



# CALIFORNIANS FOR PRESERVATION ACTION NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Number 2

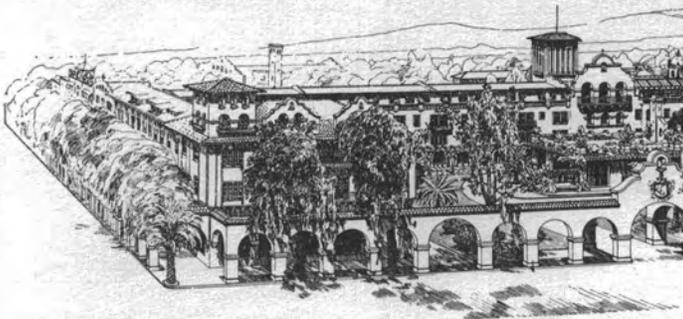
April, 1976

## State Preservation Conferences Set

In a precedent-making commitment to expand its preservation effort, the State Office of Historic Preservation, in conjunction with the National Trust and the State Historical Resources Commission, is conducting two vitally important State historic preservation conferences. Separate sessions will be held in northern and southern California during Historic Preservation Week, May 9-15, 1976. The northern conference will take place May 10-11, at Filoli, the Roth estate in Woodside. The southern conference will be held at the Mission Inn in Riverside, May 13-14. Registration is \$25 (\$15 for students) for each two-day conference. Since participation is limited to 400, be sure to submit your application early, no later than April 30. Application forms can be obtained from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, 802 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94133.

The conference will bring together experts in the field of historic preservation--planners, architects, historians, governmental agency staff, and community preservation organizations--to examine and discuss the problems of preservation. The program will consist of "a general discussion of state and national programs affecting preservation in California, the legal framework for historic preservation, the relationship of preservation to community planning, and economic factors affecting community-wide and individual preservation efforts." Speakers at both conferences will include: Dr. William J. Murtaugh, Keeper of the National Register; Herbert Rhodes, Director of the State Department of Parks and Recreation; Raymond Girvigan, FAIA, member of the State Historical Resources Commission; Charles Page Hall, Charles Page Hall & Associates; and a number of other important speakers in the field of historic preservation.

Californians for Preservation Action is co-sponsoring these important meetings and will set up an information table at both sessions. These conferences are important for information and network purposes--we urge you to attend.



## State Prepares Inventory Revision

State Office of Historic Preservation expects publication in mid-May of a new edition of the Inventory, Volume II of the State Historic Preservation Plan. The new edition will be a significant revision, 300 pages covering over 3000 sites, cross-referenced by geographic

## Senate Bill 1514

State Senator Clare Berryhill (Stockton) has submitted a bill, SB 1514, amending the National Register and State Landmark Nomination process to require owner consent before the State Historical Resources Commission may evaluate any application. National Register items and State Landmarks should be judged on their intrinsic value--architectural or historic value is the issue, not the owner's opinion. SB 1514, by requiring owner consent, puts last things first.

Senator Berryhill's office appears unwilling to accept a compromise amendment requiring only that owners be notified. A second, more important amendment was suggested to prevent what has just occurred in La Jolla--demolition of the Tyrolean Terrace district while it was under consideration for National Register listing by the State Historical Resources Commission--but this amendment, too, was rejected.

At this time, Senator Berryhill, bolstered by support letters from property owners in Volcano and La Jolla, apparently intends to push SB 1514, believing, wrongly, that the State is up in arms about arbitrary and unfair nominations by preservationists. If you want to kill California's historic preservation program, "owner consent" and SB 1514 is an excellent way to do it.

When SB 1514 is set for hearing April 27, 1:30 PM.--it is important to be there in mass, and speak. You should act immediately; strong letters must be written opposing SB 1514 as now conceived. Opposition must be state-wide. SB 1514 is now under consideration by the Senate Committee on Government Organization (Chairman Ralph Dills, District 28-Gardena). Letters should be sent to Chairman Dills, Senate Committee on Governmental Organization and to Senator Berryhill. Or write, or call, your local Assemblyman.

