



PRESERVATION MATTERS

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One Small Step for Man, One Giant Leap for Preservation* Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA

Standing among thousands of anxious spectators in Disneyland's Tomorrow Land on July 20, 1969, I witnessed Neil Armstrong's descent from the Apollo 11 Lunar Lander *Eagle* as he stepped on the moon for the first time in the history of mankind. I was one of over 600 million people who watched the event worldwide, almost one-fifth of the world's population. Though conceived during the presidency of Dwight D. Eisenhower, the NASA spaceflight endeavor, Apollo, began in earnest after the newly-elected President Kennedy announced his vision for a manned moon landing on May 25, 1961 in a special address before a joint session of Congress.

The Apollo Program set major milestones in human spaceflight. It stands alone in sending manned missions beyond low Earth orbit and spurred advances in many areas of technology peripheral to rocketry, including avionics, telecommunications, and computers. Responding to Kennedy's challenge and landing men on the moon by the end of 1969 required the almost immediate spurt of technological creativity and the largest commitment of resources, over \$24 billion, ever made by any nation in peacetime. Without the Cold War, however, the Apollo Program would have not happened. Following the Mercury and Gemini space programs, the Apollo Program ran from 1961 until 1975. At its peak, the program employed 400,000 people and required the support of over 20,000 industrial firms and universities. A total of 12 Apollo astronauts would reach the lunar surface over the next three years, collecting rocks, driving buggies and even practicing a little golf. The Soviet Union, America's Cold War nemesis, scrapped its lunar manned mission program before a single cosmonaut reached the moon.

Some of the 5,000 pounds of stuff Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin abandoned at Tranquility Base was purposeful: a seismic detector to record moonquakes and meteorite impacts; a laser-reflection device to make precise distance measurements between Earth and the moon; a



**Astronaut Buzz Aldrin After Placing US Flag, July 20, 1969
NASA Photo ASI 1-40-5875**

U.S. flag and Commemorative Plaque attached to the Lunar Module Descent Leg. "Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the Moon. July 1969, A.D. We came in peace for all mankind." The plaque is signed by the Apollo 11 crew and President Richard M. Nixon. Also left on the moon was the Apollo 1 Mission patch commemorating astronauts Gus Grissom, Ed White, and Roger Chaffee, who were killed during a test on a launch pad. In addition, there was a Silicon Disc carrying statements from Presidents Nixon, Johnson, Kennedy, Eisenhower, and from Leaders of 73 other nations. Medals were left behind commemorating two Cosmonauts who perished in earlier space exploration. Some of what was left behind was unavoidable: Apollo 11's lunar module descent stage wasn't designed to be carted back home.

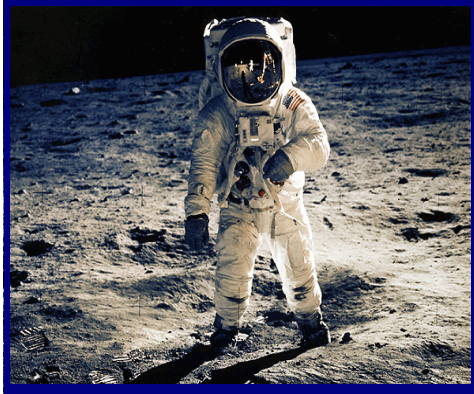
During the scant 150 minutes they remained on the lunar surface, but before Armstrong and Aldrin joined Michael Collins in the Command Module *Columbia*, the two cast aside other objects to lighten the load of the

*Carol J. Dyson, AIA

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One Small Step for Man, One Giant Leap for Preservation!

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**Astronaut Buzz Aldrin During his Moonwalk, July 20, 1969
NASA Photo ASI 1-40-5903**

Eagle lunar module and allow for takeoff. To compensate for the weight of moon rocks and soil samples, the astronauts gave the heave-ho to more than 100 items, creating a veritable yard sale of high technology and lowly debris. Space boots and portable life-support systems, armrests from their cockpit seats, a hammer, scoops, cameras and containers were jettisoned. Tethers and antennas, empty food bags and bags filled with human waste, all were left behind. And, whereas there are countless places on Earth awarded protection to preserve their historic or cultural importance, the moon has none. Until now.

The California State Historical Resources Commission, at their January 29, 2010 hearing, placed the approximately 106 objects left behind at by astronauts Armstrong and Aldrin at Tranquility Base on the California Register of Historical Resources as associated with California's history. The nomination *does not* include the lunar surface or subsurface. The objects nominated are owned by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

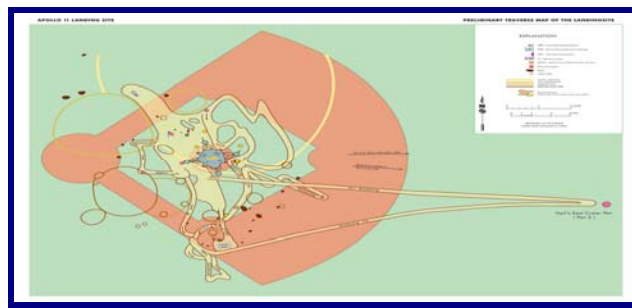
In doing so, California is the first among the five states most involved in the space program (California, New Mexico, Texas, Alabama and Florida) to take this step, spearheaded by the Lunar Legacy Project, a group of engineers, historians and anthropologists who regard the Space Age as other scientists do the Stone Age, an epoch of almost unimaginable technological advancement and human exploration that scientists hope to study for generations to come.

