



Los Angeles County has a vast range of historic resources, including the 1937 Lane-Wells Company Building in Huntington Park (left; photo by Dean Cheng) and the 1961 Premiere Lanes in Santa Fe Springs (right; photo of sign by Adriene Biondo).

Preservation Award Nominations Due January 30

Do you know of a preservation project that deserves special recognition? If so, we welcome your nominations for the Conservancy's 28th Annual Preservation Awards. Presented each May during National Preservation Month, these awards recognize outstanding achievement in the field of historic preservation. Winners are selected by an independent jury of leading experts in architecture, historic preservation, and community development.

Preservation Award winners range widely, from sensitive restoration, rehabilitation, and adaptive reuse projects, to groundbreaking advocacy and education efforts by individuals and groups. We encourage submissions from throughout Los Angeles County that illustrate the value and power of historic preservation. Past recipients include The Eastern Columbia, City of Huntington Park Historic Preservation Ordinance, Oaklawn Bridge and Waiting Station, Griffith Observatory, The Poster Neutra, Pann's Coffee Shop, and Point Fermin Lighthouse.

To be eligible, projects must have been completed by December 31, 2008, and be located in L.A. County. Construction projects may be commercial, residential, or institutional. Historic landscape projects, as well as contributions to preservation education or program development, are also encouraged.

The deadline for submitting nominations is **Friday, January 30, 2009**. Each nomination has a non-refundable application fee of \$50. You can download a nomination form from our website at www.laconservancy.org or request one by calling the office at (213) 623-2489.

2008 Countywide Preservation Report Card Reveals Notable Improvements, with Room for More

by Marcello Vavala

As part of our thirtieth-anniversary activities, in December 2008 the Conservancy released a comprehensive update of the Los Angeles County Preservation Report Card we first issued five years ago. The report card reflects the Conservancy's ongoing efforts to track and promote preservation policies among L.A. County's eighty-eight cities and county government. Since the first report card was released in 2003, more than a dozen cities throughout the county have taken steps to explore, enact, or strengthen historic preservation programs. Other cities have farther to go in safeguarding their historic resources, which we hope the report card will encourage.

Cities earning the top grades of A or A- include Long Beach, Los Angeles, Pasadena, Santa Monica, South Pasadena, West Hollywood, and Whittier. The honor of Most Improved goes to **Huntington Park**, which leapt from an F grade in 2003 to a B+ in 2008. Other cities showing notable improvements include Calabasas, Duarte, Los Angeles, Manhattan Beach, San Fernando, Santa Clarita, and West Covina.

Why a Report Card?

Los Angeles County has an extremely rich and diverse architectural heritage. This heritage is also surprisingly vulnerable, with cultural resources facing ongoing threats of demolition and insensitive alteration. The most effective protections for historic resources often lie in the hands of local government. Los Angeles County, which spans over 9.9 million square miles, has eighty-nine local governments: eighty-eight incorporated cities plus the county government. Each of these jurisdictions operates independently and has its own protections—or lack thereof—for its historic resources.

The Conservancy's Preservation Report Card uses very specific criteria to "grade" each city (and the county itself) on the policies it has in place to protect privately owned resources. Criteria include whether the city has ordinances to designate historic landmarks and/or districts, how many of the city's resources have been designated as historic, whether the city participates in preservation-related programs such as the Mills Act tax relief program and the Certified Local Government program, and whether the city has surveyed its historic resources.

Please see *REPORT CARD* on page 4

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Thanks to Julius Shulman and The Getty Research Institute for access to his photography archives.

Letter from the Executive Director

Preservation in Los Angeles: Thirty Years Later

by Linda Dishman

As the Conservancy celebrated its thirtieth anniversary in 2008, I couldn't help but think about how historic preservation in Los Angeles has changed over the past three decades. The local preservation movement has come a long way. For instance, while we still face constant threats to historic resources, it is no longer widely assumed outright that buildings are disposable. Slowly but surely, a preservation ethic is sprouting throughout L.A. County as more people realize the value of preservation in revitalizing communities, conserving resources, and enriching our lives. The Conservancy itself has grown more proactive over the years, with targeted initiatives for Broadway, neighborhoods, and youth outreach.



