AWARDS CITE CONSERVATION PROJECTS

Two hundred fifty people gathered for dinner in the Colonial Room of the historic St. Francis Hotel on November 17, to honor the winners of Heritage's 1994 Awards for Excellence in Architectural Conservation. William Jennings Bryan, III, noted preservation advocate and pastor of the Grace United Methodist Church in Dallas, delivered the keynote address.

In his remarks, Reverend Bryan called upon San Franciscans to form a strong identity with the larger community of the city, overcoming faction and narrow interests to achieve the goals of preservation. The choice whether we are to have, as he put it, “scars or sanctuaries” upon the landscape—the scars of needless demolition or the sanctuaries of landmarks that enrich all our lives—rests with each of us.

The award-winning projects appear on pages 5 through 8 in this issue of the newsletter.

In our last issue, we failed to thank Senator Milton Marks for his support in the fight against AB133. Our appreciation, also, to Senator Marks; long a legislative advocate for preservation, for graciously providing congratulatory letters to the winners in Heritage's awards program.

CIVIC CENTER DISTRICT CLEARING LAST HURDLES

The Housing and Land Use Committee of the Board of Supervisors approved designation of the Civic Center Historic District at its meeting on November 17. The committee, chaired by Supervisor Bieman, sent the proposal on to the full Board after restoring to the district several cuts that the Planning Commission had made in its review and public hearing of the matter.

When Heritage first announced it would initiate the district’s designation nearly twenty years ago (Heritage Newsletter, December 1975), Michael Corbett said that recognition of Civic Center was long overdue. Corbett described the complex as “the finest and most complete manifestation of the City Beautiful Movement in the United States.” In 1978, through Heritage’s efforts, the district entered the National Register of Historic Places, but the local designation bogged down in civic politics, from which it is now about to emerge.

At the urging of Heritage and others, the supervisors agreed to reinstate the triangular block, bounded by Larkin, Grove and Market Streets, that the Planning Commission had removed from the original nomination. In addition, the board committee voted to restore the Piazzoni murals among the “exceptionally significant” interior spaces and features designated in the old Main Library. This action is noteworthy in light of the fact the City will prepare plans for the reuse of the

—continued on page 4
ARCHITECTURAL FRAGMENTS

- Bruce Bonacker, AIA, received the Grand Award in a competition held by the San Francisco chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry. The winning project, which also received first prize in the “Entire House Remodel” category, entailed renovation of a Telegraph Hill building with two flats, returning the exterior to its Edwardian-era appearance. The building had been the victim of a classic 1950s “remuddling.” Michael Hamman, general contractor on the job, shared the honors. Bonacker is a member of the Heritage board of directors.

- The current issue of Historic Preservation, published by the National Trust, features an interesting profile on Bruce Judd, FAIA, who recently joined the Heritage board, and his partner at Architectural Resources Group, Stephen Farneth, AIA.

- Elizabeth Goldstein is the new director of the western regional office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Ms. Goldstein, who assumed the post on September 22, was formerly New York City regional director of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. We welcome her to San Francisco and look forward to continuing a close relationship with the Trust’s local office.

- The work of African-American cartographer, lithographer and painter Grafton Tyler Brown is the subject of research for an exhibition and catalogue. The Gold Rush drew Brown to the West, where his maps and views of towns and ranches helped to document settlement and development of the land. He left San Francisco for Canada in 1882. Anyone with information about Brown’s works and ephemera may contact Lizzetta LeFalle-Collins (510) 339-3036.

- Last summer, the National Park Service published The Last Word in Airfields: A Special History Study of Crissy Field. The 127-page softcover book, which includes maps and historic illustrations, is preparatory to planning for restoration of the airfield “to its historic appearance.” The author is Park Historian Stephen A. Haller.

- Two lectures remain in a series of four, whose proceeds benefit restoration of the historic Swedenborgian Church in San Francisco. On January 19, Robert Rust will present a history of Roycroft, a utopian community of artisans founded in 1895, in New York State. On February 9, Roger Moss offers an in-depth view of the metalwork of Dirk Van Erp. Lectures begin at 8:00 pm, at the church, 2107 Lyon Street. Tickets are $12 and $10. Call (415) 346-6466 for information.
Reliance Development of Los Angeles, owner of the Oriental Warehouse, has won conditional approval from the Landmarks Board for its latest proposal to develop the historic structure that was severely damaged in a fire earlier this year (See July/August, 1994, Heritage Newsletter). The project calls for construction of 66 residential units in the middle bay, the only one of the three bays that survives intact.