The nomination to the California Register was put forth by this group of four cultural resources professionals, Lisa Westwood, Ralph Gibson, Beth O'Leary and John Versluis. This effort began in 1998 as a grass-roots effort to formally recognize the significance of the Apollo 11 mission and to eventually bring it to UNESCO and the World Heritage List by the United States. More information on the efforts of this group can be found at <http://spacegrant.nmsu.edu/lunarlegacies/>

The California Register of Historical Resources allows the listing of historical resources beyond the state's borders, even more than 238,000 miles away. Many of the objects on the Moon have a direct connection to the history of California. Research institutions and companies such as the Jet propulsion Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, Aerojet in Sacramento, Moffet Field in Mountain View, as well as North American Aviation and Rocketdyne at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory, provided the research and intellectual development of the objects and/or manufactured and tested them. Many of these institutions define 20th century California as a world leader in engineering and technology. California's listing of the objects left behind by Apollo 11 marks the first time a cultural resource not located on Earth has been formally recognized on any state or national registry.

Buzz Aldrin, who, along with the other two astronauts, Neil Armstrong and Michael Collins celebrate their 80th birthdays this year, noted "I want to see the day when citizens can travel to the moon themselves and visit the site where Neil and I first walked... appropriate measures should be taken not to disrupt the historic nature of Tranquility Base." It is incumbent upon us to protect historic artifacts that connect California with one of the most significant historic events in all of human history.

As I left Disneyland over 40 years ago among the thousands who had just witnessed the most significant event of the twentieth century, there was a quiet awe-struck reverence. It was a good day for world peace.



**Preliminary Traverse Map of the Apollo 11 Landing Site (With baseball diamond superimposed for comparison)
Photo Courtesy of USGS**

Project Review: Professional Qualification Standards

Mark Beason

From time to time, this office receives reports in which an archeologist evaluates a building's eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Rarely does a historian submit an eligibility finding for an archeological site, but this working outside one's discipline presents a significant concern for the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) Section 106 Project Review Unit.

As most readers already know, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. While the Section 106 consultation process ensures public participation, it also necessitates the involvement of historic preservation professionals.

The implementing regulations for the Section 106 process, "require each Federal agency responsible for the protection of historic resources, including archeological resources, to ensure that all actions taken by employees or contractors of the agency shall meet professional standards under regulations developed by the Secretary" (36CFR 800.2(1)(1)). Agencies may choose to "use the services of applicants, consultants, or designees to prepare information, analyses, and recommendations," but the federal agency official remains responsible to ensure that findings and determinations meet applicable standards and guidelines. In a similar fashion, NHPA regulations (36 CFR 61.4(e)(1)) also require the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to maintain staff who meet the same professional standards.

What are these standards? The Secretary of the Interior established Professional Qualification Standards in 1983 (36 CFR 61, Appendix A) to ensure consistency and credibility in the identification, evaluation, protection, and preservation of America's significant historic properties. The regulations identify Professional Qualification standards for five specific disciplines: History, Archeology, Architectural History, Architecture, and Historic Architecture. The standards are as follows:

Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards

In the following definitions, a year of full time professional experience need not consist of a continuous year of full time work but may be made up of discontinuous periods of full time or part time work adding up to the equivalent of a year of full time experience.

(a) **History.** The minimum professional qualifica-

tions in history are a graduate degree in history or closely related field; or a bachelor's degree in history or closely related field plus one of the following:

1. At least two years of full time experience in research, writing, teaching, interpretation or other demonstrable professional activity with an academic institution, historical organization or agency, museum, or other professional institution; or
2. Substantial contribution through research and publication to the body of scholarly knowledge in the field of history.

(b) **Archeology.** The minimum professional qualifications in archeology are a graduate degree in archeology, anthropology, or closely related field plus:

1. At least one year of full time professional experience or equivalent specialized training in archeological research, administration or management;
2. At least four months of supervised field and analytic experience in general North American archeology; and
3. Demonstrated ability to carry research to completion.

In addition to these minimum qualifications, a professional in prehistoric archeology shall have at least one year of full time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archeological resources of the prehistoric period. A professional in historic archeology shall have at least one year of full time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archeological resources of the historic period.

(c) **Architectural history.** The minimum professional qualifications in architectural history are a graduate degree in architectural history, art history, historic preservation, or closely related field, with coursework in American architectural history; or a bachelor's degree in architectural history, art history, historic preservation, or closely related field plus one of the following:

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Project Review: Professional Qualification Standards

1. At least two years of full time experience in research, writing, or teaching in American architectural history or restoration architecture with an academic institution, historical organization or agency, museum, or other professional institution; or
2. Substantial contribution through research and publication to the body of scholarly knowledge in the field of American architectural history.

(d) **Architecture.** The minimum professional qualifications in architecture are a professional degree in architecture plus at least two years of full time professional experience in architecture; or a State license to practice architecture.

(e) **Historic Architecture.** The minimum professional qualifications in historic architecture are a professional degree in architecture or State license to practice architecture, plus one of the following:

1. At least one year of graduate study in architectural preservation, American architectural history, preservation planning, or closely related field; or
2. At least one year of full time professional experience on historic preservation projects. Such graduate study or experience shall include detailed investigations of historic structures, preparation of historic structures research reports, and preparation of plans and specification for preservation projects.

