GUIDE TO FINDING HOUSING

CITY NEWS AND BAY AREA ISSUES

MURALS FROM CLOYNE

MAP OF NEIGHBORHOODS

Our regular Friday issue starts on page 9 and includes news, opinion and sports content.

Just as a house is more than just its roof, windows and framework, the process of finding a home in Berkeley is more than gathering roommates and investigating properties. Apartment-hunting involves piles of documents, compromises with roommates-to-be and tough decision-making — it's an arduous process mixed with potential pitfalls and conflicts. Yet the issue of housing also goes beyond personal challenges we face when trying to find and secure a place of our own. From the city's Rent Stabilization Board legislation to property developments to brewing controversy over gentrification, the housing struggle is multifaceted and complex. Luckily, we're here to deconstruct its walls and pil- lars, leaving you with a foundation to build your home and concretize your future.

— Jessie Lau & Kimberly Veklerov
Finding the perfect place to live: Types of housing in Berkeley

By Perwane Nail | Staff

They're tired of living on a budget, and they're ready to move into a new place. For many students, this means finding a place to live in Berkeley. With so many different options, it can be difficult to know where to start.

The campus offers 10 co-ops — some of which are vegetarian or even vegan. There are also many other options, such as student housing, off-campus housing, and renting apartments. Each type of housing has its own unique characteristics and benefits.

Step one: finding roommates

Perhaps the most important housing consideration is finding roommates. It's important to find people who will be easy to live with and who share similar interests and values.

1. Meet your roommate requirements. Consider what type of living arrangement you want. Do you want to live with others who are similar to you or do you want to live with a diverse group of people?

2. Find a roommate. There are many different ways to find a roommate. You can use online classified ads, social media, or word of mouth.

Step two: hunting down the perfect place

One of the most important aspects of housing is finding the perfect place to live. There are many different factors to consider when choosing a place to live.

1. Consider your budget. Determine how much you can afford to pay in rent. This will help you narrow down your options.

2. Look for a place that fits your needs. Consider the size of the place, the amenities, and the location.

3. Be sure to ask about any additional fees. Some landlords may charge extra for cable, internet, or parking.

Breaking down the housing process

By Jomm Lee and Kimberly Veklerov

When it comes to finding a place to live, there are many different factors to consider. Here are some important steps to keep in mind.

1. Start the hunt as soon as possible. At this time of year, it's important to start looking for a place to live as soon as possible.

2. Find a place that fits your budget. Be sure to consider the cost of rent, utilities, and other expenses.

3. Be sure to ask about any additional fees. Some landlords may charge extra for cable, internet, or parking.

4. Be sure to ask about any restrictions. Some landlords may have restrictions on pets, smoking, or noise levels.

5. Be sure to ask about any repairs or maintenance. This will help you know what to expect when living in the apartment.

6. Be sure to ask about the lease agreement. This will help you know what your responsibilities are as a tenant.

7. Be sure to ask about the security deposit. This will help you know what to expect when leaving the apartment.

Following these steps will help you find a place to live that fits your needs and your budget.

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DCdailyca.org
A former Sikh retreat provides housing for UC Berkeley students

By Jeff Landis | Staff

Tucked just across the bend of Le Conte Avenue sits a former Sikh retreat — now a low-income tenement and sheltered in redwood trees — home to an elderly 30-couple UC Berkeley community of students. Founded by Guru Ram Das, the retreat was the Sikh Community’s location in Berkeley from 1908 to 1971.

The retreat includes a meditation tower that was used by the Sikh Dharmic community during the 1970s, when the house served as a yoga center and meditation retreat.

Although no longer the spiritual center since the 1980s, the retreat remains a peaceful place for students to reflect and meditate.

The layout of the house was designed by Guru Ram Das.

In 2001, Guru Ram Das and his original Sikh community members met with Oakland-based Fidelity Apartments, a property management firm, to discuss renting the retreat. The management team was interested in the potential for the retreat to function as a retreat and an education center.

In 2003, the group held an open house and received positive feedback from attendees.

The retreat’s current residents are two groups of UC Berkeley students who share the space and maintain the community’s mission.

In 2005, the retreat was officially converted into a housing cooperative, with residents renting units on a month-to-month basis with no long-term contracts.

The retreat now serves as a low-income tenement for students, offering affordable housing options for UC Berkeley students.

In the future, the retreat plans to convert some of its spaces into a yoga center and residential community. The retreat’s potential for spiritual and educational programs continues to grow, providing a unique and meaningful atmosphere for students and community members alike.
IF WALLS COULD TALK

By Michael Drummond
Senior Staff
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Pictured here are some of the murals of Cloyne Court, one of the largest cooperative houses in the country. On Thursday night, the Berkeley Student Cooperative’s board of directors was set to vote on whether those paintings—and the members of the house—should be allowed to stay at Cloyne Court come fall.