Examination of bricks from the north wall revealed that their condition was poor. Much of the brick was crushed in the partial collapse of the wall during the fire and the subsequent salvage work by the fire department. In consequence, Reliance has discarded an earlier thought of reconstructing the north wall and instead will stabilize, in place, the portion that remains standing.

Set back from the partial wall, a new, metal-clad, wall will enclose the residential portion of the project and present an industrial appearance. The space between the two walls will be open to the sky and will serve as a light court for the residences. Four new openings in the intact portion of the north wall, without glazing, will admit additional light.

The south wall, which is fully intact, will receive similar treatment, with twelve new unglazed openings. Much of the roof and wooden trusses in the south bay fell victim to a fire several years ago. The plans call for removal of the rest of the roof structure over this section. Steel framing will secure the two free-standing walls, north and south. Garage entries will be at the north and south portals on the west face of the building.

Interior fire walls and fire doors performed their intended function and saved the middle bay from destruction in last summer's fire. Historic fabric, including wood posts and roof trusses, remain intact. The design of residential units will incorporate exposed trusses, although it will probably be necessary to remove them temporarily to repair dry rot and reinstall them in watertight pockets in the walls. Removal and reinstallation of wood posts will also be necessary to allow foundation work.

While steel and concrete will replace original timber floors to provide sound insulation, original wood will be reused as flooring of loft elements inside each unit, wherever possible. Any posts or trusses salvaged from the two outer bays may find reuse in the interior design of the project.

At this time, Heritage is working to determine if any changes in this proposed treatment of the Oriental Warehouse may be possible to bring the project into compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. This might qualify the project for surplus federal earthquake recovery funds available through the Office of Emergency Services.

NEW LANDMARKS MEMBERS

This fall, Mayor Frank Jordan appointed two new members to the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board. Sheila Starr, a longtime San Francisco resident and an expert in the history of the city and the state of California, received her Bachelor's degree from San Francisco College for Women and her Master's from Boston College. She has served as research assistant in the School of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Southern California and works closely with her husband, California State Librarian Kevin Starr, in researching and writing on California history. Ms. Starr replaces Ronald Dudum.

Nancy Ho consults on international business issues and estate planning with the San Francisco law firm of Haas & Najarian and advises several Asian business associations in the state. Born and raised in Singapore, she was educated in Hong Kong and Montreal and received her law degree from the University of Florida.

Ms. Ho, owner of the “Cable Car Cottage” at 2022 Hyde Street (See January/February, 1994, Newsletter), replaces Albert Seto on the board.

LABOR HISTORY

The National Park Service has contracted with the Newberry Library of Chicago to conduct a study of properties significant in the history of American labor. The purpose of the study is to identify approximately twenty sites for listing as National Historic Landmarks.

Among the sites being considered in California is San Francisco’s Embarcadero, scene of the 1933 waterfront strike that developed into a general strike affecting virtually all West Coast shipping.

The public is invited to offer additional suggestions. Contact Maryln Lortie or John Thomas at the State Office of Historic Preservation in Sacramento, (916) 653-6624.
On November 8, San Francisco voters decided several measures that were preservation related. Proposition C, to authorize the sale of bonds for improvements to City Hall, fell just short of the necessary two-thirds majority for approval. The bonds would have funded work to be carried out in conjunction with seismic repairs and retrofit previously approved by voters. Projects were to include providing improved access for the disabled, installation of fire sprinklers, upgrading electrical and communications systems and conversion of courtrooms to offices.

The Department of Public Works reports that the seismic program will proceed as scheduled, once City Hall closes this winter. On the third and fourth floors, where courtrooms will be vacated when the new court building opens across McAllister Street, walls will be left open to allow for redesign as office space, should funds become available in the future.

The hope to consolidate a variety of municipal functions at City Hall, now scattered in various leased or City-owned buildings, will have to remain unrealized for the time being. Meanwhile, work as part of the seismic program will repair the consequences of the 1989 earthquake, which left its mark in cracked plaster and damaged marble arches and stairways throughout the 80-year old building.

