



Culver City Historical Society

Post Office Box 3428

Culver City, Ca.

90230

HISTORY
HERITAGE

HISTORIC HIGHLIGHTS

RESTORATION
PRESERVATION

Vol. V No. 1

FEBRUARY 1985

MARKING CEREMONY And "ANNUAL MEETING"

Thursday, February 27, 1985, 11:00 A.M.

AMERICAN LEGION BUILDING

Historic Site #5

3824 Hughes Ave.,

Culver City

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

First, let me wish you all a happy, healthy New Year! This is the beginning of my fourth, (and last), year as your president. As the Culver City Historical Society grows, we are finding ourselves "bursting at the seams" with gifts of memorabilia and historically relevant data. It's a pleasure to see the interest and work being done, from the cataloging of materials and photos (thanks Anita, Charlie, Jimmy, & Bessie) to the transcripts of Lupe's oral history tapes, on the marking of our Historic Site No. 5 on February 27th, (thanks to all of Dave's work). A new item you will be interested in is the 1985 Annual Historical Calendar put out by the Marina office of FRED SANDS REALTY. Sally Paquette used a number of our photos for this year's calendar and we were given photo credit. Jo Ellen designed new membership envelopes (nice job!) and Cathy and Lupe put together a timely exhibit for Glendale Federal's display case. Marti is working on a joint meeting with the Santa Monica Historical Society and Rusty is pleased to see Pat do a great job on the books. It's great to see things moving like this. See you all the 27th. Since the Marking will also be our "Annual Meeting" we have submitted the Minutes herein, a motion to approve the minutes as printed will be entertained at the meeting.

Julie

P.S. Anyone interested in cataloging our historic treasures, please give me a call 838-0215.

CULVER CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - MEETING - November 28, 1984

President Julie Cerra called the joint meeting of the Culver City Historical Society and Friends of the Library to order at the Library at 7:30 P.M.. Welcome was extended by Joy Jacobs, President of the Friends of the Library.

Minutes of the meeting of August 22, 1984 were approved as read.

Julie reported a communication has been received from Steven H. Weintraub, representing the purchasers of the Culver City Hotel. So that the outside of the building might be protected in perpetuity, he proposed the donation to the Historical Society of a facade easement. Under his terms, deadline for acceptance would be December 15th, too soon to permit a thorough study of legal ramifications by the Association and City Staff. Julie is in communication by letter with City Staff.

Following discussion of the subject at the meeting of the Board immediately preceding this membership meeting, Susan Berg, representing Culver City Project 3/Storefront, recommended that the subject be presented to the membership. This recommendation was accepted. The membership approved the steps being taken by Julie.

Julie reported that Fred Sands Company is publishing calendars advertising Westchester, Culver City and the Marina, to include photos. Julie has submitted a photo, which they will return, with negatives.

Marking of the American Legion Building will be held on February 27, 1985, in conjunction with our annual meeting.

PROGRAM: Marti introduced Leon Smith, author of two books featuring movie sites in Culver City. Desiring to credit Culver City as the home of many motion picture films that were being credited to Hollywood, he decided to research the subject. He felt that MGM Studios, Hal Roach, and others in our city were producing "as much, if not more, than Hollywood". Culver City, virtually unknown in the shadows of Hollywood, needed to emerge with its sites made famous by these films.

An ardent Laurel and Hardy fan, Mr. Smith's decision to write a book on the movie locations of their films, brought to light the utilization of many Culver City sites. As he researched our city, he made a thorough study by traveling extensively through our streets. His first book, "A Guide to Laurel and Hardy Movie Locations" prompted a decision to write a sequel. But first, he made inquiries about books that had already been published, so there might not be duplications. He could find none. His visit to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Library revealed but one book. When it was brought to him, it was none other than the one he had authored. In his sequel, "Following the Comedy Trail", Mr. Smith has included additional sites made famous by the Hal Roach "Our Gang" series. 70 sites are included in his first book; 70 to 80 in the second. In his personal library, Mr. Smith has copies of every Laurel and Hardy film.

