

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

- NEWSLETTER -

Vol. 2 No.1

2371 Eunice St., Berkeley, CA 94708

January, 1999

Dedicated to the preservation and restoration of public paths, steps and walkways in Berkeley for the use and enjoyment of all.

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association (BPWA) is a grassroots volunteer group of community members who have come together to increase public awareness of the City of Berkeley's pathways. BPWA hopes to accomplish this goal through volunteer-led path walks; identification and accurate mapping of Berkeley's complete path network; and eventual restoration of paths that have been blocked or obscured. We hope the final outcome of the community effort will be the preservation and on-going maintenance of all the paths, lanes and steps throughout Berkeley.

As we enter the second year of our fledgling organization, we want to recap BPWA activities in 1998--all of which were accomplished by numerous volunteer "Path Wanderers".

** Over 150 paths were surveyed, using the BPWA-developed Survey forms; a database summarizing the surveys is in the process of being developed for use in future rehabilitation and/or restoration projects.

** BPWA, to date, has over 250 paid members; and new memberships are received daily.

** Four public meetings were held: May 20, June 17, September 24, and October 22.

** Two volunteer-led photo workshops were held, in May and June.

** A \$5000 grant was made available from the City of Berkeley for sign replacement identifying paths.

** BPWA had a table with Partners for Parks at the Solano Stroll and "How Berkeley Can You Be?"

** Seven monthly volunteer-led path walks were held in June, July, August, September, October, November, and December.

** An "Adopt-a-Path" project was introduced to help maintain paths; work parties were held for Acacia Path (9-26-98) and Tamalpais Steps (11-21-98). Guidelines to be formulated in 1999.

The first General Meeting of 1999 will be held on Wednesday, January 20, 7 to 9 PM, Live Oak Recreation Center, 1301 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley. (See Agenda below)

BPWA General Meeting, January 20, 1998

Agenda

- Announcements
 - Schedule of Path Walks
 - BPWA meetings: March and May Signup for Committees
- Establishment of BPWA Board
 - Call for volunteer Board members
 - Set first meeting of new Board
- Speaker: Susan Schwartz
 - "Creeks and Paths"
- Refreshments and informal socializing
- Report on Adopt-a-Path project

Upcoming Meetings:

- Thursday, March 18, 7 - 9 PM, Live Oak Recreation Center.
- May or June, Potluck Picnic (TBA)

Path Walks Schedule:

- January 23 Saturday 10AM
 - Helen Wynne, Leader (843-5738)
 - Meet at Ashby & Domingo, SE Corner Southside Paths (re-scheduled)
- February 27 Saturday 10AM
 - Sue Fernstrom, Leader
 - Meet at Oxford & Cedar, SW Corner Strawberry Creek
- March 13 Saturday 10AM
 - Maggie & Donald Hodges, Leaders
 - Meet at Gayley Road & Bancroft Way Panoramic Way & Orchard Lane
- April: Volunteers) needed. TBA
- May 22 Saturday 10AM
 - Pat DeVito, Leader
 - Meet at Spruce & Santa Barbara (NW Corner at Bus Stop)
 - N. Berkeley Paths and Rock Parks



THE casual observer might find very little of promise in the Berkeley hills to lure him on to their exploration. Their brown slopes, wrinkled and thread-bare as the sleeve of a hunter's jacket, seem to reveal to the very first glance all that they hold in store. No surprise, surely, can be waiting for one on those bare, open hillsides. The imagination pictures no secret nooks, no wooded ravines, no crag or waterfall behind the straggling screen of fern and scrub that fringes its waterways. Yet, after all, the charm of surprise is a veritable feature of the walks about Berkeley—surprise not keen and startling, to be sure, but genuine and of the quality that does not pall by frequent repetition. Thus it is that the number and Variety of these rambles is a source of unending pleasure to those who have come to know them

*Walks
About
Berkeley*

by Cornelius Beach Bradley

from A Berkeley Year. A Sheaf of Nature Essays.
edited by Eva V. Carlin, Women's Auxiliary of the
First Unitarian Church of Berkeley, California. 1898.

