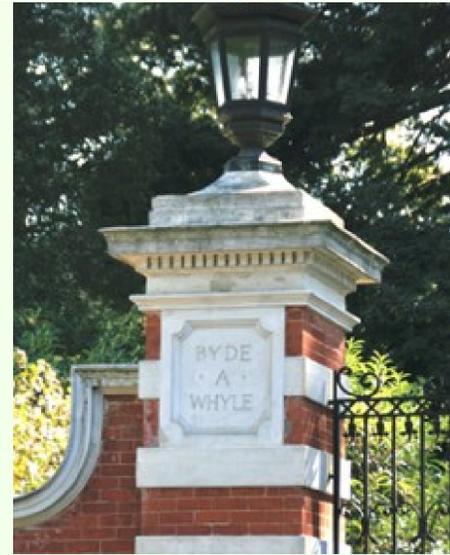


ATHERTON'S ICONS

Celebrating Atherton's 100th Birthday

Byde-A-Whyle: Louis and Lucie Stern



Distinctive and historic gate still standing at Byde-A-Whyle

Majestic and impressive, the intricately-designed wrought iron gates, flanked by brick and marble columns, topped with lantern lights, welcome visitors to Louis and Lucie Stern's Atherton summer home. The words "Byde A Whyle" are carved into each of the marble columns. Are the words simply a welcoming greeting to visitors to Stay Awhile?

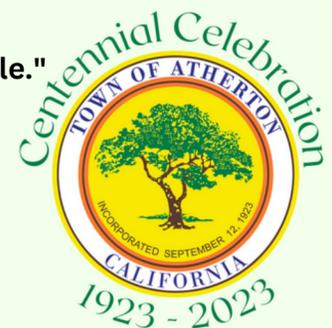
The massive gates, built at the turn of the century, were a marvel of the times because they were operated by electricity. They still stand at the property's entrance, as well as a portion of the red brick wall which once completely surrounded the 30-acre property of Louis and Lucie Stern. Byde A Whyle was the Stern's "summer home" for many years, while they lived in San Francisco. It was built in the French Federal style with a Spanish tile roof, 10' high ceilings, 7 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms and servants' quarters. Four full-time gardeners were needed to care for the grounds.

Louis, the youngest of the four Stern brothers, was treasurer of his Uncle Levi Strauss' firm. Never in good health, Louis died in 1924, at the age of 64. Lucie stayed in the house with her invalid daughter, Ruth, until 1932 when she moved to Palo Alto into two, side-by-side, Birge Clark designed homes. With her daughter's death, Lucie became a generous philanthropist of young people. Through her charities, the Lucie Stern Children's Theater was established.



Lucie's lifelong belief was ...**"The things that make others happy are the things worthwhile."**

Source: *Under the Oaks* by Pamela Gullard & Nancy Lund and the Atherton Heritage Association



Save the date! Atherton's Centennial Celebration will be on September 24, 2023 at Town Center.