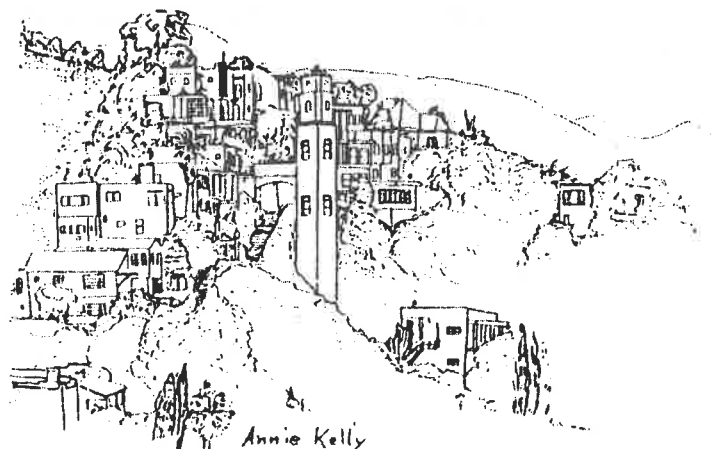


HOLLYWOOD HEIGHTS VIEW

Volume XIII Issue No. 1 Established 1982 Winter 1994



Councilman Ferraro Meets the HHA

by Linda Deutsch

In a burst of neighborhood spirit, Hollywood Heights residents crowded the Skyview room at Yamashiro to meet our city councilman, John Ferraro, and urge his action on a number of critical issues.

Ferraro, who took over representation of the Hollywood Heights-area when Hollywood was re-mapped into his fourth district in 1992, was paying his first official visit to the community since becoming our councilman. In a spirited hour of give and take, Ferraro expressed concern and exhibited good humor as he reported on post-earthquake conditions in Hollywood and fielded questions dealing with everything from crime and traffic to curbing dogs.

In the end, he called it "a very interesting evening" and expressed surprise at the size and enthusiasm of the audience. His deputies, Mary Presby and Renée Weitzer, who also attended, said that many of the issues raised that night had never before been brought to the councilman's attention.

"These meetings are important," Ferraro said. "You know the neighborhood better than I do."

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More than 80 residents turned out for the gathering billed as a coffee klatch with our councilman. HHA board members went all out to encourage the conviviality of a neighborhood get together, spreading the table at Yamashiro with luscious desserts and urging newcomers to meet longtime residents during a lively social hour which preceded Ferraro's arrival. The councilman mingled with HHA members before his formal report.

"The bad news is the earthquake," Ferraro declared. "The good news is crime is down."

The Council President said the visibility of police on city streets after the Jan. 17 earthquake showed the importance of blue uniforms in discouraging street crime. but he acknowledged that more police are needed to control burglaries and violent crimes.

The earthquake hit hard on Hollywood Boulevard, Ferraro reported, and a total of 2,000 buildings in the Fourth District were severely damaged. But he predicted that repairs would be swift and reinforcement of buildings would diminish future damage.

"One thing about a disaster is we make improvements because of it," he said.

Ferraro also expressed concern about traffic hazards reported by members and said he would personally drive the steep hillsides where safety is a problem.

"We have to make sure that (heavy) traffic is not going into residential areas," he said of the plan to widen Camrose Drive and reroute commuter traffic from Highland Avenue. "These are good residential neighborhoods. We don't want you to get mad and move out."

continued on Page Three

President's Message

by Marilyn Glasband

The election of the 1994 Board of Directors has resulted, happily, in the addition of several new faces, which translates into the fresh energy we need to work on Hollywood Heights Association programs addressing the problems of our neighborhood.

We always need help, and if you are not yet a member, we urge you to join the HHA. Become part of the organization whose sole purpose is to keep your neighborhood beautiful, friendly and secure.

Sadly, we lost the battle of the bungalows on October 29, 1993, when the bulldozers arrived. However, we now must move forward and participate in turning the proposed park into a beneficial addition to our community.

We have had some incidents recently involving abandoned or vacant buildings in the neighborhood. The first was resolved fairly quickly when the owner became aware that homeless people had taken over a house on Hillcrest. The marshal was called, and evicted the intruders, who tried to return but were removed quickly.

