



THE GLENDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY AND CONSERVING OUR HERITAGE WINTER 2012/2013

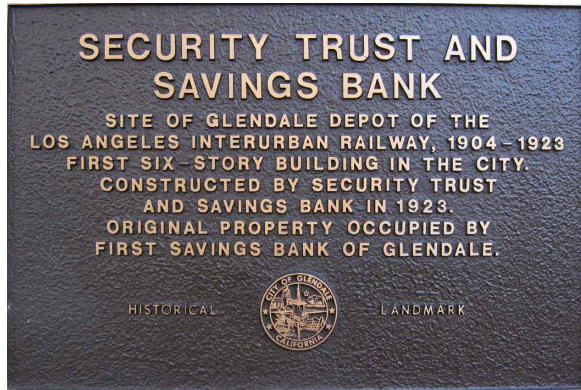


Photo: The Glendale Historical Society

Glendale Updates Preservation Ordinance

Glendale Now Aligned with Other Preservation-Minded Communities

In October, at the recommendation of the city's Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), the Glendale City Council approved several updates to the city's preservation ordinance. The revisions make the ordinance consistent with standard preservation practices of the California State Office of Historic Preservation.

One of the most noteworthy changes to the ordinance is the provision that allows the City Council - by a supermajority vote - to list a property on the Glendale Register of Historic Resources without the owner's consent. While it is likely that this option will rarely be invoked, it does provide a useful tool in preventing unwanted demolition or major alteration of a uniquely important or architecturally significant structure. Many neighboring cities, including Los Angeles and Pasadena, do not require the owner's permission to landmark a building, so this change aligns Glendale with surrounding communities.

Some of the other major changes to the preservation ordinance include: clarifying the definitions of "major alterations" and "minor alterations," as well as adding new language for "demolition by neglect" and "visible from the public right-of-way"; simplifying the thresholds for potential staff-levels approvals and mandatory HPC review; revising the historic designation criteria to be consistent with the California and National Registers; and adding a designation criterion that allows some flexibility for listing structures that exemplify the city's early heritage.

TGHS strongly supported these much-needed changes to the city's preservation ordinance.



Photo: The Glendale Historical Society

Montrose Celebrates Its 100th Anniversary

Montrose will officially celebrate its 100th birthday this month. Part of the original 36,000 acre land grant given to Jose Maria Verdugo in 1784, Montrose was promoted by developers who took advantage of the healthy climate in a beautiful setting that could be accessed conveniently by the Glendale and Montrose Railway.

The Montrose Centennial Celebration will take place February 22-24. The fun, food and music will include pony rides, square dancing, a petting zoo and more. On February 23, the Montrose-Crescenta Branch Library hosts a StoryWalk at 10:30 am, a Special Collections talk by Mike Morgan at 1:30 pm and a History Drive from 3:00-5:00 pm, during which documents and photos brought in by the public will be scanned.

In conjunction with the anniversary, on February 20 Art Cobery will speak at the Glendale Central Library about the devastating and deadly 1934 Crescenta Valley flood, which is the subject of his new book, *The Great Crescenta Valley Flood - New Year's Day 1934*. The presentation commences at 7:00 pm. And last month, author Robert Newcombe gave a slide presentation on his new book *Montrose: Images of America*.

TGHS is pleased to co-sponsor events recognizing this important milestone, which are being organized by the Historical Society of the Crescenta Valley.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Photo: Simon Wright

Happy New Year! Like many of you, The Glendale Historical Society (TGHS) has taken the opportunity that a fresh, new calendar provides by laying out our plans for the next 12 months. In doing so, the Board of Directors came up with a number of ambitious but realistic goals to help guide our activities in the year ahead:

INCREASE OUR MEMBERSHIP TO 500 BY THE END OF THE YEAR

More and more people are joining Glendale's preservation movement, and membership in TGHS now exceeds 400. However, given the size of Glendale's population, I know we can do better. As a non-profit organization, annual membership dues are one of our most important funding sources. But even more than that, growing and retaining our membership is an essential part of our efforts to remain a strong and effective advocate for historic preservation. Quite simply, the more members we have, the stronger our voice will be. You can help us achieve our goal of 500 members by reaching out to other like-minded individuals and encouraging them to support preservation by joining TGHS.

