



April 2011

A Case Study

Spirit of the Ocean Fountain

Santa Barbara Courthouse

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Abstract

The Santa Barbara Courthouse was constructed during the late 1920's in response to an earthquake event that severally damaged the 1870's Courthouse, Hall of Records and Jail complex. As part of the architectural features at the main entrance of the 160,000 square foot complex, is a carved sandstone sculpture executed by renowned Italian Carver, Ettore Cadorin. The statue depicts a reclining male and female figure embracing a dolphin fish with a water feature situated in the foreground of the piece.



Spirit of the Ocean Fountain

The courthouse complex was designated a City of Santa Barbara Historic Landmark in 1981, Place on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982, designated a State of California Historic Landmark in 2003 and a National Historic Landmark in 2005. With these designations, the application of the U.S. Department of the Interior – Standards for the care of historic places are applied to any project on the property.

The Spirit of the Ocean Fountain recently turned 82 and the years of natural wear and human caused damage has taken its toll, requiring the replacement of the statue. For decades, the Courthouse Docent Council has sponsored repairs to the piece until recently when major internal failures began. This prompted the Courthouse Legacy Foundation to accelerate its project to replace the statue with a newly carved replica.

The Courthouse Legacy Foundation has estimated the total project costs at \$731,000 with a scheduled completion date of July 26, 2011.

Carving a New Statue

The decision to carve a new (replacement) statue is never an easy proposition. In this case it was the only remaining solution because the original was beyond the point of rescue. Years of repairs, patching and emergency fixes had done its job—the statue was becoming, over time, less and less original. The application of patches, while working in the short-term; actually helped in the damage to the piece overall as the dissimilar materials began a tug-of-war that ultimately has caused the sandstone granules to delaminate from the inside out.

Research

An exhaustive effort researching source material took the greater part of the first year as the project team dug through local archives, materials kept at the Santa Barbara Courthouse and other sources. The goal to obtain as much original source material as possible to aid the carvers in creating the replacement statue was a critical step in the effort. The material was placed in binders for the carving teams use and reference.

Efforts to find the original stone quarry paid off when it was located approximately thirty-miles north of the courthouse site. After careful examination, it was determined that the original quarry site was not going to provide the needed stone for the project and an alternate site was located.

Department of the Interior -Standards

Of the four Standards, the Rehabilitation Standard is being used on the project. Because of the extensive internal damage to the original, Preservation or Restoration is impossible.

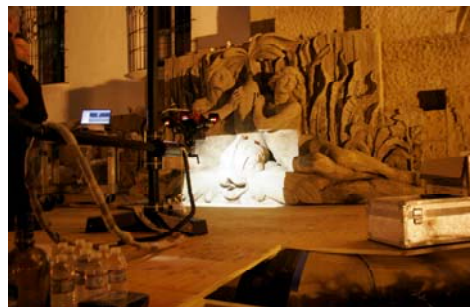
Documentation of Original Statue

Since the early 1980's photographs and slides have been taken each time the Conservator made repairs. These, along with other photographs are part of the materials given to the carving team as reference in the creation of the replacement. Prior to a major failure of the piece in 2008, Scan Site was hired to create an electronic file of the statue. This scan produced a "shape" file that was used to create a Styrofoam replica that has been of assistance to the carving team. The Styrofoam was milled using a five-axis router and assembled into five large blocks that represent the five sandstone blocks from which the original was craved.

The carvers then used a photograph taken in 1929 when the piece was completed to modify the Styrofoam replica to better represent the original. This so that the "pointing" system used to transpose the shape to the sandstone for carving.



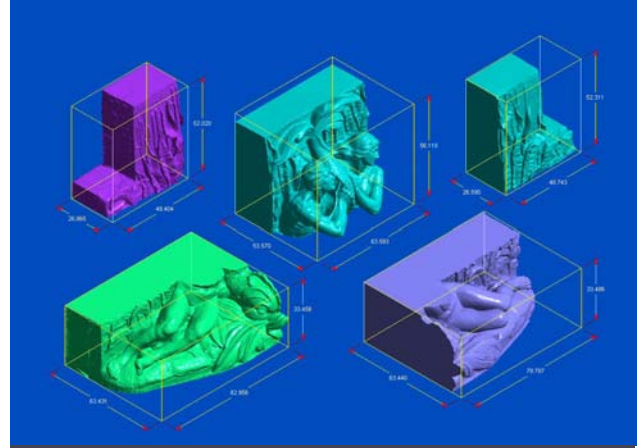
Spirit of the Ocean Fountain



Electronic Scanning of Statue



Foam Replica - Spirit of the Ocean Fountain



Five Individual Foam Blocks

Carving in Public

A goal of the Courthouse Legacy Foundation is the education of visitors and public about the conservation, preservation, restoration needs at the Santa Barbara Courthouse. One way to communicate this is to have the various craftspeople execute their work so the visitors and public can watch.

For the Spirit of the Ocean Fountain, the project team installed a large tent and the carvers converted the area into their carving shop.

