ARTISTS AND ARTISANS

CARMEL WOODS

CARMEL PRESERVATION FOUNDATION
P.O. BOX 3959
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MAY 1998
Any house built by Perry Newberry was of prime interest and importance and was bought as soon as he finished them. It is difficult to list Perry's achievements they were so numerous. He was artist, writer, builder, businessman, actor, councilman and Mayor. He was also editor of the still-published Pine Cone, Carmel's venerable newspaper. His abiding mission was to preserve Carmel's beauty, natural environment and artistic integrity. He even once proposed a tollgate at the head of Ocean Avenue. Argyll Campbell suggested a wall around the Village to stop progress. This is Perry's last house and the present owner actually bought it from his widow's estate.

Donald Hale

This is a magical little Arts and Crafts stone house, built of Carmel chalk rock and comfortably nestled among the oaks. Its gently pitched twin gables and Mullioned windows are original, but the door with its side windows, filled in what was once an open entry. It was built by Donald Hale for his wife and daughters in 1923, at a time when he was a contractor partner with his brother-in-law Lee Gottfried. Well known in Carmel, Hale was active in local activities, such as the Arts and Crafts club, the Abalone League and the bond-raising for the Firehouse. He was the stepson of Fred Bichdolt, a member of the group composed of George Sterling, Jimmy Hopper, Mary Austin and Ambrose Bierce, and was himself a well-known writer of popular westerns.

Francis Whitaker, a world famous blacksmith, born in Massachusetts in 1906, married and moved to Carmel in his early twenties. The house, built for him by M.J. Murphy in 1928, has an all-heart redwood interior and a stucco exterior wall cladding and is a well preserved Craftsman style. It still belongs to the Whitaker family daughter as Francis moved to Aspen, Colorado to avoid the tourists of the 60s in Carmel. As an apprentice he traveled to Europe to work with Samuel Yeltzin in Poland, then to Berlin to work with Julius Schramm for two years. In Carmel he first worked with Murphy in the building trade then joined John Catlin at the Forge in the Forest. He did iron work for Comstock and in almost every downtown building in the Village. He served on the Carmel City council and on the Aspen Planning Commission.

This is the little DOOR HOUSE. It has been in Carmel since 1906 and when it was to be demolished in 1995 it was moved to Mission and Vista. It wasn't appreciated there, so now it will be moved again, this time to 24814 Pescadero Road. We hope, this time, it will rest in peace.

A cottage much loved by its numerous owners and visitors since it was built by Jack Calvin, scholar, writer and good friend of John Steinbeck, also Frances Whitaker, Ed Ricketts and others of the Bohemian group of the 1920s. They loved to sit around the fireplace, talk, share their meals and discuss life, the depression and their combined artistic endeavors. There were several subsequent interesting owners, all of whom loved the little cottage such as Marion Karr, the second owner, Charlotte Bohn Marx and now, of course Tore and Marjorie Monig, who finally recaptured its history as well as its structural health.

This elegant Tudor house was designed and hand-built by Ann Nash, with a friend, Dorothy Castelhun's niece. It was begun in 1921 and was recorded by Nash, on a daily basis, in her diary. When something was too heavy she walked to the Village to find a man to help. In that vein, a Mr. Smith did the plumbing and Mr. Turner built the chimney. The ladies often had tourists come to watch them with awe. Friends visited from Berkeley, Nash's former home, and everyone brought something to contribute to the project. Later Nash made a considerable reputation writing mystery stories set in Carmel.
George Whitcomb, who built many cottages and homes that characterize Carmel, was born near the turn of the Century in Minnesota. A natural love of craftsmanship came through inheritance as he was influenced by his father and brothers who used family hand tools in construction. His lifelong love of wood and respect for tools show in the customized work found in the homes he built. This house he built for himself and his family. They lived here for many years, attending local schools and Whitcomb led a long professional life, building in and around Carmel. It demonstrates the details and care of a master builder.

Now being remodelled by one of our area's most sensitive contractors, Fred Slabaugh. To keep these small houses viable for another fifty years, they need to be remodelled in such a way that they retain their original charm and a scale appropriate to Carmel.