As described in the Conservancy's 2008 Preservation Report Card (see cover story), a number of cities throughout Los Angeles County now offer preservation incentives that weren't available thirty years ago, such as the Mills Act tax relief program. Countless preservation projects have taken advantage of historic rehabilitation tax credits, and the Conservancy holds more than twenty conservation easements, which can provide significant economic benefits.

Thirty years ago, the City of Los Angeles had no historic districts. Now it has twenty-four, with many more in the pipeline. The city has made other great strides such as creating a dedicated Office of Historic Resources, conducting the first major overhaul of the city's preservation ordinance since it was created in 1962, and coordinating L.A.'s first-ever citywide historic resources survey.

We still have much to do, of course. Many people still don't appreciate the value of preservation; new issues arise every day; and we need to engage new, more diverse audiences. Yet we're clearly heading in the right direction, thanks to the ongoing support of members like you.

Karina Muñiz Joins Conservancy Staff as Community Outreach Coordinator

We are delighted to welcome Karina Muñiz as the Conservancy's new community outreach coordinator. Karina started in her new position in mid-October 2008. Before joining the Conservancy staff, Karina worked for the Institute of Social Change Across Borders, a community project of the UCLA Labor Center and the Center for the Study of Urban Poverty that provides resources for transnational leaders in Los Angeles engaged in social change. She previously worked as an advocate and researcher on issues such as international human rights, low-wage immigrant labor organizing, and gender rights within the Latina/o community. Karina holds a dual master's degree from UCLA in urban planning and Latin American studies, and she is fluent in Spanish, English, and Portuguese.



With support from the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Partners in the Field grant program and the Annenberg Foundation, the community outreach coordinator is a new position that will provide technical assistance to members of Latino communities, build relationships with neighborhood organizations, and encourage a reciprocal dialogue with Latino residents to help identify and protect significant cultural resources. Karina will work with Latino communities throughout Los Angeles to help broaden the scope of historic preservation to more closely reflect and restore the rich urban social history of Latino residents. She will also build partnerships to expand preservation resources and opportunities for residents while fostering mutual understanding of Latinos' critical role in shaping the region's cultural landscape and architectural heritage. Please join us in welcoming Karina to the Conservancy family.

Joe Komsky Leaves Conservancy Staff

Development Director Joe Komsky left the Conservancy in October to accept a position as major gifts officer for City of Hope Hospital. Joe was instrumental in exploring new fundraising initiatives and overhauling the Conservancy's direct mail and membership materials. We appreciate Joe's contributions to the Conservancy and wish him all the best in his new position.

Preservation Issues In The News

by Mike Buhler, Flora Chou, and Marcello Vavala

Driftwood Drive-thru Dairy

On November 7, the State Historic Resources Commission voted unanimously to determine the Driftwood Drive-thru Dairy in El Monte eligible for listing in the California Register of Historic Resources. After demolition rumors surfaced, the Conservancy's Modern Committee commissioned the nomination for the drive-thru dairy located at 10724 Lower Azusa Road.

Originally known as the Driftyland Dairy-Port, the drive-thru is a spectacular example of roadside architecture that the *Los Angeles Times* described as "space age" and "one of the most modern dairy drive-ins in the world" upon its completion in 1961. It reflects both the height of space-age design and the influence of the automobile in shaping retail methods and signage.

Driftwood Dairy is also one of very few drive-thru dairies that are still intact, with a very high degree of historic integrity. Although El Monte had several dairies from the 1930s through the '50s, no others offered drive-thru service.

In fall 2007, Driftwood Dairy's new owners announced plans to replace the drive-thru with a new retail strip and office development, prompting the Modern Committee to nominate it for landmark designation. Although the new owners had pledged to "vigorously oppose" the nomination, they did not show up for the final hearing in Sacramento. Conservancy staff testified at the hearing, along with Modern Committee representatives and the nomination's author, Teresa Grimes of Christopher A. Joseph & Associates.

The drive-thru is not eligible for local landmark designation because the City of El Monte does not have a historic preservation ordinance in place (the city received an "F" grade in our new Preservation Report Card; see cover story).

