

Proclamation in Honor of the 50th Anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act

WHEREAS on 15 October 1966 President Lyndon Johnson signed The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (Public Law 89-665; 16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.); and

WHEREAS This act established several institutions, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the State Historic Preservation Office, the National Register of Historic Places, and the Section 106 review process, and

WHEREAS the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation advises the President and Congress on historic preservation issues, to develop policies and guidelines handling any conflicts between federal agencies, and to participate in the Section 106 review process; and

WHEREAS overseen by the National Park Service, the National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects worthy of preservation; and

WHEREAS for the past 50 years the National Register has listed a wide range of buildings, structures, and landscapes that represent the diverse history of the United States; and

WHEREAS the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) was established by the NHPA to coordinate statewide inventory of historic properties, nominate properties to the National Register, maintain a statewide preservation plan, provide assistance, and advise on preservation issues; and

WHEREAS today the National Register of Historic Places includes more than 1.7 million historic buildings, districts, sites, structures and objects in more than 89,000 listings; and

WHEREAS historic districts large and small, urban and rural, provide dynamic places for people to live and work. Millions of visitors from around the world visit and enjoy places such as Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater, the French Quarter of New Orleans, Buffalo's Olmsted park system, prehistoric effigy mounds in Iowa, the Spanish missions of California, Seattle's Pike Place Market, the Pueblo of Taos, the church where Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., preached in Atlanta, and the Iolani Palace in Honolulu; and

WHEREAS by acknowledging the surpassing importance of these and other historic properties to our nation, the National Register of Historic Places benefits tens of millions of Americans and individuals worldwide,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of the Society of Architectural Historians honors the 50th anniversary of the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Unanimously endorsed by the SAH Board of Directors on April 6, 2016.