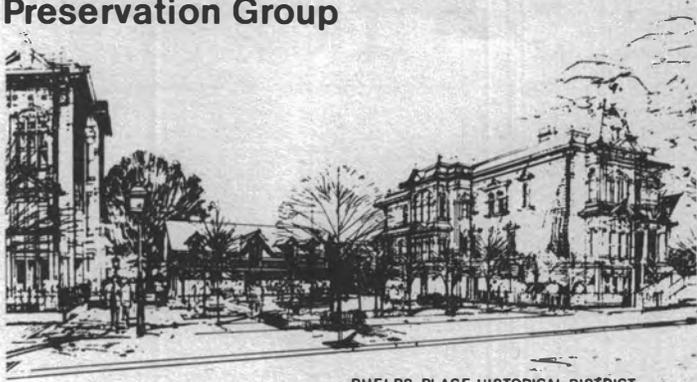
DO IT NOW--OPPOSE SB 1514



General Panoramic View of Glenwood Mission Inn  
Riverside, California  
Arthur B. Benton, Architect

location and supplemented with generous photographic support. For copies, write: The Distribution Center, Department of Parks and Recreation, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, California 95811. The last edition of Volume II was \$3.00; no price has been set for the new edition.

## San Francisco Landmarks Saved by Preservation Group



PHELPS PLACE HISTORICAL DISTRICT

What began as just a bunch of people who wanted to save San Francisco's historic Mish House has developed into a preservation experiment worthy of close attention. Under the direction of architect Harold Major and general partner Keith Robinson & Associates, "The Preservation Group," as they call themselves, has expanded their project into a preservation design plan which will save not only the Mish House, but also two of its neighboring historic properties.

The plan involves repositioning the Phelps House, dismantled and brought to the West Coast from New Orleans in 1852, and a turn-of-the-century Queen Anne building which fell victim to the stucco modernization craze. The Queen Anne's stucco front will be removed and the original Victorian facade restored. The fragile Phelps House will be structurally strengthened before moving to insure against damage and will be fire sprinklered throughout. Once relocated, the houses will form a courtyard which will make visible, once again, the now hidden architectural features of these three unique buildings, and provide space for a cast iron fountain with connecting brick walkways. The finished product will be leased for commercial use. "Saving our heritage through the preservation of fine buildings" is their motto; proving it can be feasible is their motivation.

## Whatever Happened to Alternate Codes?

The State Historic Building Code Advisory Board, created by SB 927 (Mills), has been meeting since January. It is reported that "interim regulations" have been prepared and are in the process of being adopted into Title 24 of the California Administrative Code as part 8-State Historical Building Code.

The upcoming series of steps leading to adoption go through the State Architect and the Coordinating Council of the State Building Standards Commission and, finally, to the Secretary of State.

If adopted, the "interim regulations" will permit building officials wide latitude in applying regulations to preserve the integrity of designated historical buildings, but no specifics. By placing the "interim regulations" in the State Building Code, the U.B.C. is superceded and no local hearing or official adoption is required. Application will be up to the building official and will depend on local insistence by preservationists. Preparation of the specific "Alternate Codes" is expected to take from six to twelve months. We intend to follow this closely and report developments with dispatch.

## Special Codes for Landmarks

A Victorian mansion stands vacant and forlorn on a commercial street. It would make a handsome restaurant, yet meeting code requirements is so expensive that the owner has given up. A department store is scheduled for demolition; lovers of its glass-domed rotunda have it declared a landmark, thus stalling its destruction. Other uses are pondered by the preservation community--a museum, offices, an auditorium--yet the expensive alterations required by the Building Code make new uses virtually impossible. Concern for flying gargoyles unleashed by an earthquake causes passage of a parapet ordinance, making one Supervisor wonder, "Do we want to live in an ugly city or die in a beautiful one?"

All over California, preservation groups feel that inflexible or overly stringent code enforcement hastens the loss of designated landmarks by limiting reuses or burdening owners with expensive alterations. Therefore, many rejoiced when Governor Brown recently signed SB 927 into law, because the bill provided for alternate code requirements which could be applied during the "rehabilitation, preservation, restoration, or relocation of qualified historical buildings."

