

FootPrints

Dedicated to Preserving and Promoting Historic Resources in the Truckee Meadows through Education, Advocacy, and Leadership.

Historic Reno
PRESERVATION
SOCIETY

VOL. 7, NO. 3 ❖ SUMMER 2004

Reno's El Reno Apartments

From the mid-to-late 1930s until the late 1940s the El Reno Apartments, located at 1307 South Virginia Street, were the premier rental property in all of Reno. Not only were the apartments new, innovative, attractive and comfortable, they were truly unique, constructed of prefabricated porcelain-coated steel designed to look like board-and-batten siding.

The El Reno's were really more like individual homes in a common setting than apartments. They were roomy by apartment standards, at approximately 900 square feet, with a living room, kitchen, one and one-half baths and two bedrooms. They were heated by hot water circulated by a central plant according to a Yellow Pages advertisement in 1942. A row of metal garages lined the west side of the property. The units sported small, individual yards that blended into a common yard, facing South Virginia Street.

The developer/landlord of the El Reno Apartments was Roland Giroux. Giroux was reportedly handy, good-natured and friendly to the residents. Eventually, in the late 1940s Giroux wished to raise the rent on the units. A former resident recalls the tenants agreed, but the post-war rent control board refused to allow it. According to this person's recollection Mr. Giroux became frustrated by the rising costs and being unable to raise the rent. He chose to sell the units off individually and be finished with them. It is reported that most were sold for about \$800 apiece, with a house-moving fee of \$100. City directories list the tiny ranch-style cottages on South Virginia until 1948.

Seven of the El Reno's were featured on a new walking tour during May 2004 Historic Preservation Week led by Debbie Hinman, El Reno tour guide. There were three bus tours offered last fall that took participants to all 13 houses. All have been moved from their original location, five were moved out of southwest Reno, and two across the river.

Her fascination with the little houses began on a warm afternoon when she spied one while coming out of her dentist's office. Intrigued, she walked over for a better look, placing a bare palm on the metal siding and promptly pulling it back. She hadn't realized the house was sheathed in a metal skin made to look like wood.



A mid-thirties postcard depicts Reno's premier rental properties, the El Reno Apartments located at 1307 South Virginia Street. Photo courtesy of Karl Breckenridge.

Hinman also cited a story by Karl Breckenridge in the Reno Gazette Journal as a source for more details about the little houses. Locals who had some history to share called to reminisce about living in them. Breckenridge even drew a map of how the apartments, a laundry facility, power plant and garages were laid out on the sizeable lot

now occupied by Statewide Lighting and a parking area.

It is believed that the El Reno Apartments were inspired, but not clear if designed, by Paul Revere Williams, a well-known Los Angeles architect. In a book by Paul Williams' granddaughter Karen Hudson entitled *Paul R. Williams, Architect: A Legacy of Style*, there are several references to El Reno style buildings. The Jay Paley estate shows a pool house at the rear of the residence that is remarkably similar to the El

Continued on page 2

The El Reno Apartments (continued)

Continued from page 1

Reno's, with a distinctive bay window at the rear of the residence that appears identical to the one adorning the front of the El Reno's in Reno. In the book's introduction, a reference is even made to Williams' mid-thirties "little steel houses", a further clue to their origin.

Mella Harmon of the State Historic Preservation Office referred FootPrints to a copy of *The 1938 Book of Small Houses*

ULTRA-MODERN INDIVIDUAL APARTMENT HOMES
 24-HOUR HEAT BY FORCED CIRCULATION OF HOT WATER FROM A CENTRAL PLANT
 EVERY CONVENIENCE
 Telephone RENO 2-2852
EL RENO APARTMENTS
 1307 S. VIRGINIA RENO, NEV.

Original Yellow Pages ad from Bell Telephone Company of Nevada Directory January 1942.

published by Simon and Schuster. On page 56 is a house called the "Better-Home" Cottage with Paul R. Williams listed as the architect. It's a dead-ringer for an El Reno complete with bay window and decorative iron trim on the front porch.

Walking around Reno's southwest today, you'll see some El Reno's which are as pristine as when first built. Near Lander and Mount Rose, one owner of three has preserved them as rentals with their white paint and dark green trim. Others have had basements added underneath or added rooms and even whole wings. Another owner had to stucco her steel exterior thanks to an overabundance of rust. But that distinctive bay window and lacy iron trim still marks the building as an El Reno original.



One of a trio of El Reno's that were moved to Mt. Rose/Lander St. They sport the color scheme of white with dark green trim and are most like the original with regard to setting and colors. Photo by Sharon Walbridge.

In whatever manner they have been individualized over the years, the El Reno's remain a unique and recognizable vestige of Reno's history.

This article was written by Linda Sievers, a retired copy editor who worked 20 years for the Anchorage Daily News. Excerpts of a text written by Debbie Hinman on the El Reno's were used liberally for this article.

El Reno Developer Roland Giroux by Caricaturist Lew Hymers

Roland Giroux, owner and developer of the El Reno's, is drawn with his El Reno Apartments sign in the background by caricaturist Lew Hymers. Hymers is considered by many to be the most prolific and remarkable caricaturist of 20th century Nevada. Born in Reno in 1892, he ultimately would glow as star cartoonist, and the most prominent local commercial artist of his day. He worked as an animator with Walt Disney for a while and as a cartoonist with the San Francisco Chronicle and

Washington Post. He was famous for the pen and ink portraits of prominent Northern Nevadans which ran in the Reno Evening Gazette from 1918 until 1945. His caricatures, known as "Seen About Town" made those he focused on even more prominent by virtue of Hymers' portrayals of them in the Reno papers.

