

ORG - 2 ATTACHMENT

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCT 19—BAHA EVENING EVENT

A John Beach Memorial Fund lecture to announce the Capital Restoration Campaign of the South Berkeley Community Church (Hugo Storch, 1912), City of Berkeley Landmark No. 12, an Arts and Crafts treasure. Co-sponsored with the Church. Watch for an invitation in the mail.

FALL—BAHA FRIDAY OUTINGS

Monthly outings to points of interest in Berkeley and beyond. A continuation of last year's popular series. Details to be announced.

NOV 10—PLEASE NOTE EVENT POSTPONED

Leslie Freudenheim's lecture and booksigning celebrating the publication of the new edition of her book, *Building with Nature*, at the First Church of Christ, Scientist, has been postponed until early next year. Details to be announced.

NOV 13—BIRTHDAY PARTY

A birthday party for a 1905 John White-designed house, turning 100 years old! Watch for invitation.

EARLY SPRING—EPHEMERA SALE

A "Spring House Cleaning" sale of ephemera in the Downtown is planned. Details to be announced.

EARLY SPRING—WORKSHOP

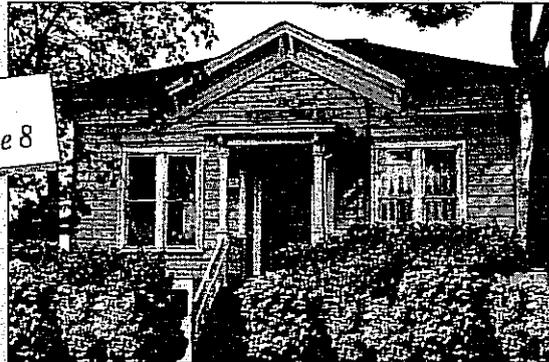
Tentatively planned: preservation workshop co-sponsored by the State Office of Historic Preservation.

MAY 7—BAHA SPRING HOUSE TOUR

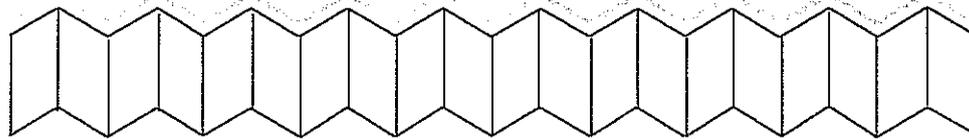
The residential work of architect Walter H. Ratcliff, Jr., will be celebrated to honor the 100th year anniversary of his practice. Details to be announced.

*in this issue —What does the future hold for
Historic Buildings near the Stadium? see page 8*

One such historic building is the John Woolley House (1876), City of Berkeley Landmark No. 126, which stands neglected at 2509 Haste Street. It is one of the oldest surviving houses in the College Homestead Association Tract and was built two years before Berkeley was incorporated. Its presence is a special reminder of Berkeley's earliest days. Claire Coreris photo.



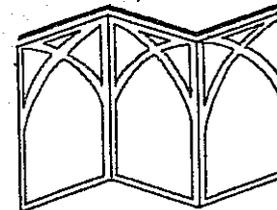
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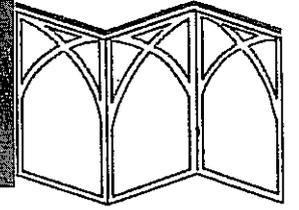
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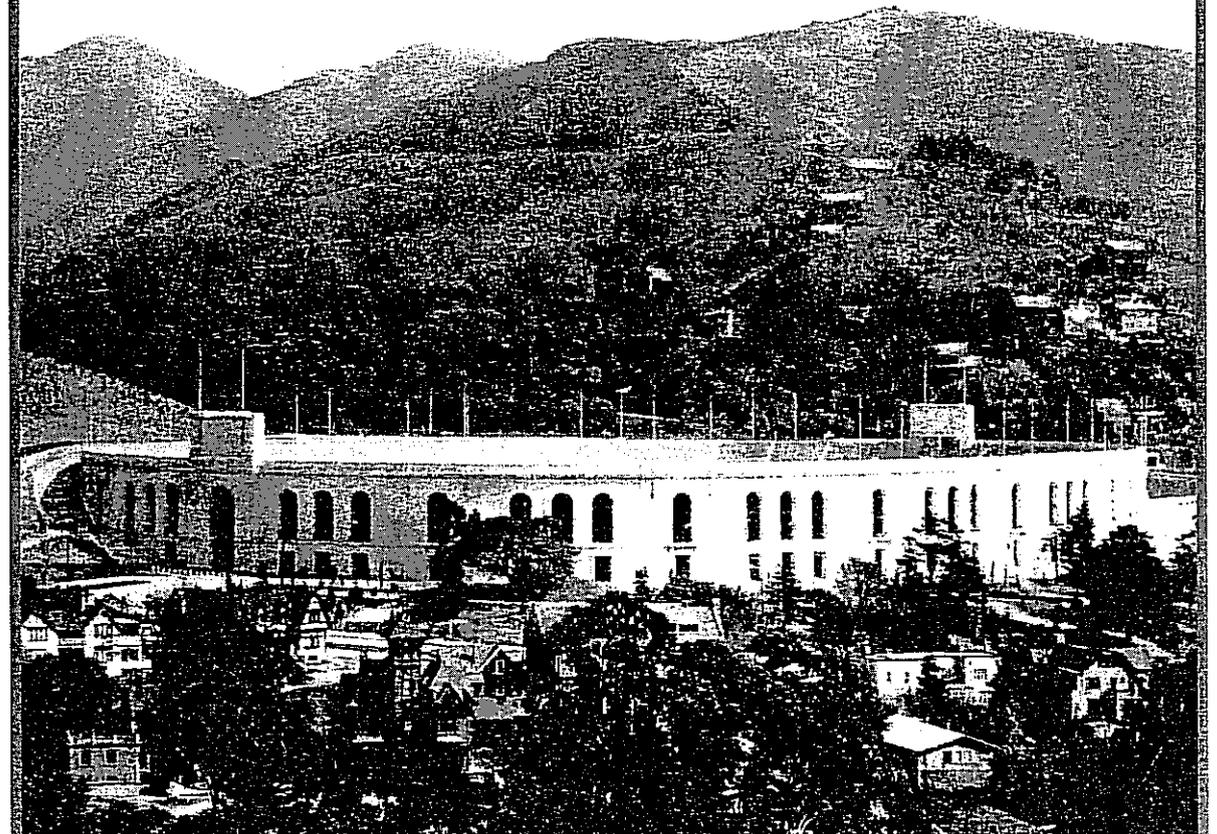
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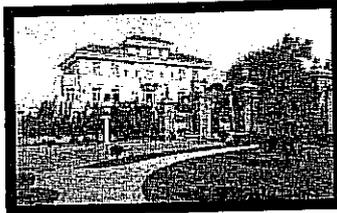


THE BAHHA NEWSLETTER



NO. 119
SUMMER 2005
STADIUM
NUMBER





Claremont Boulevard

THE BAH NEWSLETTER

NO. 119

SUMMER 2005



Piedmont Way

C O N T E N T S

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Cover: The California Memorial Stadium with Strawberry Canyon and Panoramic Hill behind. "Stadium, University of California, Berkeley." Associated Students postcard no. 336, c. 1923. Above left: The entrance gates to Claremont Court on Claremont Blvd. (a section of Ohmsted's "pleasure drive" that was realized in 1907). "Residence Paul O. Tietzen, Berkeley, Cal.," The Alberrype Co. postcard, c. 1915. Above right: Julia Morgan houses on Ohmsted's Piedmont Way (see story on page 8). "Model Homes, Berkeley, Cal.," The Alberrype Co. postcard, c. 1915. Postcards courtesy of Anthony Bruce.

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Anthony Bruce
Lesley Emmington Jones



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BAHA'S MANY FUNDS: GIFTS YOU CAN MAKE

BAHA wishes to encourage those of you who might like to make an extra tax-deductible donation, either to BAH's general fund or to one or more of BAH's standing special funds, including:

Sara Holmes Boutelle Fund. Created to support the identification of historic resources and the writing of City Landmark applications and National Register applications. With additional Boutelle funding, BAH would also like to renew neighborhood and area survey work.

Margo Gwinn Legal Fund. Set up to ensure that BAH has the ability to respond to outstanding preservation issues with the assistance of legal counsel. The recent counsel BAH could give during the LPO revision discussion was a critical factor.

McCreary-Greer House Restoration Fund. BAH is fortunate to have its beautiful historic house in central Berkeley, near the campus and downtown, giving BAH an ideal location for its expanding research materials. Someday, we hope to be able to create more work and storage space in the carriage house!

Publications Fund. For publishing books and pamphlets on Berkeley's architectural heritage.

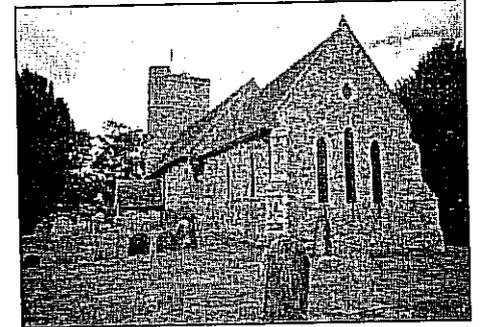
John Beach Memorial Fund. An endowment for architectural lectures.

GIFTS TO BAH

Ladonna Stoppel gave the BAH library a delightful children's book on Ohmsted, called *The Man Who Made Parks* by Frieda Wishinsky. A collection of *California Monthly* alumni magazines and material from Williams College (once located in the Spring Mansion) came from Larry Leon. From Wendy Markel came the sumptuous catalog of the exhibit, "International Arts and Crafts", which she visited at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

SUMMER is fading fast and, with Football Days almost here, the city is getting that Fall feeling. It was an eventful summer, both at home and abroad, as members of BAH traveled far and wide...Germany, the Galapagos, Switzerland, England, the Amazon. And our eyes will be filled with ways others create their environment. I, for one, was enchanted with the *collombage* half-timbered houses of Northern France, the tidy barns and chalets of Switzerland and the strong flint construction of walls, churches and houses in Kent. In Europe the sense of preserved history abounds, but even there changes take place. The most stunning of which was the British "Office of Redundant Churches" offering for sale a glorious 12th Century church which could become a private residence (but it has to stay looking like a church with the grave yard around!). If you are looking for a preservation "crusade", look no further!



For sale! St. Peter's Church, Swingfield, Kent, England.

In light of the City of Berkeley's review of our local preservation ordinance, members of BAH, Landmarks Preservation Commissioners, and City staff attended the California Preservation Foundation and State Office of Historic Preservation's 2005 Workshop Series: "Does your Historic Preservation Program Need a Tune-up?" with sessions on Surveys, CEQA, and "Tune-up your Preservation Ordinance." We also hope to sponsor a similar conference in Berkeley next year, perhaps in one of Walter Ratcliff's wonderful school buildings as a prelude to our Ratcliff House Tour in May.

One of the greatest pleasures associated with BAH is the opportunity to recognize and award those who have done outstanding architectural preservation work throughout the year. I would encourage all members to consider bringing to the attention of the office, by submitting a nomination, the projects that they have noticed and would consider worthy of a preservation award at our Annual Meeting.

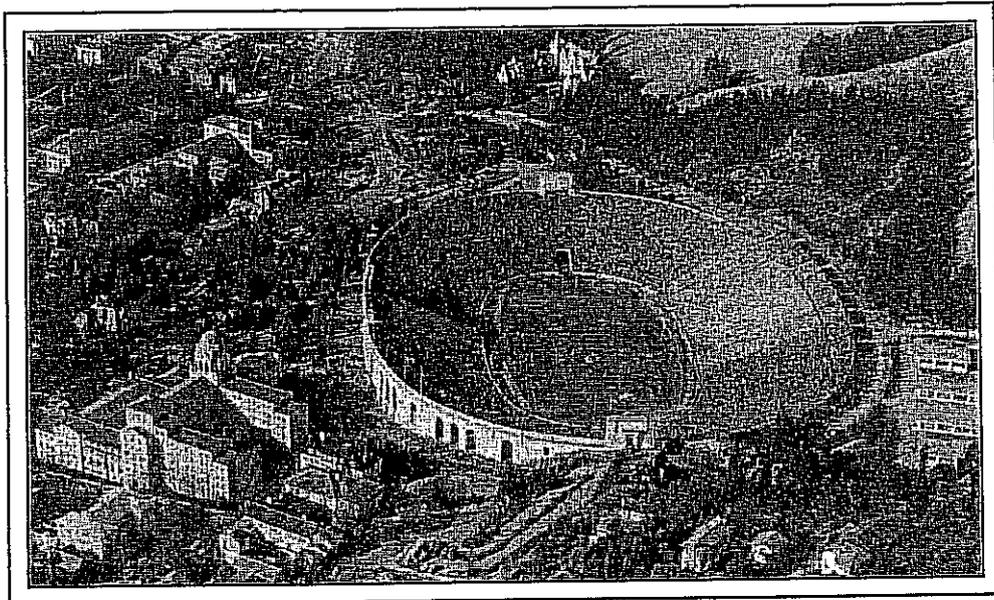
I would like to bring to the notice of all members that BAH is still custodian of the amazing 1886 U.S. patented prefabricated Kenney Cottage (currently on University Avenue), but the City has alerted us that they plan to sell the lot and we have about six months to find a permanent home for our cottage. Time is running out. If any members have an idea they would like to suggest, please contact the office.

And, if you *do* attend any football games in Memorial Stadium this Fall, please take into account the pleasures of the beautiful natural setting and the splendid architecture. If the construction project goes ahead, this may be the last opportunity to recognize John Galen Howard's original design.

Our concern about the Stadium project, and its effect on the historic resources in the vicinity, is the theme of this Newsletter, with three articles beginning on page 4, page 6, and page 8. Also read the story on page 10 to learn the significance of one of the nearby historic houses—the Cheney Cottage, City of Berkeley Landmark No. 139.

On a brighter note...do stop by our booth on the Solano Stroll on September 11th, and plan to attend the evening BAH is co-hosting at the Mission style South Berkeley Community Church on October 19th!

Wendy Markel,
President



California Memorial Stadium filled to capacity on Big Game Day. 1940s photo postcard courtesy of Anthony Bruce.

THE CALIFORNIA MEMORIAL STADIUM

John Galen Howard's Beaux-Arts Coliseum in a Sylvan Setting

THE California Memorial Stadium (John Galen Howard, 1921) is tucked into the base of the Berkeley hills, comfortably perched at the mouth of Strawberry Canyon. It was built "in thankful memory of those Californians who in the War of Nations gave their all that we might live," and was completed just in time for the 1923 Big Game. The dimensions of this grand *Beaux-Arts* structure "slightly exceed the great Coliseum of Rome." Although it is elevated on the eastern edge of the sloping campus, the Stadium is barely visible today from most vantage points due to the intervening years of tree growth and building construction that now obscure the dramatic eastward vista.

Strawberry Canyon was not John Galen Howard's first choice as a site for Memorial Stadium, in part because the site required massive excavation. Howard's preference was a site near the downtown (now Edwards Field). But pressure from trustees and the fact that a portion of the Strawberry Canyon site was already owned by the University forced the issue. Whatever the drawbacks might have been to the Strawberry Canyon location—including the fact that the Hayward Fault runs through the site—and in spite of significant protest at

the time, including a letter signed by William G. Corlett, Henry H. Gutterson, Bruce Porter, Walter H. Ratcliff, Jr., and Walter T. Steilberg, the mechanical problems were thought to be solvable with engineering solutions, such as culverting the creek, dynamiting Charter Hill for landfill, and placing expansion joints between the concrete sections.

Being out of sight, the Stadium is also out of mind, except on Game Days when the traffic increases and parking places are at a premium. It was not built as close to public transportation as was originally desired. The 1920s subscription brochure boasted that "1200 machines would be able to park within a half-mile radius of the Stadium..." even then realizing that most would drive rather than travel by streetcar. Today, the norm still is the expectation that the Stadium is reached by way of two-lane, mostly residential streets.

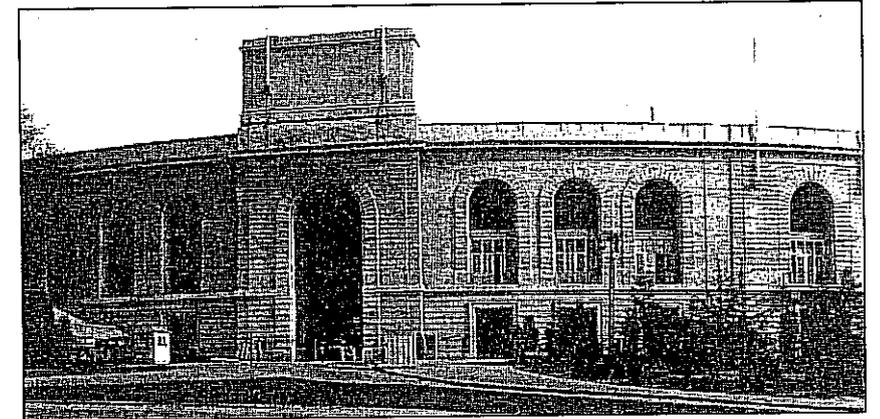
Very little parking is available around the Stadium because it was built without parking lots and the few that exist were tucked in later. However, attendees *do* seem to find parking on city streets for these special events—sometimes as far as two miles distant—and the walk to the Stadium has become part of the annual Game

Day tradition. Walking through Berkeley's residential neighborhoods is enjoyable, and Game Day even offers the opportunity to show off our town to visitors!

The parking problems have never been solved, partly because automobile access to the Stadium is limited by the geography. There is limited egress east through the hills, while leaving the Stadium *en masse* from other directions is restricted by the narrow residential streets of the historic neighborhoods separating the Stadium from downtown and major arterials.

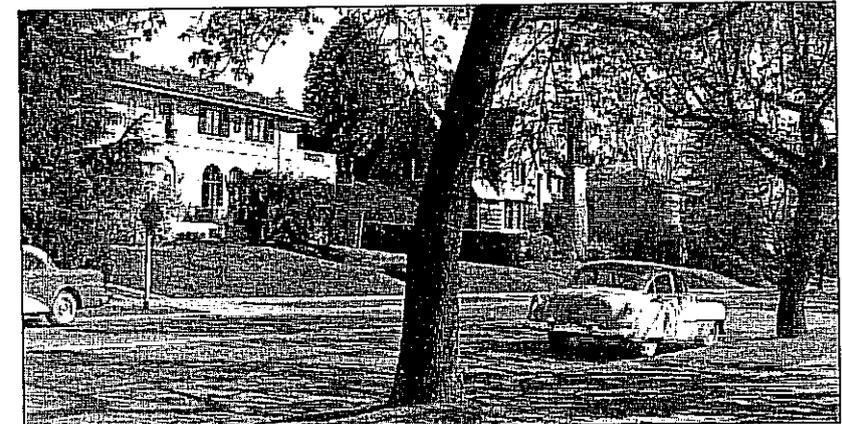
In fact, those who might complain that Memorial Stadium has a disadvantage to other "PAC-10" stadiums, e.g. Stanford Stadium and Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, which, we understand, have 10,000 and 8,200 on-site parking spaces, respectively, are unaware of the added attractions that give Berkeley's Game Days a sense of tradition and gaiety. They need to experience such activities as following the Cal Marching Band along Piedmont Way or feeling the camaraderie among the small groups as they walk along Berkeley's streets after a game, sharing football sentiments.

The paucity of close-by parking lots has proved to be advantageous to the academic setting of the campus



The monumental North Entrance to the Stadium. 1920s photo postcard courtesy of Anthony Bruce.

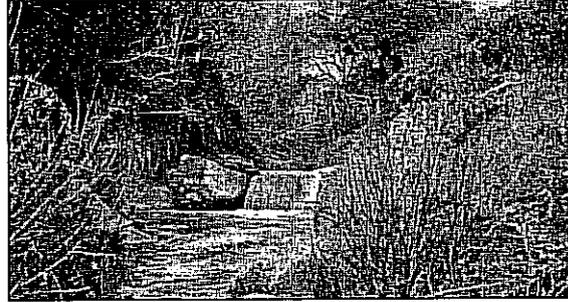
because it has fortunately prevented more intense commercial use of the Stadium over the years. Now that the Stadium is due for a seismic retrofit, there is fear that the pressures from the Sports Entertainment Industry might cause the University to lose sight of its mission, its college traditions, and its historic setting. Might the Stadium then lose its architectural dignity? —be expanded? —be raised in height? Might it be used for night games? —concerts? —other commercial uses? Any of which, with the accompanying increase in traffic and noise, would be devastating to surrounding neighborhoods. The activity attending the half dozen or so Game Days during the year lends a festive atmosphere to the town; anything more would strain the delicate balance between town and gown to the limit.



Homes with traditional front gardens along tree-shaded Belrose Avenue, familiar to many who have walked to Cal's football games. These homes are within the gracious Claremont Court subdivision (1907), laid out by Charles Huggins for Duncan McDuffie, who patterned his subdivision developments after the principles espoused by Frederic Law Olmsted. Betty Jane Nevis photo, c. 1955. BAHA Archives.

STRAWBERRY CANYON, "A MOUNTAIN GORGE" Berkeley's Natural Landscape Framing the Stadium

Strawberry Canyon is the most frequented tramp in Berkeley, perhaps because one may stroll along the upper creek bed and lose sight of all that reminds him [sic] of a town—forget, for a little while, streets, and houses, and gardens...and books. Running between the walls of the hill, over a tumbled bed of boulders, and through regular tunnels of oak and laurel and willow, and tangled disorder of creeper and fern, Strawberry Creek has an untamed beauty and waywardness that pleases as no garden or park-land can. —1903 Blue & Gold



A waterfall in the mouth of Strawberry Canyon that vanished during the construction of the Stadium. Postcard courtesy of Anthony Bruce.

canyon slope was dense with coast live oaks and scrub. The creek itself, strengthened by contributions from such tributaries as Chicken Creek, Ten Inch Creek, Ravine Creek, Banana Creek, and Botanical Garden Creek, was once so copious as to be the primary water supply for the emerging university, and, in fact, the reason for choosing the Berkeley site in 1858.

