



## GREAT NEWS ON HISTORIC DISTRICTS



Elegant Spanish contributor to the South Cumberland Heights Historic District



Charming Craftsman contributor to the Casa Verdugo Historic District

The Glendale Historical Society is happy to announce positive news regarding the three pending historic districts that were highlighted in the Winter issue of this newsletter.

On January 11, the City Council approved the South Cumberland Heights and Casa Verdugo Historic District Overlay Zones by a vote of 5-0, officially welcoming them as the eighth and ninth historic districts in Glendale. TGHS congratulates the neighborhood volunteers and homeowners who supported this long-standing effort.

Additionally, the City is in the process of finalizing the contract for a historic resources survey for the proposed Bellehurst Historic District. This survey is expected to take up to eight months to complete. The City will then hold a community meeting and the Historic Preservation Commission will review and make a recommendation before the final petition is circulated.

TGHS strongly encourages the establishment of historic districts, which protect the beauty of our neighborhoods, ensure that the homes retain character-defining features and allow them to tell their unique stories to future generations.

If you are interested in learning more about the process to establish a historic district in your neighborhood, please send your inquiry to [preservation@glendalehistorical.org](mailto:preservation@glendalehistorical.org)

## TGHS Lawsuit: Latest Update

As announced in the Fall issue and updated in the Winter issue of this newsletter, TGHS has filed suit over development of a new 12-unit residential project at 534 N. Kenwood Street, which is the site of a historic Aeroplane Craftsman built in 1913.

TGHS believes that construction of this new project, on the site of the historic Craftsman and at the proposed size and scale, would negatively impact the historic setting of the building. The organization further believes that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) should be

prepared to identify applicable mitigation measures and reasonable alternatives.

TGHS has thus far been unable to come to a settlement with the owner of the property. In the absence of a settlement, the administrative record will be prepared; this would include all the evidence presented before the final hearing on the project. Based on the evidence in the record, a judge will decide whether to overturn the project approvals and require preparation of an EIR.

TGHS will keep membership updated.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

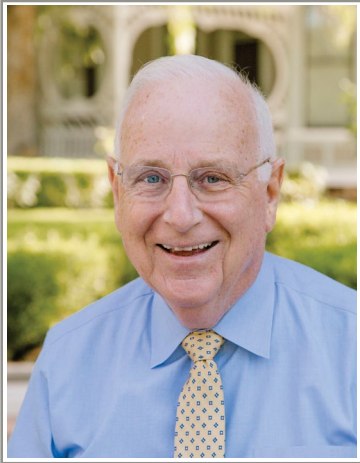


PHOTO: Irmina Hamilton

**P**reservation is the key focal point of TGHS's Vision, Mission and Values statements. Fortunately, our preservation efforts continue to prevail, regardless of any pandemic-related obstacles. Other organizations and individual homeowners have also experienced preservation successes these past 24 months.

Glendale now has 137 properties, mostly homes, listed on the Glendale Register of Historic Resources. Four were added in 2020-21 and two more are in process. Our goal for 2022 is for Glendale to add at least six properties to this list. TGHS will host workshops this year about the Glendale Register of Historic Resources and Historic Districts; details to follow.

Congratulations to the South Cumberland Heights Historic District and to the Casa Verdugo Historic District! Bellehurst is moving forward and with luck will become our tenth historic district next year. The City has hired Kasey Conley, a new planner with expertise in historic preservation, which should help expedite the designation process for historic districts as well as Glendale Register nominations. With the passage of SB9, which allows for the demolition of homes on single-family lots and construction of up to four separate dwellings, historic districts have become more important than ever, as they are exempt.

I would like to express our appreciation to the Glendale Information Services Department. Last year they updated the City's Property Portal; it now shows all the properties that have been formally identified as historic, which should eliminate some conflicts previously experienced. The Department also brought the Glendale Register of Historic Resources up to date.

***"... excellent news for TGHS history buffs .... Katherine Yamada's new webpage article continues the saga of the early years of our city."***

There is excellent news for TGHS history buffs on two fronts. First, Board member Katherine Yamada's new webpage article continues the saga of the early years of our city. In "Still Standing: The Settlers and the Village of Glendale, 1870s to 1890s," you will learn how Jose Maria Verdugo's huge rancho was divided up in one of the most famous land cases in California history, and discover how Glendale finally got its official name. Go to <https://glendalehistorical.org/still-standing-2> for all this and more.

