



SANTA MONICA CONSERVANCY NEWS

ENSURING THAT THE PAST HAS A FUTURE

VOL 3 NO 4

JANUARY 2006



In November 2005, one of the city's oldest buildings is moved to the former Fisher Lumber site at 14th and Colorado.

SANTA MONICA'S SHOTGUN HOUSE: THE HOUSE THAT NEEDS A HOME

Cities, like their residents, have varied personalities, fingerprints and signatures that are revealed through their distinctive architecture. One of our last remaining intact shotgun houses is part of what makes Santa Monica the distinctive city it is. The house serves as a social and cultural chronicle of an early time in our city's history when laborers lived in them and tourists used them as temporary homes, building a foundation so that our city could grow and prosper.

The unassuming, wood-frame shotgun house, formerly located on private property at 2712 Second Street in the Ocean Park

section of Santa Monica, is still in search of a permanent site. Due to the efforts of community preservationists, the home has been saved twice from demolition—the most recent save occurred this past November. Built in the late 1890s, it was designated a Santa Monica Landmark by the city's Landmarks Commission in 1999. More than 100 years ago, there were about 200 such cottages inhabiting the streets a few blocks west of the beachfront when Santa Monica was more of a frontier town. These homes were the dominant architectural form in Ocean Park for its first quarter century.

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION IS GREEN

by John Zinner

My wife and I recently renovated a 1936 Cecil Gale-designed home while incorporating a number of "green" (environmentally-friendly) building elements. When I participated on a panel in conjunction with the City's first green home tour, all of the other panelists presented new green homes. The first thing I pointed out was that our greenest strategy was to preserve the existing house. The audience reaction was audible. Most were unaware of this simple and elegant, yet often overlooked truth. One of the other panelists, an architect who has made a career of designing green homes, commented privately afterward that he had never thought about preservation or green building in this way.

Historic preservation and the green or sustainable building movement are natural allies, yet this strategic advantage is frequently missed. A better understood partnership between the two movements would strengthen the goals of both the environment and their occupants through a wide range of strategies that

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ANNUAL MEETING AT CASA DEL MAR



PHOTO: ROGER GENSER COLLECTION

The Conservancy will continue its tradition of holding its annual members-only meeting in an important, local historic building. This year Hotel Casa del Mar will host the meeting on Sunday, January 29, 3-5 pm at the hotel, 1910 Ocean Front Walk in Santa Monica.

The program will include a short business

meeting and board of directors election, followed by a brief talk by historic consultant Christy MacAvoy about the rehabilitation of Casa Del Mar. Ms. MacAvoy's company, Historic Resources Group, assisted the hotel owners in their restoration plans and in obtaining a significant financial benefit in the form of a historic rehabilitation tax credit for the restored building.

FOR MEETING RESERVATION:
rsvp@smconservancy.org or
phone (310) 485-0399

Valet parking is available for \$5 and
there is limited street parking

Participants may tour the public areas of the hotel. Light refreshments will be served with a no-host bar available in this lovely setting.

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NEW LANDMARKS COMMISSIONER



Ruth Shari, a residential real estate agent who serves on the Santa Monica Conservancy's Program Committee, was recently appointed to fill an opening on the Landmarks Commission after Colin Maduzia resigned.

A longtime resident of Santa Monica, Shari has more than twenty years' experience in sales and marketing as well as publicity and promotion.

"Helping the City of Santa Monica--its homeowners and residents--to preserve our heritage while managing the quality of our built environment is a challenge I greatly look forward to as I serve in this capacity," said Shari.

Shari is active in Friends of Sunset Park neighborhood group, her condominium association, and St. Monica Church's outreach program to the sick and homebound. She is a certified lector and a choir member at the Church. Her current term as a Landmarks Commissioner ends on June 30, 2008.

ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT HISTORIC HOTEL CASA DEL MAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In 1926, when the Hotel first opened as Club Casa Del Mar, it was the grandest of the opulent Santa Monica beach club/hotels. Built in a Renaissance Revival style by noted architect Charles F. Plummer, Club Casa Del Mar, with its plush interior, became the Grande Dame of Santa Monica, the place to see and be seen.

The party lasted until World War II when Casa Del Mar was converted to a military hotel. After the war, it continued as a beach club and hotel but never regained its former glory. Starting in 1959, it served for 20 years as the headquarters for the Synanon drug therapy program; and then from 1978 to 1997, as the Pritikin Longevity Center. For a time it was closed due to earthquake damage and seismic safety work.

