

FootPrints

Dedicated to Preserving and Promoting Historic Resources in the Truckee Meadows through Education, Advocacy and Leadership.

FALL 2023 ■ vol. 26 nos. 3-4 ■

HRPS HARVEST OF HOMES TOUR Saturday, September 23, 2023

ith COVID-19 hopefully in our rearview mirror, HRPS has been working diligently to seek out historic and unique properties throughout the city to bring back our most popular event, the Harvest of Homes Tour. We weren't sure we could pull it off this year, but we're happy to announce that it is back for 2023! So mark your calendars for Saturday, September 23, 2023. We believe we have lined up an interesting and eclectic group of featured homes for your enjoyment this year.

Five of our homes fall into an exciting decade for growth in Reno: 1927-1937. However, this doesn't mean they are similar in appearance. Exteriors include stone, brick, wood and stucco and our homes range in size from 901 to 3788 square feet. The sixth, "Our Old Lady," is a delightful home, possibly "a relocate" from the early days of Virginia City. But what all the homes do have in common are character and great history and we know you will love them.

Since our debut in 2010, HRPS has featured an incredible 52 different homes! Throughout the years, we have had requests from participants who missed some of the tours to "rerun" certain homes, so in 2018 and 2019 we began including one "encore home." This year we are doubling up and including two of our previous offerings; one from 2011, our second tour, and one from 2014. These homes will be new to many of you, but if not, you will see changes including a remodeled but still "period" kitchen and a wonderful tiny house in a corner of a beautiful garden.

Another addition to our home tour occurred in 2018 when we decided to

feature one adaptive reuse property on each future tour. It often happens that a structure that was once a home is given a new identity as an office, particularly when it occupies what has become a more commercial area of town. We especially appreciate those buildings that retain their outward residential appearance, with attractive landscaping and minimal signage. It's also nice when they have retained some of the home's original character inside. We think you will appreciate how this year's business blends seamlessly within a largely residential neighborhood.

HRPS is looking forward to showing you these examples of Reno's residential history. We know you will enjoy this year's offerings.

We describe the 2023 homes below, ordered by date built.

Our Old Lady 611 Humboldt Street (c. 1860-1890)

This home, sitting unobtrusively behind a lovely yard that resembles an English garden, is a true surprise. Its origins are uncertain; one source says it was moved from Virginia City in three sections to the lot on Humboldt Street near the end of the 19th century, once the mines dried up and the city shrank from a top population of 25,000 citizens. It is also possible it was three separate structures combined to make one home, or constructed over time at its current site, as a series of owners added on to the original structure. The one thing that is certain is that portions of the home are very old as attested to by the wood used and square nail construction. The current resident is an architect who purchased the home in 2001, and has made it her own with a large lower level and wonderful patio area. She is a lover of wood, and it shows in the tasteful solid wood windows and trim she has used in the newer portions of the home. Many other materials have been repurposed in creative ways. This is truly one of the most unique homes we have ever featured.





HRPS Harvest of Homes Tour

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Costello House/ Westside Dental Studio 620 Humboldt (c. 1927)

This adaptive reuse property is our next oldest home of the tour and a prime example of a straight-up Craftsman Bungalow, with its exposed roof beams and wide front porch. Most were constructed of brick, popular throughout Reno where bricks were more plentiful and less costly than wood. For its first 25 years or so, it was home to several families who likely appreciated a well-kept residential neighborhood within walking distance of downtown. In the mid-1950s, a radiologist located his office here. From that time on, the home experienced a new life as office quarters for a group of adjustors, attorneys and other professionals. In 2021, it was remodeled to accommodate dental offices. The original large brick fireplace was retained in what is today the waiting room.

Melton Manor 1127 Codel Way (c. 1929)

This home is so special we had to bring it back to our tour a second time. The architectural style is Period Revival Eclecticism. The owners' name for it is Melton Manor and it is filled with an eclectic collection of art objects and paintings, some done by its resident artist. This home was built on two lots and features a lovely garden with mature trees and other greenery. There are outdoor seating areas scattered throughout and two patios for entertaining. According to the owner, this was the original model home for the University Terrace development in the late 1920s, but when the stock market crashed the year it was built, building ceased in the neighborhood for at least a decade.





Hill/Redfield House 370 Mt. Rose Street (c.1931)

Instantly recognizable, this is one of the most fascinating and important homes in Reno. The style is Tudor Revival, possibly on the edge of Jacobean Revival, due to the parapet and gable roof. Built entirely of native Truckee Meadows river stone atop a natural knoll, it originally had unobstructed city, ranch land and mountain views. When built, it was intended as a top/ bottom duplex, with a large basement and two garages below, to accommodate relocated New Yorker August Hill, his son William and William's wife. The Hills had come to Reno in the early 1920s and established Hill & Sons Real Estate, buying up a great deal of land in the Sierra Vista Addition. For whatever reason, they put up their stunning home for sale shortly after its completion. Following one short-time owner, the eccentric LaVere Redfield, fell in love with the home and occupied it until his death in 1974.