The Project Review Unit takes these Standards seriously and considers them a vital component of the Section 106 consultation process. It is important that historic preservation professionals from federal agencies (or their designated consultants) meet the appropriate qualification standard for the resource type being studied (buildings, archeological sites, etc.). However, OHP also accepts work performed by someone who does not meet the qualifications, as long as they are under the direct supervision of someone who does (as included in the Caltrans statewide programmatic agreement). In this way, OHP and the consulting federal agencies work together to ensure that the Section 106 process works with consistency and credibility.

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Local Government: What's "New" in Survey Methodology

Marie Nelson

We have recently received queries from people wanting to know more about OHP's "new" survey methodology. Since "new" is a relative term, rather than debating what is new and what is not, we thought it would be useful to take this opportunity to highlight some of the ways survey work has changed in the last few years. Back in the "good old days," surveys tended to be focused on architecture – particularly "pretty" buildings. Many times the survey field work was done by dedicated volunteers interested in architecture or local history, and local inventories often consisted of lists of cherry-picked "worthy" properties which met one or more of the following criteria: O for Old, P for Pretty, C for Cute, or IP for being the home of some Important Person (usually a businessman or political leader). There was the mistaken belief, one that still persists in some communities, that once the photos were taken and attached to the completed A and B forms, placed in a binder and stored on a shelf, that the survey was DONE (now and forever). The city's inventory of historic resources was essentially closed and would forevermore serve as the authority for which buildings deserved to be preserved (and, by implication, which ones didn't matter).

Although the above scenario may stretch things a bit, it does provide a reference point for changing survey practices. At the core is OHP's goal to foster survey practices that meet the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*, produce relatively current information about resources useful to local governments, and promote better integration of historic preservation into overall land-use planning processes. Other changes are designed to get "more bang for the buck," involve the public in the process, and put the history back into historic preservation.

The National Park Service published *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation (SOIS)* in the early 1980s to provide guidance for historic preservation activities and methods, specifically in the areas of Preservation Planning, Identification, Evaluation, Registration, and Documentation. Note - these are different than the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings*. So the standards have been around for a long time. What is **new** in survey practices is an increasing awareness of those standards and an emphasis on implementing them. The *SOIS for Archeology and Historic Preservation* and several National Register bulletins describe in detail how to develop a historic context. Additional information and a suggested

format or outline for historical contexts is on OHP's web site.

PRESERVATION PLANNING is a process that organizes preservation activities (identification, evaluation, registration and treatment of historic properties) in a logical sequence. It is based on the principle that responsible decisions are more likely to be made when good information about historic resources is available to property owners and local government officials in the early phases of the planning and decision-making processes. Planning Standards I and II make it clear that historic contexts provide the foundation for good decisions about identification, evaluation, registration and treatment of historic properties. The historic context statement identifies the important themes and periods of a community's historical development, identifies significant property types associated with those themes, and establishes thresholds for evaluating the significance and integrity of resources using National Register, California Register and local register criteria.

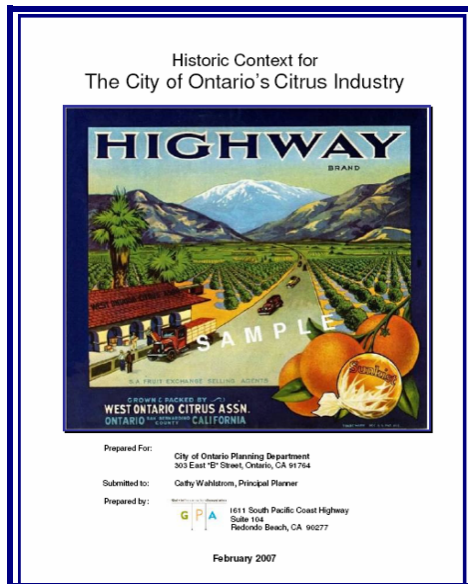
Well-developed contexts enable a local community to better understand which properties are significant and why. They should provide guidance for applying the National, California and local register criteria to that community's resources, and help establish priorities for survey work and focus field survey efforts. By identifying where concentrations of historic resources are located which warrant protec-

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Local Government: What's "New" in Survey Methodology

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tion and consideration in planning decisions, a carefully crafted historic context can provide an expedient, efficient, cost effective way to truly integrate historic preservation into local planning practices.

IDENTIFICATION activities are undertaken to gather information about historic properties in an area. The scope of these activities will depend on existing knowledge about properties; goals for survey activities developed in the planning process; and current management or information needs. Because historic contexts are focused on property types, they help identify concentrations of resources and particular property types that warrant more intensive study as well as those which do not, thereby saving effort and money.

Identification Standard I specifies that the identification of historic properties is undertaken to the degree required to make decisions. The level of identification may be very broad and general or very focused and detailed. A survey of a neighborhood or a planning area for local land-use planning purposes will generally not require the same level of identifying information that a National Register District nomination would. OHP has encouraged the use of non-narrative descriptions or check lists, accompanied by good photos, to expedite survey field work and provide the level of descriptive information needed for local planning purposes.

EVALUATION is the process of determining whether identified properties meet defined criteria of significance. Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, federal agencies or their designees are required to consider the potential of proposed projects to adversely impact resources that meet the criteria for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. They are not required to consider the eligibility of those resources for a state or local register. Similarly, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires state and local agencies to consider the impact of proposed projects on the environment and defines historic resources as an element of the environment.

