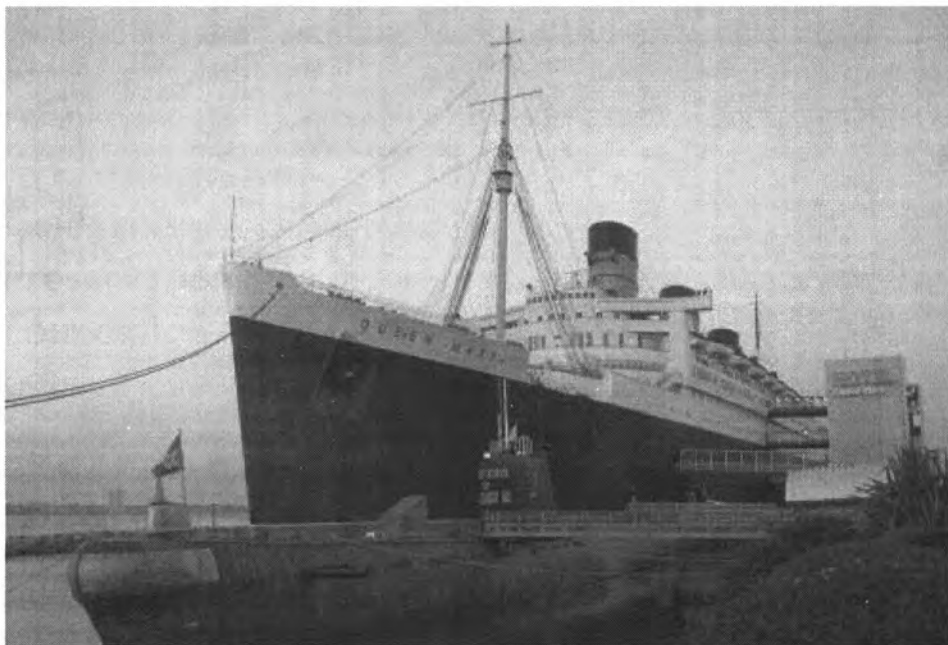


California  
Preservation  
Foundation

# Newsletter

Summer 2008

The Queen Mary in Long Beach, location of the CPF Preservation Design Awards ceremony in October.



## CPF's Preservation Design Awards Winners Announced!

By Cathy Garrett, ASLA, LEED AP and Cindy L. Heitzman

In 2008, our Preservation Design Awards program celebrates 25 years of recognizing California's finest preservation work. Since 2005, we have sought entries that exemplify sustainability in a preservation context, but to date this category has not been swamped with applications. The question is: Why not? To paraphrase Richard Moe, President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in his Vincent Scully Prize address, what could be greener than reusing a building? Moe says "historic preservation can—and must be—a key component of any effort to promote sustainable development." It turns out that not much in the world of development is greener than a preservation project. Still evolving is the perception that the fields of "sustainability" and "preservation" are separate. Why not see them as one thing? This year we have emphasized the invitation to submit projects that integrate sustainability. Please join us at the Awards ceremony this fall to see the result.

We are pleased to welcome the new Jury Chair John Fidler, an internationally experienced preservation architect and materials expert. The 2008 jury is:

**John Fidler, RIBA IHBC:** Jury Chair and Staff Consultant in Preservation Technology, Building Technology Group, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger  
**Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA:** State Historic Preservation Officer

**John King:** Urban Design Writer for the *San Francisco Chronicle*

**Brenda Levin, FAIA:** Architect, Levin and Associates Architects  
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### **Mission Statement:**

*The California Preservation Foundation provides statewide leadership, advocacy and education to ensure the protection of California's diverse cultural heritage and historic places.*

## **Save-the-Date for the 34th Annual California Preservation Conference!**

**The Culture of Leisure—  
Rethinking the California Dream  
April 16–19, 2009—Palm Springs**

The California Preservation Foundation invites you to join us for the most significant preservation event of 2009! Don't miss this opportunity to learn, network, and have fun! Educational Workshops and Sessions will focus on topics such as modernism, sustainability, advocacy, archaeology, preservation fundamentals and of course Palm Springs and the Coachella Valley. Exclusive Tours and Special Events will take place at some of the region's most notable historic sites such as the Abernathy House, Smoke Tree Ranch, O'Donnell Golf Course, the Anenberg Theater and the "Ship of the Desert." The Conference will also feature activities such

as the annual Silent and Live Auctions, Exhibit Hall and Bookstore.

Conference headquarters are at the Hilton Palm Springs. Rooms are available now at a special rate of \$159 + tax (based on single or double occupancy, per room, per night and a two (2) night minimum) for attendees. To reserve, call (800) 522-6900 and reference the California Preservation Foundation room block.

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## Message from the Executive Director

By Cindy L. Heitzman

I am writing this on my flight home from Palm Springs, looking at the remains of a beautiful sunset. This is one of my monthly visits to the desert to plan the 2009 California Preservation Conference (with an extraordinary local committee!). After a brief respite from the very successful Napa Conference, we are once again in full planning mode: the Preservation Design Awards in October, four workshops this summer and an incredible array of events and venues for the 2009 California Preservation Conference, "The Culture of Leisure: Rethinking the California Dream" in Palm Springs. And next week we commence the 2010 Conference planning!

One of the many extraordinary opportunities that membership and involvement with CPF presents is the chance to visit and learn about communities and their resources. Through our collaboration with local preservation organizations we are able to visit private, exclusive sites and share this with our members at the conference and special "members only" events. This year's conference was no exception. Attendees and volunteers at the Napa conference were able to visit private wineries—future landmarks such as Dominus,

Quintessa and Quixote and share the owner's experiences. Trips to tax credit projects in the Napa Valley provided a first-hand owners' view of the rehabilitation of historic buildings and the process of acquiring the tax credits. The "3-Minute Success Stories" in the Barrel Room at the Culinary Institute of America was a real hit, though some would argue that the amazing dessert spread was the real star!

The Sustainability session was standing room only and once again demonstrated that the "greenest building is one that already exists". Likewise, land conservation and historic preservation movements share similar values and are integrally linked as we heard in the conference session on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the creation of the Napa Valley Agricultural Preserve. With each conference and workshop, our membership and influence grows, we advance our mission, and learn about the diverse issues across California. This is not an accident. These are part of our mission and strategic plan.

The numbers show our growth: over 10% growth in our membership and budget. We are poised to continue our growth and fulfill our strategic plan and now shift our sights to

renewed focus on advocacy and development. Our activities are as diverse as California's culture. For example, we successfully nominated Hangar One in Moffett Field to the National Trust's "11 Most Endangered Historic Places" and are working with the City of Chowchilla to help them plan the rehabilitation of the last Mammoth Orange juice stands along Highway 99 in the Central Valley.

All of our programs are highly dependent on the contributions of volunteers. CPF Committees are chaired by board members, but are made up of CPF members from around the state. As a CPF member, you are encouraged and welcomed to join a committee and help shape our programs. At the July Board meeting, CPF will review its committees and propose committee appointments. Interested in joining a committee? Visit our website at [www.californiapreservation.org](http://www.californiapreservation.org) and access the online committee application. We invite our members to join a committee and to help us shape California preservation in the years to come.

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## The 33rd Annual California Preservation Conference was a Huge Success

Hundreds of preservationists came from around the state to experience the rich character and history of the Napa Valley during the 2008 California Preservation Conference, held from April 23rd to April 26th. Participants attended over 50 Educational Workshops, Sessions, Study Tours and Special Events that focused on the Conference theme: Balance and Complexity: The Vineyard and Beyond. All activities emphasized the unique culture and heritage of Napa and the surround areas, as well as best practices in preservation.

Highlights included Tours to gravity flow wineries designed by architect Hamden McIntyre, future landmarks of the Napa Valley and a historic resort (Aetna Springs). The Educational Sessions and Mobile Workshop topics fell within the following five Educational Tracks: Preservation Fundamentals and Demystifying the OHP; Conserving "Vintage" Materials; Preservation Practice and the Process of Change; Imprints on the Land; and The Napa Valley—Improving with Age. "Green" was another theme that ran through the Conference with Workshops on sustainability and historic preservation, windows and energy efficiency and a Tour of wineries with sustainable architecture and agriculture.

