

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 20, 2012

CONTACT: Diane Thompson
(916) 445-7026

Office of Historic Preservation Presents Eleven Awards for Excellence in Historic Preservation

- WHO:** Office of Historic Preservation
- WHAT:** Presentation of the Governor's Historic Preservation Awards for excellence in historic preservation
- WHEN:** 1:00 to 4:00 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012
- WHERE:** Leland Stanford Mansion State Historic Park (Ballroom)
800 N Street (8th and N Streets)
Sacramento, California 95814

This year, OHP will present awards to 11 projects (actually, 10 projects and one sterling individual) that span the whole of California:

- **North Figueroa Association for Relighting the Historic Signs of Figueroa Street. (Los Angeles County)** This award recognizes the North Figueroa Association, the business improvement district of the Highland Park-Garvanza Historic Preservation Overlay Zone (HPOZ) of Los Angeles, whose bright idea it was to start a Historic Route 66 Signage District by restoring and relighting two rooftop signs badly in need of repair. The project brought together unlikely partners, but this community-wide effort lit up the spirit of neighborhood residents, demonstrating how imaginative historic preservation-be it large or small-can be a vital strategy for community revitalization.
- **California Institute of Technology for the Linde + Robinson Laboratory for Global Environmental Science. (Los Angeles County)** Built in 1932, the Henry M. Robinson Laboratory of Astrophysics was designed to house solar observation instruments. This award recognizes its rehabilitation and reuse by Architectural Resources Group (ARG), whose diverse team of consultants transformed the building into a state of the art, high performance building, the nation's first LEED Platinum laboratory in a historic building.

For energy efficient recreation –

California State Parks on the Internet: www.parks.ca.gov>



ARG worked with users to design a cutting edge and energy efficient research lab while preserving the historic design, features and spaces of the building.

- **US Forest Service, Six Rivers National Forest for Restoration of the Smith River National Recreation Area Fire Warehouse. (Del Norte County)** The Fire warehouse dates from 1936, when it was built by the Gasquet Camp of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), which, from 1933 to 1942, enrolled young men to work in the nation's forests, rangelands, and historic sites on conservation and preservation projects. This award recognizes the care taken by the Forest Service to maintain the historical integrity of the structure. After the June 2010 to July 2011 restoration, the warehouse is back in service as a multipurpose facility for fire crews, while effectively preserving a key structure of one of the few remaining CCC compounds in northern California.
- **Napa Valley State Parks Association for the Restoration of Bale Grist Mill's Historic Grain Cleaning/Sifting System. (Napa County)** Bale Grist Mill, with its original set of French Buhr stones and 36-foot redwood waterwheel, is the only water-powered grist mill left in California. The mill building, waterwheel and basic milling operation were restored by State Parks in the 1980s, but funds didn't go far enough to also restore the hand-built grain cleaning and sifting system, which was left stacked in pieces. This award recognizes the Napa Valley State Parks Association, which in 2006 undertook the six-year process of completing the final stage of mill restoration. The Association raised nearly \$200,000 and that sum, with additions from the Napa Valley Community Foundation, the State Parks Foundation, Proposition 84 Volunteer Enhancement Funds, a generous donor and numerous community members, combined to fund the restoration, a feat that is both note and award-worthy.
- **City of Carlsbad Parks and Recreation Department for Leo Carrillo Ranch Barn Stabilization and Restoration Project. (San Diego County)** Leo Carrillo Ranch, Rancho de los Quiotes, was built and owned by the beloved actor and former State Parks Commissioner. A member of a prominent California family, Carrillo had deep roots in California's history and was a superb horseman. His dream ranch, built between 1937 and 1940, was once a massive 2,538-acre working rancho. Now owned and managed by the City of Carlsbad, the ranch is a 27-acre historic park which includes many original structures associated with Carrillo's tenure at the Ranch. The restored barn has been built out to a theatre concept included in the Leo Carrillo Ranch Park Master Plan, so tourists and schoolchildren can appreciate this tangible connection to Carrillo's Mexican ancestry and his career.
- **City of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department and the Campaign to Save the Golden Gate Park Windmills for Restoration of the Murphy Windmill (San Francisco County)** Murphy Windmill, considered the largest windmill of its kind in the world, is the second of two windmills located on the western edge of San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. The 95-foot-high tower was built in 1907 to irrigate the Park, which it did for almost 30 years before falling into disrepair. This award celebrates the windmill's restoration, initiated by concerned citizens and successfully completed as a public/private partnership. San Francisco's Dutch community and Consul General actively supported this nine-year project to restore the windmill to operating condition and use it to educate the public about sustainable practices. That funds for this multi-

For energy efficient recreation –

California State Parks on the Internet: www.parks.ca.gov>



year project were found in uncertain economic times and the project completed is a testimony to the commitment, ingenuity, and tenacity of all involved

