

San Mateo County Times

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MOVING TO SAVE THE PAST

By Emily Fancher

in restoring the stable
Stable Committee.

Arthur Brown Jr., architect
built the stable in 1956 and
advocates keeping the stable
could

viewing an 86-year-old
history project could be
memorabilia and

with horseshoe
is the ultimate use of the
in their master plan

for Stable project and
of the department. "We
can preserve it for future
technical feasibility
study estimated the cost of

market value and they would
said he's looking forward

to the building," he

650-851-2660.

and keeping it as a horse facility," said Susan Lang, chairperson of the Stable

The stable was built by coffee magnate James Folger II and designed by A
of the San Francisco Opera House and City Hall. Martin Wunderlich bought
donated it with 942 acres to the County in 1974. Lang said her group advocates
as a place to board horses as well as for public education programs, which
include therapeutic riding or 4H programs.

Her group is also conducting an oral history campaign. The group is interviewing
a woman whose father was caretaker from the 1920s to the 1960s. The oral
history will be incorporated into a possible museum room. The room might have photos,
interpretive displays about the history of the building.

Lang would like to see equestrian educational programming for children with
demonstrations, carriage rides and grooming instruction. Lang stressed that
the facility "will be determined by the County with input from the public during
the process, slated to begin within the next year."

The Park and Recreation Department will begin public forums on the Folger
and other changes in Wunderlich Park in the spring, said Mary Burns, director.
She wants to hear from the residents and from people related to the stable so we
can preserve it for future generations," said Burns. The \$115,000 raised by the group will go to the
study, to be conducted by Blackburn Architects, a San Francisco firm. Lang
said the renovations would be several million dollars.

Michael Hall of Blackburn said the building was of "significant architectural
value and they would conduct a structural assessment. Hall, the architect working on the project,
said he's looking forward to beginning study of the stable.

"The committee is interested in a new life in terms of public use and historical
value," he said. "The heritage of who we are is in architecture."

For more information, call the Friends of Huddart and Wunderlich Park at