

PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT

MOTION

Los Angeles City Hall is one of the most iconic buildings in the City's skyline. For decades it was the tallest building in the City, and when it opened to the public in 1928, there was a three day celebration welcoming Angelenos to their new City Hall. Visitors were in awe of the impressive architecture, grand interiors, and sheer size of the building. At a time when the city had grown from a population of 100,000 in 1900 to a million in the late 1920's, it served as a symbol of Los Angeles's progress and maturity.

Los Angeles City Hall embodies the City's rich history and civic life. As the seat of Los Angeles's government, it has been the focal point of the City's accomplishments and celebrations as well as protests and controversies.

It has also become a destination for tourists and a popular spot for filming, which made City Hall one of the most recognized buildings in the country, if not the world. From being destroyed in *War of the Worlds* to being the center of scandals in *LA Confidential* and *Chinatown* to slapstick comedies like *Naked Gun*, among a few of its movie credits, Los Angeles City Hall continues to be prominently featured in the entertainment world that reaches a global audience.

Despite being one of Los Angeles's most recognized and historically significant buildings, Los Angeles City Hall is not listed in the National Register of Historic Places. It was designed by master architects John Parkinson, Albert C. Martin, John C. Martin, in a blend of architectural styles. The impressive, ornate interiors designed by Austin Whittlesey and others, celebrate the City's past and look forward to its future.

Los Angeles City Hall should be recognized for its national significance and be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. While it already appears on the City's list of Historic-Cultural Monuments (#150) and is listed in the California Register of Historical Resources, it warrants national recognition.

The City has a small but robust historic preservation program represented by the Cultural Heritage Commission and City Planning's Office of Historic Resources. Separately, Project Restore is a non-profit that works closely with the City and is committed to the historic restoration and preservation of City Hall. Project Restore has done extraordinary work to preserve the historical integrity of City Hall.

I THEREFORE MOVE, that the City Council instruct the Department of City Planning's Office of Historic Resources, with input from Project Restore, the Cultural Heritage Commission, and the office of the City Administrative Officer, to prepare and submit the necessary application for Los Angeles City Hall to be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

ORIGINAL

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