

APA California | 1948-2018

70 years' success, and counting

APA California helped forge national planning movement

Planners, it can be said, are generally better looking at the future than they are looking at the past. But when it comes to our own history as an organization, there are a few things we planners do know.

We know, for example, that the California Chapter of the American Planning Association traces its history back more than 75 years; the organization that pre-dates us, the California Planners Institute, existed at least as early as 1933.

We also know that the organization that we today know as California Chapter of the American Planning Association is the result of a merger that occurred in 1947, and became effective January 1, 1948, between the California Planners Institute and the American Institute of Planners.

With the merger, the fledgling organization known as the American Institute of Planners could, for the first time, be said to have a "national" reach. Prior to that, the national organization itself had only about 250 members and a budget of \$5,000. So the addition of a "California Chapter," adding between 100 and 150 members, was a significant accomplishment indeed, creating a truly national planning organization. This is the story of how the California Chapter was born, and how it has become the nation's leading statewide organization for effective planning.

Our Milestones

1948

American Institute of Planners, California Planners Institute merge to create nationwide organization

UC Berkeley planning program established

1950s

First three sections emerge (Northern, Southern, Central); total membership 450

1953

First Planning Commissioner handbook issued by California AIP

1958

First scholarship program proposed

1960s - 1970s

Sacramento Valley, Orange and San Diego Sections formed; Central Coast Section created 1975.

1965

Civil unrest in Watts sparks discussions of social equity

1967

First Chapter scholarship is issued

1970

California Planning Foundation established for scholarships, training

1978

American Institute of Planners merges with American Society of Planning Officials, forms American Planning Association

Californians push National APA to advance the role of women in the profession; Californian Dorothy Walker first national APA President

1979

Chapter hires Winner Wagner Associates, professional lobbyist

1980

California Planning Roundtable created to advance discussion of critical planning issues

1981

Inland Empire section, California's 8th, created; Southern Section renamed Los Angeles Section

1982

CCAPA begins 2-year drive to reform state planning law; bill is gutted but parts became law as AB 2038 (1984)

1984

Professional management starts: Sande George named Executive Director

1985

Chapter launches *Westplan* magazine; folds a year later

1986

Nation's planners gather in Los Angeles at APA conference

1989

Cal Planner dramatically redesigned; first public relations plan adopted

Chapter wins APA's Karen B. Smith Award

1991

Governor keynotes conference; Oakland Hills fire blunts impact

Tom Stefan named Administrative Director



AIP CALCHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Members of the California Planners Institute (CPI), forerunner of APA California, attend its 1934 annual meeting at the Hotel Del Monte, Monterey. The largely white, male registrants represented both the state's forward-thinking cities and prominent consulting firms.

In the Beginning

Humble origins: California Planners Institute

Long before APA California, there was the **California Planners Institute (CPI)**. Let's jump back to the year 1947, and get a snapshot of what the profession looked like that year. Most of our information comes from eight 1946 - 1947 issues of *Perspective*, a bi-monthly mimeographed newsletter "conceived, nurtured and matured" in 1946 by Si Eisner, the first Editor in Chief. There was no other chapter publication available until the 1950s. In the 1946-47 issues there were 102 planners listed, but it is not known if they were all members of CPI. Only five were women. A 1951 AIP roster of California members included 63 full members, 63 associates, 19 affiliates, 75 provisional and one honorary for a total of 221 ...compared to 5,493 today.

Dinner for \$2.50? Seventy years ago, all day meetings were the order; meals were less expensive. In April, 1947 a CPI meeting was held at the Wolf Hotel in Stockton where luncheon was \$1.75 and dinner was \$2.50, including "a dip in the punchbowl." Howard Bissell led a tour through the Stockton Port recently released by the Army, and a talk was given by a State Division of Highways engineer concerning its relations with city and county planners.

Si Eisner reported on the merger negotiations with National AIP, arguing that the proposed \$3 rebate per member would not support their work. The CPI treasury in 1946 had \$863.66, and expenses were \$482.49 (today, CCAPA's budget exceeds \$564,000.)

The California tradition. But California planning was distinct from planning as it was being practiced in other parts of the country; the California Planners Institute filled that need. The late Fran Violich, a founding faculty member of the planning program at UC Berkeley, wrote in 2001 that the evolution of a separate institution on the west coast was in fact a reflection of the fact that California planning was not an extension of planning practiced in the east, but a separately evolving, parallel movement that placed greater emphasis on design and the environment.

Even before the development of the "Sections" that Cal Chapter members know today, CPI meetings were held around the state, addressing a variety of important issues. In 1947 the San Francisco Bay Area Council called a meeting of Planning Directors of nine Bay Area counties and Oakland to prepare an action program.