Our other great news: you can now access all of TGHS's past newsletters at the archive on our website! They are full of fascinating, entertaining and highly inspirational articles. Read below for further details.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Hunt". The signature is written in a cursive style.

## TGHS Newsletter Archive Now on Website

**D**id you know that the imposing flagpole that graces the grounds of the Doctors House was rescued from the wrecking ball by TGHS members back in 1982, even though the landmark Bank of America building once located just behind it was razed to make way for the Galleria II expansion?

Did you know that despite losing Glendale's fabulous 1920s Egyptian Café after years of valiant preservation efforts, TGHS activists managed to salvage, document, safely store and finally re-home a large collection of decorative artifacts from its interior? Do you know where these treasures ended up? The answer (Issue 3, Vol. 7, 1986) may bring a smile to your face.

These and many more TGHS trials and triumphs await your perusal. David Eisenberg, TGHS's webmaster and all-around technology maven, has linked forty years of newsletters to the website. Visit [www.glendalehistorical.org/newsletters](http://www.glendalehistorical.org/newsletters) and scroll to the archive at the bottom.

Kudos to Eisenberg for a magnificent job in organizing this endeavor, and many thanks as well to Marcia Hanford, longtime keeper of TGHS's print newsletters, for launching the project.

THE  
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\*Deceased

## Remembering Sally MacAller (1935-2021)



A consummate hostess, Sally MacAller opened her historic home, Ard Eevin, for many TGHS events, meetings and tours  
 PHOTO: Arlene Vidor

**K**nown as Sally Mac to her friends, Sally Tupper MacAller was one of the most unforgettable characters in Glendale's historic preservation movement, as well as one of its most passionate leaders. She was present at a well-attended 2001 community meeting at the Brand Library that soon generated a determined army of citizens who organized to preserve Glendale's architectural heritage

by successfully advocating for the creation and passage of a Historic District Ordinance.

Ard Eevin, Sally Mac's historic home, often served as headquarters for meetings and events. The 1903 Colonial/West Indies Plantation-style residence was featured on many home tours, including the kickoff tour for the Historic District campaign in 2004.

Sally Mac's family ties extend back to the early days of Glendale. Her Aunt Agnes Tupper married Dan Campbell, Jr., the son of Dan Campbell, Leslie Brand's business partner. Brand's Indo-Saracenic mansion, Miradero (now Brand Library), and Campbell's Ard Eevin were both designed by Brand's brother-in-law Nathaniel Dryden, a gifted self-taught architect. In Glendale's earliest days, these two distinctive houses sat on large, adjacent estates prior to the development boom of the 1920s.

Sally Mac inherited Ard Eevin from her aunt and uncle and proved to be a worthy steward of this unique property. She undertook a massive restoration of the home, which is listed on both the Glendale Register of Historic Resources and the National Register of Historic Places.

A treasured friend to all who knew her, Sally Mac was a generous, artistic and quirky soul who lived by the credo "Life is a banquet!" Her legacy of preservation in Glendale is an enduring reminder of an energetic, purposeful life. TGHS and all of Glendale will be forever indebted to her.

*Many thanks to Arlene Vidor for sharing her memories of Sally Mac, a longtime friend.*

# PRESERVATION



As this image shows, the garage (foreground) is obviously part of the historic resource!

## HPC Rejects Argument that 620 N. Brand Project Would Not Impact Historic Resources

In January, three of four members of the Historic Preservation Commission recommended against approval of a 24-story apartment building on the site of one modern historic resource (Home Savings Building) and immediately adjacent to another (Fidelity Savings Building). These members objected that the proposed project was too tall, too massive and too close to both resources. The review is advisory to the City Council.

They also found that the two-story, architect-designed parking garage, which was built to match the Neo-Formalist Home Savings Building, was a character-defining feature of the property. The City and the developer's consultant argued, absurdly, that the garage is not. Its low-scale, concrete-finished exterior reflects the filleted exterior design of the larger building, and both buildings have cornices; the garage even matches the effect of the main building's fenestration, with open spaces in lieu of windows.