Holly Cottage 950 Joaquin Miller Drive (c. 1931)

This unique home will delight you, both with its fabulous exterior and cozy, somewhat rustic interior. Developer W. E. Barnard was known for his unique and architecturally significant homes built from the mid-1920s through the mid-1930s in Reno. According to the city directory, Barnard lived in this house himself for its first year. Barnard built primarily in the northwest University Terrace area and the Old Southwest, including this stunning example in the Newlands Manor Addition. It is believed that he used pattern books which were popular in the era of the home. You could select a home that appealed to you and then order a set of plans. You would then engage a builder to construct it on your lot. Barnard likely built many of the homes in this neighborhood from these patterns, as the styles vary considerably. This home and its nextdoor neighbor could both be classified as Cotswold Cottages; they would both be completely at home in the English countryside or as they are today, on lovely Joaquin Miller Drive.

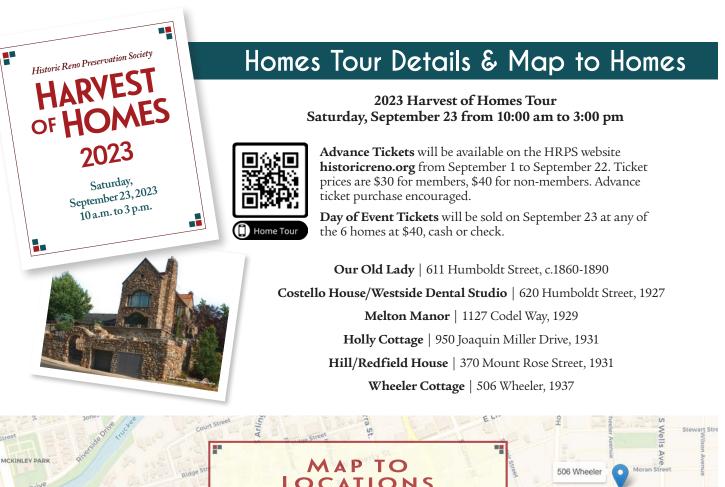
Wheeler Cottage 506 Wheeler Avenue (c. 1937)

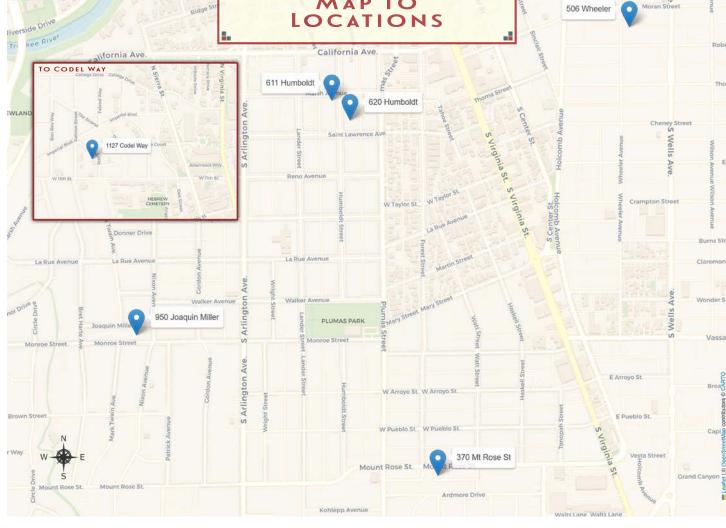
We bring this delightful Wells Addition home back a second time from our 2014 Home Tour. It's a style known as Minimal Traditional with a Tudor-arched front porch. This style met the national need for good-quality, small homes during the Depression and up through the war years, and this neighborhood is filled with many lovely examples. The living room has a distinctive coved ceiling and the home has original windows and oak floors. Its owner has utilized her wonderful design talent to enhance the period architectural detail of the home, adding decorative molding and an archway between the kitchen and breakfast room/nook area. An early resident of this home included a woman who was a musical child prodigy and performed many concerts for Reno residents over the years. The home has a cozy, inviting feel that immediately welcomes all who enter.



Advance Ticket Sales for HRPS Harvest of Homes Tour

- We are simplifying the ticket process this year. We've decided not to offer local ticket sales. You can purchase your ticket(s) in advance online at historicreno.org, much the way you sign up for our walking tours.
- 2023 Harvest of Homes Tour will be Saturday, September 23 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
- Advance Tickets will be available on the HRPS website historicreno.org from September 1 to September 22. Ticket prices are \$30 for members, \$40 for non-members.
- Tickets will be sold on September 23, 2023 at any of the 6 homes for a price of \$40/pp, purchased with check or cash only but we encourage you to purchase them in advance to expedite our check-in process.
- At any home on the tour, you can check in and receive a wristband that will allow you entrance into all six homes. You are invited to visit our homes in any order; wherever you wish to start, our friendly check-in volunteers will be ready to sign you in, fit you with a wristband, and give you your program so you can step back in time and visit Old Reno with us.





