SurveyLA Releases Historic Resource Findings for Silver Lake and Echo Park

The findings for SurveyLA, the Los Angeles Historic Resources Survey, continue to be posted on the SurveyLA website at www.preservation.lacity.org/survey/reports. Among the latest results to be posted is the survey covering the Silver Lake-Echo Park-Elysian Valley Community Plan Area of Los Angeles, neighborhoods that are rich in architect-designed resources and significant local history. This article is the ninth in a series of features on some of the interesting “finds” from SurveyLA.

Silver Lake

Neutra Colony Residential Historic District, which consists of ten architect-designed Mid-Century Modern or Late Modern residences concentrated near the intersection of Silver Lake Boulevard and Earl Street, including Neutra Place – a rare concentration of intact residences designed by Richard Neutra and/or his son Dion Neutra; the earliest houses were constructed in 1948 and the latest residence was completed in 1979.

Lautner Residence, 2009 Micheltorena St. (1939), an excellent example of an early Modern residence, designed by John Lautner as his own home.

Mabel Normand Feature Film Company, at 1215 N. Bates, a rare surviving example of an early motion picture studio. Normand was a silent film star who occupied the studio in 1916-17; from 1918 to 1921, it housed the production company of cowboy star William S. Hart.

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Two New Appointees Join Cultural Heritage Commission

Mayor Eric Garcetti has made two new appointments to the City’s Cultural Heritage Commission, which oversees the designation and protection of Los Angeles’ local historic landmarks (Historic-Cultural Monuments).

Jeremy Irvine studied architecture at Woodbury University in Burbank and worked as a draftsman and designer for architectural firms of Mark Dillon and House & Robertson. He also worked for the Art Center College of Design on a master plan for the College’s hillside campus, as well as a downtown Pasadena campus, collaborating with architects such as Hogetts+Fung, Daly Genik, Alvaro Siza, and Frank Gehry. Eventually discovering his passion for smaller scale objects, he went to work for Holly Hunt Los Angeles and sold high end furniture, textiles, and designs. He currently owns a small business that provides interior design services, and spends his free time working to restore and preserve historic architecture and volunteering in the political realm.

Barry Milofsky is a Partner in M2A (Milofsky and Michali) Architects in Los Angeles, bringing over 40 years of experience in coordinating complex historic preservation and urban development projects. He has won numerous historic preservation awards, recognizing his work on projects such as the Los Altos Apartments, John C. Fremont Library, (Continued on page 4)
Walker Residence, 2100 Kenilworth Ave. (built in 1936), an excellent example of an International Style residence, designed by Rudolph Schindler.

Donley’s Coffee Shop (now Astro Family Restaurant Coffee Shop) at 2306 Fletcher Dr., one of the most intact examples of Googie architecture, constructed in 1960 and designed by Armet and Davis.

1607 N. Angelus Ave., a 1938 International Style house designed by Raphael Soriano.

Red Lion Tavern, 2362 Glendale Blvd., established in 1959 as an English pub by Ted Mandekic and Edward Pagliano, the owners of downtown’s Cole’s P.E. Buffet. It became a German tavern since 1963 when its ownership changed, and has become a Silver Lake institution.

Holy Virgin Mary Russian Orthodox Cathedral, 650 Micheltorena St. (1925), a Byzantine Revival Church built in 1928 for the first Russian parish in Southern California.

Sachs Apartments, 1830 Lucile Ave., (1927), a rare International Style apartment building designed by Rudolph Schindler.

Yates Studio, 1735 Micheltorena St., (1919), significant as an early music venue for modern composers. This bungalow was remodeled in 1938 by Rudolph Schindler for Peter Yates, the music critic for Arts and Architecture magazine, with a studio for 100 located on top of the bungalow to take advantage of the views. Yates began the legendary concert series called “Evenings on the Roof,” which continues today as the Sunday Evening Concerts at LACMA.

Olive Residence, 2236 Micheltorena St. (1934), another excellent International Style residence from architect Rudolph Schindler.

