



## The Glendale Historical Society

VOL. 7, NO. 4, 1986

### The Goode House: To Move or Not to Move

For the past few months the City of Glendale has been reviewing the application by Salvatore Gangi to move the historic E. D. Goode House from Cedar Street to a lot on Monterey Road adjacent to the 134 freeway on-ramp (just west of Glendale Avenue). Mr. Gangi proposes to relocate this landmark and convert it to an office. He is asking for zoning variances on numerous points, including a relocation variance, a use variance to allow office use in a residential zone, and setback and height variances at the proposed new site.



The TGHS Preservation Action Task Force has reviewed all submissions regarding this structure and we have rallied our forces alongside the residents of the Monterey Road neighborhood to stringently oppose Mr. Gangi's plan, which is so clearly threatening to the interests of the historic home.

The first official City review of the matter was by the Historic Preservation Commission, whose decision greatly disappointed us. Despite arguments by the TGHS Preservation Action Task Force that no figures had been produced showing the unfeasibility of on-site adaptive re-use, and despite also the written opinion by the California State Preservation Office that the house's integrity would be compromised by relocation, the Commission ruled on October 23 that the Goode House

could be moved and still retain its landmark value. The conditions attached to this recommendation were that Mr. Gangi follow National Register guidelines to maintain eligibility of the house in the new siting and restoration work.

Mr. Gangi has written to the Commission saying that "We would like to go on record that we will do those things necessary to make the house qualify for the National Register". But since the site he presents is intrinsically disqualifying, we are at a loss to understand just how he might fulfill this promise.

The City's second official action was by the Environmental Review Board. The Board ruled that there would be significant detrimental effect to the environment from Mr. Gangi's plan, but that with a proposed list of mitigation measures the adverse effects could be minimized. Among the items on the list was the requirement of meeting National Register siting guidelines.

The recommendations of the Historic Preservation Commission and the Environmental Review Board were read to City Council on November 18, but Council did not choose to hear full testimony until after the pending variance decisions by the Zoning Administrator. Council also repelled Mr. Gangi's attempted press for immediate permission to lift the Goode House from the Cedar Street lot. (He wanted to "store" the house until the granting of new site approval --an action which would allow him to break ground for condominiums on Cedar Street.)

At the November 19 hearing before the Zoning Administrator, Mr. Gangi was required to make several new submittals as part of his still incomplete application. The Monterey Road area residents and Glendale Historical Society representatives were present in considerable numbers to follow up on their previously submitted written arguments by giving verbal testimony opposing the applications. We do feel that the case

for denial to Mr. Gangi is very strong. He does not meet any of the established criteria for use variance, and on the relocation variance criteria his proposal fails to conform on four out of nine counts. There is also the direct precedent of several years ago, when he was denied at all levels of appeal in his attempt to put an office building on this same Monterey Road site.

At the time of this writing we are awaiting the decision of the Zoning Administrator, Mr. John McKenna. We naturally hope Mr. Gangi's ill-conceived plan will end with this decision, though there may again be appeals to face. (Certainly the residents would intend to follow any unfavorable result with appeal, and we would also continue to persuade as we are able.)

We know for certain that, come what may in this process, a secure future for the Goode House will only be settled when there is professional time and attention given to identifying the best adaptive use plan for this landmark structure--a plan which would allow retention of the heritage value while filling a valid contemporary purpose.

Sue Lazara  
TGHS Preservation Action Task Force



*A mail sack hook, leather mailpouch, hand canceller, scale, and reproductions of Pony Express postmarks are among the artifacts to be displayed at the Glendale postal museum.*

*(Photo by Suzanne McKay)*

#### GLENDALE POST OFFICE ESTABLISHES HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Glendale residents will soon have another reason to be proud of our main Post Office. The Post Office, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Sites, will house a locally developed museum of postal history.

The museum, located in Room 1 at the west end of the ground floor, will feature displays and articles illustrating the history of mail delivery dating from the time of the Pony Express. Dave Urquidez, who has compiled the material for the exhibit, sees it as a manifestation of the close ties the local Post Office has with the Glendale community. He believes our Post Office is one of the first to establish such a museum.