INCREASE THE DIVERSITY OF OUR MEMBERSHIP TO BETTER REFLECT OUR POPULATION

Membership in TGHS is open to anyone and everyone who values the importance of celebrating and conserving our city's rich history and architectural heritage. After all, our primary purpose is to bring people together to preserve, enhance and enjoy the local landmarks and historic homes and neighborhoods that help define and distinguish our community. Throughout our efforts – from education to outreach to advocacy – TGHS views inclusion and diversity in all its forms as essential to the goals of historic preservation. You can help us expand our membership by talking to your friends, family, neighbors and local businesses about preservation and inviting them to take part in TGHS events and activities.

SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MORE HISTORIC DISTRICTS BY AWARDING AT LEAST TWO HISTORIC DISTRICT GRANTS IN 2013

TGHS is strongly committed to expanding the number of historic districts throughout the city. Last year, we established a new grant program to help defray the city's application fee of \$2,000 for neighborhoods that are interested in pursuing historic district designation. If your neighborhood is thinking about or working on a historic district application, please let us know. In addition to financial support, TGHS is willing to lend a hand in any way we can.

REACH A MILESTONE OF 100 HISTORIC LANDMARKS THIS YEAR

There are currently 96 properties listed on the Glendale Register of Historic Resources, just four shy of achieving an important milestone. TGHS will continue to reach out and encourage owners of potentially eligible homes and buildings to apply for historic designation. If you know of a property that might qualify for listing on the Glendale Register, you can help us achieve our target by persuading the

owners to pursue historic designation. Not only does listing a property on the Register help ensure that the home or building will be preserved for future generations, but owners of listed properties can receive a significant reduction in taxes in return for maintaining their historic properties.

PREPARE AN INVENTORY OF GLENDALE'S HISTORIC RESOURCES

There are many architecturally significant properties in Glendale that are worthy of preservation and protection, and many of them are eligible for listing on the Glendale Register, as well as the California and National Registers. However, more research needs to be done to identify, assess and document these potential historic resources. For years, TGHS has called for a comprehensive, citywide historic resources survey to help better preserve the historic charm and character of our neighborhoods and promote the adaptive reuse of our built environment. Starting this year, TGHS will begin the process of creating an inventory of historic properties in Glendale. More details to follow in the coming months, but if you are interested in being involved in this project, please let us know. We're going to need all the help we can get.

ADD A MAJOR FUNDRAISING EVENT

There are many costs associated with running a non-profit organization. While increased revenue from membership dues and home tour ticket sales has allowed us to sponsor more programs and events, improve our outreach efforts and provide some financial support to neighborhoods pursuing the historic district application process, more funds would allow us to be an even stronger advocate for preservation. To that end, the Board has decided to add another major fundraising event to our schedule. Stay tuned for more information!

I look forward to working with many of you over the course of the year to achieve these goals. And if you are not already actively involved in TGHS, please consider pitching in. As an all-volunteer organization, we can always use more assistance with event planning, membership and outreach, fundraising, communications, preservation advocacy and the Doctors House Museum. Not only will you help to advance the mission of TGHS, but you will have valuable experiences and make new friends.

If there is anything you need to know about TGHS or our programs and activities, please contact me at greg.grammer@glendalehistorical.org or 818-242-7447.

Regards,

Greg Grammer
President

THE
GLENDALE
 HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Patron Members

JEWEL CITY PATRONS

Rima & Donnell Cameron
 Guy DeConte & Ammar Kharouf
 Joseph M. Gossett
 Greg Grammer & Simon Wright
 Heather Norris & Sean Bersell
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 Karl Swaidan
 Barry Switzer
 Jackie & Halsey Wickser

VERDUGO PATRONS

David B. Ahern
 Steven Chapman & Ricardo Ordoñez
 Scott Halloran & Peter Rusch
 Nancy Hathaway/The Wine Vault
 Elaine & Bill Wilkerson

BOARD MEMBERS

Victoria Lasken Steps Down from Board



Photo: Sari Makk-Phillips

After more than two years of service, Victoria Lasken has stepped down from her position on the Board of Directors to devote more time to a new career in real estate.

Elected in 2010, Victoria served as vice president and was actively involved in a wide range of areas, including membership and outreach, communications and event planning. She played a pivotal role in the success of our recent home tours and was instrumental in getting the Society active on social media. Thanks to Victoria, TGHS now has more than 500 fans on Facebook. In addition, her beautiful, professional-quality photographs graced the pages of this newsletter, our home tour brochures and our Facebook page (and continue to do so).

We will miss Victoria's passion, vision and creativity, but fortunately she will continue to be involved in many TGHS activities, such as planning and organizing our Fall Home Tour. TGHS wishes her all the best in her future endeavors.

