

**STATE HISTORICAL RESOURCES COMMISSION  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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.....Chairperson  
MARSHALL MCKAY  
.....Vice Chairperson  
ALBERTO BERTOLI, AIA  
ELIZABETH EDWARDS HARRIS  
RICK MOSS  
DAVID PHOENIX  
ADRIAN PRAETZELLIS  
JULIANNE POLANCO  
.....Executive Secretary

Quarterly Meeting of the  
STATE HISTORICAL RESOURCES COMMISSION  
Presidio of San Francisco  
The Golden Gate Club, Ventana Room  
135 Fisher Loop  
San Francisco, California  
April 18, 2016  
9:00 a.m.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Bryan K. Brandes, Chair, Public Member  
Marshall McKay, Vice-Chair, Folklife  
Alberto Bertoli, Architecture  
Elizabeth Edwards Harris, Architectural History  
Rick Moss, Ethnic History  
Adrian Praetzellis, Prehistoric Archaeology

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT**

David Phoenix, Public Member

**STAFF PRESENT**

Julianne Polanco, State Historic Preservation Officer and Executive Secretary to the Commission  
Jenan Saunders, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
Tara Lynch, Chief Counsel, California State Parks  
Jay Correia, State Historian III, Registration Unit Supervisor  
William Burg, State Historian II  
Amy Crain, State Historian II  
Eric Allison, CHRIS Coordinator  
Diane Barclay, Outreach and Communications Coordinator

Twila Willis-Hunter, Executive Secretary

**Note: Meeting minutes are a summary and not a verbatim transcription.** Audio recordings of each State Historical Resources Commission meeting are available at <http://www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/shrcminutes>.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Legal notice having been duly given and a quorum present, the State Historical Resources Commission (Commission) meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Chair Bryan Brandes.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Brandes led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF**

Chair Brandes thanked the California Preservation Foundation annual conference staff for setting up the meeting room and making the Commissioners and staff welcome. He extended a welcome to all present on behalf of the Commission, and extended a special welcome to former State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) Wayne Donaldson, and former Deputy SHPO Stephen Mikesell. Chair Brandes then asked the Commissioners to introduce themselves. State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) Julianne Polanco introduced herself and asked Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) staff to introduce themselves.

**IV. WELCOME**

Cindy Heitzman, Executive Director of the California Preservation Foundation (CPF), welcomed the Commission to the Presidio and the annual conference of the CPF. She noted that this year's conference was honoring the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act, looking at the successes and challenges of the last fifty years and considering directions for the future. She thanked the Commission and the OHP for the work they do on behalf of historic preservation around the state and in partnership with the California Preservation Foundation.

**V. RESOLUTIONS**

A. Angel Island State Park (rescheduled to the next Commission meeting)

**VI. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 29, 2016 MINUTES**

Commissioner Harris moved to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. **Action:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

## VII. COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS

### A. Chair's Report

No report given.

### B. Executive Secretary's Report

Executive Secretary and SHPO Julianne Polanco expressed her pleasure at being at the Presidio, remarking that this was where she began her career in historic preservation. She noted that the recent rehabilitation of the Presidio Officers' Club earned a 2015 Governor's Historic Preservation award, and reminded all present that nominations were being accepted for the 2016 Governor's Historic Preservation Awards.

SHPO Polanco reported that the City of Redlands recently became California's 67<sup>th</sup> and newest Certified Local Government. She mentioned that the OHP's Local Government Unit was presenting a Local Government workshop there at the CPF conference, and would present additional workshops throughout the year, information about which is available on the OHP website. Also on the OHP website is information about the office's recently launched social media campaign, "Picture of Success: Fifty Years of the National Historic Preservation Act in California." Communities, agencies, and preservation advocates are encouraged to send in pictures of their preservation successes, to be posted on the OHP's social media sites. SHPO Polanco further reported that the office is beginning the process of updating the State Historic Preservation Plan, including gathering substantial input from around the state, with the update due to be published in 2018.

SHPO Polanco concluded her report by mentioning that she attended and spoke at the Society for California Archaeology's annual meeting in March, and she continues to be involved with the National Park Service Multiple Voices initiative to identify and recognize diversity sites.

## VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A. Archaeological Resources Committee (ARC)—Adrian Praetzellis, Acting Chair

Commissioner Praetzellis reported that the ARC met on March 12, 2016, at the Society for California Archaeology's (SCA) annual meeting in Ontario, California. Discussion included looking at the achievements of the committee

over the last eight years, and updates on recent revisions to the Guidelines document of the Archaeological Resources Management Report (ARMR). Commissioner Praetzellis reported that legal counsel had confirmed that the SHRC and SHPO have legal authority to issue the updated ARMAR as a guidance document. Work on the education portion of the White Papers is in process, including updates to curriculum guidelines. For the curation portion of the White Papers, work is underway to assess the number, type, and location of archaeological collections in the State.

