on climate change does not come close to reflecting that huge fact. The message is clear: Any solution to climate change must address the need to reduce emissions by being smarter about how we use our buildings and wiser about land use. I'm not so naïve as to believe that preservation represents the way out of this environmental crisis. But I do believe that historic preservation can be—and must be—a key component of any effort to promote sustainable development. Indeed, preservation is sustainability...

“Here's the concept in a nutshell: Buildings are vast repositories of energy. It takes energy to manufacture or extract building materials, more energy to transport them to a construction site, still more energy to assemble them into a building. All of that energy is embodied in the finished structure—and if the structure is demolished and landfilled, the energy locked up in it is totally wasted. What's more, the process of demolition itself uses more energy—and, of course, the construction of a new building in its place uses more yet.”

*continued on page 5*

## ARCADIA FOUND ON BENVENUE AVENUE

*Suzanne Bond Ludwig has shared with BAHA a written account of family life on Benvenue Avenue in the early days. This memoir was written by her grandmother, Mrs. Allen Mandeville Elston, in the 1940s, and is part of a more extensive memoir relating her family's years in Berkeley after they had moved here from Woodland in 1895 so that the children might attend the University. In about 1903, the Elstons purchased and moved into the William P. Boynton House at 2529 Benvenue Avenue, designed by Architect A. W. Smith in 1899. This grand and elaborately ornamented version of the popular "High-Peaked Gable Cottage" was one of the most eye-catching and imposing houses on Benvenue. The house was demolished in 1964, and Mrs. Elston's description provides a tantalizing glimpse into its vanished interior. Mrs. Elston also paints a picture for us of family life in Berkeley in the early 1900s, in an age before the ascendancy of the nuclear family. From city directories and Census records we have found that the big, roomy Berkeley houses were often bursting at the seams with extended family members, and this seems to have been the case at the Elstons' Benvenue home. In 1909, after spending a few years in the Benvenue house, the Elstons built a shingled house on the hillside above the Claremont Hotel.*



*The Elstons' new home at 2529 Benvenue Avenue. 1939, Donogh File, BAHA.*

THE HOUSE was located in the more aristocratic section of Berkeley—though at the time we had not given any thought to social distinctions—either of persons or neighborhoods. We had come to Berkeley to educate our children, and with the intention of returning to Woodland when the older ones had completed the University course. Naturally, our plans had undergone a great change in the eight years that had elapsed, and the family had formed associations which had gradually obliterated those ties that had so insistently drawn them back to our Woodland home in those first years.

During those eight years, the boys had not only graduated from college, but they had scattered in various directions on paths of their own choosing, and no longer considered themselves as part of the household. Two of our daughters had married, and thus had more definitely cut those Woodland ties and associations. So, at last we had come to think of ourselves as Berkeleyites! And, in

the meantime, we had sold the dear old Woodland home.

As I have said, the Benvenue house had been conceived of as an investment. But as our daughter had formed her friendships among the strictly collegiate set—the most of whom lived above Shattuck Avenue—it may have been in deference to her wishes that we decided to dispose of the [2023] Channing Way home and move to this more collegiate setting.

Up to this time I had never seen the house, and had no particular interest in it, beyond the fact that it contained three or four more rooms than our present home. I had found by experience, that though families may scatter to the “four winds of heaven,” they have a way of returning to the “home nest” unexpectedly, and with increased accretions— which often taxed the accommodations of that modest domicile. So, the additional rooms would have reconciled me to the change, even if there had been no other recommendations—in which it was far from lacking. In the first place, the house was new (as were also its surroundings) and attractive, after a sort of Gothic architecture. It faced the west, and from those front windows we could see a fairly good view of the bay and also of the City of San Francisco. It also had that most desirable (to me) necessity in a large family: a back stairway! Then it had another attraction (which I had so enjoyed in my second home in Woodland): a corner fireplace in the living room, whose flue (or chimney) was shared by a broad fireplace in the dining room, while the kitchen flue joined it at the back. (There seemed to be no space wasted in that house, as that same chimney provided outlets for stoves on each of the three floors.)

