

LONG BEACH HERITAGE



2019 LONG BEACH HERITAGE PRESERVATION AWARDS



SAVE THE DATE
March 14, 2019

The annual Long Beach Heritage Awards Banquet will be held on Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. As usual, a silent auction packed with desirable items will be held before the dinner on the historic Queen Mary. This year we have a number of excellent nominees for various types of awards, so be sure to mark the date on your calendar.

A mosaic designed by Susan Lautmann Hertel of the famed Millard Sheets studio that graced the former Home Savings Bank at the corner of Ocean and Long Beach Boulevard, now the International City Bank, will receive a Restoration award. The present owners of the building, Rockwell Properties headed by Edward Adhoot, removed the paint covering the surface of this wonderful artwork which depicts the history of Long Beach.

George's 50s Diner, originally Grissinger's restaurant designed by noted Googie architect Wayne McAllister,

will receive a Rehabilitation award. Owners George, Helen, Steven, and George Alvarez Jr. spent almost two years restoring this distinctive building, which suffered damage in a fire in 2016.

A second Rehabilitation award will go to a "bungalow mansion" by local contractor Miner Smith at 244 Mira Mar Avenue built in 1921. Dominique Hohman, the third owner of the house, has painstakingly preserved the original woodwork, fireplace, and characteristic exterior art stone ornaments resembling tree trunks. *(cont'd to page 2)*



2019 LONG BEACH HERITAGE PRESERVATION AWARDS

(cont'd from page 1)

Still another Rehabilitation award will be given to the Mid-Century Modern Clock, Waestman & Clock office building on Long Beach Blvd. It was designed by the stellar Long Beach firm of Killingsworth, Brady & Smith in 1957. The present owner, Oren Tanzer, purchased this neglected structure in 2017 and restored its original features.

The John McWilliams residence, a Mid-Century Modern home planned by its owner in the Los Altos neighborhood, will receive a fourth Rehabilitation award. The current owners, Blake and Melissa Nicolai, purchased the house from McWilliams' estate and retained many character-defining features, which included buying some of the original furniture at auction.



The Edward and Laura Killingsworth residence, designed by the noted architect for his own family in 1956-1961, will receive a Preservation award. The home displays Killingsworth's signature post and beam architecture and has been lovingly maintained by the family, who even laid bricks by hand in the yard. Family members, Laura, Kim, and

Craig Killingsworth, participate in the continuing preservation of this house.



A Preservation Technology award will be given to Rancho Los Alamitos for the seismic stabilization of the ranch house. A small army of specialists completed a complicated retrofit which included reinforcing the adobe walls with stainless steel rods.

The Long Beach Convention and Visitors Bureau will receive a Cultural Resources award for digitizing the episodes of Harvey Keller's "Long Beach Treasures" cable television show. In the 1990s Harvey filmed numerous historic buildings and interviewed many local preservationists.

Last but not least, Louise Ivers will be honored with the Preservationist of the Year award. She will add this title to others that include author, editor, commissioner, art historian, professor, curator, and photographer. Her tireless efforts on behalf of the city's historic built environment have saved numerous structures. Her books, *Long Beach, A History Through Its Architecture* and *The Remaking of a Seaside City, Mid-Century Modern Architecture in Long Beach, California*, have become must-reads for any local architec-



Louise Ivers, Preservationist of the Year - 2019

ture buff. Dr. Ivers is Professor Emeritus of Art at California State University Dominguez Hills, where she held numerous exhibits and compiled catalogues on some of Long Beach's prestigious architects, such as Cecil Schilling, Hugh Davies, and Horace Austin. Louise joined Long Beach Heritage in 1985 and eventually became the newsletter editor and a board member. Long Beach mayors recognized her experience and knowledge, appointing her to the Cultural Heritage Commission, which gave her greater ability to save the city's architectural gems.

Long Beach Heritage presents the Annual Preservation Awards to recognize outstanding efforts to preserve our architectural and cultural heritage. Recipients include distinguished individuals, nonprofit organizations, public agencies, and corporations who have demonstrated a commitment to historic places and the integral role these resources play in our city's unique character and its future development.

Tickets are available beginning January 21, 2019. Membership benefits of the Contributor level include a complimentary ticket to the event and Patron level members and above receive a reservation for two. For more information and to make reservations, visit lbheritage.org.

We hope to see you at the banquet which is our major fundraiser of the year.