The signature Special Event of the Conference, the Annual Three-Minute Success Stories, was held at the stunning old Greystone Cellars (now the Culinary Institute of America) in the spectacular Barrel Room and Vintner's Hall of Fame. Other social events were held at COPIA: The American Center for Wine Food and the Arts, the historic Napa Mill and Spottswoode Estate. The Plenary Session, featuring keynote

speakers James Conaway (author and former editor at large for *Preservation Magazine*) and Reno Franklin (Cultural Resource Director of the Kashia Pomo Tribe), was held at the Napa Valley Opera House.

CPF would like to thank the outstanding volunteers that spent endless hours planning, executing and working the Conference. In particular, the Conference would not have come together without the extraordinary efforts of Conference Co-Chairs Carol Poole, AICP (City of St. Helena) and Cynthia Ripley, AIA (City of American Canyon), Programs Committee Co-Chairs Mary Hardy (architectural conservator) and Rich Sucre (Page & Turnbull, Inc.), and Conference Board Liaison Steade Craig, FAIA (OHP). In addition, the Conference Steering Committee members and Subcommittee Chairs, representing the Partnering Organizations, went above and beyond in their effort to make the Conference a success. And—it must be noted—that without the generous support of the financial and in-kind sponsors, the Conference would not be possible at all.

Conference Partners: California State Parks—Office of Historic Preservation; Napa County Landmarks, Inc.; City of Napa; City of St. Helena; Land Trust of Napa County; Napa County Department of Conservation, Development & Planning; Napa County Regional Parks and Open Space District; Napa Downtown Association; Napa County Historical Society; Napa Valley Conference & Visitors Bureau; Napa Valley Museum; Napa Valley Vintners; Sharpsteen Museum; Suscol Inter-Tribal Council; The Garden Conservancy; and Town of Yountville.

The 2008 Conference would not be possible without the support of sponsors. CPF would like to thank the following sponsoring companies and organizations for their generosity:

**Cornerstone:** Andrews & Thornley Construction, Inc. and California State Parks—Office of Historic Preservation. **Capital:** Reyman Brothers Construction and The Rudd Foundation.

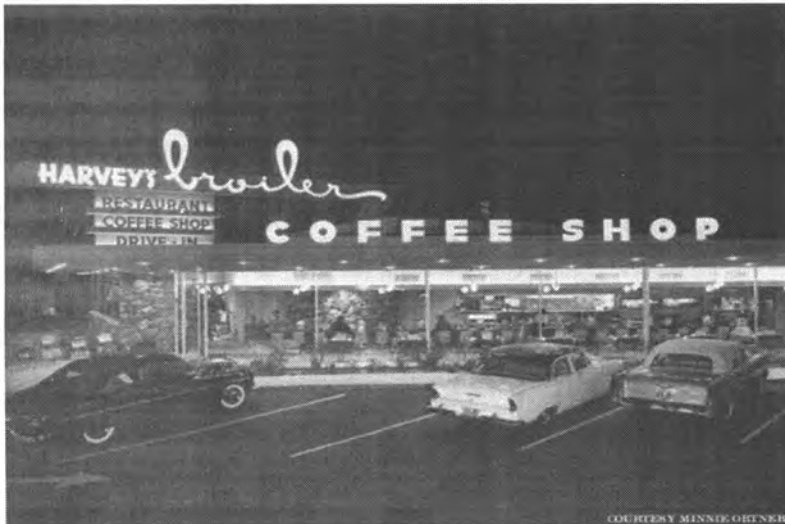
**Pillar:** Architectural Resources Group, Inc.; Blach Construction Company; Carey & Co., Inc.; Cody Anderson Wasney Architects, Inc.; IS Architecture; Ledcor Group; Page & Turnbull, Inc.; Plath & Co. General Contractors; Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Inc.; and Spectra Company.

**Supporting:** Brandt-Hawley Law Group; Historic Resources Group; Jerri Holan & Associates, AIA; Kelly Sutherland McLeod Architecture, Inc.; Kirk E. Peterson & Associates Architects; Leddy Maytum Stacy Architects; Matrix IMA; McCandless & Associates Architects, Inc.; Morley Builders; Napa County Landmarks; Napa River Inn; PCR Services Corporation; Structural Focus; Wiss Janney Elstner Associates, Inc.; and ZCON Builders.

**In-Kind Donors:** Beringer Vineyards; Cakebread Cellars; Casa Nuestra Winery; COPIA; Heitz Cellars; Napa County Landmarks; Spottswoode Estate Vineyard & Winery; St. Supéry; and Whitford Cellars.

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## The Resurrection of a Roadside Icon



By Mike Buhler, Esq.

In a miraculous turnabout, Johnie's Broiler in Downey will be restored and rebuilt as a Bob's Big Boy restaurant—a year and a half after its illegal demolition. After months of negotiations, Bob's Big Boy franchisee Jim Louder signed a long-term lease for the site in April, with plans to reclaim the iconic Googie landmark from the twisted pile of debris left in the wake of its destruction. The franchise plans to restore the Broiler's signature sign and salvage other parts of the partially demolished building, and will even offer carhop service once again. The goal is to replicate the success of other revived drive-ins from this era, most notably Bob's Big Boy in Toluca Lake, formerly threatened with demolition and now the highest-grossing store in the entire chain.

CPF has been regularly chronicling the saga of Johnie's Broiler since its partial demolition, having pledged funds towards a design charrette to develop reconstruction alternatives and, most recently, honoring the Coalition to Rebuild the Broiler with a President's Award at the California Preservation Conference in Napa.

Designed by Paul B. Clayton, Johnie's Broiler opened in 1958 as Harvey's Broiler. It was a great example of the Googie style that lent itself so well to the design of restaurants, with a lighted boomerang-shaped drive-in canopy that could accommodate one hundred cars and flamboyant signage visible to drivers traveling along Firestone Boulevard. In 1968, the original owners, Harvey and Minnie Ortner, retired and sold the restaurant to Christos (nicknamed "Johnie") Smyrniotis, who was the chef and a good friend of the Ortners. By the time Smyrniotis changed the name to "Johnie's", the site had already become a popular weekend cruising destination for thousands and had been written about by author Tom Wolfe in his short story, "The Hair Boys." Once considered the best remaining example of 1950s Googie coffee shop architecture, Johnie's appears on the cover of Alan Hess' 2004 book, *Googie Redux*, and has served as a backdrop for countless movies, commercials and music videos. The

diner closed on New Year's Eve 2001 and was leased as a used car lot.

On January 7, 2007, Johnie's Broiler was substantially and wantonly demolished. Working without permits, the wrecking crew started bulldozing on a Sunday afternoon without fencing off the property, disconnecting the electricity, or completing asbestos abatement. Only portions of the restaurant's front façade and entry, and its distinctive signage, including the famous "Fat Boy" mascot, remain. After pleading no contest to three misdemeanor charges in October 2007, property lessee Ardas Yanik was sentenced to three years' probation, a \$2,500 fine, reimbursement of \$4,600 to the City of Downey, and fifteen days of community service.

The Broiler's resurrection is the culmination of years of grassroots advocacy, originating long before the illegal demolition. The Conservancy's Modern Committee was an early leader, helping to establish the Friends of Johnie's in 2002 and spearheading efforts to qualify the building for the California Register of Historic Resources. Although Johnie's was determined eligible for listing by the State Historical Resources Commission, the owner declined to do the work necessary to list the Broiler formally as a historic resource.

In the wake of its destruction, the Friends of Johnie's re-grouped as the Coalition to Rebuild the Broiler, forming a strong alliance of preservationists, vintage car enthusiasts, local residents, and students. Over the past year, organizers coordinated "ghost cruises" leading vintage car enthusiasts into Downey for firsthand looks at the demolition site. The Coalition's "Save Harvey's Broiler" t-shirts sold out, and event-goers were invited to view a premiere screening of a new documentary on the Broiler.

In a welcome change from past preservation efforts, the Coalition and the Los Angeles Conservancy are actively collaborating with Louder, preservation consultant Chattel Architecture, and the City of Downey to help ensure that the project not only preserves what remains of the building but is faithful to the original design, with schematic drawings for the new restaurant based on the original blueprints.

