

CALIFORNIANS FOR PRESERVATION ACTION

Volume III, Number 2 April, 1978

NEWSLETTER

Vallejo: Another Success Story



Historic Preservation got its start in Vallejo in 1972 when a Housing Rehabilitation Program was initiated in one of the City's oldest neighborhoods. Residents requested safeguards to preserve architectural details on the area's Victorian homes. A sympathetic City Council responded by assigning Planning Department staff to work with the neighbors on an architectural preservation plan. The result was the Architectural Heritage District, a land use zoning district that requires design review for new construction and all exterior alterations to existing buildings. Design standards were established and the Architectural Heritage Commission was created to conduct design review and to act as a voice for historic preservation.

The Architectural Heritage Ordinance was applied to a 16 block area at the heart of the oldest neighborhood in Vallejo. The District is almost entirely residential consisting of single and multi-family homes representing over one hundred years of western architecture. The architectural value of the district lies not only in the quality of individual buildings but in the variety of styles. Listed in 1973, the Vallejo Architectural Heritage District was only the fourth district west of the Mississippi to be placed on the National Register.

Creation of the District was hailed with an initial round of publicity - local newspaper coverage, the publication of a coloring book and receipt in 1973 of the prestigious Bay Area Council Award for Environmental Preservation. For the next several years the Architectural Heritage Commission quietly set about its work of enforcing the District Ordinance to preserve the neighborhood. The real estate market responded slowly - the initial impact of the ordinance seemed to be to keep the aluminum siding salesmen at bay so that the settings could be

preserved for a few of Vallejo's architectural gems.

In 1975 two phenomena distinctly characteristic of American neighborhoods of the mid 70's did not happen in the Vallejo Architectural Heritage District but were felt anyway. The first was soaring housing prices. New subdivisions mushroomed all over the northern Bay Area and especially in Vallejo, but their prices were out of reach for many families. As a result many young families with energy to invest in rehabilitation and a taste for character began to look to the District as an affordable and attractive alternative to the new suburban tracts. Scruffy old residences designed by carpenters one hundred years ago suddenly began to show their charm in response to the efforts of the new owners.

A second major mid-decade happening that didn't happen in the District was the Housing and Community Development Act. Although Vallejo received over one million Community Development dollars annually during the first three-year funding cycle, Heritage District residents were not sufficiently self-aware to make their needs heard during that period. However, by 1976 both new and old residents and the Heritage Commission had begun to coalesce and make the neighborhood known. The Commission recruited a Committee of volunteers to compile data on the history and architecture of District homes into a walking tour (the walking tour brochure will be published in July 1978).

In June 1977, when the City Council held its annual budget hearings, the Heritage Commission was in a position to make a credible funding request. The Commission could rightly claim that its preservation efforts had helped attract new families who were revitalizing the neighborhood. The Council responded by getting the Commission a half-time historic resources planner and a cash budget of \$8,000 (the previous budget was \$500 and Planning Department staff on an as-available basis). The Commission's 1977-78 work program calls for the publication of a walking tour, the expansion of the Commission from 5 to 9 members, creation of a landmarks ordinance and the completion of a historic resources survey.

The impetus created by the new property owners and previous failures to get CD funding came full circle in late 1977. At hearings before the City Council on the second three-year Community Development budget, district residents made a strong bid for neighborhood rehabliltation assistance. They won a promise of public works improvements and housing rehabilitation loans for low and moderate income families. Tentative commitments call for the funds to be spent according to a neighborhood plan which will be aimed at historic preservation.

If you would like additional information on the Vallejo preservation movement and the Architectural Heritage District, feel free to contact Mr. Mike Meiring, Vallejo Planning Department, (707) 553-4326.

Legislative News

URBAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Governor Brown has chosen to resurrect the OPR document <u>Urban Development Strategy</u> - some say to counter Pete Wilson's reputation as a proponent of "managed growth", others say to embarrass President Carter. Now called the <u>Urban Strategy</u> (development has left the title to permeate the text), it is evident from press coverage and the deluge of new legislation that the Administration is serious indeed.