When Frederick Law Olmsted was hired by the College of California in 1865 to lay out the Berkeley Property Tract for a gracious residential neighborhood adjacent to the campus, he identified this "mountain gorge" and flowing creek waters as nearby amenities:

As this road [what became known as Cañon Road and eventually anglicized to Canyon Road] follows a stream of water from the open landscape of the bay region into the midst of the mountains it offers a great change of scenery within a short distance, and will constitute a unique and most valuable appendage to the general local attractions of the neighborhood.

Today the canyon continues to be an amenity for all who have discovered its fire trails, wandered its deer paths, and climbed down its steep creekbanks. Not just utilitarian, the fire trails meander through the hills offering solace and inspiration.

The Botanical Garden found its home here in the 1920s, moving from the center of the campus. Aside from these cultivated gardens, the canyon enchants with its own abundant native flora. Amelia Sanborn Allen, a local resident who was an avid birdwatcher and wife of Classics Professor James Turney Allen, once wrote:

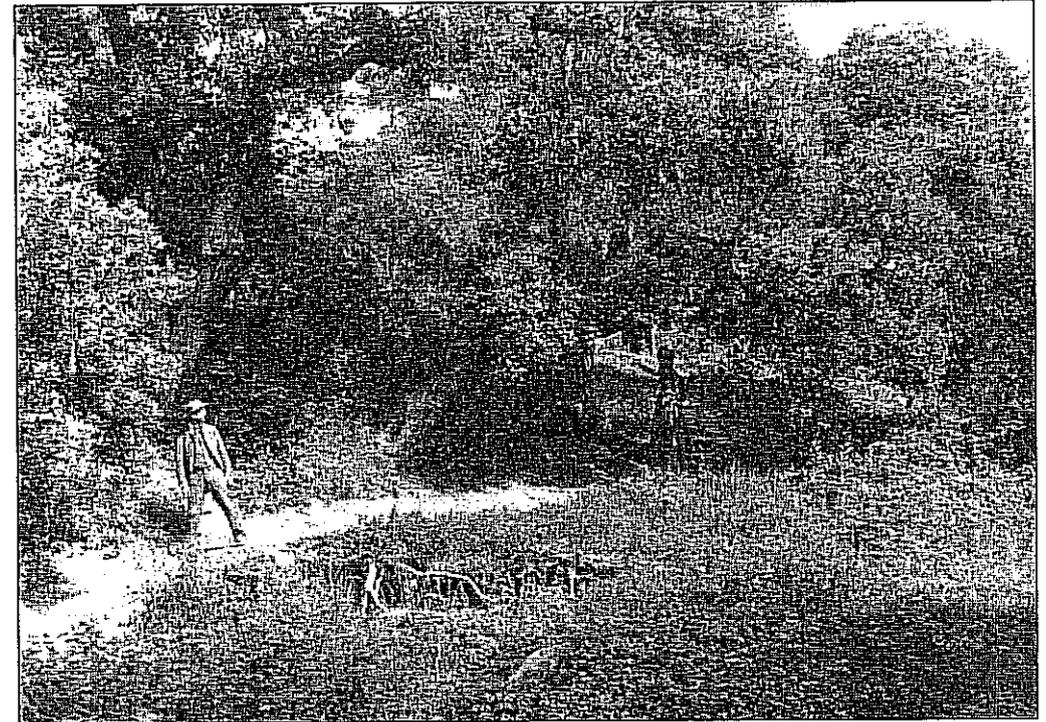
To the north and east the oak forest is continuous, interspersed with bay trees; and there is a dense undergrowth of hazel, cascara, poison oak, spiraea, wild rose, snow-berry, wild currant, blackberry and brakes, with thimble-berries and wild parsnip filling the cross ravines.

THE awesome beauty of the Strawberry Canyon setting was undoubtedly the compelling, and ultimately persuasive, reason for the final choice for the Stadium site. The view looking east was to the residential neighborhood of Panoramic Hill and the undeveloped land of Strawberry Canyon, and the view to the west was to the San Francisco Bay and the Golden Gate. A more spectacular setting for a stadium could hardly be found—can hardly be found—anywhere in the world. And so it came to be that the California Memorial Stadium was located at the mouth of a canyon.

Strawberry Canyon was always a place to explore, a rural escape in walking distance of campus. The vegetation along Strawberry Creek and up the north facing



Panoramic Hill seen from the north slope of Strawberry Canyon. "In the Berkeley Hills" by James William Crossley, 1907 edition of A Berkeley Year.



Canyon Road in Strawberry Canyon in the 1890s. Palache family album, courtesy of Judith Palache Gregory.

Whereas Mrs. Allen appreciated the flora as bird habitat, another resident of the canyon neighborhood had carefully and methodically classified California plant species. Botany Professor Willis Jepson, the father of California native plants identification and a founding member of the Sierra Club, built his Julia Morgan-designed home on Panoramic Hill and had the whole canyon as a natural botanical laboratory nearby.

The native flora is there today—just as the Stadium is there—but mostly out of mind in these less leisurely times. All the better, then, when the discovery of a patch of trillium blooming in early spring is the kind reward for discernment and perseverance.

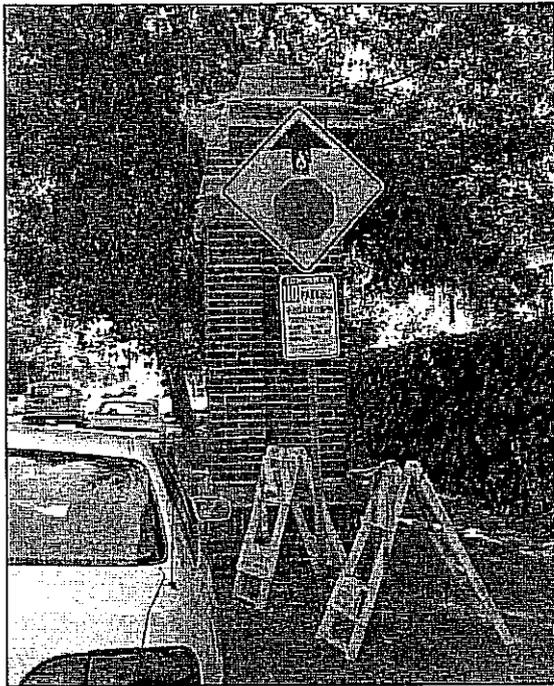
Strawberry Canyon is home to a variety of fauna. An early morning walk with a small dog might yield the sighting of a Great Horned Owl not yet sated from nocturnal hunting. During a late afternoon walk, a covey of quail might be observed quietly scurrying across the dirt fire trail. In the distance, crowds might be cheering and cannons booming. The day may have started with the sound of songs from the carillon ringing out from the

Campanile. The day may end with the sight of a fog bank forming off in the distance.

Directly across from the Golden Gate, aligned with the Campanile, admired as scenic vista, or appreciated up close as contemplative sanctuary, this is Olmsted's "mountain gorge" — Strawberry Canyon.



A late afternoon in Strawberry Canyon, summer 1923. BAHA Archives, gift of Richard Wesell.



Traffic control signs obscure one of the Claremont Court entry gates (John Galen Howard, 1907), City of Berkeley Landmark No. 283. This gate is on Derby Street. Daniella Thompson, 2005.

Stadium Project's Potential Effect Spreads Far and Wide

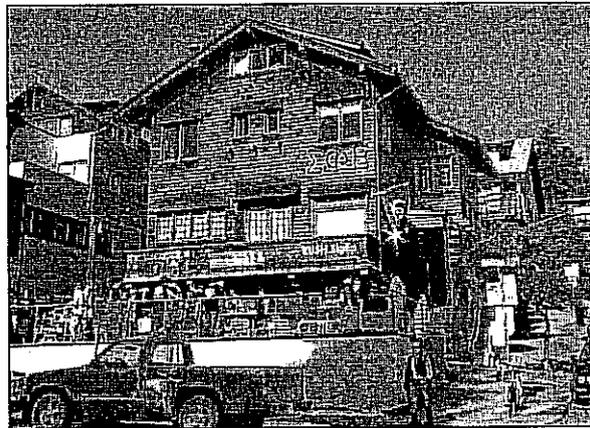
OF all the many "preservation issues" looming over Berkeley, the proposed seismic retrofit of Memorial Stadium is predictably the most monumental. Reports are that the Stadium will be rebuilt and expanded, including a massive excavation under the eastern side of the Stadium to create new office space and facilities. This project is part of a larger southeast campus expansion project which also includes a colossal new "Academic Commons Building" between Boalt Law School and the Haas Business School adjacent to the Stadium. Yet, to date, the full scope, size, footprint, and design of the Stadium project is still unrevealed to the public.

While the citizens of Berkeley wait to learn the particulars of the University's plans for Cal's PAC 10 football team in the Stadium and the extent of its plans to foster global legal and business strategies in the proposed Academic Commons Building, the southeast area of Berkeley, in ever increasing concentric circles, is suffocat-

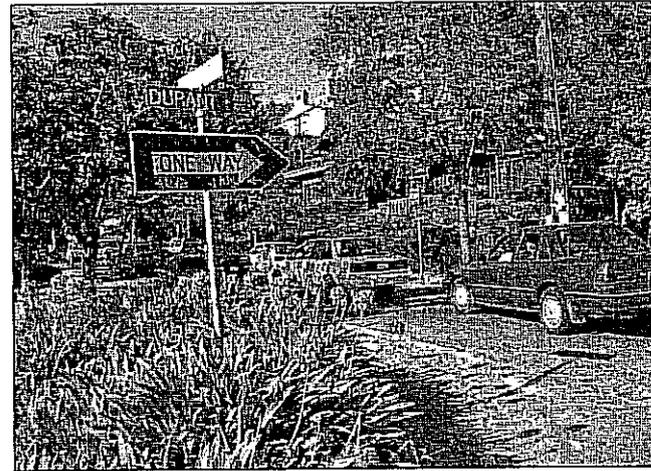


Why is the front lawn of the historic Arthur B. Wood House (Charles W. Dickey, 1906), 2626 Warring Street, being used as a parking lot? This unsightly and detrimental parking is evidence of increased density not allowable through zoning in this neighborhood. Daniella Thompson, 2005.

ing from spreading institutional demands. Memorial Stadium, being one of America's few remaining classic collegiate sports facilities, is located not only in a natural setting, but also within an historic context. Behind the Stadium is the breathtaking Strawberry Canyon, with its backdrop of deep canyon, hills, and sky. Almost above the Stadium is the picturesque Panoramic Hill, recently designated a National Historic District. Immediately ad-

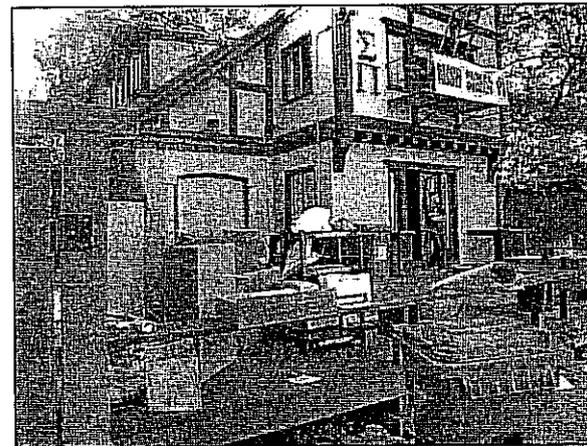


The William Colby House at 2901 Channing Way in the Berkeley Property Tract, Landmark No. 98, is one of Julia Morgan's finest residential designs, dating from 1905. Now, as a student rooming house, it has become a blight on the landscape. Without permit review by the Landmarks Preservation Commission, a concrete "play yard" has replaced the front garden and large signs have been tacked to the house. Daniella Thompson, 2005.



Daily bumper-to-bumper traffic going north on historic Piedmont Avenue in front of the William Thorsen House (Greene & Greene, 1909), Landmark No. 8. Daniella Thompson, 2005.

acent to the Stadium is Frederic Law Olmsted's historic Berkeley Property tract and its gracious 100-foot-wide Piedmont Way (California State Historical Landmark Site #986). Beyond, to the south, are the traditional streetcar suburbs of the Willard Park and LeConte neighborhoods and the lovely residential neighborhoods of Claremont Court and Claremont Park—the "most desirable region for residences all along the foot of the mountains."* The "Warring-Derby Corridor" runs through them, connecting to Tunnel Road (*still* dedicated as a part of the State Highway System) and El Camino Real.



Trash-strewn "front garden" of a student rooming house, viewed from the street. This is the historic Olney House (Julia Morgan, 1911) at 2434 Warring Street one of the fine houses that contributes to the character of the Berkeley Property Tract. Daniella Thompson, 2005.

The current situation is precarious for the cultural and historic resources around the Stadium. It has become ordinary to experience bumper-to-bumper traffic (even in Strawberry Canyon), to be assaulted by exploding student density, to view the ever-creeping blight of forgotten trash and litter, to sight SUVs parked on lawns, to see front gardens paved-over for parking, or to view architecturally significant buildings virtually demolished by neglect. Such blight is not limited only to the scheduled seven Game Days per year, but, significantly, experienced *everyday* and into most evenings.

It was in this context that BAHA wrote the University in June of 2004 with a plea that a full environmental review process be conducted for the Stadium project, emphasizing "that any further changes to either the face of the Stadium or its surroundings, including all cumulative effects, must be fully and adequately revealed to the public-at-large in a timely fashion, in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act." (Since that time the University has selected an architectural team, including HNTB Architecture, specialists in transportation and bridge projects; Moore Ruble Yudell Architects and Planners, recognized for its design of the Haas School of Business; and Architectural Resources Group, specialists in historic preservation projects.) However, now, in August of 2005, having been told in the press that the University intends to begin construction in January 2006, the public is still awaiting a responsible CEQA discussion.

Certainly, all questions about the effects of the Memorial Stadium and Academic Commons projects deserve serious consideration, and *now!* Both the town and gown have a responsibility to future generations to ensure the protection of our cultural and architectural heritage. This is not just the responsibility of "preservationists." It is necessary for everyone who lives in and passes through the "Southeast Area"—attendees of the wonderful Game Days filled with tradition, faculty on their way to work, and students walking home from campus—to strive to protect a healthy tax base, a world-class academic civilization, and the enhancement of an irreplaceable environment.

* taken from Frederic Law Olmsted's "Study for Laying the Berkeley Neighborhood Including the Grounds of the College of California" in his treatise Report upon a Projected Improvement of the Estate of the College of California, at Berkeley. Near Oakland, 1866.

INSPIRED BY MAYBECK

Early Chalet-Style Houses

WHEN art and drama critic Sheldon Cheney moved back to his native Berkeley in the late 1970s, BAHA took the opportunity to interview him. We thus learned from him some of the history of the two heretofore “mystery” houses at 2241 and 2243 College Avenue (City of Berkeley Landmark No. 139) on the northernmost block of College Avenue that was long ago subsumed by the expanding University campus. Because the Cheney houses may be threatened, it is especially important to understand their significance.

Mr. Cheney’s father, Warren Cheney, a writer who later turned to real estate development in Berkeley, built 2241 in the 1880s and Sheldon, along with his brother, architect Charles Cheney, grew up there. The cottage at 2243—the true “mystery” cottage due to its unusual “Swiss chalet” styling—was built in the rear garden as income property, we were told, the first tenants being the Prof. James Turney Allens who later built on nearby Panoramic Hill. With this information we were then able to “match” the cottage with a contract notice from the June 21, 1902 issue of the Berkeley *Gazette*, listing the builder and designer as Carl Ericsson.

In addition to the obvious importance of these structures in their connection to the illustrious Cheney and Allen families and their strategic siting in the Berkeley Property Tract (as laid out by Frederick Law Olmsted), the cottage possesses added importance in that it is an early example of the influence that architect Bernard Maybeck had on early home-builders and how his de-



Maybeck's Boke House, as seen as an illustration in *The Simple Home*.



The Cheney Cottage's scroll-sawn railing, simulated structural members, overhanging eaves, and bay window—all reminiscent of Maybeck's Boke House. Winfield Scott "Duke" Wellington photo, 1962, BAHA Archives.

signs caught the imagination of the public.

Early in 1902 the George Boke House on lower Panoramic Way was completed. Designed by Maybeck, it featured many elements reminiscent of a Swiss chalet: scrollwork, timbers

that simulated exposed framing, and overhanging eaves. In 1902, the Boke House, on its bare hillside, would have been visible from afar, and it may have seemed the perfect stylistic solution for a hillside building lot. The Swiss chalet was, in fact, suggested by the Hillside Club as such, and Charles Keeler included a photograph of the Boke House in his book *The Simple Home* (1904). Two subsequent houses were built by others using the Boke House plans: in Oakland and in Washington state.

But the Boke House seems to have inspired numerous interpretations, as well—houses that not only embody the chalet spirit, but also repeat some of the distinctive characteristics of the Boke House. The Cheney Cottage of 1902 was the *first* (other than a house built simultaneously next door to the Boke House by its builder, A.H. Broad) to emulate the Boke House. As in the original, the Cheney Cottage is entered by stairs and porch with scroll-sawn railings crossing the front facade, and its applied “timbering” reflects the structure.

Where the Cheney Cottage might fit into the architectural history of Berkeley was long an open question. Before the discovery of the contract notice it was even conjectured to be a Stick style house of the 1870s. It now seems obvious, even with its gray-green paint, that it is a reflection of the Arts and Crafts Movement in Berkeley. Carl Ericsson, the builder, went on to design other Boke House-inspired chalets in Berkeley, including his own house of 1909, and A.H. Broad designed at least one more, as well.

Thanks for Your Membership Support — LPO has a Reprieve

WHEN the Spring Newsletter went to press, questions about the status of Berkeley's Landmarks Preservation Ordinance (LPO) were mounting. All indications pointed to a City Council that might vote to reduce the LPO's preservation provisions—buckling under the pressure of today's “teardown” economics that are pushing for rapid redevelopment of both commercial and residential properties.

However, during the Summer days of June and July, a strong expression of support for the LPO's broad intent and protections emerged, causing the City Council to take pause. In July the Council tabled the proposed amendments.

Perhaps most significantly, it was the Landmarks Preservation Commission, ably chaired by Jill Korte, that unanimously voted to urge the Council to uphold the LPO, not to adopt previously suggested changes, and to seek outside independent counsel before taking any further steps. Before its vote, the Commission heard compelling testimony from citizens, including BAHA members.

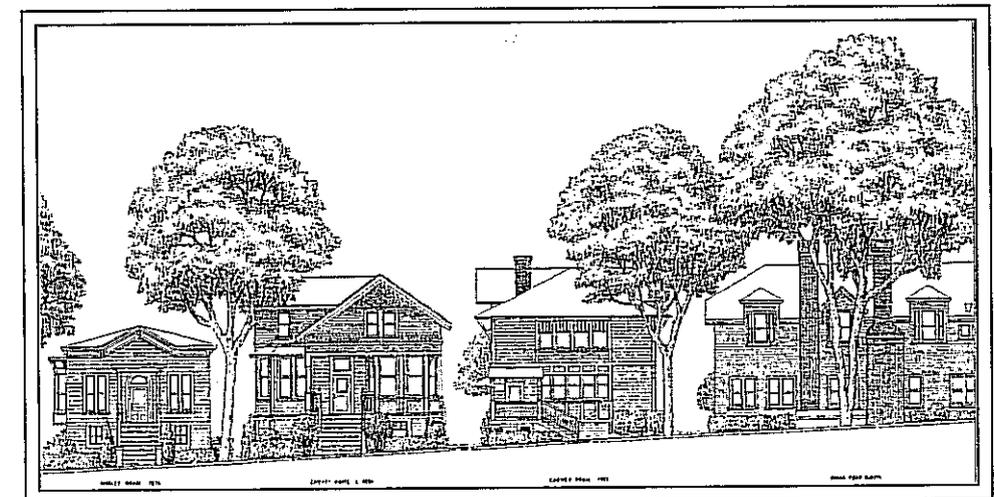
Because of BAHA's membership base, BAHA was able to turn to Susan Brandt-Hawley, a preeminent California preservation attorney, who made the firm case,

on behalf of BAHA, that the long-standing protections provided by the LPO could not be reduced without full public discussion and review as provided by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The authority of her representation had a resounding effect.

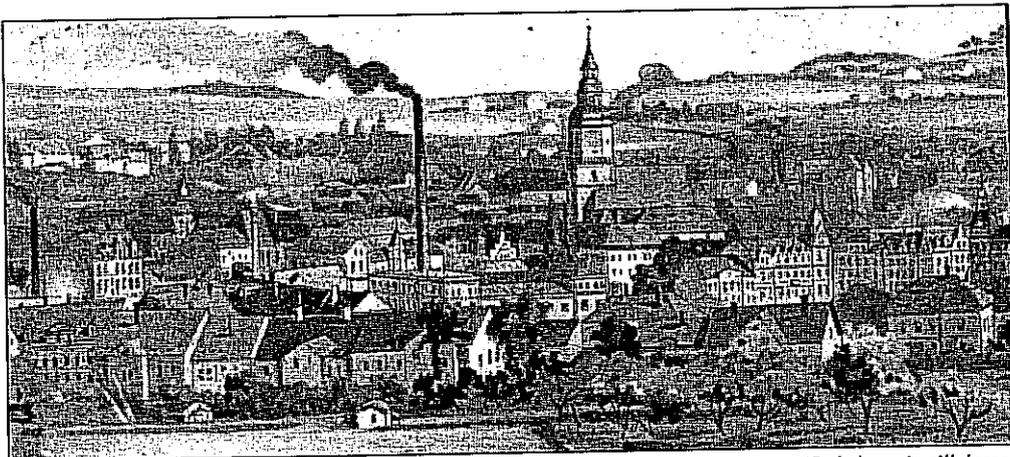
In addition, Mike Buhler, Regional Attorney for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and Cindy Heitzman, Executive Director of the California Preservation Foundation, each sent letters of concern to the City Council.

And, finally, Lucinda Woodward, representing California's Office of Historic Preservation, wrote to the Mayor and Members of the City Council recommending that “the city council [*sic*] direct staff to engage the services of an outside, impartial consultant preservation planner with the aim of preparing one document for public review.”

Certainly, as the year unfolds, it is critical that BAHA remains engaged with the Commission and the City Council, and learns more about preservation planning programs in other cities and their respective ordinances. In the meantime, a thank-you to the BAHA membership for your support—a support that is vitally needed.