Columbia Savings

A massive development project threatens the 1965 Columbia Savings building in the Miracle Mile, across the street from the former Lou Ehlers Cadillac showroom that was demolished earlier this year. The entire block bounded by Wilshire Boulevard, Eighth Street, and La Brea and Sycamore Avenues is slated for redevelopment as the Wilshire-La Brea Project. Mixed-use retail and restaurant space and 562 condominiums are planned for the site.

In October, the Conservancy submitted comments on the project's draft environmental impact



Driftwood Drive-thru Dairy. Photo by Chris Green.



The threatened Columbia Savings building. Photo by Larry Underhill.

report (EIR), providing substantial new information about the significance of the Columbia Savings building and calling for the consideration of at least one preservation alternative in the final EIR.

Designed by Irving Shapiro, the structure is a monumental example of modernist bank architecture that derives from earlier bank-building precedents. The bank's design integrates art pieces including a forty-foot-long, 1,300-square-foot bronze water sculpture by local artist Taki and a *dalle-de-verre* (faceted glass) stained-glass skylight by French artist Roger Darricarrere. The bank's monumental signage includes two sculptural pylons soaring eighty-five-feet tall, making them visible from great distances.

We will keep you posted on this issue.

Fort MacArthur Upper Reservation

The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) has agreed to retain and/or relocate eighteen World War I-era barracks on the site of a new school campus proposed at San Pedro's Fort MacArthur. This agreement is a significant revision to the project, which originally called for the demolition of all thirty-three WWI and WWII-era barracks on the site. The remaining fourteen structures slated for demolition date from World War II.

The U.S. military used Fort MacArthur for coastal defense from World War I until its closure in 1975. Most of the buildings were built in 1941 to provide housing and shelter for soldiers manning its fortifications.

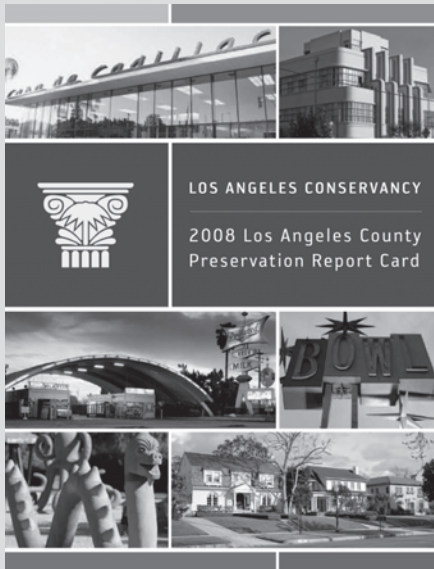
LAUSD has proposed to build South Region High School No. 15 on fifty acres of the fort's Upper Reservation, in order to relieve overcrowding at San Pedro High. On October 10, the Conservancy submitted comments on the project's draft EIR, calling for maximum preservation and reuse of the historic barracks in the site's transformation from military fortification to educational campus. We will continue to pursue preservation of these historic structures and will keep you posted on our progress.

Download Your Copy of the Conservancy's 2008 Preservation Report Card Today!

The Conservancy released the 2008 Preservation Report Card in mid-December to members of the press, representatives of each of the county's eighty-nine jurisdictions, and decision-makers throughout the region.

To distribute the report card as widely as possible with limited resources, the Conservancy had it created for online distribution, as a PDF file available for downloading on our website (www.laconservancy.org). We also enhanced the report card's design to make it easier to use. The 2008 report card features a new layout and dozens of color photos that convey the vast range of historic resources found throughout the county.

To download your free copy of the Conservancy's 2008 Los Angeles County Preservation Report Card, please visit www.laconservancy.org.



Windsor Square Historic Preservation Overlay Zone. Photo by Larry Underhill.

REPORT CARD continued from page 1

Using these criteria, the Conservancy can assess the general state of preservation policy for the county's eighty-nine jurisdictions. The report card allows us to identify those communities in Los Angeles County that have made preservation a priority, as well as to encourage others to recognize the importance of conserving their historic resources. As a comprehensive "snapshot" of each jurisdiction's preservation policies, the report card serves as a useful tool in a variety of ways. Property owners, for instance, can use the report card to quickly determine if their city offers the popular Mills Act program or has a process to designate local landmarks. Conservancy staff can use it to help address questions from residents throughout the county about specific preservation issues. City officials can easily see which municipalities throughout the county might serve as good models for their own potential preservation ordinances or incentives.

