Tools that Protect Historic Resources After a Disaster

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
California State Historic Preservation Officer

2007 Cornelius O'Brien / Indiana Mainstreet Conference
Richmond, Indiana
October 18 - 20, 2007

HISTORY AT RISK

Loma Prieta:

Seismic Safety & Historic Buildings

California Preservation Foundation

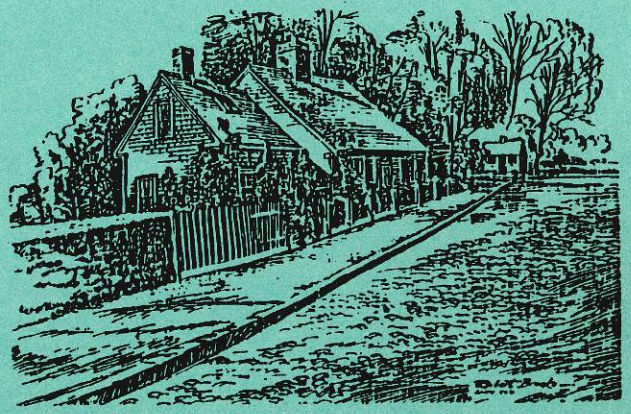
Fall, 1990

Plan for Recovery Before the Disaster Occurs

- Work for the adoption of a comprehensive, balanced Historic Preservation
- Press actively for the landmarking of key properties to the State Register
- Help develop downtown plans, redevelopment plans, general plans, zoning regulations, and design guidelines with strong preservation policies
- Protect buildings (seismic retrofit, flood control, etc.) and develop local incentive programs to facilitate protection
- Fight density and zoning battles now

Safeguarding Your Historic Site

Basic Preparedness and Recovery Measures For Natural Disasters



Developed through the experiences of the historic districts of Nantucket, Massachusetts and Montpelier, Vermont

Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I

Pick Your Battles Wisely

- Understand the laws and public safety
- Personal crises for local residents set as priorities
- Understand priorities of government officials
- Recognize the signs of psychological and physical fatigue

Buccaneer State Park
Sightseers:
This rubble represents our lives, our hopes and our dreams.
Please stay out of our way.
Katrina Survivors
STARVING STUDENTS
LANDSCAPING
•Tree Removal

Your Community's Personality will Affect Preservation Disaster Recovery Efforts

- Community with a history of activism and discourse
- Community with and economically healthy downtown
- Community intent on limiting growth, density, and traffic
- Community with strong property rights
- Community with resistant to accept state and federal intervention

Adopt Preservation Sensitive Disaster Ordinances

- Protect listed and eligible buildings on registers and surveys
- Additional protection during recovery
- Define undue financial hardships
- Work to conform to local guidelines/*Secretary of the Interior's Standards*
- Expedite review process for minor repairs
- Require second opinions when demolition is requested
- Provisions to declare damaged resource a landmark following the disaster

Integrating Historic Property and Cultural Resource Considerations Into Hazard Mitigation Planning

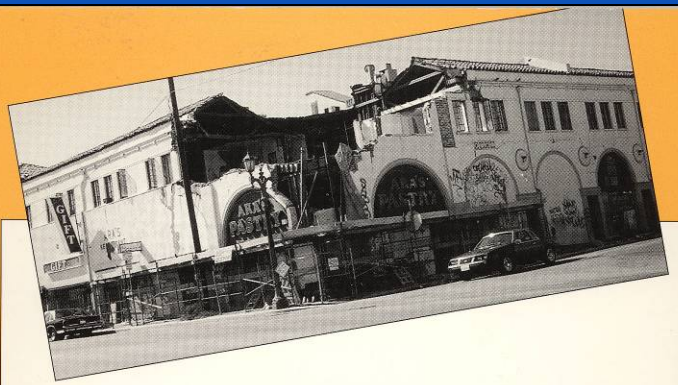
State and Local Mitigation Planning How-To Guide

FEMA 386-6 / May 2005

FEMA

Have a Preservation Recovery Plan in Place

- Pass a preservation friendly emergency ordinance
- Develop a disaster preparedness plan for downtown business districts
- Integrate the Preservation Recovery Plan into existing local disaster recovery plans



20 Tools

THAT PROTECT HISTORIC RESOURCES AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE

Lessons learned from the Northridge earthquake

California Preservation Foundation

Prepare Post-Disaster Work Immediately

- Survey your community's historic resources
- Create formal links
- Build relationships with the State Office of Historic Preservation and state and national preservation organizations
- Prepare emergency response kits to facilitate your own efforts to go out and inspect damage
- Educate representatives of the Office of Emergency Services and disaster assessment field volunteers on preservation standards