In the second incident—on Pinehurst—when the police were called, an officer stated that they could do nothing about it. I spoke to Officer Jan Walsh of the Hollywood Division and she assured me that this is not the case.

If you notice suspicious activity at a vacant or abandoned building, call the Hollywood Division and ask for Officer Lopez, (213) 485-4310. He will investigate, and in cooperation with the City Council will identify the property and take appropriate action.

It is very important to do this, because when a building is taken over by trespassers there is a great potential for criminal activity in our neighborhood.

We should make a concerted effort to discourage the collection of recyclables by any persons other than the city truck drivers. Many of us feel compassion toward the men and women who comb our streets looking for objects to exchange for a few dollars needed for a meal or a room. But we have learned that it is an unfortunate fact that some of these people represent a dangerous criminal element, who threaten our safety.

The police cannot attend to this problem on a regular basis, but we can do our best by putting the recyclables out at the last possible moment before pick-up by the city. If you are inclined to discourage this activity when you see it happening, be very careful. One of

our residents was attacked when he tried to prevent a man from taking recyclables from a bin.

The recycling center on La Brea has been closed, because of a zoning violation. Recycling is a worthwhile project, but it must be carried out in properly zoned areas.

Our resolve to work on a disaster preparedness program for the entire HHA area has been reinforced by the recent earthquake. While we were most fortunate for the most part, and sustained little property damage due to the geological nature of our area, we must prepare ourselves for earthquakes, flood and fire.

If you are interested in working on a neighborhood preparedness program, or on any of the HHA projects, please call the committee members listed in the *View*.

Remember, the more of us who become involved, the more we will accomplish through organized effort.



HHA President Marilyn Glasband and City Councilman John Ferraro at HHA general meeting. (Photo by Carol Ward)

MARK THE DATE:

On May 8 the Hollywood Farmers Market will celebrate its third anniversary with numerous events, activities for children, and a birthday program. Plan to meet your friends there for shopping and celebrating.

Marilyn Glasband Re-Elected President

Marilyn Glasband was re-elected president of the Hollywood Heights Association for a second term by acclamation of the new 1994 Board of Directors.

A longtime resident of Hollywood Heights, Marilyn served on many committees of the HHA before being elected HHA president last year. She is active with the League of Women Voters.

Also elected by the board for 1994 are:

Joyce Breiman, vice president; Meg Moynihan, vice president; Fredrica Cooper, corresponding secretary; Donna Blankenship, recording secretary; Carol Ward, treasurer.

If You Park on the Street...

... BE SURE THAT YOU LEAVE ENOUGH ROOM FOR THE GARBAGE AND RECYCLING TRUCKS TO GET BY YOUR CAR ON FRIDAY MORNINGS!!

This is a big problem on our narrow, winding streets. The truck drivers do a phenomenal job as it is, getting their big vehicles through our neighborhood.

But more than once the trucks have been unable to get past cars that were parked too far out into the road, and had to leave full garbage and recycling bins at houses beyond that point.

If you know you are blocking a street, please get up early enough on Friday morning to move your car.

by Joyce Breiman

Fohrman On The Job

Al Fohrman, former HHA board member and an active association member for many years, will continue to monitor the removal of graffiti. He also can be called when you have to report broken street signs or traffic poles. His number is 874-9595.

Ferraro

continued from Page One

Former HHA board member Morgan Woodward told Ferraro: "Camrose Drive is a bobsled run. It's one of the most dangerous streets in Los Angeles." Ferraro said he would urge the installation of more stop signs as well as enforcement of existing stops.

On the issue of crime, former board member Ed Andrzejczyk challenged Ferraro's figures, saying, "Crime is down because crime reporting is down." He demanded more responsiveness by police.

"Everyone knows we're undermanned," Ferraro said, noting that the L.A.P.D. gets little public support in general.

HHA Vice President Meg Moynihan suggested that those who have been helped by the police in time of need write letters of appreciation to the department.

"That," said Ferraro, "is a good idea."



