



# FootPrints

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

FALL 2017

■ vol. 20 no. 4 ■

## 2017 Reno Harvest of Homes Tour

Saturday, September 23, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

by Debbie Hinman • Photos by Steve Ellison

Historic Reno Preservation Society's annual Harvest of Homes Tour is gearing up for its eighth consecutive year! Our wonderful, local, historic-home owners continue to provide us with exciting offerings. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

This year's home tour very nearly did not happen. Sharon Honig-Bear, creator of the tour and its moving force for the past seven years, agreed to stay on the committee but due to other commitments this year, felt it was time to step down as chair. Those of us who have worked on the planning committee over the years agreed to remain in our current roles but none of us wished to take on the lead position. We all felt seven years was a good run, but regretted that we would lose our primary funding source for the Neighborhood Preservation Fund (NPF). The NPF has helped many local residents and business owners make needed repairs to their structures, enhancing their street appeal. Just as we were about to give up on the tour, HRPS President Carol Coleman agreed to come aboard as Chair.

Thanks to Carol, the tour lives another year, and we have a real smorgasbord of homes for you:

- a lovely country home that evolved from a stable,
- a hidden late mid-century modern home surrounded by water,
- two 1930s Southwest brick beauties,
- an elegant manor home facing Reno's early golf course,
- a fine example of adaptive reuse—once the home of a notorious gangster, now commercial

As a special treat for vintage car admirers, car owners will show vehicles from 1928 to 1978, with a vintage car at each tour home!

*continued on page 2*



205 Urban Road



1680 Greenfield Drive



785 Manor Drive



643 Manor Drive



548 California Avenue



Out Old Verdi Road (Mayberry):  
7090 Aspen Glen Road



## In the Southwest: 205 Urban Road

This beautiful home was designed by preeminent local architect Frederic DeLongchamps and completed in 1940. In the late 1930s when homes were being built along Urban Road, it was still outside the city limits and considered “suburban country living.” This description was a huge selling point for the new homes, as well as the presence of the open land of the Washoe Golf Course right across the street, providing an unobstructed view southward. The homes on this street are very dissimilar and this one, on nearly a half-acre corner lot, is distinguished and elegant. A Colonial Revival style residence with French Eclectic details, the house features through-the-cornice dormer windows and a canopied entry porch. James E. and Mildred Slingerland were its earliest residents. James owned his own insurance agency and was a Nevada native with an impressive lineage. His grandfather, James F. Slingerland, was Lieutenant Governor of Nevada from 1866-1870 and an ex-officio warden at the Nevada State Prison. This property was James’ home until his death in 1963; his wife lived here until the late 1970s. As her health declined, she had a downstairs bedroom and bathroom added to the home. Mildred left the house to the son of a close friend; in 1979, he sold the home to Treat and Patty Cafferata. Treat was a prominent Reno surgeon and Patty, daughter of Barbara Vucanovich, U. S. Congresswoman, followed her mother’s path, becoming elected to the Nevada Assembly, then State Treasurer and a district attorney for three Nevada counties. Current owner Jeff Lowden removed carpet to showcase the original hardwood floors and has decorated the home with an engaging mix of antique and contemporary furnishings. An upstairs bath is pure 1940s at its best. We know this home will satisfy those of you who have driven by it for years, wishing to get a glimpse of the interior.



## In the Southwest: 1680 Greenfield

This home has very old roots, beginning life in the early 1900s as a stable on ranch land, far outside the city limits. In 1957, it was purchased by an architect who had relocated from Southern California to Reno in the 1940s. His name was Russell Clopine and he and his wife Vega occupied the home he built, using the existing structure and adding on to it to meet their needs. Clopine ran his office out of his home, much as the current residents, Herb and Naomi Duerr, do today. Today the residence is a rambling mid-century ranch house with a low-slung profile and an unusual floor plan. The Duerrs purchased the home in 2009 and were immediately forced to do major remodeling, due to an overhead pipe that burst and filled the home with water. This turned into a mixed blessing when removal of sheetrock revealed wonderful old beams from the original stable structure, which the Duerrs have incorporated into their design. The home is comfortable and lovely. A unique old walk-in meat locker has been retained in the kitchen area and now functions as storage and a wine cellar. A large garage in the front of the home has been converted into a spacious office area. However wonderful the home itself is, the grounds are spectacular and featured on the Rail and Garden Tour each year. Within the two acres are a large natural pond, multitudes of assorted fruit trees, flowers and other greenery and paths through it all with little private seating areas for rest and contemplation. Walking the paths, it is easy to imagine you are out in the country, far from civilization, instead of less than a mile from shopping and restaurants. Tour attendees are invited to explore the grounds as well as the house.



### In Newlands: 785 Manor Drive

The Newlands neighborhood is always a treasure trove of homes for our tours and this year is no exception. The beautiful little brick gem at 785 Manor was probably built around 1935. Architecturally speaking, it is a one-story, three-bay modest early Minimal Traditional dwelling with Spanish Colonial Revival influences. A tasteful addition extends to the rear so the home presents its original façade, set back from the street with lush landscaping and an inviting brick path leading to the front steps. A number of interesting Reno residents owned this home; one particularly notable one was Albert Frisch, who bought the property in 1939. Frisch was the brother of Roy Frisch, the banker who disappeared from Court Street in March of 1934, presumed to have been kidnapped and killed by Baby Face Nelson. Another resident was Emil Voigt, who owned the home from 1956 through 1969. Voigt, who was born in Germany, was a Cadastral Engineer with the Nevada BLM for 42 years. Current owner Serena Robb purchased the home in December of 1970. The charm of the home envelops you the minute you walk in the door, with its original hardwood floors, coved ceilings, arched doorways and a wonderful fireplace surround from an early Virginia City structure. There is a roomy kitchen, enlarged during a mid-1980s remodel that also added a master bedroom, sitting room and bathroom with laundry to the back of the home. Serena's art, collectibles and interesting décor items, such as wooden area rugs from Israel, add interest and personality to the home.



