2012 WALK THROUGH HISTORY
Tour Guides Biographical Information

Mill Avenue Tour
Dave Fackler, Redevelopment Director; 1979 – 2003
Jim Garrison, State Historic Preservation Officer
Karyn Gitlis, Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation
Vic Linoff, Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation
Joe Nucci, Tempe Historic Preservation Office
Lisa Roach, Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation
Stu Siefer, Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation
85 Subscribed / 7 Guides = 12 / Guide

Town Lake Tour
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Eric Iwersen, Tempe Community Development Department
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ASU Tour
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Dave Fackler

Tempe Redevelopment Director; 1979 - 2003

In 1979, Dave was appointed Housing and Redevelopment Supervisor (later, Deputy Community Development Director), charged with energizing a program that had seen little progress during its first six years of existence. Under Dave's direction, over three million square feet of downtown development were realized, with plans in place for as much more. Elevated to Development Services Manager in 2000, Dave continued to promote downtown redevelopment, while leading the entire department in providing high-quality service to the public. Dave retired from the public realm in 2003, but his impact will always be felt in the economy and identity of downtown Tempe. The intersection of Fifth Street and Mill Avenue has been designated "Fackler Square" in his honor.

Jim Garrison

Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer

In 1970, Jim graduated from Arizona State University with an Architecture degree and he has been a registered architect in Arizona since 1974. He has practiced in the field of historic preservation all of his architectural career, specializing in the inspection and rehabilitation of historic buildings, such as the historic 1888, Tempe Bakery – Hackett House, which he designed the restoration of in 1981, and in the survey and inventory of cultural resources which he provided for the City of Tempe in 1982-83. In 1990, Jim was hired by the State Historic Preservation Office to oversee the Certified Local Government Program that develops preservation programs at the local level. In 1992, Arizona's Governor designated Mr. Garrison as the State Historic Preservation Officer, a position he continues to enjoy today.

Karyn Gitlis

Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation

In 1994, Karyn was appointed by Mayor Harry Mitchell to the Ad Hoc Historic Preservation Commission which was formed to help determine if Tempe should adopt an Ordinance for Historic Preservation and institute an Historic Preservation program. Throughout the Tempe Preservation Program's operation, Karyn has helped with the conservation, enhancement, and preservation of dozens of historic properties throughout Tempe. In 2010, she listed her home in the Maple-Ash Neighborhood on the Tempe Historic Property Register. In addition to her service to the Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation, Karyn serves on the Tempe Aviation Commission, and is involved in the community as a neighborhood organizer. Karyn recently ended a 32 year career as a speech-language pathologist, working for 30 years in the Tempe Elementary Schools.

Andrea Gregory

Tempe Historic Preservation Commission

In 2010, Andrea was appointed by Mayor Hallman to serve on the Tempe Historic Preservation Commission where she advises the Tempe City Council on all matters concerning historic preservation. In 2011, Andrea was elected Vice-Chair by her commission colleagues. In this capacity she represents the Historic Preservation Commission to the Development Review Commission and to the public regarding designation of landmarks, historic properties, and historic districts. Andrea also serves on the Board of Directors of the Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation. Andrea received her M.A. in Anthropology from Northern Arizona University in 2000. She has worked for Archaeological Consulting Services, Ltd. in Tempe for over 11 years where she serves as Senior Project Manager for archaeological and historical projects, and analyzes marine shell and faunal bone remains.

Nathan Hallam
Linnea Caproni

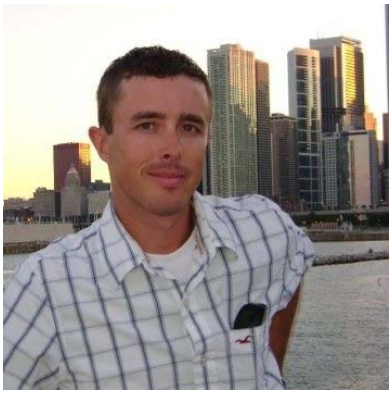
Tempe Historic Preservation Office

In 2010, Nathan joined the Tempe Historic Preservation Office staff as an ASU Graduate Student Intern. Since that time, Nathan has been instrumental in the success of the program through his tremendous research capacity, extensive survey and inventory work, and development of historic contexts. In 2011, Nathan worked extensively with the historic preservation community at the neighborhood level to develop historic materials for Neighborhood Enhancement Art Projects leading to his receipt of the “Friends of Maple-Ash” award presented in gratitude by the Maple-Ash Neighborhood Association. Joining us for this special event is Linnea Caproni who, along with Nathan, is a PhD candidate in History at Arizona State University. Linnea and Nathan are each working on dissertations dealing with the development of landscapes and communities in Central Arizona.

