

Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society

Founded 1974



Newsletter

Summer 2005

www.SantaAnaHistory.com

“OC Confidential: Law & Order” is Theme for Our 8th Cemetery Tour



Plans are already underway for the next Santa Ana Historical Society Historical Cemetery Tour!

The theme of this year's tour, our 8th, is “OC Confidential: Law and Order in Early Orange County.” Our guided historical walking tour of Fairhaven and Santa Ana Cemeteries will feature costumed actors portraying residents of Santa Ana and greater Orange County who

represented, or even ran afoul of, the law.

Among the stories in the history of law and order in Orange County are Sheriff Lacy's failed attempt to prevent the county's one and only lynching in 1892; the dramatic trial of Beulah Overell and her boyfriend for the murder of her parents in Newport Harbor; the Mendez vs. Board of Education desegregation case; Sheriff Jackson, who finally got his man after 16 years; and Lester Slaback, who made Orange County history as not only its first court reporter, but also the person to hold the job the longest – 57 years!

This year, the tour will be held on Saturday, October 22, with tours starting between 10 am to 3 pm. Cost is \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door (or \$13 and \$16 for SAHPS members). The tour is again produced in partnership with the Orange County High School of the Arts and sponsored through the generosity of Fairhaven Memorial Park.

If you are interested in receiving a tour flier (to be mailed in late September), or if you would like additional information, e-mail us at tour@sahps.org, or leave a message at (714)547-9645. Visit our website at www.SantaAnaHistory.com for additional tour information.

Save the Date

Saturday July 9th

Our 2nd Historic Downtown
Walking Tour

Guided tours at noon, 1 pm
and 2:30 pm.

Go to page 6
for more information

From the President

Since the early days of the Society, the size of the SAHPS Board of Directors has fluctuated up and down as Board members depart and new members come on board. A constant, however has been the Board's desire to actively pursue our mission of preservation and education, regardless of the size of our team. So how does the Board manage to do projects when our ambition is at odds with the number of available resources?

One successful method is in partnering with local organizations. Our annual Cemetery Tour is a great example. To allow us to conduct the tour, each year Fairhaven Memorial Park shuts down normal operations for a day and supplies tables, chairs and awnings, along with generous financial support. Arts organizations including Orange County High School of the Arts, STAGES theatre's WRITERSbloc and Musical Youth Artist Repertory Theatre (MYART) have supplied actors, writers, directors and costumes for past tours. First American Title has supplied paper and printing. The benefit of these partnerships to SAHPS is obvious. The benefit to these generous organizations can range from publicity and recognition, to the simple feeling of accomplishment in supporting a successful event for the community.

A less-recognized, but very important, keystone to our success is our partnership with individuals. That include our loyal docents who act as tour guides for our open houses, neighbors who help us maintain the House and replace broken windows at short notice, friends who lead walking tours, proud owners who create and loan us displays for the House, and volunteers who show up with tools to help at salvage efforts.

These individuals may receive little public recognition, but they are all vital to our success. Are you one of them? Would you like to be? We invite you to become a partner in our success!

Alison Young

The *Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society Newsletter* is produced by the Society for its members and other friends. We invite you to join us in the appreciation and preservation of Santa Ana History. The Society is an all-volunteer organization with no paid staff members.



A Legacy of Preservation Since 1974

The Dr. Willella Howe-Waffle House, Medical Museum, and Carriage Barn.
Built 1889. Saved from demolition 1975.

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Cover House illustration by Ann Berkery
Special thanks to Guy Ball, Alison Young, and
Hally Sobileski..

Visit our website at
www.SantaAnaHistory.com

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or e-mail at robertareed@sahps.org.

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Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society, 120 Civic
Center Drive West, Santa Ana, California 92701-.7505.
Our house phone and message line is (714) 547-9645.