1495 and 1536 N. Easterly Terrace and 1831 Fanning St., three excellent examples of Streamline Moderne residential architecture, from 1937, 1936 and 1936 respectively, all designed by William Kesling (1536 Easterly Terrace pictured).

Orans Residence, 2404 Micheltorena St. (1941), a distinctive International Style residence designed by Gregory Ain.

Scharlin Residence, 2363 Silver Ridge Ave. (1937), an International Style residence designed by Gregory Ain, exhibiting a high level of craftsmanship.

Silver Lake Residential Historic District, approximately bounded by Angus Street and Ivan Hill Terrace on the north; Landa Street, Kenilworth Avenue, and Tesla Avenue on the south; Griffith Park Boulevard on the west; and Silver Lake Drive and Armstrong Avenue on the east, is the largest eligible historic district yet identified through SurveyLA. In total, the historic district contains 1,171 properties, of which approximately 60% are contributors, with notable concentrations of both Period Revival and Mid-Century Modern architecture. Oil heiress Daisy Canfield and her husband, film star Antonio Moreno, originally subdivided a portion of the hills west of the Silver Lake and Ivanhoe reservoirs in 1924 and named the tract Moreno Highlands. Later infill development of single-family homes from the 1940s-1960s included many excellent examples of Mid-Century Modern homes designed by noted architects.

Echo Park-Elysian Valley

1438 N. Glendale Blvd. (1905), a rare, intact example of a Craftsman apartment house.
**SurveyLA Silverlake/Echo Park Findings**

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**Angelus Temple Church Parsonage**, 1801 W. Park Ave. (1925), the home of Aimee Semple McPherson, founder of the Four-square Church, from 1925 to 1944. McPherson is significant in the history of religion in Los Angeles and a pioneer in the use of radio for evangelism.

**Providence Congregational Church**, 1600 N. Morton Ave. (1914), a Vernacular/Gothic Revival structure in continuous use as a church for the past century.

**Angona Winery** (1898), 1435 N. McDuff St., a Victorian Vernacular Cottage that is a rare, intact example of early residential development in the area. According to the Echo Park Historical Society, this was the home of Cono and Antonia Angona, whose family made wine here from 1900 to 1910, importing grapes from the San Fernando Valley.

**446 N. Lake St.** (1919), an excellent, intact example of Neoclassical architecture applied to a multifamily residential building.

**514 N. Laveta Ter.** (1885), an excellent example of a late 19th century Folk Victorian residence reflecting the boom of the 1880, and one of the oldest residences in the area.

**Los Angeles Police Academy**, 1200 W. Baxter St. (1936), a building significant to Los Angeles government and infrastructure. While the rock garden and other features on the property are designated Historic-Cultural Monument #110, the building itself is important in the history of the LAPD. Between 1936 and 1995, all sworn members of the LAPD received their training here.

**Queen of Angels Hospital**, 2301 Bellevue Ave., a campus with nine buildings, with the main building in Renaissance Revival Style, opened to the public in 1927. The hospital was founded by the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart and grew to become one of the largest hospitals in the region. In 1994, it was purchased by two pastors, Tommy Barnett and his son Matthew, and converted into a Christian ministry called The Dream Center.

**1553 W. Ewing St.** (1895), a Queen Anne home that is a rare, intact example of early residential development in the area.

**Solano Ave. Homes**, 400 to 700 W. Solano Ave., a grouping of small Victorian cottages built between 1890 and 1910, representing rare, intact examples of early residential development in the Solano Canyon neighborhood.

**Olive Street Substation**, 2798 Sunset Blvd. (1905), an intact Mission Revival substation from Los Angeles’ streetcar network, which was constructed for the Pacific Electric Railway and serviced the line between Los Angeles and Hollywood.

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**What Is SurveyLA?**

SURVEYLA: THE LOS ANGELES HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY PROJECT is the first-ever comprehensive inventory of our city’s historic resources.

The survey findings will have a multiplicity of benefits and uses: it will help direct future growth, shape the revision of Los Angeles’ 35 Community Plans, streamline environmental review processes, provide opportunities for public education, assist in disaster planning, and spur heritage tourism and the marketing of historic neighborhoods and properties.