2019 PRESERVATIONIST AWARDS

- Preservationist of the Year – Louise Ivers
- Cultural Resource Study – Long Beach Convention and Visitor's Bureau for the digitization of Harvey Keller's Long Beach Treasures
- Preservation Technology – Seismic stabilization of the ranch house at Ranch Los Alamitos Ranch and Gardens
- Preservation – The Edward and Laura Killingsworth Residence
- Restoration – Rockwell Properties for the restoration of a Millard Sheets Studio mosaic by artist Susan Hertel at 249 E. Ocean Boulevard
- Rehabilitation – The John McWilliams Residence
- Rehabilitation – Miner Smith Craftsman at 244 Mira Mar Avenue
- Rehabilitation – George's 50s Diner
- Rehabilitation – Clock, Waestman, Clock Law Offices

FORMER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH PARSONAGE MOVED



The Parsonage being readied for its recent move. Photo by Louise Ivers

Constructed around 1887 on Cedar Avenue next to Cerritos Hall where Congregational services were held, the Victorian Parsonage was moved three times before it was recently relocated to 326 West 10th Street in the Willmore City Historic District. This two-story home was declared a Long Beach City Landmark in 2000 and it will be restored in the near future. The Parsonage had to be cut in half horizontally in order to be transported along streets with overhead wires. The move was successfully completed on November 7, 2018 and the two sections of the house have been reunited.

at Magnolia Avenue of 1885, which was moved to East 4th Street, and the Saint Anthony Apartments on Ocean Boulevard of 1912, which was moved to Alamitos Avenue near 6th Street.



The Congregational Parsonage being moved from Pacific Avenue to West 10 Street. Photo by Doug Sambrano



Old apartment being moved from downtown. Photo by Winstead. Courtesy of the Long Beach Public Library."

Many homes and apartments were moved in Long Beach in the early part of the twentieth century as the commercial area of the downtown grew larger. Notable examples included the Jotham Bixby residence on Ocean Boulevard

In the United States, houses were moved since at least the early 1900s. At that time, movers were not hampered by power lines, traffic signals, or government permits. Houses were moved either by a two horse team or by oxen in Southern California.

Around 1900, a house was jacked up and placed on heavy wooden beams which were pointed and acted as runners similar to those on a sleigh. A temporary wooden track was put down in the street and the greased runners slid along it. The track consisted of flat planks, supported by cross ties, similar to those used on railroad tracks.

As the house inched along the street, the planks and ties left behind it were picked up, manually carried to the front of the building, and laid down ahead of it. The horses were not hitched directly to the front of the house, but rather to a capstan that was anchored to a tree trunk or other immovable object. A pulley was fastened securely to the front of the house by a strong rope or steel cable and was wrapped around the capstan. The capstan was then turned by the horses which walked in a circle and tugged on a pole connected to it. The cable slowly wound up on the capstan and pulled the house forward.

No stranger to house moves, Willmore City has been the recipient of several beautiful historic homes in recent years that would have been demolished if left in place. These came from the sites of the World Trade Center, Cesar Chavez School, the new Courthouse, and the Temple Lofts. Although brick buildings are virtually impossible to move, wood frame residences can be cut into smaller pieces and reassembled at their new locations.



The Congregational Parsonage being moved from Pacific Avenue to West 10 Street. Photo by Doug Sambrano

To learn about more advocacy issues, visit our website at lbheritage.org/latest-news.

HISTORIC TILE MURAL REMOVAL COMPLETED



The Port Administration Building façade after the removal of the mural was completed.

In 1958 the Port of Long Beach began construction on a new Administration Building designed by local architects Warren Dedrick and James Friend. The structure was dedicated on March 4, 1960 and displayed a huge 74 foot wide ceramic tile mural created in the Gladding McBean workshop. It was hand painted by Marciel Souza under the direction of Sheridan Stanton and depicted a history of the port from its first sighting by the Spanish explorer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, through the era of cattle hide trading when California was ruled by Mexico, to the time of the clipper ships after it was conquered by the United States, and lastly to the twentieth century when freight-laden steamships crowded the docks. A 1960 article in the Harbor Highlights maga-



Workers from Concrete Coring Company with the special saw designed to cut the tile from the wall.

zine proclaimed that “this mural will be where it is as long as the site lasts, say those who know. There is no adequate way to convey in words the dramatic power of this pictorial history of the Port and the Great Bay that preceded it.”

