ARNSTORMING
88 Membership gium Book
The San Jose Historical Museum Association pleased to announce the publication of a new story, BARNSTORMING — the autobiography of Frank Bacon, (1884-1922), famed actor and playwright who made his home in San Jose and other cities in Santa Clara County. The manuscript for Barnstorming is a treasure to be treasured in the Museum’s Archives. It was originally given to the San Jose landmarks Commission, probably by Bacon’s first wife, Jane. Enhanced with photographs lovingly provided by the Bacon family, Barnstorming is an outstanding publication, printed with local color and set against the backdrop of the American theater. Frank Bacon achieved particular fame as an actor in the role of Lightnin’ Bill Jones in the play Lightnin’ which he wrote with Winchell Smith. Lightnin’ was the sensation of the day — selling out Broadway from 1919 through 1921. Lightnin’ was later made into a motion picture starring Will Rogers in the role created by Frank Bacon.

In contrast with other recent Museum Association publications, Barnstorming reads a novel. It is the story of Bacon’s early years of struggle and failure, told from the perspective of the man who has finally achieved success in his chosen field. It is warm, witty, and entertaining.

(Continued on page 3)

INSIDE ASSOCIATION NEWS

Victorian Christmas — On December 10, 11, and 12, 1987, the San Jose Historical Museum Association and the City of San Jose will sponsor A Victorian Christmas at the San Jose Historical Museum. This event features Museum buildings decorated for the holidays by local florists, musical entertainment, craft vendors, food booths, and costumed participants. Our first annual Victorian Christmas was very successful in 1986, drawing several thousand people over the course of three days.

Members of the Museum Association were invited to this special event in early October. Since then, our formal lunches and Thursday afternoon’s tea have almost sold out. Box lunches, hot soups, and other food will be available for those of you who miss out on the luncheon. Seating will be provided in a heated tent.

A Victorian Christmas will be open daily from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. General admission to the grounds is $5.00 for adults and $3.00 for senior citizens and children. Tickets will be available at the gate each day, but we would appreciate your advance reservations to assist us in planning for food and other accommodations.

A donation drawing will be held for some very special items as part of the Victorian Christmas festivities. Drawing information and tickets will be available in mid-November. Admission tickets may be ordered by sending your check, made payable to SJHMA, and the coupon below to: A Victorian Christmas, San Jose Historical Museum, 635 Phelan Avenue, San Jose, CA 95112. Tickets will be sent to you by return mail.

A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS
Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
City: __________________ Zip: __________ Phone: __________
Please send me _________ General Admission tickets for:

- Thursday, December 10
- Friday, December 11
- Saturday, December 12
@ $5.00/Adults
$3.00/Senior Citizens & Children
Total amount enclosed: ____________

San Jose Historical Museum
635 Phelan Avenue
San Jose, California 95112

Address Correction Requested
As the 1877 year closes, I have all the mixed feelings of wonderment as to where the time went, how we accomplished so much and also how we have so much more to do. I would like to thank the 1877 Museum Association Board of Directors for their support of many of the Historical programs. Bruce Pohle, President, is finishing his second year and will be remembered for the "year of the house" and for his efforts to bring the Museum Association forward as our non-profit support organization.

Brian Serpa, Treasurer, has been elected to the position of President for 1988 and can look forward to some challenging times. His past two years as Treasurer have given him an indepth understanding of the Museum, the Association, and the tremendous growth experienced over the past ten years.

I would like to thank the staff of the Historical Museum for their outstanding contributions. As part of the San Jose Parks and Recreation Department, their efforts ensure quality in the many Museum programs while the Museum Association provides important and necessary extra and valuable community support. By working together, the Historical Museum has been able to do many of the things that the future took full of success. Best wishes for the remainder of 1987 and for the New Year, 1988.

Mignon Gibson
Museum Director

The San Jose Historical Museum is part of the City of San Jose Parks and Recreation Department.

The purpose of the San Jose Historical Museum Association is to support the San Jose Historical Museum through Association membership, fundraising, educational and volunteer services, and the development of the Image of the Museum in the community.

Kathleen Muller
Executive Director
Mignon Gibson
Editor
Barbara Bruce Atkins
Asst. Editor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Bruce Pohle, President, Dan DeFrancis, Clyde Arbuckle, Judy Stalbin, James T. Beall, Jr., Brian Serpa, Vice-President, Walter Phelan, Susan Howard, Sylvia Groedel, Carol Provenzo, Joyce Bristow, Patricia McDonnell, Thelma Brand, Bill Leonard, Jean Sedgwick, Frances L. Fox, Thomas Keating, John Herlihy, Gloria Hume, Pete Howe, John Smithwiche.


DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Marvin Bamberg, Chairman, Chuck Buckley, Virginia Hammans, Judy Henderson, Jean Spence, Patricia Lecina, Elizabeth Schuster, Charles Wallis.

