



FULLERTON HERITAGE

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The mission of Fullerton Heritage is to foster an appreciation of our city's cultural history and to ensure the preservation of our historic architectural resources and environments.

Storybook Ranches: Enchantment For Sale

by Deb Richey

Following World II, the United States suffered from a severe housing shortage, and from 1945 to 1965, Americans purchased more than thirteen million homes, most of them in the new ranch and split-level styles. To returning veterans, the ranch house was the symbol of the American Dream – a chance to marry and raise a family in their own home on their own private plot of land in a safe and prosperous community. The ranch-style house would become the single most prolific residential design in Fullerton and throughout the nation. A rectangular or L-shaped house, the ranch home's long, narrow, and horizontal profile allowed builders to add different architectural elements to the exterior while retaining the typical form and massing of the often rambling dwellings. Unlike prewar homes designed and constructed by architects and local builders, most of the ranches would be constructed by little-known firms that served as developers of suburban communities.



Cinderella Home advertisement. Courtesy of Jean Vandruff.

One very popular sub-type of the ranch-style house was the nostalgic and whimsical

storybook ranch, the brainchild of designer (continued on page 3)

Baggage Cart Restoration

by Terry Galvin

More than 25 years ago, Amtrak donated two baggage carts to the City for display at the depot. The older of the two had been in use at the depot since the 20s or 30s. The newer one had been used there since the early 1980s, but was brought here from another depot that was closed, so it is more likely from the 40s. The exact ages are unknown.

The years have not been kind to them and the City had proposed discarding them. Fullerton Heritage was asked if there was any interest in restoring them. In the

mid-1980s, the City planned to install new fencing and landscaping in the area west of the depot building where they were parked and used as planters for landscaping with the idea that they could be put back if they were restored.

In order to avoid disposing of them at that time, they were moved onto the loading dock at the east end of the depot, where they were unfortunately placed unprotected under the part of the roof that leaked, and where they continued to deteriorate. In 2012, a local rail group agreed to restore

them and they were moved to the adjacent spur track. In 2013 they decided not to do the work. They had dismantled the older cart, disposed of most of the wood and stored the remains of the two on the spur track. After Fullerton Heritage was successful in restoring the loading dock roof in 2015, the city requested that the carts be brought back to the loading dock, where they remained in pieces until 2017 when Fullerton Heritage began seeking ways of having them restored.

Today, the older of the two baggage carts is in the process of being restored by the owner of RWB Party Props in Orange.

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Advocacy Issues

by Kate Dalton

National Register and New Local Landmark Approvals

On December 14, 2017 The Pomona Bungalow Court and Apartments located at 314 and 320 North Pomona Avenue were officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Congratulations to Deb Richey and Bob Linnell for their dedicated work.

The Fullerton Landmarks Commission unanimously recommended the John B. Menges House at 224 Malvern Avenue as a Local Landmark at its meeting on September 13, 2017. The Fullerton City Council unanimously approved the nomination on November 7.

Unfortunately the Landmarks Commission failed to act on a second Local Landmark nomination made by Fullerton Heritage, the Stolle Forever Home at 721 West Avenue. The Commission's discussion centered on their perceived lack of evidence that this home meets the high standards for listing as a Local Landmark. This house is part of the Fullerton Grove Forever Houses tract built between 1953-1956 and the commission seemed to think that just because there are so many homes in this development that none is worthy of recognition. Fullerton Heritage has decided to take no further action at this time, conduct further research and possibly resubmit this nomination in the future.

Design Review Committee

At its July 27, 2017 meeting the Design Review Committee approved an architecturally compatible addition to the house at 1128 E. Whiting Avenue in the East Whiting/Stanford Preservation Zone.

On September 14 the DRC approved 2 projects in the Jacaranda/Malvern Preservation Zone. Demolition of a detached garage at 330 W. Jacaranda Place and building of a new 2 story accessory building with a 3 car garage was unanimously approved. The project also includes a new front porch addition that greatly enhances this historic property. The second project approved involved the demolition of an unpermitted garage at 225 W. Brookdale Place and building a new larger 2 storey one with additional attic storage.

At the October 12 meeting the DRC approved a new garage that matches the architectural style of the historic home at 1116 E. Whiting Avenue.