### In Newlands: 643 Manor Drive

Although this home is a brick Newlands home of the same era as 785 Manor, it has quite a different exterior style and interior look from its neighbor on the next block—and yet is just as delightful. This charming house at 643 Manor is a Period Revival brick cottage with eclectic influences. The six-over-six sash windows evoke Colonial Revival style, whereas elsewhere Spanish Colonial Revival influences are evident. A permit was issued in June of 1935 to build two houses (at 635 and 643) at a cost of \$5,000 apiece. Both houses were described as of brick construction and having five rooms each. In 1933, Dr. Lawrence and Lela Parsons moved to Reno from Los Angeles. Dr. Parsons was a pathologist/physician and purchased the pathology lab at St. Mary's Hospital, soon becoming Chief of Staff. The couple were living at 643 by 1938 and remained there until the late 1940s. They were followed by two railroad employees: Norman Malone who was a conductor, and Louis Quinn, a brakeman. Dorothy Quinn, who retired from Nevada Bell after 32 years, became secretary of the Washoe Landmark Preservation, Inc. She was active in defending the Lake Mansion against the Convention Authority's claims that it was an eyesore. Debbie and Stephen Chappell purchased the property in 2015. Debbie's exquisite taste and eye for design are evident throughout the home; it is filled with light and lovely touches, such as a fireplace surround Debbie found at a consignment store and a wonderful antique trunk. The kitchen has been enlarged and remodeled with gorgeous marble countertops and a refrigerator hidden behind cabinet doors.

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**The HRPS website, [HistoricReno.org](http://HistoricReno.org), has information about the 2017 Harvest of Homes Tour including a picture and description of each home and its history, and a map showing street access to the home. The day of the Home Tour, use your smartphone for a map to your first location, and the other homes as needed. Again this year, our complete program, a full-color booklet, will be available on our website in advance of the Tour.**



## In Newlands: 548 California Avenue

Aside from The Plumas House, a bed-and-breakfast on our tour a few years ago, this attractive commercial building is an adaptive reuse property so nicely done, we decided to include it on the home tour. It is so unique a property with such a notorious history, we felt people would love to see it. 548 California is a Period Revival brick cottage with Tudor Revival details, including diamond-paned windows and false half-timbering. The structure was built in 1928 as a home for William and Bertha (Bertie) Graham by architect George A. Schastey Jr., who predominantly worked in the Bay Area. Schastey had moved to Reno in 1923 where he worked with Frederic DeLongchamps on a design for the Medico-Dental Arcade building. He returned to California soon after the Graham house was finished. Bill Graham was born in Pennsylvania of Irish immigrants. At some point he traveled to the West and became known as a San Francisco gangster. During the gold and silver boom in Tonopah and Goldfield, he made his way there and when the mines dried up, Graham relocated to Reno around 1920. Here he teamed up with Jim McKay and his old benefactor from Tonopah, George Wingfield. In Reno, Graham and McKay had their fingers in any number of illegal activities, from gambling and prostitution to bank fraud. Bill and Bertie occupied this home until their deaths, in 1965 and 1968, respectively. Attorney Marilyn York has owned the building since 2009 and while it is an office, she has made a great effort to maintain the historic attributes of the structure. This multi-room building (14 rooms at last count) has been lovingly restored, and although used as offices, contains many handsome antiques. Most of the windows are original; the front ones are leaded glass. Upstairs there are three eyebrow windows. The wooden floors are original; the lobby fireplace is just as it was in the Grahams' day. A feature of the home that harkens back to its "gangster days," is the presence of escape routes installed by Graham from different areas of the house.



## Old Verdi Road (Mayberry): 7090 Aspen Glen Road

Although this property is "modern" as compared with our usual tour offerings, having been completed in the late 1970s, its site is stunning and very historic. As late as the 1930s, the South Verdi Road began at the base of the hill leading from California Avenue and wound its way westward along the Truckee to a crossing where early pioneers continued on to California. Today, Aspen Glen Road branches off Mayberry Drive near where the Mayberry Bridge crosses the Truckee and ends at a bike and foot bridge leading to the north side of the river. It is a very private, lush area and the homes on the road vary in style and size. The home at 7090 is a Contemporary-style gem with a split-level plan, flat roof and massive stone fireplace. Its clean modernistic lines and picturesque setting along the Truckee River is reminiscent of Frank Lloyd Wright architecture. In fact, it is surrounded by water with the river to the north, the Last Chance Ditch on the west side and Hunter Creek on the east side of the property. The home was designed circa 1976 by property owner Raymond J. (Jerry) Poncia Jr. and was completed in 1977. Poncia received a degree in architecture from Case Western Reserve University in Ohio. His father, Raymond Poncia Sr. was a local businessman, and Jerry's grandfather (also named Jerry) came from Italy and settled in Sparks in 1900. This home was recently purchased by Kelly Rae and Pamela Haberman of HabeRae Development. They have done some needed updating but the impact of the original space is breathtaking. Large windows take full advantage of the setting, filling the house with light and bringing the outdoors inside. The rock and wood of the interior contribute to the natural feel of the dwelling.

**Please note: because of the lack of parking at this site, we'll ask you to park across the Truckee and use the bike and foot bridge to access the home. See directions on the website, or use the parking direction handout from the first house you visit. The Home Tour Committee is certain you will find our diverse collection of homes historically interesting and aesthetically pleasing. We hope you'll join us!**

## 2017 Reno Harvest of Homes Tour

Saturday, September 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

\$30 per ticket in advance, \$35 the day of the event.

You can visit these friendly merchants to get your tour ticket, purchase them on [HistoricReno.org](http://HistoricReno.org) or from a HRPS Board member.

