



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

Richard Dennison
Park Superintendent
619-688-3398

Fire burns Historic Sessions Building

This morning at approx. 1:16 am, San Diego Fire Department responded to a structure fire at Toby's Candle Shop, located at 2645 San Diego Ave. SDFD was notified by a fire alarm system. Firefighters were able to contain the blaze but there is moderate damage to the building.

The fire originated in a maintenance area used by State Parks, spread to a non historic structure used for educational exhibits, as well as the Historic Sessions Building. The cause was determined to be an electrical short.

Estimated damage to State Property at approx. \$100,000 and another \$200,000 to the Candle Shop. The Shop will close temporarily during restoration.

The Sessions Building is leased to a park concessionaire, Toby's Candle Shop. Built in 1929 and designed by San Diego's renowned architect, Richard Requa, for Milton Sessions, a landscape designer, the historic building is an example of Spanish-Colonial architecture.

Toby's Candle Shop is family owned and operated, and offers a variety of unique products. <https://tobyscandleandsoapshop.com/>

The remainder of Old Town San Diego State Historic Park remains open to visitors, including restaurants, other shops and museums

The park is located on San Diego Avenue and Twiggs Street, and is conveniently located next to the Old Town Transit Center, with Coaster, Trolley, and MTS bus service.

For more information, go to www.parks.ca.gov/oldtownsandiego

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