



The Cupola

Newsletter of the Pardee Home Museum

Fall / Winter 2017

Oakland City Landmark
1975

National Register of Historical Places
1976

Alameda County Historical Society Landmark
1985

California Historic Landmark
1998

The Old and New Governor's Mansion

By, Ron Bachman

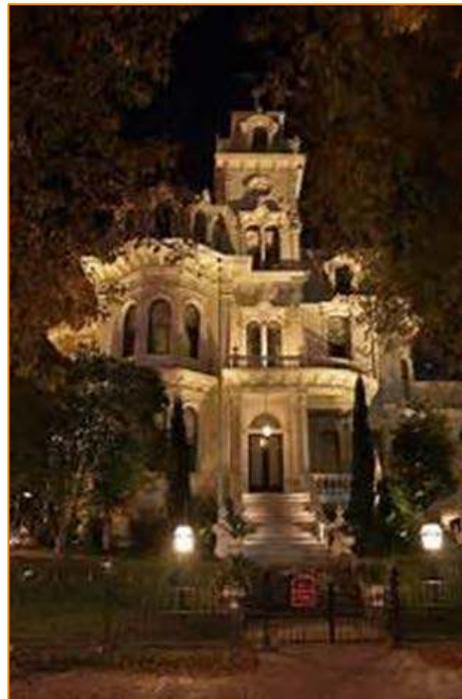
As we near the 150th anniversary of the Pardee's moving to their Italianate home in Oakland, we need to remember their four-year absence (1903-1907) when the new Governor moved to Sacramento. However, there was no longer a State House for the Governor and his family. Because of this, in January 1903, they moved into the Golden Eagle Hotel while George attempted to find an affordable home for the State to acquire to become the first family's residence and the home for future Governors. Why did no State House exist in California, a state that was now 53 years old (California became the 31st State in 1850)?

Actually California had a residence for its Governor, but it was no longer available. In 1868, Governor Henry Huntley Haight (1867-1871) signed an appropriation bill authorizing \$50,000 to build a Governor's home which was constructed on the capitol grounds. He did not move into it and California's next Governor (Newton Booth, Governor 1871-1875) was a bachelor and never really occupied the house. In 1877 the Legislature voted to make it the State Printing Office and it was later demolished (1926).

In early 1903 a bill was introduced in the State Legislature to provide \$49,000 to build or purchase a home that would become the Governor's Home. The bill also contained an additional \$10,000 for the furnishing of the residence. Interestingly George's salary was only \$6,000 at that time and he was concerned if he could afford the upkeep of the house. When the bill reached his desk, he would not sign it because he felt it was improper for him to approve a bill to build his own house. In July 1903 the State paid \$32,500 to purchase the vacated mansion of the Albert Gallatin/Joseph Steffens home built in 1877 and located eight blocks from the Capitol.

The history of the purchased home is significant. Albert Gallatin was a partner and president of the Huntington and Hopkins Hardware Company founded by Collis Huntington and Mark Hopkins, two of the Big Four of Transcontinental Railroad fame. Joseph Steffens, entrepreneur and

President of Sacramento Chamber of Commerce was the father of Lincoln Steffens, who became a famous "muckraking" journalist.



The home was designed by architect Nathaniel Goodell and was 12,000 square feet (about twice the size of their Oakland home). The land for the house (33,600 square feet) was only slightly larger than their Oakland Home (30,000 square feet). The interior of the house was definitely grander than what they were used to, including three formal parlors, 27 rooms, four bathrooms (at that time their Oakland home had only one bathroom located on their back porch), and a grand ballroom.

The family moved into the home in November 1903 accompanied by Aunt Etta (Marietta Penniman, Mrs. Pardee's unmarried sister) who acted as Governess for the four children, ages 7 to 14, Delia Malloy (housekeeper), three Chinese American cooks/servants, a house boy and assistant gardener, Olaf Anderson (groomsman and gardener), and accompanied by Lady Jane (their horse) and many pets.

The home was the Governor's mansion from that time (1903) until 1967 when Governor Ronald Reagan moved out shortly after occupying it. At that time it became "the Old Governor's Mansion" a historic home run by the State Department of Parks and available for touring.

In 2015 it was announced that the Governor's mansion would be closed, but the exciting news was that it would once again become the Governor's State House. In 2014 on the night he was elected to his second term, Governor Brown and his wife, Anne, celebrated his victory in the Old Governor's Mansion. It is possible that this kindled the idea to reoccupy the home.

Jerry Brown had ample opportunities to have lived there in the past, but never officially did. When his father was Governor of California (Edmund Gerald "Pat" Brown, Governor 1959-1967), Jerry was attending Seminary. He was allowed to leave Seminary to attend his father's inauguration. When he left his pursuit to become a priest to study law, he stayed and studied for the Bar Examination in the mansion as his father was still Governor. When Jerry Brown was elected to his first term as Governor (1974-1982), he was a bachelor and opted to stay in a small apartment closer to the Capitol.