In other action, the voters approved Proposition B by more than the necessary two-thirds majority to undertake the seismic upgrade of the Old Main Library Building and additional improvements that will increase disabled access and bring the structure up to current fire and building codes. The work will make it possible for the Asian Art Museum to occupy the historic building. The Museum must raise about $31 million in private funds to pay for adapting the library to new exhibit spaces.

Approval of Proposition P exempts the Ferry Building and the Agricultural Building from restraints voters in 1990 placed on non-maritime waterfront development until the preparation of a final land use plan. The Port sought the exemption to take advantage of momentum that has built behind the idea to develop the Ferry Building area since demolition of the Embarcadero Freeway.

Port planners have already tapped into grant funds to do preliminary studies, which call for developing the Ferry Building's historic role as a transportation hub, and the success of "P" may open up additional sources. The next step is to prepare conceptual design proposals and to seek private developer interest. The Port is aiming to complete renovation and rehabilitation of this icon of the city's waterfront by 1998, in time to celebrate its 100th anniversary.

The Board of Supervisors approved the Civic Center Historic District, December 5, as presented.

The San Francisco Unified School District is seeking to demolish the Twin Peaks School, 500 Corbett Avenue. The February, 1920 issue of The Architect and Engineer included the building in a review of work by John Reid, Jr., describing it as "one of Mr. Reid's most fortunate compositions." Its sensitive scale and massing of forms presaged Reid's many school designs of the '20s. The wood frame construction makes it a rarity among surviving school buildings.
AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATION

I. Commercial Restoration & Rehabilitation

I. Sheraton Palace Hotel
Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, project architects
Page & Turnbull, preservation architects
Kyo-Ya International
The project coupled a seismic upgrade with an exterior and interior restoration and rehabilitation. The jury commended the careful seismic work and the sensitive mix of rehabilitation and restoration, with special mention of the Garden Court, the Ralston Room and the Gold Ball Room.

I. Alcazar Theater
Fee Munson Ebert
Plant Construction Co.
First Interstate Bank
Exterior restoration.
The jury commended the carefully detailed restoration of the extraordinary terra cotta façade and the dome.

I. The Flood Building
James C. Flood, 870 Market Street Associates
Christopher Meany
James Titus, Architect
Edward McFarlan, Kaplan McLaughlin Diaz
Craig Allison, Plant Construction Co.
William Kreysler, William Kreysler & Associates
Carolyn L. Sears, Wiss Janney Elstner Associates Inc.
Exterior restoration. The project reversed unsympathetic modernization at street level, redesigning space for new retail use, and restored sandstone façade. The jury commended treatment of the sandstone, use of substitute materials, restoration of missing architectural elements and the sympathetic new storefront design.

—awards for commercial restoration continue on page 6
I. The Shell Building
Carey & Co., Inc.
JMB Property Management Co.
Plant Construction Company, CYGNA
Heller & Leake
Boston Valley Terra Cotta
Western Waterproofing

II. Residential Restoration and Rehabilitation

Exterior restoration. The project surveyed over 37,000 units of terra cotta and repaired or replaced damaged units. The jury commended the care in conserving existing terra cotta and matching replacement units.

II. S.H. Erlanger House
Teevan Restoration
Jose Grace & Gary Grace
The project repaired wood shingles, chimneys, roof and exterior walls, as well as brick pillars at main entry of this Maybeck-designed residence. The jury found the project notable for its attention to details and commended the sensitive maintenance as a fine example for others.

III. St. Francis Lutheran Church
Carey & Co., Inc.
St. Francis Lutheran Church
David W. Look, AIA
The project provided a second exit from the second story and made interior modifications to accommodate new liturgical practices and improve wheelchair access. Describing the overall project as a good educational model, the jury commended the sensitive nature of the alterations, maintaining historic fabric and putting the State Historical Building Code to good use.