At one of these meetings, a second San Francisco Bay crossing was proposed to ease congestion. It was noted that the Bay Bridge would be free of tolls by 1953. And Ladislav Segoe, consultant to the Tennessee Valley Authority, was hired to revise the 1921 San Francisco Zoning code, a law "as outmoded as an automobile of that vintage." Jack Kent became the Director of Planning in San Francisco following the resignation of I. Deming Tilton.

In August, 1947, CPI met in Los Angeles to view the model and drawings for a new downtown Los Angeles prepared by students of USC's Arthur Gallion and Si Eisner. Burnett C. Turner, Civic Center Authority architect, presented the new, 600-acre civic center plan, bounded by freeways on all sides.

Were your dues ever this low? For the 1947 annual meeting at Yosemite, rooms at the Awahnee with three meals were \$14 single and \$12 double. CPI dues were \$12.50 for members, \$7.50 for associate members and \$5.00 for junior members. Salaries were also on a different scale: the position of Planning Engineer in Glendale was open for \$6,000 a year.

At the conference, Glenn Hall, Director of Planning, Sacramento, discussed the new Conservation and Planning Act (passed to supersede the Planning Act). CPI President James M. Campbell sent a letter to Gov. Earl Warren expressing CPI's interest in the new agency for "Planning and Economic Research," seeking appointments to the Physical Planning Council of staff "who have had some active part in planning, and a broad and sympathetic understanding of physical planning problems."

These important developments framed the planning infrastructure that, modified, guides California to this day. But the real issue of the day was whether California should join forces with the emerging national organization, the American Institute of Planners, by merging with them. And that process, which took more than a year to negotiate and conclude, changed the course of California planning.

1992

In wake of civil disturbances, CCAPA, CPF, CPR initiative leads to APA's Agenda for America's Communities to address racial, social and economic inequity

1994

National conference in San Francisco, record attendance

1995

CCAPA wins 2nd Karen B. Smith Award

Board appoints first Planning Officials Development Officer

CCAPA becomes the first APA Chapter to have a presence on the Internet, featured in *Planning* magazine

CCAPA forms Planners Emeritus Network to honor lifetime achievements

1997

First full-color Cal Planner; National conference in San Diego

1998

50th Anniversary beach party raises \$2500 to launch Archives

California Planning Roundtable formally incorporates as a separate entity from CCAPA

UC Irvine planning program accredited

2002

CCAPA's bill AB 857 passes with bi-partisan support; "the most important California land use law in 30 years"

2005

Chapter adopts *Diversity and Inclusion Plan*

New, enhanced web site launched;

California Planning Roundtable wins APA Distinguished Service Award on its 25th Anniversary

National conference returns to San Francisco

2007

National APA launches 'Great Places in California'; California follows suit

2008

Chapter celebrates 60th anniversary with luncheon, historical publication

Young Planners Group (YPG) formed as affiliate of APA California

CCAPA tops record 6,500 members but numbers rapidly fall during recession

2009

CCAPA wins 3rd Karen B. Smith Award

California Planner converts to digital publication

2011

Legislature repeals California's 50-year experiment with redevelopment

2012

Los Angeles hosts National Planning Conference after 26-year absence

2014

Bill Anderson becomes second APA President from California since 1980 consolidation of AIP and ASPO

Chapter President Brooke Peterson launches initiative to consolidate and expand leadership development

2016

Record attendance, revenue from Pasadena conference funds variety of programs; Chapter donates \$10,000 toward archives

2017

Chapter mobilizes to address record number of housing bills

Kurt Christiansen becomes third Californian to be elected National APA president

2018

APA California celebrates 70 years

2019

National Planning Conference returns to San Francisco

Want more history?

If you're looking for more on the history of planning in California, later this fall APA California will post updated databases and timelines with additional detail. Find these and more at

<https://www.apacalifornia.org/about/history>

Joining forces to create 'A truly national organization'

The Merger Committee worked throughout 1947, chaired by Si Eisner with Frank Skillman, Glen Rick, Charles Eliot and Richard Whitehead. AIP's president wrote a month before the merger started: "As a result of persistent negotiations and numerous conferences, the (chances for) a merger of CIP and AIP are now brighter than at any time in the past." CPI's final president was James Campbell of Hahn and Campbell, Burlingame. Harry Bergh, Land Planner for Orange County, was Vice President; Mary Robinson Gilkey, Marin County Planning Director, was Secretary.

