

ATTEND THE CITYWIDE HPOZ CONFERENCE MAY 7

The Department of City Planning is partnering with the Los Angeles Conservancy to organize a citywide conference focused on the City's historic districts, the 27 Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZs).

The conference will be held on **Saturday, May 7, 2011, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at McCarty Memorial Church, 4101 W. Adams Blvd.** in the West Adams Terrace HPOZ. It is open to any and all who are interested in historic preservation and Los Angeles' most significant historic neighborhoods.

The conference will offer a stimulating day of workshops, activities, tours, and networking, including:

- The second HPOZ Awards Luncheon, honoring outstanding projects within the city's HPOZs
- Walking tours of the West Adams Terrace HPOZ, with its rich array of Craftsman and Period Revival architecture, and the proposed Jefferson Park HPOZ. Both neighborhoods are adjacent to the



A home in West Adams Terrace – the neighborhood that will host the 2011 HPOZ Conference

- conference location.
 - Updates on activities in all 27 HPOZs around the city
 - Breakout sessions that will include an "HPOZ 101" introduction on the basics of HPOZs for homeowners and residents, advice for new and proposed HPOZs, and advanced sessions for current HPOZ Boardmembers. More information on conference sessions is found on the conference flyer at <http://www.preservation.lacity.org/node/438>.
- This conference is for you if you live in an HPOZ and want to learn more about how it works, if you are on an HPOZ board, if you are in the process of forming an HPOZ, or if you may be interested in forming an HPOZ to protect the historic character of your

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CITY'S PRESERVATION PLAN PROGRAM WINS L.A. CONSERVANCY AWARD

The City of Los Angeles 2010 HPOZ Preservation Plan Program is being honored with a 2011 Preservation Award by the Los Angeles Conservancy. The award will be presented at the Conservancy's annual Preservation Awards luncheon, May 12, 2011 at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel.

The past decade has seen an explosion of interest among Angelenos in forming historic districts to pro-

tect the unique character of their neighborhoods. The number of HPOZs in the city more than tripled from eight in 1998 to twenty-seven in 2010.

However, staffing for the City's Planning Department had not kept pace with demand. Sixteen of the HPOZs lacked a required Preserva-

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MEET THE STAFF OF THE NEW HPOZ UNIT



As part of a recent reorganization of the Department of City Planning, the staffing of the Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZs) has been fully consolidated within the Office of Historic Resources for

the first time. This reorganization will help provide for more consistent oversight of Los Angeles' cherished historic districts by five Planning staff members whose entire focus will be on historic preservation:

Craig Weber is a fourth-generation Angeleno who studied City and Regional Planning at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. His



interest in historic preservation began early on when he and his siblings would "explore" an abandoned Folk Victorian near his grandparents' home in Cayucos, California. An LA City Planner for nearly six years, Craig has worked on projects ranging from the LA Live master plan to transit oriented development in Hollywood—though he has

always had a soft-spot for LA's historic districts. Following his work on the adoption of most of the HPOZ's Preservation Plans, Craig assumed a leadership role in the HPOZ program and is overseeing the adoption of new historic districts, as well as the implementation of existing districts. Craig lives in Silver Lake with his partner Kenny, a small army of rescued mutts, and enjoys rehabilitating vintage bicycles. His favorite architectural style in Los Angeles is Mission Revival.

Matthew Glesne hails from Chicago, but he has been in Los



Angeles working for the Department of City Planning since 2003. A Graduate of the University of Illinois, his first planning job was as a historic preservation intern for the City of Elgin, Illinois, where he was hired on full-time after graduation. Before moving to Los Angeles, Matt worked at a Chicago university-based community development research

institute on mostly affordable housing and regional planning issues. Matt has been involved with the City's HPOZ program for over eight years. On his off-time, Matt likes to pretend he is a DJ, cook, write about Latin America and spend time with his 18 month-old son and his wife. His favorite architectural style is probably the Art Nouveau he saw in Mexico City and Brussels, but in Los Angeles he's also a big fan of Art Deco and Craftsman styles.

Steven Wechsler has served as community planner for three years with the Department of City Planning for the Central City North Community Plan area, the area just north and east of Downtown that includes Chinatown, Union Station, and the downtown Arts District. Additionally, he has three years of experience with a variety of our City's HPOZs. He proudly acknowledges himself as a long-term resident of the San Fernando Valley. His favorite architectural styles are Streamline Moderne and Art Deco for commercial structures, Prairie and Spanish Colonial Revival for residential, and the works of Irving Gill and Walter Burley Griffin.



