

2012 GOVERNOR'S HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS

Leo Carrillo Ranch Barn Stabilization and Restoration



The restored and stabilized Leo Carrillo Ranch Barn

The Leo Carrillo Ranch historic wood plank hay barn is just one component of a once massive 2,538-acre working rancho and homestead. As a retreat for actor, philanthropist, poet, preservationist, and rancher Leo Carrillo from 1937 to 1961, Rancho de los Quiotes (Ranch of the Spanish Daggers) is situated approximately 35 miles north of San Diego on the Pacific Coast. For Carrillo, the Rancho represented a tangible connection to his proud Spanish ancestry and reinforced his image as a real vaquero (cowboy).

Now municipally owned and managed, Los Quiotes is currently a 27-acre historic park that contains and protects many of the original historic structures and outbuildings associated with Leo Carrillo's tenure and use of the ranch. Leo Carrillo Ranch is a designated local and State Historic Landmark (1020, 1991), and was officially listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1992. The barn is a 30' by 40' wood frame structure historically used in ranch operations for the storage of grain and hay.

The project was divided into two phases: Phase I, Stabilization, incorporated as much of the original fabric as possible and replaced elements only where absolutely necessary; Phase II, Restoration, involved building out the barn-to-theater concept consistent with Leo Carrillo Ranch Park Master Plan recommendation.

The project has had a tremendously positive impact on the community, as thousands of visitors each year, including hundreds of schoolchildren, will have the opportunity to visit and tour the restored barn to learn about Leo Carrillo and his ranch through interpretive exhibits, film, and television. The barn restoration also created additional public space that is used as a visitor center.

The project was the recipient of a Save America's Treasures (SAT) grant (\$197,000). The City of Carlsbad provided more than 2 to 1 matching funds. In addition, the City formed a partnership with the Friends of Carrillo Ranch, Inc. to create and ratify a 50-year preservation easement that was one of the SAT's grant requirements. Work performed on the barn was consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

Learn more about the Leo Carrillo Ranch and Historic Park:

<https://visitcarlsbad.com/attractions/leo-carrillo-ranch-historic-park/>