Project Partner: Heritage Square Museum

History: In the late 19th century, the industrial revolution transformed the United States into a modern nation equipped with efficient transportation, communication and mass production of goods. During this period, the population of Los Angeles doubled and ornate and eclectic architecture began popping up throughout the city. The Heritage Square Museum is a living museum representing this time in history, educating visitors on the settlement and development of Southern California.

The museum contains eight historic buildings, two of which are the focus of this project: the Ford House and the Perry Mansion. The Ford house was built by the Beaudry Brothers in 1887. Its original owner, John J. Ford, was a famous wood carver. The Perry Mansion is the largest house in the museum, built in 1876 by prominent businessman and lumber baron, William Hayes Perry, and designed by renowned architect E.F. Kysor. At the time of its construction, it was arguably the finest and most expensive residence in the city of Los Angeles.

Scope of Work: HistoriCorps teamed up with the Los Angeles Conservation Corps to engage a team of veterans. Their work will give future visitors an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of the life of Southern Californians at the turn of the 19th century. Work included:

- Strip deteriorated cedar shingles
- Inspect and repair roof decking and roof rafters
- Inspect and repair asphalt roofing on the flat-roofed sections of the building
- Install cedar shingles
- Clean, scrape and paint wood surfaces
- Repair deteriorated or damaged wood architectural features