Contributors: Barbara Atkins, Carol Carlsen, Jack Douglas, Thorn Fox, Mignon Gibson, Joyce Bristow, Leslie Maling, Joanne Scardino, Ruth Stalbin, Judy Smithwiche, Liz Bristow, Bruce Pohle, Carol Provenzo, Elaine Sharples, Judge Mark Buhler, and others.

Sealed San Jose Historical Museum Association News is published by the San Jose Historical Association on the first of each month. Memberships in the San Jose Historical Museum Association includes subscription to the News.

San Jose Historical Museum Association
635 Finlan Avenue
San Jose, California 95112
(408) 297-2290

ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is hard to believe that this will be my final President's message. Since I took over the Association's President have passed so quickly.

I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the accomplishments during the past two years - not the detailed individual ones, but the larger conceptual ones that will affect the Association for years to come.

To begin with, your Association became a political force in the City of San Jose. Through the political process, we were able to convince the City Council of its long neglect of the Museum and the need for more staff positions to protect and display its historical heritage. During the past two years, three new positions became available, and in all three, individuals with a true interest in the Museum and the need for specialized knowledge filled the positions. This is significant not only for the museum, but for the city as a whole.

Your Association also became a business. We hire, terminate, and advance employees when necessary. Our annual audit and our annual financial reports are annual reviews in order to measure each employee's effectiveness. We have a sizable budget which we must use wisely to pay our employees, our expenses, and within which we must stay. We have liability exposures and we have insurance. We rent parking lots, we sign construction contracts. We want a well-attended event, so we advertise. There is not one facet of a business's operation that your Association does not deal with. Most importantly, like any solvent business, we must spend money as we take it in.

The San Jose Historical Museum developed its "neighborhood." Through the moves of various historically significant houses, one of which was the front parsonage of St. John's Episcopal Church, we were able to preserve the integrity of a San Jose neighborhood of days gone by. The Finch House, which sat dormant for 14 years, was brought back to life in 1985. The historic Edith Markham house was saved and relocated to the Museum for next century's poets to dream in and enjoy.

Your Association became the benefactor in several estates. Among them was the estate of Kristina DeLuz, an active volunteer at the Museum who served on the Board for many years. The Association, the sale of the land enabled us to move the house, construct a foundation, and for the first time in 138 years, open the house to the public. The house is now open for public viewing daily through somehow a lighted by people such as Kristina that we are able to accomplish many of our projects.

Anticipating future bequests, your Association created a formal endowment to which people can contribute or assign bequests. Only the earnings of the endowment support our program for capital improvements and exhibit acquisitions.

Sensing a need for building maintenance that went beyond the financial capabilities of the City, your Association developed the "Dollar a Day" program. To the donation of Dial One of San Jose in which over $35,000 of building and equipment improvements were generated. A building that was once going to be torn down is no longer, new life was given to the building, new life was given to the building, new life.

In anticipating the need for a long term maintenance plan, the "Dial One" concept was started and will hopefully be finalized in another year. An individual or business will have the option to adopt the maintenance of a building at the Museum by agreeing to contribute a fixed amount annually towards the repair and maintenance of that structure on a predetermined schedule.

Finally, your Association became a Partner. Not like in a law firm, but like a family. The Museum became a partner in a multi-million dollar relationship with the Parks and Recreation Department by a contract which allows us to begin remaining work to create community ventures (O'Brien's and Gift Shop) on the Museum grounds. This partnership goes beyond the simple piece of property. It is a relationship through which people who understand the needs of the Museum and who can mutually work to promote the activities and protect those natural history resources without each other. We are now fortunate to have a Department Director and Deputy Director who take a strong interest in the Museum and who understand its value to the community. We attend Board meetings, sit down and work through the problems, not only to find solutions, but to be a part of the solution.

I have been most fortunate to have had an active Board. Each member has contributed to the success and accomplishments of the Association, their knowledge, their suggestions, and their commitment to your Association, we would never have accomplished what we did.

Finally, nothing could have been moved, nailed, poured, legalized, or celebrated without the hard and dedicated efforts of your Association Administrator, Kathy Muller. She was a dedicated person and brought to the Board of Directors and her constant vigilance, frustrating, and hair pulling, Kathy made it successful and fun. Thank you.

Bruce Pohle
Association President

FROM THE EDITOR

1988 Membership Drive

As 1987 draws to a close, the Museum Association will begin its membership drive for next year. It is the responsibility of all Museum members and hoping to attract new members in support of the Historical Museum.

There are now memberships available for individuals and senior citizens starting at $25. Family memberships begin at $35 and include two membership cards for free admission to the Museum and discounts in the Museum shops.

Memberships in the San Jose Historical Museum Association are the best bargains in town! I encourage you to renew at the highest level of support possible and remember your friends with the perfect Christmas gift.

Barbara Atkins. Photo by Nancy Valti.

New Association Employee

This is a special place to announce the hiring of Barbara Atkins as part-time Administrative Assistant. This new position became necessary as the success of the Association's business has increased. Each year, new programs are begun or developed, books are published, and new exhibit buildings restored.