In addition to a mural and reproductions depicting Pony Express history, the museum will contain artifacts such as a hand canceller, leather mail pouch, old postal manuals, a scale, and examples of early air mail cancellations. A large map will show the locations of the precursors of the Glendale Post Office: Tropic, Verdugo, La Crescenta, Verdugo City, and Highway Highlands. On display will be one of the first letters bearing a Glendale postmark. There will also be a small unit providing philatelic sales.

The museum will be open during regular Post Office hours.

Most of the artifacts on display were found in the Post Office building itself. Other material was obtained with the assistance of Special Collections Librarian Barbara Boyd. As the exhibit is a local venture, postal employees and the public are encouraged to not only visit it but to contribute additional material. Mr. Urquidez can be contacted at 502-3207.

We are pleased to welcome this exhibit illuminating an aspect of Glendale's history, and commend Mr. Urquidez and Postmaster Hal Hemmingsen for their achievement.

Suzanne McKay

## 40TH ANNUAL NATIONAL TRUST PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

As our organization's representative at the National Trust Annual Conference in October in Kansas City, Missouri, I am truly indebted to you for sharing so generously in my travel and registration expenses. It was an enjoyable and valuable educational experience--one which I hope to share with all of you, both personally and by way of my written report. I found much to be relevant to our present society efforts.

Exactly 20 years ago, President Lyndon Johnson signed the National Historic Preservation Act into law, and in observing this 20th anniversary of the act, the chosen theme for the 1986 Conference was "Preservation 20/20: A Focus on the Past and Future."

I was present for the three heaviest days of conference activity, and I attended eight sessions. It is necessary to choose one topic for each time slot from the numerous possibilities that were running concurrently. I chose:

- 1) Creating Preservation Awareness in the Next Generation
- 2) General Session: Harry S. Truman Monologue and Annual National Trust Honor Awards
- 3) Curtains Up! Light the Lights! (Rehabilitation of historic theaters--two case studies)
- 4) Tax Planning and Development for Old and Historic Buildings (an intensive review of tax incentives in light of present tax reform)
- 5) Forum: Financial Assistance Services of the National Trust
- 6) Market Strategies for Development Projects
- 7) Rural Conservation: Planting the Seed
- 8) Looking Ahead at the Preservation Movement.

I am very excited about the results of my attendance, in terms of both education and personal contacts. By cordial acquaintances with a number of important resource people, I hope we can gain additional valuable advice and experienced perspectives to assist us in our activities. Many of the people I lunched or chatted with in a networking way are in national, state and local organizations which are involved in issues similar to Glendale's--theatre restoration, main street rehabilitations, historic street lighting retention, and adaptive reuse projects. They can provide us with information and, in some cases, financial assistance to help us in our projects.

Several seminars related to matters very similar to our own local issues. For example, by unanimous city council decision, Fort Worth elected to restore 400 old single standard ornamental street lights (similar to Glendale's) at a cost of one million dollars in the belief that no other public landscaping investment would do more to enhance their streets. The bid for cobra-type fixtures was only \$250,000, but Fort Worth had seen the negative long-term results in cities employing such replacements.

In several cities, including Chicago, Cleveland, and Kansas City, grand old theatres have been restored. Results have been an increase in street life, jobs, and nearby property values.

For those interested in the specific seminar content, I have provided the Board with my own summary of what transpired in each session I attended. If you have other questions, I will do my best to answer them upon request by delving back into my notes.

I also have a collection of numerous forms, handouts, sample worksheets, and project guides on subjects related to the seminars I attended. They are, of course, for society use and for use by the Glendale Preservation Commission as desired.

