

HOLLYWOOD HEIGHTS VIEW

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President's Message

by Jeff Chusid

The second year of my tenure as President of the Hollywood Heights Association will soon come to a close; and a new Board, elected by you, will pick a new President. Things have changed since I came on the Board, and many more things have remained the same.

The most interesting development for me has been the fact that two years ago, we were in the midst of hearings, meetings, and wide-ranging battles regarding the CRA's plans for Hollywood. Today, it seems increasingly clear that the CRA is not going to provide the answer. Both the Simon and Bass projects appear to have died due to their own elephantiasis and the conflicted bureaucracies which have no clue how to make quality projects happen. Yet, I take that as a somewhat hopeful sign. Perhaps good, small-scale, preservation and community-oriented projects can take place now in the vacuum that has

developed. Maybe the CRA will even assist these gentler, kinder forms of redevelopment while they are not blinded by the lure of the big blast, all in one, high rise, high profile projects they have been courting for the past ten years. We still recommend the model of Main Street programs such as those promulgated by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Mulholland Scenic Parkway/ Lake Hollywood

Many of you are aware that the Mulholland Scenic Parkway plan was recently amended to exclude areas east of the Cahuenga Pass. We are very concerned about this issue, and the possibility of massive grading and development around Lake Hollywood. The HHA has been talking to the Council office and other organizations of hillside residents to make sure that any protections necessary for this area are codified into the plan.

Coyotes

There are reports of coyotes on Glencoe and Camrose at night. Clearly, until there is significant rain, wild animals are being forced into close proximity to us. The city has placed traps out in the area for the coyotes. Please watch your pets. We have lost several cats to these late night visitors, and we don't want to lose more to the traps.

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Update: Highland-Camrose apartment project

"Gross inaccuracies and incorrect assumptions" have been found by the HHA Board in the draft Environmental Impact Report prepared for a proposed apartment complex at the southwestern corner of Highland and Camrose.

As a result, a lengthy and detailed letter outlining our concerns, corrections and criticisms has been written by *Carol Pfannkuche*, HHA planning and development vice president, and sent to Robert S. Heredia, project coordinator for the City Planning Department.

In the letter, Carol explained that because "traffic issues have not been correctly and appropriately addressed, we are unable to support any of the proposals or alternatives" presented in the EIR.

When traffic has been "accurately assessed, we will be happy to entertain proposals for the development of the property", the letter continued.

As it stands now, "the proposed development would cause irreparable damage to an historic neighborhood and bring an unbearable amount of additional traffic onto substandard and already overburdened streets."

Carol's excellent letter pointed out that proposals to widen Camrose and to use Camrose (instead of Highland) as the entrance and exit will create severe and dangerous traffic problems and are unacceptable.

"We suggest that future proposals have entrances on Highland Avenue, instead of Camrose," she wrote, "the way that the Best Western Hotel, the new shopping center on Franklin and Highland, and other local developments have been designed to do."

The EIR also is faulty, she noted, because it does not even mention "a very important development directly across the street"--the bungalow village "which has been accepted by the National Register of Historic Places and the City's Historic Preservation Overlay Zone."

Therefore, she wrote: "We cannot consider seriously any EIR document which neglects to mention a proposal which will have such a direct influence on the project proposed for the southwestern corner of the intersection."

Many other problems also were listed in the letter, including the fact that the most recent Hollywood Bowl Traffic Survey "was performed incorrectly and therefore contains much misleading information". As Carol pointed out: "It is impossible to design an appropriate development, and to assess the impact to the neighborhood, without a proper analysis of traffic."

Also noted in the letter: the number of parking stalls allotted for the complex "is substantially less than required by City code", and "the planned development would cause an unacceptable shadow on the historic American Legion Hall as well as surrounding residences, altering these properties irreparably."