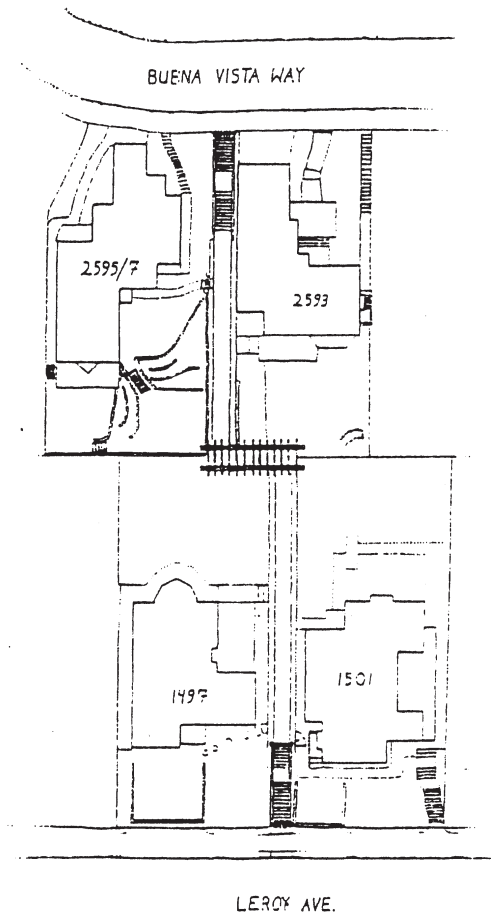
Call for Board Members:

To assure the continuation of BPWA's efforts to preserve Berkeley's unique pathways, we want to establish a Board of Directors at the January 20 meeting. If you are interested in serving on the Board, either call Pat (527-2693) or volunteer at the meeting. BPWA founding members, Jacque Ensign, Eleanor Gibson, Ruth Moskovitz (convener), and Pat DeVito have agreed to continue as Board members,

Adopt-a-Path

Would you be interested in adopting a path in your neighborhood?
This program entails forming work parties to perform supplementary tasks that include sweeping, raking and minor pruning to keep paths cleared.
The Adopt-a-Path Committee, so far, consists of Tom Edwards, Sue Fernstrom, and Jacque Ensign. If you are interested, contact Jacque (524-4715) or sign up at the January 20 meeting.

La Loma Steps



LA LOMA STEPS
OCT. 21 1995
JONATHAN KATZ

At the last BPWA meeting in October Mary Lee Noonan, Board member of Berkeley Architectural Heritage Assn., presented an informative and entertaining account of the research in which she was involved in 1995, leading to La Loma's landmark status, granted by the City of Berkeley's Landmark Commission, La Loma Steps joined Orchard Lane and Rose Walk as historically recognized and protected pathways.

Not a woody path, La Loma was elegantly designed (original artist unknown) in 1910 or 1911 when the trolley was extended up Euclid to Rose. The path was restored in 1992 (with FEMA funds), with the loss of some significant older architectural details. Still, the steps with pergola and benches at the jog in the middle are much admired and enjoyed.

Berkeley's PATHS

Dedicated to the preservation and restoration of public paths, steps and walkways in Berkeley for the use and enjoyment of all.

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Join Us at the First Annual Potluck!

**May 8 noon - 3:00, picnic area #2
Live Oak Park, near the Art Center**

Bring a delicious dish or drink as well as any stories and dreams you have about the paths, and pictures which you would like to share. And come relax in the park with those interested in the paths of Berkeley.

Upcoming Meetings

General Meetings

7-9 pm Live Oak Park Recreation Center

September 16th

Panoramic Way talk, by Ron Sires.