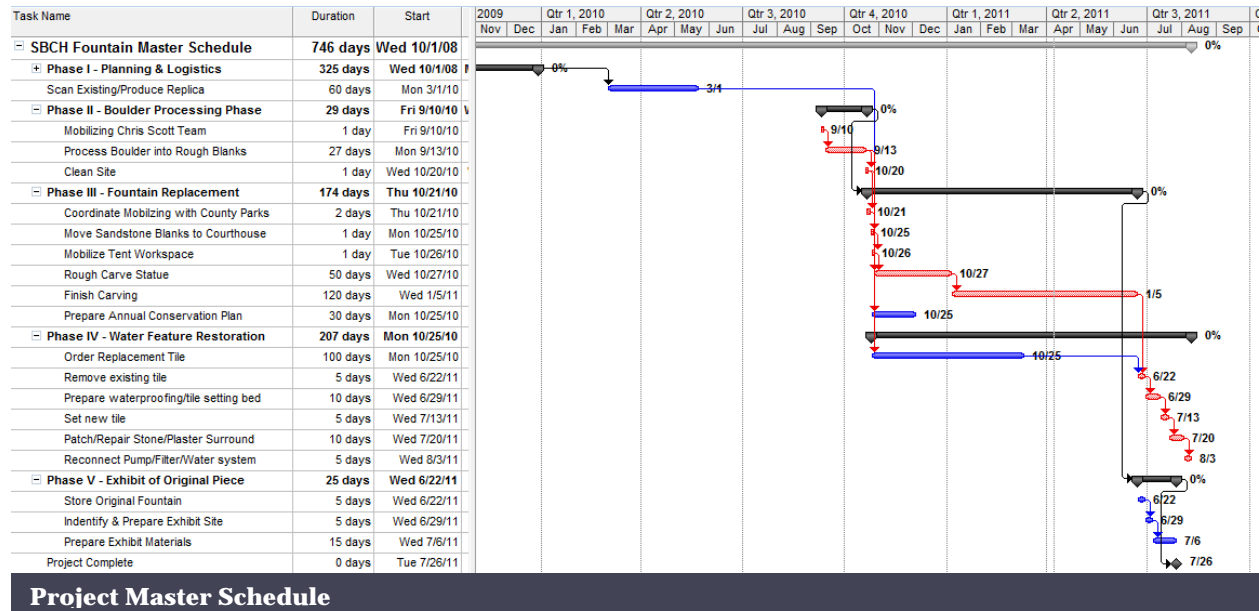


Carving Studio Tent – Front Lawn of Santa Barbara Courthouse

Project Plan & Budget

The CLF team has been working on this project since 2004 with research and logistics of replacement undertaken first. As the project made progress, the team expanded its efforts to include PR, Development and Project Management.

Plan



The project schedule above accounts for the effort across the entire project. The early work of research, planning and logistics have been rolled-up into a single task and provided as reference (Phase I). The work in Phase I involved location of the existing stone quarry used in the 1920's that supplied all the sandstone to the Santa Barbara Courthouse. This quarry still exists with many tons of processed sandstone blocks scattered around the site.

Once a replacement source for sandstone was determined, the team went to work to mobilize the quarry operation in collaboration with the property owner where the stone is located. The owners of the Slippery Rock Ranch and the Foundation have since established a lasting relationship that will assist in future projects at the Santa Barbara Courthouse stone projects.

Phase III of the project is the most visible to visitors and the general public—the caring of the replacement piece. As indicated previously, the team required the carving operation to occur in view of those visiting the building as tourist, employees, or others with business at the Courthouse. This has provided a great opportunity to talk about the artistry of stone carving. This phase is scheduled for 174 days and is currently running ahead of schedule.

Phase IV includes work to clean up the water feature, restore the original tile, repair cracking plaster and solve water intrusion issues at the top of the sculpted piece. The longest lead-time item is the replica tiles being donated by NS Ceramics of Santa Barbara.

The final phase is the exhibition of any surviving section of the original with didactic materials that tell the story of why the project had to be done at this time. The project is estimated to be completed July 26, 2011.

Budget

The original budget was established at \$600,000 with various in-kind donations that include sandstone blocks, housing, and other resources. As the project moved into the later phases, updating of the budget revealed that not all the in-kind contributions were realized, some of the sandstone blocks could not be used and that unforeseen conditions began to come to light. The budget below represents the best representation for the completion of the work.

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Estimated Costs</u>	<u>Gifts In-Kind</u>	<u>Paid To Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Planning and CEQA	12,000	2,000	10,000	0
Boulder	100,000	100,000	0	0
Quarry labor	75,000	0	75,000	0
Crane and operator	40,500	25,500	15,000	0
Stone carving	311,270	0	186,390	124,880
Laser scan and Styrofoam replica	19,548	0	19,548	0
Moving stone	20,000	20,000	0	0
Housing for sculptures	25,000	0	14,000	11,000
Travel	24,500	0	13,617	10,883
Equip, tools, storage	39,512	0	25,000	14,512
Demolition, Installation	30,000	0	0	30,000
Tile work	9,000	9,000	0	0
Tile	3,000	3,000	0	0
Plaster surround	2,500	2,500	0	0
Plaque	500	500	0	0
Exhibit old statue	1,500	1,500	0	0
Contingency	17,170	0	0	17,170
Total Budget	\$731,000	\$164,000.00	\$358,555.00	\$208,445.00
Project Budget--Expenses				

<u>Income</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Project In-Kind Pledges	164,000
Hind Foundation	133,000
SB County Funds 2009-10	75,000
SB County Funds July 2010	100,000
Outhwaite	25,000
Funds in bank	70,000
SB City Funds 2009-10	25,000
Other Fountain donations	19,000
Sub total	\$611,000
Funds Needed to Complete	\$120,000
Total Project Completed	\$731,000
Project Budget--Income	

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A non-profit public benefit tax exempt 501(c)3 corporation.

Additional Photographs



Ettore Cadorin – Sitting on the blocks before carving the original



Courthouse just after completion



Cadorin signature on original before is failed.