CPA supported and continues to support the basic thesis of the strategy - that existing urban areas should be the centers for urban life and that sprawl should be discouraged. However, CPA is still concerned that too little was proposed to reconcile the need for new development with the need to protect and conserve the existing built environment - a valuable and often irreplaceable asset - and no mention was made of the manner in which design quality could be made a criterion for new development in cities, where close proximity of new and existing development makes such a criterion essential.

Since the strategy has been adopted, CPA should direct its efforts at supporting or opposing specific actions recommended by the strategy (e.g., support of Proposition 10, opposition to CEQA exemption for housing, both of which are recommended by the strategy).

The most troubling new item in the <u>Urban Strategy</u> is a CEQA waiver for housing or jobrelated construction in "built-up areas". Neighborhoods could be stripped of environmental review as a protection against intrusion damaging to the integrity and character of their place.

While AB2979 (Roos) does not appear to be an administration bill, it is related to the urban strategy on clearing obstacles to in-town development. This bill includes troubling provisions such as:

(1) weakening State requirements that zoning relate to general plan expectations;

(2) requiring cities to zone for housing needs and refrain from creating obstacles to this social goal (thus eliminating "down-zoning" as a neighborhood conservation tool?);

(3) permitting an exemption from CEQA when public agencies determine construction of housing is consistent with General, Specific or Redevelopment Plans.

In summary, AB 2979 is an attempt to provide increased housing construction, possibly at the expense of the environmental quality of existing residential areas. CPA supports the goal of providing decent housing for every person and believes that government should encourage housing construction while discouraging urban sprawl. However, the meat-ax approach of AB 2979 would be counterproductive. It would return us to the approach of the 1950's and 1960's, when many urban neighborhoods were indiscriminately demolished and replaced by mammoth projects which, because of poor design, provided poor living environments for their residents and constituted a blight on the neighborhoods in which they were located. Housing resources are scarce and must not be wasted.

The CPA Legislative Committee urges each CPA member to write to his or her assemblyman, to Assemblyman Roos, and to the Assembly Committee of Local Government expressing opposition to AB 2729 and encouraging a solution to the housing problem which does not result in degradation of the urban environment.

PROPOSITION 10

Proposition 10 (SB 514) on the June, 1978, ballot is a proposed constitutional amendment authored by State Senator Milton Marks that would offer property tax relief to owners of qualified rehabilitated residential dwellings (for a period of five years following rehabilitation). The legislation applies to those areas which have been designated for special rehabilitation efforts by public agencies.

The aim of the bill is to remove a substantial deterrent to residential rehabilitation. Often homeowners are reluctant to perform necessary work to maintain housing quality because they fear tax increases. This attitude leads to the deterioration of individual structures and the eventual degradation of whole neighborhoods.

CPA members are urged to vote for the measure in June and to volunteer to campaign for it. Further information can be obtained by writing to the Committee for Yes on 10, Chairman Steve Taber, 3019 Pine Street, San Francisco 94115 or calling (415) 922-4286.

OTHER LEGISLATION

The following are bills which appear to be consistent with CPA policy and, therefore, deserve the support of CPA members:

SB 1518 (Dunlap), which conveys property in Old Sacramento State Historic Park from the State to the City of Sacramento for the purpose of reconstructing the Sacramento City Hall and Waterworks Building as a city historic museum.

SB 1782 and SCA 61 (Garamendi), which would provide a tax exemption for 5 years on the value of rehabilitation work undertaken on qualified industrial or commercial property. This proposal does for these properties what Proposition 10 on the June Ballot does for residential property. The proposal is a positive one, but could be improved by the addition of a requirement that the rehabilitation must be consistent with the architectural quality of the buildings involved. We recommend language clearly stating the intent to preserve; words like "modernization" scare us.