On October 26, DRC approved a new 2 car detached garage with a second dwelling unit above at the rear of the property at 330 W. Whiting Avenue. The DRC added a condition of approval that sliding windows that appeared on the plans be replaced with either casement or double hung which are historically appropriate in a preservation zone. This requirement was a great example of the DRC enforcing the Design Guidelines for Residential Preservation Zones that are so critical to the integrity of our historic neighborhoods in Fullerton.

Finally, on January 10, 2018, a project at 911 E. Wilshire Avenue

in the College Park Preservation Zone went to the Landmarks Commission instead of DRC because in addition to the needed design review, it involved the demolition of an existing historic home built in the 1920s. Ordinarily Fullerton Heritage would oppose such a demolition, but in this case the house was severely altered 40 years ago before the establishment of the preservation zone and no longer exhibited any of the historic character defining features of the original bungalow house. The new project, which was unanimously approved, includes a new craftsman bungalow home with a second unit above garages in a carriage house style. The design and details of these new homes are exemplary and will be a welcome asset on this important corner property in the heart of the College Park neighborhood.

Miscellaneous Issues

Fullerton Heritage is again advocating for Mills Act application in Fullerton, following recommendation of a Resolution of Intent by the Planning Commission on June 28, 2017 and approval by Fullerton City Council on August 1, directing Community Development staff to study the issue and bring back proposals and recommendations. As many of you may know, we have at least twice before urged the council to approve a Mills Act proposal and have been unsuccessful. We are the only city in Orange County with our extent of historic resources that does not have some Mills Act provision to promote historic preservation. We are pleased that the Council is willing to at least study the issue and be open to applying this important tool in Fullerton. We will follow the issue closely, working with staff and keep you posted.

On August 15, 2017 we met with Ted Kim of Grace Ministries, to continue discussion of the National Register nomination for the entire former Hunt Wesson property. We are already working on the Local Landmark application for the city-owned Hunt Library, but we are dedicated to also preserving the Hunt Administration Building and the entire historic campus which are owned by Grace Ministries. Stay tuned as we pursue protection of this critical piece of Fullerton's mid-century heritage.

At the November 2017 North Orange County Community College District board meeting, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved placing two district owned vacant properties in the College Park Preservation Zone for sale with the condition that the buyer move the historic houses at 428,434 and 438 E. Chapman Avenue (that the district also owns) to the vacant lots for restoration. They bought the two vacant lots years ago with the idea of expanding the college south of Wilshire Avenue. In the ensuing decades, the College Park Preservation Zone was established limiting the ability to build educational buildings on the land. Fullerton Heritage has been advocating for the preservation of the historic Chapman houses for years, with our preference that Fullerton College restore them at their current location for adaptive reuse. In the spirit of compromise and collaboration we recently suggested that they sell the land and move the houses for restoration, providing much needed housing in

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Storybook

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and builder Jean Valjean Vandruff, who still lives in Orange County. The story of the development of this new architectural style is as unusual as the house itself. Born in 1922, Vandruff was raised on a farm outside Hominy, Oklahoma. After graduating from high school, Vandruff and his brother Lindsey set off for California, having heard that there were opportunities in the aviation business. The brothers rented an apartment on Figueroa Street near Olympic Boulevard and enrolled in the Anderson Airplane School. After completing courses in sheet metal, they both quickly got jobs at Douglas Aircraft in El Segundo. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Jean Vandruff enlisted in the Army Air Corp, training as a pilot to fly B-17 and B-24 bombers. He was assigned to a base on Morotal Island just west of New Guinea where he completed 43 bombing missions. After his honorable discharge in 1945, Vandruff returned to Los Angeles at the age of 23, and enrolled at the University of Southern California (USC) to study electrical engineering, but he soon switched to architecture.

In 1950, Vandruff's brother, Shannon, bought a lot in Downey. Jean designed the home, and the brothers built it during his summer vacation from USC.



Homebuyers camping overnight to buy a Cinderella Home. Courtesy of Jean Vandruff.

Jean enjoyed the experience so much that he dropped out of college and went into custom-home building with Shannon, constructing one, two, and finally six homes at a time. In 1953, Jean Vandruff completed the design for a fairy tale-styled home, and when

his wife, Eleanor, saw the drawings, she commented that it should be a home for Cinderella, and thereafter, the fanciful dwellings that followed would officially be called Cinderella Homes.

