



Annual Report 2017

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20
Years



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A LETTER FROM CALIFORNIA MISSIONS FOUNDATION

It is hard to believe that California Missions Foundation is celebrating its 20th birthday! What a two decades it has been. An idea and a vision to address the preservation needs of our California Missions and related historical sites has become reality with the help of so many, from our partner foundations to our education partners, from our members to our individual donors. Your commitment to CMF has helped countless projects throughout the state as our Missions, Presidios and Asistencias find themselves better today than they were when CMF first began its efforts in 1998.



BOARD CHAIRMAN JIM LAZARUS

Helping to preserve the California Missions and conserve its vast collection of colonial artwork continues to be a priority for CMF. With the 2017 grant cycle, the California Mission Foundation continues supporting art conservation, granting funds to restore a historic statue and nine different paintings found at Missions San Luis Rey, San Gabriel, San Buenaventura, Santa Barbara Archive Library, La Purisima, San Luis Obispo, and San Miguel.

Research and Education are also key focuses of CMF. Our annual conference and highly acclaimed fall journal, *Boletín*, provide a platform for the

latest in borderlands research as so many have worked so hard for so many years helping to tell the story.

Our fourth grade field trip program, “*All-Aboard-the-Bus*” continues to provide important transportation funding for Title I students to be able to visit their local mission. We frequently hear from teachers that these field trips help to motivate their students and they find that once they return to the classroom, the students are more engaged in all subject matters.

20 years -- it's been a meaningful two decades. CMF is proud of all that has been accomplished, and we are thankful for everyone that has joined and supported the effort to preserve our Missions, and related historical sites.

Sincerely,

Jim Lazarus
CMF Chair

David A. Bolton
CMF Executive Director/CEO



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CALIFORNIA MISSIONS FOUNDATION AT 20

OUR PAST AND OUR FUTURE

For the last twenty years, the California Missions Foundation has worked tirelessly to support and protect the California Missions, Presidios and related historical sites. From its original and current board members and staff, the California Missions Foundation remains dedicated to the betterment and sustainability of these historic structures and to their stories.

The Foundation has grown as it celebrates its 20th anniversary. In 2016, CMF successfully merged with the California Mission Studies Association, bringing together, under the CMF banner, the two statewide organizations focused on preserving the historic missions and to researching important aspects of their histories.



CMF Founding Chairman Stephen P. Hearst's vision, effort, and dedication to preserving the California Missions has continued with subsequent Chairmen Larry Gould, Wayne Donaldson, Ty Smith, and current CMF Board Chairman Jim Lazarus.

CMF remains grounded in the strong cooperation and teamwork with our partner foundations and historical sites throughout the state to encourage the preservation and development of the entire California mission system.

Following a devastating earthquake and the subsequent closure of Mission San Miguel in 2003, CMF rose to meet the enormous task of helping to restore and ensure the future architectural stability of this California Mission site. With the support of U.S. Senators Barbara Boxer and Diane Feinstein, several missions in the California system were awarded federal Save America's Treasures grants in partnership with the National Parks Service. Missions San Miguel, San Luis Rey, Santa Barbara, and Carmel all benefitted tremendously from SAT grants.



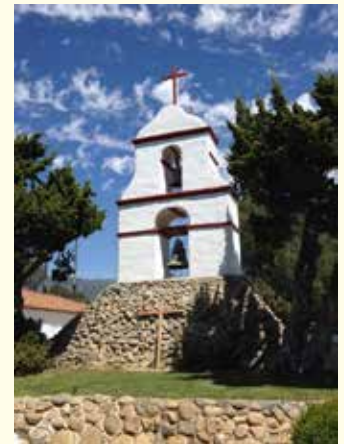
Senator Barbara Boxer visiting Mission San Miguel after the 2003 earthquake forced its closure and extensive repairs



Throughout its two decades, CMF has sponsored hundreds of projects at more than 20 Missions, Presidios, and Asistencia sites. These projects have varied from structural stabilizations, systemic retrofits, surveys, and treatments for water and insect damages. Much of the wide-spread water damage across the Mission system was caused fifty years ago by well-intentioned restoration with cement-based plaster, which created extensive

deterioration by trapping moisture within the adobe walls. CMF, along with the support of our partner foundations, funded several projects across the California Mission system to remove and replace damaging cement plaster with appropriate materials to halt the deteriorating water damage threatening their stability from within. The architectural restorations supported by the Foundation have helped to maintain the original historic appearance of these buildings, while also helping to keep the Missions and Presidios safe and accessible to visitors for generations to come.