The HHA, Carol wrote, "has been actively working with the city, county and state governments, as well as the Hollywood Bowl administration, to maintain the integrity of our neighborhood. We welcome the opportunity to work with you to come up with an appropriate alternative to the proposed development."

by Theo Wilson

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Now we can recycle our computer paper

by Joyce Breiman

A new recycling center has been opened in Hollywood due to the combined efforts of Hollywood resident Kathy Lander, the Hollywood United Methodist Church, the L.A. Conservation Corps, and Councilman Mike Woo.

In addition to accepting items now picked up in our own pilot program--newspaper, cans, glass--the Center also will accept white, colored and computer paper and corrugated cardboard.

The Center is located on the dirt lot just north of the Hollywood United Methodist Church, 6817 Franklin at Highland. It will be open from 8 A.M. to 3:30 P.M., seven days a week, and will be managed by the Conservation Corps.

More recycling news:

Joyce Breiman, as chairperson for the HHA Recycling Committee, recently attended the grand opening of the Gold Coast Recycling Intermediate Processing Center in Ventura, and learned they have a much more extensive program than ours in L.A.

Her report follows:

The Processing Center, considered a state of the art material recovery facility, has been operating since June 1990, serving the area cities' curbside and commercial recycling programs.

The City of Ventura entered into this unique joint venture with Gold Coast Recycling, local franchise hauler E.J. Harrison & Sons, and regional cities.

The Center can process up to 400 tons a day. At this point, 125 tons per day are collected from the City of Ventura, and another 50 tons daily are promised from Oxnard.

Materials accepted for recycling are more extensive than those retrieved in the L.A. program. They will take cardboard boxes, shopping bags, milk bottles.

The League of Women Voters worked intensively to get the public in the Ventura area involved, and the city reportedly has 80 percent participation in the curbside program.



We are under siege: we are fighting back

In recent months, the HHA has received the drafts of two Environmental Impact Reports dealing with two different projects at the corners of Camrose and Highland--and both drafts called for the widening of Camrose, one on the northwest side, the other on the southwest side!

Thanks to the efforts of HHA member *Jim Bachman*, who single-handedly started a massive signed protest, the powers that be now are aware that hundreds of Hollywood Heights residents are opposed unalterably to any widening of Camrose.

We consider it a threat to our neighborhood.

After circulating petitions and receiving signatures for each project, Jim then hand-delivered the two protests, within each deadline period, to the proper authorities, including the project managers, Supervisor Ed Edelman, Councilman Mike Woo and others.

The first project, the Highland/Camrose Hollywood Bowl Master Plan, involves the Bungalow Village. In this draft, it was proposed to widen Camrose on the northwest side.

The second project, for a Highland/Camrose Apartment Complex, asked for widening on the southwest side, plus the use of Camrose as the sole exit and entrance for the proposed apartments. (See "Update: Highland/Camrose Apartment Project" in this issue of *View*.)

The protest letters stated that the widening of Camrose, and the use of Camrose, instead of Highland, for an apartment exit/entrance, would create dangerous problems at an intersection already choked with traffic. We also contend that hazardous conditions would be caused by funneling motorists into our hillside community and onto narrow neighborhood streets.

by Theo Wilson

Lowdown from the Heights

HHA corresponding secretary *Tom Muller* was one of the attorneys featured and photographed in a recent California Law Business article describing how 12 lawyers were donating "hundreds of hours of pro bono (free) work" to a group of South Central residents fearing loss of their homes because of a Caltrans freeway widening project.

The article, entitled "Residents Protected From Freeway Upheaval", described how the attorneys "jumped into an ongoing fracas between the California Department of Transportation and scores of people who live alongside the Harbor Freeway".

Thanks to the volunteer committee of lawyers, most of them (like Tom Muller) from the firm of O'Melveny & Myers, the residents "were given a clear understanding of their legal rights and eminent domain procedures" and there was "an increase of almost threefold in the purchase price differential allowed by Caltrans."

