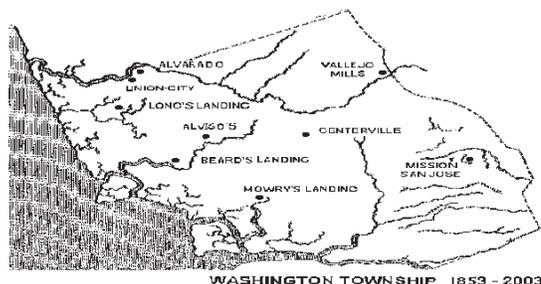


Washington Township Historical Society



MAR - APR 2021

VOL. 45

NO. 02

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MEETING DATE: MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2021, 7:00 PM
LIVE ON ZOOM, <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76473734687>

Washington Township Historical Society Editor: Al Minard

Dear Washington Township Historical Society members and friends,

We are pleased to have Sonia Tamez and Russ Robinson speaking to us March 22, 2021 at 7:00 PM on Zoom about the restoration and preservation of historic buildings in Alviso. They have had to relocate many of the buildings because of the rising waters of the bay and in the process some of them have had to be re-purposed. That means that the original purpose of some of these historic buildings has changed to a use that is needed now for this area. The presentation will include a PowerPoint slide show that I am sure you will find interesting.

Biographical Sketch for Russ Robinson

Russ is a native Californian and a descendent of pioneers who came to California by wagon train in 1849. He has a background as an engineer and real estate executive for Lockheed Missiles and Space Company. He retired in 1992 after 36 years with this company. After retirement he has researched and written about the history of this area.

He has been active in promoting safe and responsible boating. He has received many awards in recognition of his work. He has been recognized for his work in the boating community locally, statewide and nationally for his contributions.

He has been associated with the South Bay Yacht Club since the late 60's and is the Staff Commodore of the club. He also serves as the club historian and archivist. The club has a number of original photos dating back to prior to 1900. Many are displayed on the walls of the historic clubhouse built in 1903.

Additional areas of interest are that he is on the Board of Directors of California Pioneers of Santa Clara County which works to promote and maintain the historical heritage of the area. One of his tasks is to coordinate with the ECV organization (E. Clampus Vitus) on the placement of plaques that identify historic places of interest. Russ is descendent from Joseph Zumwalt who started many Clampus locations in the Gold Rush area.

He has worked diligently to maintain the historical buildings in Alviso and has formed a 501(c)(3) non-profit and is the Chairman of the Board for the South Bay Historic Restoration Foundation.

At present the Foundation is working on the restoration of an old, circa 1900 boat barn that is owned by the South Bay Yacht Club. Work has been completed on the restoration of docks in the Alviso slough. The right to place them there was granted by the Secretary of War in 1905.

Biographical Sketch for Sonia Tamez

Sonia has more than 50 years of experience in working with indigenous and other communities, organizations, and governments, locally and globally. She has worked in the areas of historic preservation, natural and cultural resource management, land management planning, and cross-cultural collaboration in the West.

Sonia served on the US Delegation for the United Nations Forum on Forests and participated in international policy forums in Bali, Costa Rica, and Washington DC. While on a fellowship, she worked on the personal staff of a senator and participated in developing and negotiating substantive legislation to protect heritage resources and watersheds.

She is retired and continues to volunteer for several organizations. She became acquainted with Alviso while she was exploring the area for her Plein air painting and soon supported the community in their efforts to protect their historic district.

The City of Fremont recently put out a questionnaire about parks in Fremont. We are blessed with many parks and several of them have historical significance. Those historic parks include: Shinn Park and Arboretum, California Nursery, Ardenwood with the historic Patterson House, Rancho Higuera Adobe, and the Stivers Lagoon Nature trail.

Our guest speaker's this month will be talking about relocating buildings. Fremont has been relocating buildings for some time. In the 1960s the city moved two historic buildings that were in the area of the Fremont Hub development to Ardenwood Park. The City and the Park were excited about creating a historic town along the tracks of the railroad running through Ardenwood. New council members and park directors arrived on the scene and the money to do this project evaporated and there was no desire or effort to raise money to complete this project so a few years ago those buildings were demolished, after they had sat on cribbing for almost 50 years and allowed to nearly self-destruct.