Our California Missions hold the finest collection of colonial art and artifacts in the state. Statues, santos, sarga and oil paintings, retablos, vestments, crucifixes, and relief carvings have all been restored with the work of various conservation centers and individual conservators, mission and presidio staff, and CMF and its partner foundations. The religious artwork found within the Mission and Presidio collections incorporates various imagery: the Holy Mother, the life of Jesus Christ, Patron Saints of the



Asistencia San Antonio de Pala bell tower during and after restoration



Examination of Adobe at Mission San Francisco Solano



Missions, and Stations of the Cross. Despite some commonalities, the artwork has its own unique history, making each artifact an invaluable cultural and historical resource. Some artists remain unknown or unnamed, including many neophyte Native American artists, while other names are well known throughout the mission system such as Esteban Munras and José de Páez. Crafted on mission grounds or in the heart of Mexico, each artifact has its own story to tell, when provided the attention, study, and conservation necessary to unravel its history.

CMF and its partner foundations have also dedicated significant resources to assist the Missions and Presidios in sharing their histories with the public. These initiatives

have taken many forms, including the development of museum displays, docent training programs, digitized archival collections, and website development. In 2006, CMF launched its popular “*All-Aboard-the-Bus*” field trip program, sharing the Missions with 4th grade classes through a day of tours, lessons, and learning. Currently covering Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, and Monterey counties, the program continues to expand into the remaining areas of our state.

Since its founding in 1998, the California Missions Foundation has sought to meet a variety of needs present at our state’s historic sites – truly treasures of California history. CMF’s preservation track record is long and full of important and inventive projects to help maintain, develop, and restore the Missions, Presidios and related historical sites.

To catalogue and share this conservation history properly, the Foundation has launched the CMF Commemorative Preservation History Project to produce an accessible archival account of the hundreds of projects completed in CMF’s first two decades. This account will contain detailed project descriptions and photos to celebrate the last 20 years of Mission conservation and preservation while planning for future fundraising and much needed grant projects.

The important work to support and preserve these historic California sites is clearly not over. CMF is braced for its future of continuing to provide the highest quality assistance to the California Missions, Presidios and related historical sites.



Fully restored Our Lady of Sorrows painting at Mission San Juan Capistrano (top) and Holy Family painting at Mission Santa Clara (bottom)



Fully restored Saint Miguel Statue at Mission Santa Cruz (top) and Our Lady of Refuge painting at the Santa Barbara Mission Archive-Library (bottom)



CMF’s efforts continue to provide valuable learning experiences for students

PARTNER FOUNDATION GRANTS

California Missions Foundation would like to thank its 2017 preservation partner Foundations, all of whom helped make a series of preservation and conservation grants possible throughout the Mission and Presidio chain: **Bank of Montecito, Brewster West Foundation, The Charles D. and Frances K. Field Foundation, The Charles D. and Frances K. Field Fund, Kelly Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust, Linden Root Dickinson Foundation, Dan Murphy Foundation, John and Beverly Stauffer Foundation,** and the **WWW Foundation**. CMF is proud to have assisted and administered these various grants and projects.

MISSION SAN LUIS REY

Mission San Luis Rey and the Balboa Art Conservation Center brought new life to the Mission's *Our Lady of Sorrows* painting, restoring its original appearance hidden beneath layers of overpaint, discolored varnish, and remnants of wax. Fortunately, the original paint film remained intact and testing of the overpaint indicated an uncomplicated removal process. The ensuing treatment of *Our Lady of Sorrows* included the careful removal of the discolored varnish and overpaint using appropriate organic solvents.



Our Lady of Sorrows before and during its restoration

The treatment revealed the background was originally a warm, medium brown color rather than a dark blue, with Mary's flesh a pale, pink color and her robe a much brighter, more vibrant blue. More detail can also be seen in the drapery, dagger, and cartouche.

The painting was also treated with a humidity chamber for several days to encourage the areas of lifted but stable paint back into place. After several days of humidification, *Our Lady of Sorrows* was dried on a warmed suction table. The process reduced the lifting appearance by about 50-60%.

