

PRESS RELEASE

Press Contact: Jacob Green, Assistant City Manager
Phone Number: (909) 238-8536
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[FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE]

City of Ontario
Planning Department

CITY COUNCIL PRESENTS THE 16TH ANNUAL MODEL COLONY AWARDS FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The Ontario City Council will present the 2016 Model Colony Awards for Historic Preservation on May 3, 2016 at 6:30 PM at Ontario City Hall, 303 E. B Street. This year, the awards celebrate Historic Preservation Month with the theme “Past Forward: Forging a Future with a Past”. Across the nation, communities use the month of May to engage the public and encourage involvement in the growing preservation movement across the country. In Ontario, the City Council will recognize and celebrate the outstanding efforts of property owners who have excelled in preservation of historic places. This year’s ceremony will present historic property owners with the following honors: Restoration Award, Award of Merit, and the John S. Armstrong Landscape Award.

The first Restoration Award is for repairs done to a residence on the 700 Block of East Holt Boulevard. Built in 1920, this is one of the few remaining Victorian-era homes located on Holt Boulevard and restoration included extensive interior and exterior improvements as well as updated landscaping. This project transformed a once overlooked and neglected historic home into one of the City’s finest Victorian bungalows. The second Restoration Award is for a 2-story,

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American Foursquare style residence on the 500 Block of West D Street. The current property owner made a significant effort to preserve many of the building's original features. The sagging stone porch was taken apart, reinforced, and the original painted stones were stripped of paint and re-laid one by one. The building exterior was painted in a complimentary color scheme and the interior was painted and upgraded, preserving unique features like pocket doors and built-in cabinets.

This year's Award of Merit will be presented to the property owners of a mid-century California Ranch adobe home located on West Armsley Square. The house was built in 1964 when the property owners contracted the renowned Escondido-based Weir Brothers to aid in the construction and design of their home. The Weir Brothers' custom adobe homes became iconic because of their unique blending of ancient building techniques and mid-century Ranch-style elements. Through their outstanding stewardship over the past 52 years, the property owners have designed, built, and preserved a true gem.

The John S. Armstrong Landscape Award, named after the founder of Armstrong Nurseries, is being presented to the property owner of a residence within the designated Euclid Avenue Historic District. The owners removed large areas of pavement in the rear yard and planted turf, white rose bushes, rosemary and citrus trees. The front yard landscaping features a front walkway with broken pavers and a planter area on the northwest corner that features salvias, succulents, aloes, purple fountain grass, bougainvillea, and a tiered fountain. The unique landscaping complements the Spanish Colonial Revival architectural style and is a great example of using drought tolerant landscaping effectively.

303 EAST B STREET
ONTARIO, CA 91764

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The public is invited to attend this special ceremony and reception. For more information, please contact the City of Ontario Planning Department at (909) 395-2036.

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