At Right: Lew Hymers' cartoon from "Seen About Town: The Art of Lew Hymers", Black Rock Press, Nevada Historical Society, 1999.

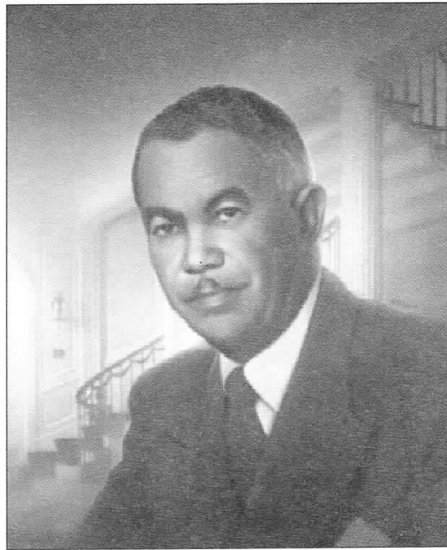


Paul Revere Williams, Architect

Editor's Note: This article was written by Linda Sievers, Carol Coleman and Debbie Hinman. This is the first article in a series that FootPrints will offer about the major architects who designed Reno properties.

Buildings designed by Paul Williams ooze "a graceful and streamlined historicism" according to Ken Breisch, a professor of architecture at USC. Just walk around the Lear Theater and you'll get a feel for his use of classic elements and clean lines. The Lear Theater, originally the First Church of Christ, Scientist and the Loomis Apartments, both on Riverside Drive, the Garvey House on California Avenue and the Raphael Herman house at Rancho San Rafael were among many designed by Williams in the 1930's. The design of the diminutive El Reno Apartments is also attributed to him.

Paul Revere Williams was born in Los Angeles in 1894 shortly after his parents moved there from Tennessee. Orphaned by the age of four, Williams learned early the qualities of fierce determination that would guide his course. Unlike other successful architects of the time, Williams' international education came not from travel abroad, but from the



Paul Revere Williams (1894-1980).
Photo courtesy of:
[http://alumni.usc.edu/baa/
calendar_black_history2004.htm](http://alumni.usc.edu/baa/calendar_black_history2004.htm)

increasingly diverse neighborhood in which he was raised.

His education began at Sentous Avenue School on Pico Boulevard, where he was the only "Negro" in his class. Known as the class artist, Williams spent endless hours drawing. His talent caught the eye of a local builder who planted the seed of an architectural career in his mind. Continuing his interest in art at

Polytechnic High School, he enrolled in the architecture course of study. Following high school, Williams enrolled at a Los Angeles workshop of the New York Beaux-Arts Institute of Design where he won the coveted Beaux-Arts Medal.

He enrolled in engineering school at the University of Southern California, and upon graduation attended several design schools and worked at several local

firms. In 1919, he won a major residential architectural competition that led to a job with the John C. Austin architectural firm.

Williams became a licensed architect in 1921; and a year later, at age 28, he started his own firm, aided by commissions from the new Flintridge development north of Pasadena, including one by a former high school classmate, Louis Cass. By this time he was a member of Los Angeles's first City Planning Commission, one of many federal, state and local boards and commissions he would serve on. He called it: "Giving back to the community."

During a prolific career that extended from the 1920s through the 1970s, Williams designed over 3,000 projects, including mansions for stars in the entertainment industry, hotels, restaurants, department stores, schools, churches, health facilities, country clubs and banks. Among the Los Angeles buildings and projects designed (completely or in part) by Williams are the Shrine Auditorium, Los Angeles International Airport, Hollywood YMCA, Sunset Plaza Apartments, and the Los Angeles County Court House. Among the buildings outside the city designed by Williams are: the United Nations Building in Paris, the MCA Building in Beverly Hills, and Saks Fifth Avenue in Beverly Hills.

In 1923, Williams joined the Southern California chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), becoming the first African American member of the national organization. (He would later become the first African American elected to the AIA College of Fellows.)

Williams' granddaughter, Karen E. Hudson, maintains his archives. The Black Alumni Association of USC mounted an exhibit of his work Feb. 1-Mar. 30, 2004. The text of that exhibit is still viewable online at [http://alumni.usc.edu/baa/
calendar_black_history2004.htm](http://alumni.usc.edu/baa/calendar_black_history2004.htm).



One of Williams' better known Reno designs, is the First Church of Christ, Scientist, now the Lear Theater.
Photo courtesy of www.nevadamax.com.

On the Historic Register, the Luella Garvey House

The Luella Garvey House, a duplex at the corner of California and Nixon, was added to the National Register of Historic Places on January 28, 2004. The National Register is the nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation.

The Garvey house received the designation primarily because it was designed by Paul Revere Williams, renowned African-American architect. His other Reno designs include the Rafael Herman house at Rancho San Rafael, First Church of Christ, Scientist (Lear Theater), Loomis Manor Apartments, and El Reno Apartments, but the Garvey House may have been Williams's first commission in Reno.

"The architectural style of the home on prestigious California Avenue falls within the general Colonial Revival mode, but includes French Regency details, which were signature style elements for Paul Williams at the time," Mella Harmon, architectural historian with the State Historic Preservation Office explained.



The California Street view of the front of one duplex. Behind the wisteria vine is a lovely window treatment, typical of Williams.

"Williams also designed commercial and residential properties in Las Vegas and E.L. Cord's ranch outside of Silver Peak."