B. Cultural Diversity Committee—Rick Moss, Chair

Commissioner Moss reported on recent activity related to the California African American Heritage Trail initiative. He said that initial efforts on the initiative will be focused on the Oakland region. He is working with the Oakland Heritage Alliance to increase awareness and support of the initiative, and to identify potential local sites for historic designation.

C. Information Center Procedural Advisory Committee (ICPAC)—Adrian Praetzellis, Chair

Commissioner Praetzellis reported that ICPAC also met at the SCA annual meeting. Updates were presented on the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) transition study and plan, and discussions were held on the roles and functions of the Information Centers (ICs). Also discussed was how to encourage architectural historians to contribute their work and findings to the CHRIS.

D. Modernism Committee—Elizabeth Edwards Harris, Chair

Commissioner Harris reported that the Modernism Committee's (ModCom) Outreach group is working with OHP staff to build a database and listserv of modernism constituents. ModCom also is continuing its work regarding the evaluation of modern resources, with panel discussions on integrity presented at this year's Modernism Week in Palm Springs, and at the CPF conference in San Francisco. Commissioner Harris reminded everyone that the ModCom meets monthly and welcomes all with an interest in modernism.

**IX. POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS OF ALL NOMINATED PROPERTIES**

Presented by Jay Correia, State Historian III/Registration Unit Supervisor; Amy Crain, State Historian II; and William Burg, State Historian II.

Prior to the start of the presentation, Chair Brandes informed all present that the Helen Goodwin Renwick House nomination had been moved to Discussion and Action.

## X. CONSENT CALENDAR

### A. National Register of Historic Places, New Nominations

1. X-100  
San Mateo, San Mateo County  
Local Level of Significance
2. Renwick, Helen Goodwin, House  
Claremont, Los Angeles County  
**(Moved to Discussion and Action)**
3. Los Angeles Plaza Historic District (Amendment)  
Los Angeles, Los Angeles County  
Local Level of Significance
4. Holbrook-Palmer Estate Carriage House and Water Tower  
Atherton, San Mateo County  
Local Level of Significance
5. Yountville Grammar School  
Yountville, Napa County  
Local Level of Significance
6. First Church of Christ Scientist  
(Architecture of Albert Frey Multiple Property Submission)  
Palm Springs, Riverside County  
Local Level of Significance
7. Providence Townsite  
Essex (vicinity), San Bernardino County  
Local Level of Significance
8. Big Creek Hydroelectric System Historic District  
Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles, Madera, Tulare Counties  
State Level of Significance

Chair Brandes thanked staff for their presentation of the Consent Calendar. He then read aloud the rules and procedures by which the Commission reviews and votes on National Register of Historic Places and California Register of Historic Resources nominations. With neither the Commissioners nor members of the public requesting any further items removed from the Consent Calendar, Chair Brandes asked for a motion.

Commissioner Harris moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Commissioner Bertoli seconded the motion. **Action:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Yountville Mayor John Dunbar, and Councilmembers Marita Dorenbecker and Margie Mohler, spoke in support of Yountville Grammar School, emphasizing the property's importance in the history of the region, and the success of the building's retrofit project.

Linda Pollack, Southern California Edison, spoke in support of Big Creek Hydroelectric System Historic District, remarking on the property's importance in the life and literature of early southern California. She thanked OHP staff and others for their help with the nomination process, and the Commissioners for their support.

David Weinstein, author of the nomination, spoke in support of X-100 and the recognition of modern resources. He thanked staff of the OHP for their help throughout the nomination process.

Break: 2:07-2:22 p.m.

## XI. NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CALIFORNIA REGISTER OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

A PowerPoint presentation for each property preceded public comment and Commission discussion.

### A. National Register of Historic Places, New Nominations

1. Rockhaven Sanitarium Historic District  
Glendale, Los Angeles County  
State Level of Significance

Speaking in support of the Rockhaven nomination were Christine Lazzaretto, Historic Resources Group; Michael Morgan, Emily Lanigan and Joanna Linkchorst, Friends of Rockhaven. The speakers emphasized Rockhaven's significance in local history, women's history, and mental health history, and the property's association with the work of mental health nurse and Rockhaven founder Agnes Richards.

With no speakers in opposition, the public comment period concluded.

