



The Roth Building, home of the Palo Alto Museum

THE HISTORIC HOMER AVENUE AREA

where Palo Alto and Silicon Valley began

1916- The **Palo Alto Woman's Club** builds its own meeting hall. Its members advocate for women's rights, and they vigorously promote libraries, paved streets, and many other civic improvements

1901- Palo Alto's Irish community erects the magnificent **St Thomas Aquinas church**. A superb example of Carpenter Gothic style, it is a defining feature of Homer Avenue. 1971- **Harold and Maude** meet here in the classic movie

1907- Williams House. Built by a pioneering Palo Alto physician, it now hosts the **Museum of American Heritage**

1932- Visionary Palo Alto physicians engage famed architect Birge Clark to design the elegant mission revival **Roth Building**, nucleus of the Palo Alto Medical Clinic complex that followed. Victor Arnautoff, a noted depression-era artist, did the murals by its entrance. It now hosts the **Palo Alto Museum**

1900-1928- **Palo Alto's little downtown** builds up. Surviving in good condition, it is a living museum of its time as it continues to serve today's Palo Alto.

1890- Early Palo Alto pioneer **Anna Zschokke builds the first house** in the new town of University Park (Palo Alto's original name) at 170 Homer Avenue. She mortgages her next house to open Palo Alto's first high school, earning her title "The Mother of Palo Alto Schools"

1929- Buy **Violet Ray Gasoline** at the funky period Pringle Service Station, a survivor of the Palo Alto automobile district that once dominated the area

1997-2004- Six-year neighborhood campaign succeeds. **Palo Alto Heritage Park** is dedicated to serve today's residents as the newest member of Palo Alto's Corridor of History

Ca. 1913- A boyhood home of **William Shockley, inventor of the transistor**- the building block of the silicon chips to come

1938- **William Hewlett and David Packard** begin their electronics company in the now-legendary garage

1925- **AME Zion church** (its building survives) and **Japanese-American neighborhood center** anchor early Palo Alto's cultural diversity. 1931- The **Cardinal French Laundry** (its building also exists today) joins Palo Alto's historic laundry district

1912- **Birthplace of electronics**. Radio pioneer Lee de Forest invents the vacuum tube amplifier and oscillator at 913 Emerson Street. The communications and computer revolution that he enabled here radically influences world culture and history; its effects are rivaled only by the invention of writing and the printing press

1930- Site of the **Family Service Laundry** building, a notable remnant of Palo Alto's historic laundry district and eligible for listing on the California Register of Historic Places, demolished for luxury condos in 2004