City Councilman John Ferraro addresses HHA general meeting at Yamashiro. Seated at table are HHA President Marilyn Glasband, center, flanked by Ferraro deputies Renée Weitzer and Mary Presby. (Photo by Carol Ward)

Supervisor Edelman Responds on Bungalow Village

Supervisor Ed Edelman was given the opportunity to respond to an article in our last View about the demolition of seven of the historic Highland-Camrose Village bungalows. This is Supervisor Edelman's letter, in full:

I was deeply disturbed to read your recent article on the Highland-Camrose Bungalow Village, which misrepresents my position and misstates or omits a number of important facts concerning the history of the project. For the benefit of your readers, I would like to set the record straight.

First, I am proud of my involvement in the successful effort to preserve seven of the 14 bungalows originally slated for demolition, and to integrate them into a year-round neighborhood park facility which will benefit Hollywood Bowl patrons and community residents alike.

In 1984, the Jan Development Co. had purchased the bungalow village property, intending to raze the structures and construct in their place a six-story, 220-unit condominium complex. At the community's request I blocked the planned demolition, and in 1986 won County approval to purchase the property for public use.

After exhaustive meetings, correspondence and telephone conversations with individuals and community groups, in 1991 I secured Board approval for a compromise plan that in my judgment offers the greatest benefit to the greatest number of people. It bows significantly to community concerns in a number of areas: in preserving trees, enhancing security, blocking through traffic, damping noise levels and barring commercial ventures in the remaining bungalows.

I am confident that when this project is completed, the community will be pleased with and proud of the results.

Thank you for this opportunity to respond.

Very truly yours,

Edmund D. Edelman

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Letter to the Editor (Re: Edelman response)

The Supervisor states that we misrepresented his position and misstated or omitted a number of facts. Yet the Supervisor failed to enumerate any facts that had been omitted or misrepresented. He is proud to have saved seven bungalows, yet does not explain how he feels about destroying a landmark. He could have saved the Village's landmark status by demolishing only three bungalows. Instead, by destroying seven, he removed forever and irrevocably the possibility that we would have a precious landmark within our community to preserve for future generations.

Signed: The HHA Highland/Camrose Bungalow Committee.

Note: Supervisor Edelman has announced that he will not seek a sixth term in December, and described this decision as "the hardest I think I've ever had to make." He reportedly is considering teaching at a university or returning to the practice of law.



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Yes Virginia, They Really Are Recycling Though It's a Garbage Truck

by Joyce Breiman, Recycling Committee chair

On streets such as Glencoe Way, where the city is using a garbage truck to pick up recyclables, residents have expressed concern about whether the material actually is going to the landfill for recycling. Since all recyclables—newspapers, cans, glass—are thrown in and mixed together in these garbage trucks, as is done with regular garbage, several inquiries have been made to the HHA Recycling Committee.

According to Mark Miodovski, marketing manager, City Recycling and Waste Reduction Division, the materials are taken to the recycling yard, where they are hand-separated on a conveyor belt.

Obviously, this is not a cost-effective way of handling recyclables: mashing together materials that have already been separated, only to have them separated again by hand.

Both Mark and Paul Blount, manager of the Refuse Collection Division, said the city is investigating the possibility of either buying smaller recycling trucks or retrofitting other trucks that can make it up these narrow streets. Blount advised us that the city needs about 20 to 30 such trucks; and they are too expensive when purchased in such small numbers. He said the city is actively pursuing the search for an affordable truck.

REMEMBER: The city will accept only glass, steel and aluminum cans, clear plastic soda or water bottles, milk bottles, newspapers, and corrugated cardboard, broken down.

The city will NOT take other plastic bottles or containers, magazines, phone books.

We urge you again not to put anything in the recyclable bin that is not acceptable.

The drivers may pick it up, because they are too rushed to separate it, but once it gets to the recycling yard, it will be trashed. Indeed, a load of recyclables may be thrown out altogether because it is contaminated by the unacceptable material.

If you have any recycling questions or problems, please call me at 876-9684.

Riordan Police Proposal

At the invitation of Mayor Richard Riordan's office, president Marilyn Glasband and board member Theo Wilson attended one of the first community meetings at which the Mayor unveiled his "Project Safety L.A.", a program designed to increase the police force from 7600 to 9745 by 1997, when Riordan's term ends, and to make better use of police personnel to benefit the public.