SPEAKERS BUREAU

TGHS Speaker's Bureau Is Available for Community Organizations

The TGHS Speaker's Bureau provides experts to speak to community organizations on a wide variety of topics. Speakers are available to discuss architecture, Glendale's history, genealogy and historic preservation and districting as well as topics not related to history, such as contemporary architecture and water-wise landscaping. There is even a presentation on finding Charlie Chaplin in Glendale!

The Speaker's Bureau was established five years ago by former Board Member Elaine Wilkerson, who remains involved with Board Member Vrej Mardian in organizing and promoting the service.

The Speaker's Bureau is an effective tool for promoting the Society's mission, maintaining the visibility of TGHS in the community, and educating Glendale's residents. Our speakers have found that sharing and educating fellow residents on Glendale's heritage and what needs to be done to preserve it is a personally rewarding experience.

TGHS encourages you to inform local community organizations that a Speaker's Bureau expert can make a presentation at one of their events if they are interested. In addition, we welcome suggestions for speakers and topics that are interesting and relevant to the community and that coincide with the goals of TGHS.

If you know of an organization that would like to hear a presentation from TGHS, or wish to recommend a speaker or topic, please contact Vrej Mardian at VrejMardian@glendalehistorical.org or 818-956-8205.



Photo: The Glendale Historical Society

Future of Post Office Remains Uncertain

While there has been no public announcement issued or community meeting scheduled, TGHS remains concerned about the fate of Glendale's historic main post office, located at 313 East Broadway.

U.S. Representative Adam Schiff recently sent a letter urging the U.S. Postmaster General to keep the Broadway post office open, arguing that closing the office "would mean a significant degradation in services for the community."

While TGHS remains opposed to the sale or closure of the post office, the good news is that the building is listed on both the Glendale and National Registers. Under Federal law, an enforceable preservation restriction must be placed on the building if it is sold.

Built in 1934, the impressive Italian Renaissance-style building was designed by George M. Lindsay and features a beautifully decorated public lobby that includes marble walls and floor, ornamental bronze grille and panel work and a ceiling of painted panels with relief decorations.

TGHS will continue to work closely with city officials and will keep our members apprised as more information becomes available.



Photo: Glendale Arts/Alex Theater

Help Support the Alex Through Glendale Arts

TGHS was instrumental in saving the landmark Alex Theatre in the 1990s, and protection of this iconic Glendale landmark remains a priority for the Society today.

Historic buildings generate additional expenses, and events at the Alex do not cover all of the costs involved in operating and preserving the venue. TGHS, therefore, was pleased to support Glendale Arts, which operates the Alex, in its "I Heart Glendale Arts" fundraising campaign last year.

This spring, TGHS will again participate in the annual drive with an appeal to TGHS members and supporters.

If you do not receive electronic communications from TGHS, you can donate by mailing your check to Glendale Arts, 116 West California, Glendale 91203. Please indicate that your donation is to be credited to the TGHS team.



Photo: Greg Grammer

Report Unpermitted Window Replacement

The city of Glendale requires permits for window replacements. Too often, property owners are unaware of the need to obtain a permit or choose to replace their windows without a permit.

It is important that all window replacements, particularly on older structures, go through the permit process in order to ensure that replacement windows are consistent with the character of the structure and the neighborhood. (It is worth noting that original, old-growth wood or steel windows, if properly cared for and maintained, rarely need to be replaced.)

To verify permit status or place an anonymous complaint regarding projects that you observe, call the city of Glendale's Neighborhood Services Department at 818-548-3700. Be prepared to give a correct street address of the property in question, as well as a description and location of the problem on the property. Also make sure to get the name of the customer service representative and assigned case number for future follow-up.



Photo: Greg Grammer

Kolonialvue Is Newest Addition to Glendale Register

The 96th addition to the Glendale Register of Historic Resources is "Kolonialvue," a home in the Verdugo Viejo neighborhood.

This two-story, Colonial Revival-style home was built in 1932. The home resembles Mount Vernon, with a symmetrical façade and a full-width front porch underneath a roof supported by six Doric columns. The main roof has three gabled dormers, each with a small divided light window.

Some of the most unusual features of the home are in the back yard: a bridge, railing, and a lamppost made of concrete sculpted to resemble wood. This rare *faux bois* technique is usually found in Mexico and the American Southwest; only one other location in Glendale (Rockhaven Sanitarium) is known to have it.