To complete the 2008 report card, Conservancy staff conducted phone interviews with representatives from each of the local governments in L.A. County. We spoke with city staff who are directly involved with the specific community's planning review process, as well as those responsible for overseeing historic preservation programs in cities that have them. We also reviewed existing preservation ordinances and historic resources surveys.

Because its scope is limited to public policy and the protection of privately owned resources, the Preservation Report Card does not account for other important aspects of preservation, such as how well cities implement those policies; the existence or success of efforts to preserve publicly held resources; or the commitment, drive, and influence of local advocacy organizations. We applaud the efforts of the many groups and individuals across the county who tirelessly advocate for, and carry out, the preservation of our architectural heritage. The report card is intended as a general assessment of local governments' current policies for preserving historic and cultural resources that are in private hands. Its goal is to recognize jurisdictions with sound preservation policies and encourage them to keep up the good work, as well as to offer practical models and motivation to jurisdictions with fewer (or no) safeguards for historic resources.

The Preservation Honor Roll

The seven cities in the "A" category have the strongest protections in place for historic resources. In a fantastic model for other cities, West Hollywood's Mills Act program extends to owners of condominium units within historic buildings (versus being limited to properties with a single owner). Santa



Casa de Cadillac (1949), Sherman Oaks. Photo by Larry Underhill.



Frederick Porter Residence (1926), Santa Monica. Photo by Nina Fresco.

Monica's Landmarks Commission reviews requests for demolition permits on all properties forty years of age or older—something done by few cities of comparable size. Pasadena recently completed a survey and context statement for recent past resources, underscoring the need to evaluate the significance of postwar properties. The City of Los Angeles has made great strides in the past five years, including creating a dedicated Office of Historic Resources, launching the first-ever citywide historic resources survey, conducting the first major overhaul of its preservation ordinance in more than forty years (currently under way), and becoming a Certified Local Government (CLG).

Fifty cities and the county received grades of B through D. Thirty-one others failed and were labeled "preservation truants" because they have no preservation protections in place.

Not So Fast...

It's important to note that a low grade does not necessarily mean a city has done nothing at all to preserve its historic resources. Downey, for instance, has no preservation policies in place but rose to the occasion after the illegal demolition of much of Johnnie's Broiler in 2007. The city placed a year-long development moratorium on the site, hired a preservation consultant to assess the site and craft a cleanup and salvage plan, worked closely with the Conservancy and the Coalition to Rebuild the Broiler, and put \$900,000 toward the building's reconstruction as a Bob's Big Boy franchise.

Conversely, cities with high grades don't necessarily do all they should to safeguard their architectural heritage. The report card considers the existence and strength of preservation policies, not their implementation. We hope that the 2008 Preservation Report Card will motivate cities countywide to take pride in what they've done to protect their historic resources and do even more in the years ahead.

My Favorite Landmark

by Phillip Esser, Conservancy member

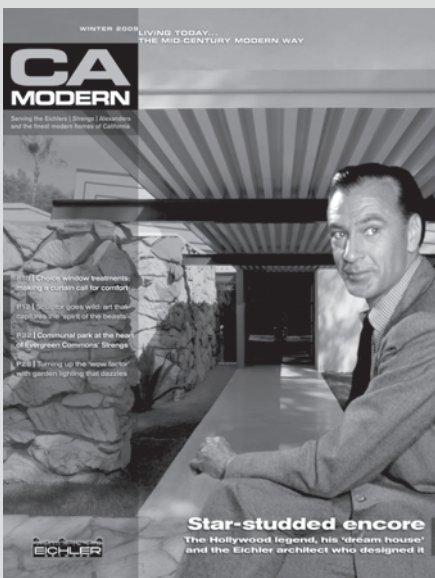
GREYSTONE MANSION (1928)
905 Loma Vista Drive, Beverly Hills

"Coming from suburban Connecticut, I fell in love with Los Angeles immediately and discovered that Gordon Kaufmann's residential masterpiece, Greystone, was truly unique to the West Coast. The house has all the qualities that define the period: careful design, the best materials, and the finest craftsmanship and build-quality — truly a delight for the senses. Kaufmann threw the whole gamut of European historical elements on the loosely Tudor base, but did so with an artistic sensibility that makes the experience delightful from every angle. There was talk of razing the mansion in 2000 under the pretext of significant deterioration, to which I vigorously objected. I'm back on the East Coast now, and each time I return to Los Angeles, Greystone is always on my list of old friends to visit."

