

HERITAGE FRESNO

Enriching the future by preserving the past.

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About L Street . . .

From its beginning, there has been something important at stake in the L Street matter. It is important whenever a project threatens Fresno's few remaining historic resources, the city staff must actually do an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) before they proceed to demolition! Only in that way will real improvements come forward, and make the new projects better. It is that simple, and that difficult.

In the case of L Street, demolition came first! At least four prior studies of historic resources had, over the decades, identified the L Street area between Lisle Funeral Home and Divisadero as a putative Historic District. The Creighton and Sayer homes were identified as "contributors" to that district. The city council never took action on those studies. They also failed or refused to forward the survey results to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), who keeps track of such things while administering the *Federal Historic Preservation Act*.

As you may recall, *Citizens for L Street* (which we support) sued for an EIR before the city demolished those two contributing homes, to make room for a Granville Homes apartment project. We did not ask that these buildings remain untouched—instead, we sought the full and public environmental review that would allow an honest assessment on the impact the project would have on the remainder of the district. Our reasoning was once those impacts were fully assessed, measures in mitigation could be devised to minimize the damage.

Citizens for L Street complained of procedural defects and won in court. The City is now trying to correct those mistakes. However, the community lost on the issue of whether a full EIR is required to assess impacts on these remaining historic resources. The court said, among other things that since none of the other buildings in the district appeared on the State Historic Preservation Office inventory, there was insufficient proof that the district itself was historic. Neither the Court nor the *Citizens for L Street* knew then that the city had failed to act on the studies or file the studies with SHPO as mandated by the federal government through the National Parks Service.

We need to help correct this if we can! Our heritage must be honestly dealt with and protected! The community must stand up for what is right! We must hold the city leaders and staff to their duty—that is the only way to save what is left of our heritage! We will keep up the effort. A Heritage Fresno benefactor will match your contribution dollar for dollar. Please help us with your contribution today!

Charles Barrett, Heritage Fresno Co-chair

MARK YOUR CALENDAR . . .

FIRST IN FRESNO
PRESENTED BY ROGER B. TAYLOR
Wednesday, March 20, 2013

Refreshments 6:30pm, Program 7:00pm
Woodward Regional Library, 944 E. Perrin, west of Champlain

Fresno is not known for its innovation. The best subject for innovation in Fresno County, obviously is in the "field" of agriculture! However, Fresno County can claim many firsts in a variety of other categories. If you have ever doubted that Fresno is a leader in innovation you need to hear Roger Taylor's amazing facts about our historical achievements dating from the 1880s to the present. Please join us at 6:30 pm for refreshments. Roger will speak at 7 pm. Co-sponsored by the Fresno County Public Library and Heritage Fresno.

HERITAGE FRESNO

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In Memoriam

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Heritage Fresno Mission Statement

Heritage Fresno is dedicated to preserving historic sites, districts, buildings and objects. We encourage research and education in the field of historic preservation. We help insure that preservation law is upheld.

Ways to accomplish this goal are by

Research and publication of educational material on history and architecture of historic buildings, historic districts and sites.

Upholding Preservation Law to protect the public's interest in preservation of historic buildings, sites, districts and objects.

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Fresno Mayor's Historic Preservation Awards

Mayor Ashley Swearengin presented this year's Historic Preservation Awards in a ceremony before the December 20, 2012, City Council meeting. Seven projects located in Fresno's Downtown Triangle were recognized as outstanding examples of restoration and rehabilitation.

Residential Rehabilitation/Restoration: Granville Homes was recognized for its full rehabilitation/restoration of the c1922 Flora Montague Bungalow Court at 950-962 E. Divisadero Street. The project included replacement of a bungalow that burned in 2011, and new construction of a two-story unit that burned years ago.

The Housing Division of the City of Fresno was recognized for its outstanding customer service and the faithful restoration of several older single-family properties in downtown neighborhoods.

Adaptive Reuse: InterVarsity's FIFUL, architect, Christopher Johnson, AIA, and a crew of volunteers adapted the c1902 home at 1717 L Street into the "Towne Home" apartments.

The c1902 Mission Revival Helm Home (Alamo House) at 1749 L Street is a work in progress as this former home is adapted for reuse as office space. Scott Vincent, Preservation Architect.

Broadway Lofts, 1625 Broadway, Reza Assemi converted the c1936 LeMoss & Smith Tire Company into 23 live/work lofts.

Reza Assemi and Pyramid Homes working with architect Marvin Armstrong transformed the c1953 office building at 64 N. Fulton into 19 studio apartments.

In-Fill/Sustainable: A new single-family residence built at 415 Calaveras Street, spearheaded by Lowell Community Development Corporation working with Robin Goldbeck Architects was recognized.