Barbara comes to us with an extensive background of work in museums and non-profit institutions. Her responsibilities will include the Association News, the coordination of the Association's costume bank, Vintage Reflections, and general administrative tasks. We welcome Barbara to our staff and urge you to introduce yourself to her the next time you attend a Museum Association activity.

Kathleen Muller
Administrator

MUSEUM AUXILIARY

What do you think of when someone mentions Archives to you? Dusty old books, faded reports, "burry pictures?" Not so! The San Jose Historical Museum Archives are very much alive. Here you can find information on San Jose and Santa Clara County, including people, places, and events, and our Archivist and her crew are excited about what they have to offer.

Auxiliary volunteers are active assistants in the Archives, busily cataloging and indexing periodicals, manuscripts, ledgers, files, maps, and photos. All of the documents are stored in air conditioned and Spanish languages which grants to photos of students, need to be catalogued. File cards must be created to facilitate the location of individual items.

Volunteers also assist in the use of the materials found in the Archives. A volunteer may help you find information on the history of your family or some interesting local historical event.

To utilize the Museum Archives for research, simply call our archivist's number, 287-2290 for an appointment. If you have some time to volunteer and enjoy delving into the old history of our City and County, call the museum and say, "May I help in the Archives?"

Joan Helfins
Association Director
ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING OF CONSTRUCTION AT THE FAIRMONT HOTEL AND OFFICE BUILDING SITES DURING THE 1986-1987 YEAR HAS RESULTED IN THE DISCOVERY OF A LARGE COLLECTION OF OVER 500 CHINESE AND IMMIGRANT CHINESE ARTIFACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CHINESE SETTLEMENT ON SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM.

EXCAVATION COMMENCED IN MAY 1887. THIS IS THE LARGEST COLLECTION EVER RECOVERED FROM A SINGLE SETTLEMENT IN CALIFORNIA. MANY OF THE ARTIFACTS ARE THE ONLY KNOWN EXAMPLES OF THEIR TYPE. THE ARTIFACTS FORM A PARTICULARLY WELL-PRESERVED AND IMPORTANT COLLECTION THAT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF SAN JOSE AND CENTRAL CALIFORNIA DURING THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

The City Council, particularly the Mayor and Council member Susan Hammer, have taken great interest in this significant archaeological find and expressed concern that it and others like it be preserved and made available to the citizens of San Jose. Recognizing the value of archaeological resources, the City Council adopted a policy statement in August calling for the local curatorial, preservation, and exhibition of historic and prehistoric artifacts found on public projects in the City.

The City Council further identified the Parks and Recreation Department—HISTORICAL MUSEUM as the City department responsible for artifacts and memorabilia and requested that they take the lead in developing an Archaeological Resources Management Program. Because of my Masters degree in anthropology and field experience in paleoanthropology, I have been asked to head the Parks and Recreation Department as Chair of the Archaeological Resources Review Committee that has been established to develop the program. The Committee will include representatives from the Historic Landmarks Commission, the Redevelopment Agency Planning and Public Works.

This new policy confirms the City commitment to the preservation of its history and establishes the Historical Museum as chief resource for the management of archaeological resources. The museum's policy for this program is to move a more active role in the curatorial staff oversees on behalf of the Museum program.

Sarah Heigho Nunes Curator

MUSEUM STAFF

Migran Gibson Director
Carolyn Sherrod Staff Technician
Wanda Fraz Coordinator of Administrative Programs
Jeanne Kondo Clerk/Typist
Archivist

Education

Virginia W. Beck Curator of Education
Volunteer

Dulce Jansen Volunteer Coordinator
Elin Garbuske (p/3) Volunteer Projects

Events

Melissa Duran Museum Events Coordinator
Collections

Milita Rice Martin Curator of Collections

Nancy VAly Curator

ASSOCIATION STAFF

Kathleen Muller Administrator
Barbara Bruce Atkins Administrator
Carol Osellado Assistant Bookkeeper
Earline ShIELDS Membership Secretary
Sherry Carlson Manager
Anita Kazazba Scheduler/Superintendent
Dee Colaco Manager

WANTED: OLD PAINTINGS

1188 LINCOLN AVENUE SAN JOSE, CA 95129

(408) 733-1398

BARBARA CENTER (1919-1987)

On October 14, 1987 the San Jose Historical Museum lost a wonderful friend and valued supporter. Barbara Center, a member of the Museum Association's Advisory Board for the past three years and an active Auxiliary volunteer, died after a brief illness. She will be sorely missed.

Center's dedication to the Historical Museum was unique. The Museum benefited from her recognition and support as an admired community leader with a special interest in San Jose. She also chose to give her time as an active volunteer, greeting visitors at the Lobby Desk, answering telephones, and working on committees. She won the Museum many friends with her genuine warmth and enthusiasm.