Disaster Management Programs for Historic Sites

Dirk H.R. Spennemann
David W. Look

State of California
Governor's Office of Emergency Services

This is to certify that on July 31th, 2002, in Alhambra, CA

Milford Donaldson

Has successfully completed the

Safety Assessment Program

Evaluator Train-the-trainer Course

And is competent to train Safety Assessment Evaluators in accord with the regulations, policies, and guidance of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

OES
CALIFORNIA

Governor's Office of Emergency Services

Rick Ranous, Instructor

Michael Sabbaghian, P.E.
Senior Civil Engineer

Participate in Community Recovery Efforts

- Take part in disaster drills and modeling
- Work with local government to create stores of shoring materials, compile lists of professionals and materials suppliers
- Encourage other disaster assessment field volunteers outside the region to assist in recovery

SAPS10001 Expires 07/31/2007

Safety Assessment Program

State of California

Governor's Office of Emergency Services

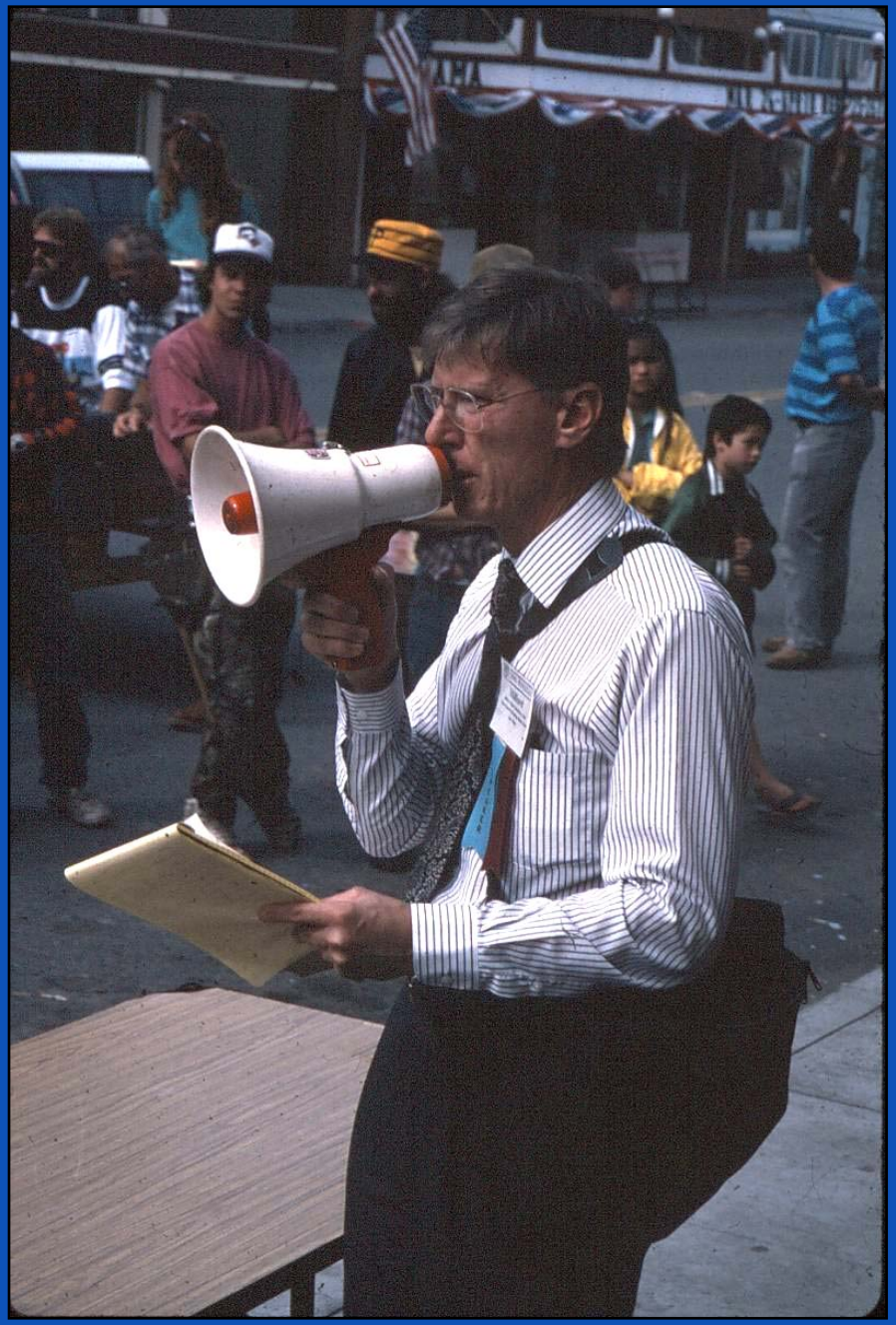
The Disaster Service Worker who is identified by the picture on this card has been assigned ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY DUTIES. It is important that he/she be assisted in the performance of these duties.

