



GARDENS AND LEGACIES:

Sarah Gill, Frederick Law Olmsted, and the Berkeley City Club

DR. SARAH GILL, currently a Member of the Board of the Landmark Heritage Foundation, was inspired by her great-grandfather, Frederick Law Olmsted, to make her recent generous contribution to the Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS) work on the Berkeley City Club gardens.

Sarah discovered a love for art and art history while an undergraduate at Smith College. She did her history honors work at Smith on the patronage of art at the court of King James I of England. Subsequently, she traveled widely and became familiar with the arts and architecture of Egypt (where she traveled for six months up the Nile as far as the Sudan), Lebanon, Greece and Borneo, where she went as a graduate student on a Fulbright scholarship. After receiving her Ph.D. from Columbia University, she taught the history of art and architecture at the University of Hawaii until her marriage.

On returning to California, Sarah worked at the DeYoung Museum as visiting curator to set up the gallery and docent programs for Africa, Oceania, and the Americas before taking up a position teaching at Santa Rosa Junior College, where she remained for 29 years as head of the art history program and chair of the art department. During this time she taught



Sarah Gill

in London and Florence for the college's Semester Abroad program, and also wrote her book for students, *The Critic Smiles: A Guide to Art Criticism*.

We are lucky to have Sarah in our midst and her connection to Frederick Law Olmsted. He was the nation's first major landscape architect and the firm he founded completed over 5000 projects throughout the United States. It was he who designed Central Park and Prospect Park in New York. When he came to California in the 1860s to manage the gold mines formerly owned by John Frémont, he also designed

Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland, Piedmont Way in Berkeley as part of the first plan for the University of California, and prepared the first report on Yosemite Valley, which contributed to the creation of the National Park system.

Sarah and her three siblings as the only great-grandchildren are the fortunate inheritors of the Frederick Law Olmsted Trust. Sarah says, "The Historic American Landscapes Survey project at the Berkeley City Club was an appropriate place to give back some of these Olmsted funds." Sarah's gift will fund photography of the Berkeley City Club gardens, which will be submitted to the Library of Congress this year along with the detailed garden plan and garden narrative.

—Wendy Markel, LHF President

WELL DONE! Bright and efficient elevators are running smoothly, the restored street façade glistens like new, and the pool with its new filters, restored tiling, and updating in the dressing rooms is welcoming eager swimmers once again.

For all of this, Landmark Heritage Foundation is profoundly grateful to California Cultural and Historical Endowment (CCHE) for our generous and hard won grant, the contributions of all our generous donors, and the dedicated work of the many skilled craft workers who made it all happen.

On the evening of February 24, we formally celebrated completion of the projects, complete with live music from the 30s by Loren Linnard and Paula Helene. On behalf of LHF project sponsor, and the BCC, Mary Breunig proposed a toast to thank all those who performed the work. In recognition of her indefatigable efforts in obtaining the CCHE grant, helping to raise matching funds, and overseeing each of the three projects, BCC member Guy Benveniste in turn proposed a toast to Mary. In response, she stressed the need for all of us to be ever-vigilant in seeking the funds needed to take on the many other restoration and rehabilitation projects Julia Morgan's beautiful building awaits.

NEWS FROM THE CASTLE SPRING 2012

News from the Castle is the official newsletter of the Landmark Heritage Foundation. The Foundation is a tax-exempt charitable organization dedicated to the preservation of the unique Julia Morgan-designed building that is home to the Berkeley City Club.

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◆◆◆
The Julia Morgan Preservation Fund Committee of the LHF meets monthly to approve projects and disbursements. The LHF Board meets bimonthly. All persons are welcome at these meetings; to attend call (510) 883-9710.

Free public tours are jointly sponsored by the LHF and the Berkeley City Club the fourth Sunday of every month except December. For public tour details or information on group tours, contact the Landmark Heritage Foundation.

◆◆◆ LANDMARK HERITAGE FOUNDATION

2315 Durant Avenue #306
Berkeley CA 94704
Phone/Fax: (510) 883-9710
landmarkheritage@att.net
www.landmarkheritagefoundation.org

LHF Office is staffed
Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 10am–2pm

SAVE THE DATE! JULIA MORGAN 2012 FESTIVAL GALA

with Special Guest Speaker Rita Moreno

October 12, 2012 6:30pm-9:30pm
BERKELEY CITY CLUB

An evening of fine wine, music, dinner, and more. Join us to celebrate this extraordinary architect with friends, historians, architects, preservationists, and other Julia Morgan admirers. The Julia Morgan 2012 Festival, October 1 through November 15, is the first project of Landmarks California. LANDMARKS CALIFORNIA, a collaboration of many preservation organizations, promotes historic preservation of the places of diverse histories and culture statewide. More info will be available on our website: landmarkheritagefoundation.org. Or you can visit landmarkscalifornia.org for more JM2012 news.



Photo courtesy of Landmark Heritage Foundation/Berkeley City Club Archive

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST: As part of the Julia Morgan 2012 festival and launch party, LHF is sponsoring a photography contest featuring Julia Morgan's architecture. Details to come.