Developed by Police Chief Willie Williams, who accompanied the Mayor to the meeting, the plan provides for the hiring of civilians as office workers to replace trained officers, who could return to street duty, and for the hiring of former officers, reservists and transfers from other law enforcement agencies. More officers would be allowed to work overtime, and the LAPD's vehicles and equipment would be modernized.

At the meeting, the mayor was introduced by City Councilman John Ferraro, and among the speakers was Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky, who said that "my own household has been visited by crime seven times in the past 18 months..No one understands better than the Yaroslavsky household the need for some kind of program" to fight crime.

When the Mayor called for questions from the floor, Marilyn asked whether a Constitutional amendment should be introduced changing the requirement to pass a public safety bond measure from a 2/3 majority vote to a simple majority.

"Yes," Mayor Riordan answered. "That is something we should have."

Last December Los Angeles received a \$4 million grant from the federal government to hire 54 new officers for the LAPD. This was the largest grant announced by President Clinton in the first step of his nationwide program to put 100,000 more police officers on the streets of U.S. cities.

Deer Crossing

Carol Ward notes that more deer than usual have been seen in our neighborhood, coming down from wooded areas searching for food. Please drive carefully and slowly at night, and be on the alert for these and other animals who may run out into the road.

Lowdown From The Heights

by Carol Ward

When I asked our esteemed editor if the *View* could feature a column about personal happenings, she informed me that just such a column, entitled "Lowdown From The Heights", used to be a regular feature. She then asked if I would like to reinstate the column, so...

If you have an announcement—birth, marriage, an award, an interesting anecdote—and would like to have it printed in the *View*, please mail it to Carol Ward, Lowdown From The Heights, 2019 N. Sycamore Ave. or call (213) 969-0511.

& & &

The arrival of twins Tamara and Michael Katoni was truly earth-shaking. At 4:31 A.M., January 17, THE earthquake erupted, and at 5 A.M. their mother, NINA, went into labor. Their father, URI KATONI, drove with Nina to Cedars-Sinai, where earthquake victims were being admitted, and, despite the chaos, their own doctor also was able to get to the hospital in time to deliver the babies. Tamara weighed 6 lbs., 12 oz., Michael was 7 lbs., 1 oz. Uri, a new member of the HHA Board, said he thought his earthquake babies were going to be the biggest story of the day—until he went to the nursery and saw *three* sets of newborn twins!

& & &

An essay by Emmy-award winning writer/director VICTORIA HOCHBERG on the devastation of the earthquake was published on the opinion page of the Los Angeles Times last January 28. Vicki, an HHA Board member, started her commentary, entitled "Epicenter: the Soul," with this question:

"You sit in the dark waiting for the catastrophe. When you have spent so much time and invested so much passion creating a room—waxing wood, putting tulips in a vase, setting turquoise bowls just so, vacuuming until the lines of furniture leap out from their place—how do you feel when this work is nullified by destruction?"

& & &

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to GRAYCE BALDWIN, back home after a hospital stay with a complicated case of pneumonia. Grayce was the first president and one of the founders of the HHA.

AL HIX, a friend of humor columnist/author Art Buchwald since they were USC classmates, led off the February 20 "Letters" page of the *L.A. Times* with this clever comment on Buchwald's latest book:

"Buchwald's autobiography, 'Leaving Home,' may be all that (reviewer) W.P. Kinsella says it is—but is it Art?"

Hix has been an HHA member since he retired as a film publicist in London and came back here to live. His wry comments have been published in various newspaper columns.

& & &

Among those who mourned the demise of old-time restaurant Nickodell, next to Paramount Studios on Melrose, was actor MORGAN WOODWARD, one of the HHA founders and a former board member. As reported in the December 9 issue of the *Hollywood Independent*:

"Morgan Woodward, a longtime television actor best known for his work on *Wyatt Earp*, and his role as Punk Anderson on *Dallas*, first started going to the Nickodell in 1956.

"I had moved in the neighborhood close to Paramount," he explained. But even after *Wyatt Earp* ended and Woodward moved out of the neighborhood, Nickodell remained a part of his life. 'I've always come back to the Nickodell at least once a month,' said Woodward, 'It's sad to see it close. I think it's a sad day for Hollywood. This type of thing is happening all over America.'"

The Nickodell had been around since 1928, and closed last December.

