

# 2 of final 4 single-family homes in TL for sale

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reporter, she went to her corner business and came back with a key.

She opened the gate in the 6-foot-high fence spanning the width of the property, and we went up the walkway. The front yard is all concrete with a couple of large concrete pots on it with flowers. A green car is usually parked in the driveway instead of in the garage.

Tran unlocked the front door at the top of the steps and stepped inside. She kicked off her high heels on the hardwood floor. "Go ahead," she said. "I'm in a hurry. I have to be someplace."

I went wandering. The second floor has a big desk and office chairs near the window in the long narrow front living room. A few green, red and gold Asian art objects are on the walls. There is a small bedroom with another desk in it, and a bathroom and medium-size kitchen. It felt like a residential business waiting for file cabinets.

Downstairs was an empty in-law with a little kitchen and bathroom. Tran pointed with pleasure to its small storage room.

It all looked new, nothing redolent of its age. I asked if she lives here and she said no she lives elsewhere. She said she didn't know when the house was built. Call the agent, she said.

At the door, Mrs. Tran quickly put her heels back on and headed for her gray Lexus SUV at curbside. Just before she hopped in, she turned and said she'd take a property trade — "in San Francisco" — for the place.

On Oct. 29, the Trulia real estate search Web site reported the price had dropped to \$1,399,000. The listing had been up more than 30 days.

The two-story building at 645 Hyde St. between Geary and Post has a charming mix of the present and past. The brushed brick exterior has only a few decorative touches such as tooth-like dentils of brick sticking out under a simple brick cornice. Giving an uplift is new white painted wrought iron that is over the street-level windows and door. Listed with Zephyr Real Estate, it's open on Sunday afternoons. Movoto.com real estate Web site claims the area is 64% white and about 30% of the population makes \$75,000 or more a year. The house pales next to the

Flemish Renaissance Ornamental house at 647 Hyde by eminent San Francisco architect of the post-earthquake era, Conrad A. Meusdorffer. The two houses have their year of birth and location in common, and little else.

But location is everything. And lower Nob Hill is an address.

"Since before 1900 this hillside has been a psychological distance away from the adjacent flatlands, home of the Tenderloin," according to a report in the National Register of Historic Places. "Its residents have always been careful to observe the social difference."

Researchers into historic Tenderloin, the report said, have identified Post Street as the neighborhood's northern boundary but other researchers question it. The "rouger" TL has more storefronts, bars, restaurants, union halls and brothels, according to the report. By contrast, lower Nob Hill was mostly residential and its "heavily ornamented brick of the 1910s" was kept in good condition compared with the plain brick and stucco of the Tenderloin. But where is the boundary?

Two of the report's researchers put the boundary between Post and Geary.

"Don't call it the Tenderloin," said David Overdorf, owner of 647 Hyde, who was standing in his doorway one afternoon in October.

Overdorf bought his house in 1998. With other preservationists, he successfully got the Lower Nob Hill Apartment Hotel District accepted in the National Register of Historic Places. The district is 570 slope acres from just above Bush Street down to Geary and — from west to east in a narrowing strip — from Polk Street to just beyond Stockton Street. It consists of 295 buildings, mostly three- to seven-story multiunit residential buildings with stylistic consistency, most constructed from 1906 to 1925, including his, which, he said, ranks 4 on a 5-point scale.

"It makes no good sense calling anything other than what it is," Overdorf reiterated, suggesting that a 4 on lower Nob Hill beats a 4 in the Tenderloin. ■



PHOTO BY TOM CARTER

Across from the Gaylord Apartments, 611 Jones St. dodged the wrecker's ball six years ago is the only single-family wood house in the Tenderloin.

## TENDERLOINHEALTH

a continuum of care

### Outreach and Community Events November 2007

#### Health Promotion Forum

**Topic:** HIV Testing/World AIDS Day 12/01/07: *Do You Know Your Status?*

**Speaker:** Lili Belo and Taylor Morrison,  
TLH Health Promotions Team

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, November 13, 2 pm - 3 pm

#### HIV Treatment Forum

**Topic:** HIV and Hepatitis C Co-infection

**Speaker:** Nina Grossman, Tibotec Therapeutics

**Date/Time:** Monday, November 19, 3 pm - 4 pm

#### Client Advisory Panel

Come talk with Tenderloin Health's Board Client Representative(s) and program managers about plans for Tenderloin Health. Also provide input on new services and how we can improve.

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, November 14, 11:30 am - 1 pm;  
Wednesday, November 28, 11:30 am - 1 pm

#### Volunteer and Intern for Tenderloin Health

**Orientation:** Sunday, November 11, 12 pm - 6:30 pm  
220 Golden Gate Ave., 3rd Floor  
lunch provided

You must register for volunteer trainings.  
Stop in/call Emilie (415) 437-2900 ext. 234.

**For a schedule of our current groups or for more information**  
call 415.431.7476 or go to [www.tenderloinhealth.org](http://www.tenderloinhealth.org)



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## OBITUARIES

### MARILYN SCHRICK

Activist

Marilyn Schrick was a San Francisco native, a baptized Catholic, a regular at St. Mary's Cathedral on Gough. But several years ago, she changed her worship to the historic 1895 St. Mark's Lutheran Church on O'Farrell, the oldest Lutheran congregation west of the Rockies.

"Late in life, Marilyn found her way back — to us, here," said St. Mark's Verger Richard Boyle at the Oct. 3 memorial in the church's sanctuary. "She came to senior Bible study and to services regularly. She traveled to Fort Ross on a Senior Center trip. She was a vital part of the church and the neighborhood — one of those people who taught me about faith."

Fifteen people gathered to remember Ms. Schrick, who died Sept. 8. She was 72.

"I'd known her for 10 years," said church member Jack Harmon, "and have only happy memories. I had the first dance with her at our seniors' prom here at St. Mark's."

Ms. Schrick was a senior advocate for Mental Health Association of San Francisco, which put her on the front lines pushing for housing and social services for the elderly.

"She'd stand up and make these incredible speeches to the Board of Supervisors," recalled Alecia Hopper, MHA public policy coordinator.

"Sometimes I doubted her ability to get places," said C.W. Johnson, another MHA advocate, "but she was always there before me, ready to go. I enjoyed everything she did."

One thing she did was photography, and she was really good at it, said Michelle Schulz. "I met her through MHA advocacy. She also was a profound, eloquent speaker and a warm, caring person. It was an honor to have known her."

Michael Nulty knew Ms. Schrick from his work as Alliance for a Better District 6 president, Tenant Associations Coalition program director and Alexander Tenants Association board member. "She championed tenant rights for her fellow residents living at the Crescent Manor. As a TAC member, she gave reports faithfully about her building and was active in the pest problem with bedbugs.



Marilyn Schrick with Supervisor Chris Daly at her Tenant Leadership Training graduation.

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