III. Adaptive Reuse and Sympathetic Alterations

III. Mercy Family Plaza
Sandy and Babcock, Inc.
Mercy Charities Housing
The Ibex Group
The project preserved four annex buildings of the former Southern Pacific Hospital and converted them to affordable housing. The jury commended the sensitive rehabilitation of interiors, while addressing stringent code requirements, and the preservation of exteriors in compliance with The Secretary of Interior's Standards.
IV. Unreinforced Masonry Building Seismic Upgrade

III. Jackson Brewery
Siegel and Strain, Architects
Lawrence Fowler, S.E.
Francisco North Properties

The project rebuilt the tower, reusing brick and matching original mortar, and installed a seismic bracing system, converting the building to residential use. The jury commended this sensitive adaptive reuse and the careful seismic retrofit accomplished with little visual impact on the exterior.

IV. 50 Green Street
Degenkolb Engineers
Plant Construction Company
James Kelso

The project installed a retrofit scheme in a building that presented complex seismic problems, while the building remained fully occupied. The creative use of structural solutions that had little adverse effect on architectural integrity impressed the jury.

V. New Construction in Historic Setting

V. 101 Cyril Magnin Street
Sudich Mobindroo, Silver & Ziskind
Meiyan Enterprises
Sumitomo Construction America

The project, expressed as two buildings, provides a retail/mixed use environment on a very restrictive and irregular site near Union Square that had been vacant for many years. The jury described the building as one that works into the urban fabric well, making a creative response to the site limitations and the neighborhood.

—awards for new construction continue on page 8
The project employed economical, low-maintenance materials in constructing two business spaces, a residence and a garage on a small site in an industrial landscape. The jury described the building as well-designed infill for the area and a good visual experience, inside and on the street.

At a time when the closing of churches dominates architectural news in San Francisco, St. Ignatius Church, located on the campus of the University of San Francisco, has begun a major repair and restoration project.

After many years of deferred maintenance, the effects of wind, weather and time have taken their toll on this historic building. Although from a distance St. Ignatius is a magnificent structure, closer inspection reveals a different picture. Rusted metal, water damage and the deterioration of the building's ornamentation convinced the Jesuit Fathers in 1989 to commit themselves to bring the building back to its original splendor.

The dedication of St. Ignatius Church on August 2, 1914, was an auspicious occasion for San Francisco Catholics and for those who appreciate outstanding architecture. The current structure is the fifth successor church from the time the Jesuits arrived in San Francisco in 1849.

Following destruction of St. Ignatius Church at the present site of Davies Hall during the fires that followed the 1906 earthquake, the Jesuits sought a location that would serve the needs of the growing "suburban" population in the western part of the city. Many thought that the church would be too far from the city center, since few homes were found west of Stanyan Street at the time. However, foreseeing the growth of the city to the west and recognizing the ability of this hilltop location to make St. Ignatius Church a prominent part of the San Francisco skyline, the Jesuits rebuilt on the corner of Fulton Street and Parker Avenue.

Architect Charles J.I. Devlin designed St. Ignatius in a style sometimes referred to as "Jesuit Baroque." Its original steel frame, constructed by Central Iron Works, has reduced the need for seismic retrofitting. What is needed, however, is to repair and restore the church's dome, roof,

"This church will stand as a monument for ages and as a tribute to the present generation. San Francisco Catholics indeed have raised to the honor of God a splendid church, in which the various branches of art are a witness to the genius of man."
Clarence P. Kane, "Description of St. Ignatius Church," Pacific Coast Architect, October 1914.
LOS ANGELES TOUR DRAWS PRAISE

On a clear day, you can’t quite see forever, but it does help show off the architecture of greater Los Angeles at its very best. Architectural historian Robert Winter told Heritage’s tour group how lucky we were to be able to see the San Gabriel Mountains and the sparkling blue Pacific when the smog lifted.

The group was even luckier in the variety and importance of the historic and soon-to-be historic architecture of the Los Angeles area, ranging from Mission and Spanish Colonial Revival to Frank Gehry Modern, that David Bahlman laid out in a brisk-paced four-day tour, in October.

Highlights included a tour of the Gamble House in Pasadena, a gem of Craftsman architecture in which the brothers Charles and Henry Greene were given a free hand to design both the exterior and interior, including furnishings. The group visited two works of Frank Lloyd Wright—the Barnsdall or ”Hollyhock“ House and the Millard House, examples of his “textile block“ design, in which he worked pre-Columbian motifs into the structural blocks that form the walls.