Solano Stroll and How Berkeley Can You Be

November 18th

A Newsletter of the Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, Spring 1999 Vol. 2 No. 2

Remembering the Marin Circle Fountain & Fountain Walk Restoration

Gail Keleman, Linda Perry and Emily Sorter gave an inspirational history on their efforts to restore Fountain Walk and the Marin Circle Fountain at our last BPWA meeting. Beginning with stone post-hugging, they expanded their efforts by organizing workgroups to uncover the beautiful balustrades along Fountain Walk, which had been buried under masses of bamboo, ivy, bottles, years of unde-

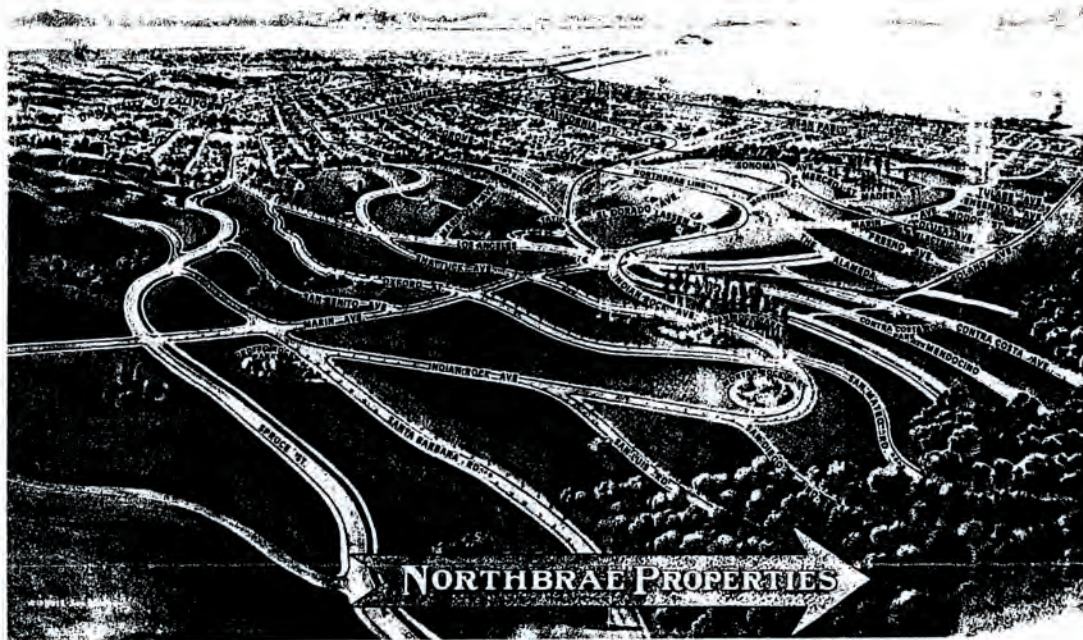
livered newspapers and generic litter. They made daily calls to city officials and joined forces with a competing committee, eventually forging a coalition. They also bravely launched a fundraising campaign in the neighborhood, an effort which lasted four years and involved 1200 donors.

"Neighbors design their public spaces & then public spaces design the people."

Jerry Tierney, Berkeley architect



Northbrae was Mason McDuffie's second planned community. The layout of its meandering roads, following the contours of the land, reflected the influence of Bernard Maybeck, with whom Duncan McDuffie studied at UC Berkeley. At McDuffie's suggestion architect John Galen Howard was hired and artistic elements were added such as street names on stone posts; neighborhood parks; sidewalk lawns, flowers and trees; and of course the fountain — according to campaign literature of the time, three others were promised.



Fountain Restoration *continued from front*

The original fountain stood for 50 years at Marin Circle until it was knocked down in an accident in the late 50s, (some say a roofing company truck knocked into the fountain, some say a teenage girl in her parent's Cadillac lost control, smashing into the fountain — there are 15 stories at least as to how the fountain was damaged). Designed in 1910 by famous architect, John Galen Howard, and featuring bear cub sculptures by Arthur Putnam, the fountain was Berkeley's first public work of art and the centerpiece of the Northbrae

neighborhood. The fountain was part of Howard's urban plan for the area which included a hub of seven streets, a grand pedestrian walkway from the circle to the Solano Tunnel below, a classical balustrade surrounding the circle and terra cotta planters.

