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FERNDALE SAVES ITS BRIDGE

Preservationists in Humboldt County -- and in Ferndale in particular -- have carried the day in their efforts to oppose a Caltrans proposal to replace Fernbridge. The story began in 1985 when the agency announced plans to study replacing the 1911 bridge, recognized as eligible for listing in the National Register and as a Historic Civil Engineering Landmark by the American Society of Civil Engineers. This caused alarm in nearby Ferndale, where generations of residents have grown to know and love the bridge as their own -- Caltrans' ownership notwithstanding.



When Caltrans's District Director Allen Wrenn spoke before the Chamber of Commerce in May of 1986 to describe three possible replacement plans, Ferndale was galvanized into action. Pro-preservation editorials began to appear in the Ferndale Enterprise, urging concerned citizens to write their State and Federal representatives, the SHPO, and Caltrans Director Leo Trombatore. At the same time, Ferndale residents began plans for a celebration of the bridge's 75th anniversary, to be held in November, 1986. As the months wore on, editorials and articles began to appear in other newspapers -- in Sacramento, San Francisco and even in Los Angeles -- all supporting preservation of the historic bridge.

When the 75th anniversary celebration rolled around, no fewer than 2,500 were in attendance, including some who had attended the opening of the bridge in 1911. A letter from President Reagan was read, acknowledging the significance of the bridge and offering congratulations in the festivities. And Congressman Doug Bosco spoke, concluding, "If you are to be taken from us let it be no less than God's hand, not man's."

Caltrans continued their efforts, conducting tests on the bridge's wooden pilings and concrete, all of which revealed the structure to be sound, except for the approach spans which were built in 1918. By now, support for preservation of the bridge included the Humboldt County Organization of Governments, and other cities and towns throughout the county. The **(story continues on page 4)**

HERITAGE TASK FORCE HEARINGS

Assemblyman Sam Farr, Senator Milton Marks and Senator John Garamendi are cosponsoring a hearing on the status of the Heritage Task Force recommendations on October 22, 1987 in Sacramento. Farr, Marks and Garamendi originally sponsored the legislation creating the Task Force in 1983. The hearing will review the process by which the Heritage Task Force developed and prioritized their recommendations, assess the status of the recommendations and subsequent implementing legislation and develop a plan for action to ensure that the important work of the Heritage Task Force continues.

Some concerns expressed by members of the Heritage Action Steering Committee -- that few of the Task Force recommendations have been implemented (especially in the last two years) and that the top priorities which have been enacted through SB 1252 (Marks) have not been carried out -- prompted the legislators' interest in calling for a status report through the hearing process.

Previous members of the California Heritage Task Force, Roger J. Holt, Chairperson, Knox Mellon, Past SHPO, and Nadine Hata, former Chairperson, State Historical Resources Commission have been invited to make presentations and provide background. Also invited to comment on the present status of key recommendations are: Kathryn Gualtieri, State Office of Historic Preservation, Dr. John Kemble, current Chair, State Historical Resources Commission, Bill Delvac, Legislative Chair for the California Preservation Foundation, representatives of the California Conference of Historical Societies and the California Committee for the Promotion of History.

Finally, discussion of future plans for action will include comments from Henry Agonia, California's new Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, Flo Snyder, Director, State Office of Tourism, legislators and others long involved in the Task Force effort and legislative initiatives based on Task Force recommendations.

The goal of this hearing is to renew commitment to the Heritage Task Force recommendations and coordinate efforts among state agencies, legislators and heritage advocates. We may need to restate priorities if we are to implement reasonable recommendations of the Heritage Task Force (made in 1984, under different conditions). But, do it we will.

The California Heritage Task Force involved hundreds of us, most of us, for two years -- an enormous investment of time and effort by citizen volunteers. The legislative results have been good but hardly satisfactory. This hearing may revive the energy of all and we can overcome the last two years' of **(more, page 2)**

TASK FORCE HEARINGS (more)

flagging spirits. We hope, too, that the constant problem raised by the administration -- there's no money and no staff -- can be addressed and solved.

We will provide our view of future possibilities developing from this hearing in our next issue. At this time we salute Sam Farr for taking the initiative and Senators Marks and Garamendi for pitching in to help. There would be no history of the California Heritage Task Force without them; and now they are trying to keep its future alive.

