



Chico Heritage Association – CHA – since 1981 a volunteer not for profit
Organization dedicated to the preservation of Chico's cultural heritage

AUGUST 2013

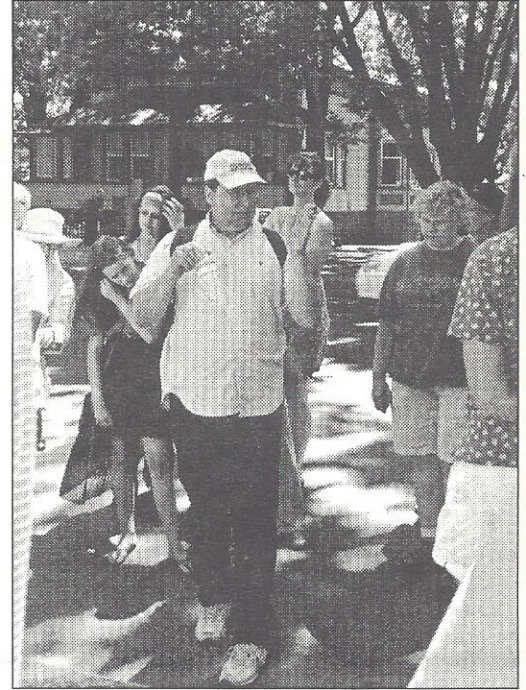
CHICO HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

RECAP OF PRESERVATION MONTH

As May came to a close, we held our annual Awards Presentations honoring the work on four individual homes clustered along West 14th Street and we recognized the efforts of Mike and Nancy Campos for their dedication in restoring numerous homes at various locations in Chico. The meeting was held in the large upstairs room in the Old Municipal Building with approximately forty people attending. Our guest speaker was Butte County Clerk-Recorder Candace Grubbs. Ms. Grubbs provided us with an update on the Butte County Hall of Records, soon to be under construction. The building will be built on a site across Nelson Ave. from the County Complex in Oroville.

The meeting closed with all the honorees assembled for a group photo. In addition to Mike and Nancy Campos, awards were given to Dan Schindler and Annaliese Baker for their restoration of 314 W. 14th Street; to Walter Mahoney and Hilary Herman for 322 W. 14th Street; to Sean and Shannon McLean for 330 W. 14th Street and to John and Lynn Wilson for 346 W. 14th Street. In recognizing the work on the four individual homes, it was noted in our selection that this also represented an important example of neighborhood revitalization.

Congratulations to all the recipients, we honor their efforts and will continue to seek more examples of preservation excellence for next year.



Above: John Gallardo leading one of his two Historical walks during May for Preservation Month.

Left to right: Our Preservation Award winners for 2013: Shannon McLean (and children), Walter Mahoney, Hilary Herman, Nancy Campos, Mike Campos, Lynn Wilson, John Wilson, Dan Schindler, And Annaliese Baker



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

On May 1 I had the pleasure of chairing my first meeting of the CHA Board. For me it was significant, not only because I would begin my term during Preservation month, but because of my interest in history, my background in historic preservation and the opportunity to work with a dedicated board in furthering the awareness of our local cultural heritage.

In this issue of our newsletter, you will see that we have been busy furthering that awareness. On May 30 we held our Preservation Awards Presentation, honoring those who have gone the extra step in the improvement of their homes. It is always uplifting to hear their story's and to see the before and after images of their work. Earlier in the month John Gallardo guided two groups through the streets of Chico, describing, in detail, the significant buildings in the downtown area and in the South of Campus National Register Historic neighborhood. And at the annual meeting of the Friends of the Library, John presented a brief history of preservation in Chico, highlighting both important as well as lost buildings.

In this issue, you will see that we are moving a bit closer to further stabilizing the Wright-Patrick house, Butte County's oldest wood frame building (1852). Work is underway to install the new beam on the building front. And finally, for those seeking information on Chico history, we have hours each Wednesday from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at our office in the Old Municipal Building on Main Street. Someone can help in your search.

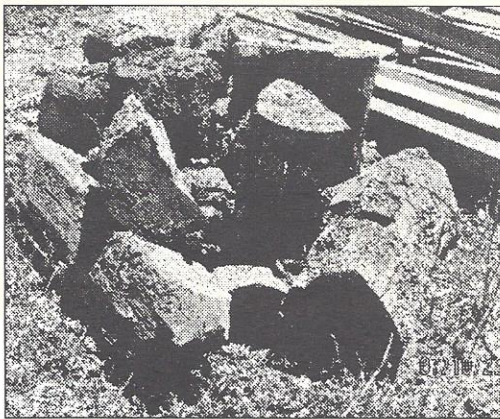
THE WRIGHT-PATRICK HOUSE UPDATE

Thanks to the generosity of our membership, the Wright-Patrick House, located on the Midway just South of the Glen Oaks Memorial Park, is currently undergoing restoration of the East foundation of the building. In recent years the hand-hewn log supporting it had begun to twist, with the result that the east wall became separated from the rest of the building and no longer had any support.

