Roosevelt Navy Base and the work of Paul Revere Williams
PRESIDENT’S LETTER

As I prepare this letter for our 2019 Annual Report, our City is in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic along with social unrest and ongoing protests to end the social injustice in our society.

This coming year will bring many changes and hopefully in time as we look back on the year 2020 we will see much progress made in many directions.

In addition to recognizing the contributions of the Naval Station and its architect Paul Revere Williams, a goal of Long Beach Navy Memorial Heritage Association is to encourage projects that help to showcase the diversity of Long Beach. Long Beach has a very rich and diverse history but sometimes historic preservation fails to tell the whole inclusive story. With this in mind, we hope to support projects that are representative of our entire community.

We are looking forward to another grant cycle of amazing projects!

Respectfully,

Cheryl Perry
President, LBNMHA, 2020

2020 GRANT PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

- **CSULB Advanced Media Production** - Production of a television documentary presenting Long Beach women in aviation history
- **First Congregational Church** - Preservation of six stained-glass windows and their frames
- **Historical Society of Long Beach** - Digitization of photographic collection of A.C. Brown
- **City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine** - Development of a Historic Structures Report for Houghton Park Auditorium
- **Pacific Island Ethnic Art Museum** - Community archive collection-care museum solution to protect and preserve cultural resources

GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

Clear-cut criteria are used to evaluate, understand, and select projects for funding. All proposals must follow a specific process in applying for grant funding. Filing a Letter of Intent (no more than two pages in length) with the LBNMHA Board of Trustees is the first step in the process. The Board then reviews the letters and invites qualified applicants to submit a more descriptive proposal that includes a detailed budget and financial statements. Full proposals are limited to eight pages. Visit https://longbeachcf.org/long-beach-navy-memorial-heritage-association/ for full details.
REFLECTING BACK

When Long Beach Navy Memorial Heritage Association (LBNMHA) was created in 1998, we looked sadly at the demolition of the Roosevelt Base Historic District, but now, over twenty years later, we see the results of so many preservation projects in Long Beach which were made possible by the mitigation funds that established LBNMHA. To date approximately $3.9M in funds have been granted for these projects that have added greatly to the preservation of numerous historic resources in Long Beach.

What made the buildings on the Roosevelt Base Historic District so significant? First, they were co-designed by the nationally prominent black architect Paul Revere Williams. Considering the times (1920s - 1960s), Williams' achievements in architecture were extraordinary in light of the endemic racism in a field that lacked diversity.

Williams was among the first black students admitted to the Beaux-Arts Institute of Design, the first black architect to become a member of the AIA, and the first black member to be inducted into the Institute’s College of Fellows. In 2017, he was posthumously awarded the Gold Medal by the AIA, the Institute's highest award.

Known as the “architect to the stars” because of his many famous clients, Williams had to deal with a degree of prejudice. It was reported that he learned to read upside down so that he could sit across the table from white clients in order to accommodate those who might feel uncomfortable sitting next to him.

Although much of his work was in Los Angeles, Williams helped shape the look of Long Beach not just through his work on the Naval Base but on residential and commercial buildings as well. With a portfolio of nearly 3000 buildings during his career, Williams created both traditional and elegant residential designs as well as commercial works with a modernism flair. His non-residential works included schools, public buildings, churches, hospitals, hotels, and the iconic circular Theme Building at LAX. Eight of his works have been named to the National Register of Historic Places.

The buildings on the Naval Base were designed in the International Style with Mediterranean Revival detailing by Paul Revere Williams along with Adrian Wilson and Donald R. Warren. Eleven buildings were constructed in 1940 - 1943. The Roosevelt Base Historic District was considered historically significant for its site planning, landscaping, and architectural style.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY
ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDING 12/31/19

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<th>Description</th>
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<td><strong>BALANCE AT 12/31/19</strong></td>
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Note: Funds held at Long Beach Community Foundation (with investment management support from Greater Horizons) for the exempt purposes of LBNMHA amounted to $4,114,751.85 as of 12/31/2019.
LBNMHA is a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization incorporated in 1998. The funding source for the organization came originally from a mitigation agreement with the Port of Long Beach following the Port's acquisition and demolition of the Roosevelt Base Historic District at the former Long Beach Naval Station. The need for port expansion required the demolition of this site and as a result, the Port agreed to fund an endowment to foster and support historic resources, sites, and archival sources within the city of Long Beach.