This year's ticket outlets include:

- Sundance Bookstore, 121 California Ave.
- St. Ives Florist, 700 S. Wells Ave.
- Kelekia Toys & Gifts, 3886 Mayberry Dr., Ste. B
- Ryrie and Me, 6135 Lakeside Dr.
- Larkellen, 606 W. Plumb Lane
- Moana Nursery, 1100 W. Moana Ln.
- The Freckled Frog, 45 Foothill Rd.
- Labels Consignment Boutique, 601 W. First St.
- Rail City Garden Center, 170 Brierley, Sparks

Tickets will be available at these outlets by the time you receive this publication.

The tour homes have been grouped by area in this publication, but as in previous years, you may visit in any order. No matter where you choose to begin your time travel to Reno's illustrious past, our friendly and efficient check-in volunteers will be ready to sign you in, fit you with a wristband, and provide you with a program.

If you have further questions about the event, please contact Event Chair Carol Coleman at [carolc@galenaforest.net](mailto:carolc@galenaforest.net) or by phone at (775) 560-0602.



## Be a Nevada Historical Society Volunteer

Would you like to assist the Nevada Historical Society (NHS) and its professionals by volunteering as a docent? You could work in tours, the research library, photography, the museum store and other areas. NHS particularly needs people to learn the Point of Sale (POS) system to work in the museum store.

To become a NHS Docent you complete a 4-hour training program, two shadow sessions and attend three lectures. You must become a member of the Nevada Historical Society and the Docent Council and work a minimum of 48 hours per year.

The next docent training will be Tuesday, September 12, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Nevada Historical Society, 1650 North Virginia Street, Reno, NV 89503. For information, please call 688-1190, x 0 or email Betsy Morse at [morsee14@gmail.com](mailto:morsee14@gmail.com).

## It's Membership Renewal Time

The window for HRPS fiscal year and your membership renewals is now the calendar year January 1 to December 31. Your renewal date was automatically extended 6 months for free — check your mailing label on *FootPrints* to see your actual renewal date.

If your renewal date is January 1, 2017, then the renewal form in this issue of *FootPrints* is for you to use to renew or you could go to our website: [HistoricReno.org](http://HistoricReno.org) and renew with a credit card or PayPal.

This issue of Fall *FootPrints* also has a separate membership renewal form inside. (We understand that many people prefer not to use the form on page 15, so they can keep their copy of *FootPrints* intact.)

# Architectural Elements

## Going Through The Roof

by ZoAnn Campana

A roof is one of the most essential and underappreciated elements of a building. Second only to walls in terms of providing structural support to a building, a roof can tell you about a building's architectural style, about its local climate, or even about the cultural values of the people who built it. Roofs protect as much as they reveal. Without a good roof, buildings take on water and lose their heating and cooling efficiency, and building walls lose their stability. This installment of Elements will give you a quick rundown on the vocabulary of the roof.

### Pitch

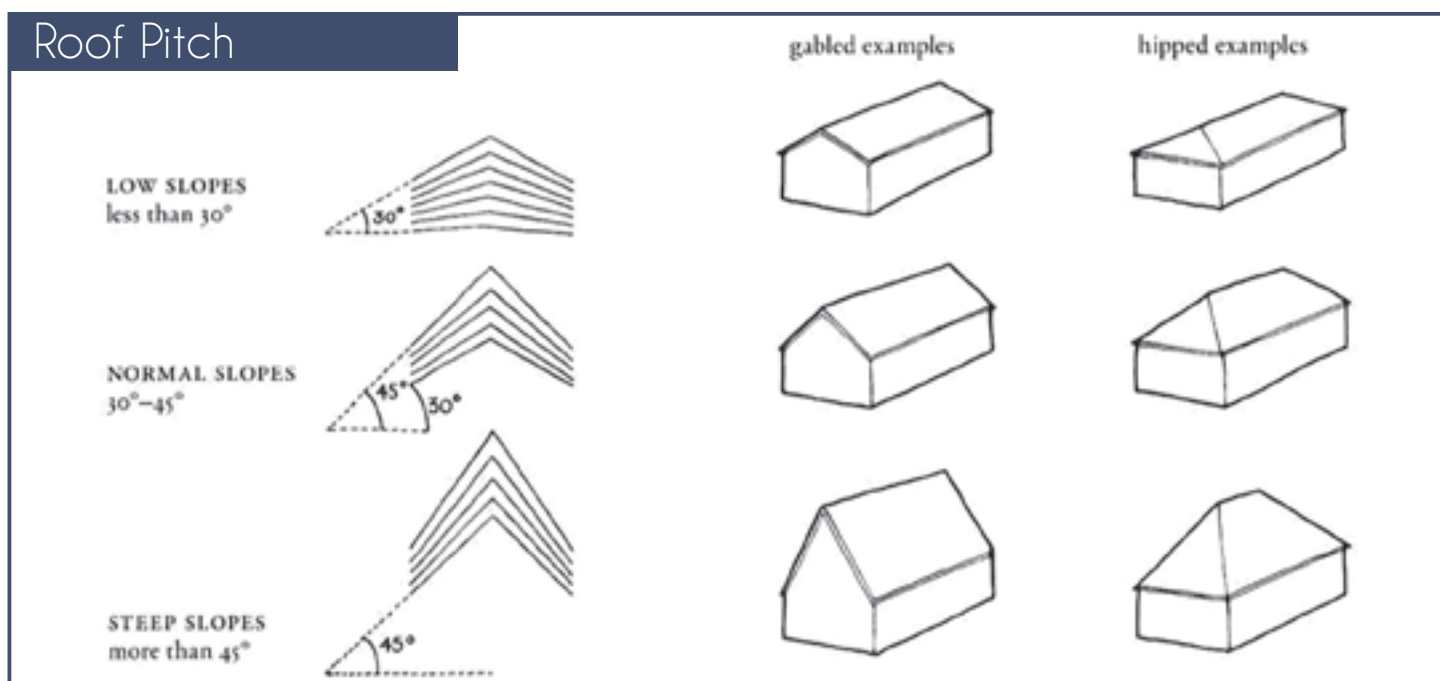
The slope of a roof is also referred to as its pitch. Generally speaking, a roof has three pitches: low, moderate, and steep. A low-pitched roof, also known as a shallow-pitched roof, has a slope of less than 30 degrees. A moderate pitch, which may also be referred to as a normal pitch, has a slope that ranges between 30 and 45 degrees. Finally, the slope of a steeply-pitched roof clocks in at more than 45 degrees.