Preceding Mr. Smith's presentation, a 20-minute film, "County Hospital" was shown, opening with the hospital entrance, which was instantly recognizable as our City Hall.

While various locations were utilized in the films produced by our local studios, photos of Culver City sites stand prominently in Mr. Smith's books.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Bessie Freiden
Bessie Freiden, Secretary

ORAL HISTORY:

LUPE SMITH, CHAIR

We have over 40 people to interview(tape) for our Cities Oral History library and not enough people to do the taping. If you can spare some time, **please** call Lupe @ 390-4798. Also, maybe you know some of these people and would like to tape them. It's fun and you'll learn lots about early C.C. - well worth an hour of your time!

MUSEUM COMMITTEE:

CATHY ZERMENO, CHAIR

Stop in and see a display of Culver City memorabilia at:

Glendale Federal Savings
5645 Sepulveda Blvd.,
Culver City

Our very special thanks to Manager Margaret Lopez for thinking of the Historical Society.

Included in the display are aerial pictures of Culver City, circa 1921 and 1937; the "Brick" from the Meralta Theatre (1924) - both donated by Cathy Zermeno; an Annual from the Pacific Military Academy, Founded in 1922, donated by Dr. Daniel Lang; plus many more nostalgic photos of Culver City's early years.

MEMBERSHIP :

JO ELLEN WEAVER, CHAIR

It is membership renewal time - - you will be receiving your envelope in the mail shortly. If your **zip code** has changed, please make a note when returning your membership envelopes.

DIAL-A-RIDE:

397-7430

A special service for members needing a ride to our meetings.

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE
CULVER CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

NAME: _____ Tel.: _____

ADDRESS: _____ Zip Code: _____

ANNUAL DUES:

- ☐ Patron Member (\$100 or more)
- ☐ Sustaining Member (\$50 or more)
- ☐ Contributing Member (\$25 or more)
- ☐ Individual Member (\$7.50)
- ☐ Service Organization (\$10)
- ☐ Commercial Patron (\$100 or more)
- ☐ Commercial Member (\$15)

I would like to serve on the following COMMITTEE:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Sites |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publications (Newsletter) | <input type="checkbox"/> Program |

SPECIAL THANK YOUS:

Dr. Daniel Lang, BMC Medical Director, who found and donated a Pacific Military Academy annual. It's on exhibit at Glendale Federal Savings.

Alice Lieberman (City Treasurers Office) for Raintree County book -- written by our own Julia Fenderson.

Leon Smith for his autographed copy of his new book, "Following the Comedy Trail".

Mildred Kearney - for her donation of clippings tracing the many active years of both she and husband John here in Culver City.

COMPLIMENTARY NEWSLETTER:

If you know someone who would like to receive a complimentary Newsletter, please call Bonnie Walsh, Editor at 202-9009.

DISCOVERING LOS ANGELES COUNTY:

HISTORIC SITES

#158 - **Mission San Gabriel Arcangel.** The mission was founded September 8, 1771, by Padres Pedro Benito Cambón and Angel Fernández de la Somera. The present church building was begun during the latter part of the 18th century and completed in 1800. Junipero St and West Mission Dr., San Gabriel.

#161 - **Site of Mission Vieja.** "Mission Vieja," Old Mission, was the name given to the first buildings erected, and later abandoned, by the fathers for Mission San Gabriel Archangel. The permanent buildings for the mission were located about five miles distant. No. San Gabriel Blvd and Lincoln Ave., Montebello.

#632 - **"Old Short Cut"** - This is California's first ranger station, built in 1900 by Louie Newcomb and Phillip Begue, early forest service men. The cabin took its name from the "Short Cut Canyon Trail," as the cabin was one of the main stopping points on this trail. W-fork of San Gabriel Canyon.

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P.O. BOX 3428
CULVER CITY, CA 90231

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