These prescient words predicted the fate of the artwork 58 years later. The Port Administration Building is slated for demolition soon, but Long Beach Heritage, with the help of Dedrick’s grandchildren and other donors, has saved the mural for posterity.

The port mural has been successfully removed and safely crated for storage. Thanks to the fine work by Brian Worley Art and Restoration and Concrete Coring Company, the entire mural was removed without damage to any of the painted tiles. Each tile has been covered with mylar and labeled with a number so that the artwork can be easily reconstructed at another site. Long Beach Heritage is still searching for the right location for the re-installation of this beautiful historic piece of art.

Donations are still needed to help complete the project. You can make a secure donation by visiting lberitage.org/get-involved/donate.



Brian Worley, who directed the removal of the mural, preparing a tile for storage. Photos by Louise Ivers

SO CAL MODERN
REAL ESTATE

Doug & Rochelle Kramer
BRE 01374637, BRE 01392260
Remax Real Estate Specialists

562-627-1001
info@socialmodern.com
SoCalModern.com

CAL BUNGALOW.com

Steffie Hands, Realtor®
Bungalows & Historic Homes
RE/MAX Real Estate Specialists
6695 E. PCH, Suite 150
Long Beach, CA 90803

562.508.9869 **DRE #01502653**

BEMBRIDGE HOUSE NEWS

By Chris Hogan

In the words of one of my newly favorite holiday songs, "There's so much to be thankful for." Looking back to the accomplishments of the past and gazing forward to the hopes of the New Year, I am once again overcome with gratitude. I can't say enough wonderful things about the many people who have spent countless hours on behalf of the Bembridge House. I am so lucky that the list of people who support the House and provide me with such guidance is so very long: the docents, the gardeners, the archivists and collection specialists, the Carriage House Quilters, the members of the House Operating Committee, and now the Victorian Christmas decorators and workers. The House could not operate successfully without these incredibly gracious and selfless volunteers.

Many functions at the Bembridge House were held in the latter part of 2018. The House successfully hosted the second annual fund-raising picnic in Pepper Tree Court for a local non-profit



The new curtains at the Bembridge House. Photo by Chris Hogan

it group, a thank you party for another local non-profit in the carriage house, a Spooky Tea party inside the home, an evening wedding reception outside, and the Historic Districts Meeting. There were even special tours for two large groups.

Literally days before the first Victorian Christmas event, the new period-appropriate curtains were installed on many of the downstairs windows. The old-fashioned lace fabric with its bisque color complements the rooms beautiful-

ly. The solid-brass rods and brass rings hand-sewn to the curtains also look perfectly vintage. Now we can showcase the stunning 1906 leaded-glass window panels. Opening the curtains to let in the light or closing for privacy will definitely make a difference to the ambiance of the House as well. Kudos again to interior designer Karen Highberger, whose help with this project was immeasurable, to Jeff Braun, her talented drapery-installer, and to her entire team.

At press time, we were in the middle of the Bembridge House Victorian Christmas. After three weeks of decorating, we held three major events for the public: the traditional daytime tour for families (Santa showed up this year – yay!) and two nighttime tours for adults. There were also six more Christmas tours on Tuesdays and Saturdays, not to mention one small private holiday gathering. Busy, busy December.

Happy New Year and have a healthy 2019!

SPOOKY TEA AT BEMBRIDGE HOUSE



The Bembridge House hosted its second tea on October 14th for a sellout crowd. The "Spooky Tea" coincided with the Halloween season and many attendees came dressed as witches. The house was decorated in autumnal colors with spiders, webs, and skulls. Guests were greeted by a performer impersonating Dorothy Bembridge, who informed them not to go upstairs because there were "too many skeletons in the closets." The refreshments included cranberry and pumpkin spice scones, spider chicken pot pies, brownie skulls, and mummy crisps. Many thanks to Julie Nemechek, Linda Renner, Joan saki, Cheryl Perry, and Tina Yanis for making this a scary good time. The next tea will be on February 26th and have a Mardi Gras theme. Get your purple, green, and gold beads ready. Find more information and get tickets at lberitage.org and click on Events.

Tickets will be sold on Eventbrite and they are quickly scooped up.

562-290-8132 • karenhighberger.com



Karen Highberger
INTERIOR DESIGN, INC.



PROFESSIONAL MEMBER IIDA, CID #628



window & repair
RESTORATION

(562) 493-1590 www.WindowRnR.com

Don't replace... Repair!