Barbara, the widow of Hugh Stuart Center a prominent San Jose attorney, was a native of San Jose. She attended Roosevelt Junior High and San Jose High School. Barbara had a keen interest in the fine arts and in travel. She researched and studied art subjects and eagerly shared her knowledge to benefit others.

In addition to her work at the Historical Museum, Barbara was a member of ToKalon, FEO, the deSalesites Museum at Santa Clara University, and many other organizations.

Barbara Center is survived by her daughter, Jenny Martin of Rhode Island and her many friends.
In the last month, during my vacation, I attended two conferences: The Western Museums Conference (WMC) and the National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference. I would like to share with you a few of the more pertinent and important ideas which arose from these conferences as they relate to the San Jose Historical Museum.

The stated theme of the WMC was that of "Enterprise and Entrepreneurship" and the focus was on museums as institutions functioning in the real world. This program centered on areas of marketing, administration, and fund development and raised the issue of the increasingly blurry boundaries between traditional museums and those using business techniques and entertainment techniques to enter the marketplace. The issues of funding, the reality of the market situation, and the ensuing question of whether museums can survive as museums without losing their integrity and selling out to popular desires, were also raised.

A second theme was very explicitly stated as that of the museum role in the world. In a session entitled "Worlds to Conquer", Stephen LaVine of the Institute of Contemporary Culture stated that museums were faceless exhibitions and programs that have the "power to engage in real dialogue." Historical museums, he feels, should be a research and community involvement rather than merely supplying "historical psephophils". In the session on Stephen Weil of the Hirshhorn Museum raised the question of whether museums take seriously their role - that of developing a better community. He cited examples of how this consciousness was being more actively pursued by specific museums.

The stated theme of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the only national private organization chartered by Congress, the National Trust, was to participate in the preservation of sites, buildings, and objects significant in American history and culture. The Trust has worked with such diverse areas as growth management, heritage education, historic districts, maritime preservation and preservation management.

One major topic of this conference was stewardship, the management and preservation of historic places for the benefit of the public. This portion of the Conference highlighted the need for historic structures in preserving and developing neighborhoods, long range planning, and maintenance and modifications to structures never designed for the number of visitors and programs they now accommodate.

Philip Johnson, referred to by the New York Times as "our greatest architectural presence" was the keynote speaker. Johnson has designed a wide variety of buildings over a long and distinguished career. His Crystal Cathedral in Orange Co., California and his famous "Glass House" which he recently gave to the National Trust. He spoke of battles to save major landmarks as well as the need for a balanced consideration of what is saved.

The following addresses in both these conferences are ones which concern us here at the San Jose Historical Museum. The participants shared the fact that we have encountered at their historic sites and suggested solutions which may work for us as we meet the challenges of our developing museum.

Leslie Masunaga
Archives

HISTORIC LANDMARKS
COMMISSION CORNER

This month I would like to take the opportunity to honor J.D. Douglas whose final term on the Historic Landmarks Commission expired last month. I believe as my experience with Historic Landmarks has increased I have come to appreciate the value of your work.

One who has served with Jack on the Commission would disagree that with this expertise in the field of history, my expertise is not in the field of history. Jack contributed an expertise that will be hard to match. He always made the extra effort to personally participate in a project on the Commission's agenda, taking pictures and finding bits of historical information that enabled us to make better decisions and take appropriate action. Jack's position on historic preservation was always consistent and strong.

Jack now has emeritus status on the Commission and I hope he will continue attending meetings and contributing his expertise and knowledge.

Leslie Parks
Chairman

ANNUAL CORPORATE MEMBERS

PATRON
KRON-TV 4
Southern Lumber

BENEFACTORS
Mayfair Packing Co.
PG&E
San Jose Mercury News

ASSOCIATE
Barry Swenson Builder
Central Concrete Supply Co.
CHI Iron Works
Executive Realty Co.

KBAY/KEEN
Lima Family-Briarcon
Muller Construction Supply, Inc.
Pacific Bell
Piano Press
Valley Heating & Cooling Co.

SUSTAINING
Berg (Jerry) & Associates
Beauzay, Egger, Bledavin, Lewis & O'Laughlin
Burke Industries
CHI Properties
Caldo Oil Co.
Caputo Associates
Hall and Rambo

HMI, Inc.
Dow Scales
Keystone Co.
McCormack Associates
March Development
Marchese Farms
Markovits & Partners

Mirranos Vineyards
George S. Nolte & Assoc.
Normandin Chrysler Plymouth

O'BRIEN'S UBERGHESS RENOVATION

O'Brien's Ice Cream Parlor at the San Jose Historical Museum is undergoing some necessary repairs and renovation this fall.

The major repairs are being financed by the City of San Jose through Capital Improvement Projects funds. A new freezer unit, a sandwich preparation counter and new floor coverings are included.

Under the direction of Shops Manager Carol Carlson and Association Board member Patty McDonald, attractive colors in wallpaper and paint have been chosen to complete the renovation, using funds from the Museum Association project.