- **Vista Irrigation District for Warner-Carrillo Adobe Ranch House and Barn. (San Diego County)** The Warner-Carrillo Adobe Ranch House and Barn were built in 1849 by J. J. Warner as a trading post on what was then the main overland gold rush emigration route, the first that travelers to the northern California gold fields encountered after weeks spent crossing the arid deserts of the Southwest. The first comprehensive historic structures report on the property was done under the Cultural Stewardship Funding Program to research, identify and record the physical history, evolution and condition from construction to the present and to identify historic treatments for the structure, materials and finishes. In the barn, which needed structural stabilization and roofing materials replaced, wooden “crutches” were placed around existing mortise and tenon beams and posts. This award recognizes the historic value of both local and California history embodied in this unique site, preserved as it was from 1849 to 1888.
- **City of San Fernando and the San Fernando Historical Site and Preservation Commission for the Lopez Adobe. (Los Angeles County)** This award recognizes the adaptive reuse of the Lopez Adobe, built in 1883. It is one of the two oldest private residences and the first two-story adobe built as a residence in the San Fernando Valley, as well as the oldest remaining building and the oldest adobe structure still standing in the City of San Fernando. The adobe was built by Valentin Lopez for his sister Catalina and her family, who are considered San Fernando’s “first” family. Responsible for the establishment of the first post office and English-speaking school, the family lived in the adobe until 1961 and owned it until 1971, when it was purchased by the City of San Fernando. Rehabilitation of the building was undertaken to reuse it as a museum. In addition to funding from a Save America’s Treasures grant, the project was made possible by the generous and enthusiastic support of San Fernando citizens, students and organizations.
- **City of Orange for City of Orange 2010 Cultural and Historic Preservation Element. (Orange County)** This award recognizes the first ever update of the City of Orange’s 1983 Historic Preservation Element, part of the first comprehensive update of the City of Orange General Plan since 1989. Renamed the Cultural and Historic Preservation element, it represents an effort to expand the City’s historic preservation program to ensure recognition and preservation of the City’s diverse cultural resources. Its goals and policies are organized around the issues of architecture and community character, incentives and education, archaeological and cultural resources, and library services. With these issues as a foundation, the element provides guidance in the ongoing management of historic building stock dating from the late 1800s through 1940 and addresses newer architectural resources such as the City’s Eichler Home tracts. This thoughtful and skilled revision ensures that cultural and historic preservation will remain integral parts of land use planning by the City of Orange.
- **Santa Barbara Courthouse Legacy Foundation for the Santa Barbara Courthouse – *Spirit of the Ocean* Fountain (Santa Barbara County)** When the Santa Barbara Courthouse was rebuilt in 1925 following an earthquake that destroyed most of downtown Santa Barbara, its design included a large sculpted fountain executed by Venetian master carver Ettore Cadorin. *Spirit of the Ocean* depicts the strong historic

For energy efficient recreation –

California State Parks on the Internet: www.parks.ca.gov>



connection of Santa Barbara with the Pacific Ocean, but it was time, the elements, and fresh water that eventually led to the near destruction of this iconic fountain. That event focused the attention of the Historic Structures Report that the Courthouse Legacy Foundation had already initiated to assess the entire courthouse complex on the impending loss of the fountain. This award recognizes the efforts of the Foundation and the Santa Barbara community, which obtained an electronic model of the entire piece and had a foam fabricator produce a replica. An international team of five stone carvers were hired to recreate the fountain from the foam replica, historic photos, and the surviving piece. To the credit of all involved, that work took place over a period of eight months in a tented workshop on the front lawn of the courthouse—directly in front of the original Spirit of the Ocean fountain. In the end, this collaboration of Santa Barbara's public and private sector, private foundations and donors, and in-kind donations not only replaced a significant historic resource, but also underscores Santa Barbara's strong sense of place and community pride.

- **Robert C. Pavlik.** This award salutes Robert Pavlik, a multi-faceted mentor, advisor, published author, poet, accomplished state historian and member of varied civic organizations, nonprofits, advisory committees and the Caltrans Historic Preservation Committee. Through the Bureau of Land Management's Advisory Committee, he worked to develop a Resource Management Plan that has overseen the management of 206,000 acres of public lands. Bob's vast literary contributions—poetry, essays, books, pamphlets and learned treatises—help us understand the importance of history in shaping the present and providing a basis for right action in the future. Pavlik's service to the broader community is truly exceptional. He is, in addition, an exceptional steward, as his activities related to the Carrizo Plain National Monument over 25 years amply demonstrate.

More information about the Office of Historic Preservation is available at www.ohp.parks.ca.gov

#

For energy efficient recreation –
California State Parks on the Internet: www.parks.ca.gov>

