PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Panama-California Exposition Digital Archive

Wish you could have visited the Exposition? This 2015 project is the next best thing. The Digital Archive is making tourists and San Diego’s public more aware of the treasures San Diego has in Balboa Park and how it all came about. With thousands of documents and images contributed by individuals and collectors, the San Diego Public Library, university special collections, the Museum of Man, and others, the Digital Archive is the largest on-line resource of material from the Panama-California Exposition: architectural drawings, photographs, stereoviews, maps, documents, correspondence, telegrams, diaries, reports, minutes, business and financial records, works of art, video recordings, books, newspapers, periodicals, and scholarly journals. The online collection will continue to grow during 2015 and during 2016, the year of the Panama-California International Exposition. All this and more is being preserved in high resolution on digital tape storage for posterity.

We invite you to contribute images or artifacts from your family’s collection. Contact us about the Digital Archive: archive@c100.org

Visit the Digital Archive website
www.pancalarchive.org

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Luncheon:
May 22, 2015 at the Balboa Park Club

Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

We have a wonderful program planned for this year’s annual luncheon. Our guest speaker will be history professor Robert Rydell, World’s Fair authority and author of books, including: All the World’s a Fair; World of Fairs: The Century-of-Progress Expositions; and Fair America: World’s Fairs in the United States.

His talk will be on “World’s Fairs to Remember: From London’s Crystal Palace to San Diego’s Panama-California Exposition—and Beyond.”

The Committee of One Hundred will present the 2015 Gertrude Gilbert Award for historic preservation in Balboa Park and the Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue Award for the makers of San Diego’s two expositions.

Visit our website for luncheon and reservation form: www.c100.org.

Mike Kelly
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In 2005 The Committee of One Hundred and the City of San Diego dedicated the reconstructed West Arcade, along El Prado near the Old Globe. The original arcade was part of the 1915 Science and Education Building, which was demolished in the early 1960s to make way for the modern west wing of the Fine Arts Gallery, now the San Diego Museum of Art. The Committee of One Hundred advocated for years for this $2 million project and we raised more than $180,000 towards reconstruction. One wonderful section was omitted from the project because of cost: the “Moorish arch” in the middle of the West Arcade. The arcade was reconstructed in 2005, but this highly ornamented section was left off for lack of funds. The Moorish arch was the Prado entrance to a courtyard of the Science and Education Building. The Committee of One Hundred strongly supports its reconstruction, with a projected cost of $300,000.

Ornamentation will be added to this section.

1915 photo of Moorish Arch.
Cabrillo Bridge Lamps

There are 31 original cast-iron double lamps on the Cabrillo Bridge. These double lamps were created for the 1915 Panama-California Exposition which makes them more than hundred years old. They are the only remaining original lamp-posts out of several hundred installed in park for the 1915 Exposition—a unique and historic treasure in Balboa Park’s National Historic Landmark District.

Many of the lamps are rusted. A few missing finials must be replaced. Wiring will be replaced if needed. Tests have shown the lamps have lead paint, so environmental precautions must be taken when removing loose paint and rust. The lamps will be primed and repainted with a high-quality finish. The globes will be replaced to more closely match the originals and fitted with energy-efficient, long-life LED lights.

The need for this restoration stands out all the more now that the parapets have been repainted along the bridge sidewalks, the Caltrans/City rehabilitation and seismic retrofit is nearly complete, and the dramatic lighting of the arches from below celebrates the Exposition’s centennial.

The Committee of One Hundred plans to help the City fund this restoration, with a projected cost of more than $100,000.
1915 painting by Birch Burdette Long.