From Ruins to Redemption
Alice Ross Carey Memorial Lecture

In 2005, preservation-oriented San Franciscans brought a lawsuit against developers of a soon-to-open shopping center at the old Emporium department store over the tearing down of a portion of the building that was supposed to have been preserved. Gee Gee Platt, now a 640 Heritage Preservation Foundation board member, noted that it was a *San Francisco Chronicle* photograph of the shopping center’s construction site that triggered the lawsuit. Published on Aug. 10, 2004, it mainly pictured the Emporium’s dome suspended in midair. But when Platt saw it, she noticed that although the Emporium’s Market Street wall remained intact, the 65-foot-deep office building behind it had disappeared.

As a result of the lawsuit, the developer pledged to rebuild the Emporium office tower to its original appearance as of 1908, although to current seismic safety standards, and preserve the old Emporium’s majestic dome and façade.

As important, the settlement from this lawsuit led to a new commitment to protect San Francisco’s architectural treasures and character with the establishment of the Historic Preservation Fund Committee (HPFC) with $2.5 million from the developers.

Now twelve years later, the 640 Heritage Preservation Foundation’s Alice Ross Carey Memorial Lecture introduced the key players in this work and highlighted four grants the Committee has made. San Francisco Planning Commission President Rich Hillis, an early staff member of the HPFC, began the program with an overview of the Committee’s mandate and noted the audience would hear from grantees about ways in which funds have been utilized. Preservation architect and long-time consultant to the 640 Heritage Preservation Foundation Charles Chase, reviewed the history of the litigation that established the Committee and paid particular tribute to Gee Gee Platt.

Four diverse projects were presented:

- **GLBT Historical Society**—comprehensive identification of the architectural and cultural heritage of how, where and why the GLBTQ community developed in San Francisco from the 19th Century through the 1990s. This report has been recognized nationally and serves as a model for researching and identifying community-formation and cultural heritage for all varieties of affiliated groups based on ethnicity, race and social preferences.

- **Tenderloin Housing Clinic**—National Register of Historic Places nomination which when granted led to increased funding to identify historic locations within the district and establish the Tenderloin Museum.

Continued on page 3
A Tribute to Lee Tyree

On September 6, the 640 Foundation lost a dear friend and loyal supporter, Lee Tyree, who died following a valiant battle with leukemia. In the early years of the Foundation, Lee helped lead a group of men who provided support and counsel to its Stewardship Campaign: Preserving “The House That Women Built” for a Second Century. He was the coordinator of “The Last Peek” event that raised $25,000 to meet the campaign’s final $250,000 challenge grant. More importantly, he “lent” his wife of 46 years, Misty Tyree, to serve as the Foundation’s 5th President during a critical period in its development. We will miss Lee’s indomitable optimism, wonderful sense of humor and his enduring support.

A Message from the President

These past few months have been busy ones for us with two successful events and the launch of our 2017 640 Annual Fund. Thank you to our event co-sponsors, St. John Boutique and San Francisco Heritage, for their incredible support which you can read about in this issue. Foundation board members Jo-Ann Rose, Maria Hilakos Hanke and Gee Gee Platt expertly planned and produced these events. Thank you also to Donna Casey who donated her photography expertise for Shop for a Cause at the St. John Boutique.

The 640 Annual Fund is off to a robust start with over 69 donors contributing over half of our goal as I write this. Please do respond as generously as you can when you receive our reminders over the next weeks. We recognize this has been a challenging time with many worthy and critical causes needing help. Our thanks to all who have donated to date.

In October, Molly Brant was awarded the Order of Hestia, representing the virtues of the Greek Goddess Hestia who was the most influential and widely revered of the Greek Goddesses. Molly served as President of the Metropolitan Club for four years during the seismic and life-safety renovation of 640 Sutter and is currently Vice-President of the 640 Heritage Preservation Foundation. Congratulations, Molly!

What’s next? The Foundation with the assistance of professional experts is undertaking a survey of all of the character-defining assets and features of 640 Sutter Street. These are primarily internal aspects that make the building what it is and we will learn what should be included and preserved in any future work that may be considered.

