

IT'S BEEN A BUSY YEAR AT THE MEYERS HOUSE AND THE ALAMEDA MUSEUM

We'll take you on a tour of some highlights....

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THE 30 YEAR-OLD PERIMETER FENCE AT MHG WAS COLLAPSING

Between the studio and the fence, an oak tree threatened both. The fence fell, and some foundation cracks appeared, a portent of more serious damage if the tree were left.



UNWELCOME INTRUDER

The Museum applied for a removal permit, required because oaks are protected in Alameda. The City approved the request, and the tree was removed.



THE TREE WAS WINNING

The rickety fence was no match for the vigorous oak tree



THE OAK TREE WASN'T THE ONLY PROBLEM WITH THE FENCES

Thirty years of weathering had taken a toll. None of the fences on either side of the rear parking area were salvageable.



THE NEW FENCE

The new fence provides improved security and an attractive appearance on the Central Avenue side.

THE HISTORIC CARRIAGE HOUSE NEARED COLLAPSE

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SUNLIGHT STREAMED THROUGH GAPS IN THE EXTERIOR WALLS

Built without a real foundation, 110 years of weathering, dry rot and termites brought the building to the point of collapse.

Here, light shows through a back corner of the building. The original corner support post had rotted away and fallen.



NEW FOUNDATION AND SLAB NOW PROVIDES A SOLID FOOTING

Jameson Construction stabilized with temporary bracing and a new foundation and slab were constructed. Note the reinforcing steel.



THE FLOOR WAS LEVELED

The well which provides irrigation water for the Meyers House gardens, was reworked to make it level with the new slab. The huge iron tank that had once stored water was cut apart by local Boy Scouts and recycled.



THE NEW FOUNDATION WAS NECESSARY, BUT NOT SUFFICIENT...

The walls were still fragile, and more construction was required to stabilize the structure, add modern electrical service and dress up the inside.



THE WEST AND NORTH WALLS WERE COMPLETELY REBUILT

The west wall is inches away from a neighboring building. A new wall using original siding was built two feet away from the foundation and slid over when completed - slick engineering. A waterproof membrane provides additional protection.

The north (back) wall was rebuilt with new material.



ORIGINAL REDWOOD SIDING WAS RECYCLED WHEN USABLE

The west wall siding was primed, repaired and attached to the new support structure with stainless steel ring nails. This original siding received two coats of high quality exterior paint and the entire wall was repositioned onto the new foundation.

Every effort was made to help the wall last for years.



THE WHEELCHAIR LIFT IS BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE

Unmaintained for several years, the lift was repaired due to water damage to its vital parts. The drainage system was changed to keep the vital operating parts protected in wet weather. The lift is now checked regularly.



LOOKING MUCH AS IT
ALWAYS DID ON THE
OUTSIDE...

(and as a historic
building,, that's as it
should be!)

THE “MOTHER SHIP” – THE ALAMEDA MUSEUM – RECEIVED IMPORTANT IMPROVEMENTS AS WELL

Docents had endured chilly winters in The Museum for years

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GOLDEN GATE SHEET METAL INSTALLED A NEW FURNACE AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Docents and visitors can look forward to a more comfortable environment. The furnace was provided with a programmable thermostat, ensuring economical operation.

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TUCKED INTO A CORNER OF THE WAREHOUSE, IT HEATS THIS AREA TOO.

THE NEW FURNACE COST \$10,000. IN RETURN THE LANDLORD AGREED TO A NEW TEN-YEAR LEASE WITHOUT INCREASING RENTS. IT WAS A GOOD DEAL FOR EVERYONE.



THE MUSEUM ENTRY
RECEIVED NEW GOLD
LEAF ADDRESS NUMBERS

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LOCAL ARTIST CHRIS RUMMEL APPLIES GOLD LEAF LETTERS

Using traditional techniques, Chris donated his services to the Museum.





2014 PRESIDENT JUDITH LYNCH OFTEN REPRESENTED THE MUSEUM

Here, joining with Alameda Architectural Preservation Society President Chris Buckley (not shown) and AAPS Secretary Patsy Baer, she helps dedicate a bronze plaque at City Hall.

Judith's years of dedication to the Museum are an inspiration to us all.



THE MUSEUM RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS STATE-WIDE RECOGNITION

Curator George Gunn led a contingent of Museum members as the Meyers House Museum was honored by the California Heritage Council at its awards banquet at the Saint Francis Yacht Club.



AN HISTORIC FLAG IS RAISED

A flag which flew at Pearl Harbor in World War II was used in a historic flag raising at Meyers House. The occasion marked the restoration of the original Meyers House flag pole and was honored by attendance of many local dignitaries.



MEYERS HOUSE AND GARDEN VISITING HOURS WERE DOUBLED

2014 saw increased visits, with one group coming from as far as Sacramento. The beautiful grounds also hosted several weddings and other events.

Our dignified and professional docents were there to help on every occasion.