The J. Paul Getty Trust and the City of Los Angeles have entered into a grant agreement for SurveyLA under which the Getty has committed to providing up to $2.5 million to the project, subject to matching requirements by the City. Field surveys and evaluations will occur through 2015. The Getty Conservation Institute (GCI) is also providing technical and advisory support for SurveyLA. For more information visit the SurveyLA website, www.SurveyLA.org.
**OHR Architect Lambert Giessinger receives award**

Congratulations to the Office of Historic Research’s own Preservation Architect, Lambert Giessinger! On June 19th Lambert received an award for historic preservation efforts from LURN (www.lurnnetwork.org) at their annual Summer Nights and City Stars event. LURN - Leadership for Urban Renewal Network - is a non-profit dedicated to the revitalization of low-income neighborhoods. LURN is redefining “urban renewal.” and believes that the renewal and revival of low-income communities must be done responsibly, must be led by the community, and must leverage existing resources.

![Photo: Rudy Espinoza, LURN Executive Director, left, Lambert Giessinger and Alfred Fraijo, Jr., Partner, Sheppard, Mullin, Richter and Hampton, LLP ]

**SurveyLA Highlighted on National Television**

SurveyLA, the Los Angeles Historic Resources Survey, was the focus of a May 12 feature story on the national PBS NewsHour. To view the seven-minute segment, see: www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/preserving-cultural-treasures-los-angeles-one-block-time/

The piece nicely captured the essence of SurveyLA, and it highlights how the survey is identifying important sites of social and cultural significance around Los Angeles. The story also focuses on our remarkable partnership with the J. Paul Getty Trust: the Getty Foundation’s multi-year financial support has made SurveyLA possible. The Getty Conservation Institute (GCI), which laid the groundwork for SurveyLA and provides ongoing advisory support, is now spearheading the "Arches Project," a comprehensive cultural resource information management system that is being customized for the City of Los Angeles to make the SurveyLA data searchable and much more accessible. The Office of Historic Resources is gratified to receive this national attention for our work.

![PBS’ Jeffrey Brown interviews a survey team from Architectural Resources Group, working near Hancock Park. From left, Katie Horak, Evanne St. Charles, and Mary Ringhoff.]

**Two New Appointees Join cultural Heritage Commission**

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and the Glen Lukens Residence and Studio. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Los Angeles Conservancy and Hollywood Heritage, on the Design Review Panel for Hollywood in Council District 13 and the Mayor’s Design Advisory Panel. He was Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission in the City of Huntington Park from 2006-2012 and is an Adjunct Professor of Architecture at Cal Poly, Pomona.

Jeremy Irvine joined the Commission in May and Barry Milofsky’s final City Council confirmation is expected on July 29. The OHR welcomes these two new commissioners, and recognizes and thanks Tara Jones Hamacher and Oz Scott for their years of dedicated service to the Cultural Heritage Commission and preservation in Los Angeles.

[Photo: Rudy Espinoza, LURN Executive Director, left, Lambert Giessinger and Alfred Fraijo, Jr., Partner, Sheppard, Mullin, Richter and Hampton, LLP ]

Jeremy Irvine

Barry Milofsky
Save the Date: 2014 Historic Neighborhoods Conference

The Office of Historic Resources and Los Angeles Conservancy are pleased to announce the upcoming Los Angeles Historic Neighborhoods Conference on October 18, 2014!

The theme of this year’s conference is sustainability and the program will include a variety of session topics relevant to current and potential future historic districts, such as neighborhood conservation, evaluating current guidelines for infill development, and a look toward more sustainable building practices. The day-long event will feature guest speakers, a lunchtime Historic Preservation Overlay Zone (HPOZ) Awards ceremony, and cap off with neighborhood tours of the Country Club Park, Windsor Village, and Wilshire Park historic districts. The conference will be held at Wilshire United Methodist Church, in the Windsor Village HPOZ, 4350 Wilshire Blvd.