MISSION SANTA INÉS

Beginning more than a year ago, Mission Santa Ines completed a Ground Penetrating Radar survey to identify the outer reaches of the Mission Cemetery. Forensic canine dogs were used to examine the areas outside of the cemetery before conducting the GPR survey. These canines were invaluable resources; particularly in their inspection of the Church where the GPR survey could not access. Within the Church, the canines confirmed the location of human remains underneath the confessional and underneath the tile floor at the front of the Church. The dogs were also alerted at the Broken Arch, the last remains of the original mission after an earthquake in 1812.

MISSION SAN BUENAVENTURA

Mission San Buenaventura received funds to restore its wooden, Spanish Colonial *St. Thomas Aquinas* statue. The South Coast Fine Art Conservation Center carefully cleaned the statue, removing two layers of overpaint. The paints used on the statue during the previous restoration proved extremely difficult and time-consuming to remove, as cleaning the overpaint from the statue's face alone took several days. Beyond the overpaint, the Saint's hands and wrists were improperly repaired, with additional areas of damage and loss uncovered underneath the overpaint.



Saint Thomas Aquinas statue

MISSION SANTA BARBARA ARCHIVE-LIBRARY

The Mission Santa Barbara Archiv- Library enlisted the Fine Arts Conservation Laboratories to restore its painting of Saint Barbara, patroness of the Mission. The 18th or early 19th century painting, signed by Antonio de Torres, is an excellent representation of the art produced in the studios of Mexico City during the colonial period which made their way to the churches of the California Missions. This important historical artifact was in need of restoration and conservation so that it can be displayed and enjoyed by visitors to the Archive-Library and for generations to come.

The Fine Arts Conservation Laboratories has taken great care to clean and reline the painting. The painting also requires attention to various punctures, proper stretcher bars, and a period appropriate frame.



Saint Barbara before and during its restoration

Partner Foundation Grants, continued

MISSION LA PURISIMA

Two 19th century paintings, *The Immaculate Conception* and *Nuestra Señora de la Merced*, are an important part of Mission La Purisima's interpretive displays, representing the significant role of religious art within the mission system. Although both paintings are in relatively decent condition given their age, they each have slight cupping and cleavage on their surfaces, as well as several areas of paint loss and lifting to be treated by Patty West with the South Coast Fine Arts Conservation Center. In the case of *Nuestra Señora de la Merced*, these treatments include: test cleaning the wax lining; stabilizing all loose gesso, paint, and gilt; retouching areas of loss; and applying varnish.



Immaculate Conception and Nuestra Señora de la Merced before restoration

MISSION SAN ANTONIO DE PADUA

A major transformation of an iconic space at Mission San Antonio de Padua was made possible by a generous donation from long term Mission benefactors Frances K. and Charles D. Field. The project includes electrical upgrades and touches to the entrance foyer of the library, with the installation of historic hand-made flooring from Mexico, matched to the style and tone of what would have been used originally in the Mission Library.

MISSION SAN GABRIEL

Saint Gabriel painting before restoration

The San Gabriel Mission Museum contains more than 100 historic religious paintings, some dating to the mission period. Many of these paintings were originally hung in the Mission Church, but, following the 1987 Whittier Narrows Earthquake, were stored in improper conditions causing deterioration and damage. This project restores the painting of the mission's patron saint, Saint Gabriel. The *St. Gabriel* painting is in dire need of conservation, addressing its degrading condition and a tear in its canvas.

MISSION SAN LUIS OBISPO

Three of Mission San Luis Obispo's historical Stations of the Cross paintings have been successfully restored by Nageh Bichay. The final scanning test under the UV light in a dark room revealed great results, with clear, sharp details previously hidden by the dark aged layer of varnish and other elements of dust, smoke, soot, fatty oils, mineral oils, waxes, and hydrocarbons.



The First Station of the Cross before and after restoration



The Second Station of the Cross before and after restoration



The Fourteenth Station of the Cross before and after restoration

Each painting was varnished with a new layer of UVS matte varnish, a UV stable, colorless, reversible varnish, which was formulated to achieve the lowest possible solvent action on the original paint, maximum resin content for best coverage, and minimum yellowing or cross-linking. Each painting was secured back inside its original frame, specially modified to preserve both sides of the canvas and fitted with two humidity control cartridges. A succession number was also added on the back of each painting for the Mission's archives.

MISSION SAN MIGUEL

Mission San Miguel's art conservation project took an unexpected turn during the examination of the 18th century *Horrors of Hell* painting. It was discovered the framed work was in fact a sarga, a portable roll up painting that the missionaries used while traveling from mission to mission for teaching purposes. A decorative dowel would have been on the top of the sarga's canvas with a wooden type of case at the bottom.