Dennis Spiegel, HHA member and former block captain co-ordinator, was the moderator last September 22 for a panel sponsored by the Society of Composers and Lyricists during a seminar on "The World of Film Music: A Survivor's Guide".

Dennis, a lyricist whose credits include "Blame It On Rio" and "Zorro", moderated a panel on "Working with the Lyricist: A Discussion for Composers and Filmmakers."

The panel included lyricists Alan and Marilyn Bergman (The Way We Were) and Tom Whitlock (Take My Breath Away); composers James Newton Howard (Pretty Woman) and David Shire (Saturday Night Fever); director/writer/producer Richard Brooks (Looking for Mr. Goodbar.)

All Hollywood Heights members are invited for a complimentary cappuccino or espresso with any purchase at "Rosebud, A Citizen's Cafe", to celebrate the opening of this new Larchmont Village restaurant by HHA members *Diane Winter-Long* and *Will Long*.

Diane, an HHA Board member and block captain supervisor, has been managing offices for

years, and her husband Will has owned restaurants in San Diego and Arizona.

"Rosebud" is at 125 N. Larchmont Blvd. The chef, Ken Barnoski, trained and worked under Michael Roberts of Trumps. It's worth a trip over there just to taste the mushu duck and the sauce that accompanies it!


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Japanese restaurant at Franklin Square

by *Bonnie Wolfe*

"Yamakasa", a Japanese restaurant, is scheduled to open at Franklin Square, according to Maurice Refoua, owner of the marketplace at Highland and Franklin which has replaced the old Hughes store. The interior is almost complete, but there is no firm opening date.

According to Maurice, the restaurant temporarily will be take-out only. He and the owners are working on a project to provide enough parking so that eventually customers also will be able to dine in "Yamakasa".

Asked about the long-awaited opening of the full service market, Maurice said he believes this will take place in early 1991. Some of the delays have been caused by waits for city permits, he explained.

V O T E !

(President's Message continued from Page 1)

Unocal Site

The former Union 76 gas station at the intersection of Highland and Franklin (north) has been for sale for some time. Due to the efforts of our Board and Whitley Heights, the site was down-zoned to an R-4 residential zone from commercial. This was done to protect our neighborhood from a high rise office project, greatly increased traffic at that intersection or other similar eventuality. HHA VP Marilyn Glasband, Whitley Heights Board member David Heckman, and myself recently had breakfast with a representative from Union Oil, a potential buyer and a broker to discuss the site. We stated that it was not in our interest to support changing the zoning back to commercial for the purposes of a mini-mall. We preferred a use such as elderly housing which would be sympathetic to the new apartment project planned for the empty land across Highland, while introducing minimal new traffic. We also said we might support other good ideas, if they were well thought out and especially well designed. Any change to the site's zoning would require the HHA to issue a covenant governing future use and other matters. We will keep you informed. If this site is of particular interest to you, why not work on a Committee monitoring the property and any potential projects?

Hollywood Heights Signs

Many thanks to Councilman Mike Woo for our new community designation signs. Now, all those coming up Camrose, Hillcrest or Sycamore will know that they are entering Hollywood Heights. (Realtors take note!) Also, thanks to Theo Wilson for giving us the designation years ago.

New staff at Council Office

Over the last several months, there have been some changes at the Council office which seem to have led to increased responsiveness to our concerns. First, there is a new deputy for the Hollywood Hills, Kathy Godfrey, who has been very forthcoming on recent issues, and aggressive on our behalf with other elements of the city. Secondly, they have developed a new method for handling incoming calls and questions which they hope will be more efficient and helpful.

Please let us know of your experiences. And the Board is always available to assist you on dealings you may have with the City or the County.

The Election

Please join the HHA, run for the Board, and see how nice it is to actually accomplish something positive for the community in which you live. New members are always welcome. I was on the Board for only one year before I became President--and I have received terrific support and encouragement during my term from a wide variety of people both in the neighborhood and out in the city. It was even kind of nice, in a perverse sort of way, to be told by one government official that I had stabbed him in the back when we took a position forcefully at a public hearing for something that had to be supported. The reaction meant that our stand had changed the course of the project for the better.

