



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

MAY 2014

## CHICO HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

### PRESERVATION MONTH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 17, 1:00 PM

Walking tour of South of Campus residences

Led by John Gallardo

Meet at the Stansbury Home

Saturday, May 24, 1:00 PM

Walking tour of downtown businesses

Led by Randy Taylor

Meet at the steps to the Old Municipal Building, 441 Main Street

### **PRESERVATION AWARDS CEREMONY**

Wednesday, May 28, 7:00 PM

Old Municipal Building, 441 Main Street

Conference Room, Upstairs

Presentation of 2014 Home Preservation Awards

*See page 2 for information on award winning homes*

Also an illustrated presentation by Richard Macias on "What Style is that? and Why"

Highlighting the variety of housing styles that exist in Chico

Richard has a long and distinguished history in the field of architecture. His degrees (MLA and BArch) were earned at the University of Michigan.

He has lectured at the Universities of Michigan, Michigan State, Illinois, Florida, Texas A & M, Toledo, and Wisconsin. From 1988 to 1991 he was an Assoc. Professor of Architecture at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. He is presently a lecturer at CSUC in the Dept. of Art & Art History.

The other accomplishments for his body of work as an Architectural professional member, award winner, planner, etc. are too numerous for our space available. Suffice it to say he knows the subject!

### AWARD FOR EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTION TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION & LOCAL HISTORY

#### MICHELE STOVER

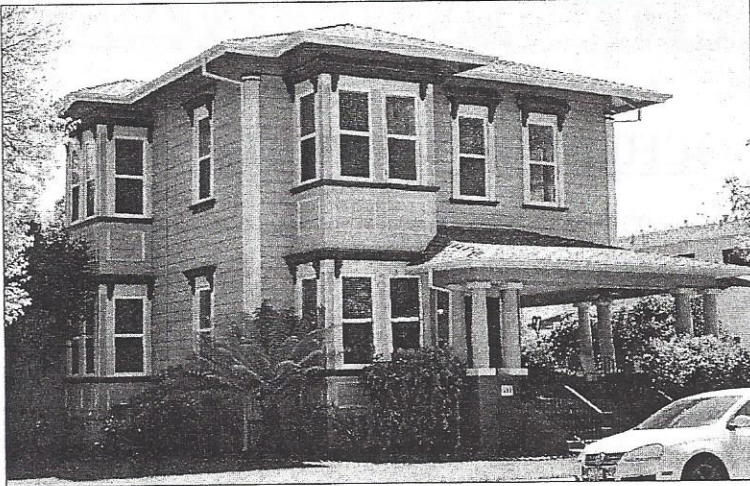
A special Preservation Award is being made to Michele Stover for her many years as a strong proponent and supporter of historic preservation and research. She is a retired professor of Political Science at CSUC, a past board member and Vice President of Chico Heritage Assoc., and a participant in numerous community efforts at preserving Chico's heritage. Her restoration and preservation of her home, the Little Chapman Mansion, was only the start of her continuing preservation efforts and research in the community.

*Her home at the "Little Chapman Mansion">*





# 2014 PRESENTATION AWARD HOMES



## THE SCHWEIN HOME

The Schwein Home, 491 E. 4th St., at Olive St. Built c. 1885 in the Italianate style. Remodeled c. 1911, when the upstairs was added onto, projecting over the current porch, which was also added at that time. An important grand corner house for much of Chico's history, it is a mix of styles "that works." The Schwein family has owned and occupied the home for more than 100 years, and have sensitively maintained it for the community to appreciate. The Schwein family have for many years been involved in the commercial life of Chico, having meat markets and other businesses, and had members of the family serving on the City Board of Trustees ( forerunner of the City Council) and other public functions.

