

Luncheon Presentation Wolfe & Higgins:

Master Architects of the Spanish Revival

One hundred years ago, San Jose architect Frank Delos Wolfe partnered with his son Carl Wolfe and Santa Clara architect William Ernest Higgins to form what would become one of the most prolific architectural firms of its time.

Today we in San Jose know Frank Delos Wolfe for his Prairie-style houses and his residential design as part of the firm of Wolfe & McKenzie, but what is not so well known is that in the last part of his career, Wolfe was responsible for bringing the then-new Spanish Revival style to San Jose.

Early adopters of the Spanish Revival style that swept

California in the 1920s, the firm of Wolfe & Higgins lasted only fourteen years but in that short time produced more than 500 houses, commercial buildings, and institutional buildings.

Characterized by red tile roofs, arched doors and windows, wrought iron trim, twisted pillars, and ornate terracotta and plasterwork, the distinctive Spanish Revival buildings of Wolfe & Higgins include some of the most recognizable architectural land-marks in Northern California and some of the most beautiful buildings in Santa Clara County. Krista Van Laan will talk about and show photo-graphs from her new book, *Wolfe & Higgins: Master Architects of the Spanish Revival*, and tell the stories of the architects and the people who were their clients.