DOCTORS HOUSE

Volunteer at the Doctors House Museum

Every Sunday and on many weekdays, members of a team of 20 faithful volunteers and TGHS Board Members have opened the doors of the Doctors House Museum to the public, continuing a three-decade tradition. Throughout the past year, a total of 1,010 volunteer hours were expended guiding visitors through the house on tours and during special events and exhibits and conducting behind-the-scenes administrative work.

In 2012, 2,100 people, 846 of whom were school children, visited the museum. The school children all got hands-on experience with the games and chores of a century ago. The school tours were led by volunteers Judy Cabrera, Isabelle Meyer and Peter Rusch.

Some of the special exhibits and events included a Victorian Easter Egg Hunt, an election display, Art in the Park, Beneath the Veil (an exhibit on Victorian mourning practices) and dinner for the winners of the yearly raffle. The annual Candlelight Tours during the December holidays were also well attended.

The Queen Anne Victorian house has always attracted people to its front door, from the time patients sought medical care from the doctors who lived there, to the visitors who rediscover the past when they experience it today. And, most importantly,



Photo: Arlene Vidor

the Doctors House serves as a proud symbol of community activism and historic preservation. It was, after all, the threatened demolition of this house that sparked the formation of The Glendale Historical Society and the city's preservation movement.

That spirit of volunteerism is needed now more than ever to keep the house in good repair and properly staffed. If you enjoy history and want to contribute to the ongoing progress of a true Glendale gem, please contact Sonia Montejano at stmontejano@gmail.com to become a volunteer at the Doctors House Museum.

RECENT EVENTS

Annual Holiday Party Recreates 1920s Speakeasy

The annual TGHS Holiday Party was held on December 16 at the historic Seeley's Furniture Company Building in south Glendale. The party theme was the Roaring 20s, which saw the greatest period of development in Glendale. The venue was decorated as a speakeasy and a special libation was served in tea cups to those who knew the password for entrance. History for Hire, owned by TGHS members Pam and Jim Elyea, provided vintage items for the décor. Many thanks to Seeley Studios for co-sponsoring the event and allowing our members to tour the historic building, now home to creative studios and office space.

Jessie Daniels, Sonia Montejano, Guy DeConte and Ammar Kharouf



Photo: Victoria Lasken

WELCOME

NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS: OCTOBER 2012 - DECEMBER 2012

JEWEL CITY PATRON (\$500)

Guy DeConte & Ammar Kharouf - U
 Greg Grammer & Simon Wright - U
 Karl Swaidan - N
 Jackie & Halsey Wickser - U

VERDUGO PATRON (\$250)

Nancy Hathaway/
 The Wine Vault

TROPICO SUPPORTER (\$100)

Derek Arteta & Brian Haworth - U
 Howard Anderson - R
 Elizabeth & Jordan Cohen - R
 Harach & Arlet Davoodian - R
 Michael Dougherty - R
 Milena Dostanich - R
 Cindy Holland - R
 Sally MacAller - R
 Jeanette & Marc Stirdivant - R
 Diane Steven - R
 Silvia & Phil Tucker - N
 Leann & William Warner - R

SUSTAINING (\$50)

Judy & Dan Cabrera - R
 Mr. & Mrs. Clauss Jr. - R
 Clemencia & Romeo Garza - R
 Joan Hardie - N
 Julio Hechavarría - N
 Catherine & Chris Lamson - U
 Carol Merry - R
 Sonia Montejano - R
 Daniel T. Muñoz - R
 Sheila Murray - R
 Vic Pallos - R
 Henry Priest - N
 Ruth Priest - U
 Beatrice & Donald Penniall - R
 Scott Smissen & Don Snyder - U
 Mirna Stanley - R
 Lorna Vartanian - R

DUAL (\$40)

Don Anderson & David Kean - N
 Paul & Marshall Ayers - R
 Alek Bartosouf & Alex Calleros - U
 Joan Binzley - N
 Pauline Callahan & Lloyd Ferguson - R

Susan Carr - U
 Kent Chesney - R
 Ronald Cressy - N
 Leticia Gonzalez & Ken Batchelor - R
 Ellen Gurney & Brian Snedeker - U
 Olin Douglas Hill - N
 Thu Ha & Bruce Howard - N
 Carol & Richard Lee - R
 Sally Little - U
 Eileen & John Manus - R
 Patricia Messina & Terrence Hines - R
 Effie Pappas-Block - N
 Tammi & Craig Relyea - R
 Francesca & Lee Smith - R
 Joanna Hess & Randall Von Bloomberg - R

INDIVIDUAL (\$25)