City's 2005 Preservation Winners

The city of Santa Ana has announced the 2005 Outstanding Historic Preservation Project Winners. The Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society would like to join the city in recognizing and congratulating the winners. They are:

- Restoration Award: Wayne Curl, for restoration of the interior and exterior of the David Hoy House, 1225 North French Street
- Award of Merit: Ebell Society of Santa Ana, for long term and excellent stewardship and maintenance of the Ebell Club at 625 North French Street
- Rehabilitation Award (Residential): Sylvia and Ron Richardson for restoration of the Anderson House at 2335 North Oakmont Street
- Rehabilitation Award (Commercial): Nestor and Gaffney Architecture LLC for rehabilitation of the interior and exterior of the Phillips Block Building at 301-309 West Fourth Street
- Historic Infill Design: Mercy House for sensitive historic infill design of the San Miguel House at 814-818 North Garfield Street

This was the third annual presentation of awards, and honorees were recognized at City Council on June 6th. Congratulations to all!!



Upcoming Walking Tour Offers Glimpse of 100 Year Old Downtown

On **Saturday, July 9th**, the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society will host guided walking tours of historic downtown Santa Ana.

Santa Ana's downtown has one of Orange County's best remaining collection of commercial and office buildings built during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Informative docents will lead small groups to view the exteriors of many of Santa Ana's most interesting old buildings, including the Old Orange County Courthouse, the former Masonic Temple Building, old City Hall, the Spurgeon Building, and the Santora Building. As part of the tour, the Dr. Willella Howe-Waffle House will be open from 12 noon until 4 pm.

Tours will start at the Dr. Howe-Waffle House at 12, 1, and 2:30 pm and groups will be limited to 20 people each. The cost is \$8 per person, or \$6 per person for SAHPS members, and includes a beautifully detailed map of the historic downtown area. Paid reservations are highly recommended.

Send a check (or charge information) to SAHPS-Walking Tour; 120 Civic Center Dr., W; Santa Ana, CA 92701-7505 with your desired start time. Please include your phone number or e-mail address so we can contact you if your desired start time is not available. For more information, call us at the Society's message line at 714/547-9645, e-mail tour@sahps.org, or check out our website www.SantaAnaHistory.com.

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Longtime historical activist Phillip Chinn being presented the Society's Annual Preservation Award by event host Rob Richardson

SAHPS Annual Dinner and Election Held; Phillip Chinn Receives Our Highest Award

The Annual Membership Dinner and Meeting of the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society took place on Monday, March 21, 2005 at the historic Santa Ana Ebell Club.

Rob Richardson acted as host for the evening. Members and friends were treated to the year 2004 in review. Business for the evening consisted of the election and installation of the 2004 Board of Directors.

The Society was pleased to present two awards that evening. Phillip C. Chinn received our Annual Preservation Award for his many years of work in historic preservation in Orange County and Santa Ana, particularly for his work with Orange County Heritage. Bob Blankman was also presented an award in honor of his wife Barbara, photo archivist at First American Title, who passed away last year.

The evening concluded with a featured presentation by architect Richard H. Dodd who spoke on the Evolution of Orange County Architecture.

We would like to give a very special thank you to the members of the Ebell Club for hosting the event and Catholic Worker (who provided the catering) for their hard work in preparing and serving dinner for the evening, helping to make the evening special for all.



One of many great items saved from the wrecking ball!

Old House Preservation and Salvage

As you read this, the Society is in the midst of another salvage operation of city-owned houses. We wish we could save every old house, but since we can't, our salvage activities serve to help these houses live on elsewhere. The goal of our sweat-labor is two-fold: to serve as a fundraiser for the historical society, and to provide a cost-effective way for old house owners to restore or preserve their home.

Once the salvage operation is complete, we will be planning a salvage sale at the Dr. Howe-Waffle House. Items we already have are vintage doors, window and trim mouldings, bathtub, sinks, roof tiles, and various accessories.

The sale date has not been set yet, but if you are interested, please leave a message at the House at (714) 547-9645 or e-mail us at RobertaReed@sahps.org and we will make sure you get the information about the sale.