Repairing Windows Is All We Do Lic # 987212

NATIONAL TRENDS IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION

By Sarah Locke, Executive Director

San Francisco and Columbus, Indiana may share little in common, yet each proved to be an ideal setting to explore the latest trends in historic preservation. I represented Long Beach Heritage at the Docomomo US National Symposium and at Past Forward, the National Trust for Historic Preservation conference. Both of these events challenged us, as advocates for strong communities and storytellers for future generations, to press forward and build upon the foundation of the preservation movement.

As the deadliest fire in California history, the Camp Fire, burned near San Francisco, climate change was a core topic at Past Forward. Victoria Herrmann emphasized the role played by historic preservation. "Climate change is, at its core, a story about

losing the places and cultures that make us who we are. America's tangible and intangible heritage assets are in danger." Long Beach has emerged as a leader in sustainability, but could strengthen that commitment through retaining older buildings and opting for rehabilitation instead of demolition and new development.

Past Forward also focused on underrepresented populations – the LGBTQ community, women, and people of color. Culturally significant sites among our local landmarks include the McBride Residence, the residence of civil rights leader Ernie McBride, but there are more that deserve recognition. The National Trust recently announced the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund. It presents an opportunity for grant funding to ensure we are saving

places that tell our complete story and demonstrate that the work we do is for everyone within Long Beach's diverse population

In Columbus, Indiana, more than eighty projects by internationally noted architects have established it as a small city shaped by Modernism. The Docomomo US conference explored the interplay between what Columbus has built and what they will become. Integration of multi-disciplinary ideas that foster stewardship of its legacy inspire many possibilities for Long Beach as our organization plans for a Modernism initiative.

These national trends in historic preservation are shaping what our 21st century cities will look like and Long Beach will be a part of that movement with a commitment from you, our members.

Learn more about the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund at savingplaces.org and submit your ideas for potential historic sites in LB at preservation@lbheritage.org.

Learn more about Columbus, Indiana at columbus.in.us.

Learn more about advocacy initiatives at landmarkcolumbus.org.

Discover how Docomomo US is "moving Modern forward" at docomomo-us.org.



Sasha Witte
Interior Design & Color Consulting
tel 562.434.8824 fax 562.434.8820
Sasha@SashaWitteDesign.com
www.sashawittedesign.com



BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
HomeServices

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
HOMESERVICES
3728 Atlantic Ave
Long Beach,
CA 90807

JACQUELINE CASE
Realtor CalBRE# 01329026
bhhscajprops.jcase12@gmail.com
562-833-2523



HouStories
Discover the History of Your Home

Seeking Landmark Status & the Mills Act?
Let me help.
Residential, Commercial and Multi-family Historic Research

Maureen C. Neeley, MLIS
T: (562)243-0863 E: HouStories@att.net
www.HouStories.net



Robinett Plumbing
The Old Plumbing Repair Specialist
since 1912

Cris Robinett
(562) 804-3555 office
(562) 244-0198 cell
LIC. #727736
www.robinettplumbing.com

NAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FAÇADE & LANDSCAPING TO BE ALTERED



*Naples Elementary School façade designed in 1934
by Watson L. Hawk. Photo by Louise Ivers.*

The Long Beach Unified School District has plans to alter part of the façade and landscaping at Naples Elementary School, located at 5537 The Toledo, using Measure K funds to construct an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramp in order to accommodate a security objective which is to provide a single point of access to all campus buildings.

Long Beach Heritage Advocacy committee is meeting with LBUSD officials to confirm the use and implementation of the Historic Structures Report on all campuses.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: DECEMBER 2018

Thank you to the following Preservationist Members and above:

SUSTAINER

Geraldine Knatz
Kevin & Ana Maria McGuan

ASSOCIATE

Bob & Nancy Latimer

PATRON

Jeremy Best
Lynn Brandt
Kaye Brigel
Mike & Andrea Burrous
Jan Harper
Rick & Brad Hobbs-Seeley
Marsha Jeffer
Mary Lou Martin & Chris Byrne
Patty Moore & Jean Shapen
Marsha Naify

CONTRIBUTOR

Linda Bagwell
Betty Chaney
Kristi Fischer
Liz Handley
James Hayes & Cathy Ceig
Chris Hogan
Harriett Ibbetson
Louise Ivers & Allen Guerrero
Maureen Neeley & Dan Roberts
Cheryl & Mark Perry
Marco Pizzo & Jeff Mallin
John Royce & Ken Lockart
David Shlemmer
Jamia & Tim Seifert