Evaluation Standards I and II emphasize that evaluations of the significance of historic properties use established criteria, and that they be made within the appropriate historic contexts. In accordance with the SOIS, properties are evaluated using an historic context that identifies the significant patterns that particular properties types represent and defines the associations and character-defining features of the significant property types against which

individual properties may be compared. Within this comparative framework, the criteria for evaluation take on particular meaning with regard to individual properties. Adequately developed historic contexts make it possible to make land-use planning and treatment decisions without extensive research or detailed information on individual properties. Although the eligibility criteria for the California Register of Historic Resources are similar to those applicable to the National Register, resources may be eligible for the California Register which do not qualify or have not been evaluated for the National Register. Additionally, local jurisdictions can establish their own criteria. Historic contexts should provide the framework for evaluating resources using National Register, California Register, and local criteria.

It should be clear by now why OHP has placed so much importance on the development of historic context statements. In fact, because contexts are viewed as a critical need for historic preservation activities, grants to Certified Local Governments (CLGs) will be made for survey projects *only* if a context has been developed or will be developed as part of the proposed project. If a community has to choose between spending money for a survey or for a city-wide context statement, the money is better spent on the context.

OHP has encouraged surveys to focus on groups of properties such as those contained in a planning area, a neighborhood or district because most properties derive their significance in relation to the properties around them. It is generally not necessary to do extensive research on individual buildings nor to complete a DPR 523B form for each property when the historic context statement has identified the character-defining features and associational qualities a property needs to have to be a good representative of its type and convey its historical significance.

The use of electronic technology is another area in which changes are being made. OHP has encouraged the use of PCs or hand-held electronic devices such as PDA and GPS devices to streamline field work. We have encouraged the development of web-based data management programs such as the CHRIS to capture, manage, share, and make historic contexts and survey information available to the public.

As technology evolves and we move away from paper-based systems to electronic ones, DPR 523 forms, as individual pieces of paper, are rapidly becoming obsolete. The data they captured remains important, but electronic databases improve the management and use of the data and make it possible to provide greater accessibility, which makes it easier to integrate historic preservation into broader planning processes for property owners, developers, and local decision-makers.

Best practices will continue to evolve as technology changes, as our interpretations of history change, and as the legal, political and social climate in which historic preservation takes place also changes.

New Listings on the National Register of Historic Places

California Theatre, San Bernardino
San Bernardino County
Listed December 22, 2009



The California Theatre was listed under Criterion A at the local level for important associations with theater development in San Bernardino. From its opening in 1928 to the present, the California Theatre has been a major cultural and entertainment center for Inland California. The period of significance, 1928 to 1950, reflects the theater's association with Hollywood's "Golden Age." During those years, the Fox Film Corporation held several movie "world premiers" at the theater, at which starring actors, directors, writers, major corporate executives, among others, were present. The theater was also used to "screen test" several films for assessing audience reaction. The theater's Wurlitzer Theatre Organ, Style 216, Opus 1850, was also listed as an associated object.

Armour & Co. Building
San Francisco
Listed December 22, 2009



The Armour & Co. Building was listed at the local level under Criterion A, for its association with the meat packing industry in the early twentieth century. It was also listed under Criterion C as the work of the locally prominent architectural firm of Henry Geilfuss & Son, and as an example of warehouse architecture of the early twentieth century. It is a late example of the master architect's work and one of the few-if not the *only*-surviving industrial building that he designed. The building also demonstrates Geilfuss's cognizance of contemporary trends in industrial architecture. The brick building, constructed in 1907 as a meat packing plant and smokehouse for one of the most powerful meat packing companies in the country, stands as a monument to the rise of the Chicago meat packing giants in San Francisco, particularly in the wake of the passage of the Meat Inspection and Pure Food and Drugs Acts of 1906. It is one of the only extant meat packing warehouses dating to this period.

450 Sutter Building
San Francisco
Listed December 22, 2009



Four Fifty Sutter Building, constructed in 1929 in the Art Deco Style of architecture, was listed under Criterion C for its architecture and as the work of master San Francisco architect Timothy L. Pflueger. Adorned with Mayan hieroglyphics, the building blends dramatic design in the facades and first floor lobby with functionality and flexibility on the interior, and is an excellent example of Pflueger's ability to integrate art and functionality.

New National Register Listings

(Continued from page 7)

**Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony Farm
Gold Hill (vicinity) El Dorado County,
Listed October 9, 2009**



The **Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony** site was listed under Criterion A in the areas of ethnic heritage, early settlement, and agriculture. The Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony is one of the oldest properties in North America associated with Japanese permanent settlement in the United States and represents the vanguard of Japanese American contributions to the culture of the United States. Japanese colonists planted and maintained mulberry trees and silkworm cocoons for silk farming, as well as tea plants and seeds. Members of the colony occupied the site from 1869-1871. The site has a residence and barn associated with the Wakamatsu settlers, mulberry trees (for sericulture) planted by the colonists, and associated agricultural fields and pond.



**Stevens House
Malibu
Los Angeles County,
Listed October 9,
2009**

The **Stevens House** is a single family residence designed by master architect John Lautner in 1968. The house is a unique Modernist design divided into two units formed by two half-catenary concrete curves facing in opposite directions. Lautner described the unique design as suitable for the harsh beach environment because the design mimicked the waves and it could ride out a tidal wave as well by allowing water to flow through the house. The Stevens House was listed under Criterion C at the local level of significance as an important example of Lautner's work and as a property possessing high artistic value.

