



CALIFORNIA
PRESERVATION
FOUNDATION

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This workshop is held in partnership with



LA Plaza de Cultura: Historical Documentation, Design, Construction

Welcome and Introductions:

Jonathan Haeber, Field Services Director, California Preservation Foundation

Speakers:

Doug Suisman, FAIA, Principal, Suisman Urban Design; Taylor Loudon, AIA, Historical Architect, GTL Architecture; Claire Robinson, Managing Director, Amigos de Los Rios; John Dietler, Program Director, Cultural Resources, SWCA Environmental Consultants; Christopher Gray, Mollenhauer Group; Michael Matteucci, AIA LEED AP BD+C, Associate Principal, Chu + Gooding Architects

Location:

Friday, September 11, 2015
LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes, 501 N. Main Street, Los Angeles, CA

Workshop Summary:

Historic rehabilitation projects typically begin with assessments, documentation, and assembling baseline conditions as part of a pre-design project process. These can run from outline feasibility studies to full-blown EIR's. Altogether these reports create an anticipatory landscape that can lead to a greater project understanding, and alternatively, propagate misconceptions and confusion. As construction documentation process commences, the level of data increases in depth, detail and scope.

Specific restoration design case-study examples will showcase different preservation design issues, drawing from the workshop venue at LA Plaza de Cultura. These include reconstruction of exterior façade elements of the Victorian Italianate buildings, proposed designs for additions to historical structures, and required façade alterations and structural interventions. Within the historic context of LA's first downtown public square, interaction of construction with historic landscapes over time will be evaluated. A panel will provide assessments of proposed solutions, and after-completion commencement of post-construction modifications.

The day's presentations conclude with an area walking tour, including a related project for a proposed "Historical City Walk" of the La Plaza area.

Learning Objectives:

1. Documentation as a first step in uncovering data in support of the historical construction process
2. Greater awareness of breadth of potential preservation design solutions
3. Identify character defining features in a complex and how to integrate this into a successful adaptive reuse / infill design.
4. Exposure to intricacies of project implementation, for staging a project, addressing required mitigations, and incorporating state of the art infrastructure.
5. Greater awareness of special trades and skills required to successfully plan and implement rehabilitation projects.
6. Examples of what makes a compatible design, compatible, and when to rehabilitate and when to replace-in-kind
7. Better understanding of the needs for continuing research and survey work in the development of the Construction Documents

Schedule:

8:30- 9:00

Registration

9:00 – 9:10

Welcome & Introductions

9:10 – 10:00

Using the Historical Record to Inform Future Design

Christopher Gray

3D Survey

Taylor Louden

Synthesizing the history of a site through bibliographic research
Identifying key themes, character defining features, research and field detailing for
reconstruction design; documenting details of period of significance
Challenges and lessons learned

10:00 – 11:00

Site Master Planning of the Context

Doug Suisman

11:00 – 11:15

Question & Answer

11:15 – 12:15

Research, and development of the construction documents for La Plaza

Michael Matteucci

- Development of a reduced project scope for the Cultural Center

12:15 – 1:00

Tour of LA Plaza Site, Buildings, and Additions

John Echeveste, CEO LA Plaza

1:00 – 2:00

LUNCH

2:00 – 3:00

Project Monitoring, Impacts, and Lessons Learned from LA Plaza de Cultura

John Dietler

- Guidelines
 - Tools and techniques
 - Best practices
 - What to watch for
 - Native American consultation
- Section 106 and CEQA

3:00 – 3:10

Post-Occupancy Development

Michael Matteucci

Claire Robinson

3:10 – 4:00

Project and program development at La Plaza

Claire Robinson

Optional Tour: Site Context and Area Walking Tour

Claire Robinson

Taylor Louden

Speakers (Alphabetical by Last Name)

John Dietler, PhD, is the cultural and paleontological resources program director and an archaeological principal investigator for SWCA's six California offices, overseeing a team of more than 40 archaeologists, architectural historians, and paleontologists. He is a Regional Scientist in SWCA's Scientific Leadership Program. He is responsible for overseeing the production of high-quality cultural and paleontological resources research throughout California. As an archaeological principal investigator, he creates innovative research designs, mentors staff, and provides QA/QC for technical studies. He has over 18 years of experience in conducting cultural resources research in support of development, infrastructure, and multidisciplinary environmental projects in compliance with CEQA, NEPA, NAGPRA, and Sections 106 and 110 of NHPA. He has successfully worked with numerous lead agencies at the local (e.g., Los Angeles County, City of Los Angeles), state (Caltrans, California Energy Commission), and federal (BLM, USFS, DoD) levels. He has also worked extensively with Native American tribes in southern California, conducting projects on reservation lands, engaging in consultation, and working closely with Native American monitors in a variety of settings. He is a versatile researcher who has supervised research projects of all sizes and descriptions. During the past 18 years he has supervised archaeological studies in California and Florida and contributed to research in Arizona, New Jersey, Canada, Mexico, Honduras, and Peru. His research interests are broad; he has presented scientific papers on prehistoric lithic use in San Diego County, Channel Islands microblade production, trade and exchange in the Mojave Desert, cemeteries in urban Los Angeles, the beginning of California's industrial revolution at Mission San Gabriel, and the origins of chiefdoms in southwest Florida.

