It's made of heavy, solid natural substances. Houses like this give a sense of continuity in today's rootless society. It is a lab experiment in values.

- Professor Barry Sanders, 1977
PRESERVING THE GROVE HOUSE

After more than 100 years in Claremont, and over 20 years serving as a student center for Pitzer College, the Grove House requires major restoration efforts. The Grove House Committee meets during the academic year and continually works to preserve the house and plan for the future. Generous donations have kicked off restoration plans which call for faithful historical preservation and restoration.

To contribute or for more information about the Grove House preservation fund, please contact the Office of College Advancement:
phone: (909) 621-8130
email: giving@pitzer.edu
The newest addition to Pitzer’s campus will be its oldest building, if faculty and students have their way.

Pitzer students want to move Claremont’s Zetterberg House lock, stock and chimney from its present site at 721 Harrison onto the Pitzer campus, where it will be used as a multipurpose student center. Pilgrim Place Foundation, a Congregational retirement community is willing to donate the house to the college if Pitzer can raise the funds needed to relocate it. Pitzer English professor Barry Sanders thinks the school has those funds.

Sanders and others have been working against a spring 1977 deadline for relocating the 3-story dwelling. If moving funds are not found, the house will be razed by Pilgrim Place to make room for a health care facility. Besides relocation costs, numerous other details must be handled before the project can proceed.

IF ALL GOES ACCORDING TO PLANS, Pitzer will later this year have a new student center — yet the building will be the college’s oldest structure.
THE GROVE HOUSE (ZETTERBERG HOUSE) 1902-2002

Pitzer College celebrates the 100th birthday of the Grove House during the 2002/2003 academic year, Pitzer’s 40th anniversary year.

Built in 1902, the Grove House—formerly the Zetterberg house—belongs to an architectural style called the bungalow, an expression of the Arts and Crafts Movement in America. The house was acquired from Pilgrim Place in 1975 and moved to campus in 1977, through the efforts of a Pitzer class taught by Professor Barry Sanders, English 151, "The Arts and Crafts Movement in America." The next five years saw a long and trying process, including the threat of demolition.

The Grove House was eventually restored and dedicated in 1980. Since then, the Grove House has been frequently referred to as the heart and soul of the Pitzer College campus serving a wide variety of activities including poetry and musical presentations, classes, meetings and special programs. It also is a homey and warm gathering place where students, faculty, staff and guests come to socialize and eat. Stephanie Forman ’03 says that it is difficult to "adequately express the importance of the Grove House to Pitzer’s campus, but I would certainly assert that it is the only building here that feels like home and it is the heart of Pitzer’s campus community," a sentiment held by generations of Pitzer students and alumni.