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**MISSION ADOBE AT SANTA CRUZ MISSION STATE HISTORIC
PARK TO BE DIGITALLY PRESERVED USING 3D SCANNING BY
OAKLAND-BASED CYARK, UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO**

ONLINE PRESERVATION OF THE SITE HAS BEEN A LONGTERM GOAL
FOR FRIENDS OF SANTA CRUZ STATE PARKS

MARCH 18, 2015 — SANTA CRUZ, CA— Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks today announced the Mission Adobe at Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park will be digitally preserved by CyArk and their partner, the University of San Francisco, beginning Saturday, March 21.

CyArk, an Oakland-based nonprofit, uses cutting-edge technology to capture detailed 3D representations of the world's cultural heritage sites for the purposes of research and education before they are lost to natural disasters, destroyed by human activity or ravaged by the passage of time.

The University of San Francisco partnered with CyArk in 2012 to establish a Technology Center through the Department of Architecture. Since that time, the Department has purchased its own devices and students have been trained both in field work and data processing. As a new generation of USF scholars joins the Tech Center, they will learn the process first-hand as they scan the Mission Adobe and create drawings and models from the data.

Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks saved the park from closure by the state in 2012. Digitizing the Mission Adobe has long been a goal for Friends, California State Parks and the Mission Committee.

"State Parks is pleased to be a part of this important project," California State Parks Interpreter III Linda Hitchcock said.

Donor funding made it possible for the digitization project to move forward this spring.

CyArk and USF will utilize the latest in reality capture technologies, such as 3D laser scanning and high-definition photography, to accurately map the Mission Adobe. The fieldwork will include a full interior and exterior scan focused on the remaining original adobe, which now houses the State Parks museum. The field capture will result in a

highly accurate record of the site that will be archived for the future and utilized now to develop conservation tools for professionals and educational materials for 4th graders and the general public.

“Friends has worked hard to preserve the Mission Adobe and we are thrilled to know the park’s valuable history also will be saved in a digital format accessible to student and visitors now and also for future generations,” Bonny Hawley, Executive Director of Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks, said.

Working on projects around the globe, the nonprofit CyArk currently is focused on the El Camino Real project. The initiative will better preserve and share with a wider audience the history of the El Camino Real de California and the totality of the route’s story. This program will include the development of an interactive map to showcase the route, the digital documentation and dissemination of the state’s 21 missions, four presidios, three pueblos and other historic sites, and the development of conservation and educational content.

To date, several missions and one presidio have been digitized: the Misión San Carlos Borromeo del Rio Carmelo, Misión San Francisco Solano de Sonoma, Misión San Juan Bautista de Liguí, Presidio of San Francisco, Misión de Nuestr Padre San Francisco de Asís (Mission Dolores) and Misión de San Luis, Rey de Francia. The Misión Santa Cruz will be added to this collection.

The scan at the Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park will occur throughout the day Saturday. The USF students will work with the data as part of the coursework over several weeks. Eventually, 3D images of the site will be available on the CyArk website.

About Santa Cruz Mission Adobe State Historic Park

The Santa Cruz Mission Adobe State Historic Park, “Your State Park Downtown,” is home to the oldest building in Santa Cruz County. Built between 1822 and 1824 by local Ohlonean and Yokuts Indians, the park’s signature adobe is the only remaining structure from Mission Santa Cruz, founded in 1791. One of just four adobe buildings left in Santa Cruz County — and sometimes confused with the nearby replica mission chapel — it is the only building of its kind preserved as a museum in the State of California. The adobe served as housing for Neophyte families who lived and worked at the Mission, which operated until 1834 when it was secularized. After decades of private ownership, the adobe was sold to the State of California, extensively restored and finally opened in 1991 to the public as the Santa Cruz Mission SHP.

Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks saved Santa Cruz Mission Adobe SHP from closure in 2012. Friends funds interpretation services and a portion of park operations, and also runs the Mission ParkStore. In addition, Friends has implemented key improvements at

the park, including the opening of new interpretive exhibits, renovated outdoor cooking facilities and new hours of operation to serve local school children. Friends also established the Summer Series, a popular series of cultural events at the Mission that culminates with the Mole & Mariachi Festival each September. The park is supported by the Mission Committee, members of which include representatives of Friends, State Parks and dedicated community volunteers.

About Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks

Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks is an entrepreneurial nonprofit sustaining the legacy of our state parks and beaches. Through an innovative partnership with California State Parks, and by leveraging local community support, Friends has provided millions of dollars of funding for educational programs, visitor services and capital projects. Founded in 1976, Friends is passionately dedicated to the preservation of our spectacular natural environment and rich cultural history. Friends also operates six ParkStores, offering nature- and history-themed merchandise for sale to benefit local parks and beaches. ParkStore locations include Natural Bridges, New Brighton (closed until spring 2014), Santa Cruz Mission, Seacliff, Wilder Ranch and Online. Learn more at ThatsMyPark.org or via Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and Pinterest.

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