OUR THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED TO MAKING THE CCHE GRANT PROJECTS HAPPEN

California Cultural & Historical Endowment Diane Sousa and Mimi Morris
BCC staff, LHF board members, and many vendors

A/C Schultz Design
Ashby Lumber
Avalon Glass Works
Berkeley City Club
CJ Plastering
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Interiors
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A NEVER-ENDING STORY: Preserving the Berkeley City Club and Its Treasures

GROWING UP, springtime in my household was always noisy. I would spend the months of March, April, and May snorting, sneezing, coughing, and scratching my throat (I'm sure my fellow allergy sufferers can empathize). I took breaks from my one-girl symphony to help my mother dust the baseboards, wash the walls, and vacuum the ceiling. Why someone would vacuum the ceiling is beyond me. That's what gravity is for, right?

Here at the Berkeley City Club, the same springtime activities take place, but on a much larger scale -- and all year round. In addition to LHF's work to preserve the building and maintain original furnishings, we have been fortunate to receive gifts and donations over the years. They range from furniture, statues, and paintings to a set of leather-bound dictionaries. And they all require some level of preservation, conservation, or restoration. The saying "To whom much is given, much will be required" takes on a different meaning as it pertains to the City Club.

By 1941, the women of the Berkeley Women's City Club were beginning to appreciate the costs involved in maintaining their clubhouse and its contents. Housekeeper/house-mother Mrs. Lucille Ward and the "most efficient manager," Mrs. Doris Hughes noted the following projects as needing immediate attention: restoring walls and woodwork, replacing threadbare carpets, repainting bathrooms, repairing Persian rugs, and refinishing furniture. All that work after just one decade! Obviously the clubhouse was well loved, well used, and a significant expense to maintain.

Thirteen years later, the building's equipment was showing its age. June 1954 proved an especially difficult month. The bookkeeping machine was antiquated, typewriters were worn out, and the time clock needed constant repair. In fact, the man who came to repair it laughingly said, "You wouldn't find another old time clock like this in the whole of California." A new bookkeeping machine, meanwhile, cost a daunting \$2,500, the equivalent of \$21,065 today.

In light of these ongoing expenditures, the clubwomen determined that a special fund was needed. By requesting a mere two dollars per year per member, the Board of Directors hoped to establish a large enough safety net to cover all unanticipated expenses without having to raise membership dues. Although it caused controversy, the "Special Fund for Permanent Replacements" was implemented.

The Special Fund no longer exists. These days, the Landmark Heritage Foundation oversees fundraising campaigns for and execution of preservation and rehabilitation projects at the Berkeley City Club. You can imagine how the list of such projects has grown over the decades. Whether you can donate time to help sort and catalog books, financial resources for ongoing preservation projects, or expertise in restoration and rehabilitation, we could use your help. And as always, we thank you.

—Jennifer Barton from material in early member scrapbooks

WHY DONATE? The CCHE funds have now been spent and the weak economy of the past several years has decimated the number of potential grants available to institutions like ours. Now, more than ever, we ask for your financial support. Thank you!

The Landmark Heritage Foundation thanks all those who contributed generously in 2011. It is the Foundation's community of donors who made these 2011 restoration projects possible:

Elevator	\$ 406,340
Façade	24,646
Pool Filters	61,417
Building Interior	3,853
TOTAL	\$ 496,256

The 2011 donors who made this preservation work possible were:

BCC	\$ 74,000
CCHE	\$ 174,480
Many individual donors (see list on back page)	\$ 38,405

All California Cultural and Historical Endowment (CCHE) grant projects have been completed. Only the final close-out accounting remains. LHF spent \$927,600 on Façade, Elevator, and Pool Filters. The Foundation began the elevator fund-raising campaign in 2008 and successfully raised the monies needed to support the last three years of work.

Contributions toward the façade elevator and pool filter projects included:

CCHE	\$379,923
BCC	\$143,500
Individual donors 2008 through 2011	\$404,177

It is your generosity that allows the Foundation's historic preservation of the Berkeley City Club building. As we look to the future, please remember that LHF continues to need funding for future building restoration needs. Please be generous — contribute today to support future projects.



LANDMARK HERITAGE FOUNDATION

2315 DURANT AVE., ROOM 306

BERKELEY, CA 94704

GO GREEN! ☞ Would you prefer to receive “News from the Castle” by email? Send us your email address and be among the first to know about LHF events! ☞ Donate via credit card at landmarkheritagefoundation.org and click on Support LHF.

♦ In Appreciation: Donors 2011 ♦

The Landmark Heritage Foundation acknowledges these generous donors. Thank you all!

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Elsa & Rivan Tranter

All donations are appreciated. The LHF endowment and the unrestricted fund are the two most important funds. As the endowment grows, its interest will provide much-needed annual maintenance monies that insure the building's preservation. The unrestricted fund allows the Foundation to direct monies where they are most urgently needed.