

The award announced by Gov. Napolitano recognizes individuals, organizations and projects that represent outstanding achievement in preserving Arizona's prehistoric and historic resources. The Arizona Preservation Foundation and the State Historic Preservation Office, a division of the Arizona State Parks department, commissioned a panel of judges representing the fields of archaeology, history and historic preservation to select the honorees.

Pastor, who represents the Fourth Congressional District of Arizona, was recognized "for his long standing support of historic preservation and Arizona heritage."

Pastor specifically supported the preservation of Sears Point, the expansion of the boundaries of Tumacacori, sponsored bills authorizing the Yuma Crossing Heritage Area and the Tohono O'odham Religious Area Restoration Act, said James McPherson, president of the Arizona Preservation Foundation.

Pastor said he was humbled by the recognition and that he would continue to work with communities to help preserve their historic, archaeological and cultural heritage.

The award was presented June 16 at the 4th Annual Arizona Historic Preservation Conference at the Glendale Civic Center.