Commissioner Bertoli moved to accept the nomination as presented. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. **Action:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. Willow Glen Trestle over Los Gatos Creek  
San Jose, Santa Clara County  
Local Level of Significance

Speaking in support of the Willow Glen Trestle nomination were Susan Brandt-Hawley, Brandt-Hawley Law Group; Larry Ames, Scott Lane, and Severn Edmonds, Friends of the Willow Glen Trestle; Seth Bergstein, architectural historian; Gayle Frank, Preservation Action Council of San Jose; and Martha Heinrichs, Heather Lerner, Laura Levin, and Deborah Arant, community members.

Supporters spoke to the trestle's importance and place in the history of the Western Pacific Railroad and the economic and community development of the Willow Glen area. They also noted community support for the trestle and the efforts of the Friends of the Willow Glen Trestle to preserve the trestle as a tangible link to the area's past.

Speaking in opposition to the Willow Glen Trestle nomination were Martina Davis and Yves Zsutty, City of San Jose; Pierluigi Oliverio, Councilmember, City of San Jose; Bruce Tichinin and Taisia McMahon, Friends of the Three Creeks Trail; and Stephen Mikesell, Mikesell Historical.

Opponents emphasized their findings that the trestle was not a significant resource historically, and noted that the trestle did not qualify for city landmark status. Opponents also spoke of the trestle's impact on salmon and trout populations, and its impediment of the Three Creeks trail.

Wayne Donaldson, public member, spoke in rebuttal of the opposition, reiterating the trestle's significance to the community and community history.

Stephen Mikesell, Bruce Tichinin, and Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio responded to the rebuttal, stressing that significance must be substantial enough to meet the level required under National Register of Historic Places criteria, and in their opinion, the trestle did not meet that level.

The public comment period then concluded.

Chief Counsel Tara Lynch responded to a letter submitted by Mr. Tichinin at the start of the commission meeting, in which he expressed concern regarding the impact a decision by the SHRC would have on CEQA compliance in this case. Ms. Lynch stated that a decision by the SHRC is not equal to, and does not result in, a direct or indirect physical change on the environment as defined under CEQA.

At the request of Commissioner Bertoli, staff read the text of Criterion A.

Commissioner Praetzellis asked Mr. Mikesell to clarify why he felt the trestle did not meet Criterion A. Mr. Mikesell responded that his research did not find a strong connection between the trestle and the region's fruit-packing industry, that to make any such connection "is a reach."

Commissioners Harris, McKay, Moss, and Bertoli, and Chair Brandes expressed favor for the trestle nomination, stating their belief that the trestle did meet the criteria level of significance with regard to its role in the region's community and commercial history, and it is important to preserve the less well-known historic structures that are tied to and reflect an area's past.

Commissioner Bertoli moved to accept the nomination as presented. Commissioner Harris seconded the motion. **Action:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. View Park Historic District  
View Park-Windsor Hills, Los Angeles County  
Local Level of Significance

Speaking in support of the View Park nomination were Katie Horak, Architectural Resources Group; Adrian Scott Fine, Los Angeles Conservancy; John Simmons, View Park resident; and Andre L. Gaines, Ben Kahle, Yolanda Parker, Pernell Cox, and Dr. Vanita Nicholas, View Park Conservancy.

Supporters spoke of View Park's historic significance as a neighborhood that transitioned from a racially exclusive environment to a community of the African American middle-class. They emphasized the strong community spirit and cohesiveness that has carried through generations of View Park residents, and the diversity of architecture preserved throughout the neighborhood. Also noted was the community's enthusiastic and financial support of the efforts to document the neighborhood's history and prepare the National Register of Historic Places nomination.

Andre L. Gaines, View Park Conservancy, read a letter from Ms. Rosalind Blackmen recounting the early history of View Park, including the period of the area's racial transition and development of a strong community identity.

With no speakers in opposition, the public comment period concluded.

Chief Counsel Tara Lynch reported that out of 1800 View Park property owners, only six had filed an objection, which was well below the majority required to allow an objection to stand against the nomination.

Commissioner Harris commented on the importance of a neighborhood of this size being recognized and designated as a historic district.



Commissioner Harris moved to accept the nomination as presented. Commissioner Bertoli seconded the motion. **Action:** Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

4. Renwick, Helen Goodwin, House  
Claremont, Los Angeles County  
Local Level of Significance

Speaking in support of the Renwick House nomination were Susan Brandt-Hawley, Brandt-Hawley Law Group; Denise Spooner, Claremont Heritage; and Amy Minter, Chaffen-Brown & Carstens.

Supporters emphasized that the Renwick House's significance was based on its association with Helen Goodwin Renwick, who was herself significant in the area's history and community life. They thanked OHP staff for their help with the nomination process and urged the Commission to not delay a vote on the nomination.