## THE WALKER HOME

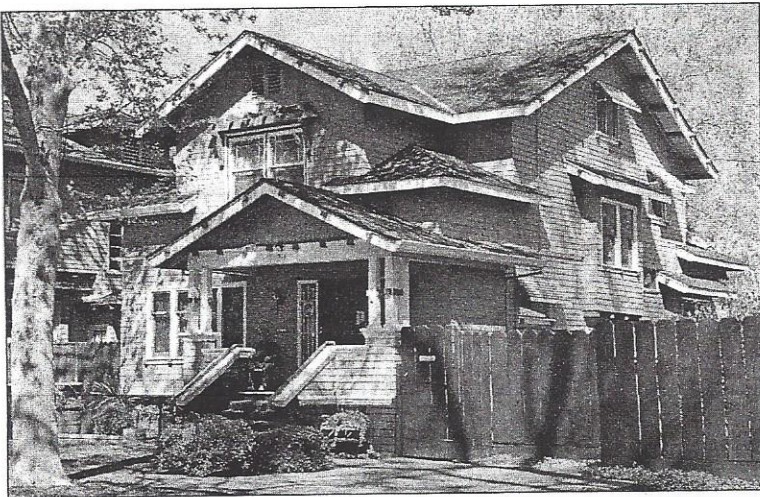
The Walker Home, 702 W. 3rd St., corner W.3rd and Ivy, was built in 1875 by Jefferson Walker. He had come to Chico and established his brickyard in February of that year. He supplied brick to many of Chico's business structures, including the still-standing Noonan Building, aka The Phoenix Building, Broadway at W. 3rd. St. He built his own home with his brick to show off such a structure, but the plentiful and inexpensive lumber available here caused most homes to be built of wood.

The home is of Italianate design, with Federal style front doorway, unique in Chico. The Riley family has rebuilt the front portico as per the original design, replacing a plain and simple one put up many years ago, and returning this important corner home to its original beauty and prominence.



## THE STAMPER HOME

The home, in the Craftsman Style with Shingle Elements, was built in 1912 for Mr. and Mrs. Alva Stamper. Mr. Stamper was a Mathematics Professor at the State Normal School here in Chico since 1901. Mr. Walter Hann was apparently the designer and builder, and was known for his high-quality craftsmanship in the many homes he constructed in Chico, especially in the Chico Vecino area, now many times referred to as "The Avenues." The home has been sensitively restored and maintained for many years by Dianne Ayers Ferris and family, and together with the old Veterans Memorial Hall next door -soon to be home to MONCA- they stand proudly as prominent structures gracing the Esplanade.



### 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  
Liz Stewart, Secretary  
Margaret Siems, Treasurer

Jon Couch  
Nancy Deter  
John Gallardo  
Shelley Hutchens

Mike Magliari  
Adrienne Pustejovsky  
Lucy Sperlin  
Randy Taylor



# CHICO HERITAGE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP - May 2014

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 FRAME HOME IN CHICO AREA, THE WRIGHT-PATRICK PRESERVATION FUND \_\_\_\_\_,  
The General Fund \_\_\_\_\_ or Other \_\_\_\_\_

## CHA WATCHLIST UPDATE: BIDWELL BOWL AMPHITHEATRE

CHA President Richard Macias and board member Mike Magliari met with city officials on April 10 at the Bidwell Bowl Amphitheatre to discuss upcoming plans to repair the structure's heavily vandalized southeast wall. Present were Linda Sheppard (city landscape inspector), Jimi Logsdon (city parks), and CHA member Bob Summerville (city planner).

The Bidwell Bowl's distinctive rock walls are composed of native stones and therefore one of CHA's major goals has been to ensure that the missing originals be replaced by suitably matching, if not identical, materials. The precise origins of the original stones used by the WPA in 1938 had remained a mystery until early last month, when, thanks to the assistance of city staffer Matt Thompson, Magliari and Summerville were able to locate an architect's drawing for the Bidwell Bowl stage that included the specifications for the entire project. The requirements for the Bidwell Bowl's exterior walls were surprisingly precise: "Stone for masonry will be broken rock from the formations known locally as Iron Canyon and Devil's Kitchen." Presumably, the WPA had a wealth of this Upper Bidwell Park volcanic rock (known as Lovejoy Formation basalt) readily available thanks to the excavation of the water diversion system it was building to create and supply Horseshoe Lake.

According to Linda Sheppard, the city has hired Cory Reynolds of American Masonry Specialists in Oroville to do the repair work on Bidwell Bowl, and it is now expected that Reynolds will use locally quarried Lovejoy basalt from Table Mountain when rebuilding the damaged section of the southeast wall.