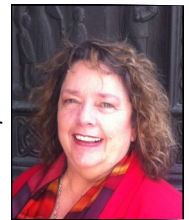
Lameese Elqura recently joined the Department of City Planning and is glad to be in the HPOZ unit working to pre-

serve LA's history. A Southern California native, she currently lives in Glendale, where she enjoys jogging around the diverse and historic neighborhoods. Lameese received a B.S. in Planning and Development and Minor in Architecture from USC, and a Masters in Urban Planning from the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Prior to joining the Planning Department she spent several years working at an architecture/urban design firm in Long Beach. Along with preservation, she is an advocate for sustainable urban development and local bicycle/pedestrian issues, and is a self-professed map geek. She has always been fascinated with mid-century "Dingbat" apartments, though she also loves the romanticism of the modest Spanish Colonial Revival bungalow.



Nora Dresser, as a returning student, received her degrees at UC San Diego with Urban Studies and Planning, a Biology

minor, and Masters in City Planning at San Diego State University. During her undergraduate studies she was fortunate to take her children and spend a year at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia as an exchange student. Her planning assignments with the City of Los Angeles have included zone investigations, amendments to the Zoning Code, and staffing the public counter. Coming from a



family of artists taught Nora to appreciate the artistry and craftsmanship found on historic buildings. She also enjoys seeing materials and styles of art and architecture revisited using new technologies and ideas, with a twist to fit the time and location. Other than her work for the City, Nora's artistic skills deal with smaller items including beads, gems, metals, wire, clay and glass to create jewelry and decorative ornamentation. Nora's favorite architectural style in Los Angeles is Spanish Colonial Revival.

PRESERVATION PLANS WIN CONSERVANCY AWARD

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tion Plan to guide them in evaluating proposed changes to properties within the districts.

Without the staffing to complete the plans, some HPOZs had been functioning for decades without clear guidelines. The lack of plans also caused time-consuming review of projects without clear criteria, as well as the requirement of any project, no matter how small, to be presented to an HPOZ Board.

When the City's current fiscal crisis resulted in a significant reduction in Planning Department staff, the future of the entire HPOZ program came into question. In the midst of the budget crisis—and in part, to help survive it—Planning staff made the plans a priority in 2010.

The Department developed a creative strategy to complete the plans by taking advantage of economies of scale, adopting all sixteen remaining plans through a single initiative. Staff created a single Preservation Plan template, which members of each HPOZ customized to suit their specific neighborhood.



A sample page from the Preservation Plan detailing characteristics of architectural styles



Homes in the Harvard Heights HPOZ — one of the many HPOZ neighborhoods that will benefit from the new plans

The new plans streamline the types of projects needing full review by Planning staff or HPOZ Boards without undermining preservation protections. They benefit residents and property owners by providing clear guidelines about appropriate alterations, as well as an incentive to adhere to the guidelines for quicker project review. After months of community participation, all 16 plans were adopted by the City Council in December 2010.

In announcing the award, the Conservancy noted the widespread impact of the Preservation Plan program:

“In one project, the City gave property owners, HPOZ Boards, and City staff the tools they need to make sound, informed decisions that preserve and revitalize historic properties and communities.

The project makes the HPOZ program more sustainable and frees up staff resources for the adoption of new HPOZs. This proactive, innovative effort repre-

sents a great milestone in the City's HPOZ program, and it will have a far-reaching, positive impact on historic neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles.”

EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue of the OHR's e-newsletter has a special focus on the City's Historic Preservation Overlay Zone (HPOZ) Program, which has achieved important milestones in recent months with the creation of a dedicated HPOZ unit within the OHR and the adoption of 16 new Preservation Plans. Our 27 HPOZs are remarkably distinctive, spanning the city's architectural styles, and offer tremendous ethnic and socioeconomic diversity. We hope you enjoy these articles on how City government is working to protect and enhance Los Angeles' most cherished historic neighborhoods.

HELP INFORM SURVEYLA IN YOUR COMMUNITY

SurveyLA, the Los Angeles Historic Resources Survey Project, has progressed to launch its field surveys in South Los Angeles and Southeast Los Angeles this spring. While this work is taking place, the SurveyLA team is simultaneously coming to other communities throughout the city, engaging community members through our “MyHistoricLA” outreach program to inform the survey work that will be starting several months from now.

