



Public Information- Cultural Heritage Board

County of Ventura • Resource Management Agency • Planning Division
800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009-1740 • (805) 654-2478 • www.vcrma.org/divisions/planning

Purpose

Established in 1966, the Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board (CHB) serves to promote the economic and general welfare of the County. The CHB *works to preserve and protect public and private historic, cultural, and natural resources* of special historical or aesthetic character or interest. When necessary, the CHB also works to preserve, relocate or recreate such resources. These resources can be used for educational purposes, public viewing, and/or kept as their original use.

Members

The CHB is composed of seven members appointed by the Board of Supervisors who volunteer in service to the community and the field of historic preservation.

Responsibilities

The CHB Program, administered by the Resource Management Agency's Planning Division, recognizes historic properties and promotes the identification, inventory, preservation, and protection of these resources for present and future generations. All such efforts are taken to make the residents of visitors of Ventura County mindful of the rich historical, cultural, and natural heritage of the County

Review Process

The CHB's mission is enforced through a review process for project applications related to the *maintenance, alteration, restoration, rehabilitation, remodeling, addition, change of use, demolition, relocation, or subdivision* of a designated Cultural Heritage Site or potential site. The CHB has jurisdiction over all buildings, sites, structures, and districts that are designated or potentially eligible as a Local Landmark, a Site of Merit, a Point of Interest, or District. It reviews the proposed work to those properties to ensure that the significant *architectural and historical features are not adversely affected*. The CHB's objective in reviewing applications for authorization is the preservation of historic fabric and enhancement of those features which caused the historic area or property to be designated.



Queen Anne Victorian Architecture
George Washington Faulkner House in Santa Paula, CA

Eligibility

The CHB views each building and site within an historic area as unique. It also recognizes that the value of each site equals the sum of its individual parts, both new and old. For this reason, *all existing buildings and all new development* are deemed to contribute to the architectural character of the area and all are subject to the review process.

Preservation Incentives

Along with promoting the economic benefits of Historic Preservation, various economic incentives are available. Depending on the type of historic designation applied to the property, the structure may be eligible for the following: State Historic Building Code, Federal and State Rehabilitation Tax Credits, Historic Preservation Easements, Property Tax Reductions such as the *Mills Act Historical Property Contract*, Preservation Grants, Marks Historical Rehabilitation Act, Transfer of Development Rights, and Zoning Deviations. The Mills Act Historical Property Contract Program allows qualifying owners to receive a potential *property tax reduction* and use the savings to help rehabilitate, restore, and preserve their historic property.

Contact

CHB website:

<https://vcrma.org/en/cultural-heritage-board>

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