The Foundation will also host our annual Wine, Women and Financial Wisdom on February 15, 2018. Join us for a conversation on the important documents you should have for you and your family, including the Advance Medical Directive.

And the 2018 Heritage Fair is going to happen on November 5-6! Please mark your calendars as you move into the new year and stay tuned for details!

Wishing you a most wonderful holiday season! We are grateful for your interest and support.

Barbara Kimport
From Ruins to Redemption, Cont’d.

Continued from page 1

• Bayview Opera House—restoration of the historic wood floor and proscenium to their former glory, earning the Bayview Opera House Ruth Williams Memorial Theatre a place on the National Register of Historic Places and a Governor’s Award for Historic Preservation. The organization can now offer more arts and culture to the Bayview and wider Bay Area community.

• OpenSFHistory.org—conservation of a collection of 100,000 historic photos with scanning and creation of online public access and archival storage of the original images. These photos show historians what was and support preservation throughout San Francisco by giving property owners access to a history of urban development in their neighborhoods.

Several themes emerged as each of the speakers described their projects. First, people feel better about where they live, work and play when they live with the architectural, social and cultural history of their neighborhood and community.

Second, preservation work throughout the city creates equity in the neighborhoods with the larger and important cultural institutions like museum and performing arts venues that anchor and represent the city as a whole.

Third, grounding our lives in a sense of history transports us to a different time and helps us understand how our built and lived environment changes over time.

The 640 Heritage Preservation Foundation is proud to be part of the community of San Francisco organizations that value our legacy buildings and work to preserve and educate the broader public on the importance of our history.

“Our history is important because it tells us where we have been.”
Gee Gee Platt, HPFD Member and 640 Heritage Preservation Foundation Board Member

See pictures on page 6

Tribute Program: May to October 2017

In memory of Ruth Diefenbach
Molly Brant
Maureen Murray Fox
Sue Molinari
Jo-Ann Rose
Patricia B. Smith

In memory of Kay Maynard
Molly Brant
Ruth Cowan
Susan Gearey
Peggy Mitchell
Sue Molinari
Claire & Jim Resor
Carol Ann & Nielsen Rogers
Lydia Seebach
Patricia B. Smith
Carmi Ticehurst

In memory of Kathryn Lawrence
Jo-Ann Rose

In memory of Paul Otellini
Sue Molinari

In memory of Lee Tyree
Molly Brant
Ruth Cowan
Helene Ettelson
Maureen Murray Fox
Susan Gearey
Barbara Kimport
Peggy Mitchell
Sue Molinari
Nora Monfredini
Carol Ann & Nielsen Rogers
Jo-Ann Rose
Lydia Seebach
Patricia B. Smith

In honor of Dee & Rich Eva’s 50th Wedding Anniversary
Helene Ettelson

In honor of Elizabeth J. Folger
Lynn H. Thompson

In honor of Susan Gearey
Sue Molinari

In honor of Misty Tyree
Barbara Kimport

See pictures on page 6
Herma Hill Kay, Advocate for Women in Law and Metropolitan Club Member

When Herma Kay died this past June, then UC Berkeley Law School Interim Dean, Melissa Murray, called her “the stuff of legends.” Kay was widely recognized as one of the most influential female lawyers in the country as well as a distinguished teacher, mentor, advocate and writer. She was also a 35 year member of the Metropolitan Club founded in 1915 as the first woman’s athletic club west of the Mississippi, joining in 1982, sponsored by the late Joan Bard and Judge Isabella Grant.

“When I was considering membership in the Metropolitan Club, knowing that Herma Kay was also a member was the single most important reason that I joined. She was fabled among women in law, especially for my generation of female lawyers,” commented Kathleen Meagher, a retired attorney and Metropolitan Club member since 1999.

Kay, a South Carolina native, graduated from Southern Methodist University in 1956 and received her JD from the University of Chicago in 1959. She joined the faculty at Boalt Hall (now the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law) in 1960 where she remained for 57 years. She was only the second woman hired on the law faculty and later served as its first female dean from 1992 to 2000.