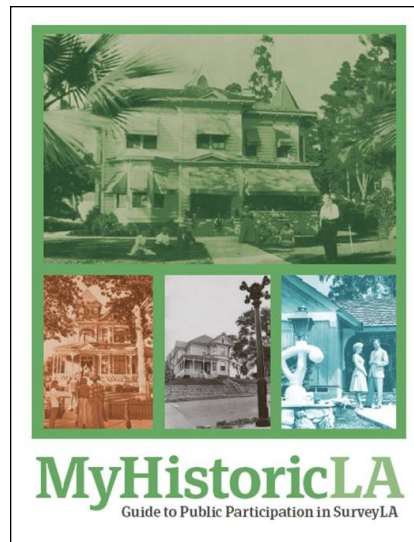
If you live in most of the San Fernando Valley, the Westside, or in Silverlake/Echo Park/Westlake, now is your best opportunity to tell us about significant historic places in your neighborhood. We need your help to identify the “hidden gems” in your area that may be less obvious to the professional survey teams. This is a once-in-a-generation chance to identify the places that make your community special.

“MyHistoricLA” is focusing its outreach over the next few months on the following Community Plan Areas of Los Angeles: Sherman Oaks-Studio City-Toluca Lake-Cahuenga Pass; North Hollywood-Valley Village; Canoga Park-West Hills-Winnetka-Woodland Hills; Encino-Tarzana; Brentwood-Pacific Palisades; Bel Air-Beverly Crest; Westchester-Playa del Rey; Arleta-Pacoima; Mission Hills-Panorama City-North Hills Silverlake-Echo Park-Elysian Valley; and Westlake.

It’s also not too late to submit information on historic resources in the communities where surveys will be beginning this summer: Palms-Mar Vista-Del Rey, West Los Angeles, San

Pedro, Harbor Gateway, Wilmington, and Central City North. We hope you’ll participate in any of the following ways:

- Work with members of your community to help gather and organize information about your neighborhood for SurveyLA. The OHR has developed a Guide to Public Participation in SurveyLA that is available online at <http://www.preservation.lacity.org/node/457>. The guide provides step-by-step instructions on how to organize activities and events in your community that will contribute directly to SurveyLA.
- Connect us with people in your community who have a particular interest in or knowledge of the history or architecture of your area.
- Go to the City’s website at <http://www.preservation.lacity.org/survey/historic-identification> and fill out a MyHistoricLA identification form to let us know about places in the community that are important to you.



Whether you want to serve as “Neighborhood Coordinator” for SurveyLA in your area, or just want to tell us about a single historic place that matters to you, we hope you’ll get involved now to help make SurveyLA a success.

If you have any questions about how to get involved with “MyHistoricLA” activities or about how to submit information, please contact Robby Aranguren, Public Participation Coordinator for SurveyLA, at myhistoricla@gmail.com or (626) 793-2400.



What Is SurveyLA?

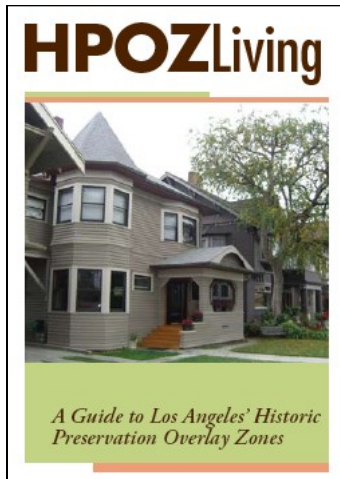
SURVEYLA: THE LOS ANGELES HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY PROJECT is the first-ever comprehensive inventory of our city’s historic resources.

The survey findings will have a multiplicity of benefits and uses: it will help direct future growth, shape the revision of Los Angeles’ 35 Community Plans, streamline environmental review processes, provide opportunities for public education, assist in disaster planning, and spur heritage tourism and the marketing of historic neighborhoods and properties.

The J. Paul Getty Trust and the City of Los Angeles have entered into a grant agreement for SurveyLA under which the Getty has committed to providing up to \$2.5 million to the project, subject to matching requirements by the City. Field surveys and evaluations will occur from 2010 through 2013. The Getty Conservation Institute (GCI) is also providing technical and advisory support for SurveyLA. For more information visit the SurveyLA website, www.SurveyLA.org.