Built in 1928 by oil baron Edward Doheny for his son Ned, this Beverly Hills estate designed by Gordon Kaufmann includes a 46,000-square-foot, fifty-five room home and twelve acres of gardens and paths. The home is in the Tudor style and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. Greystone has been featured in countless films and television shows, notably the chilling climax of 2007's *There Will Be Blood*.



Greystone Mansion. Photo by Carolyn Kellogg.



Conservancy Partners with *CA-Modern* Magazine

The Conservancy has launched a new partnership with *CA-Modern* magazine, a quarterly publication of the Eichler Network. *CA-Modern* has long advocated for the preservation of mid-century modern homes and neighborhoods, and we're excited to work with them.

The partnership includes editorial coverage of relevant Conservancy initiatives. The Winter 2009 issue includes an article by the Conservancy's Adam Rubin on our Student Advocates Program, in which Kennedy High School students helped to survey the Balboa Highlands Eichler tract in Granada Hills for potential designation as a Historic Preservation Overlay Zone.

The Eichler Network was formed in 1993 to share information and resources among owners of the 11,000 mid-century modern homes built by pioneering developer Joseph Eichler. The network, based in San Francisco, focused originally on Eichler homeowners in Northern California. In recent years, through *CA-Modern* and the Eichler Network Online, the network has grown to encompass a range of modern homes throughout the state. *CA-Modern* magazine now reaches nearly 30,000 households, including 13,000 in Southern California.

For more information, visit www.eichlernetwork.com.

Partnership Explores the Art of Preservation

Last summer, Frank Pictures Gallery in Santa Monica joined the Conservancy's ongoing effort to preserve the historic bridges spanning the Los Angeles River. The gallery and the Conservancy co-presented an exhibition titled "Endangered Bridges of the L.A. River," with paintings by David Eddington and a selection of vintage photographs by legendary photojournalist Horace Bristol.

The show raised awareness of this important advocacy issue on the Westside, relatively far from the bridges themselves. "Many people who saw the show didn't even know these bridges existed, and a lot of them said they would head downtown to have a look," said gallery owner Laurie Frank. "I think people have a newfound respect and a sense of responsibility [for the bridges]."

The exhibition ran from July 13 through September 10. About 150 people attended an artist's

reception on August 10, and kids and their parents filled the gallery the following Sunday for a family bridge-building workshop. Throughout the show, the gallery distributed Conservancy information and the "Spanning History" booklet and kids' guide from our April 2008 program with the Getty Conservation Institute and Friends of the Los Angeles River.

The Conservancy will receive a portion of exhibition proceeds to help in our bridge preservation efforts. We greatly appreciate the support of Laurie Frank, David Eddington, the staff of Frank Pictures Gallery, and all the gifted Los Angeles artists who share their talent and generosity with the Conservancy. For more information and photos, visit www.laconservancy.org/bridges.



At the August 17 family art workshop, kids built their own bridges with straws, paper, cotton swabs, miniature cars, even farm animals. Photo by LAC staff.



Enjoying the August 10 reception are (left-right) artist David Eddington, gallery owner Laurie Frank, and Linda Dishman, executive director of the Conservancy. Photo by LAC staff.

New Walking Tour Schedule for 2009

The Conservancy's popular Walking Tour Program has a new schedule! As previewed in the November/December Conservancy *News*, three tours will be offered more frequently than in the past, one has expanded, six will remain as they were, and five have been put on hiatus. The schedule for 2009 follows – we hope to see you at a walking tour soon!

Angelino Heights: First Saturday of the month, 10 a.m., 2 ½ hours

Go back in time to one of Los Angeles' first suburbs, rich with history and Victorian houses. Tour includes entrance to two private homes (subject to availability).