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THE FENWICK'S STORY

n September of 1946, my father, O. T. "Fen" Fenwick, moved his family (consisting of my mother Irma, my sister LaVonne and me) to Reno from Forestville, California. He had just recently been hired by the Sherwin-Williams Paint Company to open a company store in a new city. He had two choices: San Luis Obispo, California and Reno, Nevada. Having been born and raised in the San Joaquin Valley and lived in San Jose during the second World War, Dad was tired of fog, so he chose Reno.

Reno was the largest city in Nevada at this time and was just starting to boom. Since houses were not built during the war, there were no houses to rent or purchase and no apartments to rent, so our options were slim. We first lived in the Star Auto Court on East Fourth Street, then Nick & Paul's Auto Court on B Street at the east end of Sparks. We next moved to a new concrete block building on Airport Road. In May of 1947, my parents were excited to find and purchase a house at 2690 West Plumb Lane in a new area of Washoe County just being developed known as Rivermount Park. This would be our home until my parents passed away in the 1980s.

My father found a location for the Sherwin-Williams store in a newlyconstructed building at 1460 South Virginia Street. Today the area is part of the Stremmel Art Gallery. The territory that the store was responsible for covered all of Nevada (excluding Clark County) and California, east of the Sierra Crest from Bishop north to the Oregon border. Until he could hire a traveling salesman, Dad had to travel the entire area and set up dealers in all the small towns.

He made many friends that later stood what would become Fenwick's in good stead with out-of-town customers. During that time, many of the Sherwin Williams officials that Dad had met by Jerry Fenwick



Fenwick's second Reno location at the northwest corner of N. Sierra St. and Commercial Row, #263, in the Traveler's Hotel building. Courtesy Jerry Fenwick.

and worked with were approaching retirement age. When they were let go with various excuses by the company just before they could collect their pensions, my father decided he wasn't going to work and wind up with nothing. He made the decision to go into business for himself, finding a location for the store on the northwest corner of North Sierra Street and Commercial Row at number 263 in the Traveler's Hotel Building. The space had been occupied by Hasco Heating and Supply who had moved to East Fourth Street.

Sierra Street at that time was twoway. It was a major entrance into downtown Reno used by the residents of northeastern California. The building had a large blank side that ran the full depth of the building with only a window on the Sierra Street corner. My father had the blank side painted a brilliant yellow with the word "Fenwick's" stenciled in large black letters. The names of products such as paint, wallpaper, and other items were listed below as they were added to the inventory.

Farther south, toward the river and the center of downtown were the stores that made up Reno's commercial center: Sear's, J.C. Penney's, Montgomery Ward's and the National Dollar Store. Home Furniture, then the largest furniture store in downtown Reno, was also located on Sierra Street. Fenwick's location at the north end, adjacent to the railroad tracks and long-term parking, meant that people shopping at all these major stores had to pass our store.

Since his parting with Sherwin Williams was not completely amicable, Dad looked for a paint company

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The Fenwick's Story

to represent. He found it in the Bishop-Conklin Company, a small independent located in Los Angeles, California. They manufactured both a quality commercial paint line and a do-it-yourself paint line. At the time, there were no permanent interior flat wall paints. Most walls were painted with a water-based material, much like whitewash, in pale pastel colors. Bishop-Conklin had come out with an oil-based line of bright, deep colors. Designers were beginning to decorate with contrasting walls using a dark color or a bright color to either lengthen or optically shorten the appearance of a room. Thus when Fenwick's opened, there was something new and novel to offer the public in the way of interior decorating.

We had many colorful brochures and samples that my mother, my sister and I distributed all over Reno and Sparks — knocking on doors, introducing ourselves and offering a sample, and inviting them to visit our store.

Since the paints were oilbased, they had a distinctive odor that required open windows while they dried. Reno, with its cold winters, didn't offer a year-round time to paint so we had to have something to keep the doors open. That something was wallpaper. We had wallpaper books from various manufacturers on both the East and West coasts and my father created rooms with tables and comfortable chairs where people could leisurely peruse the sample books in comfort and make their selections. This was novel in the Reno area and became very popular. In other stores offering wallpaper, a book was just laid on the counter and customers had to stand and look through it.

Wallpaper was printed with a half inch strip on either side to protect the pattern, and this had to be cut off before the paper could be applied. Always seeking new ways to make products convenient for purchasers, my father found a company that made an electric wallpaper trimmer and purchased one so we could offer pre-trimmed paper at no charge to the customer. We also trimmed other vendors' wallpaper for a small fee.

