

Rittenhouse Elementary School • Circa 1925

Town Council Work Study Session

Historic Preservation

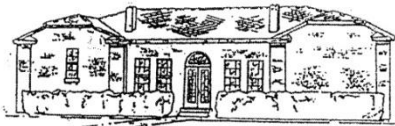
February 20, 2013

San Tan Historical Society

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF
CHANDLER HEIGHTS, COMBS, HIGLEY
AND QUEEN CREEK SINCE 1990

Dave Salge

Board member since 2002



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San Tan Historical Society

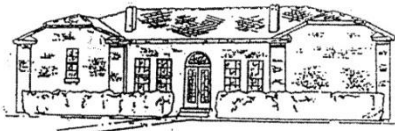
History:

- ✓ The Historical Society is a recognized non-profit organization in good standing and exempted from Federal Income Tax under section 501(c)(3) since 1992.
- ✓ The historic Rittenhouse Elementary School was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1998 and is home to an Arizona Historical Society certified museum.

Focus: Preservation, Restoration, Education, Collaboration

2013 Project Objectives:

- Restore the museum's wood floors.
- Restore the exterior bricks, using period re-pointing mortar and techniques.
- Collaborate with the Queen Creek School District for their 60th Anniversary.
- Promote education through our reference library of Arizona topics/authors.
- Preserve our history with *Images of America Queen Creek*, by Sylvia Acuña.



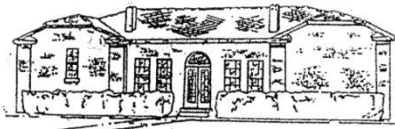
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Wake-up Call - Higley

Arizona Republic, October 16, 2012

“Higley’s iconic store, once its post office and Gilbert’s oldest building, is no more.”





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Historic Preservation Baseline

Town of Queen Creek Vision

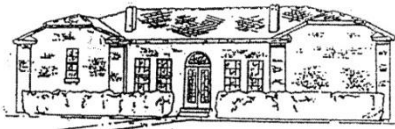
The Town of Queen Creek strives to honor our past, manage our present and embrace our future to create a quality, unique place for families and businesses.

Examples of Community Perception

Arizona Republic, January 11, 2013

“Blake wants to renovate the house while preserving its historical features and have it listed as a historic home. But he found no help nor guidelines from the town.”

“Salge states that in both Queen Creek and Gilbert, ‘there doesn’t seem to be any energy put into historic preservation. So when they are making decisions about development or decisions about how the town is going to change, there’s really no input from a historic perspective to really balance out those decisions,’ he said.”



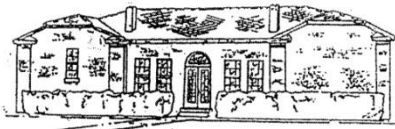
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Open a Dialog

Excerpt from my email dated January 12, 2013 to:

Mayor Barney, Vice Mayor Benning, and respected Council Members Barnes, Brown, Gad, Oliphant, and Wheatley:

May I suggest that we better collaborate in 2013 on the Town of Queen Creek Values, especially on a “unified vision for the future” with a more structured dialog about balancing historical preservation with future development and small business incentives? The Historical Society’s volunteer Executive Board is not particularly disciplined in this type of partnership, but there are several of us that would willingly volunteer our time to work with you.



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Outline a Strategy

Leverage and expand existing communication and collaboration channels, e.g. development reviews, State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO)

Proactively engage partners in the community that can influence change and perceptions

- San Tan Historical Society
- Queen Creek School District
- Historic home owners
- Historic business owners

Establish a historic preservation committee to channel ideas for continued communication, preservation, education, tourist incentives, business incentives, and oversight.