



SAN FRANCISCO  
ARCHITECTURAL  
HERITAGE

---

BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS

Charles R. Olson  
*President*

Craig Allison

Kathleen Burgi-Sandell

David Cannon

Nancy Goldenberg

Scott Haskins

Larry Holmberg

Carolyn Kiernat

Frederic Knapp

Jon Knorpp

Daphne Kwok

Benjamin F. Ladomirak

Arnie Lerner

Thomas A. Lewis

Mark Paez

Michael Painter

Dennis Richards

Mark Sarkisian

David P. Wessel

Jack A. Gold  
*Executive Director*

July 14, 2008

San Francisco Architectural Heritage, founded in 1971, supports the concept of a contemporary art museum in the Presidio and the Presidio Trust's goal of reactivating the Main Post as a pedestrian-friendly public park with cultural attractions. That said, Heritage considers the currently proposed contemporary art museum (CAMP) as an inappropriate intrusion that would disrupt the Main Post's historic setting, and possibly jeopardize the integrity of the Presidio National Historic Landmark (NHL) district.

As presented, the height and breadth of the CAMP would intrude upon and detract from the Post's rhythm, scale, and proportion. Heritage recommends continued exploration of design and siting alternatives with the goal of a CAMP that conforms with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and does not adversely impact the NHL district. Both Alternative 2A and the Commissary sites appear preferable to the current proposal.

We are also concerned about the impact of the CAMP and related vehicular traffic on the larger NHL district. (The Exploratorium chose to move its site to Piers 15 and 17 because of a perceived lack of traffic, and we stress the challenges that would arise when bringing in such a large number of visitors, buses, etc.)

Regarding the proposed hotel "lodge" on the Main Post, Heritage is considers it too high and too bulky, with potential adverse impact on archaeological resources. In summary, Heritage believes that the Main Post site plan has not yet evolved to a suitable level of design development. We appreciate your objective of site reactivation and hope this project can be a catalyst to restoring a vibrant public life to the Presidio. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Jack A. Gold, Executive Director, San Francisco Architectural Heritage

Email: [jgold@sfheritage.org](mailto:jgold@sfheritage.org) ; Web: [www.sfheritage.org](http://www.sfheritage.org) Tel: 415-441-3000  
2007 Franklin Street San Francisco, CA 94109