The dining room was my chief pride and delight. It was finished in redwood paneling of exquisite coloring—unvarnished—soft and restful to the eye, [with] a dark, polished floor, for which we bought a reversible rug of Indian design, which blended beautifully with the woodwork. The room was large enough to accommodate a twelve-foot table with ample room at each end, and also the sides. [It was] a beautifully-proportioned room, with four large windows—two on the side and one at each end, as the room extended six or eight feet beyond the rest of the house. The hall and turning stairway were very attractive, also; in fact, as I recall it, it was a beautiful home.

Yet, with all its roominess it was often taxed to the limit of its capacity as the various families foregathered for summer vacations, or winter changes. In the autumn of 1904 my father and mother again came to California, this time to make their home. My brother and his family accompanied them, and while he traveled about in search of a location in which to settle and start their new home, his wife and children, with my father and mother, made their home with us in that commodious Benvenue house.

In the meantime, Charlie and his wife and little

daughter, his sister-in-law and her eight-year-old son (with two maids) visited us for several months, while Charlie took up some extra work in college and gathered together the remnants of his old Glee Club, preparatory to taking them on his planned trip to the “Louisiana Exposition” at St. Louis.

Once more our house was filled to overflowing. I can’t recall much of the activity of those months except that it was a jolly crowd, whose principal diversion was along musical lines. But the thing that stands out most clearly in my memory, is that twelve-foot table, filled to its limit, and the responsibility of seeing that it was supplied with the best the market afforded. With the help of a Filipino cook and the help of those two maids, the work involved was not exacting.

There was plenty of yard room at the back, to allow of a fruitful vegetable garden which was Papa’s special delight, and which he tended as if it were a baby. He soon had the side fences covered with berry vines, with here and there fruit trees—apples, plums, cherries, and apricots. And most satisfactory of all, a wired-in enclosure for a chicken house and yard. What further could a “tired” public man ask of his dreams of Arcadia?



## Message from the President *continued from page 3*

The buzz words for green preservation are ones we should come to understand and be comfortable using:

**Sustainable Stewardship:** how local and regional ecosystems and communities impact and interact with global ecosystems and communities.

**Embodied Energy:** the quantity of energy required to manufacture, and supply to the point of use, a product, material, or service. To learn more go here: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Embodied\\_energy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Embodied_energy)

**LEED Certification:** The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ encourages and accelerates global adoption of sustainable green building and development practices through the creation and implementation of universally understood and accepted tools and performance criteria. To read more go here: <http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CMSPageID=222>

And let’s remember this—

*“The greenest building is one that is already built.”*

—architect Carl Elefante, Washington D.C., 2007

Carrie Olson, BAHA President

BAHA’s spring house tour **Beautiful BENVENUE, Elegant HILLEGASS** will be held on Sunday, May 4 from 1 to 5 o’clock. We are pleased to present in this Newsletter excerpts from two special memoirs that recall the early days in the tour neighborhood. To learn more about the upcoming tour, please visit [berkeleyheritage.com](http://berkeleyheritage.com)

Berry-Bangs  
Tract,  
1906 photo  
taken from  
the Berkeley  
Reporter.



## THE MYSTERY HOUSES OF

# BENVENUE

BAHA's 33rd annual spring house tour will be Sunday, May 4. **Beautiful BENVENUE, Elegant HILLEGASS** will include over a dozen turn-of-the-century houses open for viewing along these two avenues in Berkeley's famed "brown-shingle" neighborhood. Exceptional and substantial houses were built along these long, straight streets, set high enough on the sloping plain to afford a bay view. A homesite here was coveted by both Berkeleys and newcomers alike. Even after the creation of Berkeley's "residence parks," such as Claremont and Northbrae, which have been the focus of several previous BAHA house tours, the neighborhood retained its desirability, and there exists to this day a certain *cachet* to an address on Benvenue or Hillegass.