In summary, I was impressed by how far the preservation movement has come in the last two decades: by how many big success stories in preservation are now being realized across the nation; and by how much cooperation and mutual benefit at last is being fostered between us (the preservationists) and architects, developers, legal practitioners, commercial interests, farmers, rural conservationists, and others who may have once been either unconnected or adversarial to the preservation movement. Most importantly, I learned how vitally alive in the hearts of preservationists is the common dream of saving the best of our built environment, the best of our living natural environment, the best of our historic cultural heritage. May we never lose heart.

Sue Lazara  
TGHS Preservation Action Task Force

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#### FALL TOUR SPOTLIGHTS GLENDALE'S PRIDE AND JOYS

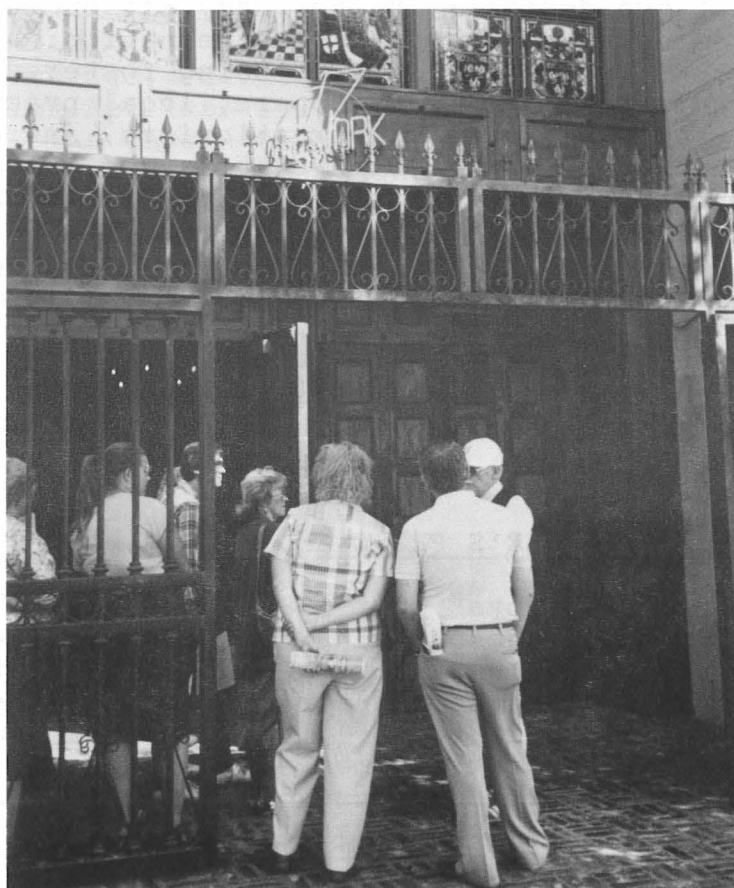
"Glendale's Pride and Joys", our 1986 autumn tour, drew enthusiastic responses from all those who participated in it. The shuttle bus tour provided the opportunity for the public to visit and learn about six of Glendale's most important historic buildings: the Alex Theatre, Brand Library ("El Miradero"), The Doctors' House, the Casa Adobe de San Rafael, the Amtrak (former Southern Pacific) train station, and the 1929 Masonic Temple. Between the tour stops, docents on the buses provided historical and architectural information about Glendale and about other historic sites along the tour route.

In honoring Glendale's 80th anniversary as a city, we were pleased to be joined in our efforts by Glendale Beautiful and the Friends of Brand Library, who staffed the Casa Adobe and Brand Library, respectively; and by Tony Allegretti and Wanda Owen of the Glendale News Press, who did so much to promote the tour. John Lawson, nephew of Casey Stengel, provided his uncle's memorabilia for a display at Brand Library. Ricardo Valencia, property manager for the Grand Central Business Centre, donated 500 newsletters featuring the history of the Grand Central Air Terminal. Bob Deal printed 15,000 flyers, and Barbara Boyd lent us negatives for the Alex Theatre Display.

