Quarterly Meeting
of the
STATE HISTORICAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
Resources Building, Redwood Conference Room
1416 9th Street, 14 Floor
Sacramento, California
January 29, 2010
9:00 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Julianne Polanco, Chair, Architectural History
Bryan K. Brandes, Vice Chair, Public Member
David Phoenix, Public Member
Alberto Bertoli, AIA, Architecture
Donn Grenda, Ph.D., Prehistoric Archaeology
Rick Moss, History
Fernando Guerra, Folklore

COMMISSIONER ABSENT

Richard Shek, Ph.D., Ethnic History

STAFF PRESENT

Milford Wayne Donaldson, State Historic Preservation Officer
Jay Correia, State Historian III, Registration Unit Supervisor
Cynthia Toffelmier, State Historian II
William Burg, State Historian I
Twila Willis-Hunter, Executive Secretary
Tara Lynch, Acting Chief Counsel, California State Parks
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 Chairperson Polanco.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Polanco led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

The Commissioners introduced themselves; Milford Wayne Donaldson, State Historic Preservation Officer introduced the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) staff.

IV. WELCOME

Former State Senator Deborah Ortiz welcomed the Commission to Sacramento.

V. RESOLUTIONS

Stephen Mikesell, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer received a resolution of recognition.

Jennifer Stanley, Treasurer of SOCA accepted the resolution for the Sacramento Old City Association.

Charlie Coyne, General Manager of the Delta King accepted the resolution.

VI. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 30, 2009 MINUTES

Chairperson Polanco entertained the approval of the October 30, 2009 draft meeting minutes. Commissioner Brandes moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Commissioner Moss seconded the motion. Action: Motion carried unanimously.

VII. COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS

SHPO Donaldson gave a brief report about how the office is processing American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) stimulus projects.

SHPO Donaldson reported that OHP will be participating in the closing out the California Cultural Historic Endowment program, initiated by the State Library.

SHPO Donaldson mentioned OHP’s national leadership is involved in sustainability and historic building programs.
SHPO Donaldson reported about the major projects regarding renewable energy. SHPO Donaldson mentioned that southern California will be home to perhaps the world’s largest solar and geothermal energy projects.

SHPO Donaldson reported about Eureka’s earthquake and how OHP is involved in making sure the historic properties are protected. SHPO Donaldson stated that the City of Eureka was declared a state emergency.

SHPO Donaldson mentioned he was appointed on the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) Board.

VIII. **POWERPOINT PRESENTATION OF NOMINATED PROPERTIES**

Registration Unit staff presented a PowerPoint program that highlighted the properties to be heard by the Commission.

IX. **CONSENT ACTION ITEMS**

A. National Register of Historic Places, New Nominations

1. Ben Gefvert Ranch Historic District
   Fresno (vicinity), Fresno County
   Local Level of Significance

2. Bradbury House
   Los Angeles, Los Angeles County
   Local Level of Significance

3. California Cotton Mills Co. Factory
   Oakland, Alameda County
   Local Level of Significance

4. El Toyon
   Auburn, Placer County
   Local Level of Significance

5. Geneva Building and Power House
   San Francisco, San Francisco County
   Local Level of Significance

6. Jerome B. Ford House, Company House
   Mendocino, Mendocino County
   Local Level of Significance

7. Southern Pacific Railroad Bayshore Roundhouse
   Brisbane, San Mateo County
   Local Level of Significance

8. Temple Sherith Israel
   San Francisco, San Francisco County
   Local Level of Significance
9. William Shipsey House  
San Luis Obispo, San Luis Obispo County  
Local Level of Significance

B. California Register of Historic Resources, New Nomination

1. Robert O. Peterson/Russell Forester Residence  
San Diego, San Diego County

C. California Point of Historical Interest, New Nomination

1. Confusion Hill  
Piercy (vicinity), Mendocino County

Chairperson entertained a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Commissioner Guerra approved the Consent Calendar as listed. Commissioner Bertoli seconded the motion. **Action:** Motion carried unanimously.

Terri Batsel, the owner of El Toyon, thanked Cindy Toffelmier and the Commission for approving the nomination.

Marianne Hurley, representing State Parks for the Jerome Ford House, thanked the Commission for approving the nomination.

Earl Fisher thanked the Commission and William Burg for approving the nomination for the Bradbury House.

X. NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Sacred Heart Church  
San Francisco, San Francisco County  
Local Level of Significance

Chris VerPlanck, principal and co-founder of Kelley & VerPlanck, a historic resources consulting firm in San Francisco, spoke in support of the Sacred Heart Church nomination. The firm was hired by Save Our Sacred Heart, a non-profit organization.

Robert Owen Pritchard spoke in support of the Sacred Heart Church nomination.

Marianne Hurley spoke in support of the Sacred Heart Church nomination.