Vandruff does not recall how he came up with the original design for the first Cinderella Home, but he obviously borrowed from 1920s Storybook houses, which were very popular in Southern



Builder/developer Jean Vandruff. Courtesy of Jean Vandruff.

California, including Fullerton. Technically called Provincial Revivalism, the Storybook style was a Hollywood version of Old World Europe, with quaint homes featuring thatched roofs, turrets, and dovescotes. Vandruff hated modern architecture, particularly Cliff May homes, which he viewed as stark, cold, and rigid, preferring instead the warmth and coziness that his homes offered. His open concept floor plans were designed to bring families together, and Vandruff later noted: "People loved our homes, lived in them far longer than other homes, and divorces were non-existent."

The first Cinderella Home, constructed in Downey, was an immediate success, drawing over 35,000 visitors only by word-of-mouth. Shannon, who ran the business side, suggested to Jean that they move into the construction of tract homes using the design

features of the Cinderella Home that had proved so popular. After several failed attempts to obtain a construction loan, they finally received one from Hollywood First Federal Savings and Loan, and constructed 168 Cinderella Homes in Anaheim, slightly south of Orange Avenue and west of Magnolia Avenue. The homes sold out in 3½ weeks, before the model homes were even furnished and landscaped. A second development containing 701 homes, located at Ball Road and Western Avenue in Anaheim, quickly followed. No one had ever seen homes like these, and the development quickly sold out, with homebuyers camping out the night before the big opening. By 1956, Vandruff Homes was the largest building operator in Orange County, producing 16 homes in a day. Jean Vandruff, himself, would move into one of the Anaheim Cinderellas (2911 West Devoy Drive).

To sell the first Cinderella Homes, the company built the world's largest advertising sign (200' by 40') along the Santa Ana Freeway, featuring a gigantic figure of Cinderella wearing glass slippers and holding a sparkling gold house key. Advertising slogans played off the storybook quality of the homes: "The fairest of the fair"; "Round-the-clock enchantment"; "Enchantment for sale"; and "All you can lose is your heart". Models wearing pink Cinderella outfits were hired to make appearances at home and building shows. The Cinderella Home received national attention in 1956, when it was featured during an 11-day run of the Los Angeles Home Show at the Pan-Pacific Auditorium. A record number of builders and homebuyers from around the nation flocked to the Cinder-

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Storybook

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ella model home, which was also featured in a two-page spread in the *Los Angeles Times* on June 17, 1956. The two-bathroom and three- and four-bedroom homes sold between \$14,890 to \$16,250, and the company advertised them as “the homes with the \$23,000 look”. When the homes increased in price, the slogan was changed to “the \$25,425 home with the \$40,000 look”. The first Cinderella Homes in Anaheim offered four floor plans and 17 different exterior designs. Jean Vandruff loved to list all the reasons why people should buy his homes, and by 1956, he was carefully listing all 62 “custom extras” in newspaper advertisements.

Depending upon one’s personal view, the Cinderella Homes and their look-a-likes were considered either charming or over-the-top. Vandruff made every attempt to ensure that no storybook detail was overlooked, and design elements that set the well-built homes apart from their neighbors included shake-shingle roofs, four- and five-foot-wide roof overhangs, decorative knee brackets, exposed rafter tails, and gables (and tacked-on false gables) adorned with scalloped barge boards, sometimes with wildly exaggerated length, pitch, and position, and often larger on one side for a whimsically lopsided approach. Diamond-paned windows, often advertised as “diamond-lit windows” or “crisscross patterned windows”, were also a must feature. Decorative hardware was most often wrought iron for exterior lighting, door knockers and latches. Dovecotes – a small box for pigeons and other birds to live in – were built into the homes. Later models included wishing wells on front lawns. The Cinderella Homes’ fairy-tale ornamentation, decorative shutters, German smeared-like red and white bricks, catslip roofs, and Dutch-styled doors led a number of people to believe that Swiss or Bavarian emigrants in Southern California had recreated homes that reminded them of their homelands. The homes, with wide facades

usually set parallel to the street, were painted in happy, primary colors – red, blue, and yellow – with bright, crisp white trim. Window boxes and brick planters, filled with red geraniums, and Dichondra lawns, completed the picture.

