

OAKLAND HERITAGE ALLIANCE 2004 HOUSE TOUR

PHOTO: LINDA HALL



Crocker Highlands

Sunday, October 10, 2004 from 12:00 NOON to 5:00 PM

Join us for a self-guided tour of nine romantic and picturesque 1920s homes in the Crocker Highlands and Lakeshore Highlands areas of Oakland, between Lakeshore Avenue and the city of Piedmont.

House styles reflect the Period Revival architecture popular in the Twenties, many with Tudor, Arts & Crafts, Colonial, and Mediterranean influences. The original "country charm" settings remain to this day, with winding streets following the natural contours of the land and beautiful trees and gardens.

To purchase advance tickets, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope by October 4 to

Oakland Heritage Alliance,
446 17th Street, Suite 301
Oakland CA 94612

For more information, please call (510) 763-9218

\$30 ADVANCE • \$35 DAY OF TOUR • \$25 OHA MEMBERS



OHA thanks our generous sponsor



We recommend advance purchase of tickets. Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with your order and send to: OHA, 446 17th St., Suite 301, Oakland CA 94612



____ Tickets at member rate (\$25) ____ Tickets at general rate (\$30) Total: ____ tickets, \$_____

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JOIN OHA TODAY! Your annual tax-deductible membership dues include the *OHA News* and announcements of all OHA activities. Additional contributions and your active participation make OHA more effective.

- Patron \$250 Sponsor \$125 Benefactor/Organization \$75
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Enclosed is my check made payable to OHA for a total of \$_____

Oakland Heritage Alliance
446 17th Street, Suite 301
Oakland, CA 94612



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Crocker Highlands House Tour

Return service requested

Crocker Highlands

Romantic and Picturesque Homes

Visit nine Period Revival 1920s homes on OHA's self-guided Fall House Tour, Sunday, October 10 from 12 noon to 5 pm. These romantic and picturesque homes, distinguished by their high quality and careful craftsmanship, show the influences of Tudor, Arts & Crafts, Colonial, and Mediterranean styles.

Many of the homeowners on this year's tour have painstakingly preserved and restored their homes' original features and materials, while others have added style-sympathetic details to misguided addi-

tions from the 1960s and 70s. One Tudor-style home has been stunningly transformed from "haunted-house"-type dereliction to a designer retreat, using original iron drapery rods found under layers of dust and debris in the basement, specially-forged iron light fixtures, and extensive, rich replastering of walls and ceilings. Another retains the original 1920s kitchen cupboards and built-in eating booth as part of a kitchen update, and period, gorgeous French Art Deco chandeliers have been added to the public rooms.

The homes perch on the winding streets of Crocker Highlands and Lakeshore Highlands, between Lakeshore Avenue and the western border of the city of Piedmont. Lakeshore Highlands is distinguished by the Beaux Arts-style entry portals, reportedly modeled after the famous 15th Century gates at Nancy, France. The Lakeshore Homeowners' Association, established by developer Walter Liemert in 1917, remains a vibrant community organization, which recently achieved the undergrounding of utilities throughout the subdivision.

Street plans were designed by Olmsted Brothers, the sons of Frederick Law Olmsted (designer of Oakland's Mountain View Cemetery and New York's Central Park), and reflect the influence of England's early 20th Century "garden suburb" movement. Streets throughout Lakeshore Highlands contour the natural topography, as do those in Crocker Highlands. While the two areas differ in the history of their development, notably the lack of a homeowners association in Crocker Highlands, they are increasingly being referred to in common parlance as one location, "Crocker Highlands."

Before residential development of the land, much of it was owned by banker Peder Sather, for whom the entry gates to UC Berkeley were named (Sather Gate). Following his death in the 1880s, his widow, Jane, opened the area for public use, and informal as well as organized outdoor activities were conducted there for many years. The days of outdoor pleasures were numbered when the Realty Syndicate, formed

by Borax Smith (of "20-Mule Team Borax" fame) and Frank C. Havens,

acquired the property in 1904. Developers touted the country charm and close proximity of the commercial centers of Oakland and San Francisco, features that still beckon today.

Join us during the tour in a beautiful, cascading garden for refreshments and our traditional OHA punch.

