

Historic Reno PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Newsletter

*Dedicated to Preserving Reno's Rich Past with
Education, Advocacy, and Leadership.*

AUGUST 1998

VOL. 1, NO. 3

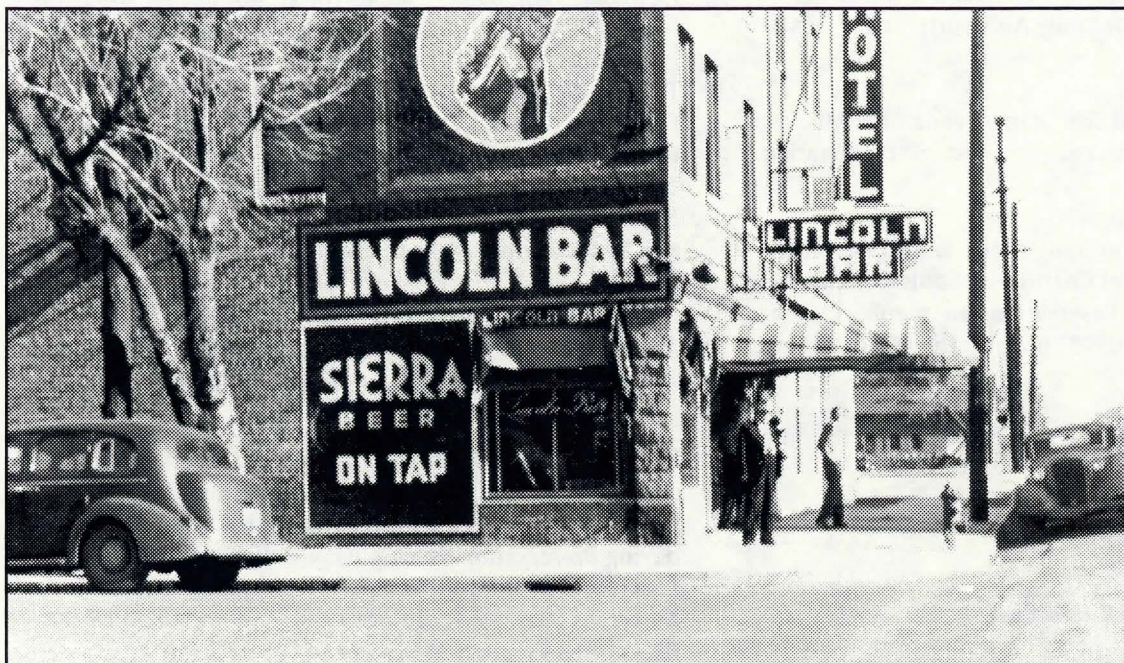
Life Before Louis'

Before Louis' Basque Corner, the northeast corner of Evans and Fourth Street was home to the Lincoln Bar, a bar coincidentally owned by a Louis, Louis Miolini. The photo below, taken by a Lincoln Bar patron in December 1949, shows Mr. Miolini and his bold signage which heralded a watering spot for tourists and locals who needed a little refreshment along the Lincoln Highway.

Louis Miolini came to Nevada from Lombardia, Italy, in 1920 to work in the Walker mines. He left mining and came to Reno where he had partnerships with George Nannini in the Toscano Hotel on Lake Street, later with Joe Guisti in the Grand Central Bar at Plaza and Virginia streets, and finally with Gino Angeli in the Lincoln Bar. Eventually he became the sole operator of the Lincoln Bar. His proprietorship lasted from the late 1940's until the mid-1960's.

In 1934 Louis Miolini married Pia Zuech who had moved from Italy to Utah and then to Reno. Their two children Richard and Rita, attended Reno schools, the University of Nevada, and today live in California. Little did they realize that the Lincoln Bar/Louis' Basque Corner would become a site of intense historical interest.

HRPS will hold a social meeting at Louis' Basque Corner in November. See "Mark Your Calendar" in this issue for details.



This image of the Lincoln bar on the northeast corner of Evans and Fourth Street was captured in 1949 by a patron.



*Photo and information
courtesy of
Rita Miolini Rogero*

Have We Got A Program For You!

Cindy Ainsworth, HRPS Vice-President and Program Chair, has planned some exciting programs and outings for the for the second half of this year. These programs will be held during regular meetings, unless otherwise noted.

