




CITY of CALABASAS

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT
OCTOBER 5, 2022

TO: Members of the Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Tom Bartlett, City Planner and Historic Preservation Officer 

SUBJECT: Discussion of curatorial approaches for the various artifacts and other items within the Masson house

BACKGROUND:

During recent visits to the historic Masson House, Planning staff have encountered not only the several office work stations used by staff of the Mountains Restoration Trust, but also a very large quantity of stored objects, files, and furniture. Some of the items within the structure may have some degree of historic value. During the July 6 Commission meeting, staff informed Commission members of the situation, and members of the Commission requested discussion of the problem at a future meeting.

In August the Historic Resources Group (HRG) conducted a survey of the structure, and HRG delivered to the Planning staff on September 22 a draft report. (As a separate agenda item, staff will update the Commission on preliminary outcomes discussed within the draft report.) One result of HRG's survey work is a recommendation that the large quantity of stored items within the structure be removed due to the overall weight load.

NEXT STEPS:

Based on the knowledge now at hand, it is appropriate for the members of the Commission to discuss:

- 1) How to accomplish an inventory of the building contents;
- 2) How the inventoried contents might be separated into items for potential retention versus potential disposal; and,
- 3) How best to retain, appropriately curate, and display items of importance which would eventually be returned to the structure following a completed rehabilitation.