O'Brien's was originally opened as a working exhibit in 1977, a project of the San Jose Rotary Club. It is a replica of early O'Brien's Ice Cream Parlor and Candy Shops which were located at several addresses along South First Street from 1888 to 1914.

Since 1984 the San Jose Historical Museum Association has operated O'Brien's as a service to our visitors and a revenue-producing business in support of the Museum. The current renovation of O'Brien's is scheduled for completion in early November.

The Association is particularly grateful to Patty McDonald, a partner in the design firm of McDonald & Moore, Ltd., for her donation of time and talent to this project.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP AND YOU!

You are a very important person to the San Jose Historical Museum. With your support, we can continue to offer unique interpretation! With your help we will be able to continue to assist in the growth and development of the Historical Museum. Please support us in 1989 by:

- Promptly renewing your membership when you receive your 1989 membership information in the mail
- Upgrading your membership classification, if you can. Memberships of $50 or more enable us to do so much more.
- Obtaining the appropriate form from your employer if you are employed by a Matching Gift Program.

The benefits of membership in the San Jose Historical Museum Association include:

- The satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to preserve the history of the Santa Clara Valley through unique educational programs, volunteer activities, special exhibits and restoration projects.
- Invitations to special events.
- A monthly newsletter with articles of historic interest.
- Discounts in the Gift Shop, O'Brien's, and on costume rentals from Vintage Reflections.
- Free admission to the Museum except during special events of a fundraising nature.

ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS

During the months of September and October, 1987, contributions were made to the Museum Association's Endowment Fund. Special Projects Fund in honor of the following individuals:

In Memoriam
Barbara Center
David Colacicco
Martha Lindsey

Mary Simas

Gifts System Industries

Gifts to the San Jose Historical Museum Association in honor of someone on a special occasion, or as a memorial, may be sent to the San Jose Historical Museum Association, 635 Placer Avenue, San Jose, CA 95112. A letter of acknowledgement will be sent to the person being honored or the family of the deceased.

TRUST AND FOUNDATIONS

General Electric Company
Hugh Stuart Center Charitable Trust
IBM Corporation
Mariani Foundation
Lockheed Missiles & Space Corporation

Santa Clara County Community Foundation
HISTORICAL FOOTNOTES OF SANTA CLARA VALLEY

By Jack Douglas

ST. JAMES SQUARE
HISTORICAL DISTRICT

The origin of St. James Square dates back to the beginning of San Jose's American period (1848) when the city fathers commissioned the Yale educated surveyor Charles S. Lyman to lay out a plan for the future city of San Jose. Lyman reserved a large open area for public open space by combining twin rectangular blocks within the standard grid plan for the city. This area was called St. James Square. Twenty years later Frederick Law Olmstead, America's greatest pioneer landscape architect, laid out the diagonal greenbelt walkways that were begun in 1863. The construction of the Trinity Episcopal Church in 1863, St. James Park has been the favored site of many of the city's distinguished churches and public buildings. Serenely set apart from the downtown commercial district, the park has been spared the periodic renovations and upheavals of the city's main street, and it remains one of the few areas in San Jose which reflects an earlier era. This was duly recognized in 1977 by the United States Department of the Interior, when the park and its surroundings were placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Nine remaining buildings which surround St. James Park are designated National Register and San Jose Landmarks. They are:

Trinity Episcopal Church. 1863
Trinity Episcopal Church is the oldest permanent Protestant church in San Jose. Constructed by John W. Hammond, it is one of the finest examples of Carpenter Gothic religious architecture in the western United States. The interior of the church is very ornately carved redwood, with ornamented beams and trusses, and an exceptional multi-Gothic arched balcony. Other features include beautiful stained glass windows crafted by the New York firm of Durantor, and the tower chimes which date from the 1880's.

Santa Clara County Courthouse. 1886
Hoping to lure the state government back to San Jose, the city fathers proposed a courthouse so grandiose that it would have been possible to use it as a capitol building should such a move be desired. Ralph W. Wyckoff, a noted architect who went on to build many important local structures, the courthouse was one of the most ornate and opulent civic buildings of its day. Designed along classical lines, the original building was two-storied with a central dome. A fire in 1933 led to the dome's removal and the addition of a third story. Renovated and restored in 1973, it continues to be one of the most impressive courthouses in the state.

First Unitarian Church. 1891
The First Unitarian Church was designed by local architect G.W. Legg who had among his commissions many of the city's finer homes, including the Hayes mansion in Edenvale. The sanctuary was built in the Romanesque Revival style, was said to resemble a "Transylvanian Unitarian church." The unusual design includes a large arched stained glass window on the facade and two towers flanking the main entrance. The central chapel is circular. The Unitarian congregation in San Jose has never been large, but the size and opulence of their church indicates that the members have been some of the city's most prominent and well-to-do citizens.