Measure A Passes

Following a very heated campaign on both sides, on April 5th, Santa Ana voters went to the polls to decide on the fate of One Broadway Plaza. 56% of the voters cast their vote in the affirmative, meaning that they wanted One Broadway Plaza to be built.

This affirmative vote opens up the very real possibility that the historic Yale Apartments will be demolished and could have unknown negative effects on historic preservation in Santa Ana in the future.

The Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society is disappointed with the results, but we do intend to continue our work of historic preservation in the city, whenever possible.

Donations Accepted: With Grateful Thanks

The Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society would like to say a special thank you to two members of the Ebell Club for their generous donations which were given to the Society on the night of the Annual Dinner.

Mrs. Barbara Belitz donated a beautiful Victorian dress and **Mrs. Carol Haven** donated a World War I nurse's uniform which had belonged to her mother.

Both dresses are now on display at the Dr. Howe-Waffle House, and we are grateful to both ladies for thinking of us with their donations.

If you have vintage items you would like to donate, please leave a message for president Alison Young at 547-9645. We're also interested in older

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Bits & Pieces

So much to write about, so little space.....

First, for all those who have been with the Society a while, do you remember the **Society graphic** on page 2? We came across this recently in some archive materials and loved its style. We'll be reusing it from time to time. However, do any of you know the history to it? We'd love to capture that information. Please help!

The **Santa Ana Firefighter's Museum** held an open house recently and our intrepid web-Guy was there taking a few photos. We don't have space in these pages, but if you browse over to our website, you'll see a quick link to photos of many of the Museum's displays. It's not as good as actually being there, but the photos show how much effort Lou Fernandez, Tim Graber, and all the other firemen have put into this project. Go to www.SantaAnaHistory.com and click on the Fire Museum link.

Members like you have donated over \$800 to the **House Maintenance Fund** started earlier this year to help pay for some special upkeep-type projects around the House. Already, we've paid for impoverished plant replacement, small repairs, and minor re-painting. Our "honey-do" list is way larger than our budget. Please consider helping us by sending in a special donation. Write in "House Fund" in the remark section of your check. Thank you!

Washington Square resident **David Jirik** of **Heliotrope Studios Productions** came to our rescue last year to videotape our OC Aviation History cemetery tour when we didn't have funding to. He's now in process of doing the final editing of the video for a DVD production we hope to have available in the next few months. We've seen the preview and it looks great. We'll tell you more about it in a future issue so you can order your own copy.

A **hearty Congratulations** to the residents of the **Floral Park Neighborhood** for winning the 2005 Neighborhood of the Year award from the Neighborhoods USA. NUSA recognized Floral Park for their hard work on their annual tour, friendliness and comraderie, neighborhood organization, and other neighbor-related functions. Floral Park beat out neighborhoods across the country to win this coveted award.

Bits & Pieces, continued.....

The Society has won a small **Grants for Blocks** grant through the City to help us create a video “oral history” program. The funding allows us to videotape “conversations” with two long-time residents. This won’t be a huge project (no Star Wars type of production) but more like a well-done home movie of a casual conversation. The first recordings will be a prototype to see how well our plans work and if we can roll it out to a larger effort – particularly if we can obtain additional funding or donations. The final outcome is expected to be an hour-long DVD. We’ll let you know more as the process evolves.

The **Santa Ana Historic Photo Calendar** has been delayed. We expect to get back on track by fall in order to have a 2006 calendar. We’ll let you know more at that time.

Our memberships are at a recent all-time high. However, we’re looking to get about 12 more to meet our 2005 goals. If your mailing label doesn’t say MEM05, please consider joining – at any level. Your financial and moral support help us in our efforts to preserve and celebrate our local history. We can’t do this without you.