Haste Street Revived. A hypothetical solution to saving three small, landmarked houses. The Woolley House (1876), the Cheney House (c. 1885), and the Cheney Cottage (1902) as they would look placed on the 2500 block of Haste Street, west of the Anna Head School. Rendering by Guillermo Rossello, 2000.



The spire of the present Nikolai Kirche (1485) dominated the skyline in this 1900 post-card view of Döbeln, as it still does today.

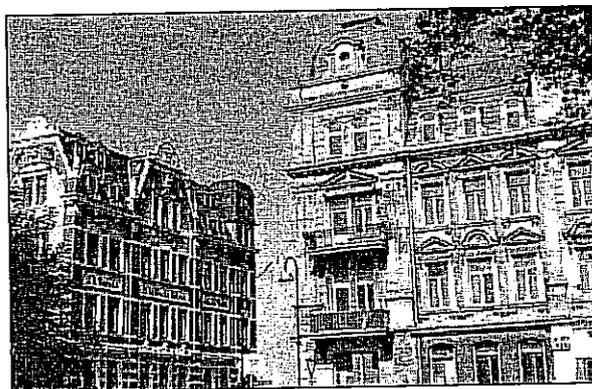
DÖBELN, SAXONY

Observations on Historic Preservation Activity in an East German Town

FOR THE PAST several years, I have had the pleasure and opportunity to pay an annual visit to a small town in what had been East Germany, and to see its historic buildings being brought to life again in this optimistic period since the 1989 reunification of Germany. From the Weisse Taube—an old country hotel (1857) on the edge of town with a traditional *Biergarten* where one can dine on balmy evenings under the canopy of ancient chestnut trees—I have enjoyed exploring the town of Döbeln, picturesquely set in a valley along the Freiberger Mulde, and discovering its eclectic mix of architectural styles.

Döbeln (pop. 23,000) was founded in the 900s, but its appearance is not that of a town from the Middle Ages. Although there are still a few very early houses, the town has been rebuilt many times. What impressed me at first sight was that Döbeln looks much like a realization of the mythical and elusive American Small

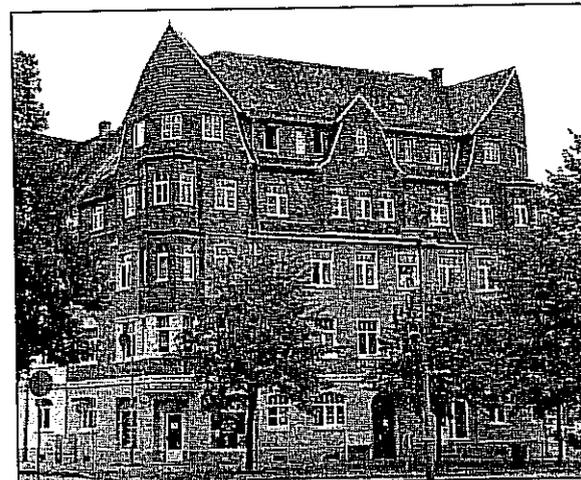
Town. Most of Döbeln's residential buildings are from the *Gründerzeit*, or Victorian, era, and with their brick facades crisply outlined with light-colored ornamentation, they bear an uncanny resemblance to the buildings in Walt Disney's nostalgic "Main Street"! The quantity and quality of Döbeln's *Gründerzeit* buildings is a source of pride, emphasized in the town's promotional material. In addition, there are wonderful buildings from the early 20th century, often with touches of *Jugendstil*, and a number of public buildings from the 1920s and '30s distinguished by their curved lines and a hint of modernity.



Ornate *Gründerzeit* buildings along the former *Königsstrasse*.

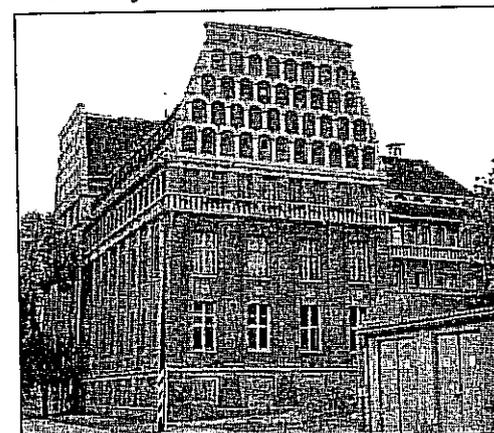


The Renaissance-style Rathaus, or City Hall, was completed in 1912.

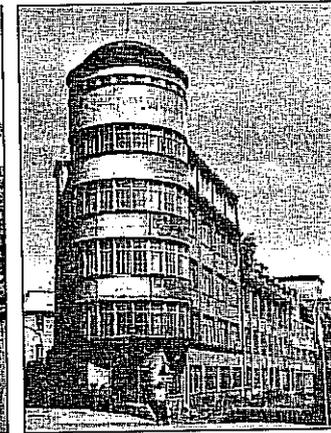


This impressive five-story, slate-shingled apartment house from about 1905 overlooks the circular *Stern Platz* and has been beautifully restored during the past year.

It has been inspiring to watch the town pull itself together after so many years of neglect under the prevailing conditions that existed before 1989. When I arrived in 1999, work was well underway and many buildings, including the impressive city hall (1910-12), had already been restored. Still, as in other eastern towns and cities, there were many buildings that had not seen a paint brush or hammer and nail since before the second World War. Now, each year, more of these crumbling buildings are revived. However, to this American's eyes, the natural sand-plaster finishes wore an intriguing patina of age that is often lacking in the fresh and festive array of colors that these buildings now sport!



The Clemens Shokoladen Fabrik (1922), with its ornamental gables, has been torn down, while the distinctive turreted corner building (1938) of the "Grossfuss" factory has been preserved.



As here in Berkeley, the rehabilitation of old buildings in Döbeln has had mixed results. Some buildings have indeed been made livable again, but with a loss of their defining historic features, such as original windows and weathered tile roofs. But many others have been restored with care. Most of the Victorian buildings now look as splendidly grand as they did when new. Two schools from the 19th Century are still in use and have been restored, Victorian interiors and stained glass windows intact. The *Stadtbad* (1936), an indoor swimming pool with fanciful statuary, re-opened last year after restoration; and the Capitol movie theater (1937), long vacant, is being adaptively remodeled as offices and shops, with its historic facade preserved.

Although several areas of town seem to enjoy the protection of "historic district" status, there have been a few significant losses in the past six years, notably the *Bachschenke*, a roadside tavern from 1838; the gas works (c. 1904), a romantic ruin inhabited by pigeons; and the former chocolate factory (1922), a strikingly unusual industrial building torn down two years ago for a parking lot. Some buildings—especially many of the factories which stood empty and exposed to the elements after the machinery was removed from them after the war—may have been too far gone to save, and a devastating flood in 2002 severely damaged the foundations of other buildings necessitating their demolition.

Nevertheless, Döbeln is to be congratulated. Not only has much been done in the years since 1989 to rehabilitate its buildings, but, in addition, historic preservation has been an important component of Döbeln's

renaissance. The historic character of the town has been restored, highlighted, and promoted. As the crowning achievement, there are plans afoot to bring back the *Pherdebahn*, a horse-drawn streetcar system removed from service in 1925. Sections of track still remain embedded in the cobblestone streets downtown. In a few years, Döbeln may be known far and wide for its *Pherdebahn*, as San Francisco is known for its cable cars!

—Anthony Bruce, Executive Director

GOINGS-ON ABOUT TOWN

For our next issue, please alert BAHA to items of interest to include in "Goings-on About Town" by calling the office at 841-221 or writing to baha@berkeleyheritage.com (BAHA's new e-mail address). And...please do check "BAHA News" (BAHA's Web-Blog) regularly! Go to: http://berkeleyheritage.com/weblog/baha_news.html.

- **New color Downtown.** Have you noticed the Shattuck Apartments Building (James W. Plachek, 1921), City of Berkeley Landmark No. 45, at 2322 Shattuck Avenue lately? The scaffolding has come down to reveal a magnificent paint job that accentuates the architectural elements in a crisp, new way. With improvements such as this, Downtown is looking better and better.
- **Tear-downs in Berkeley?** When the 1889 A.W. Pattiani-designed Campbell House at 2848 Derby Street sold earlier this year, we eagerly anticipated its restoration. It is one of only a handful of 19th Century structures remaining in the Claremont district. Its gingerbread had been hidden under a coating of stucco since the 1920s, but its interior was intact. The Whitham House (Pattiani, 1889) at 2198 Blake Street (featured on BAHA's "Berkeley 1890" tour) is a mirror-image twin and could have been the model for reconstructing missing elements. We suggested this to the new owners' architect, who visited the BAHA office, and explained the building's significance and its listing on the State Historic Resources Inventory. What a shock to discover, last month, that nothing remains but a shell and the framing! The opportunity to restore this special house is gone. In a similar vein, the Howard P. Landon House, a 1909 Berkeley brown-shingle at 2743 Woolsey Street recently sold and it, too, has been



The gutted Campbell House at 2848 Derby Street, as photographed by Daniella Thompson on August 13, 2005.

gutted, with the front facade completely removed. A local architect of note is involved, so one can hope for the best, but it is sad that the historic fabric of neither house was retained.

- **Along College Avenue.** The Colonial Revival corner building at Ashby is under the cover of a black veil, undergoing a metamorphosis. A full restoration is planned: the stucco has already been removed and original wood siding exposed, and aluminum windows will be replaced, returning this early Elmwood commercial building to prominence at its strategic location. Nearby, the Elmwood Theater (A.W. Cornelius, 1914; alterations: A.A. Cantin, 1946), City of Berkeley Landmark No. 109, will re-open soon. Workmen were seen recently carefully recreating the streamlined curved overhang at the entrance. In celebration of the planned re-opening in October of Ozzie's, perhaps the last remaining drugstore soda fountain in the Bay Area, the interior of the Elmwood Pharmacy (now the Elmwood Health & Mercantile), in business at College and Russell since the building was built (John A. Bischoff, designer, 1921), is being refurbished. This original space includes oak cabinets and paneling.
- **Boudrow-Beard House.** The "veil" has been lifted from another favorite building: the Queen Anne style Boudrow House (Julius Krafft, 1889), City of Berkeley Landmark No.15, at 1536 Oxford Street. An intriguing new paint color will insure that this house remains a north Berkeley visual landmark.



Boudrow House. Daniella Thompson, 2005.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS . . .

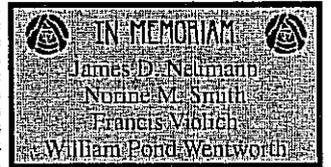
BAHA welcomes the following people who have joined BAHA since the last Newsletter went out. Tell your friends about BAHA and encourage them to join, too!

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mary Baxter | Candy & Tom Simonen |
| Donna Harkness | Mark Tarses |
| Judah L. Magnes Museum | Chris Vicerra, Jr. |
| Linda Oliver | CONTRIBUTING |
| Joel Panzer | Sharon & Damon Darlin |

...AND MEMEBERS RENEWED!

Betty Ames, Sheila Andrus, Lorri Arazi, John Arnavicci; Barbara Fletcher Barbour, Debra Barnes, Jane Barrett, Chantal Beckmann-Garcia, Burton Benedict, Dorothea Benney, Stephen Barn, Linda Bradford, Roland Brandel, Annie-May de Brusson, Laurie Bright, Siegfried E. Brockmann, Claire van Brunt, Christopher Buckley, Stafford Buckley; Barbara H. Cadwalader, California State Library, Joanne Corder, Nancy Carleton, Eleanor Carpioux, Dorothea Castelln, Jonathan Chester, Sydney Clemens, Thomas W. Cline & Barbara J. Meyer, Diana Collins, Marguerite Conrad, K. & K. Cranney, Melvin Dagovitz, Robert Dahlstrom, Philip Darnall, Davenport & Van Young, Ira Davidoff & Shelley Horwitz, Mary H. Dean, Tami & Rick Distnicu; Leslie Easterday, Milton R. Eitelin, Ted Edlin, Pat & Michael Edwards; Susan Felk, John Ferrari, Barbara B. Floyd, Angelica Forti-Lewis, Nancy H. Francis, Constance Fraser, Jeri Fraser; Phyllis & Phil Gale, Shifra Gaman, Gale Garcia, Phil Gardner, GeorgeAnn Gurns, June & Len Gaspardon, Terry Geiser & Janet Mark, Robert Geering, Samantha H. Gervase, Ann Gillkerson, Blake Gilmore, Mrs. Clive Ginner, Judith & Alex Glass, Susan Goldstein, Hilary & Daniel Goldstone, Evelyn B. Goodman, Diane & John Gossard, Gretchen & Richard Grant, Iris Greenberg-Smith, Judith Palache Gregory, Heather Gray, Claire Griffith, Gretchen & Thomas Griswold, Lillian Walli Grove, Paul & Peggy Grunland, Ellen Gunther, Dolly Gurrola; Roberto Hadley, Eric Hueston, Nancy Hair, Brmwyn Hall, Marygracia Hall, Daryl A. Hulverson, H. Hamke, Janice Hardy, Kay Hardy, Mark Harpenter, Hugh W. Harris, Jaci Harris, Judith Haric & Susan Ellard, George Harter, Carolyn & Larry Harzough, Robert Haslam, Holly Haugh, Trish & Tony Hawthorne, Harvey Helfand, Bill Hollandale, Becky Hemann, Louise Hendry, Randi Herman, Dixie Herst, Frederick C. Hertz, Winifred Hess, Valerie Hesinkveld, Stella Hexter, Harry T. Hicks, Ward Hill, Barbara Hischer, Robert Hofmann, T.V. Hofmann, Jeri Holan, Gury Holloway, Karen & Rob-

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You can join BAHA—

Send form to P.O. Box 1157, Berkeley, Cal. 94701



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ADDRESS _____

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I want to be ACTIVE! Special interests or talents:

\$25 Individual
Right to cast 1 vote per election. Receipt of quarterly Newsletter. Member discount on 2 tickets to each House Tour. Discount on most books bought through BAHA.

\$50 Household
Right to cast 2 votes per election. Receipt of quarterly Newsletter. Member discount on 4 tickets to each House Tour. Discount on most books bought through BAHA.

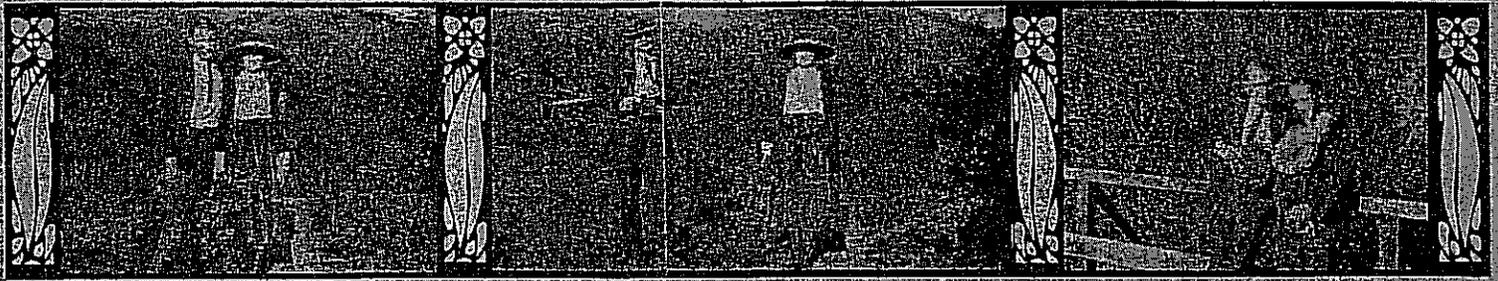
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Same benefits as Household, plus 2 half-priced tickets to the Annual Spring House Tour.

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Ramble & Picnic in the Berkeley Hills

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June 25, 2006

beginning at noon

View the Berkeley Property Tract California Oak Grove

Picnic in the Garden of the Willis Lynn Jepson House on Panoramic Hill

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Ramble, if you will.



Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association
P. O. Box 1137
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Wander through this Grove of Berkeley Oaks . . .



. . . and Picnic in the Garden of the Jepson House designed by Julia Morgan . . .



Swimming Pool, University of California, Strawberry Canyon, c. 1912. Mitchell postcard.

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CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

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Geological Map of a Portion of the Berkeley Hills
by Andrew Lawson and Charles Palache, 1900. BAH.Archives

Strawberry Canyon — Opposite the Golden Gate

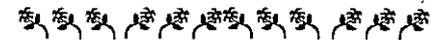
TWO SUMMER EVENINGS

with

CHARLES BIRNBAUM, FASLA, FAAR

President, The Cultural Landscape Foundation, Washington, D.C.

OPPOSITE THE GOLDEN GATE



AN ICE CREAM SOCIAL AND TALK
at the Town & Gown Club (Bernard Maybeck, 1899)
Thursday, August 9

Starting at 7:30, Talk at 8:00



A RAMBLE, WITH GUIDES
into, through, and above Strawberry Canyon
Friday, August 10
Starting at 5:30

Panoramic Hill, led by Gray Brechin
University Botanical Gardens, led by Ellen Petersen
Strawberry Creek—Its Sources, led by Robin Freeman
Monument Hill Vista, led by Michael Kelly



A FARMERS' MARKET BARBEQUE
at the Haas Club House (William W. Wurster, 1959)
Friday, August 10

Starting at 7:00

For more information, call 510-841-2242 or visit www.berkeleyheritage.com

Please make reservations for OPPOSITE THE GOLDEN GATE using this form.

Don't forget to enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope to expedite your order!

Send to: BAHA • P.O. Box 1137 • Berkeley • California 94701

Ice Cream Social & Talk @ \$20, number of tickets: _____

Ramble @ \$10, number of tickets: _____

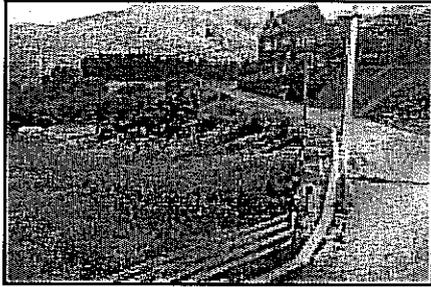
Select one: Panoramic Hill Botanical Garden
 Strawberry Creek Source Monument Hill Vista

Farmers' Market Barbeque @ \$30, number of tickets: _____

NAME(S) _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

AT THE MOUTH OF STRAWBERRY CANYON AND THE BASE OF PANORAMIC HILL:



Rieber House. Courtesy E. Sotelo.

CANYON ROAD winds its way into Strawberry Canyon. The history of road predates neighborhood development, and reflects early Spanish influence with its original spelling: "Cañon Road."

Note the vegetation pattern: barren hillside where cattle starting grazing in the 1850s and continued into the 20th century. Lush foliage near Strawberry Creek is hidden in the steep ravine.

Formerly a single family house at 15 Canyon Road, designed by Ernest Coxhead, built in 1904, for Professor of Logic Charles Rieber and his wife the portrait painter of some renown (painted Albert Einstein, Thomas Mann, Phoebe Hearst, Mrs. Herbert Hoover) Winifred Rieber.

THE CREEK, THE RAVINE, AND THE WATERFALL.

THE CREEK can be found by the growth of luxurious coast live oaks. Strawberry Creek is hidden in a steep ravine.

Frederick Law Olmsted's musings on the creek: "Here water stands near the surface of the ground during the entire summer, even when it disappears further down the arroya, and trees in the rear shade the undergrowth, which is consequently thick, intricate, luxuriant, rich, and graceful, completely sheltering the visitor from the sun, and all the ordinary untidiness of the surface of the ground is lost."

Bancroft Steps glorified the pedestrian experience from Piedmont Way up the hill and connecting aesthetically and practically to Orchard Lane further uphill in the two subdivisions of University Terrace and University Hill. Hillside development was minimal prior to the 1900s.

CO-ED CANYON.



Koeber postcard, c. 1908

A SECTION of Strawberry Creek with waterfalls wound its way through the site of the present Stadium.

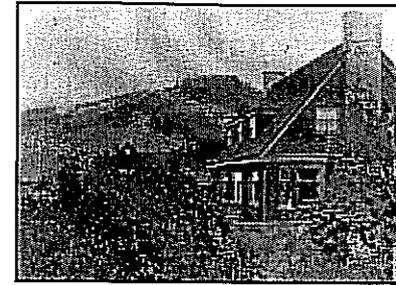
THE CONSTRUCTION OF MEMORIAL STADIUM.



BAHA Archives, gift of R. Wesell.

THE STADIUM was built into the hillside at the mouth of the canyon and the creek was culverted.

CANYON DEVELOPMENT INCLUDED TREE PLANTATIONS.

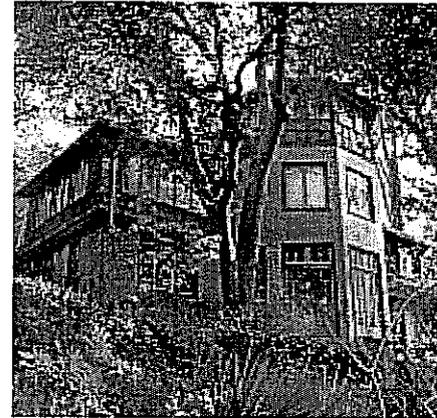


TREE PLANTING is visible in the distance on the other side of Strawberry Canyon in the area now known as Tightwad Hill.

1 Canyon Road was built for San Francisco Art Dealer Frederic Torrey in 1906 and designed by Ernest Coxhead.

Note the Beaux-Arts stairway and retaining wall in the front, and that the back of house can be seen from Mosswood Lane

CANYON DEVELOPMENT INCLUDED BUILDING HILLSIDE HOUSES.



Family home of architect Walter Steilberg (1922) The Steilberg compound includes several garages, a cottage above a garage, and a Fabricrete cottage in the rear of the lot. Daniella Thompson, 2005.

ALTHOUGH the earliest houses were built of redwood shingles, after the Berkeley fire of 1923 many homes were built with stucco.

Lower reaches of Panoramic Hill are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Only residential neighborhood in Berkeley that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Period of significance is from 1895 to 1941 in various stages and manifestations of the Bay Area Tradition.

Representative architecture includes Shingle; Bungalow/Craftsman; Mission/Spanish; Colonial Revival; Beaux-Arts.

