

THE HERITAGE HERALD

Spring 2016 Newsletter of the Eureka Heritage Society

Est. 1973 Eureka, California

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Theatre Fundraiser

at the

North Coast Repertory

Friday, May 20 at 8:00

Tickets are \$20.00 and can be purchased from board members, eurekaheritage.org or call 445-8775 to place an order. **This fundraiser has been completely underwritten by Pierson Building Center.**

Reefer Madness is a musical satire of the 1936 cult classic film of the same name. It opened in Los Angeles in 1998. Wine and cheese reception sponsored by Ron and Melanie Kuhnel will follow after.

Heritage Action Calendar

**All meetings – City Hall –
531 K St Eureka, CA
Second Floor City Council
Chambers**

City Council
1st & 3rd Tues. – 6:00 p.m.

Historic Preservation Commission
1st Wed. – 4:00 p.m.

Design Review Committee
2nd & 4th Wed. – 3:30 p.m.

Planning Commission
2nd Mon. – 5:30 p.m.

May is Preservation Month

Celebrate

with the Eureka Heritage Society

**Preservation Awards will be presented May 14
12:00-2:00 at the Womans Club 1531 J Street**

Eureka Woman's Club or 100 years of continuous ownership and preservation of 1531 J Street

Cloney and Gosselin Building 7th & E Streets. Commercial Restoration, Philip Burns and Miles Ketchum

Susie Van Kirk Preservationist of the Year
Presented posthumously

Research workshop Tuesday May 10 6:00-8:00

Old houses can tell fascinating stories, which is why the Eureka Heritage Society will present a two-part workshop on how to research the history of older buildings beginning Tuesday, May 10, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Annie B. Ryan House, 1000 F St., Eureka. The follow-up event will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 14, at the same locale. The workshop is free to EHS members, but anyone who wants to take part can become a member at the first gathering for a discounted fee of \$10. Since space is limited, reservations are required by calling EHS at 445-8775 by Friday, May 6, and leaving your name and phone number. The introductory information presented will be useful in researching the history of all local buildings. It will highlight the importance of seeking out primary sources, including U.S. Census and chain-of-title records, newspaper articles and obituaries, as well as maps and photographs. The follow-up event in June will allow time for participants to share what they have discovered and to find solutions if they have encountered difficulties in their efforts.

Board Members

Executive Committee

President	Mary Ann McCulloch
Vice President	Chuck Petty
Secretary	Peter Santino
Treasurer	Doris Timm

Board of Directors

Mary Glavich	Helen Hui
Robin Kuhnle	Robert Libershal
Paul McNally	Lonni Magellan
Steve Werner	Bill Peer
Ray Swedenburg	Melanie Kuhnel
Founding Director	Muriel Dinsmore

The Board meets the second Monday of each month at 5:45 p.m. at the Annie B. Ryan House
1000 F Street, Eureka

Committees and Chairs

Membership	Mary Ann McCulloch
Annie B Ryan	Bill Peer
Events	Mary Glavich
Webmaster	Peter Santino
Education	Janet Warren
Plaque Program	Steve Werner
Fundraising	Ron Kuhnel
Archival Project	Bob Libershal
Volunteers	Lonni Magellan
Correspondence	Robin Kuhnle
Preservation	

Mission

The Eureka Heritage Society will provide leadership, education and advocacy that preserves and enhances Eureka's irreplaceable historic structures and neighborhoods so as to ensure a legacy for future generations.

Heritage Herald Staff

Janet Warren
Xandra Manns
Mary Ann McCulloch
Kay Bradford
Melanie Kuhnel

Contact us with your suggestions and comments @
707-444-3314

Eureka Heritage Society website:
www.eurekaheritage.org

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Eureka, CA 95502-1354
707-445-8775

President's Corner

This year, the Society is striving to center the Home Tour around the Buhne Terrace and Carson Park areas. We want to make the tour very walkable in an area that we haven't featured for many years. If you, or someone you know, own a home in that area and would be willing to share it with the Society and the community, please contact the Society. As we now have a mortgage to pay on the Annie B. Ryan House and Garden, it's more important than ever for the Society to have a successful tour, as it is our biggest fundraising event. Please help us make this the best tour yet!

