

**Contact Information:**

Beverly Timmer  
Preston Castle Foundation  
P.O. Box 488  
Ione, CA 95640  
1-209-274-0218  
[bevjee@earthlink.net](mailto:bevjee@earthlink.net)  
[www.prestoncastle.com](http://www.prestoncastle.com)



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### **PRESTON CASTLE FOUNDATION EMBARKS ON FIRST STEP TO RESTORE CASTLE**

IONE, CA: The Preston Castle Foundation proudly announced today that a \$40,000 roof repair project is underway at the Preston Castle. The roof repairs are the first step in protecting the castle from further deterioration and restoring the castle for use as a self-sustaining community resource. The All Sierra Roof Company of Jackson, California began the repairs on December 7 and anticipate the repairs will be completed by the first of the year, weather permitting.

“The Preston Castle is an important landmark,” said Marie Nutting, Preston Castle Foundation President. “Foundation members have worked so hard to raise the funds for the preservation of this valuable piece of California history, and it’s exciting to see the roof work in progress.”

All Sierra Roof Company is attaching plywood to the castle’s roof rafters followed by roofing paper and shingles to weatherproof the castle. Any rafters that are too damaged to hold the repair materials are being reinforced to ensure the roof repairs stay in place.

Thanks to the many fundraising events including a wine tasting and a golf tournament, the Preston Castle Foundation is now looking to step two in the restoration. Over the years the sizeable holes in the roof caused significant damage to a section of the interior floors. With water damage from the leaking roof no longer an issue, the Preston Castle Foundation plans to restore the interior floors in 2007. Hoping to raise money for the floor repair, the foundation is preparing for another busy year of fundraising.

**About Preston Castle Foundation**

The Preston Castle Foundation began work in 1997 to restore, preserve and provide utilization of this important California landmark. Known today as the “Preston Castle,” the Preston School of Industry opened in 1894. By seeking to rehabilitate youthful offenders, the school offered a progressive alternative to San Quentin. Vacant since 1960, the building now needs full restoration to become a self-sustaining community resource. Help save the castle by visiting [www.prestoncastle.com](http://www.prestoncastle.com). All contributions are tax deductible.

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