However, a closer reading shows that the signature was only the beginning. The law is "permissive"--localities are not required to adapt local alternate codes for landmarks. Therefore, Californians for Preservation Action and local groups must work together to inform the preservation public, to elicit the cooperation of local codes officials and to convince City Councils and County Supervisors of the need for less stringent code compliance standards for historic buildings.

The law established a committee of experts to prepare a model ordinance which can be adopted locally: the 13-member State Historical Building Code Advisory Board has already issued a statement of interim policy which local officials can use as a guideline for reducing requirements. They expect to complete the final model ordinance within the year, although no time limit for completion was specified in the legislation.

There are several things local groups can do to protect landmarks during the interim period, as well as to create a climate of public opinion favorable to adoption of the alternate code.

1] Get on the Advisory Board list. Write to the State Historical Building Code Advisory Board, P.O. Box 1079, Sacramento 95805. Ask for a copy of their interim policy statement. Ask to receive review copies of their materials.

2] Approach your local codes officials. Explain the benefits of the alternate code, using specific examples from your own community to show how code enforcement might have hastened the loss of an historic structure. Suggest that your group will assist the codes official with any presentations, testimony, or public hearings that may be necessary. Ask him or her to be guided by the interim policy statement issued by the State Advisory Board, while the model ordinance is being prepared.

3] Meet with local elected officials. While enforcement officials are important in implementing codes, the actual power to amend codes lies with local legislators: City Councils and County Boards of Supervisors. Give them specific examples of ways in which your local codes hinder preservation; ask them to support

use of the interim policy statement; ask them to adopt the alternate code when it is completed by the State Advisory Board.

4] Seek community support. Carefully analyze how your local codes present a problem, using threatened landmark structures to demonstrate the difficulties. Show that code amendments could reduce restoration costs and promote adaptive reuse, without endangering the public safety. Evaluate all official landmarks and State and National Register structures in your area. Are any currently endangered because of code requirements? Demonstrate exactly how code changes would help. Armed with this information, write letters to newspapers and make 60-second public service announcements on radio and television.

**A SAN FRANCISCO VIEWPOINT**

The Californians for Preservation Action Newsletter wanted the response of a local official to the issues involved in adopting a special code for historic structures. We interviewed Mr. William A. Kastius, Deputy Superintendent of Building Inspection, San Francisco Department of Public Works.

C4PA: Would your Bureau support the amendment of San Francisco codes to allow lesser standards to be applied to landmarks?

WAK: No, we see our present code requirements as the minimum. To reduce that minimum, I feel we would be jeopardizing public safety. Section 102 of the S.F. Building Code sets forth our purpose, "to provide minimum standards to safeguard life and limb, health, property and public welfare." That's our charge; otherwise we would be derelict!

C4PA: Would the Bureau use discretionary powers to alter code requirements on individual landmarks?

WAK: Generally, no, because of our legal duty to enforce minimum standards. However, we are always willing to evaluate unique buildings or hardship cases on an individual basis, within the context of our general concerns for public safety.

C4PA: What procedures would an owner of an historic building follow to ask for relief from certain specific code requirements?

WAK: The appeal route is the same for all buildings, regardless of age or landmark status. The on-line inspector is always the first contact; then his Division Chief has some flexibility in altering requirements. If more changes are necessary, the owner can write to the Superintendent of Building Inspection, who can grant some latitude on an individual basis, as long as proposed alternatives provide equivalent safety to that defined in the Codes. If conferences with the Superintendent do not suffice, an owner may then write to the Board of Examiners or the Abatement Appeals Board to request relief, depending on which code provisions are in question. So in San Francisco we already have a built-in procedure for the owners of any structure, historic or not, to ask for flexibility in enforcement on a case-by-case basis.