& & &

STEPHANIE FAULKNER-PESCHKE, an HHA board member, writer and actress, was featured on the front page of the *Los Angeles Times View* section, on Oct. 1, 1993, in a large color photo illustrating an article on today's non-traditional maternity fashions. The caption under the picture explained that Stephanie "reached into her closet for this pre-pregnancy, free-flowing floral dress." The picture was taken shortly before Stephanie and her husband, Ray Peschke, became the parents of Ariana Marisol, who weighed in at 6 lbs., 15 oz., and was 21" long.

continued on next page

Lowdown

continued from previous page

Several HHA members were in attendance at the Beverly Hills Public Library Auditorium when author **BONNIE WOLFE**, a former HHA Board member, read from her published and in-progress works. Bonnie, who has been on the HHA VIEW staff since it was established, also answered questions from the audience, which included Allan Goldpenny, Marilyn Glasband, Joyce Breiman and Theo Wilson. Bonnie's novel, "Love In Atlantis", recently was republished in paperback.

(Linda Deutsch and Theo Wilson contributed to this column.)

Winning At City Hall

Thanks to the protests of neighborhood association groups, the Los Angeles City Council has repealed a law that would have made it financially impossible for residents to appeal city approval of controversial development projects.

This happened last year, but in case you missed it: In April 1993 the council approved new fees which were supposed to eliminate "frivolous" appeals. The new fees would have allowed homeowners within 500 feet of a proposed development to pay \$64 fees if they wanted to appeal, but everybody living outside the 500-foot boundary was required to pay 85 percent of the application charges paid by the developer.

The inequity of the new law was discovered when residents opposing a development near Marina del Rey learned they would have to pay a \$64,000 fee to appeal the Planning Commission's approval of the project. In Canoga Park, a resident who opposed the building of a fast food restaurant was told his fee would be about \$2,000.

Advised of this, the L.A. City Council voted 12-0 to reinstitute the \$64 fee for those filing appeals from city approval of proposed developments, regardless of boundaries.

Highland-Franklin Widening Threatened

by Tom Glover, HHA Traffic and Parking Representative

For the last five years we have been working with the L.A. Department of Transportation to eliminate a bottleneck by widening Highland Avenue between the two intersections with Franklin Avenue adjacent to our community. This is the second busiest intersection in Los Angeles and has been the source of great frustration for many years. Ideas for improvement of this intersection began in the late 60s, finally achieved some momentum in the early 80s, and began to be a real priority five years ago with the appointment of a special task force (including Tom Glover as a representative of HHA) to guide it through the labyrinth of departments and bureaucracies. Everything was proceeding slowly but steadily until recently, when Caltrans became involved.

Highland Avenue is a secondary highway belonging to Caltrans. For a long time Caltrans has wanted to turn it over to the L. A. Department of Transportation. Caltrans has done little to maintain the street, which needs considerable deferred work. When LADOT met with Caltrans to coordinate the Highland/Franklin intersection project, Caltrans basically stonewalled the project with ridiculous requirements which would cause years of additional delays. This apparently was done to force the City to take Highland. LADOT is willing to take Highland, provided Caltrans either does the necessary repairs or gives the City the funds to do so.

At this point it is a total stalemate and threatens the entire project. The widening of the Highland/Franklin intersection is an improvement which will benefit everyone, and is a high priority for both the City and our community. We are sending letters to legislative representatives in Sacramento in the hope that they can exercise some influence with Caltrans and encourage them to help us move the project forward. Any input to City officials from Hollywood Heights residents would be very helpful.





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2. Make all necessary repairs before cleaning and storing for the season.
3. Store all items in a cool, well ventilated area.
4. Store away from natural and artificial light. Avoid hot attics, damp basements, and garages.
5. Store woollens in cedar chests or in other airtight containers.
6. Pack airtight containers (other than cedar chests) with mothballs suspended above or separate from the clothes, never on them.
7. To decrease wrinkles in sweaters, fold them and wrap in white tissue before storing.
8. Down, like all winter clothing, should be cleaned before end of season storage. Down should be stored loosely, to allow for air circulation.
9. Furs should be stored on a well-padded hanger in a cool dark place, ideally with a professional cleaner with fur storage capacity.
10. If you do not have proper storage space, ask an IFI professional drycleaner about box storage. Have your clothes cleaned and properly stored all at the same time.