The dedication for the restored fountain and walk took place September 15 1996, a gift to the city from the organizers who worked so hard and all the generous neighbors who contributed money. \$117,000 was raised which bought a project worth over \$200,000.

Updates

Path Upkeep

Adopt-A-Path

In the interest of maintaining and improving the various 135+ public paths in Berkeley, we've introduced an "Adopt-a-Path" program whereby path neighbors and BPWA members devote attention to the care of a specific path(s). Each informal group would assess the needs of a path, arrange for the necessary tools and group members, and on occasion conduct a two+ hour work party to clean that path. Tasks would involve weeding, raking, sweeping, litter collection, pruning, and the noting of essential path repairs to be performed by the City.

Prior to any path cleanup, the group coordinator would provide informal written notice to the path's neighbors of the intended cleanup (encouraging their participation as well), insure that the City is contacted before and after the clean-up, and listing needed repairs and improvements.

Anyone interested in helping or adopting a specific path should contact Tom Edwards at 525 4064 or twedwards@juno.com for further information.

Northside Path Has Reopened!

Woodchips have been laid around the native plant restoration areas along Berryman Path's north portion, north of the creek and leading to the Art gallery and to Walnut Street. Take a walk along the creek and see the difference!

Report Missing Signs

Please report newly missing or damaged path signs to Public Works (sign department) at 644-6620. Ask to have a work order to replace the sign prepared.

Report other missing signs to Ruth Moskovitz at 524-0713 so we can check and revise if necessary our path surveys.

Upcoming Path Walks

Saturdays at 10:00 am

May 22 Northbrae Paths & Rock Parks
Pat De Vito, leader 527-2693
Meet at Spruce & Santa Barbara

June 5 Aquatic Park (level Paths)
Mark Lollo, leader 549-0818
Meet at Channing Street parking lot

July 24 Ohlone Greenway & Codornices Creek
Susan Schwartz, leader 848-9358
Meet at north side of North Berkeley BART

August 7 Solano to Tilden
Janet Byron, leader 848-4008
Meet at Peet's on Solano Avenue

September 25 North Berkeley Paths
Erika St. John, leader 548-0129
Meet at Keith & Shasta

October (date to come) Waterfront—
Existing & Future Bay Trail (level Paths)
Susan Schwartz, leader 848-9358
Details to come

Volunteers Needed

If you would like to lead a walk for the month of November or December, 1999 please call Jacque at 524-4715.

Berkeley's

PATHS

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A Newsletter of the Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, Summer 1999 Vol. 2 No. 3

Meetings

7-9 pm Live Oak Park Recreation Center

Aug. 26 Board Meeting

Sept. 16 General Meeting

Panoramic Way talk
by Ron Sires.

Oct. 21 Board Meeting

Nov. 18 General Meeting

Path Walks

Saturdays at 10:00 am

August 7 Solano to Tilden
Janet Byron, leader 848-4008
Meet at Peet's on Solano Avenue

September 25 North Berkeley Paths
Erika St. John, leader 548-0129
Meet at Keith & Shasta

October 9 Eastshore Park &
East Bay Trail (*level Paths*)
Susan Schwartz, leader 848-9358
Meet at Seabreeze market at University and
Frontage Road.

November 6 Kensington Paths
Paul Grunland, leader 526-8001
Summit Reservoir, Grizzly Peak & Spruce

December 4 Peoples Park
& Clark Kerr Campus
Allen Stross, leader 841-2359
Haste & Telegraph

Billy Jean Walk

Hot and tired from the bike ride up Euclid, I passed right by Billy Jean Walk and the huge Sycamore lofting up to the sun which marks the entrance to her stairs. At the curb under the Sycamore sits a black Chrysler DeLuxe, with its front split windshield, gearshift on the wheel, bench seats (the weave frayed considerably with cotton peering out to the world)—from 1952. And next to Billy Jean Walk, in a garage, sleeps a gray-coral 1962 Chrysler New Yorker polished like a race horse and covered with yellow and mint green blankets.