*Awards, continued from page 1*

**Janice Lyle, Ph.D.:** Architectural Historian, Annenberg Foundation

**Robert Sabbatini, ASLA:** Landscape Architect  
**Will Cannell:** Marketing Manager, Swinerton Builders

The Preservation Design Awards jury reviewed 43 strong, highly competitive nominations and selected 19 projects to receive these prestigious awards. The jury recognizes excellence in preservation, and projects must comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards or appropriate standards for archeology, interpretation of sites and related types of activities. Applicants must demonstrate creative and exemplary solutions to the preservation and interpretation of California's historic and pre-historic resources. The 2008 winners are:

- Antlers Hotel Rehabilitation, Lemoore
- Architecture, Ethnicity and Historic Landscapes of California's San Joaquin Valley
- Balboa Theatre Restoration, San Diego
- Cavallo Point, The Lodge at Golden Gate, Sausalito
- City of Pasadena Context Report: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past
- Ennis House Stabilization & Restoration Project, Los Angeles
- Grand Theatre Center for the Arts, Tracy
- Historic Resources Study for Muir Woods National Monument
- Pasadena City Hall Seismic Upgrade & Rehabilitation, Pasadena
- Sacramento Historic City Cemetery Master Plan
- San Timoteo Canyon Schoolhouse Restoration
- Space Shuttle Assessment, Moffett Field
- Stanford Arizona Garden, Stanford University
- Survey LA Video
- The Huntington Art Gallery Rehabilitation, San Marino
- The MacGowan Residence, Los Angeles
- The Olympic Club—City Clubhouse, San Francisco
- Villa Riviera, Long Beach
- Washington Township Veterans' Memorial Building, Fremont

Please join us in Long Beach as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Preservation Design Awards at the Villa Riviera, Friday, October 17th and at the presentation of the Preservation Design Awards aboard the wonderfully historic time machine, The Queen Mary, Saturday, October 18th.

Past venues include The Fairmont Hotel and the Westin St. Francis in San Francisco, the mid-century modern Beverly Hilton and the Getty Center in Los Angeles, Stanford University's Cantor Art Museum in Palo Alto, the Aerospace Museum in San Diego and the Egyptian Theater in Hollywood.

The celebratory party attracts hundreds of preservationists ranging from architects, landscape architects, engineers, builders and developers to politicians and public agency staff from state to local levels, to historians, archaeologists, project funders, grass roots preservationists and a plethora of those interested in the state of our built and cultural environments.

For more information, visit the CPF website, [www.californiapreservation.org/events](http://www.californiapreservation.org/events). See you in October!

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# Ten Questions: CPF Interviews Gee Gee Bland Platt



By Cindy Heitzman and Steade Craigo, FAIA

Gee Gee Platt has remained in the forefront of preservation issues in San Francisco and statewide. Characterized as both the “Mother Superior and the Che Guevara of preservation in San Francisco,”

this petite, soft-spoken woman is a force to be reckoned with.

Her business, G. Bland Platt Associates—Historic Preservation Consultants, consults on architecturally and historically significant properties. Mrs. Platt was appointed to San Francisco’s Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board when it was created in 1967 and served until 1980. During that time she served on the Board’s Architectural Review Committee, which determines the appropriateness of proposed changes to historical buildings, and on its Redevelopment Committee. A member of the Board of Trustees from 1983 to 1993, she served two terms as president of California Preservation Foundation and retired from the Board of San Francisco Architectural Heritage after 25 years of service.

Gee Gee has worked tirelessly and largely behind the scenes for decades to preserve San Francisco’s architectural heritage. She authored the Ghirardelli Square National Register Nomination, worked to save San Francisco’s historic mansions, such as the Sherman House, the Spreckels mansion, and Lilienthal-Orville Platt Residences, as well as numerous commercial buildings. Recently she spearheaded efforts to save historic portions of the old Emporium Building on Market, while demanding that the City Planning Code be upheld there and in future work on historic buildings. When unplanned demolition occurred several years later, she joined San Franciscans for Preservation Planning in suing the city and the developers.

In describing the treatment of the historic Emporium Building, which resulted in a \$2.5 million settlement against the developer, she said, “It’s nice the façade has been restored, but everything behind it is fake. You don’t keep one wall, and a dome you move somewhere else, and call it ‘preservation.’”

Hats off to you Gee Gee, you’re one of a kind!

## 1. Where did you live before making your home in San Francisco? Were you involved in historic preservation prior to coming to California?

I grew up in St. Louis, Missouri, married and moved to New Haven, Connecticut while my husband went to law school. At the end of law school, we decided to move to San Francisco. I didn’t have any historic preservation experience before we moved here.

## 2. Was there a pivotal event that caused you to become active in historic preservation?

I became involved and interested in historic preservation through the Junior League of San Francisco.

The Northern California Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians was interested in an architectural survey of San Francisco. They knew the Junior League required volunteer work of its many members and volunteered to train, supervise and advise those interested in participating in the survey. I volunteered, thinking it would help me find my way around San Francisco.

The survey began in 1963. I was given the chairmanship of Russian Hill, Nob Hill, Telegraph Hill and the surrounding waterfront. Twelve other volunteers worked with me, which was good because almost every building in this dense area required recordation. The survey was published in 1968 by Chronicle Books and entitled *Here Today—San Francisco’s Architectural Heritage*.

## 3. Why did you decide to stay active in San Francisco and make a career of historic preservation with your consulting firm, G. Bland Platt Associates?

As the survey was going on, a new mayor was elected who felt San Francisco should have an historic preservation ordinance (John Shelley, 1964). Ronald Pelosi, who later became a member and then President of the Board of Supervisors, was appointed chair of the Planning Commission and charged with creating a preservation ordinance, which also created the first landmarks board. The Junior League’s support was required to create the climate for the ordinance, which was adopted in 1966, before the survey was published. It came as a great shock that I was asked to serve on the original Landmarks Board. I was very young and too new to SF. I served for 13 years, with the last 7 years as chair.

A majority of us were fired by Mayor Dianne Feinstein in 1980, on Friday the 13th of June. The community was angered, so initially no one would agree to serve on the Landmarks Board. Also, there was no staff. By 1980, I was working in the development office of Cathedral School for Boys; I also had served as the volunteer staff for the Landmarks Board. After we were fired, Bruce Judd had a dinner party at his house to encourage me to start my own consulting business, and to insist on an appropriate hourly rate. One friend designed my stationery and set up my books. I soon had my first client and my business was off and running. I ran my business from 1980 until 2002. I now help people who need guidance, but I don’t accept clients because I can’t now be on someone else’s schedule. But I loved working with clients and doing research, and I enjoyed having my own business.

## 4. You have been very active in historic preservation efforts in San Francisco and statewide with the California Preservation Foundation. What do you see as the two or three top challenges confronting historic preservation efforts at both the local and state levels in California?

1) Insufficient funding; 2) lack of political support, and 3) CEQA compliance. Some thoughts about CEQA. I think communities throughout the state too often apply CEQA the way they want to, not the way they should. When it is applied correctly, CEQA is one of the most successful and effective tools available to protect historic resources. I wish OHP had the funding and the staff to review all the CEQA cases sent to them by the State Clearinghouse.

## 5. You have been actively involved with CPF, SF Architectural Heritage, and the SF Landmarks Board. Has this left time for other community involvement? If so, what other community organizations have you or do you actively support and why?

Over time, I’ve been actively involved with the California Historical Society, Preservation Action, the Western Chapter of APT, and presently, I’m a supporter of San Franciscans for Preservation Planning. I have served on a number of City task forces, including the Mission Armory as an evaluator for the Planning Department’s 1976 architectural inventory; and as an advisor to the Port of San Francisco in the review of the National Register nomination of the San Francisco Waterfront Historic District and its various drafts; and the Parapet Task Force (city’s initial response to the UMB ordinance). At present, I served on the Historic Preservation Fund Committee, established to evaluate proposals for funding from the Emporium settlement. I also serve on the City Hall Preservation Advisory Commission as the designated historic preservation professional.

## 6. You have been affectionately characterized as both the “Mother Superior and the Che Guevara of preservation in San Francisco.” How would you describe your long involvement in historic preservation in the city?

That 2005 quote must be attributed to Bruce Bonacker. I would describe myself as an educator and an activist. I feel that most of preservation is education. However, one must be able to take a stand and defend what one believes in, no matter the consequences.

## 7. Based upon your experience and your preservation debates and lawsuits, what advice do you have for up-and-coming community preservation and heritage activists?

First, show up. Community activists must organize to ensure someone attends all relevant commission meetings. Do your homework. Understand the laws and know them as well if not better than the government officials and staff who use them daily. You must educate public officials about preservation. And when all else fails, don’t be afraid to sue. Having a strong, central voice provided by an organization makes one better heard.