Sainte Claire Club. 1893
The Sainte Claire Club was organized by Senator James D. Phelan as a meeting place for local businessmen. Phelan, a former mayor of San Francisco who spent the summers at his Villa Montalvo in Saratoga, was also the owner of the Victory Theatre on North First Street. He chose San Francisco's leading pre-earthquake architect, A. Page Brown, to design the Sainte Claire Club. Best known as the architect of the Sainte Claire Club, Brown was a leading exponent of the Mission Revival architectural style. Many features of this style are evident in his design for the church, including the tile roof and arched entryways.

Eagles Hall. 1900
Following the example of the Sainte Claire Club, the Masons chose to build their first temple facing St. James Park. This structure, which later became the home of the Eagles order, was one of the finest examples of Greek revival architecture in San Jose. The massive doric columns and the facade of the building have been incorporated into the new office building which was constructed on the site of the hall.

First Church of Christ Scientist. 1904
The First Church of Christ Scientist is one of the few examples of the Romanesque Revival style, designed by architect Willis Polk. One of California's most famous architects, Polk designed the church along classical lines with modifications similar to those of Palladio. The ground floor plan of the church is in the shape of a Greek cross.

Scottish Rite Temple. 1924
The local Masonic order, at first located in what we now refer to as Eagles Hall, commissioned Carl Werner to design a new temple at the corner of Third and St. James. The result was a massive three-story neo-classical structure with elements of Beaux Arts styling and Egyptian ornamentation. The massive facade with six ionic columns is consistent with several other buildings around the park, particularly the Courthouse which faces it on the west. Now the home of the San Jose Athletic Club, the exterior of the temple has been restored, and its maintenance has been assured.

Letcher Garage. 1907
This garage, now remodeled as the Oasis Night Club, was part of one of the first automobile showroom garages in San Jose. It was owned and operated by Clarence Letcher who was one of the city's earliest auto enthusiasts. It was acclaimed as the first auto garage on the west coast, and was to become the nucleus of San Jose's first automobile row. For a short while Letcher manufactured his own cars, but he gave that up to become the local dealer for Cadillac, Packard and Pierce Arrow. His "milepost" signs were familiar throughout the state for a quarter of a century.

The building has unique architectural features such as an expansive wood truss roof design and large steel shutters on the rear window openings.

San Jose Post Office. 1933
The former main post office was a WPA project. It was built to replace the 1892 post office on Market Street. This newer structure, designed by Ralph W. Wyckoff, incorporates many elements of Spanish Colonial Revival style, including terra cotta facing, churriguereo ornamentation around the windows and doors, and red tile roof covering. The ornate interiors add to a feeling of quality which is not evident in more recent government buildings. The post office is on the site of the former St. James Hotel, one of the city's leading hosteries dating from the 1890's.

Barrel Shelby
SILVER EAGLE PRINTING and GRAPHICS
(408) 768-0044
350 J De La Cruz Boulevard - Santa Clara, California 95054

COMMERCIAL ACCOUNTS

FRADA B. SILVER
PRINTING
(408) 308-4898
857 FAYNEY AVENUE
REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063
The McKee-Landy home at 581 North Seventeenth St. was built in 1880. This beautifully-restored home is one of four historic houses which will be open to the public on the Victorian Home Tour, December 5, 1987.

VICTORIAN HOME TOUR

The third annual Victorian Home Tour, sponsored by the Victorian Preservation Association of Santa Clara County is scheduled for December 5, 1987 from 1:00-5:00 P.M.

Each year the tour highlights a different area of San Jose. This year the tour features four homes in the "Uptown San Jose" area. All four were built between 1875 and 1880 and include a variety of Victorian architectural styles.

Advance ticket sales are available before November 27 for $6.00. They may be ordered from the Victorian Preservation Association at 722 South Third Street, San Jose, CA 95112.

Tickets also may be purchased the day of the tour for $8.00 at either the Fuhring Home (The Briar Rose Bed and Breakfast) at 897 E. Jackson Street or the Jared Brockett Wing House at 536 North Third Street. (The other homes on the tour are located at 429 North Third Street and 592 North Seventeenth Street). Hot apple cider and home made cookies will be served at the end of the tour.

San Jose Historical Museum volunteers will be serving as docents during the tour. A portion of the proceeds of the event will be donated to the San Jose Historical Museum Association.

TROLLEY PROGRESS

Light at the End of the Tunnel

Bright point, shining brass, and polished woodwork will once again attract riders to San Jose’s historic trolleys when they join their modern cousins on the County’s new light rail line.

That day is still several months away, but visitors to the Trolley Barn on the Museum grounds may now see at least two of the historic trolleys looking very much as they will when their bells and whistles are heard on the streets of San Jose again. The bodies of the cars are being restored to their original appearance and the work is very nearly completed.

What remains to be done is mechanical in nature. The motors and machinery of the historic cars must be modified to run on modern rail equipment.

When completed, the various historic trolleys will represent local electrical railroading history from 1907 through 1938. Each car will be painted and finished to represent a different era, giving the citizens of San Jose an idea of what local public transportation looked like during the early decades of this century.