Milford Wayne Donaldson

Architect
CA State Parks

OES Director

DSW-State



MERCANTILE
VILLAGE
PLAYHOUSE
1912

Explain Why Historic Preservation Should Be a Post-Disaster Priority

- Iconic structures versus “ordinary” resources
- Prevent speculative demolition and stress incentives
- Encourage quick repair of early occupancy
- Prevent facade retention or “new” replacements

Give Historic Preservation a Visible Presence

- Cross reference lists of damaged buildings with historic resources using GIS format
- Distribute education information on repair and restoration
- Recommend salvage of dislodged historic fabric and material to store on site
- Take part in all meetings with official, agencies, and owners in recovery efforts
- Distribute names and contact sources of qualified experts

A CRUZ TRAVEL
1519
RUZ TRAVEL

Promote Use of Historic Preservation Professionals to Inspect Damage and Make Repairs

- Understanding of older buildings and resources
- Know how to keep the resource eligible
- Know latest construction and repair techniques
- Avoid damaging historic fabric during cleanup
- Understand codes, emergency rescue operations, and protection of the public
- Promote shoring and stabilization techniques

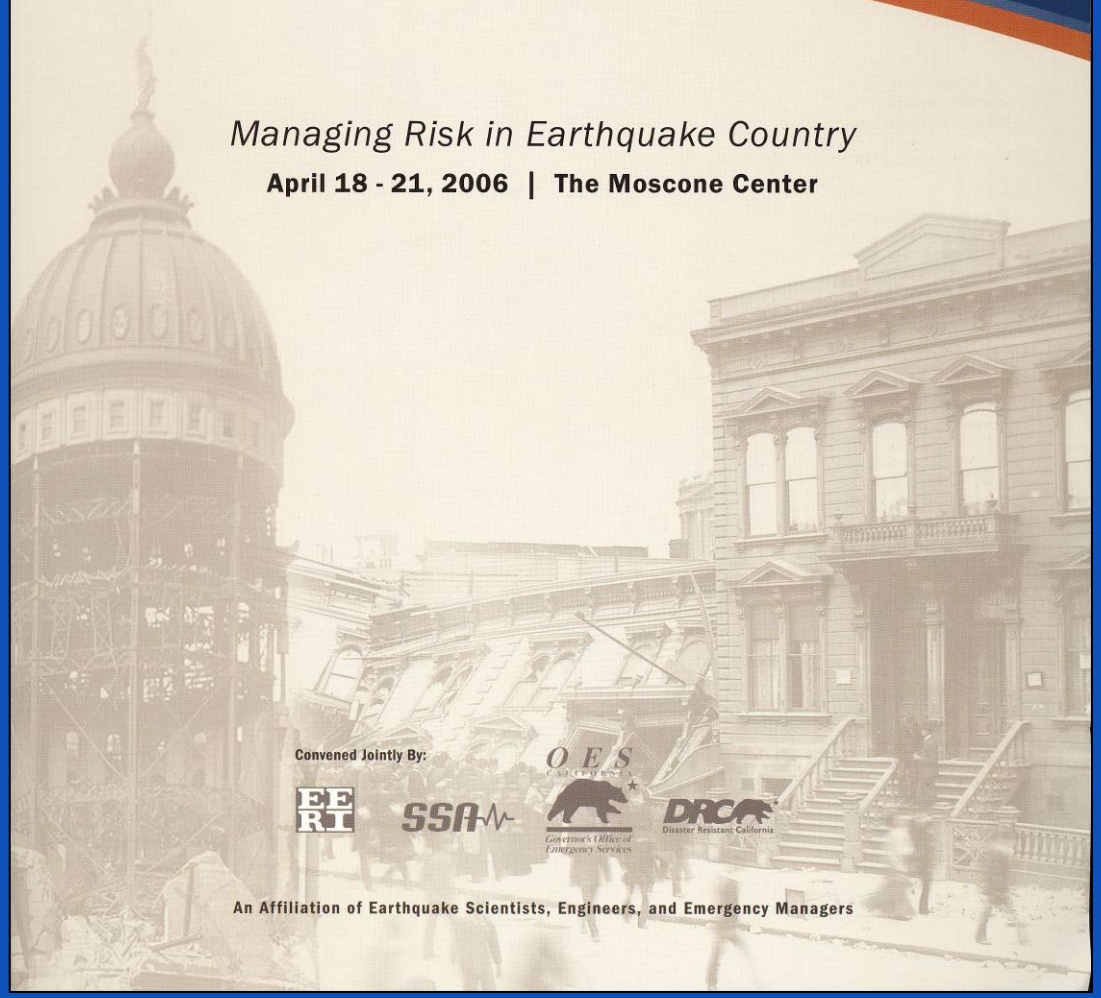
100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference

'06

Commemorating the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake

Managing Risk in Earthquake Country

April 18 - 21, 2006 | The Moscone Center



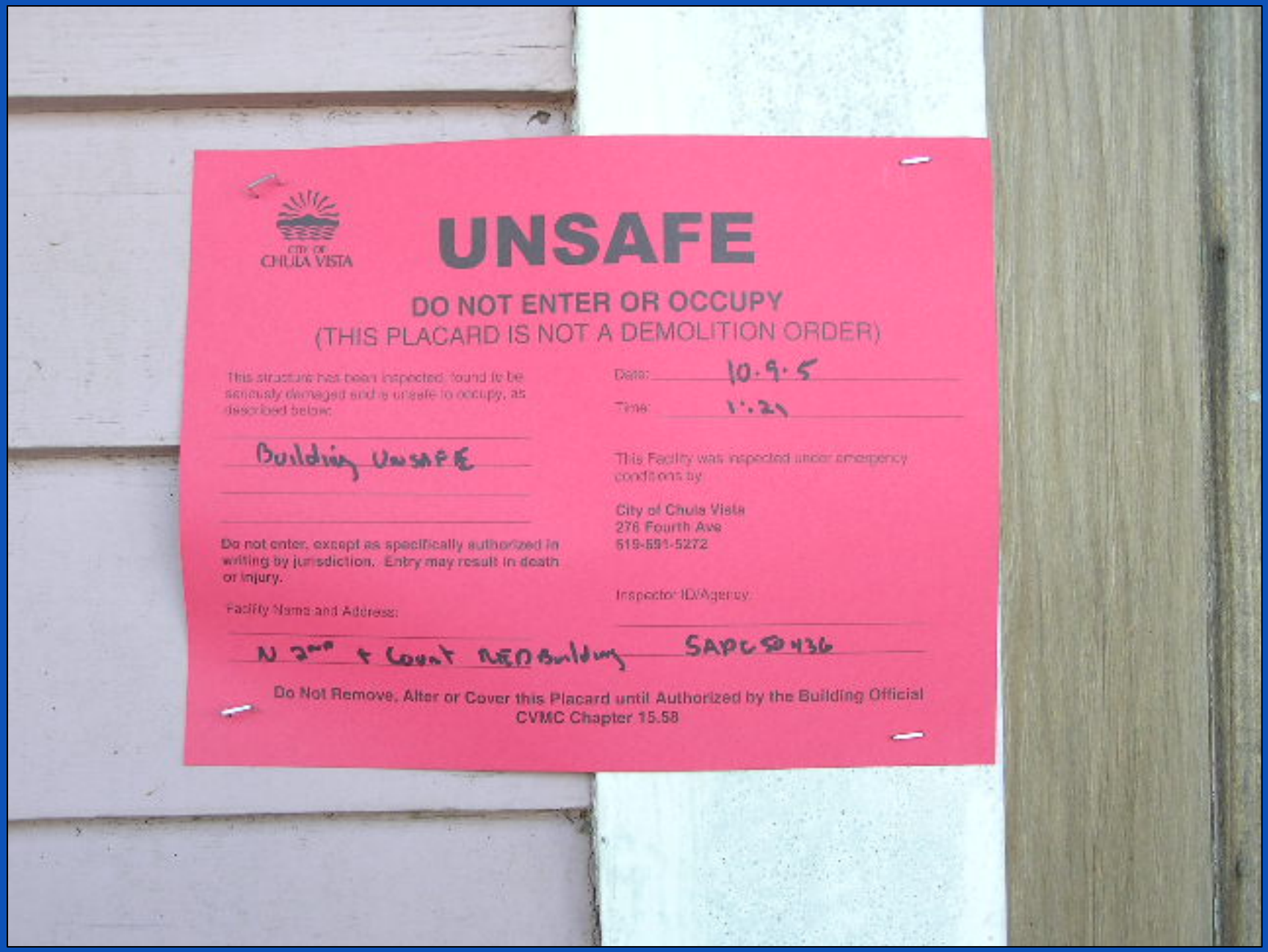
Convened Jointly By:

