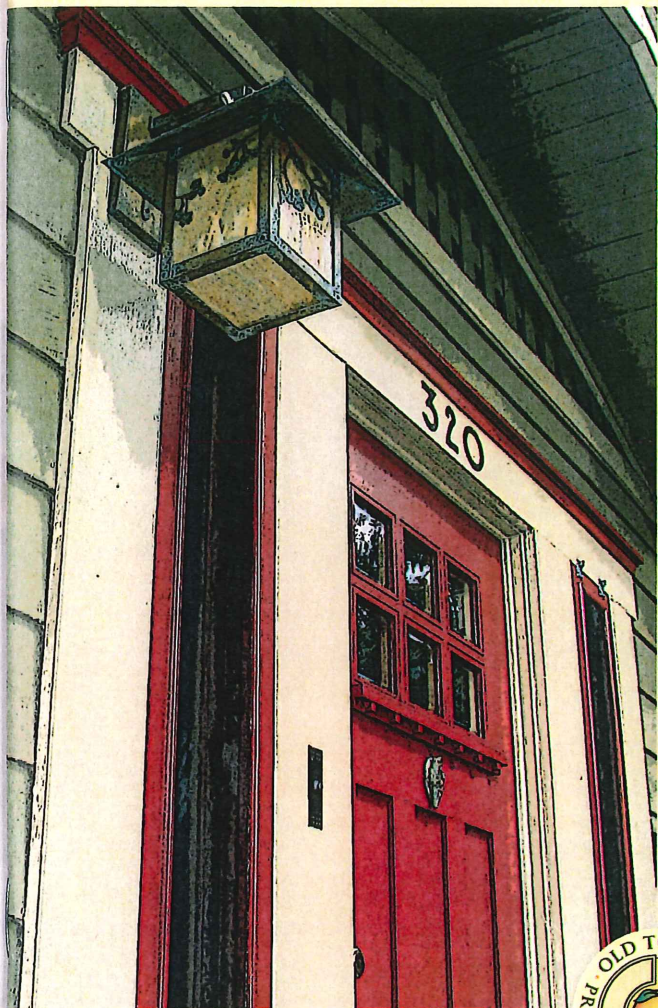


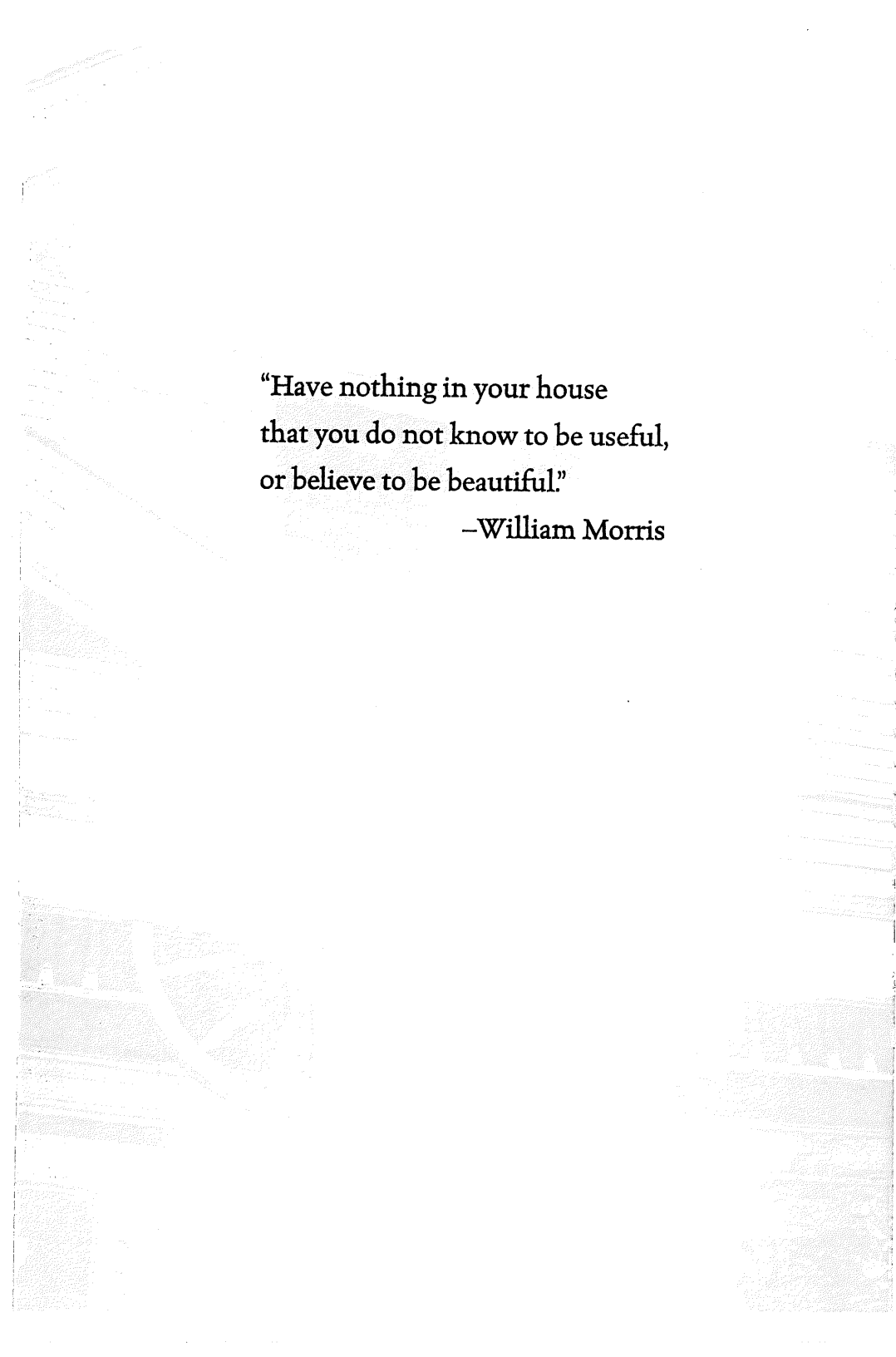
OLD TOWNE ORANGE



2011
HOME TOUR



a historic journey to the past



**“Have nothing in your house
that you do not know to be useful,
or believe to be beautiful.”**

–William Morris

BLAST TO THE PAST



It is 2011. Our lives are fast-paced, pressed by technologies our ancestors could not anticipate. Many of us live in planned communities mirroring this lifestyle. We have washing machines and phones which connect us through satellites floating in space. Houses are built with efficiency, homogeny, and economy in mind.

Let's roll back 110 years. For everyday folk, life was as fast as your horse. Whispered rumors of electricity and indoor plumbing were the exciting, unfolding technologies. Most people used wringers and rollers to do laundry, and the first transcontinental telephone call was still more than a decade away. Houses were built with craftsmanship, character, and longevity in mind.

Welcome to Old Towne Orange – the largest National Register district in California. We, at Old Towne Preservation Association, are committed to ensuring you, and future generations, may continue to enjoy this unique community and its physical presence in the past. We now live with modern conveniences in these old homes, but their simple spirit helps us connect to our own.

Please now take time to stroll and enjoy the six special historical properties our homeowners and Chapman University are opening for you to experience. And do come back again.

– Michelle Carder, *President* OTPA

My family moved to Orange in 1972. Being a typical twelve-year-old boy, I explored the city on just about anything with wheels. However, Old Towne was off limits to me. My mom thought it was dangerous. Yet, sometimes I would sneak into this forbidden territory anyway. I loved the old houses, but the community was so ramshackle, it seemed like a ghetto.

Then something happened in 1985. Dale Rahn and a maverick group of Old Towne folks decided to challenge indifference and the loss of one of the largest concentration of historic buildings west of the Mississippi. The Old Towne Preservation Association was then formed to protect for future generations what has evolved into a jewel of preservation. Many owners caringly restore and maintain their properties and people come from far and wide to stroll through the neighborhoods, antique shops, and historic university comprising our own urban history museum.

In closing, I would like to thank OTPA – its founders, past board members and volunteers – for what they have done for this community. I would like to thank the City of Orange for appreciating the importance of OTPA's mission. And I would like to thank the dedicated volunteers and neighbors who have made it possible for you to experience what we in Old Towne are proud to call home. We'll see you again in 2013.