The proposed skyscraper was described as a "new visual feature," as though it were a fountain, not a tower that would dwarf the six-story historic bank buildings that tell the story of Glendale's postwar commercial development.

Staff argued that the new building "relates" to the other giant skyscrapers nearby on Brand—the very buildings that

Robert Winter and David Gebhardt, in their essential *Architectural Guidebook to Los Angeles* (5th edition), described as "mediocre to ugly behemoths that are an insult to the magnificent site at the foot of the mountains."

TGHS believes a new apartment building can be accommodated on the site. The new building should relate to the smaller-scale historic resources not the contemporary monstrosities.

The City should prepare a proper environmental review and analyze the historic resource impacts, treating the garage as part of the historic resource. This is not to say the garage must be retained, but only that its demolition must be called what it is: the loss of a character-defining feature that requires mitigation.

## Does Supporting Historic Preservation Mean You Are Racist?

City staff seem to think so. At the January HPC meeting referenced above, Assistant Director of Community Development Bradley Calvert tried to bully commissioners into ignoring objective criteria to assess impacts of the proposed skyscraper at 620 N. Brand, while accusing concerned preservationists of "perpetuating" Glendale's legacy of racism, and "obstructing" the project in order "to preserve this history." Calvert misrepresented both the property's

historical significance and TGHS's commitment to a fair environmental review.

Where was staff's social conscience when it called TGHS "immoral" for trying to preserve Clicko House, which was significant precisely for its connection to Glendale's racist past?

TGHS wrote to Council and awaits a reply. Look for an email update and a potential action request.

# EVENTS

## Local Students Get a Taste of Victorian Life



Kathryn Brunet uses 21st-century technology to explain 19th-century life  
PHOTO: Peter Brunet

On December 7, TGHS Board member and Doctors House docent Kathryn Brunet delighted four classes of second-grade students at Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School with a lively, interactive Zoom presentation entitled “The Life of Victorian Children.” Organized by Cathy Grayson, Chair of the Membership/Outreach Inclusion Committee (MOIC), the event was part of the Committee’s ongoing education outreach efforts.

The children learned how their Victorian counterparts dressed for school, play and formal occasions, and they discovered that the adults, especially women, wrapped themselves in multiple layers of clothing. They found that children from over a century ago enjoyed some of the same toys and activities as they themselves do. A program highlight: guess the Victorian appliances game! The students were thrilled when they were able to identify such objects as the high-tech toaster, the simple icebox and the mysterious-looking washing machine.

“They had a lot of fun while learning about growing up in Victorian America,” says Brunet, “and I hope the experience gave them a personal connection with history and a curiosity to learn more.”

## Antaeus Theatre Visits Zip Code 91201: Glendale

More than 100 listeners tuned in on February 4 to Antaeus Theatre’s production of Alex Goldberg’s “The Six Pianos of Miradero,” directed by Lisa Sanaye Dring and starring Kitty Swink, Alexandra Hellquist and Peter James Smith. Presented in partnership with the Brand Associates and TGHS’s Membership/Outreach Inclusion Committee, the audio play led off Season Three of Antaeus’s Zip Code plays, a celebration of the culture and history of diverse Los Angeles neighborhoods.

Based on historic events concerning “Father of Glendale” Leslie Coombs Brand, the play imagines the reading of Brand’s will in May 1925 and the shocking revelation that he possessed not only an excessive number of pianos but also two wives. Swink and Hellquist, voicing Mary Louise Brand and Birdie Carpenter Gordon, respectively, brought the battling women to life in a technological tour de force. The three actors recorded their parts separately and remotely; audio producer Jeff Gardner added evocative sound effects and expertly mixed it all together.

Following the play, TGHS Past President Arlene Vidor joined Swink, Dring and Goldberg for a lively panel discussion and fielded questions from the virtual audience.



Brand Park, Library and Art Center. Brand provided handsomely for both his wives but was even more generous to his greatest love, the City of Glendale.