Fresno Wins Twice in Sacramento

Fresno's "Old Administration Building" (see our July issue) was a rare winner in this year's legislative session. Ever persisting, local preservationists were able to garner the necessary local support, gain the good cooperation of the Community College District, the City and the Fresno Bee, and convince the local legislators to carry bills advancing the cause of the building.

On September 29 Governor Deukmejian signed two pieces of legislation which will greatly assist in the preservation of this Central Valley Landmark. AB 2165 (Costa and Bronzan) provides five years' exemption from Field Act requirements, alleviating liability concerns while further funds are raised for restoration. AB 1675 (Brown, et al) helps the latter situation by allocating \$1 million out of off-shore oil revenues toward the restoration. Plans are already underway to secure financing and develop the marketing plan in Fresno. It would appear that a ten-year plus battle to save the Old Administration Building is going to be a successful effort. Congratulations to all Fresno for the concerted, determined effort.

Preservation Law Updates --- Free!

The J.M. Kaplan Fund, Inc., of New York City, an early supporter of the National Center for Preservation Law, has granted \$25,000 to the National Center to cover the costs of producing the "Preservation Law Updates" series for the coming year and providing the "Updates" without charge to as many as 1,200 local historic preservation commissions across the country. We suggested in our last issue (July, 1987) that the "Updates" were well worth a \$45.00 subscription fee; now commissions can receive them free.

Local commissions wishing to receive the "Updates" should contact the National Center at Suite 501, 1233 Twentieth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Commissions will receive all "Updates" from numbers #31 forward for one year. Commissions wishing to receive the first thirty "Updates" issued by the National Center can receive a set of back "Updates" for a nominal \$15 payment.

Earthquakes ! Again ?

We wrote about the SEISMIC SEMINAR in Long Beach, October 28, 1987, in our July issue. With the panic caused by the October 1 quake fresh in everyone's mind - particularly the engineers and building officials - this one-day seminar is more important than before.

Entitled "Achieving Urban Conservation and Minimizing Earthquake Risk", the session will deliver the most prominent thinkers and professional experts on this subject available in the West...and we are sure the recent experience in the Los Angeles area will be a major topic of discussion.

The seminar registration is only \$55, and the program offering is unmatched. For more information you can still contact Karen Clements and the Coalition to Preserve Historic Long Beach (213/430-2790); but the seminar begins at 10:00 A.M., October 28 (Wednesday) and is to be held at Long Beach's Ramada Renaissance Hotel, 111 East Ocean Blvd., Long Beach. GET YOURSELF TO THIS SEMINAR!

Other Events : CCPH DOES MURPHYS

The California Committee for the Promotion of History will hold its 7th Annual Conference in Murphys, October 23 - 25, 1987. CCPH has designated this year's theme to be "History, Education and Advocacy". For more (admittedly last minute) information, contact: Judith Cunningham, Calaveras County Museum, Box 1281, San Andreas, California; registration fees are \$25 to \$40.

ORANGE COUNTY STARTS TO CELEBRATE

In anticipation of the centennial which begins in 1988, Orange County's Board of Supervisors is holding a dedication ceremony to celebrate the completion of the County Courthouse in Santa Ana...86 years to the day after the original Courthouse dedication. We have been asked to invite you all to the festivities on November 12, 1987, beginning with tours at 10:00 A.M. The "rededication" activities last until 4:00 P.M. and you are encouraged to join docents and others dressed in period costumes in real 1901 style entertainment.

MUCHO MUSIC IN OLD L.A.

Another program which could be partially copied in other communities is the "Chamber Music in Historic Sites" series, now in its eighth season in Los Angeles. Combining serious music - and every town has musicians - with visits to local historic buildings is a good idea and relatively simple to do.

The Da Camera Society of Mount Saint Mary's College initiated the very impressive Los Angeles version with the L.A. Conservancy as a cosponsor, beginning with a limited offering of performances. The 1987-1988 Season offers 42 events in 27 different sites throughout the metropolitan area. In addition, the musical spectrum has now stretched to include Zydeco, gospel singing and compositions for computer and piano.

The Chamber Music Series features 21 new sites, some private homes not open to the public. Single tickets can be purchased or you can select from five series possibilities. Performances began on September 27 (at Bullocks-Wilshire) but continue through May 15, 1988. For more information and a brochure, call the Da Camera Society at (213) 746-0450, extension 2211 or (213) 747-9085.