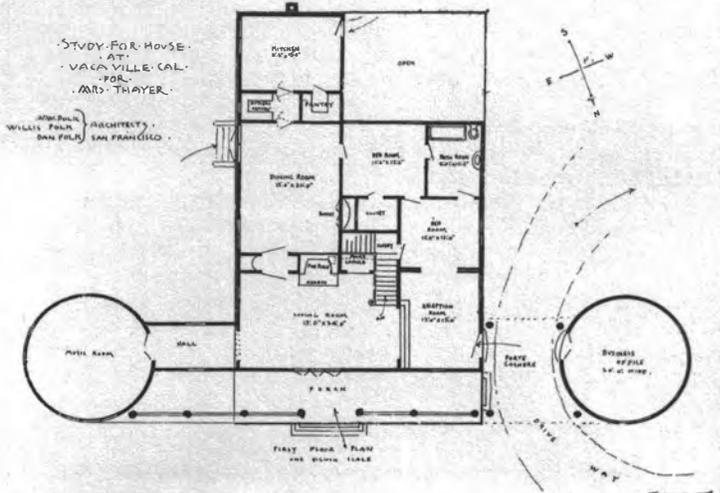
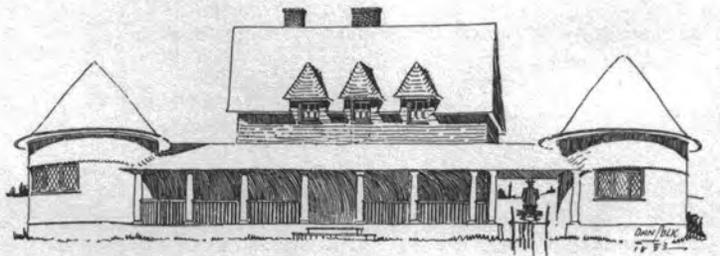
C4PA: Are there other ways the existing City Codes encourage preservation of historic buildings?

WAK: Yes, in two categories. All non-residential structures, including landmarks, fall under the jurisdiction of the S.F. Building Code, which is generally not retroactive unless existing buildings are substantially altered or changed in occupancy status. For example, the City of Paris department store is a San Francisco landmark. Under the S.F. Building Code, if its use had continued unchanged as a retail store, nothing would have had to be changed, even though its open floor plan and rotunda would never be permitted in a newly-constructed building. However, the City of Paris building would have to be altered very considerably if the occupancy were changed; for example, if it were adapted for use as a museum.

Residential landmarks have even more latitude because their code compliance is regulated by the S.F. Housing Code. Although some logical safety provisions are retroactive, we do not require that an 1880 home be made into a 1976 one. We are concerned mainly with preventing unsafe illegal occupancy and providing adequate fire safety and health standards.

C4PA: What about the San Francisco parapet ordinance, which some preservationists fear will strip the architectural embellishments from downtown buildings?

WAK: This is a good example of the flexibility which is built into the S.F. Bureau of Building Inspection procedures. A modifying interpretation of the Parapet Safety Ordinance is currently being considered by the Board of Examiners. That Board appointed a technical advisory committee of architects and engineers which is reporting to the Board shortly with proposed guidelines which may do much toward softening the undesirable impact of the ordinance insofar as architectural embellishments are concerned.



## In Print



The Los Angeles Central Library (1925-6), the last major work of Bertram Goodhue, was put on the National Register of Historic Places in 1970. The Los Angeles City Council is now considering its future--or lack of one.

Historic Preservation: A Bibliography on Historical Organization Practices, edited by Frederick L. Rath and Merrilyn Rogers O'Connell, American Association of State and Local History, Nashville, Tennessee, 1975.

National Historic Preservation - reproductions, in full, of national legislation and enactments. Write for a copy to: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Denver Regional Office, P.O. Box 2508, Denver, Colorado 80225.

The Way It Was: A Program for Historic Preservation, prepared by the Department of Environmental Affairs, City of Fairfield, Calif., 1975.

San Diego Historical Society Newsletter - San Diego; write: SDHS, P.O. Box 81825, San Diego, Calif. 92138.

We were pleased to arrange an exchange of newsletters with James Moss, President of the San Diego Historical Society, and are further pleased to see our first newsletter extensively quoted in the San Diego Newsletter, March 1976. It is our policy and hope to be of service to local organizations in this way, and we encourage you to use any article we publish.

La Campana, news bulletin of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation; write 915 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, California 93101, (805) 963-9009.

Reflections, the voice of SOHO, San Diego's activist preservation organization; available from: Save Our Heritage Organization, P.O. Box 3571, San Diego, California 92103, (714) 225-1033.

