

# • Historic Reno • PRESERVATION S O C I E T Y

## **FootPrints**

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

Spring 2002

**NEWSLETTER** 

VOL. 5, NO. 2

#### The Powning Addition: Reno's Little Italy

By Sharon Adler Walbridge

Editors Note: This information is reproduced with the permission of HRPS Vice President, Felvia Belaustegui. It has been drawn from her Master's Thesis, dated August, 2000, which was prepared under the direction of advisor Donald D. Fowler, Ph.D.

he Nevada State Journal on June 6, 1888 ran an ad which read: "250 Beautiful Lots for Sale! A Rare Chance for Investment and a Home in the Most Lovely Portion of Reno."

By the time the ad ran a few homes had already been built along Ralston and Washington streets, in the eastern end of Powning's Addition. These were the homes of some of the more affluent business men and their families.

Twenty to thirty years later, in the first and second decade of the 1900s the land available to newcomers and immigrants was the Winter, Vine, Jones and Keystone area in the western section of Powning's Addition. The majority of the residences of the Italian community are smallish bungalows, a sharp contrast to the homes of the earlier settlers in the eastern section of Powning's Addition. Most lots in the western section had enough room for gardens, grape vines, and additional units in the back or side for rentals or extended family.

The economic setting of plentiful land, the railroad, and available employment in downtown Reno allowed Powning's Addition to provide a perfect setting for the Italians to establish themselves in an ethnic enclave.

#### Invitation to Annual Meeting & Picnic

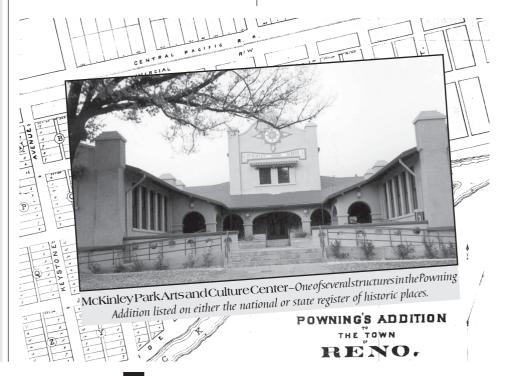
Don't Miss The Annual HRPS Picnic Wednesday, May 22, 2002, 6:00 p.m.

Bring your own picnic dinner to McKinley Park Arts and Culture Center for our annual spring fling. McKinley Park is located in the Powning's Addition, Reno's first subdivision, also called Reno's Little Italy.

 HRPS Vice President Felvia Belaustegui, who wrote her master's thesis on this historic neighborhood, will lead us on a short walk through the area.  Presentation of HRPS Preservation Award.

Meet at 6:00 p.m. on the lawn at McKinley Arts and Culture Center located on Riverside Drive between Keystone and Vine. Parking access is off of Jones Street. There is limited table space, so for your own comfort, we suggest folding chairs, blankets or both. We have access to the auditorium in the event of inclement weather. (Has anybody ever heard of inclement weather in Reno – especially in the spring?)

For more information call Felvia at 329-0129.



#### FIVE YEARS OLD AND ON THE MOVE!

remarkably successful year. It can be attributed to members and friends who attend our monthly programs, to the volunteers who lead our historic walking tours, to volunteers who help with the newsletter production and mailing, and to those who, in many quiet ways, help out with various events during the year.

Special thanks must be extended to the people who present our monthly programs. Attendance continues to escalate, which is a testament to the quality of the presentations. To all of you who volunteer your time, talent, and knowledge as presenters, we are very grateful.

I must acknowledge the dedication and

hard work of the members of the Board of Directors of HRPS. Thanks to them, we achieved some very important milestones in our rapidly growing organization. As we "grow up", certain requirements become clear. The Board worked diligently to develop and adopt a strategic plan. The plan is included in the newsletter. The Board also developed and adopted a budget. In addition to budgeting for such current expenses as the newsletter, program schedules, invitations to various events, and costs associated with walking tours and programs, the budget is a tool for anticipating future fiscal needs. We continue to network with several other groups in the area whose focus is on historic preservation and cultural tourism. Our walking tours not only remain a part of Artown in July, but became a part of Spirit of Artown

during the winter. They are an integral part of Historic Preservation Week observances in May, as well. Attendance on the walks has also burgeoned.

We do manage to throw quite a party in the autumn! This has become a tradition of fun, while acknowledging the historic treasures which we celebrate in the community.

So, thank you for participating in the success of HRPS. Keep up the good work. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Kathy Wishart
President



#### CALLING ALL PHOTOS, MEMORIES, MEMORABILIA

RPS is planning a special celebration sometime in the fall at the California Building. We are looking for any photos or memorabilia that you may have of the California Building, the Transcontinental Highways Exposition, or the Lincoln and Victory Highways. Stories about events held at the California Building would be great too. I'm sure a few of you HPRS members have some very fond memories of the building.