Although the Cinderella Homes may have looked rustic and old-fashioned from the outside, they were among the first to

have garbage disposals and automatic garage door openers. Light switches lit up, making them easier to see at night. The dwellings had such technological innovations as built-in speakers for music; sunlamps to heat up bathrooms; and an intercom system allowing mothers to hear what their children were up to in another room. The homes’ modern interiors featured an open floor plan and 10-foot tall aluminum sliding glass doors to a rear patio. The family room, a combination of den, large dining room, and kitchen, included hardwood paneling and a massive floor-to ceiling used brick fireplace. Unusual for the time, the homes had no formal dining room, but eating areas in the family room and kitchen. In a sign of the times, homemakers could view the television set in the den from the kitchen through a specially designed opening in the wall. The Colorama kitchens – coordinated by “color psychologists” – featured



Cinderella Home advertising sign along the Santa Ana Freeway.

Courtesy of Jean Vandruff.



A Cinderella Home in the first Anaheim tract. Courtesy of Bob Linnell.

featured Armstrong linoleum flooring, Formica countertops, and stipple paint. A low Formica-topped half wall, a new feature at the time, separated the kitchen from the family room. The interior rooms were adaptable to a number of design styles, but most homeowners went with rustic Early American furnishings. The Cinderella style became so popular that it often appeared on 1950s and 1960s television shows, most notably the *Mister Ed Show*. In the sitcom, which ran from 1961 to 1966, architect Wilbur Post (played by Alan Young) and his wife Carol lived in a storybook ranch, and Post would converse with his talking horse, Mister Ed, through a Dutch door. Carol would often decorate and rearrange her Early American furnishings.

With the amazing success of the Cinderella

Homes came imitation, and developers and builders quickly began constructing similarly-styled homes. Because the Vandruff brothers owned the Cinderella Home trademark, builders and promoters came up with a number of other names for the dwellings: gingerbread ranches; Dutch, German or Swiss ranches; Disneyland style; provincials; Hansel and Gretels; and even Heidis and Snow Whites. Architectural historians would eventually settle on “storybook ranch” as the accepted term for the homes.

The popularity of the stylized homes was sparked with the opening of Disneyland in July 1955. One of the amusement park’s original rides, the Casey Jr. Circus Train, drove visitors past miniature versions of famous Disney locales, including Cinderella Village and the royal castle, and people were enchanted by the fairy-tale settings. While Vandruff’s Cinderella Homes had little in common with Disneyland’s medieval village, homeowners clamored for replicas of the homes’ decorative elements, and developers could not construct storybook ranches fast enough. One fancifully named storybook tract followed another. In 1956, the Godbey Construction Company built Enchanted Park in Buena Park, followed by Enchanted Homes in Garden Grove and Enchanted Hills in La Canada. There was Storybook Village in the San Fernando Valley; Hansel and Gretel Homes in Anaheim; Princess Park in San Diego; the Prince Charming tract in Santa Ana; and Ding Dong Dell and Candy Cane Lane in West Covina. Even Palm Springs, the mecca of Mid-Century Modern architecture, had a handful of “Swiss Misses” which combined storybook and modernist elements. Actress Elizabeth Taylor purchased one of the Swiss Misses for her mother, Sara Sothern.

In 1961, Vandruff Homes built a final development of 255 Royal Cinderella homes in present-day Placentia off Yorba Linda Boulevard. Shannon and Jean made the decision to end their business arrangement. Other builders, however, wanted to use the Vandruff plans, so the brothers started a franchising program, licensing other developers to use their copyrighted plans, specifications, advertising formats, and the name Cinderella Homes. The Los Angeles-based Roven-Spiegel Company constructed tracts of Cinderella Homes in Costa Mesa, Canoga Park, and Sylmar. Evanwood Homes, Inc. constructed Cinderella Estates in West Covina, and the O’Kaine Construction Company followed with one in Tustin. The Pardee-Phillips Construction Company – which had just completed a development of California Modernist homes (the Forever Houses) designed by A. Quincy Jones and Frederick E. Emmons (Jones &

Emmons) in Fullerton – built a tract of Cinderella Homes in Chula Vista. The homes were built as far away as Houston, Texas and Wichita, Kansas.

