State Historical Resources Commission
Regular Quarterly Meeting
Oakland City Hall Council Chambers
One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza
Oakland, California 94612

August 3, 2007
9:00 a.m.

APPROVED MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT
Donn Grenda, Ph.D., Chairman, Prehistoric Archeology
Rick Moss, Vice Chairman, History
Alberto Bertoli, AIA, Architecture
Bryan K. Brandes, Public Member
Trish Fernandez, M.A., Historic Archaeology
Julianne Polanco, Architectural History

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT
Fernando Guerra, Ph.D., Folklore
David Phoenix, Public Member
Richard Shek, Ph.D., Ethnic History

STAFF PRESENT
Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA, State Historic Preservation Officer, Executive Secretary
Stephen Mikesell, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Cynthia Howse, Supervisor, Registration Unit
Patricia Ambacher, Staff Historian I
Cynthia Toffelmier, Staff Historian II
Susan Stratton, Ph.D., Supervisor, Project Review Unit
Twila Willis-Hunter, Staff, Executive Secretary
Tara Lynch, Senior Staff Counsel

I. CALL TO ORDER

Legal notice having been duly given and a quorum being present, the State Historical Resources Commission (Commission) meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Chairman Grenda.
II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Grenda led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. **INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF**

Commissioners, State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and Staff introduced themselves.

IV. **WELCOME**

Deborah Edgerly, Oakland City Manager, and Neal Parish, Chairman of the Oakland Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board, welcomed the Commission to Oakland.

Chairman Grenda acknowledged the presence of audience member, Steve Messina, Mayor of City of Benicia and Tom Butt, Richmond City Councilman. Mayor Messina thanked the Commission and staff for Benicia’s Certified Local Government status.

V. **APPROVAL OF May 3, 2007 MINUTES**

Chairman Grenda asked for deletions or additions to the minutes. Chairman Grenda asked for a motion to approve the draft minutes of the May 3, 2007 meeting. Commissioner Moss moved “that the Commission approve the May meeting minutes.” Commissioner Fernandez seconded the motion. **Action:** Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Grenda removed SDM-W-12 Locus A from the Consent Calendar to Agenda Item XI, National Register of Historic Places Discussion and Action.

VI. **COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS**

Chairman Grenda reported that his Commission related work has focused on his hometown, Redlands, and nearby community of Norco. He sits on a number of small preservation oriented organizations, advising local groups on how to protect their resources and encouraging them to nominate properties to the National and California Registers.

Chairman Grenda thanked Commissioner Moss and staff Veda Silva and Kim Anderson for the tour of the African American Museum and Library at Oakland; and Holly Alonzo for the tour at the Peralta Hacienda Historical Park.

SHPO Donaldson stated he will attend the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO) in Palm Springs, October 10-12, 2007, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota, October 1-5, 2007.

SHPO Donaldson stated that he attended the Main Street Conference in Las Vegas, New Mexico, August 8-10, 2007. He discussed the California Historic Building Code.

SHPO Donaldson reported the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) awarded six cities Certified Local Government grants for a total of $118,000.
SHPO Donaldson reported OHP is continuing to promote the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program. Three architects at OHP are now LEED Associate Professionals.

SHPO Donaldson reported OHP’s new website will be available in six weeks.

SHPO Donaldson reported Deputy SHPO Mikesell will be the lead person for the OHP newsletter. SHPO Donaldson stated the newsletter will be another public outreach tool and will be published electronically.

VII. RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were given by Chairman Grenda and SHPO Donaldson:

A. City of Richmond
   Tom Butt, City Councilman; Rosemary Corbin, Former Mayor; and Lina Velasco, Senior Planner of the Advisory Committee accepted the resolution.

B. City of Benicia
   Steve Messina, Mayor; Charlie Knox, Director of Community Development; Luis Delgado of the Historic Preservation Review Committee accepted the resolution.

C. Oakland Heritage Alliance
   Valerie Gary, President; Michael Crowe, Joyce Roy, and Katherine Huge, members accepted the resolution.

Copies of the resolutions are attached to the original of these minutes.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

Pending Litigation: California Register of Historical Resources – Lincoln Place Apartments, Venice, California

Conference with legal counsel to confer with and receive advice regarding pending litigation when discussion in open session would prejudice the position of the Commission. [Government Code § 11126(e)(1) & (e)(2)(A)].

AIMCO VENEZIA, LLC v. State of California, State Historical Resources Commission, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number BS 103 594.