2002 marks the 75th Anniversary of both the California Building and the Transcontinental Highways Exposition. The Exposition took place from June 25 through August 1, 1927, celebrating the completion of the Victory Highway (Highway 40, then later Highway 80) and the Lincoln Highway (now Highway 50 and Highway 40). This was quite

an important event for Reno and for Nevada. Reno saw much building growth during 1927 and made it a point to improve city streets for the celebration.

Northern Californians came by planes, trains, and automobiles to the major transportation event.

Idlewild Park was the Exposition's site. Acquired from the Francis G. Newlands Estate in May, 1923, the park grounds were designed by Donald McLaren, a San Francisco landscape architect who had designed the grounds for the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exposition.

The 1926 California legislature appropriated \$100,000 for the California Building and for their exhibits at the Exposition – quite a sum for that time. Reno contractor Joseph C. Dillard was awarded a

\$23,333 contract to erect the building.

In 1927, through a California legislative resolution, the California Building was dedicated to those who lost their lives in World War I and presented to American Legion Post No. 1. In 1938 the Legion Post transferred ownership of the building to the City of Reno. And in 2002 the interior of the building will be refurbished to its former glory.

To contribute, please contact Cindy Ainsworth at 747-0340.

#### Sources:

The California Building by Phillip Earl, 1992 "California Building Busier Than Ever," Nevada State Journal, 8/22/1965

#### HISTORIC RENO PRESERVATION SOCIETY STRATEGIC PLAN 2001-2003

#### MISSION STATEMENT

Dedicated to preserving and promoting historic resources in the Truckee Meadows through education, advocacy, and leadership.

#### 1. Organizational Goals and Strategies

1. Implement uniform business procedures.

Strategies:

- Standardize, document, and copyright all heritage tour materials.
- Hire full time executive director and grant writer with dedicated office space.
- 2. Improve fiscal management procedures,

Strategies:

- Develop annual budget.
- Implement formal financial tracking and reporting system including an annual audit.
- Obtain necessary funding.
- 3. Increase HRPS membership by 15% annually.

Strategies:

- Develop an outreach and retention plan.
- 4. Provide training to HRPS volunteers,

Strategies:

- Develop training packages for tour leaders and other volunteers.
- Conduct training as needed.

#### II. Promotional Goals and Strategies

1. Develop and enhance fundraising activities.

Strategies:

- Sell HRPS logo merchandise.
- Hold a fundraising event each year.

2. Increase awareness and involvement of HRPS in the community.

Strategies:

- Develop and implement a HRPS marketing and public relations plan.
- Produce publications to inform the public.
- 3. Contribute toward community efforts to increase cultural tourism in the Truckee Meadows.

Strategies:

 Develop a package of heritage tours for visitors, in collaboration with the RSCVA.

#### III. Preservation Goals and Strategies

1. Identify, research, and protect historic resources.

Strategies:

- Collaborate with the Historic Resources
   Commission and other like-minded community
   organizations.
- Implement an adopt-a-block program.
- 2. Educate the community on historic preservations.

Strategies:

- Increase number and quality of heritage tours.
- Develop and conduct educational programs.

#### CALL FOR PAPERS

**Sin and the American Roadside** is the theme of the 2002 Society for Commercial Archaeology annual conference to be held at the National Automobile Museum in Reno, September 25-28, 2002. The Program Committee invites proposals for papers and posters that address those aspects of the American roadside that are often overlooked in conventional histories. The maximum length for general session papers is 15 minutes. For session papers, submit abstracts of no more than 500 words and a one-page Curriculum Vitae. Graduate students and others are encouraged to submit poster abstracts of 250 words and a one-page C.V. Send abstracts to Mella Rothwell Harmon, State Historic Preservation Office, 100 N. Stewart St., Carson City, Nevada 89701, 775-684-3447, mrharmon@clan.lib.nv.us. Deadline: May 1, 2002.

#### THE HONOR OF YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUESTED

## THE MASTER'S WORKS: A BUS TOUR OF FREDERIC J. DELONGCHAMPS' BUILDINGS IN THE TRUCKEE MEADOWS

Ronald James, our State Historic Preservation Officer, called him "Nevada's Historic Architect." During his career of sixty years, DeLongchamps designed more than five hundred buildings; his genius can be seen in the diversity of his designs. While he is best known for his impressive public buildings, you can also find in the Truckee Meadows some of his finest examples of houses and commercial buildings.

In celebration of Preservation Week, HRPS is offering a bus tour of DeLongchamps' buildings. We will not only explore some of his more popular designs but also take a look at a few hidden jewels here in Reno and Sparks.

Money raised from the tour will be used to help fund future HRPS publications.