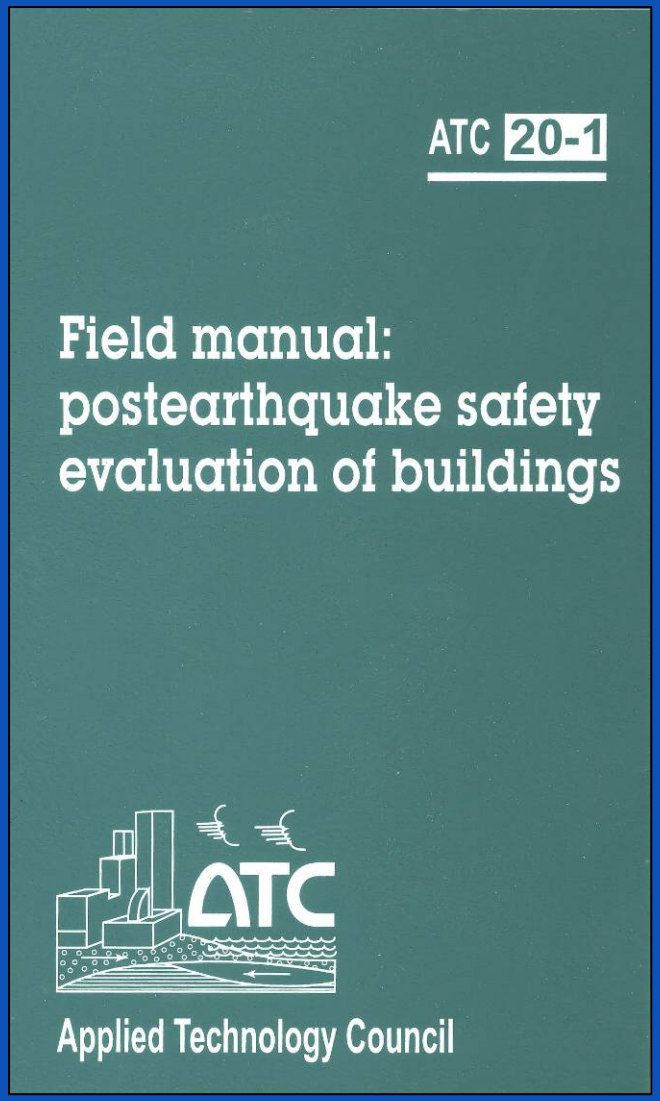
EERI SSA OES California Governor's Office of Emergency Services DRC Disaster Resistant California

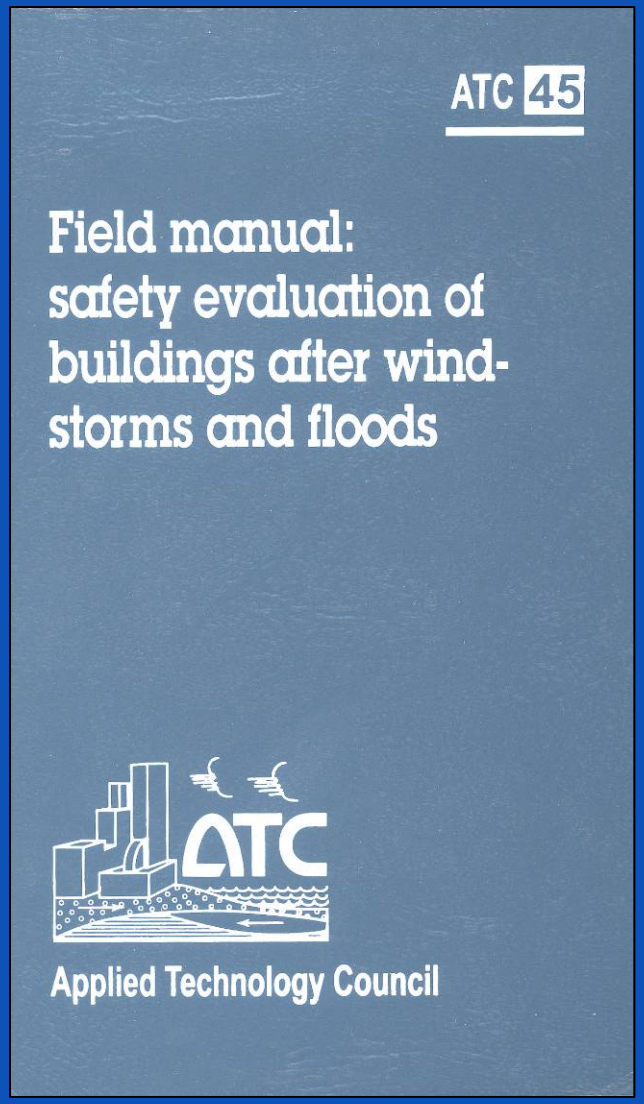
An Affiliation of Earthquake Scientists, Engineers, and Emergency Managers