Billy Jean is the grand entrance to

three homes and inside one dwells the owner of these two cars (it's also a public path). Of the '52 he said "It's a reliable car, use it for all my local errands." The '62 New Yorker is a bit of Berkeley history and is part of the reason he bought it. The original owner, Mrs. Kristine Grosfemay lived near the Marin Circle, and for years taught typing at Berkeley High School.

Then he went on to tell me about other historical notes: in his house, built around 1935 he discovered a beautiful scripted signature under the original wallpaper hanging in the kitchen; the tramway at the top of the path was built in 1969. And of Billy Jean Walk he said, "The path is kind: it helps hold the land in place and allows the water to pour down the steps, keeping it away from the houses." He showed me a 7" gap where the lower stairs are pulling away from themselves, evidence of how the bottom of the hillside wants to slide down to the shore, while the high side just wants to stay put. He truly loves living on the path.

The path was built sometime before 1931. That year a beautiful article appeared in the San Francisco Examiner dedicating the path to a baby girl, Billy Jean Harris. "A little girl who has a street of her own. A street of steps reaching up from Euclid to Hilldale." Her father, Joe Harris, who owned



the House of Harris Haberdashery, was a very successful merchant and very active in Berkeley politics. He said Billy Jean was adopted and “brought sunshine into the lives of myself and my wife, that we’d like to spread a little of our happiness by having this path named as a tribute to babyhood.”

Walking the path itself is like walking through sunshine. Upon arriving at the top of the first flight, a sloping pathway veers under light shade from Pittosporum and Bottlebrush which lean toward each other and peer over the cool cinder block wall. A pocket of sun waits at the end of this pass, moths and butterflies dancing in the bright green as Billy Jean jogs to the right and hides away behind the last of the trees. A hummingbird scratches out her tune.

Here the ivy bank glides upward under more canopies. And from under the apple tree and potato vine, alongside a beautifully woven, tawny fence, you can look up at the quietly, confident last rise of steps. It is held aloft toward the blue sky by the Nasturtium and



Vinca Major, and crowned by what in its day must have been a golden gondola, with swiss-like painted patterns on its curved sidewalls and suspended by

a red cable. Don and his wife built the tramway to cart groceries from the top of the hill to their home midway on the path. She now lives a few houses down the road.

Billy Jean Walk was named long before the '62 Chrysler New Yorker was purchased by the Berkeley High school teacher, long ago when the hillside was bare to the sun. And it has been a long time since Billy Jean has lived in Berkeley. But occasionally she comes back for a visit and sometimes she is caught having her photograph taken under her sign. She said “People ask me, ““Why are you taking that picture?”” —everyone of course thinks it’s named after Billy Jean King—and so the path makes me feel really happy, because I wouldn’t be known otherwise.”

Story & painting by Karen Kemp

Special Events

- Sept. 12 Solano Stroll**
Sue Fernstrom, BPWA coordinator
215-0873
- Sept. 26 How Berkeley Can You Be**
Join BPWA in the parade. Call early
September for more information
Ruth Moskovitz 524-0713

Berkeley Parks Mini-Grants program

The application was submitted before June 21, and we'll be notified August or early September whether we'll receive a grant which we'll use to repair three or more paths. New porous surfacing, landscape-timber single steps, and wood edging will improve these paths: Acacia; Keeler; Mosswood, Oak Street; Sterling; and Twin Path. BPWA is very hopeful.

www.InternetTime.com/path

Read more about the Berkeley Path Wanderer's Association. Read details such as path upkeep status, see maps and learn more history at our new website.

Codornices Creek Trail & Greenway

The Berkeley City Council and mayor unanimously endorsed a proposal to create a low-cost greenway and trail along a two-block length of Codornices Creek which will eventually connect to future ballfields and skateboard park in West Berkeley.

Lead a Walk

If you would like to lead a walk for the month of January '00 or beyond please call Jacque at 524-4715.

Adopt a Path

Call Tom for details at 525-4064.

Ten Easy Fixes

These paths have hazards or serious deficiencies which could be fixed at relatively low cost, giving the city and citizens of Berkeley the best possible cost-benefit ratio.

