

## 2012 GOVERNOR'S HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS

### **Warner-Carrillo Adobe Ranch House and Barn**



*The restored Warner-Carrillo Ranch House and Barn.*

The Warner-Carrillo Adobe Ranch House and Barn were originally built in 1849 by J.J. Warner. The buildings served as a trading post on the main overland Gold Rush emigration route. It was the first trading post that overland travelers encountered after weeks of traversing the arid deserts of the Southwest, on their way to the northern California gold fields.

The house is an original vernacular adobe structure, later modified with a lightweight wood structure. The barn, built over time, consists of the adobe walls of the original corral built in 1858 for the Butterfield Overland Mail stagecoach teams. It is the last mortise and tenon barn in San Diego County. The property received National Historic Landmark designation in 1961.

The project was developed under the Cultural Stewardship Funding Program. First came a comprehensive Historic Structures Report on the property, in which the goal was to research, identify and record the physical history, evolution and condition of the building from its initial construction up to the present and to identify recommended historic property treatments for the structure, materials and finishes. The barn had suffered severe damage, having lost a portion of the roof, with major support posts near collapse and the adobe walls failing. The objective was to structurally stabilize the barn and reinstall roofing materials. Wooden "crutches" were installed around mortise and tenon beams and posts to allow the historic material to remain in place and be appreciated for its historic significance. The project completed seismic stabilization and weatherized the house. Selective flooring was removed and archaeological units discovered a rare intact example of a mud set cobble floor.

With its ties to the gold rush, Butterfield overland mail, Doña Carrillo, and the cattle industry, the Warner-Carrillo Ranch is a valuable teaching tool in the study of early California and local history.

Learn more about the restoration of the Warner-Carrillo Adobe Ranch House and Barn:

<http://isarchitecture.com/warner-carrillo-adobe-ranch-house-and-barn-2/>