ANNUAL STATE PRESERVATION CONFERENCE -- MAY 19-22, 1988-- PALO ALTO (FULL DETAILS in NEXT ISSUE)



CALIFORNIA PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

C.P.F. Officers Named

The Foundation Board of Trustees met in Santa Barbara in mid-August for the "Organizational Meeting" held at the beginning of the new fiscal year. Reports centered on a very successful 1986-87 year - particularly with the Coronado Conference - and plans for this year. Another important item of business was the annual election of officers and we are pleased to present these results:

PRESIDENT - Wayne Donaldson of San Diego
 VICE-PRESIDENT - Rob Selway of Santa Ana
 SECRETARY - David Cameron of Santa Monica
 TREASURER - Christy McAvoy of Hollywood

The Foundation Executive Committee is made up of these four principal officers but includes:

GeeGee Platt - San Francisco - immediate past President
 Bill Delvac - Los Angeles - Legislative Committee Chairman, and
 Pamela Seager - Long Beach - Fundraising Committee Chairman

The obvious task set for next year's board elections is to correct the imbalance of board members from southern California; we will be looking for candidates beginning in January and interested parties should send resumes to Bill Sugaya, Chairman of the Nominating Committee.



Hard at work during the August Board of Trustees meeting are GeeGee Platt, our energetic President for the past two years, and newly-elected President Wayne Donaldson.

FY 1986-87 Financial Report

The Following Financial Report for the California Preservation Foundation was submitted by our Treasurer, Christy McAvoy, and is published for the general membership to review:

BALANCE SHEET - June 30, 1987

ASSETS: Cash	\$23,765
Total	\$23,765
LIABILITIES AND TOTAL FUND BALANCE:	
Endowment Trust	\$16,782
Accrued Liabilities	299
Fund Balance	6,684
Total	\$23,765

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1987

RECEIPTS:	
Membership	\$14,140
Contributions	17,885
Program and Others	14,025
Total Receipts	\$46,050

DISBURSEMENTS:	
Staff	\$33,088
Professional Fees	10,500
Other Operating Costs	12,887
Total Disbursements	\$56,475

NET: (\$10,425)

FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING \$17,109

FUND BALANCE - ENDING \$ 6,684

The Treasurer was quick to remind us - and you - that this report omits revenues expected from the Coronado Conference and not yet received.



The C.P.F. Board (briefly liberated from their meeting in Santa Barbara): Front Row (left to right)-Nadine Hata, Christy McAvoy, Linda Dishman, GeeGee Platt, Steve Spiller. Back Row -Rob Selway, Bill Ellinger, David Shelton, Bill Delvac, Wayne Donaldson, David Cameron, Jim Stickels and Warren Williams (peeking through). Bruce Judd and Bill Sugaya were unable to attend meeting.

Easement Workbook Still Available

The Easements Workbook offered in the July issue of California Preservation has proved to be very popular; and we have printed additional copies still selling for a more-than-reasonable \$30 - which covers handling and postage.

The Workbook is 152 pages of information on the complex subject of easements, and it is absolutely current - reflecting and commenting on recent IRS changes and rulings on easement donations. The results of our June workshops in Los Angeles and San Francisco, the Workbook material was amassed by Thomas Coughlin, the national expert on historic preservation easements, and is prefaced by a lengthy article providing background and interpretation for the material that follows.

For your copy of the Easements Workbook - while they last - send \$30 to the California Preservation Foundation, 41 Sutter, Suite 1593, San Francisco, CA 94104. You will be glad you did.

**NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE-
DECEMBER 31, 1987**

FERNBRIDGE (continued)

bridge was successfully nominated to the National Register at the State level of significance. And the National Trust's Western Regional Office provided further support.

On July 15, 1987, Caltrans held a public meeting in Ferndale to assess public sentiment for the project. Not surprisingly, those in attendance overwhelmingly favored retention and continued preservation of Fernbridge. On July 29 Congressman Bosco wrote to District Director Wrenn, calling on Caltrans to drop proposals for new bridges across the Eel River.

And on a Friday afternoon in mid-August, Caltrans announced that it is dropping all studies for new bridges to replace Fernbridge, or to widen the existing historic structure. No new studies will be conducted pending establishment of alternative design standards for historic bridges by the Transportation Research Board, as called for in the Federal Transportation Act of 1987. Since this is expected to take 2 to 4 years, Fernbridge has been granted a reprieve. Caltrans will only be performing short-term repair work to insure structural integrity of the bridge.