**Carl Stroschein House
San Juan Capistrano, Orange County,
Listed October 14, 2009**



The **Carl Stroschein House** is a vernacular house with some Tudor elements, constructed in 1927 on a small lot that was once part of a 40-acre farm. The building is essentially unmodified since its construction and retains a high degree of integrity. The Carl Stroschein House was listed under Criterion B for its association with Carl Stroschein, the last elected constable of San Juan Township. Constructed by Stroschein and his brother Fred, the house served as Stroschein's home and office between 1938-1953. For fifteen years, Stroschein was the city's chief law enforcement officer, responsible for public safety in San Juan Capistrano and a large portion of unincorporated southern Orange County. During World War II, Stroschein was responsible for organizing civil defense, including construction of an observation tower, organization of a civilian defense council, and classes in first aid and bomb disposal. Carl Stroschein was re-elected to the position of Constable twice, holding the post for longer than any other Constable in San Juan Township. He retired from the position when Orange County reorganized and consolidated its court system.

New National Register Listings



Eureka Theatre
Eureka
Listed January 7, 2010

The Eureka Theatre was listed in the National Register under Criterion A for associations with local theater development and under Criterion C as an excellent example of the Art Moderne architectural style. Theater was an important theme in Eureka's history, beginning with 19th century opera houses and storefront theaters, moving into 20th century dual-purpose theaters for vaudeville and films, and continuing in 1939 with the construction of the Eureka Theatre, an ultra-modern, neon-brilliant movie theater. Art Moderne character-defining features include: the stacked pylon with a 50-foot tall sign, EUREKA, projecting five feet from the building; the colored tiles on the floor, wainscot and elaborate ticket booth in the outer lobby which is topped with a 50-foot long marquee canopy.

Westlake Theatre
Los Angeles, Los Angeles County
Listed January 7, 2010



The Westlake Theatre was listed under Criterion C for its well articulated resolution of the Spanish Colonial Revival style with Churrigueresque and Adamesque ornamentation and for its designed spatial layout, which demonstrates an adroit response to changing cultural norms. Opened in 1926 and operated as a movie theater until 1991, the theater was designed by architect Richard M. Bates, Jr. Bates designed several important hotel and civic structures in Los Angeles, but the Westlake Theatre was his only highly accomplished theater project. Renowned theater architect S. Charles Lee is credited with several notable Art Deco style renovations in 1935.

New California Historical Landmark



Camp Lockett

Camp Lockett, constructed at the beginning of World War II, is the last training facility constructed for mounted cavalry units in Southern California. In addition, Camp Lockett is the last military installation associated with African American mounted troops, also known as "Buffalo Soldiers" in California. The property was designated California Historical Landmark Number 1045 on October 30, 2009

New California Point of Historical Interest



Rio Vista & Isleton Portuguese Hall
Rio Vista, Solano County

The Rio Vista & Isleton Portuguese Hall has been in continuous use as the Club's social hall and the site of the yearly "Holy Ghost Festa" or festival, since it was moved to its present location in 1928. Other local organizations, such as supporters of the local high school's sports and agricultural education programs, also hold fund-raising events at the Portuguese hall. The community and family gatherings that have, and continue, to take place at Portuguese Hall make it one of the most important centers of social life for the residents of the central Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta region, especially for the residents of Rio Vista and Isleton. The building was approved as a California Point of Historical Interest on October 30, 2009.

Architectural Review: A California State Preservation Tax Incentive An Idea Whose Time Has Come?

Timothy Brandt

To foster additional interest and participation in the preservation and rehabilitation of historic commercial and residential buildings, the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) proposes a goal for 2010: movement towards the adoption of a California State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit.

To engage its constituents, OHP has begun to formulate a white paper on the subject of statewide preservation incentives for historic buildings and is seeking formation of a core group of partners to further this effort. To date, the draft paper outlines information that must be gathered in furtherance of that goal. This includes the types of rehabilitation tax incentives available, advocacy, economics (cost impacts, revenue, and funding), legislation and politics (contacts and language), work scope and timeline, research and analysis (pros and cons as well as state-by-state comparisons), and implementation.

Although it is acknowledged that this may not be an opportune time to launch such an effort, it is as evident that any movement towards adopting statewide incentives will likely require years of work. If not now, when?

With the tremendous amount of funding being disbursed through new regulations seeking to stimulate the economy and only a small fraction of that money potentially beneficial to the average owner of an historic property, it might also be time to reconsider legislation that benefits the rehabilitation of owner-occupied historic properties. With limited, if any, incentives available at the local level, and federal preservation incentives unavailable, the long term effects of a statewide incentive could be dramatically beneficial to this type of historic property. And, as a result stimulate the economy.

Statewide rehabilitation incentives could:

1. Stimulate local economies

- Rehabilitation of historic buildings starts to pay back the state's investment immediately through taxes on construction jobs and materials.
- Offers hard-pressed towns and cities the chance to put deteriorated property back on the tax rolls, to dispose of city owned tax-foreclosed properties, and to add new taxpayers to the local tax base.
- Statistics have shown that loss of state income tax revenue has been offset by gains.

2. Revitalize downtown areas and communities

- Creates jobs and leverages investments.
- Tax credits encourage growth and redevelopment, generating employment and housing where they are most needed.
- Cities benefit from increased real property, sales, and income taxes.

3. Promote affordable housing

- Additional state incentives for historic buildings could assist other funding, including potential housing funding, to bring historic buildings up to current code, boost energy efficiency, and provide accessibility while preserving the building's historic features.
- Historic home-ownership credits could help low and moderate income tenants attain home ownership and enable existing homeowners in historic districts to rehabilitate their homes.