Suzanne Alpert - N
 Rosemarie Barraza - R
 Richard Bloch - R
 Ruth Campbell - R
 Russell Cinque, Jr. - R
 Los Angeles Public Library - R
 Margaret Hammond - R
 Connie Humberger - R

Shaun Khojayan - N
 Renee Leask - R
 Doris McKently - R
 Charles Perry - U
 Marilyn (Mimi) Plutae - R
 Mary Ann Prelock - R
 Armen Sarkissian - R
 Patty Silversher - R
 E. Jean Simone - R
 Dorothy Sundbye - R
 Greg Sylvis - R
 Mona Vasiloiu - R
 Chris Wills - R
 Katherine Yamada - R
 Erik Yesayan - N
 Victor Youssefian - R
 Stephan Zukpas - R

SENIOR/STUDENT (\$15)

Diahanna Allen - N
 Karen Bartl-Grammer - R
 Virginia Bengston - R
 Gabriella Doyle - R
 Judy Farris-Phares - R
 Mary Jo Ferrell - R
 Merry Franzen - R
 Victoria Gorjian - R
 Beverly Heyler - R
 Anne Leichtfried - R
 Laura Lovick - R

Richard Lovick - R
 Lena Moreno - N
 Dorothy Montapert - R
 Marilyn Oliver - R
 Terry Richman - R
 Kathleen Schumm - R
 Stephanie Schus & Joe Russin - R
 Bonnie & Frank Tortorelli - R
 Pat Wright - R
 Odette Zakarian - R

NON-PROFIT (\$35)

Hannah Lazarus - R

PAST PRESIDENTS

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Deborah Dentler
 Carole Dougherty
 Andrea Humberger
 John LoCascio
 Marie Luft
 Steve Preston
 Bill Shepherd
 David Smith
 Arlene Vidor

N - New Member
 R - Renewing Member
 U - Upgrading Membe

PLEASE CONSIDER A MEMBERSHIP UPGRADE THE NEXT TIME YOU RENEW.

Join The Glendale Historical Society and Support Historic Preservation in Our Community

THE SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT tax-exempt organization and we encourage you to join and volunteer. Please complete this form and mail it with a check payable to:
 The Glendale Historical Society, PO Box 4173, Glendale CA 91202-0173

Brand Patron (\$5,000)	Jewel City Patron (\$500)	Sustaining (\$50)	Individual Senior or Student (\$15)
Goode Patron (\$2,500)	Verdugo Patron (\$250)	Dual (\$40)	Nonprofit (\$35)
San Rafael Patron (\$1,000)	Tropico Supporter (\$100)	Individual (\$25)	<small>Nonprofit organizations are encouraged to join TGHS as Associate Members (No voting rights)</small>

Name Phone

Street Address

City/Zip Code Email Address

WANT TO GET INVOLVED? WHAT ARE YOUR INTERESTS?

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation Advocacy | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events/Tours | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Research/Surveys |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Districting | <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach/Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Archiving/Organizing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Doctors House Volunteers | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership/Outreach |



PO Box 4173, Glendale, CA 91202-0173
www.glendalehistorical.org



2013 EVENTS CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 20 - 7:00 PM

THE GREAT CRESCENTA VALLEY FLOOD
NEW YEAR'S DAY 1934
Glendale Central Library Auditorium
222 East Harvard Street
Historian Art Cobery will narrate
tales of this devastating - and deadly - event.

APRIL 21 - 3:00-5:00 PM

TASTE OF SPAIN
Our third annual "Taste" event,
featuring appetizers and sangria in a private home.
Limited to 75 guests. \$20.
Free to those who enlist a new member.
Details will be sent by email in March.
If you do not receive our email notifications,
please call 818-242-7447 and leave a message
that you are interested in Taste of Spain,
and you will receive information in March.

JUNE 9

FOREST LAWN TOUR
Details to follow. Save the date!



THE
GLENDALE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ENDOWMENT FUND

The Community Foundation of the Verdugos maintains an endowment to benefit The Glendale Historical Society. The Endowment was initiated by former TGHS treasurer Richard Montgomery. Since his death, a number of contributions have been made to our endowment fund. An especially large one was made to it by bequest of former president Dr. Robert Newcomb. An anonymous donor contributes yearly.

Please consider making a bequest in your will to the Community Foundation to benefit TGHS, or make donations at any time.

Community Foundation of the Verdugos
111 East Broadway, Suite 200
Glendale, CA 91205

Phone: (818) 241-8040
Email: info@cfverdugos.org