Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project Events, Spring 2020

Unless noted otherwise, for all walking tours we suggest a $10 donation to benefit the work of the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project. Or, become a GPNHP member: Individual $15 and Household $20, and the walk you’re joining is included. Visit our Support the GPNHP page to pay for the walk in advance with PayPal, and to learn more about the GPNHP. No one turned away for lack of funds.

Votes for Women: Glen Park’s Role in America’s First Suffrage March
Tuesday, March 10, 2020, 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm, presented by Evelyn Rose, Director and Founder, GPNHP
California Historical Society Headquarters, 678 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA
This year marks the centennial of passage of the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution guaranteeing women’s right to vote. California women had already won that right in the state election of 1911. Another historic event in California – what is believed to be the first women’s suffrage march in the nation – was held in Oakland in 1908, co-organized and co-led by women leaders of San Francisco’s Glen Park neighborhood. Evelyn Rose will present how Glen Park women, emboldened by their civic activities, concurrently pursued the preeminent right of citizenship in California and beyond – the right to vote. Their march to the California State Republican Convention to demand suffrage be added to the party’s platform, is an event poorly documented in the annals of American history. Entry: $12 General Admission, In Advance; Free for CHS Members, plus one guest per membership. Learn more at the California Historical Society.

Modern Diamond Heights: The Redevelopment of Red Rock and Gold Mine Hills
Saturday, March 14, 2020, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
Join architectural historian Hannah Simonson to explore the early history of Red Rock and Gold Mine Hills in Diamond Heights; learn how a declaration of “blight” would lead to unrealized skyscrapers and Modernist architecture. Meet: Creighton’s Bakery, 5214-D Diamond Heights Shopping Center. Distance: 1.5 miles. Level: Moderately strenuous. Rain cancels walk. RSVP: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com.

“Plants and Birds and Rocks and Things”: A Walk Through the Natural Histories of Glen Canyon
Saturday, March 28, 2020, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Glen Canyon, a 60-acre designated Significant Natural Resource Area, sits right in the heart of San Francisco. Bring your binoculars and join local historian Evelyn Rose as we stroll along the floor of the “Grand Canyon of San Francisco” to consider its prehistoric and geologic origins, the history of the local Muwekma Ohlones, recall the history Islais Creek, the largest creek in San Francisco, consider whether the trees in the canyon are native or planted, recall the wildlife that once roamed the land, and hopefully catch glimpses of the wildlife that still call Glen Canyon home. Meet: Elk Street entrance to Glen Canyon Park Recreation Area near the Glen Park Cow Sign. Distance: 1.3 miles. Level: Easy to moderately strenuous, concrete and dirt trails, some stairs up and down, seating midway. RSVP: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com. This walk is free!

The Glen Park BART Station: Midcentury Brutalism
Meeting of the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project
Co-Sponsored by the Diamond Heights Community Association
St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 101 Gold Mine Drive (at Diamond Heights Boulevard)
Saturday, 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm
Please join us as welcome San Francisco architectural historian Christopher VerPlanck as he provides a brief history of the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) system and why Glen Park was selected as a station site relatively late in the planning process. He will also discuss the work of architect Ernest Born, especially his association with BART and why he was selected to design the Glen Park and Balboa Park stations. His design sources and his interest in the unity of all the arts all played out in the design of the Glen Park BART station. Also presented will be the impact of the station’s construction on Glen Park and the role it has played in the neighborhood for the last fifty years. He will close with a description of the process list the Glen Park BART station in the National Register and the challenges he encountered. The meeting will begin with some highlights

of the 250+ year transit history of the "Glen Park Curve" by GPNHP Director Evelyn Rose. A suggested $10 donation can help support the work of the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project. Or, become a GPNHP member: Individual $15 or Household $20. Visit our Support the GPNHP page to donate in advance with PayPal, and to learn more about the GPNHP.

No one turned away for lack of funds.

“Cowbells in the Spring”: History of Fairmount Heights
Saturday, April 11, 2020, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Frequently considered part of Glen Park, Fairmount Heights was initially founded as the Pacific Railroad Homestead Association during the Civil War. Join Glen Park historian Evelyn Rose to retrace the forgotten rural homesteads, rediscovers the origins of both the names and routes of Chenery, Laidley, Bemis, Arlington, Beacon, and other streets in the district, shares a link to the California 100 of the 2nd Massachusetts Cavalry, ponders whether the mother of California civil rights, Mary Ellen Pleasant, ever resided on Laidley Street, imagines the days when Southern Pacific trains made their way along the edge of the neighborhood, and cogitates over how the district has one of two local links to an iconic 1960s TV show.
Distance: 2.0 miles. Level: Moderately strenuous, mostly downhill. Rain cancels. RSVP: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com.

Glen Park Festival
Visit us at the GPNHP Booth on Wilder Street!
Sunday, April 26, 2020, 10:00 am to 4:30 pm
Join the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project as we celebrate the opening of the San Francisco neighborhood festival season at the Glen Park Festival! Visit the GPNHP booth to learn more about the histories of Glen Park, Glen Canyon Park, Sunnyside, Fairmount Heights, and Diamond Heights! Food, fun, entertainment, and other surprises are in store for everyone! Meet: Chenery/Diamond/Wilder/Bosworth Streets. Transit: BART, Glen Park; MUNI J-Church, 44-O’Shaughnessy, 52-Excelsior. Free!

San Francisco History Days 2020 – A City-Wide Event!
Friday, May 8, 2020, Kick-Off Event, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Saturday, May 9, 2020, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm
If you’ve never attended, this is the year for your travel back in time! In 2020, San Francisco History Days will activate all of San Francisco, highlighting local history in neighborhoods throughout the city with a refreshed format. Six to ten host sites will showcase multiple exhibitors and presentations, and the GPNHP will be hosting our regional site. There will be a dedicated site for authors of recently published history books and there will be tours through the Old U.S. Mint. All participating sites will be featured on an illustrated map (available for free) that will also include a schedule of programs. San Francisco History Days will launch with a kick-off celebration the evening of Friday, May 8th, bringing together independent historians, local history organizations, and the general public for a night of informative fun over light refreshments and entertainment. Locations to be announced soon. Visit San Francisco History Days for more information. This event is free!

A Trestle Ran Through It: Early Days in Glen Park Village
Saturday, May 16, 2020, 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm
Take a walk back through time with local historian Evelyn Rose to learn more about learn more about how San Francisco’s indigenous people, the Ohlone, likely hunted and gathered in the region, Glen Park’s link to the El Camino Real, the days when milch ranches dotted the landscape, a hold-up at the Gum Tree Saloon, the electric railroad that once passed through, and when homesteads, women’s clubs, and earthquakes began setting the foundation for today’s enduring character of Glen Park. Meet: Plaza, Glen Park BART station, Bosworth and Diamond. Distance: 1.0 mile. Level: Easy. Rain cancels walk. RSVP: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com.

Modern Diamond Heights: The Redevelopment of Red Rock and Gold Mine Hills
Sunday, May 31, 2020, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm [note new start time]
Join architectural historian Hannah Simonson to explore the early history of Red Rock and Gold Mine Hills in Diamond Heights; learn how a declaration of "blight" would lead to unrealized skyscrapers and Modernist architecture. Meet: Creighton’s Bakery, 5214-D Diamond Heights Shopping Center. Distance: 1.5 miles. Level: Moderately strenuous. Rain cancels walk. RSVP: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com.

For more information, visit the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project.
For Sunnyside history walks, visit the Sunnyside History Project.