SB 1817(Garamendi), which would exempt Native American structures of religious or cultural significance from the building codes. We would suggest the exemption apply to "traditional" structures rather than historic structures, per se.

AB 2703 (Levine), which would impose a capital gains tax of 50% on non-owner occupied residential dwellings sold less than one year after purchase and a tax of 30% on such buildings sold between 1 and 3 years after purchase.

AB2881 (Waters), which would <u>require</u> public entities to provide advisory and financial assist-

ance to persons displaced from a dwelling or business as the result of a governmental activity. The bill would also require the payment of rental assistance to tenants whose rents are increased because of rehabilitation activities and would require that temporary housing and moving costs be provided for persons displaced during the course of rehabilitation work.

An anti-displacement measure, the bill offers less than full protection, providing some benefits but less commitment to keeping people - owners or tenants - in their homes. AB2881 is only half way there.

In addition to the bills discussed, CPA has proposed legislation which would establish a state loan insurance program for rehabilitation of historic and architecturally significant structures. This bill requires additional work and discussion with persons in the municipal bond and finance industry, as well as coordination with Federal and State programs. Therefore, it was not introduced, but is expected to be issued shortly as a "preprint" bill for discussion and hearings.

A good many of these bills will move to committee in the immediate future and we intend to inform you through our alert system. For now, contact your local representative and express your concern about the <u>Urban Strategy</u> and related legislation; the strategy needs sensitivity - Steve Taber



TOUR OF OLD SAN FRANCISCO FIREHOUSES

Many delightful old firehouses still grace San Francisco's neighborhoods, reminders of the exciting past of the City, which has risen from the ashes of six major fires. On this bus tour, Sunday, June 11, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., you will see more than a dozen old firehouses, redwood "Victorians", stucco "Mission Revivals" and brick "Edwardians". Four of them are officially designated San Francisco historic landmarks.

Tour takers will also be able to visit several firehouses to see how they have been converted to such new uses as homes and studios. The ticket price includes bus transportation, lunch, and a wine and cheese reception at the end of the day. Each person will also receive a souvenir booklet with sketches and brief histories of the firehouses.

The tour, a benefit for the St. Francis Hook and Ladder Society's museum project, will begin and end at the San Francisco Fire Department Museum, Presidio Avenue between Pine and Bush Streets.

Early reservations are strongly recommended, as space is limited. Make checks payable to the St. Francis Hook and Ladder Society; tax deductible donation: \$25 per person. Reservations must be received by June 1. Mail your check to the Society, 260 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco 94102. For more information please call (415) 558-3949, Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Third Annual State Conference San Jose, May 11-13

CPA, the National Trust, the State Office of Historic Preservation and eight co-sponsors promise a better than Pasadena experience at this year's conference. Be there for: *Participatory Workshop on Preservation as

Environmentalism

*Clinics on Preservation Planning

- *Mobile Workshops visiting successful preservation efforts
- *Novices Breakfast and "Preservation Doctor" sessions for consultation with specialists *Participation - Your own three-minute success story
- *Intensive Workshops on Social Impacts, Economics and San Jose
- *Social activities at Paul Masson Winery and Montalvo Estate

Special speakers include Dr. William Murtagh, Keeper of the National Register; Huey Johnson, Secretary of the Resources Agency; Russ Cahill, Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation; Jerry Smith, State Senator; and Nellie Longsworth, President of Preservation Action.

Registration is \$25.00 payable to: 3rd Annual California Preservation Conference, c/o San Jose Historical Museum, 635 Phelan Ave., San Jose, CA 95112.

In conjunction with the State Conference, Nellie Longsworth, President of Preservation Action, plans to meet with Directors and members of this national lobby to organize California activities and coordinate State and Federal lobbying efforts.