While the CHA is very pleased with the city's immediate repair plans, Magliari reiterated the CHA's position that, for the long-term preservation of the Bidwell Bowl, the city needs to prepare a Historic Structure Report (HSR) to ensure that all future maintenance work on the facility be performed in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the treatment of historic resources.

## OTHERS ON WATCHLIST

618 w. 5<sup>TH</sup> Street (1883)

Faculty Row Houses

Humboldt Wagon Ruts

Lost Park

Historic Bridges

Anna Barney House (430 W 3<sup>rd</sup> St.)

Downtown Post Office

## CHA WATCHLIST UPDATE: BUTTE COUNTY HALL OF RECORDS

Exciting News! On Tuesday, April 15, Butte County received a successful bid from Slater and Son to build the badly needed and much anticipated Butte County Hall of Records. The long-sought goal of Butte County Clerk-Recorder Candace Grubbs, the new Hall of Records will not only provide a safe home for Butte County's scattered and endangered historic public records, but will also make them readily available to historians, genealogists, journalists, students, and other members of the general public interested in local history and research.

Assuming Slater and Son's bid is accepted by the County Board of Supervisors at their May 6 meeting, construction of the Hall of Records should commence this summer and, if all goes according to plan, the building will be completed by May 2015.

It will be a wonderful facility, as CHA director Mike Magliari learned at a recent project meeting with Candace Grubbs at the Clerk-Recorder's office in Oroville. The Hall of Records will consist of two public research rooms featuring computer terminals and ample desk space. A larger, secured area will provide state-of-the-art archival storage for all of the original historic records generated since 1850 by the Clerk-Recorder, and, hopefully, most other county officials, including the Assessor. To prepare these records for transfer into their new home, Grubbs recently hired Melinda Rist (formerly of the Chico Museum) as her Archives Project Manager to carry out the daunting task of inventorying, cleaning, and re-boxing the documents while simultaneously creating a comprehensive and searchable on-line catalogue for them.

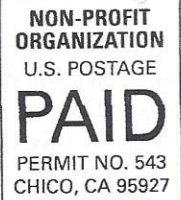
Meanwhile, Recorder's Office Manager Myles Pustejovsky, Jr., and his assistant, Mark Zarati, are now half-through an exciting year-long effort to modernize the vast microform collection of historic county documents. Working with BMI Imaging Systems, they are rapidly converting each of their hundreds of microfilm reels into "digital reels" that will be stored electronically and rendered key-word-searchable for researchers using the computer terminals at the new Hall of Records. The implications for local historians will be nothing short of revolutionary: no more hours of tedious scrolling through microfilm on clumsy and cantankerous old microfilm readers!

In convenient proximity to the county administration complex on County Center Drive, the new Hall of Records will be located at the southeast corner of Nelson Avenue and Second Street, opposite Home Depot.



**CHICO HERITAGE  
ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 3517  
Chico, CA 95927  
Phone 530-345-7522  
www.chicoheritage.org



## **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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

**MAY IS PRESERVATION MONTH**  
**SEE INSIDE FOR SCHEDULED EVENTS**

### **Message from the President**

May is Historic Preservation month and it's a busy time for those of us at Chico Heritage. As the local organization dedicated to the preservation of our cultural resources we prepare a variety of events that are intended to recognize local efforts and to raise the awareness of historical stewardship. As we have done over the years, we will be presenting awards to those that have gone beyond the norm in maintaining or restoring their properties to a higher level of historic sensitivity. Those awards will be presented at our Awards Meeting on May 28 at 7:00 pm in the Old Municipal Building on Main Street.

Thanks go to Board Member Paul Lieberum who chaired the Awards Nomination Committee and guided the process as we all debated the candidates.

At the Awards meeting, yours truly will be presenting a talk on the identification of style in our community. If you have been told that everything built from 1820 to 1920 is Victorian, you need to attend.

Also, if you have never followed the encyclopedic John Gallardo during his tour of the South of Campus Historic Area, you will have an opportunity to do so on May 17. A week later on the 24<sup>th</sup> Randy Taylor will lead a tour of the Downtown area.

We invite your participation in these Preservation Month events.