## TGHS Welcomes Photography Intern Nadine Barsoumian

Thanks to Cathy Grayson's initiative, Nadine Barsoumian is the second Glendale Community College student recruited by the Membership/Outreach Inclusion Committee. An architecture major, she initially concentrated on photographing homes for future TGHS events. Then MOIC member and award-winning film editor Russell Harnden III drew the Committee's attention to an extensive collection of slides, some never before seen, that documented the restoration and reconstruction of the Doctors House.



Then-President of TGHS Carole Dougherty and Dick Montgomery, "Mr. Historical Society," hard at work on the Doctors House

Under Harnden's direction, she has scanned nearly all of the slides and plans to finish the project before her semester ends. Doctors House Curator Peter Rusch is organizing and labeling the collection.

Barsoumian lives in La Cañada with her parents and brother. Besides studying at GCC and serving as a TGHS intern, she also freelances as a drafter and is working on her real estate license. Even with this full schedule, Barsoumian finds time for photography, a passion passed down from her grandfather, a professional studio/portrait photographer. "I love sharing my photos, capturing beautiful moments," she says, "and focusing on lines and textures." Visit <https://rb.gy/ixpzlc> to view her elegant black-and-white images.

TGHS is very grateful to Barsoumian for sharing her expertise and time as she completes this invaluable preservation project.



Project Coordinator Marie Luft and Supervising Engineer Glenn Luft, sharing a moment near the end of the restoration

## A Salute to TGHS Members and Volunteers

When a small but determined group of Glendale residents banded together 43 years ago to save the Doctors House and reactivate the defunct Historical Society of Glendale, they probably could not have imagined the size of today's membership—1,309 and counting—or that members today can read four-color newsletters produced on a computer, advocate for preservation by email and attend events on Zoom! A great deal has changed since 1979; and as membership grows, so does the extent of TGHS's advocacy and outreach.

The formation of the Membership/Outreach Inclusion Committee is one of TGHS's most important recent initiatives. Spearheaded by Cathy Grayson, who chairs the monthly meetings, and aided by Vice President of Outreach Jon Crook and Vice President of Membership Hilary Sbei, MOIC and its hardworking committee members have not only increased the numbers but also the diversity of TGHS's membership.

MOIC's recent successes include a project at Woodbury University in Burbank. Professor of Marketing Thuc-Doan Nguyen, who assigns a community-based project to her students each semester, responded to Grayson's request to involve them in a TGHS Instagram marketing campaign. The resulting TGHS trivia quiz and membership prize generated many likes, comments and useful suggestions for increasing membership through social media.

Besides current Board directors, many former Board members and others lend their talents and energies on a regular basis. TGHS is grateful to all these volunteers for their skills, dedication and enthusiasm. Would you like to become more involved in TGHS? Please email [membership@glendalehistorical.org](mailto:membership@glendalehistorical.org) with your interest!

# WELCOME!

NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS NOVEMBER 2021-JANUARY 2022

## GOODE PATRON

Catherine Jurca & Scott Fraser

## SAN RAFAEL PATRON

Greg Grammer & Simon Wright  
Donna & Taum Hemmingsen  
(Marketline Mortgage) - N  
Valerie & Bruce Merritt

## VERDUGO PATRON

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Carolyn & John Clauss  
Toni & Vince Espinoza  
Art Fisher & William Shepherd  
Wendy Juleff - U  
Devonna & Aaron Reichert  
Rondi Werner & Bill Redmann

## TROPICO

John Alaimo  
Susan & Richard Blasco - U  
The Cressy Family  
Lolly Gallup & Simon Miles  
Susan & Carlos Garrett

Marcia Hanford

Ann Howitt

Susan Kirk

Blake & Rob Lamb

Catherine L. &

Martin N. Montoro

Raquel Morales

Tammy & John O'Connor

Linda & Hugh Saurenman

Leann & William Warner - U

Joemy Wilson & Jon Harvey

## HOUSEHOLD

David Ahlm & Jay Banzhof

Debra Beyer

Mark Bridges

Megan & Dennis Chapham

Maria Chua & John Krause

Joyce & John Goodwin

Claire Hieber & Ben Stanley

Isabelle & Lawrence Meyer - U

Louise Peebles

Christina Rizzo & Ely Lester

Jayne Roses & Mich Landau

Lee & Gregory Straus

Rebecca & Chuck Weiss

Brian Welsh

Marsha Wong & Rick Stern

## INDIVIDUAL

Russell Cinque, Jr.