Chairperson Polanco stated the owner of the Sacred Heart Church sent a certified letter of objection to the property’s listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Chairperson Polanco closed public comments and opened the discussion to the Commissioners.
Commissioner Moss recalled that Sacred Heart Church was important to the Italian American congregation and Catholic worshipers but in the changing of demographic in San Francisco, the church played a central role in the relationship with the African American community. Commissioner Moss mentioned Sacred Heart Church was significant not only for its architectural significance, but also for its community conscience.

Chairperson Polanco asked Counsel Tara Lynch the Commission’s obligation when an owner objects to the listing.

Counsel Tara Lynch stated the property is only determined eligible; it is not listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Chairperson Polanco asked for a motion. Commissioner Moss moved that the Commission approve that the Sacred Heart Church property be found eligible for listing at the Local Level of Significance. Commissioner Phoenix seconded the motion. Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Proposal to Move Train Depot, a Contributing Property to the Live Oak Commercial Historic District, Live Oak, Sutter County

Jim Goodwin, City of Live Oak, the city manager spoke in support the relocation of train depot.

Chairperson Polanco entertained a motion. Commissioner Brandes moved to approve the proposal to relocate the train depot in Live Oak. Commissioner Grenda seconded the motion. Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Objects Associated with Apollo 11 Tranquility Base National Level of Significance

Lisa Westwood, registered professional archeologist with ECORP and CSU, Chico, and Ralph Gibson, program manager with Placer County Museums, presented a slide show explaining the Objects Associated with Apollo 11 nomination to the Commission. Ms. Westwood spoke in support of listing the Objects Associated with Tranquility Base to the California Register of Historical Resources.

Chairperson Polanco asked if there was anyone speaking against the nomination; there was no response. Chairperson Polanco closed public comments and opened discussion to the Commission.

Commissioner Grenda asked if the Commission was nominating the 106 objects but not the site. SHPO Donaldson stated that was right, this nomination is for the objects only, not the site.

SHPO Donaldson stated Ms Westwood is raising awareness of the resource.

Commissioner Moss understood the argument and stated there might be cultural tourism involved in returning to the moon, however, Commissioner Moss asked how does one protect the objects from Earth? Who does that?
Ms. Westwood stated the protection will be attained by World Heritage Site Status.

Commissioner Moss asked if there a possibility of the objects returning to earth?

Ms. Westwood explained what might happen if the objects are removed. The objects would lose their context.

SHPO Donaldson explained the reasons why raising awareness is important.

Commissioner Bertoli asked to verify the path to which we give recognition.

SHPO Donaldson explained the plan or path is to have several states nominate the objects as a prelude to the National Parks Service (NPS) listing as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) designation. Should the NPS decide to not list the objects then the applicants can go forward with a member of the US Congress to list the site as a NHL. Once a NHL, the applicants proposed on nominating the objects and potentially the site as a World Heritage Site (WHS) listing. UNESCO requires that the historic resource be listed as a NHL for the USA before consideration as a WHS.

Commissioner Moss asked if there are space attorneys.

Ms. Westwood stated there are space attorneys, including Steve Dole, who lives in the Bay Area.

Chairperson Polanco asked legal counsel for the specific language of the California Register as it relates the commission’s obligations in considering items for listing.

Counsel Lynch explained the criteria for listing a resource in the California Register pursuant to Public Resources Code 5024.1.

Chairperson Polanco asked Chief Counsel Lynch if the Commission has the authority to list objects not physically located in California.

Counsel Lynch stated yes, because by the California Register does not specifically exclude objects which are not in the state of California – the criteria of the California Register does not require the objects to be listed to be located in California.

Chairperson Polanco asked about ownership, and whether the ”no opinion” statement in the letter from NASA was sufficient to determine owner consent or objection.

Counsel Lynch explained that there was no owner objection.

SHPO Donaldson mentioned that the objects are federal property, not private property.

Commissioner Grenda asked if any of these laws apply on the moon.
Counsel Lynch stated that it may be possible to use these laws to protect the objects on the moon.

Jay Correia read the section of California code that states objects listed in the California Register are those that deserve to be protected.

Counsel Lynch mentioned the treaties that prohibit ownership of the Moon.

Chairperson Polanco stated that we have established jurisdiction and that the only thing left to determine is if the resource meets the criteria for significance and integrity, does it deserve protection under the law? Commissioner Guerra expressed his support for the nomination and stated that it deserves to be moved forward.

Commissioner Guerra moved that the Objects Associated with Apollo 11 Tranquility Base be approved by the California Register of Historical Resources at National Level of Significance and the Commission adopt the proposed findings. Commissioner Bertoli seconded the motion. **Action:** Motion carried unanimously.

**XI. 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 Historic Resources Commission, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number BS 103 594: Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District Case Number B205886.

No closed session.

**XII. COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

Chairperson Polanco stated that the archeological white papers will be presented at the next meeting.

Commissioner Moss mentioned that he spoke to Historian John Templeton about the goals of the African Americans in San Francisco multiple property submission which is a part of the Cultural Diversity Committee.

**XIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

No committee reports.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**
Chairperson Polanco adjourned the regular meeting of the Commission at 11:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Milford Wayne Donaldson FAIA                           Date
State Historic Preservation Officer