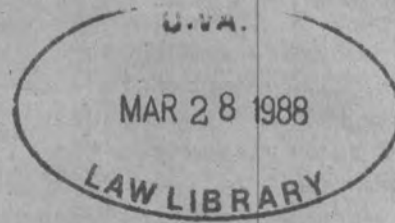




Post Office Box 2169, Sacramento, California 95810

Volume V, No. 2



Summer, 1980

CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

For months, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Preservation Action have been assisting local preservation organizations nationwide in an effort to reverse President Carter's cuts in next year's (1981) Historic Preservation Fund. At a June 10th committee meeting Rep. Sidney Yates (D-Ill.), chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee that oversees preservation funding, announced an increase in the FY 81 funding level from the \$25 million recommended by Carter (down from \$55 million authorized for FY 80) to \$42.5 million.

Yates had originally recommended that the House go along with the President's suggested \$25 million figure but three Representatives on the subcommittee argued effectively for a higher sum. They were Rep. Bo Ginn (D-GA.), Rep. John Murtha (D-Pa.) and Rep. Norman Dicks (D-Wa.) who earlier in the year had received a special award from Preservation Action for his advocacy of preservation during budget hearings last year. Observers noted a lack of negative testimony from two other members of the committee who had spoken out against budget increases at the previous committee hearing. They were Rep. Gunn McKay (R-Utah) and Rep. Claire Burgener (R.-CA), targets of a coordinated lobbying effort by preservationists in Utah and Southern California.

The Senate appropriations subcommittee heard this matter in late June. Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT) recommended restoring the full \$16.5 million to the 1980 Fund, rather than following the House action of restoring \$6.5 million and deferring the spending of \$10 million until F/Y 1981. The Subcommittee voted to reject Leahy's proposal and to support the President's recommendation to rescind \$16.5 million.

News of this action sparked a 2-day national lobbying effort by preservationists that was successful in obtaining the necessary votes in full committee to change the subcommittee's recommendation to the restoration of \$6.5 million and a deferral of \$10 million for funding in F/Y 1981.

HERITAGE BILL

The National Heritage Act, written to strengthen both the natural and historic preservation programs of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, is stalled in the Senate.

The Act would extend through 1986, the Historic Preservation Fund, now scheduled to expire in 1981. Protection of sites under the National Historic Landmarks Program would be strengthened. In addition, activities qualifying for funding would be broadened and encourage greater citizen participation.

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The Senate's reluctance to act on the Heritage bill seems to focus on concerns about the natural resources title within the bill. Opposition from western Senators and Republicans can be mitigated by revising the Administration's proposal to reflect a voluntary State program that includes an inventory of natural resources but no Federal protection or regulation of the inventoried resources. Efforts toward such a compromise are underway at this time.

The American Heritage Alliance, a coalition of many national and local preservation and conservation groups have joined to work for passage of the act.

Californians for Preservation Action urges you to write Senators Hayakawa and Cranston to voice your support of this important act.

State Scene

The 1980 portion of the current legislative session has been fairly quiet with respect to preservation issues and CPA, along with the State Historic Preservation Office, is using the respite to plan an effort to develop significant, new legislation for introduction in the next session.

In order to promote the development of legislation which will provide a strong, legal framework for California's preservation movement, the Legislative Committee has proposed the creation of a Preservation Task Force to advise the Legislature regarding future legislation. The task force, comprised of a cross-section of persons and organizations having an interest in preservation, will examine current preservation policy and law and recommend changes.

CPA members should contact their senators and assemblyman urging them to sign up as co-authors of this most important measure.

Two bills this year are being strongly supported by CPA, since they strengthen and extend the Governor's recent executive order which requires survey and protection by state agencies of significant properties under their respective jurisdictions. SB 1652, by Senator Mills, codifies the policy of the executive order, thereby making it applicable to certain constitutionally created agencies (such as the University of California). This bill has progressed to Assembly Ways and Means Committee without opposition.

SCR 63, by Senator Sieroty, restates the policy of the executive order and urges that it be implemented also by local agencies. This resolution, if passed, would not be directly enforceable but would constitute a statement of legislative policy. This resolution is awaiting hearing in the Assembly Resources, Land Use and Energy Committee.