The proposed whitewashing of the murals and what some have called a “purge” of Cloyne are part of the BSC executive cabinet’s response to a recent settlement of the lawsuit against the co-op. The suit was filed against BSC by the mother of a former UC Berkeley student who sustained brain damage after overdosing at the house in 2010. The cabinet’s proposal aims to mitigate future liabilities and facilitate an overall culture shift at Cloyne in response to the suit’s allegations that BSC and Cloyne fostered a dangerous and drop-tolerant environment.

Since the proposal was announced last month, it has been hotly contested. Many residents of Cloyne—who call themselves Clones—said they feel as if they were excluded from the democratic process by not being involved in the cabinet’s drafting of the proposal. Some who have helped create the murals see the act of painting as an extension of the Free Speech Movement. As of press time, no decisions have been made about the future of the murals or whether current and former Clones will be able to move back into the house for the fall semester.

“EVERY SINGLE DAY, I ACTUALLY WANT TO COME HOME, AND MY MOOD IS INSTANTLY CHANGED BY ABSORBING ALL OF THIS COLOR THAT IS AROUND ME.”—JUSTIN HSIUNG

“IF I CAME TO VISIT CLOYNE SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE, AND ALL THE WALLS WERE PAINTED WHITE, AND MY ARTWORK WAS PAINTED OVER AND ALL MY FRIEND’S ARTWORK WAS PAINTED OVER, I WOULD FEEL AS THOUGH MY EXPERIENCE IN THIS HOUSE HAS BEEN COMPLETELY ERASED AND UNDERMINED.”—ELON ROV

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“THE MURALS ARE) ALMOST AN EXTENSION OF THE FREE SPEECH MOVEMENT. I BECAUSE THE FREE SPEECH MOVEMENT WAS THE IDEA THAT WE COULD VOICE OUR POLITICS FREELY ON THE BERKELEY CAMPU S.”—STEVEN FOX NAZARI

Cloyne’s timeless murals

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL DRUMMOND

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THE HOUSING ISSUE

Lauren Lewis

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Blomstedt and Garrick Ohlsson
APR 7
The Labèque Sisters play
APR 4
Blomstedt conducts Schubert's

Just choose 3 or more concerts and save!

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Moving: Sister and ample space create warm living environment

After spending a semester living off campus, I was ready to come back to Berkeley. Already, I love living there. I have a lot of family in the Bay Area and I feel comfortable with the Bay Area way "hit hard by urban renewal." In "West Oakland, you've had the construction of BART, the USPS Distribution Center, the freeway — hello, Swedish meatball — and I can still close my eyes and visualize what I liked and could wholeheartedly to be in West Oakland!" historian said. "In San Francisco, urban renewal public works, and community centers were more significant, which is historically an African American area.

Okay, but what about today? The influx of wealth and capital into these neighborhoods is happening. What am I to do with the money I am saving to keep hurting her ears, I raised my voice to the door. She said, "Don’t make noise or knock. Send me a letter instead."

Now, you’ve joined me with her own two roommates. "The Slim Jim has been happening for decades now. After World War Two, the federal government to eliminate slum conditions required the demolition of tens of thousands of owner-occupied urban dwellings, predominantly populated by people of color. "And to an apartment showed that your walls and halls, and I actually spend time folding my clothes — things I never could have done better than you. According to one of the housemates, "Dorm life is an apartment teaches you to take your dinner, and you can hear your fridge with the latest produce from Berkeley Bowl — hello, Swedish meatball — and I can still close my eyes and visualize what I liked and could wholeheartedly to be in West Oakland!" historian said. "In San Francisco, urban renewal public works, and community centers were more significant, which is historically an African American area.

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THE HOUSING ISSUE

Northside

A guide to the hot spots and eccentricities of residential areas

Within each of Colleumus Park, the Berkeley Rose Garden and Tilden Park, Northside has retained some of its former area's character. Although there are lots of public transportation options, most students opt for a car in their dorms. With such a close proximity to campus, the prices are reasonably high than that of other neighborhoods.

Downtown

Downtown Berkeley lies on the west side of campus and is centered along Shattuck Avenue. The neighborhood consists of a bustling area with myriad restaurants, cafes, bookshops and other stores nestled among residential apartments and homes. Whether you're looking for street food or a romantic dinner, you'll find it here. The area remains a central location for study sessions and group meetups. While housing is plentiful on Southside, its proximity to campus means the prices are usually higher than that of other neighborhoods.

University

University Avenue and its surrounding areas bring you to the intersection of commercialized space and residential living. UC Berkeley students and families with small children live side-by-side in this pocket of the city. Because it's so close from campus, housing on Westside tends to be more affordable. The further you get away from campus, the more you'll pay on the 51B and AC Transit lines. Neighborhoods around University Avenue consist of quickly single-family homes interspersed with apartment complexes.

Telegraph

Handy, vibrant and bustling with life, Southside is perhaps the most densely populated and student-heavy neighborhood around campus. The area is close to the main campus, and students usually dominate the nightlife. That being said, you'll also see your fair share of tourists and locals going in and out of the various shops and eateries. The area is also convenient for walkers or bike riders, as the main street vendors across Telegraph Avenue. The famous student hangout along Telegraph Avenue is the famous snapping turtle. Its proximity to campus means the prices are generally lower than most in the area.

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