



CARMEL MISSION FOUNDATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

\$2,000,000 Quadrangle Renovation Completed on Time and Under Budget

Carmel, California – August 10, 2016 – **The Carmel Mission Foundation** is pleased to announce that the \$2 million renovation of the Carmel Mission’s Quadrangle Courtyard has been completed on time and under budget. This large Courtyard in the center of the historic Mission is the venue for many important Parish and community events. The first to be held in the newly renovated Quadrangle will be the Carmel Mission Classic Car Show on Wednesday, August 17, 2016, during Monterey Car Week.

Funded by a \$2 million grant from the Carmel Mission Foundation, this renovation was performed by the same preservation team and general contractor, Blach Construction, which oversaw the Phase I, award-winning \$5 million Basilica restoration. “We were under a great deal of pressure to complete the Quadrangle work, begun in April of this year, in time for the Carmel Mission Classic Car Show. We are pleased this challenging goal was achieved, due to the outstanding efforts of Blach’s personnel,” said Vic Grabrian, Foundation President & CEO.



The newly renovated Mission Quadrangle Courtyard

The old concrete surface, cracked and with many trip hazards, was removed. Trenches were dug for installation of new subterranean infrastructure for water, fire protection, irrigation, electrical, communications, sewage, and drainage. Infrastructure was installed for new three-phase power for the Mission campus to support future needs, such as chillers for planned museum climate control. The surface of the Quadrangle was re-sloped to allow for proper drainage. New colored concrete and brick hardscape was installed with steel rebar to provide a stronger surface, designed to last for the next 75–100 years, while retaining the Quadrangle Courtyard’s original look and feel. To restore areas disrupted by the renovation work, parking lots received new seal coatings and were restriped. The temporary vehicle exit from the Mission’s front parking lot facing Rio Road was removed.

The Quadrangle Courtyard renovation completes the first part of Phase II of the Mission's restoration, a comprehensive, multi-year, \$20 million project to seismically strengthen and restore the Mission's 11 remaining historic structures and courtyards, including its five museums, California's first library, and the Orchard House, California's oldest adobe residence. The Courtyard renovation was accomplished first in order to bring in new infrastructure to support restoration of the surrounding historic structures.

Life safety issues are challenging continued use of these remaining structures, driving the need to seismically strengthen and preserve them and to provide Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant access. Many are built on foundations and stub-walls of the original Mission structures and are now overstressed and deteriorating due to exposure over time and weather. The irreplaceable artifacts these buildings contain, such as books dating back to 1511 in California's first library, are in jeopardy of being lost or destroyed. A major earthquake could have a devastating impact.

“With completion of the Quadrangle Courtyard and Basilica restorations, the Foundation has now funded \$7.5 million in preservation work at the Carmel Mission,” said Grabrian. “To help us complete the significant amount of work remaining, we are counting heavily on the generosity of those who care about preserving this historic treasure for future generations.”

About the Carmel Mission Foundation

The Carmel Mission Foundation was established in 2008 and is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public charity corporation (Tax ID #26-2981780). The Foundation is totally independent from any religious organization and contributions to the Foundation are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

The Foundation's purpose is to fund the restoration and preservation of the historic Carmel Mission's structures, art, and artifacts, including the museums and courtyards. The importance of the California missions, and Carmel Mission (San Carlos Borromeo del Río Carmelo) in particular, to the history and development of California is immeasurable. Founded in 1771, the Carmel Mission served as the first Headquarters for the California mission system, forming the foundation for what would become the State of California. A National Historic Landmark, the Carmel Mission is also the repository of generations of culture, tradition, and history, and is the burial place of Saint Junípero Serra.

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