The last issue of the Heritage Herald contained an article about the Sequoia Park garden. I'm pleased to say that the Eureka Heritage Society was contacted by the Sequoia Park Zoo Foundation and we look forward to meeting with the Zoo Foundation Board to discuss the concerns that were brought to the Society regarding the plans for the garden. Our goal as a Society is to be a historic preservation resource, helping to preserve the past for the future of Eureka.

Mary Ann McCulloch

Yard Sale

The second annual fundraising yard sale to benefit the Annie B Ryan House and Gardens, at 1000 F Street, is scheduled for June 25th from 9:00-1:00. In order for it to be as successful as last year's sale, we are asking for your kind donations of saleable items. We will have a drop off day for those donations on June 18th from 9:00-1:00. For special items or requests please call 445.0962. Please go through your unwanted items and help the Annie B continue to grow and prosper as the home of the Heritage Society.

In an effort to not overwhelm our limited storage space we will not be selling any clothing this year, please donate those items to another charity of your choice. We will have tax deductions slips available, upon request. If anyone would like to volunteer to help price articles before the sale or help out on the day of the sale, write to eurekaheritagesociety@gmail.com or call 445-8775.

Volunteer Recognition

Bob Felter

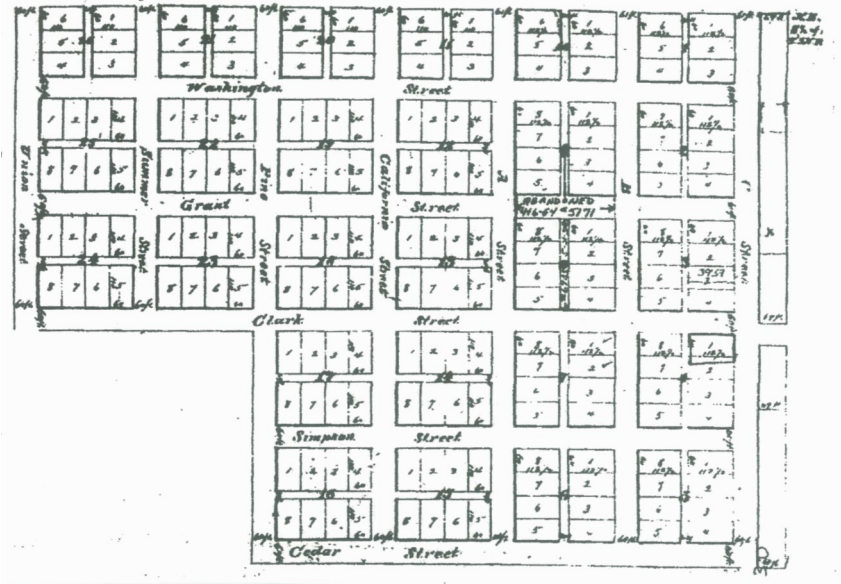
In an effort to remember and thank some of the individual volunteers that helped the Annie B get ready for its next 100 years, we want to especially thank Bob Felter. His exceptional skills, attention to detail, and his tireless involvement in helping the Annie B exceed all code requirements and building standards need to be recognized. The house that has stood since 1892 will now stand for many years to come under the banner of the Eureka Heritage Society, We ask you to thank Bob Felter for his extraordinary commitment. and continuing service.



Clark District? Then and Now

by Melanie Kuhnel

Original Clark Addition Map, recorded 1866



1. Eureka was described as the Williamsburg of the West by David S. Gebhard (1927 - 1996). He was a leading architectural historian, particularly known for his books on the architecture and architects of California and a long-time faculty member at the University of California. His comments reflect the opinion that Eureka is fortunate to be the home of some of the most beautiful and interesting historic houses on the West Coast. It has been said that there are more of these homes per capita in Eureka than any other city in Northern California. A large number of them are found in the area called the Clark District. Citizens of Eureka that live in this part of the city and others treasure this collection. So in 2001 when the neighbors near Jefferson School heard an apartment house was going to be built threatening the view of the bay for some, increased traffic and congestion for others, and a change to the architecture and history of the neighborhood, they met and discussed their concerns. They were advised the best way to maintain their neighborhood while allowing appropriate changes and development was to form an historic district. After a few meetings, Leslie Heald, a professional consultant, was hired by the Eureka Heritage Society to guide the Clark Committee through the process.