Luella Garvey moved to Reno from Los Angeles. Garvey built the home in 1934, but for many years it was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan "Nick" Abelman. Nick Abelman was a Nevada gaming pioneer, who moved to Goldfield during the height of the mining boom there from Chicago in 1906. In 1927, George Wingfield, who had become

Reno's most powerful businessman, urged Mr. Abelman to come to Reno and work with him. Over the next two and a half decades, Nick Abelman operated such prominent Reno gambling establishments as the Ship and Bottle Club, the Riverside Hotel, the Waldorf Club, the Christmas Tree Lodge, the Stateline Country Club at Lake Tahoe, and others.

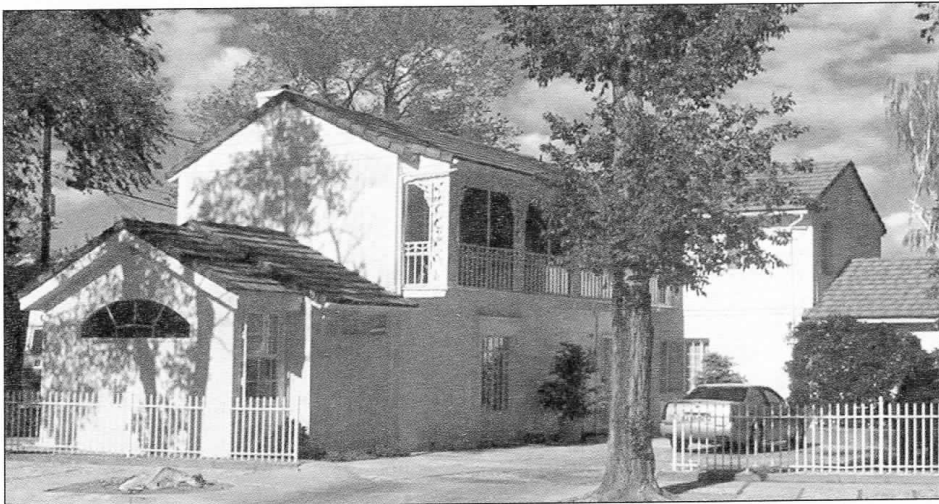
Just prior to the National Register designation, in January 2004, the Garvey property was one of two Reno sites added to the Nevada

State Register of Historic Places by the Nevada State Board of Museums and History. The other Reno property added at that time was what is believed to be the city's second-oldest commercial building: the Washoe County Bank/IOOF building.

A QuickTime video of the house and its interior is available on the web through the Reno Gazette-Journal website. Use a search engine to look for "Luella Garvey House" on the internet.

For a current list of properties in the National Register of Historic Places and the State Register of Historic Places, visit the State Historic Preservation Office's website at <http://www.NevadaCulture.org> (click on SHPO). For more information, call Mella Harmon at 775-684-3447 or e-mail mrharmon@clan.lib.nv.us.

The State Historic Preservation Office is an agency of the Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs. The Department serves Nevada's citizens and visitors through cultural and information management, presentation and promotion of cultural resources, and education.



The Nixon Street view of the two-story section of the property. This section is across the street from the Nixon Mansion. Photos by Carol Coleman.

On The Historic Register, the ATO House

The Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity House in Reno was added to the National Register of Historic Places on January 28, 2004. The ATO House was honored for its role in the social history of fraternity organizations at the University of Nevada, and as the first fraternity-built house in the state.

The ATO House was also recognized as an outstanding local example of Colonial Revival architecture. The structure is a three-story (plus a basement), side-gabled Colonial Revival-style building modeled after a Georgian precedent. The ATO House was built in 1929 on a hill overlooking University Terrace Avenue in Reno's West University neighborhood where a number of other fraternities and sororities are located.

ATO member Lehman "Monk" Ferris provided architectural design services. Lehman and his father, architect George A. Ferris, formed a partnership in 1928. Lehman had studied at the University of Nevada and worked with Frederic DeLongchamps before going to work with his father. The Depression forced the dissolution of their firm in 1932.

Lehman Ferris was one of the first architects in Nevada to specialize in steel frame construction. Additionally, he served as the City of Reno building inspector, was instrumental in the adoption of a Uniform Building Code, and was chairman of the first State Architectural Registration Board in 1947.



The Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity House, built in 1929, located at 205 University Terrace, Reno. Photo courtesy of <http://zephyr.unr.edu/about/archives/dondero/MyLife.html>.

The ATO Fraternity is one of the oldest fraternities on the University of Nevada Reno campus, having started as a local fraternity, Phi Delta Tau, in 1912. In 1921, Phi Delta Tau became the Delta Iota Chapter of the Alpha Tau Omega

National Fraternity. The local Delta Iota Chapter built the house, financing its \$32,000 construction cost through a bond sale. The cornerstone was laid on April 30, 1929.

Three generations of ATO alumni have gone on to become prominent and distinguished leaders in business and industry, education, government and public service and the arts in Nevada and beyond. Notable alumni of the fraternity include former Governor Grant Sawyer, U.S. Senator Richard Bryan, State Senator Bill Raggio, former Congressman Jim Santini and the late author Robert Laxalt.

"For many years, the ATO House functioned at the only university campus in Nevada, and students from throughout the state resided there and carried the affiliation with them for the rest of their lives," said Mella Harmon, architectural historian with the State Historic Preservation Office. "The effect of this significance is reflected in the number of prominent men throughout the state, who have looked, and continue to look, to the ATO house as home."

