

(We're Still) Over Here! – World War II Preservation Efforts in Partnership with the National Park Service

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Golden Gate National Recreation Area



Potomac, the Presidential Yacht of Franklin D. Roosevelt

As reported in the March 2003 issue of this newsletter, the Western Office has been instrumental in partnering with the National Park Service to preserve sites demonstrating the monumental impact of World War II on the western United States. Focusing on the San Francisco Bay Area, the initiative entitled *Over Here!* has developed information for a brochure, identified opportunities to enhance interpretation along the San Francisco Bay Trail, and advocated for preservation of historic resources at particular sites, including the Presidio and Mare Island.



Building 2 on Treasure Island

To date the Western Office has also been the primary non-governmental partner, in the *World War II Network* that the National Park Service has established, with the goal to “enhance the preservation, interpretation and public recognition of the value of our World War II heritage.” This network has grown beyond Bay Area national parks such as Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Rosie the Riveter/World War II Homefront National Historical Park, and the Port Chicago Memorial, to include Manzanar National Historic Site,

national parks in the Pacific Islands, and, most recently, Alaska.

Building upon the research for the Trust's *Over Here!* brochure, the Network is well along the road to developing an on-line travel itinerary that will provide heritage tourism, educational and visitor information over the internet for the World War II sites in the Bay Area listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This new website is expected to debut on Memorial Day, and will include thematic essays by such experts as Roger W. Lotchin, author of *The Bad City in the Good War: San Francisco, Los Angeles, Oakland and San Diego*. In the meantime, the full suite of National Register Travel Itineraries describing a wide range of places and themes is accessible at www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel, and provides a marvelous resource for actual and armchair travelers.

In addition, the Spring 2004 issue of *Common Ground*, the National Park Service's on-line magazine chronicling efforts to “preserve our heritage in all its forms,” will include information relating to the efforts of the World War II Network and *Over Here!* Initiative and highlight the issues of preserving the stories and tangible legacy of World War II at our historic sites, public lands, and privately owned industrial and civic properties. Look for *Common Ground* at http://commonground.cr.nps.gov/Mag_Current_Issue.cfm

We are pleased to be able to report tangible progress, while remaining aware of the exciting challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. On this front, we're still *Over Here!*



Dirigible Hangar One, Moffett Field

If you would like to order the 47-page *Over Here!* brochure (\$10), or a CD-Rom with the pdf version of the brochure (\$6) send an email to wro@nthp.org. Specify “*Over Here!*” in the subject line of your message.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

THE BAD CITY IN THE GOOD WAR

The latent assets of people, industry, and infrastructure were utilized in an unprecedented fashion to help the "Arsenal of Democracy" in World War II. In the Bay Area, and elsewhere in urban California, the results of those boom years are still with us in terms of more diverse populations, accelerated suburbanization (and sometimes urban blight) and environmental degradation. But the legacy of many local military bases that once helped win "The Good War" is also the open space, wildlands and historic sites that comprise Golden Gate National Recreation. Join Roger W. Lotchin, Professor of History at the University of North Carolina, distinguished scholar of western urban history, and author of *The Bad City in the Good War: San Francisco, Los Angeles, Oakland and San Diego*, for an animated lecture and book signing, as he brings to life the very human and very relevant story of the war years in the Bay Area.

Saturday, May 15, 2004, 1:00-2:30

Crissy Field Center

Mason and Halleck Streets

Presidio of San Francisco

415-561-7690

www.parksconservancy.org

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT GRANT WRITER

The Oneida Stake Academy Foundation is seeking a professional grant writer interested in raising funds for the restoration of the academy, in order to expedite the process of completing the project. Compensation will be a percentage of funds raised. Interested persons should contact Necia Seamons at 208-852-1837 or Elliott Larsen at 208-852-1090, as soon as possible, due to impending grant deadlines. A deadline for applications has been set for January 29, 2004 at 5 p.m.

Two ways to keep up with the Western Office!