While the Vandruff Homes were modest in size and scale, ranging from 1,200 to 1,400 square feet, the later storybook ranches by other developers often encompassed significantly more square footage. Some of the storybook ranches were so massive in size and scale that Vandruff’s original homes looked like mini-ranches in comparison. The simple stucco and brick exteriors were often replaced by more expensive board and batten siding. Many ornamental features, especially the gingerbread and bric-a-brac, became more exaggerated. Single gables were replaced with multiple ones decorated with extravagant barge board designs. Small dovecotes were replaced with large fake birdhouses positioned on roofs. The storybook ranch style would remain popular throughout the 1950s and early 1960s, but by 1963, the style began to decline.



Each Cinderella Home provided an accordion door in the kitchen for TV viewing by housewives. Courtesy of Jean Vandruff.

While there were no franchise developments of Cinderella Homes in Fullerton, several housing tracts built in the 1950s have imitations of Jean Vandruff’s architectural designs. One of the earliest developments of storybook ranches in the city was Orangethorpe-Brookhurst Park in 1954, constructed by John Lusk, then president of Stylized Homes. This tract of 172 homes, each initially with three bedrooms with a 1,200-square-foot floor plan, are located on the blocks north of Orangethorpe Avenue, between Brookhurst Road and Courtney Avenue. The facades of these homes have modest blendings of Vandruff’s original architectural elements. Although a number of homes in the tract have been modified or altered, many retain their Cinderella Home elements (e.g., 1839 W. Flower Avenue; 813 S. Cedar Avenue). Another tract of homes that

reflect the Cinderella Homes’ architecture was developed by Gables Nine Homes, constructed by B. B. Karger & Associates in 1956, covering the 400 blocks of West Roberta, Maxxim and Houston Avenues. Known as the “Word of Mouth” homes (“No one advertised them but the public knew!”), the modestly sized Gables Nine Homes were affordably priced from \$14,700 to \$16,175.

On occasion, a single storybook ranch would be custom built in a tract of ranch homes (e.g., 1066 El Dorado Drive) or at the tail end of an historic subdivision (e.g., 310 Virginia Road, 1246 North Lemon). Fullerton builders labeled the homes “provincials” and the storybook ranches would often be interspersed in new developments with other ranch-style offerings, including Rustics, Moderns, Tradi-

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Storybook

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tionals, Early Americans, and Contemporaries.

Developments composed of just storybook ranch homes can also be found in post-World War II tracts throughout Fullerton. In 1958, Valencia Homes, Inc. of Santa Ana hired local builder Don N. Schneider (1537 E. Commonwealth Avenue) to construct 48 storybook ranches in the 100 blocks of North Hart and Janet Avenues and the 1400 block of East Revere Avenue. Schneider, who was instrumental in building the Fullerton Boys Club, would go on to build thousands of other homes and be selected Builder of the Year in 1964, by the Building Contractors Association of California. Richard D. Bodinus (Bodinus Homes) with the Sunnywood Company built two tracts on 3300-3513 Rosehedge Drive (the model home for the new tract was at 3401 Rosehedge Drive) and another on Madonna Drive and Paseo and Pueblo Places. The Sunny Hills Ranch Company built a number of storybook ranch

homes on Sunny Crest Drive, Avolencia Drive, and Sunny and Johnson Knolls in the mid-1950s. While a handful of developers would become recognized figures in the home building industry, most of the building firms from this period were short-lived and remain little known in Fullerton: Alert Construction Company, Beagle Building Company, Flamingo Construction Company, etc.

The storybook ranch style, which sold a promise of happily-ever-after, was particularly well-suited to single-family homes, but the style also was used with the construction of apartments in Fullerton. Rayne Realty constructed a triplex near downtown Fullerton (227 W. Wilshire Avenue) in 1957, for \$25,000; two, four-unit apartments were constructed in 1957, at 1342 and 1348 West Valencia Drive in the storybook ranch style; and the Trumar Corporation, which also built a tract of storybook ranches, constructed six storybook ranch fourplexes on East Commonwealth (2000-2100 East Commonwealth Avenue) in 1959.

The storybook ranch was built using a large number of architectural designs, and a number of well-preserved homes in Fullerton reflect a wide range of stylings.