The tour is billed as an afternoon of architectural discovery. As these streets lie quietly off the well-traveled arterials, you may not be aware of the rich architectural heritage of the area. Many homebuilders commissioned Bay Area architects to design their new homes, and the streets abound with the work of well-known—and less well-known—designers. To name a few in the tour area (comprising the Hillegass and Berry-Bangs tracts west of College Avenue): Albert Dodge Coplin designed 15 buildings; Julia Morgan, 11 buildings; A.W. Smith, 10; Walter Ratcliff, 9; John Hudson Thomas, 5; McDougall Bros., 4; Bernard Maybeck and Ernest Coxhead, each 2; and Louis Christian Mullgardt, 1. If you are not already familiar with the work of these architects, you certainly will be after May 4th!

Although BAHA has researched this neighborhood extensively in order to document the individual buildings (and even more research is underway in preparation for the tour), there are a number of houses that continue to defy any attempt to uncover the name of their particular

designer. Signed plans and drawings have long since vanished, of course, and building permits were not required when the older houses were built. Even so, early houses can often be documented through published contract notices or "building progress" reports in local newspapers. But at times the construction of a house seems to have passed unnoticed, with no written mention. The following "mystery" houses on Benvenue, seemingly architect-designed, are today anonymous, their architectural pedigree lost to the passage of time.

### 2521 Benvenue Ave. Sarah A. Dornin House c. 1901

This Dutch Colonial shingled house was one of a pair built for members of the same family. The interior contains rooms finished in a variety of woods, and with much architectural detail. Tax records have given us only the original owner and an approximate date of construction.



### 2628 Benvenue Ave. James W. Erwin House, 1903

A large shingled house with a hip roof and well-thought-out floor plan that included a library. Redwood was

used throughout, with some rooms paneled. A distinctive and unusual design feature: the shingles overlap the window casings, with no decorative window frames to detract from the expanses of shingle sheathing.

**2625 Benvenue Ave., Lindgren-Jones House, c. 1899**

The partners in the cement contracting firm of Lindgren & Hicks built adjoining houses on Benvenue. We know through a newspaper notice that the Hicks House at 2631 was designed by McDougall Bros. in 1901. The earliest mention of the Lindgren House is also in 1901, but it is a story relating the sale of the Lindgren House to Phoebe Apperson Hearst, indicating that it had been built and occupied earlier. Can we assume that McDougall Bros. designed both houses?



**2624 Benvenue Ave., R. S. Heaton House, 1906**



As with the Johnson House, there was but a brief mention of the Heaton House in the *Gazette*, which gave the name of the builder, but not the architect. A rare (for Berkeley) Mission Revival style house, with natural stucco exterior finish, and what was

originally a painted metal roof simulating tile. The floorplan is surprisingly an open plan: living room, dining room, and entry form one large space.

**2901 Benvenue Ave.  
Thomas E. & Louisa Hicks House, 1904**

Long thought to have been designed by architect A. W. Smith in 1905, a recent perusal of the *Gazette* reveals that the house was built earlier, architect unknown. We are told that Mr. Hicks was yet another lumber merchant, this time, from the East. The many gables, diamond-paned windows, and extensive use of clinker brick give this house a storybook quality.

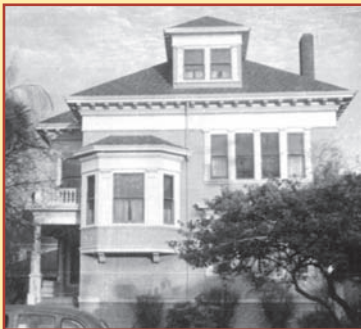


**2633 Benvenue Ave.  
Hicks-Houghton House  
1904**

Built in the south garden of the Hicks House, this 3-story, steep-gabled shingled house was designed with casement windows, which are rarely found in a contractor-built house. The ornate entryway is another special feature.

**2823 Benvenue Ave.  
Charles Miller or Frederick C. Johnson House, 1904**

A grand Colonial Revival style house with an asymmetrical facade: off-center, and between floors, is a large bay window. To the right, the grouped windows are of interest. There is custom-designed woodwork on the interior, and the floorplan is especially gracious. Mr. Johnson was described as a "San Francisco lumber merchant" in the Berkeley *Gazette*, which reported his intention to build his home here, but the article neglected to mention the architect!