Understand How Buildings are Inspected and Marked

- Red, yellow, and green tags
- Post-Disaster safety evaluation of buildings
- Red “unsafe” posting does not mean demolition


CITY OF
CHULA VISTA
UNSAFE
DO NOT ENTER OR OCCUPY
(THIS PLACARD IS NOT A DEMOLITION ORDER)
This structure has been inspected, found to be seriously damaged and is unsafe to occupy, as described below:
Building Unsafe
Do not enter, except as specifically authorized in writing by jurisdiction. Entry may result in death or injury.
Facility Name and Address:
N 2nd & Court RED Building
Date: 10-9-5
Time: 1:21
This Facility was inspected under emergency conditions by
City of Chula Vista
276 Fourth Ave
619-691-5272
Inspector ID/Agency:
SAPC #436
Do Not Remove, Alter or Cover this Placard until Authorized by the Building Official
CVMC Chapter 15.58


ATC 20-1
Field manual: postearthquake safety evaluation of buildings
ATC
Applied Technology Council


ATC 45
Field manual: safety evaluation of buildings after wind-storms and floods
ATC
Applied Technology Council

America
ZARIKS CLEANERS
ALTERATION
CUSTOM MADE SHIRTS
ONE DAY SERVICE
PRINTING

Distribute Information to Protect and Educate

- National Register of Historic Places
- State Register, Local Register, Surveys
- *Secretary of the Interior's Standards*
- Local Ordinances with highlights
- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
- *California Historical Building Code*
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- California Public Resources Code Section 5028
- Guidance on the Administrative Process

EARTHQUAKE HAZARD REDUCTION:

Supported by a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation Critical Issues Fund

Coordinated by the Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Conservancy

Cumulative Impacts on Historic Buildings

A Critical Issues Study

FINAL REPORT

1986

Provide Information on Financial Incentives

- Historic Preservation Tax Credits
- Available Tax Relief Programs
- Contact regional, state, and national preservation organizations
- Contact agency and building officials
- Lobby for additional legislative funds
- Have a centralized grants and loan person

FINAL REPORT

Historic PRESERVATION Partners for EARTHQUAKE Response

$10 MILLION MISSION ACCOMPLISHED:

Preservationists Conserve History and Prepare Blueprint for Quakes to Come

After the now legendary Northridge earthquake on January 17, 1994 sent a 6.8 magnitude wake-up call across Southern California, preservationists hit the ground running. There was no time to lose. Buildings were damaged across the region, many owned by people who were unaware of their building's historic significance or of the restoration resources available. Every day that passed meant that more structures might be needlessly razed.

As a result of a unique partnership of organizations and agencies, with a $10 million grant awarded through the National Park Service, many once-threatened architectural and cultural landmarks still stand. Partners included the National Park Service, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the California Office of Historic Preservation, the Getty Conservation Institute, the Los Angeles Conservancy and the California Preservation Foundation.

The National Park Service awarded grant funds for technical assistance to the National Trust. Construction grant monies were awarded to the California Office of Historic Preservation. Local coordination and assistance were provided through Historic Preservation Partners.

The $10 million was distributed to property owners through the National Trust and the California Office of Historic Preservation. They awarded 81 technical assistance grants for engineering and architectural work, and 57 bricks and mortar grants for construction. Funding levels ranged from $5,000 to nearly $500,000.

The Northridge earthquake resulted in substantial damage to a wide variety of building types in a broad geographic area. It caused structural damage to the Mayer Building in Hollywood, for example. Once the office of top movie executives and home to the famous Central Casting Bureau, the landmark is preparing a grand comeback after years out of the spotlight.

Rancho Camulos, a mid-19th century complex in Ventura County known as "the Lost Mission," is utilizing new adobe retrofit technology to repair quake-crumbled walls. It is slated to become a museum of the California Mission period.

And the once red-tagged Norlin Apartments on North Normandie Avenue in Los Angeles now provide housing for people with HIV and AIDS through a partnership between owners Neil and Cindi Smith and Project New Hope.