Since the north side fire of 1923, Panoramic Hill is among most extensive surviving Arts and Crafts hillside neighborhoods in Berkeley.

PEDESTRIAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPED BY WARREN CHENEY IN 1910.

THIS Beaux-Arts public pedestrian staircase connects with Bancroft Steps below which together formed a practical route to the University.

Architectural detail includes benches, balustrades, corner piers, and numerous landings. Named Orchard Lane by way of reference to the former apricot orchard on the hillside. Listed as a City Landmark



Orchard Lane. Elizabeth Crews, 1974.

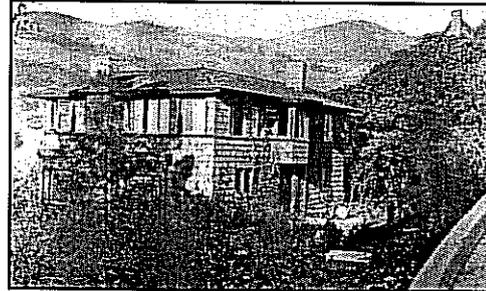
MOSSWOOD LANE:

A well-worn path that existed as "Stockade Lane" before houses were built. 4 Mosswood Lane is the Mediterranean-style cottage designed by Steilberg and built of Fabricrete, a patented material developed by Steilberg in response to the devastating 1923 Berkeley Fire. Houses that back up to Mosswood Lane include the Coxhead-designed house at 1 Canyon Road; Julia Morgan-designed house at 11 Mosswood Road; Julia Morgan-designed house at 9 Canyon Road; Frank Lloyd Wright-designed house at 13 Mosswood Road; and 33 Canyon Road.

MOSSWOOD ROAD WITH STRAWBERRY CANYON IN THE BACKGROUND.

Mosswood Road is on the south side of the canyon and the north side of Panoramic Hill. As its name suggests, there is an abundance of moss clinging to the native coast live oaks.

11 Mosswood Road (Julia Morgan, 1929) was built for Willis Jepson, who developed the first taxonomy of California native plants. Note ironwork configured in an herbarium theme flanking the arched front door.



Parsons House. BAHA Archives.

29 Mosswood Road was the home of Marion Parsons, designed by her friend and neighbor Walter Steilberg. Mrs. Parsons moved from her John Hudson Thomas-remodeled home at 21 Mosswood after her husband Edward Parsons died and after the stadium construction. Both Marion and Edward Parsons were early key figures in the Sierra Club. In memory of Mr. Parsons' efforts to save Hetch Hetchy, Parsons Lodge was built in Yosemite.

The steep gable roof of the home at 37 Mosswood Road is in the background. Home of Professor of Classics James Allen and his wife Amelia Allen, Mrs. Allen became an avid birdwatcher while living in this oak woodland. Among her publications is "Birds of a Berkeley Hillside" published in *The Condor*. Just beyond the Allen House is what is now known as the University's Ecological Study Area. In 1915, Mrs. Allen described it thus: "On the eastern side, our lot is bounded by the University campus, where no shooting is allowed at any season."

COTTAGES ON CANYON ROAD.

Located near Strawberry Creek, when it was still an open channel, the shallow street setback allowed the four special, rustic dwellings (1908-24) to be as close to the creek as possible.

AN EARLY SWIMMING POOL IN THE RUSTIC CANYON SETTING.

A University swimming facility for men was located in the bucolic canyon.

And romantic sojourns in the Canyon...



Strawberry Canyon, 1922.

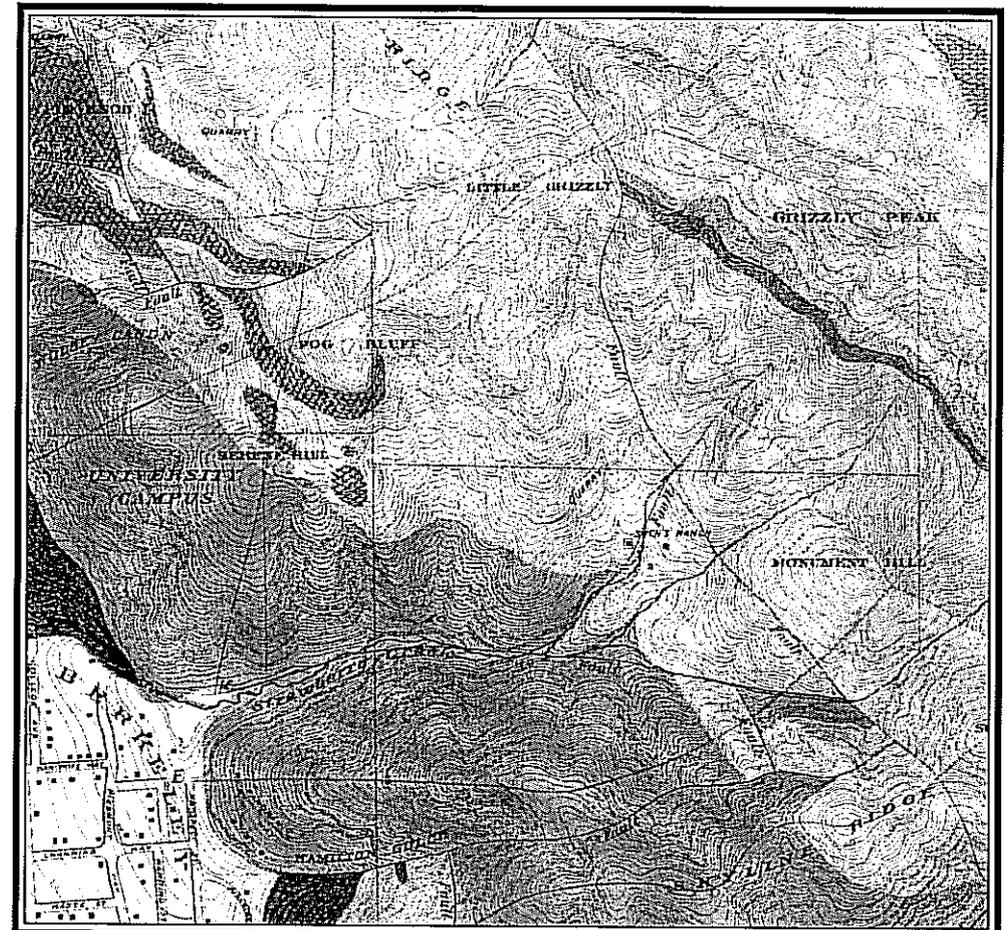
BAHA Archives. gift of R. Wexell

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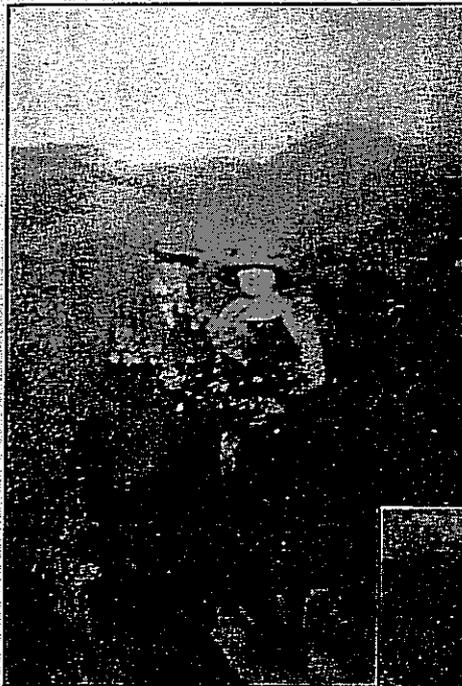
CULTURAL LANDSCAPES



PANORAMIC HILL an Evening Ramble led by Gray Brechin



Geological Map of a Portion of the Berkeley Hills by Andrew Lawson and Charles Palache, 1900. BAHA Archives



*Strawberry Canyon, 1922.
BAHA Archives,
gift of R. Wesell.*



MONUMENT HILL and SUGAR LOAF are the backdrop for these young couples on a walk in Strawberry Canyon in 1922, as they are also today the wooded backdrop to the University Botanical Garden.

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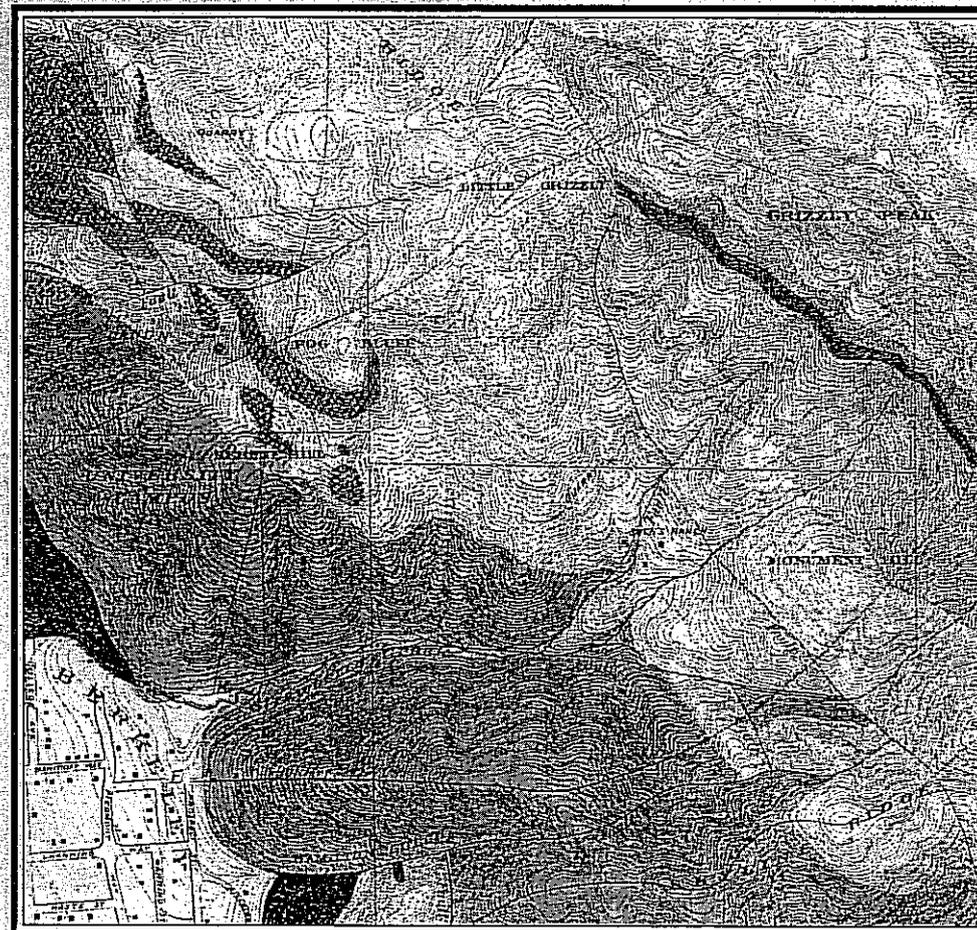
The Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association &
The American Society of Landscape Architects, Northern California Chapter
present a program of

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES



UNIVERSITY BOTANICAL GARDEN

an Evening Ramble led by Linda Govan



Geological Map of a Portion of the Berkeley Hills by Andrew Lawson and Charles Fatache, 1900. BAHA Archives

EARLY BOTANICAL GARDEN HISTORY.

THE BOTANICAL GARDEN was once situated in the center of campus, running east-west in a low-lying glade north of Doe Library. Plantings were begun in 1880, and the Garden formally established in 1890. It was intended to provide plant materials for instruction and research. Overlooking the Garden was the Conservatory (Lord & Burnham, 1894, Clinton Day, Supervising Architect), majestically set on a rise to the north. The Conservatory was demolished in 1924, but many specimen trees from the Botanical Garden remain in the University's Central Glade.



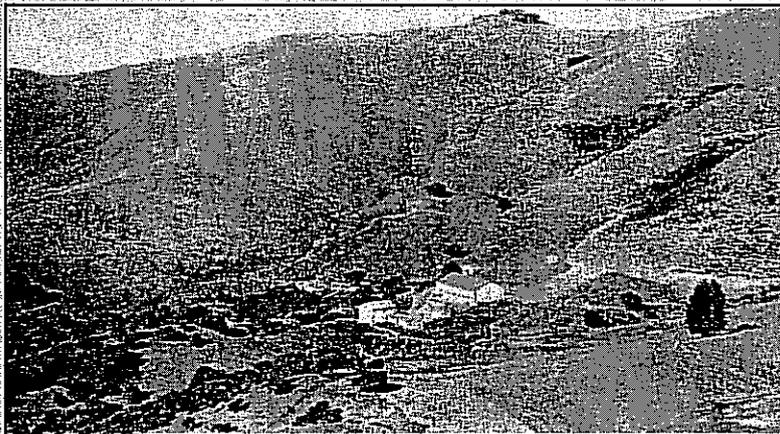
The University Conservatory, set on the lower slope of Observatory Hill, overlooking the Botanical Garden. Albertype postcard, courtesy Anthony Bruce.



"Hattie on path"—a 1905 snapshot showing a path in the original Botanical Garden, with North Hall in the background. Courtesy Anthony Bruce.

DAIRY FARMS IN THE CANYON.

CATTLE GRAZING in the 1800s and early 1900s denuded the landscape. Cattle grazed on imported annual grasses as early as the 1850s. The two dairy farms — Such Dairy and Stutt Dairy, later Stanley Farm — were located in Strawberry Canyon. The University acquired the land in 1909 and continued cattle grazing until the 1930s.



Stutt Dairy in Strawberry Canyon. The Botanical Garden relocated to this site in the 1920s. The Bancroft Library [?]

A NATURAL SETTING FOR A NEW BOTANICAL GARDEN.



THE COAST LIVE OAKS flank Canyon Road, this graceful lane, as it cuts its way through the canyon, leading to the future site of the University Botanical Garden. In the distance can be seen Grizzly Peak.

Canyon Road in the 19th century. BAHA Archives (from Palache family album, gift of Judith Palache Gregory).

THE MOVE TO THE CANYON.

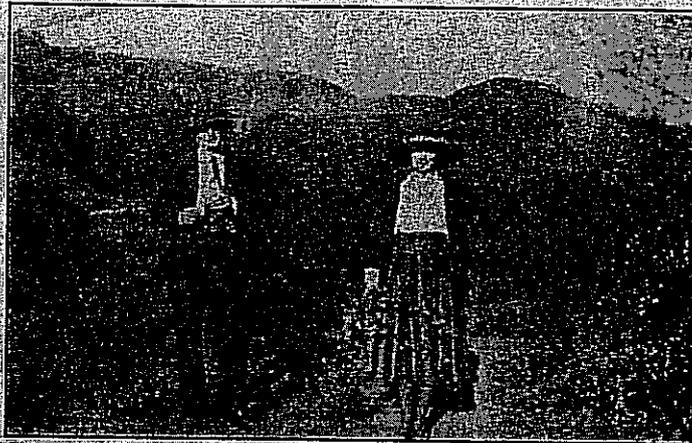
A pool on Strawberry Creek in the Botanical Garden. Photo from cover of 1977 Oakland Telephone Directory.



PLANTS were moved from campus to the old Stutt Dairy farm site in Strawberry Canyon between 1919 and 1926, when the new Botanical Garden opened. The new site of 33 acres is traversed by Strawberry Creek. From the Garden's high points, one can look down through the Canyon and out to San Francisco Bay. The garden is divided into "geographical" regions, with a large section given over to California native plants. The Botanical Garden is said to be the oldest university botanical garden.



*Strawberry Canyon, 1922.
BAHA Archives,
gift of R. Wesell.*



MONUMENT HILL is the backdrop for these young couples on a walk in Strawberry Canyon in 1922.

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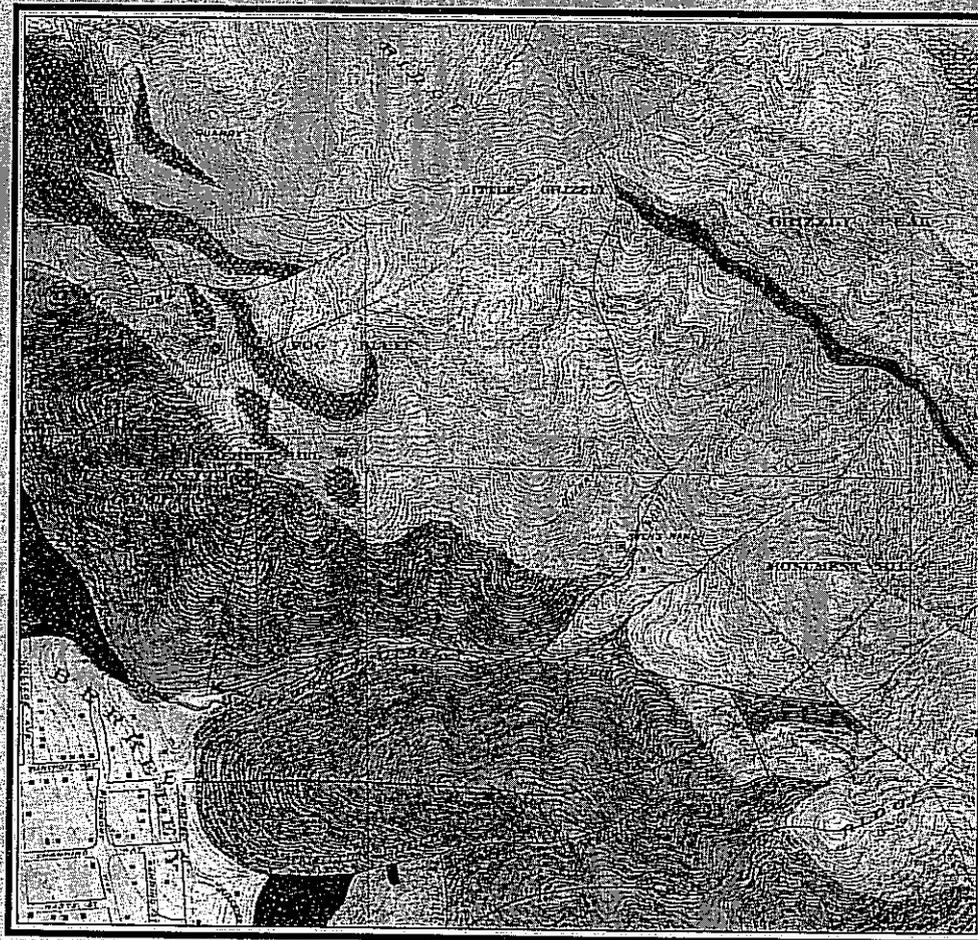
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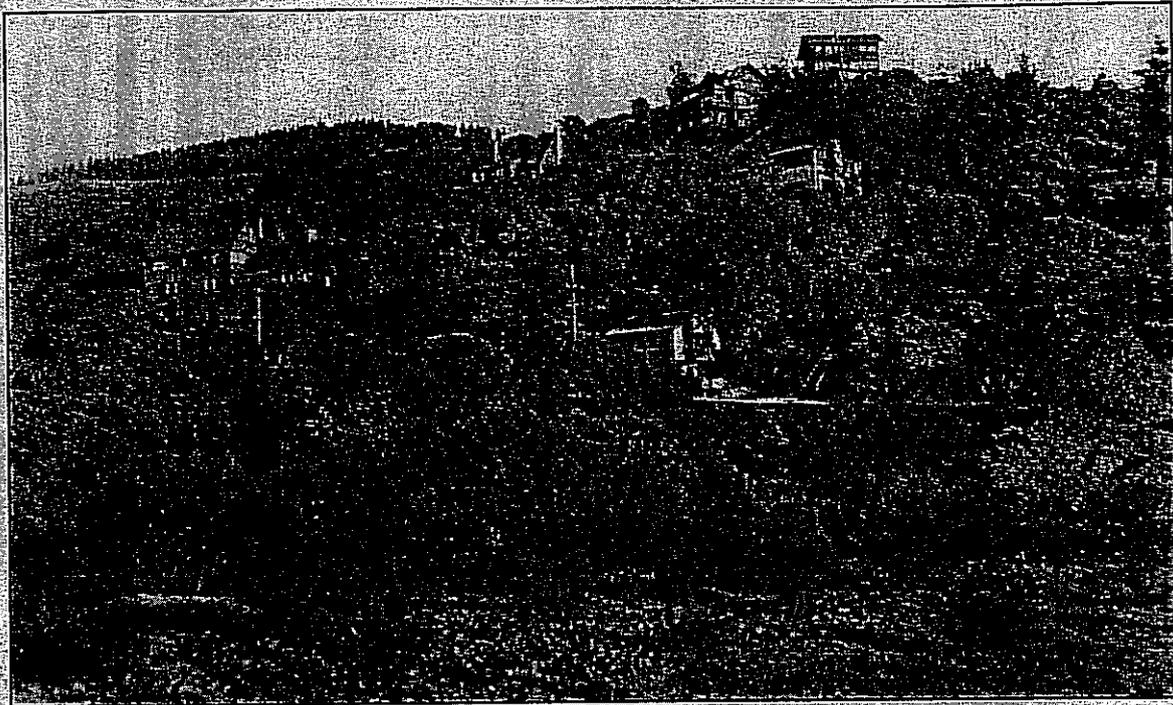
MONUMENT HILL VISTA

an Evening Ramble led by Michael Kelly



Geological Map of a Portion of the Berkeley Hills by Andrew Lawson and Charles Palache, 1900. BAHA Archives

EARLY LANDSCAPES.



"Berkeley Highlands — Side Hill Homes." c. 1920. BAHA Archives.

THE RAMBLE begins at Skyline Ridge, identified by the plantation of cypress trees in the upper lefthand corner of the photograph. Contrast the tree plantation with the dense, irregular pattern of coast live oaks and California bays, which are native to this area.



Stutz Dairy in Strawberry Canyon.