When Kay was appointed dean, she commented, “How to make trouble without being a troublemaker – that describes my style. I think that if you are going to help build an institution, you have to be careful not to destroy it in the process.” According to the New York Times, at the time of Kay’s appointment there were only 13 women who had been professors in accredited law schools in the U.S. During Kay’s time at Berkeley Law, the number of women on the faculty grew significantly and women became more than 50 percent of the student body.

Recognition for Kay’s talents, values and accomplishments came from many places. “She literally transformed the legal landscape of American family life,” wrote Brian Leiter, professor at the University of Chicago Law School. “In the late 1960s and 1970s, as a revolution in substantive sex equality was sweeping California, Herma was at its center.”

Kay’s long-time friend, Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg said of her, “Herma has a quality that cannot be conveyed in words. There is a certain chemistry involved when one meets her – something that magically makes you want to be on her side.” In 1974, Kay co-authored a casebook on sex discrimination with Ginsburg and helped establish the legal study of gender-based discrimination.

“It’s almost inconceivable to think of our law school without Herma,” UC Berkeley Professor Robert Merges said. “She filled every role we aspire to—mentor, teacher, scholar, leader—and did so not just well, but to the utmost. And in almost every role she was the first woman to dare to do it … and she did it all with grace, humor, tact, and a steady, quiet strength.”

An only child, Kay’s mother, a schoolteacher, was not enthusiastic about her early expressed interest in the law. According to a tribute in Berkeley-Law, Kay’s mother told her: “No, you won’t go to law school. Girls can’t make a living as lawyers.”

Kay’s pioneering and adventurous spirit extended beyond the law. She had her pilot’s license, loved gardening, drove a yellow jaguar and was an avid swimmer. She continued teaching until 2016. She was married to Dr. Carroll Brodsky who died in 2014, and she had three sons, four grandchildren and two step-granddaughters.

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St. John - Where Charity is also Fashionable!

THANK YOU to the team at St. John Boutique and all of our shoppers at our inaugural Shop for a Cause! St. John Boutique hosted a lovely reception and donated 10% of all purchases made by 640 Heritage Preservation Foundation shoppers from September 21 through September 23. Please thank St. John’s when you shop over the next few months. We look forward to working with St. John Boutique and all of you shoppers in the future, and again a big THANK YOU to everyone.

Event Co-Chair Jo-Ann Rose, St. John Wardrobe Specialist Jennifer Morse, St. John Store Manager Christa Daughterty & Event Co-Chair Maria Hilakos Hanke.

Nancy Noakes & 640 HPF Director Misty Tyree.

640 HPF Director Helene Ettelson, 640 HPF Board President Barbara Kimport & Victoria Holgerson.

Paula Lazar, Doug Waggener and Renzi Abedania. Renzi won the St. John door prize of a $250 gift certificate!

St. John Boutique Models.

640 HPF Director Carol Ann Rogers, St. John Wardrobe Specialist Jennifer Morse and Courtney S.Clarkson.

Photos by Snap-to-It Photography

Herma Hill Kay, cont’d.

At the time of her death, Kay was working on book about early women law professors based on 25 years of research she had done to document the careers and lives of 14 women who held tenured teaching positions at ABA accredited law schools before her. “It is very difficult to think about our law school without Herma in it,” UC Berkeley Professor Emerita Eleanor Swift said. “Her teaching and mentoring influenced generations of lawyers to set high goals for themselves, to work very hard, and to love the law. Herma was a model for these values. She will be greatly missed.”

by Carol Ann Rogers
Thank you Nancy and Alan!

“The Metropolitan Club is a special place for all of us and perhaps you would also like to set up a fund in your name so that you or your friends can donate to our wonderful Club.” Nancy Raznick

To celebrate and commemorate their 50th Wedding Anniversary, Nancy and Alan Raznick established The Nancy Raznick Fund with a very generous gift to the 640 Heritage Preservation Foundation! Congratulations and thank you, Nancy and Alan! Spending half a century in love is one of the most celebrated wedding anniversaries and the Foundation is honored to be part of this wonderful tribute.

The 4th Annual Alice Ross Carey Memorial Lecture

HPFC Chair Mark Ryser, Charles Chase & San Francisco Planning Commission President Rich Hills.

San Francisco Heritage’s President & CEO Mike Bubler.