After extensive remodeling, Governor Brown and his wife Anne moved into the "Old Governor's Mansion" in December 2015. Thus the "Old Governor's Mansion" has become the "New Governor's Mansion" and California's State House has been reestablished.



**Governor Brown and his wife, Ann,
in front of their new home – 2016**

Pardee Museum to Host Sesquicentennial Celebration

By Richelle Lieberman

On Sunday, April 22, 2018 from 4 to 6pm, the Pardee Home Museum will host a gala celebration of the Sesquicentennial of the construction of the Pardee home which became our beloved museum.

166 years ago, Enoch Pardee came to California from the Midwest during the Gold Rush to make his fortune. He succeeded well enough to become a respected eye doctor, and in 1868 began building the house that is now our museum. Enoch also pursued a vigorous public career in the 1870s and 1880s serving as Mayor of Oakland, State Assemblyman, and State Senator. His son, George C. Pardee, followed closely in his father's footsteps, also becoming an eye doctor and Mayor of Oakland, and was elected Governor of California in 1902. George Pardee was extremely important to California history and will be remembered for being:

- The "Earthquake Governor", who received universal praise for his remarkable leadership during the 1906 tragedy
- One of the most important early conservationists in the United States
- Founding commissioner of the Port of Oakland
- Founder and longtime president of the local water utility, EBMUD, which honored him with the naming of the Pardee Dam, still the dominant source of water for this region
- Co-founder of the Progressive Party in California

By having this Gala, we hope to introduce more people in the Bay Area and State to this gem of Victorian architecture and historic collections, increasing membership and to showcase the recent repainting of the first floor rooms of the house. We have invited local and State government dignitaries to be part of this monumental celebration. The event will be held in our picturesque gardens with a catered reception including drinks and music.

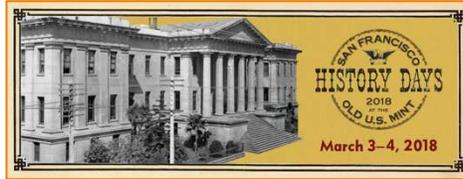
Anyone wanting to volunteer to be part of the planning committee is encouraged to contact Richelle Lieberman at 510.381.1973 or write her at scarletbohemian@aol.com

Please keep an eye on our website (<http://pardeehome.org/>) for more information including how you may purchase tickets.



PHM Will Be At SF Mint's History Days!

By Michael Henn



Everyone is invited to attend San Francisco History Days at the Old Mint. This event is the highlight of the year for Bay Area history buffs. The annual San Francisco History Days celebration will be held at the Old Mint, 88 5th Street, on the corner of Mission and Fifth Streets in San Francisco. This year's event will be held on March 3rd and 4th, 2018, between the hours of 11-5pm on Saturday and 11-4pm on Sunday. Volunteers from the Pardee Historic Home Museum will be participating with our table and displays as we also did in 2017.



Cherie Donahue, Nancy Henn and Guest

This grand event is open to the public and is free. The building itself, completed in 1874 is a wonder of 19th century craftsmanship and engineering. It survived the 1906 earthquake and fire while most everything around it was lost. Tours of the Mint are available both days. Historical preservation organizations and famous historic houses from the Bay Area will have tables and displays, and volunteers ready to discuss their activities. See the program for the schedule of speakers at the two theaters. Join the thousands of curious San Franciscans and other visitors who have the chance to step inside the historic downtown Old Mint and talk history with those eager to tell the stories of the City and Bay Area region. Last year the event welcomed more than 6,500 attendees to this free event. <http://sfhistorydays.org/>

The Old Mint is located less than 2 blocks from the Powell Street BART Station, and near the 5th and Mission City Parking Garage, as well as the Yerba Buena Center, Metreon and the SF Museum of Modern Art, and there are endless restaurant possibilities nearby. For questions or if you want to volunteer, contact Michael Henn at mhennfam@aol.com, or call 510-834-7128.

Molly Fierer-Donaldson New Board Member

I was born and raised here in Oakland, CA. It was while attending Pomona College in Claremont, CA I fell in love with archaeology. I spent a semester abroad living in Athens and traveling around Greece with side trips to Italy, the Czech Republic, and England to soak up as much history as I could. My first chance to participate in an archaeological excavation came the summer after my sophomore year in college. I joined a group of graduate students from UC Berkeley excavating on the Presidio of San Francisco looking for the foundation of the original Spanish built military fort from the 1770s. After that amazing experience, I spent half of the next summer back at the Presidio and the other half in Belize excavating Classic Maya sites in caves.

After a couple of years excavating sites all over California and western Arizona with a cultural resource management company, I spent the next nine years in graduate school at Harvard University. Most of my time at Harvard was split between teaching and working at the Classic Maya site of Copan, Honduras where I did my dissertation research on death and afterlife ideology.

Once I finished my degrees, I moved into museum work wanting to teach people about history and culture in a more public and informal manner than the classroom. After a year at the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, I spent a few years working as the curator at an archaeology museum outside of Las Vegas, Nevada called The Lost City Museum. While in Nevada, I expanded my involvement in history and education by joining the board of a non-profit called Nevadans For Cultural Preservation, which focuses on cultural preservation through education of both youth and adults.