#### **INFORMATION**

When: May 11, 2002

Cost: \$35.00, includes a special "DeLongchamps Gourmet Lunch" at a secret location.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The tour will leave promptly at 9:00 a.m.

Tour Guides: Carrie Bennis-Young and Mercedes de la Garza

Space is limited and reservations are required. To RSVP, please call Nancy Holmes at 852-2094, no later than April 24. Checks or money orders must be received no later than April 26th. This is going to be fun, so reserve your spot early!

#### FAMOUS FIGURES IN RENO'S HISTORICAL PAST: FREDERIC J. DELONGCHAMPS

he son of French Canadian immigrants, Frederic DeLongchamps was born in Reno on June 2, 1882. A 1904 graduate of UNR with a degree in mining engineering, he briefly pursued a career in mining. In 1906, DeLongchamps moved to San Francisco as an apprentice architect. After a brief partnership with Ira W. Teach, DeLongchamps started his solo career in 1909.

That same year, DeLongchamps won the design competition for the Washoe County Courthouse, which was completed in 1910. Over the next ten years, his work resulted in 103 building designs. Included in this work were the Nevada buildings at the Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco and the Panama-California Exposition in San Diego in 1915. In 1919, the Nevada Legislature appropriated \$520,000 for a capital

building campaign. In May of that year, DeLongchamps was appointed Nevada State Architect to supervise the campaign. The position of State Architect was abolished in 1921. In 1923, DeLongchamps was reappointed as State Architect and remained in this position until it was abolished again in 1926. DeLongchamps was responsible for the design of several state buildings including the Nevada Industrial School in Elko (1919), the Nevada State Hospital in Sparks (1920), the Heroes Memorial Building in Carson City (1920), the Nevada State Building in Reno (1926), and the State Supreme Court Building in Carson City (1936).

DeLongchamps was very active in the community. In 1949, he served as the first president of the Reno Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. He was also a member of the Reno Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club, and the Elks

Club. He served as president of the University of Nevada Alumni Association in 1918 and 1919. He was awarded the University of Nevada Reno's Distinguished Nevadan Award in 1966.

After 57 years of work, serving as Nevada's only State Architect twice, and designing over 558 projects, Frederic J.
DeLongchamps retired in Reno in 1965.
DeLongchamps died in Reno on February 11, 1969.

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Source: Thematic Nomination of the Architecture of Frederic J. DeLongchamps, National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form (Riverside Hotel). The form was prepared by Kathryn M. Kuranda, Architectural Historian, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, signed and dated 6/12/86 by Ronald M. James, Deputy State Historic Preservation Office.



#### **Historic Reno Preservation Society**

### HistoricPreservationWeek Special Report

Historic Preservation Week: May 12-18, 2002

HRPS • P.O. Box 33444 • Reno, NV 89533

### EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT HISTORIC REGISTERS BUT WERE AFRAID TO BELIEVE

By Mella Rothwell Harmon

f I had a dime for every time someone said to me, "I don't want my property listed in the National Register of Historic Places because then the federal government will tell me what I can and can't do with it," I would be lying on a beach in Tahiti, not writing for the HRPS newsletter. Please understand, I am not meaning to be critical of property rights. They

are sacred to democracy and the American way of life, and I would defend them to the death. It disturbs me, however, that there are so many misconceptions about the National Register, and by extension, the State and City Registers, to the detriment of honest and sincere preservation efforts.

In 1966 the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) established The National Register. The NHPA came out of national concern over the effects of major highway-building and post-war development on our country's historic fabric. The National Register is intended to recognize and honor properties (sites, districts, buildings, structures, and objects), that are significant in local, state, and/or national history. The

NHPA also guides federal agencies to consider the effects of their activities on historic resources. National Register eligibility is the benchmark against which resources are evaluated.

For private property owners, however, listing in the National Register brings no conditions or restrictions whatsoever. Reno had a prime

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WashoeCountyCourtHouseandHotelRiverside, c. 1940Vintage postcard image

example in the Mapes Hotel, which was listed in the National Register. When all was said and done, the building could not be saved from demolition. Listing can bring benefits, though, in the form of rehabilitation tax credits and federal and state

preservation grants.

Nevada has a State Register of Historic Places, as well, created by the state legislature in 1979. The State Historic Preservation Office administers the State Register. The State Register is purely honorific and no requirements or restrictions are

placed on a property listed in it.

The City Register of Historic Places was established along with Reno's historic preservation ordinance in 1993. The Historical **Resources Commission** (HRC) administers the City Register and the City's preservation ordinance. The City Register's purpose is to recognize and honor buildings and sites that are important to Reno's history and sense of community. The preservation ordinance recognizes the importance of

maintaining our historic character, so the City Register imposes minimal requirements, which pertain only to exterior modifications that require a building permit. This excludes ordinary maintenance or repair (including

continued on page 6

#### continued from page 5

painting), and interior modifications. Only exterior modifications involving substantial change to buildings listed in the City Register of Historic Places require a Certificate of Appropriateness approved by the HRC before a building permit will be issued.