The hotel re-emerged to its storied past as one of the most luxurious hotels on the West Coast in October, 1999, when more than \$50 million was spent to restore the historic landmark to its former grandeur. Though none of the original furnishings remain, the traditional look and feel from the '20s was recreated.

The seven-story building features a brick and sandstone façade; red-tile roof; brown-iron balconies; elaborate relief work with escutcheons over the front door; and a variety of sculpted figures throughout the façade including cupids, angels, and Renaissance personalities. It houses 129 elegantly appointed guest rooms and suites.

Many thanks to Hotel Casa del Mar for generously hosting the Conservancy's Annual Meeting in its beautifully restored building.

GRANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TURNS 100

Santa Monica's oldest public school turned 100. It all began when the Santa Monica Women's Club raised a \$60,000 bond to establish Grant, Garfield, and McKinley Elementary Schools here in Santa Monica. Until then, forty children had been taught by one teacher in one room.

The original Grant School was at Virginia Avenue and 22nd Street. It consisted of four rooms, including an office, a large central hall, and a basement that was later used for

CITY PHOTO QUIZ: THE EARLY SANTA MONICA HOME OF THE FOGEL FAMILY



DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S ON THIS SPOT TODAY? Answer appears on page 7.

Photo courtesy of Santa Monica Public Library Image Archives

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Grant Elementary School, 1906

additional classrooms and bathrooms. With an increase in population in the 1920s due in part to the development of the Douglas Aircraft Company, the school became overcrowded. The building was expanded in 1924 and then moved to a bigger lot--its current site at Pearl and 24th Streets. Grant PTA parents recently discovered old school photos and newspaper clippings in a time capsule. These will be put on exhibit throughout the school year.

Source: Santa Monica Daily Press, Sept. 5, 2005

NEW MEMBERSHIP DUES

The Board of the Conservancy recently revamped the membership dues structure for the organization in order to better acknowledge those who support our mission at higher contribution levels and to allow the organization to substantially grow our ambitious list of programs. The membership categories are below:

Individual Membership	\$35
Household Membership	\$45
Low Income Membership	\$15
Sustaining Membership	\$100
Conservancy Supporter	\$250

Those interested in supporting the Conservancy at the higher Patron or Circle levels can learn more by calling our president, Joel Brand at 310-401-6619.

address site, water, energy, materials, and indoor environmental quality. As a result of this powerful combination, the green building movement is growing very quickly.

Two of the greenest buildings in the country are local: Santa Monica's own Natural Resources Defense Council Robert Redford Building on 2nd Street, and the Autobahn Center at Debs Park, just off the Pasadena Freeway north of downtown Los Angeles. Both are rated LEED Platinum, the highest level awarded under LEED, the most widely adopted green building rating system. Tours are offered at both venues.

Santa Monica in fact is one of the nation's leading "green" cities. The Santa Monica Sustainable Cities Program was one of the first in the nation and has been recognized as a model by the United Nations. As part of this program, the City requires that all new projects in the city meet specific green requirements, and that its own buildings achieve LEED Silver (the four possible levels are Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum). The Public Safety Building has already met this mandate; the soon-to-be completed Main Library is nearing the same goal.

Unfortunately, historic preservation hasn't received a similar level of local recognition.

Connecting historic preservation & green
Where do historic preservation and green buildings intersect? Both movements emphasize preservation, whether of historic or nat-

ural resources. The key concepts common to both movements are reusing both existing buildings and building components such as windows and doors. Both are recognized in LEED.

One of the movements' shared and salient concepts is embodied energy. It takes an enormous quantity of energy to extract raw materials, manufacture components, ship them to a building site, and incorporate them into a building. It also takes a lot of energy to demolish (or more properly in the green building world, "deconstruct") a building and either haul the refuse to the landfill or recycle it into new product. Preserving a building saves that energy as well as the materials themselves.

The bottom line of green building is productivity. Quite simply, people who work in spaces where they enjoy spending time and in which they feel good—because there's plenty of daylight and views of nature, along with healthy indoor environmental quality—are more productive. People enjoy being in beautiful historic spaces as well.

Though the connections between the two movements are all too frequently overlooked, my wife and I found the tremendous response to the City's first green home tour encouraging. More than 200 people toured our home. Best of all, many of our visitors recognize the connection: their goal is to both restore and green their existing homes. Many homeowners therefore "get it." The City "gets" the green piece; it also needs to recognize the equal importance of historic preservation.