Chairman Grenda removed this item from the agenda.

IX. POWERPOINT PRESENTATION OF NOMINATED PROPERTIES

Cynthia Howse, Supervisor of the Registration Unit, Patricia Ambacher, State Historian I, Cynthia Toffelmier, State Historian II, and Susan Stratton, Ph.D., Supervisor of the Project Review Unit gave a PowerPoint presentation on the nominated properties.
X. CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

A. National Register of Historic Places, New Applications
   1. Alameda Veterans Memorial Building
      Alameda, Alameda County
      Local Level of Significance
   2. Armed Services YMCA
      San Diego, San Diego County
      Local Level of Significance
   3. Felicita County Park Prehistoric Village Site
      Address Restricted
      Local Level of Significance
   4. Royal Laundry Complex
      Pasadena, Los Angeles County
      Local Level of Significance
   5. South Berkeley Community Church
      Berkeley, Alameda County
      Local Level of Significance
   6. Spotswood House
      Potter Valley, Mendocino County
      Local Level of Significance

B. National Register of Historic Places, Amendments
   1. Old Pasadena Historic District (Amendment)
      Pasadena, Los Angeles County
      Local Level of Significance

C. California Register of Historical Resources
   1. Buffum House
      Altadena, Los Angeles County
   2. Baywood Elementary School
      San Mateo, San Mateo County
   3. Reynolds/Kerby-Miller House
      Carmel-By-The-Sea, Monterey County
   4. Gerald Frye House
      Yuba City, Sutter County
D. California Points of Historical Interest

1. Site of the First Vacaville Buddhist Church
   Vacaville, Solano County

Chairman Grenda asked the Commission for a motion on consent items. Commissioner Brandes moved “that the properties on the consent calendar, National Register of Historic Preservation, New Applications, meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation, and the Commission recommends the SHPO forward the nominations to the Keeper of the National Register.” Commissioner Polanco seconded the motion. **Action:** Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Grenda announced the Commission will hear comments or questions regarding consent items.

Jean Sweeney, applicant, thanked the Commission for approving the Alameda Veterans’ Memorial Building nomination.

Michael Crowe, professional architectural historian representing the Art Deco Society of California, thanked the Commission for the recognition of the Alameda Veterans’ Memorial Building.

Leona Martin, representing Friends of Restoration of South Berkeley Community Church, thanked the Commission for approving the South Berkeley Community Church nomination.

Jim Sweeney, Chairman of Alameda Veterans’ Memorial Building Restoration Committee, thanked the Commission for approving the Alameda Veterans’ Memorial Building nomination.

Leslie Wellington, representing the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association, thanked the Commission for approving the South Berkeley Community Church nomination.

Castle Newell, III and Dr. Barbara Newell thanked the Commission for approving the Spotswood House nomination.

James Grandison, resident of Oakland, came to support the South Berkeley Community Church nomination.

Gwendolyn Elliott, representing Friends of South Berkeley Community Church, thanked the Commission for approving the South Berkeley Community Church nomination.

Reverend Byran Williams thanked the Commission for approving the South Berkeley Community Church nomination.

Commissioner Fernandez moved “to approve for the National Register of Historic Places: Old Pasadena Historic District (Amendment) and to forward to the Keeper of the National Register; and to approve for the California Register of Historical Resources: Buffum House, Reynolds/Kerby-Miller House, Baywood Elementary
School, and Gerald Frye House; and to approve for Point of Historical Interest: Site of the First Vacaville Buddhist Church.” Commissioner Brandes seconded the motion. **Action:** Motion carried unanimously.

**XI. NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACE DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

**A. FARPOINT SITE, NEW APPLICATION**

Chairman Grenda instructed the audience, and those supporting and opposing the nomination, that it was the Commission’s desire to act on these items in a fair and timely manner. To that end, he imposed time limits on the public discussion of each item, twenty minutes for those supporting and the same for the opposition, followed with a five minute rebuttal by each side. The time will sound at the end of each period, after which public discussion will close and the Commissioners will discuss and then act on the items. He asked if any Commissioner wished to recuse him or herself from the discussion of either item. There being no response, he allowed public comments.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Dr. Gary Stickel, of Environmental Research Archaeologist and the applicant, spoke in support of the nomination.

The property owner was not in attendance, but submitted opposition in writing.

Commissioner Grenda closed the public discussion on the Farpoint Site application.