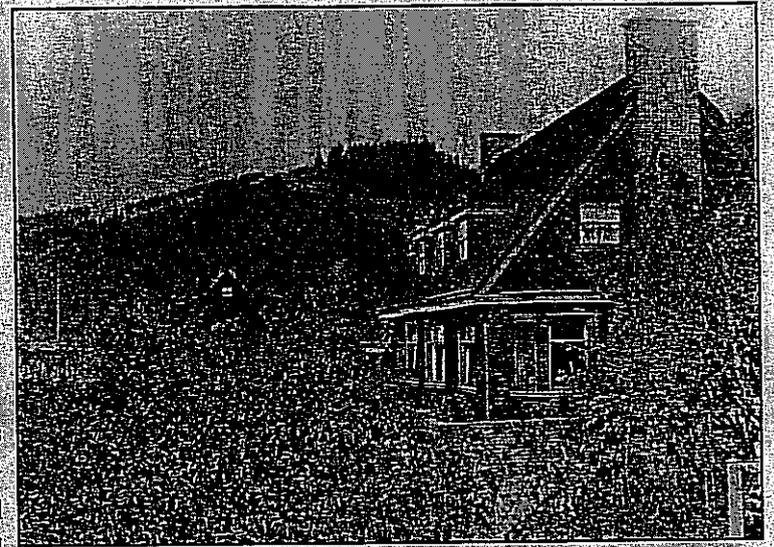
The Botanical Garden relocated to this site in 1923. The Bancroft Library. [?]

CATTLE GRAZING in the 1800s and early 1900s denuded the landscape. Cattle grazed on imported annual grasses as early as the 1850s. The two dairy farms — Such Dairy and Stanley Farm — were located in Strawberry Canyon. The University acquired the land in 1909 and continued cattle grazing until the 1930s.

TREE PLANTATIONS.

TREE PLANTING in the background of this photograph is located at what is now known as Tightwad Hill, on the north side of Strawberry Canyon, opposite this house at 1 Canyon Road designed for San Francisco art dealer Frederic Torrey (Coxhead & Coxhead, 1905).

Eucalyptus was planted on numerous slopes in the early 1900s. Coniferous plantations were also established throughout the canyon and included Ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), and Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*).



Torrey House with Rieber House in distance. Note Stadium has already been built. BAHA Archives (from Dorothea Torrey Kelley).

TREES NATIVE TO THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE CANYON—WHERE THE MOSS GROWS.



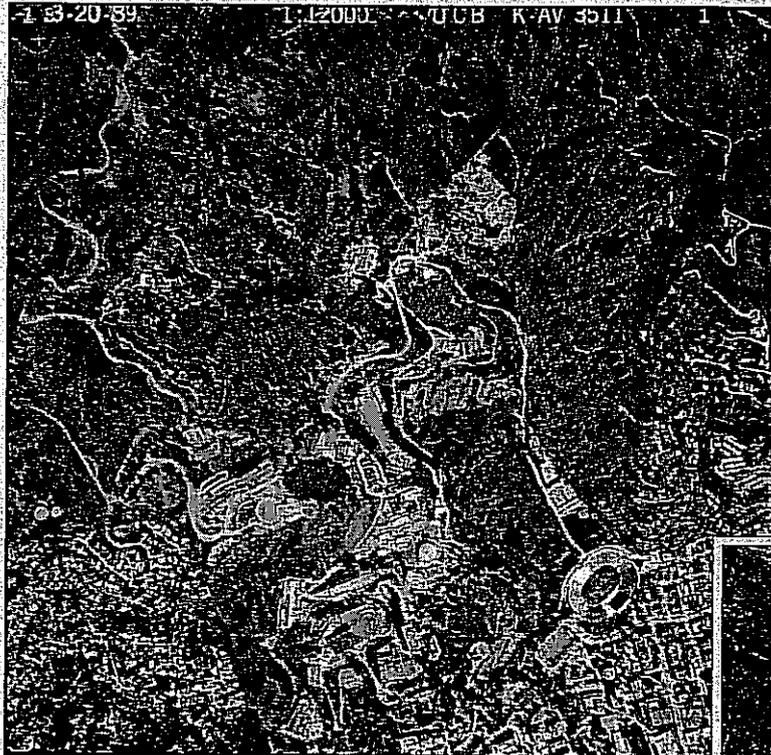
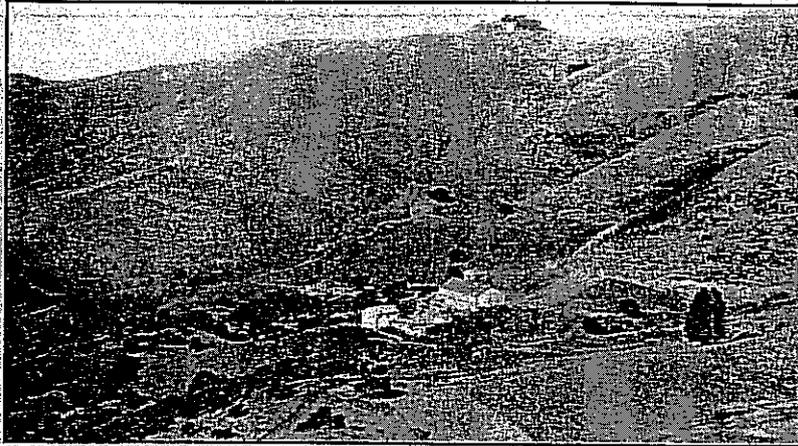
Canyon Road in the 19th century. Grizzly Peak can be seen in the distance. BAHA Archives (from Palache family album, gift of Judith Palache Gregory).

THE COAST LIVE OAKS flank Canyon Road, this graceful lane, as it cuts its way through the canyon. The side hill homes, built above to the right, also show the local vegetation that was *not* introduced, but is native to this area.

CATTLE IN THE CANYON.

ADVERSE IMPACTS to the creek and canyon occurred from dairy farms and from heavily grazed hillside. Success of cattle grazing operations would have depended on hillside water sources.

Stutt Dairy in Strawberry Canyon. The Botanical Garden relocated to this site in 1923. The Bancroft Library [?]



STRAWBERRY CREEK WATERSHED.

1989 HILL AREA AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH. COURTESY Earth Sciencesw and Map Library



Canyon Road and bridge in 1907. Photograph by James William Crossley, from A Berkeley Year.

© 2007 Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association.

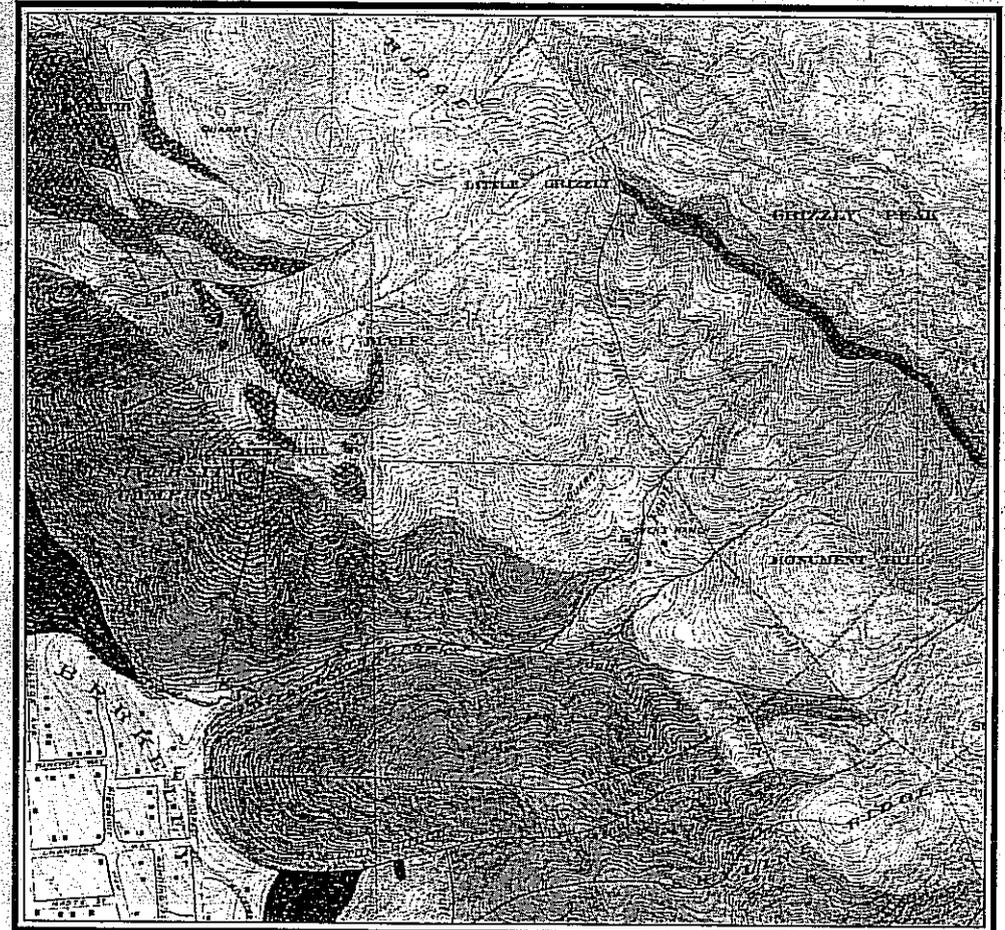
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STRAWBERRY CREEK & ITS SOURCES *an Evening Ramble led by Robin Freeman*



Geological Map of a Portion of the Berkeley Hills by Andrew Lawson and Charles Palache, 1900. BAHA Archives

You are in the upper Strawberry Creek watershed which is part of an 1163 acre watershed. The creek empties into the San Francisco Bay near University Avenue.

CULTURAL HISTORY OF STRAWBERRY CREEK INCLUDES ITS ROLE IN THE LOCATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.

All the other striking advantages of this location could not make it a place fit to be chosen as the College Home without this water. With it every excellence is of double value. (Willey, 1887).

STRAWBERRY CREEK was a relatively vast water resource, sufficient to justify the location of the College of California at this site. According to the Office of Environment, Health & Safety of the University of California at Berkeley, even in the drought year of 1864, the creek flowed throughout the year and yielded as much as 100,000 gallons a day. At the present time, the creek is culverted through most of the city of Berkeley, while being open on much of the University campus, as well as in the upper watershed of Strawberry Canyon.



Strawberry Creek at the Center Street entrance to the campus. Postcard courtesy of Jerry Sulliger.

CO-ED CANYON AND STRAWBERRY CREEK WATERFALL.



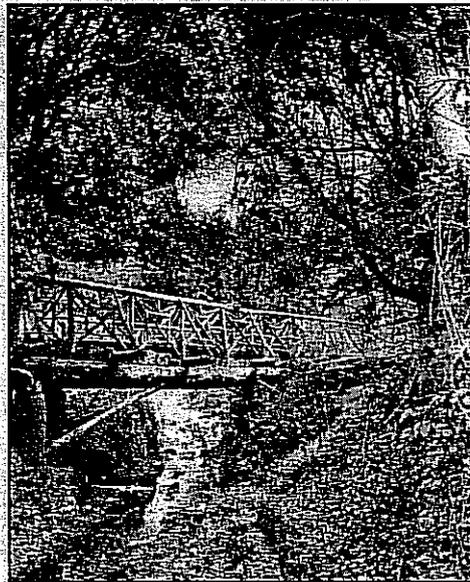
Presumably this is one of the waterfalls that was culverted in constructing the Stadium.

Koeber postcard, c. 1908

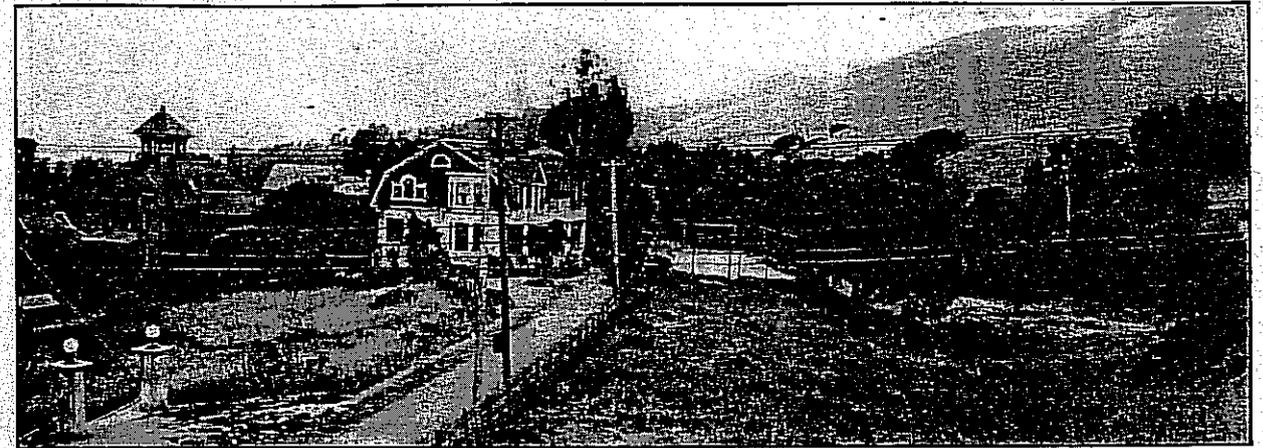
CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CREEK.

THE natural open-channel of Strawberry Creek with its characteristic steep ravines is visible in the upper watershed.

Much of the tree cover was limited to the stream channels, and strips of riparian vegetation closely followed the stream corridors from the crests of the hills down to the alluvial flatlands. Deer, elk, bear, and mountain lions were abundant in the hills. Salmon and trout spawned in the upper reaches of the creeks. —Report from the Office of Environment, Health and Safety at U.C. Berkeley, p. 9



One of the several "rustic bridges" on campus. BAHA Archives, Palache family album. gift of Judith Palache Gregory.

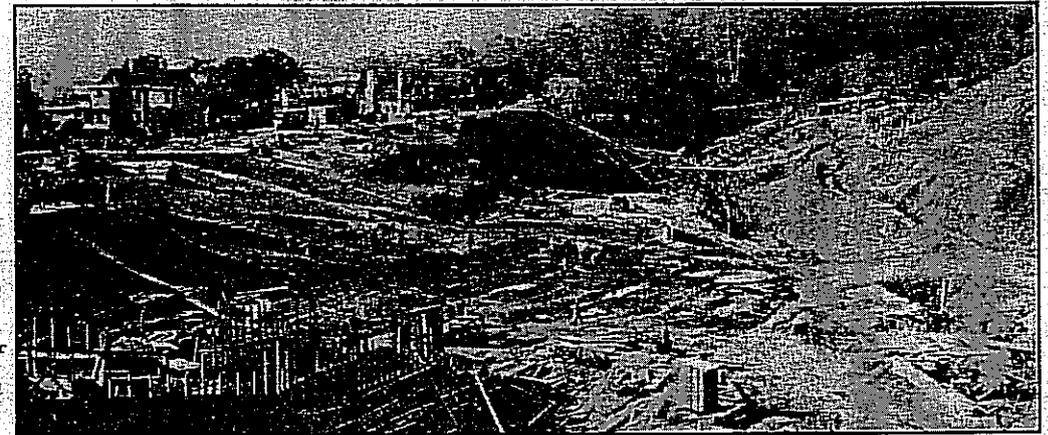


Strawberry Creek in the steep ravine can be located by coast live oaks. 1911 photo. [The Bancroft Library ?]

CULVERTING THE CREEK.

THE CREEK is not visible because it is in a steep ravine. The coast live oaks thrive near its banks. The location of photo is the top of Bancroft Steps (lower left corner) and the background is the future site of Memorial Stadium. When the stadium was built, the Little Inch Culvert carried the creek waters underneath.

DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS.



Excavating for the Stadium. BAHA Archives, gift of Margo Gwinn Estate.

CONTROLLED BURNS were practiced by the Huchiun-Ohlone group of native Americans. In 1895, an item in the *Berkeleyan* described "the unsightly appearance of sewer-begrimed water and filthily discolored banks." Cattle grazing and imported annual grasses as early as 1850s. Waterworks as early as 1860s supplied water to farms. A system of reservoirs and conduits was developed by the university as shown in Soulé's map. Dairy farms, cattle grazing, existed up until the 1930s. The canyon now suffers from impervious and/or unnatural surfaces: buildings, parking lots, lawns, and walkways. Dynamiting the hillside and culverting the creek to build a stadium happened in the early 1920s.



*Strawberry Canyon, 1922.
BAHA Archives,
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MONUMENT HILL is the backdrop for these young couples on a walk in Strawberry Canyon in 1922.

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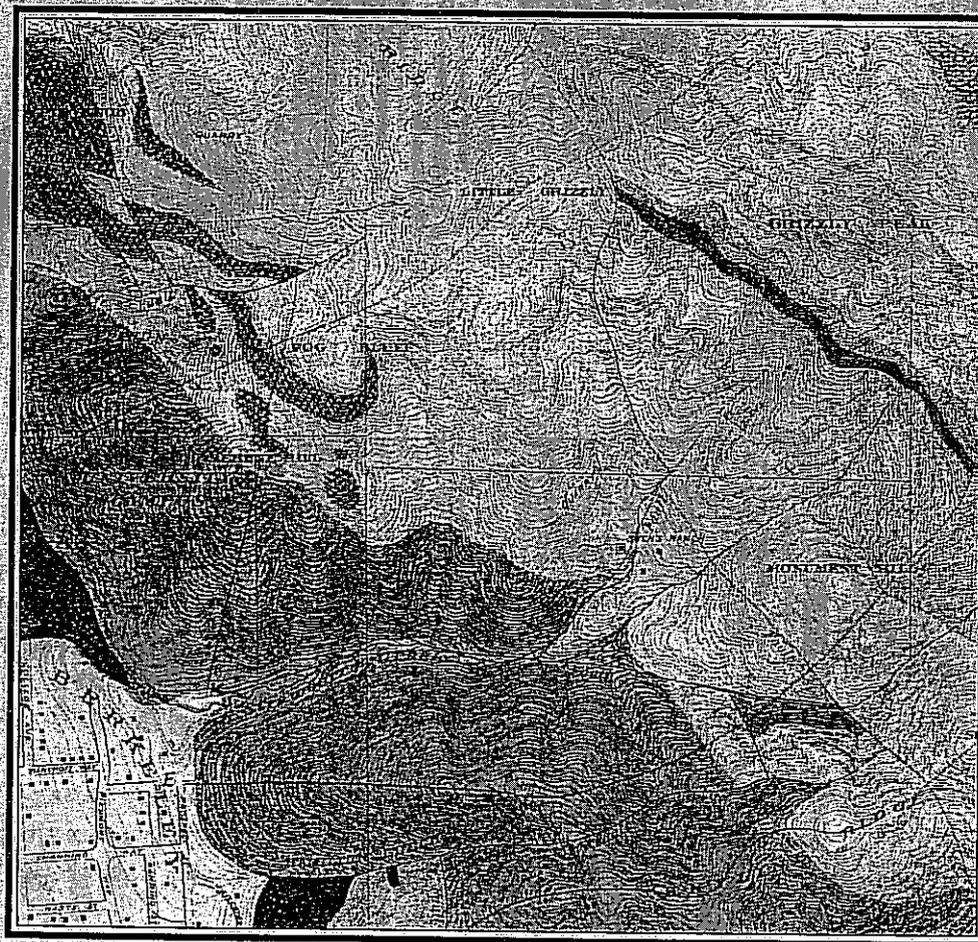
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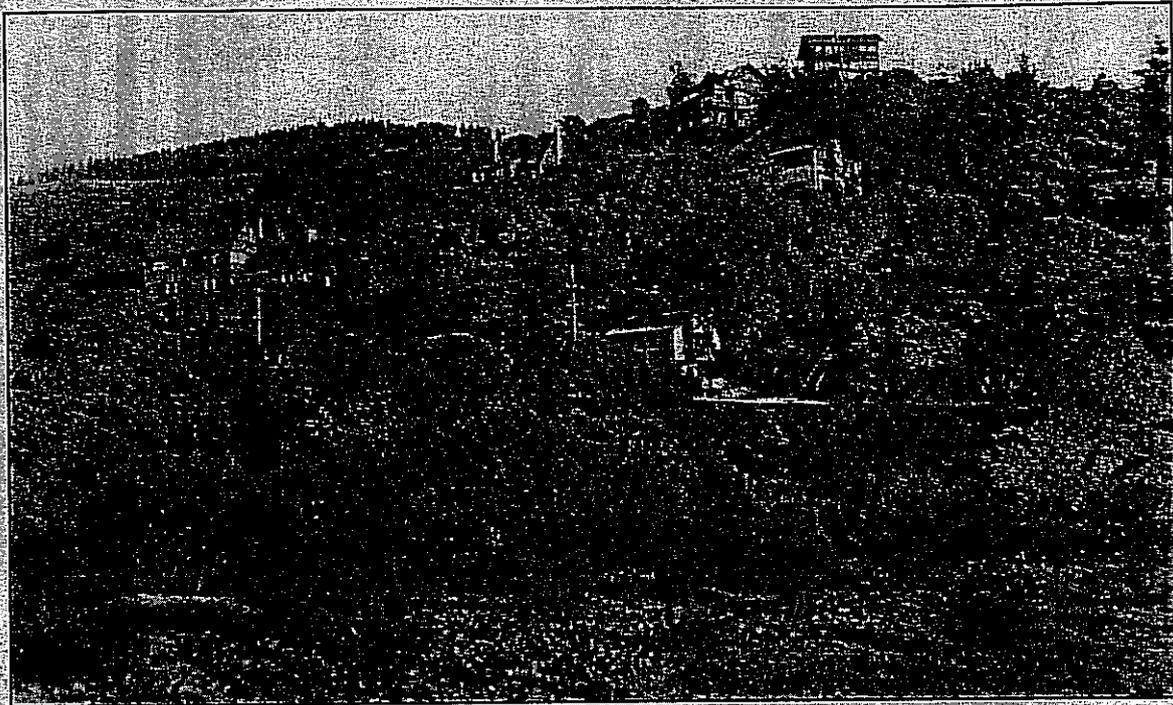
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"Berkeley Highlands — Side Hill Homes." c. 1920. BAHA Archives.