2006 LECTURE SERIES BEGINS WITH PHILLIPS CHAPEL SPEAKER

By Ruthann Lehrer and Sherrill Kushner



The first of four Conservancy-sponsored lectures will begin on Sunday, February 26, 2 - 4 pm with "Revelations of Phillips Chapel C.M.E. Church--Forgotten African-American History in Santa Monica." Alison Jefferson, who researched the church as part of her master's degree study in historic preservation at the University of Southern California, will lead the discussion, illustrated with a power point screening.

Jefferson and Reverend James C. Raymond, Jr., Pastor of the Phillips Chapel, were responsible for bringing the Chapel to the Landmarks Commission for designation. Jefferson will speak about this Christian Methodist Episcopal Church and the history of the African-American community in Santa Monica at the Chapel, located at 2001 4th Street (at the corner of Bay Street).

The church has begun a year-long celebration leading up to its centennial anniversary in July 2006. The building that houses the church was originally a schoolhouse that the church acquired and moved to its present site in 1908. One of the Chapel's notable features is its 11 stained glass windows commemorating some of the prominent church families.

Conservancy members pay \$10; non-members \$15. Tickets may be purchased in advance at www.smconservancy.org or by phoning (310) 485-0399. A list of participants will be held at the door where tickets will also be sold that day.

WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TOUR IN OCTOBER



Western check-in for the tour was at the Miles Playhouse

The Los Angeles Conservancy's tour, "Curating the City: Wilshire Blvd." kicked off a month-long program starting on October 2, 2005 with an architectural tour of six historic sites on the boulevard. The Santa Monica Conservancy partnered with the L.A. Conservancy in organizing and staffing one of the historic sites, Miles Memorial Playhouse in Santa Monica.



People entering the Miles Memorial Playhouse

Got a
Movie Screen
to Donate?

We need a movie screen for use in presentations. If you could donate one or know someone who could, please call:

(310) 485-0399

A VARIETY OF PRESERVATION EVENTS AROUND TOWN AND



RESTORE AMERICA HOME & GARDEN TOUR OF CHARLESTON, SC

Dates: March 22-26, 2006
National Trust for Historic Preservation

This is the first of the National Trust's tours exploring America's diverse and rich heritage by focusing on historic homes and gardens, wine and cuisine, and exclusive private home visits, unattainable to the individual traveler. Groups of 25 maximum will be accompanied by esteemed study leaders and local guides, with accommodations at leading National Trust Historic Hotels of America properties. Visit charming Charleston and explore The Battery on a walking tour led by a dynamic native of the city. Spend an afternoon at two exquisite Ashley River plantation homes and meet with the head gardener.

Register online at: www.nationaltrust.org



MURALS AT THE NEW SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Date: Saturday, January 28, 2 pm
Santa Monica Public Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.
Call: (310) 458-8600

Curator of American Art at the L.A. County Museum of Art, Ilene Susan Fort will talk about the Stanton McDonald-Wright murals that have been returned on permanent loan to the new Main Library from storage at the Smithsonian Institution. Renowned artist McDonald-Wright painted the murals for the original Main Library, funded by the U.S. government during the Great Depression in an effort to put Americans back to work. Lecture is free and open to the public. Parking available on-site.

www.smpl.org



COCKTAILS IN HISTORIC PLACES

Date: Friday, Feb. 27, 6 - 8 pm
Art Deco Society of Los Angeles
Art Deco Dimensions and The Vintage Collective
2122 E. 4th Street, Long Beach
Call: (562) 433-8699

No-host cocktails. Reservations not required. Look for the greeters wearing boutonnières.

www.adsla.org

THE CONTINUING STORY OF THE SHOTGUN HOUSE —A PIECE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Shotgun Houses in General

Typically are one story high, one room wide (12 feet) and usually two or three rooms deep (36 feet), one behind the other, and connected by doorways that line up. Hence the name shotgun house: you could shoot a shotgun in through the front door and the shot would come out of the back door without ever touching a wall.

The shotgun house is a freestanding structure with no windows on its side walls. Houses were generally sited so close together that windows would have been impractical for light or ventilation let alone personal privacy. They were often graced with a covered front or rear porch.