**2917 Benvenue Ave., Lindgren-Chaddock House, c. 1906**  
This is one of the stateliest houses on the street, set high on its lawn embankment, with a suggestion of a turret and a broad front porch with clinkerbrick pillars. Interesting details abound. But not so much as one line on its construction in the papers!

1939 photos, Donogh Collection, BAHA. #2628 in the 1920s, courtesy Anthony Bruce; #2901, Betty Marvin, 1979; #2917, Anthony Bruce, 1975.

BAHA member Ken Pettitt has kindly given permission for this chapter—a reminiscence of life on Hillegass Avenue excerpted from his book *A Berkeley Antebellum*, published in 2000—to be reprinted in this special House Tour edition of the BAHA Newsletter. Ken’s grandparents built a large house (actually, two flats) on Hillegass Avenue in 1909. He is the third generation to occupy the family home—a rare occurrence in today’s transient world. But Ken is not alone. On the May 4th Tour, you will visit the 1908 Benvenue home of third generation descendants of another early neighborhood family!

## Elmwood’s Suburban Pioneers

*Dorothy Irvine is my name  
America is my nation  
Berkeley is my dwelling place  
And God is my salvation.*



EAST of Elmwood, the eucalyptus trees on the hill tops against the dawn sky looked like feathered bonnets of Red Men poised to attack. That’s what Dorothy said, though she knew that Indians were not going to swoop down from the hills to shoot flaming arrows into Elmwood’s up-to-date streetcars. Drat it! Berkeley was never the Wild West, no Indians on the warpath, no Mission romances, no Gold Rush. You had to go to the Strand Theater for that kind of excitement.

The first American settlers in Berkeley’s Elmwood neighborhood arrived in the last half of the 19th century. The houses built on their country estates have long ago burned or been demolished. The one most closely associated with Elmwood was the Downey mansion, located on the northeast corner of College and Garber. Old-timers remember its white picket fence and giant yew hedge. At the turn of the century there were smaller houses in Elmwood, but the area was still thinly settled.

It wasn’t until after 1900 that tracts of land were



*Dorothy and Prince in front of 2909 Hillegass Avenue. In the distance is the Mead House (Walter H. Ratcliff, Jr., 1904) at the corner of Russell Street. All pictures courtesy of Kenneth I. Pettit.*



*Dorothy Irvine seated on the lawn in front of the newly-completed “wedding cake” on Hillegass Avenue.*

opened to the suburban pioneers. Developers published brochures advertising their tracts with San Francisco families in mind. People were tired of the City’s rough and tumble. They wanted a better place for their children, a place in the country where you could raise chickens and have fresh eggs for breakfast. But city people had to have streets, sewers, and public transportation.

In 1899 Elizabeth L. White (College, corner of Russell) protested sewerage Berkeley’s College Avenue between Russell and Webster street: “The lands, for more than a thousand feet in depth on each side of College Avenue, are devoted to agricultural purposes. No necessity for a sewer exists nor will exist for many years.” By 1916 College Avenue between Russell and Webster was the Elmwood neighborhood’s business district.

The main tracts of what is now called “Elmwood” were Elmwood Park and the Berry-Bangs tract. The first pioneers in both tracts were much alike. They wanted to get back to nature but were not the sort to preserve

the original environment. They brought with them trees and flowers in a bewildering array to the empty, sloping plains of Berkeley.

They were much alike, northern European, Christian, Protestant, business people, many of whom commuted to San Francisco to work. About 1908, streetcars ran on College Avenue and for several decades there was a wrong side of the tracks. As late as 1946 the framed prints of Maxfield Parrish's "Daybreak" on walls in homes in Elmwood Park east of the College Avenue tracks were four times the size of those to the west, in Berry-Bangs.

**M**Y grandfather, Alexander Irvine, bought his lot in Berry-Bangs in 1903, when he was living in the Haight-Ashbury, San Francisco, with his wife Sarah and first daughter, Maybelle. My mother, Dorothy, born in 1904 at 636 Cole Street must have been on the way. San Francisco was no place to raise daughters in 1903, because of hooliganism. The family moved to Berkeley about April 1, 1906, living at 2234 Dwight Way.