Heritage House Herald - Riverside; write: 8193 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, Calif. 92504.

Victorian Preservation Association Newsletter San Jose; write: 111 W. St. John Street (suite 700), San Jose, Calif. 95113.

Back to the City Newsreport, news of the urban revival; write: 12 East 41st Street, New York, New York 10017.

Timeless Walks in San Francisco: a historical walking guide to the city by Michelle Brant (Lompa Press, 1975), \$3.50 at most San Francisco bookstores, from the National Trust, or from the author, Box 68, Point Richmond, California 94807.

## Please Note

### UC BERKELEY SUMMER INSTITUTE

The University of California, Berkeley--Summer Institute in Environmental Planning & Design--offers "Methods of Historic Preservation," Monday June 21--Wednesday June 23, 1976. Organized by Kenneth H. Cardwell and Sally Woodbridge, the course will be both comprehensive and intensive (class size will be limited to 25). For further information contact: Continuing Education in City, Regional and Environmental Planning, University Extension, University of California, 2223 Fulton Street, Berkeley, California 94720, (415) 642-4811.

### SONOMA PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

"Preservation Education" will be the theme of a conference at California State College, Sonoma, on June 18, 1976. The conference, sponsored by the College's new undergraduate program in historic preservation, is designed to inform interested Californians about preservation education, to critique the program's first year and plan its future, and to perfect a model undergraduate curriculum. Allan Temko, architectural critic for the San Francisco Chronicle, will be the keynote speaker.

For more detailed information, write the Pilot Undergraduate Program in Historic Preservation, California State College, Sonoma, Rohnert Park, CA 94928. Co-Directors are Peter Mellini (707-664-2447) and Edgar Morse (707-664-2491).

### AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL FUND CALIFORNIA ACTIVITIES

For more than ten years, America the Beautiful Fund (ABF) has been promoting community preservation and participation projects through small "seed grants" averaging \$750. Here are some recent ABF projects in California: Huntington Beach Victorian house "rescue," Salinas adobe project, the Lincoln School house, saving an old pump house in San Mateo. The ABF California committee is seeking project ideas and applications now. Does your organization have a house it wants to save or a community project to initiate? For information write to Paul Bruce Dowling, Executive Director, ABF, 219 Shoreham Building, Washington, D.C. 20005.

## UCLA PRESERVATION ISSUES COURSE

The final session of UCLA's course, Preservation Issues, will feature a debate, Profit vs. Loss, Thursday April 29, 1976, 7:30 p.m. on the UCLA campus. Participants include John Frisbee, Herbert Rhodes, and architect Edgardo Contini. Contact Ronnie Rubin at 825-3912.

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION MAINTENANCE, MAY 23-26 PACIFIC GROVE, CALIFORNIA

A "short course...designed to assist property managers and administrators and others responsible for the continuing preservation and contemporary use of historic structures," co-sponsored by the National Trust and National Park Service. For details, write: Training Institute, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240, attention Brad Chapman, Field coordinator.