One further bill of interest is SB 1453, by Senator Garcia, which would have limited the alternative building code provisions by imposing certain vague requirements for access for the handicapped. This bill died in the Senate Governmental Organization Committee.





Legislators' Breakfast

The April 24 Legislators' Breakfast marked the beginning of a co-ordinated lobbying effort on behalf of preservation. The CPA-sponsored event drew fourteen legislators from both parties around the state despite a 7:30 a.m. starting time during an unusually busy week in the Legislature. They were treated to breakfast by seventy preservationists in Sacramento for the State Preservation Conference. The success of the breakfast belongs to preservationists who as constituents invited their own legislator. The response was exceptional.

Legislators and constituents informally discussed preservation issued over a hearty breakfast. Breakfast Co-ordinator, and CPA Vice President, Spencer K. Hathaway, introduced the 14 legislators: President, Pro Tempore of the Senate, Senator James R. Mills (Dem.-San Diego), Senate Majority Floor Leader David Roberti (Dem.-Los Angeles), Assembly Minority Caucus Chairman Assemblyman Charles R. Imbrecht (Rep.-Ventura), Senator Alfred E. Alquist (Dem.-Santa Clara) Senator Paul Carpenter (Dem.-Orange) Senator Milton Marks (Rep.-San

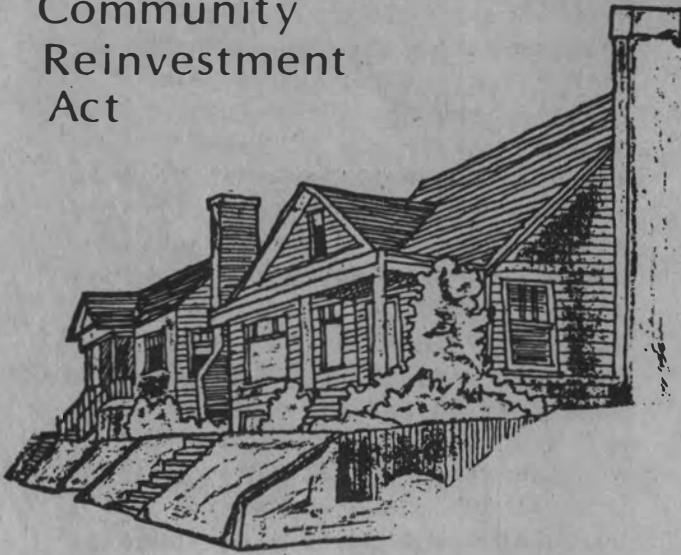
Francisco), Senator Robert Nimmo (Rep.-San Luis Obispo), Senator Alan Sieroty (Dem.-Los Angeles), Senator Rose Ann Vuich (Dem.-Tulare) Assemblyman Thomas H. Bates (Dem.-Alameda), Assemblyman John T. Knox (Dem.-Contra Costa), Assemblyman Bill Lancaster (Rep.-Los Angeles), Assemblyman Alister McAlister (Dem.-Santa Clara), and Assemblyman Herschel Rosenthal (Dem.-Los Angeles). In addition, State Historic Preservation Officer Knox Mellon and several members of his staff attended the breakfast.

Featured speaker, Senator James R. Mills, cited his past preservation legislation that created the Historic Building Code and taxed historic buildings on the basis of their actual use, instead of their potential use. He explained the need for his constitutional amendment Proposition 3 on the June ballot. The San Diego lawmaker authored Senate Bill 1652 in the 1980 legislative session to protect historic structures on property owned by constitutionally created agencies such as the University of California.

In his capacity as Chariman of the Senate Rules Committee, Senator Mills hired an architect to oversee the authenticity of the State Capitol restoration. His often humorous remarks were enjoyed by legislators and preservationists as a prelude to anticipated legislation in the future.

Busy legislators and eager preservationists continued the discussion well past the 9:00 a.m. adjournment -- a sure sign of success. Acquaintances became friendships and personal relationships were forged into alliances. Next year, CPA will sponsor the second annual Legislators' Breakfast in Sacramento -- plan now to attend.