A star is born. After months of preparation the AIP Board of Directors, meeting in Philadelphia in October, 1947, approved the merger, ordering it to become effective January 1, 1948. California was only the third chapter established -- 11 months after the first, Washington, D.C., and seven months after the second, Chicago. Planning historian Eugenie L. Birch wrote, in a 1980 article for the *Journal of the American Planning Association*:

Although differences in entrance requirements had prevented an earlier union, these problems were resolved by offering the westerners a grandfather clause. Nearly 150 Californians came into the AIP. With this merger the Institute became a truly national organization for the first time.

The new organization became California Chapter, American Institute of Planners (CCAIP). Its first officer was John G. Marr, Planning Director of Oakland. The resolution establishing CCAIP as part of a national organization authorized AIP to explore holding its spring meeting in California.

1950s | New frontiers

CCAIP's membership expanded to 400, in three distinct "sections" – Northern, Central, and Southern – that ultimately evolved into the eight regional sections we know today. Jack Kent left San Francisco to establish a post-graduate program at UC Berkeley in 1948. That emergent program was the source of Telesis, which APA has lauded as the "first volunteer-based group to bring multiple fields together successfully in a comprehensive approach to environmental development in a regional context."

In 1953, CCAIP issued its first *Planning Commissioner's Handbook*, ancestor of the popular guides that have been published more recently by the League of California Cities.



Above: Julia Porter, Dennis O'Harrow, and Roger Lapham, Jr., San Francisco Planning Commission chair, 1957.

Source: San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library

1960s | Challenges of growth



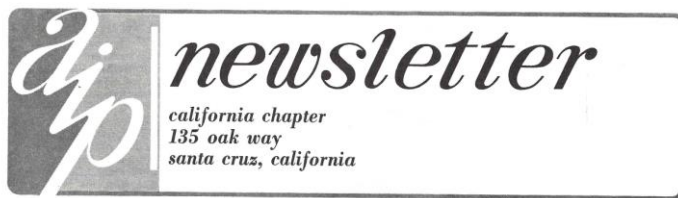
CCAIP's membership topped 600, but in the early 1960s, a single *AIP CalChapter News* carried typed dispatches from all three regions in a single issue. By 1960 the San Diego Section was formed, formalizing the efforts of planners who had been meeting informally since at least 1957. Yet in a profession that was still predominantly male and white, the first signs of a more diverse presence would emerge over the decade.

Noted author and urbanist Lewis Mumford guest lectured at UC Berkeley; Berkeley and USC became the first "recognized" planning schools in the State (today there are seven, with others expected to follow). At the practice level, the Chapter's 1960 conference focused on a new trend: the use of electronic data processing to support city planning. More critically, a range of urban issues including urban renewal, economic dislocation, racial and economic disparity slowly became part of the profession's discussions, with efforts in both the Bay Area and Los Angeles to address concerns that resulted in the 1965 Watts unrest.

The national organization took note of California, bringing its national planning conference to Los Angeles in 1962. The *AIP Cal Chapter Newsletter*, predecessor of today's *California Planner*, produced a special issue for the occasion (pictured).



As the state's growth created new challenges, the Chapter formed new responses to deal with them. One of those was its first policy conference, held in Monterey in 1966. By 1967 the Chapter started its first legislative program; and in the wake of national civil unrest and urban decay, issued policy papers on both the "role of the planner in addressing social concerns" and regionalism.



ELECTION RESULTS



LARZ T. ANDERSON
President



FOREST S. DICKASON
Vice President



MARILYN M. PRAY
Secretary-Treasurer



JAMES L. FISK
Member at Large

Finally, the Chapter's newsletter editors undertook a redesign in the mid-1960s, as the organization sought to project a more polished image. An image from a 1968 newsletter appears at left.

APA California's early pioneering women

California's women planners, relatively few in the 1940s and 1950s, had to fight harder to get their due.

As director of Marin County's planning department in the late 1940s and early 1950s, **Mary Robinson Gilkey** was the first female to serve as an officer of CCAIP (1948). But it took 30 years for members to elect their first female president, **Gloria S. McGregor** (1977-78). Here are a few of the many other female pioneers who helped shape what is now APA California:



Minnie Ruth established the Chapter's first regular office. She was elected to the board in 1961, the first woman

to hold office since 1948. Minnie was a planning consultant with degrees in planning and in governmental administration; and married to another prominent planner, Herman Ruth.



Marilyn M. Pray was elected to the APA California board in 1968, only the third female officer of CCAIP in its first 20 years.



Betty Croly came here in the 1940s, rising to Assistant Director of Planning for Alameda County. She served on the National APA Board,

the California Chapter Board, and later established the APA California archives at California State University Northridge as the Chapter's first appointed Historian.