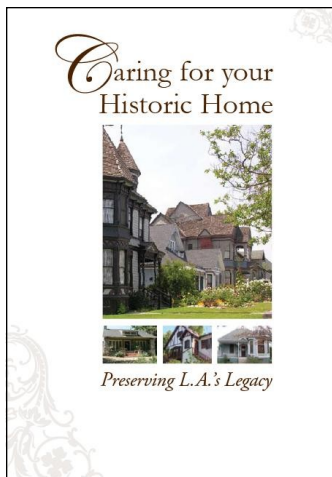
OUTREACH BROCHURES AVAILABLE TO HELP GUIDE HISTORIC PROPERTY OWNERS

Are you seeking guidance on how to rehabilitate a historic home? Are you looking for materials that can raise awareness about historic preservation among new homebuyers or realtors in your neighborhood? Do you need information on the basics of the City's historic districts? If so, then the materials of the Department of City Planning's Historic Homeowner Education Program may be your answer.



This program has been working to improve awareness and understanding of the City's HPOZ program and of good historic rehabilitation practices, particularly within Los Angeles' diverse low- and moderate-income historic neighborhoods.

The program includes a brochure, entitled "HPOZ Living," that explains the City's HPOZ program, as well as a 32-page Historic Rehabilitation Guide, "Caring for Your Historic Home," that provides clear and concise advice for property owners. These publications are available on-line at <http://www.preservation.lacity.org/node/414>.



The Office of Historic Resources (OHR) has copies available in English, Spanish, and Korean, which may be picked up in Room 601 of City Hall, 200 N. Spring St. in Downtown Los Angeles.

The OHR is particularly looking to establish new and creative partnerships with community organizations, historical societies, and non-profits to

distribute more of the Spanish and Korean versions of the publication. Please contact Craig Weber at (213) 978-1217 if you

would like to participate in distributing these materials.

The Historic Homeownership Education Program has been made possible by a grant from the City's Construction Services Trust Fund. We hope that these materials will continue to assist property owners throughout Los Angeles in becoming good stewards of their historic homes.

HPOZ CONFERENCE

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neighborhood. The conference will give you a chance to meet residents like you from throughout Los Angeles who are passionate about historic preservation and historic neighborhoods.

The cost for the conference is \$20, which includes continental breakfast and lunch. To register, please visit <http://laconservancy.org/neighborhoods/> or contact Flora Chou at fchou@laconservancy.org, or (213) 430-4211.



Historic photo of McCarty Memorial Church, site of the 2011 HPOZ Conference
McCarty Church

9th Annual Citywide HPOZ Conference

**Saturday
May 7, 2011**

8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

McCarty Memorial Church
4101 W Adams Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90018



Limited parking available on site, participants are encouraged to carpool.



NEW HISTORIC-CULTURAL MONUMENTS

The Los Angeles City Council gave final approval to two new City Historic-Cultural Monuments between January and March of 2011.

T.R. Craig Residence “Peppergate Ranch” (8431 Pinelake Drive), HCM #992.



Built in 1939 and located in West Hills, this one-story single-family residence was designed by master architect Paul R. Williams (1894-1980) in the Ranch Style. One

of the foremost architects of Los Angeles in the mid-twentieth century, Williams was the first certified African-American architect west of the Mississippi River, the first African-American member of the American Institute of Architects, and also served on the first Los Angeles Planning Commission. The residence was built for Talton R. Craig, founder of the Craig Movie Supply Company. The home was built as the primary residence of Craig’s 29-acre “Peppergate Ranch,” later subdivided in the 1960s as Woodlake Estates and Pinelake Estates.

Cross of San Ysidro (7570 McGroarty Terrace), HCM #993



Constructed in 1923, the Cross of San Ysidro is located on Mount McGroarty in the Verdugo Mountains of Pasko Park, in the Sunland-Tujunga community. The Cross of San Ysidro is a thirty-foot poured reinforced concrete cross positioned atop a base made of native rock.

Erected by a local builder, George Washington Harris, the cross was designed by architect Arthur Burnett Benton, a noted architect of several Historic-Cultural Monuments. The Cross of San Ysidro was constructed as a visual landmark for the Little Landers community, which established Sunland-Tujunga in 1913. Mount McGroarty, was named for writer, playwright, California poet laureate and Los Angeles Times columnist John Steven McGroarty. McGroarty made the cross famous in his columns, “As Seen from the Green Verdugo Mountains.”

2011 MILLS ACT APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The 2011 deadline for the Mills Act Historical Property Contract Program, the most significant local financial incentive for owners of historic properties, is coming up quickly, on May 27. This year’s application is available on-line at <http://www.preservation.lacity.org/node/464>.

Your property is eligible for the Mills Act program if you own either a City Historic-Cultural Monument or a contributing structure in one of Los Angeles’ 27 Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZs). The Mills Act can, for many property owners, result in significant property tax savings.

If you have questions about the City’s Mills Act program, please contact Lambert Giessinger at (213) 978-1183.

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