HRPS Offers Virginia Street Bridge Suncatcher for Sale

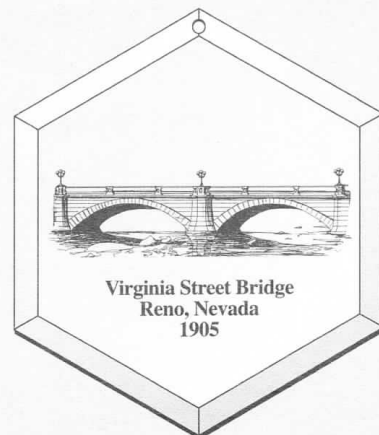
HRPS is offering an opportunity to purchase a beautiful keepsake. The beveled glass suncatcher ornament contains an etching of the Virginia Street Bridge as it appears in the HRPS logo. Underneath the etching of the bridge is the title:

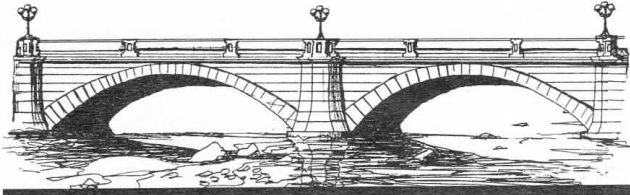
Virginia Street Bridge
Reno, Nevada
1905

The suncatcher is in the shape of a hexagon, approximately 4 1/4 by 4 3/4 inches in size. It comes ready to

hang, and is in an attractive gift box. The price is \$20. Only 100 were ordered, although if they are popular, it is possible that more might be made available. Proceeds will be used to help pay for liability insurance, required for our walking tours.

The suncatchers will be available for sale at the monthly HRPS meetings, the fall party, and during some walking tours. For further information, please call Kathy Wishart, at 856-3662.





**Historic Reno
PRESERVATION
SOCIETY**

**Summer 2004
HRPS
Walking Tours**



June 2004 HRPS Walking Tours

Tour cost is \$5 per person, free to HRPS members; call Tour Guide for June reservations.

- Tues., June 1, 6:00pm "Bricks and Stones." A walk in the Vernacular Humboldt and Lander Streets Neighborhood. Discover the architectural treasure trove of this area, a mix of bungalows, Tudor and mission revivals and cottage styles. Anne Simone (call 853-3414 to register), Tour Guide. Begins at My Favorite Muffin, 340 California Avenue.
- Tues., June 8, 6:00pm "Riverwalk." A Walk Along the Historic Truckee River Corridor. A relaxing stroll along the Truckee River reveals eclectic architecture grounded by rich political histories and spiced with colorful anecdotes. Joan Collins (call 329-0394 to register), Tour Guide. Begins at McKinley Art and Cultural Center, 925 Riverside Drive.
- Tues., June 15, 6:00pm "Wells Avenue Neighborhood." A Walk through Reno's working class neighborhood along the path of the Moran and Wells Avenue streetcar, across from the V&T Railroad, to the homes of the "Thoma Street Gang" kids. Mark Taxer (call 826-7070 to register), Tour Guide. Begins at Southside School, southwest corner of Sinclair and Liberty Streets.
- Tues., June 22, 6:00pm "Riverside District and Little Italy." A Historic Walk along the Truckee River through "Little Italy" noting historic churches, theaters, homes, parks and other fine old buildings. Susie Carter (call 787-3170 to register), Tour Guide. Begins at Dreamers Coffee House, Riverside Artists Lofts, 17 South Virginia Street .
- Tues., June 29, 6:00pm "UNR Historic District." Morrill Hall, MacKay School of Mines, the Keck Museum, and the history of this beautiful campus. Jack Hursh (call 746-3252 to register), Tour Guide. Begins at Honor Court, 9th and Center Streets.

July 2004 HRPS Walking Tours

*Tour cost is \$5 per person, free to HRPS members.
Contact Susie Carter, 787-3170, for information and July reservations.*

- Tues., July 6, 6:00pm "Wells Avenue Neighborhood." A walk through Reno's working class neighborhood, along the path of the Moran and Wells Avenue streetcar, across from the V&T Railroad, to the homes of the "Thoma Street Gang" kids. Meet at Southside School, southwest corner of Liberty and Sinclair Streets. Tour Guide, Mark Taxer.
- Thurs., July 18, 6:00pm A Special Tour for Artown (Free Admission with Reservation) "Art and Cultural Corridor in Collaboration with Artouring." View local artists in process of producing art depicting historic old Reno with a walk noting Reno's cultural history and significance. Visit the Riverside Artists Lofts and the McCarran House. Meet at Dreamers Coffee House, Riverside Artists Lofts, 17 South Virginia Street. Tour Guides Susie Carter (HRPS) and Toni Lowden (Artouring).

July 2004 HRPS Walking Tours (continued)

