

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 PROJECT FUNDING BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The California Certified Local Government (CLG) program, the federal government and the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea (Carmel) jointly funded this 2024 Fourth Edition of the Carmel-by-the-Sea Historic Context Statement. The 1980 amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 created a CLG program to encourage local governments' direct participation in identifying, evaluating, registering and preserving historic properties and integrating preservation concerns into local planning and decision-making processes. California's CLG program is a partnership among local governments, the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) and the National Park Service (NPS), which administers the National Historic Preservation Program. The total project cost for this Historic Context Statement is \$79,000. OHP awarded Carmel a \$40,000 CLG grant for the 2023-2024 CLG funding year and Carmel contributed an additional \$39,000 towards the project. The grant period for this project was December 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024.

2.1.1 PURPOSE OF HISTORIC CONTEXT STATEMENTS

One of the biggest challenges in evaluating historic resources is answering the question "What do we preserve and why?" Developing a historic context statement is the first step towards helping a community understand the significance of specific, qualified local historic resources. The *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation Planning* defines three primary standards for historic preservation:

1. Standard I. Preservation Planning Establishes Historic Contexts.
2. Standard II. Preservation Planning Uses Historic Contexts to Develop Goals and Priorities for the Identification, Evaluation, Registration and Treatment of Historic Properties.
3. Standard III. The Results of Preservation Planning Are Made Available for Integration Into Broader Planning Processes.

Historic context statements are the finished product of Standard I and provide the foundation for governmental agencies to implement Standards II and III: prioritizing the identification, evaluation, registration and treatment of certain historic properties and making the process an integral component of land use planning.¹

National Register Bulletin Number 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation defines **historic contexts** as "historical patterns that can be identified through consideration of the history of the property and the history of the surrounding area."² *National*

¹ U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *National Register 24: Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning*, 4.

² U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin Number 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, 7.