These early leaders set the stage for women to take charge. Since then, APA California has elected six women as president: **Gloria McGregor, Janet Ruggiero, Reba Wright-Quastler, Collette Morse, Jeri Ram, and Brooke Peterson.**

Planners of Color

Despite its economic and social ideals, planning was slow to become as diverse as its communities. Our research found no references to planners of color in CCAIP publications until the early 1960s, and then rarely.

Yet we know there were pioneers of color in California. Renowned architect **Paul Revere Williams** served on the Los Angeles Planning Commission around 1920. **Samuel J. Cullers**, an MIT-trained planner who fought housing discrimination in Hartford, CN in the 1950s, later practiced in California, becoming one of the first African American planners leading what is now OPR.

Los Angeles County planner **Frank Navarette's** 1964 travels to Chile to help form local planning commissions were featured in the CCAIP newsletter. Another issue that year announced the hire of a young planner of color who later became prominent planning and management professional, **Clifford Graves**. Following 1965's devastating civil unrest in Watts, communities of color formed organizations – the Watts Community Labor Action Committee, United Neighborhoods Organization, TELACU, Spanish-Speaking Unity Council, community design centers and L. A.'s Barrio Planners to name a few -- to represent their communities. Pioneers include **Dr. Ed Blakely, Alvin James, Yukio Kawaratani, Dr. Leo Estrada, Frank Villalobos**, and others.

Planners increasingly turned to questions of equity, although those early efforts often lacked the depth of understanding required to address racism and economic injustice. Only after the 1992 civil unrest in Los Angeles did a chapter initiative lead National APA to launch its *Agenda for America's Communities*, and a tradition of diversity summits continuing today.

Learn More: See video from the **Los Angeles Region Planning History Group's** 2017 colloquium featuring the history of planners and communities of color; video recordings from this event may be viewed at <https://larphg.org/>.

1970s | Growth, change, merged identity

California's rapid growth through the 1960s led to a fundamental re-examination in the 1970s, a blossoming of planning legislation from a newly empowered, "professionalized" Legislature, and a series of voter enactments including the landmark 1970 Coastal Act. This is the decade that brought an expanded general plan law, the California Environmental Quality Act, and court cases supporting planning as diverse as the *Petaluma* decision (upholding staged growth management) and the Mammoth decision (extending CEQA to all forms of development.)

As profound legislative activity recast the state's planning laws, CCAIP was actively engaged. By 1979 the demand for quick responses drove the chapter to hire its first professional lobbyist. CCAIP moved its offices to Sacramento, where APA California remains today.

Scholarly pursuits. Planning education grew as well: the planning programs at Cal Poly Pomona, Fresno State, UCLA and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo all were recognized during the decade. The California AIP Board first proposed student scholarships in 1958, but it wasn't until 1967 that the organization had raised enough money to fund its first scholarship, a single grant to Frank A. Ducote of UC Berkeley, who was planning to practice in San Diego. (A firm associated with this name exists today in Vancouver, B. C.) The second-place finisher, a woman from USC, apparently received ... a nice certificate.



Needing a stronger vehicle for scholarships, the Chapter created the **California Planning Foundation** in 1970. But the Chapter also saw its share of controversy when the Chapter's offices were briefly relocated from Northern California to Los Angeles' Bradbury Building in 1971-72. Meanwhile, to reach members in the coastal regions that were physically separated from much of California's Central Section, a new Central Coast Section was created in 1975.

Women take the lead. With the merger of the American Society of Planning Officials (ASPO) and the American Institute of Planners (AIP) in 1978, Cal Chapter became part of an even larger, more diverse organization, the new American Planning Association. Californians quickly made themselves heard, demanding stronger roles for women in the profession and helping elect the first APA president from California, Dorothy Walker. In 1977-78, California Chapter members also elected their first female president, Gloria S. McGregor.

Women increasingly assumed positions of power -- from Berkeley, where Marjorie Macris served as planning director, to Claremont, where Sharon Hightower is credited as the first woman planning director in Southern California. In academia, Margarita P. McCoy, later a Chair of AICP, became the first woman to receive a full professorship in planning in the U. S., and became the first woman to chair a university planning program (at Cal Poly Pomona). McCoy went on to serve with distinction on the AICP Commission, where she was selected Chair. Other academic leaders of the period playing important roles included Jacqueline Leavitt of UCLA, whose research opened new doors; and Sylvia White of Cal Poly Pomona, another founder of the Planning and Women Division.



CAL PLANNER PHOTO
VP for State and Local Affairs Janet Ruggiero and Executive Director Sande George ponder bills in 1981.

1980s | Professional executive, new initiatives



Much as the Chapter stepped out in front in the 1970s by creating a separate foundation to advance the charitable interests of the planning community, the Chapter advanced its interests in policy development when, under the leadership of President David Booher, the **California**

Planning Roundtable was created to serve as the chapter's "think tank" concerning statewide planning and policy issues.

