

New Brian Moore Picnic Area at Hollywood Bowl Dedicated April 6, 1994

City and County officials joined with representatives from the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Hollywood Bowl to dedicate the Brian Moore Picnic Area at the Bowl's new Highland Camrose Park, just preceding the official press luncheon announcing the schedule for Summer Festival '94.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Edmund D. Edelman, Rod Cooper and John Weber, the Director and Assistant Director of the City of Los Angeles Parks and Recreation Department, William Stewart, Director of Los Angeles County's Internal Services Department, Los Angeles Philharmonic Executive Vice President and Managing Director Ernest Fleischmann, and Hollywood Bowl General Manager Anne Parsons officiated at a ribbon-cutting ceremony that inaugurated the newest enhancement to the 73-year-old concert facility.

The new 1.1 acre picnic area, located on Highland Avenue near Camrose Drive," includes 32 picnic tables (some of which are accessible to patrons with disabilities) and a 13,700-square-foot lawn area for comfortable and convenient pre-concert dining and relaxing. The area is newly landscaped with plantings and walkways to provide a pleasant environment that blends into the existing park-like Bowl grounds.

Pre-concert dining has long been a tradition at the Hollywood Bowl. Patrons pack picnics or purchase a variety of take-out foods and gourmet picnic dinners from the Bowl's restaurant and con-

cession services to enjoy at their seats or at one of the sixteen scenic picnic areas throughout the Bowl grounds.

The picnic area is named for the late Brian Moore, a long-time resident of Hollywood, who worked selflessly to bring improvements to the Hollywood area and to the Bowl. "I'm very pleased to note the completion of the initial phase of this important project," said Edelman. "The Brian Moore Picnic Area in Highland Camrose Park pays fitting tribute to Brian's community spirit, and it now opens to serve Hollywood Bowl concertgoers and year-round neighbors alike."

Inauguration of the Bowl's newest picnic area brought to completion Phase I of the Highland Camrose project. Phase II, which is expected to begin by the end of this year, will extend the picnic areas further to the south, in and around the historic *Camrose Bungalows. This is a Department of Parks and Recreation project. For more information call (818) 821-3205.

*** The Highland-Camrose Bungalow Village: A History**

Long recognized as a unique and distinctive feature of vanishing Hollywood, the Highland-Camrose Bungalow Village dates back to 1916, when the first of the original 14 Dutch Colonial-style bungalows was constructed.

Exemplars of the Arts-and-Crafts architectural and design movement, secluded amid dense plantings of native trees and other natural hillside vegetation, the bungalows reputedly housed numerous

actors, musicians and artists during their colorful history, ranging from Tyrone Power and Marilyn Monroe to Linda Ronstadt and Jackson Browne.

By the early 1980s, however, the complex had fallen into disrepair. In 1984, The Jan Development Co. purchased the bungalow village property, intending to raze the structures and construct in their place a six-story, 220-unit condominium complex.

At the community's request, Supervisor Ed Edelman intervened to forestall the planned demolition, and in 1986 won County approval to purchase the property for public use and preserve as many historic structures as possible.

After exhaustive consultations with individuals and community groups, Edelman secured Board approval in 1991 for a compromise plan designed to offer the greatest benefit to the greatest number of people. It bows significantly to community concerns in a number of areas: in preserving trees, enhancing security, blocking through traffic, damping noise levels and barring commercial ventures in the seven remaining bungalows.

The dedication of the Brian Moore Picnic Area marks the successful completion of the project's first phase, and substantially advances the process of restoring the bungalows and integrating them into a year-round neighborhood park facility, one which can be admired and enjoyed by Hollywood Bowl patrons and community residents alike.