The “why” behind different roof pitches can be traced back to vernacular architecture, which is—by definition—based on local needs, available construction materials, and cultural traditions. Local needs generally correspond to the climate and geography of a given area, whereupon the pitch of a roof becomes important. Regional American architecture illustrates this concept. Think of the flat roofs we tend to see in the Desert Southwest. Because wet weather is such a rare occurrence in the deserts of Arizona, New Mexico, Southern California, and Southern Nevada, a steeply-pitched roof is not necessary for shedding rain and snow. On the other hand, consider the pervasiveness of steeply-pitched roofs throughout the intermountain region. Here in Northern Nevada, the roof slopes increase in tandem with the elevation. As you climb west along Interstate 80 or the Mount Rose Highway, you will notice the increased prevalence of steeply-pitched A-frame cabins that are perfectly suited to shedding snow loads.

### Shapes

This is where the roof gets really exciting. There is a ton of variation in roof shapes, and these shapes—combined with pitch—can assist in identifying the overall architectural style of a building. Roof shapes can be broken down into three basic categories: gabled, hipped, and flat.

A gabled roof features two sloping planes that join at the top to form a triangle. Variations within the gabled family include side-gabled and front-gabled, which are the most common. There are also cross-gabled roofs, which feature a side-gabled mass intersected by a front gable; gambrel roofs, which are commonly associated with barns and typically signal the Dutch Colonial style; shed or half-gabled roofs, which consist of only one sloping plane and are associated with the Contemporary style; and the jerkinhead, or clipped gable, roof which is essentially a front-gabled roof where the gable peak has been hipped or “clipped.”





1003 Arlington is an example of a low-pitched front-gabled roof.



820 N. Center is one of Reno's best examples of a cross-gambrel roof.



1035 La Rue demonstrates a side-gabled roof.




1031 Manor's roof is an example of a cross-hipped pyramidal roof.

The hipped roof differentiates itself from its gabled cousin by having four sloping planes instead of two. Subtypes of this category include the simple hipped roof, where all four planes join to form a roof peak that runs the length of the roof; the pyramidal roof, which sounds exactly like what it is—the four planes triangulate to form a pyramid; cross-hipped roofs, which feature a hipped mass intersecting another hipped mass at perpendicular angles; a double-pitched, or mansard, roof; and a gable-on hip roof, which is the opposite of a jerkinhead, consisting of a hipped roof topped with a small gable peak.

Lastly, we have the flat roof, which is more or less self-descriptive, although some roofs categorized as “flat” may feature barely-perceptible slopes. There

are only two subtypes within the flat roof family: flat with eaves, which is a flat roof that extends beyond the perimeter of the building; and flat with parapet, which is a flat roof where the wall extends above the edge of the roof. A good example of a parapetted roof is the Alamo, which has a flat roof with a Mission-style parapet.

As I previously mentioned, the combination of roof pitch and shape can assist with identifying the style of a given building. However, roof characteristics alone are not indicative of style. Just because the Alamo has a flat roof with a parapet, not all buildings with the same roof can be classified as Mission style architecture. For example, this roof is also associated with the Beaux

Arts, Spanish Colonial, and Italian Renaissance styles, among others. A number of architectural elements come into play when determining a building's style, including windows, doors, massing, materials, and other decorative details. Future installments of *Elements* will concentrate on each of these different features, eventually putting them together to spotlight individual architectural styles found throughout Reno. 

**ZoAnn Campana** is a local Historic Preservation Consultant who serves on the HRPS Board of Directors and is the architectural historian on the City of Reno's Historical Resources Commission.



832 Nixon Avenue has a flat roof with parapet.



This house, located at 1015 Gordon, illustrates a cross-gabled roof with a twist: the gable peaks are clipped, resulting in a jerkinhead shape.



Morrill Hall is Reno's most famous example of a mansard roof.  
*Photo by Ed Bierman*



# HRPS September 2017 Historic Walking Tours

HRPS offers four September walks, plus the HRPS Home Tour (see pages 1-5).

Walking tour cost is \$10 per person, free to HRPS members.

Walks generally last from 1 ½ to 2 hours.

**No dogs please. Reservations required and space is limited.**

Please go to [www.historicreno.org](http://www.historicreno.org) or 775-747-4478 for reservations and information.

Access to HRPS Walking Tours varies according to venue. Certain areas may not be fully accessible to individuals with disabilities due to architectural barriers inherent in the historic construction of the structures or uneven walking surfaces.

Saturday,  
September 2  
10:00 a.m.

**LITERARY RENO** – Take a Tour of Writing from the “Underbelly.” There’s more to Reno’s literary history than “City of Trembling Leaves!” Reno continues to be a mythical magnet for ‘outsider’ writers and characters...the misfits, outcasts and seekers. Let your imagination roam as we travel downtown streets encountered by traditional writers like Will James, Robert Laxalt and Joanne de Longchamps, then walk the haunts of contemporary writers such as Bernie Schopen, Willy Vlautin and Susan Palwick. Meet near the Riverside Artist Lofts, 17 S. Virginia Street. Tour guides: Charlotte Voitoff and Nancy Manfredi.

Saturday,  
September 9  
10:00 a.m.

**NEWLANDS NEIGHBORHOOD** – Enjoy an architectural walk through one of Reno’s oldest and most prestigious neighborhoods. Newlands Heights Historic District was named to the National Register of Historic Places this year. Meet at the Lander Street side of My Favorite Muffin, 340 California Avenue. Tour guide: Scott Gibson.

Saturday,  
September 16  
10:00 a.m.