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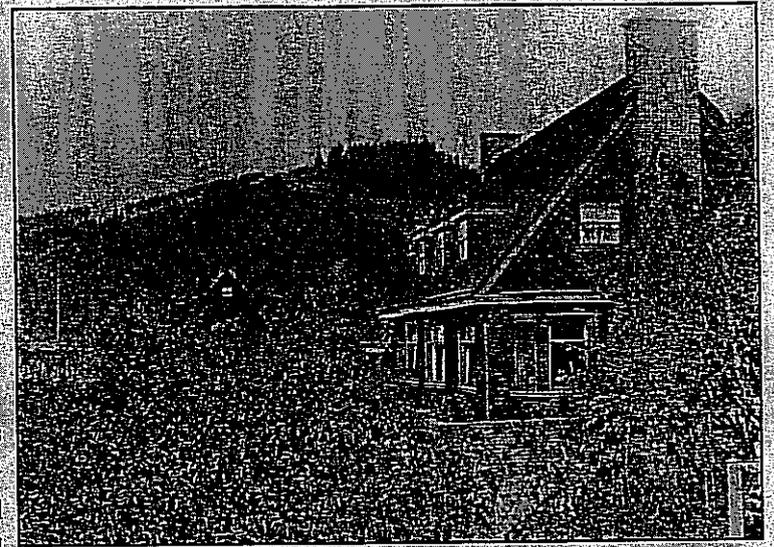
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Torrey House with Rieber House in distance. Note Stadium has already been built. BAHA Archives (from Dorothea Torrey Kelley).

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STRAWBERRY CANYON RECREATIONAL CENTER WURSTER, BERNARDI & GIMMONS, ARCHITECTS, 1957-59

The firm of Wurster, Bernardi & Gimmons was commissioned in 1957 to design a recreational facility in the level area at the mouth of Strawberry Canyon for the leisure-time enjoyment of the entire campus community. Since its opening in 1959, nearly 100,000 persons have used the area each year. Both the Elise and Walter Hill Clubhouse and the Elise Stein Swimming Pool to this day are presented to the University as gifts. Original landscaping was planned by Lawrence H. Johnson & Associates.

The Clubhouse was designed as an national redwood, masonry, indoor-outdoor building, blending its use and its setting in an unspoiled Coast Range canyon. The designer of this "Secondary Tradition" institutional structure was Theodore Bernardi, one of the principals in the firm. To quote from Bernardi's obituary, written for the *San Francisco Chronicle* by Allen Turk in 1990: "As the partner in charge of many of their firm's important works, Mr. Bernardi was chiefly responsible for many important, but very dignified buildings, such as the delightful Strawberry Canyon Recreational Center."

In 1967 the East Pool was added, and in 2003 Raif Shaffer Architects were engaged to remodel the locker rooms and replace interior finishes.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCT 25—BAHA LECTURE

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

OCT 28—OHA HOUSE TOUR

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

NOV 1—BAHA LECTURE

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

NOV 3 — BHS WALKING TOUR

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

NOV 11—BAHA LECTURE & HOUSE RECEPTION

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

OCT-MAR—BHS EXHIBIT

"Berkeley in the 1930s" at Berkeley History Center, 1931 Center Street. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 1-4. www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/histsoc/

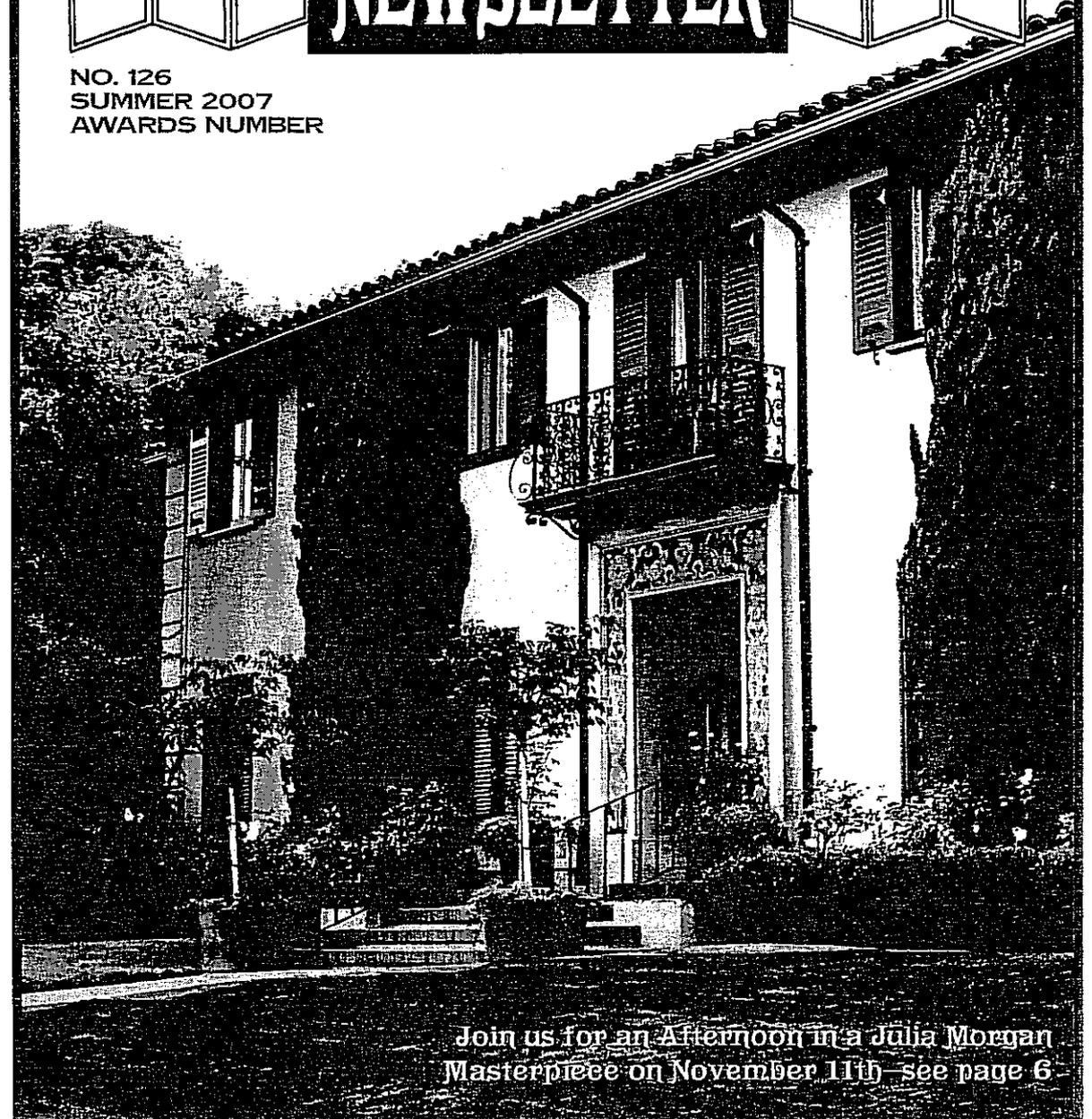


BAHA board members Sally Sachs, President Carrie Olson, Anne Wagley, and Tim Hansen at BAHA's booth at the September 8 Solano Stroll. Photo by Daniella Thompson.

BERKELEY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

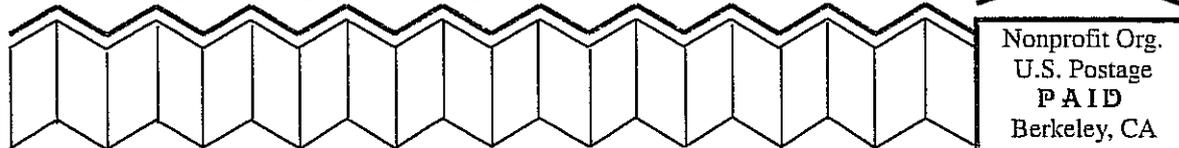


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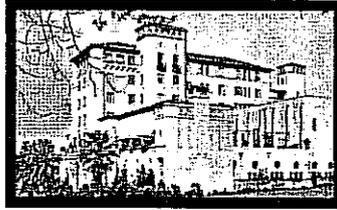
Join us for an Afternoon in a Julia Morgan Masterpiece on November 11th—see page 6

BERKELEY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION



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Berkeley City Club

THE BAH NEWSLETTER

NO. 126 SUMMER 2007



Berkeley City Club Swimming Pool

C O N T E N T S

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| Strawberry Canyon Summer Sojourn _____ | page 4 | Membership News _____ | page 15 |
| Fall Lecture Series _____ | page 6 | Calendar of Events _____ | page 16 |

COVER: The Seldon Williams House on Claremont Blvd., designed by Julia Morgan in 1928, will be the setting for an afternoon reception and informal talk by Mark Wilson, author of Julia Morgan, Architect of Beauty, on Sunday, November 11. Anthony Bruce photo, 2004.

ABOVE: "Berkeley Women's City Club" and "Swimming Pool, Berkeley Women's City Club", vintage postcards courtesy Anthony Bruce. The Berkeley City Club will be the site of BAH lectures on October 25 and November 1.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

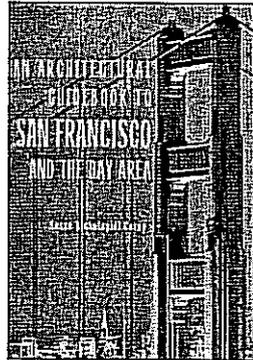
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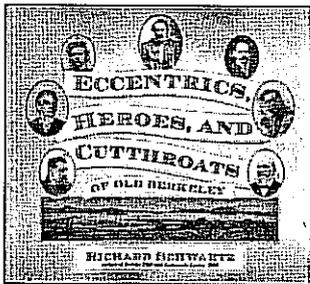
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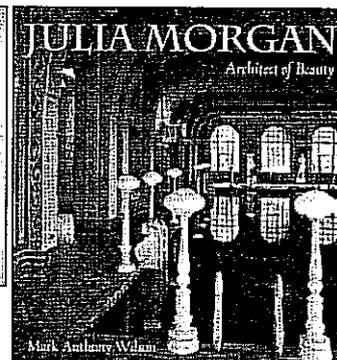
3 NEW BOOKS by BAH Members



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



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



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

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

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

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

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

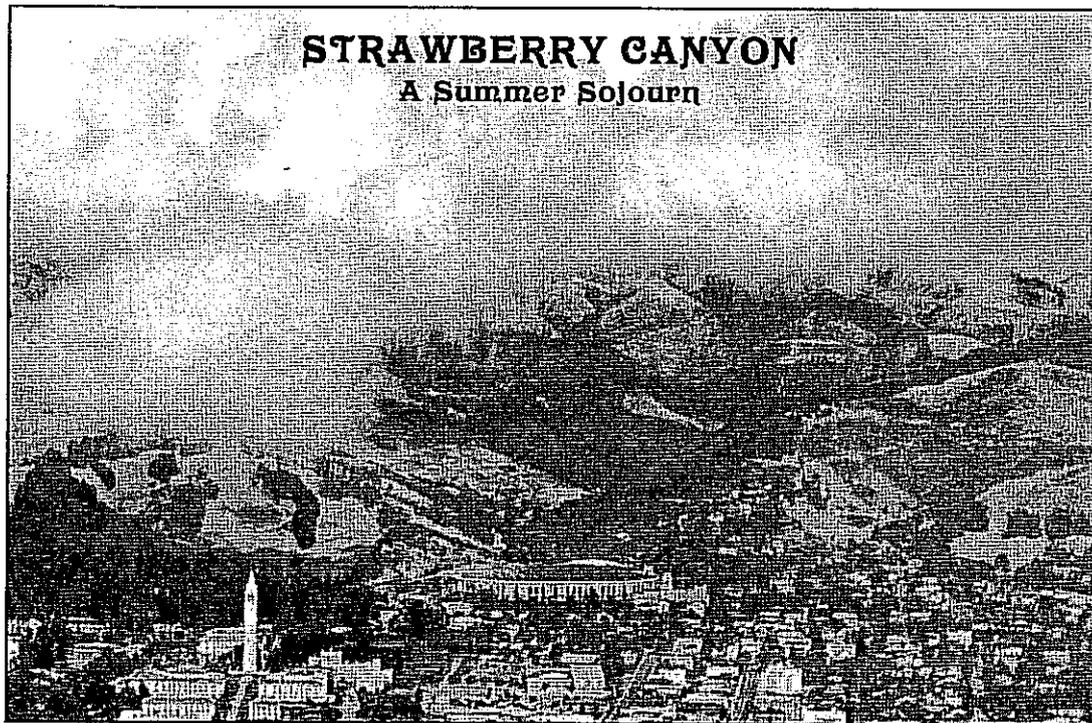
Other hot topics: The Stadium, which still has no plan for retrofit, the Memorial Oak Grove adjoining the Stadium, Strawberry Canyon and the continuing march of the Berkeley Lab into the cultural open space of the Canyon, the nomination sent to the State Historical Resources Commission to list the Berkeley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

Carrie Olson, President

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

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

STRAWBERRY CANYON A Summer Sojourn



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



Charles Birnbaum

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

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

preciate the Canyon's history.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

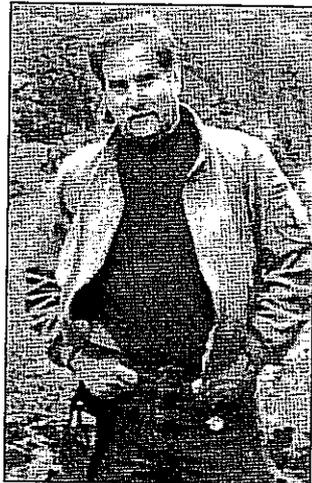
Of course, Ernest Orlando Lawrence's discovery in 1931 of the ability to split an atom was the catalyst for the initial wave of research and development facilities on Berkeley's hillsides. The first generation of buildings was known as the Radiation Laboratory, or the "Rad Lab," and were mainly out-of-sight.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

(continued on page 7)

THREE AUTHORS TO SPEAK

Fall Lecture Series in Julia Morgan Settings

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



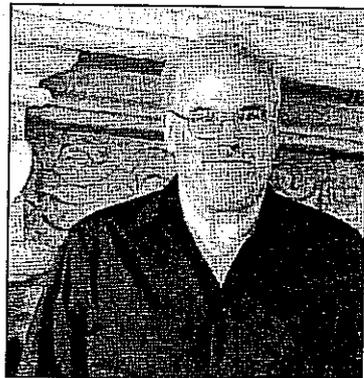
On **October 25**, a Thursday evening, local historian **Richard Schwartz** will talk on "**The Eccentrics of 19th Century Downtown Berkeley**" at the Berkeley City Club, one of Julia Morgan's great club buildings, designed in 1929. Richard is the author of *Berkeley 1900* and *Earthquake Exodus*. His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

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



Daniella Thompson photograph.

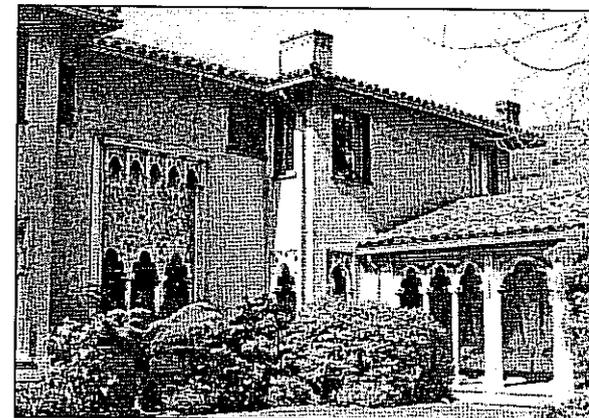
On Sunday afternoon, **November 11**, we move to Claremont Court and Julia Morgan's Seldon Williams House of 1928 to hear BAHA member and architectural historian, **Mark A. Wilson** speak on "**Julia Morgan: her Unique Place in American Architecture**." Mark's exhaustive new book, *Julia Morgan, Architect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



Andrea Ferreira photograph

The SELDON WILLIAMS HOUSE

a Julia Morgan Masterpiece



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

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

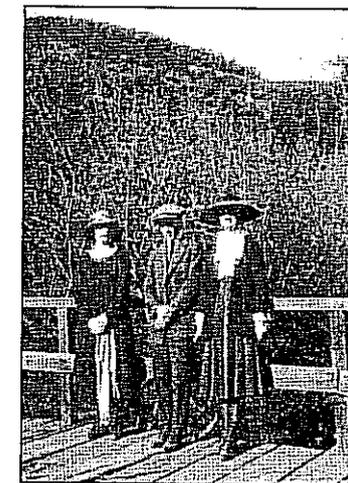
and richness this residence radiates. The soaring two-story entry hall is overlooked by the second floor landing above, while straight ahead the tall picture-glass window has a wonderful pattern of Moorish tracery across the upper half. A lovely della Robbia of Madonna and child, chosen by Julia Morgan,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

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

Strawberry Canyon Sojourn

continued from page 5

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



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

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

2007 BAHA PRESERVATION AWARD WINNERS

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

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

— COMMENDATION —

1. Kate M. Buckley House, 2022 Dwight Way

(architect unknown, 1894)

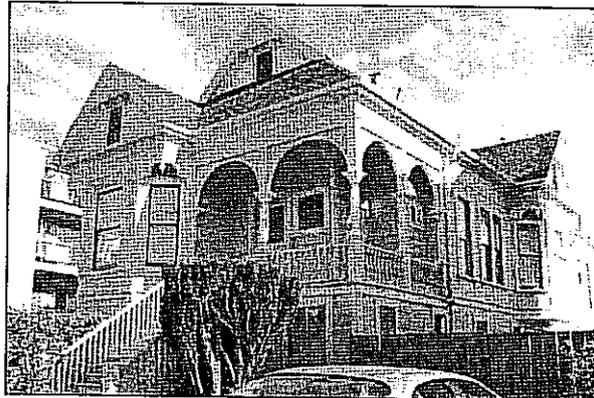
owners: Ury and Arela Beary

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

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

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

BAHA recognizes and commends the preservation and excellent condition that the current owners have bestowed on the property. The tasteful and suitable exterior painting of this



Wendy Markel

charming early Berkeley house offsets greatly the pressure of the very busy street, and contributes considerably to the historic elegance of the Dwight Way Station neighborhood.

— AWARDS —

1. Alpha Delta Chi Chapter House, 2401 Ridge Road

(Stafford Lelean Jory, 1924)

owner: Church Divinity School of the Pacific

architect: Turnbull Griffin & Haesloop

contractor: Oliver & Company

structural engineer: Degenkolb Engineers

landscape architect: Gary Strang, GLS Landscape | Architecture

historical: Naomi Miroglio, Architectural Resources Group

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

The chapter house was a stately English manor clad in brick veneer and cast stone caps, with numerous multi-pane windows and two levels of parapets. Flashing, however, was minimal. Over the years, rain water seeped in between the wood frame and the brick cladding. The two layers separated, the cast-stone trim cracked, and in December 2003, a long section of the second-floor brick veneer on the west façade collapsed. (As a seismic precaution, the roof parapets had been removed years ago along with the upper part of the chimney.)

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

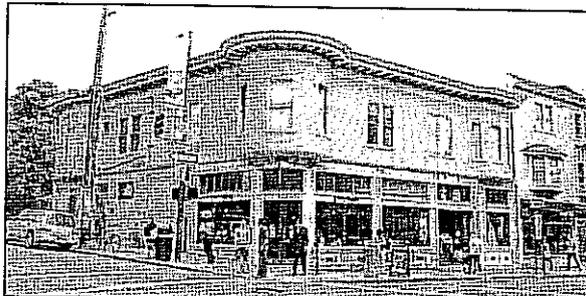


Daniella Thompson, 2007

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

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

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



Daniella Thompson

2. King Building, 2501 Telegraph Avenue

(A. Dodge Coplin, 1901)

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

owners: John Gordon and Janis Mitchell

architect: Jim Novosel, The Bay Architects

structural engineer: Peter Van Maren, Van Maren Associates

designer: Jane A. Wise, Wise Design

contractors: Mike and Mark Butler, Berkeley Craftsmen Builders

nominated by: Burl Willes

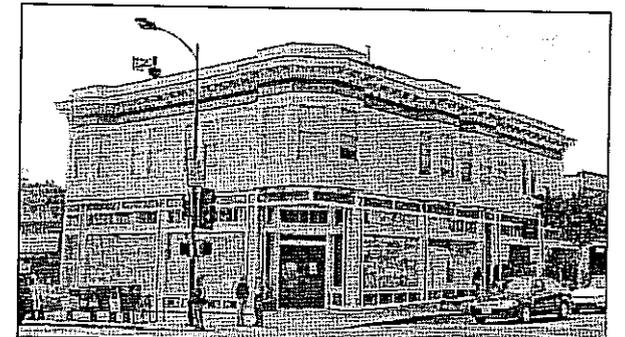
No historic building seems to be too old, tired, or even too dilapidated for this preservationist couple to invest in and elevate

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

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

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

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



Daniella Thompson

3. Fred Koerber Building, 2659 College Avenue

(architect unknown, 1907)

owners: Janis Mitchell and John Gordon, Owners

architects: Jim Novosel / Bay Architects

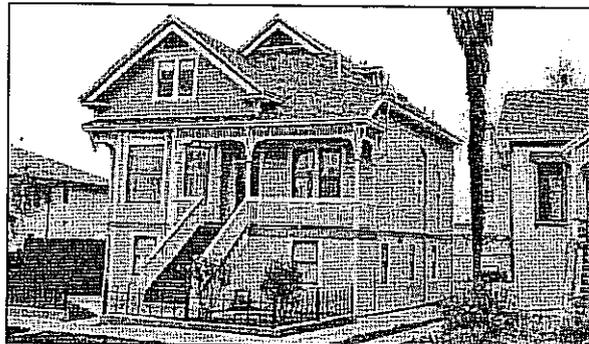
contractors: Holland and Harley

color consultant: Bob Buckter

nominated by: Burl Willes

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

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



Daniella Thompson

4. Kueffer House, 2430 Fulton Street

(architect unknown, 1891)

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

owner: Nathan George

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

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

5. Rankin House, 2909-11 Wheeler Street

(architect unknown, 1906)

owners: Romney and Daniel O'Connell

architect: Anne-Catrin Schultz

contractor: Mark & Mike Butler, Berkeley Craftsmen Builders



Romney O'Connell

Restoration of the Rankin House, a 1906 South Berkeley brown-shingle, was a heroic rescue effort, and no one can describe it better than the owner, Romney O'Connell, who wrote: "My husband and I bought the house in 2002. Frankly, a fixer was all we could afford. We lived with our three small children in our one-bedroom apartment while working on the house. The foundation needed replacing, the shingles were shot, there was ivy growing on the inside of the house. The kitchen and bath had been very badly and cheaply remodeled. The dining room board-and-batten had been covered in paneling, and the wall above the plate rail was styrofoam over lath. Both sets of exterior stairs were dangerously rotten. The built-ins were more or less destroyed. The yard was wild and flooded badly, inundating the basement.