#27 Alta Vista Path's lower flight of steps is cracked and badly encroached by ivy. A rotten and splintery handrail on the south side should be replaced by metal.

#9 Black Path's crumbling edges have created a dangerous drop-off between the path and fence at the south end, a hazard pointed out in the 1993 LMA consultants' study.

#127 Crossways (North), part of the beautiful and historic set of paths designed by Duncan McDuffie in the Claremont area, has breaks and potholes as pointed out in the 1993 LMA study.

#36 Easter Way, Euclid-Cragmont segment, a portion along one of Berkeley's loveliest and most popular walks has upheaved concrete, and vegetation in cracks is

worsening conditions. As the 1993 LMA study points out, a handrail would increase safety.

#22 Florida Walk's 25 concrete steps and walkway leading to Dorothy Bolte Park have minor cracks, but some steps have tilted. A handrail would increase safety.

#52 Martinez Path is badly deteriorated on the upper path; encroaching vegetation worsens conditions. A few of the 89 steps have tilted forward or to the side, making walking hazardous.

#132 Oakridge Path between Oakridge and Domingo, has small breaks in the concrete which could be easily patched. In the lower segment. Leading onto John Muir Elementary School grounds, the asphalt's heaves and rolls are more than 6 inches high. And on school grounds asphalt is crumbling. Both sections could be fixed at the same time, with the City and School District sharing costs.

#11 Tunbridge Lane gives access to John Hinkel Park and is the only way down to Arlington between Southhampton and San Antonio. The lower flight of

stairs are badly cracked, and a handrail would add safety on both these steps and the upper flight, which slants slightly.

#13 Upton Lane gives access to John Hinkel Park. The concrete is upheaved almost 12 inches just below the top flight of stairs. A metal handrail on one side would make this hill path easier and safer.

#16 Visalia Walk/Steps in the Thousand Oaks District, with gnarled oaks, picturesque boulders, and bay views has one badly cracked and heaved spot in the concrete near the top. A handrail on the north side (not the south, with its picturesque boulders) would add safety.

Obviously, any such list is somewhat subjective. Other paths that have serious but easily remedied deficiencies include Yosemite Steps, El Paseo, and Tanglewood. One path, Redwood, needs repairs whose high cost may be counter-balanced by the path's importance as an emergency access route.

Annual membership in Berkeley Path Wanderers Association is \$5.00 due January 1st of each year. Benefits include Path Inventory Index, maps of pathways, quarterly newsletter, and BPWA mailings. Mail form with check or money order, payable to:

BPWA, Berkeley Partners for Parks
2371 Eunice St., Berkeley, CA 94708.

(BPWA is a member of Berkeley Partners for Parks, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.)

BPWA Membership Form **Please print**

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

City _____

Zip _____

Telephone _____

Berkeley's

PATHS

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A Newsletter of the Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, Fall 1999 Vol. 2 No. 4

Meetings

7-9 pm Live Oak Park Recreation Center

- Nov. 18 General Meeting**
Flat Land paths
possible speakers: Susan Schwartz & Zasa Swanson
- Jan. 20 Board Meeting**
- Feb. 17 General Meeting**
Pedestrian Transportations
by Christy Camp
- Mar. 16 Board Meeting**
- Apr. 20 General Meeting**
Rose Walk talk
by John Underhill

Path Walks RAIN OR SHINE

Saturdays at 10:00 am (allow 2-3 hours)

January 22 Strawberry Creek (East)
Janet Byron, leader 848-4008
Meet at Center St. at Berkeley Farmers Market - Ecology Center Booth

February 26 Strawberry Creek (West)
Sue Fernstrom, leader 215-0873
Meet at Le Conte & La Loma

April 1 Park Hills Paths
Charlie Bowen, leader 540-7223
Meet at Shasta & Grizzly Peak

Volunteer to lead a walk: 524-4715

A Walk in the Eastshore State Park

The Bayshore Trail now extends from the Richmond Marina to Point Isabel. The segment from Point Isabel south to the Albany Bulb is nearing completion.