Among the factors cited by Caltrans in announcing cessation of project studies: overwhelming public sentiment in opposition; Federal efforts to develop alternative standards for historic bridges; and efforts by Assemblyman Dan Hauser to introduce legislation prohibiting Caltrans from proceeding with studies to replace Fernbridge until the new Federal standards are available.

But the people of Ferndale and of Humboldt County are really responsible for Fernbridge's preservation -- because they cared. (Note: preservationists statewide should write or phone their thanks to Congressman Bosco and Assemblyman Hauser, who obviously listen to their constituents).

MAIN STREET - Year One

The California Main Street Program, featured at our Coronado Conference, has issued a First Year Report on program accomplishments in six demonstration cities - Fort Bragg, Petaluma, Porterville, Santa Paula, Sonora and Vista. And, as Main Street Coordinator Patricia Noyes notes, the results have been exciting.

The economic impacts have been impressive with a net increase of 33 new businesses, 60 new jobs, \$2.5 million of private investment (spent on 24 facade improvements and 17 commercial building renovations), \$600,000 in public improvements and an additional \$1.2 million in private improvements currently underway.

Main Street sells itself on such strong "Economic Restructuring" data but the impact on people's attitudes is usually more important. Main Street towns start having fun again in the downtown as tired old promotions - been to a "moonlight sale" lately? - are replaced by new and innovative ideas. The Gold Country town of Sonora, for example, turned a problem - the excessive traffic on the main drag during the summer months - into the very successful "Jam Days", congesting town to the point where all you could do was get out of your car and shop.

As new communities are added to the program we can expect to see continuing economic impacts and new pride all over the state. We know the "Main Street Approach" works but we also must salute Pat Noyes and the program management in the State Department of Commerce; Good job!

Powell of Fresno

John Powell of Fresno has become the foremost architectural historian of the Central Valley. His NEA 'Design Advancement Grant' for 1987 - 88 only verifies recognition others gave him before this honor - and stipend came his way.

Powell has compiled biographical profiles on 60 pioneer architects in the San Joaquin and has indexed over 4,000 architectural drawings. The NEA grant will allow him time to prepare a book and exhibit on Valley architects working between 1874 and 1947, with the exhibit slated for showing in Fresno, and in southern and northern California.

When John Powell arrived in Fresno in 1977 - fresh out of Stanford - he struggled with the lack of awareness and appreciation the region demonstrated toward a rich legacy of buildings. Despite his frustrations, he established a reputation for finding and documenting treasures, for turning people's attitudes around. We look forward to the book and exhibit next year.

A Great Idea from Rochester

The Director of the California Preservation Foundation finally took a vacation this year, visiting historic properties all over the country and talking to others doing preservation in their towns across America - from Baltimore to Wrigley Field. One program which particularly impressed Merritt was the Rochester, New York, "Museum Bus" created by Henry McCartney, the former Neighborhood Conservation Director at the National Trust.

Henry's idea was fairly simple. With local underwriting by a bank and the cooperation of the transit district, Rochester's museums and historic properties were linked up by a one-hour bus tour...and it's free. Better yet, you can get off at any of the seven sites and stay as long as you want, joining the full tour again when the next bus arrives, repeating the route hourly.

The cultural institutions and historic houses - from the Rochester Museum and Science Center, Memorial Art Gallery and Rochester Historical Society to the George Eastman House - have seen an enormous gain in visitors. The buses also sell the program and the properties because each has been done up in colorful murals and decoration by school artists. And, finally, highly visible signage denotes the route and the bus stops all over town.

The beauty of the idea is its simplicity, and the obvious advantages to the participants. The properties benefit, the bank sponsors a great program (with terrific public relations value), the city bus systems starts looking more interesting, student artists are involved, and any other community could do something similar.

RED CAR BARN FOR SALE

Built in 1907 in the Mission Revival style of architecture, the Redlands Trolley Car Barn is the last remaining building of its kind from the entire Pacific Electric System that once spanned Southern California. But despite its historic value, the trolley barn is now threatened with demolition if it is not sold for development within the next several months.

The City of Redlands is involved in a rather unique situation -- a classic example of the predicament facing many cities today who want to preserve their historic buildings. The owner of the trolley barn needed to sell the property and found an interested buyer whose intent was to demolish the building. When the owner applied for a demolition permit, the City's historic and scenic preservation commission designated the trolley barn as a historic landmark, which temporarily delayed its demolition. This decision, however, placed a financial hardship on the owner and left him in a frustrating position. He found the building costly to renovate himself and did not know of a buyer interested in its restoration. And due to its value to the community, he felt pressured not to destroy the building as originally planned.