This discovery dramatically altered the conservation plan, as restoring and returning the painting to its frame would no longer hold to the original design of the work. Instead, the painting restoration would include returning the painting to a sarga with its characteristic wooden attachments. The painting itself also required additional treatments. The work was cleaned, varnished, and treated with a hot table to relax the canvas and eliminate the hard ripples and waves on its surface. The final treatments include inpainting any paint loss and addressing any other minor repairs with a framer taking measurements for the wooden attachments.

Mission San Miguel intends to designate an Art Display Room, which will house this important, newly restored piece.



Horrors of Hell painting before and during its restoration

MISSION CARMEL

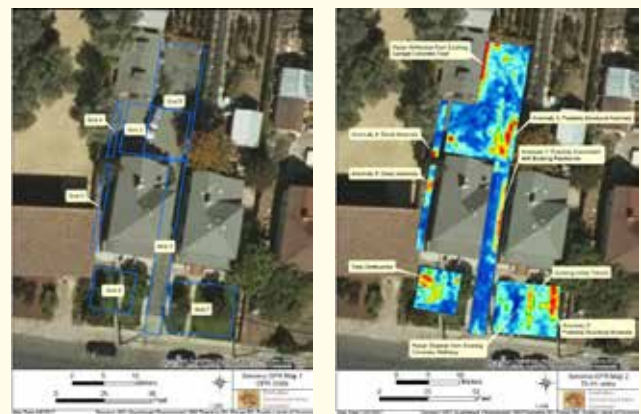
Mission Carmel has developed several displays for its Saint Junipero Serra artifacts, receiving the necessary funds to modify four display cases and produce the accompanying educational content and signage. As part of the grant, the four displays receive upgraded LED lighting, security glass, and motion-activated alarm systems. The accompanying didactic material is carefully reviewed and finalized before being printed on durable weather resistant materials. The Saint Junipero Serra artifacts include the Caravaca Cross, Saint Junipero Serra's Bible, Saint Serra's burial stole, the Serra's California Indian crafted reliquary, the 2015 Franciscan Canonization Reliquary of Saint Junipero Serra, and the Vizcaíno-Serra Oak trunk.

MISSION SAN FRANCISCO SOLANO

In search of Mission San Francisco Solano's "Great Adobe Church," Peter Meyerhof and the Natural Investigation Company conducted a ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey of residential properties on East Spain Street in So-



nomia. The survey was organized in seven separate grids to accommodate the existing structures, with GPS points taken on all corners of the grids using a BE-GPS-3300 GPS receiver, providing for sub-meter accuracy. The post-processed data was georeferenced, mosaicked, and overlaid on aerial photographs of the two properties. Due to the type of underlying soils, the maximum radar penetration reached to 126 cmbs (centimeters below surface), revealing several anomalies below the surface. The grid survey shown below illustrates the various zones surveyed and the resulting anomalies. Some of the anomalies measured by the GPR survey do appear structural and may represent previous Mission period buildings and should be further surveyed in the event the residential properties are removed. However, Meyerhof concluded the "Great Adobe Church" and its location are still unknown.



Grid zones surveyed and the resulting anomalies



Completed displays at Mission Carmel

CMF BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

By Mary Wood, CMF Board Member: As a second-generation Californian, I am always amazed when I delve into the history of our Golden State. For better or for worse, the Franciscan Mission system is our history. It is California's legacy.

We at CMF have a mission of our own. That mission is the preservation, protection, and historical research needed to support the historic mission buildings and their story. The combined merger of the California Missions Foundation (fund raising) and the California Mission Studies (historical research) is now in its third year. It continues to produce plans and ideas that we hope will further solidify our outreach to all the missions in the chain.

As an example, a talented and dedicated group of administrators, executive directors, curators and pastors, representing all 21 missions and four presidios, has been formed by CMF. The group is regularly networking. Together, they share both their individual and system-wide concerns and needs. I attended their meeting in Santa Clara and was pleased to see the participation and enthusiasm for the important work this group wants to continue.

We are also in the process of increasing our outreach to each individual mission. Each CMF board member will be assigned the closest mission or presidio to their location in California and will be contacting the priest, director, or whoever is responsible for the leadership of that specific mission. We can then ascertain more readily what their needs and wants might be. This plan also benefits our outreach to the missions and presidios, and familiarizes these historic sites with what CMF is all about.