Nominations must be received by Friday, August 15, 2014 at 5pm. To download the awards application, please visit: http://www.preservation.lacity.org/news/la-historic-neighborhoods-conference-and-2014-hpoz-awards

L.A.’s Newest Historic-Cultural Monuments

The Cultural Heritage Commission and City Council have designated four new Historic-Cultural Monuments (HCMs) from April 1, to June 30 2014. Los Angeles’ newest Monuments include the following:

HCM #1066, South Los Angeles Canary Island Pine Street Trees (along portions of MLK Jr. Blvd, Degnan Blvd, and Leimert Blvd.)

Spanning nearly seven miles in total and including over 600 individual trees, these Canary Island pine trees along Martin Luther King, Jr., Degnan, and Leimert Boulevards represent three distinct historic developments important to the Crenshaw/Leimert Park/South Los Angeles area:

1. The trees along Degnan Boulevard between MLK, Jr. Blvd. and 43rd St. were planted in approximately 1936 as part of the original development of the Leimert Park planned community. As designed by the Olmsted Brothers firm, the Canary Island pines in the parkway and median served to create a grand entry to the commercial and cultural core of Leimert Park Village.

2. Pines on Leimert Boulevard between MLK, Jr. Blvd. and 43rd St. were planted in approximately 1960 after the Los Angeles Railway (Yellow Car) No. 5 line was abandoned and the streetcar tracks removed. The trees are planted along the parkway and in the median, mimicking and complementing the landscape along Degnan Boulevard.

3. The pines on MLK, Jr. Boulevard span over five miles, running between Hooper and Nicolet Avenues. These trees were planted as a beautification effort in memorial to Dr. King, with the majority planted on a single day (January 13, 1990) by over 3,000 volunteers. The memorial and the planting event were conceived by members of the King Boulevard Memorial Project, initially inspired by the name change of Santa Barbara Avenue to Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard. The event and memorial were supported and facilitated with help from the City and the non-profit, TreePeople.

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L.A.’s Newest Historic-Cultural Monuments

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HCM #1067, Grether & Grether Building (730 S. Los Angeles Street)
Built in 1924, this six-story commercial building within Downtown’s Fashion District is a well-preserved example of the Chicago School style. The symmetrical façade is divided horizontally into five bays and arranged vertically in a base-shaft-capital arrangement. It is clad in cast stone, painted to resemble terracotta, and brick. The building was designed by John Montgomery Cooper, whose works include the Roxie Theatre (HCM #526) and Wilshire Theatre (Santa Monica Landmark #81). Gilbert Stanley Underwood and Daniel Hull, critical figures in the design of the Ahwahnee Hotel in Yosemite (1927) and other facilities at Yosemite, Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon and Zion National Parks, operated their architectural firm from the building between 1925 and 1928.

HCM #1068, J.W. Blank Residence (1950 N. Edgemont St.)
This 1927 two-story, Spanish Colonial Revival residence in Los Feliz is notable both for its quality of design and workmanship and as the home of renown ceramicist Laura Andreson. The home is remarkably intact, having been continuously occupied by members of the Blank family until 2003. Notable features include turned-post window grills, carved and painted lintels, exposed interior rafters with carved and painted trusses, and a scallop-shaped glazed fireplace. Laura Andreson lived at the home for the majority of her adult life with her partner, Pauline Blank. Andreson established the ceramics department at UCLA in 1933 and is considered an integral figure in the revival of the ceramic arts in the United States, with examples of her work held by New York’s Museum of Modern Art and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

HCM #1069, Hlaffer-Courcier Residence (2574 Glendower Ave.)
Located in Los Feliz, this 1924 two-story home is built in the fanciful Storybook style. The house was designed and constructed by Rufus Beck, who was also responsible for other Storybook homes around Los Angeles. The façade features three gables with steep, bowed pitches and exaggerated concave ridges, separated by two stucco chimneys accented with an erratic application of clinker bricks. Cladding is primarily stucco with shaped half-timbering around openings and across one gable. The exterior door features a prominent speakeasy door with an iron grill. The interior features plank doors with triangular, peaked tops, and half-timbers that have been charred by fire and then smoothed.