



For Immediate Release:

**Presented by Pasadena Heritage**

**Spring Home Tour: “Better Homes and Gardens”**

**Sunday, March 25, 2018, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm**

Multiple Locations / Drive-Yourself / Docent-guided interior stops at multiple locations throughout Pasadena, Altadena and Sierra Madre.

Tickets: \$40 for members / \$45 for non-members / Day of Tickets: \$48 for everyone.

**Lecture and Documentary Screening by author Kelly Comras: “Ruth Shellhorn, Mid-Century Landscape Architect”**

**Thursday, March 8, 2018: 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm**

Tickets: \$18 for members / \$22 for non-members / Day of Tickets: \$25 for everyone

For additional information and images:

Pasadena Heritage’s Communications Coordinator Katherine Baxter

[kbaxter@pasadenaheritage.org](mailto:kbaxter@pasadenaheritage.org), 626.441.6333, ext. 12

<http://www.pasadenaheritage.org/springtour>

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Pasadena California-

**Pasadena Heritage Spring Home Tour and Lecture –  
“Better Homes and Gardens”**

Tour extraordinary historic homes and gorgeous gardens as Pasadena Heritage presents architectural and landscape design spanning more than 130 years. Inspired by the legendary magazine that has epitomized American living since 1922 with articles such as, “Create the Perfect Front Yard” and “Backyard Landscapes with our Gardening Tips,” *Better Homes and Gardens* continues to be one of America’s favorite magazines.

Pasadena Heritage’s Spring Home Tour, “Better Homes and Gardens”, allows guests to experience noteworthy architecture and landscape design that influence each other and combine to create perfect harmony. From “curb appeal” to private interiors, visitors will enjoy places that clearly demonstrate the beauty of indoor-outdoor living blended seamlessly together.

The famed McNally Mansion, designed by Frederick L. Roehrig in 1887 for Andrew McNally of the Rand-McNally Map Company of Chicago, is a featured location on the tour. The 2 ½-story Queen Anne-style home retains remarkable integrity both inside and out. Though the property and the gardens have changed over the years, it remains a remarkable showplace. Original photos and postcards of the house and grounds will remind guests of this great estate’s prominence and grandeur as one of Altadena’s earliest mansions.

Also in Altadena, tour-goers can visit a charming 1922 Spanish Colonial Revival bungalow with drought-tolerant and drought-loving front and back gardens designed and



cared for by the creative, design-conscious owner. The landscape was so well received by neighbors that they copied the design, giving the block cohesive curb appeal.

Haynes Landscape Design's home base will be part of the tour as well. See the gardens and nursery of their 1902 farmhouse as well as the interior and exterior living spaces of two delightful, one bedroom, one bath, miniature 1930s Spanish bungalows.

The Boehm House, also known as "La Mesa Villa" is part of the National Register District of Prospect Park. This 1925 Spanish Revival home designed by architect Merle Ramsy welcomes guests under the impressive front loggia with beautiful fountains, intricately carved front doors and landscaped gardens that give the feel of being out in a private park.

The W. Parker Lyon House, which was designed in 1948 by noted architect Thornton Ladd, is an extraordinary example of mid-century architecture, with attention paid to every detail and strong emphasis on the connection between interior and exterior spaces. The current homeowners commissioned most of the current landscaping which beautifully frames the striking house and its many levels.

In neighboring Sierra Madre is the 1949 mid-century Mulvihill House designed by Harwell Hamilton Harris. Harris visited the home to make suggestions for restoration and to explain his original design to the current owners. Owner John Tillman Lyle designed the current landscape and studio. Lyle was the principal architect for the Lyle Center for Regenerative Studies at Cal Poly Pomona and the principal landscape architect for the Adam Joseph Lewis center for Environmental Studies at Oberlin College. He is the author of such books as "Regenerative Design for Sustainable Development" and "Design for Human Ecosystems."

Prior to the tour on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Pasadena Heritage will present author Kelly Comras who will speak on the career and accomplishments of distinguished mid-century landscape architect Ruth Shellhorn. The evening also includes a screening of the documentary film about Ms. Shellhorn and a book-signing will follow the talk and film. Ruth Shellhorn, mid-century landscape architect who defined regional aesthetic of Southern California, is perhaps best known for her work on the Bullock's department stores and her work with Walt Disney on the original design of Disneyland. Shellhorn also designed the landscape master plan for UC at Riverside and other campuses as well as a number of private gardens and estates for movie stars and business leaders in the Los Angeles region.

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#### **About Pasadena Heritage**

Pasadena Heritage is a nonprofit organization dedicated to historic preservation in and around Pasadena, California. Celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017, the organization advocates on behalf of historic resources, educates the public about local history and the benefits of preservation, and demonstrates



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651 SOUTH ST. JOHN AVENUE  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91105-2913

P 626.441.6333 F 626.441.2917  
WWW.PASADENAHERITAGE.ORG

quality restoration through a variety of programs and projects. Its 2,000-plus members are drawn from Pasadena and neighboring communities, and throughout Southern California. [www.pasadenaheritage.org](http://www.pasadenaheritage.org).

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