4. Demonstrate inherent sustainability

- Restoring an historic building is usually more environmentally efficient than building a new one, especially once they are retrofitted with energy upgrades. Although most of California is blessed with a moderate climate, even minimal weatherization upgrades can provide energy savings. It is crucial to consider "whole building" solutions.
- In addition, dense development and inherent walkability in many historic neighborhoods allows residents to be less dependent upon their vehicles, a distinct environmental advantage which reduces vehicle miles traveled (VMTs).
- Support for historic preservation in communities would significantly advance environmental goals as well.

5. Support smart growth and new urbanism

- Counter to a sprawl mentality, rehabilitation of historic properties can have direct links to community-based ideas, economic development, and

Architectural Review

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Architectural Review: State Preservation Tax Incentive

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connection to place, and establishing pedestrian-based community planning, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions and creating a more sustainable model for cities and towns. Many preservation projects are already located in smart growth and energy efficient locations.

- In any given year, there are typically more building renovation and rehabilitation projects undertaken by owners than there are new construction projects. A small portion of these existing building projects involve a qualified historic building, but many more are motivated by changing owner needs, energy concerns, maintenance considerations, and general modernization or upgrade requirements.

6. Encourage owners to list their properties

- The availability of financial incentives may encourage owners of historic properties to actively seek to list their buildings to take advantage of preservation credits.
- Incentives may help avoid typical objections to listing of properties on basis of owner's rights by providing a financial reward to list a property.

7. Encourage property maintenance and rehabilitation

- Incentives can assist in bringing vacant properties back to life, put existing buildings back to productive use, and lead to higher property tax revenue.
- Incentives help to offset higher costs attributed to the rehabilitation of historic character defining features.

8. Leverage use of the federal rehabilitation tax credit

- An effective state credit can increase the use of the federal credit bringing more federal dollars into the state. Missouri saw the number of projects using the federal rehabilitation tax credit double after the introduction of their state credit.

9. Benefit heritage tourism

- In state after state, analyses have shown that one of the major industries benefiting from preservation was tourism. Preservation visitors stay longer, visit twice as many places, and spend two and a half times as much money as do non-preservation visitors. Historic preservation brings tourist dollars into California's economy.

10. Enhance California's leadership role

- State rehabilitation tax incentives are one of the most common legislative agenda items in the states.
- With the state leading the nation in many areas, including sustainability, California can also show its support for historic preservation and the owners of historic properties to protect and enhance its historic and cultural properties for future generations.

Key ingredients of a good state tax credit include a clear definition of eligible buildings, the use of the Secretary of the Interiors' Standards for Rehabilitation as the review criteria, the availability of the credit for owner-occupied residences as well as commercial properties, appropriate rates, transferability of the credit, and the avoidance of any caps. There are many options to consider when developing a statewide rehabilitation incentive program, including the extent to which owner-occupied and commercial buildings are eligible.

Thirty states currently have some form of statewide preservation income tax credit incentives for their historic buildings, with twenty-five of those states offering a tax credit for the rehabilitation of owner-occupied residences (unlike the 20% federal preservation tax credit program). Previous attempts to secure similar historic incentive legislation in this state, most recently in the 90s, have not been successful. California is clearly overdue in discharging its responsibility to provide adequate resources and incentives for its historic and cultural properties. We look forward to working with you on the formulation, promotion, and adoption of a comprehensive preservation tax incentive program for the state of California and its historic heritage.

Equally compelling is the need for a report on the economics of historic preservation in California. Realizing that a preservation incentives program will require a protracted effort, we would also encourage the development of an economics report that would provide statistical quantification of the benefits of preservation in California and make a case for the need for additional incentives and increased funding.

If you are interested in taking part in this effort, please send any suggestions, guidance, and/or recommendations to my email address: tbrandt@parks.ca.gov

Registration Unit: Top Ten Ways to Improve Your National Register Nomination

William Burg

1. Use the correct forms.

Over the years, NPS has revised its basic forms many times. To ensure that your nomination includes information required by NPS, be sure that you are using the most recent forms. Current versions of the National Register Form 10-900 and continuation sheets are available via the OHP Web site in Microsoft Word format. Forms for California's state programs are also located on the OHP Web site. Use the checklist on our Web site to ensure that your nomination includes all required components. It is not necessary to place the nomination in presentation binders, Mylar sleeves or other packaging, other than fasteners to hold things together and envelopes for photographs or electronic media.

2. Write effective summary paragraphs.

Start your nomination's description and statement of significance with a summary paragraph that captures the most important information about the resource. For descriptions, include basic information like location, style, dimensions, most prominent features, and construction date. For statements of significance, introduce the reader to the property with a clear and concise summary of why the property is important. Include nomination criteria, period of significance, and level of significance. If the resource is eligible under more than one criterion, please supply a separate summary paragraph for all applicable criteria.

3. Provide a complete description.

Once you have introduced the property with a summary paragraph, provide a detailed architectural description of the property. If you are not familiar with architectural terms, a guide like *A Field Guide to American Houses* by Virginia & Lee McAlester can be very helpful. A clear architectural description helps explain to a reviewer what is documented in photos, but also includes details that photographs do not capture.