## 8. Relevance of historic preservation and cultural heritage to the younger generations of California and San Francisco appears to be a major challenge for today’s preservation community. What are your feelings about this matter? Any suggestions to reach the younger generations?

We need to consider outreach at the local level. There are a number of different kinds of organizations that are always looking for monthly speakers. We could reach younger people through these. Lectures and workshops are also effective.

On the whole, everyone, but especially young people, work long hours, leaving so little personal time that a volunteer commitment is not appealing. An affect of this can be that we see fewer volunteers in our non-profits. At San Francisco Architectural Heritage, we were always looking for younger people to serve on the Board because, there is a financial commitment that goes with Board involvement, and many young people cannot afford it.

A notable example of successful outreach was a group of San Franciscans that were concerned about development of Golden Gate Park's Music Concourse. They attended street fairs and other events city wide, setting up a table with petitions and information about the proposed projects. They reached hundreds of people who volunteered to help. They also developed e-mail trees with updates and notices of meetings. People of all ages wrote letters, called decision makers, and/or attended public meetings. It sure takes a lot of hard work!

#### 9. *What thoughts or suggestions do you have to improve and to strengthen historic preservation in California?*

Clearly more funding is necessary. I applaud the State Office and its constituencies for consistently inserting preservation funding and projects in state bond measures. This has resulted in the long term restoration or rehabilitation of numerous properties state-wide where adequate funding from other sources was not available. It concerns me that so many long-term staff members at the State office are retiring. What a loss of institutional memory! I am thrilled that we have a SHPO!! Having interested, knowledgeable and highly qualified State Historic Resource Commissioners is terribly important.

Because the Federal Tax Relief program for historic preservation works so well, I have never felt similar state programs were essential. And with the State's continuing budget crisis, I don't see the likelihood of this in my life time. Additional funding for OHP is more important to me.

#### 10. *For many years, there has been a rumor that you have a "preservation kitchen cabinet", which meets at your house every week or so to discuss over drinks the latest preservation issue or issues in San Francisco. If there is any truth to the rumor, is this how you have kept on top of the historic preservation issues in a city that always seems to have an issue or two?*

It actually did happen, but it hasn't happened for several years. It began when Willie Brown was Mayor. He totally destroyed City government and the democratic process. We could have been in court every day of the week, if we could have afforded it, when he was Mayor. During this period, we needed a quiet place where people could exchange informa-

tion confidentially and decide how we could individually and collectively solve problems. We haven't needed it recently.

In 2000, the citizens elected a new and progressive Board of Supervisors sensitive to government process. Subsequently, the citizens of San Francisco voted for change in appointment to certain land use commissions. In these instances, the mayor appoints a simple majority of commissioners while the President of the Board of Supervisors appoints a minority of the members. Anyone recommended for appointment must be approved by the full Board of Supervisors. These changes have provided greater balance in local government and have generally resulted in more qualified candidates for these important commissions.

The reason preservation has fared well in San Francisco the last 8 years is that we have Supervisors who understand and support historic preservation, especially Board President Aaron Peskin. He understands historic preservation law and CEQA and has supported a wide variety of preservation activities on our behalf. It is frightening to think about what may happen next January when a majority of the Board of Supervisors will be termed out or seats will otherwise be in play.

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## State Historical Resources Commission Honors CPF

By Paige J. Swartley, Esq.

At the annual California Preservation Conference, the California Preservation Foundation gives various awards to deserving individuals and organizations for exemplary work in preservation. So imagine our surprise when the State Historical Resources Commission honored us during the 33rd Annual California Preservation Conference in Napa!

At the State Historical Resources Commission's regular quarterly meeting on April 23, 2008, Commission Chair Donn Grenda, Ph.D. and Commission Executive Secretary (and State Historic Preservation Officer) Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA presented a framed Resolution of Appreciation to CPF. In part, Resolution No. 2008-05 lauds CPF for being "California's largest and strongest advocate for preservation of our State's important cultural resources," for its dedication "to the preservation of California's unique, diverse, and distinct cultural and architectural resources," and for its "countless workshops with the intent of educating professionals and concerned citizens" about important preservation topics. The Commission also extended its "full appreciation" to CPF "for its tremendous efforts and dedication to preservation, and for serving as an important preservation partner of the State Historical Resources Commission."



From left: Donn Grenda, Ph.D., Chair, State Historical Resources Commission; Paige Swartley, Esq., President, CPF; Cindy Heitzman, CPF Executive Director; and Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA, SHPO.

Executive Director Cindy Heitzman and Board President Paige Swartley, Esq. were on hand to accept the handsome award in the City Council chambers at Napa City Hall. They both thanked the Commission for honoring CPF, and reflected upon the organization's state-wide advocacy and education efforts. President Swartley also acknowledged the leadership of former CPF President and current SHPO and Commission Executive Secretary Wayne Donaldson, FAIA.

In addition to CPF's award, the Commission also presented Resolutions of Appreciation to Napa County Landmarks, Inc. and to Bale Grist Mill State Historic Park.

Incorporated as Napa Landmarks in 1974, the nonprofit organization dedicated itself to saving downtown Napa's historic resources from demolition. Renamed Napa County Landmarks in 1986, the group has chalked up many major preservation successes county-wide, offers a façade easement program and walking tours, and gives annual awards. It provided loans and grants to spur rehabilitation of the Napa Valley Opera House, site of the plenary session of the 33rd Annual California Preservation Conference. Napa County Landmarks was a Lead Conference Partner, Supporting Sponsor, and in-kind donor. Board Secretary Cynthia Ripley, AIA, was Co-Chair of the Conference Steering Committee, and other board members filled leadership roles and spoke during the conference.

Bale Grist Mill State Historic Park, located just north of St. Helena in the Napa Valley, features a water-powered grist mill with a 36-foot water wheel. Dr. Edward Turner Bale owned the mill, built in 1846 on property that he received in a land grant from the Mexican government. Operating until the early 1900s, the mill ground local settlers' corn and wheat into meal or flour, and provided a gathering spot for residents. The State Historic Park also includes a Pioneer Cemetery and the site of the first church in the Napa Valley.

All three Resolution of Appreciation recipients were honored that the State Historical Resources Commission recognized their dedication and hard work.

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# National Trust for Historic Preservation's "America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places" List Includes Hangar One, Moffett Field and California State Parks *CPF Nominates Hangar One, Moffett Field*

The National Trust for Historic Preservation named Hangar One, Moffett Field in Santa Clara County and California State Parks to its "America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places" list. This annual list highlights important examples of the nation's architectural, cultural and natural heritage that are at risk for destruction or irreparable damage.

## Hangar One



CPF nominated Hangar One to bring national attention to the threats facing one of the largest remaining purpose-built hangars. Built by the U.S. Navy in 1932 to house dirigibles,



Hangar One remains one of the largest aircraft hangars in the world. However, Hangar One's exterior siding and other materials are leaking toxic PCBs, rendering the dome-shaped structure unusable. The Navy is responsible for the toxic remediation, but may not be responsible for the subsequent repair. The future of this landmark structure hangs in the balance unless a rehab effort which guarantees the removal

of the environmental pollutants and siding replacement is secured.

## California State Parks

California's State Park system is one of the country's largest and most successful, encompassing a vast array of historic and cultural resources that chronicle the state's rich and storied heritage. The system includes 278 parks, including 51 designated State Historic Parks, covers 1.5 million acres and protects 295 miles of ocean front. Unfortunately, the

system remains drastically underfunded and at risk of deterioration—a result of more than \$1 billion in deferred maintenance in addition to recent budget shortfalls. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposal to increase user fees for park visitors would do little to remedy this dire situation.

## What can you do?

**Hangar One:** Write (e-mail or fax) a letter to Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Senators Feinstein and Boxer and each of the Bay Area congressional representatives to encourage the Department of the Navy to commit to an appropriate remediation alternative that will ensure retention and preservation of the structure. For the latest information on Hangar One, visit [www.savehangarone.org](http://www.savehangarone.org).

**California State Parks:** Contact your local assembly member and tell them to support funding for deferred maintenance by funding capital and operational park budgets. For a list of your local representatives, visit [sen.ca.gov](http://sen.ca.gov) and [assembly.ca.gov](http://assembly.ca.gov).