Although restoration and replacement of the upstairs windows had been our focus of late, it became necessary to transfer our attention and resources to the new problem, which is now being skillfully addressed by Chris Gauer and his crew. Minor termite damage (none recent) is also being dealt with.

As always, our goal with the Wright-Patrick House is to see that pre-Civil architecture is preserved for future generations along with its story, which is the story of westward migration and how our area came to be settled. The lessons it has to teach us are priceless; they give us a genuine appreciation for the challenges encountered by our predecessors in developing this beautiful area we now call home. The former State Historic Preservation Officer, Wayne Donaldson, upon visiting the site several years ago, declared the site "a treasure." And we heartily agree.

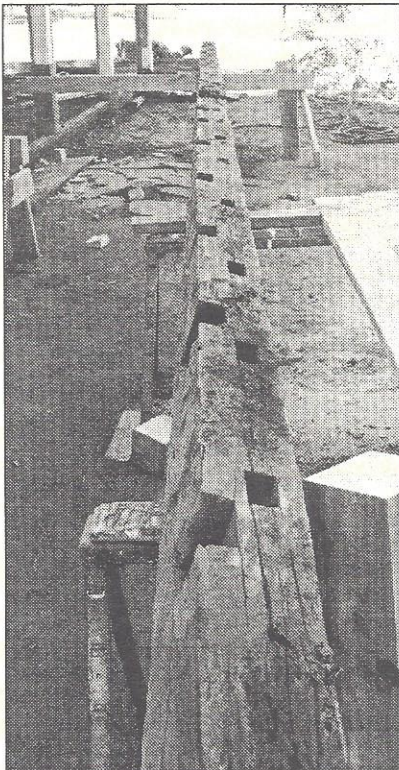
While it is awkward to keep requesting funds to maintain this building, it's hard to imagine a structure in Butte County more deserving of preservation and documentation. The life as a ranch headquarters, court, tavern, boarding house, public meeting place, store, etc., as well as the lives of the colorful people who occupied it from 1852 to the 1950s, all make for fascinating and educational storytelling. Please continue to help us in our efforts to keep this story alive!



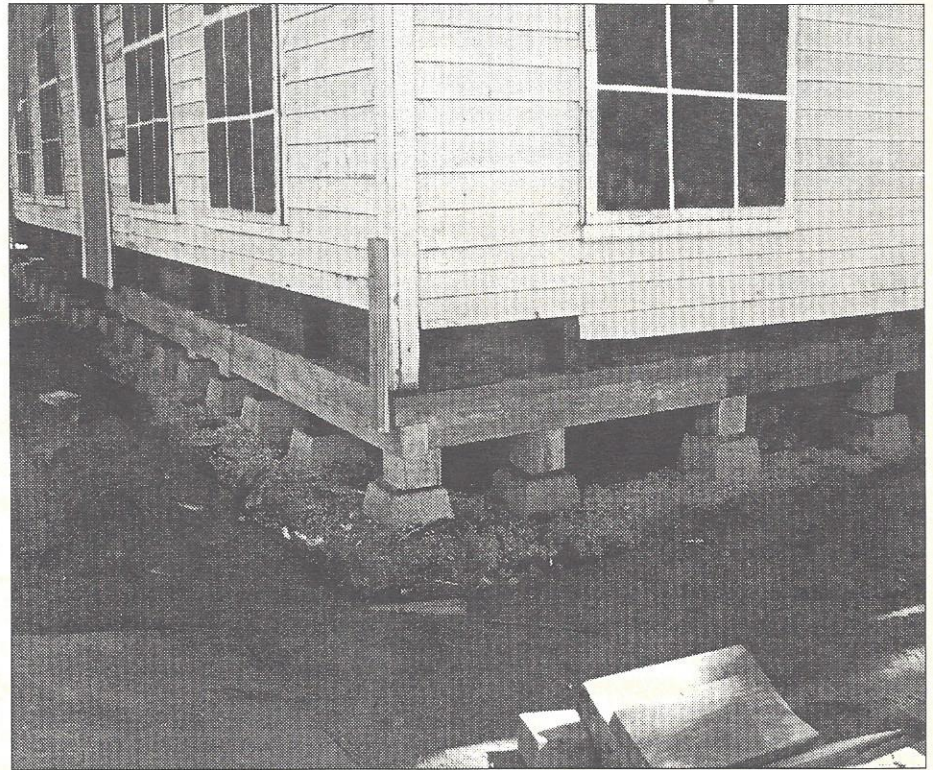
The piers that were supporting the long beam (along with some larger rocks)



A surprising find: One of the supporting rocks was an Indian Grinding Stone turned upside down!



