Felton Bridge project wins award

SANTA CRUZ — The Felton Covered Bridge Restoration Project has won a coveted National Historic Preservation Award, which recognizes excellence in federally assisted historic preservation.

The Felton project was one of 18 outstanding preservation projects and programs selected for the award. The award will be presented today at a ceremony in Washington D.C.

The NHP award is the fourth design award captured by Felton projects within the past year, according to County Supervisor Joe Cucchiara.

"These awards, three for the Felton Covered Bridge and one for the Felton Town Plan, are truly a tribute to our community's commitment to reclaim our local history, while simultaneously planning for our future," Cucchiara said.

The Felton Town Plan won the

prestigious National Planning Award from the American Planning Association in 1987. In January the Felton Covered Bridge received the Renaissance '87 Design Award from the National Association of Home Builders Remodelers' Council and the California Preservation Foundation's Fifth Annual Design Award. It was also recognized by Remodeling Magazine for design excellence.

The latest award was chosen by a five-member jury, including Mina Wright, curator of the National

Building Museum.

Built in 1892, the Felton Covered Bridge spans the San Lorenzo River, and provided the only road access to the Village of Felton until 1938. The bridge was badly damaged in the floods of '82, and a drive to renovate the bridge eventually raised \$342,500.

In addition to project architect Jeff Oberdorfer, Santa Cruz County Park Director Ben Angove and Supervisor Cucciara will be credited during today's awards ceremony.