Chairman Grenda opened the floor for additional comments and questions on the consent calendar to be heard out of agenda order. Takashi Tjusita thanked the Commission for listing the Site of the First Vacaville Buddhist Church as a Point of Historical Interest.

Commissioner Grenda opened Commissioners’ discussion on the Farpoint Site application.

**COMMISSIONERS’ DISCUSSION**

Chairman Grenda asked for a motion. Commissioner Fernandez moved “that CA LAN 451, also known as Farpoint site, meets National Register Criterion D at the local level of significance, and the Commission recommends that the SHPO forward the nomination to the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places, with an amended period of significance of 9000 to 2800 years before present, and the cultural affiliation Clovis, which appears on page four of the application, removed.”

The motion was debated.

Commissioner Fernandez revised the motion to state “that CA LAN 451, also known as Farpoint Site, meets National Register Criterion D at the local level of significance, and the Commission recommends that the SHPO forward the nomination to the Keeper of the National Register for a determination of eligibility, with an amended period of significance of 9000 to 2800 years before present; the cultural affiliation with...”
Clovis, which appears on page four of the nomination, removed; and an acknowledgment that a Clovis point has been found on the site in a buried context.” Commissioner Moss seconded the motion. **Action:** The motion was adopted after debate: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention.

The Commission recessed for lunch at 11:45 a.m.

The Commission reconvened at 12:49 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (HEARD OUT OF AGENDA ORDER)**

Commissioner Moss introduced John Templeton, author of *Our Roots Run Deep: the Black Experience in California, Volumes I-IV*. Mr. Templeton addressed the Commission followed by Peter Simmons, Executive Director of the New Jazz Heritage Center and Miles Stevens, AIA.

Commissioner Moss stated as the chair of the Commission’s Cultural Diversity Committee, he wants to increase the numbers of nominations to the National Register and other registers for properties representing under served communities.

**B. SDM-W-12 LOCUS A (SDI-4669), NEW APPLICATION**

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Don Schmidt, La Jolla Historical Society, spoke in support of the SDM-W-12 Locus A (SDI-4669) nomination.

Richard Carrico, Archeologist with Jones and Stokes Environmental Consultants and preparer of the nomination, spoke in support of the SDM-W-12 Locus A.

Courtney Coyle, Attorney at Law, spoke in support of the nomination.

Louie Guassac, representing Mesa Granada, spoke in support of the nomination.

Milton Phegley, Director of Community Planning, University California of San Diego (UCSD), representing the property owner, stated UCSD is not opposed to the nomination, but has submitted a letter to the Commission detailing concerns about the contents of nomination. UCSD is in support of doing whatever needs to done to make this the best quality nomination.

Carmen Lucas, Kwaaymii Indian offered a prayer to the Commission.

Milton Phegley reiterated the university is not opposed to the nomination and recognizes the value of the site.

**COMMISSIONERS’ DISCUSSION**

Chairman Grenda asked for a motion. Commissioner Fernandez moved “that the Commission table this nomination until the November State Historical Resources Commission meeting so that staff and the Commissioners can review additional
material and visit the site.” Commissioner Polanco seconded the motion. **Action:** Motion carried unanimously after debate.

Michael Phegley thanked the Commission for its consideration of the SDM-W-12 Locus A (SDI-4669) nomination, and stated that if the Commission and staff wanted to visit the site, they will be accommodated.

Don Schmidt with La Jolla Historical Society thanked the Commission and stated the historical society would like to attend the site visit.

**XII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

James Swafford, a Fremont City resident, addressed the Commission.

Donna Graves and Jill Shiraki gave a presentation on their Preserving California’s Japantowns project.

**XIII. COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS**

Chairman Grenda stated Commissioners Brandes and Polanco will be on the nominating committee for the 2008 Chair and Vice-Chair elections.

Chairman Grenda stated the Commission needs to select locations for next year’s Commission meetings and will focus on Certified Local Government communities.

Deputy SHPO Mikesell stated the office is recommending the Commission meet in Pasadena in February, Napa in May, Santa Barbara in August, and Sacramento or Northern California in November.

The Commission will send their meeting locations to Deputy SHPO Mikesell.

Commissioner Moss thanked the Commission for coming to the City of Oakland.

Commissioner Polanco stated the next Commission meeting conflicts with the Association for Preservation Technology conference in Puerto Rico. She asked if the Commission consider having its meeting earlier in the week.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairman Grenda adjourned the regular meeting of the State Historical Resources Commission at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA                           Date
State Historic Preservation Officer