HOLLYWOOD HEIGHTS ASSOCIATION

General Membership Meeting

**Tuesday, November 13,
7:30 pm
Yamashiro Sky Room**

***COMMUNITY FORUM,
1991 BOARD ELECTIONS
AND A SPECIAL GUEST!***

Celebrity corner

HHA member *Victoria Hochberg* has won her second Emmy! But it is one of only many awards--including a Fulbright Fellowship and an American Film Institute grant--that this talented writer-director has received during a remarkable career.

Vicki was awarded this latest prize at the 17th Annual Daytime Emmy Awards in New York for directing "Sweet 15", a two-hour drama for PBS' "Wonderworks".

She won her first Emmy for "Just A Regular Kid: An Aids Story", an ABC After School Special, which she wrote and directed.

For "Just A Regular Kid", Vicki also won the Directors Guild of America Award for outstanding directorial achievement, as well as nominations from the Writers Guild of America and the Humanitas Award.

A longtime HHA member, Vicki has been active on HHA committees involving the Hollywood Bowl-Highland/Camrose Bungalow project.

Born and raised in New York City, she was graduated from Antioch College and performed with the San Francisco Mime Troupe, then won a Fulbright Fellowship to study mime in Paris.

In New York she joined PBS' drama unit and produced and directed her first nationally televised special, "Hollywood: You Must Remember This." After winning an Emmy nomination for directing the ABC Network Special: "The Right To Die", Vicki was awarded the AFI grant to make "Metro-liner". This won an Indy Award and has been shown at film festivals in the U.S. and Europe.

After moving to Los Angeles, Vicki wrote an original screenplay, "Sam and Yetta", currently under option; completed "Close Quarters", a CBS movie of the week and "Girl of His Dreams" for NBC; co-wrote "Final Jeopardy", also shown on NBC, and co-wrote "Fries", a feature film for Martin Ransohoff.

While participating in the AFI Directing Workshop for Women she wrote and directed two short films (" '57 Cad" and "Crumbs") which were honored at the Kennedy Center, then wrote and directed the award-winning "Tell Them I'm A Mermaid" for Norman Lear and the Mark Taper Forum.

Victoria won the Lillian Gish Women-In-Film Award for writing and directing "Jacob Have I Loved" for the PBS "Wonderworks" series. "Jacob"

was produced by Victoria Hochberg Productions, in association with KCET/28.

Also for "Jacob" she won her second consecutive Directors Guild of America award.

Most recently she has been the director for episodes of "Doogie Howser, M.D.", "Sons and Daughters" with Lucie Arnaz, and "The Trials of Rosie O'Neill" with Sharon Gless.

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Hollywood Heights Association Survey on Obtrusive Noise

As we all know, one of the most insidious pollutants that enters our lives is excessive and obtrusive NOISE. The HHA Noise Abatement Committee would like your input as we try to tackle this problem.

What noise bothers you in our neighborhood?

Problem	Very Much	Somewhat	Not at all
Barking dogs	_____	_____	_____
Construction noise	_____	_____	_____
Church bells	_____	_____	_____
Leaf blowers	_____	_____	_____
Neighborhood parties	_____	_____	_____
Noise from Hollywood Blvd. (e.g. premiers etc.)	_____	_____	_____
Traffic	_____	_____	_____
Power equipment (e.g. saws, drills etc.)	_____	_____	_____
Bowl patrons	_____	_____	_____
Fireworks	_____	_____	_____
Motorcycles	_____	_____	_____
Music noise (e.g. radios, stereos, tape decks etc.)	_____	_____	_____
Helicopters and other aircraft	_____	_____	_____
Other _____	_____	_____	_____

I would agree that HHA should do everything possible to make our community quieter and more livable.