To spare the owner any further economic hardship and to alleviate the immediate threat of demolition, the City of Redlands took a big risk by voting to purchase the Trolley Car Barn for \$325,000. The City felt it might be of interest to a developer who could renovate the trolley barn and incorporate the trolley car theme into a uniquely designed business center, theme restaurant, shopping facility, museum-oriented building, or offices. The City Council agreed to purchase the building and land under the condition the Planning Department be given six months to market the barn. If a suitable buyer cannot be found, the City Council will be forced to consider demolition.



Redlanders Henry Fisher and son John capitalized on the "Redlands Central Railroad Co." in 1907 with stock worth \$1,000,000. Shortly after inception the Redlands Trolley Car System became part of Henry E. Huntington's complete Pacific Electric Railway System which ran cars throughout the Los Angeles Basin. It was one of the best intercity transportation systems in the United States in the early part of the century. The trolley system was an important factor in the physical growth and urban development patterns of the Redlands area and the entire Inland Empire. The Redlands trolley system continued operating until 1937.

While the trolley barn is a symbol of the glorious past, it also represents the transportation needs of the future. With the increasing traffic problems in the Los Angeles basin today, futurists predict we could revert back to the concept of mass transportation, similar to the trolley system.

The trolley barn structure itself is a large one-story brick building with a stucco facade and a curvilinear roof gable. The Mission Revival architectural style is evidenced in the two large arched entrances at front, which resemble mission arches and serve as a vivid reminder of the trolley cars' pathway. The arched doorways and picket-type gate make the barn even more esthetically unique.

The barn has 6,750 square feet with the potential of additional square footage in a second story mezzanine. Included in the City's purchase of the building was also a 10,125 sq.ft. parking lot.

The location of the trolley barn is ideal, as City Historic Preservation Officer Darrell Cozen stated, "The trolley barn stands proudly in an excellent Redlands location just seven blocks from the center of downtown, one block from the high school and is visible from Redlands Boulevard, the most highly trafficked street in the City."

Redlands Mayor Carole Beswick, a local preservationist, expressed her concern about the trolley barn when she said, "The City of Redlands extends an emotional appeal to historic preservationists and developers to save the legacy of the trolley system for future generations to appreciate."

For additional information about the Redlands Trolley Barn, please contact Darrell Cozen, City of Redlands Community Development Department, (714) 798-7555 or Redlands Mayor Carole Beswick, (714) 798-7510.

(This article is an edited version based on a fine marketing piece prepared by Jane Kruse, City of Redlands, to promote the Trolley Barn)

YOU TOO CAN BE FAMOUS

You will note, each issue, that a list of contributors is shown in a outlined box, as at the bottom of this column. California Preservation has had hundreds of contributors over the years and asks that you join the list. Deadlines are regular...and are noted in these pages. Material submitted should be typed, double-spaced, and is subject to edit - but usually only for space. Black and white, glossy photos illustrating stories are always very welcome.

Send stories, items or articles to: Editor, California Preservation, 41 Sutter, Suite 1593, San Francisco, California 94104.

This issue of California Preservation was brought to you by John Merritt, with the assistance of Dick Price. Contributors are Donna Blitzer, Chris Brewer, David Cameron, Darrell Cozen, Christy McAvoy, Ephraim Smith, John Snyder and Sandy Wood.

Publications

REHAB RIGHT is back, revised and updated. Subtitled "How to Realize the Full Value of Your Old House", the message is even stronger now - eight years after publication of the original book - that the proper use of methods and materials makes a vintage house more desirable, attractive and worth more than the same house bungled by uninformed rehabbers. Resale values are now obvious proof, but this book also provides good advice for rehabbers.

REHAB RIGHT, by Helaine Kaplan Prentice and Blair Prentice, was originally published by the City of Oakland...and thousands of copies were distributed to Oakland residents. This new edition- by Berkeley's Ten Speed Press - sells for \$9.95 and should be widely available in bookstores.