PRESERVATIONIST

Gabriel Antolinez
Craig & Sarah Arnold
Leslie & Randy Arrington
Jill Anne Black
Barbara Blackwell
Axel & Kathie Blickle

Michael & Kathleen Bohn
Charlene Bosl
Sally Boyne
Bobbi Burket
Enid Busser
Scott Campbell
Carol Choate
Karen & Dick Clements
CJ & Dave Crockett
Vicki & James Cunningham
Nanette Dahlen-Wan
Jacqueline Deming
Linda & Sam Dagga
Judy Edson
Robert Elkins
Charlene & Jerry Feller
Robert & Scarlett Finney
Janice Furman
Jim & Ria Gerdt
Jonathan Glasgow, AIA
Kathryn Gregory
Bob & Marta Griffin
Lauerence Harmon & Sharon Reece
Wendy Harn & Sasha Witte
Karen Highberger & Lou Gaudio
Jeffrey & Roberta Jeannette
Harvey Keller
Rosemarie Kimmerle
Philip & Gillian Klinkert
Ruthann Lehrer
Cecile Lindsay
Jim & Kathy Lingle
Sarah Locke
Bonnie Lowenthal & Evan Braude
Tom & Elaine Marks
Janeice McConnell
Kelly Sutherland McLeod
Joseph Mello

Margaret Morse
John Ostashay
Meg O'Toole
Ken & Sharon Pleshek
Stanley & Maureen Poe
Lyn & John Pohlmann
Marshall Pumphrey &
Roxanne Fitzgerald
Patricia Randolph
Betty & Gary Rouseselo
Laura D Salvay
Joan & Brian Sasaki
Janice & Bary Schlieder
Paul & Judy Schmidt
Norbert Schurer & Susan Carlile
Iris Schutz
Bonnie & Richard Scott
Donna Sievers & Lee Apel
Renee Simon
Matthew Sloan
Cynthia & Nancy Smith
Julie Stindt & Jim Meznec
Natasha & Jeff Stoltz
Eric Stovner
Nina Taweepong & Frank Schoelzel
Regina Taylor
Marlene Temple
Stella Ungar
Patricia Walker
Robert Welborn
Morgan & Linda Wheeler
Carolee Windsor
Walter Wojak

To become a member, fill out the membership form on the back of this newsletter or donate online at lbheritage.org.

LONG BEACH HERITAGE

Post Office Box 92521
Long Beach, CA 90809-2521

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Long Beach, CA
Permit No. 5046

CALENDAR

March 14th - Annual Awards Benefit

WALKING TOURS

Every 2nd Saturday - East Village
9:30 a.m. @Linden Ave & Ocean Blvd

Every 3rd Saturday - Downtown
9:30 a.m. @205 East 3rd Street

Every 4th Saturday - Willmore City
9:30 a.m. @953 Park Circle

February 2nd - North Pine Walking Tour
9:30 a.m. @345 Pine Avenue

BEMBRIDGE TOURS

Every Tuesday at 1:30 & 2:30 p.m.

Every 4th Saturday at 1:30 & 2:30 p.m.

LONG BEACH HERITAGE

Newsletter Editor: Louise Ivers

Layout: BeachCityDesign.com

P.O. Box 92521, LB, CA 90809

PHONE (562) 493-7019

WEB www.lbheritage.org

EMAIL preservation@lbheritage.org

BECOME A MEMBER!

Long Beach Heritage is a non-profit education and advocacy group. Your membership enables us promote public knowledge and preservation of significant historical and architectural sources, neighborhoods, and the cultural heritage of Long Beach. Read about the various levels of member's benefits at www.lbheritage.org/get-involved/become-a-member.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

- Call me with information on how I can volunteer with the Long Beach Heritage
- Heritage Student/Senior.....\$45
- Heritage Friend.....\$60
- Heritage Household.....\$75
- Heritage Preservationist.....\$100
- Heritage Contributor.....\$250
- Heritage Patron.....\$500
- Heritage Associate.....\$750
- Heritage Sustainer.....\$1,000
- Heritage Benefactor.....\$2,000
- I'm a new member!

Make check payable to & send to:

Long Beach Heritage
PO Box 92521
Long Beach, CA 90809

WEB lbheritage.org

PHONE (562) 493-7019

EMAIL preservation@lbheritage.org

[Facebook.com/LongBeachHeritage](https://www.facebook.com/LongBeachHeritage)