Walking south from the Albany Bulb, along the privately owned waterfront of Golden Gate Fields, you can enter the new Eastshore State Park south of Gilman. There is wonderful exploring in the undeveloped park from Seabreeze Market at University Avenue and Frontage Road, to the Albany Bulb with its sandy beach, lagoons, and squatter-created art.

The Pre-Gold Rush Waterfront

The Spanish exploring San Francisco Bay found an unusual bayfront in what is now Berkeley. Largely because of the strong tidal currents opposite the Golden Gate, salt marshes and willow groves did not dominate. Instead, a crescent of sand, the Berkeley Bight, stretched along most of the Berkeley waterfront. This gradually sloping sandy beach lay about where today's I-80/I-580 freeway runs now.

One notable break in the beach, the willow marsh at the mouth of Strawberry Creek, was edged by a Native American village. Similar villages lay at the marshy mouth of larger Temescal Creek in today's Emeryville, and on the northeast side of Albany Hill, where rocks with mortar holes worn by Ohlone women remain



near a remnant of the marsh at the confluence of Middle and Cerrito Creeks.

Firm land lay behind the sandy crescent from north of Strawberry Creek to about today's Delaware. (Here Jacob's Landing, built in 1853, became the nucleus of Oceanview.) Starting at about today's Virginia Street, however, a brackish slough ran north behind the bight. Along with tidal bay water, it was fed by Schoolhouse Creek at its south end, by Codornices Creek spilling over a low, grassy plain, and by Marin Creek near today's Buchanan, where the slough reached the Bay. The Codornices channel between the Freeway and Golden Gate Fields roughly follows the slough's course.

West of the slough, the sandy crescent ended at a jutting sandstone remnant of an old chain of hills. This outcrop, called El Cerrito del Sud or Southern Little Hill by the Spanish, was renamed Fleming Point, for a goldrush-era San

BPWA
2371 Eunice Street
Berkeley, CA 04708

Renew your membership
DUES ARE DUE
JANUARY 2000

Francisco butcher who bought it from Domingo Peralta, son of the Spanish land grantee. The top of Fleming Point, now Golden Gate Fields racetrack, has been leveled, but the rocky bit of golden sandstone bluff on the Bay side is the only remaining fragment of the area's original shoreline.

Industry and Destruction of the Beach

From the 1850s until about 1920, farmers and town dwellers in Oceanview, Berkeley, and Albany, and even vacationing San Franciscans enjoyed the beach. But they also destroyed it, hauling off sand for construction.

With completion of the Union Pacific railroad in 1869, the area became industrial: soap, paint, cigars, starch, flour, lumber, beer, tanning, and canning were among the products. Most spectacular were the dynamite plants. Driven out of the San Francisco dunes after causing too many explosions, dynamite manufacturing briefly found a home on the north side of Fleming Point in the 1870s before the continuing explosions drove it northwest of Albany Hill and finally to Point Pinole.

Filling the Waterfront

Most of the filling of the waterfront took place after 1924, when garbage collection became a city responsibility. In Albany, construction debris created the peninsula now called the Albany Bulb. In Berkeley, garbage fill moved gradually north from the boundary at Codornices Creek. Fill turned the Berkeley Wharf, first built in 1875, into

lower University Avenue. But the wharf's massive timbers remain, making humps in the road as the garbage rots and subsides.

Plans advanced for this new Berkeley/Albany waterfront have been many and various. The railroad secretly bought up the privately owned Berkeley tidelands and advanced plans for a huge commercial port, only to deadlock against another plan, with piers running at right angles to its desires. In the 1940s an international airport was proposed; in the 1950s a virtual town doubling the size of Berkeley. A plan for a Worlds Fair site would have filled from Richmond to Oakland.