Unprecedented Precedent

November's <u>Newsletter</u> covered the St. Anne's Home controversy in San Francisco. The property was nominated for the National Register and the State Historical Resources Commission voted 6-1 in favor of the nomination and forwarded it to Dr. Knox Mellon, State Historic Preservation Officer. Dr. Mellon thoroughly investigated the controversial issue and made the following statement: "... I have decided not to sign the NR nomination for St. Anne's Home. ... My decision was based on extenuating and humanitarian circumstances. There was a clear probability that failure to build a new facility would result in the Little Sisters of the Poor having to close down St. Anne's and leave San Francisco. The tragic result of such an action...was a risk that I could not in good conscience take."

CPA has opposed this unprecedented action on the part of the SHPO and protested to Dr. Murtagh, Keeper of the National Register, asking that he call up the nomination and judge the building by National Register criteria alone. There is no certainty that such an unwarranted shelving won't occur again, next time for less than humanitarian reasons.

Californians for Preservation Action Newsletter was brought to you by Margaret Bach, Mardi Gualtieri, Mary Helmich, Katy Lind, Hans Kreutzberg, John and Betty Merritt, Bill Padgett, Brad Paul, Bob Pendoley, Rob Selway, Steve Taber and Judith Waldhorn.

Hookers (HCRS)

On January 25, 1978, Cecil Andrus, the Secretary of the Interior, signed an order establishing the Heritage Resources and Conservation Service (HCRS). This new agency within the Department of the Interior was established with the concept of "strengthening of the national commitment to the protection and utilization of heritage and recreation resources, and the enhancement of intergovernmental and private sector capabilities to fulfill the commitment."

The new agency removes the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation from the National Park Service and merges it with the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and the National Natural Landmark Program. Chris Delaporte, who headed BOR, is director of the new agency. HCRS will be divided into three distinct units dealing with cultural heritage, natural heritage and recreation. Cultural resources will continue to be handled by the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation directed by Ernest Conelly and Jerry Rodgers. This Office is continuing to operate intact with its programs including the National Register, Grants Management, the Historic American Building Survey, the Historic American Engineering Record, the Interagency Archaeological Services, and the Technical Preservation Services.

Guidelines for a Natural Heritage program are to be issued by October 1 of this year, and \$63 million has already been proposed in the President's budget for this new activity, which is expected to be modeled on the National Register of Historic Places program.

A draft plan for the National Heritage Program

outlines the following objectives:

*Develop a strong partnership among private citizens and local State and Federal governments for heritage resource identification and protection.

*Provide a single point of contact within the Department of the Interior for conservation of heritage resources and consolidate the Federal Government's planning functions for heritage conservation and recreation.

*Develop criteria against which heritage re-

sources may be judged for significance. *Coordinate the first comprehensive national inventory of potential heritage resources.

*Expand and strengthen the tools available to

protect heritage resources.

*Ensure that Federal agencies will consider the effect of their actions on heritage resources.

The plan envisions expanding the National Register of Historic Places by adding three new categories:neighborhoods, cultural landscapes and networks. Networks are a series of related sites, such as a series of canals, lighthouses, trails or monuments located in a dispersed pattern on the landscape.

The plan also aims at transforming the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation into a "Council on Heritage Conservation". The new council would include individuals concerned about the natural, as well as the cultural environment, and would continue to be an independent agency of the Executive branch.

These developments have generally been greeted

with enthusiasm by preservationists. Preservation activities are no longer a stepchild of the National Park Service and need not compete with National Park sewer systems for funding. In press releases, and in a speech to the annual conference of State Historic Preservation Officers in February, Secretary Andrus has expressed commitment to preservation activities and to the new agency. Chris Delaporte represents intelligent, dynamic and powerful leadership. While having a background in recreation and parks, Delaporte has already demonstrated a keen interest in preservation and has dispelled some of the main anxieties of preservationists. For example, he has assured preservation officers that he has no plans of having state preservation officers report to the existing regional offices of BOR. State preservation plans need not be merged with recreation plans, and preservation funding is to be judged on its own merit. He plans to set up task forces in the near future to identify issues in the preservation movement and explore new alternatives for confronting our problems.