Bill Sugaya, Katherine Petrin, HPFC Member Gee Gee Platt & San Francisco Heritage Board Member Courtney Damkroger.

Speaker & Principal of the Architectural Resources Group Charles Chase.

Speaker & Executive Director at Bayview Opera House Barbara Ockel.

Speaker & Executive Director of the Western Neighborhoods Project Woody LaBounty.

Photos by Nico Hend Photography
Holiday Tribute Program

Let us help simplify your holiday giving! For the eighth year, the 640 Heritage Preservation Foundation is offering a special opportunity to make a tax-deductible Holiday Tribute Gift to the Foundation in honor of special family members, friends, colleagues or staff. We will send you a lovely gift bag or card with the recipient’s name for you to give to them to display as they wish. If you prefer, we will send the gift bag or card to your recipients.

A Tribute Gift will never break, get lost or go out of style. It symbolizes the high regard in which you hold the recipient. And, it is a gift that keeps giving by helping to preserve 640 Sutter Street and its proud heritage.

Tribute Gifts may be made in any denomination (suggested minimum $50). You can pick up a Tribute Form from Michelle in the Foundation Office on the third floor at 640 Sutter or contact her directly at 415.872.7272 or director@640hpf.org.

These make ideal hostess and committee recognition gifts and are a unique and meaningful way to honor or memorialize a special person in your life during the holiday season. Last year, over 151 people were recognized in this way and we encourage your participation.

Elizabeth Pillsbury Society for Planned Giving

*We thank these women for their thoughtful foresight:*

**Planned Giving Society Members**

Mary Louise Anderson  
Drue Ashford  
Judith Branch  
Courtney S. Clarkson  
Chong Cook  
Evelyn R. David  
Christine Dohrmann  
Carol Ede  
Dr. Cecile Julia Eggens  
Helene Ettelson  
Susan J. Gearey  
Pria Graves  
Margaret Handelman  
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Peggy Mitchell  
Suzanne Muntzing  
Nancy G. Raznick  
Susan D. Scannon  
Patricia Bondesen Smith  
Lynn H. Thompson  
Misty Tyree  
Margrethe Ann Welch

**In Memoriam Contributors**

Estate of June Arney  
Estate of Alice Ross Carey  
Estate of Mildred Centanni  
Estate of Ilse Gaede  
Estate of Shirley Hucklin  
Estate of Effielen Jefferies  
Estate of Elizabeth Lippitt  
Estate of Chrissie Martenstein  
Estate of Jo Martinoni  
Estate of Elizabeth O’Shaughnessesy  
Estate of Mary E. Phillips  
Estate of Emilie Plake  
Estate of Nancy Weston  
Estate of Mary Yetter

*If you would like to receive information about joining the Elizabeth Pillsbury Society, please contact the 640 Heritage Preservation Foundation office at 415.872.7272 or director@640hpf.org.*
Wine, Women, & Financial Wisdom
A Financial Seminar for Women Given by Women

Thursday, February 15
5 to 7:00 p.m.
Program begins at 5:30 p.m.
Metropolitan Club
Join us for a conversation about the important documents that you should have.
There will be an in-depth discussion on the Advance Medical Directive
$15.00 Advance Tickets
$20.00 Tickets at the Door
Complimentary Wine
Hostess: Helene Ettelson
To register, please call 415.872.7272,
email director@640hpf.org or mail to
640 HPF, 640 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94102.
Checks should be made payable and mailed to 640 Heritage Preservation Foundation.

Year-End
640 Fund Reminder
Thank you to the many donors who have already made tax-deductible gifts. As the end of the year approaches, please remember you can make your contribution to the Foundation on our website, 640hpf.org. Our secure site is a fast and convenient way to contribute to any of our campaigns, with immediate confirmation of receipt. Simply click the “Donate” tab from any page and fill out the form.

Philanthropic Partner*
Gifts of $5,000 & Above
Leadership Circle*
Gifts of $2,500 to $4,999
Preservationist*
Gifts of $1,000 to $2,499
Heritage Friend
Gifts of $500 to $999

*Our major donors with gifts of $1,000 and above will be invited to our Annual Donor Appreciation Luncheon.