Russell and Pat Fey Memorial Preservationist of the Year: Elizabeth Laval was honored for her tireless work to preserve the priceless heritage of her great-grandfather's 100,000 photo images through the Claude "Pop" Laval Foundation. This award is named for Russell and Pat Fey (both deceased), long-time advocates of Fresno history and architecture.

Community/Individuals: Honoring individuals and groups for their contributions to history, architectural research and community service the Mayor recognized Mike Clifton, Ph.D., for his 20-plus years of service on the Tower District Design Review Committee.

Barbara Fiske was honored for her active role over the past several years as a volunteer on numerous committees and projects in the Lowell Neighborhood.

Community Group Award: HandsOn Central California RSVP has provided volunteers for many years at the Old Water Tower, c1894. (Heritage Fresno board members Roger Taylor and Herb Arden have volunteered on Tuesdays for many years).

Horizon Award: Michelle Henderson Swift was honored as an individual who has made significant contributions for her work coordinating volunteers at the c1929 Warnor's Theater.

Nominations for the awards were submitted by City staff and members of the public to a committee consisting of Karana Hattersley-Dreyton (Historic Preservation Project Manager), Dr. Don Simmons (Chair, Fresno Historic Preservation Commission) and local architect Michele Randel AIA. The committee's recommendations were then forwarded to Mayor Ashley Swearengin for approval.

Source: Karana Hattersley-Drayton, Historic Preservation Project Manager, City of Fresno

Save the Date: Saturday, May 4, 2013, 9:30 am Historic Chandler Field

Located two miles west of the heart of downtown along Kearney Boulevard, Chandler Field was built in 1936-37 as a

W.P.A. (Works Progress Administration) project. Come hear the story of early aviation in Fresno. Speakers: Scott Vincent, Preservation Architect, and George F. Gruner, former Fresno Bee executive editor. "Pop" Laval photos and more surprises to follow!



March 4, 2013, Channel 18, Valley Public Television Volunteer Opportunity

Heritage Fresno needs your help answering phones for the Channel 18 on air pledge campaign Monday, March 4, 2013, from 6:30-9:00 pm. Channel 18 will feature "As Pop Saw It" Through the Eyes of Claude "Pop" Laval and the "Antiques Road Show". Phone Heritage Fresno at 559-243-5848 or 243-0303 to volunteer or for more information.

Heritage Fresno Donors - January 1, 2012—December 31, 2012

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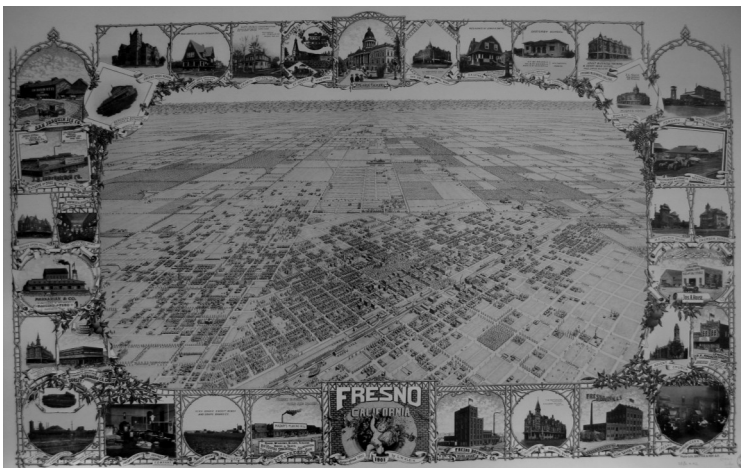
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Heritage Fresno appreciates your support and generosity for the cause of historic preservation. All contributions are tax deductible as Heritage Fresno is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization registered with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and the California State Franchise Tax Board. All donations will be gratefully acknowledged in our newsletter. Thank you.

HISTORIC 1901 FRESNO MAP



Donate \$100 or more to Heritage Fresno and receive a historic 1901 Fresno City map as a thank you gift. The map, reproduced in sepia tones, is bordered by original drawings and photographs of early Fresno homes, businesses and the Fresno County Courthouse. Printed on high quality, glossy paper and measuring 26" x 39", this map is suitable for framing. Your tax deductible donation of \$100 (or more) includes Heritage Fresno membership and a 1901 map. Include this order form with your donation.

Historic 1901 Fresno Map Order Form

Donor's Name _____

Mailing Address _____

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Amount of Donation \$ _____

Mail to Heritage Fresno in the enclosed envelope. Quantities limited.



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Our Heritage Fresno website is a work in progress. Your patience is appreciated.

What we are about—Heritage Fresno is dedicated to preserving historic sites, districts, buildings and objects. We encourage research and education in the field of historic preservation. We help insure that preservation law is upheld.

If you support our goals, we would appreciate your active interest and financial support. We thank you for your participation in the cause of preservation in Fresno!

HERITAGE FRESNO
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