- Sat., July 10, 10:00am "University of Nevada, Reno Historic District." Morrill Hall, MacKay School of Mines, the Keck Museum, and the history of our beautiful campus. Meet at Honor Court, 9th and Center Streets. Tour Guide, Leanne Stone.
- Sun., July 11, 10:00am "Newlands Neighborhood." A walk in old southwest Reno. A field guide to American architecture featuring revival styles including Arts and Crafts and Tudor. Meet at My Favorite Muffin, 340 California Avenue. Tour Guide, Scott Gibson.
- Tues., July 13, 6:00pm "Mansions on the Bluff." View high-style architecture in Reno's most significant political neighborhood. Meet at the McCarran House, 401 Court Street, northwest corner of Arlington Avenue and Court Street. Tour Guide, Ed Wishart.
- Sat., July 17, 10:00am "Riverside District and Little Italy." Discover Reno's beginnings with a walk along the Truckee River through "Little Italy" noting historic churches, parks, theaters, hotels, homes, and other fine old buildings. Meet at Dreamers Coffee House in the Riverside Artists Lofts, 17 South Virginia Street. Tour Guide, Susie Carter.
- Sun., July 18, 10:00am "Beyond the Arches." Learn the history of Reno with a walk through old "downtown" noting the old Chinatown site, Basque restaurants and rooming houses, a historic Italian hotel, old railroad buildings, and significant buildings designed by Reno's famous architect, Frederic J. DeLongchamps. Meet at the National Automobile Museum, 10 Lake Street South, corner of Lake and Mill Streets, in the southeast corner of the Parking Lot. Tour Guide, Anne Simone.
- Tues., July 20, 6:00pm "Historic Truckee River Walk." A relaxing stroll along the Truckee River reveals eclectic architecture grounded by rich political histories and spiced with colorful anecdotes. Meet at McKinley Arts and Culture Center, 925 Riverside Drive. Tour Guide, Joan Collins.
- Sat., July 24, 10:00am "Lake Addition Walk." Begin at Reno's new Nevada Museum of Art and then meander past Victorian architecture. Meet at the Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street. Tour Guide, Debbie Hinman.
- Sun., July 25, 9:00am "Bike Tour Through Old Reno." Ride along quiet streets under a canopy of trees in Reno's oldest neighborhoods. Meet at My Favorite Muffin, 340 California Avenue. Tour Guide, Glee Willis.
- Sun., July 25, 1:00pm "Downtown Church Tour." Visit three of Reno's oldest and most architecturally significant downtown churches, Trinity Episcopal Church, First United Methodist Church and Saint Thomas Aquinas Cathedral. Meet at Trinity Episcopal Church, 200 Island Avenue. Tour Guide, Mac Wieland.
- Tues., July 27, 6:00pm "Bricks and Stones." A Walk in the Vernacular Humboldt and Lander Streets Neighborhood. Discover the architectural treasure trove of this area, a mix of bungalows, Tudor revivals, and cottage styles. Meet at My Favorite Muffin, 340 California Avenue. Tour Guide, Tracy Soliday.
- Sat., July 31, 10:00am "DeLongchamps Architectural Walk." Stroll along Reno's oldest neighborhoods noting the masterpieces of our famous homegrown architect, Frederic J. DeLongchamps, who designed our Court House, Post Office, the Riverside Hotel, the McCarran House, and other notable homes and buildings. Meet at the Hardy House, 442 Flint Street, northeast corner of California Avenue and Flint Street. Tour Guide, Anne Simone.


**The next set of HRPS Walking Tours will be in October, 2004.
Watch for the HRPS Reno Ghostwalk on Saturday, October 30 at 10:00 am.**

Sharon Walbridge honored with HRC Advocate Award

Sharon Walbridge, Editor of HRPS FootPrints, was given the 2004 Advocate Award by the Historical Resources Commission at the May 12 Reno City Council meeting.

The Reno Historical Resources Commission (HRC) was established by the city's historic preservation ordinance by the Reno City Council in 1993 and since 1997 has recognized owners and preservation advocates through the historic preservation awards program.

In giving the award, Councilwoman

Sharon Zadra said "Sharon Walbridge is the founding editor and current editor-in-chief of FootPrints, the newsletter of the Historic Reno Preservation Society (HRPS). Ms. Walbridge along with managing editor Carol Coleman and copy editor Linda Sievers, spend hundreds of hours to produce an entertaining and educational newsletter. Since its inception in 1998, FootPrints has grown into a first class publication that promotes awareness of and generates interest in historic preservation and local history." 




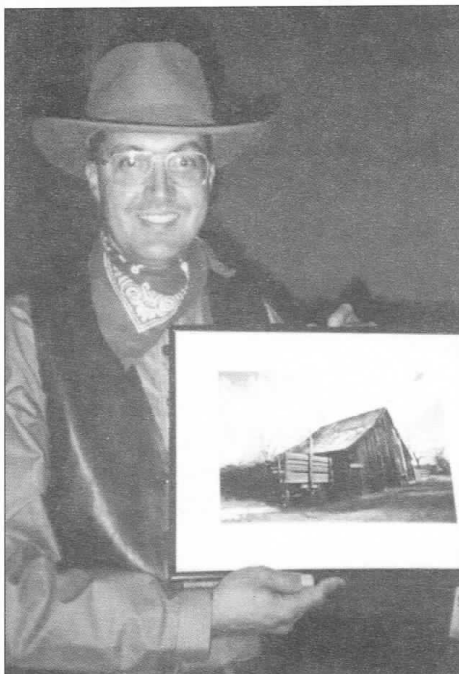
Sharon Walbridge accepting award from Sharon Zadra. Photo by Bill Walbridge.

FootPrints Receives HRC Significant Historic Resource Award

FootPrints received the 2004 Significant Historic Resource Award from the Reno Historical Resources Commission at the May 12 Reno City Council meeting. HRPS President Patty Cafferata and FootPrints Managing Editor Carol Coleman accepted the award.

In giving the award, Councilwoman Sharon Zadra said "FootPrints is the primary publication of the Historic Reno Preservation Society (HRPS). In January 1998, in support of its mission, HRPS printed and distributed 250 copies of a four-page newsletter. In January 2003, HRPS revised the publication and named

it FootPrints. The current version is 14 pages with a run of 1500 copies, of which more than 500 are mailed to HRPS members and public decision-makers. The remaining issues are distributed free as a public service." 



Jack Hursh, Photographer.