2. During the next few years volunteers worked very hard and much was accomplished. Ms. Heald gave a series of seminars to the volunteers that trained them

to fill out the national preservation forms. To do this, there were sessions in architecture styles and details, maps, historical research and Eureka history. The Clark District name was chosen to honor Johnathan Clark who platted the district in 1866- a first for the new city of Eureka. Sanborn maps of Eureka from multiple years were purchased and demonstrate how houses change over the years. Historical information from the Caltrans Survey, the Green Book, maps, the library archives and other sources were accessed. In 2005 the City Council was asked to consider the adoption of a historic overlay zone for the Clark District neighborhood. A sample of the nomination which was in draft form was given to them. The nomination included a general description of the district, a history, maps and survey documents of fifteen full and four partial blocks that had been surveyed. There were two hundred and sixty two buildings, structures and sites recorded using the cultural resource survey forms

Old Photo Prompts House Research



More than a century ago, Carolina Peterson and her husband posed for a photographer on the porch of their home in Eureka.

In 2009, a distant relative of Carolina's sent a copy of this undated photo to the Humboldt County Historical Society, inquiring if the Peterson's house was still standing. The address given for it was merely "in Eureka." Linda DeLong, then the research assistant at the historical society, drove around town looking for the house. Eventually she located it at the corner of A and Long Streets – 2436 A Street. Proudly she shared her discovery with me. "It still has the same porch supports," she excitedly said; though the house looks somewhat different now, stripped down and covered with asbestos siding.

Intrigued by the photograph, and because there was no historical account of this house, I began research to fill in the story. City directories helped to identify these Petersons. Then I delved into maps and property records.

In October 1886, for \$110, Hans F. Peterson purchased two vacant lots (Lots 3 & 4 in Block 109 of the 2nd Enlargement of Clark's Addition) at the northwest corner of A and Long streets. Property tax assessments indicate that the house was built about 1888. And in a Homestead Declaration, made and recorded September 16, 1889, Carolina

stated that she and her husband Hans were residing in a house on those lots, with the actual cash value of the property estimated at \$3,000.

The 1889 "Birds Eye View of Eureka," an artistic map rendering, shows the Peterson house in its



historic neighborhood context. That context, of course, includes the similar nearby house of Peter F. Antonsen at the Buhne street corner of the block – 2402 A Street. A May 4, 1889 newspaper article mentions "These charming homes" of P.F. Antonsen and H.F. Peterson "in this unimproved and unfrequented part of suburbs of our growing

city;” that “the two residences are of nearly the same architectural formation, and differing only in adornment ...” Both houses are variants of a common house form which was built in the



Humboldt Bay area beginning in the 1850s during the Settlement Era, and continually thereafter through the rest of the 19th century. That house form is boxy, one and a half or two stories with gabled roof, and often with a single story rear extension. It’s a vernacular style, evocative of the houses of New England, and typically described as Greek Revival. Locally such houses were built with varying degrees of architectural ornamentation, from unadorned or minimal to ornate; sometimes with entry porch or bay(s), as seen on the Antonsen and Peterson houses.

It is difficult to define the adornment of Peter Antonsen’s house. Without an historic photo of it, what did that house originally look like? Four pedimented gables still top the three square bays and the elaborate entry portico. And except for the upper rear wall, which shows horizontal drop siding and windows with their hoods and mouldings, that house also is now covered with asbestos siding.

While the Peterson house has the Greek Revival form and style, including cornice returns, many Italianate features were built onto it, like the slanted bay and the detailing. The McAlesters, in their book [A Field Guide to American Architecture](#), identify a front-gabled roof subtype of Italianate style: “In this subtype, Italianate detailing is added to the simple front-

gabled rectangular box popularized by the Greek Revival style.” That subtype fits the Peterson house, as seen in the historic photograph. Shuster aerial photos taken in 1947 show the Peterson house intact, but looking weathered and worn. Those photos also show vacant land in the vicinity and numerous new houses under construction south of Long street.