Reno's historic preservation ordinance states the intent of the Certificate of Appropriateness requirement:

It is the intent of these regulations to insure that buildings,

structures, or districts on the Register shall be in harmony with their surroundings. It is not the intention of these regulations to require the reconstruction or demolition of individual or original buildings, to prohibit the demolition or removal of such buildings, or to impose architectural styles from particular historic periods. In considering new construction, the Commission (HRC) shall encourage contemporary design which is harmonious with the character of the district or historic resource.

ow, lest you think that approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness is arbitrary or subjective, the underlying principles employed by the HRC (and stated in the ordinance), are derived from the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. These standards set out basic measures to ensure that the characteristics of a property that make it eligible for the National Register, or in this case, the City Register, are retained – that "its historical integrity is not compromised." These standards are

intended to "be applied to specific rehabilitation projects in a reasonable manner, taking into consideration economic and technical feasibility."

So, let's say you own a house listed in the City Register and you want to build an addition. You will need a building permit from the City and they will tell you that you need a Certificate of Appropriateness from the HRC before they can issue the permit. In addition to completing the information required on the application form, plans, sketches,



615 Jones Street, Reno Lorna J. Knight. Now on the State Register, Knight built this house in 1931 to complement her other homes in Montecito, CA and Emerald Bay.

descriptions, photographs, and specifications of the proposed addition must be submitted at least 15 days before an HRC meeting. (HRC meets the second Thursday of the month, 3 p.m., at McKinley Arts and Culture Center.) All property owners within 300 feet of your property will be notified at least 10 days before the meeting. A public hearing on your proposal will be held at the HRC meeting. You will be given an opportunity to make a presentation to the Commission and will no doubt be asked questions by the Commissioners. Members of the public will be given an opportunity to comment, as well.

In reviewing your application, the HRC will take into account the historic and architectural significance of your building, the exterior form and appearance of your proposed addition, and the effect of your planned addition on other structures in the vicinity. The HRC will apply the following standards in evaluating your proposal:

 Every reasonable effort shall be made to provide a compatible use for a property that requires

minimal alteration of the building, structure, or site and its environment, or to use a property for its original purpose.

- The distinguishing original qualities or character of a building, structure, or site and its environment shall not be destroyed. The removal or alteration of any historic material or distinctive architectural feature should be avoided, when possible.
- All buildings, structures, and sites shall be recognized as products of their own time.
   Alterations that have no historical basis and that seek to create an earlier appearance shall be discouraged.
- Changes that may have taken place in the course of time are evidence of the history and development of a building, structure, or site and its environment. These changes may have acquired significance in their own right. This significance shall be recognized and respected.
- Distinctive stylistic features or

examples of skilled craftsmanship that characterize a building, structure, or site shall be treated with sensitivity.

- Deteriorated architectural features shall be repaired rather than replaced, wherever possible. In the event replacement is necessary, the new material should match the material being replaced in composition, design, color, texture, and other visual qualities. Repair or replacement of missing architectural features should be based on accurate duplication of features, substantiated by historic, physical, or pictorial evidence, rather than on conjectural designs or the availability of different architectural elements from other
- The surface cleaning of structures shall be undertaken with the gentlest means possible.
   Sandblasting and other cleaning methods that will damage the historic building materials shall not be undertaken.

buildings or structures.

- Every reasonable effort shall be made to protect and preserve archaeological resources affected by or adjacent to any project.
- Contemporary design or alterations and additions to existing properties shall not be discouraged when such alterations and additions do not destroy significant historical, architectural, or cultural material, and when such design is compatible with the size, scale, color, material, and character of the property, neighborhood, or environment.
- In the case of an addition, the

underlying principle is to create a design that is compatible and complementary to the building, without duplicating historic elements. The idea is that the addition should not confuse the history of the building. It should be identifiable as a modern addition.

n its review the HRC may make recommendations and ask that you consider revising your plans to meet the above criteria. It is the HRC's job to work with property owners to identify solutions. The



935 Jones Street The Dow House. On the State Register, this home was built in 1927 by Lisle Jamison. In 1932, it became a popular rooming house for divorce seekers.

HRC must approve or deny an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness within 45 days. Certificates may be issued subject to reasonable conditions, and although the HRC's decision is final, the preservation ordinance allows for appeal to the City Council. Certificates of Appropriateness are valid for 18 months, but extensions can be obtained.