Join our mailing list by sending an email to wro@nthp.org or visit the National Trust's website at: http://www.nationaltrust.org/about_the_trust/western.html

710 Freeway Extension Suspended

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has suspended its support of a more than 50 year old plan to extend the Long Beach 710 Freeway through Pasadena, South Pasadena, and El Sereno, stating that a full Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be required before the project could be considered further.

As soon as this route was proposed in 1949 by then Governor Earl Warren it met strong opposition of local residents. The 710 Freeway Extension would have destroyed nearly 1,000 homes and impacted six historic districts, displaced approximately 4,000 people, and caused environmental destruction throughout the communities in the freeway corridor. The threat of the proposed freeway led the National Trust to list South Pasadena and neighboring communities on America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places list from 1989 - 1994.

In 1998 the National Trust, the city of South Pasadena, and a coalition of state and local preservation groups filed a lawsuit that led to a federal injunction, prohibiting the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) from spending any state or federal funds in acquiring additional land or starting construction of the freeway without court approval. The ruling was based on Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Clean Air Act.

If California DOT (CalTrans) decides to go forward, the new EIS will have to include consideration of a full-bore tunnel alternative, the existence of a recently opened light rail line from Pasadena to downtown L.A., and a number of additional historic properties in the corridor that were not previously evaluated.



South Pasadena Rally, October 1, 1989

Western Office Staff Visits Ridgewood Ranch, Home of Seabiscuit



Located on Highway 101 between the cities of Ukiah and Willits in Northern California's Mendocino County, Ridgewood Ranch comprises 4600 acres of working farmland, forests, streams, and redwoods and a 90-acre central area that features more than 25 historic structures associated with owners William Van Arsdale (1903-1909), a prominent lumberman with ties to the Big Four, and Charles S. Howard (1921-1950), owner of the legendary racehorse Seabiscuit. Following a serious injury in 1939, Seabiscuit was brought to Ridgewood Ranch for retirement; he lived there until his death in 1947.

Since the 1960s, the Ranch has been owned by the Golden Rule Church As-



sociation, a religious non-profit California corporation, which is responsible for miles of stream restoration and careful

stewardship of the land and historic resources. Recognizing the increasing development pressure in the area, Golden Rule began working with the Mendocino Land Trust (MLT) several years ago to develop a conservation easement that will protect the open space and natural habitats in perpetuity. Last year, Golden Rule and MLT engaged the National Trust to help preserve the historic and cultural resources along with the open space. In October 2003, MLT received a \$4,612 Preservation Services Fund Grant to conduct condition assess-



Seabiscuit's Stallion Barn

ments and cost estimates for the rehabilitation of the historic resources on the Ranch, including the Mare Barn Complex. The three groups continue to discuss plans for collaboration, including a preservation easement for the historic structures.

For more information about the effort to preserve Ridgewood Ranch, go to <http://www.mendocinolandtrust.org/projects/ridgewoodranch.shtml> or call the Mendocino Land Trust at (707) 962-0470. For more information about limited summer tours, contact the Willits Chamber of Commerce at (707) 459-7910 or e-mail: willits@mcn.org.

Oregon Community Rejects Wal-Mart

Kate Huseby of the Hood River Citizens for Responsible Growth reports that the Hood River County Board of Commissioners voted to reverse the county Planning Commission's conditional approval of a proposed Wal-Mart SuperCenter in west Hood River, OR—ruling that the proposal was incompatible with the surrounding properties, a violation of city and county criteria for commercially zoned property. Wal-Mart failed to meet the burden of proof that its plans wouldn't eliminate floodwater storage at the site and flood adjacent properties. The commission felt that Wal-Mart had failed to provide an acceptable plan for offsetting the project's impact on the flood plain. The commission also stated that Wal-Mart's proposed 186,000 square foot building violated local code limiting the "height, bulk and scale" of such projects.

HISTORIC SCHOOL DAY

The Council on Education Facilities and International (CEFPI), a trade organization of the providers, users and builders of school facilities will be promoting a national recognition of schools in April 2004. As part of this week-long promotion, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, in cooperation with the National Park Service, will co-sponsor "**Historic School Day,**" April 20, 2004.