Community Reinvestment Act



CPA members attending the annual meeting in Santa Cruz, were introduced to a relatively new preservation tool in the form of the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977. Mr. James Yacenda, Administrator of the Community Investment Department, Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco, explained the CRA and its application to preservation-related problems in the area of bank loans for neighborhood rehabilitation, especially in distressed locations.

The Federal Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), enacted as Title VII of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1977, intends to encourage regulated financial institutions to fulfill their continuing and affirmative obligation to help meet the credit needs of their communities, including low and moderate-income neighborhoods, consistent with the safe and sound operation of such institutions.

CRA provides that the various federal agencies involved in the approval, licensing, etc of lending institutions will assess the institution's record in meeting the credit needs of the total community and take those records into account when evaluating certain applications, including licence renewal.

Federal agencies involved directly with CRA include: the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, the Comptroller of the Currency, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Federal Home Loan Bank Board.

In addition to this record assessment, CRA requires that the above-mentioned agencies encourage each lending institution to help meet the credit needs of its entire local community. To accomplish this, each institution must not only delineate their local community, by mapping, but must adopt a CRA statement for each delineated community as well. These statements have to be adequate to the community needs and are available for public review.

The requirements of the act offer preservationists an opportunity to assure their projects, especially neighborhood revitalization, be given careful consideration by federally-licensed lending institutions. If problems occur, the preservationist has recourse to challenge the adequacy of the institution's CRA statement and thereby affect their federal licensing.

A potent tool indeed. It should be noted that this does not mean we as preservationists should employ the CRA as a club of the head of reluctant lending institutions. Instead, we should assist these agencies in assuring their CRA statements are adequate for the needs of the entire community which they serve. We need to build bridges, not barriers to realize our goals for preservation and neighborhood housing rehabilitation. It is interesting to note that a CRA statement is required by HUD on all 312 loan application.

The language of the Community Reinvestment Act is available in the Federal Register, Vol. 43, No. 198-Thursdäy, October 12, 1978. For more

information and the address of your nearest Federal Home Loan Bank Contact Mr. James Yacenda, Administrator of the Community Investment Department, Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco, P.O. Box 7948, San Francisco, 94120.



Napa Assistance Program

Napa Landmarks has announced the completion of the first year of its Preservation Assistance Program known as PAST. Working with the city of Napa and their Community Development Block Grant funds, Napa Landmarks has assisted 46 home owners within the city in a joint effort to restore the city's architectural heritage and provide pleasing housing for low and moderate income owners and renters.

Serving as administrator of the program, Napa Landmarks has been active in historic preservation in Napa County for over five years. The organization completed the Napa County Historic Resources Inventory in 1978, which identified 624 historic residential structures in the city of Napa.

The PAST program seeks to assist low and moderate income home owners and renters in the exterior restoration of these structures. PAST helps in a number of ways. The Napa Landmarks staff will first determine whether or not a home is noted in the city's inventory of historic resources. If so, a meeting with the owner will determine the types of assistance needed.

C.P.A. Preservation Workbook

The CPA Fundraising Committee has announced its intention to develop a CPA Preservation Workbook to assist local preservation groups in understanding the using the legislative process at the local and state levels in support of historic preservation issues.

At this writing the format and general subject headings have been formulated and a plan for funding the project is being developed. The publication will be in a loose-leaf binder format including plastic chapter divisions printed with the basic rules or procedures dealing with that chapter in outline form.

The chapter headings to date are as follows: I, The Legislative Process (how it works); II, Effective Preservation Communications (organization and strategy planning); III, Preservation Tools (existing legislation, ordinances, codes, review processes); IV, Preservation Resources (state and federal agency responsibilities, foundations and fundraising). Each chapter will include a brief bibliography of the best available publications on the



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subject matter and, where necessary, a glossary of terms - related to the general subject head.

It is the intention of the Fund-raising Committee to keep the document as basic as possible in order to make it a useful tool and not another unused addition to your preservation bookshelf. The format was chosen for flexibility and durability as it is intended to be a constant resource.