4. Address the property's integrity.

Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance. Assessing integrity can be a subjective judgment, but it must be grounded in an understanding of the property's physical features and how they relate to its significance. It is not necessary to address the seven aspects of integrity (location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association) as a checklist, but integrity must be addressed clearly in the description. Note that "integrity" in this context refers to historic integrity, not structural integrity in an engineering sense. Consult NPS Bulletin 15, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, for further discussion of how to assess integrity.

5. Understand the role of context.

Historic context statements are a specialized form of historical writing. Your statement of significance must address why the subject property is important enough to nominate, and historic



It is not necessary to place the nomination in presentation binders, Mylar sleeves or other special packaging. Fasteners to hold the nomination forms together and envelopes for photos or digital media are sufficient.

context provides the basis for that significance. An historic context statement does not require a complete history of the community. It should connect those aspects of local, state or national history that directly affected the resource, or were affected by the resource. Consult the Summer 2009 *Preservation Matters* (<http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/pages/1054/files/summer09.pdf>) for a more thorough discussion of historic context statements.

6. Make a statement of significance.

The statement of significance should explain why the property is historic under each applicable criterion. The question to be answered by each is, simply put: Why is this property important? The statement must also include the level of significance—local, state or national levels of significance. The level of significance is driven by the historic context; in order to show state or national level of significance, the context statement and statement of significance should show how this property affected the patterns of state or national history, rather than local history.

7. Provide photos that capture the property, in the correct format.

The National Park Service has released new specifications for digital photographs, including minimum resolution requirements and preferred submission formats. Consult the Summer 2009 *Preservation Matters* (<http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/pages/1054/files/summer09.pdf>) for more specific discussion of NPS photo specifications. At least one photograph should capture the entire primary façade of the resource, with subsequent photos of more specific elevations and details. Think of the first photograph as a summary paragraph for your photos, a visual introduction to the resource. For districts or multiple

Registration: Top Ten Ways to Improve Your National Register Nomination

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property nominations, include photos that most clearly show the features of the district. NPS strongly encourages a photo log on a continuation sheet, rather than including all information on the backs of the photographs.

8. Include the correct maps.

National Register nominations require a physical USGS map, submitted with the nomination forms. Printouts of sections of USGS maps are not acceptable for this purpose. For California Register nominations, be sure to include a sketch map on the appropriate DPR 527 forms. For districts, include a single map that shows all contributing and non-contributing resources, on a continuation sheet.

9. Respond to the RFI.

It can be disheartening to receive a request for information (RFI) letter that appears critical of a nomination that took many hours of research and documentation. The RFI, however, is not a rejection letter. The reviewer's intent is to improve the nomination by including all required elements,

clarifying descriptions and statements of significance, and ensuring that the nomination meets the exacting standards of the National Park Service. By providing this additional information, your nomination moves one step closer to approval. If any questions in an RFI letter are unclear, you are encouraged to respond directly to the reviewer for clarification.

10. Call us!

When in doubt, contact us by phone or email via the contact information provided on the OHP website. The Registration Unit can provide basic advice on how to write nominations, and refer applicants to helpful online resources. Once a nomination is submitted, we are available to discuss ways to improve it, address deficiencies, and prepare it for hearing by the State Historical Resources Commission.

SOCIETY FOR CALIFORNIA ARCHAEOLOGY 44TH ANNUAL MEETING

March 17- 20, 2010 Riverside Convention Center, Riverside, CA

2010 PLENARY SESSION

Forging New Frontiers: The Curation Crisis, Stewardship, and Cultural Heritage Management in California Archaeology

The Plenary Session for 2010 will focus on current and ongoing curation concerns in California cultural heritage management, and seeks to continue the dialogue on these important issues. The Call for Papers also encourages symposia, sessions, papers, and posters on collections, conservation, and cultural heritage concerns and Native American participation on these topics.



Full details may be found on the web at <http://www.scahome.org/index.html>

Note from Former Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Stephen Mikesell

By the time this newsletter is released, I will have left my job as Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer and returned to the private sector. I am not leaving the historic preservation field; I have worked full time in this wonderful field since June, 1980, and intend to do so until I retire, whenever that may be.

On one hand, it seems like yesterday when I first sat at the desk from which I am writing this piece. On the other hand, the whole world has changed during those nine, wonderfully challenging years. In June 2001, the office was filled with the Old Guard, executives and staff who had been there since the office was founded: Knox Mellon, Hans Kreuzberg, Steade Craig, Gene Itogawa and others. Most of the Old Guard has retired and an equally talented and dedicated group has taken its place. The office works as well today as it ever worked in the past. I leave OHP confident that it is in good hands and will continue to evolve in its role of serving the public by preserving our heritage.

I can say with satisfaction that I achieved nothing on my own over the last nine years, but accomplished a great deal as part of the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) team. I invite readers to go back to the 2006 Comprehensive Statewide Historic Preservation Plan, which OHP put together in 2004 and 2005. It lists a series of goals in ten policy areas – information technology, resources of the recent past, archaeology, and so forth. I remember my reluctance to approve many of those goals because I feared we were setting ourselves up for failure, committing the office to goals we could not achieve. Upon reflection, however, it is remarkable how much progress we made on most of these goals. California, for example, has led the nation in developing a context for evaluating resources of the recent past. OHP did not do this alone; the cities of Southern California, particularly L.A., have worked diligently in devising the evaluation and management strategies that are appropriate to this peculiarly fragile property type. The Society for California Archaeology and the State Historical Resources Commission have helped OHP in devising strategies for standardizing archaeological practices at the state and federal levels. The facts are that great progress was made in many of these program areas, and that progress came about through OHP's partnership with many outside organizations and governmental entities.