Castroville Japanese School, Castroville, CA., August 2002

The National Trust and the National Park Service are working with the 2003 National Association of Social Studies "Teacher of the Year" to develop lesson plans that will allow teachers to use the history of their school as part of teaching the standard curriculum. Links will be made between CEFPI, the National Trust, the National Park Service; and other web sites that can expand the reach of the teachers and the students. Lesson plans will be available on the Trust's web site, <http://www.nationaltrust.org/>, the NPS web site <http://www.nps.gov/> and The Council on Education Facilities and International (CEFPI) website <http://www.cefpi.org/> beginning in March 2004. Please encourage your school to participate and look for the links that will allow students and teachers to post their completed projects!

For more information, contact Kate Stevenson at Kate_stevenson@nthp.org or 202-588-6358.

APPROACHING DEADLINES

Applications for the National Trust's *Preservation Services Fund Grants*, *Cynthia Woods Mitchell Grants* and *Johanna Favrot Grants* are being accepted until **February 1, 2004**. Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the Western Office prior to submitting an application. For additional information regarding these grants contact Anne Gailliot, Field Representative, anne_gailliot@nthp.org

The National Trust is seeking entries for the **2004 Preservation Week Poster Contest**. The theme for Preservation Week 2004, which will occur May 3 through 9, is "New Frontiers in Preservation." To obtain an application go to <http://www.nationaltrust.org/preservationweek/>
Deadline: February 2, 2004.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is now accepting applications for the **2004 Mildred Colodny Scholarship**. One objective of this scholarship is to increase diversity and multiculturalism in the field of preservation, especially by encouraging people from diverse racial, ethnic, cultural and economic backgrounds to pursue degrees and careers in preservation. The 2004 applications are available at <http://www.nationaltrust.org/help/colodny.html>
Deadline: February 13, 2004

Applications for the *National Trust's internship program* are being accepted until **March 31, 2004**. The 10-week program will begin June 7th and will run through August 13th. The majority of available internships are at NTHP Headquarters in Washington, D.C. To find

more information about the program go to http://www.nationaltrust.org/about_the_trust/jobs/internships.html. To apply for an internship, send a cover letter and resume to: Office of Human Resources, e-mail: jobs@nthp.org (please specify "Internships" in the subject line).

Apply now for **Preservation Leadership Training (PLT)**. PLT is an intensive one-week workshop tailored to develop and strengthen leaders of state and local historic preservation organizations and commissions. The next PLT will be in **Astoria, OR, June 5-12, 2004**. For more information and to download an application go to www.nationaltrust.org/plt.
Deadline: April 1, 2004

Nominations are now open for the **2004 National Preservation Awards**, sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Home & Garden Television (HGTV). Individuals who have been involved in an outstanding preservation project completed in the past three years - or those who know of a company, organization or individual that has helped save a part of America's local or national heritage - are encouraged to submit a nomination. The applications are available at:

http://www.nationaltrust.org/preservation_awards/

Nomination deadline for the National Trust/HUD Secretary's Award, the National Trust/Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Award and the Trustees' Awards for Organizational Excellence, Public Policy, and Stewardship of Historic Sites is March 1, 2004.

Nomination deadline for National Preservation Honor Awards is May 1, 2004.



Order your copy of the new edition of the popular preservation favorite—**What Style Is It? A Guide to American Architecture**. This easy-to-use guide, expanded and revised in 2003, includes new photographs and line drawings, a concise illustrated glossary, and accessible information on 22 major styles of American architecture. Organized chronologically, *What Style Is It?* presents succinct summaries of architectural styles, discusses their development and notable characteristics, and mentions where real-world examples can be found.

What Style Is It? (item no. 2STY) is available from Preservation Books for **\$17.95** plus postage and handling. To order a copy, visit our website at <http://www.preservationbooks.org> or call (202) 588-6296. National Trust Forum members can take advantage of a 25% discount (\$13.46) and standard members of the Trust receive a 10% discount (\$16.16).