The Committee is not interested in re-inventing the wheel but in building a better mousetrap, and in that regard, we would appreciate your participation as a member or friend of CPA. If you are aware of a good to excellent outline or brief explanation of one of the processes outlined above, or if you have some tool you use in the legislative process that has proved effective, please let us know or forward a copy to the Committee for review. We need simple, concise and effective methods to realize our goal of making all local preservation organizations in California not only aware of the legislative process, but of how to successfully participate in it. This is an excellent opportunity for you as a member to be a part of the process.

Send us your thoughts and your suggestions right away. The Committee would like to have the publication ready by the end of the year. Its quality will be reflected in your response to this request. Please address any information to Kent L. Seavey, Interim Chairman, Fund-raising Committee, 310 Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove, 93950.

Newsletter Grant

In July 1979, our former Executive Director, Mardi Durham Gualtieri, made contact with the Cecil Howard Charitable Trust in New York City while representing CPA at a preservation conference in Vermont. Although impressed with the work CPA was doing in California, the Trust's funds had already been committed until the summer of 1980.

Realizing the great importance regional newsletters play in the development and encouragement of the preservation movement, the Trust at its May 1980 meeting awarded a grant of \$2,000 for publication of the CPA Newsletter in 1981. Robert A. Sincerbeaux, Trustee of the Cecil Howard Charitable Trust made the announcement just in time for this issue.

We wish to thank both the Cecil Howard Charitable Trust and Mardi Durham Gualtieri for their efforts on behalf of historic preservation in California.



Litigation Report

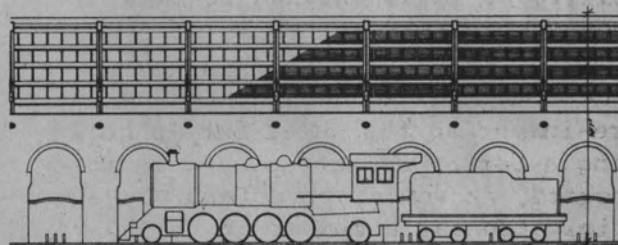
On June 12, the First District Court of Appeals rejected an appeal by several preservation organizations, including CPA, involving the City of Paris building in San Francisco. The suit sought to invalidate the environmental impact report on the demolition permit issued to Neiman-Marcus. Neiman-Marcus intends to demolish the 19th century City of Paris structure and replace it with a new department store, retaining only the rotunda and dome of the existing building.

The preservationists contended that the EIR was inadequate in that it analyzed the project only from Neiman-Marcus' point of view and did not adequately consider alternatives to demolition. The court, in upholding the City's action, imposed a low standard of reasonableness and held that the limited review of alternatives in the document was adequate.

In a second action, CPA has joined with a coalition of environmental plaintiffs in bringing suit against Cecil D. Andrus, Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, to prohibit filling of the New Melones Reservoir. The suit, brought in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California, maintains that filling the reservoir would inundate unique and still unstudied archeological and historical resources and would destroy a popular white-water stretch of the Stanislaus River, in violation of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Executive order 11593 and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

The suit has been appealed to the 9th Circuit Court and returned to the District Court where an order limiting the filling of the dam, pending a resolution of the case, was secured in late July.

The matter has thus been tentatively resolved, but the issues continue to be litigated with respect to a final solution.



Note to C.P.A. Members

AMTRAK, the railroads, many politicians, Federal, State and local government agencies, some historic "preservationists" and private "developers" are conspiring to abandon, destroy and mutilate all of California's railroad stations by kicking train passengers out of the depots and replacing them with boutiques and restaurants, by constructing new, monstrous transportation centers, the latest bureaucratic and academic fad, forcing their abandonment, by imposing badly designed new bus, "people mover", hotel, office, "cultural" centers, parking garages and other incompatible anti-historical facilities upon station sites, by detouring the main line around an existing station, forcing its abandonment and by many other anti-historical, destructive projects conceived by power-mad politicians and underemployed bureaucrats lust- ing after the public teat.