It was common for paint and wallpaper stores to also carry artist's supplies, such as paints and brushes. Soon we added these to Fenwick's inventory. Since many of the West Coast



A snowy view of N. Sierra St., looking north. Fenwick's is on the left. Courtesy Jerry Fenwick.



Fenwick's third location in the Lakeside Plaza Shopping Center, 145 W. Plumb Lane. The business occupied this location from 1967-1977. Courtesy Jerry Fenwick.

distributors did not seem to carry adequate supplies, my father began to contact the manufacturers' major distributors who were mostly located on the East coast, so that we could deal directly with them. This allowed us to offer a wider variety of materials, many of which were only available locally to our customers through the mail.

When Fenwick's first began to carry art supplies, there was only one other art and framing store in the Reno area, and they were not keeping up with the times when it came to the latest offerings. Having art supplies for sale led to having picture frames for sale to frame the completed art works. We had

> space in the basement, so my father purchased equipment to cut picture molding and assemble it into completed picture frames. Eventually sales of the art supplies and picture frames far surpassed the house paint and wallpaper as a source of income.

As I grew older, I became more and more interested in assembling models of trains, planes and cars. The major model supplier in town was a sporting goods store, and the major model train supplier was a hardware store. I persuaded my father to go into the plastic model business. We found reliable suppliers in the San Francisco Bay area. I built most of our display models and spoke the language of other young model builders. This drew many young people into the store, and then their parents became paint and wallpaper customers.

A local attorney approached me to carry quality brass model railroad locomotives and the supplies and equipment necessary to operate them. These brass locomotives sold then for hundreds of dollars; today it would be multithousands of dollars. Since these were hand-built, supplies were limited and slow to arrive. This led to allotments among the various dealers. Since we were in a smaller customer area, we had access to the same amount of railroad models that the larger cities in California had, and we acquired many California customers because we had in stock what was sold out in their areas.

Although our location on the ground floor of a hotel seemed ideal, there were unanticipated drawbacks. For instance, when it came time to do some remodeling in the Traveler's, it had quite an impact on Fenwick's. A plumber installing new bathtubs forgot to attach a drain to a bathtub in one of the hotel rooms. When the hotel rented the room and the customer went to take a bath, gallons of water came gushing through the ceiling. You might say we were baptized into the business. Later, in 1957 when the first block of North Sierra Street was destroyed by a gas explosion, they were doing some work in the hotel above. When the explosion occurred, I thought the workers had dropped another bathtub.

Another issue with the location was that the downtown streets had been paved over so many times that the crown of the street was as much as a foot, in some cases more, higher than the curb. Most of the buildings had doors that were in the sidewalk that led to the basement below to allow for coal deliveries in early days. When it snowed, and Reno had much more snow then than it has today, we had to keep the gutters clean so that the water could drain off into the storm drains most often located in the alleys. Otherwise, you would wind up with water in the basement. Keeping the gutter/drain clear was often made difficult by people who parked with their car tire right against the curb.

The store existed at this location until 1967 when it and many of the other small stores located throughout downtown Reno were forced out, through the combined efforts of the police and parking enforcement officers who made it miserable to try and shop downtown.



"Fen" and Irma Fenwick with a very serious young Jerry. Courtesy Jerry Fenwick.

These formerly centralized businesses dispersed into the various shopping centers that were being constructed at the time. Fenwick's relocated to 145 Plumb Lane in the Lakeside Plaza Shopping Center where it remained for the next 10 years until my father retired from the business in 1977, and I went to work for the City of Reno. By the time we made the move to West Plumb Lane, our primary business was art supplies, picture framing and models, though we still carried house paint and painting supplies.

One of the important officials in the savings and loan that had the mortgage on our home had a nice home in the Old Southwest. The backyard had quite a slope so that the roof was less than half the distance off the ground as a roof on level ground. At that time, wood-shingled roofs were very common, and they needed to be painted or oiled regularly to keep them from cracking and falling into disrepair in Reno's dry climate. The homeowner decided to do the paint job with the help of his neighbor. We sold him linseed oil and graphite to make the oil black, for the upcoming Saturday job. We were surprised on Saturday afternoon when he came into the store looking like a character from an old-time blackface vaudeville show. It seems that he had failed to follow the rule that required that you start at the top of the roof and work down when you painted so that you didn't slip and slide off the roof. He had slipped when he stepped back into fresh oil and graphite and slid off the roof and into his neighbor. We sold him 5 gallons more of linseed oil. The short distance from the roof edge to the ground and the cushion created by the neighbor prevented any serious injury.