Please note: regular meetings of HRPS are the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:00 at Mt. Rose Elementary School, 915 Lander St., Reno. Having said that, be alert to the change in November.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

September 23 - Don Fowler

Dr. Fowler, UNR Historic Preservation Officer will present a slide show entitled "The Flip Side of Preservation."

September 26 - Special Saturday Field Trip to the Exempt Firemen's Cemetery in Virginia City

Kick off fall weekends on Saturday, September 26, 1998 with a special HRPS field trip to the Virginia City Silver Terrace Cemetery. Join Steve Frady, Nevada Division of Forestry Fire Suppression Enforcement Specialist and author of "Red Shirts and Leather Helmets: Volunteer Fire Fighting on the Comstock Lode," on this walking tour of the Exempt Fireman's Cemetery. Tour begins at the Virginia City Cemetery at 10 AM. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a jacket. The tour will last about two hours, so be sure to plan lunch at the Delta Saloon or the new Walden's Cafe if you do not plan to dine alfresco. Tour is free for members, five dollars for non-members and is limited to 20 people. For reservations, call Cindy Ainsworth at 747-0340.

October 28 - Mark Preiss

Director of the Fourth Ward School in Virginia City, Mr. Preiss will discuss cultural tourism and historic Preservation.

November 18 - Meet to Eat

Join HRPS members for an evening of fun and fine food within the historic 4th Street Corridor at Louis' Basque Corner. \$15 + tax and tip. Reservations are required. Call Cindy Ainsworth (747-0340) no later than Friday, November 13th.

December - Happy Holidays



HRPS in ACTION

HRPS RECEIVES NATIONAL ATTENTION for PRESERVATION WEEK ACTIVITIES

The July 1998 issue of Preservation, the Magazine of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, has a small article about HRPS including a photo of one our walks along Court Street. Hooray for Reno! Our newfound historic preservation attitude is capturing national attention.

WALKING the WALK

Wow, what a week it was. Preservation Week walking tours were terrific. The Riverside Drive - Court Street walk lead by Carol Winans started the week with a roaring success. Over 50 people visited St. Thomas Aquinas Church; met Buzz High, owner of Number 4 Elm Court which was Frederic De Longchamps' home; and walked along beautiful Riverside Drive.

Leanne Stone took 35 people through the historic buildings on the university campus and introduced the group to the Keck Museum in the Mackay School of Mines on Mothers' Day. The temperature was brisk but the wine was perfect at the reception in the Walter Van Tilburg Clark room of beautifully restored Morrill Hall.

Ann McCarty, Mercedes de la Garza, and Scott Gibson led the Newlands Heights rain walk. Thirty-two people started the "wet walk" and 32 finished - a real tribute to the tour leaders.

The last activity was a picnic on the lawn at Mt. Rose Elementary School followed by a walk with Pat Klos along Humboldt and Lander streets. Again, over 50 participants. Thus, almost two hundred people participated in National Historic Preservation Week in Reno. Thanks to all leaders and participants, our momentum continues to build.

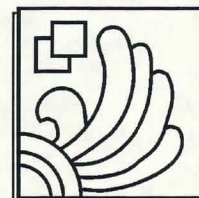
Historic Preservation Part of Uptown Downtown ARTown

Five historic walks were on the agenda for Reno's July arts month, a first for Reno's annual celebration of culture and the lively arts. The walks were patterned after those led during Preservation Week plus a walk in the Fourth Street Corridor led by Jon Dewey, HRPS member, Truckee Meadows Heritage Trust Vice-President, and Chair of the City of Reno Historical Resources Commission.

PARTNERS IN PRESERVATION Member Information

- At the annual business meeting in May, the membership re-elected Scott Gibson, Bob Firth, and Kathryn Wishart to the Board of Directors. In June, the Board re-elected the following officers: Pat Klos, President; Cindy Ainsworth, Vice-President and Program Chair; Sandy Saunders, Secretary; Holly Young, Treasurer.
- Membership Chair, Ginger Salcedo, reports that many memberships come up for renewal in September. Please check your address label for your renewal date. Make checks to HRPS and send them to Ginger at P.O. Box 33444, Reno NV 89533. Your attention to this detail will save HRPS money and energy best directed to preservation. The following are our membership levels: Student - \$8.00; Individual - \$10.00; Family (children 18 and under) - \$15.00; Supporting - \$100.00; Additional Donation - \$_____
- We welcome the following new members: Lynn Allen, Julie Ehrman, Christine Fey, Walter Fey, Erin Fey, Christian Fey, Mike Keller, Debra Perry Lockwood, Crystal Metzenheim, Madeline Murray, Nancy Oakley, Jean M. Thomason, Judy L. Vaughan, Mrs. Hilda Wunner, and Sandra Young.
- Many hands make light work. HRPS plans 3 to 4 newsletters annually. If you can help with the mailings please call Lynn Allen at 826-4841.