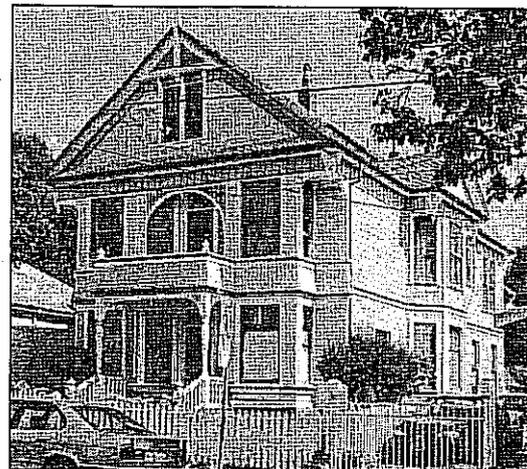
"We lifted the house to replace the foundation and were granted a permit to leave it raised three feet. We then took the interior down to the studs, preserving built-in amenities like window seats, closets, and dressers. We replaced all plumbing, heating and electrical systems, and repaired all moldings.

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

"Since there was no access to the large back yard, I designed a 12 x 35 foot redwood deck for the back of the house, continuing the same balustrade around it. I replaced a bedroom window with French doors for access. We then designed a separate three-bedroom, two-bath home for the ground level

in order to, some day, pay for all this! From the outside, most people can't tell there was an addition at all."

BAHA applauds the O'Connells for their creative solutions, good taste, and thoughtful restoration on a limited budget.



Carrie Olson, 2007

6. 1720 Delaware Street

(architect unknown, 1890s)

owners: John C. Link and Phyllis Goldsmith

restorers: John Link and Phyllis Goldsmith

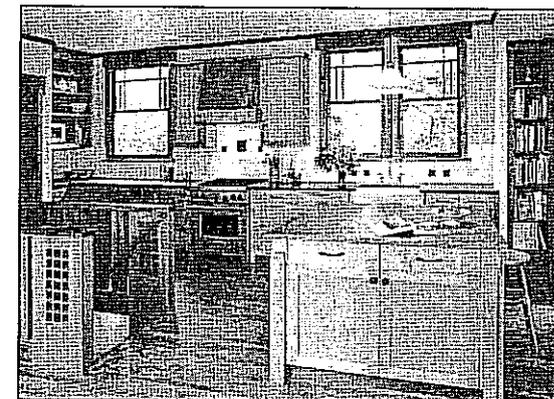
architect: John C. Link

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

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

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

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



Muffy Kilbey

7. 1185 Keith Avenue (John Hudson Thomas, c. 1913)

owners: Laurie Case and Andrew Baker

architect: Gary Earl Parsons

contractor: Jamie Carlen

engineer: Juri Komendant

design consultant: Michelle Nelson, The Craftsman Home

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

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

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

8. Mark Daniels House, 1864 Yosemite Road

(A.W. Smith, 1910)

owner: L. John Harris

architect: Rachel Hamilton

consulting architect: Bennett Christopherson

contractor: McCutcheon Construction

project craftsmen: Alex Hodgkinson/Steve Gibbs

landscape consultants: Barbra Blake/Bernard Hickie

gardeners: Maudad Safadirazieli/Linda Sobolewski

stonemasons: Leonardo Medina/David Liu

ironsmith: Gary Salzman

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

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

Careful attention was paid to the minutest detail. Rooflines, windows, matched shingles, and countless features not obvious to the casual observer converge into a harmonious whole. In the rear, the addition presents a façade with varying setbacks, whose appearance suggests a rustic village built over time. The rear garden was transformed into a magical place where ancient oaks and crags overlook dry-stone walls, terraces, and winding paths, all utilizing local stone. A grand "Arts & Crafts" stone staircase leads from the new addition to the lower level of the garden, and new trees and shrubs complement the native hillside.

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

9. Henry and Ruth Colby House, 210 Stonewall Road (William Wilson Wurster, 1931, 1941; Thomas Church, Landscape Architect, 1934)

owners: Jessica Seaton & Keith Wilson

architects: Seaton/Wilson Architects, Inc.

contractor: Artistry Construction

garden restoration design: Jessica Seaton

painting contractor (exterior): Mark Westburg Painting

elevator restorer: Metropolitan Elevator Co.

cabinet contractor: Wood Connection, Inc.

granite countertop supplier: Pietra Fina

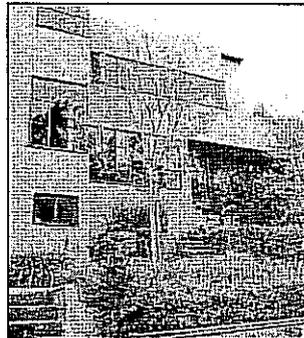
floor refinisher: Metropolitan Floors



Daniella Thompson

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

With the same attention and devotion to the original, Jessica Seaton has rescued the inherited Thomas Church garden. The original wood walls and steps have been rebuilt, and substantial new plantings arranged with utmost respect to the Church geometry. The house was included in the 1945 exhibit "Modern Houses" at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.



Daniella Thompson

BAHA is Built upon the Generosity of Its Members and Friends

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

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

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

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

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

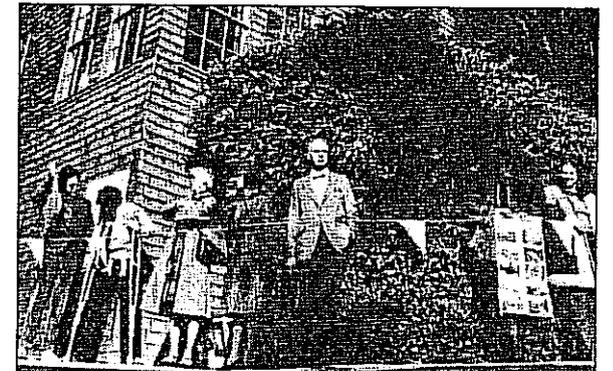
PAT DEVANEY (1919-2007) — A TRIBUTE

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

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

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

When the Downtown Plan was crafted in the 1980s,

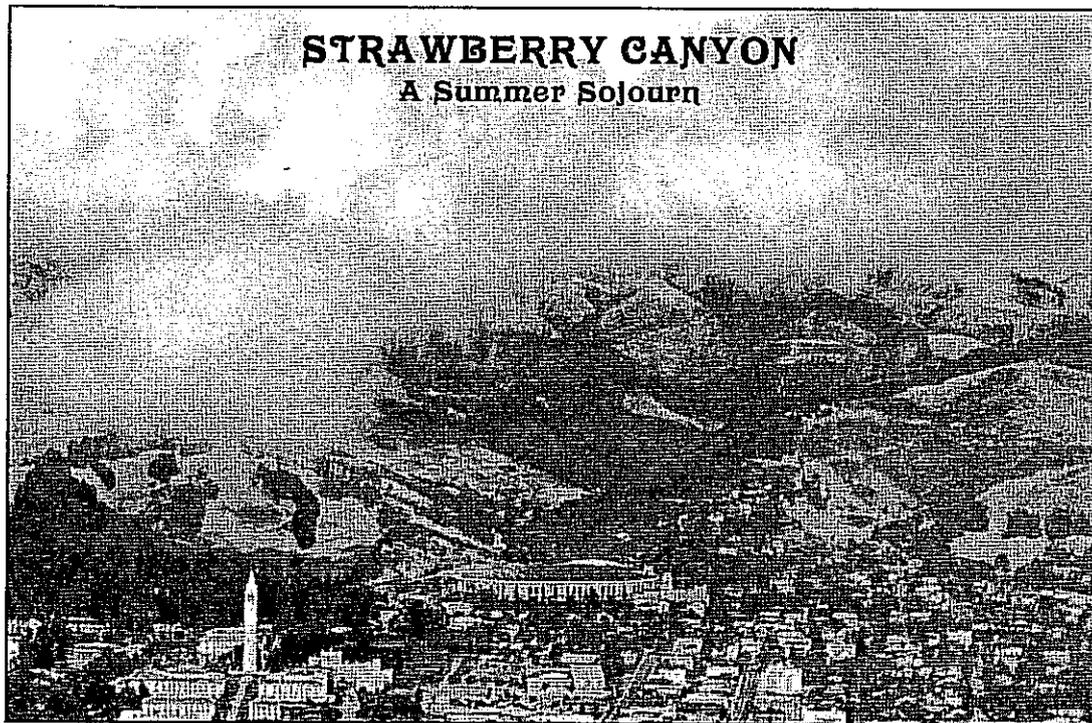


Patrick Devaney (center), with other BAHA members, including Howard Bloch, Carroll Brentano, Lynne Crocker, and Lesley Emmington, at a rally to save the Naval Architecture Building in 1976. Ken Green photo. Oakland Tribune.

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

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

STRAWBERRY CANYON A Summer Sojourn



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



Charles Birnbaum

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

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

preciate the Canyon's history.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

(continued on page 7)



Out-Going President's Message

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS . . .

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

- Laura Allen
- Becky Bart & Kater Murch
- Candice Basham
- Alan Bern
- Gerhard Blendstrup
- Terry Blount
- Vivian Bobha
- Carol Anne & The Very Rev. Donald G. Brown
- Steven Carr
- Carlene Chang
- Paul V. Curtis
- Colin Dodsworth
- J. & P. Dolhinow
- Tim Ernst
- Carolyn L. Erskine
- Saroko Garcia
- Sandra Gaunt
- Nancy Genn
- David Greenbaum & Heidi Rosenfelder
- Jane W. Headley
- Jonathan Heller
- GAIL Hollander
- Kurt Housh
- Judith M. Jacobsen
- Roy Jarl
- Carol & Bob Kelly-Thomas
- Faye Keogh
- Robin Kibby
- Sandi Hobbs Konrath
- Kate Kretzmer
- L.Z. Lerman
- Lyle Lopus
- Gail W. Lowry
- Josephine MacMillan
- Pamela Marostica
- Donna McCracken
- Ellen McKaskle
- Jane McKinne-Mayer
- Ann & Dean Metzger
- Tod Morton
- Bart O'Brien
- David Osborn
- Thomas Pedemonte
- Ruth & Barry Phillips
- Dr. Ellen Fitzsimmons Porzig
- Nancy Raff & John Torcassi

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

CONTRIBUTING

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

PATRON

- Bruce Aidells



. . . AND MEMBERS RENEWED!

Jane Allen & Marc Grant, Rhoda Alvarez, Fan & Jim Albritton, Betty Ames, Sheila Andrus, Pat & Gene Angell, John G. Aronovici, Elly Bada, J.K. Ballantine, Helen Barber, Joan V. Barnett, Cris Barrera, Jane Barrett, Arlene Baxter & David Mostardi, Mary Baxter, Susan & Robert Becker, Joel ben Izzy, Burton Benedict, Emily Benner, Dorothea Benney, Caroline & Michael Beldendorf, Beverly Bense, Ralph Benson, Robert Wallace Blake, Ellen Bloch, Monique Bonjour, Linda Caruth Bradford, Mary Bruntig, Siegfried E. Brockmann, Stafford Buckley, Carl Bunch, Frances Burnette, Grace Buzaljkic, Barbara H. Cadwalader, Shirley & Dennis Caputo, Doretee Castella, Senia Pugh Chamberlain, Carolyn Chapin, Haidah Chew, Linnea & Richard Christiani, Karen Cilman, George Clark, Courtney Clarkson, Marilyn & Jack Clifton, Thomas Cline & Barbara Meyer, Sydney Clemens, Janet & Joseph Clyne, Terri Compost, Marguerite Conrad, Katherine Conley, Rosemary M. Corbin, Patricia Cross, Mary Curran, Annie-May de Bresson, Mary Hope Dean, Diana Demeter, Peter Di Muna, Francine Di Palma, Helen Gross Dierkes, Beverly Duane, Barbara & David Dorfheld, Riley Doty, Wendy Draper.

CONTRIBUTING

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

SUSTAINING

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

PATRON

Juliet Lamont & Phil Price, Laurie & Ken Sarachan.

HONORARY

Sallie Arens & Edward Waterman, Ann & Loring Dales, Charlotte Fishman & Alan Sparger, John Harris, Ruth & David Kumpmann, Joan L. Sezer

You can join BAHAs

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I want to be ACTIVE!

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THE BERKELEY
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P.O. BOX 1137 MAIN POST OFFICE
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94701

TEL. 510-841-2242 FAX. 510-841-7421
May 29, 2007

Jeff Philliber
LBNL Environmental Planning Coordinator
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
One Cyclotron Road, MS 80-101
Berkeley, CA 94720

Re: Comments on the Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration for
Construction and Operations of Proposed Berkeley Lab Guest House

Dear Mr. Philliber:

The Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association (BAHA) is writing in dismay, having learned that the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) is seeking adoption at the Regent's July meeting of a Negative Declaration for the construction of a proposed "Guest House" in Strawberry Canyon. Given the possibility that the Guest House "MAY" cause detriment to Strawberry Canyon's sensitive environment and given that Strawberry Canyon has been assessed to be a potential Cultural Landscape, BAHA questions the adequacy of the published Negative Declaration as being in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act. BAHA, in the spirit of its mission "to encourage and secure the preservation of those structures, sites, and areas which have value contributing to the enrichment of the Berkeley environment and to the understanding of its heritage," urges LBNL and the Regents to take pause.

BAHA has attempted to understand the LBNL rationale for inadequate environmental review by preparing a Negative Declaration for the proposed Guest House project. By description, the Guest House is introducing a new residential use, as well as associated cumulative uses, that have the probability of altering the environmental integrity of a potential natural resource of national, state, and/or local standing. No discussion of impacts from the 1987, 1992, or the 1997 Environmental Impact Reports evaluates any such residential use in Strawberry Canyon, previously,

currently, or in the future. Furthermore, relying on anticipated proposed projects, including 10 listed LBNL "planned, pending, and/or reasonably foreseeable projects in the area" would appear to be disingenuous as these are projects have not yet been fully reviewed in compliance with CEQA (e.g. BAHA comment letter, March 23, 2007, LBNL 2006 Long Range Development Plan), nor have they been approved and, therefore, they do not, by association, justify inadequate environmental review of the Guest House.

Recently the City of Berkeley Landmarks Preservation Commission, Certified by the California State Office of Historic Preservation, assessed that the Strawberry Canyon is a potential Cultural Landscape "merit [ing] documentation as such." BAHA would expect that no projects would go forward until the obligation of identifying the significance of Strawberry Canyon goes forward (Please see enclosed Memorandum, March 7, 2007).

It is BAHA's considered belief, based on a long standing historic perspective of the significance of Strawberry Canyon's natural features, that a full analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the Guest House is deserved under CEQA Guidelines, including a full analysis of alternatives within the city's urban context.

Thank you for attention given to these concerns.

Sincerely,


Wendy Markel, President

Encl: 1) BAHA letter to Jeff Philliber, Environmental Planning, LBNL, March 23, 2007.

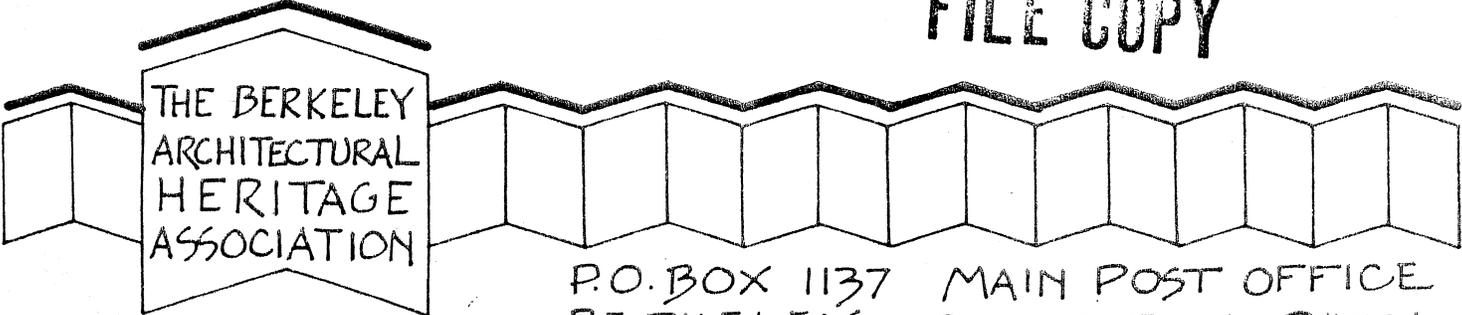
2) City of Berkeley, Landmarks Preservation Commission Memorandum to Arrietta Chakow, Assistant City Manager, March 7, 2007

cc: Richard Blum, Chairman, Board of Regents

Chancellor Robert Birgeneau

Dan Marks, Director, Planning and Development, City of Berkeley

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ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 1137 MAIN POST OFFICE
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94701

Jeff Philliber
Environmental Planning Group
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
One Cyclotron Road, MS 90J-0120
Berkeley, California 94720

TEL. 510-841-2242 FAX. 510-841-7421
March 23, 2007

SEND Via FAX 510-486-4101

Re: Comments on the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory 2006 Long Range
Development Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report

Dear Jeff Philliber:

The Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association (BAHA) appreciates this opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) Long Range Development Plan (LRDP). BAHA, a long standing membership organization dedicated to the education, encouragement, and protection of Berkeley's unique historic environment, is commenting in its capacity as a public stake holder with serious concerns about the profound environmental impacts that these plans would have upon the irreplaceable assets of Strawberry Canyon as a Cultural Landscape.

The LRDP, a programmatic document only, proposes to utilize the Strawberry Canyon area for almost a million square feet of new and, as of yet, unconstructed building space and to create 500 additional parking spaces for 1,000 new employees. Concurrently, the project objectives are proposed to strengthen, expand, and design for new institutional growth. While these projected plans and objectives would appear to be rational and in sync with current institutional research practices or business models, they are, in reality, not logical or socially responsible at this location. The natural and physical terrain of the hillside area, plus the University's plans already proposed in the adjoining Southeast Campus, and the significance of Strawberry Canyon as a Cultural Landscape make this proposal not only unwelcome, but incredulous.

At this juncture the environmental review in the LRDP is lacking an adequate understanding of the project scale and building(s) mass that would, in fact, be needed to fulfill the programmatic plans outlined in the DEIR. The stated intent to expand current facilities and to rehabilitate current facilities is too vague. The sketchy "illustrative design" concepts portraying the physical imprint of potential "new scientific facilities" are insufficient. There is a need to disclose true architectural plans, including magnitude, location, height, design, materials, mechanical apparatus, and waste systems of such building(s) providing for such "national" research facilities "programmed to accommodate multiple disciplines in advanced

infrastructure suitable for future scientific endeavors...[and] to support future research initiatives and continued growth in existing programs” that might serve the combined uses of academic research, federal/state interests, and industrial capital/business interests. Lacking such full disclosure at this juncture, the following questions are posed:

- Which existing LBNL facilities would be expanded?
- Which existing LBNL facilities would be rehabilitated?
- How would existing facilities and rehabilitated facilities connect physically to “new scientific facilities” in order to “enhance collaboration, productivity, and efficiency?”
- Will the Final EIR disclose full architectural plans for all the buildings needed to fulfill the programmatic plans and project objectives outlined in the DEIR?
- Will any LBNL contracts with outside state/federal and private industry be available for public review at the time of the Final EIR?
- Will any LBNL contracts with outside state/federal and private industry be completed at the time of the Final EIR?
- How will the California Governor’s pledge to secure \$40 million, or more, determine the size, scope, demands of the projected “new scientific facilities?”

In the case of the “illustrative design” building concept(s) in the DEIR, sited across from the University’s historic Botanical Garden, and next to the Stephen Mather Redwood Grove, the following questions seem appropriate now to ask:

- Why would “new scientific facilities” of such magnitude be placed across from the University’s Botanical Garden, a cultural resource ranking with other major Botanical Gardens as the one of the world’s leading Gardens in the number of plants it contains?
- Would not the “new scientific facilities” adversely effect the integrity of the adjacent California Area, the largest area of the Botanical Garden that boasts of having the largest area devoted to a regional collection of native plants?
- What would the effect of an industrial-park-like-development be upon the necessary mild climate that sustains the Botanical Garden?
- How would the LBNL “new scientific facilities” complex, including parking, effect the natural flow of water in the Botanical Garden?
- Is it not alarming that the LBNL “new scientific facilities” complex, including parking, be proposed adjacent to the Mather Redwood Grove, thus removing a context area that defines its integrity?
- Is the projected location for “new scientific facilities” the only location in Strawberry Canyon that could accommodate new building(s) and parking of that magnitude?

As a public stake holder it is expected that BAHA, would concur with the finding of the DEIR that the LRDP, as proposed, would cause "significant" environmental impacts. The public health and safety issues alone — such as water pollution, air pollution, landslides, earthquakes, acts of terrorism, traffic congestion, and extreme fire hazards — are conspicuous. Strawberry Canyon is a special place defined by a natural environment that is already under the stress of over-development. Further alteration of its geologically formed hillsides — formed by the timeless interaction of earthquakes, water flow, and precipitation off the Pacific Ocean — to accommodate unlimited "new scientific facilities" is, indeed, an alarming proposal. BAHA joins the City's Planning Commission and Landmarks Preservation Commission in requesting that alternatives be sought elsewhere on University owned property. The following questions seem critical to understand:

- Why would the LBNL LRDP DEIR finding of "significant" environmental impacts be "unavoidable" (*italics ours*) when the University owns property elsewhere that is potentially suitable for scientific research and development?
- What property owned by the University in Richmond has been set aside for potential University research and development?
- When was University property in Richmond identified as a potential for research and development?
- Is any of the University property in Richmond contaminated?
- Is any of the University's Strawberry Canyon property contaminated?
- Given the current practice of global partnerships and collaborations, technological flexibility, and shared advanced research locations, why would a LBNL LRDP project objective be limited to one "main site" within the University, Berkeley, area?
- Would not LBNL elect to give leadership to environmental solutions that will have a positive local, regional environmental impact as well as to global environmental solutions?