So what happens if you want to demolish a building that is listed in the City Register? You will need a Demolition Certificate from the HRC. The process, similar to the Certificate

of Appropriateness process, will be triggered when a demolition permit application is submitted to the City. The HRC has 120 days to approve the Demolition Certificate. Property owners within 300 feet will be notified, and a public hearing will be scheduled. The HRC may negotiate with the owner to find a means of preserving the building. If preservation is not possible, the HRC can institute its mitigation procedures, which typically involve documenting the historic building

before it is demolished. There are several levels of documentation, depending on the significance of the building, but in general documentation involves black-and-white photography and a narrative history of the building.

o, there you have it in a nutshell. The bottom line is that listing in the City Register is intended to help property owners preserve historic properties, because to do so is beneficial for property owners and for all Reno citizens. The HRC

was created to protect the historical integrity of the City of Reno for the citizens of the community, visitors, investors, and property owners. We attempt to do this by fairly and justly implementing established preservation principles. It's not as scary as you think.

Please call me at 775-684-3447 or Donald Naquin at 775-326-6675 if you have questions about the HRC, the National Register, State Register, or City Register, and/or Reno's preservation ordinance. If all you want is reassurance, there is a small fee to help finance my trip to Tahiti.

## HRPS HISTORIC PRESERVATION WEEK: A SENSE OF PLACE MAY 12-18, 2002

Bus, walk, and bike your way through HRPS's celebration of **Historic Preservation Week - A Sense of Place.** All tours are about 1 ½ hours long. Please wear comfortable walking shoes, clothing appropriate for the weather, and a helmet for the bike tour.
Reservations required, please call each guide listed to register. There is no cost for HRPS members, \$5.00 for non-members, with the exception of the bus tour.

#### Saturday, May 11 - 9:45 a.m.

**DeLongchamps Defined Bus Tour** Nancy Holmes, 852-2094

Renowned architect Frederic DeLongchamps was responsible for more buildings in more styles than any other architect in Nevada. This tour will view some of his buildings in downtown Reno and on the University of Nevada, Reno campus. Meet at the National Automobile Museum parking lot, Lake and Mill Streets. Cost \$35.00, includes gourmet lunch. (See page within: "The Master's Works" for details.)

#### Monday, May 13 - 6:00 p.m.

Reno: Beyond the Arches Anne Simone, 853-3414

Travel back in time as you walk the downtown streets of Reno. Hear about the people who built Reno and its legends, revivals, and changes. Enjoy the memories and the realities that make Reno the "Biggest Little City in the World." Meet at the National Automobile Museum parking lot, east side of building, Lake St.

#### Tuesday, May 14 - 6:00 p.m.

Wells Avenue Neighborhood Mark Taxer, 826-7070

Follow the route of the Wells Avenue Streetcar line to the bungalows of Reno's business people and the middle class family life of the 1940s and '50s. This area is now on the verge of a neighborhood renaissance. Meet at Southside School, now part of the Reno City Hall Complex, Sinclair and Liberty Streets.

#### Wednesday, May 15 - 6:00 p.m.

Historic Truckee River Corridor Joan Collins, 329-0394

Wander through the Victorians and view the mansions on the bluff as you listen to the gentle cascade of the Truckee River and the "trembling leaves" of early Reno during this nostalgic journey. This north side of the river is where the early growth of Reno took place. Meet at McKinley Park Arts and Culture Center, Riverside and Vine Sts.

#### Thursday, May 16 - 6:00 p.m.

**Bricks and Stones** 

Anne Simone, 853-3414

In one of Reno's more eclectic neighborhoods, you'll find bungalows of brick and stone, Queen Annes to craftsman, along with schools, churches, and a neighborhood grocery store all on beautiful tree-lined streets. Learn about some basic architectural elements, make your own decisions about adaptive reuse, and hear the answer to the mystery - where did they get all those rocks? Meet at My Favorite Muffin, 340 California Ave.

#### Saturday May 18 - 10:00 a.m.

Blast From the Past; Historic Fourth Street Corridor,

*Gaye Canepa, 323-0220* 

Well-traveled transcontinental Highway 40, the Lincoln Highway, was the business center of Reno - back when Reno and Sparks were actually three miles apart! Thanks to the efforts of the Reno-Sparks Business Corridor Association, this area is undergoing a rejuvenation. Meet at Louis' Basque Corner, E. Fourth and Evans Ave.

#### Sunday, May 19 - 10:00 a.m.

Ride Through Old Reno Bike Tour Glee Willis, 323-0696

This very, very easy bike tour travels about six miles through the quiet, historic streets of old Reno. Bring your own bike, **HELMET REQUIRED.** Meet at My Favorite Muffin, 340 California Ave.



HRPS now has quality denim shirts for sale with our logo sewn over the pocket in black. If you're not familiar with our logo look on the front page of this newsletter.

\$25.00 for walking tour guides. \$35.00 for the general public.

Shirts are available at meetings or from Felvia Belaustegui at 329-0149.