A small business is a wonderful place to meet people and develop friendships. A young lawyer from the Midwest had set up practice in Reno. He and his wife and three children, two boys and a girl, lived in a small house in the Westfield Village development. He

became a customer. My father needed an attorney, and a relationship, as well as friendship developed. The attorney's name was Meade Dixon, who went on to become Bill Harrah's attorney and confidante. Dixon eventually became chairman of the board for Harrah's when it sold to Holiday Inns, following Bill Harrah's death.

Fenwick's was just one of the many "Mom and Pop" businesses that made downtown Reno the biggest and most important city in Nevada. It was the place to be and be seen.

Jerry Fenwick is a nationally recognized photographer, specializing in nature photos. With Neal Cobb, he is author of *Reno Now and Then* as well as *Reno Now and Then II*. Jerry is almost a life-long resident of Reno.

The Historic Reno Preservation Society with the Washoe County Library System Present:

2023-2024 HRPS Speaker Programs

Co-Chairs: Sheryln Hayes-Zorn and Susan Mullen

Held at noon on the second Sunday of the month, the HRPS's free programs offer topics related to Reno's history and culture. There will be no program in December.

Programs are held at the downtown library located at 301 S. Center Street in the lower-level auditorium.

Date: September 10, 2023 at noon

Presenter: Paul McFarlane, Director of the Fleischmann Planetarium and Science Center

Topic: Fleischmann Planetarium turns 60

In November, Reno's Gateway to the Stars, the Fleischmann Planetarium, turns 60 years old. Come discover how a scientist and musician, a visionary architect, a top-notch engineer and construction company, and a curator with an imagination that stretched to the very edge of the cosmos created a unique and historic institution and idea. Their vision was not only to open a Planetarium, but to create something that had never existed before: an Atmospherium, a place which could present the daytime sky as well as the nighttime sky.

Paul McFarlane is the current director of the Planetarium. He has taught K-College students for over 30 years, created interdisciplinary space programs and worked as a writer



and director of film and media projects. He's trained at the Kennedy Space Center, Johnson Space Center and the U.S. Space and Rocket Center and has represented Nevada at Honeywell Educators @Space Academy. For several years he and his wife Jenny operated the first Challenger Center in Nevada, taking thousands of students and teachers on NASAbased simulated missions to the Moon, Mars, and beyond.



Date: October 8, 2023 at noon

Presenter: Matthew Makley

Topic: Sacred Waters, Secular Waters: A History of the Reclamation Act (1902), Pyramid Lake and the Truckee River

The sacred centrality of water for Indigenous communities in the American West has not been enough to protect that water in American courts. As the twentieth century unfolded,



Native communities had to find secular and legally sound ways to protect sacred waters. Nowhere is this clearer than on the Northern Paiute Reservation at Pyramid Lake. This talk will focus briefly on the Reclamation Act of 1902 which set in motion the "Newlands Project." It will then describe the ways the Tribe fought, using the legal system, to reclaim and protect its sacred waters.

Matthew S. Makley, Ph.D., is a professor and chair of the History Department at the Metropolitan State University of Denver. He is the author of *The Small Shall be Strong: A History of Lake Tahoe's Washoe Indians* (2018), which won an American Library Association award for "Outstanding Academic Titles." Born and raised at Lake Tahoe, Makley has lived in Golden, Colorado since 2007.

Date: November 12, 2023 at noon

Presenter: Dr. Michael Fischer

Topic: The History of the Picon Punch

The Picon Punch is a popular adult beverage in northern Nevada bars and Basque restaurants. Find out about its main "ingredient" and the building in which it was first served in Nevada. Trace the "Nevada Drink's" main ingredient from North Africa, where it was used as an anti-malarial, to downtown Reno, and across

the state. Integral now to the Basque Culture, it wasn't always so. This program dispels some incorrect information and brings new information to the fore!

Michael Fischer, D.D.S., is a former dentist and UNR graduate with years of culture affairs service. Fischer served as Director of the Department of Cultural Affairs, on the Western Folklife Center board, the Douglas County Historical Society, the Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority, and the Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society. Vice President of the Nevada Agricultural Foundation, he portrays agricultural pioneer H. F. Dangberg, Sr. and Governor John Sparks in Chautauqua performances. He is a long-time supporter of the conversion of the Dangberg home ranch as an historical attraction.



