



Historic Reno PRESERVATION SOCIETY

FootPrints

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

VOL. 8 NO. 3 ❖ SUMMER 2005

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Take a Walk and Discover Reno

by Debbie Hinman

Where else could you see a house with no front door, one into which an airplane crashed, or hear about a 2 million dollar robbery, a woman with green skin, a home that Mary Pickford didn't really buy, or witness a re-enactment of a mob shooting?


Participants in the 2005 HRPS Walking Tours, held during Historic Preservation Week, May 8-14, saw and heard about all of these colorful bits of local history. However, what they may not have realized is how the walks come to be and who creates them.

The "how" is through endless hours of library research, walking and mapping routes, conversations with current and past residents and their friends and families, and digging into government records on all levels. And the "who" are the tour guides themselves, volunteers of HRPS. Most of these volunteers also hold full-time jobs, or have numerous other demands on their lives, and yet they generously donate their time and efforts to further the cause of historic preservation and education.

This year in addition to the "tried and true" walks such as "Mansions on the Bluff," "Bricks and Stones," and "Wells Avenue Neighborhood," several new walks have been added to the roster, due in part to the inspiration of former Tour Director Susie Carter. The "El Reno Apartment Walk" was added in 2004, in response to the considerable interest in the structures and their history generated by several of Karl Breckenridge's columns in the Reno Gazette-Journal Homefinder. The "Lake Addition Walk" was updated and returned to the roster, and a "Downtown Church Tour" also debuted in 2004, highlighting the history of three of Reno's most beautiful religious structures. Late October's

golden foliage showcased another first for HRPS — the overwhelmingly popular "Ghost Walk." Brand new this year are the "Upper Ralston, Northern Little Italy" neighborhood walk, and the "Newlands Neighborhood and Back Alleys" walk. The "Upper Ralston" walk was the creation of HRPS founder Pat Ferraro Klos, who originated the historic walking tours in Reno. The "Alley Walk" developed by guide and experienced researcher Tammy Buzick, took on a life of its own, requiring it to be split into two separate walks, "North Alleys" and "South Alleys." And speaking of debuts, Anne Simone, another skilled researcher and tour guide for the "DeLongchamps Architectural Walk", will add two more architects to her walk repertoire in July with the "Parsons/Mills Architectural Walk."

HRPS is very fortunate to have such talented, dedicated and industrious volunteers among its members, but it is not a closed club. If you have an idea for a walk and are willing to put forth the initiative and the time to create and deliver it, we would welcome your contribution to the organization.

So where was that house with no front door, and where did that green woman live and why was she green? And who was the victim in that alley shooting? For the answers to these questions and the others posed above, please join us for the Artown Walks in July, occurring each weekend morning and Tuesday and Thursday evenings throughout the month. It's fun, great exercise, and I guarantee that with every walk, you will learn new and delightful facts about Reno's vivid history, and see unique historic structures you never would have noticed from the inside of your car. 



Summer 2005 HRPS Walking Tours



artown

July 2005 HRPS Walking Tours

Historic Reno Preservation Society will present 15 historic walking and biking tours as part of the tenth anniversary of the Artown Festival, July 1-31, 2005, hosted by the City of Reno. To reserve a space on a walk, call 747-HIST. Tours are free to HRPS members and \$10 per walk for non-members.

- Sat., July 2 9:00pm **PARSONS/MILLS ARCHITECTURAL WALK** — Join us for a stroll in one of Reno's most unique neighborhoods to view the distinguished designs of two famous Reno architects, Edward Parsons and Russell Mills. The historic walk will begin at the corner of Marsh and La Rue Avenues. Tour guide, Anne Simone.
- Sun., July 3 9:00am **BIKE TOUR THROUGH OLD RENO** — Ride along quiet streets under a canopy of trees in Reno's oldest neighborhoods. Meet at My Favorite Muffin, 340 California Avenue. Tour guide, Glee Willis.
- Tues., July 5 6:00pm **NEWLANDS NEIGHBORHOOD ALLEYS/NORTH** — Discover a hidden neighborhood in old Reno and hear about the lives of its diverse residents of its heyday. Meet at My Favorite Muffin, 340 California Avenue. Tour guide, Tammy Buzick.
- Thurs., July 7 6:00pm **BEYOND THE ARCHES** — Learn the history of Reno with a walk through old "downtown" noting the site of Chinatown, Basque restaurants and rooming houses, an historic Italian hotel, old railroad buildings, and significant buildings designed by Reno's famous architect Frederic J. DeLongchamps. Meet at the National Automobile Museum parking lot, 10 Lake Street. Tour guide, Anne Simone.
- Sat., July 9 9:00am **NEWLANDS NEIGHBORHOOD ALLEYS/SOUTH** — Discover a hidden neighborhood in old Reno and hear about the lives of its diverse residents of its heyday. Meet at My Favorite Muffin, 340 California Avenue. Tour guide, Tammy Buzick.
- Tues., July 12 6:00pm **UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO HISTORIC DISTRICT** — Morrill Hall, MacKay School of Mines, the Keck Museum, and the history of this beautiful campus. Meet at Honor Court, 9th and Center Street. Tour Guide, Jack Hursh.
- Thurs., July 14 6:00pm **HISTORIC TRUCKEE RIVER WALK** — A relaxing stroll along the Truckee River reveals eclectic architecture grounded by rich political histories and spiced with colorful anecdotes. Meet at McKinley Arts and Cultural Center, 925 Riverside Drive. Tour Guide, Joan Collins.
- Sat., July 16 9:00am **WELLS AVENUE NEIGHBORHOOD**, A Walk through Reno's working class neighborhood along the path of the Moran and Wells Avenue streetcar, across from the V&T Railroad, to the homes of the "Thoma Street Gang" kids. Meet at Southside School, southwest corner of Sinclair and Liberty Street. Tour Guide, Joan Collins.
- Tues., July 19 6:00pm **MANSIONS ON THE BLUFF** — View high-style architecture in Reno's most significant political neighborhood. Meet at the McCarran House, 401 Court Street. Tour Guides, Ed Wishart, Joan Collins, and Tammy Buzick.
- Thurs., July 21 6:00pm **RIVERSIDE DISTRICT AND LITTLE ITALY** — Discover Reno's beginnings with a walk along the Truckee River through "Little Italy," noting historic churches, parks, theatres, hotels, homes, and other fine old buildings. Meet at Dreamer's Coffee House in the Riverside Artist's Lofts, 17 South Virginia Street, Tour guide, Susie Carter.