#### MY LEGACY: THE NEXT GENERATION

by Don Fowler

Editor's Note: Don Fowler, distinguished professor of anthropology at the University of Nevada, Reno, was the speaker at HRPS's February meeting. At that time, I asked him if he could tell us something about his students and his career so we might understand that without Don and his students, preservation in our state, and indeed in North America, would be in a very different place.

ver the years (since 1966, when UNR started a master's program in Anthropology), I've been the Graduate Committee Chair for 29 master's students and 2 Ph.D.s. These are "my" students. Committee chairs work one-on-one with students, usually find them research funds, and edit endless drafts of their theses or dissertations. I've also served as a member on probably 30 or more other Graduate Committees across the campus. Other individuals, such as Ron James, and probably 20-plus of Don Hardesty's students, have attended one or more of my graduate-level classes. Others, such as Alanah Woody and Gene Hattori, both at the Nevada State Museum, have both been in my classes and worked with me on various research projects.

Of the 31 individuals whom I consider "my" students, 22 of them currently work in Historic Preservation or in Heritage Resources Management (the federal term that combines Historic Preservation and archaeology). Those in Northern Nevada include Renee Kolvet, Cliff Creger, Judith Eisele, Leif Christian, Alice Baldrica, Thomas Burke, Craig Young, Christine Fey, Felvia Belaustegui, and Mella Harmon. Julie Tipps, who got her master's in Anthropology with me, went on to law school and is now an Assistant Clerk-Attorney with the Nevada Supreme Court, Others work in Oregon, Utah, California, Texas, and Arizona, either for federal agencies or for private consulting firms, or they own their own consulting firms. Two of the 29 master's students are currently finishing their Ph.D.s elsewhere, one at the University of Michigan, and another at Washington University in St. Louis. I currently have 3 master's and one doctoral student in the throes of finishing up

their degree programs.

There were also some 200-plus undergraduate students from UNR and all across the country who passed through the UNR Archaeological Field School in southern Oregon between 1987 and 1998, when I was overall director there. Field directors included Gene Hattori, Craig Young, Alanah Woody, and Julie Tipps over the years. Students learned not only archaeology, but also heritage management. A number went on in historic preservation or heritage management at their home universities, or at UNR: Christine Fey, for example.

In 1987, we started the UNR Continuing Education Program in Heritage Resources Management, designed for professionals in Historic Preservation and Heritage Management. We have a faculty drawn from UNR, UNLV, other universities, the judiciary, governmental agencies, Indian tribes, and the private sector. As of January 2002, we've taught about 270 workshops and seminars, in Reno and all across the country, literally from Guam to Maine. We've had about 4,700 students, all working professionals, in attendance – many have taken several courses.

Ours was the first program of its kind in the country (we now have imitators, both in the U.S. and Canada), and we've won an award or two. Some courses are designed for specific groups: for example, we conduct special Historic Preservation/Heritage courses for Indian tribes, because they have special issues and problems under federal heritage legislation. Many of our courses are co-sponsored at the national level, by the National Park Service, or the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

In 1994, UNR was given a \$1,000,000 endowment to create the Sundance Archaeological Research Fund. The benefactor designated me to run the program. Income from the endowment is to be used specifically to investigate the Early Period (pre 6000 BC) cultures in the Great Basin. In 2000, another benefactor and old friend gave UNR \$250,000 to create the Don Fowler Endowment in Great

Basin Archaeology, the income to further support the Sundance program. Last summer I went to half-time and turned over the Sundance program and the endowments to Ted Goebel, an excellent young archaeologist hired as Associate Professor by UNR. I remain as the Mamie Kleberg Professor of Historic Preservation and Anthropology until I retire. The Kleberg Endowment, by the way, created the first endowed chair in historic preservation in the U.S.

Between 1981 and 1996, I made 43 trips to 30 different cities (some were foolish enough to ask me back, some more than once) across the country to lecture and conduct seminars on historic preservation (and related topics) for the Smithsonian Institution Associates Program. The "Flip Side" lecture was one such. I also gave over 60 such lectures within Nevada.

I've been Principal Investigator for 74 research grants and contracts and published nearly 100 professional papers and monographs, and 5 books.

inally, over the years, I've been fairly active on the national level, helping write Historic Preservation and Heritage legislation, lobbying and testifying before Congress, etc. In Nevada, I helped create the Washoe Heritage Council in the late 1970s, the statewide Nevada Heritage Council in the 1980s, and, more recently, the Truckee Meadows Heritage Trust. I also served 4 years as President of the Society for American Archaeology, the largest professional archaeological organization in the world.