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Railroad stations belong to train passengers and other people interested in their architecture, history, and operation. There is only one valid way to preserve stations: reserving, restoring, maintaining and using them as their designers and builders intended - as railroad stations.

Persons interested in taking ACTION to thwart attacks upon stations (and other railroad facilities) in their communities, to preserve stations, or to restore stations for service are urged to contact:

Richard A. Stromme
P.O. Box 162
Santa Ynez, California 93460
(805) 688-3145



L.A. Survey

A Los Angeles citywide, street-by-street Historical and Cultural Resources Survey of all sites, structures or features of valid historic interest began July 1, 1980.

The survey, expected to take at least five years, will be done largely by teams of volunteers.

In an announcement of the survey start date, Mayor Tom Bradley explained, "Administrative costs will be paid from a federal grant under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, through the California Office of

Historic Preservation." Matching funds will be provided by the City of Los Angeles. The City Bureau of Engineering of the Department of Public Works has been designated to administer the survey.

"While the Survey is not instigated by the upcoming City of Los Angeles Bicentennial, which begins next September, it is very appropriate that the Survey will be well underway during the Centennial year of 1981," the Mayor observed.

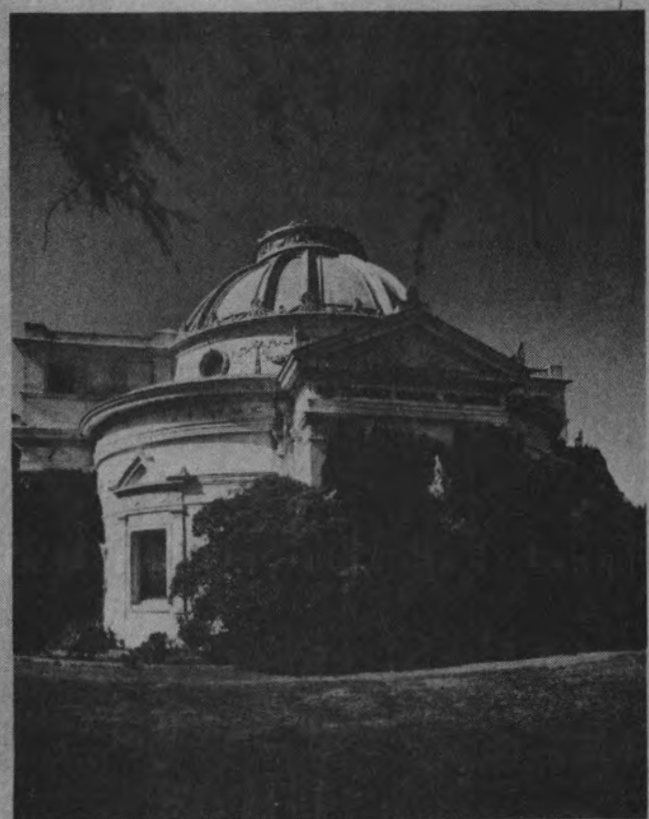
The survey is expected to have a positive economic impact, resulting in rehabilitated buildings, protected historic sites, and encourage building rehabilitation to the betterment of the community at large. In addition, the survey will serve as the basis for a full program of preservation planning. Historic preservation programs advocate the importance of maintaining historical context in local communities, through the preservation of representative and out-standing properties and districts.

Teams of volunteers, working in pairs or groups, will make 'sidewalk surveys' to survey all sites, structures and features of every Los Angeles neighborhood and evaluate historical significance if any. Using film furnished them by team captains, volunteers will photograph everything deemed historically significant and will research records to establish whether such sites or structures are historically valid.

The survey is expected to facilitate the timely processing of the Department of Public Works' projects, eliminating the need for surveying properties on a project-by-project basis to establish the presence of significant cultural resources.

The Bureau of Engineering has estimated that there are close to a million individual parcels of land within the City, which covers an area of approximately 468 square miles. Although certain districts and areas of the City have already been surveyed by other agencies under other funding, there are still hundreds of thousands of parcels yet to be surveyed. Since portions of the City will not merit more than a cursory "windshield" survey, it is anticipated that many miles of the City can be covered and documented at a minimal level in a very short period of time.