We are most appreciative of the work of the tour committee, headed by Margaret Hammond: Shannon and Helen Pedlow, Steven Abramians, Kerri Lynn Schmick, Suzanne McKay, Natalie Montgomery, Susan Alison, Vonnie Rossman, Steve Preston, Lynn DuVal, and Julie Pasos. Many thanks also to the lead docents for each site--Catriona Bryan, Elaine Edelman, Susan Alison--and to all the docents at the sites and on the buses. Isabel and Larry Meyer were in charge of refreshments at Casa Adobe de San Rafael.

Special thanks go to the building owners and proprietors who cooperated so enthusiastically in letting us tour their buildings: the City of Glendale, Mann Theatre Corporation (Alex Theatre), Bruce Gaughan (Amtrak Station), and Robert and Dennis De Pietro (Masonic Temple).

Because of the voluminous research compiled into docent scripts and the general importance of each site selected, we are considering offering this tour (or segments of it) to groups on a pre-arranged, pre-paid basis. Interested groups or volunteers should contact Margaret Hammond, Vice President for Tours and Fundraisers, at 242-7334.



*Visitors at the former Masonic Temple learn about its history from Dr. Robert Newcomb during the TGHS tour on September 21.*

*(Photo by Doris McKently)*

#### TGHS TO PUBLISH HISTORIC MAP

The Publications Committee is in the process of creating a map depicting and describing Glendale's historic sites. If you have any skills, particularly in graphics, the committee would appreciate your help. Please contact Suzanne McKay at 244-9456 if you would like to participate in this project or on other publications.

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Editor: Suzanne McKay                      Assistant Editor: Dr. Robert Newcomb  
Thanks to Genevieve McKay, for typing this newsletter, and to Bob Woodring and Daphne Lindstrum for doing the bulk mailing.



*Recipients of Appreciation Awards included (back row) Shannon Pedlow, Dorothy and Ray West, Lorraine Zabaro, Bill and Ruth Dodson, Greta Reed, Wallie Forstall; and (front row) Steve Preston, Vonnice Rossman, and Susan Read. (Photo by C. Dougherty)*

#### AWARDS AND INSTALLATION CEREMONIES BEGIN OUR NEW YEAR

On the glorious late summer afternoon of Sunday, September 14, Glendale Historical Society members and friends gathered on the grounds of The Doctors' House in Brand Park for awards and installation ceremonies. The occasion marked the beginning of our 1986-1987 activities year.

Former Glendale Mayor Carroll Parcher presented the first annual Zelia Blanton Award for achievement in the field of historic preservation to Councilwoman Ginger Bremberg, herself a former Glendale mayor. Ginger has long been a staunch advocate of historic preservation in Glendale. She helped organize the first meeting to save The Doctors' House when it was threatened with demolition in 1979. Among her more recent achievements is the City of Glendale Historic Preservation Ordinance, which she initiated in 1985. This ordinance created the City's Historic Preservation Commission.

Before receiving her own award, Ginger had presented special service awards to Henry Agonia, who represented the Glendale Parks and Recreation Department, and to Steve Preston. Henry and the Department have long cooperated with our organization, particularly in their capacity as the City's caretakers of The Doctors' House. Steve, our organization's president for the year 1985-1986, has given unstintingly of his energy and knowledge for as long as he has been involved in our activities. His administrative and political expertise gained as a City Planner was invaluable to us in our TGHS Preservation Action Task Force projects such as the Alex Theatre, Goode House, and historic street lighting reports.

Ginger also presented awards of appreciation to sixteen people who have contributed in outstanding ways to our organization's various projects. These sixteen people have all participated with exceptional spirit and reliability in their various areas of interest and expertise, which were described by Ginger at the awards ceremonies: Bill and Ruth Dodson, Wallie Forstall, Audrey Hales, Judy Johnson, Shannon Pedlow, Susan Read, Greta Reed, Vonnie Rossman, Mary and Bill Sheppard, Meredith Quenon, Georgie Kajer-Weis, Dorothy and Ray West, and Lorraine Zabaro.

The awards, which we plan to present annually, are specially designed framed certificates. The Zelia Blanton Award, created in honor of our president during the years 1983-1985, includes a cash award of \$200.00.