Previous Speaker Programs Available for viewing on HRPS Website: https://historicreno.org / Archives

HRPS has been offering its Speaker Programs since its inception back in 1998, usually a couple in the Fall and four in the Winter-Spring. Think of how many interesting presentations we have had no ability to capture. COVID has definitely interrupted our ability to offer in-person walks, talks and a home tour, but using Zoom we brought Speaker Programs (and Neighborhood Stories) to you on a regular basis, through your computer. Another amazing advantage is that we were able to record (and edit) the presentations and the questions / answers. The following are available to you to view on the HRPS website historicreno.org at your leisure:

- The Lear Theater (First Church of Christ, Scientist) with Dr. Alicia Barber
- The Archaeology of Burning Man: The Rise and Fall of Black Rock City with Dr. Carolyn White
- The U.P. House with Loren Jahn and Neal Cobb
- American Mountain Men with Larry Walker
- Harolds Club with Neal Cobb







Consider HRPS in your Giving

RENORIE HRPS WATCH LIST



HRPS presents this list of historic properties not to point fingers or to raise alarms, but to generate awareness and appreciation. We want their owners, whether public or private, to know that we care about these places and that we consider them highly significant to Reno's history and worthy of preservation. Lastly, we want to offer our support to help ensure that they can remain safe and protected for years to come. You can find full entries for each property listed below on Reno Historical at **https://renohistorical.org/.**

- 1. Benham-Beltz House (likely 1868/1869), 347 West Street
- 2. Nystrom Guest House (1875), Formerly in 300-block on Ralston Street, now up on blocks off 4th Street, between Washington and Vine Streets
- 3. I.O.O.F. Lodge/Reno Savings Bank (1877), 195 N. Virginia Street
- 4. Reno National Bank (1915), 206 N. Virginia Street
- Howell/Sinai House (1916), 448 Hill Street (Demolished April 2023)
- 6. Piazzo Building (1925), 354 N. Virginia Street

- 7. Southern Pacific Railroad Depot (1926), 135 E. Commercial Row
- 8. Freight House (1931), North side of Greater Nevada Field on Evans Avenue
- 9. El Reno Apartment Homes (1937), 1461 Lander Street
- 10. Solari Building (1938), 1052 S. Virginia Street
- **11. First Church of Christ, Scientist/Lear Theater** (1939), 501 Riverside Drive
- 12. Regina Apartments (1941), 260 Island Avenue























2023 HRPS Walking Tours Finish Where It All Began

Article and Photographs by Amy Burton

tour of the Marsh Addition neighborhood, *Bricks and Stones*, closed the 2023 Walking Tour season Saturday morning, July 29. Fittingly, this year's last tour was the first tour written for the fledgling group that later became the Historical Reno Preservation Society (HRPS). Susan Mullen led the tour with friendly input from the original researcher, author, and first President of HRPS, Pat Klos.

Twenty-one tour guides and 15 rotating volunteers made 23 total tours possible from May through July. The original schedule included 24 tours, but the *Mansions on the Bluff, California Avenue* tour was cancelled due to road construction. Attendance varied from 15-41 walkers and volunteers.



Newlands Mansion: a highlight of the tours is when homeowners come out to visit and share their love of their home. Here guide Pat Cantwell on the Mansions on the Bluff, Court Street tour, and Newlands Mansion homeowners Dan and Melinda Gustin, shared their home's history, bottled water, and hollyhock seeds from the garden.

Tour guides shared stories of historic neighborhoods and downtown landmarks in both Reno and Sparks including the Truckee River and Reno parks with a total of 372 different registered participants, some of whom brought guests. Tour content featured notable homeowners and architects, architectural insights, literary and cultural history, plus a dash of playful gossip from longtime residents and newspaper accounts.

Several participants returned for multiple experiences creating a community of walkers. There were 41 who attended over a two-month period, and 26 committed fans attending over all three months. The most dedicated participant, Stasia Mata, attended 16 of the 23 walks and indicated interest in



Pat Klos (in pink) watches Susan Mullen deliver the final walking tour of 2023, the Bricks and Stones Tour. Pat was the originator of HRPS and of the Bricks and Stones walk.



Realtor Ron Allen greets guests on the El Reno Apartment Walk at his "El Reno Museum," I OO W. Pueblo St.

volunteering next year. Most participants were locals. However, one HRPS-loving couple, lifetime members Butch and Susan Peachy, travel annually from San Diego, CA, to attend the tours and other Artown festivities. Huiliu and Luis Mednick distinguished themselves by attending 10 walks in a row from the end of June through July.

Feedback from a post tour poll indicated that the friendly, helpful

nature of the volunteers was much appreciated, as well as the time and research invested in making these experiences possible. All respondents said it was "highly likely" they would participate in the 2024 Walking Tour season as well.

Amy Burton is our new HRPS Administrator, joining us in May, and a Walking Tour guide. A retired educator, Burton comes to us with a background in research, change management, literacy and journalism. Burton volunteers with the Assistance League of Reno-Sparks and is a member of the Nevada Historical Society, the Nevada Museum of Art, and the May Arboretum.

The City of Reno's HRC Historic Preservation Awards 2023

hough Reno's Historical Resources Commission (HRC) has been a part of the City of Reno since 1993, unless you are the owner of an historic property, you may not know it exists or understand its purpose. I know I didn't, until I joined the commission in 2016, to fill a vacancy.

