

## SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2022

The North Park Historical Society (NPHS) was formed in 2008 to educate residents and visitors about the history of North Park. The primary purpose of NPHS is "to conduct research and educational outreach in order to facilitate preservation of North Park's cultural and architectural history."

### Accomplishments in 2022

The accomplishments of NPHS in 2022 grouped by the seven objectives stated in our Bylaws under the primary purpose are summarized below. Activities and product sales were profoundly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and public health mandated limitations on gatherings that began in early 2020 and continued through 2022.

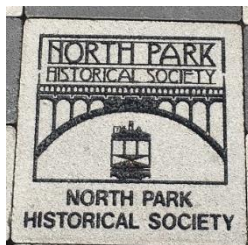
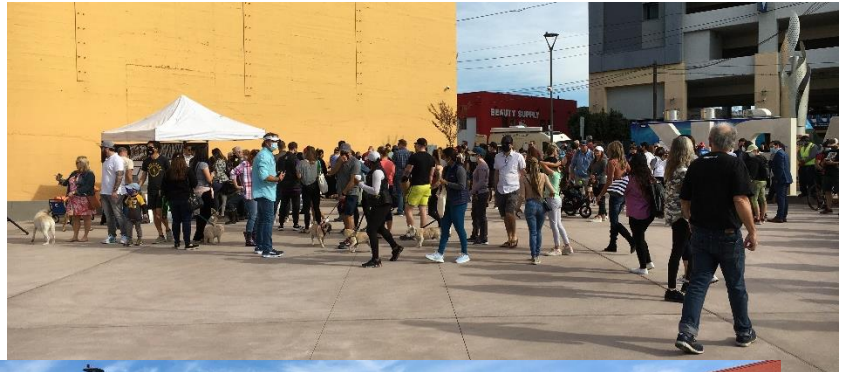
#### **Objective 1. To market and distribute printed and digital publications consistent with our purpose (e.g., *North Park: A San Diego Urban Village, 1896-1946*, our book on the history of North Park's first 50 years).**

- Local stores continue to sell the book we prepared in 2014, *Images of America: San Diego's North Park* published by Arcadia Publishing Company. During 2022, we believe it continued to be available for retail sale at various locations including CVS and The Book Catapult in South Park. We did not sell any Arcadia books to individuals in 2022. We received a total of \$180.49 in royalty payments from Arcadia for sales by others in 2022.
- We continue to sell our "original" history book: *North Park: A San Diego Urban Village, 1896-1946* by Donald Covington, which is published and distributed by NPHS. We sold 35 spiral-bound books wholesale to Verbatim Books for their retail in 2022.
- Our past agreement with Amazon was terminated in 2019. Paras Newsstand closed permanently at the end of 2019. The San Diego History Center closed their gift shop in 2020.
- A total of 0 perfect-bound and 35 spiral-bound North Park history books left our inventory in 2022. Since publishing the book in 2007, we have sold a total of approximately 2,850 copies. We have 85 spiral-bound copies and 16 perfect-bound copies remaining at the end of 2022.
- We sold 10 copies of the book, *Burlingame, the Tract of Character* by Donald Covington wholesale to The Book Catapult in 2022. We have 81 copies remaining.
- In 2017 we had 100 canvas tote bags with our logo printed at [AKA] Apparel-Supplies-Printing. We did not sell any bags to individuals in 2022. We have 23 bags remaining.



**Objective 2. To coordinate with other organizations on public historical education and preservation efforts, including designation of historical districts and/or structures.**

- NPHS Board Member Paul Spears and a small group of other Board members continued a free advice service helping to inform people on the potential for their house to be designated as a significant historic resource. NPHS received and responded to a total of 7 requests in 2022.
- NPHS provided historical information about 12 houses and one road to people emailing questions.
- Paul provided input on whether a full historical report should be required for 188 building permit applications to the City of San Diego for changes to buildings more than 45 years old.
- NPHS bought a paver to benefit the Mini-Park under construction behind the North Park Theater. The Mini-Park opened to the public with a well-attended ceremony on January 16, 2022. We were pleased with our paver, which incorporated our logo.



- We did not request grant funds from San Diego County in 2020, 2021, or 2022 due to the pandemic limiting our activities and ability to meet.
- NPHS remains committed to installing the bronze plaque that NPHS paid to create in 2015 recognizing the Water Tower as a Local Historic Civil Engineering Landmark, but communication with the City has been hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Objective 3. To develop and conduct walking tours relating educational information about the history of various areas in North Park.**

- NPHS continued to develop a tour of Pauly's Addition. On August 17, George led a practice tour with six invited guests on a route for the southern third of the neighborhood focusing on Mississippi and Texas streets from Upas to Landis streets.
- On October 20, George presented a PowerPoint lecture on North Park history for Osher, the senior adult education group associated with UCSD, on campus to about 10 people in the room and 20+ people on Zoom. On October 29, George led a walking tour of the Dryden District for a group of about 15 attendees, and Claudia led another group of 15.