For years we have advised people to read this book carefully before they touch their old house. Chapters on styles set the tone for well-illustrated how-to sections on inspecting before buying, foundation work, stair repair, floors, walls, etc. Information on state, federal and local codes, financial or technical assistance and on how to go through the permit process are current to 1987. While there have been many imitators since REHAB RIGHT appeared in 1978, this book is still the one to get if you are planning to do any restoration or advise those who do.



An unacceptable alternative for the Single Story Italianate would have been to remove the stately narrow window and replace it with a boxy picture window.

ETHNIC SURVEY

Several years ago the Office of Historic Preservation sponsored an ethnic minority cultural resources survey to identify and record historically and culturally significant properties associated with Afro American, Hispanic, Chinese American, Japanese American and Native Americans in California. The survey resulted in a short history of each ethnic group and the identification of 100 sites that are examples of the various ethnic/historic properties that are important to each group.

OHP has prepared for publication the narrative history and 25 exemplary sites from each group. The survey report will provide a context for the identification and evaluation of additional important ethnic properties in the future. Beyond that, it should be interesting reading for anyone interested in the history of California.

The book will be available for purchase from the Publication Section of the Department of Parks and Recreation at P.O. Box 942896, Sacramento, CA 94296-0001, or by calling (916) 322-7000. The cost of the publication will be about \$6.00. Please watch for its release.

PRESERVATION HAS HISTORY

The State Office is also publishing The Evolution of Historic Preservation in California, 1940 - 1976, by Nadine Hata, former Historical Resources Commission Chair and current CPF Board member. While historic preservation in the state goes back into the nineteenth century, Nadine is most interested in the development and changes in public policy, as evidenced in governmental programs.

She follows Sacramento attempts to mirror the growing federal program within California's State Division of Beaches and Parks and, then, Department of Parks & Recreation. Local moves to enact ordinances and protection are followed and, not unsurprisingly, the tempo increases after passage of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, witnessing the growth of a much expanded, much more sophisticated preservation community. What might interest many of you is Nadine's many interviews with people you know, individuals still active in California.

The book is available from the Publications Section of the Department of Parks & Recreation, P. O. Box 942896, Sacramento, CA 94296-0838, and the pre-publication price was \$17.95, plus tax.

TOURISM REPORT

The National Trust Western Regional Office has released a report, "Tourism and Historic Preservation in The West", which is a preliminary step in establishing an expanded program effort in this fertile topical field. Taken with the 1984 Heritage Task Force Report on the economics of heritage properties related to tourist spending patterns, California preservationists should start making the case with the State Department of Tourism... one of the Heritage Task Force priorities.

The National Trust report is interesting in its comparisons of the various western states' budgets for the promotion of tourism. While California ranks high, reading between the lines, no money is spent specifically promoting historic resources. Several western states - Washington and Oregon immediately come to mind - have created historic and cultural resource supplements to the usual state tourism publications, and have done so at little cost. The report also covers some interesting western 'case studies' where communities have moved to capitalize on historic resources to diversify the economic base through increased tourism.

Copies of the report are available through the Trust Western Regional Office, #1 Sutter, Suite 707, San Francisco, CA 94104.

BAKERSFIELD and KERN PICTURE ALBUM, by Don Pipkin and Chris Brewer, is just that, photos of a Central Valley town taken before 1930, a town nearly forgotten now that Bakersfield is so large. The Album has no text but the pictures of buildings, interiors, people proud of their town, people at play or celebrating old celebrations, is very lucid and evocative... and the book should be provocative, spurring people to preserve what remains from this time. The Album is available from Redford Gallery, 2836 Niles Street, Bakersfield, CA 93306 (805/871-9361); no price is listed.

REDDING RECORDS MAJOR SUCCESS

Redding's Old City Hall, a two-story brick building complete with a mansard-roofed wood cupola, was built in 1907 (Matt W. Herron,



Architect). The building is part of the America's City Hall Exhibit in the Library of Congress and, as of 1978, has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places; it is Redding's fourth oldest brick building.

This 6000 square foot Simplified Romanesque Revival building served as a wedding chapel, courthouse, jail, air-raid shelter, city council chambers, police department, and at one time it housed all of the city government.

In 1977 the city decided to save and restore its then-vacant old government headquarters and began a feasibility study. In 1980 the City Council contracted with Gary F. Wirth AIA and Associates/Architects, Inc., of Woodland to prepare plans for several potential uses. Six years later the Shasta County Arts Council was selected to occupy and manage the building as a performing and fine arts center.