Program Director

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John Echeveste, President & CEO of LA Plaza de Cultura. Mr. Echeveste came to LA Plaza after 26 years as founding partner of VPE Tradigital Communications in South Pasadena, a Hispanic-owned public relations firm that has led development and branding campaigns for national, international, and non-profit organizations. A native Angeleno, Echeveste has a long record of involvement with many local civic and non-profit organizations, his professional affiliations include the Los Angeles County Public Library Foundation, Los Angeles Music & Art School, and Cal State University Fullerton College of Communications Advisory board, among others. He is a founder of the Hispanic Public Relations Association and is recipient of several awards including the Public Relations Society of America Pioneer Award, the Hispanicize Latinovator Award, the Hispanic Lifestyle Survived & Thrived Award, and the Hispanic Business Magazine Hispanic Influentials List.

President and CEO

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Christopher Gray, FRICS, specializes in the measurement and delivery of data of the built environment. He has always championed the use of cutting edge tools, such as laser scanning and photogrammetry to generate accurate 2D and 3D data and now the use of BIM as a platform for the development of existing buildings. His career outside of the private sector also includes Head of Survey Procurement at English Heritage and Cadw, and Director of Survey at the Getty Conservation Institute. He is on the board of directors for the RICS International Geo Board, Ex-Chair and founder of RICS SoCAL, Ex-President of WCAPT and current Co-Chair of the APTi Technical Committee for Documentation. He continues to lecture and publish extensively.

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G. Taylor Louden has architectural degrees from the University of Virginia and Columbia University. His portfolio of work includes numerous New York City and Los Angeles area landmarks. Since 2004 he has consulted as an independent historical architect. Louden's projects have been recognized for excellence in the field of historical architecture and preservation, receiving a National Trust Preservation Award, and Los Angeles Conservancy Preservation Design Awards. He served over two terms as the Architectural Representative on a Los Angeles Planning Department Historic Preservation Overlay Zone review board. Louden has presented several sessions at California Preservation Foundation conferences, directing panels on historical preservation design, and workshop seminars on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. He serves on CPF's education committee. In 2011 he received a Certificate of Recognition by the City of Los Angeles for his work in the field of historic preservation.

Historical Architect

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Michael Matteucci is a principal at CHU+GOODING Architects in Los Angeles, focusing on projects for arts-related and higher education clients. His application of strong project management and design skills have helped to realize such recent projects as Mexican Cultural Center LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes in downtown Los Angeles as well as the headquarters for Southern California Public Radio (KPCC 89.3) in Pasadena. Mr. Matteucci has exhibited a strong interest in the preservation and rehabilitations of historic projects. Such projects include the renovations to the Culver Center of the Arts, a University of California, Riverside graduate arts joint facility, The Wellness Center at The Historic General Hospital as well as the schematic design for a renovation and addition to the Museum of History and Art, Ontario. The major renovation and addition to the 1950 Harwell Hamilton Harris mid-century masterpiece, English House, garnered a 2002 National AIA Honor Award. Mr. Matteucci participated in the 2011 California Preservation Foundation Conference, Developing Dynamic Designs in Concert with Historical Architecture: A Design Roundtable. Currently, he serves as Board Architect for the City of Los Angeles's Miracle Mile North Historic Preservation Overlay Zone, one of the city's 29 designated historic districts.

Associate Principal

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Claire Robinson's multi-disciplinary background in art, architecture, urban planning and business has led to the 501c3 Amigos de los Rios' unique success in creating a regional Green Infra – structure Vision for East Los Angeles County known as the San Gabriel Emerald Necklace. Under Claire's leadership Amigos de los Rios, also known as the Emerald Necklace Group, and Amigos "Fellows" (university graduate trainees) have launched an Emerald Necklace Coalition of Agencies, completed 35 community based multi-objective park demonstration projects in past 11 years and have outlined a 1929 Olmsted based green infrastructure vision for the Los Angeles Basin known as the Emerald Necklace Expanded Vision Plan. She serves on the National Forest Foundation Collaborative working to plan for San Gabriel National Monument Plan, the USDA's – National Urban Forestry Advisory Council and as Vice Chair of the national Metropolitan Greenspaces Alliance.

Founder and Managing Director

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Doug Suisman, FAIA, is an internationally recognized, award-winning urban designer and architect. He founded Suisman Urban Design in 1990 to create city places by integrating architecture, research, landscape, and

environmental graphics. His projects include transit systems, cultural districts, university campuses, civic centers, plazas, parks, and streetscapes. Mr. Suisman, in partnership with RAND Corporation, designed The Arc, an acclaimed plan for a Palestinian state which won the top master plan award and Future Project of the Year award at the 2010 World Architecture Festival. His current iQuilt cultural district plan for downtown Hartford has won an AIA Honor Award and two major grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. He has recently completed renovations of two Los Angeles landmarks: Santa Monica's Third Street Promenade and the La Brea Tar Pits and Museum. His classic monograph, Los Angeles Boulevard, was republished in 2014 in a 25th Anniversary edition. Mr. Suisman is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a National Peer in urban design for the General Service Administration of the U.S. Government.

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