Art Deco: Every Saturday, 10 a.m., 2 ½ hours

Discover downtown's rich Art Deco architectural heritage, with buildings full of color and geometric design. *Walk-ins accepted.*

Biltmore Hotel: MORE DATES! Every Sunday, 2 p.m., 1 ¾ hours

Hear the stories and admire the elegance of this magnificent historic hotel, restored to near-original condition.

Broadway Historic Theatre District: Every Saturday, 10 a.m., 2 ½ hours

Tour the fascinating Broadway National Register Historic District, home to a dozen vaudeville and movie palaces. (Note: interiors are limited and subject to availability.)

Downtown Renaissance: Spring + Main

NEW SITES and MORE DATES! Second and Fourth Saturdays, 10 a.m., 2 ½ hours

Connect L.A.'s past with its future on this walk through the former financial district, now a hub of revitalization. Tour includes a visit to a loft unit in the 1904 Pacific Electric Building (subject to availability). This tour is an expansion of our long-running tour Historic Spring Street: Wall Street of the West.

Pacific Electric Building. Photo by LAC staff.



Evolving Skyline: MORE DATES! First and Third Saturdays, 10 a.m., 2 ½ hours

Experience the architecture, open spaces, and art of Bunker Hill, discovering how the city's future is influenced by the choices it makes about its past. *Walk-ins accepted.*

Historic Core: Every Saturday, 10 a.m., 2 ½ hours

Tour the heart of L.A., encompassing landmarks from the Bradbury Building (1893) to the Southern California Edison Building (1931) to the U.S. Bank Tower (1990). *Walk-ins accepted.*

Union Station: Third Saturday, 10 a.m., 2 ½ hours

Take the grand tour of this 1939 train station and its modern counterparts, the Metro station and MTA building, and experience its unique blend of Art Deco and Spanish Revival styles.

Union Station Family Tour: Fourth Saturday, 11 a.m., 1 hour

Bring the kids down to the last great railway station built in America. Architecture and history come to life through exploration of the shapes, colors, and stories of this beloved landmark.

The five tours that have been put on hiatus are City Hall, Little Tokyo, Highland Park, San Pedro, and the University of Southern California. These were removed from the 2009 calendar, but may be offered in the future. Visit the Conservancy's website for updates on new self-guided tours and podcasts.

Reservations and advance payment are required unless otherwise noted. Tours meet in various locations and are \$5 for Conservancy members and children twelve and under, and \$10 for the general public. Walk-ins are welcome on the Art Deco, Evolving Skyline, and Historic Core tours. These tours meet in the center of Pershing Square, located at Olive and Sixth Streets in downtown Los Angeles. Please arrive at least ten minutes early. Discounted parking is available at Pershing Square Garage for \$5 with validation.



LAC Archives

Free Skyline Family Tour with MOCA

Join the Conservancy on **Sunday, February 1** from 1 – 3:30 p.m. for a free, family-friendly walking tour of downtown's evolving skyline, in partnership with the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA).

The tour leaves promptly at 1 p.m. from MOCA's main entrance at 250 South Grand Avenue and will end in MOCA's Sculpture Plaza, where families will work together with trained artists to create their own designs for the new millennium.

This special one-day partnership is a part of MOCA's workshop series, "First Sundays Are For Families." The event is free and no reservations are required. For more information, please call MOCA at (213) 621-1765, or visit www.moca.org.



The Kid Brother (1927) starring Harold Lloyd and Jobyna Ralston. Courtesy Paramount Pictures.

LATOS Screens Silents at the Orpheum

In partnership with the Conservancy's Broadway Initiative, the Los Angeles Theatre Organ Society (LATOS) will present the silent comedic films *The Kid Brother* and *One Week* at the Orpheum Theatre on **Friday, January 16 at 8 p.m.** Suzanne Lloyd, Harold Lloyd's granddaughter, will be the evening's special guest, and Robert Salisbury and Jim Spohn will accompany the film on the Orpheum's original Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ.

Harold Lloyd stars in 1927's *The Kid Brother*, about the Hickory family in Hickoryville, with Sheriff Jim (Walter James) and his tough manly sons Leo and Olin. The youngest son, timid Harold (Harold Lloyd), doesn't have the muscles to match up to his brothers, so he has to use his wit to win the respect of his father and his beautiful love interest, Mary (Jobyna Ralston). Buster Keaton's 1920 short, *One Week*, is about two newlyweds who receive as a wedding gift a build-it-yourself house that can supposedly be built in one week. The film follows Keaton's struggle to construct the house—and then move it, after learning he built it on the wrong site.