Karen Sisson, Pomona College, then spoke asking that the Commission consider delaying their vote, to allow time to resolve a discrepancy between the National Register nomination and a CEQA evaluation performed by Architectural Resources Group.

Denise Spooner spoke in rebuttal of Ms. Sisson's request, explaining that ARG's concern had been with the integrity of the house interior; however the exterior of the house and its location still strongly retained integrity.

Ms. Sisson responded, saying that Pomona College, the City of Claremont, and Claremont Heritage had always had a good working relationship, and that it was unusual for them to be in disagreement. For that reason along with the concern about the discrepancy, the College felt it worth delaying the vote on the Renwick House nomination until agreement could be reached.

William Burg, OHP, addressed the discrepancy concern, noting that the analyses in question were two different types of analyses with two different sets of questions and results, so no contradiction existed between the two. He also asserted that the house retained significance both in its extant original features and in its association with the life and work of Helen Renwick.

Commissioner Harris commented that the association of the house with Helen Renwick was very clear; she did not feel there was reason or evidence enough to delay the nomination. She asked if a property must meet significance under all of the criteria in order to be listed.

William Burg responded that a property only needs to meet one of the criteria to be listed.

Commissioner Bertoli asked if there was any reason not to extend more time to the college.

Commissioner Harris said that the last minute nature of the request was problematic; they had been noticed in the proper time required, so she questioned the last minute request for a delay.

Chair Brandes observed that the Commission has in times past had requests for delays regarding nomination decisions, and has on occasion granted those requests based on the circumstances of a particular case. He expressed his belief that the benefit of more time should be given if there is substantial reason for doing so. With regard to the Renwick House nomination, he is not convinced there is substantial cause for delay.

Chief Counsel Tara Lynch advised the Commission that the nomination had been properly noticed to all parties within the appropriate time frame for such action, as outlined in 36 Code of Federal Regulations 60.6C, and because the nomination was complete, the SHPO was duty-bound to bring the nomination before the Commission.

SHPO Polanco asked staff if a formal letter of objection from Pomona College was on file. Staff responded that no formal letter of objection had been received.

Commissioner Harris moved to approve the nomination as presented. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. **Action:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

## **XII. NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES Progress Report**

Chair Brandes updated the Commission on the various properties that had been listed in the National Register of Historic Places since the last meeting of the Commission, as noted in the meeting agenda.

## **XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

## **XIV. COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

A. California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) Modernization and Sustainability Plan Update

SHPO Polanco reviewed the Action Plan Updates report, a copy of which had been given to each of the Commissioners. She explained that some Plan task deadlines had been adjusted, due to staff time constraints, to ensure the deadlines will be properly met. SHPO Polanco encouraged the Commissioners to review the updates in detail and she and her staff would be available to answer any questions.

B. CHRIS Subscription Standards

SHPO Polanco opened discussion about the CHRIS subscription standards by noting that staff had explored how to dovetail the subscription standards with the Action Plan. She also requested that the current CHRIS fees not be extended beyond 2018. SHPO Polanco then turned the discussion over to Eric Allison, CHRIS Coordinator, who reported on the proposed subscription standards. He outlined the types of data accessible through the CHRIS, and explained that the subscription terms would include the type and amount of data accessed, update interval, and other factors. Mr. Allison noted that subscription cost factors include estimates of data to be added during the subscription period, which will be determined in a standardized fashion across the Information Centers (ICs). He discussed the establishment of subscriber discounts applied to fees within the existing fee structure, and based on subscription length. Mr. Allison conveyed the staff's recommendation that the subscription standards be approved and kept in place until the final commission meeting of 2018.

Chair Brandes asked if one subscription will be applicable for use at more than one Information Center or if multiple subscriptions would be needed for multiple ICs. Mr. Allison responded that there was no prohibition about either of those possibilities. He noted that a subscription would be a contract and each IC looks at contracts uniquely, so the application of single or multiple subscriptions would be something to address on a case by case basis.

Commissioner Praetzellis moved that the Commission accept the CHRIS subscription standards as submitted and maintain them until December 2018. Commissioner Moss seconded the motion. **Action:** Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**XV. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Bertoli reiterated his request from a previous commission meeting, asking that more maps and/or floor plans be provided as part of the review materials for house nominations.

Commissioner Moss added that it also would help with the review process if more photographs were included in the review binder sent out to each commissioner.

Commissioner Harris recommended including in the nomination packet for View Park Historic District, a map showing View Park's location in context with the greater Los Angeles area.

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Brandes adjourned the regular meeting of the State Historical Resources Commission at 5:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Julianne Polanco  
State Historic Preservation Officer

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Date