A city building permit for the re-siding of the Peterson house was issued in 1949. That’s when the detailings were stripped, and at a cost of \$840 the house was covered with “insulated brick siding.” Much more recently, the windows have been replaced – except in the bay, which still has its two-over-two wood sash windows.

Basic biographical information is mostly what I’ve so far learned about Hans and Carolina Peterson. This data I’ve obtained from readily available local sources: Carolina was born in November 1834; Hans in March 1838; both in Sweden. In 1868 Carolina arrived in the U.S.; Hans Frederick Peterson two years later. They married in 1871. They came to Eureka in 1884, possibly from Staten Island, New York. Hans’ occupation was ship carpenter. Hans died at home in 1911 at age 73.

Though widow Carolina sold the house property to the 7th Day Adventist church in 1913, she continued to reside in her home till leaving Eureka in 1919.

The historic photograph allows us to remember this house as it once was, when built and lived in by the Petersons. And to remember Hans and Carolina Peterson, the mature couple who made a moderately elegant Victorian house their home in Eureka. The exact date of the photograph is unknown. With the house then showing some slight weathering stains, and with the couple appearing to be about 60 years of age, the photo looks like it could have been taken in the late 1890s. The trees in the background? I suspect that they are residue and regrowth; years after timber had been harvested.

By Bob Liebershal

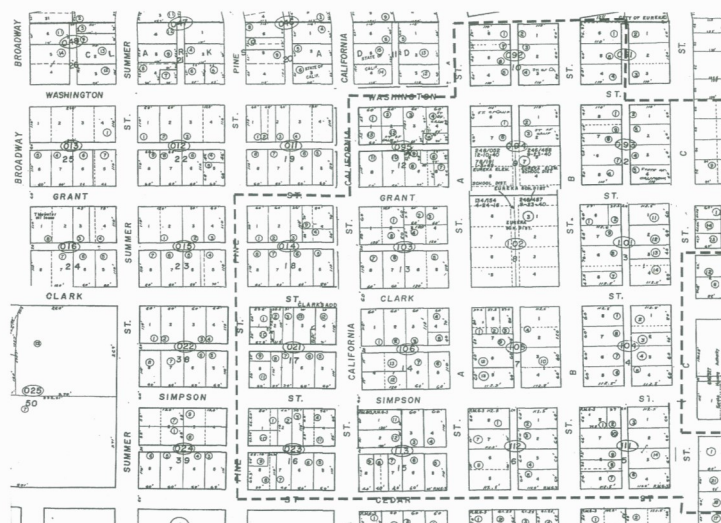
recommended by the California State Office of Historic Preservation. The volunteer work was reviewed by a qualified historic resources specialist. As the nomination proceeded over the next few years, the surveys were updated.

The Eureka Heritage Society presented the application for the Clark Historic District with a \$1000.00 application fee in 2009 to the City. In 2012, Community Development told the group they would have to pay city staff costs to complete the application. This was appealed to the city council who then waived fees for district applications. In December 2013, the guidelines were delivered to the city staff. They reviewed them and made comments. Comments were also received from the city Historic Preservation Commissioners. These comments were incorporated into the document and the document was sent to the city again. In 2016, after more review and comments, the Design Guidelines were completed.

3. In the next step, after going to the Historic Preservation Commission one more time, the Design Guidelines will be presented by Community Development to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation, then given to the City Council who after review, can conditionally adopt the Design Guidelines pending a vote by property owners. After this is done, because of the changing ownership in the District and time lapse, volunteers will be needed again to review and revise the surveys and a meeting describing the District will be held for the neighbors. The owners of property in the district will vote on the district and if 60 percent vote in favor of it, the area will become a district.

4. Even without the formal designation, the area is referred to as the Clark District and benefits of this are obvious. A few of the people on the Clark Committee joined the group that revitalized the Jefferson School after it was closed. Today it is a flourishing Community Center. Several houses have been restored or rehabbed. A recent survey found only two houses in poor repair. And the building that was going to be an apartment became a beautiful architectural addition to the neighborhood.