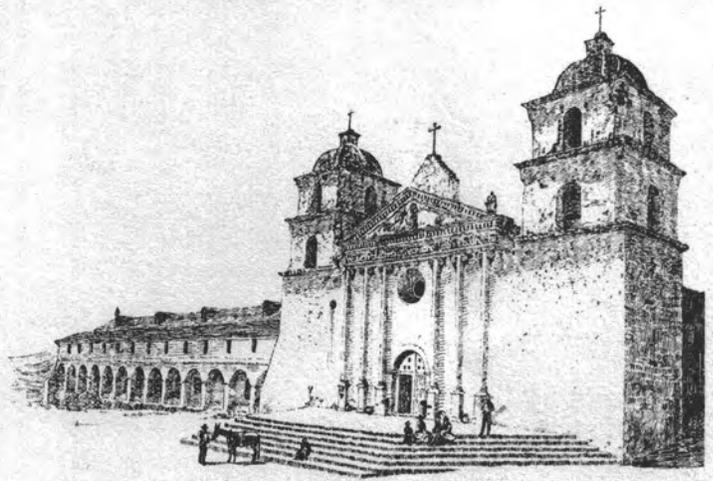
California State Capitol

## Proposed Federal Budget Cut a Breach of Faith

Preservationists should act to forestall a proposed Federal budget cut in historic preservation funding. Fiscal Year 1976-77 would decrease Federal support 50%, from 20 million to 10 million. At the same time, S327-Jackson, calls for 150 million for historic preservation. Take your choice, but your congressman should be informed that S327 fits the national mood and growing popular interest in historic preservation, not a budget cut which could cripple this State's support programs. The State Office of Historic Preservation has already seen its budget request pared down to \$990,000 from a much higher figure. As for funding, less is never more.

In a National Trust press release, President James Biddle argues, "(w)e believe that Congress cannot permit the Federal government to turn its back on the historic preservation movement, which it initiated and has helped to nurture over many years."

**WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMAN.** Express your displeasure with the proposed budget slash, your disbelief that it could be done in '76, your disappointment with the Executive proposal and hope that Congress will resist this cut.



Santa Barbara Mission

## SCA 22

SCA22-Marks, reported in the last newsletter, still rests quietly in Assembly Revenue & Taxation Committee. The constitutional amendment--tax exemptions for residential property improvements--must receive the signature of the Secretary of State by June 23 to be placed on the November ballot.

## Potential Funding?

In 1974, the Z'berg/Collier Park Bonds Act was passed, offering cities and counties 90 million dollars for acquisition purposes; historic preservation was a permitted application. According to a Park's Department spokesman, less than 10 percent was allocated, very little for preservation.

In 1976, three separate funding measures have been proposed--SB174 (Roberti), SB1321 (Nejedly), and AB2948 (Hart): SB174 - 25 million dollars in general fund grants for open space and recreation to cities, counties, and districts; SB1321 - 360 million in bonds, of which 10 million is specifically directed to cities, counties and districts, 10 million to Parks & Recreation for historic preservation purposes, 90 million for cities, counties, and districts without a specific percentage for preservation; AB2948 - 240 million in bonds (the Assembly mate to SB1321) mainly for coastal acquisitions, 50 for cities, counties, and districts and 150 million for State Parks, with no specific percentage for preservation.

This is proposed legislation and the bond measure may not make the November ballot. Nonetheless, all this money raises some questions:

1. Why was so little of the 1974 Act monies tapped? Are preservationists aware of the money's availability? Are they unable to convince their local jurisdictions to apply? Is it too difficult? Will this continue to be the case?

2. Presuming passage of the Bond Acts, are we satisfied with this minimal specific allocation for historic preservation purposes? And who can assure us that preservationists will influence the distribution of monies for legitimate historic preservation purposes?

By late June we will know more regarding the final forms and the future possibilities of these measures. However, the questions remain.

## A Yes Vote on Proposition 7

The June 8 ballot measure--proposition 7 (once known to readers as ACA 111)--would give preservation its first significant tax incentive. If passed, historic properties would gain the exception to the Constitutional requirement that property be taxed at "highest and best use" level instead of at a rate consistent with present use (an exception similar to that made for agricultural land by the Williamson Act). Proposition 7 would aid and abet legislation such as SB 357 (Mills), a tax reduction gained only by the La Jolla Women's Club so far.

The opposition at present is a tax payers' group knee-jerk fear of their own taxes being raised. Proposition 7 will affect too few properties to justify such a reaction, but the voters tendency to vote no if they fear increased taxes, or if they don't understand a measure should be a matter of concern.

A promotional campaign to support proposition 7 is getting underway. The intent would be to familiarize the general voting public with proposition 7, alleviate fears of increased taxes, and stress cultural and social benefits of tax incentives, preserving our heritage instead of tearing it down. We need your help, your time, your money, your organizational skills, your contacts with the media. To help, contact: Peggy Lang-Sacramento-(916) 443-5107, Judith Waldhorn-San Francisco-(415) 647-7470, or John Merritt-Pasadena-(213)794-3816. For your own part, lobby your friends, inform your organizations, tell your neighbors.

VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION 7

CHURCH OF THE  
HOLY INNOCENTS:  
Ernest A. Coxhead: Architect:  
San Francisco: Cal:



## SB 2128 New and Much Needed

Senator Milton Marks has introduced enabling legislation, SB 2128, allowing local governments to set up revenue bond programs for low interest loans for historic rehabilitation.

The bill applies statewide to rehabilitation of properties on the National Register or on local or State inventories of historically or architecturally significant properties. If the bill passes, you should encourage your city or county to set up such a funding program.

We will need people to testify in support of SB 2128 when it comes up before legislative committees. If your group's board must approve a stand formally before you can make a public statement on its behalf, start your internal process NOW. More information and copies of SB 2128 may be obtained from your local State Senator's district office or from the Senate Local Government Committee, 2045 State Capitol, Sacramento 95814, (916) 445-9748.

All letters of support to any members of the Senate (at first) and Assembly (second) will be helpful, and the most effective support will be to have people appear in committee hearings in Sacramento.

## National Register Hang-up

If you have submitted a National Registration nomination form to the State recently, you probably received a nice note informing you not to hold your breath. Forms are piling up and, for now, not being set for hearing.

The log jam is attributed to a number of causes. Nominations are becoming controversial, as the Berryhill Bill might indicate, and hearings are extended or often continued, slowing processing. With an increase of interest in the program and a marked increase in submittals, the major problem appears to be lack of sufficient staff to administer this and other programs.

The State would be well advised to push for a significant boost in the number of professionals within the division; staff would welcome the help and observers will certainly attest to the need. California preservation activity is showing a dramatic increase and must continue to be well served.

## Mead Bill, AB 3109, Fails in Committee

Obituaries are unpleasant, particularly when they document failure. AB 3109 was limited in scope but broad in implication. Assemblyman Kenneth Meade proposed funding rehabilitation feasibility studies for three venerable Berkeley schools, before any plans for demolition and new construction could proceed. The bill failed passage in the Assembly Education Committee, March 4, 1976.

AB 3109 might have provided a model, an educational device for our throwaway society, a means to document the hidden cultural, social, and economic costs of wasting buildings.

Designed and produced by the  
Californians for Preservation  
Action Newsletter Committee.

## What the National Register Doesn't Do

The 1862 Murphy Building, San Jose's Civil War courthouse, was put on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975. The owner of the structure decided to demolish the building in order to use its space for--yes--a parking lot. At the environmental impact report hearing, the San Jose City Planning Commission decided that demolition of the building would have a significant detrimental effect on the environment of San Jose. Nonetheless, a demolition permit was issued.

We are often painfully reminded that a National Register listing is recognition but not necessarily protection. Losses such as the Murphy Building may spark community outrage, but without strong local program support, landmarks will continue to fall. Without question, San Jose officials merit the wrecking ball award for their vandalism; San Jose preservationists hope to build a program from community outrage over loss of the Murphy Building but...don't rest your case on listings alone.



General Phineas Banning Residence Museum  
Site of March 13 Meeting

## Membership News

A group of more than 50 persons gathered for the last meeting of Californians for Preservation Action March 13th at the Banning Residence Museum in Wilmington. Incorporation status and present legislation were reviewed. A flyer design was approved for a membership flyer which will be available for distribution at the end of April. There was discussion of the upcoming State conferences in May and the UCLA extension course in progress during the month of April. The group then broke into committees. Legislation Committee work concerned the status of legislation, the initial steps we must take to mount a support campaign for Proposition 7 on the June ballot, and finally, efforts in process to defeat any move requiring owner consent for landmark designation. The Education Committee directed its energy toward organizing two areas. Education action (workshops on specific preservation issues to precede each regular meeting) and information dissemination (newsletters, publicity, etc.). Recommended programs and ap-

proaches will be available at the May membership meeting. The meeting adjourned. A tour of the Banning Residence Museum, presently under restoration, was lead by Director Beverly Bubar.

## NOMINATIONS TO THE BOARD

With by-laws and incorporation comes the necessary elections to the Board of Directors. Nominations to the nine-member Board are open and will remain so until May 22, 1976. Nominations can be made from the floor of the May 22 membership meeting or can be submitted by mail to: Robin Patel, State Office of Historic Preservation, P.O. Box 2390, Sacramento, CA 95811. Any member of Californians for Preservation Action may be nominated for the Board. Voting will be conducted by mail ballot--one membership, one vote.