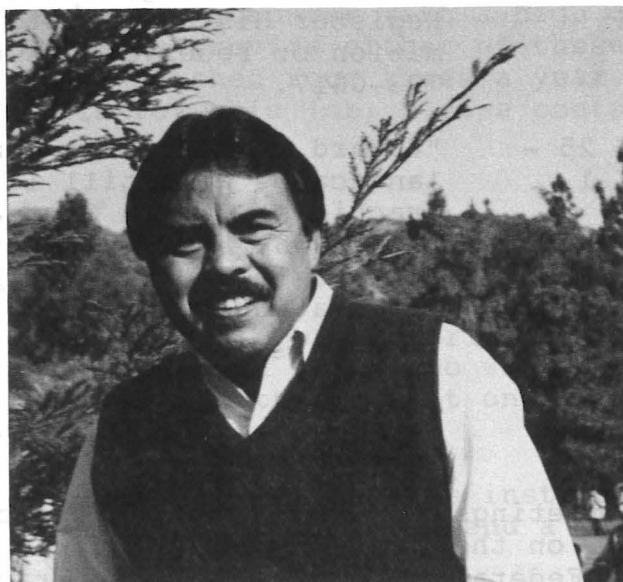
After the awards were presented, the 1986-1987 Board of Directors was installed. The Directors, whom members are encouraged to contact regarding any issues of interest, are the following: Dr. Robert Newcomb, President; Larry Meyer, Vice President for Administration; Sue Lazara, Vice President for Preservation; Margaret Hammond, Vice President for Tours and Fundraisers; Dick Montgomery, Treasurer; Audrey Hales, Secretary; Dick Brouillard, Historian; Karen Lynn, Director at Large and Doctors' House Liaison; and Suzanne McKay, Director at Large and Public Relations.

The beautiful afternoon was an auspicious beginning for our current year of activities. Thanks for its success go to the Awards Committee chaired by Sid Gordon: Ray West, Dick Montgomery, Margaret Hammond, Carole Dougherty, and Bob Woodring (event coordinator). We also thank our gracious presenters Carroll Parcher and Ginger Bremberg.



*TGHS Board of Directors for 1985-86 are Audrey Hales, Secretary; Larry Meyer, Vice President (Administration); Dick Brouillard, Historian; Dick Montgomery, Treasurer; Sue Lazara, Vice President (Preservation); Margaret Hammond, Vice President (Tours and Fundraising); Suzanne McKay; Karen Lynn; and Dr. Robert Newcomb, President. (Photo by C. Dougherty)*





Margaret Hammond, Steven Abramian, Ray West, Sid Gordon, and Natalie Montgomery (upper left) enjoy refreshments at the September 14 Awards and Installation Ceremonies. Steve Preston (upper right) displays his special award. Presenting the awards were Councilwoman Ginger Bremberg (who received the Zelia Blanton Award) and former Glendale mayor Carroll Parcher (above). Henry Agonia (right), Director of the Glendale Department of Parks and Recreation, accepted their service award.

(Photos by R. Newcomb & C. Dougherty)

THE GLENDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Calendar of Events for Winter, 1986

DECEMBER 14  
Sunday TGHS annual holiday party. Come celebrate the spirit of the season with old and new friends! 4 pm - 8 pm. Members have received invitations with the details of the location.

DECEMBER 27-29  
Saturday-Monday Fiesta de Las Luminarias at Casa Adobe de San Rafael, 1330 Dorothy Drive. Christmas festivities and Open House, sponsored by the Glendale Parks and Recreation Department and Glendale Beautiful. 6 pm - 9 pm on Saturday, 2 pm - 9 pm on Sunday, and 2 pm - 5 pm (including children's pinata party) on Monday.

JANUARY 7  
Wednesday General meeting of TGHS. This business meeting will include reports on our various projects and current community issues.

JANUARY  
Doctors' House Docent Training Program. Learn about the Victorian era in Glendale and become a member of our wonderful group of docents. See newsletter article for further details.