Proposed Boundaries of the Clark Historic District



- Select boundaries that encompass the single area of land containing the significant concentration of buildings making up the district. Consider the following factors:
1. Visual barriers that mark a change in the historic character of the area of that break the continuity of the district, such as new construction, highways, or development of a different character.
 2. Visual changes in the character of the area due to different architectural styles, types or periods, or to a decline in the concentration of contributing resources.
 3. Boundaries at a specific time in history, such as the original city limits or the legally recorded boundaries of a housing subdivision, estate, or ranch.
 4. Clearly differentiated patterns of historic development, such as commercial versus residential or industrial.
- from National Register Bulletin 21, page 12

The District is roughly bound by C Street on the east, Cedar Street on the south portions of Pine Street on the west and portions of Eighth Street on the north. Walking around this area you will find a variety of styles including outstanding examples of Queen Anne, Stick Eastlake, Gothic Revival, Craftsman, Italianate, Mission, Greek Revival, Streamline Moderne and neighbors that are proud of their neighborhood

Check the address label to see that your membership is up to date

Eureka Heritage Society membership is for the calendar year. If you can't remember or are unsure of your membership status look at the mailing address on the newsletter. Your support is much needed and membership fees are a major source of our income .

2016 Eureka Heritage Society Membership Form

New or **Renewing Member** (January to January)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Nonprofit Sponsor | <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 Patron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Family | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Private Sponsor | <input type="checkbox"/> \$300 Benefactor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Student/Senior | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Business Sponsor | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Senior Family | | |

Additional Contribution (s) to the Eureka Heritage Society for:

- \$ _____ **Annie B. Ryan House Fund**
- \$ _____ **Annie B. Ryan Garden Fund**
- \$ _____ **Carson Carriage Maintenance Fund**
- \$ _____ **Emergency Preservation Fund**

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____
 Email Address _____

Enclosed is my check in the total amount of \$ _____

payable to **Eureka Heritage Society.**

The Eureka Heritage Society needs volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering, or need further information, contact our Volunteer Coordinator Lonni Magellan at 442-7819 or email her at heylonni2@gmail.com

- Events, including annual Home Tour: docents, host/hostess, serving refreshments
- Education
- Publications, including mailing and distribution
- Archival Project and Research or serving on the Board

Additional comments/suggestions: _____

Mail to: **Eureka Heritage Society P.O. Box 1354 Eureka, CA 95502-1354**

Thank you to Our New and Renewing Members

For 2016 (as of 4/1/16 please let us know if we have missed you)

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sally Arnot | Arlene Hartin | Joan Nilsen |
| Joan Berman | Doris Hickerson | Beth Powell |
| Dr. Joan Davies | Sarah & Frank Jager | Ramon Ranoco |
| Susan A. Dodd | Candee Kimbrell | Redwood Art Association |
| Kay Escar da | Jill Korte | Elizabeth G. Thompson |
| Robert Fasic & Roy Grieshaber | Jeff & Sharon Lamoree | Janet Warren |
| Lois Hansen Freeman | Paul McNally | Kent & Marsha Willis |
| Gloria Fulton | Melissa Nicholson | Belinda Zander |



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Calendar of Coming Events

- | | |
|---------|--|
| May 10 | Research workshop 6:00– 8:00
at Annie B. Ryan House |
| May 14 | Preservation Awards ceremony 12:00
-2:00 Womans Club 1531 J Street |
| May 20 | Night at the Theatre
<u>Reefer Madness</u> Fund raiser for
Eureka Heritage Society
NCRT 300 5th Street 8:00 |
| June 14 | Research Workshop Follow up |
| June 18 | Drop off for donations to yard sale
9:00-1:00 no clothes please |
| June 25 | Yard Sale Ryan House 9:00-1:00 |
| Aug 20 | Summer Garden Party In the
Ingomar Gardens Details TBA |
| Oct 2 | Annual Home Tour Help? Call! |