Trolley Car 81 is typical of the early electric railroad cars in San Jose which were part of the Santa Clara Interurban when it began in 1907. The Interurban ran from downtown Santa Clara to Alum Rock Avenue. There were 22 of these cars at one time.

Car #124 has been painted a bright shiny red, the original color of new equipment placed on the old Interurban line when it was purchased by the Southern Pacific in 1912.

From about 1917 to the mid-1920s the predominant color on the line was an orange-yellow, the color of Car 873.

Finally during the last decade of the trolley system in San Jose, the cars were painted a bright yellow. Car #128 will represent this time period.

The testing of the historic trolleys on the Museum’s new test track is scheduled to begin in late 1987 or early 1988. The first successful run will be an exciting moment for the many people who have worked so long and so hard on this project. There is finally light at the end of the tunnel!
SPARTAN FOOTBALL COMES OF AGE

San Jose State’s double victories over both Stanford and California this fall certainly aroused enthusiasm in the University’s supporters. However, Spartan power was not always thus.

Back in the late twenties, San Jose belonged to a conference that consisted mostly of junior colleges and the team had a hard time winning a reasonable percentage of the games.

Later the Far Western Conference was organized, consisting mostly of four-year institutions such as Davis, Chico State, Cal Poly, Pacific, and Nevada Reno.

Although prevailing community opinion was that San Jose should have had a stronger position in the field, Dr. T.W. MacQuarrie, President of San Jose State, resisted. In a letter dated September 29, 1929, he wrote:

“I have no doubt if we were to put in a publicity bureau and hire an expense coach, go into football as a business, and arrange starting schedules we might perhaps be given more space on the athletic pages. I doubt very much if this college will ever develop such aspirations.”

Dr. MacQuarrie went on to explain that the faculty was hired to train future physical education teachers and not winning football teams. This was obvious to all. In one case a football coach went onto the field with a book in hand and tried to explain football to the assembled squad.

Dr. MacQuarrie further stated in his letter: “As a matter of fact, I would feel personally that we were going beyond the bounds of good sportsmanship if we were to develop a team which would win more than a reasonable share of the games.”

Such was the policy of the University in the late 1920s.

A month after Dr. MacQuarrie’s letter was written, a catastrophe took place that really shook the country, even down to San Jose State football. THE DEPRESSION.

Hereafter Dr. MacQuarrie had only to present a good case before the state budget committee to obtain funds for the operation of his school. When deep cuts had to be made in all programs of the state, Dr. MacQuarrie was shocked to learn that there were legislators who had never heard of San Jose State.

He abruptly changed his mind on the sports program, stating that all legislators read the sports pages and that was one of the surest ways of calling the school to their attention.

In a reversal of previous policy, Dudley DeGroot, a high-pressure aggressive coach from Menlo College was hired to handle the football team. He brought with him two assistants, Wilbur Hubbard and DeWitt Portal, both San Jose State graduates.

DeGroot had the misfortune to inherit a poor schedule on the developed team had little competition. To some, it was embarrassing to have San Jose State listed as the highest scoring team in the nation, and then to look at the quality of its opponents.

At the same time the coaching staff was improved, Dwight Bentei was hired to handle press relations and to double as the journalism teacher. San Jose really began to “hit the pages” and football was on its way. Eventually the press department was established separately, and Bentei went on to lead the journalism school to national standing.

As part of the new sport program, a stadium was opened in 1932 and Spartan games were broadcast over KQW (later KCBS) for the first time.

During the thirties, scholarships were given “under the table”. This was a common practice, but officially denied. Dr. MacQuarrie started the nation by offering open scholarships for athletes. These consisted of a place to sleep and a meal a day during the football season. As a result of this departure from the previous policy, two colleges cancelled scheduled games with San Jose State. The open scholarship has of course now nationally recognized by the NCAA.

Scheduling was always a problem. In the early days teams booked the Spartans for a soft spot in their schedule. Baylor did this once and to the surprise of the nation San Jose won the game 4-0.

Gradually the Spartan football schedule has improved to the point where today San Jose has regular spots on the Stanford and California schedules, and plays games with Oregon and Washington teams. Next year San Jose meets four Pac 10 teams.

To improve the situation further, competition within the Pacific Coast Athletic Association has improved and the largest local crowds now attend the games with Nevada Las Vegas and Fresno State.

In recent years San Jose has defeated Stanford and California numerous times. Twice the Spartans were victorious over both of these local rivals in the same year, proving they have come of age!

Thorton Fox
Advisory Board Member

GIFT IDEAS FROM YOUR MUSEUM SHOP

As the holidays approach and you are looking for that perfect gift for someone special, may we suggest a book on local history?

Our popular publication, Sunshine Fruit & Flowers, is now available for direct purchase. This is a quality reprint of the original book published by the San Jose Mercury in 1896 to extol the glories of the Santa Clara Valley. It contains hundreds of historic photographs and detailed descriptions of life at the turn of the century. During 1987 Sunshine, Fruit & Flowers was available only through membership in the San Jose Historical Museum Association.