The Hillegass Avenue flats at 2909/2911 were built at a cost of \$6,000 it is said. The building permit was dated 1909; 1911 was the probable year of completion and occupancy. Where the money came from I do not know: possibly fire insurance money (the family's San Francisco stores burned in 1906) or perhaps Alexander's mother's estate. She died in 1908 of a cold caught at an evening performance in U.C.'s Greek Theatre.

The Irvines were late-comers on Hillegass so most of their backyard fences had already been built by earlier pioneers. They built them with the posts and cross beams inside and entirely on their own property. In the 1940s it was still possible to tell which of two adja-

cent houses had been built first by inspecting the fence between them.

The Irvine flats are still spectacular, though most of the ornamentation was removed in the 1950s. They are two six-room San Francisco railroad flats in World's Columbian Exposition style. It was exactly what a San Francisco business man born in County Fermanagh in 1856, immigrating to San Francisco in 1881, would have built, and it is the only one of its size in Berkeley. Mr. Irvine's brothers-in-law, farmers in Santa Maria, called it a "wedding cake." Painted white, it was just the sort of house that Berkeley's Hillside Club members did

not like, though it had in common with their "simple homes" that there was not enough storage space for all the woman's needlework needed to make a home simple.

When my grandfather's brothers-in-law called his house a wedding cake, they may have been making a sly reference to his confectionery supply business, and especially his vanilla extract, which contained alcohol. My grandfather is reported to have made crepuscular horsecart deliveries of vanilla extract to the Downey mansion. His tore sold the paper doilies that made drinking hot chocolate — an Aztec habit — appear Victorian.



*Alexander Irvine in the garden.*



*Dorothy Irvine (right) and her cousin Ellen Phelps in the backyard on Hillegass Avenue, showing fences, neighboring houses, and the clothesline.*

**I**N 1914, Grandfather was commuting between Berkeley and San Francisco. Mother said he detoured at Ashby and Adeline, and that she and her sister May often met him evenings at the station. The girls went hopping and skipping down Ashby in their middie blouses and hairbows to meet him. Their father was wont to bring the girls chocolate from the City. Mother said May always got more chocolate than she did. But both girls got a trolley ride home with Papa.

From the station the trolley went up Ashby from Adeline, turned north on Hillegass and east on Russell to the Claremont Hotel. Mother called it a “Toonerville Trolley” after the trolley in the comic strip.

Perhaps because Dorothy wasn’t getting as much chocolate as Maybelle, she began to make frosting on the sly, mixing Ghirardelli’s chocolate, powdered sugar, butter, and cream. It’s good on bread if you butter the bread first. One time she mixed up more frosting than she could eat, and hid it behind the kitchen door where

her mother wouldn’t find it. Dorothy would have gone scot free if Maybelle hadn’t ratted on her.

Realizing, I guess, that one of the evils of chocolate is that it can set sister against sister, my Grandma, a very modern woman, found chocolate’s potential for good. She herself did not have magical powers but she had access to those who did. In the 1930s, she could arrange the transformation of a Ghirardelli’s chocolate Flick into a nonpareil as a reward for a child’s taking a nap without screaming. She put the Flick in the china cabinet where the Belleek and Noritake were stacked. After his nap, a grateful, good boy would find the one Flick sprinkled with white sugar dots. It had been turned into a nonpareil!

There is a good fairy, very economically-minded, who sprinkles sugar on chocolate as a reward for good behavior, but she doesn’t need to visit the Elmwood anymore.

## **Sustainability in Preservation is a Worldwide Movement** *continued from page 2*

lion renovation that has made it a landmark worthy of its architect, thanks to the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy. But, in another comment of a work in America, when discussing the work of James Polshek (architect of the Santa Fe opera house), *Architectural Digest* (August 2007, p.108) writes of his Bronfman poolhouse, “Only the photographs are left to recall Polshek’s exceptional contribution to what was a very special estate.”