The HRC is a City of Reno appointed commission consisting of seven members of various professions and qualifications relating to historic preservation. Its official purpose, as stated in the handbook, is "To serve as the official advisor to the City of Reno on matters relating to the historic preservation of cultural resources and buildings." But other significant purposes include granting Certificates of Appropriateness to projects involving properties on the City's Register of Historic Places and in historic districts; educating the citizens of Reno on the benefits of historic preservation; and assisting those with historic properties who may need advice on available resources and materials. The Commission's meetings are held monthly at McKinley Arts & Culture Center. These meetings are public with options to attend in person or virtually (via Zoom). For more information on meeting agendas and how to attend, see the City of Reno's online meeting portal at https:// reno.primegov.com/public/portal.

One of the most important and rewarding things the Commission has done annually since 1997 (except for a brief hiatus due to the pandemic) is to recognize property owners and preservationists through the Historic Preservation Awards program. 2023 was a banner year for the HRC awards—not only were there 19 winners but a new category was announced: The City of Reno Legacy Business Award, created to recognize the city's oldest businesses for their contribution to the community. All 2023 categories and honorees are listed and pictures here.

by Debbie Hinman, HRC Commissioner

In past years, the awards ceremonies have been a small event, including the Commission, the winners and their families, city staff, and the HRC liaison to the City Council. This year our new liaison, Naomi Duerr, felt that with such a large group of awardees, it would be nice to have a grander celebration. Naomi made arrangements with the Elm Estate (also known as the historic Chism Ranch), one of Reno's premier event venues, to host the celebration. The evening of May 11 was warm and sunny and the turnout was large. Elm Estate owner since 2015, Kari Galgon, offered tours of the historic ranch house which has been completely renovated to accommodate its new purpose. City Arts & Culture Manager, Megan Berner, and Management Assistant for Historic Preservation, Melissa Hafey, and Naomi Duerr organized the event. Awards were announced by HRC Commissioners and most recipients were on hand to enjoy the celebration and receive their framed certificates. It was a special evening for all.













Historical Project Northern Nevada African American Firefighter Museum Our Story, Inc.



If you know of a special historic property in Reno that deserves recognition, please visit the City of Reno Historic Preservation website beginning January 1, 2024, when nomination forms will be available. Nominations are due by March 30, 2024. A list of prior award recipients can also be found on the site.

2023 City of Reno Historical Resources Commission Historic Preservation Awards

2023 Non-Residential Award Winner

The Jesse

2023 Residential Award Winner

Rick and Susan Goebel – 815 Maplewood Drive Maggie Stack and Perry Rosenstein – 546 Ridge Street Ken and Dana Yzurdiaga – 300 Nixon Avenue

2023 Historic Landmark Award Winner

Manzanita Hall, University of Nevada, Reno

2023 Historical Project Award Winner

Northern Nevada African American Firefighter Museum - Our Story, Inc.

2023 Distinguished Service Award Winner

Alicia Barber Neal Cobb Carol Coleman

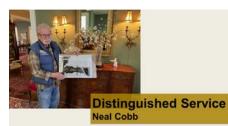
2023 Advocate Award Winner

Ken and Demetrice Dalton Paul Ferrari Melinda Gustin Jerry and Beth Krug Emerson Marcus

2023 Legacy Business Award Winner

Casale's Halfway Club Louis' Basque Corner Miguel's Restaurant Fasani Painting Savage and Son, Inc.















Legacy Business Savage and Son, Inc.











Message from your HRPS Acting President



Hello HRPS members and Friends,

Yes, you are "missing" an issue of *FootPrints*. By the time we got the Spring issue out the door with May to July Walking Tours, we were very much in the midst of Home Tours, and thought we didn't have enough material or time for a Summer *FootPrints*. So, excuse us please if we call this issue Vol. 26, No. 3-4.

Some Home Tour Decisions

Our quest for homes this year got off to a slow start. Perhaps some feared that COVID was not yet through with us, but we quickly had two generous members whose homes had been on previous tours offer to have their homes shown again this year. As we have been frequently asked to "rerun" homes that many have missed, we gratefully accepted their kind offers. Even if you've seen them, they are both well worth a second look. Then the most amazing thing happened when HRPS' creator, Pat Klos, never timid about making an "ask" to benefit HRPS, sealed the deal on the Redfield Mansion. The "adaptive reuse" home was recommended to us, a resident of one of the most charming Old Southwest cottages offered his home and as you will hear below, the final home was obtained during a walking tour. We were late but our fearless Home Tour Committee is on it and we will be ready for you on the 23rd of September!