FEBRUARY 4  
Wednesday General meeting of TGHS. Steve Cushman, from the Southwest Museum, will be speaking and giving a slide presentation.

MARCH 4  
Wednesday General meeting of TGHS. Vic Pallos will present a program about the history of the Glendale School System.

---Continuing---

Sundays The Doctors' House, Brand Park. Open free to the public from 2 pm to 4 pm. Docent-guided tours of the restored Queen Anne-Eastlake style 1890 home.

1st Saturday  
of every  
month Walking tour of Old Pasadena. Begin the tour with a continental breakfast and slide show introduction, then enjoy a docent-guided walking tour of this National Register Historic District. 10 am., \$5.00. For information or reservations contact Pasadena Heritage, (818) 793-0617.

NOVEMBER 25 -  
FEBRUARY 1 "Edward Weston: The Home Spirit and Beyond." Portraits, landscapes and still lifes by Weston, who had a photographic studio in Glendale. Works are from the period 1906-1938. J. Paul Getty Museum, Tuesdays through Sundays 10 am - 5 pm. For information and parking reservations phone (213) 458-2003.

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General meetings are held monthly (except December, July and August) at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month, in the Carrillon Room, Glendale Federal Savings, 401 North Brand Boulevard. Telephone: 242-7447.

TGHS JOINS DAYS OF VERDUGOS CELEBRATION

The Glendale Historical Society once again participated in Glendale's annual Days of the Verdugos celebration in Verdugo Park, held this year on Saturday and Sunday October 18 and 19. As part of the Community Fair, we set up a table amidst the trees and enjoyed two days of doing informal public relations and selling our books and merchandise. This is a heavily attended event, and gives community organizations as well as craftsmen and women the chance to join in and add to the weekend of fun. TGHS members representing us were Dick Montgomery, Kerri Lynn Schmick, Shannon Pedlow, Sid Gordon, Suzanne McKay, Margaret and Fred Hammond, Bill Dodson, Mary Sheppard, Gladys Walker, and Wallie Forstall.



*Visitors to the Days of Verdugos Festival discuss TGHS activities with Wallie Forstall and Dick Montgomery.  
(Photo by Shannon Pedlow)*

NEWSLETTER TYPIST NEEDED

Do you like to type? Or do you have a computer with a high quality printer? We are in need of a volunteer to provide either of these services for our newsletter, which is published four times a year. If you would like to volunteer your skills for this job, please contact Suzanne McKay, at 244-9456.

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DOCTORS' HOUSE DOCENT TRAINING IN JANUARY

For community service, for socialization, for historical awareness-- be a Doctors' House Docent! We welcome men and women who would be willing to attend our three training sessions and then accept one tour assignment a month.

Training will be offered in January with Lee Sale as instructor. If you would like to be a docent, or would like to recommend a friend, call Karen Lynn (248-4506) or Judy Cabrera (241-5302).

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Have you remembered to renew your membership for the year 1986-1987? Membership dues were due in July. For those who do not renew their membership, this will be the last newsletter. So check your records or phone Dick Montgomery (241-2775) if you want to keep current with our news and activities. We want you!

Welcome to new members Rae Berry, Joshua M. Gross, Florence Hutchinson, Marian H. Simpson, Jacqueline Webrek, Merle Hagemeyer, Andy Baille and Rose Miller.

Membership in the Glendale Historical Society is open to all persons interested in learning about, promoting, and preserving aspects of Glendale's history. Members receive quarterly newsletters, announcements of events, discounts on TGHS tours, and the opportunity to work on a variety of projects. Annual dues are \$15 for single active, \$25 for family active, \$50 for sustaining, \$5 for student/senior, \$25 for non-profit organization, and \$100 for corporate.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) New Member ( ) Renewing Member

I would like to assist in the following areas:

EDUCATION  
RESEARCH  
CLERICAL

PRESERVATION ACTION  
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT  
NEWSLETTER

MEMBERSHIP  
WAYS AND MEANS  
OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

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