



CARMEL MISSION FOUNDATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CARMEL MISSION FOUNDATION RECEIVES \$10,000 GRANT

Carmel, California – July 1, 2011 – **The Carmel Mission Foundation** was awarded a \$10,000 matching grant by the **National Trust for Historic Preservation** from its **Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors**. The grant will be used for work associated with the multi-year, multi-million dollar seismic retrofit and preservation effort that is now underway for the Carmel Mission.

Beginning this summer with some interior preparations and intensifying in April 2012, the Carmel Mission will be undertaking a major retrofit to its 1797 unreinforced masonry walls along with a significant roof refurbishment to strengthen the one built in 1936 by Harry Downie. “These major structural additions will help keep the Mission a safe and vibrant part of the Carmel community for the next few generations,” said Samuel L. Wright, President of The Carmel Mission Foundation. “We are grateful to be selected as one of only fifteen sites nationwide for this National Trust matching grant. We know we have something very special here in Carmel and it is gratifying to receive this national consideration and support.”

“Preservation is improving the lives of everyday Americans by creating jobs and building thriving communities,” said Stephanie Meeks, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. “We are pleased to offer support through the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for this project, which is undertaking the critical work of saving the places that connect us to our shared history.”

In 1997, a generous gift from George P. Mitchell established the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors in honor of his wife. The fund provides assistance in the preservation, restoration, and interpretation of historic interiors. Once a year, Mitchell Fund grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000 are awarded to non-profit groups and public agencies. Over \$109,000 were awarded in 2011. Grants must be matched at least dollar for dollar with public or private funds.

About the Carmel Mission Foundation

The Carmel Mission Foundation was founded in 2008 as an independent, non-profit 501(c)(3) public charity corporation and is independent from any religious organization. Its sole purpose is that of saving and restoring the historic Carmel Mission structures, art and artifacts, thus ensuring the preservation of their historic character and accessibility for future generations. The importance of the California Missions, and Carmel Mission (San Carlos Borromeo de Carmelo) in particular, to the history and development of California cannot be overstated. Founded in 1771, it served as the Headquarters for the entire California Mission System and is the repository of generations of culture, tradition and history.

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About the National Trust for Historic Preservation

The National Trust for Historic Preservation (www.PreservationNation.org) is a non-profit membership organization bringing people together to protect, enhance and enjoy the places that matter to them. By saving the places where great moments from history – and the important moments of everyday life – took place, the National Trust for Historic Preservation helps revitalize neighborhoods and communities, spark economic development and promote environmental sustainability. With headquarters in Washington, DC, eight regional and field offices, 29 historic sites, and partner organizations in 50 states, territories, and the District of Columbia, the National Trust for Historic Preservation provides leadership, education, advocacy and resources to a national network of people, organizations and local communities committed to saving places, connecting us to our history and collectively shaping the future of America's stories.

About the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors

For more information on the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors, visit:

www.PreservationNation.org/resources/find-funding/grants.

Contacts:**Timothy Roehl**

Carmel Mission Foundation

(831) 624-3261

timr@carmelmissionfoundation.org

Public Affairs

National Trust for Historic Preservation

(202) 588-6141

pr@nthp.org

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