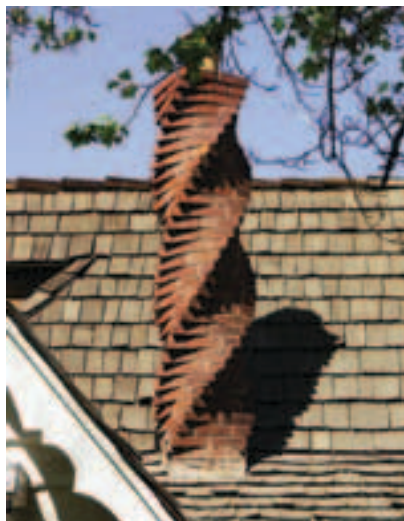
**BRICKS AND STONES** – A walk through the Humboldt and Lander Streets Neighborhood. Discover the architectural treasures of this area, a mix of bungalows, Tudor and mission revivals and cottage styles. Meet at the Lander Street side of My Favorite Muffin, 340 California Avenue. Tour guide: Debbie Hinman.

Saturday,  
September 17  
9:00 a.m.

**BIKE TOUR THROUGH OLD RENO** – A leisurely ride through the most historic parts of Reno. Meet at the Lander Street side of My Favorite Muffin, 340 California Avenue. Tour guide: Brandi Quaglieri. **HELMETS REQUIRED, NO EXCEPTIONS!**



Literary Reno Tour



Newlands Neighborhood Tour  
Love this Chimney!



Bricks and Stones Tour

# HRPS 2017 Fall Programs

Sheryln Hayes-Zorn & Kimberly Roberts, Program Chairs

Historic Reno Preservation Society's free programs offer an assortment of Reno historic topics.

## NEW LOCATION:

HRPS Sunday Program events are held at Sierra View Library, 4001 S. Virginia in Reno Town Mall. The venue change is because the Downtown Library meeting room is being remodeled.

HRPS Programs are held at 1:30 p.m. on fourth Sundays from October through April. Exceptions are third Sunday in November and no program in December. More HRPS information can be found at [historicro.org](http://historicro.org) or on Facebook.



Howard Goldbaum (left) and right with his camera inside a tunnel at the American Flat Mill.

**Sunday, October 22, 1:30 p.m. (fourth Sunday):** Howard Goldbaum, Director of Graduate Studies, University of Nevada, Reno, presents **"The Rise and Fall of the American Flat Mill,"** an extensively illustrated lecture on the planning, construction and brief operation of the Mill. It will include elements of economics and mining technologies, and will explore the different uses and cultural appropriation of the mining complex in the modern era.

**Sunday, November 19, 1:30 p.m. (third Sunday):** Mark Demuth (right), environmental consultant and University of Nevada, Reno adjunct faculty member, presents **"Virginia Street Bridge Demolition and Replacement Project: Treatment and Discovery of Buried Resources."** As part of the project, the company treated and documented the nine adjacent resources to the Virginia Street Bridge: the 1933 Reno Main Post Office, the 1965 F.W. Woolworth/Mapes Building, the 1963 First National Bank/Reno City Hall, the 1953/1961 Masonic Temple, the 1927 Riverside Hotel, the 1967 Pioneer Theater Auditorium, the 1910 Washoe County Courthouse and the Floodwalls. The project included the preservation and re-use of key architectural elements of the Virginia Street Bridge and the Interpretive Area, as well as documentation and treatment of the seven discoveries (the Sullivan-Kelly Ditch, the Cochran Ditch, 1877 Iron Bridge, the Mapes, a storm drain box culvert, the Majestic Theater, the Riverside Hotel boiler room, and the 1905 Masonic Temple). Mr. Demuth's presentation and lecture will include details of the resources treated, documented, and the research completed.



Mark Demuth (above) and right, Virginia Street Bridge 1877–1905–2016

# HRPS Proposal for N. Center Street

by Carol Coleman, Barrie Lynn, Mercedes de la Garza



The current buildings on the Center Street / Virginia Street block. The historic Queen Anne's are indicated by a rose color.



The Center Street / Virginia Street block with only the historic homes and the RTC RAPID station.



The Center Street / Virginia Street block with the historic homes, the RTC RAPID station, and a 51,520 square foot single story possible footprint for the UNR business building.

There is a very special neighborhood on N. Center Street between Eighth and Ninth Streets, that we call Historic University Avenue, which is expected to undergo changes soon. Why is HRPS so interested in this street? First, it's the only intact block of Queen Anne homes in Reno, second the homes were built in the early 1900s, and third it's a beautiful and appropriate entrance to the University of Nevada, Reno's (UNR) University of Nevada Historic District, placed in the National Register of Historic Places on February 25, 1987.

John Evans sold the state the land for the University of Nevada when the University was moved from Elko to Reno in 1885. In 1889, John's brother Alvaro Evans sold a plot of land at the foot of the University between Eighth and Ninth streets for the homes we know as the "Queen Anne's on Center." Educators, the first President of the newly formed Nevada Historical Society, and poet Joanne de Longchamps are among those who have occupied the homes in this historic block. From 1886, when the first University building, Morrill Hall, was built until 1932, the street called N. Center today was known as University

Avenue and was the main entrance to the University. We believe it is important to honor that history and preserve the connection between the homes, the street and the University.

The changes that are expected to the block bounded by N. Virginia Street on the west, N. Center Street on the east, Eighth Street on the south and Ninth Street on the north are:

- 1) The University has purchased the homes on Center Street with the intent of building an approximately 120,000 square foot College of Business building and another smaller building on the N. Center Street property and
- 2) Reno Transportation Commission (RTC) in their Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit Extension Project, plans a RAPID station on the N. Virginia Street property between Eighth and Ninth Streets. As of this printing, RTC's website indicates they will use only 60 feet of the 100-foot depth of the property (still needs federal approval).