Mayor Bradley and members of the City Council called for volunteers who wish to work on the most extensive historical survey ever undertaken of the City of Los Angeles to call J. Richard Fare, Project Manager, at (213) 485-6584.



San Francisco Columbarium

Neptune Society to the Rescue

The classic but badly decaying San Francisco Columbarium, the last remnant of the 19th century Oddfellows Cemetery, received a breath of new life recently when the building in its 3-acre park-like Richmond District setting was acquired by the Neptune Society.

The largest columbarium on the West Coast and the only existing structure of its kind in San Francisco, the domed edifice was built in 1898 as a memorial repository for the remains of the Independent Order of Oddfellows. In its present state of disrepair, the once elegant, statuesque neoclassic building was destined for the wrecker's ball until Richard Jongordon, Director of the Neptune Society, offered to restore and preserve its legacy.

The Neptune Society plans to restore the Columbarium in three stages over a projected 5-year period: stage 1) Basic Preservation; stage 2) Restoration; stage 3) Utilization. A significant starting point for the restoration project will be a community-wide re-dedication ceremony Wednesday, September 10 at 10 a.m. at the site. Leading Bay Area clergy will preside over a short service attended by civic dignitaries, the general public and descendants of the I.O.O.F. after which a guided architectural tour of the landmark structure is planned.

Venice, U.S.A.

Venice, California celebrated its 75th Anniversary July 4, 5, and 6. Festivities included an opening membership drive for Venice, U.S.A., a community organization dedicated to the historical preservation and restoration of the area. This event was marred, however, by a major architectural loss.

On the morning of June 4, after two years of delays, the Los Angeles School Board won its case, and bulldozers leveled the Westminster School Auditorium. The seventy year old auditorium, a blend of Mission and California Craftsman styles, was described by the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Board as an "irreplaceable asset, not merely of the Venice community but of all Southern California." Indeed, in a city whose remnants of former glory are slim, the loss is significant.

Obviously, in a time when tight budgets and integration problems occupy the minds of school board officials, the thought of saving a historical landmark comes low on the list. But what a shame for the Los Angeles community.

The Venice community was willing to raise the \$150,000 to restore Westminster and a prominent Venice businessman even offered to buy the building outright. Mr. Tim Kimbrough, Director of the School Planning Division, would not consider this or any other plan. The courts had given the school board five legal O.K.'s to raze the building. With this kind of power in hand, the School Board elected to rid themselves of a controversy.

Now, as with all losses, only questions remain. Was there no one of the school board who could put the immediate problems of logic and practicality aside, and look at a larger community need? Was there no amateur historian

or romantic or visionary among the school board members? And where, after letters of warning and frantic midnight calls, was the Venice community when the engine of the bulldozer turned over in the early hours of the morning of June 4?

In a time when so few bureaucrats are listening, it is a question the forming membership of Venice, U.S.A. must ask itself.