Some questions remain, however. Much was made, initially, of the need for maximum public participation and a new emphasis on comprehensive survey; no mechanism is offered. A great need for more planning approaches to preservation and for sensitizing other Federal programs has been identified, but no promise exists. Another concern is that HCRS will turn preservation back to the days of rarified standards and "buy it or forget it". The "Memorandum of Understanding" between BOR and NPS, establishing the transfer of preservation activities to the new agency, makes far too many references to properties of "national significance" for us to feel secure.

Chris Delaporte has been to California, has met with CPA Board Members, and has impressed us all. As substantial planning of operational details continues, we encourage you to, first, get a copy of The National Heritage Program from the Department of the Interior, Washington D.C. 20240, attention, Chris Delaporte, Director, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service; ask, too, for the "Issue Identification Format". Read with care and communicate your ideas and concerns to Chris Delaporte.

Please Note

The Los Angeles Conservancy, dedicated to the protection and enhancement of Los Angeles' unique urban landscape, is in early organizational stages. The Conservancy, with broad regional representation, has defined three major goals: awareness, assistance, action - positive programs ranging from education and information to acquisition and impact on public and private policy that affects the important features of Los Angeles' urban character.

Incorporation and application for tax-exempt status are underway, a Board of Directors has been formed, and committees are now at work. A major membership drive for this Fall is being planned along with a major public event. Watch for upcoming announcements in the CPA Newsletter. At this time, inquiries and offers of assistance may be directed to The Los Angeles Conservancy, via Margaret Bach, 140 Hollister Avenue, Santa Monica 90405.



Photo courtesy of San Francisco History Room, San Francisco Public Library

CITY GUIDE TOURS

The San Francisco City Guides Program, with 66 new graduates (see last Newsletter), announces the following tours beginning May 1:

City Hall-Civic Center: Every Thursday at noon, every Saturday at 10 am. The tours take about 1 1/2 hours and begin in the San Francisco History Room, 3rd floor, Main Library, 200 Larkin Street.

San Francisco Fire Department Museum: Thursdays through Sundays, Guides will staff the Museum from 1-5 pm and conduct tours at 2 pm and 3 pm. The Museum is on Presidio between Pine and Bush Streets.

Large groups should call in advance so that extra Guides can be scheduled. Special tours can often be arranged by calling at least two weeks in advance. Several City Guide volunteers are bi-lingual, and tours can be arranged in Spanish, French and German.

For information, please call or write City Guides Coordinator, Judith Waldhorn, San Francisco History Room, Main Library, Civic Center, San Francisco 94102, 558-3949, Tuesday through Saturday, 9am-6pm.

AN ADDED ATTRACTION

A brochure with a map and a guide to the structures in San Francisco's Civic Center has just been prepared as part of the City Guides program of the San Francisco History Room. Please send 25 cents and a stamped, legal-size, selfaddressed envelope to City Guides, San Francisco History Room, Main Library, Civic Center, San Francisco 94102.

Events

CPA has coordinated the historical preservation session of the American Institute of Planners' annual state conference to be held at the Del Monte Hyatt House in Monterey on the afternoon of April 21, 1978. Mardi Gualtieri, CPA President will introduce the program.

Len McVicar, President of Townscape, Inc. of Los Gatos and Joe Hall, Senior Planner, City of Santa Cruz will present overviews on the topic of "Hidden Heritage - Resources in the Small Community: Finding It and Mining It". The twopart program is designed to involve the audience in discussion groups. The "finding it" portion of the program, covering identification and protection, will include public and private financing of historic properties; the "mining it" portion will focus on the commercial re-use of older buildings.