The origins of this type of house have always been a bit mysterious despite the large number of shotgun houses built in the U.S. Architectural historians have often chosen either to ignore the question of the structure's origin or label it an appearance of Greek revival style adopted from the urban storefront or shop into a dwelling. More recent studies by folklorists and cultural geographers make strong arguments for African beginnings in the

case of the shotgun house of the American South. In this country, the shotgun house had its beginnings in New Orleans in the early 19th century after thousands of free Blacks came there from Haiti following the revolution of Toussiant L'Overture.



On wheels at Santa Monica Airport, ready for the move, one might easily see how it could have been delivered on a flat car by rail.

The original source of the shotgun house design was the need for instant field housing in the Civil War, in boomtown mining camps and in disaster areas (hundreds were delivered to San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake).

The entry to the shotgun house is on the gable end of the house with adjacent windows overlooking the street. Gable-entry houses were known in some parts of central Africa,

however the shotgun house is a New World hybrid that developed in the West Indies and entered the United States via New Orleans in the early 19th century. Shotgun Houses are found in both rural and urban southern areas, mainly in African-American communities and neighborhoods. The name of the house type may be an altered form of "togun," the African Yoruba word for "house."

As the shotgun house evolved through the 19th century, it was embellished with decorative elements borrowed from popular tastes of the time, from Greek revival to Victorian gingerbread.

About OUR Shotgun House

The Santa Monica shotgun house is a white, wood-frame structure, approximately 12 feet wide, 36 feet long and 14 feet high. It is comprised of three contiguous rooms. It has a gable-entry door on the side with one adjacent window and a front porch that used to be decorated with gingerbread elements that were apparently taken by an admirer at some point in its history.

In Santa Monica in the 1870s Santa Monica and Ocean Park were separate towns. Real estate developers who sold lots in the newly

AROUND THE COUNTRY



CALIFORNIA IMPRESSIONIST STYLE SLIDE LECTURE

Date: Wednesday, February 1, 7pm
California Heritage Museum
2612 Main Street, Santa Monica
Call (310) 392-8537

Jean Stern, Executive Director of the Irvine Museum, will present slides from the museum's extensive collection as part of the exhibit "Behold, the Pacific! California Coastal Views" which is on view until Feb. 26th. The exhibit features 50 works, mainly oil, from 1960-1973 sharing California artists' responses to our ocean. The Museum is located in an 1894 Historic Landmark house. Admission is free with a prior reservation.

www.californiaheritagemuseum.org



VICTORIAN HOME TOUR

Date: Sunday, March 26
Pasadena Heritage
Call: For location and times, (626) 441-6333 ex. 17

From the time Pasadena was incorporated in 1886 until the turn of the last century, elaborate Victorian homes with intricate details appeared throughout the city. Though many have disappeared, celebrate the remaining heritage of this bygone era.

www.pasadenaheritage.org



HISTORY AND CULTURE OF THE GABRIELINO-TONGVA INDIANS

Date: Thursday, January 26
Manhattan Beach Historical Society
1601 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Manhattan Beach
Call: (310) 374-7575

Linda Gonzales will give an interpretive, hands-on lecture about the first indigenous peoples of the Los Angeles basin. Learn how they lived through artifacts and visual materials. As a Gabrielino-Tongva/Yaqui Indian, Linda has been active in her community as a cultural educator, speaking on the history and plant uses of the Tongva.

<http://history90266.org>

OF OCEAN PARK HISTORY by Sherrill Kushner

subdivided cities knew that people coming to live or vacation from nearby Los Angeles sought alternatives to tents or hotels to live in. If the cities were to have a permanent population, the developers needed to dampen the boom-bust cycles that periodically devastated the area. So they started selling lots with homes.

New buyers couldn't afford Victorian, Edwardian, or Queen Anne homes that were popular at that time. To make purchasing more affordable, something simpler was needed. They looked for a structure that could be erected easily, quickly and inexpensively. The shotgun house filled the bill. The rail depot in Ocean Park was soon unloading shotgun houses from downtown Los Angeles by the dozens. The \$100 homes came either in kit form or were prefabricated, preassembled and then dragged into place by horses. The shotgun house may be one of the seeds from which the entire real estate and tourism industry sprouted in Santa Monica.

