



Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

El Presidio de Santa Bárbara SHP • Casa de la Guerra
Santa Inés Mission Mills • Jimmy's Oriental Gardens

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Additional photos available upon request

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Saving Our Historic Post Offices

Lecture by Milford Wayne Donaldson



Berkeley Post Office

(SANTA BARBARA, CA) – The Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) is pleased to present *Saving Our Historic Post Offices*, a lecture by Milford Wayne Donaldson on Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Casa de la Guerra (15 East De la Guerra Street, Santa Barbara).

Many post offices have operated for decades as the civic core of their communities. Since 2008, the U.S.

Postal Service, now headed by those favoring privatization, is closing and selling off many post offices listed on the National Register of Historic Places, reducing postal services and cutting public sector jobs. Many of these historic post offices have murals and art created during the New Deal. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, as directed by Congress, prepared a report following solicitations from stakeholders and the public to ensure that the U.S. Postal Service more effectively considers historic preservation values in the process of closure and disposal of these iconic post offices. The discussion will relate the 15 specific findings and related recommendations as well as a recent court case involving the Berkeley Post Office.



MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON, FAIA

Mr. Donaldson was appointed by President Barack Obama as Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in 2010. He was formerly the California State Historic Preservation Officer serving two Governors from 2004-2012. He received his Bachelor of Architecture degree from California Polytechnic University San Luis Obispo, Master of Science degree from the University of Strathclyde, Scotland and has received his Masters in Public History and Teaching from the University of San Diego. He is an architect of innovative design and has received several awards in preservation architecture including the California Council, American Institute of Architects Award of Excellence and the Historic Preservation Award, and was elected to the AIA College of Fellows in 1992.

Mr. Donaldson's lecture is part of a series of programs supporting the exhibit *Building Community: Reginald D. Johnson, Architect* at Casa de la Guerra. The historic downtown Santa Barbara Post Office was designed by Johnson and built in 1937. Refreshments will be served after the lecture, and the gallery will be open to view the exhibit.

Lecture sponsored by the Santa Barbara Foundation and the Spanish Garden Inn (#1 rated hotel in Santa Barbara on Trip Advisor).

CALENDAR LISTINGS

***Saving Our Historic Post Offices* Lecture by Milford Wayne Donaldson**

Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Casa de la Guerra, 15 East De la Guerra Street, Santa Barbara, CA

Free Admission

For more information: Visit www.sbthp.org or call (805) 965-0093

Building Community: Reginald D. Johnson, Architect

Exhibit Dates: Friday, March 11 – Sunday, September 18, 2016

Opening Reception: Thursday, March 10, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. FREE EVENT

First Thursday: April 7, 2016 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. FREE EVENT

Location: Casa de la Guerra, 15 East De la Guerra Street, Santa Barbara

\$5 Museum Admission

For more information: Visit www.sbthp.org or call (805) 965-0093

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ABOUT Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP)— For over fifty years the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) has worked to *protect, preserve, restore, reconstruct, and interpret historic sites in Santa Barbara County*. Founded in 1963 by Dr. Pearl Chase and other concerned community leaders, SBTHP operates El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park—Santa Barbara’s 18th century birthplace—under a unique agreement with California State Parks. The State has purchased the building that housed Jimmy’s Oriental Gardens, providing an opportunity to interpret the history of Santa Barbara’s Asian American community in the Presidio Neighborhood. SBTHP owns and operates Casa de la Guerra, the 1820s home of Presidio *Comandante* José de la Guerra and his family—the restored home is now a museum featuring original furnishings and rotating exhibits. In 2009, SBTHP signed an agreement with State Parks to manage and develop the Santa Inés Mission Mills, located near the town of Solvang, as a future California State Park. In 2011, SBTHP was awarded the Trustees’ Emeritus Award for Excellence in the Stewardship of Historic Sites by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. With the help of continuing education programs and exhibits, SBTHP strives to encourage community involvement and foster an appreciation for Santa Barbara County’s distinctive history. **Learn more at www.sbthp.org.**

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