Charles Cooley

Alexander Coss - N

Kama Hayes

Suzanne McDonnell

Maria Sahakian

Armen Sarkissian

Richard Threlkeld

## SENIOR

Susan Dasso

Deborah Donnelly

Pam Ellis - N

Eileen Mendoza

Josephine Moukhtar

Jennifer Muirhead

Gail Nelson

Robert Paris

Mary Ann Prelock

Judy Rao

Candice Stein

Bonnie Tortorelli

William Vasquez

## STUDENT

Ani Mnatsakanyan

*TGHS also welcomes 193 special new members through the Glendale Federal Credit Union!*

**N - New Member**

**U - Upgrading Member**

Please consider a membership upgrade the next time you renew.

## THANK YOU, CORPORATE/BUSINESS SPONSORS!

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Forest Lawn

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The Los Angeles Breakfast Club

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## THANK YOU, PATRON MEMBERS!

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### SAN RAFAEL PATRON

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Greg Grammer & Simon Wright

Donna & Taum Hemmingsen  
(Marketline Mortgage)

Valerie & Bruce Merritt

### GRAND CENTRAL PATRON

Mary Kay Prather & Thomas Jacobsmeyer

Arlene Vidor

### JEWEL CITY PATRON

Derek Catao & Mark Taraborelli

Jany Davenport

Cindy Dugger & Byron Taylor

Faline England & David Meunier

Leslie & Robert Gordon

Steve Hunt

May Kwan & Jack Chicca

Jennifer & Ian Marks

Heather Norris & Sean Bersell

Corinne Sánchez & Efren Manjarrez

### VERDUGO PATRON

Howard Anderson

Wm. Richard Anderson

Joyce Briscoe & Shirley Ann Hill

The Bunt Family

Carolyn & John Clauss

Pam & Jim Elyea (History for Hire)

Toni & Vince Espinoza

Art Fisher & William Shepherd

Leticia Gonzalez & Ken Batchelor

Cathy & Jon Grayson

Scott Halloran & Peter Rusch

Anita & Russell Harnden

Wendy Juleff

Edna Karinski

(Community Foundation of the Verdugos)

Jessica & Christian Lander

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Maureen & Mario Palladini

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Bonnye LaPenotiere Sirk

Scott Smissen & Don Snyder

Francesca & Lee Smith

Chris & Steve Warheit

Rondi Werner & Bill Redmann

Elaine & Bill Wilkerson

Kendyl Young

Gabriella Zecchetto & Blake Mills

## UPCOMING EVENTS



Timeless, elegant design by Dorothy Thorpe

**A**lthough some events have been canceled or postponed, TGHS has a wide variety of activities planned for 2022.

Get ready for a virtual Raising the Bar on March 25, co-hosted by TGHS's sommelier-in-training, Laura Crook. Also, Board member Ani Mnatsakanyan's presentation on Yetteem, an early Armenian community, is scheduled for April 28.

The Doctors House will open in May, along with a special exhibit. Originally slated for March in honor of Women's History Month, "Breaking Barriers: Early Women Entrepreneurs of Glendale" will salute the legacy of five historic Glendale women: Dorothy Thorpe, A. Lois Modglin, Nell Shipman, Fanny Briggs Carr and Piedad Yorba Sowl. On May 19, "We Were Americans," the story of Glenn Yamada's family at the Poston Japanese internment camp, will be presented.

Looking further ahead, the Membership/Outreach Inclusion Committee has plans for virtual lectures on architecture and local businesses. Russell Harnden III's documentary-in-progress on the Doctors House promises to be spectacular.

TGHS has so much to look forward to in 2022. Stay tuned!

If you missed any of TGHS's great events, you can access the archived videos at [glendalehistorical.org/past-virtual-events](https://glendalehistorical.org/past-virtual-events)



To get the most up-to-date information on TGHS's events and preservation alerts, check out [facebook.com/GlendaleHistoricalSociety](https://facebook.com/GlendaleHistoricalSociety) AND [instagram.com/TheGlendaleHistoricalSociety](https://instagram.com/TheGlendaleHistoricalSociety)