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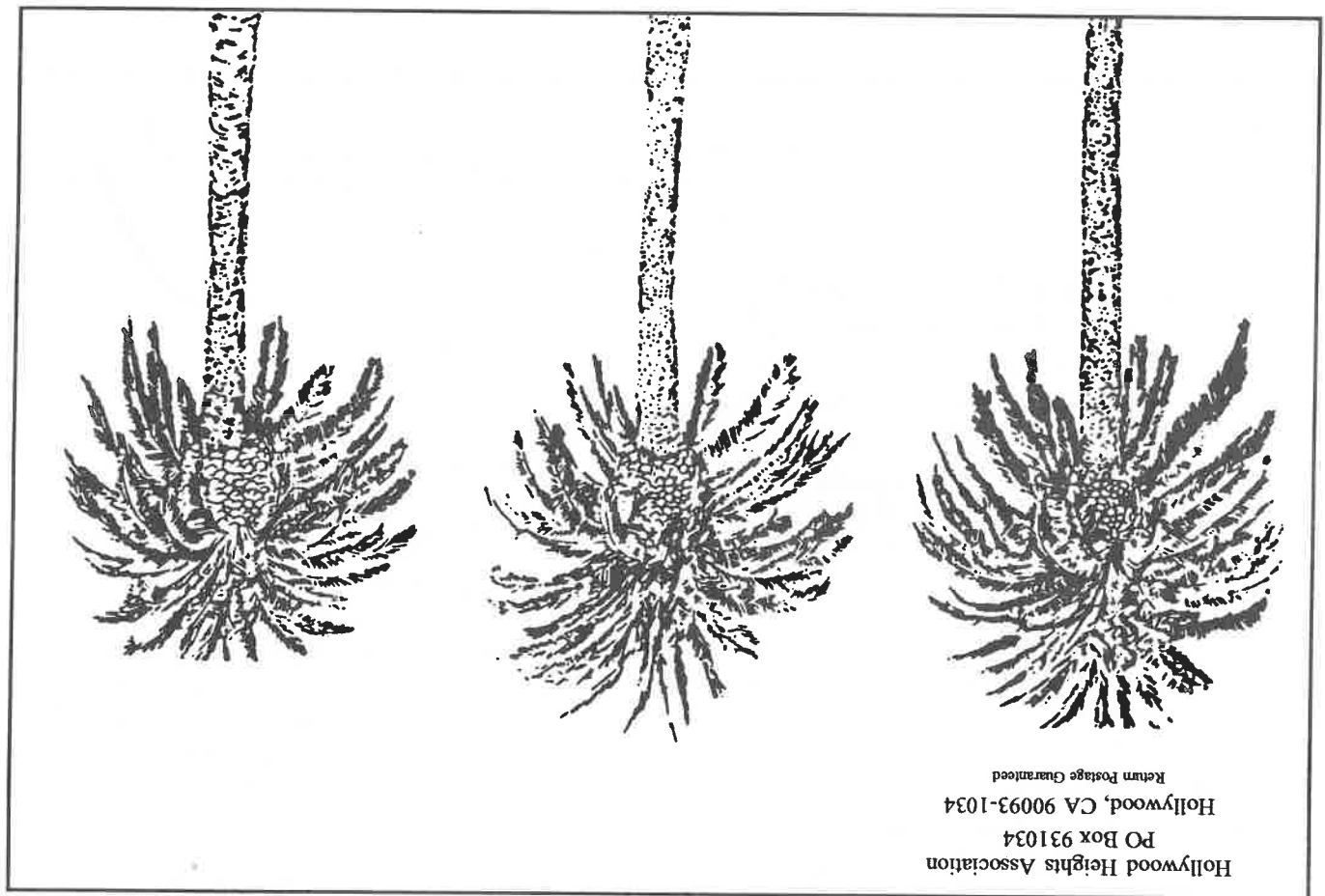
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Hollywood Heights and the eastern ridge of Runyon Canyon Park beyond, as viewed from Whitley Heights. (HHA photo ©1994, Abe Perlstein)