Agree

Disagree

Name _____

Address _____

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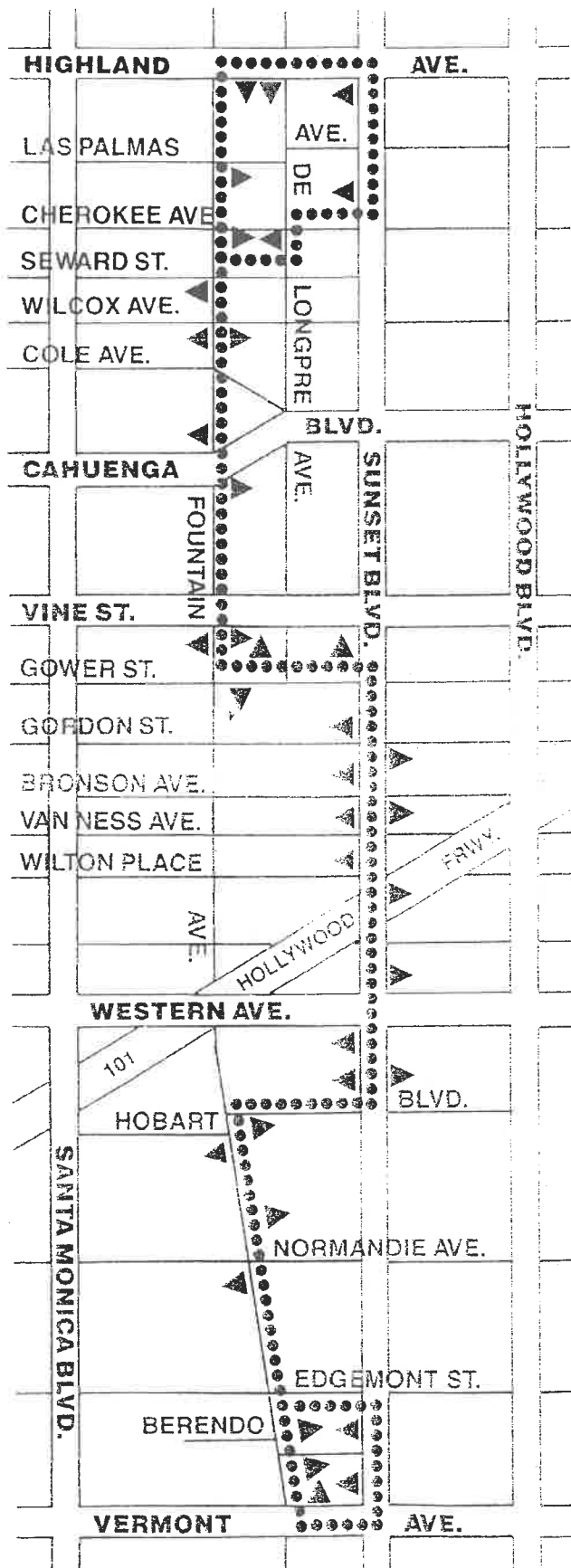
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A friend at City Hall

A guest at a recent HHA board meeting was Lily Lee, from the office of Mayor Tom Bradley. Ms. Lee is one of five area coordinators for the Mayor, and she is assigned to Hollywood and Westchester. Her phone: (213) 485-5114.



New shuttle for Hollywood

A new DASH/Hollywood shuttle has started here (see accompanying map). The 24 passenger vans run every half-hour, Monday through Saturday, from 9 A.M. to 6 P.M. Cost: 25 cents per ride. For further information, call the L.A. Transportation Dept., 1-800-874-8885.



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They made a difference!

Melinda Henderson and Scott Gomez have left Hollywood Heights for a new home in Crestline, and the HHA has lost two of its most hard-working, reliable, productive and beloved members.

If even half the people in Hollywood Heights gave to our association the selflessness and dedication shown by Melinda and Scott, ours would be the best and most beautiful of neighborhoods.