Eric Iwersen

Tempe Community Development Department

In 1997, Eric began working for the City of Tempe as a transportation planner involved primarily with bicycle systems. Eric was named Tempe's 2011 Bike Hero for his commitment and dedication to bicycling, organization of bicycle related events, and advocacy for bicycle-friendly roads. Eric believes in the importance of preservation for place-making, sustainability and strength of a community. He is a long-time resident of one of Tempe's oldest neighborhoods Mitchell Park. Eric has enjoyed Tempe's unique and significant place in history for Arizona and he brings a comprehensive perspective on transportation history and current planning issues. A well know artist, Eric is also well versed in public art in Tempe. Originally from Boulder, Colorado, he has lived in Tempe for 22 years and is an Arizona State University graduate with a degree in Urban Studies.



Billy Kiser

Tempe Historic Preservation Office

In 2009, Billy joined the Tempe Historic Preservation Office staff as our first ASU Graduate Student Intern. Since that time, Billy has been instrumental in the success of the program through his tremendous productivity and successful grant writing, historic designations, and National Register nominations. In 2011, Billy worked extensively with the historic preservation community at the Tribal, State, and local levels to write the nomination that listed Tempe (Hayden) Butte on the National Register of Historic Places. A graduate of New Mexico State University, Billy is currently a graduate student of History at ASU. He is the author of “Turmoil on the Rio Grande” recently published by Texas A&M Press which skillfully demonstrates both his storytelling gift and his remarkable command of southwestern history.

Sherri Lesser

Tempe Community Development Department

Sherri has worked for the City of Tempe for 24 years and is also a longtime resident of North Tempe. During her many years working for city, she has been involved in the planning of new developments, redevelopment and the historic designation of many sites in the downtown Tempe area.

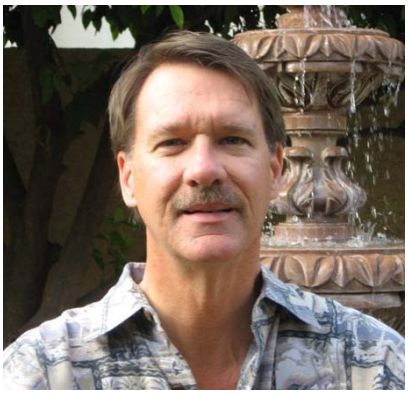
Jodi Thompson

Arizona born and raised Jodi Hofmann Thompson has a unique insight into the history of her home state. A longtime television promotion professional, Jodi brings a quarter century of embellishing and exaggerating experience to this tour of Hayden Butte and the Tempe Town Lake Area of the Tempe Walk Through History.

Vic Linoff

Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation

In 1973, Vic opened “Those Were The Days” at its 30 year location in the historic Goodwin Building at 512 S. Mill Ave. He has been involved in Tempe Historic Preservation ever since. In 2005, Vic was appointed as a charter member of the Board of Directors of the Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation. He has served on dozens of citizen boards and commissions, including the Tempe History Museum Advisory Board and the Arizona State Parks Historic Preservation Advisory Committee. Vic established Mesa's historic preservation program and, in 2006, Vic was awarded the Governor's Heritage Preservation Award for his expertise in historic preservation and his critical involvement in the conservation of dozens of historic neighborhoods and individual properties which were designated and listed through his preservation efforts. Vic is a longtime business owner who understands the importance of historic preservation to downtown and to the city’s economic vitality.



Gary Meyer

Scottsdale Capital Projects Manager

In 1988 Gary began work with the City of Tempe in the Community Development Department working primarily on the nascent Rio Salado Project. A registered architect and avid naturalist, Gary was extensively involved in the planning and construction of Tempe Town Lake from its earliest stages of development. A Tempe resident and, for many years, a planner with the City of Tempe Community Development Department, Gary has been involved in numerous historic preservation design and redevelopment efforts throughout the community. Currently Gary is the Capital Projects Manager for the City of Scottsdale.