CMF's "All-Aboard-the-Bus" field trip program continues to bring education to our students in schools throughout the state. Our yearly journal, *Boletín*, is eagerly awaited every year for its contribution to all aspects of early life in Alta California. Works from some of the best and brightest of our local historians are published to keep us all abreast of what is happening in our historic world.

For me, the history of the mission system has become a passion which CMF helps me fulfill.



CMF PRESENTS PRESTIGIOUS HONORS AT 34TH ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

Five long-time CMSA members and CMF supporters, dedicated to uncovering and keeping alive various aspects of the California Missions and related sites, were honored at the 2017 CMF Annual Awards Banquet.

The CMF Awards Committee presented Marie Duggan with the Norman Neuerburg Award, Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA, with the Edna Kimbro Award, and Sheila Benedict, The Field Foundation, and Dr. Edith Piness with Chairman's Awards. The awards are given as tributes to individuals that have been critical in the success of CMF, mission preservation and in the continuing effort to explore the studies of California's missions, presidios, ranchos, and pueblos.



Sheila Benedict, 2017 CMF Chairman's Award



Milford Wayne Donaldson (right),
2017 CMF Edna Kimbro Award



Dr. Edith Piness, 2017 CMF Chairman's Award

CMF's "ALL-ABOARD-THE-BUS" PROGRAM HELPING SEND FOURTH GRADERS TO THEIR LOCAL MISSIONS

Since 2006, CMF's "All-Aboard-the-Bus" field trip program has sent tens of thousands of fourth grade students to their local mission or related historical site. CMF, thanks to the generosity of our education partner foundations including the William H. Hannon Foundation, Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation, Monterey Peninsula Foundation, The Upjohn California Fund, the Pebble Beach Company Foundation, and Montecito Bank and Trust, continues to cover the cost of bus transportation to and from these California treasures.

Frequently, teachers comment to CMF that these field trips not only educate their students about an important chapter in California history, but the trips also motivate the students to do better in the classroom once they return.

From Los Angeles to Monterey, CMF and its education partners were able to send 2,600 fourth graders to their local mission, a total of 97 classrooms with 401 teachers and chaperones.

Fourth grader Galilea said, "I did not know the Native Americans used mud to make tiles and that animals would step on them. And that they left marks on the church tiles".

Fourth grader Kiersten said, "It was interesting to see the Adobe and finding out that each brick was 55 pounds but when it rained it turned into mud. It was made out of dirt, water, and straw."



Liberty Elementary in Los Angeles County visiting Mission San Juan Capistrano



Our Mother Consuel in Los Angeles County visiting Mission San Fernando (left), Students and faculty from Franklin Elementary School in Santa Barbara join CMF staff on a field trip to Mission La Purisima (middle), Classes from Castroville Elementary in Monterey County visit Mission San Juan Bautista (right)

32 SCHOOLS SENT FOURTH GRADE CLASSES ON FIELD TRIPS TO THEIR LOCAL MISSION OR RELATED SITE:

GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Camellia Eve. Elementary
Celerity Acharnar Charter school
Cole Elementary
La Verne Science and Tech
Liberty Elementary
Lexington
Lucille Royball-Elementary School
Our Mother of Good Counsel
St. Genevieve Scholl
Transfiguration Elementary School
Vista Del Valle Dual Language
West Whittier Elementary

MONTEREY COUNTY

Vista Del Valle Dual Language
West Whittier Elementary
Boronda Meadows Elementary
Castroville Elementary School
Cesar E. Chavez
Chular Elementary
Del Rey Elementary
Frank Ledesma Elementary
Jack Francionio
La Gloria
Los Padres Elementary
Marina Vista Elementary
Natividad Elementary

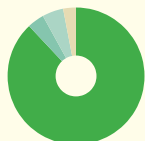
MONTEREY COUNTY, CONT.

New Republic
Ohlone Elementary
Prunedale Elementary
Roosevelt Elementary
Rose Ferrero Elementary
San Vicente Elementary
Santa Lucia Elementary
Santa Rita

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

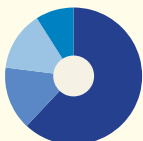
Franklin Elementary
El Camino Elementary

2017 CMF ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT



Income 2017

88% Grants & AATB
4% Mission Studies
5% Individual Donations
3% Memberships



Expenses 2017

62% Grants
14% AATB
9% Mission Studies
15% Operations

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Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation
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Annual Report 2017

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