## The 2008 list of America's "11 Most Endangered Historic Places":

- Boyd Theatre, Philadelphia, Pa.**
- California State Parks**
- Charity Hospital and the adjacent neighborhood, New Orleans, Louisiana**
- Great Falls Portage, Great Falls, Montana**
- Hangar One, Mountain View, California**
- The Lower East Side, New York City**
- Michigan Avenue Streetwall, Chicago, Illinois**
- Peace Bridge Neighborhood, Buffalo, New York**
- The Statler Hilton Hotel, Dallas, Texas**
- Sumner Elementary School, Topeka, Kansas**
- Vizcaya and the Bonnet House, Florida**

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# Villa Riviera Undergoes Major Historic Restoration by 134 Individual Homeowners

By Ray Adamyk

Villa Riviera in Long Beach was originally constructed as a hotel in 1929 at a cost of \$2,000,000. Architect Richard King was responsible for the masterful design of this sixteen-story building, which over the years has served the Long Beach community as a hotel, apartment building, and now individually-owned residential condominiums.

The restoration of Villa Riviera began in May 2007 and brought back the landmark building to its original grandeur. The project included a complete exterior renovation, which restored the exterior windows, gargoyles, and decorative plaster, as well as restore the main entrance door — all in accordance with the *Secretary of Interior's Standards*.

This historic restoration is particularly noteworthy as it is the first of its kind to be led by a group of 134 individual homeowners. No strangers to preservation projects, the homeowner's association self-imposed special assessments of \$2.5 million in 1989 to complete an earthquake retrofit. And in 1996, Villa Riviera became the first privately owned multi-dwelling building to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Villa Riviera is located at 800 East Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach and has retained the services of the following organizations for the project:

**SPECTRA COMPANY** is serving as the historic restoration contractor. Spectra Company specializes in historic preservation services and has worked on projects throughout Southern California including the Pantages Theatre in Hollywood, the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, and the Gamble House in Pasadena. [(800) 375-1771, [www.spectracompany.com](http://www.spectracompany.com)]

**SUMMIT CONSULTANTS** is providing construction management. Michael Burrous has worked extensively with the City of Long Beach over the years and has overseen numerous historic projects within the area. [(562) 989-1930, [summitconsultants@verizon.net](mailto:summitconsultants@verizon.net)]

**MARTIN ELI WEIL** is the Restoration Architect. Mr. Weil has provided historic finishes consultation for the project. [(323) 734-9734, [meweil@pacbell.net](mailto:meweil@pacbell.net)]

**KTA TATOR** did the architectural specifications. They were retained early in the process to make sure the scope of the project was clearly delineated. [(800) 582-4243, [www.kta.com](http://www.kta.com)]

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St. Mark's Lutheran Church San Francisco, CA Photo: David Wakely

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# CPF Bestows President's Awards at the Napa Conference

By Cindy Heitzman and Paige Swartley, Esq.

The California Preservation Foundation Board of Trustees honored six individuals and four organizations for their outstanding work to advance historic preservation in California. The awards were presented during the Plenary Session of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual California Preservation Conference. The full descriptions of the award winners and photos are on our website at [www.californiapreservation.org](http://www.californiapreservation.org).

## Preservationist of the Year Gee Gee Bland Platt



Gee Gee Platt has remained in the forefront of preservation issues in San Francisco and statewide, working tirelessly and largely behind the scenes for decades to preserve San

Francisco's architectural heritage. Recently she spearheaded efforts to save historic portions of the old Emporium Building on Market Street in San Francisco, while demanding that the City Planning Code be upheld there and in future work on historic buildings. When unplanned demolition occurred several years later, she joined San Franciscans for Preservation Planning in suing the city and the developers, resulting in a \$2.5 million settlement against the developer.

## Sacramento Railyards



## The Milton Marks Award— Legislators of the Year Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi Senator Darrell Steinberg Assemblyman Dave Jones

The State Lands Commission, under the Lt. Governor's jurisdiction, supported California State Parks and the California Railroad Museum proposal to expand the Museum by rehabilitating two of the oldest masonry buildings at the site. The leadership and negotiating skills of these officials were crucial in forging an agreement that will now transfer the two historic buildings to the Department of Parks and Recreation and will enable the Railroad Museum to carry out its expansion plans. This is an important step towards ensuring that these important historic buildings will be reused in a manner that brings the railroad era in American history alive and will attract thousands of visitors to the area.



## Volunteer of the Year Charles E. Chase, AIA

Charles Chase has held many roles in the California Preservation Foundation and has made a difference by redefining our programs. He is a member of

the Education Committee, helping shape our educational programs for the past 5 years. He served on the conference steering committee, conference programs committee and the Preservation Design Award jury. For the past 5 years, Charles chaired the Preservation Design Awards and during that time the program has grown and been refined and streamlined.

## President's Awards

### The Coalition to Save Johnnie's Broiler Los Angeles



The "Friends of Johnnie's" mobilized to list the landmark structure on the California Register. After the illegal and substantial demolition of the building in January 2007, the "Friends" re-grouped as the "Coalition to Rebuild the Broiler." They coordinated events to raise awareness about the building's plight and circulated petitions to move forward with a local preservation ordinance. The Coalition's good work paid off: the owner of a Bob's Big Boy in nearby Torrance signed a long-term lease for the site and plans to reconstruct the drive-in restaurant. The franchise plans to restore the Broiler's signature sign and salvage other parts of the partially demolished building.

### The Preston Castle Foundation Ione



The Preston Castle Foundation, founded in the 1970s, has been effective at rallying local support and fundraising to save the Preston Castle, the former Preston School of Industry, founded in 1894. They are working with a structural engineer and historic architect to develop plans for a phased restoration. To raise funds and raise awareness they hold a series of events including a golf tournament, wine tasting events, and a jazz and blues jubilee.



**Francis Ford Coppola**

Rutherford

The Coppola Family purchased part of the Rubicon Estate, including the historic Inglenook Chateau, carriage house and 1500 acres in 1975. In 1995, they bought the remaining part of the estate, restoring it to its original dimension. Keeping true to his word to demolish a large 1970s barrel storage facility that obscured the view of the historic mansion, Francis Ford Coppola started the jack-hammers and initiated the long-awaited demolition in December 2007, taking a major step to restore the historic view of the Chateau from Highway 29. The land will be planted in Cabernet Sauvignon vines cloned from the estate.



**The Fox Oakland Theater Restoration Project**

Oakland

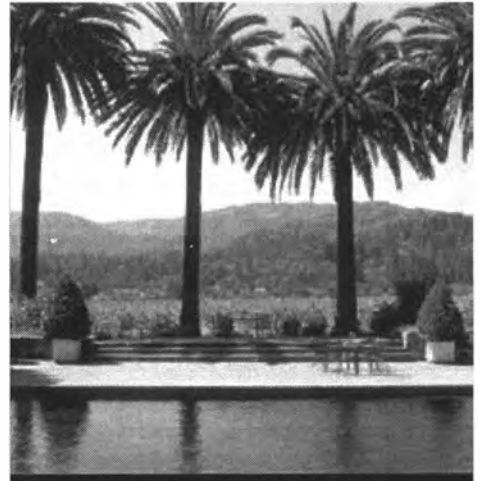
CPF honors the Fox Oakland Public-Private Partnership (Oakland Redevelopment Agency, the Friends of Fox Theatre, California Capital Group, and Bank of America) to recognize the creative and exemplary partnership that is the driving force behind the landmark rehabilitation of the Fox Oakland Theater. The restored historic theatre will be reborn as a performing arts center and new performing arts charter school, and is a catalyst to economic revitalization of this once severely blighted neighborhood.

**Save the San Francisco Flower Mart**

San Francisco

The San Francisco Flower Mart tenants group, under the leadership of Patrick McCann and attorney Sue Hestor, worked with San Francisco Supervisor Aaron Peskin to introduce legislation imposing a two-year moratorium on permit changes at San Francisco's Flower Mart. The Board of Supervisors took the lead, with the unanimous backing of the Planning Commission and the Mayor's office. The legislation passed and the Academy of Art University backed away from the deal in February 2008.

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## Welcome New CPF Trustees!

By Paige J. Swartley, Esq.

At the Annual Membership Meeting held in conjunction with the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual California Preservation Conference, CPF members unanimously elected four new members of the Board of Trustees. Elected for an initial three-year term were Ray Adamyk, Charles Chase, AIA, Leslie Masunaga, and Deborah Vick. Subsequently, the CPF Board appointed John A. Fidler to complete the unexpired term of former trustee, Vonn Marie May.