The very qualities that made the shotgun houses attractive as instant housing tended to doom them in the long run. In time they became unlivable as permanent homes though they were fine as temporary, vacation quar-

ters. Privacy was limited because each room was a hallway leading to the next room. The walls consisted of single vertical board, leaving no room to hide unsightly plumbing, insulation, wiring and utilities that were being incorporated into the more modern, turn-of-the-century homes. Typically they had no foundations since they were to be erected quickly and inexpensively. Posts and sills were placed directly onto the ground where the beach moisture attracted termites. And, they were very small, no larger than today's small two-car garage. Inevitably they sprouted add-ons to their backs, fronts and sides to enlarge the otherwise cramped living space.

Sites in Ocean Park are currently under review. In the next two years one will be selected and the house will be restored for a new community use while also ensuring its preservation. For those interested in joining the campaign to choose a permanent site, raise funds, and work on other conservation activities pertaining to the shotgun house, contact Sherrill Kushner, (310) 394-4835. For more information, please visit the Friends of the Shotgun House website at www.shotgunhouse.org.

HOLIDAY PARTY A CHANCE TO MEET & GREET



Thanks to Event Chair Kitty Bartholomew (right), Nancy Feinberg (left), the Program Committee, Dick Orton, and the vendors who graciously donated refreshments: Mrs. B's-Miss Grace Lemon Cake, Bob's Market, Pavillion's and Whole Foods.



Conservancy members enjoyed gathering in the home of Anne Troutman and Aleks Istanbulu. Their home was once a church and is one of the two oldest buildings in Santa Monica.

CONSERVANCY WALKING TOURS COMING SOON

DOCENTS NEEDED FOR WALKING TOURS

by Ruthann Lehrer

The Conservancy is making plans to offer two new, docent-guided tours next year. Docent volunteers are needed for tours of Palisades Park and downtown Santa Monica; training classes will be offered. The tours and training will be held on weekends. If you are interested, contact Ruthann Lehrer, (310) 828-0692 or ruthannpreserves@yahoo.com.

Oral Histories Needed

The Conservancy is also soliciting oral histories from those who might have knowledge of old Santa Monica, especially in regard to the city's downtown and Palisades Park. If you have any information or know of someone who does, please contact Ruthann Lehrer at the contact information above.



Nina Fresco (left) with future docents Carol Lemlein (center) and Ursula Kress (right).

Palisades Park Tour Booklet

Thanks to Nina Fresco, Sherrill Kushner, and Ruthann Lehrer who developed an attractive and informative self-guided tour booklet of Palisades Park which was distributed at the Curating Wilshire Boulevard event in October.

1893 KELLER BLOCK: ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR

by Dick Orton



When 22-year-old H. W. Keller opened the Keller Block* in 1893, it was just one more adventure for the wealthy young man who had sold Malibu to Frederick Rindge for almost \$150,000

In the 1800s Don Matteo Keller was one of the most prominent members of Los Angeles Society. He was the region's leading wine producer and he owned property all over town, including the fabulous Malibu Ranch 13,300 acres from Topanga to Pt. Magu.

Keller was 60 when his son was born and as the eldest child and only son, Henry was likely to control a major fortune at an early age. At the age of 8 he was sent to Europe to be educated and never saw either of his parents again. When he returned to California as a cultured young man, fluent in French and Spanish, the estate was his but there were problems.

In the 1890s California was still the wild west and the Malibu ranch had cattle rustlers. Henry had himself deputized to deal with bad guys.

That was fine until the early morning hours of Sunday, January 10, 1892. Deputy Sheriff Keller was spending the night in town at the Jackson House when he was awakened to

intervene in a brawl at a nearby saloon run by Charles Kimball. As Keller entered the saloon Kimball, at the bar, raised a double barreled shotgun to shoot, but Keller shot first and 30-year-old Charles Kimball was dead. Sadly Kimball and Keller had been friends.

Keller was taken into custody, and brought to Los Angeles for a legal hearing where he was cleared of any wrongdoing, having acted in his capacity as Deputy Sheriff.

Later that year, for reasons unknown now, Henry Keller, age 21, sold the Malibu Ranch to Frederick Rindge for just over \$10 an acre, approximately \$1.3 million. In 1893, Henry built the stylish Keller Block still found on the south end of the Santa Monica Promenade today. By 1894 he was married with a beautiful house at 310 Ocean Avenue and by 1900 Henry and his wife Addie lived on Third Street with their four children, two servants and as far as we know, lived happily ever after.

Block is an 1890s term for mixed-use building.