For further information, contact Charles Rowe at the City of Watsonville, (408) 722-3551.

"The Politics of Preservation" (April 14-15) a conference at Pitzer College, includes exhibits, tours and films. Local preservationists and State and Federal officials will participate in panel discussions on preservation · esthetics and philosophy, as a creative urban conservation technique, as a local action program. Contact Michael Goldstein, Pitzer College, Claremont, (714) 621-3177.

The La Paloma Guild of the Fresno City and County Historical Society will host its third annual Home Tour May 21 from noon to five pm. Vintage Fresno homes on the tour, some still occupied by members of original families, include a variety of architectural designs. Displays and a tea and sweet shoppe will provide a rest stop. For tickets, send a self-addressed, legal-sized envelope and \$5 a ticket to: La Paloma Guild Home Tour, 6110 North Briarwood, Fresno 93711.

The National Commission on Neighborhoods (reported in our last Newsletter) plans a hearing in California May 19-21 in a yet unnamed community; it is important for preservationists to attend this hearing. Contact the Commission, 2002 K Street NW, Room 350, Washington DC 20006 or TELACU (213) 724-0276, for complete information. Watch the newspaper for an announcement; we will pass the word when we learn more.

Preservation Action

1978 Priorities

*Full \$100 million funding for the F/Y 1979 Na-

tional Historic Preservation Fund.
*Implementation of 70%-30% funding for survey and planning in the states.

*Revision and simplification of the regulations for the Historic Structures Tax, to encourage widespread use.

*Redefinition of program formulas in HUD, Economic Development Administration, Public Works, to allow more preservation projects to qualify for funding.

*Development of a National Bank for Historic Preservation.

Publications

Anthropology in Historic Preservation by Thomas King, et. al. (Academic Press, NY,1977) provides an informative discussion of environmental review steps and the "Section 106" requirements of federally assisted projects. Valuable tips on how to monitor and participate in these processes at the local level appear as "The Citizen Activist and Cultural Resources: A Guide to Strategies."

Renewal of Place by Ann Beha (Department of Architecture, MIT) is a thoughtful view of a planner/architect's encounter with a huge urban church, a diminished congregation and the need to preserve and adapt an important landmark to meet new community needs.

Design Guidelines for Victorian Neighborhoods; for the City of Alameda by Luxenberg and Alff, Consultants, is a brief but substantial Handbook on Restoration, available from the Planning Department, City of Alameda (\$2.00).

Congratulations to the Native American Heritage Commission, Dale Risling and Steve Rios. February saw the publication of "The Native California Indian Newsletter"; crammed with information, services and issues, this well-designed quarterly promises to expand the awareness and participation of the Indian community in State politics. Copies are available from: OPR, 1400 Tenth St., Room 109, Sacramento 95814.

Charles Hall Page and Associates has produced the Whittier Uptown Design Plan for that Southern California city. Compare this document with the West Colorado Plan done by the Arroyo Group for Pasadena. Both plans attempt to revalue areas of these communities ignored too long and both suggest cosmetic means to "make do" instead of waste valuable urban resources. We warn that neither is a "restoration" plan; both emphasize graphics and landscaping and disregard social economics, but both are worth studying for ideas for revitalization. Contact the planning departments of Whittier and Pasadena for copies.

Once again Napa and its survey effort has produced good work, this time a creation of National Trust intern Mary Moffit. Napa Landmarks, Inc. has just issued walking guide brochures for Calistoga, St. Helena and Yountville. The intent of the guides is to assist residents and visitors who wish to learn about the history and architecture of the three communities through self-guided tours. Free copies are available at Napa Landmarks, Inc., P.O. Box 702, Napa 94558.

CPA is continually pleased to see member organizations produce new and better publications with broadened scope. New on the scene is the Heritage Association of Santa Barbara, by CPA Board member Judith Orias; Jim Marrin and Jane Ellison continue to improve Pasadena Heritage, while Landmark News, from John Whitridge and Judith Munns, shows more energy each issue.