In neighborhoods in north Fullerton:

- 507, 513, 707, and 713 E. Las Palmas Drive
- 3507 Madonna Drive
- 400 and 406 Las Rendas Drive
- 3418 Sunny Wood Drive
- 700 and 718 Pueblo Place
- 706 Paseo Place
- 3301 and 3413 Rosehedge Drive
- 3500 Greenmeadow Drive
- 3301 and 3401 Puente Street

In neighborhoods in central Fullerton:

- 1517 N. Longview Avenue
- 1120 N. Raymond Avenue
- 501 and 510 E. Dorothy Drive
- 1224 E. Dorothy Lane
- 1115 and 1118 E. Shepard Drive
- 1619, 1706 and 1712 N. Sunny Crest Drive
- 1024 and 1030 N. Norman Place
- 625 N. Casa Blanca Drive
- 732 N. Euclid Street

In neighborhoods in east Fullerton:

- 107, 213 and 219 N. Ladera Vista Drive
- 125 N. Janet Place
- 305 N. Lillie Place
- 131 N. Hart Place
- 210 S. Hart Place
- 1419 E. Revere Avenue
- 301 N. Concord Avenue
- 2212 E. Wilshire Avenue
- 2025 E. Sudene Avenue



713 E. Las Palmas Drive



700 Pueblo Place



1706 N. Sunny Crest Drive



625 N. Casa Blanca Drive



107 N. Ladera Vista Drive



213 N. Ladera Vista Drive



813 S. Cedar Avenue



2154 W. Houston Avenue

Storybook ranches in Fullerton.

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President's Corner

by Ernie Kelsey

Hello and Happy New Year Fullerton Heritage members: Did 2017 fly by or was it just me??? Well, it did and now it's 2018 and it's going to be a great year! First off, I hope everyone has seen and is enjoying the 2018 Fullerton Heritage calendar. It looks different this year and is a hit due to its size and amazing pictures. A great way to start the year!

As we ease into 2018, Fullerton Heritage continues to lead the fight to help preserve Fullerton. Since our last newsletter, we continue to focus on getting the Mills Act enacted in Fullerton, carefully watched the planned changes to Plummer Auditorium (see accompanying article), and gave detailed input to the Fullerton College master plan. This is in addition to our ongoing advocacy for historic properties and the various donations of materials to the Fullerton Library Local History Room.

We also have a new addition to the Fullerton Heritage Board of Directors, Ray Sly. You can read about him in this newsletter! Ray is an excellent addition to the board and has a great love and passion for the City of Fullerton. We're excited to have him on the team.

We had our annual business-planning meeting in August where we continue to work on our main themes of Education, Advocacy and Communication. One big project we're working on this year is a website update and redesign. Our website is very popular for anyone looking for resources for their historic property to Hollywood

scouting agents looking for movie locations. Our website is a major component of our communication and education efforts, so watch out for the new and improved website coming this year.

Our Social presence is expanding with the creation of an Instagram account over the next couple of months. This is another great way to connect with the community while highlighting Fullerton's historic charm. So, for those of you on Instagram, please follow us. You can also check out our Facebook page for great information on Fullerton and the Southland in general.

As you'll read in this newsletter, we continue to work on the Fullerton Train Station baggage cart restoration. This is another project that demonstrates the great relationship Fullerton Heritage has with the City of Fullerton. It's a win-win for everyone!

Thank you for your membership and all you do for Fullerton. We're always looking for new members, so please remember that you can give a Fullerton Heritage membership as a gift. It's a good value and people love it!

Stay tuned for a great year!

*With warm regards and my sincere thanks,
Ernie*

Welcome New Members:

Jennifer Harris and Lynn Peacock

Plummer Auditorium

By Terry Galvin

For several months Fullerton Heritage has been watching with concern as events are unfolding with Plummer Auditorium. The main purpose of the project is to upgrade the clock tower and the auditorium with seismic strengthening improvements. These activities will impact some of the historic architectural features of the auditorium. The High School District is paying attention to the impacts and is including measures to minimize damage and restore areas that are negatively impacted.

The concerns for Fullerton Heritage involve the lack of similar sensitivity for the damage that results from some of the ADA improvements that accompany the other parts of the project. Of primary concern is the damage that will be done to the original balcony by trying to add two accessible seats in the front row. That will involve constructing a two-story addition on the east (Lemon) side of the building, installing an elevator, and removing two rows of original seating in the balcony. The cost will exceed \$750,000 of public funds.

Fullerton Heritage has made efforts to inform the people involved with the project about the State Historical Building Code that provides for alternatives when destruction of historic features is involved. Reasonable alternatives must be applied if available. In this

case, adding more accessible seats on the main floor is an acceptable alternative under the Historical Building Code and should be implemented. The State office involved with implementing the Historical Building Code has concurred in writing with this conclusion. As of this date, the District has not changed the plans, which were submitted to the State Architect's Office for plan checking on December 8, 2017.

