



Contact: David Read
530-749-8065
david@yubasutterarts.org

For Immediate Release

Yuba County Historic Sites, Packard Library and Arboga Assembly Center, Featured in Statewide Doors Open California Program

Yuba County, CA, September 3, 2026 — Two important Yuba County historic sites will be showcased alongside other significant landmarks throughout California as part of this year's Doors Open California, a statewide celebration of lesser-known historic places presented by the California Preservation Foundation. The Foundation works to protect and celebrate California's diverse historic places by providing education, advocacy, technical assistance, and resources that strengthen historic preservation efforts statewide.

On Saturday, September 19, the historic Packard Library in Marysville and the Arboga Assembly Center in south Yuba County will be open to visitors, with docents on hand to share the stories of these two very different but important chapters in local and California history. Yuba County's participation in Doors Open California is a collaboration between the Yuba County Historic Resources Commission and Yuba Sutter Arts & Culture, working together to increase public awareness of the region's historic resources and the importance of preserving them for future generations.

Doors Open California is a long running statewide program that invites the public to explore historic buildings, cultural landscapes, and other significant places, including sites that may not ordinarily be accessible to visitors. Modeled after successful "open doors" programs around the world, the event encourages Californians to experience history where it actually happened.

The Packard Library, located in downtown Marysville, is one of Yuba County's architectural and cultural treasures. Built through the generosity of local benefactor John Q. Packard and opened in 1906, the Classical Revival building served generations of Marysville residents as the community's public library. Today, local preservation advocates are exploring new possibilities for the historic building, including its potential future use as a Yuba County history museum and event center.

The Arboga Assembly Center represents a very different and more difficult part of California history. In 1942, following the signing of Executive Order 9066, approximately 2,500 Japanese Americans were temporarily incarcerated at the site before being transferred to more permanent War Relocation Authority internment camps. Today, the site includes interpretive elements that help tell the stories of the families who were held there and preserve the memory of this important civil rights history.

Featuring both locations provides visitors with an opportunity to consider the many ways historic places tell the story of a community, from civic pride, architecture, education, and philanthropy to injustice, resilience, remembrance, and reconciliation.

“Historic preservation is about much more than saving old buildings,” said representatives of the participating organizations. “It is about preserving the places that help us understand who we are, where we came from, and how the experiences of previous generations continue to shape our communities today.”

Both sites will be open Saturday, September 19 from 11am to 4pm with knowledgeable docents available to greet visitors and provide historical context. Yuba County’s two locations are also being promoted as part of the statewide Doors Open California program (<https://californiapreservation.org/doca/>), giving residents and visitors an opportunity to discover local history while participating in a larger celebration of California’s many extraordinary historic and cultural sites.

About CPF:

The San Francisco based California Preservation Foundation is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and celebrating California’s diverse historic places and cultural heritage. Through education, advocacy, technical assistance, and programs such as Doors Open California, CPF provides communities with the tools and resources needed to protect meaningful historic sites. Its work helps ensure that California’s architectural, cultural, and community history is preserved, shared, and appreciated by future generations.

About the YCHRC:

The Yuba County Historic Resources Commission works to identify, preserve, and promote the historic and cultural resources that tell the story of Yuba County and its communities. The Commission supports historic preservation, public education, and greater awareness of the people, places, and events that have shaped the county’s rich heritage. Through research, advocacy, community partnerships, and special projects, the Commission helps ensure that Yuba County’s history is preserved and shared with future generations.

About YSAC: Yuba Sutter Arts & Culture is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide arts programming, education, advocacy, assistance, and service to artists, organizations, and residents of Yuba and Sutter Counties. The local affiliate for Yuba and Sutter of the California Arts Council, its programs include Arts in Education, Veterans Initiatives in the Arts, Arts in Corrections, Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, Poetry Out Loud, Center Stage Productions, Stage 754 Theater Company, the Yuba-Sutter Big Band and many more.

End #

THE PACKARD LIBRARY – MARYSVILLE

- Built 1905–1906
- Former public library
- National Register of Historic Places
- Currently closed historic asset





Arboga Through the Barbed Wire



The Arboga Plaque