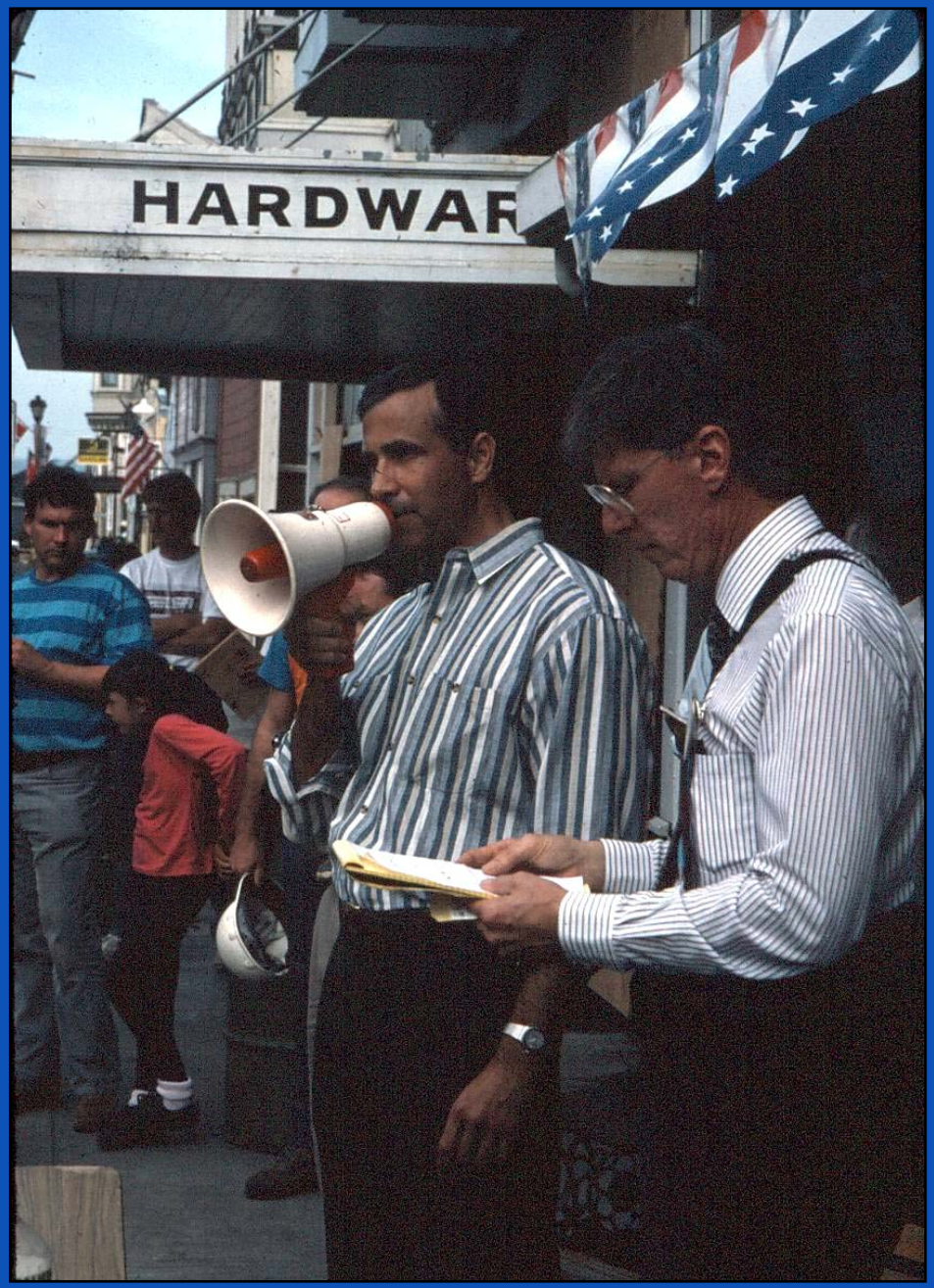
"One of the major successes of this earthquake recovery program was that it built on the strengths of each of its partners for the benefit of the / Continued on Page 2

TOM BONNER ©1996

Fillmore after restoration.

Help Simplify the Repair Process for Property Owners

- Organize a team to deal with key buildings
- Be very clear, go slowly, and remind the property owner later
- Advise owners of low initial bids
- Help property owner keep track of the process