We've come a long ways since 1966. Many of our students are active in the field in Northern Nevada and are at points in their lives and careers that indicate they will remain in place for years to come. In the meantime, we have more students in the pipeline. I am pleased to have been associated with many good students and colleagues, and to be associated with Nevadans who cherish, and work to maintain, our heritage. It's been a privilege and a pleasure.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Dear Ms. Collins,

I share your regret over the fire that burned the Wingfield Mansion, but 1 object to your assessment of its occupant ("Another Landmark Gone," Winter, 2002). To mention just a few highlights of his career: George Wingfield overcapitalized his Goldfield Consolidated Mines Company, fleecing many investors; he destroyed the radical labor unions in Goldfield by imposing an illegal black list and recruiting scabs under military protection; in 1932 his chain of banks collapsed under questionable circumstances, wiping out the savings of numerous Nevada depositors. This man can hardly be said to provide a "true reflection of the pioneer spirit that gave root to the western spirit that is uniquely Nevadan."

> Sincerely, Sally Zanjani, Ph.D.

#### Joan Collins responds:

I agree with Dr. Zanjani's assessment that George Wingfield was a rogue of questionable reputation.

The pioneer spirit that built the West was one of survival in the harshest of *environments. The rest of the country* paid little attention to this sparsely settled Great Basin filled with rugged mountains, sagebrush, and rattlesnakes. Mining had an immoral reputation of enticing men to leave their families and homes in search of the ubiquitous gold ore. The law of the land dominated; politicians and law enforcement gave only a cursory nod as long as monies kept rolling in from the mines. Nevada was the grubstake for the entrepreneurial spirit. Financial gain was the catalyst that built Nevada and George Wingfield was in the right

place at the right time with the skills to create a Mecca in the desert.

Wingfield brashly built a totalitarian empire within a Democratic system and ruled virtually unopposed, feeding the greed of both Republicans and Democrats. In spite of all the negatives, Wingfield kept his fortunes within this state and put Reno on the map as a destination city. Tall tales that flourished around the poker tables throughout his lifetime still shadow the financial and political power he wielded. I believe that his story has several chapters yet to be told. For now, my focus is on the loss of the home that was a historical gem on the river. This structure that was retouched by Fredrick DeLongchamps has been a horrific loss to historical Reno. HRPS's goal is to heighten awareness of such destruction by neglect or design. We must be cognizant of how fragile our tangible past is becoming.

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#### Dear Editor:

My childhood friend, Joan Collins, sent me the last issue of your newsletter, FootPrints. I read the story regarding the loss of the Wingfield property with special interest and great sorrow. That house was a big part of my life. I'd like to take this opportunity to clarify the way in which the Hardy and Wingfield families are linked.

My great-grandfather, Dr. George Thoma, came to Nevada in 1864. He was interested in mining and politics, and was a pioneer in serving the mentally ill. He married a much younger woman who was a teacher in the Carson Valley. Her name was Alice Wilsey. They had two daughters, Bonnie (Hardy) and Roxy (Wingfield). Bonnie's husband,

my paternal grandfather, was Roy Hardy. Bonnie and Roy lived at 442 Flint Street, AKA the "Hardy House." They had two children: my father, Royce A. Hardy, and my aunt, Alice Hardy Paulsen.

Grandfather Hardy became associated with George Wingfield through mining, pretty much after Wingfield had amassed his \$20 million in mining and banking, and after he'd divorced his San Francisco socialite wife. (Amazingly, he received permanent custody of their two children, George Jr. and Jessie.)

When Alice Wilsey Thoma died, her daughter Roxy moved in with her sister, Bonnie Hardy, and her brotherin-law Roy Hardy. Not long afterwards George Wingfield was introduced to Roxy by my grandfather, Roy. Roxy and George Wingfield were married shortly thereafter. Roxy Wingfield, Bonnie Hardy, Roy Hardy, and George Wingfield were extremely close. George Wingfield's niece was Alice Hardy; my sister Susan and I were nieces once removed. George Wingfield and Roy Hardy were brothers-in-law, married to the two Thoma girls.

- Helen Hardy Mills



HRPS invites readers to send in their thoughts, opinions, and questions. The editor reserves the right to edit for appropriateness and/or length. Short letters have a better chance of being included than longer ones.

#### HAIL AND FAREWELL

HRPS is pleased to welcome **Bill Walbridge** to serve as Treasurer. His interest in preservation as well as his background in finance and management will be invaluable as HRPS positions itself to apply for the kind of grants we need to move the organization forward.

HRPS extends a hearty THANK YOU to Holly Young, who served so ably as our Treasurer for five years. And congratulations on your upcoming blessed event (baby).