They made a difference in our lives, and we will miss them terribly. But of course we are happy for them and wish them luck in their new home and all of the joy and success they deserve.

Below are excerpts from a farewell letter written to the HHA by Melinda:

While the opportunities that await us are exciting and filled with promise, it saddens me greatly to leave the wonderful community I have called "home" for nearly a decade.

Little did I know what exhilarating (and at times, trying) experiences awaited me when I first volunteered to be a Block Captain for Broadview Terrace The magic word there is "volunteer"--never have I seen a neighborhood where so many residents are ready to band together and rise to the occasion, whatever it may be.

These "occasions" have been numerous...and my opportunities to serve Hollywood Heights, from Block Captain to Acting President, from *View* staff member to impromptu-flier committee of one, from Earthquake Committee chairperson to Community Emergency Response Team Coordinator, all provided me with some of my best learning experiences ever!

The one word that comes to mind when I think of this great neighborhood is "community". You all have been wonderful friends and neighbors, not just to Scott and to me, but to each other I will miss that community spirit I've been such a part of for so long.

I want to go on record that Dorothy was wrong--there is someplace like home and I've been fortunate to spend the last several years living there (and the winters are much better than in Kansas!)

I also want it on the record that any and all of you are certainly welcome at our new house up in the mountains There will always be a warm place in my heart for Hollywood Heights.

Sincerest regards,

Melinda

Editor's Note: Melinda and Scott can be reached by mail at PO Box 4938, Crestline, CA 92325-4938 or by phone at (714) 338-5277.

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View Staff

Theo Wilson editor
Linda Deutsch co-editor
Bonnie Wolfe distribution
Abe Perlstein photographer

Contributors:

Ed Andrzejczyk, Joyce Breiman, Jeffrey Chusid.

Sketches by Annie Kelly.

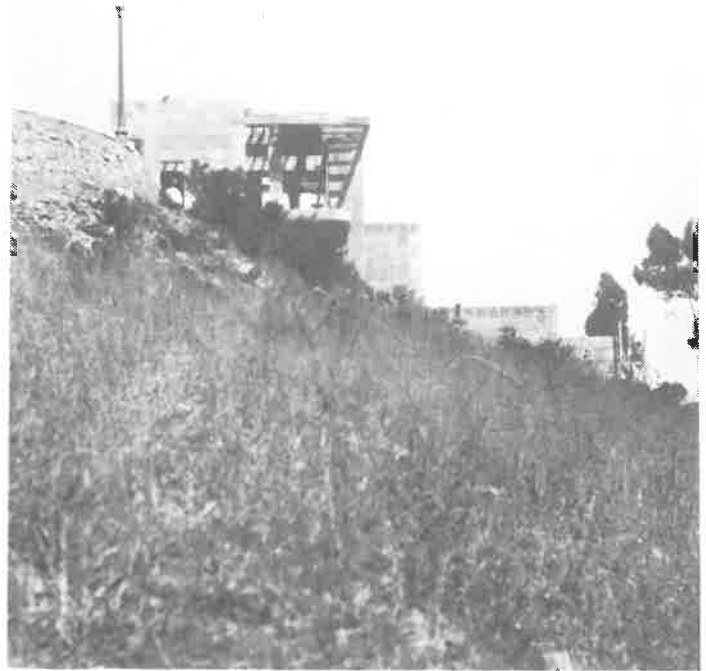
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Glencoe in 1924

The photograph to the right shows the Freeman House under construction. The hillside was grassland dotted with eucalyptus. The retaining wall seen holding up the southern portion of Glencoe Way still remains. At the time, however, the street was unpaved. (Photo courtesy of USC School of Architecture).



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Alta Loma Visitors

The garage area of lower Alta Loma Terrace is currently home to a number of transients who are raiding the trash. Until escrow ends, and the Highland properties are purchased by the County and closed, we suggest that people try to bring their trash down only the night before collection. This will help the situation temporarily. Other measures are being explored in an attempt to ensure the safety and cleanliness of the area.

