





Pelco Equipment Secures California's Official Reception Center



BY JAMIE GREGORY, CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Located in the heart of downtown Sacramento, the Leland Stanford Mansion has welcomed such notables as President Rutherford B. Hayes and General William Tecumseh Sherman. Today, it still hosts prominent California visitors – but with an added dose of security from Pelco.



The 19,000 square-foot facility, which also serves as a public museum, recently underwent a \$22 million renovation that restored it to its Victorian-era beginnings. The mansion features 19th Century-style gardens, historic paintings, crystal and bronze light fixtures, 17-foot ceilings and carved moldings.

The home is no stranger to hosting dignitaries, as it served as California's executive office building during the 1860s to three governors – including the mansion's namesake and early owner Leland Stanford.

As the state's official reception center, the mansion regularly receives California's governor, lieutenant governor, members of the legislature and international visitors. Aside from the typical business meeting environment, the mansion offers an elegant setting for the social and networking functions that occur there. Visitors have the opportunity to witness a part of stunning California history.

Pelco secures this State Historic Park – now a National Historic Landmark as well – with 17 exterior and interior cameras, including a number of Spectra III dome positioning systems and fixed cameras. The installation was completed by Universal Security and Fire in September 2004.

“Being a State Historic Site, there were very strict rules about the building,” said Rafael Brito, service manager for Universal. “The installation was required to be as unobtrusive as possible and blend in with the décor. This included the cameras as well as all of the wiring. Also, installation of the exterior cameras was complicated by the fact that the mansion is a three-story building.”



Pelco cameras provide video security for the Mansion's thousands of yearly visitors. A combination of positioning and fixed cameras deliver video for the 19,000 square-foot facility.

Terese Zilke, public safety superintendent for the California State Parks Capital District, said the Pelco equipment installed at the mansion really fits its purpose. "The visitors that come to the mansion enjoy not only an elegant reception atmosphere, but the insurance of their personal safety," said Zilke. "The system in use provides surveillance of the persons in the mansion during high-profile events, and a DVR constantly records the exterior."

The Pelco equipment works in tandem with the California Highway Patrol Dignitary Protection Unit for the additional safety of mansion guests. The Governor's Protocol Office also serves as a conduit for security at various mansion events.

Leland and Jane Stanford

The California Gold Rush brought Leland and Jane Stanford from New York to the west, where Leland established himself as a merchant. After his arrival, Leland soon became involved in the Republican Party, serving as an adviser to President Abraham Lincoln.

In 1862 – one year after he purchased the mansion for \$8,000 – Leland became California's governor. As a prominent leader of the Central Pacific Railroad, Leland oversaw the completion of the United States' transcontinental railroad and drove home the

famous "golden spike" in 1869 that connected the country's rail tracks.

Jane served as host of numerous gatherings at the mansion. While on a trip in Europe, the couple's only child became ill with typhoid fever, and died at age 15. His parents devoted themselves to building an educational institution in his name, and one year after his death dedicated Leland Stanford Junior University in Palo Alto, California – now commonly known as Stanford University.

For more information, please visit www.stanfordmansion.org.