APA Preservation Division

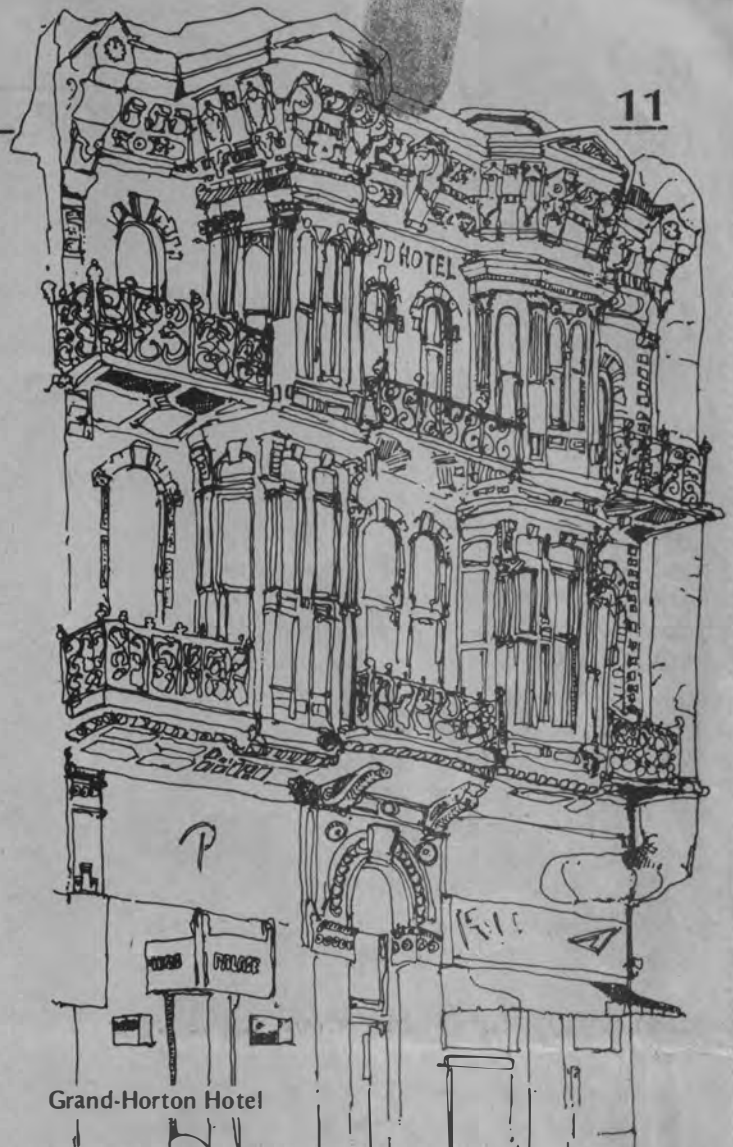
Attention all CPA members who also belong to the American Planning Association! APA is attempting to establish a Historic Preservation Division. An organizational meeting of the proposed division took place in San Francisco on April 15, 1980, where it was determined that at least 100 signatures of active members of the APA would be required to assure formation of the division at the APA National Board Meeting in Cincinnati when it convenes in October, 1980.

Those interested in seeing this important body established within the APA should contact Sandy Youkillis, AICP, Chief, Historic Conservation Division, City Planning Commission, Room 222, City Hall, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202, for particulars and sign-up sheets. Timing on this is important so make your contact as soon as possible.

San Diego Update

In July, the San Diego City Council, after a series of hearings that lasted almost six months, voted to issue demolition contracts for a number of significant structures in the Horton Plaza redevelopment project. This action was greeted with much public outcry on the part of preservationists and others concerned with the loss of not only significant cultural resources but important housing resources as well. As a result of some last minute lobbying and compromising on the part of City Council members, the Council voted to direct the Centre City Development Corporation (CCDC), San Diego's downtown redevelopment group, to incorporate the facades of the Cabrillo Theater, and the Bradley Building, two architecturally significant structures, into the facade of the proposed Horton Plaza Retail Center. The final action will depend on the economic feasibility of this and whether additional funds can be raised to cover cost.

The Grand-Horton Hotel, a National Register Site, however, will be demolished or relocated. The CCDC has requested proposals for relocation of the hotel facade to another location and would give the structure to the selected applicant. Proposed relocation of the hotel to the Gaslamp Quarter and the preservation of the Spreckles and Balboa Theater, the Golden West Hotel and the Horton Plaza and Fountain, as well as the revitalization of the adjacent Gaslamp District, did not squelch the controversy. After the Council decision, the Chairman to the Historical Site Board publicly resigned. The Mayor also declined to reappoint three other members of the Board who



Grand-Horton Hotel

have been considered outspoken in their criticisms of actions of the Council in respect to Centre City redevelopment and preservation of significant structures. A fifth member of the fifteen member panel had resigned earlier this year. The new Chairperson is a strong preservationist, outspoken, but considered a bit more diplomatic.


Meanwhile, the course of Centre City redevelopment is in a holding pattern, waiting for the economic situation to level off. However, the nearby Gaslamp Quarter has started its revitalization and is fully underway with public improvements under construction and at least 30 percent of the 200 or so structures in some stage of rehabilitation.

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 CALIFORNIANS
FOR PRESERVATION
ACTION

OCT 9 1980

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