## NEW LOGO?

We invite you to submit any design alternative you would prefer to the existing logo. Your entry should be a fully developed design concept, including the organizational name. Entries should be sent to the Newsletter Committee for review and consideration no later than May 15, 1976 for a final decision at the May meeting.

## TWENTY MILLION CALIFORNIANS CAN'T BE RIGHT; JOIN NOW

"Your first newsletter was excellent,"  
"Congratulations on a fine production",  
"Thank you for organizing! It's about time!"  
With comments like this, we are pleased that you are pleased, and we intend to persist... with your help. Memberships arrive with amazing regularity, but our activities will require continued green energy; we hope to serve the growing preservation constituency with new ideas, new programs and, of course, this newsletter. Help us help you protect our historic legacy.

Californians for Preservation Action will incorporate as a non-profit organization. Because we intend to actively lobby to influence legislation, the IRS will not offer you a tax-deduction for your contributions. Membership categories are listed below. Indicate the appropriate status, make checks payable to Californians for Preservation Action and send them to:

.....  
CALIFORNIANS FOR PRESERVATION ACTION  
Post Office Box 2169, Sacramento 95810

I want to help; sign me up as:  
 student membership \$ 7.50  
 individual membership 15.00  
 family membership 20.00  
 organization membership 15.00  
 sponsor 25.00 or more

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

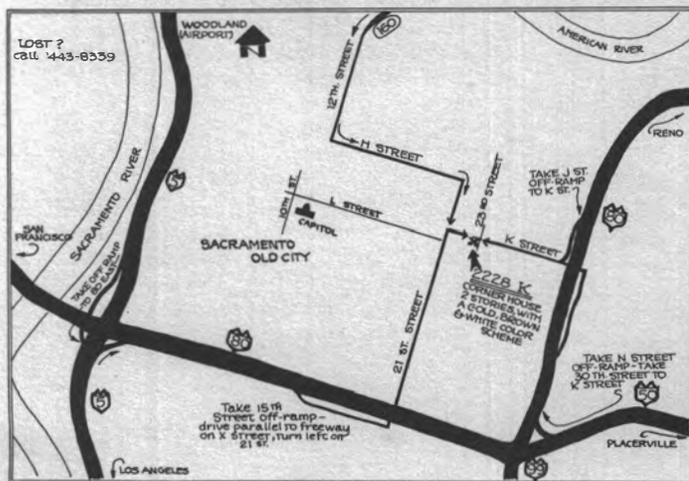
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## Notice of Meeting

Our first Annual Membership Meeting will be held Saturday, May 22, 1976, beginning at 10:00 a.m., in Sacramento at the home of Mary Helmich, 2228 K Street, Sacramento (see map). The agenda includes final nominations to the Board of Directors, voting procedure, reports on the Proposition 7 campaign, Legislative Committee planning, and the Education Committee's first workshop. We also plan a tour of Woodland following the meeting.

BE THERE!



## Historic Preservation General Plan Element-Where's Yours?

In 1974 section j was added to California Government Code, Section 65303, permitting the inclusion of Historic Preservation Elements in General Plans. The State Office of Planning and Research is currently preparing guidelines to assist planning departments in the preparation of Preservation Elements, the guidelines expected this June.

But, and we emphasize, Historic Preservation Elements are not required. Many communities will have no element because the planners will not have time to prepare one unless preservationists insist. Approach your planning department, remind the planners of the legislation, tell them about the guidelines, ask that an element be prepared and that preservationists take an active part in the preparation.

With State law requiring General Plan consistency, the General Plan Element for Historic Preservation provides a very valuable tool for identifying and securing cultural resources, and an important means of generating community support through participation and catalyzing community action.

Other California communities have prepared Historic Preservation Elements--most notable being Fairfield's The Way It Was and the Santa Cruz Historic Preservation Plan; consult these, study the State Guidelines, visit your friendly local planner, and insist!



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Sacramento, California 95810