Eastshore State Park, Shoreline Trail

In 1982, conservationists were galvanized by plans by Catellus (successor to the railroad's land holdings) for 3.8 million square feet of development. The proposal led to the founding of Citizens for the Eastshore State Park (CESP), a coalition led by the San Francisco Bay, Golden Gate Audubon Society, and the Sierra Club. Their lobbying led to creation of the state park; purchase of the land was finally

completed in late 1998. The next step is the planning and actual creating of the park. The former dump has become a significant wildlife refuge, supporting, among other creatures, chorus frogs, rabbits, ground squirrels, geese, ducks, shorebirds, egrets, herons, rails, falcons, harriers, and kingfishers. It also is a magnet for trash, squatters, and invasive pest plants.

Strawberry Creek's mouth now is an unprepossessing pipe on the south side of University, west of Seabreeze Market. Schoolhouse Creek also ends in a pipe, where the broad Meadow narrows to the North Basin Strip. These creeks could be daylighted, with Schoolhouse in particular becoming a salt marsh or willow marsh. The small salt marsh south of Buchanan, at the mouth of Codornices and Marin Creeks, is owned by Golden Gate Fields, and is badly in need of restoration and enlargement. Completing the East Bay Shoreline Trail is another challenge. The only missing link between Richmond and Emeryville is now Golden Gate Fields.

As you explore, think of what you would like to see here, and make your ideas known.

Story by Susan Schwartz

Berkeley Path Wanderers' has received a \$2000 Berkeley Parks Mini-Grant to improve dirt paths with better drainage and grading, wood chip surfaces, and wood edging and steps where needed. In the coming year, we will improve at least three of the following paths: **Acacia Walk, Keeler Avenue Path (north half), Mosswood Lane, Oak Street Path Walk, Sterling Path, and Twin Path**. The grant pays for materials; volunteer work parties will do the rest. About a dozen not-too-steep paths could be improved by volunteers in this way, providing needed emergency routes as well as pleasant walking. Boy Scouts from Troop 19 are interested in taking on some of these as Eagle projects; and if you can help with materials or construction expertise, **please Call 848-9358**

Berkeley General Plan 2000-2020 (2nd Draft)

BPWA is pleased that many of our suggestions were included in the 2nd Draft Berkeley General Plan, which is now available for public review at the Planning & Development Department, at Berkeley libraries, and the City's web page at www.ci.berkeley.ca.us. Members may want to check out the following references:

BERKELEY 2020: A Vision . . . "our public pathway system through the City will be much improved." p 8
GENERAL PLAN GOALS AND STRATEGIES
GOAL #1. 5 Restore creeks, natural habitat areas, and the City pathway system. GOAL #2. 5 **Repair and improve . . . public assets such as the pathway system to encourage pedestrians and provide additional evacuation routes.** p 11
LAND USE POLICY LU-2 (Neighborhood Character). **Ensure that any City owned pathways or dedicated easements adjacent to or abutting private property are preserved when reviewing new development proposals.** p 23
POLICY T-45 PATHWAYS. **Develop and improve the public pedestrian pathway**

system. Improve those pathways dedicated but not improved for public use . . . Develop and maintain a complete and accurate inventory of Berkeley's Pathway Network, to include all known paths . . . Work with residents and interest groups adjacent to pathways to prepare a "Top Priority Improvement List" for pathway restoration . . . include neighbor support and clear title; paths with utility for evacuation; paths which continue existing paths; paths which improve circulation and provide access to community services. p 46
POLICY OS-2 (Repair and Enhancements). **Repair and enhance existing open space . . . with improvements such as: Restoring the existing network of paths and historic**

street features, such as gateways, lighting and stairways. p 70
POLICY OS-9 (Improvements). **Restoring impassable or obstructed public paths.** p 71
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT POLICY EM-38 (Citizen Efforts). **Encourage citizen efforts to restore ecological resources and open space areas, such as pathways and stairways.** p 80
URBAN DESIGN AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION POLICY UD-10 (Landmark Identification and Preservation) . . . Identify, preserve and maintain sites, structures, pathways . . . as significant visible reminders of Berkeley's architectural and cultural heritage. p 89

For more information see BPWA's website, www.InternetTime.com/path

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BPWA Membership Form Please print

Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
 Email _____ Telephone _____