Historic Reno Preservation Society A Reality

Preservation became a forceful reality in Reno on Sept. 22, 1997 at Mt. Rose School when sixty people met to hear architect Max Hershenow discuss local and national preservation issues. Jon Dewey and Katherine Hale followed with information about the Riverside and Mapes hotels.

Newly elected officers are Pat Ferraro Klos, President; Cindy Ainsworth, Vice-President; Holly Young, Treasurer; Sandy Saunders, Secretary. The Board of Directors also includes Scott Gibson, Nancy Holmes, Charlotte McConnell, Bill Thimmesch, and Kathryn Wishart.

The October meeting featured Gerald Takano of the San Francisco office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. In November, Christine Fey of the City of Reno Planning Department reviewed the historical components of the Reno Visual Preference Survey. No meeting was held in December.

Champions of the River

On December 23, 1997 the Reno Gazette-Journal ran a story about volunteers working to save the Truckee River. HRPS member Nancy Holmes will be our representative to the Champions of the River committee. She needs help from you, so please call her at home at 852-2094 and leave a message.

The river influences three of the most important districts in the city: the downtown corridor, the Riverside Drive neighborhood, and the Newlands neighborhood on the bluff. Volunteers are eagerly being sought and need no special skills.
Have We Got A Program For You!

Cindy Ainsworth, HRPS Vice-President and Program Chair, has things pretty much lined up for January through June 1998. These programs will be held during regular meetings.

HRPS meetings are generally held the fourth Monday of the month at 7:00 at Mt. Rose Elementary School, 915 Lander St., Reno

Mark your calendar!

January 26 – Ron James
Ron James, Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer and President of Truckee Meadows Historic Trust, will discuss the SHPO, what it does for you, what help is available to the public, and what issues Nevada faces today.

February 26 – Don Fowler
Dr. Don Fowler, UNR Historic Preservation Officer and President of Truckee Meadows Historic Trust, will present a slide show entitled “The Flip Side of Preservation.”

March 23 – Mark Preiss
Mark Preiss, Director of the Fourth Ward School in Virginia City, will discuss cultural tourism and preservation projects.

April 27 – Joann Skelly
Joann Skelly, UNR Cooperative Extension Service, will discuss historic gardens and plants from the 1920s and 1930s, a perfect program for those of you with older homes.

May 18 (3rd Monday due to the holiday)
Picnic basket potluck supper at 6:00, short annual business meeting, and... our first evening historic walk.

More evening summer activities will be announced

Frank Lloyd Wright said:
“Architecture is life, or at least it is life taking form... it is the truest record of life as it was lived in the world yesterday.”

HRPS Membership

Following is a list of HRPS members, with many having also made sizable contributions to the society. All potential members are encouraged to fill out the form on the back of this newsletter and begin 1998 with a membership to HRPS: Dave Aiazzi, Cindy Ainsworth, Carlene Asikainen, Loretta & Cliff Baughman, Dana Bennett, John Priester, Carrie Bennis, Dean Bradt, Craig Chapman, Alex Cosima, Andria Daley-Taylor, Jon Dewey, Joan Dyer, Clair & Ron Evenson, Linda & Bob Firth, Theresa Frisch, Loretta Frudden, Scott Gibson, Mercedes de la Garza, Katharine Hale, Mella Harmon, Nancy Hardy, Toni Harsh, Nancy Holmes, Inge Jahn, Marilyn Johnson, Pat & Mike Klos, Loretta & Tony Limon, Sue Lombardi, Larry Lyons, Carole Maupin, Ann McCarty, Charlotte & Dick McConnell, Helen Hardy Mills, Frank Ozaki, Toni Payton, Nanette Pepe-Roehr, Sandy Saunders, June Stansbury, Leanne & Tom Stone, Carolyn Strunge, Gerald Takano, Hillary & Francisco Velázquez, Sharon Walbridge, Laura Weigel, Frankie Williams, Carol Winans, and Marilyn Woodard.

What’s Happened & Happening

Historic Reno Preservation Society helped Step 2 present their best ever “Homes for the Holidays” tour. Historic properties in the Newlands neighborhood were opened on Saturday and Sunday, December 6th and 7th, to hundreds of supporters of the Step 2 programs. Hostesses from HRPS were Theresa Frisch, Cindy Ainsworth, Holly Young, Charlotte McConnell, Marcia Halsey, Ellen Williams, Sharon Walbridge, Vivian Kirchoff, Carolyn Asikainen, Jane Bantz, Pat Klos, Ann McCarty, and Nancy Holmes.

Two walking tour training sessions have been held at R&R Advertising on Jones Street at Riverside Drive. Consensus for attendees was to go forth with neighborhood walks during National Historic Preservation Week (May 10-16) and in July for Reno’s “Uptown, Downtown, Artown” month of activities. Watch for these walks to be announced in the “What’s Happening” column of the Reno Gazette-Journal.
Truckee Meadows Heritage Trust Joins Preservation Effort

HRPS congratulates the Heritage Trust and their efforts to raise money to save the Riverside and Mapes Hotels. Their motto is “Preserving our valuable heritage through community partnership.”

The TMHT sponsored the Mapes 50th Birthday Party on December 17th, which was attended by over 200 people and the media as well. Good work Trust Members!

Watch for an upcoming letter from the TMHT.

“Save the Mapes” Website: www.mapes.com

Goals of Historic Reno Preservation Society

1. Train Walking Tour Docents.
2. Develop educational programs for children and adults.
3. Build a strong membership.
4. Make available materials about preservation and lists of historic properties and issues.
5. Identify endangered sites.
6. Inform about local, state, and national preservation issues through timely programming.
7. Build partnerships between HRPS, Reno Historic Resources Commission, neighborhood councils, and other preservation groups.
8. Recognize and reward historic preservation projects.
9. Build a partnership with the local Native American community.
10. Purchase and develop a house museum in the Truckee River corridor.

Heads Up!

What’s the fate of the Amtrack train station and the El Cortez Hotel?

HRPS wants its members and interested preservationists to pay attention to these two historic properties as well as the “downtown jewels.”

For years, the courthouse, the post office, the Riverside, and the Mapes have been referred to as “the jewels,” and that they are. But we are asking all of you to watch for changes in other downtown properties as well, as our city continues to grow. Call your council people, talk to your county commissioners, speak out at your neighborhood councils, attend Oliver McMillan planning sessions, and attend HRPS meetings where issues are discussed.

Membership in the National Trust for Historic Preservation will keep you informed as to preservation issues in other parts of the country and strategies that have been used to save historic properties, as well as the travesty of lost properties. Informed citizens are powerful people!

The National Trust for Historic Preservation

“The mission of the National Trust for Historic Preservation is to foster an appreciation of the diverse character and meaning of our American cultural heritage and to preserve and revitalize the livability of our communities by leading the nation in saving America’s historic environments.”

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1. Again: anew
2. Backwards: back

Re-novate
Re-trofit
Re-construct
Re-plicate
Re-produce

Re-style
Re-build
Re-roof
Re-brick

Re-weave
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