The University's initial plan was to demolish the Queen Anne homes on the N. Center Street block. After




View from Virginia Street of proposed RTC RAPID station with possible space for the business building and a second building. The business building rendering achieves approximately 120,000 square feet and the second building could be 54,000 square feet.

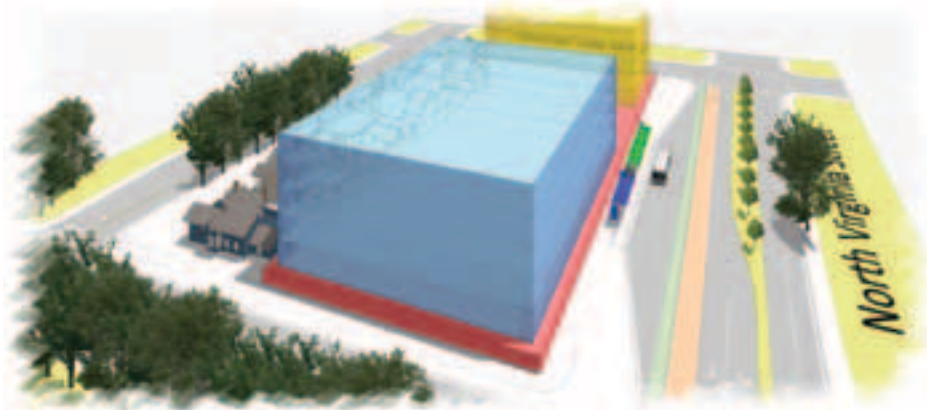
discussions with the City of Reno's Historical Resources Commission, the City Council, HRPS and other interested parties, the University has agreed that the homes would at least be relocated.

However, HRPS wants to see the homes stay in place as a historic neighborhood adjacent to the University and is providing renderings to show how the historic homes, the new Business building and RTC's RAPID station can coexist on the block. (We realize that a number of federal approvals, possibly Regent approvals and land exchanges or purchases would have to happen for this to work.)

The renderings are not intended to show architectural design, but only to show massing and dimension. This isn't just a historic preservation plan, it provides equal consideration for RTC and UNR's requirements.

To date, we have met with UNR President Marc Johnson and Heidi Gansert, UNR Executive Director, External Relations, to discuss the renderings and have presented this proposal to the Historical Resources Commission (HRC).

We encourage you to discuss our proposal widely. 



View from Ninth Street and N. Virginia Street of proposed RTC RAPID station with possible space for the College of Business building and a second building. Note that the Center Street historic homes and trees are retained.



View from Ninth Street and N. Center Street of the historic Queen Anne homes, the proposed Business building and second UNR building.

**Carol Coleman** is President of HRPS; **Barrie Lynn** is a former HRPS Board member and HRC Commissioner, currently Chair of HRPS Advisory Advocacy Committee; **Mercedes de la Garza** is a former HRC Commissioner and an architect, with a specialty in historic preservation.

Renderings by:  
Mercedes de la Garza,  
Architect, AIA architect studio,  
Reno • Tahoe • San Francisco.