Thank you,

Mike Ochs
2011 Home Tour Chair

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



This is a self-guided tour. Guests will walk or drive themselves to the featured tour locations where tours will be ongoing from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Street parking is mostly available and also a trolley to all locations will be provided, starting at the Western Cordage Building, 501 W. Palm Avenue.

Guests should allow approximately three hours to complete the tour. Flat-heeled shoes are recommended and each guest will be loaned a pair of "booties" to slip over his or her shoes for all home tours. No indoor photography is allowed; strollers are not permitted in the homes; and these privately-owned homes are not handicap accessible. Sorry, no food or drinks will be allowed in the homes or buildings of the tour. Please, no opening of closed doors, drawers or cabinets.

Please be aware that there are no ticket refunds. We cannot replace or refund your ticket in the event that your ticket is lost or stolen. OTPA is not responsible for any loss, damage, or injury to any person or property that may occur during the tour. OTPA is a tax-exempt non-profit 501(c)3 organization.

We appreciate your cooperation.

POTTER : CARDER-OCHS

238 E. Palmyra



HIP ROOF COTTAGE

This house was built in 1900 by Leroy W. Potter, apparently as an investment. He does not appear to have ever lived here.

After building the house, Potter sold it in 1900 to Lotta B. Gitchell.

Lotta was a pioneer Orange business woman. She was well known around town and active with various civic organizations, including the Ruby Rebekah Lodge (the women's branch of the Odd Fellows). Lotta and her husband, Joseph H. Gitchell, established a book and stationary store here in the 1890s. After Joseph's death in 1900, Lotta took over the business.

From 1919 on, there were a string of owners and renters until 1949 when Walter Craft bought the house. He lived in it for the longest period of the early owners until his death in 1977 at the age of 85. His widow, Cora, continued to live here for a few years after that.

At the time Craft bought the house, he was working for the Villa Park Orchards Association in their packing house. Later, in the mid-1950s, he went to work for the maintenance department of the Orange Unified School District. He retired in the early 1960s.

The current owners, Mike Ochs and Michelle Carder, have taken the house to a new level. Their original artwork is set off against rich, colorful walls and trim. The kitchen is truly a work of art. This is a fun house to experience.

Originally a single-story home, this hipped roof cottage has a simple box plan, clapboard siding and steep-pitched roof. The entry to the home is located on a corner recessed porch which is supported by a classically inspired wood post. A low slatted balustrade connects the posts and house. A large picture window with mullioned transom distinguishes the front facade.

Floral arrangement courtesy of Julep's Home & Floral

PRATT : TUNSTALL

238 N. Grand



CLASSICAL REVIVAL INFLUENCED

This home may have been built by George W. Pratt, a local contractor. The first occupants are thought to have been John and Mary

Ann Waite. They owned the property from 1907 to 1911, before selling it to Samuel and Alice Craddick.

Sam Craddick (1854-1918) came to Orange in 1887. He was a real estate agent, Orange's Justice of the Peace, and a political wheeler-dealer. He lived in this house the last few years of his life, and Mary Ann stayed on here for a year or two after that. The house was then briefly occupied by D.C. and Florence Pixley, a pioneer Orange businessman and banker. The Pixleys were getting older, and had just closed up their fine, old 1895 Victorian which still stands at 288 N. Olive.

Around 1921, Dr. Vaughn Wood and his wife, Anna, moved here. Dr. Wood was a dentist, and served one term as a sometimes contentious city councilman (1928-30). In the 1930s, he seems to have closed his downtown office, but still saw a few patients here at his home.

Dr. Wood died around 1936, and his widow remained here for several years after his death. Later – like many downtown homes – the house served as a rental property for a time.

The current owners are Bob and Robyn Tunstall.

This one and a half story clapboard house combines both a steep-pitched, and a hip and gable roof. The house is built on a modified L-plan with one corner devoted to a large wrap-around porch which is supported by classically inspired columns. The front-facing gable features an ornamental attic vent. Exceptionally wide eaves on the house are embellished with ornamental brackets.

Floral arrangement courtesy of Michele Jackson Design and Details