Coinciding with the beginning of Redding's 1986 Centennial of Incorporation Celebration, the exterior was restored to its 1907 appearance, and the interior was structurally updated and renovated. In March, 1987 the Old City Hall opened as an exhibition gallery, small theatre with light and sound systems, kitchen (complete with one of two original steel jail cells!), and SCAC's office. The cost of the renovation was \$611,000 broken down: state-\$227,000, city-\$237,000, private donations-\$106,000, and community block grant -\$41,000.

The original cupola was removed in the 1920s due to structural problems. In 1986 the Leah and Carl McConnell Foundation donated \$45,000 to the city to help with construction costs with the stipulation that the cupola be rebuilt. Vernon Stainbrook's carpentry class at Shasta College built the 21-foot tall wood, sheet metal, and wrought iron bell tower based on plans and elevations reconstructed from early photographs. On April 7, 1987, after a short ceremony, the cupola was raised to the roof of Old City Hall by crane. The cupola's original solid bronze bell was installed, and soon the bell will be rung by an electronic striker. The national flag flies from the 18-foot flagpole atop the cupola.

Jim King, project manager for the City of Redding, stated, "This is the community's first effort to carry out a bona-fide restoration project. Even though it took ten years to complete, the time frame allowed hundreds of people to join in the fund-raising. The building will provide long-term financial support because the community has been brought into the project." One of the fund-raising brochures aptly describes this important preservation project, "In restoring Redding's Old City Hall we not only preserve a window to the drama of the past, but we enable the building to continue its history of service to the people."

Anniversary 25 in Los Angeles

On August 6, 1987, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Cultural Heritage Board (now known as the Cultural Heritage Commission) of the City of Los Angeles was celebrated at festivities at City Hall. This was one of the first local-government agencies in California to be established with power to designate and afford legal protection to historic and architectural landmarks. The Board's first meeting had been on August 6, 1962, and the first Historic-Cultural Monument, the Leonis Adobe, was designated that day, just as bulldozers were about to demolish it. A stop work order went out that afternoon and the landmark was saved.

At the 1987 ceremonies, Mayor Tom Bradley, flanked by City Councilmembers John Ferraro (Council President) and Joel Wachs (Chair of the Council's Recreation, Library and Cultural Affairs Committee), presented a proclamation to Commission President, Dr. A.S. Marwah, honoring the Commission's work, and to the L.A. AIA for initiating the Commission. L.A. Conservancy President, Howard Heitner, also presented a certificate to the Commission.

Mayor Bradley gave three Certificates of Appreciation to private citizens; two of these went to California Preservation Foundation Board members who had represented local preservation organizations before the Commission: David Cameron of The Los Angeles Conservancy and Christy McAvoy of Hollywood Heritage for, "advice to and support of the Cultural Heritage Commission, and for (their) role(s) as guardian(s) of Historic-Cultural Monuments in the City of Los Angeles."

The third Mayor's Certificate went to Raymond Girvigian, FAIA, who had spearheaded the 1962 AIA effort to establish the Board. The ceremonies were in the same week as the opening of a major exhibit in City Hall's Bridge Gallery, featuring the work of architectural photographers Julius Shulman and Bruce Bohner, AIA, in documenting Historic Cultural Monuments designated throughout the City by the Board and Commission. Published at the same time was a handsome booklet, illustrated by some of the photographs in the exhibit, describing each of the 321 Monuments designated as of the date of publication (some no longer extant) and the story of the Board's founding and the current Commission's scope of activities. Single copies of this booklet, "Historic-Cultural Monuments", are available while supplies last, by written request to: Cultural Heritage Commission, Room 1500 City Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90012.



**CALIFORNIA PRESERVATION
FOUNDATION**

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Steve Taber (San Francisco)	415/777-3200
Counsel: Hanson, Bridgett, Marcus	

The California Preservation Foundation exists to help you improve preservation awareness and activity in your town. If you think we can help, don't hesitate to call your nearest Board member or call 415/527-7808.

The California Preservation Foundation began as a grassroots organization in 1975 - as Californians for Preservation Action. We still see our strength in the local community and board members come from active local programs. Without governmental funding, the Foundation relies upon you - local preservationists - for information, identification of issues, suggestions about how we can help you...and for most of our financial support. PLEASE HELP US CONTINUE WITH OUR CRITICAL TASK AS WE WORK TO IMPROVE THE CLIMATE FOR PRESERVATION IN CALIFORNIA.

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