

## WARD HILL

### Principal Architectural Historian

**Education:** University of Virginia: M.A. Architectural History with Historic Preservation emphasis, 1982  
University of California, Santa Barbara: B.A. American Studies and Literature, 1973



### Professional Experience

Ward Hill ([whill@basinresearch.com](mailto:whill@basinresearch.com)) has been active in architectural history and historic building restoration in Northern California for 35 years. From 1979 to 1983, he was involved in both the evaluation and restoration of historic buildings as the Technical Assistance Director for the Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage. Mr. Hill has been a staff architectural historian for the San Francisco architecture/planning firm, Page & Turnbull, and he has worked as a private developer involved in historic building restoration and rehabilitation. Since 1990, Mr. Hill has specialized in preparing historic architecture assessments for environmental impact reports.

In his work as an architectural historian, Mr. Hill has completed over 180 historic architecture reports under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). These reports include the evaluation and identification of historic architectural resources, analyses of project impacts, and presentations of mitigation alternatives where impacts are identified.

Mr. Hill's notable past projects include the Environmental Assessment for the San Francisco Ferry Building Rehabilitation, the San Francisco Zoo Master Plan, and the EIR for the Greystone Cellars renovation project (Culinary Institute of America), St. Helena. As a consultant for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Mr. Hill worked with the FEMA Director of Historic Review in reviewing projects for Section 106 compliance in California and Oregon.

Mr. Hill's extensive Section 106 compliance work for the California Department of Transportation includes: the Route 84 Realignment Project (which involved evaluating over 80 Pre-1946 buildings), the Mission Boulevard, Osgood Road and the Alvarado Boulevard Widening projects in Alameda County; the Vasco Road Interchange project, Livermore; the Highway 4 Widening Project; the Highway 1/Calera Parkway Project, Pacifica; and, the Shamrock Ranch Historic Resource Evaluation Report, Devil's Slide Tunnel Project, Pacifica.

Mr. Hill has also completed Section 106 historic architecture studies for the BART extension to San Francisco Airport and the e-Bart project in Eastern Contra Costa County. Section 106 reports involving historic bridges have included the Park and High Street Bridges Seismic Retrofit Projects in Oakland, the Gault Bridge, Nevada City, and the Oakville Bridge, Napa County. In addition he has completed Section 106 studies for the Vasona Corridor, Capital Avenue, and East Santa Clara/Alum Rock Light Rail Projects in San Jose for the Valley Transportation Agency (VTA) and Basin Research Associates. He recently completed a report for the Napa River Flood Control project for the Army Corps of Engineers. In addition to working for major government agencies, Mr. Hill has prepared reports for a number of public utilities, including Southern California Edison and PG&E. Mr. Hill also worked on the phased comprehensive Historic Resources Survey of the City of Fremont in 2000-2009 for Basin Research Associates.

Mr. Hill has been the President of the Northern California Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians since 2004 ([www.nccsah.org](http://www.nccsah.org)). He is also an active member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Vernacular Architecture Forum and the California Historical Society. He has written several articles and given lectures on topics in both architectural history and historic preservation. Mr. Hill contributed the San Mateo County chapter to the *Architectural Guidebook to San Francisco and the Bay Area* (Gibbs Smith, 2007) and he is responsible for the *Houses of the San Francisco Peninsula – 1865-1941*, for New York publisher, the Acanthus Press.