

2016 Governor's Historic Preservation Awards

Paula Boghosian



As a volunteer advocate and as a professional architectural historian, author, environmental planner, and educator, Paula Boghosian has for over four decades made significant contributions to the advancement of historic preservation and to the preservation of historical resources in California.

In Sacramento, she served as the project chairman and co-author of "Vanishing Victorians: A Guide to Sacramento's Historic Homes," a publication of the American Association of University Women Sacramento Branch. The publication in 1974 received the American Association for State and Local History Award of Merit, and the Sacramento Regional Arts Council Certificate for Literary Achievement. This publication is widely considered one of the key wake-up calls for Sacramentans to recognize both the significance and the plight of their city's unprotected heritage. Through the

Vanishing Victorians committee, Ms. Boghosian initiated the first historic house tour in Sacramento to demonstrate preservation values to the public.

In 1972, Sacramento City Council appointed Paula Boghosian as one of the original members of the City's Historic Structures Advisory Committee. The committee's report, *Sacramento Old City – A Preservation Program*, became the basis of Sacramento's preservation program. In the years following those early preservation endeavors, Ms. Boghosian went on to serve as first Board Chair and later Development Coordinator for the non-profit Sacramento Heritage, as Board member for the Sacramento Old City Association (now called Preservation Sacramento), and as Sacramento's interim Preservation Director in 2003. She also co-authored publications about some of Sacramento's historic buildings and neighborhoods.

On a state-wide level, Ms. Boghosian was a founding member, in 1976, of the non-profit Californians for Preservation Action, which evolved into the present California Preservation Foundation. She served on the State Historical Resources Commission for eleven years, professionally assisted various state agencies' preservation efforts, and taught and lectured on a variety architecture and preservation topics. She is the principal of Historic Environment Consultants (HEC), which, since its founding in 1977, has assisted in the survey, evaluation, and preservation of historical resources throughout the state.

Paula Boghosian's passion for architecture and history, and ability to convey to others an appreciation for the significance of historic places, has helped to ensure that the heritage of California is preserved, interpreted, and showcased for generations to come.