Under the leadership of President Frank Wein, the Chapter transformed its operations in 1984 by establishing professional contract staff to handle both administrative and legislative operations. Sande George came to be the face of the organization, representing CCAPA with equal facility in both the Legislature and the boardroom. A brief flirtation with magazine publishing even gave the chapter a new shape and form, but the product called *Westplan* only lasted briefly.

The last of California's eight sections, Inland Empire, was created in 1981 to meet the rapid growth of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. New initiatives by President Janet Ruggiero established the chapter's first multi-year communications program; that program led to a greatly enhanced, color newsletter, op-eds in major newspapers, and a host of other programs. The Chapter's Legislative Review Teams created the *Action Agenda for the '90s* to carry its vision to the Legislature.

Under Vonnie Madigan, the first professional technical editor hired by California Chapter APA, the newsletter and public relations became more polished and professional, featuring in-depth stories and interviews. Meanwhile, California's conferences became popular not only with its own members, but individuals from other chapters who sought a coveted invitation to the Cal Chapter annual conference.



The many faces of California Planner include these from April, 1976; January, 1983; July, 1989; and October, 2009.

...By the Numbers

Membership, Selected Years

1948	100
1959	513
1989	3,800
1991	4,700
1997	4,256
2006	5,451
2008	6,518
2014	4,842
2018	5,493

Annual Budget, Selected Years

1948	\$ 863
1958	(est.) 4,500
1968-69	24,034
1981	83,350
1992	362,362
1993	270,550
1998	313,242
2008	607,300
2018	\$564,410

National Presidents from California

Corwin Mocine	1961 (AIP)
Dorothy Walker	1980 (APA)
Bill Anderson	2015-16
Kurt Christiansen	2019-20



Seven current and former APA Region VI national leaders from California at a recent meeting in Los Angeles. L-R: Jeff Lambert, Janet Ruggiero, Steve Preston, Kurt Christiansen, Vivian Kahn, Kristen Asp, Jeannette Dinwiddie-Moore.



TOP: CAL PLANNER PHOTO; BOTTOM IMAGE: KURT CHRISTIANSEN, FAICP
California Chapter's efforts have received APA's coveted Karen B. Smith Award three times, including 1995 (top) and 2009 (bottom).

1990s | A 50th anniversary celebration

CCAPA had become a respected source of information in the Legislature. Enhanced marketing, planning commissioner training, insurance, and other programs were added. And for the first time, a sitting California Governor addressed the state conference in 1991, just as a devastating fire scarred the Oakland hills. By 1999, the Chapter's State Plan Task Force had produced reports to influence discussions concerning smart growth in California.

The Chapter began honoring long-time officers and renowned, retired professionals, forming the **Planners Emeritus Network**. It was the first such venture by any chapter in the country to provide ongoing, sustained recognition of the efforts of longtime planners on behalf of the profession and chapter.

In addition, the Chapter acquired pro-bono legal counsel and became a key player in framing the national organization's planning policies, through the efforts of Californians such as Vivian Kahn.

The **California Planning Foundation** saw increased annual growth in the number and size of scholarships, with annual auction revenues growing to fund them.

California Planning Landmarks*

1988 | *Formation of the East Bay Regional Park District and Master Plan (1934)*

1989 | *San Francisco Zoning Ordinance (1867)*
Master Plan of the City of Riverside (1928-1929)

1990 | *Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission Master Plans for Highways and Freeways (1940, 1943)*

1992 | *Rancho Santa Fe Association and Rancho Santa Fe Protective Covenant*

1994 | *Napa County/Cities First Comprehensive Plan, Implementation, and Agricultural Preserve*

1996 | *City of Petaluma's Environmental Design Plan (1971); Village Green (Historic Name: Baldwin Hills Village), (1943)*

1997 | *Nevada City Historic Preservation Ordinance; St. Francis Woods Plan - San Francisco (1912)*

1998 | *Establishment of the Bay Conservation Commission and Creation of the San Francisco Bay Plan (1965-1969); California Land Conservation Act (Williamson Act) (1985)*

1999 | *Founding of the Department of City and Regional Planning, UC Berkeley (1948-49)*