And to all who joined and renewed for 2005 – **THANK YOU!** Your response to our membership drive has been awesome and reminds those of us on the board and volunteering, that we’re not alone – that our members believe in what we’re doing and are willing to help – maybe not always in volunteer time, but definitely in funds to help us maintain the house, create our Living History programs, and to share local history with others in our community and around the country. Thank you, thank you, thank you!



Richard Dodd, AIA, the featured speaker at our recent annual membership dinner.

(Thanks to Chris Jepsen for the photos from the event)



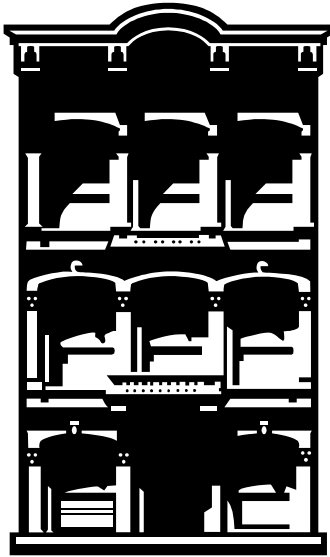
Christmas 1907 at the Howe-Waffle House

We appreciate all our members for their continued support. We’d especially like to thank those who have joined or renewed at the Patron & Benefactor levels including:

John & Blanche Barneich
Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence Serber
Sandy DeAngelis
Francelia Goddard
Andrée Weger
Rose Pothier

Angel Barnes & John Richmond
H. Ron Brown (Brown Colonial Mortuary)
Donald & Judith Moore
Mary & Mark Guzman
Countrywide Home Loans
Molly Doughty (SA Realty)

Jason Kordas



The Santa Ana Historical
Preservation Society
Invites You to Attend Our

Historic Downtown Walking Tour

Saturday, July 9, 2005
12:00 noon to 4:00 pm

Join us for an informative tour of historic downtown Santa Ana. Learn details about the vintage buildings, their architecture, and their history!

On Saturday, July 9th, informative docents will lead small groups to view the exteriors of many of Santa Ana's most interesting old buildings, including the **Old Orange County Courthouse**, the **Masonic Temple Building**, **old City Hall**, the **Spurgeon Building**, and the **Santora Building**.

Tours start at the Dr. Willella Howe-Waffle House at 12, 1, and 2:30 pm and groups will be limited to 20 people each. Reservations are highly recommended. The cost is \$8 per person and includes a beautifully detailed map of the historic downtown area. (Member's cost is \$6.)

Send in the form below to pay and reserve your preferred tour start time. You can also leave a message at (714) 547-9645 or email tour@sahps.org to reserve a time. Be sure to give us your name, number in party, phone number, and preferred start time.

A tour of the Victorian-style Dr. Howe-Waffle House and Medical Museum, built as the home-office of one of Orange County's first female physicians, will be included.

See www.SantaAnaHistory.com for additional information or call/email with additional questions.

Send to: **SAHPS – Walking Tour; 120 Civic Center Dr., W; Santa Ana, CA 92701-7505**

Please reserve ____ openings for the ____ 12 pm ____ 1 pm ____ 2:30 pm start time.

I'm enclosing _____ (\$8 per person, \$6 per if a SAHPS member). If using your charge, please write your number, expiration date, and address of the card holder on a separate piece of paper.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City, Zip _____

Book Order and Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

City and Zip _____

Qty	Title	Price
	Santa Ana in Vintage Postcards \$22.50	
	The History of Santa Ana City and Valley \$16.00 including post. & tax	
	The Civil War Legacy in Santa Ana \$14.95 including postage & tax	
	<i>See our website for other available books</i>	
	Total	

Membership Dues: Individual/Family - \$15-49; Business - \$20-99; Supporter - \$50-99;
Patron - \$100-249; Benefactor - \$250-1,000; Golden Honoree -- \$2,000 and above

If paying by credit card, please specify: Visa, Master Card, American Express.

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Send To: Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society, 120 Civic Center Dr. W. Santa Ana, CA 92701-7505



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