



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA RESOLUTION HONORING THE OLD MISSION SANTA BARBARA UPON ITS 225TH ANNIVERSARY

CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, Father Lasuén founded the Old Mission Santa Barbara on the Feast Day of Saint Barbara on December 4, 1786, and it became the 10th in a series of twenty-one missions in Alta California; and

WHEREAS, the altar light has never gone out in Mission Santa Barbara, symbolizing it as the only continually operating Mission and oldest continually operating church in California for 225 years, the entire time being under administration of the Franciscan Order; and

WHEREAS, Mission Santa Barbara has also variously served as a mission, a boarding school, a bishopric, a theological seminary, a museum, a private residence, a retreat center and a parish church; and

WHEREAS, when the devastating earthquake of 1925 destroyed much of the towers of the mission, the community and people of California of all faiths and denominations collected pennies and held benefit concerts to contribute to its restoration; and

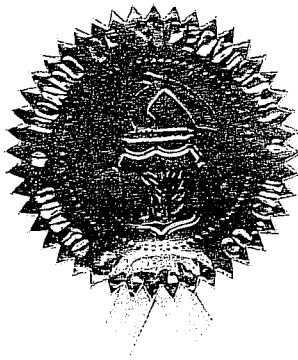
WHEREAS, Mission Santa Barbara is a National Historic Landmark, and is known as "Queen of the Missions," for its beautiful and majestic appearance, attracting thousands of local and tourist visitors annually; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the Mission has been host to the Old Mission Arts and Crafts shows, I Madonnari Festival, the world famous Old Spanish Days Fiesta, the blessings of the animals, the Christmas nativity crèche, as well as other historic celebrations; and

WHEREAS, Mission Santa Barbara has served as the Signature Building of our community, its silhouette defining our skyline, and its story chronicling our community history;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors honors the Santa Barbara Old Mission for 225 years as the symbol of the Santa Barbara region's heritage and commends the Mission community for keeping the Mission open to the community as a place of learning, as a home of faith and of devotion, and as a center of community.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California the 2nd Day of August, 2011 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST: Chandia Keller
Clerk of the Board

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Supervisor - 1st District
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Supervisor - 2nd District
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Supervisor - 5th District