2000 | *Telesis (1939-1950s)*

2003 | *City of Lakewood Plan (1950)*

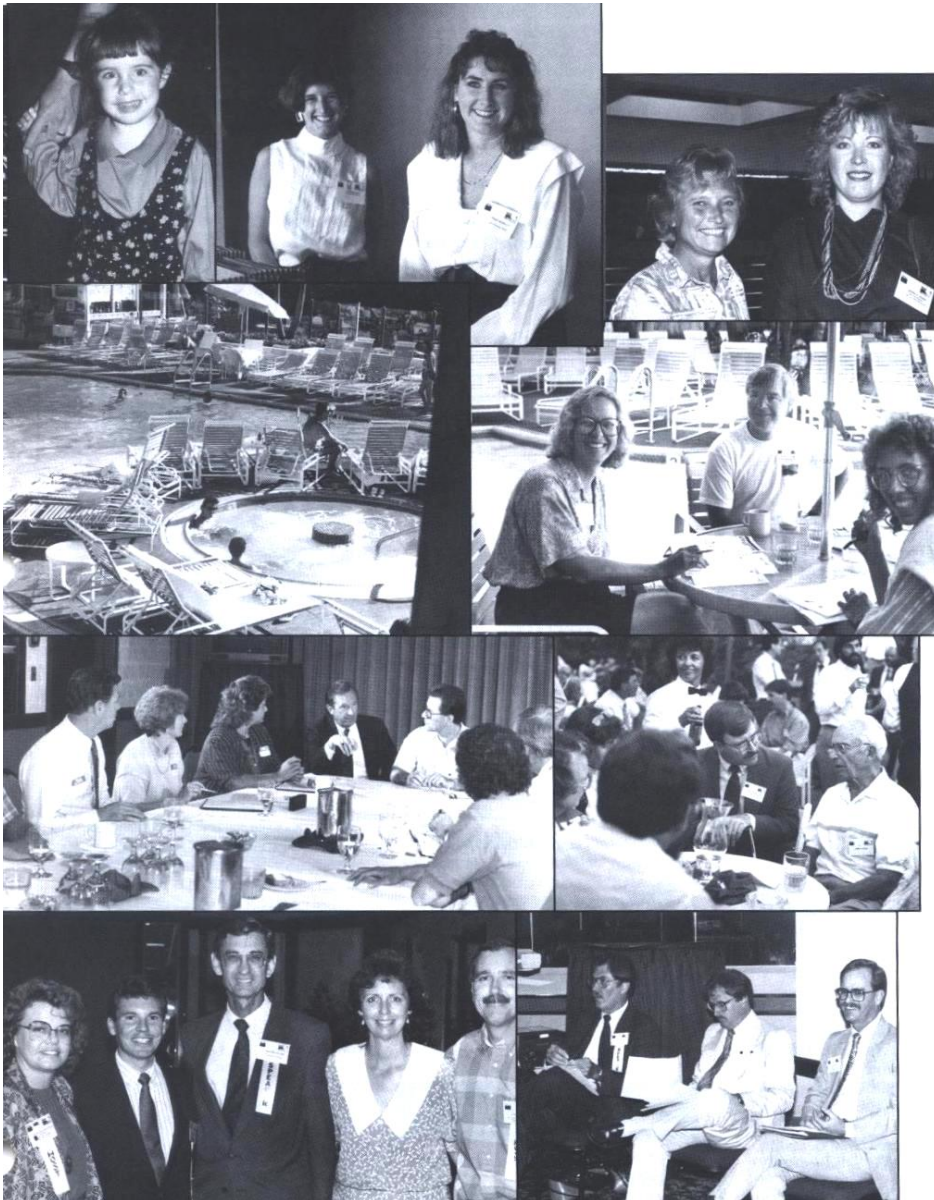
2005 | *Save San Francisco Bay*

2012 | *Bennett Plan, Pasadena (1924)*

2012 | *California Coastal Program*

2014 | *San Francisco Bay Trail*

* *California Planning Landmarks that are also recognized as National Planning Landmarks are italicized.*



CAL PLANNER PHOTOS

Generations of planners have enjoyed conferences like this one in Newport Beach in 1990. The annual conference photo essay was a staple of Cal Planner in the 1980s and early 1990s.

Meanwhile, more diverse leadership began to emerge, as leaders in the Chapter including Jeannette Dinwiddie-Moore, Dr. David Salazar, Bill Anderson, James Rojas, Miguel Vasquez, Linda Tatum and many others worked to create a more diverse, just organization inclusive of its communities of color, women, and LGBTQ members.

Record-breaking national (San Francisco) and state conferences marked the decade. When the Chapter's 50th Anniversary arrived in 1998, the Chapter and Orange County conference committee hosted a celebration on the beach, topped with a huge cake. In an impromptu fundraiser that evening, the Chapter raised \$2,600 in pledges which, matched with a contribution from the CCAPA board, created the funding to open the California Chapter APA Archives at California State University, Northridge.