Rudolph Schindler’s 1921 Studio House, revolutionary for its concepts in design and patterns for living was of great interest, as were Pasadena’s Civic Center complex, Calvary Cemetery’s Mausoleum of the Golden West, the Bradbury Building and the Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles, and Mission San Gabriel. Drive-bys provided a glimpse of the work of Frank Gehry, with his sometimes startling use of materials and juxtapositions.

The Huntington Library and Gardens, the Norton Simon Museum in Pasadena and the Getty Museum in Malibu offered an opportunity for a quick look at some of the world’s great art treasures. Included in these treasures was the rare book collection in the beautifully ornate William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, designed by Robert Farquhar.

After a tour of the architectural offices of Moore, Ruble, Yuddell, where a slide show familiarized the group with the firm’s most recent work, we enjoyed a reception at the Ocean Park home of Stephen Harby, a principal with the firm. Harby remodeled his delightful Craftsman bungalow into a contemporary home-urban rental unit while being sensitive to the flavor of the original. Robert Winter hosted brunch at his 1903 Craftsman house, originally built for Ernest Batchelder, one of the country’s most successful ceramicists and tile makers. Interior details include a tile-faced fireplace made by Batchelder as a wedding gift for his wife. Batchelder’s kiln house stands to one side of the delightful garden.

For such an enjoyable trip, we owe many thanks to the Southern California Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians, Los Angeles Conser-

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OTHER HERITAGE NEWS

For many years, volunteer Dick Price appeared at the Haas-Lilienthal House, usually around the Thanksgiving weekend, to decorate a twelve-foot live Christmas tree in the front parlor. In a matter of a few hours, quietly and unobtrusively, he would create the sumptuous Victorian delight that never failed to dazzle visitors to the house and passers-by on Franklin Street. Dick provided antique ornaments from his own collection and created some fanciful new ones in the Victorian spirit, often with remnants from original decorations.

This year, we had to get along without Dick. He has retired back home to Illinois. Before he left, he generously donated all his ornaments to the house and provided detailed instructions on how to decorate the tree. Our thanks to Dick Price and best wishes to him for a happy retirement.

AND...

With this issue of the newsletter, Heritage concludes a productive 5-year relationship with DuFlon Design Associates of Berkeley. We introduced Andrea DuFlon’s design for our newsletter with the Summer 1989 issue, and she continued to provide graphic services for the publication. Our thanks to Andrea for a relationship that has been both professional and cordial.

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St. Ignatius Church
continued from page 8

towers and campanile to assure safety
and to maintain the building's beauty.

Major construction began last year
on the dome. Led by architect and
engineer Edward Panasci of Simpson,
Gumpertz and Heger and contractor
Thomas Guilfoyl of Guilfoyl Cornice
Works, the plans call for replacing and
reinforcing the existing framework,
installing new sheetmetal and restor-
ing the original architectural detail.
The skylight, covered up in recent
years due to water leakage, will also
be repaired, and new illumination will
highlight the restored cupola.

Lindsley/Jewell Architecture and
Lighting, the firm that installed the
church's exterior illumination in 1989,
will do the new lighting. The new
lead-coated copper dome is scheduled
to be in place by summer, at an
estimated cost of $850,000.

The total restoration project is
estimated to cost $2.5 million and is
being financed by the Restoration
Fund of St. Ignatius Church, which has
grown to more than $1.5 million since
it began in 1989 with a seed gift from
the Jesuit Community. Donations have
come from foundations, members of
the congregation, neighbors and many
other individuals who are interested in
seeing St. Ignatius Church restored to
its original magnificence. For more
information about the project, call Fr.

—Contributed by Heritage Member
Sally Cowan

GALA HERITAGE WEEKEND

Heritage's big annual fundraiser,
Soirée, is going to be bigger than ever
in 1995. On April 8, the black-tie
event will take place on the grounds
of Fort Scott in the Presidio. The
celebration of this historic site, now
part of the Golden Gate National
Recreation Area, will be part of a
weekend-long observance in conjunc-
tion with the Preservation West trade
show and educational conference.

The conference includes a lecture
program, and Heritage will offer
walking tours of the Presidio Main
Post during the day on April 8.