GEORGE WHITCOMB

W. Mission
5 S. Vista

A charming, welcoming Cotswold cottage built for business partner John Neikirk by Hugh Comstock in 1926. Originally it was board and batten and was a small two bedroom, living room house. Expanded in 1930, also by Comstock, a northern addition was added. It remained much the same until 1965 when new owner Dr. Robert R. Reed added another bath, bedroom and dressing room and raised the roof for storage space. In 1989, present owners Sandy and Dick Chais, added the detached garage at the south. Historically, Neikirk was the notable leader of the first Carmel Boy Scout Troop. This Troop had the honor of being established by Sir Baden-Powell, the British founder of The Boy Scouts.

NEIKIRK/COMSTOCK

S.W. San Carlos
Cor. of Vista

Jo Mora, sculptor, painter, illustrator and cartoonist was born in Uruguay. His family moved to Boston and when Jo was 18 he came to California, already a known illustrator. In San Francisco he became a member of the Bohemian Club and met both Frank Powers and S.F.B. Morse. Morse offered him 2½ acres in Pebble Beach and Powers a square block in Carmel. Mora chose Carmel! Mora did major sculptural works for architect Robert Stanton, on the county courthouse in Salinas and the King City Auditorium and his statue of Father Serra at Alta and Serra Avenues is a Carmel landmark. He did work at Golden Gate Park, The Bohemian Club and in Sacramento, but for him the most important was the sarcophagus for Father Serra at the Carmel Mission.

JO MORA

W. San Carlos
3rd S. of 1st

HILDRETH HARE

4th S. 1st

This well proportioned small cottage was designed by Hazel Watrous and built in 1926, probably for a friend. Its steep roof with its long, low overhang creates a special intimate charm. It's most notable owner was Hildreth Masten Hare, in Carmel from Brookline, MA in 1922, to continue her study of ballet. Married first to Richard Masten, a writer, Hildreth was active in both The Forest Theatre and The Golden Bough. Withal, she had five children, married a second time to Chester Hare, traveled often and worldwide with family and pets including an iguana and a boa constrictor. Dubbed a "regular Auntie Mame" by one of her sons, she died at 78, in 1984.

WATROUS/DENNY

4 N. of 2nd

This unpretentious looking house, from the exterior, hides a famous and storied interior. Designed by Hazel Watrous, after much discussion with her partner, well known musician and pianist Dene Denny. These ladies were the unparalleled impresarios of the Peninsula. Importing nationally famed musicians, architects, painters and actors to Carmel and to Monterey, bringing back to life The First Theater as well as filling the Golden Bough in Carmel. Simultaneously, Watrous was building houses, numbering some 36, in the Village. They arrived from San Francisco for the weekend in 1923, and hardly left from then on and soon became the arbiters of The Arts in Carmel. They started the Carmel Music Society, had music recitals of critical note and most important began Carmel's world famous Bach Festival, one of the best known festivals in this country and still very much among those present.

WALTER CATLETT

3rd s. 1st

This joyful little storybook house from everyone's happiest dreams, was the first house Hazel Watrous built in Carmel. It was built for her sister Zanetta Weed Catlett. She was married to a well-known comedy star, Walter Catlett. Their son, Dick lived here too and according to Francis Whitaker was a very "conservative" realtor. Present owners, perhaps only the third, have said that there was no bathroom, only an outhouse originally but it seems when Mrs Catlett had work done in 1928 she succumbed to modernity and had one installed inside.
ON YOUR WAY DOWN TO THE BEAUTIFUL GARDEN, NOTE THE SITE WHERE THE HISTORIC DOOR HOUSE WILL ARRIVE, TO BE RESTORED AND BECOME DR. KARYL HALL'S STUDY.

PROCEED TO THE GARDEN GATE, PURCHASE A RAFFLE TICKET AND BY ALL MEANS BECOME A MEMBER OF THE PRESTIGIOUS CARMEL PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

THE HISTORIC SURVEY
The research for this Brochure was done by volunteers as part of the comprehensive survey required by the Preservation Element of the Carmel-By-The-Sea General Plan. The Survey has supplied the basic Inventory of the important historic resources which best represent the unique, early architectural character of Carmel, that we are trying to preserve.

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