

Janet Iverson appointed to Alameda Historical Advisory Board

HARBOR BAY REALTY

Harbor Bay Realty's Janet Iverson was recently appointed to the Alameda Historical Advisory Board. Members of the board are comprised of contractors, architects, building professionals and the community at large. The board's primary role is to advise the City Council on the historical state of Alameda and to act as a liaison between the City of Alameda and historical organizations.

"Alameda has a rich cultural history and the buildings around us reflect that. I am looking forward to contributing to its preservation, as well as the appropriate utilization of our historic buildings," said Iverson.

Iverson appreciates the diversity of architecture in Alameda. "We are fortunate to have examples of many different architectural styles representative of Alameda's history," she said.

"The City of Alameda's Web site: www.ci.alameda.ca.us has excellent links to streetscapes from our past including Park Street, Webster Street and Neptune Beach."

Iverson noted that Alameda has a wide variety of styles from the Victorian era. During reigns of Queen Victoria and King Edward (1837 to 1910), advancements in machine technology allowed builders to inexpensively mass produce wood ornamentation such as brackets, spindles and patterned shingles.

Cheaper machine-made nails and plentiful lumber allowed many to create their dream

home. Victorian era homes usually combine round or octagonal towers with steeply pitched irregular roof shapes, bay windows, gables and expansive porches. Wall textures painted different colors emphasize the vertical.

After the Victorian era, a more restrained style gained popularity.

■ The Arts and Crafts movement created a low, broad home with simple artisan style detailing emphasizing horizontal decorative elements.

■ Craftsman homes have wide low pitched roofs supported by exposed rafters, wide front porches with columns framing the front door, beautiful fireplace surrounds and built-in cabinets. The California Bungalow is derived from the Craftsman style but with simpler materials, and often a bay window along the front or side of the home.

■ Story Book homes became popular in the 1920s for about a decade. These homes resembled charming European cottages that we might imagine when reading Beatrix Potter and other nursery rhymes to our children or grandchildren.

■ The International style began in the early 20th century and incorporated modern structural materials such as concrete, glass and metals. Rectangular shapes, flat roofs, rows of ribbon windows and corner windows are hallmarks of the style.

Alameda also features Colonial-style homes. The Cape Cod Colonial features a rectangular,



JANET IVERSON

simple shape with a steeply pitched roof, dormers, symmetrical windows, and doors with wood clapboard or brick exterior walls, said Iverson.

"Janet's knowledge of local real estate, as well as her background as an architect and interior designer make her an excellent addition to the board. I admire her resourceful, direct approach and commend her efforts to serve the community," said Dennis Pagones, Harbor Bay Realty president.

For real estate questions, or if you are interested in her free seminar "Will your remodeling pay off when you sell your home?" contact Iverson at 510-814-4800, or jiverson@hbrhomes.com or www.JanetSells.net.

For matters involving the City of Alameda Historical Advisory Board, call the Planning and Building Department at 510-747-6800.