**Ray Adamyk**, from Pomona and Los Angeles, is the founder and president of Spectra Company. Spectra Company is headquartered in Pomona and has been in business for over 20 years. Ray is well known in the construction community as an expert on historic buildings and restoration services. The company's main focus is historic restoration, preservation and conservation. Ray is a member of Los Angeles Conservancy, Pasadena Heritage, International Concrete Repair Institute and Roof Consultants Institute. He has overseen restoration work on the Pantages Theater in Hollywood, the Gamble House in Pasadena, Bradbury Building in Los Angeles, and Villa Riviera in Long Beach. He is a graduate of Mohawk College in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

**Charles E. Chase, AIA**, from San Francisco, brings more than 30 years of experience in architecture, historic preservation planning, rehabilitation and new construction. His past work in architectural practice, governmental service and nonprofit institutional management provides a unique perspective and knowledge base to facilitate successful planning and project development. He has participated in and directed planning efforts and historic resource surveys, and has developed design guidelines and

preservation plans serving private, public and nonprofit sectors throughout the Southeast and California. Charles's architectural design and preservation work has received honors from the American Institute of Architects. He has written on architecture and historic preservation, and has represented the United States and city governments in France and India.

**John A. Fidler** is an English architect based in Los Angeles. He is a staff consultant and the corporate practice leader for preservation technology with Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Inc. He was formerly the Conservation Director at English Heritage, where he was responsible until July 2006 for technical policy development, research, advice and services, training, outreach and publications. Fidler is a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Institute of Historic Building Conservation, and the UK Institute of Conservation. Until recently, he was the Vice President of the managing council of ICCROM (the International Centre for Studies of the Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Property in Rome) and remains on the Conservation Grants Committee of the Getty Foundation. In his adopted city of Los Angeles, he sits on the Historic Resources Committee of the City Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and is a board member of the Western Chapter of the Association for Preservation Technology.

**Leslie Masunaga**, from San Jose, is the curator of the Berryessa Adobe, owned by the City of Santa Clara, and is responsible for its management and administration, including exhibits, programs collection and operations. Before working for the City of Santa Clara, she was the Historic Resources and Records Manager for the City of San Jose (1998-2003), and the Archivist for the San Jose Historical Museum for the City of San Jose (1986-1998). Leslie holds a Bachelor's Degree in Urban Studies, Asian American History, and Art History from San Jose State University. She is active

in numerous professional organizations and has served on a number of arts and cultural organizations including the California Council for the Promotion of History, the California Historical Records Advisory Board and the San Jose Japantown Community Congress.

**Deborah Vick**, from San Francisco, is an independent development consultant. She has extensive experience in development and fundraising for nonprofit boards. Since 1988, she has served on the boards of a variety of nonprofit organizations with a focus on human services, the arts, historic preservation and education, including the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy and the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation. Deborah currently serves on the Frank Lloyd Wright Conservancy Board for Marin County. Before moving to California, Deborah worked as a tax attorney consultant with the firm of Touche Ross & Co. and then had her own business as an independent legal tax consultant. She holds a J.D. from the University of Puget Sound School of Law and a B.S. in mathematics from the University of New Mexico.

By electronic and mail ballot, six trustees were re-elected to a second three-year term: **Michael Buhler, Esq.**, Los Angeles; **Michael Garavaglia, AIA**, San Francisco; **Ann Gray, FAIA**, Los Angeles; **Melvyn Green, SE**, Torrance; **Elizabeth Harris, Ph.D.**, Hermosa Beach; and **Alan Merson**, Woodland Hills.

We look forward to working with all of the Trustees over the coming years. CPF is always seeking nominations for new board members, particularly in the areas of fundraising and development. The nomination form is available on our website, [www.californiapreservation.org](http://www.californiapreservation.org), on the Board of Trustees page. We always encourage potential trustees to become involved with a CPF committee before joining the board. Please contact CPF to express your interest in serving on a committee. More information is available online, on the Committees page.

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## The Best Last Place: A History of the Santa Barbara Cemetery

By David Petry  
Olympus Press (2006): \$50.00

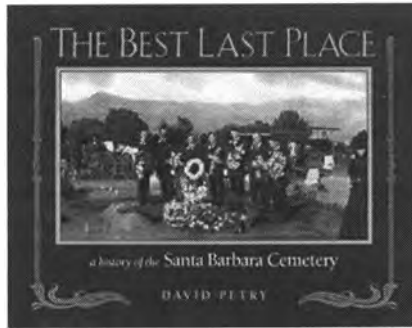
By Paige J. Swartley, Esq.

I confess... I love cemeteries. Even with no relatives buried in California, I have taken a Memorial Day nap in Oakland's Mountain View Cemetery (designed by Frederick Law Olmsted), picnicked in a Pescadero cemetery, and sat among aged monuments in Ferndale's hilltop cemetery. Further afield, I have visited the evocative tomb of Oscar Wilde, one of my favorite writers, in Paris's famous Cimetière du Père-Lachaise. So it was no surprise that I enjoyed reading *The Best Last Place: A History of the Santa Barbara Cemetery*.

David Petry, a writer, photographer, and long-time historian for the Santa Barbara Cemetery, brings the site to life in this engaging book. Chronicling the events leading up to the cemetery's official incorporation in 1867 and continuing through to the present day, *The Best Last Place* offers an honest look at the good, the bad, and the ugly episodes in this cemetery's history. It features an extensive collection of historic and contemporary photographs, copies of old sexton invoices for grave-digging services, letters, plat plans, and maps. Historic figures from the city's earliest settlement days played important roles at the cemetery, and Petry's research uncovers the internal squabbles, personal tragedies, and financial struggles that confronted the cemetery association.

Petry walks the reader through transitions in American burial practices, from models based on the English churchyard, town graveyard, rural cemetery, lawn park cemetery, memorial park, and cremation. He also covers the history of funerary decoration and changing American philosophies about death, including the "laws of taste" and the "act of memory." He ties the Santa Barbara Cemetery to these developments, noting when it lagged behind contemporary cemeteries. Petry discusses the lay and professional hands that helped shape this historic landscape and helped design the historic buildings, honoring not only renowned architects George Washington Smith and Lulah Maria Riggs, muralist Alfredo Ramos Martínez, and landscape architect Ralph Tallant Stevens, but also the cemetery's own professional staff.

Intriguing stories about the cemetery pepper the book, including tales of liquor-running signals emanating from the Duryea Mausoleum during Prohibition; an 1896 murderer and his two victims interred fifty feet apart; the terrible history of the forcible capture and importation of Chinese labor, and the subsequent Chinese interments and removals from the cemetery; the U.S. Army's forced entry into and extended encampment in the cemetery from 1942-1944; and Ronald and Nancy Reagan's 1983 purchase (and 1989 sale) of a burial plot. Petry also illustrates how the Grand Army of the Republic, the International



Order of Odd Fellows, the Masons, and the Woodmen of the World influenced monuments and burial rites at the cemetery.

*The Best Last Place* is filled with interesting historical tidbits, placing the Santa Barbara Cemetery in a wider social context. For example, Petry explains that modern embalming was introduced during the Civil War to preserve bodies pending burial or shipment, and he discusses the beginnings of Memorial Day in the 1860s. He reveals the symbolism of the cemetery's trees (willow, oak, cypress, and palm) and the symbolism of Egyptian architecture as expressed in funerary monuments. The Rosetta Stone, King Tut, Al Capone, and Napoleon all make an appearance in *The Best Last Place*. Petry even discusses the riots accompanying Rudolph Valentino's body lying in state in a New York funeral parlor's window.

Reading *The Best Last Place* was a great follow-up to the educational session held at

the Hollywood Conference, cleverly entitled "Cemeteries as Cultural Landscapes: New Twists on Old Plots." Professor Noel Vernon from Cal Poly Pomona and landscape historian Christy O'Hara reviewed the history and theory of cemetery design and explored Oakland's Mountain View Cemetery and the Hollywood Forever Cemetery as case studies of cemetery preservation and interpretation. Similarly, *The Best Last Place* reveals just how much influence other cemeteries—especially Mountain View Cemetery and Glendale's Forest Lawn Memorial Park—had on the Santa Barbara Cemetery.

