

FULLERTON HERITAGE

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National Register Plaque Unveiled, Preservationists Honored at Annual Meeting

by Dave Temple

Fullerton Heritage unveiled another National Register plaque and presented awards to recognize support of local preservation efforts at its annual meeting on June 13, 2001.

The meeting was held at The Church of Religious Science, formerly the First Methodist Episcopal Church. The Local Landmark building was recently listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A ceremony marked the unveiling of the landmark plaques. Board Member Deb Richey spearheaded the yearlong project of completing the Department of the Interior applica-

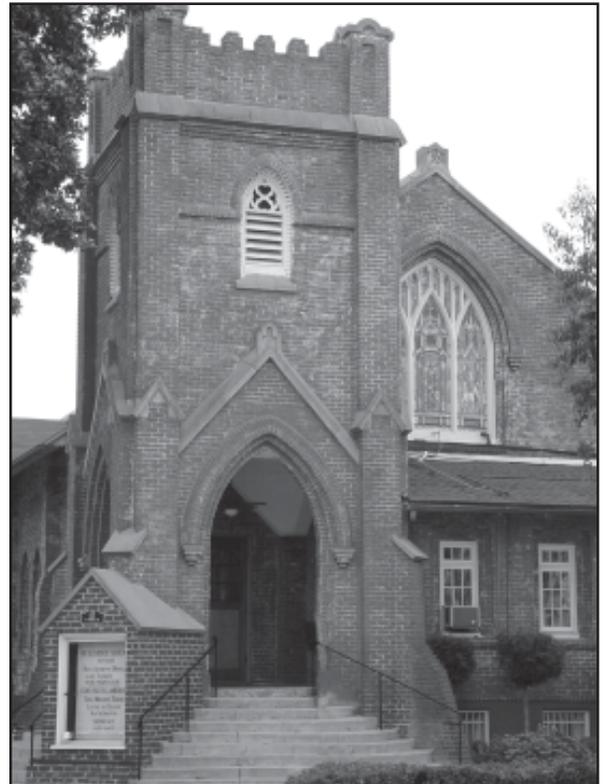
tion process. Cathy Thomas and the resources of the Albert Launer Local History room at the main branch of the Fullerton Library supported Richey's efforts.

Named Preservationists of the Year for 2000 were:

Benjamin and Grace Kim for the preservation and adaptive reuse of the historic Masonic Temple, now the Spring Field Banquet and Conference Center; **JoAnn and Fred Brannock** who

purchased and successfully refurbished the former YWCA house; and

Jay Bond, the associate vice president for facilities planning at Cal State Fullerton, for his assistance and support of the adaptive reuse of the former Henry Hetebrink House on the CSUF campus.



Church of Religious Science is Fullerton's newest listing on the National Register of Historic Places.



Adaptive reuse of the former Hetebrink House on the campus of Cal State Fullerton earns preservationist award.

This year also saw the awarding of the first-ever "Golden Hammer Award," given in recognition of a homeowner's "sweat equity" revitalization one of Fullerton's older homes. Homeowner **Dana Dickson** was received a plaque and a \$100 gift certificate to Fullerton Hardware for the work on her Malvern Avenue home. All award winners received a year's membership to Fullerton Heritage.

Fellow board members surprised Fullerton Heritage president Tom Dalton and board

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Advocacy Issues

by Katie Dalton

Residential Preservation Zones

In late August a homeowner in the Jacaranda/Malvern Preservation Zone appeared before the Redevelopment Design Review Committee (RDRC) for approval of a proposed addition to their 1940's home. The design involved elements of questionable compatibility with the original house. The owners were initially resistant to requirements by RDRC for any change to their proposed design and/or choice of materials. The RDRC members worked patiently with the owners to explain the Design Guidelines and educate them about the value of adhering to reasonable standards for new construction. After a long but fruitful dialog the owners agreed to RDRC's recommendations and acknowledged that their project was improved because of them. This was a good example of successful application of an important preservation process in Fullerton.

We have also been working with the Development Services Department, that applies and monitors the Preservation Zoning Code and Design Guidelines, to identify and educate homeowners who have started non-permitted work on their properties within the preservation neighborhoods. It is a difficult, ongoing task to identify violations and educate homeowners on the importance of adhering to the preservation guidelines.

Historic Foster Home

Restoration and preservation of the Foster Home is well under way. This wonderful example of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture is located at 524 E. Commonwealth Ave. The home is listed as a "Significant Property" in Fullerton's Historic Building Survey and following restoration, Fullerton Heritage hopes to work with the family to have it listed as a local landmark and have it placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Historic Building Survey

We are currently working with the City in an attempt to publish the latest revision of the Fullerton Historic Building Survey. The document is entitled *Fullerton Through the Years, A Survey of Architectural, Cultural and Environmental Heritage*. Fullerton Heritage worked extensively with City Planner Bob Linnell and the staff of the Development Services Department to complete research and update

the survey, which was originally completed in 1979. City staff and Fullerton Heritage agree that the best and most efficient way to publish the survey is on the City and FH websites so that it is widely available and can be printed as needed. We hope to have the details worked out soon so that this interesting and educational document will be available to all.

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Awards

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member wife Katie Dalton with "Distinguished Service Award" plaques commemorating their decade-long commitment to the organization. Councilwoman Jan Flory presented an accompanying citation from the City of Fullerton.



Golden Hammer Award winner.



Restoration of the former YWCA house restoration recognized with preservationist award.