When we had the last Home Tour in 2019, we didn't have a Membership Management System with an Event Manager. Now we do, and used it successfully with the Walking Tours the last two years. So we made the decision to simplify our Home Tour ticketing, to not have local ticket sales in advance. All advance sales will be through our website. Tickets on the day of the event, Saturday September 23, can be purchased at any of our featured homes, using cash or check, but no credit cards.

Note that we still offer an advance ticket of \$30 for members. Advance tickets for non-members is \$40. And tickets the day of the event will be \$40 for everybody.

Our Walking Tour Season

We had a really successful Walking Tour season and we want to thank Joy Orlich, Amy Burton, John Farrow and Pat Cantwell and all the volunteers and Tour Guides for keeping things running smoothly. Almost every walk was filled to capacity by the day of the event! We probably need to offer more walks next year. We especially want to thank several of our homeowners on the walking tours for going "above and beyond" to enhance the experience for our participants. Shirie Wallace, of the Sewell House on the Monroe Street Walk graciously invited everyone inside to view her stunning living and dining rooms, and the kitchen with its original tile countertops, vintage stove and collection of early spice containers. Dan and Melinda Gustin, of the Newlands Mansion on the Court Street/Mansions Walk, had a table set up with refreshments and gifts for the walkers and Dan gave a brief history of the Newlands Mansion and the Gustins' efforts to maintain the historic qualities of their home. They led the group on a walk through the gardens surrounding the home. Thanks go out to Kay Radzik who fortuitously happened to be outside her Humboldt Street home when the Bricks and Stones Tour came by. HRPS was "down" one house for the tour and Kay generously invited HRPS to use her historic and wonderfully eclectic home in its place, which HRPS gratefully accepted.

Unfortunately, road and curb construction on California forced the cancellation of the Mansions on California walk. We'll offer that walk twice next year to apologize and make it up to our walking tour enthusiasts.

John Ben Snow Grant & Reno Historical

Beginning in July of 2022, HRPS received funds from the John Ben Snow Foundation to support adding content from diverse communities to Reno Historical. To that end, Reno Historical now has a Tour of Black Springs with 18 new articles (and pictures) and new articles about the Jewish community's history. The format of Reno Historical has changed to make use of Curatescape's new features -Curatescape is the software on which Reno Historical is based. Reno Historical currently has 260 Stories and 18 Self-Guided Tours. If you haven't checked out the website: renohistorical.org and the app (QR code on page 16 of this issue), you really should. Reno Historical has a wealth of information!

HRPS New Administrator



Have you met Amy Burton yet? She started as HRPS part-time Administrator mid-May and was immediately thrust into Walking Tour season. She's

taken over our Facebook and Twitter (X) sites, HRPS' publicity and coordination of information for our Walking Tours, Speaker Programs and Home Tours. She has made my life easier by taking on some of the tasks that were on my longlist of to do's. She's very organized. And quick. And helpful. And nice. How lucky we were to find her!

Thanks again for your support,

Carol Coleman board@historicreno.org 775-560-0602

HRPS Lifetime Members

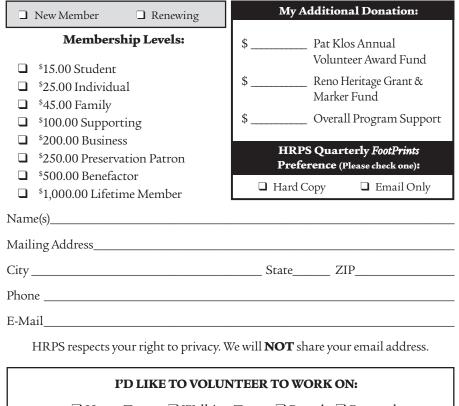
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(*) deceased

HRPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

By joining **Historic Reno Preservation Society,** you are a member of a community group that celebrates Reno's history by sharing information and advocating for our endangered properties.

HRPS offers Walking Tours during the summer, Speaker Programs during the winter, and a Home Tour in fall as a fund-raiser to support our Reno Heritage Fund grants. As a member, you receive our monthly email newsletter and our quarterly publication, FootPrints, to keep you informed about HRPS events, places of historical interest as well as items of concern. HRPS information is on our website, Facebook and Instagram.



□ Home Tours □ Walking Tours □ Board □ Research

Other____

Ways to become a member or renew your membership in HRPS:

- 1) Join or renew on HRPS website historicreno.org using credit or debit card
- 2) Fill out the above form and mail with a check to address below
- 3) Fill out the above form and credit/debit info below and mail to address below

Visa/MasterCard Credit or Debit Card #_____

Exp. Date _____ CVV ____ Name on Card _____

Address (include City, State, Zip) _____

_____ Phone Number____

Historic Reno Preservations Society, P.O. Box 14003, Reno, NV 89507 https://historicreno.org

RV 04-15-2021 / FO-DCD



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