With regret, HRPS accepts the resignation of Scott Gibson from the Board of Directors. His total dedication to HRPS and its mission has been a shining light for all of us. But Scott isn't going too far, because he'll continue to help with the walking tours. Too bad you have to work for a living, Scott! 🔀

#### **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

#### (As of January 22, 2002) **Renewing Members** Irene & James Heinemeier Millard & Irene Reed Carl & Ruth Reiterman (As of January 22, 2002) Betty Jean Heath Hoe Cal Abrams Karen Hume H. Sidney Robinson Mary Aker Joe Jordan Richard Rowley Lynn Allen Kathleen Allred Bobbie Anderson-Hubbard Torrey Karlin Fred & Toni Payton Ryser Bill & Joan Brosnan Carolyn & Dan Asikainen Red & Connie Kittell William Salas Susie Carter Ginger & Pete Salcedo Larry Bilyeu Steve & Donna Lage Wanda & Earl Casazza John & Janet Brown Sharon & Chuck Lancaster Sherryl Sanders Delores & Press Clewe Carole & Ernie Scheiber Diane & David Buckman Maude Loewenstein Tom Dinkel Loretta Terlizzi & Jim McCormick Joan Shonnard Linda Burke Claudette & Mal Edmiston Sue McDowell Fran & Paul Skrotzki Joan Dver Eniko Varga & James Ferrigan Dave & Kathy Ebner Claire & Don McFall Judy Stevens Barbara & Barry Fleischer Helen Gotchy Christine & Walter Fey Mimi Melarkey Thomas Swart Lois Graves Fran & Terry Terras Penny Gilbert Dolly Moore Harry & Joan Hendrick Louise Gilmartin Scott & Brenda Nebesky William & Barbara Thornton Judiťh Inskip Jeff Goldsmith Jim Nicholson Judy Vaughan John Moore Dorothy Good Jenny Brekhus & Armando Ornelas John Johnson & Teresa Wachs Randi Ramey Sandy Gordon Peggy Palmer Sharon & Bill Walbridge Drucilla Richardson Marilyn Paradis Nancy Hardy JoAnne Sbragia Waters Don & Patti Richter Carla & Jon Perkins Mella Harmon Charlotte Smith Sally Zanjani Bert & Jennifer Pincolini Carol Haydis **New Members** F. Marion Walwyn-Delaney

#### HRPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please check your mailing label! Renew your membership and help HRPS preserve historic Reno! Please make checks payable to **Historic Reno Preservation Society**, and mail along with this application to: P.O. Box 33444, Reno, NV 89533

Name(s)				<ul><li>New Member</li><li>Renewing Member</li></ul>
Mailing Address		City	State	ZIP
Phone (H)	(W)		_Best time to c	all:
Fax	E-Mail:			
Annual membership includes: Footprints (HRPS Newsletter) • HRPS Calendar • Free participation in walking tours				
☐ Student \$8.00 ☐ Individual \$15	5.00	Supporting \$100.00	Busines	ss/Corporate \$50.00
☐ Family (children 18 & under) \$20.00	Ad	ditional donation:		
<b>Interest Survey:</b> There are many areas in our organization where your enthusiasm, skills, and dedication will be invaluable to historic Reno and future generations. The goal of the Historic Reno Preservation Society is to preserve the history and built environment of our community. Please indicate your interest in serving on the following committees by marking the appropriate category or categories:				
☐ Education ☐ Exec. Committee	☐ Finance	☐ Fund-Raising	☐ Grant Writing	g 🚨 Hospitality
☐ Membership ☐ Office Volunteer	☐ Newsletter	☐ Programming	☐ Publicity	☐ Walking Tours
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY PAID: □ Check □ Cash	Amount:	Membership #	Rei	newal Date:

RV 01.27.02/F0

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

#### **SPRING PROGRAMS 2002**

FELVIA BELAUSTEGUI • Program Chair 329-0149

All program events are on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7pm, at Mt. Rose School (Lander St., between Taylor and LaRue, just off Arlington Ave.), unless otherwise noted.

**April 24, 2002** — **The History of the Balardini Ranch** from 1850 to the present time. Angie Balardini Persigehl and Felvia Belaustegui will present a slide show and commentary on the historic Balardini ranch. Documentation dates from the first land patents and water rights. This region, sometimes known as the Mt. Rose fan, served as a seasonal hunting ground for the Washoe tribe.

May 11, 2002 — The Master's Works: A Bus Tour of Frederic J. DeLongchamps' Buildings in the Truckee Meadows. Ronald James, our state historic preservation officer, called him "Nevada's Historic Architect." During his career of sixty years, DeLongchamps designed more than five hundred buildings; his genius can be seen in the diversity of his designs. While he is best known for his impressive public buildings, you can also find in the Truckee Meadows some of his finest examples of houses and commercial buildings. See page 4 for more information.

*Historic Preservation Week (May 13-May 19, 2002)* — The HRPS famous walking tours are scheduled all week. *See story on page 8 for more information,* 

*May 22, 200* — **Annual Meeting and picnic.** Will it rain, will it snow, or will it be beautiful? (Of course, it will be beautiful.) For more information, see the story on the cover of this issue!

#### **CORRECTION**

In the last issue of Footprints (Winter 2002, vol. 5 #1), we inadvertently misspelled Neal Cobb's name when attributing his wonderful photographs to him. We deeply regret the error.

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