President's Corner

by Tom Dalton

As you look through your complimentary copy of the Fullerton Heritage Calendar for 2002 I am sure many of you will recognize at least a few of the old buildings our city has lost to either neglect or the perceived need to modernize. It is not a coincidence that we have chosen the theme of displaying the architectural and cultural jewels that we have lost over the years at a time when one of our most valued landmarks is in real trouble. You are all aware of the plight of the historic Fox Theatre and its adjacent Firestone Building. Each year we allow this once-beautiful part of our city's history to languish unprotected the harder it is going to be to save it from the same fate as that suffered by too many of our former historic properties. Our city is unique in our part of the county in that we have fought to protect our historic downtown from the bulldozers. Are we, as a city, going to stand by and let the owner of the Fox destroy it through neglect? It appears as if the answer is yes.

As long as the building is in the hands of a hostile owner and the city is unwilling to take it through eminent domain, our efforts to save it will continue to run into roadblocks. It is clear that the owner has no interest in saving the theatre and, in lieu of his previously sought-after demolition permit, appears happy to let the elements and vandals destroy it for him.

Some are asking why Fullerton Heritage doesn't start an endowment to raise the funds necessary to buy the building and restore it. Simply put, our experience gives us no reason to trust the owner to honor any of his commitments to sales price or terms. It is our belief that the more money that gets raised, the higher the sales price will become.

We very much appreciate the support we have received from so many of the members of our city and hope we can count on you (and them) for contributions to restore the theatre if the city ever does exercise its right of eminent domain to preserve what many of us feel is the crown jewel of our downtown.

To Stucco or Not to Stucco? New Brochure Has Answers

by Debora Richey

Fullerton Heritage has just produced a brief guide on the disadvantages of stuccoing older buildings. Titled "Should I Stucco My Wood House?" and available in both English and Spanish, the single-sheet flyer outlines many misconceptions about stuccoing wooden homes. Contrary to business advertisements, stuccoing an older home does not increase its resale value. Stuccoing is also not an effective way to insulate a building, and contrary to popular opinion, stucco must be painted nearly as frequently as wood.

Fullerton Heritage hopes that the guide will be useful to homeowners considering applying stucco to the exterior of their dwellings. Copies of the guide are available in the Fullerton Development Services Department (City Hall) and the Launer Room of the Fullerton Public Library. Fullerton Heritage needs volunteers to distribute the flyers around the City's older neighborhoods. If you would like to volunteer or would just like a copy of the guide, please telephone or email Debora Richey (714-278-3094, drichey@fullerton.edu).

Walking Tours of Historic Downtown Continue

by Warren Bowen

Fullerton Heritage offers Historic Fullerton walking tours of the downtown area emphasizing the people, events, architecture and art of the Fullerton of the 1890s to today. The difference between your own self-guided tour and the docent led walks is the personalization of the Fullerton of days gone by.

The next such walk is scheduled for Sat., January 12 at 9:30 am. (The rain date is January 19.) We will meet at the Museum Center, Pomona and E. Wilshire., where there is free parking. We will spend

about two hours looking at and learning about some of the interesting and valuable historic spots in downtown Fullerton. There are a few (optional) steps. This is an opportunity to gain some new insights into our city's lively past. The tour is free to members of Fullerton Heritage, with a \$5 per family charge for guests. Anyone may join Fullerton Heritage at the beginning of the tour.

Please call the hotline at 714-740-3051 to reserve spaces as the maximum number of participants is 15. Join us and learn some interesting history of our city. It's free to members, and it's fun!

Advocacy Issues

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Potential National Register Properties

Fullerton Heritage board member Debora Richey recently completed the extensive application process to nominate Fullerton's historic Williams Building (112 W. Commonwealth Ave.) to the National Register of Historic Places. The building is significant for both its architecture (particularly interior) and cultural history as Fullerton's Odd Fellows Lodge. Owner Brian Williams recently received approval from RDRC (September 27, 2001) for an addition to the back of the building (south side) that will provide improved access and defined entrance for proposed new tenants that include a Cajun restaurant on the ground floor and a ballroom dance company on the second and third floors. Mr. Williams is to be applauded for preserving the building and recruiting the dance tenant that will restore social uses to the "halls" of the building.

Fullerton Heritage recently requested city permission and support to pursue National Register listing for the Fullerton Police Station, historically Fullerton's first City Hall. Following meetings with appropriate city department heads the item was heard at the October 2, 2001 City Council meeting and received unanimous approval. There is no rest for the talented and hard working Debora Richey who will now begin the arduous research involved in the application process to nominate this wonderful Fullerton landmark.



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Fullerton Heritage / P.O. Box 3356 Fullerton,
California 92834-3356
Hotline: (714) 740-3051
www.fullertonheritage.org

Good Contractor, Handyman or Supplier? Share Them!

We are working on a Restoration Resources Guide to aid owners of historic properties in their improvement projects. If you have any "tried and true" craftsmen, contractors, supply/hardware resources etc., please send their names, addresses, and phone numbers to Fullerton Heritage, P.O. BOX 3356 Fullerton, CA 92834, or call the Hotline to leave the information at (714) 740-3051.

Join Fullerton Heritage

Yes, I want to support Fullerton Heritage in preserving Fullerton's historic cultural and architectural resources.

Please check one:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Student | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Friend |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Senior (65 & over) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Corporate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Patron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Non-profit | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 Benefactor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Family | <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ Additional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Small Business | Contribution |

I would like to be active in Fullerton Heritage, and am interested in the following activities:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programs/Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic home tours |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Downtown walking tours |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Survey Update |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landmark Nominations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other interests (please list): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | |

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE (H): _____

(W): _____

E-MAIL/FAX: _____

DATE: _____

- Renewal New Member Gift Membership

Send your check along with this form to:
Fullerton Heritage / P.O. Box 3356 / Fullerton,
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