LANDMARKS COMMISSION NEWS

By Ruthann Lehrer

In October, the Landmarks Commission approved eight new Mills Act contracts for historic landmarks. The Mills Act is a powerful economic incentive for owners of historic properties, allowing a reassessment and reduction of property taxes, to compensate for the costs of restoring and maintaining the original materials and design features of the property. In some cases, property taxes may be reduced as much as 50%. To qualify, a property must be officially designated as historic by a government agency. The owner of a qualified property may apply for this benefit with Landmarks Commission staff at City Hall.

The 2005 Mills Act contract properties represent a range of significant buildings. Included among them are

- Niemeyer/Strick house at 1911 La Mesa Drive, the only residence in the U.S. designed by world-renowned architect Oscar Niemeyer in 1963;
- 331 Palisades Avenue, a pristine Mediterranean/Classical Revival home designed by Frank L. Meline in 1913;
- 710 Adelaide Place, known as the "Zuni House", designed by Robert Stacey-Judd in 1923-24;

- Henry Weaver House, a monumental Craftsman Bungalow at 142 Adelaide Drive designed by the Milwaukee Building Company in 1910 (also listed on the National Register of Historic Places);

- 2619 East Third Street, a Craftsman Bungalow contributing to the Third Street Historic District, built in 1909;

- The John Byers adobe at 404 Georgina was also included, with its restoration and additions approved previously by the Landmarks Commission;

Two historic homes at 1333 and 1337 Ocean Avenue are also approved for Mills Act

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY 1890-2006 by Sherrill Kushner

A year after Santa Monica officially became a town in 1875, a Library Association was formed to discuss books and read papers. Annual dues of two dollars covered the cost of buying new books. Community growth was slow for a number of reasons, but eight years later the Library Association funded a free reading room adjoining Dr. McKinnie's drug store. More than ten years later, in 1888, the reading room was operated by the newly formed Women's Christian Temperance Union. The women moved the reading room, with its 400 books and assorted magazines and newspapers, to a building on Third Street. Use of the room and materials in it were free, but if you chose to take out a book there was a twenty-five cent charge.

The expense of operating the reading room proved too much for the women. In 1890, its 800 volumes were turned over to the City of Santa Monica in order to maintain a public library. Two rooms in the Bank of Santa Monica at Oregon Avenue (now called Santa Monica Boulevard) and Third Street were set aside for the library and a librarian was appointed. Three years later it expanded to include another room. In 1903, the library moved to the new City Hall located at Fourth and Oregon Avenue where temporary space was provided.

As the city grew, so did the collection and the demand for a dedicated library building. A letter was written to Andrew Carnegie requesting funding for a public library. Carnegie had been providing funds for such buildings across the United States and he agreed to the Santa Monica request. Residents raised \$3,982.50 to purchase a lot on the northeast corner of



For years, two rooms upstairs at Third and Santa Monica Blvd. were home to the city's library.

Oregon Avenue (Santa Monica Blvd.) and Fifth Street and the new library was opened on August 11, 1904.

The library was open to residents of Santa Monica and non-residents who owned real estate in the city if they provided references

or security. If the library learned that the household of a book borrower had a contagious or infectious disease, the borrower would be immediately notified to return any books to the Health Officer for "disinfection." By 1912 the collection began to outgrow the building. In 1914 the building was enlarged and in 1926 a \$50,000 bond issue was passed by the voters for reconstruction and expansion of the library on the same site.

It was remodeled into a Spanish-style design by E.J. Baume. Two wings were added on either side; the West wing included a combined art gallery and re-opened to the public on November 18, 1927.