- Sat., July 23 9:00am **BRICKS AND STONES** — A Walk in the Vernacular Humboldt and Lander Streets Neighborhood. Discover the architectural treasure trove of this area, a mix of bungalows, Tudor and mission revivals and cottage styles. Begins at My Favorite Muffin, 340 California Avenue. Tour guide, Tracy Soliday.
- Sun., July 24 1:00pm **DOWNTOWN CHURCH TOUR** — Visit three of Reno's finest and most architecturally significant downtown churches, Trinity Episcopal Church, First United Methodist Church and Saint Thomas Aquinas Cathedral. Meet at Trinity Episcopal Church, 200 Island Avenue. Tour Guide, Patty Cafferata.
- Tues., July 26 6:00pm **DELONGCHAMPS ARCHITECTURAL WALK** — Stroll along Reno's oldest neighborhoods noting the masterpieces of our famous homegrown architect, Frederick J. DeLongchamps, who designed our Court House, Post Office, the Riverside Hotel, the McCarran House, and other notable homes and buildings. Meet at the Hardy House, 442 Flint Street, northeast corner of California Avenue and Flint Street. Tour Guide, Anne Simone.
- Thurs., July 28 6:00pm **LAKE ADDITION WALK**. Begin at Reno's new Nevada Museum of Art and then meander past Victorian architecture. Meet at the Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street. Tour Guide, Debbie Hinman.
- Sat., July 30 9:00am **UPPER RALSTON/NORTHERN LITTLE ITALY**, Enjoy a walk in a neighborhood with agrarian roots dating to the late 1800s combined with a mix of architectural styles, some built by Genovese Italians and others designed by prominent architects. Proximity to the University of Nevada has traditionally determined the mix of residents... professors and students alike. Meet at the intersection of Washington Street, The Strand, and College Avenue. Tour Guides, Sue & Jim Smith.

HRPS 2005 Preservation Award Nomination

One of HRPS goals is to recognize those individuals and organizations in our community committed to preservation. We encourage community residents to join HRPS members in nominating individuals and/or organizations who have contributed, in one or more of the following ways, to preserving Reno's historic context by:

- Restoring and entering into reuse, at least one old building
- Enhancing neighborhood plans, guidelines, and/or zoning to benefit preservation efforts
- Conducting and publishing research, conserving and cataloguing photographs, collecting and archiving oral histories
- Building a new structure in an older neighborhood that works harmoniously within the existing context

To make a nomination:

1. Give the Name of nominee
2. Give the Address or physical description of the property
3. Explain why the HRPS Preservation Award should recognize this nominee
4. Please give us your name, phone number and address.

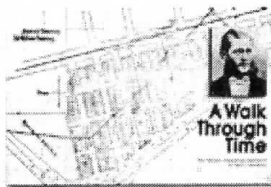
SEND YOUR NOMINATION TO:

Historic Reno Preservation Society, P.O. Box 14003, Reno, NV 89507.
A Nomination Form is available on the HRPS website at <http://historicreno.org/>.
Selection of recipients shall be made by the HRPS Board of Directors.



P.O. Box 14003
Reno, NV 89507

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A WALK THROUGH TIME: The Historic Powning's Addition in Reno, Nevada is available at Sundance Bookstore and the Nevada Historical Society for \$5.00



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 14003, Reno, NV 89507

☐ New Member

☐ Renewing Member

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ Best time to call: _____

Occupation: _____ Employer: _____

Fax _____ E-Mail: _____

Annual membership includes: Footprints (HRPS Newsletter) • Free participation in walking tours

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family (Children 18 yrs and younger) \$30.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Contribution \$50.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$100.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> HRPS Angel \$250.00 |

Additional donation: _____

Thank you for joining HRPS. An organization is only as strong as its members. 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 historic resources of our community. What would you like to contribute to HRPS?

**FOR OFFICE
USE ONLY**

PAID: ☐ Check ☐ Cash Amount: _____ Membership # _____ Renewal Date: _____

RV 06,10,05/FO

HRPS Web Site: <http://historicroeno.org/>