Joe Nucci

Tempe Historic Preservation Office

In 2001, Joe was appointed Tempe Historic Preservation Officer, a position he continues to enjoy today. Joe joined the Tempe Redevelopment Team in 1989. A graduate of Arizona State University College of Architecture, Joe is a registered architect and serves on the Arizona State Parks Historic Preservation Advisory Committee and as an advisory board member to the Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation. He has a strong interest in Arizona history and a founding member of the Central Arizona Deltiological Society and a member of the East Valley Historic Preservation Coalition, the Central Arizona Chapter of the Arizona Historical Society, the Arizona Preservation Foundation, and the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions.

Lisa Roach

Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation

In 2003, Lisa began volunteering on the Tempe History Museum Advisory Board where she went on to serve as vice-chair and eventually as chair. Her passion for community activism and her willingness to serve has led to her involvement with Clark Park Neighborhood Association, Guess Birchett Questers Chapter 1442, Arnold Ruiz Chapter - Los Vecinos of North West Tempe, Tempe Neighborhood Advisory Commission, and Tempe Neighbors Helping Neighbors Inc. In 2010, Lisa joined the Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation and, in 2012, her Foundation colleagues elected her President of the Foundation where she will serve as liaison between the Foundation and the Tempe Historic Preservation Commission helping to ensure coordination between these private-nonprofit and public agencies.

Stu Siefer

Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation

In 1978, Stu Siefer moved his business, Siefer Associates Architects, to the Mill Avenue District where he has made his presence felt ever since. Owner of the landmark Tempe Hardware and Tempe National Bank Buildings, Stu has been involved with more than 250 architectural and historic preservation projects in downtown Tempe, ranging from the nostalgic Bandersnatch to the new University Towers. In 2005, Stu was appointed as a charter member of the Board of Directors of the Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation. He has served on dozens of citizen boards and commissions, including the Tempe Historic Preservation Commission (from 2002 to 2008) and the Tempe Board of Adjustment. He claims now to be “winding down” his practice but, this architect and tenor saxophonist has a new adventure in “JAMN_AZ” that is bringing a cool vibe to this hot town with a jazz series that continues to keep Stu an important part of the Mill Avenue District scene.

Jared Smith

Tempe History Museum Curator of History

In 2010, Jared became Curator of History for the Tempe History Museum. He received a degree in Anthropology from the University of Arizona and then spent a number of years as an archaeologist, working on historic and prehistoric sites in Arizona and other Southwestern states. Jared completed a Master's degree in History from Arizona State University while working at the Mesa Historical Museum. At MHM for nearly a decade, he was in charge of the museum's entire collection of artifacts, archives, and research materials, and served as the museum's staff historian. Jared helped MHM curate many exhibits, including Play Ball: The Cactus League Experience. Jared is Vice-Chair of the Mesa Historic Preservation Board, and is also involved in several historic preservation projects including the effort to restore Mesa's Diving Lady neon sign and the historic locomotive in Mesa's Pioneer Park.

Mark Vinson

Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation

Mark is a Registered Architect and Certified Planner, with expertise in urban design and historic preservation, as well as culturally and environmentally appropriate architecture. Recently elected to the American Institute of Architects National College of Fellows, Mark is the recipient of several professional awards, including the Arizona Architects Medal, Governor's Honor Award for Historic Preservation, the Arizona Preservation Foundation's President's Award and the Alumni Service Award from The Design School at ASU. He is co-author of the award-winning Arizona Highways book Landmark Buildings: Arizona's Architectural Heritage and has individually authored numerous articles in publications such as Journal of Arizona History (AHS) and Vision (APA), while presenting at diverse venues on the topics of architecture, urban design and historic preservation. Mark was Tempe's first Historic Preservation Officer and is currently Tempe's City Architect / Design & Preservation Manager.

Walk Through History Returns
to Downtown Tempe on Feb. 4, 2012

Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation
event made possible by -

Archaeological Consulting Services
City of Tempe
Downtown Tempe Community
Monti's La Casa Vieja Restaurant
Rio Salado Foundation
Tempe Historical Society
Tempe Mission Palms
Tempe Sister Cities
Tempe Tourism Office

- and by our many community members, subscribes, and friends of Tempe Preservation who have contributed to and participated in today's tour.

Thank you for your ongoing support.