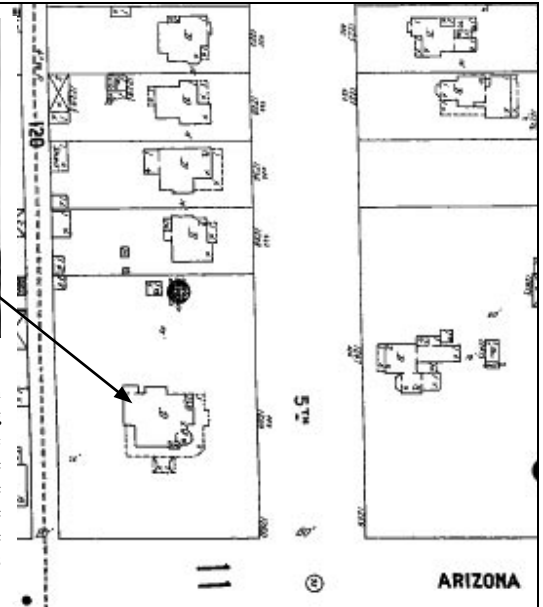
CONTINUED ON BACK COVER

CITY PHOTO QUIZ ANSWER WITH 1909 SANBORN MAP



THE FOGEL HOUSE AT 5TH & ARIZONA

The Santa Monica Post Office stands at 5th and Arizona now, but once upon a time long long ago it was the magnificent home of the Fogel Family. It shows up very clearly on the 1909 Sanborn Map to the right. The distinctive porte-cochere on the Arizona side and the wraparound porch are a definite match. The small building on the left side of the property is probably a stable or carriage house.



LANDMARKS COMMISSION NEWS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

contracts, although a development agreement for a hotel project on that site is still pending City Council approval. However, the stipulations of the Mills Act contract require adhering to strict historic preservation design standards.

Incentives work in persuading owners that the benefits of landmark designation outweigh the perceived burdens! The Santa Monica Conservancy supports enhancing the incentives package for designated properties as part of the upcoming revision of the landmarks ordinance.

Also approved in October was the designation of 1012 Second Street as a historic landmark. This property came to the Commission as a demolition application,

because the Commission is authorized to review properties 40 years old and older for their historic value prior to issuance of the demolition permit. This small Victorian cottage had been noted on prior cultural resource surveys as contributing to a group of turn-of-the-century homes in Santa Monica's first residential tract. Because many of those potential contributors to a historic district had been remodeled or demolished, the few that remain today have become more significant as the last survivors of an important building type. Constructed c. 1898-1902, this home was one of the first cottages built in the original town site of Santa Monica and has retained a high level

of architectural and historic integrity. Today, surrounded by modern condominiums, the site is a window into the past. The original owner of this house was Leslie Brand, a prominent civic leader and real estate investor who was best known for his role in the early growth of Glendale, and who founded the Los Angeles-based Title Guaranty and Trust Company. While owning this house for five years, Brand was one of the founders of the Santa Monica Public Library.

The property owner for this parcel has appealed the Landmark Commission's designation decision to the City Council, where it will be scheduled for a public hearing.



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LOOK WHAT'S INSIDE!



Hotel Casa del Mar welcomes the Santa Monica Conservancy for its Annual Meeting.

PAGE 1



Zinner Family finds happiness in a "green" house, proving that green is a workable form of preservation.

PAGE 1



Shotgun House moves from Santa Monica Airport to temporary storage at Fisher Lumber.

PAGE 1

P.O. BOX 653 SANTA MONICA, CA 90406-0653

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY 1890-2006

by Sherrill Kushner

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As the city grew, the library became more crowded. Additionally, the unreinforced masonry building was structurally unsafe and its wiring was a fire hazard. In 1962 another bond issue passed and a new library was erected on the corner of Sixth Street and Santa Monica Boulevard. Boxes of books were sent by conveyor belt from the old library building one block away. Teams of staff and volunteers loaded and unloaded the books. The new building opened in 1965. The Macdonald-Wright murals were stored in the basement as there was no place for them in this new library. Eventually they were taken by the Smithsonian Institution. The previous Carnegie library building was sold to Century Federal Savings and Loan Association and in 1974 was demolished despite protest from local residents.

Twenty-five years later it became apparent that the Main Library was again too small. Since opening in 1965, the adult book collection had increased by 75%, the children's collection by 50%, and other collections had grown at equally astonishing rates. In 1988 a bond measure was approved that enabled the

purchase of adjacent property for future library expansion. In 1998 another bond passed to allow construction of new, larger building. The local architectural firm of Moore Ruble Yudell designed the building which will open its doors on January 6, 2006.

The new Main Library will change its main entrance to Santa Monica Boulevard and will include a large inner courtyard with a café. A subterranean parking garage provides 500 parking spaces. The Library is the second major facility designed and built with the intent of significantly reducing negative impact on the environment. As a "green" building, the new Library will offer environmental protection, economic advantages, and health and safety benefits. The library will be offering docent tours. Check its website at www.smpl.org or call (310) 458-8600.

Source: The Santa Monica Library 1890-1990 by Ellen Braby and Janet Hunt

1. Carnegie Library.
2. Same Library remodeled.
3. 1965 Library.
4. January 2006 Library



1



2



3



4