The University, Berkeley, and, indeed, LBNL gained their historical roots because of Strawberry Canyon. As early as the 1850s the site was recognized to be a provider of constant water, making possible the location of a future educational institution. The sense of place then was poetic among those who selected the site:

The line of the horizon sweeps in the distance round almost half a circle, commencing at the summit near New Almaden and following a mountain line till it passes west of [San Francisco], where it becomes an ocean horizon for a considerable distance... The extent, the variety of the life embraced in the scenery presented in this view, including as it does land and water, bay and ocean, islands, plains and mountains, city and country, are seldom equaled. Rev. S. H. Willey, 1858

Later, in 1865, Frederick Law Olmsted, America's father of landscape architecture, was to describe the dramatic impressions of the "steep declivities of the coast range" and the "native foliage of a very beautiful character" that defined the effect of Strawberry Canyon as it graced what would become the urban town. The origins of LBNL in Strawberry Canyon, beginning in the WWII era, should be remembered as having its origin in such a rustic and unapproachable area because of the need to have a nearly secret and inaccessible location.

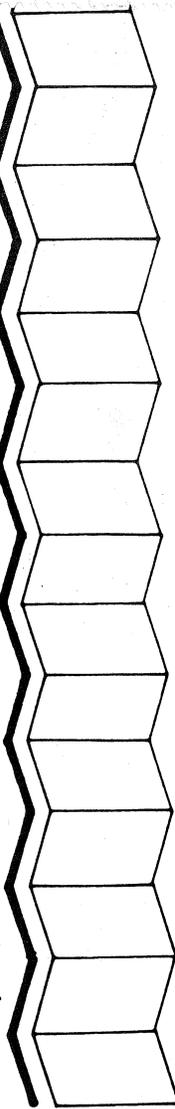
Again, BAHA takes the lead from the City's Landmarks Preservation Commission which responded to the DEIR with the comment "the Strawberry Canyon Area is a potential Cultural Landscape...[that] the DEIR does not acknowledge the adverse impacts...therefore, alternatives, including alternative sites for the proposed development(s), need to be identified and analyzed in the FEIR."

Thank you for your attention to BAHA's comments and for your consideration of BAHA's concerns.

Sincerely,


Wendy Markel, President

THE BERKELEY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION



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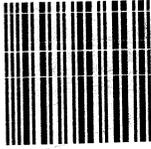
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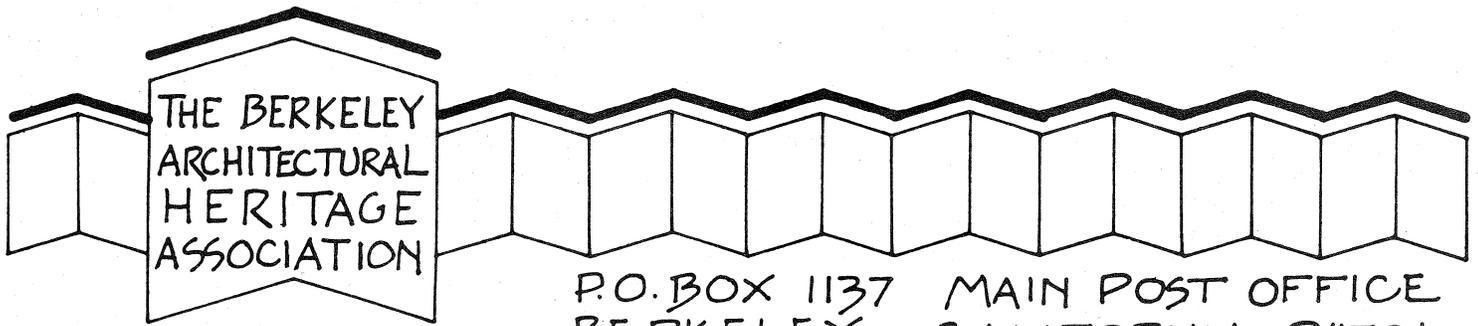


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*Jeff Phillips
Environmental Planning Group
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
One Cyclotron Road, MM 90J-0120
Berkeley, California 94720*



P.O. BOX 1137 MAIN POST OFFICE
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94701

TEL. 510-841-2242 FAX. 510-841-7421
January 4, 2008

Jeff Philliber
Environmental Planning Group
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
One Cyclotron Road, MS 90J-0120
Berkeley, California 94720

Re: Comments on the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) Computational Research and Theory Facility (CRT) Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Jeff Philliber:

... Some, doubtless, would talk of the beautiful flowers which mantle the hills like an exquisitely varied carpet; some of the birds, their habits, their color, their song; some would talk of the early history of Berkeley and would give reminiscences of the Golden Age of youthful Berkeley. But underlying all these, and forming the condition of their existence – without which there never would have been any Berkeley – are the Hills with their rounded and infinitely varied forms, their noble outlook over fertile plain and glistening Bay shut in beyond by glorious mountain ranges through which the Golden Gate opens out on the boundless Pacific. It was this that decided the choice of the site of the University, and determined the existence of Berkeley.

...These Hills, therefore, like all mountains, were formed by upheaval, or by igneous forces at the time mentioned; but all the details of their scenery – every peak or rounded knob, every deep cañon or gentle swale, is the result of subsequent sculpturing by water. If the greater masses were determined by interior forces, all the lesser outlines – all that constitutes scenery – were due to exterior forces. If the one kind of force rough-hewed, the other shaped into forms of beauty.

**Joseph Le Conte "The Making of the Berkeley Hills" from A Berkeley Year,
Published by Women's Auxiliary of the First Unitarian Church of Berkeley, 1898**

The Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association (BAHA), dedicated "to educate the community to encourage and secure the preservation of those structures, sites, and areas which have special architectural, historic, or aesthetic value contributing to the enrichment of the Berkeley environment and to the understanding of its heritage" and representing over 1200 members, wishes to register concern regarding the potential environmental impacts of the proposed CRT project. BAHA was overlooked in the formal noticing and distribution of the CRT project DEIR, in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

This oversight is curious as BAHA did comment (see attached) regarding the 2006 Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) Long Range Development Plan (LRDP). While the Christmas/Holiday is a difficult time to study and digest the profound implications of the proposed CRT project, BAHA understands that this is a critical opportunity for any concerns and questions to be expressed toward an effort to encourage the Regents of the University of California, LBNL, and the United States Department of Energy (DOE), to give adequate consideration of alternative location(s) other than that of the Berkeley-Oakland East Bay Hills, a significant geographic feature of the Coast Range.

Intrinsic to Berkeley's own sense of place and physical beauty are the East Bay Hills. Their steep rise behind the city and the University of California (University) Campus afford unforgettable views and vistas expanding out and beyond, "On the Edge of the World." Looking inward from the sea they, in turn, shape the San Francisco Bay Area. Since the beginnings of Berkeley, University ownership of this vast hillside backdrop has been appreciated by all, town and gown alike, as a traditional cultural property, associated with a deeply shared community history and a love for the natural environment.

That the ridges today suffer from many intrusive developments is due cause to be diligent in analysis of the potential impacts of the proposed CRT project. The introduction of the Molecular Foundry building (approved without an EIR) upon the Hills already stands as a stark warning. Its utilitarian hard-edged style of architecture, exhibiting industrial-park proportions with reflecting glass facades, not only changes the natural ambiance of the hillside itself, but also dramatically and substantially changes views and vistas of Berkeley (overshadowing the Campanile and Claremont Hotel, both listed on the National Register of Historic Places). The proposed CRT project, notably as sizable as any building within the city's urban context below, also promises to become visually intrusive from above upon the landscape and to destroy yet another natural site of the un-spoilt hillside (the simulated photographic depictions in the DEIR are not adequate). By the definition of its research and development functions, whether for "educational" or commercial uses, placing the CRT project on the LBNL hillside property begs reconsideration. Why would LBNL sacrifice unnecessarily, again and again, Berkeley's stretch of the celebrated East Bay Hills for the purpose of amassing high-tech facilities when there are other land use options?

An initiative to undertake a cultural landscape survey of the East Bay Hills, directly opposite the Golden Gate on University lands (including LBNL hillside property), would seem to be a mandatory and necessary action at this time, in compliance with the CRT project CEQA review. Defined most clearly as Strawberry Canyon and its watershed, the hillside landscape deserves public recognition as an invaluable asset meriting protection from further degradation. In-depth research and scholarship documenting the shared community history and the irreplaceable natural resources are long overdue. Below is a limited narrative to reflect only a broad sweep of the community's historic setting, linked initially to the watershed found in the Strawberry Creek and then permanently connected to a sense of place.

It was in 1846 when Colonel John Charles Frémont and his troops first rode over the East Bay Hills to discover an enclosed harbor and out stretching sea before them. Standing on the ridge Frémont then wrote across his map the words "Golden Gate" and thus crystallized an image of stunning grandeur for the world to see. When Henry Durant selected the site for the University along the hillsides of the East Bay, in the spring of [1856], accounts, again, tell of an awe inspiring panorama of beauty: "He had set out to seek a place where learning might find a peaceful home on our Pacific shore. And he had come to the spot, where rising calmly from the sunlit bay, the soft green slope ascended, gently at first and then more abruptly, till it became a rugged storm-worn mountain and then disappeared in the sky. As he gazed upon the glowing landscape he knew he had found it." Durant is said to have exclaimed, "Eureka, I have found it!"

In 1865 when Frederick Law Olmsted, the patron saint of American landscape architecture, was briefly in California and commissioned by the University to prepare a plan for the property, he envisioned a campus aligned with views of the Golden Gate, placing the buildings on a lower terrain of the open landscape where it might be "less commanding and dignified, but more secluded and protected and in this respect more consistent with the idea of Scholarship." The campus, then, would be alongside a thriving commercial town enhanced by gracious "civilized" neighborhoods of homes and parks — all to be shaped by the "steep declivities of the coast range." Olmsted recognized the contrasting beauty of the wild areas up Strawberry Canyon "following a stream of water from the open landscape of the bay region into the midst of the mountains it [the road] offers a great change of scenery within a short distance, and will constitute a unique and most valuable appendage to the general local attractions of the neighborhood."

By the 1890s efforts to develop Berkeley with a respect for the Hills became a self-conscious passion. Images of William Keith painting live oaks along Strawberry Canyon's creek banks or, perhaps, Professor Andrew Lawson leading his students to explore geological tracings in Wildcat Canyon, are only two of the many deep-rooted associations in the community for a love of the landscape. Out of such appreciation a group of spirited ladies formed the Hillside Club. The Hillside Club was transforming, creating a civic pride to influence the building of roads, homes and gardens to reflect the contours of the hillside. The Club founder, Madge Robinson, wrote in 1899: "One looks towards God's everlasting hills for rest and peace, but where can rest and peace be found, so long as our portion of these, God's hills, is scarred with such unhealthy growths, such freaks of houses?" (While she meant ornate Victorians painted white, she most certainly might be turning over in her grave about the proposed CRT project.)

What the 20th century brought to Berkeley rooted the community even more conscientiously in its own sense of place. The Simple Home, written by Charles Keeler, extolled a natural style of family living on the Berkeley hillsides. The developers Duncan McDuffie and John Spring planned residential subdivisions, inspired by Olmsted's landscape principles that were first

envisioned for Berkeley in the 1860s, with gracious hillside homes enhanced by park-like amenities. The University selection of John Galen Howard to design a *Beaux Arts* plan for the Campus also heralded a new pride for the community. Berkeley become its own force of nature, drawing inspiration from its own unique setting and developed aesthetic:

"The First Bay Tradition" is a term that has been given to a new direction in architectural design begun in San Francisco about 1890. It took root and flowered most distinctively in the North Berkeley Hills just North of the University of California Campus. While it had its beginnings in the Arts and Crafts Movement in England in the mid-nineteenth century, it was brought to the Bay Area by a group of architects which included Ernest Coxhead, Bernard Maybeck, A.C. Schweinfurth, Willis Polk and later John Galen Howard and Julia Morgan. These architects were classically trained and were inspired by the wide vistas of open rolling hills and winding verdant creek beds. Their designs expressed a philosophy characterized by the use of materials indigenous to the area, in a straight forward and simple manner: structural members were left exposed and became the decorative elements, wood was left unpainted, exteriors were often covered with shingles, although board and batten siding as well as half-timbering, brick and stucco were also used; subtle historical references are found occasionally. Landscaping featured informal gardens, native stone-work and vine covered arbors, the overall effect was intended to be compatible with the natural beauty of the Bay Area. The architectural idiom was so influential that between 1900-1915 the majority of homes built in North Berkeley, branching out from the Daley Scenic Park tract, were built in this simple rustic style. In other California cities rustic shingled homes were referred to as "Berkeley Frown Shingles."

Susan Dienkelspiel Cerny, "Northside,"

Published by the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association, 1990

In citing the above historic events and references to Berkeley's architectural history, BAHA wishes to remind the preparers of the CRT DEIR that the City of Berkeley Landmarks Preservation Ordinance is inclusive in its scope, beginning with: "It is found that structures, sites and areas of special character or special historical, architectural or aesthetic interests or value have been and continue to be unnecessarily destroyed or impaired, despite the feasibility of preserving them...." (3.24.010, and following). Furthermore, State and National criteria for recognition of historic and natural resources were created to identify irreplaceable resources on behalf of the public benefit and for future generations.

When the East Bay Regional Park District was established in 1934, it was made possible because of an outpouring of public support preserve and protect a vast network of watershed lands for the public benefit. The proposed park lands and subsequent park land acquisitions did not include the University owned property in the East Bay Hills. Perhaps it was assumed then that the University would forever be a conservator of its vast and beautiful holdings, containing the Strawberry Canyon watershed. At the time the "Report on Proposed

Park Reservations for East Bay Cities," prepared for the Bureau of Public Administration, University of California, by the Olmsted Brothers, landscape architects, and Ansel F. Hall, National Park Service, was written it did not raise the question of the future of the University property. This is the time. The CEQA process for the 2006 LBNL LRDP, the CRT, and the Helios Energy Research Facility will be inadequate without a meaningful exploration of alternative sites.

Thank you for your consideration of BAHA's concerns.

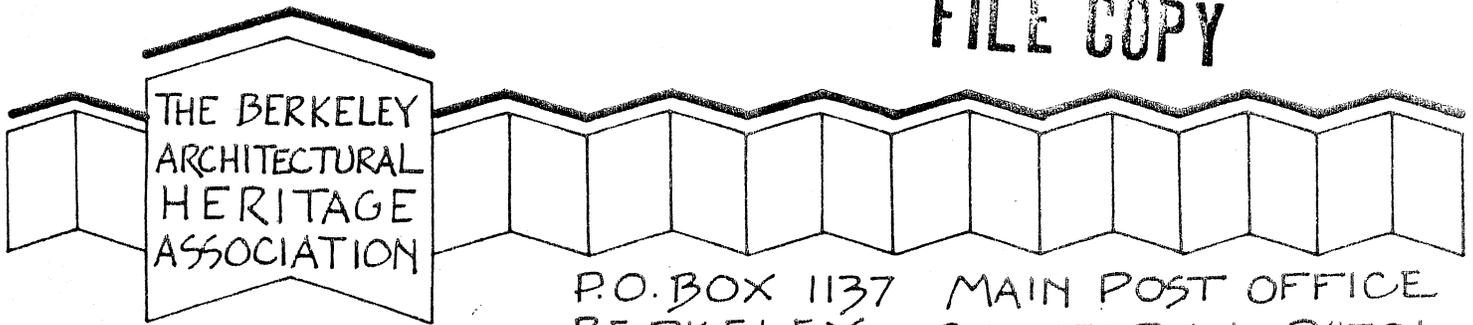
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carrie Olson".

Carrie Olson, President

Attachment: Letter to Jeff Philliber, LBNL, March 23, 2007, from BAHA Re: LBNL 2006 LRDP

FILE COPY



P.O. BOX 1137 MAIN POST OFFICE
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94701

Jeff Philliber
Environmental Planning Group
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
One Cyclotron Road, MS 90J-0120
Berkeley, California 94720

TEL. 510-841-2242 FAX. 510-841-7421
March 23, 2007

SEND Via FAX 510-486-4101

Re: Comments on the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory 2006 Long Range
Development Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report

Dear Jeff Philliber:

The Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association (BAHA) appreciates this opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) Long Range Development Plan (LRDP). BAHA, a long standing membership organization dedicated to the education, encouragement, and protection of Berkeley's unique historic environment, is commenting in its capacity as a public stake holder with serious concerns about the profound environmental impacts that these plans would have upon the irreplaceable assets of Strawberry Canyon as a Cultural Landscape.

The LRDP, a programmatic document only, proposes to utilize the Strawberry Canyon area for almost a million square feet of new and, as of yet, unconstructed building space and to create 500 additional parking spaces for 1,000 new employees. Concurrently, the project objectives are proposed to strengthen, expand, and design for new institutional growth. While these projected plans and objectives would appear to be rational and in sync with current institutional research practices or business models, they are, in reality, not logical or socially responsible at this location. The natural and physical terrain of the hillside area, plus the University's plans already proposed in the adjoining Southeast Campus, and the significance of Strawberry Canyon as a Cultural Landscape make this proposal not only unwelcome, but incredulous.

At this juncture the environmental review in the LRDP is lacking an adequate understanding of the project scale and building(s) mass that would, in fact, be needed to fulfill the programmatic plans outlined in the DEIR. The stated intent to expand current facilities and to rehabilitate current facilities is too vague. The sketchy "illustrative design" concepts portraying the physical imprint of potential "new scientific facilities" are insufficient. There is a need to disclose true architectural plans, including magnitude, location, height, design, materials, mechanical apparatus, and waste systems of such building(s) providing for such "national" research facilities "programmed to accommodate multiple disciplines in advanced

infrastructure suitable for future scientific endeavors...[and] to support future research initiatives and continued growth in existing programs" that might serve the combined uses of academic research, federal/state interests, and industrial capital/business interests. Lacking such full disclosure at this juncture, the following questions are posed:

- Which existing LBNL facilities would be expanded?
- Which existing LBNL facilities would be rehabilitated?
- How would existing facilities and rehabilitated facilities connect physically to "new scientific facilities" in order to "enhance collaboration, productivity, and efficiency?"
- Will the Final EIR disclose full architectural plans for all the buildings needed to fulfill the programmatic plans and project objectives outlined in the DEIR?
- Will any LBNL contracts with outside state/federal and private industry be available for public review at the time of the Final EIR?
- Will any LBNL contracts with outside state/federal and private industry be completed at the time of the Final EIR?
- How will the California Governor's pledge to secure \$40 million, or more, determine the size, scope, demands of the projected "new scientific facilities?"

In the case of the "illustrative design" building concept(s) in the DEIR, sited across from the University's historic Botanical Garden, and next to the Stephen Mather Redwood Grove, the following questions seem appropriate now to ask:

- Why would "new scientific facilities" of such magnitude be placed across from the University's Botanical Garden, a cultural resource ranking with other major Botanical Gardens as the one of the world's leading Gardens in the number of plants it contains?
- Would not the "new scientific facilities" adversely effect the integrity of the adjacent California Area, the largest area of the Botanical Garden that boasts of having the largest area devoted to a regional collection of native plants?
- What would the effect of an industrial-park-like-development be upon the necessary mild climate that sustains the Botanical Garden?
- How would the LBNL "new scientific facilities" complex, including parking, effect the natural flow of water in the Botanical Garden?
- Is it not alarming that the LBNL "new scientific facilities" complex, including parking, be proposed adjacent to the Mather Redwood Grove, thus removing a context area that defines its integrity?
- Is the projected location for "new scientific facilities" the only location in Strawberry Canyon that could accommodate new building(s) and parking of that magnitude?

As a public stake holder it is expected that BAHA, would concur with the finding of the DEIR that the LRDP, as proposed, would cause "significant" environmental impacts. The public health and safety issues alone — such as water pollution, air pollution, landslides, earthquakes, acts of terrorism, traffic congestion, and extreme fire hazards — are conspicuous. Strawberry Canyon is a special place defined by a natural environment that is already under the stress of over-development. Further alteration of its geologically formed hillsides — formed by the timeless interaction of earthquakes, water flow, and precipitation off the Pacific Ocean — to accommodate unlimited "new scientific facilities" is, indeed, an alarming proposal. BAHA joins the City's Planning Commission and Landmarks Preservation Commission in requesting that alternatives be sought elsewhere on University owned property. The following questions seem critical to understand:

- Why would the LBNL LRDP DEIR finding of "significant" environmental impacts be "unavoidable" (*italics ours*) when the University owns property elsewhere that is potentially suitable for scientific research and development?
- What property owned by the University in Richmond has been set aside for potential University research and development?
- When was University property in Richmond identified as a potential for research and development?
- Is any of the University property in Richmond contaminated?
- Is any of the University's Strawberry Canyon property contaminated?
- Given the current practice of global partnerships and collaborations, technological flexibility, and shared advanced research locations, why would a LBNL LRDP project objective be limited to one "main site" within the University, Berkeley, area?
- Would not LBNL elect to give leadership to environmental solutions that will have a positive local, regional environmental impact as well as to global environmental solutions?

The University, Berkeley, and, indeed, LBNL gained their historical roots because of Strawberry Canyon. As early as the 1850s the site was recognized to be a provider of constant water, making possible the location of a future educational institution. The sense of place then was poetic among those who selected the site:

The line of the horizon sweeps in the distance round almost half a circle, commencing at the summit near New Almaden and following a mountain line till it passes west of [San Francisco], where it becomes an ocean horizon for a considerable distance...The extent, the variety of the life embraced in the scenery presented in this view, including as it does land and water, bay and ocean, islands, plains and mountains, city and country, are seldom equaled. Rev. S. H. Willey, 1858

Later, in 1865, Frederick Law Olmsted, America's father of landscape architecture, was to describe the dramatic impressions of the "steep declivities of the coast range" and the "native foliage of a very beautiful character" that defined the effect of Strawberry Canyon as it graced what would become the urban town. The origins of LBNL in Strawberry Canyon, beginning in the WWII era, should be remembered as having its origin in such a rustic and unapproachable area because of the need to have a nearly secret and inaccessible location.

Again, BAHA takes the lead from the City's Landmarks Preservation Commission which responded to the DEIR with the comment "the Strawberry Canyon Area is a potential Cultural Landscape... [that] the DEIR does not acknowledge the adverse impacts... therefore, alternatives, including alternative sites for the proposed development(s), need to be identified and analyzed in the FEIR."

Thank you for your attention to BAHA's comments and for your consideration of BAHA's concerns.

Sincerely,


Wendy Markel, President