The screenings are part of LATOS' "Wurlitzer Weekend," which runs through January 18. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door, based on availability. All proceeds assist LATOS in preserving and promoting historic theatre organs throughout Southern California. For more information or to order tickets, please visit www.silentmoviesla.com or call (888) LATOS-22.

L.A. NOIR-chitecture Sells Out!

Our November 9 tour of Los Angeles' "hard-boiled" literary history was a resounding success, bringing out over 750 people to explore historic locations from the work of Los Angeles-based noir authors Dashiell Hammett, Raymond Chandler, James M. Cain, and James Ellroy, among others. We were thrilled to produce this tour in partnership with the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs as part of The Big Read, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts designed to restore reading to the center of American culture.

Many thanks to our tour sponsors, Waterworks and the Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation. Thanks also to tour partners the Hollywood Business Improvement District, Mystery & Imagination Bookshop, Helen Garber, Tom Zimmerman, and Councilmember Tom LaBonge, as well as to site owners, representatives, and tenants for their hospitality. Last but certainly not least, thanks to the more than 100 volunteers who made the tour possible, including the Conservancy Student Advocates from the Architecture and Digital Arts magnet program at John F. Kennedy High School.



Tour-goers on New York Street, part of Warner Bros. Studios' backlot and one of the locations for the 1941 film adaptation of Dashiell Hammett's *The Maltese Falcon*. Photo by Larry Underhill.

Conservancy Screens *White Christmas*

RIGHT: More than 1,300 guests came to the opulent Los Angeles Theatre on December 7 for the Conservancy's screening of the 1954 classic, *White Christmas*.

BELOW: In the tradition of the Conservancy's annual holiday matinee, guests received candy canes after the show. Photos by LAC staff.





Richard Moe talks with event attendees at the reception following his presentation. Photo courtesy Ed Fuentes/ Blogdowntown.

Richard Moe Links Sustainability and Preservation

The Conservancy's thirtieth-anniversary celebration with Richard Moe on November 12, 2008, started an important conversation in Los Angeles about how preserving buildings can help reduce climate change. Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, emphasized how investing in older buildings and communities plays a vital role in sustainability, a crucial topic for the preservation community in the months and years ahead.

We are grateful to Robins, Miller, Kaplan & Ciresi L.L.P. for sponsoring the event, Richard Moe and the National Trust for Historic

Preservation for their dedication to this issue, Los Angeles Center Studios for hosting the event, and the 140 guests who attended.

For more information about the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Sustainability Initiative, please visit www.preservationnation.org/sustainability.

2008-9 Volunteer Committee Officers Elected

Congratulations to our new and returning committee officers, and thank you for all your hard work!

Modern Committee

Chair: Alan Leib

Vice Chair: Michael Palumbo

Commercial Council Chair: Jay Lopez

Residential Council Chair: Regina O'Brien

Education/Outreach Chair: Kieran Sala

Membership Development Council Chair:

Steven Kyle

Secretary: Rachel Gould

Historic Theatres Committee

Chair: Wendy Heimann

Vice Chair of Membership: Michael Zoldessy

Recorder: Beth Corets

Last Remaining Seats Committee

Chair: Stanley Sheff

Vice Chair of Membership: Bill Hogan

Recorder: Tracy Fink

Volunteer Profile: Gail Burton

by Connie Humberger

GAIL BURTON is a bubbly and upbeat volunteer. She currently assists in the office and is an Art Deco walking tour docent. Gail has also helped with several Preservation

Awards luncheons, benefits, and general tours.

Gail grew up in Two Rivers, Wisconsin, and majored in art at the University of Wisconsin. With a strong love for art, she continued her education in interior design at the



Gateway Institute and attended the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in Los Angeles, concentrating on fashion design.

Gail exhibited her paintings at the J. Paul Getty Museum from 2006 – 2008 and recently donated one of her works to the Conservancy's 30th Anniversary Gala silent auction. She says her love of architecture crosses over to everything in her art world, and you can see elements of architecture throughout her paintings.