To recognize the contributions to the history of Long Beach resulting from the construction and operation of the Long Beach Naval Station and Naval Shipyard, the Trustees of LBNMHA seek to participate in the preservation of heritage and historic sites within the city, honor the name and work of architect Paul Revere Williams, and seek ways to honor and memorialize the city’s relationship with the Navy.

LBNMHA’s Board members must be knowledgeable, effective, and sensitive to the historic preservation needs in the city of Long Beach. To this end, the Board comprises representatives selected by four Long Beach organizations with a historic preservation mission, which are the Historical Society of Long Beach, Long Beach Cultural Heritage Commission, Long Beach Heritage, and Willmore City Heritage Association.

Two very important groups assist the Board of Trustees with its fiduciary and grant making responsibilities. These independent advisors have our deepest appreciation for their generosity in giving both their own valuable time and expert advice.

**PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
- Michael Burrous - Summit Consultants, Inc.
- Michael Douglass - Michael Douglass Design Associates
- Christine Fedukowski, CFC - Distinctive Urban Development
- Ruthann Lehrer - Former Long Beach Neighborhood & Historic Preservation Officer
- Norbert Schurer - Professor at CSULB

**FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
- David A. Kock
- Kevin McGuan
- Jean Bixby Smith

For more information about the Long Beach Navy Memorial Heritage Association contact Cheryl Perry, Board Chair at cherylperry351@gmail.com

or the Long Beach Community Foundation at info@longbeachcf.org

www.longbeachcf.org/long-beach-navy-memorial-heritage-association
The Long Beach Navy Memorial Heritage Association proudly granted $161,000 to support these six projects in 2019.

**ELIZABETH MILBANK ANDERSON HOUSE**
The Long Beach Navy Memorial Heritage foundation is proud to announce the completion of the Historic Preservation and Rehabilitation of the south façade of the Elizabeth Milbank Anderson House at the Long Beach Museum of Art. The Craftsman home, built in 1912, and housing the Museum for almost 70 years, is one of the City’s most well-known historic Landmarks. In order to preserve the historic elements and architectural character of the building, the Museum used the grant funds to repair the severely weathered and split gable overhangs at the roof and to restore the exposed rafter and knee braces. They were also able to replace cedar shingles and restore window and door casings, as well as paint and stain the southern elevation. This work has helped in preserving both the historic and character defining features as well as allowing safer public access to the Elizabeth Milbank Anderson House.

**THE BEMBRIDGE HOUSE FACADE**
Structural repairs to the foundation and capitals along with creation of new molds of the plaster frieze character defining features.
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF LONG BEACH
The collection documents work of the Long Beach Redevelopment Agency (LBRDA) to promote economic renewal in local neighborhoods. The Agency was formed in 1961 and dissolved by state law in 2012. The collection includes approximately 23,700 35mm slides as well as many photographic prints, negatives, digital files, oversized aerial photographs, maps, and documents. These items show neighborhoods both before and after the completion of LBRDA projects.

They portray changes in Downtown Long Beach, West Beach, Central Long Beach, the Poly High Neighborhood, North Long Beach, Bixby Knolls, Los Altos, the Westside, and in other parts of the city. The slides arrived in 75 three-ring binders, with the other items arriving with less organization. Once at the Historical Society of Long Beach, the materials were sorted and rehoused in acid free folders and boxes.

RANCHO LOS CERRITOS
Restoration of one of the original rooms at Rancho Los Cerritos to allow public access.

WILSON AUDITORIUM LOBBY
Creation of a permanent display detailing the 100 year history of the Wilson High School campus and its architecture.

HELLMAN CRAFTSMAN HISTORIC DISTRICT RESURVEY
Resurvey of the Hellman Craftsman Historic District to update and expand the City’s documentation of the Landmark District to ensure protection and restoration of homes within the District.

APPLICATION INFORMATION
Applicants must be 1) a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, or 2) a for-profit entity, individual or public agency, if the project provides a public benefit consistent with the purpose of the Association, and 3) operated and organized so that it does not discriminate in the hiring of staff of the provision of services on the basis or race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, national origin, or disability.

For more information, contact Cheryl Perry, Board Chair at cherylperry351@gmail.com, the Long Beach Community Foundation at info@longbeachcf.org, or visit www.longbeachcf.org/long-beach-navy-memorial-heritage-association.