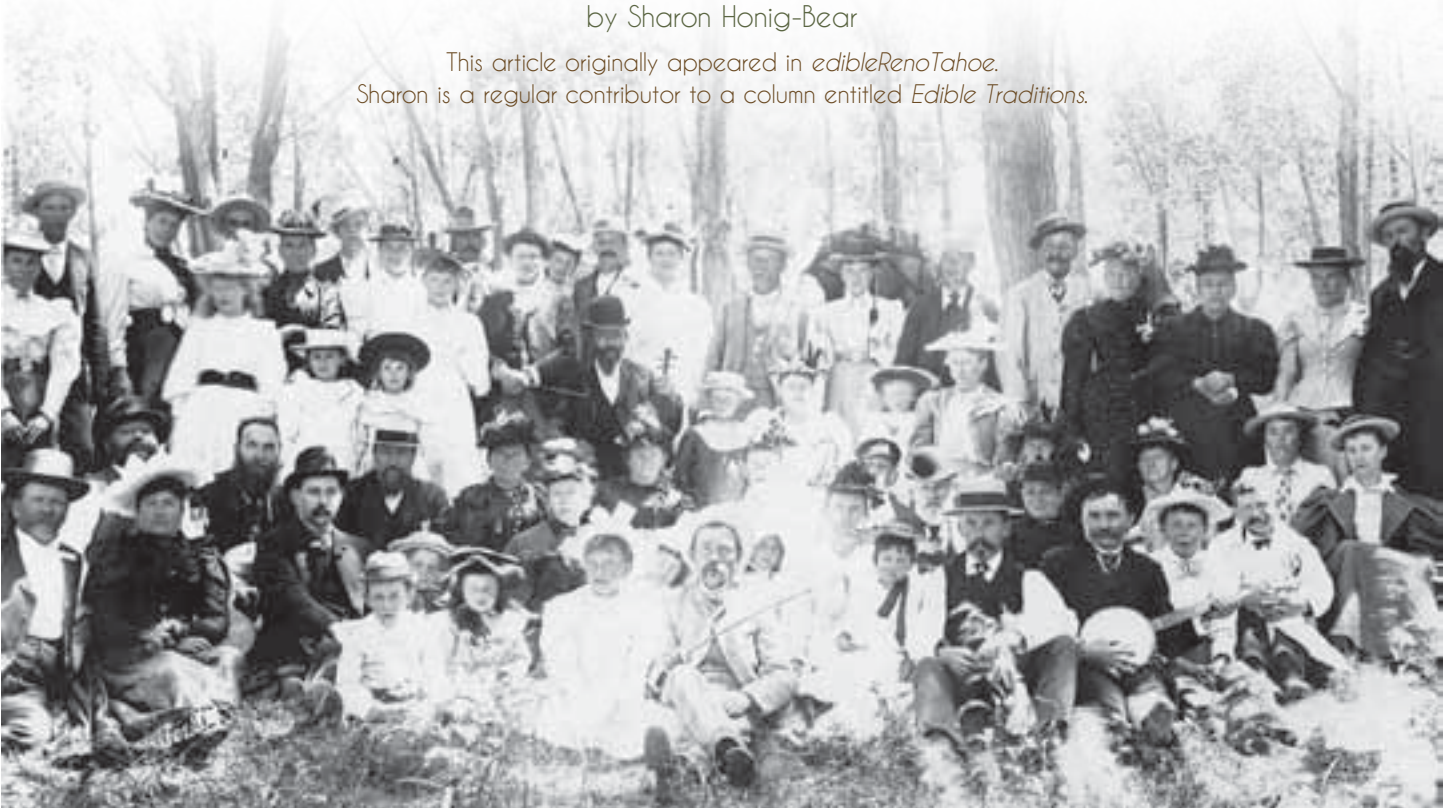


View from Eighth Street and N. Center Street of the historic Queen Anne homes with the proposed UNR buildings in the background. (Yes, we did artificially move the historic Riegg House from the east side of Center to the west side of N. Center Street.)

# Taking to the Road: Northern Nevada's Love Affair with Picnics

by Sharon Honig-Bear

This article originally appeared in *edibleRenoTahoe*.  
Sharon is a regular contributor to a column entitled *Edible Traditions*.



Picnic at Steamboat Springs 1895. Courtesy Nevada Historical Society.

Before there were bars with patios and restaurants with decks, people in Northern Nevada began a love affair with picnics that can be traced back for over 100 years.

## The automobile changes it all

Bowers Mansion and Donner Lake were all the rage for these early excursions. In the 1870s-1900 period, most picnics were sponsored by Sunday schools or organizations such as the Masons, Miner's Union or Pacific Coast Pioneers. Soon, Moana and Lawton hot springs joined as favorite destinations. But within a few decades, automobiles became affordable and picnics really hit their stride.

In an article entitled "Picnic Season Here In Greater Glory" in the *Nevada State Journal* on June 27, 1926, the enormously florid writing said, "The weekend picnic tour becomes a summer event: office-

bound men welcome it as a blessed release from care and worry...women eagerly prepare for it as a stimulating and a restful outing, as an invigorating taste, which obliterates the spectre of another week of household drudgery."

The story goes on to show how food plays an important role, "The main body of most picnics is the sandwich...



Picnic at Pyramid Lake c1898.  
Courtesy Nevada Historical Society.

however some parties, more pretentious than others, declare in favor of fried or broiled chicken, taken hot from the home to the picnic grounds in crocks or other containers." Other foods filling the hamper were pickles, olives, fruit, preserves, cakes, cookies and chocolates. Lack a vehicle to take you to the country? No problem. In 1920, dealers such as Nevada Sales offered a rebuilt Buick truck for \$600, for use as a picnic car.

## Marketing discovers al fresco dining


As picnics became common, stores capitalized on the trend. Ads for picnic fare were frequent. In the *Reno Evening Gazette* from June, 1933, a large ad for Ney & Oldham grocery touted "No Work! No Worry! Libby's famous foods for your picnic basket." This was a time when you could grab a can of pickles for 10¢ or "deviled meat" for four cents. For Memorial Day in 1940, Conant's

grocery said “for your picnic basket we will have a nice selection of rolls, cookies, fresh moist cakes” including lemon sponge rolls for 20¢ and meringue cream pies for 25¢.

A recipe for Stuffed Rolls in the *Nevada State Journal* in March, 1940 started with the enticement, “At this time of year, when the sun is shining and the roads in all directions, everyone seems to get the same urge—to picnic.” The recipe calls for chopping eggs, olives, onion, green pepper, pimento cheese, can of crab meat, and condiments and then stuffing them into “wienie rolls.” Mayonnaise, often seen risky at picnics, is nowhere to be found. Hams, frequently the centerpiece of these outings, were described in terms such as sugar cured, Eastern, smoked, or fancy and were featured in just about every food ad of the period.

### Picnics become a center of social life

As picnics grew popular, they became the destination for social gatherings. The Baptists and the Episcopalians had picnics. So did the American Legion, Daughters of the American Revolution, the nurses at St. Mary’s and an endless variety of organizations that celebrated the good weather with outdoor excursions. All included the picnic basket.

So, with the sun shining and warm weather finally here, grab your hamper or your picnic basket (whichever you call it) and head out of town—but I might suggest you leave the deviled meat behind. 

Special thanks to **Joyce Cox** for sharing photos from her *Images of America: Washoe County* book.

**Sharon Honig-Bear** was the long-time restaurant writer for the *Reno Gazette Journal*. She is a tour leader with Historic Reno Preservation Society (HRPS) and founder of the annual HRPS Reno Harvest of Homes Tour.



Picnic at Poor’s Grove 1910. Courtesy Nevada Historical Society.



Picnic at Bowers Mansion c1900. Courtesy Nevada Historical Society.



## Message From Your HRPS President Carol Coleman

### Greetings HRPS members and friends,

HRPS 2017 HRPS Walking Tour season is almost complete – four more Walking Tours are scheduled in September. We held six in May, nine in June and nine in July which with September's four adds up to 28 Walking Tours for 2017! Thanks to **Mike Higdon** and the *Reno Gazette-Journal* for boosting our attendance with a multi-page story in May. And, as always, thanks to **Artown** for their great Little Book and website. We had over 550 attendees on walks in July! Credit for the success of the HRPS Walking Tours goes to the Tour Guides, whose constant research and dedication makes these walks so interesting even if you've heard them before. Kudos go to Walking Tour Chair **Bill Kolton**, Captains **Constance Hanson**, **Charlotte Voitoff**, **Caroline Asikainen**, **Byllie Andrews** and **JoAnn Newbury** for their hard work and organization in

the signing-in process. Thanks also go to the many volunteers who support the walks, especially to **Roger Slugg**, **LaNae Gralla**, and **Susan Skorupa Mullen** who helped out on many, many walks this year. Behind the scenes, but also important, **Sandi Bitler** returned calls to the HRPS phone about walks and **Rosie Cevalco** is our webmaster who provided tour information, photos and maps. And special thanks to **Constance Hanson**, who Bill describes as "his gentle guide," making sure that everything was happening correctly.