There have been some bright spots though. The Pickering house was sitting on the back of a lot along Mission Boulevard and not being used and a developer came in and moved the building across Pickering and put it close to Mission Boulevard and developed low-income housing around the historic house with the lower floor a community room with computers and games for the young residents and the upper floor was used as the residence of the manager of the housing.

The old school in Mission San Jose was sitting on several acres of land in the Mission San Jose area and not being used very much. The building had been one of the first high schools in Mission San Jose and when Fremont was incorporated in 1956 this building was used as City Hall for quite a few years. The building had been nearly vacant for several years in the early 2000's and was converted to a Live-Work facility with retail in front on the sides and market rate housing behind the old school building. A view corridor exits from Mission Boulevard with a very large tree in front of the old school.

The historic Hiram Davis house on High Street was sitting



Hiram Davis house on High Street

on several acres of land with a barn, tank house, and wash house. A developer was allowed to develop the land behind the historic house with a large view corridor to the historic house. They were also supposed to move the tank house, which they did not do, but built a new one that was a copy of one in wine country. They were also supposed to restore the historic house which was not done very well but the historic house was sold to a young couple who enjoyed the historic element and they did a marvelous job of restoring the historic house.



Curtner Mansion on Wabana Common

The Curtner Mansion in the Warm Springs area had once been the home of the Curtner family that owned over 9,000 acres of farm land in Warm Springs. The mansion sat on a few acres of land and the developer was allowed to develop lower height homes around the mansion and have the mansion as the focus of the development. We

had learned from the High Street project so the City insisted that the historic mansion be fully restored before they could sell the last home in the new development.



Blasdell/MacIntosh House from Canyon Heights Road

The Blasdell/MacIntosh home on MacIntosh Avenue has a view corridor to Canyon Heights with a historic granary on the property. This house and granary were kept in their original location with the large view corridor to Canyon Heights. Housing behind and to one side of the historic house was developed with above market rate housing.

There have also been some historic houses relocated. The Bartlett house was moved from Pickering Avenue to Ellsworth Street in the Mission San Jose area alongside the Sousa House which was moved from Palm Avenue. Both houses were scheduled for demolition and re-purposed to retail/commercial.

There have also been some houses moved out of the area. One notable building was St. Joseph's Catholic Church at Mission San Jose. This was a wood frame building built in the late 1800's to replace the original adobe church that had been demolished in the 1868 Hayward fault earthquake. The Catholic Diocese decided that the wood frame church was no longer desired so it was sold for one dollar to a congregation across the bay and moved intact across the Dumbarton Bridge to its new home in Burlingame. An adobe looking building that closely resembled the original church was built and is now used for weddings, special events and some church services.

ZOOM Basics and Best Practices

Don't be intimidated by doing virtual worship or Bible study or small groups via Zoom! It probably is easier than you think!



1.) MULTIPLE WAYS TO ACCESS

Use your computer or your phone to join via video chat! Or, you can simply call in to the meeting without video by calling a toll-free number.



2.) MUTE YOURSELF

When you are not talking, mute yourself. This goes for if you need to type or scroll to another webpage as well.

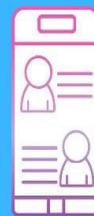
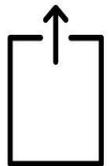


3.) VIEW ALL PARTICIPANTS

By clicking "gallery view" you can view all participants in the Zoom call on one screen. The other option is "speaker view," which follows the speaker making the most noise and flips back and forth between speakers.

4.) SHARE YOUR SCREEN

You can share your screen using the icon at the bottom of the page. This allows all participants to see your screen and still hear you. Best for presentations where you all need to see the same thing.



5.) CHAT

You can chat with everyone on the call or just one person by clicking the Chat icon on the bottom of the screen. Be sure to click the name of the person you want to chat with if you are doing one-on-one chat during a call with multiple parties.

6.) IF YOU ARE HAVING CONNECTIVITY PROBLEMS

If you are having trouble with your Internet connection, try turning off your video. This often helps the load on the Internet so at least you can speak and hear others more clearly.



MARCH 22, 2021, MEETING

Will be on Zoom starting at 7:00 P.M.:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76473734687>

This meeting will start at 7:00 pm, you can log in about 15 minutes early to check your connection.

NEW MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR SINGLE ADDRESS

ONE-YEAR \$10 FIVE-YEAR \$40 TEN-YEAR \$70 PATRON: \$50.00 for one year

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CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-Mail Address _____

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