Jody assisted George, and Sharon assisted Claudia. Paul provided photos of several interiors. One attendee followed up with us, requesting an evaluation of her bungalow for designation potential.

**Objective 4. To research and write objective articles about the history of North Park’s people, landmarks, architecture, homes, commercial buildings, tracts, and other topics for publications.**

- More than 700 people like and follow our North Park History Facebook page. We posted 6 items throughout the year, including a post with photos of the 1994 Bungalow Tour along 28<sup>th</sup> Street, which ten people liked and three people shared.



**Objective 5. To make and sponsor presentations of information useful to helping the public understand the origin and significance of historical resources in the community, including buildings, landmarks, and other structures.**

- NPHS Secretary Katherine Hon gave a brief presentation of North Park history highlights at a community mixer event organized by North Park Main Street and sponsored by US Bank on Saturday, July 9 at Subterranean Coffee Boutique, 3764 30<sup>th</sup> Street. Her highlights included why our crazy streets don’t line up, when the Water Tower was built and how many barrels of beer it could have held instead of 1.2 million gallons of water (40,000 barrels), and how the North Park Theatre invigorated “downtown” North Park in 1929 and 2005. Visuals consisted of several large format photos. There were about 15 attendees, and many came up afterwards to ask specific questions and look at our books and the pictures.



*NPHS Secretary Katherine Hon (left) and NPHS President Steve Hon (right) posed with North Park Main Street and US Bank representatives after the presentation. The photo of the North Park Theatre is from the 1950s.*

- The NPHS Board met in-person in June, July, August and September 2022 on the Grace Lutheran Church patio and met in a church meeting room in November 2022. The Secretary emailed a “meeting summary” to all NPHS members each month containing information we shared or would have shared from January to November 2022.

**Objective 6. To organize, convert to digital format (when possible) and provide the following materials for research and other purposes: documents, slides, data, notes, photos, and various ephemera and records related to history donated to the North Park Historical Society, and to establish a North Park collection for eventual donation to the San Diego Historical Society for preservation.**

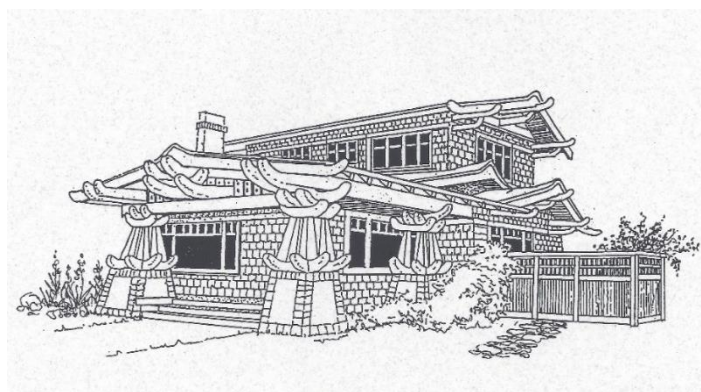
- NPHS provided several photos to an interior designer working on a commercial project, including the classic 1953 picture of what was recently the Western Dental building at the corner of University Avenue and 30<sup>th</sup> Street.



- NPHS is scanning slides and notebooks with photos and notes from the Covington Family. We shared 13 pictures in the monthly meeting summaries distributed to NPHS members through the year. We found a rare photo of Donald Covington with some papers about the 1994 Craftsman/Bungalow Tour along 28<sup>th</sup> Street, in what is now the North Park Dryden Historic District. Don compiled a tour booklet with details about 13 houses. The booklet included his artistic sketches for five of the houses. Don passed away in 2002, while in the process of compiling the definitive history of North Park’s first 50 years in the book, “North Park, A San Diego Urban Village, 1896-1946.” The book was edited and produced in 2007 by members of NPHS and continues to be available at Verbatim Books on 30<sup>th</sup> Street at North Park Way.



*Donald Covington*



*Donald Covington’s artistic sketch of 3553 28<sup>th</sup> Street*

**Objective 7. To conduct outreach to schools regarding North Park history consistent with our purpose.**

- NPHS did not conduct any formal projects with schools in 2022.