2017 HRPS Harvest of Homes Tour is happening Saturday, September 23 from 10:00 am to 3:00 p.m. We have six homes this year thanks to the work of **Sharon Honig-Bear**, who although she has retired as Tour Chair after seven years, is still an active member of the Tour Committee and took on the extremely important task of finding this year's homes. Now that I'm the Tour Chair, I begin to understand the commitment and organization that Sharon put into the Tour over the years and want to thank her again and again for her work in making the Home Tour a HRPS institution.

You might have noticed we have a new look to this issue of *FootPrints*. After going to color and glossy paper a couple

years ago, but keeping our original design, the HRPS Board agreed to a new look. We think it's cleaner and lighter – do let us know what you think.

There are a couple of birthdays on the horizon: Reno is celebrating its 150th now through to the big day on May 9, 2018. Check out the city's website <http://www.reno.gov/about-reno/reno-150-birthday> and look at the Reno 150 Events, where the city and organizations list activities celebrating the 150th. We'll be celebrating HRPS 20th birthday this Fall and next year. We'll be hosting events to celebrate both our 20th and Reno's 150th. Look for information in the next issue of *FootPrints* and on our website.

HRPS Monthly Programs start again in October. This year we'll be hosting our fourth Sunday afternoon programs at 1:30 p.m. at Sierra View Library in the Reno Town Mall through April. In addition, we're planning to offer a third Wednesday evening program series from January to April at the North West Library on Robb Drive. The Wednesday series will be in celebration of Reno's 150th and offer presentations on the early days of Reno.

Carol Coleman, 775-849-3380  
[carol@galenaforest.net](mailto:carol@galenaforest.net)

## HRPS Endangered Building Watch List

- Freight House on Evans St.
- Nevada Brewing Works on 4<sup>th</sup> St.
- Regina Apartments on Island Ave.
- First Masonic Building (Reno Mercantile) at Sierra and Commercial
- Historic Homes on Historic University Avenue (Gateway)
- Buildings in the University Neighborhood
- The Hotel El Cortez at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Arlington
- Hill/Redfield Mansion on Mt. Rose St.
- Lear Theater
- Flick Ranch House
- Two El Reno Apartments at 1461 Lander St.
- Hillside Cemetery
- WPA Projects at Plumas, Stewart and Virginia Lake Parks
- Mid-century Motels
- Burke's, Belli and Mountain View Additions
- Caughlin Ranch House
- Ralston Avenue 300-block homes

## HRPS Lifetime Members

Darleen Azizisefat  
 Jacqueline Black  
 Laurie & Greg Boyer  
 Lynn Bremer  
 Florence Ann Burgess  
 Phyllis & Tom Cates  
 Jan Chik  
 Becky Czarnik  
 Joan Dyer  
 Betty Easton  
 Marilyn Fuetsch  
 Ted & Francine Gray  
 Melinda & Dan Gustin  
 John & Susan Hancock  
 Carol Haydis  
 Sharon Honig-Bear  
 Lee & Ivey Johnson  
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 Charlotte & Dick McConnell  
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 Butch & Susan Peachy  
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 Jonnie Pullman  
 Hannah Satca  
 Michael & Karren Smith  
 Robert Stoldal  
 Tom & Leanne Stone  
 Terry & Fran Terras  
 Mike & Karen Traynor  
 Charlotte Voitoff  
 Sharon Walbridge  
 Betty Watts  
 Kathy Williams

(\*) *Deceased*

## HRPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**Historic Reno Preservation Society** celebrates its 20th anniversary as an all-volunteer non-profit organization in September 2017. The **Historic Reno Preservation Society (HRPS)** is "dedicated to preserving and promoting historic resources in the Truckee Meadows through education, advocacy and leadership."

All Membership Levels include the HRPS quarterly historical publication, FootPrints; HRPS walking tours during the summer months; and educational programs in fall and winter.

You may pay by check, cash, Paypal or credit card. To pay by Paypal or credit card, please log on to our HRPS website: [www.historicreno.org](http://www.historicreno.org).

<input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewing	
<b>Membership Levels:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00 Student <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 Individual <input type="checkbox"/> \$45.00 Family <input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00 Supporting <input type="checkbox"/> \$200.00 Business <input type="checkbox"/> \$250.00 Preservation Patron <input type="checkbox"/> \$500.00 Benefactor <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000.00 Lifetime Member	
<b>My Additional Donation:</b>	
\$ _____ Pat Klos Annual Volunteer Award Fund \$ _____ Neighborhood Preservation Grant Fund \$ _____ Overall Program Support	
<b>HRPS Quarterly FootPrints Preference (Please check one):</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hard Copy <input type="checkbox"/> Email Only	

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

HRPS respects your right to privacy. We will **NOT** share your email address.

<p align="center"><b>PD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO WORK ON:</b></p> <p align="center"> <input type="checkbox"/> Home Tours    <input type="checkbox"/> Walking Tours    <input type="checkbox"/> Board    <input type="checkbox"/> Research         </p> <p align="center"> <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____         </p>
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Please make your check payable to:  
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 and send with this form to:  
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See Pages 1-5

#### BULK RATE MAIL

Bulk Rate mail is not forwarded. FootPrints is mailed using a Bulk Rate Mail permit. If your address changes, please notify us at HRPS, P. O. Box 14003, Reno NV 89507, with your address change, to keep *FootPrints* coming.



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*Thanks to the following HRPS  
Business Members who are  
supporting the works of HRPS*

Robert H. Broili Law Office

Gilbert Properties

Harold & Alice Jacobsen

Bert Pincolini

Law Office of  
Tammy M. Riggs, PLLC



Scan this QR code with  
your smartphone to go  
directly to the HRPS website

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