**4. In Spain:** Of Valencia, the *San Francisco Chronicle* (August 15, 2007, sec. G) reports, “Rather than turn the dry riverbed into a highway, a proposal rejected by Valencia’s residents, the city made it into a public ‘green zone’... Visitors can stroll eastward around the heart of old Valencia’s serpentine streets and plazas, rich with Baroque, Romanesque, Gothic, and Islamic architecture.”

**5. In Damacus:** *The Economist* (August 4, 2007, p. 41) writes, “UNESCO declared that the proposed road project (in Baghdad) might jeopardize the city’s listing as a World Heritage Site.”

**6. In France:** The *New York Times* writes (August, 2007, Travel, p.7), “The best place to begin exploring Nantes is the newly polished Chateau des ducs de Bretagne—a

monument to the city’s history, built over the course of centuries...[and]...a stroll through the 1840s three-story shopping arcade with magnificently carved statues.”

Each of us has our own personal area of interest and concern, but I cannot help but feel that in this era of internet and “search engines” we can make our voices heard even more strongly than ever before. For example, with a click of a button you can reach...

About World Heritage: [whc.unesco.org/en/about/](http://whc.unesco.org/en/about/) or...[www.aboutvalencia.com/valencia/history.asp](http://www.aboutvalencia.com/valencia/history.asp)

Just as it is important that our local governmental authorities have input from visitors and admirers of our local Berkeley cultural heritage, it is important that we too send our concerns and comments to places we may have only visited for a short period of time. It was for all inhabitants of the world community that our heritage should be respected. We too could support the World Heritage Sites program and residents of Baghdad that care for preservation. We too could write to [whc.unesco.org/news/news170203.htm](http://whc.unesco.org/news/news170203.htm). The more we share our world-concerns, the more we support each other and discover we are not alone in our caring.

— Wendy Markel, Past BAHA President

## 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!*

Elmwood Realty	Mike Olson
& Investment Co.	Olga & Greg Reznick
Melissa Goldman	Meg Starbuck
Lynne Horiuchi	Keith Alan Watt

## ...AND MEMBERS RENEWED!

**Phyllis & Phil Gale**, Tena Gallagher, Shira Gaman, Gale Garcia, Toni Garrett, Robert Geering, Terry Geiser & Janet Mark, Elwood Gerrits, Eleanor H. Gibson, Susan Goldstein, Evelyn B. Goodman, Jane Gottsman, Reeve Gould, Andrew Grant, Gretchen & Dick Grant, Donna Graves, Jane Greene, G. & T. Griswold, Paul Grundland, Ellen Gunther, Dolly Gurrola, John Gussman;

**Nadine Hack**, Robert Hadley, Eric Haesloop, Stephen Haigh, Marygracia Hall, Fran Halperin & Eric Christ, Margaret Han, Ulrike Hanley, Kay Hardy, Mary Hardy & Michael Corbett, Mark Harpenter, Craig Harper, Hugh W. Harris, Jacci Harris, Judith Harte & Susan Ellard, George Harter, Carolyn & Larry Hartsough, Robert Haslam, Holly Haugh, Terry Helbush;

**Kathleen Kahn**, Sara Kane, Neil S. Kaplan, Robert Kehlmann, Colette Kelley, E. Paul Kelly, Mary Kent, Margaret R. Keough, Jane Kerr, Margaret Klen, Jules Klot, Phyllis Kluger, Pansy Kwong, Robbin & Fred Kroger;

**Nora & Paul Land**, Landmark Heritage, Sally Lappen & Nick Warren, Laura Latt, Robert Lauriston, Judith B. Laws, Kenneth Lee, Julie Lehman, Marsha Lehmer, Mark Lempert, Daniel Leventhal, Deborah Levine, Sally Levinson & Doug Daniels, Arthur Levy, Barbara Gale Levy, Audrey & Norman Lewak;

**Julie & Fred Nachtwey**, C. Y. Nakahara, Doris Nassiry, Colleen Neff, J. B. Neilands, Miriam Y. Ng, Jennifer Nice, Gretchen Nicholson, Mrs. William Nicholson, Martha Nicoloff, Christopher Noll, Burt Norall, Frank A. Norick.