Truckee Meadows Remembered — Barns or Bust


Historic Reno Preservation Society has presented, yet another, successful bus tour. Thanks to HRPS Board Members Cindy Ainsworth, Nancy Holmes and Jack Hursh for their work and our fun.

Truckee Meadows Remembered – Barns or Bust – on Saturday, May 8, 2004 was a delightful glimpse (if six hours and numerous ranch buildings can be considered a glimpse) of an earlier, slower Truckee Meadows. That Truckee Meadows emerged in the mid-nineteenth century, barely survived the twentieth century, and will no doubt be a figment of historical imagination by 2010.

HRPS members Jack Hursh and Loren Jahn deserve every possible kudo for their tremendous initiative, hard work, and perseverance in researching,

documenting and saving this aspect of local history.

Jack has published a 48- page book that includes his terrific photos, Loren's wonderful illustrations and invaluable information. It is available at the Artist's Cooperative Gallery, the Nevada Historical Society or directly from Jack (746-3252) for \$10.00. Proceeds from sale of the book will go to Truckee Meadows Remembered, a 501(C)3 non-profit, organized by Jack and Loren for continued support of this project.

Courtesy of Truckee Meadows Remembered and with thanks to Loren and Jack, we all will be able to actually see some of these old barns and ranch out-buildings at Bartley Ranch Park where they will be conserved and displayed. 

Friends of the Washoe County Library Present Award to HRPS

The Friends of the Washoe County Library at their 2004 annual meeting presented HRPS an award for our participation in Literary Reno: Writers and Places.

In July, 2003, Friends of the Library, working with HRPS, offered four walking and bus tours of the downtown area, highlighting places

important to Reno's literary heritage. Authors Clare Boothe Luce, Robert Laxalt, Joanne de Longchamps and Walter Van Tilburg Clark were featured. The presenters were Mella Rothwell Harmon, Marcelino Ugalde, Dick Belaustegui, Michele Basta, Neal Ferguson and Jim Santini. The committee that organized the tour included Pat Ferraro Klos, Sharon

Honig-Bear, Cindy Ainsworth, Susan Bruno, Barbara Courtnay, Lois Crocker, Mary Jones and Linda Kay Weber.

About 160 people attended the tour; many more got to experience it through a video that was broadcast on cable television and that circulates through the libraries. Attendees' comments were overwhelmingly positive. ~~✂~~

HRPS Board Members Move On

Ainsworth, Cafferata,
Holmes, Wishart
Say Farewell

One of the signs of an organization's maturity is when long term members of the board complete their service and move on (a.k.a. get a life). This year the following four board members with a total service to HRPS of 21 years leave our board. Two, **Cindy Ainsworth** and **Nancy Holmes**, were present in 1997 at My Favorite Muffin when a group of citizens decided it was past time to create an organization dedicated to preserving Reno's past. They are among the six founders of this young, energetic organization.

Kathryn Wishart and **Patty Cafferata** both leave the board after serving terms as president, Kathy two terms and Patty the one she has just completed.

The four people noted above have been committed to doing just that – identifying what's still left, remembering what now is only story – and trying to save the places and tell the stories. HRPS extends them a warm, heartfelt thank you.

New Board members approved at the May HRPS meeting are Gordon Foote, Bob Harmon, Linda Sievers and Marilyn Turville. FootPrints will profile them in the fall issue. ~~✂~~



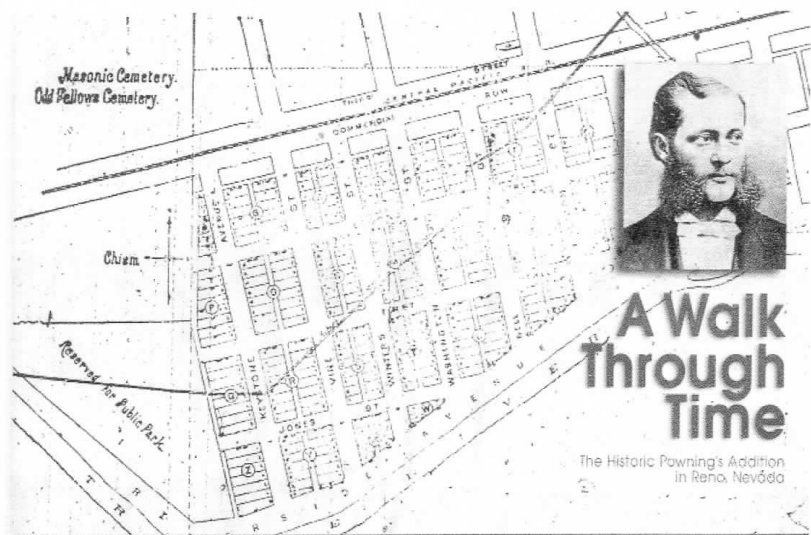
Powning Publication Available

If you are interested in Reno history, *A Walk Through Time, The Historic Powning's Addition in Reno* is for you. This publication describes the first subdivision in Reno including information on its developer C. C. Powning and some of the early residents. Inside you will find photographs of some of the most impressive historic buildings in the area with descriptions of their architectural styles. Expect to find information on private residences, apartment buildings, motels, office buildings, churches and other public buildings. Located inside is an easy to follow map that makes walking or driving the area a delightful journey through one of Reno's historic areas developed in the 1880s.