Richard Hedman, Chief of Urban Design, San Francisco Department of City Planning, has asked CPA members to comment on draft guidelines his staff has prepared for helping architects and homeowners design new buildings and remodel older ones in a way that harmonizes with existing structures. The draft guidelines are val-

uable to planners and architects and others interested in the revival of older neighborhoods. For a preliminary copy, please write to Mr. Hedman, 100 Larkin Street, San Francisco 94102.



News from around the State

Reports from Los Angeles are that Watts Towers is disintegrating - chunks falling away from the metal frame. A restoration is planned but an immediate problem has arisen. The City, to stabilize the deterioration and protect against rain, has wrapped parts of the structure, creating a hot house effect contributing to deterioration by accelerating spalling and rust. We hope to report correction of the mistake and an intelligent approach to restoration of one of the world's most famous folk art creations in upcoming newsletters. For an immediate situation report, contact CPA Board Member Bill Burkhart or Jean Morgan (213) 463-9677, a long-time member of the Citizens' Committee to Save Watts Towers.

The latest word on the Alternate Codes for Historic Structures is that a final draft has been prepared, will be edited, and finally released this Summer. We will review the Code in our next Newsletter.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN HOLLYWOOD

It has often been said that Hollywood is a state of mind, not a geographical entity. But there is in fact a real physical place, and it has been having the blues in middle age. For the first time in Hollywood history, there is a move to capitalize on the urbanity and imageability of the place, and to bring it to new eminence as a major Los Angeles center. And the hidden glories of its remaining Revival, Deco and Moderne movie palaces, studios, stores and office buildings may be providing an armature for this effort.

Hollywood Revitalization, with Rusty Flinton as Director, is organizing the program, drawing in federal, city and private dollars and focusing, though not exclusively, on the Hollywood Boulevard area. This public/private corporation is a most remarkable alternative to designation of

Hollywood as another of Los Angeles' urban renewal areas. What makes this feasible is the high level of resources despite the area's decline, such as a creditable tourist business, thriving legitimate and movie theatres, potential consumer and office markets and much remaining film, TV and record business.

Central to the thinking and planning has been that the physical place of Hollywood is itself a museum for the state of mind, the history, and the industry of Hollywood. The fantasy and fervor of the heyday of movies is still captured by those exquisite and excessive facades, theatre interiors, building ornaments and signs (presently overwhelmed by the competing signs of a deteriorating commercial strip).

The preservation task in Hollywood is enormous, but should be extraordinarily rewarding, not only for the mystique which surrounds it but more concretely for the unique buildings and interiors which vanish so quickly from Los Angeles. The threat of a new earthquake ordinance and of higher density development make historic designations critical. As a first step, Hollywood Revitalization has contracted with the State Office of Historic Preservation to begin a comprehensive cultural resource survey. An organization, Historic Hollywood, is expected to follow - Fran Offenhauser

If You Want White Domes, Try D.C.

At our Fresno meeting, CPA membership resolved to fight for a full, authentic restoration of the State Capitol Dome to its 1910 appearance, as was the restoration intent. The present mustard color, a 1940's treatment, obscures the earlier green patina of copper. John Worsley, project architect, is quoted in the <u>Sacramento Bee</u>, March 23, as saying the color of the dome "...is a political rather than historical or esthetic question." Whose politics say white? We want a return to copper; could support maintenance of the long familiar mustard strung with lights. The issue is before Assemblyman Louis Papan's Joint Rules Committee, State Capitol, Sacramento 95814. Write urging them to give us 1910, give us 1978, but not Washington white.

Membership News

SPECIAL: SACRAMENTO AREA LOBBY TO FORM

Sacramento area CPA members, existing and potential, are invited to meet and organize; the goal is an effective lobbying team, both inside and outside State Government. The first meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 17, 1978, 7:30 pm at the home of Susan Larson, 2526 "N" Street, Sacramento. For more information, contact Sharon Frank, (916) 444-3040. Come prepared to influence. Other metropolitan areas should consider doing the same so that the network grows.