PEN Honorees

1998	2010
Robert Grunewald Roy Potter, Ruth Potter, Betty Croly	Don Cotton, Janet Fairbanks, Dan Iacafano, Naphthali Knox, Joan Lamphier, Paul Sedway, Brian Smith
1999	2011
John Hirten, Robert Peterson, Richard Weaver	John Anderson, Alec Bash, Elaine Costello, Alex Hinds Donald Lamm, Bob Paternoster, Paul Wack
2000	2012
Larry Wilson, Ken Norwood, Steve Preston	Earl G. Bossard Barbara Kautz Anne Cronin Moore Leon Pirofalo
2001	2013
Phil Simpson, Nadya Andrews Larz Anderson, Howard Nies, Sherman Griselle, Ed Holden	Barry Miller, Linda C. Dalton, Pete Parkinson, Donald Weden, Jane Blumenfeld, Susan Healy Keene, Betsy McCullough
2002 No Awards	2014
2003	Barbara Steck, Brian F. Mooney, Dana Privitt, Eileen Whitty, Joseph Horwedel, Linda Tatum, Mike Moore
William Claire, Bruce O'Neal, Margarita McCoy, George Osner Woodie Tescher, Dev Vrat	2015
2004	Hanson Hom, Robert A. Leiter, Leobardo F. Estrada, David Fey, Bruce C. Baracco
Linda Dalton, James McCarthy	2016
2005	Donald R. Spivack, Greg Collins, Matthew Winegar, Julie Rynerson Rock, Robert Sherry, Tricia Stevens, Charles Smith, Steve Piasecki
Frank Wein	2017
2006	Carol Barrett, Ken Gutierrez, Dwight Kroll, Tony Lashbrook, Sheri Vander Deusen, Rick Willson, Hing Wong
Sharon Hightower Marsha Rood, Al Bell, Terry Rivasplata, Ray Watson	2009
2007	Barry Eaton, Stanley Hoffman, Dean Macris, Marjorie Macris, Donald Rothblatt
Vivian Kahn, Paul Zucker, Larry Mintier	
2008	
Donald Bradley Jeanette Dinwiddie-Moore, Wayne Goldberg, Janet Ruggiero, Dr Robert Young, Ned Rogoway	



Following the success of a 2007 program established by National APA, APA California launched its first "Great Places in California" program to recognize unique places that reflect the contributions of planners and good planning.

2000s | Edge of the millennium

In 2000, with President Jeff Lambert at the helm, the Chapter launched initiatives to promote smart growth, taking positions on nearly 300 bills. Among these was its own successful measure, AB 857, which required State agencies to plan around broad principles of sustainability and equity. In 2005, the Board adopted a *Diversity and Inclusion Plan* to recognize and support planners of color, minorities, and underrepresented communities. Lambert was APA California's first openly gay president; in the years since his election, four other LGBTQ planners have served as APA California president, and Chapter members have played critical roles in the formation of a National APA division to address their concerns.

National APA programs impacted California. Creation of FAICP – Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners – honored many Californians for attaining the highest standards of professional excellence. And in 2008, APA launched a Certification Maintenance (CM) program – hotly debated since 2001 -- that ensures that planning professionals continue lifelong learning. Sacramento Valley Section's Young Planners Group, a local initiative launched to better meet the needs of young professionals, expanded throughout the state and across the country.

The **California Planning Roundtable** became a respected contributor to the discussion of planning issues in California, having produced major projects including *Planning at the Edge of the Millennium*, *The Sierra at Risk*, *Tribal Gaming: A Primer for Local Government*, *Myths and Facts of Affordable Housing*, and others. The Roundtable's California General Plan Glossary has become a standard resource for planning agencies throughout the State. In 2005 on its 25th anniversary, the Roundtable received National APA's Distinguished Service Award.

The **California Planning Foundation** continued its remarkable growth generating more than \$30,000 per year for student scholarships through its popular auctions and programs.



CAL PLANNER IMAGE

Under the direction of Vice President for Public Information Marc Yeber and Editor Dorina Blythe, *Cal Planner* has become a full-color, digital publication running as many as 36 pages per issue.

2010 | APA in the digital era



California began the decade in economic peril, affecting employment and membership alike. Faced by profound budget shortages, the Legislature eliminated redevelopment statewide, undercutting local economic development and housing programs. Significant increases in the volume and complexity of land use legislation—including California’s pioneering climate change laws, and the need for housing -- continued to challenge the Chapter. Yet by 2012 APA California welcomed the nation’s planners Los Angeles for the first time in 26 years. And in 2015 the Chapter adopted a *Diversity and Inclusion Plan*.

The Chapter also adopted a new strategic plan, recovering from the devastating 1990s recession that saw membership and revenues plunge. As it grew, APA California professionalized its conferences, hiring professional conference organizers to assist its volunteer conference committees.