When invited by a friend to go on a Conservancy walking tour, Gail became instantly enamored with the city and its historic architecture. When Gail left the design business, she took the walking tour docent training, began giving tours, and became more active with the Conservancy overall.

God, prayer, and people are Gail's primary interests. Her passions are family, friends, art, architecture, and traveling. She and her husband have traveled extensively all over the world. Her beloved destinations include Egypt, Greece, and Russia, and her favorite is France, mainly because it's the birthplace of her grandparents.

We appreciate the enthusiasm that Gail brings to the preservation world and the public—not to mention the doughnuts she brings to the office!

IN MEMORIAM: GRAYSON COOK

Grayson Cook, longtime Conservancy member and dedicated walking tour docent, died of a stroke on October 14, 2008, at age seventy. Grayson led Highland Park walking tours for the Conservancy and was active in other neighborhood organizations, including Highland Park Heritage Trust and Heritage Square. His enthusiasm and good humor will be missed.



Grayson Cook giving the Highland Park walking tour. Photo by Larry Underhill.



LEFT: Guests enjoyed cocktails and the silent auction in the building's Central Hall, the former Perfume Hall and Cosmetics Department of Bullocks Wilshire. CENTER: Dawn Cody models a vintage suit from Bullocks Wilshire during a fashion show produced by Revamp, with clothes donated by Vintage Playclothes. RIGHT: Gala co-chair Linda Bruckheimer and husband Jerry Bruckheimer, both longtime Conservancy supporters. Photos by Larry Underhill.

Thank You, Conservancy 30th Anniversary Gala Sponsors!

The Conservancy's 30th Anniversary Gala Presented by City National Bank was a great success, raising crucial funds to sustain our preservation efforts. Held on Saturday, November 22, 2008, at the magnificent Bullocks Wilshire building, guests enjoyed fashion shows with designs from Bullocks' heyday, dined on hors d'oeuvres inspired by the original Tea Room menu, and took in the beauty of an immaculately restored L.A. landmark that is now part of Southwestern Law School. We are deeply grateful to Presenting Sponsor City National Bank, Southwestern Law School for their hospitality, and gala co-chairs Linda Bruckheimer, Diane Keaton, and Lauren King. We are also very grateful to our silent auction donors, to everyone who attended, and to all our talented volunteers.

Thanks for Going Above and Beyond in 2008!

In addition to membership support, the Conservancy relies on additional financial assistance throughout the year for specific projects, from educational tours to urgent action on advocacy issues. We'd like to express our heartfelt thanks to the foundations, companies, and individuals who provided much-needed sponsorship, underwriting, and in-kind donations for the range of efforts we undertook in 2008. Your generosity is critical to our ability to pursue our mission. There are too many of you to name in these pages; for a complete list, please visit our website at www.laconservancy.org and click on "Join," then "Beyond Membership."

Many thanks to our generous gala sponsors:

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Walking tours begin at 10 a.m. except where noted. Tours are \$5 for Conservancy members and children twelve and under; \$10 for the general public. Walk-ins are accepted on Art Deco, Evolving Skyline, and Historic Core. Pre-payment is required on all others. For details and reservations, visit www.laconservancy.org or call (213) 623-2489.

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Union Station

Third Saturday

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Fourth Saturday, 11 a.m.

Bring the kids down to historic Union Station for a one-hour family-friendly tour of the last great railway station built in America. Architecture comes to life through exploration of the shapes, colors, and history of this beloved Los Angeles landmark.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Paramount Pictures

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Friday, January 16, 8 p.m.

Orpheum Theatre, 842 S. Broadway

The Los Angeles Theatre Organ Society presents a screening of *The Kid Brother* (Harold Lloyd, 1927) and *One Week* (Buster Keaton, 1920) at the restored Orpheum Theatre. Presented in partnership with the Conservancy's Broadway Initiative.



LAC Archives

SKYLINE FAMILY TOUR IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MOCA

Sunday, February 1, 1-3:30 p.m.

Join the Conservancy for a free family-friendly walking tour of downtown's evolving skyline, in partnership with MOCA. After the tour, professional artists will work with families to create art designs for the new millennium in MOCA's Sculpture Plaza.