Sunshine, Fruit & Flowers, $24.95 + $1.75 tax.

Santa Clara County — Harvest of Change is a quality hardbound publication by Stephen M. Payne which chronicles the history of Santa Clara County from the time of the Indians to the emergence of Silicon Valley. Published in 1987, the book is illustrated with more than 250 photographs and drawings.

Santa Clara County — Harvest of Change, $27.95 + $1.90 tax.

ORDER FORM

SUNSHINE, FRUIT & FLOWERS

SANTA CLARA VALLEY — HARVEST OF CHANGE

Amount enclosed: $ 10% Discount: (for Members) $ tax: $ Shipping: ($2.50 per book) $ Total: $

Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________

Checks should be made payable to SJHM Gift Shop and sent to: San Jose Historical Museum Gift Shop, 635 Phelan Avenue, San Jose, CA 95112.

DELIVERING PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND QUALITY MATERIALS SINCE 1904.
(Continued from page 1)

Barnstorming is a hard bound volume, 225 pages in length, and available exclusively through the San Jose Historical Museum Association. Every new and returning member of the Association will receive a copy of Barnstorming as a premium for supporting the Museum in 1988.

Current members of the Museum Association will be receiving 1988 renewal information in the mail during the month of November. An additional membership application is printed on this page and applications are also available by phoning the Museum (287-2290).

We encourage you to consider Museum memberships (with the accompanying book) as an excellent gift idea for friends, relatives and business associates who make their homes in the Santa Clara Valley. A special fler inserted in this newspaper will make it easy for you to do your holiday shopping while you support the work of the San Jose Historical Museum.

MATCHING GIFT COMPANIES

The Museum Association has qualified to participate in the matching gift programs of the following companies:

AT&T
BANK OF AMERICA
GENERAL ELECTRIC
IBM
MACYS
TRW SYSTEMS
WESTINGHOUSE

If you are employed by one of these firms, we urge you to obtain the appropriate form from your employer and send it to us with your 1988 membership. Your gift to the San Jose Historical Museum will then be doubled or even tripled at no additional cost to you.

Please help us take advantage of the generous corporate support available in our community to benefit the Museum.

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 1, 1987
Membership Tea
Pacific Hotel Meeting Room
2:30-5:30 PM

December 3, 1987
Holiday Party
Pacific Hotel
7:00-10:00 PM

December 5, 1987
Victorian Home Tour
Downtown San Jose
11:00-5:00 PM

December 6, 1987
Membership Tea
Pacific Hotel Meeting Room
2:00-5:00 PM

December 10, 11, 12, 1987
A Victorian Christmas
10:00 AM-4:00 PM
Museum Grounds

SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

HELP US IF YOU CAN MEMBERSHIP OF $25 OR MORE ENABLE US TO COVER MORE THAN THE COSTS OF OUR MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM.

If you are employed by a matching gift company please obtain the appropriate form from your employer. Unusual?

Give us the name of your employer and we will check for you.

You are not required to be employed - even retired - at no expense to you.

Make checks payable to:
SJHMA, 635 Phelan Avenue, San Jose, CA 95112

Mystery Photo

Do you know the history of this bridge located on East Santa Clara Street over Coyote Creek between 17th Street and Roosevelt Park? The East Santa Clara Street Restoration Association is planning a restoration of the bridge and is interested in learning about the decorative tile work. As a Public Art Project, ESCRA plans to complete the decorative work and would like to know if the existing tiles were placed as part of a program. If anyone has information please contact the Museum Archives at 287-2290.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: ON YOU!

Spring into action! Rejuvenate yourself and give something positive back to the community by becoming a valuable volunteer at the Museum.

There's a spot for you! Phone Volunteer Coordinator Dulce Jansen at 287-2290 or send this coupon in and we will contact you!

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
City __________________________
Zip __________________________
Phone __________________________

Please mail to: San Jose Historical Museum, 635 Phelan Avenue, San Jose, CA 95112. Thank you for your much-needed involvement and support.

Sylvia Burtenshaw, Vintage Reflections volunteer at the Chichi House opening, modeling a black silk dress and octolot coat once worn by a San Francisco socialite, and now owned by Vintage Reflections volunteer Gerri Osburne. Photo by Rob Shields.

SEPTEMBER MYSTERY PHOTO

Aha! This aerial view is not nearly as obscure as we had thought. This photo has been identified as the Port of Redwood City. The white pile in the foreground is Leslie Salt with the salt evaporation ponds in the mid-right. The Ideal Cement Company is located in the background. The distinctive horseshoe shape has been clearly identified on the various maps we have been sent. Thanks to all of you for your assistance in this identification: Bob Rastamعبد, Cameron Rister, John Nolan, Leon Kimura, Larry Moore, Myrna Auler, Don Widen, Chuck Shields, Betsy Matheson, James Harper, Richard Hill, Pat Grievus, and Mr. Lawrence.