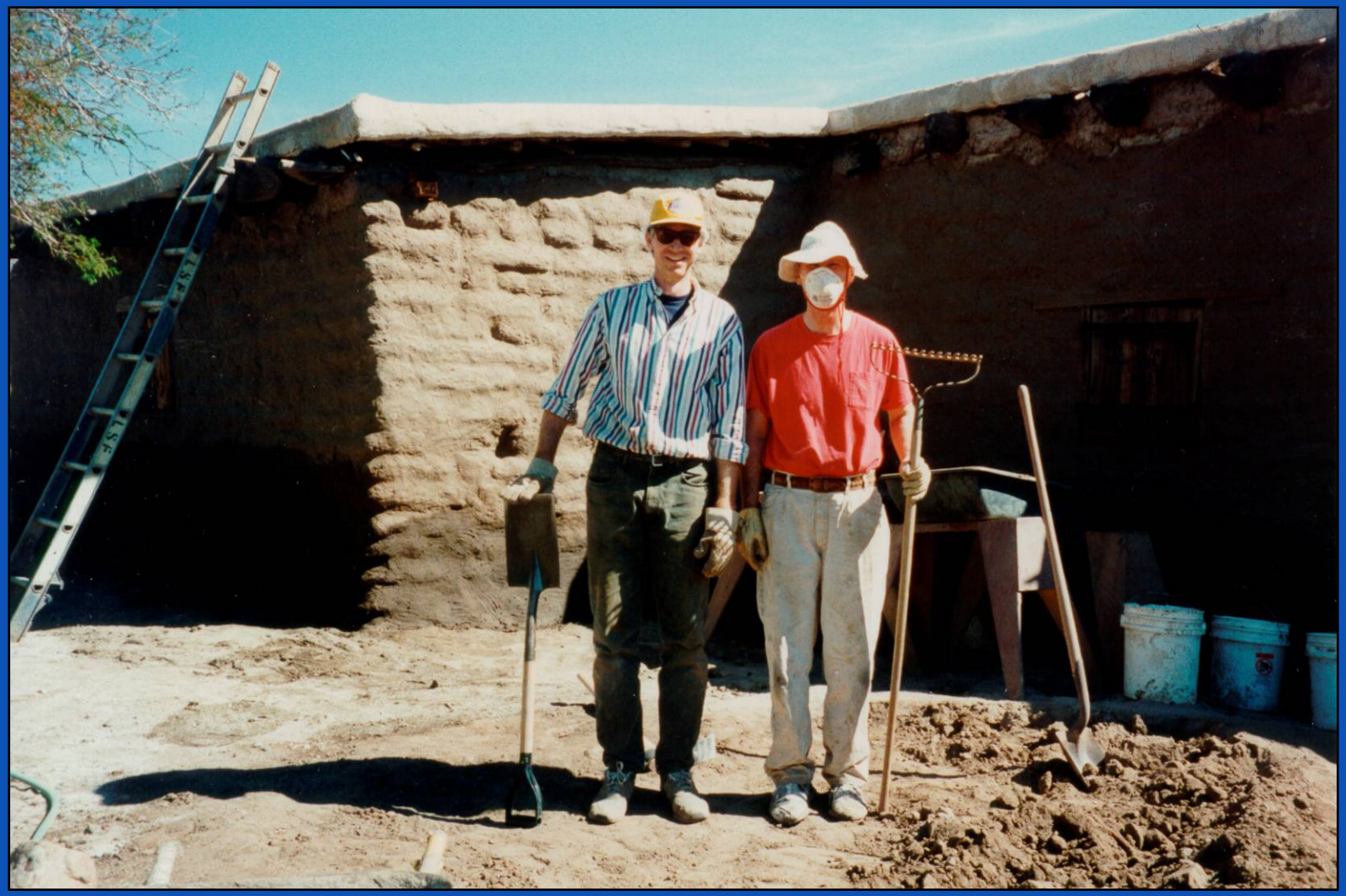

HARDWAR

Y35668
American
Catastrophe
800-950-ACES
America's Complete Catastrophe Restoration Service

Help Historic Business Districts Recover

- Allow immediate recovery of inventory and records
- Need for adequate cash reserves to repair
- Have a business assistance coordinator to facilitate applications with SBA and FEMA
- Agency to provide shelter for displaced business near vacated buildings utilizing good planning and design
- Redevelopment agency helps with loan payments, façade improvements, and reconstruction

THE ART MARKET
128



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- ATC 45 Field Manual: Safety Evaluation of Buildings after Windstorms and Floods, By Applied Technology Council Redwood City, California 2004
- Field Guide to Emergency Response, By Jane S. Long, Produced by Heritage Preservation in support of the Heritage Emergency National Task Force 2006

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- History at Risk, Loma Prieta: Seismic Safety & Historic Buildings By John F. Merritt, California Preservation Foundation. Copyright 1990
- 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference-Managing Risk in Earthquake Country, Convened Jointly by An Affiliation of Earthquake Scientists, Engineers, and Emergency Managers. 2006
- California State Law and Historic Preservation-Statutes, Regulations and Administrative Policies Regarding Historic Preservation and Protection of Cultural and Historical Resources.

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- 20 Tools That Protect Historic Resources after an Earthquake- Lessons learned from the Northridge earthquake, By Jeffrey Eichenfield, Copyright 1996
- Disaster Management Programs for Historic Sites, By Dirk H.R. Spennemann, David W. Look, Copyright 1998

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