I am especially sorry that I will not be here to see the completion of the greatest single accomplishment of this nine-year period: The upgrade of OHP's computer inventory system. The office has persevered for decades with a brittle "legacy" system. If that system were to crash, the cultural resource program of California would suffer irreparable harm. The antiquated system also has prevented OHP from participating fully in the site record digitization program, already well underway in the 11 Information Centers. The new system, now under development by a private contractor, will modernize all aspects of office operations and will allow OHP to be a full partner in

the statewide GIS initiative. Some time in 2010, OHP will pull the plug on the old system, called "Tiny Term." Bill Burg of the office calls it Project Tiny Terminate.

The most rewarding part of the computer upgrade effort, at least for me, was to observe the cooperation and collegiality of the computer Project Team. There are five operations units at OHP: Registration, Local Government, Architectural Review, Project Review, and a management group that includes budgets and information technology. There is a tendency in any organization for people to develop "silos" of independent sub-groups, which often operate with little input from the other "silos." The computer Project Team brought together at least one representative from each unit and relied on extensive participation by the clerical staff, who perform much of the data input and retrieval.

I watched this Project Team grow over the past year into a model for how OHP or any other organization should function. The computer will be used by all and there is no room for "silos" in developing an office wide system. I was impressed by the professionalism and creativity of this group, which worked together better than any other project team that I have seen.

The success of the computer system is itself a remarkable accomplishment but, more importantly, it points the way for even greater successes for OHP in the future. OHP has recruited a smart and dedicated group of new employees in recent years. If that group can work together in the manner of the computer Project Team, there is no telling what great things OHP can accomplish in the future.

Goodbye, my friends at OHP; I will miss you terribly.

LESTER A. SNOW
SECRETARY FOR RESOURCES

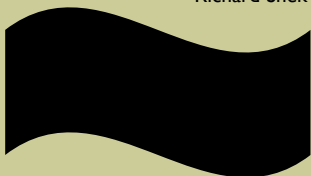
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Preservation Matters is the quarterly newsletter of the California Office of Historic Preservation, California State Parks. If you have questions or comments about this newsletter, email preservationmatters@parks.ca.gov.

This publication is available in alternate format upon request.



The mission of the **Office of Historic Preservation (OHP)** and the **State Historical Resources Commission (SHRC)**, in partnership with the people of California and governmental agencies, is to preserve and enhance California's irreplaceable historic heritage as a matter of public interest so that its vital legacy of cultural, educational, recreational, aesthetic, economic, social, and environmental benefits will be maintained and enriched for present and future generations.

Upcoming Events in Historic Preservation

The **Los Angeles Conservancy** invites you to join the **Maravilla Historical Society** as they kick off their capital campaign to purchase and restore the oldest handball court in East LA, **Saturday, February 13, 2010**, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. For additional information, visit the historical society website: <http://www.maravillahistoricalsociety.org/>

The **California Preservation Foundation** is sponsoring a workshop entitled: Make History: Public-Private Partnerships to Rehabilitate Historic Buildings on **February 23, 2010** (to be repeated **March 10, 2010** in Lone) and another **February 24, 2010**, on Deciphering the Mills Act, both in South Pasadena. To register, go to <http://www.californiapreservation.org>

The **California Historical Society** is offering a program, Historic Wineries of California on **February 25, 2010** from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at their San Francisco headquarters. Participants will learn the history of these wineries, meet winemakers, sample the latest vintages and succulent appetizers. Tickets, \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members, may be obtained by calling (415) 357-1848.

The **Advisory Council on Historic Preservation** will offer its Advanced Section 106 Seminar on **March 10, 2010** in Tucson, Arizona, **June 18** in San Diego, and **July 15** in Seattle. For more information and to register, go to <http://achp.gov/106advanced.html>

The **Society for California Archaeology's** 44th Annual Meeting will take place **March 17-20, 2010** at the Riverside Convention Center, Riverside, CA. For details, see <http://www.scahome.org/index.html>

The **California Historical Society** is hosting a book talk and signing with author Wendy Rouse Jorae discussing her book *The Children of Chinatown: Growing up Chinese American in San Francisco, 1850-1920* in San Francisco on Thursday, **March 18, 2010** from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. For information, go to <http://www.californiahistoricalsociety.org/cal/index.html>

Save Our Heritage Organisation (SOHO), invites all to their Annual Historic Home Tour on **March 21, 2010**, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm in San Diego. For more information, go to: <http://sohosandiego.org/march2010/hometour.htm>

The **California Preservation Foundation** is sponsoring a workshop on Design Review for Historic Buildings, Districts, Sites, and Landscapes on **March 31, 2010** in Monterey. For more information and to register, go to <http://www.californiapreservation.org>

The **LA Heritage Alliance** invites all to its Third Annual LA Heritage Day, **Sunday April 11, 2010** from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Heritage Square Museum, 3800 Homer Street, Los Angeles. For more information, see <http://laheritage.blogspot.com/>

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the **State Historical Resources Commission** is Friday, **April 30, 2010** in Sacramento. For more information visit www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21372.

The **California Preservation Foundation** invites all to its 2010 Conference: The Sierra Nevada: Preserving a Sense of Place, to be held **May 12-15, 2010** in Nevada County. For more information, see <http://www.californiapreservation.org>