Monka Publishing, Inc., the pub-
lishers of Antiques West and Art West
newspapers, is producing the confer-
ence and trade show, which will
benefit Heritage and the Decorative
Arts Forum of the de Young Museum.

Planning is underway now and the
next issue of the newsletter will have
more details, but, meanwhile, be sure
to put the date on your calendar and
look for your invitation in the mail
after the first of the year. Soirée
proceeds benefit Heritage exclusively.

HERITAGE PLANS SPRING LECTURES

March will bring The Heritage
Lectures, featuring a series of interest-
ing presentations on aspects of San
Francisco architecture and history.
Speakers will appear on each of the
five Thursdays during the month.

Larry McDonald, of the San Fran-
cisco Planning Department, will speak
on the "old" (pre-1906) City Hall,
while Bill Kostura will offer a short
history of the moving of buildings in
old San Francisco. Paul Groth will
share his insights into the history of
residential hotels, from his recent
book. Other speakers will include
Alice Carey and Dell Upton. At press
time, we are trying to engage a sixth
lecturer.

This promises to be an exciting
series with some new perspectives on
San Francisco. Members can expect to
receive details in the mail after the
first of the year, and the next issue of
the newsletter will provide additional
information.

Save those Thursdays in March!

Hines Interests is proud to contribute
to San Francisco's architectural heritage
with the preservation of the historic
structure at 343 Sansome. Out of our
continued commitment to excellence,
we have been recognized for BOMA's
Building of the Year Award, a prestigious
award for ownership and management
of a renovated office building.
The historic Haas-Lilienthal House, a property of The Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage, is available for rental for private or corporate events. The House can accommodate up to 150 guests. Please call 441-3011 for more information.

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---NOTICE---
This issue of the newsletter was mailed December 20, 1994.
If you receive delivery later than three weeks after that date, notify your carrier.
CONTINUING HERITAGE EVENTS

Sundays 11 am to 4:15
Wednesdays 12 noon to 3:15
Haas-Lilienthal House Tours $5
Free to Heritage members & guests

Sundays 12:30 pm
Pacific Heights Walking Tour $5
Free to Heritage members & guests

Group Tours
Group tours of the Haas-Lilienthal House and of Pacific Heights, Chinatown and the Presidio are available. For information or to book a group tour, call (415) 441-3000.

For information concerning all Heritage events, call (415) 441-3004

DECEMBER

Through December 23
300 De Haro St. Call (415) 431-5425

December 20, 22, 27, 29, 1 - 5 pm
Victorian House Tour, Alamo Square Walking Tour & Afternoon Tea $30.
Reservations required: (415) 974-9320

December 25, 2 pm
Victorian Christmas Concert, S.F. Sinfonietta & Chorus. Benefits performing arts programs in Western Addition schools. Call (415) 974-9320

December 31, 10 pm
New Year's Eve Concert
Community Music Center Orchestra & Chorus. First Congregational Church
Admission free. Call (415) 974-9320

JANUARY

January 1, 1995, 4 pm
New Year's Day Concert
Community Music Center Orchestra & Chorus. First Congregational Church
$10 donation benefits Community Music Center Orchestra Fund

S. F. Museum of Modern Art opens its new building at 151 Third St. with a dedication ceremony, January 18, 10 am. The museum is open free to the public that day from 11 am to 9 pm. There will be refreshments and entertainment. Family day is January 29, with free admission from 10 am to 3 pm. Inaugural exhibits include Mario Botta: The SFMOMA Project, through June 25. Call (415) 357-4000.

January 19, 8 pm
Lecture: Robert Rust, “The History and Renaissance of Roycroft.”
Swedeborgian Church, 2107 Lyon St. Tickets at the door $12.

FEBRUARY

February 9, 8 pm
Swedeborgian Church, 2107 Lyon St.
Tickets at the door $10.

February 11
California Preservation Foundation
1995 Preservation Design Awards
Town and Gown Club, Berkeley
Call (510) 763-0972

JOIN SAN FRANCISCO HERITAGE!
Please enter my membership in the following category:

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- $50 Family
- $100 Supporting
- $250 Contributing
- $500 Sustaining
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San Francisco, CA 94109

Contributions are tax deductible.