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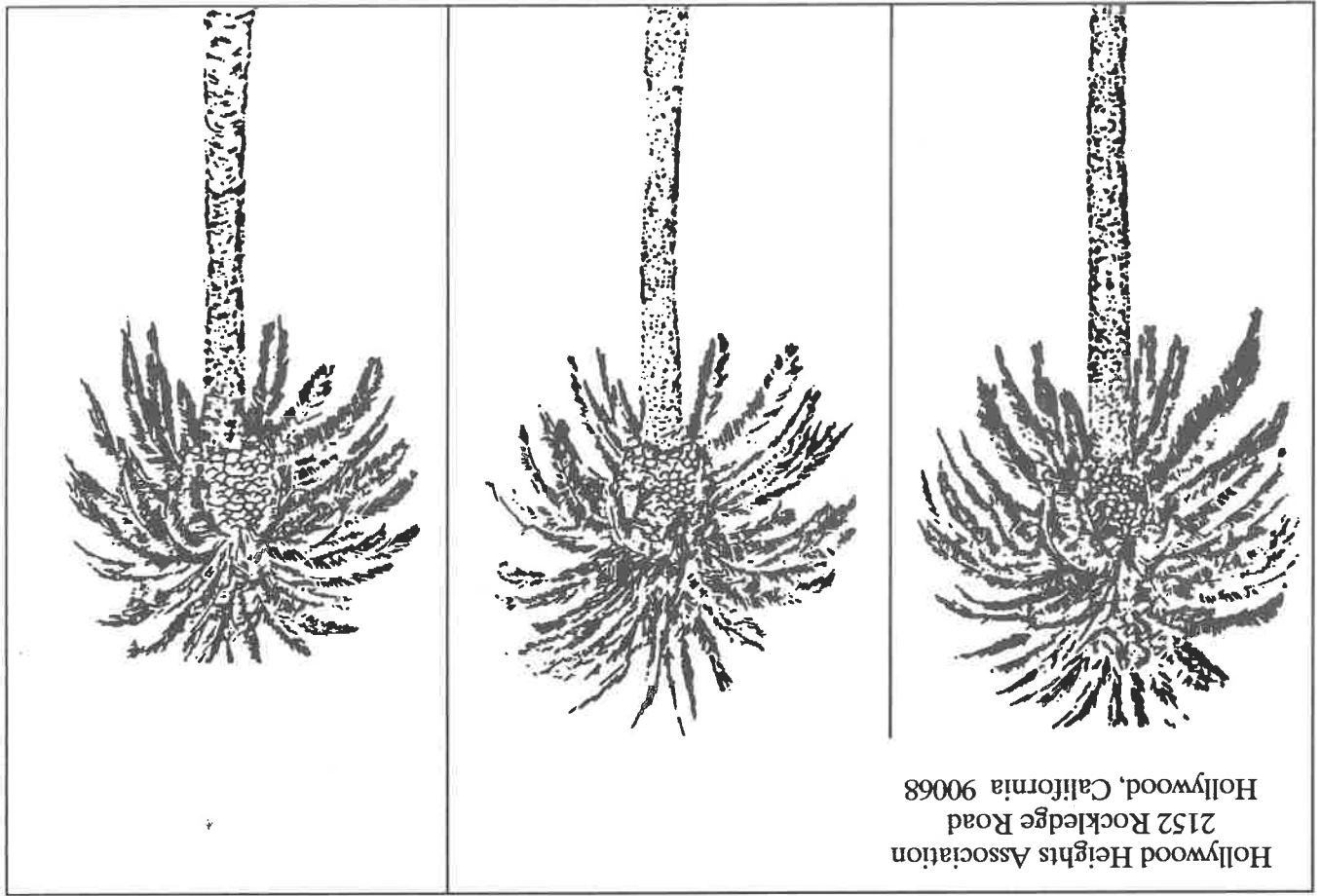
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