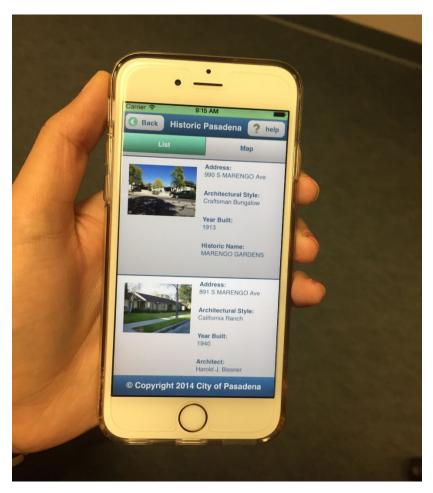
2015 Governor's Historic Preservation Awards



Historic Pasadena Smartphone App

The City of Pasadena's "Historic Pasadena" Smart Phone App, launched in 2014, combines GPS and mapping technology available on smart devices with the City's historic resource information already available online. This allows people the opportunity to find, view, and learn about the city's historic properties all in one application process. The City of Pasadena developed the concept for the app and managed the project, while CF Webtools managed the technology needed to bring the app into operation.

The "Historic Pasadena" App is based on information also available online through the City of Pasadena Historical Resources Inventory Database, and has three primary functions: users can search for historic properties within 500 feet to 10 miles of their immediate location; they can search for specific types of historic resources such as an architectural style, the work of a particular architect or builder, a specific address, or other critera; and they can access a series of predefined walking and driving tours of the city's historic properties and neighborhoods. Tours of Pasadena's more well-known resources had already been developed, so the City focused on the lesser-known types of resources such as bungalow courts, Victorian-era buildings and neighborhoods, mid-century modern buildings, neon signs, and cultural landscapes. In addition to the smartphone app, the city developed a webpage for each of the app's walking and driving tours, as well as printed brochures of the tours.

The entire project was funded through a Certified Local Government grant from the Office of Historic Preservation. It is believed that Pasadena was one of the first local governments in California to develop a historic resources smartphone app, and as such, remains on the cutting edge of historic preservation efforts since becoming one of the first Certified Local Government cities in the 1980s, and one of the first local governments to release a publicly accessible online database of historic resources in 2009. With this advanced smartphone app technology, awareness of the City's important historic sites can only be increased and improved, resulting in a greater appreciation of these properties and the need to protect them for future generations.

Learn more about Pasadena's mobile tours.