



To whom it may concern;

I write the following letter in hopes that the Los Angeles Firehouse #23 will be considered for restoration by the Corporation for History, Arts, and Culture (CHAC).

Old 23 was the first Los Angeles fire station made of reinforced concrete and during its time was recognized as the most elegant fire station in the country. Later, abandoned and neglected, the building suffered the ravages of vandalism and theft. In 1966 and later in 1980, civic supporters worked to establish Old 23 as a Municipal and then a U.S. Historic Landmark; to be restored, maintained and utilized in the public interest. To that end C.H.A.C. was formed to address problems concerning the restoration and upkeep of historically significant properties and as part of an ongoing effort to recognize and serve the emerging art renaissance of Central City, L.A.

Since 1960 many videos, commercials, TV shows, and movies have used the firehouse as a location to great effect. Most notably, Old 23 served as the interior set of the Ghostbusters' headquarters from the hit 1984 movie. Last year hundreds of people visited the firehouse to appreciate its architectural charm and enjoy the work of local artists lining the walls of its deceptively cavernous, warehouse-sized main hall.

In 2010, Fire Station #23 will 100 years old. The Corporation for History, Art and Culture's plan assures that once restoration of the building is complete, through its use, it will generate the funds necessary to serve the public for many more centuries. It seeks to build upon the successful track record of creative use of the building, which has proven invaluable in maintaining it since it was closed as an active Fire Station in 1960. It calls for a professional quality facility to be built, which will be capable of generating funds and in turn producing and funding cultural, artistic, and educational projects exhibits and events in the public interest and in conjunction with other community groups.

Please do not let this iconic building and epicenter for community involvement fade into antiquity. We hope that you will strongly consider the CHAC restoration project, in an effort to ensure that Firehouse #23 remains as beautiful to the community of today and tomorrow as it was for the community of yesterday.

Thank you for your time,

Sent to:
Save the Firehouse Petition
CHAC
PO Box 71021
Los Angeles, CA 90071