

The Baker House at 653 South F St. was built in 1937.



Take steps back in time and visit historic Oxnard Sept. 27

District's residents roll out red carpet from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. for 13th annual Autumn Home Tour.

Residents and neighbors of the Henry T. Oxnard Historic District will roll out their red (and antique) carpets from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 27 for the 13th Annual Oxnard Autumn Historic Home Tour. Five private homes will be open to the public showcasing early 20th century architectural styles in one of Oxnard's oldest neighborhoods.

Each home will be hosted by docents who will be on hand to answer questions about each unique residence. In addition to the home tour, the event features a Marketplace across three front lawns on F Street, with exhibitors selling antiques, succulents, tiles, original artwork, hand-crafted jewelry and more.

The tour begins at the Carnegie Art Museum, 424 S. C St., in downtown Oxnard where participants can pick up the tour program, map and tickets (\$15 in advance; \$20 on tour day).

The self-guided walking or driving tour stretches from Fifth Street to Magnolia Street and F Street to G Street. Along the way, visitors will enjoy demonstrations on home restoration, urban farming and see vintage tractors and classic cars displayed along F Street.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the

Fifth Street Beautification Project to enhance the Fifth Street gateway into downtown Oxnard with trees and landscaping.

For more information, call 483-7960 or visit <http://www.OxnardHistoricDistrict.com>.

The Friends of Old Oxnard, a group of resident volunteers, has been organizing the event for the past 13 years as a way to showcase the historic district and Oxnard's architectural heritage. When Henry Oxnard and his brothers opened the American Beet Sugar factory in Oxnard in the late 1800s, many wealthy merchants, bankers, professionals and blue-collar workers built their homes near the city's downtown commercial district, in what is now designated as the Henry T. Oxnard Historic District. Comprised of 144 homes located on F Street and



Morris D. McKinna and his wife, Gertrude, built this interesting California bungalow in 1910.

G Street, between Magnolia and Fifth, the neighborhood received this prized designation from the National Register of Historic Places in 1998. Adjacent to the district are 650 additional homes considered architecturally significant and have been historically surveyed, with some of the homes dating back to 1903.

New this year is a combination tour option being promoted by the California Welcome Center in Oxnard which includes an added tour of nearby Heritage Square, lunch and wine tasting. The tour includes transportation between the tour areas by trolley. Reservation for the trolley tour option



Photos courtesy of the Oxnard Historic District



The Rose house at 235 S. E St, above was built in 1904. At left, the Beardsley House at 445 Magnolia Ave. was built in 1912. The Henry T. Oxnard Historic District is made up of 144 homes located on F Street and G Street between Magnolia Avenue and Fifth Street.

can be made by calling 968-0717.

"We anticipate this year's tour being one of our best," said Cathie Moreno, a member of the Friends of Old Oxnard and this year's

Home Tour chair. "We have a great selection of all never seen homes on the tour, and after last year's success, incorporated new demonstrations and more exhibits."