Today, APA California stands proud as its membership once again nears 6,000 members, and its budget approaches \$600,000. APA California can make many claims: Its conferences are larger and better, it has an enviable record of state and national awards, and its array of membership services is unmatched by other organizations. As the decade draws to a close, a more diverse leadership is emerging in which women, planners of color and the LGBTQ community all hold positions of power in the chapter, CPF, CPR and the Sections.

Take a look at the list of presidents at your right, a small sampling of the many talented and capable people who have served this organization since its 1948 founding. Without their labors, the resources and opportunities that California planners have available today might not have come to pass. We would like to thank the APA CA Board, the 2018 Conference Committee, and our growing legions of history seekers that have been working so diligently on this celebration.

APA California Presidents, 1947-2018

1947 (CPI)	James M Campbell
1948	John G. Marr
(CCAIP)	
1949-1957	No record
1958	J. Stanley Ott
1959	John Richardson
1960	Robert L. Williams
1961	George H. Smeath
1962	Edward A. Holden
1963	Karl J. Belser
1964	Robert Grunewald
1965, 1966	Louis B. "Bert" Muhly
1967	No record
1968	Larz T. Anderson
1969	Forest S. Dickason
1970	John E. Hirten
1971	Sherman W. Griselle
1972, 1973	Roy W. Potter
1974	Francis Hendricks
1975, 1976	Ralph G. Crouch
1977, 1978	Gloria S. McGregor
(CCAPA)	
1979, 1980	David Booher
1981, 1982	Robert Paternoster
1983 - 1986	Frank B. Wein
1987, 1988	Janet Ruggiero
1989, 1990	Ron Bass
1991, 1992	Albert I. Herson
1993, 1994	Steven A. Preston
1995, 1996	Reba Wright-Quastler
1997, 1998	John Bridges
1999, 2000	Tony Lettieri
2001, 2002	Jeffrey Lambert
2003, 2004	Collette Morse
2005, 2006	Jeri Ram
2007, 2008	Vince Bertoni
(APA California)	
2009, 2010	Kurt Christiansen
2011, 2012	Kevin Keller
2013, 2014	Brooke Peterson
2015, 2016	Hing Wong
2017, 2018	Pete Parkinson

APA California's Planning Pioneers

Those **California Planning Pioneers** who were also recognized as **National Planning Pioneers** are italicized.

Karl J. Belsler
Charles H Cheney
Paul Crawford
Daniel Curtin
Simon Eisner
T J Kent, Jr
Corwin Mocine
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Placeworks/DCE
Planner Emeritus Network

Support planning history

National Planning Pioneer and National Planning Landmark Programs

As a member of the AICP Commission, Betty Croly, FAICP proposed the National Pioneer/Landmark Program in 1988 and developed its initial protocols, which were subsequently enacted by APA.

APA California's Chapter Historian Program

In 1988, Betty Croly, FAICP was appointed Chapter Historian to receive Pioneer and Landmark applications. Over her 20-plus years in that role, she expanded the range of work of the historian, initiating a proposal to develop a Chapter archive. After a frustrating search, California State University Northridge (CSUN) offered space in its new library, built with the assistance of a FEMA grant following the 1994 Northridge earthquake. This state-of-the-art facility today houses the Chapter's expanding collection.

To date there have been thousands of documents sent to the archive including board records, minutes, reports from many California cities, counties and consultants, as well as APA California staff and affiliates.

Initial funding was donated by Chapter members at a beach party during the 1998 conference in Costa Mesa. The Chapter Board donated a \$5,000 match. The first donation was \$10 from the late Earl Fraser AICP, Sacramento. Today, the Chapter funds both an annual budget for two Historians and an annual contribution to the archive. In 2017, the Board appropriated \$10,000 to fund ongoing processing of the rapidly growing collection, with additional support from the California Planning Roundtable and individual members. Holli Teltoe, Ph.D., Senior Archivist at Oviatt Library on the Northridge campus, today oversees the archives in collaboration with the Chapter Historians.

Today's Historian Programs

Today, two Chapter Historians manage the Historian program, including research into the history of the profession and APA California; preparation of exhibits and panels for chapter conferences; collaboration with sister organizations such as the Planner Emeritus Network; working with local planning historians; and the development of additional resources for both researchers and interested APA members.

Help Find Our Pioneers

If you know of a California planning landmark or pioneer, including women, planners of color and LGBTQ, or have archival information to preserve, we want to hear from you. Please contact us at the numbers below.

Join us. Support planning history!

If you would like to learn more about these programs or participate in the collection of planning history, either by volunteering or donating materials or resources, give us a call at **(626) 345-9796** or **(916) 764-5700**. Or write us at steve.preston@charter.net or mintierassociates@gmail.com.

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