*The Best Last Place* proves that a cemetery is both a testament to the dead—those who created and designed it and those who are buried there—and a place for the living. After reading this beautiful and interesting book, I'm just dying to visit the Santa Barbara Cemetery to see it myself. ~ Paige J. Swartley

Contribute a book review or a book to be reviewed! Our members are interested in books about historic preservation, history, architecture, landscape architecture, cultural landscapes, photography, conservation, architectural history, archaeology, planning and related disciplines. Send book reviews (500–700 words) to [cpf@californiapreservation.org](mailto:cpf@californiapreservation.org) or send books to Newsletter Book Reviews, California Preservation Foundation, 5 Third Street, Suite 424, San Francisco, CA 94103.

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## CPF Upcoming Events

Case Studies on Cultural Landscapes  
Friday, July 18, 2008  
Rancho Los Alamitos, Long Beach, CA

Identifying Historical Integrity  
Thursday, August 14, 2008, Ventura, CA

Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the  
Treatment of Historic Properties  
Friday, August 15, 2008, Ventura, CA

2008 Preservation Design Awards  
Saturday, October 18, 2008, Long Beach, CA

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## Events around the State

Please send notice of upcoming events to the  
California Preservation Foundation at:  
membership@californiapreservation.org or fax to  
(415) 495-0265.

### A Celebration on the Colorado Street Bridge

**Date:** July 19, 2008

**Location:** Pasadena, CA

Description: Join Pasadena Heritage for a celebration of historic preservation on one of the world's most beautiful bridges with continuous live music, dancing, antique cars, children's activities, no host festive foods and beverages on the historic Colorado Street Bridge in Pasadena. Tickets \$5-\$14

Contact: Pasadena Heritage, (626) 441-6333 or  
www.pasadenaheritage.org

### California Coastal Voyages

**Date:** July 29–August 3, 2008

**Location:** San Francisco—Santa Barbara, via  
Channel Islands

6 days, 5 nights

Description: Journey with the San Diego Maritime Museum as they set sail to some of the most beautiful places along California's coast. Each leg offers a unique perspective on seamanship, maritime history and the awesome beauty of the Pacific. Cost: \$750 per person.

Contact: San Diego Maritime Museum (619) 234-9153 or www.sdmaritime.org

### California Coastal Voyages

**Date:** August 11–August 13, 2008

**Location:** Oxnard—Los Angeles, via Catalina  
Island

3 days, 2 nights

Description: Journey with the San Diego Maritime Museum as they set sail to some of the most beautiful places along California's coast. Each leg offers a unique perspective on seamanship, maritime history and the awesome beauty of the Pacific. Cost: \$475 per person.

Contact: San Diego Maritime Museum (619) 234-9153 or www.sdmaritime.org

### Seventeenth Annual Tomato Festival

**Date:** August 16 & 17, 2008

**Location:** Fairfield, CA

The Fairfield Downtown Association Tomato Festival returns for its seventeenth year with an enhanced event, growing to two days of fun for the whole family. The popular, free event will open on Saturday, August 16th from 10am until 5pm and wrap up on Sunday, August 18th, from 11am until 4pm. Contact below for additional details.

Contact: Fairfield Downtown Association,  
(707) 442-0103, emlow@ci.fairfield.ca.us, or  
www.fairfielddowntown.com

### California Coastal Voyages

**Date:** August 18–August 20, 2008

**Location:** Los Angeles–San Diego, via  
Catalina Island

3 days, 2 nights

Description: Journey with the San Diego Maritime Museum as they set sail to some of the most beautiful places along California's coast. Each leg offers a unique perspective on seamanship, maritime history and the awesome beauty of the Pacific. Cost: \$475 per person.

Contact: San Diego Maritime Museum  
(619) 234-9153 or www.sdmaritime.org

### Olive Festival

**Date:** August 23, 2008

**Location:** Paso Robles, CA

Saturday, 10–3pm

Contact: Paso Robles Main Street Association,  
(805) 238-4103 or

www.pasoroblesdowntown.org

### Eighteenth Annual Western BBQ and Auction

**Date:** September 9, 2008

**Location:** Merced, CA

Come join Merced County Historical Society's biggest event of the year—always a sellout.

Wonderful, one-of-a-kind items are available in both silent and live auctions. Tickets are available in July.

Contact: Merced County Historical Society and  
Courthouse Museum, (209) 723-2401 or  
www.pasoroblesdowntown.org

### 15th Annual Taste of the Gold Country

**Date:** September 20, 2008

**Location:** Grass Valley, CA

Contact: Grass Valley Downtown Association  
(530) 272-8315 or www.historicgrassvalley.com

### Taste of Downtown

**Date:** September 20, 2008

**Location:** Paso Robles, CA

11am to 4pm, Arte De Tiza starts at 8am; concert 3-6pm at the City Park.

Contact: Paso Robles Main Street Association,  
(805) 238-4103 or  
www.pasoroblesdowntown.org

### California Downtown Association Annual Conference

**Date:** October 1–3, 2008

**Location:** Hyatt Vineyard Creek Hotel and Spa,  
Santa Rosa, CA

Established in 1971, the California Downtown Association is the state leader and champion for the revitalization of downtowns and commercial business districts. The conference features more than 25 educational sessions, including a track sponsored by the California Main Street Alliance on the Main Street four-point approach to revitalization, two keynote speakers, an exhibitors' showcase and many more networking opportunities. Contact below for additional details and event cost.

Contact: California Downtown Association  
(888) 429-1224 or  
www.californiadowntown.com

### Eighth Annual Candy Festival

**Date:** October 11, 2008

**Location:** Fairfield, CA

This festival will be held in downtown Fairfield on Saturday, October 11th from 10am to 5pm. There is no admission fee for this family event. The 2007 festival drew approximately 40,000 visitors to Fairfield's historic downtown. Contact below for additional details.

Contact: Fairfield Downtown Association,  
(707) 442-0103, emlow@ci.fairfield.ca.us, or  
www.fairfield.downtown.com

### Pioneer Day Parade

**Date:** October 11, 2008

**Location:** Paso Robles, CA

Starts Saturday at 10am

Contact: Paso Robles Main Street Association,  
(805) 238-4103 or  
www.pasoroblesdowntown.org

### Golden Oak Festival & Giant Pumpkin Weigh-Off

**Date:** October 25, 2008

**Location:** Paso Robles, CA

From 9–3pm at City Park.

Contact: Paso Robles Main Street Association,  
(805) 238-4103 or  
www.pasoroblesdowntown.org

### Veterans Day Commemoration

**Date:** November 11, 2008

**Location:** Fairfield, CA

Concert at 10am, Ceremony of Remembrance 11am, Parade at 12:30pm

Contact: Fairfield Downtown Association,  
(707) 442-0103, emlow@ci.fairfield.ca.us, or  
www.fairfielddowntown.com

### Elegant Holiday Evening Downtown

**Date:** November 11, 2008

**Location:** Paso Robles, CA

From 5–8pm

Contact: Paso Robles Main Street Association,  
(805) 238-4103 or  
www.pasoroblesdowntown.org

**41st Annual Cornish Christmas**

**Date:** November 28, December 5, 12 & 19th, 2008

**Location:** Grass Valley, CA

Contact: San Grass Valley Downtown Association (530) 272-8315 or [www.historicgrassvalley.com](http://www.historicgrassvalley.com)

**Holiday Night of Lights**

**Date:** December 5, 2008

**Location:** Fairfield, CA

From 7 to 9pm

Contact: Fairfield Downtown Association, (707) 442-0103, [emlow@ci.fairfield.ca.us](mailto:emlow@ci.fairfield.ca.us), or [www.fairfielddowntown.com](http://www.fairfielddowntown.com)

**Christmas Light Parade**

**Date:** December 6, 2008

**Location:** Paso Robles, CA

Theme: "Fairy Tale Christmas"

Contact: Paso Robles Main Street Association, (805) 238-4103 or [www.pasoroblesdowntown.org](http://www.pasoroblesdowntown.org)

**Christmas at the Courthouse**

**Date:** December 7, 2008

**Location:** Merced, CA

On this Sunday, an annual open house created for and by the community will exhibit nearly 50 Christmas trees. Join us for trees, music, treats and traditional Courthouse Eggnog.