Baggage Carts

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Don't let the name mislead you. While the business is supplying props and sets for any size event with any theme, the owner is a master of creativity. He has a natural talent for building things from scratch, from plans, pictures, or photographs. He has restored original items as well as creating new old items. Baggage carts are included in his inventory.

At this point, the metal parts have been sandblasted to look like new, and the wheels and spokes have been painted. The needed lumber was supplied by Ganahl Lumber and is in the owner's warehouse. The end of the year was a busy time for his business, so he will work on the cart as time allows. The photographs we provided plus his knowledge of similar carts that he has worked on means that we will have a result that is worth the wait.

Fox Theatre Update: \$2.5 Million Grant

by Tom Dalton

Thanks to the efforts of Assemblywoman and Fullerton resident Sharon Quirk-Silva, the Fullerton Historic Theatre Foundation will be receiving \$2.5 million from the State of California to be spent on the continuing restoration of the Fox Theatre. This is great news since now we will be able to complete the work needed to receive a Certificate of Occupancy from the City of Fullerton. This work includes completing the new restrooms: installing several drinking fountains; upgrading the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems; providing fire resistance barriers between the theater and the Tea Room: upgrading fire doors; improving access; and much, much more. Once we have completed all of this we can finally start having regular programming. Stay tuned.

Also, in August, Dick Hamm of Pelican Communities gave the Fullerton City Council a presentation that identified four development options he and his company came up with for the Fox Block.

Introducing New Board Member

The Fullerton Heritage Board of Directors welcomes our new board member, Raymond Sly. Ray moved to Fullerton from Buena Park in 2007 with the purchase of his dream home, a 1920's Spanish Revival originally owned by Fullerton's first mortician (the porch lights are hearse lamps). After years of major restoration, Ray is nearly finished and he and his new wife Kitty look forward to many years enjoying the historic home. Ray looks forward to getting back to his hobbies including pottery, metal work, autos, music and travel. He has worked for Southern California Edison for nearly 38 years and although still working, he now has time to put his considerable expertise and energy into helping us advance the mission of Fullerton Heritage. We look forward to working with Ray and will try not to work him too hard!

Storybook

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In neighborhoods in southwest Fullerton

- 449, 2024, 2118, and 2154 W. Houston Avenue
- 466, 1222, 1226, 1231, 1301, and 2130 W. Maxxim Avenue
- 1318 and 1352 W. Roberta Avenue
- 1439 and 1533 S. Royer Avenue
- 813 S. Cedar Avenue
- 1830 and 1845 W. Cherry Avenue
- 1839 W. Flower Avenue

Fullerton Heritage has completed a windshield survey of storybook ranch houses throughout the city. A map and list of tracts are available in the Local History Room of the Fullerton Public Library for anyone who wants to take a tour of these uniquely designed homes. Additional information is also available on Jean Vandruff's Cinderella Homes.

All four options included a parking structure that would have at least 200 spaces which would meet the city's contractual requirement with Angelo's & Vinci's Ristorante. The Council selected the option that would include a possible office building at the corner of Chapman and Pomona, with the possibility of providing a bungalow court in that space if no commercial client could be found. The Fox Block includes the area between Pomona Ave. on the east, Harbor Blvd. on the west, Chapman Ave. on the south, and Ellis Pl. on the north.

Advocacy

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Fullerton. We are so pleased with the Board of Trustees' recent action and look forward to working with their staff to ensure that this project is successful. We want to thank Fullerton College President Greg Schulz for listening to our concerns and advocating for this compromise proposal that will preserve these historic homes and enhance the College Park Preservation Zone.

Finally, Fullerton Heritage welcomed our new City Manager Ken Domer, in a meeting with him on August 29, 2017. As we discussed preservation issues and our desire to collaborate with the city we were pleased with Ken's openness and easy communication style. We also have a new Director of Community Development, Ted White, who started on December 18. We look forward to meeting with him soon to get to know him and offer our support.



Board of Directors 2017-2018

Maureen Burton / Kate Dalton / Tom Dalton
Terry Galvin / Ann Gread / Ernie Kelsey / Bob Linnell
Debora Richey / Noelle Rossi / Raymond Sly

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