## SUSTAINING.

Linda & John Gage  
Tim Hansen & Dianne Ayres

## BENEFACTOR.

McCanne & White

In Memoriam  
Rosalie G. Flores  
George Mallman

## GIFTS TO BAHA

Since the last Newsletter, the BAHA Archive has been enriched by the gifts of a number of individuals:

**Paul Templeton**: two framed photographs of the Aitken House (Bernard Maybeck, 1940) on Buena Vista Way, which had been given to The Templeton Company by the Estate of Audrey Aitken (one picture shows Maybeck painting the heraldic shield which enlivens the chimney breast);

**Peggy Thomas**: photographs of the Koerber Building (1923), 2054 University Ave., and its construction (it was built by her husband's grandfather, Reed W. Thomas of the Berkeley Building Co.); **Ron Forsstrom**: pictures of the Forsstrom family home at 1522 Grant St., built by Emil Forsstrom's carpenter brothers-in-law Peter and John Lindberg in 1907;

**J. Caleb Cushing**: 3 disks indexing the inventory of extant drawings of Hillside School (Walter H. Ratcliff, Jr., 1925), including drawings by engineer Thomas F. Chace and architect William Clement Ambrose for a later seismic retrofit; **Jerry Sulliger**: photo postcards of the Richmond family and their Walter Ratcliff-designed home (1906) at 2821 Fulton Street, and a photo of the Howard Stillman House upon completion (A. Dodge Coplin, 1905), 2434 Piedmont Ave., taken by Mr. Stillman himself. Jerry Sulliger continually makes research easier at the BAHA Office by providing us with digitalized primary sources.

Monetary donations were received from **Siegfried Brockmann** in memory of Ted Kowalski and from **Susan Dinkelspiel Cerny** for the Kenney Cottage Preservation Fund; as well as unspecified donations from **Diana Darnall Beer** and **Burton Peek Edwards**.



*Westenberg House (A. Dodge Coplin, 1903). Anthony Bruce, 1965.*

SPECIAL MAYBECK LECTURE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HOUSE TOUR



# BERNARD MAYBECK

An Arts and Crafts Architect in California

BY

SISSEL HAMRE DAGSLAND

Wednesday Evening, April 23  
8 o'clock  
Hillside Club  
2286 Cedar Street  
\$15



Maybeck's McGrew House (1900) at Hillegass and Derby.

**SISSEL DAGSLAND** is visiting from Norway, where her book *Bernard Maybeck – en Arts and Crafts-arkitekt i California* has recently been published by Bodoni Forlag. As she writes in the book's introduction,

**B**ERKELEY was ...my own city for ten important younger years, including most of my school years... Through a number of later visits to close relatives in Berkeley my own interest in Maybeck has increased. This growing interest is also influenced by my numerous years as a journalist in the cultural department of the Bergen newspaper *Bergens Tidende*. An important part of my work there has concerned architecture, older building styles, cultural history, and problems of conservation and restoration of buildings. ...[In the book] I have concentrated on important background material as well as what I personally have observed and experienced. In a final chapter I have tried to clarify resemblances and possible connections between Maybeck's work and Norwegian traditions. This includes the relationship between Maybeck's architecture and Norwegian stave churches, as well as inspiration from the Arts and Crafts movement which is a common feature for Maybeck and the so-called Bergen school of architects.

THE BERKELEY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES ITS ANNUAL SPRING HOUSE TOUR AND RECEPTION

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ELEGANT·HILLEGASS

ARCHITECTURAL · DISCOVERIES · ALONG · THE  
STATELY · AVENUES · OF · BERKELEY'S  
FAMOUS · "BROWN-SHINGLE" · NEIGHBORHOOD

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 4, 2008  
FROM 1 O'CLOCK TO 5 O'CLOCK

\$35 GENERAL ADMISSION  
\$25 BAHV MEMBERS

CALL SISSEL DAGSLAND TO VOLUNTEER THE DAY OF THE TOUR OFFER  
FURTHER INFORMATION OR VISIT BERKELEYARCHITECTURE.COM