Family commitments brought me and my husband back to Oakland in early 2016. Now back in my hometown, I knew I wanted to continue to be involved in historic preservation. This led me to volunteer at the Pardee Home Museum in the late summer of 2016. Since my professional experience is in collections management and care, I helped the PHM upgrade our computers and database to better record and track the objects in the house and subsequently have been focusing on cataloging, documenting, and digitizing the collections.

Editor's Note: Molly has done an incredible job scanning many of our old photographs and documents so they can be easily found and seen within our Past Perfect database software. She has brought many historical images to light we had not seen before.

A Major Painting Project

By Kay Cheatham

Recently the Board voted to paint the downstairs rooms of the Pardee Home last summer. Bids were taken and it was decided to hire Gutierrez Painting Company – one we have used with great success in past painting projects.

Even though our primary objective is to maintain the home as the Pardee family lived in it, we still had to choose paint color. Interior designer Pam Sherman-Wilkinson was our pro bono consultant. She stated it was essential to choose only historical colors (colors researched as historical at Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia). Our next step was to photograph each room so we could remove all of the furniture and get it back to the correct place. This was completed room by room.

We encountered a marvelous surprise in the main parlor. When the painters climbed their ladders and began to work on the

parlor ceiling, they discovered it was covered with wall paper not paint. They removed the wall paper and found a beautiful border of various colors including gold leaf. The painters prepped the ceiling cracks but did not paint it. Full preservation would be very costly - maybe someday.

The rugs were in very bad condition so we discarded them. We are presently making decisions about new carpets in those three rooms. Washing the curtains did not bring them back to fresh and lovely so our next project is choosing material for new curtains in keeping with the original. Volunteer Karen Eppler has offered to make the curtains once the material is decided upon.

This project took the efforts of many volunteers – photographing the rooms, moving the furniture and fixtures in and out, and cleaning up afterward. The fresh paint has lightened up the rooms and shows off the beautiful furnishings and collections in the home.



Membership Application

YES! I want to become a member of the Pardee Historic Home Museum.

- Student \$15
- Individual \$35
- Family \$50
- Benefactor \$75
- Patron \$100 - \$249
- Sustaining \$250 - \$499
- Sponsor \$500 - \$999
- Visionary \$1,000 & up

New Member Renewing

Please make check payable to
Pardee Historic Home Museum
 and mail to

Pardee Home Museum
 672 11th St,
 Oakland, CA 94607-3651

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

 1st Member's Name (or Gift Name)

 2nd Member's Name (if applicable)

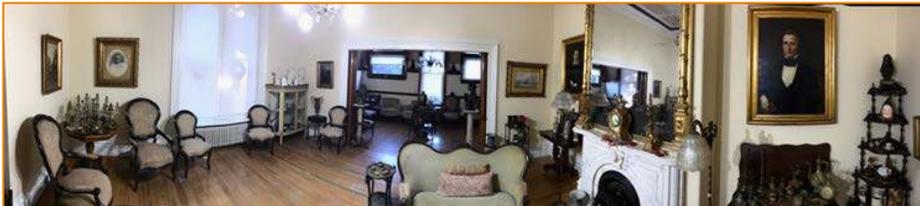
 Address

 City State Zip

 Home Phone Work Phone

 E-mail

Thank You for your Help!



- Photos–Top to Bottom**
- Front Music Room
 - Front Parlor
 - Ceiling of Front Parlor
 - Candlestick Room
 - Rear Parlor



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Oakland, CA 94607-3651



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The Cupola

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The Pardee Historic Home Museum, Inc. is a private non-profit organization originally established in 1981 as the Pardee Home Foundation to preserve, interpret, and keep the historic home and gardens of the Pardee family open to the public.

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Please Deliver Quickly - Time Sensitive Material

The Queen's Recipe for Drop Scones (Scottish Pancakes)

Our Pardee Home Teas are renowned for the scone course, baked by our loyal volunteers (usually Karen Eppler, Volunteer Extraordinaire) but here is another take on the recipe. In 1960, Queen Elizabeth sent this recipe to President Eisenhower:

- 4 tablespoons caster sugar (although the Queen said golden syrup or treacle worked well)
- 4 teacups of flour
- 2 teacups milk
- 2 whole eggs
- 2 teaspoons bicarbonate soda
- 3 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 2 tablespoons melted butter



The recipe serves 16 but can be reduced by the amount of flour and milk if fewer are needed. She cautioned that the mixture needs a great deal of beating and should not stand about too long before cooking.

From the National Archives: <https://www.archives.gov/press/press-releases/2011/nr11-116.html>

Notes from Editor: 1 teacup = $\frac{3}{4}$ standard cup. Caster sugar is superfine sugar which is better for baking as it dissolves faster. European butter has a much higher fat content than butter in the US so use it if you can. Salt may be needed unless it is assumed to be part of the butter.