The very long beam that was supporting the east wall.



The beginning of a new foundation

CHICO HERITAGE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

August 2013

Memberships are due at the first of the calendar year, or if you wish, you may pay in any of the last three months of the preceding year for the following year. Our membership dues and donations provide our day to day expenses, which include our office rent, telephone, insurance, newsletter printing and mailing, photocopying and photography for research. We receive **NO** government funds, and have no paid staff. Please help us save Chico's heritage by your membership and/or donations. Simply fill out and mail this form to:

Chico Heritage Association, P.O. Box 3517, Chico, CA 95927

Name: _____ new member: _____ or renewal: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

_____ \$20 Individual _____ \$35 Family _____ \$50 Supporting _____ \$100 or more-Patron

Please note if any **ADDITIONAL** donation is TO SAVE THE OLDEST HOME IN CHICO, THE WRIGHT-PATRICK PRESERVATION FUND _____,

The General Fund _____ or Other _____

THRESHING BEE PARTICIPATION

This summer's heat wave failed to dissuade people from visiting our booth at the Patrick Ranch Threshing Bee in June. Centered around our excavation work at the Wright-Patrick House, it showcased some of the "treasures" uncovered and their significance in determining the history of the place. Many thanks to the dedicated volunteers who showed up to help set up and man the booth. Hopefully we demonstrated to our visitors how interesting history can be, and how much fun it can be to help preserve it.



Myles Pustejovsky, Sophia Boulas, Paul Lieberum, and Adrienne Pustejovsky celebrate the completion of their booth setup at the Patrick Ranch Threshing Bee this past June 8th.

WATCH LIST

Veterans Memorial Hall
Faculty Row Houses
Humboldt Wagon Ruts
Lost Park
Historic Bridges
Hall of Records
Walnut trees on Chestnut St.

OUR JULY CHICO LIBRARY DISPLAY

Liz Stewart and her able assistants put on a very nice CHA exhibit in two display cases this July. Hopefully you were able to enjoy them as we had no time to inform you ahead.

CHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting is the first Wednesday of month, 7:00pm, 441 Main Street, at top of stairs

Richard Macias, President
Paul Lieberum, Vice President
Shelley Compton Hutchens, Secretary
Margaret Siemsen, Treasurer

Jon Couch
Nancy Deter
John Gallardo
Mike Magliari

Adrienne Pustejovsky
Lucy Sperlin
Liz Stewart
Randy Taylor



**CHICO HERITAGE
ASSOCIATION**

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OFFICE HOURS AT:
441 MAIN STREET
WEDNESDAYS, 1 TO 3PM

COMING EVENTS

ANNIE B'S COMMUNITY DRIVE

Our most important fund raiser—please encourage your friends to include CHA in their giving too.
Through August and September. See enclosed insert and the return envelope.

YARD SALE

Saturday, September 7—8:00am to 2:00pm

776 Sierra View Way (off Arbutus between Vallombrosa & Palmetto)

This is our major fundraiser for the Wright-Patrick House preservation fund this year. See page 2 for more information about the progress being made on this project.

We already have some very generous donations, some great antique items from Kris Zappettini consisting of china, glassware, great books, silver, linens and much more, but we would welcome others, too. If you would be interested in contributing, please call Nancy Deter at 342-1228 by Sept. 1.

We will not be selling clothing, but will have other quality items at good prices for a good cause.

FACEBOOK PAGE AND YOU KNOW YOU'RE FROM CHICO...

Chico Heritage is now on Facebook. You can find us by searching for Chico Heritage Association on the Facebook home page. It is a great place to keep up with our events as well as many other things in which we are involved. You can make comments and let us, and others, know when you have a concern about preservation issues. It is growing and evolving all the time. Check it out and "like us" to get all the latest news. www.facebook.com.

Another great Facebook page is "You Know You're From Chico When....." It has great historical interaction from over 4000 people. Pictures are posted, information is provided and memories are shared. It is well worth checking out, and fun too. They are having a 3rd annual "You know you're from Chico When....." reunion on Saturday, September 21st from 4-9 pm at Scotty's boat Landing on River Road. There will be food, live music and vendors. Chico Heritage Association will have a booth at this event so come out and see us and have a great time as well.