- And speaking of the newsletter, do you have a favorite historic property that you would like to see spotlighted? Want to do research? Call Cindy Ainsworth at 747-0340.
- And speaking of Cindy, she and Leanne Stone are forming a Walking Tour Committee. If you are interested in becoming involved call Cindy at 747-0340, or Leanne at 322-1638.
- Cindy is also hoping to organize a walking tour of the Ralston Street neighborhood for 1999. Please call her if you have any house and/or building information or stories about this neighborhood.



Reno Sparks Corridor Business Association

Want an update on this important
Fourth Street revitalization project?
Call Gaye Canepa, President, 323-0220.

Membership Application

- ☐ **Yes**, I want to become a member of the Historic Reno Preservation Society. Annual membership includes:

- HRPS newsletter
- Walking Tour brochure
- Free participation in walking tours

- ☐ Student\$8.00
- ☐ Individual\$10.00
- ☐ Family (children 18 and under) ...\$15.00
- ☐ Supporting\$100.00
- ☐ Additional Donation\$_____

Please make checks payable to:
Historic Reno Preservation Society

- ☐ New Member
- ☐ Renewal

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____

Best time to call _____

Please detach and return to: **Historic Reno Preservation Society, P.O. Box 33444, Reno NV 89533**

October 20-25, 1998
Savannah, Georgia

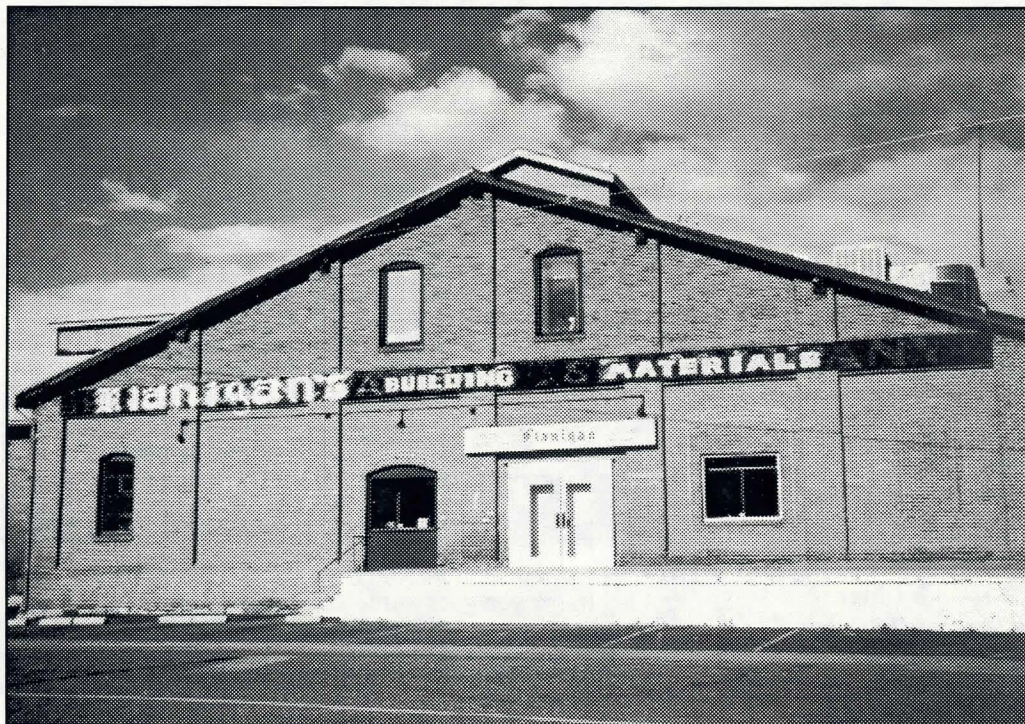
"The Art and Economics of Preservation"

The theme of the conference is The Art of Preservation. Conferees will focus on the interplay of historic preservation and arts in saving and revitalizing older communities, neighborhoods, and landmarks. They will explore the conversion spaces, the creative energy of art centers and galleries, restoration and active use of historic theaters, opera houses and movie houses, and arts festivals and public programming. The value of preservation, design and beauty for people of all incomes and races, to residents and visitors alike, will be highlighted.