"Outstanding narrative about one of Reno's earliest subdivisions"
- Ronald M. James, State Historic Preservation Officer

"Vibrant walking journey of historic development in Reno."
- Christine Fey, Reno's Arts and Culture Manager

The publication was produced, in part, by a grant from the Nevada Humanities Commission and by the donations of HRPS members. The publication will be sold for a price of \$5 per copy and is currently available at the National Automobile Museum. You may order the publication by mail from P.O. Box 14003, Reno, NV 89507, for the price of \$5 for the publication and \$2 for mailing per copy. ~~✂~~

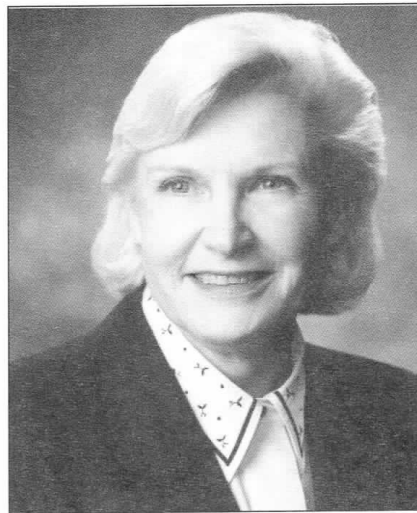


President Patty Cafferata's Notes

This has been an exciting year for HRPS. The Board of Directors worked together to make this a successful year. My thanks to Joan Dyer, Vice President, Mark Taxer, Secretary, Cindy Ainsworth, Felvia Belaustegui, Susie Carter, Phyllis Cates, Fritz Grupe, Nancy Holmes, Jack Hursh, Jr., Jack Schroeder, and Kathy Wishart. Others who made the year a winner were Bill Walbridge, Treasurer, Ginger Salcedo, Membership Chair, Sharon Walbridge (Newsletter Editor), Carol Coleman (Assistant Editor), and Linda Sievers, and Jane Bowden, newsletter staff. Double Click Design provides the graphic design for our newsletter.

A few of the highlights of the year are as follows. As you know, we focused on the Powning's Addition in downtown Reno, the first subdivision in the city. We printed a publication on the area that was available for sale in May. The publication was created because of the hard work of committee members: Cindy Ainsworth, Felvia Belaustegui, Mella Harmon and myself. Pietra Brady was the graphic artist. Ainsworth took most of the photographs and Belaustegui and Harmon wrote the text for the publication. The Nevada Humanities Committee gave HRPS a grant and the generous membership donations covered the cost of creating the publication, *A Walk Through Time: The Historic Powning's Addition in Reno, Nevada*.

Felvia Belaustegui, program chair, arranged the monthly programs, including several speakers on the Powning's Addition development. Other programs were diverse as to the



topics covered, and always educational and interesting.

Joan Dyer and Phyllis Cates arranged the marvelous pasta dinner party at the McKinley Park (School) Arts and Culture Center. And, Kathy Wishart coordinated the silent auction at the event.

In addition, we are proud of our newsletter. FootPrints is well received in the community and Editor Sharon Walbridge was recognized with an award from the City of Reno. The HRPS organization itself also received an award that was accepted by Carol Coleman, Assistant Editor. The newsletter contained articles about the Powning's Addition and, of course, many more stories about the history of the Reno/Sparks area. The Nevada Arts Council also awarded a grant to HRPS to publish a volume of FootPrints.

Our walking tours, under the leadership of Susie Carter, continue to be a source of information on historical areas of

Reno. Susie rightfully boasts about her tour guides, who volunteer their services for these important events. If you have not taken a walking tour, you are missing an opportunity to learn more about our hometown. Future tours will take place during the month of June and during Artown in July. Call Susie at 787-3170 for details.

Jack Hursh and Cindy Ainsworth arranged a bus tour of some of the barns in the Truckee Meadows that was enjoyed by all who participated.

This year Cindy Ainsworth also acted as the publicity chair and because of her hard work the media frequently covered HRPS activities.

Fritz Grupe created our website, <http://historicreno.org/>, and he served on the financial review committee with Bill Walbridge, Treasurer, and myself to review our financial procedures.

Thanks to Mt. Rose Elementary, one of our favorite historic buildings, for allowing us to hold our speaker programs in their multi-purpose room.

Finally, the Promenade has been gracious in allowing us to hold our monthly board meetings in one of their beautiful private dining rooms overlooking the Truckee River and the Powning's Addition.


I cannot believe that my term as president is drawing to a close. It has been an honor serving as President of HRPS, and I look forward to the coming year under Joan Dyer's leadership.

– Patty Cafferata, 825-2694

Thank You, Thank You to Patty Cafferata

A grateful organization says Thank You, Patty, for the leadership, for your focus, for the time, even for the moments of frustration, for everything.

A quote from the acknowledgements in the Powning publication says it all:

The Powning Project and publication was conceived by Patty Cafferata to educate the public about the historic Powning's Addition. She coordinated the development and creation of *A Walk through Time: The Historic Powning's Addition in Reno, Nevada*. It was nip and tuck at times, but with Patty's leadership and focus, she pulled it off. 

Bulk Rate Mail
 Footprints is now being mailed using a Bulk Rate Mail permit. If your address changes, please contact Ginger Salcedo, P.O. Box 14003, Reno NV 89507, with your address change. Bulk Rate mail is not forwarded.