CPA SEEKING NEW IDEAS, EDITOR FOR THIS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

As reported in the last issue, we are still looking for someone to take over publication of the <u>Newsletter</u>. The Editor and Graphics





Sacramento landmarks, the Elks' and 926 J Buildings; see them May 6 at the CPA meeting.

people say, "Enough". The job requires infinite patience, a friend with graphic ability, and willingness to give many hours. If you have ideas, ambition, a masochist streak, write: Editor, CPA Newsletter, P.O. Box 2169, Sacramento 95810. Soon.

CPA BOARD ELECTIONS - NOMINATIONS OPEN

Mrs. Jo Young, 1586 Hester Avenue, San Jose 95126, has been appointed Elections Coordinator for 1978. She will receive and file all nominations for the three Board of Director positions prior to the Annual Meeting May 6th in Sacramento. She requests that the permission of the nominee be obtained prior to the nomination.

Board members serve a 3 year term and must be able to attend quarterly meetings in various parts of the state on the second Friday evening of July, November, February and May.

Ballots, together with candidate information, will be mailed to CPA members in good standing after May 20.

HELP PROTECT NATURAL AND MAN-MADE RESOURCES

Californians for Preservation Action enters its fourth year of commitment to the preservation of our vital cultural environment; Join us with your heart and checkbook. Write:

CALIFORNIANS FOR PRESERVATION ACTION Post Office Box 2169, Sacramento 95810

□over 62 membership	\$ 7.50
□student membership	7.50
□individual membership	15.00
□family membership	20.00
□sponsor	25.00 or more
□non-member subscriber	15.00

name		
organization		
street address		
city	zip	

CPA Meeting-Sacramento Saturday, May 6

The successful Sacramento preservation program reported in our last newsletter will be highlighted at our annual Membership Meeting and Spring Workshop. CPA and the Sacramento Valley Chapter of the American Institute of Architects will co-sponsor a workshop to be held in downtown Sacramento at the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

"Design Review, Commercial Conservation and Residential Preservation", the topic of the first workshop session will feature slides and lecture by Richard Hastings, Preservation Director, City of Sacramento, assisted by Paula Boghosian, Chairman of the City's Preservation Board. Susan Larson, Preservation Board member and special assistant to the Mayor, will discuss "The Politics of Landmarks - from surveys to ordinances to designation". The Workshop concludes with a slide show by the AIA exploring interesting reuse case studies of homes and buildings in the area.

TIME: 9-9:30 - coffee and registration

9:30-noon - workshop

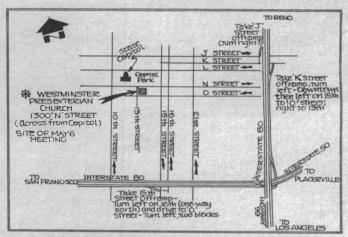
noon-1:30 - lunch on your own 1:30-3:30 - CPA Annual Meeting

(All welcome)

WHEN: Saturday, May 6, 1978

WHERE: Westminster Presbyterian Church

1300 "N" Street, Sacramento (see map)



The Board of Directors of Californians for Preservation Action solicits your requests for advice and assistance. We live all over California and we aren't poobahs. Call us:

Santa Barbara: Judith Orias (805) 687-9419 San Francisco: Hal Major (415) 771-4500

Judith Waldhorn (415) 647-7470

Sacramento: John Merritt (916) 456-9479
Los Gatos: Mardi Gualtieri (408) 354-1943
Los Angeles: Beverly Bubar (213) 549-2920

Bill Burkhart (213) 381-3351 Sam Diego: Richard Reed (714) 270-7497 Mill Valley: Roger Scharmer (415) 383-4070

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