Contact: Merced County Historical Society and Courthouse Museum, (209) 723-2401 or [www.pasoroblesdowntown.org](http://www.pasoroblesdowntown.org)

**Vine Street Victorian Showcase**

**Date:** December 13, 2008

**Location:** Paso Robles, CA

From 6 to 9pm

Contact: Paso Robles Main Street Association, (805) 238-4103 or [www.pasoroblesdowntown.org](http://www.pasoroblesdowntown.org)

**Victorian Teddy Bear Tea**

**Date:** December 20, 2008

**Location:** Paso Robles, CA

From 2-4pm

Contact: Paso Robles Main Street Association, (805) 238-4103 or [www.pasoroblesdowntown.org](http://www.pasoroblesdowntown.org)

**8th Annual Foothills Celebration**

**Date:** Saturday, March 7, 2009

**Location:** Grass Valley, CA

Contact: Grass Valley Downtown Association (530) 272-8315 or [www.historicgrassvalley.com](http://www.historicgrassvalley.com)

**24th Annual Grass Valley Car Show**

**Date:** Saturday, April 25, 2009

**Location:** Grass Valley, CA

Contact: Grass Valley Downtown Association (530) 272-8315 or [www.historicgrassvalley.com](http://www.historicgrassvalley.com)

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## HALS Funding Campaign

By Chris Pattillo, ASLA

A few weeks ago you may recall receiving a plea to support funding for the Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS). I'm happy to report that our efforts were successful. Thank you if you are one of the 420 who took the time to respond.

HALS is a new federal program, modeled on the Historic American Building Survey (HABS), intended to document cultural landscapes as a permanent archive housed in the Library of Congress. Our legislators approved the legislation to create HALS in 2000, but failed to allocate funding to administer the program. The current funding campaign is requesting \$800,000 to administer HALS – a modest amount.

In February, members of the Northern California chapter of HALS led a campaign to gain support for HALS. We sent alerts to fellow landscape architects and colleagues who we felt would be supportive. The members of CPF were asked to sign and send electronic letters to their legislators. Other groups with large memberships asked to participate included DOCOMOMO, the Historic Preservation Professional Practice Network of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), Oakland Heritage Alliance, The Garden Conservancy, Friends of Olompoli State Historic Park, the California Garden Landscape History Society, and others. Adding these up I estimate we sent the alert to some 2600 individuals.

Their letters of support motivated 25 members of the House of Representatives to sign on to Representative Russ Carnahan's letter requesting funding for HALS in fiscal year 2009. Government Affairs staff in

Washington felt the response, while not overwhelming, was successful.

This effort was just the first of a multi-step process needed to gain final approval for the bill. The ASLA Advocacy Network provides a concise summary of the 13-step legislative process, which is somewhat daunting, and what makes things even more discouraging is knowing that it's a process that needs to be repeated every year to insure on-going financial support. Fortunately, once you achieve initial funding it's much easier to get it renewed ..... at least that's what they are telling us today.

In April, a focused effort to gain support from our California legislators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Lee was mounted that garnered an additional 50 letters of support.

Currently, it is critical that we not let up. ASLA government affairs staff has identified 4 legislators who are strong supporters of HALS. The priority now is to get these individuals to urge Representative Dicks from Washington State, to include funding for HALS in the upcoming Interior Appropriations bill. Senator Barbara Lee chairs this committee and is a strong HALS supporter. She can not sponsor the bill but will be an ally once it's in her committee. Calls, e-mails and letters to Barbara Lee's office are important now.

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## Call for Newsletter Articles!

Do you have a topic or story you would like to share with the preservation community? Are you involved in a project that would be of interest to our readers? If so, we'd love to hear about it!

The California Preservation Foundation is currently accepting article submissions for its newsletter. Features and in-depth articles are welcome, especially those dealing with:

- Local preservation efforts
- Trends in historic preservation in California
- Architects and builders of California
- Techniques and technology in Preservation
- Dedicated preservation volunteers
- Site histories
- Preservation-related legislation or legal decisions
- Reviews of books or other resources of interest to the preservation community.

You can also make Viewpoints & Spotlights submissions, such as:

- Why you joined CPF and why preservation is important to you
- Why your historic neighborhood is special
- What your favorite landmark is and why

If you are interested in writing for California Preservation, please send an email to [cpf@californiapreservation.org](mailto:cpf@californiapreservation.org) describing your idea for an article. Be aware that reviews should run no longer than 300-500 words and that all submissions are subject to review by the editorial team. Photographs and graphics are welcome!

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## Preserve America: Santa Monica Receives Another Grant; New California Designations



By Paige J. Swartley, Esq.

In April, Deputy Secretary of the Interior Lynn Scarlett and Advisory Council

on Historic Preservation Chair John L. Nau, III announced the latest crop of Preserve America matching grants. First Lady Laura Bush is the Honorary Chair and Scarlett and Nau are co-chairs of Preserve America, a White House initiative supporting community efforts to preserve and appreciate America's cultural heritage. The program started in 2006.

"Preserve America ensures that historic properties, artifacts, and communities throughout the nation are preserved to be enjoyed by future generations," Mrs. Bush said. "These grants promote cultural and natural preservation, and encourage greater appreciation of our national heritage."

In this round, 43 grants went to communities in 25 states, with \$2.9 million awarded.

**Santa Monica, still aglow after winning a \$100,000 Preserve America grant in 2007, just won another \$100,000 grant for the "Santa Monica Beach Cultural Mapping Project."** The award announcement notes that "capitalizing on its greatest asset—its beach, Santa Monica's goal is to highlight people and events that shaped the history and culture of the Southern California beach that significantly influenced popular culture in America and abroad. Stories from the days of Jim Crow relate how use of the beach was the subject of racial tensions as African-Americans fought for equal access. Later, the beach provided the backdrop for the birth of beach volleyball, the international physical fitness movement launched at Muscle Beach, as well as the American Skateboarding revolution. Funds will support an experienced historian to survey key sites, events, and individuals to create an inventory of resources and materials. This will provide the foundation for the future development of cultural markers and interpretive plaques, walking tours, and exhibits."

California's 2007 Preserve America grant recipients were: Wiyot Tribal Historic Preservation Office (\$100,000 for the Indian Island Interpretation and Education Project); City of Richmond (\$75,000 for PRISM, Preserve Richmond to Interpret and Support Memories); City of San Clemente (\$30,000 for the San

Clemente Way-Finding Sign Program); City of Santa Monica (\$100,000 for the Santa Monica Pier "100 Years in the Past, 100 Years in the Future" celebration and marketing campaign); unincorporated community of Weaverville (\$28,754 for the Weaverville Marketing and Way-Finding Project). The Winter 2007 CPF newsletter featured an article on the 2007 Santa Monica and Weaverville grants. The only Preserve America grant awarded to a California community in 2006 went to the City of Monterey (\$100,000 for the "Toward a Seamless Monterey Experience" interactive way-finding and signage project).

Since last fall, six new California communities and neighborhoods have been designated by the Preserve America program: Los Angeles's Little Tokyo, Ontario, Sacramento, San Diego's Little Italy, San Francisco's Japantown, and Ventura. But with only 18 designated communities and neighborhoods in the entire state of California (Colorado has 26!), this program is seriously underutilized. Please ask your elected officials to support an application to become part of the Preserve America initiative!

Preserve America grants are available in five project categories: research/documentation, interpretation/education, marketing, planning, and training. To apply to be a Preserve America community, neighborhood or tribal community or to apply for grants, visit <http://www.preserveamerica.gov>.

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Beach at the entrance to Santa Monica Canyon, Fourth of July, 1916—  
H.F. Rile, Santa Monica Public Library Image Archives/Source: donated to the Library.



## President's Circle

The President's Circle is a group of committed preservationists who enjoy special recognition, educational opportunities and social activities while supporting the Foundation's endeavors. Current President's Circle Members include:

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## Thank You to Departing CPF Trustees!

By Paige J. Swartley, Esq.

CPF is very sorry to be losing two members of the Board of Trustees, both of whom have made extraordinary contributions and have kept the organization moving forward. **Carol Roland-Nawi, Ph.D.**, of Sacramento, is a former President of the CPF Board, serving in that capacity for two years. Recently, she has been the Chair of the Nominating Committee. Carol operates Roland-Nawi Associates, a preservation consulting firm in Sacramento. **Vonn Marie May**, of Encinitas, served as the Secretary of the Board for the past year. Her consulting work focuses on cultural landscapes and historical and cultural studies.

As President, I was pleased to honor both departing trustees with framed certificates at the Annual Membership Meeting at the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual California Preservation Conference in Napa. Please join us in thanking these dedicated volunteers. We will truly miss their wisdom, enthusiasm, and hard work!

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