HRPS wishes to thank Promenade on the River for allowing HRPS to hold its Board Meetings at the Promenade.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Renewals March 10-May 15, 2004

New Members March 10-May 15, 2004

George & Mary Aker
 Bobbie Anderson-Hubbard
 Robert & Sandra Backus
 Carrol Baird
 Karen Barber
 Felvia & Richard Belaustegui
 Sue Broderdorf
 Susie Carter
 Don & Cindy Cavallo
 Al Delmue
 "Jackie, Steve & Michael Frady"
 Mary Lee & Chuck Fulkerson
 Kara Geiger
 Heidi & Paul Georgeson
 Penny Gilbert
 Jeff Goldsmith
 Sonnia Gore
 Joan Haskell
 Phyllis Hedgpath
 Dorothy Huffey
 Nancy Mawson

Ann McCarty
 Susan & Jack McLeod
 Lou Melton
 Lucille Mitchell
 Bruce Nemenoff
 Jim Nicholson
 Ann & John North
 Al & Nancy Pagni
 Eileen & Chris Piekarz
 Rich Rossi
 Richard Rowley
 Fred & Toni Payton Ryser
 Ginger & Pete Salcedo
 Kathleen Shane
 Tracy Soliday
 Nan Spina
 Karen Wells
 Robert Wexler
 Hilda Wunner
 Mary Yeargin

Mark Backus
 Bill & Linda Ball
 Joanne & John Bauer
 Robert Brim
 Lawrence & Betty Brown
 Gwen Clancy
 John & Susan Dameron
 Anne Dickerson
 Peter & Sherry Dunn
 Jerry Graffam
 Charlie & Tonni Giguere
 Melinda & Dan Gustin
 Gayle Haraguchi
 Joelle & Tim Jay
 Jean Johnson
 Don & Gaby Junell
 John & Diana Kubena
 Ken & Linda Langdon
 Sam Limerick
 Eileen McGowan
 Rosalie Nolan

Eric Novak
 George & Nancy Nye
 Rowland & Joanne Oakes
 Fred & Penny Rogers
 James D. Santini
 Susan Sariti
 Karen Shannon
 Fredilyn Sison
 Richard & Carol Smiley
 Roni Spoon
 Jane Stoker
 BJ & Carolyn Sullivan
 Cary & Jan Tremewan
 Debby Whitsitt
 Katie Whitsitt
 Richard & Maureen Wilde
 Candace Wissenback-Ferris
 Chris Wissenback

HRPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please check your mailing label! Renew your membership and help HRPS preserve historic Reno!

Please make checks payable to **Historic Reno Preservation Society**, and mail along with this application to:
 P.O. Box 14003, Reno, NV 89507

- New Member
- Renewing Member

Name(s) _____
 Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ Best time to call: _____
 Occupation: _____ Employer: _____
 Fax _____ E-Mail: _____

Annual membership includes: Footprints (HRPS Newsletter) • Free participation in walking tours

- Student \$10.00
- Individual \$15.00
- Family (Children 18 yrs and younger) \$20.00
- Business Contribution \$50.00
- Supporting \$100.00
- HRPS Angel \$250.00

Additional donation: _____

Thank you for joining HRPS. An organization is only as strong as its members. There are many areas in our organization where your enthusiasm, skills, and dedication will be invaluable to historic Reno and future generations. The goal of the Historic Reno Preservation Society is to preserve the historic resources of our community. What would you like to contribute to HRPS?

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY PAID: Check Cash Amount: _____ Membership # _____ Renewal Date: _____





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Reno, NV 89507

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SUMMER 2004
HISTORY LIVES, CHECK OUT THESE PLACES

Felvia Belaustegui - Program Chair: 329-0149

HRPS Speaker Programs will resume in September, 2004.

- | | |
|--|---|
| Bower Mansion (tour) | 4005 U. S. Hwy 395 North, Carson City, 849-0201.
Call to make reservation. |
| Churchill County Museum | 1050 S. Maine St., Fallon, NV 423-3677.
Monday-Saturday, 10am-5pm, Sunday, noon-5pm |
| Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center | 1477 U.S. 395, Gardnerville, 782-2555
Tuesday-Saturday, 10 am-5 pm (closed major holidays) |
| Genoa Courthouse Museum | 2304 Main St., Genoa, 782-4325
May-October: Daily 10am-4:30pm |
| Fourth Ward School Museum and Cultural Center | 537 S. C. St., Virginia City, 847-0975
Daily, 10am-5pm |
| National Automobile Museum, The Harrah Collection | 10 S. Lake St., Reno, 333-9300
Monday-Saturday, 9:30am-5:30pm, Sunday, 10am-4pm |
| Mackay Mansion | 129 D Street, Virginia City, NV, 847-0173
Open year round |
| Nevada Railroad Museum | 2180 S. Carson St., Carson City, 687-6953
Daily, 8:30am-4:30pm |
| Nevada Historical Society | 1650 N. Virginia St., Reno, 688-1190
Monday-Saturday, 10am-5pm |
| Sparks Heritage Museum | 820 Victorian Avenue, Sparks. 355-1144,
Tuesday-Friday, 11am-4 pm, Saturday, 1pm-4pm |

HRPS OFFICERS

President: Patty Cafferata,
825-2694

Vice President:
Joan Dyer

Secretary: Mark Taxer

Treasurer: Bill Walbridge

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cindy Ainsworth, Felvia Belaustegui, Susie Carter, Phyllis Cates, Fritz Grupe, Nancy Holmes, Jack Hursh, Jr., Jack Schroeder, Kathy Wishart

PROGRAM

Felvia Belaustegui 329-0149

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Ginger Salcedo 324-6913

WALKING TOURS

Susie Carter 787-3170

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editors:

Sharon Walbridge 322-5833
Carol Coleman
Linda Sievers

Distribution:

Jane Bowden

Graphic Design:

Double Click Design 324-5569

HRPS Web Site: <http://historicreno.org/>