For more information:

- Call: (800) 944-6847
- E-mail: conference@nthp.org
- Call (800) 755-4023 for a conference registration form of hotel reservation information via fax.





Flanigans, pictured at left, was built in 1901 and at 32,000 feet, was the largest covered floor space in the state of Nevada.



*Photo courtesy of
Cindy Ainsworth*

Flanigan Warehouse Tour

On June 24th, 32 people joined Realtor and former Reno City Council member Clyde Biglieri, on a tour of the historic Flanigan warehouse. Turn back the clock to 1901 and imagine how amazing it must have been to the locals to have a building of nearly 32,000 sq. ft. built "way out on Fourth street." It was the largest covered floor space in the state of Nevada.

Patrick Flanigan, son of Irish immigrants, came to Reno in 1877. He started what was to become a vast business enterprise as a shepherd. At one time he was reputed to be the largest taxpayer in Washoe County. Historian Guy Rocha says, "He was a mogul and the Flanigan warehouse is probably the last remaining vestige of his financial empire."

The current owners of the building, Geradine and Vernon Segale, have owned and operated Flanigan Building Supplies in this historic structure for 40 years. They joined us on the tour along with Gwen Medina, daughter of June Doten, who was one of the owners of the building in the '30's and '40's.

Probably the highlight of the tour was a ride on the manually operated freight elevator. We were all apprehensive at first, but Flanigan's staff assured us the elevator was inspected yearly. Well, we reasoned, if they used it we could too. The ride was surprisingly smooth – and uneventful. Thanks to all for an enjoyable and informative evening at Flanigans.

Mayors Conference River Walk

On a perfect Truckee Meadows day during the 66th US Conference of Mayors held in Reno, the Truckee Meadows Heritage Trust and members of HRPS conducted walking tours of the river district from Wingfield Park to Idlewild Park. It was an impressive event. Nearly 150 mayors from across the country showed up at 6:00 AM Sunday morning and were led in groups of 10 and 12 along the riverfront. Moya Lear met each group at the Lear Theater (formerly the First Church of Christ Scientists) and personally led each group on a tour of the theater. The response to the tours and Reno's historical heritage was overwhelmingly positive. All the members of one group had literally envisioned Reno in the middle of a flat, dry desert on the edge of Las Vegas. One participant asked, "Why don't more people live here?"

WHO TO CALL

■ PRESIDENT

PAT FERRARO KLOS
348-8594

■ MEMBERSHIP

GINGER SALCEDO
324-6913

■ PROGRAMMING

CINDY AINSWORTH
747-0340

■ NEWSLETTER

SHARON WALBRIDGE
322-5833

Mapes on America's Eleven Most Endangered Historic Places List

CNN said it, Hillary Rodham Clinton said it, Preservation said it, the Gazette-Journal said it, and the Truckee Meadows Heritage Trust DID IT.

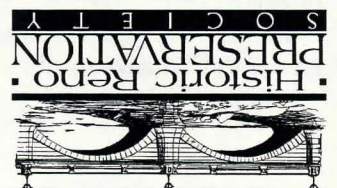
The Mapes Hotel has been named one of the country's 11 most endangered buildings by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington D.C. The Truckee Meadows Heritage Trust has pursued this goal for five years, and succeeded this year in bringing the Mapes national attention.

At the June 23, 1998 Reno Redevelopment Agency Board Meeting the Board voted to accept, with revisions, a Design and Disposition Agreement (DDA) for the Mapes calling for a 90 day time period for QM Resorts and Oliver McMillan to finalize studies about the structural costs and rehabilitation financing. If, after 90 days, QM Resorts & Oliver McMillan cannot work out a deal the Mapes will be demolished and plans for a new 1-2 story retail building will be put in place.



A big thank you goes out to the members of the Truckee Meadows Heritage Trust for their unending efforts in saving this historic building and preserving Reno's history.

DOUBLEclickphone: 324.5569/e-mail: info@doubleclick.reno.nv.us



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